

OPINION 6

WHY TECHNOLOGY CAN'T EASE PEOPLE'S SUFFERING

WORLD 8

HURRICANE MILTON SLAMS FLORIDA, CAUSES DEATHS AND FLOODING

MONEY 10

UPI TRANSACTIONS SURGE IN FIRST HALF OF 2024

Published From
DELHI LUCKNOW BHOPAL BHUBANESWAR
RANCHI RAIPUR CHANDIGARH
DEHRADUN HYDERABAD VIJAYWADA

Late City Vol. 34 Issue 283
*Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable

NEW DELHI, FRIDAY OCTOBER 11, 2024; PAGES 12 ₹4

Established 1865

the pioneer

www.dailypioneer.com



NOT GOING IN WITH
PRE-DETERMINED MINDSET
HAS HELPED: SHAFALI
12 SPORTS

FAREWELL BHARAT'S RATAN

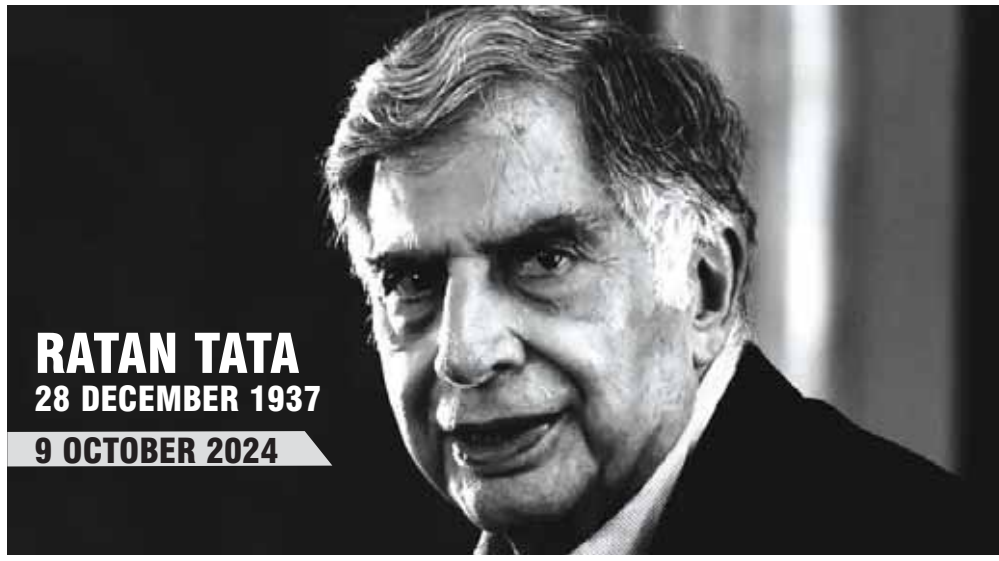
■ MUMBAI

As the nation mourned the passing away of the legendary industrialist Ratan Naval Tata, hundreds and thousands of Mumbaikars on Thursday bade an emotional goodbye to the former Chairman Emeritus of Tata Sons, as his mortal remains - wrapped in national tri-colours - were taken on a 12 km final journey from the National Centre for the Performing Arts (NCPA) to Worli crematorium for his last rites. After solemn prayers and rituals performed as per the Parsi traditions at a brief ceremony, Ratan Tata's body was consigned to a combustion chamber at the Worli electric crematorium, amid full-State honours and a fun salute accorded by the Maharashtra government. The funeral held at an electric crematorium reflected the changing traditions in the Parsi community members living in Mumbai who in the past would make it a point to consign the remains of their loved ones to the Tower of Silence, or Doongerwadi at Malabar Hill in south Mumbai. Ratan Tata breathed his last at the Breach Candy Hospital at around 11.30 pm on Wednesday night, following age-related health conditions, after a week of media speculation about his worsening medical condition. A bachelor all his life, Tata was 86 at the time of his death. Given that he had touched the people from all walks of life across the country, the news of Ratan Tata - who despite having built a Rs 3,800 crore Tata group's



business empire remained a humble man till the last day - plunged the nation into a state of mourning, with people grieving his demise and speaking in glorious terms about his contributions to Indian industry and also nation-building. While thousands of people turned out at the NCPA to pay their homage to the legendary industrialist, more than a couple of lakhs of people had general lined up along the 12 km funeral procession route from the NCPA to Worli crematorium or bade adieu from atop the buildings located along the route. Hours before his funeral, the Maharashtra Cabinet adopted a resolution at a special meeting, recommending to the Centre to confer Bharat Ratna, country's highest civilian award, posthumously to Ratan Tata, who was bestowed with Padma Vibhushan by the Indian government in 2008. As a sign of State mourning, the national Tricolour on government offices in Maharashtra were flown at half-mast on Thursday.

Continued on page 2



Jamshedpur mourns its man of steel

■ JAMSHEDPUR

It was not only the more than one lakh workforce of Tata Group of companies, its subsidiaries and ancillaries which mourned Ratan Tata's passing, but a pall of gloom descended in each and every household of the Steel City of Jamshedpur which Tata was so fond of. From spending time on Shop Floor Management of the then TELCO, rechristened as Tata Motors by Ratan Tata himself, for a global



pursuit to make it a point to be part of the famous March 3 Foundation Day (anniversary of JN Tata) celebrations at Jubilee Park near Sakchi Market, Ratan frequented

the lovely city where the Tatas dreamt from making salt to software, tea to trucks and from car to business czar since early 1900s. The city of Jamshedpur is also known as 'Tatanagar', and the fondness of the Tatas for the city made the Jharkhand government declare a day of State Mourning as a mark of respect for industrialist Ratan Tata. As a young trainee, Tata resided in Room No. 11 of the Dealer's Apprentice Hostel at TELCO.

Continued on page 2

the pioneer Tribute

Goodbye, Mr Tata

Ratan Naval Tata, the Rdoyen of Indian industry, inheritor of one of the greatest corporate names in India passed away peacefully on October 9, and was laid to rest on Thursday. Even though he was 86 years old and had been suffering health issues for the past few years, his passing has been mourned across the board. But it is surprising just how much the general public in India has mourned his passing, especially in a country where capitalists are still not celebrated. Ratan Tata's immense contributions to philanthropy, his love of dogs including strays, have endeared him to Indians like few others have managed, with the possible exception of his uncle, JRD Tata, whom he succeeded as Chairman of Tata Sons. Following the horrendous 26/11 attacks when the flagship Taj Mahal hotel was desecrated by terrorists, he not only ensured that all employees

who had lost their lives or loved ones did not lose hope and he paid compensation to all and he was determined that the hotel rise again to the top, which it has. Ratan Tata is a poster child of post-liberalisation India. Under his leadership, the expansion of Tata group's ventures began aggressively. Whether it was the success of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) in the Information Technology space, the acquisition of Jaguar Land Rover and Tetley Tea, the global reach of Tata Steel as well as the growth of Tata Motors in the Indian passenger car space starting from the late-1990's with the Tata Indica. The fact that Indian Hotels, operators of the Taj Group is today India's largest hotel chain is in no small part thanks to his leadership and the fact that he surrounded himself with extremely capable managers.

Continued on page 2

Omar Abdullah elected legislative party leader



National Conference President Farooq Abdullah, Vice President Omar Abdullah and others during the party's Legislature Party Meeting after Jammu and Kashmir Assembly election result, at the headquarters Nawa e Subha in Srinagar, Thursday

■ JAMMU

Jammu and Kashmir National Conference Thursday set into motion the process of government formation by 'unanimously' electing its Vice President Omar Abdullah as leader of the legislative party. The announcement was made by the senior Abdullah and party chief Dr. Farooq Abdullah. Addressing the media after the National Conference MLAs met at its

headquarters to elect the leader of the legislature party Dr Farooq Abdullah stated that the pre-poll alliance partners (National Conference, Congress, CPI-M, Panthers Party) will meet on Friday to take the government formation process forward. Omar Abdullah thanked the National Conference (NC) legislators for electing him their leader so that he could stake claim to form the government in Jammu and Kashmir. "You are aware of

the decision that was taken. A meeting of the NC legislature party took place, the legislature party has decided on its leader and I am thankful from the bottom of my heart to the NC legislators that they have reposed their faith in me and given me a chance to stake a claim for government formation," Abdullah told reporters after he was elected the leader of the legislature party here. On the question of the timing of the government formation, Omar said, "Talks are on with the Congress. They have been given a day to decide. Once they give us a letter of support, I will stake a claim for government formation." In another significant development, four independents (all from the Jammu region) expressed their support to the National Conference on Thursday. Pyare Lal Sharma, Satish Sharma, Choudhary Mohammed Akram, and Dr Rameshwar Singh - who won the Interwal, Chhamb, Surankote, and Bani seats - have backed the NC.

Continued on page 2



Rafael Nadal bids adiós

■ NEW DELHI

Tennis Legend Rafael Nadal announced his retirement at the age of 38 after winning the 22 Grand Slam events in his career, the era where he competed with his big rivals Roger Federer and Novak Djokovic. The Spanish legend broke the news via a heartfelt video on social media, expressing his gratitude for the support throughout his career he had. Nadal's Davis cup finals will be his last stint in tennis court in Malaga, this November. "Really, everything I have experienced has been a dream come true," Nadal stated on social media, adding "I leave with the absolute peace of mind of having given my best, of

having made an effort in every way. But in this life, everything has a beginning and an end, and I think it's the appropriate time to put an end to a career that has been long and much more successful than I could have ever imagined." Leaving the court and his decision to retire from the sport, due to injury problems which he was suffering from the first match of the Paris Olympics where he last featured at. The Davis Cup will be his first appearance after the Olympics. Spain will face the Netherlands in the quarter-finals between November 19 and 21, with Nadal added to the squad after recovering from an injury that kept him out of play in the group stage.

Continued on page 2

Delhi govt spent more than it earned?

■ NEW DELHI

For the first time in its fiscal history, Delhi is on the brink of a severe financial crisis in the current fiscal, with its expenditure likely to cross the limit of receipts. Data from the Finance Department show its earnings through non tax revenues, tax revenues may drop to Rs 62 415 cr as against the budgetary estimate of Rs 64142 cr by the end of fiscal year 2025.) Delhi has historically been a revenue-surplus state and this would be the first instance of a deficit since the reconstitution of the Legislative Assembly in 1993. Notably, data shows a continuous streak of fiscal surplus from the fiscal year 2017-18 through the projected budget of 2024-25. As per the data, Revenue expenditure is expected to rise from Rs 60911 cr to Rs 63911 cr. The revenue receipts have consistently been higher than the revenue expenditure starting with a surplus of Rs 4913.25 crores in 2017-18, which further increased to a significant surplus of Rs 14456.91 crores in 2022-23. Even for the fiscal year 2023-24, a healthy surplus of Rs



6462.29 crores is anticipated. However, the forecast for 2024-25 presents a potential challenge: while the initial Budget Estimates (BE) show a surplus of Rs 3231.19 crores, the possible inclusion of additional demand could lead to a deficit of Rs 1495.48 crores. Notably, the Arvind Kejriwal government is giving free ride to women in DTC buses, free water up to 20,000 litre per family, free electricity up to 200 units per family, free pilgrimage to senior citizens to the people of Delhi. Lambasting the Aam aadmi Party (AAP) government, Delhi Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) President, Virendra Sachdeva, alleged that this Arvind Kejriwal government has pushed the national

capital into a financial crisis through ten years of economic mismanagement. He pointed out that despite claims of surplus budgets, the city is now facing its first deficit budget for the fiscal year 2024-25. Sachdeva highlighted that during the BJP-led government under Madan Lal Khurana in 1994-95, Delhi had its first surplus budget, a legacy that continued until 2022-23. He claimed, "The result of Arvind Kejriwal's 10 years of economic mismanagement is that due to the slippery economic condition in 2023-24, the budget of 2024-25 has now become the first deficit budget in the legislative history of Delhi.

Continued on page 2



Where time, and traffic stand still

Nothing posh about the massive jams of South Delhi

BY RAHUL DATTA

Press Enclave Marg connecting Sheikh Sarai at Lal Bahadur Shastri Marg with Sri Aurobindo Marg in South Delhi, has become a traffic nightmare. Flanked by Saket district courts, three shopping malls and two private hospitals besides Khirki and Hauz Rani villages, the nearly four km-long road tests the patience of all be it motorists, two-wheeler drivers or DTC buses. The situation takes a turn for the worse during festival season as it happened on Wednesday late evening when long queues were witnessed at about 8.30 pm. Police had to regulate the traffic by manually operating the traffic signals in order to ensure smooth flow. Similar scenes are seen from

December 25 to 31 each year, when huge crowds through the shopping malls and extra traffic deployment tries to manage the traffic. The jams on many days throughout the year are so bad that motorists wishing to join traffic from colonies like Press Enclave and two more adjoining residential complexes are not able to do so as it happened on Wednesday evening. Adding to the mess, the traffic junction at Malviya Nagar metro station has become a huge bottleneck. Erratic parking by auto-rickshaws on both sides of the station compounds the problem. Despite several drives by the police, no workable solution has emerged. Traffic snarls on Press Enclave Marg lead to spillovers into the connecting roads with Saket, the area is dotted with residential colonies. Given the sheer volume of



Photo: Ranjan Dimri/Pioneer

traffic, these roads are choked even during the so-called non-peak hours. A survey of the Press Enclave Marg indicates that the road sees a very high volume of peak-hour traffic, mainly due to unauthorised parking and encroachments. Peak-hour traffic on Press Enclave Marg is around 9,000 passenger car units (PCUs) in the morning and 10,000 PCUs in the evening, officials said. The Public Works Department (PWD) recently wrote to the traffic police and transport department and sought suggestions to decongest the perennially clogged Press Enclave Marg. Some solutions being considered include shifting the central verge at the Mandir Marg intersection in order to clear space for cars, and making the entire stretch signal-free, sources said.

One of the options proposed by PWD is to shift the central verge at the Mandir Marg intersection to allow more carriageway space for movement of vehicles. Another proposed solution includes removing all three traffic lights on the entire road to make it a signal-free stretch. The three traffic lights are at the intersection of Pramod Mahajan Marg, Mandir Marg and Shaheed Pankaj Bal Marg. However, the move requires approval from the traffic police and senior department officials. After the G20 Summit, the Delhi government in September last year decided to redesign and improve all major stretches across the city, starting with the Press Enclave Marg. Unlike other stretches, the traffic volume is high even during weekends due to the presence of malls, sources said.

India-ASEAN relations important in times of conflicts: Modi

PTI ■ VIENTIANE

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said India-ASEAN friendship was very important at a time when parts of the world were facing conflicts and tensions. Addressing the 21st India-ASEAN Summit here, Modi also said he had announced the Act East Policy 10 years ago and in the past decade it had given new energy, direction and momentum to the historic ties between India and ASEAN nations. The India-ASEAN Summit is taking place at a time when the region is witnessing tensions between the Philippines and China over maritime issues in the South China Sea and the crisis in Myanmar, where ethnic groups are battling the military regime. The Prime Minister said he believed that the 21st century, also called the Asian century, is the century of India and ASEAN nations. "India-ASEAN friendship, coordination dialogue and cooperation is very important at a time when several parts of the world are facing conflicts and tensions," he said. Prime Minister Modi said India and the ASEAN nations were neighbours, partners in the Global South, and a region that was witnessing rapid growth. "We are peace-loving nations and respect each other's national integrity and sovereignty, and are committed to the bright future of the youth of the region," he said. Modi said keeping ASEAN



centrality in mind, India launched the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative in 2019, which complemented the ASEAN Outlook on Indo-Pacific. "Last year, maritime exercises were started for regional security and stability," Modi said, adding that India's trade with ASEAN nations has nearly doubled to more than USD 130 billion over the past decade. "India has direct flights to seven ASEAN countries and direct flights to Brunei will start soon," the Prime Minister said. Modi said India has launched Fintech connectivity with Singapore, the first nation in the ASEAN region. "This success was being replicated in other nations as well," he said. The Prime Minister said a people-centric approach was the foundation of the development partnership between India and ASEAN. Modi said that more than 300 students from the ASEAN region have received scholarships from Nalanda University. The partnership has also worked to protect the shared inheritance and heritage of Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, Myanmar and Indonesia. "Whether it is the Covid pandemic or natural disasters, we have helped each other fulfill our humanitarian responsibilities," Modi said. Modi said India and ASEAN have set up the Science and Technology Fund, Digital Fund and Green Fund for cooperation in different sectors and New Delhi has contributed more than USD 300 million to these initiatives. "As a result, today our cooperation extends from underwater to space sectors and our partnership has become more comprehensive over the past decade," the Prime Minister said. Later, Modi said in a post on X that the India-ASEAN Summit was a "productive" one. "We discussed how to further strengthen the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between India and ASEAN. We look forward to deepening trade ties, cultural linkages and cooperation in technology, connectivity and other such sectors," he said. Modi arrived here in Laos on a two-day visit to attend the ASEAN-India and East Asia summits and further deepen engagement with countries in the groupings.

Woman centric themes take centre stage in Bengal pujas

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Many Durga Puja organisers of Bengal seem to have given a tweak to the Puja Themes against the backdrop of RG Kar Medical College and Hospital rape and murder case --- with quite a few selecting "women empowerment" and the proverbial "Spine" in order to ideate a message of erectness to the Babus and the Police hammering home the message of constitutional obligations so to say. Take for instance 'Chakravarty' a Theme created by Railpukur United Club, Baguati, which portrays the lifelong struggles faced by women from the mythological past till the present days showing myriad stories of exploitation, humiliation, objectification. They have taken up Draupadi's humiliation in Mahabharat to hammer home their point. Though most organizers would evade posers on a link between their Theme and RGKMCH



some in private concede "it is for the public to decipher" the poetic gobbledygook. With their Theme Ritumati the organizers of Pathuria Ghata Pancher Palli Durga Puja Committee in North Kolkata have decided to sensitize the women --- may the society --- at large about menstruation and associated restrictions in the forbidden realm of religion. Ritumati means a menstruating woman. "We have portrayed various stages of a woman's cycle... that

themes and idol-making to overall pandal execution. Cut to this all-women club of Malda in North Bengal where the entire Pujas are organized by women. "Pujas are just only one activity amongst many others that we perform throughout the year," Piyali one of the members say. "We started this Pujas consciously keeping men out of it because there are several things that men cannot do or you can say what men can do women can do with better perfection ... there was no street light in our vicinity ... women were victims of eve-teasing and so many other things ... but everything has been corrected and the politicians have been forced to see reasons ... now it is Durga Puja that we have been doing with full marks We dress in Blue inspired by the Mother train our juniors in the art of self-defence ... they won't give up easily today ... Our Puja is an extension of our activity. At Kashi Bose Lane Sarbojonin Durga Puja the organizers have portrayed Bengal's role in eradicating of Sati Pratha or the system of burning the bride in funeral pyre of the husband. "Through worshipping our Mother who is our Daughter too we have remembered how Bengal played a pivotal role in fighting away Sati said an organizer. Back to "Spine" a symbolic replica of which the agitating junior doctors last month had presented to the 'removed' Kolkata Police Commissioner Vineet Goyal for his deficient performance in the investigation of the rape and murder of the postgraduate lady doctor of the Government Hospital. At least three clubs of Kolkata and Howrah had created huge replicas of Spine to drive home a message to the powers that be before being allegedly arm-twisted by administration to deposit the fabricated spines in the dump yard of their Puja pandals.

Pets are our family, and their lives matter to every pet parent: Tata

PNS ■ MUMBAI

Many canines, both strays and pets, Mumbai, lost 'Their Master's Voice' in the death of veteran industrialist Ratan Naval Tata, a compassionate man who set up a Small Animal Hospital at Mahalaxmi in south-central Mumbai early this year. Businessman and columnist Suhel Seth, who had known Ratan Tata, recalled how the industrialist had declined an invitation by King Charles (then Prince Charles) to go to Buckingham Palace to receive a lifetime achievement award because one of his pet dogs was unwell. "Tata, whose love for dogs is well-known, Ratan Tata was to be felicitated at the Buckingham Palace for his unmatched philanthropy," Seth said. "However, at the very last



fact, there is a kennel at the Bombay House to take care of Tata's canine friends." Mournful the death of Ratan Tata, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) India Vice President Sachin Bangera said: "Ratan ji's love for animals and compassion was as famous as his business prowess and will always be remembered. His influence on the community, inspiring many to care for community dogs, and to open their hearts and homes to them, is a testament to his enduring legacy." Before he passed away, Ratan Tata realised his dream of building an animal hospital for pets in Mumbai. A first of its kind hospital spread over 98,000 sq ft, across 5 floors with a capacity of over 200 beds, the Small Animal Hospital at Mahalaxmi in the heart of Mumbai. The hospital was inaugurated in March 2024.

Omar Abdullah elected...

From page 1

"Now our number is 42 plus the four independent MLAs. After receiving the letter from the Congress, we will go to the Raj Bhavan to stake claim to form the government," Omar added. Inside reports suggested that the National Conference may go ahead and stake claim for government formation on Friday even in the absence of a letter of support from the Congress party. In a house of 90 members, NC along with independent candidates has magic numbers in its kitty. Political observers opined Congress has been relegated from a junior partner in the incoming Jammu and Kashmir government to a

relative non-entity after four independent MLAs extended support to the National Conference. Meanwhile, the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) on Thursday accused the NC and CPI(M) of indulging in hooliganism after victory in the Jammu and Kashmir assembly elections. Addressing a press conference at the party headquarters here, People's Democratic Party (PDP) leader Iltija Mufti congratulated the NC on its victory and the party vice president Omar Abdullah on his election as the legislature party leader but questioned whether the huge majority was for hooliganism and destruction of properties. "The NC's elected MLA

Jamshedpur mourns its man of steel

From page 1

In a social media post in July 2020, Tata recalled his first visit to Jamshedpur during a college holiday. "I remember the first time I ever visited Jamshedpur when I was on holiday from college. Mr. R. G. Da Costa and Mr. J. D. Chokshi invited me to visit the Telco plant and have a walk around. This trip was much before I started working on the Tata Steel floor, my first interaction with the legacy city of Jamshedpur," Tata posted. Ratan Tata's first visit to Jamshedpur was in 1963 to look into how Tata Steel,

that Ratan lived with a zeal to give the company and Jamshedpur global recognition. "This first things he (Ratan Tata) was that he worked on company's insignia which was changed from old model of writing 'T' within a circle to the present format of T which signifies opened line, highways, roads or you can mean that only moving ahead. As far as I remember Ratan Saab had shared to us that the new logo will compete with the Europeans, and it was being designed in the UK," remembered the retired Foreman of Tata Motors.

Delhi Police seize cocaine worth ₹2,000 crore

SAUMYA SHUKLA ■ NEW DELHI

In its second major drug bust in a month, the Delhi Police's Special Cell seized 200 kilograms of cocaine valued at Rs 2,000 crore from west Delhi on Thursday. This has a connection with the earlier bust of Rs 5,000 crore worth of cocaine. Marking the second major drug bust, police say that the gang involved in the latest seizure is part of the same syndicate. Last week, Delhi Police had seized over 560 kg of Colombian cocaine and 40 kg of marijuana in southwest Delhi valued at over Rs 5,000

crore in the international market. The drugs were being transported by an international module, and was described as the largest drug bust till date. The official also indicated that a raid is currently ongoing in the Ramesh Nagar area of west Delhi in the case. "More details from the confiscation is awaited," a senior police officer stated. Earlier this month, the Delhi Police busted an international drug syndicate and seized more than 602 kg of cocaine in the national capital's Mahipalpur in early October. The police valued the consignment at Rs 6,500 crore in the international market.

TATA TO BHARAT'S RATAN

From page 1

Earlier, after his death on Wednesday night, the veteran industrialist's body was taken from the Breach Candy Hospital to his Colaba residence in south Mumbai. Later on Thursday morning, his mortal remains were taken from his house in a hearse, decked with white flowers, to the NCPA in south Mumbai, where it was kept between 10.30 am and 3.55 pm for letting people pay their last respects. Maharashtra chief minister Eknath Shinde, deputy chief minister Devendra Fadnis and Industrialist Mukesh Ambani were among those who rushed to the Breach Candy Hospital shortly around midnight after hearing about Ratan Tata's death. Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday morning spoke with Ratan Tata's brother, Noel Tata, and offered condolences to the bereaved family members of Tata. Earlier, in a tweet mourning Tata's death, Modi wrote: "Shri Ratan Tata Ji was a visionary business leader, a compassionate soul and an extraordinary human being. He provided stable leadership to one of India's oldest and most prestigious business houses."

kindness and an unwavering commitment to making our society better," the Prime Minister added. In her condolence message, President Droupadi Murmu said: "In the sad demise of Shri Ratan Tata, India has lost an icon who blended corporate growth with nation building, and excellence with ethics." "...he took forward the great Tata legacy and gave it a more impressive global presence. He inspired seasoned professionals and young students alike. His contribution to philanthropy and charity is invaluable," Murmu wrote on "X" Union Home Minister Amit Shah attended Ratan Tata's funeral on behalf of the Government of India. Industrialists Mukesh Ambani, who came along with his wife Nita, Anand Mahindra and Kumar Mangalam Birla were among the who is who of the India Inc -- that included heads of leading business families like the Piramals, Godrejs, Hindujs, Mahendras and Bajajs -- paid homage to the departed industrialists. Apart from Shinde and Fadnis, the prominent politicians who paid their last respects to Ratan Tata were NCP (SP) chief Sharad Pawar, deputy chief minister Ajit Pawar, Shiv Sena (UBT) president Uddhav Thackeray, Union Ministers Nitin Gadkari, Piyush Goyal, former chief minister Sushil Kumar

Shinde and Prithviraj Chavan and MNS chief Raj Thackeray. Cricketing icon Sachin Tendulkar who enjoyed a wonderful rapport with the former Tata group head, was among those who paid homage to the legendary industrialist. In a statement, the Congress said it "is deeply saddened by the passing of Padma Vibhushan Shri Ratan Tata, a titan of Indian industry and a philanthropist who shaped India's corporate landscape." Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul wrote on "X": "Ratan Tata was a man with a vision. He has left a lasting mark on both business and philanthropy. My condolences to his family and the Tata community." Describing Ratan Tata as India's one of most illustrious and kind-hearted sons, industrialist Mukesh Ambani said in his condolence message: "It is a very sad day for India and India Inc. Ratan Tata's passing away is a big loss, not just to the Tata Group, but to every Indian." Earlier in a late night statement announcing the death of Ratan Tata, N Chandrasekaran, Chairman of Tata Sons, said: "For the Tata Group, Mr. Tata was more than a chairperson. To me, he was a mentor, guide and friend. He inspired by example. With an unwavering commitment to excellence, integrity, and innovation, the Tata Group under his

Rafael Nadal... Goodbye, Mr. Tata

From page 1

One of his career highlights was 2004 Davis Cup where young Nadal helped the team to secure the title. Nadal also won four trophies in the U.S. Open and two apiece at Wimbledon and the Australian Open, giving him a career Grand Slam. His last pair arrived in 2022, at Melbourne in January and at Paris in June, pushing him ahead of Roger Federer for the men's record of 20 Grand

Slam titles. Federer announced his retirement when he was 41 at the end of the 2022 season, shortly before bidding adieu by teaming with Nadal in a doubles match at the Laver Cup. Both have been surpassed by Novak Djokovic, who is up to 24. Nadal's court shattering records, and legacy will always remind tennis lovers of what a legend he was every time he stepped on the court and faced the best in the world.

From page 1

He fulfilled his long-time ambition of running an airline when he started Vistara along with Singapore Airlines and while he might have retired from day-to-day operations, there is little doubt that he played a role in Tata Sons acquiring Air India. It is only correct that Ratan Tata has been given a state funeral and his mortal remains were draped in the Tricolour because first and foremost, he was an extremely proud India. In the coming days, while India mourns his death, certain aspects of his business dealings which were less than ideal will again be brought to light. But his reputation remained unsullied, unlike many other large Indian industrialists. And the reason for that was his large heart.

Delhi govt spent more...

From page 1

This is all because of AAP's corrupt practices." According to the Delhi BJP chief, the capital's revenue has been increasing year-on-year, the deficit is a result of the AAP government's failure to develop new economic resources while simultaneously launching numerous public welfare schemes. The budget division of Delhi's finance department made these projections while preparing the revised estimates for the 2024 fiscal year. Sources indicate that the finance department recently shared a note on the city's financial situation with chief minister Atishi who also holds the finance portfolio, detailing tax, non-tax revenues, and expenditures under various categories.

The financial situation of the Delhi Government, as outlined by the BE for the fiscal year 2024-2025, suggests a cautious stance amidst mounting fiscal demands. These funds are primarily allocated to cover revenue expenditures essential for running the government, addressing operational costs, maintaining infrastructure, and subsidising welfare schemes. However, additional resource requirements on the revenue front have been identified, potentially straining the budget further. Key departmental needs include Rs. 141 crores for the Law Department to fund pensions and allowances in alignment with the 2nd National Judicial Pay Commission recommendations.

The Power Department seeks Rs. 512 crores for consumer subsidies channelled through DISCOMs, while the Transport Department requires Rs. 941 crores to support the viability of electric buses. Moreover, the Health Department is earmarked for expenditures on the remodelling of hospitals due for completion this year. Additional pressing needs include Rs. 447 crores for the Irrigation and Flood Control department for necessary desilting and restoration works, and a significant Rs. 3,271 crores for the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC), addressing operational losses from the COVID-19 pandemic and loan obligations to the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

An extra Rs. 250 crores is also necessary for acquiring the University College of Medical Science under the Health and Family Welfare Department. These requirements amount to an additional Rs. 7,362 crores. With a monthly expenditure on salaries, wages, and interest repayments pegged at Rs. 2,240 crores and a current cash reserve of Rs. 4,471 crores, the Delhi Government is confronting a fiscal challenge. This financial scenario underscores concerns over the government's ability to sustain even two months of operational expenses, stressing the imperative for strategic fiscal oversight and possibly seeking avenues for additional revenue generation or cost-cutting measures.



Arambag Puja Committee Durga Puja Pandal



Kali Bari Temple Mandir Marg, Connaught Place Durga Puja Pandal



Devotees visit 115 years old Kashmiri Gate Durga Puja Pandal

Ranjan Dimri

City Cabinet approves 50 per cent hike in MLA-LAD Fund

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Cabinet on Thursday approved a 50 per cent hike in MLA-LAD Fund with each MLA's local area development fund increased from Rs. 10 crores to Rs. 15 crores per year. Announcing the increase in the funds at a press conference, Chief Minister Atishi positioned Delhi as the state with the highest MLA Fund allocation in the country. "Today, the Delhi Cabinet has made a significant decision by increasing the MLA Fund from Rs 10 crores per year to Rs 15 crores per year. No other state in the country provides such a large MLA Fund as Delhi," she asserted.

Highlighting comparisons with other states, she noted that Gujarat allocates Rs 1.5 crores per MLA constituency, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka provide Rs 2 crores, Maharashtra, Kerala, and Rajasthan allocate only Rs 5 crores.

"Now, Delhi will provide Rs 15 crores per year, not only the highest in the country but also three times more than most states. For the past ten years, under the leadership of Arvind Kejriwal, the Delhi government has been working for the people of Delhi—whether they live in slums, unauthorized colonies, or big bungalows. In the coming years, the Delhi government will continue to work for the people of Delhi,"



she stated.

Delhi Minister Saurabh Bharadwaj stated, "Today, there was an important meeting of the Delhi government's Cabinet at the Delhi Secretariat, where a major decision was made regarding the MLA-LAD Fund. The MLA-LAD Fund is a very important fund in a democracy through which local residents can get small or large development works done through their MLA."

In light of the damage caused by this year's heavy rains, he said,

"This year Delhi has experienced a lot of rain, which has caused damage to the roads, parks, walkways, and walls. MLAs have been regularly bringing these issues to our attention, and the increased MLA Fund will enable them to quickly provide relief without waiting for long departmental sanctions."

Meanwhile, Delhi BJP said that the announcement by Chief Minister Atishi to increase the annual MLA fund in the last moments of the government and the assembly's tenure is nothing but a deception. Delhi BJP President Virendra Sachdeva stated, "This increase in MLA funds is less likely to be spent on solving local problems and development, and is more likely to be misused on the ruling MLAs' commission minting, as well as being misused by contractors and officials."

Leader of Opposition in the Assembly Vijender Gupta added the government should ensure that only development work is carried out within this time frame using the additional MLA funds. "Additionally, there should be complete audit supervision of all MLA fund expenditures made within the final 100 days," he said.

DU sets sights on range of initiatives including launching own satellite

Only allowing e-vehicles, free lunch some of other initiatives

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi University has set its sight on a range of ambitious initiatives, including launching its own satellite, implementing a policy to allow only electric vehicles on the campus and introducing a free lunch scheme for the students.

These plans are part of the varsity's long-term goals mapped in its Institutional Development Plan (IDP) 2024 -- a perspective plan document which charts out the broad goals and objective the Delhi University (DU) wishes to achieve over a period of time.

According to the set goals, the university aims to establish a DU satellite system that could play a major role in scientific research, telecommunications, GPS navigation as well as remote education. However, if financial limitations arise, the DU may consider hiring services from organizations like the ISRO to make this plan a reality, the document states.

In addition, the DU is eyeing environmental sustainability with plans to introduce a zero-emission target by restricting fossil fuel vehicles on the campus. The university hopes to phase in electric vehicles, starting with areas like Chhatra Marg, to create a cleaner and greener environment for the students and staff.



The modalities of these projects and feasibility of their implementation will be decided as and when they are considered for rolling out. Another major initiative the DU plans to introduce is a working lunch scheme for underprivileged students, offering free meals in the university cafeteria in exchange for work. The canteens will follow strict food safety standards and could collaborate with self-help groups for food procurement to support local communities, the IDP envisions.

Alongside these plans, the DU is looking at creating a "University Haat", on lines of the universities abroad, to set up a commercial shopping area where products developed by the university's student-led start-ups can be

showcased and put up for sale.

The university's massive population of nearly six lakh people presents a unique market opportunity, the document states.

The university's other long-term vision includes developing a 'University Alumni Angel Network' where successful alumni can provide mentorship and financial support to student-led start-ups, offer reverse internships where students hire industry professionals and establish the special Chair for multinational companies, which can promote research at the university in their interest.

The Institutional Development Plan has been tabled for consideration before the Academic Council members, who held a meeting on Thursday.

DU-St Stephens college tussle: VC constitutes committee to hold talks

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Amid a tussle between the Delhi University and its affiliate St Stephen's College, Vice-Chancellor Yogesh Singh has constituted a committee to hold talks with the college administration.

A three-member panel of the Academic Council members will communicate with college principal John Varghese over alleged discard of the university rules by the college administration, said an official statement.

The Delhi University (DU) and St Stephen's have been at loggerheads for long over policy implementation disputes. Recently, the two were at the center of a controversy after the college denied to admit 12 students over its sanctioned seat limit under the DU's newly introduced single girl child quota. Several students under the unreserved category were also refused admission disregarding the DU's extra allocations formula adopted for optimal filling of seats.

After a legal battle, some of these students were admitted by the college following the Delhi High Court's order. In an Academic Council meeting held on Thursday, the vice-chancellor constituted a committee, which includes Professor Harendra Nath Tiwari, Alok Pandey and Maya John. They will communicate with the college principal for resolution on the issue, the statement said.



Besides, during the meeting DU's Institutional Development Plan (IDP) 2024 and Strategic Plan -- two key perspective plan documents of the university which charts out its short term and long term plans for future were approved and passed amid objections by a section of the professors.

However, the vice-chancellor has constituted a committee to review the IDP draft and asked to make revisions based on the raised objections after which it is slated to be tabled before the Executive Council members, the highest decision making body of the university, in their meeting on October 14, the statement said.

A proposal on revisions made in a general elective paper titled 'Delhi Through Ages: Making of its Early Modern History' was also passed in the meeting. The revision includes replacing the text Purana Qila with 'Indraprastha-Hastinapur' and removal of a text by historian Irfan Habib from the suggested readings, according to the Academic Council members.

Vigilance department arrests constable for accepting bribe



STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police's Vigilance department arrested a constable of Vasant Kunj (South) police station for demanding and accepting a bribe. According to the police on Thursday, they nabbed the alleged constable, who has been identified as Amit, red-handed while he was accepting a bribe. A senior police official said, "The Vigilance Unit of Delhi Police while acting on a complaint filed by a citizen over the vigilance helpline no. 1064, arrested a police personnel posted in Police Station Vasant Kunj (South), for demanding a bribe of Rs.50,000/- and accepting a part amount." He added that on Wednesday, a call was received from the complainant wherein she informed the helpline staff that a local area's beat staff demanded a bribe from her upon initiating civil construction work in the Rangpuri Pahadi area for allowing continuation of the construction work. "Aggrieved by the unjust and

illegal demand, Ms.X, who is a homemaker, called on the helpline number and sought action against the culprit. The information shared by the complainant immediately got verified on ground through a discreet enquiry by the Vigilance Unit's team, which prima facie confirmed the genuineness of her grievances," another police officer said. Accordingly, a police team, along-with public witness, laid a trap in coordination with the complainant. "The alleged police personnel had directed the complainant to deliver the first instalment of the demanded bribe money (the sum of money arranged by the complainant till that time), as a designated place in the local area," he said, adding that the team nabbed him. An FIR under the relevant sections of Prevention of Corruption Act and Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita has been registered at Police Station Vigilance. "The arrested accused Constable has been produced before the Special Court, Rouse Avenue Courts, and has been sent to judicial custody," the officer stated.

AAP shares photo of CM Atishi signing files at her Kalkaji residence



STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) on Thursday shared images showing Delhi Chief Minister Atishi signing files at her Kalkaji residence surrounded by packed cartons of her belongings, a day after the party claimed she was made to "forcibly vacate" the 6, Flagstaff Road bungalow in the Civil Lines area. Posting the images on X, AAP lashed out at the BJP, saying it cannot take away Atishi's commitment to work for the people of Delhi. Later, Atishi accused the BJP of attempting to encroach upon the "CM's residence" at 6, Flagstaff Road in the Civil Lines area. At a press conference said the BJP was frustrated as it was not able to defeat the AAP in elections and was thus resorting to desperate measures. The BJP responded by saying that the AAP was indulging in a "drama" and playing "victim card" over the property to gain sympathy. Responding to the pictures, BJP MLA and Leader of Opposition in Delhi

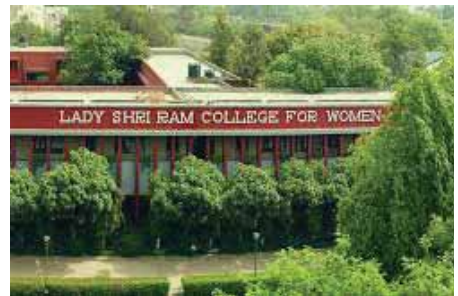
Assembly Vijender Gupta said Atishi already had a bungalow in her name on Mathura Road and termed the party's complaints as mere antics. "She is trying to play the 'victim card' to gain public sympathy like her predecessor and AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal. Atishi has a bungalow allotted in her name on Mathura Road which was earlier used by Sheila Dikshit for 10 years as Delhi Chief Minister. Also, Atishi can work from her full-fledged office at Delhi secretariat but she was making a futile attempt by playing the victim card posing with empty boxes," he said. Gupta asked the AAP leader the need to occupy the Chief Minister residence despite having an official residence at AB-17, Mathura road which was allotted to her as a minister. "Why Atishi, despite having such a beautiful and luxurious official residence at AB-17 and a lavishly renovated Chief Minister office worth crores, still wanted to illegally occupy the 'Sheesh Mahal' at 6 Flagstaff Road,

Kejriwal's residence?" he questioned. Attacking Atishi over the social media posts showing her work around boxes, Gupta asked, "Despite having a splendid residence and office, Atishi, who staged a drama by sitting amidst empty boxes at her personal residence, is trying to fool whom? Why does she not want to work from her official residence and office?" Accusing the BJP, Atishi said the BJP is in tension because they haven't been able to defeat us at the polls. "They couldn't even secure double-digit seats in the assembly, and their 'Operation Lotus' to break our party also failed. Even jailing our leaders didn't work," she said. Atishi said the AAP was not in politics for cars and bungalows. "If the BJP gets peace by encroaching on the CM house, they are welcome to it. Our party isn't in politics for bungalows or cars. If necessary, AAP ministers and MLAs are ready to work from the streets," she said.

Olympians honoured at LSR college

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Olympians Manu Bhaker and Maheshwari Chauhan were on Thursday honoured by their alma mater, Lady Shri Ram College (LSR) for Women, for their "exceptional performance" at the 2024 Paris Olympics. The Delhi University college organised a special ceremony to celebrate their achievements and their contribution to Indian sports. Bhaker, who completed her Political Science (BCom) degree from LSR, made history by becoming the first Indian female shooter to win an Olympic medal and the first Indian athlete to win two medals in a single Olympics. Chauhan, who graduated in Philosophy (Hons), also made the country proud as the first Indian woman skeet shooter to compete in the Olympics, narrowly missing out on a bronze medal.



Rhythm Sangwan, a current third-year student at LSR and a shooter, was to be honoured for her performance in the Paris Olympics, where she finished 10th in a team event and 15th in an individual air pistol event. However, she could not make it. The college also honoured Jaspal Rana, who is Bhaker's coach.

Minor boy raped by neighbour

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A minor boy was allegedly raped by a neighbor who used to show him adult pictures in Delhi's Bindapur area. According to the police on Thursday, a complaint was received on Wednesday night about sexual assault with a child. The accused, who is a resident of Bihar, was residing nearby to the family of the victim child and is currently absconding, according to police sources. Deputy Commissioner of Police (Dwarka) Ankit Singh said, "A PCR call was received at Bindapur police station at around 9:29 pm about sexual assault with a child. On this police reached and met mother of the child." He added that during police enquiry, it transpired that victim has been sexually assaulted by one neighbour who has run away from the rented house. "Victim was taken to Deen Dayal Upadhyay (DDU) hospital for medical examina-



tion where he was medically examined with A/H/O sexual and physical assault," Singh stated, adding that the mother said that her son was having problem in rectum while going to bathroom. The statement of mother was recorded in the case where she stated that her son had problem in rectum while going to bathroom and later revealed that one neighbor who was staying on rent in same building sexually assaulted him and used to

show him porn pictures on mobile. A case under section six of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act and 351(2) (Criminal intimidation) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) has been registered. "Sincere efforts are being taken to nab the accused and further investigation is ongoing," the DCP stated. A police source said that it is still unclear if the accused was a major.

BJP set for swearing-in Haryana post Dussehra

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI/ CHANDIGARH

The swearing-in of the new BJP government in Haryana is likely to take place after Dussehra and factors like caste and region equations may be considered while deciding the cabinet. A BJP leader from the state said the swearing-in ceremony of the new government is likely to take place after Dussehra festival, which falls on October 12. Haryana can have a maximum of 14 ministers, including the chief minister. BJP now has nine MLAs from the Dalit community, eight with Punjabi origins, seven Brahmins, and six each from the Jats and the Yadavs. The party now also has Gurjars, Rajputs, Vaishyas, and an OBC leader. Eight out of 10 ministers in the outgoing Saini cabinet faced defeat in the Haryana assembly polls. The two who won are Mahipal Dhanda and Mool Chand Sharma from Panipat Rural and Ballabgarh seats respectively. Both Dhanda, who comes from the Jat community, and Sharma, a



senior leader and a Brahmin face, are among the ministerial probables in the new government, sources said. Nayab Singh Saini had met Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other senior BJP leaders in Delhi on Wednesday ahead of his likely swearing-in as the head of the new dispensation in the state following the party's win in the assembly polls. On Thursday, Saini also met Union minister and the BJP's election in-charge for

Haryana, Dharmendra Pradhan, in the national capital. The BJP had indicated during the elections that Saini, who replaced Manohar Lal Khattar as chief minister in March and hails from the Other Backward Classes, will be its choice for the top post if it wins. The party ended up with its best-ever haul of 48 seats, 11 more than the Congress. The JJP and the AAP were decimated and the INLD managed to win just two

seats. The BJP, which pulled off a hat-trick of wins by bucking anti-incumbency, managed to make significant inroads into the Dalit seats and Jat strongholds and continued its dominance in the Ahirwal belt. Out of 17 Scheduled Caste (SC) seats in Haryana, the BJP won eight assembly constituencies. Among the leaders from the Dalit community who could be in reckoning for the ministerial berths include senior leader Krishan Lal Panwar, who won from Israna seat and Krishan Kumar Panwar, a Rajya Sabha member, had fought the assembly elections. Former MLA Krishan Kumar, who won from Narwana, could also be the ministerial choice. In the Ahirwal belt in south Haryana, the party won ten of the eleven seats. Most of the candidates in this belt are believed to be close to Union Minister and Gurgaon MP, Rao Inderjit Singh. Rao's daughter Arti Singh Rao, who won from Ateli seat, is also in reckoning for a ministerial berth. Om Prakash Yadav,

who won from Narnaul and senior leader Rao Narbir Singh, who won from Badshahpur, are also in the race, sources said. Among other women faces in addition to Arti, senior leader Kiran Choudhry's daughter Shruti, a former MP, who won from Tosham assembly seat, Shakti Rani Sharma, who won from Kalka, are also in the race. While all the three independents who won have declared that they will support the new government once it is formed, among them Hisar MLA Savitri Jindal's name has not been ruled out from the ministerial race, sources said. Among others in contention include BJP leaders Anil Vij (Ambala Cantt), Shyam Singh Rana (Radaur), Jagmohan Anand (Karnal), Harvinder Kalyan (Gharaunda), Krishan Lal Middha (Jind), Arvind Kumar Sharma (Gohana), Vipul Goel (Faridabad), Nikhil Madaan (Sonapat) and Ghanshyam Dass (Yamunanagar). Devender Attri, who won from Uchana Kalan, is also a probable.

Aviation pioneer Ratan Tata's legacy lives on

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI/ MUMBAI

An architect by qualification and an aviator by passion, Ratan Tata embarked on his heavenly journey more than two-and-a-half years after losing-making Air India fly back to the Tata hangar. Ratan Tata, 86, breathed his last on the night of October 9, little over a month before the completion of the Air India-Vistara merger that will also see Singapore Airlines snapping up 25.1 per cent stake in Air India. He flew planes and fighter aircraft but his longing for Tatas to pilot Air India again remained a dream till January 2022. For years, many headwinds came the way in the group's efforts to come back into the aviation space through Air India. Finally, the aviation efforts took wings, first with AirAsia India and the second with Vistara, a joint venture with Singapore Airlines. AirAsia India which changed its name to AIX Connect and got merged with Air India Express on October 1 this year first took to the skies in 2014

as a joint venture with Malaysia's AirAsia Berhad. The budget airline later was wholly-owned by the Tata Group. Vistara started flying in January 2015 as a full-service carrier. "The Tata Group welcomes Air India's new customers and is excited to work together to make Air India the airline of choice in terms of passenger comfort and service," Ratan Tata said in a message days after completing the acquisition of the airline on January 27, 2022. Set up by JRD Tata in 1932, Tata Airlines was later nationalised and the name was also changed to Air India. Over the years, Ratan Tata's longing to bring back Air India under the stewardship of Tata Group remained a dream. Back in 1994, Tata Group and Singapore Airlines made efforts to set up a joint venture airline in India. Six years later, they again tried to enter the country's aviation market, this time by teaming up to acquire stakes in Air India. However, the two attempts did not take-off. Finally, the

dream was realised as Vistara took to the Indian skies in January 2015. And in November 2022, Tata Group announced the merger of Vistara with Air India. Singapore Airlines CEO Goh Choon Phong, who described Tata as a cherished partner and a dear friend, said Tata played a pivotal role in setting up Vistara over a decade ago, laying the foundation for a strong and enduring relationship between Tata Sons and Singapore Airlines. According to Vistara CEO Vinod Kannan, the aviation vertical was especially close to Tata's heart. In the words of Remi Maillard, President & Managing Director at Airbus India & South Asia, Tata's passion for aviation is well known and his zeal and vision for the revival of Air India as part of the Tata family will continue to inspire. While paying tributes to Tata, InterGlobe Enterprises Group Managing Director Rahul Bhatia on Thursday said IndiGo will, ever so modestly, walk alongside Air India to secure India's rightful seat at the centre stage of global aviation.

RSS to hold national executive meeting in Mathura

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Senior RSS functionaries will deliberate on a range of contemporary issues and chalk out future plans during a two-day national executive meeting of the organisation scheduled to begin in Uttar Pradesh's Mathura on October 25. The meeting in Parkham village near the temple town will also discuss the "organisational goals" that has to be achieved by next year when the RSS completes 100 years of its foundation, according to a statement uploaded by the organisation on its website on Thursday. "This year, the meeting of the Akhil Bharatiya Karyakari Mandal of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) is going to be held on 25 and 26 October in Parkham village



near Mathura in Braj province of western Uttar Pradesh," RSS national media and communications in-charge Sunil Ambekar said in the statement. All the heads of the RSS' 46 provincial units, general secretaries and 'pracharaks' are expected to attend the meeting, he said.

RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat, general secretary Dattatereya Hosabale, all joint general secretaries and other members of the national executive will be present at the meeting, he added. Ahead of the national executive meeting, Bhagwat will deliver his annual speech on the occasion of Vijayadashami at Reshimbau ground in Nagpur on Saturday. "There will be a detailed discussion in the meeting on the plans for follow-up of the important issues (to be mentioned in the speech of the Sarsangchalak ji (RSS chief) on the occasion of Vijayadashami," Ambekar said. The national executive at its meeting will also discuss "contemporary issues" in the country, he added.

CJI advocates judicial independence and transparency at Bhutan forum

PTI ■ NEW DELHI,

Judges are supposed to act in a manner that is "unencumbered" by popular morality while deciding constitutional and legal questions, Chief Justice of India (CJI) D Y Chandrachud has said. The CJI on Wednesday was speaking at the Bhutan Distinguished Speakers' Forum, a part of the Jigme Singye Wangchuck Lecture Series, on the subject of 'Judicial legitimacy through accessibility, transparency and technology: the Indian experience'. He also spoke on the credibility of judiciary and the "institutional trust" bestowed in courts. The 50th CJI said institutional trust in courts and their credibility was the very basis of a thriving constitutional order

and the courts did not directly hold resources as trustees of people. "Public trust is central to the credibility of the judicial branch which is otherwise insulated from public opinion in its operations as it must be. The Indian Supreme Court prides itself in being the people's court," the CJI said. Judiciary on several occasions questioned the distributional fairness of state largesse such as contracts and natural resources by other wings of the government, he added. He further opined that though as public functionaries, courts were vested with the responsibility to give effect to equity, these judicial bodies were not directly in charge of the manner in which resources were to be distributed. "It does, however, fall upon us

to adjudicate the fairness of that distribution, should it be questioned," added the CJI. Distinguishing between the role of the political executive and the judiciary, he emphasised that at the level of the trial courts, judicial officers were trained to apply the letter and the spirit of the law with clinical detachment from the popularity of their decisions. "Judges are supposed to act in a manner that is unencumbered by popular morality when deciding Constitutional or legal questions," he said. According to the CJI, it was in that sense that neither the appointment, nor the continuity of judges was determined by the popular mandate enjoyed by their decisions. "In fact populist

decision-making sits rather uncomfortably on the sinewy shoulders of judicial independence," he said. Highlighting the importance of transparency, CJI Chandrachud said sunlight was not only the best disinfectant but also begets public trust and helps keep the house in order and serves as an internal check on the functioning of the courts across the country. "It ensures that our institutions are better-managed and use their resources effectively," he said, adding that measures such as live-streaming of court proceedings have helped foster internal efficiency, accountability and institutional stability. He also referred to the concept of Public Interest

Litigation jurisdiction in India and said it became a unique part of the nation's constitutional order, which was co-opted by several other jurisdictions. "Substantive outcomes are only a part of the courts' accountability. Judicial institutions are assessed by the people based on substantive metrics such as consistency of outcomes and adherence to constitutional values of equity, fairness and justice," he said. Pointing out that not only judicial decisions but also the roads leading up to them, must be transparent, navigable by everyone with or without a legal education and must be broad enough to accommodate everyone, the CJI said India has been using technology to counter barriers to accessibility to the courts.

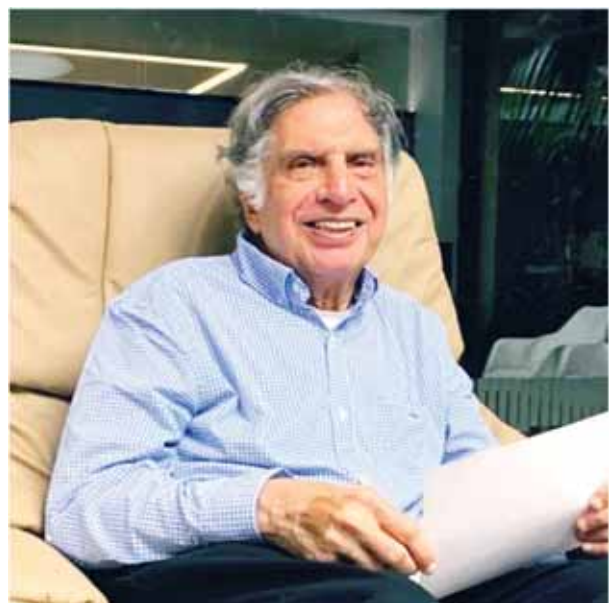
Bollywood mourns industrialist Ratan Tata's demise

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI/ HYDERABAD

Amitabh Bachchan, Salman Khan, Priyanka Chopra Jonas, and SS Rajamouli were among the prominent cinema personalities who mourned the death of Tata Group's chairman emeritus and legendary industrialist Ratan Tata. Telugu film personalities, including Chiranjeevi, Mahesh Babu, Junior NTR and others on Thursday mourned the demise of veteran industrialist Ratan Tata, hailing his philanthropy and contributions to the country's industrial progress. Bachchan called Tata's death the end of an era. The megastar, who along with Bipasha Basu and John Abraham, had worked in the 2004 film "Aetbaar" produced by Tata. "Just came to learn of the passing of Shri Ratan Tata ... Was working very late ... An era has ended ... A most respected, humble yet visionary leader of immense

foresight and resolve. Spent some wonderful moments with him, during several Campaigns we were involved in together. My prayers," Bachchan said in a social media post. Basu remembered the industrialist for his simplicity and empathy. In a social media post, Salman said he was "deeply saddened" by Tata's passing. "Goodbye to The Titan... Fly high like you loved... And oh how you taught us to love," Kareena Kapoor Khan wrote alongside a picture of a younger Tata, who held licenses to fly both jets and helicopters, sitting in a fighter plane. Ajay Devgn, who was one of the first film stars to pay condolence, said the world mourns the loss of a visionary. "Ratan Tata's legacy will forever inspire generations. His contributions to India and beyond are immeasurable. We are deeply grateful. Rest in peace, Sir," he wrote on the microblogging

site. Priyanka said Tata touched the lives of millions through his kindness. Alia Bhatt said Tata taught multiple generations "what it is to give". Diljit, who is currently on the European leg of his 'Dil-Luminati Tour', paid homage to the entrepreneur at his concert in Dusseldorf, Germany. "It was important to mention his name here because his life was all about hard work. I never read anywhere that he spoke ill of anyone. "He did hard work and charity, and that's what life is. To be helpful to people. He lived an unblemished life," said the singer-actor, in a video posted by his team on social media. Legends are born, and they live forever, said Rajamouli. "It's hard to imagine a day without using a TATA product. Ratan Tata's legacy is woven into everyday life. If anyone will stand the test of time alongside the



Panchabhootas, it's him," the filmmaker said. Akshay Kumar said he was "heartbroken" to hear about Tata's demise. "The world bids farewell to a man who built more than just an empire... His legacy of

kindness, innovation, and leadership will continue to inspire generations. Rest in peace, a true legend. Om Shanti," he wrote on X. Dharmendra said his dream of meeting Tata remained unfulfilled. "A humble king,

who after his workers like his own children. Sir, you will always be remembered with great love and respect," the veteran star said in a social media post. Actor-host Simi Garewal, who once hosted Tata on her popular talk show "Rendezvous With Simi Garewal, penned a heartfelt note for him. "They say you have gone. It's too hard to bear your loss too hard Farewell my friend," she wrote. Veteran actor and TMC MP Shatrughan Sinha called Tata "Bharat Ratna" in true sense. "Finest human being, philanthropist business tycoon our very own #RatanTata is no more. His contributions to society/nation are enormous. Thoughts & prayers are with the family & friends in their hour of grief for their irreplaceable & irreparable loss. Rest in eternal peace (sic)" Sinha wrote. Ranveer Singh shared a black-and-white photo of Tata with an infinity emoticon. For

Kamal Haasan, he was a "personal hero". "A national treasure whose contributions in nation-building shall forever be etched in the story of modern India. His true richness lay not in material wealth but in his ethics, integrity, humility and patriotism," he wrote. The "Indian 2" star recalled meeting Tata in the aftermath of the 2008 Mumbai attacks while he was staying at the iconic Taj Hotel. "In that moment of national crisis, the titan stood tall and became the embodiment of the Indian spirit, to rebuild and emerge stronger as a nation." Actor and fellow Parsi Boman Irani praised Tata for his contributions to the country, ranging from industry, philanthropy, elegance, humanity and his angelic devotion to animals. "What an honourable human being. Rest in peace Sir," said Sushmita Sen. "Deeply saddened by the tragic news of Shri Ratan Tata. He upheld the

values of integrity, grace, dignity through everything he did and was truly an icon and Taj of India. RIP Sir, you have touched so many lives," wrote actor Anushka Sharma. Telugu film personalities, including Chiranjeevi, Mahesh Babu, Junior NTR mourned the demise of veteran industrialist, hailing his philanthropy and contributions to the country's industrial progress. Ratan Tata's demise is a sad day for all Indians. For generations together, there is not a single Indian whose life has not been touched by his services one way or the other, Chiranjeevi said. "One of the greatest visionaries our country has ever seen, a truly legendary industrialist, a philanthropist extraordinaire and a human being par excellence, Shri Ratan Tata's contributions not only built the Illustrious TATA brand into a global powerhouse but also stupendously contributed to our Nation building," he said.

CDSCO scrutinises social media influencers promoting misleading medical content

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Social media influencers and telehealth companies engaged in promoting false and misleading medical prescriptions or medicines on online platforms beware! They are under the scrutiny of India's top drug regulator, the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) aiming to protect consumers from false claims that promise quick fixes, ensuring that accurate and safe medical information prevails. "We are taking appropriate actions against such deceptive medical contents" Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI), CDSCO Rajeev Singh Raghuvanshi said, though he did not share the



number of such cases in which action has been taken so far. The DCGI was talking to reporters on the sidelines of the CII Pharma and Life Sciences summit here recently. Consumer activists have been raising concerns about the potential risks posed by influencers and telehealth companies that disseminate deceptive medical content for

commercial gain on social media. This can place consumers at risk of severe and lasting side effects, underscoring the need for vigilance in monitoring such promotions, they say. To another query, Raghuvanshi said that manufacturers of around 45 medicines have been ordered to recall their products for not meeting quality norms, while action has been initiated to book the makers of five spurious drugs. Every month, he said the CDSCO samples and tests about more than 2,000 samples from the market, and out of that, "some 40-50, of them fail in one or the other parameter, which could be very minor parameters, also not of any health risk and we

put those details on our portal." The Drug and Cosmetics Act, has all the provisions to take care of the issue related to fake medicine and spurious drugs, he said. Last month, more than 50 drugs, including antacids and paracetamol, were listed in CDSCO's monthly list of substandard or fake medicines sold in India. The Department of Pharmaceuticals, Secretary Arunish Chawla talked about the measures being taken for drug development in India and said that as many as 16 blockbuster molecules targeted for a wide range of therapeutic areas, including cancer, diabetes, HIV and tuberculosis, are in the pipeline to be produced in India.

NHRC seeks explanation from Delhi authorities over fatal drain incidents

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has raised concerns over five fatal incidents involving open drains in the national capital reported over the past four months, including the recent death of a five-year-old boy in Alipur. Other cases involved a 32-year-old man in Bhajanpura, a seven-year-old boy in Ashok Vihar, and fatalities in Ghazipur and Burari. Taking serious view in the matter highlighting gross negligence by civic authorities the Apex human rights body on Thursday said that it has issued notices to the Delhi Government, the city police chief, the DDA and the MCD over reports that a five-year-old boy died allegedly after falling into an open drain in Alipur area of northwest Delhi on October 7.



The NHRC has observed the contents of the news report about death of the boy last week and noted that the contractor, who worked there, had reportedly left the drain open at various places without placing any warning signs, the statement by the NHRC said. This case and similar incidents in the recent past, if true, raise a serious issue of violation of the human rights of the victims due to

apparent negligence of the civic authorities, said the rights body. It is indeed very concerning that such incidents indicating negligence by the public authorities continue to happen in the national capital. Many human lives were reported lost due to drowning and electrocution in Delhi of which it had taken suo motu cognisance and asked the authorities to be vigilant, the rights panel

said. Accordingly, "it has issued notices to the chief secretary, government of Delhi, the commissioner of Delhi Police, the vice-chairman of the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) and the commissioner of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), seeking a detailed report within four weeks," the statement said. The report is expected to include the status of the FIRs in all such cases, action taken against officials responsible, and compensation, if any, paid to the next of kin of the deceased. The Commission would also like to know about the steps taken or proposed by the authorities to stop recurrence of such incidents, the statement said. The NHRC emphasised the need for accountability and improved safety measures to prevent such tragedies in the future.

Congress marginalised in UP as alliance with SP teeters

BISWAJEET BANERJEE ■ LUCKNOW

The Samajwadi Party's (SP) recent decision to field six candidates for the upcoming by-elections in Uttar Pradesh, without consulting Congress, has cast a shadow on the INDIA alliance's stability, particularly in the state. This move highlights the growing friction between SP and Congress, sparking concerns over Congress's diminishing role in the alliance and its potential marginalization in Uttar Pradesh's political landscape. The timing couldn't be worse for Congress, which has been struggling to regain ground after a disappointing performance in the Haryana elections. Political observers argue that this setback has further weakened Congress's bargaining power within the INDIA bloc, especially in states dominated by powerful regional parties like SP. The unilateral decision by SP hints

at the internal tug-of-war within the alliance and Congress's shrinking clout in crucial decision-making processes. Political commentator Manoj Bhadra expressed concern over SP's announcement. "By declaring candidates without consulting Congress, SP has signaled a shift in its strategy. The Congress-SP alliance, which showed some success in past elections, seems to be unraveling." He said that the two parties had previously collaborated effectively, stalling the BJP's advance in UP. However, the latest development shows SP distancing itself from Congress, possibly questioning the party's relevance in the alliance. A senior SP leader, speaking anonymously, highlighted Congress's eroding voter base and urged the party to reassess its rigid approach to seat-sharing. "Congress needs to be realistic. Their recent defeat in Haryana shows a



clear decline. If they continue with their stubborn approach, their risk being left out of the political game in UP." Reports indicate that Congress had initially sought to contest five seats in the by-elections—seats currently held by the BJP. However, SP's move to go ahead without their input has strained relations. "Despite Congress requesting a share of five seats, SP's independent decisions reflect Congress's diminishing influence in Uttar Pradesh," a senior Congress leader admitted. Congress's UP in-charge, Avinash Pandey, acknowl-

edged that SP had sidelined the party during the candidate selection process but remained hopeful of an eventual agreement. "We still believe that an alliance is possible. Congress and SP can, and should, contest these by-elections together," he said, trying to downplay the tension. Ajay Rai, President of UP Congress, echoed similar sentiments, emphasizing that their "Samvidhan Bachao" campaign would proceed in all 10 constituencies, showing Congress's intent to remain active despite the uncertainty. "I am optimistic we can still join forces with SP for these by-elections," Rai remarked. Yet, SP's national spokesperson, Amik Jamei, took a more critical stance, attributing Congress's struggles to internal discord and strategic missteps. "If Congress had involved Akhilesh Yadav in key campaign efforts, they might have fared better in recent elections. Congress needs to rethink its approach," Jamei argued, stressing the importance of cooperation in challenging the BJP. While tensions persist, SP spokesperson Manoj Kumar Yadav tried to smooth over the situation, reaffirming SP's

focus on defeating the BJP, regardless of internal alliance issues. "Our target remains defeating the BJP, and we've done it before. Congress needs to reflect on its position and work with us, not against us." Rajendra Chaudhary, another SP spokesperson, indicated that decisions regarding seat-sharing would ultimately be made by Akhilesh Yadav himself, further suggesting that Congress's role in these negotiations is far from secure. A senior Congress leader acknowledged the delicate situation, stating, "This shouldn't become a matter of prestige. We should accept a couple of seats and contest alongside SP. We must face reality: our current strength may not be enough to match the BJP's formidable machinery." Among SP's candidates is Tej Pratap Yadav, Lalu Prasad Yadav's son-in-law, who will contest the Karhal seat vacat-

ed by Akhilesh Yadav following his election to Parliament. Other notable candidates include Naseem Solanki (Sisamau), Mustafa Siddiqui (Phulpur), Ajit Prasad (Milkipur), Shobhavati Verma (Kathehri), and Dr. Jyoti Bind (Manjhanpur), all boasting solid political credentials. The upcoming by-elections in Uttar Pradesh, while regional in nature, carry national implications. They will serve as a litmus test for the INDIA alliance, formed to counter BJP's dominance. The alliance, including Congress, SP, and other regional players, is already feeling the strain of internal divisions and seat-sharing conflicts. Whether it can hold together against the BJP's formidable electoral machine will be clearer once these crucial by-election results are in. The outcome may well shape the future dynamics of opposition politics heading into the 2024 general elections.

Omar set to don CM's hat, BJP in opposition seat

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

With Omar Abdullah set to don the Chief Minister's hat in the absence of PDP Chief Mehbooba Mufti, who decided against contesting the Assembly polls, the floor of the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly has been left open for a handful of six opposition members from Kashmir and a 29 member saffron brigade from Jammu region to play the role of an effective opposition. The opposition benches will be occupied by the 29 BJP MLAs along with three legislators from the Peoples Democratic Party, Peoples' Conference Chief Sajad Lone, and two other independent legislators from Langate and Shopian. Since 2002, leaders belonging to the Jammu and Kashmir National Conference and the



Peoples Democratic Party have occupied the chair of the leader of the opposition. However, this time when Omar Abdullah occupies the chair of the leader of the house in the assembly, he will face a BJP leader in front of him as leader of the opposition. BJP is returning to the opposition benches after enjoying a short stint in power for almost three years (between March 2015 and June 2018). Though BJP legislators always occupied the opposition benches, this will be the first time in the history of the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly that a BJP leader

will be occupying the post of leader of the opposition. So far the BJP has not convened a meeting to formally elect the leader of the legislative party in the house. When PDP-BJP formed an alliance government in March 2015 Omar Abdullah, with a strength of 15 members in the house remained leader of the opposition. Mehbooba Mufti also served as leader of the opposition at the beginning of her political career before founding PDP in 1999. It is for the first time that Kashmir Valley will have only six members in the opposition camp. In 2002, when Mufti Mohd Sayeed formed an alliance government with the congress party the National Conference had 28 members in the opposition, majority of them hailed from Kashmir. In 2008 PDP occupied the opposition benches with 21 members.

BJP MLA slapped during Lakhimpur Urban Cooperative Bank elections

BISWAJEET BANERJEE ■ LUCKNOW

The incident of BJP MLA Yogesh Verma being slapped during the Lakhimpur Urban Cooperative Bank elections has taken the nation by storm through social media. A video of the MLA being attacked went viral rapidly on platforms like Facebook and WhatsApp. Former Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav took to Facebook to comment on the situation, mocking the BJP by stating that "injustice leads to violence" and accusing the ruling party of making electoral malpractice a strategy. Similarly, Samajwadi Party (SP) leader Shivpal Yadav expressed concern through posts on X (formerly Twitter) and Facebook, saying that the state's condition has become grave, with even ruling party legislators no longer safe.

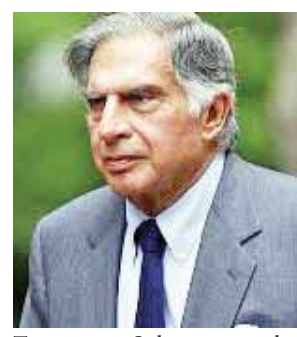
Uttar Pradesh Congress President Ajay Rai also condemned the incident via a post on X. Throughout the day, a video of the altercation during the nomination process of the Urban Cooperative Bank's governing body, in which MLA Yogesh Verma was assaulted, remained one of the top trending topics on X. His name ranked fourth on the platform's trending list, with over 9,000 posts. Many users shared the video, further fueling the online buzz. In addition to Yogesh Verma, the name of Awadhesh Singh, the person accused of slapping the MLA, trended throughout the day. Numerous posts highlighted Singh's involvement in the incident. The hashtag 'Bank Elections' also trended, ranking 24th, with more than 1,800 posts, where users expressed varied opinions on the matter. What is usually a low-key elec-

tion for the Urban Cooperative Bank has turned into a battleground this year. The nomination process saw abuses, fights, chaos, and accusations flying between various factions. The violence during the nomination filing has raised serious questions about the preparedness of the administration to handle such situations. The bank has around 12,500 shareholders who cast their votes to elect delegates and a chairman. The nomination process for the elections began on Wednesday, with the withdrawal of nominations scheduled for the 10th, followed by the publication of the final list and the allocation of election symbols on the 11th. However, since the notification for this year's elections, the entire process has been under intense scrutiny. The situation escalated further on Tuesday, and finally, violence erupted on Wednesday.

Ratan Tata: Admired and adored in Kerala

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Abdul Rehman, a 68-year-old shop keeper in Kerala's Perumbavoor is one of the billions of Indians who are in mourning. Though he has not personally met Ratan Tata, the trailblazer of India Inc, who breathed his last late Wednesday night, Rehman prayed throughout the day for Ratan Tata. Rehman was an employee of Tata Oil Company in Ernakulam and remembers each day of his life in the company. "What made TOMCO, who was owned and managed by Tata Group during my tenure, was their attitude and approach to the employees. Workers who were not in the best of health were asked to spend their time in the company's Club House where all they need to do was to sit, chat and consume the best tea we had tasted," reminisces Rehman. The Ernakulam TOMCO manufactured brand soaps like Hamam, Jai and Moti besides a popular washing soap under the 501 brand name. "The company also made Tata Hair Oil and shampoos that were unique in all respect. The manufacturing process and packing were of global standards. The hair oil and shampoo were trend-setters," said Rehman. When the company found the going tough and lost its market share to its competitor, Tatas sold it out to their nearest rivals and this marked the end of the Group's odyssey with soap manufacturing. Though Hamam brand is still there in the market, Jai, Moti, hair oils and shampoos are dead and gone. "There was an elegance attached to all the brands which hit the market under the Tata logo," said Rehman, who was given the pink slip once the company changed hands. Though the name Tata Oil Mills too is gone, the locality where the company stands is still known by the name Tatapuram. There are many writers, actors and musicians who have the prefix Tatapuram attached to their names. Ever heard of



Tatapuram Sukumaran who survived as a short story writer only because of the Tata tag? There are many charity organizations in Kerala fully funded by the Tata Group. Ratan Tata took special care in ensuring that these establishments (ranging from schools and hostels for children suffering from autism to hospitals) never faced any shortage of funds. The "Ratan" of Corporate last visited Kerala in 2009 when he stayed in Munnar where the Tatas have one of the largest tea estates in south India. Anil Kumar, the chauffeur who drove around Ratan Tata in Munnar and Devikulam had told this reporter that he saw simplicity and humility personified while he was driving Ratan Tata around. What Parsi Khabar (the news letter brought out by the Zoroastrian community said in its obituary to the prince of Indian business sums up what Ratan Tata has done to the world. "He is survived by his extended family at the Tata Group and the countless lives he touched, mentored, and inspired. His memory will continue to be a beacon of hope, reminding us that the greatest legacies are built not with bricks and mortar, but with love, generosity, and a deep sense of responsibility toward others. He is on his journey to Garothman Behest (the highest paradise in Zoroastrian belief) after 86 years of life full of Humata, Hukhta and Hvarshta (good thoughts, good words and good deeds), the one and only ideology of the Parsi community immortalized by the likes of Ratan Tata, JRD and Jamshedji Tata.

96 per cent MLAs crorepatis, 12 have criminal cases in Haryana: ADR

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

In the newly-elected 90-member Haryana Assembly, 96 per cent MLAs (86) are crorepatis, while 13 per cent (12) have criminal cases against them, according to an analysis by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) and Haryana Election Watch. An analysis of the affidavits of all the 90 winning candidates by the ADR show a slight rise in the number of crorepati MLAs, from 93 per cent in 2019 to 96 per cent this time. Of the 90 MLAs, 44 per cent possess assets worth over Rs 10 crore, while only 2.2 per cent have assets below Rs 20

lakh, the data showed. The average assets per winning candidate stand at Rs 24.97 crore, marking a handsome rise from Rs 18.29 crore in 2019. Party-wise, 96 per cent BJP legislators, 95 per cent Congress MLAs, and 100 per cent of both INLD and Independent winners have declared assets exceeding Rs 1 crore. Independent MLA from Hisar Savitri Jindal tops the list with assets totalling over Rs 270 crore, followed by BJP's Shakti Rani Sharma and Shruti Choudhry at Rs 145 crore and Rs 134 crore, respectively. A total of 30 MLAs have been re-elected in 2024, whose



average assets grew by 59 per cent since 2019, from Rs 9.08 crore to Rs 14.46 crore now, marking significant financial gains over the past five years. Meanwhile, of the winning

serious criminal cases against them. Party-wise, 19 per cent Congress MLAs, 6 per cent BJP legislators, and 67 per cent of the Independent winners have declared criminal cases against their names. The analysis also showed that 28 winning candidates have declared liabilities of Rs 1 crore or more, with Congress' Rajbir Fartia from Loharu topping the chart at Rs 44 crore. Fartia also tops the list of highest income earners, declaring an earning of Rs 10.75 crore in his Income Tax Return for 2023-24. In terms of educational qualification, 68 per cent winning candidates are graduates or hold

higher degrees, while 29 per cent have educational backgrounds ranging from Class 8 to Class 12, as per the report. The new House has 14 per cent women legislators, an increase from 10 per cent in 2019, while 66 per cent of the MLAs are aged between 51 and 80 years. The poll results were announced Tuesday. Bucking anti-incumbency, the ruling BJP pulled off a hat-trick of wins in Haryana to retain power and halt Congress' comeback attempt. While the BJP ended up with its best-ever haul of 48 seats, 11 more than the Congress, parties like the JJP and the AAP were decimated and the INLD managed to win just two seats.

NIA chargesheets members of human trafficking gang sending Indians to Laos Indians being sent to Chinese cybercrime sweatshops

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has filed a charge sheet against members of a human trafficking gang that was sending Indians to Laos to work in cyber crime sweatshops run by Chinese scammers targeting European and American citizens. The agency filed its charge sheet before a special court on Wednesday against gang members Manjoor Alam alias Guddu, Sahil, Ashish alias Akhil, Pawan Yadav alias Afzal alias Afroz, along with the key conspirator, Kamran Haider alias Zaidi. "NIA investigations have revealed that all five were involved in trafficking vulnerable Indian youth to the Golden Triangle Region in Lao PDR where they were forced to commit cyber scams targeting European and American citizens. They operated through the consultancy firm, Ali International Services, which functioned as a front for human trafficking," an NIA spokesperson said in a statement.



According to the agency's investigation, Zaidi facilitated the entire operation and extorted money through crypto currency wallets from the victims who tried to escape from the clutches of the Chinese scammers. "Pawan Yadav bypassed the other middle agents to supply the trafficked persons in lieu of jobs directly to his folds. He further employed them in Chinese companies involved in creating fake Facebook profiles and chatting with persons from the USA and Europe, convincing them to invest in crypto currency apps as part of the cyber scam," the NIA said.

Condition of fasting doctors deteriorates on fifth day in Bengal

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

The condition of the junior doctors sitting on an indefinite fast in demand of Justice in the RG Kar rape and murder case worsened on the fifth day of the fast, doctors attending on them said. The condition of two doctors Aniket and Snigdha was particularly bad, sources said adding 120 hours of ceaseless fasting had started impacting their kidneys and livers and "things can go for worse anytime." "Though we have an ICU ambulance ready to ferry them to hospital they are not willing... Both the doctors refused to leave Esplanade the place where they are fasting," said Dr Saikat Neogi who was one of many medicines monitoring the junior doctors' health. Seven doctors from various medical colleges including the RGMCH have been on an indefinite fast demanding apart from justice for the RG Kar victim other measures including immediate installation of centralized referral system with real-time monitoring, fool-proof security measures for the medical staff inside Government hospitals, installation of CCTV camera network, restrooms and wash-



rooms for the doctors end to the threat syndicate in government run medical colleges that had allegedly led to large-scale corruption and extortion racket inside the medical colleges etc, the doctors have also been demanding the removal of Principal Health Secretary NS Nigam. A mid-night dialogue between State Chief Secretary Manoj Pant and a delegation of junior doctors alleged failed with the doctors alleging that the officials only "expressed intent" but gave no written assurance on deadline by when things would be implemented. "The administration had nothing new to offer... they were evasive and were only buying time apparently to let the Durga Puja holidays pass off... but we are asking them to consider the immediacy and urgency of the issue," the doctors said. The Home Secretary and Health Secretary were also present in the talks. "In this situation if something happens to the junior doctors then the Government will be held fully responsible," said Dr Kinjal Nanda adding if the situation of the doctors aggravated they could even have hypoglycemia. Meanwhile in a related development the doctors of SSKM Postgraduate medical college and Hospital the biggest such facility in eastern India too started resigning their posts with 40 of them on Thursday offered mass resignation in reaction to what they called "Government's insensitivity to the situation of the doctors." With Thursday's resignations the number of doctors resigning their posts reached 300, sources said.



FIRST COLUMN

SOLVE YOUR PROBLEMS

We must focus on solving our own problems objectively without going into cyclic thinking



AJIT KUMAR BISHNOI

This is very wise to do. Because we must be the prime movers for this. But we are in denial or wish to make a good impression on others. Mostly, we don't. We go into cyclic thinking; and get obsessed with our problems. This is not solving our problems. On the contrary, we are making them worse. Surprisingly, we have solutions to the problems of others, societies, nations, etc. Some of them may be good because we are likely to be objective about them. This is great except that we are not being asked. Then, there are other limitations. When it is our problem, we see mostly the dark side and do not think about how solving it will benefit us.

Regarding issues of others, we are also not seeing the nature of the person. We assume that they will be perfect without any faults like being ignorant, egoist, etc. Their circumstances may be very different from ours. In short, it is a complete waste of time to think of the problems of others. I have realised this, and now I try to focus on my problems; I have plenty. Out of them, I have chosen the six most important ones. As in my habit, I seek solutions from the Bhagavad-Geeta – the book of eternal wisdom. I will begin with the most pressing, which is being fearful. What has Lord Krishna instructed about this fundamental matter? (Verse # 2.40) In simple language, it means that one should take shelter from God to reduce fears.

I have done this and my fearful tendencies have reduced appreciably. Whenever I become fearful, I pray for guidance and help from



my Lord. Believe it; He guides and helps. My next serious problem is getting sexual thoughts and feelings. Lord Krishna has given its solution too. (3.43) I have realised that I cannot reason my way out of it. For example, I use lots of internet for useful information. What does pop out in between? I am getting good practice to press the Back – button. For the younger lot, the Lord has a solution too. He has allowed 'kama' (passion) in beings according to 'dharma' (religious principles). The third problem I seriously face is not being sincere about taking shelter from God. The tapasya (austerity) required defeats me.

The reason of course is the nature of my body. The mind, the senses and the intelligence all are material, and the tapasya required is spiritual. What is the solution? Pray for help and keep praying. That itself is a spiritual act. You will succeed as I am getting better. The fourth problem, which is a serious challenge for me is my 'ahankar' (ego). With success comes Shankar, i.e. I am superior. What is the solution according to the Geeta? What did Lord Krishna tell Arjuna, "If you don't heed my instructions due to your ahankar, you will perish." (18.58) I try to remind myself whenever I get too puffed up; that I don't wish to perish. The fifth giver of trouble to me is my weakness to gain attention, fame, etc.

I have realised that whatever I have achieved is due to the 'kripa' (mercy) of my Lord. By myself, I am close to zero as a small soul. What did Lord Krishna tell Arjuna? (11.33) I give credit for my successes to my Lord. The last one is interpersonal relationships. I have tried to reform my near and dear ones and surely failed miserably. They will improve when they desire to. It is working especially with my grandchildren. So, I am trying to improve my behaviour. This fits with my original requirement of solving my problems. (The writer is a spiritual teacher; views are personal)

Celebrating unity and reconciliation through art



RAJDEEP PATHAK

In a world fraught with divisions, art transcends barriers, builds bridges. "Weaving Life to Weave Peace," underscores this profound connection



In a world often marked by discord and division, art emerges as a powerful medium that transcends barriers and speaks to our shared humanity. It serves as a universal language that unites people in their collective longing for peace, healing, and reconciliation. Against this backdrop, Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, in collaboration with the Embassy of Colombia in India, recently hosted a poignant exhibition titled "Weaving Life to Weave Peace," an initiative of 'Tejidos Chakana'. This significant event, held shortly after the celebrations of October 2nd – Gandhi Jayanti, and the International Day of Nonviolence – underscores the deep connection between art and the pursuit of harmony in our world. The exhibition vividly highlights the transformative power of creativity as it honours the countless lives lost to conflict in Colombia – and the world per se – a nation that has weathered its share of internal strife and lost countless innocent citizens.

The Colombian artisans, Mateo Perea Bernal and Nancy Gomez presented an extraordinary array of stunning creations crafted with fine stone beads. Each meticulously designed portrait serves as a heartfelt homage to politicians, journalists, humourists, social thinkers, and others whose lives were tragically cut short by violence. Another defining moment of the exhibition was the unveiling of a remarkable portrait of Mahatma Gandhi, crafted out of an astounding, over 1.4 million stone beads by Ambassador H.E. Mr. Victor Echeverri of Colombia in India, with flags of both the Nations imprinted through the beads.

This unique piece stands as a testament to the ideals of peace and reconciliation that Mahatma Gandhi tirelessly championed throughout his life. In a touching gesture, it was generously donated to the Gandhi Smriti, serving as a fitting tribute to the legacy of a leader who devoted himself to the principles of nonviolence, till the last breath of his life. 'Tejidos Chakana' is a transformative Colombian initiative rooted in ancestral traditions, using the art of weaving to promote peace and reconciliation. Founded by artisans, it honours indigenous techniques and local materials, preserving traditional



THE ARTISANS OF 'TEJIDOS CHAKANA' ARE NOT JUST CREATING OBJECTS OF BEAUTY; THEY ARE WEAVING THE VERY FABRIC OF A PEACEFUL AND UNITED FUTURE FOR THEIR NATION

craftsmanship while providing a platform for artisans to express their stories of struggle and resilience. Each handcrafted piece reflects the creativity and strength of a nation recovering from conflict, weaving narratives of hope and unity for a brighter future. At the heart of 'Tejidos Chakana' is the belief that art can bridge divides and foster understanding. The initiative engages diverse communities through workshops and collaborative projects, empowering individuals to reclaim their voices and share their experiences. This cultural exchange promotes dialogue, enabling people to confront their past and imagine peaceful coexistence. Moreover, through vibrant exhibitions, 'Tejidos Chakana' celebrates the artistry and resilience of Colombian artisans, underscoring their vital role in the larger narrative of peace-building. The initiative is a testament to the power of creativity in healing communities and fostering social impact.

By promoting dialogue and cultural exchange, the aim is to foster an environment where healing can occur, allowing people to confront their past while envisioning a peaceful coexistence. The story of 'Tejidos Chakana' resonates deeply with Mahatma Gandhi's beliefs, particularly his emphasis on the use of hands, creativity, and self-reliance as essential elements of individual and societal transformation. Gandhi often spoke of the profound connection between manual labour and the soul, advocating for the dignity and significance of work that involves the hands.

He would say, "If I were a poet, I would write poetry on the possibilities of my five fingers." In his vision of education, known as 'Nai Talim' or 'Basic Education,' Mahatma Gandhi stressed the importance of learning through

productive activity, where creativity and craftsmanship were not merely tools for economic independence but essential means for cultivating inner peace, self-reliance, and a deeper connection with one's community. Much like 'Tejidos Chakana,' Mahatma Gandhi viewed the act of creating with one's hands as a form of empowerment, healing, and self-expression. For him, the spinning wheel, or 'charkha,' became a symbol of India's struggle for independence – more than just a tool for producing cloth, it represented self-sufficiency, unity, and the rejection of exploitative systems. By encouraging Indians to spin their yarn and weave their cloth, Gandhi ji promoted the idea that true freedom came from within, not only political or economic autonomy but also spiritual and cultural self-reliance. In both the Gandhian framework and the 'Tejidos Chakana' initiative, the act of weaving transcends its material purpose to become a metaphor for life itself. Just as threads are intricately woven to form a piece of fabric, so too are communities brought together by shared experiences, challenges, and hopes. Mahatma Gandhi believed that individual self-reliance was a precursor to true collective harmony – only when people could stand on their own feet would they be able to contribute meaningfully to the welfare of society.

Similarly, the artisans of 'Tejidos Chakana' are not just creating objects of beauty; they are weaving the very fabric of a peaceful and united future for their nation. Echoing Gandhi's ideas of community empowerment and education, as not merely a process of acquiring academic knowledge, but as a holistic development of the individual within a community setting, where the aim is to foster dialogue and cultural exchange, 'Tejidos Chakana' nurtures an environment of collective

learning, where people confront their past traumas and work together towards reconciliation and in the process healing. This reflects Gandhi's belief in the power of community and the idea that true education is incomplete without the cultivation of moral and social values. Moreover, "Weaving Life to Weave Peace" also aligns with Gandhi's vision of nonviolence, or 'ahimsa,' as an active force for peace-building. Mahatma Gandhi believed that nonviolence was not just the absence of physical conflict but the presence of love, compassion, and understanding. In conclusion, it can be said without exaggeration that such powerful initiatives invite the world to witness the power of art as a catalyst for change, encouraging humankind to appreciate the beauty that arises from the collective journeys toward reconciliation and understanding. Moreover, through the lens of art, "Weaving Life to Weave Peace" commemorates the past and inspires hope for a future without conflicts, thereby promoting collective responsibility in weaving a tapestry of peace for generations to come.

As we engage with these artistic expressions, we are reminded that every bead, every creation, and every story contribute to a larger narrative of healing and unity in our world. In celebrating these artistic expressions, we honour the timeless message that true peace begins with the work we do ourselves – both in our hearts and with our hands.

This is evident as Ambassador Victor points out that if one bead breaks, the entire frame collapses, signifying the unifying strength of community and peace-building. They are what can be called, "Peace Beads". (The writer is Programme Executive, Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti; views are personal)

India's nutrition paradox: Tackling hidden hunger amid food sufficiency

The Global Hunger Index 2023 ranks India 111th out of 125 countries, highlighting that malnutrition, stunting and micronutrient deficiencies remain widespread

While India is not a country of widespread starvation, it does face significant challenges related to undernutrition and hidden hunger, particularly in rural areas. India has achieved self-sufficiency in food production and implemented programs to improve food access, such as the National Food Security Act and the National Nutrition Mission. However, issues like micronutrient deficiencies and income disparities exacerbate food insecurity in certain regions.

India's Nutrition Paradox: The Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2023 ranks India 111th out of 125 countries, highlighting significant challenges with undernutrition, particularly among children. Though India



SHRIRUPA SENGUPTA

produces enough food to meet caloric needs, ensuring nutritional adequacy remains a challenge. The National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5, 2019-2021) shows that while caloric intake is generally adequate, undernutrition persists—35.5 per cent of children under five are stunted, and 19.3 per cent suffer from wasting. Micronutrient deficiencies, such as anaemia due to iron deficiency among women and

vitamin deficiencies among children, further contribute to hidden hunger. Economic disparities and social inequities, including gender inequality and limited healthcare access, play significant roles in perpetuating undernutrition.

Poorer segments of the population often lack access to a diverse, nutritious diet and rely heavily on staples like rice and wheat, with inadequate consumption of fruits, vegetables, and proteins.

Community-Led Nutrition Hubs: A Promising Solution Community-led nutrition hubs provide a grassroots approach to addressing food insecurity. Unlike top-down methods, these hubs leverage local knowledge and leadership to create sustainable, con-

text-specific solutions. They focus on balanced, nutritious diets rather than just caloric intake, helping to build community resilience against undernutrition.

Promoting Dietary Diversity: Nutrition hubs encourage the consumption of diverse foods, including fruits, vegetables, legumes, and animal products, essential for a balanced diet. By promoting dietary diversity, these hubs address micronutrient deficiencies and hidden hunger.

Supporting Vulnerable Groups: These hubs effectively reach vulnerable populations like children, pregnant women, and the elderly. They provide tailored nutritional support, fortified foods, supplements, and education on specific nutritional needs.



Leveraging Local Agriculture: Nutrition hubs support local food production and sustainable agricultural practices, increasing access to fresh, nutritious foods. This approach reduces dependence on external food supplies, which can be affected by price fluctuations and supply chain disruptions, particularly amid climate change.

Impact of Community-Led

Nutrition Hubs: Data from various studies highlight the effectiveness of community-led initiatives in improving nutritional outcomes and resilience. For example, a 2022 report by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) noted a 20 per cent reduction in stunting rates among children under five in regions of Uttar Pradesh following the introduction of nutrition hubs.

The Global Nutrition Report 2023 showed that such hubs have improved micronutrient intake, with a 30 per cent increase in iron-rich food consumption among women in Maharashtra, significantly reducing anaemia. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) also found that communities practising

sustainable agriculture supported by nutrition hubs had a 20 per cent increase in crop yields during droughts compared to traditional methods.

A Whole-of-Society Approach: Achieving the vision of a "Viksit Bharat" hinges on ensuring food security and building resilience through community-led initiatives. However, these goals require a whole-of-society approach that involves all community members, not just women. Men as Partners: Encouraging men to participate in nutrition hubs, whether through farming, cooking, or community organising, helps distribute responsibility more equitably and promotes gender equity.

Youth Engagement: Involving young people in these efforts

ensures the continuation of community-led initiatives and brings fresh ideas and energy to the table.

Local Govt Support: Local governments can support and scale these initiatives by providing funding, policy support, and infrastructure, making nutrition hubs integral parts of community development.

Gender Equity and Shared Responsibility: While women are often on the frontlines of nutrition and food security, the burden should not fall solely on them. Engaging men, youth, and local governance helps create more equitable and sustainable solutions. (The writer is Director - Centre for Strategic Communications for Public Health at Swasti; views are personal)

South Korean author Han Kang gets Nobel prize in literature

AP ■ STOCKHOLM

The Nobel Prize in literature was awarded Thursday to South Korean author Han Kang for what the Nobel committee called “her intense poetic prose that confronts historical traumas and exposes the fragility of human life.” Mats Malm, permanent secretary of the Swedish Academy’s Nobel Committee, announced the prize in Stockholm. Han, 53, won the International Booker Prize in 2016 for “The Vegetarian,” an unsettling novel in which a woman’s decision to stop eating meat has devastating consequences. Her novel “Human Acts” was an International Booker Prize finalist in 2018. The literature prize has long faced criticism that it is too



focused on European and North American writers of style-heavy, story-light prose. It has also been male-dominated, with just 17 women among its 119 laureates so far. The last woman to win was Annie Ernaux of France, in 2022. Six days of Nobel announcements opened Monday with

Americans Victor Ambros and Gary Ruvkun winning the medicine prize. Two founding fathers of machine learning — John Hopfield and Geoffrey Hinton — won the physics prize on Tuesday. On Wednesday, three scientists who discovered powerful techniques to decode and even design novel proteins were awarded the Nobel Prize in chemistry. The Nobel Peace Prize will be announced Friday and the economics award on October 14. The prize carries a cash award of 11 million Swedish kronor (USD 1 million) from a bequest left by the award’s creator, Swedish inventor Alfred Nobel. The laureates are invited to receive their awards at ceremonies on December 10, the anniversary of Nobel’s death.

Hurricane Milton slams Florida, causes deaths and flooding

AP ■ TAMPA (US)

Hurricane Milton plowed into Florida as a Category 3 storm, bringing misery to a coast still ravaged by Helene, pounding cities with winds of over 100 mph (160 kph) after producing a barrage of tornadoes, but sparing Tampa a direct hit. The storm tracked to the south in the final hours and made landfall Wednesday night in Siesta Key near Sarasota, about 70 miles (112 kilometers) south of Tampa. The situation in the Tampa area was still a major emergency as St. Petersburg recorded over 16 inches (41 centimeters) of rain, prompting the National Weather Service

poweroutage.us, which tracks utility reports. Before Milton even made landfall, tornadoes were touching down across the state. The Spanish Lakes Country Club near Fort Pierce, on Florida’s Atlantic Coast, was hit particularly hard, with homes destroyed and some residents killed. “We have lost some life,” St. Lucie County Sheriff Keith Pearson told WPBF News, though he wouldn’t say how many people were killed. About 125 homes were destroyed before the hurricane came ashore, many of them mobile homes in communities for senior citizens, said Kevin Guthrie, the director of the Florida Division of Emergency

management across the South. In many places along the coast, municipalities raced to collect and dispose of debris before Milton’s winds and storm surge could toss it around and compound any damage. Officials had issued dire warnings to flee or face grim odds of survival. “This is it, folks,” said Cathie Perkins, emergency management director in Pinellas County, which sits on the peninsula that forms Tampa Bay. “Those of you who were punched during Hurricane Helene, this is going to be a knockout. You need to get out, and you need to get out now.” By late afternoon, some officials said the time had passed for such efforts, suggesting that people who stayed behind hunker down instead. By the evening, some counties announced they had suspended emergency services.

Jackie Curnick said she wrestled with her decision to stay at home in Sarasota, just north of where the storm made landfall. But with a 2-year-old son and a baby girl due Oct. 29, Curnick and her husband thought it was for the best. Curnick said they started packing Monday to evacuate, but they couldn’t find any available hotel rooms, and the few they came by were too expensive. She said there were too many unanswered questions if they got in the car and left: Where to sleep, if they’d be able to fill up their gas tank, and if they could even find a safe route out of the state. “The thing is it’s so difficult to evacuate in a peninsula,” she said. “In most other states, you can go in any direction to get out. In Florida there are only so many roads that take you north or south.”

At a news conference in Tallahassee, Gov. Ron DeSantis described deployment of a wide range of resources, including 9,000 National Guard members from Florida and other states; over 50,000 utility workers from as far as California; and highway patrol cars with sirens to escort gasoline tankers to replenish supplies so people could fill up their tanks before evacuating. “Unfortunately, there will be fatalities. I don’t think there’s any way around that,” DeSantis said. Heavy rain and tornadoes lashed parts of southern Florida starting Wednesday morning, with conditions deteriorating throughout the day.



to warn of flash flooding there as well as other parts of western and central Florida. Tropicana Field, the home of the Tampa Bay Rays baseball team in St. Petersburg, appeared badly damaged. The fabric that serves as the domed stadium’s roof was ripped to shreds by the fierce winds. It was not immediately clear if there was damage inside. Multiple cranes were also toppled in the storm, the weather service said. St. Petersburg residents also could no longer get water from their household taps because a water main break led the city to shut down service. The storm knocked out power across a large section of Florida, with more than 3 million homes and businesses without power as of early Thursday, according to

Management. About 90 minutes after making landfall, Milton was downgraded to a Category 2 storm. By early Thursday, the hurricane was a Category 1 storm with maximum sustained winds of about 85 mph (135 kph) as it churned about 35 miles (55 kilometers) south of Orlando. Heavy rains were also likely to cause flooding inland along rivers and lakes as Milton traverses the Florida Peninsula as a hurricane, eventually to emerge in the Atlantic Ocean on Thursday. It is expected to impact the heavily populated Orlando area. The storm slammed into a region still reeling two weeks after Hurricane Helene flooded streets and homes in western Florida and left at least 230 people dead

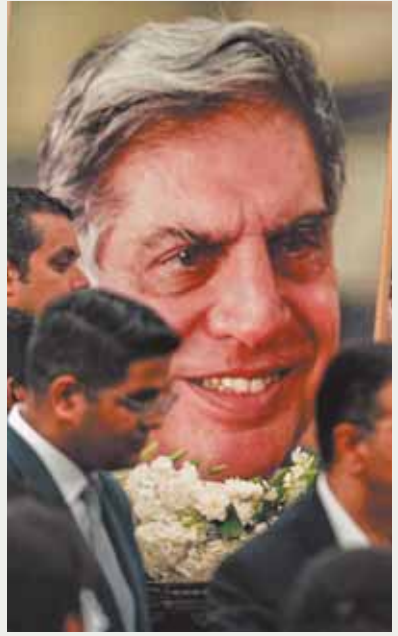
America mourns death of Ratan Tata, who ‘drove India to prosperity’

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

The US on Wednesday mourned the death of veteran industrialist and philanthropist Ratan Naval Tata, remembering him as someone who drove India to greater prosperity and development. Tata, the former Tata Group chairman who transformed a staid group into India’s largest and most influential conglomerate, breathed his last at south Mumbai’s Breach Candy Hospital at 11.30 pm on Wednesday. He was 86. “My last meeting with Ratan Tata at Google, we talked about the progress of Waymo and his vision was inspiring to hear. He leaves an extraordinary business and philanthropic legacy and was instrumental in mentoring and developing modern business leadership in India. He deeply cared about making India better. Deep condolences to his loved ones and Rest in Peace Shri Ratan Tata Ji,” wrote Google and Alphabet CEO Sunder Pichai on X.

Atul Keshap, the president of the US-India Business Council (USIBC), told PTI the Padma Vibhushan recipient was a “unique and noble son of India, a role model for the nobility and generosity.” “While some erroneously look down their noses at mere business, Ratan Tata reminded a global audience of the nobility of commerce even as he drove his companies and India to greater prosperity and development. He espoused values of humanity and compassion not only for his colleagues and business partners but also for the greater good,” Keshap said. “His devotion to his staff was never more visible than after the terrible terrorist attack in Mumbai on 26/11/2008, and his love for his country and humanity, and animal kind, was displayed in so many ways, including his establishment of

cancer hospitals and his legendary care for the dogs of Tata House,” he said. “It is with profound sadness that the Indiaspora community acknowledges the passing of Ratan Tata, a visionary leader, compassionate philanthropist, and one of India’s most respected business icons,” said MR Rangaswami, the founder of Indiaspora.



“His extraordinary contribution to industry and his deep commitment to social causes have left an indelible mark not only on India but the world at large. Ratan Tata’s legacy will continue to inspire generations. His spirit and contributions will forever remain a guiding light,” he told PTI. Ratan Tata, a Cornell graduate, was a for-

mer Cornell trustee who became the university’s largest international donor, the university said on Wednesday. “Ratan Tata has left an extraordinary legacy in India, across the world and at Cornell, which he cared about deeply,” said interim President Michael I. Kotlikoff. “Ratan’s quiet demeanor and humility belied his international profile. His generosity and concern for others enabled research and scholarship that improved the education and health of millions of people in India and beyond, and extended Cornell’s global impact,” he said. “When Ratan Tata graduated from Cornell with a degree in architecture, it would have been impossible to imagine the global impact his visionary leadership, philanthropy and commitment to humanity would go on to have in advancing education and research across many sectors,” said J. Meejin Yoon, the Dean of Cornell University College of Architecture, Art, and Planning. Ratan Tata served three terms as a Cornell trustee from 2006 to 2022. He was named Cornell’s Entrepreneur of the Year in 2013 and served from 2014 on as a member of AAP’s Advisory Council. Ira Drukier, an American philanthropist, said: “Looking back over Ratan’s life and career, I am not only filled with gratitude for all he has given and accomplished but also with a deep respect for his kindness, generosity and eternal optimism that has improved lives in India and around the world.” “Ratan Tata, one of India’s most powerful and admired magnates, who transformed his family’s business conglomerate, the Tata Group, into a multinational corporation with globally recognisable brands, has died at 86,” The New York Times wrote.

UK minister pays homage to ‘titan’ of business world

PTI ■ LONDON

UK Business and Trade Secretary Jonathan Reynolds paid homage to Ratan Tata as a “titan” of the business world who played a huge role in shaping British industry. Soon after the news of the Tata Group chief’s passing away hit the headlines on Wednesday night, the minister took to social media to offer his tributes to the man credited with much of the Mumbai-headquartered company’s reputation as one of the largest employers in the UK. It was during his tenure as chairman of the Tata Group that the multinational made several high-profile acquisitions in the UK — taking over Anglo-Dutch steel-maker Corus, luxury car brands Jaguar and Land Rover (JLR) and Tetley, the well-known global tea brand. “Sad to hear about the passing of Ratan Tata. He was truly a titan of the business world and someone who played a huge role in shaping British industry,” said Reynolds. “My thoughts and prayers are with his friends, family and everyone in the Tata Group,” he said. The Tata Group’s footprint in the UK includes its ownership of the country’s largest steelworks at Port Talbot in south Wales, currently undergoing a mega green transformation towards electric arc furnace. The steel giant is one of Europe’s leading

steel producers, with steelmaking in the Netherlands and the UK, and manufacturing plants across Europe. The company’s tube products are used across a broad range of industries, including construction, machinery fabrication, energy and automotive. In July last year, the Tata Group is to invest over GBP 4 billion in setting up a new electric vehicle (EV) battery plant, or gigafactory, in Britain which will create thousands of jobs across the supply chain. With Tata Motors owned JLR as the anchor customer of the new gigafactory with an initial output of 40GWh, the venture is one of the largest in Europe. While he had retired a few years ago, Ratan Tata is credited with setting the company on its growth trajectory in the UK and Europe. Beginning with Tata Tea’s acquisition of Tetley in 2000, Tata companies made several significant overseas acquisitions including Corus by Tata Steel, Jaguar and Land Rover by Tata Motors and Brunner Mond by Tata Chemicals. In 2004, Ratan Tata, then Chairman of Tata Sons, summed up the Tata group’s efforts to internationalise its operations thus: “I hope that a hundred years from now we will spread our wings far beyond India, that we become a global group, operating in many countries, an Indian business conglomerate that is at home in the world, carrying the same sense of trust that we do today.”

High Commissioner leads minute’s silence in memory of Tata

PTI ■ LONDON

Indian High Commissioner to the UK Vikram Doraiswami led a minute’s silence in the memory of Ratan Tata as news of the passing away of the legendary businessman, aged 86, came in from Mumbai. During a pre-scheduled Diwali reception co-hosted by the High Commission of India in London with the India All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) near the Houses of Parliament in London on Wednesday, Doraiswami paid tribute to the Tata Group chair as a great champion of the India-UK partnership. “On a sombre note, I share the news with great sorrow of the passing of one of India’s most celebrated businessmen Ratan Tata,” said Doraiswami, addressing a cross-party gathering of parliamentarians, entrepreneurs and community leaders. “No man has embodied the India-UK partnership quite as much as Ratan Tata did. This is a man for whom Mumbai/India and London/UK were both home. This is a man who created the sense of an India-UK partnership embodied in everything — from Air India, which is back as Tata airline, to Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) to Taj Hotel to Tata Steel to indeed everything, including industries of the future with his decision to invest in a battery factory in the UK,” he said. Lord Karan Bilmoria, founder of Cobra beer and co-chair of the India APPG, paid tribute to a “fellow Parsi” who worked hard to nurture the bonds between India and Britain.

China defiant over South China Sea skirmishes in ASEAN talks

AP ■ VIENTIANE (LAOS)

Southeast Asian leaders stepped up pressure on China to respect international law following clashes in the disputed South China Sea during annual summit talks on Thursday, but Chinese Premier Li Qiang was defiant as he blamed “external forces” for interfering in regional affairs. The 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations’ meeting with Li followed recent violent confrontations at sea this year between China and ASEAN members Philippines and Vietnam that heightened unease over China’s increasingly assertive actions in the contested waters. Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim, who will take over the rotating ASEAN chair next year, said the bloc has called for an early conclusion to a code of conduct to govern the South China Sea. Talks on the code of conduct have been ongoing for years, hampered by sticky issues including disagreements over whether the pact should be binding. ASEAN reiterated the need to maintain peace and security in the strategic waterway, he said, according to Malaysian national news agency Bernama. But Li said meddling by foreign forces is creating conflicts with-

in the region. “We must realize that our development is also facing some unstable and uncertain factors. In particular, external forces frequently interfere and even try to introduce bloc confrontation and geopolitical conflicts into Asia,” Li said during an ASEAN meeting with China, Japan and South Korea. He called for more dialogue between countries to ensure disputes are resolved amicably. Li didn’t name the foreign forces but China has previously warned the US not to meddle in the region’s territorial disputes. US Secretary of State Antony Blinken, who arrived in Vientiane on Thursday for the meetings, is expected to raise the issue of China’s aggression in the sea, officials said. The US has no claims but it has deployed Navy ships and fighter jets to patrol the waterway and promote freedom of navigation and overflight. ASEAN members Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia and Brunei along with Taiwan have overlapping claims with China, which claims sovereignty over virtually all of the South China Sea. Chinese and Philippine vessels have clashed repeatedly this year, and Vietnam said last week that Chinese forces assaulted its fishermen in the

disputed sea. China has also sent patrol vessels to areas that Indonesia and Malaysia claim as exclusive economic zones. Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos Jr made clear to Li during talks Thursday that ASEAN-China cooperation cannot be separated from the sea dispute, according to an ASEAN official who declined to be named due to the sensitivity of the discussion. Li responded by saying the South China Sea is “a shared home” and that China has an obligation to protect its sovereignty, the official said. The Philippines, a longtime US ally, has been critical of other ASEAN countries for not doing more to get China to back away. Aside from regional security issues, China’s Li also emphasized Beijing and ASEAN’s economic ties, saying intensifying trade relations and creating an “ultra large-scale market” are keys to economic prosperity amid rising trade protectionism. ASEAN and China said they expect to conclude negotiations to upgrade their free trade pact next year. Since the two sides signed the pact covering a market of 2 billion people in 2010, ASEAN’s trade with China has leaped from USD 235.5 billion to USD 696.7 bil-

lion last year. China is ASEAN’s number 1 trading partner and its third-largest source of foreign investment — a key reason why the bloc has been reluctant to criticize Chinese actions in the South China Sea. ASEAN leaders, who held a summit among themselves on Wednesday, also separately met with new Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba and South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol. ASEAN elevated its ties with South Korea to a “comprehensive strategic partnership.” Yoon said the new designation will further help both sides to “create a new future together.” Ishiba also pledged to boost the Japan-ASEAN relationship by providing patrol vessels and training on maritime law enforcement, strengthening economic security through financial and other support and bolstering cyber-security. “Japan shares principles such as freedom, democracy and the rule of law, and would like to create and protect the future together with ASEAN,” he said. The bloc is also holding individual talks with dialogue partners India, Australia, Canada, the US and the United Nations that will culminate in an East Asia

Summit of 18 nations including Russia and New Zealand on Friday. Former ASEAN Secretary-General Ong Keng Yong said that despite challenges in addressing disputes in the South China Sea and the Myanmar civil war, ASEAN’s central role in the region is undisputable. “ASEAN and its diplomatic maneuvers have sustained the relative peace and progress of Southeast Asia to date. ASEAN will continue to be useful in that regard. Big powers cannot do what they wish in the region,” said Ong, who is now deputy chairman of the S Rajaratnam School of International Studies in Singapore. Nearly 6,000 people have been killed and over 3 million displaced in a civil war after the Myanmar army ousted an elected government in 2021. The military has backtracked on an ASEAN peace plan it agreed to in late 2021 and fighting has continued with pro-democracy guerrillas and ethnic rebels. Myanmar’s top generals have been shut out of ASEAN summits since the military takeover. Thailand will host an informal ASEAN ministerial-level consultation on Myanmar in mid-December as frustration grows in the bloc over the prolonged conflict.

Turkiye’s navy starts to evacuate its citizens from Beirut

AP ■ BEIRUT

Over 2,000 Turkish citizens and some foreign started boarding a Turkish military ship late Wednesday that brought in aid and will take them out of a country being hit by Israeli airstrikes targeting Hezbollah. Zehra Cibbin, an ethnic Arab from the southeastern Turkish city of Mardin who lives in Beirut with her Lebanese husband, got off a bus packed with the other evacuees, her two children in tow and luggage in hand. “It’s indescribable. They bombed the street below our house. From that moment on, it was over for me, I said I didn’t want to stay in Beirut anymore,” said Cibbin, 46. Cibbin said they decided to leave Beirut out of fear for their lives, putting no thought into what will happen when they arrive in Turkey. She spoke to The Associated Press before getting in line to board the TCG Bayraktar amphibious landing vessel, which along with the TCG Sancaktar will take on evacuees. They are part of a six-ship convoy including escorts that set sail from the southern Turkish port of Mersin early Wednesday, transported 300 tons of humanitarian supplies, including food, hygiene kits, kitchenware, tents, beds and blankets.

Besides the Turkish citizens, people from Bulgaria, Romania and Kazakhstan were among those who applied to evacuate on the ships. Officials did not provide numbers. The Associated Press was the only non-government media invited aboard the ships to cover the evacuation operation. “Israel’s aggression has severely impacted Lebanon and our brothers here,” said Turkish Ambassador to Lebanon Ali Baris Ulusoy, standing in front of the Bayraktar. “We are carrying out an operation today with two aims: to provide humanitarian aid to our Lebanese brothers and to ensure the safe return of our citizens who are in a difficult situation.” Ulusoy said. Hundreds lined up before the Bayraktar as Turkish soldiers and sailors checked the evacuees’ passports and their luggage was examined by metal detectors and drug-sniffing dogs before they were allowed to board. Another Turkish citizen waiting with her family was Abir Gokcimen, who said she left her extended family and husband in Beirut and hopes the war that spread to Lebanon will end soon. She hopes to come back to Lebanon as soon as the danger passes. The journey back to Mersin is

expected to take about 10 hours. Turkey’s government plans to organise more sea evacuations if necessary and is contemplating charter flights to repatriate citizens. Hezbollah began firing rockets into northern Israel on October 8, 2023, the day after Hamas’ surprise attack into Israel ignited the war in Gaza. Hezbollah and Hamas are both allied with Iran, and Hezbollah says its attacks are aimed at aiding the Palestinians. Israel has carried out airstrikes in response and the conflict steadily escalated, erupting into a full-fledged war last month. Israel has inflicted a punishing wave of blows against Hezbollah in recent weeks and says it will keep fighting until tens of thousands of displaced Israeli citizens can return to their homes in the north. More than 1,300 people have been killed in Lebanon and over a million displaced since the fighting escalated in mid-September. Earlier on Wednesday, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan ramped up his rhetoric against Israel during his party’s first meeting of the new legislative year, declaring that Turkey “has more than enough power to thwart expansionist ambitions” of Israel and doubling down on his claims that Israel would target Turkey after Gaza and Lebanon.

Israeli strike on Gaza shelter kills at least 27

AP ■ DEIR AL-BALAH

An Israeli strike on a school sheltering the displaced in the Gaza Strip killed at least 27 people on Thursday, Palestinian medical officials said.

The Israeli military said it targeted militants hiding among civilians, without providing evidence.

Israel has continued to strike at what it says are militant targets across the Palestinian enclave even as attention has shifted to its war against Hezbollah in Lebanon and rising tensions with Iran. The military launched a large-scale air and ground operation against Hamas in northern Gaza earlier this week. In a separate development, a United Nations official said Israeli forces fired on three positions of the UN peacekeeping force in Lebanon, wounding two peacekeepers. The official was not authorised to brief media and spoke on condition of anonymity.

The Al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital, where the bodies were brought, said the strike in the central town of Deir al-Balah killed 27 people, including a child and seven women. It said several other people were wounded. An Associated Press reporter saw ambulances streaming into the hospital and counted the bodies, many of which arrived in pieces.

"We appeal to the world. We are dying!" one man screamed.

The Israeli military said it carried out a precise strike targeting a militant command and control centre inside the school. Israel has repeatedly attacked schools that were turned into shelters in Gaza, accusing militants of hiding out in them.

Witnesses who spoke on condition of

anonymity for security reasons said the strike occurred while school managers were meeting with representatives of an aid group in a room normally used by Hamas-run police who provide security. They said there were no police in the room at the time.

The Hamas-run government operated a civilian police force numbering in the tens of thousands. They largely vanished from the streets after the start of the war as Israel targeted them with airstrikes, but plainclothes Hamas security personnel still exert control over most areas.

Hamas has continued to launch attacks on Israeli forces and fire occasional rockets into Israel more than a year after its October 7 attack ignited the war.

Hamas-led militants stormed into Israel and rampaged through army bases and farming communities in that attack, killing some 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and abducting around 250 others. They are still holding around 100 captives, a third of whom are believed to be dead.

Israel's offensive has killed over 42,000 Palestinians, according to local health authorities, who do not say how many

were fighters but say women and children make up more than half of the fatalities. The war has destroyed large areas of Gaza and displaced around 90 per cent of its population of 2.3 million people, often multiple times.

The Hezbollah militant group in Lebanon began firing rockets into Israel on October 8, 2023, in support of Hamas and the Palestinians, drawing Israeli airstrikes in retaliation.

The fighting steadily escalated, and eventually boiled over into all-out war in recent weeks, with Israel carrying out waves of heavy strikes across Lebanon and launching a ground invasion. Hezbollah has expanded its rocket fire to more populated areas deeper inside Israel, causing few casualties but disrupting daily life.

PUBLIC NOTICE
General public is hereby informed that my client Mr. Vivekshankh S/o Sh. Shiv Ranja Smt. Shela Dharma is residing at F-24/208, Sector-3, Rohini, New Delhi-110085 and his (Vivekshankh S/o Sh. Shiv Ranja Smt. Shela Dharma) actual date of birth is 18.12.2003, which is correctly mentioned in all re-levant documents of my client.
AMRENDRA NATH SHUKLA (Advocate)
Ch.No. 717, Lawryns Chamber Block, Rohini Court, Delhi

PUBLIC NOTICE
The General Public is Informed that Smt. Rajkumari Gupta D/o Late Shri Banarasi Dass is the Owner of Plot No. F-25, Block-F, Kirti Nagar New Delhi 110015. And The Original Sale Deed Dated 06/01/1969 in Favour of Permanand Sharma executed by Rehabilitation Housing Corporation Ltd has been lost. If anyone Found these Original Documents and have any objection Regarding these Documents of the Property, Inform me on my given Mob No.-9911004142 Within 7 days.
Yogesh Kumar(Advocate)

PUBLIC NOTICE
General public is hereby informed that Mrs. Senu, Dubey is the owner of Residential House, area measuring 50 sq. Yards or 4180 sq. Mtrs. out of Khara No. 97, Situated in village Shargel Begampur, Pargana and Tehsil- Bahri, District- Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P. by virtue of Sale Deed dated 29/02/2014. Vide No. 4991, Sale Deed, dated 09/05/2008 Vide Doc. No. 1155 Sale Deed dated 20/12/2011 Vide Doc. No. 387 and original GPA. ATC & Will dated 07/04/2007, pertaining to the aforesaid property have been lost and complaint bearing, LR No. 29/96/2024 was registered on 09/10/2024, with Delhi Police. Any person(s) found in possession of aforesaid original documents, kindly contact the undersigned, immediately with original property document, within 7 days from date of this notice on below address, failing which, the claim as per aforesaid sale deed shall be treated as null and void in respect of the subject property.
Raghav V.K. Legal (Advocate)
Ch. 830, Patiala House Courts, New Delhi-110001
Mob: +91-8078989328

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE is hereby given to the General Public that of Mr. Kehar Singh S/o Sh. Bharat Singh, through Khatori/Jamabandi, is the owner of property bearing address: Freehold Residential House built on Plot, area 100 sq. yds. of Falling under Kharsa No. 235, situated at Village-Behta Hazpur, Tehsil-Loni, Distt.-Ghaziabad (U.P.) A registered General Power of Attorney dated on 03.03.1998 was executed by Mr. Kehar Singh in favour of Mr. Prembir Singh Dharma. Further, another registered General Power of Attorney dated 12.04.1999 was issued by Mr. Prembir Singh Dharma in favour of Mr. Rajender Kumar Jain and the property is now being sold by Mr. Umesh Kumar Saxena & Mrs. Anuradha Sangar (Intending borrower) and the same property being financed by SMFG India Home Finance Co. Ltd. General Public hereby informed that if anybody has any charge/ interest/Title in the said property or any kind of dispute kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present.
TAPAN RAGHAV (ADVOCATE),
Ch. No. G-220, Kardarkooda Courts, Delhi-110032.
Email- raghavtk.legal@gmail.com, Phone- 8800909522

INDIAN RAILWAYS
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(RAILWAY BOARD)
NEW DELHI - 110001
E-TENDER No. 2024RS19546TC
Director, Railway Stores (W), Ministry of Railways, Railway Board, Government of India invites e-tender for Procurement of 17 Nos. End Unloading Kares (EUR) using BRNHS (BG) wagons for transportation of 260m long rail panels from SAUL/Bhilai to RDSO Specification No. WD-06-BRN-2011 of March 2011.
2.0 The interested tenderers are advised to visit the website <http://ireps.gov.in> for details of the tender and submission of their e-bids.
3.0 No manual offers will be accepted against e-tender.
4.0 Tender will be closed at 10:00 hours on 18.11.2024.
5.0 Any corrigendum to this tender will be published on the website <http://ireps.gov.in> only and not in print media.
Director, Railway Stores (W),
Ministry of Railways, Railway Board, New Delhi,
for and on behalf of the President of India.
3130/2024
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

PUBLIC NOTICE
I, Ashok Kumar, son of Shri Shiv Karan Lal, Resident of Jhuggi No. 144/120, K Block, T-HUT, opposite Mig Flats, Jahangirpur, Delhi-33, have evicted my son Sonu and daughter-in-law Lakshmi from my movable and immovable property for not following my instructions. If any person has any kind of transaction or connection with Sonu and Lakshmi, he will be responsible. Me (Ashok Kumar) will have no responsibility.

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is to inform the public at large that Mr. Jee Singh who wants to purchase the Freehold SFS Flat No.330, Category-III, on First Floor, situated in Pocket-L, Sarita Vihar, New Delhi-110076 from Mrs. Angela Sawhney owner vide Release Deed with Consideration dated 11.04.2012 (vide Doc.No.5603) executed by Mrs. Niliya Dal and same to be financed & mortgaged by Aditya Birla Housing Finance Ltd. that, SMC of Late Mr. Jagdish Mittar is not available. If any person having any type of claim/right/interest over the said property, may inform in writing, at the address mentioned below, about his objections, within 7 days from today, failing which it shall be presumed that the said property is free from all type of Encumbrances, liens etc.
B-93B, Second Floor, Opp. SBI Bank Sector 2, Noida, U.P.-201301 Contact No. 0120-4289373

TSR(P) WORKS IN ALIPURDAR DIVISION
E-Tender Notice No. 94/W-21ADP/J
Dated: 08-10-2024. E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following works:
Tender No.: 23-AP-11-2024; Name of Property: New Mal Jn. Alipurjard Jn. (S.L.)-TSR(P)-22.00 Trm & Siliguri Jn.-New Mal Jn. Value: ₹18,11,79,388.85/- Earnest Money : ₹10,55,900/- Date & time of Closing of tender at 13:00 hrs. and opening at 15:00 hrs. on 04-11-2024. For details please visit in the website <http://www.ireps.gov.in>.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given to the General Public that Mohd. Majid S/o Mr. Vajid is the owner of BUILT-UP PROPERTY BEARING NO. 13, LAND AREA MEASURING 50 SQ. YDS. SITUATED AT THE RESIDENTIAL COLONY RAN PARK EXTN., VILLAGE HALKATAPUR, ALIASKHUBDABAN, PARGANA & TEHSIL LONI, DISTRICT GHAZIABAD, U.P., by virtue of Gift Deed dated 27.09.2024, regd. as Doc. No. 17412, executed by Mr. Vajid S/o Mr. Fida, and same to be financed by SMFG India Credit Company Limited, General Public hereby informed that if anybody has any charge/interest/Title in the said property or any kind of dispute kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present.
Mrs. Prason Lata & Rahul Raj Pathak, Advocate
FF-18, Lata, Post Plaza, Vihar Khari Indraprastha, New Delhi-110024, Ph. No. 011-27112744, 011-27112749

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given to the General Public that Mrs. Durga is the owner of PLOT BEARING NO. 60, AREA MEASURING 50 SQ. YDS., FALLING IN KHARSA NO. 97, SITUATED AT THE RESIDENTIAL COLONY RAN PARK EXTN., VILLAGE HALKATAPUR, ALIASKHUBDABAN, PARGANA & TEHSIL LONI, DISTRICT GHAZIABAD, U.P., by virtue of Sale Deed dated 26.06.2020, regd. as Doc. No. 1330, executed by Mr. Dhimesh Kumar Singh, and in this Sale Deed plot no. was wrongly mentioned as 60 instead of 61, and same to be financed by SMFG India Credit Company Limited, General Public hereby informed that if anybody has any charge/interest/Title in the said property or any kind of dispute kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present.
Mrs. Prason Lata & Rahul Raj Pathak, Advocate
FF-18, Lata, Post Plaza, Vihar Khari Indraprastha, New Delhi-110024, Ph. No. 011-27112744, 011-27112749

PUBLIC NOTICE
To be known to all that I, Sohni Pal S/o Kharab Lal Resident of H.No. 222, Jatey, Haryana town shaba Dist. Bagnapur UP Pin 250101, am the allottee of VDA EWS flat No. 22, G/F, Block-4, Shwaji Marg, Delhi, Vide DDA's File No. E/488(21)2018/DA 14/S4. My original document vide Demand Letter of above said flat has been misplaced. An Information Report of the said flat has been lodged in Police Station Crime Branch, Delhi vide LR No. 2165533/2024 on 30.09.2024. Any person(s) claiming any right, interest having any objection or find in Possession of the said original Document may Write/Contact with above named person at above address/phone No. (9834989519) within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is informed to the public at large that Mrs. Sushma Chawla, Sh. Chrag Chawla and Sh. Chakshu Chawla are absolute Title holder in possession of Property bearing no.40. Area measuring 180 sq.yds., Preet Vihar, New Delhi that the Original Agreement to sell dated 24.10.1989 executed by Sh. Bharat Shuman in favour of Sh. Sanjay Chawla has been lost/missing and are untraceable. The F/R/ Lost to this effect has already been lodged dated 09.10.2024 with LR/No.21930/2024. Any person(s) company (ies) authority (ies) society (ies)/organisation (s) financial institution (s)/ bank (s) claiming any right/interest having any objection or find in possession of the original document may write/contact to the above name and address within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice, post expiration Any claims (s) or objection (s) if raised or received shall be treated as null & void and such claims.
Nilesh Thandi (Advocate) Ch. No. K-67B, Near Tish Building, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-110054, (M): 701183514.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Information is given to general public at large that Mrs. Kiran Devi W/o Mr. Mahendra Sai who is/are purchasing the Property Bearing No. 253 Southam & Eastern side Corner Portion area measuring 26.7 sq. yds., Out of total area measuring 108 sq. yds., in Gani No. 13, situated at in Village- Sinohara Khurd, Anand Parbat from Mrs. Rakha Devi W/o Mr. Cunn Lal W/o Mr. Seema W/o Mr. Narad Mittal who was the owner by virtue of GPA & Will dated 08.12.2017. Intend to mortgage the same against the financial assistance from Shubham Housing Development Finance Company Limited, previous Original Regd. GPA & Will dated 06.12.2000 (Doc. No. 27857) in favour of Mr. Khem Chand S/o Late Mr. Mansukh Ram are not available with the seller i.e. Mrs. Rakha Devi W/o Mr. Cunn Lal (2) Mrs. Seema W/o Mr. Narad Mittal. To comply the requirements of BANK/NBFC, we give this public notice that if any person(s) having any objection regarding ownership and/or creating mortgage of the said property is/are hereby requested to intimate in writing to the undersigned within 07 days at below address.
NCR LAW ASSOCIATES ADVOCATES, A-98, Sector-9, New Vihar Nagar, Ghaziabad, (U.P.) - 201009

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform to all concern that M/s Yugalchh Trust through its Prop. Mr. Lalit Tiwari S/o Sh. K.L. Tiwari R/o B-1, Sector-9, Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, (U.P.) who is the original allottee of Flat No. 75-C, Block B-9, Udaigiri Apartment II, Sector-34, Noida (U.P.) had sold the said property on General Power of Attorney basis to the following person(s). General Power of Attorney was executed on in favour of Mr. Francis Pottamma S/o Sh. R.J. Mathai R/o C-2C, Rajat Vihar, Sector-62, Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, (U.P.) which is registered and the Agreement to Sell was not registered or not executed. Because the Agreement to Sell is not registered or not executed to sell executed, so it is necessary to inform to all concern that the said Flat No. 75-C, Block B-9, Udaigiri Apartment II, Sector-34, Noida (U.P.) is going to be transferred in favour of Ms. Lincy Francis D/o Mr. Francis Pottamma S/o R/o C-2C, Rajat Vihar, Sector-62, Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, (U.P.) if any one has/have any objection he/she may file his/her objection alongwith the sufficient proof in the Housing Department of the Noida Authority within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice.
Name of the transferee
M/s. Lincy Francis D/o Mr. Francis Pottamma R/o C-2C, Rajat Vihar, Sector-62, Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, (U.P.)

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given to the General Public that Mrs. Durga is the owner of PLOT BEARING NO. 60, AREA MEASURING 50 SQ. YDS., FALLING IN KHARSA NO. 97, SITUATED AT THE RESIDENTIAL COLONY RAN PARK EXTN., VILLAGE HALKATAPUR, ALIASKHUBDABAN, PARGANA & TEHSIL LONI, DISTRICT GHAZIABAD, U.P., by virtue of Sale Deed dated 26.06.2020, regd. as Doc. No. 1330, executed by Mr. Dhimesh Kumar Singh, and in this Sale Deed plot no. was wrongly mentioned as 60 instead of 61, and same to be financed by SMFG India Credit Company Limited, General Public hereby informed that if anybody has any charge/interest/Title in the said property or any kind of dispute kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present.
Mrs. Prason Lata & Rahul Raj Pathak, Advocate
FF-18, Lata, Post Plaza, Vihar Khari Indraprastha, New Delhi-110024, Ph. No. 011-27112744, 011-27112749

PUBLIC NOTICE
Re: Property Bearing Plot No. 18, MC No. 245, area measuring 203 sq. yds. ie 169.28 sq. mtrs, situated in Colony named Laxmi Vihar, Mahiwada, Village-Jarwada Kalyan, Pargana and Tehsil- Distt. Ghaziabad, U.P., Hereinafter referred to as "said property".
Notice is hereby given to the general public including Banks, Financial Institutions, etc. that, as informed by our clientless, Smt. Renu Goel, she is the sole and absolute owner of the said property vide Sale Deed executed by Mr. Ashwani Sharma in respect of the said property. The said Deed is registered as LR No. 9834/1995/19 in Police Station Crime Branch, Delhi vide LR No. 21764, pages 211-246, on 26.07.2024 (SRO- Ghaziabad). Mr. Ashwani Sharma had purchased the said property from Mr. Mohit Mittal vide Sale Deed registered as Document No. 13629 on 28.12.2023. The seller also informed the purchaser that the said property was earlier owned by Mr. Mahender Kumar Mittal. After his death, the said property devolved on his legal heirs viz. Mrs. Renu Mittal and Mr. Mohit Mittal. Mrs. Renu Mittal executed a Will vide document No. 789 on 03.03.2021 (SRO-1 Ghaziabad) in favour of Mr. Mohit Mittal and Mrs. Renu Mittal and her share devolved on Mr. Mohit Mittal and he became the sole and absolute owner of the said property and sold the said property to Mr. Ashwani Sharma. Now, our clientless intends to mortgage the said property with IDFC FIRST Bank Limited for availing loan facility.
If any person, society, bank, financial institution or other institutions have any objection against the ownership of our clientless on the said property and subsequently rightly mortgage of the said property, may write/contact to the clientless or our clientless, may raise his/her objection(s), in writing, by Registered AD post, to the undersigned, within 15 days, on address mentioned below. Otherwise after expiry of 15 days from the date of publication of this notice, the said property shall be mortgaged by our clientless in favour of IDFC FIRST Bank Ltd. and no objection shall be acceptable against such mortgage.
SHIVKANT ARORA, ADVOCATE FOR M/S INTELECTIVE LAW OFFICES, A-74, LOWER GROUND FLOOR, DEFENCE COLONY, NEW DELHI-110024

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE is hereby given to the General Public that of Mrs. Babita Jain is the owner through Sale Deed dated 16.04.2010 of Property Bearing No. Freehold Residential Plot No. A-3, area measuring 30 sq. yds. (28.38 sq. mtr.) of Falling Under Kharsa No. 394 MI situated at Village-Daroli Khurd, Pargana Loni, Tehsil & Distt. Ghaziabad (U.P.) and a Registered General Power of Attorney dated 25.05.2022 has been executed by Mrs. Babita Jain in favour of Mrs. Anuradha Goyal. The property is now being sold to the undersigned by Mr. Piyush Sharma, Mr. Rajesh Sharma & Mrs. Sunita Sharma, and being financed by SMFG India Home Finance Co. Ltd. General Public hereby informed that if anybody has any charge/ interest/Title in the said property or any kind of dispute kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present.
TAPAN RAGHAV (ADVOCATE),
Ch. No. G-220, Kardarkooda Courts, Delhi-110032.
Email- raghavtk.legal@gmail.com, Phone- 8800909522

PUBLIC NOTICE
Information is given to general public at large that Mrs. Kiran Devi W/o Mr. Mahendra Sai who is/are purchasing the Property Bearing No. 253 Southam & Eastern side Corner Portion area measuring 26.7 sq. yds., Out of total area measuring 108 sq. yds., in Gani No. 13, situated at in Village- Sinohara Khurd, Anand Parbat from Mrs. Rakha Devi W/o Mr. Cunn Lal W/o Mr. Seema W/o Mr. Narad Mittal who was the owner by virtue of GPA & Will dated 08.12.2017. Intend to mortgage the same against the financial assistance from Shubham Housing Development Finance Company Limited, previous Original Regd. GPA & Will dated 06.12.2000 (Doc. No. 27857) in favour of Mr. Khem Chand S/o Late Mr. Mansukh Ram are not available with the seller i.e. Mrs. Rakha Devi W/o Mr. Cunn Lal (2) Mrs. Seema W/o Mr. Narad Mittal. To comply the requirements of BANK/NBFC, we give this public notice that if any person(s) having any objection regarding ownership and/or creating mortgage of the said property is/are hereby requested to intimate in writing to the undersigned within 07 days at below address.
NCR LAW ASSOCIATES ADVOCATES, A-98, Sector-9, New Vihar Nagar, Ghaziabad, (U.P.) - 201009

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform to all concern that M/s Yugalchh Trust through its Prop. Mr. Lalit Tiwari S/o Sh. K.L. Tiwari R/o B-1, Sector-9, Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, (U.P.) who is the original allottee of Flat No. 75-C, Block B-9, Udaigiri Apartment II, Sector-34, Noida (U.P.) had sold the said property on General Power of Attorney basis to the following person(s). General Power of Attorney was executed on in favour of Mr. Francis Pottamma S/o Sh. R.J. Mathai R/o C-2C, Rajat Vihar, Sector-62, Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, (U.P.) which is registered and the Agreement to Sell was not registered or not executed. Because the Agreement to Sell is not registered or not executed to sell executed, so it is necessary to inform to all concern that the said Flat No. 75-C, Block B-9, Udaigiri Apartment II, Sector-34, Noida (U.P.) is going to be transferred in favour of Ms. Lincy Francis D/o Mr. Francis Pottamma S/o R/o C-2C, Rajat Vihar, Sector-62, Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, (U.P.) if any one has/have any objection he/she may file his/her objection alongwith the sufficient proof in the Housing Department of the Noida Authority within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice.
Name of the transferee
M/s. Lincy Francis D/o Mr. Francis Pottamma R/o C-2C, Rajat Vihar, Sector-62, Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, (U.P.)

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given to the General Public that Mrs. Durga is the owner of PLOT BEARING NO. 60, AREA MEASURING 50 SQ. YDS., FALLING IN KHARSA NO. 97, SITUATED AT THE RESIDENTIAL COLONY RAN PARK EXTN., VILLAGE HALKATAPUR, ALIASKHUBDABAN, PARGANA & TEHSIL LONI, DISTRICT GHAZIABAD, U.P., by virtue of Sale Deed dated 26.06.2020, regd. as Doc. No. 1330, executed by Mr. Dhimesh Kumar Singh, and in this Sale Deed plot no. was wrongly mentioned as 60 instead of 61, and same to be financed by SMFG India Credit Company Limited, General Public hereby informed that if anybody has any charge/interest/Title in the said property or any kind of dispute kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present.
Mrs. Prason Lata & Rahul Raj Pathak, Advocate
FF-18, Lata, Post Plaza, Vihar Khari Indraprastha, New Delhi-110024, Ph. No. 011-27112744, 011-27112749

PUBLIC NOTICE
General Public is hereby informed that M/s Ramprastha Promoters & Developers Private Limited has been granted Environmental Clearance for Group Housing Development Project (2.303 Acres) at Sector 37D, Gurugram, Haryana, with EC Identification No. EC24C3801HR5368082N Dated 27th September 2024 (File No. SEACHR/2024/137).
General Public is further informed that copy of clearance letter along with the conditions to be complied is available at office of the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Haryana, and on the website of the MOEF&CC at <http://parivesh.nic.in>. Also available at the registered office of the company at plot no. 114, Sector-44, District- Gurugram, Haryana, 122002 and also on website of the company at www.ramprastha.com.
For Ramprastha Promoters & Developers Private Limited
CIN: U45400HR2007PTTC064534
Address: Plot No. 114, Sector-44, Gurugram, Haryana, India, 122002

PUBLIC NOTICE
Information is given to general public at large that Mrs. Kiran Devi W/o Mr. Mahendra Sai who is/are purchasing the Property Bearing No. 253 Southam & Eastern side Corner Portion area measuring 26.7 sq. yds., Out of total area measuring 108 sq. yds., in Gani No. 13, situated at in Village- Sinohara Khurd, Anand Parbat from Mrs. Rakha Devi W/o Mr. Cunn Lal W/o Mr. Seema W/o Mr. Narad Mittal who was the owner by virtue of GPA & Will dated 08.12.2017. Intend to mortgage the same against the financial assistance from Shubham Housing Development Finance Company Limited, previous Original Regd. GPA & Will dated 06.12.2000 (Doc. No. 27857) in favour of Mr. Khem Chand S/o Late Mr. Mansukh Ram are not available with the seller i.e. Mrs. Rakha Devi W/o Mr. Cunn Lal (2) Mrs. Seema W/o Mr. Narad Mittal. To comply the requirements of BANK/NBFC, we give this public notice that if any person(s) having any objection regarding ownership and/or creating mortgage of the said property is/are hereby requested to intimate in writing to the undersigned within 07 days at below address.
NCR LAW ASSOCIATES ADVOCATES, A-98, Sector-9, New Vihar Nagar, Ghaziabad, (U.P.) - 201009

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform to all concern that M/s Yugalchh Trust through its Prop. Mr. Lalit Tiwari S/o Sh. K.L. Tiwari R/o B-1, Sector-9, Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, (U.P.) who is the original allottee of Flat No. 75-C, Block B-9, Udaigiri Apartment II, Sector-34, Noida (U.P.) had sold the said property on General Power of Attorney basis to the following person(s). General Power of Attorney was executed on in favour of Mr. Francis Pottamma S/o Sh. R.J. Mathai R/o C-2C, Rajat Vihar, Sector-62, Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, (U.P.) which is registered and the Agreement to Sell was not registered or not executed. Because the Agreement to Sell is not registered or not executed to sell executed, so it is necessary to inform to all concern that the said Flat No. 75-C, Block B-9, Udaigiri Apartment II, Sector-34, Noida (U.P.) is going to be transferred in favour of Ms. Lincy Francis D/o Mr. Francis Pottamma S/o R/o C-2C, Rajat Vihar, Sector-62, Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, (U.P.) if any one has/have any objection he/she may file his/her objection alongwith the sufficient proof in the Housing Department of the Noida Authority within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice.
Name of the transferee
M/s. Lincy Francis D/o Mr. Francis Pottamma R/o C-2C, Rajat Vihar, Sector-62, Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, (U.P.)

KLJ Developers Private Limited
Regd. Office: KLJ House, 5th Floor, 8A-Shivaji Marg, Najafgarh Road, New Delhi-110 015 Ph. No.011-25194391/25458767
PUBLIC NOTICE
It is hereby informed that in respect of the Project KLJ GREENS-Tower B-8, B-9, B-10, J-1 & J-2 registered with HRERA, Panchkula as HRERA-PKL-FBD-594-2024 dated 01.06.2024, forming part of Group Housing Colony being developed by KLJ Developers Private Limited at Village Neemka, Sub Tehsil Tigan, Sector-77, District Faridabad, Haryana, in terms of the provisions of RERA the following Bank Accounts are being maintained:

S. No.	Account No.	Bank Name & Address	Purpose
01.	50200095330162	HDFC Bank Master Account SN 27, 28 & 42, Star Tower, NH 8, Near Stall Mall, Block A, Sector-30, Gurugram, Haryana-122001	For 100%
02.	50200098622511	RERA Account	For 70%
03.	50200098622600	Free Account	For 30%

Place: New Delhi Date: 11-10-2024 For KLJ Developers Private Limited Authorized Signatory

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Sudarshan, S/o Pahalwan Prapajati, R/o House Number-113, Sarai Pital Thala Adarsh Nagar Delhi-33, that my name wrongly written in my minor daughter Shivani School Records as Sudershan but correct name is Sudarshan also my wife's name wrongly written as Murni but correct name is Murni Devi for all purposes.
PD(840)C
I, Naveen Kumar Choudhary S/o Ram Vishesh Choudhary R/o 46, Village Mirzapur, Tole, Basha, Bishunpur, Darbhanga, Bihar-847101, Present Address -C-4, Barolla, Sector - 49, Noida, U.P have changed my name Naveen Kumar to Naveen Kumar Choudhary for all future purposes.
PD(841)C
I, Seema Bhat W/o Dinesh Paramount Floraville, Sector-137, Noida, G.B. Nagar, U.P (201301) declares that I have changed my name from Seema Dwivedi to Seema Bhat for all future purposes.
PD(842)C

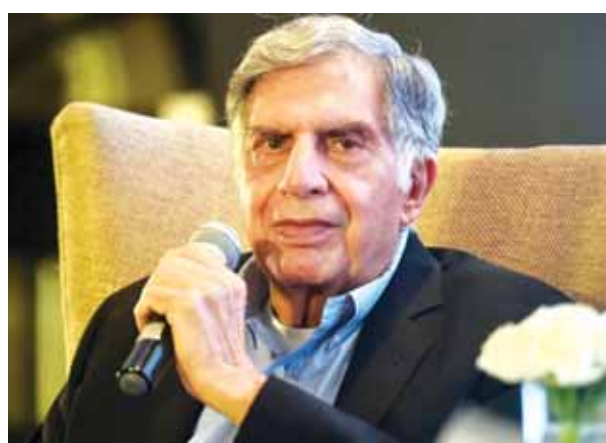
छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल
पर्यावास भवन, सेक्टर-19, नया रायपुर अटल नगर, जिला- रायपुर (छ.ग.)
// सर्व संबंधित को सूचना //
भारत सरकार, पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय की ई.आई.ए. अधिसूचना दिनांक 14/09/2006 (यथा संशोधित) के अंतर्गत सर्व संबंधित को सूचित किया जाता है कि मेसर्स शुभम मिनरल्स (प्रो.- श्री बी.एल.रामानी, मोहभद्रा ज़ोलोमाईट डिपोजीट), ग्राम- मोहभद्रा, तहसील- बेरला, जिला- बेतेतरा स्थित खसरा क्रमांक 1299, 1301, 1302, 1303, 1304 एवं 1305, कुल क्षेत्रफल- 2.26 हेक्टेयर में पूर्व से संचालित ज़ोलोमाईट (गौण खनिज) उत्खनन क्रमांक- 4,698 इन प्रतियोगी के पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृति हेतु लोक सुनवाई बाबत छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल, नया रायपुर में आवेदन प्रस्तुत किया गया है। उक्त परियोजना के संबंध में आपत्ति/सुझाव/विचार/टीका टिप्पणी, इस सूचना के जारी होने के दिनांक से 30 दिवस के अंदर क्षेत्रीय अधिकारी, छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल, 5/32 बंगला, भिलाई, जिला-दुर्ग के कार्यालय में मौखिक अथवा लिखित रूप से कार्यालयीन समय में प्रस्तुत की जा सकती है।
इस परियोजना के लिए लोक सुनवाई दिनांक 11.11.2024 को समय प्रातः 11:00 बजे, स्थान- ग्राम कोदवा-मोहभद्रा पक्की सड़क मार्ग पर स्थित रंगटा सम प्र.सि. की खाली सड़क, खसरा नं.- 455, ग्राम- मोहभद्रा, तहसील-बेरला, जिला- बेतेतरा (छ.ग.) में नियत की गई है। यह भी सूचित हो कि:-
1. लोक सुनवाई के दौरान सम्मिलित होने वाले व्यक्तियों को फिजिकल / सोशल डिस्टेंसिंग का पालन करना अनिवार्य होगा।
2. लोक सुनवाई में सम्मिलित होने वाले व्यक्तियों द्वारा नाक का उपयोग किया जावेगा तथा समय-समय पर सेनेटाइजर का उपयोग किया जाना अनिवार्य होगा।
3. लोक सुनवाई स्थल पर सम्मिलित होने वाले व्यक्तियों की बैठक व्यवस्था कम से कम 02 मीटर की दूरी रखना अनिवार्य होगा।
4. कोरोना वायरस के नियंत्रण एवं रोकथाम हेतु शासन द्वारा जारी समस्त दिशा-निर्देशों का अक्षर: पालन किया जाना अनिवार्य होगा।
ई.आई.ए. नोटिफिकेशन 14 सितंबर 2006 (यथा- संशोधित) के अनुसार संबंधित व्यक्तियों के अवलोकन /पवन हेतु ड्राफ्ट ई.आई.ए. रिपोर्ट, कांपालकसार सिंह-हिन्दी एवं अंग्रेजी भाषा तथा सी.डी. (साफ्ट कॉपी) डायरेक्टर, पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार, इंदिरा पर्यावरण भवन, जो बाग रोड, नई दिल्ली क्षेत्रीय अधिकारी, एकीकृत क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार, अरण्य भवन, नार्थ ब्लॉक, सेक्टर-19, नया रायपुर, अटल नगर, जिला- रायपुर, छत्तीसगढ़, कलेक्टर, कार्यालय कलेक्टर, बेतेतरा, जिला- महाराष्ट्र, मुख्य कार्यालय अधिकारी, जिला- बेतेतरा, बेतेतरा, जिला- बेतेतरा, महाप्रबंधक, जिला व्यापार एवं उद्योग जिला, पंचायत, जिला- बेतेतरा, संचयन/संचयन, ग्राम पंचायत मोहभद्रा, तहसील- बेरला, जिला- बेतेतरा, क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल, 5/32 बंगला, भिलाई, जिला- दुर्ग एवं मुख्यालय, छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल, पर्यावास भवन, सेक्टर-19, नया रायपुर अटल नगर, जिला- रायपुर में रखी गई है।
सदस्य सचिव छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल, नया रायपुर अटल नगर, रायपुर (छ.ग.)

छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल
पर्यावास भवन, सेक्टर-19, नया रायपुर अटल नगर, जिला- रायपुर (छ.ग.)
// सर्व संबंधित को सूचना //
भारत सरकार, पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली की अधिसूचना दिनांक 14.09.2006 (यथा संशोधित) के तहत सर्व संबंधित को सूचित किया जाता है कि ग्राम-किरारी, कलेक्टर लाईन स्टोन माईन, तहसील - अकलतरा, जिला- जांजीगीर-चापा (छ.ग.) में स्थित कुल 02 घुमा पथर खदानों (गौण खनिज) 01. मेसर्स निमायक मेटल्स एंड मिनरल्स, (किरारी लाईन स्टोन माईन, पॉन्टन - श्री राजेन्द्र सिंह), खसरा क्रमांक- 821/114, 821/15, 821/17 एवं 821/18, लीज परिया - 1.052 हेक्टेयर, खदान का उत्खनन क्रमांक- 15,000 इन प्रतियोगी, ग्राम-किरारी, तहसील-अकलतरा, जिला- जांजीगीर-चापा (छ.ग.), एवं 02. मेसर्स नां गुरु मिनरल्स (किरारी लाईन स्टोन माईन, पॉन्टन - श्री हेमंत कुमार सिंह), खसरा क्रमांक - 729/2, 729/3 एवं 729/6, लीज परिया- 1.643 हेक्टेयर, खदान का उत्खनन क्रमांक- 50,000 इन प्रतियोगी, ग्राम-किरारी, तहसील-अकलतरा, जिला- जांजीगीर-चापा (छ.ग.) (गौण खनिज) के पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृति हेतु संयुक्त लोक सुनवाई बाबत छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल में आवेदन किया गया है। उक्त प्रस्तावित परियोजना के संबंध में आपत्ति/सुझाव/विचार/टीका-टिप्पणी इस अधिसूचना के जारी होने के दिनांक से 30 दिवस के अंदर क्षेत्रीय अधिकारी, छ.ग. पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल, भिलाईपुर के कार्यालय में मौखिक अथवा लिखित रूप से कार्यालयीन समय में प्रस्तुत की जा सकती है। इस परियोजना के लिए लोक सुनवाई दिनांक 13/11/2024 को समय प्रातः 11:00 बजे, स्थान-इंदिरा उद्यान, अकलतरा, तहसील - अकलतर

Auto industry mourns Ratan Tata's loss, stocks still soar

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Ratan Tata championed innovations that are helping build a better tomorrow, auto industry body SIAM said on Thursday while paying homage to the eminent industrialist who passed away on Wednesday night. "Indian automobile industry is deeply saddened with the passing away of Shri Ratan Tata, a towering figure, who has played a stellar role in bringing the Indian auto industry to the global stage," Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) President Shailesh Chandra said in a statement. A great humanist, visionary and leader, he championed innovations that are helping build a better tomorrow, he added. Hero MotoCorp Executive Chairman Pawan Munjal termed Tata as a visionary



leader and ethical statesman. "I am deeply saddened by the passing of Shri Ratan Tata. His unparalleled contributions as a visionary leader and ethical statesman have left an indelible mark on our nation," he stated. Munjal further said, "Tata's commitment to integrity and innovation not

only transformed industries but also uplifted communities, inspiring countless lives." A true hero, his legacy of compassion and service will resonate for generations, guiding the industry towards the greater good, he added. Toyota Kirloskar Motor Managing Director & Chief

Executive Officer Masakazu Yoshimura said that as a global corporate luminary, Ratan Tata will forever be remembered for his transformative contribution towards modernisation of the Indian business landscape and deep compassion towards the betterment of the society. His profound contribution and revolutionary thinking has inspired the automobile industry in India to think beyond conventional boundaries, he added. "Ratan Tata's legacy will continue to inspire and guide generations, reminding us that true leadership is defined not only by business acumen but by a selfless dedication to serve the betterment of humanity," Yoshimura stated. Tata, the former Tata Group chairman, breathed his last at Mumbai's Breach Candy Hospital at 11.30 pm on Wednesday. He was 86.

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Shares of Tata Group companies on Thursday rose up to 10 per cent, with Tata Chemicals and Tata Teleservices among the major gainers. Tata Sons Chairman Emeritus Ratan Tata, who played a key role in transforming the group into a global conglomerate, passed away late on Wednesday. He was 86. "Investors can pay tribute to Ratan Tata and the great corporate empire he built by buying stocks like TCS, Tata Motors, Tata Steel, Tata Consumer and Indian Hotels. "Ratan Tata, while pursuing the group's growth, contributed substantially to India's growth and millions of ordinary investors gained from the great man's vision," V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at



Geojit Financial Services, said. The stock of Tata Investment Corporation soared 10.47 per cent to trade at Rs 7,235.80 apiece, Tata Chemicals climbed 6.26 per cent to Rs 1,174.85, Tata Teleservices Maharashtra jumped 5.84 per cent to Rs 83.77, Tata Elxsi rose 3.37 per cent to Rs 7,867.80, Tata Power went up 2.56 per cent to Rs 472.70 on the BSE. Also, shares of Tata Technologies, Rallis India, Nelco, Tejas Networks, TajGVK Hotels & Resorts, and Indian Hotels & Company also rose on the

bourse. In addition, the scrip of Tata Steel rose 0.91 per cent, Tata Communications (0.84 per cent), Tata Consultancy Services (0.21 per cent), Tata Consumer Products (0.17 per cent), Voltas (0.24 per cent) and Automotive Stampings & Assemblies (0.23 per cent) on the BSE. However, Tata Group's retail firm Trent slipped 0.90 per cent to trade at Rs 8,146.35 apiece, Titan fell 0.81 per cent to Rs 3,465.80 and Tata Motors was down 0.40 per cent to Rs 935.35 per scrip. The 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 198.28 points, or 0.24 per cent, to 81,665.38 in the mid-session trade on Thursday. Investors should learn from the growth of the Tata empire that a long-term investment horizon is required to really participate in the wealth creation that happens

through the capital market. In a bull market like the present one, there will always be valuation concerns, Vijayakumar added. Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has cancelled a press conference scheduled on Thursday evening to announce its second quarter performance, company officials said. The press conference was originally scheduled at 1730 hours on Thursday. As originally scheduled, TCS will inform the exchanges about its July-September performance after the board meeting, the officials said. A scheduled call with analysts at 7 pm will be held as per schedule, they said. The last rites of Ratan Tata, who passed away late on Wednesday evening, are scheduled to take place after 4 pm at central Mumbai's Worli on Thursday.

Amazon focuses on customer experience, not competition in India

PTI ■ NASHVILLE

Amid the rise of quick commerce companies in India, Amazon said it is sharply focused on customers, not competition, and that the Prime proposition of offering users the largest selection at fastest speeds is a "winning" formula that "resonates" in India. The e-commerce giant is upbeat on India's prospects buoyed by the rapid pace of economic growth and digitisation, Amazon Prime Vice President, Jamil Ghani said, adding that the company is investing unprecedented amounts in making its Prime programme "even faster" and that the momentum will continue. India figures prominently as a hotbed of innovation for Amazon in every part of its business, he said. The company will continue to innovate in India for local markets, emerging markets and more and more for global markets. Amazon offers Prime - a

membership programme that promises savings, convenience and entertainment - across 24 countries and over 200 million households and "India figures prominently in that landscape for Amazon". Amazon says its breadth of selection in India covers 'needs' all the way to 'wants' and that it is focused on broadening the selection, with faster speed, more convenience and attractive prices. Asked about the challenges posed by the rise of quick commerce companies in India, Ghani said Amazon obsesses about customers, not competition. "Prime proposition is predicated on the largest selection at the fastest speeds. For instance, we have over a million items available the same day and four million items available, across India, the next day and so the breadth of selection we see in India covers the 'needs' all the way to 'wants'...And is delivered at ever faster



speeds. We're investing unprecedented amounts in making the programme even faster and we're going to continue to do that across the entire country," he told reporters on the sidelines of Amazon's flagship 'Delivering the Future' event here in Nashville. To a question of whether the

company would naturally progress towards quicker timelines in a select portfolio of product categories to take on competition from quick commerce firms, he said, "It's a very natural assumption that we're going to get faster on more selections every single day." "The reality is that not only

are there a lot of alternatives for our members, but our members' expectations keep going up," he said. The company is focused on broadening the selection, on faster speed, more convenience and attractive prices. "That combination that Prime delivers of the largest selection at the fastest speeds is a winning proposition. You see that in the continued growth of the Prime programme in India and also the increase in engagement from those members as well," he said. The marketplace offers many solutions tailored to consumer needs, he said, adding, "that's true around the globe, it's good for customers to have a lot of options." "And what we see with the growth of membership and the growth and engagement (is) that the prime proposition is resonating with our customers in India and we're going to keep on following that formula," Ghani said.

Amazon, he said, will continue inventing in India for the India market, for emerging countries and increasingly across the globe. "I am extremely excited about what is going on in the country in developing economically. There is fascinating and inspiring innovation going on in every sector of the economy, digitalisation of just about everything. We are not just going to continue inventing in India for India we are also inventing for emerging countries broadly, and increasingly for globe from India," he said. Amazon Store continues to get better every day with over a million items available for delivery the same day and four million items across India for delivery the next day, the senior executive said. "We are in the middle of the Great Indian festival and that is going exceptionally well with many members joining to avail the discount available across the entire store," Ghani said.



UPI transactions surge in first half of 2024

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Indian instant payment system (UPI) transaction volumes recorded a 52 per cent year-on-year surge to 78.97 billion in the first six months of 2024, according to a report. In its India Digital Payments Report for the first half of 2024 (January to June), payment technology service provider Worldline said on Thursday that UPI continues to rule the payment market and is rapidly expanding its reach. "The number of UPI transactions rose significantly from 8.03 billion in January 2023 to 13.9 billion by June 2024. This growth in volume was matched by an increase in transaction value, which climbed from Rs 12.98 trillion in January 2023 to an impressive Rs 20.07 trillion in June 2024. "When comparing H1 2024 to the same period in 2023, UPI transaction volume saw a substantial increase of 52 per cent, rising from 51.9 billion to 78.97 billion," the report said. The value of transactions grew 40 per cent, increasing from Rs 83.16 trillion to Rs 116.63 trillion. In terms of volume and value contribution, PhonePe emerged as the top UPI app, followed by Google Pay and Paytm. However, average ticket size (ATS) of UPI transactions saw a decline of 8 per cent, the report noted. The average ticket size (ATS) of all UPI transactions in H1 2023 was Rs 1,603, while it

dropped to Rs 1,478 in H1 2024, it said. ATS consists of person-to-person (P2P) and person-to-merchant (P2M) transactions. ATS in P2P transactions registered an almost flat year-on-year rise from Rs 2,812 to Rs 2,836. ATS for P2M transactions dropped from Rs 667 to Rs 643, representing a 4 per cent reduction. "This significant rise in UPI transactions, particularly in the person-to-merchant (P2M) segment, further cements its position as the preferred method for micro-transactions, demonstrating long-term sustainability and even movement to larger transactions in the coming years," Worldline India CEO Ramesh Narasimhan said. Grocery stores, restaurants, service stations, clothing stores, government services, pharmacies, and hospitals were the most visited in-store merchant categories in the first half of 2024. According to the research, they collectively accounted for almost 53 per cent of the overall transaction value and 68 per cent of the transaction volume. E-commerce, gaming, utilities, government services, and financial services made up around 81 per cent of the overall transaction volume and 74 per cent of the total transaction value in the online industry. Furthermore, the report revealed that between January 2023 and June 2024, the number of POS (point of sale) terminals increased 17 per cent, rising from 7.65 million to 8.96 million.

Sensex, Nifty close higher amid buying in heavyweight stocks

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Equity benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty settled higher on Thursday due to gains in banking, power and industrial stocks amid a firm trend in global markets. The 30-share BSE Sensex rose 144.31 points, or 0.18 per cent, to settle at 81,611.41. During the day, it soared 535.74 points, or 0.65 per cent, to hit an intra-day high of 82,002.84. The NSE Nifty increased 16.50 points, or 0.07 per cent, to close at 24,998.45. In the intra-day trade, it rose 152.1 points, or 0.60 per cent, to hit a high of 25,134.05. "The market traded on a range bound trend with a negative



bias ahead of the start of Q2 result. "The Asian market started well but could not hold on to the gains as European markets waned on a negative trend in anticipation of the key US inflation data, global bond yields are rising," Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services, said. From the 30 Sensex companies, Kotak Mahindra Bank, JSW Steel, HDFC Bank, Power Grid, IndusInd Bank, Maruti Suzuki India, NTPC,

Axis Bank and Mahindra & Mahindra were among the gainers. Tech Mahindra, Sun Pharmaceuticals, Infosys, Titan, Tata Motors, Larsen & Toubro and Tata Consultancy Services were among the laggards. Domestic broader market momentum was mixed with caution as the initial expectation of Q2FY25 results is subdued due to a subpar momentum in the global and rural demand, Nair added. Shares of Tata Group companies on Thursday rose up to 15 per cent, with Tata Investment Corporation, Tata Chemicals, and Tata Teleservices among the major gainers.

India plays crucial geopolitical role from American standpoint: USISPF

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

India plays a pivotal role geopolitically from an American perspective and offers US companies the opportunity to de-risk from China in the manufacturing sector, the head of a top India-centric American business and strategic advocacy group has said. The economic growth story of India is tremendous. India is among very few large economies which are growing seven to eight per cent, Mukesh Aghi, the President and CEO of the US-India Strategic and Partnership Forum (USISPF), said on Wednesday. From an American

perspective, India plays a "pivotal role" geopolitically, he said. "India is one economy which is providing market opportunity, especially to US companies that come in and invest and gain market share. It is an economy which is providing de-risking from China itself in the manufacturing area," Aghi told PTI in an interview. "What we are seeing is the Indian economy is not just becoming a market opportunity, it's becoming an opportunity for manufacturing. ..But more important is we are seeing a growth of global capability centres in India," Aghi said. The Indian economy is

expected to gain momentum in 2025, he said. India is exporting roughly almost USD 125 billion of services. Aghi's remarks came ahead of the annual India Leadership Summit of the USISPF on October 14. Several top American business leaders, including CEOs of Fortune 100, are heading to New Delhi to attend the event. The summit will feature thought-provoking sessions and panel discussions to advance and strengthen the India-US partnership. "We have potential investors and also in startups and looking at technology companies.

IN BRIEF

NFR OPERATING 238 TRIPS OF SPECIAL TRAINS

MALIGAON: In anticipation of the increased passenger traffic during the upcoming festive season, Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) is all set to operate 13 pairs or 26 numbers of special trains. These trains will facilitate smooth travel experience during the forthcoming festive of Durga Puja, Diwali and Chhath Puja.

EDUCATION COLLEGES ZONAL YOUTH FESTIVAL

AMRITSAR: The Education Colleges Zonal Youth festival of Guru Nanak Dev University was inaugurated today in the Dashmesh Auditorium of the University. Students-artists from Education Colleges affiliated to the University are participating in this zone.

BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER VISITS GNDU

AMRITSAR: Her Excellency Ms. Lindy Cameron, British High Commissioner to India visited Guru Nanak Dev University. During her visit, Ms. Lindy Cameron met with officials of teaching, research & Innovation of the Guru Nanak Dev University.

NFR REVISES TIMINGS OF FEW IMPORTANT TRAINS

MALIGAON: The Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) has decided to revise timings of ten (10) trains at few stations commencing its journeys from 12th October, 2024 onwards running across its network. The revisions have been made to enhance passenger convenience and improve punctuality.

IRFC to achieve Modi's Viksit Bharat goal

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC), a Schedule A Miniratna public sector enterprise under the Ministry of Railways, announced on Thursday the appointment of Manoj Kumar Dubey, a 1993-batch Indian Railway Accounts Service (IRAS) officer, as its Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Dubey assumed office on Thursday. Dubey, who previously served as Director (Finance) and Chief Financial Officer of Container Corporation of India (CONCOR), expressed his honor at taking on the leadership of IRFC during what he sees as a defining moment for India's growth. "India is on the cusp of significant economic advancements, and leading one of the nation's iconic public sector enterprises is both a privilege and a responsibility. We want to be in the mainstream of the Viksit Bharat 2047 strategy of Prime Minister Narendra Modi," Dubey said. "India's rail infrastructure has flourished under the visionary guidance of Prime Minister and the dynamic leadership of Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw. The swift launch of Vande Bharat Express, rapid expansion of railway routes, and enhanced capacity and speed of freight trains are clear markers of this success. In a decade, India has constructed 14,985 km of new railway tracks, surpassing the achievements of developed nations like France," added Dubey. To put it in perspective, between 2004 and 2014, the total track length was just 14,000 km; however, in the past decade alone, this figure has more than doubled, now exceeding 31,000 kilometers.

RBI urges banks to enhance risk assessment

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank of India on Thursday asked banks, NBFCs, and other entities regulated by it to use information obtained from all relevant internal and external sources for their risk assessment exercise. Reserve Bank's Regulated entities (REs) have to carry out 'Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Risk Assessment' exercise periodically to identify, assess and take effective measures to mitigate their Money Laundering (ML), Terrorist Financing (TF) and Proliferation Financing (PF) risks for clients, countries or geographic areas, products, services, and transactions or delivery channels. In this regard, the central bank has issued "The Internal Risk Assessment Guidance for Money Laundering/ Terrorist Financing" for the REs, particularly for the dealing staff and the Anti-Money Laundering (AML)/ Countering Financing of Terrorism (CFT) / Counter



Proliferation Financing (CPF) practitioners of the REs. It specifies key principles for an internal risk assessment (IRA) exercise. "The enterprise-level risk assessment forms the bedrock of RBA (Risk-Based Approach). It enables the REs to understand how and to what extent they are vulnerable to ML/TF/PF risks which help REs in determining the allocation of attention and AML/CFT resources necessary to mitigate that risk," the RBI

department, internal audit function, compliance function, etc," it said. The central bank also emphasised that a siloed approach wherein only the AML team is involved in the IRA exercise should be avoided. It further said REs may endeavor to adopt a data oriented objective approach to avert any kind of bias in the IRA exercise while quality of data inputs would need to be ensured so that the results are meaningful/useful. RBI said that in an ever changing business environment and the increasing level of complexities in the banking and other financial products offered by banks and other regulated entities, there is always a likely exposure to the elevated money laundering, terrorist financing, or proliferation financing risks. The risks are further multiplied as use of emergent technologies and newer methods of payments enter the scene, it added.



EMBRACING SELF-LOVE

In 'Time to Come Home', Damini Grover invites readers on a transformative journey of self-love, guiding them to rediscover their true selves and embrace their worth says, **SAKSHI PRIYA**

"YOU CANNOT LOVE YOURSELF WITHOUT ACCEPTING YOUR TRUE FORM." THIS SIMPLE YET PROFOUND CONCEPT INVITES READERS TO EMBRACE WHO THEY TRULY ARE, RATHER THAN CONSTANTLY SEEKING VALIDATION FROM OTHERS OR STRIVING FOR PERFECTION.

Time to Come Home by Damini Grover is an insightful and transformative guide that invites readers to embark on a personal journey of self-love and growth. From the very first chapter, Grover begins with the question, "What is self-love?" and encourages readers to dive into an activity that helps define its true meaning. This exercise serves as a powerful reminder that the love we show to others - support, encouragement, forgiveness, should be equally extended to ourselves.

One of the key ideas that Grover highlights is that self-love isn't selfish, it's essential for living a balanced and fulfilling life. As she points out, "You cannot love yourself without accepting your true form." This simple yet profound concept invites readers to embrace who they truly are, rather than constantly seeking validation from others or striving for perfection. The book's first chapter makes an impactful start by showing how we often think of love in terms of what we give to others, our time, attention and care. As I read through this list, I realised how rarely we apply the same level of care to ourselves. Grover encourages us to view self-love as nurturing and forgiving ourselves, just as we would those closest to us. This includes celebrating our successes, whether big or small, and giving ourselves the compassion we so often reserve for others. Grover's experience as a psychologist shines through in her practical advice, which is grounded in both personal anecdotes and examples from her professional life. These real-life stories make the book relatable and offer readers concrete ways to overcome common barriers to self-love, such as societal pressures and internalised doubt. She provides practical exercises that help readers incorporate self-love into their daily routines, making this journey toward personal growth more accessible and achievable.

A particularly powerful moment in the book is when the author explains how we often forget to celebrate our own achievements.



ABOUT THE BOOK

Book : Time To Come Home - Sowing the Seeds of Self-Love for Lasting Happiness

by **DAMINI GROVER**

Publisher : Hay House

Number of Pages: 280

₹399.00

Availability: Amazon

Whether it's a small personal victory or a significant milestone, Grover reminds us that recognising our own efforts is a vital part of self-love. This isn't about pride, but about valuing ourselves and the work we put into our lives. It struck me how often we fail to give ourselves credit, constantly seeking praise from others, when, in reality, we should be the first to acknowledge our accomplishments.

What sets this book apart is its approachable tone and simplicity. Grover doesn't complicate her message with overwhelming ideas or heavy jargon. Instead, she offers practical guidance, allowing the reader to feel more connected to the process of self-love. Each chapter ends with exercises that encourage reflection and action, guiding readers toward building a stronger, more compassionate relationship with themselves.

One of the standout sections of *Time to Come Home* explores the concept of self-acceptance. Grover touches on how critical it is to stop battling with ourselves and to accept who we are in the present moment. She writes, "It is what it is," which resonates as a gentle yet powerful reminder that acceptance is the foundation for self-love. It's about acknowledging our imperfections without judgment, and choosing to embrace ourselves as we are.

A theme that deeply resonated with me was the emphasis on forgiveness, not just of others, but of ourselves. The author beautifully explains how forgiving ourselves for past mistakes and shortcomings is essential to moving forward. This aspect of self-love, often overlooked, is crucial for personal growth and healing. She also emphasises that loving ourselves includes uplifting ourselves in moments of doubt and difficulty, just as we would for a friend.

Time to Come Home is a guide for anyone seeking to rediscover themselves and strengthen their foundation of self-love. Through relatable stories, practical exercises, and a compassionate tone, Damini Grover highlights the vital role self-love plays in our overall well-being. According to Grover, self-love is not a luxury but a necessity. Without it, we may feel disconnected and unfulfilled, constantly seeking validation from others. By embracing self-love, we improve our relationships, make better decisions and lead more authentic lives. This book is a must-read for anyone ready to embark on the journey of returning to themselves and embracing the power of self-love.

NEW ARRIVALS

OCTOBER NEW RELEASES BY ALEPH BOOK COMPANY

India: A Linguistic Civilisation
By GN DEVY
(PRICE: ₹599, PAGES: 200)



In *India: A Linguistic Civilisation*, by GN Devy examines the profound linguistic diversity of India and its role in shaping national identity and culture. This insightful book traces the evolution of languages, addressing the challenges of documenting their histories while highlighting the impact of migration, colonialism and cultural practices. Devy emphasises the importance of preserving endangered languages and the rich oral traditions that enrich Indian heritage, making a compelling case for collective responsibility in safeguarding linguistic diversity.

Become an Achiever Right Now
(Price: ₹299, Pages: 144)



In *Become an Achiever Right Now: A Masterclass from the SuperGurus*, a collection of insights from the world's leading self-help gurus, this book uncovers the common traits and strategies shared by great achievers. It explores how taking risks, learning from failures and possessing unique character attributes can propel individuals toward their dreams. With practical advice and inspirational stories, this masterclass equips readers with the tools they need to navigate life's challenges and achieve lasting success.

A Mother's Pain and Family Struggles

Lata Gwalani 'Not Before You' reveals the emotional depth and challenges of a family with a differently-abled child.



BY SANJAY CHANDRA

Not Before You by Lata Gwalani is a layered story that explores different facets of human emotions and accompanying family dynamics. It is the story of a mother's angst as she faces the reality that her first-born son is differently-abled and would not survive long. The story also explores the fragile balance of the family, as the other two members - the father and the second child, a normal daughter, deal with the situation in their own way, which does not include a caregiver role for the child. Jaya works in the media. A chance meeting with Suraj who runs his Yoga Ashram, culminates into romance, and marriage. Their joy soon turns into despair when they realise that the child, Nikhil, is different. The diagnosis after several visits to the doctors shatters them. In time, they have a daughter, Divya, who is normal. Jaya is determined to care for son till the end. Suraj takes refuge by escaping from reality. Divya is traumatised



ABOUT THE BOOK

Book: Not Before You

by **LATA GWALANI**

Publisher: Vishwakarma Publication

Paperback: 216 page

₹325

as she does not understand the reason for her mother spending more time with her brother to her exclusion. She also wants her mother to cuddle and care for her the way she sees her caring for Nikhil or the way the mothers of her friends care for their children. She continues to fight her demons even as an adult. She also blames her mother for the missing father. The mother bears it stoically. Years pass. Jaya retires from her professional responsibilities. She realises with dismay that she is not getting any younger. She is not invincible. She is worried about Nikhil if she passes away before her son. She is willing to go to the extremes to ensure that the young man, who has been bedridden since birth, does not suffer if she dies before him. She is a mother who wants her son to die first. She is not certain if the two other people who matter to her, Suraj and Divya, would support her. Almost 8 million children in India live with disabilities.

The first thought that runs through our minds is a silent prayer to the supreme being that our children lead a normal life, and then a sympathy towards the parents. We do not pause and reflect upon the sentiments of the affected parents. Lata shows us the mirror to do just that. It is a sensitive subject beautifully handled by her. There are short references to Yama, the God of death, looking down upon this unique mother and bowing to her wishes to not die before the child. These passages do not interrupt the flow of the story, but could have been avoided. This is a book that teaches us the meaning of empathy. Lata Gwalani has a career spanning three decades in journalism and behavioural training. She is a renowned speaker on Emotional Intelligence and Leadership. Lata uncovers captivating tales in the mundane and has published three works.

ABOUT THE REVIEWER

Sanjay Chandra is an author, speaker and strategy consultant who writes for The Pioneer and The Hindu. His novels include Behind Closed Doors (2023), The Gymnast (2022) and The Life and Times of a Common Man (2019). He lives in Gurugram and connects with readers through his website and social media. Sanjay loves to interact with readers through his email sanjaychandra59@gmail.com, his website www.authorsanjaychandra.com and various social media handles.



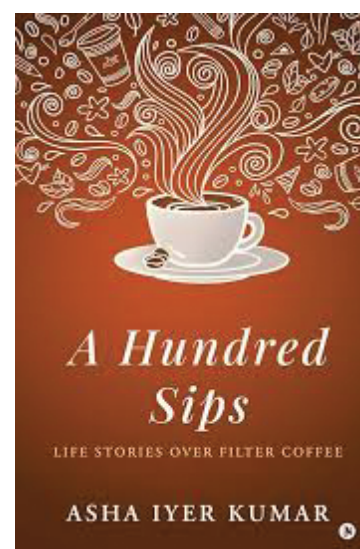
Finding joy: A hundred sips of life's simple moments

In 'A Hundred Sips: Life Stories over Filter Coffee,' Asha Iyer Kumar invites readers to explore the essence of happiness and the beauty found in life's everyday moments, writes **GYANESHWAR DAYAL**

What is happiness and how can we discover it in the simple moments of daily life? Is there a pattern to the challenges and hardships we face on this journey? In 'A Hundred Sips: Life Stories over Filter Coffee,' Asha Iyer Kumar presents a collection of uplifting stories that explore these questions and more. Rooted in her personal experiences, Kumar's narratives reveal how hope and joy can be found even amid life's struggles and tough decisions.

A Hundred Sips is a thought-provoking and beautifully crafted collection of stories that take the reader on a reflective journey through life's everyday moments. Each essay is like a sip from the cup of life, offering warmth, insight, and the subtle flavours of human experience. Kumar's writing is both intimate and relatable, drawing from her personal observations and universal truths. Her book explores themes of love, loss, joy and the simple pleasures that often go unnoticed in our fast-paced world. The strength of her prose lies in its simplicity; she conveys profound ideas in a conversational tone, making it feel like the reader is having a heartfelt discussion with an old friend.

Her stories remind us that although life may not always be perfect, there are always glimmers of light, even in the darkest times. With her straightforward yet profound writing, Kumar encourages readers to recognise the happiness and contentment hidden in everyday



moments, celebrating the small pleasures often overlooked. Through this journey, Kumar invites readers to pause and reflect on their own lives, helping them uncover beauty in the ordinary and find the extraordinary within the mundane. Whether you're searching for comfort, inspiration or a fresh perspective, 'A Hundred Sips: Life Stories over Filter Coffee' is a testament to the strength of the human spirit and the joy that can be discovered in the simplest of experiences. Her message is clear: Immerse yourself in these deep stories and let them guide you in savouring life, one sip at a time.

NITISH KUMAR REDDY CREDITS GAUTAM GAMBHIR FOR ALL-ROUND SHOW IN 2ND T20I

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India all-rounder Nitish Kumar Reddy said the idea was to take on the Bangladeshi spinners and credited head coach Gautam Gambhir for boosting his confidence after his all-round effort powered the hosts to an 86-run win in the second T20I here.

India, who had lost to Bangladesh the last time these two teams clashed here, landed in trouble with their top order blown away inside the powerplay but Reddy and Rinku Singh joined forces to turn the tables on Bangladesh. The pair put on 108 runs for the fourth wicket from 49 balls to take the game away from Bangladesh, with Reddy clobbering seven sixes and four fours to make 74 from a mere 34 balls.

"The conversation that we were having (was) a smooth conversation, we were not taking any pressure. We did not plan anything about the score. We saw the spinner coming on to bowl, and we thought that this was the main over and we should take him on," he said in a video shared by BCCI.

"To be honest, I should thank Gautam sir for this. He gave a lot of confidence in me. He told me to believe in my bowling." "The conversation that we were having (was) a smooth conversation, we were not taking any pressure. We did not plan anything about the score. We saw the spinner coming on to bowl, and we thought that this was the main over and we should take him on," he said in a video shared by BCCI.



the Match. "Playing for India is in itself a proud moment and getting the man of the match (award). I feel so grateful for this and I just want to live in this moment," he said. "Once I got to know that from here you should take on. I just knew that I will take on the bowlers. I was backing myself saying 'you can do this,' added Reddy, who returned 4-0-23-2.

"The conversation between us was like, he was telling me that maybe it is God's plan. We were just believing (in) it and we were just hitting the balls," Reddy said in a video shared by BCCI. Rinku, who scored 53 off 29 balls with five fours and three sixes, said the pair decided to take the attack to the opposition.

"We were enjoying our batting. I just said it is God's plan, just keep hitting and leave it on the one above. Nitesh bhai also batted well," said Rinku. "It was only his second international match and it felt really good watching him," he added. Rinku looked at his record with pride saying he has won each series that he has played

for India and expressed his wish to continue doing that. "This was my third century in T20Is and all three have come in situations where India have lost early wickets have been lost and I got the chance to bat and I made a fifty," he said. "I have won all the series with the Indian team since I started playing, so I would want to

remain with the team and the key keep winning," added Rinku, who also has 'God' plan tattooed on his arm. Rinku said India skipper Suryakumar Yadav urges his players to remain aggressive and play their natural game. "Surya bhai has asked us to be aggressive and play our natural game, just back our shots and show our energy," he said.



IAMGAME Conclave for the Future of Indian Sports

RISHABH MALIK ■ NEW DELHI

The IAMGAME Conclave took place on Wednesday to put together key leaders, athletes, and industry experts to share their valuable insights on the evolution and global potential of Indian sports.

The conclave addressed the most pressing challenges and opportunities within the Indian sports ecosystem, from infrastructure development and athlete nurturing to the growing influence of technology and the critical role of inclusivity and diversity.

The conclave was inaugurated by Mr Sudhanshu Mittal, President of Kho Kho federation. This more than just an event; it is a call to action. By facilitating open dialogue and knowledge sharing, the conclave aims to empower participants to drive positive change in the sports sector. The conclave had prominent speakers such as Harmanpreet Singh, Ronjan Sodhi, Udit Sheth, Jaspal Rana, Nikhat Zareen, Namrata Parekh, Aparna Popat, and Rathindra Basu. Who shared their insights about how they can make the game better for athletes. "The conclave was not just about conversations, but

about fostering collaboration and setting the foundation for action that will shape the future of sports in India," said Karan Chettri, IAMGAME Founder.

IAMGAME inspired innovation, tackled inclusivity, and empowered the next generation of athletes by fostering a collaborative environment for meaningful discussions. The insights generated at the event will serve as a roadmap for India's continued progress as a global sports powerhouse.

Co-founder Mandeep Malhotra added, "Through IAMGAME, we have built a platform for collaboration and growth, positioning Indian sports for a brighter future."

The event concluded on a high note, with a renewed focus on empowering the next generation of athletes, promoting inclusivity, and fostering innovation. The insights and ideas generated at IAMGAME 2024 are expected to serve as a roadmap for India's continued progress as a global sports powerhouse. As the momentum from the conclave carries forward, it is expected to drive meaningful changes within the Indian sports ecosystem, pushing it to new heights.

Iyer-Kishan on a "mission" as half of season to be held without top 60 players

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Shreyas Iyer would like to sit back on a 'Time Machine' to revive his start-stop international career while Ishan Kishan would aim to clear the popular perception about his allegedly "misplaced priorities", when the 90th edition of Ranji Trophy starts across the country with hundreds of players ready to slog it out for different ambitions and varied goals.

The Indian cricket board's powerful rap on the knuckles to the 'IPL happy duo' was a message loud and clear to anyone who would care to listen - to earn mega bucks in IPL auction, learn to give respect to the foundation of country's cricket - India's very own national championship. Iyer wouldn't mind having a 1,321-run reason like he had in the 2015-16 Ranji edition which brought him into national reckoning. He is at the cross-roads where it may not take long to slip off the selector's radar as his favourite ODI format is slowly losing relevance. Similarly, Kishan, who has fallen off the pecking order among national 'keepers', has accepted the responsibility to captain Jharkhand which



would also be a signal of his intent for Ajit Agarkar and his colleagues. Like every edition, Ranji Trophy will be devoid of star power with none of country's top 17-18 players likely to be available throughout the season due to eight Test matches scheduled between October 16 to January 7. The next 18 will only be available for a single round before they embark on India 'A' tour to Australia while another 15 among the younger crop of top T20 stars also unavailable for a couple of weeks owing to a four-match T20I series in South Africa. If that is not enough, another 15 will be in Muscat for the Emerging Asia Cup tournament, where BCCI

wouldn't send its U-23 team like previous years as other Asian nations don't have robust age-group programme. Like every year, the national selector would be out there to unearth hidden diamonds and give them wings to fly in coming years. The Indian Test team's philosophy has undergone sea-change over the years and it will no longer just be about volume of runs scored and quantum of wickets. "If runs and wickets alone would have been a marker then Milind Kumar or Lalaj Saxena would have played for India," a former national selector, who has a deep understanding of the process said. "If a batter has scored only 500

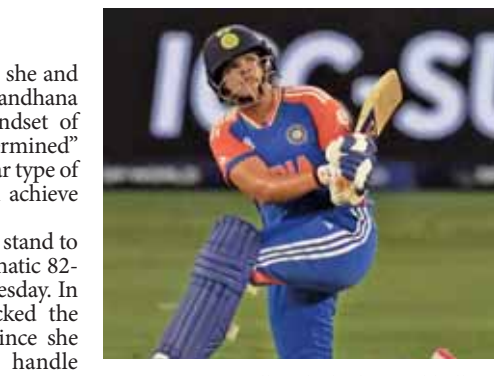
runs in a season but there is hundred on a green-top against good domestic attack and 60-odd on a proverbial akhaada (rank turner), his name would find a place in selector's notebook for India A and pathways programme. "Similarly, if a fast bowler is running in and making things happen on a batting belter with sun beating down, he will automatically grab eyeballs. It is all about adaptability and challenging yourself to get out of your comfort zone. If its a flat deck, then show your stamina and score a triple even when you are suffering from cramps."

"To play for India, show that you are different. All selectors have specific names in mind when they go for an assignment. Yes, they look at all players but focus would be on what national team requirements are," the selector, a former India Test player said. Among the teams, Mumbai once again would be a team to beat with Ajinkya Rahane, Prithvi Shaw, Shreyas Iyer in its ranks although the Khan brothers - Sarfaraz and Musheer - will be missing; elder one due to national duty and younger one because of a recent road accident.

Not going in with pre-determined mindset has helped Smriti and me, says Shafali

PTI ■ DUBAI

Indian batter Shafali Verma said she and her opening partner Smriti Mandhana have moved away from the mindset of entering matches with "pre-determined" ideas about targeting any particular type of bowling, which has helped them achieve greater success. The duo put up a 98-run opening stand to lay the foundation of India's emphatic 82-run win over Sri Lanka on Wednesday. In her 38-ball 50, Mandhana attacked the spinners, which is noteworthy since she typically relies on Shafali to handle tweakers. "Yes, we have a very good combination now, as you said. That's because now we don't go being pre-determined. Whoever



is connecting well with the bat and ball on that day, we try to give singles and let her play more balls," Shafali said at the post-match press conference.

"She's hitting the spinners very well. So, it's a good thing. And we both just try to give as good a start as we can then it'd be good for the team to build a good inning and hit a good target," she added.

Under the pump after the heavy loss to New Zealand and an underwhelming win over Pakistan, India's hammering of Sri Lanka massively boosted their net run rate, elevating them to the second spot in Group A. The Indian women have, however, struggled to hit the maximums at the Dubai Cricket Stadium, where they have played all of their matches till now. Shafali and Mandhana also copped criticism for their running between the wickets, which improved drastically against Sri Lanka

Major Dhyan Chand Stadium gets a facelift to ahead of India-Germany hockey series

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Once it chronicled Mir Ranjan Negi's epic fall from grace, Dhanraj Pillay's artistic stick-work and Sandeep Singh's muscular drag-flicks but in the past decade or so, Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium seemed resigned to the fact that its glory days as epicentre of Indian hockey were a thing of past. The two-match Test series against Germany on October 23 and 24 seems like the revival of Delhi's hockey spirit which has gone dormant in the past 10 years. Odisha government's seminal decision to help Indian hockey find its home in Bhubaneswar and Rourkela was a major

factor in the shift of momentum, which can swing once again if the fans show up. Hockey India President Dilip Tirkey is hoping for a good turnout considering the growing popularity of hockey after two consecutive Olympic bronze medals. "Earlier domestic tournaments used to be held in Delhi in a very spectacular manner. I too made my international debut in Delhi through Indira Gandhi Gold Cup 1995. A large number of spectators used to come here and we also want that the glory of hockey to return to Delhi," Tirkey told PTI Bhasha. "After the Tokyo and Paris Olympics, the popularity of hockey has increased manifold and now the stadium will be

waiting for the spectators," said the legendary former defender. The last international match played here was the 2014 Hero World League Final. Inter-departmental hockey of institutions has also been held here occasionally. "I was an official here during the 2010 World Cup and used to be held in Delhi in a very different atmosphere," said Ajay Kumar Bansal, former coach of the Indian junior and women's hockey team and ex administrator of the National Stadium. "Hockey was being played in Odisha for the last few years, due to which the graph of the game went up there and on the contrary, due to the absence of



hockey in Delhi, it went down. The youth did not see any big hockey tournament here, so automatically their interest decreased," he said. "Apart from this, due to lack of tournaments, the maintenance of the stadium is also affected. I want that from next time,

four or five more venues including Delhi, Punjab, Haryana should be included in the Hockey India League." India's World Cup winning former captain Ajitpal Singh believes that matches with big teams should be played in all the pockets of hockey in India.

"An international match is happening in Delhi after many years. Earlier, many 'Test' matches used to be held at the Shivaji Stadium. I think it is important to have matches and tournaments across the country, rather centralising them," the former skipper said. "There are many pockets of hockey in India, like many excellent players have emerged from Punjab, Haryana, UP, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu. Hockey is very popular in Odisha and Jharkhand, but it is important to organise big matches in other states as well," he added. Giving details of the preparations, officials said the cleaning of astro turf on the main pitch and practice pitches was going on with

German machines for a week and the process has been completed. Every year Rs 30 lakh is spent on the maintenance of both turfs. They said that the spectator galleries, change rooms, dressing rooms, and the entire complex have been cleaned. They also said that there is no need for an upgrade because this is a world-class stadium in which World Cup and Commonwealth Games have been organised. The stadium also houses a Hockey Academy of the National Centre of Excellence of the Sports Authority of India in which regular practice takes place. Apart from this, under the 'Come and Play' scheme of SAI, some children come and

play hockey, who are very excited about these matches. When India defeated arch-rivals Pakistan in the World Cup and the Commonwealth Games in 2010 year on this ground, a flood of emotions had overflowed in the packed stadium. The National Stadium (formerly known as Irwin Amphitheatre), gifted to Delhi by the Maharaja of Bhavnagar, witnessed the first Asian Games in 1951 and the players shed tears after losing to Pakistan in the hockey final of the 1982 Asian Games. On this same ground, Australia hammered the host India in the final of the 2010 Commonwealth Games by 8-0, one of the worst ever defeats.