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### HYUNDAI MOTOR INDIA LIMITED

Our Company was incorporated on May 6, 1996 as a public limited company under the Companies Act, 1956, with the name "Hyundai Motor India Limited", pursuant to a certificate of incorporation granted by the Registrar of Companies, Tamil Nadu ("ROC") and subsequently, a certificate of commencement of business dated May 10, 1996 was issued to our Company by the Registrar of Companies, Tamil Nadu. For details of changes in the registered office of our Company, see "History and Certain Corporate Matters - Changes in the Registered Office" on page 221 of the red herring prospectus dated October 8, 2024 ("RHP or Red Herring Prospectus") filed with the ROC.

Registered Office: Plot No. H-1, SIPCOT Industrial Park, Irrungattukottai, Sriperumbudur Taluk, Kancheepuram District – 602 105, Tamil Nadu, India; Corporate Office: Plot No. C-11 & C-11 A, City Centre, Urban Estate - 2, Sector 29, Gurugram – 122 001, Haryana, India Contact Person: Divya Venkat, Company Secretary and Compliance Officer; Tel: +91 44 6710 5135; E-mail: complianceofficer@hmil.net; Website: www.hyundai.com/in/en; Corporate Identity Number: U29309TN1996PLC035377

#### **OUR PROMOTER: HYUNDAI MOTOR COMPANY**

INITIAL PUBLIC OFFER OF UP TO 142,194,700 EQUITY SHARES OF FACE VALUE OF ₹ 10 EACH ("EQUITY SHARES") OF HYUNDAI MOTOR INDIA LIMITED ("OUR COMPANY" OR THE "ISSUER") FOR CASH AT A PRICE OF ₹ [•] PER EQUITY SHARE (INCLUDING A PREMIUM OF ₹ [•] PER EQUITY SHARE) ("OFFER PRICE") AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ [•] MILLION THROUGH AN OFFER FOR SALE ("THE OFFER") OF UP TO 142,194,700 EQUITY SHARES OF FACE VALUE OF ₹ 10 EACH AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ [•] MILLION BY HYUNDAI MOTOR COMPANY ("PROMOTER SELLING SHAREHOLDER") (THE "OFFER FOR SALE" AND SUCH EQUITY SHARES, THE "OFFERED SHARES").

THE OFFER INCLUDES A RESERVATION OF UP TO 778,400 EQUITY SHARES OF FACE VALUE OF ₹ 10 EACH, AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ 10 EACH, AGGREGATING UP TO 0.10% OF THE POST-OFFER PAIDUP EQUITY SHARE CAPITAL, FOR SUBSCRIPTION BY ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES ("EMPLOYEE RESERVATION PORTION"). THE OFFER LESS THE EMPLOYEE RESERVATION PORTION IS HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE "NET OFFER." THE OFFER AND THE NET OFFER SHALL CONSTITUTE 17.50% AND 17.40% OF THE POST-OFFER PAID-UP EQUITY SHARE CAPITAL OF OUR COMPANY.

DETAILS OF THE SELLING SHAREHOLDER, OFFER FOR SALE AND WEIGHTED AVERAGE COST OF ACQUISITION PER EQUITY SHARE							
NAME OF THE SELLING SHAREHOLDER	TYPE	MAXIMUM NUMBER OF OFFERED SHARES	AGGREGATE PROCEEDS FROM OFFERED SHARES	WEIGHTED AVERAGE COST OF ACQUISITION PER EQUITY SHARE (₹)**			
Hyundai Motor Company ("HMC")	Promoter Selling Shareholder	Up to 142,194,700 Equity Shares of face value of ₹ 10 each	Up to ₹ [•] million	10,00			

As certified by Manian & Rao, Chartered Accountants, by way of their certificate dated October 8, 2024.

We primarily manufacture and sell four-wheeler passenger vehicles and parts, such as transmissions and engines in India and outside India.

Currently our vehicle portfolio includes 13 passenger vehicle models across sedans, hatchbacks, SUVs and battery EVs.

The Offer is being made through the Book Building Process in accordance with Regulation 6(1) of the SEBI ICDR Regulations.

QIB Portion: Not more than 50 % of the Net Offer | Non-Institutional Portion: Not less than 15% of the Net Offer | Retail Portion: Not less than 35% of the Net Offer Employee Reservation Portion: Up to 778,400 Equity Shares aggregating up to ₹ [\*] million.

#### PRICE BAND: ₹1,865 TO ₹1,960 PER EQUITY SHARE OF FACE VALUE OF ₹10 EACH.

THE FLOOR PRICE IS 186.50 TIMES THE FACE VALUE OF THE EQUITY SHARES AND THE CAP PRICE IS 196.00 TIMES THE FACE VALUE OF THE EQUITY SHARES.

THE PRICE TO EARNINGS RATIO ("P/E") BASED ON DILUTED EPS FOR FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 2024 FOR THE COMPANY AT THE UPPER END OF THE PRICE BAND IS AS HIGH AS 26.28 TIMES AND AT THE LOWER END
OF THE PRICE BAND IS 25.01 TIMES AS COMPARED TO THE AVERAGE INDUSTRY PEER GROUP P/E RATIO OF 23.57 TIMES.

BIDS CAN BE MADE FOR A MINIMUM OF 7 EQUITY SHARES AND IN MULTIPLES OF 7 EQUITY SHARES THEREAFTER.

A DISCOUNT OF ₹186 PER EQUITY SHARE IS BEING OFFERED TO ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES BIDDING IN THE EMPLOYEE RESERVATION PORTION.

ASBA"

Simple, Safe, Smart way of Application!!!

"Applications Supported by Blocked Amount ("ASBA") is a better way of applying to Issues by simply blocking the fund in the bank account. For further details, check section on ASBA. Mandatory in public issues. No cheque will be accepted.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Independent Directors of our Company, pursuant to their resolution dated October 8, 2024, the above provided price band is justified based on quantitative factors/ KPIs disclosed in the "Basis for Offer Price" section of the RHP vis-à-vis the weighted average cost of acquisition of primary and secondary transactions, as applicable, disclosed in the "Basis for Offer Price" section on page 118 of the RHP.

IN MAKING AN INVESTMENT DECISION AND PURCHASE IN THE OFFER, POTENTIAL INVESTORS MUST RELY ON THE INFORMATION INCLUDED IN THE RED HERRING PROSPECTUS AND THE TERMS OF THE OFFER, INCLUDING THE RISKS INVOLVED AND NOT RELY ON ANY OTHER EXTERNAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE OFFER AVAILABLE IN ANY MANNER.

In relation to price band, potential Investors should only refer to the price band advertisement for the Offer and should not rely on any media articles/reports in relation to the valuation of the Company as these are not endorsed, published or confirmed either by the Company or by the BRLMs.

#### RISK TO INVESTORS

#### (For details refer to section titled "Risk Factors" on page 34 of the RHP.)

- Dependency on HMC: We depend on HMC, our Promoter, for our operations, including for parts and materials (such as engines and transmission assembly) and research and development. We have entered into and may continue to enter into related party transactions with HMC and companies within the Hyundai Motor Group that may involve conflicts of interest, which could adversely impact our business. Any adverse change in our relationship with HMC and the companies in the Hyundai Motor Group could have an adverse impact on our business,
- Risk regarding conflict of interest: Two of our Group Companies, Kia Corporation and Kia India Private Limited, are in a similar line of business as us which may involve conflict of interests, which could adversely impact our business. Further, our Promoter, Hyundai Motor Company ("HMC"), including certain companies in the Hyundai Motor Group, are engaged in businesses which may be similar to ours. While exercising their rights as our shareholder, HMC may consider the interest of all their subsidiaries and affiliates, which may not align with our interests.
- 3. Dependency on Mobis India Limited ("Mobis"): We depend primarily on our Group Company, (being a subsidiary of Hyundai Mobis Co., Ltd. which is specialised in after-sale parts business for HMC Group Companies), to supply spare parts for after sale services to us and our dealers. Further, we also depend on Mobis to supply modular parts to us that we use in the manufacturing process of passenger vehicles and parts and constituted 17.91% of our total parts and materials supplied in the three months ended June 30, 2024. Any failure by Mobis to supply these parts could adversely impact our business. Further, Mobis may engage in transactions with us and other HMC Group Companies that may give rise to conflict situations.
- 4. Royalty Agreement with HMC; We have entered into the Royalty Agreement with HMC pursuant to which we are required to pay an amount to HMC equal to 3.5% of our sales revenue (which is to be determined as set forth the Royalty Agreement), arising from the sale of passenger vehicles or parts. Termination of the Royalty Agreement could adversely impact our business and results of operations. The following table provides the royalty expenses paid to HMC, pursuant to the Royalty Agreement and erstwhile royalty arrangements, for the periods indicated:

	Three months ended June 30,		Fiscal		
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2022
Royalty expense (₹ millions)	4,769.70	3,802.71	15,584.42	14,386.98	11,008.13
Royalty expense as a percentage of revenue from operations (%)	2.75	2.29	2.23	2.39	2.32

- Any increase in the royalty fee payable by our Company to HMC under the Royalty Agreement, including up to and exceeding the limits of 5% of the annual consolidated turnover of our Company as prescribed under the SEBI Listing Regulations, could adversely impact our profitability metrics, including our earnings per share.
- 5. Special Dividend to HMC: Our ability to utilise our internal accruals and cash and bank balances to invest in the business has been reduced and have been adversely impacted on account of the special dividend aggregating to ₹ 107,824.20 million paid to HMC, our Promoter, in March 2024. As a result, we may need to borrow and incur borrowing costs which could impact our profitability, key financial ratios and results of operations.
- 6. Risk regarding parts and materials consumed: We source parts such as trims, engines and transmissions, and materials such as steel for our manufacturing operations from a combination of domestic and foreign suppliers of the total purchase of parts and materials in Fiscal 2024, we sourced 78.04% from India and 21.96% from outside India.
- 7. <u>Dependency on Suppliers</u>: We depend on a limited number of suppliers for the procurement of parts and materials required for our manufacturing operations. The table below highlights the percentage of supplies sourced from our top-five suppliers, top-10 suppliers, related parties and suppliers in India and Korea for the periods indicated:

Particulars	Three r	nonths lune 30,	Fiscal		
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2022
Top-five suppliers as a % of total costs to purchase of parts and materials (1)	42.61%	46.58%	43.73%	44.01%	41.05%
Top-10 suppliers as a % of total costs to purchase of parts and materials <sup>(2)</sup>	57.98%	61.08%	58.37%	58.81%	55.05%
% of parts and materials sourced from related parties	37.14%	39.51%	38.28%	33.98%	34.60%
% of parts and materials sourced from India	80.97%	74.35%	78.04%	80.11%	82.45%
% of parts and materials sourced from South Korea	14.20%	21.18%	16.60%	16.81%	14.06%
% of parts and materials sourced from other than India and South Korea	4.83%	4.47%	5.36%	3.08%	3.49%

- (1) Three of our top-five suppliers during the three months ended June 30, 2024 and 2023 and Fiscals 2024 and 2023 and two of our top-five suppliers during Fiscal 2022 are from related parties.
- (2) Five of our top-10 suppliers during the three months ended June 30, 2024 and Fiscal 2024 and four of our top-10 suppliers during the three months ended June 30, 2023 and Fiscals 2023 and 2022 are from related parties.
- 8. <u>Dependency on sale of non-EV passenger vehicles:</u> A significant portion of our sales volumes are derived from the sale of non-EV passenger vehicles, and there is no assurance that we will be able to adopt our EV strategy successfully and cost-efficiently or at all. The following table provides a breakdown of our sales volumes by powertrain for the periods indicated:

	Three months ended June 30,			Fiscal						
Particulars	2024		2023		2024		2023		2022	
	Units	% of total domestic passenger vehicle sales volumes	Units	% of total domestic passenger vehicle sales volumes	Units	% of total domestic passenger vehicle sales volumes	Units	% of total domestic passenger vehicle sales volumes	Units	% of total domestic passenger vehicle sales volumes
Domestic sales volume by powertrain	149,455	100.00%	148,303	100.00%	614,721	100.00%	567,546	100.00%	481,500	100.00%
ICE (without CNG)	132,338	88.55%	132,634	89.43%	542,234	88.21%	506,249	89.20%	437,637	90.89%
CNG	17,000	11.37%	15,061	10.16%	70,367	11.45%	60,322	10.63%	43,732	9.08%
EV	117	0.08%	608	0.41%	2,120	0.34%	975	0.17%	131	0.03%

- 3. Risk regarding evolving customer demands: Our success depends on our and HMC's ability to identify market trends, including technological trends, and meet evolving customer demands, while maintaining or improving our profitability. If we are unable to do so, our sales volumes, business and results of operations would be adversely affected.
- 10. <u>Dependency on HMC for Exports:</u> Our global operations involve challenges and risks that could increase our costs, adversely affect our results of operations and require increased time and attention from our management. Further, we primarily depend on HMC for our exports business and revenue generated from our exports sales constitutes 22.34% and 23.70% of our revenue from operations in Fiscal 2024 and in the three months ended June 30, 2024, and also need their prior permission for exports, including regarding the model and jurisdiction of our exports. Any failure or delay by HMC



continued from previous page

or us in accessing the export markets could have a material adverse effect on our results of 14. Other Risks;

- 11. Risk regarding manufacturing capacity: We currently manufacture our passenger vehicles and parts only at the Chennai Manufacturing Plants. Our manufacturing plants currently operate at high capacity utilisation levels. For Fiscal 2024 our capacity utilisation was 97.10% and we may not be able to meet additional demand for our products until we are able to increase our capacity by operationalising Talegaon manufacturing plant which is expected to commence commercial operations partly in the second half of Fiscal 2026. Further, if we underestimate or overestimate the demand for our products, the capacity utilisation of our manufacturing plants may be underutilised or over-utilised, respectively, which could adversely affect our manufacturing schedules
- Dependency on SUV: We substantially depend on the sales of our SUV models in India. The below table sets forth the domestic sales volumes of SUVs and the percentage of our total domestic sales volumes for the periods indicated:

	Three n			Fiscal	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2022
Domestic Sales Volume of SUVs (units)	100,745	83,642	388,725	301,681	250,430
% of Total Domestic Sales Volume (%)	67.41%	56.40%	63.24%	53.16%	52.01%

13. Market Risk: The Offer Price of our Equity Shares and our price-to-earnings ratio may not be indicative of the trading price of our Equity Shares upon listing on the Stock Exchanges subsequent to the Offer and, as a result, you may lose a significant part or all of your investment.

Particulars	Ratio vis-à-vis Floor Price of ₹1,865	Ratio vis-à-vis Cap Price of ₹1,960		
5:2/41/07/76	(In multiples, unless otherwise specific			
Market capitalization to Revenue from operations	2.17	2.28		
Price-to-earnings ratio	25.01	26.28		
Notes:				

- Market capitalization has been computed as the product of number of shares outstanding as on the date of RHP
- with the floor price or cap price, as applicable.

\*UPI mandate end time and date shall be at 5:00 pm on the Bid/Offer Closing Date.

Revenue from Operations are for the Financial Year ended March 31, 2024. P/E Ratio has been computed based on the floor price or cap price, as applicable, divided by the Diluted EPS for the financial year ended 2024.

- The weighted average cost of acquisition of Equity Shares for Promoter Selling Shareholder is ₹10 per Equity Share and the offer price at upper end of the price band is ₹1,960 per Equity
- Our Company will not receive any proceeds from the Offer for Sale.
- The Price to Earnings ratio based on diluted EPS for financial year ended 2024 for the Company at the upper end of the Price band is as high as 26.28 times as compared to the average industry peer group PE ratio of 23.57 times.
- Weighted Average Return on Net Worth for Financial Year ended 2024, 2023 and 2022 is 39.11%.
- The five Book Running Lead Managers associated with the Offer have handled 35 public issues in the past three Financial Years, out of which 5 issues closed below the issue price on the listing date:

Name of the BRLMs	Total Public Issues	Issues closed below IPO price on listing date
Kotak Mahindra Capital Company Limited*	13	2
Citigroup Global Markets India Private Limited*	3	-
HSBC Securities and Capital Markets (India) Private Limited*	-	-
J.P. Morgan India Private Limited*	1	2
Morgan Stanley India Company Private Limited*	1	
Common issues of above BRLMs	17	3
Total	35	5
Issues handled where there were no common BRLMs.		

Weighted average cost of acquisition of all shares transacted in the three years, 18 months and one year preceding the date of the Red Herring Prospectus:

Weighted average cost of acquisition (in ₹)	Cap Price is 'X' times the weighted average cost of acquisition	Range of acquisition price: lowest price - highest price (in ₹)
Nil'	Nil'	Nil
Nil*	Nil*	Nil'
Nil'	Nil*	Nil*
	cost of acquisition (in ₹) Nil' Nil'	cost of weighted average cost of acquisition (in ₹) acquisition  Nil' Nil'  Nil' Nil'

our Promoter

#### BID/OFFER PERIOD

#### **BID/OFFER OPENS TODAY**

An indicative timetable in respect of the Offer is set out below:

Submission of Bids (other than Bids from Anchor Investors):

Bid/Offer Period (except the Bid/Offer of	Closing Date)
Submission and Revision in Bids	Only between 10.00 a.m. and 5,00 p.m. IST
Bid/Offer Closing Date*	
Submission of electronic applications (online ASBA through 3-in-1 accounts) for RIBs, Eligible Employees Bidding in the Employee Reservation Portion	Only between 10.00 a.m. and up to 5.00 p.m. IST
Submission of electronic application (bank ASBA through online channels like internet banking, mobile banking and syndicate ASBA applications through UPI as a payment mechanism where Bid Amount is up to ₹0.50 million)	Only between 10,00 a.m. and up to 4,00 p.m. IST
Submission of electronic applications (syndicate nonretail, non-individual appli- cations of QIBs and NIIs)	Only between 10.00 a.m. and up to 3.00 p.m. IST
Submission of physical applications (syndicate nonretail, non-individual applica- tions where Bid Amount is more than ₹0.50 million)	Only between 10.00 a.m. and up to 1.00 p.m. IST

#### BID/OFFER CLOSES ON: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2024\*

Revision/Cancelled of Bid-	
Upward Revision of Bids by QIBs and Non-Institutional Bidders categories*	Only between 10.00 a.m. and up to 4.00 p.m. IST on Bid/ Offer Closing Date
Upward or downward Revision of Bids or cancellation of Bids by RIBs and Eligible Employees Bidding in the Employee Reservation Portion	Only between 10,00 a.m. and up to 5,00 p.m. IST

Event	Indicative Date
Bid/Offer Closing Date	Thursday, October 17, 2024
Finalisation of Basis of Allotment with the Designated Stock Exchange	On or about Friday, October 18, 2024
Initiation of refunds (if any, for Anchor Investors)/unblocking of funds from ASBA Account	On or about Monday, October 21, 2024
Credit of Equity Shares to depository accounts	On or about Monday, October 21, 2024
Commencement of trading of the Equity Shares on the Stock Exchanges	On or about Tuesday, October 22, 2024

\*UPI mandate end time shall be 5:00 p.m. on the Bid/ Offer Closing Date \*QIBs and Non-Institutional Bidders can neither revise their bids downwards nor cancel/withdraw their bids

#### THE EQUITY SHARES OF OUR COMPANY WILL GET LISTED ON MAIN BOARD PLATFORM OF NSE AND BSE.



UPI-Now available in ASBA for all individual investors applying in public issues where the application amount is up to ₹500,000, applying through Registered Brokers, Syndicate, CDPs & RTAs. Retail Individual Bidders and Non-Institutional Bidders also have the option to submit the application directly to the ASBA Bank (SCSBs) or to use the facility of linked online trading, demat and bank account. Investors are required to ensure that the bank account used for bidding is linked to their PAN. Bidders must ensure that their PAN is linked with Aadhaar and are in compliance with CBDT notification dated February 13. 2020 and read with press releases dated June 25, 2021 read with press release September 17, 2021, and CBDT circular no. 7 of 2022, dated March 30, 2022 read with press release dated March 28, 2023 and any subsequent press releases in this regard.

ASBA has to be availed by all the investors except Anchor Investors. UPI may be availed by retail individual investors. For details on the ASBA and UPI process, please refer to the details given in the ASBA Form and abridged prospectus and also please refer to the section "Offer Procedure" on page 407 of the RHP. The process is also available on the website of Association of Investment Bankers of India ("AIBI") and Stock Exchanges and in the General Information Document. The Bid Cum Application Form and the Abridged Prospectus can be downloaded from the website of SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in/sebiweb/other/OtherAction.do?doRecognisedFpi=yes&intmid=35 and https://www.sebi.gov.in/sebiweb/other/OtherAction.do?doRecognisedFpi=yes&intmid=43, respectively as updated from time to time. For the list of UPI apps and banks live on IPO, please refer to the link: www.sebi.gov.in, UPI Bidders Bidding using the UPI Mechanism may apply through the SCSBs and mobile applications whose names appear on the website of SEBI, as updated from time to time. HDFC Bank Limited and ICICI Bank Limited have been pinted as the Sponsor Banks for the Offer, in accordance with the requirements of SEBI circular dated November 1, 2018 as amended. For Offer related queries, please contact the Book Running Lead Manager ("BRLM") on its email ID as mentioned below. For UPI related queries, investors can contact NPCI at the toll free number: 18001201740 and mail ld: ipo.upi@npci.org.in.

In case of any revision in the Price Band, the Bid/Offer Period shall be extended for at least three additional Working Days after such revision of the Price Band, subject to the total Bid/Offer Period not exceeding 10 Working Days. In cases of force majeure, banking strike or similar unforeseen circumstances, our Company, may in consultation with the BRLMs, for reasons to be recorded in writing, extend the Bid/Offer Period for a minimum of one Working Day, subject to the Bid/Offer Period not exceeding 10 Working Days. Any revision in the Price Band, and the revised Bid/Offer Period, if applicable, shall be widely disseminated by notification to the Stock Exchanges by issuing a public notice and also by indicating the change on the respective websites of the BRLMs and at the terminals of the Members of the Syndicate and by intimation to the Designated Intermediaries and the Sponsor Banks, as applicable.

The Offer is being made in terms of Rule 19(2)(b) of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Rules, 1957, as amended (the "SCRR"), read with Regulation 31 of the SEBI ICDR Regulations. The Offer is being made through the Book Building Process in accordance with Regulation 6(1) of the SEBI ICDR Regulations wherein not more than 50% of the Net Offer shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to Qualified Institutional Buyers ("QIBs") (the "QIB Portion"), provided that our Company, in consultation with the BRLMs, may allocate up to 60% of the QIB Portion to Anchor Investors and the basis of such allocation will be on a discretionary basis by our Company, in consultation with the BRLMs, in accordance with the SEBI ICDR Regulations (the "Anchor Investor Portion"), of which one-third shall be reserved for domestic Mutual Funds, subject to valid Bids being received from the domestic Mutual Funds at or above the price at which allocation is made to Anchor Investors ("Anchor Investor Allocation Price"). Further, 5% of the Net QIB Portion shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis only to Mutual Funds, subject to valid Bids being received at or above the Offer Price, and the remainder of the Net QIB Portion shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to all QIBs (other than Anchor Investors), including Mutual Funds, subject to valid Bids being received at or above the Offer Price. Further, not less than 15% of the Net Offer shall be available for allocation to Non-Institutional Investors ("Non-Institutional Category") of which one-third of the Non-Institutional Category shall be available for allocation to Bidders with an application size of more than ₹ 200,000 and up to ₹ 1,000,000 and two-thirds of the Non-Institutional Category shall be available for allocation to Bidders with an application size of more than ₹ 1,000,000 and under-subscription in either of these two sub-categories of Non-Institutional Category may be cated to Bidders in the other sub-category of Non-Institutional Category in accordance with the SEBI ICDR Regulations, subject to valid Bids being received at or above the Offer Price, Further, not less than 35% of the Net Offer shall be available for allocation to Retail Individual Investors ("Retail Category"), in accordance with the SEBI ICDR Regulations, subject to valid Bids being received from them at or above the Offer Price. Further, Equity Shares will be allocated on a proportionate basis to Eligible Employees applying under the Employee Reservation Portion, subject to valid Bids received from them at or above the Offer Price. All Bidders (except Anchor Investors) shall mandatorily participate in this Offer only through the Application Supported by Blocked Amount ("ASBA") process and shall provide details of their respective bank account (including UPI ID (defined hereinafter) in case of UPI Bidders (defined hereinafter)) in which the Bid Amount will be blocked by the Self Certified Syndicate Banks ("SCSBs") or the Sponsor Bank(s), as the case may be. Anchor Investors are not permitted to participate in the Anchor Investor Portion through the ASBA process. For details, see "Offer Procedure" beginning on page 407 of the RHP.

Bidders/Applicants should ensure that DP ID, PAN, Client ID and UPI ID (for RIBs bidding through the UPI mechanism) are correctly filled in the Bid cum Application Form. The DP ID, PAN and Client ID provided in the Bid cum Application Form should match with the DP ID, PAN, Client ID available in the Depository database, otherwise, the Bid cum Application Form is liable to be rejected. Bidders/Applicants should ensure that the beneficiary account provided in the Bid cum Application Form is active. Bidders/Applicants should note that on the basis of the PAN, DP ID, Client ID and UPI ID (for RIBs bidding through the UPI mechanism) as provided in the Bid cum Application Form, the Bidder/ Applicant may be deemed to have authorised the Depositories to provide to the Registrar to the Offer, any requested Demographic Details of the Bidder/Applicant as available on the records of the depositories. These Demographic Details may be used, among other things, for giving Allotment Advice or unblocking of ASBA Account or for other correspondence(s) related to the Offer. Bidders/Applicants are advised to update any changes to their Demographic Details as available in the records of the Depository Participant to ensure accuracy of

records. Any delay resulting from failure to update the Demographic Details would be at the Bidders'/Applicants' sole risk. Investors must ensure that their PAN is linked with Aadhaar and are in compliance with Central Board of Direct Taxes notification dated February 13, 2020 and read with press releases dated June 25, 2021 read with press release September 17, 2021, and CBDT circular no. 7 of 2022, dated March 30, 2022 read with press release dated March 28, 2023 and any subsequent press releases in this regard. CONTENTS OF THE MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION OF OUR COMPANY AS REGARDS ITS OBJECTS: For information on the main objects

of the Company, please see the section "History and Certain Corporate Matters" on page 221 of the RHP. The Memorandum of Association of the Company is a material document for inspection in relation to the Offer. For further details, please see the section titled "Material Contracts and Documents for Inspection" on page 460 of the RHP.

LIABILITY OF THE MEMBERS OF OUR COMPANY: Limited by shares.

AMOUNT OF SHARE CAPITAL OF OUR COMPANY AND CAPITAL STRUCTURE: As on the date of the RHP, the authorised share capital of our Company is ₹14,000,000,000 divided into 1,400,000,000 Equity Shares of face value ₹10 each. The issued, subscribed and paid-up share capital of our Company is ₹8,125,411,000 divided into 812,541,100 Equity Shares of face value of ₹10 each. For details, please see the section titled "Capital Structure" beginning on page 107 of the RHP.

NAMES OF SIGNATORIES TO THE MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION OF OUR COMPANY AND THE NUMBER OF EQUITY SHARES SUBSCRIBED BY THEM: The initial signatories to the Memorandum of Association are Hyundai Motor Company and nominees of Hyundai Motor Company e., M G Chung, B J Park, H W Baik, N M Kim, Y S Kim and B J Lee. For details of the share capital history and capital structure of our Company, ease see the section entitled "Capital Structure" beginning on page 107 of the RHP.

LISTING: The Equity Shares offered through the Red Herring Prospectus are proposed to be listed on the Stock Exchanges. Our Company has received in-principle approvals from BSE and NSE for listing of the Equity Shares pursuant to their letters each dated August 16, 2024, respectively. For the purposes of the Offer, NSE shall be the Designated Stock Exchange. A signed copy of the Red Herring Prospectus has been filed and the Prospectus shall be filed with the RoC in accordance with Section 26(4) of the Companies Act. For details of the material contracts and documents available for inspection from the date of the Red Herring Prospectus up to the Bid/Offer Closing Date, see "Material Contracts and Documents for Inspection" beginning on page 460 of the RHP.

DISCLAIMER CLAUSE OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE BOARD OF INDIA ("SEBI"): SEBI only gives its observations on the Offer documents and this does not constitute approval of either the Offer or the specified securities or the Offer document. The investors are advised to refer to page 379 of the RHP for the full text of the disclaimer clause of SEBI.

DISCLAIMER CLAUSE OF NSE (DESIGNATED STOCK EXCHANGE): It is to be distinctly understood that the permission given by NSE should not in any way be deemed or construed that the Offer Document has been cleared or approved by NSE nor does it certify the correctness or completeness of any of the contents of the Offer Document. The investors are advised to refer to page 384 of the RHP for the full text of the

DISCLAIMER CLAUSE OF BSE: It is to be distinctly understood that the permission given by BSE should not in any way be deemed or construed that the RHP has been cleared or approved by BSE nor does it certify the correctness or completeness of any of the contents of the RHP. The investors are advised to refer to page 384 of the RHP for the full text of the disclaimer clause of BSE.

GENERAL RISKS: Investments in equity and equity-related securities involve a degree of risk and investors should not invest any funds in this Offer unless they can afford to take the risk of losing their entire investment, investors are advised to read the risk factors carefully before taking an investment decision in this Offer. For taking an investment decision, investors must rely on their own examination of the issuer and the Offer, including the risks involved. The Equity Shares have not been recommended or approved by SEBI, nor does SEBI guarantee the accuracy or adequacy of the contents of the Red Herring Prospectus. Specific attention of the investors is invited to "Risk Factors" beginning on page 34

#### kotak Investment Banking

Kotak Mahindra Capital Company Limited 27BKC, 1st Floor, Plot No. C - 27 "G" Block, Bandra Kurla Complex Bandra (East), Mumbai 400 051 Maharashtra, India

Tel: +91 22 4336 0000 E-mail: hmil.ipo@kotak.com Investor grievance e-mail: kmccredressal@kotak.com Website: https://investmentbank.

Contact person: Ganesh Rane SEBI Registration No.: INM000008704

Citigroup Global Markets India Private Limited 1202, 12th Floor, First International

Financial Center, G - Block Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East) Mumbai 400 098, Maharashtra, India Tel: +91 22 6175 9999 E-mail: hyundaimotorindiaipo@citi.com

Investor grievance e-mail: investors. cgmib@citi.com Website: www.online.citibank.co.in/ rhtm/citigroupglobalscreen1.htm

Contact person: Karishma Asrani/ Vaibhay Gupta SEBI Registration No.: INM000010718

### **BOOK RUNNING LEAD MANAGERS**

**HSBC** 

**HSBC Securities and Capital** Markets (India) Private Limited 52/60, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Fort Mumbai 400 001, Maharashtra, India Tel: +91 22 6864 1289

E-mail: hmilipo@hsbc.co.in Investor grievance e-mail: investorgrievance@hsbc.co.in Website: https://www.business hsbc.co.in/en-gb/regulations/hsbcsecurities-and-capital-market Contact person: Rachit Rajgaria/ Harshit Tayal

SEBI Registration No.: INM000010353

### J.P.Morgan

J.P. Morgan India Private Limited J.P. Morgan Tower, Off CST Road, Kalina, Santacruz East, Mumbai 400 098, Maharashtra, India

Tel: +91 22 6157 3000 E-mail: hmi\_ipo@ipmorgan.com Investor grievance e-mail: investorsmb.jpmipl@jpmorgan. Website: www.jpmipl.com

Contact person: Saarthak Soni/ Vidit Jain SEBI Registration No.: INM000002970

#### Morgan Stanley

Morgan Stanley India Company **Private Limited** 18F, Tower 2, One World Centre Plot 841, Senapati Bapat Marg Mumbai 400 013

Maharashtra, India Tel: +91 22 6118 1000 E-mail: hmil\_ipo@morganstanley.

Investor grievance e-mail: investors india@morganstanley.com Website: www.morganstanley.com Contact person: Honi Joshi/ Keyur

Thakar SEBI Registration No.: INM000011203

#### or post-Offer related problems, such as non-E-mail: hmil.ipo@kfintech.com receipt of letters of Allotment, non-credit Investor grievance e-mail: of Allotted Equity Shares in the respective einward.ris@kfintech.com beneficiary account, non-receipt of refund Website: www.kfintech.com orders or non-receipt of funds by electronic

Contact person: M Murali Krishna SEBI Registration No.:

Telangana, India

mode, etc. For all Offer-related queries and for redressal of complaints, Investors may also write to the BRLMs INR000000221

Availability of the RHP: Investors are advised to refer to the RHP and the "Risk Factors" beginning on page 34 of the RHP, before applying in the Offer. A copy of the RHP is available on website of SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in and is available on the websites of the BRLMs, i.e. Kotak Mahindra Capital Company Limited at https://investmentbank.kotak.com, Citigroup Global Markets India Private Limited at www.online.citibank.co.in/rhtm/citigroupglobalscreent. htm, HSBC Securities and Capital Markets (India) Private Limited at https://www.business. hsbc.co.in/en-gb/regulations/hsbc-securities-and-capital-market, J.P. Morgan India Private Limited at www.jpmipl.com and Morgan Stanley India Company Private Limited at www. morganstanley.com, respectively.

Availability of the Abridged Prospectus: A copy of the abridged prospectus shall be available on the website of the Company, BRLMs and the Registrar to the Offer at www. hyundai.com/in/en, https://investmentbank.kotak.com, www.online.citibank.co.in/rhtm/ citigroupglobalscreent.htm, https://www.business.hsbc.co.in/en-gb/regulations/hsbcsecurities-and-capital-market, www.jpmipl.com, www.morganstanley.com and www. kfintech.com, respectively.

Availability of Bid-cum-Application Forms: Bid-cum-Application Forms can be obtained from the Corporate Office of the Company, Hyundai Motor India Limited, Tel: +91 44 6710 5135 the BRLMs: Kotak Mahindra Capital Company Limited, Tel: +912243360000, Citigroup Global Markets India Private Limited. Tel: +91 22 6175 9999, HSBC Securities and Capital Markets (India) Private Limited, Tel: +91 22 6864 1289, J.P. Morgan India Private Limited, Tel: +91 22 6157 3000 and Morgan Stanley India Company Private Limited, Tel: +91 22 6118 1000 at the select locations of the Sub-Syndicate Members (as given below), SCSBs, Registered Brokers, RTAs and CDPs participating in the Offer. ASBA Forms will also be available on the websites of NSE and BSE and the Designated Branches of SCSBs, the list of which is available at websites of the Stock Exchanges and SEBI.

Sub-syndicate members: Almondz Global Securities Ltd., Amrapali Capital & Finance Services Ltd., Anand Rathi Share & Stock Brokers Ltd., Asit C. Mehta investment Interrmediates Ltd., Axis Capital Limited, Centrum Broking Limited, Citigroup Global Markets India Private Limited, Dalal & Broacha Stock Broking Private Limited, HDFC Securities Limited, HSBC Securities and Capital Markets (India) Private Limited, ICICI Securities Limited, IDBI Capital Markets & Securities Limited, IFL Securities Ltd., JM Financial Services Limited, Johanputra Fiscal Services Private Limited, J.P. Morgan India Private Limite, KJMC Capital Market Services Limited, LKP Securities Limited, Motilal Oswal Securities Limited, Morgan Stanley India Company Private Limited, Nuvama Wealth and Investment Limited (Edelweiss Broking Limited), Prabhudas Lilladher Pvt. Ltd., Pravin Ratilal Share & Stock Brokers Limited, Religare Securites Limited, Rikhav Securities Limited, RR Equity Brokers Private Limited, SBIcap Securities Limited, Sharekhan Ltd., SMC Global Securities Ltd., Viren M Shah, YES Securities (India) Limited.

Syndicate member: Kotak Securities Limited Escrow Collection Banks: HDFC Bank Limited and ICICI Bank Limited

Refund Bank: (CICI Bank Limited Public Offer Account Bank: Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited

Sponsor Banks: HDFC Bank Limited, ICICI Bank Limited, Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited and Axis Bank Limited UPI: UPI Bidders can also bid through UPI Mechanism.

All capitalized terms used herein and not specifically defined shall have the same meaning

COMPANY SECRETARY AND COMPLIANCE

OFFICER Divya Venkat

Plot No. H-1, SIPCOT Industrial Park

Kancheepuram District - 602 105

Tamil Nadu, India

Tel: +91 44 6710 5135

E-mail: complianceofficer@hmil.net

Investors can contact our Company Secretary

and Compliance Officer, the BRLMs or the

Registrar to the Offer in case of any pre-Offer

For HYUNDAI MOTOR INDIA LIMITED On behalf of the Board of Directors

Place: Chennai, Tamil Nadu Date: October 14, 2024

as ascribed to them in the RHP.

Divya Venkat Company Secretary and Compliance Officer

HYUNDAI MOTOR INDIA LIMITED is proposing, subject to applicable statutory and regulatory requirements, receipt of requisite approvals, market conditions and other considerations, to undertake an initial public offering of its Equity Shares and has filed the red herring prospectus dated October 8, 2024 ("RHP") with the Registrar of Companies, Tamil Nadu at Chennal ("RoC") on October 8, 2024. The RHP shall be available on the website of SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in, on the websites of the Stock Exchanges i.e. BSE Limited and National Stock Exchange of India Limited at www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com, respectively, on the website of the Company at www.hyundai.com/in/en and on the websites of the BRLMs, i.e. Kotak Mahindra Capital Company Limited, Citigroup Global Markets India Private Limited, HSBC Securities and Capital Markets (India) Private Limited, J.P. Morgan India Private Limited and Morgan Stanley India Company Private Limited at https://investmentbank.kotak.co.in/rhtm/citigroupglobalscreent.htm, https://www.business.hsbc.co.in/engb/regulations/hsbc-securities-andcapital-market, www.jpmipl.com and www.morganstanley.com, respectively. Any potential investors should note that investment in equity shares involves a high degree of risk and for details relating to such risk, please see the section entitled 'Risk Factors' on page 34 of the RHP. Potential

investors should not rely on the DRHP filed with SEBI for making any investment decision. This announcement is not an offer of securities for sale in the United States or elsewhere. This announcement has been prepared for publication or distribution, directly or indirectly, in or into the United States. The Equity Shares have not been, and will not be, registered under the United States Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "U.S. Securities Act") or any state law of the United States, except pursuant to an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the registration requirements of the U.S. Securities Act or any state law of the United States, There will be no public offering of the Equity Shares in the United States,

### REGISTRAR TO THE OFFER

### KFINTECH

Selenium Tower B, Plot No.31-32 Gachibowli, Financial District

Nanakramguda, Serilingampally Hyderabad 500 032

Tel: +91 40 6716 2222/ 1800 309

#### Irrungattukottai, Sriperumbudur Taluk KFin Technologies Limited

**OPINION 6** 

**MONEY 10** 

**WORLD 11** 

DELHI LUCKNOW BHOPAL BHUBANESWAR RANCHI RAIPUR CHANDIGARH DEHRADUN HYDERABAD VIJAYWADA

Late City Vol.34 Issue 287

**Published From** 



### **FASTER REMITTANCES** ASYLUM LAW TRIGGERS CONCERN NEW DELHI, TUESDAY OCTOBER 15, 2024; PAGES 12 ₹4 the plone stablished 1865 the plone of the plane of the p

Established 1865

RBI CALLS FOR CHEAPER, | POLISH GOVT'S DECISION TO SUSPEND

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# **Communal conflagration in Uttar Pradesh**

**BISWAJEET BANERJEE** LUCKNOW

escalated in Tensions escalated in Bahraich district on Monday, as protests and violence erupted following a communal clash during a idol immersion procession in the Mahasi area. The violence, which broke out on Sunday, led to the death of a 22-year-old man, Ram Gopal Mishra, who succumbed to a gunshot wound during the incident. The clash reportedly began over loud music being played from a Durga procession as it through

Mahrajganj area of Mansoor village. The altercation led to further violence, including incidents of stone-pelting and gunfire, which left around six people injured. As tensions mounted, a local hospital and several shops were set ablaze on Monday morning, prompting the local prompting administration to suspend internet services in an effort

to curb the spread of rumors

and restore order. Shukla. Vrinda Superintendent of Police (SP) in Bahraich, confirmed that over 30 persons have been detained in connection with the violence. Police have been deployed in the affected areas to maintain order and prevent further escalation. A case has been registered against a man named Salman, from whose house, gunshots are believed to have been fired during the clash.



Security personnel deployed to maintain law & order in a violence-affected area, a day after a 22-year-old man was killed in communal violence during a Goddess Durga idol immersion procession, in Bahraich, Uttar Pradesh, Monday

Authorities, including Home Secretary Sanjeev Gupta and Additional Director General of Police (Law and Order) Amitabh Yash, have arrived in Bahraich to assess the situation and coordinate the security response.

Police have conducted flag marches in the area to ensure a visible presence and to deter further unrest. Despite these efforts, sporadic protests continued, with locals raising slogans against police and administrative officials.

In response to the violence, Chief Minister Prasad Keshav Maurya condemned the incident and warned against any attempts

to disturb the peace and harmony in Uttar Pradesh. He emphasized that the state government would take stringent action against those involved in the violence, assuring that the victims would receive justice. Maurya appealed to the public to maintain peace and patience during this sensitive time, stating, "The bright future of the state will not be allowed to be tampered with."

leader Senior Congress Vadra Priyanka Gandhi expressed concern over the incident, criticizing what she described as the "inaction" of the administration. In a statement on X (formerly

Twitter), she called for immediate intervention by the state government and urged the public to avoid taking the law into their own hands.

Vadra emphasized the need for the state administration to take the public into confidence and to ensure that the perpetrators are held accountable

As the situation in Bahraich remains tense, the local administration is working to restore normalcy. suspension of internet services is expected to remain in effect until the situation stabilizes, to prevent the spread of rumors and misinformation. Authorities have also appealed to community leaders to help in maintaining peace.

What had happened: The initial clash in Bahraich reportedly stemmed from a dispute over loud music being played during the Durga idol immersion procession. As tensions flared, the situation escalated dramatically after the death of Ram Gopal Mishra, which triggered outrage among local villagers. In retaliation, angry residents vandalized vehicles and set fire to several properties in the Maharajganj market area.

According to Mishra's family, he was shot while walking with the procession and was rushed to a nearby hospital, where he succumbed to his injuries. His death intensified already volatile atmosphere in the area, leading to further acts of and damage to arson property.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath condemned the violence and assured that those responsible would face strict consequences. He directed authorities to ensure that the process of idol continues immersion despite smoothly, communal tensions. The Chief Minister stressed the importance of coordinating local religious organizations to carry out the immersions as planned, while also maintaining law and



# **Manic Monday for Air India**

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI 6E56. Hoax messages severely

In a worrying trend, five hoax bomb threat messages to three international flights, a mail train and a university, made it a manic Monday for security agencies. Three separate international flights with 600 passengers on board departing from Mumbai received bomb threat messages early this morning. Besides, Gujarat based National Law University and Mumbai-Howrah mail train number 12809 also received bomb threat messages, which proved to be hoaxes.

Since any threat is taken seriously, one flight Air India York was Mumbai-New diverted to Indira Gandhi international airport at New Delhi and two others delayed for being checked thoroughly before being allowed to proceed for their destinations. According to the Bureau of Civil Aviation (BCAS), the affected flights were AI 119, that was the Mumbai-New York Air India flight that diverted to IGI airport, IndiGo Mumbai-Muscat 6E 1275 and Mumbai-Jeddah

cripple flight schedules.

On getting a threat like this airports/aircraft, passengers and baggage has to be thoroughly checked. Getting the all clear nod takes several hours and by then sometimes the maximum time for which crew can operate is about to "Flight AI 119 operating from Mumbai to JFK on October 14

received a specific security alert and on instructions of the government's security regulatory committee, (it) was diverted to Delhi," Air India said in a statement."Staff on ground are working to minimise the inconvenience caused to our guests by this unexpected disruption, it said. All 258 people onboard the aircraft have disembarked and are currently undergoing security procedures. Once the security protocols are completed, the passengers will be moved to hotels, it added.There were passengers and 19 crew members onboard plane.The flight has been rescheduled and will now depart for New York from

Delhi on Tuesday morning

the airline said. The aircraft was thoroughly checked at the Indira Gandhi International Airport, and all standard safety protocols were diligently followed to ensure the safety of the passengers and the crew on board," a senior police officer said, adding that nothing suspicious was found during

checking. The Boeing 777 aircraft - VT AER - departed Mumbai at 2:27 am, nearly 50 minutes behind scheduled departure of 1:40 am, and landed around one-and-ahalf hours later, according to flight tracking service Flightradar24. Passengers were made to deplane the aircraft at around 4:10 am, but were asked to leave their bags

on board. The bomb threat was received through a post on the microblogging platform X and the handle is being verified, the officer said. Minister of State for Civil Aviation Murlidhar Mohol visited the Delhi airport to

take stock of the situation. Continued on page 4



#### **Opposition MPs boycott Waqf** parliamentary committee meet

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Deveral apposition MPs on Manday Sboycotted a meeting of the parliamentary committee examining the Waqf (Amendment) Bill alleging that the panel is not functioning in accordance with rules, after Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge was accused by a deposer of being involved in Waqf land scams. The lengthy meetings of the Joint Committee of Parliament have been marked by the exchange of words between its Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Opposition members, and things turned especially stormy on Monday as the latter questioned the rationale behind calling members of Hindu groups for deposition on a law concerning Muslims.

Opposition MPs walked out in protest against the submission of Anwar Manippady, a former chairman of the Karnataka State Minorities Commission and the Karnataka Minorities Development Corporation. He is also a former Karnataka BIP vice-president.

Manippady named several Congress leaders from Karnataka, including Kharge and Rehman Khan, and others for their alleged



### MHA hosts Meitei, Kuki, Naga MLAs meeting | SC tells govt to issue River

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Hosted by the Ministry of Home Affairs under the direct supervision of Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Manipur's Meitei, Kuki, and Naga legislators will meet on Tuesday, in a bid to restore peace in the strife-torn state. According to officials, three meeting, while the exact number of Meitei and Kuki legislators is not vet clear. This is the first meeting convened by the MHA, since the ethnic violence broke out in Manipur last year.

Among the representatives attending the talks are Thongam Biswajit, Speaker Thokchom Satyabrata, Thounaojam Basantakumar, Khongbantabam Ibomcha, Dr. Sapam Ranjan, Thokchom Radheshyam, and Tongbram Robindro. Representing the Kuki community are Letpao Haokip, Paolienlal Haokip, and Haokholet Kipgen. Naga leaders such as Awangbow Newmai, L. Dikho, and Ram Muivah will also be part of the discussions.

The dialogue will be the first face-to-face meeting between Kuki and Meitei leaders, signalling what some political observers described as "the



central government's intent to secure a peaceful resolution." Some of the Manipur MLAs have welcomed the Home Ministry's initiative to restore peace in the strife-torn state. Over 200 people have been killed and thousands rendered homeless in ethnic violence in Manipur since May 2023. "From the Naga side, three MLAs - Awangbou Newmai, L Dikho and Ram Muivah - will be attending the meeting in New Delhi. Muivah is currently in the national capital over a personal issue," an official source said. All three MLAs are from the Naga People's Front (NPF), an ally of the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in the state. Several BJP legislators also left for the national capital on different

"We have been asked to come to Delhi to discuss certain

flights from Imphal.

things. I don't know the exact agenda now. We have been exploring all means for Water bringing peace," Resources Minister Awangbou Newmai told reporters at Imphal airport. NPF legislator Dikho said it is difficult to

bring peace to Manipur unless

all the communities and people

are involved.

The violence in Manipur began on May 3, 2023, when protests broke out against a Manipur High Court ruling that favoured granting the Meitei community access to land ownership in tribal areas, a benefit traditionally reserved for the state's minority tribes like the Kukis and Nagas. The ruling was seen as a threat to the land rights of the tribal communities, sparking ethnic clashes between the Meteis and

Continued on page 4

#### **Conservation Zone notification** PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

The Supreme Court on Monday sought response from the Centre and other agencies on a plea against unauthorised constructions and encroachments on the iverheds floodulains catchments of all rivers. A bench of Chief Justice DY Chandrachud and Justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra issued notices Ministry, Environment Ministry of Jal Shakti, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Central Water Commission and the Central Pollution Control Board while seeking their replies within three weeks.

The SC was hearing a plea filed by former IPS officer Dr Ashok Kumar Raghav seeking directions to demolish all unauthorised constructions and encroachments on the riverbeds, floodplains and catchments of all rivers, water courses and water channels, including the tributaries and restore the same to their original forms.

plea also sought directions to notify the 2015 of the



Conservation Zone (RCZ) Regulation without delay further demarcation floodplains of all rivers, water courses and water channels within a time-bound period not exceeding three months. The draft River Regulation Zones (RRZ) notification proposes to establish River Conservation Zones (RCZs) to prevent encroachments on rivers and floodplains.

Advocate Akash Vashishtha, appearing for the petitioner, submitted that increasing illegal and unauthorised constructions encroachments on the floodplains and catchments of rivers and water courses have become the biggest cause of devastation across

Continued on page 4



### Gasp! Delhi AQI is already over 200

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

As the Air Quality Index (AQI) already crossed over 200 at several areas of the second consecutive day, the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) on Monday imposed restrictions, invoking the first stage of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) to prevent further deterioration of air quality in entire Delhi and also in districts of Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan that fall under the NCR. The ban will be in force from 8 am on

Tuesday. According to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), Delhi's 24-hour average air quality index stood at 234 (poor category) as of 4 pm on Monday. Following Dussehra, the AQI in Delhi entered the "poor" category on Sunday, recording a reading of 224. This marked the first instance of poor air quality since September 25, according to the Central Pollution Control Board

The GRAP's Stage 1 has a 27-point action plan, which includes sprinkling water on roads, using anti-smog guns, and ensuring proper disposal of construction and demolition waste. It also imposes a ban on the use of coal and firewood in hotels, restaurants, and open eateries.

Continued on page 4



# E-rickshaws, the Capital's ticking time bombs

#### The untrained drivers carry extra passengers, choke traffic on busy stretches

BY RAJESH KUMAR

 $B^{\text{e}}$  it Laxmi Nagar to CR Park or Seelampur to Aerocity, erickshaws have become ubiquitous sight across the capital, often seen wobbling slowly on roads overloaded with passengers, choking traffic on busy stretches. They congregate mostly at bus stands, metro stations, markets, malls and shopping centres. Experts say the design of e rickshaws is inherently faulty and operation by licensed/untrained/underage drivers render them dangerous on the roads. They always park and travel on the wrong side. Another danger associated with e rickshaws is the illegal charging of batteries which has caused fire and

According to the transport

explosion in the past.

official, the major complaints against e-rickshaws clustering on the road that was leading to traffic jams and long tailbacks, improper parking, violation of restrictions on road one-way violations, overloading passengers and underage driving. Since they usually do not move until they pick up a certain number of passengers, they block roads and cause congestion. These vehicles also pose risk to people in different ways. showed there are

approximately 120,000 registered e-rickshaws in the national capital. However, there are many plying the road without valid registration causing congestion

Recently, a 40-year-old e-rickshaw

after

and safety hazards.

died

PHOTO: RANJAN DIMRI/THE PIONEER

being

electrocuted at an illegal charging station in Shahbad Dairy. He was sitting in his vehicle while it was being charged. Last month, two men sustained serious injuries while a woman succumbed at the hospital after an e-rickshaw they were travelling in caught fire in north-east Delhi's Nand Nagri,

Besides, they not only cause traffic jams on most arterial roads and Ínter State Bus Terminals but also engaged in power theft. In its report earlier, power Discoms flagged to government agencies that around half of these are engaged in power theft, resulting in a loss of 15-20 MW across the

This translates to an annual loss of around Rs

120 Approximately 200 e-rickshaw charging locations, with a load of about 3 MW, are booked for theft every year in Delhi.

These e-rickshaws were largely engaged in illegal charging

sub-standard batteries, which posed significant safety hazards. Exposed electricity wires left open during illegal charging and nonadherence to safety standards often cause sparks and short circuits. These live wires also pose a danger

through direct theft and the use of

to the public, especially children playing in these areas during the daytime. Such open wires have led to electrocutions in the past.

The areas where such illegal businesses are proliferating include Sangam Vihar, Jamia, Kalkaji, Tughlakabad, Sarai Kale Khan, Paschim Vihar, Matiyala and Mahavir Enclave in south and west Delhi. In East Delhi, the breeding grounds for such activity are Shastri Park, Karawal Nagar,

and Mustafabad, while Civil Lines,

Mukherjee Nagar and Rohini are

Officials say the number of erickshaws has been spiralling in the city. Though they have slowly progressed towards becoming a traffic hazard, there is almost no regulation with Delhi government and traffic police passing the buck to each other.

hotbeds in north Delhi.

The first e-rickshaws started plying in 2012. In the past 12 years, they have mushroomed on neighbourhood as well as arterial roads. The reason for the meteoric rise in their numbers can be attributed to first and last mile connectivity at pocket-friendly rates. Without any regulations, almost anyone can become an e-rickshaw driver. These vehicles have now become a major nuisance even on arterial roads, where they are not allowed

# Atishi holds high-level meet regarding Chhath Puja preparations

Ahead of the festival of Chhath Puja, Chief Minister Atishi on Monday Minister Atishi on Monday held a high-level meeting with senior officials from the Delhi Jal Board, Flood and Irrigation Department and Revenue Department while instructing them to start all necessary preparations in advance to avoid last-minute rushes, ensuring that devotees face no difficulties during the festival. Atishi emphasized that Chhath Puja is a festival of faith for millions of devotees and assured that the Delhi Government is committed to ensuring the festival is celebrated with joy and that devotees can worship Chhathi Maiya without any inconvenience. "No effort will be spared in the preparations,"

She directed all district officials to begin the preparations for Chhath Ghats in their respective areas and to hold meetings with local Chhath Puja com-



for a successful celebration. Atishi also announced that, like every year, the Delhi Government will prepare "more than 1,000 Chhath Ghats across the city for the convenience of devotees, so they can worship near their

"All these Chhath Ghats will be equipped with clean water,

rity, medical facilities, power backup, CCTV cameras, and she said. The Chief Minister also instructed officials to pay special attention to cleanliness

"Model Chhath Ghat to be established in every Assembly Constituency for devotees' con-

### Delhi LG approves delegation of financial powers exceeding ₹5 crore to MCD Commissioner

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxenaon Monday approved the delegation of financial powers exceeding the current Rs 5 crore to the MCD Commissioner.

According to officials of Raj Niwas, it is a step that will help ease the existing problem of municipal solid waste in the city due to non-existence of a Standing Committee in MCD and intransigence of the Delhi Urban Development Minister Saurabh Bhardwaj for months together.
"It may be recalled that on

10th July, 2024, the MCD had moved to the GNCTD to delegate financial powers to the MCD as per the provisions of Section 202 of the DMC Act, 1957," an official He added that however,

Bhardwaj had inordinately and without any explanation kept the file pending at his level, in the process severely affecting municipal services due to lack of financial sanc-



Committee was not in place. 'Thereafter, the Secretariat have recalled the file on two occasions invoking Rule 19(5) of ToBR. However, the file was yet not sent by the Minister and yet remains untraceable," another officer added.

He added, "Finally, in light of the dire circumstances therein, contracts for collection and transportation of municipal solid waste, street sweeping amounting to Rs 1137.98 crore, rate contract for setting up of waste to energy facility at Narela, Bawana at a cost of

for bio-mining of legacy waste at Singhola amounting to Rs 46.17 crore and bio-mining of legacy waste at three dump sites at Okhla – Rs 156.5 crore, Gazipur Rs 223.50 crore and Bhalswa amounting to Rs 223.50 Crore were approved today by LG by delegating these financial powers upon the MCD Commissioner." The official said that the pro-

posal to this effect was again September 5 to the GNCTD and was sent to the LG on Monday after approval of the

### **AAP** demands Cabinet berth for its MLA in J and K

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

⁵he Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has asked the Conference-Congress alliance for a cabinet berth for its lone MLA from Doda in the upcoming Jammu and Kashmir government, set to be led by Omar Abdullah.

Mehraj Malik defeated BJP's Ganjay Singh Rana by more than 4,538 votes in the assembly election held in the Union Territory earlier in the month. 'We have appealed to the alliance partners to ensure our MLA is given a space in the government that is soon to be formed," AAP leader Sanjay Singh said in a press conference on Monday.

The request comes after AAP national convenor Arvind Kejriwal, who visited Doda on Sunday, expressed gratitude to the people for electing Malik as AAP's first MLA in Jammu and Kashmir. "AAP is formally supporting

the Omar-led government, and I hope Mehraj Malik will be entrusted with the respon-



sibility to not only serve Doda but the entire state of J&K, the former Delhi chief minister said during his visit.

Malik scored a victory also defeating former ministers Khalid Najib Suharwardy of the National Conference and Abdul Majid Wani of the Democratic Progressive Azad

The NC-Congress alliance, which won a combined 48 seats out of the total 90 in the recent J&K elections, is set to form the new government, with Omar Abdullah already elected as the alliance's leader and future chief minister. The NC secured 42 seats, while Congress won six.

## AAP leaders not utilising MLA funds for development: Delhi BJP

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi BJP on Monday accused AAP leaders of not utilising MLA funds for development projects in the national Capital while claiming that its leaders have utilised a substantial portion of their allocated funds for developmental work. Referring to information pro-

vided through an RTI by the Delhi government's Urban Development Department, Leader of Opposition in the Delhi Assembly Vijender Gupta said, "Despite the party's promise to provide world class services to Delhi's 20 million people, its MLAs failed to fully utilize the funds allocated for the development of their constituencies.

He claimed that AAP MLA from Adarsh Nagar Pawan Sharma and the former minister and MLA from Shakur



Basti Satyendra Jain did not spend any amount of the Rs. 4 crore allocated to them for developmental work in their <sup>\*</sup>Similarly, Devli MLA Prakash Jarwal spent only Rs.19.36 lakh, and Okhla MLA Amanatullah Khan spent just Rs 1.17 crore on

**Gasp! Delhi AQI is already over 200** 

India

control

statement.

Meteorology

State

dust

and

prone

Strict

for strict enforcement of

the Supreme Court and

National Green Tribunal

orders on phasing out of

overage diesel and petrol vehicles. The CAQM and

weather forecasts from the

Department (IMD) and the

Indian Institute of Tropical

comprehensively reviewed

the air quality scenario in

the region on Monday and

decided to initiate Stage 1

according to an official

The CAQM said in a

statement that there has

last 24 hrs in the region

which led to the AQI for

Meteorological

(IITM)

measures.

forecasts also predict air highlighted

been a sudden dip in air actions that must be

quality parameters in the implemented to curb

Delhi moving into the Global Air 2024 by the

POOR" category and the Health Effects Institute

quality to mainly remain in numbers on the deaths

Poor" category in coming caused due to air pollution

days owing to the in 2021. Globally, in 2021,

unfavourable air pollution was found to

development projects," he

A total of 21 AAP MLAs spent more than or less than Rs 3 crores. Narela MLA Sharad Kumar spent Rs 3.87 crores, Burari MLA Sanjeev Jha spent Rs 3.65 crores, Kiradi MLA Rituraj Govind

meteorological condition.

The GRAP is an emergency

response mechanism that's

triggered when the AQI

reaches "poor" levels. The

AQI is a measure of air

pollution levels that

indicates how air pollution

can affect health. The

severity of pollution for

implementation of GRAP

has been categorised into

four stages, based on

Delhi's AQI levels: Stage I -

'Poor' (AQI 201-300); Stage

II - 'Very Poor' (AQI 301-

400); Stage III - 'Severe'

(AQI 401-450); and Stage IV - 'Severe+' (AQI > 450).

Each stage outlines specific

It is noted that the State of

alarming

pollution levels.

Nangloi MLA Raghavendra Shaukeen spent Rs 3.70 crores

among others.
Three AAP MLAs including
Tilak Nagar MLA General
Singh spent Rs 2.58 crores, Rajouri Garden MLA Dhanwanti Chandila spent Rs 2.28 crores and Wazirpur MLA Rajesh Gupta spent Rs On the other hand, LoP said

that the BJP, which has always been committed to continuous development under the slogan 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas', saw its MLAs utilizing a substantial portion of their allocated funds for developmental work.

"According to the information provided by the Urban Development Department, BJP MLA Jitender Mahajan from Rohtas Nagar spent Rs 4.40 crore, Gonda MLA Ajay Mahawar spent Rs 4.10 crore,

spent Rs 3.85 crores and Gandhinagar MLA Anil Bajpai spent Rs 4.09 crore, Karawal Nagar MLA Mohan Singh Bisht spent Rs 4.05 crore, Rohini MLA and Leader of Opposition Vijender Gupta spent Rs 4.03 crore, and Vishwas Nagar MLA Om Prakash Sharma spent Rs 4.03 crore on developmental activities," he said. He added that this indicates that all BJP MLAs took great interest in the development of their constituencies, each spending over Rs 4 crore on

> Commenting on Delhi Chief Minister Atishi's recent decision to increase the MLA fund from Rs 10 crore to Rs 15 crore, Gupta said, "It makes no difference to AAP MLAs, as they lack both interest and willpower to carry out developmental work, regardless of the amount of funds

#### DU contractual employees to get benefit of EPF from October scheme from October 2024."

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

Contractual employees of Delhi University (DU) will get the benefit of Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) from October this year. During the 1272nd meeting of the University of Delhi Executive Council (EC), which was held on Monday, under the chairmanship of the Vice Chancellor Prof. Yogesh Singh, approval was given to implement the EPF scheme for the contractual employees of Delhi University. Singh said, "In accordance

with the recommendations of the Finance Committee, after due deliberations on all kinds of legal complexities for the EPF scheme, it has been unanimously decided that DU will implement this

The EC meeting also approved the increase in contractual fees of Part Time Medical Officer (GDMO) on contract basis. "The existing payment of Rs. 45,000 per month of Part Time Contract Medical Officer (GDMO) working in WUSHC has been increased to Rs. 55,000 per

This payment will be effective from October, 2024, with an annual increase of 5 per cent from April 1 every year," an official said.

He added that however, other terms of their appointment will remain unchanged. "Notional pay hike to the retiring employees of the University on retirement on 30th June/31st December respectively in accordance

with the recommendations of the Finance Committee was also approved by the EC. The decision taken by the statutory bodies of the University may be sent to the UGC for approval," he

"In accordance with the recommendations of the Finance Committee, the Office Memorandum No. 57/03/2022-P&PW (B)/8361 dated 26th October, 2022 issued by DoP&PW, Government of India, for availing benefits under the old pension scheme in case of death during service of a Government employee covered under the National Pension Scheme was also considered and approved by the Executive Council," he

### **SC** tells govt to issue River Conservation Zone notification

Referring to the Composite Water Management Index report prepared by the Niti Aayog, the plea said India is suffering from the worst water crisis in

"According to a reply tendered by the

It also mandates the

suspension of work at

private construction and

demolition projects of 500

sq m or more not registered

on the portal of the

government for remote

Under the GRAP stage one,

it mandated traffic police to

deploy more personnel for

smooth traffic flow at all

identified corridors with

vigilance and enforcement

of PUC norms for vehicles

and no tolerance for visible

emissions stop visibly polluting vehicles by

impounding and / or

levying maximum penalty.

The GRAP is a set of

emergency measures taken

Under Stage 1, GRAP calls

to reduce air pollution.

traffic

monitoring of

mitigation measures.

respective

heavy

congestion

intersections;

Sabha on March 23 last year, the per capita water availability in the country is fast reducing due to increasing population. The writ petition seeks intervention of this court in granting legal protection to all the rivers,

including the tributaries, thereof, as well

and the floodplains and catchments, thereof, so as to ensure water and ecological security for the people of the country and seeks directions to the Central Government to notify the River Conservation Zone (RCZ) Notification, without any further delay," the plea said.

be the second-leading risk

factor for death, accounting

for roughly 8.1 million

deaths. The high pollution

levels and large population

of India have led to 2.1

million of these deaths, out

of which 237,000 were

attributable to ozone

A study by the Lancet

Planetary Health in 2024

also estimated mortality in

10 cities of India because of

ambient air pollution. Ahmedabad, Bengaluru,

Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad,

Kolkata, Mumbai, Pune,

Shimla and Varanasi have

reported on an average

more than 33,000 deaths

every year, according to the

Delhi alone was found to

have reported around

12,000 deaths which can be

attributed to air pollution.

highlight how urgently we

need to take effective and

death

figures

exposure.

findings.

These

sustained action.

### Left, progressive parties seek better deal in seat allocation in Maharashtra

n effort to seek a better deal In the seat allocations for them in the forthcoming Maharashtra Assembly polls, the Left and progressive parties have asked the Opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) leadership to adopt an "inclusive approach" towards seat-sharing and accepting pro-people poli-

The Left and progressive parties - comprising Peasants and Workers' Party (PWP), Samajwadi Party, CPI, CPI-M Satyashodhak Communist Party (SCP).---are holding a state-level convention at Nashik in north Maharashtra on October 16 to impress upon the MVA leadership to adopt an "inclusive approach" and consider allocating the adequate number of seat to them.

Like the MVA have already done, the Left and progressive parties will adopt resolution at their Nashik convention, vowing to defeat the BJP-led MahaYuti in the forthcoming State Assembly polls. Leaders of four Left and pro-

also adopt a resolution asking the MVA leadership to involve the left nd progressive parties in fighting the ruling MahaYuti. Among other things, the Nashik Convention will also

remind the MVA that although it won 31 out of the 48 Lok Sabha seats in the 2024 elections in Maharashtra, with the broad support of all anti-BJP-RSS forces in the state, the difference in the voting percentage between the MVA and the NDA in the state in that election was merely 0.4 per cent (44% to MVA, as against 43.6% to NDA).

The left and progressive parties will also ask the MVA leadesip take inclusive and comprehensive steps to ensure that the coming Maharashtra assembly elections do not go the Haryana way. The progressive parties authorised Jayant Patil, ex-MLC (PWP), Abu Asim Azmi, MLA (SP), Dr Ashok Dhawale (CPI-M), and Dr Bhalchandra Kango (CPI) to hold discussions with the MVA leaders

#### **Phase 2 of clinical** trials for sickle cell disease drug begin

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE** ■ NEW tor Drug Controller General of

**▲** Medical Research (ICMR) has partnered with Zydus Lifesciences to begin Phase 2 clinical trials of Desidustat for treating sickle cell disease, a blood disorder.

A pact was formalised for a Phase IIa, double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled study to assess the drug's efficacy and safety. The trial follows approval from the drug regulaIndia (DCGI). Desidustat is a hypoxia-

hydroxylase inhibitor that stim ulates erythropoietin (EPO) production, which increases red blood cell production under low oxygen conditions. Dr. Rajiv Bahl, ICMR Director

General, emphasised the importance of this collaboration for advancing clinical research in India and addressing the needs of sickle cell patients beyond the current treatment, hydroxyurea.

#### **Opposition MPs boycott Waqf** parliamentary committee meet

From page 3

The opposition MPs cited rules regulating the parliamentary committees' proceedings to claim that "unproven allegations" against "high dignitaries" allegations" cannot be made at the meetings of these panels. Manippady, they said, also made an appeal to Muslims not to oppose the Bill, which too was out of line. An Opposition MP allegations cannot be levelled against someone who is not there to defend himself. The chairperson of the committee, BJP leader leader

Jagdambika Pal, however, overruled their objections and allowed the deposition to continue. A BIP member said the deposition was relevant to the Bill as Manippady's claims pertained to Waqf properties. Opposition MPs, including Gaurav Gogoi and Imran Masood of the Congress, A Raja of the DMK, Arvind Sawant of the Shiv Sena (UBT), AIMIM's Asaduddin Owaisi, Samajwadi Party's Mohibbullah and Sanjay Singh of the Aam Aadmi Party, stormed out of the meeting and expressed strong sentiments against its

# **Manic Monday for Air India**

From page 3

"Upon landing in Delhi a while ago, took stock of the situation at Delhi airport regarding the diversion & emergency landing of flight AI 119, carrying 239 passengers. "While the due security checks & safety being protocols are diligently followed, directed the airport officials & the Air India staff to arrange all the necessary assistance as convenient accommodation for the passengers affected," he said in a post on X at 1 pm. Apart from the Air India

flight, two IndiGo flights

originating from Mumbai statement. Customers were received bomb threats on Monday. One IndiGo flight was headed to Muscat and the other to Jeddah. The inconvenience caused," it IndiGo flights received the threats before they took off and the planes concerned were moved to isolation bays for security checks. "IndiGo flight 6E 1275

operating from Mumbai to Muscat had received a bomb threat. As per protocol, the aircraft was taken to an isolated bay, and following the standard operating procedure, mandatory security checks were promptly initiated," the said in

provided with assistance and refreshments, and we regret sincerely the added. "IndiGo flight 6E 1275

operating from Mumbai to Muscat had received a bomb threat. As per protocol, the aircraft was taken to an isolated bay, and following the standard operating procedure, mandatory security checks were promptly initiated," the checks Gurugram-headquartered budget airline said in a

statement. On the Mumbai-Jeddah flight, it said, "The flight

had received a bomb threat. As per protocol, the aircraft was taken to an isolated bay, and following the standard operating procedures, mandatory security checks were promptly IndiGo, however, did not share other specific details such as the number of persons on board or the status of the two flights. According to the live flight tracking

depart at 2.05 am and was showing an estimated departure at 12.15 pm. Not just planes, a train, the Mumbai-Howrah Mail initiated." (train no 12809, superfast train from Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CMST) to Kolkata's HWH) received a threat to blow up the train with a timer bomb. No website suspicious objects were Flightradar24.Com, found during the checking. Muscat flight, which was to After this, the train depart at 2 am on Monday, continued its journey to its took off for its destination at destination, CPRO, Central 9.15 am, after a delay of Central Railway's Chief more than 7 hours, while Public Relations Officer

flight 6E-57 (Mumbai- said. Jeddah) was scheduled to Earlier on October 5, Devi Holkar Bai Ahilya International Airport located Madhya Pradesh's Indore received a threat bomb email following which the police registered an FIR. The mail sender also threatened to blow up other airports in the country. Similarly, Vadodara Airport received a bomb threat via email, which promoted a thorough search on October 5. Meanwhile, security has been tightened following the received threat and authorities are currently investigating the matter.+

#### MHA hosts Meitei, Kuki, **Naga MLAs meeting** From page 3 displacement. Relief camps

Over 200 people have since been killed, and more than 60,000 displaced, as both communities engaged in violent confrontations. The conflict has led to

widespread destruction of homes, villages, and places of worship, particularly targeting the Kuki community. Despite heavy deployment of central security forces, the violence has persisted, resulting in mounting casualties and

overflowing displaced individuals, and both sides remain deeply distrustful of each other. The Centre's repeated efforts to bring the warring groups to the table have culminated in this critical meeting.

As tensions continue to simmer in the state, this historic meeting offers a glimmer of hope for restoring stability and fostering dialogue between the divided

# City Government bans firecrackers

In a move to check air pollution, the Delhi government on Monday imposed an immediate ban on the production, storage, sale, and use of all kinds of firecrackers across the city, effective until January 1. It also bans the manufacturing, storage and selling of firecrackers, including delivery through online marketing platforms. The announcement from the Delhi Pollution Control Committee came after the capital was caught in the grip of increasing pollution levels. As per the Delhi gov-ernment's data, the air quality index recorded a very poor category of 313 at 5 pm in Anand Vihar, which was highest in the city. The other air pollution stations were also recorded in the poor category

Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai made the announcement and urged Delhi residents to support the government's efforts to curb air pollution.

Rai in a post on X said, "In view of the increasing pollution in winter, a ban has been imposed on the production, storage, sale, and use of firecrackers from today till January



issued instructions regarding the ban, and we request the cooperation of all Delhiites," he added. The Delhi Pollution Control Committee has issued detailed instructions to ensure the effective implementation of the ban with a provision of strict punishment for viola-

The ban, which applies to all forms of firecrackers, including those sold online, comes ahead of the winter pollution that worsens due to stubble burning, lower wind speeds, and other seasonal factors. According to the directive, Delhi Police is tasked with enforcing the ban and is required to give daily action reports to the DPCC.

Rai, who was visiting the construction site of a sports complex, said, "Today, the AQI has

es, pollution tends to increase as temperatures drop. The government is working on a 21-point plan to address this issue, and we will intensify our efforts to raise public awareness on the matter." He cited dust pollution, transport emissions, and biomass burning as the three main sources of pollution in the

The firecracker ban is a part of series of measures planned by the Delhi government under its Winter Action Plan 2024 to combat air pollution.

In a first, the Delhi government will use drones for real-time air quality monitoring across various pollution hotspots in the city. The plan also includes monitoring hotspots, vehicle and dust pollution, stubble and garbage burning, industrial pollution and upgrading the green war room etc. The Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) assessed the air quality on Sunday and said it would closely monitor the scenario for a day or more before invoking Stage-1 of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP), a set of emergency response measures to curb air pollution in NCR and nearby areas.

### Rai conducts surprise inspection of Pitampura construction site as part of anti-dust campaign

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

part of Delhi AGovernment's anti-dust campaign, Environment Minister Gopal Rai on Monday conducted a surprise inspection at the sports complex construction site in Pitampura. During the inspection, he noted irregularities related to dust control. Accordingly, DPCC was directed to impose a fine of Rs. 50,000 on the construction company Tewatia Construction Private Limited. Instructions have also been given to impose a financial penalty on a daily basis for not giving a satisfactory reply to the notice issued by DPCC. Rai said, "It is necessary to implement 14 rules of dust control at construction sites. Action will be taken if these are violated. Officials have been instructed to regularly inspect construction sites." Gopal Rai explained that as part of the anti-dust campaign, 523 teams from 13 departments have been deployed across the city for monitoring. He added that all construction

sites larger than 500 square meters must now register on the Construction and Demolition (C&D) portal.

"A fine of Rs. one lakh will be imposed on construction projects with an area of less than 20,000 square meters, and Rs. two lakh on projects with an area exceeding 20,000 square meters, for not registering on the C&D portal. A penalty of Rs. 7,500 per day will be imposed for failing to install anti-smog guns at construction

For not implementing dust mitigation measures, construction projects with an area of less than 500 square meters will be fined Rs. 7,500 per day, while those with an area exceeding 500 square meters will face a fine of Rs. 15,000 per day. Vehicles transporting construction materials must be properly covered. A fine of Rs. 7,500 will be imposed for any violation of this rule," Rai said.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Delhi Chief Minister Atishi during a meeting, in New Delhi

### Bishnoi gang's intent has gone beyond taking revenge against Salman: Cops

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

3<sup>1</sup> years old incarcerated gangster Lawrence Bishnoi, alias Balkaran Barar, was all of five when the infamous blackbuck poaching case involving Bollywood star Salman Khan took place in 1998 during the filming of "Hum Saath-Saath Hain" in Rajasthan, irking the Bishnoi community which revers the animal.

Twenty-six years down the line, the notorious gangster's deep resentment against Salman even while in prison continues to make headlines, especially after the gunning down of former Maharashtra minister and NCP leader Baba Siddique, known to be close to the Bollywood actor, by three assailants in Mumbai last week. The Mumbai Police suspects Siddique was killed at the behest of Bishnoi after a purported Facebook post surfaced claiming "Jo Salman Khan aur Dawood gang ki help karega

apna hisab-kitab laga ke rakhna (whoever helps Salman Khan and the Dawood gang, keep your accounts in order)".

The comments were posted by one Shubuu Lonkar, whom the police suspect to be Bishnoi gang aide Shubham Rameshwar Lonkar. A senior Delhi Police officer said that the intent of the Bishnoi gang has now gone beyond taking revenge against Salman. "The gang is now trying to pen-

etrate Bollywood, an area once ruled by Dawood Ibrahim, and set up its own D-Company. Despite being lodged in prison, Bishnoi has allegedly managed to execute murders of many high-profile people, including Punjabi singer Siddhu Moosewala in 2022, Karni Sena chief Sukhdev Singh Gogamedi in 2023, besides orchestrating firing outside the residences of singers A P Dhillon and Gippy Garewal in Canada," the officer



sibility for the killing of Khalistani sympathiser Sukha Duneke in September 2023. According to the police, the animosity between Bishnoi and Salman first became public in 2018 when Bishnoi said during a court appearance in Jodhpur, "We will kill Salman Khan. Everyone will know once we take action. I have not done anything as of now, they are The gang also claimed respon- accusing me of crimes for no

Since then, the popular actor has received multiple threats to his life, with the matter reaching a tipping point in April this year when gunshots were fired outside Salman's Bandra residence by two shooters reportedly belonging to the Bishnoi gang who were later arrested. As per Delhi Police records, Bishnoi himself never killed anyone yet he has become one

of the most dreaded gangsters, running the gang with "impunity" from a Gujarat prison with a modus operandi similar to that of fugitive underworld don Dawood Ibrahim Kaskar.

According to the National Investigation Agency (NIA), Bishnoi now enjoys a 700member strong gang spread across the country, including sharpshooters, with the help of other notorious gangsters such as Goldy Brar, Sachin Thapan, Anmol Bishnoi, Vikramjit Singh, Kala Jatheri, and Kala

"Most of the sharpshooters are young people who usually get influenced by his gang through social media," an official said. According to police records, Bishnoi is a native of Punjab's Fazlika district who graduated in law from the Panjab University in Chandigarh. Son of a farmer, Bishnoi reportedly owns about 100-acre of

land in Puniab, the records

show. He has a tattoo of Lord Hanuman imprinted on his right arm and is known for his driving and shooting skills.

Bishnoi's younger brother Anmol, who used to study in a college in Rajasthan, is now believed to have joined his gang, operating from outside the country. Bishnoi forayed into the world of crime during his Panjab University days in 2010 when he opened fire at a rival contestant during the student body polls for which he spent three months in jail. He also contested the varsity

polls and became the students' union president while doing his graduation. Convicted in four criminal cases in Punjab, including on charges of extortion, murder, attempt to murder, and offences under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), Bishnoi mostly operated in Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Delhi before setting his sight on Maharashtra.

### Four-year-old child dies at Moti Nagar park

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

A four year old child died at a Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) park in West Delhi's Moti Nagar area after an equipment fell on his chest. According to the police on Monday, a call regarding information about a child brought dead to the emergency ward of Acharya Bhikshu Hospital was received in Moti Nagar police station on Sunday. The deceased child has been identified as Master Arvind, resident of New Moti Nagar.

DCP west Vichitra Veer stated, "Enquiry into the matter revealed that the child was playing in the park with open gym equipment installed at A-Block Park, New Moti Nagar. Suddenly, the equipment fell on the child's chest and the child became unconscious.

He added that the child was immediately rushed to the hospital, but was declared dead. Currently, his father identified as Sanjay works as a laborer in Saudi Arabia and his mother is a housewife. "A case under the provisions of

negligence has been registered in the matter and the investigation is underway," Veer stated. Reacting to the incident, New

Delhi BJP MP Bansuri Swaraj expressed deep sorrow over the death of a child and attributed the incident to negligence in the maintenance of MCD parks. She demanded compensation for the bereaved

"I have been informed that a similar swing collapse occurred in the same area last year, which clearly indicates a lack of attention to park maintenance by the Municipal Corporation,"

### JNUTA objects to arbitrary extension of probationary periods of newly appointed faculty members

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI made in violation of in the 159th academic coun-

The Jawaharlal Nehru University Teachers' Association (JNUTA) on Monday alleged that several newly-appointed faculty members have had their probation periods arbitrarily extended, as it also raised objection to the appointment

seniority rule. Terming these actions "illegal' and "detrimental" to the institution's ethos, the JNUTA in a statement alleged that the appointment of Rector I was

of Rector I, claiming that it

was done in violation of the

which states "if there are two or more rectors, the rector who has the longest continuous period of service shall be the senior most".

The JNUTA claimed that by disregarding the clause, the vice chancellor "is willingly committing an illegality that has repercussions for the university, given that it involves an office as important as that of Rector I".

According to JNUTA, the move has already had its implications as the newly-appointed rector participated

and is set to attend the 319th executive council meeting scheduled for Monday.

The teachers' body also expressed concerns over the extension of the probation period for newly-appointed faculty members.

The vice chancellor has issued extension orders against the strong recommendations for confirmation sent by the centres and schools of the concerned faculty," the JNUTA said, as it urged the administration to immediately roll back these



JNU Vice Chancellor Santishree D Pandit said, "It (extension of probation) is done as per UGC regulations if they (faculty members) do not fulfil the minimum workload obligations in their job contract. The same was signed by them while accepting the job.

The teachers' body also criticised the establishment of a seven-member committee to review the functioning of the special centres, terming it a direct assault on their academic autonomy and func-

"This random committee that who goes against the statutes of the university and the laid down structures and procedures is scheduled to hold its first interaction with the special centres on October 15," the JNUTA said, as it demanded that the panel be immediately disbanded.

Ón Career Advancement Scheme (CAS) promotions, the JNUTA alleged that the vice chancellor arbitrarily decided not to hold interviews for faculty members whose applications were pending.

"Several faculty members were forced to give up counting their past services, or their date of promotion was revised, depriving them of their years of service," the JNUTA said, as it condemned these actions as attempts to undermine the university's integrity and autonomy.

"Like her predecessor, the vice chancellor seems bent on committing irregularities that cause irreparable damage to the collective ethos of JNU as a public university," the JNUTA said.

### MCG to increase monitoring at Bandhwadi landfill site to prevent fire incidents

STAFF REPORTER 
GURUGRAM

The Municipal Corporation of Gurugram (MCG) will increase monitoring 24X7 to prevent fire incidents at the Bandhwadi landfill site located on the Gurugram-Faridabad road.

Additional Commissioner of MCG, Dr. Balpreet Singh, on Monday also visited the Bandhwadi garbage disposal plant and gave necessary directions to concerned officials. Singh said that 24-hour mon-

itoring would be done to curb fire incidents in the plant. For this, the duty of employees will be ensured in three shifts of 8 hours each. Along with this, fire vehicles will be deployed in the plant 24 hours a day, so that the fire can be extin-

guished immediately.
"The civic body is working seriously towards ensuring compliance with the guidelines issued by the Air Quality Management Commission, he said. He also told the engineer wing officials during his inspection if any incident of fire occurs in future, the responsibility of the concerned officer will be fixed.



He also directed the officers concerned that the garbage disposal process should be speeded up further so that the garbage disposal work can be completed within the stipulated time period.

Along with this, leachate management should also be done simultaneously. He also instructed the concerned officers to speed up the entry of vehicles carrying garbage to Bandhwadi.

The civic body is working on a plan to use thermal camera drones for this purpose. With the help of drones, the heat levels of the garbage dumps will be easily detected even during the night hours. This

will help in controlling future fire incidents on time, officials

Meanwhile, more than 20 incidents of fire have occurred at Bandhwari in recent times. Currently, over 13 lakh tonnes of garbage is lying here and private agencies are disposing

"Fire in the garbage heaps is caused by methane gas. Methane gas is formed under the garbage and when the temperature rises, the garbage catches fire as soon as the methane comes in contact with air. Despite all efforts, incidents of fire in garbage are not stopping," said a senior

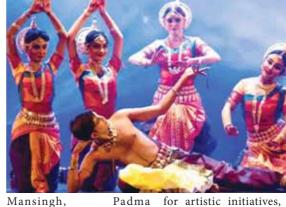
### Sangeet Natak Akademi to hold six-day international festival on Indian dance

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

The inaugural edition of Sangeet Natak Akademi's six-day International Festival on Indian Dance, a first-of-itskind celebration, will take place from October 16 in the national capital, bringing together a diverse group of artists, scholars, and critics. To be inaugurated by Minister of Culture Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, the fest is all set to enthrall the audience with Kerala Kalamandalam, Shantha Ratii from Singapore, Taksu Art from Indonesia, Zhyuldyz Dance Ensemble from Kyrgyzstan, Sunanda Nair from the US, Sutra Foundation from Malaysia, and Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy participating at the event.

The festival aims to facilitate discussions on sustainable careers for artists, provide policy recommendations, and promote institutional support for the performing arts.

A broad range of topics related to various Indian dance forms will be explored in 30 closed-door sessions led by distinguished scholars and artists, including Sonal



Subrahmanyam, Jaya Rama Rao, Uma Sharma, Raja and Radha Reddy, Padma Sharma, Kiran Segal, and Darshana Ihaveri.

Additionally, celebrated performers like Sonal Mansingh, Rajendra Gangani, and Ramli Ibrahim, along with diverse folk dance groups such as Singari Melam from Kerala, Badan Singh and Group from Bachari, Been Jogi from Haryana, and Banwari Lal and Group from Jaipuri, are set to captivate the audience. During various sessions, discussions will cover topics like the role of artificial intelligence in dance, CSR funding

for artistic initiatives, and economic models to support sustainable livelihoods for performers.

. Sandhya Purecha, chairperson, Sangeet Natak Akademi, said "This festival is more than a gathering of artists; it is an effort to bring together philanthropists, government officials, scholars, researchers, and students to explore the economic and social aspects of the arts. Dancers and artists have long struggled with financial constraints, limited institutional support, and the need to adapt to evolving economic realities," Purecha said at a press conference

#### Man held for stabbing 20-yearold man to death in Harsh Vihar

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police on Monday arrested a 22 year old man for allegedly stabbing a 20-year-old man to death in the . Harsh Vihar area of northeast

According to the police on Monday, the deceased, who has oeen identified as Ankur, a resident of Pratap Nagar, was declared brought dead, while his 14 year old brother sustained injuries after they were allegedy attacked and stabbed by three bike-borne men for advising them to drive carefully.

They were returning from a Dussehra fair along on Saturday when the incident took place. His brother is studying in class

On Saboli road, Ankur and Himanshu reportedly advised a biker carrying two pillion passengers to drive safely after the bike-borne men were driving recklessly on the narrow streets. "On Saturday, an information was received from GTB hospital, stating that one person was brought dead in hospital due to stab injury. The police found that one Ankur s/o Krishan Pal age 20 years and his brother were brought to hospital due to stab injuries. Ankur was

declared brought dead," a senior police official said.

The statement of the brother was written. "He stated that they had altercation with three boys riding on black coloured Splendour bike while they were crossing the road. There was minor touching with bike. During the course of altercation all three boys attacked them with knives several time and ran away from the spot," he added. During the course of investigation accused was identified as Vikas with the help of CCTV footage. Himanshu, who sustained knife wounds on his neck and thigh, managed to rush Ankur to a nearby hospital in an e-rickshaw where doctors declared him dead.

The deceased sustained multiple stab wounds on his chest, stomach, and thigh," the officer said, adding that Ankur's body has been handed over to his family members after post-

A purported CCTV footage of the incident has gone viral on social media showing three men attacking the two brothers in full public view. The footage also shows a man from the public trying to catch hold of one of the attackers even as

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-PAPER WITH PASSION-

### Speeding up 'GatiShakti'

GatiShakti gets a fresh boost as PM Modi hails it as a game-changer for India's infrastructure

rime Minister Narendra Modi has lauded 'GatiShakti,' describing it as a transformative initiative poised to revolutionise India's infrastructure. Speaking on the third anniversary of 'GatiShaki' PM Modi hailed its potential to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the country's logistical network, thereby driving economic growth and development. The 'GatiShakti initiative,' introduced by the Central Government in 2021, aims to streamline and integrate various infrastructure projects across sectors, including roads, railways, ports and airports. The programmed seeks to bridge gaps in existing networks, eliminate bottlenecks and promote the use of advanced technology and data analytics in planning and execution. GatiShakti goes beyond traditional infrastructure planning, as it involves the coordination of multiple departments and incorporates feedback from state governments, private sector stakeholders and local communities. The initiative is expected to transform



how infrastructure projects are conceived and executed, bringing about a paradigm shift in the country's growth trajectory. By fostering seamless integration of various sectors and improving the synergy between different modes of transport, GatiShakti is set to play a pivotal role in accelerating India's economic development.

By improving logistical efficiency, reducing costs and promoting seamless connectivity, the initiative can significantly bring down the cost of production. China's rapid economic growth provides a valuable lesson for India. Over the past few decades, China has focused heavily on large-scale infrastructure

development, including extensive networks of high-speed railways, highways and ports. This not only improved connectivity but also drastically lowered logistics costs, making it easier for businesses to thrive. Following a similar path, 'GatiShakti' can serve as a catalyst for India's economic transformation, driving sustainable growth and helping the country achieve its ambition of becoming a \$5 trillion economy. While 'GatiShakti' promises to transform India's infrastructure, several challenges may hinder its implementation. Key impediments include land acquisition issues, where delays and disputes over land ownership can stall projects. Regulatory bottlenecks also pose challenges, with complex approval processes across different ministries slowing down progress. Additionally, financing constraints may arise, as large-scale infrastructure projects require substantial investment and public-private partnerships. To overcome these hurdles, the government can implement policy reforms to streamline land acquisition and simplify approval procedures, reducing bureaucratic delays. Incentivising private investment through tax benefits and offering risksharing models can attract more participation from the private sector. GatiShakti is the need of the hour and must be prioritised to realise India's growth potential.



# Ratan Naval Tata: A gem of a person 4



The passing of Ratan Tata has left the nation mourning not just an industrialist, but a rare leader who transcended divides, representing the 'Idea of India'

he year was 2000 and the list of Padma Awardees sent to the Rashtrapati Bhawan had included a list of super achievers. The scholarly constitutionalist in President K Ř Narayanan went through each name carefully, as he always did. The list had included luminaries like Pandit Hariprasad Churasia, Prof J B Bhagwati, Rajnikanth, Tarlok Singh etc., but one particular name brought a smile to the face of the otherwise reserved and ultra-correct Rashtrapati K R Narayanan, and it was the name of the-then relatively young, 63year-old Chairman of the Tata Group, Ratan Tata.

Arguably the most accomplished President ever, with a curriculum vitae of achievements that included recognition as the 'best diplomat of Indian Foreign Service, Ambassadorship to countries like USA, China etc., Vice Chancellorship of JNU, 3 consecutive wins as Member of Parliament, posts of Union Minister, Vice President of India, all on merit was no small achievement. Unbeknownst to many, his brilliant journey had the benefit of winds in his sails instilled by the Tata Group, long back! KR Narayanan had never forgotten what the Tatas had done to make its version of the 'Indian Dream' - the story from Uzhavoor in Kottayam to the Rashtrapati Bhawan had an unmistakably selfless, generous, and humble hand of the Tatas.

The topper from his school days who overcame unimaginable tribulations of financial and social nature fought against all odds and with the timely aid of the Travancore Royal family. In 1944, KR Narayanan was helped immeasurably by the Tata Scholarship to pursue his obvious genius in economics, politics and journalism at the London School of Economics – it was just the academic break that the precocious talent needed, and the rest as they say, is history. JRD Tata had heeded a recommendation letter stating that Narayanan had secured an MA at Travancore University ranking first. He further noted that he achieved the distinction after surmounting many personal obstacles. Ironically, there any sense of entitlement.

was yet another name in the 2000 Padma awardees who had a Tata hand in his own life story, the illustrious scientist, RA Mashelkar. Given his financial hardship, he too would attribute a large part of his success to the "Tata scholarship of 60 rupees per month for six years that helped me study".

He conflated his own story to that of KR Narayanan's, "Both of us were Tata scholars. We both left India, only to return when we were fairly young with a zeal to do more for our homeland". The surreal moment was described by Mashelkar, "Padma Bhushan, was bestowed on both me, a Tata scholar, and Ratan Tata, head of the house of Tatas. By whom? President Narayanan, another Tata scholar. This was the best endorsement of President Narayanan's remarks about moving from the 'sidelines of the society to the hub of social standing?

As President Narayanan's Military Secretary, I was responsible for protocols et al, and I distinctly remember the President telling me that presumably Ratan Tata knew of the lata connection in Narayanan's life, yet he had never sought any favour, consideration, or familiarity, out of



HIS DEATH

SHOWED WHAT A COLOSSUS HE WAS, WHOSE LOSS IS FELT BY ALL, WITHOUT ANY EXCEPTIONS. HE WAS **UNBELIEVABLY ABOVE ALL** POSSIBLE 'DIVIDES' THAT **BESET** A 5000-YEAR-OLD CIVILISATION AND DEMOCRACY

Always one for puns with languages, he suggested fondly that perhaps the Tata leaders were not 'Captains of the Industry', but more befittingly 'Generals of the Industry'. As one from the 'Uniform' and

knowing Narayanan personally, I knew immediately that the remark was not about seniority (ranks) but about leadership, inviolable values, and personal integrity, which is asked of an individual, as she/he is in a position to walkthe-talk. Much before expressions like affirmative action, corporate social responsibility or corporate trusteeship were defined – Tatas were already doing the same, with no vested interest, whatsoever. It was always about a larger purpose. It is with this sense of immutable responsibility that Ratan Tata stepped into the shoes of the legendary JRD Tata, who had been passed the baton by Nowroji Saklatwala and Jamsetji Tata. The silent dignity, grace, and magnanimity of the typical Tata way of doing things were upheld and reinforced by Ratan Tata – in his passing, the nation lost its most loved son and the 'Idea of India its finest exponent. The passing away of Ratan Tata has also exposed just how poor (in leadership) we have suddenly become. In

wounded and polarised times of bitter conflicts between the realms of majority-minority denominations, capitalistsocialist societies, agrarianindustry priorities, and white collar-blue collar dimension it is ironic that Ratan Tata was never ascribed to be working for a restricted denomination. His death showed what a colossus he was, whose loss is felt by all. He was unbelievably above all possible 'divides' that beset a 5000-year-old civilisation and democracy called

Today there are many leaders of political parties, communities, regions, corporations and even perhaps of causes - but none who can be said to be a leader of the inclusive and caring 'Idea of India'. In such desperate times, his passing away has also inadvertently posited the relevance of 'humility' and basic 'decency' that is so sadly missing in the national discourse. So, there may be leaders or even 'Captains of Industry', but 'General' of Leadership (and beyond) absolutely none. Ratan Tata was the last of the knights, a first-rate hero.

(1 ne writer, a military veter an, is a former Lt Governor of Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Puducherry; views are personal)

#### HE EDITO

CALLED INDIA

## Navigating the complex path of integrity



In a world where honesty is often presented as situational, staying true to one's principles can be a daunting task

caught snatches of an interesting conversation **▲**on the radio recently. The host and the guest were having a free-flowing discussion on the role of honesty and truthfulness in life. The conclusion was that honesty always pays, but a half-truth may be acceptable to avoid hurting the other person. I did not agree to subjective honesty as the situation demands. I remembered a few incidents while working in the government. These were lessons learned about integrity and honesty in public life. I was working on an arbitration case a few decades back. The advocate representing the contractor approached me to tilt the report in his favour for consideration. I told him that the case would be dealt with on merits. He was expecting elevation as a High Court judge, and I was warned of being hauled up in his court. I do not know if he was promoted. I was certainly not summoned. I moved to a government company in Delhi. I started commuting to work with my senior colleague in his official vehicle. New to the

entitled conveyance allowance

for the commute. He gently pulled me up and told me that I could not claim the money till the time he chauffeured me. I continued to travel with him till I was elevated and had been provided with an official vehicle. Another acquaintance from the private sector informed me about his promotion. Having received my congratulatory wishes, he hesitantly told me he was now in a position of authority to do something for me. I pointed out that I was better placed to do his company a favour, and not broach the subject again if he wished to remain a friend and a business associate. We continue to be friends. The word got around. I was not subject to any more pro-

A gentleman joined the dispute resolution board that I am part of only when he was assured by a former senior colleague about my proven integrity in public life. I am not vain, or at least try not to be demonstrative of my vanity, but I could not resist a proud smile. There were also incidents when I was on the receiving end. I did not live up to the standards that I had set. My father-in-law met an untimely death three decades back. A few days after the rituals were over, I accompanied my brother-in-law to the local post office to withdraw the savings. The dealing assistant's table was piled high with earlier case files. The work was done within the time frame promised, without his organisation, I claimed the posals of illegal gratification. touching the money that we

were asked to put in the office drawer. I could have refused and waited out. I chose the easy way. I once read an article that corruption is a global phenomenon. It exists even in developed countries like America and Japan. The difference is that it is at the highest levels and does not affect the common man. I recently flew with a senior corporate leader who echoed exactly similar sentiments. This is the conundrum that I am unable to resolve. We should not be teaching our children conflicting lessons. To me, being truthful or honest are the two sides of the same coin. There cannot be two standards, be it in business, politics, personal life, or at the common man's level. American author, H Jackson Brown Jr said "Live so that when your children think of fairness, caring and integrity, they think of you." That will be the day when we will be truly proud of our-(The author is an electrical

engineer with the Indian Railways and conducts classes in creative writing; views are personal)

#### **RSS CALLS FOR HINDU UNITY** Madam — Apropos of the news 'Hindus

be united, empowered, weakness not an option: RSS' (October 13). The message of RSS Sar Sangh Chalak for unity of Hindus amidst political subversion on caste lines has made a wide impact and sensitises Hindus to diminish caste lines. The media made it headlines like never before. This is highly worrisome, as religious conversions by Islamic and missionary institutions and consequent demography change are the most potent threats emanating from caste divisions. Kashmiri Hindus have faced the worst violence and mass exodus since independence and even before, which is yet another consequence of weakened and divided Hindus but which was taboo for a selected media and the intellectuals to even discuss.

Narratives have been set on caste divisions weakening and dividing Hindus for more than a century on misrepresentation of oppression bereft of any evidence, whereas the former rulers of various princely states, entrepreneurs of traditional businesses, and defeated warriors faced persecutions by the Mughal and British rulers and were reduced to penury and ruins and classified later as lower castes. Such narratives should be busted.

The movies and OTT platforms are equally responsible for inculcating inferiority complexes among Hindus selectively. Lately, there is a noticeably undercurrent among Hindus against those who are insulting Hindus and their Gods and undercutting their religious faiths. The constitutional term secular has been misused to the extreme for dividing Hindus. The demand for caste census selectively for Hindus only while excluding other religions, though not provided in the Constitution is yet another shot to divide Hindus and create vote banks. Sangh Pramukh's message is loud and clear.

Vinod Johri | Delhi

TRAIN CRASH SPARKS PANIC Madam—Gruesome rail accidents in the recent past caused concern and created a

### Md Siraj appointed as DSP



🖚 tar Indian pacer Mohammed Siraj has been Sappointed as Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) by the Telangana state. The post has been extended to him by the state government in appreciation of his exceptional and splendid achievement in international cricket. Siraj no doubt fought all odds to get into the national team and has carved a niche of his own with his superb

panic among railway passengers. This is a serious lapse and it will be treated as a human error to save heads from sacking. Following a collision between Darbhangabound Bagmati Express and a stationary goods train on Friday night, the Railways ordered a high-level inquiry to ascertain

Nine injuries and no fatalities have been reported, although 11 coaches of the express train derailed on impact, leaving a parcel van in flames and mangled coaches strewn across the crash site. After crossing Ponneri railway station, the Darbhanga-bound train received the green signal to pass through the main line towards the next station, Kavaraipettai, near Gummidipoondi. However, the express train carrying more than 1,600 passengers experienced a "heavy jerk" while entering the station. It ended up entering the loop line instead and colliding with the rear of a goods train stabled there around 8:30 PM, according to the Railways. This is a serious lapse on the part of the railways and

heads must roll CK Subramaniam | Mumbai

laration cited that the young cricketer has made Telangana proud and brought honours to the

ipation in the Cricket World Cup series and the ongoing series with various teams before World Test Championship finals It has to be noted that the state made amendments

in its regulations of appointments to felicitate and honour sportspersons as heads of government departments. He now joins the likes of Joginder Sharma (Cricketer), Akhil Kumar, Jitender and Vijender (Boxers) and Hima Das (Athlete) to name a few who became police officers for their contributions to sports. This no doubt will attract more voungsters to sports and encourage them to showcase their best to bring laurels to the state and the nation

nation, hence this great honour for him. Among

his noteworthy accomplishments are his partic-

M Pradyu | Kannur

#### **BABA SIDDIQUE ASSASSINATED**

Madam — Former Maharashtra minister and Nationalist Congress Party leader Baba Siddique was killed in Mumbai. He was shot outside his office by three unidentified men. Siddique, 66, was a key Muslim political leader in Maharashtra and also served as Minister of State for Food and Civil Supplies, Labour and FDA.

More than politics, Siddique was known for his social image and hosting grand iftar parties every year. During his time as an MLA, Siddique worked extensively on improving the infrastructure of his constituency, focusing on slum rehabilitation, upgrading healthcare facilities, and enhancing educational institutions. It is too premature to say anything as an investigation is going on. The law and order situation is deteriorating. This is not good for the city and state of Maharashtra. If the third shooter is also arrested, then we can make a breakthrough in this murder case.

M R Jayanthi | Trichy

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## **FIRST COLUMN**

### THE CHANGING **FACE OF RAM LEELA**

As traditional values blur, concerns grow about the erosion of cultural heritage of Ram Leela



VINOD TAKIAWALA

he connection between Delhi's residents and Ram Leelas is a deeply rooted tradition, with the historic Ramlila Maidan serving as a living testament to this cultural bond. Stories linked to the venue continue to be shared even today. During the Ram Leela performances, the atmosphere in Delhi and the NCR resonates with the chants of "Jai Shri Ram" and "Har Har Mahadev." As evening falls, families eagerly set out to partake in the festivities. I, too, had the opportunity to witness some of these performances. However, to my disappointment, the portrayal of Ram's story often appeared distorted, with dialogues sounding jarring and performances lacking in choreography. It seemed as though the actors, much like the director and scriptwriter, had little familiarity with the original Ramayana.

The Ram Leela I watched during my younger days has transformed into a commercial event, with little regard for the religious and cultural essence of this annual festival. It has become more of an entertainment spectacle than an exploration of the Ramayana's teachings. For some, it's a means to profit, while others use it as a platform to pursue their personal agendas. In the capital, the celebrations—including the enactment of the Ram Leela and the ritual of burning Ravana's effigy—frequently feature prominent figures such as politicians and businessmen as guests of honour. It often feels as though the Ram Leela is being staged to honour them, as the announcements from the stage are filled with praises for their greatness and importance.

Yet, I couldn't help but wonder whether any of them truly embodied the



virtues of Maryada Purushottam Ram. Whether ministers, political leaders, social workers, or other distinguished personalities holding official positions, none struck me as being worthy of comparison to Ram. I kept asking myself, "Is there anyone among them who genuinely understands Ram or upholds his ideals?"

Moreover, the management of the Ram Leelas raises several concerns. From the chaotic parking outside the venues to the giant advertisements plastered on temporary boundaries, the arrangements leave much to be desired. The presence of high-ranking officials, Delhi police, and businessmen with their families often overshadows the experience of the common people. Organisers are granted access to public spaces with government support, including subsidised electricity, water, security, and other amenities. Despite this, substantial funds are collected through donations for staging the Ram Leelas, though there is no clear accounting or auditing of these finances. Only God knows where the money

At one Ram Leela in Delhi, the organisers spared no expense in creating luxurious settings for themselves, while visitors had minimal or no facilities. A statue of Lord Ram was placed in an open field, and the idols of other Hindu deities were carelessly laid out on the ground. Meanwhile, the organisers and their close circle enjoyed lavish facilities in opulent tents with exclusive arrangements for food, photoshoots, and private promotions. Ordinary visitors, who came with their families to enjoy the performance, often struggled to gain entry. Once inside, they were met with private security guards employed to serve the organisers' quests, who sometimes treated the common people poorly.

Ram Leelas have now become major attractions and money-making opportunities, with little consideration for the people who come to witness them. The entire event is chaotic, and all one can hope for is that it concludes without any unfortunate incidents. The ideals of Ram seem to be the last thing on the minds of those who organise these events. The essence of Ram Leela has been overshadowed by the spectacle of wealth and status. Even the story of Ram is distorted, and the dialogues are awkward—but that is the reality of modern-day Ram Leela. (The writer is a freelance journalist; views are personal)

# Why RBI should not look at food inflation



Concerns over persistent food price volatility and the need for economic growth support have prompted the Reserve Bank of India to keep its options open



n October 9, 2024, the Reserve Bank of India Shaktikanta announced the decisions taken by the six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) in its fourth bi-monthly meeting of the current financial year (FY). It has kept the policy rate (the interest rate at which the RBI lends to banks) unchanged at 6.5 per cent. However, it has altered its policy stance from "withdrawal of accommodation" to a neutral stance. In 2016, the Union Government put in place an institutionalised framework to enable the MPC to formulate monetary policy and determine the key interest rates including the policy rate for inflation targeting. It mandated the RBI to fix the policy rate in such a manner as to maintain the Consumer Price Index or CPI (it corresponds to a basket that includes food, fuel, manufactured goods and select services) within the target range of 4 per cent (+/- 2 per cent). The RBI decides the policy rates once in two months during each FY.

The mandate initially years ending March 31, 2021, has since been extended till March 31, 2026. The other crucial policy instrument the banking regulator uses for targeting inflation is Liquidity - a jargon for the quantum of credit available in the banking system. Pumping more liquidity along with a reduction in the policy rate represents a scenario which in jargon is described as an 'accommodative policy stance. The terminology was coined by Das in June 2019 when he started going for aggressive cuts in the policy rate and an increase in credit availability. Since June 2022 the RBI changed its stance to "withdrawal of accommodation" and has since stuck to

From October 9, 2024, it has decided to go for what it terms a "neutral" stance. A "neutral" stance connotes that the RBI has vowed to keep its options flexible meaning it will neither squeeze liquidity by restricting credit availability and keeping policy rates high nor go



AS LONG AS FOOD (WHOSE PRICES ARE **FUNDAMENTALLY** 

AFFECTED BY SUPPLY-SIDE FACTORS) REMAINS A PART OF THE CPI INFLATION TARGETING WILL **ALWAYS REMAIN** A PROBLEM

for unrestrained lending at low interest rates.

At the time of taking charge in December 2018, Das was confronted with a legacy of policy rate at a peak of 6.5 per cent, courtesy of a tight stance taken by his predecessor Urjit Patel. In February 2019, he initiated a process of aggressive cut that led to its plummeting to a low of 4 per cent by May 2020. It stayed at that level for over two years. Beginning May 2022, the RBI delivered a hike of 1.4 per cent during the first half of FY 2022-23 and another dose of 1.1 per cent during the second

A total hike of 2.5 per cent thus restored the policy rate to its earlier peak of 6.5 per cent by February 2023. Since then, the rate has remained unchanged to

Why hasn't RBI reduced the rate? Look at the trajectory of the CPI inflation. It had scaled to a high of 7.8 per cent in April 2022. During FY 2022-23, it hovered around 8 per cent. In the following FY, it started decreasing from 7.4 per cent in July 2023 to 5 per cent in September 2023, 4.8 per cent in October 2023 and 5.1 per cent during January/February 2024. For the whole of FY 2023-24, it was 5.4 percent. During the current FY also, the CPI inflation June 2024 and 3.54 percent in July of 2024. During FY 2024-25, the RBI expects the CPI inflation to be 4.5 per cent. Given the above, from the third quarter of FY 2023-24, the CPI inflation has remained well within the target range of 4 per cent (+/- 2 per cent). Moreover, as per RBI's assessment, this position will be sustained till the end of the cur-

There was thus a strong case for

growth besides helping millions of borrowers reduce their EMIs and helping industries, especially MSMEs (micro, small and medium enterprises) reduce the cost of servicing their loans. Yet, the RBI remains unfazed and has stuck to its stance of 'not reducing the policy rate. This has to do with a mindset that was reflected in Das's observation while announcing the first bi-monthly policy of the current FY. He had said "The elephant has now gone out for a walk and appears to be returning to the forest. We would like the elephant to return to the forest and remain there on a durable basis." Put simply, he meant there was no need to start reducing interest rates until inflation reached the target of 4 per cent and stayed at that level. If, that figure of 4 per cent was so sacrosanct, then why keep (+/- 2 per cent)?

The short point is the RBI is clamoring for a scenario that is unlikely and even if it is reached, it wont be possible to stay there for long. A potent reason for this is food inflation which has a weight of around 40 per cent in the overall CPI and is impacted predominantly by supply side/seasonal factors whereas monetary policy instruments work on the demand

Invariably, food inflation maintains an upward trend even as a small disruption in supply caused by seasonal factors can lead to spiralling prices. This, in turn, lifts the CPI inflation more so because of its high weight of 40 per cent. In July 2023, food inflation was 11.8 percent which led to CPI inflation of 7.4 percent. In October 2023, the former decreased to 6.6 per cent, and so did the latter to 4.8 per cent. At the start of the current year, food reducing the repo rate. This would inflation spurted to around 8 per have given a boost to economic cent and by June 2024, it had fur-

ther moved up to 9.4 per cent. As long as food (whose prices are fundamentally affected by supplyside factors) remains a part of the CPI basket, inflation targeting will always remain a problem. There is an urgent need to exclude it while setting benchmark interest rates, an idea that was mooted by the Chief Economic Advisor in the Economic Survey (ES) for 2023-24. The CEA argued that monetary policy has no bearing on the prices of food items, which are dictated by supply-side pressures. For instance, during 2021-22, wheat output was affected by unusually high temperatures. During 2022-23, rains accompanied by hailstorms acted as a spoiler. During the first half of FY 2023-24, food inflation went up due to a spike in the prices of vegetables caused by seasonal factors. The current inflationary trend in food prices also has to do with supply-side pressures only. The RBI can achieve little to control tnem by keeping the policy rate

The RBI should take the idea mooted in the ES - 2023-24 on board. Meanwhile, it should consider reducing the weight of food inflation in CPI to reflect the contemporary reality. The current  $40\,$ per cent weight is based on the Consumption Expenditure Survey (CES) of 2011-12 whereas Summary Statistics from the 2022-23 CES point towards a significant reduction. While formulating its monetary policy, the RBI's prime responsibility is to ensure macro-economic stability its pivotal focus being on keeping inflation within reasonable bounds. However, it can't be oblivious of the dire need to support economic growth which could be adversely impacted if it keeps the interest rates high.

(The writer is a policy analyst;

## Laapataa Ladies: India's Oscar entry poised to captivate the world

### This year's selection for Oscar marks a bold statement about the future of Indian cinema and its universal appeal

ndia is ready to stun the world once again, not **⊥** only with its glamorous presence but also with its captivating storytelling at the 2025 Oscars. With Kiran Rao's Laapataa Ladies chosen as India's official entry for Best International Feature Film, the global stage is about to witness a film that exemplifies the power of Indian cinema where tradition meets modernity, and women's stories are told with gradation, strength and authenticity. From the grand stages of Cannes and TIFF to the prestigious halls of the Oscars, India's cinematic journey continues to break boundaries, capturing hearts across the globe. The selec-

tion of Laapataa Ladies



**PRASAD** stands out as a justified

move that speaks volumes about the direction the Indian cinema will take in the future.

It signifies not just a bold statement but also a deeper narrative that India aims to convey to the world. The decision has stirred passion-

global filmmaking, and the art of storytelling that resonates universally. It signifies not just a bold statement but also a deeper narrative that India aims to convey to the world. One characterised by powerful storytelling and emotional depth, laced with cultural authenticity that delves into the unique yet universally relatable experiences of women.

Kiran Rao's return to the director's chair after more than a decade has proven to be nothing short of a cinematic triumph of her evolution as a filmmaker.

'Laapataa Ladies' offers more than a film, it's an experience that beautifully blends ate discussions about the humour and poignant social nature of Indian cinema, commentary and a fresh the evolving landscape of perspective on the complex-

ities of Indian womanhood. Set against the backdrop of rural India, the story revolves around two brides mistakenly swapped due to their veils, igniting a whirlwind of confusion and identity crisis. But beneath the surface, the film tackles deeper societal themes, portraying the often unspoken struggles women face while navigating tradition and personal identity. Rao's masterful storytelling elevates this from a simple narrative to a cultural dialogue, one that resonates with both Indian and global audiences. It's this jugalbandi of emotion, drama, and humour that makes 'Laapataa Ladies' stand out as a universal story about women's



The film doesn't just reflect the plight of Indian women, it taps into the global consciousness of gender roles, the subtle acts of defiance, and the resilience required to reclaim one's identity in a patriarchal society. By sending 'Laapataa Ladies' to the Oscars, India is presenting the world with a film that a serious undercurrent. This hood—its beauty, complex- ditions to explore gender,

is the kind of storytelling that Hollywood needs to see an authentic narrative that reflects the socio-cultural realities of a nation while remaining universally relatable. With well-written characters, immersive performances, and a storyline that oscillates between lightheartedness and gravitas, 'Laapataa Ladies' will serve as a testament to Indian filmmaking talent. The performances of Nitanshi Goel and Pratibha Ranta shine, their portrayals brimming with vulnerability and strength, making their characters relatable on a universal scale. This film is not just a story about two women but about the entire specbalances entertainment with trum of Indian woman-

ity, and contradictions. The landscape of global filmmaking is undergoing a revolution.

The world is slowly waking up to the storytelling brilliance that many nations like South Korea, China, Turkey and India have always possessed but are now showcasing with greater confidence and finesse. India's selection of 'Laapataa Ladies' is part of this global wave of cinema that is redefining the narrative structure, giving voice to local stories with universal appeal. Much like South Korea's Parasite, which used the backdrop of class disparity to tell a universally compelling story, 'Laapataa Ladies' uses rural India's tra-

identity and empowerment in a way that transcends cultural boundaries. As 'Laapataa Ladies' makes its way to the Oscars, it carries with it the hopes of millions who believe in the power of authentic storytelling.

The film's emotional depth, paired with Rao's visionary direction, is set to make waves on the international stage, showing Hollywood and the world what Indian cinema is truly capable of. With 'Laapataa Ladies', India has not just sent a film-it has sent a message.

(The writer is a former additional DG, DFF, and festival director at IFFI. İnputs provided by Zoya Ahmad and Vaishnavie Srinivasan; Views are

# Nation needs well trained workforce: EA Minister

 $E_{\text{Jaishankar on Monday said}}$  the need for a "well-trained workforce" in different geographies is only going to grow fur-ther, and urged friendly nations to turn towards the Indian talent for sourcing workforce requirements in their coun-

In his keynote address after launching the eMigrate V2.0 portal and a mobile app here, he also said the government shall remain steadfast in the efforts to create safer and legal channels of emigrating abroad.

Union Minister of Labour and Employment, Mansukh Mandaviya, Minister of State for External Affairs Pabitra Margherita also joined on dais, while ambassadors of several countries, among others, were present among the audience.

Mandaviya in his address said efforts are underway to integrate the eMigrate V2.0 portal with other digital platforms of his ministry to provide seamless access of relevant documents and profiles of skilled workers by potential employees sitting abroad.

The revamped version of eMigrate portal is more than just a digital platform, "it is a beacon of hope, a symbol of our commitment to protecting the rights and dignity of our work-



ers in foreign lands", Jaishankar

The enhancements in the portal reflect new realities and transformation that is being witnessed in so far as global migration dynamics are concerned, the external affairs minister underlined.

"There is a global need for workers who have domain specific knowledge in their particular fields. For several reasons, this need for a well-trained workforce in different geographies is only going to grow further," he said.

This is clearly reflected in the pace at which "we have undertaken negotiations with different countries" on migration and mobility since 2015, and also in how the mobility ecosystem in India itself is taking shape, the EAM said.

In his address, Jaishankar said the government shall remain steadfast in the efforts to create safer and legal channels of emigrating abroad.

I am sure that all the Protectors of Emigrants, empowered with technology and through their collective experiences, will gear to work relentlessly towards fulfilling our commitments to the public and to the nation," he

'I urge all the participants and particularly the ambassadors who have joined us today, in this inauguration programme, to turn towards the Indian talent and the demographic dividend that India has to offer, for sourcing workforce requirements in your particular countries" the

The eMigrate Version 2 portal has also been integrated with DigiLocker, and that is also a big step in digital transformation. This will enable the emigrants to submit various documents for obtaining clearances through DigiLocker in a paperless mode, as well as to store them securely, all their important documents like passports, employment contracts, are actually secured, he added.

The Ministry of External Affairs has leveraged the use of technology and digital systems to enhance the efficiency and efficacy of this portal.

### Haryana Cong incharge offers to quit

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Congress' Haryana in-charge Deepak Babaria on Monday said he has offered to resign from his post, taking moral responsibility for the assembly polls defeat. Babaria said he offered his resignation to the high command soon after the result of the Haryana assembly polls came out last week but no decision has been communicated to him over the matter.

"Last week, after the results, I offered to resign. I offered to the high command that you can replace me. My health is not well and also it is my moral responsibility in the wake of the results. Keeping that in mind, I had told this to the high command that 'if you deem fit, you can replace me',"

After the Lok Sabha polls also, I had offered to resign as incharge of Delhi, but no decision has been taken on that. Similarly, no decision has been taken (for Haryana), but it was my responsibility to offer (to resign)," he said.

The Congress top brass last Thursday held a review meeting on the party's shock defeat in Haryana Ássembly polls and decided to form a factfinding team that will speak to all its candidates to find out the reasons for the debacle.

Sources said the leaders during the meeting discussed the possible reasons for the "unexpected" results in Haryana and decided to set up the team to ascertain the reasons behind such results and also look into complaints of "discrepancies" in



EVMs, as alleged by party candidates.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, former party chief Rahul Gandhi, AICC general secretary organisation KC Venugopal, AICC senior observers for the polls Ashok Gehlot and Ajay Maken, as well as AICC secretaries for the state, participated in the review meeting. AICC in-charge of Haryana Babaria joined the meeting online.

The Congress has also demanded a thorough probe into "discrepancies" found in some Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) during the counting of votes of the Haryana polls and demanded that such EVMs should be sealed and secured pending the

A delegation of top Congress leaders comprising former chief ministers Bhupinder Singh Hooda and Ashok Gehlot and AICC leaders K C

Venugopal, Jairam Ramesh, Ajay Maken and Pawan Khera, besides Haryana Congress chief Udai Bhan, met with top Election Commission officials here on Wednesday.

The Congress leaders alleged that there are at least 20 such complaints with many referring to EVMs functioning at 99 per cent battery capacity whereas the average EVMs were found to be operating at 60 to 70 per cent battery capacity during the counting.

The Congress appeared confident of dislodging the BJP dis-pensation which was in power for 10 years and facing anti-

incumbency.
However, the BJP with 48 seats halted the Congress' comeback attempt and also proved several exit polls wrong which had predicted a comfortable win for the grand old party in Haryana. The Congress managed to muster 37 seats in the 90-member assembly.

Congress neck deep in 'bhu harap': BJP spokesperson

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

B<sup>JP</sup> on Monday alleged that the entire top leadership of the Congress is involved in corruption relating to land transactions and suggested they should resign on moral grounds after being "exposed" BJP spokesperson and Rajya Sabha MP Sudhanshu Trivedi's sharp attack on the Congress came after a trust linked to its president Mallikarjun Kharge's family withdrew its request for the allotment of five acres of civic amenity site in Bengaluru to set up a 'Multi-Skill Development Centre, Training Institutes and Research Centre'.

The move by Congress president Kharge's son Rahul Kharge, who heads the trust, comes close on the heels of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's wife Parvathi returning the 14 sites to the Mysuru Urban Development Authority after the Lokayukta police registered a case against Siddaramaiah, his wife and brother-in-law.

Trivedi said these decisions were triggered by adverse CAG reports and legal proceedings, and amounted to a virtual admission that the transactions were wrong.

It was done to escape humiliation in legal proceedings, he claimed. A party, which was once asso-

ciated with Mahatma Gandhi and Vinoba Bhave's "bhu daan" (giving away land in charity), is now neck deep in "bhu harap" (land grab) under the "inspiration" of Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi, he alleged. The BJP MP noted in the press conference that both Gandhis are accused in the National Herald case, which pertains to alleged capture of the company's properties at a highly nominal rate, and added that the probe began in the case on a court's direction before his party came to power in 2014. Such allegations involving land have been levelled against Ashok Gehlot and Bhupesh Baghel, both former chief ministers, and D K Shivakumar, the Karnataka deputy chief minis-

#### India strengthens drug testing network: Health Minister Nadda

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI** 

India's network of drug testing labs, which includes 8 central labs, 38 state regulator labs, and 8 mini labs at key ports for rapid import testing, ensures the annual testing of over 100,000 samples, reinforces the country's commitment to public health and regulatory excellence, Union Health Minister J P Nadda said on Monday. The Union Health Minister

who inaugurated the five-day 19th International Conference of Drug Regulatory Authorities organised by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), said collaboration across borders, sectors and ating lasting health solutions. He underlined India's commitment to meeting the increasing demand for pharma products while adhering to global quality standards.

The event is being hosted for the first time in India by the CDSCO, Union Health Ministry in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), brings together regulatory authorities, policymakers, and health officials from over 194 WHO member states. Nadda also pointed out that in order to make drug supply chain robust, it has been made mandatory to provide bar code or quick response code (QR Code) on top 300 brands of

drug products. Similarly, QR code is mandatory on all API packs, either being imported or manufactured in India

Noting that India emerged not



only as a global leader in health resilience and innovation but also reaffirmed its role as the pharmacy of the world during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Minister said the country rapidly expanded its healthcare infrastructure and scaled

"The successful roll out of the COVID-19 vaccination programme covering over a billion people is a testament to the robustness of our healthcare our healthcare workers and soundness of our policies, Nadda stated.

"Guided by the principle of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam', we extend our support to more than 150 countries providing life saving drugs and vaccines during the pandemic. This spirit of international solidarity is the heart of India's approach to global health," he

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of WHO, who virtually joined the conference, commended India for hosting this crucial global regulatory forum and highlighted the importance of global cooperation in drug regulation, particularly in light of challenges such as antimicrobial resistance, the postpandemic world, and the safe use of AI in healthcare.

### SC directs ED to seek HC stay vacate in trial against Madhu Koda

The Supreme Court on Monday asked the Enforcement Directorate to approach the high court for vacation of stay on the trial against former Jharkhand chief minister Madhu Koda in a money laundering case.

The ED has challenged the November 8, 2023 order of the Jharkhand High Court which while admitting the plea of Koda against framing of charges under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, had

ordered for stay of further proceedings in the trial court. A bench of Justices Sanjiv Khanna and Sanjay Kumar

was told by Additional Solicitor General SV Raju, appearing for the ED, that 25 out of the 77 witnesses have been examined. The bench told Raju that he should have raised the grievances of the probe agency before the high court as the matter is still pending over

It suggested that the plea of ED before the top court will be kept pending and meanwhile the



agency can approach the high court for vacation of the stay on

Raju agreed and sought direction for expeditious disposal of their application to be filed before the high court. The bench directed for listing of ED's plea on November 25 and asked the high court to consider the application of the agency within seven days of filing. "Bring the relevant facts to the knowledge of the high court and meanwhile we are keeping your petition pending here," the bench told Raju. The special PMLA court in Ranchi had framed charges against Koda and five others under provisions of the PMLA pertaining to around Rs 3,500

Koda was charged for money laundering and aiding the generation of the proceeds of crime between February 2005 and September 2006 when he was mines minister in Jharkhand and September 2005 and August 2008 during his tenure as chief minister of the

### ters among others, he added.

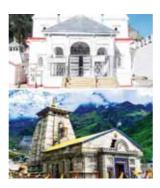
Om Birla addresses 149th IPU in Geneva

# Chardham project 75 per cent complete, Centre to SC

PTI NEW DELHI

The Centre on Monday Informed the Supreme Court that almost 75 per cent of the awarded work of the strategic Chardham Project in Uttarakhand which goes up to China border, was complete. The strategic 900-kilometre project aims to provide an allweather connectivity to the four holy shrines in Uttarakhand -- Yamunotri, Gangotri, Kedarnath, and Badrinath. Additional Solicitor General Aishwarya Bhati, appearing for the Centre, informed a bench of Justices C T Ravikumar and Ujjal Bhuyan that the apex court-appointed oversight committee has submitted two reports to the top

According to Bhati, the apex court had appointed an oversight committee, chaired by



former top court judge Justice (retired) A K Sikri.

Referring to the committee's report given in August, 2024, Bhati said, "Almost 75 per cent of the awarded work is complete." She further said there were two reports one in April, 2024 and the other of August 27 pertaining to the proposed

The bench said the committee's

reports would be taken on

In December 2021, the apex court had allowed the doublelane widening of the Chardham Highway Project while setting up the oversight committee headed by the retired judge. The top court said the committee, formed to allay environmental concerns relating to the project, will not undertake a fresh environment assessment.

The committee was also extended the complete support of the ministries of defence, road transport and environment, the Uttarakhand Government and the district magistrates concerned.

The committee was further directed to have representatives of the National Environmental Research Institute and the Forest Research Institute,

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

ok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, Lwho is leading an Indian Parliamentary Delegation to 149th Assembly of Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) in Geneva, addressed the Assembly on the theme "Harnessing science, technology and innovation for a more peaceful and sustainable future." In his address on Monday, Birla illuminated the pressing global challenges of present time, presenting India's perspective with clarity.

Emphasizing that India has always been a strong proponent of multilateralism, he noted that dialogue and cooperation amongst Parliaments in the field of science, technology and innovation was vital for common good. He expressed hope that through the forum like the IPU, Parliaments would be able to pave the way for inclusive development in the



world through shared action plans and joint efforts. He was unequivocal in stating that the collective endeavour of Parliaments across the world should be to in place to ensure fair and equitable distribution of the benefits of science, technology and innovation in the world.

He called for convergence of technological advancements, scientific research and innovative approaches so that the fruits of such advancements were shared equitably and leveraged responsibly to build

resilient and peaceful. and energy security, Birla referred to the idea of ONE SUN, ONE WORLD, ONE GRID - "OSOWOG", initiated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. In the last decade, India's renewable energy capacity has increased from 76 GW to 203 GW, he added. He also spoke about the initiatives like Green Hydrogen Mission, International Solar Alliance, Bio-Fuel Alliance underscoring India's commitment to address climate change. Mentioning the steps taken by the Parliament in this regard, he noted that the issues of climate change and Sustainable Development Goals had been discussed at length in Parliament. He also noted that utmost use of green technology had been ensured in the construction of the new building which speaks of our com-

mitment to green energy.

a future that is inclusive,

## Army Chief visits Japan to strengthen ties

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI** 

Army Chief Gen Upendra Dwivedi is on a four-day visit to Japan with an aim to bolster defence cooperation between countries. During his visit from October 14-17, the Army chief will also visit Hiroshima, wherein he will lay a wreath at the Hiroshima Peace Park and pay floral tributes to Mahatma Gandhi at his statue at the Peace Park.

The visit marks a "significant step in bolstering defence cooperation between India and Japan," the defence ministry said in a statement here.

On Monday, Gen Dwivedi will interact with Sibi George, India's Ambassador to Japan and would thereafter engage in a discussion on India-Japan relations at the Embassy of India in Tokyo.



with the senior military leadership of Japan at the defence ministry in Ichigaya on Tuesday.

During his visit, the Army chief will hold meetings with Gen Yoshida Yoshihide, Chief Ishikawa Takeshi,

of Staff, Joint Self Defence Force; Gen Morishita Yasunori, Chief of Staff, Japan Ground Self-Defence Force (JGSDF);

Commissioner of Acquisition,

The discussions will be aimed

at fostering stronger military cooperation between India and Japan. Gen Dwivedi will also pay homage at the memorial at the MoD, Ichigaya and will be given a Guard of Honour by the

The itinerary also includes an interaction with senior hierarchy of the JGSDF and a visit to the National Institute of On Wednesday, the Indian Army chief accompanied by

the Chief of Staff, Japan Ground Self Defence Force, will visit Fuji School, wherein he will engage in a conversation with Lt Gen Kodama Yasuyuki, Commanding Gen of Fuji School. Gen Dwivedi will be given a

briefing at the School and he will also witness an equipment and facility display. On the last leg of his visit, the general will visit Hiroshima on

October 17, wherein he will lav a wreath at Hiroshima Peace Park and pay floral tributes to Mahatma Gandhi at his statue at the Peace Park. The visit by Gen Dwivedi aims

at strengthening cooperation between militaries of India and Japan, besides "exploring new avenues of collaboration between the two nations, the statement said.

### India launches marine dolphin population estimation initiative

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW

 $F_{\text{population estimation of}}^{\text{ollowing the successful first}}$ riverine dolphins in the Ganga, Brahmaputra, and Indus river systems, India is now planning to conduct a similar estimation for marine dolphins.

This upcoming survey will target eco-sensitive areas to bolster conservation efforts, as marine dolphins face numerous threats. including hunting, entanglement in fishing nets, overfishing, climate change, tourism activities, toxic contamination, noise pollution, and habitat degradation among others,

according to an official. In fact, the Tamil Nadu Government announced is already implementing 'Project Dolphin' to strengthen the



health of the marine environ-

More than nine species of marine dolphins are found in the coastal waters including four types of dolphin species in the Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve in the Southern State. The famous Ganges river dolphin is found in the Ganga-Brahmaputra-Meghna river

system and its tributaries spanning across India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan.

A small population of the Indus river dolphin, a close relative of the Ganges river dolphin, is found in the Indus River system in India. "Under Project Dolphin, we

have completed the estimation of riverine dolphins, the first of its kind in the world. The survey, conducted over two years, covered 8,000 kilometres of the Ganga, Brahmaputra, and Indus rivers. The results will be released soon," an official said. The exercise, led by the Wildlife Institute of India (WII), covered two species the Ganges river dolphin and the Indus river dolphin. It will provide a baseline

population of riverine dolphins

in India for future assessments.

A WII study found that small-

er rivers in the Ganga basin are a refuge for Gangetic dolphins and contribute to habitat diversity. It identified 620 kilometers of smaller rivers as a conservation priority. The presence of dolphins indi-

cates a healthy river system because they require clean, flowing water to survive. Their population helps scientists assess the overall health of a river. Some of the threats to Gangetic dolphins include unintentional killing in fishing gear, poaching for dolphin oil, habitat

destruction due to development projects, pollution, and overexploitation of prey. India launched Project Dolphin, a conservation initiative to protect dolphins in both freshwater rivers and coastal

waters, in 2020.

# BJP to contest nine seats in UP by-elections, efforts underway to placate Nishad Party

fter deciding to field can-Adidates in nine of the ten upcoming by-elections in Uttar Pradesh, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is now working to resolve tensions with its ally, the Nishad Party, which had staked a claim to two seats.

The BJP has allocated one seat to the Rashtriya Lok Dal (RLD), but the Nishad Party remains unsatisfied with the BJP's current proposal, leading to internal friction within the ruling alliance

In an effort to resolve the issue, BJP state president Bhupendra Chaudhary, along with Deputy Chief Ministers Keshav Prasad Maurya and Brajesh Pathak, have been tasked with negotiating with Nishad Party President Sanjay Nishad. The dispute revolves around the Katehari and Majhawan constituencies, which Sanjay

cated to his party, as they were in the 2022 assembly elections. Union Home Minister Amit Shah has directed the three BJP leaders to engage in discussions with Sanjay Nishad in hopes of reaching a compromise. However, sources suggest that the BJP is inclined to offer only one seat to the Nishad Party, and that too with the condition that the candidate would conthat the candidate would contest under the BJP symbol. This proposal has reportedly not been well-received by Sanjay Nishad, who has yet to agree to the offer.

The BJP finalized its strategy for the by-elections in a high-level meeting held in Delhi on Sunday. The party has decided to contest nine of the ten assembly seats, with the Meerapur seat being reserved for its ally, the RLD. Meerapur, historically an RLD stronghold, has been given back to the party for the by-elections, further compli-



cating the situation with the Nishad Party. An official announcement of BJP's candidates is expected

soon, and the dates for the byelections are likely to be declared within a few days. Sources indicate that the central leadership, after thorough dis-Committee, finalized the list of

remains firm in his demand for both the Katehari and Majhawan seats. He has underscored the importance of 'Alliance Dharma" (alliance principles), questioning why the Nishad Party's claims have not been honored, especially since these constituencies were allocated to his party in the 2022 elections. Nishad drew a

Sanjay Nishad, however,

2022 elections. Nishad drew a parallel to the Meerapur seat being reserved for the RLD, emphasizing that similar consideration should be extended to his party. "Alliance Dharma should be followed," Nishad remarked. He argued that just as Meerapur was allocated to the RLD due to their past victory. The Katehari and tory, the Katehari and Majhawan seats should likewise be given to the Nishad Party, maintaining consistency with previous arrangements.

Upcoming by-elections and political implications

The upcoming by-elections will be held in the constituencies of Karhal, Milkipur, Katehari, Kundarki, Ghaziabad, Khair, Meerapur, Phulpur, Majhawan, and Sisamau. Out of these ten seats, five are currently held by the Samajwadi Party (SP), while the RLD and Nishad Party each hold one seat. The remaining three seats are under the control of the BJP. For the BJP, these by-elections

are seen as a significant opportunity to consolidate its position in the state ahead of the general state is 2000 April 1 al elections in 2024. At the same time, it faces challenges in maintaining its alliance dynamics, particularly with the Nishad

Meanwhile, the Samajwadi Party, led by Akhilesh Yadav, has forged an alliance with the Congress for the by-elections. The SP plans to field candidates in six seats, with speculation suggesting that it may allocate two seats to Congress as part of

viewed as a critical counterbalance to the BJP-led coalition. The Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) has also finalized its list of candidates for most constituencies, adding another layer of complexity to the political landscape. With multiple parties vying for control of key constituencies, the by-elections are shaping up to be a litmus test for the broader political land-scape in Uttar Pradesh.

The by-elections are being closely watched as they are expected to set the tone for upcoming political battles in the state. For the BJP, the challenge lies not only in securing the maximum number of seats but also in managing alliance partners like the Nishad Party. For the SP-Congress alliance, the by-elections represent an opportunity to regain lost ground and present a united front against the ruling coali-

## J and K BJP to elect LoP soon

**MOHIT KANDHARI JAMMU** 

After failing to realize its dream of anointing a Dogra Chief Minister in Jammu and Kashmir, the Bharatiya Janta Party has launched a preliminary exercise to zero in on the name of the leader of the opposition who can live up to the expectations of the masses in the region and can also give tough time to the ruling benches. As of now, several names are doing the rounds but the final selection is awaited.

The BJP Parliamentary Board has appointed Union Minister, Prahlad Joshi and BJP national general secretary, Incharge J and K and Ladakh UTs, Tarun Chugh as Central Observers for Jammu and Kashmir to monitor the appointment of the Leader of the Legislature Party.

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which swept the polls in the Jammu plains winning 29 seats, is second in terms of seats won as well as the number of first-time MLAs. The saffron party has 15 firstवगर्यसमिति ह

time MLAs, accounting for more than half of its tally. J&K unit BJP chief Ravinder Raina felicitated the newlyelected party MLAs here on Monday and said the leader of the opposition will soon be selected after holding meetings with party leaders under the command of central observers.

Leader of Opposition is that of State General Secretary Sunil Kumar Sharma, who won from Padar Nagseni. He has become MLA for the

second consecutive time. He was also a minister in the previous government after winning the Kishtwar seat. He enjoys the confidence of

the Union Home Minister Amit Shah and worked close-

ly with him during the month-long campaigning in the region.

Another name, Devendra Singh Rana, is also being considered as the leader of the opposition. Rana has become MLA from Nagrota for the second time.

He is the younger brother of Union Minister and MP from Udhampur, Dr. Jitendra

Singh. He joined the BJP in October 2021. While remaining in the National Conference, he served as Chief Minister Omar Abdullah's political advisor. He is very articulate and can give the ruling benches a tough time with support from the saffron party brigade. The name of Dr. Devendra Kumar Maniyal, who won from Ramgarh (SC) seat, is also being discussed for the post of the opposition leader.

post of the opposition leader. He won the 2014 assembly elections from Samba (SC) and was the Health Minister. Dr. Maniyal is currently holding the post of State General Secretary in the party.

The party leadership is also discussing the name of Dr. Narendra Singh, the national secretary of BJP, for the post of the leader of the opposi-

Narinder Singh became MLA for the first time in 2024 from RS Pura-Jammu South Assembly seat. He is also the face of PoK displaced people. He also has political experience at the national level.

### Baba Siddique murder accused facing nine criminal cases: Cops

The Punjab Police on Monday said Mohammad Yasin Akhtar, one of the suspects in the killing of NCP leader and former Maharashtra minister Baba Siddique in Mumbai, is facing nine heinous criminal cases, including for murder and attempt to murder. Akhtar (21) is a resident of Shankar village in Jalandhar's district, police said.

A police official in Jalandhar said nine cases are registered against Akhtar alias Jessi alias Sikandar at different police

He is facing serious charges, such as murder, attempt to murder and dacoity, Nakodar Deputy Superintendent of Police Sukhpal Singh said. He added that Akhtar is facing two criminal cases in Haryana's Kaithal as well. Akhtar was arrested in a criminal case in June 2022. He had not visited his village after he

came out of jail in June 2024, police said. Akhtar is suspected to have links with gangster Vikram Brar. His father Mohammad Jamil

Akhtar, who was engaged in the work of laying marble and tiles, and brother were not found in the village and their house was found locked. Akhtar's mother and sister have passed away.

Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) leader Baba Siddique

(66) was waylaid by three persons at Kher Nagar in Mumbai's Bandra area, just outside his MLA son Zeeshan Siddique's office, and shot at on Saturday night. The Mumbai Police has

arrested two of the alleged assailants -- Haryana resident Gurmail Baljit Singh and Uttar Pradesh native Dharmaraj Rajesh Kashyap -while the third one is on the

### Maha Yuti Government waives | Doctors' meet with Government fails as fast-unto-death enters 10th day toll tax on light vehicles at five Mumbai entry points

T N RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI

 $I^{\rm n}$  a major sop doled out to people living in the Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR) ahead of the Maharashtra Assembly polls, the BJP-led MahaYuti government on Monday announced complete waiver of toll tax for light motor vehicles (LMVs) at all the five Mumbai Entry Points (MEPs) with effect from Tuesday.

The decision to waive the toll tax completely at the Dahisar, Mulund, Thane, Airoli and Vashi MEPs, was taken on Monday at a special State Cabinet meeting presided over by chief minister Eknath Shinde and attended by deputy chief Ministers Devendra Fadnavis and Ajit Pawar and other ministers.

Announcing his government's decision to waive the toll tax on LMVs, chief minister Eknath Shinde said: "Our government's decision is historic and peoplefriendly. This move will save commuters' time, and reduce pollution and traffic".

Given that people living in MMR - who drive down to the country's commercial capital every day for their work -- have long been demanding the total waiver of toll tax, the decision has become a big relief to people using lighter vehicles like cars, jeeps, vans, and small

Currently, the toll tax levied on motorists by the Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation (MSRDC) is Rs

45.per single trip.
The ruling BJP, Shiv Sena and NCP celebrated the state government's decision to waive toll tax for LMVs by distributing

sweets among the people. In a related development, RTI activist Pravin Wategaonkar who has long been crusading for discontinuation of the levy toll tax at five entry points of Mumbai and Bombay-{une Expressway – welcomed the decision and said: "The decision has become as a big relief to the



vehicle users at five entry points of Mumbai. Inordinate delays at toll booths and poor condition of roads even after paying toll were some of the important grievances of these regular users. There would not be any financial burden on the vehicle users".

"Given that all vehicle owners have paid one time Motor Vehicle Tax, there is no declaration of Total capital Outlay prior to issuance of toll notification and given the location of toll booths, the toll collection at five entry points was mala fide, arbitrary, capricious, illegal and violative of article 14 read with article 19(1)d of the Constitution of India especially as regards vehicle owners in thane; and ultra vires of Sec. 20 of Maharashtra Motor Vehicles Tax Act and articles 265 of the Constitution of India," Wategaonkar said.

Welcoming the decision, MNS chief Raj Thackeray said: "We demanded that all roads should be toll-free. We were criticized for vandalizing the toll plazas, but extreme steps were necessary to draw the government's attention. At least, now the Mumbaikars shall be free of paying tolls and we are happy that our agitations were suc-

Terming the decision as "politically motivated", State Congress spokesperson Sachin Sawant said: "The ruling MahaYuti is aware of the public angst and fears losing power. So it is taking such 'feel-good' decisions. But why can't it be extended even for HMVs? Why continue paying the contractors?"



Acrucial high-level meeting between the Bengal State administration led by and a delegation different organizations, including Indian Medical Association (IMA) failed to produce desired results "for want of any concrete initiative from the government's side," the representatives of the doctors associations said.

The meeting was hosted to end the present gridlock emerging out of the indefinite fast resorted to by a group of junior doctors demanding justice for the Kolkata doctor rape and murder victim and resolution of many other issues including the alleged "mafia and syndicate raj" in medical institutions.

"We came out hopeless as there was no positive intent shown by the Government,' said the İMA representatives

they are taking steps towards resolving issues ... but there was no concrete proposal ... there was no show of intent ... nothing in writing was given doing ... we are looking into it' ... the Health Secretary whose resignation the junior doctors have been asking for and who should have been present in the meeting was not present and we were told that he is absent ... this is the most insensitive Government that we have ever seen," the doctors emerging out of the meeting said.

The meeting was held in the backdrop of the junior doctors' indefinite fast entering its tenth day on Monday with four doctors already having been shifted to hospital with their parameters falling drastically, sources said.

"What illegality is there in the doctors' demands ... they are asking for justice for their lady colleague who was raped



and murdered on August 9 inside the RG Kar Medical College and Hospital ... They are asking for a foolproof system including centralized real system with real time monitoring, enhanced security network, end of mafia and syndicate raj, timely students' union elections so as to keep the corrupt authorities in check ... these can all be done The doctors are The IMA reportedly gave in

writing to the Government about the existence of a "mafia

and syndicate raj inside the government hospitals including the medical colleges --- of which the RG Kar incident was an upshot.'

The senior doctors during their meeting with the Government representatives demanded immediate removal of the present Chairman of the Patients' Welfare Committee Dr Sudipto Roy who is also a Trinamool Congress MLA, besides they asked for the "dissolution of the State Medical Council which is the breeding ground of medical mafias" generating hundreds of crores, sources said.

the "publication of a proforwherein a mass resignation could be made legally tenable," the IMA representatives said adding, the State Government had earlier said that it was not taking the matter of mass resignation of the doctors seriously as there was no procedure for such mass resignations as "resignations are individual affairs."

Referring to the meeting the Chief Secretary however said that the Government would deliberate over things at appropriate level. "In the meeting we told the doctors that we have noted their issues and concerns and would intimate them at appropriate time .. we also told them that the main concern is the deteriorating health of the junior doctors ...

we requested them to see to it that the fast should end immediately because the Government is concerned The doctors also demanded about the doctors," the Chief Secretary said.

junior doctors backed by members of civil society on Monday marched to Raj Bhavan to see Governor C.V. Ananda Bose so as to draw his attention towards the alleged "inadequacy of the charge sheet submitted by the Central Bureau Investigation" in the RGKM-CH case.

"We have seen that only one person has been named in the charge sheet whereas several other persons have been arrested on charges of tampering of evidence ... we want to know why their names were left out from the charge sheet," doctors asked. An eleven-member delegation was deliberating with the Governor when reports last

### Uddhav undergoes angioplasty proocedure at Lilavati hospital

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

ess than a week after he was diagnosed with three blockages in his coronary arteries, Shiv Sena's executive president Uddhav Thackeray underwent an angioplasty at the Lilavati Hospital here on

Four days after they conducted an angiography on him, a team of cardiologists, led by Dr Samuel Mathew, carried out an angioplasty on Uddhav and removed three major blockages in his arteries. The medical procedure lasted for nearly two hours.

The procedure was successful. He is doing well. His heart is functioning normally. We will be discharging him on Sunday," Dr Mathew told media persons. Replying to a question, Dr

Mathew said: "He is fully con-

scious. Immediately after the

procedure, he spoke to

Balasaheb (on phone)". Apart from Uddhav's wife Rashmi and son Aditya, his

estranged cousin and Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) chief Raj Thackeray, wife Sharmila and mother Kunda were also present at the hospital when the Sena leader underwent angioplasty.

Raj's presence at the hospital should be seen in the light of the fact that despite his strained relations with his cousin for six and a half years, he had suspended his visit to Aligbau midway and rushed

to Lilavati Hospital on the afternoon of July 16, on hearing that Uddhav was undergoing angiography that after-Later that evening, Raj had

sprung another surprise by driving Uddhav back to his Bandra residence, after the latter was discharged from the hospital. Raj's touching gesture had unleashed speculation about the possibility of reconciliation between the two estranged Thackeray cousins. The angiography had revealed that Uddhav had three major blockages in his coronary arteries. Though the doctors had advised Uddhav to undergo by-pass surgery, the Sena leader opted for angioplasty as an alternative to remove the artery blockages. Apart from making anxious enquiries about his cousin's health since then, Raj visited "Matoshri" on Thursday night and met Uddhav, ahead of his

### Implemented robust action plan this festive season: Railways

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ PATNA/ NEW DELHI/KOLKATA

The Northern Railway Zone **⊥** on Monday said it has implemented a robust action plan this festive season to provide passengers with a comfortable journey and accommodate the surge in demand with 2,950 special trains.

The zone said it has achieved about 172 per cent jump in the number of festival-special trains running from October 1 to 30, compared to last year. Speaking about the arrangements, Himanshu Shekhar Upadhyay, Chief Public Relations Officer, Northern Railway, said, "Out of 2,950 trains, around 83 per cent festival specials will cater to the passengers of east-bound states such as Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, and Assam, among others.

'The towns or cities such as Barauni, Samastipur, Saharsa, Varanasi, Ayodhya,

Gorakhpur, Darbhanga, Jogbani, Patna, Kolkata, Guwahati, Howrah, Muzaffarpur, Katihar, Tatanagar, and Lucknow are some of the popular destinations of these special trains originating from the National Capital Region," Upadhyay

The officer also mentioned various steps to enhance passenger safety and facilities such as strict measures to prevent unauthorised entry into reserved coaches, curbs on carrying inflammable materials, and steps to check smoking and littering in trains and on the station premises.

The Northern Railway, in a statement, said, "It may be noted that Northern Railway in association with other zonal railways is operating more than 2,950 Festival special trains during the festival season from 01.10.2024 to 30.11.2024.

"Last year in the correspond-

ing period a total number of 1,082 specials were arranged by Northern Railway, hence this year, there will be an increase of approximately 172 per cent in comparison to last year," it added in the release issued

According to Upadhyay, the Northern Railway would also run unreserved special trains to clear the extra rush in case of need on a real-time basis. "A total of 52 extra coaches are being added to various trains, making 2,740 trips and accommodating over 2.06 lakh passengers during the festive period," the railway press release said.

According to Upadhyay, other amenities taken by Northern Railway amid the festive rush include increased deployment of ticket checking staff and RPF personnel to manage crowds on foot-over bridges, entry and exit points, platforms, booking offices, and

# RBI calls for cheaper, faster remittances

PTI NEW DELHI

Reserve Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das on Monday made a case for reducing time and cost of overseas remittances, which are important for developing economies including India. According to the World Migration Report 2024 released by the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), India's remittances surged to USD 111 billion last year, surpassing all other nations.

As per the Bank of England projection, the value of global cross-border payments is estimated to surpass USD 250 trillion by

The significant volume of crossborder remittances, the growing size of gross flows of capital, and the increasing importance of cross-border ecommerce have acted as catalysts to this

growth, he noted.
"Remittances are the starting point for many emerging and developing economies, including India, to explore cross-border peerto-peer (P2P) payments. We believe there is immense scope to significantly reduce the cost and time for such

remittances," Das said in his keynote address at the conference on 'Central conference on 'Cer Banking at Crossroads'. Besides, he said, the feasibility of expanding real-



time gross settlement (RTGS) to settle transactions settlement in major trade currencies such as dollar, Euro and Pound can be explored bilateral multilateral arrangements. India and a few other economies have already commenced efforts to linkage expand crossborder fast payment systems both in the bilateral

and multilateral modes, he These include Project Nexus, a multilateral international initiative to enable instant month later, the pilot of the crossborder retail payments retail CBDC kicked off. crossborder retail payments by interlinking domestic Instant Payment Systems (IPSs) of four ASEAN countries (Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, and (Malaysia,

bilateral Under arrangements, cross-border

payment linkages have already been established by India with Singapore, UAE, Mauritius, Sri Lanka, Nepal,

The Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) is another area which has the potential to facilitate efficient crossborder payments, he added. On November 1, 2022, the RBI started the wholesale pilot of CBDC for settlement in government bonds. A

Talking about the risk of digitisation, the RBI digitisation, the RBI Governor said, in the Going forward, he said, modern world with deep harmonisation of standards social media presence and and interoperability would be important for CBDCs for cross-border payments and vast access to online banking money

financial stability concerns

"A key challenge could be

the fact that countries may

prefer to design their own

systems as per their domestic

considerations. I feel we can overcome this challenge by

developing a plug-and-play

that

replicability of India's experience while also

maintaining the sovereignty

of respective countries," he

associated

system

cryptocurrencies.

rumours misinformation can spread very quickly and can cause liquidity stress.

Banks have to remain alert in the social media space and also strengthen their liquidity buffers, he said. The RBI Governor also raised concerns over misuse of Artificial Intelligence in the banking space saying it could lead to more cyber attacks and data breaches.

institutions must put in place adequate risk mitigation measures against all these risks. In the ultimate analysis, banks have to ride on the advantages of AI and Bigtech and not allow the latter to ride on them, he said.

"Banks and other financial

Observing that the global economy is more financially integrated than ever before, Das said, the divergence in global monetary policies monetary easing in some economies, tightening in a few, and pause in several other economies can be expected to lead to volatility in capital flows and exchange rates, which may disrupt financial stability.

Private credit markets have expanded rapidly with limited regulation, he said, adding, they pose significant risks to financial stability, particularly since they have not been stress-tested in a

### Blockchain leaders discuss future opportunities

PTI DUBAI

 $P_{\mathrm{global}}^{\mathrm{articipants}}$  from across the cryptocurrency community gathered at the Future Blockchain Summit 2024 to explore the latest advancements opportunities within the blockchain ecosystem.

The event features a series of sessions under the theme 'Investments in Blockchain & Gaming.

Marwan AlZarouni, CEO of AI, Dubai Department of Economy & Tourism led a session, highlighting Dubai's leadership in AI and blockchain innovation, as well as its approach to AI. "Here, you can engage with us and our regulators to bring your projects to life. If it can't be done anywhere else in the world, it can be done here," he said.

Ahmed Bin Sulayem, Executive Chairman & CEO, Dubai Multi Commodities Centre (DMCC), talked about the potential impact of AI, crypto and gaming in the future of trade.

"I think from 2026 you won't recognise your life. It will continue to change. Security will be the deciding factor of how far we go, but automated systems, AI and blockchain would be very

embraced," he said. The accelerated institutional

He said that 40 per cent of the small and midcap scrips have shot up by 5 times in the last

five years, because of an

imbalance between inflow of

investor money and supply of

On its part, the capital markets regulator is trying

hard to ensure that fund-

new paper.



adoption of blockchain technology was a key focus area. John Fan, Venture Partner, Inception Capital, USA, Marcel Kasumovich, Deputy Chief Investment Officer, Coinbase Asset Management, Oliver von Wolff, Founder & CEO, Helion Edge, UAE and According to Mansoor

Madhavji, Partner, Blockchain Founders Fund, UAE, "the UAE is rapidly becoming a global hub for blockchain innovation, with key industry players and potential founders converging here, especially during major conferences.

Williams, Mike Officer, Communication Officer, Toobit shed light on the investment opportunities in blockchain technology. Projects are increasingly blockchain using fractionalise traditionally illiquid assets such as real estate and commodities, making them accessible to a broader audience, he said. "Today, crypto is not just an asset class, it is a growing

community. Geographically, regions like Southeast Asia, Middle East and Africa becoming key players in driving innovation and creating new cry markets," Williams said. Meanwhile, Blowfish Studios, a fully-owned subsidiary of Animoca Brands, showcased their AAA open-world space adventure with integrated blockchain technology as well as a new cooperative game mode where players can team up to complete objectives online, offering attendees a hands-on experience of the future of

blockchain gaming.

### Consumer Affairs Minister criticises air purifier false claims

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

onsumer Affairs Minister Consumer Thinks

Pralhad Joshi on Monday criticised air criticised air purifier manufacturers for making false claims about their products, and called for increased consumer awareness ahead of winter when air pollution worsens in Delhi due to crop stubble burning in neighbouring

Addressing commemorating Standards concern over expressed misleading marketing tactics adopted by some air purifier companies.

"Discussion on air pollution has begun. Looking at Air Quality Index (AQI) on mobiles, people out of fear, go and buy air purifiers. Air claims. ...We see air purifiers and so much is written but nothing is there in it. There is just a fan in it, yet claims are still made," the minister stated.

called for collaborative approach involving the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), the consumer affairs ministry and consumers to address the

While praising the BIS for their "exceptionally wonderful job" in recent years, the minister emphasized that more needs to be done.
"I do not blame BIS for this.

BIS in the last few years has done an exceptionally wonderful job. But both BIS and the consumer affairs ministry and consumers together need to create



and I strongly feel (this the minister said ng the collective responsibility in combating misleading product claims.

emphasized government's commitment to ensuring every Indian has access to safe, reliable, and high-quality products These comments come as

concerns grow about air quality in major Indian cities and expansion of the air purifier market.

Joshi also announced plans to make BIS standards mandatory for public procurement on Government e-Marketplace (GeM) portal. "BIS standards are partially implemented on GeM. We'll try to make it mandatory."

The minister highlighted the government's focus on quality standards, noting that proposals now include global standard

"These days, the tradition has started in the Union Cabinet. Wherever a bill to be introduced in Parliament comes before the Cabinet,

awareness. It is important, the global standard note comes with it. That has been made mandatory for the Cabinet," he said. This note mentions which

> countries perform best in the particular field, rules and how India can achieve it. "So, we have to match every Cabinet note with the global standards. This helps our government decisions to set standards whether it is quality infrastructure or urban metro trains.'

> Implementation of standards at national level has been given a top priority by the government and is actively bringing more products under mandatory quality controls, he said.

> He said that over 22,300 standards are currently in force, with 94 per cent harmonized international standards. The number of Quality Control Orders has risen from 14 (covering 106 products) in 2014 to 174 (covering 732 products) now.

Also, 94 per cent of Indian Standards are harmonised with with international

### Indian markets outperform China in last five years, says SEBI

Awareness Week at NSE,

Narayan said FY24 was a

"That's like 'sone pe suhaga'. It's like the best of all worlds:

low risk and very high return," Narayan said, underlining that there are side

Making it clear that it will not

be the same going forward and investors should not assume it to be a one-way

street, Narayan said such

handsome returns can lead to

complacency and pointed to a

lot of youngsters opening up

demat accounts to join the

bandwagon.

effects of this as well.



**PTI** ■ MUMBAI

Sebi Whole-time Member "remarkable" year for India, with the benchmark indices Monday reminded investors returning 28 per cent and the consistently delivered 15 per cent returns over the last 5 years whereas the same has been zero or even negative in China.

Terming the Indian markets "sone pe suhaga" for delivering higher returns for lower risks, Narayan also flagged a few areas of caution for investors and asked them to be conscious of the risks. "There's a lot of talk about China markets over the last few days. But over the last five years, while Indian markets have given around 15 per cent compound annual growth rate consistently, Chinese markets are nowhere close to that. It's almost zero. In fact, in some cases, like in Hong Kong, it's actually negative," Narayan said. Speaking at an event marking

the start of the Investor

Windergy India 2024

set to propel wind

energy growth

raising clearances are done early so that there is a steady stream of quality paper supply in the market. From a broader, longer-term

perspective, Indian markets will only go north from here given the economic growth prospects in the country, Narayan said, issuing specific advice to investors. Investors need to have the

right intermediaries to capitalise on this opportunity presented by India, and not fall for the unregistered and flv-hv-night who might be driven by vested interests, he said.

Using the oft-repeated idiom of "all roads lead to Rome", Narayan remarked that Rome is not a traveller-friendly place and one may get scammed there as well. Therefore, it is important to seek advice from the right people for the investors, he

He also said that it is in investors' interests to trade less and stay invested for longer for higher returns, and added that studies prove the

Educating people about risks is very important, Narayan Sebi, which has flagged said, giving the analogy of driving a car. "There has to be certain areas like derivatives a light push on the accelerator recently, is not against to get more investors to speculation or participants provide risk capital for the taking short-term trades, but economic growth, we also need to be aware of risks and it would want investors to understand the risks, Narayan



### WPI inflation rises to 1.84 per cent in September

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

wholesale I inflation rose to 1.84 per cent in September as food items, especially vegetables, turned costlier, as per the government data released on Monday.

The wholesale price index (WPI)-based inflation was 1.31 per cent in August. It was (-)0.07 per cent in September last year.

Inflation in food items shot up to 11.53 per cent last month against 3.11 per cent in August. This was led by 48.73 per cent inflation in vegetables as against (-)10.01 per cent in August.

Fuel and power category witnessed deflation of 4.05 per cent in September against a deflation of 0.67 per cent in August.

"Positive rate of inflation in September 2024 is primarily due to increase in prices of food articles, food products, manufacturing, other manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers & semitrailers, manufacture of machinery & equipment, etc," the commerce and industry ministry said in a statement. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI), which mainly takes into account retail inflation

Inflation in potato and onion continued to be high at 78.13 per cent and 78.82 per cent, respectively in September.

while framing monetary policy, kept benchmark interest rate or repo rate unchanged at 6.5 per cent in its monetary policy review earlier this month.

### Mobius Foundation calls for Green Curriculums

PNS NEW DELHI

The 6th International Conference on Education Sustainability (ICSE), organized by the Mobius Foundation in collaboration with key global organizations, concluded in New Delhi, sending a strong message on the urgency of incorporating sustainability into educational frameworks. The two-day event, which centered around the theme "Greening Education for a Sustainable Future,

"brought together over 500 educators, policymakers, environmentalists, and educators, thought leaders from more than 20 countries.

The conference underscored the need for an education that actively promotes eco-conscious living and sustainable lifestyles. Discussions

highlighted the critical role of the National Education Policy 2020 and the National Curriculum Framework furthering sustainable education efforts.

The recognition of these policies as instrumental in embedding environmental consciousness curriculums was one of the event's key takeaways.

This year's ICSE focused on the emerging importance of "green education" and "green essential components in driving sustainability initiatives in India and beyond.

By advocating for the integration of these elements into educational systems. The conference aimed to foster a collective movement towards a more sustainable

The sixth edition of Windergy India, a key international trade fair and conference for the wind energy sector. It will be held from October

PNS NEW DELHI

23-25, 2024, at the Chennai Trade Centre, Tamil Nadu. The event will host over 300 exhibitors from 25 countries, showcasing cutting-edge innovations and driving discussions on India's renewable energy future.

The conference, themed "Wind: Powering India's Energy Transition," industry leaders, feature policymakers, innovators addressing key topics such as: frameworks, policy

technology trends, investment strategies. India, a global leader in wind energy, ranks fourth in installations and aims to achieve 140 GW of wind

power capacity by 2030.
The Union Cabinet recently approved 1 GW of offshore wind projects in Gujarat and Tamil Nadu, with an investment of Rs 7,453 crore, highlighting the nation's commitment to its Net Zero 2070 goals.

Hosted by the Indian Wind Turbine Manufacturers Association (IWTMA) and PDA Ventures Pvt Ltd. Windergy India 2024 is supported by the Ministry of Power, Ministry of New and

Renewable Energy, and Niti

**PTI** ■ BENGALURU

use the brakes if need be.

Bengaluru Airport City (BACL), a subsidiary of Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL), broke ground for its ambitious two million sq. Ft. Business Park, aimed at promoting the city as a global hub for Global Capability Centres (GCCs).

This comes as part of the Karnataka Government's new GCC policy (2024-2029), which aims to create 3.5 lakh jobs and contribute USD 50 billion to the economy, a BIAL statement said on Monday.

Kionday.

Located within the larger
Kempegowda International
Airport's (BLR Airport)
campus, Bengaluru Airport
City is being developed as a
mixed-use destination destination, mixed-use featuring business parks, an education & health district, R&D hubs, and multiple entertainment and hospitality options, it said.



The Business Park will be built over 17.7 acres. Executive Director & CEO of

BACL, Rao Munukutla, said: 'The city has cemented its status as India's premier hub for Global Capability Centres (GCCs), with 36 per cent of India's GCC workforce workforce driving growth across IT, biotechnology, automotive,

and aerospace. The upcoming Airport West metro station, located within

walking distance from the Business Park, will enhance connectivity to Bengaluru's city centre, providing faster and eco-friendly travel for employees and visitors, it was noted. As a future entertainment

and hospitality hub, plans include India's first 'Concert Arena' within an airport ecosystem and a Convention & Exhibition Centre, it

#### SW Energy BACL breaks ground on major Bengaluru Business Park arm, NTPC sign agreement

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

JSW Renew Energy Thirteen Ltd, a step-down subsidiary of JSW Energy, has signed a 25power purchase agreement with state-owned NTPC. The tariff for the 700 MW

solar project is Rs 2.59/kilowatt hour, JSW Energy said in an exchange filing."JSW Renew Energy Thirteen has signed a power purchase agreement (PPA) with NTPC for ISTS/STU-connected solar capacity of 700 MW," the company said. The project is expected to be The project is expected to be commissioned by June 2026.

The current solar pipeline capacity stands at 3.2 GW, with PPAs signed for 2.0 GW.

### UK sanctions on Iranian military leaders, space agency over Israel attack

The UK on Monday announced a new round of sanctions targeting senior Iranian military figures and organisations for their alleged role in attempting to destabilise West Asia.

The Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) said that the latest package comes in response to Iran's attack against Israel on October 1 and targets senior figures who facilitate such behaviour in the Islamic Republic of Iran Army, Iran's Air Force and the IRGC Intelligence Organisation.

The sanctions will also designate Farzanegan Propulsion Systems Design Bureau (FPSDB), which designs and manufactures parts that can be used in cruise missiles, as well

as the Iranian Space Agency, which develops technologies that have applications in ballistic missile development.

"Despite repeated warnings, the dangerous actions of Iran and its proxies are driving further escalation in the Middle East," said Foreign Secretary David Lammy

"Following its ballistic missile attack on Israel, we are holding Iran to account and exposing those who facilitated these acts. Alongside allies and partners, we will continue to take necessary measures to challenge Iran's unacceptable threats and press for de-escalation across the region," he

Lammy also discussed Iran's actions with partners at the European Union (EU) Foreign Affairs Council, where he pushed for de-escalation across

the region during talks on Monday.

The individuals sanctioned and subject to a travel ban and asset freeze include: Abdolrahim Mousavi, Commander-in Chief of the Islamic Republic of Iran Army and a member of Iran's Supreme National Security Council; Mohammad-Hossein Dadras: Deputy Commanderin Chief of the Islamic Republic of Iran Army; Hamid Vahedi: Commander of the Islamic Republic of Iran Air Force; Mohammad Kazemi: Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) Intelligence Chief; Habibollah Sayyari: Head of the Joint Staff of the Iranian Army and Deputy Chief for Coordination of the Iranian Army; Ali-Mohammad Naini: IRGC Spokesperson; and Houssein Pourfarzaneh: Chief Engineer of Farzanegan

Propulsion Systems Design Bureau (FPSDB).

The FCDO said the UK already has over 400 sanctions imposed on Iran, including designa-tions against the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) in its entirety and many of those responsible for the recent attack on Israel.

Monday's announcement fol lows warnings from the UK and international partners calling on Iran to cease its dangerous and escalatory activity across the Middle East. It also follows the G7 joint statement condemning Iran's missile attack on Israel and outlined the necessary steps being taken in response.

The FCDO added: "The UK will continue to work with international partners to hold Iran to account for its escalatory behaviour in the Middle East and its attempts to undermine global security.
"The UK is clear that a wider

regional conflict must be avoided at all costs and is committed to working with partners to secure a ceasefire on all sides."

uman rights and civil soci-Hety groups voiced concerns Monday after Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk announced a plan to temporarily suspend the right to asylum because of its alleged abuse by eastern neighbours Belarus and

Poland has struggled since 2021 with migration pressures on its border with Belarus — which is also part of the European Union's external border.

Successive Polish governments have accused Belarus and Russia of organising the mass transfer of migrants from the Middle East and Africa to the border to destabilise the West. They view it as part of a hybrid war that they accuse Moscow of waging against the West as it continues its nearly three-year full-scale invasion of Ukraine. Some migrants have applied for asylum in Poland, but before the requests are processed, they travel across the EU's borderfree travel zone to reach Germany or other countries in

Western Europe. Germany, where security fears are rising after a spate of extremist attacks, has recently responded by expanding border controls at all of its borders to fight irregular migration. Tusk called Germany's move "unaccept

asylum law triggers concern

Polish govt's decision to suspend

Tusk announced his plan to temporarily suspend the right for migrants to seek asylum at a convention of his Civic Coalition on Saturday. It will be part of a strategy that will be presented to a Cabinet meeting on Tuesday.

In an an open letter to Tusk published on Monday, dozens of non-governmental organisations urged him to respect the right to asylum guaranteed by international conventions which Poland signed, including the Geneva Convention on the Status of Refugees and the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, and Poland's own constitution. The groups said that funda-

mental rights and freedoms must be respected. "It is thanks to them that thoumen found shelter abroad in the difficult times of communist totalitarianism, and we have become one of the greatest beneficiaries of these rights," the letter said. "We live in difficult and uncertain times of war conflicts breaking out all over the world, and we ourselves exist on the outskirts of war, but this doesn't exempt us from human-

It was signed by Amnesty International and 45 other organisations that represent a range of humanitarian, legal and civic causes.

ity and from observing the

Tusk defended his decision to temporarily suspend asylum rights. He argued that Finland also suspended accepting asylum applications after facing migration pressure on its border with Russia.

"The right to asylum is used instrumentally in this war and has nothing to do with human rights. Border control and the territorial security of Poland is and will be our priority. Our decisions and actions will be

absolutely subordinate to this," Tusk said on X on Sunday.

A spokesperson for the European Commission, the EU's executive branch, acknowledged the challenge posed by Belarus, but also Russia, and didn't explicitly criticise Tusk's approach.

"It is important and imperative that the union is protecting the external borders, and in particular from Russia and Belarus, both countries that have put in the past three years, a lot of pressure on the external borders," European Commission spokesperson Anitta Hipper said during a briefing Monday.

"This is something that is undermining the security of the EU member states and of the union as a whole." But she also underlined that EU

member countries are legally obliged to allow people to apply for international protection. Hipper noted that the European Commission intends to "work on ensuring that the member states have the necessary tools to respond to these types of hybrid attacks".

## Russia captures southern Ukraine village in push before winters

Russia said Monday it has Captured the village of Levadne in southern Ukraine as it probes for weaknesses along the war's roughly 1,000kilometre front line, including in eastern areas which currently are the main focus of Moscow's military effort before winter arrives.

Ukrainian authorities, meanwhile, reported no nighttime Shahed drone attacks on the country for the first time in about six weeks, after saying five days ago it struck a Shahed storage facility in Russia's Krasnodar region where some 400 drones reportedly were being kept.

In Moscow, the Defence Ministry said Russian troops Levadne in the Zaporizhzhia region. Levadne was seized by the Russians prospective peace deal, a depots.

early during the war but was recaptured by Ukrainian forces during a counteroffensive in the summer of 2023.

Ukraine's troops are straining to hold back Russia's military might, especially in the eastern Donetsk region, and don't have the manpower or weaponry to launch their own offensive. Though Russia's gains have been incremental, its steady forward movement is slowly adding up as the Ukrainians are pushed backward. Ukraine says it needs more

Western help to have a chance of holding back Russia's invasion. Russia illegally annexed four regions of Ukraine, including Zaporizhzhia, in September 2022. Russian President Vladimir Putin has demanded the withdrawal of Ukrainian forces from all four regions as

demand Ukraine and the West have rejected.

The Ukrainian General Staff last week reported a direct hit on the Shahed drone ware-

house inside Russia 'The destruction of the Shahed drone storage base will significantly reduce the ability of Russian occupiers to terrorise peaceful residents of Ukrainian cities and villages," it said at the

Ukrainian officials are keen to show the West they are not giving up the fight against their much bigger neighbour. An incursion into Russia's Kursk border region has put Ukrainian troops on Russian soil for more than two months. Ukraine has also deployed sophisticated new long-range drones to strike targets inside Russia, including airfields, oil the main condition for a refineries and ammunition

#### सार्वजनिक सूचना

सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि, मेरा मुविकल श्री महेंद्र सिंह पुत्र स्वर्गीय श्री मेवा राम, निवासी मकान न.F-29. हरीजन बस्ती, कोंडली, पूर्वी देल्ली- 110096 ने अपने पत्र हिमांश सिंह व उसके दुर्व्यवहार के कारण अपनी सम्पूर्ण चल-अचल संपर्ि से बेदखल कर समस्त सम्बन्ध विच्छेद / खृत्म कर लिए हैं। मेरे मुविक्कल व् उसके परिवार के अन्य सदस्यों का भविष्य में उनसे कोई लेन-देना / सम्बन्ध नहीं है यदि कोई व्यक्ति उनके साथ रिश्ता, व्यवहार रखता है तो अपनी जिम्मेदारी पर रखे। इसके लिए मेरे मुविका व् उसके परिवार की कोई जिम्मेदारी नहीं होगी। अशोक चन्द्र मेहरा ( एडवोकेट

PUBLIC NOTICE Notice is hereby given on behalf of DEEPAK KUMAR who is owner of the Plot No.67 and Nev Plot No.623, area measuring 50 Sq. Yds., out of Khasra No.270, Situated at Village Brahampur @ Bhopura in the abadi of Harsh Vihar, Phase II, Pargana Loni, Tehsil District Ghaziabad, UP; purchased the same from Mrs. Kamlesh, vide Sale Deed dated 10.06.2024 bearing Document no.7486, Book no.I. Volume no.21608, on pages 129-152, dated 10.06.2024, and intend to mortgage against linancial assistance from SMFG india Credit Co. Ltd. (Formerly known as Fullerton India Credit Co. Ltd., To comply the requirements of BANK/NBFC, we give this public notice that if any Person having any type of claim/fightitlet? ANK/NBFC, we give this public notice that if any erson having any type of claim/inght/title/ iterest/creating mortgage over the said property, ay inform in writing, at the address mentioned elow, about his objections, within 14days om today, falling which it shall be presumed that le said property is free from all type of nocumbrances, lienetc. Lucem Legal LLP Plot No.136, (Basement) Uday Park,

NOTICE is hereby given that Rohit Khatana, Ranvir Singh Khatana & Karamvir Singh Khatana (hereinafter called the seller/s) claims to be owner and in possession of Prop. No. 202, Block-M. in South City -I, Phase-I, Gurgaon, Haryana (herein after called the said property) on the basis of Sale Deed dated 07.09.2016, Doc. No. 15867 r/w Relinquishment Deed dated 01.10.2024, Doc. No. 12860 after the death of Co-owner Vidhi Chand Khatana and Seller/s have agreed to sell the said Property to Bharat Bhushan Yaday & said Bharat Bhushan Yadav agreed to create a mortgage in favour of our clients IDFC First Bank Ltd, ITO Branch, any person/s having claim against the said Property, or any part thereof, by way of sale, exchange, mortgage (equitable/registered or otherwise), gift, trust, inheritance, lien or otherwise howsoever, are hereby intimated to notify the same in writing to us with supporting documentary evidence at the address mentioned below within 7 days from the date hereof, failing which the claim or claims, if any, of such person or persons will be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned and our client shall proceed with the disbursement of loan and subsequent creation of mortgage in respect

> Vishal Diwan (Advocate) For Diwan and Company LLP H. No.2 (LGF), NRI Complex New Delhi-19 Mobile No. 9818399999

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

ny client SHRI NARENDER SINGH S/o- Late Sh. Raghubir Singh R/o - D2A/66 B, D Block, LIG Flats, Janak Puri, West Delhi, Delhi - 110058, has severed all his relations and have disowned his son Sh. Nitin Singh, from properties due to his disobedient nature. So my client shall not be Nitin Singh, if anyone do so then

#### Public Notice

My client intends to purchase FREEHOLD DDA SFS FLAT NO. C- 13-C, WITH SCOOTER GARAGE, SITUATED AT POCKET-C GANGOTRI ENCLAVE ALAKNANADA, NEW DELHI-110019 from (1 Shri VIJAY KUMAR SAMNOTRA, son of Late Shri Krishan Gopal Samnotra, and (2) Smt. VEENA SHARMA daughter of Late Shri Krishan Gopal Samnotra, which was inherited by them after demise of their father Late Shri demise of their mother Late Smt. Krishna Dev on 03/02/2023. That Shri VIJAY KUMAR SAMNOTRA, and Smt. VEENA SHARMA claim to be the only Class-I legal heirs of Late Shri Krishan Gopal Samnotra and except them there are no other legal heirs of Late Shr Krishan Gopal Samnotra, If anybody including Bank, Financial Institutions, person(s) relative(s) known to them have any claim, right, interest, objection, whatsoever in the said property shall inform to the undersigned within 7 days with documentary evidence. In the event of no response to this notice, our client shall presume that title of the said property is unencumbered and clear

Read No. D/5425/2021 G-2/210 & 210A, Tulsi Tower, Alaknand Main Shopping Complex, New Delhi-110 019

#### PHYSICAL POSSESSION NOTICE **PICICI Bank** Branch Office: ICICI Bank Limited Shal Tower Plot No-23, New Rohtak Road Karol Bagh New Delhi-110005

The Authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to

repay the amount mentioned in the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice.

Having failed to repay the amount, the Notice is issued to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described below, by exercising powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property. Any dealings with the property will be subject to charges of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Physical Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs)	Name of Branch				
		Address-1: House No./ Plot No. 7 (Third Floor With Roof Rights), Block-I, Pocket-11, Sector-16, Rohini, Delhi- 110089./ Address- 2: House No./ Plot No. 6(Third Floor With Roof Rights), Block-I, Pocket-11, Sector-16, Rohini, Delhi- 110089./ October 09, 2024	February 23,2024 Rs. 57,60,512.00/-	Delhi				
The	The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/augrantors(s) is/are bereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount							

else the mortgaged properties will be sold after 30 days from the date of publishing this Notice, as per the provisions under Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002. Date: October 15, 2024 Place: Delhi/ NCR

### Sincerely Authorised Signatory For ICICI Bank Ltd.

#### SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE Pronch Office: ICICI Bank Limited Plot No-23, Shal Tower, 3rd Floor, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi- 110005

The Authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice. Having failed to repay the amount, the Notice is issued to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described below, by exercising powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the belowmentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property. Any dealings with the property will be subject to charges of ICICI Bank Limited.

Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number Yogesh Kumar Sharma/ Parul Dhawan/ LBDEL00002089897/ LBDEL00005509429 Unit No. Carnation-02, Block- Carnation, Eldeco Residency Greens, Plot No-12, Pocket-B, Sector-Pl, Greater Noida./ October 9, 2024 Unit No. D-1102, 10th Floor, Situated at Neel May 31, 2024 Sharad Mohan Chaubey/ Mohini/ LBDEL00002069400/ 201001./ October 10, 2024 January 18, 2022 Delhi Rs. NCR Flat No. B7-G003. Ground Floor. Tower B 7. Vishwanath Purohit/ Bhawana Gardenia Aims Glory, Gh-01, Sector G.B Nagar, Noida./ October 9, 2024 Purohit/ LBDEL00002325463 11.80.439/-4. Mukesh Ialutheria/ Geeta Rani/ House No-105, Second Floor, Pkt-12, Sec-20, LBDFL00001409962

Pocket-2, Block-D6, Narela, Delhi- 110040/ October 9, 2024 Sharma/ LBDEL00002381624 The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/guarantors(s) is/are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold after 30 days from the date of publishing this Notice, as per the provisions under Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Dda Lia Flat No. 46. Floor 1st. Sector-G-2

Date: October 15, 2024 Place: Delhi/NCR

Vikash Kumar/ Rai Kumar

Tender Amount

Rs. 25.09.031/-

May 07, 2022

12,12,629/-

## voigs

#### **NEW OKHLA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY** Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida, G.B. Nagar (U.P)

Website: www.noidaauthorityonline.in **E-TENDER NOTICE** 

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

Name of the work

A) Fresh- Tender Work:-S. Jobs No.

-	Nο			(Rs. Lacs)
	1	21/DGM/SM(WC-1)/ 2024-25	M/o Building (Annual Maintenance Work in CAG Guest House, Police Control Room and Staff Quarter in Sector-14A and Sector-15A), Noida.	39.96
	2	17/DGM/SM(WC-3)/ 2024-25	M/o Road (P/L DBM & BC for service road Barola and Construction of Traffic Diversion Tripod at Vishwakarma Marg DSC road Junction near Piler No.59 of Elevated road), Noida.	44.08
	3	22/DGM/SM(WC-3)/ 2024-25	M/o Drain (C/o RCC drain in front of Kartik Kunj Society Sector-44), Noida.	48.99
	4	25/DGM/SM(WC-3)/ 2024-25	M/o Road (Widening and Construction of RCC road & RCC Adjoining road for Kashiram Colony, Sector-45), Noida.	51.44
	5	14/DGM/SM(WC-10)/ ET/2024-25	D/o & M/o Village (R/o C.C. Roads, drain & M.S. Jaal at different location in Village Jhatta, Sector-159), Noida.	45.23

The above tenders can be uploaded by dated 28.10.2024 up to 5.00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on dated 29.10.2024 at 11.00 AM

B) Re- Tender Work:-

-,				
Jobs No.	Name of the work	Tender Amour (Rs. Lacs)		
62/DGM/SM(WC-7)/ ET/ 2023-24	M/o Road (C/o Drain and footpath in front of A-08, Sector-87), Noida.	36.53		
15/DGM/SM(WC-1)/ 2024-25	M/o Drain (P/L 600 mm M.S. Pipe Underground by Trench less by Augar Boring Method & Construction Water Harvesting in front of Dalit Prana Sthal on Expressway), Noida.			
22/DGM/SM(WC-6)/ 2023-24	Development of Sector-73 (Reconstruction of damaged C.C. Road, Drain Repairing, Covering and other Misc. Work in EWS flats Sector-73), Noida.			
	62/DGM/SM(WC-7)/ ET/ 2023-24 15/DGM/SM(WC-1)/ 2024-25 22/DGM/SM(WC-6)/	62/DGM/SM(WC-7)/ ET/ 2023-24  M/o Road (C/o Drain and footpath in front of A-08, Sector-87), Noida.  15/DGM/SM(WC-1)/ 2024-25  M/o Drain (P/L 600 mm M.S. Pipe Underground by Trench less by Augar Boring Method & Construction Water Harvesting in front of Dalit Prana Sthal on Expressway), Noida.  22/DGM/SM(WC-6)/ 2023-24  Development of Sector-73 (Reconstruction of damaged C.C. Road, Drain Repairing, Covering and		

be opened/downloaded on dated 22.10.2024 at 11.00 AM SD/-Dy. General Manager (Civil) **CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA** 

# 3 hurt in Dhaka clashes

t least three people were Ainjured in a clash that broke out between police and Hindu community going to immerse idols following the conclusion of Durga Puja in an Old Dhaka locality, a media report said on Monday.

police officer, were injured when miscreants threw bricks from the rooftop of Nur Super Market in Patuatuli area of Old Dhaka on the procession heading to immerse idols in the Buriganga river late Sunday night, The Daily Star newspaper said quoting an eyewit-

Following the attack, members of the Hindu community tried

### Rains claim 3 lives in Lanka

Three people have lost their lives and over 1,25,000 marooned after Sri Lanka witnessed extreme weather conditions in 12 districts prompting authorities to close all schools in the capital region on Monday after heavy-rain triggered rains.

President Anura Dissanayake has directed allocation of an additional Rs 50 million to provide relief to the affected people even as Sri Lankan Navy and army troops have been deployed for flood relief and rescue work, including to provide food and other essentials to the affected people.

The island nation has been pummeled with heavy rainfall since October 8, however, some districts received rainfall over 100 mm over last two days along with high winds leading to flash floods and inundation in several areas

Forecast issued at 12 noon on Monday warned of further rainfall of over 100 mm to lash many areas across the nation over next 24 hours.

As on Monday morning, over 32,000 families have been affected, and over 1,25,000 marooned, the Disaster Management Centre (DMC) said, adding, thousands have been evacuated and placed in over 80 temporary

to enter the market but faced resistance from the police. Kotwali police station Officerin-Charge Md Enamul Hasan told the newspaper, "The locals attempted to enter the market. For the sake of the market's security, we resisted them from added.

entering, which eventually led to the clash." The officer further said that unable to control the situation, he informed the army and they arrived and dispersed the crowd. "The situation is now largely under control," he

Notice is hereby given to the General Public th of Mr. Yakoob is the owner of PLOT NO. 76 AREA MEASURING 291 SQ. YDS., OUT O KHASRA NO. 2326/2, SITUATED AT NET-PARK, AREA MAUJA LONI, PARAGAN LONI, TEHSILAND DISTRICT GHAZIABAI

LONI, TEHSILAND DISTRICT GHAZIABAD U.P., by virtue of Regd. GPA. ATS and Will date 08.04.2013, executed by Mrs. Faijina, and sam to be finance by SMFG India Home Finance Lud. General public hereby informed that i anybody has any charge/interest/title in the sai property or any kind of dispute kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present.

PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General Public on behalf
of our client that Mr. Mahinder Pal Parwar is claiming
to be the owner of Plot bearing No. 186, area measuning 70.00 s. mtrs., in Block C-11, situated at Ghonda
Residential Scheme, Yamuna Vihar, Delhi; vide a
Conveyance Deed dated 2.04.2022, duly registered
with SRO VII, as Document No. 6513, Book No. 1, &
Volume No. 3869, on Pages 43-47, on 12.05.2022,
executed by DDA, All persons are hereby informed
that above mentioned owner (through Mr. Mohit Parwar)
wants to mortgage the said property and intend to obtain
loan from our client against the said property, if anybody
has any objection's upon the ownership of above owner has any objection/s upon the ownership of above owner

nas any objection/s upon the ownership of above owner worr the said property, its mortgagetilitigation & any other objections, kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present. Kumar & Associates (Advocates & Consultants) 200, lind Floor, 23, Shivaji ilang, Not Nagar, N. Delhi-15 Ph. 911-41112827-28 legal@kmalegal.com PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that my cleint Seema Rana is in process to avail the LAP against her property Bearing No. 103, area measuring 44 Sq. Yards, out of Khasra No. 5116, situated in the area of Village Hastsal, Delhi State, Delhi, Colony known as Vikas Vhar, Vikas Nagar, Ulttam Nagar, New Delhi-1 10059 (availing loan from SHFL), having acquired the same vide Gift Deed dated 9/8/2024, Doc no. 2024/25/1/21813 executed by her husband Balvir Singh Rana alias Balbis Singh Rana All person's having any claim against or in respect of the said Property, or any part thereof, by way of sale, exchange, mortgage (equitable/ registered or otherwise), gift, trust, inheritance, family arrangement, maintenance, bequest, partnership, possession, lease, sublease, tenancy, license, lien, charge, piedge, easement or otherwise howsnever, are hereby requested to notify the same in writing to us with supporting documentary evidence at the address mentioned below within 7 days from the date hereof, failing which the claim or claims, if any, of such person or persons will be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned. Kamal Kant Gupta (Advocate) (or abandoned. Kamal Kant Gupta (Advocate) Unit No. FF-2, First floor, Mahaluxnii Metro Tower Sec-4, Vaishali, Gzb., U.P., Mob. 9810063351

PUBLIC NOTICE Notice is hereby given on behalf of RAHUL SACHDEVA AND SEEMA SACHDEVA who purchasing the Residential Unit No. M-905, on 9th Floor, having carpet area measuring 1275 Sq. Ft. in the residential Project known as "Ashiana Anmol", at village Dhunela Sector-33, Urbar Estate Gurgaon, Haryana, from MS. POOJA who is owner of the aforesaid property vide Conveyance Deed dated 26.06.2024 which is the registered vide Document No. 3855, at duly registered vide Document No.3885, a Sub-Registrar-Sohna, and intend to mortgage against the financial assistance from IDBI Bank Limited. That original Allotment Letter Issued by M/s Ashiana Housing Limited in Tavour of Mr. Manish Malhotra & Mrs. Jimsy Malhotra and original Flat Buyer's Agreement dated 29.05.2015 executed by M/s Ashiana Housing Limited & M/s Universe Heights (India) LLP in favour of Mr. Manish Malhotra & Mrs. Jimsy Malhotra in respect of Unit No. M-905, on 9th Floor, having carpet area measuring 1275 Sq. Ft., (endorsed in the name of Mrs. Pooja) is/are Lost/Misplaced/Not available. To comply the requirements of BANK/NBFC, we give this public notice that if any Person having any type of claim/right/title/interest/creating mortgage 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, lienets. Lucem Legal LLP Plot No.136, (Basement) Uday Park, New Delhi-110049, Contact # 011-40046316 duly registered vide Document No.3885, a Sub-Registrar-Sohna,; and intend to mortgag

#### PUBLIC NOTICE ice is hereby given to the General Public that PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Dilsad Ali s/o Shaukat Ali R/o E-85 IInd Floor, South Anarkali, Krishna Nagar Delhi-110051 also having shop Jahanv Boutique at S-23, G/F, South Anarkali Krishna Nagar, Near Anarkali Gurudwara, Delhi-110051 has severed relations and debarred his son Nadeem from his movable immovable properties due to his misconduct. My client will not be

responsible for his any acts.

GIRISH SHARMA (Advocate) G-73, Lawyers Chambe Karkardooma Courts, Shahdara, Delhi-110032

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

To be known to all that I, Raju Gupta, S/o Jagannath Gupta, Flat No. 6485, Second Floor Jagannath Gupta, Flat No. 6485, Second Floor Pocket 9, Sector-B, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110070, is the sole owner of above mentioned Flat of vide DDA file no F125(5225)83/SFS/V/RII. The original Documents 1. Allocation Latter, 2. Fifth and Final Demand Latter, 3. Bank Challan of above mentioned Flat. Has been Lost Misplaced somewhere and not traceable my best Efforts. An FIR of this has been lodged in Police Station Crime Branch, Delhi vide LR No. 2188030/2024. on 08/10/2024. 188030/2024 on 08/10/2024

2188030/2024 on 08/10/2024.

Any person(s) claiming any right, interest having any objection or found in possession of original documents, may write/contact with above named person at above address/phone No. 9840025465. The person claiming any right, interest, objections with respect to this property can personally inform or write to Dy. Director, LAB(H) or Director (H)-1, D-Block, 3rd Floor, Vikas Sadan, INA, New Delhi-110023.

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

Re: Property Bearing Plot No. 18, MC No. 245 area measuring 203 sq. yds i.e 169.728 sq mtrs, situated in Colony namely Laxmi Vihar aliwada, Village-Jatwada Kalan, Pargana oni, Tehsil & Distt. Ghaziabad. U.P. ereinafter referred to as "said property" Reference Public Notice appeared in Col 7 lage 9, (English Edition) and Col 1, page Hindi Edition) of New Delhi Edition of Piones Hind Edition) of New Deini Edition of Prioragidated 11.10.24 published by us on behalf of bur clientess, Mrs Renu Goel, regarding the aforesaid property. Erroneously, the Notice period has been mentioned as 15 days. The Notice period may be read as 07 days from the date of publication of the Notice I.e., 11.07.24 SHIVKANT ARÓRA, ADVOCATE FOR M/S INTELLECTIVE LAW OFFICES, A-74, LOWER GROUND FLOOR, DEFENCE COLONY, NEW DELHI-110024

The Public at large is hereby notified that my client Mr. Raja Kalsi intend to purchase Entire Basement and Upper Ground Floor of the Property Bearing No.8-54, Swasthya Vihar, Delhi-110092 from Mrs. Jayna Jariwala W/o Late Shri Abhay Jariwala who became the owner of the entire property after the death of her husband Shri Abhay Jariwala. It is therefore. Notified that anybody t is therefore, Notified that anybody

It is therefore, Notified that anybody claiming any right, title, interest or lien over the aforesaid property may file such claim or objection to the undersigned within a period of 10 days from the date of Publication of this notice. Otherwise, it will be presumed that the said property is from all encumbrances, charges and/or lien, etc. and my client is free to purchase the said property from the above named seller. SAHIL ARORA (ADVOCATE)

Office No.107, First Floor, M.S.

Mob.: +91-9811912277

Chambers, Aruna Park, Laxmi Nagar Delhi-110092

ne/she will do so at his/her own risk.

GAURAV SADANA Advocate

Public Notice

This is to inform the general public that Mr. Rakesh Kumar is the GPA Holder of Property bearing no. 1399 X/13, area measuring 55 sq. yards. i.e., 15 x 33 \*\* situated at Gobind Purl, Kalkaji, New Delhi. He is in possession through GPA, ATS & Will dated 16.02. 1996 executed by Mr. Manohar Singh in favour of Mr. Rakesh Kumar in respectof Said Property.

Mr. Rakesh Kumar intends to transfer the ownership by way of Sale Deed of aforementioned Property to Mohd. Faizan. Subsequently, Mohd. Faizan is in the process of mortgaging the said property with SMFG India Home Finance Co. Ltd. (Formerly Fullerton India Home Finance Co. Ltd.). Any objections or concerns regarding this transaction should be raised within a period of 7 days from the date of this public notice. Any objections submitted after the completion of this 7-day period will not be considered binding with respect to the said property or the interests of our client. If anyone wishes to raise an objection, please do so within the stipulated 7-day period by contacting Law Veritas: North (Advocates & Legal Consultants) at Office No. 11, 1st Floor, Building No. A-44/A, Sector-16, Noida, Uttar Pradesh-201301; Landline(s): +910120-3101683; e-mail: accounts@lvnorth.in

PUBLIC NOTICE

ACHIN SHARMA (ADVOCATE)

### छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल

पर्यावास भवन, सेक्टर-19, नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर, जिला- रायपुर (छ.ग.) // सर्व संबंधित को सूचना //

भारत सरकार, पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय द्वारा जारी

ई.आई.ए. नोटिफिकेशन, 2006 (यथा - संशोधित) के तहत् सर्व संबंधित को सूचित

किया जाता है कि मेसर्स पृष्प स्टील्स एण्ड माईनिंग (प्रा.) लिमिटेड, ग्राम - हाहालद्दी तहसील - दुर्गूकोंदल, जिला उत्तर बस्तर कांकेर स्थित फॉरेस्ट रेंज दुर्गूकोंदल, कुल क्षेत्रफल - 66 हेक्टेयर में क्षमता विस्तार के तहत् आयरन ओर माईन (मुख्य खनिज) एलॉंग विथ क्रशर एण्ड स्क्रीन प्लांट क्षमता 0.4 मिलियन टन प्रतिवर्ष से 1.2 मिलियन टन प्रतिवर्ष एवं न्यु आयरन ओर बेनिफिसिएशन (ड्राई / वेट) क्षमता - 0.95 मिलियन टन प्रतिवर्ष के पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृति हेतु लोक सुनवाई बाबत् छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल में आवेदन किया गया है। उक्त परियोजना हेतू लोकसूनवाई दिनांक 26.09.2024 को आयोजित की गयी थी। कार्यालय कलेक्टर (खनिज शाखा) जिला- उत्तर बस्तर कांकेर (छ.ग.) के ज्ञापन क्रमांक 1813, दिनांक 03.10.2024 के माध्यम से उक्त लोक सुनवाई को अपरिहार्य कारणों से स्थिगत किया गया था। भारत सरकार, पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली के अधिसूचना दिनांक 09.05.2022 के परिप्रेक्ष्य में उक्त परियोजना के संबंध में आपत्तियां / सुझाव / विचार / टीका-टिप्पणियाँ, इस सूचना के जारी होने के दिनांक से 15 दिवस के अन्दर क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल जगदलपुर (छ.ग.) में कार्यालयीन समय में प्रस्तुत की जा सकती है। **उक्त परियोजना** के लिए लोक सुनवाई दिनांक - 30/10/2024, दिन- बुधवार, समय - प्रातः 11:00 बजे, स्थान- जनपद पंचायत हॉल, दुर्गुकोंदल, तहसील - दुर्गुकोंदल, जिला - उ.ब. कांकेर (छ.ग.) में नियत की गई है । ई.आई.ए. नोटिंफिकेशन 14 सितम्बर, 2006 (यथा - संशोधित) के अनुसार संबंधित व्यक्तियों के अवलोकन पठन हेतु ड्राफ्ट ई.आई.ए. रिपोर्ट, कार्यपालक सार हिन्दी एवं अंग्रेजी भाषा तथा सी.डी. (सॉफ्ट कापी), डायरेक्टर, भारत सरकार, पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, जोर बाग रोड, नई दिल्ली; एकीकृत क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, अरण्य भवन, नार्थ ब्लॉक, सेक्टर-19, नवा रायपुर अटल नगर, रायपुर, कार्यालय कलेक्टर, कांकेर, जिला-उत्तर बस्तर कांकेर, जिला पंचायत कार्यालय, कांकेर जिला व्यापार एवं उद्योग केन्द्र, कांकेर, कार्यालय जनपद पंचायत, दुर्ग्कोंदल, कार्यालय ग्राम पंचायत - चिहरो, बरहेली, परभेली, खुटगाँव, दुर्गूकोंदल, हानपतरी, दमकसा, गुद्म, जाड़ेकुर्से, साधुमिचगाँव, जिला- उत्तर बस्तर कांकेर, क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल, जगदलपुर, जिला- बस्तर तथा मुख्यालय, छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल, पर्यावास भवन, नार्थ ब्लॉक. सेक्टर-19, नवा रायपुर अटल नगर, रायपुर में रखी गई है। सदस्य सचिव

छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल नवा रायपुर अटल नगर, रायपुर (छ.ग.)

# IT MAY HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT IF WE TOOK CHANCES: MUZUMDAR

disheartened India Ahead coach Amol Muzumdar rued the missed opportunities that could have altered the game's outcome after his team's hopes of reaching the women's T20 World Cup semifinals were dashed by a loss to Australia.

In a bid to control their own destiny, the Indian team delivered a lackluster performance on the field, ultimately resulting in a ninerun loss to defending champions Australia in their must-win game on Sunday.

"I think we were right in the game, right till the last over. Just that experience of Australia, saw them through," Muzumdar said at the post match press conference. "Just a little disappointing

with the loss. And I feel we've fielded pretty well. But yeah, a couple of chances could have been, we could have taken those chances and then the things could have been different.

"Maybe 10-15 runs less, even the last over. But at the same time, I would like to say that we put in our best effort



India dropped as many as three catches, while also missing a stumping opportunity. To add to their woes, a close lbw call also

went against them.

In the 17th over of the Australian innings, Phoebe Litchfield, batting on 5, had attempted a reverse sweep with the on-field umpire giving her leg-before-wicket after she missed the shot. However, a decision to review

handed her a reprieve because the ball pitched outside leg stump. India players, including vice-captain Smriti Mandhana, protested, claiming the ball pitching outside the leg-stump line should be deemed inconsequential given the batter had switched stances. Litchfield went on to add 10 more crucial runs bellning more crucial runs, helping Australia post the highest team total at Sharjah in the

ongoing tournament.
"What I gathered from that non-dismissal is that she didn't move before the ball was released. So, the leg mark, what was there, it stood as it

was up to the umpires to decide or the third umpire. So

yeah, it was a crucial one." Australia posted a total of 151/8. In response, India fell short, finishing at 142/9 despite skipper Harmanpreet Kaur's unbeaten 54.

With senior Harmanpreet and Deepti Sharma in the middle, India needed 85 off 10 overs.

Asked what message was being sent to the duo in the middle at the time, Muzumdar said: "First and foremost, it was about the run chase. Second was keeping the net run rate also in account. But the only message was if we take it a little deeper, then we do have a good chance to chase these runs down. "I think Harman's presence was very important till the end. That is what I felt in her run chase. We almost got it through.

India's chances of making the semifinal now hinge on Pakistan beating New beating Pakistan Zealand on Monday.

Well, I just want to wish Pakistan all the best. That's all can say. But we will be is. That was my only watching the game very understanding about it. closely, that's for sure."

### Ben Stokes returns for second Test against Pakistan

PTI MULTAN

aptain Ben Stokes made Ca return to the England Test team as he was on Monday named in the playing eleven for the second match against Pakistan beginning here Tuesday, after he was declared to have been recovered from an injury he sustained in

August.
Stokes, who has been out of action due to a hamstring problem, is one of the two changes in the England side that beat Pakistan in the first Test by an innings and 47 runs.

Fast bowler Matthew Potts was included in place of Gus Atkinson.

Stokes has replaced pacer Chris Woakes while England have retained both spinners Shoaib Bashir and Jack Leach in their eleven.

According to the visiting team management, Stokes has bowled and batted

without any discomfort in the nets in the last few days and was cleared by medical experts to make his comeback.

The 33-year-old all-rounder last played in the Hundred where he sustained his injury in August forcing him to miss the entire three-match series against Sri Lanka at

He also missed the first Test against Pakistan here.

home.

Pakistan is yet to announce its playing eleven although the selectors on Sunday dropped Babar Azam, Shaheen Shah Afridi and Naseem Shah for the remaining two Tests and also released Sarfaraz Ahmed from the squad.

England Playing XI:
Ben Stokes (capt), Zak
Crawley, Ben Duckett, Ollie Pope, Joe Root, Harry Brook, Jamie Smith (wk), Brydon Carse, Matthew Potts, Jack Leach, Shoaib Bashir.



### Cummins to lead Australia in Pakistan ODIs, McGuirk retained

**AP** ■ SYDNEY

Pat Cummins will captain Australia's one-day squad for the first time since lifting the Cricket World Cup in November in its three-match series against Pakistan at home next month.

Cummins Monday in the 14-man Australia squad for the matches at Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth along with Josh Hazlewood and Mitchell Starc, the other regular members

Jake Fraser-McGuirk has been given another chance after struggling in Australia's Twenty20 series against Scotland in September, in which he made 16 runs in three innings with two ducks. While he made a 30-ball 50 against England, he wasn't selected for the subsequent five-match ODI series.

Fraser-McGuirk will likely open the batting with Matt Short in the absence of Travis Head and Mitch Marsh who are on paternity leave. The squad also includes batters Steve Smith and Marnus Labushagne and white ball regulars Glenn Maxwell, Josh Inglis and Adam Zampa. Cooper Connolly also has

been retained after making his one-day and T20 debuts on Australia's September tour to Britain.

Allrounder Aaron Hardie who scored 67 runs in two innings while batting No. 8 and took four wickets in the England series has kept his place while Marcus Stoinis returns after being left out of the England one-dayers. Seamer Sean Abbott also has

held his spot with several bowlers recovering from injuries suffered in England. Nathan Ellis, Xavier Bartlett, Ben Dwarshuis and Riley Meredith all left that series with injuries while Spencer Johnson was ruled out with a side strain before it began. Meanwhile, test allrounder Cameron Green confirmed Monday he will undergo

his back and will be out of action for six months. A squad for the Twenty20 series against Pakistan will be

surgery on a stress fracture in

named later this month. The Pakistan series which comprises matches at the Melbourne Cricket Ground on Nov. 4, the Adelaide Oval on Nov. 8 and Perth Stadium on Nov. 10 is Australia's last one-day series before the ICC Champions Trophy Pakistan in February.

## Kohli hungry for runs, no need to judge after every match: Gambhir



**PTI** ■ BENGALURU

India head coach Gautam Gambhir is not too concerned about the recent lukewarm form of Virat Kohli, insisting that the star he was when he made his debut and should not be judged after every match.

Kohli has made only one fifty, a 76 against South Africa at Centurion in December 2023, in his last eight innings, and him regaining his touch is crucial for India against New Zealand in a three-Test rubber starting on Wednesday and during the five-match series against Australia next month.

Gambhir is confident that Kohli will come good very

"See, my thoughts about Virat have always been very clear that he is a world-class cricketer. He has performed

for such a long period of time. He is as hungry as when he made his debut. To now, his hunger is always Gambhir told there,"

reporters here on Monday. "That hunger is what makes am sure that he will be hungry to get runs in this series and probably moving forward to Australia as well, he added.

Gambhir said the prolific batter, once he gets into "those runs scoring phases", is remarkably consistent. 'So, I am sure that he will be looking for these three Test matches in the series and

then to Australia. Gambhir reiterated his opinion that a player should not to be judged on the basis of a one bad match or a

"You don't keep judging people after every game. If you keep judging people after every game, that's not fair on them. It's a sport and people are bound to fail.

"But more importantly, I think if we can get the results, if people are doing what is needed of them to get the results in our favour, that

The former opener said his job is to back the players and keep them hungry for success, particularly during a long season where India is scheduled to play eight more Test matches. "Everyone doesn't have the

best days everyday. I think the kind of vibe we have is we keep backing our players. My job is to keep backing the players. My job is to keep selecting the best playing 11, not dropping anyone.

"I'm sure everyone is hungry and they know there are eight Test matches in a row. So, this is probably the start of them looking at eight Test matches in a row and performing well," said Gambhir.



### Green ruled out of India Test series, to undergo back surgery

**PTI** ■ MELBOURNE

all-rounder ustralia Australia an Island Cameron Green was on Monday ruled out of the marquee Border-Gavaskar Trophy Test series against India owing to a stress fracture in his spine that will need six months to heal after

in his lower back after experiencing pain during last month's tour of the UK. Green has previously suffered four stress fractures in his back but has not encountered any issues in that area since

"Whilst spine stress fractures are not unusual in pace bowlers, Cam has a unique defect in an adjacent area to the fracture that is believed to be contributing to the injury," a CA statement said on Monday.

A six-month recovery time will mean Green misses not just the Border Gavaskar Trophy, but also February's Test tour of Sri Lanka and the Champions Trophy.

participation in the IPL is also in doubt.

Green has decided to opt for a similar type of surgery undergone by several pacers including Jasprit Bumrah, James Pattinson, Jason Jason Behrendorff, and Dwarshuis. "After thorough consultation

a surgery.

The 25-year-old seam- would benefit from the work to stabilise the defect it was determined Cameron bowling all-rounder was surgery to stabilise the defect diagnosed with the problem and reduce the risk of future recurrence," CA said. The alternative to surgery

would involved have rehabilitation and restricting his bowling during the fivematch series against India, starting November 22 in Perth.

"The surgery has been performed successfully with elite pace bowlers in the past. Recovery time is anticipated to be around six-months.

"The decision to proceed to surgery is with Cameron's long-term future as an allrounder in mind," the statement added.

The operation will be performed by New Zealand surgeons Grahame Inglis and Rowan Schouten, which involves screws and titanium wire to bind vertebrae according to together, 'cricket.Com.Au.'

His absence would mean Australia will have to rejig their batting order. Green had returned to the

Test side following veteran opener David Warner's opener David retirement earlier this year with Steve Smith being pushed to open the innings. struggled at the top of the order and will drop back to

position, which has been left vacant by Green. The selectors will now keep an eye on Australia's A series against India where the likes of Cameron Bancroft, and teen prodigy Sam Konstas

his preferred number four

will vie for the now vacant opening spot. Additionally, Australia will also have to find someone to

bowl Green's overs Mitchell Marsh did not bowl Western Australia's

Sheffield Shield match against Queensland and hardly rolled his arm while captaining the white-ball teams over the

### Battling accomplished Ashwin, Jadeja crucial for New Zealand: Rachin Ravindra

**PTI** ■ BENGALURU

Top-order batter Rachin Ravindra said on Monday that nullifying the twin threat posed by senior spinners Ravichandran spinners Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja will be crucial to New Zealand's success in the three-match series against

India. Ashwin and Jadeja together have grabbed over 800 Test wickets, and are among the most experienced bowling pairs in world cricket at

present. got consistent 'They've bowlers who bowl in an area for a long period of time. I mean, you see the two spinners who consistently, Ashwin and Jadeja, they're two very accomplished bowlers. You know, they can bat too, reporters here on Monday.

"They're consistent, they're good to battle, especially in this part of the world. Obviously, we know how good India are in their own team to come and win here. So, it's difficult," he added. Ravindra banked on his previous experience of playing cricket in India to

come good in the upcoming Test rubber. The Kiwi played in this part of the world during last year's ODI World Cup before appearing for Chennai Super

Kings in the IPL 2024. "Although it is different formats, it gives you confidence that you can

which makes it a little bit world. I think it's (Test hard," Ravindra told cricket) a different challenge entirely and it's something I'm really looking forward to. "As you've seen, those two tournaments (ODI WC and IPL) were amazing, the crowds and the passion and conditions, the quality of the hype and the buzz around their bowlers and batters. It them. So, I'm excited to have shows how hard it is for a a full-fledged series here," he noted.

From a team perspective, the 24-year-old said the tourists will have to keep focus on their game plans rather than worrying about India's approach.

"The brand of cricket they play is very positive, especially in their own conditions. The way they've evolved over the last few years has been amazing, especially away (from home). confidence that you can "As New Zealanders, we perform in this part of the don't necessarily try and look



at the opposition too much. We know what a quality side they are and what they bring to the table, but I think if we're able to play our game and be consistent and put our best foot forward, hopefully, that will result in a win," he

New Zealand's preparation for the series against India has been far from ideal as they lost 0-2 against Sri Lanka recently, while their one-off Test match against Afghanistan was a washout at Noida.

added.

However, Ravindra was confident that the team can lean upon the learnings from those experiences against

"We did some really good stuff during the Sri Lankan series, obviously, came on the wrong side of the win and loss column. But I think as a group there were times where we really pushed and that first Test was close," he said. In the first Test against the Islanders at Galle, the lefthander made a fine 92 but the Kiwis lost the match by 63 runs while chasing 275. Ravindra wanted his side not to repeat the mistake of faltering at the crunch moments.

"I think we've got to understand that we've got to do it (fighting) for long periods of time because that's what Test match cricket is about. Obviously, Sri Lanka and India are different places, but similar in terms of the amount of spin you might

"So, we have learnt a lot. So, it's about, you know, seeing how we can play our game and how we can bring that here to India," he added.

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