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# Victory for Democracy

# Hurrah for the BJP in Haryana Jammu and Kashmir speak up

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI/

uashing exit polls results that unanimous projecting a clean sweep by Congress, Haryana poll results presented a dramatic turnaround as Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) scored a hat trick by winning 48 seats of the 90 members' Legislative Assembly. The improved its performance by winning seven more seats than it had in the outgoing Assembly.

Congress won 37 seats, Indian National Lok Dal (INLD) won two seats and Independents won three seats. The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and Jannayak Janata Party (JJP) have drawn a blank. The halfway mark is 46.

The BJP's astonishing performance will reinvigorate the ruling party cadres, and could deal a debilitating blow to the Congress looking for further ascendancy after its improved show in the Lok Sabha polls.

Among prominent candidates, Chief Minister Nayab Singh Congress leader Bhupinder Singh Hooda, and his new party colleague Vinesh Phogat won, Independent candidate Savitri Jindal. The INLD's Abhay



Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Saini greets supporters after winning the Assembly elections from Ladwa constituency, at Ladwa, in Kurukshetra district, Tuesday

### A historic win: PM



PNS NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday hailed the BJP's win in the Haryana Assembly polls as a victory of its politics of development and good governance, assuring people that the party will

leave no stone unturned to fulfile people's aspirations. Addressing the party workers at the party headquarters after the results of the Haryana and Jammu and Kashmir Assembly elections, PM Modi said that farmers in Haryana have given Congress a "befitting reply", and showed that they are with the country and with

"People of Haryana have scripted history by blossoming lotus. They blossoming lotus. have not only made the BJP win but gave the highest number of votes to the party," he said.

Singh Chautala lost, as did IJP's Dushvant Chautala, Haryana Assembly. Speaker and BJP's Gian Chand Gupta, Haryana Lokhit Party Gopal Kanda.

After the victory, Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini credited Prime Minister Narendra Modi with the BIP's hat-trick in the state where he took charge barely six months ago.
"I want to thank 2.8 crore

people of Haryana who have reposed faith in the policies of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. This is the victory of Haryana's farmers, the poor, women, and youth. People have voted for PM Modi's work for Haryana. It is a

### **MOHIT KANDHARI M**JAMMU

Staging a comeback with a 'thumping' majority in his kitty, National Conference (NC) Vice President Omar Abdullah is all set to become the first Chief Minister of the Union Territory of Jammu and

Kashmir. In the month-long Assembly elections, held for the first time after the Abrogation of Articles 370 and 35-A, 54-year-old Omar led the alliance partners to victory winning a clear majority of 48 seats in the 90-member house.

The NC president Dr Farooq Abdullah said the verdict was proof that the people of Jammu and Kashmir were against the abrogation of Article 370

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), despite winning the highest tally of 29 Assembly seats in its strong bastion of Jammu, is left stranded staring at the prospect of occupying the Opposition benches. Meanwhile, J&K BJP Chief Ravindra Raina lost his seat in the Nowshera Assembly segment. He was defeated by Surinder Choudhary of the Jammu Kashmir National Conference by a margin of



Supporters of Congress and National Conference (NC) celebrate as the Congress-NC alliance leads during the counting of votes of Jammu & Kashmir Assembly elections, in Srinagar, Tuesday

### Egg on the face of Exit pollsters

PNS NEW DELHI

(BJP) is set for a third term in Haryana where counting of votes for Assembly elections 2024 took place on Tuesday, giving the BJP victory in Haryana which a comfortable lead over its recorded a voter turnout top competitor, the Indian National Congress (INC). This is not the first time it will return to power for elections 2024, Chhattisgarh assembly Park the rectant to power for a third consecutive term by winning 48 seats. This is a massive victory for the BJP in the state.

polls in 2023, Results of 2015 Bihar and Delhi All exit polls went wrong Assembly Elections as well as Lok Sabha polls of 2004 and 2014 are examples of how exit polls predictions went wrong. Several exit polls had

predicted a Congress of 67.90 of 67.90 per cent. However, the BJP claimed

The party won 10 out of 11 seats from Jammu district. five from Kathua, four each from Udhampur and Doda, three from Samba, two from Reasi, and one from Rajouri. The party, however, failed to open its account from Kashmir Valley. The party had campaigned aggressively promising a stable government with a 'Hindu' Chief Minister at the helm of affairs.

The BJP's gamble to grant Scheduled Tribe status to Paharis in the region failed to improve its tally. All the candidates who joined the BIP failed to win any seat from the twin frontier districts of Rajouri and

# NHAI finally responds to nature's calls | Kolkata doctors



The Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways, Shri Nitin Gadkari launching the "Humsafar Policy" 2024 at The Ashok Hotel, in New Delhi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI** 

he Centre has finally woken up to address a pressing need expressed by commuters' who have nowhere to answer nature's call when commuting across the country's national highways and expressways network. The government by bringing in a policy for facilities such as clean toilets, baby care rooms etc.

Union minister Nitin Gadkari on Tuesday launched 'Humsafar Policy' which will see the introduction of facilities, such as clean toilets, baby care rooms, provisions for wheelchairs, EV charging stations, parking spaces, and dormitory services at fuel

stations. policy will offer also

convenient, safe, and enjoyable experience for highway users, while empowering entrepreneurs, generating jobs, and enhancing livelihoods for service providers, as per the statement.

The Humsafar policy shall allow commuters access to standardised, well maintained and hygienic facilities. Commuters will be able to find details of relevant service providers near their location instantly on the Rajmarg Yatra app. Commuters will be empowered to rate the service provided and the facilities, along with being able to

raise issues. Addressing the launch ceremony, Gadkari said the Humsafar brand will become synonymous with utmost safety and comfort for travellers and drivers along the nation's world-class highway network. He also emphasised on the need to deliver high quality,

the national highways. Gadkari said the Modi government remains fully committed to delivering top-notch amenities across our highway network, ensuring a fast and seamless travel

experience for all.

helipad etc.

These facilities shall provide multiple options of rest and refreshment for the highway commuters during their journey. developed at each WSA are fuel stations, food court / restaurants, dhabas, convenience stores, clean and hygienic toilet facilities, drinking water, first aid / medical room including child-care room, dedicated area for promoting local artisans, car bus/truck parking, drone landing facilities /

A senior National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) official said the Central road making agency has planned to introduce Humsafar policy to onboard existing and upcoming service providers along the Highways/Expressways under the purview of MoRT&H to improve services for commuters by standardising the facilities provided. This will complement the Wayside Amenities being developed by NHAI on National Highways. The policy aims to benefit all the three stakeholders Providers, namelv Service NHAI/MoRT&H and commuters, added the official

# resign en masse



SAUGAR SENGUPTA

With the condition of eight junior doctors sitting on indefinite fast entering the third day on Tuesday — and no offer of talks coming from the side of the State Government — the senior doctors of RG Kar Medical College and Hospital tendered mass resignation warning they would go for bigger struggle should State not

respond positively. To make matter worse the senior doctors of the senior doctors of Calcutta Medical College too threatened to follow in the footsteps of their RGKMCH colleagues if the Government did not respond within 24 hours. Earlier in the day, 15 senior doctors also joined their

junior counterparts in a symbolic hunger strike, further demonstrating the growing unrest within the hospital.

"About fifty of us senior doctors today tendered mass resignation as a mark of solidarity with our junior colleagues because they are fighting for a just cause," said a senior doctor. The doctors' when junior doctors of other medical colleges observed a symbolic fast on Tuesday in support of their colleagues in

Eight doctors from different medical colleges of Kolkata have been on an indefinite fast in support of their ten-point demand that includes a centralised referral system, security for all the medical staff inside the hospitals, ending of the threat syndicate and related malpractices that were rampant in most of the Government medical colleges and hospitals, basic amenities like rest rooms and washrooms for doctors, installation of CCTV cameras in all the Government hospitals, realtime monitoring of bed availability, and the establishment of task forces to ensure the proper functioning of essential facilities like CCTV cameras, on-call rooms, and washrooms, etc.

### **MITHUN: FROM FAME TO GLORY**



President Droupadi Murmu presents the Dadasaheb Phalke Award to veteran actor Mithun Chakraborty during the 70th National Film Award ceremony at Vigyan Bhawan, in



## The multi-crore makeovers that failed

Congestion, water logging at Barapullah flyover, Mathura road, and Pragati Maidan tunnel has only intensified

### BY SAUMYA SHUKLA

 $T_{\text{projects of Barapullah flyover,}}^{\text{he multi-crore ambitious}}$ Mathura road and Pragati Maidan tunnel, which aimed at solving the traffic woes in the national Capital, and connect satellite cities around Delhi such as Noida, and Ghaziabad has not only failed to take the burden off from the city roads, it has made the situation worse with commuters sitting for hours in the jams on the stretches.

Ironically, the Barapullah Elevated Corridor, which was meant to solve traffic congestion in south Delhi, has now become among the worst stretches for people to cross at peak hours. Hundreds of vehicles are

routinely stranded in massive jams that stretch on for many kilometres on the roads leading to and from the flyover.

The flyover is situated between AIIMS Flyover and the Sundial at Sarai Kale Khan over Barapullah Nallah, and is one of the crucial roads linking commuters of Ghaziabad and Noida with South Delhi, and vice versa. Each carriageway of Barapullah Flyover has three lanes.

Several bottlenecks are formed on the flyover leading to vehicles barely crawling in the specific location. Basically, a traffic bottleneck is a localised disruption of vehicular traffic on a street, road, or highway. As opposed to a traffic jam, a bottleneck is a result of a specific



physical condition, often the design of the road, badly timed

traffic lights, or sharp curves. According to the Delhi Traffic Police department, as per the current traffic flow pattern, the volume of traffic coming from Ghaziabad through NE-03 (Delhi Meerut Expressway) and Noida coming through DND is very high in the morning.

The traffic coming from Ghaziabad and Noida ascends the Barapullah Flyover near Sundial. Due to heavy volume of traffic coming through in six lanes and discharging only through three lanes Barapullah Flyover, a bottleneck is created resulting in congestion on Ring Road near Sundial. Similarly, in the evening peak

hours, the traffic coming from AIIMS and Lodhi Road merges near Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti which creates a bottleneck at the said merging point," Additional Commissioner of Police of Traffic Zone 2 Dinesh Gupta to The Pioneer stated. He added that letters have been

written to the Public Works Department to increase the width the carriageways accommodate more vehicles and reduce the traffic woes. As per the official data accessed

exclusively by The Pioneer, a total of 3,252 improper parking e-challans, 7,823 challans, 2,183 tow away challans, and 913 erickshaw no entry challans have been issued on the flyover till October 7 this year.

# Rs 27 crore released under 'Mainiyaan Samman Yojana' in Jamshedpur

PNS: JAMSHEDPUR

n a ceremonious event held at the Collectorate Auditorium, the third installment of the state government's flagship scheme, Jharkhand Mukhyamantri Mainiyaan Samman Yojana, was transferred directly to beneficiaries through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT). The event was attended by prominent officials, including District Magistrate cum Commissioner Ananya Mittal, MLA Jugsalai Mangal Kalindi, District Council President Bari Murmu, District Council Vice President Pankaj, and PD ITDA Deepankar Chaudhary.

An impressive sum of ?27 crore 11 lakh was disbursed among 2,71,100 beneficiaries across the district. The MLA Jugsalai ceremoniously transferred the amount by pressing the remote, marking a significant milestone in



the government's efforts to promote women's economic empowerment.

In addition to the DBT transfer, acceptance letters were distributed to 10 beneficiaries, with gifts presented as a token of recognition for their participation in the scheme. This initiative is part of the state's broader strategy to uplift women economically and socially

through targeted welfare

programs.
During his address, MLA Mangal Kalindi highlighted the state government's commitment to women's empowerment under the leadership of Chief Minister Hemant Soren. He emphasized that over 50 lakh women have already been linked to the Jharkhand Mukhyamantri Mainiyaan Samman Yojana, which provides vital financial assistance to women aged 18 to 50 years.

Kalindi urged women to take full advantage of various government schemes, designed to foster both and economic social advancement. Similarly, District Council President Bari Murmu encouraged all women to engage with the state's welfare programs, ensuring that no one is left behind in the pursuit of financial independence.

The event concluded with a call for greater awareness among citizens to ensure they benefit from the government's numerous public welfare initiatives aimed at improving the lives of women and their families across Jharkhand.

## New vehicles, equipment commissioned at BSL

Bokaro Steel Limited (BSL) commissioned 5 tippers, 3 loaders, and 2 diesel tankers at its Operation Garage (O.G.) and Centralized Breakdown Repair Shop (CBRS) in the presence of Director In-Charge, Birendra Kumar Tiwari. The commissioning ceremony was held today, marking a new phase of enhanced operational capacity at the plant. Also present at the event

were Executive Director (Projects & Additional Charge Materials Management), Chittaranjan Mahapatra, Executive Director (Finance & Accounts), Suresh Rangani, Executive Director (HR & Operations), Rajan Prasad, along with senior general managers, officers, and employees of the O.G. and



tion on the specifications and

features of the equipment.

These machines will be uti-

lized across the plant for var-

Krishna Soren delivers cinematic gold

A STORY OF

shutdown operations, routine repairs, maintenance, and housekeeping tasks

The commissioning of these machines represents a significant upgrade in the plant's operational efficiency, ensuring smoother and more efficient handling of critical

### Maa Durga's Glory ... attempted by Shree Guru Rajan Ji

BY NEHA M. R. AGGARWAL

'Ya devi sarvabhuteshu shakti rupena samsthita, namas tasyai, namas tasyai, namas tasyai, namo

Ya devi sarvabhuteshu shanti rupena samsthita, namas tasyai, namas tasyai, namas tasyai, namo

(To the Goddess who abides in all beings as power: salutations to the Goddess who abides in all beings as peace: salutations to

Durga is derived from the root words dur (difficult) and gam (pass, go through). Also, the word Durg means

'fortress, something difficult to access, attain or pass'

Thus, Durga is one who signifies the strength of a fortress.

The worship of Shakti (Durga has been practiced throughout all Yugas. In Satya Yuga, as per the Markandeya Purana, King Surtha regained his kingdom through Durga's worship, guided by Maharshee Medha.

In Treta Yuga, Sita worshipped Goddess Viraja to marry Rama, and Lord Rama himself, following Narada's advice, worshipped Durga to conquer Lanka and defeat Ravana. In Dwapara Yuga, the Gopis attained Krishna's love through the worship of Katyayini, and Rukmini also married Krishna due to Durga's grace Arjuna, before the Mahabharata war, prayed to Durga and secured ictory. Even in Kali Yuga, saints like Ramakrishna Paramahansa and Nigamananda attained Durga's blessings. Navratri is a nine-day festival celebrating Durga's victory over Mahishasura with the tenth day, Vijayadashmi, marking his defeat. During these nine days, devotees worship her nine forms: Sailaputri (daughter of the Himalayas), Brahmacharini (the ascetic), Chandraghanta (moon-bearer), Kushmanda (creator of the universe), Skanda-Mata (mother of Kartikeya),

Katyayani (incarnated to aid the Devas), Kalaratri (dark as night), Mahagauri (Shiva's consort), and Siddhidatri (giver of mystic pow-

The Devi Mahatmyam in the Markandeya Purana narrates the story of Mahishasura, the demon king who sought invincibility through a boon from Lord Brahma. Brahma granted him protection from defeat by men and Gods, but Mahishasura overlooked the possibility of a woman defeating him. Empowered by this boon, Mahishasura led the demons to conquer the Gods, prompting them to seek help from Brahma, Shiva, and Vishnu. Their combined energies created Goddess Durga, who, armed by the Gods, fought and killed Mahishasura after a nine-day bat tle, restoring peace. This story symbolizes the power and empow erment of women. **Bharat Mata and Goddess** 

Durga ride a lion/tiger and personify glory in a smiling face.

The active principle of Paramatma is the source of all creation and is beyond gender. Viewed as masculine, Paramatma resembles deities like Shiva, Vishnu, or Krishna. As feminine, it manifests as Maha Kali, Durga (Maha Lakshmi), Maha Saraswati, or Adi Mata. Durga, as a protective mother, guides creation through cycles of birth and death toward Self-Realization (Moksha).

This cosmic play, or 'Leela' is carried out by Paramatma with the help of Mahamaya, who creates 'Maya' (illusion). Only those who transcend desires, greed, and ego, with Mahamaya's grace, can break free from the cycle and attain liberation. These enlightened souls are yogis, rishis, and other spiritually evolved beings.

ACCORDING TO THE RIG VEDA, WE CAN GET THREE NAMES OF DEVI DURGA. THEY ARE 'VISWA DURGA', 'SINDHU DURGA' AND

### 26th year Durga Puja Celebrations at Vijaya Heritage, Kadma



PNS: JAMSHEDPUR

The vibrant community of Vijaya Heritage I-Vth Phase in Kadma is set to celebrate its 26th annual Durga Puja, marking over two decades of unity. devotion, and cultural pride. The grand event will be held from October 9th to October 12th, 2024, with the inauguration taking place on October 9th at 11:00 am. Swami Mahabhabananda Maharaj from Ramkrishna Mission will grace the occasion as the Chief Guest, inaugurating the Puja Pandal and unveiling the annual Puja Souvenir.

Durga Puja at Vijaya Heritage is not only a spiritual celebration but also a time for deep community bonding. Residents come together to honor Goddess Durga, the embodiment of strength, motherhood, and protection, whose divine blessings are sought for the well-being of all. Over the years, the Puja has grown into a symbol of collective spirit, love, and cultural reverence for the people of the communi-

The festivities will include traditional rituals, cultural performances, and activities catering to all generations, from children and youth to elders. Each year, the Puja Committee strives to make the event a memorable and inclusive celebration, inviting everyone to experience the richness of Bengali culture that defines the essence of Durga Puja. Initiated in 1999, the Durga Puja at

Vijaya Heritage has since become one of the most anticipated events in the community's calendar, drawing people together to celebrate not only the goddess but the spirit of togetherness and cultural heritage.

### PARVINDER BHATIA: **JAMSHEDPUR**

Krishna Soren, a talented cinematographer from Jamshedpur, who has made his mark in Marathi cinema, has now brought his visual magic to his first Hindi film, The Signature Released on the OTT platform Zee5 on October 4, the film has captivated both critics and audiences alike. Directed by Gajendra Ahire, a renowned Marathi eatre and cinema writer, The Signature challenges formulaic Hindi filmmaking by delivering an impactful story that doesn't rely on sex, romance, or action to tell its tale. Krishna Soren, speaking from Mumbai, shared that The Signature holds deep personal meaning for him as it marks his debut in Hindi cinema. The film conveys a powerful message to the younger generation about the sacri-

fices parents make for their children, only to be abandoned when they grow old. Krishna expressed his emotional journey while filming: "This film connects with everyone on such a deep emotional level. It's impossible not to cry while watching it. I cried while shooting, and when I saw the final product, I couldn't stop crying. It's a story that mirrors the reality of so many families.

Soren emphasized that although the film is rele vant to all age groups, its message is particularly potent for today's youth. The Signature serves as a reminder of the love and selflessness parents offer, often without recognition or gratitude. The emotional weight carried by the narrative resonates across generations. Beyond its poignant narrative, The Signature stands out for its technical brilliance. The

in his Hindi debut, The Signature film's sensitivity extends to its commentary on the realities of healthcare, highlighting the struggles of families who are exploited by hospitals in times of need. Director Gajendra Ahire, who also wrote the story, screenplay, and dialogues, has crafted a film that weaves personal and societal issues into a cohesive, thought-provoking narrative.

A key element that elevates The Signature is its music, composed by Rohit Sharma. The soulful score not only complements the emotional tone of the film but also enhances the visual storytelling. Sharma's compositions seep through the screen, intensifying the audience's connection to the characters and their struggles. Krishna Soren is no

stranger to accolades. His first directorial venture, Godakaath, earned the National Award for Best Actor and secured four Maharashtra State Film Awards. Although he has worked as a cinematographer on over 25 films, Godakaath was his debut as a producer. His Marathi films, including Sarvanaam (2017), Neelkanth Master (2015), The Silence (2015), and Anwet (2014), have all been highly praised and have won various awards. Soren's journey began at Karim Čity College's Mass Communication Department, where he graduated in 2007. He then went on to study cinematography at the prestigious Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), where he honed his craft. His rise to prominence in the Marathi film industry has now paved the way for his successful entry into Hindi cinema.

### Palamu DC cautions against mixing religion with politics

PNS: DALTONGANJ

There is no room for mixing religion with politics. Keep both at bay from each other. Administration will not accept any such mingling of religion with politics ahead of the vidhan sabha election' said Palamu DC Shashi Ranjan at the central peace committee meeting here on Monday.

The DC's warning has a time when the GoGO Didi Form Filling controversy is raging in the state. The state government has asked the district administrations to clarify to the public that as of now there exists no such scheme of the name of GOGO Didi of the state government and hence beware of such a trap.

Giridh administration is learnt to have issued a public interest caution to such a fake scheme. More district administrations are expected to toe the same line of public caution.

The BJP in Jharkhand is very

restive to the Hemant Soren government's Maiyyan Samman Yojna and to diminish its electoral gains going to the Hemant Soren government, it has floated a scheme which has neither any 'bone and blood' but a total fallacy out to cheat gullible poor said sources.

Although DC who termed this central peace committee meeting as crucial didn't even remotely referred to this unborn scheme, had context when he said "Today what happens in Philistine or Kerala or Tamil Nadu, echoes of it are stirred here which has no logic or justification at all. Avoid such long meaningless pursuits."

SP Reeshma Ramesan was very guarded in her speech. She tried to keep a balance between police's firmness and public festivity.

SP Reeshma Ramesan in her address at this crucial meet asked Puja pandals' organisers not to 'have volunteers of any criminal background'.

### Jharkhand's social challenges The/Nudge IAF brings corporate leaders



PNS: RANCHI

Large-scale societal transformation is no longer the domain of a single player and requires more than just isolated efforts. In a rapidly evolving world with complex problems, the need for multi-sector collaboration has never been more pressing. The/Nudge Institute's Indian Administrative Fellowship (IAF) is a platform that facilitates this collaboration through publicprivate partnership—it's a platform for cross-pollination of ideas between the corporate and public sectors. By bringing seasoned corporate leaders into the heart of state governments/ central

ministries, the program catalyzes systems-level change.

Building on its work in Karnataka, Punjab, and with the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE), Govt of India, The/Nudge Institute has now expanded the program to Jharkhand. Vivek Sharma, Managing Director, The/Nudge Institute's Indian Administrative Fellowship Collective, spoke to The Pioneer, discussing the program's significance and impact potential.

What motivated the creation of the Indian Administrative Fellowship?

The Indian Administrative Fellowship was created to connect

sector to solve the pressing challenges of India's underserved communities by partnering them with visionary civil servants/ bureaucrats at the central & state levels. The concept gained traction during the pandemic when many accomplished corporate professionals felt a strong desire to step outside their traditional roles and contribute meaningfully to the nation in a time of crisis with a sense of giving back

Public-private partnerships are not new-think of the White Revolution transforming India's dairy sector or UPI revolutionizing transactions. But during the pandemic is truly when it reached people's consciousness that collaboration and skill transfer could drive impact at scale. The Fellowship emerged from this realization, at a time when the public sector's need for digital solutions was greater than ever, enabling Fellows to make significant contributions to state departments. Today, the Fellowship continues to offer a pathway for professionals seeking purpose-driven work, while empowering the government to tap into cutting-edge

sector to transform the pub-

Why do you think PPPs and collaboration are essential in driving the way for nation's development? PPPs are crucial because

no single sector—whether

public or private—can inde-

pendently address the scale and complexity of the challenges facing our nation. From poverty alleviation to infrastructure development, from healthcare to climate resilience, the solutions demand not just resources but innovation, agility, technology, and deep systemic reforms. PPP model creates a space where these strengths can converge. The public sector brings the ability to scale and ensures that interventions remain inclusive & aligned with national priorities, while the private sector injects the best practices, execution expertise, innovation, technology and brings in new perspectives to address any challenge. Together, they can design interventions that are both impactful, scalable, inclusive

Take healthcare, for instance. During the COVID-19 pandemic, PPPs were instrumental in scaling up the manufacturing and dis-

and sustainable.

aging both public health mandates and private sector

Programs like the IAF embody this partnership spirit wherein socially-conscious, experienced professionals work closely for 18 months with senior civil servants at the state and central levels to collaboratively advance the integration of technological innovation across various departments

and programs. PPPs not only ensure that solutions are scaled but also that they are designed with the future in mind—adaptive, resilient, and responsive to the needs of a diverse and expanding population. They are more than just collaborative models—they are a blueprint for how sectors can come together to reimagine governance and development for the 21st century.

You have worked closely with the state governments and bureaucrats through IAF. What gaps do you think innovations fill, especially when it comes to leveraging technology?

Technological innovation can significantly enhance governance efficiency and public service delivery at scale. By integrating technol-

streamline operations, provide data-driven insights, and enable better decisionmaking. For instance, India's "Digital India" initiative has leveraged platforms such as Aadhaar and UPI to improve citizen access to services, while reducing administrative costs and enhancing transparency.

Moreover, technology helps in tackling complex development challenges, from improving healthcare access to revolutionizing agriculture. Digital platforms enable real-time monitoring of public programs, thereby improving accountability. With 70% of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) targets potentially supported by existing technology applications, digital transformation has become a key enabler for achieving these global goals faster and more effectively. Ravi Trivedi's (IAF) work

with the Karnataka Government is a great example of this. He worked on the thematic area of doubling small farmers' income by bringing innovation to the farmer's field and increasing market access. He led the establishment of the Agri-Innovation cell and drove multiple public-private partpotential of agri-tech startups deploying innovative solutions such as carbon credit cashback scheme and AI-based early pest detec-

Could you discuss the focus of The/Nudge Institute's IAF program in collaboration with the Government of Jharkhand?

Expanding our Indian Administrative Fellowship program across more states was the natural next step in our journey to impact millions of lives - and we're thrilled to have recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Jharkhand to launch the program in Ranchi. With this cohort envisioned to work with five crucial government departments, including the Chief Secretary's office, Rural Development, Agriculture, Finance, Industry & Commerce and ST, SC, Minority & BC Welfare, the partnership can facilitate inclusive and sustainable

To apply and know more, please visit www.iaf.thenudge.org.

development for the land of

Could you highlight the impact that the IAF program has made across the country, ects span across? Across its cohorts, IAF

has collectively made a substantial impact, mobilizing over Rs 1000 crore+ funds and impacting more than 18 Lakh program participants. Take the inaugural Karnataka cohort, for instance: 10 fellows were assigned to 10 state departments, undertaking 36 strategic projects ranging from agri-tech reforms to interventions focused on women and child development, education, rural and skill development, and beyond. Together, they mobilized upwards of Rs 800 crore funds, directly impacted 21,000 beneficiaries, and made over 280 recommendations on governance, demonstrating their capacity to deliver needle-moving change. Their collaborative endeavour translated to several remarkable achievements, including working with the Panchayat Raj department to empower women self-help group members.

THESE WINS SHOWCASE A FRACTION OF THE WHOLE PICTURE - AND WE EXPECT INCUMBENT COHORTS TO RELENTLESSLY ADVANCE DEVELOPMENT FURTHER.

# CM hands over appointment letters to 76 new employees, felicitates toppers

Lays foundation of new schools in Chaibasa, Bokaro and Dumka

PNS ■ Ranchi

ppointment letters to the youth, hon-Ouring talented students, felicitation of schools making a distinct identity in excellent education and laying the foundation stone of three new schools on the lines of Netarhat School... Chief Minister Hemant Soren once again set another example in the field of education by giving many gifts together in a ceremony organized by the School Education and Literacy Department in the Jharkhand Ministry.

The CM handed over appointment letters to 76 newly appointed in the ceremony. These include 35 law executives, 4 executive engineers, 21 assistant engineers and 10 school managers in Jharkhand Education Project Council and 6 in Jharkhand Bhawan New Delhi and Cabinet Secretariat and Monitoring Department and congratulated them for joining the government as an integral part.

At the same time, on the lines of Netarhat Residential School, the foundation stone of school buildings in Khuntapani of Chaibasa, Nawadih of Bokaro and Masalia of Dumka was laid online and the resolve to develop Jharkhand as a center of excellent



Project building in Ranchi on Tuesday.

education was reiterated. The ceremony became more special when the CM felicitated 60 schools securing gold rank in school certification, 10th and 12th board examinations of JAC, CBSE, ICSE in the year 2023 and 2024 and Jharkhand Olympiad - 2023, boosting their spirits, enthusiasm and morale and wished them a

bright future.

The CM told the candidates receiving the appointment letter that from today you are joining the government as an integral part. You are becoming the wheel of the allround development of the state. I am confident that you will play an important role in giving a better direction to the state through

your work.
While felicitating the meritorious students, the CM said that today you are not getting a reward but incentive money. So that, you can get good education further, earlier its scope was very limited. But, now apart from JAC, toppers of all other boards are also being included and rewarded. The aim of the government is to give a new direction to the education of its meritorious students. The Chief Minister said that Jharkhand is generally known for its mineral resources. But, we are working with the objective that Jharkhand should have a distinct identity as a talent-rich state, be it education or sports or any other field. The government is committed to the empowerment of education. The CM said that under the Marang Gomke Jaipal Singh Munda Overseas Scholarship Scheme, the government is giving the students here an opportunity to get higher education abroad. At present, the number of students under this scheme is limited. But, in view of the request of the students, the government will soon take a policy decision to increase the scope of this scheme, so that more and more students can get its benefit. Minister Rameshwar Oraon, Minister

Baidyanath Ram, Chief Secretary L

Khiangte, Secretary-in-charge of School

Education and Literacy Department Uma Shankar Singh and SPD of Jharkhand

Education Project Council Shashi Ranjan

were present on this occasion.

### **News Briefs**

### Commissioner, DIG inspect Puja pandals

Ranchi Range Commissioner and DIG Anup Birathre and Kotwali DSP Prakash Soye inspected several Durga Puja pandals in Ranchi on Tuesday. Both the officers inspected the law and order situation, security arrangements, traffic and security standards in the puja pandals. Officers also gave several guidelines to the members of the Puja Committee. The Commissioner and DIG have instructed to remove the electric wires before immersion and take out the immersion procession on the fixed route. Along with this, instructions have been given to install CCTV cameras in the pandals, take electricity and fire NOC, make separate arrangements for women and deploy adequate number of volunteers.

#### Additional 2141 CCTV cameras to be installed in courts

Security of court premises will be further strengthened in all the districts of Jharkhand. 2141 additional CCTV cameras will be installed in all the civil courts including the High Court of the state. In this regard, a meeting was held on Monday under the chairmanship of the Home Secretary on the point of assessing the need for CCTV cameras installed in various district and sub-divisional courts, its supervisor and additional cameras. SPs were instructed to audit the security arrangements of the court every month. The Police Headquarters has instructed the SPs of all the districts that they will audit the security arrangements of the court every month.

### **Durga Puja Celebration at SBPS**



Sarala Birla Public School, Ranchi celebrated Durga Puja in its premises with zest and fervour. On the occasion a special assembly was conducted which commenced with a devotional song. A thought on the significance of the celebration was delivered which was followed by the soulful rendition of 'Durga Shrotam', in the honour of the divine energy. The highlight of the day was a tableau of the nine forms of Maa Durga by the students followed by a spectacular Dandiya dance. The day culminated in gaiety and celebration. School Principal, Paramjit Kaur, greeted everyone on the occasion. She reminded everyone about the essence of Navratri which celebrates the power of the female divinity. It also signifies that good always triumphs over evil.

### **'DURGOSTAV 2024'**

# Eco friendly pandal at Satya Amar lok

Divya Modi Ranchi

Getting bigger and better with each passing year, Durga Puja celebrations at Satya Amar Lok puja pandal is once again set to entice pandal hoppers of the City. Being decked up for the last 46 years, this year the puja pandal will have a grand look of an imaginary tem-

The pandal is being constructed using eco- friendly materials like Jhau fruit, flowers and bark. While the facade of the imaginary temple is inspired from the Jagannath Temple in Puri, the

interiors will have intricate crafts-manship to woo revellers. The pandal will be about 70 feet in height and 60 feet in width. The idol of Goddess Durga will be about 16 feet tall while the dais where all the idols will be placed will be about 24 feet broad. The ornaments adoring the deity are being0 made using fruits, flowers



and leaves generally available in West Bengal during this time of the year.

The pandal is being primed up at a budget of approximately Rs 35 lakh including the decoration, idols and security. The pandal premises will also have washrooms for women.

"Amongst all the puja pandals in Ranchi, Satya Amar Lok is said to be safest venue for pandal hoppers. All the committee members and volunteers about 100 of us ensure that the visitors do not face any problem. Over the years, there is huge difference in the way Durga Puja is being cele-brated in the City. Earlier, the budget used to be about Rs 10 lakh which has now gone up to Rs 35 lakh," said the spokesperson of the committee Suresh

Chandra Aggarwal.
The pandal is being designed by Ashok Samanta from Medinipur while the idols are being sculpted by Anup Gorai. A major part of the designing work and crafts-manship has been done in Medinipur in the past two months while about 36 artisans are now involved in giving the structure a final look for the past 36 days in Ranchi.

Offerings to the deities will be made for four consecutive days starting on the evening of Saptami- October 9 which will include khichdi, kheer and boondi and will later be distributed amongst the worshippers. On the day of Mahanavmi, a platter with 56 delicacies will be made as an offer to the Goddess.

As many as 24 CCTV cameras are being installed in the entire premises to ensure safety of all visitors along with a fire fighting system and security personnel are also be deployed by the organisers. To enter the pandal separate queues for male and female devotees is being made. For foodies a variety of food stalls will be available to choose form.

The pandal will be open to the public from Shashthi- October 8. The chief guest for the occasion will be Harivansh Narayan Singh, Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha while the inauguration will be done MP Sanjay Seth. CP Singh and Mahua Maji will also be present as special guests informed Aggarwal. The visarjan or idol immersion has been scheduled for October 13.

### Make efforts for voter awareness through SVEEP: CEO

PNS ■ Ranchi

hief Electoral Officer (CEO) Ravi Kumar, on Tuesday, said that the objective of the Sveep program is to motivate voters to vote by making them aware. He said that work should be done by making a special strategy to motivate voters by

focusing on the areas of polling stations with low voting percentage.

Today, he was holding a review meeting with the Deputy Election Officers of all the districts and the medal. all the districts and the nodal officers of Sweep through video conferencing from the Election House to formulate a strategy related to Sweep. The CEO directed the Deputy

Election Officers of all the districts and the nodal officers of Sweep to prepare an action plan and calendar related to voter awareness in view of the upcoming assembly elections



CEO K Ravi Kumar addresses media persons at his office in Ranchi on Tuesday

and make the programs of each day available without delay. He said that the officers have to tag the activities of each day's Sweep in the social media platform of the Chief Election Officer and the Election Commission of India, along with this, a report of the

entire programs has to be made available to the head-quarters at the end of each day. Kumar said that the concerned officials should not show any negligence in the work of Sweep and ensure compliance of the guidelines issued by the Election Commission of India

related to Sweep activities at every level. He said that to increase the voting percent-age, programs should be organized by promoting local connectivity in all the dis-

Kumar said that to motivate the voters of urban areas to vote, coordinate with the officials of the Urban
Development Department and
Municipal Corporation and
reach out to every house and
make them aware. He said that the voting day has to be organized like a festival and the work of promoting family voting has to be done by giving

"Along with this, by speeding up the voting process of the voter at the polling stations, reducing long queues and proreducing long queues and providing assured minimum facilities at the polling stations, do extensive publicity of it among the voters of urban areas," Kumar said.

## Kalpana Soren's statue installed in Ranchi's pandal Describing Kalpana Soren's statue as a form of Nari Shakti and



PNS ■ Ranchi

The puja pandals built on different themes in Ranchi are attracting people's attention. In this episode, a life-size statue of Gandey MLA and Chief Minister Hemant Soren's wife Kalpana Soren has also been installed in

puja pandal of Jai Mata Di Durga Puja Committee in Namkum area. Along with this, statues of Rohini Acharya, daughter of former Bihar Chief Minister Lalu Prasad Yadav and Rabri Devi, female wrestler and Congress leader Vinesh Phogat have also been installed inside the pandal.

Goddess Durga, she has been described as heavy on the opposition. At the same time, Rohini Acharya has also been described as a form of Goddess Durga and Vinesh Phogat as one who increases the honor of the country and fights the enemies. According to the Puja Committee. by installing the statue of women

in the puja pandal, an attempt was made to give the message that people should worship women as goddesses in their homes. Jai Mata Di Durga Puja Committee has been celebrating Durga Puja with great pomp for the last five years. Vinod Singh, the president of Puja

Committee, says that after Chief Minister Hemant Soren went to jail, the way Kalpana Soren fought the opposition and estab-lished herself as an emerging woman leader is something other women of the society also need to

### ED raids at multiple locations in land scam

PNS ■ Ranchi

Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Tuesday conducted raids on more than half a dozen locations of three Circle Officers (CO), District Transport Officer (DTO), a lawyer, a land broker and others in a case related to a land scam. The locations where raids

are being conducted include the residences of the Dhanbad District Transport Officer (DTO), Ranchi Circle Officer (CO), a lawyer, and others in connection with land scams and extortion cases.

According to the information, the ED team has raided the places of a lawyer from Dhanbad as well as Dhanbad DTO Diwakar Prasad Dwivedi, Jai Kumar Ram, Prabhat Bhushan, Sanjeev Pandey, Ravi and a person named Sujit. This action has been taken on the basis of the FIR lodged in Pandra police station. There is news of huge amount of cash being recovered during the raid. However, it has not been confirmed yet. Apart from Kanke and Namkum COs, Dhanbad DTO has been accused of making a deal for Rs 5.71 crore to manage the ED investigating the land scam

case. Land businessman Sanjeev Kumar Pandey has filed a case against lawyer Sujit Kumar in Pandra OP. Sanjeev Pandey, a resident of Pandra, has filed a case against lawyer Sujit Kumar in Ranchi's Pandra police station in the name of managing the ED case. Sanjeev Pandey alleges that lawyer Sujit Kumar has cheated him and some officials of more than five crores to not include his name in the ED chargesheet. According to Sanjeev, Sujit

had assured him that he would save him and some of his official friends from the ED case, their names would not appear in the chargesheet, in return Sujit cheated him of crores of rupees. Even after this, his name appeared in the ED chargesheet. When Sanjeev asked for his money, the lawyer issued 54 cheques in lieu of not having the money. He also gave his car in exchange for the money and made an agreement. On the other hand, advocate Sujit has also filed a kidnapping case against Sanjeev Pandey. The advocate has told in his application that Sanjeev Pandey and some of his associates kidnapped him and released him after collecting Rs 12

lakh from him.

### PNS ■ Ranchi

BJP President and former Chief Minister Babulal Marandi on Tuesday said that there is tremendous enthusiasm in the state about the 'Gogo Didi Yojana'. People have faith and trust in the Bharatiya Janata Party and the country's Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Marandi said that people know

that whatever announcement and promise the BJP and Prime Minister Narendra Modi make, they fulfill it. Therefore, people have faith that if they have promised, announced, then definitely all these decisions will be taken in the first cabinet as soon

as the government is formed.

Marandi was talking to the media on October 8 after filling the form of Gogo Didi Yojana in Khokhma Toli near Birsa Munda Airport Road.

Marandi said that the people who have filled the form, it is loaded in the computer. Its doc-

loaded in the computer. Its document is being prepared. As soon as the BJP government is formed in the state, ? 2100 will go to their bank account on the 11th of every month. He said that if Chief Minister

Hemant Soren wants to investigate, then do it. If action is to be taken, then do it. I have come and filled the form for mothers and sisters myself. The Bharatiya Janata Party and Modi ji's government want



State President and former Chief Minister Babulal Marandi filling the Gogo Didi Yojna's form for beneficiaries at Khokhma Toli in Ranchi on Tuesday.

women empowerment in the country. Today is not the first time any program is going on. Many schemes are already running, which are dedicated to

mothers and sisters. He said that 33% seats have been reserved for women in the Parliament and Assembly of the country by making a law. Along with that, Lakhpati Didi is being created. Efforts are also being made for women to move forward in the field of employment. Toilets have been provided for women. Triple Talaq has been abolished by making a law. Maternity leave has been increased from 12 weeks to 26 weeks. Jan Dhan account was opened for women. When the Bharatiya Janata Party government was formed for the first

time in Jharkhand, bicycles were given to girls. Along with this, the previous government had also started a scheme to register property up to Rs 50 lakh for women for 1.

He said that the order regarding the action of Chief Minister Hemant Soren clearly shows that he is restless about the scheme. Today FIR should be lodged first against Hemant Soren. It should be lodged against JMM leaders. It should against JMM leaders. It should be lodged against their president and working president. It should be lodged because in the 2019 election manifesto, he had announced that he will give Rs 72000 annually to the poor. He had announced that he will give Rs 2000 to mothers and sixters Rs 2000 to mothers and sisters for cooking expenses.

### Municipal Commissioner inspects various Puja Pandals

PNS ■ Ranchi

n view of the Durga festival, a cleanliness drive is being run by the corporation in the Puja Pandal premises and its surrounding areas. For this purpose, on Tuesday, Municipal Commissioner Sandeep Singh along with the officials of the corporation visited the major Durga Puja Pandals and

inspected the cleanliness system. Singh inspected Bihar Club, Durgabari and Chandrashekhar Azad Durga Puja Committee.
On the spot, the Municipal Commissioner directed the team of

Swachhata Branch to ensure a better cleanliness system on the con-necting paths of the pandals and to clean the drains as well as cover

the open drains.
Singh direct Singh directed the Puja Committees to assess the crowd and ensure separate entry and exit arrangements for men and women, proper parking arrangements and arrangements to make the common people aware not to throw garbage here and there. He said that zonewise teams have been formed to provide better facilities at all the 160 Puja Pandals under the Corporation area, through which cleanliness, drinking water, mobile toilets, availability of stone dust etc. are being ensured.

The Municipal Commissioner directed all Puja committees to keep the pandals and surroundings

clean during the Durga Puja festival. If any kind of need is felt at the Corporation level, contact the Corporation's Connect Center, telephone number 1800 570 1235 or WhatsApp 8141231235 and register ways remained. ter your complaint. Apart from this, in view of the possibility of rain, if a water-logging situation arises, then the "Quick Response Team" will manage it with full promptness, he said. He gave strict instructions to the Electricity Department to repair all the damaged street lights in the city immediately.

aged street fights in the city infine-diately.

While wishing the people of Ranchi Municipal Corporation area a happy Durga Puja festival, the Administrator said that during Durga Puja festival, do not throw garbage here and there, throw garbage in the dustbin only so that the corporation team can collect the corporation team can collect the garbage easily and the cleanliness of the city remains organized. Additional Administrator Sanjay Kumar, City Manager, Zonal Supervisor and Ward Supervisor were present on the occasion.

# Democracy revived in Jammu and Kashmir: Amit Shah India, Germany review defence ties

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday said democracy has been revived in Jammu and Kashmir with the successful conduct of assembly election as promised by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

He also said that the massive victory of the BIP in Harvana is a victory of the unwavering faith of farmers, poor, backward, soldiers and youth in the BJP government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Congratulating people of the Union Territory (UT) for their participation in the polls, Shah also said for the first time since the advent of terrorism in the 1980s, the people of Jammu and Ƙasĥmir witnessed such a transparent and peaceful election and participated in the elections in large

"The people of Jammu and Kashmir remember the 1987 assembly elections very well,



when the Congress made a mockery of democracy by openly rigging the elections. Democracy has now been revived in the same Kashmir valley," he said in a series of social media posts in Hindi Shah said Prime Minister Modi had promised the people of the country that peaceful and fair elections will be conducted in Jammu and Kashmir.

"I am extremely happy that

for the first time since the advent of terrorism in the 1980s, the people of Jammu and Kashmir witnessed such a transparent and peaceful election and participated in the elections in large

congratulate the "I heartily Commission, Election Kashmir Administration, security forces and the people of Jammu and Kashmir for these

and successful

elections," he said. The senior BJP leader said in Jammu and Kashmir, where under the Congress rule, there was only "reign of terror and democracy was being murdered every day", under the BJP rule, the great festival of democracy was celebrated with full pomp and gaiety.

"People elected representatives without any fear of terror and panic. @narendramodi ji for this unprecedented change," he

The elections to the 90member Jammu and Kashmir assembly was held after 10 years and for the first time after the abrogation of Article 370, which gave special status to the erstwhile state. The three-phase polling was concluded on October 1 and the results were declared on Tuesdav.

Shah also said the people of 'Veerbhoomi' Haryana have completely rejected the "negative and divisive politics" of Congress which "divides" people on the basis of caste and region. The people have chosen the 10 years track record of development and welfare of poor of BJP, he added.

Salute to the people Veerbhoomi Haryana. This massive victory of the BJP in Haryana is a victory of the unwavering faith of farmers, the poor,

Heartfelt gratitude to Prime backward, the soldiers and the youth in the BJP government led by Prime Minister @narendramodi ji," he wrote

in a social media post in Hindi. The home minister said Haryana, the land of farmers and soldiers, has taught a

lesson to those who go abroad and insult the country for their vote bank. "I express my heartfelt gratitude to the people of Haryana for giving BJP the

for the third consecutive time," he said. Shah said the government at the Centre and in the state under the leadership of Modi will fulfil all aspirations and hopes of the people of the state.

The BJP is set to return to power in Haryana for the third consecutive term with an absolute majority in the 90-member assembly. The polling was held on October five and results were declared on Tuesday.



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI** 

India and Germany on Tuesday reviewed the entire Rajnath and gamut of their bilateral defence ties during telephonic talks between Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and his coun-

terpart Boris Pistorius. The two leaders also took stock of ongoing defence cooperation including exercises in the air and maritime domains, defence ministry said.

The ministers also discussed ways to further strengthen defence industrial collaboration and enhance supply chain resilience, the Indian defence ministry said. "Rajnath Singh held a telephonic conversation with the German Federal Minister of Defence Mr Boris Pistorius on October 8," it

The telephonic conversation comes ahead of German Chancellor Olaf Scholz's scheduled visit to India later this month.

The ministers ongoing reviewed the cooperation

activities including exercises in the air and maritime domains," the ministry said in a statement.

discussed ways to further strengthen the defence industrial collaboration and enhance supply resilience, it added. "They planned to meet in the

near future to give concrete shape to the defence engagements and joint projects with an aim to transform defence as a key pillar of the India-Germany bilateral relationship," the ministry said.

Rajnath also posted on social media about the talks. "Had a telephonic conversation with the German Federal Minister of Defence, Mr Boris Pistorius.

We reviewed the ongoing defence cooperation activities including the exercises in air and maritime domain. We also discussed ways and means to strengthen the defence industrial collaboration and enhance supply chain resilience," he wrote on the social media platform.

### Modi to visit Laos for ASEAN, East Asia summits

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI** 

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be on a two-day visit to Laos on October 10 and 11 during which he will attend the 21st Association of Southeast Nations (ASEAN) - India

Summit and the 19th East Asia Summit, Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Tuesday Laos is the current chair of ASEAN.

On the invitation of his Laos Siphandone, Prime Minister Modi will visit Vientiane on October 10-11, the MEA said in a statement.

During the visit, Modi will attend the 21st ASEAN-India Summit and the 19th East Asia Summit being hosted by Laos as the current chair of ASEAN, Modi is also expected to hold

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

hief of Air Staff, Air Chief

CMarshal AP Singh on

Tuesday highlighted the need

for the Indian Air Force (IAF)

to realign itself to meet the pre-

sent and future requirements as

the global security environ-

ment is in a state of constant

The ongoing conflicts have demonstrated the

requirement to have a strong

and capable Air Force.

Therefore, there is a need for

the IAF to be prepared to

meet any contingency that

challenges our national

After reviewing the Parade at

the Air Force Station in Tambaram near Chennai on

the occasion of 92nd Annual

IAF Day celebrations, he said,

innovative and out-of-the-

box thinking will play a

decisive role in today's multi-

Prime Minister Narendra

domain environment."

the

along

lauded Air Force

with

interest, he noted.

"Adopting

technology

meetings on the margins of the two summits, according to the MEA.

"India is marking a decade of

the Act East Policy this year. Relations with ASEAN are a central pillar of the Act East Policy and our Indo-Pacific vision," the MEA said. The ASEAN-India Summit

will review the progress of India-ASEAN relations through "our Comprehensive

personnel for their courage

and professionalism as he

Day. The day is observed to

mark the anniversary of the

commemorate the sacrifices

Modi said in a social media

post, "Air Force Day greetings

to our brave air warriors. Our

Air Force is admired for their

courage and professionalism.

Their role in protecting our

IAF chief recalled that last

year the Indian Air Force

made a significant stride in

strengthening operational

professionalism and adapting

to ever-evolving challenging

environment is in a state of

constant flux. Ongoing

conflicts have demonstrated

the requirement to have a

strong and capable air force.

Therefore, there is a need for

the Indian Air Force to be

prepared to meet any

contingency that challenges

global

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enhancing

security

made by air warriors.

institution

nation commendable".

capabilities,

modern warfare.

"The

IAF should realign for present,

future security needs: AP Singh

Strategic Partnership" and chart the future direction of cooperation. "The East Asia Summit, a premier leaders-led forum that contributes to building an environment of strategic trust in the region, provides an opportunity for leaders of EAS Participating Countries, including India, to exchange views on issues of regional importance," the

# ED questions Azharuddin under PMLA

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Tuesday questioned former Indian cricket team captain Congress leader Mohammed Azharuddin in a money laundering case linked to alleged financial irregularities in the Hyderabad Cricket Association. ED recorded his statement under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), they said.

The 61-year-old Member of Parliament was first asked to depose before the agency on October 3 but he sought deferment of the notice and asked for a fresh date. The agency subsequently issued him fresh summons to appear on October 8. The probe is

"We also conducted the

largest multi-national exercise

Tarang Shakti on the Indian

soil after a gap of 61 years with participation from Air

Forces of more than 30 nations," he added.

responder in any calls of humanitarian assistance and

disaster relief both within

India and abroad. In the last

one year, the Indian Air Force

has been called upon to provide flood relief in many

locations while fighting forest

fires in some other," IAF chief

The Indian Air Force beyond

the borders, also played an

important role in relief and

from

We have been always the first

Cricket Hyderabad Association (HCA). The ED had conducted searches in connection with irregularities in November last year. Azharuddin's role during his

related to alleged financial

in

irregularities

tenure as the HCA president is under the scanner of the agency, the sources had said. Following the registration of a case in connection with the alleged irregularities

Telangana Police last year, he had said that the allegations levelled against him were "false" and "motivated" and it was "just a stunt" pulled by rivals to ruin his reputation. The money laundering case stems from three FIRs and charge sheets filed by the Telangana Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) in connection with alleged criminal misappropriation of funds of the HCA to the tune of Rs 20 crore.

# India recognised for eliminating Trachoma

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

India has been recognised by the World Health Organization (WHO) for elimease caused by a bacterial infection, as a public health problem, becoming the third country in the Southeast Asia region to achieve this milestone, following Nepal and Myanmar.

Trachoma, which can cause infectious blindness, is linked to poor hygiene and inadequate water supply, spreading through contact with infected secretions or indirectly via flies.

During a 'Public Health Awards' event at the Seventy Seventh Regional Committee Session, WHO officials highlighted the crucial roles played by India's government, ophthalmologists, healthcare workers in effectively managing trachoma through surveillance, surgical services, and community hygiene initiatives.

"India's success is due to the strong leadership of its government and the commitment ophthalmologists and other



cadres of health-care workers.

"They worked together with partners to ensure effective surveillance, diagnosis and management of active trachoma, provision of surgical services for trichiasis, and promotion of water, sanitation and hygiene, particularly facial cleanliness, among communities," said Wazed, Regional Saima Director WHO South-East Asia.

The WHO also felicitated Bhutan for achieving interim targets for cervical cancer elimination, Maldives and Sri Lanka for Hepatitis B control in children, Timor-Leste for eliminating lymphatic filariasis and six countries for achieving SDG and global targets for reducing underfive mortality and stillbirth

Bhutan was recognised for reaching the 2030 interim targets towards elimination of cervical cancer as a public health problem, the first country in the region to achieve this significant public health milestone, the WHO said in a statement. The interim 90-70-90 targets

are 90 per cent girls fully vaccinated against Human papillomavirus (HPV vaccine) by 15 years of age; 70 per cent of women screened with a high-performance test by 35 years of age and again by 45 years of age and 90 per cent of women identified with cervical disease provided treatment, the statement said. "The success of the Royal

favourable health policies, organised health systems, well-defined country priorities, motivated health coordination by the Ministry Lauding Maldives and Sri

Government of Bhutan is

driven by strong leadership,

Lanka for achieving hepatitis B control, the Regional Director said that preventing hepatitis B infection in children substantially reduces chronic infections and cases of liver cancer and cirrhosis in adulthood. Bhutan was also recognised

for achieving the SDG and global 2030 targets of reducing under-5 mortality and stillbirth rates while Timor-Leste was awarded for the elimination of lymphatic filariasis as a public health problem. It is the fifth country in the Region to eliminate lymphatic filariasis.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Indonesia, Maldives, Sri Lanka and Thailand were felicitated for achieving the SDG and global targets for the reduction of under-5 mortality, neonatal mortality and stillbirth rates, the statement added.

## Palliative care crisis: Only 4 per cent of needy patients in India receive support

friendly foreign countries.

our national interest," he said.

Referring to the theme of this

year's Annual Day, 'Bharatiya

Vayu Sena: Saksham, Sashakt,

Powerful and Self-Reliant),

IAF chief said, "it perfectly

"Over the years, we have

become more empowered

with better technology and

achieved new levels of operational exploitation of

our systems and weapons." He pointed out that the past

year was very eventful and the

Air Force proved its mettle on

various fronts. In 2024, the

IAF chief said, the Air Force

expanded its participation in

bilateral and multilateral

exercises with Air Forces of

describes our aspirations."

Atmanirbhar'

(Potent,

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI** 

fter his diagnosis, 79-year-Aold Raghav Sharma with advanced cancer was referred to a hospital with a palliative care unit, but due to a lack of trained staff and limited resources, he experienced long wait times and inadequate pain management.
While his family tried to

provide care at home, they struggled to manage his without symptoms professional guidance.

Palliative care is a medical approach aimed at improving the quality of life with the compassionate support for individuals with serious illnesses like third or fourth stage of cancer.

despite

National Health Policy's Rajagopal inclusion of palliative care, Sharma's experience for care reflects the broader issue where only about 4% of the estimated 10 million people needing such care in India receive it.

Dr Rajagopal, founder of Pallium India, which provides pain relief and palliative care for free, laments that despite its inclusion in the National Health Policy in 2017, the MBBS curriculum in 2019, and the BSc Nursing curriculum in 2021, there remains a significant gap in

palliative care.
"At least 10 million people in India require palliative care, yet only 4 per cent currently receive it," he said at an event community volunteers are essential for advancing palliative care. Dr Soumya Swaminathan,

chairperson of the MS Swaminathan Research Foundation and former ICMR head, emphasised that palliative care not only addresses the physical pain of patients but also considers broader suffering experienced by both patients

and their families. Ahead of the World Hospice and Palliative Care Day on October 12, DS Negi, CEO, of Delhi-based Rajiv Gandhi Cancer Institute & Research Centre (RGCIRC) said, "Doctors and medical support staff face numerous challenges in providing comprehensive hospice and

evacuation

countries, he added.

Apart from the emotional resistance from family to forming support groups, the infrastructure in India is also lacking.

There is an urgent need to bridge the gap between patient needs and healthcare provider practices to enhance the delivery of palliative care in India, "added Negi.
Doing its bit to create

about awareness importance of hospice and palliative care in the country, the RGCIRC organised a daylong event 'Hospice & Palliative Care Event 24' (HOPE'24) here recently. Discussing the need for advanced care planning

and Palliative care, RGCIRC said, "This is especially relevant for life-limiting illness eg- cancer where ACP may ensure that patients do not endure treatment that may not align with their wishes or quality of life preferences.

'It's crucial to empower patients and their families to engage in these conversations early on, minimizing the treatments. A recent study by doctors at

AIIMS Jhajjar too has found that providing empathetic treatment to seriously ill patients can improve their quality of life.

"It is an effective approach to (ACP) during the cancer treatment by establishing treatment, Dr Kinshuki Jain, better connectivity with Head, Department of Pain critically ill patients," it said.

## PM Modi pays tribute to Ram Vilas Paswan on fourth death anniversary

PNS NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday paid tribute to Lok Janshakti Party founder Ram Vilas Paswan, a prominent leader from the Dalit community, on his fourth death anniversary, praising him as an outstanding leader who was fully devoted to empowering the poor.

He said in a social media post, "I pay homage to my very dear friend and one of India's tallest leaders, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan Ji on his Punya Tithi. He was an outstanding leader, fully devoted to empowering the poor and dedicated to building a strong and



developed India." The prime minister said he was fortunate to have worked with Paswan so closely over the years. "I greatly miss his insights on several issues," he said. Paswan was a member of the Modi cabinet since 2014 till his death in 2020. A grassroots politician with a

keen sense of ground pulse, the Bihar leader worked in the Cabinet of different prime ministers representing rival parties and enjoyed good equation with leaders across the aisle. His son Chirag Paswan is now heading the LJP (Ram Vilas) and is a Cabinet minister.

# Blame game in Congress after failure to come back to power in Haryana

Party high command should assess all reasons leading to disappointing results, identify people responsible: Kumari Selja

NEW DELHI/CHANDIGARH

Ablame game began in the Congress on Tuesday after it failed in its bid to come back to power in Haryana after 10 years, with senior party leader Kumari Selja saying the party high command should assess all reasons that led to the disappointing result and identify the people responsible.

On the other hand alleging a conspiracy, the Congress said it would not accept the Haryana Assembly poll result as it raises "serious questions" about the integrity of the instruments of the democratic system. Congress gen-

eral secretary Jairam Ramesh said the Haryana result is a victory of manipulations, and subverting the will of people. He also alleged that it is a defeat of the transparent and democratic processes.

The knives were out in the Congress even before the declaration of final results, as party veteran Kumari Selja, who had been sulking during the election which was effectively led by former chief minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda, said that "it will not be business as usual" and called for introspection.

The Haryana poll results are disappointing and I am pained at the disappointment of the Congress workers in forward to forming their gov-



the state who have worked very hard and were looking ernment after 10 years. "It will not be business as

seats. After deliberation, three

names were shortlisted for

each constituency, forming a

panel to be sent to the central

leadership for final approval.

Interestingly, none of the names on the panel include

With the by-election dates

expected to be announced

soon, the BJP is set to escalate

its election campaign. Party

leaders discussed campaign

plans, including visits from

senior figures and strategies

for collecting ground-level feedback on each seat.

A plan to improve coordina-

tion between the government

and the organization was also

discussed to ensure a smooth

Apart from election-related

matters, the meeting also

touched upon appointments

to various government cor-

porations, commissions, and

electoral process.

Muslim candidates.

sure the Congress high command would identify those usual in Haryana and I am who negated the efforts to

10 years," she told the media. The Sirsa Lok Sabha MP and former union minister said she was sure that the Congress high command would go into all aspects that led to such results and would identify the reasons and those responsible for bringing such results. "I'm sure the party will look into all aspects that led to such results in Haryana," Selja said.

She referred to factors affecting the organisation like taking everyone along and ensuring coordination among all the leaders in the state.

Ramesh claimed there were "serious issues" with the counting process and the functioning of the electronic voting machines (EVMs) in around 14 constituencies and that Congress would take up the matter with the Election Commission soon.

'Results in Harvana are totally unexpected and surprising. They go against ground reality and the sentiment of the people which was for change," Ramesh said at a press conference with Congress' media and publicity department head Pawan Khera.

"Under these circumstances, it is not possible for us to accept these results (in Haryana)... There are serious issues raised by our candidates which we will raise with the EC," Ramesh said.

from us in Haryana... The results are against the sentiment of the people which was for change.

The Congress has been made to lose in Haryana and the chapter is not closed," Ramesh said. On the Jammu and Kashmir results, Ramesh said the people have defeated the "mischievous designs" of the BJP to muster a majority somehow.

People have given a befitting reply to those who trampled upon J-K's respect by taking away its statehood. The NC-Congress government will make all efforts for the restoration of J-K's statehood," Ramesh said.

# BJP intensifies preparations for UP by-elections, finalises panel of candidates

BISWAJEET BANERJEE

With by-elections on 10 assembly seats in Uttar Pradesh on the horizon, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has ramped up its election preparations. It has finalised a list comprising the names of 27 candidates for 9 seats. A crucial meeting of the BJP

core committee took place in Lucknow, chaired by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. The meeting, which included discussions on candidates for nine of the ten seats, resulted in the finalization of a panel comprising 27 names. This panel will now be sent to Delhi for approval, with the party's central leadership expected to make the final

Notably, it was decided to leave the Meerapur seat for the Rashtriya Lok Dal (RLD), a BJP ally, while discussions continue over the Nishad Party's claim to seats in the by-

No decision has been made



President Sanjay Nishad will be given a seat, raising doubts about his party's allocation. The high-level meeting, held at the Chief Minister's residence, lasted over an hour and included prominent BJP leaders such as Deputy Chief Ministers Keshav Prasad Maurya and Brajesh Pathak, President State Bhupendra Chaudhary, and Secretary (Organization) Dharampal. During the meeting, discus-

sions centered around ticket

party and the government.

such as the membership campaign and leader visits, were also reviewed. It was decided that ongoing consultations between the Chief Minister and the State President will help shape the party's strategy moving forward.
The meeting focused on nine constituencies: Milkipur,

by-elections, campaign strategies, and efforts to bolster coordination between the In addition to candidate selection, other critical aspects of the by-election preparations,

Katehari, Majhawan, Phulpur, Khair, Kundarki, Sisamau, Adityanath has asked the Karhal, and Ghaziabad, with party organization to finalize the exception of Meerapur. the list of names for these The BJP's district committees appointments and submit them for approval. However, the status of the had earlier forwarded a list of ten names for each of these

seats sought by the Nishad Party remains uncertain. While it was confirmed that the Meerapur seat will go to RLD, the BJP has prepared panels for the Katehari and . Majhawan seats, traditionally claimed by the Nishad Party. In the 2022 assembly elections, the Nishad Party contested both seats but only won Majhawan. Given the current dynamics, it remains unclear whether the Nishad Party will receive a seat allocation this time around.

The BJP's preparations for the upcoming by-elections indicate a comprehensive strategy to secure key constituencies and ensure a coordinated campaign effort. The final list of candidates is expected to shape the party's chances as the election draws near," BJP state president Bhupendra Chaudhry said.

# More voters used NOTA button in J and K than in Haryana: EC data

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

More voters in Jammu and Kashmir used the None of the above(NOTA)button against those in Haryana, latest Election Commission data

In elections to the 90-member Haryana assembly, out of over two crore electors, 67.90 per cent had exercised their franchise. Out of these, 0.38 per cent used the NOTA option on the voting machine. In the three-phased Jammu and

Kashmir assembly polls to 90 seats, 63.88 per cent of the total electorate voted. Out of these, 1.48 per cent opted for the NOTA option. According to trends, not more than two per cent of the voters have opted for the NOTA option, indicating continued reluctance of electors in choosing the option.

Introduced in 2013, the NOTA option on electronic voting machines has its own symbol a ballot paper with a black



After the Supreme Court order in September 2013, the Commission(EC)added the NOTA button on the EVMs as the last option on the voting panel. Before the apex court order, those not inclined to vote for any candidate had the option of filling what is popularly called form 49-O.

But filling out the form at the polling station under Rule 49-O of the Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961, compromised the secrecy of the voter. The Supreme Court had, however, refused to direct the EC to hold fresh polls if the majority of the electorate exercised the NOTA

tion commissioner O P Rawat had said, "In the present situation, NOTA has only symbolic significance and it cannot have an impact on the election result

"More than 50 per cent electors will have to once opt for NOTA in a seat to show the political community that they do not consider candidates with criminal background or other undeserving ones worthy of their votes. Only after this, pressure on Parliament and the Election Commission will increase and they will have to think about changing laws to make NOTA effective on the election results," he had said.

### Haryana Assembly poll trends show Congress headed for shock defeat

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

 $E_{\text{for the Congress on}}^{\text{cstacy turned into agony}}$ Tuesday as the celebratory quarters in the morning changed into a sombre environment by noon as the trends for the Haryana assembly elections came in showing that the party was headed for a shock defeat. As counting began, early trends showed that the Congress seemed on track to score a big win in the Haryana polls, as predicted also by exit polls. Party workers were seen bursting crackers and distributing 'jalebis' and 'laddoos' at the AICC headquar-

ters at 24, Akbar Road.

Drumbeats reverberated at the grand old party's headquarters around 9AM when trends showed that it was racing ahead. However, post 10 AM, as the trends showed the BJP clawing its way back into the contest, the headquarters bore a sombre look with the 'dhols' and sweets disappearing from the scene. Congress leaders were seen giving media bytes at various places at the headquarters, arguing that the trends would change by 1 PM but it did not happen. The Congress canteen was bustling as usual but an air of disappointment was writ large on the faces of

party leaders and workers. A canteen worker lamented that they had prepared special dishes such as 'pakoris' and 'puris' but there were hardly any takers due to the turn of events in the Haryana polls. Soon, the AICC headquarter bore a deserted look with only media personnel and a few party leaders hanging

around. Some party workers were heard blaming EVMs for the loss, some blamed ticket distribution while others were reeling under the imminent 'shock defeat'

"We can't believe what has happened. There was so much anti-incumbency on the ground. This is a very surprising result," a party work-

As votes were counted for



assembly elections held last month, it was a mixed bag for the Congress and the BJP the saffron party headed for defeat in Jammu and Kashmir but bucked early morning trends to move ahead of the Congress in the nail biting Haryana contest. If the trends hold, the

Congress may well have to settle for a loss in the heartland state and a 'second partner win' in the union territo-

At 2PM, the ruling BJP had crossed the majority mark in the Haryana assembly and was leading or had won 47 seats, while the Congress was ahead or had won 38 seats, according to the trends available on the Election Commission website.

Several exit polls had predicted a big Congress victory in Haryana. What started as buoyant result in Jammu and Kashmir also seemed headed for a disappointing turn in Jammu and Kashmir for the Congress as though its alliance with the National Conference seemed set for majority, the Mallikarjun Kharge-led party was leading or had won only six seats.

The Congress also raised with the Election Commission the issue of an "unexplained slowdown" in updating of results of Haryana elections on the poll watchdog's website and urged it to direct officials to update accurate figures so that "false news and malicious narratives" can be countered immediately.

In a letter to the Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioners, Congress general secretary (In-charge, Communications) Jairam Ramesh said that between 9 and 11 am there was an "unexplained slowdown" in updating of results

on the ECI's website.

### Nothing on record to substantiate slowdown in update of Haryana poll results: EC tells Ramesh PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

 $T_{\texttt{Commission}(\texttt{EC})\texttt{on}}^{\texttt{he}}$ Tuesday told Congress leader Jairam Ramesh that there was nothing on record to substantiate his "ill-founded allegation" of slowdown in updating

The poll panel also dubbed his allegations as an attempt to 'surreptitiously give credence to irresponsible, unfounded and uncorroborated mala fide

Earlier in the day, the Congress had raised with the Election Commission the issue of an "unexplained slowdown" in updating of results of Haryana elections on the poll watchdog's website and urged it to direct officials to update accurate figures so that "false news and malicious narratives" can In a letter to the Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioners, Congress general secretary in-charge communications Ramesh said between nine and 11 am, there



slowdown" in updating of results on the ECI's website. In its response, the poll authority said counting of votes is being carried out according to Rule 60 of Conduct of Election Rules at the designated counting centres and by the designated ry and regulatory regime.

The EC said the entire counting process in Haryana and Jammu and Kashmir is unfolding in the presence of candidates, observers and micro"There is nothing on record to substantiate vour ill-founded

allegation of slowdown in updating of results. Your memorandum also does not bring out any contrary facts as to the delay at any of the constituencies in Haryana or J-K," it told Ramesh.

approximately 25 rounds across all the constituencies are being updated every five minutes, which testifies dissemination of counting process in a speedy manner.

## Haryana's political ripple: Congress loses bargaining power in UP post Haryana polls

**BISWAJEET BANERJEE** 

As political results unfold in Haryana, their ripple effects are likely to shape the future of political alliances in Uttar Pradesh (UP), particularly the dynamics between the Congress and the Samajwadi Party (SP).

Political analysts say that the outcome could weaken Congress's bargaining position in its alliance with SP, with direct implications for the upcoming by-elections for 10 crucial seats in UP. These by-elections will serve as a litmus test for the effectiveness of the opposition's INDIA alliance, raising questions about Congress's role

and influence in the state. A senior Samajwadi Party leader told this reporter that the Haryana election results clearly indicate Congress is rapidly losing its base. The leader urged Congress to reconsider its rigid stance on seat-sharing and accept the offer made by the SP.

"The reality is that Congress lacks strong candidates to contest elections," the leader said, adding, "Even in Jammu and Kashmir, Congress can claim it won, but in truth, it secured only 6 out of the 49 seats won by the alliance. A similar situation unfolded in Uttar Pradesh as well." According to political analyst Rajesh N Bajpayee, the

Congress has historically

struggled to make a signifi-

cant impact in UP. In the last

state elections, Congress won just six seats, largely because it contested as an ally of SP. Without that partnership, Congress risks becoming a minor player in the state's political landscape.

The outcome in Haryana is pivotal because it reflects Congress's ability - or inability - to stand on its own. Failing to form Government, the Congress has now lost the bargaining power," feels political analyst.

The upcoming by-elections in UP are not just a regional political contest; they hold national significance as a test for the opposition's INDIA alliance. Formed to counter the dominance of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), the alliance includes Congress, SP, and other regional parties. But the internal dynamics of this coalition are already strained by seatsharing disputes, and the byelections will test whether the alliance can present a

Congress is reportedly eyeing five of the 10 seats in the upcoming by-elections, with a focus on Muslim-dominated constituencies. However, SP leader Akhilesh Yadav is inclined to grant Congress only two. This tug-of-war over seat allocation underlines Congress's diminishing leverage in UP, which is expected to decline further after the Haryana results. Yogi Adityanath's future tied to by-elections

The by-elections are also crit-

ical for Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, whose future political trajectory hinges on the outcome. Having firmly positioned himself as a hardline Hindutva leader, Yogi faces the challenge of retaining his grip on power in the face of a rejuvenated opposition. A strong performance by the INDIA alliance could signal a shift in the political winds, putting pressure on the BJP Government in the lead-up to the 2024 general elections. Yogi's Government has faced criticism over issues like law and order, unemployment, and communal tensions.

The by-elections will serve as a referendum on his governance, and a poor showing by the BJP could embolden the opposition. While Yogi retains strong support among the BJP base, cracks could emerge if the party fails to perform well, especially in the context of rising discontent among key voter groups.

### Haryana Assembly poll outcome a blow to AAP as it fails to make its mark

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI/CHANDIGARH

The Haryana Assembly poll outcome has come as a blow to the Arvind Keiriwalled Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), which hoped to make a mark in the elections. The party drew a blank so far with its senior vice president of the state unit Anurag Dhanda is among those set to suffer a big defeat. Dhanda, who contested from the Kalayat seat in the Kaithal district, was at the seventh position with Congress' Vikas Saharan leading by a margin of

13,419 votes. No AAP nominee was in the contest in any of the 90 assembly seats and it has managed only 1.79 percent vote share.AAP, which has governments in Delhi and Punjab, did not have any electoral success in the Lok Śabha polls earlier this year.

AAP contested the assembly polls solo after talks with the Congress for stitching an alliance could not fructify. During his poll campaigns,

party national convener Arvind Kejriwal said that had he been released from jail three to four months back, his party would have formed its government in the state after the polls.

Whatever government is formed in Haryana, it will be formed with the support of the Aam Aadmi Party," he claimed. Kejriwal was released from Tihar jail on September 13 after he was granted bail by the Supreme Court in the CBI case linked to the alleged excise policy scam. He remained in jail for five months.

In the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, the Kejriwal-led outfit, which was part of the INDIA bloc, contested in alliance with the Congress from the Kurukshetra parliamentary constituency. But its nomine Sushil Gupta, the party's state unit president and its 'best bet', lost to BJP's Naveen Jindal by around 29,000 votes. In Haryana where caste equations play a key role in the electoral success of a political party, AAP asked people to give it a chance in the assembly polls as they have elected all major political par-

ties one by one.

The party projected Kejriwal as 'Haryana ka laal' (son of Haryana) and sought votes in his name. The party had announced several "guarantees", including free and roundthe-clock electricity for domestic consumers, transformation of government schools and hospitals, free and good education, setting up of 'mohalla' clinics, and Rs 1,000 to women every month.

Though AAP was trying its luck in the 2024 assembly polls, its past poll record shows its dismal performance in

In the 2014 Lok Sabha polls, it had unsuccessfully contested all the 10 parliamentary seats in

In the 2019 parliamentary polls, AAP joined hands with the Jannayak Janta Party and fielded candidates from three seats -- Faridabad, Karnal and Ambala -- and they too lost. In 2019 assembly polls, AAP contested 46 assembly seats and failed to register victory.

### Victory of struggle: Vinesh Phogat on maiden electoral win

PNS CHANDIGARH

ongress candidate and wrestler Vinesh Phogat on Tuesday called her maiden electoral win from the Julana assembly seat in Haryana as "victory of struggle" and "victory of truth". Phogat defeated her nearest rival and BJP nominee

Yogesh Kumar by a margin of 6,015 votes, according to the Election Commission. Phogat polled 65,080 votes while BJP's

Kumar secured 59,065 votes. Speaking

to reporters after the poll outcome, 30year-old Phogat said, "It is a victory of 'sangharh' (struggle) and victory of truth.

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-PAPER WITH PASSION-

# One year of Gaza war

With no clear end in sight, the war in Gaza risks becoming a protracted conflict that destabilises the entire West Asia

s the Gaza war enters its second year, the devastation continues to deepen, turning a political and military confrontation into a full-blown humanitarian crisis. The conflict, which began as a violent flare-up between Israel and Palestinian militants, has now drawn in regional players like Lebanon and Iran, making the prospects for peace even more elusive. The war's impact has rippled across borders, leaving countless civilians trapped in a spiral of violence, displacement and suffering. One year into the war, Gaza's population bears the brunt of the ongoing violence. Entire neighbourhoods have been reduced to rubble, essential infrastructure is in ruins, and thousands of lives have been lost. With over two million people crammed into a strip of land roughly 140 square miles, Gaza was already grappling with poverty, unemployment and limited access to basic services. The war has exacerbated these challenges to catastrophic levels. Hospitals are overwhelmed, clean water is scarce and electricity is available for just a few hours



a day. The United Nations has described the situation as a humanitarian disaster. Around half of Gaza's population is now displaced, living in overcrowded shelters or temporary camps, with limited access to aid. The ongoing blockade of the strip has further restricted the entry of essential supplies, worsening the plight of ordinary citizens. Children, in particular, are facing the harshest consequences, with many losing access to education and mental health support, which adds another layer to the enduring trauma of the war.

What began as a localised conflict between Israel and Hamas has now escalated into a broader regional confrontation, with Lebanon's Hezbollah and Iran's proxy

forces becoming increasingly involved. Hezbollah, the powerful Shia militant group based in Lebanon, has launched attacks on northern Israel, adding a new front to the war. This has drawn in Israeli forces, threatening to destabilise Lebanon, a country already grappling with its own internal crises. Iran's involvement, through its support of Hezbollah and various Palestinian factions, has further complicated the conflict. Tehran's backing of these groups is part of a broader regional strategy, aimed at countering Israeli and the US influence in the West Asia. As Iran's involvement grows, so does the risk of a wider regional war. The US and other global powers have expressed concern over the possibility of an all-out confrontation between Israel and Iran. Diplomatic efforts have been ineffective so far, with talks breaking down repeatedly. The involvement of Hezbollah and Iran signals that the war is no longer confined to Israel and Gaza but is part of a larger geopolitical struggle, further complicating any peace process. In Gaza, the humanitarian situation will continue to deteriorate unless there is an immediate intervention. The conflict has reached a point where military solutions alone cannot resolve the underlying issues. The time is running out, the UN must intervene to avert a crisis that could snowball into a regional catastrophe.



Devotees carry an idol of Goddess Durga to a puja venue, in Nadia

# Sports: A catalyst for social change and unity SANTOSH KUMAR



Sports have long transcended mere competition, emerging as a profound social force capable of uniting diverse communities and inspiring meaningful change

elson Mandela, a Black nationalist and the first Black president of South Africa, once asserted, "Sport has the power to change the world. It has the power to inspire. It has the power to unite people in a way that lit-tle else does. It is more powerful than governments in breaking down racial barriers. It laughs in the face of all types of discrimination." This sentiment underscores the profound influence sports can have on society.

Recently, Indian shooter Manu

Bhaker, the first female athlete from her country to win an Olympic medal in shooting, echoed this sentiment, emphasising that one does not have to pursue conventional careers like medicine or engineering. She expressed that "sports life is a beautiful life," showcasing how sports can be a fulfilling and empowering path. The release of the Ga-Mashie Boxing Heritage photobook and video in Ghana highlights the socio-cultural dimensions of sports, suggesting that these occurrences should not be viewed in isolation but rather as part of a broader sociological and anthropological landscape. Throughout history, from ancient traditions to contemporary contexts, sports have blurred the lines between sociology and anthropology, influencing everything from local culture to global events.

**Breaking Down Barriers** Sports possess a unique ability to

dismantle barriers related to race, gender and disability. Historically, they have served as a battleground for challenging exclusionary practices and promoting inclusivity. In ancient Greece, for instance, Spartan girls participated in physical training and competed in sports, an early testament to gender equality in athletics. Ghana, renowned for producing worldclass boxers, has long viewed the sport as a symbol of hope and resilience.

Racial integration in sports has often signified broader societal changes. A landmark moment in American history was jackie Robinson's breaking of Major United States and China, League Baseball's colour barrier where a simple table tennis in 1947. His courage in facing racial hostility while excelling on

the field not only inspired future generations of athletes but also set the stage for the Civil Rights Movement.

**Catalyst for Social Change** Beyond unification, sports have historically acted as powerful catalysts for social change. Athletes often leverage their platforms to advocate for justice and equality, using their visibility to challenge societal norms and highlight injustices. The Paralympic Games, which began in 1960, have been instrumental in promoting inclusion and accessibility for athletes with disabilities. Sports icons like Muhammad

Ali, Jackie Robinson, and Billie Jean King have used their influence to push for racial and gender equality. Ali's refusal to be drafted into the Vietnam War due to his opposition to racial injustice is one of the most significant acts of protest in sports history. The 1968 Olympics in Mexico City became a global stage for protest when American sprinters Tommie Smith and John Carlos raised their fists in a Black Power salute during the medal ceremony, drawing attention to the struggles of African Americans and other marginalised groups.

Moreover, sports diplomacy has been a strategy for nations to ease tensions. A notable example is the 1971 "Ping-Pong Diplomacy between the match opened the door to diplomatic relations between



THE 1971 'PING-PONG DIPLOMACY' BETWEEN THE **UNITED STATES** AND CHINA IS A PRIME EXAMPLE. WHERE A SIMPLE TABLE TENNIS

MATCH OPENED THE DOORS TO **DIPLOMATIC** RELATIONS BETWEEN TWO **SUPERPOWERS** 

the two superpowers. **Community Development** Sports play a crucial role in

community development, especially in underserved areas. Youth sports programmes provide numerous benefits, including improved physical health, enhanced social skills, and academic achievement. For many, these programmes serve as a safe haven, offering structure, mentorship, and opportunities that might otherwise be unavailable. At the community level, sports unite people around common goals. Local teams often foster a sense of pride and identity, bringing communities together to support their athletes. This sense of unity not only strengthens social bonds but also helps reduce crime rates and enhance community cohesion.

Cultural Dimensions of Sports

The sociological and anthropological impact of sports is undeniable. In India, for instance, sports reflect a complex interplay of caste, community, gender, and sexuality. Historical traditions such as 'Mallakhamb', an ancient Indian martial art that blends yoga and exercise, illustrate how sports can embody cultural heritage. Similarly, traditional games like 'Kabaddi' in Odisha and 'Jallikattu' in Tamil Nadu snowcase the socio-cui tural significance of sports in various regions.

Sports events and local traditions can serve as powerful

tools for social change, transforming communities and promoting inclusivity. The 1995 Rugby World Cup in South Africa is a prominent example, where sports helped bridge the divide between black and white South Africans during Mandela's presidency.

A Continuing Legacy

The stories of athletes who have championed justice, the communities transformed by sports initiatives, and the barriers dismantled through athletic achievement illustrate the transformative power of sports. The recent resurgence of movements like Black Lives Matter has reemphasised the social power of sports. Athletes across various leagues have taken stands against racial injustice, using actions like taking a knee during the national anthem to raise awareness. Major sports organisations have embraced these movements, reflecting a growing recognition of the role sports play in advancing social justice. As we look to the future, it is evident that sports will continue to be a powerful force for good, uniting people, inspiring change, and contributing to a better world. The power of sports to foster connection and advocate for justice is more

(The writer is associate pro-Jessor ana neaa, Journausm and Mass Communication, Rama Devi Women's University, Bhubaneswar; views are personal)

important than ever.

# The rich heritage of Indian astrology and its global Influences



Indian astrology, deeply rooted in the Vedic traditions, has a history that intertwines spirituality, mathematics and cosmic wisdom

ndian astrology has a long and rich history. It all starts with the Vedas. The Yaga rituals prescribed in the Rigveda demanded accuracy in all respects. The Yagasalai — the tent where the rituals are performed — had to be built with precise measurements. The means and methods to compute these measurements later evolved into Vastu or Indian architecture. The Yaga rituals were to begin at an auspicious time, when planetary positions aligned in a certain order.

The methods to compute such auspicious times -Muhurta, in Sanskrit — paved the way to the development of astronomy and astrology in India.Indian astronomy has a long and strong association with scholars from the other civilisations. ancient Suryasiddhanta, one of the ancient Indian treatises on astronomy, begins with the author's prayer to the Sun God asking Him to reveal the secrets of the universe. The

Sun God then appears and

advises the seeker to go and

meet Turamaya in the

Romaka country to learn

more about cosmological sys-

tems and their calculations.

Experts in the field, including Dr Ebenezer Burgess who translated the text to English, opine that Turamaya mentioned in the text is the great astronomer Ptolemy, and Romaka stands for Roman Egypt. Indian predictive astrology too has a strong bond with Greece. One of the very first texts on predictive astrology, which is still widely used by Indian astrologers, is the Yavana-Jataka, or the Greek Horoscopy, authored Sphujiddhvaja

Yavaneswara. The word Yavana derives from Ionian, and broadly means Greece. Another text of the same lineage is the Vruddha-Yavana-Jataka, or the Great Greek Horoscopy. The ancient astrological texts often mention the Greek astrologers and astronomers with reverence and respect. Indian astrology made its mark through Varahamihira,

who is considered as the fore-

most authority of ancient times. His text, the Horasastra is the most widely used astrological text. Varahamihira was a Maga-Brahmin, Priestly class of Hindus who wor-shipped Sun. It should be noted that his book on the lives of philosophers, Diogenes Laertius writes that the great Democritus learned from Magi-Priests. This could be the class of Varahamihira. It should be noted that Varahamihira was also a great mathematician and an astronomer who authored detailed treatises on these subjects. Indian kings and the elite class had their own team of astrologers, who advised them on the military strategies. Astrology was one of the chief components of Indian knowledge system and was metaphorically mentioned as the eye of the Veda. Under this branch, many subjects developed including astronomy and mathematics. Later, when the Mughal invaders tried to attack this knowledge system in the northern part of India, the center of Indian intellectual debates and studies shifted to the south of

Astrology

Mathematics thrived in south

India.

India. At the south they developed their own system of horary astrology, a detailed method of predicting the future, and named it Ashtamangala Prashna. In the field of Mathematics, the Madhava of Šamgamagrama independently discovered Infinite Series for the Trigonometric Functions, which is known today as the "Madhava-Gregory-Leibniz Series."India and Indian Astrology contributed heavily towards the development of science specifically in the fields of astronomy, astrology, and

mathematics. We always appreciated and respected scholars from civilisations and cultures foreign to us too. In the Veda, there is a line "Yatra Viswam Bhavatyeka Needam" which means, here the world becomes a single nest. In the arena of knowledge systems, we lived up to it. The world was a single and simple nest to us. Many birds, scholars and intellectuals, from many trees, many countries, resided in that nest harmoniously.

(The writer is a vedic scholar based in Kerala; views are personal)

### IS 'MAKE IN INDIA' JUST A SLOGAN

Madam —This refers to the write-up on Make in India (October 7). Make in India is more a slogan than a solution. This is because the investments made in the production sector come from FDIs, FIIs or FPIs which are basically known as butterfly capital that tend to fly away anytime for little more benefit offered elsewhere. They are coming in without any conditionality like increasing employment, exports, or tax income. China utilised the system of foreign capital coming into China by imposing conditions like employing the locals, ensuring exports, bringing in new technology, etc.

With such conditions, the country could transform itself from Make in China to Made in China and is able to threaten even the most advanced economies. The Indian model is functioning under 'Ease of doing business' where land, power, tax benefits and cheap labour are offered with the least monitoring, control or regulatory system in vogue or muted. The example of Samsung is to explain this. The management is facing a prolonged strike by the workers on basic demands like a hike in wage and the right to form a union of their choice. The government is neither able to convince the management nor compel them to respect the law of the land. All under the fear of losing future investments. Therefore, Make in India is a slogan but not a solution, as even after some decades the country will have no scope under the present system to transform to Make in India.

**AG Rajmohan** | *Anantapur* 

### **OBAMA BACKS KAMALA HARRIS**

Madam — That former President of the United States (US), Barack Obama, is all set to undertake a 27-day campaign for Democratic Party presidential candidate Kamala Harris should be music to the latter's ears. Obama came to power in 2009 with high expectations, riding on the catchy "yes, we can" slogan, and

# ETTERS TO THE EDITOR



mages of some regions of Antarctica's ice landscape turning green definitely ring as an alarm bell to the whole globe and give a grim message alerting mankind to watch where we are heading to. This dramatic transformation, with its icy landscape increasingly turning green, reveals that the rate of this change has accelerated by over 30 per cent in recent

ruled the fortunes of his country for eight good years. To prevail against the maverick Donald Trump, Kamala Harris would require Obama's sage counsel. Kamala Harris and Obama have known each other for over two decades, and it was she who endorsed Obama for president in 2009.

The Democratic campaign is now "all hands on deck," and beginning from Pennsylvania, where Obama has a huge clout could push Kamala Harris ahead, although, as Obama himself has admitted, it's going to be a "fight." Local galvanisation of supporters cannot be more crucial and relevant under the circumstances. Kamala Harris has hired some key aides of Obama who helped him in his campaign. Obama knows stakes are very high in this election. He also knows another Trump era could spell disaster for the US in many ways. Can the "mentor" swing the votes for his "pupil"? The answer may decide whether or not Kamala Harris will take over as

the 47th US President. Ganapathi Bhat | Akola

# **Antarctica turning green**

years. Scientists and environmentalists say that this "greening" of the Antarctic Peninsula, highlights the urgent consequences of a warming period and the tenfold rise underscores the significant impact of climate change. A study made between 1986 and 2021 by

researchers has revealed that an increase in the vegetation cover across the Antarctic Peninsula has soared from less than one square kilometre to nearly 12 square kilometres within a period of 35 years, which according to the global clock is a short period. Global players, heads and the whole global community must come together and chalk out urgent measures to check this because if this is kept unchecked and ignored it will only end up in disaster resulting in an apocalypse. M Pradyu | Kannur

### **STAMPEDE AT AIR SHOW**

Madam — Stampede is an expected incident in mass gatherings. The Air show at Marina Beach was a muchawaited event for the nation to inspire youth to be a part of the armed forces. Events like this must be planned meticulously by the state government to create an enthusiasm amongst the youth to be a part of the armed forces. Unfortunately, the stampede and deaths of five civilians during the show have left a void in the magnificent showcase of Indian Air Force power.

Hopefully the venue, climatic condition and safety of the viewers are kept in mind while the state government plans such brilliant airshows. The magnitude of the event was such that the roaring Chennai shore saw the best of the showcase by the air warriors and the applause by the audience was one of immense

Mythili Vinod | Secunderabad

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## **FIRST COLUMN NAVIGATING THE WORLD OF EXTREMES**

Yoga meditation, combined with values, is our best hope for navigating these turbulent times



RAJYOGI BRAHMA KUMAR **NIKUNJ JI** 

The world we live in today is full of extremists who seek to exert control over humanity. Unfortunately, a large part of the population is now influenced by factions that adopt agitative approaches to fulfil their social, economic, political, or religious demands. They are termed extremists because they abandon moderation, resorting to overactivism, and in many cases, extreme violence. These groups are willing to go to any lengths to ensure their voices are heard and their demands met by the authorities. They disrupt public peace, and their activities reflect over-assertiveness, rigid attitudes, and a lack of appreciation for the views and interests of other communities or groups. In the process, what often gets sacrificed is any possibility of dialogue or mutual understanding, leading to a cycle of retaliation and resentment.

A closer look at society today reveals that, to some extent, we are all extremists in one way or another. Science and technology are racing toward their extremes. Trade, commerce, and consumerism have adopted a global, expansive form, becoming multinational and mega-scale. The world's largest corporations have achieved levels of influence and control that were once unimaginable. Corporate expansion and monopolistic behaviour continue to push the boundaries of ethics, often leaving smaller businesses struggling to survive.

Environmental pollution has reached disastrous proportions due to unchecked industrial expansion and the selfishness of a few. Entire ecosystems are being pushed to the brink, and climate change is now a pressing global crisis. A small number of individuals and corporations continue to profit at the expense of the planet's future. The increasing use of the internet is contributing to an overwhelming flood of information.



The rapid expansion of cities and transportation networks, have also brought their share of chaos. While these extremes might be seen as signs of development, they come with significant trade-offs, including the erosion of quality of life, mental well-being, and social cohesion. However, amidst all these extremes, the most concerning trend is the rise of anger, jealousy, hatred, violence, greed, and lust. These emotions are spinning out of control, leading to a breakdown in family structures and social harmony. Consumerism, commercialism, and materialism are shaping the very fabric of society, convincing people that their worth is tied to what they own rather than who they are. This pursuit of material success has left many spiritually impoverished, disconnected from their inner selves, and chasing superficial goals that do little to provide

The current trends give us cause for concern, as we witness increasing divisions, social unrest, and the degradation of our environment. The question now becomes: how long can we continue down this path before we reach a breaking point? In such times, when self-control and moderation have all but vanished, and extremism has become the norm, we must learn how to restore our inner calm and balance. Yoga meditation, combined with values, is our best hope for navigating these turbulent times. Meditation can help us return to a state of self-control, calmness, and equilibrium. It purifies the mind and quenches our deep thirst for peace. Through meditation and the cultivation of moral and spiritual values, individuals can learn to be fully engaged in life yet detached from material cravings. They can contribute to the world without succumbing to greed and excess, achieving a balance between material success and spiritual well-being. So, let us make yoga and meditation a daily practice, not just for physical health but to combat the extremism we face within ourselves and in the world around us. Only through this inner journey can we reclaim the purity and peace that seem so elusive in today's fast-paced, hyper-connected world.

(Writer is a spiritual educator & popular columnist;

views are personal)

# Ten years of Swachh Bharat: The road ahead-



From improved groundwater quality to managing solid and liquid waste, the mission's impact has been substantial, but the journey towards a cleaner India must continue



wachh Bharat Abhiyan was launched by PM Narendra Modi on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti in 2014. The mission has completed ten years and during this period 120 million families have been provided access to safe sanitation at their homes. The rural household latrines have transformed the lives of the masses, especially about human health and well-being. It has cut open defecation and UNIČEF's report in 2018 indicates that there is a saving of 5.2 per cent of GDP in a year on this count. The other observed benefits are preventing pollution of groundwater, less infant mortality and better attendance for girl children in schools. Though nearly 4000 cities are certified to have maintained hygiene and cleanliness, the challenge for users and managers is to keep it all functional and used contin-

The golden decade of Indian sanitation is being celebrated this year starting otember 2024 (PM's birth day) to 2nd October 2024, Gandhi Jayanti. Let me examine in this piece as to what are the hits and misses of the mission and also indicate the possible roadmap for the future. Civic agencies and local bodies have done their bit for the success of the mission. The annual ranking of city corporations on this front has made them highly competitive. Cities like Indore, Mysuru and Lucknow and several others have secured high ranks, which has induced other city corporations to do more work for better ranks. The segregation of solid wastes into wet and dry has taken a big leap. The processing of urban wastes which used to be 18 per cent in 2014 has gone up to 80 per cent today. The management of solid waste disposal sites has remained a challenge. The generation of electricity and biofuel from dry wastes has not picked up as yet. However, use of the wet wastes to generate compost and biogas is relatively better performing. More innovation, use of technolo-



INTRODUCTION OF BIO-LATRINES IN TRAINS HAS BEEN QUITE A REVOLUTION. **BEFORE 2014** TRAIN TRACKS **EVEN ABETTING** THE PLATFORMS USED TO BE FILLED WITH HUMAN EXCRETA, A REPULSIVE SITE THAT NO ONE LIKES TO LOOK AT. THIS HAS BEEN OVERCOME **THROUGH** WONDERFUL INNOVATION

gy and investment can be a game changer. The bigger problem is the management of nearly 220 million tonnes of waste in the landfills around many cities. Mountains of garbage at Ghazipur, Okhala, Bhalswa and Bandhwari in and around the national capital have been engaging the attention of governments, experts and Courts for quite some time, but no workable solution has been found.

Liquid wastes are a more serious problem. The civic agencies allowing sewage to flow through open drains have to ensure that all such drains are concealed, lest the sewage mixes with the flood water and can find its way into urban water bodies. Further, the sewer lines carrying household sewage and the soak pits are to be periodically checked and repaired so that no leakage takes place and underground aquiters are not contaminated. A sewage treatment plant (STP) provided at the inlet point of a water body should be functional and no untreated sewage should be allowed to ingress into the water body without treatment. Local bodies and municipalities must ensure that individual houses do not connect their sewer line to stormwater drains, which often happens in thickly populated slums. The water flowing in stormwater drains ends up in the water body directly without going through any treatment. The mixing of sewage in the stormwater drains can be quite harmful and must be prevented at all costs. Bengaluru's city corporation used to generate 1400 Million litres per day (MLD) of sewage in 2005-06 and 2006-07, however, less than 400 MLD used to go through STP. Going through STP does not mean that

the said quantity was treated; often the managers of STP switched off power mischievous-ly to save on cost. At present 1700 MLD sewage is generated, and nearly three-quarters of it goes through STP. The story in other metropolitan cities is similar. STP capacity has to be increased across the country to prevent the contamination of groundwater, which is otherwise the source of many water-borne diseases. Further, there should be stricter vigilance on the management so that these do not malfunction. Plastics and polythene have

become the parts of our lives. It has its share of impacting our health and also that of wild animals and livestock. Especially single-use plastics are thrown haphazardly and find their way either into the mountain of garbage or into the water bodies. it is also directly consumed by livestock, wild animals as well as aquatic life, some of which suffocate and die. Imagine fishes feeding on it and our non-vegetarian friends relishing fishes. Microplastics are in all our blood and are a very big health hazard. The introduction of bio-latrines in trains has been quite a revolution. Before 2014 train tracks even abetting the platforms used to be filled with human excreta, a repulsive site that no one likes to look at. This has been overcome through wonderful innovation. However, as the trains pass through the outskirts of big cities, the dumps containing plastics and polythene are seen on either side. It is often very painful to watch. We need to make changes in our behaviour and ensure that the uses are brought to a minimum. We must honour the ban on single-use plastics imposed by the

central government. Education and awareness campaigns must be run this fortnight when we are celebrating the golden decade of Indian sanitation. Burning of debris is often found to be an easy method in the dry season to get rid of weeds and garbage. Punjab and Haryana farmers after harvesting the paddy are in the habit of burning the stubble to prepare the field for growing wheat. Unfortunately, the season of stubble burning coincides with a weather system that has practically no vertical circulation of air and oxides of nitrogen and carbon emitted during burning do not escape into the upper atmosphere resulting in smog all around big cities.

This causes difficulties in breathing and is a serious health hazard for the citizens. Most aware citizens have been preventing any burning of weeds and garbage in their neighbourhood. This fort-night provides an opportunity to conduct many education and awareness campaigns. When plastics and polythene are burnt along with garbage and weeds, more obnoxious gases are emitted and it may be very difficult to stay around. All such emissions are greenhouse gases and find a place in the upper atmosphere when the weather pattern Is favourable. Among these gases, carbon dioxide is a nonreactive compound and it stays in the atmosphere for hundreds of years. It accelerates the temperature rise. We are already facing adverse consequences in the warming world. We must bring changes in our behaviour.

(The writer is Retired Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Head of Forest Force, Karnataka; views are personal)

## How shared decision-making and digital solutions are transforming healthcare

Digital innovations like the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission offer hope for improving communication and fostering patient autonomy in healthcare decisions

n the evolving landscape of healthcare, patient satis-**▲** faction and engagement as equal partners in their care journey have become pivotal. The quality of the patient experience—how well they feel cared for-greatly influences their perception of healthcare services. Many countries, such as the United Kingdom and Australia, have recognised this and introduced standards that emphasize active patient involvement to improve care outcomes. Shared decision-making (SDM) has gained significant global traction as a means to promote patient autonomy and foster truly patient-centered care.

**Promoting** Autonomy: Shared decisionmaking is a collaborative



process where patients and healthcare professionals work together to make informed decisions about treatment plans. This collaboration spans various aspects, from immediate treatment needs to longterm care plans, such as advance care planning. Healthcare providers play a crucial role in facilitating this process by offering clear information and supporting patient overall well-being and quick-

individuals to make decisions based on their preferences, values, and informed consent. Engaging patients in the decision-making process is essential to improving healthcare outcomes and experiences. When patients are confident and well-informed, they are more likely to choose treatments that align with their personal beliefs and preferences. This also increases health literacy, leading to better longterm decisions and greater satisfaction. Active patient participation can result in faster recovery times, reduced anxiety, and improved adherence

to treatment plans. Patients

who are actively involved in

their care tend to have better

outcomes, including improved

deliberation, empowering

er recovery from illness or surgery.

Moreover, patients who feel respected and valued in the decision-making process tend to develop stronger relationships with their healthcare providers. This trust benefits both the patient and the provider, often leading to better treatment outcomes and reducing the risk of medical litigation. In today's healthcare environment, where patientcentered care is increasingly prioritized, the active participation of patients is key to achieving meaningful and lasting improvements. From a business perspective, higher patient satisfaction can lead to more returning patients, better reviews, and an increase in foot traffic for healthcare

### **Engagement in India:**

In India, the desire for more patient involvement in healthcare decisions is growing, but significant barriers remain. Many patients report feeling inadequately informed about treatment plans even after consenting to surgery, often seeking external sources of information. A study conducted at a tertiary hospital revealed that although all patients were aware of their diagnosis, less than one-third knew about the risks of their treatment or alternative options. Consequently, many sought answers outside their treating doctor, demonstrating a gap in communication patients and between

providers Patient involvement in treat-

Challenges of Patient ment decisions is largely limited to high-end healthcare institutions such as tertiary care centers, academic hospitals, or high-cost therapies. Overworked clinical staff in India often lack the time to engage patients meaningfully in the decision-making

Leveraging Digital Solutions for Better Patient Care: Digital technologies offer significant hope for improving patient engagement. These innovations enhance patient deliberation, promote self-responsibility, and strengthen patient-provider interactions. For resource-limited, overburdened healthcare systems like India's, digital solutions can save clinicians' time while boosting patient engagement,

making them especially suit-

able for low-resource environments.

India's Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) aims to create an interoperable ecosystem that engages all healthcare stakeholders, providing tools to promote patient autonomy and facilitate

patient-centered care. The convergence of global discourse, national policies, rising patient demand for participation, and available digital solutions presents an excellent opportunity to mainstream this approach across

One of the significant ways digital solutions enhance patient engagement is by providing patients with access to comprehensive health records. When patients have control over their health information,

they can make better-informed decisions, improving their involvement in the care process. For clinicians, access to long-term records enables more personalized treatment options.

Through the ABDM, patient records are linked by a unique 14-digit Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA), ensuring that all health data from diagnostics to treatment histories—are stored in one place. This enables providers to help patients make informed decisions based on accurate, comprehensive histories, while patients can participate actively by accessing their records at

(The writer is Founder & Director - Ujala Cygnus Healthcare Services; views are

# Two scientists get Nobel for discoveries that enabled artificial intelligence

**AP** STOCKHOLM

Two pioneers of artificial intelligence – John Hopfield and Geoffrey Hinton – won the Nobel Prize in physics Tuesday for helping create the building blocks of machine learning that is revolutionising the way we work and live but also creates new threats to humanity, one of the winners

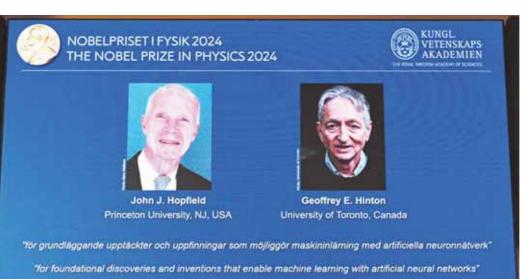
Hinton, who is known as the Godfather of artificial intelligence, is a citizen of Canada and Britain who works at the University of Toronto and Hopfield is an American working at Princeton.

"This year's two Nobel Laureates in physics have used tools from physics to develop methods that are the foundation of today's powerful machine learning," the Nobel committee said in a press release. Ellen Moons, a member of the

Nobel committee at the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, said the two laureates "used fundamental concepts from statistical physics to design artificial neural networks that function as associative memories and find patterns in large data sets.'

She said that such networks have been used to advance research in physics and "have also become part of our daily lives, for instance in facial recognition and language translation.'

While the committee honoured the science behind machine learning and AI, Moons also mentioned its flipside, saying that while machine learning has enormous benefits, its rapid development has also raised concerns about our future. Collectively, humans carry the responsibility for using this new technology in a safe and ethical way for the greatest benefit of humankind."



Hinton shares those concerns. He quit a role at Google so he could more freely speak about the dampers of the technology he helped create. On Tuesday, he said this would happen," he said when he was shocked at the honour.

on the phone. Hinton predicted that AI will end up having a "huge influence" on civilization, bringing improvements in pro-

ductivity and health care. "It would be comparable with the Industrial Revolution," he said in the open call with reporters and

the officials from the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. "Instead of exceeding people in physical strength, it's going to exceed people in intellectual ability. We have no experience of what it's like to have things smarter than us. And it's going to be wonderful in many respects," Hinton said. "But we also have to worry about a number of possible bad consequences, particularly the threat of these things getting out of control.

Six days of Nobel announcements opened Monday with Americans Victor Ambros and Gary Ruvkun winning the medicine prize for

their discovery of tiny bits of genetic material that serve as on and off switches inside cells that help control what the cells do and

when they do it. If scientists can better understand how they work and how to manipulate them, it could one day lead to powerful treatments for

diseases like cancer.

The physics prize carries a cash award of 11 million Swedish Kronor (USD 1 million) from a bequest left by the award's creator, Swedish inventor Alfred Nobel. The laureates are invited to receive their awards at ceremonies on December 10, the anniversary of Nobel's death.

Nobel announcements will continue with the chemistry physics prize on Wednesday and literature on Thursday. The Nobel Peace Prize will be announced Friday and the economics award on October 14.

# **UK sanctions Russia for use of** 'inhumane' chemical weapons

The UK government has said new sanctions have been imposed against Russian troops involved in the use of "inhumane" chemical weapons on the battlefield in Ukraine, in flagrant disregard for the Chemical Weapons Convention and serious violation of international

The UK government imposed the sanctions on Tuesday. Among those sanctioned include the Radiological, Chemical and

Biological Defence (CBR) Troops of the Russian Armed Forces and its leader Igor Kirillov, responsi-ble for helping deploy the "barbaric weapons". The UK's

Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) said Kirillov has also been a significant mouthpiece for Kremlin disinformation, spreading lies to mask Russia's shameful and dangerous behaviour.

"The UK will not sit idly by whilst (Russian President) Putin and his mafia state ride roughshod over international law, including the Chemical Weapons Convention. I have made it my personal mission to challenge this malign activity, and I will not back down," said UK Foreign Secretary David Lammy.

"Russia's cruel and inhumane tactics on the battlefield are abhorrent and I will use the full arsenal of powers at my disposal to combat Russia's malign activity. Let me be clear; Putin and those

### Russia, Iran are behind 'staggering' rise in deadly plots: MI5 chief

 $\mathbf{B}^{\mathrm{ritain}}$  is facing a "staggering rise" in assassination attempts on UK soil by Russia and Iran, as the hostile states recruit criminals to "do their dirty work" for them, the head of the

"do their dirty work" for them, the head of the UK's domestic intelligence agency said Tuesday.

MI5 director Ken McCallum said his agents and police have tackled 20 Tehranbacked plots since 2022 and warned that Iran could expand its targets in the UK if Israel attacks in response to Iran's missile barrage. The spy chief said the widening conflicts in the Middle East raise the risk "of an increase in or broadening of – Iranian state aggression in the UK" In a rare public speech setting out the the U.K." In a rare public speech setting out the major threats to the UK from both hostile states

and terror groups, McCallum said there also is a risk that Israel's conflicts with Iranbacked militant groups — Hamas in Gaza, Hezbollah in Lebanon and the Houthis in Yemen - could trigger terror attacks in the UK.

The Middle East crisis has not translated "at scale into terrorist violence" in Britain, he said, but hostile states, individual attackers and a revived Islamic State group combine to create "the most complex and interconnected threat environment we've ever seen."

The number of state-threat investigations undertaken by MI5 has risen by 48% in the past year, with Iran, Russia and, China the main perpetrators, McCallum told journalists at the UK's counterterrorism command center in London.

nowhere left to hide. We will continue to use sanctions to directly target and counter the Kremlin's attempts to sow fear, division and disorder," he said. The FCDO said Russian forces have openly admitted to using hazardous chemical weapons on the battlefield, with widespread use of riot control agents and multiple reports of the use of the toxic choking agent chloropicrin - first deployed on the battlefields of the First World War. The UK also accused agents of "Putin's mafia state" of being responsible for deploying the deadly nerve agent Novichok on the streets of Salisbury in England in 2018, and against Opposition leader Alexei Navalny in 2020. oce to Putir

regime is clear: you cannot break international law without facing the consequences. We will not allow such blatant violations of the Chemical Weapons Convention and rules-based international order to go unpunished." said UK Defence Secretary John Healey. "The UK is cracking down on those responsible for these horrific chemical attacks in Ukraine. Our support for Ukraine is ironclad and will continue for as long as it takes," he said. Two Russian Ministry of Defence laboratories have also been sanctioned by the UK this week for providing support for the development and deployment of inhumane weapons for use on the frontlines. The FCDO to deliver GBP 3 billion of military aid to Ukraine every year for "as long as they need".

"The UK's military, financial, diplomatic and political support for Ukraine is iron-clad. We cannot and will not let aggressors like Putin succeed," it added. The sanctions come as the UK delivered a statement to the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons' (OPCW) Executive Council laying out the country's commitment to the Chemical Weapons Convention and the OPCW in the face of those who act to undermine it. The latest set of Russian targets has been designated under the UK's Chemical Weapons (Sanctions) (EU

# Vigils, protests around world mark anniversary of Hamas attack on Israel Jersey high school group viewed an exhibition about the Tribe of

Tommemorations and protests unfolded across the world on Monday to mark the anniversary of the October 7 Hamas attack on Israel, an assault that sparked a war that has devastated the Hamas-ruled Gaza strip, fuelled bloodshed in other Mideast lands and stirred protests and divisions far away.

Those divisions were visible in New York, where a crowd gathered for an evening remembrance ceremony in Central Park even as pro-Palestinian protesters converged on a corner of the park less than a mile away.

park iess man a mile ...... Hamas militants' surprise crossborder attack last year killed about 1,200 people. Another 250 were taken hostage; around 100 remain in captivity, with many of them feared dead. The attack, on a major Jewish holiday, shattered Israelis' sense of security and left the world facing the prospect of a major conflict in the Middle East. "The unfathomable horrors I experienced that morning have transformed me, along with every single Israeli and every single Jew," Natalie Sanandaji, a survivor from a music festival where the attackers killed hundreds, told the audience in Central Park. Israel responded to the attack by waging a war against Hamas in Gaza, where the fighting has killed over 41,000 people and displaced around 1.9 million.

The conflict has spread in the region, where Israel also is fighting Hezbollah militants in Lebanon, facing escalating threats from Yemen's Houthi rebels and conflict with Iran, which backs Hamas, Hezbollah and the

In New York, protesters spread a large Palestinian flag on a street near the New York Stock Exchange early Monday afternoon, while a smaller group of counterprotesters held an Israeli flag. The pro-Palestinian group grew to a blocks-long column as it marched through Manhattan streets, at one point holding a banner that read "war begets war' on the steps of the New York

festivalgoers were close to her age she noted "It's important for us to remember them and honour them because they didn't deserve anything that happened to them," she added.

Nova music festival in Reim,

Israel, where over 360 people

were killed. "I feel like that real-

ly could have been me there," said

student Ellie Solomon. Many

In an echo of campus protests



Public Library. Associated Press iournalists saw several people being taken into police custody at various points in the march. Police said multiple arrests were made; no further information was immediately available.

While the protesters paused to conduct a Muslim evening prayer at the southwestern corner of Central Park, the parents of American-Israeli hostage Omer Neutra shared their anguish from the park's SummerStage venue. At Philadelphia's Weitzman National Museum of across the US last spring, activists gathered again at colleges Monday. About 200 pro-Palestinian protesters chanted and held banners and flags at the University of California, Los Angeles, while a few other demonstrators held Israeli flags. In Europe, where countries have sought to tamp down antisemitic and anti-Muslim sentiment, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz said in Hamburg that "we stand beside" Israelis, and he also pointed to the suffering of

Palestinians in Gaza.

adorned with a yellow ribbon commemorating Israeli hostages, and the names of people killed and kidnapped were read out at the Brandenburg Gate.

In Italy, Premier Giorgia Meloni visited Rome's main synagogue and reaffirmed Israel's right to defend itself, while lamenting the devastation unleashed by Israeli forces in Gaza.

French President Emmanuel Macron met in Paris with relatives of hostages and of the dead. French Foreign Minister Jean-Noël Barrot attended a memorial service at the Nova festival site. The Vatican took up a collection for the people of Gaza and published a letter expressing Pope Francis' solidarity.
In the Polish capital of Warsaw,

the Jewish community paid tribute to Alex Dancyg, a Polish-born Holocaust educator who was abducted from the Nir Oz kibbutz on October 7. Israel believes he died in captivity.

In Australia, thousands of people attended vigils in Sydney and Melbourne, with Prime Minister Anthony Albanese joining the latter event. A day after thousands of pro-Palestinian demonstrators rallied across Australia's cities, hundreds gathered amid a heavy police presence at Sydney town hall to remember Palestinians killed in the conflict.

In Pakistan's largest city, Karachi, schoolchildren took part in a pro-Palestinian rally organised by the Pakistan Markazi Muslim League party. Japanese officials demanded the immediate release of all hostages and expressed condolences to Israelis who lost rela-

### India gives relief material to Nepal

PTI KATHMANDU

The Indian Embassy here handed over the first consignment of emergency relief materials, including sleeping bags, blankets and tarpaulin sheets, to authorities in floodstruck Nepal, according to an official statement. The 4.2 tonnes of aid supplies handed over on Monday were for families affected by the recent inundation in Nepal, the Indian Embassy said in a press release.

Transported to Nepalgunj from India, the consignment was handed over by Second Secretary Narayan Singh on behalf of the Indian government to the Chief District Officer of Banke, Khagendra Prasad Rijal, the press release said. It comprised tarpaulins, sleeping bags, blankets, Chlorine tablets and water bottles.



state of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) at the Kremlin in Moscow, Russia, on Tuesday

# Harris calls Trump 'irresponsible' for spreading misinformation about hurricane response

Vice President Kamala Harris on Monday called former President Donald Trump "incredibly irresponsible" for spreading falsehoods about the federal response to Hurricane Helene 's destruction, offering especially sharp words as a new storm bears down on Florida with just weeks until Election Day.

There's a lot of mis-and disinformation being pushed out there by the former president about what is available, particularly to the survivors of Helene," Harris told reporters before boarding Air Force Two to fly to New York. "It's extraordinarily irresponsible. It's about him. It's not about you."

Helene has killed more than 220 people in six states, and Category 5 Hurricane Milton is on a path toward Florida's Gulf Coast.

Trump has made a series of false claims in the wake of Helene, including saying incorrectly that the federal government is intentionally withholding aid to Republican disaster victims. He also falsely claimed the Federal Emergency Management Agency had run out of money because all of it had gone to programmes for immigrants in the country ille-

Harris said "the reality is that FEMA has so many resources that are available to folks who desperately need them now, and resources that are about helping people get back on their feet and rebuild and have places to go".

People are entitled to these resources, and it is critically important that people apply for the help that is there to support," the vice president added. "All those resources were created for just these types of moments, in an emergency situation, knowing that folks are entitled to have the relief that they so rightly need."

Trump also said during a visit Valdosta, Georgia, last week that President Joe Biden was "sleeping" and not responding to calls from Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp. Biden had, in fact, spoken with Kemp and said of Trump, "He's lying, and the governor told him he was

lying." Harris also criticised another high-profile high-profile Republican, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, suggesting he's "play-ing political games" and engag-ing in "political gamesmanship" in Helene's wake.

Harris office says the vice president reached out to DeSantis last week in the storm's aftermath. DeSantis said Monday that he "didn't know that she had called" and "they didn't call me". "It wasn't anything anybody in my office did in saying that it was political," DeSantis said. But Harris, asked about DeSantis, said "people are in desperate need of support right now and playing political games at this moment in these crisis situations ... is utterly irresponsible".

# Abortion ban to stay in Texas as Supreme Court declines Biden's appeal

**AP** WASHINGTON

court order that says hos-Apitals cannot federally be required to provide pregnancy terminations when they violate a Texas abortion ban will stay for now, the Supreme Court said on Monday.

The decision is another setback for opponents of Texas' abortion ban, which for two years has withstood multiple legal challenges, including from women who had serious pregnancy complications and have been turned away by doctors. It left Texas as the only state where the Biden administration is unable to enforce its interpretation of a federal law in an effort to ensure women still have access to emergency abortions when their health or life

The justices did not detail their reasoning for keeping in place a lower court order, and there were no publicly noted dissents. Texas had asked the justices to leave the order in place while the Biden administration had asked the justices to throw it out. Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton called the decision "a major victory'

The Biden administration argues that a federal law, called the Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act, or EMTALA, requires emergency rooms to provide abortions if a pregnant patient's health or life is at serious risk, even in states where the procedure is banned. The law only applies to emergency rooms that receive Medicare funding, which most

hospitals do. The Supreme Court decision comes weeks before a presidential election in which Democratic nominee Kamala Harris has put abortion at the centre of her campaign, attacking Republican challenger Donald Trump for appointing judges to the high court who overturned nationwide abortion rights in 2022.

'I will never stop fighting for a woman's right to emergency medical care — and to restore the protections of Roe v. Wade so that women in every state have access to the care they need," Harris said on social media on Monday evening. Texas' abortion ban has also

been a centrepiece of

Democratic US Rep. Colin

Allred's challenge against Republican US Sen. Ted Cuz

for his seat.

At a campaign event over the weekend in Fort Worth, Texas, hundreds of Allred's supporters broke out in raucous applause when he vowed to protect a woman's right to an abortion. "When I'm in the Senate, we're going to restore Roe v. Wade," Allred said.

At a separate event the same day, in a nearby suburb, Cruz outlined a litany of criticisms against Allred, but didn't bring up the abortion law. Katie Glenn Daniel, the state

policy director of SBA Pro-Life America, applauded the Supreme Court decision and pointed to data showing Texas doctors have been able to provide an average of about five abortions per month to save a patient's life or health.

women in medical distress being turned away from emergency rooms in Texas and elsewhere have spiked as hospitals grapple with whether standard care could violate strict state laws against abortion. Several Texas women have lodged complaints against hospitals for not terminating their failing and dangerous pregnancies because of the state's ban. In some cases, women lost reproductive organs.

In asking the Supreme Court to toss out the lower court decision, the administration pointed to a similar case from Idaho earlier this year in which the justices narrowly allowed emergency abortions to resume while a lawsuit continues. At the time the Idaho case began,

Still, complaints of pregnant the state had an exception for the life, but not the health, of a woman. Texas said its case is different, however, because the law provides some exceptions if a pregnant patient's health is

Texas pointed to a state Supreme Court ruling that said doctors do not have to wait until a woman's life is in immediate danger to provide an abortion legally. Doctors, though, have said the Texas law is dangerously vague, and a medical board has refused to list all the conditions that qualify for an exception.

Marc Hearron, an attorney for the Centre for Reproductive Rights, said doctors in Texas got no clarity from the Supreme

Court on Monday. "The health care crisis is ongoing," Hearron said. "Patients are going to continue to suffer." Mary Ziegler, a law professor at the University of California at Davis who has written extensively about abortion, said there remains much uncertainty for doctors in Texas, who could risk life in prison for performing abortions.

"I think we're going to contin-

ue to see physicians turning away patients, even patients who could qualify under the state's exceptions, because the consequences of guessing wrong are so severe and the laws are not that clear," Ziegler said. The Texas case started after the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade in 2022, leading to abortion restrictions in many Republican-controlled states. The Biden

ed to provide abortions in emergency situations under a health care law that requires most hospitals to treat any patients in medical distress. Texas sued over that guidance, arguing that hospitals cannot be required to provide abortions that would violate its ban. The 5th US Circuit Court of Appeals sided with the state, ruling in January that the administration had overstepped its authority. Health and Human Services

administration issued guid-

ance saying hospitals still need-

Secretary Xavier Becerra said in a post on X, "Reproductive rights are under assault in this country and women's health and lives remain in danger from the chaos and confusion caused by overturning Roe."

## **Bangladesh-India ties should be 'very** close' despite regime change: Yunus

Bangladesh interim govern-ment's Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus has said that Dhaka-Delhi relations should be "very close" despite the recent regime change in the country, asserting that it is in the interest of both countries. Yunus, the 84-year-old economist, became Chief Adviser on August 8 following the resignation of then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, who fled the country on August 5 amidst student-led mass protests.

Relations between the two countries must be very close. There can be no alternative to this. They need this, we need this. This is essential from any angle, whether it's about economics, security or water," he was quoted as saying by Bengali language daily Prothom Alo on

When asked for his comments on recent tensions in bilateral ties, Yunus said the recent inci-

dents in Bangladesh might have "disheartened" India and "they were not pleased with the changes." He did not mention the incidents.

It will be difficult for us to move along without each other. It is only natural that we have close ties and good relations in every sphere," he said.

India has urged the interim Bangladesh government to ensure peaceful religious events for the Hindu community in the South Asian country. More than 600 persons, including Hindus, were killed during violent protests in Bangladesh following the ouster of Hasinaled government, according to a UN report.

Things will be clear to them when they see that the entire world is accepting us, how can they not accept us?" he added. He said as far as South Asian diplomacy was concerned, his interim government placed high importance on strength-ening ties with India and "at the

same time, strengthening SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation".

Yunus said Delhi must forge good relations with Bangladesh not because "we are forcing them" but because this was "necessary in their own interest" as well.

Just as we need them in our interest, they need us in their interest. So, we have to forget certain transient matters.

The main thing is to maintain good relations. We have to use everything in our power to advance towards that," he said. His experiment of poor men's banking earned Bangladesh the repute of being the home of microcredit, but he was in a protracted row for obscure reasons with the Awami League regime.

Several years ago, Yunus insisted that Bangladesh should take the opportunity of "growing up with two giants - India and

evacuated around 60 of its

guests, and they were allowed

to return to their rooms only

at 5 am. It was a similar case

for the Arianna Hotel, which

is located just next door to 84

Sved Alwi Road

# Lankan minister defends govt on arrival of Chinese military ship

**S**ri Lanka's newly-appointed Foreign Minister Vijitha Herath on Tuesday defended the government's move to allow a Chinese military training ship to arrive in Colombo, saying the decision falls within the framework of the country's diplomatic engagements and such visits "pose no threat".

He was responding to a question on the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy training warship "Po Lang" which arrived at the port of Colombo on Tuesday "as part of an ocean-going voyage aimed at enhancing the professional capabilities of midshipmen and conducting naval exchanges with other countries," said a statement.

Herath, also the Cabinet Spokesman, said Sri Lanka maintains balanced diplomatic relations with all countries. He said the government's decision to allow the Chinese military training vessel to visit Sri Lanka falls within the framework of the country's diplomatic engagements.

We are happy to allow military training ships. They pose no threat," Herath said. "We have seen military ships arriving from Germany and the US" The previous government had placed a moratorium on allowing foreign scientific research survey vessels in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of Sri

Lanka. Hearth's predecessor Ali Sabry in July said that Sri Lanka was to review the moratorium to decide if to continue with it or lift it. India had repeatedly raised concerns over several Chinese research vessels in the Sri Lankan waters.

Herath said Sri Lanka would continue to allow visits by military training ships to maintain international cooperation while safeguarding national interests. The visiting ship — an 86-meter-long Sail Training Vessel crewed by 130 personnel including 35 Officer Cadets — was welcomed by the Sri Lanka Navy in compliance with naval

To strengthen the camaraderie

between the two navies, crew members of the ship are set to participate in a series of programmes organized by the Sri Lanka Navy, according to an official statement.

In addition, crew members of the ship will explore some of the tourist attractions of the country, during their stay in Colombo. Additionally, Sri Lanka Navy personnel will have the opportunity to participate in briefings on the operational functions of the ships as well, the statement added.

The vessel's journey includes visits to multiple countries such as Vietnam, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, and Singapore, as well as a technical stop in Hong

# China attaches 'importance' to President Murmu's greetings

China on Tuesday said it attaches "importance" to President Droupadi Murmu's letter to her Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping on the 75th Anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC), asserting that Beijing stands ready to jointly promote the sound and steady development of bilat-

eral ties. In the letter dated on the China-India relations". September 27 to Xi on the 75th Anniversary of the founding of the PRC, Murmu said, "It is important that we work towards peaceful and stable relations between our two countries.

In her reaction, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning said, "China attaches importance to President Murmu's remarks

We express our appreciation' for President Murmu's letter, Mao told a media briefing replying to a question.

'We stand ready to enhance communication with India, increase mutual trust and jointly promote the sound and steady development of China-India relations," Mao said. On the progress of the talks to resolve over fouryear-long military standoff at eastern Ladakh, Mao said, "China and India maintain close communication on issues concerning the border areas through diplomatic and military channels, and the two countries have realised disengagement in four areas in the Western sector of the China-India border, including the Galwan Valley"

The situation on the China-

ble on the whole, she said, adding that at the recent 31st meeting of the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on China-Border Affairs (WMCC), the two sides further narrowed down differences, expanded common understandings and agreed to find early resolution to the situation on the border".

### Six injured at Little India shophouses following blast away from the affected site,

Six people were injured on Tuesday following a partial collapse of two shophouses due to suspected gas explosion at Little India, a popular shopping arcade for Indian tourists, prompting neighbouring hotels to evacuate guests.

The partial collapse of the two-storey shophouse units at 84 and 85 on Syed Alwi Road is believed to have been caused by a gas explosion. It occurred at about 1.30 am, with witnesses reportedly hearing a loud explosion.

Two people were assessed by paramedics for minor injuries and sent to the hospital, the Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF) said, adding, another four, assessed for

 $F^{\text{rance's minority government}}_{\text{is expected to survive a no-}}$ 

confidence vote on Tuesday in a

test for new conservative Prime

Minister Michel Barnier, forced

to rely on the far right's goodwill

It comes as Barnier's fragile gov

ernment faces a major challenge

to get a budget for next year

approved with no majority at par-

tary elections, the National

Assembly, France's powerful

lower house of parliament, is

divided into three major blocs:

the New Popular Front, Macron's

centrist allies and the far-right

None of them won an outright

The no-confidence motion was

brought by 192 lawmakers of a

left-wing coalition, the New

Popular Front, composed of the

hard-left France Unbowed

Socialists, Greens and

Communists. It needs 289 votes

The far-right National Rally

group, which counts 125 law-

makers, has said it would abstain

from voting a no-confidence

motion for now. Far-right leader

Marine Le Pen, herself a lawmak

er, said she decided to "give a

Barnier's cabinet is mostly com

posed of members of his

Republicans party and centrists

from French President

Emmanuel Macron's alliance

who altogether count just over

Left-wing lawmakers denounced

200 lawmakers

chance" to the government.

National Rally party.

to be able to stay in power.

liament.

majority.

minor injuries, declined to go to the hospital.

This is the first blast incident damaging property in the usually crowded area of the Little İndia precincts.

An Indian vegetarian restaurant named Paakashala Singapore is located at 84 Syed Alwi Road, while No 85 houses Nirja Mega Mart, which retails food and grocery products.

Paakashala, which opened in December last year, sustained significant damage, with wires seen hanging from the ceiling and its outdoor tent bent out of shape, according to a Channel News Asia

The Royal India Hotel, which is located three shophouses

the choice of Barnier as prime

minister as they were not given

a chance to form a minority gov-

ernment, despite securing the

most seats at the National

PUBLIC NOTICE

First Floor, built on property bearing no. B-220, area

easuring 440 Sg. vds., situated at Chitranian Park Nev

Delhi vide Relinguishment Deed Dt. 20.09.2024

the blessings Celine.

CHANGE OF NAME

I. Kamal Singh, S/o Shri Puran

Singh, R/o Z-108, Vishnu

Garden, New Delhi-110018, that

I, have changed my name from

Kamal to Kamal Singh for all

future purposes.

Tender Sale Date:- 09-10-2024 10:00 AM to Date 04-11-2024 upto 15:00 PM

PD(837)C

PD(938)C

French govt faces no-trust vote

FORM NO. 1 DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL 600/1, University Road, Hanumar Setu Mandir, Lucknow (Area of Jurisdiction, Part of Uttar Pradesh) DRC NO. 615 OF 2019

Notice under Rule-2 of the IInd Schedule of Income Tax Act 1961, read with Section 29 of The Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993 ICICI BANK LTD.

DEEPAK VASHIST AND OTHERS 10, 1. Deepak Vashist

S/o- Shri Duli Chand Sharma R/o. House No. A-604, Gaur Global Village, Crossing Republik Near Engineering College, Ghaziabad- 201009. 2. Upasna Vashist 2. Opdatid Vashist W/o-Shri Deepak Vashist R/o. House No. A-604, Gaur Global Village, Crossing Republik, Near Engineering College, Ghaziabad -201009.

3. M/s. Ashiyana Promoters & Developers Pvt. Ltd. Registered office at Unit 219, S/F Vasundhara Enclave, Plot No. 1. Vardhman Sunrise Plaza LSC,

Delhi - 110096 Also at Corporate Office H-190, Ground Floor, Sector -63, Noida - 201301.

seem wide Heimigus Herring and Seed Bit. 2008.2024 Recentled by Mrs. Shreyasi Chaudhary, Mrs. Sangeeta Chaudhary and Mr. Abhishek Chaudhary are the undisputed owners of the said property and said prop-Fourteen Thousand Four Hundred Twenty Only) together with pendent elite and future interest @ 24% per annum from the date of claim or right in respect of the said Property by way of inheritance, share, sale, agreement, lease, license filling of the original application i.e 31.12.2018 till loan is fully gift, possession, legal heirs, partners or encumbrance oever or otherwise is hereby required to intimat in writing to the undersigned within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice of his/her/their share liquidated and costs succeeded and is hereby allowed against the defendant Nos. 1 to 3, which is jointly and severally with its costs or claim, if any, with all supporting documents at pelow mentioned address. After expiration of notice period the claims if any of such person shall be succeeds in its realization from the eated null and void and also treated as waived and of binding on our client. certificate debtor Nos. 1, 2 and 3 as per Certificate Bearing No. 615 of 2019 dated-02.09.2019 in O.A. No. 1686 of 2018 passed against you by Hon'ble DRT, Lucknow. Vikram Vihar, Laipat Nagar 4, New Delhi -110024

B. You are hereby directed to pay the sum within 15 days of receipt of this notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in THE PIONEER (1 accordance with the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993. C. You are hereby ordered that declare on affidavit the particulars **THANKSGIVING** of assets on or before 29/11/2024. D. You are hereby ordered to appear before the undersigned on 29/11/2024 at 11:00 A.M. Thank you holly spirit for all

E. In addition to the sum aforesaid z. In addition to the sum afores you will also be liable to pay the following:-

Application fees Rs. 67,000/-Advocate fees Rs. NIL
Publication charges Rs. NIL Miscellaneous expenses Rs. NIL Total Cost Rs.67,000/-Given under my hand and seal at Lucknow on 27th September, 2024

Lucknov

Recovery Officer-

### UPGRADATION OF GOODS YARD FACILITIES AT KATIHAR DIVISION E-Tender Notice No. KIR/

GSU/17 of 2024 Dated: 04-10-2024. E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works: SN.1. Brief Description of work: Adina: Upgradation of goods vard facilities like CCTV, lighting arrangement, circulating area development and drainage along with other ancillary works. Tender Value: ₹6,95,23,984.30/-, Earnest Money: ₹4,97,600/-. SN.2. Brief Description of work: Kumedpur-Eklakhi-Provision of RUB at NC-98 between Kumedpur-Eklakhi section. Tender Value: ₹3,33,82,510.72/-Earnest Money: ₹3,16,900/-.Date & time of closing of tender: 15.00 hrs. of 29-10-2024 & opening at 15.30 hrs.of 29-10-2024. The complete information with the tender document upto 15.00 hrs. of 29-10-2024 www.ireps.gov.in

**Deputy Chief Enginee** (Gati Shakti), Katihar NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

#### FORM NO.5 **DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL**

600/1, University Road near Hanuman Setu Mandir, Lucknow (Areas of Jurisdiction: Part of Uttar Pradesh) SUMMONS FOR FILING REPLY 8 APPEARANCE THROUGH PUBLICATION

O.A.NO.882 OF 2023 DATE:-05.04.2024 (Summons to defendant under Section 19(4) of the Recovery of Debts Due to read with rules 12 and 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal Procedure Rules

KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK LIMITED .... APPLICANT

VERSUS M/S BALAJI ENTERPRISES OTHERS

.. DEFENDANTS

1.M/S Balaii Enterprises through proprietor Mr.Anil having address C-448 Alpha 1, Greater Noida, GB Nagar, Noida 201308, U.P.

Mr.Anil S/o Brihampal having address C-448, Alpha 1, Greater Noida, GB Nagar Noida-201308, U.P.

3. Mrs.Sushma D/o Sant Ram having address C-448, Alpha 1, Greater Noida Rampur Jagir, I.A Surajpur, GB Nagar Noida-201308, U.P.

....DEFENDANTS In the above noted application, you are required to file reply/evidence in Paper Book form in two sets along with

documents and affidavits (if any personally or through your duly authorized agent or legal practitioner in this Tribunal after serving copy of the same on the applicant or his counsel/duly authorized agent after publication of the summons and ereafter to appear before the Tribunal on 14.10.2024 at 10.30 A.M. Failing which the application shall be heard and decided in vourabsence

REGISTRAR DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL LUCKNOW

Pre Bid Meeting-22/10/2024, 15:00PM

Punk

### सार्वजनिक सूचना

न, मेसर्स शोमित फाइनेंस लिमिटेड, रजिस्टर्ड ऑफिस टल्ट फ्लोर देविका टावर ६ नेडरू फ्लेस नई टिल्ली-कुमार. पुत्र श्री रंजीत सिंह, निवासी सी-13∕39. वी ड-*6* पुथम तल, गली संख्या 2. वीरेंदर नगर, नई दिल्ली 110058. द्वारा हमारे आवासीय प्रोजेक्ट देविका स्काइपर्स, राज नगर, राजिआबाद में फ्लैट संख्या 1203 स्काइपर्स 3 बुक कराया गया था। यह कि बहुत सा पत्राचार के बाबजूद आपके द्वारा कोई पेमेंट बैंक एव कंपनी को नहीं किया गया है न ही कोई जवाब दिया गया है। अत: कंपनी आपका नाम अपने रिकार्डर्स से कैंसल करके बैंक को पेमेंट कर रही है। अत: आपको सूचित यह किया जाता है कि हमारे द्वारा बैंक को पेमेंट करने के बाट गपका कोई भी क्रानूनी हक़ उपरोक्त लिखी गयी प्रॉपर्टी

मेसर्स शोमित फाइनेंस लिमिटेड रजिस्टर्ड ऑफिस. स्टिल्ट फ्लोर, देविका टावर, 6 नेहरू प्लेस, नई दिल्ली-110019

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

hasra No. 692, at Village Haldauni, Pargana & Tehs Dadri, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P vide Sale Deed Dt. 08.11.2023 executed by Mr. Yatendra Singh Kasana prop. of Adiman Builders as attorney of Mrs. Rajni, Now M/s. Shrikant Verma through its prop. Mr. Shrikant Verma is the undisputed owner of the said property OR

or right in respect of the said Property by way of inheritance, share, sale, agreement, lease, license, gift ossession, legal heirs, partners or encumbrance owsoever or otherwise is hereby required to intimal n writing to the undersigned within 07 days from the late of publication of this notice of his/her/their shar ir claim, if any, with all supporting documents at below entioned address. After expiration of notice period claims, if any, of such person shall be treated nu nd void and also treated as waived and not bind

### PUBLIC NOTICE



This is to notify that Mr Peeyush Tiwari S/o Mr Akhilesh Chandar iwari, R/o 601 Suryoday Appartment Bharatmata, Chowk

Tatibandh Rajpur C G, Bharatmata was working with Hardwyn India Ltd under the contract duly signed by him. He has loan liability of Rs 3,35,000/which he has not paid back to the company and he ran away without any where abouts which is very unprofessional and unethical. We have already filed police complaint against him in Mayapuri Police station, Delhi and also he has been served with legal notice for cheating the company. Any person or company dealing with him may do so at their own risk.

#### FORM NO.5 **DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL**

600/1, University Road near Hanur Setu Mandir, Lucknow (Areas of Jurisdiction: Part of Uttar Pradesh) SUMMONS FOR FILING REPLY 8 APPEARANCE THROUGH

**PUBLICATION** O.A.NO.1167 OF 2023 DATE:-05.04.2024 (Summons to defendant under Section 19(4) of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institution Act 1993 read with rules 12 and 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal Procedure Rules

KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK LIMITED .....APPLICANT VERSUS M/S AMB LOGISTICS PRIVATE

. DEFENDANTS

LIMITED & OTHERS

1.M/s AMB Logistics Private Limited through its directors having address House No.29, Ajnara Colony, Village Garhi, GB Nagar, Noida-201301, U.P.

2. Mr. Atilesh Kumar Yadav S/o Keshav Dayal Yadav having House No. 29, Village Garthi, Chaukhandi, Sector-121 Near Ainara Flats, G.B. Nagar, Noida 201301, U.P. 3. Mrs. Meera Devi D/o Mr. Badan Yadav

having address House No. 29, Village Garhi, Chaukhandi, Sector-121, Near Ajnara Flats, G.B. Nagar, Noida-201301, U.P. ....DEFENDANTS

In the above noted application, you are required to file reply/evidence in Paper Book form in two sets along with documents and affidavits (if any) personally or through your duly authorized agent or legal practitioner in this Tribunal after serving copy of the same on the applicant or his counsel/duly authorized agent after publication of the summons and thereafter to appear before the Tribunal or 14.10.2024 at 10.30 A.M. Failing which the application shall be heard and decided in

REGISTRAR DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL. LUCKNOW

#### TRACK PROTECTION WORKS

Tender Notice No.: GMW-082024-MLG Date: 04-10-2024. E-Tender are invite by the undersigned for the following wor Tender No.: GMW-082024-MLG; Nam of Work: Providing and Erecting Meta W-beam crash barrier safety fencin crossing. Approximate Tender Value ₹110,07,32,717.45/-; Bid Security ₹56.53.700/-: Tender document can b received upto 28-10-2024 at 15:00 hours Date & time of opening of tender at 15:05 hrs.on 28-10-2024. For complete above e-tender will be available in the

O NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

ebsite www.ireps.gov.in

E-Tender No. SNT-31-LMG-2024-25; Dated: 05-10-2024. Etenders are invited by the undersigned for the following work. Name of work & Place: Associate S&T work for provision of IP-based Integrated passenger Information system (IPIS) as per RDSO/SPN/TC/ 108/2019 with digital announce system in connection with the ovation and re-development work in Agartala station (Phase-1) Tender Value: ₹1,63,72,709.35; Bid Security: ₹2,31,900.00; E-tender will be Closed at 15:00 hrs. or 30-10-2024 and Opened at 15:30 hrs. on 30-10-2024. For details visit www.ireps.gov.in Sr. DSTE, Lumding

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

This is to inform the general public that Ms. Ruchi Singh, Director, and General Manager - Operations, are no longer authorized to represent or acon behalf of Tesuto Labs Pvt. Ltd. ir engaging in business dealings financial transactions, or agreements with Ms. Ruchi Singh and/or Mr Omprakash Singh will be doing so

entirely at their own risk. Tesuto Labs

Pvt. Ltd. and its Directors shall not be

held responsible or liable for any such

dealings or the consequences

By order of

Tesuto Labs Pvt. Ltd

### **Franch 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 under signed 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 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 Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession Name of 1. Mohd Mohi Uddin/ Delhi/ NCR

Flat No 13133, 13th Floor Block A, Tower-9 Crossings Republik, Situated at Plot No 7 Dundahera Ghaziabad- 201016/ October 7, 2024 Moradabad Divya Katyal/ FBDEL00006742008/ LBDEL00006746614 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.

Date: October 09, 2024 Place: Delhi/ NCR

Sincerely Authorised Signatory For ICICI Bank Ltd.

### SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE **PICICI Bank** Branch 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 bentoned when 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 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 Symbolic Possession	Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs)	Name of Branch
	Sunita Saini/ Rahul Saini/ 732005500066	Property Bearing Entire Second Floor (Without Roof Rights), Part of Freehold Built Up Property Bearing Plot No. A-35, Block-A, Measuring Covered area 139.45 Sq. Mtrs Vide With Relinquishment Deed Registration No. 8434, Dated 08/09/2021, Situated At Pushpanjali Enclave, Pitampura Residential Scheme, Delhi./ October 05, 2024	June 19, 2024 Rs. 2,28,77,146.00/-	Delhi

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. Date: October 09, 2024

Sincerely Authorised Signatory For ICICI Bank Ltd.

JM Financial Asset Reconstruction Company Limited Corporate identify Number: U67190MH2007PLC74287 Registered Office Address: 7th Floor, Cnergy, Appasaheb Marathe Marg, Prabhadevi, Mumbai 400025 T: +91 22 6630 3030 F: +911 22 6630 3223 www. Jmfinancialarc.com

DEMAND NOTICE

Name of the Borrower Guarantor(s)/ Loan Co		A date PROPERTY_ADDRESS					
("SARFAESI ACT") vide an assignt reffered as Assingee). The under Assets And Enforcement of Securit with Rule 3 of the Security Interes said Act, calling upon the follow Notice(s) issued to them that are pay to JM, within 60 days from the in the said Demand Notice(s), fragreement read with other docu	ment agreement dated March 29, 2023 ("the As rsigned is the Authorised Officer of (JM) assigne ity Interest Act, 2002 (the said Act). In exercise of part st (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Authorised Offi ring Borrower(s) (the "said Borrower(s)"), to re also given below. In connection with above, Nnoi e publication of this Notice, the amounts indicate from the date(s) mentioned below till the date	cial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 signment Agreement") in favour of JMFARC (JM) (herein see. Under Securitisation And Reconstruction Of Financial powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read icer has Issued Demand Notices under Section 13(2) of the pay the amounts mentioned in the respective Demand tice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower(s) to de herein below, together with further interest as detailed of payment and/or realization, payable under the loan rrower(s). As security for due repayment of the loan, the					
(including below mentioned Loar	w mentioned Loans) together with underlying security interest created therefor along with all the rights, title and interest						

bhishek Kumar Mishra (Co`Borrower 1)	Thirty Nine Thousand Seven Hundred	Block-E, Omicron-01 Greater Noida Uttar Pradesh Pincode - 201301
ubarna Chakraborty (Co Borrower 1)	19-09-2024 /₹ 1141957.78 /-(₹ Eleven lakh Forty One Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty Seven Only and Seventy Eight	H No 113 Second Floor Front Side I P Col Ony Faridabad Haryana :- 121001

NPA (09-02-2017)

19-09-2024 /₹ 1093820.78 /-(₹ Ten lakh Ninety Three Thousand Eight Hundred (LC No. 20000041971 of Noida -sector 2 ranch) Manish Kumar (Borrower) Rajan (Co Borrower 1) Twenty Only and Seventy Eight Paise)

LC No. 19700044521 of Gurgaon-Sohna Road Branch) Sandeep Bhardwa (Borrower) Kamini Bhardwaj (Co

Borrower 1) LC No. 01400005008 of New Delhi Branch) M/s.Arun Gupta And Sons (Borrower) Alok Gupta (Co Borrower 1)

Pramod Gupta (Co Borrower 2) Sun Gupta (Co Borrower 3) (LC No. 11900002050 of Noida Branch) Ayush Vinayak (Borrower) Suresh Kuma Vinayak (Co Borrower 1)

Branch) SURENDRA PAL SINGH

Six Only and Four Paise) NPA 9-09-2024 /₹ 4616397 /-(₹ Forty Six Ninety Seven Only) NPA (04-10-2019)

lakh Twenty One Thousand Five

Hundred Twenty Only) NPA

19-09-2024 /₹ 16014190.24 /-(₹ One

Crore Sixty lakh Fourteen Thousand One Hundred Ninety Only and Twenty Four Paise) NPA (01-11-2015)

19-09-2024 /₹ 242666.04 /-(₹ Two lakh

Forty Two Thousand Six Hundred Sixty

Flat No E-701 7th Floor tower E Spring Ghaziabad Ghaziabad Uttar Pradesh 201005 lot No. Jprpl/1556, Omaxe City Situated

Plot No. D-203, Phase-2, shardhapuri

Plot No 6 Pocket 13 Sector A 6 Narela

Property No. B-12, Second Floor Front

Side Without Roof, Dr. Lohia Road Adarsh Ngr Kh No-262/258/217/4 Village Bharola, Delhi New Delhi - 110033

New Delhi New Delhi Delhi :- 110001

Meerut Uttar Pradesh :- 250002

Ajmer Road Jaipur Jaipur - 302006

In 111 Milestone Near Bad Ke Balaji

If the said Borrowers shall fail to make payment to JM as aforesaid, JM shall proceed against the above secured assets under Section 13(4) of the Act and the applicable Rules, entirely at the risks of the said Borrowers as to the costs and consequences. The said Borrowers are prohibited under the Act from transferring the aforesaid assets, whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of JM. Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions of the said Act or Rules made there under, shall be liable for imprisonment and/or penalty as provided under the Act.

Date: 09-10-2024

JM Financial Asset Reconstruction Company Limited, acting in its capacity as trustee of Aranya – Trust

### Advt No. 03/848 DT: 08/10/2024

Date: - 05-11-2024 15:00 PM

Online tender process information will be available at Drainage, Pune Municipal Corporation.

# Bid Submission Start & End Date: 09-10-2024 10:00 AM to Date 04-11-2024 upto 15:00 PM Technical Envelope Opening

PUNE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

CHIEF ENGINEER DEPARTMENT NOTICE INVITING TENDERS (N.I.T) YEAR 2022-23

Cost of Tender | Estimated Cost | EMD Amount | Work | Concern Contact

Tender No.	Department	Name of Work	Document (Rs.)	(Rs.)	Rs.	Period	Person
PMC/DRAINAGE/2024/155	Drainage	महेश सोसायटी ते गॅस गोडाऊन पर्यंत नाला बंदिस्त करणे.	Rs. 29679/-	Rs. 110493824/-	Rs. 552469/-	12	Atul Kadu 9767433438
A) All details of Terms	s & Conditio	ns of above work	ks are incorporate	ted in tender doci	uments which	is avai	lable on website

www.mahatenders.gov.in Sale & acceptance is available by online system only. Tender needs to be submit in two envelope format. If sales or submission not been available on last day also & it is not been submitted will be sole responsibility of tenderer.

D) As per office order No. 32, dated 22/04/2016 EMD deposit amount will be acceptable through ECS/RTGS/NEFT Online Banking only.

# Tamil Nadu Government urges Samsung workers to resume work

Tamil Nadu The ranning government on Tuesday urged the agitating workers of Samsung India Electronics factory near here return work immediately, considering the welfare of other employees and their families.

Minister for Industries TRB Rajaa, who held talks with the management and workers, separately over the last two days to resolve the issues, wondered if it was fair on the part of the employees to continue their protest just because they were unable to get Centre of Indian Trade Unions-backed registered by the labour department.

"We all know that the issue of recognition subjudice. We cannot discuss it now. The government is with you, Chief Minister M K Stalin is with you and considering all these factors, they should return to work immediately," Rajaa said while addressing reporters at the Secretariat.

Pressing for various demands including wage revision, better working conditions and recognition of the Union backed by CITU, about 1,100 employees of the total 1,750 workforce of Samsung India on strike



September Sriperumbudur near here. Rajaa said that the employees have listed nearly demands, which include better amenities at the factory. In response to this, the management promised to

Noting that Chief Minister Stalin has always made well being of workers his top priority, Rajaa recalled that whenever companies were invited to set up shop in the state, he was keen to know about the number of jobs that would be created in the state. "... When we have Chief Minister M K Stalin why

should they worry. They (employees) should return to work immediately," he said.

As per the instructions of the

Chief Minister, Rajaa said he Samsung Electronics Ltd officials along with this cabinet colleague T M Anbarasan (MSME) and C V Ganesan (Labour) and held talks with the agitating workers, CITU officials and even those who are currently working

Sriperumbudur plant. When we met the employees working at the factory, they expressed apprehension of losing their jobs because of the ongoing strike," he said

SpiceJet to add ten new aircrafts by next month With the extension of the strike, Rajaa said workers may tend to lose their salaries by



**PTI** ■ MUMBAI

Domestic carrier SpiceJet on Tuesday said it will enhance its fleet by another 10 aircraft by next month with the first plane set to be inducted on October 10. Seven of these aircraft will be

acquired on lease, while three previously grounded ones are being reintroduced, SpiceJet said in a release.

Gurugramwere on grounded as of October 8 according to the live aircraft fleet tracking website, Planespotter.Net. The announcement comes on the back of SpiceJet securing Rs 3,000 crore fresh capital infusion through QIP

late last month. The airline will receive an additional Rs 736 crore from

a previous funding round, further bolstering its financial stability and growth

trajectory. SpiceJet said it has already signed agreements for the leased aircraft, with the full induction of all seven planes expected by November 15. Two of these leased aircraft have already arrived in India and are scheduled for immediate induction, the

airline said, adding that it This addition (of 10 aircraft) is crucial as we

demand for air travel while strengthening operational capabilities," SpiceJet Chairman and capabilities, Managing Singh said.

continue to meet the growing

despite price decline promotion of the tea industry, involving an outlay ea exports between of Rs 664.09 crore, a Tea

Tea exports rise

**PTI** ■ KOLKATA

January and July this year Board official said. The amount would be spent during the remaining period of the 15th Finance have touched 144.50 million kilograms, up by 23.79 per cent from the year-ago period, Tea Board said. Commission cycle from the 2023-24 financial year to 2025-26 under the Tea Development and Promotion

> The approval covers major components such as plantation development and quality up gradation, promotion and market technological support, intervention, research and development and welfare and

#### them headquartered airline has will also operationalise its grounded planes in phases, development of The country had shipped out community in Chennai as a only 19 aircraft in operations 116.73 million kilograms in the corresponding period of the 2023 calendar year. responsible company," with the first three set to rewhile as many as 36 planes company spokesperson said enter service before the end Scheme. Unit price realisation, however, has declined to Rs in an update. of November. On the Tamil

kilogram in the previous corresponding period.
Meanwhile, the commerce ministry has approved a Director Ajay scheme for development and

### 256.37 per kilogram during the first seven months of 2024 as against Rs 264.96 per capacity-building measures.

## BYD launches new electric MPV

# eMAX 7 starts at ₹ 26.9 lakh

PNS NEW DELHI

Chinese electric carmaker launched their latest product, the eMAX 7 in the Indian market. This Multi-Person Vehicle (MPV) that will replace the e6 in India. One of the vehicle's notable changes over the outgoing model is the integration of the 8-in-1 electric powertrain from BYD's highly acclaimed e-platform 3.0 and two seating options of 6 or 7 seats. The vehicle comes in two variants, Superior and Premium, with 6- and 7seater options for both. While with a battery pack of 71.8 kWh, the Premium variant packs a 55.4 kWh battery pack, returning 530 km and 420 km of range according to European testing standards. Prices for the vehicle start at 26.9 lakh and go up to 29.9



The largest Chinese New (NEV) Vehicle carmaker, BYD recently sold 9 millionth vehicle he cusp of reaching the 10 million mark. Rajeev Chauhan, Head of Electric Passenger Vehicles, BYD India, said, "The launch of the BYD eMAX 7 is testament to our unwavering commitment to innovation sustainability. This electric MPV is not just a

vehicle; it's a revolution in how progressive families experience travel.

Currently, BYD sells only a India, the Atto 3, e6 and Seal alongside this new vehicle and has 27 showrooms across 23 cities in India. Plans by the Chinese carmaker to expand operations in India along with partner Megha Engineering were halted by the government last year.

# Top eight housing markets see annual sales dip in September

PTI NEW DELHI

Housing sales declined 5 per cent in the July-September quarter across the top eight cities due to a fall in new supply and sharp appreciation in prices, according to PropTiger.

continuing the agitation and keeping the forthcoming

festive season and their

families in mind, they should

call off the strike and return

to work immediately. "Most of the workers are newly married and some have just

started their career. Some of them are already paid salaries ranging between Rs 30,000 to Rs 60,000," he said.

Meanwhile, Samsung India

Electronics said the company

on Monday signed an agreement with the workers

committee of the factory in

"Both parties agreed on collaborative efforts to make

the Chennai factory a great place to work. We will engage

with workmen directly to

address the difficulties faced

by them. We will also work

government's efforts to end

the stir, Samsung said they are

thankful to the authorities for their constant support. "We

reiterate that we comply with

all laws and regulations of the

country," the spokesperson

Chennai.

Real estate brokerage platform PropTiger.Com, which is part of Australia's REA group that owns Housing.Com, on Tuesday, released its report 'Real Insight' on India's residential

A total of 96,544 units were sold in July-September, down 5 per cent from 1,01,221 units sold during the same period

The number of residential units launched in the top 8 markets fell 25 per to 91 863 units 1,23,080 units.

PropTiger pointed out that a sharp increase in home prices, averaging a nearly 20 per cent increase across the top eight cities, impacted affordability. As per the data, housing sales rose only in Delhi-NCR and declined in the other seven



29 per cent growth in sales to in the year-ago period.

per cent in Ahmedabad to 9,352 units from 10,305 units. Bengaluru witnessed an 11 per cent fall in sales to 11,160 units from 12,588 units.

Housing sales in Chennai dropped 8 per cent to 3,560 units from 3,874 units. Hyderabad registered a 19 per

units from 14,191 units, while 10,098 units during July-September from 7,800 units to 2,796 units from 3,607 units.

> in the Mumbai Metropolitan Region dipped 1 per cent to 30,010 units from 30,299

In Pune, the housing sales decreased 3 per cent to 18,004 units during July-September this year from 18,557 units in the year-ago period.

Vikas Wadhawan, CFO of REA India and Business Head of PropTiger.Com said, "The year-on-year decline in both sales and new launches reflects the market's response to rising prices.

He further added, "We are healthy observing moderation market activity, which is beneficial for end-users as it brings about sustainable growth. Over the last few quarters, prices have increased by 3 per cent to as much as 50 per cent in some prime localities of key markets, affecting immediate buying decisions." However, Wadhawan expects buyers to gradually adjust to the new price realities.

"With the festive season kicking off with Navratri, renewed buyer interest and a anticipated. The market frenzy has slowed, creating a more stable environment for end-users."

Developers, particularly in Hyderabad and Pune, have also recalibrated their supply strategies to align with shifting demand patterns.

### Airtel identifies 51 million spam calls through Al

**PTI** ■ JAIPUR

Bharti Airtel through its Spam detection solution identified 51 million potential spam calls and 1.6 million spam SMSes in Rajasthan in the last 10 days since its launch as 10 days since its launch, a company official said on Tuesday.

The solution alerts customers to malicious links received via SMS. "For this, Airtel has built a

centralised database of blacklisted URLs, and every SMS is scanned in real-time by a state-of-the-art Al algorithm to caution users from accidentally clicking on Dilawari, Chief Executive Officer, Rajasthan, Bharti Airtel, said. Further, he added that the

system is a first-of-its-kind solution by a telecom service provider. The solution has been auto-activated at no cost for all Airtel customers.

# Sunsilk campaigns on Kolkata's trams for Durga Puja



PNS KOLKATA

Sunsilk launched a unique campaign in Kolkata, using the city's beloved trams not just as a mode of transportation, but as a celebration of beauty and tradition. From September 27th to October 2nd, the trams have been transformed into vibrant Sunsilk showcases as part of milestone #SunsilkShineTram activation, celebrating Sunsilk's Super Shine Hair

Serum during Durga Puja. Kolkata's trams, an intrinsic part of the city's culture might not run for much longer, Sunsilk, in a very unique way payed tribute to these historic symbols while highlighting the beauty and strength of women during Durga Puja. Much like the trams that

have carried generations, Sunsilk carries forward a tradition of care and beauty, blending modern needs with the city's deep-rooted

### Airtel-Nokia 'Green 5G' initiative to cut carbon emissions



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Telco major Bharti Airtel and Finnish telecom and IT company Nokia on Tuesday said their collaboration to launch the Green 5G' initiative is aimed at improving energy aimed at improving energy efficiency on Airtel's mobile network and reduce its carbon emissions by 143,413 metric tons of CO2 annually. The project will focus on enhancing energy efficiency Airtel's extensive Radio Access (RAN) Network leveraging technologies like artificial intelligence and machine learning, as well as a suite of advanced software features and innovative solutions, a joint statement

comprehensive solution is expected to enhance energy efficiency during peak and off-peak

hours and is projected to reduce Airtel's carbon emissions by an estimated 143,413 metric tons of CO2 annually," it said.

The partnership will focus on 'zero-traffic, zero-watt operation', reducing the radio network's power consumption during periods of no traffic, thereby conserving power and  $optimisin\bar{g} \\$ management. "Nokia has committed to

reaching net greenhouse gas emissions globally by 2040. Our innovative technologies will

not only enhance the overall performance communications networks but also significantly help their reduce energy consumption, contributing to the energy efficiency targets of our customers,"

Tarun Chhabra, Head of

Mobile Networks at Nokia,

green power

India, said.
Airtel and Nokia have also trialled advanced digital design tools to optimise cell configurations for lower transmitted power. This positively impacts the CO2 footprint and energy bills without compromising the without compromising the network performance or user experience, the statement said.

Bharti Airtel CTO Randeep Sekhon said the partnership will enable a significant markets. reduction in footprint and further Airtel's environmental objectives. As part of its sustainability effort, Airtel has so far deployed solar-powered deployed solar-powered systems in around 25,000 sites up to now and substantially increased the renewable energy usage at its data centres, 220,541 MWh sourced through

wheeling

# India's potential to produce 8-10 million tonnes of sustainable aviation fuel by 2040: Report

PTI NEW DELHI

India has the potential to produce 8-10 million tonnes of Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) by 2040, and investments worth USD 70-85 billion will be required to achieve the projected production, according to a

In the report released on Tuesday, leading consultancy Deloitte India said the 8-10 million tonnes production of SAF would surpass the country's estimated domestic demand of 4.5 million tonnes for a 15 per cent blending mandate in 2040 across all

flights.
The expected scenario could also position India as a leading SAF exporter serving global

"Investments worth Rs 6-7 lakh crore (USD 70-85 billion) would be required to realise the projected SAF production capacity. It will give impetus to aviation sector's decarbonisation efforts, reducing carbon emissions to

20-25 million tonnes annually," the report said.
India is one of the world's fastest-growing civil aviation markets, and efforts are going on to decarbonise the sector.
According to the report, the projected capital investment of



create 1.1-1.4 million jobs across the value chain and reduce crude oil import bills by USD 5-7 billion annually. "Further, SAF production can boost farmers' income by 10-15 per cent by using agricultural residue as feedstock, providing a sustainable alternative to the current practice of burning crop waste," it added.

The country's estimated surplus of 230 million tonnes of agricultural residue will be a crucial resource for producing SAF. It will serve as a vital feedstock for ethanol (2G) production, a key component in the Alcohol-to-Jet (AtJ) technology pathway for SAF

manufacturing.
Ethanol (2G or second generation) is produced from other non-food feedstock apart from molasses.

At the same time, the report said, the AtJ route with ethanol (1G) produced from sugar and grain can provide an initial boost until the

technology fully matures."Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) and Used Cooking Oil (UCO) will contribute to the overall potential. Alternate feedstock such as sweet sorghum, seaweed and industrial waste can give further impetus to SAF potential with technological maturity," it

Prashanth Nutula, Partner at Deloitte India, said the drive to produce SAF is quickly becoming a reality globally and in India. With a 2-3 per cent the said the shadeled ATTE. cent share in the global ATF market, India is favourably positioned in the global aviation fuel market, including SAF. Moreover, India also emerges as a competitive geography due to its proximity to airline hubs in the Middle East and Europe and favourable cost structures. As a result, India is poised to play a pivotal role as global demand for SAF surges, Prashanth Nutula, Partner at Deloitte India, said.

# HIL can transform Indian hockey's Title holders India to open women's ACT campaign against Malaysia landscape, feels Salima Tete

**▼**ndian women's team captain Salima Tete can't wait for the upcoming Hockey India League as she feels that the event will help shape the careers of young players and build a strong bench strength for the national team.
The HIL is all set to return

after seven years December this year.

The revamped league will feature the first standalone women's hockey league in the country that will run concurrently with the men's competition to be held from December 28 to February 1 at two venues Ranchi (women) and Rourkela (men).

The men's event will feature eight teams, while the women's competition will comprise six sides.

"I am very excited for HIL, it is restarting after seven years and with a women's league this time. The whole team has been discussing what a great opportunity this is for



us the last few days.

We will get to mingle with players from nationalities, play with them, play against them and improve as players," Salima

"It will give youngsters who aren't a part of the senior

team a chance to see the daily routines of Indian players different and foreign players up close. And being in a highperformance, professional environment early in their career will do wonders for

beneficial for players who have been out of the team as well, giving them an opportunity to compete at the highest level and keep themselves sharp," she added. The women's League will their development. conclude on January 26 next "I expect the HIL will be year in Ranchi, while the

men's final is slated for February 1 in Rourkela. The players' auction for the league will be held from October 13 to 15. Each

franchise will build a 24-player squad, consisting of at least 16 Indian players (with a mandatory inclusion of four junior players) and eight international stars.

Players will be divided into three slabs with base prices of Rs two lakh, Rs five lakh, and Rs 10 lakh each.

"The auction is coming up soon and there is a buzz around the camp. Since it is the first edition, I would have liked nothing more than to play for the Ranchi team. Hopefully, one of the two remaining women's team is based out of there," said Salima.

"It is going to be a great experience to play a fullfledged league nevertheless. It will be our first time playing for a completely new team, new coach, new teammates and I cannot wait for the Hockey India League to begin," she signed off.



**PTI** ■ KUALA LUMPUR

 $\begin{array}{cccc} T_{wo\text{-}time} \text{ champions India} \\ will & \text{open their title} \\ \text{defence} & \text{against Malaysia in} \\ \text{the} & \text{Women's} & \text{Asian} \end{array}$ Champions Trophy hockey tournament beginning in Bihar on November 11.

The tournament will feature six teams -- hosts and defending champions India, China, three-time winners Korea, two-time champions Japan, Malaysia and Thailand. According to the official schedule announced by the Asian Hockey Federation (AHF) on Tuesday, the tournament, to be played in

Rajgir, will conclude on November 20.

India won the tournament in 2016 in Singapore before reclaiming the title in Ranchi last year.

After Malaysia, the Indian women will take on Korea on November 12, followed by matches against Thailand (November 14), China (November 16) and Japan (November 17).

The top four teams after the round robin format will qualify for the semifinals to be held on November 19, followed by the summit clash on November 20. "The Rajgir Hockey Stadium

Young Indian sailors bag seven medals at Mussanah Race Week in Oman

stands as a symbol of the region's commitment to fostering world-class sports, and we are confident that it will provide an exceptional experience for players and fans," AHF president Dato Fumio Ogura said in a

statement. Hockey India president Dilip Tirkey said it will be a historic occasion for the state of Bihar. "The newly constructed Rajgir Hockey Stadium will serve as the perfect stage for this prestigious tournament, and we are excited to see India defend their title against some of the best teams in Asia," he

# Tsitsipas sets up Medvedev clash in Shanghai Masters

**AP** SHANGHAI

Stefanos Tsitsipas' rivalry with Daniil Medvedev will add another chapter after the Greek player beat Alexandre Muller 6-3 7-5 at the Shanghai Masters here on Tuesday.

The 12th-ranked Tsitsipas and the Russian former US Open champion will meet for a 14th time, and first in nearly a year. The fifth-ranked Medvedev has a commanding 9-4 lead in the head-to-head series, which has spilled over into a war of words off the court in the

"I consider him someone that I respect on the tour, much more than I did before," Tsitsipas said.

"We've had some heated things on the court in the past, but I think those things have resolved themselves over time, and we also had the time to speak about those things and have a common understanding of things happen.

"What is missing is trying to get a good win under my belt, and that will redeem my efforts for so far of trying to get better. My whole goal is to get out there, play the best tennis that I can.

Tsitsipas had to wait out a two-day rain delay to play his third-round match against Muller, but looked complete control until losing his serve at 5-3 in the second set. Unperturbed, the Greek broke back to love to clinch the match and renew his sixvear rivalry with Medvedey. No. 16-ranked Ben Shelton



put away Roberto Carballes fast off both wings and takes Baena 6-3 6-4, firing eight a lot of time from you," said aces and 24 winners to line Monfils, who plays secondup top seed Jannik Sinner in ranked Carlos Âlcaraz next.

Seventh-ranked Taylor Fritz mood (having) just won a also advanced with ease, beating Japan's Yosuke Watanuki 6-3 6-4, while Yosuke Grigor Dimitrov, playing in his 100th Masters event, beat Alexei Popyrin 7-6(5) 6-3. Gael Monfils upset 15thranked Ugo Humbert 7-6(7) 2-6 6-1 in an all-French

match-up. The 38-year-old Monfils, ranked 46th, is the second oldest player to reach the Shanghai fourth round in Shanghai, behind only Roger Federer (also 38) in 2019.

"It's never easy to play Ugo, he's really aggressive, playing Netherlands in a night match. Wuhan Open

Katerina Siniakova had a comfortable 6-3 6-1 victory over Alexandra Eala of the Philippines to set up a second-round match against defending champion Aryna Sabalenka. Second-ranked Sabalenka,

who won the title the last time it was played in 2019, needs only to make the quarterfinals at Wuhan to regain top spot in the rankings from Iga Swiatek, who withdrew from the women's Asian swing citing fatigue and personal reasons. Swiatek recently split with coach Tomasz Wiktorowski. Magda Linette of Poland routed No. 23-ranked Liudmila Samsonova 6-2 6-2, and Ekaterina Alexandrova beat former Australian Open champion Sofia Kenin of the

US 6-1 4-6 6-4. Other winners included Britain's Katie Boulter, Anisimova, Bulgaria's Tomova Viktoriya Romania's Jaqueline Cristian, who has Paris Olympics gold

medalist Zheng Qinwen After snapping a 24-match losing streak at the China Open last week, Zhang Shuai's change of fortune turned in Wuhan as she lost to Yulia Putintseva of

Kazakhstan 6-4 6-4 in the

Later on Tuesday, four-time champion Novak Djokovic plays his third-round match first round. against Flavio Cobolli, bidding to capture his 100th eight seeds, The top including Sabalenka and tour-level title. Third-ranked Alexander Zverev faces Tallon Griekspoor of the China Open champion Coco Gauff, received a first-round PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Young Indian sailors dished out an impressive show, returning with a rich haul of seven medals, including one gold, four silver and two bronze at the Mussanah Race Week in Oman, an international regatta for youth sailors. India ruled the Optimist Girls U-15 category, with Shreya Krishna

Lakshminarayanan Kommaravelly Lahari securing the top-two spots. Shreya clinched the gold medal with a net score of 28 points.

performances, finishing second and third in her first finishing and fifth races respectively. Across six races, her other finishes were ninth, sixth, eighth, and 24th in her final race, which was discarded as her worst result following the scoring system where the worst finish is dropped.

Her overall score was 52 points, but after the discard her net score stood at 28, securing her the gold medal. Kommaravelly followed with a silver, finishing with 50 net points, while Singapore's Tong Xuan Ya claimed bronze.

In the ILCA-4 U-16 category, India's Shashank Batham and Akshat Kumar Dohare claimed silver and bronze

respectively. Shashank finished just two behind points Oman's Abdulatif Ziyad Al Qasim, who topped three of the seven races (second, third, and fourth) and won with 12 net points.



Shashank won two races (first and sixth) but finished ninth in the second race, which hurt his chances for gold. His worst race was discarded.

leaving him with a total of 14 net points. Akshat secured bronze with a score of 29 net points after

seven races In the ILCA-4 girls U-16

respectively. Soumya accumulated 39 net points, while Shagun finished

category, India's Soumya Singh Patel and Shagun Jha took second and third places

with 49 points.

UAE's Marwa Al Hammadi claimed gold with 31.5 net

In the ILCA-6 girls U-19 category, Maanya Reddy narrowly missed out on gold, finishing second with 74 net points, just behind the UAE's Camelia Al Qubaisi, who secured gold with 77 points. A total of 106 sailors from Oman, UAE, Qatar, Kuwait, Thailand, Singapore and India competed in the threeday annual age-group sailing event from October 4-7, which featured races in the Optimist boys and girls ILCA 4, ILCA 6, ILCA 7 and RS Venture classes.

The Optimist Class is a onedesign dinghy class for young sailors, typically aged 8-15, with a scoring system that drops the worst finish from a sailor's total points to calculate the net score.

The ILCA (Laser) Class is a single-handed dinghy class featuring different rig sizes (ILCA-4, ILCA-6, ILCA-7) for different age groups, using a similar net point scoring format. It's popular for its competitiveness and Olympic status.

## Reinforced Barcelona targets third straight Women's Champions League title

**AP** ■ MADRID

 $B_{\text{third straight Women's}}^{\text{arcelona will go for its}}$ Champions League title with a squad boosted by Poland star striker Ewa Pajor and with Aitana Bonmatí and Alexia Putellas on new contracts.

The group stage begins on Tuesday and the Catalan side is trying to become only the second team after Lyon to win three straight titles or reach five straight finals.

Barcelona beat Lyon in last season's final, when Ballon d'Or winners Bonmatí and Putellas each scored. Both had their club contracts extended.

Pajor, who joined from Wolfsburg, was the competition's top scorer in 2022-23 as the German club reached a final that it lost to Barcelona despite a goal by

In her nine seasons with Wolfsburg, Pajor won 14 titles and scored 136 times despite a series of injuries. She was not able to win a Champions League even though she played in three finals and was part of a run to another.

Barcelona has also added Nazareth Portuguese club Benfica. Their first game is on

Wednesday against Group D rival Manchester City in a rematch of the 2020-21 quarterfinals. where Barcelona triumphed after a 4-2 first-leg win and a 2-1 second-leg defeat in what was its only loss that campaign. Barcelona's squad also includes former City players

Keira Walsh and Ellie Roebuck. "It's the first time I've been been back to Manchester since I left," Walsh said on

Monday. "I know I have a professional job to do and it won't be an easy game, but it will be nice to have all my friends and family in the stands.

Lyon's firepower takes on Galatasaray

It could prove a busy night on Tuesday for Galatasaray's defense and goalkeeper Gamze Yaman.

Group A opponent Lyon boasts the all-time top scorer in the Women's Champions League, Ada Hegerberg, who has two seasons of 50-plus goals during her 10-year spell



tournament (China Open),

so that's going to be a tough

Also, Tomas Machac, who

made the semifinals in

Tokyo, eased past Australian Alexander Vukic 6-4 6-2 and

next faces No. 13-ranked

Tommy Paul in the third

one for sure.

round.

at the club. The Norway striker, who won the first women's Ballon d'Or, has 64 competition goals, while teammate Eugénie Le Renard,

Sommer, third on the all-time list, needs two to reach 50. They form the spine of the team with captain Wendie Renard, the Women's

Champions League recordholder for appearances with

Lyon has been in good scoring touch so far, netting season in only its third

16 goals in its first three French league games, with American midfielder Lindsey Horan getting five and France striker Kadidiatou Diani scoring two.

French hopes rest on Lyon after Paris Saint-Germain - a semifinalist last season - was eliminated by Juventus in qualifying. Lyon is the competition's record eight-time winner but

last won the trophy in 2022. It was runner-up last season to Barcelona The club hired a new coach in June, with Australian Joseph Montemurro replacing Frenchwoman Sonia

Bompastor, who joined Chelsea. The contrast in experience between the sides is noticeable. Galatasaray's team was founded in 2011 and the

senior team started only in Galatasaray will be making its competition debut after a qualifying run that included triumphs over forme quarterfinalist Slavia Praha. former It is the first Turkish team to

get to the group stage. It won

its first national title last

campaign. Wolfsburg starts Roma

Two-time champion Wolfsburg begins its Group A campaign on Tuesday at Italian champion Roma, which drew with the German club on its last visit two years

Both teams will want to make a good start with Lyon and Galatasaray the other group teams.

Wolfsburg warmed up by routing Leipzig 5-0 in the Bundesliga on Friday, when Alexandra Popp set up three goals. Popp announced her international retirement last week, meaning her focus is fully on leading Wolfsburg to

She is just two games away from becoming the second player to reach Champions appearances, after Wendie Renard.

more honors.

Wolfsburg is unbeaten in five away meetings against Italian sides, but Roma is unbeaten in 14 home games in all competitions.

Chelsea without Haves Life after Emma Hayes has started well for Chelsea.

Haves left to take over the United States women's team in the offseason and carried on her winning ways by taking gold at the Paris Olympics.

After 14 major titles, she left big shoes for her replacement Bompastor to fill, but it has been an impressive start for the former Lyon coach.

Chelsea opened its Super League campaign by beating Aston Villa 1-0 followed by routing Crystal Palace 7-0. First up for the Blues in Group B is a home game on Tuesday with Real Madrid, which has made a perfect start in the Spanish league, winning five out of five to trail leader Barcelona on goal difference.

One-time champion Arsenal

faces a tough opening Group

C match on Wednesday at two-time defending German champion Bayern, which has made a seven-game winning start to the season, including a 1-0 victory over Wolfsburg in the German Supercup.

Bayern's momentum

A 1-0 win over Cologne on Saturday stretched Bayern's unbeaten run in the Bundesliga to 44 games.

# India look to fix batting woes, bolster NRR against Sri Lanka in Women's T20 WC

n a sticky wicket after a mixed start to the campaign, India will look to fix their batting woes to bolster their net run rate when they take on bottomplaced Sri Lanka in their third and penultimate Group A match of the T20 Women's World Cup here on Wednesday.

It has not been smooth sailing for the Indians in the showpiece event so far, having lost to New Zealand by 58 runs in their tournament-opener and then scampering home in 18.5 overs against arch-rivals Pakistan while chasing a modest 105.

India's main problem in the tournament so far is the performance of their batters, especially the explosive opening combination of Shafali Verma and vice-captain Smriti Mandhana.

While Shafali scored just 2 and 32 in the first two games, Mandhana also faired poorly managing 12 and 7 runs.

And it's time the duo fires in unison to ease the pressure on the middle-order. To make matters worse for

India, skipper Harmanpreet Kaur, who scored 15 and 29 retired hurt, is doubtful for the match against Sri Lanka after suffering a neck injury while batting against Pakistan.
The likes of Jemimah

Rodrigues, Deepti Sharma and Richa Ghosh too need to step up with the bat and share the burden of responsibility.

While medium pacer Arundhati Reddy sparkled against Pakistan with the ball, returning with figures of 3/19, she would look for more support from the likes of fellow pace colleagues Renuka Singh and Pooja Vastrakar, who didn't play the previous game because of an injury.



The Indian team relies heavily on Deepti Sharma in the spin department but she hasn't quite managed to hit her strides in the tournament so

Young off-spinner Shreyanka

Patil and leg-spinner Asha Shobhana have done a decent job, picking up a few wickets. The Indians will need to lift themselves in all departments of the game as in Australia a strong opponent awaits them

in their last group match. India will not only need to win but record a victory big enough against Sri Lanka to boost their Net Run Rate league game against defending in the Asia Cup final in

champions Australia on October 13.Sri Lanka might have lost both their opening matches, but the islanders won't be an easy opponent for (NRR) before the do-or-die India, especially after the win

August. India opener Shafali admitted that Sri Lanka are no longer only dependent on skipper Chamarai Athapaththu.

'There was a time when Chamari was the one scoring most of the runs and taking wickets, but in the Asia Cup, her entire team performed well. They've improved a lot, which is why they won the cup," Shafali has said.
"Chamari carries the pressure

of being a key player, and it's inspiring to see how she handles it and performs for her country." India pacer Renuka also knows how important it is to dismiss the Sri Lankan skipper cheaply as she can take the game away in a flash with her audacious strokeplay.

"Chamari Athapaththu is very interesting. She's the only one from Sri Lanka who takes the team to the other side. I try to get her out as soon as possible

take over the match. So I have a plan on how to get her out," Renuka has said.

Teams (From):

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

SriLanka: Vishmi Gunaratne, Harshitha Samarawickrama, Hasini Perera, Sanjeewani (wk), Nilakshika Silva, Chamari Athapaththu (c), Kavisha Dilhari, Ama Kanchana, Priyadharshani, Shashini Gimhani, Achini Kulasuriya, Sugandika Kumari, Sachini Nisansala. Udeshika

Prabodhani,

### India's T20 marauders eye another big win; Bangladesh hope for turnaround



PTI NEW DELHI

n India so dominant that A Bangladesh is admittedly clueless about how to match the "skills and mentality" of Survakumar Yadav's men. The script is not expected to

deviate much when the two sides clash in the second T20 International here Wednesday with the home team's young mavericks proving more than a handful for the full-strength visitors. Bangladesh have hardly looked like the plucky opponents that they are hyped to be but India have looked every bit the marauding force that loves to

intimidate on home turf. So, even with key players such and Jasprit Bumrah rested, India's remarkable depth in white-ball cricket shone through in a comfortable seven-wicket victory in the opening game in Gwalior.

One man who made a strong statement of intent in that game on Sunday was Sanju Samson.

Confirmed by Suryakumar as an opener for the series, Samson has been in and out of the national set up since his debut in 2015 and his lack of consistency has been a major contributing factor.

In the series-opener in Gwalior, the keeper-batter, who usually comes in the middle order, revelled in his new role as opener and played some delightful strokes in his 19-ball 29, showcasing his ability to play freely in the powerplay. However, he couldn't convert

his promising start, much like

his opening partner Abhishek

Salman Ali Agha's unbeaten

On a pitch which still looks

good for batting with little help

for fast bowlers or spinners,

England raced at nearly five-

runs-per-over as Zac Crawley

smashed 11 fours in his

unbeaten 64. Joe Root was not

England lost stand-in captain

Ollie Pope without scoring in

the second over to a stunning

out on 32

104 and Saud Shakeel's 82.

AP MULTAN(PAKISTAN)

Sharma, who showcased sheer power before running himself out

With first choice openers Yashasvi Jaiswal Shubman Gill rested for this series, both Samson and Sharma would be keen to prove they can go beyond mere cameos.

The duo would look to seize this opportunity here and get a big score on Wednesday night in front of, what is likely to be a sellout crowd.

The stakes are higher for the 29-year-old Samson, who is aiming to solidify his position wicketkeeper in the absence of Pant.

With the T20 World Cup still two years away, a series of consistent performances as and Mahmuddullah have to wicketkeeper could make

him a strong contender for future selections in the whiteball formats. The hosts are unlikely to

tinker with their playing XI after everything went India's way in the opener. Debutant Mayank Yadav dazzled with his fiery pace,

while fellow first-timer Nitish Kumar Reddy made a mark as a seam-bowling all-rounder, a rarity in Indian cricket.

Arshdeep Singh capably led the pace attack and mystery spinner Varun Chakaravarthy made a striking comeback after staying away from the national team for three years. He will be eyeing the spin allrounder's spot left vacant by Ravindra Jadeja as will Washington Sundar.

On the other hand, the tourists will have to regroup quickly if they want to fashion a turnaround and stay alive in the three-match

**England off to brisk start after Agha century** 

one-handed catch by a diving

Aamer Jamal at midwicket off

Bangladesh, who went with more or less than same side they fielded at the World Cup earlier this year, have the advantage of experience but the side has just not been able to crack the T20 format.

"I wouldn't say we played badly. We are a better team than this. We haven't done well in this format for a long time, but I don't believe we are such a bad team," captain Najmul Hossain Shanto conceded in Gwalior.

Batting continues to remain their weak link and it wasn't a surprise to see the side struggle against India's disciplined bowling attack. Senior players like Liton Das

get their act together The Bangladesh bowlers have the ability to spice up things but against India's formidable lineup, they would need plenty of runs on the board. Squads:

India: Survakumar Yadav (C), Abhishek Sharma, Sanju Samson (wk), Rinku Singh, Hardik Pandya, Riyan Parag, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Tilak Varma, Washington Sundar, Varun Bishnoi, Chakaravarthy, Jitesh Sharma (wk). Arshdeep Singh, Harshit Rana, Mayank Yadav.

Bangladesh: Najmul Hossain Shanto (C), Tanzid Hasan Tamim, Parvez Hossain Tawhid Hridoy, Emon, Mahmud Ullah, Litton Kumer Das, Jaker Ali Anik, Mehidy Hassan Miraz, Shak Mahedi Hasan, Rishad Mustafizur Hossain, Taskin Ahmed, Rahman, Shoriful Islam, Tanzim Hasan Sakib, Rakibul Hasan.

# Jaiswal can play in any conditions, needs mental adjustment for Australia tour: Lara

India opener Yashasvi Jaiswal is equipped to "play in any conditions" but will need to make some mental adjustments for the upcoming tour of Australia, the legendary Brian Lara said here on Tuesday. Jaiswal has established himself

as a vital cog in the Test side with 929 runs in only eight matches this year at 66.35, his two centuries and six fifties putting him as the leading run-scorer for India in 2024. "He has got the ability to play in any conditions. I saw him in the Ćaribbean. Obviously, the pitches in Australia are slightly different, but if you take that sort of strength that you have,

you're going to play good cricket in any conditions. "I expect to see him do well,"



Lara told the media during the launch of the International Masters League.

The West Indies great said Jaiswal will need to make some mental adjustments to continue his success Down

"I think the adjustment is upstairs," said Lara, pointing international players coming. towards his head when asked if You are feeding your players a

the Indian opener will have to make any adjustments.

The adjustment is your ability to back your talent in whatever conditions. I say this with a pinch of salt because conditions in India have

"With the IPL you've got

different level of competition, which is great, so I don't think there's much that he has to do

there's much that he has to do technically," he added.
"I just think, mentally, travelling away from home, playing against Australia on their shores is a different beast.
But I believe that the Indian team that I've seep going to "You have got to have a plan. And your plan has to be team that I've seen going to Australia over the last couple of occasions, are very capable of winning," he said.

Lara picked Jaiswal and he said.

another southpaw Abhishek Sharma as the "two most exciting Indian batters" right "Jaiswal and Abhishek Sharma. First of all, they're lefthanders. They're very young. They play the game in a style, attacking and very stylish," he said.

"Óf course the relationship I have had with them over the last couple of years has been them go from strength to strength," he added.

Lara said having a "good plan" will be crucial for India's success in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy, which will comprise five Tests for the first time.

something that when it comes to fruition, you get the success," "When you're coming up against Australia, you've got to

have a damn good plan, and you've got to be able to soak in pressure because they're going to apply a lot of pressure. 'From an Indian scenario,

they've got to play good cricket. They've got to believe in themselves and they've got to play each session at a time. They can't think way beyond that," he added.

# Two years just flew by enjoying highs, lows of my game: Arshdeep

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

T<sup>20</sup> World Cup-winner Arshdeep Singh doesn't like fretting over the future or dwelling on the past. The left-arm pacer prefers to embrace the present.

The 25-year-old, who is leading the Indian pace attack in the ongoing threematch T20I series against Bangladesh, made his debut just two years ago but has already played 55 T20Is, including two World Cups. "I am enjoying my game and didn't even realise how these

two years flew by. I just try and stay in the present, enjoy the highs and lows, that is my focus," Arshdeep said ahead of the second T20I against

me of the Branch & Borro

RANCHI MAIN

**BRANCH** 

Md. Jahangir Alam

Date: 08.10.2024 | Place: Ranchi

Bangladesh on Tuesday. 'My life's mantra is to enjoy

the present. Today is my rest day so I will enjoy my rest today. Kal ka Kal dekhenge (Will think about tomorrow when it comes). The T20 World Cup is two years away, very far I don't think much when a question on his future was thrown his way.

The Punjab pacer, who honed his red-ball skills in county cricket last season and put up a stellar display in the Duleep Trophy recently, has been making a case for a maiden Test cap too but doesn't want to talk about that.

"I want to do my best in all

the opportunity," he said Asked what difference he has felt in his white-ball skills since becoming an all-format player, Arshdeep said, "I enjoy that we can see how quickly you can adapt to the conditions, ground dimensions and format.

players to explore their skills. How he can take wickets in different ways, how to absorb

Playing in different formats teaches players a lot. In red ball, you get more overs to bowl, it teaches you patience, here (in T20s) you don't need

about what a batter can do." The hosts lead the series 1-0and the second game is expected to be a highscoring affair. In the five matches that the Arun Jaitley Stadium hosted in the IPL earlier this year, teams



JHARIYA BRANCH crossed the 200-run mark POSSESSION NOTICE

(For immovable property) The undersigned being the authorized officer of the Union Bank Of India, Jhariya Branch, Jhariya under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated 30.03.2024 calling upon the Borrower Mr. Sumit Kumar Sharma, S/o Ramsevan Sharma and Mr. Ramsevan Singh, S/o

Five Hundred One and Five Paise) as on 30.03.2024 within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on this 03.10.2024.

Suresh Singh to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs. 7,66,501.05 (Rupees Seven Lakh Sixty Six Thousand

The borrower/ guarantor in particular and the public in general in hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Union Bank Of India for an amount of Rs. 7,66,501.05 (Rupees Seven Lakh Sixty Six Thousand Five Hundred One and Five Paise) as on 30.03.2024 and interest & costs thereor The Borrower/ Guarantor's attention is invited to the provision of Sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured asssets.

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Residential land in Plot No. 195, New Plot No. 104, Khata No. 48, New Khata No. 601, Mouza No. 04, Panderpata, Dhanbad-828130, belongs to Mr. Ramsevan Singh, S/o Suresh Singh. Bounded by: North: Plot No. 197, South: Phani Bhushan Pal and others, East: Road, West: Gopal Mahto and others.

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Ranchi Branch) contact: 8294033690

Mr. Srikant Singh,

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**Authorised Officer, UCO Bank** 

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#### $E_{\text{Pakistan's}}^{\text{ngland}} \begin{tabular}{ll} \text{chipped} & \text{at} \\ \text{massive} & 556, \\ \end{tabular}$ Naseem Shah. England trails Pakistan by 460 runs. three-centuries total Pope had to open the innings reaching 96-1 at stumps on day after Ben Duckett injured his two Tuesday of the first test. left thumb while grabbing a sharp chest-high catch of No. Pakistan started the day on 328-4 and was spearheaded by

propels Pakistan to 556 in 1st test

11 Abrar Ahmed in the slips that finally ended England's heat-sapping 5 1/2 sessions on the field at Multan Stadium. Whether Duckett bats was vet

to be determined. England's Jack Leach took 3-160 and Shoaib Bashir 1-124 but Pakistan dominated both

spinners.Brydon Carse's long

wait for his first wicket in his

debut test came on Tuesday,

which he finished with 2-74.

Gus Atkinson (2-99) and Chris

Woakes (1-69) toiled without finding any reverse swing on the green square.

England did well in the first session and allowed Pakistan only 69 runs with Carse breaking the resistance of nightwatchman Naseem, who gloved a legside catch after scoring his test-best 33.

Naseem denied England a breakthrough for 1 1/2 hours and braved a couple of blows. He got a knock on the back of his helmet when he was struck hard by an Atkinson short ball and also received brief treatment when Carse struck the batter's right thumb off another short ball before round-the-wicket worked for the right arm fast bowler.

procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available or websites of Coal India Ltd. www.coalindia.in/ respective Subsidiary Company (CMPDI, www.cmpdi.co.in), CIL e-procurement portal https://coalindiatenders.nic.in and Central Public Procurement Portal https://eprocure.gov.in. In addition, procurement is also done through GeM portal

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https://gem.gov.in."

the formats wherever I get

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