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SUMIT ON DEFENDING
PARALYMPIC GOLD
DESPITE BACK INJURY
11 SPORTS



Royal welcome for PM Modi in Brunei



PM receives a ceremonial welcome in Brunei on Tuesday

PIB

WB Government passes anti-rape Aparajita Bill

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

In the backdrop of a Statewide agitation for justice for the Kolkata lady doctor who was raped and murdered early this month while on duty turning fast into a movement for "change of the system that harbours rapists and the corrupt," the Mamata Banerjee Government of Bengal on Tuesday got an anti-rape "Aparajita" Bill passed unanimously. This makes West Bengal first State to bring in amendments to Central laws dealing with such offences. The Opposition parties, however, called it a diversionary tactics in order to contain the Statewide unrest and assuage peoples' anti-Government feelings. Notwithstanding stringent remarks from the Opposition Bench, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee asked Opposition leader Suwendu Adhikari to help get the Bill signed by Governor CV Ananda Bose and President Droupadi Murmu. Apart from prescribing life imprisonment until death, the Bill, christened 'Aparajita Woman and Child Bill (West Bengal Criminal Laws and Amendment) 2024, provides for death penalty for a repeat



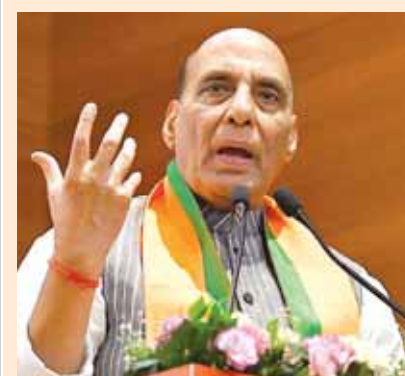
West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee speaks during a Session of the State Legislative Assembly, in Kolkata, on Tuesday. The Aparajita Woman and Child (West Bengal Criminal Laws and Amendment) Bill 2024 was passed during the Session

PTI

offender in cases of rape and sexual offences that lead to a victim's death or leave her in a vegetative state. The Bill was passed at a time when citizens including medical staff of Kolkata formed a 17-km long human chain from Patuli in South Kolkata to Ultadanga in the North. The Bill was also passed when a separate detachment of junior doctors and members of the civil society staged a joint rally in front of the Lal Bazar police headquarters demanding the resignation of Police Commissioner Vineet Goyal

for failing to act in an impartial manner. Saying that rape was a "curse on the human society and that there was a need for social reforms to stop such crimes, the Chief Minister said that "the Bill seeks to plug the loopholes in the central legislation." She also appealed to the Opposition BJP to get the Governor's assent "instead of politicising the issue," even as Leader of Opposition attacked the Government for supporting a system where rapes and murders had become the

order of the day. "It is your Government and the police that had investigated the infamous Kamduni rape case in such a manner that all the accused save one got acquitted and even the one who was not got his death sentence commuted to life sentence ... if this was not the result of the Government's apathy to such cases then what is ... In Kamduni rape case the Government changed 16 Public Prosecutors to ensure that the rapists who were the members of the TMC get acquitted," Adhikari said.



India's Air Defence gets future ready

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

With a view to sustaining the modernisation drive and operational readiness of the Armed forces, ten proposals worth ₹1,45 lakh crore were given the go-ahead on Tuesday. They include Future Ready Combat Vehicles, Air Defence Fire Control Radars, Dornier-228 aircraft, Next Generation Fast Patrol and Offshore Patrol Vessels. Notably, of the total cost of proposals, 99 per cent is from indigenous sources under Buy (Indian) and Buy (Indian-Indigenously Designed Developed and Manufactured) categories, defence ministry said here. Giving details, officials said Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), under the chairmanship of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh accorded Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) for 10 capital acquisition proposals amounting to ₹1,44,716 crore. The DAC is the apex body to clear acquisition proposals of the Armed forces. The final nod is given by Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS).

Nine Naxalites killed in Bastar

PTI ■ DANTEWADA

Nine Naxalites were killed in an encounter with security personnel in Bastar region of Chhattisgarh on Tuesday, a senior police official said. The gunfight broke out around 10.30 am in the forest along the border of Dantewada and Bijapur districts when a joint team of security forces was out on an anti-Naxal operation, Inspector General of Police,



Bastar Range Sundarraj P told PTI. Personnel belonging to the District Reserve Guard (DRG) and the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) were involved in the operation, which was launched based on inputs about the presence of Naxalites belonging to its west Bastar division unit, he said. The intermittent exchange of fire lasted for a long duration, following which the bodies of nine Naxalites clad in 'uniform' were recovered from the spot, he said.

Former chief of iconic Atlas Cycles shoots himself to death



SAUMYA SHUKLA ■ NEW DELHI

Former president of Atlas Cycles Salil Kapoor allegedly committed suicide at his Lutyen's Delhi home on APJ Abdul Kalam Marg on Tuesday afternoon. The 70-year-old man allegedly shot himself with his licensed pistol and was found dead on the ground floor of his three-storey house at around 1 pm. According to a senior police officer, his manager found his body lying in a pool of blood near the puja room of his home. A suicide note was recovered in which Kapoor mentioned the name of about four to five people accusing them of harassing him. The suicide note also mentions him facing some financial difficulties. He

wrote that he had 'financial burden' on him. He was reportedly living separately from his family including his wife and three children, who are currently based in Dubai. Another police officer said that Kapoor's manager and his family stayed with him in the three-storey building. He was rushed to All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) where the doctors declared him brought dead. The local police were informed, and they, along with forensic experts, visited the crime scene to collect the exhibits from the spot. Police said they are verifying and probing the matter from "all possible angles" and will take legal action further as needed. In 2015, he was arrested from Uttarakhanda by the Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of the Delhi Police in two cases of cheating involving ₹9 crore. The first case involved a man, Satinder Nath Maira, who alleged that he had given ₹13 crore to Salil Kapoor's family friend Prashant Kapoor for investment. Salil had issued seven post-dated cheques when asked to return the money, but all were dishonoured.



Bestial cow vigilantes in Haryana arrested

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI/FARIDABAD

A 19-year-old boy, studying in Class 12 in Haryana's Faridabad, was allegedly chased in a car and shot dead by a group of five cow vigilantes who mistook him for a cattle smuggler. The victim was identified as Aryan Mishra. The members of vigilante group have been identified as Anil Kaushik, Varun, Krishna, Adesh, and Saurabh. A Duster car in which the boy, Aryan, and his friends Harshit and Shanky as well as two other women seated in the back of the vehicle, was chased by the members of cow vigilante group on the night of August 23 for about 30 kilometres near Haryana's Gadhupuri on the Delhi-Agra National Highway. During interrogation, the accused revealed that on the night of August 23, they had received information that some suspected cattle smugglers driving two SUVs were doing recce in the city. They mistook the victim and his friends, Shanky and Harshit, for those cattle smugglers and followed their car, a senior police officer said.

Congress and AAP talk about Haryana Polls

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress and the Aam Aadmi Party have reached an 'in-principal understanding' to fight next month's Haryana Assembly election together against the wishes of its State unit, though nothing has been finalised yet. Sources said two rounds of talks between AAP MP Raghav Chadha and Congress's KC Venugopal have already been held. The third round of meeting can be held on Wednesday. Sources said the AAP is reported to have demanded 10 seats, while the Congress is willing to give between five and seven only. The Congress is reportedly also willing to give one seat to the Samajwadi Party. The deadline for nominations is October 4 with voting on October 5. Against the wishes of its State unit, the Congress on Tuesday said it is in talks with the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) for an alliance in Haryana though nothing has been finalised yet. According to sources, in its Central Election Committee (CEC) meeting on Monday evening, party leader Rahul Gandhi expressed interest in exploring the possibility of alliance with AAP for Assembly elections in Haryana. Ironically, the State Congress leaders in Haryana have rejected the possibility of any alliance with AAP in the State. Recently, senior



Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha and Congress MP Rahul Gandhi with party president Mallikarjun Kharge and party MP KC Venugopal during meeting with party secretaries and joint secretaries, in New Delhi, on Tuesday

PTI

Congress leader in Haryana, Kumari Selja ruled out the possibility of an alliance with AAP for the Assembly polls, saying her party is strong in the State and will fight the elections on its own. Asked about the possibility of an alliance with AAP, AICC general secretary in-charge of Haryana Deepak Babaria said, "We are in talks with the AAP, but nothing has been finalised yet. As soon as something concrete emerges, we will inform you." Responding to another question, Babaria said, "We have to defeat the BJP, and therefore are against allowing anti-BJP votes to be divided." Meanwhile, AAP leader and Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh has welcomed reports claiming Rahul has shown interest in an alliance with Arvind Kejriwal-led party in poll-bound Haryana. Polling for 90 Assembly seats in Haryana will be held on October 5 and counting of votes will be undertaken on October 8. The Congress's Central Election Committee had met on Monday and cleared the names of 34 candidates for the Assembly polls in Haryana. "Today, a meeting was held for Haryana by the CEC. A list of 49 names was presented by the State's screening committee, out of which 34 have been approved and decision on 15 is pending," Babaria had said last evening.

Netflix questioned over Hindu code names for IC 814 hijackers

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Under pressure from the Government, Netflix India on Tuesday said it has included the real as well as the code names of the hijackers of the Indian Airlines aircraft in the web series 'IC814: The Kandahar Hijack'. This comes after Netflix India content head Monika Shergill on Tuesday met Information and Broadcasting Secretary Sanjay Jaju and assured to be 'sensitive' to India's sentiments. Information and Broadcasting Secretary Sanjay Jaju summoned the Netflix India's content head, Monika Shergill, to convey the government's strong disapproval of the depiction



of certain elements in the web series. The web series had triggered a row after a section of viewers objected to the humane projection of terrorists and reference to their Hindu code names, contending that distortion of real identities of hijackers amounted to misrepresentation of historical events. "For the benefit of audiences unfamiliar with the 1999 hijacking of Indian Airlines Flight 814, the opening disclaimer has been updated to include the real and code names of the hijackers,"

Shergill, Vice President, Content at Netflix India, said in a statement after meeting Jaju. She said the code names in the series reflect those used during the actual event. The real names of the hijackers were Ibrahim Athar, Shahid Akhtar Sayed, Sunny, Ahmad Qazi, Zahoor Mistry and Shakir. However, the series referred to the code names used by terrorists — Bhola, Shankar, Doctor, Burger and Chief. "India has a rich culture of storytelling and we are committed to showcasing these stories and their authentic representation," Shergill said. "The code names in the series reflect those used during the actual event. India has a rich culture of storytelling — and

we are committed to showcasing these stories and their authentic representation," she said in the statement. The meeting at Jaju's office here lasted for about 40 minutes during which the OTT platform official was apprised of the sentiments expressed by a large section of the society and the need to be sensitive while handling such topics. According to sources, in the meeting, the Government posed tough questions, asking the Netflix India head why no captions or riders were issued to clearly display the real names of the hijackers. The Government also asked why the hijackers looked "firm and sensitive" whereas the negotiators appeared "weak and confused".

Three crew members missing after Indian Coast Guard helicopter crash

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Three crew members of Indian Coast Guard are missing after their helicopter on a rescue mission had to make a forced landing at sea off Porbandar on Monday, Coast Guard said here on Tuesday. Rescue mission was on to locate them. Giving details, officials said the incident occurred on Monday night after the Coast Guard launched an operation around 11 pm to evacuate an injured crew member on board a tanker which was sailing close to Porbandar. While one of the four crew members on board the ICG's advanced light helicopter



(ALH) was rescued, a search operation was on for three others, it said. The force has deployed four ships and two aircraft to search and rescue the missing crew members. Coast Guard said aircraft wreckage was located. The incident happened whilst the helicopter was approaching the vessel for the evacuation, it added.

Narainagar Sugar Mills Limited
CIN: L74899HR1991PLC032873
Regd. Office: Village Banoni, P.O. Shahzadpur, Teh. Narainagar, Distt. Ambala

ADMISSION NOTICE
Applications are invited for B.Ed. course under management / vacant seats. Apply upto 06.09.2024

PUBLIC NOTICE
The general public is informed that I, Suresh Kumar, son of Dharampal, son of Banarsi Das, resident of village Rindhana Colony, Shadpur Tehsil Julana, District Jind, declare my oath that my father Late Dharampal, son of Banarsi Das, resident of Rindhana Colony, Shadpur Tehsil Julana, District Jind, died on 19.05.05

COURT NOTICE
(Uo 5 Rule 20 CPC)
IN THE COURT OF Sh. Muneesh Arora Principal Judge, Family Court, Patiala

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL CHANDIGARH (DRT 3)
Ground Floor, SCO No. 33-34-35, Sector-17-A, Chandigarh - 160017

Case No. OA/438/2023
Summons Under Sub-Section (4) of Section 19 of the Act, read with Sub-rule (2A) of rule 5 of the Debt Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules, 1993

WHEREAS, OA/438/2023 was listed before Hon'ble Presiding Officer Registrar on 30/07/2024
WHEREAS this Hon'ble Tribunal is pleased to issue summons/ notice on the said Application under section 19(4) of the Act, (OA) filed against you for recovery of debts of Rs. 38,32,775/-

Signature of the Officer Authorised to Issue Summons
Note: strike out whichever is not applicable.

PUBLIC NOTICE
I, Ved Prakash Sharma S/o Late Sh. Madan Lal Sharma R/o B17/A, Lohia Road, Adarsh Nagar, Delhi-33 declare that my father Late Sh. Madan Lal Sharma passed away on 27.04.2021.

Principal Judge, Family Court, Patiala
Dated, this day of 09-07-2024

Public Notice
I, Toshli, W/o Late Surjeet R/o Village Gurshaman, Teshil and District Anupal, declares that the name of my husband has rural postal link in Post No. 82

Public Notice
I, Balwinder Singh and Smt. Parminder Kaur D/o Sh. Balwinder Singh are the owners of the property constructed on plot measuring 75 square yards situated in Daba Colony Village Daba Tehsil and District Ludhiana and comprised of Khata No. 211272, 274 Khata No. 583465 entered in the samband for the year 2009 of Village Daba

VedicAahar Farmer Producer Company Limited
Bhatnagar Colony, Rohtak Road, Jind (Hr.)
Notice is hereby given to all Directors/ Promoters/ Shareholders that the 4th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the company shall be held as per the following schedule:

Atulaya Beemaster Producer Company Limited
1242/25, Bhatnagar Colony, Rohtak Road, Jind (Hr.)
Notice is hereby given to all Directors/ Promoters/ Shareholders that the 7th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the company shall be held as per the following schedule:

Public Notice
I, Balwinder Singh W/o Manish Watta R/o 77/184, Ward No. 13, Fournaria Colony, Near Primary School, Pathokha, Kurukshetra, Haryana declares that I am the permanent resident of above mentioned address.

Public Notice
I, Naveen, Danics Asst. Estate Officer, U.T., Chandigarh, immediately. If anybody has any objection upon the mutation of the said share in the said property, in favour of the above named applicants, he/she/they may furnish the same in writing (supported with affidavit duly attested by Magistrate/Notary) in the office of the undersigned within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice.

13th Annual General Meeting
Date of Meeting : 27.09.2024
Time of Meeting : 11:00 a.m.
Venue of Meeting: Haryana Agricultural Management & Extension Training Institute (HAMEITI), Near Chaudhary Ranbir Singh University, Rohtak By-Pass, Rohtak Road, Jind.
Please make it convenient to attend the above meeting. For any information contact at Mob. 9812359277 or E-mail at beemasterindia@gmail.com.

Public Notice
I, Naveen, Danics, Assistant Estate Officer, Exercising the powers of Estate Officer, U.T., Chandigarh

Public Notice
Through this information, every common and special person is informed that in this office Mukesh Rani, Triveni and Bhojraj/R/o H.No. 728, Gali No. 10, Brahm Nagar, Karnal have filed property tax ID No. 1E667CF3 located at H.No. 728, Gali No. 10, Brahm Nagar, Karnal has applied for registering the same. As per property tax records, the above property is registered with tax ID No. 1E667CF3 without name, and Anil Kumar died on 12.10.2014.

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Through this information, every common and special person is informed that in this office Mukesh Rani, Triveni and Bhojraj/R/o H.No. 728, Gali No. 10, Brahm Nagar, Karnal have filed property tax ID No. 1E667CF3 located at H.No. 728, Gali No. 10, Brahm Nagar, Karnal has applied for registering the same.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Subject: Transfer of ownership in respect of property No. E4, 5-FG, DLF Vistas, Panchkula (Haryana) upon the intestate death of late Smt. Bhagwati Virmani.

Public Notice
I, Gopal Krishan Jindal S/O Roshan Lal R/O H. No. 613/1, Ghosian Gali, Purana Anaj Mandi, Halu Bazar, Bhiwani declare that one of my Sale Deed No. 2981 dated 22-06-2011 (Barkha W/o Bajrang R/O Haluwas Gate Bhiwani) and Sale Deed No. 2980 dated 22-06-2011 (Meenu W/o Lakshmi Singh R/O New Delhi) have been lost in Halu Bazar Bhiwani on 03-01-2024.

Public Notice
I, Ved Prakash Sharma S/o Late Sh. Madan Lal Sharma R/o B17/A, Lohia Road, Adarsh Nagar, Delhi-33 declare that my father Late Sh. Madan Lal Sharma passed away on 27.04.2021.

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PUBLIC NOTICE
I am hereby informed to general public at large that Sh. Sanjeev S/o Sh. Dullu Chand and Dullu Chand S/o Sathu Ram, R/o Muztagpur (48), PO: Muztagpur, Distt. Kurukshetra Haryana 136128, has availed Secured loan on property from Exclusive Lending And Finance Pvt Ltd for Rs. 278634/-, vide LAP/KATHAL/018-07-2024

Public Notice
I, Gopal Krishan Jindal S/O Roshan Lal R/O H. No. 613/1, Ghosian Gali, Purana Anaj Mandi, Halu Bazar, Bhiwani declare that one of my Sale Deed No. 2981 dated 22-06-2011 (Barkha W/o Bajrang R/O Haluwas Gate Bhiwani) and Sale Deed No. 2980 dated 22-06-2011 (Meenu W/o Lakshmi Singh R/O New Delhi) have been lost in Halu Bazar Bhiwani on 03-01-2024.

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THE GURDASPUR CO-OP. SUGAR MILLS LTD., GURDASPUR
TENDER NOTICE
e-Tender & offline tender are invited from original manufacturer/ authorized distributors/ Contractors and firms duly approved by Sugafed, Punjab, Mohali and NCFCSF New Delhi, for purchase items & contract jobs. DNIT and Terms & Conditions can be downloaded from Web Site: www.eproc.punjab.gov.in

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PAPER WITH PASSION

A strategic pivot

Amid rising regional tensions, Indo-US defence ties are strengthening, marking a significant strategic shift in South Asia

India has solidified its defence partnership with the United States through two pivotal agreements, signaling a deepening American commitment to South Asia at a time when China's military influence is expanding across the region. The agreements, secured during Indian Defence Minister Rajnath Singh's recent four-day visit to the United States, include a Security of Supply Arrangement (SOSA) and a Memorandum of Agreement on the Assignment of Liaison Officers. These developments underscore a significant shift in the dynamics of Indo-US relations, with both nations moving closer in their defence cooperation. The SOSA, a non-binding bilateral pact, is designed to prioritise support for defence-related goods and services between the two countries. This agreement is particularly crucial in addressing supply chain vulnerabilities that are critical to national security. Under the SOSA, India will receive assurances from Washington's Defence Priorities and Allocations System, while Indian companies will provide priority support to the United States. India's inclusion in the elite group of 18 SOSA partners, which includes nations like Australia, Canada, and Britain, marks a significant step in defence cooperation.



In effect it means if either of two nations ended up in combat with an adversary, the SOSA could help accelerate the delivery of crucial weapons and materials required for defence, thereby ensuring robust supply chains in times of crisis. India and the United States have already established several key strategic agreements, including the Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA) signed in 2016

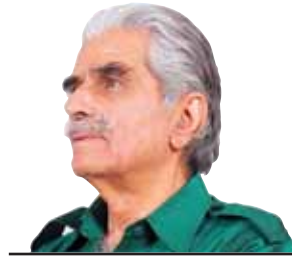
and real-time intelligence sharing since 2018 under the Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement (COMCASA). These agreements, alongside the new SOSA, create a framework for expedited deliveries of contracted goods and services, potentially streamlining defence commerce between the two nations. In 2019, the signing of the Industrial Security Annex marked another significant step, allowing the sharing of classified US information with private Indian defence firms—a departure from previous restrictions. The Reciprocal Defence Procurement Agreement could further streamline defence commerce, enabling private companies in both countries to bid on each other's contracts. Indeed, a technologically advanced Indian military aligns with American interests. The recent Indo-US defence agreements mark a significant milestone in the evolving relationship between the two nations. As China's influence continues to grow across South Asia, particularly in Islamabad and the Maldives, these agreements provide a foundation for enhanced collaboration and a shared commitment to regional stability. With these developments, India and the United States are poised to further deepen their defence ties, building a partnership that could play a crucial role in shaping the future of the region.

PICTALK



Devotees carry an idol of Lord Ganesha ahead of the Ganesh Chaturthi festival, in Mumbai

The US endorses India-Tibet ties



ASHOK K MEHTA

The recent visit of a bipartisan delegation of U S lawmakers to New Delhi and Dharamshala marks a significant moment in the US diplomacy in the region

A Tibet festival started on 3 September at India International Centre New Delhi to celebrate its rich Buddhist heritage, culture and identity. The Sikyong (head) of Central Tibet Administration, Penpa Tshering, will preside over various activities to highlight Tibet's geo-strategic, spiritual and cultural importance for India.

His Holiness Dalai Lama at 89, is in a New York hospital for medical treatment but is considered in good health. US Special Coordinator on Tibet, Uzra Jeyamet him which elicited "immediate (solemn) protest from China". Foreign Affairs spokesperson Mao Ning said: "we don't allow Dalai Lama to engage in political activities in the US". Backchannel talks between the Dalai Lama envoy and China have been going on for an undisclosed period though Beijing does not confirm them. Talks are being pushed by the US House Resolution Resolve Tibet Act July 2024 which calls for restoration of its full autonomy. India needs to add its voice for Tibet's autonomy both internally and externally as part of a broader coalition. India's recognition of full Chinese sovereignty over Tibet was based on Beijing granting and implementing Tibet's autonomy. Instead, China has quashed Tibet's autonomy and trade treaties opening for India to take a more nuanced position.

Two issues require GoI's prompt attention: the Dalai Lama succession; and the border issue including restoration of peace and tranquillity and full disengagement in east Ladakh. The visit of a bipartisan US delegation of lawmakers to Dharamshala and Delhi and being received both by Dalai Lama and Prime Minister Narendra Modi was significant. China biter Nancy Pelosi had some unpleasant things to say about President Xi Jinping that drew Chinese ire. On the ground, the sinicisation process of Xijiang (Tibet) started in the mid-1960s. The time-tested method of injecting 7.5 mn Han Chinese into Tibet along with neutralization of Tibetan



Buddhism by deploying Chinese monks in Tibetan monasteries was designed to change the heart and soul of Tibet. Soon militarisation and infrastructure construction began which has hurt the environment. USD 5.8bn was spent on the Sichuan to Tibet railways system which is being extended to borders with India, Nepal and Bhutan. A new border law has led to the building of 628 well-off border villages close to or encroached into neighbouring countries. In 1965 Convenience Police Stations were constructed as a key security innovation: Big Brother is Watching. By 2011 Tibet Autonomous Region advertised for 2500 police stations with 458 designated for Lhasa alone. By 2016, this grid-style social management of Tibet had recruited thousands of Han Chinese and some Tibetan policemen. A Chinese Communist Party (CCP) political secretary has always kept a hawk-eye vigil over Tibet which is run by the CCP from Beijing. Internal policing has resulted in fostering a feeling of 'otherness' by the surveillance drive. There are reports that attempts are being made to recruit Tibetans into the PLA including some forcible intake. The day is not far when some Nepalese might opt to join PLA for other than the South West Theatre Command in



THE VISIT OF A BIPARTISAN US DELEGATION OF LAWMAKERS TO DHARAMSALA AND DELHI AND BEING RECEIVED BOTH BY DALAI LAMA AND PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI WAS SIGNIFICANT

Tibet. This will be the result of the ill-conceived Agniveer policy. The Chinese Renaming Campaign has resulted in what Forum for Non-Violent Alternatives (FNVA) has called "Thread of Beads: an analysis of renaming 62 locations in India's Arunachal Pradesh since 2017: China claims that 90 per cent of Zangnan (Arunachal Pradesh) is illegally occupied by India. Chief Minister Assam, Himanta Biswa Sarma, has suggested renaming 62 locations in Tibet. This is not likely to irk the Chinese. The Chinese renaming drive was done in four phases in 2017, 2021, 2023 and 2024. It had been supplemented by salami-slicing into Nepal and Bhutan by building Xiakong villages (well-off) in contested areas to strengthen their claims to them. While Nepal and Bhutan are pretending this has not happened or happening, India is building some 600 vibrant villages for which funds have been released. Numerous encroachments have taken place in India also. The strategic importance of Tibet for India cannot be overstated. The root of the border problem and the Tibet issue is India's failure to comprehend its significance in time and act. In C Eastern Command, Lt Gen Sir Francis Tucker had foreseen in 1946 in a paper he

wrote that India must prevent China from occupying Tibet and be prepared to occupy it. This did not happen for which we are paying now. The priority for now is to coordinate with Dalai Lama to articulate his succession. The Dalai Lama has been silent on it for some time now but has spoken and written about it in the past. The Chinese are bound to appoint their own Dalai Lama as they appointed a Panchen Lama (second to Dalai Lama) Gyaltsen Norbu. This must be preempted. The CTA is preparing a new map of Tibet with the help of cartographic experts from Princeton University in the US. The issue of the map and India announcing the contours of its Tibet policy including the border and full disengagement of PLA from its intrusions in east Ladakh have to be coordinated with CTA. A succession policy should also be outlined. With Tibetans migrating to the US and soon the majority of Tibetans residing there than in India, the Tibet issue may vanish leaving Delhi with no potential leverage against Beijing. (The writer, a retired Major General, was Commander, IPKF South, Sri Lanka, and founder member of the Defence Planning Staff, currently the Integrated Defence Staff; views are personal)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TIP OF THE ICEBERG

Madam —The Justice Hema Committee report was only the tip of the iceberg against the sexual harassment. What we need is the solution and not confrontation anymore to the ongoing unpalatable issue. The time has changed and we are in the midst of gender equality. The world has become thickly competitive and along with freedom comes the package of jealousy, comparing with each other and at the end taking the pressure of enhancing the social status which is at times caused by giving up their own personal liberty and rights. The ongoing sexual harassment is not just there in one particular industry. It's a rapid fire spreading across industries and globally. Cinema industry is in the eyes of the public because the glamour attached to celebrities is coming to light quickly. Today our culture has changed and values eroded. The Hon'ble Supreme Court permits living together and there are couples united this way. Some relationship breaks lead to mental turmoil by physical assault. The ratio of hate, love changed overnight, ending up in a divorce. All this is happening only because of economic independence of the once a weaker sex. There's no more weaker sex as we can conclude and in many places women are the stronger sex challenges men in many fields. Where is the actual problem then? The problem starts with the anticipation by comparison to improve upon the social status. Even the luxuries became needs from wants under the current trend. When the background to the issue is such, how can we fix men alone as the reasons for the harassment? It was surprising to observe that a very senior artist after having acted in more than 200 movies has come out with her grievances that can't be taken at face value. One thing is to be noted that when someone is looking for an opportunity they shouldn't try it out as a chance since the very word 'Chance' dilutes the talents and ends up in a compromise and thereby the merits is taking

Need for the caste census



In the absence of fresh data, government agencies are still formulating policies and allocating subsidies based on the data accrued from the 2011 Census. The government estimated that around 810 million people required food assistance for 5 more years. However, this estimate is based on the 2011 census. Economists pointed out that more than 100 million deserving Indians would not get the benefit of the 5-year

extension of free ration because of the government's failure to conduct the long-due population census. A government cannot function without updating necessary and detailed data on the population of the country every ten years. So, census and caste census should immediately and simultaneously be undertaken. A caste census will not add to the cost of conducting a census. A caste census can be done only by adding a question or two to the questionnaire for the census. Caste hatred and caste nepotism are like fractures in our society. After a suspected fracture, a doctor always takes decisions after doing at least an X-ray. Any action on caste reservation must similarly be taken after collecting necessary data by conducting a caste census. Sujit De | Kolkata

the back seat.

A P Thiruvadi | Chennai

RAINS WRECK HAVOC IN TELUGU STATES

Madam — The heavy rains have wreaked havoc in both Telugu states. The way Vijayawada has been inundated leaving lakhs of people got vacated to safe places and scores of people dead is unprecedented. The state governments have geared up their relief operations. The centre should come forward with all its might to help out the states in their most trying times. The seasons in India have been acting extreme with a regularity. The hot summer with abnormal levels of temperatures is now followed by rainy season with heavy down pours. There should be proper preparedness to mitigate the fury of nature. Raising green cover and decreasing carbon print will help in long run. DVG Sankara Rao | Vizianagaram

BREAK ON RELIGIOUS BREAK

Madam — While it may be true that the CM of Assam has not done justice to his

constitutional post on numerous occasions vis-a-vis the Muslims of the state, his move to put a brake on the two-hour break for Friday prayers in the state Assembly can hardly be compared with Hitler's treatment of the Jews. Hitler wanted a total extermination of the Jews and was unapologetic about targeting millions of them. Has Sarma given a similar call to eliminate Muslims from the state of Assam? All that he has done is to put an end to a practice that allowed Muslims to avail of a two-hour break as a matter of right, in order to fulfil their religious obligations. Imagine the chaos that would ensue if professionals of other denominations were to press for similar breaks in the course of their duties? Is there anything that is more holy and sacred and pleasing to one's Creator than the performance of prescribed duties? Avinash Godbole | Dewas

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

Citation manipulation is undermining research integrity

As institutions chase rankings, the very foundation of scientific inquiry is at risk, calling for urgent reforms in how research quality is assessed and rewarded



BIJU DHARMAPALAN

The mushrooming of predatory journals, fake research publications, and manipulated citations compromises the integrity of academic research. In the latest NIRF 2024 rankings, serious concerns were raised regarding the dropping ranking of many prestigious national institutions. Many mediocre institutions climbed to a higher level than institutions of national repute. Though the purpose of accreditations and rankings is to improve the quality of each institution through a competitive spirit, one major point of concern is that many institutions climbed the ladder through a single parameter, the publication metrics. The over-emphasis on publication spoils our country's academic and research environment. Even people who don't know how to write a paper properly publish one paper per month. There was a time when a researcher used to publish one or two papers per year. Even at the international level, people have expressed reservations about citation metrics. In a recent issue of Nature (published on



20th August), a team of researchers led by Yasir Zaki explicitly shows that a citation black market is operating in our society. The citation black market is the unscrupulous act of exchanging citations to enhance research articles' perceived influence unduly. The citation black market functions through the following mechanisms, 1. Citation Cartels: Citation cartels are groups of researchers who agree to quote each other's work a lot, even if it has nothing to do with the current topic. These cartels can change citation metrics in a big way, giving the wrong impression of how important and influential the study is. 2. Paid Citations: Citations may sometimes be available for purchase by researchers or publications. This phenomenon is especially widespread

in predatory publications, which frequently give primacy to financial gain above academic honesty. To enhance their citation counts, researchers may compensate these journals to incorporate their work into other publications, therefore artificially inflating their citation metrics. The study published in the journal Nature found that the companies were charging \$300 for 50 citations and \$500 for 100 citations. 3. Coercive Citation: Journal editors or reviewers can also manipulate citations by pushing writers to include certain papers, usually their own, to boost the number of citations for specific journals or articles. This can make the peer review process less reliable and tilt the research towards certain people or groups. Many people have been practising this to boost their scientometrics level. The intense pressure on academics to publish frequently and in high-impact journals drives this booming citation black market. The obsession with the impact factor as a factor of academic or scientific excel-

lence has incentivized citation manipulation. The study showed that Google Scholar (and ResearchGate), is manipulatable. Despite the conspicuous vulnerabilities, these are used to judge the quality of a researcher. The 'citation black market' has several detrimental effects on the scientific community and society. The government should reconsider its reliance on citation-based metrics, such as the impact factor, as the primary indicators of research quality. Alternative metrics, such as article-level, open peer reviews, and qualitative research impact assessments, should be explored and adopted. Metrics evaluating the social impact of research—that of policy, industry, or public understanding—should also be considered. This strategy can inspire effort in addressing practical problems and acknowledges the broader benefits of research to society. (The writer is an adjunct faculty at the National Institute of Advanced Studies; views are personal)



FIRST COLUMN

GENERATION Z'S FASHION DILEMMA

Can Gen Z find a sustainable balance between personal style and financial responsibility?



SHAINY SHARMA

Fashion has always been a form of self-expression and identity, but for Millennials or Generation Z (Gen Z); Generation Alpha (Gen Alpha) and many more, it has taken on new dimensions. The generation, growing up in the digital age, is deeply influenced by social media, fast fashion and the need for constant reinvention. Moreover, the spending habits of Gen Z on fashion are notable not just for the frequency of purchases but also for the psychological and financial implications. While many in this generation are still students or early in their careers, they tend to spend a substantial portion of their disposable income on clothing and accessories.

The constant bombardment of new trends and must-have items can create a sense of urgency and FOMO, leading to impulsive purchases, driven by the fear of missing out on trends or sales, which is a common behaviour among the current generation. This generation is also more likely to engage in buy now, pay later schemes, which can further lead to debt accumulation if not managed carefully.

The desire to maintain a certain image can result in financial strain, as spending on fashion takes precedence over saving for the future. Algorithms on social media platforms are designed to show users content that aligns with their interests, including fashion. This means that as users scroll, they are often presented with targeted ads and influencer promotions that encourage them to buy more, even if they don't need anything. Social media is a major driver of contemporary fashion, influ-



encing how trends are created, spread and consumed.

While it has democratized fashion, giving individuals more influence and visibility at the same time it has also contributed to the challenges of fast fashion, overconsumption and sustainability issues. Thus, while social media is not solely responsible for fashion, it is undoubtedly one of the most powerful forces shaping the industry today. As a result, fashion has become both a passion and a source of significant expenditure for the generation, driving new consumer behaviours and reshaping the fashion industry. Fashion is not just about clothing rather it is a vital tool for expressing individuality and belonging. In a world where social media plays a dominant role, the clothes one wears are often seen as an extension of one's brand.

Platforms like Instagram, TikTok and Pinterest allow users to curate and showcase their style to a global audience, reinforcing the importance of fashion as a form of self-expression. The desire to create a unique and ever-evolving identity pushes this generation to frequently update their wardrobes. Mindless scrolling for fashion is a double-edged sword. While it provides entertainment and easy access to the latest trends, it can lead to impulsive buying, overconsumption and a detachment from sustainable and ethical practices. Being mindful of how much time is spent on these platforms and making conscious decisions about purchases can help mitigate these effects.

The need to stand out while simultaneously fitting in with peer groups creates a paradoxical demand for both originality and conformity, leading to increased spending on fashion items. Fast fashion brands, have capitalized on this behaviour by offering affordable, trendy clothing that changes frequently. These brands release new collections at a rapid pace, allowing consumers of every generation to keep up with the latest styles without breaking the bank—at least in the short term. However, the low prices and frequent purchases add up, leading to significant overall spending. As this generation continues to mature, it will be interesting to see how their fashion consumption evolves and whether a balance can be struck between the desire for personal style and the need for ethical, sustainable practices.

(The writer is a faculty at Art of Living, views expressed are personal)

UPA: Addressing employee aspirations



B K SINGH

Unified Pension Scheme promises a guaranteed pension for long-serving employees, but at a significant fiscal cost to the exchequer



The old pension scheme (OPS) has been a big burden on the union and states' budget of the country. In one of the economic reforms, it was shelved for employees joining government services in 2004 and later. The new scheme was called the National Pension Scheme (NPS), where the employee had to contribute 10% of the salary during the entire period of service. Initially, the government too was to make a matching contribution of 10%, which was later increased to 14%. The corpus generated for pension this way was invested in government securities, shares and corporate bonds, which had daily net asset value like mutual funds. At the time of retirement, at least 40% of the corpus is to be used for purchasing an annuity. The NPS scheme does not guarantee a monthly pension equivalent to 50% of the last salary drawn.

This led to resentment among the government employees and opposition parties especially Congress saw an opportunity to keep the BJP-led central government in the dock. Among several freebies, Congress also promised in the election manifesto to revert to OPS in states they came to power. Montek Singh Ahluwalia has gone on record to bring home the point that the economy of the country will be ruined if OPS is revived for employees who joined service in and after 2004. Many experts have also concurred with the views. Congress won the Himachal Pradesh Assembly election on the promise to revert to OPS but did not implement it. Subsequently in the Telangana election and also in the Lok Sabha 2024 election, the revival of OPS was not again brought up in the manifesto.

BJP having disappointed with the Lok Sabha results in Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh had to make a tightrope walk and find a middle ground between OPS and NPS. The central government now proposes a United Pension Scheme (UPS) for employees whose service lasts for 25 years



THE NEW SCHEME WAS CALLED THE NATIONAL PENSION SCHEME (NPS), WHERE THE EMPLOYEE HAD TO CONTRIBUTE 10% OF THE SALARY DURING THE ENTIRE PERIOD OF SERVICE. INITIALLY, THE GOVERNMENT TOO WAS TO MAKE A MATCHING CONTRIBUTION OF 10%, WHICH WAS LATER INCREASED TO 14%

or more to get a pension of 50% of the average of the preceding twelve months' salary before the super annulation. The pension amount will be inflation-adjusted in dearness allowance twice a year. It has also a provision for a 60% family pension, for all diseased employees. The scheme does not benefit those who served for less than ten years. However, a monthly pension of Rs 10,000 has been guaranteed for employees who retired after serving for at least ten years. An additional sweetener has also been brought in the provision for the payment of a lump sum amount linking it with the duration of service in the government.

The scheme will come into effect from 1st April 2025 and will benefit 23 lakh employees of the central Government if they opt for it. Further, if all states also opt for the scheme, 90 lakh employees will be benefitted in the country. The Maharashtra government, where the Assembly election is due shortly, has already opted for the scheme. UPS is also a contributory scheme like NPS, where employees' contributions remain unchanged at 10% and the government matching contribution is increased from 14% to 18.5%.

If the monthly salary of the employee is Rs 50,000, the annual increase in the corpus is 3%, equivalent to a compound annual growth of 8%. SBI, LIC and UTI ate three managers of corpus for employees' pensions. SBI offers 9.75% and LIC 9.56% interest on the fund. Currently, in NPS, government employee has three options for investment and 95% of subscribers allow 65% investment in government securities, 15% in equities and the remaining 20% in corporate debt.

Since the corpus is not large enough to earn 50% of the average of the last twelve months' salary, the government's matching contribution has been increased from 14% to 18.5%. Cabinet Secretary TV Somanathan on UPS said, "definitely fiscally more prudent." "It remains within the same architecture of contributory funded scheme.

This is the critical difference. The OPS is unfunded, non-contributory scheme, this is funded, contributory scheme. The only difference in the changes made is to give an assurance and not leave things to the vagaries of market forces.

But otherwise the structure of UPS has best elements of both (OPS and NPS)", he said. Economists think that UPS balances the fiscal cost and the aspiration of the employee. The increased cost of living will be taken care of because the real pension would not change as it is indexed to inflation. In NPS, if inflation goes up real pension comes down. Nevertheless, the scheme would put an extra burden of Rs 6250 crores on the government in the first year.

This has been done to satisfy 23 lakh beneficiaries, who are vocal political constituencies and no political party would easily ignore their demand. It is expected that most states would adopt UPS, without bothering for additional financial burden.

With the announcement of UPS, opposition parties are stepping up their demand for restoration of OPS. Economists have been consistently warning against the restoration; it has the potential to make the growth sluggish and hamper the progress of the nation. It also impacts the lives of the poor. Economic Advisory

Council to the Prime Minister has suggested that reverting to OPS will be catastrophic for poor populations and would crowd out private investments in states that revert to it. Reserve Bank of India in January 2023 had flagged concerns about the government finances for states opting to revert to OPS last year.

RBI had already cautioned that the move would lead to accumulation of liabilities, which can become a major risk in future. RBI had also said that states were expected to incur a 16% rise in pension expenditure at Rs 4,63,436 Crores as against Rs 3,99, 813 crores in the previous year. Pension outgo under NPS is Rs 4 lakh crores, which would be Rs 17 lakh crores if OPS is reverted. At present Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and Punjab have reverted to OPS. Since then BJP has come back to power in Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh and it is hoped that both governments will continue with NPS and opt for UPS with effect from 1st April 2025. Punjab is governed by AAP and their main agenda is to remain in power and not to be concerned about the state's finances.

UPS itself is causing a financial burden on the Central government of Rs 6250 crores in the first year. If all the states opt for it, the total economic burden on central and all state governments would be of the order of Rs 25,000 crores in the first year. Let there be no politics and political parties be conscious of maintaining fiscal discipline.

(The writer is a retired Principal Chief Conservator of Forests -Head of Forest Force- Karnataka; views are personal)

Policy rollbacks: The unseen cost of ignoring stakeholder consultation

There have been a number of high-profile policy rollbacks, underscoring the need for consultation and consensus-building before implementing major reforms

Since the Modi Government 1.0, India has witnessed a series of high-profile policy rollbacks that highlight a critical issue in governance: the need for broader consultation and consensus-building before introducing significant reforms. The latest example is the rollback of the lateral entry scheme, which sought to bring professionals from outside the traditional civil services into government roles.



JAIDEEP VAIDESWAR

While the merits and demerits of such a policy can be debated, the rapid reversal following its announcement points to a deeper, more systemic issue—the lack of comprehensive stakeholder engagement. This pattern is not new. The government's

attempts to implement sweeping reforms have repeatedly stumbled due to insufficient consultation. The Land Acquisition Bill, the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) paired with the National Register of Citizens (NRC), and the Farm Laws all serve as prime examples. In each case, the policies were introduced with minimal input from those most affected—be it farmers, minority

communities, or state governments. The predictable outcome has been an intense public backlash, forcing the government to either backpedal or face prolonged unrest. The trend is concerning. Policymaking in a diverse democracy like India requires not only a vision but also the patience to engage with a wide range of stakeholders. This includes not just the obvious beneficiaries or those directly affected but also civil society, industry experts, and regional representatives. The lack of such engagement has led to a growing distrust between the government and the public, where every new announcement is met with suspicion rather than optimism. Moreover, the need for broader consultation

becomes even more pressing when considering the long-term impact of these policies. Short-term political gains or expedient decision-making may lead to swift policy announcements, but the absence of robust dialogue with stakeholders can result in policies that are unsustainable or unimplementable in the long run. Take, for instance, the recent discussion in the media on potential additional restrictions on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the tobacco sector. While the government may have had reasons for this move, the absence of dialogue with stakeholders—particularly tobacco farmers—has exacerbated concerns. Tobacco provides livelihood



to 36 million people including 6 million farmers and 20 million farm labour engaged in tobacco farming. Since the huge scale of investment of \$4 trillion that the finance minister pointed to at the recent Voice of Global South Summit, it is clear that the FDI is the only way to protect farmers. Similarly, both the ill-conceived Tax Collection at Source (TCS) on foreign travel and now the introduction of the new Tax Clearance

Certificate requirement for Indians travelling abroad are poorly thought through and have virtually no machinery to provide certificates on an emergency basis. The repeated lack of consensus-building not only undermines the effectiveness of policies but also erodes public trust in governance. It creates an environment where even well-intentioned reforms are viewed with scepticism, and the potential benefits are overshadowed by the immediate backlash. This is particularly damaging in a country as diverse as India, where the success of any policy hinges on its acceptance across different regions, communities, and economic strata. Furthermore, these repeated rollbacks damage India's

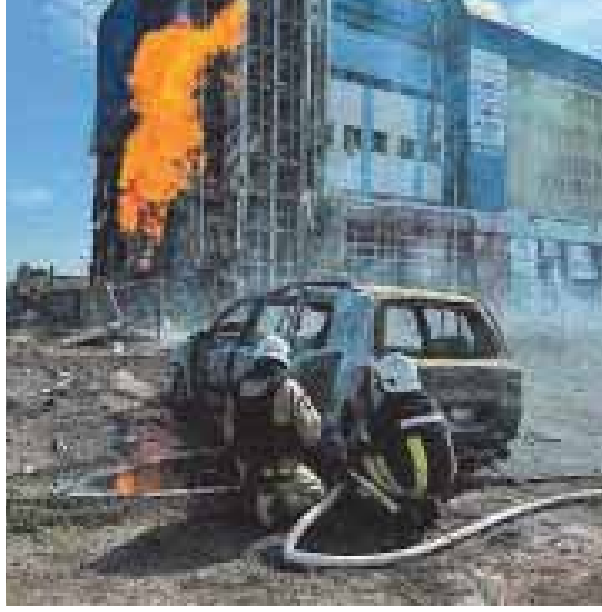
international reputation, as global investors and partners begin to view the country as an uncertain policy environment. This uncertainty not only affects domestic stakeholders but also risks deterring foreign investment, which is crucial for driving economic growth and development in a rapidly globalizing world. Moving forward, the government must adopt a more inclusive approach to policymaking. This means going beyond the corridors of power in New Delhi and engaging with stakeholders at the grassroots level. It means recognizing that the voices of citizens, small business owners, and regional leaders, are not just peripheral—they are central to the success of any

reform. It also means being open to feedback and willing to make adjustments before policies are finalized, rather than being forced into a retreat after the fact. India's growth story is too important to be derailed by avoidable missteps in policy formulation. By fostering a culture of consultation and consensus, the government can ensure that its reforms not only achieve their intended goals but also enjoy the support and trust of the people. The lesson from recent rollbacks is clear: no matter how well-conceived a policy may be, it cannot succeed without the buy-in of those it is meant to serve. (The writer is a former consultant to MyGov. Views expressed are personal)

Russian missile strike kills 41, wounds 180 in Poltava city

AP ■ KYIV

Two Russian ballistic missiles struck an educational facility and nearby hospital in a central-eastern region of Ukraine, killing at least 41 people and wounding 180 others, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Tuesday.



"One of the buildings of the Institute of Communications was partially destroyed. People found themselves under the rubble. Many were saved," Zelenskyy said in a video posted on his Telegram channel.

Senior Balochistan leader resigns

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

Pakistan's veteran politician and Balochistan National Party-Mengal chief Sardar Akhtar Mengal Tuesday resigned from Parliament, complaining that the restive province has consistently been marginalised and ignored by the House.



Balochistan's problems but there is no interest in the restive province's matters," Mengal said.

Balochistan. Everyone should have come together on this issue," he said.

or kill me outside Parliament, go ahead, but at least listen. We have no one, and no one listens to us," he said.

Kishida to visit S Korea for summit on improving ties

Seoul (AP): Japan's prime minister will arrive on Friday in South Korea for what will likely be the last summit between the two leaders, South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol's office said on Tuesday.

Pak's veteran politician to hold talks with army to end political stalemate

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

Pakistan's veteran politician Mahmood Khan Achakzai has stunned his foes and friends alike by saying that he is ready to hold talks with the powerful military establishment to end the current political stalemate in the country.

and asked if the Pakhtunkhwa Milli Awami Party (PkMAP) leader was ready to have a dialogue with the army.

will tell the establishment that you are our establishment. You are dear to us. You are our army, our institution. Please be kind to us and [it's] enough. Sit with us," Achakzai said.

ditioning the talks with 71-year-old Khan's apology for the May 9 violence.

Imran Khan approaches HC to prevent his possible transfer to military for trial

Islamabad (PTI): Jailed former prime minister Imran Khan on Tuesday approached a high court to prevent his possible transfer to the military for trial in the cases concerning the violence on May 9 last year, two days after Defence Minister Khawaja Asif said a military trial of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party founder was "possible".



remains within the civilian judicial system.

Khan fears a similar fate and he has already filed a similar petition on July 25 in the Lahore High Court through the same lawyer.

Bill approved to guarantee burial rights in Sri Lanka

Colombo (PTI): A draft bill that would grant the right to every individual in Sri Lanka to decide whether that person's body should be disposed of by burial or cremation has been approved, a cabinet note said on Tuesday.

vidual to choose between burial and cremation, respecting personal and religious beliefs.

Seoul (AP): North Korean leader Kim Jong Un supervised a demonstration of new exploding drones designed to crash into targets, state media said on Monday, as the US and South Korea engage in joint military drills.

drones "as early as possible", KCNA said.

N Korea shows new exploding drone crashing into target

continuing through September 7, is aimed at sharpening combat interoperability.

of their separate confrontations with the US Kim Jong Un and Russian President Vladimir Putin held summits this June and in September last year.

Pakistan witnessed 59 terror attacks in August

Baba Farid University of Health Sciences, Faridkot. E-tenders are invited for the procurement of following items upto 18.09.2024.

Pope begins Asia tour, celebrating religious freedom

Jakarta (AP): Pope Francis arrived in Indonesia on Tuesday at the start of the longest trip of his pontificate, hoping to encourage its Catholic community and celebrate the tradition of interfaith harmony in a country with the world's largest Muslim population.

However, the Vatican said the 87-year-old pope met with a group of refugees, migrants and sick people at the Vatican residence in Jakarta.



that "Indonesia and the Vatican have the same commitment to fostering peace and brotherhood, as well as ensuring the welfare of humanity."

representatives of the six religions that are officially recognised in Indonesia: Islam, Buddhism, Confucianism, Hinduism, Catholicism and Protestantism.

so close to each other that the Muslim call to prayer can be heard during Mass.

visit. He's a guest and we will welcome him," said Eldy, a 64-year-old retired government worker who uses one name and was out walking during a car-free day in Jakarta on Sunday.

Markets settle flat after record rally; Nifty gains for 14th day

PTI ■ MUMBAI
Benchmark equity indices BSE and Nifty took a breather after a record rally and ended on a flat note on Tuesday, with the 50-stock index settling in the green for the 14th straight session. Halting its 10-day rally, the 30-share BSE Sensex dipped 4.40 points or 0.01 per cent to settle at 82,555.44. During the day, it dropped 159.08 points or 0.19 per cent to 82,400.76. The NSE Nifty eked out a marginal gain of 1.15 points to settle at 25,279.85, its highest-ever closing level. Among the 30 Sensex firms, Bajaj Finance, Infosys, Adani Ports, JSW Steel, HCL Tech, Bharti Airtel, IndusInd Bank and Tata Motors were the biggest laggards. ICICI Bank, Bajaj Finserv, Titan, Nestle and HDFC Bank were among the gainers. In Asian markets, Seoul,



Tokyo, Shanghai and Hong Kong settled lower. European markets were quoting in the negative territory. The US markets were closed on Monday for the Labour Day holiday. "Amid mixed global signals and the absence of significant new catalysts, aside from the

anticipated Fed rate cut, which is already factored in, the domestic market took a breather. Mild caution emerged due to a recent slowdown in manufacturing activities, which indicates a slowdown in demand," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial

Services. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) bought equities worth Rs 1,735.46 crore on Monday, according to exchange data. The Global oil benchmark Brent crude declined 1.79 per cent to USD 76.13 a barrel. Surging for the 10th straight session on Monday, the BSE benchmark jumped 194.07 points or 0.24 per cent to settle at an all-time closing high of 82,559.84. During the day, it surged 359.51 points or 0.43 per cent to reach a new intra-day record peak of 82,725.28. The Nifty climbed 42.80 points or 0.17 per cent to settle at a lifetime closing high of 25,278.70, taking its winning run to the 13th day in a row. During the day, it soared 97.75 points or 0.38 per cent to hit a fresh all-time intra-day peak of 25,333.65.

Domestic saving to remain top net lender in coming decades: RBI Deputy

PTI ■ MUMBAI
Reserve Bank Deputy Governor Michael Debabrata Patra on Tuesday said domestic saving has largely financed the investment needs of the economy and will remain the top net lender in coming decades. In a keynote address at the Financing 3.0 Summit: Preparing for Viksit Bharat organised by the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) here, the deputy governor said that recently, the net financial savings of households has almost halved from 2020-21 levels due to behavioural changes in the form of unwinding of prudential savings accumulated during the pandemic and shifting from financial assets to physical assets like housing. "Going forward, boosted by rising incomes, households will likely build back their financial assets. This process has already begun. Households' financial assets have increased from 10.6 per cent of GDP during 2011-17 to 11.5 per cent during 2017-23 (excluding



the pandemic year)," Patra said. Their physical savings have also risen in the post-pandemic years to over 12 per cent of GDP and could rise further, he said, adding they had reached 16 per cent of GDP in 2010-11. "Accordingly, households will remain the top net lenders to the rest of the economy in the coming decades," the senior RBI official said. He further said the private corporate sector has drastically reduced its net borrowings from the rest of the economy, reflecting a combination of rising internal accruals and subdued capacity creation. Looking ahead, Patra said its net borrowing requirement is likely to rise on the back of a revival in the capex cycle. "These financing requirements will largely be

resources expands, the volume of external financing and its composition may undergo fundamental shifts, but in the light of past experiences, external debt sustainability will remain a policy priority," Patra said. During his address, Patra also delved into India's growth story and the fact that the country is riding on the cusp of a distinct demographic advantage. He said a productive workforce is critical for value creation in an economy, while capital would play an important supportive role. CII Director General Chandrajit Banerjee, in his welcome address, lauded the performance of India's external sector and underscored the role of the RBI in ensuring that its financing is stable, sustainable, and aligned with the country's economic policies. He said greater investment can be useful to garner more financing in physical infrastructure, components for the digital economy, as well as emerging sectors like renewable energy, warehousing, semiconductor ecosystem, and data centres.

Rupee falls five paise against US dollar

PTI ■ MUMBAI
The rupee declined 5 paise to 83.96 (provisional) against the US dollar on Tuesday, tracking a strong greenback against major currencies overseas and a sluggish trend in domestic equities. However, lower crude oil prices in international markets capped the decline in the local unit, forex traders said. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened 3 paise lower at 83.94 against the American currency and traded in the range of 83.94-83.98 during the day. It finally settled at 83.96 (provisional) against the US dollar, 5 paise lower than its previous close. On Monday, the domestic currency settled at 83.91. "The rupee in tandem with Asian currencies fell to its support zone of 83.97 as the



Reserve Bank of India seemed to present at 83.97 to protect any further weakness in the currency. There was good amount of FPI and oil companies outflow which resulted in the rupee reaching near to the all-time low of 83.97," Anil Kumar Bhasani, Head of Treasury and Executive Director of Finrex Treasury Advisors LLP, said. Meanwhile, Sensex recovered most of its losses to settle at 82,555.44 for the day, 4.40 points below its previous close, while the Nifty inched

up 1.15 points to 25,279.85. The dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was up 0.15 per cent at 101.80. Brent crude, the international oil benchmark, declined 2.1 per cent to 76.26 in futures trade. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) were net buyers in the capital markets on Monday, as they purchased shares worth Rs 1,735.46 crore, according to exchange data.

Bajaj Housing Finance IPO to open on Sep 9

PTI ■ NEW DELHI
Bajaj Housing Finance on Tuesday said it has fixed a price band of Rs 66-70 per share for its Rs 6,560-crore initial share sale. The initial public offering (IPO) will open for public subscription on September 9 and conclude on September 11 and the bidding for anchor investors will open for a day on September 6, the company announced. The proposed IPO comprises a fresh issue of equity shares of up to Rs 3,560 crore and an offer for sale (OFS) of equity shares to the tune of Rs 3,000 crore by parent Bajaj Finance. The share sale is being conducted to comply with the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) regulations, which require upper-layer non-banking finance companies to be listed on stock exchanges by September 2025. Proceeds from the fresh issue



will be used to augment the company's capital base to meet future capital requirements. Investors can make a bid for a minimum of 214 equity shares and in multiples of 214 equity shares thereafter. Bajaj Housing Finance is a non-deposit-taking Housing Finance Company registered with the National Housing Bank since September 2015. It offers financial solutions for

purchasing and renovating residential and commercial properties. It has been identified and categorised as an "upper layer" NBFC by the RBI in India and its comprehensive mortgage products include home loans, loans against property, lease rental discounting and developer financing. For the entire financial year 2023-24, the housing lender

posted a net profit of Rs 1,731 crore, marking a growth of 38 per cent from Rs 1,258 crore in FY23. Aadhar Housing Finance and India Shelter Finance are two housing finance companies that have been listed on the stock exchanges in recent months. In June, Bajaj Housing Finance filed preliminary papers with Sebi for a Rs 7,000 crore IPO, comprising fresh shares worth Rs 4,000 crore and an OFS component of Rs 3,000 crore by its parent. The market regulator gave its clearance to the company's maiden public issue earlier this month. Kotak Mahindra Capital Company Ltd, Axis Capital, IIFL Securities, BofA Securities India Ltd, SBI Capital Markets Ltd, Goldman Sachs (India) Securities Private Ltd and JM Financial Ltd are book-running lead managers that will manage the company's public issue.

World Bank projects India to grow at seven per cent in FY25

PTI ■ NEW DELHI
The Indian economy is projected to grow at 7 per cent in the current financial year on the back of recovery in the agriculture sector and rural demand. According to the World Bank Report released on Tuesday, India's growth continues to be strong despite a challenging global environment. The growth rate of India, which accounts for the bulk of the South Asia region, is expected to remain strong at 7 per cent in 2024-25, the World Bank said in the India Development Update. Recovery in agriculture will partially offset a marginal moderation in industry, it said, adding that services will remain robust.

SRM University hosts 4th convocation ceremony

PNS ■ ANDHRA PRADESH
SRM University-AP hosted its prestigious 4th Convocation Ceremony on September 02, 2024, felicitating the graduates with their well-earned degrees for scholastic excellence. The monumental event was graced by the honourable presence of Chief Guest Padma Bhushan Senapathy Kris Gopalakrishnan, Chairman-Axilor Ventures and Co-founder of Infosys; Guest of Honour Mr Rohit Kapoor, Chief Executive Officer, Food Marketplace, Swiggy; Founder Chancellor of SRM Group of Institutions

Dr T R Paarivendhar, Pro-Chancellor of SRM University-AP Dr P Sathyanarayanan; Vice Chancellor Prof. Manoj K Arora, Registrar Dr R Premkumar; Dean-Academic Affairs Dr Vinayak Kalluri; Other dignitaries, Faculty, staff and parents of the graduating batch. 1,018 graduates, including 24 PhD scholars, were conferred their degrees on this momentous occasion, and 18 Gold Medalists, 5 Silver Medalists, and 5 Bronze Medalists were recognised for their outstanding achievements. "We are a multidisciplinary research-



intensive university where education revolves around 5 I's - Integrative curricula, Interdisciplinary Research and Learning, Innovation, Industry and International

Collaborations and Inclusivity," stated Vice Chancellor, Prof. Manoj K Arora, in his welcome address. During his briefing about the annual report, Prof.

Arora also highlighted the university's stellar growth and accomplishments in the past academic year. "In the last academic year, we have relaunched the Liberal Arts

school with 3 new departments, implemented a revamped curricula that is adaptive and responsible to changing needs and expanded our industrial partnerships. Our faculty now consists of 350 in number, contributing to 688 publications, 108 published patents, 24 sponsored research and industry projects, 21 startups, along with students." Chief Guest Padma Bhushan Kris Gopalakrishnan, renowned global business & technology thought leader, delivered the much-anticipated convocation address to the graduating Class of 2024. With an analogy to the Paris

Olympics 2024, Mr Kris Gopalakrishnan ignited the graduating batch with key takeaways to ensure remarkable success in all their future endeavours. He stated, "The knowledge and skillset that you have acquired from your university will equip you to face the problems that the world poses. The strength of the university lies with the alumni. Remember to contribute to the society, your nation and moreover your alma mater." Mr Rohit Kapoor, the esteemed Guest of Honour, applauded the students for their outstanding achievements and expressed

his deep respect for SRM University-AP for establishing a new-age institute and preparing the students for an impactful future. "We must strive towards world-class standards in the case of academics, research, and innovation and deriving nobility in becoming the superior version of yourselves," advised Mr Kapoor. The ceremony also witnessed the auspicious presence of Founder Chancellor Dr T R Paarivendhar, who congratulated the young students for this remarkable achievement and advised, "Knowledge is power."

INBRIEF

- MIXED REALITY TRAINING MODULES FOR ADVANCED KNOWLEDGE OF RAILWAY STAFFS**
MALIGAON: In order to improve the knowledge of railway staffs on safety related aspects, Northeast Frontier Railway has introduced an innovative Virtual Reality & Mixed Reality (VR & MR) training module at its Multi-Disciplinary Zonal Training Institute (MDZTI), Alipurduar.
- GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PATENTED GNDU FACULTY'S 5 INNOVATIVE GADGETS**
AMRITSAR: The Guru Nanak Dev University announces the patenting of five equipment related to the Gym Apparatus- Gym Equipment, Gym Equipment for Shoulder Exercise, Stress Relieving Equipment, Hand Exerciser Resilience Equipment and Shoulder & Arm Wheel Apparatus.
- POWERGRID ACQUIRES 'BHADLA-III & BIKANER-III TRANSMISSION LIMITED' UNDER TBCC**
MAHARASHTRA: Power Grid Corporation of India has acquired "Bhadla-III & Bikaner-III Transmission Limited", for the Transmission System Project for System Strengthening for interconnections of Bhadla-III & Bikaner-III Complex.
- RECPCDL HANDS OVER TUMKUR-II REZ**
GURUGRAM: REC Power Development and Consultancy Limited, handed over a project specific SPV (Special Purpose Vehicle), viz, Tumkur-II REZ Power Transmission Limited to M/s G.R. Infraprojects Limited (GRIL).

Mahindra launches new Jawa 42 FJ motorcycle

PTI ■ MUMBAI
Mahindra Group-owned premium motorcycle firm Classic Legends, which has three premium motorcycle brands under it, is running a marathon and will navigate any challenge in rebuilding the resurrected brands like Jawa, Group Chairman Anand Mahindra has said. Speaking at the launch of all-new Jawa 42 FJ motorcycle here, Mahindra also said that stories build brands and brands are nothing but aggregation of stories. The latest offering from the Classic Legends is priced at Rs 1.99-lakh onwards. In October 2016, Mahindra & Mahindra, through its subsidiary Classic Legends Private Limited (CLPL), signed a licensing deal to launch motorcycles under the Jawa brand name in India and other East Asian countries. The same year, the company acquired British motorcycle brand BSA as well. "Stories build brands. Brands are nothing but aggregations of stories. Why they were formed, how they were formed. How they will be



formed. How they will be formed. How they will rise up," Mahindra stated. Noting that Classic Legends is one of the growth Gems at the Group, Mahindra Group CEO and Managing Director Anish Shah said the company is well positioned at the second spot in the premium motorcycle segment in the country and is looking forward to acquiring the top slot. "The 2024 Jawa 42 embodies our design-led approach to motorcycle engineering. We've taken our time with this bike, pushing the

boundaries of the 'price-performance' matrix. As pioneers of neo-classics in India, the 42 FJ is a testament to our challenger spirit and disruptive approach," said Anupam Thareja, Co-founder of Jawa Yezdi Motorcycles. "We are trying to make an Indian Global two-wheeler company," he added. With the expansion of the '42 Life' series, Jawa has extended the ideal balance of design, price, and performance across motorcycle formats, to appeal to a wide swathe of discerning riders, the company said.



Gold and silver price slip

PTI ■ NEW DELHI
Gold prices slipped Rs 50 to Rs 74,050 per 10 grams in the national capital on Tuesday, according to the All India Sarafa Association. The precious metal of 99.9 per cent purity had finished at Rs 74,100 per 10 grams in the previous session on Monday. Silver prices also slumped by Rs 250 to Rs 85,250 per kilogram on Tuesday. It had closed at Rs 85,500 per kg in the previous close. Additionally, gold of 99.5 per cent purity fell by Rs 50 to Rs 73,700 per 10 grams. On the global front, Comex gold is trading at USD 2,531.40 per ounce, up by USD 3.80 per ounce or 0.15 per cent. "Gold fluctuated in a narrow range on Tuesday as traders remained sidelined ahead of US job market data that may

influence the US Federal Reserve's (Fed) interest rate-cutting path," Saamil Gandhi, Senior Analyst of Commodities at HDFC Securities, said. However, silver was quoted 1.81 per cent lower at USD 28.62 per ounce in the international markets. During the week, traders will focus on various job reports, including Jolts job openings, ADP Non-farm employment change, non-farm payrolls and unemployment data, which will impact the Fed's policy decision and could provide direction for gold prices, Gandhi added. Anticipation of an interest rate cut at the upcoming US Fed meeting would likely keep gold prices elevated, according to Angel One's Prathamesh Mallya. DVP-Research of Non-Agri Commodities and Currencies.

'SWEET' SACRIFICE AND SLEEPLESS NIGHTS

PTI ■ PARIS

Carrying a back injury for more than a year, history-making Indian javelin thrower Sumit Antil's path to Paralympic glory was paved with a 'sweet sacrifice' and several sleepless nights. The 26-year-old faced a tough choice in the build-up to the Paralympics — give up his favourite sweets or put his career at risk due to rapid weight gain and a back injury that troubled him before the Asian Para Games in Hangzhou last year where he won a gold. On the advice of his physio, Antil grudgingly gave up sweets, followed a strict training regimen and shed around 12 kilograms in just two months. His sacrifice paid off on Monday when the Sonepat-lad became the first Indian man and only the second Indian overall to defend a Paralympic title, clinching gold in the F64 category with a record throw of 70.59m. This new mark bettered his previous Paralympic best of 68.55m set in Tokyo Paralympics three years ago. "I've reduced around 10-12 kilos. My physio, Vipin Bhai, told me that the weight was putting pressure on my spine. So, I cut out sweets, which are my favourite, and focused on eating right," he revealed in a media interaction here.

Fixing his back by taking adequate rest is the first thing Antil will do after his return to India. "I was not at 100 per cent. I had to take a painkiller before my throw, and even during training, I haven't been at my best. The first priority is to fix my back after we return to India because rest is crucial with the type of injury I have. "With competitions so close, I haven't been able to rest properly and have constantly taken precautions to protect my back. I've been careful with every movement to avoid aggravating it further," he added. He also thanked his coach (Arun Kumar) for always knowing what he needed, staying up nights to plan his schedule, and putting in tremendous effort. He said his coach had worked even harder than him. "I also started doing CrossFit workouts, sprints, and trained hard. It's been two years with my coach, and he's like an elder brother to me. He knows exactly what I need and when I need it. "I've seen him stay up nights to plan my schedule. My team has put in a tremendous effort for me, and I feel truly blessed to have them," he said. "Once you reach a certain level, the responsibility on you increases, and all eyes are on you. Hopefully, after this, I'll finally get some rest. I've been continuously on the field for

SUMIT ANTIL ON DEFENDING PARALYMPIC GOLD DESPITE BACK INJURY



the past two to three years." He said he sustained the injury in 2023 ahead of the Asian Para Games and kept competing in back-to-back tournaments. Antil dreamed of becoming a wrestler and was inspired by Olympic bronze-medallist Yogeshwar Dutt. However, in 2015, his life changed when a tractor accident led to the amputation of his left leg below the knee. Undeterred, Sumit was introduced to para-sports in 2017 by a fellow athlete from his village. Despite the pain and challenges of training with a prosthetic leg, he found his new passion in javelin. Under coach Naval Singh's guidance, Sumit's relentless dedication transformed him into a champion. The F64 category, in which he competes, is designated for athletes with lower limb impairments, including those using prosthetics or dealing with leg length discrepancies. SLEEPLESS NIGHTS: Antil said after struggling with sleep and increased nervousness due to the high expectations of people around him, he was now feeling relaxed. "I think it's been three nights since I've had proper sleep. When you're at a certain level, and people expect things from you, the nervousness increases," he said. "Back in Tokyo, no one knew

me, and I didn't feel that much pressure; I could sleep peacefully. But this time, the last 3-4 days have been extremely stressful," he revealed. However, his throw was short of his own world record of 73.29m and he seemed a tad unhappy with this. "I'm used to a different synthetic track, here (on Mondotrack) I was slipping, I was not able to feel the runway with my legs. "I know my coach is not that happy but will do it in coming competitions," he rued. ONE OF A KIND: SANGWAN: Paralympic Committee of India vice president Satya Prakash Sangwan, who is also the chief de mission for the Indian squad here, said he always knew Antil would script history. "Since 2017, I've seen how hard he works and how down-to-earth he has been from day one. I knew right from the start that he would make history. Athletes like him are rare. You can see how humble he is from winning gold in Tokyo and here as well," he said. "His dedication to his sport and his country is unmatched; he doesn't get distracted by anything else. I've never come across an athlete who remains so humble and down-to-earth, even after achieving so much success. I am truly proud of Sumit," he added.

There is sadness, I aimed for gold in Paris: Paralympic silver medallist shuttler Suhas

PTI ■ PARIS

Indian para-shuttler Suhas Yathiraj is an emotional mess after his second successive Paralympic silver. A part of him is proud of the achievement but then he is also grappling with feelings of "sadness and disappointment" at missing out on gold. The 41-year-old went into the opening Games as world no.1 and was expected to fetch gold in men's singles SL4 category. However, he ended with a silver, going down in straight games to Lucas Mazur of France in the summit clash on Monday evening. "...Coming here as world no.1 and as world champion, there was pressure and expectations on me. I too expected that I would do well here. Ideally I would have liked to win gold medal, which is every player's dream," he said on Tuesday. "Winning the silver is a mixed feeling, there is sadness and disappointment of missing the gold. But when the feeling sinks in then you will realise qualifying for Paralympics and representing your country was a big thing. "And winning the silver is a proud moment and I feel extremely humbled and grateful," added the 2007 batch IAS officer. Suhas looked tentative in the summit clash and was no match for the formidable Frenchman, losing 9-21 13-21. It was the same opponent against whom the Indian had lost in the Tokyo Paralympics final. Asked to compare the two silver medals, Suhas said: "Earlier the country and myself didn't have the belief that we



can win medals in Paralympics badminton. I had no idea what my performance would be. That was a different kind of feeling. "Both the silver medals had their challenges. As I said, the first time people don't take you so seriously until you perform at the highest level. But playing under expectations in itself is a different kind of pressure." Born with a congenital deformity in his left ankle, which significantly affected his mobility, Suhas competes in SL4 category which is meant for athletes competing while standing with less severe impairment than in SL3. The gold might have eluded him again, but Suhas said the journey has been enjoyable. "When I started this Paralympics qualification journey, I had not played for one-two years and was world no. 39. From there to reach

top-12 and then qualify for Level-1 tournaments and from there to win Asian Para Games gold, world championships gold, become world no.1... You need to enjoy this journey," he said. Suhas, an Arjuna awardee, feels Tokyo 2020 was a "watershed moment" for Indian Olympic and Paralympic sports. "There is huge change that para sports has witnessed. Tokyo 2020 was watershed moment for Indian para sports and Indian Olympic sports in general. "Everyone knows cricket is popular in India but in the last many years, the way Olympic sports and Paralympic sports have received support from the society is unimaginable. "In the coming years it will only grow and that will improve our medal tally as well," he signed off.

Chelsea sells Angelo Gabriel to Saudi club to continue unlikely career arc of Brazilian teen

AP ■ LONDON

The unlikely career arc of Brazilian teenager Angelo Gabriel continued when he completed a move to Saudi team Al Nassr for a reported USD 25 million on Tuesday, a year after joining Chelsea from Santos. In the year he was on Chelsea's books after a USD 17 million move, Gabriel never played for the English club because he went on loan to Strasbourg — one of the teams run by Chelsea's American investors. The 19-year-old Gabriel was part of Chelsea's squad for the preseason tour of the United States but has left on a



permanent deal to Al Nassr — where Cristiano Ronaldo The move was announced a day after the Saudi transfer window shut and will help

Chelsea meet financial rules in the Premier League and UEFA. Another teenage Brazilian, Deivid Washington, joined Chelsea from Santos last year around the same time as Gabriel and reportedly came close to making a permanent move to Strasbourg. "We wish Angelo the very best as he begins the next chapter in his career and thank him for his efforts during his time with Chelsea," the English team said. Gabriel became the youngest player in the history of Brazil's national championship at the time when he made his senior debut for Santos at 15 years, 308 days.



Bopanna-Sutjiadi pair enters US Open mixed doubles semis

PTI ■ NEW YORK

Veteran Indian tennis star Rohan Bopanna and his Indonesian partner Aldila Sutjiadi entered the semifinals of the US Open mixed doubles with a hard-fought win over Australian Matthew Ebden and Barbora Krejickova of the Czech Republic here. The eighth seeded Indian-Indonesian pair registered a 7-6(4) 2-6 10-7 win over fourth seeds Ebden and Krejickova in the quarterfinal that lasted one hour and 33 minutes on Monday night. Bopanna and Sutjiadi had earlier defeated Australian duo of John Peers and Katerina Siniakova of the Czech Republic 0-6 7-6(5) 10-7 in a second-round match. Bopanna and Sutjiadi will play American pair of Donald Young and Taylor Townsend in the semifinals. The 44-year-old Bopanna had already crashed out of the men's doubles competition after he and his partner Ebden, seeded second, lost 1-6 5-7 to the 16th seed Argentine combination of Maximo Gonzalez and Andres Molteni in the third round.

Indian recurve archer Pooja enters quarterfinals

PTI ■ PARIS

World Para Championship silver medallist Pooja Jatyan beat Yagmur Sengul of Turkey in straight sets to storm into the quarterfinals of recurve women's open archery competition at the Paris Paralympics on Tuesday. The 27-year-old, who got a bye into the pre-quarters after finishing inside top-9 in the ranking round, won 6-0 and will face Tokyo Paralympics bronze medallist Wu Chunyan of China in the quarters later in the day. The second-seeded Chunyan defeated Oyuun-Erdene Buyanjargal of Mongolia in her pre-quarterfinal match. Pooja took the first set by hitting three 9s in a row. Continuing her stronghold, she totalled 26 points while her



opponent struggled with a 22 to concede a 2-0 lead to the Indian. The archer from Gurgaon faced some resistance from Sengul in the third set when she hit two 9s and an 8, but Pooja remained calm to edge the Turkey archer by one point and seal the win. In 1997, when Pooja was just two months old, a high fever and a wrong injection due to medical negligence changed

her life forever, resulting in polio in her left leg. Despite these setbacks, Pooja's resilience shone through as she embraced archery in her childhood. Pooja won a silver medal in the Women's Team event at the Asian Para Championship 2023. In 2024, she continued her success by securing a silver medal at the 8th Fazza Para Archery World Ranking Tournament and claiming gold medals in both the Women's Team and Mixed Team events at the Para Archery European Cup 2nd Leg. In the recurve open category, archers shoot from a standing position at a distance of 70m at a 122cm target made up of 10 concentric circles scoring from 10 points down to 1 point from the centre outwards.

No. 1 Jannik Sinner gets past Tommy Paul to set up quarterfinal against Daniil Medvedev

AP ■ NEW YORK

Top-seeded Jannik Sinner reached the U.S. Open quarterfinals by shaking off a slow start and coming through in the clutch at the end of tiebreakers that decided the first two sets, then pulling away to get past No. 14 Tommy Paul 7-6(3) 7-6(5) 6-1. Two weeks removed from being cleared in a doping case stemming from two positive tests in March, Sinner moved into a showdown against 2021 champion Daniil Medvedev, the only past winner at Flushing Meadows still in the men's field. Sinner, a 23-year-old from Italy, claimed his first Grand Slam title at the Australian Open in January by defeating Medvedev in five sets in the final after dropping the first two. They also met in the Wimbledon quarterfinals in July, and Medvedev won that one. "It's going to be a lot of running," Sinner said, "so

hopefully (I'll) be ready physically." Against Paul on Monday night, Sinner was not at his best at the outset, falling behind by a double-break at 4-1 after 20 minutes at Arthur Ashe Stadium. "That's where you want to be. ... It's definitely different than any other setting," Paul said. "It's electric." A loud crowd was backing the American, to no one's surprise. As the match went on, plenty of chants of "U-S-A!" or "Let's go, Tommy! Let's go!" rang out. There also were several moments where spectators clapped after faults by Sinner — considered poor etiquette in tennis, that drew repeated admonishments from the chair umpire, who pleaded for no noise between first and second serves. Sinner finished the initial set with 15 unforced errors on the forehand side alone, but he cleaned that up quickly and closed the match with just six of the rest of the way. "There are some ups and



downs, obviously, in best-of-five. That's normal to have," Sinner said. "But finding my rhythm in the end of the match hopefully helps ... In the next match." Everything hinged on the tiebreakers. The first was tied 3-3, before Sinner grabbed the last four points. Paul led 5-4 in the second, but Sinner took the last three points. That meant Sinner has now won 14 of his past 15 tiebreakers, a stretch that dates

to a tournament in Halle, Germany, in June. The lone exception was one he lost against Medvedev at Wimbledon. Sinner dropped the first set he played at the US Open, but he's won the next 12. Paul was trying to get his third career quarterfinal and first at Flushing Meadows. He also was trying to become the first American to beat a man ranked No. 1 at the US Open since Andre Agassi eliminated

Lleyton Hewitt in 2002. Instead, Paul fell to 0-6 at majors against players ranked in the top 10. Sinner improved to 32-2 with four titles on hard courts in 2024 and he's now reached at least the quarterfinals at all four Slams this year. Earlier on Monday, the No. 5-seeded Medvedev picked up a 6-0 6-1 6-3 victory over Nuno Borges that briefly was interrupted early in the third set when the electronic line-calling system was shut down because of a fire alarm. The other quarterfinal on the top half of the men's bracket will be No. 10 Alex de Minaur vs No. 25 Jack Draper. De Minaur beat Jordan Thompson 6-0 3-6 6-3 7-5 in an all-Australian matchup, while Draper became the first British man in the US Open quarterfinals since Andy Murray in 2016 by defeating Tomas Machac 6-3 6-1 6-2. The men's quarterfinals on Tuesday are No. 4 Alexander Zverev vs No.

Rafael Nadal tells a Spanish TV show he doesn't think Jannik Sinner intended to dope

AP ■ NEW YORK

Rafael Nadal told a Spanish television show that he doesn't think Jannik Sinner intended to use a banned substance and that the current No 1-ranked man didn't receive preferential treatment when he was cleared of doping after testing positive twice in March for trace amounts of an anabolic steroid. "I trust that he wasn't punished because those who judged this case determined quite clearly that there was nothing to punish. ... I don't believe the sentence has anything to do with him being No 1 in the world," 22-time major champion Nadal said in an interview with "El Hormiguero" on Monday. Sinner played Tommy Paul in the fourth round of the US Open on Monday night. The International Tennis Integrity Agency said on August 20 that it was determined the banned performance-enhancer entered Sinner's system unintentionally through a massage from his physiotherapist, and that is why the player was not suspended. Asked about the matter in New York before the



US Open began, Novak Djokovic said he gets why some tennis players question whether there's a double-standard in the sport. Nadal, who sat out the US Open, said: "I believe in someone's good faith. I know Sinner; I don't believe that Sinner wanted to dope." "In the end, justice is justice, and I believe in justice," Nadal said. "I believe in the bodies that have to make decisions and that they do it based on what they believe is right.

IT'S TIME TO MAKE AMENDS: PAT CUMMINS ON TEST SERIES AGAINST INDIA

PTI ■ MELBOURNE
Australian captain Pat Cummins is looking at the upcoming five-match rubber against India as a chance to "make amends" for the successive Test series defeats at home against their fierce rivals.
He said the next Border-Gavaskar Trophy, which will start on November 22 in Perth, promises to be a 50-50 affair.
India retained the trophy in the last four series, from 2016-17 to 2022-23. India had defeated Australia in their own backyard in the last two series in 2018-19 and 2020-21.
Cummins said Australia are hoping to draw confidence from their win over India in the World Test Championships Final at London last year.
"The last two series here in Australia, we haven't been successful, so it's been a long time. Hopefully, it's time to make amends," Cummins told Star Sports.
"You know, we've played them (India) plenty of times where they've beaten us, but we've also had plenty of wins against them as well, which we'll draw confidence from. The most recent Test match was, of course, the World Test Championship in neutral conditions, and we came out on top in that match.
"It's always fiercely competitive, and it always feels like it's 50-50. I'm 10 out of 10 excited for the Border-Gavaskar Trophy," he added.



Senior batter Steve Smith agreed with the skipper and said it will be a "big summer" for Australia against a "well-balanced" Indian team.
"...You know, it's going to be a great series. You know, India have been playing outstanding cricket. We've

been playing really good cricket the last couple of years. You know, we haven't beaten India in the last two times they've come out here," he said.
"Obviously got a terrific side, very well-balanced team, all bases covered. So, you know, they've played

really good cricket out here. They've played good cricket when we've been over in India as well, where we know they're very, very difficult to beat. So it's going to be a big summer. It's going to be an exciting one."
Pacer Mitchell Starc highlighted the

importance of the rivalry by keeping it at par with the Ashes.
"For Australian cricket, you've got the Ashes and then you've got the Border Gavaskar Trophy in there. I mean there's a long history in the Ashes but that Border Gavaskar rivalry, if you like, has just grown from strength to strength over each series.
"And now we see it as a five Test match series which is fantastic for not only the rivalry but for the Test series as well. Whether it's the calibre of player, the calibre of matches that we see as fans and as cricketers just continues to grow strength on strength each series," he said.
"Now (with) India obviously winning a number of series in a row, it's created even a bigger rivalry between the two countries. I mean both teams are well known to one another, we play each other very often across the formats, so I'm sure it'll be another exciting series," Starc added.
All-rounder Glenn Maxwell said an India-Australia contest in any format has become a must-watch affair now.
"I think over the last few years, definitely, it feels like the two teams sort of swap places in the rankings quite a bit. Whichever format it is, you will always see these two teams at number one at some stage around the world," Maxwell said.
"The different contests we've had in both countries across all formats certainly provide a lot of highlights for the rest of the world. It's always must-watch cricket whenever these two teams are playing."



Bangladesh thump Pakistan by 6 wickets in 2nd Test to complete historic sweep

AP ■ RAWALPINDI (PAKISTAN)
Bangladesh completed a six-wicket victory over here on Tuesday and achieved an historic sweep of their two-Test series.
Needing 143 more runs on the final day with 10 wickets in hand, Bangladesh knocked them off for the loss of four wickets when Shakib Al Hasan hit the winning boundary.
Bangladesh recorded only its second bilateral series win of two or more Tests away from home; the last was against the West Indies in 2009.
The tourists won the opening Test by 10 wickets and required just four days in the second after the first day was washed out in Rawalpindi.
The visitors' second innings finished on 185-4, and Shakib was 21 not out and Mushfiqur Rahim 22 not out.
Bangladesh was 26-6 in the first innings but Litton Das and Mehidy Hasan Miraz led a gallant recovery.
Fast bowlers Hasan Mahmud, Nahid Rana and Taskin Ahmed dismissed Pakistan for 172 in the second innings to leave Bangladesh a victory target of 184 in four sessions.
The Bangladesh top order showed plenty of resilience to flatten Pakistan plans of a dramatic comeback, with meaningful contributions from opener Zakir Hasan (40), captain Najmul Hossain Shanto (38) and Mominul Haque (34).
They extended Pakistan's miserable home record in Tests to 10 matches without a win. Pakistan's last home win was in December 2021 against South Africa at Rawalpindi.
Shan Masood has suffered a second consecutive clean sweep since he was elevated to the test skipper last year, having lost to Australia 3-0.

WTC Final to be played at Lord's from June 11-15 next year: ICC

PTI ■ DUBAI
The third World Test Championship (WTC) final will be played at the iconic Lord's between June 11 and 15 next year, announced the International Cricket Council on Tuesday.
The ICC has marked June 16 as the reserve day, if required.
"The ICC World Test Championship Final has quickly become one of the most anticipated events in the crick-

eting calendar and we are pleased to announce the dates for the 2025 edition," said ICC CEO Geoff Allardice in a statement.
The Lord's is hosting the WTC final for the first time as Southampton (2021) and the Oval (2023) were the venues for the two previous title matches.
India featured in those two finals, but lost to New Zealand in the inaugural match and last year they were defeated by Australia. Currently, Rohit Sharma's India are sitting in pole

position ahead of reigning champions Australia. India will face the Aussies in an away five-match series later this year in the race to the WTC Final.
However, New Zealand (third), England (fourth), Sri Lanka (fifth), South Africa (sixth) and Bangladesh (seventh) are still in contention for a place in the one-off decider next year. However, Pakistan suffered a huge setback as Bangladesh inflicted a 0-2 defeat on them in the just-concluded two-match home series.

NZ award central contracts to Nathan Smith and Josh Clarkson

PTI ■ AUCKLAND
Promising all-rounders Nathan Smith and Josh Clarkson have been awarded New Zealand's central contract for the first time, replacing Devon Conway and Finn Allen in the 20-member list.
Clarkson has played three ODIs and six T20Is for the Black Caps since debuting against Bangladesh in Dunedin at the end of last year,

while Smith was the standout performer for Wellington during the most recent Plunket Shield season at the domestic level in New Zealand.
The two spots were left vacant after Conway and Allen declined the offers last month. Conway, who has signed up for Joburg Super Kings in SAT20, has signed a casual agreement with NZC that will make him available for all

internationals except for the Sri Lanka white-ball matches in January.
New Zealand coach Gary Stead said Smith and Clarkson deserved their first central contracts and believes the duo can make an impact at international level over the coming months.
"Nathan's been on our radar for a while having been a significant performer in domestic cricket for some

time," Stead was quoted as saying in a New Zealand Cricket statement.
"Josh has been involved in both white ball squads over the past twelve months which shows the strides he's made in his game," he said. "Josh will provide depth and adds value given the volume of white-ball cricket on the horizon."

RE-MODELING & OTHER WORKS
Tender Notice No.: 25 of 2024, Dated: 29-08-2024; E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following work:
Tender No.: GSU-GHY-04-2024; **Name of Work:** At Guwahati and New Guwahati - Providing Project Supervision Services for the work - New Guwahati yard Re-modeling work, Guwahati Yard Re-modeling work and other works under the jurisdiction of Chief Project Manager, Gati Shakti Guwahati unit, Lumding Division, Northeast Frontier Railway. **Tender Value:** ₹3,06,74,828.73/-; **Earnest Money:** ₹3,03,400/-; Date & time of closing/opening of tender at 13:00 hrs. on 03-10-2024. For complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available in website www.ireps.gov.in
Dy. CE/Estate, Maligaon

INSPECTION & MAINTENANCE ACTIVITY OF ELECTRIC LOCOMOTIVES AT NEW GUWAHATI
Tender Notice No.: 27 of 2024, Dated: 30-08-2024; E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following work: **Tender No.:** DENGHY-16-2024; **Name of Work:** Advanced Inspection Centre for inspection and maintenance activity of Electric Locomotives at New Guwahati Diesel Loco Shed (Phase-III, IV V) (Re-Tender). **Tender Value:** ₹29,99,00,140.74/-; **Earnest Money:** ₹16,49,500/-; Date & time of closing/opening of tender at 13:00 hrs. on 03-10-2024. For complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available in website www.ireps.gov.in
DE/Guwahati

ELECTRICAL WORKS
Tender Notice No.: Dy.CEE/PS/MLG/HQ/29/24-25, Dated: 30-08-2024. E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following work. **Tender No.:** DYCEE-PS-MLG-HQ-29-24-25; **Name of Work:** At Maligaon(HQ) - AMC of 02 Nos. AROHI make 08 person capacity Elevator for 3 (three) years at N.F. Railway, HQ, Maligaon. **Advertised Value:** ₹ 12,03,600/-; **Earnest Money:** ₹ 24,100/-; Date and time of closing of tender at 15:00 on 23-09-2024. For details please visit in website www.ireps.gov.in
Dy. CEE/PS/Maligaon/HQ



Sh. Sushil Sharma, CMD, SJVN met Hon'ble Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh
Shimla: Sh. Sushil Sharma, Chairman & Managing Director SJVN along with Sh. Akhileshwar Singh, Director (Finance & Personnel), Sh. Ajay Sharma, OSD to CMD and Sh. Rakesh Sehgal, Head of Project (Etalin HEP) met Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Arunachal Pradesh Sh. Pema Khandu. The Hon'ble Chief Minister undertook a detailed review of the Hydro Power Sector in the state. SJVN has been allotted five projects with a total capacity of 5097 MW in Dibang Valley District of Arunachal Pradesh.
Sh. Sushil Sharma apprised about the progress made in these Hydro Powers Projects and sought support to resolve various clearances. These projects will require funds to the tune of Rs. 60,000 Cr for their development and early commissioning of the projects will ensure dividends to all the stakeholders. Hon'ble Chief Minister assured to extend full cooperation for ensuring timely clearances for these hydro projects.



THDC Inks Ambitious MoU with Maharashtra Govt. for Harnessing of 6,790 MW of PSPs with Investment of more than ₹33,600 Crores
Rishikesh: THDC India Limited, a pioneering entity in the Power Sector, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Department of Water Resources, Government of Maharashtra (GoMWRD) for harnessing of Pumped Storage Energy through six number of Pumped Storage Projects (PSPs) in Maharashtra, totalling a remarkable 6,790 MW capacity and involving a proposed investment of more than ₹33,600 crores in the presence of Sh. Devendra Fadnavis, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Minister of Home, Law and Judiciary, Water Resources and Command Area Development, Energy, Protocol, Govt. of Maharashtra. This collaboration marks a significant advancement in Maharashtra's Energy Infrastructure and reinforces the commitment to enhancing the State's Renewable Energy capabilities. Sh. Fadnavis extended heartfelt congratulations to the management of THDCIL for the successful signing of this landmark MOU and conveyed full support and cooperation to ensure the effective implementation and early completion of projects.

Can't rest on laurels, time to start afresh and retain ACT title: Harmanpreet

PTI ■ BENGALURU
Indian men's hockey team captain Harmanpreet Singh said it's time to move on from the euphoria of a second successive Olympic bronze medal if the side desires to retain its Asian Champions Trophy title in Hulanbui, China this month.
Under Harmanpreet's leadership, India won a second successive bronze medal for the first time in over half-a-century at the Olympics in Paris recently. But Harmanpreet said it's time to move and start afresh after a deserving break for the Asian showpiece to be held from September 8 to 17.
"With a brief break after the Paris Olympics, the team is ready to take on the best hockey playing nations in Asia and prove its mettle.
"We had a good outing in Paris but hockey is a very close game, we cannot rest on our laurels," the skipper said before leaving for China in the early hours on Tuesday.
"The aim will be to play high-octane hockey and retain our title."
Besides India, the Asian Champions Trophy will feature Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, Japan and hosts China.
India will begin their campaign against China on September 8, followed by a match against Japan on September 9.
After a one-day break, India will take on Malaysia on September 11, followed by Korea on September 12 and arch-rivals Pakistan on



September 14.
The top four teams will advance to the semifinals slated for September 16, with final scheduled for September 17.
India are the most successful team in the tournament with four titles, followed by Pakistan (3).
India won the last edition in Chennai, beating Malaysia 4-3 in the final.
Vice captain Vivek Sagar Prasad said the side has a few new players in the team this time around, who have immense potential and are eager to perform.
"We will do our best to create a nurturing environment for them on the way to our title defence," he said.

FIFA says \$6.5 billion of international spending in transfer window

AP ■ ZURICH
Spending on transfer fees in international men's player deals cooled off during the mid-year trading period, according to International Federation of Association Football (FIFA) research published on Tuesday.
FIFA said clubs committed to spend USD 6.46 billion on buying players in cross-border deals during the June-to-September transfer window - down from USD 7.43 billion in the same period a year ago.
The average transfer fees paid by clubs in Europe, by far the richest market, was USD 3.13 million compared to USD 3.8 million a year ago.
The FIFA study is not a complete guide because it does not count the biggest transfer deal of the European offseason, nor does it include moves by players between two clubs in the

same country.
Kylian Mbappé joined Real Madrid without a transfer fee being paid because the France star was a free agent after letting his contract expire at Paris Saint-Germain. Still, Madrid had to pay Mbappé a signing bonus variously reported as between USD 110 million and USD 165 million.
The biggest transfer fees in cross-border deals were Julián Alvarez's move from Manchester City to Atletico Madrid, reported to be about 75 million euros (USD 83 million) and Leny Yoro from Lille to Manchester United for a reported 62 million euros (USD 69 million).
The FIFA study does not include deals involving two clubs in the same country where the player's registration is not transferred between member federations.
Deals in the top-10 biggest transfer fees not counting toward the FIFA figures include Dominic Solanke from Bournemouth to Tottenham, Pedro Neto from Wolves to Chelsea and Teun Koopmeiners from Atalanta to Juventus.
English clubs were the biggest overall net spenders with an outlay of USD 1.69 billion on international transfers, and USD 1.25 billion recouped. Clubs in England, Italy and Saudi Arabia all had a collective net spending of at least USD 400 million.

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NOTICE OF 63rd AGM, BOOK CLOSURE AND E-VOTING
NOTICE is hereby given that the 63rd Annual General Meeting of the "Molind Engineering Limited" will be held at the registered office of the Company at Cabin No. 3 & 4, Ground Floor, SCO No. 99, Sector-119, Balongi, Distt. S.A.S. Nagar, Mohali S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali) PB 160055 on Monday, 30th September, 2024 at 01:00 p.m.
In terms of Section 101 and 136 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule 18 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014 (the Act and Rules) the notice setting out the business to be transacted at the AGM and Annual Report of the company for the financial year 2023-24 have been dispatched to the shareholders of the company. The Annual Report along with Notice of AGM is also available on the website of the Company at www.molindengineering.co.in and website of the Stock Exchanges i.e. www.mseil.in
In accordance with Section 108 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014 and Secretarial Standard-2 on General Meetings and Regulation 44 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 ("SEBI Listing Regulations, 2015"), as amended from time to time, the Company is providing facility to its members holding shares as on Monday, 23rd September, 2024, being cut-off date, to exercise their right to vote on all resolutions set forth in the Notice of the AGM. The Company has engaged CDSL as the authorized agency to provide e-voting facility. Members are requested to note the following:
1. The e-voting shall be open for three(3) days, commencing at 09.00A.M. on Friday 27th September, 2024 and ending at 5.00 P.M. on Sunday on 29th September, 2024. The e-voting module shall be disabled by CDSL for voting thereafter. Remote e-voting shall not be allowed beyond the said date and time.
2. The members who have not cast their votes by remote e-voting can exercise their voting rights at the AGM. The Company will make arrangements of ballot papers in this regards at the AGM Venue.
3. A member may participate in the meeting even after exercising his right to vote through remote e-voting, but shall not be allowed to vote again at the meeting.
4. A person, whose name is recorded in the register of members as on cut-off date shall be entitled to avail the facility of remote e-voting as well as voting at the meeting through ballot papers, any person who becomes a member of the Company after dispatch of the Notice of the AGM and holding shares as on the cut-off date may cast their votes by following the instructions and process of e-voting / remote e-voting as provided in the Notice of the AGM.
5. The Company has appointed Mr. Sanjeev Sharma, Company Secretary in Practice, as the Scrutinizer to scrutinize the e-voting process in a fair and transparent manner.
6. The Results shall be declared within two working days of the conclusion of the AGM and the same, along with the consolidated Scrutinizer's Report, shall be placed on the website of the Company (www.molindengineering.co.in), NSDL (www.evotingindia.com) and shall be communicated to Stock Exchange i.e. MSEI www.mseil.in
For detailed instructions pertaining to e-voting, members may please refer to the section "Notes" in Notice of the Annual General Meeting. In case of queries or issues pertaining to e-voting procedure, shareholders may refer the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Shareholders and e-voting user manual for Shareholders available at the Downloads section of www.evotingindia.com or write an email to helpdesk.evoting@cdslindia.com or call at Toll free no 1800 21 09911 or contact to Mr. Rakesh Dalvi, Sr. Manager, (CDSL), J A Wing, 25th Floor, Marathon Futurex, Mafatall Mill Compounds, N M Joshi Marg, Lower Parel (East), Mumbai - 400013. The notice of AGM is available on CDSL website <https://www.evotingindia.com>
Further, in terms of Regulation 42 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulation, 2015 and section 91 of the Companies Act 2013 and applicable rules thereunder, the Register of Members and the Share Transfer Books of the Company will remain closed from Tuesday, 24th September, 2024 to Monday, 30th September, 2024 (both days inclusive) for the purpose of 63rd AGM to be held on Friday, 30th September, 2023.
Date: 02.09.2024
Place: Mohali (Punjab)
By order of the Board
Molind Engineering Limited
Sd/-
Bhupinder Singh
Managing Director
DIN:00176255
Add: WZ 136-F F, Gali No.7
Shiv Nagar, Janakpuri, B-1, Delhi-110058