**OPINION 6** 

Late City Vol.19 Issue 270 \*Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable

TRANSFORMING INDIA THROUGH 'MAKE IN INDIA'

## DOWN TENSIONS IN WEST ASIA

**WORLD 8** 

CHINA URGES ALL PARTIES TO COOL | INDIA'S SEVEN PER CENT GROWTH FAILS TO GENERATE JOBS: RAGHURAM RAJAN

**MONEY 10** 

CHANDIGARH, MONDAY SEPTEMBER 30, 2024; PAGES 12 ₹2

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the ploneer.





CHAMPIONS LEAGUE **RETURNS MISSING** MBAPPÉ, RODRI, BARELLA

12 SPORTS

# WEST ASIA ON FIRE Kashmir reacts, or relatives. or India bleeds



People check the site of the assassination of Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah in Beirut's southern suburbs, Sunday AP/PTI

PTI ■ JERUSALEM/ BEIRUT

¬he Israeli military said Sunday that it killed another high-ranking Hezbollah official in an airstrike as the Lebanese militant group was reeling from a string of devastating blows and the killing of its overall leader, Hassan Nasrallah.

The military said Nabil Kaouk, the deputy head of Hezbollah's Central Council, was killed on Saturday. There was no immediate comment from Hezbollah, and it was not known where the strike took place. Hezbollah has confirmed that one of its

senior commanders, Ali Hezbollah has also been Karaki, died in the Israeli airstrike that killed its top leader Hassan Nasrallah on Israel has killed several top commanders in the Lebanese militant group in recent weeks in a series of has killed at least 1,030

The Israeli military said it carried out another targeted strike on Beirut later on Sunday. In Syria, 37 militants affiliated to the extremist Islamic State group and an al-Qaeda-linked group were killed in two strikes, the United States military said Sunday. Two of the dead were senior militants,

targeted by a sophisticated attack on its pagers and walkie-talkies that was widely blamed on Israel. A wave of Israeli airstrikes across large parts of Lebanon people - including 156 women and 87 children - in less than two weeks, according to Lebanon's Health Ministry

Hundreds of thousands of people have been driven from their homes in Lebanon by the lastest strikes. The Government estimates that around 2,50,000 are in shelters, with three to four times as many staying with

camping out on the streets. Environment Minister Nasser Yassin told The Associated Press.

Hezbollah has continued to fire rockets and missiles into northern Israel, but most have been intercepted or fallen in open areas. No Israelis have been killed since the latest wave of strikes on top Hezbollah leaders began on Sept. 20.

Kaouk was a veteran member of Hezbollah going back to the 1980s and served as Hezbollah's military commander in southern Lebanon during the 2006 war with Israel. He often appeared in local media, where he would comment on politics and security developments, and he gave eulogies at the funerals of senior militants. The United States had announced sanctions against him in 2020.

Hezbollah began firing rockets, missiles and drones into northern Israel after Hamas' October 7 attack out of Gaza triggered the war there. Hezbollah and Hamas are allies that consider themselves part of an Iranbacked "Axis of Resistance" against Israel.

Israel has responded with waves of airstrikes, and the conflict has steadily ratcheted up to the brink of all-out war, raising fears of a region-wide conflagration.

**MOHIT KANDHARI JAMMU** 

The situation remained volatile in several parts of Kashmir after sporadic protests broke out over the killing of Hezbollah Secretary General Hassan Nasrallah in an Israeli air strike in Lebanon.

People took to the streets in Srinagar and Budgam to condemn Nasrallah's death, chanting anti-Israel and anti-US slogans.

Political leaders Mehbooba Mufti, National Conference Member Conference Parliament from Srinagar Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi and Shia leader and former cabinet Minister Imran Reza Ansari also suspended election campaigns to condole the killing. The gesture, however, triggered sharp



Reacting strongly to the developments the BIP on Sunday lashed out at PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti for "shedding crocodile tears" and indulging in "vote bank politics" after the former Chief Minister cancelled her poll campaign over the killing of Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah.

Vice President of the Jammu and Kashmir National Conference Omar

Abdullah condemned the actions of Israel and called for world support to end the ongoing massacre of innocent people in Gaza and Lebanon.

Another Shia leader and former Minister Imran Reza Ansari labelled him as a 'Lion'. Ansari posted a message on X, "A lion has fallen, his roar remains. In every heartbeat his struggle sustains. I am suspending all campaigning activities to honour the supreme sacrifice made by Shaheed Sayed Hassan Nasrallah".

Meanwhile, the security forces deployed on ground zero have been asked to exercise utmost restraint to prevent any flare-up ahead of the third and final round of polling on October 1.

Labelling her as "pro-militant", BJP national spokesperson RP Singh said, "By cancelling her campaigning, she has shown she is shedding tears over the death of terrorists. It is her habit to call terrorists martyrs. She had similarly wept for Burhan Wani some time back."

However, she is not alone in expressing solidarity with terrorists, he

"Sonia Gandhi too shed tears for the terrorists killed in Batla House. All leaders of the INDIA alliance do this for vote bank politics. For them, the country doesn't come first. She is doing this for the vote bank," he charged.

Former deputy Chief Minister and senior BJP leader Kavinder Gupta also condemned Mehbooba's stance, asking, "What problem does Mehbooba Mufti have with the death of terrorist Nasrallah? When Hindus are killed in Bangladesh and Pakistan, there is a grave silence from them."



A braveheart of Jammu and Kashmir police, Head Constable Bashir Ahmad, who sacrificed his life in the line of duty after neutralising a Pakistani terrorist in the Billawar tehsil of Kathua district

### Terror in Jammu, one personnel killed

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE JAMMU

Abraveheart of Jammu and Kashmir Police, Head Constable Bashir Ahmad, who sacrificed his life in the line of duty after neutralising a Pakistani terrorist in the Billawar tehsil of Kathua district late Saturday evening, was eagerly waiting to come home to finalise the marriage arrangements of his elder daughter and son.

On Sunday his mortal remains, draped in the tricolor, reached home after a formal wreath-laying ceremony at the police lines. A large number of close relatives and family friends were assembled at their residence to pay their last tributes to him. Only recently the family had finalised the marriage proposal of their elder daughter. Before returning to his duty, Bashir had promised his elder brother to firm up the marriage proposal of his son before decide the dates.

"My brother wanted to throw a big party after finalising the marriage proposals of his daughter and son, Barkat Ali, elder brother of the martyred head constable, told The Pioneer at his residence in Channi Himmat.

### **Shocking road rage in** Delhi NCR, two dead

A<sup>30</sup>-year-old Delhi Police constable was crushed to death in a road rage incident late Saturday night in the Nangloi area after asking a to move his national capital. The constable was reportedly dragged for 10 metres before being hit by another vehicle. The incident occurred when the constable was monitoring the area due to a rise in burglaries, dressed in civilian clothes.

In another shocking display of road rage, a dozen men engaged in a violent brawl on a busy road in Ghaziabad, after one of the vehicles they were travelling in began driving on the wrong side of traffic on Saturday. The incident, captured on video and shared widely on social media, unfolded as two groups clashed over a vehicle driving on the wrong side of the traffic. According to police, the deceased constable, identified as Sandeep, joined the force in 2018 and was posted at the



New Delhi, Sunday Ranjan Dimri/Pioneer

survived by his mother, wife, and a five-year-old son. The incident occurred around 2.15 am near Veena Enclave when Sandeep was going towards Railway Road from Nangloi Police station during duty hours dressed in civilian clothes. Upon noticing a car being driven recklessly, Sandeep told the driver not to do so, the Delhi Police said in a statement. He was on his bike when a WagonR car tried to overtake him.

Suddenly, the vehicle increased its speed and hit the constable's

Nangloi police station. He is motorcycle from behind and dragged him for about 10 metres before hitting another car, it said. CCTV footage revealed that Sandeep had taken a left turn into a narrow lane and indicated the Wagon R to slow down when the vehicle suddenly sped up and hit his bike. The impact caused Sandeep to be dragged along with his bike for about 10 meters before the Wagon R hit a parked car. The cop is seen gesturing to the car driver to slow down. But the car picks up speed and hits him.

### **Intense rain claims 125 lives** in Nepal, jeopardise Bihar

PTI/PNS ■ KATHMANDU/PATNA

The death toll from rain-triggered I floodings and landslides across Nepal climbed to 125 on Sunday, police said. Large swathes of eastern and central Nepal have been inundated since Friday, with flash floods reported in parts of the

Due to the prevailing situation the border districts of neighbouring Bihar remained vulnerable as the State Government sounded an alert for floods in northern, southern and central parts of the State following heavy discharge of water from Birpur and Valmikinagar barrages on Sunday. The embankment of the BagmatirRiver in Madhkaul village in Sitamarhi district broke on Sunday,

which is being repaired, they said. Due to heavy discharge of water from Birpur barrage, seepage was also reported from the Kosi Eastern embankment near Gopalpur on Saturday night, which was repaired by the engineers of the Water Resources Department (WRD).

A low-pressure system in the Bay of Bengal and the more northerly than usual position of the monsoon trough is the reason behind exceptionally intense rain. Scientists say that while climate change is



changing the amount and timing of rainfall across Asia, a key reason for the rise in the impact of floods is the built environment, including unplanned construction, especially floodplains, which leaves insufficient areas for water retention and drainage. A total of 6.61 lakh cusecs of water

was released from Birpur barrage on Kosi river till 5 am, the highest in 56 years. According to the latest bulletin by the State Water Resources department, the last time the maximum water discharged from this barrage was 7.88 lakh cusecs of water



Chandrayaan-3 landed on possibly oldest craters of Moon, say researchers

mode to allow the vehicle of

the past to survive. The PIL was filed in 2022 and is still

continuing. In the PIL Sulagna

Mukherjee, the petitioner

pointed out that at time

different cities of the world

were increasingly embracing

tram services for its "green"

Government is going to

"We will go for a bigger

movement and will not allow

this Government to kill tram

... they are doing this in

the

attributes

discontinue it.

# Iconic trams of Kolkata to chug away into history

SAUGAR SENGUPTA

KOLKATA

literature" even as he described in his Sahaj Paath how "the roads of Kolkata have become like a snake on which the Tram hurtles," down. Tram was also a central topic in

poet Jibanananda Das's iconic work, Banalata Sen. Ironically he died in a tram accident in 1954. Decades later a famous modern Bengali writer likened the iconic Tram of Kolkata with a pre-historic reptile even as he called it a "Prak Oitihasik Sorisreep." No more these literatures: As

the Bengal Government has decided to derail the 'space guzzling' vehicle -- arguably only surviving nay the entire country.

environment-friendly transport service of Kolkata, Dwelling on the issue Bengal Transport Minister Snehashis

Chakrabarty said that the Government had decided to discontinue the tram services as it was not only slow but also

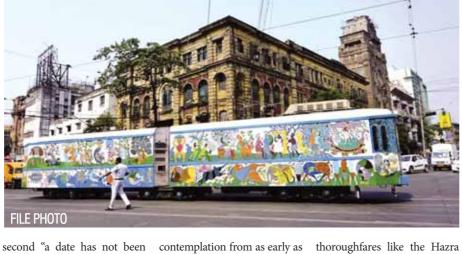
heritage ever since it started its journey in 1873, but one has operational costs, its low speed consumes" all considering the fact that unlike Delhi or Mumbai which have more than 20 per cent of their surface areas comprising roads Kolkata has only six per cent. traffic particularly in North Kolkata. To ensure that people peak hours due to traffic jams, these difficult measures are taken," he justified.

however Minister

consumed huge space. "Trams are the part of Kolkata's

to consider the and not lest the space it "This leads to congestion of don't get late to office during

hurriedly supplied two rejoinders: First a short (3 km) route -- from Esplanade to Maidan -- however will be allowed to survive for heritage purpose and tourism and Despite the idea being in become a nuisance on



fixed as we are not going to end it today or tomorrow." He said decision was in contemplation for quite some time (years)" when several tram routes in North Kolkata were phased out without notice fearing public backlash.

the Left regime it was the TMC Government that set out to bell the cat sand hastened up the speed of tram's withdrawal particularly after Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee told in one of her public with horse-drawn cars running speeches how tram tracks had on tracks. "A big horses' stable

Road that leads to her Kalighat residence making it risky for the bikers who "may any moment skid off their vehicles due to the tram lines." Kolkata was the first to get

trams on February 24, 1873,

Sealdah to supply the horses for trams. Subsequently tram was modernised with steam power in 1882, whereas first electric-powered tram was introduced in 1900 a few years after Madras (presently Chennai) got its own electric tram. More recently AC trams were introduced in 2013. Trams ran in colonial towns

like Mumbai, Delhi , Madras, Patna, Nashik too but they were discontinued with time and as more modern and faster modes of transport appeared but for Kolkata. The city clung on to its "heritage and cultural icon," for decades until the present Government decided to discontinue it. 'We tried to restore tram to its

former glory often by offering schemes like AC restaurants on tram as also proposing offers for 'wedding on trams' ... but nothing was taken seriously by the authorities as they had decided to discontinue it," a member of tram users

association said adding "at Rs 6 was set up at Raja Bazaar off and 7 tram is perhaps the cheapest service in the city which this Government is trying to discontinue and which we will not let happen." "We have seen tram transform a from wooden to a steel carriage in the early 1980s, ... we loved tram so much and offered our service wholeheartedly but the Government

should also have understood the importance of tram which is not only environment friendly but also cheap," said Naresh Singh a 90-year-old former tram pilot. Such was the popularity of

tram in 1960s and 70s that a mere one paisa increase in its fare led to a massive unrest in Kolkata that saw several trams being torched by the agitators, Meanwhile the Calcutta High too has offered its suggestion

public-private partnership

order to reclaim the sprawling lands housing tram depots on prime areas where the politicians will allow the builder lobby to make malls ... we will not let that happen ... rather we will even force them to reintroduce the double-decker buses which they have discontinued a decade ago," while dealing a public interest said Archishman Chatterjee litigation asking the State a college student who was a part of a recent agitation at Government to explore a

Shyambazar crossing.

### Intense Showdown in Dabwali as 3 Candidates | Punjab CM bounces back into action from Devi Lal Clan Go Head-to-Head

MANOJ KUMAR ■ CHANDIGARH

Dabwali assembly constituency is poised for a high-stakes electoral battle in October 5 Harvana Assembly elections as three key contestants from the clan of the legendary farmer leader and former Deputy Prime Minister Devi Lal are up against each other. This assembly segment comes under the jurisdictional limit of Sirsa Lok Sabha Constituency where senior Congress leader Kumari Selja had recently defeated Ashok Tanwar of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) with a margin of about 2.68 lakh votes.

Besides rising unemployment due to lack of industries and inadequate infrastructures including irrigation facilities, the issue of easy availability of narcotics (drugs) emerged as a key electoral issue in this assembly

Situated on the Punjab-Haryana border, the Dabwali constituency boasts a significant Sikh voter base and is regarded as a stronghold of the Chautala family. Notably, the Chautala village lies within the Dabwali assembly seat, which has approximately two lakh voters.

From the crucial seat, Congress party has fielded sitting MLA Amit Sihag and Indian National Lok Dal (INLD) has nominated Aditya Devi Lal against Digvijay Chautala of Jannayak Janta Party (JJP) from this seat. Digvijay is the nephew of Aditya and Amit Sihag.

Aditya is Devi Lal's grandson, while Digvijay is greatgrandson of the former Deputy Prime Minister. Amit Sihag is also from Devi Lal's clan in Chautala village, with his father being the uncle of Ajay and Abhay Chautala.

Aditya, who is the son of

Devi Lal's younger son Jagdish Chander, had left the BJP ahead of the beginning of nomination process and joined the INLD. Earlier, he had served as district president of Sirsa BJP and had also served as chairman of Haryana State Agriculture Marketing Board (HSAMB). In 2019 assembly polls, Aditya, then a BJP nominee, was defeated by Amit Sihag of Congress by a margin of around 15,000 votes. In August 2020, Aditya was made the president of the BJP's Sirsa district unit. Interestingly, 47-year-old Aditya had defeated Abhay Chautala's wife Kanta Chautala in Zila Parishad elections in 2016.

So far, INLD won seven times in this constituency, while Congress has managed to win five times

A look at Dabwali's electoral history shows that this seat had mostly elected the INLD or erstwhile Samata party or Lok Dal candidates in the total 13 assembly elections held since 1967. Dabwali seat was also represented by Digvijay Chautala's father Ajay Singh Chautala in 2009 and his mother Naina Chautala in 2014 as INLD MLAs. Later, Aiav Singh formed his own outfit, JJP, in December 2018 after a split in the INLD.

In the 13 assembly elections held till now, INLD won seven times, Congress five times, and an independent candidate had registered victory only once. INLD held the Dabwali seat from 2000 to 2019. However, in the 2019 elections, the constituency saw a significant shift when BJP's Aditya lost to Congress' Amit Sihag.

The voter turnout was high, with 1.57 lakh out of total 1.99 lakh registered voters casting their ballots, result-

cent. Sihag had secured 66,885 votes while Aditya got 51,238 votes. JJP's Sarvjit Singh Masita secured 23,002 votes. In 2014 polls, Naina Chautala won the election by securing 68,029 votes followed by Congress' Kamalvir Singh with 59,484 votes, and BIP's Dev Kumar Sharma finishing third with 22,261 votes.

### Haryana Assembly election

Cong Terms INLD as "BJP's B-team"; Says JJP Has No

Sitting MLA of the predominantly rural segment and Congress nominee Amit Sihag, considered as the strongest contender, is banking upon the role of his father Dr KV Singh — a veteran Congressman who built a political base against his cousin and former Chief Minister Om Prakash Chautala, besides his direct connection with the electorate. He termed the INLD as the "B team of the BJP", while claiming that the JJP held no ground in the area.

Sihag, talking to reporters, said: "People will repose faith in me for the second consecutive term. I am pursuing a political battle started by my father against the autocratic style of politics practiced by Chautala and his sons for decades. The candidates of the INLD and JJP did nothing even when they were part of the BJP government.

INLD candidate Aditya is turncoat, who stayed with the BJP for 10 years before switching sides early this month after the saffron party denied him a ticket. "I am meeting people to seek votes in the name of Tau Devi Lal ing in a turnout of 78.85 per whose pro-farmers political

ideology is being pursued on the guidance of former CM OP Chautala," said Aditya. JJP candidate Digvijay

Chautala is the younger brother of former Deputy Chief Minister Dushyant Chautala. Digvijay's father Ajay Chautala, founder of the JJP, earlier remained a parliamentarian and MLA before he was convicted in teachers recruitment scam.

Digvijay, talking to reporters, said: "The INLD has a vote bank of the affluent classes whereas the underprivileged section acknowledges the leadership of (his father and the JJP patron) Dr Ajay Singh Chautala. The JJP will again play an important role in the new government and we are committed to the welfare of the poor and working class. I have opened libraries from my personal resources and people appreciate our vision."

Admitting facing criticism of going with the BJP, Digvijay said that he is confident that people will vote for JJP again. Dushyant, during his deputy chief ministership, worked a lot for the people, especially for this region, he added.

Political observers believed that Dabwali assembly election is shaping up to be a highly competitive and closely watched battle, with multiple candidates from prominent political families and parties vying for dominance. It is equally true that the Chautala family, deeply rooted in Dabwali's political landscape, is at the centre of this contest. The INLD and the JJP candidates are facing flak in the agrarian-dominating segment of Sirsa Lok Sabha seat of their previous political association with the BJP. It will be interesting to see how voters exercise their vote here," observers added.

# mode hours after hospital discharge

Mann has been diagnosed with leptospirosis after his was admitted on Sept 26

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann, in a remarkable display of resilience and dedication, transitioned into action mode just hours after being discharged from Fortis Hospital, Mohali, on Sunday. Having been diagnosed with a bacterial infection, leptospirosis, during a routine check-up, Mann's swift recovery has highlighted his unwavering commitment to the people of Punjab. Following a thorough evaluation by medical staff, he was discharged on Sunday afternoon, marking his return to governance with remarkable promptness.

Wasting no time, Mann convened a crucial meeting at his official residence to strategize the paddy procurement process, a matter of utmost importance for the farmers of Punjab, while convening another meeting regarding stubble burning on Monday.

With the harvesting season approaching, he underscored the need for seamless coordination among district collectors to ensure that all necessary preparations were in place across grain markets. His proactive approach was further reflected in a social media post, where he assured that both farmers and traders would receive the support they need, including timely payments for their harvested crops.

The Chief Minister also placed emphasis on another pressing issue — stubble burning. With cases of farmers burning their paddy residue escalating, Mann has scheduled

**PNS** ■ GURUGRAM

another high-level meeting to tackle this environmental challenge on Monday afternoon. The government's concern is to curb pollution caused by stubble burning while ensuring farmers are provided with sustainable alternatives.

Prior to his hospital discharge, Cabinet Ministers Harpal Singh Cheema, Harjot Singh Bains, and Punjab Vidhan Sabha Speaker Kultar Singh Sandhwan, besides Congress MLA Pargat Singh visited Mann, conveying their well wishes. The health bulletin issued by Fortis Hospital confirmed that all parameters of the Chief Minister had returned to normal, thanks to prompt medical treatment.

The Chief Minister's recent health scare began past week following a trip to Delhi, where he experienced health issues upon returning to Chandigarh. Hospital reports indicated inflammation in a pulmonary artery, leading to fluctuating blood pressure. However, after two days of treatment and observation, he showed significant improvement, prompting his discharge.

While hospitalized, Mann remained engaged with state affairs, addressing concerns from the protesting students at Patiala Rajiv Gandhi National Law University via phone, assuring them of government support.

Punjab Ready for Kharif Marketing Season with 185 LMT Paddy Target: CM

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Sunday announced that the state is fully prepared for the upcoming Kharif Marketing Season (KMS), set to begin on October 1. During a high-level meeting to review the paddy procure-

Don't hesitate to send your sons to Army: Agniveers will be given pensionable job: Shah

ment process, the Chief Minister revealed that the state expects to procure 185 Lakh Metric Tonnes (LMT) of paddy from farmers across 32 lakh hectares under cultivation.

Mann confirmed that the Reserve Bank of India has released a Cash Credit Limit (CCL) of Rs 41,378 crores for KMS 2024-25, ensuring a smooth procurement process.

The Government of India has set a Minimum Support Price (MSP) of Rs 2,320 per quintal for Grade 'A' paddy this season. State procurement agencies, including Pungrain, Markfed, Punsup, and PSWC, in collaboration with the Food Corporation of India (FCI), will facilitate the procurement process. "We are committed to a seamless and hassle-free procurement experience for farmers, ensuring their paddy is purchased as per government specifications," said Mann.

He highlighted that the Government has developed a mechanism to guarantee immediate payment to farmers directly into their bank accounts. "Farmers will receive on-the-spot payment for their produce, preventing any delays or inconveniences," Mann assured. With the elaborate preparations in place, the government aims to lift every grain promptly, alleviating concerns of grain stockpiling in

Chief Minister Mann also emphasized the need for efficiency in the procurement process, instructing Deputy Commissioners to ensure smooth operations in their districts. "Any negligence in handling the procurement process is unacceptable. Officers must ensure that paddy is purchased and lifted swiftly to avoid any hindrance

Deputy Commissioners were directed to visit seven to eight mandis daily to oversee the ground-level operations and report back for regular moni-

In a notable decision, Mann offered a significant incentive to rice millers. The first 750 millers who apply for allotment of custom milling for KMS 2024-25 will receive 25 percent more paddy than their standard entitlement, providing

much-needed relief to the

#### **Cheema Dismisses Rumours of Leadership** Change Amid Mann's Hospitalization

milling sector.

Punjab Finance Minister Harpal Singh Cheema on Sunday firmly addressed the swirling rumours about a potential leadership change in the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) led Punjab Government following Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann's recent hospitalization. Mann spent three days at Fortis Hospital, leading to speculation that he might be replaced by Cheema or Speaker Kultar Singh Sandhwan.

After visiting Mann at the hospital, Cheema reassured the public of the Chief Minister's recovery, stating, "He is absolutely fit now." He emphasized that even during his hospitalization, Mann remained dedicated to his duties, signing crucial files.

Labeling the rumours as 'baseless", Čheema attributed them to the Opposition attempts to destabilize AAP's leadership. "There is no truth to these rumours. Bhagwant Mann will continue to serve as the Chief Minister of Punjab," he affirmed.

### **Haryana Poll Buzz**

### JJP-ASP alliance releases manifesto, promises unemployment allowance of Rs 11k

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

rannayak Janta Party-Azad Samaj Party (Kanshi Ram) alliance on Sunday released its poll manifesto for Haryana Assembly poll, promising to procure all crops at MSP, unemployment allowance of of Rs 5,100 per month. Every grain and crop grown in Haryana will be procured at MSP, JJP leader Dushyant Chautala told reporters in Sirsa while releasing the man-

Other promises include Rs 11,000 unemployment allowance per month and Rs 5,100 old age pension every month. The alliance also promised Rs 25,000 per acre compensation for crop damage and 'Jannayak Fasal Suraksha Scheme' in which premium amount would be the State borne by Government. Announcing sops for students, the alliance promised the rural folks to give extra weightage in jobs and admission to higher education.

Only Rs 100 would be charged as a one-time fee for applying for all recruitments, as per the manifesto, which the two allies named as "Jansewa Patr". A scooty would be given to girls of poor families who have passed Class XII and student union elections would be conducted every year, he said. The alliance also promised to make arrangements for higher education of Agniveers. Wooing women, the manifesto promised that one lakh women would be given government jobs.

#### Out of 20,632 polling stations, 144 designated as model polling stations Chandigarh: Of the total

20,632 polling stations established across the State for Haryana assembly polls, 144 are designated as model polling stations. Sharing information, Harvana Chief Electoral Officer Pankaj Agarwal on Sunday said that among these,

115 polling stations will be Tyagi. entirely managed by women staff, 114 by youth employees, and 87 by PwD employees. Webcasting will be conducted at all polling stations on the

"The home voting process for voters aged 85 years and upon the people of Haryana to voters, will be completed on September 30...Voters, aged above 85 years and Persons with Disabilities (PwD), had submitted applications to the mindful of this "historical concerned Returning Officer. Upon approval by the ROs, home voting facilities are being provided to 9,596 voters over the age of 85 and 2,600 PwD voters," he said.

Agarwal said that including reserved units, a total of 27,866 Electronic Voting Machines (ballot units) will be used in the elections. Along with this, 24.719 control units and 26.774 VVPAT machines will be used during the election process. Voters can verify their vote on VVPAT machine after casting it. For security, 225 companies of Central Armed Police Forces have already been deployed for the election. Apart from this, 500 flying squad teams and 461 state surveillance teams are also on duty, the CEO added.

#### No illegal mining in Yamunanagar after formation of Cong Govt:

Yamunanagar: Stating that there has been massive illegal mining in Yamunanagar district over the last 10 years, former Chief Minister and Congress leader Bhupinder Singh Hooda on Sunday said that after the formation of Congress government, illegal mining would be curbed as it had ruined natural resources in Yamunanagar and other districts of the state. "Congress Government would allow only legal mining, so there's no loss of natural resources and people get employment," he said while addressing an election rally organized by Congress candidate Raman Prakash

#### Voters should not waste their votes on BJP, Cong:

Chandigarh: Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) chief Mayawati on Sunday called the purported neglect and disdain shown by both the Congress and BJP towards Dalits. She urged voters to be neglect" when casting their votes in the forthcoming elections. Mayawati, in a post on 'X', stated, "The continuous neglect and contempt of Dalits by the Congress during the Assembly elections in Haryana shows that things are not right within the party. If things are not right now, what can be expected in the future? Dalits should not waste their vote on the Congress or the BJP." She further accused the Congress of consistently opposing reserva-tion, asserting, "Dalits should vote unanimously for BSP because it is the only party that continuously fights to protect their interests, ensure their welfare, and secure their constitutional rights.

#### No govt can be formed in Haryana without AAP's support: Kejriwal

Gurugram: Stating that Haryana wants change and development, AAP convener and Delhi's former Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Sunday said that the government cannot be formed in Haryana without AAP's support. Addressing a rally in Badshahpur in support of AAP candidate Beer Singh alias Beeru Sarpanch, Kejriwal said: "Haryana wants change and development. The government cannot be formed in Harvana without AAP's support." Alleging that he was "intentionally put behind bars in a false case", Kejriwal appealed to voters to "throw the BJP out of power...BJP targeted me because of my honesty. AAP Government developed better schools and provided better health facilities in the national capital, which the BJP did not

### **BJP Expels Eight Rebel**

Leaders in Haryana Chandigarh: BJP on Sunday expelled former minand seven other rebels for six years after they decided to contest the October 5 state Assembly polls as independent candidates. Haryana BJP chief Mohan Lal Badoli has expelled these leaders for a period of six years with immediate effect. Besides Chautala, Sandeep Garg (contesting the polls from Ladwa), Zile Ram Sharma (Assandh), Devender Kadian (Ganaur), Bachan Singh Arya (Safidon), Radha Ahlawat (Meham), Naveen Goel (Gurugram) and Kehar Singh Rawat (Hathin) have been expelled from the party. Earlier, Harvana Congress expelled 13 leaders on Friday for "anti-party activities" over their decision to contest the polls as independent candidates.

#### Nadda assures smart city status for Panchkula

Panchkula: BJP national president and Union Minister JP Nadda on Sunday assured an increase in the health cover under Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya scheme from Rs five lakh to up to Rs 10 lakh upon formation of BJP-led State Government in Haryana. Nadda, speaking during a convention organized in support of BJP candidate Gian Chand Gupta, assured that if brought to power, the BJP will focus on making Panchkula a smart city. Nadda said that BJP has brought about fundamental changes in the country. Referring to Gian Chand Gupta, Nadda said that Panchkula MLA has shared his report card of the last 10 years. "He has worked extensively for the people and delivered projects. BJP's manifesto is a vision document for the next five years," he added.

#### efits. The Agniveer scheme was meant to make the Army young.

ppealing to the people not to hesitate to send their sons to the Army, the Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday said that Agniveers will be given a pensionable job. Delivering a fiery speech while addressing a 'Jan Aashirwaad Rally' at village Dhorka Sectorment does not want to give 95 in Gurugram in support of pensionable jobs. I am telling BJP Badshahpur candidate Rao Narbir Singh, Shah said: "Every

Targeting Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, Shah said that the Congress leader is a 'lying machine. "Rahul Gandhi says that Agniveer Yojana has been brought because the govern-

you that every Agniveer will be given a pensionable job." Also criticizing Congress,

he said: "There was a Congress government in Haryana, it ran on cuts, commissions and corruption. The rule of dealers, brokers and sons-in-law was prevalent. In the BJP government, neither dealers nor brokers are left, there is no question of sons-in-law."

He said that during the Hooda Government, the Congress had only developed one district and one caste, but after the BJP gained power, the party had developed the entire state equally. "The party has given jobs based on 'Kharchi and Parchi' system while the BJP has given five lakh jobs without any 'Kharchi and Parchi," he said.

The Home Minister said that the UPA government gave Rs 41,000 crores to Haryana whereas the Modi Government gave Rs 292,000 crores for development to Harvana in 10 years. "PM Modi loves Haryana the most among all the states," he added.



State President

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# Destination Uttarakhand



Under PM Narendra Modi's leadership, U'khand is experiencing growth with new ropeway projects and advancements in rail, road, and air connectivity. These initiatives promise eco-friendly travel, boost regional economy, and create opportunities for locals. With its rich spiritual, adventure, and cultural experiences, the state continues to attract global visitors while preserving its natural and cultural heritage.

> **Pushkar Singh Dhami** Chief Minister



>> CM on his visit to Corbett National Park

# Kedarnath Dham gets a major facelift, enhances facilities for pilgrims

Inspired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami is pushing ahead Uttarakhand government's efforts to transform Kedarnath into a premier spiritual destination



>> PM Narendra Modi along with CM Pushkar Singh Dhami during his visit to Kedarnath Dham

rime Minister Narendra Modi's deep faith in Baba Kedarnath and his special attachment to Uttarakhand, have received support from the Centre. With assistance from the Centre, reconstruction work is going on at Kedarnath Dham. Uttarakhand Government led by Pushkar Singh Dhami, endeavoured to restore the shrine and the surrounding area to its pristine glory, while providing devotees with all modern amenities and services. The state administration has provided all kinds of facilities to the pilgrims, which is among the reasons behind the record number of people visiting every year.

The redevelopment and reconstruction work in the first phase of Kedarnath Dham was completed in 2022. In the second phase, 21 works worth Rs 188 crore are underway. The master plan proposes the redevelopment of the Kedarnath temple area. that was washed away in the Uttarakhand floods of 2013. The plan proposes a wide and clear path that leads to the shrine, with structures in small clusters on either side accommodating the residential needs

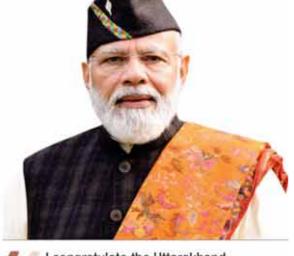
MANDAKINI PATH READY FOR PILGRIMS **COMING TO KEDARNATH** 

The master plan proposes a new layout to ensure

shrine, including the construction of Mandakini path, leading to the temple and the arrangement of residential spaces in small, dispersed dusters for better management and safety. Officials confirmed that the first phase of the Kedamath Dham's redevelopment was completed in 2022, and the second phase is

Under the supervision of CM Pushkar Singh Dhami, the Mandakini path is ready for pilgrims' ease, and additional amenities such as food kiosks and pilgrim care will be available there. All the work would be completed before





I congratulate the Uttarakhand government on the remarkable progress achieved in the last few years. This has been made possible by sustained policy push and focus on key sectors such as tourism and renewable energy. Alongside, the state has made significant strides in infrastructure development, setting new benchmarks for sustainable growth. Uttarakhand's commitment to harnessing its natural resources and promoting tourism has not only bolstered its economy but also showcased its potential on the global stage. I applaud the state's dedication to inclusive development and look forward to its continued success in the years ahead."

> Narendra Modi Prime Minister

# Tehri takes flight: Rising paragliding destination

ccording to some internationally renowned paragliding experts, Tehri has the potential to come a world-class paragliding center. With



a clear dropping height of more than 1500 mt, conducive climate with lesser wind disturbances and easy access from Dehradun airport, the Tehri-lake is being touted as an upcoming paragliding hub.

The Tourism Department organised an International Paragliding Acrobatic Festival in November 2023 which saw participation from more than 150 paragliding acrobats from more than 30 countries. The event catapulted Tehri to an exalted status in the international paragliding circuit and international paragliding instructors are beeing up at Tehri for their training groups

In order to promote paragliding activity in the state, the tourism department has started various levels of paragliding training courses like P1, P2 and SIV at Tehri to equip the local youth with the necessary skills and safety certifications to meet international requirements. This step would ensure availability of local skilled manpower as Tehri sees a rise in paragliding sporting activity.

# U'khand Tourism Policy 2023-30: Spiritual bliss with modern tourism

Following PM Modi's vision, and under the leadership of CM Pushkar Singh Dhami, Uttarakhand has embarked on creating better experiences for tourists



>> CM Pushkar Singh Dhami, CM, Uttarakhand, interacting with Goa government officials. MoU was

ttarakhand, also known as Devbhoomi, has been a spiritual center since time immemorial. With holy cities like Haridwar and Rishikesh on the banks of the River Ganga, the annual Char Dham Yatra, the Kumbh Mela and several Shiva and Shakti temples, each telling its own mystical story, dotted across the state, the state is a haven for spiritual seekers.

Under the able leadership of Uttarakhand Chief Minister, Pushkar Singh Dhami, the state has embarked on creating better and newer experiences for tourists visiting the state. From infrastructure development to opening up

newer segments of tourism, the state is offering multitude of tourism products to target various strata of tourists. At the same time, it is imperative for the state to take note of the fragile ecology and plan activities without causing an

harm to the natural environment. The Tourism Policy envisaged by Government of Uttarakhand lays the roadmap for developing new tourism related activities in the state. The state is offering several incentives including capital subsidy, interest subvention, marketing & promotion, training etc for industry players

who wish to invest in the future tourism growth of the

state. The activities for which these incentives are offered range from hospitality services and other tourism services such as adventure parks, electric taxi services etc.

Due to the unique ecological positioning of the state, with the Himalayas being one of the youngest mountain ranges of the world, subject to various geographical changes, the Tourism Policy 2023-2030 lays down guidelines for development of environmental-friendly sustainable tourism infrastructure.

Several initiatives have been taken by the govt to boost tourism in the state ranging from promoting Adventure Sports, yoga and wellness, Border Village Tourism and

boosting tourism to hidden gems of the state through Manaskhand Express train

Recently, the government has laid down policy guide lines for inviting investment from within the state for state players with intended investment of Rs 1-5 crore. With this policy, the state aims to develop entreprenial enterprise within the state for land owners of the state. Another unique feature of the policy is that the investors will have to provide employment to at least 70% local youth in their enterprise.

The policy includes several incentives including Capital Subsidy and Interest Subsidy depending upon the geographical location of the project.

# **Homestays: Future of** accommodation in the state

### Empowering homestay owners, strengthening economy

ue to various geographical and ecological factors, setting up of large hotels in the state is not feasible. Hence, the state has launched various facilities and incentives to homestay owners to develop a resilient homestay infrastructure across

The state has adopted a three-pronged strategy to promote the homestay economy - providing capital support to build infrastructure, providing training to hone skills and the third is the launch of a dedicated homestay booking portal www.uttarastays.com, which offers homestay owners to list their homestays without any integration charges and commission.

This strategy is set to impact migration from the state with more locals setting up homestays and the tourism department providing online booking facility through a state-owned portal

The Himalayan hinterland is dotted with pictur-



esque and quaint locations, where finding quality accommodation is still a challenge. For locals, who have set up accommodation units at these locations, it is difficult to reach out to their potential guests through online medium. The uttarastays com portal is set to bridge this gap and provide exposure to all homestays of the state

> Under the leadership of PM Narendra Modi and the guidance of Uttarakhand CM Pushkar Singh Dhami, Uttarakhand has launched various facilities and incentives to homestay owners to develop a resilient homestay infrastructure across the state

### Nakshatra Sabha: **Exploring the Cosmos**

With focus of 'Leave No Trace', the event aimed to promote responsible tourism with the participants actively involved in the managing the surroundings



ith an aim to promote 'Leave No Trace Behind' tourism activity and expose remote locations of the state, the tourism department has come up with a six-part astro-tourism event series titled Nakshatra Sabha. The locations chosen for these events are unique with astro enthusiasts camping at the sites in tents. The astro enthusiasts witness various celestial events and objects through state-of-the-art equipment, participate in sessions about astronomy, learn about asstro-photography,



unravel the mysteries of the night sky, go on local hikes, indulge in musical evenings and admire the beauty of their surroundings pledging to 'Leave No Trace' when they vacate the site.

The first event in the series was held at the iconic George Everest House near Mussoorie in June 2024 which saw overwhelming response from more than 100 participants from all across the country and even international participation.

The next event is scheduled to be held at Jageshwar in Almora in the first week of October 2024 with more events lined up at Benital in Chamoli, Jadung in Uttarkashi and Gunji in Pithoragarh. The events aim to create awareness about Dark Sky Observations, develop a Dark Sky Policy for the state, promote training & development around the events to create opportunities for the

With focus of 'Leave No Trace', these events also aim to promote responsible tourism with the participants actively involved in the managing the surroundings

### Adventure Tourism gains momentum



ith a full-fledged adventure tourism wing functioning under the Tourism Department adventure tourism activities in the state have evolved over the years. In the year 2023, the department took a decision to waive off the river rafting fee from rafting operators for all rivers except the Ganga. This fee waiver has generated interest of the rafting operators to start rafting operations in rivers other than the Ganga including Tons, Ramganga and Sharda, thus paving way for rafting activities at many more destinations in addition to Rishikesh.

The National Rafting which saw participation from several teams including a team from Nepal.

The state has organised several paragliding competitions at various locations including Tehri and Pithoragarh to boost the paragliding activities in the state Water Sports activities have

been added at Baur Jalashay in Udham Singh Nagar District and more activities are being planned at Tehri-lake. Uttarakhand became the first state to test fly a Gyrocopter from Haridwar. Gyrocopters are light weight helicopters which can fly at low altitudes and can usher an new era in adventure The state was awarded the

Best Adventure Tourism State in 2023 by Adventure Tour Operators Association of India (ATOAI)

#ExploreUttarakhand



@DIPR\_UK

ttarakhand has been known as a hub for Yoga and wellness activities for a long time with Rishikesh being branded as the Yoga Capital of the World. With various developmental initiatives of the Department of Ayush and Department of Tourism, Wellness Centers are being developed across the state providing

holistic Ayurvedic remedies. These Wellness Centers are being promoted by the Tourism department by linking them to the nearby homestays. The Tourism Department and Ayush Department have also developed an Ayurveda based welcome kit for the tourists residing at the homestays.

The wellness centers linked to

Uttarakhand embraces new-age tourism

for sustainable and ecological growth

With new-age tourism products, Uttarakhand is poised for an

era of tourism growth, which is both sustainable and inclusive

the homestays are being actively promoted on the www.uttarastays. com portal to provide information about the facilities available at these Wellness Centers. With these newage tourism

products, Uttarakhand tourism is poised for an era of tourism growth which is both sustainable and inclusive.

Championship was held in the Sharda River at Champawat.

Text: Sumit Pant, Director, UTDB CONSUMER CONNECT INITIATIVE

# Centre to hold simultaneous elections with three new bills

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

¬he Centre is likely to bring three bills, including two to amend the Constitution, to put in place its plan to hold simultaneous elections. One of the proposed Constitution amendment bills, that deals with aligning the local bodies elections to that of the Lok Sabha and the Assemblies, will require an endorsement from at least 50 per cent of the states.

Moving ahead with its 'one nation, one election' plan, the government earlier this month accepted recommendations of the high-level committee for holding simultaneous polls for the Lok Sabha, state assemblies and local bodies in a phased manner after a countrywide building exercise.

proposed constitutional amendment bill would deal with making provisions for holding Lok Sabha and state legislative assembly elections together. Citing recommendations of the high-level committee, sources said the proposed bill would seek to amend Article 82A by adding sub-clause (1) relating to the 'appointed

It will also seek to insert subclause (2) to Article 82A



panchayats.

hold simultaneous elections municipalities and

current diagnostic system followed by the World Health

Gender incongruence is characterised by a marked

and persistent disparity

between an individual's

experienced gender and the

assigned sex. It often leads to

through hormonal treatment,

surgery or other healthcare

services in order to live and be

accepted as a person of the

According to the SOP, "Before

endocrinology treatment, a

Before Gender Affirmation

Surgery, two certificates are

required -- one by a

psychiatrist and one by a

Apart from that, a mental

health professional would

also assess for distress and co-

c l i n i c a

psychologist/psychiatrist."

from psychiatrist is required.

experienced gender.

certificate

certification for the same.

Organization,

panchayats, along

the Lok Sabha and state legislative assemblies

It also proposes to amend Article 83(2) and insert new sub-clauses (3) and (4) relating to the duration and dissolution of the Lok Sabha. It also has provisions related to the dissolution of the legislative assemblies and amending Article 327 to insert the term "simultaneous elections".

This bill will not require ratification by at least 50 per recommendation said. The proposed second Constitutional amendment bill will require ratification by at least 50 per cent of the state assemblies as it will deal with

matters relating to state

affairs.

It will seek to amend constitutional provisions relating to the preparation of electoral rolls by the Election (EC) Commission in consultation with State Commissions Election (SECs) for elections to local

Constitutionally, the EC and elections to Lok Sabha and SECs are separate bodies. The state legislative assemblies by EC holds elections to the post inserting a new Article 324A. of the President, the Vice The third bill will be an President, Lok Sabha, Rajya ordinary one to amend Sabha, state assemblies and provisions in three laws state legislative councils while with dealing territories having legislative the SECs are mandated to conduct polls to local bodies assemblies - Puducherry, Delhi and Jammu and such as municipalities and Kashmir — to align the terms The proposed second Constitution amendment bill of these Houses with other legislative assemblies and the will also create provisions to Lok Sabha as proposed in the

nrst constitutional amendment bill. The statutes it proposes to Election Commissions.

Union

of National Capital Territory of Delhi Act-1991, the Government of Union Territories Act-1963 and the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act-2019. The proposed bill will be an

ordinary legislation not requiring a change in the Constitution and will also not need ratification by the states. The high-level committee had proposed amendments to three Articles, insertion of 12 new sub-clauses in the existing articles and tweaking three laws related to Union Territories having legislative assemblies.

The total number of amendments and new insertions stands at 18. In its report submitted to the government in March, just before the general election was announced, the panel recommended implementing "one nation, one election" in

It suggested simultaneous polls for the Lok Sabha and state assemblies in the first phase and elections for local bodies like panchayats and municipal bodies within 100 days of the general election in the second phase.

It also recommended a common electoral roll, which would need coordination between the Election Commission and State

Union Minister and BJP National President JP Nadda, and others listen to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Mann ki Baat' radio programme, in New Delhi, Sunday Photo by: RANJAN DIMRI/THE PIONEER 'Mann Ki Baat' showcases positive

developments: Modi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi asserted on Sunday that his monthly radio broadcast 'Mann Ki Baat' has shown that people like positive developments and inspiring and encouraging stories.

Speaking in the latest episode of the radio programme in which he touches about social issues and highlights people's efforts for a cause in different parts of the country, he noted that the broadcast

completing 10 years. Describing it as an "emotional" episode, he said the programme has become a unique platform that celebrates the spirit of India and showcases collective strength of the nation. He also thanked the media for taking its message to people.

Modi said there is generally a perception that people don't pay attention if the content is not spicy or negative. However, 'Mann Ki Baat' has shown that they are eager for positive information. People like positive things, inspiring examples and encouraging stories, he noted. Modi said the 'Make in India's

programme is completing its 10 years, asserting that export is rising in every sector and the rise in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is a testimony to its success. It has helped local manufacturers a lot, he added.

He urged people to buy 'Made in India' products in the festival season. coming Referring to his recent visit to the US, Modi said the return of nearly 300 antiquities to India is being widely talked about. When people start taking pride in their heritage, the world also respects their sentiments, he said, asserting that a large number of ancient artefacts has been returned to India by different countries in the last 10 years of his government.

In the programme, he highlighted the success of the 'Swachh Bharat' mission, lauding it as a great tribute to Mahatma Gandhi who put special emphasis on cleanliness

# relating to the end of terms of cent of the states, the

# Himalayan research project to analyse

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

sediment impact

s climate change intensi-Afies hazards such as landslides, avalanches, and glacial floods in high mountain regions including Himalayas, a team of researchers from India, Canada and UK is set to conduct a study to understand the long-term impacts of sediment moved by these disasters on communities and river systems including Ganges

The team, including experts from IIT Roorkee and the Dehradun-based Institute of Himalayan Geology, will start research at a 150 km stretch of the Ganges River impacted by the 2021 disaster in Chamoli nestled in Himalayan region in Uttarakhand.

Triggered by a rock and ice avalanche, this catastrophic event caused a devastating debris flood, resulting in over 200 fatalities and significant damage to two hydropower stations including Tapovan Vishnu Gad Hydropower. landslide temporarily created a dam in the Rishiganga valley, which eventually breached.

The £1 million research SUPERSLUG project, led by researchers from the University of Plymouth, will centered around the 2021 disaster and focus on understanding how massive flows—termed slugs"—affect sediment "sediment river systems over time, often impacting areas far from the original disaster site.

Utilising advanced monitoring technologies such as drones, satellite imagery, seismic sensors, and "smart cobbles," the team will gather data on sediment transport and landscape changes. This information will help create a digital twin of the river system, offering insights for disaster management and resource

sustainability. Dr. Matt Westoby, the project lead and Associate Professor

of Physical Geography at the University of Plymouth, this research which is backed by an £840,000 grant from the Natural Environment Research Council.

He noted that while the immediate impacts of disasters are clear, the longterm consequences often remain unexplored. 'High mountain regions like

the Himalayas are among the most hazardous on the planet. The effects of climate change are likely to exacerbate these hazards, leading to increased landslide activity and landscape instability," he said. "We urgently need to understand the legacy impacts of sediment flows on river catchments and the communities that depend on for water and livelihoods?

The project will engage with communities and authorities to ensure that findings are practical and beneficial for disaster preparedness and hydropower operations. Collaborating institutions also include Exeter, Hull, Newcastle, Staffordshire,

University of Calgary. Professor Tom Coulthard from the University of Hull highlighted the importance of understanding sediment movement. "Often it's the sheer volume of sediment, rather than just floodwaters, that causes significant damage during these multi-hazard events. Understanding how long sediment slugs persist in the system is crucial for predicting their impacts managing future

In a nut-shell, as per the statement from the University of Hull, this three-year initiative aims to fill critical knowledge gaps regarding the long-term effects of sediment slugs on ecosystems and communities, ultimately enhancing disaster resilience in vulnerable regions.

disasters."

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre of Indian Trade Unions ▲ (CITU) on Sunday protested on Government's move to disinvest the profit making PSU Ferro Scrap Nigam Limited (FSNL). The CITU general secretary Tapan Sen in a statement said the Central Government is resorting to all "illegal practices" to sell the Mini Ratna company to Japan's M/s. Konoike Transport Co. Ltd and must roll back from the sale.

Extending solidarity with the striking employees of FSNL, the CITU pointed out that PSU Navratna steel companies

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

 $T_{\text{go for pre-hormonal ther-}}^{\text{ransgenders who want to}}$ 

apy or gender assignment

surgery need to be assessed and

certified by mental health pro-

fessionals, according to the

Union Health Ministry's stan-

As for gynaecologists, the

'SoP for Medical Treatment of

Transgender Persons' states

that they should enquire as to

how the patient wishes to be

addressed in terms of name

and pronoun, and also ensure

that the words they use

uphold the principles of

Outlining the responsibilities

professionals, the SoP

document said their primary

role would include assessment for gender

incongruence, as per the

health

safety, dignity and respect.

mental

are completely dependent on FSNL for scrap handling since its inception.

CITU protests FSNL disinvestment

"With utter surprise, no consultation with them has at all been initiated by the government on such a vital issue and the top managements of FSNL are also not properly aware of this clandestine move. FSNL is a company having a reserve fund of about Rs 200 crore and movable assets worth Rs100 crore employing more than 600 employees and 5,000 contract workers.

During the year ended March 31, 2022, Company has paid Interim Dividend for FY 2021-22 amounting to Rs 9.50 per equity shares," said CITU in a statement detailing the profits of the FSNL.

CITU said that "such a golden egg producing company is straight away being guillotined by the government because of its sheer obsession for privatization factually without any valid reason". "CITU once again condemns the authoritarian anti-National move of the Modi government and stands strong with striking FSNL workers. CITU calls upon all its units to take this issue to all sections of workers and mobilize them insolidarity with this anti-privatization

Mental health certificates now needed for Transgender pre-hormonal therapy, surgery

morbid mental and/or substance use disorders and provide management of the same, the document stated. They would also provide support or therapy, if needed, to cope with issues related to gender including participation in one cannot undergo gender integrated cross-disciplinary affirmation surgery before the intersectoral age of 18 years and a and

collaboration for clients and caregivers. "The support would be provided prehormonal therapy/gender assignment surgery, during the period as well as postsurgery, if need be," it stated. incongruence, According to the document,

certificate of being stable on endocrine treatment for one year and suitability for surgical procedure is required before gender affirmation The SOP stressed the need to

make STD clinics friendly to gender-diverse patients and such facilities should idontity and sex assigned at birth for all patients to improve sexual healthcare for transgenders and gender nonbinary Primary care providers

should take a comprehensive sexual history, including a discussion on Sexually transmitted infection (STI) screening, HIV PrEP and PEP, behavioural health, and social determinants of sexual health.

Clinicians can improve the experience of sexual health screening and counselling for transgender persons by

asking for their choice of terminology or modifying language to be used during clinic visits and history taking and examination, the SOP stated.

Options preservation, pregnancy potential and contraception options should also be document said.

Preservation in Transgenders (Female to Male), the SoP states that the established method preservation cryopreservation of embryos and oocytes for females.

cryopreservation is also a successful technique for fertility preservation and is no longer experimental, the document stated, adding that it has limited availability and is possible only after attaining

was registered under IPC

sections 384 (punishment for

extortion), 120B (criminal

conspiracy) and 34 (acts done

furtherance of common

Sitharaman, ED officials,

office-bearers of the BJP at

state and national level, based

on the order of a special

BJP Karnataka chief B Y

Vijayendra and party leader

intention)

several persons in



### Prakash Karat to lead CPI(M) interim

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Cenior CPI(M) leader OPrakash Karat will be the coordinator of the party's Polit Bureau and the Central Committee as an interim arrangement until the 24th Party Congress to be held in April next year. The decision comes in the wake of the death of CPI(M) General Secretary Sitaram Yechury on September 12 at the age of 72.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of India (Marxist), now in session in New Delhi, has decided that Comrade Prakash Karat will

be the coordinator of the Polit Bureau and the Central Committee, as an interim arrangement until the 24th Party Congress to be held in April 2025 at Madurai," the CPI(M) said. "This decision was taken due

to the sad and sudden demise of the sitting General Secretary of the CPI(M), Comrade Sitaram Yechury," it added. Karat, one of the senior most leaders of the CPI(M), was its general secretary from 2005 to 2015. He was elected to the Central Committee in 1985 and became a Polit Bureau member in 1992.

## Congress demands Sitharaman's resignation over extortion

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

ongress on Sunday Cattacked the BJP after a case was lodged against Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and others on a complaint relating to the nowscrapped electoral bonds scheme and demanded her resignation for "undermining democracy".

The opposition party reiterated its demand for a Supreme-court monitored inquiry through an SIT into the whole electoral bond scheme.

Addressing a press conference here along with party spokesperson Abhishek spokesperson Singhvi, Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh charged that four ways were used to extort money through the "conspiracy of electoral bonds prepaid bribery, postpaid bribery, post-raid bribery and through farzi companies". He said the Finance Minister who is number 1 and number

should immediately resign as



she is "guilty" politically, legally and morally. Ramesh said the FIR was

lodged on orders of the court and the Congress has nothing to do with the FIR. He said the Congress has been demanding a Supreme-court monitored inquiry through an SIT into the electoral bonds scheme and reiterates that demand. Singhvi also accused the BJP of "undermining democracy". "The Finance Minister cannot

do this on her own. We know

2 and this was done on whose

and others on the directions of a court in Bengaluru, following a complaint relating to the now-scrapped electoral bonds scheme. According to police, an FIR

directions," he said. "The

larger issue is the level playing

field which is necessary for

free and fair polls. Free and

fair polls are critical for democracy. This is an attack on our democratic system," Singhvi said while terming it as "EBS - Extortionist BJP Scheme". A case was registered on Saturday against Sitharaman

alleged that Sitharaman

Nalin Kumar Kateel have also been named in the FIR. The complaint was lodged by Adarsh R Iyer, Co-President of 'Janaadhikaara Sangharsha Parishath' (JSP) alleging that the accused "committed extortion under the guise and garb of electoral bonds" and benefited to the tune of more than Rs 8,000 crore. The complainant further

through the clandestine aid and support of ED officials facilitated extortion of thousands of crores of rupees for the benefit of others both at the state and national



PUBLIC NOTICE

It is brought to the Notice of the Public at large that At the time of handing over the title deeds of the property it has been found that Original Sale deed No.140 dated 21.4.2009 executed by Jaipal son of Jagan Nath son of Thakur Dass in favor of Stimla Sethi wife of Rajnish Ram in original of are nissingliost from the property owner, it is informed by the party, the same has not been used for other purposes by the property owner and the same has been lost. If anybody has any objection regarding the mortgaging of the same, may respond within Seven days, to the undersigned. After the expiry of the stipulated period of Seven days, no claim whatsoever shall be entertained. The detail of the property is as under-Detail of property-Property measuring 00 Kanal 11 Maria Le. 99/1935 Share of land measuring 10 Kanal 15 Maria Le. 99/1935 Share of land measuring 10 Kanal 15 Maria Le. 99/1935 Share of land measuring 10 Kanal 15 Maria Le. 99/1935 Share of land measuring 10 Kanal 15 Maria Le. 99/1935 Share of land measuring 10 Kanal 15 Maria Le. 99/1935 Share of land measuring 10 Kanal 15 Maria Le. 99/1935 Share of land measuring 10 Kanal 15 Maria Le. 99/1935 Share of land measuring 10 Kanal 15 Maria Le. 99/1935 Share of land measuring 10 Kanal 15 Maria Le. 99/1935 Share of land measuring 10 Kanal 15 Maria Le. 99/1935 Share of land measuring 10 Kanal 15 Maria Le. 99/1935 Share of land measuring 10 Kanal 15 Maria Le. 99/1935 Share of land measuring 10 Kanal 15 Maria Le. 99/1935 Share of land measuring 10 Kanal 15 Maria Le. 99/1935 Share of land measuring 10 Kanal 16 Maria Le. 99/1935 Share of land measuring 10 Kanal 16 Maria Le. 99/1935 Share of land measuring 10 Kanal 16 Maria Le. 99/1935 Share of land measuring 10 Kanal 16 Maria Le. 99/1935 Share of land 16 Maria Le.

PUBLIC NOTICE (Hereinafter referred to as the Mortgagor) is the absolute owner of UID No.-B09/01735/1 (as per ATS), measuring 00 Kanal 1.50 Marla (45 Sq. yards), bearing Khewat/Khatoni No. 1027/1344 comprised under Khasra No. 231(102-18) Kitta 01, land measuring 102 Kanal 18 Marla, share to extent of 6/4116 i.e. 00 Kanal 1.50 Marla, situated at Village Karoran, Hadbast No.352, Sub-Tehsil Mairi, Tehsil Kharar, Distt. S.A.S. Nagar, Mohali Punjab.160103, According to the said Mortgagor, the below mentioned following cument is misplaced by the Sh. Harchand

Singh S/o Sh. Kartar Singh. Original Sale Deed dated 10.05.2010 bearing Vasika No.585 executed by Sh. Karan Kaushik S/o Sh. Sukhdev as a GPA holder of Sh. Harinder Singh S/o Sh. Sarabjeet Singh in espect of land measuring 00 Kanal 03 Marla in favour of Sh. Jasvir Singh S/o Sh. Goga Singh and Smt. Gurmeet Kaur W/o Sh. Amrik Singh. That Mortgagor have agreed to create ortgage in favour of my clients DMI, Housing Finance Pvt. Ltd, Zirakpur in respect of the nortgage of above said property. In this regard nline DDR, bearing SR No.514680/2024. Dated 11.09.2024 in Punjab, Police Station, odged by Harchand Singh for the misplace of claim against or in respect of the said property ereunder or any part thereof by way of sale. exchange, mortgage (equitable/registered o otherwise). Gift, trust, inheritance, family arrangement, Maintenance, bequest, partnership, possession, lease, sublease, tenancy, license, lien, charge, pledge easement or otherwise howsoever are hereby quested to notify the same in writing to me/us with supporting documentary evidence at the address mentioned herein below with 07 days from the date hereof, failing which the claim of claims, if any, of such person or persons will be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned and my client shall roceed with the disbursement of loan and reation of mortgage in respect thereof. (Please contact Ashish Goel, Advocate

9872333331) So,if any Individual/Institution wil claim anything regarding the missing documents, then contact undersigned Ashish Goel & Associates

http://www.hptender.gov.in.

Cost of tender documents inclusive GST

Start date and time of bid submission

End date and time of bid submission

https://www.hptenders.gov.in.

Date and time of opening of Techno-comm. bid

**Description of Work** 

**Estimated Cost** 

Earnest Money

**Key Dates:-**

(Non-refundable)

Date of publication

Tender No.

#2831, Sector-15, Panchkula, M. No

#2831, Sector-15, Panchkula. M. No. 9872333331

#### ਬਾ-ਅਦਾਲਤ ਤਹਿਸੀਲਦਾਰ-ਕਮ-ਸਹਾਇਕ ਕਲੈਕਟਰ ਦਰਜਾ ਪਹਿਲਾ. ਮੋਹਾਲੀ।

ਜਨਤਕ ਨੋਟਿਸ ਮਸਲ 114 ਰਜੂਆ ਮਿਤੀ 19.01.2024 ਪਿੰਡ-ਰਾਏਪੁਰ ਕਿਸਮ ਕਸੀਮ ਕੇਸ ਮੇਜਰ ਤਰਲੋਚਨ ਸਿੰਘ ਛਟਵਾਲ ਬਨਾਮ ਮਰਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਦਿਆਲ ਸਿੰਘ ਵਗੈਰਾ ਪਿੰਡ-ਰਾਏਪੁਰ। ਮੇਜਰ ਤਰਲੇਚਨ ਸਿੰਘ ਛਟਵਾਲ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਐਸ.ਪੀ.ਐਸ ਛਟਵਾਲ, ਵਾਸੀ-ਮਕਾਨ ਨੰਬਰ-258,ਏ 1-ਬਲਾਕ ਜਨਕਪੁਰੰ ਵੈਸਟ ਦਿੱਲੀ, ਦਿੱਲੀ ਵਾ<sub>.</sub> ਖੇਵਟਦਾਰ, ਪਿੰਡ-ਰਾਏਪੁਰ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਹਾਲੀ, ਜਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਐਸ.ਏ.ਐਸ.ਨਗਰ।

40 ਮ 1. ਅਮਰਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਇਆਲ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਗੰਗਾ (2) ਵੇਦ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਸ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਅਮਰਨਾਥ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸੁੰਦਰ ਲਾਲਾ 3. ਰਾਮ ਮੂਰਤੀ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਅਮਰਨਾਥ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸੁੰਦਰ ਲਾਲ (4) ਭਗਤ ਰਾਮ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਅਮਰਨਾਥ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸੁੰਦਰ ਲਾਲ 5. ਪ੍ਰੇਮ ਚੰਦ ਪੁੱਤ ਅਮਰਨਾਥ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸੁੰਦਰ ਲਾਲ (6) ਬਲਬੀਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤ ਗੁਰਮੁੱਖ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਗੁਰਬਚਨ ਸਿੰਘ 7. ਨਿਰਮਲ ਸਿੰ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਗੁਰਮੁੱਖ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਗੁਰਬਚਨ ਸਿੰਘ (8) ਦਰਬ ਸਿੰ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸੂਰਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਈਸ਼ਰ ਸਿੰਘ 9. ਮਹੇਸ ਕੁ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਕ੍ਰਿਸ਼ਨ ਕੁਮਾਰ (10) ਕੁਲਦੀਪ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਜੋਗਿੰ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸੁਰਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ 11. ਦਲਵੀਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱ ਜੋਗਿੰਦਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸੁਰਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ (12) ਗੁਰਦੀਪ ਸਿੰ ਮੁੱਤਰ ਸਕਿੰਦ ਸੰਘ ਤੁਤ ਰਾਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ (12) ਗੁਰਦਾਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਮੁੱਤਰ ਸੁਰਿੰਦਰ ਸਿੰਘ 13. ਕੁਨਤੀ ਪਤਨੀ ਸੰਜਨ ਕੁਮਾਰ (14) ਜੋਨੀ ਪਤਨੀ ਪ੍ਰੀਥਵੀ ਰਾਜ(15) ਜਾਹਿਦ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਉਮਰਦੀਨ 16. ਜਹਨਾਜ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਜਾਹਿਦ (17) ਬੀਨਾ ਪਤਨੀ ਸ਼ਿਆਮ ਲਾਲ (18) ਪੂਨਮ ਪੁੱਤਰੀ ਬਲਬੀਰ ਸ਼ਿੰਘ 19. ਬਲਬੀਰ ਸ਼ਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਗੁਰਮੁੱਖ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਬਚਨ ਸਿੰਘ @ ਗੁਰਬਚਨ ਸਿੰਘ ( ਨਿਰਮਲ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਗੁਰਮੁੱਖ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਬਚਨ ਸਿੰਘ ( ਸੀਮਾ ਰਾਨੀ ਪਤਨੀ ਵਿਨੇਦ ਕੁਮਾਰ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਭੀਮਸੇਨ 22. ) ਪਤਨੀ ਕੁਲਦੀਪ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਫਤਿਹ ਸਿੰਘ (23.) ਊਸ਼ਾ ਰਾ ਪਤਨੀ ਸੂਰੇਸ ਪਾਲ ਸਿੰਘ 24. ਅਮਰਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਦਿਣ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਗੰਗਾ (25) ਮਹਿੰਦਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸੁਰਜੀਤ f ਪੁੱਤਰ ਈਸਰ ਸਿੰਘ 26. ਭਜਾ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਉਜਾਗਰ f ਪੱਤਰ ਜੀਵਨ ਸਿੰਘ (27) ਗਾਰਲੈਂਡ ਅਸਟੇਟ ਪਾਈਵੇਟ ਲਿਮ 28. ਜੀਗਿੰਦਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸੁਰਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਈਸਰ ਸਿੰ (29) ਜਸਵੀਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਕਰਤਾਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਪੋਲੋ 3 ਗੁਰਪ੍ਰੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸੁਰਿੰਦਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਕਰਤਾਰ ਸਿੰ ਹਰਪ੍ਰੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸੁਰਿੰਦਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਕਰਤਾਰ ਸਿੰ (31) ਆਲਮ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਭਜਾ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਜਿਊਨ ਸਿੰਘ 32. ਗੁਰਬਖਸ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸੁਰਿੰਦਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਕਰਤਾਰ ਸਿੰਘ (33) ਟਰਾਬਲਰ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਰਟੀ ਪ੍ਰਾਈਵੇਟ ਲਿਮਟਿਡ 34. ਕੁਲਵੰਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਦਰਬ ਸਿੰਘ (35) ਦਿਲਬਾਗ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਦਰਬ ਸਿੰਘ (36) ਜੋਗਿੰਦਰ ਕੌਰ ਪਤਨੀ ਗੁਰਮੁੱਖ ਸਿੰਘ (37) ਅ ਬੀਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਬਲਬੀਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸਮਸੇਰ ਸਿੰਘ, ਸਾ ਵਾਸੀਆਨ ਵਾ ਖੇਵਟਦਾਰ ਪਿੱਡ-ਰਾਏਪੁਰ, ਤਹਿ: ਵਾ ਜਿਲ ਐਸ.ਏ.ਐਸ. ਨਗਰ। 38. ਸਰਿੰਦਰ ਕਮਾਰ ਪੱਤਰ ਅਮਰ ਪਤਰ ਸੁੱਧਰ ਲਾਲ, ਵਾਸੀ-ਬਹਿਲੋਲਪੁਰ (39) ਨੌਜੀਕਜ਼ ਡਿਵੈਲਪਰਜ਼ ਪ੍ਰਾਈਵੇਟ ਲਿਮ: ਆਫਿਸ ਅਲੀ ਰੋਡ ਬੀ 17, ਨਵੀ ਦਿੱਲੀ (40) ਮੋਗਾ ਮਿਟੀ ਪਰਮੋਟਰਸ ਪ੍ਰਾਈਵੇਟ ਲਿਮਟਿਡ 17-ਬੀ, ਅਲੀ ਰੋਡ, ਨਵੀਂ ਦਿੱਲੀ(41) ਐਚ.ਡੀ.ਐਫ.ਸੀ ਬੈਂਕ ਬ੍ਰਾਂਚ ਮੋਹਾਲੀ (42) ਆਈ.ਡੀ.ਬੀ.ਆਈ. ਬੈਂਕ ਬ੍ਰਾਂਚ ਸੈਕਟਰ-17,ਚੰਡੀਗੜ੍ਹ 43. ਉਮੀਦ ਹਾਊਸਿੰਗ ਫਾਈਨਾਸ ਪ੍ਰਾਈਵੇਟ ਲਿਮਟਿਡ ਬ੍ਰਾਂਚ ਐਸ.ਸੀ.ਓ. 60-61, ਸੈਕਿੰਡ ਫਲੋਰ

ਵਰਵਾਦ ਨਿਸਟਿਡ ਪ੍ਰਦਾ ਐਨਮਸਿ.ਰ. ਰਾਹਾਂਤ, ਜਾਹਡ ਕੁਟਜ਼ ਜ਼ਰਟਰ-34 ਏ ਚੰਡੀਗੜ੍ਹ। ਤਰਖਾਸਤਕਰਤਾ ਸਾਇਲ ਨੇ ਨਿਮਨਹਸਤਾਖਰ ਦੀ ਅਦਾਲਤ ਵੱਚ ਦਰਖਾਸਤ ਤਕਸੀਮ ਕੇਸ ਅਰਾਜੀ ਵਾਕਿਆ ਰਕਥਾ ਪਿੰਡ-ਹਾਏਪੁਰ ਹਦਬਸਤ ਨੰ: 24, ਤਹਿ: ਵਾ: ਜਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਐਸ.ਏ.ਐਸ. ਨਗਰ, ਤਕਸੀਮ ਕਰਵਾਉਣ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਦਰਖਾਸਤ ਦਾਇਰ ਕੀਤੀ ਨਰੀਰ, ਤੁਖਸੀਸ ਪਰਦੇ ਦੂਟ ਸਕੀ ਦਰ ਪਤਾ ਦੇ ਦਾ ਹੈ। ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਨੋਟਿਸ/ਇਤਿਹਾਰ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਉੱਤਰਵਾਦੀਆਨ ਨੂੰ ਸੂਚਿਤ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਜੇਕਰ ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਉੱਤਰਵਾਦੀ ਧਿਰ ਨੂੰ ਉਕਤ ਤਕਸੀਮ ਵਿੱਚ ਆਪਣਾ ਕੋਈ ਪੱਖ ਪੂਰਨ ਹੈ ਜਾਂ ਇਤਰਾਜ਼ ਪੇਸ਼ ਕਰਨਾ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਇਸ ਇਸ਼ਤਿਹਾਰ ਦੇ ਛੱਪਣ ਦੀ ਮਿਤੀ ਤੋਂ 15 ਦਿਨਾਂ ਦੇ ਅੰਦਰ-ਅੰਦਰ ਨਿਮਨਹਸਤਾਖਰ ਨੂੰ ਅਸਾਲਤਨ ਜਾਂ ਵਕਾਲਤਨ ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਕੰਮ ਵਾਲੇ ਦਿਨ ਦਫਤਰੀ ਸਮੇਂ ਦੌਰਾਨ 10 ਤੋਂ ਪੇਸ਼ ਹੋ ਕੇ ਇਤਰਾਜ ਪੇਸ਼ ਕਰ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ। ਕਿਸੇ ਕਿ ਇਤਰਾਜ ਨਾਂ ਮਿਲਣ ਦੀ ਸੂਰਤ ਵਿੱਚ ਉਕਤ ਮਿਤੀ ਤੋਂ ਅਦ ਵਿੱਚ ਇੱਕਤਰਫਾ ਕਾਰਵਾਈ ਕਰਦੇ ਹੋਏ ਨਿਯਮਾਂ ਨੁਸਾਰ ਉਕਤ ਦਰਖਾਸਤ ਤਕਸੀਮ ਅਧੀਨ ਅਰਾਜੀ ਦੀ ਸੀਮ ਕਰ ਦਿੱਤੀ ਜਾਵੇਗੀ। ਇਸ ਕੇਸ ਦੀ ਅਗਲੀ ਤਾਰੀਖ ਪੇਸੀ ਮਿਤੀ 30.09.2024 ਨਿਸ਼ਚਿਤ ਹੈ। ਇਹ ਪਬਲੀਕੇਸ਼ਨ ਨੋਟਿਸ ਅੱਜ ਮਿਤੀ 10.09.2024 ਨੂੰ ਮੇਰੀ ਮੋਹਰ ਅਤੇ ਹਸਤਾਖਰਾਂ ਨਾਲ ਜਾਰੀ ਹੋਇਆ ਹੈ।

ਸਹਾਇਕ ਕੁਲੈਕਟਰ ਦਰਜਾ ਪਹਿਲਾ/ਦੂਜਾ ਤਹਿਸੀਲਦਾਰ, ਮੋਹਾਲੀ

#### Formet C-1

में मनदीप चट्ठा पुत्र श्री सरदार हरमोहिन्दर सिंह चट्ठा उम्र 51 वर्ष निवासी चट्ठा कॉम्पलैक्स पिपली रोड कुरूक्षेत्र हाल निवास महल सिंह फार्म कुरूक्षेत्र रोड पिहोवा जिला कुरूक्षेत्र का निवासी हुं और निम्न ब्यान हल्फ करता हूं कि मैं उपरोक्त पते का रहने वाला हं। मैं इण्डियन नैशनल काँग्रेस पार्टी का पेहवा से प्रत्याशी हूं मेरे खिलाफ किसी भी न्यायालय में कोई भी फौजदारी विचाराधीन नहीं है और ना ही कभी सजा हुई है। **गपथक**त

(For Candidate to publish in Newspaper, TV)

Declaration about criminal cases As per the Judgement dated 25th September, 2018, of Hon'able Supreme Court in Wp(Civil) No. 536 of 2011 (Public Interest Foundation & Ors. VsUnion of India & Anr.

Name and Address of Candidate:- Rohita Rewri W/o Surender Rewri R/o H. No. 1252. Sector 11-12, Huda, Panipat.

Name of Election: Haryana Vidhan Sbha-2024 Name of Constituency: 25 Panipat City

Name of Party : Independent

I, Rohita Rewri, a candidate of above mentioned election, declare for public information the following details about my criminalantecedents.

(A) FIR - No FIR has ever been registered against me. Information regarding individuals with pending criminal cases, who have been selected as candidates along with the reasons for such selection, as also as to why other individ cedents could not be selected as candidates Name of Political Party: Bhartiya Janta Party Name of the Election: Election to the member of Legislative Asssembly (Vidhan Sabha) (I) Name of the Constituency- 49 Narnaund Name of the candidate- Abhimanyu

	а.	Nature of the offences	Offence U/S 419, 447,510,504,506 of IPC.
	b. Case No.		243623/2023, F.I.R No. 1081 dated 23.08.2022
	c. Name of the Court		ACJM 2, GHAZIABAD
	d.	Whether charges have been framed or not	No
	e.	Date of Conviction, if any	NA NA
	f.	Details of punishment undergone, if any	NA NA
	8-	Any other information required to be given	The investigation officer had found no material against the present candidate and as such police had filed closure report u/s 173 CrPC
le:	The reasons for the selection of the candidate. Selection shall be with reference to the qualifications, achievements and merit of the candidate, and not mere "winnability" at the polls		The selected candidate has done excellent work in his constituency as a minister, he had pioneered numerous development schemes which were adopted
			at the national level. He is a person of clean image.
	Reasons as to why other individuals without criminal antecedents could not be selected as candidates		He is one of the senior most leader of the BJP and had an edge over other individuals being one term cabinet minister in the state. There are no substance in the charges as the police already submitted the cancellation report u/s 173 CrPC in the competent court. The party believe that the above said allegations are false and motivated. There will

(2) Name of the Constituency- 49- Narnaunc

In the case of election to Council of States or States or election to Legislative Council by MLAs, mention

भारत मान कोरी (Mohanlal Badoli)

utcome against the

Electrical Division, HPSEB Ltd., Rampur Bushahr, Email: xen.rampur233019@gmail.com, Tel: 01782-233019

Terms and conditions can be seen in HPSEBL website

HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LTD.
(A State Government Undertaking)

"Short Terms Tender Notice" (E-Tendering Mode only)

Online Tender are hereby invited by the undersigned and on behalf of Managing

Director, HPSEBL, Shimla-4 from A-Class registered Contractor for the

following work on the prescribed from (Tender Document). The dates of Sale

receipt and opening of tender is as detail given below. The bid document is

available online and bid shall be submitted online on website

EDRMP/DB-Tender/2024-25/20

Jahoo under ESD Nankhari

Tender for SOP to GWSS to various habitation of GP

Jahoo and Khuni-Panoli Stage - Ist in Electrical Section

Rs. 11,16,816/- only

01.10.2024 (06:00 PM)

10.10.2024 (10:00 AM)

10.10.2024 (03:30 PM)

Rs. 11168/- only

Rs. 590/- only

30.09.2024

Er. Kuku Sharma, Sr. Executive Engineer

This may be published in Newspapers and TV from the day following the last date for withdrawal of candidature and upto two days before the date of poll

Format C-1 (for candidate to publish in Newspapers, TV)

#### Declaration about criminal cases

(As per the judgment dated 25th September, 2018, of Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP (Civil) No. 536 of 2011 (Public Interest Foundation & Ors, Vs. Union of India and Anr.)

Name and address of candidate: KULDEEP VATS, Village Surehti, Tehsil

and District Jhajjar, Haryana Name of political party: **Indian National Congress** Name of Election: Gen-Assembly Election -2024

\*Name of Constituency: 65 – Badli (Haryana)

I, KULDEEP VATS (name of candidate), a candidate for the abovementioned election, declare for public information the following details about my criminal antecedents:

#### (A) Panding criminal cases

(A)	rending criminal c	ang criminal cases				
SI No.	Name of Court	Case No. and dated	Status of case(s)	Section(s) of Acts concerned and brief description of offence(s).		
	Court of Ms. Neha Yadav, SDJM, Pataudi Taluka Court	FIR 187/2020 PS Bilaspur dated 24.10.2010, CIS No: CHI/518/2017	charge	Sections 147, 148, 323, 325, 452, 506 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860		

#### **(B)** Details about cases of conviction for criminal offences

SI	Name of Court & date(s) of order(s)	Description of offence(s)	Maximum Punishment
No.		& Punishment imposed	Imposed

\*In the case of election to Council of States or States or election to Legislative Council by MLAs, mention the election concerned in place of name of constituency.

FORMAT C-1

I, Have Lost Gatta Kitab, Allotmer Letter, Bar Agreement Of Flat No B3/503,Flat ID Number KFL10439 Kingsbury Appartment TDI Kundli Sonipat in Dasuya Police station area. If Anybody Found please Contact Ajay Sharma at this Number 9501379430.

**Lost & Found** 

**PUBLIC NOTICE** 

Ward No.15. Rohtak Chowk Transfer deed no.7464 dated 20.09.2021 which has been lost at bus stand Charkhi Dadri on 06.09.2024. Whose DDR no. is 32590022401422. If anyone finds please contact to

> Sh. Hemant Kumar Advocate Chamber no 145 Lawyer Chember Complex,Bhiwani M. No 99914 58110

(For Candidate to publish in Newspaper, TV)

Declaration about criminal cases

As per the Judgement dated 25th September, 2018, of Hon'able Supreme Court in Wp(Civil) No. 536 of 2011 (Public Interest Foundation & Ors. Vs Union of India & Anr. Name and Address of Candidate:- Dharam Singh Chhoker S/o Sh.

Panthi Ram R/o Chhoker Niwas, GT Road, Samalkha, Distt Panipat. Name of Political Party: - Indian National Congress Name of Election: Haryana Vidhan Sabha - 2024 Name of Constituency: Samalkha-27

I, Dharam Singh Chhoker, a candidate of above mentioned election, declare for public information the following details about my criminal antecedents.

#### (A) FIR Registered

Fir No 84 U/s 454, 454, 468, 471, 419, 120 B, P.S Dated 24/05/2019 Economic Offences Wing Delhi Fir No 175 U/s Haryana Development and Regulation Dated 18/05/2022 and urban areas act 1975(10), 120 B, 201, 420, 467, 468 471 IPC

3. Fir No 152 Dated 01/06/2023

U/s 420, 467, 468, 471, IPC P.S Rajendra Park Gurugram

# Classifieds

#### **BEDAKHLI**

I, Harjinder Singh S/o Darshan Singh R/o Village Mastgarh, Tehsil Guhla, Distt. Kaithal (Haryana) declares that my Daughter-in-Ramandeep Widow Hardeep Singh S/o Harjinder Singh is out of my control. Now she has a court marriage/ Second marriage with Lovepreet Singh S/o Partap Singh R/o Village Mastgarh. So, I disown/Evict her from my moveable/ immoveable properties. My self and my family are not responsible for any act/ Work/ dealing done by her. All concerned please note.

ਮੈਂ, ਚਰਨਜੀਤ ਕੌਰ ਪਤਨੀ ਜੋਗਿੰਦੰਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਵਾਸੀ ਪਿੰਡ ਬਾਗੀਵਾਲ. ਡਾਕਖਾਨਾ ਉਮਰਵਾਲ ਬਿੱਲਾ, ਜ਼ਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਜਲੰਧਰ ਬਿਆਨ ਕਰਦੀ ਹਾਂ ਕਿ ਮੇਰੀ ਲੜਕੀ ਸਿਮਰਨਜੀਤ ਕੌਰ ਜੋ ਕਿ ਮੇਰੇ ਕਹਿਣੇ ਤੋਂ ਬਾਹਰ ਹੈ। ਮੈਂ ਇਸ ਨੂੰ ਆਪਣੀ ਚੱਲ-ਅਚੱਲ ਜਾਇਦਾਦ ਤੋਂ ਬੇਦਖਲ ਕਰਦੀ ਹਾਂ।ਮੇਰਾ ਅਤੇ ਮੇਰੇ ਪ-ਿ ਰਵਾਰ ਦਾ ਇਸ ਨਾਲ ਕੋਈ ਵੀ ਲੈਣ ਦੇਣ ਨਹੀਂ ਹੈ। ਜੋ ਕੋਈ ਵੀ ਇਸ ਨਾਲ ਲੈਣ ਦੇਣ ਕਰੇਗਾ, ਉਹ ਆਪਣੇ ਨਫ਼ੇ ਨੁਕਸਾਨ ਦਾ ਖੁਦ ਜ਼ਿੰਮੇਵਾਰ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ।

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

I, Poonam Legally Wedded Spouse Of Army no 4575627H Hav Maneesh Kumar declare that My Name is Poonam Which is Erroneously mentioned Poonam Devi in Service record My Husband.Which is required to Correct.Affidevit No INPB58712045054897W Dated 20-09-2024 Before Notary Public Dasuya

I, Shakuntla Devi M/O Army no 4575627H Hav Maneesh Kumar declare that My Name is Shakuntla Devi Which is Erroneously mentioned as Shakuntala Devi in Service record My Son. Which is required to Correct. Affidevit No INPB58709460967745W Dated 20-09-2024 Before Notary Public Dasuya.

I, Amandeep Singh s/o ∠ora Singh holder of Indian passport No. M2359995, issued at Ludhiana, Punjab, India & Indian Address Village VPO: Kishan Garh Chhanna, Raikot, Distt: Ludhiana, Punjab, 141109, India, and presently residing at 7315, 143 Street, Surrey, B.C., V3W 5P1, Canada, do hereby change my name from Amandeep Singh to Amandeep Singh Sidhu, with immediate

I, Neenu Devi W/o Gurdeep Singh R/o Vpo. Sango Katrala Teh-Mukerian (Hoshiarpur) declare that in my Sat Paul father 2461252H army record my name wrongly recorded as Ninu Devi. But my correct name is Neenu Devi

I, Usha Rani W/o Amrinder Singh R/o House No. 2, Sanjay Colony, Patiala, Under my LIC Policy No. 162965483. I have changed my name from Usha Rani to Sonia. I also declare that Usha Rani @ Sonia is the same person. Please Note.

### **CHANGE OF NAME**

Savita W/o Manoj Mehta R/o House No. 312/13, Multani Chowk, Kamaliyan Street, Hisar, Haryana, Pin Code: 125001 declares that I have changed my name from Savita to Mansha Mehta.

I, Manoj Kumar S/o Ramesh Kumar R/o House No. 312/13. Multani Chowk, Kamaliyan Street, Hisar, Harvana. Pin Code: 125001 declares that I have changed my name from Manoj Kumar to Manoi Mehta

I, Mohit S/o Sukhjinder Singh R/o H. No. 86/14 Street No. 06 Near Shiv Mandir Kirpal Nagar, Rohtak, Distt. Rohtak 124001 declare that I

have changed my name from Mohit to Mohit Phogat for future purpose I, Pardeep Kaur W/o Harkamaljit Singh R/o VPO Lambra Kangri Distt. Hoshiarpur

have changed name Pardeep

Kaur to Pardip Kaur. Con-

cerned note.

I. Umesh Chander S/o Hari Chand, R/o H.No. 1748. Huda Sector -18, Panipat, Distt. Panipat have changed my name from Umesh Chander Bhardwai to Umesh Chander. In future. I will be known as Umesh Chander. All concerned please note.

I, Rajni Bala W/o pardeep kumar R/o H.No.9. street No.2, Tagore Avenue, Kala singha road, Jalandhar have changed my name from Rajni bala to Geeta Rani.

I, Jadhav Babasaheb Kisanrao (Unit : 7011 EME Bn C/o 56 APO, Jalandhar Cantt) resident of Loni Kh, Distt - Aurangabad, State -Maharashtra, PIN - 431116 declare that in school records of my daughter mine name is recorded as Babasaheb Jadhav which is incorrect. My correct name is Jadhav Babasaheb Kisanrao.

I. Minakshi W/o Sh. Anil Malhotra & D/o Late Sh. Zile Singh R/o House No. 202/9. Ward No. 04. Durga Colony Poanta Sahib Sirmour HP declare that I have changed my name from Minakshi to Minakshi Malhotra. All concerned please may note

I, Nidhi Kalra wife of Sh Sandeep kalra R/o H.N.318 ward no 10 Near Baba Naga Mandir Gohana Tehsil Gohana Distt Sonipat. Declare that my name before marriage Nidhi Batra but have changed my name after marriage Nidhi Batra to Nidhi Kalra all future purposes. I, Pinki W/o Sh. Jaipal

R/o vill. Dhatrath tehsil Safidistrict Jind have changed my name Pinki to Pinki Devi for all future pur-I, Anju Bansal W/o Satish Kumar R/o Ward No. 03,

Subhash Nagar Kaithal, Distt. Kaithal (Haryana) declares that I have changed my name from Anju Bansal to Aniu. In future. I will be known by the name of Anju. All concerned please note. I. HP Sharma

Chheda Lal # 1036, Gali No-30, B-Block, Sant Nagar, Burari, Delhi-110084 have changed my name to Har Pal I, Yashpal Singh Thakur

S/O Balbir Singh R/O H.No.-00 St.No.-4/3 Bapu Market Satguru Nagar Lohara Ludhiana Have Changed My Name To Yashpal Singh.

I, Balvir Singh S/O Shyam Lal Singh R/O H.No.-00 St.No.-4/3 Bapu Market Satguru Nagar Lohara Ludhiana Have Changed My Name To Balbir Singh. I, T Laxmi Devi spouse of

JC-857008M Rank SUB (OFC) Name Tippana Purushottam resident of Village -T Berhampur, PO - Loddaputti. Tehsil - Ichapuram. . Distt – Srikakulam, State -Pradesh, Andhra have changed my name from T Laxmi Devi to Tippana Laxmi Devi vide Affidavit No IN-PB61784918826370W Dated 28-09-2024 before Notary Public Pathankot (Punjab).

I, Reena W/o Service No. 18002050Y Rank LNK Name Pinku Kumar R/o H. No. 136, Hapur Road, Kithor, Gohara Alamgirpur, Gohra Alamgirpur, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh,245101.have changed my DOB from 17/11/1991 To 17/09/1991

I Anupama Batra W/O Goldy Batra R/O . H. No. B-11 453 Naulakha Garden Colony Near CMC Hospital Ludhiana Declare That Namrata Batra And Namrta Batra Are One And The Same Person Correct name Is Namrta Batra.

I Service No. 15340616F Rank Nk Harish Singh Bisht of Unit 65 Engr Regt C/o 56 APO.have changed Daughter Name from Jiya To Jiya Bisht. I Vikarm Singh F/o Serv-

ice No. 18017613L Rank L/Nk Name Surendra Singh Gobari R/o Bhateri, Majirkanda, Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand 262521.have changed my Name from Vikram Singh Gobari To Vikarm Singh

I. Tarun Kumari W/o Raiinder Kumar Arora # 3392. Sector- 22D. Chandigarh have changed my name to Tarun I Vikarm Singh F/o Serv-

ice No. 18017613L Rank L/Nk Name Surendra Singh Gobari R/o Bhateri, Majirkanda, Pi-Uttarakhand thoragarh thoragarh , Uttarakhand 262521.have changed my DOB from 22/06/1975 To 20/07/1975

I Reena W/o Service No. 18002050Y Rank LNK Name Pinku Kumar R/o H. No. 136, Hapur Road, Kithor, Gohara Alamgirpur, Gohra Alamgirpur, Ghaziabad, Uttar desh,245101.have changed my Name from Rina

I Rakash F/o Service No. 18002050Y Rank LNK Name Pinku Kumar R/o H. No. 136. Hapur Road, Kithor, Gohara Alamgirpur, Gohra Alamgirpur, Ghaziabad.Uttar desh,245101.have changed my Name from Kumar To Rakash

I Rakash F/o Service No. 18002050Y Rank LNK Name Pinku Kumar R/o H. No. 136. Hapur Road, Kithor, Gohara Alamgirpur, Gohra Alamgirpur, Ghaziabad, Uttar desh,245101.have changed my DOB from 12/04/1966 To 01/01/1968. I, Poonam

Spouse of Satya Narayan Presently Residing At Village -Surkhpur, Post Office - Guriani, District-Rewari, Haryana, Pin Code - 123301 Have Changed My Name From Poonam Kaushik To Poonam Vide Affidavit Dated 26-09-24 Before Mr. Satpal, Notary, Pathankot.

I, Rahul Son of Partap Singh Resident of Village Landhri Sukh Lambran District Hisar Have Changed My Name Rahul to Rahul Pratap Singh Varma.. I, Ritu Monga w/o San-

deep Monga Resident of House No. 31 Ward No. 6 Guru Har Sahai District Ferozepur have changed my name Ritu Monga to Reetu Monga I, Sumanjeet Gaba S/O

Mangat Rai R/O Street No 2 Chowk No 3rd Sunder Nagri Abohar, Fazilka Punjab 152116 Have Changed My Name And Shall After Be Known As Suman Gaba. I, Kirandeep Singh Son of

Manjinder Singh Resident of Vpo Kohar Singh Wala Tehsil Guruharsahai District Ferozepur have Changed my name to Kirandeep Singh Sandhu.

I, Priyanka D/O Rajiv Ranian Sharma. R/o House No.-37, Street No.-16, Near Ravidas Mandir, Basti Tankan Ferozepur. Puniab Wali. 152001, have changed my name from Privanka To Privanka Sharma I, Praphula Sahu is legally

Father of No. Jc-857029H Rank Sub Name Lokanatha Sahu R/o presently Address of Unit 408 Gun MSL Regt C/o 56 APO Permanent address Dhepapentho, Ch. Tikarapada, Ganjam State Odisha PIN 761209 Declare That my date of birth 01.07.1956 Wrongly mentioned in my Son Army Service Records but my correct date of 20/06/1955 I, No. 14669595F, Rank

NK, Name Kakad Narhari Bhagwat of, Unit 218 FD WKSP COY, presently residing at Village Lohshingave Post Bhalur Tehsil Nandgaon District, Nashik State Maharashtra. PIN 423106, have changed my minor Daughter's name from Aaradhva to Aaradhva Narhari Kakad Vide Affidavit Dated 29 September 2024 before at Notary Ferozepur. **Í, No. 14669595F**, Rank

NK, Name Kakad Narhari Bhagwat of, Unit 218 FD WKSP COY, presently residing at Village Lohshingave Post Bhalur Tehsil Nandgaon District, Nashik State Maharashtra, PIN 423106, have changed my minor Son's name from Tanush to Tanush Narhari Kakad Vide Affidavit Dated 29 September 2024 before at Notary Ferozepur.

I, Sarbjit Kaur W/o Lakhvir Singh R/o Vill: Mansoorwal Kalan Teh-Zira (Ferozepur) have changed my name from Sarbjit Kaur to Sarabiit Kaur

I Inder Pal Singh S/o Mohinder Pal Singh R/o H.No-432 St.No-10. Near GNE College, Baba Deep Singh Nagar, Gill, Ludhiana Have changed my name to Inderpal Singh. I, Gurpreet Singh S/o

Lakhvinder Singh R/o Dardi

Colony Samana (Patiala) Punjab-147101, now i will use Singh as surname in future. I, Ritu W/o Mukesh Kumar R/o Jaito (Faridkot) have changed my name to Ritu

I, Gurwinder Kaur alias Paramjeet Kaur W/o Kulwant Singh R/o Gobindgarh (Faridkot) have changed my name to Gurwinder Kaur.

I kuldeep Kaur Sran W/o Sukhdeep Singh Village Sandhu Kalan Tehsil Tapa, District Barnala have changed my name kuldeep Kaur. I, Anju Rani W/o Jaininder

Kumar R/o H.No.106, W.No.8 Narotam Nagar, Khanna (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Anju Aggarwal. I, Sarvjeet Kaur W/o Karamjeet Singh R/o Vill: Basti

Butey Wali Behak Gujran Teh-Zira (Ferozepur) Pb, India-142047, have changed my name to Sarvjeet Kour. I Harbhajan Kaur W/o Sohan Singh R/o Vpo-Kotla Surajmal, Tehsil-Shahkot, Dis-

trict-Jalandhar, Punjab 144703, have changed my name to Jaswinder Kaur. I, Om Prakash S/o Radha Krishnan Bansal H.No.903, St.No. 1-C, Near

Guru Nanak-A. V School, Abohar, Abohar, Fazilka, Punjab-152116, have changed my name to Om Parkash Bansal I, Harjeet Kaur W/o Kartar Singh R/o Patti Sadeh Daroli

Bhai (Moga) have changed my name from Harjit Kaur to Harieet Kaur. Í, Jitender S/o Inder R/o Dhandheri, Hisar

Haryana (125033 my name is worngly mention in my Driving licence as Jitender Kumar, But my correct name is Jitender. I, Gautam S/o Des Raj R/o H.No. 465/2, Mohalla Bagichi

Adampur Doaba, Distt. Jalandhar, Punjab changed my name from Gautam to Gautam Shuan. I, Randher Singh S/o Jaswant Singh R/o VPO. Begowal, Tehsil Bholath, Distt.

. Kapurthala, Punjab have changed my name from Randher Singh to Randhir I. Sameer Kumar S/o Sandeep Kumar R/o H.No. 28. Mission Compound, Ja-

landhar have changed my

name from Sameer Kumar to Sameer I, Ashok Kumar S/o Siya Ram R/o H.No. 76-C, Green Wood Avenue, Near KP Sta-Jalandhar dium, changed my minor son name

mant. I, Santosh W/o Raj Kumar R/o H.No. B-2/231, Gandhi Nagar, Jalandhar, Punjab have changed my name from Santosh to Santosh Kumari.

from Hemant Verma to He-

I, Baggo W/o Salim R/o Vill. Nanowal- Taprian, PO. Khera, Teh. Nalagarh, Distt. Solan (HP) have changed my minor son's name from Aari Mohamad to Mohamad Aarif.

I, Prabhjot Singh S/d Avtar Singh R/o Ram Nagar Colony, Near Jai City, Jagadhri, Jaroda Yamuna Naga have changed my given name Prabhiot Singh Johal. I. Daliit Singh s/o Maan

Singh R/o VPO Gazikot Tehsil and District Gurdaspur have changed my minor daughter's name from Divyanshi to Divyanshi Thakur. Concerned

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-PAPER WITH PASSION-

### **Saving Sunita Williams**

Relying on her mental fortitude, Sunita has not only survived the ordeal but plays a crucial role in her rescue

t is heartening to hear that Sunita Williams will be back home soon. Elon Musk's SpaceX has launched a Falcon 9 rocket from Cape Canaveral, Florida to rescue two astronauts stranded in the International Space Station (ISS). The mission aims to retrieve American astronauts Butch Wilmore and Sunita Williams, who have been stranded on the International Space Station for months due to issues with Boeing's Starliner spacecraft. Originally planned for an eight-day stay, the astronauts' mission was extended far beyond after technical problems with the Starliner. As every Indian waits for her rescue the image of Kalpana Chawla flashes in the mind who lost her life in a space mission. She was one of the seven crew members who died in the Space Shuttle Columbia disaster when the spacecraft disintegrated during its re-entry into the Earth's atmosphere on February 1, 2003. The vast, unexplored frontier of space offers countless wonders, but it also brings unique

challenges. The present snag is no fault of the astronauts but a lapse on the part of NASA and Boeing company which allowed the mission to proceed despite several alarms and glitches.

Sunita Williams, a veteran of two spaceflights and a woman who has spent over 300 days in space, embarked on her latest mission with the confidence and expertise that comes from years of training and commitment. However, space is as unpredictable as it is vast. A critical error occurred during her mission, which disabled vital components of the spacecraft, leaving her stranded in the ISS. The malfunction wasn't just a minor glitch-it was a cascade of

failures. Yet, if there was one person equipped to face such adversity, it was Sunita Williams. Her resilience, mental fortitude, and the ability to maintain calm in even the most extreme conditions became the defining elements in her survival. Williams is no stranger to adversity. The daughter of Indian and Slovenian immigrants, she broke barriers early in her career by rising to prominence in a male-dominated field. Her indomitable spirit and work ethic have always stood out. She has done spacewalk. she holds the record for the longest single spaceflight by a woman, spending 195 days in space until 2017. Over her career, Williams has accumulated more than 322 days in space, marking her as one of the most experienced female astronauts in history, Sunita Williams approached this life-threatening situation with a mix of grit, hope, and resourcefulness. She immediately got involved in troubleshooting, all the while keeping her own morale high through mental exercises and meditation. Let's hope and pray that the rescue mission succeeds and Sunita along with colleague Butch Wilmore reaches home safely and is united with her family. This mission is also a lesson and learning for NASA and its contractors to ensure zero tolerance for any glitches and snags in their operations.



Artistes perform 'Mahishasur Mardini' act ahead of Durga Puja festival, in Nadia district

# Transforming India through 'Make in India'\_



The 'Make in India' initiative has completed 10 years of transformative impact. PM Modi's vision has ignited a revival in manufacturing and spurred job creation

n September 25, the country observed 10 years of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's game-changing 'Make in India' initiative that is transforming India's industrial landscape by encouraging jobcreating investments and giving many ordinary citizens the confidence to become wealth creators. It's been a remarkable 10year journey, which gave renewed vigour to industrial sectors turning these into engines of growth, meeting domestic demand as well as contributing to exports. The exciting journey began at a difficult time when domestic investors were despondent because of the policy paralysis and poor governance by the indecisive Congress government.

The economy was down, confidence was shattered, headlines were dominated by a regular dose of corruption scandals, inflation was soaring, interest rates were high and the rupee had an uncertain outlook. To end the feeling of doom and gloom, the Indian voters decisively voted for PM Modi. Our Prime Minister came with a vision for India. He wanted to ensure that India became a global superpower. He wanted India to provide jobs and opportunities to our youth, recognising that manufacturing was critical to India's success story.

That is when the PM launched the 'Make in India' initiative. Ten years has been a remarkable journey, but it would not have been possible for the multidimensional and transformative changes done by the Modi government. Initiatives include GST, the Bankruptcy Code and a multitude of other reforms. To improve the ease of doing business, as many as 42,000 compliance requirements were done away with, and 3,700 provisions that provided for criminal penalties for minor offences were removed from various statutes to protect small businesses from harass-

India sharply improved its rank in the World Bank's Doing Business Report from 142nd in 2014 to 63rd in 2019. The government's Startup India initiative



These startups are driving the innovation ecosystem in the country, working on solutions to pressing issues in areas such as sanitation, space navigation, reducing food wastage, improving access to healthcare, and empowering women. The development of 11 Industrial Corridors is another focus area of the Government. 20 industrial smart cities are being developed under the programm, which would help make these corridors the backbone of India's manufacturing growth. Four of these smart cities have already become magnets of investment with infrastructure and clearances available for manufacturing units to be set up. Potential investment of Rs 1.7 lakh crore is already committed which will provide direct employment to 80,000 persons and indirect to many more. The Government's PLI schemes focus on critical sec tors such as electronics, pharmaceuticals, automobiles, textiles and medical devices to create the eco-systems in these



MANY COUNTRIES ARE KEEN TO SIGN TRADE DEALS WITH INDIA.THE WORLD IS NOW LOOKING AT INDIA AS A MANUFACTURING DESTINATION. AND THE KEY REASON FOR THIS INTEREST IS INDIA'S **COMPETITIVE** ADVANTAGE AND ROBUST ECONOMIC **FUNDAMENTALS** 

and ensure their global competitiveness. PLI schemes have resulted in Rs 1.32 lakh crore in investment and a significant boost in manufacturing output of around 11 lakh crore. More than 8.5 lakh jobs have been created directly and indirectly through this initiative.

The Prime Minister's initiatives on infrastructure have been another shot in the arm of Indian manufacturing, apart from generating demand for goods and services, infrastructure development is a major facilitator of industrial activity. Today, India has a huge, and growing, network of expressways and highways. New, world-class railway stations are being built, while new freight corridors are coming up. India is increasingly being seen as a very attractive destination for investment. The country provides the 4D advantage - The decisive leadership of PM Modi; the Demographic dividend of our youthful, talented, skilled Indians; the Demand that 140 crore Indians generate in the economy; and Democracy that ensures the safety and security of investors, and the rule of law which will never allow discrimination against one or the other. The 4-D is a very, the lost decade of Congress very compelling case to attract rule. manufacturers to India. Domestic and international investors today find a golden

opportunity to grow their business. There is a flurry of activity in the investor community. A series of delegations is visiting India, hungry for opportunities to invest and participate in the Indian growth story. Foreign governments and global CEOs are keenly eyeing opportunities in India. Many countries are keen to sign trade deals with

The world is now looking at India as a manufacturing destination. And the key reason for this interest is India's competitive advantage and robust economic fundamentals. Today, inflation is under control, economic growth is strong and the Modi government is following strict fiscal discipline. This is all the more commendable in the current global situation marred by conflict and uncertainty. The initiatives of PM Modi have helped India rise from the unenviable situation of being regarded as one of the "Fragile Five" in the world in 2014, to being one of the Top Five in the world. In effect, PM Modi's initiatives like Make in India have contributed to making the last 10 years a transformational decade – a quantum jump ovei

(The writer is Minister of Commerce and Industry; views expressed are personal)

## Breaking life into small steps for lasting fulfillment



Happiness is actually the most important project of life. True contentment comes from savouring each step, no matter how small

appiness is the most important project of life. It should be broken up into smaller activities to attain the eventual goal. The only time that we probably understand this is in our childhood. As a child, I had intuitively learned the art of allocating the hours of the day for various activities, like waking up, getting ready and spending time in school, having lunch on return, completing homework, going out to play, returning for dinner, and going to bed.

We lived in the present from one hour to the next. I was a satisfied and happy person as I could complete the 'Project Day'. We did not have the need or the time to look too far into the future. As we outgrew childhood, we forgot the lessons learned.

I joined college. Like others, I too started making grand resolutions on the first day of the year. My resolution could be as mundane as losing the 15 kgs within the first three months, which had taken me

a year to gain. It could also be an important resolution to secure 90 per cent marks in my semester examinations, a substantial

improvement over the 60 per cent in the previous one. Each resolution would fly out of the window within the first few months. I had forgotten to take small steps to reach the end destination.

Things did not improve even after I started working. I found a new toy – a 'To Do List'. A diary would be earmarked for this most important ritual.

would start with one such list and continue adding till I had inked the second or third page with only a few activities completed. I would give up, and start all over again. The previous year's diary was promptly destroyed lest anyone glanced into it and called my bluff. This continued for a few years till I discovered the computer. I could delete these no one any wiser to my shenanigans. I was fooling only myself. I quit my railway job to join a government company working in the execution of construction projects. I was exposed to software-based project management tools for the first time. I reluctantly spent weeks with the consultant to develop an activity-based project breakdown structure. He educated us about the importance of breaking each activity into smaller sub-activities. We were reluctant to accept that more activities to monitor would result in successful

and timely completion. He was not satisfied with the first draft of less than 100 activities. He was a tough taskmaster. We marched on, to our ever-increasing despair, pending activities at will, with and his impatience, till we

called it quits after we had reached 1000 odd activities. It was a revelation to me. I now appreciated the time that my wife spent planning the daily household chores. The exercise in project management also brought into stark focus all the wrong I was doing while making my New Year resolutions and the To-Do Lists, and more importantly, living my life.

I now understand why we remain unhappy most of the time. We forget to derive joy out of each step that we take, however small it may be. The young of today are far more mature. Hina Khan, a young actor, recently diagnosed with cancer, is a courageous woman fighting all that life has to throw at her.

Her thoughts are the most inspiring words I have read in some time, "First normalise the challenges of your lives then set goals for yourself and try to live up to them all along the way. No matter how hard. Never back down. Never give

(The author is an electrical engineer with the Indian Railways and conducts classes in creative writing; views are personal)

#### **QUAD STRENGTHENS INDIA'S ROLE**

sectors for sustained growth

Madam — China's aggressive posture has consistently threatened peace in the Indo-Pacific region. India, has faced quite a few challenges from the latter. It is a matter of pride that New Delhi is looked upon by other countries to be their firm partner on global platforms to tackle Beijing's economic and military prowess. Specifically, the Asia-Pacific region was described as Indo-Pacific to denote India's increasingly active involvement in the region. The Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad) is one international forum that glues the four friendly nations-the United States, Japan, Australia and India-together.

All these nations are keen to usher in a free and open Indo-Pacific region, diminishing the influence of a marauding Beijing. The four have been able to sustain a momentum that no country can ignore. In the fourth in-person Quad summit at US' Wilmington, leaders of the four countries underlined the importance of shared democratic values that have kept them together.

Issues of health, security, climate change, capacity building and technology occupied the leaders' attention. More importantly, India is emerging as a 'leader' of the four, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi has proposed to host the next year's summit in New Delhi in 2025. It can only grow stronger from here. Ganapathi Bhat | Akola

#### **TOP COURT REJECTS GUJARAT PLEA**

Madam— The Supreme Court has dismissed a plea filed by the Gujarat government seeking a review of the court's verdict, which contained certain observations against the State while quashing the remission granted to 11 men convicted of raping Bilkis Bano and murdering seven of her family during the 2002 riots. Having carefully gone through the review petitions, the order under challenge and the papers annexed therewith, the judges were satisfied

### **Durga Puja has transformed**



his is in response to the article titled "A symphony of tradition and transformation" (September 29). In the mid-1980s, Durga Puja used to get celebrated with utmost devotion according to rituals with dominance of Bhakti encompassing both the organisers and public. Only on Saptami morning, we used to get awakened by the rhythmic beats of Dhak, all puja rituals used to

that there is no error apparent on the By integrating tourism studies into face of the record or any merit in the review petitions, warranting reconsideration of the order impugned.

The review petitions are, accordingly, dismissed and it is a landmark decision. The Gujarat government in its plea had said the apex court's observation in the January 8 judgement, holding the State guilty of "usurpation of power" and "abuse of discretion" for complying with an order of another top court bench, was an "error apparent on the face of the record" primarily on three grounds.

CK Subramani | Kerala

**TOURISM EDUCATION EMPOWERMENT** 

Madam —Tourism plays a pivotal role in the global economy acting as a bridge between cultures and fostering economic growth in various regions. It contributes approximately 10 per cent to the world's GDP and generates millions of employment opportunities, especially in rural and less developed

commence with rendition of Sanskrit mantras and people used to start flocking to the pandals.

But in last 4 decades all things associated with Durga Puja have undergone a sea change! Far from commencing the Puja on Saptami morning, many pandals and idols now open up for public "consumption" right from the Mahalaya itself thereby "promoting" 4-day Puja to a "modern" 10-day extravaganza! After all majority of these "glamorous" Puja committees do not care to actually offer homage to it through rituals mantras holy hymns or flowers! Durga Puja of today is nothing but a fashion show of sorts with exhibition of flexing muscles - be it mon-

etary might or trophies garnered! **Kajal Chatterjee** | *Kolkata* 

academic curricula, institutions can equip students with essential skills in areas such as sustainable tourism practices, travel management and hospitality management.

This education not only prepares students for diverse career opportunities but also fosters a deeper understanding of how to balance tourism's economic benefits with environmental sustainability and cultural preservation.

Promoting tourism education in colleges cultivates a new generation ready to take the bull by the horns, driving innovation while advocating for responsible tourism practices that balance economic growth with social and environmental accountability. Moreover, it supports regional development by teaching students how to effectively market and manage local attractions thereby preserving cultural heritage while boosting

local economies.

Tanisha Gupta | Ujjain

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### **FIRST COLUMN**

### **HARNESSING INNER POTENTIAL**

The human mind is still an enigma. It has enormous potential and is a reservoir of energy



RAVI VALLURI

is alcoholism became a quotidian habit. Dharmendra was making a last-ditch effort as he boarded a flight from Jaipur to the Art of Living Ashram in Bangalore. Fortuitously, Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar had given him an appointment at 4 PM that evening. Stinking of liquor, and reeking of stale cigarettes, with an unsteady gait he landed at Bangalore airport. He needed a physical, mental, spiritual, and emotional, parachute. Only a 'Master' through grace could provide such a life support system. For some time, my friend was trying to seek redemption from the lethal disease of alcoholism. My inventory list was prepared: join a rehab, attend Alcoholics Anonymous meetings, and undertake the Happiness Programme of the Art of Living.

Gurudev advanced the appointment to 11 AM., and after one glance asked my friend to get admitted to the Ayurveda Hospital in the Ashram for a complete detoxification of body, mind, and soul, and after a 15-day rehab to undergo the Happiness Programme. The Guru had scripted a change in the life of Dharmendra, it was for his mind to grab the opportunity. But the monkey mind invented an excuse and Dharmendra left the Ayurveda Hospital and once again indulged in brinkmanship.

He could not draw the redlines or flag the issues confronting his mind and succumbed to temptation. While the brain is an organ that serves as the centre of the nervous system, the mind is the faculty of consciousness and thoughts. It is an individual's intellect, memory or attention span and will, whose potential needs to be enhanced or live in the past. Such individuals are unable to break the patterns and barriers of their comfort zone. Their prana levels



are exceedingly low and the pendulum of their mind's swings to the past. The moot question is how we use this enormous energy. If we look at the brighter aspects of life, such mental imagery works miraculously. Over some time the mind feels blessed, gains in abundance and becomes grateful. This is what Masters refers to as the

#### **Law of Attraction**

The Law of Attraction remains an illusion if it is not in conjunction with the Law of Gratitude. Both these laws operate in tandem and will fuel inner potential to harness growth leading to robust minds. Low and the pendulum of their minds swings to the past. They carry the burden of the past and attempt a course correction without any professional help (Guru) displaying false bravado in their imaginary worlds. They invariably try to also change the behavioural patterns of those close to them, essentially to market their point of view. Such minds invariably resort to shortcuts in life, trying to please everyone without any success. Ignoring the larger picture, this is a cunning and selfish mind, which does not trust anyone: basically, short of confidence and haunted by fear. The human mind is an enigma. It has enormous potential and is a reservoir of energy. The moot question is how we use this enormous energy. If we look at the brighter aspects of life, such mental imagery works miraculously. Over some time the mind feels blessed, gains in abundance and becomes grateful. Positive thoughts beget positivity and have a spiralling effect. The jigsaw puzzle of life gets sorted out. This is what Masters refer to as the Law of Attraction. The Law of Attraction remains an illusion if it is not in conjunction with the Law of Gratitude. Both these laws operate in tandem.

(The writer is the CEO of Chhattisgarh East Railway Ltd. and Chhattisgarh East West Railway Ltd. He is a faculty of the Art of Living; views are personal)

# Can India become a manufacturing hub?



UTTAM GUPTA

Growth is driven by strong domestic demand, export potential, government infrastructure efforts, private sector investment, and initiatives like 'Make in India'



ccording to a Study Report by IDBI Capital, India is set to add US\$ 1 trillion to its gross domestic product (GDP) every 18 months over the next six years. It goes on to say that "with this momentum, the country is on track to become a US\$ 10 trillion economy positioning itself as the world's third-largest economy by 2030". Currently, India has a GDP of US\$ 4 trillion. The report has also highlighted that "India's accelerated growth will be driven primarily by the manufacturing sector, which is projected to contribute 32 per cent to the incremental Gross Value Added (GVA)". It adds "India will overtake the top five economies in manufacturing IIP (Index of Industrial Production) viz. US, China, Germany, South Korea and Japan..."Manufacturing essentially involves the production of a wide spectrum of consumer products, industrimachinery and so on.

It is the most important component of Industrial activity at a broader level which also includes Construction (primarily building infrastructure); Logistics (transportation and storage of goods); Aerospace (aircraft and spacecraft etc) and maintenance and services required to support industrial activi-The contribution of the industrial sec tor to India's GDP is around 30 per cent of which manufacturing alone is 17 per cent. The share of Agriculture and allied activities in GDP is around 18 per cent. The remaining 52 per cent comes from the Services sector (SS).

The SS encompasses 'intangible' services such as education, health, entertainment, hospitality and tourism, banking, insurance

While, all three sectors play a crucial role in growth, creating jobs and increasing incomes, manufacturing can provide a more sustainable basis for providing jobs and surety of income. This is in sharp contrast to agriculture which is fundamentally a seasonal activity and economic fortunes are largely tied to how monsoon pans out. Manufacturing can also provide a good buffer for absorbing the excess workforce from agriculture with positive spin-offs even for the latter in terms of higher productivity and income. Within the manufacturing sector, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) occupy a pivotal position. The



WHILE, ALL THREE SECTORS PLAY A CRUCIAL **ROLE IN** GROWTH, CREATING JOBS AND INCREASING INCOMES. MANUFACTURING CAN PROVIDE A SUSTAINABLE

BASIS FOR PROVIDING JOBS AND SURETY OF INCOME

MSMEs are ancillary units engaged in the production, manufacturing and processing of goods and commodities (mostly intermediate goods) which are supplied to large enterprises or master units. These units operate on a small scale and are further categorized into micro, small and medium enterprises depending on the 'investment' and 'turnover' threshold. According to the Ministry of Statistics & Program Implementation, the share of MSME manufacturing output in all India Manufacturing output is around 36 per cent. The share of export of MSME-specified products in all India exports has oscillated between 44 - 50 per cent during the last couple of years. As for employment, according to a report released by the McKinsey Global Institute (MGI), MSMEs in India contribute 62 per cent to the total. Yet, in the past, manufacturing hasn't been given the desired push. Its low contribution of 17 per cent in GDP and even lower share of total employment at about 10 per cent

Now, India aiming at the generation of 32 per cent of the incremental GVA from manufacturing shows its determination to put in the effort during the next six years or so, which is nearly double what it has done cumulatively to date. At this pace, by 2030, the share of manufacturing in GDP will have reached 26 per cent (4x0.17+6x0.32)/10. Is it doable?

The factors that can make it happen are robust domestic demand; strong export potential; heavy lifting by the Central Government (plus support to States) by building infrastructure; increasing investment by the private sector; key initiatives such as "Make in India" playing a pivotal role in bolstering the country's manufacturing capabilities underpinned by the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes; India taking up a lead role in recalibrating global supply chains to position the country

as a global manufacturing hub; giving a boost to the micro small and medium enterprises (MSME) and so on. Nearly 70 per cent of India's GDP is driven by domestic consumption; Stimulating demand holds the key to putting manufacturing on an 'accelerated' and 'sustained' growth trajectory. For this, not only people's income should grow, but it should also be evenly and widely distributed. What do the facts speak? According to an Oxfam report, 'Inequality Kills', the collective wealth of India's 100 richest people in 2021 hit a record high of US\$ 775 billion or over 25 per cent of India's GDP. This shows the extreme inequalities in the distribution of income and wealth. There are other pointers to confirm that this is indeed so. According to an analysis of the financials of India's largest companies - those comprising the BSE 500 index – over five years, the profits of corporations included in this index more than doubled from Rs 480,000 crore during 2017-18 Rs 1000,000 crore during 2021-22, whereas their revenue growth was only 47 per cent.

This means that payments to factors of production other than the owners of capital such as to employees/workers, etc., have been kept under a tight leash, resulting in a disproportionate boost to profits. The aggregate dividend paid by these firms increased from Rs 176,000 crore during 2017-18 to Rs 302,000 crore during 2021-22, which is an increase of 72 per cent. In those five years, cumulatively, they paid 34 per cent of aggregate net profit as dividends. This is an unusually high payout ratio - even higher than 30 per cent paid by the world's largest companies in America's S&P 500.

The products made in India need to be priced low if they are to be competitive. But, there are three major reasons as to why prices are downward inflexible. First, several big businesses operating in metals

such as copper, zinc, aluminium or hydrocarbons like oil and gas, enjoy a natural monopoly enabling them to set high prices. Firms in the chemical, petrochemicals, phar-maceutical and agrochemicals sectors also charge more courtesy, high tariffs on imports and licensing and registration requirements. Second, you have the impact of high taxation particularly when it comes to petroleum products. These are taxed under the pre-GST regime leading to the high incidence of 80 per cent of the ex-refinery price of petrol (Delhi). Ditto in the case of diesel. Increasing the cost of the movement of goods raises the cost of almost every manufactured item. Third, how can one be oblivious of the exorbitant power tariff set in double digits in many states? The power distribution companies or discoms (mostly owned and controlled by the States) are forced to charge high rates on supplies to industries as they have to make up for the under-recoveries incurred on supplies to farmers and housesidized price.

Finally, industries are operating in highly interesting environments. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has kept the policy rate (the interest rate at which it lends money to banks) unchanged at a high of 6.5 per cent along with a 'withdrawal of accommodation' stance (a jargon for tight liquidity) for nearly 20 months. This leads to high cost loans to all industries across the board. The MSMEs are more vulnerable to all the above cost-push factors. To add salt to the injury, they get delayed

payment for their dues from large firms. Unless the above fault lines are addressed, Initiatives under 'Make in India" won't yield the desired result and India becoming a manufacturing hub of the world will remain a distant dream.

(The writer is a policy analyst; views expressed are personal)

## India's education system must prioritise learning over infrastructure

### Despite schools being filled with students, foundational skills like basic literacy and numeracy continue to lag

Since gaining independence, India has made significant strides in the field of education, especially in terms of infrastructure and expanding access to schools. Classrooms now accommodate children from all walks of life, and government initiatives have succeeded in bringing millions of students into the education system.

However, despite these achievements, a critical component remains neglectedthe quality of learning. Infrastructure may be flourishing, but the foundational skills that students require for future success often lag behind. To understand this, imagine a farmer who diligently sows seeds in well-tilled soil, only to find the harvest insufficient because the seeds weren't suit



ASHU KAPOOR

ed to the soil. In the same way, India's educational progress in infrastructure is commendable, but the students' foundational skills—the seeds of education—are still not producing the robust results we hope for. Year after year, surveys like the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) and the National Achievement Survey (NAS) reveal a startling reality: a large proportion of stu-

skills like basic literacy and numeracy

These are the building blocks of education, without which the entire edifice remains shaky. Students are spending years in school, but many are not learning at the expected level. The alarming gap between schooling and actual learning points to a crucial flaw in the system. If foundational skills are not nurtured early on, the benefits of educational progress will remain elusive, much like the farmer's poor

harvest. The introduction of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 brings a renewed sense of hope. It promises transformative change and a shift towards a system that values not just access to education dents struggle with essential but the quality of learning.

Together with the National Curriculum Framework for Foundational and School Education, NEP 2020 emphasizes the need to measure educational progress through well-designed assessments and to tailor interventions accord-

The goal is clear: to raise a generation of learners who are not only equipped with knowledge but also the critical thinking skills required to thrive in the modern world. Research consistently shows that assessments play a transformative role in improving education. Their primary goal is not to rank students or schools but to provide insights into where learners stand on their educational journey. By identifying what students know and can do at individual, school, and a roadmap for educators to develop targeted interventions that can address specific learn-

In the quest to transform learning, large-scale assessments like ASER and NAS will be pivotal. ASER, a householdbased survey, provides insights into basic literacy and numeracy skills, while NAS offers a broader view of students' achievement of curricular outcomes. Recently, the State Educational Achievement Survey (SEAS) was conducted by NCERT to provide statelevel insights into educational

Simply generating report cards on students' performance is not enough. The data must be used to inform policy decisions and to implement specif-

system levels, assessments offer ic interventions aimed at improving learning outcomes. If not, students will continue to face the same challenges year after year, with little improvement. Large-scale assessments should be seen as the first step in a larger strategy to address educational inequities.

While NAS offers a broad overview of the education system, state-level assessment surveys (SAS) have the potential to zoom in on specific issues at the school level. NEP 2020 recognizes the importance of these surveys and recommends that each state conduct its own census-based assessment to drive continuous improvement. By focusing on local contexts, SAS can provide valuable insights into the unique challenges faced by

individual states, enabling more targeted interventions. However, the effectiveness of SAS depends on how well states define their objectives. To make SAS truly impactful, states need to align their assessment frameworks with clear objectives. A well-designed assessment should consider the needs of the educational system at the state level, and the data collected should be used to support and improve schools, rather than ranking them. India's states would do well to ensure that all stakeholders in the education system-teachers, school administrators, and district-level educators-are trained in data

use and analysis.

The road ahead is challenging, but the promise of censusbased state assessments is

student progress and providing data-driven insights, SAS can reshape India's educational landscape. When combined with national-level assessments like NAS, SAS has the power to create a more responsive, equitable education system. With a strategic approach and strong governance, India can ensure that every student has the opportunity to thrive. The writer is a Research Fellow at Australian Council

transformative. By monitoring

for Educational Research (India) and a former Senior Academic Consultant at NCERT and Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India. Views are personal. Inputs by Dr Priyanka Sharma, Director ACER (India)

## China urges all parties to cool down tensions in West Asia

hina on Sunday called on "parties concerned, 'especially Israel", to immediately take actions to cool down tensions to prevent the conflict in West Asia from going out of control in the aftermath of the killing of Iranbacked Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah in Israeli bombing.

"China is closely following the incident and is deeply concerned over the escalation of tensions in the region," a Chinese Foreign Ministry statement said.

Separately, China also issued an advisory asking its citizens not to travel to Lebanon due to the intensification of the

"China opposes the infringement on Lebanon's sovereignty and security, opposes and condemns any action against

innocent civilians, and opposes any move that fuels antagonism and escalates regional tensions," the Chinese Foreign Ministry statement said.

"China urges parties con-cerned, especially Israel, to immediately take actions to cool down the situation and prevent the conflict from escalating or even spiralling out of control," it said, without directly referring to Nasrallah's killing, regarded as a major setback to Iran, the main backer of the Hezbollah.

Reports from Tehran said Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who said Nasrallah's death "will not go unavenged". has been shifted to a secure

Khamenei also announced five days of public mourning after Nasrallah's death.

In recent years, China has

to counter US influence. Last year, Beijing managed to bring about a landmark peace deal between Iran and Saudi Arabia. After the intensification of the Gaza war China hosted a meeting of 14 Palestinian factions. including Fatah and Hamas, in July to bring about unity among them.

China has also strongly condemned the assassination of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran in July, warning that the killing could plunge the region into deeper chaos.

The Chinese embassy in Lebanon, meanwhile, issued an advisory warning its citizens about escalating violence along the Lebanon-Israel border.

We advise all Chinese citizens Military vehicles have been to pay close attention to the deployed in different parts of developments and refrain from travelling to Lebanon at this the capital as thousands of time. Those currently in the displaced people continue stepped in its diplomatic country are urged to evacuate engagement in the Middle East or move to relatively safe areas moving from the south to

Norway plans to build fence on Russia border, like Finland

Norway may put a fence along part or all of the 198kilometer (123-mile) border it shares with Russia, a minister said, a move inspired by a similar project in its Nordic neighbour Finland.

"A border fence is very interesting, not only because it can act as a deterrent but also because it contains sensors and technology that allow you to detect if people are moving close to the border," Justice Minister Emilie Enger Mehl said in an interview by the Norwegian public broadcaster NRK published late Saturday.

She said the Norwegian government is currently looking at "several measures" to beef up security on the border with Russia in the Arctic north, such as fencing, increasing the number of border staff or stepping up monitoring.

which has witnessed only a handful of illegal border crossing attempts in the past few years, is the only official crossing point into Norway from

Should the security situation in the delicate Arctic area worsen, the Norwegian government is ready to close the border on short notice, said Enger Mehl, who visited neighbouring Finland this summer to learn about how the entire 1,340kilometer (830-mile) Finnish-Russian land border was closed. The Finnish government was prompted to close all crossing points from Russia to Finland in late 2023 after more than 1,300 third-country migrants without proper documentation or visas — an unusually high number — entered the country in three months, just months after the nation became a member of NATO.

migrants in what the Finnish government calls Russia's hybrid warfare", Helsinki is currently building fences with a total length of up to 200 kilometers (124 miles) in separate sections along the border zone that makes up part of NATO's northern flank and serves as the European Union's external border. Finnish border officials say fences equipped with topnotch surveillance equipment – to be located mostly around crossing points — are needed to better monitor and control any migrants attempting to cross over from Russia and give

officials time to react. Inspired by Finland's project, Enger Mehl said that such a fence could also be a good idea for Norway. According to NRK. her statement was supported by police chief Ellen Katrine Hætta in Norway's northern Finnmark county.

### Sikh group's campaign against Islamophobia gains support

London (PTI): A British Sikh organisation campaigning against a "flawed" definition of Islamophobia adopted by the Labour Party a few years ago being made legal has received a boost as the government admitted the proposal would not be in line with the UK's Equality Act. The Network of Sikh Organisations (NSO) had written to Deputy Prime Minister Angela Rayner and the government Faith Minister Lord Wajid Khan earlier this month to caution that the proposed definition would jeopardise even a factual discussion of the history of the Indian subcontinent.

Back in 2018, the All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on British Muslims had defined Islamophobia as a "type of racism" that targets expressions of Muslimness.

'As you have mentioned, the definition proposed by the APPG is not in line with the Equality Act 2010, which defines race in terms of colour, nationality and national or ethnic origins," reads Lords Khan's reply to the NSO released this

The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Faith, Communities and Resettlement in the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government goes on to admit that defining Islamophobia is a "complex issue" and something ministers are approaching in a 'more holistic" way.

'We want to ensure that any definition comprehensively reflects multiple perspectives and implications for different communities. This government is actively considering our approach to tackling Islamophobia through a more holistic lens, and will provide further information on this in due course," he said.

The minister concurs with NSO's letter that freedom of speech including the freedom to discuss religion should not be impacted by any new laws to clamp down on hateful speech that is motivated by hostility towards individuals based on race or religion. In its letter, the NSO had warned that the adoption of a "contested definition" into law would have serious implications on "free speech, not least the ability to discuss histor-

ical truths".

# France's new govt pledges hardline stance on migration

as soon as possible," the

Chinese embassy said in a

statement released on Saturday

Meanwhile, in its first state-

ment since the recent escalation

with Israel and following the

killing of Hezbollah leader

Hassan Nasrallah, Lebanon's

military called for calm among

the Lebanese "at this dangerous

Government officials fear that

the country's deep political

divisions at a time of war could

rekindle sectarian strife and

violence in the smal

"The Israeli enemy is working

to implement its destructive

plans and spread division

among the Lebanese," the mil-

Mediterranean country.

and delicate stage?

 $F^{
m rance's}$  new government is set to take a hardline approach to migration issues as key officials have pledged to significantly reduce the num ber of people entering and staying illegally in the country. After calling for snap legislative elections in June, President Emmanuel Macron appointed Prime Minister Michel Barnier, a veteran conservative from The Republicans party, hoping the Brexit negotiator would work with the divided legislature to end the political turmoil that has upended French politics in recent months. The Barnier government

dominated by conservatives and centrists — does not have a majority in parliament and efforts to pass any new legislation are bound to be fought, and potentially blocked. The National Assembly is now split between three major political blocs: the left-wing New Popular Front leftist coalition, Macron's centrist allies — who made a deal with the conservatives — and the far-right



National Rally party, the largest single party in the new assem-

The new prime minister will outline his priorities in a general policy speech scheduled for Tuesday at the National

In recent televised interviews, Barnier criticised French borders as "sieves" and expressed concern that "migratory flows" were "not under control". He promised to "limit immigration", citing measures taken by neighbouring countries like Germany, which expanded controls at all land borders earlier this month.

Critics have denounced Barnier's government immigration stance as strongly influenced by the National Rally's proposals, as its survival depends on the party's good-

Far-right and left-wing lawmakers can force the whole government to resign on condition they agree on a no-confidence vote

Marine Le Pen, the National

Rally's leading figure, said she would not seek to bring down the new government for now, waiting to see its initial "acts". In a recent interview with La Tribune-Dimanche newspaper, she said: "It's undeniable that Michel Barnier seems to have, on migration, the same assessment as ours." Barnier's hardline approach is reflected in the appointment of Bruno Retailleau, a fellow conservative known for his tough rhetoric on migrants, as the interior minister.

Retailleau shared this week his intention to reign in immigration. He said he would seek to "reform" France's state medical assistance that covers health care expenses for undocumented migrants. He has argued for years that it should be strictly limited to minimum emergency care.

Eight former health ministers from the left, centre and right signed a column in French newspaper Le Monde to call on the government to maintain the state medical assistance, saying limiting it would put France's healthcare system "under increased pressure" because it would lead "to taking care of people later" when their condition is "more serious" and "more expensive".

Retailleau also said he would try to toughen up random border controls, bring back a law that sanctioned with fines or prison sentences those caught entering French territory illegally, and seek deals with North African nations such as Morocco so that those countries retain migrants before they even set foot in France. A shift to the right that worries civil society groups Yann Manzi, who started working alongside migrants during the 2015 migration crisis when well over 1 million people swept into Europe, most fleeing war in Syria and Iraq, denounced France's long-com-

ing shift to the right. Manzi's nonprofit, Utopia 56, currently runs a temporary shelter in Paris' suburbs and coordinates hundreds of voluntary workers daily in different French regions.

He said that decades ago when France's National Rally was

still on the fringes, it came up with the rhetoric that welcoming migrants would dramatically increase the number of foreigners coming into the country and wreak havoc in French society. This has slowly but steadily spread to other parties, including the left, Manzi said. The nonprofit founder believes migrants have been met with increasingly harsh conditions in France and the rest of

The message sent to those seeking to come to the country is very clear: We no longer welcome you," said Manzi. Some proposals to stem migration could prove difficult to implement as they need to go through the already divided parliament while others, such as sanctioning migrants who have entered France illegally, appear to go against European rulings. Barnier, suggested while campaigning, in vain, to be his party's presidential candidate in 2022 that France should find ways to bypass rulings from the Court of Justice of the European Union and the European Court of Human Still, the prime minister and

Retailleau argue they can still take action without passing new legislation, such as decrees and instructions to national and local administrations in charge of implementing migration policies Retailleau said he would con-

impacted by migrant issues to 'tell them to deport more" and "regularise less' Critics say France's hardline

vene next week a meeting with

prefects of regions the most

shift on migration has long been in the works. Macron's former centrist gov-

ernments passed since 2017 several bills meant to tighten immigration controls and accelerate asylum procedures. The latest immigration bill adopted in January this year intended to strengthen France's ability to deport foreigners considered undesirable. Conservative President Nicolas

Sarkozy, in office from 2007 to 2012, also emphasized a more stringent immigration policy as he sought to siphon off voters from the far right.

Starmer suffers first leadership

### Austrians vote as far-right party hopes for its first

election win Vienna (AP): Austrians voted on Sunday in a national election that the far-right Freedom Party is hoping to win for the first time, tapping into anxieties about immigration, inflation Ukraine and other concerns following recent gains for the hard right elsewhere in Europe. Herbert Kickl, a former interior minister and longtime campaign strategist who has led the Freedom Party since 2021, wants to become Austria's new chancellor.

He has used the term "Volkskanzler", or chancellor of the people, which was used by the Nazis to describe Adolf Hitler in the 1930s. Kickl has rejected the comparison.

But to become Austria's new leader, he would need a coalition partner to command a majority in the lower house of parliament — and rivals have said they won't work under

And a win isn't certain, with recent polls pointing to a close race. They have put support for the Freedom Party at 27 per cent, with the conservative Austrian People's Party of Chancellor Karl Nehammer on 25 per cent and the centreleft Social Democrats on 21 per

Nehammer said as he voted that "it is important from my point of view to provide stability as a responsible politician but also the political centre, so that the radicals don't get a chance". More than 6.3 million people age 16 and over are eli gible to vote for the new parliament in Austria, a European Union member that has a pol icy of military neutrality. Kickl has achieved a turnaround since Austria's last parliamentary election in 2019. In June, the Freedom Party narrowly won a nationwide vote for the first time in the European Parliament election, which also brought gains for other European far-right parties.

### **Contenders to lead Britain's defeated Conservative Party woo members**

Tembers of Britain's defeat- $IVI_{ed}$ divided and Conservative Party gathered on Sunday for an annual conference dominated by the search for a new leader capable of bringing the right-of-centre party back from a catastrophic election defeat. UK voters ousted the Tories in

a July election, leaving the party that had governed since 2010 with just 121 seats in the 650-seat House of Commons. The centre-left Labour Party won more than 400 seats and returned to office under Prime Minister Keir Starmer. The day after the election,

defeated ex- Prime Minister Rishi Sunak said he would quit, remaining caretaker leader until his replacement is The four candidates remaining

in the race to replace him whittled down by lawmakers from an initial six - will spend the four-day conference in Birmingham, central England



speaking to as many party members as possible

Former Immigration Minister Robert Jenrick, ex-Business Secretary Kemi Badenoch, former Foreign Secretary James Cleverly and ex-Security Minister Tom Tugendhat make final pitches from the conference stage on Wednesday, before Conservative lawmakers will eliminate two candidates in a vote the following week. Party members across the country will then vote to pick a winner, who will be announced on November 2. The winner will take over a party depleted by years of turmoil under ex-Prime Minister Boris Johnson - ousted by colleagues in 2022 amid ethics scandals - and his successor Liz Truss. She resigned after just 49 days in office when her tax-cutting plans rocked the financial markets and battered the value of the pound. In the July election, the Conservatives lost votes to hard-right Reform UK, led by populist politician Nigel Farage, which won five second in dozens more. Other voters deserted the Tories for the centrist Liberal Democrats, who won 72 seats.

The current front-runners in the party race are Jenrick and Badenoch, both of whom are appealing to the party's right wing. Jenrick argues that the UK should drastically curb immigration and leave the European Convention on Human Rights in order to take tough measures to stop people seeking asylum in the UK./,He told Sky News on Sunday that the party lost because "we didn't deliver the strong economy, the strong (health service) and the strong border that we promised". Nigeria-raised Badenoch evokes Tory icon Margaret Thatcher with her calls for a smaller state, appeals to patriotism and criticism of multiculturalism. She said Sunday that too many immigrants don't love Britain and "hate Israel".

# setback as party MP resigns

Minister Keir Starmer has suffered his first setback since taking charge at 10 Downing Street in July after one of his members of Parliament resigned from the Labour Party, delivering a scathing attack on his leadership. Rosie Duffield, MP for Canterbury in Kent, will now sit in the House of Commons as an Independent after her resigna-tion letter published in 'The Sunday Times' attacked the Labour leader's "cruel and unnecessary" policies amid an ongoing expensive free gifts row. Duffield claimed there were many "last straws" that led to her decision to resign, but her main reason to step down this weekend is over the government's programme of unpopular policies. "They are cruel and unnecessary and affect hundreds of thousands of our poorest, most vulnerable constituents. This is not what I was elected to do. It is not even wise politics, and it certainly is not angry I and my colleagues are at

Duffield in her resignation let-

The MP goes on to state that she has no confidence in the Labour PM's commitment to deliver the "so-called change" he promised during the general election campaign and that she could not look her "constituents in the eye and tell them that anything has

changed". Delivering a more personal broadside on Starmer, she added: "As Prime Minister, your managerial and technocratic approach and lack of basic politics and political instincts, have come crashing down on us as a party after we worked so hard, promised so much, and waited a long fourteen years to be mandated by the British public to return to power. "Since the change of government in July, the revelations of hypocrisy have been staggering and increasingly outrageous. I cannot put into words how

longed-for victory, the elec-torate's sacred and precious trust, and throw it back in their individual faces and the faces of dedicated and hardworking Labour MPs?! The sleaze, nepotism and apparent avarice are off the scale. I am so ashamed of what you and your inner circle have done to tarnish and humiliate our once proud party." Responding to Duffield's resignation, Indian-origin Labour MP for Nottingham East Nadia Whittome said: "It is deeply disappointing that she has been allowed the privilege of resigning, as she should have lost the whip a long time ago." It alludes to Duffield's previous clashes with Labour's senior figures, especially over her views on transgender issues and speaking out for protected spaces for women and against people being able to self-identify as trans to gain access to those spaces.

about how you have made us all

appear. "How dare you take our

# US: Trump lays into Harris on immigration during rally

**AP** WISCONSIN

Former President Donald Trump sought again to link Vice President Kamala Harris to illegal border crossings, speaking in a western river town where he said she could never be forgiven for "erasing our border".

A day after Harris discussed immigration at the US-Mexico border, Trump spoke to a crowd in the Wisconsin town of 5,000 people just across the Mississippi River from Iowa, claiming the Democratic nominee was responsible for migrants who have come into the country illegally and have committed

"Kamala Harris can never be forgiven for her erasing our border and she must never be allowed to become president of the United States," Trump said. "She's letting in people who are going to walk into your house, break into your door," he said.

Trump is hoping frustration over illegal immigration will translate to votes in Wisconsin and other crucial swing states. The Republican nominee has denounced people who cross the US-Mexico border as "poisoning the blood of the country" and vowed to stage the largest deportation operation in American history if elected.

I will liberate Wisconsin from the mass migrant invasion," he said. "We're going to liberate the country. But Trump also intensified his

personal attacks against Harris, insulting her as "mentally impaired' "If a Republican did what she

did, that Republican would be impeached and removed from office ... Joe Biden became mentally impaired. Kamala was born that way," he said. And he also professed not to when she said he was responsi-

ble for taking children from their parents. Under his administration, Trump separated children from their parents at the US-Mexico border in a policy that was condemned globally as inhumane and one that Trump himself ended. On the Wisconsin rally stage

understand what Harris meant

with Trump were three mugshots of men in the US illegally accused of a crime, including Alejandro Jose Coronel Zarate, a case Trump cited in his

Wisconsin Republicans in recent days have held up the story of Coronel Zarate's arrest in Prairie du Chien as more evidence that people in the country illegally are committing crimes across the United States, not just in southern border states. Prosecutors charged Coronel Zarate on September 18 with sexual assault,

child abuse, strangulation and domestic abuse Police Chief Kyle Teynor posted

statements on Facebook saying that Coronel Zarate is not a US citizen and that he had two fake immigration documents, including a fake Social Security card. The chief added that Coronel Zarate's tattoos indicate he's affiliated with the Tren de Aragua gang, which started in Venezuelan prisons and is posing a growing threat in the US. Speaking to the crowd Saturday, Teynor stressed to the crowd that Coronel Zarate is the only Venezuelan gang member his agency has encountered, but the violence his two alleged victims suffered at his hands earlier this

Court records show Coronel Zarate was previously charged in Madison, the state capital, in December with strangulation, false imprisonment, battery and

month was very real.

disorderly conduct. According to a criminal complaint in that case, Coronel Zarate was driving with a female friend in November and attacked her when she tried to get out of the car. The complaint does not say why. The woman told investigators that they were just acquaintances and Coronel Zarate was homeless.

Police in Madison said that Coronel Zarate allegedly stole a car and fled before he could be questioned. He was arrested in Minneapolis a day after the alleged attack but was released from jail there. Asked why, Hennepin County Sheriff's Office spokesperson Megan Larson told a reporter to file a request for Coronel Zarate's jail records. The Associated Press filed such a request but government agencies typically take months to fulfill them.

Michelle Marie Dietrich, a pub-Crawford County Sheriff Sheriff lic defender representing Dale McCullick also addressed Coronel Zarate in the Prairie du

the crowd, and said he was sure Trump would solve the border problem and urged people to vote for Trump. Republicans including US Sen.

Derrick Van Orden, who is from Prairie du Chien, have criticized authorities in both Minneapolis and Madison for letting Coronel Zarate go, saying they essentially allowed him to attack the woman in Prairie du Chien. They have accused both jurisdictions of being sanctuaries for people in the country illegally. Speaking Saturday, Van Orden said Trump was the only one who could restore order.

"You're going to see the one man who has enough strength and courage of conviction to stand up to anyone up to and including being shot in the head for us," he

er public defender representing him in Prairie du Chien along with Dietrich, did not respond to a voicemail seeking comment. Michelle Brandemuehl, a public defender representing him in Madison, also didn't respond to a voicemail message seeking comment. Trump has repeatedly portrayed migrants as criminals and blamed Harris for failing to stem an unprecedented surge in illegal immigration, though border crossings have fallen since President Joe Biden instituted an executive order limiting asylum claims. Democrats, in turn, have blamed Trump for persuading allies in Congress to kill bipartisan legislation that would have funded more border agents and given the Homeland Security secretary authority to prohibit entry for most people over a daily limit.

Chien case, declined to com-

ment. Charlotte Wynes, anoth-

Humanitarians

engage youth

**AP** ■ NEW YORK

topics on social media.

know this is true?" asked

enlist creators to

during UN week

# Russia downs over 100 drones in major barrage

More than 100 Ukrainian drones were shot down over Russia on Sunday, officials said, sparking a wildfire and setting an apartment block alight in one of the largest barrages seen over Russian skies since Moscow invaded Ukraine in February

Russia's Ministry of Defence reported that it had shot down 125 drones overnight across seven regions. The southwestern region of Volgograd came under particularly heavy fire, with 67 Ukrainian drones reportedly downed by Russian air defences.

Seventeen drones were also seen over Russia's Voronezh region, where falling debris damaged an apartment block



Aleksandr Gusev. Images on social media showed flames rising from the windows of the top floor of a high-rise building. No casualties were

reported over Russia's Rostov region, where falling debris sparked a wildfire, said Gov. Vasily Golubey.

He said that the fire did not pose a threat to populated A further 18 drones were areas, but that emergency

services were fighting to extinguish the blaze, which had engulfed 20 hectares (49.4 Russia struck Zaporizhzhia with aerial bombs. Ordinary residential buildings were acres) of for Elsewhere, 16 civilians were

injured in an overnight barrage on the southern Ukrainian city of Zaporizhzhia after Ukrainian military leaders warned that Moscow could be preparing for a par military offersion in for a new military offensive in the country's south.

The city was targeted by Russian guide bombs in 10 separate attacks that damaged a high-rise building and several residential homes, regional Cov. Ivan Eddorov regional Gov. Ivan Fedorov wrote on his official Telegram channel. More people could still be trapped beneath the rubble, he said.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy also said that the Zaporizhzhia attack had damaged the city's transport links. "Today,

damaged and the entrance of one building was destroyed. The city's infrastructure and railway were also damaged," Zelenskyy said in a post on X. The Ukrainian leader appeared Sunday at a memorial service to make the 83rd anniversary of the Babyn Yar massacre, one of the most infamous mass slaughters of World War II.

Babyn Yar, a ravine in the Ukrainian capital, Kyiv, is where nearly 34,000 Jews were killed within 48 hours in 1941 when the city was under Nazi occupation.

"Babyn Yar is vivid proof of the atrocities that regimes are capable of when led by leaders who rely on intimidation and violence. At any time, they are no different," Zelenskyy said in a state-

"But the world's response should be different. This is the lesson the world should have learned. We must guard humanity, life, and justice." The Ukrainian military warned Saturday that Russian forces may be preparing for offensive operations in the wider Zaporizhzhia region. Voloshyn, Vladyslav spokesperson for Ukraine's southern military command, said that Russia was amassing personnel in this direction. Ukraine's air force also reported that 22 Russian drones were launched over the country overnight. It said that 15 were shot down

in Ukraine's Sumy, Vinnytsia, Mykolaiv, and Odesa regions, and that five more were destroyed using electronic defences. The fate of the remaining two drones was not

acknowledged as much at a Thursday Q&A promoting his new Netflix show. "We have left some real chal-A lively discussion broke out backstage during Climate Week NYC between lenges for this next generaa TikTok comedian, a buzzed-about actress, a Latin tion," acknowledged Gates, who runs one of the world's largest philanthropic foundacuisine entrepreneur and a

> Young people with large online followings can be good "placeholders" for older institutions seeking relevance with new generations, said Wawa Gatheru. The Kenyan-American activist regularly uses Instagram to promote Black Girl Environmentalist, the national community she founded to diversify the climate movement's leadership pipeline. But Gatheru cautioned against looping "any young person who is visible online as an influencer" or, alternatively, cheapening youth leaders' expertise sim-

"In order to do it well and effectively and not be tokenistic, it's so important to see young people as collaborators, young people as capable," she told The Associated Press. "Content creator" lanyards hung from some Clinton Global Initiative attendees' necks in a new feature of the yearly gathering hosted by the former First Family's philanthropic foundation. The two-day event marked the first time that organisers intentionally dedicated space for influencers to collaborate. It came from the recognition that creators help shape how "millions of people relate to others and understand their world," according to Clinton Foundation Chief Brand and Digital Officer Francesca

### and a private home, said Gov. 7 labourers killed by

separatist militants in **Balochistan** Islamabad/Karachi (PTI): At least seven labourers from Punjab province were killed by

separatist militants in Pakistan's

restive Balochistan province,

police said on Sunday. The labourers from Multan were shot dead late on Saturday night when they were asleep in an under-construction house in the Khuda-e-Abadan area of Panjgur town, Balochistan Inspector General of Police Moazzam Jah Ansari said.

Ansari said the labourers were in deep sleep when the armed terrorists entered the underconstruction house and opened indiscriminate fire with automatic weapons.

The official said one of the labourers luckily escaped with an injury while another was no present at the time of the shoot

The official said an investigation has been opened into the attack "This latest attack appears to be the work of the Balochistan Liberation Army as it has all their footprints on it," another security official said.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif who immediately condemned the attack, sought a report from Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti and reiterated the government's resolve to take all possible measures to root out terrorism from the mother-

President Asif Ali Zardari also condemned the attack.

In another development, armed men abducted at least 20 labourers of a gas company from a construction site near a highway in the Musakhail district of the Balochistan province on Sunday.

The Express Tribune newspaper reported that armed men raided a gas company's site in the district and abducted 20 labour ers. Police or security officials have not commented on the incident so far.

The report said the armed men opened fire after rounding up the workers and abducting 20 of them before fleeing into the mountainous region near the highway. On Saturday, a senior leader of the Balochistan National Party-Mengal (BNP M), Agha Khalid Shah, was shot dead and his cousin was injured by unidentified assailants in

# Tory leaders demand tougher visa rules on India

The two frontrunners in the Trace to replace Rishi Sunak as Conservative Party leader and take his place in the House of Commons as Leader of the Opposition have thrown the spotlight on cutting immigration into the UK, with visas for Indians being singled out in heated debates.

Against the backdrop of the launch of the Conservative conference Birmingham on Sunday, former immigration minister Robert Jenrick singled out India as one of the countries that should be subjected to tough visa restrictions across

all categories unless it takes

back its nationals who enter

Britain illegally. His closest contender, shadow housing secretary Kemi Badenoch, has also zeroed in on the same issue and condemned new migrants bringing their disputes from India to cause unrest on the streets of the country.



"It is quite clear that there are many people who have recenty come to this country who have brought views from their countries of origin that have no place here," Badenoch told the

'I saw as equalities minister people bringing cultural disputes from India to the streets of Leicester... we need to make sure that when people come to this country, they leave their previous differences behind.

This is not a controversial

thing to say," she said. Nigerian-heritage Badenoch, considered among the favourites to win the ongoing Tory leadership election, was apparently referencing the clashes that broke out in

Leicester in September 2022 in the wake of an India-Pakistan Asia Cup cricket match. head-to-head with two other party colleagues – former Cabinet ministers James

Meanwhile, her former ministerial colleague Robert Jenrick who has notched up an early lead in the contest told 'The Daily Telegraph' earlier this week that while India benefited from 250,000 visas in the past year, there were as many as 100,000 Indian nationals estimated to be illegally residing in the UK.

He lamented that deportations or removals to India remain stuck in the hundreds despite an India-UK Migration and Mobility Partnership which is designed to cover such returns of illegal migrants.

"The government must stop other countries exploiting our generosity by imposing severe visa restrictions and restricting foreign aid to countries that do not take back their nationals here illegally," said Jenrick.

Over the four-day Tory conference starting on Sunday, Jenrick and Badenoch will go Cleverly and Tom Tugendhat - as they make their leadership pitches before MPs vote in the next round.

This time the field will be whittled down to the final two candidates who will then fight it out for the online ballot of the wider Conservative Party membership, many of whom will be making up their minds during the party conference. The new Conservative Party chief and Opposition Leader is then scheduled to be declared on November 2 after the vot ing closes.

The election follows the resignation of Sunak as Tory leader in the wake of the party's bruising general election defeat in July under his leadership. The British Indian politician, who was re-elected member of Parliament from Richmond and Northallerton in northern England, has meanwhile been serving as interim leader until his successor is elected.

cooking content creator.
Convened by World Food
Programme USA to educate
the panel's audiences — over
1.8 million Instagram followers combined — about hunger, the four weighed best practices for authentically breaking down weighty "I want to force myself to be more active on TikTok," said "Avatar: The Way of Water star Bailey Bass. Users have a thought, and they are talking on their phone, and they post it. It feels very palpable." "But how do you know this is true?" asked

Manolo Gonzalez Vergara, ply because they are active who co-founded the culinary brand Toma with his online. mother and actress Sofia Vergara. "This is just a per-son talking." "But it's some-one you can relate with, so there's a level of trust," added Drea Okeke, a Nigerian-American engineer turned social media star with over 6 million TikTok followers. The exchange underscored the questions faced by the humanitarian establishment as they try to reach younger, more environmentally conscious generations who they routinely acknowledged throughout the many events unfolding this week along-side the United Nations General Assembly in New York — are tasked with digging the world out of the hole left by years of climate inac-



Bank (NDB) Dilma Rousseff during a ceremony at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, Sunday. AP/PTI

### Pope wraps troubled visit to Belgium by praising victims, demanding abusers be judged

Pope Francis demanded on Sunday that sexually abusive clergy be judged and their bishops stop covering up their crimes as he ended a troubled visit to Belgium by responding here that has devastated the church's credibility. "Evil must not be hidden. Evil must be brought out into the open," Francis told some 30,000 people at Belgium's sports stadium, drawing applause repeatedly as the crowd took in what he was

Francis deviated from his prepared homily to respond to the meeting he held with 17 abuse survivors on Friday night, where he heard first-hand of the trauma and suffering they endured and the tone-deaf response of the church when they reported the crimes.

Belgium has had a wretched legacy of abuse and cover-up, none more symbolic of the church's hypocrisy than the case of Bruges Bishop Roger Vangheluwe. He was allowed to quietly retire in 2010 after he admitted that he had sexually abused his nephew for 13 years. Francis only defrocked him

this year — 14 years later — in a move clearly seen as finally dealing with a problem before his arrival in Belgium. Once here, he couldn't escape

the criticism. Belgium's king demanded the church work "incessantly" to clean up the scandal and ter insisted that victims' needs be placed first, in a remarkable dressing-down from the leadership of the once-staunchly Catholic country.

"In the church there is room for everyone, everyone, but everyone will be judged and there is no place for abuse. There is no place for the covering up of abuse," Francis said in his homily. "I ask the bishops not to cover up abuse. Condemn the abusers and help them to recover from this disease of abuse." Francis' visit to Belgium was always going to be difficult, given the country's wretched legacy of abuse and overall secularising trends which have emptied its majestic cathedrals and church-

But it's unclear if he or his entourage expected such sharp public expressions of outrage or the pointed calls for reform from Belgium's intellectual elite. The main reason for the trip was

to celebrate the 600th anniversary of the Leuven/Louvain Catholic University, the oldest Catholic university in the world and long the Vatican's academic fiefdom in Belgium.

tion. Billionaire Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates

the church's moral authority that it would do best to reform if it wants to regain credibility and relevance. Rector Luc Sels suggested that opening up greater roles for women - including the priesthood - and being more welcoming to LGBTQ+ Catholics would be a good place to start. Francis heard a similar call from the Francophone campus, where students staged a reading of an articulated critique of his landmark environmental encyclical "Praised Be" in which they called for a "paradigm shift" in the way the church views women. They noted that the

**CHANGE OF NAME** I, Inderjeet Dolui son of Sh. Bijay Krishna Dolu R/o. 5177, Gali No. 3, Krishna Nagar, Karol Bagt New Delhi-110005 do hereby declare that my so

encyclical virtually ignores

women, cites no female theolo-

student of Class-IX-B, in Ramjas School at Anar Parvat New Delhi-110005, that my son incorre Parvat New Delhi-110005, that my son incorrect name is PEEOM also my son's parents name Inderjeet and Manshri that my son correct name is PEEOM-DOLUI as per Aadhar Card No. 555411450173 that my son's father name is INDERLEET DOLUI as per Aadhar Card No. 271057097794 that my son's mother name MANASHRI DOLUI as per Aadhar Card No. 499248296817 that I declare that PEEOM DOLUI and PEEOM both are names of the same person, belong to my son that I declare that INDERLEET DOLUI and INDERLEET both are names of the same person that I declare that MANASHRI DOLUI and PEEOM DOLUI and PEEOM bolui a person that I declare that MANASHRI DOLUI and MANSHRI both are names of the same person belong to my wife that I will never change the name of my son with my son's parents name in the future

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that my client Saqib khan is in process to Purchase Residential Plot Bearing No. 185, area measuring 70 sq. mtr., in Block C-10, situated in the revenue estate of Yamuna Vihar, New Delhi (availing loan from DCB Bank I from Yogendra Singh Rana , having acquired the said property vide Conveyance Deed dated 46(2012) (Bocument No. 10363) executed by POI through DDA, He confirmed that his seller is not having the below documents pertaining to the property in question for 14nd online-FIR has already been lodged on dated 29(9)(2024 wide LR no.2162664/2024

a) Original Allotment letter 08.08.1978 issued by DDA in favour of Kushabi Ram Malhotra
b) Original Possession letter dated 12.10.1978 issued by DDA in favour of Kushabi Ram Malhotra c) Original Possession slip dated 21.10.1978 issued by DDA in favour of Kushabi Ram Malhotra d) Original Possession slip dated 21.10.1978 issued by DDA in favour of Sushabi Ram Malhotra d) Original GPA, ATS and Will dated 06.02.1989 executed by PU Kushabi Ram Malhotra in favour of Vogindra Singh Rana All persons, having any claim against or in respect of the said Property, or any part thereof, by way of sale, exchange, mortgage (equitable/registered or otherwise), gift, trust, inheritance, family arrangement, maintenance, bequest, partnership, possession, lease, sublease, tenancy, license, lien, charge, pledge, easement or otherwise howsoever, are hereby requested to notify the same in writing to us PUBLIC NOTICE

possession, lease, sublease, tenancy, license, lien charge, ledge, eassement or otherwise howsoever, arr hereby requested to notify the same in writing to us with supporting documentary evidence at the address mentioned below within 7 days from the date hereof failing which the claim or claims, if any, of such person or persons will be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned.

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## Hospital clowns bring joy to young patients who survived Russian attack

Their costumes are put on I with surgical precision: Floppy hats, foam noses, bright clothes, and a ukulele with multicolored nylon strings. Moments later, in a beige hos-

pital ward normally filled with the beeping sounds of medical machinery, there are bursts of giggles and silly

As Ukraine's medical facilities come under pressure from intensifying attacks in the war against Russia's full-scale invasion, volunteer hospital clowns are duck-footing their way in to provide some badly needed moments of joy for hospitalized children.

The "Bureau of Smiles and Support" (BUP) is a hospital clowning initiative established in 2023 by Olha Bulkina, 35, and Maryna Berdar, 39, who already had more than five

years of hospital clowning experience between them. "Our mission is to let childhood continue regardless of the circumstances," Bulkina, told The Associated Press.

BUP took on new significance following a Russian missile strike on Okhmatdyt Children's Hospital in Kyiv in July. The attack on Ukraine's largest pediatric facility forced the evacuation of dozens of young patients, including those with cancer, to other hospitals in the capital - and the clowns did not stand aside. Together with first responders, Berdar and Bulkina helped with clearing the rubble after

the attack and attended to the children who were relocated to other medical facilities. rewarding. But even for them, the real heroes there were young

patients. When the children were evacuated from Okhmatdyt after the missile attack, many

of them were in extremely difficult medical conditions, but even in this situation they tried to support the adults said Berdar, recalling the events after the strike.

The hospital clowns, who use traditional clown noses and bright costumes, are now visiting multiple hospitals in the Ukrainian capital region, including the National Cancer Institute, where patient numbers have surged after the Okhmatdyt attack

Tetiana Nosova, 22, and Vladyslava Kulinich, 22, are volunteer hospital clowns who go by Zhuzha and Lala and ioined BUP more than a year ago. For them, hospital clowning is as challenging as it is

'I volunteer so that children don't think about their illness, even for a short moment, so that laughter replaces tears, and joy replaces fear, especially during medical procedures,"

she stays together with children, sharing all their feelings, whether they are fear, pain, or joy. For Nosova, the process itself is what made her start clowning. "I am motivated by joy. I simply enjoy it. All my life I studied to be an actress, all my life I enjoyed making people laugh. That's enough motivation for me," she said. In a city grappling with nightly air raid alerts and power outages, overworked doctors say the presence of the volunteers brings a much-needed distraction, often helping children who had been undergoing painful medical treatment to feel happy again. "Clowns play a very important

Kulinich said. In her practice,

role in the treatment of children. They help distract the children, they help them forget about the pain, they help them not pay attention to the nurses or doctors who come to treat them," Valentyna Okhmatdyt cancer ward, told AP. The July attack complicated treatment plans for many families. Daria Vertetska, 34, was in Okhmatdyt with her 7year-old daughter, Kira, when the missile exploded just outside their ward. Kira, who was diagnosed with rhabdomyosarcoma of the nasopharynx, was asleep, medicated with morphine. "It saved her that she was covered with a blanket during the strike, but still, her head, legs, and arms were cut with small glass shards," said Vertetska. She and Kira returned to

Okhmatdyt in less than a week after the attack. Not all the children returned to the hospital. Some stayed in the medical facilities where they had been evacuated, while others were moved to apartments paid for by char-

ity organizations and located

in the hospital's vicinity.

Mariash, a senior nurse on the Despite hospital clown initiatives like BUP across Ukraine, the need for their work grows exponentially. "When I see how our work is needed in the large children's hospitals located in Kyiv, I can only imagine what a great need there is in regional and district hospitals, where such (clown) activity, as for example in Okhmatdyt, to be honest, simply does not exist," Berdar said. Health The World

Organization, earlier this month, warned that the country faces a deepening public health crisis, largely due to devastating missile and drone strikes on the country's electricity system as well as hospital infrastructure. Since the start of Russia's full-

scale invasion in February 2022. WHO has recorded nearly 2,000 attacks on Ukraine's health care facilities and says they are having a severe impact.

women's "invisibility" in the church and society. Women have long complained they have a second-class status in the church, barred from the priest-But the rector of the Dutch hood and positions of power campus told Francis that the despite doing the lion's share of caring for the sick and passing

on the faith.



gians and contributes to

CHANGE OF NAME

I. Neetu Sharma W/0 Sh. Ravinder Vashisth R/o V&Po Baghola, Teh & Distt Palwal, Haryana 121102, Declare That My Name Wrongly Written In My Husband Army Record As Neetu Vashisth. My Correct Name Is Neetu Sharma. For All Future Purposes. Vide Affidavit No.36AA729755 Dated 27 Sep 2024.

I, Rajani Mirdha W/0 Sh. Krishna Kishan R/o V&Po Jamtalia, Teh & Distt Sundergarh Odisha. 770019, Declare That My Name Wrongly Written In My Husband Army Record As Rajani Kishan. My Correct Name Is Rajani Mirdha. For All Future Purposes. Vide Affidavit No. 36AA729756 Dated 27 Sep 2024

It is for general information that I, Machal Singh S/o Dayaram, Parmanent R/o Roriya Pura, Ambah, Ambah Morena, Madhya Pradesh-476111, Present R/o D-286, U/G/F, gali no.-9, Sadh Nagar, Palam Colony, Palam South West, NCT of Delhi-110045, declare that name of my wife has been wrongly written as Mamta Devi in my minor daughter namely Vaishali aged 14 years in her School Record. The actual name of my wife is Mamta Kumari respectively, which may be amended accordingly.

# India's seven per cent growth fails to generate jobs: Raghuram Rajan

PTI NEW DELHI

With 7 per cent economic growth, India is not creating enough jobs as reflected by the number of applicants for vacant posts in some states, Reserve Bank's former governor Raghuram Rajan said and suggested the government needs to focus on promoting labour-intensive industries employment.

Rajan' further said some Indians, especially those at upper level, are comfortable and have high incomes, but consumption growth from the lower half of the country has still not recovered to prepandemic level.

'That is the unfortunate part...You would think with per cent growth, we would be creating a lot of jobs. But if you look at our manufacturing growth, it is more capital intensive," he

Rajan was asked whether the Indian economy, which is growing at 7 per cent, is creating enough jobs.

According to him, the industries that are more capital-intensive are growing faster, but labour-intensive industries are not growing.

"It is not going well at the lower level. I think the desperate need is for jobs. And you can see this, forget the official statistics.

"You can see it in the number

applications government jobs, which are overwhelming," said Rajan, who is a professor of finance at US-based Chicago Booth. He said that in the medium term, the Indian economy will grow at 6-7 per cent.
While welcoming the apprenticeship schemes announced by the finance minister in this year's

minister in this year's Budget, Rajan said, "But we have to monitor that very closely, see what works and expand what works much

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had announced in the Union Budget of FY25 that the government will launch three employmentlinked schemes based on enrolment in Employees' Provident Organization (EPFO).

Citing examples of Vietnam and Bangladesh, which are doing well in labourintensive industries like textile and leather, he said, 'We need to look at this (labour-intensive industry)



very, very carefully, we cannot be left out." Asked why the private sector is still lagging as far as capital expenditure is concerned, Rajan said it is a little bit of a mystery.

"When you look at capital utilisation (of the private sector), it is about 75 per cent...It seems as if demand has not kept up to the point where they feel they need to make all that kind of investment," he opined.

more importantly, Rajan said, India has a short span of 15 years to reap benefits of demographic dividend and it should not

lose this opportunity. Responding to a question on benchmark interest rate cut by the US Federal Reserve, Rajan said, "The 50 basis points rate cut by Fed has given them (central banks) more room to proceed at a pace that they think appropriate.

According to him, if the Fed 'subsidising' the northern had not cut rates, there would be a sense that, oh, the Fed is keeping rates high, so 'we have no room to moderate our policies'.

"I think the Fed has created more room for others to perhaps reduce interest rates, and so in that sense, people will be looking at their policies," he said.

To a question on Goods and Services Tax (GST) rates rationalisation, Rajan said after a policy has run for a fair amount of time, it is useful to ask, what has been the experience and 'do we need the policy change'. "I would try and appoint an

expert committee to go into it, to take the opinions, just like the Finance Commission does, take the opinions of the stakeholders, including the states, and come up with something that meets the needs of the country," he said. Currently, GST is a four-tier tax structure with slabs at 5, 12, 18, and 28 per cent. The new taxation regime came into effect in 2017. Responding to a question about the ongoing debate on economically and socially better-off southern

western

and eastern states, Rajan said the Finance Commission has always been about the appropriate sort of allocation of taxes between the Centre and states."If India grows together, (then) in fact, it prevents this kind of conflict...There is the equity issue, which is that the states that are growing faster, have also in the process, typically grow wealthier. And that is what is happening in the case of western and in the southern states," he said.

western and southern states feel that they are penalised in two ways one is, they have to hand over more of their revenues to help some of the states who are falling behind. 'Plus, on the political front, they may lose seats if there is a delimitation process (where seats in the Lok Sabha are to be allocated based on the results of the next Census), because, you know, the more populous states will get more seats," Rajan said.

Rajan pointed out that the

Observing that there has to be some transfers from the richer states to the poorer states, he said, "We need to bridge this gap".

### Government seeks industry inputs on Income Tax simplification

PTI NEW DELHI

The gover government suggestions on Income Tax Act, 1961, from the private sector and tax experts beginning October, as part of an exercise to simplify the direct tax law, sources said.

In a meeting with industry chambers earlier this month, the government said that a functionality will be created in the Income Tax portal wherein suggestions could be made on different sections of the I-T Act with a view to simplifying the language and reducing litigation.

Following the Budget announcement, the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) had set up an internal committee for comprehensive review of the six- decade old direct tax law and make it concise, lucid, easy to read and understand.

"In the meeting with industry associations, the revenue department suggested that the functionality be developed by the first week of October to give suggestions for reworking



the income tax law," a source

Another source said that the exercise is not to write a new tax law or a tax code.

"Just by removing the outdated clauses, the number of pages could be brought down by about 100. The aim of the I-T law review is simplification of language and mitigation of litigation," the source added. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in 2024-25 Budget presented in July had proposed that the I-T law review would be completed in six months. Considering that the six-month timeline ends in January, it is widely expected that the amended I-T Act could be brought in the Budget session of Parliament. Since no new changes are expected in the law, the amended Act could form part of the Finance Bill, 2025 as

### Can the Tata's pull off their aviation plan?

KUSHAN MITRA NEW DELHI

t midnight between 11-At Minding II. will cease to function as an independent entity as the merger of Air India and Air Vistara will be solemnised. While it is certain that several of the 60-plus aircraft in Air Vistara's fleet will continue to operate in the airlines' famous aubergine livery for a few years, the Vistara flight code UK will be retired and it is certain that Air India will rationalise routes and services between the two airlines, a process that will not be easy. To be fair, Tata Sons has already managed an airline merger, that of the former Air Asia India and Air India Express. However, that was much easier as both airlines were low-cost single-class operators, even though they operated different aircraft, Air Asia India, the Airbus A320 and Air India Express, the Boeing 737. But as the leases on older Airbus aircraft end, it is likely that the airline

complex for the Air India and Vistara merger even though there is largely a single-type, the Airbus A320-family of aircraft. This is because of aircraft configurations as well as different service and training standards. Many frequent flyers, including this writer, particularly on routes out of Mumbai and Bengaluru are unhappy about small things like Air India's domestic catering options. On a recent flight between Delhi and Kochi at lunchtime, the meal provided was wholly inadequate with a sandwich and stuffed bread

unlike

continuing proper meal

Vistara's

There is no need for airlines to offer a meal service, but if they claim to be 'full-service' carriers they should offer a proper meal or at least offer a decent 'Buy on Board' service. The largest airline in India does not pretend to offer 'full service'; but has a 'Buy on Board' service. However, as a frequent flyer, I sincerely recommend that flyers either bring their own food onboard or eat at an airport, no matter how overpriced the latter option is.

That said, consolidation of Air India and Vistara into one large airline is a huge opportunity for Tata Sons and Indian aviation to develop India into a proper global aviation hub and compete

with middle-eastern airlines such as Emirates and Qatar Airlines. Particularly as the Indian diaspora across the world grows and will travel back to their home, as well as growing the international inbound tourism market. India is also going to grow domestic aviation at an incredible rate with an estimated 250 million flyers annually by 2028. But if the merger stalls for any

reason, Tata Sons ought to be worried as IndiGo which has built themselves up into a massive presence in India, controlling half the domestic market, will certainly make an international and premium passenger play. On the latter front they have already announced that they will be starting a 'premium' class offering from later this winter as well as a new Frequent Flyer program called 'Blu-Chip'. And with an order for 30 new Airbus A350-900 wide-body aircraft and the A321XLR Airbus entering service next year, IndiGo can potentially threaten Air India's global expansion plans as well.

## SBI plans combo product of recurring deposit, SIP to attract depositors: Chairman

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

In a bid to attract depositors, **■**State Bank of India is contemplating to come out with innovative products including a combo product of recurring deposit and SIP, said the bank's chairman C S

With the economy progressing, he said, customers are becoming financially more aware and demanding, and have started looking for innovative investment instruments.

Today the customers are looking at the value proposition as financial literacy improves and the concept of asset allocation will gain greater importance,

"Obviously, nobody wants to put everything in a risky asset speculative asset...Banking products will always be part of the basket. So, we are trying to bring products which will appeal to them," he told PTI in an interview.

'We are trying to bring innovation in some of the conventional products like recurring deposit, which is actually a conventional SIP...Maybe, we can combine both fixed deposit/recurring deposit and SIP, a combo product that could be digitally accessible," he said.

So, he said, these are the innovations which the bank is thinking of in terms of popularising the deposit products among the Gen Z. Besides, he said, the bank has undertaken a massive outreach programme for the deposit mobilisation.

"As I said, for us, deposit mobilisation is a franchisee job. We have the largest number of physical outlets across the country. We are leveraging our huge physical reach by initiating outreach programmes customers are contacted. Today, the effort on part of



SBI is to reach out to every customer both existing as well as new customers," he said. Stressing that deposit is a

function of interest rate and customer service, Setty said, "obviously, there is a requirement of adequately compensating our customers, but we would not like to fight in the rate war. I think most of the banks are also pursuing a balancing act of giving the right rate as well as right service. So, our focus is on improving the customer service and also adequately

Reliance infrastructure wins

compensating customers." In addition, he said, SBI has

well, another source said.

given thrust on opening new accounts and almost 50,000 to 60,000 savings bank accounts opened a day.
On the fixed deposit side,

Setty said, almost 50 per cent of our fixed deposits are garnered through the digital channels only and also many accounts are opened through digital means Meanwhile, he also said that

SBI is aiming to become the first Indian financial firm to cross a milestone of Rs 1 lakh crore net profit in the next 3-5 years.

SBI recorded a standalone net profit of Rs 61,077 crore in FY24, registering a growth of 21.59 per cent.

have Definitely, we would like to be the first company in India to reach that milestone," Setty said when asked if it is possible to cross Rs 1 lakh crore in the next 3-5 years.

### PM celebrates 10 years of Make in India, calls India a manufacturing powerhouse

PTI NEW DELHI

With his government's flagship 'Make in India' initiative completing 10 years, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said India has become a manufacturing powerhouse and it is because of the country's youth power that the "whole world is looking up to us".

will move to a single fleet of Boeing 737 MAX aircraft.

Things are much more

As the 'Make in India' initiative marked its 10th anniversary last week, the prime minister talked about it in his monthly 'Mann Ki Baat' radio broadcast and said the success of this campaign includes the contribution of the country's big industries as well as small shopkeepers. Today, it gives me immense

joy to see that the poor, the



middle class and MSMEs are getting a lot of benefit from this campaign. This campaign has provided

an opportunity to people of every class to showcase their talent," Modi said. "Today, India has become a

manufacturing powerhouse

whole world is looking up to us. Be it automobiles, textiles, aviation, electronics or defence... every sector in the country's exports are constantly on the rise," he

The prime minister said the continual rise of FDI in the and it is because of the youth country is narrating the power of the country that the success saga of 'Make in

"Now we are mainly focusing on two things... The first is 'Quality', that is, goods made in our country should be of global standards... and the other is 'Vocal for Local. That means, local products should get maxipromotion," Modi said. maximum

"In 'Mann Ki Baat' we've also

discussed 'My Product My Pride'.

How the people of the country can benefit from promoting local products can be understood through an example.

In Bhandara district of Maharashtra, there is an old textile tradition of, 'Bhandara Tussar Silk Handloom'. Tussar Silk, is known for its colour, design and strength. "In some areas of Bhandara, more than 50 'Self Help Groups are working to preserve it. Women have a huge participation in that. This silk is fast becoming popular and empowering local communities... and that is the spirit of 'Make in India," he added.

In this festive season, Modi urged people that anything they buy, should

necessarily be 'Made in India'. "Anything you gift that too should be 'Made in India'. Merely buying earthen lamps is not 'Vocal for Local'.

You should promote local products made in your area more and more. Any such product, that has been made with the sweat of an Indian artisan, that is made on Indian soil, is our pride - we always have to lend glory to this pride," he said.

On the 10th anniversary of his government's 'Make in India' drive, Prime Minister Wednesday Modi on affirmed that the flagship initiative to boost manufacturing transformed a dream into a powerful movement and its impact shows that "Bharat is

unstoppable".

PTI NEW DELHI

The Calcutta High Court has upheld a Rs 780 crore arbitration award in favour of Reliance Infrastructure Ltd in a dispute with West Bengalbased Damodar Valley Corporation, the Anil Ambani group firm said in a stock exchange filing.More than a decade back, Reliance Infrastructure had won a contract to set up a 1,200 MW thermal power plant in Purulia in West Bengal for Rs 3,750 crore.The project was delayed due to disputes and other reasons, leading to DVC damages seeking from Reliance Infrastructure. Reliance Infrastructure, however, challenged this, and

arbitration case against DVC an arbitration tribunal in 2019 ruled in favour of the company and directed DVC to pay Rs 896 crore to the company.DVC challenged the order of the arbitral tribunal in the Calcutta High Court, which was dismissed by the court. "This is to inform that on September 27, 2024, the Division Bench of Hon'ble High Court of Calcutta delivered its judgment in a petition filed by DVC challenging the arbitration award under Section 34, dated September amounting to approximately Rs 780 crore, including accrued interest in favour of the company concerning the

Raghunathpur Thermal Power

Project," the firm said.

### Government approves transfer of Reliance TV licenses to Star India

had proposed the transfer and vesting of Media Operations group, and SIPL is wholly

added.

PTI NEW DELHI

The government has approved the transfer of licence relating to non-news and current affairs TV channels held by the media entities of billionaire Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries to Star India.

According to regulatory filings by Reliance Industries and TV18 Broadcast, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting granted the approval in an order dated September 27.

"The Ministry of Information Broadcasting, Government of India, vide its order dated September 27, 2024, has granted its approval for transfer of Licenses relating to Non News & Current Affairs TV channels held by Viacom18 Media

Private Limited in favour of Undertaking from Viacom 18 Star India," it said. This would be "subject to conditions laid by the

Competition Commission of

Viacom18 is the holding company that owns the media and entertainment business of Reliance Industries and

Bodhi Tree Systems. Now, both sides are in the final stages of the merger, making some adjustments to the business as per the directions of the Competition Commission of India (CCI). On August 30, the NCLT approved the scheme of merger of Viacom18 Media and Digital 18 Media, holding media and entertainment assets of Reliance Industries, with Star India.The scheme

Cinema into and Jio Digital18, which is a subsidiary of Viacom 18. This would be followed by "demerger, transfer and vesting of V18 Undertaking from Digital 18 into Star

India". The merger of the media assets of Reliance Industries and The Walt Disney Co. Will create the country's largest media empire worth over Rs 70,000 crore. Earlier, the CCI had said it had cleared the "proposed combination involving Reliance Industries Ltd, Viacom18 Media Pvt Ltd, Digital18 Media Ltd, Star India Pvt Ltd and Star Television Productions Ltd,

subject to the compliance of

voluntary modifications".

owned by The Walt Disney Company. STPL, a company incorporated in the British Virgin Islands, is owned indirectly by Walt Disney. The CCI, however, did not voluntary

disclose modifications in the original deal made by the two parties. Under the deal, the Mukesh Ambani-led RIL and its affiliates will hold 63.16 per cent of the combined entity that will house two streaming services and 120 television channels.

Walt Disney will hold the remaining 36.84 per cent stake in the combined entity, which will also be India's largest media house. Nita Ambani, wife of RIL

Chairman Mukesh Ambani, will head the joint venture, while Uday Shankar will be its vice-chairperson.

### Mcap of 10 most valued firms surges to ₹ 1.21 lakh crore

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The combined market valuation of eight of the top-10 most valued firms surged Rs 1,21,270.83 crore last week, with Reliance Industries becoming the biggest gainer, in line with an outstanding rally benchmark equity indices. week, the BSE benchmark jumped 1,027.54 points or 1.21 per cent. The BSE Sensex hit its record high of 85,978.25 on Friday.

The market valuation of Reliance Industries jumped Rs 53,652.92 crore to Rs 20,65,197.60 crore.

State Bank of India added Rs 18,518.57 crore taking its valuation to Rs 7,16,333.98 crore.Bharti Airtel's market valuation soared Rs 13,094.52

crore to Rs 9,87,904.63 crore and that of ITC grew by Rs 9,927.3 crore to Rs 6,53,834.72 crore. The capitalisation (mcap) of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) surged Rs 8,592.96 crore to Rs 15,59,052 crore.HDFC Bank's valuation climbed Rs 8,581.64 crore to Rs 13,37,186.93 crore and that of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)

zoomed Rs 8,443.87 crore to

Rs 6,47,616.51 crore.

The mcap of Infosys went up by Rs 459.05 crore. However the market valuation of ICICI Bank tumbled to Rs 9,20,520.72 crore. The mcap of Hindustan Unilever declined by Rs 3,195.44 crore to Rs 6,96,888.77 crore. In the chart of the most valued firms, Reliance Industries retained the highest ranking.

### **INBRIEF**

22ND KISHORE KUMAR MEMORIAL AWARDS

NEW DELHI: Dr. Kamal Pathak. Registrar of IP University was speaking as the chief quest at the inaugural function of 22nd Kishore Kumar Memorial Awards organised by Kishore Kumar Memorial Club at Pyarelal Lal



**GNDU RELEASED SCHEDULE THROUGH ONLINE PORTAL** 

AMRITSAR: The online examination form submission and fee payments for Sem-1 December 2024 exams of Law FYIP/TYP, B.Ed, B.A-B.Ed, BSc.-B.Ed, B.Com-B.Ed and B.Ed-M.Ed for Regular students through online portal has

**GNDU ZONAL YOUTH FESTIVAL** 

AMRITSAR: The three-day Zonal Youth Festival of "B-Zone" of Guru Nanak Dev University began, marked by an impressive inauguration ceremony presided over by Dr. Ravijit Singh from Dr Daljit Singh Eye Hospital, Amritsar



In a world where health often takes a backseat to the demands of modern life, anaemia has emerged as a silent epidemic writes **ABHI SINGHAL** 



n today's fast-paced world, many individuals struggle to prioritize their health and wellness, particularly those aged 21 to 50.

This neglect can lead to significant health issues, including a common yet often overlooked condition: anaemia. Anaemia, characterized by a reduced number of red blood cells or malfunctioning red blood cells, can have serious implications for one's health. The latest statistics from the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5), conducted from 2019 to 2021, reveal a staggering prevalence of anaemia in India: 57% of women aged 15 to 49 and 25% of men in the same age group are affected. The figures are even more alarming for specific demographics, with 67% of children aged 6 to 59 months, 59% of adolescent girls aged 15 to 19 years, and 52% of pregnant women aged 15 to 49 years being anaemic. Given these statistics, it is imperative to raise awareness and break the cycle of anaemia, particularly among

significantly impact daily life, including fatigue, weakness, shortness of breath, pale skin, cold extremities, dizziness, rapid heartbeat, and difficulty in concentrating. These symptoms create a vicious cycle: anaemia leads to weakness, which in turn results in laziness and decreased productivity, ultimately affecting one's overall wellbeing and work output.

To address this critical issue, a roundtable discussion titled "India's Silent Epidemic: Raising Awareness & Fostering Urgent Action Against Anaemia" was convened.

The panel of experts included Dr Manju Puri, Director Professor of Obstetrics & Gynaecology at Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi; Dr Tulika Seth, Professor of Haematology at the All **ANAEMIC** India Institute of Medical

Sciences; Dr Sarath Gopalan, Gastroenterologist and Hepatologist at Madhukar Rainbow Children's Hospital, New Delhi; and Dr William Joe, Assistant Professor at the Population Research Centre, Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi.

The experts identified iron deficiency as the primary cause of anaemia. They

while junk food leads to quick energ

crashes. Eating a variety of nutrient-rich

foods ensures that the body has

everything it needs to keep going strong.

**NUTRITION ALONE IS** INSUFFICIENT. THE **GOVERNMENT HAS** IMPLEMENTED A **SUPPLEMENTARY** PROGRAM FOR **VULNERABLE GROUPS,** PROVIDING LOW-COST SUPPLEMENTS THAT ARE WIDELY AVAILABLE. EVEN WHEN PURCHASED, THEY ARE AFFORDABLE. IT'S **IMPORTANT TO VIEW** 

SUPPLEMENTS AS A

**NECESSARY BACKUP** 

emphasized that one can have normal haemoglobin levels yet still be iron deficient. This situation is like to an iceberg, where anaemia is merely the visible tip. For instance, a person with a haemoglobin level of 12 could still suffer from iron deficiency. By administering iron supplements, their iron stores may improve, alleviating many symptoms, even if the haemoglobin level changes only slightly.

Dr Tulika Seth highlighted the need for greater awareness regarding iron-rich foods. She noted that even educated individuals often struggle to name two iron-rich foods. "Unless you know about red meat and similar options, you're unlikely to consume sufficient amounts," she remarked.

The discussion also underscored the significance of dietary counselling to enhance iron intake through improved dietary choices, which is essential for health management. Experts stressed that knowledge and awareness are crucial initial steps toward addressing

Furthermore, the quantity of nutrient intake was discussed as a pivotal factor. The experts addressed the role of iron supplements, particularly in light of the younger generation's reluctance to

**Keeping Fit and Well during** 

consume leafy vegetables, which are vital for nutrient intake. While supplements can serve as a backup, they cannot replace the benefits derived from natural food sources.

In response to inquiries about nutritional solutions and reliance on supplements, Dr Manju Puri noted, "Nutrition alone is insufficient. The government has implemented a supplementary program for vulnerable groups, providing low-cost supplements that are widely available. low-cost Even when purchased, they are affordable. It's important to view supplements as a necessary backup."

Awareness remains the first step in combating anaemia. understanding the symptoms, causes, and prevention strategies, individuals can take proactive measures to safeguard their health. Incorporating iron-rich foods-such as leafy vegetables, red meat, and fortified cereals-into one's diet is essential, and supplements can provide additional support when needed. Ultimately, health is one's greatest asset.

Individuals are encouraged to prioritize their health by staying informed about anaemia and taking steps to prevent or manage this condition.

# "Nourishing Your Body: The Role of Nutrition in Daily Wellness"

pregnant women who are set to

The symptoms of anaemia can

bring new life into the world.

BY Dr Wajiha Mehtab

n a world filled with fast food, busy schedules, and growing health concerns, the importance of nutrition in our daily lives cannot be overstated. Proper nutrition is the foundation of a healthy body and mind, influencing everything from energy levels to disease prevention. Eating a well-balanced diet is more than just fuelling the body—it's about enhancing overall well-being and leading a vibrant, fulfilling life.

### The Building Blocks of Health

At its core, nutrition provides the essential building blocks our bodies need to function. Carbohydrates, proteins, fats, vitamins, and minerals all play crucial roles. Carbohydrates are the body's main source of energy, while proteins help build and repair tissues. Healthy fats, such as those found in nuts, seeds, and fish, support brain health and protect vital organs. Vitamins and minerals, found in abundance in fruits and vegetables, help regulate processes such as metabolism, immune function, and cell repair.

Without these key nutrients, the body struggles to perform its everyday tasks efficiently. Poor nutrition weakens the immune system, slows down healing, and can lead to fatigue, poor concentration, and overall poor health. On the other hand, a diet rich in whole, nutrient-dense foods can optimise energy, mood, and productivity.

#### **Preventing Chronic Disease**

One of the most important reasons to prioritize nutrition is its role in preventing chronic diseases. Conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, hypertension, and obesity are increasingly common, yet many are preventable through better dietary choices. Diets high in processed foods, refined sugars, and unhealthy fats contribute to the development of these diseases, while diets rich in whole grains, lean proteins, fruits, and vegetables offer

The World Health Organization (WHO) stresses that a diet full of fruits and vegetables can reduce the risk of heart

diseases and certain types of cancer. gives the body a steady supply of energy, Foods high in fiber, like whole grains and legumes, promote healthy digestion and reduce the risk of gastrointestinal disorders. Meanwhile, cutting down on salt, sugar, and saturated fats helps control blood pressure and maintain a healthy weight.

### **Mental Health and Nutrition**

The link between nutrition and physical health is well-documented, but its impact on mental health is equally significant. Nutrients such as omega-3 fatty acids, found in fish and flaxseeds, and

antioxidants in fruits and vegetables,

support brain function and mood

regulation. Studies show that a diet rich

in these nutrients may reduce the risk of

depression and anxiety while improving

Conversely, diets high in processed and

sugary foods are linked to higher rates of

mood disorders. Blood sugar spikes and

crashes, caused by refined sugars and

simple carbohydrates, can lead to

irritability, fatigue, and feelings of

anxiety. By maintaining a balanced diet,

people can stabilize their energy levels

The food we eat directly impacts how we

feel throughout the day. A balanced meal

and emotional health.

**Fuelling Daily Energy** 

memory and cognitive function.

Complex carbohydrates, such as brown rice and sweet potatoes, provide longlasting energy. Proteins and healthy fats offer sustained energy release, keeping us feeling full and energised for longer periods. Vitamins and minerals also play a role, helping the body efficiently convert food into energy. **Practical Tips for a Healthier Diet** 

Maintaining a nutritious diet doesn't have to be complicated. Simple, mindful choices can make a big difference. Here

> Focus on whole foods: Prioritise fresh fruits, vegetables, whole grains, lean proteins, and healthy fats. Limit processed

and packaged foods. Eat the rainbow: Aim to include a variety of colours on your plate. Different fruits coloured vegetables provide a wide range of vitamins and minerals.

Stay hydrated: Water is essential for nearly every function in the body. Make sure to drink enough water throughout the day.

Watch portion sizes: It's not just

what you eat, but how much. Be mindful of portion sizes to avoid overeating, even with healthy foods. Plan ahead: Planning meals and snacks

in advance can help you make healthier choices and avoid unhealthy last-minute

Nutrition is a cornerstone of health and wellness. By choosing nutrient-dense, whole foods and avoiding processed alternatives, individuals can significantly improve both their physical and mental health. Good nutrition doesn't just fuel the body—it fuels life, empowering us to live more energetic, fulfilling, and disease-free lives. Prioritising what goes on your plate is one of the most impactful decisions you can make for your longterm well-being.

The author is MSc, PhD, Consultant Nutritionist and Founder & Director, Artisan Academy of Advanced Clinical Nutrition.



BY **Dr Dinesh Kumar Tyagi** 

A healthy gut ensures a good immune system. It is important to maintain a nutritious diet in all your meals ensuring that you are getting the fats, minerals, and vitamins you need. Eat seasonal fruits vegetables and avoid oily spicy food that could meddle

with your digestion Food made at restaurants, streets, or cafe's are usually in unhygienic conditions. Food made in unhygienic conditions can lead to typhoid, infections as it carries various germs and bacteria. Try to eat homecooked meals as much as possible and even if you eat out, eat freshly prepared food that is served hygienically to you.

Waterborne diseases are very common during monsoons. Drinking unsafe or impure water from public water coolers can lead you to catch them. Drink safe water from RO or try to get bottled water when you are out and

Damp clothes can cause skin infections and even lead to allergies. Wearing dry, clean clothing during rainy seasons is very important. Go for Synthetic, quick-



drying materials as they won't stay damp for long and don't retain moisture like cotton or linen. They help you stay dry and comfortable Many of us love to enjoy the rain and get drenched in rain like kids. This may seem refreshing but it can lead you to catching cold, fever, and other waterborne diseases, especially during the peak monsoon season downpours. Keeping your umbrella and raincoat handy while going out during monsoons is a power move. It is an easy and effective way of keeping you from getting drenched in the rain and will protect you from exposure of the rain and the atmosphere that weakens your immunity. Viral infections are rampant

during monsoon season due to the weather and humidity. Close contact in crowded places during this season should be avoided as that is where you will catch an infection like swine flu or

hepatitis. While monsoons will come and go, life goes on and you will have to go out and interact with people at offices or public spaces or even crowds. All you can do is maintain a good amount of space between you and others to avoid the risk of catching any infections

Make sure you are up to date about getting all your vaccines and booster doses. Outbreak diseases hepatitis are very common during monsoons. Consult your doctor and make sure that you are not behind on getting any vaccines.

Infections through insects like malaria and dengue are during rampant monsoons. It is important to protect yourself from such diseases. Get a mosquito repellent that you can use in areas where there are a lot of stagnant bodies

mosquitoes. You can also use nets at night to prevent

mosquito bites. Germs, bacteria, and insects including mosquitoes all have one hotspot during winter that is stagnant water. You should avoid going to water-logged areas during monsoons to avoid all such bacteria and germs and make sure to disinfect yourself properly after you

areas. It becomes important to cover your full body during monsoons to prevent mosquito bites or fungal infections of any kind. Stick to wearing full-length skirts, t-shirts, and pants to avoid

have been through those

any such issues. Sunlight, although is very important for us for Vitamin D, during the rainy season the sunlight can weaken your immunity. combination of sun and humidity after a rain shower can lead to dehydration. Wear shades, sunscreen, and try to stay in shaded areas during monsoons as much as

possible.

Good sleep is very important for your immune system. Good sleep regenerates your body cells and keeps you body healthy. To avoid catching any viral fevers or infections you should maintain a good sleep cycle. Staying healthy, and maintaining good habits is healthy, the crux to staying away from all kinds of fevers, infections, and flu during monsoons. Some habits should be well inculcated like wearing dry clothes and maintaining a safe distance from crowds during the monsoons to stay healthy and safe.

The author is the Additional Director of Internal Medicine at Fortis Hospital, Greater

# Sri Lanka crushes New Zealand Indian shooters win two to clinch historic series win

Sri Lanka stormed to a Series victory over New Zealand, securing the twomatch test series with a resounding innings and 154run triumph on the fourth day in Galle on Sunday.

This victory, Sri Lanka's most dominant over the Kiwis, also marks their first win against New Zealand in 15 years.

The hero of the games, left-Prabath spinner Jayasuriya, was named Player of the Series after a masterful performance, claiming 18 wickets across the matches

Meanwhile, Kamindu Mendis took home Man of the Match honours for his unbeaten 182, anchoring Sri Lanka's colossal total of 602-5 declared.

With this knock, Mendis etched his name in history, joining the great Sir Don Bradman as the third jointfastest player to reach 1,000 test runs.

Jayasuriya, who took nine wickets in the first test, was at his best again, snaring



added.

little, too late.

second test as New Zealand's batters struggled to cope with Sri Lanka's spin-heavy attack. Debutant Nishan Peiris was the perfect foil, chipping in with nine wickets of his own, including a five-wicket haul

in the second innings.
"We discussed the need to score big in the first innings. That has been something that has been worrying us for a while. Glad we rectified that this innings," said Sri Lanka captain Dananjaya de Silva. "The spinners were superb.

They kept creating pressure and didn't allow New Zealand to get away with things. It was

fielding lapses, which saw three catches dropped, they eventually cleaned up after

showed more fight in their

second innings, posting 360 – their highest total of the tour and in Galle – but it was too

Tom Blundell, Glenn Phillips

and Mitchell Santner all

contributed half-centuries in

the second innings, but the

tourists needed far more to challenge Sri Lanka's

lunch. Jayasuriya removed Ajaz Patel and Peiris took the final scalp of Santner, stumped by Kusal Mendis, sealing the series win for Sri Lanka. "We had our moments in the series, but disappointed with the end result," said New a superb display. That's how we want to compete in home Zealand captain Tim Southee. conditions, dominate the opposition from ball one," he That morning session on day three when we lost nine New Zealand's woes began wickets disappointing.
"There were dropped catches early, bundled out for a paltry 88 in their first innings Forced to follow on, the Kiwis

and missed stumpings as well in the Sri Lankan innings and in these conditions when you don't hold onto those chances it is very difficult. With this victory, Sri Lanka has now

was

Resuming at 199-5, New

Zealand lost three wickets

before lunch on the fourth day. Despite Sri Lanka's

won three consecutive test matches and bolstered their hopes of qualifying for the ICC World Test Championship final at

# gold medals in Peru

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

ndian shooters began their ISSF Junior World LC h a m p i o n s h i p (Rifle/Pistol/Shotgun) campaign in Peru on a good note, winning team gold in men's and women's 10m air pistol events, though a potential top-podium finish was lost in the individual category after a marksman was docked two points for reporting late for the final. The junior men's trio of

Choudhary, Umesh Pradhyumn Singh and Mukesh Nelavalli topped the men's team competition in 10m air pistol with a tally of 1726 points. They finished 10 points ahead of secondplaced Romania, while Italy took bronze with a score of

Choudhary though missed a potential individual gold after being penalised two points for reporting late for the final.

Choudhary and Singh had earlier made it to the individual finals placed third and fourth respectively in the qualification round. Choudhary shot 580 and

Singh 578 but missed out on individual medals, ending sixth and eighth respectively.

Luca Joldea of Romania won the gold medal, while Chinese Taipei's Hsieh Hsiang-Chen clinched the silver. Nelavalli was ninth in qualification with a score of

combination The Kanishka Dagar, Lakshita and Anjali Chaudhary tallied 1708 to clinch the junior women's 10m air pistol team gold. They pipped Azerbaijan by a point bronze-winning Ukraine by four points. Dagar also made the individual final in third place with a score of 573 along with Kanak who also shot the same score but with lesser inner 10s, to bag the

fifth qualifying spot.

In the final, Kanak won bronze with a score of 217.6, while Dagar finished eighth. Chinese Taipei's Chen Yu-Chun won gold, while Slovakia's Manja Slak bagged

### Wet outfield wipes out play for second day

o play was possible for the second consecutive day in the second Test between India and Bangladesh due to a wet outfield at the Green Park Stadium here. Overnight rain had caused a delay to the start of action but even as the sun was shining bright around 2:00pm and

there were no soggy patches on the ground, the officials decided to call off the play. Almost eight sessions have been lost in the game due to persistent rain that has played havoc with the final match of two-game Questions on the drainage system used at the venue have

been duly raised. Bangladesh had ended the rain-shortened opening day at 107 for 3. The entire second day was washed out without a ball being bowled, and only 35 overs were bowled on the opening day. India pacer Akash Deep (2/34) and

Ravichandran Ashwin (1/22)

were among the wickets.

# Champions League returns missing Mbappé, Rodri, Barella as injury wave hits European soccer

AP PARIS

ey players will be sidelined when the Champions League resumes on Tuesday after a wave of injuries within a week of the new-look competition starting.
Kylian Mbappé's sore hamstring is likely

to sideline him beyond Wednesday when he was due to return to France with defending champion Real Madrid to face Lille.

Serious knee injuries mean Manchester City midfielder Rodri is out for the season and Barcelona goalkeeper Marc-André ter Stegen will miss at least most

Inter Milan midfielder Nicolò Barella, who was a standout playing against Rodri on September 18, will miss at least one Champions League game because of a thigh strain.

The injuries to four players who were European Championship into the knockout phase have sharpened the debate about player workload in a calendar made more congested by the bigger Champions

The extended program is what influential clubs all-but forced UEFA to create and the 18 games this week, split between Tuesday and Wednesday, still

leaves each of them with six more to play through January. Another final rematch

There were two repeats of past finals in the first week of games that relaunched the Champions League in a single-standings format. Man City and Indeed the Champions League in a single-standings format. drew 0-0 and Liverpool won 3-1 at AC

The next rematch comes Wednesday when Aston Villa hosts Bayern Munich, a giant of the European Cup era that was shocked 1-0 in the 1982 final.

Villa Park will host a first game in the competition since March 1983 when the English side's title defense was ended by Both eased to winning starts two weeks

ago. Villa won 3-0 at Young Boys and Bayern's nine goals against Dinamo Zagreb was a record for any team in the 33-season Champions League era. Harry Kane scored four in Bayern's 9-2

win and has a good record visiting Villa, with five goals there in five Premier League games for Tottenham. He faces a late check on an ankle injury. Kane edges Haaland

Kane's  $\bar{\text{fast}}$  start to the season with 10 goals in seven games for Bayern has outpaced even Erling Haaland's 10 in eight games for Man City.

up two fingers.

reminded of in a post-game talk with the Italian champion's center back Francesco Acerbi, who smiled and held

PTI THIMPHU

here on Monday.

2-0 in the final.

**T**ndia will fancy their chances of maintaining their stranglehold on

Bangladesh when the two

sides meet in the final of the

SAFF U17 Championship

India began their tournament nine days ago with a last-gasp 1-0 victory over Bangladesh

in the group stage. The same script unfolded last year as

well, when the India U16 boys

beat their eastern neighbours

1-0 in the first game and then

Head coach Ishfaq Ahmed

and his boys will hope for a

repeat of that on Monday for a

For the record, the two teams

have met four times in the

finals of SAFF men's age-

group tournaments, with India winning thrice (U18 in

successful title defence.

Tuesday in Slovakia when Man City second biggest beating in the opening round, 5-1 at Celtic.

for a rare European win by the Scottish champion stood out in an opening week where anticipation was not universal.

Pundits including former Man City goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel noted a quietness about the stadium for the Inter game. The attendance was nearly 2,000 higher five days later when Man City met Arsenal in a tempestuous Premier League clash where title ambitions were already in play.

Milan-Liverpool was a heavyweight European fixture yet far from sold out, with fewer than 60,000 at San Siro. The crowd topped 70,000 at each of Milan's first two Serie A home games this season, and 66,000 on the equivalent Champions League opening night last season to see another English club, Newcastle.

Paris Saint-Germain drew at least 46,000 fans for each home game in Ligue 1 this season — and all three Champions League group-stage games last season — yet fewer than 40,000 were at Parc des Princes to see European debutant Girona two weeks ago.

Sporting Lisbon also had 40,000 fans for a Champions League opener against Lille that was 6,000 down on the crowd for a domestic league game against

The pulsating atmosphere at Celtic Park 
The attendance and atmosphere trends

will be watched as fans respond to the longer and more expensive program of four Champions League home games. The 36-team standings is set to be more dynamic for the final two rounds in January.

Tuesday's games

The raucous atmosphere should follow Celtic to Borussia Dortmund whose fans in the Yellow Wall tribune are among the noisiest in Europe.

Bundesliga champion Bayer Leverkusen hosts Milan after making a fast star in a 4-0 rout at Feyenoord. San Siro now reverts to Inter to host Red Star Belgrade.

Arsenal hosts PSG in a meeting of two teams chasing a trophy they never won. Each was a beaten finalist once. Also, Barcelona hosts Young Boys. Wednesday's games

Even without Mbappé, Madrid should have too much for Lille playing in the

stadium that hosted basketball groupstage games at the Paris Olympics. Premier League leader Liverpool hosts Bologna, and Girona's first European

visitor to the Montilivi stadium is Fevenoord.

Dinamo Zagreb fired its coach, Sergej Jakirovic, after the drubbing at Bayern and brought back Nenad Bjelica for a second spell.

### Osasuna stuns Barcelona 4-2 record for best start



Bryan Zaragoza scored one goal and set up another to spark Osasuna's stunning 4-2 win over Barcelona, dealing the Spanish league leader its first loss.

The lightning-fast forward on loan from Bayern Munich crossed for Ante Budimir to open the scoring in the 17th minute. Zaragoza then showed some fancy high-speed dribbling to round goalkeeper Iñaki Peña on the break

for 2-0 in the 28th on Saturday.

Barcelona youth player Pau Víctor pulled one back for the visitors in the 53rd, but Budimir earned and converted a penalty to put the result beyond doubt in the 72nd.

Abel Bretones made it 4-1 in the 85th and substitute Lamine Yamal scored Barcelona's second goal.

Barcelona recorded wins in the first seven rounds of the league. An eighth victory would have equaled a club record established in 2013. Barcelona remained atop the league standings at four points ahead of Real Madrid before the defending champion visits Atletico Madrid in a derby on Sunday.

Osasuna moved into sixth place and stayed unbeaten in Pamplona in this campaign with four wins and a draw.



second time in 16 months, a fact he was

Haaland was kept quiet by Inter for the Haaland should find it easier on

# Crowd size and fan fervour

## India U17 look to maintain dominance against Bangladesh in final Colts' lead.



2019, U20 in 2022 and U16 in and Bangladesh emerging victorious once (U16 in 2015).

come from behind in the Ahmed in the pre-match

semi-final. They had some hiccups but they've been more stable as compared to the other teams. Our win 'We know Bangladesh are a against them is in the past. A good side. They did well to final is a different game," said

press conference. India beat Nepal 4-2 in a frenetic semi-final Saturday, which saw four goals scored in the last 10

minutes. Vishal Yadav's second-half

brace put India in control but Nepal didn't go down easily as they kept reducing the Blue

In the end, goals from s u b s t i t u t e s Ningthoukhongjam Rishi Singh and Hemneichung Lunkim sealed the Indian

Set-pieces are something India have been excellent with so far. They've scored four goals from dead ball situations so far and Ahmed has been delighted with that. In the second semi-final, Bangladesh showed indomitable spirit as they came from two goals down to level it at 2-2 against Pakistan thanks to Md Manik's 74th

and 94th minute goals. They then converted all eight of their penalties to cap off a memorable comeback and enter the final

## Messi scores, Inter Miami moves closer to No. 1

**AP** ■ **FORT LAUDERDALE (US)** 

ionel Messi moved Inter Lionel Miessi more.

Miami another step closer to the No. 1 seed for the MLS Cup playoffs. And the MLS single-season

points record remains in the club's reach as well. Messi scored in the 67th minute and Inter Miami pushed its unbeaten streak to

eight straight Major League Soccer matches with a 1-1 tie against Charlotte FC on Saturday night. It was Messi's 15th goal in 16 league matches this season.

Messi became the sixth player in MLS history with at least 15 goals and 15 assists in a single season - and he's done that while missing 15 of Inter Miami's league contests. The tie, combined with

Columbus' 2-2 draw with D.C. United on Saturday, left Inter Miami eight points clear of the Crew for the No. 1 seed in the Eastern Conference. Inter Miami is also seven points up on the LA Galaxy for the No. 1 overall seed in the MLS playoffs.

Inter Miami plays at Columbus on Wednesday, and a win would wrap up the No. 1 overall seed - not just the East, but the Supporters Shield as the regular-season winners as well. Inter Miami (19-4-8) has 65 points with three matches left; Columbus (16-5-9) has 57 points with four matches remaining.

"We are playing a great team that is chasing us in the Supporters Shield," Inter Miami coach Gerardo "Tata"

Martino said.



"It is a very important game Toronto and New England. remaining dates."

"It's very important," defender Jordi Alba said. The Supporters Shield would give Inter Miami home-field

But first, the Columbus match looms and Inter

Miami knows exactly what's

edge throughout the playoffs, including for a potential MLS Cup final December 7. And if Inter Miami wins out, it will finish with 74 points - one more than the MLS record of 73 set by New England in

DC United helped Inter Miami a bit on Saturday. Columbus led 2-1 late in the second half but surrendered the tying goal in the 81st minute; otherwise, the Crew could have been two points closer to Inter Miami in the standings and made

Wednesday's match far more interesting. Messi's goal was his typical brilliance. He took a pass near the top of the penalty box, dribbling once and threading his natural left-footed shot between four defenders and into the net to tie the match.

It came 10 minutes after Charlotte (11-11-9, points, seventh in the East) struck first, with Karol Swiderski deflecting a shot into the net.

But Messi answered, and Inter Miami settled for its third consecutive draw. The team is 5-0-3 in its last eight league matches and 9-1-3 in MLS play since June 1. "Obviously, we are frustrated

with the three consecutive ties," Martino said. "But the story continues." There were

Messi lobbied for a shot at the gamewinner in the 10th minute of stoppage time, after getting taken down near the top of the penalty area. No foul was called - one almost certainly would have led to a penalty shot opportunity - and about two minutes later, Luis Suarez somehow missed from pointblank range on the final play of the match.
The match was the next-tolast of the home regular

two great chances for Inter

Miami in the final moments.

season slate for Inter Miami. After the showdown at Columbus on Wednesday, the club goes to Toronto on October 5 and then wraps up the 34-match schedule at home against New England on October 19.