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THE STATESMAN WHO BORE THE BURDEN OF KANDAHAR

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MONEY 10

MARKETS BREATHE marginally LOW AFTER RECORD RALLY

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RAFAEL NADAL WITHDRAWS FROM LAVER CUP IN BERLIN 12 SPORTS

SUPREME COURT RELEASES KEJRIWAL

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

Head of Haryana Assembly election, AAP convenor and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Friday walked out of Tihar jail, hours after being granted bail by the Supreme Court in the corruption case by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), in connection with the alleged excise policy scam. A Bench of Justices Surya Kant and Ujjal Bhuyan ordered Kejriwal's release on a personal bail bond of Rs 10 lakh and two sureties in the like amount. Kejriwal got bail after spending six months in Tihar Jail.

The top court restrained Kejriwal from visiting the Chief Minister's Office and Delhi Secretariat. He shall also not sign official files unless it is required and necessary for obtaining clearance / approval of the Delhi Lieutenant Governor.

It also restrained him from commenting on his role in the money-laundering case against him and asked him not to interact with witnesses and / or have access to official files connected with the case. With bail conditions that do not give him complete freedom to perform his duties as Chief Minister, including that he cannot visit the Secretariat or the CM Office therein or sign any files other than those that have to be cleared by the Lieutenant Governor, officials said that the AAP Government



Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal acknowledges supporters amid rainfall after walking out of the Tihar Jail, in New Delhi, Friday, Sept. 13, 2024. The Supreme Court (SC) on Friday granted bail to the AAP convenor in a corruption case lodged by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in connection with the excise policy 'scam' PTI

may encounter some problems, albeit small. At the same time, both the judges were unanimous in the decision to grant bail to Kejriwal considering the fact that the chargesheet has been filed in the case and that the trial is unlikely to be completed in the near future. The same conditions imposed by the coordinate bench while granting interim bail in the ED

case will apply in this case too. However, despite granting bail, the Court held that the arrest of Kejriwal by CBI was valid and in compliance with relevant procedural laws. While Justice Surya Kant said Kejriwal's arrest by CBI does not suffer from any procedural infirmity, Justice Bhuyan, in a separate judgment, raised questions on the necessity and timing of the arrest.

Justice Bhuyan said the arrest raises more questions than it seeks to answer. Justice Bhuyan also expressed reservations about the bail condition that Kejriwal should not visit the CM's office or the Secretariat. However, he chose not to pass any direction in that regard having regard to judicial discipline and reverence for a direction passed by a coordinate bench.

"The Appellant has been granted interim bail by this Court in the ED matter on 10.05.2024 and 12.07.2024, arising from the same set of facts. Additionally, several co-accused in both the CBI and ED matters have also been granted bail by the Trial Court, the High Court, and this Court in separate proceedings," Justice Surya Kant said. "In our considered view, although the procedure for the Appellant's arrest meets the requisite criteria for legality and compliance, continued incarceration for an extended period pending trial would infringe upon established legal principles and the Appellant's right to liberty, traceable to Article 21 of our Constitution. The Appellant has been granted interim bail by this Court in the ED matter on 10.05.2024 and 12.07.2024, arising from the same set of facts. Additionally, several co-accused in both the CBI and ED matters have also been granted bail by the Trial Court, the High Court, and this Court in separate proceedings," Justice Ujjal Bhuyan, in a separate judgment, questioned the CBI for arresting Kejriwal, saying that such action by CBI raises serious questions on the timing of the arrest and such an arrest by CBI only fractured the bail granted in the ED case. Justice Bhuyan noted that the CBI did not arrest Kejriwal for 22 months and arrested Kejriwal on the cusp of his release in the ED case. Continued on Page 8

Six held for assault on two army officers, alleged rape

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ INDORE

All six men who attacked two army officers and allegedly raped their woman friend near Mhow in Madhya Pradesh have been arrested, according to the police on Friday. Rohit Girwal (23), Sandeep Wariya (18) and Sachin Makwana (25) were held during the day from a forest patch near the site of crime, officials said. The trio were on the run and a reward of Rs 10,000 each had been announced for their arrests. Three other accused, Anil Baror (27) and Pawan Bansunia (23) and Ritesh Bhabhar (25), were held on Wednesday and Thursday. They attacked near Jam Gate, a popular tourist spot some 30 kilometres from the Mhow military cantonment, on the intervening night of September 10 and 11, as per police. Located on the Vindhyaal ranges, Jam Gate is surrounded by forests. In the rainy season, this place is frequented by tourists during the day, but as the night falls, it gets desolate. As per police, the army officers, aged 23 and 24, undergoing the Young Officers course at the Infantry School in Mhow cantonment town, had gone out for a picnic with their two women friends. "The four were listening to loud music. Hearing it in the deserted area late at night, six accused reached the spot and committed the crime," Superintendent of Police (Rural) Hitika Vasal told reporters. One of the attackers threatened the



victims with a pistol, while the others were carrying sticks, Vasal said. The accused held one couple hostage while assaulting them and told the other couple that the hostages would be released only if they brought them Rs 10 lakh, she said. Vasal said the police reached the spot as soon as the incident was reported, "but the accused fled on seeing the headlight of the police vehicle."

A case was registered under sections 70 (gang rape), 310-2 (dacoity), 308-2 (extortion) and 115-2 (voluntarily causing hurt) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and under sections of the Arms Act. On the allegation of rape mentioned in the FIR, the SP said the victim is in a state of shock and is not ready to give her statement. In the meantime, the accused are being questioned about the alleged rape, Vasal added.

Another police official rubbished speculation on social media that the army personnel and the women had come in contact through a dating app.

Hindu groups demand demolition of illegal portion of mosque in HP



Police use water cannons to disperse protestors demanding the demolition of a mosque allegedly built on encroached land, in Mandi, Himachal Pradesh, Friday PTI

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ MANDI/SHIMLA

Hindu groups held a protest march in Himachal Pradesh's Mandi on Friday demanding the demolition of an unauthorised portion of a mosque in the town and tried to force their way towards the structure, forcing police to use water cannons to control the situation. Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu appealed to the

people of the State to maintain peace and brotherhood. "I have appealed to everyone to maintain peace and make no provocative statements. No one is allowed to take the law into their hands. We respect everyone. The land of Himachal respects all religions," Sukhu said after an all-party meeting in Shimla. Members of the Muslim community had on Thursday demolished a portion of the mosque in Mandi, saying it

was a wall that was encroaching on Government land. The protests in Mandi came just two days after Shimla saw protesters gathered on a call by Hindu groups clash with security personnel during a demonstration to call for the demolition of an illegal portion of a mosque in the Sanjauli area. Protests by Hindu outfits against the disputed structure in the Sanjauli mosque kept Shimla on the boil since last week. But on Wednesday, the protest took a violent turn with people breaking barricades and pelting stones as police used water cannons and batons to disperse them -- something unheard of in the cosmopolitan town. About 10 people, including police and women, were injured in the Himachal Pradesh capital and police detained some protesters as well, including Hindu Jagran Manch secretary Kamal Gautam. Continued on Page 8

Delhi becomes Dwarka, the Sunken Capital

KUSHAN MITRA ■ NEW DELHI

The rain Gods have blessed the National Capital Region with abundant water this year, but these blessings come with the curse of traffic chaos. From Gurugram to Ghaziabad, Vasant Kunj to Vaishali, Delhi is inundated and office-goers and school-children alike are struggling to get to their destinations. If this was an isolated story of the 2024 monsoons, it would be understandable. No city in the world is designed to survive such heavy rainfall. The private weather forecaster, Skymet, told PTI on September 10, that Delhi had 913.1mm of rain these monsoons, 56 percent higher than normal. This is even before the deluge of the past 48 hours is accounted for. But this is a story of every monsoon in Delhi for the past quarter-century. The sight of a submerged vehicle under Minto Bridge should now be enshrined as a 'World Heritage Site' by UNESCO, because it has become such an endemic image. Not an enduring image, an endemic image, an enduring image happens once and stays forever. This image is now an annual sight, sometimes twice to thrice every season. And while it must be noted that the authorities, including the Indian railways, the custodians of the bridge have made attempts to fix the problems, it appears unfixable. But this is the issue in Delhi, we try to fix issues that we may not be able to fix instead of working out solutions to issues that can be. Like repairing and rehabilitating Delhi's sewer systems well before the monsoons, before the storm drains and sewers get clogged with the first flush of the rains. Or to repair the roads well before the rains, instead of them becoming off-road obstacle courses and driving people to buy large SUVs instead of small cars — and this applies to all the satellite cities around Delhi as well, especially Gurugram. In fact, Gurugram, home to large multinationals and some of the richest real-estate in India, where high-



A man lifts his motorcycle after it got stuck in a pothole on a waterlogged road after rains PTI

Traffic horror in Delhi NCR with heavy downpour, severe waterlogging

SAUMYA SHUKLA ■ NEW DELHI

Traffic horror persists in Delhi with heavy downpour across different parts of the national Capital and adjoining areas of Noida, Ghaziabad and Gurugram on Friday along with severe waterlogging, frequent breakdown of buses, potholes, unregulated traffic and tree falling which irked commuters as vehicles were seen moving at a snail pace on city's road. Delhi is deluged due to incessant rains since last night amid a complete collapse of civic infrastructure with disruptions of movement across the city. People complained about not being able to reach their work places due to waterlogging in different areas of the city including Mehrauli-Badarpur road, Mathura road, Sangam Vihar, Aurobindo Marg, Madhu Vihar road, Delhi Gate, Sainik Farms, India Gate, Janpath Road, Kalindi Kunj,



Vehicles stuck in a traffic jam on Delhi-Gurugram expressway as the service lane is closed due to construction work of the underpass between Rajokari (Delhi) to Sirhaul Border PTI

Gazipur, Laxmi Nagar, MG road, Connaught Place, Safdarjung, Uttam Nagar, and Dhaula Kuan. Welfare Associations asked locals to be cautious of the traffic jams in the city including in Sainik Farms. However, they have proved to be no help to the residents who are reeling with nature's fury, and getting stuck in traffic for hours. A commuter Atul Jain

expressed his displeasure with the authorities and said, "I have been stuck for more than half an hour now since Punjabi Bagh area is heavily damaged due to bridge construction and waterlogging. What frustrates me more is even though this has been an issue for days now, no authority is getting it repaired. Daily heavy traffic is affected due to this section." Continued on Page 8

rise apartments in exclusive societies sell for over 25 crore has such serious flooding, that social media users called some of these apartments 'River View' homes as Golf Course Road had knee-deep water. In posh areas of Delhi as well, multi-million dollar basement apartments are flooded thanks to poor planning and a century-old sewage system on its last legs.

And then there are the buses. Delhi residents can sympathise with the fact that every day multiple buses, many of which are way past their sell-by date break down, often at awkward angles and invariably at the narrowest stretches of the road and cause kilometres-long traffic.

Yes, heavy rains which lead to bad traffic can happen, yes, there can be waterlogging. There can be subsidence and road blockages. But this does not mean the entire monsoon season is lost to such occurrences. Good city-planning, especially since city-planners in Delhi ought to know about the monsoons by now after a couple of millennia of the city being established, we should account for heavy rains. Continued on Page 8

Centre renames Port Blair as Sri Vijaya Puram

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre on Friday renamed Port Blair as Sri Vijaya Puram. Port Blair is the Capital city of the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Home Minister Amit Shah announced the renaming and said the decision has been taken to free the nation from the colonial imprints as the Andaman and Nicobar Islands have an "unparalleled place" in the country's freedom struggle and history. Shah said while the earlier name had a colonial legacy, Sri Vijaya Puram symbolises the victory achieved in India's freedom struggle and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands' unique role in it. Continued on Page 8

Gym owner shot dead in Delhi's Greater Kailash

SAUMYA SHUKLA ■ NEW DELHI

A 35-year-old gym owner was shot dead on Thursday night by two bike-borne assailants at the posh neighbourhood of south Delhi's Greater Kailash area in a suspected case of gang war. The victim has been identified as Nadir Shah, who was reportedly a member of Rohit Chaudhary gang. He had previous criminal cases against him, including charges of robbery and attempted murder. He recently opened a gym in Greater Kailash Part 1 and wanted to live a simple life, according to sources. The Delhi Police Special Cell has arrested two persons in connection with the incident as police suspect involvement of associates of jailed gangsters Lawrence Bishnoi and Hashim Baba in the murder. "These two are suspected to have provided logistical support to the shooters. They are being further interrogated by a team



of Special Cell," a senior officer said. The officer said that four more people were detained and questioned in connection with the case but the main shooter is still on the run. Shah also owned a business in Dubai and is stated to be known to some of the Delhi police officials. Sources said that at the time of the incident, some officials from the Delhi Police Special Cell, an anti-terror unit, were also present with Nadir inside the gym at the time of the incident. After the incident, all were seen running out in plain clothes. Continued on Page 8

Embrace education, reject caste differences: Guv

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Governor Anandiben Patel urged students to embody the values of good humanity and reject caste differences, which she described as the true mark of our knowledge. She emphasised that winning a gold medal holds no value if one lacks fundamental human qualities.

The governor was speaking at the 11th convocation of Dr Shakuntala Mishra National Rehabilitation University (DSMNRU) on Friday. She advised students to identify their unique qualities and work diligently towards their goals, advocating for education as the path to success rather than pursuing wrong means.

Highlighting the importance of understanding and respecting the knowledge and traditions of the country, she encouraged students to share these with the world for a brighter future.

"India, a vast sea of knowledge, has attracted scholars like Fa Hein. Despite the neglect of Nalanda University in Bihar, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has revitalised it. We should take pride in our country's progress and our rich knowledge, values, and traditions. Caste differences should not divide us; India, which has birthed numerous religions, stands as a symbol of religious harmony," she stated.

Patel also spoke about the role of teachers in shaping students with social values who view the world as one family. "The entire world is our family, yet we create divisions based on caste. We are all children of Bharat Mata, and education should help eliminate these differences," she said. She noted that people from various countries come to

India to learn about the concept of 'Vasudev Kutumbakam' and the joint family system, unique to Indian culture. Commenting on the convocation, she pointed out that only 10-12 differently-abled students received awards and urged the university to create a separate merit list for differently-abled students in the next academic session. Additionally, she recommended that the DSMNRU pursue NIRF rankings and binary ratings.

The governor directed the university to utilise the Samarth portal, replacing the previous IT companies that made numerous mistakes and charged for corrections. "The state government would spend Rs 200 crore on IT companies, which I have halted. Approximately 20 lakh degrees were pending distribution due to cumbersome procedures," she noted. She noted the global contributions of differently-abled people and India's success in para sports. She commended the university for preparing students for the Paralympics with specialised training.

The governor also highlighted that the 29 students who won medals at the Paris Paralympics met Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who demonstrated respect and empathy by sitting on the floor to greet a winner. "The success of winners from Uttar Pradesh shows that talent is abundant in the state, and self-confidence is key to overcoming barriers and achieving success," she added. She encouraged the university to apply for grants from the Central government, which has allocated Rs 1,225 crore for the differently-abled in the Union budget. "Many departments fail to

11TH CONVOCATION OF REHABILITATION UNIVERSITY



utilise their budgets, leading to unused funds. A thorough review of the budget is essential to ensure that welfare schemes reach the intended beneficiaries," she noted. Murlikant Rajaram Petkar, who was the chief guest, congratulated the medal winners and praised the university for its facilities. "I have visited many places, but this rehabilitation university, built on 121 acres, stands out. Both students and coaches here are exceptional," he said. At 84, Petkar expressed his desire to win medals for his country and shared that he wears his medals to inspire others. He requested the university to build a swimming pool for practice and emphasised that happiness is the best diet. "I have never lost a competition and believe that one should never lose hope. Controlling your mind enables you to control anything," he told the students. Minister of State Narendra Kashyap reaffirmed the state government's commitment to the welfare of the differently-abled.

Toppers reflect on success, goals

Lucknow (PNS): The top achievers at Dr Shakuntala Mishra National Rehabilitation University (DSMNRU) are on cloud nine after clinching the top ranks. Chinmay Shukla, who earned three gold medals, including the prestigious Chancellor's Medal and Chief Minister's Medal for achieving the highest marks in MTech (Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning), expressed his excitement and gratitude. "I am thrilled to receive these honours and am thankful to my teachers, family, and friends for their support," he said, adding hard work is the key to success. Looking ahead, he plans to pursue a PhD and has secured a position as an assistant professor at BBD University starting September 17. "I am currently preparing for NET and GATE and seeking a scholarship for my PhD," said Chinmay, who aspires to work in cyber networking, citing its potential for advancement in

the country. "Artificial Intelligence is the future, and coding will soon become outdated," he said. Reflecting on his experiences at the rehabilitation university, where he previously completed BTech, Chinmay noted his involvement in creating smart shoes for blind students, which help them navigate various environments. In the MTech programme, he worked on American sign language to aid deaf individuals, due to the limited focus on Indian sign languages. "Studying with differently-abled students has shown me that they possess skills often overlooked. For example, visually impaired students are highly attuned to their surroundings, and those with hearing impairments use gestures and body language effectively. My advice to students is that you can learn a great deal from interacting with differently-abled peers," he said. Akanksha Mishra, who secured

two gold medals and one silver for achieving the second-highest marks in Statistics, shared her happiness about her accomplishments. "Being consistent and revising lectures regularly were key to my success," said Akanksha, who plans to pursue a PhD and aims to join the Indian Statistical Services. Shivansh Chaubey, who won one gold, one silver, and one bronze medal for attaining the third-highest marks in BTech (Electrical Engineering), said he was overjoyed. "Regular study and self-discipline were crucial to my success," said Shivansh, who is preparing for GATE with hopes of joining a public sector unit. He also highlighted the unique opportunity the rehabilitation university provides to assist differently-abled students and learn from their perseverance. "Working and studying with these students has been an eye-opener, showcasing their remarkable dedication and resilience," he added.

Six-year-old among 3 hurt in animal attacks

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A six-year-old, among three, was injured after a wild animal attacked them during the intervening night of Thursday and Friday in the wolf-infested Mahsi tehsil here,

officials said. The locals and families of the victims are attributing the attacks to wolves, while forest department officials and wolf experts are suggesting that jackals or dogs may be responsible. The recent attacks took place in the intervening night of Thursday and Friday. In one incident, Gudiya (26) was attacked by a wild animal while putting her daughter to sleep in Singiya Nasirpur village. The animal inflicted injuries to her neck and face, and she was subsequently admitted to the district hospital for treatment, the locals alleged. Another attack occurred in Narkotwa village, where Nanakau (6) was injured by an unknown animal. In Sammanpur village, Mukimunnisha (45) was also attacked while going about her daily chores. Locals have alleged that wolves are behind the three attacks. The forest department officials hold a different view. Divisional Forest Officer Ajit Pratap Singh stated in an official statement that Wildlife expert scientist Dr Shaheer Khan, who visited the scene of the incidents, did not find any evidence of wolf footprints but instead discovered footprints of jackals and dogs. All the injured victims have been admitted to the district hospital and are receiving medical care, Singh said. Since July 17, the state government has launched an "Operation Bhediya" to catch the wolves - five of which have already been rescued - efforts are underway to find the sixth wolf from the pack, whose images were seen through a drone camera last month. In Bahraich's Mahsi tehsil, 10 people, including nine children have been killed in these attacks since March and around three dozen people are left injured in human-wildlife conflicts in the area with the government declaring it as a "wildlife disaster."

CLASSIFIEDS

NOTICE

I have changed my name from Renu bala bhatia to Renu bhatia to be known as Renu bhatia in all future references. Renu bhatia, Add.- 111A/311 Ashok Nagar, Kanpur

NOTICE

I have changed my son's name from Areeb Ahmad Siddiqui To Areeb Ahmad for all future purpose. Viqar Ahmad R/o 101/127, Beconganj Kanpur

NOTICE

I Harishchandra Yadav s/o Late Shambhu Prasad R/o Bari Kala, Post- Barawan Kala Distt- Lucknow My Son Lavish Yadav's School Document/Record Mistakenly showing my name Harishchandra while my full name Harishchandra Yadav. So Please Registered my full Name is Harishchandra Yadav in School Record.

NOTICE

I, Rishabh Singh (son of JC-286584F Subedar (Operator) Ramchandra Singh), do hereby solemnly declare that I have changed my name from Rishabh Singh to Rishabh Singh. This change has been made due to modifications in my father's military records and service documents. R/o- Village: Bajaura, Post: Bihar, Tehsil: Purwa, District: Unnao-209866

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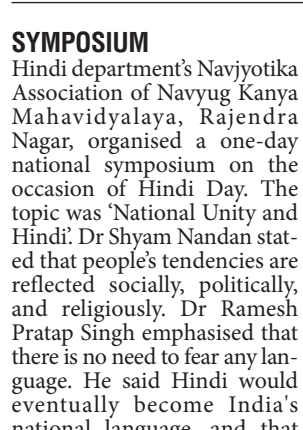
THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS

CHANGE OF NAME

I ABHISHEK GUPTA alias ABHISHEK KASAUHDAN S/O RAMESH KUMAR R/O-610/419 Keshav Nagar Aliganj Nirala Nagar Lucknow U.P.-226200 changed my name to ABHISHEK GUPTA. PD(749)A

SYMPOSIUM

Hindi department's Navjyotika Association of Navyug Kanya Mahavidyalaya, Rajendra Nagar, organised a one-day national symposium on the occasion of Hindi Day. The topic was 'National Unity and Hindi'. Dr Shyam Nandan stated that people's tendencies are reflected socially, politically, and religiously. Dr Ramesh Pratap Singh emphasised that there is no need to fear any language. He said Hindi would eventually become India's national language, and that



LMC EC focus on drainage, education, traffic mgmt

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The Lucknow Municipal Corporation Executive Council on Friday held a comprehensive meeting where a range of issues related to city's development were discussed and several proposals of public interest were approved. Mayor Sushma Kharakwal led the session, giving clear instructions to enhance urban infrastructure and public amenities. The mayor emphasised the urgent need for improving drainage systems across the city. She instructed engineers to immediately survey and cover open drains in residential areas to ensure safety. Additionally, she directed officials to install nets on the open sections of Sarkata nullah. In line with these efforts, she also ordered the resolution of sewer problems under Munshipulia and the completion of vanding zone developments before Diwali. In the realm of education, a

grant of Rs 1.5 crore from Rajya Sabha MP Dinesh Sharma was announced for municipal schools. Municipal Commissioner Indrjeet Singh approved the allocation of these funds to equip six schools with smart screens. This initiative aims to enhance the learning environment for students. The mayor also addressed the need for efficient management of health services. She instructed responsible persons to assess the status of health ATMs installed by Lucknow Smart City, ensuring their maintenance and proper functioning. In addition, she ordered the installation of signage boards at funeral and cremation ghats across the city to provide clear information about arrangements, rates, and rules. Traffic management and urban cleanliness were also high on the agenda. The mayor issued directives to remove illegal parking and encroachments within a one-kilometer radius of King George's Medical

University, aiming to improve traffic flow. Furthermore, she instructed officials to take action against unauthorised e-rickshaws operating in old city. In terms of new developments, the council approved the construction of a small vending zone along the banks of Ganga Prasar Road in Maulviganj Ward-95. The Disaster Relief Fund was sanctioned to purchase essential equipment for relief and rescue operations in natural calamities. Additionally, the proposal to demolish the dilapidated Municipal Corporation School building on Chitwapur Road in Lal Kuan Ward was given the green signal. The redevelopment plan includes constructing a new school, a Kalyan Mandap, a park, and underground parking facilities. The meeting concluded with a reaffirmation of the commitment to address these issues efficiently and to continue enhancing the city's infrastructure and public services.

Class XI student, mom attacked with iron rod

Lucknow (PNS): A youth allegedly thrashed his rival with an iron rod and also attacked his mother at latter's house in Itaunja on Thursday afternoon. The incident took place reportedly after the victim's bicycle brushed past the accused identified as Lala Gupta of Jamkhanwa village in the area. As per reports, Amrish Kumar Dwivedi, a Class XI student of Rashtrapita Inter College in Itaunja, was returning home when his bicycle touched the foot of Lala Gupta, who was standing on the road near Jamkhanwa village on Thursday afternoon. Gupta allegedly beat up Amrish with an iron rod and threatened him when the former confronted. Gupta allegedly allegedly threatened to kill him. As Amrish pleaded innocence and proceeded towards his home, he was slapped repeatedly. When Amrish's mother tried to save him, Gupta allegedly hit her with the iron rod. Tej Kumar and his wife reached the assistant police commissioner's office in BKT the same evening. It was only then that the police took up the case.

Woman alleges husband's involvement in flesh trade

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A public argument between a woman and her husband in the Jankipuram area erupted into a dramatic scene on Friday, drawing a large crowd of onlookers. The altercation, which began when the woman reappeared after being missing for four days, revealed intense personal accusations, including allegations of her husband's involvement in flesh trade. The incident unfolded near Avadh bus stand, where the woman's husband had spotted her and attempted to take her home. The woman, however, reacted explosively, hurling stones at her husband and

mouthed expletives. Among her accusations was a claim that her husband was complicit in human trafficking. "I am not your bought woman. If you want to keep me, do it properly. I didn't marry you to be beaten up by you and your family," she yelled, adding that she would expose him to the police. As the commotion attracted a crowd of around 100 onlookers, including High Court lawyers, the situation escalated. The Chinhat police intervened and took the couple to the station. The man explained to the police that his wife had disappeared from their home four days ago, prompting him to file

a missing complaint. He described the incident at the bus station as a distressing outburst from his wife, who left their four-year-old son at home. "I am torn between caring for my child and managing my shop," he said. In contrast, the woman claimed she had endured physical abuse from her husband and in-laws, leading her to flee. She insisted that her husband's family was abusive and said, "I tolerated the torture for a long time, but I am now fed up. I have no choice but to leave." A High Court lawyer who arrived at the scene attempted to mediate. The man said that if his wife wished to live separately, she should do so legal-

ly. He also raised concerns about her tendency to leave without informing him, which he feared could lead to further complications. Meanwhile, the woman reiterated her allegations against her husband's friend, accusing him of being involved in the trafficking of girls and claiming that her husband supported this illegal activity. The dramatic confrontation also attracted social media users who filmed and photographed the scene, overshadowing the seriousness of the couple's personal issues. The Chinhat police are investigating the matter and trying to understand the full context to resolve the dispute.

UP Housing Development Board approves key appointments, disciplinary action

Lucknow (PNS): The 259th meeting of the UP Housing Development Board took place in the auditorium of its administration block on Friday. Additional Chief Secretary, Urban and Housing Development, Nitin Ramesh Gokaran chaired the meeting, which was attended by senior officers and representatives from various departments. In his address, the ACS emphasised the importance of collective participation in developing housing policies and civil plans. The board approved an extension of six months for Officer on Special Duty (OSD) Ayodhya, Rajesh Nath Tripathi. Tripathi, who recently retired as the management officer of the Consolidated Revenue Board, was initially assigned as OSD six months ago, with his term set to expire on March 15. Additionally,

the board agreed to appoint Shiv Bahadur and Ashoka Kumar Tiwari, both retired employees of the Consolidated Revenue Board, on a contractual basis. It was also resolved to compulsorily retire property officer KC Tripathi, currently posted in Firozabad, on disciplinary grounds. A disciplinary committee had investigated his misconduct and submitted a report on March 2.

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STF nabs fraudster posing as CM's personal secretary

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A team of the Uttar Pradesh Special Task Force (STF) in Lucknow claimed to have apprehended a member of an organised gang involved in defrauding people and operating online gambling schemes, late Thursday night. The accused identified as Feroq Aman, who is from Azamgarh, had been posing as the Uttar Pradesh chief minister's personal secretary to deceive people into paying money for promises of helping them pass competitive exams and for engaging in online gambling activities. The STF team seized two mobile phones, an Aadhaar card, Rs 1,200 in cash, and 48 printouts of mobile/WhatsApp data from Aman, who was arrested near Kamta trisection around 11:55 pm on Thursday. According to the police, they were investigating a gang whose members had been impersonating the chief minister's personal secretary to extort money. Through intelligence gathering, they identified Feroq Aman as a key associate of the gang's leader. Aman was found to be in Lucknow, leading to his arrest based on this information. During interrogation, Aman revealed that he holds a BPharma degree from Karnataka and has managed two agencies since 2021, employing about 125 hosts. In February 2024, a host informed him about an individual named Thakur, who claimed to be the chief minister's personal secretary and offered to buy coin recharges. Aman, intrigued by the offer, engaged with Thakur and was subsequently duped. Thakur persuaded Aman to recharge coins on his app and promised further cooperation. Over time, Aman discovered that Thakur was not an official and began exploiting him. Thakur initially used Aman's services for a variety of fraudulent activities, including obtaining a pistol licence. Aman then began to exploit the situation further, committing

fraud and taking advantage of Thakur's claims. In his confession, Aman stated that he received a 14% commission on the transactions, with 26% going to the company and 60% to the hosts. He also provided Thakur with technical support, including information on using VPNs. Aman admitted to using Thakur's app ID to receive gifted coins and collecting money through various people under false pretences. On July 26, 2024, Thakur advertised a police recruitment scam on WhatsApp, promising to facilitate recruitment for Rs 7 lakh, of which Aman would receive half. Aman had travelled to Lucknow at Thakur's request. Regarding the app used for gambling, Aman explained that it featured live streaming, chatting, and gambling games such as Teen Patti, Treasure Hunt, Alibaba, Derby, and Fruitloop. He earned a 7% commission on the gambling recharges. The annual turnover of the app company in India is approximately Rs 200 crore. Forensic analysis of the seized electronic equipment is pending.

LONELINESS LED IIT PROF TO END LIFE

Loneliness led the associate professor at Indian Institute of Information Technology, Lucknow University in Ahimamau, to end her life at her house in Indiranagar (Sector A) under Ghazipur police station area on Wednesday night, police claimed on Friday. The police recovered a suicide note from the house of the deceased, Ayushi Sharma. She was found hanging from the ceiling with a dupatta tied around her neck. Her father Vinod Sharma, who is bed-ridden due to paralysis, was in a room on the ground floor. In the suicide note, she wrote that she had not been in good mental health since 2019 and did not want to live. She also wrote that she had also attempted suicide earlier but was saved.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FASHION TECHNOLOGY
(Ministry of Textiles, Govt of India)
NIFT Campus, Mithapur Farms, Patna -800001

Recruitment process as taken out vide Advt. notification (10001/01)/Recit. of Group-c/2021-22 dated 11.02.2024 stands cancelled.

Please visit www.nift.ac.in/patna for further details.

ADMINISTRATION, NIFT - PATNA

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FASHION TECHNOLOGY
(Ministry of Textiles, Govt of India)
NIFT Campus, Mithapur Farms, Patna -800001

RECRUITMENT NOTICE

National Institute of Fashion Technology invites applications to engage faculties on Short - Term contract basis for its upcoming extension center at Begusarai, Bihar. The last date of submitting the application is 04/10/2024. The details of the posts are available at the website www.nift.ac.in/patna.

Administration NIFT - Patna

FORM NO. INC-26
[Pursuant to Rule 30 of Companies (Incorporation) Rules, 2014]

GTVISION PROJECTS PRIVATE LIMITED
Registered Office: 50/11, Jai Narayan Road, Hotel Neelkanth, Lalbagh Lucknow- 226001
Email: atmps2781b@gmail.com CIN: U45309UP2017PTC091306

Before the Central Government Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Regional Director, Northern Region, B2 Wing, 2nd Floor, Pt. Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan, 2nd Floor, CGO Complex, New Delhi- 110003. In the matter of the Companies Act, 2013 Rule 30(6) (a) of the Companies (Incorporation) Rules, 2014.

In the matter of M/S GTVISION Projects Private Limited having its Registered Office at 50/11, Jai Narayan Road, Hotel Neelkanth, Lalbagh Lucknow- 226001

Notice is hereby given to General Public that the company proposes to make the application to the Central Government under section 13 of the Companies Act 2013, seeking confirmation of alteration of Memorandum of Association of the Company in terms of the special resolution passed at Extra ordinary General Meeting held on, 24th DAY OF August, 2024 to enable the company to change its Registered Office from "State of Uttar Pradesh" to "The National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi". Any person whose interest is likely to be affected by the proposed change of the Company may deliver or cause to deliver or send by registered post of his/her objections supported by an affidavit stating the nature of his/her interest and ground of opposition to the Regional Director at the Address Northern Region, B2 WING, 2nd Floor, Pt. Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan, 2nd Floor, CGO Complex, New Delhi- 110003, within 14 Days of date of publication of this notice with a copy to the applicant company at its registered office at the address mentioned below:

ADDRESS OF REGISTERED OFFICE: GTVISION Projects Private Limited, Registered Office: 50/11, Jai Narayan Road, Hotel Neelkanth, Lalbagh Lucknow- 226001
Email: atmps2781b@gmail.com CIN: U45309UP2017PTC091306

For and on behalf of applicant GTVISION PROJECTS PRIVATE LIMITED SD/-
Rajendra Prasad Singh (Director)

DIN: 06653709 Date : Lucknow Place: 04.09.2024

APPENDIX IV-A
Sale Notice for sale of Immovable Property
E-Auction Sale Notice for sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) and Rule 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described Immovable Property mortgaged to Sammaan Capital Limited (formerly known as Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd.) [CIN : L65922DL2005PLC136029] ("Secured Creditor"), the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of the Secured Creditor, will be sold on "as is where is", "as is what is" and "whatever there is" basis on 30.09.2024 from 04.00 P.M. to 05.00 P.M., for recovery of Rs. 24,65,088/- (Rupees Twenty Four Lakh Sixty Five Thousand Eighty Eight only) pending towards Loan Account No. HLLKN00299568, by way of outstanding principal, arrears (including accrued late charges) and interest till 09.09.2024 with applicable future interest in terms of the Loan Agreement and other related loan document(s) w.e.f. 10.09.2024 along with legal expenses and other charges due to the Secured Creditor from JASVEER SINGH and JASPAL KAUR.

The Reserve Price of the Immovable Property will be Rs. 23,70,000/- (Rupees Twenty Three Lakh Seventy Thousand only) and the Earnest Money Deposit ("EMD") will be Rs. 2,37,000/- (Rupees Two Lakh Thirty Seven Thousand only) i.e. equivalent to 10% of the Reserve Price.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF FLAT NO. 203, ADMEASURING 73.42 SQ. MTRS., 2ND FLOOR OF DIAMOND APARTMENT, ON MUNICIPAL NO 8/151 (8/048), PURANA QUILA, BABU BANARASI DASS NAGAR, WARD BABU BANARSIDAS, LUCKNOW -226002, UTTAR PRADESH.

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer to the link provided on the website of the Secured Creditor i.e. www.sammaancapital.com; Contact No : 0124-6910910, +91 7065451024; E-mail id : auctionhelpline@sammaancapital.com. For bidding, log on to www.auctionfocus.in.

SD/-
AUTHORIZED OFFICER SAMMAAN CAPITAL LIMITED Lucknow-226002
INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LTD.)

Date : 09.09.2024
Place : LUCKNOW

Eastern UP now free from encephalitis: Yogi

Yogi govt to honour Safai Mitras on Gandhi Jayanti



Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath during the fourth annual Foundation Day celebrations of Dr Ram Manohar Lohia Institute of Medical Sciences in Lucknow on Friday

PNS ■ LUCKNOW
Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Friday said eastern Uttar Pradesh is now free from encephalitis, with the death toll reduced to zero this year. "This achievement has been made possible through unwavering determination and collective support of everyone involved, something that was once thought impossible," he said. According to an official statement issued here, Yogi said Uttar Pradesh is marching

towards realising the 'One District-One Medical College' vision and within five to seven years, there will be no shortage of doctors in the state. Addressing the fourth Foundation Day celebration of Dr Ram Manohar Lohia Institute of Medical Sciences here, the CM recalled that five years ago, eastern UP was plagued by encephalitis, with an annual death toll ranging from 1,200 to 1,500 between July and November, and Gorakhpur's BRD Medical College alone accounting for

500 to 700 deaths. "This crisis persisted for 40 years, resulting in the deaths of 50,000 children, while previous administrations failed to address it effectively. Previous governments were mired in corruption instead of implementing the necessary measures. As an MP, I raised this issue extensively, which eventually led to action," Adityanath claimed. The chief minister acknowledged Prime Minister Narendra Modi's role in establishing AIIMS in

Gorakhpur to combat encephalitis. "Upon becoming Chief Minister in 2017, I took on the responsibility to address this issue. We initiated efforts, and by 2019, we succeeded in controlling the situation. Today, eastern Uttar Pradesh is free from encephalitis, a result of strong resolve and collective support, which was once thought to be unachievable," he said. Adityanath said that recent surveys conducted in eastern Uttar Pradesh have confirmed that no child has died

from encephalitis this year. He added that these findings underscore the success of the government's efforts in eradicating the disease from the region, the statement mentioned. Encephalitis has been completely eradicated, yet, unfortunately, no study or research paper has been written on this remarkable achievement, which stands as a model of success, the chief minister said at the event. He also noted the rapid progress being made towards establishing one medical col-

lege per district in Uttar Pradesh, in line with PM Modi's vision. The CM claimed that Uttar Pradesh leads the nation in healthcare initiatives, with over 5.11 crore 'Ayushman Bharat Golden Cards' issued and welcomed the recent decision by the Union Cabinet to extend Ayushman Card benefits to all individuals aged 70 years and above. He added that financial assistance for medical treatment is being provided through the Chief Minister's Relief Fund without any discrimination.

Lucknow (PNS): In a significant tribute to the Father of Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, the Yogi Adityanath government is set to recognise the outstanding contributions of Safai Mitras and other individuals in the field of cleanliness with the 'Swachhata Hi Seva Award' on October 2. This initiative is part of a broader cleanliness campaign, 'Swachhata Hi Seva', to run across the state from September 17 to October 2. The award, which will be presented in nine different categories, aims to honour public participation, dedicated associates and special initiatives in the cleanliness drive. The selection of awardees will be made by a committee at both the state and district levels. The Urban Development department, following the directives of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, has chalked out an action plan to execute this campaign. The 15-day campaign will feature daily theme-based information, education and communication (IEC) activities. As part of the celebrations for the 155th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the Yogi government will host a series of events across all urban bodies under the Swachhata Hi Seva Pakhwada. These activities, reflecting Gandhi's enduring message of cleanliness, will culminate on October 2 with a ceremony recognising outstanding contributions to cleanliness at the state and district levels. The awards will celebrate achievements such as the transformation of cleanliness target units (CTU) sites and honour Safai Mitras, as well as other state-level winners.

Additionally, the event will see the inauguration and foundation laying of key sanitation projects, including community and public toilets, solid waste management (SWM) projects, sewage treatment plants, and fecal sludge treatment plants (FSTP), among other initiatives aimed at promoting a cleaner and healthier environment. The Swachhata Hi Seva 2024 awards will honour outstanding contributions to cleanliness and sanitation across nine distinct categories. These categories include Swachhata Participation, CTU (Cleanliness Targeted Unit) Transformation, Safai Mitra Suraksha Camp, Swachh Food Streets, SBM Culture Festivals, SBM Waste to Art Installations, Public Advocacy, Partners, and Special Initiatives. Award recipients will be chosen by a jury appointed at both the state and district levels. Additionally, each ward will have a Clean Environment Promotion Committee responsible for conducting a clean house survey. The top three cleanest houses in each ward will receive a citation, and sanitation workers who demonstrate exceptional dedication in their work will also be honoured. The campaign is set to involve widespread public participation, with individuals from all walks of life, including Chief Minister Yogi, state ministers, public representatives and officials engaging in Shramdaan (voluntary labour) at various locations. Voluntary organisations, schools and colleges will also actively participate in the cleanliness programmes, reinforcing the collective effort toward a cleaner state.

Akhilesh: Bail to Kejriwal 'victory of Constitution'

PNS ■ LUCKNOW
Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav, on Friday, hailed as "victory of Constitution" the bail granted to Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal by the Supreme Court. Akhilesh also described Kejriwal as a "popular and pro-public welfare" chief minister and slammed the Bharatiya Janata Party for being "against the Constitution and misusing it". "The bail of Delhi's popular and public welfare Chief Minister Shri Arvind Kejriwal is a victory of the Constitution. Only those who are against the Constitution misuse the Constitution. The knock on the door of justice is always heard. The world has moved forward on this tradition till now and will continue to do so," Akhilesh Yadav posted in Hindi on X. Earlier on Friday, the Supreme Court granted bail to Kejriwal in the corruption case lodged

by the Central Bureau of Investigation in connection with the excise policy "scam", saying prolonged incarceration amounts to unjust deprivation of liberty. A bench of Justices Surya Kant and Ujjal Bhuyan granted the relief to Kejriwal on furnishing a bail bond of Rs 10 lakh, and two sureties of like amount. **AAP WELCOMES SCDECISION** Meanwhile, welcoming the Supreme Court's decision to release Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on bail, Aam Aadmi Party's UP unit leader and state spokesman Mahendra Singh said it was clear from the apex court's decision that the country will be run by the Constitution and not by dictatorship. Mahendra Singh said that the Supreme Court decision to grant bail to Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal was a slap on the face of Bharatiya Janata Party. "This decision of the

court has given the message that in this country, the Constitution will rule and not any dictator and if someone runs a dictatorship, then the Constitution of the country will protect the common man," he said. AAP Lucknow district president Iram Rizvi said Kejriwal's release exposed the lies of Modi and the investigation agencies. Earlier, AAP leaders and workers celebrated the occasion in Lucknow on Friday. The celebrations were held at all the district headquarters of Uttar Pradesh. The party workers congratulated each other. In Lucknow, the party leaders and workers celebrated the occasion by distributing laddus and sweets. Prakar Shrivastava, Anju Bhatt, Preetpal Singh Sanju, Priyanka Shrivastava, Vanshraj Dubey, Ankit Parihar, Ajay Gupta, Johnny, Lalit Valmiki, Rajiv Pandey, Zarina Usmani, Sandeep Yadav, Anit, Yashveer Singh were present.

Students can now apply for UP Board exams until Sept 20 with late fees

PNS ■ LUCKNOW/PRAVAGRAJ
In a major relief for students preparing for the Uttar Pradesh Board exams, the Yogi Adityanath government has extended the application deadline. Candidates can now apply for the UP Board examinations until September 20 with a late fee of Rs 100. The Uttar Pradesh Board of Secondary Education has announced this revision for both institutional and individual students preparing for the Class 10 and Class 12 exams. The principals of the recognised schools have been directed to complete all the processes of uploading the examination application forms of the students online in time. Board Secretary Bhagwati Singh has outlined the new deadlines for Uttar Pradesh Board exam fee payments.

All students, both institutional and individual, must pay the examination fee with an additional late fee of Rs 100 per student by September 20, 2024, through challan at the treasury. Students' examination fee payments, including the late fee, and their educational details must be uploaded online by September 25, 2024, by 12 noon. Schools are required to verify students' details by September 26, and principals must complete any online corrections by October 1, 2024, at 12 noon. The final list of students will be uploaded by October 10, 2024. The Board has asked all schools and students to adhere to these deadlines. For further details, schools should visit the Board's official website or contact the relevant authorities.

Week-long 'Punya Smran' fest honouring gurus begins today

Gorakhpur (PNS): A week-long festival honouring gurus will commence on Saturday at the Gorakhpur temple of the Nath sect, known for its dedication to public welfare and upholding the guru-disciple tradition. This annual event, a tribute to Brahmalin Mahant Digvijaynath Ji Maharaj, revered as Yugpurush, and Brahmalin Mahant Avaidyanath Ji Maharaj, celebrated as Rashtasant, is organised under the guidance of the Gorakhpurpeethadishwar. As in previous years, this year's event will feature programmes focused on religion and national issues, reflecting the philosophies of these revered mahants. The Shrimad Bhagwat Katha will reinforce religious teachings, while a conference will address national concerns with scholarly discourse. Preparations for the event, set to take place at the Gorakhnath temple in observance of the 55th death anniversary of Mahant Digvijaynath and the 10th death anniversary of Mahant Avaidyanath, have been completed under the supervision of Chief Minister and Gorakhpurpeethadishwar Yogi Adityanath. Providing details of the week-long festivities scheduled from September 14 to 21, chief priest

Yogi Kamalnath shared that the Shrimad Bhagwat katha gyan yajna will commence on September 14, followed by the conference on societal and national issues beginning on September 15. Jagadguru Ananta Nanda Kashipeethadishwar Swami (Dr) Ram Kamaldas Vedanti Ji from Kashi will narrate the sacred Shrimad Bhagwat katha. The katha will officially start at 2:30 pm on Saturday with a ceremonial procession of the 'Akhanda Jyoti' and the Shrimad Bhagwat Mahapuram. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, along with distinguished religious leaders, saints and patrons, will participate in this grand procession from the Gorakhnath temple's sanctum sanctorum to the katha venue at Digvijaynath Smriti Bhawan. Yogi Kamalnath also announced that a conference addressing contemporary issues, inspired by the teachings of the departed mahants, will be inaugurated at 10:30 am on September 15 at Mahant Digvijaynath Smriti Bhawan. On the inaugural day, Hariyansh Narayan Singh, Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha, will be the chief guest for the discussion on 'India as the Mother of Democracy', with Prof Sadanand Gupta, former executive president of Uttar Pradesh Hindi

Sansthan, Lucknow, as a featured speaker. At the conference on the theme of 'Social Harmony: Special References to Mahayogi Gorakhnath and Nathpanth' on September 17, the keynote address will be delivered by Prof Ishwar Sharan Vishwakarma, former Chairman of the Higher Education Commission, Prayagraj, while Dr Padmaja Singh from the ancient history, archaeology and sanskrit department of DDU Gorakhpur University will serve as the local speaker. Similarly, on September 18, the conference on 'Sanskrit and Indian Culture' will feature Prof Vinay Kumar Pandey, former chairman of the astrology department and honorary director of Shri Vishwanath temple at Banaras Hindu University, as the keynote speaker. Dr Laxmi Mishra, associate professor and coordinator of the Sanskrit department at DDU Gorakhpur University, will be the local speaker. On September 19, during the conference on 'Indian Culture and Cow Service', Sridharacharya Ji, Mahant Raghavacharya Ji, and Dr Ram Vilas Vedanti will share their insights, with several other saints and spiritual leaders in attendance. These conferences will take place daily, starting at 10:40 am. The final two days of the death

anniversary observance will focus on tribute meetings. On September 20, at the tribute ceremony for Yugpurush Mahant Digvijaynath Ji Maharaj, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath will be present, along with Mahant Balaknath Ji, Mahant Shernath Ji, Dr Ram Vilas Vedanti Ji, and the heads of all institutions of the Maharana Pratap Shiksha Parishad. Similarly, on September 21, the tribute meeting for Rashtasant Mahant Avaidyanath Ji Maharaj will be held in the presence of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, Mahant Balaknath, Mahant Shernath, Dr Ram Vilas Vedanti, as well as representatives from various social, cultural and political organisations. Many respected saints, mahants, religious leaders and social workers from across the nation will participate in these tribute events. The Shrimad Bhagwat Mahapuram Katha, the seven-day conference, and the tribute meetings will be streamed live on the Gorakhnath temple's Facebook page, X (formerly Twitter), and YouTube channel. Yogi Kamalnath also announced that a free bus service will be available daily from 2:00 pm for devotees travelling from designated locations to the Gorakhnath temple to attend the Shrimad Bhagwat Mahapuram Katha.

Barber from Rae Bareilly gets gift from Rahul

Lucknow (PNS): Mithun barber, who runs a salon in Brijendra Nagar locality in Lalganj of Rae Bareilly district, has been sent a gift by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi. In this gift, Rahul has sent some salon items to Mithun. Mithun was very happy to receive the salon items. On May 13, Rahul Gandhi held a public meeting at Baiswara Inter College playground. While returning after addressing the election rally there, Rahul had stopped at a salon in Lalganj and got his beard trimmed by a barber, Mithun. This became a topic of discussion, while Mithun also became famous in the area. After the May incident, Rahul Gandhi has now sent a special gift to Mithun. Earlier, a cobbler of Sultanpur had also received a gift from Rahul Gandhi. Reports said that Congress workers reached Mithun with gifts on Thursday. The gifts included a shampoo chair, two hair cutting chairs and an inverter battery. Mithun expressed happiness on receiving this gift from Rahul Gandhi, the Congress MP and leader of opposition in Lok Sabha. He expressed his gratitude to Rahul. Mithun said he was very happy to receive the goods sent by Rahul Gandhi.

राष्ट्रीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान, कुरुक्षेत्र
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
(Under the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)
KURUKSHETRA-136119 (HARYANA)

Advt. No. 78 /2024

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

NIT Kurukshetra invites sealed tenders from the interested firms for leasing out various Shops/Canteen/Booth in the premises of the Institute for a period of two years on monthly rental basis. Interested firms are requested to submit their tender document as per the terms and conditions, which can be downloaded from the Institute website www.nitkkr.ac.in. The tender document along with terms & conditions duly signed by the interested firms in sealed envelope alongwith Tender Fee & Earnest Money deposit(EMD) addressed to the Dean(Estate & Construction), NIT, Kurukshetra may be sent on or before **10-10-2024 upto 03.00 PM**.

Registrar /IC

बैंक ऑफ बड़ोदा
Bank of Baroda

Regional Office Kanpur Dehat Region : 118/330,
2nd Floor, Kaushalpur, Gumti No. 5, Kanpur -208012

Possession Notice Branch : Chhibramau, Distt. Kannauj

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of Bank of Baroda under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice calling upon the borrower & guarantor to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being with in 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower/guarantor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers/guarantors and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with rule 8 & 9 of the said rules.

The borrower/guarantor in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the first charge of Bank of Baroda for amount & interest thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to provision of sub-section (8) of 13 of the act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

Name and Address of Borrower/Guarantor & Description of Mortgage Property and Out Standing Amount as per Demand Notice/Demand & Possession Notice Date

Borrower : M/s Everest Sales Corporation, Proprietor : Shri Anshu Ahmad S/o Shri Abdul Baheed, Address : Mohalla Tripathi Nagar, Chhibramau, Distt. Kannauj, Guarantor : Shri Gautam Das Agarwal, R/o : Kanoon Goyan, Chhibramau, Distt. Kannauj.

Demand Notice Date : 14-06-2024 • Date of Constructive Possession : 10.09.2024

Property : Residential Cum Commercial House Situated at Mohalla Tripathi Nagar, Tehsil Chhibramau, Distt. Kannauj, Owner of Property : Shri Anshu Ahmad S/o Shri Abdul Baheed, Area : 177.60 Sq. Mtr., Bounded-North : House of Gurupal Singh, South : House of Shri Krishna Lambardar, East : Road, West : Junior High School.

O/s Amount as per Demand Notice as on Dated 14-06-2024 : Rs. 21,47,718.06 + Intt. +Others Charges

Total Dues Amount as on Dated 31-08-2024 : Rs. 21,76,902.09 + Intt. +Others Charges

Date : 14-09-2024 Place : Kannauj Authorised Officer

IDFC FIRST Bank Limited
(erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC FIRST Bank Limited)

IDFC FIRST Bank

Notice under Section 13 (2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002

The following borrowers and co-borrowers availed the below mentioned secured loans from IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC FIRST Bank Limited) The loans of the below-mentioned borrowers and co-borrowers have been secured by the mortgage of their respective properties. As they have failed to adhere to the terms and conditions of the respective loan agreements and had become irregular, their loan were classified as NPA as per the RBI guidelines. Amounts due by them to IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC FIRST Bank Limited) are mentioned as per respective notices issued more particularly described in the following table and further interest on the said amounts shall also be applicable and the same will be charged as per contractual rate with effect from their respective dates.

Sr No.	Loan Account No.	Type of Loan	Name of borrowers and co-borrowers	Section 13 (2) Notice Date	Outstanding amount as per Section 13 (2) Notice
1	127311864	LOAN AGAINST PROPERTY	1.VED PRKASH SINGH 2.SARITA SINGH	14.08.2024	15,54,306.95/-

PROPERTY ADDRESS : ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF RESIDENTIAL PART OF PLOT NO. 19, ADMEASURING 74.814 SQ. MTRS., GATA NO. 254, WARD-BARKHERWA MAHEWA, MOHALLA MAHADEVIPURAM NEAR MOTINAGAR, DISTRICT-LAKHIMPUR, KHERI, UTTAR PRADESH-262701, AND, BOUNDED AS: EAST: PLOT OF PREM SINGH. WEST: HOUSE OF RAM SWAROOP SINGH, NORTH: HOUSE OF AWADESH KUMAR BAJPAL, SOUTH: ROAD

You are hereby called upon to pay the amounts to IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC FIRST Bank Limited) as per the details shown in the above table with contracted rate of interest thereupon from their respective dates and other costs, charges etc. within 60 days from the date of this publication, failing which the undersigned shall be constrained to initiate proceedings, under Section 13 (4) and section 14 of the SARFAESI Act, against the mortgaged properties mentioned hereinabove to realize the amount due to IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC FIRST Bank Limited). Further you are prohibited under Section 13 (13) of the said Act from transferring the said secured assets either by way of sale/lease or otherwise.

Sd/- Authorized Officer

Date : 14.09.2024 IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC FIRST Bank Limited)
Place : UTTAR PRADESH

Cong wants to bring Emergency-like situation in country: Giriraj Singh

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ PRAYAGRAJ

Union Minister of Textiles Giriraj Singh said that opposition leaders are going abroad and trying to tarnish India's image. Efforts are being made to lower the dignity of the country. He said the Congress wants to bring Emergency-like situation in the country. Giriraj was talking to journalists after inaugurating the 'Moonj Shilpgram Mela' in Maheva Naini on Friday. He said that it is the misfortune of the country that opposition leaders are going abroad and falsely criticising the country. The people of the country have come to know everything. Now we should not hand over power to a dictatorial government, he said. The minister said that Hindus showed unity in Himachal Pradesh. The country needs this unity, he added.

Giriraj said when PM Modi went to CJI's house for Ganesh Puja, the Tukde Tukde gang did not like it. If the doors of the court open at night for terrorists, then Kejriwal, Akhilesh Yadav and Rahul Gandhi will like it. But if someone goes to the judge's house for Ganesh Puja, then they feel bad. Giriraj said Akhilesh sees only caste even in criminals and Yogi sees only criminal in criminal. This is the difference between Yogi and Akhilesh. Today the entire Kejriwal government is stuck in the quagmire of corruption, he alleged. Giriraj said, "I had said this earlier also. I am saying it even today that Lalu and Tejashwi Yadav should wear Nitish Kumar's locket".

BODY FOUND: Panic gripped the area when the body of a youth was found next to a sweet shop in Naini area here on Friday. He could not be

identified at that time. Later, he was identified as a resident of Karchana area by his kin when they reached the post-mortem house. According to Naini police, Nikhil Pratap Singh alias Saeepu of Basaria village in Karchana, was the youngest among two brothers and a sister. His elder brother Akhil Pratap Singh runs his own business. Father Krishna Pratap Singh died of a heart attack during Holi in March. Nikhil Pratap Singh also has a house in Naini. According to the family members, on Thursday evening Nikhil had a spat with his mother and elder brother at home due to which he became angry and went to commit suicide on the railway line. On getting information, the villagers caught him and brought him home where he again had a dispute due to which he tore all his clothes in anger and left

the house. In the morning his body was found lying next to the electric pole on the side of the road in Naini area. There were also burn marks body on his body. When his body was found, it could not be identified initially. Therefore, the police sent it to the postmortem house as unclaimed. After the video went viral on social media, the family members reached the postmortem house and identified him. Naini inspector Vaibhav Singh said reason for death will be clear only after the post-mortem report comes. After that action will be taken according to the complaint given by family members. Meanwhile a woman committed suicide by hanging herself late on Thursday night. On being informed the police reached the spot and sent the body for the postmortem. The family members have not given any written complaint to the

Emphasis on prevention, control of dental & oral diseases

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

Under the guidance of General Manager (GM) Sushil Kumar Srivastava, a workshop on oral and dental safety was organised on the occasion of World Oral Health Day in the auditorium room of Central Hospital in Banaras Locomotive Works (BLW) here on Thursday. Inaugurating the programme, Principal Chief Medical Officer (PCMO) of BLW Dr Devesh Kumar said that World Oral Health Day was first declared in 2007 and was originally observed every year on September 12 to celebrate the birthday of FDI founder Dr Charles Godan and after 2013, it is started being celebrated on March 20 to preserve the multidimensional nature of the mouth so that its overall health can be improved. The slogan of this year's day is 'a happy mouth keeps the body happy too'. The smile of a healthy mouth also makes the surrounding environment happy. On this occasion Dr Archana Singh, dental surgeon working at BLW Hospital, presented a lecture to empower the individual with knowledge, tools and confidence to secure good oral health. The dental surgeon emphasised on the prevention and control of dental and oral diseases along with medical treatment, proper brushing, measures to keep gums healthy, dental checkup every six months, special attention to diet and eating after sticky food. In the programme Divisional Medical Officer Dr Saurabh Sagar, Assistant Nursing Officer Geeta Kumari Chaudhary, paramedical staff of the hospital Rajendra Prasad, Shivendra Naval, Somnath Hembram, Brijesh Kumar Patel, Harish Kumar, Sumit Kumar Sharma, Niteshwar Saroj, Atul Kumar Sahu, Raghuvar Dayal, Sadhu Ram, Durgesh Nandan Srivastava, Anjana Tod, Kamala Srinivasan, Alice Kujur, Ram Kumar, Dharmendra Singh and others participated.

141st Board meeting of KDA held

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

The 141st Board meeting of Kanpur Development Authority (KDA) was held under the chairmanship of the Divisional Commissioner Amit Gupta on Friday. The Board approved the amalgamation of maximum four plots to construct a big building and sent the proposal to the state administration. Addressing mediapersons, KDA Vice-Chairman Madan Singh Garbyal said EWS and LIG plots were not included in the scheme of amalgamation. The amalgamation was allowed if all the plots belonged to one family only. He said one per cent of the circle rate shall have to be deposited for getting the layout of amalgamated plots approved by KDA. The construction work on the amalgamated plots would be allowed according to landuse fixed for them. The Board also approved the amendments in chapter V of Bhavan Nirman Evam Vikas Upvidhi 2008 (Amended 2023) for construction of a hotel. Now a hotel with four to 20 rooms could be constructed even on



Divisional Commissioner Amit Gupta chairing the KDA Board meeting on Friday.

land of less than 500 square metres. It was not allowed if the number of rooms was more than 20, he added. The Board also approved the amendments in norms of plot size for setting up of a petrol pump/fuel station in urban areas. The proposal for converting the landuse from agriculture to big industries under the Akbarpur-Mati Mahayojana 2021 was also approved. This 2.8895 hectare land on arazi Nos.135, 136, 137 and 141 in Jaipur, Distt Kanpur Dehat, belonged to M/s Supreme

Industries Ltd. The proposal had been sent to the state administration also for its approval. Total seven proposals were approved by the Board on Friday. Vice-Chairman Madan Singh Garbyal said the study done by IIT Kanpur on Ganga River Front in 2013 had again been sent to them for review and sending feasibility report for onward action in the matter. The development of Atal Ghat at the Ganga Barrage will also be carried out under the Ganga River Front project, he added.

Consensus on proposal to instal traffic signals with timers at 57 major intersections in Kashi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

A review meeting of the traffic system was held here on Thursday under the chairmanship of Commissioner of Police (CP) Mohit Agarwal. District Magistrate S Rajalingam and other senior officers were also present. In it the expansion of Manduadh crossing, widening of Bhikharipur intersection, Rathayatra- Gurubag-Laxa police station road and route of Kamchha-Nimamai-Hanuman Temple -Rathayatra and making the road on both sides in front of the Cantt railway station jam-free were discussed. In it discussions were also held on shifting roadways and private bus depots outside the city, making bus drivers aware to follow the rules of route diversion, not allowing contracted buses to stand on the road, replacing diesel-operated buses with electric buses so that the city can be relieved from the problem of traffic jam. In the meeting, consensus was reached on the proposal to



CP Mohit Agrawal and DM S Rajalingam reviewing traffic management system in Varanasi on Thursday.

instal traffic signals with timers at 57 major intersections of the city. The DM directed the Executive Engineer of PWD to prepare an estimate of Rathayatra-Gurubag-Laxa Marg and Maladhia to Lahurabir and send it to the government. Instructions were given to

remove encroachment and get patching work done on the road in front of Cantt railway station. He said that wherever encroachment removal or shifting work is being done in the city, the lekhal concerned must be informed. The CP said wherever work related to traffic system is being done in the

city, photographs of that place must be taken. Additional Commissioner of Police S Chinnappa, Municipal Commissioner Akshat Verma, VDA V-C Pulkit Garg, Additional District Magistrate (ADM/City) Alok Verma and officials of the police department were present in the meeting.

Meet on ITEP implementation

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

Varanasi (PNS): Director, Institute of Environmental and Sustainable Development (IESD), Banaras Hindu University (BHU) Prof AS Raghuvanshi, while focussing on the challenges related to the modularity of educational programs, the incorporation of indigenous curriculum and the challenges and problems of curriculum overlap, stressed the importance of adopting a multidisciplinary approach to address these issues and create a more integrated and effective educational framework for Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP) implementation. He was addressing as the chief guest in the inaugural function of two-day national meet-cum-workshop on 'Implementation of ITEP: Challenges to Overcome' at Chanakya auditorium of Faculty of Education, BHU here on Friday. Renowned litterateur Dr Neeraj Madhav, while speaking as the guest of honour, highlighted the critical issues surrounding the crisis of value-based content in education as well as challenges posed by language barriers.

Week-long Ganeshotsav ends

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

The 116th week-long Ganeshotsav celebrated under the auspices of Nutan Balak Ganeshotsav Samaj Seva Mandal ended with the aarti amidst the chanting of mantras here on Friday. Respecting the High Court's decision not to immerse in the idols in the Ganga river and in view of the Supreme Court's orders not to immerse the idols in the ponds, a resolution was taken to keep the festival idol safe for conducting regular worship. Before this, a procession of Lord Ganesh was taken out in a palki (palanquin) accompanied by musical instruments, which started from Ganesh Bhawan and reached Panchganga Ghat via Dudhvinayak, Phatak Rangiladas, Thatheri Bazar, Sudia, Bulanala, Golghar, Bhairavnath, Jatanbar, Bibihatiya, Rajmandir, Brahmaghat and Durga Ghat. The students were walking on the route singing the traditional verse 'Nutan Balak Mel Chalo Hai, Mag Mein Rok Mat Bhai...'. On the way, devotees performed aarti of

Lord Ganesh at various places. Before this, Panchopchar Puja of Lord Ganesh was performed under the guidance of Pandit Hemant Joshi and Sahasranamarchana was performed with Modak. The main hosts were Gajanan Jayaram Joshi and Praveen Vasant Patwardhan. On this occasion, the idol of Lord Ganesh was beautifully decorated with Kamini leaves, Bella, Rose and Juh flowers. Earlier, Shodashopachar Puja of Lord Ganesh was performed under the guidance of Vedic scholars Veereshwar Narayan Datar and Pandit Hemant Joshi. The main host was Narsingh Jagannath Tailang. After that, Sahasranamarchana was performed by Ramakrishna Bapat with lava and Shwetank Washimkar with draksha (raisins). Besides, a programme was organised by women in which Usha Thatte, Smita Godbole, Dharmadhikari, Nutan Godse, Sandhya Pohare, Manjusha Nayak, Gayatri Mishra etc presented melodious bhajans. The prizes were given to the winning participants by MLA Neelkanth Tiwari.

Thrombolysis process proving to be boon for patients

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

Electro cardiography (ECG) and thrombolysis process being provided under the Heart Attack Care Project (STEMI Care Project) being operated at government hospitals and community health centres (CHCs) of the district is proving to be a boon for heart attack patients. Under this, the lives of 100 patients have been saved so far. Hundred per cent of the heart attack patients who came in the window period at the heart centres functioning in the district have been saved. This information was given by Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Dr Sandeep Chaudhary. He informed that the facility of ECG and thrombolysis is available at three government hospitals in the district, namely DDU Hospital Pandeypur, SSPG Divisional Hospital Kabirchaura, SVM Government Hospital Bheulpur and heart centres functioning in 11 community health centres (CHCs). The CMO said that Varanasi is the second centre in North India after

Shimla which is providing reperfusion therapy in the government sector. ICMR's Heart Attack Project (STEMI Care Project) is being operated in collaboration with Prof Dharmendra Jain of Cardiology Department of Banaras Hindu University (BHU) and research scientist Dr Payal Singh. Under the project, BHU is working as 'hub' and all the government hospitals and community health centres of the district are working as 'spokes'. So far, one heart patient's life has been saved by thrombolysing in community health centre Shivpur, five in community health centre Cholapur, seven in SVM Bheulpur, 36 in SSPG Kaverchaura, 47 in Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Government Hospital and four in Lal Bahadur Shastri Government Hospital. Superintendent of SVM Government Hospital Dr Kshitij Tiwari said that so far ECG of 24,743 patients has been done. Heart attack patients are examined through ECG. If a person is having sudden severe chest pain

and reaches the hospital within one hour in the golden hour, he/she can be stabilised by giving a special type of injection under the thrombolysis process. On the other hand, if the person is having continuous chest pain and reaches the hospital within four to six hours, then the thrombolysis process can be completed in that window period and the patient's life can be saved. If the patient is having continuous chest pain, then even in such a situation, if the patient reaches hospital within 12 hours, then in that period also he can be stabilised by giving a special type of injection under the thrombolysis process. He said that the injection given under the thrombolysis process completes the process of removing the blocked flow of blood in the veins of the patient. This stabilises the patient and saves his life. If a heart attack occurs or a patient shows a problem of heart attack, he/she is given thrombolysis therapy, which cures the patient.

EAGLE workshop held

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

The Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Sir Sunderlal Hospital (SSH), Institute of Medical Sciences, Banaras Hindu University (IMS-BHU) organised EAGLE (Every Aspiring Gynaecologist Learns Endoscopy) workshop at Doctors' Lounge which was led by Prof Sangeeta Rai, head, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology. This workshop was designed specifically for postgraduate students and all aspiring gynecologists. The event was graced by guests Medical Superintendent Prof KK Gupta and Dean (Research) Prof Gopal Nath alongwith guest faculty members Dr Shrikant Ohri, Dr Mumtaz Ansari and Dr Mansi Dhangra. Participants had the unique opportunity to view a live telecast from the Gynae OT, SSH, featuring a different variety of complex laparoscopic surgical cases. Dr Shikha Sachan, Dr Mamta, Dr Sakshi Agarwal, Dr Jigyasa Singh, Dr Lavanya Anuranjani and Dr Kirti Kaithwas were present in the programme.

NCR GM office gets 3rd prize

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ PRAYAGRAJ

Under the patronage and guidance of General Manager Upendra Chandra Joshi and the efforts of Chief Official Language Officer and Principal Chief Signal and Telecommunication Engineer Satendra Kumar, North Central Railway (NCR) is achieving new accomplishments in the field of use and promotion of official language. The General Manager's Office, NCR was awarded the third prize for the best work in Hindi in the Central Government offices located in Prayagraj city by the City Official Language Implementation Committee, Allahabad on Thursday. On behalf of NCR this award was received by Chief Official Language Officer Satendra Kumar from the president of City Official Language



Implementation Committee and Chief Income Tax Commissioner Mona Mohanti. For the last several years, the GM office, NCR has been receiving the first prize of the City Official Language Implementation Committee. The GM's office has also been awarded the Railway Minister Rajbhasha Trophy this year. In a programme organised at

the NCR headquarters, Chief Official Language Officer Satendra Kumar handed over the trophy and certificate to the GM. General Manager Upendra Chandra Joshi congratulated all the officers and employees for this achievement and directed them to continue using the official language Hindi as much as possible in the future.

'Use of tech has given impetus to teaching'

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

The Rotary Club of New Kanpur organised a teachers training programme at the BNSD Shiksha Niketan Girls Inter College, Meston Road, under the guidance of its president Sangeeta Gupta. On the occasion Club Learning facilitator Naveen Mohini Nigam inaugurated the programme by offering flowers to the statue of Maa Sharda. Club learning highlighted the importance of trainings as they refresh knowledge and teachers continue to remain abreast of the latest pedagogy and technology. In her address she said that Rotary

always remains alert to prepare the future generation according to the needs of the future keeping in mind the contemporary needs. Keeping in view the needs of the present time and as per the National Education Policy (NEP), there is a need to upgrade the education system and understand the skills of the new teaching method. In the present time, she said, the use of technology has given a lot of impetus to teaching and both students and teachers have benefited. To understand this technology well, to impart quality knowledge to students using various apps and to make the education in India on par with international standards so

that students do not just pass exams by rote learning but also become proficient, a seminar and workshop was organised with this objective. Club resource person Rati Gupta spoke about the expectations of NEP 2020 and discussed the nuances involved in the teaching methodology. She trained 55 teachers on the use of Google classroom. On the occasion the guests were welcomed and introduced by school Principal Manju Shukla. The teachers of four schools—BNSD Shiksha Niketan Girls Inter College, Gyan Bharti Girls Inter College, GNK Saraswati Shishu Mandir, and Jaspal Rai Saraswati Shishu Mandir were benefited by this training. Rati Gupta also focussed on the integrated classes on collaborative methodology, inclusive education etc. The certificate of participation was given to the teachers. Pramod Gupta, Shwet Gupta, Monika Gupta, Kamna Omar, Kirti Omar, Anshumani and Mona Omar motivated the participants.

UPCYTOCON-2024 from today

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

The two-day UPCYTOCON-2024, the annual conference of Indian Academy of Cytologists (UP chapter) will be organised from Saturday. More than 200 faculty and delegates from premiere institutes of India will come together in the department of Pathology, IMS-BHU for discussing new innovations in the field of cytopathology. The guest speakers include Prof Nalini Gupta (PGIMER Chandigarh), Prof Nuzhat Husain (RMLIMS, Lucknow), Prof Deepali Jain (AIIMS, Delhi), Prof Neeliah Siddharaju (JIPMER, Pondicherry), Prof RN Rao (SGPGIMS, Lucknow), Prof RGW Pinto (Goa Medical college), Prof Bharat Rekhi (TMH Mumbai) etc. The three workshops will be organised on September 15 are to be conducted by pathologists from multiple prestigious institutes like Prof Nalini Gupta, Prof Anurag Gupta, Prof Zacharia Chowdhury, Prof Prajwal Gupta and Dr Mona Bargotyia. The workshops will enable the delegates to get hands-on training with live microscopy on fluid cytopathology, salivary gland cytopathology and HPV DNA testing. Approximately 100 research papers will be submitted for presentation in this conference. The beneficial impact of this cytopathology update will be experienced by the patients in the times to come. The conference is being organised by Prof Sandip Kumar (organising chairperson), Prof Amrita Ghosh (co-chairperson), Dr Mahima Yadav (secretary), Dr Bitan Naik (joint organising secretary), Dr Vikas Kailashya and Dr Anu Singh (joint scientific secretary), Dr Deepa Rani (treasurer), Dr Anju Bharti (co-treasurer), Dr Pratishtha Sengar and Dr Neha Singh.

Cadets guided to become digitally aware & safe

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

The 17 UP Girls' Battalion NCC under NCC Group Headquarters Kanpur has successfully completed 10 days combined annual training camp from September 4 to 13 at the Wheelers Barrack, Cantonment. The camp was attended by 400 Senior Division, Senior Wing, Junior Division and Junior Wing cadets of Kanpur Nagar, Kanpur Dehat, Orai, Unnao and Jhansi alongwith ANOs. The CATC served as a platform for developing camaraderie and skill enhancement for boys and girls during the camp. The basic aim of training was to groom cadets to become a responsible citizen of India. The main endeavour was to give cadets maximum exposure to foot drill, range drill, firing, map reading and specialised training emphasising community living, discipline, first aid, character and confidence building. In addition, cadets were shortlisted to participate in the Inter Group Competition RDC. The successful completion of camp makes the cadets eligible for



appearing in NCC A, B and C certificate exams. In addition to military training, guest lectures by domain specialist were conducted for cadets to enhance their overall awareness and personality. The guest lectures on fire fighting, SSB procedures were given during camp. ACP Cyber Crime Division, Commissionerate Kanpur, Mohd Mohsin Khan delivered a lecture and gave live demonstration to NCC cadets on cyber crime awareness. He has five years of expertise in cyber crime and deep understanding of surveillance. For personality development and developing competitive spirit, various competitions were conducted such as line area, firing, public speaking, running, cultural, mock youth parliament session etc. A historical visit to Bithoor

was also organised during camp to motivate cadets for exploring new places. The best performing cadets and staff were felicitated with medals and trophies. Cultural programs were also organised during the camp. Col Neeraj Naithani, CO 17 Girls Bn NCC, during his address said the basic purpose to provide NCC camp is to achieve basic aims of NCC to develop camaraderie and leadership qualities amongst cadets. He motivated cadets to join armed forces and enlightened them with what actually NCC is offering to them by conducting such camps. He also guided cadets to become digitally aware and safe. At the end he complimented the entire team of officers, ANOs/CTs, JCOs, PI staff and cadets for the successful culmination of camp.

Jaishankar reveals his father was on hijacked flight in 1984

PNS/AGENCIES ■ NEW DELHI/GENEVA

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Friday revealed that his father was on a hijacked flight in 1984 and said he had a unique window on "both sides" in such situations - the perspective of family members and those in the Government. He disclosed this during an interaction with Indian community in Geneva.

Jaishankar was answering a question about the recently released television series on the hijacking of IC814 in 1999.

Jaishankar told the audience how as a young officer then, he was part of the team dealing with the hijack situation on the one hand and on the other, he was part of the group of families putting pressure on the Government.

During the question and answer session after his address to the Indian community, a member of the audience asked the Minister about his comments on the recently released series 'IC814: The Kandahar



Hijack' on Netflix, which he said, showed "the bureaucracy and the Government dealing with hijacking in poor light." With a disclaimer that he has not watched the series, Jaishankar went on to reveal his personal connection with the hijacking incident.

"In 1984 there was a hijacking. I was a very young officer. I was part of the team which was dealing with it. I rang up my mother,

actually, to tell her, 'Look, I can't come. There's a hijacking,' he said elaborating how it was his turn to go home and feed his young son as his wife too was working. "And then I discovered, my father was on the flight. The flight ended up in Dubai. It's a long story, but fortunately, nobody got killed. It could have ended as a problem," he added.

On August 24, 1984, an Indian Airlines flight from

Delhi to Srinagar was hijacked over Pathankot and ultimately taken to Dubai. After more than 36 hours, 12 pro-Khalistani hijackers surrendered to authorities and released all 68 passengers and six crew members unharmed. Jaishankar was an IFS officer and became a minister after his retirement.

His father K Subrahmanyam was an IAS officer and a regular commentator on strategic issues.

"And it was interesting because on the one hand, I was part of the team which was working on the hijacking. On the other hand, I was part of the family members who are pressing the Government for the hijacking. So actually, I have that very unique window on both sides, in that sense of the problem," he added. "So, often these are situations and movie guys don't make the Governments look good. The hero is supposed to look good. Then nobody would watch the movie and you got to accept that," he commented, evoking peals of laughter from the audience.

WHO grants first authorisation for Monkeypox vaccine



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The World Health Organization (WHO) on Friday said it has granted its first authorisation for the use of a vaccine against Mpox in adults, marking a crucial advancement in combating the disease in Africa and elsewhere.

The prequalification of the vaccine from Bavarian Nordic A/S allows organizations like GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance, and UNICEF to purchase it. However, with only one manufacturer currently producing the vaccine, supplies are limited, which could impact the distribution and availability in affected regions.

Last week, India also reported its first mpox case. The patient, a native of Haryana is recuperating at the LNJP Hospital here. However, the Government said that it was an isolated case and there was no immediate risk to the public at large. The MVA-BN vaccine can be administered in people over 18-years of age as a 2-dose injection given 4 weeks apart. After prior cold storage, the vaccine can be kept at 2-8°C for up to 8 weeks. The prequalification approval is expected to facilitate timely and increased access to this vital product in communities with urgent need, to reduce transmission and help contain the outbreak. WHO's assessment for

prequalification is based on information submitted by the manufacturer, Bavarian Nordic A/S, and reviewed by the European Medicines Agency, the regulatory agency of record for this vaccine.

"This first prequalification of a vaccine against mpox is an important step in our fight against the disease, both in the context of the current outbreaks in Africa, and in future," said WHO Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus. "We now need urgent scale up in procurement, donations and rollout to ensure equitable access to vaccines where they are needed most, alongside other public health tools, to prevent infections, stop transmission and save lives."

"The WHO prequalification of the MVA-BN vaccine will help accelerate ongoing procurement of the mpox vaccines by governments and international agencies such as Gavi and Unicef to help communities on the frontlines of the ongoing emergency in Africa and beyond," said Dr Yukiko Nakatani, WHO Assistant Director-General for Access to Medicines and Health Products.



Third edition of INDUS-X Summit concludes in US

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The third edition of the INDUS-X Summit concluded in the United States, marking a progress in the advancement of a joint defence innovation ecosystem in India and the USA. Held on September nine-10, the Summit was a landmark event jointly organised by the U.S.-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) and Stanford University, defence ministry said here on Friday.

During the summit, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between iDEX and the Defence Innovation Unit (DIU) under the US Department of Defence, to increase co-operation in defence innovation and deepen collaboration to facilitate industry, research, and investment partnerships among the stakeholders.

Other key highlights of the Summit included announcement of a new challenge under INDUS-X, release of the INDUS-X Impact Report and launch of the official INDUS-X webpage on the iDEX and DIU websites.

"The Summit offers a platform for joint showcase of next generation technologies by startups/MSMEs. It also enables critical dialogue through Senior Advisory Group and Senior Leaders Forum, the two advisory forums under INDUS-X." The discussions focused, inter-alia, on future technology trends, capacity building of startups, funding opportunities for defence innovations and strengthening defence supply chains.

"Distinguished experts from defence industry, investment firms, startups, academia, think tanks, accelerators, policymakers, etc. from both nations participated. Joint Secretary (Defence Industries Promotion) Amit Satija, who led the Indian delegation said the third edition of INDUS-X Summit reaffirmed the commitment of both the countries in advancing defence technology through innovation and strategic collaboration.

"The INDUS-X initiative is being steered by Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) on behalf of Ministry of Defence and Defence Innovation Unit (DIU) under the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD). Since the launch of INDUS-X during the Prime Minister's State visit to the United States in June 2023, the initiative has been able to achieve significant milestones in a short span of time.



Postal department to provide doorstep delivery to aged pensioners

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The postal department will provide doorstep delivery of services to aged pensioners to help them submit their digital life certificates (DLCs), according to an official statement issued on Friday.

The move assumes significance as the Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare (DoPPW) has decided to hold DLC campaign 3.0 from November one-30, 2024, in all district headquarters and major cities across India.

A preparatory meeting to structure the DLC campaign 3.0 in all district post offices was held by V Srinivas, Secretary (DoPPW) with Sanjay Sharan Director General Postal Services, Rajul Bhatt Deputy Director General Posts and R Viswesvaran MD & CEO of India Post Payments Bank (IPPB), among others, on September 12.

"It was agreed that district post offices will coordinate with pensioner welfare associations, pension disbursing banks and the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), among others, to conduct the DLC campaign 3.0 at district post offices, the statement issued by the Personnel Ministry said.

Amit Shah to address 75th inaugural session of Hindi as official language

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday will address inaugural session of official language diamond jubilee celebrations and 4th Akhil Bharatiya Rajbhasha Sammelan here to commemorate the completion of 75 years of Hindi becoming the official language.

Shah will also launch the diamond jubilee special issue of 'Rajbhasha Bharti' magazine on the occasion besides releasing a commemorative postage stamp and coin, an official release said. He will present the 'Rajbhasha Gaurav' and 'Rajbhasha Kirti' awards on the occasion. 'Prime Minister Narendra Modi has



been constantly emphasising on the development of Hindi and Indian languages and better coordination between them, the release said.

"The home minister had conceptualised organising Hindi Diwas on a large scale in various cities of the country in 2019. Realising this concept, Hindi Diwas and the first Akhil Bharatiya Rajbhasha Sammelan were organised in Varanasi in 2021.

"After that, Hindi Diwas and the second and third Akhil Bharatiya Rajbhasha Sammelan were organised in Surat in 2022 and in Pune in 2023. 'Organising Hindi Diwas event and Fourth Akhil Bharatiya Rajbhasha Sammelan here is also special in the sense that the official language department is celebrating this

occasion as the diamond jubilee, the release said.

"The 75-year journey of Hindi becoming an official language has not only crossed many important milestones but also made continuous progress in the field of technology. 'During the two-day fourth Akhil Bharatiya Rajbhasha Sammelan, an in-depth discussion will be held on the progress of Hindi as an official language, public language and contact language in last 75 years.

"Additionally, there will be discussion on 'India's cultural heritage and Hindi' and a session on three newly launched criminal laws -- Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita 2023, Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita 2023 and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam 2023, it added.

SC halts tree felling for Kolkata metro project

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday directed that no trees would be felled or transplanted from now onwards for the metro rail project in the maidan area adjoining the iconic Victoria Memoria in Kolkata.

A bench of Justices B R Gavai and K V Viswanathan issued notices to the West Bengal Government, the Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) and others seeking their responses on a plea challenging the June 20 verdict of the Calcutta High Court. The high court had dismissed a petition seeking a direction to forthwith stop all metro construction in the maidan area due to alleged felling and transplantation of a large number of trees.

"Till the next date, we direct that no new trees would be felled or transplanted," the bench said and posted the matter for hearing after three

weeks. "You can continue with the work but don't fell trees from today," the bench told the counsel appearing for the RVNL. The counsel appearing for petitioner 'People United For Better Living in Kolkata (PUBLIC)' told the bench that the maidan area was extremely important for the city.

He said the route chosen for the metro project goes through maidan area and a number of trees would be felled or transplanted for it. "We perceive that a large number of trees will be felled," the petitioner's counsel said, adding, "let them (authorities) come up with a plan for these trees." The bench asked the counsel appearing for the RVNL to show it how the trees will be transplanted. n" Issue notice, returnable in three weeks," the bench said. It further said, "In the meantime, don't proceed with felling of trees."

SSC warns of legal action for recruitment exam malpractices

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Government job recruitment Agency Staff Selection Commission (SSC) has warned of disciplinary and legal action against anyone found involved in any kind of malpractices related to its recruitment examinations.

The SSC has time and again brought to the notice of candidates and other stakeholders that anyone found to be disclosing, publishing, reproducing, transmitting, storing or facilitating transmission and storage of test contents in any form (verbal or written, electronic or mechanical) of any information by any means "will be considered as serious misconduct and will be debarred/disqualified from exam", an official notice said. "It said "taking away the rough papers supplied in the exam centre or found to be in unauthorized possession of



test content" will also be considered as serious misconduct, thus liable for necessary action. "It has come to the notice of the Commission that some persons are engaged in the aforesaid activities through social media i.e. YouTube, twitter, Facebook, etc.," said the SSC notice dated September 10. 'Disciplinary and legal action would be taken against such candidates or persons/individuals involved as per rules and such matters would be reported to police, if

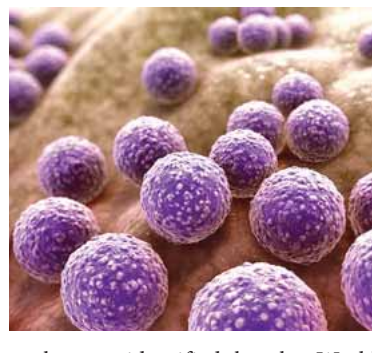
necessary, it added. "The SSC is one of the largest recruitment agencies of the Government with its main mandate to conduct selections for non-gazetted posts in various central ministries and departments, among others. 'In another related move, the Centre had on Thursday allowed the SSC to perform Aadhaar-based authentication to verify the candidates' identity on a voluntary basis, both at the time of registration and during various stages of examinations and recruitment.

Fungal resistance to antifungals urgently needs Antimicrobial Resistance focus: Scientists

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

Like bacteria with antibiotics, many fungal pathogens are increasingly developing resistance to antifungal drugs, scientists have highlighted this alarming trend while emphasising the need to include fungal pathogens in the broader Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) discussion. Ahead of the UN meeting on AMR later this month, they have called for including resistance developed in many fungal pathogens to curb the superbugs.

Intriguingly, while the threat of fungal pathogens and antifungal resistance has been on the rise across the world, the public health crisis has largely been "underrecognised" and "left out of the debate" by scientists, Governments, clinicians, and pharmaceutical companies. Researchers from the University of Manchester, the University of Amsterdam, and the Westerdijk Institute revealed that many fungal



pathogens identified by the World Health Organization (WHO) are either already resistant or quickly acquiring resistance to antifungal treatments. These resistant pathogens are responsible for approximately 3.8 million deaths annually. The researchers have called for immediate global action, in a study published in The Lancet on Friday. The scientists argued that focussing on bacteria alone will not help fully

combat antimicrobial resistance (AMR). They called for immediate action, without which resistance to fungal disease will escalate. Aspergillus, Candida, Nakaseomyces glabratus, and Trichophyton indotinea are the major fungicide resistant infections. These can have devastating health impacts on the elderly and people with weak immune systems. Dr Norman van Rhijn from The University of Manchester said that invasive fungal diseases have been responsible for many drug resistance problems over the past decades. Van Rhijn explained that "the close similarities between fungal and human cells make it hard to find treatments that selectively inhibit fungi with minimal toxicity to patients". The scientists suggested a global consensus on limiting the use of certain classes of antifungal molecules. They also stressed the need

for collaborating on solutions and regulations that ensure food security and universal health for animals, plants, and humans. Dr Manish Jhangra, Gurugram based dermatologist who is not related with the study, said that India too is witnessing an alarming growing trend of antifungal resistance problem, with some fungal species exhibiting multidrug resistance. In India, up to 7 per cent of patients have a resistance to fluconazole, particularly non-albicans Candida specie while Tinea cruris and tinea corporis conditions which is endemic to India is resistant to the widely used drug terbinafine (TRB), he said citing various reports. Also, there has been a significant increase in chronic, relapsing cases of this condition in India. These cases are often resistant to conventional antifungal drugs and doses, he said while stressing the need for global deliberation on the fungal resistance to the drugs.

Rahul Gandhi slams Government over restaurant owner apology video

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Friday slammed the Government over a video in which a restaurant chain owner is purportedly "apologising" to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman for voicing concerns about GST, and said that when "fragile egos" of those in power are hurt, it seems humiliation is what they will deliver. The opposition party also demanded an apology from the finance minister over the issue. Tamil Nadu BJP chief K Annamalai said on behalf of the party's state unit, he sincerely apologises for the actions of "our functionaries who shared a private conversation between a



respected business owner and the finance minister". "I spoke with Thiru Srinivasan Avl, the esteemed owner of the Annapoorna chain of Restaurants, to express regret for this unintended breach of privacy. Annapoorna Srinivasan Anna is a pillar of Tamil Nadu's business community, contributing significantly to the state's and nation's economic growth. I request everyone to lay the matter to rest with due respect," Annamalai said. "Two videos were being shared by several Congress

leaders and in one of them at an event on September 11, Sree Annapoorna chain of restaurants owner Srinivasan is seen purportedly highlighting concerns over varying GST rates. In the second video, Srinivasan was seen purportedly apologising in person to the Finance Minister. 'Rahul Gandhi said if this "arrogant Government" would listen to the people they would understand that a simplified GST would solve the problems of lakhs of businesses. 'In a social media post, Rahul Gandhi said when the owner of a small business, like Annapoorna restaurant in Coimbatore, asks public servants for a simplified GST regime, his request is met with "arrogance and outright disrespect."



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PAPER WITH PASSION

Adieu comrade Yechury!

The untimely passing away of Sitaram Yechury is a defining moment for CPI(M) and Indian Left politics

Sitaram Yechury, the General Secretary of CPI(M) and veteran Left ideologue is no more. He died after prolonged illness in Delhi. Yechury, one of India's most prominent left-wing politicians, has left a deep void in the Communist Party of India (Marxist) and Indian politics. As the General Secretary of the party and a key ideologue of India's Left movement, Sitaram Yechury was widely recognised for his ability to bridge ideological divides within the CPI(M) and foster cohesion in a faction-ridden party. Under his leadership, the CPI(M) worked toward navigating the challenges of declining relevance, especially in key states like West Bengal and Kerala, where the party held sway. Yechury's pragmatic approach sought to balance Marxist orthodoxy with the demands of modern politics, often encouraging alliances with non-Left parties to check the rise of right-wing forces, particularly the BJP. His tenure as General Secretary was marked by his efforts to revitalise the party in an era where communist ideologies found not



many takers. His ability to remain cheerful in the midst of crisis and light hearted won him many admirers across party lines. His ability to engage with younger generation was indeed remarkable. His influence extended beyond CPI(M) to broader Left coalitions, making him a key figure in shaping progressive political discourse in the country.

The CPI(M) has lost two of its prominent leaders in quick succession. Just a month ago, Buddhadeb Bhattacharya passed away, and now with the departure of Sitaram Yechury, the party may face a significant void in its politburo that will be difficult to fill. While Buddhadeb Bhattacharya brought pragmatic econom-

ics to the Left, it was Sitaram Yechury who steered Left politics towards a more centrist alignment. Yechury's passing poses a significant challenge for the CPI(M). His adeptness at navigating intra-party conflicts, especially between the hardliners and those favouring more pragmatic politics, was pivotal in keeping the party from splitting along ideological lines. His absence may lead to a leadership vacuum that could exacerbate existing tensions. The choice of Yechury's successor will be critical in determining whether the CPI(M) continues his centrist approach or swings toward a more hardline stance. However, replacing someone of Yechury's stature, who had both the intellectual capacity and the political acumen to lead in challenging times, will not be easy. In recent years, the left parties have struggled to maintain electoral relevance in most parts of India as the BJP and regional parties have filled the political space traditionally held by the Left. Sitaram Yechury, a politician and a gentleman, would be missed in Indian politics. His ability to transcend party politics and engage with a broader spectrum of ideas gave him a unique position in Indian politics. Yechury's absence will be profoundly felt, not only by his comrades but also by those who admired him as a kind and compassionate individual.

PICTALK



Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama during a teaching session at the Main Tibetan Temple, in Dharamshala. PTI

Perfect parenting: Navigating expectations and aspirations

In an age where parenting seems to be under constant scrutiny, the stress of raising children has evolved into a modern-day burden

In the olden days, it wasn't uncommon to be born in large families and be raised along with several siblings. But for some reason, parents back then did it with a laid-back approach and have not been heard or known to feel pressured by the size of the family they had to support. My paternal grandparents had 13 children and my maternal grandparents had ten.

It is a scenario impossible to even imagine in modern times, where stress has become a staple for all — from kindergarten children to pensioners past their prime. Today's parents are engulfed in a whirlwind of expectations, constantly feeling the weight of being "perfect" while juggling the unrelenting pressures of life.

The irony is not lost on any of us—despite our best efforts, parents often feel they are falling short, outpaced by a society that holds them to impossible standards. Dr Vivek Murthy, the US Surgeon General, recently said that parental stress is a significant public health issue and called for shifts in cultural norms. In our hyper-con-



nected world, where every action and decision is subject to public scrutiny, the quest for perfection is an unending pursuit that only leads to exhaustion. We need to pause and ask: Are we, as parents, pushing ourselves into a corner, one where our best is never good enough? How far should we go to prove our merits and how much strain can we take before we break at the seams?

A young parent recently mentioned how she was waiting for her toddler to grow up by a few years so that the tensions of the difficult years are past, but the truth is the stress of parenting seldom leaves, no matter how old the children become. It is in the psyche of the parent to be ever concerned, with the concerns and expectations only changing with age. Once a parent, always a parent. There is a relentless battle to become the

perfect parents who have raised peerless offspring that the world would appreciate. This pressure to adopt the best practices of parenting is now increased manifold by social media which presents picture-perfect family lives. What parents often forget is the travails of raising children are never easy and what seems perfect on social media are filtered versions of a life and landscape filled with challenges.

The idea of being a 'perfect parent' is a myth and it would be prudent on the parents' part to recognise that benchmarks set by society, media and peers are often unattainable. Each family should set its priorities and boundaries commensurate with its resources, circumstances and the children's capacity to undertake over-demanding expectations from all around. How parents of yore have been able to divide their attention between the litany of concerns and complaints their children must have presented baffles me. The joke that goes around in our family is this — the children just grew up; no one raised them by following any stringent stan-

dards. This attitude may not work in our times where the bars are set so high and the race for achievement is taken so seriously that parents find themselves caught in the quagmire of worry and anxiety even after the children have flown from their homes and built their nests.

The anxiety of being an inadequate parent haunts many and the truth is there is no single right way to parent; neither is there a prescribed format to make children successful and happy except by instilling the right values in them. Embracing their imperfections as parents and learning to let go are difficult but essential traits to pick up in their journey of parenthood. What children need most is not a parent who has everything figured out, but one who loves them, supports them and is present through the highs and lows of life. Constant fretting about children will only take away from the confidence of the children and make them incompetent to face life's numerous challenges.

(The author is a columnist and writing coach based in Dubai. Views are personal.)



ASHA IYER KUMAR

The statesman who bore the burden of Kandahar



BHOPINDER SINGH

In the Kandahar hijacking, Jaswant Singh stands out for his quiet resolve. He shouldered the responsibility of securing the release of 161 hostages

Beyond the usual 'manufactured-outrage', there was an inadvertent redemption with the role played of the Soldier-Statesman-Scholar, Jaswant Singh, in the recent OTT series IC-814 — The Kandahar Hijack. Undoubtedly, the hijacking saga casts a dark shadow on Indian governance with glaring mismanagement e.g., lack of cohesion among intelligence agencies, slow alignment amongst stakeholders, allowing the aircraft to take off from Amritsar et al, but in public memory, it is the singular image of Jaswant carrying three terrorists to Kandahar to secure the release of passengers and crew of IC-814. Many saw it as a moment of sovereign capitulation. Others saw it as successful negotiations under impossible circumstances, where negotiations were the only option (An entebbe-style raid, clearly wasn't feasible).

It was, as Jaswant himself puts it succinctly, "a choice between a bad decision, and a far worse decision". Negotiating the release of the hijacked passengers was a collective decision of the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS). The composition of CCS was chaired by then PM Vajpayee, and had included the then Home Minister, NSA, Defence Minister, and of course the External Affairs Minister, Jaswant Singh. If that is so, why was it only Jaswant who carries the can of blame for posterity? The answer can be attempted in a couple of ways — firstly by understanding the inherent construct of Jaswant the individual, and his understanding of his 'duty', and secondly by understanding the impulse of others in the same situation, who were also part and parcel of this complex and questionable decision. Why didn't Jaswant come clean (or at least forcefully enough) to share the blame with his colleagues? For starters, it has to do with Jaswant's imagined sense of himself and his conscience.

Honourable soldiers do what is to be done, with no fuss or grandiosity. Major Jaswant Singh was a cavalier from the illustrious Central India Horse and had left



the Indian Army prematurely but always exemplified its finest tenets and values steadfastly, throughout his public life. The institution had defined him, and he had marched out without any usual 'terminal benefit' but with what he reflected, "My service with is my benefit, and what the army gave me, taught me, left me with me is my priceless pension". One such 'officer-and-a-gentleman' quality is what General James Mattis (former US Defense Secretary) alluded to while expressing his measured disagreement with the unhinged Donald Trump i.e., the French expression 'devoir de reserve' (literally, the duty of silence).

Perhaps Jaswant was informed by decades of soldiering, politics and statesmanship that to brave a difficult situation like IC-814 was one thing, but to further weaken the 'moment' for India by name calling or finger pointing, even worse. His colleagues were spared the taint, for he had protected them. It is another story that many were incredibly absolving themselves of any knowledge of the exchange or his dash to Kandahar.



PERHAPS JASWANT WAS INFORMED BY DECADES OF SOLDIERING, POLITICS AND STATESMANSHIP THAT TO BRAVE A DIFFICULT SITUATION LIKE IC-814 WAS ONE THING, BUT TO FURTHER WEAKEN THE 'MOMENT' FOR INDIA BY NAME CALLING OR FINGER POINTING, EVEN WORSE

offered to go to Kandahar to secure the release, with the unpredictable Taliban and amoral ISI, across. The usually blustering and omnipresent Ministers were meekly abstaining from giving media bytes or even talking to distraught relatives, as they knew the hopelessness and intensity of the situation.

The situation was fluidic, and anything could have happened requiring quick decision-making, and so Jaswant put himself in the line of fire. His colleagues were better politicians, and he, was a soldier to his country and conscience, first and foremost. We were to engage frequently at the Rashtrapati Bhawan when he was earlier an opposition MP, and later a Cabinet Minister (Defence, External Affairs & Finance), and then again, as an opposition MP. Each time in a gathering of civilians he would catch the eye of those in 'Uniform' and acknowledge them with a gracious nudge or salute when saluted.

In all his varied professional capacities, his sole and avowedly apolitical questions were about the welfare of the President's Bodyguards or about their magnificent horses, on whom too, his eyes rolled rather gently. Many questions can be posed about

Jaswant's decisions e.g., IC-814, but he remained an essentially decent and dignified voice of reason. So winds of politics in his partisan camp changed, and he became an 'outsider' in the new sensibilities. Like a noble soldier, he left his camp but didn't join the 'other side', as done by most. He was too proud to do that, so he passed away silently like a ship at night, saving his colleagues, party, and the country, like he saved the moment in Kandahar.

He was to profoundly introspect in, A Call to Honour, "between this 'right' act of saving 161 lives, or standing up against terrorism and letting them all 'go', for all to die — will that be another 'right' act? By choosing that which is otherwise extinguished for always — Life, for, in any event this fight against terrorism will continue, from one challenge to another". Just for the fact that the Gentleman (an old-fashioned word that he'd understand best) stood up for all his decisions (right or wrong) and never really blamed others (when he could have), he certainly deserves a better memory.

(The writer, a military veteran, is a former Lt Governor of Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Puducherry. The views expressed are personal)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

RIISING SUICIDES: A SERIOUS CONCERN

Madam — According to the recently released National Crime Record Bureau data, only in 2022 more than 1 lakh 71 thousand Indians chose the path of suicide due to various reasons. On the other hand, according to the report of Lancet Public Health, this number worldwide is about 7 lakh 76 thousand. The brutal presence of global suicides simultaneously calls into question the overall social order of our individualistic lives. According to NCRB data, 12 out of every 1 lakh Indians take suicide-like decisions. More than 10 percent of them are farmers. An average of 154 Indian farmers commit suicide every day mainly due to unprofitable agriculture, failure to find a way out of chronic poverty, inadequate institutional financial credit system. Loneliness, family turmoil, childhood trauma, extramarital affairs, illness, and financial insecurity have emerged as causes of suicide among other segments of the population. Besides, the suicide of students makes us worried. Almost every day we come across such incidents, driven by the pressure of academic ambition as well as the artificial glamor of social media, which is increasingly drowning inexperienced teenagers in the darkness of gloom. In this situation, it is urgent to take appropriate measures to prevent this mental epidemic. The Lancet study claimed that a dollar increase in daily income reduced the number of suicides by an average of 8,000 per year during the period 2006-2016, which was confirmed by the study. At the same time, the government should implement poverty alleviation programs quickly. According to the NCRB study, there is a direct correlation between the increase in the pace of housing projects and the decrease in suicides. Counseling should be arranged in every school and coaching center for the students so that they are able to strike a balance between expectations and reality. Besides, it is imperative to include mental health as a subject in the syllabus.

Arka Goswami | Asansol

Not a cakewalk for Congress in Haryana



This refers to the article, "Haryana elections: BJP faces Congress' resurgence" (September 12) by Kalyan Shankar). Despite the fact that the BJP is facing an anti-incumbency of 10 years rule in Haryana, the forthcoming assembly polls in the state may not be a cakewalk for the party due to some other factors. On ground sharp division among voters in the state on the lines of Jat and non-Jat as well as Urban and rural cannot be overlooked. Result of Lok Sabha polls also proved it.

The Congress snatched five Jat-dominated Lok Sabha seats from the Congress but the saffron party also managed to retain an equal number of seats dominated by non-Jat voters. This shows the BJP still has a strong presence in non-Jat as well as urban voters, however it is not sufficient to bring it to power third time. Besides BJP, the JJP-ASP alliance also may play a spoilsport for the Congress by denting in its dalit votes. Internal conflicts may also cost the Congress dear in assembly polls. Due to internal conflicts, the Congress failed to cobble an alliance with the AAP. Though former chief minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda has proved a greater savior in the all matters including distribution of tickets but ambitions of Kumar Shailja, MP from Sirsa may play a spoilsport. A divided Congress will find it very difficult to defeat the BJP despite the latter being on a weak ticket.

Manoj Parashar | Ghaziabad

SLASH RATES OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

Madam — It is a hard fact, when there is a hike in international prices the government's revenues increase proportionately as customs duty along with other central taxes are imposed thus the government reaps a bonanza. But when there is a fall in global crude prices state-owned oil companies are still earning more profits on petrol and diesel. The recent declining trend in crude prices owing to geo-political reasons, the Indian basket of crude has fallen from \$90/barrel in March to \$69/barrel today. The government needs to cut prices of petroleum products to bring some relief to the common man who is otherwise living at skyrocketing price levels. The reduction in petroleum products may be on the basis of calculations.

S K Khosla | Chandigarh

JAMMU AND KASHMIR ELECTIONS

Madam — The people of Jammu and Kashmir are no strangers to the menace of terrorism. However, cross-border terrorist activities have surged noticeably in

recent days, coinciding with the announcement of assembly elections in the state. With the first phase of polling set for September 18, incidents of terrorist activity have been reported across various regions, including Kathua. Fortunately, these threats have been effectively neutralized by the Indian Army. By instigating fear and anxiety among the local population, Pakistan seeks to undermine the democratic process set in motion by the Indian government. Despite India's relentless efforts, Pakistan continues to stir unrest, ensuring Kashmir remains a contentious issue. Conducting elections is the first step toward restoring democracy and peace in the region. It is essential to encourage the people of Kashmir to exercise their right to vote, strengthening both their state and the path to lasting peace and harmony, free from the shadow of terror.

Kirti Wadhawan | Kanpur

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FIRST COLUMN

STRIVE TO HAVE AN EMPTY MIND

One must have empty mind which lead to the spiritual awakening



RAVI VALLURI

Aeons ago a neophyte Zen student was an apprentice at a temple of knowledge. Regrettably, his mind was not robust enough and kept vacillating; so much so his mind and soul were not satisfied with "mere" breathing practices and meditation techniques imparted at the monastery. Petals of knowledge revealed. In a state of haughtiness, the Zen student arrived at another temple of knowledge where he remarked, rather dramatically that, "The human mind, Sakya Muni Buddha and other sentient beings, in reality do not exist." The pontiff of the monastery was silently listening to the outburst but uttered nothing for a while. And then abruptly and quite unexpectedly he whacked the tutee with his prized bamboo pipe which angered the student. The Zen Master compassionately inquired of the tutee that if nothing existed, from where did his bout of anger and arrogance emerge? The mentee was momentarily nonplussed and then fell at the feet of the Zen Master, begging for forgiveness. A hollow and empty mind. The percipient Master agreed to admit the whippersnapper but with a few stipulations. It was incumbent upon the greenhorn to remember the cardinal principle of trying to keep the mind hollow and empty. Lord Krishna's flute. There is an interesting parable about Lord Krishna and his flute. It is believed that he used to visit a garden and whisper, "I love you" to all the flora and fauna. In unison, the flora and fauna reciprocated their unalloyed and unadulterated affection towards Lord Krishna. It so transpired that one day, an animated Lord Krishna approached a bamboo tree in the garden. The Lord broke the cataclysmic news that



he would have to snuff out the life of the bamboo plant. The entire garden was aghast as the news spread; several plants and trees were however secretly joyous that they were spared of the torture. The bamboo mulled upon the news for a while and then languidly responded, "Lord, you and I have no choice. At the altar of the Master of the Universe, I am willing to sacrifice my life." Hearing this, Lord Krishna beamed. With surgical precision, he struck the bamboo plant. Soon the bamboo was fashioned into a flute for Lord Krishna himself. The flora and fauna, all the gopis and gopikas were now covetous of the bamboo, that in its new avatar it would always be inseparable, constantly in the hands of Lord Krishna.

The exultant bamboo flute was to become a triumphant possession of Lord Krishna. "What was so noteworthy about you, that you were the chosen one?" was an incessant refrain faced by the flute. "Nothing but my singular capitulation to will of the Master; willing to be an instrument of the Lord," was the refrain of the flute. The classical epic Mahabharata is populated with numerous valorous characters. But the ace archer Arjuna stands out prominently. Why is that so? Arjuna is the Sakha, the Nara through whom Narayana revealed the divine celestial song - The Bhagavad Gita. It was Arjuna's unflinching devotion to the Lord that made the character so robust and aerobicized. He faithfully carried out all the commandments of the Lord. Only inner strength and a mature mind transfigure an individual to establish contact with the source of our inner energy.

This is possible through the process of authentic surrender. Breathing techniques like Sudarshan Kriya help to make the mind hollow and empty. "A mature mind is one who understands the impossibility of knowing the ultimate, and with this understanding there is a new dimension, the dimension of the being," said the philosopher, Osho.

(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)

New world order: Is Western hegemony crumbling



NILANTHA LANGAMUWA

In an unprecedented joint public appearance, CIA Director William Burns and MI6 Chief Richard Moore assert the enduring strength of their intelligence agencies

Last week, the heads of major Western intelligence agencies made a striking public appearance, first with a provocative op-ed and then in a high-profile interview with the Financial Times editor. Although some questions remained unanswered, their statements provided critical insights into their covert and overt operations. William Joseph Burns, Director of the CIA, and Richard Peter Moore, head of MI6/SIS, both distinguished diplomats before their current roles, asserted with conviction that their organisations are more formidable than ever. Their strong professional alliance highlights a key strategy: confronting their main adversaries, Russia and China. This unprecedented public engagement reflects Sun Tzu's strategic principle from The Art of War: "Appear weak when you are strong, and strong when you are weak." So, who is truly weak? Is this a perfect example of Orwellian doublespeak in the era of Artificial General Intelligence? The nuances of their statements suggest an intriguing answer when read between the lines.

This marks the first joint public appearance by Burns and Moore since their appointments, though separately they have spoken occasionally in public gatherings, signalling a departure from the traditionally more secretive approach of their predecessors. This dramatic 'openness' may be part of a broader strategy to project strength and capability in a shifting global power dynamic. Their commentary suggests that Western hegemony is waning, and those within the system must awaken and confront Russia before China is brought into the strategic equation, challenging the rise of Asia and the Global South. The article's audacious claim, if accurate, that "We have no more trusted or esteemed allies," starkly reveals the widening chasm among their partners.

This intensifying polarization is driven by rising discontent with the United States and the United Kingdom, whose actions have exacerbated global crises and dragged others into worsening conflicts. Burns and Moore emphasised the crucial role of transparency in the 21st century and democratic systems, noting that public engagement is key to demonstrating their agencies' priorities and building trust. Burns highlighted the importance of visibility for attracting talent and enhancing public understanding of their work. The discussion also revealed the deep collaboration between their agencies, which has been instrumental in global events, such as providing early warnings about the war in Ukraine. Moore praised their joint efforts and the "best athlete model," where the most suitable agency handles specific operations, showcasing a high level of trust and effectiveness. They also addressed broader geopolitical issues, noting the threat posed by the cooperation among China, Russia, Iran, and North Korea. While these nations share military technology, their collaboration is described as pragmatic rather than value-based, unlike the alliances within the Western intelligence community. Burns and Moore mentioned the lack of direct evidence of weapon transfers from China to Russia and the stalled status of the gas pipeline from Russia to China, attributing its likely incompletion to sanctions and shifting geopolitical factors.

However, they offered no new information on the widely reported Nord Stream pipeline sabotage, where it was suggested the CIA had prior knowledge. Regarding the increasing military cooperation between Russia and



THIS INTENSIFYING POLARISATION IS DRIVEN BY RISING DISCONTENT WITH THE UNITED STATES AND THE UNITED KINGDOM, WHOSE ACTIONS HAVE EXACERBATED GLOBAL CRISES AND DRAGGED OTHERS INTO WORSENING CONFLICTS

North Korea, including the use of North Korean missiles in Ukraine, both spies recognised the heightened threat to US allies in Asia. Moore highlighted the gravity of the situation, stating, "North Korean weaponry and dual-use materials from China are already impacting the battlefield in Ukraine, and this cooperation poses a significant danger." Both leaders also stressed the critical importance of ongoing support for Ukraine, with Burns noting the severe and methodical nature of the conflict, where "Putin is using a traditional tactic of taking village by village, leaving nothing behind."

Despite the grim outlook, the resilience of the Ukrainian forces remains a focal point. Moore lauded Ukraine's bold strategy, such as the move into Kursk, as a game-changer. He remarked, "The Ukrainians, by going in and taking Kursk, have really brought the war home to ordinary Russians," disrupting Putin's narrative and demonstrating the effectiveness of their counteroffensive. Addressing the broader implications of the conflict, Burns acknowledged that while Putin's grip on power remains firm, it is not necessarily stable. "Putin's grip on power doesn't seem to be weakening, but don't ever confuse a tight grip with a stable grip," he stated. The recent Kursk offensive and past events, such as the Prigozhin mutiny, have exposed vulnerabilities within Russia, challenging Putin's confident narrative. Burns and Moore discussed the differing approaches of the US and UK in providing military aid to Ukraine. Burns reaffirmed the US's substantial support despite concerns over escalation, emphasising the ongoing commitment to Ukraine even amid Russia's nuclear threats. Moore echoed this, stressing that the West must not be intimidated. They also addressed Russia's intelligence operations in Europe, noting a shift toward using criminal elements for sabotage,

which has made these operations easier to detect.

The discussion also highlighted the threat of Russian intelligence, citing the 2018 Salisbury poisoning as a stark example of their reckless tactics. Moore emphasised the importance of dealing with such threats through intelligence sharing and collaboration. They also touched on Russian military intelligence activities in the Americas, particularly concerns about Russian agents operating in Mexico and potentially aiding illegal migration into the US. Burns assured that this issue remains a top priority, with law enforcement agencies closely monitoring and countering such threats. Burns updated on efforts to secure a ceasefire and hostage deal in Gaza, based on a three-phase plan proposed by President Biden: ceasefire, hostage release, and reconstruction. Despite progress, finalising the deal remains challenging, requiring strong political will and mediator support.

He hopes new proposals will drive action, with both leaders urging external pressure on Hamas for humanitarian aid and peace. Burns also backed the two-state solution but no questions were raised about the US's double standards—hosting ICC-wanted Benjamin Netanyahu while pushing other nations to arrest Putin on an ICC warrant. This highlights the hypocrisy in the US approach to international justice. Regarding Iran, Moore expressed concern about potential retaliation for the assassination of Qasem Soleimani. "We shouldn't let our guard down regarding the type of activity Iran might pursue," he cautioned, citing Iran's history of destabilising actions and support for militant groups. But the overthrow of Mosaddegh, the shooting down of Iran Air Flight 655, and unilateral sanctions show the real picture. The discussion then shifted to the strategic challenge posed by China. Burns and Moore both underscored that China remains a top pri-

ority for their respective agencies. "The CIA has reorganised to reflect this priority," Burns noted, highlighting a significant increase in resources dedicated to addressing China's challenges. Despite economic difficulties in China, Moore observed that Xi Jinping remains a powerful and ambitious leader, making understanding China crucial for global strategic dynamics. Burns and Moore discussed the transformative role of AI in intelligence operations, with Moore emphasising its use in data analysis and counterterrorism, while Burns stressed the importance of maintaining open channels with China. They highlighted the need to balance AI advancements with human oversight.

Their public appearance reflects a shift in Western strategy, focusing more on leadership than on traditional destabilisation tactics. With the US elections approaching, it is clear that a broader alliance is working to secure Vice President Kamala Harris's victory against her main contender, Donald Trump. In his book, The Back Channel, Burns comments on Trump, stating, "In the age of Trump, America is diminished, the president's worldview smaller and meaner, the world full of difficult currents." The entire discussion highlights how the absence of decisive political leadership is not only eroding the system but also accelerating the West's decline. This decline follows decades of destabilising nations in the Global South and Europe to maintain hegemony, which is now cracking. This situation goes beyond the simplistic notion of new adversaries emerging against the West. It signifies a profound awakening from the deep-seated colonial legacies that have long influenced many Asian, African, and Latin American countries. Consequently, the old mantra of manipulation, isolation, and elimination may no longer work.

(The writer is a journalist and author; Views are personal)

Crime against women: A call for swift justice and comprehensive reform

Safety of women remains a fundamental concern worldwide, with millions of women falling victim to the horrific crimes of rape and abuse each day

Safety is a fundamental concern worldwide, with the pervasive issues of rape and abuse affecting millions of women and girls daily. These heinous crimes have a profound impact, extending beyond the individual victims to disrupt families, communities, and societies at large. The consequences are not just physical or emotional but are also societal, leaving lasting scars that undermine trust and cohesion.

At the core of rape and abuse lies a complex web of societal attitudes and deeply ingrained power imbalances. Often, perpetrators use these crimes as tools of control, asserting dominance over their victims. The devastating consequences of rape range from physical injury to emotional trauma,



VIKAS TIWARI

social isolation, and even death. The psychological damage endured by survivors is difficult to quantify, and the ripple effects on society are immense. A recent case that shook the conscience of the nation was the rape and murder of a trainee doctor at RG Kar Hospital, Kolkata. This brutal crime recalled the infamous

Nirbhaya case, igniting nationwide outrage. Yet again, it posed a critical question to both the central and state governments: Is the judicial system adequately addressing crimes against women? Are victims truly receiving the justice they seek?

Another notorious example is the 1992 Ajmer gang rape and blackmail scandal, where over 100 girls were blackmailed with obscene photographs, many subjected to gang rape. Justice, in this case, was only served 32 years later, with six accused sentenced to life imprisonment and fined ₹5 lakh each. This shocking delay once again raises concerns about whether the Indian legal system is equipped to tackle cases of sexual violence effectively.

India, with its population of 1.5 billion, has over 750 fast-track courts designed to expedite justice. Yet, cases like the Ajmer gang rape, Nirbhaya, Unnao, and Balrampur drag on for decades. The slow pace of justice signifies a collective failure of the government and law enforcement agencies in a country that claims to be the world's largest democracy. This begs the question: Do we need a judicial overhaul to ensure timely justice for victims of sexual violence?

The global landscape shows a diverse range of approaches to preventing violence against women. The UK, for instance, has recently passed a bill recognizing violence against women as a national security threat, equating it with Islamist terrorism. Several European



countries, such as Denmark, Iceland, and Switzerland, have adopted stringent laws under the umbrella of 'Zero Tolerance' policies, which even include the death penalty for those convicted of sexual violence. These examples offer potential models for India to consider as it grapples with its own crisis of gender-based violence.

Preventing rape and abuse

requires a multifaceted approach, one that addresses the root causes of these crimes. Education and awareness programs about consent, healthy relationships, and respect are essential starting points. Engaging communities, especially involving men and boys in discussions around women's safety, can help shift societal attitudes and reduce the prevalence of such crimes.

Equally important is providing accessible support services for survivors, such as counseling and legal aid. These services are vital for helping victims heal and pursue justice. Policy reforms aimed at strengthening laws to protect women and ensure swift accountability for perpetrators are also crucial. Empowering women and girls plays a critical role in prevent-

ing rape and abuse. This can be done by promoting economic independence, which helps reduce vulnerability to violence, and fostering safe spaces where women can report incidents without fear. Encouraging survivors to speak out against violence can help break the silence that often surrounds these crimes, lifting the stigma and encouraging others to come forward. In today's digital age, technology can also play a pivotal role in enhancing women's safety. Innovative tools such as safety apps, which allow women to alert family or friends in emergencies, and online support platforms for survivors offer new avenues for protection and support.

Data analytics can help identify patterns and hotspots of

violence, enabling authorities to target prevention efforts more effectively.

Ultimately, women's safety is a collective responsibility. It demands the involvement of individuals, communities, organizations, and governments. By addressing the root causes of rape and abuse and implementing solutions at various levels, we can create a society where women and girls live free from the fear of violence. It is time for decisive action. The protection of women should not be seen as an afterthought but as a fundamental pillar of societal well-being. Only by working together can we create a safer, more equitable world for all.

(The writer is a social worker and a RTI Activist; views expressed are personal)

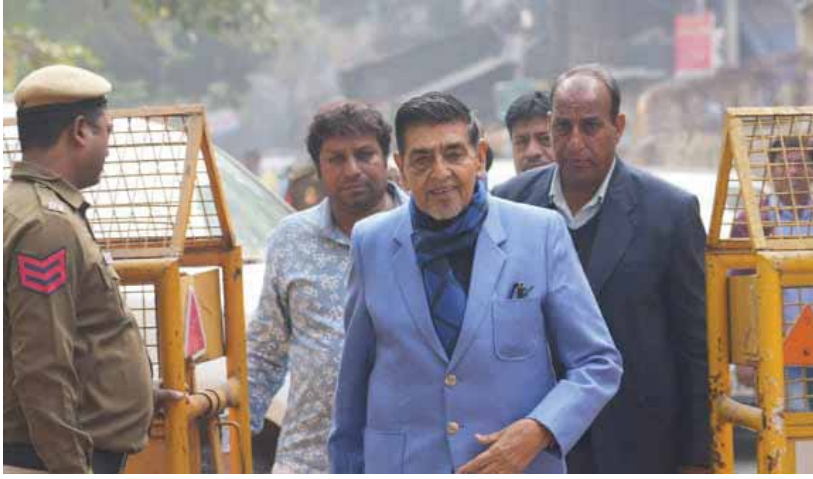
1984 anti-sikh riots: Delhi Court frames charges of murder against Jagdish Tytler

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

After 40 years of 1984 riots, a city court on Friday framed charges for murder and other offences against Congress leader Jagdish Tytler in a case related to the killing of three people in north Delhi's Pul Bangash area. Special Judge Rakesh Sibal directed that Tytler face trial after he pleaded not guilty to the offences.

Besides murder, the court ordered framing of charges for several other offences, including unlawful assembly, rioting, promoting enmity between different groups, house trespass and theft. The judge had on August 30 said there was sufficient ground to proceed against the accused.

The CBI had on May 20, 2023 filed a charge sheet against Tytler in the case. Tytler "incited, instigated and provoked the mob assembled at Pul Bangash Gurudwara Azad Market" on November 1, 1984 that resulted in burning down of the gurudwara and killing of three Sikhs -- Thakur Singh, Badal Singh and Gurcharan Singh -- the CBI alleged in its charge sheet. The agency had invoked charges under IPC sections 147 (rioting), 148, 149 (unlawful assembly), 153A (provocation), 109 (abetment) read with 302 (murder) and 295 (defiling of religious places) among others.



Lakhwinder Kaur, the wife of deceased Badal Singh -- one of the three men who had died -- is the first witness who will be examined forty years after her husband was killed by the mob. Citing a witness, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) had said in its charge sheet that Tytler came out of a white Ambassador car in front of Gurudwara Pul Bangash on November 1, 1984 and instigated a mob by shouting "kill the Sikhs, they have killed our mother". After initially filing a closure report, giving a clean chit to Tytler, the CBI was directed to reopen the investigation

against him in 2007. It was Kaur's protest petition against the closure report which led to the case moving forward. On two other occasions, in 2009 and 2014, the CBI closed the case against Tytler but the court refused to accept the report. Three Sikhs were then killed by the mob. Anti-Sikh riots had erupted in several parts of the country in the aftermath of the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi by her Sikh bodyguards on October 31, 1984. A sessions court had in August last year granted anticipatory bail to Tytler in the case.

Delhi metro breaks its previous highest journey record 17 times in a month

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi metro broke its previous highest journey record on a single day, on February 13, 17 times within a span of one month from August 12 to September 12 even as rain and waterlogging led to major traffic jams in the national Capital. Metro's Principal Executive Director of Corporate Communications Anuj Dayal said, "Delhi Metro which has registered its previous highest journey record on a single day (February 13: 71,09,938) before August 12, has achieved a unique feat by breaking that mark by record 17 times within a span of one month from 12th August to 12th September 2024."

He added that out of top 20 passenger journeys registered so far, 19 are from this year only including two in the month of February 2024. "The passenger journeys registered by Delhi Metro in the past four days including September 9, 10, 11 and 12 have turned out to be amongst the top five passenger journeys performed in the Metro



network, with the highest ever passenger journeys record made on August 20 at 77,49,682," Dayal stated. Further, in view of the increased passenger journeys, Delhi metro has decided to run one extra train on all its lines performing 84 extra train trips today and tomorrow. These additional trains will be continued on coming weekdays also, if required. "This trend further strengthens Delhi Metro's acceptability as the most dependable, reliable,

punctual and comfortable mode of public transport in these extended spells of humidity and rain, allowing people to avoid road blockages and delays caused by heavy rains, ensuring they reach their destinations on time," Dayal remarked. He added that the interconnectivity of the metro network through 29 interchange stations has also enhanced seamless connectivity enabling people to reach any corner of Delhi-NCR in the most convenient manner.

Modi to distribute sanction letters in Jharkhand, Gujarat, Odisha under PMAY

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will distribute sanction letters to around 10 lakh beneficiaries under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) and transfer their first instalments, amounting to around Rs 3,180 crore, on September 17 in Odisha, Rural Development Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan announced on Friday.

The Prime Minister will also launch the "Awas Plus 24" application that aims at ensuring the allotment of pucca houses by including eligible beneficiaries in the list at the event that will be held in Bhubaneswar. According to the rural development ministry, in the current financial year, Odisha has been given a target of 22,572 houses against which an amount of Rs 41.32 crore has been released. The Prime Minister will also distribute sanction letters to about 20,000 beneficiaries of Jharkhand at an event in Jamshedpur on September 15.

Fierce fire in Kishtwar ahead of PM visit, two terrorists neutralised

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

A fierce firefight broke out between a heavily armed group of Pakistani terrorists and the joint team of security forces in the Chatroo area of Kishtwar late Friday evening ahead of the day-long visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to bolster the party's poll campaign in the erstwhile Doda district which is headed to polls in the first phase of polling on September 18.

Two more terrorists were neutralized by the joint team of security forces in the Khandara top area of Basantgarh late Friday evening. Sharing an update Rising Star Corps of the Indian Army posted on X, "In the Joint operation launched on 11 Sep Two Terrorists Neutralised & Large War Like Stores Recovered. Operations concluded" Meanwhile, security has been further beefed up in and around the venue of the Prime Minister's rally in

Doda. At the same time, a general alert has been sounded in the entire Jammu region to prevent any other incident of terrorist violence ahead of the first round of polling on eight Assembly seats in the region. Additional troops have been deployed at vulnerable places such as party offices, and venues of campaign meetings. This is the third incident of terrorist violence in the Jammu region in the last five days.

Confirming the incident of a firefight, a spokesman of the Jammu and Kashmir police in a brief statement said, "Exchange of fire has taken place between search teams of security forces and hiding terrorists at Pingal Dugadda forest area, upper reaches of Naidgham village under the jurisdiction of Police Station Chhatroo, District Kishtwar". Official sources claimed a group of three terrorists believed to be the cadre of the Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) outfit were trapped in the upper reaches of Chatroo. A

team of the special forces of the Indian army and the jawans of the special operations group of Jammu and Kashmir police were carrying out searches in the area when a group of terrorists hiding inside a dhok (temporary structure) attempted to ambush the security personnel. Swift action by the elite para commandos resulted in the ensuing gunfight in the area. Unconfirmed reports claimed a soldier also received injuries and was evacuated to a nearby hospital. On September 11, two heavily armed Pakistani terrorists, hiding in the upper reaches of Basantgarh bordering Kathua and Udhampur districts, were neutralized by the joint team of security forces.

On September 9, two heavily armed terrorists believed to be Pakistani were neutralized by the troops of the Indian army while they were attempting to infiltrate inside the Indian territory in the Laam sector of Nowshera in the frontier district of Rajouri on Monday.

The election managers are banking heavily on the popularity of the Prime Minister in the erstwhile Doda district. BJP had won 4 out of 6 assembly seats in 2014 Assembly polls. This time the party is aiming to retain all its four seats and wrest at least two other seats from the opposition camp. The BJP is facing a tough challenge in the region as the alliance partners Congress and the National Conference have been making all efforts to win more than two seats. Rahul Gandhi also visited Ramban to address an election rally. On the other hand, Omar Abdullah has also addressed a series of election meetings to boost the morale of the party workers. A senior BJP leader told The Pioneer, "We are banking heavily on the booster dose which our Prime Minister is expected to administer to the party workers ahead of the first phase of polling". So far the party candidates have received an impressive response on ground zero.

Left planning attack on doctors to malign Government: Ghosh

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

The doctors' movement over the rape and murder of a lady doctor inside the RG Kar Medical College and Hospital took a sharp turn with the Trinamool Congress spokesperson Kunal Ghosh on Thursday releasing an audio-tape suggesting some Left groups were planning attack on the agitating doctors to malign the State Government. "The audio-tape pertains to a conversation between members of two Leftist organizations who are discussing the pros and cons of an attack on the doctors who are staging a sit-in demonstration outside the Swasthya Bhavan," Ghosh playing the tape said. In the purported discussion between the two persons one is asking to send criminals to attack the doctors after their talks with the State Government fizzled out Thursday. While the other person however is reluctant to mount such attack on "people who save our lives" the first person reminds him

of the political dividend such an attack could produce painting the Mamata Banerjee Government in a bad light, Ghosh said adding the audio tape was forwarded to him by some sources and the police were already investigating it. By late on Friday evening the Bidhan Nagar Police Commissionerate had instituted a suo motu case and started investigations into it, sources in the Government said adding the police were on high alert and security had been beefed up around the area where the doctors were staging a dharna demanding justice for the RGMCH victim and removal of top IPS officers including the Kolkata Police Commissioner Vineet Goyal, State Health Secretary and two Directors of Health for playing an alleged role in destroying evidence. While the doctors would not speak immediately, the Left leaders demanded an investigation into the purported conspiracy saying, "the Government is trying not only to scare the doctors indi-



rectly into withdrawing the movement but also defaming the Marxists. "It is strange that the Government is so much scared of a party which has "zero" representation in Assembly. "Mamata Banerjee is a vicious cunning politician who is trying to shoot many birds in a single shot... she is scaring the doctors to withdraw the movement... she is maligning the Left because the Left rallies are getting bigger and longer... and she is

trying to divert the attention from the RG Kar incident to a different side," Sujan Chakrabarty a senior CPI(M) leader said. Curiously Ghosh's "revelation" came to the media in tandem with reports that the Government had asked the Principals of all the 26 Medical Colleges to prepare a list of junior doctors who had joined the cease work campaign, sources said. Meanwhile, even as the doctors said that their movement would go on until the Government spreads out the dialogue table and addresses their demands a Kolkata Court on Friday rejected an application filed by the Central Bureau of Investigation seeking Narco Analysis Test of Sanjoy Rai the prime accused in the rape and murder case. "The ACJM Court while rejecting the CBI application said that such an act goes against the Fundamental Rights of the person concerned if he is forced to undergo such test," a lawyer said.

SUPREME COURT RELEASES KEJRIWAL

From Page 1
Kejriwal is the seventh accused to get bail in the Delhi excise policy scam-related cases after AAP leaders Sanjay Singh and Manish Sisodia, BRS leader K Kavitha, AAP's former communication in-charge Vijay Nair, Hyderabad-based

businessman Arun Ramchandra Pillai and alleged "middleman" Vinod Chauhan. Kejriwal filed two separate pleas before the top court -- one challenging the legality of his arrest by CBI and a second plea seeking bail.

While the latter was allowed, the former was rejected. Kejriwal, who was arrested by the ED in the excise policy case on March 21, was granted interim bail on May 10 for campaigning in the Lok Sabha polls and has been in jail since June 2 when he surrendered.

Traffic horror in Delhi NCR with heavy downpour...

From Page 1
The Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) received 24 calls regarding waterlogging and 14 related to tree falling from across the city. Another commuter Nitin Garg, who was going to his office, stated, "MB Road sewer is choked and the road is flooded with waterlogging due to which there is huge traffic jam. It's so painstaking to travel from this stretch. Someone needs to solve this urgently and think about the well being of common citizens." The city is under a yellow alert, indicating adverse weather conditions and the potential for worsening conditions that could disrupt daily life. Exacerbating the

traffic situation created due to waterlogging, potholes have also made the journey hard for Delhiites. "A pothole on Mukarba Chowk flyover from Prashant Vihar flyover is causing traffic jams," a 40-year-old Manoj said. People added that due to the closure of side roads in Mahipalpur, the situation has worsened with increased traffic congestion in the area. Breakdown of buses on Palam-Dwarka flyover, Bhairon Marg, Chattarpur, Mehrauli-Badarpur road and Ashram flyover among other areas also caused inconvenience making the jams in arterial junctions of the city worse. Due to rains, the city's

primary weather station at Safdarjung recorded 29.6 mm of rainfall, while the Ridge station recorded 69.4 mm, Delhi University 56.5 mm, Lodhi Road 28.2 mm, Aya Nagar 19.5 mm and Palam 18 mm in the last 24 hours ending at 8.30 am Friday, according to data shared by the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD). Informing the public about traffic disruptions due to waterlogging, the police posted photos and videos and advised people to avoid affected areas and take alternate routes. "Traffic is affected on NH-48 in the carriageway from Dhaulta Kuan towards Mahipalpur due to water

logging at GGR PDR. Kindly plan your journey accordingly," the Delhi Traffic Police wrote in a post on X. In several posts, the police also informed that traffic was affected on multiple roads, including Lala Lajpat Rai Marg in the carriageway from Kalkaji towards Defence Colony, Main Kanjhawla Road in the carriageway from Budh Vihar towards Puth Khurd, Outer Ring Road, Rohtak Road in the carriageway from Nanjloi towards Tikri Border and vice versa. "The traffic was also affected on MB Road in the carriageway from Khanpur T-Point towards Mehrauli and vice versa as well as on Guru

Teg Bahadur Road in both directions from Ring Road towards Patel Chest in front of Khalsa College. Similarly, GTK Road experienced disruptions on both carriageways from Mukarba Chowk towards Azadpur Chowk and vice versa due to waterlogging near GTK Depot and Jahangirpuri Metro Station. The Main Outer Ring Road saw traffic jams in the carriageway from Bhera Enclave Roundabout towards Peeragarhi, caused by waterlogging and an overflow of sewer water near Nagin Lake Apartments, Peeragarhi. "Kindly avoid Munda and take an alternate route accordingly," the police said.

Delhi becomes...

From Page 1
Instead our city planners and municipal officers are busy raking in the moolah and giving planning permission willy-nilly and arresting innocent parties when things go wrong, like what happened in Mukherjee Nagar earlier this monsoon. Instead of

desilting the drains well ahead of the monsoons and investing in new buses, the same old tamasha happens year after year. Our city politicians are busy trying to score brownie points against each other instead of looking for solutions towards making India's capital a twenty-first

century city. And if we want to make a point, let us ensure that the image of a submerged vehicle at Minto Bridge never happens again. Because as long as that keeps happening, the citizens of Delhi and the NCR will know that the authorities are not serious.

Hindu groups demand demolition...

From Page 1
In Mandi, however, police had stepped up security with heavy deployment after the Hindu outfits gave the call for the protest march. Raising slogans of "Jai Shri Ram", the protesters initially held a march in the Mandi market area and sat on a dharna at Seri manch. Later, they made attempts to proceed towards the mosque but were stopped by police, who used water cannons to disperse them. The management committee of the Jail Road mosque in Mandi was on Friday served a notice by the municipal corporation to remove the portion built on encroached land within 30 days. According to the notice, the mosque stands on 232 square metres of land while the

approval granted was just for 45 square metres. This came a day after members of the Muslim community demolished an unauthorised portion of the mosque on their own. Iqbal Ali, a member of the mosque committee, on Thursday said, "PWD officials had informed us that a wall of the mosque was in PWD land and we were served a notice. So we decided to demolish the wall." The unauthorised construction was on a plot of land which belongs to the public works department. The department and the municipal corporation had earlier served notices on the mosque management committee in this connection. Members of the VHP and the Bajrang Dal have demanded

that all illegal structures belonging to the Muslim community be demolished, alongside encroachments on Government land across the State. Meanwhile, Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu appealed to the people of the State to maintain peace and brotherhood. "I have appealed to everyone to maintain peace and make no provocative statements. No one is allowed to take the law into their hands. We respect everyone. The land of Himachal respects all religions," Sukhu said after an all-party meeting in Shimla. Referring to the protest by Hindu organisations demanding the demolition of the unauthorised structure of the mosque in Mandi town, he said Himachal Pradesh is a

state of protest. "There are protests by Dev Bhumi, the BJP, the CPI(M) and the unemployed." "We all sitting here is a product of the student movement," Sukhu said, adding that protest is a part of democracy but they should be peaceful. He said the people of the Muslim community have themselves come forward and offered to demolish unauthorised structures. They even demolished a portion of the mosque in Mandi on Thursday, Sukhu added. The Chief Minister said the all-party meeting agreed that peace and brotherhood should prevail in the state and that all unauthorised construction should be dealt with strictly as per the law. No one has the right to hurt the sentiments of any community, he added

Centre renames Port Blair as Sri Vijaya Puram

From Page 1
He said the Andaman and Nicobar Islands have an "unparalleled place" in the freedom struggle and history, and the island territory that once served as the naval base of the Chola Empire is now poised to be the critical base for India's strategic and development aspirations. "It is also the place that hosted the first unfurling of our Tiranga by Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Ji and also the cellular jail in which Veer Savarkar Ji and other freedom fighters were detained during their struggle for an independent nation," he said.

Gym owner shot dead in Delhi's...

From Page 1
The deceased is survived by his mother and two brothers. Shah's father Zahir Shah hailed from Afghanistan and had shifted to Delhi several years ago. "Shah received three to four bullets in a firing done by a person. He was talking to someone outside his Sharx Gym when he was shot with multiple bullets at about 10.44 pm," police said. CCTV of the incident surfaced on social media in which Shah could be seen talking with a person when one of the attackers walked towards him and opened a spree of firing in a close range. The attacker fled away, as police suspect, on a motorbike on which his associate was waiting for him.

Minutes after the incident, a purported social media post from an account in the name of gangster Rohit Godara took the responsibility of Shah's shooting. "Shooting has been instructed by a jailed criminal Sameer Baba because Shah was troubling in their business. Whoever will support our rival and trouble us will be shot like this," the post said. The post also mentioned names of jailed gangster Lawrence Bishnoi's associates "Rohit Godara, Goly Brar, Gogi gang and Kala Rana gang." DCP South Ankit Chauhan said, "On Thursday at 10:57 PM, information regarding firing at GK 1, New Delhi and about an injured person being taken to Max

Hospital was received at Greater Kailash police station, New Delhi." The police personnel on reaching the spot found some bullet projectiles and empty cartridges. On enquiry, it was found that Shah, a resident of CR Park, had suffered bullet injuries. "The attackers came on a two wheeler, fired at him and ran away. Nadir Shah was immediately rushed to the hospital by his friends but was declared dead," Chauhan said, adding he had received around five bullets. The investigations are on from all possible angles, he added. The police suspect a case of rivalry but did not rule out the possibility of a gang war.

TEAM INDIA BEGINS PRACTICE IN CHENNAI FOR FIRST TEST AGAINST BANGLADESH

PTI ■ CHENNAI

It is back to business for Rohit Sharma's side following its much-deserved month-long break...



skipper Rohit. Earlier, India skipper Rohit arrived in Chennai on Thursday...

personnel, in a PTI Video on Thursday night, while Kohli came from London...

The players are returning to the field after a much-needed break of more than a month...

This will be India's first Test under Gambhir and his new support staff...

Vital World Test Championship (WTC) points are at stake in the two-match series as India get ready for a gruelling 10-match Test season...



ACT hockey: Favourites India look to continue supremacy over Pakistan

PTI ■ HULNBUIR (CHINA)

A semifinal berth already secured, unbeaten India will look to continue the winning run and supremacy over arch-rivals Pakistan...

Singh, regarded as one of the best drag-flickers in the world, is continuing his good form from Paris...



Agarwal, Pratham give India A edge after Devdutt makes 92 for India D in Duleep Trophy

PTI ■ ANANTAPUR

Half-centuries by skipper Mayank Agarwal and Pratham Singh helped India A reach 115 for one in their second innings...

92 with 15 hits to the ropes. The Karnataka left-hander who made his Test debut earlier this year against England...

Maxwell excited about Kohli vs Smith showdown in Border-Gavaskar Trophy

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Australia all-rounder Glenn Maxwell is thrilled about the prospect of watching modern-day greats Virat Kohli and Steve Smith battle for supremacy...



make a lot of runs, if not both of them, and it's going to be pretty exciting to watch the two of the finest players of our generation go head-to-head,

but their relationship has evolved in recent times. Smith recently said that Kohli was an Australian amongst the Indian players in terms of attitude.

Verstappen faces challenge in Baku as RedBull's F1 dominance under threat

AP ■ BAKU (AZERBAIJAN)

Lando Norris is only one of Max Verstappen's problems at the Azerbaijan Grand Prix. The other is his own car.

overhaul the Dutch driver's 62-point lead in the last eight races of 2024. The target is much closer in the constructor's standings...

designing a car to exploit the new F1 regulations in 2026 - just like Newey did for Red Bull in 2022.



The car "was basically on rails and I could do whatever I wanted," enthused Verstappen after winning the Chinese Grand Prix in April, his fourth

in five races at the start of the season. Each upgrade seems to have made the car less stable and increased tire wear.

dominant car to an undrivable car in the space of, what, six to eight months?" he said in Italy.

Norris and PIASTRI competed to set fast lap times, it hurt their tires and let Leclerc take a win with smart strategy.

grid with Haas in Baku after Kevin Magnussen was suspended one race for picking up too many penalty points in a series of different incidents.