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**MONEY 10**  
ECONOMY EXPECTED TO GROW  
6.4 PER CENT IN Q3: ICRA

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## RAHUL DISSENTS POLL PANEL, BJP DEFENDS



File photo: PTI

government's constitutional mandate through "malicious" judicial activism. The government late on Monday night appointed Gyanesh Kumar as the new CEC hours after the meeting of the PM-led selection committee in which the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha asked the government to defer the meeting in view of the SC hearing in the matter. Meanwhile the SC on Tuesday said it would take up on February 19 on "priority basis" the pleas against the appointments of the CEC and election commissioners (EC) under the 2023 law. "During the meeting of the committee to select the next Election Commissioner, I presented a dissent note to the PM and HM, that stated: The most fundamental aspect of an independent Election Commission, free from executive interference, is the process of choosing the Election Commissioner and Chief Election Commissioner," Rahul said in a social media post. "By violating the Supreme Court order and removing the Chief Justice of India from the committee, the Modi Government has exacerbated the concerns of hundreds of millions of voters over the integrity of our electoral process," he also said in his post while sharing his dissent note. Rahul said as the LoP, it is his duty to uphold the ideals of Babasaheb Ambedkar and the founding leaders of the nation while holding the government to account. In his dissent note presented before the panel, the Congress leader cited a speech of BR Ambedkar in the Constituent Assembly in June 1949 to discuss the setting up of an independent Election Commission, where he had warned about executive interference in India's democracy and the affairs of the Election Commission. Rahul said in a judgement on March 2, 2023, the Constitutional Bench of the Supreme Court ordered the appointment of the CEC and election commissioners should be undertaken by a committee comprising the PM, the LoP and the Chief Justice of India.

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI**  
Leader of Opposition (LoP) in Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday attacked Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi and Home Minister (HM) Amit Shah for the midnight decision to select the new Chief Election Commissioner (CEC), when the process of selection is being challenged in the Supreme Court (SC). While Rahul who said it was "disrespectful" and "discourteous" on part of the Centre to ignore his dissent note to the CEC selection panel comprising of PM and HM, the BJP dismissed the Congress leader's criticism and accused the LoP of undermining an elected

## SC comes to rescue of 'pervert' Allahabadia

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI**  
The Supreme Court (SC) on Tuesday protected influencer Ranveer Allahbadia from arrest over his distasteful comments during a YouTube show while severely castigating him for the remarks it described as "showing a perverted mind". Several FIRs have been filed against Allahbadia, popularly known as BeerBiceps, for the comment on parents and sex on comedian Samay Raina's YouTube show "India's Got Latent". A furious court at the outset berated Allahbadia for his "unacceptable comments" on the

show and said, "... There is something dirty in his mind which has been vomited on the YouTube show." "The words you have used will make daughters, sisters, parents and even the society feel ashamed. It shows a perverted mind. If this is not obscene, what is it? Why should we quash or club the FIRs against you?" asked Justice Surya Kant, who was on the bench along with Justice N Kotiswar Singh. However, the bench agreed to the submissions of senior advocate Abhinav Chandrachud, representing the influencer, that Allahbadia be protected from arrest keeping in

mind the filing of multiple FIRs on the same issue as well as the death threats against him. "Are you defending the kind of language he has used?" Justice Surya Kant asked Chandrachud, who conceded that he himself was "disgusted". The senior lawyer, however, said the question was whether the remarks constituted a criminal offence as profanity per se would not amount to obscenity. "If you can try to attain cheap publicity by saying these kinds of things, there might be others also who might want to get cheap publicity by making threats," the bench said.

The bench directed that no further FIRs shall be lodged against him for his comments during the YouTube show, "India's Got Latent". The top court also restrained Allahbadia and his associate influencers on the controversial YouTube show from airing any other episode till further orders. It directed Allahbadia to deposit his passport at the Thane police station and said he shall not leave the country without the prior permission of the court. The bench directed Allahbadia to cooperate in the probe of the FIRs lodged at Maharashtra and Assam.



Preparations underway for the oath ceremony of the new Delhi Government, at the Ramliya Maidan. Photo: Ranjan Dimri

## Oath final for 'suspense' CM

**STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI**  
Almost a fortnight after the BJP emerged victorious in the Delhi Assembly elections, the suspense over the chief minister of Delhi still remains as the party has yet to make an announcement. Insiders say the new Delhi Chief Minister and the council of ministers are set to take oath at the Ramliya Maidan on Thursday evening. The decision is likely to be announced on Wednesday, when the new BJP legislature party is scheduled to meet, as per the party sources. As the iconic Ramliya Maidan is being spruced up with its boundary walls receiving a fresh coat of paint, tents for the grand oath

taking ceremony, sources said the legislature party meeting will take place around 3:30 pm following which final name of candidate will be announced. Earlier, the oath ceremony was scheduled around 4 pm at Ramliya Maidan but it has been rescheduled to 11 am due to some unknown reasons. Party sources said that arrangements have been speed up accordingly. For the BJP leaders, it was hectic schedule throughout the day on Tuesday as many senior leaders including Vinod Tawde, Tarun Chugh, etc were seen taking stock of preparations on the ground by visiting with the BJP leaders.

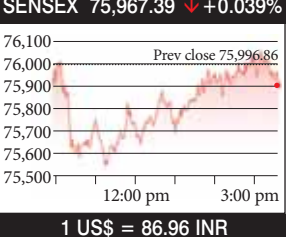
## Nepal embassy visits Odisha institute over suicide uproar



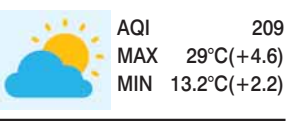
Family members of a Nepal's girl student who died by suicide reach the Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT), in Bhubaneswar. PTI

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ BHUBANESWAR/NEW DELHI**  
Officers from the Nepal Embassy visited the engineering institute in Bhubaneswar after a student from the neighbouring country was found dead in her hostel on the campus. The officers are also expected to meet a group of students who were allegedly evicted from their hostel, amid tension on the institute campus. While Nepal Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli offered some relief to the distressed students, Odisha Higher Education Minister Suryabanshi Suraj said the state government has been monitoring the situation and will facilitate the Nepali students, who have allegedly been evicted from their hostel, to return to the KIIT campus.

### MARKETS



### WEATHER

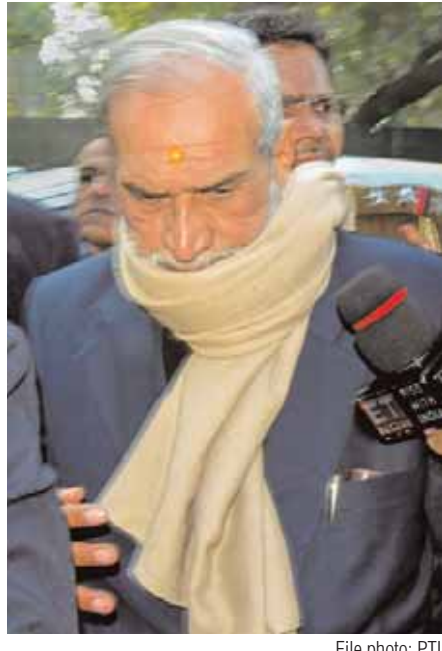


### President approves Jain's prosecution

**STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI**  
President Droupadi Murmu on Tuesday sanctioned the prosecution against former Delhi minister and AAP leader Satyendar Jain in a case investigated by the Enforcement Directorate. The case falls under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) on Friday sought the President of India's approval to prosecute former Delhi minister and AAP leader Satyendar Jain under Section 218 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Suraksha Sanhita (BNS), 2023 in the alleged disproportionate assets were to the tune of Rs 1.47 crore, about 217 per cent more than Jain's known sources of income during 2015-17. The MHA has claimed that there is adequate evidence against the AAP leader to implicate him on charges of laundering money through four shell companies allegedly linked to him. Based on material received from the Enforcement Directorate, he President found sufficient evidence to grant the request, officials said. Currently, out on bail, Jain has been chargesheeted by the ED. The money-laundering case stems from an August 2017 FIR filed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) against Jain and others, alleging possession of disproportionate assets. Jain had recently lost Shakur Basti seat to BJP's Karnail Singh by a margin of 20,998 votes.

## Prosecution seeks death penalty for Sajjan Kumar

**STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI**  
The prosecution has sought the death penalty for former Congress MP Sajjan Kumar who was convicted by a Delhi court last week over the killings of two Sikhs in the national capital during the 1984 anti-Sikh riots saying the crime was committed in a "brutal and diabolical manner". The prosecution said the case was "graver than the Nirbhaya case" of 2012 in a written submission filed before special judge Kaveri Baweja. "The present case is graver than the Nirbhaya case as in the Nirbhaya case, a young woman was targeted but in the present case, people of a particular community were targeted," it said. Arguments on the quantum of sentencing will take place on February 20 as the lawyers were on strike on Tuesday. While describing the case as rare of the rarest, Additional Public prosecutor (APP) Manish Rawat in his written submissions has pressed for death penalty for the convict in view of the guidelines issued in Nirbhaya and other cases. Asking the convict and the victims to file their written submissions, Special judge Kaveri Baweja has listed the matter for hearing arguments on sentence on February 21. The minimum punishment for murder is life imprisonment. Senior advocate H S Phoolka, appearing for the complainant, supported the prosecution's demand of death penalty and sought time to



File photo: PTI

argue the matter. The judge deferred the matter to February 21 after Kumar's counsel sought time to argue the matter, saying lawyers were abstaining from work on Tuesday in protest of the Advocate Amendment Bill, 2025.

## PM to launch MP's industrial policies at GIS

**STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL**  
Chief Minister Mohan Yadav chaired a meeting of the top committee on Tuesday for well-organized and successful conduct of the Global Investors Summit (GIS) 2025, which will be held on February 24-25 at the Indira Gandhi National Human Museum Complex in Bhopal. Yadav said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the two-day GIS on February 24 at around 10 AM and will also launch Madhya Pradesh's latest industrial policies. He further mentioned that the Prime Minister will also inspect the MP Experience Zone, which will be established at the GIS venue. This zone will feature an immersive digital walkthrough showcasing Madhya Pradesh's heritage, its progress to date, and future aspirations in a coordinated presentation. CM Yadav directed officials to work in close coordination with each other to make the GIS grand, well-organized, and result-driven. CM Yadav emphasized that the Global Investors Summit is being organized to strengthen Madhya Pradesh's economy and attract both domestic and foreign investors. To make the event historic, he directed comprehensive preparations. He further instructed officials to ensure that there is no mismanagement in the arrangements. The Chief Minister emphasized the importance of effectively presenting the state's investor-friendly industrial policies, the vast infrastructure available for industries in Madhya Pradesh, and the investment opportunities to attract investors. He said that the state must provide all necessary assistance and facilities to make Madhya Pradesh an "industry-friendly" state. CM Yadav instructed officials to treat all the investors attending GIS as special guests and to welcome them according to traditional Indian hospitality. He urged that, to make these two days memorable, the culture of Madhya Pradesh, along with local arts, cuisine, and hospitality, should be specially showcased to the investors. He also directed the beautification of Bhopal's lakes and the entire city to enhance its charm. He instructed the authorities to provide boating and e-battery-operated boat rides at the large lake so that the investors and participants can enjoy Bhopal's unique natural beauty. The Chief Minister stressed that GIS would give a new direction to industrial development in the state and increase job opportunities.

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# Naksha programme to promote urban planning: CM

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Chief Minister Mohan Yadav announced the launch of a national-level pilot project for the land survey of urban settlements from Raisen. He stated that this government initiative will empower citizens in urban areas, simplify their lives, enhance urban planning, and help reduce land-related disputes. Yadav made these remarks while addressing the national 'Naksha' urban land survey programme in Raisen. Chief Minister Yadav along with Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and Rural Development Minister Shivraj Singh Chauhan, inaugurated the City Survey Programme by launching a drone survey. Yadav emphasized that land is one of the most valuable assets, and accurate, transparent records are crucial for ensur-

ing security and financial stability. Under the Naksha programme, land records will be modernized and created through drone surveys in urban areas, promoting transparency and efficiency in land ownership. Yadav praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, noting that India's respect has grown around the globe due to his continuous efforts for public welfare and development. He highlighted the Ken-Betwa Link Project and the ongoing efforts to provide adequate irrigation water to every plot, which is increasing agricultural productivity and income of farmers. Yadav also mentioned that this year, wheat will be procured from farmers at Rs 2600 per quintal. Chief Minister Mohan Yadav highlighted the government's efforts to promote industries by

providing numerous facilities and creating employment opportunities for youth through the establishment of new factories. He also mentioned that milk production is being encouraged in the state, with grants being provided to cowherds who rear more than ten cows. Additionally, the government is empowering women by connecting them with self-help groups. Yadav emphasized that Madhya Pradesh is a green state, with agricultural productivity increasing due to the continuous expansion of irrigation since 2003-04. He pointed out that while the irrigated area was only 7 lakh hectares before 2003, it has now reached over 48 lakh hectares. The Chief Minister set a target to irrigate one lakh hectares more and stated that this will be achieved through three major river-link-

ing projects and other key irrigation initiatives in the state. Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chauhan said that the programme being held in Raisen today is not just for Raisen or Madhya Pradesh, but for the entire country. He announced the launch of the Urban Land Survey "Naksha" pilot project, which will cover 152 urban local bodies across 26 states and 3 Union Territories. The survey will be conducted using drones in urban areas, and maps will be provided to landowners. Chauhan emphasized that many issues arise due to the lack of proper land records, and now citizens will have a systematic record of their land. He added that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, a revolution in land records management has begun. Union Agriculture Minister

Shivraj Singh Chauhan announced the launch of the watershed programme across Madhya Pradesh, emphasizing the critical importance of water for life. He noted that groundwater levels are steadily declining, with wells that once had water at 30 to 50 feet now requiring drilling beyond 100 feet. The watershed scheme aims to address this issue by constructing various water structures, such as check dams, stop dams, and bori bandhan, to retain water within fields and villages. An allocation of Rs 8 thousand crore has been made for this initiative. Chauhan highlighted that Panchayats performing well will be encouraged, in line with Prime Minister Modi's vision for water conservation. He appealed to citizens to actively participate in the watershed campaign to help save water.



Union Minister for Agriculture, Farmers Welfare and Rural Development Shivraj Singh Chauhan and Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav release a booklet at the launch of National level City Survey programme "Naksha" in Raisen, Madhya Pradesh on Tuesday. Pioneer photo

## 2 incidents of cruelty against animals in city

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Two shocking cases of cruelty against animals have surfaced in the city, both captured on CCTV cameras. In one incident near Ansal Apartment in Shyamala Hills, a Thar driver allegedly ran over a sleeping dog, while in Shahpura, a car driver deliberately crushed a puppy. Complaints have been lodged in both cases, prompting police investigations. **Thar driver allegedly crushes dog in Shyamala Hills** Sunita Joshi, a resident of Ansal Apartment and an animal rights activist, filed a complaint at Shyamala Hills police station, alleging that Atif Khan, son of her neighbor Aslam Khan, deliberately ran over a dog with his Thar vehicle (MP 04 YG 9123) on February 14 around noon.

According to eyewitnesses, Atif intentionally drove over the sleeping dog, a fact confirmed later through CCTV footage. Following the revelation, animal lovers gathered at the police station to demand action. However, Atif's father, Aslam Khan, refuted the allegations, claiming the incident was an accident and not intentional. The police are currently investigating the matter. **Car driver crushes puppy and flees in Shahpura** In another disturbing case, a car driver in Shahpura ran over a street puppy on February 3 and fled the scene. CCTV footage of the incident, which surfaced recently, led animal activists to lodge a complaint. Shahpura police have registered a case against the driver of the vehicle (MP 04 ZQ 8999). Police station in-charge Lokendra Singh Thakur stated

that the incident occurred near Gulmohar Shivay. The footage revealed that the driver initially honked at the puppy but then deliberately increased speed, crushing the animal under the front wheel before fleeing. Police are actively searching for the accused. **Police rescue cattle in separate incident** Meanwhile, in a separate operation, Sukhi Sewania police rescued two cows and eight calves that were being transported illegally in a Bolero (MP 67 G 1507). The vehicle has been seized, and further action is being taken. The incidents of cruelty towards animals have sparked outrage among animal lovers, who are demanding strict legal action against the accused. Police investigations in both cases are ongoing.

## BMC puts meandering metropolitan mammals on notice

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Bhopal Municipal Corporation (BMC) on Tuesday stated that notices have been issued to cattle owners and dairy operators who allow their bovines to roam freely on city roads. This action aims to prevent road accidents and the spread of filth in public areas. Animals caught roaming by the BMC will require an identity card for their first release. For subsequent releases, both the identity card and a sworn affidavit will be necessary. Failure to comply will result in legal action. The civic body had previously instructed dairy operators to keep livestock outside Bhopal's municipal limits. Animal owners violating this directive will

face fines, and their animals will be sent to the pound. In response, BMC Commissioner Harendra Narayan has directed the Deputy Commissioner of the Gowardhan Branch to take action against offenders. Notices will warn animal owners against allowing their livestock to roam freely in public spaces, on roads, or at intersections. If animals are found causing accidents, pollution, or traffic obstructions, the corporation will impound them. If the animals are caught more than twice, they will be relocated to cow shelters. Separately, the BMC on Tuesday apprehended 36 animals roaming in various locations. These animals were sent to cattle shelters for proper care and safety.

## IT department preparing to question Saurabh Sharma

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

The Income Tax Department is preparing to question former RTO constable Saurabh Sharma, his associate Chetan Singh Gaur, and Sharad Jaiswal in connection with the recovery of 52 kg of gold and Rs 11 crore in cash from a car in Mendori forest. However, the department will have to wait until their Enforcement Directorate (ED) remand ends. The department had initially planned to summon the three for questioning post-bail, but the court has sent them to judicial custody for 14 days. As a result, the Income Tax Department has now sought a complete investigation report from both the Lokayukta Police and the ED to advance its probe into the case. Officials have indicated that if the agencies do not provide

this information voluntarily, they may approach the court to obtain it. **Key Interrogation Reports Awaited** Following the seizure of gold and cash, the Income Tax Department has already recorded the statement of Chetan Singh Gaur, the owner of the Innova car in which the valuables were found. Gaur's statement is crucial as it could provide key details about the source of the wealth. The department had been waiting for over two months to question Saurabh Sharma, but with his recent arrest, their focus has now shifted to obtaining existing interrogation reports from the investigating agencies. Since both the Lokayukta and the ED have interrogated Saurabh and his associates during remand, the Income Tax Department has requested full

transcripts of these interrogations. This will allow them to avoid repeating questions and instead focus on any unanswered aspects of the case. **ED's Findings and Income Tax Probe Strategy** During Saurabh Sharma's remand, the ED recorded detailed statements about the source of income and financial transactions linked to the recovered gold and cash. These details were also included in the ED's remand application submitted to the court. The Income Tax Department is now seeking this information in writing to determine the next course of action in its investigation. With Saurabh and his associates now in jail, the Income Tax Department is keen on accessing the interrogation reports at the earliest to ensure a streamlined and comprehensive probe into the case.



Participants during the semi-finals of women 2000 meters rowing at 24th All India Police Water Sports Championship at Upper Lake in Bhopal on Tuesday.

## Mahashivratri and Gudi Padwa to be celebrated on a grand scale: CM

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Chief Minister Mohan Yadav said that the Mahashivratri festival will be celebrated on a large scale across the state on February 26, with various events planned, including the decoration of temples. He also stated that grand celebrations are being planned for the Gudi Padwa festival on March 30. Chief Minister Yadav said that Vikramotsav will commence from Mahashivratri, and the Jal Ganga Abhiyan will continue this year along with the Watershed programme for an extended period. The Chief Minister made these remarks while addressing ministers before the Cabinet meeting at Mantralaya on Tuesday. Gharial Sanctuary and Wildlife Tourism in Madhya Pradesh Yadav said that he visited the Gharial Sanctuary near the Chambal River on February 17, where 10 gharials were released into the river. He said

that wildlife tourism is being actively promoted in the state, with the Gharial Sanctuary in Chambal housing the highest number of gharials in the country. New facilities are being introduced at the sanctuary to attract more tourists. Yadav described the sanctuary as an important hub for tourism. Yadav stated that several significant decisions have been made to promote farmer welfare in the state. These include increasing the support price for paddy and other crops, as well as providing incentives for cops per hectare. He also mentioned that more important decisions will be taken shortly. Yadav reiterated that the welfare of farmers remains a top priority for the state government. Yadav said that after the approval of the Ken-Betwa and Parvati-Kalisindh-Chambal river-linking projects, Madhya Pradesh is set to benefit from a third major river-linking initiative—the Tapti Mega Recharge Project, which will

also support Maharashtra. Under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, historic efforts are being made across the country to enhance water storage, recharge, and expansion of irrigation areas. Chief Minister Yadav highlighted that the Tapti Mega Recharge Project will be unique in its ability to store water underground, raising the water level and expanding irrigation across 1.25 lakh hectares in Khandwa and Burhanpur districts. An agreement with Maharashtra will be signed soon, with the necessary support and guidance already being provided by the Central Government. Yadav expressed confidence that this project will serve as a national model for water recharge. Yadav said that Madhya Pradesh is actively inviting investors through the implementation of new industrial policies. He emphasized that Prime Minister Narendra Modi advocates for simplified policies to ensure a

smooth process for industrialists setting up businesses. Madhya Pradesh is adhering to this vision of Prime Minister Modi by approving several new industrial policies aimed at attracting investors. Yadav expressed confidence that these policies will significantly boost investment in the state and rapidly create more employment opportunities. Yadav said that Madhya Pradesh athletes achieved a remarkable feat by winning 82 medals at the recently concluded National Games in Uttarakhand. This includes 34 gold, 25 silver, and 23 bronze medals, securing Madhya Pradesh the third position nationally in terms of medal count. Yadav highlighted that this achievement reflects the state government's ongoing efforts to promote sports by providing maximum facilities to athletes. He congratulated the members of the Cabinet and the people of Madhya Pradesh for this significant accomplishment.

## BHEL Bhopal recognizes employees for excellence in productivity

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

National Productivity Week which began in BHEL, Bhopal on the theme "From Idea to Impact: Protecting Intellectual Property for Competitive Start-ups" concluded today with a prize distribution ceremony organised at Administration building. SM Ramanathan, Executive Director, BHEL, Bhopal was present as the Chief Guest in the program. On this occasion Ramanathan felicitated the employees who won the essay and slogan competition organised by the Productivity Department. PK Upadhyay, General Manager (Operations), Rajesh Kumar Agarwal, General Manager (SOM), other General Managers and award winners were also present on this occasion. While congratulating all the award winners, Ramanathan said that the contribution of all the employees of BHEL is equally important in increasing the productivity of the company. Along with the IMPRESS scheme, many schemes have been implemented by the company to encourage the employees. While on one hand this has increased the productivity of the company, on the other hand it has enhanced the

knowledge, thinking process and teamwork spirit of the employees. Discussing the theme of national productivity this year, he said that while intellectual property has empowered new start-ups, its use has strengthened the economy which has led to a significant increase in investment. He also said that a fast-growing economy like India has got a new identity at the global level due to intellectual property and new start-ups and the youth are getting new opportunities under Make in India. Ramanathan presented the ED IMPRESS Trophy to TME Department for scoring the highest IP Index for the year 2023-24. Akash Dani, General Manager (TPTN & CET) and Vikash Rawtiya Sr DGM (TME) received the trophy. Apart from this, the winners of various competitions during the week as follows: - In the slogan competition, Indu Yadav, Manager, Satyadeep Bhagat, Draftsman Grade-I and Priya, Deputy Engineer got the first, second and third prizes respectively. In the essay competition, JC Abraham, Additional General Manager, Anand Kumar Soni, Artisan Grade-I and . Manoj Kumar Chaudhary, Manager got the first, second and third prizes.

## PIMR hosts open mic competition

**Indore:** The Prestige Brilliant Brains Club at Prestige Institute of Management and Research (PIMR), UG Campus, successfully organized an engaging intracollege open mic competition, providing students with a platform to showcase their talents in poetry, storytelling, stand-up comedy, and music. The event saw enthusiastic participation from 30 students across various undergraduate programs, each delivering captivating performances that enthralled the audience. A distinguished panel of judges, including Tarun Barot, Sugandha Mishra, Manish Shukla, and PIMR Director Colonel Dr. Subramanian Raman Iyer, evaluated the participants. After an intense and entertaining competition, Siddharth Dutta emerged as the winner, securing the first prize, followed by Dimple Rathore in second place. The duo of Purva Soni and Roshni Tilwani claimed the third spot. Additionally, consolation prizes were awarded to Samrath Singh and Deepnshi Mane for their noteworthy performances. The event was coordinated by Dr. Vanshika Gangwani and Dr. Manisha Singhai, with active support from dedicated student volunteers of the Prestige Brilliant Brains Club.

## AIIMS Bhopal and IIT Indore unite to drive digital healthcare innovation

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

In a landmark initiative to advance healthcare technology, AIIMS Bhopal and the Charak Centre for Digital Healthcare, an IIT Indore initiative, have joined hands to foster research collaboration in digital healthcare solutions. The event marked a significant step towards integrating cutting-edge technology into healthcare to enhance patient care and medical research. The event was graced by the presence of Prof. (Dr.) Ajai Singh, Executive Director of AIIMS Bhopal, and Prof. Suhash Joshi, Director of IIT Indore, as the chief guests. Senior faculty members from both institutions, including Dean Research Dr. Rehan Ul Haq, Dr. Amit Agrawal, Dr. Saikat Das, and Dr. Roshan Chanchalani, were also in attendance, underscoring the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration in healthcare innovation. A key highlight of the event was an overview of the Siddhi 2 Program, which focuses on leveraging digital healthcare technologies

to develop smart and efficient medical solutions. In parallel, Prof. (Dr.) Ajai Singh, along with the AIIMS Bhopal team, attended a dedicated session showcasing advanced technological demonstrations. Researchers from AIIMS Bhopal and IIT Indore also engaged in individual project discussions, addressing progress on crucial healthcare projects such as Medical IoT-based Health Support on Wheels and Big Data Management for Disease-Based Support Systems. These projects aim to integrate artificial intelligence, data analytics, and Internet of Things (IoT) to revolutionize healthcare accessibility and efficiency. Emphasizing the significance of this collaboration, Prof. Singh said, "This partnership between AIIMS Bhopal and IIT Indore marks a pivotal moment in healthcare innovation. By combining medical expertise with technological advancements, we are setting the foundation for transformative healthcare solutions that will benefit millions."



Statue of Raja Bhoj decorated with lighting and colourful fountain ahead of the Global Investors Summit in Bhopal on Tuesday.

## BMHRC introduces phone appointment booking service

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Bhopal Memorial Hospital and Research Centre (BMHRC) on Tuesday announced the launch of a new phone-based appointment booking service through the Ayushman Bharat Niramayam Helpline at 1800-233-2085. This service aims to make it easier for patients to consult doctors across various departments. Director In-charge at the multi

specialty health care centre, Dr Manisha Shrivastava says that the launch of the service will facilitate easy access for both gas-affected patients and the general public seeking appointments at the hospital. The process is straightforward: patients call the helpline, provide their name, city, and department details, and receive an appointment confirmation via SMS. Patients with confirmed appointments will enjoy priori-

ty consultation and will meet their doctor within an hour of arrival. A maximum of 30 appointments will be issued per department each day. BMHRC also continues to operate a 24x7 helpline, 0755-2740875, to provide information on registration, OPD timings, and other hospital services. This new service enhances accessibility to healthcare, ensuring smoother and faster consultations for patients.

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# Cabinet approves policies in the interest of State, investors

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Chief Minister Mohan Yadav chaired a cabinet meeting held at the secretariat on Tuesday. During the meeting, the cabinet approved the implementation of the Integrated Township Policy 2025 to promote private investment in real estate within urban areas. This initiative aims to boost economic activities, generate employment opportunities, and contribute to the state's GDP growth. The policy is designed to facilitate land development through land pooling, ensuring planned urban expansion. Its implementation will lead to the development of large-scale townships while allowing the continued growth of residential colonies under the existing framework.

As per the decision, the integrated township policy will be implemented in development areas where adequate infrastructure facilities are available. Under this policy, the minimum land requirement for cities with a population of less than five lakh will be 10 hectares, while for cities with a population exceeding five lakh, the requirement will range between 20 to 40 hectares. Developers will be required to register with the competent authority before proceeding under this policy. To oversee township proposals, an authoritative committee will be formed, chaired by the Principal Secretary at the state level and the Collector at the district level. The Directorate of Urban and Rural Investment will serve as the nodal agency for the implementation of the township policy.

In the township policy, the state government has authorized the authorised committee at the department level for land acquisition, external development work, timely provision of all permissions, benefit of TDR, exemption in maximum limit of agricultural land, concession on stamp duty, exemption in colony rules, ease in process for amendment in development plan, green FAR, FAR for non-conventional use of energy, FAR for additional EWS/LIG/affordable housing units and modification in land use proposed in the adopted development plan under section 23 of the Act 1973. The policy will promote systematic urbanisation in the state. Currently, developers are building colonies on small parcels of land, making it difficult to establish city-level infrastructure. There are no minimum area

restrictions in the existing rules for colony development, leading to fluctuations in the demand and supply of urban land for expansion. To address these challenges and ensure timely infrastructure development and affordable housing, the Integrated Township Policy is being implemented. The cabinet approved the new Madhya Pradesh MSME Development Policy-2025 for the promotion of micro, small and medium industries. According to the decision, the benefits of M.P. Logistics Policy-2025 and Export Policy-2025 of the Industrial Policy and Investment Promotion Department will be provided to MSMEs. The MSME department has been authorized to provide customized packages to mega units of MSME category classified under Industry Promotion Policy-2025.

Assistance up to 40 percent will be given for investment promotion, renewable energy will be encouraged in new industries, 48 percent assistance will be given to SC/ST and women entrepreneur units and 1.3 times assistance will be given in backward development blocks. As export promotion, the exporting unit will be given assistance up to 52% on investment, maximum assistance of Rs. 2 crore on freight for export and Rs. 50 lakh on certificate for export. In the new policy, medium units will get 1.5 times subsidy for providing employment to more than 100 people, Rs. 5000 per month per employee for 5 years in employment generation sector and Rs. 13000 for skill development training. Assistance will be given for new sectors like MSME exchange, lean engineering, testing lab and technology transfer.



Preparations for Global Investors Summit (GIS) at Boat Club in Bhopal on Tuesday.

Pioneer photo



Engineering students stage a protest against the Director of the Institute for allowing police to enter the college campus and hostels thrashing students following a group clash at Maulana Azad National Institute of Technology (MANIT) in Bhopal on Tuesday.

Pioneer photo

## Fatal crash near Kotlakhedi: Youth dies as car bursts into flames

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Two cars collided in Seoni Malwa of Narmadapuram. One of them caught fire. A young man travelling in the car was burnt alive. The accident took place near Kotlakhedi village at around 1 am on Monday-Tuesday night. The Venue car returning from Bhopal to Seoni Malwa collided with the Tavera car from behind. Then it went out of control and went down the road. The car passengers Vansh Rathore and Suraj Dhangar somehow managed to get out, but Avtar Singh Rajput remained stuck. Meanwhile, the car caught fire. On receiving the information,

police station in-charge Anoop Kumar Uike reached the spot with the staff. After extinguishing the fire, Avtar's body was taken out and sent to Seoni Malwa Community Health Center. Injured Vansh Rathore and Suraj Dhangar were admitted to a private hospital. They were returning from Bhopal after distributing wedding cards. Avtar's sister's wedding is on 24 February, all three friends had gone to Bhopal to distribute the cards. The accident happened while returning. Suraj was driving the car. Avtar Singh Rajput (30) worked as a surveyor supervisor. The last rites were performed at Bhilladiya Ghat on the banks of the Narmada in Shivpur tehsil.

## NSUI submits memo opposing delay in scholarships

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Under the leadership of Viraj Yadav, National Spokesperson of NSUI, a memorandum was submitted to the Chief Minister, Principal Secretary of the Higher Education Department, and the Commissioner, demanding immediate action against the prolonged delay in the Mukhyamantri Medhavi Scholarship Scheme and other government scholarship programs. The memorandum strongly criticized the discriminatory policies affecting students and urged the authorities to address the issue without further delay. Thousands of students across the state have been waiting for their scholarship funds for the past two to three years. Many students who took admission in

the 2022 session and are now in their final year have yet to receive the financial assistance promised under the Mukhyamantri Medhavi Scholarship Scheme. As a result, they are facing severe financial hardships, with many being forced to take loans to continue their education. In recent days, several students have reached out to Viraj Yadav through phone calls, emails, and letters, expressing their distress over the non-receipt of their scholarships despite multiple applications. Students shared their frustration, stating that they secured good marks and took admission under the government's scholarship scheme, but their funds have not yet been disbursed. Many have reapplied multiple times on the scholarship portal but have received no response,

leaving them in a dire situation as colleges continue to demand fees. Some students even warned that if the situation does not improve, they will be left with no choice but to drop out. Raising serious concerns about the government's accountability, Viraj Yadav questioned the authorities on the unfulfilled promises made to students. He pointed out that while scholarship funds are allocated in the budget, students have not received their rightful money for the past two years. Meanwhile, Madhya Pradesh's debt burden continues to rise, raising critical questions about the whereabouts of these funds. He also criticized the government for spending crores on banners, posters, and hoardings while failing to provide students with their rightful scholarships.

## Electric buses and e-Karts to minimise carbon footprint at GIS

KISHAN SINGH RANA ■ BHOPAL

Electric buses and e-karts will be used for the transportation of guests to reduce the carbon footprint of the Global Investors Summit in the state capital later this month. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the two-day event on 24th February. While the inaugural session will be attended by 3,000 delegates, the event is expected to draw over 15,000 prospective investors to the city. While departmental taxis and government buses will ferry attendees during the summit, VIPs will be assigned liaison officers who will escort them from the station and airport to the summit venue.



Access within the venue will be facilitated by e-karts to transport guests from one place to another. Most of the conversations at the summit will be conducted in English. For guests who are not conversant with Hindi, English-speaking drivers have been arranged to receive them at the airport and railway station. Additionally, these drivers have undergone background checks

before being assigned the responsibilities. Local transport services will also be utilised if needed, although the department currently has a sufficient number of vehicles. A traffic plan for the entire city will soon be released. Security barricades, traffic restrictions, and barricades will remain in place at all important sites across the city. Owing to VIP movement, several routes may be diverted, and planning is underway for this. Continuous planning is being carried out to prevent traffic congestion and emergency situations. Close coordination is being maintained with the local administration to ensure no

traffic-related point is overlooked. Necessary instructions have already been issued for people arriving at the summit in their own vehicles. Additionally, a planned parking arrangement will be made for local attendees' vehicles to avoid congestion on Museum Road. For a sustainable environment, emphasis will be placed on the use of renewable energy and renewable products. Managing Director of Madhya Pradesh Industrial Development Corporation Limited, Vishal Chauhan, says, "Continuous planning is being undertaken to ensure minimal carbon emissions at this summit, with a focus on using electric buses and e-karts for transportation."

## Students asked to leave home early for exams

Bhopal: With the Global Investors Summit set to take place in the state capital on February 24-25, the District Education Officer (DEO) on Tuesday issued an advisory for students appearing in the CBSE High School and Higher Secondary examinations. In light of expected traffic disruptions due to the summit, DEO advised students to leave their homes at least a couple of hours earlier than usual on both exam days to avoid any delays in reaching their examination centers. The DEO assured that all necessary arrangements have been made at the centers and called on school administrations and parents to ensure students arrive on time.

## Petrol pump employee's robbery claim was fake

Bhopal: A reported robbery involving a petrol pump employee in the Gautam Nagar area turned out to be a staged conspiracy, orchestrated by the employee himself along with two accomplices. The police uncovered the truth during a rigorous interrogation and arrested all three individuals involved in the scheme. The incident came to light when Piyush, an employee at the Indian Oil Petrol Pump near DIG Bungalow Square, lodged a complaint on the night of February 16. He claimed that while carrying a collection amount of Rs 28,000 from the pump, he was attacked by bike-borne miscreants wielding a knife, who then looted the money. Following his complaint, the police launched an immediate investigation, cordoning

off the area, but found no leads. During an in-depth interrogation, Piyush eventually broke down and confessed to fabricating the robbery. He revealed that he had conspired with his cousin, Nitin Yadav, and his neighbor, Naresh Ahirwar, to stage the incident. As part of the plan, he had handed over the money to them before heading to the police station to file a false complaint. He also admitted that the trio intended to share the stolen amount among themselves. With the conspiracy exposed, police took Piyush, Nitin, and Naresh into custody and recovered the entire sum. A case has been registered against them based on a complaint by petrol pump operator Awas Sogani.

## Collector seeks greater synergy among stakeholders

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

With the highly anticipated Global Investors Summit (GIS) just around the corner, Collector Kaushalendra Vikram Singh, on Tuesday, reviewed preparations to ensure the seamless execution of the two-day conclave. The review meeting, held at the District Panchayat office, focused on assessing the readiness of various departments and the progress of tasks assigned to them. A primary topic of discussion was the upcoming visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, with preparations being prioritised to guarantee security, smooth logistics, and a world-class experience for attendees. The review covered key

arrangements, including the State Hangar, airport facilities, VIP security protocols, traffic management, event venue setup, cleanliness, beautification efforts, and hospitality plans for guests. Singh emphasised the importance of collaboration between various departments to ensure that the event is a resounding success. He specifically highlighted the need for meticulous coordination between the Bhopal Municipal Corporation and the progress of tasks assigned to them. These teams have been tasked with ensuring smooth traffic flow, effective parking management, and a pristine environment around the airport, Raj

Bhavan, and the event venue at Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya (IGRMS). Singh described the visit of the Prime Minister and the summit's success as pivotal and told officials that he expected the civic administration to function as a well-coordinated unit to deliver an excellent experience to delegates visiting Bhopal for the summit. Attending the meeting were key officials, including BMC Commissioner Harendra Narayan, ADM Siddharth Jain, CEO of District Panchayat Ila Tiwari, CEO of Smart City Anju Arun Kumar, along with representatives from various departments. With these efforts in place, Bhopal is poised to host a successful summit, drawing global attention and investment to the region.

## HC allows 'trial run' of Carbide waste

Bhopal: Madhya Pradesh High Court on Tuesday approved a trial run for the disposal of Union Carbide's toxic waste in Pithampur. Three trial phases will be conducted, burning a total of 30 metric tonnes of waste. In the first phase, 135 kg per hour will be incinerated; 180 kg per hour in the second phase, and 270 kg per hour in the third. The court directed the state government to carry out the first phase of the trial run on February 27, with the subsequent phase scheduled for March 4 and March 10. The results of all three phases will be submitted to the Central Pollution Control Board, and a final report is due before the High Court on March 27. The Madhya Pradesh government had initially requested a six-week extension to dispose of 337 tonnes of Union Carbide waste, with the original deadline expiring on Tuesday. However, the sealed containers of waste have not yet been emptied. Advocate General Prashant Singh confirmed that the state government had submitted a compliance report to the High Court regarding the disposal process. In response, the court approved the trial run, allowing the disposal to proceed. Sandeep Raghuvanshi, who has petitioned against the toxic waste disposal, expressed concerns: "Pithampur is already severely contaminated. The groundwater is undrinkable, and air pollution is dangerously high. We have filed a petition in both the High Court and the Supreme Court, where we hope to secure a stay on this process."

## Is city anti-encroachment action also anti-poor?

AKBAR KHAN ■ BHOPAL

A day after the District Collector sought the immediate removal of encroachments from public spaces in the state capital, a key service lane right opposite his office remained lost to haphazard parking, illegal extensions, and municipal apathy. The entire stretch of the lane, which starts opposite the Tehsil office and ends at the Fitness Centre run by the Bhopal Municipal Corporation (BMC), is used as a private parking space by commercial establishments. At one point, hundreds of two-wheelers stand on a part of the lane outside an automobile dealership. An electricity transformer, placed across the lane, blocks traffic and even forces pedestrians to risk their lives by walking on the main road. Accidents are not uncommon. Home to several eateries and other business establishments,



the area is a classic case of neglect towards civic spaces in the state capital, which continues to cause tremendous traffic woes due to these violations, suggestive of a nexus between encroachers and municipal officials. As per norms, neighbourhood traffic can only access highways at designated spots, and vehicles—both two-wheelers and four-wheelers—are supposed to use service lanes to reach these highway entry points.

If the situation on the Koh-e-Fiza stretch is bad, the intrusions on public spaces on Hoshangabad Road are even worse, with entire stretches of the service lane, on either side of the busy highway, lost to encroachments. If a majority of encroachments in the city are pan shops, tea stalls, or other makeshift shacks built by the poor for their livelihoods, the violations of building norms and other civic misdemeanours on service lanes are caused by the

well-off in the city, who seem to have become the darlings of the civic administration. Over the last few months, the BMC has been running a campaign to rid the city of encroachments. However, most of this campaign focuses on roadside shacks and shanties, making residents question the propriety of the drive. Many in the state capital believe that the municipal drive is selective and only targets the poor, while the relatively wealthier folks in the city are allowed unrestrained access to public spaces, which they blatantly turn into personal or exclusive utilities. Though District Collector Kaushalendra Vikram Singh's observations on encroachments in the city on Monday are worth welcoming, it remains to be seen if his directives are heeded by the anti-encroachment squad bosses at BMC, whose behaviour, until now, has failed to reflect the pro-poor policies of the state government.

## CM to transfer amount for laptops

Bhopal: Chief Minister Mohan Yadav will transfer the amount of laptops into the bank accounts of talented students in a state-level programme to be organised at the Golden Jubilee Auditorium of RCVP Noronha Administration Academy, Bhopal on Friday, 21 February at 10:30 am. School Education and Transport Minister Uday Pratap Singh will preside over the programme. In the ceremony, Chief Minister Yadav will also transfer through a single click an amount of Rs 224 crore into the bank accounts of 89 thousand 710 talented students who have passed the Class 12 examination of Madhya Pradesh Board of Secondary Education in the year 2023-24 with 75 percent or more marks. These students are currently studying in higher education institutions.

**SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE**  
 Registered Office: ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai - 400051  
 Corporate Office: ICICI HFC Tower, JB Nagar, Andheri Kurla Road, Andheri East, Mumbai - 400059  
 Branch Office: 1st Floor, The Empire, Office No.-F-05, 33-City Centre, Ward no. 30, Near Income Tax Building, Opposite Madhav Rao Scindia Park, Gwalior (MP) 474011

Whereas The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Home Finance Company Limited under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ICICI Home Finance Company Limited. The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of property/ Date of Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Amit Pratap Singh (Borrower), Amar Singh (Co-Borrower), LHGWA00001512302	Na. Property Part Of Survey No. 386, Mauja Pamaya, Ward No. 01, Nagar Panchayat Pamaya Gaon, Tehsil Banmore Dist Morena Gwalior MP, Middle Class 386 Gwalior Madhya Pradesh 474003 (Ref. LAN No. LHGWA00001512302). Bounded By: North: House of Mahaveer Singh, South: 10 Ft Road, East: House of Omveer, West: Plot of Gurjar/ Date of Possession- 14-Feb-25	18-06-2024 Rs. 4,07,310.76/-	Gwalior -B
2.	Amit Pratap Singh (Borrower), Amar Singh (Co-Borrower), LHGWA00001512304	Na. Property Part Of Survey No. 386, Mauja Pamaya, Ward No. 01, Nagar Panchayat Pamaya Gaon, Tehsil Banmore Dist Morena Gwalior MP, Middle Class 386 Gwalior Madhya Pradesh- 474003 (Ref. LAN No. LHGWA00001512304). Bounded By: North: House of Mahaveer Singh, South: 10 Ft Road, East: House of Omveer, West: Plot of Gurjar/ Date of Possession- 14-Feb-25	18-06-2024 Rs. 51,646.88/-	Gwalior -B

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/ guarantors(s) are hereby given a 30 day notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.  
 Date: February 19, 2025, Place: Gwalior  
 Authorized Officer, ICICI Home Finance Company Limited

**Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd.**  
 Corporate Office: Unit No. 802, Nataraj Rustomjee, Western Express Highway and M.V. Road, Andheri (East), Mumbai - 400069  
 Narmadapuram Branch: Khasara No.72/10, Mouza Kishanpur Ward No.16, R.K.Shri Tower, 2nd Floor, Itarasi Road, Near Meenakshi Square, Opp. Gala Mandi, Hoshangabad-M.P.-461001

**POSSESSION NOTICE Appendix IV (for immovable property)**

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Aadhar Housing Finance Limited (AHFL) under the Securitisation 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, Demand Notice(s) issued by the Authorised Officer of the company to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) mentioned herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub-Section (4) of the Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement rules, 2002. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets. The borrower 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 charge of AHFL for an amount as mentioned herein under with interest thereon.

S. N.	Name of the Borrower(s)/ Co Borrower(s) (Name of the Branch)	Description of Secured Asset (Immovable Property)	Demand Notice Date & Amount	Date of Possession
1	(Loan Code No. 05610000058 / Narmadapuram Branch) Govind Singh (Borrower), Sunita Bai (Co-Borrower)	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Khasra no 164/34 Patwari Halka No 16, Situated at Mauja- VIII Shahganj Teh. Budni Distt Sehore M.P. Boundaries: East- Rahuveer Maharaj, West- Road, North- Rest Land of Seller, South- Mandir After Seller Plot	05-12-2024 & ₹ 6,44,287/-	15-02-2025
2	(Loan Code No. 056100000335 / Narmadapuram Branch) Pradeep Shilpi (Borrower), Geeta Bai & Lakhani Lal (Co-Borrowers)	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Daal Mill Colony Bareil Main Road Ward No.07 Baraily Raisen, Madhya Pradesh, 464668 Boundaries: East- Land of Karan Seth, West- 5ft Wide Road, North- Land of Bharu Wala Master, South- Rest Land of Seller	10-12-2024 & ₹ 5,72,591/-	15-02-2025

Place : Madhya Pradesh  
 Date : 19-02-2025  
 Authorised Officer  
 Aadhar Housing Finance Limited

# India, Qatar to double trade to USD 28 Billion

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI**

India and Qatar on Tuesday agreed to double bilateral trade to USD 28 Billion over the next five years and announced elevation of their relationship to the level of strategic partnership as Prime Minister Narendra Modi held talks with Amir Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al-Thani. The two sides also signed two agreements - one on establishing strategic partnership and another on Revised Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement and signed five memoranda of understanding to strengthen economic partnership, step up ties in areas such as management of archives, and cooperation in youth affairs and sports.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Amir of Qatar Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al Thani shake hands before a meeting at Hyderabad House, in New Delhi, Tuesday. Photos by: Ranjan Dimri/The Pioneer

Amir also decided to set a target to double bilateral trade from the current USD 14 billion to USD 28 Billion over the next five years. Last year, during Modi's visit to

Qatar, India had signed a USD 78 billion deal to extend LNG imports from the Gulf nation by another 20 years till 2048 at rates lower than the then prevailing prices.

Modi and the Amir held wide-ranging talks with focus on trade, investments, technology, energy and people-to-people ties, further cementing the "deep and traditional relation-

ship" between the two countries. They also exchanged views on "regional and global issues" of mutual interest, the Ministry of External Affairs said.

Earlier in the day, the Amir of Qatar was accorded a ceremonial guard of honour at the Rashtrapati Bhavan as President Droupadi Murmu welcomed the visiting leader. Modi was also present on the occasion.

India and Qatar have deep-rooted historical ties of friendship, trust and mutual respect. In recent years, the ties between the two countries, including in the areas of trade, investment, energy, technology, culture and people-to-people relations, have continued to strengthen, the MEA earlier said.

The Amir of Qatar arrived here on Monday evening, his visit coming almost a year after Modi had visited the Gulf nation in February 2024.

Extending a rare gesture of hospitality, Modi received the Amir at the Delhi airport on Monday evening. He welcomed him with a warm handshake and hug, displaying the bonhomie between the two leaders.

# Gyanesh Kumar to take over as 26th CEC on Wednesday

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI**

Gyanesh Kumar, who as a Senior Union Home Ministry official played a key role in the government's move to abrogate provisions of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir and setting up the Ram temple trust, will assume the office of the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) on Wednesday.

Kumar retired as Secretary in the Cooperation ministry in January 2024 and was appointed as an election commissioner in March 2024. He will become the 26th CEC, a day after incumbent Rajiv Kumar demitted office on Tuesday evening.

Kumar along with fellow election commissioner Sukhbir Singh Sandhu was appointed on the same day and was part of the Commission when the 2024 Lok Sabha polls were held. He is the first CEC to be appointed under a new law on the appointment of the members of the Election Commission (EC). His term will run till January 26, 2029, days



Newly appointed Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar with his wife poses for picture at the Election Commission's office, in New Delhi

before the EC is expected to announce the schedule of the next Lok Sabha election.

According to law, CEC and ECs demit office on attaining the age of 65 years or completing six years in the poll panel, whichever is earlier. Gyanesh Kumar will turn 65 on January 27, 2029.

During his tenure as the CEC, Kumar will oversee the Bihar Assembly polls later this year, and the Kerala and Puducherry Assembly polls in 2026. Similarly, he will oversee the assembly polls in Tamil Nadu and West Bengal, which are also due in 2026. Besides the vari-

ous assembly polls, he will also oversee the elections for President and Vice-President in 2027.

Kumar played a key role in implementing decisions following the abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution in Jammu and Kashmir during his stint in the Union home ministry.

During his tenure in the ministry, he had also played a key role in setting up the Ram Temple trust post the Supreme Court verdict. He is also learnt to have closely monitored the SC hearings on Ram temple on a regular basis.

# SC grants bail to Christian Michel James in Augusta Westland case

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI**

The Supreme Court on Tuesday granted bail to alleged middleman Christian Michel James deported to India six years ago from Dubai in the controversial ₹3,600 Crore Augusta Westland helicopter purchase case being probed by the CBI. A bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta observed James was in custody for the past six years while the investigation in the matter was still underway. James, however, cannot walk out of jail as he faces a related money laundering case by ED and his bail plea is pending in the Delhi High Court. "Petitioner was extradited in 2018 and has been in custody for more than 6 years now. According to CBI despite filing two chargesheets and a supplementary chargesheet, the investigation is still ongo-

ing. We are inclined to grant bail on such terms and conditions as determined by the trial court. The CBI will make appropriate request to the trial court for imposing necessary conditions," said the bench.

The top court said James would be released on bail, subject to terms and conditions decided by the trial court. The counsel for the CBI sought time saying the additional Solicitor General was unavailable for arguments. When the bench showed its inclination to grant bail, the CBI's lawyer said the plea was filed only in terms of seeking bail on medical grounds.

The court subsequently questioned the delay in the investigation and the trial in the case. It said given the speed, the trial would not conclude in 25 years. Advocates Aljo K Joseph and Vishnu Shankar, representing James, referred

to his six-year long incarceration.

The chopper purchase scam relates to the irregularities following the purchase of 12 VVIP helicopters from chopper design and manufacturing company Augusta Westland. James moved the apex court challenging the Delhi High Court's September 25, 2024 order refusing him bail in the case. British national James was extradited from Dubai in December, 2018, and arrested subsequently.

He is one among three alleged middlemen in the case. Guido Haschke and Carlo Gerosa are the other two.

The CBI chargesheet alleged an estimated loss of 398.21 million euros (about ₹2,666 Crore) to the exchequer due to the deal signed on February 8, 2010, for the supply of VVIP choppers worth 556.262 Million Euros.

# UN report highlights alarming data gaps in Asia-Pacific

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI**

Data gaps persist and leave some of the most vulnerable populations invisible in official statistics, limiting policymakers' ability to address their needs effectively across Asia and the Pacific, according to a new UN report.

The report also highlighted that how efforts from surveying hundreds of nomadic tribal households across Rajasthan to health-monitoring mobile applications in Indonesia are transforming sustainable development in the region.

The new report by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) released on Tuesday demonstrated that by amplifying the voices of under-represented communities, these solutions are not only making policies more inclusive but also making sustainable development monitoring more representative across Asia and the Pacific.

However, the Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report 2025 also stressed that urgent action is still needed in order to achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

"Data gaps persist and leave some of the most vulnerable populations invisible in official statistics, limiting policymakers' ability to address their needs effectively," underscored United Nations Under-Secretary-General and ESCAP Executive Secretary Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana. She added, "Constrained resources to modernize statistical systems pose additional hurdles. Without urgent action to accelerate progress, many of the Goals will remain out of reach."

The report said across Asia and the Pacific, communities are pioneering innovative solutions to bridge critical data gaps, ensuring that marginalized populations are no longer invisible in policymaking. "From surveying hundreds of

nomadic tribal households across Rajasthan State in India to health-monitoring mobile applications in Indonesia, these efforts are transforming sustainable development in the region," the report said.

The report said in India, the Centre for Social Equity and Inclusion conducted a household survey of 400 nomadic tribal households across eight locations in Rajasthan, with strong collaboration and support from community-based organizations and volunteers. The aim was to assess the development challenges of these tribal households and map community access to social protection.

The initiative highlighted the power of community-level information for localizing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). "Additionally, it strengthened community volunteers' capacity to collect and analyse data, enabling them to identify local challenges and advocate for solutions through meaningful

dialogues," the report said. The report highlighted several SDG targets where Asia and the Pacific leads globally such as reducing income poverty (Goal 1), addressing under-nourishment (Goal 2), supporting small-scale industries (Goal 9), reducing hazardous waste (Goal 12), mitigating land degradation (Goal 15), and combating human trafficking and intentional homicide (Goal 16).

Despite these strides, slow progress or setbacks in critical goals such as quality education (Goal 4), decent work and economic growth (Goal 8), and responsible consumption and production (Goal 12) threaten regional efforts to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Rising fossil fuel subsidies, low literacy and numeracy rates, and unsustainable production patterns further compound these challenges, the report said. Meanwhile, environmental degradation, increasing vul-

nerability to natural disasters, and persistent greenhouse gas emissions are exacerbating setbacks on climate action (Goal 13), life below water (Goal 14) and life on land (Goal 15).

The report further found that development benefits often bypass vulnerable groups, with intersecting factors like age, gender, education, location and wealth exacerbating inequalities.

"Poverty and education level are the two most significant factors contributing to inequality of opportunity. Poorer households in rural areas with lower levels of education are the most disadvantaged in accessing basic services such as water, sanitation and clean energy," the report said.

To bridge these gaps, ESCAP called for innovative and inclusive data collection and analysis. Nuanced and granular data will provide policymakers a clearer understanding of the realities of specific population groups especially those most at risk of being left behind.

# CENJOWS unveils publications on information warfare and Russia-Ukraine conflict



Centre for Joint Warfare Studies releases two critical publications on Contemporary Security Challenges, New Delhi. PIB

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI**

Centre for Joint Warfare Studies (CENJOWS), under the Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff (HQ IDS), Ministry of Defence, in a significant step towards advancing strategic thought and policy discourse, unveiled two critical publications here on Tuesday. Chief of Integrated Defence Staff & Chairman CENJOWS Lt General J P Mathew launched the February 2025 issue of the flagship journal Synergy, themed 'Information Warfare Impacting Joint Warfighting' and a monograph titled 'Russia-Ukraine War: Navigating the Ramifications for Europe and India'. The specially curated edition of Synergy - February 2025, the peer-reviewed journal widely recognized for its in-depth analyses and thought provoking discussions, provides a comprehensive perspective on contemporary security dynamics and future-oriented strategies.

India's challenges, particularly in response to adversarial IW tactics.

It further discusses Operational Convergence while exploring the integration of IW within Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (C4ISR) systems to enhance joint force effectiveness. The monograph, titled 'Russia-Ukraine War: Navigating the Ramifications for Europe and India', provides an in-depth analysis of the geopolitical, economic and security implications of the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict. It assesses the war's impact on European stability, Indo-Russian relations and India's strategic positioning in a rapidly evolving global order. The study explores key aspects such as geopolitical realignments, energy security challenges, India's diplomatic balance, NATO's Indo-Pacific expansion, EU-India collaboration and long-term global security implications.

With the release of these two significant publications, CENJOWS reaffirms its commitment to fostering intellectual engagement on contemporary strategic issues. Both the monograph and Synergy journal are now available, serving as essential resources for the policymakers, military professionals, researchers and academic institutions.

# Amit Shah reviews new criminal laws in J and K

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI**

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday here reviewed the status of the implementation of the new criminal laws in Jammu and Kashmir in the presence of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha.

Abdullah attended the meeting though law and order is directly handled by the Central government since the erstwhile state was bifurcated into the union territories of Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh in 2019. Besides Abdullah and Sinha, top officials of the Central government and Jammu and Kashmir government attended the meeting at North Block, officials said.

The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam replaced the colonial era Indian Penal Code, the Code of Criminal



Amit Shah reviews status of the implementation of new criminal laws in Jammu and Kashmir in the presence of CM Omar Abdullah and LG Manoj Sinha, New Delhi. PTI

Procedure and the Indian Evidence Act of 1872, respectively. The new laws came into effect from July 1 last year.

The home minister has already reviewed the status of the implementation of the new criminal laws in several states, including Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat. Abdullah said the three new criminal laws have been "by and large" implemented successfully in the

Union Territory and it was important that the citizens are made aware about the provisions of the new Acts. He was speaking to reporters outside the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) office after participating in a review meeting of the three laws that was chaired by Union Home Minister Amit Shah. "The meeting discussed the shortcomings and the areas to work upon for the smooth implementation of the three

laws in Jammu and Kashmir," Abdullah said.

The home minister (Shah) said in the meeting that so far a similar exercise has been completed for 11 states and UTs, he added. "In case of Jammu and Kashmir, so far, the implementation of the new laws has been by and large successful except a few instances. These issues will be addressed," Abdullah said.

The chief minister added that while the implementation of the new laws was "not the responsibility" of the elected government, but it was important that people were made aware about their contents and proceedings as these are new laws. We will have to make efforts for making people aware about these three criminal laws, be it colleges, universities or other places, he said.

Abdullah said there was no discussion on the law and order issue in the UT, adding that this done when he met Shah at the Parliament recently.

# India eyes greener future with shift to renewable energy

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI**

Union Housing and Urban Affairs minister Manohar Lal on Tuesday said transitioning from thermal to renewable energy, utilising solar rooftops, and implementing regenerative braking in metros exemplify the shift toward a greener future.

CII Indian Green Building Council (CII IGBC), in partnership with the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC), inaugurated the 5th international conference on Green Metro Systems - The Future of Urban Mobility.

Addressing the conference, the minister said, "As humanity progresses, our innovations often clash with nature, bringing both advancement and risk. The rise in global temperatures beyond 1.5°C has become a cause for global concern, prompting nations to unite under agreements like the Paris Accord." India, too, has committed to achieving net-zero emissions by 2070, aligning its growth with sustainability.

Urbanisation and industrialisation have increased pollution, but initiatives such as the Delhi Metro have significantly reduced environmental impact, demonstrating that thoughtful infrastructure can drive progress while protecting nature, the minister said.

Energy efficiency and clean power are the need of the hour. Transitioning from thermal to renewable energy, utilising solar rooftops, and implementing regenerative braking in metros exemplify the shift toward a greener future.

Technological advancements, like vertical solar panels and energy-efficient LED systems, pave the way for sustainable urban living. Furthermore, responsible consumption - whether in

air-conditioning usage or minimising wastage - can have a profound impact on energy conservation, he said.

"When metro started in Delhi, it has saved the national capital. Imagine, if the metro had not been there, Delhi would not have been able to develop this type of mobility system today. Around 70 lakh people are travelling daily in the metro," he said.

The minister also noted that the next thing is that the industrial revolution depends on power. Pollution also occurs in the generation of power because the traditional method is thermal, following which hydro also came. More thermal use will lead to pollution and global warming, he stated.

Then the renewable energy came and how the responsibility the Delhi Metro has taken to contribute into the transfer of renewable energy through solar or wind is highly commendable, the minister said.

"At least the power requirement for our metro should come from renewable energy. We do not have to take any fossil power, and if we do this then we will make a huge contribution," he said. According to a statement, Indian metro rail corporations are contributing to the green building movement by offering energy-efficient, low-emission public transportation thereby reducing urban pollution and traffic congestion.

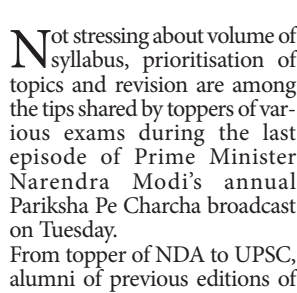
Many metro stations, throughout India, are designed with energy-efficient technologies and use solar power systems which help reduce energy consumption. The DMRC is a pioneer in integrating solar power which helps meet a significant portion of its needs, it said.

# PM Modi's PPC 2025: Toppers share success secrets

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI**

Not stressing about volume of syllabus, prioritisation of topics and revision are among the tips shared by toppers of various exams during the last episode of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's annual Pariksha Pe Charcha broadcast on Tuesday. From topper of NDA to UPSC, alumni of previous editions of Pariksha Pe Charcha shared their experience during a special session of PPC - an annual event in which Prime Minister Modi interacts with students appearing for the board examinations.

In a shift from the traditional town hall format, Modi preferred a more informal setting this time and took students to Delhi's iconic Sunder Nursery for his annual interaction.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacts with students on different aspects of stress-free exams under Pariksha Pe Charcha programme, New Delhi. PTI

Eminent personalities such as Bollywood actress Deepika Padukone and Bhumi Pednekar, actor Vikrant Massey and spiritual leader Sadhguru have also shared their experiences and knowledge on key aspects of life and learning in different episodes of 'Pariksha Pe Charcha'. Chidvilas Reddy, a student of IIT

Bombay, said "there cannot be any fixed formula, what works for everyone is personalised preparation". Armanpreet Singh, who was topper of the National Defence Academy (NDA) entrance exam last year, said one should not be bothered about the volume of syllabus.

"We usually have a habit of counting the number of pages of the chapter before we begin reading or learning it. This impacts our psychology. I believe one should not be bothered about the volume at first and should divide everything into parts. Prioritise the topics and revise," he added. Nutrition and health experts Shonali Sabherwal, Rujuta Diwekar and Revant Himatsingka, YouTuber Gaurav Chaudhary popularly known as 'TechGuruji' and Radhika Gupta, MD and CEO, Edelweiss Mutual Fund, are among the other guests who have been part of the programme so far.

'Pariksha Pe Charcha' is an annual event in which Modi interacts with students appearing for the board examinations. During this, he also answers the students' queries related to exam stress and other issues.

# Prayagraj airport handles over 100 flights daily amid Mahakumbh surge

**BISWAJEET BANERJEE ■ PRAYAGRAJ**

Prayagraj Airport has undergone a remarkable transformation, handling over 100 flights daily—a sevenfold increase from its previous 16 flights per day before Mahakumbh-2025.

This surge in air traffic has resulted in new records for the airport, with February 16 marking the highest single-day footfall in its history, as it managed 20,297 passengers. This broke the previous record set on February 15, when the airport handled the same number of flights but with 19,822 passengers, according to airport officials.

The spike in air traffic is attributed to the massive influx of pilgrims arriving for the grand religious gathering. Official data reveals that on February 16, 10,152 passengers arrived on 60 flights, while 10,145 departed on another 60 flights. On February 15, 10,300 passengers landed, and 9,522 passengers took off.



Devotees arrive at Sangam amid a rush during the ongoing Mahakumbh Mela 2025, in Prayagraj PTI

Since its inauguration by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on December 16, 2018, and the launch of flight operations in January 2019, the airport has rapidly expanded its capacity. Between February 1 and 16, 2025, the airport handled 214,593 passengers across 1,288

flights, averaging 13,412 passengers daily and 81 flights per day. On February 13, the airport set a record of 16,310 passengers on 96 flights, before surpassing it with 20,297 passengers on February 16. On January 13, the opening day of Mahakumbh-2025, the airport

managed 33 flights carrying 4,252 passengers, and by January 28, traffic had nearly doubled to 8,378 passengers on 56 flights. From January 13 to February 16, the airport accommodated 312,536 passengers on 1,974 flights, averaging 8,929 passengers and 57

flights daily. To meet the surge in demand, Prayagraj Airport has undergone significant infrastructure upgrades. The terminal area was expanded from 6,700 square meters to 25,500 square meters, allowing the airport to handle 1,080 passengers during peak hours.

A new terminal building was added to accommodate an additional 1,620 passengers. Connectivity has also improved, with flights now linking Prayagraj to 17 cities, up from just eight in December 2024. In January 2025, more than 60 new flights were introduced, significantly improving accessibility. Parking capacity was tripled from 200 to 600 vehicles, and check-in counters expanded from 8 to 42. Passenger convenience has been a top priority, with the airport now offering upgraded lounges, a childcare room, and more boarding bridges-up from 2 to 6. Food and beverage options have expanded, including the addition of the budget-friendly UDAN Yatri Cafe.

# Devotees' count exceeds 55 Crore in Mahakumbh

**PNS ■ MAHAKUMBH NAGAR**

The 'Mahakumbh 2025,' held in Teerthraj Prayagraj since January 13, has scripted history with over 55 Crore devotees taking a holy dip in the Triveni Sangam, marking the largest participation in any religious, cultural, or social event. Half of India's 110 Crore Sanatan followers have immersed themselves, and this number is expected to surpass 60 Crore by the final bathing ritual on February 26. This remarkable turnout reflects the meticulous planning of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath-led Uttar Pradesh government, showcasing the grandeur of India's ancient tradition.

India, a land of religious diversity, is home to people from various faiths, with the largest group being followers of Sanatan Dharma. According to the World Population Review, Pew Research, India's population is approximately 143 Crore (1.43 Billion), with 110 Crore (1.10 Billion) followers of

Sanatan Dharma. In this context, the number of bathers at the Triveni Sangam represents 50 per cent of India's Sanatan followers. Compared to India's total population, over 38 per cent of the country's people have participated in the holy dip. On a global scale, according to Pew Research 2024, an estimated 120 Crore (1.2 Billion) people worldwide follow Sanatan Dharma, meaning that over 45 per cent of Sanatanis worldwide have immersed themselves in the Sangam.

The sacred confluence of Maa Ganga, Maa Yamuna, and the invisible Maa Saraswati has witnessed a remarkable surge in the number of saints, devotees, Kalpvasis, bathers, and householders, all immersing themselves in faith and devotion. This historic turnout has surpassed Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's expectations. Ahead of Mahakumbh, CM Yogi had predicted that this grand and divine event would break records in the number

of bathers, forecasting an initial count of 45 Crore devotees. His prediction proved accurate as early as February 11.

By February 14, the number had exceeded 50 Crore and reached an astounding 55 Crore. With nine days remaining in the Mahakumbh and one significant bathing festival yet to occur, the number of bathers is anticipated to surpass 60 Crore.

Breaking down the numbers, the highest turnout occurred on Mauni Amavasya, with nearly eight crore devotees participating in the holy dip. On Makar Sankranti, around 3.5 Crore devotees bathed during the Amrit Snaan.

Additionally, over two crore devotees bathed on February 1 and January 30, while 1.7 Crore participated in Paus Purnima.

On Basant Panchami, 2.57 Crore devotees took the sacred dip in the Triveni Sangam, and more than two crore devotees followed suit on the Magh Purnima bathing festival.

# UP Budget session starts amid Opposition uproar

**BISWAJEET BANERJEE ■ LUCKNOW**

The Uttar Pradesh Assembly's budget session commenced on Monday with high drama as the Samajwadi Party (SP) launched a scathing attack on the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) over alleged financial irregularities related to Mahakumbh-2025. SP leader Shivpal Singh Yadav accused the government of exploiting religious sentiments and misusing public funds in the name of the grand event.

Yadav questioned the BJP's claims regarding Mahakumbh, stating that the assertion of it occurring after 144 years has no basis in Hindu scriptures. "The BJP is deceiving people under the garb of Sanatan Dharma while actually manipulating their religious faith for political gains," he alleged.

Opposition Disrupts Governor's Address The first day of the budget session saw heated exchanges,



Samajwadi Party leaders protest during the UP Assembly budget session, in Lucknow PTI

with opposition members staging protests and disrupting Governor Anandiben Patel's address. Amidst loud sloganeering and chants of "Governor, go back," the assembly was thrown into chaos. The

ruling BJP condemned the opposition's behavior, calling it disrespectful and against democratic norms. Uttar Pradesh Finance Minister Suresh Khanna criticised the opposition's conduct, stating,

"Instead of constructive debate, the opposition is only interested in creating disorder. Their negative approach to every initiative of the government exposes their political desperation."

Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya also lashed out at the SP, accusing it of running away from real discussions. "The Governor's address highlights the government's achievements, but the SP is only interested in disruption. They thrive on anarchy rather than responsible politics," he said.

With tensions running high, the budget session is expected to be a battleground between the ruling BJP and the opposition, especially on key issues like governance, public expenditure, and the Mahakumbh's financial management. The coming days are likely to witness more confrontations as both sides dig in their heels ahead of crucial budgetary discussions.

# Mahakumbh turned into 'mrityu kumbh': Mamata

**SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA**

Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday termed Maha Kumbh as 'Mrityu Kumbh (Kumbh of death)' and slammed the Narendra Modi Government for tolerating humiliation of Indian immigrants who were deported back to India in chains.

Speaking in the State Assembly Banerjee alleged how the BJP's efforts to use religion to earn money had backfired. Banerjee said, "Incidents like stampedes may happen in such big events but the question is whether the deaths could have been avoided with better planning. They only went about blindly publicising the event without caring for the common people. Only VVIPs' interests were taken care of. Maha Kumbh has turned into Mrityu Kumbh."

Alleging that the Uttar Pradesh Government hid facts about the actual number of deaths she said "thousands of dead



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee speaks during session of the state Legislative Assembly, in Kolkata PTI

bodies were disposed of in Ganga" and "the bodies that were sent back to the respective States did not even have their post mortem conducted. There was no death certificates issued." "I respect Maha Kumbh, I respect the holy Ganga Maa. But there is no planning.

Arrangements were made for the rich only. Tents were sold for as high as ₹1 Lakh whereas the poor people were made to walk for miles and fend for themselves. The Railways too would not take adequate measures considering the publicity that had been generated." Banerjee's Tuesday's diatribe

was a culminating point of ongoing war of words between the State BJP leadership including Opposition Leader Suwendu Adhikari and the TMC.

Banerjee attacked the BJP for creating division among the people by using religion. "I too am a Brahmin. I too perform Pujas daily, but I don't carry my religion to the market and sell it,"

Banerjee said backing her policy to back minorities.

"The Muslims constitute 30 to 33 per cent of the State's population. Don't they deserve good education and a better quality of life if my Government ensures that where is the problem and why shall I be branded as a member of the Muslim League," Banerjee said accusing the BJP of maintaining secret ties with the Muslim League.

"Do I divulge the stories of your secret parleys with the Muslim League for the sake of dividing people and winning votes," Banerjee asked.

# Mamata is anti-Hindu CM: BJP

**SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA**

The Bengal BJP on Tuesday hit out at the Chief Minister for alleging that Mahakumbh had turned into 'Mrityu Kumbh'. Calling Mamata Banerjee a "Hindu Virodhi" or anti-Hindu Chief Minister, the BJP MLAs who earlier staged a walkout from the State Assembly to protest against the suspension of four of their colleagues including Opposition Leader Suwendu Adhikari for 30 days, said the people would not forgive Banerjee for insulting the Hindu religion.

Adhikari who was staging a sit in demonstration outside the State Assembly wearing saffron turbans said "she has called the religious congregation on which crores of Hindus have faith a Mrityu Kumbh. The people will not tolerate such an insult to Hinduism."

Alleging that he and four other MLAs were suspended from the Assembly for raising the issue of disruption of Saraswati Puja in Bengal early this month Adhikari



BJP leader Suwendu Adhikari with party leader Agnimitra Paul addresses outside West Bengal Legislative Assembly PTI

said during Banerjee's rule anti-India activities had increased in the State.

"In the past several months Bangladeshis, Rohingya terrorists have been arrested by the Assam Police and Jammu and Kashmir Police which is a prove of how Bengal is becoming a safe haven for them. There at about 50-55 assembly constituencies and 30-35 police stations where the demography has changed completely changed, and Mamata Banerjee is directly responsible

for this," Adhikari said. The recent decibel level BJP-Trinamool Congress showdown is expected to rise in the coming months in view of the approaching Bengal Assembly elections next year. The saffron outfit has vowed to dislodge the Mamata Banerjee Government in 2026 State elections. BJP IT Cell chief Amit Malaviya too attacked Banerjee for showing a disdainful behaviour for Hinduism by calling the Maha Kumbh 'Mrityu Kumbh.'

# Siddaramaiah targets illegal residential layouts

**PTI ■ BENGALURU**

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Tuesday instructed officials to put an end to the illegal residential layouts in Karnataka by issuing B-Khata to properties as a one-time settlement.

Siddaramaiah also directed them to complete the process within three months. In residential areas in Karnataka, people get A-Khata for the layouts approved by the competent authorities such as Bengaluru Development Authority (BDA) or Urban Development Authorities. The properties on layouts without approval get B-Khata as they are illegal. This move will give relief to lakhs of property owners across the state and generate huge revenue for the government, a municipal officer said. Chairing a meeting with the officials of the Urban Development Department and Deputy Commissioners of the districts through video conference, the chief minister said the menace of illegal layouts should end once and for all.

"We will end this (illegal layout menace) by giving B-Khata once and for all. This is only one-time measure. You have been given only three months. Conduct a campaign and complete it within this time," Siddaramaiah was quoted in a statement issued by his office. The CM said the government will put an end to the unauthorised settlements which are there in all the cities, towns, municipal limits and villages.

"There should be no room for unauthorised settlements in the state from now on. We have started a drive to put an end to unauthorised settlements through the law. The officials should clearly understand and start their work," Siddaramaiah said in the meeting. He told the officers that the state is not getting revenue from unauthorised layouts. "People are not getting civic amenities and local bodies are also losing income. All these disadvantages need to be put to an end," the chief minister said. The government will not compromise on this anymore, he said, and warned that the

administration will not tolerate if the officials compromise.

"If unauthorised settlements raise their heads again, the District Collector, Chief Officer, and Urban Planning Officers will be held accountable. We will take action against them without hesitation," the chief minister said in the meeting. He also asked the officials to drive away middlemen and brokers immediately. Siddaramaiah also told the officials that they should clearly understand the government's vision behind enacting laws to curb illegal layouts.

"Illegal layouts and settlements on revenue (agriculture) land should not raise their head again in the state. Those who have sites and built houses in unauthorised and revenue settlements should not be troubled".

"You have to give a one-time solution to facilitate the poor and middle class. Give everyone B-Khata within three months and end it. Start giving B-Khata from today itself. Let there be no confusion," the CM said at the meeting.

# Efforts underway to boost connectivity between Delhi and Gurugram

**STAFF REPORTER ■ GURUGRAM**

In an effort to enhance connectivity between Delhi and Gurugram, discussions are underway to review ongoing development projects, improve road infrastructure, and address coordination issues among local authorities.

A meeting was held under the chairmanship of DS Dhesi, Principal Advisor, Urban Development, Government of Haryana in the Gurugram Metropolitan Development Authority (GMDA) office on Tuesday.

The meeting was attended by Chief Executive Officer GMDA, Shyamal Misra, Deputy Commissioner Gurugram, Ajay Kumar, DCP Traffic Viender Vij, Administrator HSVP Vaishali Singh, and senior officers of GMDA.

Improvement of connectivity between Delhi and Gurugram

and decongestion of the National Highway-48 were among the key matters discussed in the meeting.

The Principal Advisor outlined that both short term, and long-term remedial solutions must be explored by all concerned departments to facilitate improved connectivity and reduce traffic congestion for commuters traversing between the two cities.

Development of grade separators, widening of existing road infra and creation of alternative routes may be planned to channelise the existing traffic flow as well as to cater to the growing traffic demands in the future.

Strategic planning on key entry points on NH-8 from various parts of Gurugram along with critical sections such as Dhaura Kuan to Mahipalpur, Mahipalpur to Rajokri flyover and Delhi Border to Iffco Chowk, near Ambiance Mall among others is to be undertaken.

# Telangana CM calls for unified efforts against cybercrime

**PTI ■ HYDERABAD**

Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy on Tuesday said that the entire country should work as a unified entity, ensuring coordination among police officers from different states to tackle cybercrime.

Speaking at a cybersecurity conclave organised by the state police here, he said cybercrimes can happen anytime and from anywhere posing challenges to police officials in identifying the offenders, determining where they carried out the offence and bringing them to book. "Amid such challenges, the police have the responsibility of

preventing crime. When it comes to policing, we cannot move forward with policies and efforts confined to a particular state. The whole country should work as a single unit to combat cybercrime, and coordination is very much needed," he said. The spread of fake news on social media, as well as economic offences, needs to be checked, Reddy said.

Appreciating the state police officials for organising the conclave to promote understanding and coordination across the country, he expressed confidence that Telangana would serve as a role model for the nation in controlling cybercrime.

The Telangana government aims to be the number one state in cyber safety in the country, he said.

An estimated ₹22,812 Crore was stolen by cybercriminals in the country last year, posing a threat to both the economy and citizens, Reddy said. The Chief Minister said the state government is committed to working with experts and IT firms and allocating all necessary resources to build an ecosystem for cybersecurity solutions.

Telangana is one of the few states with a fully operational cybersecurity bureau and a dedicated cybercrime helpline to protect citizens, Reddy said.

# Assam's Cachar imposes night curfew along Indo-Bangladesh border

**PTI ■ SILCHAR**

Assam's Cachar district Administration on Tuesday clamped night curfew along the India-Bangladesh border to prevent the movement of extremist elements and smuggling of cattle and commodities, according to an official release.

Cachar District Magistrate Mridul Yadav has issued an order imposing strict restrictions along the India-Bangladesh border to maintain public order and curb illegal activities, the statement said. "The order, issued under Section 163 of BNSS, aims to prevent potential law and order disturbances arising from the

movement of extremist elements and unauthorised transportation of commodities and cattle across the border," it added.

The district magistrate highlighted the urgent need for preventive measures to tackle the apprehended threats. He emphasised that swift action is crucial to prevent unlawful activities, which could disrupt peace and security in the region. The order imposes specific restrictions effective immediately and will remain in force for two months unless otherwise directed, the release said. According to the directive, a night curfew has been implemented, prohibiting any move-

ment within a one-kilometre belt along the India-Bangladesh border in Cachar district between sunset and sunrise. This measure aims to curtail illegal cross-border activities and ensure heightened security during vulnerable hours, it added. Additionally, a strict ban has been imposed on any movement in the river Surma and on its high banks within the Indian territory of Cachar during the same hours.

The order also restricts fishing activities in the river, with exceptions only for local residents who obtain prior permission from the circle officer of Katigorah along with authorisation from the lessee.

# Chhattisgarh CM slams Sam Pitroda's China comment

**PTI ■ RAIPUR**

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai on Tuesday targeted the Congress over its leader Sam Pitroda's reported comment about China, saying it was evident that the opposition party stood with separatists and enemies of the country.

Pitroda, chairman of the Indian Overseas Congress, was reported to have said that he did not understand the threat India faces from China, and it was often blown out of proportion. While the Congress distanced itself from his statement, Sai asked if the party would expel the leader.

"The Congress's hand' (a reference to its electoral symbol) is with separatists and enemies of

the country.

Pitroda, the head of the overseas wing of the party, has probably been appointed to strengthen the hands of the enemies of the country. He earlier insulted Indians with his racist remarks, and now he is repeatedly spreading false propaganda about India on various platforms and plotting to weaken the country, which is the Congress's undeclared policy," the chief minister said in a statement. He further claimed that it was the Congress's pre-meditated policy to call Pitroda's statements as his personal views after he speaks. "First appease the country's enemies by having your leaders make statements, and then call them personal remarks," he said.



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PAPER WITH PASSION

## New CEC takes over

Gyanesh Kumar has been appointed as the next Chief Election Commissioner by the PM-led selection committee amid criticism

The senior Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar has been appointed as the next Chief Election Commissioner (CEC). The decision was made by the Prime Minister-led selection committee, which also named Haryana Chief Secretary Vivek Joshi as an Election Commissioner. However, the appointment has sparked controversy, with the Congress party questioning the process and alleging a lack of transparency. For decades, the Government held the power to appoint the Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioners. However, in 2023, the Supreme Court ruled that appointments should be made by a panel comprising the Prime Minister, the Chief Justice of India (CJI) and the Leader of the Opposition (LoP). Despite this ruling, the new CEC and Other ECs (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act, 2023, replaced the CJI with a cabinet minister, a change that has been challenged in court. Gyanesh Kumar, is a seasoned bureaucrat and was appointed as an Election Commissioner in



March 2023. He has a tenure extending until January 26, 2029, meaning he will oversee critical elections, including the 2029 general elections. His selection follows the convention of appointing the senior-most Election Commissioner to the role of CEC. Gyanesh Kumar replaces Rajiv Kumar, whose term concluded recently.

The Congress party, led by Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi, has strongly opposed the appointment process. Gandhi submitted a dissent note during the selection committee meeting, urging the Government to defer the decision until the Supreme Court rules on the validity of the selection panel's composition.

Congress leaders Abhishek Manu Singhvi and Ajay Maken have argued that proceeding with the appointment while the court is hearing a challenge to the new selection law undermines democratic principles. The government's decision to exclude the CJI from the selection panel and desperation to elect the CEC before the judgement indeed creates an impression that the Government wants to have its way in the election of Chief Election Commissioner. Ensuring transparency and balance in selecting election officials is crucial to maintaining a fair democratic process. Meanwhile, Vivek Joshi, a 1989 batch IAS officer, is set to serve as an Election Commissioner until February 2030. The Supreme Court has yet to issue a final verdict on the legality of the new selection process. The outcome of this legal battle could shape the future of India's electoral governance for years to come. To put things in perspective, the Election Commission plays a crucial role in the government machinery during elections and can significantly impact their outcomes. However, it is often influenced by the government through the appointment of favorable officials. It was, in fact, TN Seshan who, as Chief Election Commissioner, challenged government control and brought a sense of independence to the Commission.

### PICTALK



A squirrel enjoys palash flowers, in Nadia

## Bangladesh wipes out history, shuns India at its own peril



ASHOK K MEHTA

With opposition forces emboldened, Bangladesh appears to be at a turning point, grappling with a shifting political landscape and growing internal discord

As a Mukti Jodha (freedom fighter - that's what Bangladeshis call Indian Army personnel who fought the Liberation War), I'm appalled at the recent turn of events, the mayhem in Dhaka and many parts of Bangladesh following Sheikh Hasina's virtual address to her party supporters from somewhere near Delhi which provided the pretext for the students of the protest movement and parties opposed to Awami League to set ablaze 32 Dhanmondi residence of Mujibur Rehman and a museum in his name.

Perhaps nothing 'physical' remains of Mujib's legacy even as Hasina said: "History cannot be wiped out". Mahfuz Alam, one of the student advisors to Mohammad Yunus, noted that symbols of fascism were being dismantled. Surprisingly BNP Secretary General Faqurul Aslam Alamgir protested the disorder and violence at a meeting with Yunus where he sought early elections. Later, he asked India to hand over Hasina and her accomplices to the government in Dhaka for trial.

Army Chief, Gen Waqar uz Zaman also commented on the negative effect on internal stability by adverse law and order situation but significantly noting that India is a big country and important neighbour. It is important for good relations for the security interests of both countries, he added. India has called the violence as 'regrettable' attracting a summoning of its acting High Commissioner in Dhaka. India-Bangladesh relations will get a lot worse before they get any better despite Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri's visit to Dhaka in December and Foreign Minister S Jaishankar's meeting with Touheed Hasan, acting advisor to the interim government in Bangladesh last Sunday in Muscat. One thing is becoming clear: a new Bangladesh is evolving and this is the real one, unlike the new Nepal expected after the 10-year civil war. Last August in one week the face of Bangladesh changed and is changing by the day by design. The Americans were being blamed for regime change. The US and India were never on the same page in the last many



decades here. In an interview with The Hindustan Times, Lisa Curtis, a Trump 1.0 White House NSC chief of South and Central Asia, has dismissed any US role in Hasina's ouster. Last week, PM Modi raised concerns about Bangladesh with President Trump who denied any role of US Deep State in it. But for India, there are lessons from events in Bangladesh that the establishment is silent about because there was non-partisan support for Hasina and Awami League with the country's liberation linked to Mujib and India.

After Mujib's assassination in 1975, Hasina and her sister Rehana were provided refuge in India; history repeated itself in 2024. I was invited in November 2023, two months before the elections, to speak at the Liberation War Museum on the role of Chancellor Willy Brandt of Germany. One of the trustees of the museum, Dr Mofidul Hoque, took me around the museum. There was a section completely devoted to the political movement against Rawalpindi led by Sheikh Mujib called Story of Liberation Under a Genocide. The accent of the display depicted the liberation war fought by Bengali Mukti Jodhas with India in a support role. But it did have a gallery on the training of Mukti



AFTER MUJIB'S ASSASSINATION IN 1975, HASINA AND HER SISTER REHANA WERE PROVIDED REFUGE IN INDIA; HISTORY REPEATED ITSELF IN 2024

Bahini by the Indian Army. During my five-day visit, the BNP was out of the streets every other day coupling with garment factory workers and their unions demanding higher wages. A virtual war was being fought on the streets with the dominant Awami League counter-protestors unleashed.

Most people I spoke to said if there was a free and fair election BNP would win. This was one view I received even from our High Commission. While people were angry with India for supporting Hasina, the media was scared of the government. Despite the negative vibes of the Hasina regime, Delhi was reluctant to abandon her. I wonder what inputs Indian intelligence agencies had provided. They likely failed to read the mood of the people which led to a students' revolt.

One other truth and for me, the most significant was that the goodwill dividend of India's support to the liberation war and attainment of nationhood has dissipated - to put it crudely, the use-by date was long over. The 1970 military vintage soldier had disappeared nearly two decades ago from all three armed forces - India, Pakistan and Bangladesh. In any case, very few units from East Pakistan Rifles and still fewer Bengalis

in the Pakistan Army were deployed in East Pakistan. The war effort was predominantly India with Mukti Bahini in support; that was the ground reality. As far as the Liberation War is concerned, Bangladesh had changed the narrative (history) as was evident from the Liberation War Museum. For India though, it was an iconic, once-in-a-thousand-year victory (over arch-enemy Pakistan) which became a landmark event for the Indian political and military leadership to celebrate and commemorate.

Yunus's Law Advisor, Arif Nazrul has said: "India was only an ally in the 1971 war victory, nothing more", a sentiment that was endorsed by the office of the interim government. Hasina's second spell of refuge in India is a matter of immense resentment in Bangladesh, but Delhi will not let down a friend and ally. India has opened its doors to several leaders fleeing from Nepal, Afghanistan, Myanmar and Maldives. But for housing Hasina, there will be costs for India.

(The writer, a retired Major General, was Commander, IPKF South, Sri Lanka, and founder member of the Defence Planning Staff, currently the Integrated Defence Staff. The views expressed are personal)

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### KHELO INDIA WINTER GAMES POSTPONED

Madam — Climate change has finally made its presence felt by disrupting the 'Khelo India' to be held in Gulmarg. The second and final stage of the Khelo India Winter Games 2025, scheduled to be held in Gulmarg, Jammu and Kashmir from Saturday, has been postponed due to insufficient snowfall. The revised schedule will be announced when the weather conditions are favourable for the competitions. But now it does not seem that this will happen because now the spring season is going to enter the country. This is the second consecutive year that the event has been rescheduled due to insufficient snowfall. Last year, the Games had to be postponed till February after there was no rain in January.

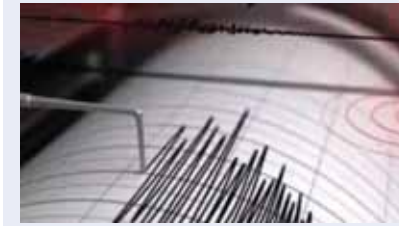
The lack of snowfall in many areas is mainly due to climate change, as rising temperatures lead to more precipitation in the form of rain rather than snow, leading to a decrease in snow piles and snow cover, especially in mountainous areas. This phenomenon is often called "snow drought." It is not just India that is being affected by climate; it is a global problem. The whole world is grappling with it. I think the way temperatures are rising and the problem of forest fires, not only in developing countries but also in developed countries, are making people feel helpless. It is quite possible that after the next few years, it will be difficult to even host the Winter Olympic Games. In the future, sports like ice hockey and ice skating will disappear into the pages of history.

Jang Bahadur Singh | Jamshedpur

#### SC QUESTIONS GOVERNOR'S ACTIONS

Madam — The Supreme Court, while reserving its judgment on the writ petition filed by the Tamil Nadu Government, stated in unambiguous terms that Governor Ravindra Narayana Ravi's action of transferring the nine bills to the President of India after their re-enactment and re-submission was not in accordance with the provisions in the Constitution. The court noted that Governor Ravi had

#### Earthquake jolts Delhi



Residents of Delhi and its adjoining areas woke up to strong tremors caused by an earthquake of magnitude 4.0 on Monday morning. According to the National Centre of Seismology, the quake hit at a depth of about 5 km. Videos showed the ground and buildings shaking, forcing people to rush out of their homes. There have been no reports of casualties or damage to properties, but many residents claimed

that the tremors were so strong that it felt like a bridge was collapsing.

However, the quake itself was not of a high-intensity magnitude. The gravity of the situation soon gave way to humour as social media users began sharing their reactions to the unexpected jolt. Memes and jokes flooded various platforms, with many poking fun at the situation while still conveying their fear and disbelief. While the suddenness of the earthquake understandably caused concern among residents, the quick wit and resilience of the people of Delhi-NCR were on full display as they found ways to cope with the unexpected turn of events. Like Mumbai rains, the Delhi tremor gave a tough time to people there, but it was business as usual once the tremor settled.

Aarohi Gupta | Ujjain

#### INDUSTRY STATUS FOR TOURISM

Madam — The Kerala government is planning to grant industry status to its tourism sector and cleared the way for the long-pending demand of the state tourism and hospitality sector of a specific area.

Granting industry status to that specific area will encourage investment and development in that sector. Although it has been estimated that the Kerala tourism sector is providing direct or indirect employment to 25 lakh people since 2018, rapid urbanisation, infrastructural development, and natural calamities and catastrophes could possibly lead to an all-time low. The step initiated by the government authority for turning Kerala tourism into an industry-specific area could benefit the mass audience and also help with better employment opportunities in the near future.

Dimple Wadhawan | Kanpur Nagar

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

## Cracking CUET: A step-by-step guide to smart preparation



PANKAJ DHINGRA

By understanding the exam format, setting clear goals, and following an organised study schedule, students can cover the syllabus while boosting confidence

Preparing for the Common University Entrance Test (CUET) can feel overwhelming, especially when juggling schoolwork and other responsibilities. However, CUET has transformed the university admissions process and a well-structured preparation plan can help you cover the syllabus effectively while boosting your confidence. By following a strategic approach over a few months, you can significantly enhance your chances of success.



self whether you have covered the syllabus for all sections, how confident you feel about scoring well on a scale of 1 to 5, and which section you find most challenging.

**Step 3: Set Clear Goals** Define your objectives based on your preferred university and course. Research the CUET score requirements for institutions like Delhi University, Banaras Hindu University and JNU. Having a clear goal will keep you motivated and focused throughout your preparation journey.

**Step 4: Allocate Study Time** Using insights from your self-assessment, create a balanced study plan. If you are strong in certain subjects, spend less time on them but focus on regular revision. Dedicate more time to weaker subjects to better understand concepts and solve practice ques-

tions. For example, if the General Test is particularly challenging, allocate 1.5-2 hours daily to this section while spending an hour on Language or Domain-Specific Subjects.

**Step 5: Weekly Study Schedule** A well-structured timetable ensures consistency. A practical approach is to focus on one major subject per day from Monday to Friday. Saturday can be dedicated to taking mock tests and analysing performance, while Sunday should be reserved for reviewing the week's progress, revising difficult topics, and taking time to relax and recharge. Using time-blocking techniques by dividing the day into study, practice, and relaxation slots can be highly effective.

**Step 6: Right Study Resources** Relying on quality study materials is essential. NCERT textbooks provide conceptual clarity, while CUET-specific guides and reference books offer targeted preparation. Online platforms that provide mock tests and video lectures can be valuable resources. Practicing with previous years' question papers helps in identifying

important topics and understanding question trends.

**Step 7: Regular Mock Tests** Mock tests play a crucial role in CUET preparation. Aim to take at least one full-length test per week and gradually increase the frequency as the exam approaches.

**Step 8: Exam Logistics** Since CUET is a computer-based test, familiarising yourself with the technical requirements is necessary. Marking significant dates on a calendar will help in avoiding last-minute surprises.

**Step 9: Maintain a Balance** Avoiding burnout is vital for effective preparation. Incorporate short breaks into your study routine and engage in activities like exercise or meditation to stay refreshed. Ensuring you get seven to eight hours of sleep daily will help in maintaining focus and energy levels.

**Step 10: Stay Positive** Consistency is the key to achieving success in CUET. Sticking to your study plan while remaining adaptable to changes will be beneficial.

(The writer is Managing Partner, FinTram Global LLP; views are personal)



**FIRST COLUMN**

**THE SELECTIVE NARRATIVES THAT SHAPE OUR LEGACY**

History is often told from the perspective of the victors, shaping collective memory in ways that serve those in power



APS MALHOTRA

It is a well-established fact that History, often, is written from the perspective of the victor, making it a one-dimensional testimony of what transpired. Thus, while for the British Imperial power, the tumultuous events of 1857 were an unsuccessful mutiny by sepoys from across the subcontinent, for us, it is the celebrated 1st War of Independence. Before being put down with unprecedented vengeance and ferocity, it ignited a spark of 'freedom' which continued to inspire generations to come, although, in the process, they sowed venomous seeds of communal discord, deftly using their devious policy of divide and rule, which continue to rile us to this day.

Not surprisingly, the events instilled such fear in the minds of our forefathers that it was several decades before any credible stirrings for a fight to overthrow the yoke of imperialism were felt. To take this forward, while Bhagat Singh & his young comrades might have been treated as terrorists/ militants/ extremists by the British, their cohorts and courts, we extoll them as valiant freedom fighters and martyrs, so much so, that more than a century after Bhagat Singh sacrificed his life for the liberation of the motherland, we are witnessing a massive surge in his following, especially in the youth.

It is not difficult to gauge this- there is a proliferation of his photographs - on the rear of cabs and auto-rickshaws, trucks and buses, emblazoned on T-shirts, and so on. Given all this, what startled me, and raised my hackles was Rajmohan Gandhi's book, Punjab: A History from Aurangzeb to Mountbatten. Otherwise, a well-researched and thoughtfully written book, his treat-



ment of the life and times of Bhagat Singh is rather disappointing - in a tome of more than 400 pages, there are just a few lines-a cursory mention of Bhagat Singh and his comrades. Sadly, even in these lines, they are not feted as freedom fighters, but rather disparagingly, as delinquent and misguided youth, militant in their approach, hellbent on derailing the course of the freedom struggle. Well, while all of us have the liberty or freedom to form our opinion, in a broader sense, it needs to be noted that sensitivities of a significant mass of our population don't get hurt. Because, if the Butcher of Amritsar became a celebrated hero among a section of his countrymen, hailed as "the man who saved India" and a beneficiary of a fund of over ₹26,000, then, we need serious introspection as to how we portray our martyrs for the generations to come, because, as I repeatedly quote the words of George Santayana- "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

The way history is written shapes how future generations perceive their past. The events of 1857 and Bhagat Singh's sacrifices remain crucial in our national consciousness, inspiring countless individuals. Yet, the selective representation of these figures in historical narratives raises concerns. When colonial figures like Dyer are glorified, while our martyrs are downplayed or misrepresented, it calls for reflection. As a society, we must ensure that our heroes are remembered with the respect they deserve. After all, history is not just about the past—it is a guide for the future, reminding us never to forget our hard-fought struggles.

(The author is a freelance writer; views are personal)

# Balancing growth with fiscal discipline



UTTAM GUPTA

Key measures, including tax reliefs and incentives for private sector, reflect a balanced approach to making India a developed economy by 2047



A theme that reverberates in the Union Budget for FY 2025-26 presented by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on February 1, 2025, is 'sustaining the momentum of high economic growth alongside sticking to fiscal consolidation'. During FY 2024-25, the GDP growth (gross domestic product) is estimated at 6.4 per cent which is more or less close to the 6.5 per cent - 7 per cent projected in the Economic Survey (ES) for 2023-24 presented by Sitharaman in the Parliament on February 1, 2024. For FY 2025-26, according to the Economic Survey presented by her on February 1, 2025, the 'GDP is projected to expand between 6.3 per cent - 6.8 per cent. On top of a growth of 8 per cent plus for three consecutive years beginning FY 2021-22 and 6.4 per cent during FY 2024-25, this is a fairly impressive number in sync with the overarching goal of making India a 'developed economy' by 2047. As for fiscal deficit or FD (excess of total expenditure over total receipts), in her interim budget presented on February 1, 2024, she had set a target of 5.1 per cent of the nominal GDP (NGDP). Subsequently, in the full budget for FY 2024-25 presented on July 23, 2024, she revised it downward to 4.9 per cent of the GDP taking into account the extra cushion of Rs 130,000 crore in the dividend transferred by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to the Central Government from its operations during the FY 2023-24 (the actual dividend transfer was Rs 210,000 crore against a provision of Rs 80,000 crore made in the interim budget).

Going by the revised estimate (RE) presented by the FM on February 1, 2025, the FD for FY 2024-25 has turned out to be even lower at 4.8 per cent of the NGDP. Even as the total revenue expenditure at Rs 3698,000 crore is only marginally lower than the budget estimate (BE) of Rs 3709,401 crore, the RE for capital expenditure is about Rs 1018,000 crore - a significant Rs 93,000 crore less than the BE of Rs 1111,111 crore. Indeed, this is a major reason behind a reduction of one percentage point in the FD over the BE. In the budget for FY 2025-26, the FM has provided for a total expendi-



THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS NEED TO BE COMPLEMENTED BY THE OWNERS OF BUSINESSES. THEY SHOULD GO FOR BETTER DISTRIBUTION OF INCOME THROUGH MEASURES SUCH AS KEEPING PRICES LOW, INCREASING SALARIES AT THE LOWER RUNGS, REINVESTING PROFITS FOR GROWTH ETC

ture of Rs 5065,000 crore which is a significant increase of 7.4 per cent over the RE for FY 2024-25 at Rs 4716,000 crore. This includes capital expenditure of Rs 1121,000 crore, the remaining Rs 3944,000 crore being the provision for revenue expenditure. Sitharaman has received flak for going slow on investment. This is unjustified and out of sync with the underlying facts. We need to compare the budget provision with RE for FY 2024-25. On this basis, the provision of Rs 1121,000 crore is 10.1 per cent higher than the actual capital expenditure during 2024-25. That apart, the position about the government's capital spending has to be viewed in totality. In her Budget for FY 2019-20, Sitharaman had laid a roadmap for catapulting the Indian economy to US \$5 trillion by 2024-25. In sync with this target, she had projected an investment requirement of over Rs 100,00,000 crore to build the infrastructure over five years. Of this, 39 per cent or Rs 39,00,000 crore was to come from the Centre and states each and the balance was Rs 22,00,000 crore from the private sector. The Centre's actual capital expenditure was for 2020-21: Rs 439,000 crore; 2021-22: Rs 554,000 crore; 2022-23: Rs 750,000 crore; 2023-24: Rs 1000,961 crore and Rs 1018,000 crore for 2024-25. Over five years, the total comes to Rs 3761,000 crore which is more or less close to the amount the Centre intended to contribute. Continuing with the above trend, a substantial allocation of Rs 1121,000 crore for 2025-26 shows the determination of the government to maintain the momentum of investment in building roads, highways, expressways, waterways, ports, airports, railways, irrigation projects, hospitals, schools, technical and research institutions and

so on in symphony with strengthening the foundations of the economy for a VIKSIT BHARAT by 2047. But, investment by the central government alone won't be enough to give the intended boost to the economy. The States and private sector also need to do their bit. The Centre has been helping the former to boost their capital spend. During 2022-23, it provided them with 50-year Rs 100,000 crore interest-free loans. During 2023-24, such transfers were Rs 130,000 crore. For FY 2024-25, the transfers were kept at Rs 150,000 crore though the states didn't fully utilize the amount. For FY 2025-26 also, the budget allocation is kept at Rs 150,000 crore. To promote investment in the private sector, the Centre has given a host of incentives to industries and businesses. Amongst others, these included a reduction in the corporate tax rate to 15 per cent for new manufacturing enterprises. In 2024-25, the tax rate on foreign firms was reduced from 40 percent to 35 percent. But, the private sector has complained of 'demand constraint'. Team Modi has addressed this as well. In the budget for FY 2024-25, Sitharaman altered tax slabs under the New Income Tax (IT) regime besides increasing the standard deduction by Rs 25,000. This resulted in a relief of around Rs 17,500 in personal income tax or PIT. In the budget for FY 2025-26, she has given a bonanza by announcing that a person earning Rs 1200,000 per annum need not pay any tax (taking into account the standard deduction of Rs 75,000/- now, the threshold comes to Rs 1275,000). Besides, she has altered the tax slabs to give relief even to persons earning more. Thus, a person earning Rs 2400,000 per annum will pay Rs

110,000 less. Consequent to these changes, the taxpayers will gain Rs 100,000 crore annually. These savings will be distributed amongst a total of 7 crore persons who won't have to pay any tax. This will give a big boost to demand. However, this by itself won't give the required fillip. The government's efforts need to be complemented by the owners of businesses. They should go for better distribution of income through measures such as keeping prices low, increasing salaries at the lower rungs, reinvesting profits for growth etc. Coming to FD, apart from lower capital expenditure (than BE), the contribution of buoyant tax collections in containing it at 4.8 per cent of the NGDP during FY 2024-25, can't be brushed aside. The RE of gross tax revenue (GTR) during the year at Rs 3850,000 crore is higher than the BE of Rs 3840,000 crore which itself was 14.6 per cent higher than GTR of Rs 3350,000 crore during 2023-24. For 2025-26, FM has kept the FD target at 4.4 per cent. To achieve it, she has set the GTR collections at still higher Rs 4270,000 crore. This despite lower tax rates shows that the government's efforts at broadening the tax base and ensuring tax compliance are working. In an interview, Sitharaman cited capital expenditure of 4.3 per cent as being more or less close to FD of 4.4 per cent. From a fiscal consolidation angle, this is a good sign as borrowings are used only for building assets. However, the government needs to go beyond by generating a 'revenue surplus' so that borrowings even for building capital assets can be cut. This is necessary as 'interest payments' alone account for over 25 per cent of total spending by the Centre. (The writer is a policy analyst; views expressed are personal)

# BJP sets its sights on West Bengal and Bihar after Delhi triumph

The Aam Aadmi Party's collapse in Delhi and the cracks within the INDIA bloc have emboldened the BJP to win Bengal and Bihar

Buoyed by its sweeping success in Delhi, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has now turned its focus towards the crucial state elections in West Bengal in 2026, where it aims to dethrone Mamata Banerjee. What once seemed like an uphill battle is now a tangible possibility for the party. Emboldened by the Aam Aadmi Party's (AAP) debacle in Delhi, BJP leaders are proclaiming, "Delhi ki jeet hamari ho gayi, ab 2026 main Bengal ki baari hai" (We have won Delhi; now it's Bengal's turn in 2026).



K S TOMAR

menting INDIA alliance, which was evident in Haryana and Delhi, provides the BJP with an additional advantage. The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), which has maintained a strong presence in West Bengal for decades, is expected to play a pivotal role in BJP's bid to oust Mamata in the upcoming assembly elections. **Modi's Appeal:** BJP's Trump

Card Prime Minister Narendra Modi remains the BJP's strongest electoral force. His leadership, credibility, and mass appeal, especially among the middle and lower-income groups, were decisive in Delhi's outcome. Welfare schemes like free ration under the PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana directly strengthened BJP's voter base. Modi's ability to project governance stability ensured that BJP's campaign resonated powerfully across the capital.

Modi's credibility as a vote magnet and his guarantee to implement manifesto promises worked like magic for the BJP, which continues to heavily rely on him even for state elections. In his characteristic style, Modi remarked, "Congress has achieved a dou-

ble hat-trick of defeats with zero seats," predicting its further decline. Meanwhile, he celebrated BJP's string of victories in Haryana, Maharashtra, and Delhi, reinforcing his status as the party's ultimate campaigner. **Decoding JBP's Triumph in Delhi:** The Modi Factor Several key factors contributed to BJP's victory in Delhi, with Modi playing a central role. His strong stance on national security, Hindutva, and governance stability shaped the electoral landscape, particularly among urban and middle-class voters.

**Modi's National Security & Hindutva Image** As the national capital, Delhi is heavily influenced by nationalistic narratives. Modi's firm policies on Pakistan, terrorism,



and Hindutva solidified BJP's core voter base. By framing the election as Modi vs. Kejriwal rather than a contest over local governance, BJP ensured that Modi's persona resonated strongly with voters. **PM's Welfare Schemes vs. AAP's Freebies** While AAP is known for its populist freebies, the Modi

government strategically countered this with large-scale welfare initiatives such as PM Awas Yojana (housing for the poor), Ujjwala Yojana (free LPG connections), and Ayushman Bharat (health insurance). By shifting the narrative from Kejriwal's localized welfare model to Modi's broader national schemes, the BJP successfully attracted lower-income and migrant voters.

A masterstroke was Modi's assurance that AAP's welfare schemes would not be discontinued but rather enhanced, promising to elevate Delhi into a world-class city. This neutralized Kejriwal's traditional advantage and reassured voters. BJP also aggressively targeted AAP over corruption allegations, particular-

ly the liquor scam, altering voter perception. Modi's leadership was positioned as a guarantee of cleaner governance, contrasting sharply with AAP's tainted image. **Impact of BJP's Victories in Other States:** BJP's recent wins in Haryana, Maharashtra, and other key states created a momentum effect, reinforcing voter confidence in Delhi. Haryana's proximity made its results particularly influential, given the shared demographics.

The party's national winning streak also boosted cadre morale, creating a perception of electoral invincibility, which further weakened AAP's positioning as an alternative force. **Why AAP Lost:** AAP's defeat was not solely due to BJP's strategic campaign

but also its political miscalculations. Kejriwal underestimated Congress's relevance, assuming it was a non-factor. This resulted in AAP's defeat in 14 assembly segments where the victory margin was lower than the votes secured by Congress candidates. AAP had previously employed a similar strategy in Haryana, splitting Congress's votes and aiding BJP's gains. However, this tactic backfired in Delhi, as the ignored Congress vote share ended up damaging AAP more than BJP. One of the biggest takeaways from AAP's crushing defeat is the blow to Arvind Kejriwal's national ambitions.

(The writer is a senior political analyst and strategic affairs columnist; views are personal)

# Delta jet flips upside down on snowy Toronto runway

## All 80 passengers aboard survive

PTI ■ TORONTO

A Delta Air Lines jet flipped on its roof while landing Monday at Toronto's Pearson Airport, but all 80 people on board survived and those hurt had relatively minor injuries, the airport's chief executive said.

Snow blown by winds gusting to 40 mph (65 kph) swirled when the flight from Minneapolis carrying 76 passengers and four crew attempted to land at around 2:15 pm. Communications between the tower and pilot were normal on approach and it's not clear what went so drastically wrong when the plane touched down.

Peter Carlson, a passenger travelling to Toronto for a paramedics conference, said the landing was "very forceful." "All the sudden everything just kind of went sideways and then next thing I know it's kind of a blink and I'm upside down still strapped in," he told CBC News. Canadian authorities held two brief news conferences but provided no details on the crash. Video posted to social media showed the aftermath with the

Mitsubishi CRJ-900LR overturned, the fuselage seemingly intact and firefighters dousing what was left of the fire as passengers climbed out and walked across the tarmac.

"We are very grateful there was no loss of life and relatively minor injuries," Deborah Flint, CEO of Greater Toronto Airports Authority, told reporters.

Delta CEO Ed Bastian said in a statement that "the hearts of the entire global Delta family are with those affected."

Toronto Pearson Fire Chief Todd Aitken said 18 passengers were taken to the hospital. Earlier in the day, Ornge air ambulance said it was transporting one pediatric patient to Toronto's SickKids hospital and two injured adults to other hospitals in the city.

Emergency personnel reached the plane within a few minutes and Aitken said the response "went as planned." He said "the runway was dry and there was no cross-wind conditions."

The crash was the fourth major aviation accident in North America in the past three weeks. A commercial jetliner and an

Army helicopter collided near Reagan National Airport in Washington, DC, on January 29, killing 67 people.

A medical transportation plane crashed in Philadelphia on January 31, killing the six people on board and another person on the ground. And on February 6, 10 people were killed in a plane crash in Alaska.

The last major crash at Pearson was on August 2, 2005, when an Airbus A340 landing from Paris skidded off the runway and burst into flames amid stormy weather. All 309 passengers and crew aboard Air France Flight 358 survived the crash.

On Monday, Pearson was experiencing blowing snow and winds of 32 mph (51 kph) gusting to 40 mph (65 kph), according to the Meteorological Service of Canada. The temperature was about 16.5 degrees Fahrenheit (minus 8.6 degrees Celsius). The Delta flight was cleared to land at about 2:10 pm. Audio recordings show the control tower warned the pilots of a possible air flow "bump" on the approach.

"It sounds to me like a controller trying to be helpful, meaning

the wind is going to give you a bumpy ride coming down, that you're going to be up and down through the glide path," said John Cox, CEO of aviation safety consulting firm Safety Operating Systems in St. Petersburg, Florida.

"So it was windy. But the airplanes are designed and certified to handle that," Cox said. "The pilots are trained and experienced to handle that."

The plane came to a rest at the intersection of Runways 23 and 15L, not far from the start of the runway. Just after the crash, tower controllers spoke with the crew of a medical helicopter that had just left Pearson and was returning to help.

"Just so you're aware, there's people outside walking around the aircraft there," a controller said.

"Yeah, we've got it. The aircraft is upside down and burning," the medical helicopter pilot responded.

Carlson was among those outside the aircraft. He said when he took off his seat belt he crashed onto the ceiling, which had become the floor. He smelled gas, saw aviation fuel



A Delta Air Lines plane heading from Minneapolis to Toronto crashed at Toronto's Pearson Airport.

PTI

cascading down the cabin windows and knew he needed to get out but said his fatherly intuition and paramedic skills kicked in. He looked for those he could help.

Carlson and another man assisted a mother and her young son out of the plane and then Carlson dropped onto the tarmac. Snow was blowing and it "felt like I was stepping onto tundra."

"I didn't care how cold it was, didn't care how far I had to walk, how long I had to stand — all of us just wanted to be out of the

aircraft," he said.

Cox, who flew for US Air for 25 years and has worked on US National Transportation Safety Board investigations, said the CRJ-900 aircraft is a proven aircraft that's been in service for decades and does a good job of handling inclement weather.

He said it's unusual for a plane to end up on its roof.

"We've seen a couple of cases of takeoffs where airplanes have ended up inverted, but it's pretty rare," Cox said.

Among the questions that need to be answered, Cox said, is why

the crashed plane was missing its right wing.

"If one wing is missing, it's going to have a tendency to roll over," he said. "Those are going to be central questions as to what happened to the wing and the flight data recorder and cockpit voice recorder. They will be found, if not today, tomorrow, and the Transportation Safety Board of Canada will read them out and they will have a very good understanding of what actually occurred here."

The US Federal Aviation Administration said in a state-

ment that the Transportation Safety Board of Canada would head up the investigation and provide any updates. The NTSB in the US said it was sending a team to assist in the Canadian investigation.

Endeavor Air, based in Minneapolis, is a subsidiary of Delta Air Lines and the world's largest operator of CRJ-900 aircraft. The airline operates 130 regional jets on 700 daily flights to over 126 cities in the US, Canada and the Caribbean, according to the company's website.

# Top Russian, US officials meet for talks on Ukraine war without Kyiv

PTI ■ RIYADH

Senior officials from Russia and the US met in Saudi Arabia on Tuesday to begin talks on improving ties and negotiating an end to the war in Ukraine.

Delegations led by US Secretary of State Marco Rubio and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov met at the Diriyah Palace in Riyadh. The meeting marks another pivotal step by the Trump administration to reverse US policy on isolating Russia and is meant to pave the way for a meeting between US President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Trump earlier this month upended US policy toward Ukraine and Russia by saying he and Putin had agreed to begin negotiations on ending the war.

Ukrainian officials aren't taking part in the meeting, and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy

said Monday that his country won't accept the outcome if Kyiv doesn't take part.

Rubio was accompanied by US national security adviser Mike Waltz and Special Envoy Steve Witkoff, while Lavrov sat next to the Kremlin's foreign affairs adviser, Yuri Ushakov. Saudi Foreign Minister Faisal bin Farhan and national security adviser Mueaed al Alban joined Rubio, Lavrov and others for the start of the meeting but were expected to leave early in the talks. Ushakov said Monday the talks would be "purely bilateral" and would not include Ukrainian officials.

The talks mark a significant expansion of US-Russian contacts nearly three years into a war that has seen ties fall to the lowest level in decades.

Lavrov and the US Secretary of State Antony Blinken talked briefly on the sidelines of a G-20 meeting in India nearly two years ago, and

in the fall of 2022, US and Russian spymasters met in Turkey amid Washington's concerns that Moscow could resort to nuclear weapons amid battlefield setbacks.

The recent US diplomatic blitz on the war has sent Kyiv and key allies scrambling to ensure a seat at the table amid concerns that Washington and Moscow could press ahead with a deal that won't be favourable to them.

France called an emergency meeting of European Union countries and the UK on Monday to decide how to respond.

French President Emmanuel Macron on Tuesday said he spoke by phone to Donald Trump and Volodymyr Zelenskyy following the meeting.

"We seek a strong and lasting peace in Ukraine," Macron wrote on X. "To achieve this, Russia must end its aggression, and this must be accompanied by strong and credible security

guarantees for the Ukrainians," he said and vowed to "work on this together with all Europeans, Americans, and Ukrainians."

Ahead of the talks, Kirill Dmitriev, the head of the Russian Direct Investment Fund who the Kremlin said might join the talks, underscored the importance of the meeting in comments to The Associated Press. "Good US-Russia relations are very important for the whole world. Only jointly can Russia and the US address lots of world problems, and resolve for global conflicts and offer solutions," Dmitriev, who said he and his team would focus on economic issues at the talks, told AP.

The Saudi-owned satellite channel Al Arabiya, citing the Russian delegation, described Moscow's priority as "real normalisation with Washington".

Diriyah Palace sits across the street from Riyadh's Diplomatic Quarter. It's also just next to the Ritz Carlton

hotel, which became famous in 2017 after de facto leader Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman detained other princes and the country's elite there as part of what the royal court called a crackdown on corruption, that also sidelined any potential challenge to his taking control of the kingdom.

Hosting the talks is a major step toward a goal Prince Mohammed has pursued throughout the war — putting the kingdom in the middle of diplomatic negotiations. It has helped in prisoner negotiations and hosted Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy for an Arab League summit in the kingdom in 2023. Zelenskyy will likely travel to Saudi Arabia later this week.

For Prince Mohammed, once described as a "pariah" by former President Joe Biden over the 2018 killing of Washington Post journalist Jamal Khashoggi, hosting such talks burnish the otherwise-tar-

nished image the West has for him.

Ahead of the summit, the Saudi daily newspaper Okaz described the moment as the "world's eye on Riyadh".

Writing in the London-based but Saudi-owned newspaper Asharq Al Awsat, journalist Mishari al-Dhaidi described the summit as "a major step on the international political chess arena, revealing the status of Saudi Arabia and its positive influence for the benefit of the people all the people", he wrote.

The neighbouring United Arab Emirates, the prince also has maintained close relations to Russia throughout its war on Ukraine, both through the OPEC+ oil cartel and diplomatically as well.

Hosting the summit also balances the harsh criticism recently levied by the kingdom's tightly controlled media at President Donald Trump over his repeated comments that he wants the US to "own" the Gaza

Strip, which has been devastated by the Israeli military offensive there since the October 7, 2023, Hamas attack. The Palestinians want Gaza and the West Bank for a future state, something backed by the wider Arab world and nearly all of the international community.

Meanwhile, Russia continued to pummel Ukraine with drones, according to Kyiv's military. The Ukrainian air force said Russian troops launched a barrage of 176 drones at Ukraine overnight, most of which were destroyed or disabled by jamming.

One Russian drone struck a residential building in Dolynska in Kirovohrad region, injuring a mother and her two children and prompting an evacuation of 38 apartments, the regional administration reported. Four more residential buildings were damaged by drone debris in the Cherkasy region of Ukraine, according to local officials.

# Hamas says it will free 6 Israeli hostages on Saturday, four bodies before then

PTI ■ CAIRO

Top Hamas leader says the militant group will release six living Israeli hostages on Saturday and the bodies of four hostages on Thursday, including the remains of the Bibas family that has become symbols of Israeli suffering in the war.

The fate of Shiri Bibas and her two young sons, Ariel and Kir, reflected the feeling of helplessness as dozens of hostages remain in Gaza after Hamas' October 7, 2023, attack. Israel has said it is extremely concerned about their condition but has not confirmed their deaths.

Hamas leader Khalil al-Hayya, in prerecorded remarks on Tuesday, did not elaborate beyond saying that the "Bibas family" would be included in the handover of four bodies. The six to be released on

Saturday are the last living hostages to be freed under the first phase of the ceasefire in Gaza. Three hostages had been expected to be freed on Saturday. It was not clear why Hamas changed the plan.

The warring sides have yet to negotiate the second and more difficult phase, in which Hamas would release dozens more hostages in exchange for a lasting ceasefire and an Israeli withdrawal.

The hostage releases have come in exchange for hundreds of Palestinian prisoners held by Israel.

The ceasefire that began in mid-January has paused the deadliest fighting ever between Israel and Hamas, surged aid into devastated Gaza and allowed hundreds of thousands of Palestinians to return to their homes as Israeli forces withdrew from much of the territory.

## Villagers in southern Lebanon prepare to return home

PTI ■ DEIR MIMAS (LEBANON)

Israeli forces withdrew from border villages in southern Lebanon on Tuesday, under a deadline spelled out in a US-brokered ceasefire agreement that ended the latest Israel-Hezbollah war. Lebanese soldiers moved into the areas from where the Israeli troops pulled out and began clearing roadblocks set up by Israeli forces and checking for unexploded ordnance. They blocked the main road leading to the villages, preventing anyone from entering while the military was looking for any explosives left behind.

Most of the villages waited by the roadside for permission to go and check on their homes.

# Egypt developing plan to rebuild Gaza

PTI ■ CAIRO

Egypt is developing a plan to rebuild Gaza without forcing Palestinians out of the strip in a counter to President Donald Trump's proposal to depopulate the territory so the US can take it over.

Egypt's state-run Al-Ahram newspaper said the proposal calls for establishing "secure areas" within Gaza where Palestinians can live initially while Egyptian and international construction firms remove and rehabilitate the strip's infrastructure.

Egyptian officials have been discussing the plan with European diplomats as well as with Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the UAE, according to two Egyptian officials and Arab and Western diplomats. They are also discussing ways to fund the reconstruction, including an international conference on Gaza reconstruction, said one of the Egyptian officials and an Arab diplomat. The officials and diplomats

spoke on condition of anonymity because the proposal is still being negotiated.

The proposal comes after an international uproar over Trump's call for the removal of Gaza's population of some two million Palestinians. Trump said the US would take over the Gaza Strip and rebuild it into a "Riviera of the Middle East", though Palestinians would not be allowed back.

Palestinians have widely said they will not leave their homeland, while Egypt, Jordan — backed by Saudi Arabia — have refused Trump's calls for them to take in Gaza's population. Rights groups have widely said the plan amounts to forced expulsion, a potential war crime. European countries have also largely denounced Trump's plan.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has praised the idea and says Israel is preparing to implement it.

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio, who was in Saudi Arabia

on Monday in a tour of the region, has said the US was up to hearing alternative proposals.

Egypt's Al-Ahram newspaper said the proposal is designed to "refute American President Trump's logic" and counter "any other visions or plans that aim to change the geographic and demographic structure of Gaza Strip".

Gaza is nearing a critical juncture with the first phase of a ceasefire due to run out in early March. Israel and Hamas must still negotiate a second phase meant to bring a release of all remaining hostages held by the militants, a full Israeli withdrawal from Gaza and a long-term halt to the war.

Any reconstruction plan will be impossible to implement without a deal on the second phase, including an agreement on who will govern Gaza in the long term.

Israel demands the elimination of Hamas as a political or military force in the territory, and

international donors are unlikely to contribute to any rebuilding if Hamas is in charge.

Central in Egypt's proposal is the establishment of a Palestinian administration that is not aligned with either Hamas or the Palestinian Authority to run the strip and oversee the reconstruction efforts, according to the two Egyptian officials involved in the efforts.

It also calls for a Palestinian police force mainly made up of former Palestinian Authority policemen who remained in Gaza after Hamas took over the enclave in 2007, with reinforcement from Egyptian- and Western-trained forces.

Asked about the possibility of deploying an Arab force in Gaza, one Egyptian official and the Arab diplomat said Arab countries would only agree if there were a "clear path" for the establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

Israeli Prime Minister

Benjamin Netanyahu has rejected any Palestinian state as well as any role for Hamas or the Western-backed Palestinian Authority in governing Gaza, though he has not put forward any clear alternative.

Hamas has said it is willing to give up power in Gaza. Hamas spokesman Abdul Latif al-Qanou told AP on Sunday that the group has accepted either a Palestinian unity government without Hamas' participation or a committee of technocrats to run the territory. The Palestinian Authority, which governs pockets of the West Bank, has so far opposed any plans for Gaza that exclude it.

The Western diplomat said France and Germany have backed the idea of Arab countries developing a counterproposal to Trump's plan, and that Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi discussed his government's efforts with the French president in a phone call earlier this month.



People take part in the 'No Kings Day' protest on Presidents Day in Washington, in support of federal workers and against recent actions by President Donald Trump and Elon Musk, by the Capitol in Washington. The protest was organised by the 50501 Movement, which stands for 50 Protests 50 States 1 Movement.

# Elon Musk's DOGE seeks access to taxpayer data at IRS

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

Elon Musk's Department of Government Efficiency is seeking access to troves of sensitive taxpayer data at the IRS, two people familiar with the inner workings of the plan who were not authorised to discuss the matter publicly told AP on Monday.

If successful, Musk and his group would have access to millions of tightly controlled files that include taxpayer information, bank records and other sensitive records. The people who spoke to the AP and requested anonymity said DOGE is specifically seeking to access the IRS' Integrated Data Retrieval System, which enables employees "to have instantaneous visual access to certain taxpayer accounts", according to the IRS website.

Advocates fear that the potential unlawful release of taxpayer records could be used to maliciously target Americans,

violate their privacy and create other ramifications.

Harrison Fields, a White House spokesman, said in an emailed statement that "waste, fraud, and abuse have been deeply entrenched in our broken system for far too long. It takes direct access to the system to identify and fix it."

"DOGE will continue to shine a light on the fraud they uncover as the American people deserve to know what their government has been spending their hard-earned tax dollars on," he said.

Democratic lawmakers are trying to fight against DOGE plans to access IRS data. Senators Ron Wyden, D-Ore, and Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass, sent a letter to acting IRS Commissioner Douglas O'Donnell, demanding copies of any memos that would grant IRS system access to Musk or DOGE. The senators are also seeking justifications for DOGE efforts to inspect tax returns and

private bank records.

Along with fears that DOGE access to taxpayer data may not be legal, "we are also extremely concerned that DOGE personnel meddling with IRS systems in the middle of tax filing season could, inadvertently or otherwise, cause breakdowns that may delay the issuance of tax refunds indefinitely", the letter reads.

"Any delay in refunds could be financially devastating to millions of Americans who plan their budgets around timely refunds every spring." January 27 was the official start date of the 2025 tax season, and the IRS expects more than 140 million tax returns to be filed by the April 15 deadline.

The Washington Post on Sunday first reported on DOGE's plans to access taxpayer data.

The news comes as the IRS plans to lay off thousands of probationary workers

in the middle of tax season, according to two sources familiar with the agency's plans who were unauthorised to discuss them publicly. Cuts could happen as soon as this week.

Previously, IRS employees involved in the 2025 tax season were told they will not be allowed to accept a buyout offer from the Trump administration until after the taxpayer filing deadline, according to a letter sent recently to IRS employees.

Additionally, attorneys general from 14 states challenged the authority of DOGE to access sensitive government data housed at Treasury and exercise "virtually unchecked power" in a lawsuit.

The lawsuit, filed in federal court in Washington, says the actions taken by Musk at the helm of DOGE can only be taken by a nominated and Senate-confirmed official. It cites constitutional provisions that delineate the powers of Congress and the president.



# Costa Rica agrees to accept Indian migrants from US

PTI ■ SAN JOSE  
Costa Rica has agreed to serve as a "bridge" to repatriate illegal immigrants in the US, including from India and Central Asia, according to an official release on Tuesday.

Costa Rican President Rodrigo Chaves Robles' office. "The Government of Costa Rica agreed to collaborate with the United States in the repatriation of 200 illegal immigrants to their country. These are people originating from countries in central Asia and India," said the statement. The release did not say how many of them are from India. "Costa Rica will serve as

a bridge for them to reach their countries of origin," it said. These immigrants will be transferred to a temporary migrant care facility in the Central American nation before repatriation to their countries of origin. The US-funded repatriation is being supervised by the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), which will oversee the migrants' care during their stay in the coun-

try, according to the statement. This comes days after Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the US, where he met President Donald Trump to discuss key bilateral issues, including immigration. Three batches comprising a total of 332 Indians have already been sent back to India amid an intensified crackdown by the Trump administration against illegal immigrants.

# 4 paramilitary personnel killed in Pak; convoy attack toll rises

PTI ■ PESHAWAR  
Four paramilitary personnel were killed and five others injured when unknown militants attacked their squad in Pakistan's violence-hit Kurram, where an aid convoy was also targeted.

# Senior Afghan Taliban officials in Japan for talks

PTI ■ TOKYO  
Japanese officials said senior Afghan Taliban officials were in Japan for talks, as part of Tokyo's efforts to help Afghanistan build a more inclusive political system and protect human rights.

Secretary Yoshimasa Hayashi told reporters Monday. The Taliban officials were invited to help them better understand the need "to have a broad perspective toward their future nation building and to widely accept humanitarian assistance from the international community for vulnerable people, Nippon Zaidan said in a statement. It declined to give details of the visitors and their schedule. Japan does not formally recognize the Taliban as Afghanistan's official government.

Hayashi noted the visit was initiated by a private organization but complements the Japanese government's effort to work with the international community to call on the Taliban to make policy changes that protect human rights. Restrictions the Taliban impose on women and girls are a major hurdle to the Taliban being recognised as the official government of Afghanistan. The trip was initially revealed by Latif Nazari, the Taliban's deputy economy minister, who posted on the X platform that a "high-level delegation" was heading to Japan and that the Taliban seek dignified engagement with the world as an active member of the international community.

# Chinese navy helicopter flies too close to Philippine patrol plane

PTI ■ OVER THE SCARBOROUGH SHOAL (SOUTH CHINA SEA)  
A Chinese navy helicopter flew within 10 feet (3 metres) of a Philippine patrol plane on Tuesday in a disputed area of the South China Sea, as the Filipino pilot warned by radio: "You are flying too close, you are very dangerous."

The helicopter was attempting to force a Cessna Caravan turbo-prop plane belonging to the Philippine Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources out of what China claims is its airspace over the hotly disputed Scarborough Shoal off the northwestern Philippines. An Associated Press journalist and other invited foreign media representatives on the plane witnessed the tense 30-minute standoff as the Philippine plane pressed on with its low-altitude patrol around Scarborough with the Chinese navy helicopter hovering close above it or flying to its left in cloudy weather.

passengers," the Philippine pilot told the Chinese navy helicopter by radio at one point. "Keep away and distance your aircraft from us, you are violating the safety standard set by FAA and ICAO." The pilot was referring to the standard distance between aircraft required by the US Federal Aviation Administration and the International Civil Aviation Organisation to prevent air disasters. The Philippine Coast Guard and the Bureau of Fisheries said in a statement that they remain "committed to asserting our sovereignty, sovereign rights and maritime jurisdiction in the West Philippine Sea, despite the aggressive and escalatory actions of China." They referred to the Philippine name for the stretch of waters in the South China Sea closer to the Philippines' western coast. Chinese officials did not immediately comment on the incident, but in past encounters they have steadfastly asserted China's sovereign rights over the Scarborough and sur-

# Rajapaksa's son indicted

PTI ■ COLOMBO  
Namal Rajapaksa, the eldest son of former president and prime minister Mahinda Rajapaksa, was on Tuesday indicted and released on bail by the High Court here for an alleged misappropriation out of an Indian investment prior to 2015.

Leader of the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP), Namal Rajapaksa is the only member of the Rajapaksa family now a serving member of parliament. The Rajapaksa say they are being targeted on a political witch hunt. The case is to be next heard on March 27. Namal Rajapaksa was arrested in June 2016 for allegedly misusing Sri Lankan Rupees 70 million from the Krishi Hotel project to develop the game of rugby in the island nation. He had been a Sri Lanka international rugby player.

# Iran accuses detained British couple of spying

PTI ■ TEHRAN  
Iranian authorities have accused a British couple detained in the country since January of spying, state media reported Tuesday. Mizanonline.ir, a news website affiliated with the country's judiciary, cited Asghar Jahangir, a spokesman for the judiciary as saying that the Revolutionary Guard's intelligence forces incarcerated the couple, a man and a woman, while in the southern

city of Kerman at the time. They are accused of spying and having links to intelligence agencies of "hostile countries" and collecting information from several Iranian provinces, according to Jahangir who didn't provide further details. The report didn't name the couple, however, a family statement released Saturday through the UK Foreign Office identified them as Craig and Lindsay Foreman, saying their situation was distressing and causing "significant

concern." The two were reportedly travelling around the world on motorbikes when they were detained in January, British media, citing social media posts, reported that they had crossed into Iran from Armenia on December 30 and were planning to enter Pakistan next. The British ambassador to Iran, Hugo Shorter, met the two in Kerman on Wednesday in the presence of officials from Iran's justice department and the governor's office.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
General public is hereby informed that Mr. Karan Babu Gupta is the owner of Residential Property No. 121 area measuring 250 Sq. Mtrs. in Block-C, Situated at Sector-108, Noida. District Gautam Budh Nagar (U.P.), by virtue of Transfer Deed cum Sale Deed dated 03.02.2025. Vide Doc. No. 1132 and same financed & mortgaged by my client i.e. Axis Finance the Original Allotment Letter, Lease Deed, Agreement to Sell, Possession Certificate. Will pertaining to the aforesaid property have been lost and complaint LR No.252666/2025, was registered on 13.02.2025 with DRI Police. Any person(s) found in possession of aforesaid original documents, then kindly contact the undersigned along with original property document, within 7 days from date of this notice on below address, failing which the claim as per aforesaid original document shall be treated as null and void in respect of the subject property. Raghav Tiwari, Advocate. Ch. 830, Patiala House Courts, New Delhi - 110001. Mob. :- 91-9878183262

**किच्छा शुगर कम्पनी लिमिटेड, किच्छा जलपट्टी-ऊरम सिंह नगर (उत्तराखण्ड)**  
जन्म-ऊरम सिंह नगर (उत्तराखण्ड)  
Mob. No. 932923226, 9329232269 Email: purchase@kiccha@gmail.com  
बिक्री सूचना (Re-Tender) दिनांक 17/02/2025  
उत्तराखण्ड अधिगम प्रकृति (ओरगनाइजेशन) निम्नवाली 2017 में निर्मित प्राकृतिक के अन्तर्गत मिल में होने वाले विद्युत कार्य एवं शैक्की कार्य को 04 बयं हेतु ठेके पर रिजे जाने के लिए दो निविदा प्रणाली (Two Bid System) के अन्तर्गत ई-निविदाये [www.uktdenders.gov.in](http://www.uktdenders.gov.in) पर आमंत्रित की जाती है।  
[www.uktdenders.gov.in](http://www.uktdenders.gov.in) पर आमंत्रित की जाती है।  
प्रथम चक्रवर्त/चक्रवर्त) दर दाता से किया जायेगा। L-1/H-1 से दरों के सम्बन्ध में सहमति न होने पर आम निविदादाताओं से वार्ता की जा सकती है।  
निविदा सूचना मिल की वेबसाइट [www.kicchaugar.com](http://www.kicchaugar.com) पर भी उपलब्ध है।  
अधिशारी निदेशक

In The Court of: Sh. Ravinder Singh-1, Judge Family Court-02, East District Karkardooma Courts, Delhi, Court No. 45.  
For Service Of The Court Notice To The General Public Through Publication  
GP-08/2024  
N.D.O.H. 02/04/2025  
Kawal Preet Kaur  
Jaswinder Singh & Ors.  
Court Notice  
To,  
The State (Govt. of NCT of Delhi), Secretary, Child & Welfare Department, 7th Floor, M.S.O. Building, I.T.O., New Delhi.  
Whereas in the above noted petition, the applicant/petitioner has applied for custody of the minor child Jagmeet Kaur under Section 7.25 of Guardianship & Wards Act, 1890.  
Whereas the above noted petition has been filed for hearing on 02.04.2025 at 10 O'Clock in the forenoon and the publication notice is hereby given to all concerned general public to file their objection.  
Given under my hand and seal of the court on this 17.02.2025.  
Judge, Family Court-02, East District Karkardooma Courts, D., Delhi.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
This is to inform to all concern that Smt. Renu Jain W/o Sh. T.K. Jain R/o H-7, Phase-1, Ashok Vihar Delhi-52, who is the original allottee of Residential Plot No. C-189, Sector-20, Noida (U.P.) had sold the said Plot on General Power of Attorney basis to the following person(s) GPA was executed on in favour of Sh. Sunil Kumar S/o Sh. J.C. Aggarwal R/o E-155, Preet Vihar, New Delhi-92, which is registered at Delhi on dated 05.04.1999. The agreement to sell was not registered or not executed. So it is informed to all concern that the said Plot No. C-189, Sector-20, Noida (U.P.) is going to be transferred in favour of Jitendra Kumar S/o Rishpal Singh & Santandhar S/o Ajay Pal Singh R/o C-180, Sector-20, Noida (U.P.) if any one has/has any objection he/she may file his/her objection along with the sufficient proof in the Residential Plot Department of the Noida Authority within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. Jitendra Kumar

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
NOTICE is hereby given that Mr. Manmohan Khurana s/o Late Desh Raj Khurana (hereinafter referred to as the said Debtor/Borrower) is the owner in possession of Second Floor without rooflights of Plot Bearing No. 22, in Block-A, Known as A-1/72, area measuring 100 Sq. Yards, Situated at Deyanand Colony, Lajpat Nagar-II, New Delhi (hereinafter referred to as "said property") by virtue of Conveyance Deed dated 04.03.1997 regd. as Doc. No. 4617 which has been misplaced, Requisitioning Deed dated 11.06.2019 regd. as Doc. No. 3059 read with Partition Deed dated 25.05.2019 regd. as Document No. 3395. The Borrower will create mortgage in respect of the said property in favour of our clients Lata Capital Limited, F12 1st Floor, Dasmesh Nivas, Preet Vihar, Vikas Marg, New Delhi-110092. Any person, body, individual, institution having any claim and/or objection in respect of the said property by way of sale, exchange, lease, lien, mortgage, charge, encumbrance, gift, trust, easement, maintenance, inheritance, testamentary disposition or otherwise or having in their custody any title documents pertaining to the said property shall communicate the same to the undersigned at our address within 10 days from the publication of this notice with documentary evidence in support thereof, failing which the claim, of such person shall be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned. Any questions raised after the completion of the 10 days shall not be binding upon the said property or purchaser.  
Mr. Akhil Gupta (Advocate)  
Khanlat & Akhtar-A-38, Kalasa Colony New Delhi-110048, Tel. + 114974545/99

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
NOTICE is hereby given that: Veena Jindal claims to be owner and in possession of Prop No. 1056, Sector-38, Gurugram, Haryana (herein after called the said property) by virtue of Transfer Deed dated 04.04.2024, Doc. No. 116 R/W Sale Deed dated 21.04.2023, Doc. No. 1145 and as per Veena Jindal the Original of Allotment Letter, Re-Allotment Letters, Conveyance Deed dated 19.09.2009 and Sale Deed dated 15.01.2010 are lost & said Veena Jindal has agreed to create a mortgage in favour of our clients IDFC First Bank Ltd, ITO Branch, any person/s is in possession of the lost documents or having any claim against the said Property, or any part thereof, by way of sale, exchange, mortgage (equitable/registered or otherwise), gift, trust, inheritance, lien or otherwise however, are hereby intimated to notify the same in writing to us with supporting documentary evidence at the address mentioned below within 7days from the date hereof, failing which the claim or claims, if any, of such person or persons will be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned and our client shall proceed with the disbursement of loan and subsequent creation of mortgage in respect thereof  
Vishal Diwan (Advocate)  
For Diwan and Company LLP  
Advocates and Solicitors  
House No.2 (LGF), NRI Complex, N.D-19, Sector-10, 9818399999

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
This is to inform the general public that Mr. Manan Taneja has executed an Agreement to Sell dated 08.05.2024 in respect of Laburnum Developers LLP in favour of Plot No. B-04, admeasuring 182.99 sq. yds., situated at Ace Palm Floors, Sector 89-90, Gurugram, Haryana.  
The general public is hereby advised not to enter into any transaction concerning the said property with any person other than Laburnum Developers LLP, as any such dealings shall be at their own risk and cost.  
Any person having any claim, right, title, interest, or objection in respect of the said property is hereby requested to inform the undersigned within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which the transaction shall be deemed to be free from all claims, and no objections shall be entertained thereafter.  
For any queries or claims, please contact:  
Laburnum Developers LLP  
GF-19, Ninex City Mart,  
Sohna Road, Sector-49,  
Gurugram, Haryana 122018  
laburnumdevelopers@gmail.com  
Date: 16.02.2025  
Place: Gurugram (Haryana)

**Baba Farid University of Health Sciences, Faridkot**  
Ph. 01639-256232-256236  
ADVT. No. BFU-25/06  
**Vacancies**  
Online applications are invited w.e.f. 21-02-2025 to 13-03-2025 from eligible candidates through University website [www.bfuhsc.ac.in](http://www.bfuhsc.ac.in) for the recruitment to the posts of Junior Engineer-10, Pharmacy Officer-20 on regular basis under of Baba Farid University of Health Sciences, Faridkot.  
For Application form, fee, specially visit detail of posts, category wise distribution and other terms & condition, visit University website: [www.bfuhsc.ac.in](http://www.bfuhsc.ac.in)  
Sd/-  
REGISTRAR  
00/12/367/2023/41763 Dated CHD :- 2/18/2025

**Baba Farid University of Health Sciences, Faridkot**  
Ph. 01639-256232-256236  
ADVT. No. BFU-25/05  
**Vacancies**  
Online applications are invited w.e.f. 21-02-2025 to 13-03-2025 from eligible candidates through University website [www.bfuhsc.ac.in](http://www.bfuhsc.ac.in) for the recruitment to the posts of Medical Physicist-06 on regular basis under of Baba Farid University of Health Sciences, Faridkot.  
For Application form, fee, specially visit detail of posts, category wise distribution and other terms & condition, visit University website: [www.bfuhsc.ac.in](http://www.bfuhsc.ac.in)  
Sd/-  
REGISTRAR  
00/12/366/2023/41762 Dated CHD :- 2/18/2025

**MANIBHAVNAM HOME FINANCE INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED**  
**POSSESSION NOTICE (Appendix IV) Rule 8(1)**  
Whereas the Authorized officer of Manibhavnam Home Finance India Pvt. Ltd., a (hereinafter referred to as "MBHF"), MBHF, which has duly been Authorised by the Central Government, vide a notification dated 17.06.2021, to be treated as a Financial Institution, for the purposes of the "The Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, having its registered office at-2nd Floor, W-2, South Extension Part-1, New Delhi-110049, under the provisions of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 Of 2002) (hereinafter referred to as "Act") and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(2) of the Act read with Rule 5 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice to the following borrowers and co-borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 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 borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of the Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 as per under mentioned Date. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of "MBHF" and interest other charges thereon. The attention of the Borrower is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured asset.  
**Name & Address of Borrower/Co-Borrower :- 1. ANKITA CHOUDHARY W/O- ANAND KUMAR, R/O - H. NO. 78-B, NYAY KHAND-11, INDIRAPURAM, GHAZIABAD, UTTAR PRADESH-201014, 2. ANAND KUMAR, S/O- SHAILENDRA KUMAR SINGH, R/O- H. NO. 78-B, NYAY KHAND-11, INDIRAPURAM, GHAZIABAD, UTTAR PRADESH-201014, ALSO AT: AIRPLAZA RETAILS HOLDINGS PVT. LTD., KHASRA NO. 580, OLD RAILWAY ROAD DADRI, G. B. NAGAR, UTTAR PRADESH-203207**  
**Demand Notice Dated :- 02-Sep-2024, Date of Possession :- 14.02.2025**  
**Amount of Demand Notice: Rs. 13,29,084/- as on 20-Aug-2024.**  
**Details of Property :- ALL THAT THE PIECE OF PARCEL OF PROPERTY H.NO. K-1178-C, THIRD FLOOR (E.W.S.) WITHOUT ROOF RIGHTS, NYAY KHAND -11, INDIRAPURAM, GHAZIABAD, UTTAR PRADESH (COVERED AREA OF 19.50 SQ. MTRS.) THE SAID PLOT IN WHICH THE SAID FLD IS CONSTRUCTED:- EAST: FLAT NO. 77C, WEST: FLAT NO. 75C, NORTH: FLAT NO. 79C / PASSAGE, SOUTH : PROPERTY OTHER**  
**Date :- 14.02.2025, Place: Ghaziabad Authorised Officer, Manibhavnam Home Finance India Pvt. Ltd.**

FORM NO. 5  
DRT/LKO  
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL  
600/1, University Road, Hanuman Setu Mandir, Lucknow -226007  
(Area of Jurisdiction, Part of Uttar Pradesh)  
SUMMONS FOR FILING REPLY & APPEARANCE BY PUBLICATION  
O.A. No. 793/2022  
(Summons to defendant under Section 19(4), of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rules 12 and 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules, 1993)  
O.A. NO.793/2022  
ICICI Bank Ltd. ...Applicant  
Versus  
Mr. Rana Singh & Others ...Defendants

**PUBLICATION**  
FORM NO. 1  
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL  
600/1, University Road, Hanuman Setu Mandir, Lucknow  
(Area of Jurisdiction, Part of Uttar Pradesh)  
DRC No. 456 Of 2024  
Notice under Rule-2 of the Ind Schedule of Income Tax Act 1961, read with Section 29 of The Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993  
ICICI BANK LTD.  
DEEPTI PRADHAN & OTHERS  
To,  
M/s Supertech Limited, Office- Supertech House, B-28, 29, Sector 58, Noida - 201307 UP Through its Authorized Signatory A. This is to notify a sum of Rs. 28,42,241 (Rupees Twenty Eight Lakh Forty Two Thousand Two Hundred Forty One Only) along with the interest @ 12% per annum with monthly rests in the aforesaid loan account from the date of filing of the original application i.e. 18.01.2023 till its realization with its cost from the certificate debtor nos. 1 to 3, as per certificate bearing no. 456 of 2024 dated 08.04.2024 in O.A. No. 456 of 2023 passed against you by Hon'ble DRT, Lucknow.  
B. You are hereby directed to pay the sum within 15 days of receipt of this notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act - 1993.  
C. You are hereby ordered that declare on affidavit the particulars of assets on or before 21/04/2025.  
D. You are hereby ordered to appear before the undersigned on 21/04/2025 at 11 A.M.  
E. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will also be liable to pay the following:-  
Application fees Rs.69,000/-  
Advocate fees Rs.NIL  
Publication charges Rs.NIL  
Miscellaneous expenses Rs.NIL  
Total Cost Rs.69,000/-  
Given under my hand and seal at Lucknow on 16/01/2025.  
Recovery Officer - II  
Debts Recovery Tribunal, Lucknow

**Chief Engineer, Uttarakhand Rural Roads Development Agency,**  
First Floor, Directorate of Panchayatraj, Opp-T Park, Sahasthradhara Road, Dehradun  
**Ref. No. : I/152298/2025 Dated : 18-02-2025**  
**PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY) e-Procurement Notice- 21(P-III)/2024-25**  
The Chief Engineer, URRDA on behalf of Governor of Uttarakhand invites the item rate bids in electronic tendering system for construction of works under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in the Districts of Uttarkashi for 01 number of packages with estimated cost totaling to Rs. 6.14 Crore including their maintenance for five years from the eligible contractors (Class-A and above) registered with PWD/CPWD or equivalent\*.  
Date of release of Invitation for Bids through e-procurement: 20-02-2025.  
Availability of Bid Documents and mode of submission: The bid documents are available online and should be submitted online in [www.pmgstendersuk.gov.in](http://www.pmgstendersuk.gov.in). The bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of the bids, the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities. The bidders are required to submit original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provisions of Clause 4.4 B (ii) of ITB with CONCERNED CIRCLE OFFICES, mentioned in SBD on a date not later than three working days after the opening of technical qualification part of the bid, either by registered post or by hand, failing which the bids shall be declared non-responsive. No physical documents will be accepted after the closing date and time of submission of bids.  
Last Date/Time for receipt of bids through e-procurement: 06-03-2025 01:00 PM.  
For further details please log on to [www.pmgstendersuk.gov.in](http://www.pmgstendersuk.gov.in)  
Chief Engineer, URRDA, Dehradun.  
\* Non Registered bidders may submit bids, however, the successful bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate authorities before signing the contract.  
Note : For e-Procurement for any sort of queries 0135-2608125 number will be contacted 10:00 AM to 05:00 PM.

**THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS**  
CHANGE OF NAME

**DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL DELHI BUILDING PARTMENT STREET NEW DELHI-110001**  
NOTICE under section 19(4) of the Recovery of Debts to Bank and Financial Institutions Act 1993 read with rule 12 & 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules, 1993) in the matter of T.A.N.O. 06/2023 DATED 07.08.2024 PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK...Applicant  
MIS DASHMESH ENTERPRISES & ANR. Defendants  
To, Defendant, H.P. MIS. DASHMESH ENTERPRISES E-225, 2ND FLOOR, DDA COLONY KHAYALA NEAR PARK HOSPITAL NEW DELHI-110028  
Whereas the above-named applicant has instituted a cause for recovery of Rs.12,53,432.19/- (Rupees Twelve Lakh Eighty Three Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Two and Nineteen Paise Only) against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way. Therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in the Tribunal on 21.02.2025 at 10.30 A.M. Take notice that in case of your failure to appear on the above-mentioned day before this Tribunal, the case will be heard and decided in your absence.  
All the matters will be taken up through Video Conferencing and/or for that purpose:-  
A. The matters will be taken up through Video Conferencing and for that purpose:-  
i) All the Advocates/Litigants shall download the "Cisco Webex" application/software (ii) Meeting ID and "Password" for the next date of hearing qua cases to be taken by "Registrar/Recovery Officer-II" and Recovery Officer-II shall be available one day prior to the next date at DRT Official Portal i.e. <https://drt.gov.in> under the Public Notice Head. (iii) In any exigency qua that, the Advocates/Litigants can contact the concerned official at Ph. No. 011-274847.  
Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal on this 07th day of August, 2024  
By ORDER OF THIS TRIBUNAL SECTION OFFICER, DRT-II, DELHI

**E AUCTION NOTICE**  
DAMAGED APPROX. 575 NOS. OF SPV SAIL MODULE AND APPROX. 15,000 KG OF GI STRUCTURE FOR MOUNTING SOLAR MODULES  
Interested Buyers are invited to participate in the e-Auction for the disposal of 'Damaged Approx. 575 NOS. OF SPV Solar Module and Approx. 15,000 Kg of GI Structure for Mounting Solar Modules' on "Per UOM" Basis. The subject sale/module will be sold on "As is Where is". Whatever there is "and" "No Complaint" Basis and belongs to M/s. Premier Engros Limited. The subject materials can be inspected at C/o M/s. Shiv Nadar University, Dadri, Greater Noida - 201314 (UP) between 19-02-25 to 27-02-25 between 10 AM to 5 PM.  
Kindly contact Mr. Vikas Rana at 9711110316 for inspection.  
E-Auction will be held on 28-02-25  
Kindly contact Mr. Atul Halarmkar at 7738164089 to obtain the form containing terms & conditions of e-Auction or download from website <https://www.sealthedead.co.in/>  
Auctioneers: Seal The Deal having registered office at 148, Pocket C2, Sector 5, Rohini, Delhi - 110085.  
Last date of Submission of form & EMD Demand Draft is 27-02-25.

**PUBLICATION**  
FORM NO. 1  
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL  
600/1, University Road, Hanuman Setu Mandir, Lucknow  
(Area of Jurisdiction, Part of Uttar Pradesh)  
DRC NO.-892 OF 2024  
Notice under Rule-2 of the Ind Schedule of Income Tax Act 1961, read with Section 29 of The Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993  
ICICI BANK LTD  
V/S  
KIRAN KUMAR ARYA AND OTHERS  
To,  
(1) Kiran Kumar Arya S/o- Shri Chand Ramesh Arya R/o-K-603, Aditya Mega City, Near Nathu Sweets Indrapuram, Ghaziabad-201010.  
(2) Sapna Pawar  
D/o- Shri Chand Ramesh Arya R/o-K-603, Aditya Mega City, Near Nathu Sweets Indrapuram, Ghaziabad-201010.  
(3) M/s Future Shelters Private Limited Corporate office of Plot No.9, Sector-75, Noida-201301.  
Through its Authorized Signatory  
A. This is to notify a sum of Rs.26,34,005.23 (Rupees Twenty Six Lakhs Thirty Four Thousand Five And Twenty Three Paise Only) along with pendentelite @ 12% and future interest per annum with monthly rests from the date of filing of the original application i.e. 12.01.2023 till loan fully liquidated jointly and severally with its costs succeeds in its realization from the certificate debtor nos. 1, 2 and 3 as per Certificate Bearing No. 892 of 2024 dated- 19.01.2024 in O.A. No. - 98 of 2023 passed against you by Hon'ble DRT, Lucknow.  
B. You are hereby directed to pay the sum within 15 days of receipt of this notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act - 1993.  
C. You are hereby ordered that declare on affidavit the particulars of assets on or before 21/04/2025.  
D. You are hereby ordered to appear before the undersigned on 21/04/2025 at 11 A.M.  
E. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will also be liable to pay the following:-  
Application fees Rs. 30,000/-  
Advocate fees Rs. NIL  
Publication charges Rs. NIL  
Miscellaneous expenses Rs. NIL  
Total Cost Rs. 30,000/-  
Given under my hand and seal at Lucknow on 16/01/2025.  
Recovery Officer - II  
Debts Recovery Tribunal, Lucknow

**PUBLICATION**  
FORM NO. 1  
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL  
600/1, University Road, Hanuman Setu Mandir, Lucknow  
(Area of Jurisdiction, Part of Uttar Pradesh)  
DRC NO. 1386 OF 2023  
Notice under Rule-2 of the Ind Schedule of Income Tax Act 1961, read with Section 29 of The Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993  
ICICI BANK LTD  
V/S  
VIDYA DHAR NAIK AND OTHERS  
To,  
(1) Mr. Vidya Dhar Naik S/o Shri Bhogil Lal Naik, R/o-1-2003 SPS Residency Vaibhav Khond, Near Sampar Hall, Indrapuram, Ghaziabad- 201010.  
(2) Mrs. Purnima Naik W/o- Mr. Vidya Dhar Naik, R/o-1-2003 SPS Residency Vaibhav Khond, Near Sampar Hall, Indrapuram, Ghaziabad-201010.  
(3) M/s Kindle Developers Private Limited  
Registered office at - B-9, 2nd Floor, Model Town II, New Delhi-110009, Corporate office at- 102, 1st Floor, St. House, Sector-4, Noida- 201301. Through its Authorized Signatory.  
A. This is to notify a sum of Rs. 65,67,536/- (Rupees Sixty Five Lakh Sixty Seven Thousand Five Hundred Thirty Six Only) with interest @ 8% per annum with simple monthly rests from the date of filing of the original application i.e. 03.07.2019 till loan fully liquidated jointly and severally with its costs succeeds in its realization from the certificate debtor nos. 1, 2 and 3 as per Certificate Bearing No. 1386 of 2023 dated 17.09.2023 in O.A. No. 1047 of 2019 passed against you by Hon'ble DRT, Lucknow.  
B. You are hereby directed to pay the sum within 15 days of receipt of this notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act - 1993.  
C. You are hereby ordered that declare on affidavit the particulars of assets on or before 21/04/2025.  
D. You are hereby ordered to appear before the undersigned on 21/04/2025 at 11 A.M.  
E. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will also be liable to pay the following:-  
Application fees Rs.69,000/-  
Advocate fees Rs.NIL  
Publication charges Rs.NIL  
Miscellaneous expenses Rs.NIL  
Total Cost Rs.69,000/-  
Given under my hand and seal at Lucknow on 16/01/2025.  
Recovery Officer - II  
Debts Recovery Tribunal, Lucknow

**कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम, ( यांत्रिकी शाखा ), भोपाल**  
क्रमांक.776/चौ.वि./25 भोपाल, दिनांक 18.02.2025  
**निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना**  
निम्न कार्य हेतु म.प्र. लोक निर्माण विभाग में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से ऑनलाईन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। विस्तृत विवरण website <https://www.mptenders.gov.in> पर है।  
क्र. निविदा क्र. कार्य का संक्षिप्त विवरण अनुमानित लागत ( रु. में) निविदा क्रय करने का अंतिम तिनांक समय  
01 2025\_UAD\_402947-1 CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT WORK OF GOVERNMENT HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL SEMRA WARD 38 ZONE 09P 2,51,46,843/- 18-MAR-2025 05:30 PM  
02 2025\_UAD\_402945-1 CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT WORK GOVERNMENT MIDDLE SCHOOL AT DWARKA NAGAR WARD 37 ZONE 09 2,49,85,105/- 18-MAR-2025 05:30 PM  
नोट :- संशोधन केवल वेबसाईट पर ही देखे जा सकते, समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशित नहीं होंगे।  
Executive Engineer  
Municipal Corporation Bhopal  
District Bhopal  
दि.क्र. 1332/024/025

**कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम, ( यांत्रिकी शाखा ), भोपाल**  
क्रमांक.776/चौ.वि./25 भोपाल, दिनांक 18.02.2025  
**निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना**  
निम्न कार्य हेतु म.प्र. लोक निर्माण विभाग में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से ऑनलाईन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। विस्तृत विवरण website <https://www.mptenders.gov.in> पर है।  
क्र. निविदा क्र. कार्य का संक्षिप्त विवरण अनुमानित लागत ( रु. में) निविदा क्रय करने का अंतिम तिनांक समय  
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नोट :- संशोधन केवल वेबसाईट पर ही देखे जा सकते, समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशित नहीं होंगे।  
Executive Engineer  
Municipal Corporation Bhopal  
District Bhopal  
दि.क्र. 1332/024/025

**कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम, ( यांत्रिकी शाखा ), भोपाल**  
क्रमांक.776/चौ.वि./25 भोपाल, दिनांक 18.02.2025  
**निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना**  
निम्न कार्य हेतु म.प्र. लोक निर्माण विभाग में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से ऑनलाईन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। विस्तृत विवरण website <https://www.mptenders.gov.in> पर है।  
क्र. निविदा क्र. कार्य का संक्षिप्त विवरण अनुमानित लागत ( रु. में) निविदा क्रय करने का अंतिम तिनांक समय  
01 2025\_UAD\_402947-1 CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT WORK OF GOVERNMENT HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL SEMRA WARD 38 ZONE 09P 2,51,46,843/- 18-MAR-2025 05:30 PM  
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नोट :- संशोधन केवल वेबसाईट पर ही देखे जा सकते, समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशित नहीं होंगे।  
Executive Engineer  
Municipal Corporation Bhopal  
District Bhopal  
दि.क्र. 1332/024/025

**कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम, ( यांत्रिकी शाखा ), भोपाल**  
क्रमांक.776/चौ.वि./25 भोपाल, दिनांक 18.02.2025  
**निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना**  
निम्न कार्य हेतु म.प्र. लोक निर्माण विभाग में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से ऑनलाईन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। विस्तृत विवरण website <https://www.mptenders.gov.in> पर है।  
क्र. निविदा क्र. कार्य का संक्षिप्त विवरण अनुमानित लागत ( रु. में) निविदा क्रय करने का अंतिम तिनांक समय  
01 2025\_UAD\_402947-1 CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT WORK OF GOVERNMENT HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL SEMRA WARD 38 ZONE 09P 2,51,46,843/- 18-MAR-2025 05:30 PM  
02 2025\_UAD\_402945-1 CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT WORK GOVERNMENT MIDDLE SCHOOL AT DWARKA NAGAR WARD 37 ZONE 09 2,49,85,105/- 18-MAR-2025 05:30 PM  
नोट :- संशोधन केवल वेबसाईट पर ही देखे जा सकते, समा

**E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE-CORRIGENDUM**

This corrigendum is issued in relation to Sale notice dated 18.02.2025, given to the public in General under SARFAESI Act at page no.04 dated 18.02.2025 was the old sale notice published by the agency wrongly. Hence, the notice is hereby withdrawn and correct sale notice details are as under for public in General, Borrower/s and Guarantor/s in particular.



**JABALPUR ZONAL OFFICE, WRIGHT TOWN,  
JABALPUR PH: 0761-2480065,67,68**

**PUBLIC NOTICE FOR SALE**

**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) 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 properties mortgaged/charged to the Bank of Maharashtra, the possession of which have been taken by the Authorised Officer of Bank of Maharashtra, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" & "WITHOUT RECOURSE BASIS" on 11.03.2025, for recovery of the balance due to the Bank of Maharashtra from the Borrower (s) and Guarantor(s) as mentioned in the table. Details of the Borrower/s and Guarantor/s, amount due, Short description of the immovable property and encumbrances known thereon, possession type, reserve price and the earnest money deposit are also given as under-

Name & Address of Borrower / Guarantor	Outstanding Dues for Recovery of which Property are being sold	Description of properties	Type of Possession	Date of Auction	Reserve Price	
					EMD Amount	Bid Increase Amount
1) Branch - Gorakhpur Borrower: Arjun Paigwar, Shivani Paigwar Mouza Rimjha N.B 401 PHN 79 (Old 23) R.N.M. Maharajpur Old Tehsil Panagar Dada, Than Than Pal, Ward no 72, Kh no - 157/2, 158/2 and 174 TNCP Layout Plot No- 78, New Tehsil Aadhartal, Dist: Jabalpur - 482002	Rs.2857259/- (Rupees Twenty Eight Lakh Fifty Seven Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Nine only) Led.Bal.Rs.2774113/+ unapplied interest Rs.82825/- @9.35 % p.a at monthly rest + penal interest thereon and other charges and expenses w.e.f 10.06.24	Double storied residential house at Mouza Rmjha N.B 401 PHN 79 (Old 23) R.N.M. Maharajpur Old Tehsil Panagar Dada, Than Than Pal, Ward no 72, New Tehsil Aadhartal Kh no-157/2, 158/2 and 174 TNCP Layout Plot No- 78 Plot area 17.50*48.57 = 849 sq ft (78.90 sq mtr) Dist. - Jabalpur	Symbolic	11.03.2025	Rs.28,30,000/- Rs.2,83,000/- Rs.10000/-	
2) Branch - G. S. College Borrower: Mr.Prakash Gautiya, Mrs. Jyoti Gautiya, H No. 1, situated at Mouza Bilpura, P h No. 53, Khasra No. 446, RNM Bilpura, Ward No. 78, Tehsil Ranjhi, Dist Jabalpur, MP	Total dues: Rs. 25,35,149.00 /- Ledger Bal: Rs. 24,53,267.00/- + unapplied interest Rs.81,595.00 /- + penalty of Rs.287.00/- (Rupees. Twenty Five Lakhs Thirty Five Thousand One Hundred Forty Nine only) + Unapplied Interest @ 9.45% p.a. with monthly rate w.e.f. 06/07/2024 + penal interest and other charges / expenses till realization.	H.no.1, situated at Mouza Bilpura, PH.no. 53, Khasra no. 446, RNM Bilpura, Ward no. 78, Tehsil: Ranjhi, Dist: Jabalpur, MP area admeasuring 880 sq.ft out of total area 4356 sq.ft.	Symbolic	11.03.2025	Rs.19,02,000/- Rs.1,90,200/- Rs.10000/-	
3) Branch - G. S. College Borrower: Mr. Shiv Kumar Uikye, Mrs. Suneeta Uikye Plot no.9, Maharshi Valmiki Ward no.78, Mouza Bhilpura, PH no. 21/16(old), New 53, RNM Bhilpura, Tehsil Ranjhi, Dist: Jabalpur - 482005	Rs.2604292/- (Rupees Twenty Six Lakh Four Thousand Two Hundred Ninety Two only).Led.Bal. Rs. 2532116/- + unapplied interest Rs.71868/- @ 9.60% p.a at monthly rest + penal interest thereon and other charges and expenses w.e.f 16.07.24)	All the Piece and parcel of property with construction & fixture there being & lying at vill. Mouza Bhilpura, PH no. 21/16(old), 53(new), RNM Bhilpura, Tq. Ranjhi, Dist.Jabalpur,Khasra no. 634/4, area 1000 sq.ft, Plot no.09, Maharshi Valmiki ward no. 78	Symbolic	11.03.2025	Rs.15,50,000/- Rs.1,55,000/- Rs.10000/-	
4) Branch - Satna Borrower: G S Agro Proprietor Proprietor - Mrs. Anjana Singh Vill: Lualachh, Post: Lualachh, The: Kotar, Dist: Satna 485226 Guarantors: 1.Mr. Prateek Singh Vill: Lualachh, Post: Lualachh, The: Kotar, Dist: Satna 485226 2.Mr. Nivendra Singh Vill: Bihta, Post: Bihta, The: Unchehara, Dist: Satna 485661 3.Mr. Gulab Singh Vill: Lualachh, Post: Lualachh, The: Kotar, Dist: Satna 485226	Rs.7189614 (LB Rs.6958726/- + unapplied interest Rs.230888/- and other charges and expenses w.e.f 03.05.2024	Khasra No 624/3/1/2/2 area admeasuring 0.405 hectare Mauza Madhavgarh, PHN 81, Tehsil: Raghurajnagar Dist: Satna  Survey no.1232/2, area-0.040 hectare situated at Mouza Lualachh, PHN-24/22, RNM-Bihra, Vikas Khand-Rampur Baghelan, Tehsil-Kotar, Dist-Satna (M.P.) 2.survey no. 1235/2, area-1.619 hectare and survey no.1234, area-0.490 hectare both situated at Mouza Lualachh, PHN-24/22, RNM-Bihra, Vikas Khand-Rampur Baghelan, Tehsil-Kotar, Dist-Satna (M.P.)	Physical  Symbolic	11.03.2025  11.03.2025	Rs.32,00,000/- Rs.3,20,000/- Rs.10000/-  Rs.17794000/- Rs.1779400/- Rs.10000/-	
5) Branch - Sanjeevani Nagar Borrowers Mr. Ashutosh Upadhyay, Add: H.No.2014, Kiran Kuti, Vijaynagar, Jabalpur - 482001	Rs.18618136/- (Rupees One Crore Eighty Six Lakh Eighteen Thousand One hundred Thirty Six only plus applicable interest and penal interest thereon + Others Charge w.e.f. 30.05.2024	Residential building at JDA Property Plot 2014, JDA Scheme 5 Mouza Lamti, Maharaja Agrasen ward 35 Vijay Nagar  Property 1: Freehold residential plot bearing plot no 25-A on Diverted Khasara No. 17/3 situated at Amkhara S.No. P C No. 22/24 R I Circle Maharajpur Tehsil Panagar and Dist Jabalpur owned by M.r. Ashutosh Upadhyay Area 1250 Sqft.  Property 2: Freehold residential plot bearing plot no 24 on Diverted Khasara No. 17/3 situated at Amkhara S.No.4 P C No. 22/24 R I Circle Maharajpur Tehsil Panagar and Dist Jabalpur owned by M.r. Ashutosh Upadhyay Area 1000 Sqft.  Property 3: Freehold residential plot bearing plot no 25 on Diverted Khasara No. 17/3 situated at Amkhara S.No.4 P C No. 22/24 R I Circle Maharajpur Tehsil Panagar and Dist Jabalpur owned by M.r. Ashutosh Upadhyay Area 1150 Sqft.	Symbolic  Physical  Physical	11.03.2025  11.03.2025  11.03.2025	Rs.1,79,00,000/- Rs.17,90,000/- Rs.10000/-  Rs.2312000/- Rs.231200/- Rs.10000/-  Rs.18,50,000/- Rs.1,85,000/- Rs.10000/-  Rs.21,27,000/- Rs.2,12,700/- Rs.10000/-	
6) Branch - Satna Borrower : Mr. Mohammad Shahid Khan, S/o Mr. Suleman Khan Mrs. Saishta Khan, W/o Mr. Mohammad Shahid Khan S/o: Mr. Suleman Khan Ward no. 29, Gali no.1, Pateri road, Jawahar Nagar, Satna-485001	Rs.7189614 (LB Rs.6958726/-+unapplied interest Rs.230888 and other charges and expenses.w.e.f 02.05.2024	Residential Property, area admeasuring 1200 sq.ft. with construction thereon situated at Mouza Umrhali Mathuriyan, Circle AMarpatan, Land bearing Khasara no. 129/9, Ward no.1, Krishna Nagar Colony, Tehsil- Amarpatan, Dist: Satna	Symbolic	11.03.2025	Rs.30,24,000/- Rs.3,02,400/- Rs.10000/-	
7) Branch - Sidhi Borrower : Mr. Ashok Kumar Kushwah, Mrs. Asha Kushwaha H No 178, Ward No 13, Near H S S Madwa Gopadbanas, Gopadbanas, Sidhi, Madhya Pradesh - 486661	Rs.1278116/- (Rupees Twelve Lakh Seventy Eight thousand One hundred Sixteen Only) plus applicable unapplied interest + penal interest thereon and other charges and expenses w.e.f 16.07.24	Khasra No. 144/4(S), Part area 78/170, Situated At Village -Karaundiya Dakshin Tola Tehsil Gopad Banas District Sidhi 486661 Area Admeasuring 836 Sqft	Symbolic	11.03.2025	Rs.6,00,000/- Rs.60,000/- Rs.10000/-	
8) Branch - Sakra Borrower : Mrs. Kavita Kadam W/o Subhash Kadam, Mr. Sanket Kadam S/o Subhash Kadam House No 1465/b-1, Plot No. 117, S. No. 599 Mouza - Garha, PC. No. 06, Ward No. 16, Gujrati Colony, Maharana Pratap, Garha, R.N.M.Jabalpur Tehsil and District Jabalpur	Rs.1465900/- (Rupees Fourteen Lakh Sixty Five Thousand Nine Hundred only) (Ledger Bal: Rs.1417743/- + Unapplied interest Rs.47907/-@9.25% p.a at monthly rest + penal interest thereon and other charges and expenses w.e.f 12.08.2024)	Single Storied residential house having address House No 1465/b-1, Plot No. 117, S. No. 599 Mouza - Garha, PC. No. 06, Ward No. 16, Gujrati Colony, Maharana Pratap, Garha, R.N.M.Jabalpur Tehsil and District Jabalpur admeasuring total Plot Area - 600 Sqft. (Approx.), Built Up Area - 550 Sq Ft	Symbolic	11.03.2025	Rs.13,80,000/- Rs.1,38,000/- Rs.10000/-	
9) Branch - Katni Mob. - 8605593596 Borrower: M/s. Subh Associates Prop. Shri Nilesh Agrahari Satyanarayan Mandir Ke Samne Katni-483501	Rs.1073416/- (Rupees Ten Lakh Seventy Three Thousand Four Hundred Sixteen Only)(Ledger Bal:Rs.1036367/- + Unapplied interest Rs.36691/-@11.80% p.a at monthly rest + penal interest thereon and other charges and expenses w.e.f. 22.12.2023	All those piece & Parcel of property with construction & fixture thereon being & lying at vill. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Ward, Mouza: Chhaparwah, Tq. Katni Dist: Katni, Khasra no.09/1, PH.no. 41/44, NB no. 407, Area known as Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Ward admeasuring 1748 sq.ft.	Physical	11.03.2025	Rs.9,83,000/- Rs.98,300/- Rs.10000/-	
10) Branch - JHRC Mob. - 8888390379 Borrower: M/S Mahi Earth Movers Prop. Mr. Arshad Khan, Address: Jawahar Ward, Saray Mohalla, Sihora, Jabalpur 483225 Madhya Pradesh Guarantor: Mr.Arshad Khan Address: Ward No 5, Saray Mohalla, Sihora, jabalpur, M.P.483225	Rs.2064064/- (Rupees Twenty Lakh Sixty Four Thousand Sixty Four only)(Ledger balance Rs.1984805/- plus unapplied interest Rs.66524/- and penal interest + Others Charge w.e.f.13.06.2024	All those pieces and parcel of land situate being and lying at village Mouza Mansakra, (1) Ph no- 06 admeasuring 2360 sq.ft and bearing CTS/Survey no. Khasra No. 408/2/1/2, (2) Ph no- 73/06, admeasuring 1800 sq.ft bearing CTS/survey no, Khasra no.408/2/2, (3) Ph. no.06, admeasuring 2812.5 sq.ft bearing CTS/survey no,Khasra no.408/2/2.Combined all khasra 6972 sq.ft in the Registration Dist: Jabalpur, Sub dist: Sihora,	Physical	11.03.2025	Rs.3138000/- Rs.3,13,800/- Rs.10000/-	
11) Branch - Shahdol Borrower : M/s Jahnabi Buildcon, Prop- Mr. Shiva Pandey, MIG 607, New Housing Board Colony, By Pass Road, Shahdol, MP 484001, Guarantor: Shri Prakash Narayan Pandey, MIG 608, New Housing Board Colony, By Pass Road, Shahdol, MP 484001	Rs.3599505/- (Ledger balance Rs.3492769/-+ plus unapplied interest Rs.106306/-@11.00 % p.a at monthly rest and penal interest thereon + Others Charge w.e.f. 03.10.2024	All those pieces and parcel of land & property with construction & Fixtures there being and lying at-MIG 607, New Housing Board Colony, By Pass Road, Taluka Sohagpur, Dist Shahdol, Area admeasuring 38.50 Sq. Mtr.,  All those pieces and parcel of land & property with construction & Fixtures there being and lying at- MIG 608, New Housing Board Colony, By Pass Road, Taluka Sohagpur, Dist Shahdol, Area admeasuring 38.50 Sq. Mtr.,	Symbolic  Symbolic	11.03.2025  11.03.2025	Rs.2400000/- Rs.240000/- Rs.10000/-  Rs.2400000/- Rs.240000/- Rs.10000/-	
12) Branch - Asset Recovery Branch, Jabalpur Borrower: 1. Mr Raj kumar Dubey S/o Mevalal Dubey 2. Mr Mevalal Dubey S/o Anand kr. Dubey Both reside at- House no. 173 Shanti Nagar near Dubey Bhavan Damoh Naka Jabalpur, MP 482001	Rs. 30,45,605/- + Unapplied interest on contractual rate w.e.f. 25.07.2022 + penal interest thereon and other charges and expenses	All those pieces and parcel of property with Construction, Fixture along with RCC godown and dairy shed Mauza saliya no. 490Ph N/4/10 RNM, Panagar, Khasra No160 District Jabalpur area admeasuring 6000 Sq Feet	Symbolic	11.03.2025	Rs.25,14,000/- Rs.2,51,400/- Rs.10000/-	
13) Branch - Asset Recovery Branch, Jabalpur RAIS AHMAD KHAN Prop. - Adil Ahmed Khan Borrower: ADIL Ahmad Khan s/o Late Rais Ahmad Khan ADD - GP 79 Lake Pearl Spring, Airport Raod Gandhi Nagar Huzur, Bhopal PIN 462036 (M P), Guarantor: 01 JAMEELA AHMAND KHAN 02 AQEEL AHMAD KHAN 03 KHALID AHMAD KHAN 04 SMT SAHEED AHMAD KHAN 05 ASRAF AHMAD KHAN ADD: GP 79 Lake Pearl Spring, Airport Raod Gandhi Nagar Huzur, Bhopal Pin 462036 (M P)	Rs. 1,82,05,334/- (Rupees One crore eighty two lakh five thousands three hundred thirty four only) + Unapplied interest on contractual rate w.e.f. 05.07.2022 + penal interest thereon and other charges and expenses	Residential plot no A- 98, A- 99, A-100, A-101-AREA -3960sq feet Graphite city, Part of khasra no 7/1/1, 10/3, 7/1/2, 10/2, village Shobhapur & village Simrai, PH no 12 RNP Mandideep vikashkand Obedullaganj tehsil Gohraganj distt Raisen (MP)  Owner: Shri Khalid Khan  Residential House No - GP- 78, part of khasra no 476/3/1/2(ka) and 476/3/1/2(kha), 476/3/1/1, 463/2, 463/1/1, 462/1, 462/2, 462/3 Ph no 04, Situated at Lake Pearl Spring, Village - Gondermau, Near Addas Nagar, Inside main road, ward no 01, Tehsil Huzur, Distt - Bhopal (M.P)  House No - SP- 74, part of khasra no 473/3/1/2(ka) and 476/3/1/2(kha), 476/3/1/1, 463/2, 463/1/1, 462/1, 462/2, 462/3 Ph no 04, Situated at LAKE PEARL SPRING, Village - Gondermau, Near Addas Nagar, Inside main road, ward no 01, Tehsil Huzur, Distt - Bhopal (M.P)	Symbolic  Symbolic  Symbolic	11.03.2025  11.03.2025  11.03.2025	Rs.15,84,000/- Rs.1,58,400/- Rs.10000/-  Rs.59,79,000/- Rs.5,97,900/- Rs.10000/-  Rs.52,70,000/- Rs.5,27,000/- Rs.10000/-	
14) Branch - Asset Recovery Branch, Jabalpur HERAMBH ENTERPRISES Borrower: 01- Sunil Bawiskar S/o Sadashiv Bawiskar ADD:- Plot No 201 Second Floor Jay Gajanan Apartment Plot No 44 Lokmanya Nagar Extension Indore (MP) Guarantor : Sandhya Bawiskar W/o Sunil Bawiskar Add:- Plot No 201 Second Floor Jay Gajanan Apartment Plot No 44 Lokmanya Nagar Extension Indore (MP)	Rs. 5253598/- (Rupees Fifty two Lakh fifty three thousands five hundred Ninety eight only) + Unapplied interest on contractual rate w.e.f. 30.03.2023 + penal interest thereon and other charges and expenses	Flat No 201 Second Floor Jay Gajanan Apartment Plot No 44 Lokmanya Nagar Extension Indore	Symbolic	11.03.2025	Rs.22,88,000/- Rs.2,28,800/- Rs.10000/-	
15) Branch - Asset Recovery Branch, Jabalpur Borrower - M/s Sharmila Singhai B-16, Manisha Market, Shahpura, Bhopal- 462016 Guarantor : 1. Smt. Sharmila, W/o: Shri Prashant Singhai 2. Shri Prashant Singhai, S/o: Shri M.M Singhai All - R/o. - B-16, Manisha Market, Shahpura, Bhopal- 462016	Rs.2,01,27,048/- + Unapplied interest on contractual rate w.e.f. 01.01.2019+ penal interest thereon and other charges and expenses  Rs.2,01,27,048/- + Unapplied interest on contractual rate w.e.f. 01.01.2019+ penal interest thereon and other charges and expenses	Khara no. 309 admeasuring 0.10 hect (1000 Sq. Mt.). At Nayapura, Kolar Road, P.H no. 38/28 R.N.M-03, Vikas Khand Fanda Tahsil Huzur, Bhopal  Owner: Ms.Sharmila Singhai, Shri Prashant Singhai  Khasra No. 307 admeasuring 0.10 hect (1000 Sq. Mt.). At Nayapura, Kolar Road, P.H no. 38/28 R.N.M-03, Vikas Khand Fanda Tahsil Huzur, Bhopal  Owner: Ms.Sharmila Singhai, Shri Prashant Singhai	Symbolic  Symbolic	11.03.2025  11.03.2025	Rs. 1,30,00,000/- Rs. 13,00,000/- Rs.10000/-  Rs. 1,12,00,000/- Rs. 11,20,000/- Rs.10000/-	
16) Branch - Asset Recovery Branch, Jabalpur Borrower - 1.M/s Ramendra Kumar Virendra Kumar Jain Prop. Mrs. Indra Jain, W/o: Mr. Ramendra Kumar Jain 2. Mr. Ramendra Kumar Virendra Kumar Jain 3. Mrs. Indira Jain, W/o: Mr. Ramendra Kumar Jain All R/o. - GBB no. 20 Anaj Mandi New Karond, Huzur Bhopal Guarantor: 1. Mr. Ramendra Kumar Jain, S/o: Mr. Amrit Lal Jain 2. Mr. Virendra Kumar Jain, S/o: Mr. Amrit Lal Jain 3. Mr. Vishal Jain, S/o Mr. virendra Kumar Jain All R/o- House B 65 Coral Kasha, 2nd Line, Behind Pepuls Mall, Karond Road, Huzur - Bhopal	Rs.3,16,61,366/- + Unapplied interest on contractual rate w.e.f. 06.05.2022+ penal interest thereon and other charges and expenses	All pieces and parcel of land and building, one leasehold godown/Shop constructed on area admeasuring 1000 sq.ft bearing plot no. GBB20, new Mandi premises, Karond ward no.78 The: Huzur, Dist: Bhopal.  Owner : M/s Jain Brothers through Shri Ramendra Kumar Jain.	Symbolic	11.03.2025	Rs. 14,07,000/- Rs. 1,40,700/- Rs.10000/-	
17) Branch - Asset Recovery Branch, Jabalpur Borrower - M/s Om Dutta Industries, Through its partners 1.Mr. Piyush Kaushik, Through its LRs- Mrs. Manjula Kaushik, & Mr. Vinod Kaushik 2.Mrs. Manjula Kaushik Both- Plot No. 6, Survey No. 787, Manishpuri Extension, Village Khajrana Dist- Indore M.P. Guarantors - 1.Mr.Piyush Kaushik, Through its LRs- Mrs. Manjula Kaushik, & Mr. Vinod Kaushik 2.Mrs. Manjula Kaushik, 3.Mr. Vinod Kaushik All- 1.2 & 3 R/o- Plot No. 6, Survey No. 787, Manishpuri Extension, Village Khajrana Dist- Indore 4.Mrs. Mangala Kaushik 5.Mr. Pradeep Kaushik All- 4 & 5 R/o- 6.Mrs. Chandraprabha Mishra - R/G- House No. G-67/10, South T.T. Nagar, Bhopal M.P.	Rs.83329264/- + Unapplied interest on contractual rate w.e.f.29.07.2019+ penal interest thereon and other charges and expenses	Plot/House no.285 situated at Khasra No. 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69/2, 70/2, 89, 90/1, 104, 105, 106/1, Rohit Nagar Phase - 1, Village- Bavadia Kalan, Tehsil - Huzur, Dist: Bhopal admeasuring 2100.00 sq.ft.  Owner: MS. Chandra Prabha Mishra	Symbolic	11.03.2025	Rs. 1,02,00,000/- Rs. 10,20,000/- Rs.10000/-	

**Inspection of Properties by bidder: 02.03.2025 & 03.03.2025 between 11.00 a.m to 05.00 p.m**

**Last Date & Time for Submission of Bid application/KYC documents/EMD etc. 11.03.2025**

**Date & time of E-auction with auto extension for 5 minutes-11.03.2025 from 12.00 p.m to 04:00 p.m.**

The auction sale will be On-line E-Auction / Bidding through website <https://baanknet.com>, email: [support.baanknet@psballiance.com](mailto:support.baanknet@psballiance.com). Mob. - 8291220220 The intending Bidders / Purchasers are requested to register on portal using their mobile number and email id. Please take note that the registration and KYC approval etc take 2-3 working days.

For detail terms and conditions of sale please refer to the link provided in <https://bankofmaharashtra.in/asset-for-sales-search> and <https://baanknet.com>. Also prospective bidders may contact the authorized officials Shri Hariom Trivedi: 9405719723, Shri Ravi Verma: 9300955688, Shri Vishal Kanoje: 9822188704

**Sale Notice Date: 18/02/2025 Sale Notice Publication Date: 19/02/2025**

**Authorised Officer, Bank of Maharashtra**



**Narendra Modi, Prime Minister**    **Dr. Mohan Yadav, Chief Minister**

# Madhya Pradesh

## Export Policy 2025

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# Zelezny's tweaks will take me to 90m mark soon: Neeraj

**PTI ■ NEW DELHI**

Two-time Olympic medal-winning javelin throw star Neeraj Chopra has revealed that his new coach Jan Zelezny has figured out mistakes in his technique and would now make some adjustments to his throwing routine to achieve the 90m mark that the Indian star is pursuing for a while.

The 26-year-old, while speaking to India Today, also opened up about his hush-hush wedding to former tennis player Himani Mor last month, saying that their relationship was a casual friendship at first "but slowly we fell in love".

Chopra has been trying hard to hit the 90m mark. His personal best stands at 89.94m which was achieved in 2022. His season begins in May with the Diamond League and would mark the competitive start of his partnership with Zelezny, a former Olympic and world champion who also holds the



Chopra is giving 100 percent, and that is important for me," he added. He also spoke about the groin injury that marred his season last year. Chopra has

consulted a doctor recommended by Zelezny in Prague.

"Groin injury has been an issue for a long time. I wasn't able to give 100 percent in my technique because of my injury. I went to Zelezny's doctor in Prague, and he suggested some exercises. I am working on that, so hopefully it helps, and I am able to give my 100 percent," he said.

**We slowly fell in love**

Opening about his marriage that stunned everyone, Chopra said both he and Mor wanted it to be an intimate affair and that's why they chose a town near Solan.

"I knew her. She also comes from a family with a sports background, and so do we. Her father and mother were kabaddi players. Her brothers were boxers and wrestlers," Chopra said.

"She herself was a tennis player, but after picking up injuries, she focused more on her studies," he added. Shedding light on how their relationship developed over a period of time, Chopra said being athletes, they could connect easily.

"Because our families had a sports background, we had the opportunity to meet. Our conversations began like that -- just two athletes talking. It was casual at first, but slowly, we fell in love," he said.

Their wedding pictures, which Chopra shared on social media a couple of days after the ceremony, took the internet by storm.

Although only family members were invited for the nuptials, Chopra said most of his close circle of friends was aware that he was tying the knot and he would soon be planning a celebration with those who couldn't be a part of the function.

"...Families and friends knew. I wanted to return to training because the season was about to start. I thought it would only be possible after the season. Inviting everyone would have taken time," he explained.



## I have not resigned, will complete tenure, says Mary Kom

**PTI ■ NEW DELHI**

Two-time Olympic medal-winning shuttler PV Sindhu, former shot putter Om Prakash Karhana, Winter Olympic Shiva Keshavan, London Olympics bronze-winning shooter Gagan Narang, rower Bajrang Lal, fencer Bhavani Devi, former women's hockey captain Rani Rampal, and Tokyo Olympics silver-winning weightlifter Mirabai Chanu.

"I don't know why it is that every time I raise my voice for something, it is misunderstood like this? Lot of my fellow athletes speak their mind on so many issues but nobody gets misunderstood," Mary Kom said.

"I was put up in a bad hotel when I went for the National Games closing ceremony despite the fact that a better hotel was available. If others could be accommodated, why not me? That was the only question I asked," she insisted.

"Next thing I know, people are saying I have resigned. Where is the resignation? Has anyone seen it?" she asked.

Asked if she has had a word with IOA President P T Usha on this matter, Mary Kom said, "I haven't been able to connect with her because my phone was misplaced. But I will speak to her, I have good communication with her."

## Parth Rekhade puts Vidarbha in firm control against Mumbai

**PTI ■ NAGPUR**

Left-arm spinner Parth Rekhade struck thrice in an over as Mumbai slipped to a precarious 188 for 7 in reply to Vidarbha's first innings total of 383, trailing by 195 runs at stumps on Day Two of their Ranji Trophy semifinal here on Tuesday.

Mumbai opener Akash Anand was battling at one end, unbeaten on 67, with the last recognised batter, Tanush Kotian, on 5 not out at the other, as their title defence came under intense pressure from a disciplined and persistent Vidarbha side on their home ground at the VCA Stadium here.

Mumbai were steady at 113 for two at one stage but Rekhade, playing only his second First-Class match, ripped open the Ranji champions' batting line-up, first with an innocuous delivery which claimed the prized scalp of Ajinkya Rahane in the 41st over.

Rahane's defensive prod had the ball rolling back to his stumps and knock off the bails, ending his stay for a 24-ball 18 which also had an outside edge flying between the wicketkeeper and the first slip.

Two deliveries later, Suryakumar Yadav (0) then paid a heavy price for a hard-handed frontfoot prod as an inside edge was sharply collected by Danish Malewar at silly point over his head.

Another couple of deliveries later, Shivam Dube (0), who had claimed 5/49 in Vidarbha's first innings, was also caught for a two-ball duck like his India T20I teammate Suryakumar as Mumbai slipped from 113/2 to 113/5.

It soon became 118/6 for the Rahane-led side, losing four wickets for a mere five runs, when Shams Mulani was trapped leg-before by Harsh Dubey for his first wicket.

Anand then forged a crucial 60-run stand with Shardul Thakur but their partnership did not last long.

Thakur, who has persistently come to Mumbai's rescue



with the bat this season, did produce a fightback but could not push on for a big knock, perishing for a 41-ball 37 with four fours and a six with his knock having all the elements of his trademark counterattack.

He was bounced out by Yash Thakur (2), who had cleaned up Siddhesh Lad (35) for a vital breakthrough earlier in the day to break his stubborn second-wicket partnership with Anand.

Mumbai had begun rather

shakily in reply to Vidarbha's first innings total when opener Ayush Mhatre played one in the air early on to find Malewar at cover, following which the pair of Lad and Anand had done well to see off the threat from the new ball there on.

On his part, wicketkeeper-batter Anand batted extremely well, reaching a solid 67 off 171 balls, including six fours — most of them coming on the off-side.

But once again it was Vidarbha who walked away with the bragging rights after another dominant show, having earlier added 75 runs to their overnight total of 308 for five.

Rathod brought up his fifty shortly after play resumed on the second day but like his

**NAGAR PARISHAD UDAIPURA DISTT RAISEN**  
NIT NO/2025-26/288      Udaipura DATE 17/02/2025

//NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER //

Online tenders are invited from the contractors registered in the centralized system for the following work. Detailed description of the tender can be seen at <https://mptenders.gov.in>

NO	TENDER NO & PUBLISH DATE	NAME OF WORK	WORK DURATION & COST	COST OF BID DOCUMENT & EMD	LAST DATE OF TENDER
1	2025_UAD_400813_1	interception & diversion of Nallahs with STP works project of udipura town under SBM2.0	12 Month (Including Rainingseason) COST- 448.55 Lacs	TENDER DOCUMENT COST- 15000.00 & EMD-224275.00	LAST DATE OF TENDER 11/03/2025 Time-05:30
2	2025_UAD_403203_1	construction of stairs and swagat gate in talkatora stadium ward no.03 under CM monit c2881 (note opc cement 43 grade use mandatory)	06 Month (Including Rainingseason) COST-119.50 Lacs	TENDER DOCUMENT COST- 12500.00 & EMD-59752.00	LAST DATE OF TENDER 21/03/2025 Time-05:30

Note:- Any amendment related to the tender will be published online only on the website of <https://mptenders.gov.in> and will not be published separately in the newspaper.

**CHIEF MUNICIPAL OFFICER**  
**NAGAR PARISHAD UDAIPURA**

**VIPPY SPINPRO LTD.**  
CIN : L01710MP1992PLC007043

Regd. Office : 414, City Center, 570, M.G. Road, Indore-452 001 (M.P.)  
Works Office : 14-A, Industrial Area, A.B. Road, Dewas-455 001 (M.P.)  
Phone : 91-7272-258251, 52, 405352, Fax : 91-7272-400121  
Email : admin@vippspinpro.com, Website : www.vippspinpro.com

**NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that the following Share Certificate(s) issued by the Company are informed to have been lost or misplaced and the registered holder thereof claimant has applied to the Company for issue of Duplicate Share Certificate:

Sr. No.	Name of Share Holder	No. of Shares	Folio No.	Share Certificate No.	Distinctive No.
1.	Om Prakash Maheshwari	1000	32055	17743 23605 23644 23739 30573 35059 35060 35061 35062 35063	1774201-1774300 2360401-2360500 2364301-2364400 2373801-2373900 3057201-3057300 3505801-3505900 3505901-3506000 3506001-3506100 3506101-3506200 3506201-3506300

Any person(s) who has / have any claim(s) in respect of the said Share Certificate(s) should lodge such claim with the Company's Share Transfer Agent at the Registered Office, at the address given below:

**ANKIT CONSULTANCY PVT. LTD.**  
60, Electronic Complex, Pardeshipura, Indore-452010 (M.P.)  
Within 7 days of publication of this notice, after which no claims will be entertained and the Company will proceed to issue Duplicate Share Certificate.

For **Vippy Spinpro Ltd.**  
Sd/-  
**Pulkrit Maheshwari**  
CS, Compliance Officer & CFO

Place : Indore  
Date : 18.02.2025

**ICICI Home Finance** Corporate Office: ICICI Home Finance Company Limited ICICI HFC Tower, Andheri - Kurla Road, Andheri (East), Mumbai - 400059, India  
Branch Office: Office No -106,1st Floor, Pukhraj Corporate, Navlakhe Indore- 452001  
[See proviso to rule 8(6)]

Notice for sale of immovable assets

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) 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/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of ICICI Home Finance Company Ltd., will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is", as per the brief particulars given hereunder:

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Legal Heirs. Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price/ Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of Auction	One Day Before Auction Date	SARFAESI Stage
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	(I)
1.	Alpa Shah (Borrower) Akhilesh Shah, (Co-Borrowers) Mahesh Shah, (Co-Borrowers) Milan Kumar Shah (Co-Borrowers) Loan Account No. NHIND00001267454	Block No. 60, Plot No. 6/1, House No. 4/7, Ward No. 24, Anand Nagar, Khandwa, (M.P)	Rs. 2,41,76,688/-	Rs. 3,01,80,600/-	February 28, 2025 11:00 AM	March 07, 2025 02:00 PM	March 06, 2025 Before Auction	Symbolic Possession

The online auction will be conducted on website (URL Link- <https://assets.matexauctions.com>) of our auction agency Matex Net Pvt Ltd. The Mortgages/ notice are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till March 06, 2025 before 5:00 PM else these secured assets will be sold as per above schedule.

The Prospective Bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) RTGS/ Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at ICICI Home Finance Company Limited Branch Office Address mentioned on top of the article on or before March 06, 2025 before 04:00 PM. The Prospective Bidder(s) must also submit signed copy of Registration Form & Bid Terms and Conditions form at ICICI Home Finance Company Limited Branch Office Address mentioned on top of the article on or before March 06, 2025 before 05:00 PM. Earnest Money Deposit Demand Draft (DD) should be from a Nationalized/Scheduled Bank in favor of "ICICI Home Finance Company Ltd.- Auction" payable at the branch office address mentioned on top of the article.

For any further clarifications with regards to inspection, terms and conditions of the auction or submission of tenders, kindly contact ICICI Home Finance Company Limited on 9920807300.

The Authorized Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please visit <https://www.icicifhc.com/>

Date: February 19, 2025  
Authorized Officer, "ICICI Home Finance Company Limited",  
CIN Number:- U65922MH1999PLC120106

# India will feel Bumrah's absence very strongly: Dhawan

PTI ■ DUBAI

India will feel Jasprit Bumrah's absence "very strongly" in the Champions Trophy but they still have a great chance to win the tournament considering their recent form and a host of match-winners at their disposal, reckons former opener Shikhar Dhawan.

While the event starts in Pakistan on Wednesday, India start their campaign a day later with a match against neighbours Bangladesh at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium.

Pace spearhead Bumrah was ruled out of the tournament due to a lower back injury, having taken the maximum load during India's five-match Test series against Australia. "My concern is they are going to miss Jasprit Bumrah, there is no doubt he will be a big absence and I think they will feel it very strongly," Dhawan wrote in an ICC column published on Tuesday.

"For me, he is the best bowler in the world, and his accuracy is hard to replicate. He is also a very calm character and that is crucial in a huge ICC event like this."

Dhawan is, however, backing Shubman Gill and Harshit Rana to sizzle in the tournament.

"At the same time, Harshit Rana has



come into the side and I think that is really exciting - keep an eye on him, I think he could have a breakout tournament.

"I like his attitude, he is a go-getter and he is not afraid of anything. He accepts challenges and we have seen in the England series that he is in

form. I am sure he will look to seize this opportunity and, if he does, he could provide a real X-factor for India."

Going by recent form and team strength, Dhawan found it hard to look beyond India when the discussion turned to title contenders.

"There are a lot of reasons to be optimistic for India. They have a very balanced side, especially with the bat - there is a nice blend of experience and youth. Shubman Gill, in particular, is so consistent and he has a big role to play. I think he will have a great tournament.

"Rohit Sharma has found form, Virat Kohli is there; they are a top side and will take some stopping."

Dhawan is also not ruling out teams such as South Africa, New Zealand, Australia and hosts Pakistan, to whom India lost in the title clash in the last edition in the UK.

"I really like South Africa in this tournament as well. They have played consistent cricket and have everything you need to win such a huge tournament - experience, strength-in-depth and X-factor players like Kagiso Rabada.

"I also like Pakistan, they will be hard to beat in home conditions, and also New Zealand - who are just always there or thereabouts.

"Australia have struggled in their series with Sri Lanka but they some great batters; Travis Head is in great form, and I'm really excited to see Steve Smith."

Dhawan is one of the most successful batters in the tournament's history having scored 701 runs in 10 innings at an average of 77.88. He hit three centuries in the tournament, with his best being 125 against Sri Lanka in 2017. "The ICC Champions Trophy means a great deal to me. We won in 2013 and then reached the final in 2017, and both times I finished as leading run-scorer," he added.



## WPL: Delhi Capitals, UP Warriorz eye improved batting effort

PTI ■ VADODARA

Delhi Capitals and UP Warriorz will be aiming for an improved batting effort on Wednesday after floundering in their previous Women's Premier League matches.

Their clash is also the last match here at the Kotambi Stadium before the WPL action shifts to Bengaluru from February 21.

The Capitals are yet to match the pre-tournament favourite billing with performances. Their batting has failed to fire in two matches, even in their victory over the Mumbai Indians.

They made heavy weather of the chase of a 165-run target before winning by two wickets, and folded for 141 against the Royal Challengers Bengaluru on Monday during the eight-wicket defeat.

The trouble starts from the top as skipper Meg Lanning has not been able to produce a big knock yet. It has seemed that international retirement has taken a toll on the Australian.

There have been occasional fireworks by Shafali Varma, Jemimah Rodrigues or Sarah Bryce, but they have not been able to convert into a substantial innings.

Their bowling has been in much better shape with veteran Shikha Pandey leading from the front, but she needs some more support from others, particularly from fellow pacer Arundhati Reddy.

The UP outfit too is in a similar place. Grace Harris and Tahlija McGrath, their middle-order powerhouses, looked uneasy against spin

and the Capitals have a capable bunch in Minnu Mani, Jess Jonassen and Radha Yadav.

The Warriorz have invested heavily in skipper Deepti Sharma, young wicketkeeper batter Uma Chhetri and openers Vrinda Dinesh and Kiran Navgire. It's not often that a WPL team fills their top four with Indian players, and the quartet will have to repay the faith of the management sooner than later.

The absence of an injured Alyssa Healy has reduced the firepower in their top order. They would also expect leg-spinner Alana King to make an impression against Delhi, as the Aussie spinner, who bowled that extraordinary Shane Warne-esque delivery in the Women's Ashes, was quite expensive against Gujarat.

**Teams (from):** UP Warriorz: Deepti Sharma (captain), Alana King, Gouher Sultana, Saima Thakur, Grace Harris, Shweta Sehrawat, Anjali Sarvani, Kiran Navgire, Sophie Ecclestone, Arushi Goel, Kranti Goud, Tahlija McGrath, Chamari Athapaththu, Poonam Khemnar, Uma Chetry, Rajeshwari Gayakwad, Vrinda Dinesh.

**Delhi Capitals:** Meg Lanning (captain), Harleen Deol, Prakashika Naik, Beth Mooney, Kashvee Gautam, Priya Mishra, Bharti Fulmali, Laura Wolvaardt, Sayali Satghare, Danielle Gibson, Mannat Kashyap, Shabnam Shakil, Dayalan Hemalatha, Meghna Singh, Simran Shaikh, Deandra Dottin, Phoebe Litchfield, Tanuja Kanwar.



## Best leaders that I know have always empowered colleagues: Cummins

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Leadership is all about having faith in the strengths of colleagues, believes Australia's talismanic captain Pat Cummins, who is busy promoting his new book after being forced out of the Champions Trophy due to an ankle injury.

At the age of 28, Cummins became Australia's 47th Test captain and since then he has led his country to the 50-over World Cup and the World Test Championship triumph apart from retaining the Ashes and regaining the coveted Border-Gavaskar Trophy just last month.

The 31-year-old, who has 503 international wickets across formats with 294 in Tests alone, donned the hat of an interviewer to speak to 11 achievers-cum-leaders from around the world for his new book "Tested: The remarkable power of resolve" published by Harper Collins.

Asked about his idea of leadership and to what extent should the captain assert his authority, Cummins told PTI: "The best leaders I've played under always made me feel empowered, brought the best out of myself and made me feel a sense of freedom.

"I think it's important to lean into the individual strengths of each team member rather than trying to make everyone

assimilate," the pacer further stated.

While he has a handsome USD two million-plus contract with IPL franchise Sunrisers Hyderabad, whom he captained last year in the cash-rich league, the traditional format remains his No.1 priority.

This despite the fact that more and more cricketers are veering towards a freelance career in T20 leagues.

"I love Test cricket so much so its always been an easy decision to keep that as my number one priority. Especially in Australia, we are lucky to have Test cricket so well-supported."

Cummins also spoke about the respect he has for his fellow speed merchants Indian talisman Jasprit Bumrah and Kagiso Rabada of South Africa. "Those two guys (Bumrah and Rabada) are bowlers I enjoy watching and admire. They have been taking wickets consistently for many years and we've had some wonderful contests."

Talking about the book, Cummins also revealed the process he followed while deciding the list of interviewees for his new book. "I started with a list of people I knew and admired and whose life stories exemplified resilience, leadership and the power of resolve," he said.

## Delighted to see ICC Champions Trophy in Pakistan, says Wasim

PTI ■ KARACHI

Former captain Wasim Bari is glad to see the return of a global cricketing event to Pakistan through the ICC Champions Trophy, and hopes that the nightmarish days after the militant attack on Sri Lankan team in 2009 are forgotten forever.

Pakistan could not host international cricket for 10 years after that gruesome day, and were forced to play their home matches in the UAE.

Bari was serving as the Director in the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) under the Chairmanship of late Ejaz Butt when the attack took place on March 3 near the Liberty roundabout close to the Gaddafi stadium.

"It was the worst day in my life when news came through of what had happened. Everyone was numb and most of us in our offices realised



immediately this was going to put Pakistan cricket back by a few years," Bari said.

Bari said there was disbelief followed by sorrow the match officials and umpires in blood stained shirts went viral, it became obvious that Pakistan's hopes of staging the Champions Trophy or even the 2011 World Cup matches had vanished. Without putting blame on anyone, Bari said: "It should never have happened and the result was Pakistan cricket couldn't properly grow for the next 10 years, as all teams

refused to play in Pakistan for security reasons." Bari said he is delighted to see the ICC Champions Trophy being held in Pakistan now and multiple teams landing in the country.

"To see England, Australian, South African, New Zealand and Afghanistan teams in Karachi and Lahore means so much to all Pakistani cricketers, board officials and the fans," he said.

The 75-year-old said it was a tribute to the singleminded effort of all the stakeholders involved in Pakistan cricket. "I think it is also a time to pay tribute to the resilience of Pakistan cricket while hosting the Champions Trophy, after all that has happened in the last 10 years."

Bari said Pakistan have some very good players, who are capable of helping the team defend the Champions Trophy title.

## India's bowling coach Morkel returns home

PTI ■ DUBAI

India's bowling coach Morne Morkel has left for his home in South Africa due to a family emergency.

Morkel, who was appointed for the job in September last year, had travelled to Dubai with the Indian team on Saturday, and also attended the side's first practice session ahead of the ICC Champions Trophy beginning on Wednesday.

The 40-year-old former South African pacer was, however, not around for the Indian team's second practice session on Monday, it has been learned.

The development comes just as India geared up to began their campaign with a match

against Bangladesh at Dubai International Cricket Stadium here on Thursday.

The Indian bowling attack for the ICC tournament comprises specialist pacers and one fast-bowling all-rounder in Hardik Pandya.

Pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah was ruled out of the event due to lower back injury, leaving the task of shouldering the fast-bowling responsibility on Arshdeep Singh, Harshit Rana and Mohammed Shami, with Pandya being the fourth option.

Pakistan is the host nation of the tournament, but India will be playing all their matches in Dubai as per the hybrid model agreed by the concerned stakeholders.

## Jaspal Rana will continue as my coach: Manu Bhaker

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Eyeing glory in next World Championship, double Olympic medallist shooter Manu Bhaker said Jaspal Rana will continue to be her "coach" despite the Dronacharya awardee being roped in as the High Performance trainer for pistol discipline by the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI).

Rana, a four-time Asian Games gold medallist, had a very bitter and public fallout with Manu before the Tokyo Olympics but they reconciled before last year's Paris Games, where the latter made history by bagging two bronze medals.

"Honestly, I only have to say one thing that he (Rana) is my coach all I know and he is very good at what he does. He is very, very talented and



he has been a great coach for me. "All I know and all I can say is that he is my coach. Of course, he can be anyone else's coach as well but for me he is my coach," Manu said after winning the BBC Sportswomen of the Year 2024 award at a glittering function here on Monday night. Under Rana's personal guidance, Manu, who was

struggling after the Tokyo Games, made a remarkable comeback and became the first Indian to win two medals in a single edition of the Olympics since Independence.

She won bronze medals in 10m air pistol and 10m air pistol mixed team events in Paris to create history. Talking about her future plans, Manu said: "We will be going for World Cups in

April, and then we have some domestic competitions in June. "It will be followed by another World Cup in Munich. Then we will have the World Championships, probably in late October or November. My target is the World Championships. I want to peak at the right time for the World Championships," she added.

The season-ending World Championships will be held in Cairo, Egypt, from November 6-16. Her unprecedented success in Paris wouldn't have been possible without Rana's guidance and Manu agrees to it. Manu, who turned 23 on Tuesday, considers Rana as her father figure, while the coach gives her the courage and confidence to seek and achieve great things in her sport.

# Champions Trophy set to start amid debate on relevance of 50-over cricket

PTI ■ DUBAI/KARACHI

Intrigue, uncertainty, backstage drama. The ICC Champions Trophy has seen it all even before the curtains go up on the tournament and it would only get more stirring over the next three weeks, starting with the opening clash between Pakistan and New Zealand in Karachi.

Eight teams will vie for a trophy, often talked up as tougher to win than the World Cup, and also to script a new chapter in their own cricketing story. While India will fight it out in Dubai, others will be primarily based in Pakistan, which would get to host its first ICC event since the 1996 World Cup. Several barriers had to be hurdled over to cobble this tournament together after eight years. The tournament is also crucial amid the raging debate on the relevance of ODI cricket, which is struggling to find its space

amid the rage for T20 cricket and the devotion for Test format.

Perhaps, no other cricketing event in the recent past has been harried so much by long-standing geopolitical tensions, stubbornness by administrative boards of two important participants, and the nail-biting anxiety over the main hosting nation.

The chaos has been an endearing throwback to the 90s when cricket in the sub-continent resembled a hastily organised party.

But all these pre-tournament jitters will be forgotten once the teams enter the field, and the first of them will be Pakistan and New Zealand. If anyone needs a reminder, then Pakistan had won the last edition of the Champions Trophy in 2017.

The opening match in itself is a curious clash -- a talented yet-volatile Pakistan unsure of its own destiny against a team

for which order is everything. But the blue riband match of the tournament will be on February 23 when India take on Pakistan, ushering in customary waves of nostalgia, emotions, political grandstanding, and the social media battle.

That marquee showdown will be in Dubai as India remained steadfast in its refusal to set foot on Pakistani soil owing to security concerns.

**Last dance of Kohli, Rohit?** But beyond such team equations, certain individual players would want this tournament to be a memorable one. On top of the list are India's batting talismans Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma. They have been magnificent servants of the game over the last decade and half.

Few in modern era were able to match their achievements and aura. But now, these two titans have reached the last lap of a long race, and would



want to bow out in a blaze of glory. It's tough to imagine Kohli and Rohit being part of India's ODI set-up after the Champions Trophy irrespective of the outcome. It might even impact their future in Test cricket, as a lukewarm outing here might force the selectors to mull over their role ahead of India's tour to England in June.

Similarly, a failure to win the Champions Trophy will bring the role of head coach Gautam Gambhir under scrutiny. Gambhir might have received a temporary relief after India's domination over England in the recent home series, but not it wouldn't be enough to brush under the carpet, India's recent travails against New Zealand and Australia.

But a global trophy will certainly give him a much better ground to stand. From a team perspective, India will be eager to wrest

their first ICC trophy in the 50-over format after their triumph in the 2013 Champions Trophy under the enigmatic Mahendra Singh Dhoni. It will be a perfect parting gift to Kohli and Rohit and a welcome carpet to some young names such as Shubman Gill who are set to take India into the future.

**The challengers** India are playing a brand of ODI cricket that makes them instant favourites to win the tournament. They have adopted an aggressive approach and have a varied line-up, brimming with talent.

But such calculations can go wrong because of a bad moment or session, as it happened in the 2023 World Cup final when India succumbed to Australia after a middling batting effort. The Aussies themselves are without their premier pacers Pat Cummins, Mitchell Starc and Josh Hazlewood. But the

two-time champions still pack a punch as they have a batting unit to meet the demands of ODI format.

Once a feared white-ball team, England have slipped a few rungs as age and form have caught up with some of their leading performers. But do the likes of Jos Buttler, Joe Root and Liam Livingstone have one last roar left in them? Or will some of their new stars such as Harry Brook or Ben Duckett cut open a new path?

New Zealand are also travelling on fresh avenue following the retirement of Trent Boult and Tim Southee. Kane Williamson is their trump card and the Kiwis would hope that he fires for them to earn their maiden white ball ICC trophy. South Africa too will have a similar goal. They had won ICC Knockouts Trophy in 1998, but not bagged anything in recent times and the Temba Bavuma-led side

will be hoping for a reversal of fortune. But for that to happen, the Proteas should coat their minds with steel in crunch situations.

It's applicable to Pakistan as well. If they can stop obsessing over the match against India and not treat it as the 'final frontier', then the home side is a dangerous opposition.

Their pace attack is top-notch and they have some batters like Fakhar Zaman and Salman Ali Agha who can turn on the heat on the rivals. Afghanistan, who have transformed into a formidable white-ball outfit, also can put other teams under immense pressure through a squad that has Rashid Khan and Rahmanullah Gurbaz. Bangladesh now has receded to the periphery of cricketing consciousness, but can they pull of a stunner as they had done in the 2007 50-over World Cup?