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**Established 1865** WORLD 8
LEADERS OF INDONESIA,
TURKIYE HOLD TALKS ON
DEFENCE, ECONOMIC TIES

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# SUPREME COURT SLAMS PARASITES

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

n political parties promising freebies ahead of polls, the Supreme Court (SC) on Wednesday said instead of bringing people into the mainstream for national development, Aare we not creating a class of parasites?". A bench of Justices BR Gavai and Augustine George Masih said it would be better to make people a part of the society's mainstream and contribute towards national

development. "Rather than promoting them to be a part of the mainstream of the society by contributing to the development of the nation, are we not creating a class of parasites?" it asked. Justice Gavai went on to add, "Unfortunately, because of these freebies, which just on the anvil of elections, are declared, like 'Ladki Bahin' and other schemes, people are not willing to work.

The top court was hearing a matter concerning the right to shelter of homeless persons in urban areas and said people got free rations and money without working. "We quite appreciate your concern for them but would it not be better to make them a part of the mainstream of society and permit them to contribute to the development of the nation?" the bench asked.

Advocate Prashant Bhushan, appearing for one of the petitioners, said there was hardly anybody in the country who did not want to work, if they had work. The judge said, You must be having only one sided knowledge. I come from an agricultural family. Because of the freebies in Maharashtra, which they just announced prior to elections, agriculturists are not getting labourers." The court, however, said it did not want to debate.

Judges said everybody, including attorney general R Venkataramani, was on the same page that providing shelter to the homeless merited due attention. "But at the same time, should it not be balanced?" the bench asked. Venkataramani said the Centre was in the process of finalising the urban poverty alleviation mission, which would address various issues, including the provision of shelter for the urban homeless.

The bench asked him to verify from the Centre the time frame within which the scheme would be applicable and also place on record the aspects covered by it.

"In the meantime, the attorney general is also requested to take instructions as to whether till the implementation of the said scheme. the Union of India would continue the National Livelihoods Mission," it said.

The bench further asked the Centre to collate information from all states for the consideration of the issue on a pan-India basis. One of the petitioners during the

hearing said it was unfortunate that the cause of the homeless was not being addressed as it was last on the priority. The bench was irked when he claimed the authorities showed

compassion only for the rich, not the poor. "Don't make a speech of Ramlila Maidan in this court," said Justice Gavai, "And don't make unnecessary

allegations. Don't make a political speech here. We won't permit our courtrooms to be converted into a (place of) political battle." The judge went on to add, "How do

you say the compassion is shown only for the rich? Even for the government, how can you say this?" Painting a picture that the

government did not do anything or show concern for the poor was not in a good taste, the court added. Bhushan said as per a note placed before the bench, as on December 4, 2024, a total of 2,557 shelters was sanctioned by the States or Union

Territories and 1,995 shelter homes

were functional with a capacity of

1.16 lakh beds. He said a survey showed there were about 3 lakh urban homeless in Delhi alone. Bhushan said as per the Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board

the total capacity of the shelters was 17,000 persons of which only 5,900 such facilities had beds. The DUSIB counsel said the board had 197 shelter homes running in

Delhi as on date with a total capacity of 17,000 persons. In the last four years, he said, the

average maximum occupancy was 5,500 in all shelter homes.

**MAGHI PURNIMA:** 

2 CRORE DIPS

More than two crore devotees took a dip

in the Sangam till 6 pm on Wednesday on

the occasion of Maghi Purnima. With the

auspicious day for holy bath, the month-

long 'Kalpavas' will be ending and around

10 Lakh 'Kalpavasis' will start leaving the

requested them to follow traffic rules and

Kumbh, over 47 crore people have taken

February 26 with the final 'Amrit Snan' on

Meanwhile, Adityanath greeted everyone

on the holy bathing festival while the UP

government has also launched a safety

Maha Kumbh. The administration has

use only authorised parking spaces.

Overall since the start of the Maha

The Maha Kumbh will conclude on

the occasion of Mahashivratri.

a dip in the Sangam.

drive for the pilgrims.

'snan' on Maghi Purnima, another

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and French President Emmanuel Macron at the Mazargues Cemetery to pay their respects to the fallen heroes, in Marseille

## Modi, Macron walk together

**PTI** ■ PARIS

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and French President Emmanuel Macron on Wednesday called for enhancing trade and investment ties between the two countries and committed to further deepening their engagement in the Indo-Pacific and various global forums and initiatives.

After their wide-ranging talks, the two leaders also underlined their commitment to concrete actions to ensure that the global AI sector can drive beneficial social, economic, and environmental outcomes in the public interest.

A joint statement issued after the meeting here said the talks covered a full spectrum of bilateral relations, as well as key global and regional issues. The two leaders stressed an urgent need for reform in the United Nations Security Council and agreed to coordinate closely on various

global issues, including the INSC matters French President Macron

reiterated France's firm

support for India's permanent membership of the UNSC. The two leaders reaffirmed their strong commitment to India-France Strategic Partnership while noting that it has steadily evolved into a multifaceted relationship over

the past 25 years. Prime Minister Modi flew together from Paris to Marseille in the French Presidential Aircraft last evening and held discussions here on the full spectrum of bilateral relations and key

global and regional issues. This was followed by delegation-level talks after arrival in Marseille.

The two leaders reviewed cooperation in the strategic areas of defence, civil nuclear energy and space. They also discussed ways to strengthen collaboration in the fields of technology and innovation.

### **UPSC** updates registration system online PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI** 

The Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) has introduced certain changes in its online application system the civil services preliminary exam after aspirants complained of technical glitches while through applying according to an official notice. The Commission had recently extended the last date to apply for the civil services preliminary exam 2025 till February 18. The UPSC said in the notice

that some entries have been made "editable" in the onetime registration for filling up of the online application. view of

queries/difficulties raised by the candidates in filling up the online application form for the civil services examination, 2025, Commission has decided the following changes in the onetime registration (OTR) for filling up of the online application," it said.

The candidates are "not change(s) in the columns relating to "Name (as per Class X)", "Date of Birth", "Father's Name", "Mother's Name", "Mobile Number" and "Email ID" in the OTR profile, the Commission said in the notice.

MARKETS

76,400

76,200

75,800

75,600-

 $75,400 \, \mathrm{T}$ 

SENSEX 76,171.08 ↓ -0.16%

12:00 pm

AQI

#### Kerala ragging turns serious PIONEER NEWS SERVICE (20), Rahul Raj (22), Jeev (18),

KOTTAYAM (KERALA)

 $F^{\rm ive\ third-year\ students\ have}_{\rm been\ arrested\ for\ allegedly}$ ragging first-year students at the Government Nursing College here, police said on Wednesday.

A case was registered after three first-year students lodged a complaint, alleging that the nearly three months at the institute, nursing which functions under the Government Medical College. According to the complaint, the ragging began in November last year. The students reported that the incidents involved extreme brutality. They alleged that they were forced to stand naked and subjected to severe physical abuse using dumbbells, including tying

them to their private parts. Further allegations include injuries inflicted using compasses and similar objects, followed by the application of lotion on the wounds. Additionally, they were forced to have cream applied to their

The accused students have been suspended, college authorities said. The action was taken following an inquiry conducted under the antiragging law, they added. The arrested students have been identified as Samuel Johnson

faces, heads, and mouths.

Rijil Jith (20), and Vivek (21). The complaint also states that students regularly senior extorted money from juniors on Sundays to buy alcohol and frequently assaulted them.

On November 16, the accused allegedly forced a first-year student to transfer Rs 300 via Google Pay and hand over Rs 500 in cash under threats. that th was used for alcohol consumption.

On December 13, a first-year student endured extreme physical torture. That night, the accused allegedly entered his room, tied his hands and legs, and restrained him.

They then poured lotion all over his body and inflicted injuries using a divider. They also forced another first-year student in the room to record the incident on a mobile phone.

Unable to endure the harassment any longer, three students finally lodged a complaint with the Kottayam Gandhinagar police. College authorities stated that

the affected students had not

informed hostel officials,

teachers, or parents about the abuse. Upon receiving the complaint, the college promptly took action. Once the investigation confirmed the allegations, the case was handed over to the

police, they added.

### RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi's Rouse Avenue court on Wednesday convicted former Congress MP Sajjan Kumar in a case related to the killings of two men in Saraswati Vihar on November 1, 1984, during the anti-Sikh riots. The arguments on the quantum of sentence in the case will take place on February

The Congress leader who is currently serving a life sentence in another anti-Sikh riots case in Delhi Cantonment, was produced from Tihar jail before special judge Kaveri Baweja, who pronounced the conviction order.
"I am of the opinion that Prosecution

has been able to prove its case against the Accused beyond reasonable doubt. Thus, Accused Sajjan Kumar S/o Ch.Raghunath Singh is hereby convicted for offences punishable under Sections 147/148/149 IPC and for offences punishable under Sections 302/308/323/395/397/427/ 436/440 read with Section 149 IPC," Special Judge Kaveri Baweja said in her 139

pages order on Wednesday. The order said, "I am of the considered opinion that the Prosecution has been able to bring home the guilt of the Accused. It has been established that the Accused was instigating the mob, which was armed with deadly weapons i.e. lathis and sarias etc. and that the mob being an 'unlawful assembly' within the meaning of Section 141 IPC used force and violence in prosecution of the common object of looting, committed the offence of rioting armed with deadly weapons. Further, the fact that the members of the 'unlawful



Former Congress MP Sajjan Kumar at the Rouse Avenue Court, in New Delhi

assembly' were armed with iron rods, lathis, bricks etc. also proves that

alleged offences were committed after having made preparations for committing such offences". The case attracts a maximum punishment of death penalty and life-

term imprisonment as the minimum sentence. Kumar was produced before the court from Tihar jail to pronounce the verdict. He was convicted for the murder of Jaswant Singh and his son Tarundeep Singh on November 1, 1984. Special judge Kaveri Baweja aside from saying that a mob took part in rioting and killed the victims, held, "It has further been established that Kumar, being a member of such unlawful assembly, is guilty of having committed the murder of Jaswant Singh and Tarundeep Singh, the husband and son of the complainant, during the

incident?

The conviction judgment said, "The complainant who witnessed the brutal killing of her husband and son can certainly not be expected to forget the face of the person who was instigating the mob to carry out the said killings and looting and her deposition in court fortifies her stand that it is accused who was not only present during the alleged incident but also instigating and leading the mob which resulted in commission of the aforesaid offences.

The judge rejected Kumar's argument that the statement of the complainant couldn't be trusted as she named him belatedly and held at the time of the incident, she was not aware of the identity of the accused as she was admittedly new to the area and had never seen him earlier.

### **CBI** arrests **DTC officials**

**STAFF REPORTER** NEW DELHI

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has arrested six officials of the Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) on charges of corruption and bribery. This is the first major crackdown by the national capital after the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) lost recently concluded Assembly elections. Sources said, the arrests follow multiple complaints alleging widespread corruption in the department. The CBI launched a thorough surveillance operation to verify these claims before taking action. Upon investigation, authorities found prima facie evidence indicating corruption at various levels, leading to the arrests.

The arrests are a part of a larger corruption case, which is being investigated by the CBI. The DTC has been in the eye of storm over allegations of corruption against its officials. The BJP had alleged a scam in the purchase of 1,000 low floor buses by DTC during the AAP Government in Delhi. The Chief Secretary of Delhi had then recommended the CBI to investigate the matter. The recommendation was approved by Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena.

### **NEWS BRIEFS**

MAX 26.5°C(+3.1)

MIN 11.6°C(+1.4)

#### Ram Janmabhoomi chief priest passes away

LUCKNOW: Acharya Satyendra Das, the chief priest of the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi temple, breathed his last at SGPGI, Lucknow. He had been battling health complications after suffering a stroke earlier this month. Despite receiving intensive care, doctors were unable to save him.

His passing has cast a pall of sorrow over Ayodhya, where he had served as the chief priest since 1993. Over the decades, he became a symbol of devotion, witnessing the long and tumultuous journey from the Babri Masjid demolition to consecration of Ram Lalla in the grand new temple.

#### Tragedy unfolds in Jammu, humanity loses **MOHIT KANDHARI** ■ JAMMU Navin Sachdeva, General Officer Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Naik Mukesh Singh Manhas

¬aptain Karamjit Singh Bakshi Land Naik Mukesh Singh Manhas of 9 Punjab, martyred in an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) blast near the Line of Control (LOC) in the Akhnoor sector of Jammu on Tuesday, were both engaged and waiting to tie the knot in April 2025.

A pall of gloom descended on the families of the soldiers as the mortal remains of these two bravehearts were dispatched to their hometowns in Hazaribagh, Jharkhand and Samba for the last rites on Wednesday.

At both places, the telltale signs of ongoing renovation work were visible as their families were eagerly waiting to solemnize their

marriage ceremonies. A solemn wreath-laying ceremony was organised at the Air Force

Commanding of the Nagrotabased White Knight Corps paid homage along with several other senior police and civil officers.

Captain Bakshi, who hailed from Hazaribagh in Jharkhand, had recently visited his home to oversee wedding preparations scheduled for April 5. A coursemate who had recently attended an advanced training course in the Army War College, Mhow while paying tributes to Captain Bakshi said he was very passionate about his duty. "He was a bold officer and always led from the front. We were all looking forward to attending his marriage ceremony and now we have to join a prayer meeting in his

sweet memory A close relative of Captain Bakshi said his family runs a Restaurant in Hazaribagh. Lovingly known as Puneet, Captain Bakshi had Station in Jammu where Lt-Gen recently resumed his duties in the

first week of February 2025. Bakshi, were left crestfallen by the

Army personnel pay tribute to soldiers who were killed in a suspected IED blast near LoC. in

Jammu's Akhnoor

Captain Bakshi's father, Ajinder Singh Bakshi, and mother, Neelu

loss of their elder son. The entire Hazaribagh community mourning the martyrdom of their brave son of the soil

Soren on Wednesday condoled the death of Captain Karamjit Singh Bakshi and the slain army jawan. State BJP chief Babulal Marandi also expressed grief over the death

of the army personnel. "Received the sad news of the martyrdom of Captain Karamjit Singh Bakshi from Jharkhand and another army jawan during a search operation in Akhnoor, Jammu. May Marang Buru grant peace to the souls of the martyred soldiers and give strength to the bereaved families to bear this difficult time of grief," Soren posted on X. Meanwhile, a religious function

was going on at the residence of Naik Mukesh Singh Manhas in Samba when the army authorities reached out to them to inform them about the IED blast and injuries suffered by their son in the Akhnoor sector.

returned to his Army unit in the Akhnoor sector on January 28 after a two-week holiday for his ring ceremony. He too was constructing his home ahead of tying the nuptial knot. Naik Mukesh Singh comes from a

family of patriots. His father Chagatar Singh served in the Jammu and Kashmir police while his younger brother is currently serving in the Indian army. Paying glowing tributes to Naik

Mukesh Singh, former Sarpanch Mukhtiyar Singh remembered him as an enthusiastic cricketer. motivator, and always ready to extend a helping hand to the needy. Naik Mukesh was set to get married around April 20-21, the grieving father said, as his relatives and neighbors made a beeline in front of the house to convey their condolences.



### Missing winter chill in Nainital reflecting climate change?

AFZAL HUSSAIN FAUJI NAINITAL

Nainital, known for its cold winters, is witnessing a drastic change in its weather patterns. This year, the mercury has remained unexpectedly high, with little to no frost and rainfall and snowfall have been significantly lower than in previous years. Experts believe that climate change is playing a major role in altering the region's weather conditions. According to scientists, Nainital in January recorded some of the highest temperatures in recent history, making the entire month feel warmer than usual. Even in February, temperatures remain above normal, primarily due to a decrease in humidity. The experts stated that the maximum temperature has soared past 22 degree celsius, whereas in previous years, it rarely exceeded 18 degree celsius. The ground has also lost much of its usual moisture, contributing to the persistent warmth. This dry spell has continued throughout January, a phenomenon never seen before in the region. Traditionally, January was the coldest month in Nainital, with res-

vere chill. Business activities would come to a standstill, schools would declare a winter vacation of nearly two and a half months and government offices would relocate to the plains. The arrival of tourists during this period was nearly nonexistent. However, things have changed drastically. Instead of the biting cold, Nainital now experiences an unusual warmth, with snowfall limited to higher altitudes. Only two days of rain were recorded throughout the winter season and frost, which was once common in January, was completely absent this year. December saw just two days of frost but January remained entirely frost-free, keeping night time temperatures higher than usual. The characteristic bone-chilling cold of Nainital's winters was missing this time. A senior environmental scientist at the Aryabhatta Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES) Narendra Singh attributes this warming trend to a decline in humidity, which has led to a rise in temperatures. According to him, weak west-ern disturbances have idents often migrating to ern disturbances have warmer places due to the se-resulted in a significant re-

duction in rainfall and snowfall, leading to dry conditions. This kind of weather in Nainital is unexpected and concerning, as it points to the larger impact of climate change, as per Singh.

The data from the ARIES over the past six years shows a clear shift in Nainital's winter temperatures-

Year 2020 - Minimum: 0.23°C, Maximum: 17.73°C

Year 2021 - Minimum: 4.32°C, Maximum: 18.8°C

Year 2022 - Minimum: 1.25°C, Maximum: 14°C

Year 2023 - Minimum: 3.25°C, Maximum: 18.1°C

Year 2024 - Minimum: 4.88°C, Maximum: 16.3°C

Year 2025 - Minimum: 1.98°C, Maximum: 22.62°C

Experts opined that if this trend continues, Nainital may witness even warmer winters in the coming years, posing challenges for its ecosystem and tourism-dependent econ-

### strict land laws in budget session: Bhatt

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The BJP State president Mahendra Bhatt stated that the State government will introduce strict land laws in the upcoming budget session in line with public sentiment. He said that before implementing the new law, district-level investigations into past violations had been completed and lands found to be acquired illegally will be vested in the State government. He stated that the government is committed to protecting every inch of land belonging to the people of the State. He said that chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami had already expressed his commitment to implementing a strict land law and all necessary formalities had been completed.

He stated that BJP and Dhami have consistently fulfilled their promises. He accused Congress of having no concern for the cultural preservation of the State and claimed that BJP is fully aware of the need to maintain the region's demographic balance. He said that the authorities have recovered thousands of hectares of government land under the Dhami government.

He said that laws such as the anti-riot law, Uniform Civil Code, reservation for women and the statehood activists had been implemented and now the land law will soon be introduced in the assembly. "Following the CM's instructions, investigations are underway into illegal land transactions carried out in violation of existing laws. The government has made it clear that those involved in such activities will not be spared and their properties will be taken over by the State," Bhatt said. He also accused Congress of attempting to mislead people on the issue to protect land mafias. He said that instead of opposing the government's efforts, Congress should put

be included as an event in the Asian Games.

aside its political interests and support the strict land law for the State's benefit.

### Government to introduce | Yogasana performance to feature at closing ceremony of National Games

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The State Sports minister, Rekha Arya, instructed the officials concerned to include a Yogasana performance for a few minutes during the closing ceremony of the 38th National Games. This directive was given at a meeting convened on Wednesday to

discuss the preparations for the closing ceremony.

While

chairing the meeting, Arva said that Yogasana as a traditional sport would

'This is a matter of pride not only for Uttarakhand but for the nation. Therefore, it is in the fit of things that a special demonstration of Yogasana should feature in the closing ceremony of the National Games being held in Uttarakhand," she said.

She further directed the officials to ensure the participation of all the medal winners from the State in the closing ceremony.

"We have left no stone unturned to make this National Games a success in every in the overall medal tally," she

Additionally, a special presentation will be held at the closing ceremony, showcasing a comprehensive overview of the games from the beginning until now, including the



sphere and as it is drawing to achievements of the players a close, we can say with justified pride that we have accomplished mission. our However, more satisfying is the sterling performance of oured, she said. the participants from Uttrakhand. They have significantly pushed up the State's ranking

from the State. The players who have broken national records during the National Games would also be hon-The minister further stated

that a full and final dress rehearsal of the programme would be conducted a day before the closure. She instructed the officials to immediately rectify the flaws to be identified during the rehearsal.

#### **Chicago Open University felicitates** visionaries at its convocation

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

hicago Open University recently held a convocation at the →Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya, célebrating the achievements of 60 distinguished individuals who were conferred with Honoris Causa for their outstanding contributions across diverse fields, including a special Honoris Causa in Green Initiatives The senior university officials said that the event stood testament to its mission of recognising thought leaders, innovators and change-makers dedicated to making a positive impact on the society. As part of its ongoing efforts to foster innovation and excellence, the university also presented Certificates of Excellence in Drone under the visionary tagline 'Drone: Revolutionising Tomorrow.' These certificates honoured eminent drone entre preneurs who have significantly advanced drone technology. Be-



The construction of pink

**1** and general toilets will

commence at seven main lo-

cations in Dehradun by the

end of this month. The State

administration has approved

Rs 1.6 crore for this project.

The initiative aims to provide

better sanitation facilities in

public spaces, ensuring con-

venience for commuters and

local residents, especially for

women, the Dehradun dis-

trict magistrate Savin Bansal

said. Bansal informed that he

recently conducted inspec-

tions along with senior police

officials and other authorities

concerned via motorcycle

**IN BRIEF** 

mega sports event.

Chicago University launched an innovative online study programme in Transpersonal Leadership to equip the future leaders with transformational skills, emphasising self-awareness, ethical decision-making and a holistic approach to leadership. This is designed to

Construction of pink and general toilets

to begin at seven locations in Dehradun

nurture visionary leaders prepared to meet the challenges of tomorrow. Among the dignitaries present at the convocation were the former national vice-president of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Shyam Jaju, director general of Maharishi University Prof O P Sharma and national chairperson of the Minority Commission Iqbal Singh Lalpuria among others.

across key areas of

the city. The in-

aimed at assessing

infrastructure and

identifying loca-

tions where new

Following this survey, the ad-

ministration se-

lected sites for

pink and general

was

facilities

required.

this

toilets in busy market areas

and other prominent loca-

tions, Bansal said. He in-

formed that the State

government has approved the

spection

toilet

were

**National Games closing ceremony:** 

NAINITAL: The Nainital district education department has de-

clared closure of all government and private schools on February

14 in view of the closing ceremony of the ongoing 38th National

Games being held in the State. The department cited prepara-

tions for the closing ceremony and the consequent traffic curbs

and diversions to be enforced. Informing this, a senior education

officer Govind Jaiswal said that the Union Home Minister Amit

Shah is likely to visit Haldwani to attend the closing ceremony,

adding that a large number of buses are being taken over in view

of the VVIP visit. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated

the 38th National Games in Dehradun on January 28 while

Haldwani will host the closing ceremony of the national level

BJP leaders greet people on Ravidas Janyanti

HARIDWAR: The former chief minister and Haridwar MP

Trivendra Singh Rawat, the Haridwar MLA Madan Kaushik and

the Haridwar mayor Kiran Jaiswal went to the Guru Ravidas

temple in Kankhal to mark the 648 jayanti of the saint. They also

greeted the people on this occasion. While Rawat spoke on the

commitment of the saint to the societal welfare, Kaushik men-

tioned the saint's contribution to eradication of many of the so-

All schools to be closed on Feb 14

#### 2-day mega start-up summit concludes at Doon University

PNS DEHRADUN

The two-day mega ■ startup summit under the Devbĥoomi Udyamita Yojana (DUY) concluded at University on Wednesday. The programme commenced on February 11. This initiative by the Higher Education department marks the firstever startup summit for student entrepreneurs in the State. The second and final day of the Mega Startup Summit witnessed the participation of over 75 student entrepreneurs from across the State who showcased their products and business models which were appreciated by the education institutions, investors and industry experts alike, said the organisers of the summit. Additionally, the second day featured three key panel discussions focused on the Entrepreneurship Curriculum based on the

proposal, allocating funds for

the construction of these fa-

cilities at Paltan Bazaar and

other areas in Dehradun. The

selected locations for these

pink toilet facilities include

PNS DEHRADUN

**Colour doppler testing** 

to commence in GDMC

To enhance healthcare services for patients, the Govern-

▲ ment Doon Medical College (GDMC) will soon intro-

duce a colour Doppler testing facility. Informing about this, the deputy medical superintendent at GDMC Dr NS Bisht

shared that the hospital administration consistently seeks to

improve the healthcare services available to patients. In

alignment with this objective, the administration, in collab-

oration with the outsourcing company that supports the hos-

pital's radiology department, has decided to install a colour

Doppler machine. Dr Bisht further noted that the ultrasound

services currently provided by the outsourcing company are

located in the outpatient department building and the instal-

lation of the colour Doppler machine is underway. This ad-

dition will allow patients to receive testing on-site,

eliminating the need to visit private laboratories for such

services. In addition to this, funds will be conserved, as pri-

vate laboratories typically charge considerable fees for colour

Doppler tests. In contrast, the tests at GDMC will be con-

ducted at the rates set by the CGHs. He further emphasised

that the installation of the colour Doppler will provide sig-

nificant benefits to patients through comprehensive exami-

nation of the arteries and veins, allowing for a deeper understanding of the patient's condition at the foundational

level of their health. It is anticipated that, following the nec-

essary preparations, operation of the colour Doppler ma-

chine at GDMC will commence shortly.

National Education Policy (NEP) for higher education institutions. Speaking on the occasion, the principal secretary, R K Sudhangshu lauded the DUY being run by the Higher Education department. He urged students to embrace entreprefostering as. "The neurship, innovative ideas. "The transformation brought about by the DUY is helping the younger generation become self-reliant and is fostering a startup culture in the State," he said. Further, the vice- chairman of the Higher Education Upgradation committee Devendra Bhasin said that higher education is no longer confined to obtaining degrees. "But it is now about equipping students with the entrepreneurial mindset necessary for selfreliance and business suc-

cess," he added. The

director, Higher Education

space near Ramesh

Book Depot, Dis-

pensary Road park-

ing and near Rajiv

Gandhi Complex.

Besides this, a public

toilet will also be

constructed in Tehsil

Chowk parking and

under the Ballupur

Chowk flyover. Two urinals will also be

installed in Raja

Road and near Gay-

lord. Bansal said that the

construction will begin soon

this month and the work will

be carried out on priority

Anju Agarwal highlighted that this initiative is proving to be a milestone in building a robust startup ecosystem in Uttarakhand 'Institutions must now focus not only on education but also on employment generation and fostering startups," she said.

The final day of the Mega Startup Summit facilitated interactions between students, academics and in-

#### **NORTHERN RAILWAY Tender Notice**

Sr.DEN/III/MB acting for and on behalf of The President of India invite: E-Tenders against following tender bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids upto closing date and time only. Manual offers are no allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender owards earnest money only through online payment modes available on IREPS portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker's cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not Tender No. Date 325-DRM-MB-24-25 dt. 11.02.25 327-DRM-MB-24-25 dt. 11.02.2025

Name of Work	single :	shot crucible fitted as DSO Specifications in tion with track renewal in the section of Sr.	Pre & Post tamping track measurement survey using Gedo trolley system or similar in the justidiction of Sr. DEN-III/MB.
Tender Closing Date Time		07.03.2025, 16:00	27.02.2025, 16:00
Advanting division (D.)		0000000010	00 00 010 00

12 Month Tender No. 75-W/2/3/WA/Publication Dated : 11.02.2025

176200.00

21.02.2025

**Serving Customers With A Smile** 

1,39,300.00

### Indusind Bank

Registered Office:2401, Gen. Thimmayya Road (Cantonment), Pune -411 001 State office: 43, Bagheria House, New Friends Colony, New Delhi-110025 DEMAND NOTICE

### Public Notice of the Demand Notice issued under Section 13(2) of The Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enfor

Earnest Money (Rs.)

**Bidding Start Date** 

Validity of Offer (Days)

Loan A/C Number, Loan Amount, Name of the Borrower/			Description of the Secured Asset					
Co-borrower/ Date of Demand Notice / Amount Outstanding				escription of the occi	ilea Asset			
SL. No	Loan Account No	Loan Amount Rs.	Date of Demand Notice	Amount Outstanding as on 06/02/2024 with further interest thereon	Make and mode of the vehicle	Engine No	Chassis No	Registration No
1	DDS00208E	44,56,709	28-11-2024	45,55,498.88	Tata Signa 5530 BS6 Fully Built Tipper	B6.7B62300D02 132L64345011	MAT828046 P2N30846	HR58D9046
Borrower: M/s Om Traders			Co- Borrower: Mrs. MANJU					
Address: Gali No6 krishna Nagar, Salempur, Roorkee, Haridwar			Address: Gali No6 Krishna Nagar, Salempur, Roorkee, Haridwar					

Uttarakhand - 247667

Semi-Govt. Department including local bodies etc:

Address: Gali No. -6 krishna Nagar, Salempur, Roorkee, Haridwar

Uttarakhand-247667 A notice is hereby given that the above mentioned Borrowers/co-borrower have defaulted in the repayment of the above mentioned credit facility obtained by nem from the bank and said facility has been classified as Non- performing asset by the Bank on Dt 19-09-2024. Whereas the notices issued to them unde section 13(2) of SARFAESI act, 2002 through Registered Post on their last known address were returned un-served and as such they are hereby informed

by way of public notice about the same. Hence steps have been take for substituted service of the same. The above mentioned Borrower(s), Co-borrower are advised to make the payments of out-standing amount within the 60 days from the date of the demand notice failing which further steps will be taken as per the provision of Securitisation and reconstruction of financial assets and enforcement of security interest act 2002. The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of sub section (13) of the act, that the borrowers are not entitled to transfer the secured asset by way of Sale, Lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of the Bank, A copy of the Notice is also affixed at the address of the borrower(s) above mentioned address Date: 13.02.2025, Place: Roorkee

### **ICFRE-Forest Research Institute**

### P.O. New Forest, Dehradun - 248 006, Uttarakhand

#### **NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER**

NIT No. 42-140/2024-25/Head/Engineering Cell/Civil The Head, Engineering Cell, FRI, Dehradun invites on behalf of Director, FRI Dehradun online item rate bids from approved and eligible contractors of CPWD, MES, Railways, P & T, State PWD & other Govt. and

SI. No.	Name of work	Estimated cost Rs.	Earnest Money Rs.	Tender fee Including GST Rs.	Time of completion	Last date and time of online submission of the bid
1.	Establishment of Demonstration Centre of Amazing Wood Biodiversity of India at FRI Dehradun Uttarakhand.		1,50,000/-	590/-	90 days	04.03.2025 up-to 11.00 A.M.

The tender forms and other details can be obtained from the website https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app and www.fri.res.in

**Engineering Cell,** Forest Research Institute Dehradun

CENTRE FOR MARINE LIVING RESOURCES AND ECOLOGY MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

ATML BHAVAN, L.N.G. ROAD, PUTHUVYPE, KOCHI-682508 Tel. No. 04842944004 CCAMLR



CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST TO FISH IN ANTARCTIC WATERS

The Centre for Marine thing Resources and Ecology (CMLRE), an attached office of the Ministry of Earth Sciences, invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from qualified Indian firms intending to fish for krill or toothfish in the Antarctic waters, administered by the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), for the upcoming fishing season (2025-26). CCAMLR is an intergovernmental body responsible for the conservation and sustainable

management of the marine living resources in the Southern Ocean. As a permanent member of this Convention. India Is entitled to issue fishing licenses/permits, ensuring compliance with the established Conservation Measures. Indian Firms with experience in high seas fishing and vessels suitably equipped for fishing Krill or tooth fishes from the Antarctic waters can register their EOI to CMLRE via email to director@cmlre.gov/sendhil.r@cmlre.gov.in along with a brief company profile and a statement of Intent. Indian firms owning an Ice-class strengthened vessel capable of fishing in the high seas, or

capable of hiring such vessels and crew through a bareboat charter agreement, and possessing an understanding of the intricacies of fishing in the CCAMLR region are eligible to register their

The last date for submitting the EOI, along with supporting documents, is within 10 days from the date of release of this Advertisement Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

CMLRE, Kochi CBC - 12110/11/0003/2425 Dated 12.02.2026

#### THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS **PUBLIC NOTICE** I. DEVESWARI DEVI mother of

No 4105533N RFN VIKAS SINGH, 10 GARH RIG, My name is wrongly recorded as DEVESWARI DEVI in the military documents of my son whereas my correct name is DEVESHWARI

As per my son's Army record, my incorrect name recorded as AVADH BIHARI GUPTA, correct name is AVADHA VIHARI GUPTA Aadhar No.367228570210 F/o Army No.18022161X SPR Satyendra Kumar Gupta, VILL.-Hasanpur, POST- Hasanpur, TEH- Sultanpur, DIST-Sultanpur, U.P.-227808

मेरे पुत्र के आर्मी रिकॉर्ड के अनुसार, मेरा गलत नाम पूजा देवी के रूप में दर्ज है, सही नाम पूजा रानी आधार नं.786262354950 M/o आर्मी नं.18022710M सैपर अमन चौहान, गांव– थंबर, पोस्ट– थंबर, तह- बराड़ा, जिला-अंबाला, अंबाला, हरियाणा -133205 है।

मेरे पुत्र के सैन्य अभिलेखोंनुसार, मेरी जन्मतिथि 01.07.1964 दर्ज है, सही जन्मतिथि 02.02.1966 आधार नंबर.673182272672 है। मैं अबूल हुदा F/o आर्मी नं. 14669807F हवलदार अब्दुल मुईद, गाव-कन्टिया, पोस्ट- ऑफिस कन्टिया, तहसील – रामपूरहाट, जिला-बिरभुम, पश्चिम बंगाल-731213 है

#### NOTICE I Hari Krishna Seth son of late Shri Nand Lal resident-7/10 Changal

Mahotla, Karanpur, Dehradun Thana about the loss of registry documents related to my land /property. My contract/ (sale contract letter) documents have been lost somewhere on the way to home near Raipur Chowk. Land/ Property Khasra My land/ property number 7/10, building situated in Bengali Mohalla Dehradun, whose plot area is 3337.00 sq. ft. i.e. 310.13 sq.m. i.e. 370.77 sq. yard, in which area of built-up portior is 128.83 sq.m., book number 1 volume number 1.026, page 331 to 364, number 5877 dated 16,12,2013. The Original documents were in a carry bag which got lost while going home near Raipur Chowk. You are requested to please take appropriate action by registering information/report regarding missin of the applicant's contract/ (sales contract letter). Please inform the same to the legal panel Advocate of Utkarsh Small Finance Bank Dehradun branch, Advocate Mr. Alok Pundir 9412054582, and to Mr. Lalit Kumar an employee of Utkarsh Small Finance Bank GMS Road branch Dehradun. Mobile number 9997360799.

#### <u>Disclaimer</u>

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For advertisement booking 9045057787, 8909212518 Email: pioneerdoon@gmail.com

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### New road safety policy to reduce accidents in mountainous areas of Uttarakhand

### State cabinet endorses many proposals including increase in pension of former MLAs

PNS DEHRADUN

The Uttarakhand government has decided to bring in a road safety policy-2025 to put a check on the number of road accidents in the mountainous areas of the State. A decision in this regard was taken in the meeting of the State cab-inet held at the State secretariat on Wednesday. In the meeting chaired by the chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, a total of 32 issues were discussed.

In the new road safety policy, the transport department has proposed to create 11 new posts of Assistant Regional Transport Officers (ARTO) with an objective of increasing enforcement of regulations and checking of vehicles in the mountainous areas of the State. The new posts of the ARTO are created in the 10 mountainous districts of the State.

The cabinet also decided to raise the pension of former MLAs from existing Rs 40,000 to Rs 60,000. The allowance payable to the former MLAs was also increased from existing Rs 2,500 to Rs 3,000 per year for the number of years served



cabinet also approved the intensive horticulture proposal to increase the travel allowance given to the MLAs during the period in which the house is in ses-

In an important decision, the cabinet approved the proposal to hand over the task of operation of Pravasi Janshakti recruitment agency to Uttarakhand Purva sainik kalyan Nigam Limited (UPNL). The land for the setting up of the office will be provided by the UPNL free of cost.

A proposal to amend the government order on paythe number of years served ment of the incentive to the season and remaining 50 by them as the legislator. The apple growers under the per cent at the end of the ment of the incentive to the

scheme was also approved

by the State cabinet.

The cabinet also approved the plan to reorganise the departmental structure of the election department of the State. In the new structure there will be 387 posts.

The cabinet approved the proposal of the Forest department under which an incentive of Rs 30,000 per year will be given to the village Panchayat level forest fire safety committees. Under the plan 50 per cent of the amount will be given at the start of the forest fire

season after analysing the performance of the village Panchayat fire safety committee concerned. Every such committee will be allotted 500 to 600 hectares of forest area.

The cabinet also approved the plan of the finance department to reduce VAT on the natural (PNG and CNG) gas which will make the tariff at par with the neighbouring States.

In an important decision aimed at pleasing the employees, the cabinet amended the Leave Travel Concession (LTC) rates. In the new plan the employees

having level 10 pay band and higher will be eligible for air travel or first class railway travel. The employees on level VI to IX will be eligible for second class railway fare. The LTC facility is available to the State government employee and his family after completion of five years of service and is given once in 10 years.

In an endeavour to promote winter tourism and tourism activities in the remote areas of the State, the cabinet approved the plan to operate Yatra of Adi Kailash and Om Parvat by M I -17 helicopter.

### Cabinet approves State budget 2025-26

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The Pushkar Singh Dhami cabinet in its meeting held on Wednesday endorsed the State budget-2025-26. The budget estimates are expected to be more than Rs one lakh crore this year. The budget will be tabled by the finance minister Premchand Agarwal dur-

ing the budget session of the Vidhan Sabha commencing in Dehradun from February 18. It was expected that discussions on the proposed land laws will also be held in the meeting but it is learnt that this was not on the agenda.

### 38th National Games set to be a big success: CM Dhami

inaugurating the wrestling and hockey competitions held at the Vandana Katariya National Hockey that the State governingly hone the sporting talents in the youngsters of the State. Sports is offering an alluring career avenue for many," he

The chief minister Pushkar lishing itself as a sports hub. We held in permanent facilities are going the whole way to carrather than in makeshift structures. While expressing concern about youth becoming prey to substance addiction, he said that they should properly occu-



ment's focused approach had resulted in hitherto successful conduct of the 38th National Games. Also, he expressed gratitude on behalf of the people of Uttarakhand to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi for giving the State an opportunity to host the event. "All events of the National Games are progressing smoothly and the players from other States are having a positive experience in Uttarakhand," he said. He expressed satisfaction over excellent sports facilities being provided in the State to the participants to excel themselves. Notably, the State has moved up to the top ten in the medal table, a substantial improvement from the 25th place in the previous 37th National Games held in

Goa. "Uttarakhand is estab-

said, further mentioning the construction of various sports infrastructures in Haridwar

py themselves with developing sporting skills in themselves. "This will not just set individvenues for cycling and other competitions, which are now observed.

### PM to visit U'khand for winter Yatra

PNS DEHRADUN

the Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit the State for the now on-going winter Yatra. Notably, this is the first winter Yatra being organised in the State. "Preparations are underway for the Char Dham

Chief Minister Pushkar Yatra as well," he said. Also, he Singh Dhami said that noted that alongside the noted that alongside the Nanda Raj Jat Yatra in the State, the Ardh Kumbh would be organised on the banks of Ganga in 2027. "We have started preparation well in advance," he said.

### No third-party access to UCC registration data in U'khand: Kukreti

PNS DEHRADUN

 $N^{\text{o}}$  third party will have access to information provided during service registration under the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in Uttarakhand. Only the total number of registrations will be made public without revealing any personal details, the additional secretary, Home, Nivedita Kukreti said. She stated that maintaining the confidentiality of infor mation has been given priority in the UCC and personal details such as name, address, mobile number, Aadhaar number, religion and caste will not be made public at any level. The number of registrations under the UCC will be visible on the official website but no individual information will be accessible. She stated that only the person who has applied for a service under the UCC will be able to seek details related to their own application. If the record-keeping. However,



application was filed jointly, the co-applicant will also have access to the details. No other person will be able to obtain this information. Kukreti said that the data related to UCC registrations will be shared with the local police station for

access to these details will be available to the station in charge only under the supervision of the respective senior/ superintendents of police. Any misuse of information at any level will lead to action as per the applicable rules, she added.

### Cong misleading people on smart meter installation: BJP

PNS DEHRADUN The Bharatiya Janata Party

I claimed that many Congress-ruled states have smart meters installed but the party is creating unnecessary hurdles in Uttarakhand just for the sake of politics. The BJP State media in-charge Manveer Singh Chauhan tricity meters in Uttarakhand. He accused Congress of misleading the public and acting as a barrier to efforts aimed at reducing electricity theft. Chauhan alleged that the opposition does not want Uttarakhand to progress economically or provide better services to consumers. He stated that

smart meters are crucial for

both consumers and the electricity department, ensuring transparency, accurate billing and better financial man-

Chauhan stated that chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami has introduced free stated this in response to the Congress's opposition to the installation of smart electricity benefits, providing 200 units in high-altitude areas and 100 units in plains areas and 100 units in plains. in areas. He stated that smart meters will provide consumers with real-time electricity consumption updates, online access to usage details, automated billing alerts and easy payment options.

He stated that nearly 20 crore smart meters are approved for installation nationwide, with over 55

lakh already in use. Uttarakhand has also completed the selection process for agencies to implement the system. According to Chauhan, smart meters will eliminate billing fraud, reduce consumer complaints and allow users to track their usage through a mobile app. Monthly meter readings will no longer be required and consumers will avoid late fees and billing discrepancies. The system will also improve power management by providing real-time data for better planning. Chauhan said that smart meters are not just beneficial for consumers but also for the electricity department, as they will curb power theft and increase revenue.

### **Congress threatens to start** agitation on smart meter installation

PNS DEHRADUN

The vice president of when the then District Uttarakhand Congress Magistrate of Dehradun Suryakant Dhasmana has said that the decision of the State government to install smart meters is a step in the direction of handing over the electricity generation and distribution system to Gautam Adani. He said that the Congress will oppose the installation of smart meters and soon it will launch a Statewide agitation on the

He said that the manner in which the senior leaders and spokespersons of BJP are listing out the benefits of smart meters reminds one of the similar efforts to highlight the benefits of smart city Dehradun five years ago. Dhasmana said that the people of Dehradun were shocked and felt cheated

abruptly declared the culmination of Dehradun smart city project after spending thousands of crores of rupees on it. He said that despite spending crores of rupees Dehradun city still lacks a proper drainage system. The city continues to suffer from drinking water shortage and no new source of water for the city has been added. The garbage collection in Dehradun is completely dependent on the contractors and the roads of Dehradun are pathetic. Dhasmana said that the installation of smart meters will give no benefit to the consumers and their installation will pave the way for the entry of Adani in the power genera-

tion and its distribution in the

### Prepare plan for exploration of mineral wealth: CS to officers

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Mining department to prepare a comprehensive working plan for exploration of the mineral wealth in the State.

extraction, processing and recycling of critical minerals.

She highlighted the need to Roorkee will have a major role

Chief secretary Radha entrepreneurs for developing leading experts in evaluation, Raturi has directed the methodology for exploration, exploration, extraction, mining sustainability and supply chain analysis of critical minerals while adding that the IIT



The CS chaired a meeting of the officers of Mining department, IIT Roorkee, Monash University Australia and business représentatives held at the State secretariat on Wednesday.

In the meeting the CS asked the Mining department, experts of IIT Roorkee and Raturi also stressed on the necessity of taking the help of

develop a common platform on the principles of cooperation, partnership and complementarity between the State government, education sector and industry for self-reliance in the sector of minerals in the

in this endeavour.

The CS said that special training programmes, workshops and applied research and capacity building need to be strengthened to develop expertise in critical mineral technologies. Secretary Brijesh Kumar Sant and others attended the meeting.

### Cybercriminals dupe Rudrapur municipal commissioner of Rs 1.84 lakh

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The Rudrapur municipal commissioner Naresh Chandra Durgapal has fallen victim to cyber fraud, with cybercriminals siphoning off approximately Rs 1.84 lakh from his bank account. Following his complaint, the police have registered a case against an unidentified individual and have started an investigation. According to the officials, the investigations

complaint filed with the police, the commissioner stated that on February 7, an unknown person accessed his phone without authorisation and withdrew Rs 1.55 lakh and Rs 29,000 from two different bank accounts. According to the police complaint, the fraudsters first installed malware on his mobile device and then transferred the registered bank revealed that the fraudsters number to another unautho-



used malware software to gain unauthorised access to the mobile number linked to the commissioner's bank account. By intercepting SMS notifications, they carried out financial transactions without his knowledge.

The officials said that in the

rised device. Expressing concern over potential future fraud, the commissioner also reported the matter to the national cyber helpline in 1930. The officials said that the police have registered a case under relevant sections and an investigation into the incident is ongoing.

### **Early blooming of Buransh worri**some: Chandi Prasad Bhatt

PNS ■ NEW TEHRI

In a quirky state of things, 'Buransh'- Uttarakhand's State tree- which used to bloom in 'Chait' (March-April) is now displaying its flo-ral beauty in 'Magh' (February) itself. This plant is rich with medicinal value

Botanists, the flowering takes a period of 15-20 days.

Scientifically known as Rhododendron, Buransh is a group consisting of over 1,000 species of woody plants

Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri, Chandi Prasad Bhatt observed that the changes in weather are affecting vegeta-tion as a whole and the early blooming of 'Buransh' is one species of woody plants of the changes being found in belonging to the Ericaceous nature. "The crop cycle and





whose juice is considered good for those who suffer from erratic heart functioning.

Those who are in the know attribute this untimely flowering to global warming and scanty winter rain. As per the

family most of which are known for bright red flowers. It is found in regions with altitude ranging from 5000 to 8,000 feet above the sea level.

The founder of the 'Chipko' Movement and recipient of

the wilds are being affected, too. Many plants which would grow in the hills are disappearing fast. We are all concerned. These must be researched and a solution must be found," he noted.

# No child will be discrimination: SC on Rohingya access to schools

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

 $N^{\text{o}}$  child will be discriminated against in education, the Supreme Court said on Wednesday while fixing for next week a plea seeking a direction to the Centre and the Delhi governments to grant Rohingya refugees in the city access to public schools and hospitals.

The court just wants to know where these Rohingya families are living, in whose house and what are their particulars, a bench of Justices Surya Kant and N Kotiswar Singh said while making the the no discrimination in education point. Senior advocate Gonsalves, appearing for the NGO Rohingya Human Rights Initiative, said he has filed an affidavit giving the details and pointed out that the Rohingya refugees have UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) cards.

It will be easier for the NGO to give the particulars if these Rohingya families have these cards, Justice Surya Kant said. Gonsalves then sought some time to furnish more details to



The top court posted the matter for further hearing after 10 days. On January 31, the top court asked the NGO to apprise the court where the Rohingya refugees have settled in the city and the facilities accessible to them. It also asked Gonsalves to file an affidavit indicating their places of settlement in

Gonsalves said the NGO

sought access to public schools and hospitals to Rohingya refugees as they were denied the access due to lack of Aadhaar cards.

They are refugees having UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) cards and therefore they can't have Aadhaar cards. But for want of Aadhaar they are not being granted access to public schools and hospitals," he sub-



of relief would be different than the one mentioned in the

The PIL has sought a direction to authorities to grant admission to all Rohingya children free of cost irrespective of Aadhar cards and allow them to participate in all examinations, including Classes 10 and 12 and graduation, without government insistence on the

### India, France to develope modern nuclear reactors

India and France on Wednesday expressed an intent to jointly develop modern nuclear reactors, emphasising that nuclear power was crucial for energy security and transition to a low-carbon

The two countries signed a let-ter of intent on Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) and Advanced Modular Reactors (AMRs), according to a joint statement issued after Prime Minister Narendra Modi met French President Emmanuel Macron in

"Prime Minister Modi and President Macron stressed that nuclear energy is an essential part of the energy mix for strengthsitioning towards a low-carbon economy," according to the state-

SMRs are compact nuclear fission reactors that can be manufactured in factories and then installed elsewhere. They typically have a smaller capacity than conventional nuclear reac-

The two leaders also acknowledged the strong civil nuclear ties between India and France and efforts in cooperation on the peaceful uses of nuclear energy,



Prime Minister Narendra Modi and French President Emmanuel Macron during the inauguration of the Indian Consulate, in Marseille, France

notably in relation to the Jaitapur Nuclear Power Project.

They also renewed a memorandum of understanding between India's Department of Atomic and France's Commissariat a l'Energie Atomique et aux Energies Alternatives of France, concerning cooperation with the Global Center for Nuclear Energy Partnership (GCNEP). Both the nations agreed to enhance collaboration in training and education for nuclear professionals. Later on Wednesday, Modi is scheduled to meet US President Donald Trump, with nuclear power expected to be among the topics of discussion.

India aims to generate 100 gigawatts of nuclear energy by 2047 as part of its transition to

clean energy. Earlier this month, the government announced plans to launch a Nuclear Energy Mission with a budget of Rs 20,000 crore to support research and development of SMRs. As part of the initiative, India plans to operationalise at least five indigenously developed SMRs by 2033. To enable private sector participation, the government is considering amendments to the Atomic Energy Act and the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage

At present, nuclear power plants contribute 1.8 per cent of India's total installed power capacity of 462 gigawatts and around 3 per cent of total electricity generation. This helps save around 41 million tonnes of carbon dioxide annu-

### India to host first Global Coalition for Social Justice

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Union Minister of Labour Employment Mansukh Mandaviya will inaugurate first-ever Regional Dialogue on Global Coalition for Social Justice here on February 24-25, an official statement said here on Wednesday.

Giving details, it said Ministry of Labour and Employment in collaboration Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)-Employers Federation of India (EFI) will

host the Dialogue at Bharat Mandapam. This landmark event is a significant contri-bution to the Global Coalition for Social Justice Launched by ILO in 2023 the

Coalition is a platform for governments, employers' and workers' organizations, international and regional organizations, financial institutions and development banks, enterernmental organizations and academia committed to advancing social justice and engaging in collaborative efforts to achieve shared objec-

The Coalition leverages collaboration among partners to amplify the unique strengths of each participant, comprehensively and coherently addressing social justice challenges. As a member of the Asia

Pacific Coordinating Group,

India is spearheading the first 'Regional Dialogue' under the Global Coalition for Social Justice and championing the key intervention "Responsible Businesses for Inclusive and Sustainable Societies" under the Coalition's thematic area of Expanding access to and capabilities for Productive and freely chosen Employment and Sustainable Enterprises."

The Regional Dialogue will bring together nearly 80 Coalition partners from the Asia Pacific region and beyond explore innovative approaches, exchange best practices, and strengthen collaboration to advancing social justice in the region.

The event will also mark the 74th Foundation Day of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC), celebrating its unwavering commitment to ensuring dignified healthcare and economic security for India's workforce.

The ESIC Foundation Day is vital contribution of the organization in fostering social justice through the extension of comprehensive social security benefits for workers and their families in the formal sec-

Discussions will focus on critical dimensions of social justice, including responsible business conduct and social protection, aligning with the Coalition's thematic priori-

### Ayush Ministry, social justice department sign MoU for senior citizens

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

 $M_{
m Department}^{
m inistry}$  of Ayush and Justice and Empowerment signed a MoU on Wednesday to improve the well-being of senior citizens and address the growing concern of substance abuse. This strategic partnership seeks to implement Ayush-based interventions to promote geriatric healthcare and combat substance abuse, Union Ayush Minister Prataprao Jadhav said. He said the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is a pioneering step to develop cooperative initiatives for health promotion among senior citizens and those affected by substance abuse.



"Geriatric healthcare and substance abuse are critical areas that require special focus, especially as we face an ageing population and growing concerns around addiction," Jadhav said.

Gonsalves said Rohingya

refugees resided in Shaheen

Bagh, Kalindi Kunj and Khajuri

Khas areas of Delhi. "In

Shaheen Bagh and Kalindi

Kunj they are residing in slums

and in Khajuri Khas they are

residing in rented accommo-

The top court had said it asked

the questions to understand if

they lived in camps, the nature

dation," he had submitted.

This collaboration between the Ministry of Ayush and the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment (DoSJE) represents a significant step towards addressing these chaltives, we aim to empower our senior citizens and those affected by substance abuse," the Minister stated. While addressing the gathering, Union Minister of State for

"By leveraging the holistic approach of Ayush systems

alongside social welfare initia-

Empowerment B L Verma, said, 'Under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, our government has taken several steps to ensure the welfare of our senior citizens. The signing of the MoU with the Ministry of Ayush will benefit our senior citizens in a big

"The development of elderlyspecific training modules, treatprograms, sharing of preventive and curative practices, etc, under the MoU will go a long way in enabling our senior citizens to lead a healthy life. By joining hands with the Ministry of Ayush, I am sure that together we can provide comprehensive services to the community,"

ment protocols, yoga training

By leveraging the strengths of Ayush systems, both ministries committed to working together on various initiatives, including awareness programmes, capacity-building for service providers and the establishment of geriatric health and deaddiction units under Ayush autonomous bodies. Key objectives of the MoU

include developing coopera-

NEW DELHI

Judicial officers' pension:

Unified pension scheme

notified, Centre tells SC

tion, convergence and synergy between the Ministry of Ayush and DoSJE to foster innovative initiatives for promoting the health of senior citizens, reducing the demand for drugs, addressing substance abuse and aiding mental rehabilitation. This will be achieved through the generation of awareness and capacity-building of service providers using Ayush systems. It also includes encouraging research in the areas of geriatric health, substance abuse and mental health, with a focus on exploring the therapeutic benefits of traditional healthcare practices and supporting additional activities for health promotion tailored to both the geriatric population and individuals affected by substance abuse.

### PM Modi embarks on two-day US visit

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

working visit to the US starting Wednesday and hold a bilateral meeting with President Donald Trump, with New Delhi saying it will give further direction and momentum to this "important partnership".

Modi, who is currently visiting France at the invitation of President Emmanuel Macron, would be among the first few world leaders to visit the United States following the January 20 inauguration after Trump's victory in the US elections last Modi will hold a bilateral meet- India and the US. "The 5.4 mil-

The visit will provide a "valuable **D**rime Minister Narendra opportunity" to engage the new mutual interest, senior officials

> The prime minister's visit to the US at the invitation of President Trump shows the "importance of India-US partnership and is also reflective of the bipartisan support that this partnership enjoys in the US", Foreign Secretary said Vikram Misri said here in a briefing on February seven. Modi will also interact with business leaders and members of the Indian community in the US.

the table besides, besides discussions on regional and international situation.

There is an obvious convergence of interests between the two countries in a number of areas trade, investment, technology, defence cooperation, counterterrorism, Indo-Pacific security, and of course, people-to-people relations," the Foreign Secretary said in the briefing.

The visit is also expected to boost people-to-people ties between

ing with President Trump in both lion-strong Indian community in restricted and delegation-level the US and the more than formats, he said. A range of bilat- 3,50,000 students from India versities strengthen this bond immeasurably," Misri said.

The prime minister's visit to the United States will give further direction and momentum to this important partnership. We expect a joint statement to be adopted at the end of the visit and will share that in due course," the foreign secretary said.

This will be Modi's first visit since the inauguration of the second presidential term of Trump on January 20.

months. The Bombay High Court

however set aside the order on

A bench of Justices B R Gavai and Augustine George Masih heard the submission made by the Centre's coun-

The Centre on Wednesday informed the Supreme

Court that it recently noti-

fied the Unified Pension

Scheme which might address

the concerns of judicial offi-

Attorney general R Venkataramani and solicitor general Tushar Mehta appeared for the Centre and apprised the bench about the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS).

The matter relates to the applicability of the New Pension Scheme to the officers of the district judiciary. "It is the submission of the attorney general as well as the solicitor general that the Unified Pension Scheme may address concerns of all the employees, including the judicial officers," observed the bench.

The court therefore found it appropriate to defer the matter for some time to experi-

Pension Scheme worked and then take a call on the issues at hand. The matter would be heard after 12 weeks.

The case raises concerns over the disbursement of pension to officers of the district judiciary and retired high court judges.

The top court is dealing with salaries, arrears and allowances of the officers of district judiciary.

The finance ministry notified the UPS on January 25 and it promises an assured pension of 50 per cent of the average basic pay drawn over the last 12 months prior

to superannuation.
UPS would be applicable to Central government employees who were covered under the National Pension System and chose the option under the system, according to a gazette notification issued by the finance min-

UPS or assured payout would not be available in case of removal or dismissal from service or resignation of the employee, as per the notification published on

### Supreme Court denies Indrani Mukerjea plea to travel abroad

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW

The Supreme Court on Wednesday dismissed the plea of Indrani Mukerjea, accused of killing her daughter Sheena Bora, against a ruling denying her permission to travel abroad. A bench of Justices M M Sundresh and Rajesh Bindal directed the trial court to conduct the proceedings in the case within a year and upheld the Bombay High Court order refusing her plea. "There is no guarantee that



you will come back. Trial is at an sideration the fact that the trial advanced stage. Taking into conis ongoing, we are not inclined to

consider the request at this stage. We direct the trial court to expedite the hearing and conclude within a year," it said.

Indrani is also an Accused turned Approver in the INX Media bribery case. Former Finance Minister P Chidambaram and son Karti are accused in this case  $\,$ filed by CBI and ED. Indrani confessed before the court that she gave bribes to Karti linked firms to get saved from Income Tax and FDI violations. Opposing the permission, the CBI counsel said it was a sensitive matter and the trial had reached halfway with for 10 days over the next three the examination of 96 witnesses. The counsel for Mukerjea, a former media executive, submitted she was given bail by the top court and 92 witnesses still remained to be examined in the case. She said the trial court was vacant for the last four months and the proceedings could take a long time to conclude.

The travel restriction matter came up in the Supreme Court after a special court on July 19 allowed Mukerjea's plea to visit Spain and the United Kingdom

September 27 after the CBI filed an appeal. Mukerjea moved the apex court against the high court order. In her plea, filed through advocate Sana Raees Khan, Mukerjea said she was a British citizen as she sought permission to visit Spain and her home country for "making necessary changes and amendments and taking care of pending work which cannot be transacted without her personal presence".

#### her mother, who was then visfreely available superpower. You must go out for adequate iting her in Mumbai from Bengaluru, who realised that sunlight and fresh air. Always

thing to me, something happened at work. And, I said, 'No.

reach out for help."
The 39-year-old also said patience is an important virtue and one can only do what's in their control. "So take a short

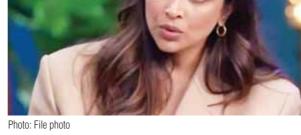
break. Relax the mind. And then address it again. Sometimes, you just (need to) have a fresh take on whatever you are studying. Feeling stressed is quite natural. How we handle it is impor-

tant. It's important to be patient - related to your exams, results or preparations... Sleep well, hydrate, exercise, and meditate,"

#### Deepika Padukone shares stress management tips with students on PM's PPC 2025 PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW town hall format, Modi pre-"To manage stress, talk to your light. From there, my journey ferred a more informal setting parents the night before exams. towards mental health awarethis time and took the students Identify the cause of your stress ness began. Depression, anxiety, Identify the cause of your stress and express it to someto Delhi iconic Sunder Nursery and express it to someone you stress could happen to anyone, can trust," she said during the for his annual interaction with anytime. one you can trust, Bollywood

Boxer MC Mary Kom and spiritual leader Sadhguru have also shared their experiences and knowledge with students on key aspects of life and learning in different episodes of Pariksha Pe Charcha this year.

Padukone, who revealed her depression diagnosis in 2015, said there was a time when discussion around mental health was not encouraged in India.



"Mental health used to be a as I started talking about this ill-

stigma in our country. As soon ness, I started feeling so free,

"Like Shri Narendra Modi ji has

mentioned in his book 'Éxam Warriors' - 'express, never suppress'. When you're preparing for exams, you start feeling better. And you're able to live a happier, healthier life," she told students during the episode of the PPC session which was telecast on Wednesday. Calling depression an "invisible"

illness, the "Pathaan" star said there was a time she was working continuously and one day in 2014 she just passed out. It was

something wasn't ok. They asked me if something happened, someone said any-

anymore. I was lucky in that moment that my mother realised and she decided to call a psychologist," she recalled. When a student asked for tips to care for one's mental health. Padukone shared three point-

"Sleep is very important. It is a

Î don't know what it is. I'm just feeling completely helpless and hopeless. I just don't want to live

#### interaction on PM's Parisha Pe Charcha aired on Wednesday. The actor shared insights on mental health, stress management and how to stay calm during exams at a special session of 'Pariksha Pe Charcha', an annual event in which the Prime

actor Deepika Padukone has

told school students during an

Minister Narendra Modi interacts with students appearing for board examinations. In a shift from the traditional

them ahead of board exams. "I think competition and comparison is a part of life. Competition is not a bad thing, but recognising our strengths and weaknesses, focusing more on our strengths, and working on our weaknesses is probably the only way to do it," Padukone said during the session.

During the session, the actor shared her struggle with depression and also advised the students to learn to derive happiness from their own strengths.

interaction broadcast on Wednesday. Eminent personalities like

# Millions take holy dip in Prayagraj on Maghi Purnima

**BISWAJEET BANERJEE** MAHAKUMBH NAGAR

The ghats of Prayagraj came alive with devotion as millions of pilgrims took a sacred dip at the confluence of the Ganga, Yamuna, and the mythical Saraswati on the auspi-cious occasion of Maghi Purnima. A sea of saffron-clad sadhus, devotees in colorful traditional attire, and spiritual seekers from across the country thronged the banks, creating a surreal atmosphere of faith and celebration.

Government claims that by the end of Wednesday over 2 crore people have taken a dip at

From the break of dawn, chants of "Har Har Gange" echoed across the riverbanks, blending with the sound of temple bells and conch shells. As the golden hues of the rising sun kissed the holy waters, devotees stepped into

the river, some folding their hands in prayer, others bowing completely in reverence. Some wept tears of joy, while others stood silently, letting the sacred moment wash over

"The feeling is indescribable," said Anuradha Mishra, a 62year-old pilgrim from Varanasi. "The moment you step into the Sangam, it's as if all your worries dissolve. This is not just a ritual, it is liberation.

Adding to the divine ambiance. authorities orchestrated a grand floral shower on the devotees. Thousands of marigold and rose petals rained down from atop buildings and helicopters, turning the ghats into a vibrant, fragrant spectacle. The sight left many in awe. "It like the heavens themselves were blessing us,"

28-year-old Ramesh

Tiwari, who had traveled from

Devotees gather to take a holy dip at the Sangam on the occasion of 'Maghi Purnima' bath festival during ongoing Maha Kumbh Mela, in Prayagra

Madhya Pradesh with his family. "I have been coming here for years, but this time,

the energy is truly something else."Despite the enormous footfall, the movement of devotees remained smooth. well-planned arrangements "The Maghi authorities. Purnima snan has been conducted peacefully and efficiently," said a senior government official Anuj Kumar Iha. "Over 40 million devotees have already taken the holy dip. Our entire team is working tirelessly to ensure facilities, crowd management, and sanitation are up to the mark.

According to officials, nearly one-third of India's population has participated in the ongoing Magh Mela's holy baths, a staggering testament to the event's significance.

This is an unprecedented turnout," said Uttar Pradesh DGP Prashant Kumar. "On peak weekends, crowds swell, sometimes causing traffic slowdowns, but our teams work round the clock to keep everything under control. The sheer scale of faith on display here is beyond words.

Key routes such as Andawa to Jhunsi and the Shastri Bridge witnessed a steady flow of pilgrims. Even around the iconic Bade Hanuman Temple, where devotees often queue for hours, the crowd was wellregulated.

The grand event was also marked by spiritual declarations. Former Uttar spiritual Pradesh Shia Waqf Board Chairman Wasim Rizvi, now known as Jitendra Narayan Singh Tyagi after his conversion to Hinduism, took a dip in the Sangam and expressed his joy.

'Sangam Snan is not just about bathing, it is about inner transformation. It fills my soul with bliss," he said, standing on the ghats surrounded by his supporters. He went on to organization aimed supporting those who choose to embrace Sanatan Dharma. "We will provide financial aid to converts, help them establish businesses, and ensure they are welcomed into

announce his plans for a new

society with dignity." His statements sparked mixed reactions among devotees, with some expressing support, while others preferred to focus on the spiritual essence of the

gathering.
The Magh Mela, often considered a precursor to the grand Maha Kumbh, has once again reaffirmed Prayagraj's role as the epicenter of Hindu spirituality.

As Maghi Purnima draws to a close, the energy at the Sangam remains electric, with pilgrims continuing their prayers and taking one last dip before heading home-hearts full, spirits uplifted, and faith

### Defence Minister Rajnath Singh hails Aero India 2025 as historic success

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Wednesday said India is going through a revolutionary phase of transformation, and the country's fighter iets, missile systems, naval vessels are not only protecting our borders but are also becoming the centre of attraction for the entire world. He said this at the indigenisation event and the valedictory ceremony of Aero India 2025 here.

Aero India has reached heights that are not only unparalleled but historic," the Defence Minister said. "I was personally present for the past three days in this event and if I have to express my



experience in three words, it is energy, energy and energy," he

Yelahanka is a manifestation of energy and the energy and enthusiasm could be seen not only among the participants from India but from across the today," he said. world. The enthusiasm seen among our entrepreneurs, our startups and innovators is commendable.

Noting that the country is going through a revolutionary phase of transformation, the Defence Minister said, "We all know that India has historically been dependent on imports for its defence needs. If I look back about a decade ago, 65 to 70 per cent of defence equipment was of defence equipment was being imported into our

"If we look at the situation today, you may call it resolution or a miracle, but almost the same percentage of defence equipment is being manufactured in the country

Rajnath Singh said, "Today we are standing at such a juncture where fighter jets, missile systems, naval vessels, or many such equipment and platforms, are not only protecting our borders but are also becoming the centre of attraction for the entire

"Today, we are exporting everything from artillery to large platforms like Brahmos and Akash missile system to many countries. This is not only increasing our defence exports, but our new partnerships with different countries are also developing and strengthening at the global level," he said.

### Operation Chaturbhuj to monitor devotees

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE MAHAKUMBH NAGAR

Aspecial security operation, Operation Chaturbhuj, was launched to ensure the safety of devotees from across the country and abroad for the holy bath on Magh Purnima in Mahakumbh Nagar.

This initiative was carried out under the directives of Chief Minister reinforcing Adityanath, stringent security measures. Additionally, a dedicated team from the Integrated Command and Control Center (ICCC) was crucial in

establishing a robust security framework by leveraging advanced technology for comprehensive surveillance. special Every aspect of safety, convenience, crime control, and crowd management from Tuesday night onwards was meticulously monitored. The ICCC oversees the fairgrounds and the entire city through 2,750 high-tech cameras, an anti-drone system, and specialized

BJP delegation calls on

Manipur Governor Ajay Kumar

security teams, ensuring round-the-clock vigilance. Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Rajesh Dwivedi emphasized that 24/7 aerial

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Amid a political crisis in strife-torn Manipur,

senior BJP leader Sambit Patra on Wednesday morning called

on Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla at the Raj Bhavan here,

conducted via drones, while arrangements at the ICCC have significantly enhanced crowd management.

He added, "Furthermore, the anti-drone system remains on high alert in Mahakumbh Nagar, actively preventing unauthorized aerial activity. On the auspicious occasion of Magh Purnima, stringent measures were in place to detect and neutralize suspicious drones, ensuring an incident-free and secure environment

### Panchjayat steps up against drug menace in Himachal Pradesh



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

¬wo days after Auhar gram I panchayat here decided to stop facilities for the families whose members are caught with adulterated heroin, another panchayat, Gatwar has also decided to debar the members from receiving benefits.

Deputy Pradhan of Gatwar Panchayat, Ajay Sharma, said that the decision was taken to save the vouths and the society at large from addiction to drugs such as 'chitta' (adulterated heroin).

He said that the various

schemes are being run at the

Panchayat level for the people and actions against drug addicts or the people involved in the business are necessary. The Panchayat has decided if any person is found to be involved in drug consumption or business, a proposal would be brought to deprive the family of any benefits, he added. The

facilities given by panchayats

include facilities provided

under the Below Poverty Line

(BPL), the Integrated Rural Development Scheme (IRDP), the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) and others. Sharma said that the approval of money for building a house, water storage tank and other facilities would not be provided to such families.

The Panchayat has also decided to start an awareness campaign to save the youth from the increasing menace of drug addiction and its ill effects, Gram panchayat pradhan Naval Bajaj said.

Parents are making every effort to provide better education and living standards to their children. However, the youth falling into the trap of drug addiction is a matter of concern for the society. A campaign against drug addiction will be run in every ward and village under the Panchayat. The Panchayat has appealed for cooperation from self-help groups, youth groups, women groups and social service organisations to make this campaign successful.

### Former cricketer Anil Kumble, wife take holy dip in Sangam

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE MAHAKUMBH NAGAR

 $F^{\text{ormer Indian cricketer and}}_{\text{coach Anil Kumble took the}}$ holy dip in Triveni Sangam on the auspicious occasion of Magh Purnima in Prayagraj. Accompanied by his wife, Chaitna Ramtirtha, Kumble immersed himself in the revered waters, embracing the spiritual significance of the occasion.

Later, he shared photos of the event on social media platform X, captioning them with a single word: "Blessed." Kumble expressed that the holy immersion had granted blessings of Prayagraj.



Former Indian cricket captain Anil Kumble prays after taking holy dip at the

him spiritual merit and the Anil Kumble, known for his arrived in Prayagraj on

masterful spin bowling,

Tuesday. However, he chose the auspicious occasion of Magh Purnima for his sacred dip at Triveni Sangam. On this day, no VIP protocols are observed at the Mahakumbh, yet Kumble opted to join the devotees as a regular pilgrim. He boarded a boat to reach the confluence and took the holy dip, accompanied by his wife, Chetana.

The couple offered prayers to Lord Sun and performed traditional rituals before immersing themselves in the sacred waters. Kumble also captured the moment, sharing stunning image of the full moon on Magh Purnima with

### sources said. known.

Patra, the BJP's Northeast incharge, later headed for a hotel, where he is likely to meet party MLAs during the

A BJP delegation led by Patra had on Tuesday met Bhalla at the Raj Bhavan amid a leadership crisis following the resignation of N Biren Singh as the chief minister of the ethnic violence-hit state on February 9.

Meanwhile, experts have warned that with no one staking claim to form the government so far, the BJPruled Manipur may head towards a constitutional

If the situation remains so, the state is likely to be under President's rule, they said. Senior Supreme Court Arunabh Advocate Chowdhury told PTI, "In Manipur, the assembly is a live one... It is not under suspended animation or

It is mandatory to hold assembly sessions as per the Supreme

President's Rule.

Bhalla amid political crisis Obviously, it will lead to a big

constitutional crisis. There is no provision in Article 174 saying that this can be extended or be condoned beyond six

months, he said. Article 174 says that the Governor shall from time to time summon the House or They held discussions for each House of the Legislature some time but the outcome of a state to meet at such time six months shall intervene between its last sitting in one session and the date appointed for its first

sitting in the next session. After six months, it will lead to a constitutional deadlock and the President's Rule under Article 356 is the only option, Chowdhury said.

Article 356 of the Constitution gives the President the power to impose this rule on a state on the advice of the Union Council of Ministers.

Chief Minister N Biren Singh had on February 9 resigned from his post and Governor A K Bhalla accepted the same. He requested the CM to continue in office until alternative arrangements are made.

The Governor has already declared the seventh session the 12th Manipur Legislative Assembly, which was set to commence on February 10, as null and void The last session of the assembly in the restive state concluded on August 12,

#### Aligning technologies with future warfare is not the only answer: General Anil Chauhan maritime domain, apart machines and later it could from surface warfare, be entirely between PIONEER NEWS SERVICE new concepts, create new doctrines, establish new autonomous machines.

Chief of Defence Staff (CDS)General Anil Chauhan on Wednesday said aligning technologies with future warfare is not the sole solution to achieving victory in war. He emphasised the need to develop new concepts and doctrines to complement technological advancements.

Making these assertions in a seminar on aligning technologies with future conflicts at Aero India here, the CDS said "Aligning technologies with future warfare is only part of the solution to achieving victory. You must evolve

organizations for such combat, and build a new culture and processes if you want to win." He added, "Technology will only provide a part of the answer.

Noting that warfare initially

evolved on land before

expanding into the maritime and air domains, the CDS said, "With each new domain, there has been an influence on the preceding one. Even within these domains, significant changes continue to occur." In the land domain warfare has evolved to include terrain-based and urban combat, he said. "In the

battles are now extending underwater-almost to the seabed. In the airspace we are witnessing an expansion into near space." "We need to align technologies to fight in these increasingly complex domains, and that is where technology will assist us," he added.

Speaking on how combat is evolving due t e c h n o l o g i c a l advancements, General Chauhan said, generations warfare has been between human beings but today we are on the verge of redefining this. In the future combat may be between humans and

complex the need to develop technologies for cross-domain operations cross-domain and command emerge, the CDS stressed. "Warfare is also becoming more intelligent battlefield digitisation, the networking of terrestrial, aerial, and satellite systems, and the shift toward data-centric

He also highlighted that

warfare is becoming multi-

domain, meaning that battles will be fought

As warfare grows more

simultaneously

multiple domains.

### Court order. Abhijit Mukherjee quits TMC, joins Congress

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Trinamool Congress leader and former MP Abhijit Mukherjee on Wednesday returned to the Congress after a gap of four years. Mukherjee is the son of former President Pranab Mukherjee.

Mukherjee who joined the Congress in the presence of AICC in-charge Ghulam Ahmad Mir and PCC president Subhankar Sarkar said it was like "ghar wapsi" or homecoming for him. whether When asked

rejoining Congress was a politically correct move, given Congress' condition in the State, he said, "It does not matter what the Congress's situation is. I went there due



to a personal reason, I do not want to disclose.

We carry forward orders, we do what responsibility we are given." Sarkar said that Mukherjee's rejoining the Congress would strengthen

the State party. His joining the Congress days after Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said that she will not ally with the tricolor party which had nothing left in it in the

# CM Mamata Banerjee slams BJP for Kumbh mess

onsequent to Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitaraman's corruption diatribe on Bengal Government, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Wednesday mounted a blistering attack on the Centre and the BJP on a host of issues - including alleged fudging of voters' lists to win elections, mismanaging the Kumbh Mela as also suppressing facts post stampede deaths in Prayagraj and central deprivation of Bengal.

"Tĥose who talk corruption first look into their own acts ...they are embodiment Nirmala corruption...let

stopped grants to us ... even Gujarat own Government is crying for grants...you attack us every time but how will you explain the ghost voters that swell the voters' lists causing you to win elections...from where this 40 lakh votes came," she asked in an apparent reference to the Maharashtra Assembly elections. "You send ED and CBI to

corruptions...she

frighten the opposition into silence but allow your own corruption to go un unchecked," Banerjee said roundly blaming the BJP for winning elections by fudging the voters' manipulating the Election

Commission. Devi control their own Banerjee was speaking to the (DA) for State government to hide the number of

Chandrima Minister Bhattacharva on Wednesday placed the last full-time Budget before the next year's Assembly elections. Saying that she was ready to take on the BJP she said, "though the BJP has introduced lakhs of fake voters from Bihar in the voters' lists (some other

has media after the State Finance

States) ...we will not allow them to do that in Bengal our administration is quite alert about that...we will thwart your plans.' Earlier state Finance Minister Bhattacharya presented a ₹3.89-Lakh Crore budget for 2025-26 with a significant focus on social welfare, and

announced a four per cent hike in Dearness Allowance

employees who had been fighting a long-drawn case in the Calcutta High Court and

State

Government

employees.

then in the Supreme Court would now get a 18 per cent DA as compared to their central counterparts that get 53 per cent. For the first time speaking vehemently on the Kumbh

Mela deaths she said, in other places they ask for setting up commissions but how many commissions they set up after the deaths in Kumbha Mela where there is no account of how many people died... they stopped media from entering the area for full 24 hours... they blocked internet and did everything

rive ...we saw similar things happening during corona...thousands sandals lay strewn in places as testimony to the number deaths during stampede.' About pilgrims had died in the stampede on January 29 at Prayagraj. "There was no plan to

deaths...I was told how dead

manage crowd...everything concentrated on VIP movement...whereas here in Ganga Sagar I do not visit the Mela during the main occasion so as not to create problem in crowd management...this was not so in Prayagraj," Banerjee

### KOLKATA

bodies were thrown in the

warfare," he added.

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-PAPER WITH PASSION-

### **Yunus Govt in the crosshair**

Bangladesh army shifts away from the Yunus Government as it calls for stronger ties with India amid chaos and downward slide

angladesh is currently facing a period of political uncertainty and unrest as the government led by Muhammad Yunus finds itself increasingly at odds with the country's powerful military establishment. The recent statements made by General Waker-uz-Zaman, the Chief of Army Staff, at the Dhaka International Marathon 2025, indicate a significant shift in the military's stance towards the civilian government. His emphasis on peace, stability and international cooperation—particularly with India suggests growing dissatisfaction within the army ranks regarding the Yunus administration's policies and governance approach. The military in Bangladesh has historically played a crucial role in maintaining internal stability, often stepping in when political crises spiral out of control. With political tensions escalating under the Yunus government, the army appears to be distancing itself from the administration, signalling a potential realignment in the country's power dynamics. Several factors seem to be driving



the military's dissatisfaction with the Yunus government. This indicates the military's concerns over the deteriorating economic conditions and increasing social divisions under Yunus's leadership. Persistent political unrest could be damaging to foreign investments and economic growth, both of which are essential for national development.

The military appears to be worried about governance inefficiencies and security concerns, especially as political violence and mass protests become more frequent. The Yunus government's inability to control these disruptions may be viewed as a failure to ensure stability, a key concern for the army. Bangladesh's military

leadership values strong bilateral relations with key regional powers. General Waker's remarks about India underscore the army's desire for a pragmatic foreign policy approach that prioritises stability and mutual benefits rather than ideological stances or populist rhetoric. General Waker-uz-Zaman's statement emphasising India as an important neighbour and a key partner in regional security and economic cooperation suggests a strategic recalibration in Bangladesh's foreign policy. His remarks that Bangladesh "depends on India in many matters" and that both countries should respect each other's strategic interests signal a clear endorsement of closer ties with New Delhi. India and Bangladesh share deep economic linkages, including trade, energy cooperation and infrastructure projects. A stable relationship with India ensures continued economic growth and regional connectivity. Cooperation in counterterrorism efforts and border management is crucial for maintaining peace and stability. Bangladesh's military leadership might be viewing stronger ties with India as a means to maintain a balanced foreign policy, ensuring that Dhaka does not become overly reliant on any single regional power. the balance of power between the civilian leadership and the military will be crucial in determining the country's direction in the coming months.



Devotees perform rituals during the Thaipusam festival at Vadapalani Murugan temple, in Chenna

# Mann ki baat: Leading the global revival of radio.



As we celebrate World Radio Day, Mann Ki Baat reminds us that the essence of communication remains the same—connecting, inspiring and bringing people together

adio is not just a medium; it is a lifeline that transcends borders, connects people and amplifies voices. On World Radio Day, as the world celebrates the power of this enduring platform, India stands at the forefront of a remarkable communication revolution. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's monthly broadcast, Mann Ki Baat, which recently aired its 118th episode, exemplifies how radio is experiencing a renaissance in the digital age, proving to be one of the most effective tools of governance, inspiration, and soft power diplomacy. When UNESCO designated February 13 as World Radio Day in 2011, the objective was clear: to recognise the influence of radio in fostering dialogue, spreading awareness, and bridging communities world-

In India, Mann Ki Baat is a testimony to the enduring power of radio. Launched in 2014, this monthly programme has transformed into one of the largest and most effective communication experiments in the world, reaching millions of listeners not just in India but globally.

With an unparalleled ability to engage audiences through storytelling, Modi's initiative underscores the relevance of radio in an era dominated by digital noise. At a time when many predicted the decline of traditional radio, Mann Ki Baat has revived and redefined its significance.

The programme's strength lies in its simplicity and relatability. Every episode delivers not just policy discussions but also inspirational stories of common citizens, grassroots innovations, cultural heritage and national achievements. The 118th episode was no different, weaving narratives that resonated with the spirit of nation-building, environmental consciousness, and collective responsibility. Beyond its national appeal, Mann Ki Baat has become an instrument of India's soft power diplomacy. The globii indian diaspora tunes in eagerly, fostering a sense of connection with the homeland. The broadcast's reach extends beyond medium. Modi's interactions national boundaries, often being with citizens, his references to



The programme's themes—

Ki Baat.

self-reliance, community-driven initiatives, environmental sustainability and youth empowerment—are not just relevant to India but also resonate with India's neighbours. In an era where integration efforts in South Asia often face political roadblocks, the revival of radio as a medium of cultural and ideological exchange holds immense potential. India's radio diplomacy, through Mann Ki Baat, can become a catalyst for fostering deeper South Asian engagement, promoting shared developmental narratives, and creating common aspirations among regional populations. The 118th episode once again demonstrated how radio can be used as a participatory

**AI FOR PUBLIC GOOD** 

adoption of AI in healthcare, education, finance, labour and transportation is

impacting society on a global scale while

fundamental breakthroughs are being

facilitated by research collabourations

around the world. Its rapid deployment also

creates major challenges in terms of the reli-

ability of information, the protection of

basic rights and accessibility. It is the inter-

national community's responsibility to

maintain balance in our societies and to

craft AI that respects universal values. The

Paris AI Summit has been focused on sev-

eral key themes related to opportunities,

Also, these themes include AI for public

good, for global AI governance, for inno-

vation and culture and for environmental-

ly sustainable AI solutions. The aim of the

summit is to strike a balance between tech-

nological advancement and the preserva-

tion of universal values. The Paris AI

Summit is of significant importance for the

future of AI due to its focus on global gov-

ernance, accessibility and ethical develop-

ment of AI. The AI Action Committee at

Paris, co-chaired by Prime Minister

Narendra Modi, shed light on India and

France's joint work in the five dedicated

working groups to tackle key issues for

tomorrow: Public interest AI, future of

work, innovation and culture Trust in AI

and global AI governance. The role of India

Madam— US President Donald Trump

has virtually dropped another bomb on the

global economy with the announcement

of levying a 25 percent duty on steel and

aluminium imports and reciprocal duty on

all other imports from all countries. India

is one of the largest exporters of steel to the

US. While the world was aware of Trump's

unconventional policies, his blanket threat

to impose reciprocal tariffs-without any

A G Rajmohan | Anantapur

in the Paris AI Summit is laudable.

**US TARIFFS ON ALUMINIUM, STEEL** 

benefits and governance of AI.



AS INDIA **EMERGES AS A** GLOBAL LEADER, LEVERAGING RADIO AS A TOOL FOR SOFT

**PROJECTION ENHANCES ITS IMAGE AS** A NATION THAT **VALUES** DIALOGUE, **SHARED** HERITAGE AND COOPERATION

**POWER** 

letters and messages from listeners, and his emphasis on people-centric governance make Mann Ki Baat an inclusive space for dialogue. Unlike social media platforms that are often fragmented and dominated by echo chambers, radio, through this programme, emerges as a unifying force that connects the masses uninterruptedly and intimately. From the fishermen in Tamil Nadu to the farmers in Punjab, from students in Meghalaya to entrepreneurs in Gujarat, Mann Ki Baat speaks to every Indian, transcending linguistic, geographic, and socio-economic barriers. It harnesses the power of storytelling to amplify the voices of unsung heroes, small businesses, and cultural custodians.

Baat takes it a step further by combining traditional broadcasting with modern digital integration. The program is simultaneously aired on multiple platforms, including community radio stations, AIR (All India Radio), podcasts, and social media channels. This hybrid model ensures that the message reaches every demographic, from the rural farmer with a transistor radio

to the urban professional tun-

ing in via a smartphone app.

On World Radio Day, as glob-

Radio has always been a tool

of influence, but Mann Ki

radio, Mann Ki Baat stands as a shining example of how the medium can be harnessed for nation-building and diplomacy. Countries across the world can draw lessons from India's use of radio as a tool for constructive engagement, leadership communication, and global outreach. In an era where polarization is rampant, radio's ability to create a sense of collective consciousness is more valuable than ever. India, with its vast diversity, has found in Mann Ki Baat a unifying voice that reflects the aspirations of its people. The power of voice, the magic of words, and the intimacy of audio storytelling are elements that make this programme not just a political initiative but a cultural phenomenon.

al discussions revolve around

the revival and impact of

As the world looks for ways to reinvigorate traditional communication platforms, India's example showcases that radio is not just surviving but thriving in the digital age. Mann Ki Baat is leading this revival, proving that in the cacophony of digital noise, the human voice still holds the power to unite and inspire.

The writer is an Associate Professor Centre For South Asian Studies, Pondicherry Central University. Views are

### Breaking barriers: Building a future for women in science



Trailblazing women scientists continue to defy the odds, proving that inclusion is

not just a matter of fairness but a necessity for scientific and societal progress

n the 21st century, where scientific breakthroughs continue to shape our world, the persistent underrepresentation of women in science remains a glaring issue. Women have been at the forefront of some of the greatest scientific achievements across the globe in diverse fields from basic science to space science. Despite these inspiring role models, systemic barriers continue to stifle women's participation in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). It's time we confront these challenges and build a future where women can truly thrive in science. What kind of scientific world are we building if we exclude half of our

population? Without the full participation of women, we lose access to a vast pool of talent, creativity, and innovative solutions that could address some of our biggest challenges. Many girls are discouraged from pursuing science from a young age due to stereotypes that frame these fields as "unsuitable" or "too difficult." The so-called "leaky pipeline" begins to take its toll as early



ed studies and careers.

Even for those who break through these initial hurdles, the challenges persist in higher education and professional life. Women in research face a lack of mentorship, unequal access to funding and systemic biases in hiring and promotions

The numbers speak for themselves: UNESCO reports that only 35 per cent of STEM students globally are women, and their representation in leadership roles remains even lower. In India, the All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) confirms that while the number of women pursuing science has grown, their presence in top research positions and leadership roles is

still dismal. Despite these odds, many Indian women scientists have stand these challenges first-

defied the status quo and achieved remarkable success. Dr Indira Hinduja revolutionised reproductive medicine by developing India's first test-tube baby in 1986 and pioneering the gamete intrafallopian transfer (GIFT) technique. Dr Soumya Swaminathan's leadership as Chief Scientist at the World Health Organization (WHO) played a crucial role in global health policy. Kalpana Kalahasti, a senior scientist at ISRO, was instrumental in India's triumphant Chandrayaan-3 mission and earned a spot in Nature's list of notable figures in 2023. These trailblazers not only pushed the boundaries of scientific knowledge but also broke societal barriers, paving the way for future generations of women in science. Does this make any difference to the society? Society benefits from more inclusive and comprehensive solutions when women are at the forefront of scientific innovation. Areas like maternal health, gender-specific medicine and community health interventions often flourish because of

women scientists who under-

hand. Inclusion isn't just about fairness-it's about enriching science itself. So, how do we move forward? Building a future for women in science requires collective effort on multiple fronts.

We must dismantle the structural barriers hindering women's advancement, provide mentorship programmes and promote policies that ensure equal hiring, funding, and career progression opportunities. Educational institutions should actively encourage girls to pursue STEM fields, while workplaces must offer flexible work environments that allow women to balance personal and professional responsibilities.

It is time to tear down these barriers and build a future where every young girl who dreams of becoming a scientist can do so without limitations. When women are given equal opportunities to contribute to science, we all stand to gain-from groundbreaking discoveries to a more inclusive and prosperous

(The writer is the Dean-Academic Affairs, Garden City University, Bangalore, views are personal)

#### **Gandhi's insight on education** Madam — Artificial intelligence has become a truly global technology. The

THE EDITOR

propos the article "Rekindling Gandhian values in education? ⚠ Mahatma Gandhi wrote a few articles in a simple manner on the value of education that should serve as a big motivation for the students of our country. If the students read those writeups and apply them in the modern perspective, they will surely give a new dimension to our education system. Gandhi played a significant role in value

Organisation's (WTO) mandate to promote free trade by eliminating tariffs, quotas and other restrictions.

The free trade regime in the last 20 years kept inflation in manufactured products under control globally. However, Trump's populist agenda to find jobs for his support base consisting of semi-literate people in the US could damage the US-led alliance based on the Bretton Woods system. While the immediate threat from Trump's tariff on steel and aluminium could be negligible, the Indian economy could face the heat from fleeing foreign investors which could affect stock valuations and rupee weakness which could result in imported inflation.

N Ŝadhasiva Reddy | Bengaluru

**AFFORESTATION NEEDED TO SAVE FORESTS** Madam —It is indeed a matter of concern that a government agency like NHAI is overenthusiastic in felling a huge number of trees but not interested in attending to the compensatory afforestation. The government brought amendments in the exceptions-almost upends the World Trade Forest Act last year, which is sure to reduce

education by emphasising the importance of moral and ethical principles. He encouraged educators to teach values like truth, non-violence and respect for others. He felt that instilling these values in students would help them become responsible and compassionate individuals.

Gandhi described himself as a curious and eager learner during his student days. He valued education and believed that it was essential for personal growth. We have to apply Mahatma Gandhi's ideas on value education as a demand of time. Gandhi's unique and refined views about value education are not only important but are worth applying not only in India but also in the rest of the

Ranganathan Sivakumar | Chennai

the forest cover in the country. Already the country's forest cover has come down from the recommended level of 1/3 to 1/5 of the

land area. Now we can expect further deterioration in the status, as using forest land is permitted for shikar and industrial activities. The centuries-old valuable thick forests in the Northeast are threatened with their very existence in the coming years. Mines are given to private players to hasten the process of exploiting the fossil fuels. This is an act that goes against the concern of everyone over the fast-changing climate. Every mine project begins with the destruction of forests in the vast sheet of hill areas, which will take many decades to reconstruct by afforestation efforts. It is high time the moments to save forests take the form of a people's movement to sensitise all the concerned and save the globe to make it fit enough to live. The apex court's concern conveyed to NHAI is welcome.

Dattaprasad Shirodkar | Mumbai

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### **FIRST COLUMN ONE FAITH ONE WORLD**

It's easy to point fingers when things go wrong, but true growth begins with self-reflection



RAJYOGI BRAHMA KUMAR NIKUNJ JI

Il of us have heard the famous phrase "United We Stand, Divided We Fall" during our school days through the simple story of an old farmer who, on his deathbed, taught the importance of unity to his disunited sons through a bundle of sticks. That story still holds an important place in our society and has even gained popularity because discord, disunity, strife and warfare have assumed unprecedented proportions in the modern world. Today, one of the most arduous challenges that face humanity is to establish harmony among people of different religions.

There is no doubt that political and religious leaders have time and again endeavoured to bring people onto a common platform and find ways and means to forge better understanding and acceptance of each faith. But despite their hard efforts, not much has changed. Hence, the greatest question of all at present is whether can the diverse religions and faiths ever be united. If so, then how? If we walk down history lane, we would find that one of the important reasons why the need for religious harmony originated is that the most



violent wars and conflicts in human history were based on religious intolerance and hatred. It might be a shocking statement, but it's the harsh reality that religions, which are supposed to make people more peaceful and loving, have today become the biggest cause of discord and bloodshed in the world. It's so appalling to see organized groups across the globe sworn to spread terror in the name of religion and carry out ethnic cleansing in the name of removing evil from the world.

If we closely examine the growth of each faith through the centuries, it reveals an interesting pattern. Even though there are some common values and tenets in all faiths, there are far too many misconceptions and conflicting beliefs that have continually fanned mistrust and hostility among the masses. It's quite imperative to know that, at the time of their inception, every religion had the power of purity, truth, and unity.

Gradually, cracks, factionalism, shallowness, delusion, deception and ritualistic adherence devoid of spiritual significance began to appear. Hence, instead of empowering spiritual values, religions perpetuated dogmas, disciplines, and barriers that segregate people on many lines. Many fall prey to the very evils they preach against, such as the lust for power, pleasure and money. There can be better understanding, tolerance, and acceptance of each faith, but there cannot be unity unless there is a single or common belief. So, what's the best way to reach a common solution acceptable to all faiths? According to divine knowledge imparted by the Supreme Almighty, everything in the eternal cycle of the human world drama goes through a change, which means that everything degrades from a perfect state to an imperfect, fragmented state. Be it human souls, nature, religions, or civilisations, almost everything passes through the sato (pure), rajo (mixed) and tamo (impure) stages as the time cycle spins from the Golden Age to the Iron Age.

As of today, we are witnessing the tamo-pradhan (most degraded) stage of all aspects of human existence, and religions are no exception to this process of change. Hence, we can envisage a unified faith only in terms of the spirituality inherent in all faiths. It is said that God is Truth, and true religion embodies that truth. Hence, when humans embrace that truth in their hearts, there will be a unified world. So, let us all stand united with one unified faith to welcome the new world where truth, peace and harmony will prevail.

(The writer is a spiritual educator and popular columnist; views

# The MBA dilemma: Why degrees alone no longer guarantee success



Once considered a guaranteed gateway to lucrative careers, the MBA is under scrutiny as unemployment rates rise—even among graduates from elite institutions



he job market for MBA grad-uates has reached a critical juncture, sparking conversations that resonate with a growing number of aspirants and professionals grappling with the changing realities of employment. Once seen as a surefire ticket to high-paying corporate roles, the MBA degree is scrutinised for relevance in an evolving economic landscape. This issue is not confined to India alone; even graduates from elite institutions like Harvard, Stanford, and Wharton feel the squeeze. The Wall Street Journal recently reported that in 2024, 23 per cent of Harvard Business School's MBA graduates were jobless. Other top-tier business schools like Stanford and Wharton have seen similar dips, with unemployment rates hovering around 20 per cent. The problem is not just limited to the

United States. According to the International Labour Organisation's Global Employment Trends for Youth 2024, 13 per cent of the global youth labour force was unemployed in 2023 a staggering figure representing nearly 65 million people. This unsettling trend makes traditional, generalist MBA degrees less appealing than targeted skill certifications. A recent Forbes report highlighted how some MBA graduates have succeeded by lowering their expectations and opting for less conventional roles. In an era where industries are shifting dynamically, the rigid, cookie-cutter MBA model is struggling to keep pace. The need for a 360-degree reimagination of this degree has never been more press-

Degrees Alone Won't Cut It Anymore One fundamental truth is becoming evident: degrees alone no longer guarantee job or entrepreneurship security. The future belongs to professionals who continuously upskill and adapt to meet the ever-changing demands of the workforce. What used to be a clear, structured career trajectory for MBA graduates-typically leading to consulting, finance, or management roles—is now blurred. The stark reality is that a prestigious qualification, while valuable, no longer provides



USED TO BE A CLEAR. **STRUCTURED CAREER** TRAJECTORY FOR MBA **GRADUATES**— **TYPICALLY** LEADING TO CONSULTING FINANCE, OR MANAGEMENT

ROLES—IS

NOW BLURRED

immunity against unemployment or underemployment. Even more telling is the global shift in job seekers' mindsets. While travelling to Canada, I recently observed an MBA graduate running a salon branded "MBA Barber Shop." This reflects an important realitymany skilled gig jobs are vital for holistic growth, but traditional academic pathways have often dismissed such careers as unworthy. Yet, most developed nations respect one's skills rather than qualifications or family background. We must ask: Why doesn't Indian society do the same?

Skill Respect Over Degree

The changing job landscape demands a fundamental shift in how we perceive employment, education, and career success. Skill acquisition is about individuals learning new competencies and families being sensitised to alternative career paths. It is about communities understanding the implications of an evolving job market. It is about cities and regions acknowledging and respecting those who possess the skills necessary to sustain a livelihood, irrespective of whether they hold an MBA or a B.Tech degree.

The MBA has been a gateway to professional and financial success for decades. However, the economy's evolution demands a departure from this narrow thinking. In India and many other countries, social conditioning has led to an unspoken hierarchy of professions. White-collar corporate roles are celebrated, while vocational or blue-collar jobs are often overlooked. This mindset is outdated and damaging in a world where adaptability and skills matter more than mere academic credentials.

A 360-Degree Skills Revolution What we need now is a complete rethinking of education and skill development. The traditional MBA

must evolve from a broad-spectrum business degree into a dynamic, skills-focused program that integrates emerging industry trends. A 360-degree approach should include everything from finance to marketing and HR. MBA programmes must incorpo-

rate niche skills such as data analytics, digital transformation, sustainability management and entre-preneurship in beauty-wellness, the most emerging sector. Instead of theoretical coursework, there should be a stronger focus on apprenticeships, live projects and problem-solving in real-world business scenarios.

Understanding AI, automation, and emerging technologies should be a core part of the curriculum to prepare graduates for future-ready roles. Rather than treating entrepreneurship as an alternative, business schools should actively promote and equip students with the skills to start and sustain their ventures. Business schools must recognise the gig economy's rise and train students to navigate freelance and contract-based work models. Beyond Livelihood—Dignity in

Redefining career success means placing equal value on all forms of work. Whether a person is an MBA graduate managing a corporate division, an AI consultant, a skilled tradesperson, or a self-employed barber, their ability to contribute meaningfully to society matters. The prestige of a job should be measured not by its title but by its impact and sustainability.

Parents, educators, and policy-makers have a role in fostering this change. We must instil in young minds that success is not confined to traditional white-collar professions. Regardless of their chosen field, a skilled individual should be celebrated just as much as a corporate executive. If an MBA gradua chef, a salon owner or a renewable energy technician, they should be seen as pioneers, not failures. The Need for Institutional Change

Educational institutions must move beyond outdated frameworks and align themselves with industry demands. Business schools should foster adaptive thinking, preparing students for unconventional but lucrative career paths. The focus should be on problem-solving, digital proficiency, and entrepreneurial agility rather than rigid academic theories.

Governments and industries should also contribute by incentivising skill-based education. Scholarships, subsidies, and awareness campaigns can help shift societal perspectives on what constitutes a respectable and rewarding career.

Conclusion: A Future Built on Skills Once a golden ticket to corporate success, the MBA faces an existential crisis. If it is to remain relevant, it must undergo radical transformation. A degree is no longer a guarantee; what truly matters is an individual's ability to adapt, innovate, and deliver value in an ever-changing world.

As a society, we need to support and encourage young professionals in their quest to discover their true potential—even in jobs that were once considered "odd." In reality, no job is odd; what matters is its necessity and impact. By embracing a 360-degree perspective on skills and careers, we can build a more inclusive, resilient, and future-ready workforce. The time for change is now.

(The writer is a Co-Founder and MD of Orane International, a Training Partner with the National Skill Development Corporation, and a Network Member, of India International Skill Centres. View express are

### Ethics-driven AI in predictive healthcare: Building a foundation of trust and accountability

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is revolutionising predictive healthcare, offering early disease detection, personalised treatment plans and improved patient outcomes

n today's rapidly advancing healthcare landscape, Artificial Intelligence (AI) plays a transformative role, particularly in predictive healthcare. AI's ability to analyse vast datasets enables early disease detection, personalised treatment plans and improved patient outcomes. The global AI in healthcare market, valued at approximately \$15.4 billion in 2022, is projected to surge to \$187.95 billion by 2030, growing at a compound annual growth rate

(CAGR) of 37 per cent. Yet, with this potential comes a responsibility to ensure that AI is used responsibly, ethically, and equitably. Establishing a framework prioritises privacy, fairness, transparency and accountability is essential to protect patient rights and



maintain public trust. The Power of AI in Predictive Healthcare AI's role in predictive healthcare is primarily driven by machine learning and data analytics, empowering it to forecast diseases, assess risk factors, and recommend preventive measures. By examining patterns in comprehensive datasets, such as medical histories, genetic profiles, lifestyle information and real-time health data, AI can predict the likelihood of conditions ranging from diabetes and cardiovascular diseases to complex ailments like cancer and Alzheimer's.

This shift from reactive to preventive care can ease the burden on healthcare systems and improve patient quality of life. For example, AI-based diagnostics for diabetic retinopathy have shown an accuracy rate of over 87 per cent, enabling early detection and timely intervention. Similarly, IBM Watson's Oncology AI has achieved 90 per cent accuracy in cancer treatment recommendations

that align with those of human

oncologists. However, to har-

ness AI's potential responsibly, it's crucial to address the ethical challenges it introduces. Safeguarding Data Privacy and Security

The ethical use of AI in healthcare hinges on the responsible management of patient data. Predictive healthcare AI relies heavily on sensitive information, including medical, genetic, and behavioural data. Yet, the need for privacy is ever more pressing—72 per cent of Americans express significant concerns about data privacy in AI applications, particularly in healthcare.

In 2022, nearly 50 million healthcare records were exposed to data breaches in the United States, underscoring the need for strong data security protocols. To protect this information, AI systems must



measures such as encryption, anonymisation and regular audits

Patients should also provide informed consent, clearly explaining how their data will be used and stored. By centring data protection in Aİ development, healthcare can ensure patient confidentiality and foster the trust necessary for AI's that AI systems trained on cent of healthcare providers

continued adoption. Addressing Bias for Fair and **Equitable Predictions** 

Al's reliance on historical data introduces the risk of bias, which can lead to predictions that disproportionately impact certain demographic groups. Research has shown that AI models trained on biased data result in 35 per cent more misdiagnoses for Black and Hispanic patients compared to white patients. In healthcare, such biases could exacerbate disparities for marginalised opulations.

Ensuring fairness requires AI systems trained on diverse, representative datasets, as well as continuous monitoring and adjustments to detect and correct biases. A study published in Nature Medicine found

inclusive datasets significantly reduce diagnostic discrepancies, underscoring the importance of inclusivity in training data. Collaboration with healthcare professionals and ethicists is also vital to developing AI solutions that are equitable and serve all patients effectively.

Promoting Transparency and Explainability in AI Models The complexity of AI algorithms often results in "black box" decision-making, where the reasoning behind predictions is not fully understood by users or developers. In predictive healthcare, this lack of transparency can hinder trust and adoption among patients and healthcare providers alike. In a survey by the American Medical Association, 67 per

expressed reservations about using "black-box" AI systems, highlighting the need for explainable Al.Currently, only 23 per cent of AI-based diagnostic tools meet explainability standards to ensure transparency. By developing interpretable models, researchers can make AI's decision-making processes accessible to healthcare providers, enabling them to communicate AI-driven recommendations clearly and fostering patient involvement in care decisions.

As AI continues to advance, a strong ethical framework will be essential to uphold public trust and ensure that AI-driven healthcare remains a force for good.

(The writer is CEO, Medvarsity; views are

# Trump admn battles lawsuit Leaders of Indonesia, Turkiye hold talks on defence, economic ties to block USAID dismantling

The Trump administration I will present an unforgiving argument for dismantling the US Agency for International Development to a federal judge Wednesday: USAID is rife with "insubordination" and must be shut down for the administration to decide what pieces of it to salvage. The argument, made in an affidavit by political appointee and deputy USAID administrator Pete Marocco, comes as the administration confronts a lawsuit by two groups reprefederal employees.USAID staffers deny insubordination and call the accusation a pretext to break up the more than 60year-old agency, one of the world's biggest donors of

humanitarian and development assistance.accounts of USAID staffers filed Tuesday in support of the lawsuit revealed new details of the destruction of the agency. That includes a sworn statement from a USAID staffer describing a specific leader in billionaire Elon Musk's Department of Government Efficiency teams allegedly directing USAID staffers on

programs without proper authorisation or process. US District Judge Carl Nichols, an appointee of President Donald Trump, dealt the administration a setback Friday in its dismantling of the agency, temporarily halting plans to pull all but a fraction of USAID staffers off the job

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Trump readies matching tariffs on trade partners

Washington (PTI): President Donald Trump is taking additional action to upset the world trade system, with plans to sign an order as soon as Wednesday that would require that US tariffs

ers, even if by Trump's own admission the import taxes could involve some financial pain in the form of inflation and economic disruptions. For all of Trump's talk, the impact will on imports match the tax rates charged by other

"It's time to be reciprocal," Trump told reporters earlier this week. "You'll be hearing that word a lot. Reciprocal. If they charge us, we charge

The president had suggested that the order would come on Tuesday or Wednesday. But when Tuesday passed without the tariffs being officially announced, Trump was asked if he would sign the order on Wednesday and Trump answered: "We'll see what happens" As Trump has unleashed a series of tariffs after being in power for less than a month, he has fully taken ownership of the path of the US economy. It's a bet that his economic ideas can eventually deliver meaningful results for vot-

likely depend on the details of the tariffs and how other nations respond. A reciprocal tariffs order could amount to a sub-

stantial tax hike to be shouldered largely by US consumers and businesses as the Census Bureau reported that the country had total

imports of USD 4.1 trillion last year. The tariffs could set off retaliatory measures by trading partners that could roil growth around the globe and reset where the United States stands with allies and rivals alike. By signing the order, Trump would fulfil his long-standing pledge to raise taxes on most imported goods, a clear break with his recent White House predecessors who saw tariffs as either targeted tools to use strategically or barriers worth

hear arguments Wednesday motion shows the administraon a request from the employtion pressing arguments by Vice President JD Vance and ee groups to keep blocking the move to put thousands of others questioning if courts have the authority to check Trump's power. "The staffers on leave as well as broaden his order. They con-Trump's power. "The President's powers in the realm of foreign affairs are generally vast and unreviewable," govtend the government has already violated the judge's order, which also reinstated ernment lawyers argued. USAID staffers and supporters USAID staffers already placed on leave but declined to suspend the administration's call the aid agency's humanitarian and development work security.

attorney for the employee associations, told the judge last week.The American Foreign

American Federation of Government Employees argue that Trump lacks the authority to shut down the agency without approval from Congress. Democratic lawmakers have made the same argument. In an affidavit ahead of Wednesday's hearing, Marocco, a returning USAID political appointee from Trump's first term, presents of agency workers stalling and orders to abruptly cut off funds for programs worldwide and was the only way to ... faithed.Staffers deny resisting the funding freeze.

Service Association and the

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan met his Indonesian counterpart Prabowo Subianto on Wednesday for talks aimed at strengthening economic and defence ties between the two

Muslim-majority nations. The two countries are holding their first High-Level Strategic Cooperation Council summit after agreeing to create the forum at a meeting in Bali in 2022.Erdogan's state visit to Indonesia, the world's most populous Muslim-majority country and Southeast Asia's largest economy, was his second stop in a four-day visit that also includes Malaysia and Pakistan.

'This meeting is the highest

between the two countries where all matters of common interest will be discussed, including strategic issues and something to be taken seriously," Erdogan said. Erdogan and his wife, First Lady Emine Erdogan, arrived priorities," said Indonesian foreign ministry spokesperson Rolliansyah Soemirat ahead of the visit.

A Turkish statement said the discussions will be focused on current regional and global issues, particularly the war in

On Monday, the Turkish leader met Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim, and reiterated his opposition to a US proposal to relocate Palestinians from Gaza and said Israel should pay for the territory's reconstruction.

We do not consider the pro posal to exile the Palestinians from the lands they have lived regular bilateral forum in for thousands of years as

in Jakarta late Tuesday and was welcomed by Subianto at Halim Perdanakusuma International Airport in a light rain. Erdogan rode with Subianto in a motorcade to his

hotel.

Indonesia and Turkiye have built an increasingly close relationship in recent years, and the two leaders previous-ly met in Ankara last July when Subianto was still president-elect and defence minister. Subianto pledged to "elevate defense cooperation and other strategic fields for mutual benefit".

The two countries signed a defense cooperation agreement in 2010, under which

Indonesia's state-run arms producer Pindad and Turkiye's FNSS jointly developed a new model of medium tank. In 2023, the two countries inked a plan of action for joint military exercises and defence industry cooperation.

In addition to Indonesia, Turkiye has HLSCC cooperation forums with 21 other countries, including Pakistan. Turkiye and Indonesia plan to sign agreements on trade, investment, education and technology during Erdogan's

Erdogan will head on to Pakistan on Wednesday, where he and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will address the Pakistan-Turkiye Business and Investment Forum and attend another HSLCC meet-





President Donald Trump, greets Marc Fogel at the White House, Tuesday.

# against Duterte

**Investigators** 

file criminal

complaints

Manila (PTI): Philippine government investigators filed criminal complaints, including sedition, against Vice President Sara Duterte on Wednesday over her public threat to have the president assassinated if she herself was killed in an escalating political content. killed in an escalating politi-

cal storm. Bureau National Investigation Director Jaime Santiago said at a news conference that the complaints of inciting to sedition and grave threats against Duterte were filed at the Department of Justice, which would decide whether to dismiss the com-plaints outright or elevate

them to court.
The vice president, a lawyer and daughter of former President Rodrigo Duterte, reacted briefly by saying that she had expected the move by the NBI. She has accused her political rivals of taking steps to prevent her from seeking the presidency when President Ferdinand Marcos Jr's term ends in 2028. The vice president's father himself, whose presidential term ended in 2022, is facing legal troubles. The International Criminal Court has been investigating the widespread killings under a brutal anti-drug crackdown he oversaw while in office as a possible crime against humanity.Sara Duterte ran as Marcos' vice presidential runwhirlwind political alliance, however, quickly frayed and deteriorated into a bitter feud

has long been hamstrung by clashing political clans. Last week, the vice president was impeached by the House of Representatives on a range of accusations that included her threat to have Marcos, his wife and House Speaker Martin Romualdez killed if she herself were fatally attacked in an unspecified plot that she brought up in an

in an Asian democracy that

also included allegations of largescale corruption and misuse of her office's confidential

### UN: Abuses against Hindus, Ahmadiyya muslims during protests

PTI UNITED NATIONS

Ankita Shekhawat, vide affidavit dated 12/02/2025 before Notary Public Delhi. PD(1470)C I, Kumari Priyanka, D/o- JC-472136N Sub Hony Capt

Mahender Singh, R/o- Vill-Unchi Bhandor, Post- Beri, Teh & Dist- Mahendergarh, Haryana- 123029, have changed my name from Kumari Priyanka to Priyanka Rani, vide affidavit dated 12/02/2025 before Notary Public Delhi. PD(1471)C

I, Kumari Ankita Shekhawat

D/o- IC-472785Y Sub Jaswant Singh, R/o- Vill & PO- Pardoli

Badi, Teh & Dist- Sikar,

Rajasthan- 332041, have

changed my name from

Kumari Ankita Shekhawat to

I, Sapana Tanwar D/o- JC-472758P Sub Suresh, R/o-Vill & PO- Khudana, Dist-Mahendragarh, Haryana-123029, have changed my name from Sapana Tanwar to Sapna Tanwar, vide affidavit dated 12/02/2025 before Notary Public Delhi.

PD(1472)C I, Rama Shankar Singh, Father of- JC-472158M Sub Rakesh Kumar Singh, R/o-Vill- Banakara, Post-Pashuhari, Teh- Belthara Road, Ballia, U.P.- 221715, have changed my name from Rama Shankar Singh to Ramashankar Singh, vide affidavit dated 12/02/2025 before Notary Public Delhi.

PD(1473)C I, Kunti Devi, Mother of- JC-I, Pooja W/o Manoj Sharma R/o House No.-74, Gali No.-2, 472735N Sub Sanjeev Kumar, Vaishali, Dabri, Delhi-110045 R/o- H. No.- 31, Vill & POhave changed my name to Churiyala, Thana- Bhojpur, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201201, have changed my Father of name from Kunti Devi to Kanti, vide affidavit dated L/Nk 12/02/2025 before Notary Nuchchundi, Public Delhi. R/o-Vill & PO-Shivapur, Teh-

PD(1474)C I, Mohani Devi, Mother of-JC-472136N Sub Hony Capt Mahender Singh, R/o- Vill-Unchi Bhandor, Post- Beri Teh & Dist- Mahendergarh, Haryana- 123029, have changed my name from Mohani Devi to Mohini Devi, vide affidavit dated 12/02/2025 before Notary Public Delhi.

No.8038827X L/Nk PD(1475)C Manjunath Nuchchundi, I, Pramila Devi, Mother of-R/o-Vill & PO-Shivapur, Teh-JC-472158M Sub Rakesh Gokak, Dist-Belgaum, Kumar Singh, R/o- Vill-Karnataka- 591312, have Banakara, Post- Pashuhari, changed my name from Teh- Belthara Road, Ballia, U.P.- 221715, have changed Doddavva to Doddavva my name from Pramila Devi Basappa Nuchchundi, vide to Parmila Devi, vide affidavit Affidavit dated 12/02/2025 dated 12/02/2025 before before Notary Public Delhi. Notary Public Delhi.

PD(1469)C

Human rights abuses were inflicted on some members of Bangladeshi Hindu, Ahmadiyya Muslim, and indigenous communities during anti-discrimination protests and report said.

"Bangladesh's former govern-ment, security and intelligence services, alongside violent elements associated with the Awami League party, systematically engaged in a range of serious human rights violations during last year's student-led protests," the report by the UN Human Rights Office said.

The report said that in the aftermath of the fall of the Sheikh Hasina government last year, "widespread attacks were reported against Hindu homes, businesses, and places of worship, especially in rural and historically tense areas such as Thakurgaon, Lalmonirhat, and Dinajpur, as well as other places such as Sylhet, Khulna, and

Rangpur". The report said this destruction was especially prevalent in areas perceived to be sympathetic to the Awami League as Hindus have often been stereotypically associated with this political fac-

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) Fact-Finding Report: 'Human Rights Violations and Abuses related to the Protests of July and August 2024 in Bangladesh' also documents "troubling instances" of retaliatory killings and other serious revenge violence targeting Awami League officials and supporters, police and media as the former government started to lose control of the country. Hindus, Ahmadiyya Muslims, and indigenous people from the Chittagong Hill Tracts were also subjected to human rights abuses. While some 100 arrests about attacks on distinct religious and indigenous groups have reportedly been made, the perpetrators of many other acts of revenge violence and attacks on such groups still enjoy impunity," the report said.

It added the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights interviewed Hindu business owners and homeowners in some of these areas who reported that their businesses, houses, land and

religious sites had been targeted while shops owned by Hindus were also looted. "The violence often involved property destruction, arson, and physical threats, compounded by insufficient police responses, suggesting systemic impunity, ventions from these political politic: it said.

One interviewee said that Hindu funeral sites and temples were vandalized in Thakurgaon, and other witnesses described that after attacks on their property, approximately 3,000 4,000 Hindus from those villages fearing communal violence sought refuge near the border with India.

Affected families reported a pervasive sense of insecurity and heavy financial losses, with many losing essential items, livestock, and whole businesses, the report said.

The report further said that witnesses and victims' accounts provided to one source indicated that attacks were primarily carried out by individuals involved in "victory processions" celebrating the Hasina government's collapse. "While the identity of the perpetrators in these attacks was not always

clear, witnesses to some of the incidents testified the attackers were local supporters of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), Jamaat-e-Islami, and other organised groups." However, there were also inter- and other local sources report-

lence. After August 6, there were localised efforts by BNP, Jamaate-Islami, student groups, and social organisations to protect houses and places of worship of the Hindu community, the report said. BNP, Jamaat-e-Islami, Students

against Discrimination leaders, and Interim Government Chief Advisor Mohammed Yunus all made public statements condemning the violence, it noted. Several allegations were reported of violent mobs coercing Hindu headmasters and teach-

ers to resign. The report added that "some local members and supporters of the BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami opposition parties bear responsibility for human rights abuses committed during revenge attacks, including against members of the Hindu community". The report noted there had been a longer record of attacks

ed attacks on places of worship Ahmadiyya, Buddhist, and Christian communities across several regions.

According to information submitted to OHCHR, three temples were attacked and set ablaze, along with the looting of approximately 20 houses, in Burashardubi, Hatibandha, and Lalmonirhat, reflecting significant levels of community unrest. There was also an arson attack in Meherpur on a temple of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON), it said. Specific incidents reported to OHCHR also underlined the complexities surrounding these attacks. "For example, the Kali temple in Nandipara was attacked on August 7, but, upon investigation, it became clear the damage stemmed not from religious intolerance, but rather a local dispute over land ownership," it

on places of worship, especially temples and shrines, in Bangladesh.

In terms of the period under

consideration in this report,

between August 5 and 15, media

online news conference in November. The impeachment complaint, which was signed by majority of the more than 300 members of the House, which is dominated by Marcos' allies,

### Relatives of Israeli hostages terrified as Gaza ceasefire teeters

PTI TEL AVIV

A fter 16 months of excruciating uncertainty, Idit Ohel finally received word this week that her 24-year-old son, a hostage in Gaza, is still alive. She said she fainted upon hearing the brutal details of his captivity from freed hostages who had been held with him by Hamas since October 7, 2023. Bound by chains in an underground tunnel, Alon Ohel has subsisted on a piece of bread or less each day. "He hasn't seen sunlight in 493 days," she told reporters on Monday. As the fragile ceasefire between Israel and Hamas seems increasingly at risk of falling apart — Hamas says it will not free three hostages on Saturday as planned, and Israel says it's ready to resume the war if it doesn't — families of the hostages are struggling to main-PD(1476)C tain hope. They are pleading with

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu not to give up on the ceasefire framework, and to speed up the timeline of releases if possible. Their worries about the ceasefire collapsing have been exacerbated by President Donald Trump's demand that all of the hostages be freed by Saturday — and his insistence that Gaza be emptied of all Palestinians and redeveloped as a tourist enclave controlled by the United States.The emaciated state of three hostages released last Saturday has infuriated Israelis and terrified families of the remaining hostages, especially as more details come out about the conditions of their captivity. The situation is especially difficult for relatives of hostages who are not on the list of 33 hostages expected to be released in the ceasefire's first, six-week phase, which began on January 19.The agreement requires Israel

to free 2,000 Palestinian prisoners and detainees, whose families are also worried about how their enemy treats them. Two hostages released on Saturday, Or nostages released on Saturday, Or Levy and Eli Sharabi, were held together with Alon Ohel, and a fourth hostage, Eliya Cohen. The four were held underground since their kidnapping, Idit Ohel said.Cohen is expected to be released in the ceasefire's first stage; Ohel would be freed in the second stage, if Israel and Hamas reach that point. Levy, Ohel, and Cohen were kidnapped from a bomb shelter near a music festival in southern Israel, along with Hersh Goldberg-Polin, an American-Israeli who was killed in captivity in August.

"It breaks my heart to know he was chained and to know what happened to him in the tunnels from people in the tunnels," Cohens fiancée, Ziv Abud, 27, told reporters on Tuesday.

The returned hostages said that Cohen had lost more than 20 kilograms (44 pounds) and had a bullet in his leg that did not receive medical attention. While they were with him, Cohen was unaware that Abud had survived the Hamas attack on the bomb shelter where they were hiding. During the October 7 attack militants tossed grenades and sprayed bullets inside the concrete bomb shelter near the music festival, where almost 30 people had crammed inside. At least 16 people inside the shelter were killed. Abud said she was protected by the crush of bodies above her. Going in and out of consciousness, she spent hours laying beneath the bodies of her nephew and his girlfriend. For families of hostages who are not scheduled for release in the first phase of the ceasefire, its uncertainty is even more difficult to

#### Berlin (PTI): Germany's outgo-ing government on Wednesday extended by six months the border checks it imposed on all its frontions last fall as it its frontiers last fall as it attempts to cut the number of migrants arriving in the country, an issue that has become a

Germany extends border

controls by six months

top issue in the campaign for the February 23 election. Chancellor Olaf Scholz said his

government notified the European Union's executive commission of the extension to September 15. "With the border controls, we are pushing irregular migration down successfully. The figures prove this," he said.Germany turned back 47,000 people back at its borders, seeing one-third fewer asylum requests year-on-year and arresting 1,900 smugglers. The country was already controlling its borders with Poland, the Czech Republic, Austria and Switzerland before it

extended the checks last September to its remaining borders, with France, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Belgium and Denmark. The EU has a visa-free travel

area known as Schengen that allows citizens of most member states to travel easily across borders for work and pleasure. Switzerland also belongs to Schengen although it is not an EU member. According to the EU, member

states are allowed to temporarily reintroduce border controls in cases of a serious threat, like internal security. But it also says border controls

should be applied as a last resort in exceptional situations, and must be limited in time. German opposition leader Friedrich Merz, the front-runner in the election, wants to go further than the current govthe pioneer

### **US Defence secy** makes first visit to **NATO** with allies

**PTI** BRUSSELS

US Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth on Wednesday made the first trip to NATO by biggest security organizaa member of the new Trump administration, as the allies European partners during wait to learn how much mili- his first term in office by tary and financial support threatening not to defend Washington intends to provide any member that doesn't

Defence Secretary John NATO is founded on the Healey, before a meeting of the principle that an attack on Ukraine Defence Contact any ally must be considered Group at NATO headquarters an attack on them all and met in Brussels. Hegseth's prede- with a collective response. cessor, former Defence Membership is considered Secretary Lloyd Austin, set to be the ultimate security up the forum for drumming guarantee, and it's one that up arms and ammunition for Ukraine in 2022.

the United Kingdom. All previous gatherings of the forum were chaired by the United However, a third of members States.

who might chair the next meeting, if one is called.

new weapons for Ukraine. His trip comes less than two no member has reached so weeks before the third far — not even Poland, which anniversary of Russia's full- is the closest, spending more scale invasion of Ukraine on than 4 per cent and expect-February 24, 2022. Most US ed to approach 5% this year. allies fear that Russian President Vladimir Putin Germany on Tuesday, won't stop at Ukraine's borders Hegseth wouldn't commit to if he wins, and that Europe's having the US increase its biggest land war in decades defense spending to 5 per

their security US President Donald Trump that the US should spend has promised to quickly end more than it did under the the war. He's complained that Biden administration and it's costing American taxpayers too much money. He has per cent." suggested that Ukraine should He said any final decision pay for US support with access would be up to Trump, but to its rare earth minerals, added that "we live in fiscalenergy and other resources. ly constrained times" and Some US allies worry that a need to be responsible with hasty deal might be clinched taxpayer money. on terms that aren't favorable to Ukraine. On top of that, Trump appears to believe that European countries should take responsibility for Ukraine's security going for-

PUBLIC NOTICE mar Jha who is purchasing the Seco Numar Jna who is purenasing the Secone loor without roof rights towards fron Middle/Northern Portion of built-up Property bearing Plot No.10 and 11, area neasuring 560 sq.yds., approx.. comprised in Khasra No.298/1min, situated Mata Mohalla in the abadi of Lal Dora Mata Mohalla in the abadi of Lal Dora at Mata Mohalla in the abadi of Lal Dora Willage Gadaipur, Village Gadaipur, Near Allahabad Bank, Tehsil hauz Khas (Mehrauli) New Deihi-110030 from Mr. Ram Kishan Kaushik & Mr. Tilak Raj Bhatia GPA Holder of Mrs. Krishna Kalra & Mr. Yatin Kalra and same to be financed & mortgaged by Aditya Birla Housing Finance Ltd. That, Mrs. Krishna Kalra and Mr. Yatin Kalra became owners vide Sale Deed dated 07-11-2022 (Document No 9961) executed by Mr. became owners vide Sale Deed dated 07:11-2022 (Document No.9961) executed by Mr. Amrik Singh, Mr. Vishwa Bandhu Sachdeva, Mr. Hafij Ahmed. Further, Mrs. Krishna Kaland Mr. Yatin Kalra executed Regd. GPA Dated 05-09-2024 in favour of Mr. Ram Kishan Kaushik and Mr. Tilak Raj Bhafia. So, to comply the requirements of BANK/NBFC, we give this public notice that if any Person having any type of claim/right/tille/interest/creating mortgage over the said property, may inform in writing, at the address mentioned below, about his objections, within 15 days from today, failing which it shall be presumed that the said property is free from all type of Encumbrances, lien etc. Lucem Legal LLP

ward. Washington's 31 NATO allies also want to hear what Trump's new administration has in store for the world's tion. Trump traumatized his to Ukraine's government. meet NATO guid Hegseth held talks with UK military spending. meet NATO guidelines for

Ukraine is trying to secure. Ukraine's security needs and Over nearly three years, defense spending will be disaround 50 countries have colcussed on Thursday. lectively provided Ukraine European allies have hiked more than USD 126 billion in their military budgets since weapons and military assis- Putin ordered his troops into tance. But the meeting this Ukraine, and 23 are estimatweek was convened by anoth- ed to have reached or exceeder country for the first time: ed last year the target of spending 2 per cent of gross domestic product.

still haven't reached that No decision has been made on threshold, and Trump is almost certain to target them again. Recently, Trump called Hegseth wasn't expected to for NATO members to make any announcement on increase defense spending to 5 per cent of GDP, a level that Speaking to reporters in poses an existential threat to cent of GDP.

Hegseth said that he believes should not go lower than 3"

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Public is hereby informed that my client Ab Hamid Slo Abdul Wahid R/o House No 878/33A, Ward No. 6, Pil Khana, Mehrauli South Delhi, Delhi-110030 has renounced disowned and severed all their relations with his from all the self-acquired movable as well a immovable properties belonging to my client. Abdul Sahil will not stake for any claim of any nature whatsoever in the said properties of my lient any person dealing with Abdul Sahil will do

at his own risks and perils.

Ramesh Kumar Advocate, Off:- M-1,

Notice is hereby given that my client Veena Sharma is the owner as well as one of the shareholder in Giraffe Advertising and Marketing Private Limited is in process to avail the credit facility against her Plot Bearing No. 8A, area measuring 305 sq. yards i.e. 317.778 sq. mtts, out of Khasra No. 301, in the revenue estate of village Prahad Carhi, Tehsi and District Ghazabad, U.P. quayling boan from AU Small Finance Bankh, having acquired the same vide Sale Deed dated 268/2024 Do no.11231 executed by Gurpreat Singh Bala All personis having any claim against or in respect of the said Property, or any part thereof, by way of sale, exchange, mortgage (equitabletregistered or otherwise), grift, trust, inheritance, family arrangement, maintenance, bequest, partnership, possession, lease, sublease, tenancy, license, lien, charge, pledge, easement or otherwise howsoever, are hereby requested to notify the same in writing to us with supporting documentary evidence at the address mentioned below within 07 days from the date hereof, falling which the claim or claims, if any, of such person or persons will be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned. Kamal Kant Gurpt (Advocate) Unit No. FF-2, First floor, Mahaluxmi Metro Tower Sec-4, Valshali, Gzb., U.P., Mob. 9810063351

THE KANGRA CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD.

APPENDIX IV (See rule 8/1)) POSSESSION NOTICE (For immovable property)

The undersigned being the Authorised officer of "The Kangra Co-operative Bank Ltd.", Head office at, C-29, Community Centre, Pankhis Road, Janak Puri, New Delhi - 110058, having its registered office at 1916, Chuna Mandi, Pahar Ganj, New Delhi-110055, under The Securitisation and Reconstruction of the Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule [3] of The Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Bank had issued a demand notice on dated 25-09-2024 calling upon or Sh. Atul Tyagi Sio. Sh. Naresh Tyagi, 739, LIG Flats, Pkt-II, Hastsal, Uttam Nagar

New Delhi-110059, also at Sh. Atul Tyagi Sio. Sh. Naresh Tyagi, B-18A, Rama Park, Uttam Nagar

New Delhi-110059 and calling upon the Mongagor & Surety Smt. Preeti Tyagi Wio. Sh. Naresh Tyagi, R/o. 739, LIG Flats, Pkt-II, Hastsal, Uttam Nagar,New Delhi-110059 also at Smt. Preeti Tyagi

Wio. Sh. Naresh Tyagi B-18A, Rama Park, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059 calling upon the sunth Sh. Mayur Tyagi S/o. Sh. Naresh Tyagi R/o. 739, LIG Flats, Pkt.-II, Hastsal, Uttam Nagar

New Delhi-110059, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs. 45,75,718/- (Rupees For

Five Lakhs Seventy Five Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighteen Only), together with further interest penal interest and other charges as are applicable to this Loan account from time to time, from the date or

hereby given to the borrower, mortgagor, sureties and the public in general that the Bank has taken

Symbolic Possession of the property described here in below in exercise of powers conferred under sub-section (4) of section 13 of The Securitisation and Reconstruction of the Financial Assets &

Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, read with rule [8] of The Security Interest (Enforcement Rules, 2002, on this 06th day of February' 2025.

The borrower, mortgagor & sureties in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to

deal with the mortgaged property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of "The Kangra Co-operative Bank Ltd.", for an amount of Rs. 45,75,7184- together with further

interest, penal interest and other charges as are applicable to this Loan account from time to time from the date of notice till the date of realization together with all the costs incurred by the Bank in

The borrower, mortgagor & sureties: attention is also been invited towards provisions of Sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of The Securitisation and Reconstruction of the Financial Assets & Enforcement of

Security Interest Act, 2002, in respect of time available, to redeem the below mentioned mortgage

The property under All that part and parcel of the BUILT UP ENTIRE PROPERTY BEARING

EAST: ROAD 30' WIDE, WEST: ROAD 15' WIDE, NORTH: PLOT NO. B-19, SOUTH: PORTION

Sub-Registrar-II, Janakpuri, New Delhi

NO.B-18-A, AREA MEASURING 125 SQ. YDS., OUT OF KHASRA NO. 571, SITUATED IN THE AREA OF VILLAGE NAWADA AND THE

COLONY KNOWN AS RAMA PARK, IN BLOCK-B, UTTAM NAGAR,

NEW DELHI-110059, WITH THE FREE HOLD RIGHTS OF THE LAND

(MEENAKSHI VATS)

**AUTHORISED OFFICER** 

THE KANGRA CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD.

PANKHA ROAD, JANAKPURI, NEW DELHI-58.

UNDER THE SAID PROPERTY. Falling Under the Registration of

the notice till the date of payment, with in 60 days from the date of receipt of the notice. The above mentioned borrower, mortgagor & sureties having failed to repay the amo

ealizing the said amount.

consideration is an

Entire Built Up

measuring 125 sq.

DELHI

DATED: 06-02-2025

WHICH IS BOUNDED AS UNDER:

Since Mr. Anoop Singh S/o Azad Singh seeking a home loan from INDIAN OVERSEAS BANK for the property i.e. House no 60, area measuring 239.2 sq. yds., Block-F, situated at Village Fazilpur Jharsa & Tikri, Vipul World, Sector-48, Tehsil Badshapur and District Gurugram, Haryana; hereinafter referred to as "said pronerty".

Gurugram, Haryana; hereinafter referred to as "said property".

That, the said property was transferred several times. That. Mr. Jagdish Chander (80%) and Yogesh Kumar (20%) was owner through Sale Deed 11905 dated 01.02.022. Thereafter, they have transferred between themselves 1/3rd Share Each ie. Jagdish Chander (33.33%). Mr. Yogesh Kumar (33.33%) and Mr. Parvesh (33.33%) through transfer deed 1579 dated 0.3.05.2024. Finally, Mr. Parvesh (33.33%) has transferred his right to Mr. Jagdish Chander (16.665%). Therefore, Mr. Jagdish Chander (50%) and Mr. Yogesh Kumar (16.656). Therefore, Mr. Jagdish Chander and Mr. Yogesh Kumar were absolute owners of the said property. Therefore, Mr. Anoop Singhis purchasing the said property. If anybody is having any objection, claim, interest, its appreciated et also the above intended sale transaction. Mr. Anoop Singh is purchasing the said property, f anybody is having any objection, claim, interest dispute for the above intended sale transaction neisherthey may contact the undersigned with the locumentary proof substantiating his/her/thein objections/claims/details of dispute/s wither seven (7) days from the date of this publication ray come to our Delhi office, failing which. Mr Anoop Singh will proceed to complete the sale ransaction with the above owners as if there are no third party claims/objections/disputes in spect of the said property and thereafter in claims/objections/disputes will be entertained and moved forth accordingly.

orth accordingly.

M/S PASS & ASSOCIATES LLP
B-132, L.G.F, Malviya Nagar
v Delhi-110017, Mob: 9991116006

**PUBLIC NOTICE** 

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to general public at large that my client Axis Bank Limited, having one of its Branch at Ground Floor, Tower-I, Axis House, Sector-128, Noida, Uttar Pradesh intends to grant Loan facility to Sh. Pradeep Sharma against security of DDA's Janta Flat bearing No.60, in Block B, in Pocket-11, on Third Floor, in the layout plan of Housing Estate Jasola, situated at Jasola, New Delhi. hereinafter referred to as "Said Property". Smt. Usha Rani Wo Sh. Darshan Singh acquired the Said Property from Smt. Sarita Chauhan Wo Sh. Neeraj Chauhan vice Sale Deed bearing Doc. No. 4429 on 26.03.2022, who died intestate on 17.08.2022 leaving behind her only son Sh. Gurvinder Singh Sodhi as per SMC No. 90660000163951 dated 26.09.2022 issued by office of the District Magistrate Kalkaji, who intends to sell the Said Property to Proposed Borrower. Any person(s) Property to Proposed Borrower, Any person(s has/have any objection(s) or claim(s) with respect to right, title or interest in the said property/portion in any manner whatsoever mus property/portion in any manner whatsoever, mus immediately contact the undersigned in writing along with all supporting documents in respect or their claim(s)/ objection(s). If no such claim is received with in a period of 7 days from the dat of publication of this notice, then it will be presumed that no one has any paramount right title, or interest in the Said Property and even in someone has any claim/objection, he/she/they, have given un the same. have given up the same.

Himanshu Ahuja (Advocate) Contact No.: 9810310373, 011-41830049 E-mail Address: alolegals@gmail.com

Place: Village Amhera (Amroha)

Date : 12th February 2025

**FOR SALE** 

FOR IMMIDIATE SALE 300 SQ YDS. 12 MTR ROADE 2/12 DLF PHASE-1 GURGAON. **PRASHANT WADHWA SHANT** 

**PROPERTIES 1**-9891555575

LOSS OF ID CARD is to bring to the notice of the eneral public that one ID card of Raveena ssued by ICICI Bank Ltd. Having ID Card No. 2511336 has been found missing nd/or lost on 11-02-2025. Anyone, wh find the said ID Card, is requested to return the said ID Card to The Manager Debt Services & Management Group, ICICI Bank Limited, Plot No. 7, Community Centre, S.D. Tower, Sector-8, Rohini, N Delhi-85.

**PUBLIC NOTICE** 

imited are hereby notified not to make any payment to any unauthorized person olding the said ID Card No. 2511336 naking payment to any person holding the said ID card shall do so at his/her own costs, risk and peril and ICICI Bank shall not be bound and/or responsible for any

Therefore, all the customers of ICICI Bank

For ICICI Bank Limiter Date: 11.02.2025

PUBLIC NOTICE be known to all, SURESH CHANDER SAH O LATE SH. OM PARKASH SAHU & SM' JMAN RANI SAHU W/O SH.SURES! IANDER SAHU both R/O HOUSE NO.33 DPKHANA BAZAR,STREET NO.4,AMBAL TOPKHANA BAZAR, STREET NO.4, AMBALA CANTT., HARYANA-133001 allottee/owner of IGF FLAT NO.50, SECOND FLOOR, BLOCKE-1, POCKET-4, SECTOR-34, ROHINI, DELHII, have applied for certified copies conveyance deed in DDA. The original documents i.e. POSSESSION LETTER, NOC FOR WATER AND ELECTRICITY CONNECTION of the above said flat have been lost, and IR NO.2579346/2025 dated 12/02/20 25 to this effect has been lodged in P.S. Crime Branch, Delhi. Any person(s) claiming any right, interest, having any objection or found in possession of original documents, may writer contact with above named person at above Address/Phone No.8860292988 within 153da from the date of publication of this notice. The Address/Phone No. 8860292988 within 150ays from the date of publication of this notice. The person claiming any right, interest, objection with respect to this property, can personally inform or write to Deputy Director (Housing). Delhi Development Authority, Vikas Sadan, New Delhi-110023.



Capacity". Estimated cost Rs.55,10,00,000/-. Last date & time of submission of bid: 12.03.2025 up-to 17:15 Hrs. Refer our website for details https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocurec/app.

Name of the Work "Design, Fabrication Supply, Erection and Commissioning of one no. of Stacker 4000 TPH

**PUBLIC NOTICE** 

Public Notice regarding cancellation of property

This Public Notice is from M/S JKG Construction Pvt Ltd for Mr Tarun Kumar bearing unit no. C1-1405 at JKG Palm Court, Plot No. GH-01D, Sector 16C, Greater Noida West, Uttar Pradesh-201009.

We have offered possession of your allotted unit in February 2021, basis which we have shared final demand notice of unit C1-1405 on  $09.04.2022,\ 02.06.2022,\ 16.08.2022,\ 07.10.2022,\ 17.08.2024,$ 24.082024 & 26.08.2024 you failed to make the payment as per final demand notice. Hence we have cancelled your allotted unit via cancellation intimation letter dated 02.12.2024. Neither got any response from your end nor we have received any payment so far which tantamount to your tacit acceptance that you are no more interested in taking possession of the said flat.

Hence your allotted flat C1-1405 is being cancelled on 16.01.2025, as such the allotment has become null & void and you have no claim on the dwelling unit and your deposited amount shall be refunded as per BBA Claus.

For M/S JKG Construction Pvt Ltd

#### PRAKASH WOOLLEN & SYNTHETIC MILLS LIMITED

Regd. office. 18th KM Stone, Delhi Moradabad Road, NH24, Village-Amhera, Distt: J.P.NAGAR-244102, U.P. CIN-L17291UP1979PLC004804 PH: 91-9760091983, Email: info@prakashwoollen.com, Website: www.prakashwoollen.com

#### Extract of Standalone Unaudited Results for the Quarter Ended 31/12/2024

(Rs in lakhs) Quarter ended Nine months ended Year Ende 3 months Preceeding Corresponding Year to date Year to date ended figures Year 3 months 3 months figures year (31.12.2024) ended in the to for the ended ended for current (30.09.2024 orevious vear period ended previous 31.03.2024) (31.12.2023) (31.12.2024)vear ended 31.12.2023 4889.55 10214.36 1. Total income from operations (net) 5707.87 2827.13 9922.14 9029.26 Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before (338.34)(191.42 173.71 (582.85)18.51 Tax and Exceptional items 3.47 Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax and after Exceptional items (191.42 3.47 18.51 Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after (496.07) (99.13 172.70 (626.79)13.88 95.97 tax and Exceptional items Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax) (496.07 (99.13)172.70 (626.79) 13.88 79.80 Equity Share Capital 1025.98 1025.98 1025.98 1025.98 1025.98 1025.98 (Face value Rs 10 each) Other equity Earnings per share for discontinued & continuing operations (of Rs. 10/-each): 0.94 (6.11) (a) Basic (6.11) 0.94 (b) Diluted (0.97 1.68

The above results were reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at their respective meetings held on February 12, 2025

2. The standalone results have been prepared in accordance with the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015 (Ind AS) prescribed under Section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013 and other recognised accounting practices and policies to the

The company is engaged in the blankets business, therefore, there is only one reportable segment in accordance with the Accounting Standards on Segment Reporting (Ind AS 108). Hence segment reporting is not applicable to the company.

4. The blankets business is seasonal in nature and accordingly financial results for the quarter are not representative of the whole year 5. Previous year/ quarter figures have been regrouped wherever required.

By Order of The Board For Prakash Woollen & Synthetic Mills Limited Vijay Kumar Gupta Whole Time Director & CFO DIN: 00335325

#### ORIENTAL NAGPUR BETUL HIGHWAY LIMITED Regd. Off.: Unit No 307A, 3rd floor, Worldmark 2 Asset Area No 8 Hospitality Dist. Delhi Aerocity, New Delhi - 110037.

E-mail: onbhlinvestors.relations@orientalinfratrust.com; CIN: U45400DL2010PLC203649 FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND NINE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024 (₹ in Millions)

SI. No.	Particulars	Quarter Ended 31.12.2024 (Un-audited)	Quarter Ended 31.12.2023 (Un-audited)	Year Ended 31.03.2024 (Audited)
1	Total income from operations (net)	1,019.67	952.42	3,918.30
2	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period ( before Tax and Exceptional items)	469.78	497.03	2,020.75
3	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional items)	469.78	497.03	2,020.75
4	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional items)	436.37	495.83	1,973.07
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	436.79	495.87	1,973.09
6	Paid up Equity Share Capital	181.35	181.35	181.35
7	Reserves (excluding (excluding Debenture Redemption Reserve)	8,541.15	7,692.75	8,269.23
8	Securities Premium	3,443.66	3,443.66	3,443.66
9	Net Worth	10,099.19	9,479.21	9,942.89
10	Paid up Debt Capital/Outstanding Debt	17,830.28	20,098.18	18,969.53
11	Outstanding Redeemable Preference Shares	-	-	-
12	Debt Equity Ratio	1.77:1	2.12:1	2.13:1
13	Earnings Per Share (of Rs 10/- each)			
	1. Basic:	24.09	27.34	108.80
	2. Diluted:	24.09	27.34	108.80
14	Capital Redemption Reserve	-	-	-
15	Debenture Redemption Reserve	1,376.70	1,605.12	1,491.82
16	Debt Service Coverage Ratio	1.03:1	1.10:1	1.14:1
17	Interest Service Coverage Ratio	2.06:1	2.01:1	2.00:1

Notes:

Date: February 12, 2025

a) The above is an extract of the detailed format of the un-audited financial results filed with the Stock Exchange under Regulations 52 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the un-audited financial results are available of the National Stock Exchange (NSE) and the listed entity (http:// www.nagpurbetulhighway.in).

For the other line items referred to in Regulation 52(4) of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, pertinent disclosures have been made to the Stock Exchange and are available on the websites of the National Stock Exchange (NSE) and the listed entity (http://www.nagpurbetulhighway.in).

These un-audited financial results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors of the Company at its meeting held on February 12, 2025.

d) The financial results of the company have been prepared in accordance with Indian Accounting standard prescribed under Section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013.

> For and on behalf of Board of Directors of Oriental Nagpur Betul Highway Limited

Rajesh Yadav DIN: 08397240 PUBLIC NOTICE

Singh Bhati and Abhishek Bhati claims 208. Block-B. Sec-46. Noida. U.P. hereinafter called the said property) by virtue of Transfer Deed Cum Gift Deed dated 03.02.2025 executed by Rajesh Bhati through GPA holder (His Brother Dharamvir Singh Bhati reg vide Doc. No 682 R/w Transfer Deed dated 14.09.2007 reg. vide Doc. No. 2893, and Said Dharamvir Singh Bhati and Abhishek Bhati has agreed to create a mortgage in favour of our clients Standard Chartered Bank ITO Branch, any person/s having claim against the said Property, or any part thereof, by way of sale, exchange, mortgage (equitable registered or otherwise), gift, trust heritance, lien or otherwise howsoeve are hereby intimated to notify the same in vriting to us with supporting documentary evidence at the address mentioned below within 10 days from the date hereof, failing which the claim or claims, if any, of such person or persons will be considered to nave been waived and/or abandoned and our client shall proceed with the disbursement of loan and subsequen creation of mortgage in respect thereof. Vishal Diwan (Advocate

FEDDERS ELECTRIC AND ENGINEERING LIMITED diNEERING website: https://imcapitals.com/fedders-electric-engineering/ STATEMENT OF UNAUDITED STANDALONE FINANCIAL RESULTS

- 1	FOR THE THIRD QUARTER ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024 (Rs. in Crore								
١			Standalone						
l		Particulars	Quarter Ended	Nine Months Ended	Quarter Ended				
١		Particulars	31.12.2024	31.12.2024	31.12.2023				
١			(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)				
l	1	Total Income from operations	93.72	337.27	191.54				
l	2	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax	3.57	31.28	41.01				
	3	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax (after Extraordinary items)	3.97	31.08	41.01				
	4	Total Comprehensive Income/(Loss) for the year(Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the year (after tax)and Other Comprehensive Income/(Loss)(after tax)]	2.33	30.21	41.05				
l	5	Equity paidup share capital	30.00	30.00	30.00				
١	6	Earnings per share (Not annualised) :							
١		Diluted (₹)	1.32	10.36	13.67				
l		Basic (₹)	1.32	10.36	13.67				
1	4 TI		and address A	udit Committee	0 annuariad b				

The above results were reviewed and recommended by the Audit Committee & approved by the Board of Directors at their respective meetings held on 11th February, 2025. The Financial results for the Third quarter ended 31st December, 2024 have been limited reviewed by the Statutory Auditors of the Company. The above is an extract of the detailed format of Unaudited Standalone Quarter ended filed

with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Unaudited standalone Results are available on the Stock Exchange websites, www.bseindia.com & www.nseindia.com and on the company website https://imcapitals.com/fedders-electric-engineering/

For and on behalf of the Board of Directors of Fedders Electric and Engineering Limited -sdVISHAL SINGHAL (Managing Director)
DIN: 03518795

VISHAL SINGHAL (Managing Director) DIN: 03518795

SANEH INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENTS LIMITED Regd.Office: Delton House 4801 Bharat Ram Road 24 Daryaganj New Delhi -110002

CIN: L74899DL1980PL060079, Phone No. 011-45795859, Website: https://saneh.in/, E-mail: sanehltd@gmail.com STATEMENT OF UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND NINE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024 (Rs. in Lakhs

			Standalone		Consolidated		
S. No.	Particulars		Nine Month ended 31.12.2024	ended 31.12.2023			ended 31.12.2023
		Unaudited			Unaudited		
1	Total income from operations (net)	4.10	4.10	1.07	18.52	26.47	23.93
2	Net Profit for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and / or Extraordinary items)	3.41	0.27	(0.28)	16.83	20.84	19.31
3	Net Profit for the period before Tax (after Exceptional and / or Extraordinary items)	3.41	0.27	(0.28)	16.83	20.84	19.31
4	Net Profit for the period after Tax (after Exceptional and / or Extraordinary items)	3.06	(0.07)	(0.28)	10.04	9.03	19.31
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit for the period (after tax) and other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	880.20	1,371.25	287.01	3,316.41	5,145.05	1,105.91
6	Equity share capital (Face Value of Rs.10/- each)	24.00	24.00	24.00	24.00	24.00	24.00
7	Earnings Per Share (before extraordinary items) (Face Value of Rs. 10/- each)						
	(a) Basic (Rs.)	1.28	(0.03)	(0.12)	4.18	3.76	8.05
	(b) Diluted (Rs.)	1.28	(0.03)	(0.12)	4.18	3.76	8.05

Place : Delhi

1) The above is an extract of the detailed format of Unaudited Quarterly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchange under Regulation 33 or the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly Financial Results an available on the Stock Exchange Website (www.cse-india.com) and on Company's Website (https://saneh.in/)

The above results have been prepared in accordance with principle and procedures of Indian Accounting Standards (Ind AS) as notified under the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015 as specified under section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013.

The above Unaudited Financial Results (Standalone and Consolidated) were reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors of the Company at their respective meetings held on February 11, 2025.



For and on behalf of the Board Vivek Gupta Director (DIN NO.: 00035916)

CIN No.: U40108HR2015PTC055470

Regd. Office: ReNew Hub, Commercial Block-1, Zone-6, Golf Course Road, Corporate Office: Renew Hub, Commercial Block-1, Zone-9, Gon Course Road,
DLF City Phase-V, Gurugram 122009, Haryana, India
Corporate Office: Renew Hub, Commercial Block-1, Zone-6, Golf Course Road,
DLF City Phase-V, Gurugram 122009, Haryana, India Phone No.: 124 489 6670/80
Statement of Standalone Unaudited Financial Results for the quarter and nine months ended December 31, 2024

(Amounts in INR millions, except share and per share data, unless otherwise stated) Quarter ended | Quarter ended | Quarter ended | 9 months

	31 December 2024	30 September 2024	31 December 2023	ended 31 December 2024	ended 31 December 2023	ended 31 March 2024
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	Audited
Total Income from Operations	40	35	40	126	122	238
Net Profit for the year (before Tax,						
Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	46	41	32	144	129	182
Net Profit for the year before tax (after						
Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	46	41	32	144	129	182
Net Profit for the year after tax (after						
Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	35	30	23	107	96	134
Total Comprehensive Income for the year						
[Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period						
(after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income						
(after tax)]	35	30	23	107	96	134
Paid up Equity Share Capital	21	21	21	21	21	21
Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve)	6,601	6,567	6,431	6,601	6,431	6,494
Secuirties premium	6,063	6,063	6,063	6,063	6,063	6,063
Net worth	6,642	6,608	6,497	6,642	6,497	6,534
Paid up Debt Capital / Outstanding Debt	2,898	3,114	3,259	2,898	3,259	3,259
Outstanding Redeemable Preference Shares		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Debt Equity Ratio	0.43	0.47	0.50	0.43	0.50	0.49
Earnings Per Share* (face value of						
per sahre INR 10) (for continuing and						
discontinued operations)						
1. Basic:	8.69	7.42	5.67	26.33	23.46	32.89
2. Diluted:	8.69	7.42	5.67	26.33	23.46	32.89
Capital Redemption Reserve	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Debenture Redemption Reserve	116	95	33	116	33	53
Debt Service Coverage Ratio*	2.04	2.12	1.57	2.15	3.88	3.05
Interest Service Coverage Ratio*	1.71	1.55	1.49	1.70	2.02	1.92
Current Ratio	5.73	4.59	4.51	5.73	4.51	4.11
Long Term Debt to Working Capital	0.69	0.70	0.73	0.69	0.73	0.73
Current Liability Ratio	0.22	0.27	0.27	0.22	0.27	0.30
Total Debts to Total Assets Ratio	0.25	0.24	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.24
Debtors Turnover Ratio*	0.32	0.27	1.06	1.00	1.44	1.90
Inventory Turnover Ratio	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Operating margin (%)	60%	61%	69%	62%	70%	47%
Net profit margin (%)	89%	85%	57%	85%	78%	56%
*not annualized						

Notes :

Ratios have been computed as follows:

- Net worth: Issued subscribed and paid up capital + instrument entirely equity in nature + reserves and surplus. - Reserves and Surplus includes General reserve, Debenture redemption reserve, Securities premium account

and Profit and loss account balance. Debt Equity Ratio = Total Debt (Long-term borrowings + Short-term borrowings) / Shareholder's Equity Earning per share = Profit after tax / Weighted average number of equity shares

Debt Service Coverage Ratio = (Net Profit after taxes + non-cash operating expenses + interest + tax expense)

(Interest payment + Long Term Debt Principal repayments)

Interest Service Coverage Ratio = Profit before interest, tax, depreciation / Total Interest Expense

Current Ratio = Current Assets / Current Liabilities

- Long Term Debt to Working Capital = Non- Current borrowing including current maturities of Non-current

borrowings/ (Current Assets - Current Liabilities excluding current ...maturities of Non-Current borrowings) Current Liability Ratio = Current Liabilities/ Total Liabilities

Total Debts to Total Assets = Total long term outstanding debts/ Total Assets Debtors Turnover = Revenue from operation/ Average trade receivables

The above is an extract of the detailed format of quarterly financial results filed with the Stock Exchange under regulation 52 of the Listing Regulations. The full format of the quarterly financial results is available on the website of BSE Limited (URL: https://www.bseindia.com). For the other line items referred in Regulation 52(4) of the SEBI (LODR) Regulations, 2015, the pertinent

disclosures have been made to the BSE Limited and can be accessed on the URL: https://www.bseindia.com

The Statement has been prepared in accordance with recognition and measurement principles laid down in accordance with the Indian Accounting Standard 34 " Interim Financial Repporting" ("IND AS 34") as prescribed under Section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013 ('the Act') read with Rule 3 of the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015 and relevant rules issued thereunder and other recognized accounting practices and

The financial results of the Company have been approved by the Board of Directors in their meeting held on 12th

The Company is carrying out business activities relating to generation of power through non-conventional and renewable energy sources and allied services in the state of Telangana. There is only one segment (business and/or geographical) in accordance with the requirements of Ind AS - 108 "Operating Segments".

NCD's of the Company has been rated "CARE A+ (CE)/Stable by CARE Limited wide letter dated 16 August 2024.

Previous period/ year figures have been re-grouped/ re-classified wherever necessary, to conform to current period's classification. The impact of such reclassification/ regrouping is not material to the financial results. For and on behalf of the

ReNew Fazilka Solar Power Private Limited (Sd./-) Paritosh Srivastava Additional Director, DIN: 10766784

Place: Gurugram

Date: 12 February, 2025

NOTICE is hereby given that **Dharamvi** 

For Diwan and Company LLP House No.2 (LGF), NRI Complex, N.D-19 Mobile No. 9818399999

Place : Sikandrabad (U.P.) Date: 12th Feb, 2025

# **New tax bill introduces Tax** Year, omits Assessment Year

The simplified Income Tax bill 2025, which brings in the concept of 'tax year' and abolishes the archaic and complicated terms 'previous' and 'assessment years', is likely to be introduced in Parliament on Thursday.

The bill comprises 536 sections

23 chapters and 16 schedules in just 622 pages. It does not bring in any new taxes, but only simplifies the language of the existing Income Tax Act, 1961. The six-decade old legislation has 298 sections and 14 schedules. It had 880 pages when the Act was introduced. The new bill seeks to replace the Income Tax Act, 1961 which has become too voluminous due to the amendments made over the last 60 years. The new

effect from April 1, 2026. The new bill has omitted redundant sections, like those relating to Fringe Benefit Tax. The bill is free from

law is expected to come into



Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman at the Parliament House complex presenting the 'Union Budget 2025-26'

'explanations or provisos', thereby making it easier to read and comprehend.

'notwithstanding', which was used excessively in the Income Tax Act, 1961, has been done away with in the new bill and almost everywhere replaced with the term 'irrespective'.

The bill uses shorter sentences and has been made reader friendly with the use of tables and formulae. Tables have been provided for provisions relating to TDS, presumptive taxation. salaries, and deductions for bad debt . The 'Taxpayer's Charter has been included in the bill which outlines the rights and

obligations of the taxpayers. The bill replaces the term previous year' as mentioned in the Income Tax Act, 1961 with 'tax year'. Also, the concept of assessment year has been done away with. Currently, for income earned in the previous year (say 2023-24), tax is paid in assessment year (say 2024-25).

assessment year (AY) concept has been removed and only tax year under the simplified bill has been brought in.

Once introduced in the Lok Sabha likely on Thursday, the Bill will be sent to the Parliamentary Standing Parliamentary Committee on Finance for further deliberations.

The Statement of Objects and Reasons of the new I-T bill said that the Income-tax Act passed in 1961 has been subjected to numerous amendments since its passage 60 years ago.

"As a result of amendments the structure of the Income-tax Act has been overburdened and language has become complex, increasing cost of compliance for taxpayers and hampering efficiency of direct-tax administration," it said. Tax administrators, practitioners and taxpayers had also raised concerns about the complicated provisions and structure of the

### Trump readies matching tariffs on trade partners

United States (US)
President Donald Trump
is taking additional action to upset the world trade system, with plans to sign an order as soon as Wednesday that would require that US tariffs on imports match the tax rates charged by other countries. "It's time to be reciprocal,"

Trump said earlier this week. "You'll be hearing that word a lot. Reciprocal. If they charge us, we charge them.' The president had suggested

that the order would come on Tuesday or Wednesday. But when Tuesday passed without the tariffs being officially announced, Trump was asked if he would sign the order on Wednesday and Trump answered: "We'll see what happens." As Trump has unleashed a series of tariffs after being in

power for less than a month, he has fully taken ownership of the path of the US economy.

It's a bet that his economic ideas can eventually deliver meaningful results for voters, even if by Trump's own admission the import taxes could involve some financial pain in the form of inflation and economic disruptions. For all of Trump's talk, the impact will likely depend on the details of the tariffs and how other nations respond.

A reciprocal tariffs order could amount to a substantial tax hike to be shouldered largely by US consumers and businesses as the Census Bureau reported that the country had total imports of \$4.1 Trillion last year. The tariffs could set off retaliatory measures by trading partners that could roil growth around the globe and reset where the United States stands with

allies and rivals alike. By signing the order, Trump would fulfil his long-standing pledge to raise taxes on most imported goods, a clear break with his recent White House predecessors who saw tariffs as either targeted tools to use strategically or barriers worth lowering.

Trump has broken with that precedent by saying he wants to return the United States to imports government's dominant

source of revenues. But should job gains never materialise and should inflation stay high, it's an easy line of attack for Democratic lawmakers and candidates that Trump helped the ultrawealthy at the expense of

the middle class. 'No matter which way you slice it, costs are going to climb for consumers," Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer of New York said earlier this month. "I will work with my colleagues to undo this mess, get costs down and get these billionaires out of the

Trump put 10 per cent tariffs on China over its contributions production of the illicit drug fentanyl, and China has taken retaliatory measures. He said he is ready if necessary on March 1 after a 30-day suspension, to put tariffs on Mexico and Canada over his belief they should do more to fight illegal immigration and

drug smuggling.

### Samsung to upskill teachers

**ABHI SINGHAL** NEW DELHI

rtificial Intelligence is Artificial intelligence decaration the education landscape, making classrooms interactive personalised. AI-driven tools help educators analyse student performance, customise lesson plans, and enhance engagement through digital platforms. Recognising this shift, Samsung

has introduced a new initiative called Galaxy Empowered, aimed at upskilling 20,000 teachers across the country by 2025. This community-led program will equip educators with modern teaching techniques and digital tools to enhance classroom learning. The initiative was launched in

New Delhi in the presence of Gold <sup>1</sup> Medallist Bindra, who emphasised the importance of equipping teachers with the right resources to improve education standards.

The program will provide teachers with training through workshops, online courses, and programs, certification ensuring they stay ahead in an evolving educational landscape. Samsung's Galaxy Empowered by integrating technology into addition, they can connect with for a technology-driven future.



Teachers will learn to use interactive apps, digital platforms, and gamification techniques to make learning more engaging for students. The program also focuses on hands-on training, giving educators access to mentorship opportunities and specialised curriculum support. initiative is structured around three main components: technology upskilling, handson training, and networking opportunities. Educators will have access to flexible online courses, in-person bootcamps,

fellow teachers, industry experts, and thought leaders through exclusive events and panel discussions. Participants in the program will also receive special benefits, including discounts on Samsung devices such as smartphones, tablets, and laptops. Additional perks include extended warranties, free insurance, and timelimited offers on consumer electronics. Through Galaxy Empowered, Samsung making significant contribution to the education sector, ensuring that teachers have the necessary tools and

### Retail inflation slows to five-month low

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Continuing the downward trend, retail inflation fell to a five-month low of 4.31 per cent in January, mainly due to a decline in the prices of vegetables, eggs, and pulses. The Consumer Price Index (CPI)-based retail inflation was

5.22 per cent in December and 5.1 per cent in January 2024. The previous low inflation was in August 2024 at 3.65 per cent. The CPI has been on a decline since October.

The inflation in the food basket was 6.02 per cent in January, the lowest after August 2024 when it was 5.66 per cent.

There is a decline of 91 basis points in headline inflation of January 2025 in comparison to December 2024 and it is the lowest year-on-year inflation after August 2024, the National Statistics Office (NSO) data showed. According to the data, the top five items showing the highest year on year inflation were coconut oil (54.2 per cent), potato (49.61 per cent), coconut (38.71 per cent), garlic (30.65 per cent), peas (30.17 per cent). On the other hand, the key items having the lowest year on year inflation in January were

11.27 per cent), brinjal (-9.94 of vegetables, eggs, pulses and per cent), LPG (excluding products, cereals and products, conveyance) (-9.29 per cent). Last week, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) years effected a rate cut of 25 basis points after a gap of five years to spur growth as inflation was in its comfort zone. The central bank has been mandated by the government to ensure CPI remains at four per cent with a margin of two per cent on either side. NSO further said a significant decline in headline and food inflation in the rural sector was observed in January 2025. It was 4.64 per cent in January compared to 5.76 per cent in the preceding month. The food inflation in the rural sector was 6.31 per cent in

comparison to 8.65 per cent in December 2024 Similarly, urban inflation witnessed a sharp decline from 4.58 per cent in December 2024 to 3.87 per cent in January. Food inflation decreased from 7.9 per cent in December to Housing inflation rate was marginally higher in January

5.53 per cent in January 2025. 2.76 per cent over December. 'The significant decline in headline inflation and food inflation during the month of 30.92 per cent), dry chilies (- attributed to decline in inflation

education, clothing and health, NSO said.

The data further showed that top five states which had higher inflation than the national average in January were Kerala (6.76 per cent), Odisha (6.05 per cent), Chhattisgarh (5.85 per cent), Haryana (5.1 per cent), and Bihar (5.06 per cent). The lowest inflation was in Delhi at 2.02 per cent. The NSO collects price data from selected 1,114 urban markets and 1,181 villages covering all states and UTs on a weekly roster.

Commenting on the data, Aditi Nayar, Chief Economist, ICRA said the CPI inflation fell appreciably sharper than expected to a five-month low, led primarily by food items, vindicating the unanimous rate cut effected by the RBI's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) last week

"Looking ahead, ICRA believes that the growth-inflation outlook suggests that there is room for another 25 bps rate cut in either the April or the June 2025 meetings. The exact timing of the same would timing of the same would depend on the incoming data, global developments, and the movements in the USD and INR pair," she added.

# Equity investors' wealth erode by ₹18 Lakh Crore

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Tnvestors suffered an erosion of ₹18 Lakh Crore in six days of market fall, where the benchmark Sensex tanked three per cent, amid continuous foreign fund outflows and trade war worries.

which had tanked more than 900 points intra-day, ended at 76,171.08, down by 122.52 points or 0.16 per cent following a recovery in bank stocks in the last hour. During the day, the benchmark tanked 905.21

The 30-share BSE Sensex,

points or 1.18 per cent to sink below the 76,000-level and hit a low of 75,388.39. Since February 4, the BSE bellwether gauge has slumped

2,412.73 points or 3.07 per cent. The market capitalisation of BSE-listed firms slumped ₹18,04,418 Crore

₹4,07,46,408.11 Crore (\$4.69 Trillion) since February 4. From the 30-share Sensex Mahindra and Mahindra, ITC, Power Grid,

SEBI slaps ₹2.83 Crore notice to ex-TV anchor

Bank, Adani Ports, Titan and said.

Infosys were the biggest laggards. Bajaj Finserv, Tata Steel,

Larsen and Toubro, UltraTech Cement, Kotak Mahindra Bank and Tata Motors were among the gainers. Foreign Institutional Investors

(FIIs) offloaded equities worth ₹4,486.41 Crore on Tuesday, according to exchange data.

"Markets were extremely choppy and gyrated sharply in intra-day trade. After crashing over 900 points in early trade, markets recouped lost ground in late trade but select profit. in late trade but select profit-taking in IT, banking and auto stocks saw benchmarks end marginally lower," Prashanth Tapse, Senior VP (Research) at

Mehta Equities Ltd, said. The BSE smallcap gauge declined 0.49 per cent and midcap index went lower by 0.45 per cent.

"Equity markets displayed resilience today, with Nifty rebounding nearly 250 points from the day's low to close at 23,045, down just 26 points (-0.1 per cent)," Siddhartha Khemka, head, research, wealth management at Motilal

### Sensex, Nifty fall for sixth day dragged by FII outflows

PTI MUMBAI

 $S_{
m for\ the\ sixth\ straight\ day\ on}$ Wednesday with Sensex falling by 122 points on unabated foreign fund outflows and trade war worries.

The 30-share BSE Sensex, which had tanked more than 900 points intra-day, closed at 76,171.08, down by 122.52 points or 0.16 per cent following a recovery in financial stocks in the last hour. During the day, the benchmark tanked 905.21 points or 1.18 per cent to sink below the 76,000-level to hit a low of 75,388,39.

The NSE Nifty dipped 26.55 points or 0.12 per cent to 23,045.25, marking its sixth straight day of losses. Intra-day, it tumbled 273.45 points or 1.18 per cent to 22,798.35, falling below the crucial 23,000-mark. Since February 4, the BSE bellwether gauge has slumped 2,412.73 points or 3.07 per cent, while the Nifty tanked 694 points or 2.92 per cent.

From the 30-share Sensex pack, Mahindra and Mahindra, ITC, Grid. Reliance Industries, IndusInd Bank, Adani Ports, Titan and Infosys were the biggest laggards. Bajaj Finserv, Tata Steel, Larsen and Toubro, UltraTech Cement, Kotak Mahindra Bank and Tata

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth ₹4,486.41 Crore on Tuesday, according to exchange data.
"The Indian market saw a slight

Motors were among the

recovery from the sharp intraday declines, however, overall sentiment remained weak due to elevated broader market valuations and muted Q3 earnings growth. Concerns over excessive valuations are expected to sustain the ongoing consolidation phase," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services, said.

Additionally, regarding the impact of metal tariffs added to market caution, Nair said. The upcoming release of US

uncertainty

CPI inflation data will provide further market direction," he added. In Asian markets, Seoul, Tokyo, Shanghai and Hong Kong

ended in the positive territory.

European markets were trading

**PTI** ■ MUMBAI

The rupee failed to sustained its recovery and depreciated eight paise to close at 86.87 (provisional) against the US dollar on Wednesday due to a firm American currency and unending outflow of foreign funds.

According to forex traders, rupee stayed firm initially but lost grounds amid volatile domestic equity markets that also added to the trend of withdrawal by foreign institutional investors.

They said the easing crude oil prices supported the Indian currency at lower level but at the same time the currency markets saw muted participation awaiting cues inflation

industrial output data to be released by the government.

Rupee falls eight paise against USD

At the interbank foreign exchange, the rupee opened at 86.44 and moved between the high of 86.36 and the low of 86.91 against the greenback during intra-day. The unit ended the session at 86.87 (provisional) against the dollar, registering a fall of eight paise from its previous close.

On Tuesday, the rupee appreciated 66 paise, logging the maximum single-day gain since March 3, 2023, to close at 86.79 against the US dollar. The steep surge came a day after the unit plunged to near 88 per US dollar-level during intra-day on Monday, though the currency ended the session with gains at 87.45 against the PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Market regulator, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and has sent a demand notice to Pradeep Baijnath Pandya, who was anchoring stock market shows on a television channel, and seven other entities for failing to pay ₹2.83 Crore fines that have been imposed in connection fraudulent with trading

activities. Apart from Pandya, Toshee Trade, Mahan Investment, Manish Vasanji Furiya (HUF), Manish Vasanji Furiya, Alpa Alpesh Furiya, Alpesh Vasanji Furiya (HUF) and Alpesh Vasanji Furiya were also sent notices to pay the fines. The demand notices came after

these entities failed to pay the

penalties imposed on them by the SEBI in June last year.

The markets regulator warned that assets, including bank accounts of Pandya and other entities, will be attached if they failed to make the payment within 15 days of the notices issued on February 7.

In seven separate demand notices, SEBI has directed these entities to pay ₹2.83 crore, including interest and recovery costs within 15 days.

In June last year, SEBI had barred Pandya and seven other entities from the securities market for five years and imposed a fine of ₹2.6 Crore collectively for indulging in fraudulent trading activities. Pandya was the host and cohost of various shows at CNBC Awaaz till August 2021, while

Alpesh Furiya appeared on the television channel as a guest and external expert and gave stock recommendations on his X handle.

A high correlation was noted the between stock recommendations given by Pradeep Pandya on the show 'Pandya Ka Funda' and the buytoday-sell-tomorrow trades and intra-day trades executed by Alpesh Furiya and connected entities during the period from November 2019 to January

Alpesh Furiya, capitalised on this privileged information, executed trades through his own accounts and those of related entities, positioning himself to profit before the recommendations publicly aired, it added.

# Equity mutual funds see ₹39,688 Crore inflow in January

PTI NEW DELHI

Tnvestors' confidence in equity **⊥**mutual funds remains strong with the segment attracting ₹39,688 Crore in January, driven by sharp inflow in small cap and flexi-cap schemes, even as market volatilities continued. However, this was 3.56 per cent lower than the net inflow of ₹41,156 Crore registered in December. The latest fund infusion by investors also marks the 47th consecutive month of inflows into the segment, according to data released by Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI) on Wednesday.

inflows Moreover, into systematic investment plans (SIP) came at ₹26,400 Crore, a tad lower from December's ₹26,459 Crore. The SIP assets under management stood at ₹13.2 Lakh Crore, which is

around a fifth of the overall pie. "Despite market volatility, SIP contributions remained robust, totalling ₹26,400 Crore for the month. We will continue to educate investors to stay invested through phases of volatility with a focus on disciplined, long-term approach to wealth creation, Venkat Chalasani, Chief Executive, Amfi, said.

The decline in equity fund inflows occurred amid sluggish equity markets, with the BSE Sensex dropping by 1.28 per cent in January. The investors' focus towards

making the most of the market fall in January can also be gauged from the fact that around 30.7 Lakh new folios were added in January, Himanshu Srivastava, associate director- manager research, Investment The assets under management Morningstar



Research India, said. Further, volatility in the Indian equity markets, combined with geopolitical uncertainties and anticipation of the Union Budget, led to a decline in equity mutual fund AUM, Jatinder Pal Singh, CEO, ITI Mutual Fund, said.

(AUM) for equity-oriented mutual funds dropped by 4 per cent in January to ₹29.46 Lakh Crore from ₹30.57 Lakh Crore in December. Within the equity schemes, sectoral or thematic category

attracted investors with the

highest net inflow at ₹9,016

Crore, which is way lower than

Mutual

December. The midcap category saw inflows of ₹5,148 Crore in

₹15,331 Crore inflow in

January 2025, while the smallcap category witnessed infusion of ₹5,721 Crore, the data showed.

The small and midcap schemes of mutual funds continued to attract investors with inflows highlighting their preference for these segments largely driven by the high returns that they have generated over the last few years, Srivastava said. The large schemes, which are being recommended by a slew of experts as a safer bet, saw inflows rising to ₹3,063 Crore

Crore.

flexi-cap category grew to ₹5,697 Crore from ₹4,731

registered an inflow of ₹1.28 Lakh Crore in the month of January, against an outflow of ₹1.27 Lakh Crore in December. The inflow in debt funds was primarily in the overnight, ultra-short duration, low duration and money market funds along with liquid funds which offset the outflows in debt funds with a maturity of over one year, Sanjay Agarwal, senior director, CareEdge Ratings, said.

Additionally, the inflows into gold Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) to the tune of ₹3,751 Crore indicate a shift toward safer assets during uncertain times.

in January from ₹2,010 Crore in The overall assets under management of mutual funds December, while inflow in came at ₹67.25 Lakh Crore as on January 31, 2025 as compared to ₹66.93 Lakh Crore Apart from equities, debt funds in the previous month.

#### INBRIEF

#### **GURU NANAK DEV UNIVERSITY INTER-DEPARTMENT** GIRLS' CRICKET TOURNAMENT CONCLUDES



AMRITSAR: Under the able guidance and support of Vice Chancellor Prof (Dr) Karamjeet Singh the Guru Nanak Dev University successfully organised the Inter-Department Cricket (Girls) Tournament as part of the Fit India program initiated by the Government

**GAUTAM SOLAR AIMS FOR 5 GW BY 2025** 

**NEW DELHI:** In a record-breaking achievement, Gautam Solar has established a state-of-the-art solar module manufacturing plant in Bhiwani, Haryana, within just one year.

CPA AUSTRALIA, ASSOCHAM HOST GLOBAL SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABLE GROWTH IN INDIA

NEW DELHI: New Delhi witnessed a landmark global summit on 'Accelerated Value Creation for Sustainable Growth', jointly hosted by CPA Australia and ASSOCHAM. The event brought together industry leaders to explore emerging cross-border trends and local challenges.

# **Bhaker finishes second in 25m** pistol at National selection trials

ouble Olympic medallist Manu Bhaker finished second in women's 25m pistol in her return to competitive shooting after Paris Olympics as Rhythm Sangwan emerged winner in the event on day five of the Rifle/Pistol National Selection Trials (Group A) here on

Paris Olympics bronze medallist Swapnil Kusale and Arya Rajesh Borse also won the men's 50m rifle 3 positions (3P) T1 and the women's 10m air rifle T2 events at Dr Karni Singh Shooting range (DKSSR) here. Haryana's Rhythm beat Bhaker -who won a bronze each in the women's individual and mixed team events in the Paris Olympics -- for the top spot after a couple of shootoffs from the final group that had four other Olympians in the fray.

Swapnil was next, a class apart in the men's 3P T1 final, while Borse registered a memorable triumph in a high-quality high scoring women's air rifle T2 final, falling just one short of the world record score achieved at the same venue. Rhythm wins via shoot-off

Manu has been relentless in her first competition after the Paris Games, topping the women's 25m pistol



294 in the second rapid-fire qualifying round in the morning giving her a total of 591. Punjab's Simranpreet Kaur Brar, among the most consistent shooters in recent times in the event, was second with

Also making the final eight cut were four other Olympians -- Rahi Sarnobat (588, 3rd), Esha Singh (586, 4th), Heena Sidhu (580, 5th) and Sangwan (578, 7th), setting up a thrilling decider.

In the end, Rhythm and Manu were trials for a second straight time, her tied with 37 hits after the 10-series of

five shots each, and both the shooters needed two shoot-offs to be separated, the former prevailing 4-3 in the second after both had tied 4-4 in the first.

Simranpreet finished third.

Swapnil, a class apart Swapnil qualified for the men's 3P T1 final with a smooth 592 out of 600, which gave him third spot on the leaderboard.

Navy's Kiran Ankush Jadhav topped with a sublime 596, while another top 3P shooter Akhil Sheoran was

In the final, however, Swapnil led after the first five shots of the first kneeling position right till the end, pulling away expertly after every stage of the gruelling event. He ended with a 465.1, 2.6 ahead of Akhil, who was second. Veteran Chain Singh finished third.

Arya triumphs in women's air rifle Maharashtra's Arya, another shooter in rousing form, won the women's 10m air rifle T2 trial after an intense

Newly-crowned national champion Ananya Naidu set the tone with a scorching 53.1 after the first fiveshot stage and continued to lead the field till the 20th shot of the 24-shot

Two-time Olympian Elavenil Valarivan gave her company for most part of the contest with Arya at sixth after 10 shots

Then from the 11th to the 21st shot, Arya shot nothing below 10.4, ending the string with a perfect 10.9 to take the lead, as Mehuli Ghosh climbed are to best Flyword. climbed up to beat Elavenil to the

As both Arya and Ananya went into the final two shots on the same score (231.9), the former nailed a couple of 10.8s to finish with 253.5. Ananya also finished with two high 10s to her credit but fell 0.5 short in the end

### Saint-Etienne fans banned from French league game

**PTI** PARIS

Saint-Etienne supporters bave been banned by French authorities from traveling to Marseille for this weekend's Ligue 1 game between the two clubs with the biggest fan bases in France.

In an order published Wednesday, France's interior ministry said there is a "real serious risk confrontation" between the rival fans.

Second-placed Marseille takes on struggling Saint-Etienne at the Stade Velodrome on Saturday. While Marseille vs. Paris

Saint-Germain remains the biggest match in French soccer, and is known as "Le Classique," Saint-Etienne and Marseille have a special rivalry of their own. They were the two most decorated clubs in French football before PSG started its dominance after Oatari investors took over in 2011.

Saint-Etienne — which has 10 league titles to its name, one more than Marseille dominated French football during the 1960s and '70s. Mediterranean club Marseille

became one of Saint-Etienne's strongest rivals after regaining a spot in the topflight in 1966. Marseille, still the only French club to win the Champions League (in 1993), finished runner-up behind "Les Verts" in 1970 and won its first title in 23 years ahead of Saint-

Etienne in 1971. Although their rivalry softened eventually with Saint-Etienne's sporting decline, both clubs still enjoy the support of a national fan base and their matchups are always intense.

Off the field, relations between Marseille and Saint-Etienne fans have been marked by animosity for

Justifying its decision to ban away fans at the Velodrome,

the interior ministry said "this strong antagonism has on several occasions led to serious clashes requiring the intervention of the police, some of whose members have been injured, and to the throwing of missiles and the

lighting of fireworks." In March 2024, Saint-Etienne fans ambushed Marseille fans on a motorway and threw stones at their bus convoy. In response, Marseille supporters got off their bus to attack a Saint-Etienne supporter who had reportedly announced their arrival.

Marseille is second in the French league, 10 points behind runaway leader PSG. After 21 matches, Saint-Etienne is languishing in 16th place in the 18-team league.



### Algerian boxer Imane Khelif says she has 'never stayed down'

**PTI** PARIS

Algeria boxer Imane Khelif, who found herself in the middle of a bitter divide about gender in sports during the Paris Olympics, has denounced and offensive' from accusations

Boxing International Association.

more times than I can count. But I have never stayed down, Khelif said late Tuesday on her Instagram account.

The IBA said this week it will file criminal complaints against the International Olympic Committee in the U.S., France and Switzerland. The Swissbased IOC allowing female boxers Khelif and Lin Yu-ting to compete and win gold medals in Paris last year "may serve as grounds for criminal prosecution," the IBA claimed. Khelif responded by saying she "will take all necessary legal steps to ensure that my rights and the principles of fair competition are upheld."

"Those responsible of these actions must be held accountable, and we will pursue all available legal avenues to ensure that justice prevails," she added.

The Russian-led IBA has been banished from the Olympics but it cited an executive order on transgender athletes by United States President Donald Trump to justify the criminal complaints.

Khelif said the IBA has "again made baseless accusations that are false and offensive, using them to further their agenda. This is a matter that concerns not just me but the broader principles of fairness and due process in sport."

The IOC has consistently said the boxers from Algeria and Taiwan, who were assigned birth and ident women, complied with all the for the Olympic Both tournament. competed in Tokyo in 2021 and did not win medals.

Knelit and Lin were disqualified from the 2023 world championships run by the IBA, which said they failed eligibility tests.

"The two female athletes mentioned by IBA are not transgender athletes," the IOC reiterated on Monday.

Khelif advanced through the Olympic Games amid international scrutiny and uninformed speculation about her sex. Despite being born and raised as a woman, she found herself at the center of Western debates about gender, sex and sports after failing unspecified eligibility tests for women's competition from the IBA in

"I have seen adversity before," Khelif said. "I have fought through every setback, every false accusation, every attempt to erase me. And I have won. Each obstacle has only strengthened my resolve.

## Jamshedpur FC look to prevail over NorthEast United in ISL

Tamshedpur FC will look to bounce back from their away loss to Bengaluru FC and remain in contention for the top-2 place finish when they host NorthEast United in their Indian Super League (ISL) match here on

Jamshedpur have 34 points from 19 games on the back of 11 wins and a draw to be at the third spot in the standings. Their aim will be to stay in contention for the second spot which FC Goa occupy currently with 36

The top-2 finishers do have to compete in the single-leg eliminator since they directly qualify for the semi-finals.

NorthEast United, on the other hand, are at sixth spot with 29 points and they have competition from Odisha FC (26), Kerala Blasters FC (24), and Punjab FC (24) who are



previous five matches. Earlier this season, the Highlanders had claimed a thumping 5-0 victory against the Red Miners in Guwahati. Another triumph would make Jamshedpur FC the seventh opponent against whom the visitors complete a league double in the competition.

Jamshedpur, however, have thrice and won once in their against NorthEast United, the last time they registered

drawing thrice in the process. Notably, the Highlanders are the only side against whom Jamshedpur have multiple home clean sheets (three) in the competition. Jamshedpur FC have been on an encouraging run at home in the current campaign,

of their 10 games. Highlanders Highlanders have drawn their five home fixtures four games on the road, and

emerging victorious in eight

such a longer stretch was for five encounters between October-December 2018. Jamshedpur FC head coach Khalid Jamil is not reading

too much into the reverse

"In our last match against them, we didn't get a good

result. We need to approach this match positively and work hard," he said.

NorthEast United FC head coach Juan Pedro Benali has a straightforward mindset ahead of the coming match, which is to earn three points.

Jamshedpur FC are a very dangerous team. Any mistake against them can lead to a goal. We need to win as many points as possible and qualify for the playoffs," Benali said in the pre-match press conference. The two sides have played each other 15 times in the ISL, with Jamshedpur FC winning six games and NorthEast United FC are NorthEast Six matches have produced

### Kerala enters Ranji Trophy semifinals

**PTI** PUNE

 $K_{\text{doughty}}^{\text{erala}} \xrightarrow{\text{produced}} \text{a}$ hang on to a draw against Jammu and Kashmir, and progressed to the Ranji Trophy semifinals on the back of a slender 1-run first innings lead here on Wednesday. Player of the match Salman

Nizar (44 not out, 162 balls, Mohammed 8x4) and Azharuddeen (67 not out, 118b, 9x4 2x6) saw off nearly 43 overs during their unbroken 115-run alliance for the seventh wicket as Kerala made 295 for six in their second innings. Their partnership

enough for Kerala, overnight 100 for two, to see off the final day's proceedings, and set up a semi-final meeting with former champions Gujarat from February 17. This will only be Kerala's second appearance in the ny last four round after the 2018-19 season. They had lost to eventual

innings and 11 runs at Wayanad last time. 'We believed in ourselves and took it (partnership) through the blocks of 10 runs each. J&K bowlers were

champions Vidarbha by an

also made our task tough. It was a similar approach we had adopted in the first innings," said Nizar during the presentation ceremony. The left-handed batter had also made a vital unbeaten 112 in Kerala's first innings and stitched an 81-run alliance with Basil Thampi to give Kerala a crucial 1-run

"We tried our best, but unfortunately we could not go all the way in this match. Credit to Kerala batters. But we are proud of the way fought till here, and hopefully, we can achieve more," said J and K skipper Paras Dogra after the match. Jammu and Kashmir leftarm spinner Abid Mushtaq warning by on field umpires

for chucking.

### Sri Lanka beat Australia by 49 runs

PTI ■ COLOMBO

Asalanka scored a career-best 127 to help Sri Lanka beat Australia by 49 runs in the opener of a two-match One-Day International cricket series

here on Wednesday. Sri Lanka were bowled out for 214 in 46 overs after Asalanka won the toss and elected to bat first at Colombo's R Premadasa Stadium. Asalanka played a captain's innings and carried his team with his fourth ODI hundred in his 72nd game.

In reply, Australia were bowled out for 165 runs in 33.5 overs. Fast bowler Spencer Johnson (2-44) quickly provided Australia with its first breakthrough, having opener Pathum Nissanka caught behind in the first over of the match. Opening partner



Avishka Fernando fell in the next over when he was caught by Australia captain Steve Smith off fast bowler Aaron Hardie, who took 2-13 in six

Kusal Mendis (19), Kamindu Mendis (5) and Janith Liyanage (11) fell in quick succession to leave the hosts precariously placed on 55 runs for five wickets. But Asalanka and Dunith

Wellalage's 67-run partnership off 68 deliveries for the sixth wicket provided Sri Lanka with a base for a competitive total. Wellalage made a useful 30 off 34, including a six and two boundaries, before being caught by Smith off spinner Matthew Short.

Sri Lanka looked in trouble again at 135-8 after losing two more quick wickets, but No. 10 batter Eshan Malinga came to Asalanka's assistance by keeping his captain company in a 79-run ninth wicket stand in which he contributed just

Asalanka hit 127 off 126 deliveries, including five sixes and 14 fours.

Fast medium Sean Abbott took 3-61.

Sri Lanka fast bowler Asitha Fernando struck in the first over of Australia's chase by trapping Short lbw with no score on the board. In his second over he had Jake Fraser-McGurk caught and bowled. Cooper Connolly and Smith, too, were dismissed quickly to leave Australia at 31-



### Torrent Group becomes majority stakeholder in Gujarat Titans

**PTI** ■ AHMEDABAD

Healthcare major Torrent Group became the majority shareholder of majority Gujarat Titans after acquiring 67 percent (2/3rd) stake from current owners CVC, the IPL franchise announced on Wednesday.

The transaction is subject to customary closing conditions and approvals, including from the BCCI.

'Torrent Group has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire majority stake of 67% in the renowned Indian Premier League Titans franchise, Gujarat (Irelia Sports İndia Private Limited) from Company Pte Ltd ("Irelia") currently fully owned by funds managed or advised by CVC," the press release the press release stated.

"As part of the deal, Irelia will retain a substantial minority stake of 33% in the franchise, it further stated.

The CVC in 2021 had bought the Gujarat franchise for INR 5625 crore and incidentally Torrent was one of the bidders.

The current valuation of GT

is believed to be INR 7500 crore and as per IPL sources, Torrent has paid something to the tune of Rs 5025 crore to acquire two-third stake.

The deal is a win-win situation for both as CVC has not only retained one-third share but also got back 89 percent of the amount originally invested in buying the team.

Speaking on the occasion, Jinal Mehta, Director, Torrent Group, said, "With the acquisition of a majority stake in the Gujarat Titans, we are excited to have the opportunity to elevate our fan experience and unlock new growth avenues in the years to come."

Siddharth Patel, Managing
Partner at CVC, commented:"We are excited to announce this deal, which marks the beginning of a new chapter in India's most popular sporting event and our team Gujarat Titans.

"Our participation in Indian Cricket started strongly, the securing Gujarat franchise, winning the IPL title in our first season and emerging as runners up in our second season."

### Sachin, Pooja and Sawan win gold in National Games **PTI** ■ DEHRADUN

avelin thrower Sachin Yadav of Uttar Pradesh, 18-year-old high jumper Pooja Singh of Haryana and long distance runner Sawan Barwal of Himachal Pradesh rewrote National Games records and won gold medals on the concluding day of athletics competition here Wednesday.

In the absence of the likes of Neeraj Chopra and Kishore Jena, 25-year-old Yadav sent his spear to a Games-record distance of 84.39m in his fifth attempt to win the gold and establish himself as one of the top javelin throwers in the

He bettered the earlier Games

'My goal was to achieve the World Athletics automatic qualification mark (85.50m) but missed it," Yadav said at the post-event interaction.

'I'm close to my goal and should be able to achieve 85.50m in the next competition."

Yadav's 84.39m now ranks as the fifth career-best throw by an Indian after Chopra (89.94m), Jena (87.54m), Shivpal Singh (86.23m) and Davinder Singh Kang Davinder (84.57m).

Uttar Pradesh swept the medals with Rohit Yadav -- another member of 80m club -winning the silver with a performance of 80.47m while state-mate Vikash Sharma took

throw, having joined the elite club in 2023 with a 80.27m during the Federation Cup. In June, he won the title in the Indian Grand Prix 3 with a throw of 82.69m, which was his earlier personal best before Wednesday's record-breaking

He threw 80.04m during the National Open Championships qualification round September last year.

Daughter of a mason from Fatehbad district of Haryana, Pooja cleared 1.84m to defend the women's high jump gold she had won in the 2023 edition, bettering the earlier Games record of 1.83m set by Swapna Barman of West Bengal in the 2022 edition of

the Games. Pooja, who has a personal best record of 82.23m set by home the bronze with 79.33m. Pooja, who has a personal best Rajinder Singh in the 2015 It was Yadav's fourth 80m-plus of 1.85m -- a national U20

record -- which she had produced last year, used to train on makeshift high jump pit made up of sacks of hay when she started the sport. She won a silver medal at the Asian U20 Championships in

2023, a gold in the Asian U18 Championships the same year and finished sixth at the Hangzhou Asian Games last Gobika K of Tamil Nadu won the silver after clearing 1.79m

while Abhinaya Shetty (1.77m) of Karnataka took home the bronze. Barwal won the men's 5000m in a time of 13 minute and 45.93 seconds, bettering the earlier Games record of 13:50.05s set by G Lakshmanan

of Services in the 2015 edition.

It was his second gold and

second Games record in this

28:49.93s, bettering the earlier mark of 28:54.29s set by Gulveer Singh in the 2022 edition in Gujarat. The 26-year-old Barwal was a bronze medal winner at the 2023 Asian Half Marathon race. He also won the 2024 Delhi Half Marathon title

edition. He had clinched the

men's 10,000m title on Saturday

with a Games record time of

among the Indians. Gagan Singh of Haryana was second with a time of 14:00.04s while Sunil Dawar of Madhya Pradesh finished third with 14:01.33s.

In the women's 400m hurdles, Tamil Nadu's Vithya Ramraj pocketed her third successive National Games gold, adding to her top of podium finish in the 2022 and 2023 editions of the Games.

Ramraj, who jointly holds the national record of 55.42 seconds along with the legendary PT Usha, clocked 58.11 seconds to win the gold. The 26-year-old Ramraj, a member of the Indian 4x400m relay team that took part in the 2024 Paris Olympics, joined women's 100m hurdler Jyothi Yarraji and men's 110m hurdler Tejas Shirse in winning gold in three successive Games It was, however, a below-par

performance from Ramraj as her timing was more than one second off the mark from her Games record of 56.67 seconds she had set in the 2022 edition. Tamil Nadu finished 1-2 as Shreevarthani SK took home the silver with a time of 59.86 seconds, while Maharashtra's Neha Dhabale (1:00.52) secured the bronze.

# India thrashes England by 142 runs, sweeps series 3-0

**PTI** ■ AHMEDABAD

robust batting show led by the Shubman attractive century heralded India's 142-run hammering of England in the third and final ODI as the hosts completed a dominant 3-0 clean sweep to culminate preparations for Champions Trophy, here on Wednesday.
India ticked all the

remaining boxes with vice-captain Gill (112) following up his twin fifties earlier in the series with a seventh ODI ton of his career while middle-order mainstays Virat Kohli (52) and Shreyas Iyer (78) pushed India to a formidable 356 in the first

Indian bowlers then took over the mantle to complete the England demolition job, bundling out the visitors for a mere 214 in 34.2 overs to complete a comprehensive their second largest in ODIs in terms of runs against a familiar opponent.

There was no change in the script for English, who came crashing down against spin after a sparkling start against

pace, which was provided by the pair of Ben Duckett (34) and Phil Salt (24) in tow.

The slowness of the surface aided Indian bowlers as strike-making became difficult as the match progressed.

Duckett took charge of England's response early on but played one shot too many. After smacking Arshdeep Singh (2/33) for four consecutive boundaries around the park in the fifth over, he again went after the left-arm seamer but was deceived by the 'pace off' knuckle ball.

The mishit was collected cleanly by India skipper Rohit Sharma at mid-off and Arshdeep soon bounced out Salt, albeit off a slower one which the batter hit meekly to Axar Patel for a simple

Tom Banton gave a good example of himself playing his first ODI against India, hitting a couple of attractive reverse sweeps against spinners but he could not push on beyond a 41-ball 38 with four fours and two

Joe Root perished for just 24 when an inside edge off Axar (2/22) crashed into his



stumps and Harshit Rana (2/31) hastened the end of England's resistance by getting the rid of Harry Brook (19) and Jos Buttler

(6) in quick succession. From 84/2 after 10 overs, England's resolve petered

tightened the screws with regular strikes and the lacked visitors also gumption on a pitch which remained true in its nature. Earlier, Gill led the way with a fluent 112 while Kohli and

out as Indian bowlers Iyer also cashed in on ideal conditions in their last outing before the Champions Trophy, helping India set a 357-run target. Gill anchored India's innings en route to his seventh ODI ton — 112 off 104 balls

on two century stands with for India.

(14x4s, 3x6s) which also

took his average past 60 in

the format — while putting

Kohli and Iyer to consolidate The India vice-captain Gill

also achieved the unique feat

of scoring a century each century, there were elements three international formats at the same venue. Gill, meanwhile, has also scored an IPL hundred here at the Narendra Modi Stadium.

Attacking the fast bowlers and spinners alike, Gill's knock was replete with rich strokes particularly down the ground. The opener displayed immaculate footwork at the crease early on to take the attack to the opposition and remained resolute to score off spin, until he was cleaned up by

Adil Rashid (4/64).
On his part, Kohli took his time to find the rhythm and when he did, the batting mainstay looked hitting his

Kohli made the most of a juicy overpitched delivery from Mark Wood which he drove through the covers for his first four, then got on top of the ball from Saqib Mahmood to swat it for another boundary through mid-wicket and punished the England pacer for being wayward as he cut him for his third four.

While his stroke play was compelling in the run-a-ball fifty for his 73rd halfof struggle against legspinner Rashid.

Rashid continued to have wood over Kohli as soon after he raised his bat for fifty, the England spinner had him caught behind with a loopy leg-break that took an outside edge before settling in the wicketkeeper's settling in the wicketkeeper's gloves. This was the fifth time Rashid has dismissed Kohli in ODIs.

Kohli was stranded 37 runs

short of becoming only the third batter ever to make 14,000 ODI runs, missing a personal landmark like his teammate Rohit Sharma earlier in the innings. It is expected to be completed during Champions Trophy. Coming off a terrific century in second ODI, Rohit (1) could not even get a start as a delivery from Wood which was angled in, straightened enough to take the outside edge and Phil Salt collected a

Iyer only had himself to blame for missing out on a triple-digit score after he was caught behind on a delivery fired down the leg stump by Rashid, one that he needlessly chased and edged.

sharp catch.



### Strac withdraws, Smith to lead **Australia in Champions Trophy**

**PTI** ■ SYDNEY

 $S_{will}^{teve~Smith-led~Australia} \\ be~without~their$ frontline pace attack at the Champions Trophy (CT) after fast bowler Mitchell Starc from withdrew tournament citing personal

The ODI World Cup holders have been forced to make several changes to their 15member provisional squad due to injuries to captain Pat Cummins, pacer Josh Hazlewood, and all-rounder Marcus Stoinis'

retirement. "We understand and respect Mitch's decision," Chair of men's selectors George Bailey said on Wednesday.

"Mitch is deeply respected for commitment international cricket and the priority he places performing for Australia." priority he

Starc, who appeared to be in discomfort due to a left ankle issue during the latter stages of the final Test in Galle last week, will also miss the upcoming ODI series in Sri Lanka starting Wednesday.

"His well-documented ability to play through pain and adversity, as well as forgoing opportunities in other parts of his career to put his country first, should be applauded," Bailey added.

Cricket Australia said Starc has requested privacy and will not be commenting on his decision.

The development comes as a major blow for Australia, who will be without the three Cummins, pacers - Cummins, Hazlewood and Starc - who played a crucial role in their 2023 ODI World Cup victory. "His loss is, of course, a blow for the Champions Trophy campaign, but it provides an opportunity for someone else to make their mark on the tournament," Bailey said.

Smith, who is leading the side on the tour of Sri Lanka, will absence of Cummins and Marsh during the tournament, which will be played across Pakistan and the

The squad has changed significantly over the past month due to untimely injuries and the retirement of Marcus Stoinis," Bailey

remarked. Pacers Spencer Johnson, Nathan Ellis, Sean Abbott, and Ben Dwarshuis have been named in Australia's final 15man squad for the Champions

'The upside is that we have been able to call on players who have had international exposure and success over the past 12 months," Bailey said. "A strong core of some our most experienced players will provide a strong foundation in our attempt to win this edition of the Champions Trophy.

### India, England teams support BCCI's 'Donate Organs, Save Lives' campaign

India and England cricket teams took the field for the third and final ODI here on Wednesday wearing green armbands to support the BCCI's initiative of "Donate Save Lives'

The BCCI informed this in a statement shortly after the commencement of the match here at the Narendra Modi Stadium.

"Both teams are wearing green arm bands to support BCCI's initiative 'Donate Organs, Save Lives'. The initiative is spearheaded by ICC Chairman Mr Jay Shah," the BCCI release stated.

The initiative was announced by ICC chairman and former BCCI secretary Shah on



Shah wrote on X, "On the occasion of the 3rd ODI between India and England in Ahmedabad on February 12th, we are proud to launch an awareness initiative \_\_ Donate Organs, Save Lives."

Sport has the power to inspire, unite, and create lasting impact beyond the field. Through this initiative, we urge everyone to take a step towards giving the greatest gift of all — the gift of life.

"One pledge, one decision, can save multiple lives. Let's come together and make a difference!" he added.

The initiative was supported by several Indian players, including Virat Kohli and vice-captain Shubman Gill. "Score the ultimate century. Your organs can help others live beyond your lifetime. Register as a donor and make every life count," Kohli said in a video shared by the BCCI. Gill added, "Be the captain of life. Just like a captain leads the team to victory, you can lead someone to life by pledging to donate your

Other Indian cricketers to support the initiative were batters Shreyas Iyer and KL Rahul.

"One donor can save up to eight lives. Pledge today and hit a six for humanity," Iyer

Rahul added, "Play the ultimate winning shot. Your decision to donate your organs can be the match winning moment in someone's life. Be a hero off

iconic players in the history of

He also holds the distinction

of being the only player to win two consecutive Golden Bats

(for the highest run-getter) in

His remarkable achievements

include being named the Player of the Tournament in

the competition.

the tournament.



### Ghazanfar ruled out of both Champions Trophy and IPL

PTI KABUL

Teenage Afghanistan off-spinner AM Ghazanfar has been ruled out of both the ICC Champions Trophy (CT) and the IPL due to a lower back fracture that will keep him on the sidelines for at least four months, the country's cricket board announced on Wednesday.

Left-arm spinner Nangeyalia Kharote, originally named as a reserve, has replaced the squad Champions for Trophy, which will be held in Pakistan and the UAE from February 19.

The 20-year-old Kharote is a left-arm spinner and has played seven ODIs and six T20 Internationals since making his debut last year. Ghazanfar sustained the injury during Afghanistan's tour of Zimbabwe late last year, sidelining him for "at least four months".

"AM Ghazanfar has been ruled out of the ICC Champions Trophy due to a fracture in the L4 vertebra (located in the lower back), specifically in the left pars interarticularis, Afghanistan Cricket Board (ACB) posted on 'X'.

"He sustained the injury during Afghanistan's recent tour of Zimbabwe and will be sidelined for a minimum

of four months, remaining under treatment during this period," it added.

The IPL is scheduled to take place from March 21 to May 25 and Ghazanfar was to make his maiden appearance at the event after being bought by Mumbai Indians.

The ACB also informed that off-spinner Mujeeb Ur Rahman will continue to miss ODI action "until he has fully recovered," despite playing for Paarl Royals in the SA20 through January and early February. Mujeeb, who was not

included in the provisional Ĉhampions squad for Trophy, last played an ODI during the 2023 World Cup. Afghanistan will begin their Champions

campaign against South Africa on February 21 in Karachi, followed by matches against England and Australia.

Afghanistan squad for Champions Trophy Hashmatullah

(capt), Ibrahim Zadran, Alikhil Ikram Rahmanullah Gurbaz (wk), Sediqullah Atal, Rahmat Shah (vice-capt), Azmatullah Omarzai, Gulbadin Naib, Mohammad Nabi, Rashid Khan, Fareeh Ahmad, Farooqi, Fazalhag Nangeyalia Kharote, Naveed

match, and the big wigs did not

India is now placing confidence

in Rohit, who made a hundred

at Cuttack, and Shubman Gill,

who scored two fifties in as

many ODIs against England, to

deliver at the top consistently in

They are hoping that Kohli will

find a way to return to his

imperious scoring ways and

will not put pressure on the rest

The management has taken the

risk of believing that the top

five will be in fine fettle

They have also risked the

throughout the tournament.

the Champions Trophy.

of the middle-order.

want an encore in Dubai.

### Shikhar Dhawan among four event ambassadors for Champions Trophy has long been one of the most

PTI DUBAI

Former India opener Shikhar Dhawan was on India Wednesday named as one of the four event ambassadors for the ICC Champions Trophy (CT) to be held in Pakistan and Dubai from February 19 to March 9.

Besides Dhawan, the ICC has also named Pakistan's 2017 Champions Trophy winning captain Sarfaraz Ahmed, former Australia all-rounder Watson, and New Shane Zealand's legendary fast bowler, Tim Southee as event ambassadors.

The quartet will write guest columns and will also attend matches, sharing their thoughts on the event, where the world's best eight teams will compete for the top



honour. "It is such a special feeling to be part of a Champions Trophy, and to be given the opportunity to enjoy the upcoming edition as an Ambassador is an honour," Dhawan said in an ICC release.

"It's the ultimate competition where it's all on the line, and that is what makes it such a

also worked to his advantage.

But on the flip side, it leaves

Kuldeep Yadav in peril. With

Jadeja and Axar being the first-

choice spinners considering

their batting prowess, the fight

for the third spinner's slot will

be between Kuldeep and

thrilling spectacle. It's a tournament full of passion, pride, and determination, and that's what makes it such a and emotional thrilling journey for everyone involved."

As India's highest run-scorer in the Champions Trophy, with an outstanding 701 runs across two editions. Dhawan

the 2013 edition, as well as holding the record for the most centuries in Champions Trophy history. Some of my most cherished cricketing memories come

from playing in the Champions Trophy. In the coming weeks, we will see the world's best teams pouring their heart and soul into every match, with everything they have worked for on the line, said Dhawan.

Conventional thinking says

that experience more than

explosiveness matters in such

events, but the wise men went

According to skipper Rohit

Sharma, ineffectiveness with

the old ball led to Siraj's

omission from the marquee

On that count, Rana has

already given them two examples of his ability to strike

when the white ball loses its

In his T20I debut, Rana was the

ahead with Rana

event.

lacquer.

tournament as and when he is

Why was Jaiswal dropped bowler with some mystery

Washington Sundar could have been the one to be omitted to

However, in one shot, the selectors have also avoided the opening conundrum that haunted them in the first ODI against England at Nagpur.

It was tough to accommodate Jaiswal and Shreyas Iyer in the temporary relief.

traditionally iffy fitness of Hardik Pandya and his ability to plug the gap as the third seamer behind Mohammed Shami and Arshdeep Singh or

Looking at the squad, India seem to have taken one risk too many. Will they get the desired high reward? Or will they

### India adopts high-risk-high-reward approach in squad selection

**PTI** ■ BENGALURU

It aligns with head coach Gautam Gambhir's highrisk-high-reward approach but can India's Champions Trophy squad, having lost its gamechanging pace talisman Jasprit Bumrah to injury, deliver the goods at the ODI showpiece? The answer to that question is

particularly straightforward given the audacious calls taken to decide the final 15.

The selection risks start with the drafting in of five spinners. The Dubai-bound flight will feature Ravindra Jadeja, Axar Patel, Washington Sundar, Kuldeep Yadav and Varun Chakravarthy in a spin-heavy bowling attack.

Harshit Rana has replaced Bumrah with the more experienced Mohammed Siraj relegated to the group of nontravelling reserves alongside young batter Yashasvi Jaiswal and all-rounder Shivam Dube.

India's matches will be held in Dubai, a venue where pacers have found more success traditionally in the 50-over

Available data shows that the Dubai International Cricket Stadium, where India will play all their matches, has hosted 58 ODIs since 2009, and pacers have taken 466 wickets here at an average of 28.6 and economy of 4.8.

The spinners have combined to take 334 wickets till now at the DICS, and their average goes up to 30 but with a slightly better economy of 4.2 "The Dubai surface has a bit

more carry than say in Sharjah, and the pacers here have found some good success and that's why Pakistan has picked more pacers in their squad, though they are supposed to play only a couple of matches here," a former national selector told

"If you use the new ball well, then you can have a good

faulting the selection of Varun. He is in good form, but I would have liked to see one more experienced pacer in that side, someone like Siraj," he added. Spinners' role in Dubai

purchase there. I am not

From outside, having five spinners looks like an overestimation of the conditions. But the management took a chance with Chakravarthy because of his excellent recent

Chakravarthy has been trusted to deliver in a multi-nation tournament, after his failure to do so in the T20 World Cup 2021 at the same venue.

What might have tilted the scales in his favour is the fact that none of India's league stage opposition in the Champions Trophy – Bangladesh, Pakistan and New Zealand – have played him before.

The way he managed to trouble Chakravarthy. England in the ongoing home If India follows the template of the recent second ODI against series on account of being an unknown entity for the visitors England Cuttack,

arm wrist spinner, at least in the initial stages of the Champions Why Siraj was overlooked

walk of three matches in the league phase.

Chakravarthy can pip the left-

Another selection paradox is placing Rana ahead of Siraj as Bumrah's replacement for a tournament in which teams will have to do the tight-rope

sixth bowler, a much-debated concussion substitute for Shivam Dube, and walked away with game-changing figures of 3 for 33. In ODIs, Rana went for a few runs, but showed the gumption

to bowl across three spells in three various passages of the match. The risk that the management has taken is to trust Rana to grow in his role quickly and deliver in a high-pressure missed out in the second

A common line of thinking can be that the selectors wanted a

called for.

element about him in the squad once Bumrah was ruled out with a lower back injury. So, they picked an in-form Chakravarthy. Fair call. But why select him in place of

Jaiswal, an opener? Should they have replaced a spinner for him? Perhaps

accommodate Chakravarthy.

same eleven but an injury to Virat Kohli gave them a Once Kohli came back, Jaiswal Harshit Rana.