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# INDIA'S FOREX RESERVES DROP

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE/AGENCIES

ndia's forex reserves dropped by USD 5.693 billion to USD 634.585 billion in the week ended January 3, the Reserve Bank of India said on

In the previous reporting week, the overall kitty had declined by USD 4.112 billion to USD 640.279 billion.

The reserves have been on a declining trend for the last few weeks, and the drop has been attributed to revaluation along with forex market interventions by RBI to help reduce volatility in the rupee. The forex reserves had increased to an all-time high of USD 704.885 billion in end-September.

For the week ended January 3, foreign currency assets, a major component of the reserves, decreased by USD 6.441 billion to USD 545.48 billion, the data released on Friday showed.

Modi talks Godhra.

**US visa refusal in** 

debutant podcast

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in his first-ever

podcast, opened up about

significant moments from

including his experiences during the 2002 Godhra

riots and the United States

decision to deny him a visa

in 2005. The podcast, hosted

Nikhil Kamath, was released

Godhra riots, Modi shared,

"On February 24, 2002, I

became an MLA for the first

time, and on February 27, I

Zerodha co-founder

the

the

events

2002

political journey,

NEW DELH

on Friday

Recalling

surrounding



Expressed in dollar terms, the foreign currency assets include the effect of appreciation or depreciation of non-US units like the euro, pound and yen held in the foreign exchange reserves. This comes in the backdrop of

BALLOONS T

increasing pressure on the rupee. The rupee declined 14 paise and touched the crucial 86.00-mark (provisional) for the first time against the US dollar on Friday as it failed to resist pressure from a stronger American currency and huge outflow of foreign funds. Surging crude oil prices overseas and

negative sentiment in domestic equity markets also weighed down the Indian currency, forex traders said. Also, dollar strengthened increased demand amid anticipation of restrictive trade new measures by the Donald administration after Trump takes over as president on

At the interbank foreign exchange, the rupee opened at 85.88, hit the intra-day peak of 85.85 before settling at the lowest-ever level of 86.00 (provisional) against the greenback, 14 paise lower from its previous close.

January 20.

### SC orders status quo on Sambhal Mosque

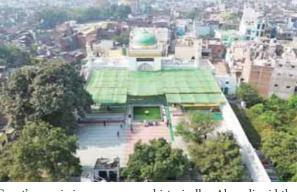
PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

DEHRADUN, SATURDAY JANUARY 11, 2025; PAGES 12 ₹3

Ordering status quo, the Supreme Court on Friday asked the Uttar Pradesh authorities, the Archaeological Survey of India and others not to take steps over a "private well" near the Mughal-era Jama Masjid mosque in Sambhal. Considering a plea of the management committee of Shahi Jama Masjid, Sambhal, a bench comprising Chief Justice Sanjiv Khanna and Justice Sanjay Kumar issued notices to the Centre, the Director General of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), Sambhal District Magistrate and other private individuals from the Hindu side led by Hari Shankar Jain. "Issue notice returnable on February 21. In the meanwhile, a status report to be filed by the respondents in two weeks. The respondents shall not give effect to any notice in relation to the well, the bench ordered. The mosque committee, in a fresh plea, said the Sambhal district administration, conducting a purported drive to revive old temples and wells in the city with reports indicating at least 32 old unused temples were revived

for public use and prayers. "In the list of wells being sought to be revived by the district administration is also a water well situated in the precincts of the mosque itself," it said. The plea therefore sought a direction magistrate to ensure a status quo over the private well located near the mosque entrance besides any future action without the Supreme and used for worship

and 19 wells were identified



Court's permission While a covered half of the well was said to be inside the mosque, the other half protruded outside on a curved platform. Water from the well, situated at the junction of three narrow lanes leading to the main entrance of the mosque, was being used by the mosque, the plea said. It was argued that the survey led to violence and loss of lives, prompting

the urgent intervention of the

Senior advocate Huzefa

Ahmadi, representing the

top court.

party,

management mosque committee, referred to the well's historical significance and said, "We have been drawing water from the well since time immemorial." Ahmadi raised concerns over a notice referring to the site as "Hari Mandir" and plans for starting religious activities there. "No such activities will be permitted. Please file a status report," the CJI said. The bench said the status quo concerning the well must be maintained, and no such to the Sambhal district notices would be given effect to. Advocate Vishnu Shankar Jain, representing the Hindu

said the well was

outside the mosque's purview

historically. Ahmadi said the well was partly within and partly outside the mosque premises, citing Google map imagery to buttress his claim. The mosque committee had challenged a November 19, 2024 order by the Sambhal senior division civil Judge allowing the appointment of an advocate commissioner to survey the mosque. The mosque committee said the plea for survey was allowed without hearing it on the same day it was filed.

The top court, on November 29 last year, ordered a Sambhal trial court to halt proceedings in the case over the mosque and its survey at Chandausi while directing the UP Government to maintain peace and harmony in the violence-hit town. The bench had directed "peace and harmony must be maintained" and took note of the statement of additional solicitor general K M Nataraj, appearing for the state administration. It directed the proposed report of the advocate commissioner following the mosque survey to be kept in a sealed cover, till the appellate court including the Allahabad High Court heard the appeal of the

mosque committee.



#### **2024:** hottest year, global temp above pre-industrial levels

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

The year 2024 was the hottest year on record, and the first with a global average temperature 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, European climate agency Copernicus said on Friday.

Every month from January to June 2024 was the warmest ever recorded for those months. From July to December, except for August, each month was the second warmest on record, behind 2023, it said.

According to scientists at the Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S), 2024 was the hottest year since global temperature tracking began in 1850. The average global temperature was 15.1 degrees Celsius -- 0.72 degrees above the 1991-2020 average and 0.12 degrees higher than that in 2023, the previous record-

#### WEATHER



assembly

Kejriwal

security

MAX 17.6°C

said the private

guard proposal

would enhance public security which has been a

priority for the ruling party

that had earlier installed

CCTV cameras and colony



went to the Assembly. I was a three-day-old MLA when such an incident happened in Godhra. We received reports of fire in the train, then gradually we received reports of casualties. I was in the House, and I was concerned. As soon as I came out, I said I want to visit Godhra.

"On Feb 24, 2002, I became MLA for the first time, and on Feb 27, I went to the Assembly. I was a threeday-old MLA when such an incident happened in Godhra. We first received reports of fire in train, then gradually we received reports of casualties. I was in the House,...," the Prime Minister described the challenges he faced in reaching the site.

### Delhi to begin renovation of T2, to shift operations to T1

Enthusiasts at the 10th Tamil Nadu International Balloon Festival, in Mamallapuram

RAJESH KUMAR 
NEW DELHI

Delhi airport's Terminal 2 (T2) will remain closed for about six months for refurbishment works in the next financial year. Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) has unveiled an

refurbish Terminal 2 or T2 of the Indira Gandhi International Airport which was built by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) four According to DIAL, the

decades ago.
During the renovation, T2
will temporarily close for four to six months, with operations being shifted to the newly expanded Terminal 1 to minimise expanded disruption. Sources said the refurbishment work is set to commence in the 2025-26 financial year, with completion targeted by the The quarter. upgrades are expected to be completed by the second quarter of Financial Year

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has asked the operator of IGI airport to undertake a comprehensive overhaul of Terminal 2 (T2). The



According to DIAL, the closure will not significantly impact airport operations as Terminal 1 (T1) will Terminal accommodate the additional load of passengers.T2, which was constructed 40 years ago by the AAI, will undergo extensive renovations to improve the passenger experience and increase capacity for future growth. T1 and T2 currently serve domestic flights while Terminal 3 (T3) handles international flights.

The decades-old terminal will undergo significant upgrades aimed at elevating the passenger experience and increasing the airport's capacity to meet future growth demands," said DIAL in a Press statement.

#### Delhi student held for bomb threats at 23 schools

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

With fear looming over the national Capital since May last year due to a spate of bomb threats, the Delhi Police on Friday revealed that they have for allegedly sending bomb threats to more than 23 schools in the city over the past few weeks as he did not

want to write his exams. More than 15 educational institutions including Lady Shri Ram College across the national Capital received bomb threats, which later turned out to be hoaxes. Since May last year, more than 100 schools have been receiving bomb threats through mails.

Police sources said the south

district police apprehended the Class 12 student, a minor, Thursday evening connection with the threats. According to police sources, the content of the mail received on Wednesday mentioned that since exams are going on in the schools, this will be the best time to strike and create maximum



around "freebies" ahead of Assembly polls overshadowing other major issues including pollution, law and order, crimes against women and infrastructure. Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Arvind announced his 10th freebies on Friday, pledging to provide Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs) with funds to hire private security guards if the party is voted back into power, as he took digs at the BJP for turning the city into a "crime capital". This was his 10th guarantee of the ongoing freebies being

offered by his government. Announcing funds for security guards in RWAs, Kejriwal said if the AAP forms the government, all RWAs will be provided with appropriate funds from the Delhi government to appoint security guards in their areas. "A systematic approach will be developed to ensure tairness and proper implementation," he added. Reacting to the new poll promise by AAP, the BJP slammed Kejriwal and accused him of making



AAP national convener Arvind Keiriwal addresses a press conference



Water cannons being used to disperse agitators during a protest by BJP

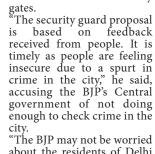
of voters from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar in Delhi's electoral rolls ahead of

members against AAP for allegedly making "fake" claims regarding registration

"false" promises on the RWAs Kejriwal's BJP rival again. New from the Delhi constituency, Parvesh Verma, in a post on X, asked the AAP supremo if he supremo if he remembered his previous promises to the RWAs in 2018 and 2022. Ahead of the MCD polls in 2022, Kejriwal promised to grant "financial and political powers" to the eir own councillors". Earlier, before the 2015

elections, Assembly he promised local area development funds after giving legal status to the RWAs by passing a bill in the

Photos: Ranjan Dimri/The Pioneer

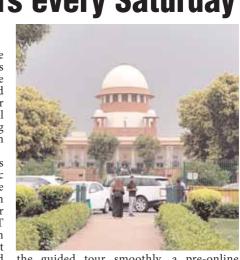


about the residents of Delhi but for us citizens are like family, and we want to give them a sense of security," he said. AAP chief said now the Delhi government will fund RWAs for hiring private security guards and the number of security guards in each colony will be based on the number of families in the RWA.

Meanwhile United Residents Joint Action (URJA) president Atul Goyal said, appreciate the announcement but some promises were made earlier as well, which makes it difficult to fully trust this

Opening its doors for public awareness, the Supreme Court has allowed guided tours for general public on designated days. The drive aimed at augmenting engagement and awareness, allows people to put to rest their curiosities on the court's mystique, and stroll through its majestic corridors every working Saturday — except the second and the fourth and declared holidays.

"Opening of the secured apex court premises will provide a great opportunity to the public to gain inside access to the interiors of the building and admire the majestic structure in its full glory," said an official. A circular issued on January 9 by Registrar Mahesh T Patankar (court and building) read, "In pursuance of the directions of the competent authority, the guided tour shall be conducted on every working Saturday, except second and fourth Saturdays and declared holidays in four slots from 10 am to 11.30 am; 11:30 am to 1 pm; 2 pm to 3.30 pm and 3.30 pm to 5 pm." Officials would accost the public during the tour and introduce them to the various



the guided tour smoothly, a pre-online booking would be mandatory. "A visitor can arrange pre-planned escorted visits with online booking made in advance," the official said, "and will be accompanied throughout the premises and introduced to parts of historical importance and they will also get a chance to see the courtrooms.

#### LA wildfires: 10 dead, thousands of buildings destroyed

PTI ■ LOS ANGELES

The two biggest wildfires ravaging the Los Angeles area have killed 10 people so far and burned at least 10,000 homes, buildings and other structures, officials said Thursday. The fast-moving Kenneth Fire started in the late afternoon in the San Fernando Valley just 3.2 km from a school serving as a shelter for fire evacuees and then moved neighbouring areas by the evening. Officials expressed encouragement after firefighters aided by calmer winds and help from crews from outside the state saw the first signs of successfully beating back the region's devastating wildfires that have killed 10 people so far. Detail story on page 8

### **Ayodhya readies for first Pran Pratishtha anniversary**

KAMLESH SRIVASTAVA

Preparations are in full **P** swing in Ayodhya to celebrate the first anniversary of Ram Lalla's Pran Pratishtha at the grand Ram Mandir. The Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Tirtha Kshetra Trust, in collaboration with the district administration, is organising a three-day celebration from January 11 to 13, 2025. The festivities will begin with Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath performing the sacred Abhishek of Ram Lalla on January 11.

Ram Lalla will be adorned in a specially crafted Pitambari outfit woven with gold and silver threads, symbolizing divine splendor. This outfit, crafted in Delhi, will arrive in Ayodhya on January 10 and will be used during the Abhishek. Devotees will have the opportunity to witness the sacred darshan.



Maha Aarti at 12:20 PM on January 11. Cultural he said. performances, devotional rituals, and Ram Katha discourses will follow. Champat Rai, General Secretary of the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Tirtha Kshetra Trust, stated that the event is a special opportunity

for those who missed last year's

consecration ceremony to participate. "We have made

extensive arrangements to

The public is invited to be part of these historic celebrations,

The Shri Ram Mandir Trust has confirmed the presence of 110 VIPs and thousands of devotees. Invitations have been extended to prominent saints and spiritual leaders from across the country. Public events at Angad Tila will continue throughout the three days, offering everyone a chance to participate in the welcome saints, dignitaries, celebrations.

#### WHY THE ANNIVERSARY **IS ON JANUARY 11**

While the original Pran

Pratishtha ceremony took place on January 22, 2024, this year's anniversary is being observed on January 11, 2025. The shift aligns with Hindu Vedic traditions, which follow the lunar calendar. According to the traditional calendar, Paush Shukla Dwadashithe same auspicious day as the original consecrationfalls on January 11 this year. This year's celebration is significant, as it coincides with ten auspicious yogas. It is believed that worshipping Lord Rama on this day fulfills devotees' deepest desires. The day offers a rare spiritual opportunity, as devotees can perform puja and seek blessings from Lord Ram Lalla.

### **Explore Supreme Court of India** with guided tours every Saturday PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Assembly polls in the Capital

sections of historical value. For conducting

#### **Warning- thunderstorms** with hail and lightning likely in six districts today

The State Meteorological Centre has issued a yellow warning (Watch) regarding the possibility of thunderstorms accompanied with hail and lightning in various parts of the State today. While thunderstorms accompanied with hail are likely to occur in Dehradun and Nainital districts, thunderstorms accompanied with lightning are likely to occur at isolated places in Tehri, Champawat, Pauri and Haridwar districts on Saturday. Apart from this, light to moderate rain is likely to occur at many places in Uttarkashi, Rudraprayag, Chamoli, Pithoragarh, Bageshwar and very light to light rain is likely to occur at a few places in Dehradun, Tehri, Haridwar,

Pauri, Nainital, Champawat and Uddham Singh Nagar districts. Dehradun is forecast to witness a partly to generally cloudy sky with the possibility of rain with thunderstorm. The maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to be about 17 degrees Celsius and 10 degrees Celsius respectively in Dehradun today. The maximum and minimum temperatures recorded on Friday were 16.3 degrees Celsius and 9.1 degrees Celsius respectively in Dehradun, 20.2 degrees Celsius and 5.6 degrees Celsius in Pantnagar, 18.5 degrees Celsius and 3.6 degrees Celsius in Mukteshwar and 17.6 degrees Celsius and 5.2 degrees Celsius

#### Anganwadi workers ask WECD Dept to provide Rs 5,000 pension

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Anganwadi workers have submitted a letter to the Women Empowerment and Child Development (WECD) department, requesting that they should be provided with a pension of at least Rs 5,000 after retirement. The president of the Anganwadi workers association Rekha Negi stated that the matter of granting a pension to Anganwadi workers and assistants has been raised and they expressed gratitude to the State government for considering this issue. However, she also emphasised that Rs 100 has been deducted from Anganwadi workers' salaries each month, which is collected in the Women Welfare Fund (WWF). Although they have proposed providing Rs 10 lakh as a lump sum upon retirement, no action has been taken on that front yet, Negi said. She pointed out that the State government claimed there is a provision for offering a pension of Rs 3,000 to Anganwadi workers. However, she highlighted that the government also provides an old-age pension to everyone after they turn 60. In light of this, the suggestion of a Rs 3,000 pension for Anganwadi workers seems contradictory. Further, Negi noted that since individuals can only receive one benefit at a time from the State government, Anganwadi workers would not be eligible for the old-age pension if they were granted a pension. Regarding this, they wrote a letter to the WECD department and urged the officials concerned to ensure that if they want to provide a pension to Anganwadi workers, it should be at least Rs 5,000 to offer them any significant benefit.

#### **IN BRIEF**

#### **UPES** wins Shaheed Memorial **Cup for 5th consecutive year**

**DEHRADUN:** The 11th edition of the Shaheed Memorial Cricket Tournament concluded on Friday with UPES Blue securing the championship title for the fifth consecutive year. Organised under Project Naman, this annual tournament serves as a tribute to the bravehearts of the Indian Armed Forces while providing financial and social support to their families. The 11th edition of the tournament had been inaugurated on January 2 The tournament featured the participation of eight competitive teams from across Uttarakhand: UPES Blue, PWD, Irrigation Haridwar, UPCL Roorkee, Agriculture, Pay Jal Department, MDDA, and Jal Sansthan. UPES Blue beat Irrigation Haridwar in the final match by 21 runs. In keeping with the objectives of Project Naman, UPES extended financial assistance of Rs five lakh to the family of late PTR Amit Kumar Anthwal who had attained martyrdom for the nation during an operation in the Kupwara Keran sector of Jammu and Kashmir.

#### Man scales mobile tower demanding reopening of his shop

RISHIKESH: A man climbed atop a mobile phone tower near a petrol pump in Shyampur area along the Haridwar-Rishikesh highway with a bottle of petrol on Friday, insisting that the shop he used to run inside the petrol pump premises be allowed to reopen and remained there for about two and half hours on Friday. Upon receiving information, police along with a fire department team rushed to the spot. Police said that the man identified as Anup Thapliyal was frustrated with his tyre inflating shop remaining closed since the petrol pump was sold. The new owner had walls erected at the place where the shop was lo-

#### BHEL signs MOU with ONGC for projects in renewable energy

HARIDWAR: Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding for exploring joint proj ects and collaboration in the area of new and renewable energy business, including Fuel Cell, Electrolyser and Battery Energy Storage System-based Projects. This MoU will help in contributing towards the country's National Green Hydrogen Mission, as well as leveraging the combined strengths of both organisations for collaborating in emerging areas within the clean energy ecosystem. The MoU was signed in the presence of the director (Industrial Systems & Products), and director (Engineering, Research & Development) - addl. charge, BHEL Bani Varma and director (Strategy and Corporate Affairs), ONGC Arunangshu Sarkar. This collaboration marks a significant step in aligning with India's renewable energy goals and advancing the adoption of clean energy solutions, they said.

#### **KU** student to receive Princeton Foundation fellowship

NAINITAL: The vice- chancellor of Kumaun University, Diwan Singh Rawat congratulated the BSc student of Agriculture (3rd Semester) Harshita Sharma on receiving the Princeton Foundation National Fellowship for Peace and Learning India 2024-25. Notably. Princeton Foundation is a global non-profit organisation registered with the US government and the Government of India. In 2011, this organisation started philanthropic work with the aim of empowering women in India through higher education and then in 2016, it expanded its scope of work in areas like healthcare, education and world peace. Harshita will receive a scholarship of Rs 25,000 per semester under the Princeton Foundation National Fellowship for Peace and Learning India 2024-25. The VC hailed her achievement as a matter of pride for the university, saying that it would inspire other students.

#### PM Modi likely to attend agricultural science congress at GBPUAT

PNS ■ PANTNAGAR

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to attend the 17th Agricultural Science Conference ot be held from February 20 to 22 by the GB Pant University of Agriculture and Technology (GBPUAT). The university's vice chancel-Manmohan Chauhan said this while informing the media about the preparations being made by the university for the event. He said that so far delegates from nine countries have confirmed that they will attend the conference. A considerable number of scientists and students from across India and abroad will be attending this event while international institutions are also contributing as co-convenors for the conference. "Organising this



conference is a matter of prestige for the university. Out of the 65 agriculture universities in the nation, GBPUAT is the first to get the opportunity to conference," this hold this conference, Chauhan said. Stating that the media had played an impor-tant role in publicising the

various activities held by the university last year, the university's director (Extension) JP Jaiswal expressed hope that the media will continue its positive efforts in the future too. Extension director assistant director Arpita Sharma Kandpal stressed on the role of the media in publicising scieninnovations.

"Our scientists are consistently working on revolutionary innovations and it is important to spread information about these through the media. This will enable the innovations and techniques to reach the farmers and rural communities," Kandpal said.

#### Pithoragarh to become a boxing hub: Arya

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Sports minister Rekha Arya said that Pithoragarh will become a hub for boxing, Speaking after inaugurating the multipurpose sports hall at the Hari Singh Thapa Sports College campus in Lelu on Friday, she emphasised that the State is entering a new era for sports and athletes. Under the leadership of chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, the

State government has created

opportunities for those who

excel in sports, alleviating



concerns about their careers. Arya added that, under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the country is

preparing to host the Olympics soon. She expressed pride in Pithoragarh hosting a boxing event as part of the National Games, stating that it will inspire new boxing talent to emerge in the area. Additionally, the Sports minister inspected the boxing venue and called for the prompt completion of the road leading to the multipurpose hall.

#### National Games volunteers to be briefed on their tasks during Youth Day programme

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Volunteers registered for the upcoming 38th National Games will be briefed about their responsibilities during the Youth Day programme at Gaulapar Sports Complex in Haldwani on January 12. Informing about this, Sports and Youth Welfare minister Rekha Arya said that this year's Youth Day programme will be special as it coincides with Swami Vivekananda's birth an-

niversary on January 12, 2025, in Haldwani. She emphasised that the event is linked to the National Games as the life philosophy of Swami Vivekananda serves as an excellent source of inspiration for the volunteers. vouth Arya said that during the event, she will discuss responsibilities with thousands of registered volunteers and provide them with certificates. She added that there will also be men's and women's races organised during the event. Additionally, performances of group folk dance and artistic Yoga will also take place. The Swami . Vivekananda State Level Youth Award for 2024-25 will also be presented during this event, she said. Arya provided more details about the gogreen initiative, stating that all empty mineral water bottles used by players,

coaches, support staff and spectators during the upcoming National Games will be collected and recycled. The recycled plastic will then be used to make chairs and benches for parks and other public areas. The Sports minister further added that the organisation responsible for this work had been invited to demonstrate the recycling process during the Youth Day programme.

#### **NORTHERN RAILWAY E-AUCTION NOTICE**

• The Bids were invited through e-auction scheduled on 27.01.25 for leasing of parcel space of 32 SLRs in Train Nos.:

Trains No's 14816 (F-I, F-II, R-I), 19566 (F-I, F-II, R-I), 12912 (F-I), 14308 (F-I, F-II, R-I), 14631 (F-I, F-II, R-I), 19610 (F-I), 14230 (F-I, F-II, R-I), 12056 (F-I), 14310 (F-I), 14042 (F-I, F-II, R-I), 14120 (F-I), 12172 (F-I) 14090 (F-I, F-II, R-1), 14318 (F-I), 22660 (F-I), 15019 (F-I), 19272 (F-I),14311 (F-I) originating from Moradabad Division for a period of 2 years. E-auction for the same will be invited on 27.01.25 10:00 am through www.ireps.gov.in. The detailed terms and conditions for the

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

#### NORTHERN RAILWAY

**E-TENDER NOTICE** Sr. DEN/III/MB acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders

upto closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards 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 allowed. Tender No., Date 295-DRM-MB-24-25 10.01.2025

П	Terider No., Date	293-DIXIVI-IVID	-24-23	10.01.2025			
	Name of Work		ail in situ with single shot crucible fitted as ation in connection with track renewal wo fSr. DEN/III/MB.				
	Tender Closing D	ate, Time	03.02.2025, 16:00 Hrs.				
	Advertised Value	(Rs.)	1,49,65,063.50				
	Earnest Money (F	₹s.)		2,24,800.00			
	Bidding Start Dat	te		20.01.2025			
	Validity of Offer (	Days)		60 Days			
	Period of Comple	etion	12 Months				
No. 75-W/2/3/WA/Publication Dated:		d: 10.0	1.2025	132/2025			
	SE	RVING CUSTO	MER	S WITH A SMILE			

Branch Office: ICICI Bank Limited, 7C, Awas, Vikas, Ground Floor, Delhi Road, Haridwar- 249407

PUBLIC NOTICE-TENDER CUM E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSET [See proviso to rule 8(6)] Notice for sale of immovable assets

E-Auction Sale Notice for the sale of immovable asset(s) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financia Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

This notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of ICICI Bank Limited will be sold on 'As is where is', 'As is what is' and 'Whatever there is' as per the brief particulars given hereunder;

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of E-Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
1.	(Borrower), Bhavna Jha (Co Borrower) LAN- LBHWR00004922961,	Plot No. 43, Khasra No. 39/2, Village Begampur, Pargana Roorkee, Tehsil And District Haridwar, Uttarakhand. Area: 875 Sq Ft	Rs 24,58,539/- as on January 05, 2025	Rs 17,30, 000/- Rs 1,73,000/-	February 03, 2025 from 01:00 PM- 03:00 PM	

The online auction will be conducted on the website (https://disposalhub.com) of our auction agency M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited The Mortgagors/ Noticees are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest by February 18, 2025 before 05:00 P.M. else the secured asset(s) will be sold as per schedule. The prospective bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at ICICI Bank Limited, 7C, Awas, Vikas, Ground Floor, Delhi Road, Haridwar- 249407 on or before February 18, 2025 before 05:00 P.M. Thereafter, they have to submit their offer through the website mentioned above on or before February 18, 2025 before 05:00 P.M. along with the scanned image of the Bank acknowledged DD towards proof of payment of EMD. In case the prospective bidder(s) is/ are unable to submit his/ her/ their offer through the website, then the signed copy of tender documents may be submitted at ICICI Bank Limited, 7C, Awas, Vikas, Ground Floor, Delhi Road, Haridwar- 249407 on or before February 18, 2025 before 05:00 P.M. Earnest Money Deposit DD/PO should be from a Nationalised/ Scheduled Bank in favour of ICICI Bank Limited'

Earnest Money Deposit DD/PO should be from a Nationalised/ Scheduled Bank in favour of 'ICICI Bank Limited' payable at Haridwar.

For any further clarifications in terms of inspection, Terms and Conditions of the E-Auction or submission of tenders, contact ICICI Bank Employee Phone No. 9372730494/8584874809

Please note that the Marketing agencies 1. M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited, 2. Augeo Assets Management Private Limited 3. Matex Net Pvt. Ltd. 4. Finvin Estate Deal Technologies Pvt Ltd 5. Girnarsoft Pvt Ltd 6. Hecta Prop Tech Pvt Ltd 7. Arca Emart Pvt Ltd 8. Novel Asset Service Pvt Ltd 9. Nobroker Technologies Solutions Pvt Ltd have also been engaged for facilitating the sale of this property.

 $The Authorised\ Officer\ reserves\ the\ right to\ reject\ any\ or\ all\ the\ bids\ without\ furnishing\ any\ further\ reasons.$ For detailed Terms and Conditions of the sale, please visit www.icicibank.com/n4p4s

Date : January 10, 2025 Place: Haridwar

Authorized Officer

#### Two including ONGC worker arrested with smack worth Rs 10 lakh

An ONGC worker and another man were arrested in Dehradun for possession of smack worth Rs10 lakh. The accused, identified as Neeraj Singh (30), a contractual worker at ONGC and Pushpit Shukla (24) were intercepted near IT Park Gate on Dhoran Road on Friday. The officials said that acting on a tip-off, police stopped the two men, who were riding a scooty, and recovered 32 grammes of smack, an

शाखान्तर्गत दैवीय आपदा से क्षतिग्रस्त पेयजल

योजनाओं का मरम्मत / पुननिर्माण कार्य

सायं 5 बजे तक) में देखी जा सकती है।

the said notice.

Loan

20151423

) & 20156737

d Loan

TCFLA03740

: OTHER'S PROPERTY.

Date: 11.01.2025

Place: Dehradun (Uttarakhand)

ead with Rule 8 of the said Act.

costs etc. from date of demand notice.

respect of time available to redeem the secured assests

उत्तराखण्ड पेयजल संसाधन विकास एवं निर्माण निगम कार्यालय अधिग्रासी अभियंता, द्वितीय निर्माण ग्राखा,

निविदा सूचना

एतद्द्वारा अध्यक्ष, उत्तराखण्ड पेयजल संसाधन विकास एवं निर्माण निगम की ओर से निम्न

ग्रामीण कार्यो हेतु पाईप लेईंग, "डी" अथवा उच्चतर श्रेणी के उत्तराखण्ड पेयजल निगम में

सम्बन्धित कार्यक्षेत्र हेतु पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से मोहरबन्द निविदायें दि० 28.01.2025 (किसी

कारणवश अवकाश घोषित होने पर अगले कार्यदिवस) की अपरान्ह 3:00 बजे तक इस

कार्यालय में आमन्त्रित की जाती हैं, जो उसी दिन दि0 28.01.2025 को उपस्थित ठेकेदारों के

समक्ष अपरान्ह 3.30 बजे अधोहस्ताक्षरी अथवा अधोहस्ताक्षरी द्वारा मनोनित अधिकारी द्वारा

खोली जायेगी। निविदा प्रपत्र दिनांक 27.01.2025 की अपरान्ह 5:00 बजे तक इस कार्यालय

उक्त योजनाओं पर धनावंटन होने के उपरान्त ही भुगतान किया जाना सम्भव होगा।

यथास्थिति उक्त कार्यों में निर्णय प्रेषित प्राक्कलनों पर सक्षम प्राधिकारी की स्वीकृति व

शेष नियम एवं शर्ते कार्यालय में किसी भी कार्यदिवस एवं कार्यालय समय (सुबह 10 बजे र

ल संचय-जीवन संचय'' ''कृपया जल स्रोतो को प्रदूषित होने से बचाईये वैधानिक चेतावनी-जल स्रोतो को प्रदूषित करना दण्डनीय अपराध है।

POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)

(As per Appendix IV read with Rule 8(1) of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002

This is to inform that Tata Capital Ltd.(TCL) is a non-banking finance company and

incorporated under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 and having its registered office a

Peninsula Business Park, Tower A, 11th Floor, Ganpatrao Kadam Marg, Lower Parel, Mumbai 400013 and a branch office amongst other places at New Delhi ("Branch"). That vide Orders

dated 24.11.2023, the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) Mumbai has duly sanctioned the Scheme of Arrangement between Tata Capital Financial Services Limited ("TCFSL") and Tata

Cleantech Capital Limited ("TCCL") as transferors and Tata Capital Limited ("TCL") as transferee under the provisions of Sections 230 to 232 read with Section 66 and other

applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 ("said Scheme"). In terms thereof, TCFSL and TCCL (Transferor Companies) along with its undertaking have merged with TCL, as a going

concern, together with all the properties, assets, assets, rights, benefits, interest, duties, obligations, liabilities, contracts, agreements, securities etc. w.e.f. 01.01.2024. In pursuance of the said Order and the Scheme, all the facility documents executed by TCFSL and all

outstanding in respect thereof stood transferred to Applicant Company and thus the TCL is entitled to claim the same from the [Borrowers/Co-Borrowers] in terms thereof.

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Tata Capital Ltd. under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act

2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security

Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a Demand Notice - 18.06.2022 as below calling

upon the Borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of

The Borrowers, having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers, i

particular and the public, in general, that the undersigned has taken Physical Possession of the

property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4)

The Borrowers, in particular, and the public in general, are hereby cautioned not to deal with the

property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Tata Capita

Limited, for an amount referred to below along with interest thereon and penal interest, charges

The Borrower's attention is invited to provision of sub section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in

Amount &

**Physical** 

Possessio

07.01.2025

Name of Obligor(s)/

Legal Heir(s)/Lega

Representative (s)

1. M/S HOTEL BALAJI, Through its Partner, 67/14, TYAGI ROAD, DEHRADUN,

UTTARAKHAND- 248001 2. RAKESI

KUMAR MITTAL alias RAKESH MITTAL

HOUSE NUMBER 67/68, TYAGI ROAD

DEHRADUN, UTTARAKHAND- 248001 ALSO AT 67/14, TYAGI ROAD, DEHRADUN,

MITTAL, 67/14, TYAGI ROAD, DEHRADUN,

UTTARAKHAND- 248001 ALSO AT: HOUSE NUMBER 67/68, TYAGI ROAD,

DEHRADUN, UTTARAKHAND- 248001 4. USHA MITTAL, 67/14, TYAGI ROAD,

DEHRADUN, UTTARAKHAND- 248001 ALSO AT: HOUSE NUMBER 67/68, TYAGI

ROAD, DEHRADUN, UTTARAKHAND-

248001 5. PALLAVI MITTAL, 67/14, TYAGI

ROAD, DEHRADUN, UTTARAKHAND-

248001 ALSO AT: HOUSE NUMBER 67/68,

YAGI ROAD, DEHRADUN

Description of Secured Assets/Immovable Properties: PROPERTY NUMBER 1: ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF PROPERTY COMPRISING OF LAND BEARING KHATA NUMBER

1548 (FASLI 1416 TO 1421), KHASRA NUMBER 681 KA MIN (THDC PLOT NUMBER 91)

PHASE 1 SITUATED AT MALIZA DEHRAKHAS PARGANA PACHWADOON DEHRADUN

UTTARAKHAND, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED IN TITLE DEEDS. BOUNDED AS

EAST: OTHER'S PROPERTY, WEST: OTHER'S PROPERTY, NORTH: ROAD 16 FT', SOUTH

2nd Property - PROPERTY NUMBER 2: ALL THAT PROPERTY BEARING MUNICIPAL

NUMBER 67/68, TYAGI ROAD, DEHRADUN, UTTARAKHAND, MORE PARTICULARLY

DESCRIBED IN SALE DEED, BOLINDED AS: EAST: 20 FT' WIDE ROAD, WEST: OTHER!

PROPERTY, NORTH: 20 FT' WIDE ROAD, SOUTH: OTHER'S PROPERTY (Except 1st floor

UTTARAKHAND-248001

due to medical condition of customer's father (Mr. Rakesh Mittal)

TATA CAPITAL LIMITED

Regd. Office: 11th Floor, Tower A, Peninsula Business Park,
Ganpatrao Kadam Marg, Lower Parel, Mumbai-400013.

electronic weighing scale, 40 small packets of smack and Rs 10,620 in cash. During interrogation, it was revealed that both men had been involved in drug trafficking for a considerable period, lured by the prospect of high profits. They reportedly sourced the smack from areas such as Moradabad, Najibabad and Haridwar and supplied it to various clients in Dehradun, including college students and young addicts. The accused

निविदा कार्य पूर्ण

प्रपत्रों का करने की

अवधि

मूल्य

2000.00+

धरोहर

धनराशि

आपदा

also disclosed that their supplier was a man named Arun, from whom they regularly procured the narcotics. The drugs were repackaged into smaller packets to be sold at higher prices, as per the officials. They informed that the accused Singh hails from the Katkot village in Ranipokhari, Dehradun, while Shukla is a resident of Badshahpur village in Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh. Both men had been allegedly distributing the narcotics across various parts of Dehradun, targeting young individuals in educational institutions. The police have registered a case against them under the NDPS

#### THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS **PUBLIC NOTICE**

drug network is ongoing.

Act and an investigation to

identify other members of the

In my Husband army record my name mistakenly recorded as YASHODA BANDARI where as my correct name is YASHODA BHANDARI as mentioned in other all documents. Army no JC 757440Y RANK EX SUB Name HUKAM SINGH BHANDARI R/O VILL. H.NO. 10 GANESHPURAM LOWER NATHANPUR P.O. NEHRUGRAM DEHRADUN UTTARAKHAND. I have changed my correct name in my husband army record vide IN-UK68113661401053X Affidavit 10.01.2025 before Dehradun.

मेरे सैन्य अभिलेखों नुसार, मेरे दिवंगत पिता का गलत नाम स्वर्गीय सतीश चंद्र के रूप में दर्ज है, मेरे आधार नं. 540551166857 के अनुसार उनका सही नाम स्वर्गीय सतीश गौतम F/o आर्मी नं. 15339712K नायक संजय गौतम, गांव— खरकाली, पोस्ट—बी बी नगर, तह-सियाना, जिला-बुलंदशहर, यू. पी—203402 है।

मेरे सैन्य अभिलेखोंअनुसार, मेरी बेटी का गलत नाम बी धनुस्का दर्ज है, सही नाम धनुष्का बी आधार नं. 225385932132 D/o आर्मी नं. 16116406P नायक बालाकृष्णन एन, दरवाजा नंबर: 2/126 गांव-मेल सुन्नंबुकलाई, पोस्ट – पेरियागरम, तहसील और जिला-तिरुपथुर, तमिलनाडु – 635901 है।

मेरे ICICI BANK ACCOUNT NO-091305002528 CIF ID-569995461 SAHAI CONSTRUCTIONS में त्रुटिवश मेरा नाम MOHD SAJID गलत दर्ज हो गया है। जबकि मेरा वास्तविक नाम MOHAMMAD SAZID है। भविष्य में मुझे MOHAMMAD SAZID S/o MUMTAJ AHMAD के नाम से जाना पहचाना व पुकारा जाए। निवासी–194, बाहर किला लंढौरा हरिद्वार, उत्तराखण्ड ।

मेरे सैन्य अभिलेखों में, मेरे दिवंगत पिता का गलत नाम स्वर्गीय कबले सिंह दर्ज है, उनका सही नाम स्वर्गीय काबल सिंह आधार नं. 411633556628 F/o आर्मी नं. 18000969H नायक (जीआईटी) प्रभजीत सिंह, बस स्टैंड के पास, मदाहर कलां, पोस्ट –बरीवाला, तह- मुक्तसर, जिला- मुक्तसर, पंजाब-152025 है।

मेरे पुत्र के सैन्य अभिलेखोंन्सार. मेरा गलत नाम द्रौपदी देवी के रूप में दर्ज है, सही नाम द्रौपथी देवी आधार नं. 773086701376 M/o आर्मी नंबर 15345657P नायक (जेईसिवि) प्रकाश चंद्र भट्ट, मकान नं. —34,वार्ड नं. ६, निकट टैक्सी स्टैंड टनकपुर, पोस्ट-टनकपुर, तह. चम्पावत, जिला – चम्पावत, उत्तराखंड 262309 है।

मेरे पति के सैन्य रिकॉर्ड में, मेरा गलत नाम अलका मिश्रा दर्ज है. सही नाम अलका शेषाद्री आधार नं. -514415668735 W/o आर्मी नं. 15590340W नायक प्रदीप कुमार मिश्रा, म.नं.-427 एमआईजी 2, आमदी नगर, हुडको कॉलोनी दर्ज भिलाई पश्चिम, पोस्ट-भिलाई पश्चिम, जिला-दुर्ग, छत्तीसगढ़-4900009 है।

सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि मैंने अपनी हाईस्कूल (रोल नं. 0086751) वर्ष 2008 तथा इंटरमीडिएट (रोल नं. 060597) वर्ष 2010 की मूल मार्कशीट कहीं खो दी है, जो अभी तक नहीं मिली है। सुनीता उर्फ सुनीता देवी पुत्री श्री दर्मियान सिंह पत्नी श्री पदम सिंह निवासी लौगा, रुद्रप्रयाग, उत्तराखंड।

#### F. No. 2(11)/2020-PL-Part (2) Government of India Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change [Policy & Law Division]

Level-I, Jal Wing, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi — 03

Sd/- Authorised Officer

For Tata Capital Ltd.

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change invites applications for filling up of twenty-two (22) posts of Associates (Legal) on contractual basis in the Policy & Law Division of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC) on payment of a consolidated monthly remuneration ranging from ₹40,000/- to ₹1,00,000/-.

The detailed Advertisement including the Application Form, qualifications, terms of engagement, age limit, conditions of service, etc. are available on the Ministry's website www.moef.qov.in at https://moefccrecruitment.nic.in /moef-legal-recruitment.

The last date for submitting the application in the Ministry is 31/01/2025 (11:59 p.m.). All applications together with enclosures have to be submitted online at the link i.e. https://moefccrecruitment.nic.in/moef-legalrecruitment. The Ministry shall not entertain any other mode of submission of application nor shall process any application received beyond the due date and time.

CBC - 13101/11/0012/2425

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### **Dhami to kick off ULB** poll campaign from **Karnprayag today**

PNS DEHRADUN

Chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami will commence campaigning for the urban local body elections from Karnprayag on Saturday. The BJP's State election management committee finalised the campaign schedule for its star campaigners, includ-ing Dhami and State president Mahendra Bhatt on Friday. The party's State media in-charge Manveer Singh Chauhan stated that the committee held a com-

prehensive review of the election campaign strategies and activities of various departments. During the meeting, chaired by Mahendra Bhatt and attended by senior leaders like State general secretaries Ajay Kumar and Aditya Kothari, the schedule for the CM and other prominent lead-



ers was given a final shape. According to Chauhan, the schedule includes events in Dehradun on January 13, with programmes planned up to January 20. Bhatt will also be actively campaigning, attending over 40 events across municipal bodies starting January 12. Besides this, meetings with

former CMs, MPs, cabinet ministers and other key star campaigners have also been conducted to finalise their participation in various regions. He informed that the BJP has also sought time slots from Rajya Sabha MP Sudhanshu Trivedi for events in Almora, Dehradun and Srinagar.

### Committed to protect cultural values & conserve demography in U'khand: CM

PNS DEHRADUN

Chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami has said that the State government is working in a dedicated manner to conserve the cultural values and demography of Uttarakhand. The CM was addressing people after inaugurating the Uttarayani Fair at TDC ground, Khatima on Friday. He said that the State government has enacted laws against religious conversions and riots and has acted against land and spit jihad. The CM said that Uttarakhand has become the first State in the country to make a law on uniform civil code (UCC) and it will be implemented in this month in the State. Dhami said that the in-depth inquiry is being held against the outsiders purchasing land in the State. He claimed that the State government is taking possession of the land of such people who have purchased land in Uttarakhand in violation of the existing laws. The CM averred that the State government is moving forward with its mantra of 'Vikalp Rahit Sankalp'. He said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi the government is moving on the path of development and conserving the rich cultural heritage of the country. He said that PM Modi has laid the foundation of cultural renais-

sance in the country by the construction of Kashi Vishwanath corridor, Ujjain Mahakal temple corridor and construction of a magnificent Ram temple in Ayodhya. Dhami said that the work of reconstruction of Kedarnath Dham, master plan of Badrinath Dham and reconstruction and beautification of religious places and temples under Manaskhand Mandirmala mission are being done in Uttarakhand. Similarly work on Ganga and Sharda corridors is being done. The CM said that the State government has formulated policies to attract investment in the State. The government is also working in the field of employment generation. He averred that the government

has acted against the copying

mafia and has ensured that all the recruitment examinations are held in a transparent manner. Giving greetings of Uttarayani, Sankranti, Ghughutia and Lohdi in advance, the CM said that he is emotionally attached to this fair. He said that the folk art and traditional songs of the State are being carried to the new generation by the programmes and events being organised in the fair. The CM said that the tableaux depicting rich cultural heritage of Uttarakhand make a round of the city before the start of the fair. He said that the fair also provides a platform for the handicrafts and products of the cottage industry and helps in strengthening the rural economy.

### Yogi to campaign in U'khand for ULB elections next week

UP CM to address rallies in Rishikesh, Roorkee and Haldwani

PNS DEHRADUN

The Bharatiya Janata Party is gearing up to leverage the popularity and influence of Uttar Pradesh chief minister Yogi Adityanath to woo voters ahead of ensuing Urban Local Bodies elections in Uttarakhand. He is set to visit the State next week to campaign for the BJP candidates in the elections. The UP CM, a key campaigner for BJP, enjoys significant popularity among the people of Uttarakhand and the party plans to capitalise on his influence to the fullest. The BJP State media in-charge Manveer Singh Chauhan told The Pioneer that Adityanath will address rallies in support of the party's candidates in the municipal corporations of Rishikesh, Roorkee and Haldwani. The BJP aims to bolster its presence in Uttarakhand through highprofile campaigns led by its prominent leaders as it seeks to secure victories in the ULB elections. The BJP released the list of star campaigners for

the ULB elections on

Wednesday. Alongside Adityanath, the list includes BJP State president Mahendra Bhatt, Uttarakhand CM Pushkar Singh Dhami, BJP national general secretary Dushyant Gautam, national vice president Rekha Verma and Union Minister of State Ajay Tamta. Chauhan stated that the party is currently coordinating with the star campaigners to finalise their schedules. "The BJP will complete all preparations this week and issue the campaign schedule of the star campaigners. The campaigns will begin next week," he said. Regarding Adityanath's itinerary, itinerary, Chauhan informed that efforts are underway to confirm the dates of his visit. "As of now, the UP CM is expected to campaign in Rishikesh, Roorkee and Haldwani. He will address meetings in these cities but further campaign locations might be added in the coming days. Other star campaigners will also start campaigning from next week," Chauhan added.

### **Uttarakhand Congress** cracks whip on rebels in ULB elections

PNS DEHRADUN

The Uttarakhand Congress has expelled many leaders from the primary membership of the party for a period of six years for contesting against the official candidates of the party in the elections of the urban local bodies.

The State unit of the party has also requested the central leadership to take discipli-nary action against Pithoragarh MLA Mayukh Mahar who is openly supporting a Congress rebel in the mayoral election of Pithoragarh.

On the recommendation of the district and Mahanagar units of the party, the Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) president Karan Mahara removed former Roorkee mayor Yashpal Rana from the party. His wife is contesting as an independent candidate in the Mayoral election in Roorkee. Similarly Santosh Rawat, Kubja Dharmwan and Kavi Joshi, the party rebels in Rudraprayag, Ukhimath and Bageshwar respectively were

also expelled from the party. Mahara expelled the former vice president of the ex-servicemen cell, Mahendra Pal Singh Rawat for refusing to withdraw his candidature for the post of mayor, Municipal Corporation of Kotdwar in the favour of the official candidate of the party.

The PCC president also expelled Dineshchand Master



and Mahendra Singh, the party rebels in Rishikesh, Sunil Panwar ( Gauchar, Chamoli), Gaipal Lal Saini, Anil Kumar and Anita Devi (Karnprayag), Pushkar Singh Rawat (Gairsain), Arti Navani (Peepalkoti), Preeti Panwar ( Chamba), Vinod Lal Shah ( Ghansali) and Bhagat Singh

Negi (Tehri) for contesting against official candidates of the party.

The advisor of the PCC president, Amarjeet Singh said that the party leadership has taken a serious note of the leaders who are hurting the prospects of the official candidates of the party in the ULB elections and has expelled them for a period of six years from the primary membership of the party.

Singh added that the central leadership of the party has been requested to take action on Pithoragarh MLA Mahar. Similarly a request has been sent to the national president of Youth Congress for disciplinary action against the national secretary of Youth Congress Rishendra Mahar.

Singh said that the PCC president has made it clear that the indiscipline will not be tolerated and stern action will be taken against whosoever who crosses the line of discipline in

### **Congress misleading locals** on slum issues, no family will lose shelter: BJP

PNS DEHRADUN

 $R^{\text{esponding to Congress'}}_{\text{allegations regarding the}}$ demolition of slum areas, the Bharatiya Janata Party has dismissed them as baseless propaganda. The party stated that it is committed to the welfare of slum dwellers and will ensure that no family loses its shelter until a permanent solution is found.

The State media in-charge Manveer Singh Chauhan said that Congress is attempting to spread misinformation. According to him, the BJP is focussed on resolving the issue of regularising slums permanently. Chauhan said that the State government has already provided relief to slum dwellers multiple times

by introducing ordinances. He stressed the importance of fixing river widths through hydrological surveys, a crucial step for land-use conversion and regularisation of these settlements. Chauhan stated that the survey is progressing decisively and once completed, it will enable the definition of riverbanks and submerged lands, paving the way for further processes.

He criticised Congress for making unsubstantiated claims without technical understanding. He stated that Congress has no real concern for slum dwellers and accused the opposition of politicising a sensitive issue. He credited BJP with protecting slum residents from economic and political exploitation and ensuring their development through tax integration and regularisation initiatives.

The BJP government is committed to finding a permanent legal resolution with scientific and technical studies now in their final stages, he said. "The BJP had also provided relief through ordinances in 2018 and 2021, unlike Congress, which merely resorted to superficial measures for applause. The BJP is the true protector of slum dwellers and will continue to ensure justice for them," he added.

#### Bansal urges public cooperation in waste segregation for a cleaner Dehradun

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The Dehradun municipal commissioner Namami Bansal has called upon residents to actively participate in source segregation of waste as part of the city's door-to-door garbage collection initiative. Aiming to achieve 100 per cent source segregation, the Municipal Corporation of Dehradun (MCD) has commenced its

transform Dehradun into a cleaner and more beautiful city, on par with other developed urban centers in the country. She also emphasised on the importance of community involvement in the Swachh Doon-Sundar Doon vision, urging residents to actively support the municipal corporation's efforts in maintaining



efforts in ward number 53 Mata Mandir Marg as the first phase of the project. Bansal conducted an inspection of the source segregation process in the ward on Friday. During the inspection, she emphasised the need for public cooperation to agement across the city.

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

Pronch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd., Plot No. 23, Shal Tower, 3rd Floor, New Rohn Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi- 110005

The Authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcemen

of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to

repay the amount mentioned in the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice. Having failed to repay the amount, the Notice is issued to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described below, by exercising powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The

borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property. Any dealing with the property will be subject to charges of ICICI Bank Limited.

Description of Property/

Date of Symbolic Possession

cleanliness and improving waste management practices. She stated that MCD plans to extend the initiative to other wards in the coming months to ensure a sustainable and systematic approach to waste man-

# person within 2 days in Ramnagar

PNS ■ RAMNAGAR

days in the jungles of Ramnagar. The body of an old man who had gone to the jungle to collect fodder on the previous day was discovered on Friday morning. Journalist Deep Belwal's father, 60-year-old Bhuwan Chandra Belwal of Kyari village had gone to the jungle on Thursday morning to collect fodder. His family informed the Forest department when he did not return by the evening. Personnel of the Ramnagar and Terai West forest divisions started searching for the man along with the villagers. Some of his clothes and blood stains were discovered late in the evening.

The search operation was

 $T \ \text{wo persons have died in} \\ \text{tiger attacks within two} \\ \text{body was discovered about} \\ \text{15 kilometres deep in the} \\$ 15 kilometres deep in the dense jungle. Sub divisional magistrate Rahul Shah, Tehsildar Kuldeep Pande, Ramnagar divisional forest officer Digandh Nayak also reached the area. The post mortem examination was conducted by a team of doctors in the jungle, after which the body was handed over to the family mem-

here that on Thursday, a daily wager who had gone to collect firewood in the jungle had been killed by a tiger in Savalde area. His death had caused considerable anger among the local villagers who were demanding that the tiger be shot. Meanwhile, the authorities called off late at night. The have stepped up vigilance

It is pertinent to mention



departmental staff and villagers resumed the search villagers to avoid venturing on Friday morning. Belwal's deep into the forest area.

and have appealed to the

### Tiger kills second | CS asks officers to expedite process of Ioan disbursals & payments

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

hief secretary **○**Radha Raturi has directed the secretaries of departments and the head of departments to expedite the process of loan disbursals and payments in the State. She gave the order while chairing the high power committee (HPC) on Rural Infrastructure Development Fund

(RIDF) of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) at the State secretariat on Friday.

Taking cognisance of the delay in the process of loan disbursements and payments as well as in the process of sending proposals to the NABARD, the CS directed the officers to speed up the process and emphasised on their simpli-

Raturi said that the progress of disbursement by the departments in relation to the approved proposals is not satisfactory. All the departments need to speed up this. She said that the problems being faced in distribution and payments by the departments should be resolved and the work should be completed soon. The chief secretary has directed for continuous monitoring of the proposals.

Under NABARD irrigation facilities have been created on 2.39 lakh hectares of land in the state from RIDF. About 15,570 kilometres of rural road network has been constructed and improved. In the State 27,729 meters of bridge has been constructed. Under the scheme 23.77 lakh rural population has got drinking water facilities and 239 schools and ITI have been constructed and renovated.



Additional chief secretary Anand Bardhan, secretaries Nitesh Jha, Dilip Jawalkar, Pankaj Kumar Pandey, additional secretaries and other officers attended the meeting.

Surai/ Mamta Yadav/ LBDEH00006493996/ TBDEH00006476817/ TBDEH00006476820

Sunpreet Singh Wadhwa Jasbir Singh Wadhwa/ Inpreet Singh Wadhwa/ LBDEH00004702043 / LBDEH00004702046

Name of the Borrower(s)/Loan Account Number Branch Dehradun/ Faridabad Part of Khasra No. 2096 KA, Situated at Gram 10,2024 Mehuwala Mafi, Pargana Pachwadoon, Tehsi and District Dehradun, Uttarakhand- 248001/ 25,41,966.50/ August 05,2024 Dehradun/ Rs. Dehradun/ Land Bearing Khata No. 1460 (Fasli 1416 To 1421), Khasra No. 649 KA, (Old Khasra No Rs. 42,87,889.62/-303), Situated At Mauza Aamwala Tarla, Pargana Parwadoon, District Dehradun Uttarakhand- 248001/ Jan-08-2025

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/guarantors(s) is/are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold after 30 days from the date of publishing this Notice, as per the provisions under Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002. Date: January 10, 2025 Place: Dehradun

#### पंजाब नैशनल बैंक 😃 punjab national bank

Recovery Center, PNB House, BHEL, Sector-IV Haridwar- 249403. Email: cs8238@pnb.co.in

Amount Outstanding

Rs. 1,35,23,891.40

with further interest and

expenses w.e.f 01.05.2022

POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property) Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Punjab National Bank under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued demand notice/s on the dates mentioned against each account calling upon the respective Borrowers/Guarantors /Mortgagors to repay the amount as mentioned against each account within 60 days from the date of notice(s)/ date of receipt of the said notice(s). The Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagors and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property/ies described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on the dates mentioned against each account. The Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagors in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property/ies and any dealing with the property/ies will be subject to the charge of Punjab National Bank for the amounts and interest thereon. The Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagors attention is invited to provisions of sub section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured

**Details of Security/Property** 

10.	Borrower/Guarantor		Notice	notice affixed	
1.	Branch: Bhagwanpur (488200)	Primary Security:- Hypothecation of Stock Raw Materials, finished Goods Plant	12.05.2022	09.01.2025	
	Borrower: M/d Arman Packaging Vill-			Physical	
	Sherpur Bhagwanpur Roorkee Haridwar	Collateral Security:- Em of Industrial Land at Khasra No. 217 Khata No40 Area		Possession	
	247661, Shri Risalat S/o Israr (Partner)	2020.00 Sq. mtr wide Register Gift Deed at Bahi No. 01, Zild No. 734, Pages 317			
	VIII- Sileipui Bilagwalipui Roolkee	to 338 Serial No. 3269, Dated 30.07.2016, with SRO Roorkee-II Situated At Vill-			
		Mohitpur Pargana & Tehsil Bhagwanpur Distt. Haridwar Uttarakhand Bounded and			
	Sherpur Bhagwanpur Roorkee Haridwar	Butted as Under Cost School of Israeding West Khat Jahur North Khat Jahur			
		Butted as Under:- East: School of Jansediya, West: Khet Jahur, North: Khet Jahur,			
		South: Way 5 Mtr., Owner Shri Risalat S/o Israr.			
	Haridwar 247661,				
	Date: 10.01.2025	Place : Haridwar		Autho	or

# Rajnath calls for enhanced cohesiveness of global community

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Friday here called for enhanced cohesiveness of the global community in view of the current security environment which, he said, is in a state of flux with multiple con-

flicts and challenges. Addressing Ambassadors' Round-Table, organised as a prelude to Aero India 2025, he stressed on the need to overcome the present geopolitical tensions for ensuring mutual prosperity and global peace. This 15th edition of Aero India is scheduled to be held at the Air Force Station, Yelahanka in Bengaluru, Karnataka from February 10 to 14.

"It is of paramount importance that the like-minded countries should strive together for collective actions for peace and prosperity. Without these, our future generations will not be able to take advantage of economic growth or technological innovations that we are experiencing in today's

the Ambassadors and High Commissioners of various countries attending the event. He pointed out that India is emerging as a leading voice for the Global South, and it advocates for a multi-aligned policy approach, which ensures that diverse views are considered in the collective pursuit of prosperity.
"Prime Minister Narendra

Modi has articulated India's commitment to addressing global challenges through five guiding principles: Respect, Dialogue, Cooperation, Peace and Prosperity. In today's geopolitical landscape, fostering unity among like-minded nations is essential for ensuring mutual prosperity and peace, while addressing contemporary challenges. India has always championed shared prosperity and shared responsibility based on the fundamental principle of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, 'One Earth, One Family', which was also the theme for G-20 Summit in



Rajnath Singh described Aero India, Asia's largest aeroshow, as one such event, where nations come together and form bonds beyond boundaries. Elaborating on the vision behind the biennial event, he stated that it has proven itself to be the meeting ground for the aerospace and defence sectors showcase products/technologies.

He defined it as a forum to forge strategic partnerships towards increasing opportuni-ties for business, Transfer of Technology, joint development and co-production between various industries. The defence minister empha-

sised that, today, India possesses one of the largest defence industrial ecosystems in Asia and the government is committed to further enhancing the capabilities. He added that the Indian aerospace and defence sector represents an attractive opportunity for foreign companies seeking to establish new ventures and partnerships. He cited the significant milestone of setting-up of the manufacturing facility of C-295 transport aircraft for the Indian Air Force through collaboration between Tata Advanced Systems Limited and Airbus Defence & Space.

Rajnath Singh asserted that India has emerged as an attractive destination for investment, and Aero India 2025 presents an opportunity for friendly nations to jointly explore strengths and capabilities in the defence sector, addressing both strategic needs as well as tactical requirements. He added that the event will

facilitate industry captains, technology leaders, intellectuals and entrepreneurs with new avenues for collaboration in defence industrial enterprises. "Aero India 2025 will serve as a vital forum for exploring partnerships that will from the base for future challenges. Together, we can create pathways for growth that are inclusive and sustainable," he said. The defence minister emphasised that air and space power have become pivotal elements in shaping strategies as such assets,

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

The fourth edition of Project 'Veer Gatha 4.0', a joint ini-

tiative by Ministry of Defence

and Ministry of Education as

part of Republic Day celebra-

from

about their chosen role mod-

els, particularly focusing on

They were also encouraged to

freedom fighters such as Rani

Laxmibai, the 1857 First War

of Independence, and the sig-

nificant role of Tribal Uprisings

in India's Freedom Struggle.

action programmes by

Gallantry awardees (both offline and online), and the

submission of top entries via

The school-level activities con-

cluded on October 31, 2024.

Following evaluations at the State and District levels, near-

ly 4,029 entries were submitted

MyGov portal.

Gallantry Award recipients.

winners

Intelligence and Machine Learning systems, provide an unprecedented advantage in battle-field scenarios. He described Aero Space Power as the new frontier of military dominance which acts as strategic deterrence.

During the Round-Table, Ambassadors and High Commissioners of various countries were briefed on the major events of Aero India 2025, and extended a personal invite from defence minister for their senior most leadership. Chief Defence Staff(CDS)General Anil Chauhan, Chief of the Army Staff General Upendra Dwivedi, Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi, Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal AP Singh, Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh, Secretary (Defence Production) Sanjeev Kumar and other senior officials of the Ministry of Defence as well as the Government of Karnataka attended the Round-

## No tree felling in Mumbai's Aarey without our nod: SC

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

The Supreme Court on Friday directed the tree authority of Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation not to allow any further tree felling in Mumbai's Aarey colony without its permission.

A bench comprising Justices Abhay S Oka and Aravind Kumar said the authority could process the applications and then seek orders from the

The order came after the Mumbai Metro Rail Limited (MMRCL) informed the bench there was no pending proposal to cut of more trees in the

The top court posted the hearing on March 5.

The apex court had directed the Maharashtra government to inform if there was any proposal to fell more trees in Aarev forest.

The court in 2023 permitted some forest-dwelling communities to move the Bombay High Court with their grievances over felling of trees in the forest for the metro rail

On April 17, 2023, the apex court came down heavily on Mumbai Metro for trying to "overreach" its order permitting the felling of only 84 trees in the



forest for a car shed project and directed it to pay Rs 10 lakh as On N

penalty.
The court said it was improper on the part of the MMRCL to move the tree authority for felling of any trees in excess of

The top court, however, permitted the company to remove 177 trees from Aarey forest, saying a stay on tree felling would bring the public project to a standstill which was not

The apex court in 2019 took suo motu cognisance of a letter petition addressed to the chief justice of India by law student Rishav Ranjan seeking a stay on the felling of trees in the

On November 29, 2022, the apex court permitted Mumbai Metro to raise its plea to fell 84 trees at Mumbai's Aarey

Colony with the authority con

cerned. The top court had directed MMRCL to strictly abide by its undertaking on no tree felling and warned of strict action in case of violation.

The apex court had restrained the authorities from felling any more trees after the solicitor general submitted on behalf of Maharashtra government no

more trees would be cut. The felling of trees in the colony was opposed by green activists and Aarey residents.

Former UP

**Police DG** 

#### tions, has garnered an incredible nationwide response. This year, approximately 1.76 crore students from around 2.31 for national-level evaluation, lakh schools participated in the where top 100 entries were competition, defence ministry selected as SUPER-100 winsaid here on Friday.

Project 'Veer Gatha 4.0' as part

of R-Day celebrations garners

incredible nationwide response

into four categories, with 25 each: Preparatory Stage (Grades 3prize of Rs 10,000. În addition to the 100 nation-5), Middle Stage (Grades 6-8),

al-level winners, eight winners of Independence. The project aims to raise awareness of Gallantry awardees' acts of

otism and civic values in students. The journey of Project Edition 4 has been inspiring, expanding the reach of the competition across the length and breadth of the country. Project Veer Gatha, 25 winners level, with around eight lakh

second edition. The third edition marked a significant milestone, with the selection of 100 national winners for the first time and an increased participation of 1.36 crore students. The momentum continued to grow in Veer Gatha 4.0, reinforcing the

#### Secondary Stage (Grades 9-10) appointed at the State/UT level (two and Secondary Stage (Grades from each category) and four 11-12). The first 100 winners president of IPF will witness the traditional winners at the district level parade at Kartavya Path as (one from each category) will -Pioneer news service = Special Guests. be selected and honoured by State/UT/District authorities. Launched on September 05, 2024, Project Veer Gatha 4.0 Project Veer Gatha was launched in 2021 as part of presented a variety of thoughtprovoking topics for essay and 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' to paragraph writing. Students commemorate India's 75th year had the opportunity to write

Former Uttar Pradesh Police
director general O P Singh
has been appointed the new
president of the Indian Police
Foundation (IPF), an independent think tank on policing

A message shared by outgoing with other members of the organisation said Singh's skills and "team building" abilities apart from "remarkable contributions and visionary leadership make him the ideal choice to further the vision and mission of the Foundation." According to the message, Singh was "unanimously" elect-

ed as the IPF president and CEO during a meeting of the executive council held here on The 1983-batch Indian Police

Service (IPS) officer retired from service in January 2020. Apart from heading the Uttar Pradesh Police, he served as the director general of two central forces -- the Central Industrial Security Force and the National Disaster Response Force.

#### One hundred (100) winners These winners will be feliciare selected at the national level. The winners are divided

tated jointly by the Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Education in New Delhi. Éach winner will receive a cash

**VEER GATHA** 

bravery and the life stories of these heroes.

Veer Gatha from Édition 1 to In the first two editions of were selected at the national students participating in the first edition and 19 lakh in the

widespread impact of this ini-

### 'Drug Trafficking and National Security' PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Shah to chair regional conference on

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah on Saturday here will chair a regional conference on "Drug Trafficking and National Security" National Security. The conference, organized by

the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), aims to address the growing concern of drug trafnational security, with a special focus on eight states and Union Territories of northern India, home ministry said here on

During the event, Shah will launch the Drug Disposal Fortnight, inaugurate the new office complex of the NCB's Bhopal zonal unit and extension of the MANAS-2 helpline to all 36 states and Union Territories.

The conference will focus on the sharing of real-time information from the National Narcotics Helpline 'MANAS' portal with the Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTF) of States and Union Territories, evaluating the progress of States in combating drug trafficking, and assessing the effectiveness of the Narcotics Coordination



Mechanism (NCORD) It will also address strengthening and enhancing the functionality of State Forensic Science Laboratories (SFSLs), utilizing the NIDAAN database to bolster efforts against drug trafficking, implementing provisions of the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (PIT-NDPS) Act, establishing special NDPS courts for the speedy trial of drug-related cases, and fostering a Wholeof-Government approach to ensure comprehensive collaboration among all agencies to combat drug trafficking and abuse effectively. During the drug disposal fort-

night starting from January 11-25, a total of 44,792 kilograms of seized narcotics, whose international market value is Rs 2,411 crore, will be disposed of.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Government of India has adopted a Zero Tolerance Policy against drug trafficking. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) is implementing a three-pronged strategy to achieve a drug-free India by 2047.

This includes strengthening institutional frameworks, enhancing coordination among narcotics agencies, and launching a massive public awareness

achieving climate goals with launch of Bharat Climate Forum

India marks significant milestone in journey towards

### DG NCC inaugurates 'Idea and Innovation Competition' for cadets

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Director General National Cadet Corps (DG NCC) Lt General Gurbirpal Singh here on Friday inaugurated 'Idea and Innovation Competition', to provide cadets with tools and guidance to develop solutions to real-

This unique initiative which was taken up for the first time in NCC Republic Day Camp (RDC) provided cadets with the tools and guidance to think critically and develop solutions to real-world challenges, defence ministry said. Before the competition, the NCC organised a series of workshops and contests pan India under the aegis of all 17 NCC State Directorates, with the aim to inspire and meet the aspirations of cadets.

The initiative yielded remarkable results, with cadets generating an impressive 256 innovative ideas and solutions. Out of these, 56 top innovations were shortlisted and showcased during the Republic Day Camp 2025. The innovations highlighted



the cadets' ability to think outside the box, demonstrated creativity, teamwork, and a commitment to nation-build-

The Idea and Innovation competition resonated deeply with the cadets, emphasised entrepreneurship, problem-solving, and the spirit of innovation in the cadets. These initiatives not only underlined the NCC's dedication to nurture future leaders but also boost the potential of young minds in addressing pressing

societal challenges.
The aim of the initiative was to align NCC training with contemporary aspects and give exposure & opportunities to cadets towards 'Yuva Setu' and prepare them for 'Viksit

#### This diverse array of topics not only enhanced the quality of the entries, but also deepened participants' understanding of India's historical and cultural The project involved schools conducting activities at the local level, nationwide inter-

### New FIR against Karti Chidambaram

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

CBI has registered a fresh case against Congress MP Karti Chidambaram, accusing accepting bribes for lifting the ban on liquor manufacturer Diageo and FDI clearance for Sequoia Capital and routing bribe money through Vasan Eye Care and his own firm Advantage Capital. As per the CBI FIR, Karti got around Rs.87 crore on these deals by misusing father and former Minister Finance

Chidambaram's office. Apart from Karti, other accused are Chidambaram family's Chartered Accountant S Bhaskararaman, Vasan Eye Care promoter (late) Dwarakanathan, bribe givers liquor company Diageo Scotland and venture capital firm Sequoia Capital and Karti controlled firms Advantage Strategic Consulting, Vasan Eye Care, which is now

CBI FIR charges Karti and his firm Advantage for accepting



bribe of 15,000 Dollars for lifting ban on liquour company Diageo Scotland which supplies famous brand Johnnie Walker Whiskey. CBI FIR says more than 86 crore was routed by Karti controlled firms Vasan Eye Care and Advantage Strategic Consulting in providing Foreign Direct Investment clearance for Mauritius based venture capital firm Sequoia Capital's proposals from Finance Ministry headed by Chidambaram. Detailing the money trail, CBI FIR says these

transactions happened between 2008 to 2010. Karti is currently facing three CBI cases - Aircel Maxis deal, INX Media bribery and Chinese Visa case. This is his fourth case, facing corruption, misusing his father former Finance Minister Chidambaram. He is also facing Enforcement Directorate's case in Aircel Maxis and INX Media bribery case. In Aircel Maxis deal and INX Media bribery case, Karti is a Co-Accused with his father P

Chidambaram.

### **NEW DELHI** India marked a significant milestone in its journey toward achieving climate goals and economic self-reliance with

the launch of the Bharat Climate Forum on Friday. A national platform dedicated to unifying stakeholders from policy, industry, finance, and research to accelerate cleantech manufacturing in India, the Bharat Climate Forum aims to drive sustainable economic growth and innovation. Hosted by the Centre for Economic Indigenous

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Understanding (CIEU) and Dalberg Advisors, the Bharat Climate Forum is supported by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), NITI Aayog, and International Solar Alliance (ISA).

Addressing the launch, Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said Atmanirbhar Bharat embodies India's drive for econological leadership through innovation and collaboration. "Our 4G-5G telecom stack showcases this spirit which the cleantech sector can imbibe, with public-private partnerships enabling world-class, competitive solutions. I thank the Bharat Climate Forum organizers for highlighting India's commitment to cleantech innovation for a sustain-

nomic sovereignty and tech-

able future," he said in a state

The forum comes at a time when India is pursuing ambitious climate targets, including achieving net-zero emissions by 2070 and scaling up nonfossil fuel capacity to 500 GW by 2030. Despite progress in renewables, challenges such as reliance on imports for solar and wind infrastructure persist. Ashwani Mahajan, National

Co-Convener of Swadeshi Jagran Manch and Member-Secretary of the Bharat Climate Forum, emphasized the need for a comprehensive manufacturing policy to address these The forum also spotlighted

the economic opportunities in cleantech. By 2030, Dalberg estimates suggest that cleantech manufacturing could create a domestic market worth \$120-150 billion annually and generate export opportunities of \$40-45 billion while generating 50 million new jobs by 2070. Jagjeet Singh Sareen, Partner, Global Climate Practice at Dalberg Advisors and Member-Secretary of the Bharat Climate Forum mentioned, achieving the 1.5degree target requires urgent acceleration in our efforts.

The inaugural event witnessed the launch of Bharat Cleantech Manufacturing Platform by Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal an initiative to strengthen India's clean tech value chains-spanning solar, wind, hydrogen, and battery storage. The Forum launch was also addressed by several distinguished attendees including Amitabh Kant, India's G20 Sherpa who provided insights into delivering cost-competitive clean tech solutions. Bharat Climate Forum 2025 is an influential platform that

brings together key stakeholders from the government, industry, and global community to accelerate India's clean energy transition. CIEU is committed to fostering comprehensive research, facilitating dialogues, and curating innovative ideas that address the needs of diverse communities. Dalberg Advisors is a strategic advisory firm that combines the best private sector strategy skills and rigorous analytical capabilities with deep knowledge and networks across emerging and frontier

# Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw unveils upgraded Amrit Bharat trains with 12 key enhancements

The Ministry of Railways has added 12 major improvements on the Amrit Bharat Version 2.0 trains and 50 such trains will be manufactured at ICF over the next two years. Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said on Friday. Vaishnaw, who inspected the

Integral Coach Factory (ICF) along with its General Manager U Subba Rao, said the state government should place service to people above politics and the Centre and his Ministry is committed to take measures for the welfare of the

people.
"Very happy to see the Amrit
Bharat Version 2.0 (being manufactured here). As you can recall, the Amrit Bharat Version 1.0 was launched by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi last January 2024 and based on the experience in the year, many improvements have been made in the Amrit Bharat Version 2.0," Vaishnaw told reporters at the ICF here. Sharing some of



the salient features that have been improved in the Amrit Bharat trains, he said, "12 major improvements have been done in the entire train. Semi-automatic couplets, modular toilets, chair pillars and partitions, emergency talk back feature, emergency brake system, continuous lighting system like Vande Bharat trains, seats and berths with

new ergonomic design have been improved.

He said the entire pantry car in the Amrit Bharat Version 2.0 trains have been built using a new design. Targeted at low income and low middle income families, he said, "50 such Amrit Bharat Version 2.0 trains would be manufactured in the coming two years (at the Integral Coach Factory.). This

will provide a very affordable service and very high quality of travelling experience to people travelling long distances.

Responding to a query about the apprehension raised by the Commissioner of Railway Safety on the construction of the historic Pamban bridge in Rameswaram, he said the designing of the bridge was done based on the Research

Standards Organisation (RDSO). "When you do the RDSO

standard, such a standard of designs is done for bridges which are constructed in large numbers. This is a unique bridge. Pamban Bridge is once in a lifetime that you design and construct a bridge of this type," he said.

He cleared the air that the Commissioner of Railways Safety was explained that this is not a standard bridge and uniquely designed bridge and the services of the best international experts have been taken for designing. "The CRS has understood and they have now given the clearance on the bridge design. Panel report has also come," he said. The minister said the Railways has installed the KAVACH (a facility to help prevent train accidents) locomotives and 15,000 km of track side fittings are also being

"Telecom towers are also being installed. Cameras are being installed on the front of the

### Trinidad, Tobago President Christine Carla Kangaloo wins Pravasi Bharatiya Samman award by President Murmu



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE BHUBANESWAR

Trinidad & Tobago President Christine Carla Kangaloo and 26 others were conferred the prestigious Pravasi Bharatiya Samman award by President Droupadi Murmu on the last day of the 18th Prayasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) convention here.

Murmu congratulated all the awardees and appreciated them for working for the society in different fields. She said that their success

pride for India, but they also inspire millions across the world to strive for excellence. Murmu said Kangaloo's outstanding contributions in leading her nation, with a special focus on women and the Indian diaspora, have set a high benchmark on the world stage. The Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award is the highest honour conferred on overseas Indians. The awardees excellence represent the

achieved by the Indian diaspora in various fields.

Trinidad & Tobago President got the award in the public affairs category Other awardees included Ajay Rane (Australia, community service), Marialena Joan

Fernandes education), Swami Sanyuktanand community service), Saraswati Niketan community service), Lekh Raj Juneja (Japan, science and technology), Prem Kumar (Kyrgyz Republic, medical science) and Soukthavy Chowdhury (Laos, business).

### BSF foils cattle smuggling attempt on India-Bangladesh border, recovers 10 bulls

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

 $B^{\text{SF}}$  jawans were attacked by Bangladeshi cattle smugglers on the India-Bangladesh border in West Bengal's North 24 Parganas district on Thursday night, a statement from the paramilitary force said. In a retaliatory action carried out in self-defence, the jawans successfully foiled the smuggling attempt and recovered 10 bulls, it added.

The incident took place at Khutadah border outpost (BOP), where BSF personnel saw smugglers approaching



the border fence from the Indian side with cattle. Simultaneously, smugglers from the Bangladesh side crossed the international border into India.

When the BSF jawans challenged them to stop, the smugglers ignored the advanced warning and aggressively, wielding sharpedged spears while attempting to cut the border fence. In response to the threat, a BSF jawan fired a blank round as a warning. "Taking advantage of the darkness and uneven terrain, the smugglers fled back to Bangladesh. A subsequent search of the area led to the recovery of 8 bulls of Haryana origin and three

sharp-edged spears left behind by the attackers," the statement by BSF South Bengal Frontier

Previous incidents of similar smuggling attempts and assaults have been reported at Pipli BOP (Kolkata sector) and BOPs HC Pur and Nawada (Malda sector), where BSF jawans were forced to defend themselves using grenades and other weapons,

the statement added.

A BSF spokesperson said despite frequent flag meetings with the Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) to raise concerns about these attacks no concrete action has been taken Bangladeshi

WhatsApp/Telegram in the

Cyber

took action based on

technical analysis and

nabbed the suspects on

The accused have been

identified as Neeraj Walia, a

ment.

(ACP)

Thursday.

### Assam coal mine tragedy: 'Sardar' of trapped miners arrested as rescue efforts continue

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **GUWAHATI** 

The 'sardar' of workers of the coal mine in Assam's Dima Hasao district, where eight minhe 'sardar' of workers of the ers remained trapped, was arrested, even as a dewatering exercise continued in the quarry to facilitate the resumption of rescue operations, police said on

The fate of the trapped miners appeared to be grim with personnel involved in the rescue operations racing against time to bring them out of the ill-fated quarry, while the body of one labourer,

Gurugram police busts international scam: two airtel employees

hailing from Nepal, has been recovered from there, an official said. "The 'sardar' (head) of the miners, who had fled the quarry site soon after the incident on January 6, was arrested on Thursday night from a place after an extensive search operation. This is the second arrest in connection with the case," said a senior officer who did not divulge the place of arrest.

The arrested person has been identified as Hanan Laskar, and Punish Nunisa, the leaseholder of the quarry, was held on the second day of the incident in connection with

labourers were on Monday trapped inside the 3-Kilo Coal Quarry in Umrangso area, around 250 km from Guwahati, after a sudden gush of water flooded the site. A case was registered in

the case, the official said. The

connection with the incident at the mine which appears to be Chief 'illegal', Himanta Biswa Sarma had

Nine labourers were trapped inside the mine after a sudden gush of water flooded the quarry, and the body of one labourer has been recovered so

### AAP's Sanjay Singh assures Goa court he will refrain from defaming CM's wife

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Aam Aadmi Party's Ràjya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh has assured Goa court that he will refrain from making any defamatory statements against CM Dr. Pramod Sawant's wife Sulakshana Sawant, Sanjay Singh's lawyer submitted in Bicholim Judicial Magistrate of First Class (JMFC) court that his client will refrain from commenting against CM Dr. Pramod Sawant's wife Sulakshana Sawant.

The court in Goa had issued a notice to Sanjay Singh in a Rs 100-crore defamation case filed against him by Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant's wife for allegedly naming her in the cash-for-jobs scam. The court had sought Singh's reply by January 10, 2025. Next hearing on the matter is kept anuary 202

Pramod Sawant's Sulakshana Sawant had filed a case in the court of Civil Judge Senior Division, Bicholim, North Goa. Sulakshana Sawant, in her complaint, had requested the court to direct Sanjay Singh to publish an apology clarifying that the said defamatory video/article and interview are false, not based on facts, and tender an unconditional apology. The complainant had also urged the court to restrain Sanjay Singh from

### Farmer leader Dallewal challenges Punjab BJP: meet Modi instead of Akal Takht Jathedar to end fast

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

The Punjab BJP has appealed to the Akal Takht but should approach Prime Minister Narendra Modi if they want him to end his hunger strike, Dallewal said on Friday as his fast-unto-death entered day 46. In a three-minute video message released on Friday, the 70-year-old farmer leader asserted he will end his fast only after the Centre accepts farmers' demands which include a legal guarantee for Minimum Support Price for crops. A BJP delegation, comprising Sukhminder Pal Singh Grewal and Sarchand Singh, appealed to Akal Takht Jathedar Giani Raghbir Singh on Thursday to intervene to end the indefinite fast of the farmer leader. The delegation expressed concern Dallewal's deteriorating health.



In his video message Dallewal said, "We have got information that the leaders of the Punjab unit of BJP appealed to the Akal Takht to intervene in order to end Dallewal's fast-unto-death. (They appealed to the Akal Takht that) a direction be given so that he should end his fast. I respect the Akal Takht." "But the Punjab BJP should approach (PM) Modi ji, the vice president (Jagdeep Dhankhar), Agriculture Minister (Shivraj Singh Chouhan), (Home Singh Chouhan), (Home Minister) Amit Shah ji. Instead of meeting them, they are

approaching the Akal Takht Jathedar," he said. Farmer leaders camped at the Punjab-Haryana border also burnt effigies of the central

government on Friday.
Dallewal, who is the convener of the Samvukta Kisan Morcha (Non-Political), has been on the indefinite hunger strike at the Khanauri border point between Punjab and Haryana since November 26 last year over farmers' various demands including seeking a legal guarantee on the minimum support price (MSP) for crops.



name of part-time job/invest-As per the instructions of Priyanshu Diwan, Assistant resident of District Baghpat Commissioner of Police (Uttar Pradesh), and Hemant Crime, Sharma. The accused were Gurugram, the police team arrested as per rules in the case under sections 318(4), 319, 61(2) BNS at Police of Cyber East, Gurugram and the joint team of Indian Cyber Coordination Center Station Cyber Crime East, (I4C), MHA, Govt of India, Gurugram.

According to the police, the complainant filed a complaint that he received a call from a landline number landline in Gurugram in which he was offered a part-time job.

complainant/victim had to post reviews of different On completing the task, Rs

victim's bank account. After the Telegram group by the accused. After that, while giving him the task, small amounts were transferred to his account 2-3 times.

Later on, money was transferred from him in the name of investing for these tasks. After that, more money was demanded to withdraw this money.

During police interrogation, it was found that Neeraj works as a site verifier in Airtel company and Hemant is his team leader.

The accused had issued the number/DID number used in the crime in the name of Ekamdarsh

present on the mentioned site, the accused violated TRAI rules and issued a 200 were transferred to the landline number in the name of the above company," Using the above number, the companions of the accused

Services Pvt Ltd. Despite the

above company not being

cheated people in the name of task-based investment. The accused also disclosed that, in connivance with the operational manager of Ekamdarsh Services Pvt Ltd, a company registered at a fake address, had provided many more numbers to an Indonesian person apart from the above landline number/DID number.

"In connection with the matter further investigation is underway. The accused have been taken on police remand for interrogation," he added.

#### making any public statements maligning her by injunction on social media or other

# Prayagraj transforms into mega tent city for Maha Kumbh 2025

**BISWAJEET BANERJEE PRAYAGRAJ** 

The Maha Kumbh 2025 has I transformed the sandy banks of Prayagraj's Sangam into a spectacular tent city, a temporary settlement capable of accommodating more than 20 lakh devotees at a time. With over one lakh tents ranging from basic to luxurious, this extraordinary project represents a harmonious blend of engineering, tradition, and spiritual fervor.

The scale of this undertaking is staggering. Approximately 68 lakh wooden poles have been used, their combined length exceeding 20,000 kilometers-greater than the distance from Prayagraj to Washington, D.C. Washington, Additionally, 100 kilometers

of fabric and 250 tonnes of CGI sheets were used for roofing. Over 3,000 workers have been laboring in three for months, meticulously converting these raw materials into a vast, functional city. Each tent is crafted with care, employing durable fabrics



ensure protection against

A project of this magnitude owes its success largely to the expertise of Lalluji and Sons, a company with a 104-year legacy of managing Kumbh preparations. Known as the "Vishwakarma of Kumbh," the company has constructed 75% of the tent city. like cotton and terrycot, According to Deepanshu deadlines.

Lalluji preparations began months ago, encompassing tasks such as crafting new tents, repairing structures, and executing extensive logistical planning. Despite challenges, including delays caused by prolonged monsoons, the team has worked tirelessly to meet the

Kumbh is not just an event but a lifelong calling. Rambachan, a 60-year-old veteran, reminisced about the days when wages were ?10 per day. "Now we earn ?500 daily, but the joy of contributing to something this significant is priceless, he said. Younger workers like Kuldeep echoed his sentiments, describing the pride they feel in their work. The tent city is a marvel not only in its scale but also in its offerings. While some tents cater to Kalpwasis, who live in simplicity and gather around bonfires for prayers, others provide modern luxuries. accommodations flooring, marble electric blankets, and even televisions, blending comfort with tradition. Pilgrims like

and the enduring spirit of one of the world's largest Premium include Wi-Fi,

Raghunath, a 68-year-old from Rajasthan, and Sushila, a 50-year-old from Varanasi, expressed awe at the modern amenities, describing the experience as unparalleled. Spanning 3,200 hectares-800 hectares more than in 2019the Maha Kumbh 2025 tent

administrative offices, and facilities for millions, it stands as a testament to human ingenuity, devotion,

spiritual gatherings.
CM inaugurates 'Kumbhvani' Minister Chief Adityanath inaugurated Prasar Bharati's FM channel 'Kumbhvani' at the Circuit House on Friday, during the second day of his Prayagraj

Expressing his best wishes for the success of the channel, CM Yogi stated his confidence that 'Kumbhvani' will not only reach new heights of popularity but also extend the spirit of Mahakumbh to remote villages where many people, despite their desire, cannot physically attend the event. He emphasized that the channel would serve as a vital medium to deliver all relevant information about

communities.

Mahakumbh to these distant

many workers, the city is twice the scale of its of live broadcasting, CM Yogi a lifelong calling. police stations, enable those in far-flung areas to experience and understand the grandeur of Mahakumbh. He said this would allow

them to share the pride of this grand celebration of Sanatan Dharma with future generations. He also thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Ministry of Information Broadcasting, and Prasar Bharati for their efforts in launching Kumbhvani.

"It is a remarkable moment, and Prasar Bharati has beautifully captured its essence through Kumbhvani," he said.

The Kumbhvani FM channel will not only broadcast live coverage of the daily events but will also share religious references and stories related to the Mahakumbh in remote villages, making the spiritual essence of the event accessible to all.

Kumbhvani on 103.5 MHz Prasar Bharati has launched the OTT-based Kumbhvani FM channel to disseminate Highlighting the importance comprehensive information

about the Maha Kumbh. Broadcasting at a frequency of 103.5 MHz, the channel will be on air from January 10 to February 26, operating daily from 5:55 AM to 10:05

Kala Kumbh' serves as an authentic document of Kumbh's developmental journey

In another development Minister Chief Adityanath inaugurated the Kala Kumbh in Sector 7. After opening the UP State Pavilion, CM Yogi visited the Kala Kumbh, a unique camp created by the Uttar Pradesh Culture Department, located right across from the pavilion..

Chief Minister proceeded to the exhibition hall, where he admired the distinctive artworks, temple replicas, and thematic exhibitions. Praising the initiative, he described Kala Kumbh as an authentic documentation of the developmental Kumbh's journey. On this occasion, Principal Secretary of Tourism and Culture,

Mukesh Meshram, presented

the Chief Minister with a memento.

Spanning approximately 5 acres within the fairgrounds, the Kala Kumbh features an exhibition gallery and a stage for cultural performances. The gallery displays photographs, replicas, and exhibits tracing the journey of Bhatkhande Sanskriti Vishwavidyalaya, monuments of Pradesh, protected heritage sites, manuscripts, and artefacts.

A key highlight of the Kala Kumbh is the section dedicated to the historical perspective of Mahakumbh. This eighth segment of the exhibition delves into administrative insights from all Kumbh events held in Prayagraj between 1866 and 1954, through government letters, records, and official documents. This section includes correspondences administrative orders, and other records, offering a comprehensive view of Kumbh over the last 150 www.dailypioneer.com

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-PAPER WITH PASSION-

### **Transforming defence**

The 'Year of Transformation' can give necessary momentum for defence manufacturing and innovation

India's defence landscape is set to undergo a transformative shift in 2025, as the Ministry of Defence (MoD) embarks on an ambitious overhaul aimed at modernising procurement processes, expanding indigenous manufacturing capabilities and boosting research and development (R&D). The year has been declared as the 'Year of Transformation,' with Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and other top officials outlining a vision to address long-standing challenges while positioning the country for greater self-reliance and competitiveness in defence. One of the key focus areas for the government is to revamp the Defence Acquisition Procedures (DAP). These procedures, which have been criticised for their complexity and inefficiency, are set to be replaced with a more streamlined, lighter, and faster version. The aim is to cut down delays in procurement timelines and eliminate bureaucratic hurdles that have long impeded defence modernisation. The new framework will not only make the system more efficient but will also create a level play-



ing field for both established players and newcomers in the defence sector. In addition to reforming procurement, the government has placed a strong emphasis on boosting indigenous manufacturing and R&D.

While India is the world's fifth-largest manufacturing economy, its defence manufacturing capacity remains relatively small in comparison to its overall economic standing. To address this gap, the government plans to allocate more resources to defence R&D, with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) targeting an increase in R&D spending from 5 per cent to 15 per cent of the defence budget in the coming years. One area that has garnered particular

attention is the development of aero engines. India has faced challenges in developing these critical technologies domestically, and the government has signaled that joint ventures with foreign Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) will be essential for progress. With significant investments required—potentially as high as Rs 50,000 crore—the government is determined to make the necessary commitments to build the infrastructure and expertise required for successful co-development of aero engines and related technologies. Another significant initiative is the creation of a more competitive defence industry ecosystem. Currently, India's defence sector is largely dominated by Public Sector Undertakings. The government aims to level the playing field by encouraging the participation of startups and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises through policy changes. Despite these ambitious plans, India's defence ecosystem still faces several challenges. One of the most significant hurdles is the relatively small manufacturing base in sectors like aerospace, where India's ability to scale production and develop cutting-edge technologies has been limited. Besides, archaic policies, delays in preparing Requests for Proposals and overly complicated procedures have often led to extended timelines. This must change if defence sector is to become competitive and innovative.



Devotees carry 'kalash' during 'Hindu Rashtra Seva Mela' at Goregaon

# The trust factor in human interaction



The temperament and conviction of individuals play a pivotal role in shaping trust, whether in personal relationships or organisational dynamics

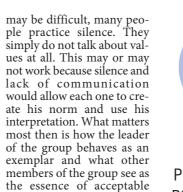
here is a general feeling that if something is committed on paper, with other things being equal, it is reliable evidence that it will be carried out. If it is on a legal document, the credibility quotient is still higher, and if there are clauses that recognise the punitive element of violation, the feeling of reliability further goes on. This, like many truths, goes a certain distance.

This cannot be the place to explore the veracity of such belief, but there is an occasion to look at certain other aspects of reliability, especially the temperament of the people involved. Some people take their words seriously, and others casually. This attitude permeates their entire behaviour. and in certain matters, it becomes even more evident that they take their words seriously.

Other types of people are quite figuratively the opposite, and they take their own words so lightly that when they utter them, they are not sure what conviction they carry. Between these two extremes, the larger part of the population rests with varying degrees of reliability and different levels of conviction. This simple truth makes the

entire range of human conviction open to many shades of possibilities and makes dealing with each other either at a direct level or at a group level, an extremely dubious proposition wherein liability is concerned. This even affects official interaction as indeed it does personal interaction. It is therefore necessary in a group culture to inculcate the correct values of interpersonal dynamics.

People cannot be 'taught' to be reliable. This is because the fundamental principles of values, like eternal values, remain the same. Every domain of human life talks about what is right, what is beautiful, and what is essential to keep groups sustainable and harmoniously together. In such circumstances always dangers of somebody where it is recognised that calling the bluff or indeed



Positive or negative recognition then follows. For this, the informal and formal leaders of the group must agree on certain examples and set an example collectively. It is difficult, especially when there is no clear reference point and no way of verifying what rules the roost.

behaviour.

If the group has a powerful man, his behaviour is noticed and others try to imitate him. If the powerful man acquires power by formal position, it is one story. If, however, he acquires power through organising cliques observing pristine standards power slipping out of his



THRITI

IF THE POWERFUL MAN ACQUIRES POWER BY FORMAL POSITION, IT IS ONE STORY. IF, HOWEVER, HE ACQUIRES POWER THROUGH **ORGANIZING CLIQUES AND FACTIONS AND THROUGH** MANIPULATIONS, THERE ARE ALWAYS DANGERS OF SOMEBODY CALLING

All this is not conducive to organisational stability or, for that matter, even clarity. It makes the job of a new entrant particularly complex. The complexity would be enhanced if the new entrant could not navigate his way intelligently with perspicacity and shrewdness. If the group has a large number of turnovers, then the complexity is further compounded. Under the circumstances, it's perhaps best to recognise that, like all truths, simplicity is the best approach. Being truthful, simple, and straightforward is the foundation of sound behaviour, stable relationships, and the achievement of goals constructively and dependably. Like all foundations of a sound civil society, positive thinking, straightforward action, and dependable fol-

It is the human mind that creates complications. Legality and other elements gate one's way. that try to substitute the basic character of depend-ability, without the right ambience, will remain halfway houses. It can lead to

low-up is the way to go for-

quibbling, litigation, and, at times, disappointment. However, stability will remain a matter of character, and that is where civil societies need to pitch. Whether this is in a formal organisation or an informal civil setup, it would hardly make a difference. Truth remains the truth and for the best way, it is important to follow it up relentlessly with simplicity and dignity. Like many tales, this too has a tailpiece.

There is a Sanskrit dictum, "Satyam bruyat, priyam bruyat naa bruyat satyam apriyam". A free translation of this shall be "Speak the truth, speak the pleasant; do not speak the truth which is unpleasant".

There can be many views on this, and each will have its assumptions and derivations. If assumptions vary, as do the derivations, conclusions would be also varied. That is the nature of truth: multifaceted, each appearing right in its way. One has to navi-

(1 ne writer is a weii-known management consultant of international repute. The views expressed are

### THE EDITOR

THE BLUFF

### Breaking barriers: The rise of women investors in India's equity markets



ARUN CHAUDHARY

Among the most notable trends in the equity market is the surge in women investors, whose participation has grown 6.8 times since 2015

¬he Indian equity mar-ket has radically transformed over the past two decades. The advent of smartphones, digital trading platforms, and increased financial literacy has ushered in a new era of investors young, financially aware, and open to taking calculated risks. Recent data from the National Stock Exchange (NSE) reveals that women now constitute over 22 per cent of equity market investors in India, a 6.8X growth since 2015.

This surge in female participation is particularly noteworthy given the tepid adoption of demat trading in its early days. It could be attributed to women enjoying greater financial independence, a growing interest in equities, and a disciplined approach to sustainable wealth creation. The rise in women's financial awareness has also been a critical driver of this growth. A study by CRISIL and DBS found that 47 per cent of women now make independent financial decisions.

This newfound autonomy is reflected in the increasing number of women investing in mutual funds. According to

AMFI data, women's share in industry AUM rose to nearly 21 per cent by the end of December 2023, against 15.2 per cent in March 2017. Importantly, this trend is not limited to major cities; women in smaller towns show equal enthusiasm for capital market investments. However, the same CRISIL and DBS study revealed that women still allocate 51 per cent of their investable assets to fixed deposits and savings bank accounts, 16 per cent to gold, 15 per cent to mutual funds, 10 per cent to real estate, and just 7 per cent of their investible corpus—being the least preferred option. Given the proven potential for substantial market returns, women's risk-averse attitude towards equities is particular-

ly perplexing.

Over the past five years, benchmark indices have delivered over 100 per cent returns. For instance, based on a daily rolling return analysis, the Nifty 50 Total Returns Index has shown positive returns of approximately 93 per cent over three

vears. These double-digit returns from long-term equity investments have far outpaced the single-digit interest rates offered by traditional savings accounts and fixed deposits. However, women tend to be cautious when it comes to equities. The potential impact of increased women's participation in equity markets is substantial. A BCG study found that women contribute \$5 trillion annually to the global wealth pool. Encouraging more significant equity investment among women and prudent risk management practices is crucial for building a stronger financial future for individuals and the nation.

Regulators are already implementing measures to create a safe and transparent market environment for women investors. For instance, initiatives like the Women's

Awareness Investor Programme actively educate and empower women by simplifying stock market concepts and encouraging them to take control of their financial futures. Simultaneously, the industry complements these efforts by developing accessible and informative content in regional languages and diverse formats, such as podcasts and video tutorials, to make complex financial concepts easier to understand. Women themselves must actively participate in the stock market by engaging in discussions, seeking knowledge, and taking the initiative to invest. Starting with a systematic investment plan is a smart approach to building over Additionally, consulting financial experts can help women navigate the market with confidence. It is time for women to seize this opportunity, take control, invest wisely, and contribute to rebuilding a more equitable and financially robust India.

(The writer is Director & Chief Business Officer at m.Štock by Mirae Asset Capital Markets; views are personal)

#### TWO TIER SYSYEM IN TEST CRICKET Madam — There are talks between

Australia, England, and India and the International Cricket Council's (ICC) new chair, Jay Shah to split Test (cricket) playing nations into two tier, with Australia, England and India in one tier and the rest in a different tier. The concept has gained impetus post the BGT series, where the attendance and TV viewership touched new records. If agreed upon by the ICC council, this will come into effect post-2027 after the present commitments are met by these nations. The objective is that these three nations will play against each other twice in three years as against the present four-year schedule. While the idea may have sprung up from the revenue point of view, ICC must focus on its unwritten objective of improving the quality and skill level of the weaker member nations and making all the members play competitive cricket.

The choice of three nations-India, Australia, and England-also in the upper tier, is arbitrary if it is on the basis of the quality of cricket displayed. If it is so, India has not displayed quality cricket, both in the home series against the Kiwis and down under in the BGT series recently. Also, the Windies have stunned the Aussies in Gabba in a pink ball test in 2024. The recent entrants to the test-playing nations, like Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe, Bangladesh, and Afganisthan have also displayed talents and enthusiasm. Hence such an idea of an arbitrary split must be shunned. If the ICC is serious about splitting, it must be based on the performance in a given time period, say between 2025-28, on the number of points scored by each nation on the number of test wins/losses and can consider having two or three divisions amongst the twelve member countries. Having done that on the basis of points scored, one can consider promotion or demotion of the first and last two, respectively, which will also instill a sense of competitiveness and thereby sustain interest in the test cricket.

Gopalaswamy J | Chennai

### A policy shift for Afghanistan



a major and surprising development India's Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri met Afghan Acting Foreign Minister Mawlawi Amir Khan Muttagi in Dubai on Wednesday. Though its relations with Afghanistan had nosedived after the Taliban seized power in the mountainous, landlocked republic in 2021, New Delhi, in a smart move, kept providing humanitarian and economic assistance to Afghanistan. The Taliban also requested the Indian delegation to reopen its diplomatic mission in Afghanistan. Now, Misri's meeting marks a major shift in New

#### **HONOURING INDIAN DIASPORA**

Madam—The city of Odisha turned out to be the venue for the 18th Pravasi Bhartiya Diwas this year. In order to honour the immense contribution of the Indian diaspora, it is particularly required to appreciate the exceptional contribution of Indians overseas. For many decades, millions of Indians have paid  $\dot{\text{v}}\textsc{isits}$  to foreign countries to grab vibrant opportunities in different spectrums of life.

Indians made exceptional contributions to the economic success of the different nations, assisting India to create its own niche soft power on the basis of its people settled overseas. Indians are globally renowned for contributing the world's highest remittance back to India with 129 billion USD in 2024. The spirit of the Indian diaspora is ever vibrant and zealous, and this celebration at Odisha's Bhubaneswar for appreciating Pravasi Bhartiya is a welcoming initiative. Let's take a moment to thank & appreciate the Indian diaspora, who are continuously extending the legacy of India all around the world. Kirti Wadhawan | Kanpur **MAHAKUMBH MELA IN PRAYAGRAJ** 

Manoj Parashar | Ghaziabad

Delhi's policy towards the Taliban. This meet-

ing has taken place at a time when Afghanistan

is witnessing heightened tensions with Pakistan

concerning the Durand Line-the border between

Afghanistan and Pakistan-as well as regarding the Tehrik-e Taliban Pakistan (TTP).

By condemning Pakistan's airstrikes in

Afghanistan, New Delhi has played a well-cal-

culated diplomatic move. Besides the Pakistan

factor, Iran's Chabahar Port is also going to play

a major role in India-Taliban relations as Kabul

is looking to leverage its ties with India by using

the Chabahar Port. Thus, both the Taliban and

New Delhi have realised that bilateral ties are

mutually beneficial for both countries. By play-

ing a vital role in restoring peace, stability, and

development in Afghanistan, New Delhi can

secure geopolitical leverage over Pakistan at the

crossroads of South and Central Asia.

Madam — The Great Mahakumbh Mela 2025, set to take place in Prayagraj, which is held only once in a period of 144 years, which is beginning from January 13 to February 26, is much more than a religious gathering-it is a profound celebration of spirituality, culture, and cosmic alignment. This ancient festival, rooted in the Sanatan tradition, is believed to influence not only human affairs but also cosmic and terrestrial energies.

The event is centred on the holy confluence of three rivers-the Ganga, Yamuna and the Saraswati. The Mahakumbh exemplifies India's rich cultural diversity, drawing millions of devotees, ascetics, and pilgrims from all walks of life. Through practices like ritual bathing, chanting, meditation, and spiritual discourses, it becomes a unifying force, blending traditions and beliefs into a harmonious

Anushka Bohra | Ujjain

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### **FIRST COLUMN**

### **HOMESCHOOLING: AN OPTION WORTH EXPLORING**

While it comes with challenges, its benefits make it an increasingly compelling choice



SAKSHI SETHI

nildhood is a short season, and homeschooling gives a child more time to truly enjoy it. In recent years, homeschooling has seen a significant rise in popularity as parents increasingly opt to educate their children at home rather than through traditional schooling systems. This shift reflects a combination of concerns about conventional education and the desire for more tailored learning experiences. One of the primary reasons parents choose homeschooling is the ability to customise education to suit their child's unique needs.

There is no denying that curriculum is a valuable tool but at the same time a terrible master. Traditional classrooms often struggle to accommodate different learning paces and styles, whereas homeschooling allows parents to tailor lessons, fostering deeper understanding and engagement. Many parents cite dissatisfaction with public or private school systems as a motivator for homeschooling. Issues such as overcrowded classrooms, underfunding, and lack of individual attention can negatively impact the quality of education. Additionally, concerns over bullying, peer pressure, and exposure to harmful influences prompt parents to

Homeschooling allows families to integrate their cultural, ethical, or religious values into the curriculum. Parents can teach their children in alignment with their personal beliefs, creating an educational experience that reflects their family's principles. Unlike traditional schooling, homeschooling offers flexibility in schedules and teaching methods. Families incor-



porate travel, extracurricular activities, or non-traditional subjects into their routine, enhancing the learning experience. This adaptability appeals to families seeking a more balanced lifestyle.

Unlike traditional schooling, homeschooling offers flexibility in schedules and teaching methods. Families can incorporate travel, extracurricular activities, or non-traditional subjects into their routine, enhancing the learning experience. This adaptability appeals to families seeking a more balanced lifestyle. While homeschooling offers many benefits, it is not without its challenges. Parents often need to dedicate significant time and effort to planning and teaching. Additionally, concerns about socialisation can arise, as homeschooled children may have fewer opportunities for peer interaction. However, many families address this by participating in extracurricular activities, and community events. Homeschooling is not a new phenomenon.

In olden times, education often took place at home, with parents or private tutors guiding the learning of their child. The rise of formalised schooling in the 19th and 20th centuries shifted education to institutions, but homeschooling remained a choice for families who sought alternatives. Modern homeschooling driven by educational reformers and parents seeking greater control over their children's education began gaining traction in the 1970s and 1980s. Today, it continues to evolve, integrating technology and innovative teaching practices. Technology undoubtedly has played a pivotal role in making homeschooling more accessible and effective. It has also enabled collaboration and connection among homeschooling communities. Online learning platforms, virtual classrooms, and educational applications such as Scholastic Kids, Udemy, Duolingo, Funbrain and many more provide parents with resources to create comprehensive curricula. The shift to homeschooling reflects a broader desire among parents to take control of their children's education and provide a more personalised, values-driven learning environment. While homeschooling comes with its challenges, the benefits of flexibility, individualised attention and alignment with family priorities make homeschooling an increasingly appealing choice for families worldwide. (The writer is an educator; views are personal)

# Junta faces collapse amid escalating defeats



Losses across key regions, coupled with mass defections and severe military setbacks, suggest a crumbling grip of Military on power in Myanmar



y all indications, 2025 is going to be, militarily, a dismal year for Myanmar's ruling junta. It is clearly losing its war against the opposition National Unity Government (NUG) and its armed wing, the People's Defence Force (PDF), ethnic armed organisations (EROs), and the Three Brotherhood Alliance (Henceforth the Alliance). Comprising the Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA), active in the Kokang Special Region of northern Shan State, the Ta'ang National Liberation Army (TNLA), also active in the Shan State and the Arakan Army (AA), based in the Rakhine State in the country's western part, the alliance has been acting in close cooperation with the PDF and other ethnic armies.

Crystal-gazing is a hazardous business. Nevertheless, a fling at it is warranted by the unfolding events in that star-crossed country. A report under the headline, 'Junta's Writ Only Runs in One-third of Myanmar: NUG,' (datelined January 6, 2025), in the news website The Irrawaddy, cited the NUG as stating that the military regime controlled only of the country's 330 townships. The PDF and EROs fully or partly controlled 144 townships or 44 per cent of the country. The website, which enjoys a high-measure of credibility, carried an article by Maung Kavi (datelined January 8, 2025) under the headline, 'Myanmar Junta Boss warns resistance as Regime Loses Ground Nationwide,' saying that the NUG had further claimed that nearly 1,500 of the junta's soldiers and police personnel had defected to the civil disobedience movement and 480 of them had taken up 'revolutionary duties.'

The report titled 'Junta's Writ Only Runs in One-third of Myanmar: NUG, further states that 315 officers were killed and 127 injured in course of the last year. In the same period, 53 senior officers ranging in rank from colonel to major general, were either killed, injured, or taken prisoner. Among the rank and file, 14,093 soldiers and border guard policemen were killed and 7,363 injured. Anti-regime groups seized 741 junta



THE ODDS ARE NOW **RAPIDLY** STACKING UP AGAINST THE JUNTA. NO DOUBT, THE

LATTER HAS TANKS ARTILLERY AND **VERY DIFFICULT** 

**ARMOURED** VEHICLES, AIR FORCE. TANKS AND **ARMOURED VEHICLES ARE** TO DEPLOY IN THE AREAS THE ETHNIC

FORCES

positions. They were mostly captured by ethnic armies, but 162 were taken by PDF and People's Defence Teams in Sagaing, Magwe, Mandalay, Bago and Tanintharyi regions. The military lost in 2024 some

140 battalions and two regional commands-Northeastern Command in northern Shan State and Western Command in Rakhine-plus one regional operations command, five military operations commands, six operational bases, two airbases, 17 border guard police bases, as well as many infantry and light infantry battalions, and artillery, logistics, signal, and military engineering units.
While one should not take the

NUG's claims at face value reports from the ground indicate that the Sit-Tat (as the junta's army is called) has suffered severe body blows during the last year. The Three Brotherhood Alliance has gained significant ground since AND OTHER named Operation 1027, on ARMOURED October 27, 2023. The AA had established control over almost the entire Rakhine State by April, 2024. In a major development, the MNDAA claimed on July 31, 2024, that it had captured Sit-Tat's military base in Lashio, a city in Shan State close to the border with China, and its airport. This was a major loss for the junta. As Vivek Shankar has pointed out in a piece in The New York Times datelined August 5, 2024, the 'city of Lashio and its airport lie on a crucial trade corridor to Yunnan Province in China, which is spending hundreds of mil-DOMINATED BY lions of dollars on a high-speed rail link and other infrastructure projects on both sides of the bor-

> Besides gains in the north, the anti-junta forces had captured

According to a report by Andrew Nachemson published in Al Jazeera dated September 23, 2024, their capture had placed them within striking distance of the city of Mandalay, Myanmar's second largest urban centre, with a population of nearly two million.

On October 8, 2024, the Sit-Tat suffered a serious reverse with the fall of the township of Pinlebu to the Kachin Independence Army (KIA), an important part of the coalition of forces fighting the junta, and its allies. Located on the border of the Sagaing Region and Kachin State, its capture opened up to the opposition forces the routes leading to the Kawlin township and the surrounding areas.

Besides its geo-strategic significance, the township's fall is important for what it revealed of the Sit-Tat's state. A report by Saw Lin, published in the news website, The Irrawaddy, on October 14, 2024, cites the NUG as claiming that the juntas troops, numbering 800, were defeated despite 670 airstrikes and the dropping of over 5,000 bombs, that around 70 junta soldiers were killed, 275 were missing, 225 were wounded, 48 surrendered and 102 captured during the fighting. Around 400 firearms and other military equipment were seized.

In keeping with the trend, the Junta had ceded three townships and the Western Command headquarters in Rakhine State in December, 2024, as the ethnic Arakan Army gained control over 14 of the 17 townships in the westernmost state. On January 1, 2025, the Sit-Tat retreated from a heavily-fortified police station in Sagaing Region's Budalin Township after a yearlong siege by regional resistance forces, making it easier for the latter to operate in the region. According to Maung Kavi's report

cited earlier, the junta, which has been losing towns and bases to EROs in Rakhine, Chin, Kachin and Karen states, has not been able to launch any military operation to retake the northern Shan State, almost the whole of which it had lost in 2024. The Sit-Tat is in a bad way.

Its morale is low. There is internal discord. Several three-stars generals have been removed. Many younger officers are unhappy as they recognise that almost the entire country is against them. According to a piece by Ye Myo Hein (datelined May 4, 2023) featured by the United States Institute of Peace, it was found the Sit-Tat, whose "head-count," showed a "strength of a total 300,000-400,000 before the coup," showed that it currently "had a strength of about 150,000 personnel.

Roughly 70,000 are combat soldiers. At least 21,000 service members have been lost through casuaities, desertion and defec tion since the coup. At this troop level, the Sit-Tat is barely able to sustain itself as a fighting force, much less a government. The odds are now rapidly stack-

ing up against the Junta. No doubt, the latter has tanks and other armoured vehicles, artillery and air force. Tanks and armoured vehicles are very difficult to deploy in the areas dominated by the ethnic forces. With densely forested mountainous terrains, deep gorges and steep climbs, these are ideal for staging ambushes. Moreover, air-strikes and artillery do not win wars, even when backed by heavily armed and trained infantry. Otherwise, the United States would have swept to a victory in

(The author is Consulting Editor, The Pioneer. The views expressed are personal)

### Real-time travel assistance: Transforming the Indian travel experience

#### From the integration of cutting-edge technology to the emergence of unique destinations, the way we explore has been redefined

⊣he travel industry in tions, exploring India can be as India has undergone a significant transformation in the past decade. The advent of technology, the emergence of unique destinations, and travellers' shifting preferences have reshaped the way we experience travel. While convenience and connectivity have expanded exponentially, so have the challenges that come with travelling through this vast and diverse country.

In such a scenario, the idea of real-time travel assistance is much more than a luxury, gradually becoming a necessity. India is a land of incredible diversity, which often presents challenges for travellers, both domestic and international. With 28 states and countless languages, customs, and tradioverwhelming as it is enrich-

A misplaced document, a language barrier, or a medical emergency in an unfamiliar city can turn a dream vacation or a crucial business trip into an overwhelming ordeal. This is where the concept of realtime assistance steps in, bridging the gap between exploration and ease.

The Need for Immediate Support: Travelers today demand solutions that are immediate, efficient, and humanised. The expectations from travel experiences are no longer confined to curated itineraries and luxury stays. Safety, comfort, and resolution to unexpected issues are just as critical to creating memorable journeys. Whether it's assis



HARISH KHATRI

tance in locating a nearby pharmacy late at night, navigating bureaucratic hurdles in foreign environment, or finding reliable medical aid during emergencies, travellers increasingly rely on services that ensure a smooth journey. Real-time assistance goes beyond static travel guides or

pre-recorded helplines. It operates as a different system where timely, empathetic, and

accurate support becomes a part of the travel experience. It is this proactive approach that helps mitigate common traveller challenges and allows for a seamless journey, irrespective of the destination.

Empathy in Assistance: A game-changer at its core, real-time travel assistance is about offering humanised solutions. Travellers often find themselves in vulnerable situations where a touch of empathy can go a long way. Imagine being stuck at a remote train station with no one to guide you to your next stop or dealing with a sudden health scare in a busy urban centre where you don't know the language.

These are moments when an empathetic, knowledgeable professional on the other end



just solutions, but also reassurance. It is this empathy paired with technology that is revolutionising travel assistance in India. Real-time support services aim to address the emotional and logistical needs of travellers in equal measure. Utilising Technology to

**Enable Seamless Experiences:** The amalgamation of technology and travel assistance has unlocked possibilities previously deemed unattainable. Advanced algorithms, live As India continues to grow as ties. Real-time assistance also

tracking, and geo-location services now enable assistance providers like India Assist to respond with precision and speed. Right from helping a traveller recover a lost wallet, guiding them to the best transport options, or facilitating emergency care, technology serves as the backbone of realtime assistance.

Moreover, AI-powered systems can predict and preempt potential challenges, ensuring that travellers are equipped with solutions even before they face a problem. Combined with human expertise, such systems provide an unprecedented level of service that adapts to the ever-chang-

ing needs of travellers. A Vision for the Future of Indian Travel

a preferred travel destination for global tourists and a thriving market for domestic explorers, the need for reliable, real-time support systems will only increase. From first-time solo travellers to seasoned professionals on the move, everyone stands to benefit from a travel arena where assistance is no longer a reactive measure but an integral part of the journey.

The impact of such assistance goes beyond individual convenience. It enhances the overall travel ecosystem, fostering trust and confidence among travellers. When individuals feel supported, they are more likely to venture into lessexplored destinations, bolstering local economies and creating new tourism opportuni-

aligns with India's vision of creating a more inclusive and welcoming travel environment. Addressing the unique needs of every traveller, be it accessibility, safety, or cultural understanding - opens the doors to a more diverse and enriching travel experience. As we move forward, the travel industry must imbibe the ethos of real-time assistance, not as an add-on service but as a core pillar of the travel experience. After all, the most unforgettable journeys are not just about the destinations we visit — they are about the challenges we overcome and the moments of human connection that transform challenges into memories.

(The writer is founder and MD of India Assist; views are

# Over 10,000 structures lost in LA blaze

PTI LOS ANGELES

**¬**he two biggest wildfires ravaging the Los Angeles area this week burned at least 10,000 homes, buildings and other structures, officials said Thursday as they urged more people to heed evacuation orders after a new blaze ignited and quickly grew.

The fast-moving Kenneth Fire started in the late afternoon in the San Fernando Valley near the West Hills neighbourhood and close to Ventura County. Only hours earlier officials expressed encouragement after firefighters aided by calmer winds and help from crews from outside the state saw the first signs of successfully beating back the region's devastating wildfires that have killed seven people so far.

"We are expecting this fire to rapidly spread due to high winds," Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass said, echoing the forecast that called for winds to strengthen Thursday evening through Friday morning.

The orders came as Los Angeles County officials

announced the Eaton Fire near Pasadena that started Tuesday night has burned more than 5,000 structures, a term that includes homes, apartment buildings, businesses, outbuildings and vehicles. To the west in Pacific Palisades, the largest of the fires burning in the LA area has destroyed over 5,300 structures. Between the Eaton and Palisades fires, more than 10,000 structures have burned. All of the large fires that have broken out this week in the Los Angeles area are located in a roughly 25-mile band north of downtown. The Kenneth blaze ignited less than 2 miles (3.2 kilometers) away from the El Camino Real Charter High School, where people are sheltering from the fire in Palisades. The two fires are about 10 miles (18 kilometers) apart.

Dozens of blocks were flattened to smoldering rubble in scenic Pacific Palisades. Only the outlines of homes and their chimnevs remained. In Malibu, blackened palm strands were all that was left above debris where oceanfront homes once stood. At least five churches, a

synagogue, seven schools, two libraries, boutiques, bars, restaurants, banks and groceries were lost. So too were the Will Rogers' Western Ranch House and Topanga Ranch Motel, local landmarks dating to the 1920s. The government has not yet released figures on the cost of the damage or specifics about how many structures burned.

AccuWeather, a private company that provides data on weather and its impact, on Thursday increased its estimate of the damage and economic loss to USD 135-USD 150 billion. Firefighters made significant gains Thursday at slowing the

spread of the Eaton and Palisades fires, though both remained at 0% containment, officials said. Crews also knocked down a blaze in the Hollywood Hills, allowing an evacuation to be lifted Thursday. The fire that sparked up late Wednesday near the heart of the entertainment industry came perilously close to igniting the famed Hollywood Bowl outdoor concert venue. "While we are still



(Above) President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris lead a briefing regarding the federal response to the spread of wildfires in the Los Angeles area, in the Roosevelt Room at the White House in Washington. (Right) An emergency vehicle drives through a neighborhood devastated by the Eaton Fire in Altadena

facing significant threats, I am hopeful that the tide is turning," Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger said Thursday. Water dropped from aircraft helped fire crews quickly seize control of the fires in the Hollywood Hills and Studio City, officials said. Much of the widespread destruction occurred Tuesday after those

aircraft were grounded due to

high winds. Fire officials said Thursday that they don't yet know the cause of the fires but are actively investigating.

Enormity of destruction emerges: Earlier in the week, hurricane-force winds blew embers, igniting the Southern California hillsides.

Right now, it's impossible to quantify the extent of the destruction other than "total

The PTI supremo reminded that

many of his party men who took

part in the November 26 protest

in Islamabad are still missing.

devastation and loss," said Barbara Bruderlin, head of the Malibu Pacific Palisades Chamber of Commerce. There are areas where everything is gone, there isn't even a stick of wood left, it's just dirt," Bruderlin said.

Of the seven deaths so far, Los Angeles Fire Chief Kristin Crowley confirmed two were in the Palisades Fire. County offi-

cials said the Eaton Fire had killed five. Cadaver dogs and search crews are searching through rubble, Los Angeles County Sheriff Robert Luna said. Anthony Mitchell, a 67year-old amputee, and his son, Justin, who had cerebral palsy, were waiting for an ambulance to come, but they did not make it out, Mitchell's daughter,

Hajime White, told The

Washington Post. Shari Shaw told KTLA that she tried to get her 66-year-old brother, Victor Shaw, to evacuate Tuesday night but he wanted to stay and fight the fire. Crews found his body with a garden hose in his hand. On Thursday, recovery crews pulled a body from rubble of what was a beachfront residence in Malibu on the scenic Pacific Coast Highway.

### Imran warns of plan to impose 10-year dictatorship in Pak

PTI LAHORE

Pakistan's incarcerated former prime minister Imran Khan has said that economic progress can never happen as long as the current "fascist system" is in place and warned that there is a plan to impose a "10-year dictatorship" in Pakistan. Khan, 72, has been lodged at the Adiala Jail in Rawalpindi since mid-2023 in

multiple cases and his party

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) has been at loggerheads with the federal government since the general elections in February 2024.

Several leaders of the PTI are currently in talks with the gov-ernment and Khan on Wednesday said his party will participate in the third round of talks to help ease the political tension in the country.

"There is a plan to impose a ten-year dictatorship in

I, Mansaram Betal, Father of-

No.3200947F Hav Chanchal

Kumar Betal, R/o- Vill

Ramnagar PO- Ramnagar

Mobarakpur, P.S- Arambagh.

Dist- Hooghly, W.B.- 712616.

have changed my name from

affidavit dated 10/01/2025

I, Jagmal Singh, Father of- No.

16012348K Hav Rajesh

Mitharwal, R/o- Ward No.- 15,

Kotri Luharwas, Kotri, Dist-

Sikar, Rajasthan- 332709, have

changed my name from

Jagmal Singh to Jagmaal Singh

vide affidavit dated 10/01/2025

Earlier, my name was

BEERMATI TYAGI (बीरमति

त्यागी) and BRAHAMAVATI

(ब्रह्मावती) and now I have

changed my name to

BARMAWATTI. In the future,

I want to be recognized and

identified by this name.

BARMAWATTI, Wife of Late

Shri Prempal Tyagi, Resident

of A-545, Ganeshpuri, Near

Shiv Shalimar Garden,

Sudeep Kumar to Sudeep

I, Rajni Gupta W/o Sandeep

Gupta R/o B-14 First Floor,

Hargovind Vihar, Sector 4,

Rohini, Delhi - 85, have

changed my name Rajni Bala

Garg to Rajni Gupta for all

purposes. Rajni Bala Garg

and Rajni Gupta Both are

I, Smt Arti Betal, Mother of-

No.3200947F Hav Chanchal

Kumar Betal, R/o- Vill-

Ramnagar PO- Ramnagar

Mobarakpur, P.S- Arambagh,

Dist- Hooghly, W.B.- 712616,

have changed my name from

Smt Arti Betal to Arati Betal,

same person.

PD(1238)C

PD(1239)C

Punia for all purposes.

Sahibabad, Ghaziabad.

before Notary Public Delhi.

before Notary Public Delhi.

Mansaram

Manasharam

Betal

Betal.

PD(1235)C

PD(1236)C

Pakistan, of which two years have already passed. Judges or police officers who become a party to oppression are rewarded with promotions here,"

Khan said in a tweet on X on

Thursday.

"Judge Humayun Dilawar, who gave an illegal verdict against me was promoted, while judges from Rawalpindi and Sargodha, who gave fair decisions, were dismissed," he pointed out and added, "Such actions have obliterated merit and rule of law in the country." Khan, who often interacts with journalists and also seen posting several times on his social media handle, further said that economic progress in the coun-

try can never happen as long as

the current "fascist system" is in place.

Economic prosperity requires investment, which is impossible without institutions adhering to their boundaries and responsibilities as defined by the Constitution. Surging terrorism in the country is causing irreparable damage to the confidence of the investors.

In an apparent reference to the military, Khan further said, Tragically, those responsible for countering terrorism are using all their resources and energy to corner our party.

He suggested rising above personal egos and temporary gains and focus on the decency and prosperity of the country

"These individuals disappeared from D-Chowk in Islamabad, not from some remote tribal area. The government has neither produced them in court nor taken any serious measures to recover them," he said. This clearly reflects the govern-

ment's lack of seriousness regarding his party's demands and the negotiation process, he added.

He also reiterated his demand to the government to form a judicial commission to probe May 9, 2023 and November 26, 2024 incidents till the next meeting between the government but said the PTI will discontinue the negotiation

नीट पी०जी० 2024 उत्तराखण्ड राज्य केन्द्रीयकृत काउसिलिंग सम्बन्धी महत्वपूर्ण सूचना

विक्वाविद्यालयों को उपलब्ध र (मण्डाठ) र (मण

2024 कारोन्सालम ने प्रातमान करने वाल अहे अन्यायया की सूचित गया जाता है ।र औनलाइन काउंसलिंग के लिए अन्यर्थियों का पंजीकरण दिनांक 11.01.2025 से अर्के किया जा रहा है । नीट पी0जी0–2024 में अर्ड अन्यर्थियों हेतु आगामी चरणों पंजीकरण केवल एक बार ही किया जायेगा, इसके पश्चात पंजीकरण की अनुमति नहीं दी जाएंगें

उत्तराखण्ड राज्य के समस्त राजकीय एवं निजी मेडिकल कॉलेजॉं/निज विद्यालयों की उपलब्ध एम०डी०/एम०एम०/एम०डी०एस०/पोर

### Biden admin succeeds in temporarily blocking plea deal for accused 9/11 mastermind

**PTI** WASHINGTON

The Biden administration succeeded Thursday in temporarily blocking a guilty plea by accused 9/11 mastermind Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, stalling a plea deal that would spare him the risk of the death penalty for al-Qaida's September 11, 2001, attacks on the United States. Administration lawyers had urged a federal appeals panel to block Mohammed's guilty plea from going forward as scheduled Friday at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Defence lawyers described the attempts to throw out the agreement as the latest in two decades of "fitful" and "negligent" mishandling of the case

Khalid Sheikh Mohammed

by the US military and succes-

The federal appeals panel agreed Thursday evening to a temporary stay. It stressed that the stay would hold only as long as it took to more fully consider arguments in the government's request, and should not be considered a final ruling. It stalls an attempt to wrap up more than two decades of military prosecu-tion — beset by legal chal-lenges — in one of the deadliest attacks in US history. Thursday's legal action marked a last-ditch govern-

ment request to prevent Mohammed from entering a guilty plea Friday.

#### **CHANGE OF NAME**

I, RAINA GUPTA W/o Dwarika Prasad Gupta R/o RZ-179, Gali No.4 Dabri Vaishali Dabri South West Delhi-110045 have changed my name to RITU GUPTA for all future purposes

PD(1225)C I, Shahzadi Khatoon W/o Imamuddin R/o A-384, New Panchwati Colony, Ghaziabad have changed my name to Shahiadi Khatoon. PD(1227)A

I, Mohd Imamuddin S/o Ajijshah R/o A-384, New Panchwati Colony, Bairiya, Ghaziabad have changed my name to Imamuddin.

PD(1228)A I, here to known as Buggu Jain D/o. Rahul Jain, R/o. B-8/ 224, Sector-5, Rohini, Delhi, 110085 changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Raaisha Jain for all future purposes.

PD(1229)A I, No. 15437480M NK Deoraj

Bishwakarma, R/o- Ord Terai Tea Garden Po-Belgachi, Ps-Naxalbari, Teh-Siliguri, Dist-Darjeeling, W.B.- 734423, declare that Hira Kami is my father, in my service document's his name is wrongly written as Hira Bishwakarma, whereas his correct name is Hira Kami, affidavit dated 10/01/2025 before Notary Public Delhi

PD(1230)C I, No. 15437480M NK Deoraj Bishwakarma, R/o- Ord Terai Tea Garden Po-Belgachi, Ps-Naxalbari, Teh- Siliguri, Dist-Darjeeling, W.B.- 734423, declare that Lachmi Kami is my mother, in my service document's her name is wrongly written as Laxmi Bishwakarma, whereas her correct name is Lachmi Kami, affidavit dated 10/01/2025 before Notary Public Delhi.

PD(1231)C I, Isita Karmakar, W/o No.3200947F Hav Chanchal Kumar Betal, R/o- Vill-Ramnagar PO- Ramnagar Mobarakpur, P.S- Arambagh, Dist- Hooghly, W.B.- 712616, have changed my name from Isita Karmakar to Isita Karmakar Betal, vide affidavit dated 10/01/2025 before

Notary Public Delhi. PD(1232)C

#### **NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE**

Invitation of Tenders through E-Procurement systems

Principal Chief Materials Manager, Northern Railway, New Delhi - 110001, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites e-tenders through e-pro system for supply of the following items:-

S. No.	Tender No.	Brief Description	Qty.	Closing Date
01	18241073	CONTINUOUS PAPER COMPUTER STATIONERY	3750 REAM	03-02-25
02	19242115	GEAR WHEEL 65 TEETH	66 NOS	05-02-25
03	14250835	REFRIGERANT R-407C,	13264 KGS	06-02-25
04	77246604	37 DEGREE ANGLE PROBE	288 NOS	10-02-25

for details, 2. No Manual offer will be entertained. Tender Notice No. 88/2024-2025 Dated:- 10.01.2025 SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE





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, Pankha Road, Janak Puri, New Delhi - 110056, 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 10-10-2024, cal the borrower & mortgagor Smt. Mamta Dangwal, Wio.Sh.Deepak Mahindru R/o. C-104, Street No.8, West Vinod Nagar Delhi-110092 also at Smt. Mamta Dangwal Wio.Sh. Deepak Mahindru C/o. New Saraswati House (India) Pvt. Ltd. 2" Floor, MGM Tower, 19, Ansari Road, Darya Ganj New Delhi-110002, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs.8,30,584/- (Rupees Eight Lakhs Thirty Thousand Five Hundred and Eighty Four Only), together with further interest, pena interest and other charges as are applicable to this Loan account from time to time, from the date of the otice till the date of payment, with in 60 days from the date of receipt of the notice.

PD(1237)C The above mentioned borrower & mortgagor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower, mortgagor and the public in general that the Bank has taken Symbolic possession I, Sudeep Punia S/o Umed Singh R/o k-2/25 Dharam 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 Market, krishan Vihar, sterest Act, 2002, read with rule IBI of The Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, on this 07th Nithari, North West Delhi -86, have changed my name

The borrower & mortgagor in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to dea 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.8,30,584/- together with further nterest, 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 attention is also been invited towards provisions of Sub-Section (8) or Security Interest Act, 2002, in respect of time available, to redeem the below mentioned mortgage DISCRIPTION OF THE PROPERT

The property under All that part and parcel of the BUILT UP ENTIRE FIRST FLOOR, UPTO consideration is a THE EXTENT OF CEILING LEVEL, HAVING ITS PLINTN/COVERED AREA Built-up Entire 41.80 SQ. METERS, i.e. 50 sq. yds. COMPRISING OF TWO BED ROOMS, First Floor without ONE DRAWING CUM DINING ROOM, ONE KITCHEN AND roof rights, area TOILET/BATHROOM, WITH COMON RIGHTS TO USE STAIRCASE measuring 50 Sq. PASSAGE, ENTRANCE AND ROOF/TERRACE OF TOP FLOOR, BUILT ON PART OF PROPERTY BEARING NO.C-104, OUT OF KHASRA NO.811, SITUATED AT ABADI OF C-BLOCK, GALI NO.8, KUMAON SQUARE, WEST VINOD NAGAR, IN THE AREA OF VILLAGE MANDAWALI FAZAL PUR, ILLAQA SHAHDARA, DELHI-110092. Falling Under the Registration of Sub-Registrar-VIIIA, Preet Vihar, Delhi.

Bounded as under which is bounded as:- EAST : PROPERTY OF OTHERS, WEST : PROPERTY OF OTHERS
NORTH: ROAD, SOUTH: PROPERTY OF OTHERS. (HARISH SHARMA) (HARISH SHARMA) **AUTHORISED OFFICER** THE KANGRA CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD. HEAD OFFICE AT, C-29, COMMUNITY CENTRE

PANKHA ROAD, JANAKPURI, NEW DELHI-58.

vide affidavit dated 10/01/2025 before Notary Public Delhi. PD(1234)C

PD(1233)C

DATED: 07-01-2025

I, Raj Kumari, W/o Satinder Singh, R/o-RZ-46 J, Street No. 2, Main Sagar Pur, Delhi -110046, declare that Abhishek Singh is my son, in his educational Certificate, my name is erroneously written as Shashi Singh, whereas my correct name is Raj Kumari, both names pertain to one and same person, i.e. myself.

### हेवल एक बार ही किया जायेगा, इसके पश्चात पजीकरण का अनुमात गहा सा जाउंगा, अजीकरण के लिए ऑनलाइन पोर्टल 11.01.2025 से 13.01.2025 तक खुलेगा। भविष्य में काउंसलिंग की समस्त नवीनतम जानकारी और प्रक्रिया विश्वविद्यालय की वेबसाइट www.hnbumu.ac.in पर समयनुसार अपलोड की कुलसचिव 🟡 Indian Overseas Bank

Wazieabad Branch (Shyam Chowk, Near Girls, Govt. High School, Wazirabad, Gurgaon, Haryana 122003,

**APPENDIX IV** POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property) [Rule 8(1)]

Phone - 0124-2577240, E-mail Id : lob3714@iob.in

The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Indian Overseas Bank Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred nder section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated 29.03.2022 Calling upon the borrowers/ mortgagors/ guarantors Shri Dipankar Das H. No. 1206, Spring Green Apartment, Anora Kala, Faridabad Road, Lucknow-226028 (Give full in the notice being Rs.1,01,03,795.80 as on 28.02.2022 with further interest at m the date of receipt of the said notice

1) The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to he borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taker conferred on him/ her under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the aid Rules on this 9" day of January of the year 2025.

(2) The borrowers in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Indian Overseas Bank for an amount of Rs. 1.01.03.795.80 as n 28.02.2022 with interest thereon of contractual rates & rests as agreed harges etc., from the aforesaid date mentioned in the demand notice till date of ent less repayment, if any, made after issuance of Demand Noti Dues payable as on the date of taking possession is Rs. 1,32,54,610.90 (Rupees One Crore Thirty-Two Lakh Fifty-Four Thousand Six Hundred Ten and Paisa Ninety Only) payable with further interest at contractual rates & rests, Charges etc., till date of payment.

(3) The Borrowers attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) of the

ction 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to them, to redeem the

#### **DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY**

All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Flat No. 1203, 12th Floor (Haryana), 122003, within the registration sub-district Gurgaon and District Gurgaon

On the North by: Swimming Pool and Tower No-5 On the South by : Flat No 1204/ Entry

On the East by : Left & Flat no 1201 On the West by : Road Dated: 09.01.2025

Sd/- Authorised Office Indian Overseas Bank

form for the following work.

sive administrations.

**NORTHERN RAILWAY** E-NOTICE INVITING TENDER For and on behalf of President of India, Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (RSO) Northern Railway, Delhi Division, New Delhi invites E- Tender' in prescribed tende Name of Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning, and integration of complet

Equipment's of Terminal Support System (Hardware) & allied accessories for computerized crew management system application at various lobbies Shakurbasti, Delhi Sarai Rohilla, Delhi, Meerut City, Rohtak, Jind & Jakhal over DLI division as per CRIS Specification no. 2007/CRIS/ NDLS-HQ/CMS/Project/Rollout-II/0030/Pt-II date 26.07.2024. Rs. 48,51,137.89/- (including GST) 2. Approx. Tender value (Rs.) Rs 97.100/-. Note:- Online payment mod

. E.M.D (Rs.) available on IREPS website. 4 Date & time of tender opening 03.02.2025 on 15:00 hrs (immediately when tender bmission ends) Website particulars where www.ireps.gov.in documents can be seen

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

PUBLIC NOTICE

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

(In case there is no will)

Plot / Property No-APARTMENT NO. CM633A, 33RD FLOOR, BLOCK 6A, THE CAMELLIAS, DLF 5, GURUGRAM, HARYANA, ALONG WITH CAR PARKING NOS.633A-PB1-1, 633A-PB1-2, 633A-PB1-3, 633A-PB1-4 AND 633A-PB1-5 was registered in the name of Mr. RAJIV KRISHAN LUTHRA S/o Late. Mr Anirudh Krishan Luthra, R/o 3/15 Shanti Niketan, New Delhi : 110 021, who has expired on 10th May 2023. Accordingly the name of Mrs Gayatri Luthra, Ms. Sanaa Krishan Luthra and Ms. Arshia Krisha Luthra are being noted in DLF's record in respect of the captioned Plot / Property. anybody has any objection to this, he or she may approach M/s DLF Ltd or the undersigned within 21 days of publicatio of this notice.

Luthra and Luthra Law Offices India 1st & 9th Floor Ashoka Estate 24 Barakhamba Road New Delhi - 110001

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public is hereby informed that my client Mr. Harish Chander Chopra, S/o Late Sh. Mohan Lal has retired from oartnership firm M/s Mohan Lal Harish Chander having its office at C-98, New Subzi Mandi, Azadpur, Delhi, w.e.f. 16.12.2024 and he is not a partner in the said firm anymore. All the liabilities of the firm existing at the time of his retirement in the books of accounts have been taken over by the continuing partners of the firm. Anybody, person body corporate dealing with the said firm or continuing partners shall do so with he knowledge of fact that my client has already retired from the firm and shall not be liable for any act or liability of the firm or its continuing partners.

Amit Kumar (Advocate) Narang & Associates D-28, Jangpura Extension, New Delhi-110014.

Village Tahirpur Delhi-110095 be a now to public at largs debarred serave relations with his son Pramod Kuma and his Wife Taruna Pal and his son Dharvik Pal and Vedant Pal fron movable-immovable properties due to their misconduct my client will not be responsible for their illegal acts and any

MANISH KUMAR (Advocate) Ch. No. 646-A Western Wing, Tis Hazari Court, Delhi-54

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE** A notice of intended marriage has bee

received from Mr. Abhik Deb S/o Mr. Biswajit Deb R/o B1 -2/3, Awas Vihar, Road No-(Extn.), Kajalnagar, Sonari, Jamshedpur 831011 Present Address D-39, Sector-52 Noida, Gautambuddha Nagar and Ms. Asmita Nandy D/o Mr. Somnath Nandy R/o 13/2 Sri Gopal Mullick Lane, Muchipara, Kolkata, Wes Bengal-700012 Present Address 1905 Tower-10, Lotus Panache, Sector-104, Market Sector-110 Noida in The office of the undersigned, any person interested Therein, may file objections to it on any day upto 26-01-2025 in the office of The undersigned. Deputy Collector/ I/C City Magistrate

PUBLIC NOTICE

Marriage Officer Noida Gautam Budh Nagar

Notice is hereby given on behalf of ANUJ TYAGI AND POOJA TYAGI who are purchasing the Apartment No.D-083on 8th Floor, Tower-D, having super area measuring 166.93 Sq. Mtrs. (1796.17 Sq. ft.), project known as "RAHEJA VEDAS", situated in the scheme named "Raheja's Vedaanta", Vedas & Vedanata Floors", situated at Sector-108, Tehsii Kadipur, District-Grungram, Haryana, from Mr. Devendra Goswami and Mr. Amit Bharti, initially the subject property was purchased by WG CDR Rajan Jaisinghani & Mona Jaisinghani from Mr. Raheja Developers Limited vide Conveyance Deed dated 18.11.2019 (bearing document no.9472), further WG CDR Rajan Jaisinghani (Mrej Ashish Jaisinghani (son) both Ro 1001, Yawane, Nahar Amrit Shakti, Andheri East, Mumbai, Maharasthra-400072, (3) Adin Jaisinghani (Son) Rio 10 Narpat Niwas, Airforce Road, Jodhpur-342011, Rajasthan), turda Ashish Jaisinghani and Adin Jaisinghani had issued Consent Letter (Nos-2) dated 19.12.2023 (read with Will dated 25.05.2022) to their mother Mona Jaisinghani, finally Mona Jaisinghani had issued Consent Letter (Nos-2) dated 19.12.2023 fread with viril deaded 20.05.202 to their mome Mona Jaisinghani, finally Mona Jaisinghani solc the subject property to Mr. Devendra Goswam and Mr. Amit Bharti, vide Sale Deed dated 01.08.2024, bearing document no.5788, now ANUJ TYAGI and POOJA TYAGI intend it. ANUJ TYAGI and PODJA TYAGI intend to purchase the same and mortgage against the financial assistance from IDBI Bank Limited. To comply the requirements of BANK/NBFC, we give this public notice that if any Person having any type of claim/right/title/interest/creating mortgage over the said property, may inform in writing at the address mentioned below, about his objections, within 7 days from today, failing which it shall be presumed that the said property is free from all type of Encumbrances, lienetc. Lucem Legal LLP Plot No.136, (Basement) Uday Park, New Delhi-110049, Contact # 011-40046316

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE NAME OF BOARD/CORP./AUTH WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL 5.30 LACS DE-SILTING OF STORM WATER LINES AND REMOVAL OF MALRA / DEERIS BY USING SUPER SUCKER MACHINE NEAR PLOT NO. 30 TO 342, 273 TO 295 IN SECTOR- 17, HSIIDC, I.E, BAHADURGARH. 14.01.2025 HSIIDO 14.69 LACS 9416767348 ia.bahadurgarh@hsiidc.org.in HIRING OF JCB FOR REMOVING GARBAGE CLEANING OF REEN BELTS/PARKS, UNWANTED BUSHES AND SARKAND IN OPEN AREAS AND MISC. WORKS IN SEC. 17 HSIDC, INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, BAHADURGARH 9416767348 durgarh@hsildc.org.in HSIIDC **B.92 LACS** 9416767348 adurgarh@hsiidc.org.in HSIIDO FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.ir

# **Canada's Indian-origin MP Chandra Arya** says he'll run for prime ministership

PTI OTTAWA

¬anada's Indian-origin MP Chandra Arya has announced that he is running to be the next Prime Minister. hours before his Liberal Party announced that their next leader will be chosen on March

The development comes days after Justin Trudeau announced to step down but said he will continue to be the prime minister till the next leader is chosen. Arya, the MP from Nepean, Óttawa, who was born in Karnataka, made the announcement on X Thursday morning ahead of the Liberal Party's meeting later in the evening.

"I am running to be the next Prime Minister of Canada to lead a small, more efficient government to rebuild our nation and secure prosperity for future generations," he said in the post on X and added a long statement with it

Stating that Canada is "facing

significant structural problems" that haven't been seen for generations, Arya said, adding that solving them will require tough choices. "For the sake of our children and grandchildren, we must make bold decisions that are absolutely neces-

The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) highlighted that Arva wants to lead a small, more efficient government "with a cabinet selected on merit and not on (diversity, equity and inclusion) quo-

Arya was first elected to the House of Commons in 2015. His multi-page announcement includes a list of policy proposals, including increasing the retirement age by two years in 2040, introducing a citizenshipbased tax system and recognising Palestine as a state, it added.

"It's time for Canada to take full control of its destiny," he wrote in the statement and promised to make the country "a sover-



eign republic." It would require replacing the monarchy as the head of state.

After the meeting of the National Board of Directors, Sachit Mehra, president of the Liberal Party of Canada, said in a statement: "After a robust and secure nation-wide process, the Liberal Party of Canada will choose a new leader on March 9, and be ready to fight and win the 2025 election.

The National Board of Directors formally met on

Thursday evening to discuss and outline the initial rules of the up-coming leadership race, the party statement added.

After the party's announce-ment, another CBC report said that former central banker Mark Carney has also said he's interested and added that former finance minister Chrystia Freeland, former B.C. premier Christy Clark and House Leader Karina Gould are said to be gathering supporters,

Prior to Thursday's meeting along with Arya, former Montreal MP Frank Baylis both said they will be running, it said.

The CBC report also pointed out how the new leader chosen on March 9 will have a tight timeline as the Gov Gen Mary Simon has prorouged Parliament untill March 24. The main three opposition parties have vowed a 'No Confidence' vote after Parliament resumes, other media reports said.

#### Kremlin welcomes possibility of Trump-Putin meeting relations as possible for Trump

**PTI** WASHINGTON

The Kremlin has welcomed US President-elect Donald Trump's readiness to meet with Russian President Vladimir Putin, a senior Moscow official said on Friday.

Russia attaches no conditions to the possibility of face-to-face talks, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters during a conference call.

Trump said on Thursday that "Putin wants to meet" and that a meeting is being set up. He indicated that efforts to end the almost three-year war between Russia and Ukraine

were behind the overtures for talks. "We have to get that war over with," Trump said when referring to his possible meet-

ing with Putin. Trump, who has criticised US aid for Ukraine's war effort, has called Putin "pretty smart" for invading Ukraine and has praised Russia's military record in historical conflicts. Putin has been accused of war crimes by the International Criminal Court. Ukrainian officials are alarmed at the possibility that the US, its single biggest donor, could reduce or stop providing aid. Without Western support,

its fight against Russia's inva-

**NEW DELHI MUNICIPAL COUNCIL** 

PALIKA KENDRA: NEW DELHI

**EMPLOYMENT NOTICE** 

Application are invited from retired Vice Principal/Principal/ Dy. Director (Academic/Educational) and Deputy Education

Officer from Central Govt./State Govt./Municipal Bodies/NDMC/

Kendriya Vidyalaya for overall coordination of the academic activities of NDMC and Navyug Schools of Education Department

in NDMC for the academic session 2025-2026. For detail of educational qualification, age limit, terms & conditions and other

Applications complete in all respect in the prescribed format

available on the NDMC website may be submitted to the Deputy

Director (Education), Room No. 1009, 10th Floor, Palika Kendra,

Sansad Marg, New Delhi in person or through e-mail

Applications received after closing date i.e. 20.01.2025 will not be

information, log on to NDMC website www.ndmc.gov.in

jd.education@ndmc.gov.in latest by 20.01.2025

FOR TENDER NO. N\_11\_HQ-

IDS\_2024-25 DATED: 09-01-2025 Tender Notice No. N 11 HQ 2024

-25 Name of work: Provision of

Elephant Intrusion Detection System

for detection of elephant movemen

with tracking and Level crossing

alerts to increase Safety and capacity enhancement over N.F. Railway Rangiya Division. Date & Time o closing of Tender: 15.00 hrs. on 24 01-2025. For details of the corrigendur please visit www.ireps.gov.in General Manager (S&T), Maligao NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that my client Manisha Rana is the owner as well as Proprietor of M/s Chetak Spices Industries is in process to avail the working capital from HDFC Bank against her DDA Built-up-flat Bearing No. 195, on Third Floor, area measuring 42.10 sq. mtrs, LIG Category, in Pocket-D Sector B-2, situated in the layout plan of Narela Residential Scheme, Narela, Delhi - 110040 purchased from Vijay Kumar, vide Sale deed dated 14/12/2018 (doc. No. 6325) whereas Vijay kumar acquired the said property by virtue Relinquishment Deed dated 11/12/2018 Dog no. 6227

sale, exchange, mortgage (equitable/registered or otherwise), gift, trust, inheritance, family arrangement, maintenance, bequest, partnership, possession, lease, sublease, tenancy, license, lien, charge, pledge, easement or otherwise howsoever are hereby requested to notify the same in writing to us with supporting documentary evidence at the address mentioned below within 07 days from the date bereef failing which the claim or claims; if any

Kamal Kant Gupta (Advocate)
Unit No. FF-2, First floor, Mahaluxmi Metro Tower
Sec-4, Vaishali, Gzb., U.P., Mob. 9810063351

FOR RIVER TRAINING AND OTHER PROTECTION WORK E-Tender Notice No. SCL ENGG/08 of 2025 Dated: 08-01 2025. E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works: Brief Description of Item Construction of Spurs for River Training and other protection work in river Dhaleswari at

Br. No. 133 between Jamira-

Bhairabi section under ADEN/

Badarpur Ghat, Tender Value

₹6,28,41,472.69/-, Earnest

Money: ₹4,64,200/-. Date & Time

of closing of Tender: 15.00 hrs

on 30-01-2025 & opening at

15.00 hrs. of 31-01-2025. The

complete information of the tender

document of above e-tender will be available upto 15.00 hrs

on 30-01-2025 in the website

DRM (W) Lumding at Silchar

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

www.ireps.gov.in

date hereof, failing which the claim or cla of such person or persons will be considered to ha

en waived and/or abando

sion could be doomed.

The outgoing Biden administration is providing Ukraine with as much military support as it can, including approving a new USD 500 million package of weapons, with the aim of putting Ukraine in the strongest position possible for any future negotiations to end the war. 'We are aware that the (Biden) administration will try to leave

Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has said that in any peace negotiation his country

would need assurances about its future protection from Russia, its much bigger neighbour, which has invaded Ukraine twice since the turn of the century. Europe alone cannot provide that guarantee, he as difficult legacy in bilateral said late Thursday.

and his team," Peskov said.

#### Baba Farid University of Health Sciences, Faridkot Ph: 01639-256232-256236

ADVT. No. BFU-25/01

REGISTRAF

(₹ in Millions)

Vacancies nline applications are invited w.e.f. 13-01-2025 to 03-02-2025 from eligible candi hrough university website i.e. www.bfuhs.ggsmch.org. for recruitment to the posts of Divisional Accountant-01, Accounant-03, Cashier-02, Senior Assistant (Accounts)-01 n regular basis at University office and constituent colleges/ institutions of Baba Fari Iniversity of Health Sciences, Faridkot.

For details/ updates/ eligibility/ no. of Posts/ terms & conditions ww.bfuhs.ggsmch.org.

00/12/343/2023/40657 Dated CHD :- 1/10/2025

### Baba Farid University of Health Sciences, Faridkot

Ph: 01639-256232-256236 Advt. No.BFU-25/02

**VACANCIES** 

Online applications are invited w.e.f 13.01.2025 to 03.02.2025 from eligible candidates through University website i.e www.bfuhs.ggsmch.org for the recruitment to the posts of Associate Professor-Radiodiagnosis-01, Assistan Professor-11 (Forensic Medicine-03, SPM-02, Radiodiagnosis-03 naesthesiology-01, General Surgery-02) and Statistician (SPM)-01 on regula pasis at constituent Colleges/Institutions of Baba Farid University of Healt iences, Faridkot (Guru Gobind Singh Medical College & Hospital, Faridkot). For Application form, fee, specialty wise detail of posts, Category wise distributi nd other terms & conditions, visit University website: www.bfuhs.ggsmch.org

00/12/344/2023/40658 Dated CHD :- 1/10/2025

### Director (Education)

 Equinox India **Sylvanus Properties Limited** 

(CIN: 1170109DI 2006PI C150229)

**Extract of Unaudited Financial Results** 

for the quarter and nine months ended 31 December 2024

SI. No.	Particulars	Quarter ended 31 December 2024	quarter ended 31 December 2023	ended 31 March 2024 (Audited)	
		(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)		
1	Total Income from Operations	49.4	34.7	210.5	
2	Net (Loss) / Profit for the period				
	(before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(22.6)	(55.8)	(1,286.5)	
3	Net (Loss) / Profit for the period before Tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(22.6)	(55.8)	(1,286.5)	
4	Net (Loss) / Profit for the period after Tax, (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(24.2)	(56.1)	(1,285.9)	
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising (Loss) / Profit for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	(24.2)	(56.1)	(1,287.9)	
6	Paid up Equity Share Capital	100.0	100.0	100.0	
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve)	(6,858.1)	(5,649.7)	(6,755.8)	
8	Securities Premium Account	(5)		-	
9	Net Worth	(6,758.1)	(5,549.7)	(6,655.8)	
10	Paid up Debt Capital / Outstanding Debt	10,085.2	9,653.7	9,906.6	
11	Outstanding redemption preference share	((*)		-	
12	Debt Equity Ratio	(1.49)	(1.74)	(1.49)	
13	Earnings per Share (EPS) (Face value Per Share ₹10 each) - Basic (Amount in ₹) - Diluted (Amount in ₹)	(2.42) (2.42)	(5.61) (5.61)	(128.59) (128.59)	
14	Capital Redemption Reserve		-	-	
15	Debenture Redemption Reserve	35	3.475	-	
16	Debt Service Coverage Ratio		14.1	-	
17	Interest Service Coverage Ratio			-	
18	Current ratio (In times)	0.43	0.49	0.45	
19	Total debts to total assets	1.96	1.76	1.81	
20	Long term debt to working capital (In times)	.m		-	
21	Bad debt to account receivable ratio (In %)	741		-	
22	Current liability ratio (In times)	1.00	1.00	1.00	
23	Debtor turnover ratio (In times)	0.31	1.24	1.91	
24	Inventory turnover ratio (In times)	0.01	0.01	0.26	
25	Operating margin (In %)	(8.07)	(24.39)	(491.51)	
26	Net profit margin (In %)	(48.90)	(161.75)	(610.75)	

1 The above results have been reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors ('the Board') at its meeting held on

10 January 2025. 2 The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly / Annual Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 52(8), read with 52(4) of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly/ Annual Financial Results are available on the Company's website (https://equinoxindia.com/sylvanus/) and on the website of BSE (https://www.bseindia.com) and NSE (https://www.nseindia.com).

Registered Office: Office No. 202, 2nd Floor, A-18, Rama House, Middle Circle, Connaught Place, New Delhi- 110 001

For and on behalf of the Board of Directors



Place: Mumbai Date : 10 January 2025 Rikesh Kirtikumar Lakhani Whole-time Director

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

I, (Ex JCO) Phool Chand S/o Late Prabhu Dayal Singh, Vill-Jonawas, Teh & Distt. Mahendergarh (HR) My son Abhishek Yadav who is out of control of me and dispossessed or ousted from my movable and immovable property.

My client Ms. Suman Wo Late Sh. Gurbachan Singh R/o H.No. FD-20, Ground Floor Shivaji Enclave, New Delhi-110027, her son Mr. Nawal and her Daughter in law Ms. Upasna Trikha have been doing acts and deeds against the wish and will of my client and they do not give any respect to my client, her family members and relatives. My client hereby disowns her son & Daughter-in-law from all movable and immovable properties and my client is left with no relation and concern with her son & Daughter-in-law. My client shall not be responsible for any acts and deeds done by her son & Daughter-in-law in any manner whatsoever.

Whatsoever.

V.K. DAHIYA, Advocate Chamber No 204, Chander Shehar Azad Block. Distt Courts, Gurugram 122001.

square meters), located in Pratap Vinar, Khoda Colony, Pargana Loni, Tehsil & District Ghaziabad, U.P., from Mr. Mohd. Sager, son of Mr. Sheikh Yakub. The property was purchased by Mr. Sager from Mr. Abdul Rauf through a Sale Deed dated 02.12.2010. This same property is being financed by RBL Bank Limited, located at Af 19, 20, 21 Ff. Aditya Mall, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad, U.P. 201012. The original Sale Deeds, Regd. No. 1458 Book No. 01, Vol. No. 1930, on Pages 159-165, dated 28.02.2005, SR-II Ghaziabad, along with the notarized General Power of Attorney, Agreement to Sell, and Will dated 12.11.2009, have been lost. An Online FIR (Application Number: LR. No: 2479236/2025, dated 09.01.2025) has been filled with the PS: Grime Branch, Delhi, regarding the loss of these documents.Any person having information of these documents. Any person having information bout the lost documents is requested to inform the ndersigned or the local police station. If an undersigned or the local police station. If any person(s) objection Regarding subject property, then kindly may submit his/her objection within 07 days from the date of the Notice in writing. The said objection may be kindly sent to the undersigned by way of the Registered Post on the address given below and by E-mail failing which, the claim as per forecast the line terrors. foresaid shall be treated as null and void in respe

f the subject property. Ashwani Kumar (Advocate) Chamber No. 122, Tehsil Compound, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh

#### THE JAGRITI NAGAR CO-OPERATIVE HOUSE BUILDING SOCIETY LTD.

**REGN NO. - 2183** Jagriti Enclave, Vikas Marg, Delhi-110092

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

In terms of the provisions of Schedule-VII of DCS Rules 2007, the general public is hereby informed that Smt. Ratna Mohla w/o Late Shri Pratap Kishan Jetley (Membership No. 668) of The Jagriti Nagar Co-operative House Building Society Ltd. is being forwarded by Managing committee of the society for draw of lots in her name through RCS/DDA as per the provisions of DCS Act 2003 & Rules 2007 framed thereunder & guidelines thereof. Any person/member having any objection, may file before the President/Secretary of The Jagriti Nagar Co-operative House Building Society Ltd. (Regn. No. 2183) at Regd. Office Jagriti Enclave, Vikas Marg, Delhi-110092 or before the office of the Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Govt of NCT of Delhi, Old Court's Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001 within 3 days of publication of this notice and no objections shall be entertained, thereafter in any manner whatsoever and the society will proceed further accordingly.

> For & on behalf of The Jagriti Nagar Co-operative House Building Society Ltd. President/Secretary

#### Yaari Digital Integrated Services Limited

(CIN: L51101HR2007PLC077999)

		(RS. In C				(Rs. in Crores
Particulars	Quarter ended 31-Dec-24	Quarter ended 30-Sep-24	Quarter ended 31-Dec-23	Year to date 31-Dec-24	Year to date 31-Dec-23	Year ended 31-Mar-24
	Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Audited
Total Income from Operations	-	-	2.57	0.50	2.87	3.15
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Minority Interest and Share of						
Profit / (Loss) of Associate, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(5.54)	(5.59)	(3.67)	(16.41)	(14.91)	(21.61)
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Minority Interest and Share of						
Profit / (Loss) of Associate (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items))	(5.54)	(5.59)	(3.67)	(16.41)	(14.91)	(21.61)
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after Tax, Minority Interest and Share of						
Profit / (Loss) of Associate (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(5.54)	(5.60)	(3.67)	(16.42)	(14.91)	(21.61)
Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss)						
for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	27.95	(3.75)	(6.13)	28.54	(4.97)	(12.31)
Equity Share Capital	19.74	19.74	19.74	19.74	19.74	19.74
Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve)						
as shown in the audited Balance Sheet						(253.50)
Earnings per Share (EPS) before extraordinary items						
- Basic (Amount in Rs.)	(0.55)	(0.56)	(0.37)	(1.63)	(1.48)	(2.15)
- Diluted (Amount in Rs.)	(0.55)	(0.56)	(0.37)	(1.63)	(1.48)	(2.15)
Earnings per Share (EPS) after extraordinary items						
- Basic (Amount in Rs.)	(0.55)	(0.56)	(0.37)	(1.63)	(1.48)	(2.15)
- Diluted (Amount in Rs.)	(0.55)	(0.56)	(0.37)	(1.63)	(1.48)	(2.15)

1) The above results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and subsequently approved at the meeting of the Board of Directors held on 10 January 2025 2) Key Standalone Financial Information

> Kubeir Khera **Executive Director & CEO**

Particulars	Quarter ended 31-Dec-24	Quarter ended 30-Sep-24	Quarter ended 31-Dec-23	Year to date 31-Dec-24	Year to date 31-Dec-23	Year ended 31-Mar-24
		Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Audited
Total Income	0.09	0.09	2.87	0.77	3.20	3.57
Profit/(Loss) before Tax	(10.69)	(10.69)	(8.05)	(32.60)	(29.01)	(43.37)
Net Profit/(Loss) after Tax	(10.69)	(10.69)	(8.05)	(32.60)	(29.01)	(43.37)
<ol> <li>The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly/ Nine months Fi</li> </ol>	nancial Results fil	ed with the Stock	Exchanges unde	r Regulation 33 o	f the SEBI (Listin	g Obligations and

Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly/ Nine months Financial Results are available on the Company's websi (https://yaari.com/api/static/Investors/1736510327305Quarterly-Results Dec2024.pdf) and on the website of BSE (https://www.bseindia.com) and NSE (https://www.nseindia.com

stered Office: 5th Floor, Plot No. 108, IT Park Udyog Vihar, Phase-1 Gurugram, Haryana 122016

Place: Gurugram
Date: 10 January 2025

provided below

accessed by scanning

(Rs. in Crores



**Equinox India Developments Limited** 

(formerly Indiabulls Real Estate Limited)

Statement of Unaudited Consolidated Financial Results for the quarter and nine months ended 31 December 2024 (₹ in million)

SI. No.	Particulars	3 months ended	Preceding 3 months ended	Corresponding 3 months ended	Year to date figures for current period ended	Year to date figures for previous period ended	Previous year ended
		31 Dec.2024	30 Sept. 2024	31 Dec.2023	31 Dec.2024	31 Dec.2023	31 March 2024
		(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
1	Total income from operations	3,096.1	2,874.1	1,118.5	10,004.1	4,292.1	4,687.5
2	Net Profit / (Loss) for the year/period (before Tax, Minority Interest and Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	268.5	337.9	(283.3)	382.4	(926.8)	(3,937.2)
3	Net (Loss) / Profit for the year/period before Tax and Minority Interest (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	268.5	337.9	(283.3)	382.4	(7,217.5)	(10,227.9)
4	Net (Loss) / Profit for the year/period after Tax and Minority Interest (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	223.9	242.7	(385.0)	184.2	(7,360.7)	(10,383.5)
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the year/period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the year/period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	223.0	242.6	75.1	374.2	(6,035.6)	(9,072.0)
6	Earnings per Share (of ₹ 2/- each) - Basic (Amount in ₹ ) - Diluted (Amount in ₹ )	0.35 0.34	0.38 0.35	(0.71) (0.71)	0.29 0.25	(13.61) (13.61)	(19.20) (19.20)
7	Paid up Equity Share Capital	1,271.7	1,271.7	1,082.2	1,271.7	1,082.2	1,082.2
8	Other equity				1		26,571.8

1. The above consolidated results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and subsequently approved at the meeting of the Board of Directors held on 10 January 2025. These financial results have been subjected to limited review by the statutory auditors of the Company.

#### Equinox India Developments Limited

(formerly Indiabulls Real Estate Limited)

Statement of Unaudited Standalone Financial Results for the quarter and nine months ended 31 December 2024	
YEW //	777

	·					( ₹ in million		
SI. No.	Particulars	3 months ended	Preceding 3 months ended	Corresponding 3 months ended	Year to date figures for current period ended	Year to date figures for previous period ended	Previous year ended	
		31 Dec.2024	30 Sept. 2024	31 Dec.2023	31 Dec.2024	31 Dec.2023	31 March 2024	
		(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Audited)	
1	Total Income from Operations	51.4	74.7	83.8	212.8	278.5	802.1	
2	Net (Loss) / Profit for the year/period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(145.5)	(117.6)	(2.7)	(383.5)	(65.1)	31.1	
3	Net (Loss) /Profit for the year/period before Tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(145.5)	(117.6)	(2.7)	(383.5)	(65.1)	(35,798.3)	
4	Net (Loss) / Profit for the year/period after Tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(152.6)	(110.4)	(3.1)	(384.0)	(66.0)	(35,802.3)	
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the year/period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	(152.6)	(110.4)	457.0	(193.0)	1,259.3	(34,482.5)	
6	Earnings per Share (of ₹ 2/- each) -Basic (Amount in ₹) -Diluted (Amount in ₹)	(0.24)	(0.17)	(0.01)	(0.62) (0.62)	(0.12) (0.12)	(66.17) (66.17)	
7	Paid-up equity share capital (face value of ₹ 2 per equity share)	1,271.7	1,271.7	1,082.2	1,271.7	1,082.2	1,082.2	
8	Other equity						31,839.9	

#### Notes to the standalone financial results::

Date: 10 January 2025

- 1. The above results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and subsequently approved at the meeting of the Board of Directors held on 10 January 2025 These financial results have been subjected to limited review by the statutory auditors of the Company
- 2. The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly / Annual Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly / Annual Financial Results are available on the Company's website (https://equinoxindia.com) and on the website of BSE (https://www.bseindia.com) and NSE (https://www.nseindia.com).

Registered Office: Office No 01-1001, WeWork, Blue One Square, Udyog Vihar Phase 4 Rd, Gurugram, Haryana 122016 (CIN): L45101HR2006PLC095409

For and on behalf of the Board of Directors

**Executive Director** 

# India's economy projected to grow 6.6 per cent in 2025: UN

PTI ■ UNITED NATIONS

The Indian economy is projected to expand by 6.6 per cent in 2025, primarily supported by robust private consumption and investment, according

to a United Nations report.
The report titled 'the UN World Economic Situation and Prospects 2025 was released here on Wednesday.

It also said that the near-term outlook for South Asia is expected to remain robust, with growth projected at 5.7 per cent in 2025 and 6.0 per cent in 2026, "driven by strong performance in India as well as economic recovery in a few other economies", including Bhutan, Nepal and

The Indian economy grew by 6.8 per cent in 2024 and is forecast to expand by 6.6 per cent in 2025. The Indian economy is projected to return to the 6.8 per cent growth in 2026. "The economy of India, the largest in the

(South Asia) region, is forecast to expand by 6.6 per cent in 2025, primarily supported robust investment. and consumption Additionally, capital expenditure on infrastructure development is expected to have strong multiplier effects on growth in the coming years," the report

It added that strong export growth in services and certain goods categories,

particularly pharmaceuticals and electronics, will bolster economic activity for India. On the supply side, expansion in the manufacturing and services sectors will keep driving the economy throughout the forecast period. Meanwhile, favourable monsoon rains in 2024 have improved the summer-sowing areas for all major crops, boosting agricultural output expectations for

Investment growth has remained particularly strong in East Asia and South Asia, partly driven by domestic and foreign investments in new supply chains, particularly in India, Indonesia, and Vietnam, the report said.

In India, the public sector continues to play a pivotal role in funding large-scale infrastructure projects, physical and and social digital connectivity, infrastructure, including improvements in sanitation and water supply. Strong investment growth is expected to continue through 2025.

Consumer price inflation in India is forecast to decelerate from an estimated 4.8 per cent in 2024 to 4.3 per cent in 2025, staying within the 2-6 per cent medium-term target range set by the central bank. While decreasing energy prices have contributed to the ongoing decline, adverse weather conditions have kept prices of vegetables, cereals, and other staples elevated in 2024, resulting



in spikes in the country's headline inflation in June and September.

It said that several developing economies, including China, India, and Mexico, have maintained robust investment growth, while African nations have faced limited public investment due to high debt servicing burdens, and Western Asia has experienced low investment growth amid subdued oil revenues. Global economic growth is forecast at 2.8

The positive but moderately slower growth projected for the two largest economies— China and the United States of America—will likely be complemented by mild recovery in the European Union, Japan, and the United Kingdom and strong performance in several large developing economies,

largely unchanged from the rate of 2.8

per cent recorded in 2023 and estimated

China is facing the prospect of gradual

notably India and Indonesia, it said.

economic moderation, with growth estimated at 4.9 per cent in 2024 and projected at 4.8 per cent in 2025. Public sector investments and strong export performance are partly offset by subdued consumption growth and lingering weakness in the property sector. The Chinese authorities have stepped up

policy support to lift property markets, government debt address local challenges, and boost domestic demand; the impacts of relevant initiatives are expected to be manifested over time, it

The shrinking population and rising trade and technology tensions, if unaddressed, could threaten the country's medium-term growth prospects, it said.

Among developing countries, robust momentum in India and modest growth acceleration in Africa, Western Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean will offset a slight moderation of growth in China.

The report noted that weaker external demand, persistent debt challenges, and social unrest and political turmoil in some economies may undermine the outlook for the South Asian region.

"However, risks to the outlook are tilted to the downside owing to the possible escalation of geopolitical tensions,

deceleration in external demand ongoing debt challenges, and social unrest. In addition, as the region is highly vulnerable to the impact of climate hazards, extreme weather events pose a significant risk," it said. It said that the labour market situation in

developing countries challenging, with significant variations in the outlook driven by differing economic conditions and policy responses. Some economies have exhibited resilience, it said adding that employment indicators in India have remained robust.

In India, employment indicators have remained strong throughout 2024, with labour force participation near record highs, the report said, citing the Reserve Bank of India data.

Urban unemployment stood at 6.6 per cent during this period-virtually unchanged from the rate of 6.7 per cent recorded in 2023. Although there has been progress in female labour market participation in the country, substantial gender gaps remain. Climate-related shocks have battered

South Asia in 2024. During the first half of the year, several of the region's countries—including Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka—experienced heatwaves, droughts, and irregular rainfall patterns, which led to reduced crop yields and elevated food prices.

### India's industrial production growth hits six-month high of 5.2 per cent in November: Government data

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

 $I_{
m (IIP)}$  growth accelerated to a six-month high of 5.2 per cent year-on-year in November 2024, riding on the increased festive demand and pick up in manufacturing sector, according to the official data released on The Index of Industrial

Production (IIP) recorded a growth of 2.5 per cent in November 2023, according to a statement by the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation.

The previous high growth rate at 6.3 per cent was recorded in May 2024. It grew by 4.9 per cent in June and 5 per cent in July 2024.

The IIP growth was flat in August before picking up at 3.1 per cent in September and 3.7 per cent in October 2024.

The growth in the factory output, measured in terms of the IIP, in April-November 2024 grew by 4.1 per cent against 6.5 per cent in the year-ago period, the data

As per the data, the mining output growth decelerated to 1.9 per cent in November from 7 per cent expansion in the year-ago month. The manufacturing sector's

growth accelerated to 5.8 per

cent in November from 1.3

per cent a year ago. Power generation growth slowed to 4.4 per cent from 5.8 per cent a year ago. use-based

classification, the capital goods segment growth accelerated to 9 per cent in November 2024 against a contraction of 1.1 per cent in the year-ago period.

Showing festive demand, consumer durable (or white) goods production grew by 13.1 per cent during the reporting month against a contraction of 4.8 per cent in November 2023.

In November 2024, consumer non-durables output growth remained almost flat at 0.6 per cent compared to a contraction of 3.4 per cent in November 2023.

According to the data, infrastructure/construction goods reported a growth of 10 per cent in November 2024, up from a 1.5 per cent expansion in the year-ago

The data also showed that the output of primary goods logged a 2.7 per cent growth in November 2024 against 8.4 per cent a year earlier.

The expansion in intermediate goods segment was 5 per cent in the month under review, higher than 3.4 per cent a year ago.

### Fund raising from capital markets to jump 21 per cent to ₹14.27 lakh Crore in FY25: Buch

**PTI** MUMBAI

Overall fundraising from capital markets, including through equity and debt instruments, is estimated to jump by nearly 21 per cent to Rs 14.27 lakh crore in FY25 from the Rs 11.8 lakh crore in FY24, Sebi chief Madhabi Puri Buch said on Friday.

Buch said in the past nine months of the current fiscal, entities have mobilised Rs 3.3 lakh crore in equity and Rs 7.3 lakh crore from the debt markets, with the overall mop-up reaching Rs 10.7 lakh

"If we project for the next quarter (Q4), we will probably end somewhere like over Rs 14 lakh crore raised for the year in terms of capital, both equity and debt," Buch said addressing a NISM-organised conference here.

A presentation made by Buch pegged the FY25 estimate at Rs 14.27 lakh crore. Buch said money raised by real estate investments trusts, infrastructure investment trusts and municipal bonds has a very small contribution to the



overall capital raising at around Rs 10,000 crore in the first nine months of FY25, but added that she sees the activity growing over the next decade to even exceed the money raised from equity and debt markets.

The capital markets regulator is working towards expediting the time taken for clearing issuances, Buch said, committing to reduce the time taken for clearing small and medium enterprises (SME) board proposals.

She said Sebi is taking up to 3 months for such SME issuances, while the banks are

giving in-principle approvals in 15 minutes, and added that it will like to use more of tech tools to advance the

Buch said a lot of attention is paid to IPOs and Sebi is "flooded" with new applications on the same, but added that other avenues including preferential issuances, institutional placements and rights issues are also important and may go unnoticed.

She added that the regulator has come up with a system for expediting rights issuances, and hoped that the industry adopts the same.

Pointing out that the regulator has been clearing mutual funds' new offers much faster, the Sebi chairperson said systematic investment plans (SIP) with a minimum amount of Rs 250 will be launched shortly

She appreciated the resource mobilisation done by domestic institutional investors over the last few years, and added that this money has helped in times of volatilities which may see a pull-out by foreign portfolio investors.

### Snag in system: Government extends monthly GST return, payment deadline

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The government on Friday L extended the deadline for filing monthly GST sales return form GSTR-1 and GST payment by 2 days after taxpayers reported technical glitches in the GSTN system.

As per a notification by the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC), the last date for filing GSTR-1 for December is January 13, while that for taxpayers opting for quarterly payment under the QRMP scheme for the October-December will be January 15.

Normally, the last date for filing GSTR-1 for monthly return filers is January 11, while for quarterly taxpayers it



is January 13.
The deadline for GST payment by filing GSTR-3B for December has been extended to January 22, from the existing date of January 20. For taxpayers who pay GST quarterly, the due date has

been extended to January 24 and January 26, depending on the state-wise registration of the business.

Earlier in the day, GST Network said in a post on X that it has sent an "incident report" to the Central Board of (CBIC) on the technical glitches in the system and requested an extension of the filing date of GST sales return or GSTR-1.

'GST portal is currently experiencing technical issues and is under maintenance. We expect the portal to be operational by 12:00 noon. CBIC is being sent an incident report to consider extension in filing date," GST Tech, the official handle of GSTN, said

in a post on X.
The GST Network has been facing technical glitches since Thursday as taxpayers were unable to generate summary of GSTR-1 and file the return.



risk appetite. Surging crude oil prices and a strengthening dollar index also contributed to the weak trend in equities.

In a volatile trade, the 30share BSE benchmark Sensex declined 241.30 points or 0.31 per cent to settle at 77,378.91. During the day, the benchmark gyrated 820.15 points between the day's high of 77,919.70 and a low of 77,099.55.



The NSE Nifty dropped 95 points or 0.40 per cent to 23,431.50

From the 30-share blue-chip pack, IndusInd Bank, NTPĆ, UltraTech Cement, Sun

Pharma, Axis Bank, State Bank of India, Tata Steel, Power Grid, Adani Ports and Kotak Mahindra Bank were among the major laggards. Tata Consultancy

jumped nearly 6 per cent after valuations. the IT services company "Consolidation may persist in reported an 11.95 per cent the near term, yet investors

Tech Mahindra, HCL Tech, Infosys and Bajaj Finserv were the other big gainers. Institutional Foreign

Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 7,170.87 crore on Thursday, according to exchange data. "Domestic market sentiment

remained subdued due to rising crude oil prices, driven by supply concerns, and a strengthening dollar index. Despite the IT sector's resilience following positive early Q3 results, broader indices bled due uncertainties surrounding Trump policies and high

jump in the December are closely watching the US for further guidance," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services, said.

> In Asian markets, Seoul, Tokyo, Shanghai and Hong Kong settled lower. European markets were

> trading lower. US markets were closed on Thursday. Global oil benchmark Brent crude jumped 2.02 per cent to USD 78.47 a barrel.

> In the previous session, the 30-share BSE benchmark dropped 528.28 points or 0.68 per cent to sink below the 78,000 level at 77,620.21. The Nifty slumped 162.45 points or 0.69 per cent to 23,526.50.

### Redevelopment of Exclusive **La-Mandre Villa Community**

PNS NEW DELHI

 $Y_{
m latest}^{
m ugen}$  Infra unveils its venture-the redevelopment of Mandre, an elite villa community near Mandrem Beach, North Goa

Spanning 8000 square meters, the project features 13 exquisitely designed villas, offering luxurious living amidst serene landscapes.

Located just minutes from Goa's iconic beaches, these RERA-approved villas boast spacious plots ranging from 215 to 590 square meters, with nearly 50 per cent open space. Residents will enjoy access to the world-class Golf Course at Yugen Golf City

near Mopa Airport. Amit Mamgain, Director of Yugen Infra, remarked, "La-Mandre blends opulence with nature, creating a lifestyle of privacy and connectivity in Goa's lush landscapes."

### Gold rises ₹250 to ₹80,550 per 10 gm; silver trades flat

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Gold prices rose Rs 250 to Rs 80,550 per 10 grams in the national capital on Friday as rupee hit record low amid consistent buying from retailers and stockists, according to the All India Sarafa Association.

The precious metal ended the previous session at Rs 80,300 per 10 grams.

However, silver traded flat at Rs 93,000 per kg on Friday. The price of gold of 99.5 per cent purity continuing to shine bright for the fourth straight session appreciating Rs 250 to Rs 80,150 per 10 grams. It had finished at Rs 79,900 per 10

grams on Thursday. Traders said the rise in gold prices at local market is also propelled by robust overseas

demand. Meanwhile, the rupee declined 14 paise and touched the crucial 86-mark for the first time against the US dollar on Friday as it failed to resist pressure from a stronger



American currency and huge outflow of foreign funds. On a weekly basis, gold prices surged Rs 1,550, or 2 per cent, to Rs 80,550 per 10 grams, while silver shot up 2.5 per cent to Rs 93,000 per kg.

On the MCX, gold contracts for February delivery climbed Rs 388, or 0.5 per cent, to Rs 78,492 per 10 grams in the futures trade on Friday.

Silver contracts for March delivery bounced Rs 506, or 0.55 per cent, to Rs 92,217 per kg on the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX). Comex gold futures increased

USD 16.10 per ounce, or 0.6 per cent, to USD 2,706.90 per

ounce in the overseas market.

"Gold extended rally on

Friday on the back of safe-haven demand due to uncertainty around future US monetary policy President-elect Saumil Gandhi, Trump," Analyst Senior HDFC Commodities at Securities, said. According to Augmont's Head

of Research Renisha Chainani, gold continued its winning streak due to safe-haven demand sparked by worries about Donald Trump's proposed policies, while the UK faced a Budget crisis. The Federal Ŏpen Market

(FOMC) Committee's members hinted that more (rate) easing would be appropriate if the data came in as anticipated.

"Market participants will be looking for the upcoming US non-farm payrolls and UoM Consumer Sentiment data for additional economic cues,' Chainani said. Silver comex futures in the

Asian market hours shot up

0.6 per cent to USD 31.20 per

### SpiceJet to fly 10 grounded aircraft by mid-April

**PTI** ■ MUMBAI

Domestic carrier SpiceJet on Friday announced plans to bring back into operations 10 of its grounded aircraft, including four Boeing B737 Max, by mid-April. The airline said it has added 10 planes to its fleet since October 2024 -- three grounded aircraft that were brought back into service and seven inducted on lease.

The move comes close on the heels of SpiceJet signing a pact with US-based engine MRO StandardAero Inc last month for the restoration of its grounded MAX fleet.

SpiceJet has 28 aircraft, of the total 62 in the fleet, in operations, comprising 20 B737, six De Havilland Canada DHC-8 Dash 8 and two Airbus A320, as on January 10 as per flight tracking website

planespotter.Com. The remaining 34 aircraft -- 16 B737s and 18 De Havilland Canada DHC-8 Dash 8 -- are on the ground due to various reasons, as per the website. The return of 10 grounded MAX aircraft, SpiceJet said.



three aircraft back into operations will help the airline significantly increase its current fleet of 28 aircraft, even as some of these planes are redelivered to lessors during the same period, SpiceJet said.

Over the past three months, SpiceJet said its network expansion strategy has resulted in the addition of more than 60 new flights, further enhancing connectivity and service

options for its passengers. This pact with StandardAero Inc followed successful partnerships with CFM International, Inc, the OEM for LEAP-1B engines, and a key lessor, paving the way for the un-grounding and return to service of three Boeing 737

#### INBRIEF

RAJASTHAN'S GROWTH ENGINE: HINDUSTAN ZINC DRIVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

India's largest and only integrated zinc, lead and silver producer, Hindustan Zinc (NSE: HINDZINC) completes 59 years of operations. Incorporated in 1966 as a public sector undertaking, Hindustan Zinc Limited has grown leaps and bounds since then providing zinc sufficiency to the country and the world at large. As a fully integrated producer, Hindustan Zinc operates underground zinclead mines, smelters, and captive power plants in Rajasthan

### POFESSOR VANDANA BHALLA OF GNDU HONOURED BY INDIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

**AMRITSAR:** Prof. Vandana Bhalla from the Department of Chemistry of the Guru Nanak Dev University, has been honoured with the prestigious fellowship of the Indian Academy of Sciences (IAS), Bangalore. This recognition places her among the

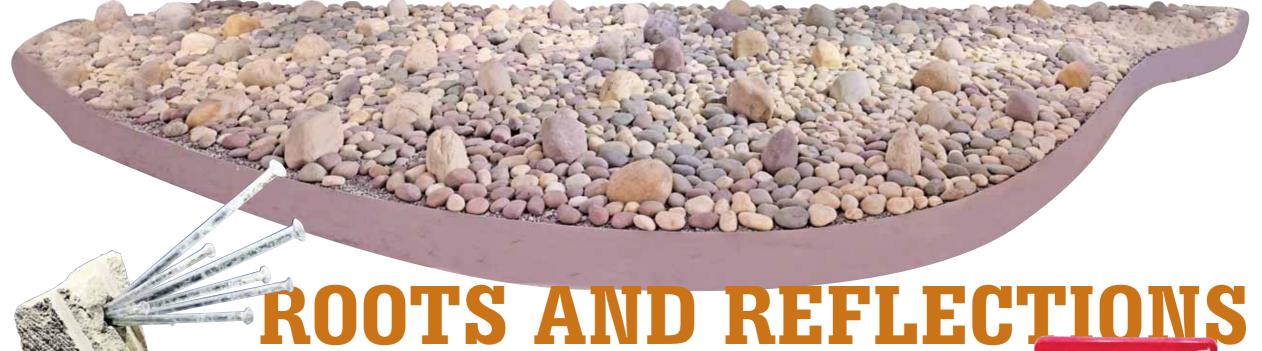


leading scientists in the country and marks a historic achievement for GNDU, as she becomes only the third individual from the university to receive this distinction in the past 55 years.

#### PROF KARAMJEET SINGH CELEBRATES LOHRI WITH GURU NANAK DEV UNIVERSITY EMPLOYEES

AMRITSAR: The joyous festival of Lohri was celebrated with great enthusiasm and fervor at Guru Nanak Dev University campus in front Administration Block. Vice Chancellor Prof. Karamjeet Singh joined the non-teaching employees of the university to mark this auspicious





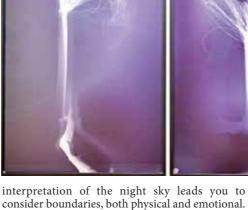
At KNMA's The Elemental You, artists explored Earth's essence through works reflecting nature's intricate narratives and connections, says **SAKSHI PRIYA** 

> "To see a world in a grain of sand, and a heaven in a wildflower...

hese words by William Blake come alive as you enter The Elemental You, an exhibition at the Kiran Nadar Museum of Art. Curated by Akansha Rastogi, it brings together the works of Simryn Gill, Neha Choksi and Hajra Waheed, each exploring the element of "Earth" with a vision that is both timeless and urgent. The experience engages your senses on multiple levels. Neha Choksi's Porous Earth series draws attention to limestone cast in kiln-glass, revealing stories of geological change and human fragility. Her work highlights the delicate interplay between the permanence of Earth's materials and the fleeting nature of human life.

Simryn Gill shifts focus to Port Dickson, an industrial port town in Malaysia. Her long-term photographic documentation captures moments of transformation and decay, inviting viewers to reflect on what persists and what

fades with time. There is a quiet, poignant beauty in her images that speaks of history and memory. Hajra Waheed's

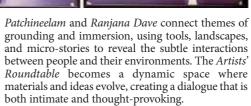


consider boundaries, both physical and emotional. Her drawings evoke the vastness of Kashmir's starlit skies, working together with personal and collective narratives. It's as though the heavens hold untold stories, offering a sense of both wonder and loss.

The exhibition is unhurried, encouraging visitors to take their time with each piece. The pathways, "To Think Like a Mountain," "Survival as Revival," and "Clearing", are designed to deepen understanding of the intricate relationship between humans and

> collaborative project, The Working Space, extends the exploration further. Ārtists like Vijai

the natural world.



The exhibition does not shy away from hard truths. It juxtaposes beauty with unsettling realities, showing the scars left by mines alongside the

mangroves or

lifelessness of dead snakes beside the enduring strength of mountains. This contrast challenges visitors to confront the environmental challenges of today while appreciating the artistry that brings these narratives to life. The simplicity of the presentation allows the works

to speak for themselves. The museum provides a space for these artists to explore their deep engagement with the natural world, leaving visitors with a sense of introspection and a renewed connection to the Earth. The Elemental You offers a thoughtful exploration of how we relate to our environment. It reminds us of the fragility of our planet and the enduring beauty found in its details. As you leave the exhibition, the reflections it inspires remain, offering a quiet yet powerful

reminder of our place within the larger







rt has a unique ability to reach deep within us, stirring Lemotions, provoking thought and creating a connection with the world around us. In the Echoes of Elegance exhibition, this dynamic is brought to life through a collection of works that challenge, engage and captivate. Curated by Shekhar Jhamb, the exhibition brings together a range of India's leading artists, each offering their own unique voice through various mediums. It is a show that not only highlights the diversity of the Indian art scene but also delves into the deeper connections between art, culture and

One of the standout pieces in the exhibition is Trust Feat, an acrylic on canvas. The piece draws the viewer in with its vibrant colours and intricate patterns, evoking a sense of complexity



Echoes of Elegance presents a unique exploration of India's vibrant art scene through its diverse creators, says SAKSHI PRIYA

that mirrors human relationships. It's a work that encourages reflection, inviting the viewer to interpret its layers of meaning. Similarly, Keep ones end up, another acrylic on canvas, uses bold strokes and vivid hues to explore themes of balance and stability in an ever-changing world. The fluidity of the painting offers a sense of movement, making it feel as if the artwork is alive. Parody II, a striking fiberglass piece, challenges the viewer's perception with its playful yet thought-provoking

commentary on modern life. The use of fiberglass in this piece gives it a dynamic quality, blurring the line between reality and illusion. It's a work that not only entertains but also encourages a deeper contemplation of society and its contradictions.

Alongside these, the exhibition showcases a range of works by renowned artists such as Bose Krishnamachari, Dileep Sharma, Farhad Hussain, George Martin, Jyothiraj Moyampilly and Mukesh

Sharma. Each of their pieces brings forth unique perspectives on culture, identity and contemporary issues. Whether it's through abstract expressionism, surreal imagery or figurative forms, the diversity of styles on display ensures that there is something for everyone to connect

The exhibition invites viewers to move beyond admiring art from a distance, encouraging them to understand the creative process and engage with the ideas behind each piece.

Echoes of Elegance is a journey into the heart of Indian contemporary art. It's an opportunity to witness the talent, vision and passion of some of the country's finest artists, offering a deeper understanding of the dynamic and ever-evolving art scene.

PHOTOS: PANKAJ KUMAR



# Art as a Language of Love

#### By TEAM VIVA

**¬**he 10th edition of *Vividh Mat*: Perspectives, presented by Devyani Jaipuria in collaboration with ASAVARI, focused on the theme Shringara: Rang Anurang. This edition explored Shringara, a concept that embodies love, beauty and the depth of the human experience.

The event began with an engaging discussion led by Padmashri Shovana Narayan, SNA awardee and Ambassador Dr Suresh Goel, former DG of ICCR. The panel also included Jatin Das, the renowned artist and sculptor, celebrated poet Sudeep Sen and actor-director Sohaila Kapur. Together, they shared their insights into Shringara, highlighting it as more than just an aesthetic concept, but an essential

Jatin Das explained that Shringara is not only about visual beauty but is also the very pulse of life. He described it as a delicate balance between form and emotion, where art touches the soul. Sudeep Sen further elaborated by describing Shringara as "the poetry of the senses," a celebration that speaks directly to the heart, connecting art, love and life. He emphasised how Shringara invites us to reflect

on the deepest layers of the human soul. Sohaila Kapur added to the discussion by describing Shringara as a means of capturing the essence of beauty through performance. She noted that it is the emotional core of art, brought to life through movement, offering an experience that connects the audience directly to the emotions conveyed. The conversation highlighted how Shringara is not only a visual or emotional experience but also a spiritual one, bridging cultural and philosophical perspectives.

Shovana Narayan, deeply connected to classical Indian dance, shared her personal view of Shringara, describing it as a language that speaks directly to the heart. For her, the evening was a celebration of beauty; it was the culmination of





years of dedication, creating a space where everyone could to the rhythm of life.

The event concluded with a Baithaki Bhaav dance performance by Madhura Phatak. The classical dance embodied Shringara beautifully, giving the audience an immersive experience.

Vividh Mat: Perspectives combined intellectual discussion and artistic expression, highlighting how art connects us to humanity, bridging cultures and emotions.

PHOTOS: PANKAJ KUMAR

# **India pacer Varun Aaron retires from 'representative cricket'**

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

ndia pacer Varun Aaron, who was once regarded as the Lountry's fastest bowler before injuries hampered his promising career, announced retirement from "representative cricket" on Friday after his home state Jharkhand's campaign ended in the ongoing Vijay Hazare Trophy. The 35-year-old Aaron made the announcement on social media after Jharkhand failed to go beyond the preliminary stage of the marquee domestic one-day event. After a dazzling start, Aaron struggled with erratic form, which was made worse by injury breakdowns, and he had not represented India since 2015. "For the past 20 years, I have lived, breathed, and thrived on the mask of heading fact. To do not be made of heading fact. the rush of bowling fast. Today, with immense gratitude, I announce retirement from representative

cricket," Aaron posted on his

Instagram account At just 21, Aaron burst onto the scene during the 2010-11 Vijay Hazare Trophy, showcasing his raw pace and making a mark with a blistering 153kph delivery against Gujarat in the final.

His ability to consistently bowl at speeds exceeding 150kph quickly caught the attention of the Indian cricketing fraternity and he soon made his international debut in an ODI against England in Mumbai in 2011.

This was followed by a Test debut at the same venue against the West Indies, again in 2011.

However, the relentless demands of bowling at high speed took a significant toll on his body. He played nine ODIs and as many Tests, taking 29 wickets across the two formats for India.

Over the course of his career, he endured as many as eight back stress fractures and three foot fractures, which hampered his progress



Injuries had forced him to give up red-ball cricket last year.

Over the years, I've had to push both my physical and mental limits to recover from numerous career-threatening injuries, having to come back time and again, this was only possible thanks to the relentless dedication of the physios, trainers, and coaches at the National Cricket Academy.

"I'd also like to thank the BCCI, JSCA (Jharkhand State Cricket Association). Red Bull. SG

Association) , Red Bull, SG Cricket, and MRF Tyres for their invaluable support during critical junctures in my career.

'As I bid farewell to a pursuit that has consumed me completely, I now look forward to savouring the smaller joys in life while staying deeply connected to the game that has given me

everything.
"Fast Bowling has been my first love, and though I step off the field, it will always be a part of

Among his memorable moments in the game, he had grabbed headlines by breaking Stuart Broad's nose with a bouncer during a Test match in 2014. Broad had tried to pull the delivery but the ball took the edge

and sneaked inside the grill of his helmet to hit him on the nose. Despite not making the Indian team since 2015, Aaron continued to bowl in domestic cricket. He picked 141 wickets at an average of 26.47 and an

wickets at an economy rate of 8.53 in the 95 T20s he played. Aaron also played nine seasons of the IPL between 2011 and 2022, turning out for with Delhi Daredevils, Kings XI Punjab, Kolkata Knight Riders, Rajasthan Royals, Royal Challengers Bangalore and Gujarat Titans.

economy rate of 5.44 in 88 List A

matches. He also snared 93

In his final season, he won the title with Gujarat Titans in 2022.



### People have opinion but I'm comfortable in my own skin: Steve Smith

**PTI** ■ SYDNEY

ustralia skipper for the Sri ALankan Test series, Steve Smith is not getting unduly bothered by people's opinion over his role in the episode, 'sandpapergate' saying they are entitled to their views while he continues to be "comfortable" in his own

Smith, who was the Australia skipper when the balltampering scandal broke out in the 2018 Cape Town Test against South Africa, will lead a 16-member squad to the sub-continent for the two-Test series beginning January 29 after regular skipper Pat Cummins was rested the Borderfollowing

The charismatic top-order batter, opener David Warner and Cameron Bancroft were found guilty of ball-tampering in 2018 and banned for varying periods. Smith also served a two-year leadership ban for his role in the scandal He has since led Australia on four occasions in Tests -versus England in Adelaide (2021), against the West Indies in Perth (2022) and two Tests versus India in

While Cricket Australia deems the matter as closed, some sections still feel that Smith should not be allowed to lead the country's team.

"I mean, everyone's entitled to their opinion," Smith told Sydney Morning Herald. "They can say whatever they like. I'm pretty comfortable in

skin. environment) around the team has been good for a long time. I get on well with everyone inside. People are entitled to their opinion. They can say what they want," he

'Missing 10,000 Test runs

Australia finally While claimed the Border-Gavaskar Trophy after four attempts, defeating India 1-3 in the fivematch series recently, Smith missed the 10,000 Test-run mark by just one run.

He said while it was a "cool win" in the series, missing a personal landmark by just one run was painful. "It was a cool summer to be a

part of... And particularly from Perth (defeat). Just as a collective, it was a really cool win. Our bowlers were unbelievable. Scotty Boland, the way he came in, was exceptional. He's unbelievable at the moment," said Smith. Smith was left stranded at 9,999 runs in the fifth Test at Sydney after being dismissed by Prasidh Krishna in both

"One run... It hurt a little bit at the time. It would have been nice to have ticked that off in front of all my friends and family here at my home ground, but hopefully, I can knock it off first thing in Galle (Sri Lanka, first Test)

"I probably let it wander (in mind) too much throughout the game. It's a cool milestone to tick off," he

### Travis Head could open in Sri Lanka Tests, says chief selector George Bailey

Australian big-hitter Travis Head could open in the two-Test series against Sri Lanka where "quick learner" Sam Konstas is also likely to get more opportunities to showcase his audacious skills, chairman of selectors George Bailey has said.

Head, who wreaked havoc with the bat during the recently-concluded Border-Gavaskar series against India in the middle order, has been tested in the opener's role in the sub-continent.

He had come in for an injured David Warner during the 2023 tour of India and scored 223 runs at 55.75 in five innings at the top of the order.

"Trav's an option (to open). We've got a number of options and there's been a few preliminary discussions around where that may land, and that may depend on the makeup of that first XI," Bailey told cricket.Com.Au.

"I think (head coach) Andrew (McDonald,) and (stand-in captain) Steve (Smith) will settle on that in due course, once we hit Sri Lanka," he added. Australia announced a 16-member squad on Thursday with several fresh faces added to the group that played India in the fifth and final Test at Sydney last



week. Australia won the marquee series

Smith is leading the squad as regular captain Pat Cummins is on leave for the birth of his couple's second child.

With 19-year-old Konstas turning heads with his refreshing style of batting during the Border-Gavaskar Tests, Bailey said the youngster's ability to read match situations quickly would help him excel in Sri Lanka, his maiden international

"What we have seen is he's (Konstas) a quick learner. (He) absorbs a lot of "So (we're) expecting him to get to get a lot out of it. I know from his spin play in Australia, and the opportunities he's (had) in different parts of the world, we think he's got a game that's well suited, and a technique that can stand up. "But that's one of the exciting things about this tour – we will learn a bit more about his game in different conditions to what he's just faced in Australia," he added.

Bailey feels that Nathan McSweeney, who is there in the Sri Lanka-bound squad, handled his exclusion from the last two BGT Tests quite well and he wil remain in the scheme of things despite the unimpressive show as an opener. The debutant had a trial by fire against

Indian pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah, failing to put up a decent score in the first three games. "We still view (McSweeney) as a great Test prospect, and a long-term Test prospect. "I think at times when someone is left out

of a team or squad, there's a view that they

fall out of favour, or down the pecking order, but that wasn't the case with Nathan," said Bailey. "I think it shows the character... And the sort of person he is, the way he responded

and spoke so well about (being dropped) publicly pretty soon after it happened."

### ICC chairman Jay Shah to be felicitated by BCCI at its SGM

Newly-elected
International Cricket
Council (ICC) chairman Jay Shah will be felicitated by the BCCI's state units on the sidelines of the Special General Meeting, scheduled here on Sunday.

Shah, a former secretary, became the youngest ICC chairman after he was elected unopposed in August last year and took over the prestigious post on December 1. He replaced Greg Barclay who decided not to seek a third term.

Shah was the BCCI secretary since October 2019 and chairman of the Asian Cricket Council since January 2021. Shah will, however, not be a part of the SGM as he is no longer an office-bearer of the

The cricket administrator has been at the forefront of expanding the game's imprint globally and recently met top officials of the 2032 Brisbane



committee to discuss the sport's inclusion in the Summer Games. Cricket will make a return to

the Olympics after 128 years when it is played in the 2028 Los Angeles Games. The sport is not yet confirmed for the 2032 edition in Brisbane. Australian newspaper, The Age, recently reported that Shah will meet meet Cricket Australia chair Mike Baird and his England counterpart Richard Thompson later this month to discuss the finer points of a two-tier Test system to facilitate more series between the big three

### Gael Monfils reaches his 35th ATP final

PTI AUCKLAND

ael Monfils became the 1990 to reach a final on the men's elite tennis tour after beating American Nishesh Basavareddy 7-6 (5), 6-4 in the semifinals at Auckland on Friday aged 38 years, 131 days. Ivo Karlovic holds the ATP Tour record, having won through to final in Pune, India in 2019 at the age of 39 years, 311 days. Monfils edges Stan Wawrinka who was aged 38 years and 124 days when he reached the final at Umag, Croatia in 2023.

Karlovic also reached the final at Den Bosch in 2017 aged 38 years, 110 days while Roger Federer (Basel in 2019 aged 38 vears and 80 days) and Rafael Nadal (the 2024 Swedish Open at 38 years and 48 days) also are in the top five. Frenchman Monfils has been breaking records steadily in

Auckland to reach his 35th ATP Tour final. When he beat

Jan-Lennard Struff to reach the quarterfinals, he became the player in professional era to reach the last eight in Auckland.

He became the oldest-ever semifinalist in Auckland when he beat Facundo Diaz Acosta 6-3, 6-1 to reach his 73rd ATP Tour semifinal. Only Novak Djokovic has played more. Monfils will face Zizou Bergs

of Belgium in Saturday's final. "Everybody knows I'm a warrior on the court, I don't give up easy," Monfils said after his semifinal.

# **Cup final with a 3-0 win over Mallorca**

again to lead Real Madrid into the Spanish Super Cup final with a 3-0 win over Mallorca in Saudi Arabia on Thursday.

The England midfielder, who led Madrid in scoring last season, started this campaign slowly but has netted seven goals in his last eight Spanish league games.

He notched another goal in 63rd minute of the Super Cup semifinal when he finally broke down a tough Mallorca that until his goal had imposed its defensive style on the star-studded Madrid. Bellingham blasted in the third shot in a row by Madrid

protect the goalmouth. after Rodrygo initially hit the post and goalkeeper Dominik Greif blocked a follow-up by Kylian Mbappé. Bellingham collected the

rebound and slotted his shot from just outside the six-vard box under the on-rushing Greif and past three defenders who were trying to

Madrid tacked on two goals late in stoppage time. Mallorca's Martin Valjent scored an own goal when he inadvertently turned a pass



**Real Madrid walks into Spanish Super** 

by Brahim Díaz into his net. Rodrygo then took Madrid's third

The match ended with a short scuffle after the final whistle before calm was restored. It started when Bellingham slapped the back of the neck of Mallorca defender Pablo Maffeo, who had had an intense duel with

came to fore as they failed to

seize the momentum, leaking

Laura Delany was the weakest

link in their bowling unit and

she bowled successive no balls

with two waist-high full

tosses in the 24th over when

Hasabnis cashed in on the

opportunity to hit back-to-back fours from the two

Earlier, butter-fingered India

let Ireland off the hook with their pathetic fielding as visiting skipper Gaby Lewis carved out a classy 92 to lift

her team to a respectable 238

Opting to bat, Ireland were in

21 runs in extras.

freebies.

Vinícius Júnior during the Sunday's final.

Madrid lost Tchouaméni, a midfielder playing as a central defender, in the 54th after he took a hard knock to the head during a collision with a Mallorca player. Youth player Raúl Asencio replaced him. Madrid was competing as last season's Spanish league champion, while Mallorca was invited as the runner-up in the Copa del Rey. Former Madrid striker Karim

Benzema, who now plays in the Saudi Arabian league, was in attendance.

The minor trophy has become a major cash maker for the federation and competing clubs since the federation struck a deal in 2019 to hold it in the Middle Eastern kingdom.

### Pratika, Tejal smash fifties as India beat Ireland by six wickets in 1st women's ODI

**PTI** ■ RAJKOT

Pratika Rawal showcased maturity beyond her Tejal experience, while capped Hasabnis comeback, memorable posting a fifty each, as India outplayed an inexperienced Ireland by six wickets to take a

women's ODI series here on Rawal anchored the modest run chase of 239 after standin skipper Smriti Mandhana's brisk 41, smashing 10 fours and one six for a career-best

1-0 lead in the three-match

89 (96 balls) Hasabnis, who last played an ODI against New Zealand in October 2024, struck her first fifty after her comeback, remaining unbeaten on 53 off 46 balls with the help of nine

boundaries. Rawal and Hasabnis put together a match-winning 116-run partnership from 84 balls with India winning the match with 93 balls to spare.

Carrying

dominant form from the West Indies series, Mandhana gave the team a fantastic start with studded with six fours and a six. In the process, she became the second Indian and 15th overall to surpass 4.000 ODI runs. Mandhana unsettled the Irish

bowlers with her attacking strokeplay on both sides of the wicket. Her aggression was particularly evident against seamer Dempsey in the eighth over, when she stepped out to hammer a boundary, followed by a six and another four.

Her rookie opening partner Rawal, who debuted in the preceding West Indies series, provided excellent support. The duo shared their third fifty-plus opening stand in four matches, keeping the scoreboard ticking with ease. However, Ireland managed a breakthrough right at the end powerplay Mandhana mistimed a slog

blistering 29-ball 41,



runs short of her fifty. Harleen Deol (20) and Jemimah Rodrigues looked in good touch initially, forward her sweep to mid-on, falling nine but clever bowling by left-arm lured Jemimah into stepping

spinner Aimee Maguire (3/57 from 8 overs) stalled India's momentum temporarily.
The 18-year-old Maguire

stumping when the batter was at least a foot outside her

This phase saw India lose The inexperience of Ireland

out too far, resulting in a three wickets for 46 runs, but Mandhana's explosive start ensured the team staved well

wicket to steer their team to safety.

deep trouble at 56 for four in the 14th over, but Lewis and Leah Paul (59 off 73 balls) added 117 runs for the fifth

Lewis scored her runs in 129 balls, lacing the knock with 15 boundaries

Aided by at least three clear dropped catches and a few misfields, the duo of Lewis brought a semblance of stability to the Ireland innings while putting together the team's first-ever century partnership against India. Medium pacer Titas Sadhu effected breakthrough for India when she induced an outside edge from Sarah Forbes (9) after

and Paul went about their job in a calculated manner and

the batter tried to play away from her body, and Deepti Sharma did the rest in the slip cordon. Making their first visit to the country, Ireland were reduced

to 34 for two thanks to a terrible mix-up that led to the run out of Una Raymond-Hoey (5), who attempted an inexplicable single despite hitting the ball straight to Jemimah Rodrigues at cover. Orla Prendergast (9) was next to go as she was stumped by Ghosh off the bowling of legspinner Priva Mishra (2/56) leaving the visitors in a spot of

bother at 56 for three in the

14th over.