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Late City Vol.19 Issue 16 | \*Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable

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# **MURDEROUS ATTACK** ON SAIF ALI KHAN

TN RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI

ollywood actor Saif Ali Khan sustained six stab Dinjuries, including one to his spine, in a knife attack by an unidentified intruder. The attack is suspected to have been part of a burglary attempt at his 12th-floor residence in a posh building in Bandra (West), north-west Mumbai, in the early hours of Thursday.

Shortly after the attack, a bleeding Saif was rushed to the nearby Lilavati Hospital, where he underwent surgery to remove the knife and address the leaking spinal fluid.

"The actor was brought to our hospital with six injuries, two of which were deep. We performed surgery near his spine and removed a 2.5-inch piece of the knife from the spine," said Dr. Niraj Uttamani, the Chief the Ūttamani, Operating Officer of Lilavati Hospital. Dr. Nitin Dange, a colleague

same hospital, ed: "The actor elaborated: sustained a major injury to his thoracic spinal cord due to the knife piercing his spine. We performed surgery to remove the knife and plug the leaking spinal fluid. We also treated two other deep wounds-one on his left hand and another on his neck. He is completely stable now and recovering well. He is out of danger."

Known for his roles in films like Dil Chahta Hai, Kal Ho



Bollywood actor Kareena Kapoor at the Lilavati Hospital where actor Saif Ali Khan was admitted after he was injured in an attack by an intruder with a knife, in Mumbai

and Hum Tum, the 54-yearold Saif is the son of legendary cricketer Mansoor Ali Khan Pataudi, popularly known as Tiger Pataudi, and actress Sharmila Tagore. He is also the 10th Nawab of

"Saif Ali Khan has come out of surgery and is out of danger. He is currently in recovery, and doctors are monitoring his progress. All family members are safe, and the police are investigating the incident. We would like to thank Dr. Niraj Uttamani, Dr. Nitin Dange, Dr. Leena Jain, and the team at Lilavati Hospital. We also thank all

their prayers and support during this time," Saif's family said in a statement issued to the media. The incident took place around 2 a.m. at the 12th-floor flat of Saif's "Satguru Sharan" building, located at the junction of 29th and 24th Roads in Bandra (W). Saif and his family occupy the top four floors of the 12-storey

building. A housemaid, identified as Eliyama Phillipes alias Lima, was the first to spot the intruder and raised an alarm, prompting Saif to rush out of his bedroom. Upon seeing the actor, the knife-wielding

SAUMYA SHUKLA NEW DELHI

 $R_{\text{Capital}}^{\text{esidents}}$  of the National Respect to the National

either from the hazardous air

pollution or from the sudden

revocation and imposition of

different stages of the Graded

Response Action Plan (GRAP) in the recent past,

leaving common people to

imposed.

Naa Ho, Omkara, Parineeta, his fans and well-wishers for intruder, who is suspected to have broken into the house for a burglary, pounced on him. The actor attempted to resist, resulting in a scuffle. The intruder stabbed Saif multiple times before fleeing the scene. Taking the attack seriously

the Mumbai police formed seven teams to investigate the incident and arrest the assailant. Former encounter specialist Daya Nayak is one of the key investigators. Investigators are reviewing CCTV footage from the

"Satguru Sharan" building and its vicinity to determine how the intruder gained access to Saif's flat.

## Hindenberg winds up political turmoil

DEEPAK KUMAR JHA/PTI ■ NEW DELHI/

Hindenburg investment research firm known for short-selling, which primarily targeted Adapt and created a Tindenburg Research, the US Indian billionaire Gautam Adani and created a flutter in the Indian political system by holding hostage the functioning of the Parliament for multiple sessions in last three years, has shut down its operations.

Announcement of the closure by Hindenberg Research founder Nate Anderson, who started in 2017, came just days before Donald Trump's inauguration as the new President of the United States. Adani Group CFO Jugeshinder Robbie Singh in a cryptic social media post: "Kitne Ghazi Aaye, Kitne Ghazi Gaye". Adani group always denied the allegations.

The announcement of disband of Hindenberg once again ignited political duel between the Congress and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). The Congress said its closure does not mean a clean chit for "Modani" and asserted that without a Joint Parliamentary Committee, the "already-compromised" institutions of the Indian state will continue to act only to protect the powerful.

The BJP alleged that Congress leader Rahul Gandhi is in the "complete grip" of the thinking process of "urban naxals", and asked if he has now got the "contract" for the Hindenburg Research's closed "shop". Former Union minister Ravi Shankar Prasad said USbased short-selling firm Hinderburg Research "shut its shop" the day the Congress inaugurated its new headquarters building.

The sudden and surprising announcement by Anderson comes within days of a Republican Congressman, a member of the House Judiciary Committee, asking the Department of Justice to preserve all the documents and communications related to the investigations of Adani and his companies.

"As I've shared with family, friends and our team since late last year, I have made the decision to disband Hindenburg Research. The plan has been to wind up after we finished the pipeline of ideas we were working on. And as of the last Ponzi cases we just completed and are sharing with regulators, that day is today," Anderson announced according to the PTI from Washington.

40 years old Anderson said he looks forward to taking up hobbies, travelling and spending time with his fiancée and their child, adding



that he has earned enough money to provide for them in the future.

BJP said it seems the "shop" of US-based billionaire investor George Soros is also going to close down with new administration under President-elect Donald Trump set to take over. Soros, he said, funds Hindenburg.

Congress chief spokesman Jairam Ramesh said the closure of Hindenburg Research does not, in any way, mean a clean chit for Modani." The Hindenburg report of January 2023 proved serious enough to compel the Supreme Court of India to set up an Expert Committee to probe the allegation made in it against the Adani Group "whose prime patron is none other than the present Prime Minister of India", he said in a statement.

"However the Hindenburg Report covered only one part of securities laws violations - of the hydra-headed Modani MegaScam. Out of the 100 questions on the Adani Mega Scam that the Congress party had asked of the PM in the Hum Adani ke Hain Kaun (HAHK) series during January-March 2023, only 21 questions related to revelations made in the Hindenburg report," Ramesh said. The matter goes far deeper. It involves the

abuse of Indian foreign policy to enrich the PM's close friends at the expense of the national interest. It involves the misuse of investigative agencies to force Indian businesspersons to divest infrastructure assets and help Adani build monopolies in airports, ports, defence and cement," Ramesh alleged.

The Swiss Public Prosecutors Office has frozen several Adani-linked bank accounts operated by Chang Chung-Ling and Nasser Ali Shaban Ahli that are "suspected of engaging in illicit activities, including money laundering and embezzlement", Ramesh claimed, citing a Swiss Federal Criminal Court order

#### **Government to** constitute 8th **Pay Commission**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

approved setting up the 8th Pay Commission to revise salaries of nearly 50 lakh central government employees and allowances of 65 lakh pensioners. The chairman and two members of the Commission will be appointed soon, I&B Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw told reporters here. "Prime Minister has approved 8th Central Pay Commission for central government employees," the minister said. The term of the 7th Pay Commission will end in 2026. Since 1947, seven Pay Commissions have been constituted, with the last one implemented in 2016.

As the 7th Pay Commission's term concludes in 2026, initiating the process in 2025 ensures sufficient time to receive and review recommendations before its completion, the Minister added. He said the setting up of the Pay Commission in 2025 will ensure that its recommendations received before completion of the term of the seventh pay panel.

## Ceasefire deal hangs Delhi residents suffer fluctuating GRAP restrictions in balance in Gaza

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Thursday that a "last-minute crisis" with Hamas was holding up Israeli approval of a long-awaited ceasefire that would pause the fighting in the Gaza release dozens of hostages. Israeli airstrikes, meanwhile, killed at least 72 people in the war-ravaged territory.

Netanyahu began signalling there were issues with the deal just hours after US President Joe Biden and key mediator Qatar announced it was complete.

The objection created a dual reality: War-weary Palestinians in Gaza, the relatives of hostages held there and world leaders all welcomed an agreement, expected to begin Sunday, even as Netanyahu said it was not yet finalised.

It was not yet clear if

Netanyahu's statements merely

reflected jockeying to keep his fractious coalition together or whether the deal was at risk. Netanyahu's office said his Cabinet won't meet to approve the deal until Hamas backs down, accusing it of reneging on parts of the agreement in an attempt to gain further concessions,

elaborating.



Izzat al-Rishq, a senior Hamas official, said the militant group "is committed to the ceasefire agreement. which announced by the mediators." deal announced Wednesday would see a scores of hostages held in Gaza released and a pause in fighting with a view to eventually wind down a 15-month war that has destabilised the Middle East

killed some 1,200 people and took 250 others hostage.

Israel responded with a fierce offensive that has killed over according to local health officials, who do not distinguish between civilians and militants but say women and children make up more than half of those killed. Israel says it has killed over 17,000 fighters, without providing evidence.



Narrating their ordeal, many question the government's action plan, stating that only ordinary people are harassed by this flip-flopping. The Centre's panel on Delhi-NCR's air quality on Thursday revoked curbs under stage 4 of the GRAP amid dip in pollution levels following its invocation on Wednesday as sparked worldwide the Air Quality Index (AQI)

protests. in Delhi crossed 400 Hamas triggered the war with its October 7, 2023, crossborder attack into Israel that However, stage 3 of GRAP is still in force which prohibits BS-III and BS-IV vehicle from plying on the roads.

Moreover, the invocation happens with immediate effect, leaving many officegoers and regular citizens to Palestinians. face fines repeatedly. People say that the constant removal and imposition of GRAP stages causes significant problems in their daily lives. In several instances, people who book a cab in Delhi before boarding a flight from a different city are left in the



lurch after receiving message that the taxi service they hired a few hours ago has been canceled due to GRAP in the city. "I booked a daylong cab service for an official visit to Delhi and boarded my flight early in the morning. The moment I switched on my mobile network, received a message from the travel service regretting the cancellation of the service due to GRAP implementation overnight," said Ankit Guleria, a media professional who came to the Capital from Chennai.

"I drove to my office in my private car in the morning. In the evening, when I was leaving, I heard that GRAP Stage-IV had been implemented. In such a

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situation, what can we as ordinary citizens do? While this is far from reducing pollution, it creates so much chaos. If I get fined because they implemented it while I am on my way, who will pay for that? What is my fault if they keep switching from one stage to another?" said a 30year-old woman who uses her private vehicle to commute to and from the office. GRAP Stage-III has been

implemented three times since last year, and Stage-IV

was enforced after 22 days. It was last enforced December 16 last year and withdrawn on December 24. The most recent enforcement of Stage-III was on January 9, and it was withdrawn on January 12.

People add that they remain unaware of these implementations, dissemination of such news by the CAQM. "How do they expect us to know or keep track minute by minute of these developments? Do you think ordinary people have so much time to keep reading the news to know if this stage of GRAP has been invoked or that stage has been revoked? said a 35-year-old office-goer, advising the authorities to focus on effectively spreading these updates so people can aware and plan

accordingly. The city has been seeing Stage-I and Stage-II measures since October 14 and October 2024. respectively. The measures under Stage-I and Stage-II include augmenting public transport to reduce the use of private vehicles, impounding or imposing heavy penalties on vehicles with visible emissions, and enhancing vehicle parking fees to discourage private transport, among other restrictions.



## **Centre keeps NEET-UG** in pen-paper format

PNS NEW DELHI

The Centre has decided against conducting the medical entrance exam NEET-UG in online mode for now, and announced on Thursday it will continue to be conducted in pen and paper mode.

The decision comes after detailed deliberations between education and health ministries on whether to conduct the NEET-UG in pen and paper mode or online mode. "As decided by the National

Medical Commission(NMC), the NEET-UG shall be conducted in Pen and paper mode (OMR based) in a single day and shift," a senior National Testing Agency (NTA) official said on

however, continues to witness

double the growth rate of

Thursday. The National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) is the largest entrance exam in the country in terms of number of candidates appearing for the test. In 2024, a record

The NTA conducts the NEET every year for admission into medical colleges. A total of 1,08,000 seats are available for MBSS

more than 24 lakh candidates

course. Of the seats available for the MBBS course, approximately 56,000 are in government hospitals and about 52,000 in

#### private colleges. Admissions to undergraduate courses in Dentistry, Ayurveda, Unani, and Siddha also utilise the results of the NEET for admission. Indic languages are driving India's internet growth

took the exam.

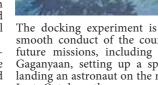
## India joins US, Russia, China with satellite docking success

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ BENGALURU

In a major boost to India's ambitious future  $oldsymbol{1}$ space missions, ISRO on Thursday successfully performed the docking of satellites as part of the Space Docking Experiment (SpaDeX) and announced that post docking, control of two satellites as a single object was also achieved

"India docked its name in space history! Good Morning India ISRO's SpaDeX mission accomplishes historic docking success. Proud to witness this moment!", ISRO said in a social

With the successful docking of satellites — Chaser and Target — India has become the fourth country after the US, Russia and China to accomplish the technological feat. In space, docking technology is essential when multiple rocket launches are required to achieve common mission objectives.



The docking experiment is crucial for the smooth conduct of the country's ambitious future missions, including Chandrayaan-4, Gaganyaan, setting up a space station and landing an astronaut on the moon.

Last October, the government announced that India will have its own Space Station by 2035, known as the "Bharatiya Antriksh

Page 4: Union Cabinet sanction Launch Pad III

#### **RAJESH KUMAR** ■ NEW DELHI

The internet user base in India is set to surpass 900 million by 2025, driven by the growing use of Indic languages for digital content. The Internet in India Report 2024, jointly prepared by the Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) and KANTAR, reveals that the number of active internet users in India reached 886 million in 2024, marking a robust 8% year-on-year growth. The report underscores the

increasing role of Indic languages in shaping internet consumption patterns. It shows that rural India is leading the way when it comes internet consumption. Not only that, but news consumption is also highest among the rural Indian population.

The report further highlights the increasing importance of Indic languages in shaping internet consumption patterns. Nearly all internet users (98%) accessed content in Indic languages, with Tamil, Telugu, and Malayalam emerging as the most popular due to their extensive availability. Over half (57%) of urban internet users prefer consuming content regional languages, underscoring the growing demand for local-language

content across platforms. The report highlights that the digital gender gap in India is the years. steadily narrowing, with 47% of all internet users in the



portion of shared device users in rural India: 58%. This marks substantial progress in making digital access more inclusive and equitable over

urban regions, reflecting the untapped potential in these areas. Urban India leads in While internet penetration the adoption of noncontinues to grow, the pace traditional devices such as country being women-so far the highest. Female internet users now form a significant the highest. Semale internet users now form a significant that moderated, especially in urban areas, compared to the exponential growth seen in the semantal sema

2024. Concurrently, mobile devices remain the primary means of accessing the internet across both urban and rural demographics. Rural India dominates online engagement for top activities, including OTT video and music streaming, online communication, and social media usage, outpacing urban users categories. Conversely, activities like e-commerce, digital payments, and online education are still more prevalent among urban populations. According to the report, rural

India, with 488 million users, leads this growth and now accounts for 55% of the total internet population. The report states that Indians spend an average of 90 minutes online daily.

## **Uttarakhand Republic Day** tableaux to showcase 38th **National Games theme: Arya**

Sports minister Rekha Arya has written a letter to chief secretary Radha Raturi, stating that this year's Republic Day tableaux set for January 26 in every district across the State should be themed around the 38th National Games. Arya said that the main theme of the tableaux during Republic Day parades should be '38th National Games: Hosting Uttarakhand'.

She specified that the symbols of the National Games, including the mascot, the torch lightning, the logo and the National Games anthem, should be featured in the tableaux across all districts. Considering this, she has written a letter to CS for this. This initiative aims not only to encourage sports but also to promote a sports culture in the

On Thursday, Arya re-



for the opening ceremony of the 38th National Games with senior officials. During the meeting, she instructed them to ensure that the event serves as a model for the future. She emphasised that the ceremony should prominently highlight the fact that it marks the silver jubilee year of the establishment of the state. Additionally, a showcase of the sports facilities developed in Uttarakhand should be part of the opening ceremony. She said that despite being a mountain-ous and relatively small state,

Uttarakhand is proud to host all events of the National Games within its borders and this achievement should also be reflected in the opening ceremony. Arya also informed that the equipment for most sports events has already arrived, and the remaining equipment will reach the venues by January 20. Additionally, she instructed officials to include the laying of the foundation stone for the proposed Sports University in the inauguration ceremony.

## Irregularities exposed during UTU VC's exam inspection

Various irregularities were exposed during the inspection carried out by the vice-chancellor of Veer Madho Singh Bhandari Uttarakhand Technical University, Onkar Singh conducted on Thursday. A surprise inspection of several institutions located in Roorkee during the second shift of the ongoing semester examinations exposed the gaps. The

institutions he visited included Roorkee Institute of Technology (RIT), Roorkee College of Engineering (RCE) and Phonics Group of Institutions. The flying team of the university was also present during the inspec-

The VC's office later informed that a number of irnon-availability of CCTV footage of the examinations conducted in Phonics Group of Institutions, attendance form tampering and absence of signatures of the room invigilators in verification forms had come to light following which the VC dithe university's controller of examinations to immediately take all the records under its control.

## Students favour AI as supplementary education tool for effective result

 $E_{\text{Artificial Intelligence (AI)}}^{\text{xperts have indicated that}}$ can yield positive and effective outcomes when utilised as a supplementary educational tool by students across various academic levels. Notably, with the advancement of technology, particularly in the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic, students' learning has transitioned from traditional textbooks to online resources, which include platforms such as YouTube lectures and AI. This transition has facilitated easier access to knowledge for students and experts have highlighted both the advantages and disadvantages of incorporating AI into their learning experiences.

Expressing her perspective on the utilisation of AI in education, student Kajal Chauhan said that the introduction of AI has simplified tasks such as learning new concepts and completing projects for students like herself. She noted her shift from relying on textbooks to embracing online resources, particularly AI, for exam preparation and project work. She emphasised that with these tools, the process of acquiring knowledge has become more efficient and effective.

Regarding this, a professor at DAV PG College Prashant Singh said that with the emergence of AI, the educational framework for students has evolved

sional format, facilitating easier access to knowledge. He observed positive effects of AI on students, including energy savings, resource efficiency and enhanced accessibility, all of which are advantages of AI integration in education. However, he cautioned that there are drawbacks; the reliance on AI has led to a decline in students' original thinking and analytical skills. which may significantly impact their learning and future careers. Further, he said that students may forego real-time experiences due to their de-

pendence on AI. To maximise

the benefits of AI in educa-

tion, students are encouraged not to rely solely on these technologies. Instead, AI should serve as a supplementary tool to enhance teaching and learning outcomes, he

"I have noticed that students come to me for assistance with their projects, often utilising AI. While AI offers several advantages for students, such as facilitating comprehension through visual aids and providing easy access to information, it also presents certain drawbacks," stated professor at the Government PG Col-

lege in Uttarkashi Professor Madhu Thapliyal.

She emphasised that the reliance on AI has transformed student learning into a process of copying and pasting. In the execution of their projects, students often forgo thorough study and original creation in favour of simply duplicating content, which can lead them astray. Further, this dependence on AI has diminished the use of traditional books, negatively affecting students' overall well-being. While studying from books encourages students to take occasional breaks, the use of AI often leads to distractions from devices and other diversions. She cautioned that the day may not be far off when all tasks are performed by machines. To avoid such drawbacks, students are asked to minimise the use of AI for studying. Use AI for studying only when something is unclear and consider it a supplementary tool for learning, she

#### NORTHERN RAILWAY

Tender No. 75/W/2/3/WA/DEN/Track/T. Notice

Sr. DEN/T/MB acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tender against following Tender Notice, closing date & time are mentioned against eac coloumn. and will be received online up to 16:00 hrs on same day. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards earnest money only through nline payment modes available on IREPS portal like net banking, debit card, credi card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker's cheque, Depos

www.ireps.gov.in) website 300-DRM-MB-24-25, 301-DRM-MB-24-25, Tender No. dt. 10.01.2025 Reconditioning of 230 Nos. CMS hased Array Ultrasonic esting (PAUT) of flash but welding joints Robotic welder or other suitable elding technology as approved by executed by mobile lash but plants at site using RDSO verified RDSO complete job with contractor's labour, consumable fuel, tools & plants, machiner including all lead lift, crossing of Noradabad division track etc over Moradabad division under DEN/TRACK/MB 06.02.2025 Tender Closing Date 06.02.2025 Tender Closing Time 16:00 hrs. 16:00 hrs. 1,34,26,562.17 1,34,70,667.60 2,17,100.00 2,17,400.00 Earnest Money (Rs.) Nil 09 Months 08 Months

eceipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. Details regarding tender is available on IREPS

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

23.01.2025

बंधक सम्पत्ति का विवरण

सम्पत्ति भूमि का क्षेत्रफल 98.72 वर्गमीटर (भवन निर्मित

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का कुल क्षेत्रफल 96.72 वर्गमीटर। **चौहदी**- पूरब में- 12

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तृतीय नीलामी आरक्षित मूल्यः रू**0 66,41,870.40/-** रुपये मात्र)

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ईएमडी : रू0 3,43,256/- रूपये मात्र

ईएमडी : रू0 3,08,931/- रूपये मात्र

ईएमडी : रू0 2,78,037.36/- रूपये मात्र

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

DEN/II/MB acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders against following tender. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids 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 Tender document cost and 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	305-DRM-MB-24-25 Date 16.01.2025	306-DRM-MB-24-25 Date 16.01.2025			
Name of Work	Rebuilding of Bridge no. 40(1x0.914m), 92(1x1.829m), 112(1x2.439m) In the section of ADEN/II/HRI and 816 DN (1x1.52m), 845 DN (1x1.52m) in the section of ADEN/I/HRI	Heavy Repair of Gang Tool Room cum Rest Room in the section of ADEN-I-HRI under DEN-IIMB			
Tender Closing Date Time	10.02.2025 16:00	10.02.2025 16:00			
Advertised Value (Rs.)	1,85,83,006.64	59,99,414.77			
Earnest Money (Rs.)	2,42,900.00	1,20,000.00			
Bidding Start Date	27.01.2025	27.01.2025			
Validity of Offer (Days)	60 Days	60 Days			
Period of Completion	6 Months	06 Months			
No. 75-W/2/3/WA/Publication Dated: 16.01.2025					
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तुतीय नीलामी सूचना

नोटिस जारी करने की तिथि एवं

बकाया राशि

नोटिस जारी करने की तिथि

बकाया राशि दिनांव

₹0 13,23,895/-

(तेरह लाख तेइस हजार आठ

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नोटिस जारी करने की तिथि

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(इक्कीस लाख अस्सी हजार छै सी

चौरासी रूपये मात्र)

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## डिस्ट्रिक्ट को-ऑपरेटिव बैंक लि., देहरादून

ऋणी/बंधककर्ता/गारन्टर

का नाम एवं पता

ऋणी बंधककर्ता- एम0एस0 मदन ट्रेडर्स प्रो0 श्री मदन लाल

पुत्र श्री अमर चन्द्र, निवासी 37/20 लखी बाग, पो0ऑ0

गारन्टर 1. श्री नबी अली पुत्र श्री अब्दुल हफीज, निवासी

35/215 मुस्लिम कालोनी, लखीबाग, पो0ऑ0 देहरादून,

गारन्टर 2. श्री शिव आनन्द मिश्रा पुत्र श्री मिश्रा जी

निवासी 85 एल0आई0जी0 MDDA कालोनी, पो0ऑ0

ऋणी बंधककर्ता- अजय अरोड़ा, पुत्र श्री प्रदीप अरोड़ा,

निवासी 874. चन्दा परिसर, ग्राम- सेवला कला, शिमला बाई

पास रोड, पो0 आ0 माजरा, जिला देहरादुन उत्तराखण्ड।

रोट पो0 आ0

देहरादून, जिला देहरादून उत्तराखण्ड ।

गारन्टर 1- श्री मोइनद्दीन अहमद पुत्र श्री अमीर अहमद

गारन्टर 2- श्री दीपक कुमार पुत्र श्री गोपाल सिंह, पता-

96/108, मोती बाजार 64, आढ़त बाजार पो0 आ0

<u>देहरादुन, जिला देहरादुन, उत्तराखण्ड।</u>

देहरादुन, उत्तराखण्ड।

उत्तराखण्ड।

#### 2722677, 2621229, 2722678, फैक्स-0135-2520262 **PUBLIC NOTICE**

23.01.2025

In my Army/Service Record my daughter name mistakenly recorded as MUSKAN DHIMAN and whereas her correct name is MUSKAN as mentioned in all other documents. I, SERVICE NO. 818435K Rank EX NCE Name CHHOTE LAL R/O BELL ROAD MOHABEWALA P.O. CLEMENT TOWN DEHRADUN UTTARAKHAND. I want to change my daughter correct name in my army/service record vide IN UK68875037085096X Affidavit 16.01.2025 before

Dehradun.

IN my husband army record my name is wrongly recorded as punita. My correct name is PUNEETÁ. Puneeta W/o SANTOSH KUMAR AMOLI ARMY NO 4101152 F RANK L/NK VIL TACHALA POST AMOLA PAURI GARHWAL

> मेरी सम्पति संख्या 30/4 सेवक आश्रम रोड देहरादन को अपनी पत्नी श्रीमती पृष्पा नेगी के साथ मिलकर दिनांक 28.03.2005 को क्रय किया था. जो कि सब रजिस्टार कार्यालय में दर्ज व पंजीकत है। सम्पति का पराना विक्रय पत्र जो कि श्रीमती बिन्दु रावत पत्नी श्री जगमोहन सिंह रावत ने राजकुमार पुत्र मुसदी लाल से दिनांक 31.05.1988 को कंप किया था जो कि सब रजिस्ट्रार कार्यालय में बुक न० 1 जिल्द 2006, पुष्ठ 81 एडीएफ बुक न॰ 1. जिल्द 3199, पुष्ठ 188 से 200 क्रमांक 8777 दिनांक 01.00.1988 को दर्ज व पंजीकृत है। जो कि वास्तव में कहीं खो गई है चन्दन सिंह नेगी पुत्र श्री माया राम नेगी निवासी 30/4 सेवक आश्रम रोड (४/८ मानसिंहवाला) देहरादून।

PUBLIC NOTICE

Original sale deed Document No

2335 related to the property of my

client Shri Shamshad S/o Shr

Hanif resident of Ward No. 5

Rambagh, Herbertpur

Vikasnagar, District Dehradun

Uttarakhand duly registered vide

Book No 1, Jild No 3575, Page No

133 to 162 dated 22.04.2015 has

been lost somewhere and has not been found even after a lot of

searching. The said original sale

deed is not mortgaged in any

government/non-government

Shamshad is to mortgage this

property to avail loan from Piramal

Housing Finance Ltd. If anyone

finds, kindly contact within 10

days, after that its use will be

invalid – Neeraj Semwal Advocate Tehsil Vikasnagar Mobile No-

<u>Disclaimer</u>

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carried in this newspaper. The

paper does not endorse the same.

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## Shopkeepers' business picks pace after the conclusion of the Kharmas period

PNS DEHRADUN

Pollowing the conclusion of Kharmas after Makar Sankranti, the period deemed auspicious for weddings has officially begun across the country. It is believed that on Makar Sankranti, the sun transitions into the zodiac sign of Capricorn, marking the end of Kharmas—a time during which the celebration of auspicious events is traditionally pronibited. As a result, the conclusion of Kharmas has heralded a favourable period for such celebrations, leading to increased activity among shopkeepers in major markets throughout the city, including Paltan Bazaar and Raja Road, among others. Many shopkeepers in Dehradun have reported a significant rise in customer foot traffic coinciding with the start of the wedding

Regarding this, a bridal cloth shop owner Raghav Bindra said that following the conclusion of Kharmas, customer traffic has increased. However, he said that many customers had made prior reservations for their garments and are collecting them now that the inauspicious period has ended. He further pointed out that although sales had declined since December, the onset of the wedding season is expected to revive business activity more in the upcoming days.

another Additionally, shop owner specialising in jewellery Jasmit Singh said that gold jewellery sales typically dropped after Deepawali. He attributed this decline to two main factors: the rising price of gold and the beginning of Kharmas. However, following the end of Makar Sankranti, there has been a slight uptick in gold sales. Nonetheless, it has been observed that customers are favouring lightweight and Italian jewellery for the wedding season due to the high cost of gold, he stated.

"Preparations are underway to stock my store with a variety of new styles, including sarees, lehengas and clothing With the onset of the wedding season following Makar Sankranti, we have observed a noticeable increase in customer traffic in the marketplace and shops. Business has indeed become quite brisk in terms of sales," said another local shopkeeper Harish Tyagi.

Many other retailers in the city markets have shared similar enthusiasm regarding the beginning of the wedding season, anticipating a boost in sales.

#### ईएमडी : रू0 6,64,187.04/- रुपये मात्र) नियम एवं शर्ते:- 1. इच्छक बोलीदाताओं को नीलामी के लिये रखी गयी सम्पत्ति के विषय में (सम्पत्ति का टाईटल/दावें/अधिकार/सम्पत्ति को प्रमाण करने वाली सभी कारकों) अपनी बोली बोलने से पहले स्वतंत्र पूछताछ करनी चाहिये एवं अपने आपको सभी बाधाओं के प्रति संतुष्ट कर लेना चाहिये।

2. इच्छक खरीदार(रों)∕बोली दाताओं से उपरोक्त सम्पत्तियां ''जैसे है जहाँ है'' तथा ''जैसा मौजद है'' आधार पर क्रय के लिये सरफेसी एक्ट 2002 के तहत 05.02.2025. **बुधवार** को आयोजनार्थ निर्धारित नीलामी में धरोहार राशि जमा के बगैर अथवा समुचित दस्तावेज प्रस्तुत नहीं किया जाने की स्थित में ऑफर तत्काल अस्वीकार कर दी जायेगी। 3. बोलीदाता जिसकी बोली प्रक्रिया की समाप्ति पर सबसे ऊँची पायी जायेगी, सफल बोलीदाता घोषित किया जायेगा तथा उसको इस प्रभाव की सुचना दे दी जायेगी, जो बैंक के प्राधिकत अधिकरी के अनुमोदन के तहत होगा।

4. सफल खरीदार को अतिशीघ्र अर्थात उसी दिन या अधिकतम अगले कार्य दिवस तक, जैसी भी स्थिति है बिक्री मूल्य की 25 प्रतिशत राशि, जिसमें धरोहार राशि है, बिक्री संचालन कर रहे प्राधिकृत अधिकारी के पास जमा करनी होगी, जिसमें ऐसा करने में असफल रहने पर, सन्पत्ति दोबारा बेची जायेगी और जमा की गयी धरोहार राशि प्रतिभूत केडिटर के पक्ष में जब्त कर ली जायेगी।

5. विक्री मूल्य की शेष 75 प्रतिशत राशि, धनराशि प्राधिकृत अधिकारी द्वारा विक्री की पुष्टि की 15वें दिन को या पहले अथवा प्रतिभृत क्रेडिटर तथा खरीदार के बीच लिखित रूप में सहमति के आधार पर विस्तारित अवधि, जो किसी भी स्थित में तीन माह से अधिक नहीं होगी. के भीतर जमा करनी होगी। शेष राशि निर्धारित अवधि के भीतर जमा करने मे असफल रहने पर पहले जमा की जा चुकी राशि प्रतिभूत क्रेडिटर के पक्ष में जब्त कर ली जायेगी। चुक की स्थित में सम्पत्ति दोबारा बेची जायेगी तथा चूककर्ता के सभी दावे अमान्य होगें। सम्पत्ति पर कोई साविधिक तथा अन्य बकाया सफल खरीदार द्वारा चकाया जायेगा।

6. सफल खरीदार द्वारा बिक्री की पूरी राशि का भुगतान कर दिये जाने तथा बिक्री की औपचारिकतायें पूरी किये जाने पर सरफेसी नियमावली के तहत निर्धारित प्रारूप के अनसार बिक्री प्रमाणपत्र जारी किया जायेगा। खरीदार को स्टॉम्प ड्यूटी तथा रजिस्ट्रेशन खर्चा वहन करना होगा।

7. उच्चतम बोलीदाता को स्वामित्व दस्तावेज तथा अन्य प्रासंगिक दस्तावेजों की जांच और नीलामी में भाग लेने के विषय में अपना सन्तुष्टि पत्र प्रस्तुत करना होगा तथा बैंक की कोई जिम्मेदारी/देयता नहीं होगी।

8. उच्चतम बोलीदाता के उक्त फ्लैट/अवल सम्पत्ति और उनकी सुख-सुविधाओं के संबंध में लम्बित बिजली बिल/मासिक अनुरक्षण प्रभार तथा अन्य प्रतिभूति राशि, यदि कोई (प्रत्येक खाते के अनुसार) जो कि नियत सुरक्षित मूल्य का भाग है, जीएसटी (यदि लागू है) चुकानी होगी।

9. उपरोक्त अचल सम्पत्ति भौतिक कब्जे में है। 10. बैंक के प्राधिकृत अधिकारी को बिना कोई कारण बताये कोई भी या सभी ऑफर अस्वीकार करने अथवा एक या अधिक सम्पत्तियाँ के लिये ऑफर स्वीकार करने का

अधिकार सुरक्षित है। 11. नीलामी में भाग लेने वाले बोलीदाता को आरक्षित मूल्य के 10 प्रतिशत के बराबर की राशि का बैंक ड्राफ्ट जो कि किसी भी सिडयुल्ड बैंक देहरादून के द्वारा डिस्ट्रिक्ट कॉपरेटिव बैंक लि0 देहरादून, मुख्य शाखा के पक्ष में देय हो, थरोहर राशि के रूप में, नीलामी समय से पूर्व जमा करना अनिवार्य है, साथ में अपना पैन नं0, पहचान पत्र भी लाना

12. सम्पत्ति सम्बन्धी नियम व शर्ते नीलामी स्थल पर प्राधिकृत अधिकारी द्वारी घोषित की जायेगी।

13. आरक्षित मूल्य से कम बोली मान्य नहीं होगी।

14. बैंक से संबंधित कोई अधिकारी, कर्मचारी, प्रबन्धक कमेटी सदस्य बोली में भाग लेने से वर्जित है। यह सूचना उक्त ऋण के कर्जदारों गारंटरों बंधकदाताओं को उपरोक्त सम्पत्तियों की नीलामी उपरिवर्णित तिथि को आयोजित करने का संबंध में सरफेसी एक्ट 2002 के नियम 8 (6) के तहत नोटिस भी है तथा उनसे नीलामी में उपस्थित होने एवं

सहयोग करने का अनुरोध किया जाता है। नीलामी असफल होने की स्थिति में बैंक का सम्पत्तियां/गुप्त समझौते (प्राइवेट ट्रीटी) द्वारा बेचने का अधिकार सुरक्षित है। 15. नीलामी सम्बन्धी सम्पत्ति की जानकारी के लिये डिस्ट्रिक्ट कॉपरेटिव बैंक लि0 के प्रधान कार्यालय में प्राधिकृत अधिकारी से सम्पर्क कर सकते हैं। प्राधिकृत अधिकारी को अधिकार है कि यह बिना कोई कारण बताये निर्धारित तिथि को बढ़ा दे अथवा इसे निरस्त कर दें। इच्छुक बोलीदाता को चाहिये कि नीलामी में भाग लेने से पूर्व स्वतंत्र रूप से सभी भार टाइटिल क्लेम आदि की जांच स्वयं कर ले। सम्पत्ति वर्तमान एवं भविष्य के ज्ञात व अज्ञात भारों के साथ बेची जा रही है। प्राधिकृत अधिकारी किसी भी प्रकार के तृतीय/अन्य पक्षपार के क्लेम अधिकार एवं देनदारियों के प्रति उत्तरदायी नहीं नीलामी से पूर्व मुख्यालय में आकार टाइटिल डीड का निरीक्षण कर सकते है। बोलीदाता सम्पत्ति के

बारे में पूर्ण रूप से सतुंष्ट हो कर ही बोली में भाग लें। 16. उपरोक्त अनुसुची में निर्दिष्ट परिसंपत्तियों का विवरण प्राधिकृत अधिकारी की जानकारी के अनुसार बताया गया है, लेकिन प्राधिकृत अधिकारीइस घोषणा में किसी भी त्रृटि,

गलत बयान या चूक के लिए उत्तरदायी नहीं होगा।

नीलामी की तारीख एवं समय व स्थान- दिनांक 05.02.2025, बुधवार, समय प्रातः 11.00 बजे से 04:00 बजे तक। डिस्ट्रिक्ट कॉपरेटिव बैंक लि., मुख्यालय भवन, देहरादून। दिनांक- 16.01.2025 स्थान- डिस्ट्रिक्ट कॉपरेटिव बैंक लि0 देहरादून कचहरी आहता मुख्यालय

#### Readers are requested to verify the contents on their own.

For advertisement booking 9045057787, 8909212518

#### **IN BRIEF**

#### AIIMS Rishikesh launches drone ambulance at Haridwar jail

HARIDWAR: A drone ambulance service has been launched at the district correctional home in Haridwar with the assistance of AIIMS, Rishikesh. Earlier, the jail administration had asked AIIMS Rishikesh for hepatitis-C medicines for 10 inmates. Blood samples of the inmates had been sent to AIIMS, Rishikesh on the drone ambulance, said a senior officer of the district correctional home Manoj Kumar Arya, adding that the launch of this service would help the jail administration to have the inmates treated without the compulsion of escorting them to hospitals and then back to jails.

#### Drug peddler arrested with 101 grammes of smack

HARIDWAR: A drug peddler was injured during an encounter with police within Jwalapur police station limits in Haridwar district late on Wednesday night. The encounter happened when he was coming towards Haridwar town with a friend on a two-wheeler sans number plate. Suspicious, police asked them to stop but they instead opened fire on them and tried to escape. Police chased them and resorted to retaliatory firing. While the peddler was injured in his leg his partner managed to escape. Police rushed him to a hospital. The SSP, Haridwar, Pramod Singh Dobal said that the injured drug smuggler was identified as Nazakat Ali from Fatehganj, West Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh, adding that 101.5 grammes of smack had been seized from him. They were on the lookout for the absconder, he further said.

#### SGRRU Yogic Science student to represent U'khand at national level

DEHRADUN: A student of Shri Guru Ram Rai University's School of Yogic Science and Naturopathy Anurag Saini was selected for representing Utarakhand at the national-level sports meet. The selection was done at a meeting recently held at the sports stadium in Haldwani. Students from all the districts of Uttarakhand participated. Shri Guru Ram Rai University's president Mahant Devendra Das and pro vice-chancellor Kumud Saklani congratulated Anurag on his selection.

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Apart from affecting their electoral prospects, large scale rebellion in both the ruling BJP and Congress following

the ticket distribution for the positions of mayor and chair-persons in the elections of urban local bodies in the

Himalayan State has also started taking a toll on the reputa-

tion of some of the political stalwarts of both the parties. Enraged by the double whammy of ticket denial and disci-

plinary action, some leaders have started a mudslinging exer-

cise to tarnish the image of the senior leaders. In one such

instance of washing dirty linen in public, the rebellious MLA of Congress, Mayukh Mahar countered the attack of PCC pres-

ident Karan Mahara by claiming that he greased the palms of

a person who was the right hand of the person heading the

government for getting mining licences during the Congress regime. Similarly Lakhpat Bhandari who till recently was the

poster boy of BJP's aggressive Hindutva brand of politics in

Pauri is now spitting fire on the local minister after his expul-

sion from the BJP. In one public meeting, he claimed that the minister solicited money from the local BJP leaders in lieu of

**CANDID NOTES** 

Gajendra Singh Negi





## Committed to good governance, peace & prosperity in U'khand: CM

PNS NAINITAL

Chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami has said that the State government is committed to good governance and ensuring peace and pros-perity in the State. He was addressing a public meeting at Mallital in Nainital on Thursday.

He said that a range of development works retaken by the State government prove that the BJP is fulfilling what it had promised to the people of the

Launching an attack on the Congress party, the CM said that it has always encouraged corrupt culture in the State. The BJP on the other hand is engaging in work culture and development politics. Accusing the Congress of playing appeasement politics, the CM said



that the party supports those who want to reinstate article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir.

He said that the people of the State have the choice of supporting BJP which encourages good governance and development and corrupt Congress

in the elections of the urban local bodies.

The CM said that the people also know that supporting independents and Congress candidates is akin to wasting Dhami appealed the people to support BJP candidates for giving a new impetus to the developmental activities in the

Braving rain and cold weather, a large number of people attended the public meeting of the CM. In the meeting, he appealed the people to vote for BJP candidates Prakash Arya in Bhowali, Jeevanti Bhatt in Nainital and Kamla Arya in Bhimtal municipal councils.

Lok Sabha MP Ajay Bhatt, MLA Sarita Arya, former MP Balraj Pasi and others were present on the occasion. The CM also took out a road

show and addressed public meeting in support of party's mayoral candidate Gajraj Bisht in Haldwani on the ɗay.

## MCD a haven for corruption under 15year BJP rule-I: Cong

15-year of Bharatiya Janata Party rule, the Municipal Corporation of Dehradun (MCD) has become a haven for corruption. Releasing a document on the municipal body at headquarters of the State Congress on Thursday, the Congress State chief spokesperson Garima Dasauni said that the BJP rule has proved to be a failure on all fronts.

She said that the BJP has not mentioned the work done by it in the last 15 crore De years. Dasauni said that project.

The Congress has the BJP should come with alleged that in the last its report card and tell people what it has done for environmental issues, sanitation and town plan-

> She said that crime is continuing to increase in Dehradun but the BJP is now promising to install CCTV cameras in the city in its Sankalp Patra. Dasauni alleged large scale corruption in garbage collection and its disposal in the MCD. She also accused the BJP of corruption in the Rs 1600 crore Dehradun smart city

jobs for statehood activists,"

He further exhorted the public to elect the BJP candi-

date for the mayoral position in MCR, Anita Agrawal and other candidates of the party at the ward level. Maharaj

the minister said.

#### transfers of their relatives. Healthy dialogue

Spilling the beans

The Dehradun Citizens Forum deserves kudos from organising first ever 'Mayor Dialogue' by inviting the candidates who are in the ring for the coveted position of mayor of Municipal Corporation of Dehradun to a public platform. The candidates will use the stage provided by the forum to share their vision and plan for the people of Dehradun and spill out their strategy to implement the green agenda envisioned by the forum. Earlier this month, the DCF, a social organisation of prominent citizens of the city had released its Green Agenda for all the political parties. The agenda includes scientific waste collection and management, proper drainage system, anti-pollution measures, construction of parks, rain water harvesting systems and removal of encroachments from rivulets and drains. It is advisable that in the dialogue, the forum should systems and removal of encroachments from rivulets and drains. It is advisable that in the dialogue, the forum should also point out to the aspiring leaders of the MCD that many subjects which were given over to the municipal bodies under the 74th constitutional amendment are still waiting to be handed over to them by the State government. One hopes that the people of the city will attend the dialogue scheduled on January 18 in good numbers and the practice is also adorted by the state of the city will attend the dialogue scheduled on January 18 in good numbers and the practice is also adopted by citizens of other urban local bodies of the State.

#### Hospital hassles

The recent resignation of the medical superintendent of the Government Doon Medical College hospital, Dr Anurag Aggarwal, has raised a question mark over the functioning of the biggest government hospital of the State. Though Aggarwal has cited his failure to do justice to the work of his own department as the reason for his decision, his resignation coming in after a similar decision taken by deputy medical superintendent Dr Dhananjay Dobhal in December last year is a matter of grave concern for the authorities. It is learnt that Dr Aggarwal was not happy with the interference in decision making and obstinate behaviour of the doctors under him. The hospital insiders are pointing towards intense internal politics and changed equations after reins of the medical college were taken over by Dr Geeta Jain as the reason for Dr Aggarwal known for his hard work and decent behaviour with the patients calling it quits from the plum administrative assignment.

# Dhami roped in as star campaigner in Delhi to target natives

PNS DEHRADUN

The Bharatiya Janata Party has emphasised the significance of appointing Uttarakhand chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami as a star campaigner for the Delhi elections, calling it a strategic move to secure a major victory. The party is confident that Dhami's involvement will help unite over 25 lakh Uttarakhandi migrants in Delhi in support of the BJP. The BJP State president Mahendra Bhatt said that Dhami's appointment as a star campaigner has created an atmosphere of enthusiasm among party workers and over 60 locations across the the Uttarakhand diaspora residing in Delhi. Bhatt expressed happiness over this development and stated that the progress, prosperity and those in Maharashtra,

Dhami's leadership will become focal points of discussion in the Delhi elections. He added that such narratives will strengthen voters' trust in BJP governments, both at the state and national levels. Bhatt further stated that it is a matter of pride for Uttarakhand that Dhami has evolved into a national leader whose bold and historic decisions have set benchmarks for other states. He recalled that during the previous Lok Sabha elections, Dhami had successfully campaigned at Haryana, Jharkhand, and

en in Uttarakhand under Jammu & Kashmir, have significantly benefited the party, Bhatt claimed. Bhatt expressed confidence that the ongoing Delhi elections will witness overwhelming support for the BJP from Uttarakhandi migrants. With over 25 lakh Uttarakhandis residing in Delhi, Dhami's presence is expected to generate substantial momentum in favor of the party. After the municipal election campaign concludes in Uttarakhand on January 21, Dhami will head to Delhi to join the campaign under the guidance of the party's central leadership. His activities will include public meetings, roadshows, and outreach programs, further consolidating support for the BJP in the capital, he

### Elect BJP to office to ensure development at local level: Maharaj

PNS ■ HARIDWAR

The Bharatiya Janata Party government at the Centre and State are working to ensure the development of the nation and the State, the State's Tourism, Public Works and Irrigation minister Satpal Maharaj said. He was speaking at a programme after releasing

the party's manifesto for the Municipal Corporation of Roorkee (MCR) on Thursday. Releasing the party's manifesto for the MCR, Maharaj said that ensuring the BJP's victory is essential to ensure the desired level of development at the local level to put a 'triple-engine' government in office. He claimed

that developmental works are being consistently executed in Uttarakhand under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and directions of chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami. The minister cited the Rishikesh-Karnprayag rail project and the recorded rise in number of pilgrims and toursits in the State to substantiate the BJP's claim of development and resulting in the economic progress of the locals.

"During the past three years, the BJP government in the State has ensured a transparent



system and facilitated the appointment of 19,000 youth in government jobs. We have provided 30 per cent reservation for women in State government jobs to further women empowerment, apart from providing 10 per cent horizontal reservation in State government

BJP to be elected to office in order to ensure the desired level of development at the local level. Rajya Sabha member Kalpana Saini, BJP district head Shobha Ram Prajapati and other party leaders were also present on the occasion.

## Three additional EV charging stations approved, to be activated penalised in by January 31 in Doon

PNS DEHRADUN

ing stations on Thursday. During a review meeting, the DM emphasised the timely completion of the EV charging station project in Dehradun which aims to promote eco-friendly transportation and reduce pollution levels in the district. The approval of these three

ensure they are fully operational by January 31. Talking about the project's significance, Bansal stated that this is the first time an EV charging project of this scale has been introduced needs. in the district.

Dehradun district magistrate Savin Bansal approved three additional electric vehicle (EV) charg- instructed municipal officials to expedite the setup process for the newly approved stations and for effective monitoring. for effective monitoring. According to him, the EV charging station initiative marks a breakthrough in the capital's transportation infrastructure, addressing both local and tourist

> The meeting was attend-He noted its critical role ed by several officials



EV charging stations came in environmental protecalongside the proposal for four additional EV stations on the national highway, which has been sent to NH North for the necessary No Objection Certificate.

ing stations in Dehradun has received an overresponse from residents and tourists alike, as it infrastructure for EV users in the area. The DM

tion and pollution control. He directed the agency concerned for the project to execute the work with utmost seriousness while departmental officials were directed to coordinate The DM said that the efforts, monitor progress recently opened EV charg- and provide the necessary support to ensure timely completion. Bansal also whelmingly positive stressed the importance of publicising the EV charging stations and the related app promises to improve the through various mediums.

including Dehradun municipal commissioner Namami Bansal, deputy municipal commissioner Gopal Ram Binwal, executive engineer from the Public Works Department (PWD), Shri Parmar, representatives from the EV company and officers from the Smart City project. The DM said that the collective efforts of these officers and agencies are expected to bring the project to fruition and establish Dehradun as a leader in sustainable He also instructed offitransportation initiatives.

# Over 52,000 vehicle operators Dehradun in 2024

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The Transport depart- weight or passengers," he ment penalised own- said. ers of 52,708 vehicles in Dehradun in 2024 for various violations and collected Rs 8.35 crore in fine. The regional transofficer

(Enforcement) Dehradun division Shailesh Tiwari said that the department intensified checks on key violations, including the mandatory use of helmets for both drivers and pillion riders on two-wheelers as well as seat belts for four-wheeler passengers in 2024. He informed that in 2024, 21,399 people were penalised for failing to wear helmets or seat belts, compared to 14,721 in 2023.

The department also ensured adherence to children and conducted safety standards for helmets, penalising those wearing substandard protective gear. He stated that overspeeding and mobile phone use while driving remain significant concerns. "The RTO fined 6,602 people for overspeeding and 1,004 for using mobile phones while driving in 2024, reflecting an increase from 6,036 and 819 penalties, respectively, in 2023. Besides this, the enforcement team acted against overloading violations, penalising 705 goods-carrying vehicles and 2,802 passenger transport vehicles for carrying excess

He stated that to further strengthen enforcement in 2025, the RTO has deployed a new mobile task force and installed ANPR cameras at various locations to monitor traffic violations and issue challans. Special attention is being given to safety measures during the Char Dham Yatra, with enforcement teams stationed on key routes to prevent accidents. Intensive campaigns against overloading in passenger vehicles, especially in hilly areas, are also underway, he said. Tiwari stated that the department also prioritises safety of schoolrigorous inspections of vehicles carrying school students. These initiatives align with the directives of the Supreme Court's Road Safety Committee, ensuring strict compliance with traffic regulations to reduce accidents and enhance public safety in the region.

He said that with its increased enforcement activities, the RTO aims to further strengthen road safety measures, emphasising the need for responsible driving practices among

## **Rain forecast across State** today, next three days to be dry

PNS DEHRADUN

Utarakhand in most parts of the State on Thursday. The rain and lack of sunshine exacerbated the cold in various parts of the State. According to the Indian Meteorological Department, rainfall activity is forecast in all of the districts in the State on Friday. A yellow warning (Watch) has been issued by the department

Light rain and cloudy skies regarding the possibility in the State today. This is expected to be followed by days of clear skies.

> It is pertinent to mention here that the weather in Uttarakhand has been fluctuating with days of clear skies and comparatively warmer temperatures alternating with days marked by snowfall and rain along with a drop in temperatures, out the day.

According to the IMD, rainfall activity is likely in most parts of the State on Friday. This is likely to be followed by three days of dry weather.

Meanwhile, Dehradun witnessed light rain and cold weather starting in the wee hours of Thursday. The weather remained cloudy with trace rain and cold weather continuing through-

DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION

#### You the below mentioned Borrowers/ Co-borrowers /Guarantors have availed Home loans/Loans against Property facility (ies) b mortgaging your Immovable property/ies from Grihum Housing Finance Limited (formerly known as Poonawalla Housing Finance Limited as the name Poonawalla Housing Finance Limited changed to Grihum Housing Finance Limited with effect from 17 Nov 2023 (Previously known as Magma Housing Finance Limited and originally incorporated with name of GE Money Housing Finance Public Unlimited Company herein after referred as Secured Creditor". You defaulted in repayment and therefore, your loan/s was classified as Non-Performing Assets. Demand Notice under Section 13(2) of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Asset and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 for the recovery of the outstanding dues sent on last known addresses however the same have returned un-served. Hence the contents of which are being published herewith as per Section 13(2) of the Act read with Rule 3(1) of The Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 as and by way of Alternate Service upon you. Details of the Borrowers, Co-borrowers, Guarantors, Securities, Outstanding Dues, Demand Notice sent under Section 13(2) and Amount

GRIHUM HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

claimed there under are given as under				
SR. NO.		DETAILS OF THE SECURED ASSET	1.DEMAND NOTICE DATE 2.AMOUNT DUE IN RS.	
1.	Dharmendra Shah, Turana Devi Loan Amount: Rs.864500/- Loan No: Hf0557h21100089	All That Piece And Parcel Of The Khasra No. 33 Min, Measuring Area 30 X 40 Feet. I.E 111.52 Sq.M. Situated At Village- Bhamroula, Teh-Rudrapur, Distt - Udham Singh Nagar. Bounded (As Per Sale Deed):-East: 8 Mtr. Wide Road, West: Land Of Vendor, North: 6 Mtr Wide Road, South: Land Of Vendor,	07-01-2025 Rs.968462/-(Rupees Nine Lakh Sixty Eight Thousand Four Hundred Sixty Two Only) together with further interest @17.5%p.a till repayment.	
2.	ASHOK KUMAR, KANTI DEVI LOAN AMOUNT: RS.1560000/- LOAN NO: HF0173H21100540	All That Piece And Parcel Of The Residential Property/Plot Having Land Bearing Part Of Plot No. 01 & Plot No. 02 Measuring In East-58 Feet, West-58 Feet, North-17 Feet & South-17 Feet, Having Total Land Area Of 986 Square Feet I.E. 91.63 Square Meter, Belonging To Khasra No. 1616, Situated In Ram Nagar Village Salempur Mehdood (Out Of The Limits Of Nagar Nigam Haridwar) Pargana Roorkee Tehsil & District Haridwar.	Rs.1634543 /- (Rupees Sixteen Lakh Thirty Four Thousand Five Hundred FourtyThree Only) together with	
3.	BABLU MANDAL, POOJA MANDAL LOAN AMOUNT: RS.1200000/- LOAN NO: HI005572-	All That Piece And Parcel Of The Khasra No. 706 Min, Measuring Area 30 X 15 Feet. I.E 450 Sqft Or 41.82 Sqm Situated At Village-Chandayan Tehsil-Gadarpur, Distt - Udham Singh Nagar. East: Property Of Vendor. West: 6.66 Mir. Wide Road. North: Property Of Vendor, South: Property Of Vendor, So	Rs.1285081 /- (Rupees Twelve Lakh Eighty Five Thousand Eighty One	

@15.25%p.a till repayment. PRAVEEN KUMAR, RAMESH KUMARI LOAN AMOUNT: RS.1250000/-LOAN NO: HI001731000000005019 All That Piece And Parcel Of The Property House Plot No. 20, Admeasuring East 17 Ft., West 17 Ft., North 30 Ft., South 30 Ft. Having Total Area 510 Sq.Ft. Bearing Khasra No.74, Situated At Ram Vatika Colony Village Jamalpur Khurd Pragana Jawlapur Tehsil & Distt Lakh Fifty Thousand Ninety Eight Haridwar. East By- Passage. North By- Plot No. 19. West By Plot Of No 15 South By Plot No. 21. Admeasuring Area: - 510 Sq. Ft., @14.5%p.a till repayment. 891 07-01-2025 Rs.2355134 /- (Rupees Twenty Three Lakh Fifty Five Thousand One Hundred Thirty Four Only)

All That Piece And Parcel Of The Constructed Residential Property Having House Constructed On Part Of Plot No. 14 &15 Having Land Measuring In East-34 Feet, West-34 Feet, North-16 Feet 9 Inch & South-16 Feet, Having An Area Of 556.75 Square Feet I.E. 51.54, Square Meter Having Total Covered Area 1200 Square Feet, Bounded In East-Plot Of AMRISH SO AMRISH SU RAMNATH SINGH, RAMNATH SO RAHGVEER LOAN AMOUNT: RS.2220000/-LOAN NO: HI0017310000000503 Seller, West- Part Of Plot No. 14, North- Land Of Other Person & South-Way 18 Feet Wide, Belonging To Khasra No. 379/1/2/3, Situated In Village Rawali Mehdood Pargana Jwalapur Tehsil & District Haridwar.

You the Borrower/s and Co-Borrower/s/Guarantors are therefore called upon to make payment of the above-mentioned demanded amount of the above-mentioned demanded dema

with further interest as mentioned hereinabove in full within 60 Days of this Notice failing which the undersigned shall be constrained to take action under the act to enforce the above mentioned security/ies. Please Note that as per Section 13(13) of The Said Act, You are in the meanwhile, restrained from transferring the above-referred securities by way of sale, lease or otherwise without our consent Authorized Office For Grihum Housing Finance Ltd (Formerly Known As Poonawalla Housing Finance Ltd) PLACE :- HARIDWAR, UDHAM SINGH NAGAR

# **Supreme Court to hear Godhra** train burning case on Febuary 13

The Supreme Court on Thursday said it will hear on February 13 the appeals filed by the Gujarat govern-ment and several other convicts in the 2002 Godhra train burning case.

A bench of Justices J K Maheshwari and Aravind Kumar made it clear that no adjournment will be given in the matter on the next date of hearing. On February 27, 2002, 59

people were killed when the S-6 coach of the Sabarmati Express was burnt at Gujarat's Godhra, triggering riots in the state. Several appeals have been

filed in the apex court challenging the October 2017 verdict of the Gujarat High Court which had upheld the conviction of convicts and commuted the death penalties of 11 people to life

The Gujarat government had in February 2023 told the apex court that it will be seeking death penalty for the



in the case were commuted to life imprisonment by the

When the matter came for hearing on Thursday, a lawyer, appearing for a convict, submitted that no evidence has been put on

'We don't know. We will hear the matter and we had clarified this earlier. We will not adjourn this case. This case has been adjourned at least five times. (For the) last one year, I have been this matter," adjourning Justice Maheshwari said.

that some of the convicts have filed remission pleas that are pending.

Refusing to adjourn the matter, the bench said, "We have instructions from the Chief Justice's office that the cases of criminal appeal and remission need not to be heard together."

Senior Advocate Sanjay Hegde, appearing for one of the convicts, submitted that the appeal filed by Gujarat against commutation of death penalty to life has to be heard first. Twenty-two years have

been awarded death. This bench will have to first confirm the guilt. Once that is confirmed, then comes the sentencing part. When we go through that, that will possibly take time. There will be repercussion if you were to send to three judges," Hegde said. The court then deferred the matter for hearing to

February 13 after the lawyers appearing for the convicts sought time. During the hearing before

the apex court earlier, the state's counsel said the 11 convicts were sentenced to death by the trial court and 20 others were awarded life term in the case. The high court had upheld the 31 convictions in the case

and commuted the death

penalties of the 11 convicts

to life term, the counsel had said.While the state has appealed against the commutation of death penalty to life term for the 11 convicts, several convicts have challenged the high court's verdict upholding their convictions in the case.

## Government approves setting up of third launch pad at Sriharikota

he government on Thursday The government on Thursday approved setting up of a third launch pad at Sriharikota to send heavier spacecraft in orbit as it aims to build a space station, carry out human spaceflight Gaganyaan and land an astronaut on the moon.

The third launch pad will be built at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota and will be capable of putting 30,000 tonne spacecraft in low earth orbit as against the existing capabilities of 8,000 tonnes as Índia eyes a larger pie in the global space economy.

The Union Cabinet, at a meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the setting up of the third launch pad at a cost of Rs 3,985 crore in the next four maximum from the participation industry, Information and Broadcasting M Ashwini Vaishnaw said. Minister

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is also developing the Next Generation Launch Vehicle (NGLV) which will be 91 m in height, taller than the 72-m tall



Outub Minar.

The launch pad is designed to have a configuration that is as universal and adaptable as possible that can support not only NGLV but also the LVM3 vehicles with a semicryogenic

It will also be able to support scaled up configurations of NGLV with capabilities of hauling 70 tonnes payload to low earth orbit.

The launch pad will be built

with maximum industry participation fully utilizing ISRO's experience in establishing the previous launch pads and maximally

sharing the existing launch complex facilities. The third launch pad is targeted to be

established within a duration of four years, the statement

The project will boost the Indian space ecosystem by enabling higher launch frequencies and the national capacity to undertake human spaceflight exploration missions.

As on date, Indian Space Transportation Systems are completely reliant on the first and second launch pads.

The first launch pad was built 30 years ago for PSLV missions and continues to provide launch support also for the Small Satellite Launch Vehicle

The second launch pad was established primarily for GSLV and LVM3 and also functions as standby for PSLV. The second launch pad has been operational for almost 20 years and has enhanced the launch capacity towards enabling some commercial missions of PSLV/LVM3 along with the national missions including the Chandrayaan-3 mission.

The second launch pad is also getting ready to launch the human rated LVM3 for the Gaganyaan missions. The expanded vision of the

Indian Space Programme, the government has announced plans to establish the Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS) by 2035 and achieve an Indian crewed lunar Landing by 2040. These ambitions require a new generation of heavier launch vehicles with new propulsion systems, which cannot be met by the existing launch pads, an official statement said.

The expeditious establishment of a third launch pad to cater to a heavier class of Next Generation Launch Vehicles and as a stand by second launch pad is highly essential so as to meet the evolving space transportation requirements for another 25-

Lalu case - Court

seeks sanction

for prosecution

in two weeks

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

A Delhi court on Thursday granted two weeks to

authorities concerned to process

sanction to prosecute an accused

in a case related to the alleged

land-for-jobs scam involving

former Railway Minister Lalu Prasad. Special Judge Vishal

Gogne said if the sanction is not

processed by January 30, the

next date, "the competent authority shall furnish a written

explanation by the next date of

The judge passed the directions after the CBI informed the court that the

regarding accused RK

Mahajan, a public servant, was

at an advanced stage. "The competent authority is directed to process the said

matter by the next date as the

present proceedings, which are

required to be conducted on a

weekly basis in terms of

previous directions of the

Supreme Court and Delhi

High Court, are delayed only

awaiting the said sanction in

charge sheet which was filed in

July 2024... The proceedings in

the case are delayed only

NEW DELHI

hearing."

## Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto to be chief guest at India's 76th Republic Day celebrations

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI** 

Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto will be the chief guest at India's 76th Republic Day celebrations on January 26, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) announced on

Subianto will visit India from January 25 to 26 in his first trip to the country as president.

As a comprehensive strategic partner, Indonesia is an important pillar in India's Act East Policy and its vision of the Indo-Pacific, the MEA said.

"At the invitation of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, President of the Republic of Indonesia Prabowo Subianto will pay a state visit to India during January 25-26," the MEA said, "President Prabowo will also be the Chief Guest for India's 76th Republic Day celebrations," it said in a



statement. Indonesia share warm and friendly ties spanning over millenia," it said.

MEA said forthcoming visit of the Indonesian President will provide an opportunity for the leadership of the two countries to undertake a comprehensive issues of mutual interest. Every year, India invites world

review of bilateral ties as well as to discuss regional and global

"India Day celebrations. Last year, and French President Emmanuel Macron was the Republic Day chief guest while Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi graced the occasion in 2023. There was no Republic Day Chief guest in 2021 and 2022 in view of the COVID-19

pandemic.

In 2020, then Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro was the chief guest at the Republic Day celebrations. In 2019, South African President Cyril

Ramaphosa was the chief guest at the Republic Day parade, while in 2018, leaders of all 10 ASEAN countries attended the

In 2017, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan was the chief guest at celebrations, while then French President Francois Hollande graced the occasion in 2016. In 2015, then US President Barack Obama watched the parade. In 2014, then Japanese Prime

Minister Shinzo Abe was the chief guest at the celebrations, while Bhutan king Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck attended the parade in 2013. The heads of state and who government have attended the Republic Day celebrations include Nicolas Vladimir Putin, Sarkozy, Nelson Mandela, John Major, Mohammed Khatami and

## Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH-Dhruv) will not be part of upcoming Republic Day flypast

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

The indigenously designed and developed Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH-Dhruv) will not be part of the upcoming Republic Day flypast as the entire fleet of the military helicopters has been grounded following a crash of one of them this month. The Army, the Indian Air Force, the Navy and the Coast Guard are operating around 330 ALHs.

A Coast Guard ALH crashed at Gujarat's Porbandar on January five following which the armed forces grounded the entire fleet of the twinengine helicopters. The ALH Dhruv will not be part of the Republic Day flypast over Kartavya Path on January 26, an IAF official told reporters. The helicopters are likely to remain grounded till a highlevel probe panel finds the root cause of the crash that



killed two Coast Guard pilots helicopters have been part of the Republic Day flypasts for nearly one-and-half decades. The ALH-Dhruv, produced by state-run aerospace major Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) is a multi-role, multimission new generation helicopter in the 5.5 ton weight class.

The official also said locally developed single engine Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas will also not feature at the Republic Day flypast. The IAF has stopped flying single engine aircraft at the R-Day

Manufactured by the HAL, the Tejas aircraft is a potent platform for air combat and offensive air support missions while reconnaissance and anti-ship operations are its secondary roles.

In February 2021, the defence ministry sealed a Rs 48,000 crore deal with Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd for the procurement of 83 Tejas MK-1A jets for the IÁF. In November last year, the ministry accorded an initial approval to procure an additional batch of 97 Tejas jets for the IAF. The official said the Republic

Day flypast will feature 22 fighter jets, 11 transport planes, seven helicopters, and three Dornier surveillance aircraft. A Rafale fighter jet will also be part of the flypast. IAF's The marching

contingent at the parade will comprise 144 personnel.

## leaders to attend its Republic abel Al-generated content for polls: ECI

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DEI HI

With campaigns for the Delhi Assembly elections heating up, the Election Commission on Thursday advised political parties to uphold transparency and accountability in their use of Artificial Intelligence (AI)generated content, highlighting concerns over the increasing role of artificial intelligence in campaigns and its impact on voter opinion.

The poll body asked political parties and candidates to appropriately disclose and label AI-generated synthetic content. This move comes amid the

increasing use of AI technologies in political campaigning, about raising their potential impact on voter



perception and the authenticity of campaign messages.

The advisory introduces labelling and disclosure norms requiring parties to clearly label any images, videos, audio or other materials generated or significantly altered by AI technologies with a notation such as "AI-Generated"/ Digitally Enhanced"/"Synthetic

It also requires political parties to include disclaimers during dissemination of campaign advertisements or content, wherever synthetic content is The use of AI has surged in

the Delhi elections, with political parties leveraging it to create high-impact campaigns. However, this has also led to the emergence of deepfake videos and misleading content. Recently, the Aam Aadmi Party released an AI-generated video featuring PM Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah, critiquing central government policies. While the video went viral, it sparked debates over ethical boundaries in election campaigning.

Similarly, the BJP has been deploying AI-driven

strategies to craft targeted advertisements and posters attacking AAP's governance. While these tactics are effective, they also risk spreading misinformation and polarising voters. Social media platforms like Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram

have become hotbeds of election activity, with AI tools playing a central role. Viral hashtags, memes, and targeted ads are shaping voter opinions like never before.

#KejriwalFailsDelhi and AAP's #AAPKaManifesto have dominated the digital space, engaging millions of Election

Commissioner Rajiv Kumar

had recently cautioned

against the potential of AI

compounding the malaise of

and deep

misinformation. He had expressed concern that deep fakes and misinformation have the potential to erode trust in electoral processes. During last year's Lok Sabha elections, the Commission had issued guidelines for

responsible and ethical use of

social media platforms. "In recent years, advances in artificial intelligence have enabled the creation of highly convincing synthetic content, including images, video and audio. "With the increasing use of AI technologies in political campaigning, it is essential to maintain transparency

accountability, as the AIgenerated content, including images, videos and audio, has the potential to influence voter opinion and trust," the EC told heads of recognised national and state parties.

## Justice (Retd) Arun Mishra appointed as BCCI Ombudsman

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

 $F^{\text{ormer Supreme Court judge}}_{\text{Justice Arun Mishra has}}$ been appointed as Ombudsman of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). Mishra will also function as the BCCI Ethics Officer. He served in the apex court from July 7, 2014, to September 2, 2020 before being appointed as the chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on June 2, 2021, a position he held until June 1, 2024.

Mishra, born on September 3, 1955 in Gwalior in a family of lawyers, had decided around 97,000 cases as a judge of high courts of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Calcutta.



He was appointed as a judge of the Madhya Pradesh High Court on October 25, 1999 and was later appointed as the Chief Justice of Rajasthan High Court on November 26, 2010. He was later appointed as the Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court on December 14, 2012. A legal luminary, Mishra has also contributed immensely to betterment of legal education in the country.



awaiting the said sanction in charge sheet which was filed in July 2024," the judge said. The judge had on November 26 filed before the court requisite sanctions obtained from authorities concerned to prosecute 30 accused persons in the case, while submitting that sanctions regarding the prosecution of Mahajan was still awaited.

## PM Modi's stellar start to 2025: Transforming vision into reality

fakes in

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI** 

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has begun 2025 with a flurry of transformative initiatives, demonstrating his vision for a progressive, self-reliant, and united India. From advancing infrastructure and scientific research to empowering youth and celebrating India's cultural diversity, his leadership has set the tone for a remarkable year ahead. .

The year began with a strong focus on the welfare of farmers during the first Cabinet meeting of 2025. The government approved the extension of a one-time special package for Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP), ensuring affordable fertilizer prices for farmers. This decision highlights the government's commitment to India's

the same day, PM Modi met commitment cultural icons such as singeractor Diljit Dosanjh and chess grandmaster Koneru Humpy, underscoring his focus on promoting arts, sports, and excellence across Modi also handed over 1,675

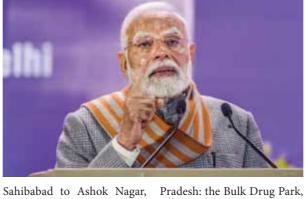
newly constructed flats under In-Situ Slum Rehabilitation Project in Delhi, ensuring better living conditions for thousands of leaders, including Microsoft families. He also laid the CEO Satya Nadella, who foundation stones for three transformative educational projects worth over Rs 600 crore, including the Eastern Campus at Surajmal Vihar, Western Campus at Dwarka, and the Veer Savarkar College in Najafgarh. These projects aim to enhance educational infrastructure inspire

agricultural backbone. On The development took center stage during the Grameen Bharat Mahotsav on January This initiative aligns with the

goal of empowering rural India and integrating it into the global economy. Meanwhile, PM Modi engaged with global tech announced a \$3 billion investment infrastructure in India. These discussions focused on indigenous fostering innovation and creating a self-reliant tech ecosystem. Infrastructure projects gained momentum with the inauguration of the Namo

Bharat Train Corridor on

January 5, connecting



multiple infrastructure developments in Odisha, Telangana, and Jammu & Kashmir. These projects symbolize India's progress modernizing transport networks under PM Modi's leadership. Last week Modi launched two

a Rs 1,877 crore initiative to reduce dependency on imported pharmaceutical ingredients, and the Green Hydrogen Hub, aimed at producing 1,500 tonnes of green hydrogen per day. These efforts position India as a leader in renewable energy and pharmaceutical landmark projects in Andhra manufacturing.

A significant step forward in inauguration of the Genome India Project on January 9, which will map the genetic diversity of Indians and advance healthcare solutions for genetic disorders. On the same day, PM Modi addressed the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention in Bhubaneswar, celebrating the achievements of the Indian diaspora and their contributions to the global

Thereafter on January 12, PM Modi participated in the Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue, coinciding with National Youth Day and Swami Vivekananda's Jayanti. This initiative united young innovators and achievers to exchange ideas and envision a developed India, reaffirming government's commitment to empowering

On January 13, Modi

inaugurated the Sonamarg Tunnel in Jammu & Kashmir, improving connectivity and boosting tourism while enhancing national security. He personally interacted with workers and engineers, expressing gratitude for their efforts. That evening, he celebrated Lohri, Pongal, and Makar Sankranti with diverse communities, emphasizing India's cultural unity and heritage.

By January 15, PM reached another milestone with the commissioning of advanced naval combatants, including new ships and submarines, reflecting India's growing maritime capabilities. These additions strengthen India's position as a dominant force in the Indian Ocean and are a testament government's commitment to

Aatmanirbhar Bharat in On January 16, PM Modi's

vision for India's space program reached another milestone with the successful demonstration of space docking of satellites completed by ISRO which is a significant stepping stone for India's ambitious space missions in the years to come. In just 15 days, Modi's

transformative beginning to 2025. From scientific breakthroughs infrastructure projects to youth empowerment and cultural celebration, his actions reflect a vision of a Viksit Bharat. As PM Modi said, "Together, we are shaping a developed India, where every citizen plays a vital role in building a brighter tomorrow."

leadership has delivered a

# MAHAKUMBH 2025: SPECIAL COVERAGE

# International delegates take a dip at Triveni Sangam

21-member delegation from 10 countries, on Thursday, visited the various Akhadas in the Sangam region during the ongoing Mahakumbh and took the holy dip at Sangam The representatives not only gained an understanding of the religious significance of the Kumbh but also experienced the extraordinary elements of Indian culture.

After taking a dip at the Triveni Sangam, the delegation toured the vast Mahakumbh witnessing the immense scale of the event. The international lauded the Uttar Pradesh government for the grand arrangements made for the world's largest religious gathering. They said that the Mahakumbh sends a powerful message of unity to the world encouraged people from all nations Mahakumbh Nagar to

witness and understand Indian culture.

Arab United (UAE), shared that she has

event. She described it as an Emirates extraordinary moment, highlighting that the Kumbh come from the Middle East Mela is the world's largest to India for this remarkable religious gathering

She praised the event's organization emphasized that it not only spreads a message of unity entire world. Witnessing millions of devotees and the meticulous she arrangements, moved by the

greatness of Indian culture. The international delegation security also toured various Akhadas he felt during the Kumbh Mela, meeting saints and learning

religious, and cultural significance of the event. The saints shared insights

the Kumbh, the role of the akhadas, and the glory of Indian culture. international representatives profoundly impressed by the saints' teachings and expressed their admiration Indian religious traditions.

This gathering representatives sent powerful message to the world, showing that people from different cultural backgrounds can come together in harmony. This included representatives from Fiji, Finland, Guyana, Malaysia, Mauritius, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Trinidad and Tobago, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

delegation experienced the diversity of Indian culture and the unity in religion during their visit. They were deeply moved by the culture and traditions on display. For them, the trip was not just a religious experience but also a precious opportunity to be

international



## Wife of Apple co-founder Steve Jobs, abruptly returns from Maha Kumbh due to health issues

BISWAJEET BANERJEE

Lauren Powen 1000s, ..... unexpectedly cut short her visit to the Maha Kumbh in Prayagraj after experiencing

allergic reactions.

Powell Jobs, who had planned a ten-day stay, left just three days into her trip. She is reported to be staying in Bhutan for the next few days. Lauren Powell Jobs arrived in Prayagraj on January 13 to participate in the grand spiritual event. During her visit, she stayed at the camp of Acharya Mahamandaleshwar Swami Kailashanand Giri of the Niranjani Akhara. Her initial plan included taking a holy dip during Makar Sankranti, but she was unable to do so due to health issues. On Wednesday, Powell Jobs

from her guru, Acharya imparted the Mahakali Beej Mantra to her She has been instructed to chant "Om Kreem Mahakalika Namah" as part of her spiritual practice.

praised Powell Jobs for her humility and simplicity, emphasizing that despite being one of the wealthiest and most famous individuals in the world, she remains free of ego and does not indulge in pretentiousness. He described her as very gentle and kind, adding that her quest for spirituality led her to the Maha Kumbh, where she was given the name "Kamala." He noted her low-key approach to life, often wegring simple elether often wearing simple clothes and interacting with others in

Acharya Kailashanand Giri

a modest manner. In her journey before the

received a spiritual initiation Maha Kumbh, Powell Jobs visited the Kashi Vishwanath Mahamandaleshwar Swami Temple in Varanasi, where she auren Powell Jobs, wife of Kailashanand Giri, who performed a boat ride on the Ganges and received blessings sanctum, adhering to the traditional practice of not touching the Shiva Lingam as a non-Hindu.

The Maha Kumbh also saw a historic milestone Wednesday with the launch of an international flight from Prayagraj Airport, marking the first such departure in 93 years. The flight, which carried Powell Jobs to Bhutan, was part of a growing trend, as international visitors, including expatriate Indians and foreign nationals, can now travel directly to Prayagraj for the Maha Kumbh. This development also led to the deployment of immigration officers at the airport for the

# Data says devotees spend an average of 45 minutes at ghats during Maha Kumbh

BISWAJEET BANERJEE

Data from Frequency (RF) wrist-Kumbh has provided critical insights into crowd behavior. revealing that, on average, each devotee spent 45 minutes at the bathing ghats during significant festival days like Makar Sankranti and Paush Purnima.

This duration accounts for the time from a devotee's arrival at the ghat to their departure after performing the ritual bath.

The data was collected wristbands through equipped with RFID chips, which were distributed to devotees as part of an effort to better manage the the event.

This technology not only helped calculate the average time spent at the ghats but also assisted in accurately counting the total number of visitors at the Maha Kumbh.

SSP Rajesh Kumar Dwivedi emphasized the importance of this data for effective crowd management.

"The average time spent by devotees at the ghats is invaluable for planning crowd flow and ensuring By understanding how long

people spend in the area, we can determine the best times for implementing regular traffic plans or



shifting to emergency measures if needed," he said. Dwivedi further explained that the data will also help in the logistics of entry and exit points.

"With this technology, we can better manage when and

where devotees should enter or exit, reducing congestion and improving the overall experience for everyone," he

utilize technology for a smoother and safer Kumbh experience.

"This year, we are using three different methods to been a part of the authorities' strategy to wristband data analysis.

part of this," said an kev official event.

The information gathered will continue to play a crucial role in managing one of the world's largest

# Devotees flock to Ayodhya and Kashi while taking part in Mahakumbh

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

After attending the Mahakumbh Prayagraj, devotees from across the country and abroad are now flocking to other sacred sites in Uttar Pradesh.

In the past three days alone, around 10 lakh devotees visited Ayodhya, 7.41 lakh paid their respects at the Kashi Vishwanath temple, 5 lakh visited Vindhyavasini Dham, and more than one lakh devotees visited Naimisharanya Dham in Sitapur.

As over seven crore devotees have bathed and prayed at the Mahakumbh so far, the devotees, following their ritual baths, have visited places like Shringverpur, Chitrakoot, Kashi, Maa Dham, Vindhyavasini Naimisharanya, and Ayodhya for

darshan and worship.
This surge of devotees is also

boosting local employment in these regions. More than 7.41 lakh devotees visited the Kashi Vishwanath temple from January 13 to 15, with 2.19 lakh arriving on the 13th, 2.31 lakh on the 14th, and over 2.90 lakh on the 15th. Meanwhile, over 5 lakh visited Vindhyavasini Dham, and more support.

one Naimisharanya Dham. known also

Ayodhya, Ramnagari, has seen an overwhelming influx of devotees, radiating a palpable sense of faith. Thousands are gathering to witness the darshan of Ramlala and Hanumangarhi.

Under the guidance of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, the district administration has ensured all necessary arrangements for the

Over 10 lakh devotees have arrived in Ayodhya in the past three days, drawn by the historic occasion following Ramlala's enthronement after 500 years.

A long line of devotees continues to form as they wait to pay their

CM Yogi Adityanath has instructed top officials, including Commissioner Gaurav Dayal, IG Praveen Kumar, District Magistrate Chandra Vijay Singh, SSP Rajkaran Nair, and Municipal Commissioner Santosh Sharma, to oversee the administration of key routes such as Dharmapath, Rampath, and Bhaktipath, ensuring that people in need are provided shelter and





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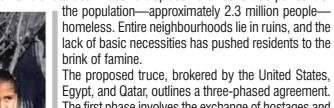
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PAPER WITH PASSION-

# **Hope and dread**

The Gaza truce between Hamas and Israel may be fragile but it is still welcome as it offers some relief to beleaguered people

■he recent announcement of a potential truce between Israel and Hamas has brought a mix of cautious hope and lingering fear to those on both sides of the conflict. After months of violence and suffering following the devastating events of October 2023, which saw Hamas's deadly incursion into Israel and the subsequent retaliatory offensive, the prospect of a ceasefire offers a moment of relief. However, the road ahead remains fraught with uncertainty. The conflict has left deep scars on both Israeli and Palestinian communities. For Israelis, the abduction of hostages—including women, children, and elderly civilians—has been a source of immense anguish. The release of 33 hostages as part of the initial phase of the ceasefire would bring some relief, but many fear the fragile agreement could collapse, leaving their loved ones in limbo. In Gaza, the humanitarian crisis is dire. The death toll exceeds 46,000, with women and children accounting for over half of the fatalities. Massive displacement has left 90 per cent of



The proposed truce, brokered by the United States, Egypt, and Qatar, outlines a three-phased agreement. The first phase involves the exchange of hostages and Palestinian detainees, with the release of women, children, and the elderly prioritised. Subsequent phases would address the release of soldiers and other male captives, along with broader discussions to halt hostilities. A crucial component of the ceasefire includes a surge in humanitarian aid to Gaza. This would enable

displaced Palestinians to return to their homes and help rebuild critical infrastructure. Yet, the long-term success of this agreement hinges on both sides' willingness to engage in meaningful negotiations during the second phase. The fragile nature of previous ceasefires—such as the one in November 2023 that lasted only a week—underscores the difficulty of achieving lasting peace. Key obstacles include Hamas's insistence on maintaining its military capabilities and Israel's objective to dismantle Hamas's governing structures. Both sides are under immense domestic and international pressure, but deeply entrenched mistrust makes compromise elusive. For hostages' families, uncertainty looms large. Many remain haunted by the possibility that their loved ones may not survive captivity if the true fails. Meanwhile, Palestinians fear that a breakdown in talks could trigger renewed violence, exacerbating an already catastrophic situation. If the ceasefire holds, it could mark the beginning of a much-needed reprieve for Gaza's beleaguered population. Immediate priorities include addressing food insecurity, medical shortages, and the rebuilding of homes and infrastructure. International aid would play a critical role in alleviating the humanitarian crisis, but long-term recovery would require substantial investment, political stability and lasting peace.



People try to tame a bull as they participate in the 'Jallikattu' event as part of 'Pongal' celebrations, in Tiruchirapalli PTI

# Diplomacy: The pillar of India's global aspirations.



To fulfill its aspirations as a global leader, India must urgently bolster its diplomatic infrastructure by expanding and modernising the Ministry of External Affairs

ndia, the world's most populous nation and the largest democracy is emerging as a pivotal force in global affairs. As a leader of the Global South, its growing economic might, strategic autonomy, and commitment to peace have positioned it at the centre of international diplomacy.

However, despite these achievements, India's Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)—the critical institution shaping and executing its foreign policy—remains under-resourced. With only about 850 diplomats, the MEA is inadequately equipped to handle the complexities of a rapidly evolving global landscape. For India to realize its potential as a global leader, it must significantly expand its diplomatic infrastructure, scaling the MEA to at least 5,000 personnel. Such an expansion would align with India's ambitions and its stature as a major international power. India's diplomatic requirements have grown substantially alongside its global ambitions.

As the world's largest democracy and one of its fastest-growing economies, India's foreign policy must address a wide range of global issues. From trade negotiations and climate change to digital diplomacy and global security, the MEA serves as the nerve center of India's international engagements. India's foreign policy has traditionally been guided by strategic autonomy and a commitment to peace, rooted in the Nehruvian tradition of nonalignment. Leaders like Jawaharlal Nehru and VK Krishna Menon laid the foundation of an independent foreign policy that prioritized non-violence while asserting India's sovereignty. This legacy of non-alignment, which positioned India as a bridge between competing superpowers, remains a cornerstone of its diplomatic

However, the global order is shifting, and India must adapt its foreign policy apparatus to meet challenges. Strengthening the MEA is vital not only for safeguarding India's needs diplomats capable of interests but also for crafting a vision capable of influencing global politics. With a population evolving global role. India's for-

exceeding 1.4 billion and leadership roles in key international forums, India's current diplomatic infrastructure is insufficient for the demands it faces. Countries like the United States, China and Russia deploy thousands of diplomats and foreign policy experts to maintain their global influence. In contrast, India's diplomatic corps, though skilled, is a fraction of the size required. This gap underscores the urgent need for a larger, more specialised MEA capable of shaping global discussions and providing strategic depth across multiple domains. Expanding the MEA to 5,000 personnel would ensure that India's foreign policy is both proactive and comprehensive. Such an expansion is not merely about increasing numbers; it is about cultivating strategic expertise across diverse fields.

India's diplomacy must address trade, defense, environmental sustainability, cybersecurity, humanitarian aid, and more. To achieve this, the MEA must recruit specialists who can navigate these complex issues. During the Cold War, figures like US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger demonstrated the transformative power of strategic brilliance in diplomacy. Similarly, India long-term thinking and crafting policies that reflect its

**RUPEE LOSING SHEEN** 

Madam — There is an ongoing concern over the rupee sharply losing value against the dollar. But then a nation's currency

intrinsically represents two notions of

value: one for the purchaser and seller in

the domestic market and the other for the

external one. China, in its monetary par-

lance, has the yuan and the renminbi. In

layman's terms, the domestic standing of

the rupee is broadly propped up by an

incremental rise in GDP and per capita

income, with the purchasing power sus-



THE NEED FOR A

**DIPLOMATIC CORPS** THAT CAN SHAPE **GLOBAL DISCUSSIONS AND** PROVIDE THE INTELLECTUAL AND STRATEGIC DEPTH REQUIRED IN AN **INCREASINGLY** COMPLEX INTERNATIONAL

**ENVIRONMENT HAS** 

**NEVER BEEN MORE** 

URGENT

eign policy must anticipate global trends rather than merelv react to events. To compete with global powers like the US, Russia, and China, India requires a diplomatic team adept at building alliances, leveraging emerging opportunities, and addressing global challenges. This necessitates investments in strategic thinking and specialised knowledge. The MEA must develop expertise in fields such as space diplomacy, climate change negotiations, global trade, and defense strategy. Moreover, diplomats must engage with governments, businesses, think tanks, and civil society to shape decisions in India's favour.

A well-staffed MEA would

enable India to better engage with key global issues and deepen its relationships with major powers. Just as the US relied on figures like Robert McNamara and John Foster Dulles to shape its diplomacy, India must nurture a generation of visionary diplomats. These individuals should possess deep understanding of global security, international law, multilateral organisations, and global trade—qualities exemplified by VK Krishna Menon, who championed India's interests on the international stage during the 1950s. cratic ideals, and values—can Expanding the MEA is not just amplify its global influence and about addressing immediate challenges but about aligning India's diplomatic capabilities

with its evolving priorities. Experts in climate change, energy security, trade relations, and technology diplomacy are essential to ensuring a forward-thinking foreign policy.

The expanded MEA must also

prioritise collaboration with think tanks, academic institutions, and media professionals. These partnerships can provide the intellectual foundation for strategic decisions and help India anticipate emerging global trends. Think tanks and universities—both domestic and international—can offer critical insights into shifting geopolitical dynamics, new economic policies, and other developments. global Engaging with these institutions will ensure that India's foreign policy remains agile and informed. Public diplomacy is another critical component of modern foreign policy. Beyond government-togovernment negotiations, India must focus on shaping global perceptions and building relationships with international audiences. The MEA should work closely with media professionals to effectively communicate India's vision and policies to the world. Leveraging India's soft power-its rich culture, demo-

ensure its voice is heard. (The writer is an associate professor; views are personal)

## India's projector demand soars with eco-friendly innovations



These next-generation projectors not only offer enhanced energy efficiency and sustainability but also excellent output redefining the visual experience

ndia is rapidly becoming one of the fastest-grow-Ling projector markets globally, with an anticipated annual growth rate of 8.10 per cent over the next five years. This surge is driven by the increasing demand for projectors in both commercial and personal spaces. Technological advancements are playing a key role in this trend, as new, more ecofriendly projector alternatives are replacing traditional lamp-based models.

These older models, while effective, had significant drawbacks such as high power consumption, reliance on hazardous materials, and limited recyclability. In contrast, modern projectors are designed with sustainability in mind, making them an attractive option for a wide range of applications.

The rise in digitization across businesses and households further accelerates the need for effective display solutions. Eco-friendly projectors not only address this need but also offer a greener, more sustainable alternative to conventional options. With advanced production standards grounded in sus-

tainable development, these projectors are perfectly positioned to meet India's growing demand for high-tech, energy-efficient devices. Eco-friendly projectors are designed to tackle many of the issues associated with traditional models.

They operate with much higher energy efficiency, significantly reducing power consumption. The manufacturing process also minimizes carbon footprints, with materials sourced responsibly. Innovations such as LED and laser light sources have significantly improved these devices' energy efficiency and lifespan, making them superior to traditional lamp-based

projectors. These advancements appeal to environmentally conscious consumers and businesses alike, offering a more

display and entertainment needs.Compared to earlier generations, eco-friendly projectors offer several clear advantages. Their energy efficiency makes them much more cost-effective in the long term, as they consume far less power and do not require frequent replacements of parts like traditional bulbs. Additionally, the longevity of these projectors reduces waste, further decreasing their environmental impact. Importantly, many eco-friendly projectors do not contain harmful substances like mercury, which is found in conventional models, thus contributing to safer disposal practices.

Furthermore, these projectors are built to last longer and require less maintenance, thanks to technologies like LED and laser, which do not degrade as quickly as traditional bulbs. As a result, maintenance costs are significantly lower, and users benefit from reduced downtime and increased durability.

This is an appealing factor for both businesses and consumers, as it translates to sustainable solution to their lower total ownership costs

over the life of the device.Looking ahead, there are several trends that will further shape the future of eco-friendly display technologies. One of the most promising is the development of even more efficient light sources, such as OLEDs and advanced lasers, which will provide higher brightness while consuming even less power. Another exciting possibility is the use of solarpowered projectors, especially in rural or off-grid areas, which would reduce reliance on conventional power sources and minimize carbon footprints. Additionally, there is growing interest in integrating biodegradable materials into the production of projectors, which would reduce the environmental impact when the product reaches the end of its lifecycle. The future will also likely see the introduction of more smart projectors that can integrate seamlessly with smart home and office ecosystems, featuring energy-saving modes based on usage patterns. (The writer is MD Optoma

Technology; views are personal)

#### Compared to most economies, we are far better placed. Our current concern would be more reining in inflation and fiscal deficit to retain the value of the rupee. The exchange value of the rupee with other currencies is a matter of the difference between the inflow and outflow of foreign

tained by low inflation.

currency for our external buying or selling, be it products, commodities, or services. The crux lies in developing our niche in any one of them to reverse the trade deficit. China found it in manufacturing and commodities and dares to keep its currency highly depreciated. The US despite its huge debt has the privilege of printing the dollar, the global currency. We must find it in diligence, research, and human R Narayanan | Navi Mumbai

**NGO SUSPECTED FOR BOMB THREAT** Madam—Apropos of the headlines 'Police find NGO, political ties in Delhi bomb threats', it is imperative to dig deeply into the conspiracy of scaring 400 Delhi schools with bombing. The 16-year-old boy is only a juvenile shield to escape punishment. This is a heinous crime closely connected with the terrorist act perpetrated by the sympathisers of terrorist Afzal Guru, who had been hanged during Congress's tenure. Delhi CM Atishi is also a potential source of investigation because of her family's sympathy with the terrorist Afzal Guru. All those associated with the NGO should be slapped with NSA under the zero-tolerance

#### **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

## Meta offers apologises on election remark

ark Zuckerberg's controversial statement has sparked a new debate across India and the world. His remarks about the functioning of Joe Biden's administration and the 2024 Indian elections have angered the Indian Parliament. Now, Meta India has publicly apologised following backlash over its CEO Mark Zuckerberg's comments on India's 2024 general elections. This issue raises critical questions about the responsibility of tech companies and the impact of their statements

on a global scale. Zuckerberg's comments on Joe Rogan's podcast regarding economic challenges and democracy in India are being seen as damaging to India's image. Particularly, the questions raised about Prime

Minister Narendra Modi's government's economic management and COVID-19 strategies are considered serious. India's IT Minister, Ashwini Vaishnaw, has responded strongly, stating that foreign companies must respect India's constitutional dignity. This incident not only scrutinises the social impact of social media giants but also questions their political interference. India's stance highlights that major tech giants are now being held accountable for their actions. This development sends an important message that strict action against misinformation is essential to upholding the dignity of democracy

R K Jain | Barwani

Jaish-e-Mohammad terrorist who carried out the Parliament attack in 2001 earned sympathy for those vying for Delhi rule. It is the most unfortunate for the country and the ugliest face of our political ecosys-

Hitherto, a part of the INDIA bloc, AAP must clarify the role of its Delhi CM. The Khalistani links of the Aam Aadmi Party and Arvind Kejriwal are already in public awareness. There seems to be no end to the revengeful acts of sympathisers of the terrorists, so the strongest punishment should be ensured against the culprits. We are aware that a team of leading advocates will protect the NGO behind the Delhi school bomb threats. Such an ecosystem should be exposed. Delhi has been targeted by the extremist forces; it is very obvious and evi-

Vinod Johri | Delhi

#### **B'DESH AG'S ANTI-SECULARISM PITCH**

Madam — Bangladesh's Attorney General Mohammad Asaduzzaman has demanded the removal of the word secularism from policy of the Union Government. The the Constitution. He has said that 90 per-

cent of Bangladesh's population is Muslim, so it should be a Muslim country by removing the word secular. The Attorney General has said that words like socialism and secularism do not present the correct picture of Bangladesh. He has suggested making major changes in the constitution and removing 'secularism'.

He will make these changes before the next elections. Because Yunus is an educationist later and is first a fundamentalist Muslim. Earlier, in the year 2010, the Supreme Court of Bangladesh had ruled that the removal of secularism in 1977 was illegal. The court had reinstated secularism in the constitution. Just as Bangladesh is attacking temples in its country, similarly in India too, deities are being searched for in mosques. The destination of both the neighbours is the same. Bangladesh wants to become an Islamic nation while preparations are on in India to make it a 'Hindu

Jang Bahadur Singh | Jamshedpur

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## **FIRST COLUMN**

#### **US EXPORT CONTROLS: IMPACT ON INDIA'S AI**

US export controls pose new challenges for India's AI and tech ambitions



KUMARDEEP BANERJEE

he Biden administration's Interim Final Rule (IFR), effective January 2025, introduces strict regulations on the export, reexport and incountry transfer of advanced computing integrated circuits (ICs) and artificial intelligence (AI) model weights. These measures aim to limit the proliferation of advanced technologies with potential military and intelligence applications, particularly in Al-driven systems. While this move marks a significant policy step from the outgoing administration, its future under the next presidency remains uncertain, as the new administration could pause the implementation for review. India, a nation rapidly advancing its Al infrastructure, faces significant challenges under the IFR. Here are the key implications:

The IFR enforces licensing requirements for exporting advanced computing ICs and Al model weights, particularly those integral to high-performance Al models. For India, which is heavily investing in Al research and infrastructure, these restrictions may hinder access to state-of-theart U.S. technologies. A "presumption of denial" applies to licenses for advanced ICs used in training Al models, limiting India's ability to obtain cutting-edge hardware essential for its Al development.

The regulations impose stringent controls on advanced closed-weight Al models, while open-weight models are exempt. Since closed-weight models often drive groundbreaking AI research, this limitation could slow India's progress in leveraging advanced US AI models. Restricted access to these critical technologies could delay breakthroughs in Al-driven appli-



Although the IFR provides exceptions for low-risk destinations, India is not included in the list of preferred nations. As a result, Indian entities face capped allocations on advanced computing capacity based on total processing performance (TPP). Over the next three years, these limitations could restrict the computational resources available for Indian researchers and developers, potentially stalling Al initiatives.

Indian companies seeking US technology will face heightened scrutiny under the IFR, including stringent checks on supply chain security, personnel vetting, and cybersecurity compliance. These requirements will increase the complexity of partnerships with US firms and may delay India's efforts to scale its AI ecosystem.

India's plans to establish advanced data centers and high-performance computing clusters will be directly affected by the new regulations. The IFR mandates compliance with US security standards, such as NIST guidelines, adding operational costs and potential delays.

India's ambition to lead global Al collaborations, as demonstrated by its participation in initiatives like the Global Partnership on AI (GPAI), faces friction under these controls. With international partnerships playing a crucial role in India's technological growth, the restrictions on high-performance computing components and Al models could disrupt

To mitigate these challenges, India must consider alternative strategies, including strengthening domestic research and development, partnering with non-US technology providers, and leveraging diplomatic channels to negotiate favorable terms with the US The path forward will require Indian companies to adapt rapidly, focusing on self-sufficiency and fostering collaborations beyond traditional partnerships. While the IFR offers limited flexibility through license exceptions and potential adjustments, India's advanced computing and Al ambitions will require resilience and innovation to overcome the regulatory hurdles imposed by these new export controls.

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

# The war they waged, the price we paid



With Trump's return, the stage is set for continuation of the bloodstained legacy, with devastating consequences for the world's most vulnerable



he Vietnam War should have been the United States' breaking point—a humiliating defeat that exposed the futility of projecting brute force in a world that had long learned to resist imperialism. But instead of becoming a sobering moment of reflection, it ignited a chain reaction of conflicts, interventions, and proxy wars that would devastate nations and leave millions dead. From Ronald Reagan to Joe Biden, the American war machine has not only endured but expanded, thriving on chaos and suffering. With Donald Trump poised to return, his new administration promises to perpetuate this bloodstained legacy, consolidating power at home while unleashing destruction abroad. Reagan's tenure marked a revival of the Cold War mindset, framed by a simplistic, almost cartoonish view of global politics. His administration orchestrated covert

operations and military interventions with reckless abandon, leaving a trail of devastation across continents. In Grenada, a minuscule island nation, the U.S. flexed its muscle in a laughable display of overkill. Yet, the price for the people of NEIGHBOURHOODS grenada was far from numorous—nun dreds of civilians died in an operation sold as a "rescue mission." In Lebanon, Reagan's deployment of U.S. Marines ended in catastrophe, with 241 servicemen killed in a suicide bombing. The retaliatory shelling of Lebanese villages left countless civilians dead, their stories erased from the official narrative.George H. W. Bush brought the carnage to Panama and Iraq. Operation Just Cause in Panama left at least 3,000 civilians dead, according to independent estimates—numbers far higher than the official U.S. tally.

The Gulf War of 1991 killed tens of thousands of Iraqi soldiers and civilians, with entire neighbourhoods flattened by American airpower. The sanctions that followed—a form of economic warfare—led to the deaths of an estimated 500,000 Iraqi children, as reported by UNICEF. But these deaths were dismissed by then-Secretary of State Madeleine Albright as a price worth paying.

Bill Clinton's presidency, often remembered for its charm and centrism, was anyTHE GULF WAR

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CHIDLREN

thing but peaceful. Under his watch, NATO's bombing campaign in Kosovo killed an estimated 500 civilians, while strikes on critical infrastructure plunged the region into chaos. În Somalia, Clinton inherited and expanded a disastrous intervention that culminated in the infamous Black Hawk Down incident. The fallout was not limited to American soldiers—it cost the lives of an estimated 10,000 Somali civilians caught in the crossfire. The Bush-Cheney years saw the bloodbath reach industrial levels. The 2003 invasion of Iraq, based on falsified intelligence, unleashed a catastrophe of staggering proportions. By conservative estimates, 200,000 Iraqi civilians died in the war, though many argue the real number exceeds half a million. Afghanistan, initially framed as a righteous response to 9/11, turned into a graveyard for American credibility. The war cost over 70,000 Afghan civilian lives, with many more lost to starvation and FLATTENED disease caused by the destruction

of infrastructure. These numbers, while horrifying, barely scratch the surface.Barack Obama, heralded as a harbinger of change, instead became the drone king. Under his administration, drone strikes killed an estimated 3,800 people in Pakistan, Yemen, and Somalia. These numbers include as many as 800 civilians, though independent investigations suggest the real toll is much higher. Libya, once a stable if repressive state, was reduced to a failed state after NATO's intervention, with Obama admitting it was his greatest foreign policy mistake. Yet his admission did nothing to rebuild Libya, now a haven for human traffickers and militia warlords.Donald Trump's first term shattered even the pretence of restraint. Civilian casualties from

soared, with independent monitors estimating at least 4,500 civilians killed in 2017 alone.

In Somalia, Trump's loosening of drone strike protocols led to a surge in civilian deaths, including women and children obliterated in remote villages. Yemen's civil war, fueled by U.S.-supplied bombs and logistical support to Saudi Arabia, created what the U.N. calls the world's worst humanitarian crisis. By some estimates, over 377,000 Yemenis have died—many of them from famine and disease exacerbated by the relentless bombing campaigns. Joe Biden's administration, while promising a pivot to diplomacy, has only perpetuated the violence.

The withdrawal from Afghanistan, while ending America's longest war, was executed with callous disregard for human life. At least 170 civilians were killed in a single ISIS-K bombing during the chaotic evacuation. Biden's continued drone strikes and military presence in Syria ensure that civilians remain collateral in America's unending "war on terror." In Ukraine, US military aid fuels a war that has already claimed tens of thousands of lives on both sides, with no end in sight. Across these decades, the pattern is unmistakable: the United States does not fight wars for freedom or

democracy. It fights for hegemony, resources, and geopolitical advantage, with human lives as expendable currency. The statistics are staggering but fail to capture the depth of the tragedy. From Vietnam to Yemen, from Iraq to Libya, the human cost is always paid by those least equipped to bear it: the poor, the displaced, and the voiceless.In just days, Donald Trump will return to the White House, his second administration poised to escalate the already relentless machinery of

gloves are off-his power more consolidated, his team of loyalists more ruthless, and his ambitions unrestrained. The team surrounding him will be battle-hardened ideologues with little patience for opposition.

Trump has openly embraced authoritarian impulses, and his foreign policy will likely mirror his domestic ambitions—unapologetic, ruthless, and geared toward consolidating dominants. For the consolidating dominance. For the impoverished, this is a death sentence. The costs will not be borne by those who plan wars from air-conditioned offices or justify them in press briefings but by the powerless: Yemeni mothers sifting through the rubble for scraps, Syrian children cowering as drones circle above, and Gazan families freezing to death amid the ruins of their bombed-out homes. These are not accidents of war; they are deliberate outcomes of a global system that treats human life as expendable in the pursuit of dominance over dignity.

The bombs will continue to fall, the starving will continue to die, and the architects of this destruction will dine in opulence, their hands stained with the blood of the voiceless.

We collectively absorb these atrocities-not with shock or outrage, but with numbed detachment, anaesthetised by the relentless churn of media cycles and the droning rationalisations of pundits. It is not that we do not care—it is that we have been conditioned not to. Once our souls have been amputated by decades of warmongering, by a system that normalises suffering as the cost of 'security,' we survive in resignation, compelled by the machinery of indifference to keep moving for-

> (The writer is a journalist and policy analyst. Views expressed

## Uttarakhand's initiatives to strengthen climate resilience in the Himalayas

The State's efforts, encapsulated in the Dehradun Declaration, highlight the importance of collaboration and community empowerment

The Uttarakhand Council of Science and Technology (UCOST) recently organised a significant workshop in Delhi, focusing on climate resilience and disaster management, with a paremphasis Himalayan states. This workshop attracted eminent scientists, disaster management experts, and advocates of climate resilience, underscoring the pressing need to address environmental challenges in the region. This initiative follows Uttarakhand's landmark 2023 International Conference in Dehradun, which drew participants from approximately

50 countries. The conference culminated in the adoption of the "Dehradun Declaration," a comprehensive action plan grimages such as the Char

aimed at fostering collaboration, innovation and effective strategies to mitigate the impact of climate change and natural disasters in Himalayan states. Uttarakhand's proactive approach to uniting stakeholders on these critical issues is both commendable and

#### Rationale Uttarakhand's Initiatives

Uttarakhand's unique geographical and cultural significance drives its commitment addressing climate resilience. With the secondlargest Himalayan boundary after Arunachal Pradesh, the state plays a pivotal role in supporting Northern India's vast hinterland.

The region's popularity as a hub for tourism, religious pil-



DINESH KUMAR TYAGI

Dham Yatra, and adventure activities exerts considerable pressure on its fragile ecosys-

The state faces recurring natural calamities, including forest fires, landslides, cloudbursts, and glacier shrinkage. These disasters significantly impact local communities, strain state resources, and demand robust measures to minimise their devastating

effects. By organising international workshops and fostering collaborations, Uttarakhand aims to raise awareness, share best practices and leverage technology, such as data analytics and artificial intelligence, to design both preventive and responsive strategies.

#### Highlights of the Dehradun Declaration

The Dehradun Declaration lays out a comprehensive framework for building climate resilience and disaster preparedness in Himalayan states. Its key features include: **Strengthening Preparedness** Integrating disaster resilience into educational curricula. Framing regulations to protect vulnerable populations. Developing financial tools and

"science of survival."



#### Protecting the Himalayan Ecosystem

Merging indigenous knowledge with traditional community practices. Promoting nature-based solutions and active community

engagement. Enhancing institutional collaboration for project monitoring and execution.

**Empowering Communities** frameworks to advance the Establishing community-

based early warning systems. Educating and equipping communities to take local mea-

Strengthening livelihoods and building local networks of like-minded individuals.

**Policy Integration** Establishing an Institute of Disaster Management and a global center for climate resilience.

Formulating policies based on national and international best practices.

Coordinating among state, central, and international

organisations. **Promoting Innovation** Supporting startups and entrepreneurs in developing tools and technologies for climate

resilience. The Delhi Workshop and Global Consensus

The Delhi workshop served as a follow-up to the Dehradun Declaration and brought together disaster management scholars, international organisations, and corporate representatives engaged in CSR activities. Participants praised Uttarakhand's efforts to convene diverse stakeholders, emphasising that protecting the Himalayan ecosystem is a

shared responsibility. The Himalayas, often referred to as the "Soul of India" and the "Third Pole," are crucial for maintaining ecological balance. Workshop attendees agreed on the need for collective action to address challenges such as unchecked tourism and resource exploitation. Recommendations included regulating plastic use, promoting organic farming,

imposing green taxes on vehicles, and training locals to mitigate post-disaster damage. National Perspectives on Climate Resilience

The recently concluded COP 29 in Baku included an agenda to establish a global fund for addressing climate change. Developed nations were urged to allocate higher budgets to support developing and poor-er countries in reducing car-

bon emissions. Training volunteers at the village level and connecting them through a centralised platform can foster trust and confidence in disaster preparedness efforts.

(The writer is a retired IAS officer and president of Society of Digital Entrepreneurs; views are personal)

# Trump and Biden both claim credit for Gaza ceasefire deal

**PTI** WASHINGTON

President Joe Biden and President-elect Donald Trump are both claiming credit for Israel and Hamas agree-ing to a ceasefire deal in Gaza on Wednesday after the White House brought Trump's Middle East envoy into negotiations that have dragged on for

Trump wasted no time in asserting he was the moving force behind the deal. Biden, meanwhile, stressed that the deal was reached under "the precise contours" of a plan that he set out in late May.
"This EPIC ceasefire agree-

ment could have only happened as a result of our Historic Victory in November, as it signaled to the entire World that my Administration would seek Peace and negotiate deals to ensure the safety of all Americans, and our Allies, Trump wrote on social media. "I am thrilled American and Israeli hostages will be returning home to be reunited with their families and loved ones." Trump added that his incom-

ing Mideast envoy, Steve Witkoff - who was participating in the talks in Doha, Qatar would continue "to work closely with Israel and our

NEVER again becomes a terrorist safe haven." Biden said from the White

Allies to make sure Gaza

House that "my diplomacy never ceased in their efforts to get this done.

It is the result not only of the extreme pressure that Hamas has been under and the changed regional equation after a ceasefire in Lebanon and weakening of Iran - but also of dogged and painstaking American diplomacy," Biden

The jostling comes with both Biden and Trump determined to see the deal become a set piece of Middle East success for the legacy of their presidency. Biden's administration worked for months to broker peace in talks that inched frustratingly close to success before repeatedly breaking down. Trump, for his part, had warned of "hell to pay" if a deal wasn't done by his inauguration - in five days.

While Biden's refusal to impose meaningful restrictions on sending arms to Israel may have helped the key U.S. ally seriously degrade Hamas and fellow Iran-backed militant group Hezbollah in Lebanon, it also came with enormous suffering for innocent Palestinians and Lebanese who have been caught in the crossfire of the 15

months of grinding war. Jonathan Panikoff, director of the Scowcroft Middle East Security Initiative at the Atlantic Council, said Biden deserves praise for continuing to push the talks despite repeated failures. But Trump's threats to Hamas and his efforts through Witkoff to "cajole" Netanyahu deserve credit as

well, he said. 'The ironic reality is that at a time of heightened partisanship even over foreign policy, the deal represents how much more powerful and influential U.S. foreign policy can be when it's bipartisan," he said. "Both the outgoing and incoming administration deserve credit for this deal and it would've been far less likely to happen

without both pushing for it." In his White House remarks, Biden said his administration negotiated the deal but that Trump's team will soon be charged with making sure it's implemented.

For the past few days, we have been speaking as one team," Biden said in a nod to Witkoff being part of the talks. Trump's team pushed back, saying Biden couldn't get the

deal done until Trump and Witkoff intervened.
The Biden administration was handing the Trump administration a detailed roadmap to win a lasting peace that has broad\_support in the region, State Department spokesman

Matthew Miller said The involvement of Presidentelect Trump's team has been absolutely critical in getting this deal over the line," Miller told reporters. "And it's been critical because obviously, as I stand today, this administration's term in office will expire in five days."

Israeli President Isaac Herzog offered his gratitude to both the incoming and outgoing U.S.

Nancy Okail, head of the U.S.based Center for International Policy, said acceptance of the deal in the face of Trump's insistence that a ceasefire be in place when he takes office ironically shows how effective actual pressure can be in changing Israeli government

The Biden administration's open embrace of the Trump team's involvement in the talks was rooted in far more than the president-elect's influence with Netanyahu and his threats to get a deal done before he's back in the White House, three current U.S. officials said.

The officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity to offer candid details, said their interest in having Witkoff participate in the talks alongside Biden's Mideast pointman, Brett McGurk, was primarily designed to ensure that an agreement - which will require a lengthy American commitment - would have continued U.S. support after Biden leaves

latest round of talks alongside McGurk, these U.S. officials have downplayed Trump's relevance to the process, apart from the importance of ensuring his support for a deal painstakingly negotiated over the past year. They also want

backing for a plan pushed by the Biden administration for the governance, reconstruction and security of Gaza that will take many months - and significant U.S. backing - to succeed.

One fear about not including Trump officials in the negotiations was that the post-conflict plan for Gaza that has been worked out over the past year might be abandoned by the new administration. It calls for an international presence in Gaza to help the Palestinian Authority with governance and reconstruction as well as a temporary foreign security presence to address Israeli security concerns.

Implementation of the agreement could begin Sunday, when the first group of hostages may be freed, accord-Yet, since Witkoff entered the ing to a senior U.S. official involved in the talks.

Negotiations intensified over the past four days, according to the official, who was not authorized to comment publicly and spoke on the condition of anonymity.

The official described McGurk and Witkoff's coordination as a "fruitful partnership" in which the two closely coordinated as they pressed parties to come to terms. At at critical point last week, Witkoff left talks in Doha for Israel to meet with Netanyahu. That allowed McGurk to remain in Doha and continue to work with Qatari negotiators who were chief interlocutors with Hamas

The U.S., Qatari and Egyptian negotiators, along with Israel's team nearby, worked until the wee hours of Wednesday morning, just a floor above where the Hamas negotiators were holed up, the official said. Later Wednesday, Hamas made several last-second demands, but "we held very firm," and the group eventually agreed to the terms of the deal, the official

#### YouTube fraud theories fuel impeached S Korean Prez

**Seoul (PTI):** Thousands have braved the frigid January weather in Seoul protests, waving South Korean and American flags and shouting vows to protect their embattled conservative hero, the impeached South Korean president facing imprisonment over potential rebellion

The swelling crowds in South Korea's capital are inspired by President Yoon Suk Yeol's defiance, but also by the growing power of right-wing YouTubers who portray Yoon as a victim of a leftist, North Korea-sympathiz-ing opposition that has rigged elections to gain a legislative majority and is now plotting to remove a patriotic leader.

Out with fraudulent elections and a fake National Assembly!' read one sign, brandished by an angry man in a fur hat during a recent protest near Yoon's presidential residence, the site of a massive law enforcement opera-tion Wednesday that made Yoon the country's first sitting president to be detained in a criminal inves-

Many at the pro-Yoon rallies, which are separated by police from anti-Yoon counter-protests, are significantly influenced by first the state of the tional narratives about election fraud that dominate conservative YouTube channels — claims that Yoon has repeatedly referenced in his attacks on election officials A placard hanging from an over-pass read: "Martial law was declared to investigate election fraud; lawmakers impeached (Yoon) to stop it." There were also "Stop the Steal" signs, a slogan associated with the US Capitol attack by a mob of Donald Trump supporters on Jan 6, 2021, who were angry over false claims that Joe Biden had stolen

There have long been worries about Yoon's close ties with rightwing YouTube personalities, some of whom were invited to his inauguration ceremony. One has even boasted that Yoon listens to his show "even while sleeping". Those worries, however, have been heightened since Yoon's shocking martial law declaration on Dec 3, which led to the dispatch of hundreds of troops to encircle the legislature and the country's election commission and which dredged up memories of military-backed dictatorships

that ended in the 1980s.

the election.

## New US NSA signals continuation of Biden policies, calls India key partner

**PTI** WASHINGTON

Incoming national security advisor Mike Waltz has indicated that the Trump administration will continue with several elements of Joe Biden's policies, particularly on China and India, which he described as a critical partner for the US in the future.

Waltz would take charge as National Security Advisor to Donald Trump when he is sworn in as the 47th president of the United States on January

Making an appearance at the US Institute of Peace (USIP), Waltz identified China as the "greatest adversary" of the United States and India as a critical partner of the US in the future.

"The President-elect furnly The President-elect firmly believes we can avoid conflict with the Chinese Communist Party because they need our markets. We are going to use the leverage in a way that's in line that we have that's in line with our national security while we

still can," Waltz said at the panel discussion with the out-

going NSA Jake Sullivan. Waltz was quick to point out to the moderator Stephen J Hadley, former national security advisor, that he was also the Republican chair of the US-India Caucus, in the last Congress.

Sullivan, who was in India last week, told the audience that Waltz is very popular in India. "I was just in India last week. They love you there as a cochair of the India Caucus. They love the India Caucus, so they're excited to have you come on board. I told them I could be the chair of the India Spouses

Caucus in Congress going forward. They were a little less than that, but we'll do our best," Sullivan said jokingly. AUKUS and the Quad are areas that have continued from one administration to another, Waltz said. Aukus is a trilateral security partnership between Australia, the United Kingdom, and the

United States intended to pro-

mote a free and open Indo-

The Quad is a multilateral framework comprising India, Australia, Japan, and the US, with a shared commitment to upholding a free, open, and inclusive Indo-Pacific, amidst China's aggressive behaviour in the strategically vital South China Sea. Waltz also stressed that the incoming administration would make sure that the USD 20 billion backlog of US weapons for Taiwan would be delivered "as a deterrent mea-

'Then thirdly, to really continue to reinforce those partnerships and those alliances where I certainly give this administration some credit is the trilateral dialogue between South Korea the United States and Japan, and then also between the United States, Japan, and the Philippines, really helping those countries and those governments overcome historic ani mosities with a shared vision of a free and open Indo-Pacific," he

## Standoff in South Africa ends with 87 miners dead

**PTI** STILFONTEIN

The death toll in a months-long standoff between police and miners trapped while working illegally in an abandoned gold mine in South Africa has risen to at least 87, police said Thursday.

Authorities faced growing anger and a possible investigation over their initial refusal to help the miners and instead "smoke them out" by cutting off their food supplies.

National police spokesperson Athlenda Mathe said that 78 bodies were retrieved in a courtordered rescue operation, with 246 survivors also pulled out from deep underground since the operation began on Monday. Mathe said nine other bodies had been recovered before the rescue operation, without giving details.

Community groups launched their own rescue attempts when authorities said last year they

would not help the hundreds of miners because they were "crim-

The miners are suspected to have died of starvation and dehydration, although no causes of death have been released. South African authorities have been fiercely criticised for cut-ting off food and supplies to the miners in the Buffelsfontein Gold Mine last year. That tactic to "smoke them out," as described by a prominent Cabinet minister, was condemned by one of South Africa's

biggest trade unions. Police and the mine owners were also accused of taking away ropes and dismantling a pulley system the miners used to enter the mine and send supplies down from the surface.

A court ordered authorities last year to allow food and water to be sent down to the miners, while another court ruling last week forced them to launch a rescue operation.

Many say the unfolding disaster underground was clear weeks ago, when community members sporadically pulled decomposing bodies out of the mine, some with notes attached pleading for food to be sent down.

"If the police had acted earlier, we would not be in this situation, with bodies piling up," said Johannes Qankase, a local community leader. "It is a disgrace for a constitutional democracy like ours. Somebody needs to account for what has happened

South Africa's second biggest political party, which is part of government coalition, called for President Cyril Ramaphosa to establish an independent inquiry to find out "why the situation was allowed to get so badly out of hand.

"The scale of the disaster underground at Buffelsfontein is rapidly proving to be as bad as feared," the Democratic Alliance

town of Stilfontein, southwest of Johannesburg, since August last year. Many of them resurfaced on their own over the last few months, police said, and all the survivors have been arrested, even as some emerged this week badly emaciated and barely able to walk to waiting ambulances. A convoy of mortuary vans arrived at the mine to carry away the bodies Mathe said at least 13 children

Authorities now believe that

nearly 2,000 miners were work-

ing illegally in the mine near the

had also come out of the mine before the official rescue oper-Police announced Wednesday

that they were ending that operation after three days and said they believed no one else was underground

A camera was sent down on Thursday in a cage that was used to pull out survivors and bodies to ensure no one was left behind,

'Many Americans doubt Trump

## Jeff Bezos' Blue Origin launches massive New Glenn rocket on first test flight

Cape Canaveral (PTI): Blue Origin launched its massive new rocket on its first test flight Thursday, sending up a proto-type satellite to orbit thousands of miles above Earth. Named after the first American to orbit Earth, the New Glenn rocket blasted off from Florida, soaring from the same pad used to launch NASA's Mariner and Pioneer spacecraft a half-centu-

Years in the making with heavy funding by Amazon founder Jeff Bezos, the 98-metre rocket carried an an experimental platform designed to host satellites or release them into their proper orbits. All seven main engines fired at liftoff as the rocket blazed through the predawn sky, drawing cheers from spectators lining the nearby beaches. Company employees erupted in shouts and frenzied applause once the craft successfully orbit



Canaveral Space Force Station, Thursdayin Cape Canaveral

13 minutes later, a feat that drew quick praise from SpaceX's Elon Musk.

Bezos — taking part in the launch from Mission Control – declined to disclose his personal investment in the program. He said he does not see Blue Origin in a competition with Elon Musk's SpaceX, long the rocketlaunching dominator. He stood much of the time at his seat in Mission Control, looking anxious and happy at the same time. "Congratulations on reaching orbit on the first attempt!" Musk

said via X. For this test, the satellite was expected to remain inside the second stage while circling Earth. The mission was expected to last six hours, with the second stage then placed in a safe condition to stay in a high, out-of-the-way orbit in accordance with NASA's practices for minimising space

#### Sunita steps out on Spacewalk after 7 months in orbit

Cape Canaveral (PTI): One of NASA's two stuck astronauts got a much welcomed change of scenery Thursday, stepping out on her first spacewalk since arriving at the International Space Station more than seven

months ago. Indian-orĩgin Sunita Williams, the station's commander, had to tackle some overdue outdoor repair work alongside NASA's Nick Hague. Plans called for Williams to float back out next

week with Butch Wilmore. Williams and Wilmore launched aboard Boeing's new Starliner capsule last June on what should have been a weeklong test flight. But Starliner trouble dragged out their return, and NASA ordered the capsule to come back empty. Then SpaceX delayed the launch of their replacements, meaning the two won't be home until late March or early April — ten months after launching.

# can lower prices in first year' about everyday expenses

helped return President-elect Donald Trump to the White House. But with his second term quickly approaching, many US adults are sceptical about his ability to bring down Only about 2 in 10 Americans

are "extremely" or "very" con-

fident that Trump will be able to make progress on lowering the cost of groceries, housing or health care this year, according to a survey from The Associated Press-NORC Centre for Public Affairs Research, while about 2 in 10 are "moderately" confident. Faith in Trump's ability to create jobs is a little higher about 3 in 10 are extremely or very confident the Republican will make progress on this in 2025 — but the poll indicates that despite his sweeping promises about lowering prices, a substantial chunk of

high confidence in his ability to quickly alleviate the economic pressures that continue to frustrate many households. Those tempered expectations haven't dampened Republicans' hopes for Trump's second presidential term,

though. Ând Democrats' pessimism about his return to office is more muted than it was when he exited the White House in 2020. About 8 in 10 Republicans say Trump will be a "great" or "good" president in his second term, according to the poll.

And while Democrats' assessments are much more negative – about 8 in 10 say he will be a "poor" or "terrible" president they are less likely to say he'll be a "terrible" president in his second term than they were at the end of his first. Much of the 2024 presidential campaign revolved around prices — whether President Joe

blame for inflation and whether Trump could fix it. AP VoteCast, an extensive survey of voters and nonvoters that aims to tell the story behind election results, showed that about 4 in 10 voters in the November election identified the economy and jobs as the most important issue facing the country and that about 6 in 10 of those voters cast their

ballot for Trump. As Trump takes office, though, the poll shows that many Americans don't anticipate that he will be able to immediately bring costs down. That includes some of his own supporters. Less than half of Republicans are at least "very" confident that Trump will make progress on lowering food costs, housing costs or health care costs, although about 6 in 10 are at least "very" confident in his ability to create jobs

# Oligarchy taking shape in America, warns Biden in his farewell address

**PTI** ■ WASHINGTON

Outgoing President Joe Biden has warned of a rising ultra-wealthy "oligarchy" in America that poses a threat to the nation's democracy, as he prepared to cede power to President-elect Donald Trump. In his farewell address to the nation, Biden also pushed for amending the Constitution to make clear that no president is immune from criminal liability — an apparent reference to

Trump, 78.
In July, the Supreme Court ruled that presidents cannot be prosecuted for "official acts" during their time in office. The court's ruling stemmed from the Justice Department's case against Trump over his efforts to overturn the 2020 election. Biden, 82, on January 20 will hand over the power to Donald Trump who won the presidential elections by defeating Vice

President Kamala Harris in both popular votes and the electoral college.

Biden said that he wanted to warn the country of dangers that are concerning him.

"That's a dangerous concentration of power in the hands of a very few ultra-wealthy people," he said.

There are dangerous consequences if their abuse of power is left unchecked. "Today, an oligarchy is taking shape in America of extreme wealth, power, and influence that literally threatens our entire democracy, our basic rights and freedoms, and a fair shot for everyone to get ahead," Biden said.

Biden's warning came as billionaire tech entrepreneurs have exerted increasing influence in US politics including Elon Musk, who is set to play a key role in Trump's second



President Joe Biden hugs Vice President Kamala Harris after giving his farewell address from the Oval Office of the White House Wednesday,in Washington. AP/PTI

"We see the consequences all across America, and we've seen it before," said the president seated behind the resolute desk in the Oval Office.

First Lady Jill Biden, Vice President Kamala Harris, Second Gentlemen Dough Emhoff, President's son Hunter and some of the senior officials in his administration were also present in the room.

Just before speaking, Biden waved to a grandchild and Jill Biden told him "you look great, Joe."

Singling out social media companies, President Biden warned of the potential rise of a "tech industrial complex," comparing it to the "military industrial complex" that President Dwight D Eisenhower warned about in his 1961 farewell address.

"I'm equally concerned about the potential rise of a tech industrial complex that could our very democracy from the

pose real dangers for our country as well," Biden said in the 17-minute speech

"Americans are being buried under an avalanche of misinformation and disinformation, enabling the abuse of power, he said, referencing Mark Zuckerberg's recent announcement his company Meta would stop fact-checking on its social media platforms such as Facebook

The free press is crumbling. Editors are disappearing. Social media is giving up on fact-checking," Biden said.

The truth is smothered by lies, told for power and for profit. We must hold the social platforms accountable to protect our children, our families and our very democracy from the abuse of power," Biden said. We must hold the social platforms accountable to protect

abuse of power," said the pres-

Noting that unless safeguards are in place, Artificial Intelligence (AI) could spawn new threats to human rights, way of life, privacy, how they work and how to protect the nation.

As the land of liberty, America, not China, must lead the world in the development of AI, he

Biden listed out some of the key achievements of his administration in the last four

You know, it will take time to feel the full impact of all we've done together, but the seeds are planted," he said.

Biden said powerful forces want to wield their unchecked influence to eliminate the steps his administration has taken. "We must not be bullied into sacrificing the future, the future of our children and our pushing forward and push faster. There's no time to waste," he said. In his remarks, Biden also talks about the works and

grandchildren. We must keep

reforms that need to be done in the months and years ahead. 'In the years ahead it's going to be up to the president, the presidency, the Congress, the courts, the free press and the American people to confront these powerful forces. We must reform the tax code. Not the need to get dark money, that's that hidden funding behind too many campaign contributions," he said. 'We need to get it out of our

politics. We need to enact an 18-year time limit, term limit, time and term for the strongest ethics reforms for our Supreme Court. We need to ban members of Congress from trading stock while they are in Congress," he said.

# Starmer in Kyiv pledges '100-year partnership' with Ukraine

Britain says its 100-year pledge is part of that assurance and will

help ensure Ukraine is "never

favour of Vishnu Kumar Sharma, thereafte endorsed in favour of Sunita Bhatia and furthe

All person/s having any claim against or in respect o the said Property, or any part thereof, by way o

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 10 days from the date hereof, failing which the claim or claims, if any, of such person or persons will be considered to have

een waived and/or abandoned. **Kamal Kant Gupta (Advocate)** Unit No. FF-2, First floor, Mahaluxmi Metro Tower Sec-4, Vaishali, Gzb., U.P., Mob. 9810063351

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform you that Mrs. Tabassum Jaha intend to purchase the third floor, left side (from

Inits to mindry you that wis, Ladassuith Jack intend to purchase the third floor, left side (fron portion), with roof rights, of the property bearing no D-68, measuring 50 sq. yards, out of Rect. No. 27 Killa No. 2, situated in the area of Village Govin Pura, Khureji Khas, Shandara, Delhi. The said floo will be purchased from Sunish Gupta and Mr. Pawa Narang. The entire property was original purchased by Mr. Khilanda Ram from Mr. Aflatool through a Sale Deed dated 30.04.198 Subsequently, Mr. Khilanda Ram executed a Genera Power of Attorney (GPA), Agreement to Sell (ATS) and a Will, all dated 10.02.2004, in favor of Mr. Di Gupta. Later, Mr. C.P. Gupta executed a Gift Dee dated 10.10.2013, for an area measuring 100 sc yards, in favor of Mrs. Sanish Gupta. After Mr. D.I Gupta passed away, his legal heirs namely Mrs. Amita Mittal, Mrs. Anu Mittal, Mrs. Aunisha Gupta Mr. Sudhir Gupta, Mrs. Aun Wittal, Mrs. Aunisha Gupta Amita Mittal, Mrs. Anu Mittal, Mrs. Aunisha Gupta executed a Relinquishment Deed dated 26.03.2019 or an area measuring 100 sc yards in favor of 4 for an area measuring 100 sc yards in favor of 6 for an area measuring 100 sc yards in favor of 6 for an area measuring 100 sc yards in favor of 6 for an area measuring 100 sc yards in favor of 6 for an area measuring 100 sc yards in favor of 6 for an area measuring 100 sc yards in favor of 6 for an area measuring 100 sc yards in favor of 6 for an area measuring 100 sc yards in favor of 6 for an area measuring 100 sc yards in favor of 6 for an area measuring 100 sc yards in favor of 6 for an area measuring 100 sc yards in favor of 6 for an area measuring 100 sc yards in favor of 6 for an area measuring 100 sc yards in favor of 6 for an area measuring 100 sc yards in favor of 6 for an area measuring 100 sc yards in favor of 6 for an area measuring 100 sc yards in favor of 6 for an area measuring 100 sc yards in favor of 6 for an area measuring 100 sc yards in favor of 6 for an area measuring 100 sc yards in favor of 6 for an area measuring 100 sc yards in fa

executed a Relinquishment Deed dated 26.03.2019, for an area measuring 100 sq. yards, in favor of (1) Mr. Sudhir Gupta and (2) Mr. Sunish Gupta. Subsequently, Mr. Sudhir Gupta sold 1/2 share of the entire property through a Sale Deed dated 03.02.2023 in favor of Mr. Pawan Narang. This same property is being financed by RBL Ball Limited, located at AF 19, 20, 21 FF, Aditya Mall, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad, U.P. 201012. If any

ays from the date of the Notice in writing. The sai

objection may be kindly sent to the undersigned by way of the Registered Post on the address given below and by E-mail. falling which, the claim as per aforesaid shall be treated as null and void in respect of the cubical percepts.

of the subject property.

ASHWANI KUMAR (ADVOCATE)

2025. E-Tenders are invited by

the undersigned for the following

works: Tender No. 04 2025. Name

of work: Internal Cleaning of

Radiators of Power Car by using

OG & ID27/Radiwash at Katihar

& New Jalpaiguri Depot. Tender

Value: ₹40,71,000/-. Earnest

Money: ₹81,500/-. Date & Time

of Closing of Tender: 15.00

hrs. of 31-01-2025 & opening

at 15.30 hrs. of 31-01-2025

The complete information with

e-tender will be available upto

15.00 hrs. of 31-01-2025 in website

Sr. DEE/G&Chg/Katiha

Petitioner(s)/Appellant(

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

**CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION** 

**CIVIL. APPEAL No. 4927 OF 2023** 

VERSUS

TDT COPPER LIMITED AND OTHERS

THROUGH AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE R[1

REGISTERED OFFICE AT NO. 512-512A, TOLSTO

CONNAUGHT PLACE DISTRICT-NEW/ DELH

DELHI-110001 (PROCESS ID:292075/2024

WHEREAS the appeal above-mentioned filed

in the Registry by Mr. SOUMYA DUTTA

Advocate, on behalf of the Appellant above

named was listed for hearing before this Court on the 04th August, 2023, when the Court was

pleased to pass the following Order

2 Issue notice, returnable in four weeks

4 List the Civil Appeal on 4 September

AND WHEREAS, the matter above-mention

was again listed before Hon'ble Court or

18th November, 2024, When the followin

"1. Learned counsel for the appellan

seeks and is granted permission to effect

service upon respondent nos.R-1 and R

2. Learned counsel for the appellant sha

3. List after affidavit of proof o

NOW, THEREFORE, TAKE NOTICE that the Civi

Appeal above-mentioned will be posted fo

hearing before this Court in due course whe

you may appear before the Court either i

person or through an Advocate-on-record o

this Court duly appointed by you and shov

cause to the Court on the day that may

subsequently be specified as to why the appear

You may file your affidavit in opposition to th

petition forthwith but shall do so only by

setting out the grounds in opposition to th

questions of law or grounds set out in the

Appeal and may produce such pleadings and

documents filed before the Tribunal agains

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that if you fail to ente

appearance as aforesaid, no further notice

shall be given to you and the matter above

mentioned shall be disposed of in you

whose order the appeal is filed.

3 Dasti, in addition, is permitted.

www.ireps.gov.in

ATISH CHANDRA MEHTA

TOT COPPER LIMITED

(C.A. NO.4927/2023/XVII)

"1 Delay condoned.

5 by publication.

take appropriate steps.

publication is filed."

nent Deed dated 26.03.20

 $B^{\text{ritish Prime Minister Keir}}_{\text{Starmer arrived in}}$ Ukraine's capital on Thursday with a pledge to help guarantee the country's security for a century, days before Donald Trump is sworn in as US president.

The British government said Starmer and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy will sign a "100-Year Partnership" treaty in Kyiv covering areas including defence, science, energy and

Starmer's unannounced visit is his first trip to Ukraine since he took office in July.

He visited the country in 2023 when he was opposition leader, and has twice held talks with Zelenskyy in London since becoming prime minister. The war will be three vears old next month.

The Italian defense chief was also in Kyiv on Thursday, two days after Germany's defence minister visited and three days after Zelenskyy talked by phone with French President Emmanuel Macron. The flurry of diplomatic activ-

ity came in the run-up to Trump's inauguration next

Pakistan's jailed former prime minister Imran

Khan has said he is not Nawaz

Sharif that he would strike a

deal with the military estab-

lishment to come out of

Sharif, the three-time former

prime minister, left Pakistan in

self-imposed exile twice in

past — first after striking a

deal with then military ruler

Gen Pervez Musharraf in early

2000, and with then Army

chief General Qamar Javed

"I want to make it clear that no

matter what tactics are used, I

will not make any deal. I am

not Nawaz Sharif who seeks to

get his billions made through

corruption forgiven. I have

lived in and will die in

Pakistan... I will always stand

for my nation," Khan said in a

Khan's remarks came amid

the ongoing talks between his

Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI)

party and the military-backed Shehbaz Sharif government,

wherein it is speculated that he

wake of success of the talks.

brother of Nawaz Sharif.

Shehbaz Sharif is the younger

Lambasting the military estab

lishment and the government

for the "inhuman" treatment

of his incarcerated party work-

ers, Khan said he would take

the matter to international

"Political prisoners in Pakistan

are being treated inhumanely.

Our workers in military cus-

tody have been subjected to

severe mental and physical

torture. I, too, have been sub-

jected to extremely poor treat-

fora.

post on X on Wednesday.

Bajwa in 2019.

deal with military

Monday, which is expected to bring a departure from the outgoing US administration's pledge to stand with Ukraine for as long as it takes to defeat Russia. Trump has also indicated he wants Europe to shoulder more of the burden for helping Ukraine.

Starmer arrived at Kyiv railway station on a gray and frosty morning. "We're a long way into this conflict," Starmer said. "We mustn't let up." During the visit, Starmer and

Zelenskyy laid flowers at a wall of remembrance for those killed in the war. The wall outside St. Michael's Golden-Domed Monastery, a Kyiv landmark, is covered in photos of the slain, stretching for a city block. It has become a place of pilgrimage for families paying tribute to their lost loved ones. Starmer also visited a Kyiv hospital specialising in burn treatment.

While Starmer was later meeting with Zelenskyy at the presidential palace, a car and a building were damaged elsewhere in Kyiv by debris from Russian drones shot down by Ukraine's air defences, according to city adminstration chief Tymur Tkachenko.

The UK, one of Ukraine's

ment. Several workers, includ-

ing Sami Wazir, have faced

"We demand that human

rights organisations take action against these violations

of law and human rights. We

have filed petitions in the

Supreme Court, Lahore High

Court, and Islamabad High

Court, but have not been granted a hearing," Khan claimed, adding that PTI now

has no option but to raise voices on international platforms.

"I will write to global human

try's economy is at its worst.

Foreign investment is at a his-

toric low. The SIFC and Uraan

programmes have failed mis-

erably. Unemployment is ris-

ing due to stagnant growth

Khan added that brilliant

rapidly leaving the country

because no one trusts the

nations' stability anymore.

Pakistani companies are mov-

ing their businesses to Dubai.

The PTI chief also said that no

economic stability can ever be

achieved in a country where

"Pakistan is buried under an

There is no solution to this

problem except for a govern-

ment that enjoys public con-

Khan has been in jail since

August 2023 in multiple cases.

rule of law does not exist.

economic crisis.

fidence," he said.

rates.

brutal torture.

**Imran says he's no Nawaz** 

Sharif, vows not to strike

biggest military backers, has pledged 12.8 billion pounds (USD 16 billion) in military and civilian aid since Russia's full-scale invasion three years ago, and has trained more than 50.000 Ukrainian troops on British soil.

Starmer is to announce another 40 million pounds (USD 49 million) for Ukraine's postwar economic recovery.
But the UK's role is dwarfed by

that of the United States, and there is deep uncertainty over the fate of American support for Ukraine once Trump takes office on January 20.

The president-elect has balked at the cost of US aid to Kyiv, says he wants to bring the war to a swift end and is planning to meet Russian President Vladimir Putin, for whom he has long expressed admiration. Kyiv's allies have rushed to flood Ukraine with as much support as possible before Trump's inauguration, with the aim of putting Ukraine in the strongest position possible for any future negotiations to end the war. Zelenskyy has said that in any peace negotiation, Ukraine would need assurances about its future protection from its much bigger neighbour.

# Pak soldier

Peshawar (PTI): One soldier

ants also burnt some of the vehicles carrying the relief material to Parachinar in the Bagan Bazar area of the strife-torn district in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

rights organisations to ensure that these innocent citizens are Shia and Sunni tribes have heard. I also urge overseas claimed at least 130 lives Pakistanis to raise their voicsince November, with food es in this regard. In the process and medicine shortages of crushing PTI, the entire system has been violated," he reported due to weeks-long road blockades in the region. Talking on Pakistan's economic woes, Khan said, "The coun-

remained blocked.

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the general public that I Sandeep Talwar Son of Late Sh. Baldev Raj Talwar permanent resident of 2852, New Housing Board, Sector 13, Bhiwadi, Haryana is absolute owner and undisputed possession of property pearing No. 5, road No. 26, Punjabi Bagh Delhi 26 having acquired the same from my late mother Smt. Pushpa, who prior to erself had purchased the same from its orevious owner namely C S Ahluwalia and Jagjit Kaur in late 90s. The said property is ying in unattended condition from some time with my vehicle and some articles parked in it from last few years.

(Order 41, Rule14) In The Court of: IIIrd Additional

Dalchand Sharma S/o Sh. Ramp harma (Deceased), 1/1 Smt. Shant N/o Late Sh. Dalchand Sharma, 1/2 Mamchand S/o Late Sh. Dalchand Sharma,**1/3** Rajesh S/o Late Sh. Dalchand Sharma, **2.** Horam Sharma 5/o Sh. Ramphal Sharma, **3.** Jai Kishar o Sh. Ramphal Sharma All Residence f Village- Gulawali, Pargana - Dankaur.

٧s Sanjay Saxena S/o Sh. Haridash Saxena R/o 13A. Lajpat Nagar, New Delhi, 2. Pooja Jhavar D/o Sh. Vinay ishan Jhavar, 3. Vidha Jhavar D/o Sh Radha Kishan Jhavar, 4. Aarti Jhava o Sh. Dev Kishan Jhavar All R/o 118

ecree of Sale Deed Canceliation the case has been present by Civil Judge Senior Dievion) Gautam Budh Nagar Case No. 196 of 1992 Dalchand Sharma Vs Sanjay Saxena & others bassed order dated 29.11.2016 and gitered in the court and that the 30-**01-2025** has been fixed by this court fo

If not appearance is made on you ehalf by yourself, your pleader o ome one by the law authorized to act

**IIIrd Additional District Judge** 

Azov — and on technology proagain vulnerable to the kind of brutality inflicted on it by Russia", which seized Crimea jects including drones, which have become vital weapons for from Ukraine in 2014 and attempted a full-scale invasion both sides in the war. The treaty also includes a sysin February 2022. tem to help track stolen The deal commits the two sides Ukrainian grain exported by to cooperate on defense — Russia from occupied parts of

PUBLIC NOTICE Notice is hereby given that my client Gurpreet Singh is in process to purchase the Property bearing No. 256, area measuring 250 sq. mtrs, in Block B, situated in the residential colony known as "Sushant Lok I", in and around villages Sarhaul, Chakarpur, Salokhra, Kanhai and Wazirabad, District Gurugram, Haryana (availing loan from Kotak Bank) from Jyoti Sachdeva, having acquired the said property vide Conveyance Deed dated 9/11/2004 (Document No. 83) executed by M/s Ansal Properties & Industries Limited. He confirmed that his seller i.e. Jyoti Sachdeva is not having the below documents pertaining to the property in question for that online FIR has already been lodged on dated 14/01/2025 vide application no. 2492561/2025 Original Plot Buyer's Agreement dated 15.07.1886 executed by M/s Ansal Properties & Industries Pvt. Ltd. in favour of Lokesh Bansal (duly endorsed in favour of Vishnu Kumar Sharma, thereafter Known to all that my client Sh. Sonu owner of the THIRD FLOOR WITH ROOF RIGHTS PROPERTY BEARING NO. 122-A, AREA 107 SO. 105. KHASRA NO.169, IN BLOCK D-IJ.VILLAGE ASALATPUR KHADAR, JEEWAN PARK, UTTAM NAGAR, REW DELHH-110059 and. Sh. Sonu purchase property from Smt. Neelam Mader and vide Notarized GPA, ATS and will dated 28.10. 2020 Now 1 Sh. Sonu wants to sell aforesaid property, And it is informed that any deal with said documents by any person except my said client and said institution regarding said property, shall be deemed as null and void. If any person having any claim, right in said property, then he may contact and handower the same and apprise his claim to undersigned within 15 days of this publication. PUBLIC NOTICE

especially maritime security

against Russian activity in the

Baltic Sea, Black Sea and Sea of

GRADIENT VERIFICATION OF STATIONS YARD IN **KATIHAR DIVISION** 

ender Notice No. : KIR/Engg./02 of 2025: Dated: 09-01-2025: E-Tender are work: Tender No. 1; Brief Description stations yard and section using Lidar Survey technology in Katihar Division Tender Value: ₹ 2.18.61.953.30/-: Bid Security: ₹2,59,300/-; Date & time of closing of tender at 15:00 hrs. and or complete information with the tende available upto 15:00 hrs. on 05-02-2025

DRM (W), Katiha NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

It is to inform to the public at large Mrs. Sarala had acquired Residential Plot area measuring 175 sq. yrds., Khasra No. 537/2Mi, situated at Deepak Vihar Khora Colony, Pargana Loni, Tehsil & Distt. Ghaziabad, U.P vide Sale Deed Dt. 24.01.2023 executed by Mrs. Shashi Bala Sharma, Mrs. Urmila

Any person / firm / institution / company having an claim or right in respect of the said Property by wa crain or hight in respect of the same Property by war of inheritance, share, sale, agreement, lease, license gift, possession, legal heirs, partners or encumbrance howsoever or otherwise is hereb required to intimate in writing to the undersigne within O7 days from the date of publication of this parties of the post their charges and the control of the post their charges and the properties of the post their charges are the properties of the properti notice of his/her/their share or claim, if any, with a upporting documents at below mentioned address After expiration of notice period, the claims, if any, on such person shall be treated null and void and alstreated as waived and not binding on our client. Ajay Kumar Giri (Advocate) H. No. 26/161, Basement Vikram Vihar, Lajpat Nagar 4, New Delhi-110024

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

the country. "Putin's ambition to wrench Ukraine away from its

closest partners has been a

monumental strategic failure.

Instead, we are closer than ever,

and this partnership will take

that friendship to the next

level," Starmer said ahead of the

visit. "This is not just about the

here and now, it is also about an

investment in our two countries

evered all relations with their son Sanja lisowned them from their all moveable & esponsible for their-any civil and criminal acts

days from the date of publication of this notice ailing which any claim, lien or objection shall be eemed to have been waived. **Adv. Vishal Mehan**, -713, Karkardooma Court, Delhi-110092; Mobile:

LOST AND FOUND

for the next century, bringing

together technology develop-

ment, scientific advances and

cultural exchanges, and har-

nessing the phenomenal inno-

vation shown by Ukraine in

recent years for generations to

Zelenskyy said he and Starmer

also would discuss a plan pro-

posed by France's Macron that

come.

I. Anil Kumar S/o Ishwar Singh R/o Flat no 948, 2nd Floor, Akshardham apartment, Dwarka declare that my builder buyer agreement has been lost in Sector 21, Dwarka dated on 13-12-2024. LR no is 2498279/ 2025. If any person finds, please return at above

could see troops from France and other Western countries stationed in Ukraine to oversee a ceasefire agreement. Zelenskyy has said any such proposal should go alongside a timeline for Ukraine to join NATO. The alliance's 32 member countries say that Ukraine will join one day, but not until

PUBLIC NOTICE Known to all that my client Smt.Poonan Kumari owner of the UPPER GROUND FLOOI BEARING PVT. NO-002, BACK SIDE WITHOU ROOF PROPERTY NO-H-1/41A, AREA 50 52 VARDS KHASRA NO-79/25/2, WITH ONE SCO OTER PARKING VILLAGE PALAM MAHAVII ENCLAVE PALAM, NEW DELHI & Smt. Poona

NOTICE is here by Given to public at large Plot area measuring 100 sq. yards., i.e 83.61 sq. meters., out of Khasra no. 2657M Chauhan who is the owner of above said property is by Khatoni year 1424-1429 issued by Patwari & Sale Deed dated 21.12.2020 and intend to get a financial Assistance from Aditya Birla housing Finance Ltd. If any person/Institute have any objection or claim with respect to the right tittle or interest in the said propert

Aditya Birla Housing finance

**New Okhla Industrial Development Authority** 

#### **E-TENDER NOTICE**

E-Tenders are invited from eligible contractors/firms for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded and same shall be opened / downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on Noida Authority's official website: www.noidaauthorityonline.in & https://etender.up.nic.in. Please ensure to see these website

Sr. No.	Job Number	Name of Work	Amount (Rs.)	Publishing		
	21/GM/PE(PH-I)/ E- T/2024-25	Construction of Dog Shelter in Sec-50 & 34, Noida	Tender Amount Rs. 51,99,561.87 EMD Rs. 1,30,000/- Tender Fee Rs. 2832/-	2 <sup>nd</sup> Time		
-	The above tenders can be uploaded From dated 17.01.2025 to 23.01.2025 upto 5.00 PM. The					

Pre-Qualification shall be opened/downloaded on dated 24.01.2025 at 11.00 AM. General Manager

(Public Health) Noida

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35.728.14

65.539.05

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5,77,773.85 1,20,729.85

5,84,736.21 7,15,806.86

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PATEL NAGAR

TILAK NAGAR, NEW DELHI

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#### **CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA**

SANGEETA KOMAL

PRABHAAV VATS

SACHIN KAPANIA

NIDHI THAKUR

MANISH KUMAR

DEEPANSHU SINGH

95 KISHOR KUMAR SHARMA

MOHD SAFIQ

96 MUKESH KUMRA

SHAFID ALI

#### S CSB Bank Public Notice on Auction of INTERNAL CLEANING OF RADIATORS OF POWER CAR PLEDGED GOLD ORNAMENTS E-Tender Notice No. EL/29 /04\_2025/K/1144 Dated: 08-01-

The borrower/s in specific and interested bidders, in general, are hereby informed that on account of non-repayment of the Banks due by the borrowers as under despite the payment notice and or non-repayment or the ball is used by the Bank, the gold ornaments pledged with the bank security the respective borrowers for the loan availed by them will be sold in public auction on "as is where is" and "non-recourse" basis through e-auction portal https://csbegold.auctiontiger.net on 28" January 2025 at 10.30 AM. The auction may be adjourned to any other later date at the discreation of the bank upon publication of the same in the Bank's notice board. The borrowers are hereby further inform that the gold ornaments will be disposed of by private sale if the public auction is not successful and if there is a further balance to be recovered thereafter, legal action will be initiated against the borrower/s for recovery of the balance amounts due to the bank. In case of diseased borrower, all conditions will be applicable to legal heirs. Client No.of Bal. Outstanding as on 15/04/2025 (grams)

110.		יוו	ζ.	15/01/2025	(3				
GAUTAM NAGAR									
1	BIJU VARGHESE	586516	002	1,40,956.85	30.0				
2	KANHIYA LAL GAUTAM	587252	001	5,11,322.31	104.0				
3	VISHAL GUPTA	3882348	002	16,28,258.84	386.9				
4	SURAJ PRAKASH	3939512	001	80,827.45	19.5				
5	SARIKA SAINI	4070589	002	1,74,659.65	36.7				
6	VIKAS SAINI	4071729	002	1,05,940.14	20.2				
7	VIVEK GUPTA	4093066	001	1,29,021.40	28.0				
8	GULBAHAR KHAN	4777429	001	37,446.03	23.3				
9	OM PRAKASH KASHYAP	7837678	002	2,24,744.10	55.0				
JANAKAPURI									
10	VISHAL MISHRA	4922057	001	2,47,385.30	43.8				
11	SARBATI	4928364	001	1,41,687.51	25.8				

BIKRAM JEET SINGH GILL 4935006 4935016 ROHAN SAIN 45.217.90 001 AJAY KUMAR YADAV 3,05,736.75 VIKRANT 7970948 00 4,90,463.24 5,55,229.90 6,36,296.50 PREETI KUMARI 001 001 NIKITA SHARMA BHAGWATI 8100312 1 38 608 60 19 DUSHYANT TANDON 8102162 002 11,19,780.20 ROHINI SECTOR

SACHIN SINGHAL SUMEET AGARWAL 4334988 001 74.451.17 NAVEEN PANDEY 4344596 1.74.455.75 DEEPSHIKHA 4481349 1,20,274.96 001 4,13,222.31 2,43,848.70 RAGHVENDRA KUMAR SINGH 4510166 SUDESH RANI

4651365 2.16.800.70 8,00,245.00 RAHUI GUPTA 4798136 1.66.736.59 KRISHNA SUNITA AGGARWAL 7079324 002 9.52.259.11 DEEPAK KUKREJA KANTA DEVI SHARMA 8,35,284.48 7,52,917.08 7645677 138.44 002 **7ARFFNA** 7825894 17.72.410.70 378 55 HARCHARAN SINGH DEVENDER KUMAR GUPTA 7871796 5.29.120.20 128 00

3.06.648.03 AKANKSHA 7983547 001 JAI KISHAN RATHI MOHIT KUMAR 8123582 6.07.502.59 SHALIMARBAGH AMIT KUMAF

SUBODH JAIN SUMIT BHATIA

PRIYA KAUR

SHAHJAD AL

KASAR KHAN

MANMEET SINGH

SURENDER KUMAR JAHANGIR KHAN

ARUNA CHAKRABORTY

SANJEEV KUMAR DASS

SAGAR KUMAR NAGARWAL

SHAMA PARVIN

TEJVEER SINGH SISODIA

DHARMBIR

NARGIS

VISHAKHA

RAHUL BANA ARYAN SETHI

**PRIYANKA** 

SARAVJEET SINGH

SUM**I**T KHANNA

MOHIT BANSAL

**GUDIA** 

PREETI

KALPANA SHARMA

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4430627 001 92,004.35 4443926 001 4,17.478 65 .20 ARCHANA RAINA 99 SANJU 100 NEERAJ GOYAL .30 101 PRAVI 103 PRITI GARG RAJOURI GARDEN 8.05 106 INDERJEET SINGH 86.81 99.22 118.27 108 JASBIR KAUR NARANG 109 PRAKASH 25.96 10 BAHADUR PAWAN RAKESH KUMAR ROHAN KUMAR NEELAM MEHTA RANI DEVI 22.10 VALSALA RATISH HARLEEN KAUR 19 RAJDEEP KAUR 20 SHAILJA PUROHI 121 AMIT MARWAH 36.20 122 NAND I AL 216.00

127 FIROJ ALI

133 JAWAHAR LAL 134 RAMA SHIDHU

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137 RAVI 40.14 139 AKHTAR ALI 141 JAYDEEP DIXIT 46.93 94,836.35 143 SUNNY 4907226 001 92.887.39 18.04 144 ASHA KAUR 1,84,144.19 145 PINTOO KUMAR 491872 36,494.64 146 RAZIYA BEGUM 001 001 2,06,375.10 59.86 52,379.25 16.88,751.47 148 PARDEEP KUMAR 7530087 001 372 43 1,44,779.85 2,04,174.68 29.66 50.21 150 AHMAD HUSSAIN 7831050 001 151 IRAM AZIZ 8187848

49 39 KALKAJI 25.38 152 AKASH GUPTA 4627248 002 1,09,720.30 19.50 39.50 MODEL TOWN - NEW DELHI 153 BEENA BEENA 83.387.75 4704754 001 15.60 60,588.72 40,419.94 154 SUMIT 155 ARVIND KUMAR 001 4926250 140.72

8.64 156 SUNIL KUMAR SHARMA 001 3,56,134.35 157 SHIVAM SHARMA AAGRI 4933936 001 1,03,909.15 21.40 158 AAKASH 786067 001 37,965.51 6.66 159 SHEKHAR KUMAR 52.84 7958262 001 2.86.231.20 160 KUNAL DHINGRA 2,28,897.60 8104821 43.00 001 For more details/account wise information borrowers/interested bidders may contact

respective branches and for participating in the auction, please visit/login to the e-auction portal https://csbegold.auctiontiger.net 32.46 NCT OF DELHI I 17.01.2025 Sd/- Authorized Officer, CSB Bank

# **CHANGE OF NAME**

ATHE PIONEER A

#### I, Abhay Raj Singh Rawat S/o

Late Shri Rampal Singh Rawat R/o: D-961, Gali No.6, Nathupura, Delhi-110084. Have Changed my name from Abhay Raj Singh to Abhay Raj Singh Rawat for all future purposes. I, Rahul Jain S/o Dhram

Chand, R/o 224, POCKET B-8,SECTOR-5, VTC: ROHINI, District: North West Delhi, State: Delhi-110085, have changed the name of my minor daughter Buggu Jain aged 3 years and she shall hereafter be known as Raaisha Jain.

## PD(1260)A

I, Raghu Nath Singh F/o-Service No.15786716Y HAV (DMT) Ranjan Kumar, R/o-Vill-Balua, Post-Lagma, Teh-Dumra, Dist- Sitamarhi, Bihar- 843323, have changed my name from Raghu Nath Singh to Raghunath Singh, affidavit 10/09/2024 before Notary Tezpur, Sonitpur, Assam.

I, Sudha Devi M/o- Service No.15786716Y HAV (DMT) Ranjan Kumar, R/o- Vill-Balua, Post- Lagma, Teh-Dumra, Dist- Sitamarhi, Bihar- 843323, have changed my name from Sudha Devi to Sudha Singh, vide affidavit dated 10/09/2024 before Notarv Tezpur, Sonitpur, Assam.

I, Urkavala Perumal, Father of-No.14684796X Perumal U, Melakuttudankadu, Teh & Dist- Tuticorin, Tamilnadu-628103, have changed my name from Urkavala Perumal to P Urkavala Perumal, vide affidavit dated 16/01/2025 before Notary Public Delhi.

PD(1263)C I, Swati Goswami R/o A-14, Nizamuddin East, New Delhi-110013, have changed my minor son's name from Dhawan Vajrapaani Goswami.

I, Saha Devi Nougai mother

PD(1262)C

PD(1264)A

of no. 4103956P Rfn Birender Nougai presently Residing at W-84, Noida Sec-12, PO-Sec-19 Noida Tehsil-Dadri Distt Gautambudh Nagar Uttar Pradesh Pin-201301 have changed my name from Saha Devi to Saha Devi Nougai vide affidavit dated 16-01-2025 before.

PD(1266)C

### killed, 4 injured in rocket attack on aid convoy

was killed and four others were injured when a convoy of 35 vehicles carrying food and medical supplies to Pakistan's Kurram district, hit by sectarian violence, was attacked by rockets on Thursday, officials said.

After the attack, the miscre-

Sectarian clashes between

A peace agreement was reached on January 1, but the route connecting Parachinar

Recently, some anti-social elements forcefully barged into my said property to establish their unlawful possession by emoving my belongings. They also claimed to have been contesting some itigation in Delhi High Court with respect my property. Accordingly, I not only complained against them before the police concerned but also hereby publically declared and notify that the said property is my exclusive estate and any person whosoever does not have any laim whatsoever with it. I also reserve m ight to enquire and contest all or any itigation ongoing, if any, with respect to my said property, any person intending to deal with the said property in any manne

Yogesh Sharma, Advocate Notice to respondent of the day fixed Fo the hearing of the Appeal

District Judge, Gautam Budh Naga Civil Appeal No. 30 Of 2018

ehshil- Shikandrabad, District- Gautar Budh Nagar. ...Appellant

Jaradwai Madrash ...Responden Take notice that an Appeal from the

e hearing of this appeal.

r you in this appeal, it will be hear ind decided in vour absence. Given under my seel of this cour his 10-01-2025.

Gautam Budh Nagar

absence. Dated: 23rd D 23rd December, 2024

ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

VIKAS RAMAN SHARMA NEERJA MEHROTRA

SAPNA ROHTAN SHASHI RANJAN KUMAR

Kaushik, Mr. Nirmal Sharma, Mrs. Seema Kaushi and Mrs. Monika Sharma and Now Mrs. Sarala is th undisputed owner of the said property.

Sharma and Devanti Devi W/o Gonal Sharma R/o B-293 Gola Kuan, Shiv Mandir Tekhand Okhla Phase-I South Delhi. Delhi-20-have Sharma and his wife Uttam Kumari and immovable properties due to their disobedience. My clients shall not be JASRAM SHARMA (Advocate) Ch. No. 706, Lawyer's

My client **Sh. Radhe Shyam** S/o Sh. Ram Prasad Owner of Residential Plot no.25-A, area measuring 50.16 sq. mtrs., out of Total Area 200.64 sq. mtrs., out of Khasra no.27/19, situated in unauthorized colony, Bharat Vihar, A Block, Village at Kakrola, New Delhi hrough Registered Conveyance Deed Dated 13.10.2023 executed by POI Vide Reg. no.12332 at 13.11.2/023 executed by PVI vide Keg. no.12332 at SR-IX Delhi the above-mentioned property is going to be mortgage with Fedbank Financial Services Limited. If any person/bank/financial institution having any claim/right, lien, any objection whatsoever in regard to the above property, should notified to the undersigned/Adv. Vishal Mehan, E-713, Karkardooma Court. Delhi 110002 along with decompany Court, Delhi-110092 along with documentary evidence under address through registered within

PUBLIC NOTICE It is inform to all concern the original property document- Possession Letter 1st Floor, Sector-37, Arun Vihar, Noida Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P 201301 allotted to SI AK Chaturvedi R/o Police Station Sector-20, Noida G.B Nagar, has

If any one has/have any objection he/she may file his/her objection along with the sufficient proof in the Residential Department of the Noida Authority within 15 days from the date of publication of Neerai Varshnev

S/o Rajendra Pal Varshney

from the date of the notice on the address

been Lost/misplaced.

# NCLAT admits Meta, Whatsapp pleas against CCI's ₹213-Crore penalty

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Appellate tribunal NCLAT on Thursday admitted the petitions filed by Meta Platforms and Whatsapp against an order passed by fair trade regulator CCI which imposed a penalty of Rs 213.14 crore for abuse of market dominance.

After hearing the initial submissions from Meta and (Competition Commission of India), a twomember bench of the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) said the issue requires consideration.

"We find that the submission raised by the parties needs consideration. We admit both the appeals," said the NCLAT bench which also comprised its Chairperson Justice Ashok Bhushan.

However, over the interim relief to stay the CCI order, NCLAT said it will decide next week.

During the proceedings, the counsel appearing for Whatsapp and Meta Platform requested the appellate tribunal to stay the CCI order. However, this was opposed by the counsel appearing for the



Competition Commission of

On November 18, the CCI imposed a penalty of Rs 213.14 crore on social media major Meta for unfair business ways with respect to the WhatsApp privacy policy update done in 2021.

Platforms Whatsapp have challenged this order before the NCLAT, which is an appellate authority over the orders passed by the CCI.

Senior Advocates Kapil Sibal Rohatgi, Mukul and Mukul Ronatgi, appearing for Meta and WhatsApp, contended that the CCI had overstepped its jurisdiction by ruling on WhatsApp's privacy policy as the matter is sub-judice before a Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court. "CCI has gone into the entity's privacy policy. It is before 5 judges of the Supreme Court.

It has no jurisdiction to deal

with it," he said. Moreover, there is no complaint in this case and CCI has come to an "erroneous conclusion" on dominance but it did not take into account 'effect analysis' of

'Without an effect analysis, you cannot come to the conclusion," said Sibal, adding the CCI has not even examined what is the data

that is being shared. He further said CCI has He further said CCI has barred WhatsApp from sharing data collected on its platform with other Meta companies or Meta company products for advertising purposes for five years and alleged: "they are trying to destroy the business model." "No app can survive without monetisation," he said, adding the similar platforms as

the similar platforms as Telegram and Signal have their own models of monetisation. Moreover, search apps also monetise in their own ways.

further sought an immediate stay on the CCI order, which was directed to be implemented by February

Sibal said: "Let the Supreme Court decide on the privacy policy and let the statutory rules come, then you can (NCALT) take up the matter and decide. Moreover balance of convenience in our favour as we have been operating this





## Contractors responsible for accidents due to bad roads: Union minister Gadkari

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari on Thursday said faulty road construction should be made a nonbailable offence and road contractors and engineers should be held responsible for accidents and sent to prison. Addressing an event organised by industry body CII, Gadkari further said India is number one in road accidents in the world.

"Faulty road construction should be a non-bailable

India's economy to grow at 6.4 per cent in current fiscal: FICCI

offence and road contractors. concessionaires and engineers should be held responsible for accidents and sent to prison,"

he said. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways aims to reduce road accident fatalities to half by 2030. According to the minister, the

ministry data of road accidents in 2023 shows five lakh mishaps in the country resulting in 1,72,000 deaths. "Of this, 66.4 per cent, or 1,14,000, were in the 18-45 years age bracket while 10,000 deaths were of children,"

Gadkari said. He pointed out that 55,000 deaths were reported due to

absence of helmets and 30,000 were due to non-use of seat

Gadkari also said the highways ministry spending Rs 40,000 crore to rectify black spots on highways.

Gadkari urged the industry and other stakeholders to partner with the government for setting up of driver training and fitness centres to address the acute shortage of drivers in the country.

supply chain efficiency were underscored as critical to

pressures and minimizing

economic outlook for 2025

presents cautious optimism,

amidst the backdrop of

inflationary

India's

managing

food wastage. According

participants,

## Sensex, Nifty extend gains for third day on strong global cues



 $E_{\text{Sensex and Nifty rallied for}}^{\text{quity benchmark indices}}$ the third session on the trot on Thursday, helped by a rally in global markets after lowerthan-expected consumer inflation in the US ignited hopes of more rate cuts by the Federal Reserve.

Intense buying in Reliance Industries, ICICI Bank and HDFC Bank also boosted sentiments, traders said.

The 30-share BSE index per cent to revisit 77,000 level at 77,042.82. During the day, it jumped 595.42 points or 0.77 per cent to 77.319.50.

On the similar lines, the NSE Nifty rallied 98.60 points or 0.42 per cent to 23,311.80.

As many as 2,778 stocks advanced, while 1,188 declined and 101 remained unchanged on the BSE.

Unabated foreign fund inflows weakness in the rupee and elevated global crude prices continue to weigh on domestic equity markets, traders said.

"Benchmark indices continued to trade in the positive, albeit off highs, driven by positive investor sentiment following mild US inflation data, which raised hopes for a potential rate cut by the Federal Reserve.

favourable "Additionally, developments in the Israel-Hamas ceasefire and a reduced trade deficit further boosted the market's upward movement. However, weak economic growth data from the UK dampened some of this optimism," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services, said

From the 30-share blue-chip pack, Adani Ports, State Bank of India, Bajaj Finserv, Bharti Airtel, Tata Motors, IndusInd Bank, NTPC, Maruti, Reliance Industries and Axis Bank were

the biggest gainers. In contrast, HCL Tech, Nestle, Infosys, Hindustan Unilever, ITC and Tata Consultancy Services were among the laggards.

IT services major Infosys on Thursday reported an 11.46 per cent year-on-year increase in consolidated net profit to Rs 6,806 crore in the October-December quarter of FY25. Shares of Infosys slipped 1.21 per cent to settle at Rs 1,926.20

apiece on the BSE. Meanwhile, Adani group stocks rallied on Thursday after Hindenburg Research founder Nate Anderson announced that he would disband the firm, which made international waves with campaigns targeting | responses | from | leading wiped billions from the market value of his group companies.
Shares of NDTV surged 9.15
per cent, Ambuja Cements
jumped 3.88 per cent, Adani
Green Energy rallied 3.35 per
cent Sanghi Industries climbed cent, Sanghi Industries climbed 3.34 per cent and Adani Power

The stock of Adani Ports advanced 2.03 per cent, Adani Total Gas (1.78 per cent), Adani Enterprises (1.74 per cent), Adani Energy Solutions (1.54 per cent) and ACC (0.77 per

went up by 2.45 per cent on the

Shares of Adani Wilmar, however, declined 1.19 per cent. "Nifty has regained momentum, closing at 23,312, buoyed by demand and reclaiming the 23,300 mark, as Wall Street's strong performance helped bulls take charge. Risk-on sentiments were sparked by cooler-than-expected US CPI inflation data for December, easing concerns about rising inflation and boosting expectations that the Fed might continue its ratecutting cycle throughout the

#### PTI NEW DELHI ndustry body FICCI on Thursday lowered India's growth projection for the current financial year to 6.4 per cent from 7 per cent estimated earlier.

According to FICCI's Economic Outlook Survey, the revised projection is in line with the broad expectations and reflect a notable slowdown vis-à-vis 8.2 per cent GDP growth recorded in 2023-24.

Economic ..FICCI's Outlook Survey projects an annual median GDP growth forecast of 6.4 per cent for 2024-25. The forecast in the current survey marks a moderation from 7.0 per cent estimate (for 2024-25) put out in the previous round conducted during the month of September last vear," it said.

The survey was conducted in December 2024 and drew banking industry, financial services sector.

participating economists observed global economy in 2025 to present reasonable growth



underlying note of caution. Sharing their perspective on the expected impact of US President Donald Trump's policies on the Indian economy, the economists indicated the possibility of disruptions channels like and through exports, foreign capital flows, and input costs for the US trading partners including India. The likelihood of tax cuts

(personal and business) could inflate the US fiscal deficit, while higher tariffs and stricter immigration norms could push up labour costs and inflation, they term. However, economists observed.

The Federal Reserve, in calibrated approach towards policy rates by less than opined. The Union Budget what was anticipated. This may reduce capital inflows into emerging markets, arrives amidst global including India, causing economic uncertainties and

Trade tensions, including a potential US-China trade conflict, could disrupt supply chains and raise input costs in the short expect US to take a for 2025-26, set to be presented on February 1, moderating

backdrop, economists shared their expectations that could shape the government's policy in the upcoming budget. private Reviving consumption emerged as a

Against

this

key priority. A review of the current tax structure including rates (both direct and indirect taxes) in the Union Budget 2025-26 is called for with a view to enhance disposable income and stimulate consumer spending, they said. Additionally, continued investments in welfare programmes such as

programmes MGNREGA, PMGSY, and PMAY were recommended. Further, the participating economists expect continued capex expansion, given its strong multiplier effects. An increase between 10-15 per cent in capex over 2024-25 is being looked at

in the upcoming budget. Economists increase agri productivity, improve infrastructure, global strengthen agricultural inties and value chains. Investments in domestic cold storage facilities and

persisting headwinds. spending is Consumer expected momentum, driven by an improved outlook for the

agriculture sector, which is likely to bolster rural consumption and sentiment in the first half of the next fiscal year. Food inflation which has

remained elevated for over a vear and strained household budgets, is expected to ease. Furthermore, easing by the RBI, resulting in lower interest rates, could also provide an additional impetus to consumption. To address risks and unlock recommended that India should evaluate reducing

tariffs on select and specific US imports while ensuring revenue stability an minimal domestic impact. stability and

## Rupee declines 16 paise to settle at 86.56 against US Dollar

PTI MUMBAI

The rupee depreciated 16 paise to close at 86.56 (provisional) against the US dollar on Thursday, dragged down by a strong American currency overseas, elevated crude oil prices and foreign fund outflows

However, positive domestic equity markets provided some cushion at the lower level, forex traders said.

At the interbank foreign exchange, the rupee opened at 86.42 and touched the intraday high of 86.37 before ending the session at 86.56 (provisional) against the greenback, 16 paise lower from the previous



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

December quarter.

Goenka firm.

year-ago period.

October-December period a

year ago, according to a

regulatory filing from Spencer's Retail, a RP Sanjiv

However, its revenue from

operations was down 20.9 per cent at Rs 516.97 crore during

the quarter under review. It

was at Rs 654.01 crore in the

The company had a "soft

festive quarter with respect to

Spencer's Retail in its investor

consumer spending,"

The local unit settled with a gain of 13 paise at 86.40 against the dollar on Wednesday, a day after rebounding 17 paise from

its lowest-ever level. Anuj Choudhary, Research Analyst at Mirae Asset declined due to increased USD 81.93 per barrel in demand for dollars by futures trade. importers.

'Importers may continue to buy dollars, which may further pressurise the rupee. Traders may take cues from retail sales and weekly unemployment claims data from the US. USD-INR spot price is expected to trade in a range of Rs 86.35 to Rs 86.75," he said.

Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading 0.05 per cent higher at 108.97. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, fell 0.12 per

Sharekhan, said the rupee cent but stayed elevated at

Analysts said concerns over geopolitical uncertainties are likely to add volatility in the dollar and crude until US gets a new the administration President Donald Trump next week.

In the domestic equity market, the 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 318.74 points, or 0.42 per cent, to settle at 77,042.82 points, while the Nifty rose 98.60 points, or 0.42 per cent, to 23,311.80 points.

institutional Foreign investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 4,533.49 crore on Wednesday.

#### **Gold rallies** ₹500, silver soars ₹2,300

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

old prices rallied Rs 500 Gold prices railled Rs 500 to hit over a two-month high of Rs 81,300 per 10 grams in the national capital on Thursday amid fresh buying from jewellers and retailers and rupee depreciation, according to the All India Sarafa Association.

The precious metal had closed at Rs 80,800 per 10 grams on Wednesday. The price of gold of 99.5 per cent purity climbed Rs 500 to Rs 80,900 per 10 grams. It settled at Rs 80,400 per 10 grams in the previous trading session. Silver also surged Rs 2,300 to Rs 94,000 per kg from the previous close of Rs 91,700 per kg on Wednesday.

Gold contracts for February delivery rose Rs 297, or 0.38 per cent, to Rs 79,007 per 10 grams in the futures trade on the MCX on Thursday. "Gold surged higher trading above Rs 79,000 in MCX, supported by a rupee depreciation," Jateen Trivedi, VP Research Analyst of Commodity and Currency at LKP Securities,

On Thursday, the rupee depreciated 16 paise to close at 86.56 (provisional) against the US dollar, dragged down by a strong overseas, elevated crude oil prices and foreign fund

## DB Corp Q3 profit down 4.6 per cent to ₹118 Crore

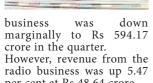
PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Media house DB Corp Ltd on Thursday reported 4.65 per cent decline in consolidated net profit at Rs 118.21 crore for the third quarter ended December 2024.

The company had posted a profit of Rs 123.97 crore for October-December period a year ago, according to a regulatory filing from DB Corp.

Revenue from operations was marginally down to Rs 642.65 crore from Rs 644.71

Total expenses were Rs 495.58 crore as against Rs 497.38 crore earlier. Revenue from Printing, Publishing and Allied



per cent at Rs 48.64 crore. Total income of DB Corp, includes other which

Meanwhile, in a separate filing, DB Corp informed about management changes. It has appointed Runit Kishor Shah as an Additional Director and Vijay Kumar TV as Chief Operating Officer in Ad DB Corp is one of the

print media companies and publishes five newspapers - Dainik Bhaskar, Divya Bhaskar, Divya Marathi, Saurashtra Samachar and DB Star. It also owns 94.3 MY FM radio station.

Shares of DB Corp Ltd were on Thursday trading at Rs 267.15 apiece on BSE, down income, was down 1.37 per 1.06 per cent from the cent to Rs 655.64 crore in previous close.



presentation. to Rs 567.44 crore in the December quarter as against Rs 711.54 crore a year ago. Spencer's

Total expenses of Spencer's Retail was down 20.2 per cent Retail's total income, which includes other income, was marginally down 21.23 per cent to Rs 520.03 in the December crore quarter.

"Despite a soft festive trading environment wherein LFL sales growth was flat, Spencer's delivered a very strong

strong operational performance on the back of good delivery (19.7 per cent), strong control on all cost lines operational resulting in a milestone EBITDA positive positive Chairman achievement,"

business to operational profitability," he added. Spencers started its quick delivery proposition JIFFY

#### Spencer's Retail Q3 loss narrows to ₹47.3 Crore Shashwat Goenka said. "This is a strong validation of our decision to focus on core geographies, exit from loss-making, non-strategic regions & drive improvement across all operating metrics such as margins, sales productivity, and costs and to bring the

and opened two stores during the quarter for Natures Basket. Its total store count, along with Natures Basket, is 131 with a total 10.34 lakh square feet in over 27 cities in India. Shares of Spencer's Retail Ltd on Thursday were trading at Rs 86.76 on the BSE, down 6.48 per cent from the previous close.

American outflows.



# Honouring Legal Luminaries

Through its pages, the book recounts the lasting legacy of lawyers who championed justice and equality, says ABHI SINGHAL

he Society of Indian Law Firms (SILF) commemorated the 75th anniversary of the Republic of India with a memorable event highlighted significant contributions of lawyers to the nation's democratic journey. The occasion witnessed the launch of an extraordinary book titled Lawyers of India in Freedom Struggle & in Independent India (1872-Years and Glorious Continued Contribution Toward the Centennial - 2047.

The launch brought together luminaries of the legal fraternity. The highlight of the evening was the book's formal launch by K.K. Venugopal, former Attorney General of India, who presented the first copy to his successor, R. Venkataramani, the current Attorney General of India.

Addressing the distinguished gathering, K.K. Venugopal praised the legal profession's crucial role in shaping India's democratic ethos. contributions of lawyers have always transcended the courtroom. They have been instrumental in guiding India towards its democratic ideals, especially during times of

struggle," he said. comprehensively



independence movement laid the foundation for India's freedom. Equally, it sheds light on post-independence lawyers and educators who have fortified the country's legal framework. Dr. Lalit Bhasin, President of

SILF, emphasised the book's significance in preserving the history of Indian legal professionals. "This book is an homage to the lawyers who



BOUT THE BOOK Compiled, Edited and Authored by Dr. Lalit Bhasin (President) Society of Indian Law Firms

have played a vital role in the independence movement and, more importantly, in the development of a legal system that is the backbone of India's democracy," he said.

TOWARDS VIKSIT BHARAT BUT

Mr. K.K. VENUGOPAL

The book highlights Lala Lajpat Rai's leading advocacy for social reform and the rights of Indians and explores how post-independence legal professionals have upheld the principles of democracy, justice, and fairness in the evolving Indian Republic.

As India approaches its centennial of independence in 2047, the book serves as both a historical record and a call to action. It underscores the continuing role of lawyers in addressing modern challenges and ensuring the rule of law

# **A Literary Prelude**

Curtain-Raiser for Jaipur Literature Festival 2025



#### By SAKSHI PRIYA

the curtain-raiser for the Jaipur Literature Festival 2025 at The Leela Palace New Delhi offered an engaging preview of what promises to be another remarkable edition of the world's most celebrated literary gathering. Hosted at one of Delhi's most prestigious venues, the event celebrated the enduring power of literature and its ability to spark meaningful conversations.

This year marks the fourth consecutive partnership between the Jaipur Literature Festival and Teamwork Arts with The Leela Palace New Delhi. The event brought together distinguished authors, poets and intellectuals, creating an atmosphere filled with creativity

The evening featured insightful speeches by key figures associated with the festival, who reflected on the significance of literature in contemporary society. Their words highlighted the festival's mission to preserve cultural heritage and encourage dialogue through storytelling and ideas.

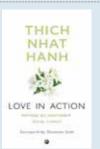
The venue provided a fitting backdrop for discussions about the role of literature as a bridge between the past and the present. The event underscored the Jaipur Literature Festival's role as a global platform for literary excellence and its dedication to the written word. As a preview of the main event, the curtain-raiser successfully built excitement among attendees. It highlighted the festival's significance for readers and writers alike, continuing to inspire and promote intellectual



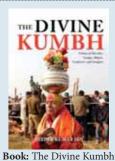
(Left to right): William Dalrymple, celebrated historian, author and co-founder & co-director of the Jaipur Literature Festival Anupam Dasgupta Area Vice President (North India) and General Manager at The Leela Palace, New Delhi; and Sanjoy K. Roy, Managing Director, Teamwork Arts. In its fourth year of partnership with Teamwork Arts, The Leela Palace New Delhi hosted the curtain-raiser dinner for the Jaipur Literature Festival 2025, scheduled from January 30 to February 3. The collaboration culminates with the prestigious Writer's Ball at The Leela Palace Jaipur, showcasing The Leela's dedication to celebrating India's rich cultural heritage and traditions.



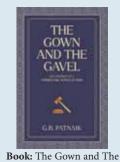
**Book:** Ananda: An Exploration of Cannabis in India Author: Karan Madhok Publisher: Alpha book company Price: ₹999



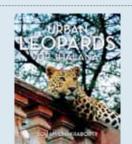
Book: Love in Action: Writings on Nonviolent Social Change
Author: Thich Nhat Hanh Publisher: Alpha book company Price: ₹399



Echoes of Eternity: Ganga, nipra, Godavari, and Sangam Author: Deepak Kumar Sen Publisher: Niyogi books Price: ₹695



Gavel: Life Journey of a Former Chief Justice of India Publisher: Niyogi books Price: ₹695



Book: Urban Leopards of Jhalana Author: Soham Chakraborty
Publisher: Niyogi Books
Price: ₹650

Contemplating Gandhi: Essays on Mahatma;s Life and Thought, \*\*Chandrashekhar Dharmadhikari, a notable jurist and Gandhian thinker, presents a deeply reflective and insightful account of the Mahatma's life, philosophy, and enduring significance. The essays, thoughtfully compiled and expertly translated by Ramchandra Pradhan, present an intimate and vivid portrayal of Gandhi, seamlessly mixing historical insights with poignant personal reminiscences. This volume transcends the bounds of academic discourse, becoming a heartfelt and reverent tribute to a legacy that continues to inspire and guide generations, both past and present. Ramchandra Pradhan's preface is a heartfelt and expansive memoir detailing

his serendipitous and deep association

Contemplating Gandhi

ABOUT THE BOOK **Book:** Contemplating Gandhi: Essays on Mahatma's Life and Thought by **Chandrashekhar Dharmadhikari** Translated and Edited by Ramchandra Pradhan Publisher: Anugya Books

Justice Chandrashekhar Dharmadhikari and the Institute of Gandhian Studies in Wardha. Through his reflective and eloquent writing, Pradhan reveals a deep and abiding respect for Dharmadhikari's unwavering dedication to Gandhian values and principles. Pradhan's preface is not merely an introductory passage' rather, it chronicles his decade-long journey of engaging with Gandhian thought, a journey characterised by mutual affection, intellectual camaraderie, and a shared reverence for the Mahatma's enduring

Pradhan affectionately recounts Dharmadhikari's poignant anecdotes, including the inspiring words spoken by Dharmadhikari's mother to his father, Dada Dharmadhikari, during the pivotal Non-cooperation Movement. Such compelling narratives serve to enrich the book's historical context, offering readers a valuable glimpse into the familial and philosophical underpinnings that have so profoundly shaped Dharmadhikari's own perspective. Moreover, work and translation, Dharmadhikari himself has described as enhancing the original text, underscores Pradhan's vital role in preserving the nuances and essence of Gandhian philosophy for a contemporary audience. The essays of this collection, written on various occasions, range from reflections on Gandhi's principles to portraits of significant figures in the Gandhian movement, including Jamnalal Bajaj's wife, Jankidevi. They explore themes like the Non-cooperation Movement, the challenges of India's independence, and Gandhi's response to partition. While Dharmadhikari's writings exhibit repetition, as acknowledged by the translator, this reiteration reinforces the profundity and timelessness of Gandhian

Dharmadhikari emphasises the dynamic

# The Relevance of Principles

Contemplating Gandhi uncovers the depth of Gandhian philosophy, inspiring future generations, says **SHALEEN KUMAR SINGH** 



nature of Gandhian philosophy. Drawing on his father's wisdom, he argues that ideas must evolve with the times to remain relevant. This approach challenges readers to engage critically with Gandhi's teachings, urging them to reinterpret his

reflections on the profound concepts of Anasakti Yoga and Karma Yoga, which Gandhi himself so eloquently embodied and exemplified throughout his life. These essays also powerfully highlight Gandhi's unwavering humanism, his inspiring ability to transcend personal sorrow during times of immense national crisis, and his steadfast commitment to living amidst and in service of the people. Dharmadhikari's deeply personal



recollections and experiences with the Mahatma himself, such as the cherished moments of walking alongside Gandhi and the profound anguish of mourning his tragic assassination, add an indelible emotional dimension to the essays. These poignant accounts elevate the book from a mere academic endeavour, transforming it into a living, breathing bridge that connects the revered past with the present day, allowing readers to forge a genuine, visceral connection to Gandhi's enduring

Hence, the book titled Contemplating Gandhi is not merely a collection of essays' rather, it is a profound philosophical exploration and a heartfelt, reverent homage to the life and enduring legacy of the Mahatma. Through the insightful of Chandrashekhar writings Dharmadhikari, enriched by the meticulous and evocative translation of Ramchandra Pradhan, this volume inspires readers to view Gandhi's teachings not as relics of the past, but as a living, dynamic philosophy that continues to guide and shape the present-day world. This book is a necessary read for scholars, students, and anyone deeply interested in Gandhian thought and principles. It challenges readers to think critically, to embrace the fluid and evolving interpretations of Gandhi's ideas, and to strive to embody his timeless values and principles in their own lives. Through this reflective work, Dharmadhikari and Pradhan remind us that the true relevance of Gandhi's legacy lies not in the provision of ready-made solutions, but in the offering of a transformative framework for ethical, purposeful and meaningful living in an ever-changing, dynamic global landscape. A book that deserves serious

— Shaleen Kumar Singh (shaleensingh.in) teaches English at Swami Shukdevanad College, Shahjahanpur, India, edits creativesaplings.in an online journal

# Australian Open: Iga Swiatek moves into third round against Emma Raducanu

ga Swiatek rushed through the first set in 26 minutes and completed her 6-0, 6-2 second-round win over Rebecca Sramkova in an hour at the Australian Open.

The five-time Grand Slam champion makes a habit of advancing quickly through the early rounds at the majors. She's won almost 12% of her sets in Grand Slams by 6-0, which puts her in exclusive company. So when No. 49-49-ranked

Sramkova ended a seven-game losing run by holding serve on Thursday, she raised her arm to acknowledge the applause from the Rod Laver Arena crowd. It was one of the few chances she had to celebrate.

"It was good to play in such an efficient way and just finish it quick," Swiatek said. "Also, you know, just feel the court and how

Second-seeded Swiatek next faces 2021 U.S. Open champion Emma Raducanu, who recovered from

hold off Amanda Anisimova 6-3,

Taylor Fritz hasn't wasted any time advancing to the third round, dropping just eight games across two rounds and spending just over three hours on court.

The 2024 U.S. Open runner-up and No. 4 seed beat Cristian Garin 6-2, 6-1, 6-0 to move into a third-round match against 38year-old Gael Monfils, who last week became the oldest player to win an ATP Tour title.

Also advancing on the men's side were local hope Alex de Minaur, seeded 8th, No. 16 Lorenzo Musetti, No. 19 Karen Khachanov and No. 21 Ben Shelton, who beat Pablo Carreno Busta 6-3, 6-3, 6-7 (4), 6-4.

Raducanu has struggled with injuries since her breakthrough major in 2021, when she became the first qualifier to win a Grand Slam singles title.

She didn't play a warmup tournament ahead of this year's Australian Open because of a muscle strain and needed time



match against during her Anisimova to get treatment on her back from a trainer. After advancing beyond the

second round for the first time at Melbourne Park, the No. 61-ranked Raducanu was confident another opportunity to test my she'd recover in time for her next game," she said. "Going into it, I

challenge against Swiatek.

going to swing." Swiatek is moving on from the

doping infringement which led to her one-month ban last year. And she's not showing any signs of it being a distraction.

She did everything at pace in the second round, including quick claps of her racket to acknowledge the crowd after her win. Swiatek didn't face a break point against Sramkova and converted five of the six she had. She finished off points with winners off both sides, and also hit some clean volleys on her ventures to the net. She's feeling slightly less pressure

this year, too, after losing the No. 1 ranking to two-time defending Australian Open champion Arvna Sabalenka.

"Yeah, there was a lot of pressure starting the year as No. 1, but I think overall last year I didn't think about it this much anyway, she said. "Also, I realized last year that I don't have 100% influence on what happens with my ranking sometimes. So now I just

Emma Navarro, a U.S. Open semifinalist last year and seeded in the top eight for the first time at a major, was in trouble after two service breaks early in the third set before she reeled off four straight games to beat Wang Xiyu 6-3, 3-6, 6-4.

She hopped from the baseline toward the net, and made a big, swirling swing of her arm to underline another tough, three-

set victory. "It was really tough the whole time ... Super tough there at the end," Navarro said. "Found some good tennis there in the last

games." She'll next play Ons Jabeur, a three-time Grand Slam runnerup, who struggled with asthma but held off Camila Osorio 7-5,

Sixth-seeded Elena Rybakina, the 2022 Wimbledon champion and runner-up in Australia two years ago, registered her 50th win in a Grand Slam main draw singles match when she beat American qualifier Iva Jovic 6-0, 6-3.



# Barcelona reaches Copa del Rey quarterfinals with a 5-1 victory over Real Betis

**PTI** ■ BARCELONA

 $B^{\text{arcelona}}_{\text{rout of Real Madrid in the}}$ Spanish Super Cup final with a comfortable 5-1 victory over Real Betis in the round of 16 of the Copa del Rey. Gavi and Jules Koundé scored

a goal each in the first halfhour and Raphinha, Ferran Torres and Lamine Yamal added to the lead in the second half to give the Catalan club the win and a spot in the quarterfinals.

It was the fourth straight victory in 2025 for Barcelona, which on Sunday defeated Madrid 5-2 in Saudi Arabia to

win the Spanish Super Cup. "We wanted to keep the momentum from the Super Cup here at home in front of Pau Cubarsí said. continue like this and keep the foot on the throttle. The (Christmas) break did well for us, we were able to refresh."

Barcelona had lost its last two games in 2024 before going on a winning streak against Barbastro in the Copa del Rey and Athletic Bilbao and Madrid in the Spanish Super

Playmaker Dani Olmo, registered in the last minute after a long battle between Barcelona, the Spanish league and Spain's federation because of a missed deadline by the club, helped set up Gavi's opening goal in the third minute at Montjuic stadium. Yamal gave the pass for Kounde's goal in the 27th. Koundé thought he had added to the lead in first-half stoppage time but his effort was disallowed by video review because he was offside. Yamal also had one called back by the VAR because of offside early in the second

Barcelona's third goal finally counted when Raphinha found the net in a breakaway in the 58th. Torres scored the fourth from inside the area in the 67th, a few minutes after coming off the bench, and Yamal sealed it after a nice run in the 75th.

Vitor Roque scored Betis' lone goal by converting an 84th-minute penalty kick.

ATLETICO KEEPS

WINNING

Atletico Madrid, playing without many regular starters, routed second-division club Elche 4-0 to extend its record winning streak to 15 matches. The club had never won more than 13 games in a row across all competitions before.

Alexander Sorloth scored from close range in the eighth and converted a 29th-minute kick. Rodrigo Riquelme scored the third from long range in the 61st, and Julián Álvarez closed the scoring in the 75th.

Elche played a man down from the 50th after Nicolás Fernández was sent off with a second vellow card.

OTHER RESULTS

Alvaro Rodríguez scored two minutes into the match as Getafe won 1-0 at fourthdivision club Pontevedra.

The visitors played a man down from the 41st after a straight red card was shown to Rodríguez.

## India women must make this year their best in ODIs: Smriti Mandhana

Smriti Mandhana believes India's back-to-back 3-0 series wins against the West Indies and Ireland have provided the perfect momentum for making it their "best year in onedayers" as the team gears up for the 50-over World Cup at

India will host the women's ODI World Cup later this year and the team, which has been able to rediscover its form with six consecutive ODI wins, should drive home the advantage now, says Mandhana.

"Two 3-0 sweeps are definitely really good in a World Cup year especially. We have to like keep going and have this for the best year for one-days (dayers)," Mandhana said in a video



Mandhana (135) and Pratika Rawal (154) put on 233 for the first wicket for the third highest opening wicket partnership for India in ODIs, setting up their highest ever total of 435/5 and eventually for their biggest ever ODI win by 304 runs on Wednesday.

"I wanted to go out and bat with a lot of freedom. I said in the dugout before I went in about that you know, I'm going to try and play my shots because not many times you get an opportunity to do that," Mandhana said. Rawal, who notched up her

first hundred to make 154 off 129 balls with 20 fours and

down nearing her century but gained pace of scoring once she was past the landmark. "As a batter I always wanted to score more runs and doing that for your country is actually a privilege and I am

one six, admitted she slowed

very happy," she said.
"After (crossing) 70 (runs) I was a bit conscious that there was a hundred (on the cards). I was taking singles and going slow but when I got the hundred, I was like, let's just go for it. The 50 runs after the hundred came a bit quicker. I was able to score the way I score," she said.

Talking about her 233-run opening stand with the senior batter, Rawal said, "It felt like that it was happening with the flow, we didn't think about it.'

"We got to know stats now. actually," Mandhana added.

first appearance since 2020 having qualified for the

current season by winning

the FIH Hockey Nations Cup

China women will look to

the season after taking eight

points from the opening four

games of their season, played

meanwhile, will be hoping to

return to their best, after an

saw them pick up no wins in

uncharacteristic start slow

at home in Hangzhou.

Netherlands

Leroy Sané answers critics by scoring two goals as Bayern routs Hoffenheim

eroy Sané answered critics Lby scoring two goals as Bayern Munich routed Hoffenheim 5-0 to restore its four-point lead in the Bundesliga.

Sané is subject to increased attention with his contract due to expire at the end of the season. Pundits including former Bayern great Lothar Matthaeus say he hasn't lived up to expectations since joining from Manchester City in 2020, making a contract extension unlikely. Matthaeus was speaking to broadcaster Sky before

kickoff. Sané wasted little time in responding with the opener in the seventh minute when he fired a fierce shot inside the far post after Thomas Müller laid the ball off. Sane's celebrations showed the

its toll. 'You always want to shake him, that he just does something and doesn't think too much. And today he did a lot and didn't think too much and he looked good," Müller said.

criticism had perhaps taken

Raphaël Guerreiro was celebrating five minutes later as a long evening beckoned for Hoffenheim. Guerreiro played a one-two with Harry Kane before scoring his first Bundesliga goal of the season.

Kane made it 3-0 with a penalty in the 26th. It was his 16th goal of the season. Sané got his second after the break, set up by Mathys Tel,

and substitute Serge Gnabry scored minutes after going on for Kane.

Sané went off to applause from the Bayern fans after Gnabry's goal.

"In the end, you get praised if you give a good performance and you might get a bit of flack if things don't go so well," Sané said. "I always try to help the team, to give a good performance. And I'm the first one who's unhappy when I don't give a good performance and can't help

the team." S T U T T G A R T
PRESSURING LEIPZIG
FOR CHAMPIONS LEAGUE QUALIFICATION

Fourth-place finished with nine players after squandering a lead to moved a point behind the visitors.

Benjamin Šeško gave Leipzig an early lead, but the home team was irate that play had continued after an apparent foul by Ridle Baku on Deniz Unday in the buildup. Referee Sascha Stegemann booked Stuttgart assistant coach David Krecidlo for complaining.

Undav set up winter signing Jacob Bruun Larsen to equalize in the 50th and Nick Woltemade completed the comeback 10 minutes later when he poked home the rebound from an Undav effort. Šeško and Loïs Openda were sent off late as Leipzig slumped to its fifth defeat of the season. Both will miss the next match at Bochum on Saturday.

### India men, women hockey teams to commence season with Pro League matches next month women's team making their

PTI BHUBANESWAR

The Indian men's and women's hockey teams commence international assignments this year with the high-profile FIH Pro League matches here from February

The Indian men's team will face Spain, while their women counterparts will take on England on February 15 at the Kalinga Stadium. Most of the Indian men's and women's team players are

currently playing in the Hockey India League (HIL) in Rourkela and Ranchi respectively.

The Bhubaneswar leg of the FIH Pro League will be after the Australia leg (February 04-09) in Sydney. Between February 15 and 25, the men's teams of India, Spain, England, Germany and Ireland will go head-to-head with all teams reaching the half-way point of their season by the end of the Bhubaneswar stage.



"Following the Australian leg, the league will move to Bhubaneswar, India, renowned for its passionate hockey fan base. It will be the same in the women's competition for India, Spain, England, Germany and Netherlands," FIH said in a release. "With 24 matches over the 11

days, the action will be unceasing among the top ranked teams in the world, which will be a true showcase of the 'League of the Best." The FIH Pro League action this year will begin in Australia. The Kookaburras, who won the title in the previous edition, will start off defence against reigning Olympic champions Netherlands, and Spain. The Hockeyroos will also

start their 2024/25 campaign simultaneously, facing off against China and Spain. Both the Spanish teams will play their first matches of the

their opening four games, totalling six points through three draws and a loss. The FIH Pro League action will also simultaneously continue in Argentina as the Bhubaneswar stage goes on, with Santiago del Estero hosting the final stage from the first half of the season

Locking horns in front of the large crowds will Argentina, Belgium and season in the Sydney stage of the Pro League, with the Australia, in both the men's and women's competition.

from February 19 to 24.

**Arsenal closes in on Premier League leader Liverpool after 2-1 win over Tottenham** Isak's form has pushed Newcastle and a point above the bottom Champions League contention. He's scored 12 in his last 10 games in all competitions

three. find goals from somewhere. Everton has failed to score in nine and Newcastle is on a nine-match

Isak opened the scoring in the 34th against relegation-threatened Wolverhampton at St James' Park. He got his second in the 57th and Anthony maintained his own scoring form with his fourth goal in successive games.

winning streak.

Howe's team is now one point ahead of fifth-place Chelsea. HOMECOMING UNHAPPY

FOR MOYES

David Moyes' return to Everton didn't get off to the start he wanted after a 1-0 loss to Aston Villa. In his second spell at the Merseyside club, Moyes took charge of his 519th game as Everton manager and was welcomed by the Goodison Park crowd.

But he couldn't inspire his relegation-threatened team to victory as Ollie Watkins' goal six minutes into the second half

Everton is 16th in the standings

Moyes' immediate priority is to

of its last 11 league games. **LEICESTER SLUMPING** 

The hiring of Ruud van Nistelrooy hasn't paid off for

Leicester yet. A 2-0 loss at home to Crystal Palace leaves the 2016 champion second from bottom of the standings and without a league win since Van Nistelrooy's first

game in charge at the start of

December. It's now six straight defeats in the league, with Jean-Philippe Mateta and Marc Guehi scoring for Palace in the second half at the King Power Stadium.

"Six without a win is not good enough. You can't keep talking about performances. We need to win and that needs to happen soon," Van Nistelrooy said.

Manchester United doesn't play until Thursday, but Palace's win saw the record 20-time champion slip to 15th in the standings.

## PTI ■ LONDON

rsenal closed the gap on Aremier League leader Liverpool to four points after a 2-1 victory over Tottenham. Mikel Arteta's team took

advantage of Liverpool's draw with Nottingham Forest on Tuesday, with Leandro Trossard firing the winner in the north London derby at the Emirates Stadium.

"Everybody knows you need to win these games, the fans are buzzing and it's a great night for us," Trossard said. "It's an amazing feeling, especially to get the winner as well, it had to come and now we need to look forward."

Arsenal was runner-up to Manchester City in the last two seasons and is in contention for the title again this year. But it was given a fright by Spurs when Son Heung-min opened the scoring for the visitors in the 25th minute.

A Dominic Solanke own goal when trying to defend a corner leveled the game in the 40th and Trossard struck low from just inside the box four minutes later to put Arsenal ahead.

Liverpool still has a game in hand on second-place Arsenal but has dropped points by drawing its last two league matches and is on a run of just one win in four in all competitions. That was against fourth-division Accrington Stanley in the FA Cup.
Arsenal bounced back quickly

after the disappointment of being knocked out of the FA Cup by Manchester United on penalties and opened up a two-point lead over Forest in third.

competition that we went out of —

Tottenham has won just one of its last nine games in the league. "The losses hurt me but they aren't

acceptable. We have had too many losses this year and too many games that have got away from us

"Less than 72 hours ago we played minutes in another that is not easy psychologically. So the way we performed and played today was exceptional," Arteta

That needs to stop," head coach Ange Postecoglou said ISĂK ON TAŘGET AGAIN Alexander Isak scored for the eighth straight league game to



propel Newcastle into the top four. in eight consecutive games in the The Sweden international struck twice in a 3-0 victory over Daniel Sturridge. Wolverhampton to take his season total to 17 in all competitions. He became the fourth player to score straight games.

Premier League, following Ruud van Nistelrooy, Jamie Vardy and Vardy scored a league record 11-

practice his finishing. It is an art form. He is there after training every day trying to do more, Newcastle manager Eddie Howe

sealed Villa's win.

**UNITED DROPS**