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SENSEX IN A TAILSPIN point, or perhaps not. After all,

PRASANNA SINGH GUEST REPORTER

stock market downturn, as and Awhen it happens, invariably catches people, and usually these are always retail investors, off guard. We are seeing this play out in India's leading indices over the past three months as well. In a sort of slow motion glide that seems to have suddenly picked up pace this week, provoking this article as well. India's leading stock exchange barometers have all hit new 'lows'. There is a need to qualify that because word, these are corrections when seen from the peaks these indices hit, all in

September. So if the Nifty Mid-cap and small cap indices both hit their peaks early in September, the broader indices comprising the BSE Sensex and the Nifty 50, comprising larger cap stocks, actually hit their highs in the final week of September, on September 27. Today, while the large caps indices are down 155 points from their peaks, the mid cap and small

cap indices are down 21 per cent and 25 per cent respectively. Of course, the correction in many hyped stocks is even worse. For crores of retail investors who had piled into stocks after watching a breathless post-COVID rally that rarely stuttered, it has been agonising, watching their 'wealth' evaporate. Especially when

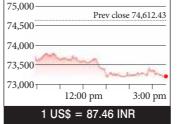
we consider how even at the peak,

many complained that the rise has been driven by a few, select stocks disproportionately. Leaving only index fund holders uniformly happy. SO WHY DID THE MARKETS

CORRECT SO STEEPLY? The answer lies in the previous rise itself. Like almost all sustained bull markets, the highs the market saw in September was the fag end of a

period of sustained growth, a lot of it is not justified anymore by the quarterly results many key sectors and firms showcased between Q2 and Q3. Worse, when compared to global peers, India's markets were once again trading at a premium, at par with, or higher than most global markets bar the still frothy ŬS markets. A premium, most foreign investors seem to have





decided, is not justified in a volatile global environment. And followed it with almost 2 Lakh Crores of sustained selling since. All the anecdotal and actual

signals were blinking red, namely, the stamped like rush for IPOs

among firms and investors alike, and perhaps the worst of all, a quiet reducing of stakes in many firms by promoters. As always, among all the reasons trotted out to explain these warning signs, perhaps the most silly, and eventually foolish one as always, was that 'this time it's different'. It never is.

India's growth prospects have become almost mythical now, in how there is a bull case for 10 per cent GDP growth, yet, we always find our economy overheating at the first signs of a sustained period of 8 per cent growth or even less. Brought down by rising inflation, corruption scandals, or yet another election or oil price spike. The recent trend towards giveaways without a funding plan

has not helped. The final trigger for the slide in

2025 has largely been the Trump administration and its actions, threatened or otherwise. If there is one thing that the market does not like, it is uncertainty. And the Trump administration has added dollops of it to global trade and markets including India with its tariff threats and actions. For many investors this is their

first experience with a correction this sharp and long. And they will seek to find answers in every argument, right from the decision to raise capital gains tax on stock market gains, to the tougher rules for FII investments, or the government's apparent pause on further public sector privatisation. Perhaps all of these make a good

wasn't this the year when domestic investors had all but made foreign investors irrelevant according to many claims, including from the government? Clearly not, as we can see. Quite simply, sentiment has turned, and from a change in direction, taken a complete U-turn it would appear. That is not quite as uncommon or improbable as it seems, as stock markets are prone to going to extremes in either direction. One feels we are quite close to the point where the downturn might have gone well beyond what fundamentals justify. But readers will do well to remember that eventually, one thing that the stocks markets do best consistently is reward performance. So firms that meet their projections for three or more quarters without fail, will eventually find their efforts rewarded.

41 trapped in Uttarakhand avalanche

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE DEHRADUN/NEW DELHI

snowfall in Uttarakhand resulting in an avalanche led to at least 41 Border Roads Organisation workers (BRO) being buried in the high altitude border village of Mana, Chamoli district on Friday. The workers were clearing snow when they were trapped. The snowslide had initially buried 57 men but 16 were pulled out safely. There was no immediate news of casualties and rescue efforts were on.

Later, 32 of total 57 workers were rescued on Friday, sources said. The avalanche has buried a camp of the BRO between Mana and Badrinath and multiple teams battled

operations have been halted due to bad weather and the impending danger of more avalanches.

It will restart when the weather improves, sources said.

Himachal Pradesh and higher reaches of Jammu and Kashmir also saw snowfall and rain. Several northern states including Delhi, Punjab and Haryana received rainfall leading to a dip in temperature.

As regards the mishap in Uttrakhand, the avalanche buried a camp of the BRO between Mana and Badrinath, Chamoli District Magistrate Sandeep Tiwari said as multiple teams battled tough terrain, heavy snow and rain to rescue the workers

HM directs Delhi Govt, Police to act tough on Bangladeshis



अभित शाह

The AAP regime did not attend such meetings in its 10-year rule.

A key decision taken in the meeting was that consistently perform poorly.



WEATHER

AQI

MAX

when the maximum is over

RAJESH KUMAR NEW DELHI

India is likely to witness above-normal maximum temperatures in most parts between March and May. According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), more heatwave days are also likely to be witnessed across most parts of the country during e months IMD data shows India also recorded its warmest February in 124 years with an average temperature of more than 22°C. For the first time, the average minimum temperature across the country was recorded at over 15°C, which is the warmest, recorded ever. In terms of the average maximum temperature, February 2025 has been the second warmest. just behind the corresponding month in 2023. In terms of the average maximum temperature, February 2025 has been the second warmest, just behind the corresponding month in 2023. The reverse happened in 2022. April of that year in north India was the hottest on record, while temperatures in Feb were close



three kilometres from It was also learnt rescue

except

Penincula

121

25°C(-1)

MIN 18.4°C(+5.9)

HM Amit Shah with Delhi CM Rekha Gupta chairs a meeting to review law and order situation in Delhi RAJESH KUMAR MINEW DELHI $U_{\rm Friday}^{\rm nion}$ Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday reviewed law and order situation in the national Capital with Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta while directing Delhi police to take action against the networks that help illegal Bangladeshis and

ensure ruthless action against inter-state

gangs. It was the first top level interaction after BJP came to power.

PTI

regarding the expeditious disposal of the 2020 Delhi riots cases. Shah urged the Delhi government to appoint special prosecutors to ensure speedy trials, as per the MHA. Another policy shift was announced regarding construction-related matters, where it was decided that Delhi police permission would no longer be required. The Union Home Minister said strict action should also be taken against police stations and sub-divisions

On traffic congestion, Shah said the Delhi Police should identify the places witnessing traffic jams daily and the Delhi police commissioner and chief secretary should meet and find a quick solution to this.



Rohingyas entering India, to take

measures to ensure women safety, and



Bureaucrat back at SEBI, after stormy Buch era

PTI 📕 NEW DELHI

Tuhin Kanta Pandey, the government's divestment man who played a key role in sale of Air India as well as listing of the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), has been appointed as head of SEBI, marking return of bureaucrat at the helm of market regulator.

Pandey, the top bureaucrat in the Finance Ministry, will replace Madhabi Puri Buch, whose term ends Friday as

chairman of the SEBI. Buch, 60, who was the first woman and the only person from the private sector to head SEBI, had a tumultuous three-year term marked with allegations of conflict of interest as well as sweeping overhaul of regulations. Prior to position.

to normal The IMD attributed the unusual rise in temperature to a presence of strong easterly winds, which they said were blocking the cool sea breeze. The IMD declares a heatwave The IMD said during the upcoming hot weather season (March to May (MAM)), above-normal maximum temperatures are most likely over most parts of the country, except over southern parts of Peninsular India, and isolated pockets of Northeast India where normal to belownormal maximum temperatures are likely. The above-normal minimum temperatures are likely over most parts of the country isolated except some southernmost regions of Peninsular India where normal minimum temperatures are

likely. "Monthly maximum temperatures for March are likely to be above normal over most parts of India, except over some southernmost parts

some a northwest and east India.

some

parts

Analysis of IMD's century long temperature data shows the October-December postmonsoon season is warming at a rate of 1.01°C per century, followed by the January-February winter months at 0.73°C. Pre-monsoon (March-May) and monsoon (June-September) seasons are warming at relatively slower rates of 0.62°C and 0.45°C respectively. Delhi recorded its warmest February night in 74 years, with the minimum temperature at Safdarjung reaching 19.5°C on Thursday - the highest for the month in the period between 1951to

2025, according to the IMD. Meanwhile, the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) said, "Delhi recorded below normal maximum temperatures are likely. During this period the above normal monthly minimum during January - February in last three years since 2023." (Left to right): LoP Atishi interacts with police personnel after allegedly being stopped from entering the state Vidhan Sabha premises on Friday and Delhi Assembly speaker, Vijendra Gupta Photo: Ranjan Dimri/The Pioneer

Delhi Speaker, Atishi engage in letter war

RAJESH KUMAR NEW DELHI

letter war erupted between the ADelhi Assembly speaker, Vijendra Gupta and the Leader of Opposition (LoP), Atishi on Friday, following the suspension of 21 MLAs from the Vidhan Sabha, with Atishi calling it an "insult to the people's mandate" while Speaker Vijender Gupta defended the move, citing parliamentary rules and past disruptions.

The controversy deepened when the suspended MLAs including former chief minister Atishi were prevented from entering the Assembly premises the next day while attempting to hold a protest at the Mahatma Gandhi statue. The LoP termed the move "unprecedented" and accused the BJP government of "crossing all limits of dictatorship" by stifling the stifling Opposition's voice.

"The Opposition was expelled from the House for chanting 'Jai Bhim' slogans, while BJP MLAs continued raising 'Modi-Modi' slogans without any repercussions. Preventing Opposition MLAs from entering the Assembly premises is a blatant insult to democracy," Atishi asserted. "This is an insult not only to the MLAs but also to the mandate given by the people," she said.

Responding to Atishi's claims, the Speaker rejected the allegations of bias and accused the Opposition of disrupting the proceedings of the House. He defended the decision to bar the suspended MLAs from the premises, citing Assembly Rule 277, which states that "A member who has been suspended from the service of the House shall be barred from entering the premises of the House and from taking part in the proceedings of the parliamentary rules.

House and Committees". Gupta also criticised the Opposition's conduct, stating that disruptions had begun even before the LG's address. Referring to the Speaker's election on February 24, he wrote, "It should have been a dignified process. been a dignified process. Unfortunately, the process was marred by sloganeering and disruption by the opposition members. Despite this unbecoming conduct, I exercised restraint and did not take any

disciplinary action." Regarding the LG's address on February 25, Gupta pointed to the fifth schedule (code of conduct rules), which mandates that interruptions during the LG's speech be treated as "disrespect towards the Lt Governor and contempt of the House". He said suspending the MLAs was not an arbitrary decision but based on clear

mostly held by bureaucrats. A career bureaucrat, Pandey, 59, is currently the finance secretary and is known to be stickler for rules and a clean image. He will have a threeyear term.

He is the second bureaucrat from the finance ministry to have been appointed to key roles in the financial sector since December. His colleague in charge of the revenue department Sanjay Malhotra was in December appointed as Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

A 1987-batch Odisha-cadre Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer, Pandey has been the longest serving secretary, divestment serving for over five years. The role of finance secretary was added to his portfolio in September last year by virtue of him being the senior most among the secretaries in the finance ministry.

home preserved to keep identity alive

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ITANAGAR

 \ensuremath{In} a fast-changing world, where traditions are often forgotten, a young woman is ensuring her community's heritage lives on-not in books or behind glass, but within the very walls of her home.

Leike Chomu, a 24-year-old from the Monpa community in western Arunachal Pradesh, has turned her 200-year-old ancestral house into a living museum.

More than just a collection of artefacts, the museum itself is a piece of history-built using ancient Monpa techniques with mud and stone.

"It's about keeping our cultural identity alive," Chomu said. The idea was mooted by WWF India

as part of its efforts to safeguard the unique heritage of the Monpa community. However, the transformation of the house into a museum was something she took on personally.

From restoring the structure, conserving artefacts and setting up the space to make it accessible to visitors, Chomu has been actively involved in every step.

"For me, this is more than just a project. It is my family's legacy," she added

modernisation rapidly With changing traditional lifestyles, she to safeguard Monpa wanted knowledge and everyday practices before they faded away.

Instead of creating a conventional museum with only artefacts, this initiative preserves the house itself, showcasing Monpa architecture, lifestyle, and traditions, Chomu said.

Visitors don't just see historical objects. They can experience how the Monpa people lived centuries ago, she added.

After months of dedication, the museum was formally launched on October 5 last year. Since then,



Artifacts displayed inside the museum that Leiki Chomu, a 24-year-old woman from the Monpa community, created after transforming her 200-year-old ancestral home, at Chug Valley in the Dirang area of West Kameng district, Arunachal Pradesh PT

tourists many and culture enthusiasts have visited.

'They are amazed that the museum isn't just about objects but the house itself, its architecture, the way of life and the stories it holds. Visitors appreciate the authenticity, often describing it as a rare and immersive experience that feels like stepping back in time," Chomu added.

Some have even mentioned that walking through the house gives them a deep sense of connection to the Monpa heritage. Originally from Chug Valley under

Dirang in West Kameng district of the northeastern state, Chomu holds a BSc degree in agriculture with a background in agroecology. Her deep connection to the land and traditional knowledge has fueled her passion for heritage preservation.

The museum is my ancestral house. I have worked to preserve and transform it into a living museum," she explained.

Chess colossus, Boris Spassky dies at 88

PTI MOSCOW

 $B^{\rm oris}$ Spassky, a Soviet-era world chess champion who lost his title to American Bobby Fischer in a legendary 1972 match that became a proxy for Cold War rivalries, died Thursday in Moscow. He was 88.

The death of the one-time chess prodigy was announced by the International Chess Federation, the game's governing body. No cause was given. Spassky was "one of the greatest players of all time," the group said on the social platform X. He "left an indelible mark on the game." The televised 1972 match with Fischer, at the height of the Cold War, became an international sensation and was known as the "Match of the Century."

When Fischer won the international chess crown in Reykjavik, Iceland, the then-29-year-old chess genius from Brooklyn, New York, brought

the US its first world chess title. Fischer, known to be testy and difficult, died in 2008. After

his victory of Spassky, he later forfeited the title by refusing to defend it.

Former world champion Garry Kasparov wrote on X that Spassky "was never above befriending and mentoring the next generation, especially those of us who, like him, didn't fit comfortably into the Soviet machine.



capital 02

CM highlights India's scientific rise on National Science Day

STAFF REPORTER BHOPAL

hief Minister Mohan Yadav stated that a structured, sciencebased approach, encourage-ment of curiosity, and the adoption of advanced technologies have paved the way for India to be counted among the world's leading nations. He emphasized that this achievement has been made possible under the leadership and guid-ance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The state government is continuously striving to enhance the lives of ordinary citizens by maximizing the use of science in governance, education, and public administration.

Yadav addressed students and youth at an event organized at Vigyan Bhawan in Bhopal on students, engaging with them National Science Day, based on the theme "Empowering projects.

Indian Youth for Global As part of the event, Dr. Yadav planted a tree under the "One Leadership in Science and Innovation for a Developed Tree in the Name of Mother" India." He inaugurated the initiative. He also interacted program by lighting a lamp and offering floral tributes to with progressive farmer Puranlal Kushwaha from Goddess Saraswati. Prior to Tikamgarh, who demonstratthis, he also paid tribute to the ed his innovative wind and great Nobel Prize-winning sciwater-powered irrigation entist, C.V. Raman, by garpump. landing his statue. The event was attended by several dignitaries, including Ashok Kadel, Director of the Madhya Pradesh Hindi Granth Academy; Shriram Tiwari, On the occasion of National On the occasion of National Science Day, Dr. Yadav inau-gurated the "Center of Excellence in STEM Education" at Vigyan Bhawan. During his visit, he observed various models and scientif-ic equipment that help stu-dents easily understand dif-ferent scientific principles. He also toured an exhibition showcasing scientific models

Director of Vikramaditya Research Institute and Cultural Advisor to the Chief Minister; and Anil Kothari, Director General of the Madhya Pradesh Council of Science and Technology.

showcasing scientific models Yadav launched several sciencebased initiatives, including and innovations created by Capacity Development Program for Crop Insurance, 13th Madhya Pradesh Artisans' in discussions about their

Science Conference, Science Journey, Exploration Entrepreneurship Development Program, National Science Conference under Vikramotsav-2025, Science Festival, and Patent & Technology-Based Training-Center Establishment Posters

During the event, a Memorandum

of Understanding (MoU) was Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Madhya Pradesh Council of Science & Technology and VIT Bhopal to foster academic and scientific collaboration. The Chief Minister also unveiled "Rachna," a magazine by the Madhya Pradesh Hindi Granth Academy.

Yadav highlighted that India is experiencing a golden era under Prime Minister Modi's leadership, making significant strides in science at a global level. He cited India's remarkable achieve-

Gupta

ments in vaccination and digi tal payments during the COVID-19 pandemic, noting that while countries like the United States and the United Kingdom faced disruptions, India efficiently and successfully managed its vast population with commitment and expertise. He emphasized that India has a long tradition of curiosity-driven scientific advancements. Long before the invention of the telescope in the West, India practiced Navagraha (nineplanet) worship and made pioneering contributions to astronomy. Lord Krishna's teachings in "Yat Pinde Tat Brahmande" reflect the interconnectedness of the universe and the human body, while "Charaiveti-Charaiveti" signifies the continuous flow of time. He also pointed out that the law of gravity was already present in ancient Indian scriptures.



Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav inaugurates center of excellence in STEM education during a programme at Madhya Pradesh Council of Science and Technology (MAPCST) on the occasion of National Science Day in Bhopal on Friday.

150 staff allegedly confined over Holi event dispute State Election Commissioners to meet at Pench National Park

STAFF REPORTER BHOPAL

◄he 31st conference of Election State L Commissioners from various states will be held at Pench National Park in Seoni district from March 1 to 4. A total of 22 State Election Commissioners will participate in the event, where discussions will focus on challenges encountered during local body elections and strategies to address them. The conference will also highlight innovations, reforms, and the integration of new technologies in the electoral process.

According to the schedule set by the commission, the conference will commence on March 2. In the first session, Madhya Pradesh State Election Commission

3.

5.

present a demonstration on conducting panchayat elections through e-polling booths and paperless booths. A film showcasing the process will also be screened. Additionally, Andhra Pradesh State Election Commissioner Neelam Sahni will present insights on the automated local body election process. The second session will feature a meeting of the Standing Committee of State Election Commissioners to deliberate on challenges faced during local body elections and their solutions.

On March 3, subject experts will present strategies to enhance transparency in the election process, strengthen democracy, facilitate remote voter registration, and implement online voting. Discussions will also include

Secretary Abhishek Singh will the adoption of new technologies in local elections. Representatives from organizations such as Electronics Corporation of India Limited (ECIL), Bharat Electronics Corporation (BEL), and ITI Limited, Bangalore, will introduce new innovations in election management. On March 4, the State Election Commissioners will

embark on an educational tour, during which the Madhya Pradesh State Election Commission will showcase a demonstration of a paperless booth.

Key attendees of the confer-ence will include Andhra Pradesh State Election Commissioner Neelam Sahni, Dr. Vijay Dev (Delhi-Chandigarh), Daulat Havaldar (Goa), Dr. B.K. Tiwari (Jharkhand), G.S. Sangreshi (Karnataka), Madhukar

Madhusudan Padhi (Odisha), I. Rani Kumudini (Telangana), Anil Kumar Khanchi (Himachal Pradesh), Alok Kumar (Assam), B. Jothi Nirmalasamy (Tamil Nadu), Dinesh T. Waghmare (Maharashtra), K.C. Lepcha (Sikkim), B.R. Sharma (Jammu & Kashmir), Sudhanshu Pandey (Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu), Sharadendu Chaudhary (Tripura), Dr. S. Muralikrishnan (Gujarat), Raj Pratap Singh (Uttar Pradesh), Sushil Kumar (Uttarakhand), Dr. Deepak Prasad (Bihar), and A. Shahjahan (Kerala). The host, Madhya Pradesh State Election Commissioner Manoj Kumar Srivastava, along with secretaries and

officials from various election

commissions, will also par-

ticipate in the conference.

(Rajasthan)

PNS INDORE

our student leaders From the Government Holkar Science College in Indore were suspended for allegedly hold-ing more than 150 staff members hostage after they denied permission to celebrate a Holi programme. Official sources said that the Students had planned to organise the 'Holkar Ka Holi Fest' on March 7, fea-turing DJ performances and a "rain dance". A civil services examination co-sponsored the event, which also demanded an entry fee of Rs 150. The college administra-

tion denied permission for the event, but the students ignored it and pasted posters on the campus

about the event, sources

said.

"The students had put up posters on February 23, announcing a Holi event at the college on March 7 without the permission of the principal. These posters were removed on the instructions of the college head," an official said citing an administration's investigative report.

A protest was organised by the students against the administration's decision to remove the posters. The door of the college's Yashwant Hall was closed from outside and its power from outside and its power supply was also cut off on February 24, the report said.

Officials said that a meeting of about 150 was underway when the inci-dent happened, and peo-

ple, including female pro-fessors, were trapped for **Bhopal:** The Bhopal Municipal Corporation (BMC) on Friday about 30 minutes due to heavy screaming and heckling by the students. Principal of the college, Anamika Jain, said an investigation conducted carried out anti-encroachment operations in several areas of the state capital, removing kiosks, by the district administration found four students guilty of "gross indiscipline." The investi-gation report termed this act as a serious indiscipline and recommended strict action against the four student leaders. Thus, all

four were expelled and were instructed to collect their transfer certificates, she added.

The college was established in 1891 by the then Holkar rulers of Indore. The district administration has launched an investigation into the incident.

meters

carts, shops, and structures from roads, footpaths, and public spaces. As part of an ongoing drive to free public spaces from the clutches of encroachers, BMC

BMC frees public spaces across city

teams targeted AIIMS Gate Nos. 2 and 3, Jahangirabad, Chhola Dussehra Ground, Ratnagiri, Anand Nagar, Gandhi Nagar, ISBT, Karond Square, Station Bajaria, Link Roads 1, 2, and 3, Jawahar Chowk, and more.

The teams dismantled unauthorised signboards, sugarcane crushers, and kiosks while preventing further encroachments on stormwater drains, ensuring better public accessibility and safeguarding urban infrastruc-ture from illegal construction and misuse.

BMC officials said, "Strict action will continue against encroachments to maintain public order. The corporation is committed to ensuring smooth movement for pedestrians and vehicles by keeping public spaces free from

unauthorised occupation." Also on the day, BMC honoured dedicated service at a ceremony and sweets as tokens of appre-ciation for their contribution to

Coxed Eights (M8+). The Senior Women's category will feature Single Sculls (W1X), Double Sculls (W2X), Coxless Pairs (W2-), Coxless Fours (W4-), Lightweight Women's Double Sculls (LW2X), Quadruple Sculls (W4X), and Coxed Eights

Sculls (LM2X), Open Double Sculls (M2X - Civilian),

Coxless Fours (M4- - Civilian),

Ouadruple Sculls (M4X), and

Preparations underway for National Rowing Championship

from March 3 to 7 at the

STAFF REPORTER BHOPAL

ooperation, Sports, and Youth Welfare Minister Vishvas Kailash Sarang reviewed the preparations for the 42nd National Rowing Championship in a meeting with senior officials of the Sports and Youth Welfare Department on Friday. He instructed officials to ensure proper arrangements for the accommodation, food, security, and other essential facil-ities for players and coaches. Additionally, the championship will be broadcast live on LED screens at Boat Club athletes representing 25 states, and major intersections across competing in a total of 14 rowsports enthuowing siasts to witness the thrilling competition. The meeting was attended by Sports and Youth Welfare Department Director Ravi Kumar Gupta, Joint Director B.L. Yadav, and other senior officials. Sarang announced that the 42nd National Rowing Championship will be held

Madhya Pradesh State Water Sports Academy, Boat Club, situated on the Upper Lake in Bhopal. Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav will inaugurate the event on March 3. The opening ceremony will feature special demonstrations of rowing, kayaking-canoeing, sail-ing, and slalom sports by the athletes of the Madhya Pradesh State Water Sports Academy, offering spectators a spectacular display of water sports.

The championship will witness participation from around 500

In the Senior Men's category, events will include Single Sculls (M1X), Double Sculls (M2X), Coxless Pairs (M2-), Coxless Fours (M4-), Lightweight Men's Double

five retiring employees for their held at the Mata Mandir municipal office, where they were presented with shawls, coconuts, certificates, flower bouquets,

civic administration. Assistant Commissioner R.D. Sharma bid farewell to Afroz Ali. Hargovind Rajput, Ganesh Ram, Jamuna Prasad, and Kiran Pradhan, acknowledging their



Shahar Qazi Maulana Syed Mushtaq Ali Nadvi and other clerics gather for sighting of the moon and to announce the beginning of the holy month of Ramadan at Moti Masjid in Bhopal on Friday Pioneer photo

DECLARATION FORM IV (SEE RULE 8)

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Syed Naved Alan

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14. Udai S. Sinha

I. Sved Naved Alam, hereby declare that the particulars given above are

true to the best of my knowledge and belief

Place: Bhopal

Dated: March 1st. 2025

15. Ramesh Gandhi

on viral video girl STAFF REPORTER BHOPAL

video of a girl standing A and dancing on a moving bike while hurling abuses along with two male companions on VIP Road has sparked outrage among commuters. The video, which has gone viral on social media, shows the girl giving flying kisses to pedestrians while the bike speeds through the busy road. Eyewitnesses reported that the girl's co-riders misbehaved with pedestrians and taunted them when they tried to capture the incident on camera. The reckless

stunt and public nuisance have drawn strong criticism from the public, who have demanded strict action against the offend-Following the video's circulation,

traffic police officials have taken cognizance of the matter. Additional DCP Traffic Basant Kaul stated that action will be taken against the trio based on the bike's registration number. "A viral video of a girl and two youths riding a black bike on VIP Road has come to our notice. The girl is seen standing on the moving bike, creating a danger-

identified and arrested.

Ón February 27, the police received intelligence about a ous situation for herself and others. Based on the vehicle's regsuspicious youth roaming istration number, all three will be around Housing Board

Police takes action Notorious vehicle thief arrested with weapon, stolen vehicles recovered

STAFF REPORTER BHOPAL

■ he Nishatpura police have arrested a vehicle thief in possession of weapons and three stolen vehicles, recovering stolen goods worth approximately Rs 3 lakh.

The accused, identified as Mohammad Fazal alias Fajju, was caught with a sharp-edged weapon, a stolen Hero Dio scooter, an e-rickshaw, and a Splendor motorcycle. Police records reveal that Fajju has been booked in more than eight cases related to theft, kidnapping, and violations of the Arms Act across multiple police stations, including Nisĥatpura, Shahjehanabaď, Tilajamalpura, and

Jahangirabad. According to officials, the accused had no permanent address and frequently changed his rented accommodation after committing crimes. More than five of his hideouts have been verified by the police.

Colony on a motorcycle

without a registration plate while carrying a sharp knife, allegedly planning a crime. Acting on this tip-off, the Nishatpura SHO dispatched a team to the location. The suspect was detained near Dussehra Maidan, Housing Board Colony. Upon frisking, police recov-

ered a sharp iron knife from the accused. During interrogation, he admitted to stealing the motorcycle without a registration plate. Further questioning led to his confession of stealing a total of three vehicles.

Subsequently, police seized a Hero Dio scooter, an erickshaw, and a Splendor motorcycle from his possession. Fajju has been booked under multiple cases related to the Arms Act and theft. He was pro-

duced in court following his arrest. Police officials confirmed that the accused has a long history of criminal activities, with multiple cases registered against him at Nishatpura, Shahjehanabad,

and Tilajamalpura police stations. Investigations are ongoing to determine his involvement in other crimes.

petition will provide an excellent platform for the country's top rowers to showcase their talent.

The 42nd National Rowing Championship will feature competitions in senior men's, senior women's, and para rowing categories, with all races covering a distance of 2000

For Para Rowing, competitions will include Para Men's Single Scull (PR3M1X) and Para Women's Single Scull (PR3W1X).

With extensive preparations in place, the championship is set to be a grand sporting spectacle, attracting top rowing talent from across the country.

nvaluable service. including S. Nazeer Ahmed, Shamim Qureshi, Anand Kumar Phoolwani, O.P. Saxena, Rajendra Saxena, and others attended the event.

The BMC extended its best wishes, encouraging them to enjoy well-earned relaxation, pursue hobbies, and cherish time with loved ones.



Members of Dawoodi Bohra Community break their fast on the first day of the beginning of the holy month of Ramadan, in Pioneer photo

Government under fire over Class 12 exam paper leak

STAFF REPORTER BHOPAL

◄he education system in Madhya Pradesh has come under serious scrutiny following the leak of MP Board Class 12 exam papers, which are allegedly being sold openly on Telegram. NSUI National Spokesperson Viraj Yadav said that according to several news reports more than 2 lakh students are connected to various

illegal Telegram groups where exam papers are being sold for amounts ranging from Rs 200

to Rs 2000. Despite the alarming scale of the leak, the state government and the Cyber Cell have failed to take effective action, raising questions about their ability to monitor digital activities. Critics argue that the ongoing racket suggests a collapse in the state's education system and raises concerns over possible involvement or negligence by authorities.

In response to the controversy, Yadav has submitted a memorandum to Education Minister Uday Pratap Singh and ADG Cyber Cell A. Sai Manohar, demanding immediate intervention. The protest highlights growing public frustration over the education mafia's unchecked operations and the government's apparent inaction.

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Bhopal on Friday



Political row over Carbide waste disposal intensifies in MP

STAFF REPORTER BHOPAL

ven as the Supreme Court granted the Madhya Pradesh government permission to dispose of Union Carbide India Ltd (UCIL) waste at the Pithampur industrial site, the political controversy surrounding the issue continues to escalate.

The opposition Congress has accused the ruling BJP of presenting "incorrect data" and "misleading reports" before the court while allegedly concealing facts about water contamination in the Pithampur industrial area.

State Congress president Jitu Patwari on Friday criticized the BJP government, questioning its silence despite Indore and Pithampur being its strongholds.

"At present, there are two

senior ministers from Indore, Thursday refused to interfere and they should speak up to with the Madhya Pradesh High protect public health. This Court's order allowing the shift-UCIL waste will cause cancer ing of toxic waste from the 1984 Bhopal gas tragedy site to Pithampur in Dhar district for among the people of Pithampur," Patwari alleged. The Congress leader chaldisposal lenged the BJP government to conduct a groundwater survey

around the Ramky factory premises to reveal the truth. "I challenge the MP govern-ment to conduct a groundwa-ter survey around the Ramky factory. If there is no poison in Union Carbide's waste, then Ramky should get the water tested within a 10 km radius. If cancer-causing elements are not found, I will publicly apologize! The court directed the state government to decide based on facts, but critical information is being suppressed," he claimed. The Supreme Court on

A bench of Justice B.R. Gavai and Justice Augustine George Masih disposed of a petition challenging the December 3, 2024, High Court order, which directed the state government

to remove the toxic waste from the UCIL site. The bench noted that the High Court's order was based on recommendations from an expert committee comprising directors from the National Environmental Engineering Institute (NEERI), the National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI), and the chairman of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).

The court observed that NEERI and NGRI are "institutes of repute and recognition," and courts have often relied on their expert opinions in environmental matters. It stated that the Madhya Pradesh government had made its decision based on the expert panel's approval.

The High Court had expressed concerns over the slow progress in handling the waste disposal issue and was actively monitoring the matter.

"It is evident that only after the High Court's intervention did the process move forward. Since the High Court is overseeing the matter, we find no reason to interfere with its order," the bench ruled.

The Supreme Court also directed civil society members and other intervenors to present their concerns before the High

PNS INDORE

Adalat

resolution mechanisms.

awareness effort.

the

The marathon will see enthusi-

astic participation from

Honourable Justices, District

Marathon to enhance Lok Adalat awareness

Court, which would take them into consideration. It further allowed parties to submit suggestions to the High Court or the state government, which would then forward them to the expert committee for review.

On January 1, around 377 tonnes of hazardous waste from the defunct UCIL factory were transferred to the Pithampur industrial area, about 250 km from Bhopal and 30 km from Indore, for dis-

posal. The 1984 Bhopal gas tragedy, one of the world's worst industrial disasters, occurred when highly toxic methyl isocyanate (MIC) gas leaked from the Union Carbide factory on the intervening night of December 2-3. The disaster claimed 5,479 lives and affected over five lakh people.



Governor Mangubhai Patelpresenting degrees to students during the 7th Convocation Ceremony of Nanaji Deshmukh Veterinary Science University, Jabalpur,

Visitors go through the stalls at Anant Mahotsav organised at Gauhar Mahal in Bhopal on Friday. Pioneer photo

CM reviews Ravidas temple construction

Bhopal: Chief Minister Mohan Yadav inspected the ongoing construction of the Sant Ravidas Temple in Badtuma, Sagar. He paid floral tributes to the statue of Sant Ravidas in Sagar and appreciated the artisans engaged in the construction of the temple. Dr. Yadav reviewed the temple model and obtained details about the progress of various construction activities. He also watched a video exhibition based on the construction.

Yadav stated that under the visionary leadership of PM Narendra Modi, who is committed to refining and preserving Indian culture and fostering social harmony, the grand Sant Ravidas Temple is taking shape. He emphasized that this magwill not only be a center of faith but will also introduce people from across the country and the world to India's great saint traditions and the teachings of Sant Shiromani Ravidas.

In the ancient and historically significant city of Sagar, efforts are being made to highlight Sant Ravidas's life values and legacy through the temple museum. The central theme of the museum is to introduce visitors to Sant Ravidas's deep devotion to God. The 66-feet-tall temple is being built in the Nagara style using red stone, without iron. The temple's sanctum sanctorum, antechamber, and entrance hall have been elevated five feet from the road level, and 72 intricately carved

stone pillars have been installed,

upper structure. Four galleries are being constructed around the temple, where Sant Ravidas's life will be showcased in a detailed and modern manner. A library will be set up to house spiritual and religious books related to Sant Ravidas.

The Temple complex, under construction in Badtuma, Sagar, covers an area of 11 acres with an estimated cost of Rs 101 crore. The key features of temple include Temple construction in 9,000 sqft, the museum is to be constructed in 15,000 sqft, a 100 bed dormitory in 11,000 sqft, a 12-room devotee residence in 12,000 sqft, library and congregation hall in 10,000 sqft, cafeteria 2,152 sqft, the holy water pond in 2,905 sqft, and for the Gajivo structure in 538 sqft.

Bhopal: Amid speculation that the Aam Aadmi Party's (AAP) state office at Subhash Nagar was locked by the landlord due to unpaid rent, party spokesperson Bhupendra Sharma on Friday categorically denied the claims. Speaking to The Pioneer, Sharma stated that the office has been opening regularly at 11 a.m. every day. He suggested that someone might have arrived early in the morning before the office opened, leading to the misunderstanding. He said this after confirming with the office in charge and the secretary.

The rumours, which come less than a month after AAP faced an electoral drubbing at the hands of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in the national capital, been placed at various locations

ticipate actively in this unique initiative, contributing to a broader understanding of mediation and legal aid services. By joining the marathon, the people of Indore can play a role in making justice more accessible and effective for all.

across Indore to boost public participation. Additionally, posters featuring QR codes and regis-tration links are being circulated digitally, allowing easy sign-ups for interested citizens eager to support the cause. Citizens are encouraged to par-

the Vice-Chancellor, former Vice-Chancellors, and members of the Management and Executive Council. The event formally began with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp before Goddess Saraswati by the dignitaries. Dr. S.S. Tomar, Registrar

of the university, announced the formal commencement of the ceremony with the Chancellor's approval. In his address, Vice-Chancellor

Mandeep Sharma presented the university's progress report, highlighting achievements in

STAFF REPORTER BHOPAL

esidents of the

Banganga area in the

Fear grips Banganga as a 'shadow' allegedly targets women

Veterinary Corps) were also

felicitated with commendation

Locals claim that an unidentified figure, described as an 'unknown shadow', has been roaming the area, allegedly targeting girls and women

months, the people of Banganga have been living under constant fear. Residents allege that this unidentified individual hides in abandoned buildings and carefuling from stepping out of their homes after dusk, and the overall atmosphere in the area remains tense. Concerned residents have submitted complaints to the local MLA, councilor, and TT

Nagar police station,

the rounds on social media. locked the premises over ?50,000

> apart from the state office, AAP has a district office at Narela Shankari. While the party has firmly refuted the allegations, the controversy has added fuel to political chat-

Registrar/Secretary's office attended by key officials, includ-Jabalpur: The 7th Convocation grand Mediation and Lok ing administrative and police Ceremony of Nanaji Deshmukh Awareness officers, medical professionals, Veterinary Science University A Marathon is set to take bank representatives, and legal was held on February 28, 2025, in the university premises under place on March 2 from the High experts. Their coordinated efforts Court Campus, Indore, under the are set to make the marathon a the esteemed chairmanship of leadership of Justice Sanjeev seamless experience for all par-Chancellor and Governor of Sachdeva and Justice Vivek Rusia. Madhya Pradesh, Mangubhai ticipants. Patel. The event was graced by The event aims to promote legal awareness and alternative dispute

Banners and pamphlets have

Court Judges, Administrative Officers, Police Officers, and Advocates. Community Mediators, Panel Advocates, Para Legal Volunteers, and students convocation procession reached the stage, led by the Chancellor, the Animal Husbandry Minister, from Force Academy and Law Colleges will also join the initiative, making it a significant legal

To ensure smooth execution, a high-level meeting was held at Principal

'Locked out' of party office, AAP refutes rumours



on time through contributions from its members. He assured that the office has been functioning without interruption and will continue to do so. He also highlighted that,

Kanganga area an enter state capital are living in fear due to a bizarre and alarming situation. Locals claim that an unidentified figure, described as an 'unknown shadow', has been ter, with observers debating whether it was a case of misinroaming the area, allegedly formation or an attempt to undertargeting girls and women.

education, research, and extension programs. A souvenir of the convocation ceremony was also released. The Chancellor conferred degrees and gold medals

7th Convocation of NDVSU organised

to meritorious students. In this convocation, a total of 1,029 students from academic sessions 2021-22, 2022-23, and 2023-24 were awarded degrees, the presence of Hon'ble Minister of Animal Husbandry, Lakhan Patel, as the chief guest. The cerincluding 678 students in B.V.Sc & A.H., 229 students in M.V.Sc., 34 in Ph.D., 76 in B.F.Sc., and 12 in M.F.Sc. A total of 12 gold emony commenced with floral tributes to Bharat Ratna Nanaji medals were awarded to out-standing students in different programs, including Dr. Neha Sharma, Neelam Soni, Nivedia Deshmukh and a tree plantation in the university premises by the Chancellor. Following this, the Dwivedi for B.V.Sc & A.H.; Anika Namdev, Nishi Pathak, and Mansi Harinkhede for B.F.Sc.; Mareddy Vinita Reddy, Dr. Afreen Khan, and Dr. Annapureddy Pravalika for M.V.Sc.; and Dr. Ravi Sikarodiya, Dr. Payal Jain, and Dr. Ankit Jain for Ph.D. Additionally, the Vice-Chancellor Gold Medal was awarded to Ojal Singh, Dr. Sonal Dixit, and Dr. Rishi Shivhare for their exceptional performance. Former students selected in RVC (Remount

Governor Mangubhai Patel initiated his speech with the slogan "Pujya Nanaji Amar Rahein" and urged students to read about Nanaji Deshmukh's life and embrace his ideals of social service. He appreciated the university's research efforts in wildlife conservation and disease diagnosis and encouraged students to dedicate themselves to animal welfare, considering it a noble profession. Hon'ble Minister of Animal Husbandry, Lakhan Patel, congratulated the gold medalists and graduates. He emphasized the significance of animal husbandry as a means of economic growth and lauded Nanaji Deshmukh's contributions to rural development. The keynote address was delivered by BN Tripathi, Vice-Chancellor of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, Jammu.

Addressing the gathering,

certificates.

capital 03

Vice-Chancellor Prof. Mandeep Sharma honored the distinguished guests with shawls, coconuts, and mementos. Later, Governor Mangubhai Patel visited the Narmada Girls' Hostel, inspecting the facilities and interacting with students.

Madhya Pradesh enters a new era of road development with GIS-Bhopal: CM

STAFF REPORTER BHOPAL

hief Minister Mohan Yadav said that Madhya Pradesh is rapidly entering in a new era of development. The modern road infrastructure is set to connect every corner of the state, driving economic growth to new heights. On the first day of the Global Investors Summit in Bhopal, the government signed a historic MoU worth Rs 1 lakh crore with the National Highway Authority. This agreement will facilitate the construction and development of 4.010 km of road projects across the state, positioning Madhya Pradesh as a key logistics and infrastructure hub, not just for India but for all of South Asia. Yadav emphasized that these agreements go beyond just road construction-they will serve as the foundation for economic

development, industrial expansion, job creation, and an improved quality of life in the state. He said that a robust road network naturally fosters trade, investment, and industrial growth. 'Our goal is to make Madhya Pradesh the most developed and modern state in India, and this agreement marks a significant step in that

direction,' he added. These historic MoUs signed at GIS-Bhopal will lead to the development of several important road projects. MoUs have been signed at GIS-Bhopal for strengthening road infrastructure. These include Indore-Bhopal Greenfield High-Speed Corridor, Bhopal-Jabalpur Greenfield High-Speed Corridor, Prayagraj-Jabalpur-Nagpur Corridor, Lakhnadaun-Raipur Expressway, Agra-Gwalior National Highway, Ujjain-Jhalawar National

Highway, Indore Ring Road (Western and Eastern Bypass), Jabalpur-Damoh National Highway, Satna-Chitrakoot National Highway, Rewa-Sidhi National Highway and 4-lane bypass on the western edge of Gwalior city.

The new road projects will not only connect Madhya Pradesh to national and international trade routes but will also provide better connectivity between the major cities of the state. This will reduce travel time, reduce logistics and freight transport costs, and provide new opportunities to the agriculture, industry, tourism, and trade sectors. Yadav stated that the progress of any state depends on a strong infrastructure, an efficient transport system, and a robust economic model. These agreements will accelerate the transformation of Madhya

Pradesh into a new industrial and economic hub. He emphasized that improved road networks would make it easier for industries to transport their products to markets, leading to the establishment of new industries and a surge in trade. Farmers will benefit as they can transport their produce to cities and markets faster, ensuring better prices. Additionally, enhanced connectivity will improve access to tourist destinations, giving a significant boost to the tourism industry. The project is expected to generate thousands of direct and indirect employment opportunities. Engineers, labourers, technical experts, and local entrepreneurs will benefit during the construction phase. Furthermore, new road projects will stimulate growth in logistics, hospitality, and various other businesses.

Chief Minister Yadav emphasized the government's commitment to the swift implementation and timely completion of these projects. He stated that all developments will adhere to world-class technology, sustainable construction practices, and the highest quality standards. To ensure efficiency, the government will extend full support to the National Highways Authority of India and other relevant departments, ensuring that the projects are completed within the stipulated timeframe. Yadav highlighted that the government is actively promoting various infrastructure projects un Public-Private Pa

(PPP) model. This will not only accel ject execution enhance transpa implementation.

mysterious figure appears in the evening and is said to harass and molest women before vanishing without a trace. Shockingly, incidents of molestation and sexual assault are being reported not only at night but also in broad daylight, raising serious concerns about women's safe-

According

ty in the area. For the past three to four

ASI line attached

Bhopal: ASI Pawar Raghuvanshi, posted a Aishbagh Police Station, was line attached on Friday fol lowing accusations of taking lax action in a fraud case involving a call center opera tor.

He is also accused of colluding ng ai vesti

o reports, this selects his victims. Several attempts have been made to catch him, but he has managed to evade capture each time. Locals believe that the perpetrator is highly cautious, avoiding detection until he spots a lone woman or girl, after which he strikes.

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The fear instilled by this unknown assailant has drastically affected daily life. Women and girls are refrain-

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Holy month of Ramadan arrives, bringing bustle across city mar

STAFF REPORTER BHOPAL

the month-long Ramadan season commenced in the city, the Dawoodi Bohra community observed the first of their daylong fasts on Friday.

The majority of Muslims in the state capital, belonging to the Hanafi school of thought, however, will start their month-long fasting period after the sighting of the Ramadan moon.

With the imminent arrival of the month, the ninth on the Islamic calendar, festive shoppers thronged markets in the old city to shop for dates (khajur), feni (a vermicelli-like breakfast food), and sheermal, a mildly sweet bread.

Shopkeepers say that the month of fasting used to be the peak business season for traders dealing in these edibles, which are steeped in city tradition.

century



They lament that their busi-Several customers complain that nesses have suffered due to the traditional flavour of edibles changing eating habits among the city's youth. "Most of our has altered over the years. Ali admits, "It is true that we have wares are made from flour, moved to packaged yeast and which the younger generation stopped using desi ghee in our has started to avoid due to health recipes due to cost considerations." He adds that the age-old reasons," says Shahwar Ali, whose family has been in the flavour can still be found in the bakery business for close to a more expensive, made-to-order goods supplied by his family.

Mohammad Amir, an IT professional and a budding Functional Medicine practitioner, says that adulteration and health risks have pushed his family to refresh the traditional Sehri (the pre-dawn meal that precedes the fast) and Iftar (the meal after sunset that ends it) menus.

"I no longer trust the colours used by those selling Nukti-Khaare and other Ramadan staples, as they are just not healthy.

Nukti-Khaare, a mix of colourful droplets of gram flour batter, deep-fried and soaked in sugar syrup, and deep-fried savouries, however, remain an absolute Ramadan favourite in the city, and their presence on any Bhopali Iftar spread is almost mandatory.

Back on the street, makeshift stalls selling these Ramadan goodies are coming up in İbrahimpura, İmami Gate, Kaziq

Camp, and Itwara to surge in demand.

Meanwhile, hordes of burga-clad women were shopping at cloth markets on Nadeem Road and in Lakherapura in the Chowk Bazaar. Shopping for clothes traditionally used to be a Ramadan ritual, but in recent times, people try to complete their purchases before the fasting month arrives. While some attribute the shift to affluence, others say that it is best to avoid the markets during Ramadan in stricter adherence to the tenets of purdah, which has become increasingly popular among Muslim women in the city over the past decades. Yet, even as traditions evolve, the spirit of Ramadan in Bhopal remains unchanged-woven into its markets, its meals, and its moments of generosity, which may suffer this time due to an

administrative ban on alms-seek-

ing on the city streets.

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6.	Ratna Saxena	HIG-12 Sterling Castle, Hoshangabad Road, Bhopal Misrod	7500/-	10/08/2024, 30/08/2024, 27/09/2024, 04/11/2024, 04/02/2025	01/10/2020
7.	Raghuveer Singh	D-68, Lotus Shalimar Seven Garden, Hoshangabad Road, Bhopal	7500/-	27.09.2024, 04/11/2024,04/02/2025	22/01/2021
8.	Varunjeet Choudhary	House No 2, Raj Niwas, Khasara No 440, Bawadiya Kalan, Hoshangabad Road	3000/-	27/09/2024, 10/08/2024, 30/08/2024, 04/11/2024, 04/02/2025	16/03/2023
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Chief Manager, Bank of India, Misrod Branch

demanding swift action to ensure their safety. Authorities are yet to make a breakthrough in identifying and apprehending the suspect. Meanwhile, the community continues to remain on edge,

hoping for urgent intervention before the situation escalates further.



India-EU agree to conclude FTA by year end

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen on Friday agreed to conclude an ambitious India-EU free trade deal by this year amid fears that the Trump administration's threat of higher tariffs could adversely impact the global economy. In their talks, both the leaders also decided to expand twoway defence cooperation, especially in the Indo-Pacific with Vonder Leyen announcing that the announcing that the European Union (EU) was looking at firming up a security and defence pact with India in line with its partnerships with close allies Japan and South Korea.

The deadline for concluding the trade deal that would be the largest of its kind globally came over 17 years after the two sides first began negotiations for it. Negotiations for the pact was re-launched in June 2022 after they were suspended in 2013 due to a gap in ambition.

"Today, we have decided to create a bold and ambitious roadmap for the India-EU partnership for the period beyond 2025. It will be launched during the next India-EU summit," Modi said. India is set to host the summit later this year. The negotiations for the deal

were not moving forward ostensibly in view of the EU's persistent demands to New Delhi cut tariffs on cars, wine and agricultural products. The EU Commission

president, accompanied by the College of Commissioners or senior political leaders of the bloc's member nations began her two-day India visit on Thursday. It is the first such visit after the European parliamentary elections in June last. In his media statement, Modi

indicated resolve by the two sides also to move forward on an negotiations for investment protection pact as well as on geographical



Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen near a bus powered by hydrogen fuel cell technology at the Hyderabad House in New Delhi on Friday Ranjan Dimri

indications as part of broader agreement by the end of this efforts to boost investments. year," he said.

"We have prepared a blueprint for collaboration in the areas trade, technology, investment, innovation, green growth, security, skilling and mobility," he said. "We have directed our teams to mutually conclude beneficial bilateral free trade

Echoing Modi, Von der Leyen said, "We have tasked our teams to build on this momentum and finalise our free trade agreement before the end of this year." "We are expecting a lot of our trade negotiators, we told them they should surprise us," she said.

The Prime Minister described the growing India-EU cooperation on defence and security as a symbol of "mutual trust" and that both sides will take forward the engagement in areas of cyber security, maritime security and counter-terrorism.

"Both sides agree on the importance of peace, security, stability and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region," he said, welcoming the EU's decision to join the India-backed 'Indo Pacific Oceans Initiative'. "We will work together on

triangular development projects for sustainable and inclusive development in the Indo-Pacific region and Africa," Modi said.

Von der Leyen said now is the time to step up India-EU security and defence cooperation on land, sea and in space. She called the Indian Ocean as a "lifeline for global trade" and said ensuring its security is vital, not just for India but for the whole world. The remarks came amid China's increasing

forays into the region. "We should also explore expanding our joint naval exercises, building on our very successful operations in the Gulf of Guinea and the Red Sea," the European Commission chief said.

Finally, we should deepen cooperation in protecting the cables that ensure data connectivity between India and the European Union, she said. In his remarks, Modi said the India-EU strategic partnership is "natural and organic" and that it is based on "trust" and shared belief in democratic values. "We welcome the new visa cascade regime of the EU. This will provide better mobility to the abilities of India's talented youth," he said. On connectivity, Modi said concrete steps will be taken to take forward the India-Middle East-Europe Corridor (IMEEC). Economic

"I firmly believe that "IMEEC" shall serve as an engine that drives global commerce, sustainable growth and prosperity in the days to come."

EU exploring security, defence pact with India PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI

he European Union (EU) is L exploring a security and defence pact with India in line with its similar partnerships with close allies Japan and South Korea.

The announcement, seen as significant, was made by Commission European president Ursula von der Leven ahead of her wide-ranging talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi. In an address at a think-tank, she pitched for taking the EU-India strategic partnership to the next level to effectively deal with various geopolitical headwinds. Security should be a core part of our new strategic partnership with India, Von der Leyen said.

"This is why I can announce that we are exploring a future Security and Defence Partnership with India in the mould of the partnerships we have with Japan and South Korea," she said.

"This will help us step up our work to counter common threats whether on crossborder terrorism, maritime security threats, cyber-attacks or the new phenomenon we see: attacks on our critical infrastructure," she said.

nation 04

The president said there is a lot that both India and the EU can build on.

"For instance, the recent collaboration on maritime security. And I am delighted at India's interest in joining defence industrial projects under the EU's Permanent Structured Cooperation," she said. Von der Leyen said India is working hard to diversify its military supply and to access new capabilities and that both sides can help each other to deliver on "our security objectives".

"For instance, we can join forces where we have technology and expertise, such as on cyber security, space and drones. This is not only about stability in our respective regions," she said.

Technology to play pivotal role on combat future: CDS

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

With warfare increasingly becoming "networked, digitised and intelligent", technology would play a pivotal role in deciding the outcome of combats in the future, Chief of Defence Staff General (CDS) Anil Chauhan said here on Friday.

Addressing the Chanakya Dialogues conclave here on the "Bharat 2047: Atmanirbhar In War" theme, he said datacentric warfare includes looking at network security, redundancy, latency in data flow and the use of artificial intelligence as well as storage, collection and analytics of data.

Pitching for developing indigenous capabilities for defence manufacturing, IAF chief Air Chief Marshal AP Singh said the Indian Air Force would prefer a "homegrown" system even if it "sligĥtly gives lesser performance." He made this assertion in his address at the Chanakya Dialogues.

Referring to the trends in robotics and automation, General Ghouhan told the and cyber," he said. gathering that it presents a possibility of combat between humans and machines, and

increasingly becoming digitised, networked and

intelligent. So in future, I think technologies like artificial intelligence, data analytics and supercomputing will play a pivotal role in deciding the outcome of combat," Chauhan said. "The Indian armed forces actually want to transit to data-centric warfare or intelligentised warfare."

Explaining the concept of Theater Commands, the Chief of Defence staff described it as an attempt to separate force generation from force application. "Till now, both these

responsibilities were vested with the service headquarters or the service chiefs. He was responsible for recruitment, training, equipment acquisition and maintenance, among others," the CDS said. "So force generation and force application was one responsibility. Now, we are trying to separate that. We are trying to nominate a theatre commander who would be capable of carrying out multidomain operation, that means in all the three domains, including support from space

General Chauhan said, "In let's say, we add another future wars, one may be able to maybe 12-18 aircraft per year use data analytics so that from their side. So we are "We all know that warfare is are better and faster," adding is possible," he said.

that with advances in drone technology, the speed of warfare may also be higher.

IAF chief said there is a need for manufacturing at least 35-40 military aircraft in India every year and stressed the target is not impossible to meet. He said the IAF's first priority when it comes to acquisition, is "anything that is home grown". "So I'm very convinced in my mind that even if a home grown system gives me a slightly lesser Management (IIMs). performance... If it is 90 per cent or 85 per cent of what I get in the world market, we create a robust mechanism to will go for home grown system check this situation. We will because that is the only way we take this issue to the logical can get over with always conclusion," said the Bench. looking outward to get our

systems," he said. But at the same time, a home grown system cannot just happen overnight. It will take time and it needs to be supported. So for that, Indian Air Force is fully committed to any R&D project," he said. He said India needs to develop capability to produce at least 35-40 fighter aircraft every year to meet the requirements of replacing aging fleets.

2016, Tadvi, a student at TN Topiwala National Medical College, died on May 22, 2019, "If some private industry comes in for a make in India, after she was subjected to purported discrimination by three doctors in her college. ng that number. So that

Systems needed to check suicides in IITs, IIMs: SC

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

Grants Commission (UGC) had formulated draft regulations, which took care The Supreme Court on Friday said incidents of suicides in IITs and IIMs were of majority of the concern raised by the petitioners, and were uploaded on its website "extremely unfortunate" and assured a robust mechanism to inviting suggestions and

Centre, said the University

bictions from the public. Jaising said 40 per cent of the universities and 80 per cent of check such cases. A bench of Justices Surya Kant and N Kotiswar Singh was informed the colleges had not created by senior advocate Indira Jaising that in past 14 months, 18 suicides took place in Indian equal opportunity cells in their campuses. The bench Institutes Technology (IITs) asked Jaising and other and Indian Institutes of counsel appearing in the matter to give suggestions on "It is extremely unfortunate the draft regulations and directed the UGC to look into what is happening. We will

these suggestions. Jaising urged the court to give a hearing before finalisation of the regulations, but Mehta opposed it saying every other person would seek a personal hearing, if allowed. "If they want to give any suggestions, then they can do so through the website but personal hearing cannot be allowed," he submitted.

The bench told Jaising it appreciates the cause raised by the petitioner and assured that court would take it to its logical conclusion. The matter was posted after eight weeks. On January 3, the court called it a sensitive issue and offered to devise an effective mechanism to caste-based combat

New financial laws pave way for investment in India: Birla

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla Lon Friday stressed that the recent initiatives in simplification and transparency in financial laws have provided an enabling environment for investment in India. Today's India with deeper democratic spirit, stable Government and visionary leadership, is a land of immense opportunities for the investors, he noted. The fastest growing economy in the world is a favourite destination for investment across the world, he added.

Birla made these remarks in his inaugural address at the two-day symposium on 'Adoption to Changing landscape: My Viksit Bharat -2047' organised by the Northern India Regional Council, Institute of Cost Accountants of India (ICAI) at New Delhi. Members of Parliament Faggan Singh Kulaste, Bansuri Swaraj also

spoke on the occasion. Referring to legal reforms in India, Birla noted that for the first time in India, an effort has been made to change colonial laws, to repeal the redundant laws and to make new laws which are in sync aspirations of people of New scenario, he added.



LS Speaker Om Birla addresses the inaugural session of a two-day symposium on 'Adoption to Changing landscape: My Viksit Bharat - 2047'

India. Mentioning about GST, proposed income tax legislation, changes in labour laws and company laws, Lok Sabha Speaker emphasised that these initiates reflect the vision of the leadership to take the country on the path of progress and prosperity. New laws are not only simple, transparent and progressive but also inclusive to improve the life of the last person in the society, he observed. Progressive laws always take into consideration the changing requirements of the country and the society and

Mentioning that India's financial institutions are its strength, Birla noted that our institutions financial command respect all over the world. Hailing the contributions of the ICAI, Birla opined that this institution not only plays an important role in ensuring transparency in financial system but also for guiding the country on mass production with minimum cost. Playing a vital role in strengthening economic potential of the country, the ICAI, with its management skills, is improving the lives of the people.

Rajnath releases

'Sashakt Bharat'

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

magazine

Mehta, appearing for the institutions in the country.

Jaising, appearing for the

mothers of students Rohith

Vemula and Payal Tadvi, who

allegedly died by suicide after

universities and colleges hadn't

given entire data on suicides

taking place in their campuses

While Vemula, a PhD scholar

at Hyderabad Central

University died on January 17,

facing

discrimination,

despite a court order.

caste-based

said

SC relief for Isha Foundation in Storage capacity of 155 reservoirs environment norms violations would be required in case of

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELH

In a relief to Isha Foundation, the Supreme Court refused to interfere with a Madras High Court order quashing notices of the TN pollution body over the alleged violation of environmental norms and ordered no against its yoga and meditation centre.

A bench of Justices Surya Kant and N Kotiswar Singh upheld the Madras High Court order quashing notices of the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) against Jaggi Vasudev's Isha Foundation over the construction in the foothills of Velliangiri mountains in Coimbatore without prior environmental clearance. While asking for no coercive action against the yoga and meditation centre, it asked for compliance with all the environmental norms and directions of the TNPCB.

The top court, however, said its order was not a precedent The court's concern only the competent authority



File photo

regularising illegal related to the dismantling of for construction as it ruled in the the structure. peculiar facts Senior advocate Mukul and circumstances of the case. Rohatgi, appearing for Isha Tamil Nadu advocate general Foundation, said the state PS Raman said the authorities should not be government only wanted the allowed to inspect the centre as the same thing would order not to be treated as a "permanent gate pass" and happen. Raman said the town and country planning authorities should be allowed shouldn't inhibit any future and inspection of the properties and the centre should comply to carry out the inspection so to prevent the construction of with environmental norms. The bench said there was no any other building in the area immunity or exemption from for the area was in the vicinity compliance of a protected forest. with environmental norms. The bench said a prior nod of

expansion of the centre. On February 14, the bench pulled up the state pollution control board for moving after two years against an order that quashed a showcause notice issued against Isha Foundation for flouting allegedly

environmental norms. It termed the petition filed by the TNPCB as a "friendly match" played by bureaucrats wanting the apex court's stamp on the petition's dismissal.

The showcause was issued to the foundation for buildings constructing between 2006 and 2014 without reportedly obtaining mandatory environmental clearances but the Madras High Court quashed it.

On December 14, 2022, holding that the facilities set up by Isha Foundation in Coimbatore would fall under the education category, the high court set aside the TNPCB notice.

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

The total live storage capac-The total live storage capacity of the 155 reservoirs monitored by the Central Water Commission (CWC) stands at 180.852 Billion Cubic Meters (BCM), which is approximately 70.15 per cent of the total estimated live storage capacity in the country, according to the latest bulletin of the CŴC.

While the overall storage has improved compared to the same period last year, significant regional disparities highlight the challenges faced by certain states.

As of Thursday, the live storage available in these reservoirs is 93.529 BCM, representing 52 per cent of their total capacity. This is notable a

improvement compared to when the live storage was 78.633 BCM and the normal years) was 81.497 BCM.

The current storage is 119% of last year's storage and 115% of the normal storage.

improved compare to last year: CWC

Water stress continues in the northern region that encompasses the states of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and Rajasthan.

The 11 reservoirs in this region have a total live storage capacity of 19.836 BCM, but only 28 per cent of this capacity is currently filled.

This is significantly lower than last year's 37 per cent and the normal storage of 40 per cent. Key reservoirs like Pong Dam and Thein Dam are reporting storage levels as low as 40 per cent and 32 per cent of their capacity, respectively.

The eastern states, including Assam, Jharkhand, Odisha, Tripura, West Bengal, West Bengal, Tripura, Nagaland and Bihar, have 25 reservoirs with a total the same period last year capacity of 20.798 BCM. The current storage is 51 per cent of capacity, slightly lower than storage (average of the last ten last year's 53 per cent and the normal storage of 55 per cent.

Reservoirs like Chandan Dam in Bihar are critically low, with 0% storage, while others

like Maithon Dam in Jharkhand are nearly full. The western states of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Goa are faring better, with 50 reservoirs holding 64 per cent of their total capacity of 37.357 BCM.

This is higher than last year's 54 per cent and the normal storage of 49 per cent. Major reservoirs like Sardar Sarovar in Gujarat and Jayakwadi in Maharashtra are reporting healthy storage levels.

The central states of Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh have 26 reservoirs with a total capacity of 48.227 BCM. The current storage is 54 per cent of capacity, better than last year's 51 per cent and the normal storage of 48 per cent. However, reservoirs like Omkareshwar in Madhya Pradesh are struggling, with only 32 per cent storage.

NEW DELHI Defence Minister Rajnath Singh released the first edition of Ministry of Defence's bi-annual Hindi magazine 'Sashakt Bharat.' The magazine comprises poems on the valour, patriotism and sacrifices of the Armed Forces personnel as well as articles on the policies of the Government written by the personnel of the Ministry,

irrespective of their ranks, showcasing inclusivity and unity in diversity.

The defence minister appreciated the efforts of the Ministry of Defence wing of the Department of Official Language towards promoting Hindi. The objective of magazine is to highlight the creative talent of the employees of the defence ministry. The eversion of the magazine will be available on the official MoD website (https://mod.gov.in/).

Wonder how Jaipur becomes 'smart' by damaging Jal Mahal lake?: SC

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday slammed the Nagar Nigam Jaipur Heritage for damaging Jal Mahal lake and contaminating its water by permitting a night market in the vicinity.

A bench of Justices Abhay S Oka and Ujjal Bhuyan said due to the negligence and illegal acts of the Nagar

Nigam Jaipur Heitage, Jal of the lake," it said. Mahal lake was "completely The court, therefore, directed destroyed".

restoration and preservation

been

"Today, we see municipal appoint commissioner appearing online with a board of smart Research Institute to give a city behind him. We wonder comprehensive report on how will the city of Jaipur become 'smart' by damaging Jal Mahal lake virtually behind repair. We note that an expert committee has not appointed for

the Jaipur civic body to

National Environmental Engineering immediate measures to stop pollution and restoration and preservation of the lake. The top court was hearing an

appeal filed by Nagar Nigam Jaipur Heritage challenging November 3, 2023 order of the



National Green Tribunal market and other activities the civic body to seek which banned the night near the lake while directing permission from the eco-

sensitive zone (ESZ) monitoring committee. The top court noted the municipal corporation headquarter released dirty sewage water into the lake from time to time. It also examined an affidavit of the civic body's chief executive officer in which he referred to a project report by the tourism department and said the project had nothing to do with restoration and preservation of the lake.

The NGT had found the night market was organised within the eco-sensitive zone of Nahargarh Wildlife Sanctuary without obtaining permission as per eco-sensitive zone and without consent of ESZ monitoring committee.

The tribunal's order came on a plea filed by RTI activist Rajendra Tiwari against the night market and discharge of untreated water into the water body.



Bihar Governor addresses joint session of Assembly

PNS PATNA

 $B_{
m Mohammad}^{
m ihar}$ Governor Arif Friday asserted that "rule of law" and "sustained development" have been taking place in the state since November 24, 2005, the date on which Nitish Kumar won his first floor test.

Khan's customary address to the joint session of the legislature, marking the beginning of the budget session, prominently referenced this date multiple times in his 30-minute speech.

"Ever since the formation of a new government on November 24, 2005, the state has been experiencing rule of law and sustained development. The state government has always emphasised development with justice and good governance, which implies growth of all classes in all spheres", the Governor said in his opening remarks.

Khan spoke in the midst of slogan-shouting by legisla-tors of the CPI(ML) Liberation, who had reached the Vidhan Sabha premises wearing handcuffs and chains, as a mark of protest against the shabby treatment meted out to Indian nationals sent back by the Donald Trump administration in the United

Bihar Governor Arif Mohammad Khan, CM Nitish Kumar pay tribute to President Rajendra Prasad on his death anniversary PT

States

Highlighting the extent to which things have looked up since "formation of the new government on November 24, 2005", the Governor claimed that "the state was then being manned by just 42,481 police personnel. The number has now reached 1.10 Lakh. Similarly, the number of police stations has risen from 841 to 1,380. The number of teachers has

grown significantly, 3.22 Lakh were recruited till 2022, another 2.17 Lakh in two subsequent phases. The results of the third phase have been declared, which will pave the way for the appointment of another 66,800 candidates". Kumar, the JD(U) president and the longest serving chief minister who will seek a fifth

consecutive term in office in the Assembly polls due later

this year, smiled at the repeat ed mention of the date. Members of the RJD-Congress combine, blamed for the alleged "jungle raj" before Kumar's tenure, were seen whispering among themselves, wondering if they were being indirectly acknowledged given that Kumar has twice allied with them, albeit briefly. However, the CPI(ML)

Liberation, which is an

alliance partner of the RJD-Congress, came out with a strongly worded statement describing the goverlater, describing the gover-nor's address as a "bundle of lies" intended to cover up the failures of the JD(U)-BJP government in the state. The Governor also spoke of steps to improve agriculture through detailed five-year "road maps" and enhance healthcare with the establish-ment of new medical collater.

ment of new medical colleges. He also made a mention of the government's commitment to maintaining "social

and communal harmony", underscoring steps like "fenc-ing of kabristans (Muslims' places of burial)" and construction of boundary walls for "Hindu temples registered 60 years ago or earlier with the state religious trust board".

The Governor's address also spoke of "9.35 Lakh government jobs already created' and promised "the total number will rise to 12 Lakh not just 10 Lakh, before the assembly elections due later this year". A promise of "10 Lakh government jobs" has been the poll plank of Tejashwi Yadav, the leader of the opposition in the

state assembly who served as the deputy CM on the

two occasions when the RJD shared power with JD(U).

Women's empowerment, which Nitish Kumar counts on as one of his main achievements in the traditionally patriarchal state, was also mentioned prominently in the speech by the governor who mentioned 50 per cent reservations in civic bodies, announced in 2007", followed by "35 per cent quotas brought in 2013 in police recruitments and in all government depart-ments since 2016".

The governor also said finan-cial aid of ₹2 Lakh was being given to "94 Lakh poor famlies, from all social segments-Dalits, backward classes, upper castes and minorities" which were identified in the ambitious caste survey conducted in 2023.

The Governor's address concluded with a word of thanks to the Centre for the "gener-ous help extended to Bihar" in the Union budget presented recently by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman who came up with "announcements like setting up of a Makhana board, new airports, economic assistance for a canal in the flood-prone Kosi region and expansion of IIT, Patna".



nation 05

Veteran lyricist Javed Akhtar during celebrations of 'Marathi Bhasha Gau

Javed, Kangana settle defamation case

Bandra.

future.

case.

he added.

MLAs.

Rajput.

Bhardwaj said.

for inconvenience caused to him

due to her statement, he said

adding that she has undertaken

not to make such a statement in

Siddiqque said, "We were look-

ing for mediation for a long time.

We had exchanged drafts also. Finally we have resolved the

"There were no issues, only the wordings were to be decided,

which was done today. We pre-pared the draft, signed it and both

the cases were withdrawn today,"

The case was initially heard by a

magistrate court in Andheri. In

2024, after she was elected as a

Member of Parliament (MP)

from the Mandi Lok Sabha con-

stituency in Himachal Pradesh,

the matter was transferred to a

special magistrate court designat-

ed for matters involving MPs and

In his complaint, Akhtar claimed

that Ranaut dragged his name

during an interview while refer-

ring to a 'coterie' existing in Bollywood, following the alleged

suicide by actor Sushant Singh

Ranaut posted a photo with

PNS MUMBAI

matter was settled through an hour-long mediation before a Actress Kangana Ranaut on Friday settled the defamation special magistrate court in Ranaut stated before the mediacase filed against her by veteran lyricist Javed Akhtar, which had tor that she made the statement been ongoing for over four years, due to misunderstanding and she has decided to withdraw it, through mediation. The BJP MP also apologised for the "inconve-Ranaut has apologised to Akhtar nience" caused to the screenwriter.

The duo appeared before a special court here on Friday and informed it of their decision to withdraw the complaints they had filed against each other. After the court appearance, the actor also posted a photo on her social media platform along with Akhtar, stating that they have resolved the legal matter.

The court will pass a formal order on this later in the day.

The actor said she made the statement against Akhtar due to misunderstanding, and apologised for the inconvenience caused to him due to it. Akhtar had filed a complaint against Ranaut in 2020, alleging that she had defamed and damaged his 'immaculate reputation' by dragging his name into actor Sushant Singh Rajput's death in an interview with a news channel in July that year.

Ranaut had later filed a cross complaint against Akhtar, alleging criminal intimidation and insult to modesty.

She had claimed that during her meeting with Akhtar at his residence in 2016, he criminally intimidated her, demanding that she apologise to a co-star.

Akhtar on Instagram and said the Ranaut's lawyer Rizwan cinema veteran was "kind and gracious" during the mediation Siddiquee and Akhtar's advocate Jay Kumar Bhardwaj said the process.

Manipur extends deadline for surrender of illegal arms PTI BENGALURU

PTI 📕 IMPHAL

Manipur Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla on Friday extended the deadline for the surrender of looted and illegal arms until 4 pm on March 6 following demands by people from both hill and valley areas for additional time, an official statement said.

"Upon the expiry of the sevenday deadline for the voluntary surrender of arms, there have been requests from both the valley and hill areas to extend the period. I have considered these requests and decided to extend the deadline until 4 pm on

March 6," the statement read. It further assured that no punitive action would be taken against those who surrender their

weapons within this period, emphasising that "this is the last opportunity for everyone concerned to contribute to peace, communal harmony, the future of our youth, and the security of our society. Bhalla had on February 20 urged warring groups to voluntarily surrender weapons robbed from security forces and other illegally held arms within seven days, the deadline of which ended on

Thursday. During the seven-day period, more than 300 weapons were surrendered by the public, primarily in the valley districts. More than 250 people have been killed and thousands rendered homeless in ethnic violence between Meiteis and Kuki-Zo groups since May 2023.

present the budget for 2025-26 on March 7, marking his 16th

delegation of BJP legislators Adelegation of Djr regionators and MPs from Bengaluru on Friday met Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, and sought higher allocation of funds in the upcoming state budget for the city's development. The delegation led by party state BJP President BY Vijayendra and

Leader of Opposition in the Legislative Assembly R Ashoka asked for allocation of ₹150 Crore for each Assembly segment in the city. Relook into the Metro fare hike,

allocation of funds for con-stituencies represented by first time MLAs, and holding of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) polls at the earliest are among the issues that were highlighted at the meeting. Siddaramaiah who also holds the finance portfolio is scheduled to

budget.

"All our MLAs, MPs, MLCs and district unit presidents from Bengaluru met the Chief Minister and requested for more funds in the budget, funds to the them legislators for the development of their constituencies, keeping in mind the development of Bengaluru," Vijayendra said.

said.

Speaking to reporters here after meeting the CM, he said, when BJP's B̃ S Yediyurappa and Basavarj Bommai were Chief Ministers earlier ₹6,000-8,000 Crores were given to Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) for the development of

Bengaluru in every budget. "No such allocations have been made for Bengaluru in the last two years, so we have requested ₹6,000-8,000 Crores for Bengaluru city in the budget," he Noting that infrastructure projects like flyovers and others are going on at a slow pace, the state BJP chief said, priority should be given for completion of such projects by allocating more funds for

He said, during the meeting, Bengaluru MPs PC Mohan and Tejasvi Surya suggested that the Chief Minister send necessary communication to the fare fixation committee to reduce the metro fare that was hiked recent-

Requests were made to the CM for enhanced allocation in the budget for Bengaluru's development and to the constituencies represented by first time MLAs. We have also requested that the BBMP polls should be held at the earliest," he said, adding that the CM has responded positively and has assured that he will

in limitations

Claiming that never had such a plight come for Bengaluru and ₹6,000-8,000 Crore was allocated to the city in every budget. When BJP was in power allocations were made to the constituencies irrespective of the party of MLAs who represent them, he said.

Keeping in mind Bengaluru's global and national reputation, we have urged the CM to give more funds to the city, and we are hopeful that the Chief Minister will consider it," he added.

Vijayendra in response to a question said, the party will discuss the proposal to divide BBMP into multiple corporations.

"BBMP polls should not be postponed citing creation of Greater Bengaluru Authority as the reason," he said.

Gurugram police arrest employee for ₹23 Lakh software hacking fraud

PARVESH SHARMA GURUGRAM

partner, Jatin, committed the crime of fraudulently transferring money to various bank cyber crime police station (south) of the accounts by hacking the company's software in

BISWAJEET BANERJEE PRAYAGRAJ

Following the grand conclusion of Maha Kumbh 2025, Chief launched a 15-day special cleanliness drive to ensure that the festival grounds remain pristine. The initiative aligns with his vision of a clean and divine Maha Kumbh, reinforcing his commitment to hygiene and environmental sustainability. During the closing ceremony Chief Minister Yogi honoured sanitation workers for their relentless service and directed officials to maintain the sanctity of the Mela grounds. The cleanup operation is being led by Special Officer Akanksha Rana with Swachhata Mitras and Ganga Sewa Doots actively engaged in restoring cleanliness The Sangam ghats, Mela ground roads, and temporary as well as permanent infrastructure are



ing Sangam ghats, Mela grounds, temples, and roads, both permanent and temporary. The drive also includes the removal of 1.5 Lakh temporary toilets, with ienosal at the aste

As part of the clean-up operation,

all temporary pipelines installed

by the Urban and Rural Water

Ćorporation, streetlights put up by the electricity department, and

tents and pavilions used by saints,

monks, and Kalpvasis are being

Baswar plant in Naini.

BJP urges Karnataka CM for increased Bengaluru budget ensure allocation of funds with-

employee with his accomplice for fraudulently transferring ₹23 Lakh from a company account by hacking the company's software, police said.

According to the police, a complaint was registered on Thursday regarding fraudulent transfer of huge amounts from the account of the company to various bank accounts

During prompt action, police seized ₹9 Lakh out of ₹23 Lakh, which was defrauded by transferring in the matter and nabbed the two culprits from the Badshahpur area of Gurugram on Friday.

The accused were identified as Rohit Gupta, a resident of Sonia Vihar, Delhi, and Jatin Malik, a resident of New Roshanpura Najafgarh, Delhi. During the probe, it was found that the accused, Rohit, was working in the company till a month

ago. Due to his quarrelsome behaviour, the company fired him.

In revenge, the accused, along with his other

"One laptop used by the accused to commit fraud by hacking the company's software in the case has also been recovered from the possession of the accused.

Further action is being taken by the police to recover the remaining amount," a spokesperson of the Gurugram police said.

Senior police officers of Gurugram claimed that the police are closely working with other agencies and organisations to counter cyber fraud. 'The cyber fraudsters commit fraud by luring people with good profits, investing in the stock market, task-based fraud, in the name of buying/selling cheap goods online, sextortion through video calls on WhatsApp, morphing, sending links through various means, posing as a customs officer or police officer in the name of implicating false case, in the name of issuing a No-Objection Certificate, digitally arresting people by showing the fear of implicating them in a criminal case, etc," Priyanshu Diwan, ACP (cybercrime), said.



Worker collects garbage during cleanliness drive after the conclusion of the Maha Kumbh Mela in Prayagrai

the Triveni Sangam

being thoroughly cleaned. Over 15,000 sanitation workers and 2,000 Ganga Sewa Doots played a crucial role in maintaining ensure that pilgrims visiting hygiene during Mahakumbh, Prayagraj after Maha Kumbh which saw a record-breaking 66 continue to experience a clean

Crore devotees take a holy dip at and sacred environment.

On Friday, following the chief The post-festival drive aims to minister's directives, Special Officer Akanksha Rana official ly flagged off the cleanliness campaign. The focus is on clean-

dismantled. The Prayagraj Municipal Corporation is also intensifying efforts to enhance greenery and sanitation, ensuring that the city retains its aesthetic and environmental appeal. "The drive underscores the state government's commitment to

preserving the sanctity and cleanliness of Mahakumbh, leaving a lasting legacy of hygiene and sustainability in Prayagraj," said Rana

Andhra Pradesh budget prioritises welfare of farmers, fishermen



Andhra Pradesh CM N Chandrababu Naidu with Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan and Finance Minister Payyavula Keshav before presentation of the State Budget in the Assembly in Amaravat

PTI AMARAVATI

The Andhra Pradesh budget for the fiscal 2025-26 tabled on Friday by the TDP-led NDA government accorded top priority to welfare schemes, promis-ing to dole out ₹20,000 per annum for farmers, doubling financial relief for fishermen during a ban period, and ₹15,000 to school going children up to the intermediate level under "Talliki Vandanam"

scheme The "Talliki Vandanam" scheme is one of the Super Six promis-

es made by the ruling bloc during the 2024 Assembly polls. Finance Minister Payyavula Keshav tabled the ₹3.22 Lakh Crore budget and proposed ₹20,281 Crore for the Scheduled Caste (SC) component, ₹8,159

Crore for the Scheduled Tribes (ST) component, ₹47,456 crore for the Backward Classes (BC) component and ₹5,434 Crore for the welfare of minority communities

'I take pride in announcing that the government is launch-ing the Talliki Vandanam scheme, to provide financial support of ₹15,000 in the academic year 2025-26. The scheme will cover children enrolled in Classes I to XII in both government and private schools,' Keshav said.

'No matter in what financial situation we are in, our farmers will receive ₹20,000 annually under the Annadata Sukhibhava scheme," he said.

Super Six schemes, pledged in the run up to the 2024 polls, include ₹1,500 monthly aid to every woman in the age bracket of 19 to 59 years, 20 Lakh jobs for youth or ₹3,000 monthly unemployment aid and free bus

travel for women. Other schemes under 'Super Six' are- ₹15,000 to every schoolgoing child per annum (Talliki Vandanam), three free gas cylinders to every household (Deepam - 2) and ₹20,000 annual financial assistance to every

farmer (Annadata Sukhibhava). He also announced doubling of financial relief to ₹20,000 for fishermen during the fishing ban period.

Keshav told the House that the TDP-led NDA government is planning to implement insurance-based health coverage of ₹25 Lakh per family in the next fiscal

The budget of over ₹3.22 Lakh Crore encompasses an estimated revenue expenditure of ₹2.51 Lakh Crore and capital expenditure of ₹40,635 Crore.

Keshav, while presenting the budget said the estimated revenue deficit is around ₹33,185 Crore (1.82 per cent of the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP)) and the fiscal deficit is around ₹79,926 Crore (4.38 per cent of the GSDP).

The budget proposed an allocation of ₹31,805 Crore for school education and ₹19,264 Crore for the Health, Medical and Family Welfare Department.

The Panchayati Raj and Rural Development Department, a portfolio held by deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, got ₹18,847 Crore.

Allocating ₹13,862 Crore to the Municipal Administration and

Urban Development Department, Keshav asserted

that the greenfield capital city Amaravati has proved to become a self-financing project without state budget assistance as the financing has been secured through the Centre from the World Bank, Asian Development Bank and HUDCO.For the Energy Department, he proposed a sum of ₹13,600 Crore. According to Keshav, AP's energy sector is undergoing a transformative revival, with the state aiming to emerge as a green hydrogen hub. Other major allocations includ-ed ₹8,785 Crore for the Department of Transport, Roads and Buildings and ₹8,570 Crore

for the Home Department. For Deepam- two scheme, which offers three free gas cylinders per year to over 90 Lakh eligible beneficiaries, Keshav allocated ₹2,601 Crore . In his speech, Keshav said the government was presenting the budget

in the backdrop of the "financial destruction caused by the previous (YSRCP) regime"."It has been a highly complex task, because the previous regime created financial chaos in every department," he alleged.

Railway joins tunnel collapse rescue

PTI NAGARKURNOOL

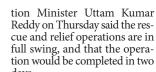
outh Central Railway (SCR) Shas joined the rescue teams that are engaged in locating the eight persons who remain trapped in the partially collapsed Srisailam Left Bank Canal (SLBC) tunnel for the past six days, with necessary equipment, a senior official said on Friday.

Railways has the expertise in cutting heavy metals using equipment such as plasma cutter and Brocho cutting machine, SCR Chief Public Relations officer A Sridhar said.

'District Collector, Nagar Kurnool sought the help of South Central Railway in rescue operation by clearing iron and steel debris that have been hindering the rescue works at the site," A Sridhar said.

He further said that the SCR quickly responded to the call and deployed two teams of metal cutting experts in the rescue mission

The first batch led by S Murali, Divisional Mechanical Engineer, consisting a senior Section Engineer, 13 Welders and two technicians from Secunderabad have reached the site and have



Meanwhile, Nagarkurnool Superintendent of Police Vaibhav Gaikwad said the metal cutting and debris clearing process is continuously going

"One team went into the tunnel at 7 am.

taken up the required works.

The second batch of experts also

reached the site to support the

first team, last night, he further

said

The clearing of debris has been going on since yesterday morning. Dewatering is also going on," he said. Telangana irriga-

days. The Minister on Wednesday said the Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) that is struck inside will be cut into pieces by using

gas cutters and removed. After this, the Army, Navy, Rat Miners and NDRF teams will make another serious effort to rescue the eight persons who are missing, without compromising their own safety.

Rescue operation underway to trace workers trapped inside the collapsed tunnel in Nagarkurnool





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-PAPER WITH PASSION-

Lawbreakers as lawmakers

Eradication of the influence of criminality in politics must be taken up on priority

In recent years, the issue of criminalisation in politics has increasingly come under scrutiny. With more politicians facing criminal charges and convictions, questions have arisen about whether the legal framework governing their disqualification from contesting elections is adequate. The ongoing debate, highlighted by a recent Supreme Court case challenging the constitutional validity of limiting disqualification periods, brings to the fore not only legal interpretations but also the broader menace of criminal influences in our political system. A petition filed before the Supreme Court has argued for a lifetime ban on convicted politicians from contesting elections. The petitioner contends that limiting disqualification to a fixed period—currently six years after release for offenses under Section 8 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951-undermines constitutional provisions designed to keep criminals away from power. In response, the Centre has defended the existing provisions, arguing that a lifetime ban is "unduly harsh" and



that it would amount to directing Parliament to frame a law in a particular manner-an overreach of judicial power. The government's counter-affidavit emphasises that there are numerous penal laws that operate within a time-bound framework, ensuring that deterrence is balanced against the need to avoid undue severity.

This legal tussle highlights a crucial policy debate: should convicted politicians face an indefinite prohibition from electoral participation, or is a fixed term of disqualification both constitutional and proportionate? The government argues that the current system, which temporarily excludes convicted individuals,

respects the principles of proportionality and reasonability. In its view, the legislative choice to limit the disqualification period is designed to offer both a punitive and rehabilitative measure while preserving democratic participation. Beyond legal debates, the deeper issue remains the rising tide of criminality within political circles. Criminal elements entering politics not only threaten the integrity of democratic institutions but also erode public trust. Politicians with a history of criminal behaviour may be more likely to engage in corrupt practices, undermining the rule of law. As criminalisation in politics becomes more pronounced, the call for stringent measures intensifies. Addressing the criminalisation of politics requires a multi-pronged approach that extends beyond the question of lifetime bans. Parliament could consider revisiting and potentially tightening the eligibility criteria for political candidates. Whether through a longer ban or additional restrictions for those convicted of certain serious crimes, legislative reforms should aim to disincentivise criminal conduct. There may be strong arguments for and against the life ban of convicted persons becoming lawmakers but one thing all can agree upon is that we do not need them in our parliament or state assemblies. How to do it is not difficult but who will bell the cat?



Strengthening public

institutions in the digital age



Digital transformation is reshaping public policy, it is imperative that we embrace it without compromising our enduring commitment to integrity



am a civil servant passionate about governance, institutional resilience and public policy, exploring how institutions can adapt to the digital age. Imagine a world where policies are debated, revised and reshaped in real time-governance moving as quickly as a trending hashtag. That world isn't coming; it's already here. Public institutions, once the reliable backbone of governance, are now transforming rapidly.

Social media, instant communi-cation, and shifting public expectations have redefined how governments interact with citizens. Decision-making, once a structured process guided by expertise and long-term planning, now occurs in an environment where public sentiment can change overnight. This new landscape offers both opportunities and challenges. Increased public engagement promotes transparency and participation but also demands rapid responses. Today's challenge isn't just about efficient policy implementation—it's about balancing speed with thoughtful deliberation and adaptability with established structure.

A New Era of Governance Historically, governance foling was data-driven and refined through expert consultation with a focus on long-term national interests. Then the digital revolution changed everything. Social media now plays a central role in shaping public discourse, often setting the agenda before formal institutions can respond. A 2023 Pew Research study

noted that nearly two-thirds of adults in democratic nations now rely on social media for political news. This shift has empowered citizens and made governance more transparent and participatory, but it has also heightened expectations and pressured institutions to act swiftly.

Adapting Without Losing Purpose

The solution is not to resist change but to adapt strategi-cally. Governments worldwide are using digital platforms to improve service delivery and civic engagement. For instance, India's Digital India initiative has streamlined public services online, while Singapore's Smart Nation program uses data analytics to enhance urban planning and governance. These examples show that when technology is inte grated thoughtfully, it can boost both effectiveness and accessibility. Adaptation goes beyond digDECISION-MAKING. ONCE A STRUCTURED

PROCESS **GUIDED BY EXPERTISE AND** LONG-TERM PLANNING, NOW OCCURS

IN AN **ENVIRONMENT** WHERE PUBLIC SENTIMENT CAN CHANGE OVERNIGHT

ital tools-it requires maintaining the integrity of governance. Institutions must prioritise expert-driven decision-making to ensure that policy shifts are well-considered rather than merely reactive. Preserving institutional memory through thorough documentation and continuous training ensures that experienced civil servants provide continuity, anchoring governance in expertise rather than short-term trends. The Importance of Public Trust At its core, governance

depends on public trust. Institutions thrive when they are seen as credible, reliable, and fair. Trust is built through transparency, efficiency, and ethical practices.

Governments that openly communicate their policies decision-making and processes foster confidence among citizens. Estonia's e-Governance model, which gives citizens real-time access to government records, is a prime example. Efficiency is equally critical. Reducing administrative delays, streamlining processes, and making governance accessible are key to maintaining public trust.

Finding the Right Balance The digital age demands a balance between responsiveness and deliberation. Institutions must embrace innovation without becoming reactionary, listening to public sentiment while ensuring that policies are grounded in data, analysis, and long-term planning. Quick decision-making should never come at the expense of depth and foresight. This balance distinguishes effective governance from mere administration. Institutions that thoughtfully adapt are not just keeping pace with change-they are actively shaping the future of governance.

Looking Ahead

Public institutions are more than policy enforcers; they are the foundation of national stability and progress. As governance continues to evolve, these institutions must lead through innovation, efficiency, and an unwavering commitment to public trust. The digital age presents both challenges and opportunities. Institutions that adapt wisely will define the future of governance-not solely through speed or efficiency, but with foresight, trust and

lowed a deliberate, structured path. Political leaders set broad directions, while institutions provided continuity, expertise, and safeguards. Decision-mak-

when institutions deliver results fairly and efficiently, they not only function better-they strengthen democracy.

enduring strength. (The writer is DGP & Head of Haryana State Narcotics Control Bureau; views *expressed are personal*)

Tourists at the Taj Mahal, in Agra

Rupee depreciation calls for structural reforms



R P GUPTA

Despite notable gains such as a reduced trade deficit, emerging challenges including global tariff tensions highlight the urgent need for comprehensive policy reforms

ver the past decade (2014-2024), the compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) of India's exports of goods and services in USD terms has fallen sharply to about 5 per cent, compared to 17.9 per cent during 2004-2014 and 12.7 per cent in the period 1994-2004. This decline in export growth has coincided with a significant depreciation of the Rupee, which now trades at roughly Rs 86/87 per USD, a stark contrast to the Rs 60.50 per USD seen in 2013-14. In contrast, between 2000 and 2012, the Rupee remained relatively stable-with occasional appreciation driven by robust export growth at an impressive 19.5 per cent CAGR in USD terms. This historical perspective

demonstrates that a strong, stable Rupee is not an inherent barrier to export performance. In fact, the key to sustained export growth lies in enhancing overall economic efficiency. This efficiency is shaped by a broad range of policies and regulations that affect factors such as capital, energy, logistics and raw materials. By improving these



exports forward while maintaining Rupee stability. A weak Rupee, however, tends to deter global investors. Given that domestic savings alone cannot fulfill India's vast investment requirements, a steady inflow of global funds remains essential until the country transitions into a 'Trade-Surplus Nation." Recent changes in US leadership have sparked a tariff war, adding another layer of complexity to India's export environment.

Despite the sluggish export performance in the past decade, the country achieved a notable reduction in its trade deficit-from 4.3 per cent of nominal GDP in 2004-2014 to an average of 2.5 per cent in 2014-2024-primarily due to lower import volumes. In 2024, inward foreign remittances surged to \$129 billion, inputs, India can propel the highest globally, which vice exports-ranging from

played a crucial role in reducing the current account deficit (CAD) from 1.7 per cent of GDP in 2013-14 to about 0.7 per cent. Consequently, Forex reserves swelled to 18.3 per cent of nominal GDP, underscoring the positive impact of these remittances. Looking ahead, potential chal-

lenges loom. Aggressive deportation policies by the US could discourage migration, thereby diminishing remittance flows. Moreover, if India shifts its oil and gas import sources from Iran, Gulf nations, and Russia to the US, the resulting higher import bill may widen the trade deficit. In response, India must marshal all available policy tools to boost exports, reduce imports, and eventually become a trade-surplus nation. Facilitating legal migration remains crucial until domestic job creation can sustain remittance

inflows, which are vital for curbing the CAD. To further stimulate export growth, targeted export incentives for manufactured and agro-based goods should be implemented, while the untapped potential of ser-

tourism and healthcare to education and professional consultancy-must unlocked through dedicated policies. Additionally, reducing petroleum imports requires massive investments in railway infrastructure and expanded public transportation to lower fuel demand, and increased spending on

petroleum exploration is the need of the hour. Enhancing domestic produc-

tion of thermal coal and adopting innovative measures to reduce gold imports, such as a revised gold deposit scheme, are also essential steps. Finally, attracting global funds through measures like reducing capital gains tax on foreign portfolio investments (FPIs) and encouraging long-term borrowing via bonds backed by sovereign guarantees will help meet India's investment needs. Overcoming outdated colonial-era business and taxation laws remains critical. A second wave of structural

reforms is needed to stabilise the Rupee, secure higher GDP growth, and elevate India's stature on the global stage. (The writer is an industrial*ist; views are personal)*

TRUMP'S GOLD CARD PLAN

Madam — US President Donald Trump has announced a new visa program that will offer a 'gold card' with a potential pathway to US citizenship for \$5 million (approx Rs 43 crores), which could significantly benefit Indian graduates and investors. It seems like a sale of citizenship for money. He is not even asking them to start a business, create jobs, or anything. Moreover, why should one spend 5 million dollars to go to the USA? With that money, they can lead a royal life (invest 5 million in India and get 14 per cent annualised ROI compared to 5 per cent in the US) in India itself, with their own thriving business and stay close to near and dear ones, which is a much better place now than the US.

This is a simple sale of citizenship. This is nothing, but this Trump statement looks a bit stupid! Because, how many students in India will have 5 million dollars to buy a gold card? And which company will be ready to pay 5 million dollars for hiring an Indian employee in the US on a gold card? Is Trump thinking logically, or is he just high on the dose of fake nationalism? This far-right politics is turning the politicians into real fools. Whatsoever, Golden Visa is very expensive.

Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee | Faridabad

BRUTAL MURDERS SHOCK NATION

Madam— The nation is shocked at the brutal and spine-chilling crime of a 23year-old man, who killed as many as five people, including his close relatives and girlfriend, within a few hours at various places in a radius of 15 kilometres in Thiruvananthapuram. By using a simple mallet, he has repeatedly hammered and finished the victims and then coolly surrendered at the police station on his own. It was by sheer luck that the sixth victim, his own mother, survived the attack, though she is still in serious condition. Even though the family was reportedly facing financial hardship, what prompted the man to commit such a heinous

CBSE clarifies language policy



THE

efers to Editorial 'Simmering Linguistic Tension' (February 28), first Tamil Nadu and now Punjab is raising unnecessary controversy over regional languages, that too owing to the CBSE draft norms (not final) for conducting the 10th class board exams. The Punjab government's hasty decision of imposing the Punjabi language on all 10th class examinations in the state of all

crime was nothing but the grave impact of drugs. In fact, Kerala has been reeling under the threat of drugs for quite some time now.

All kinds of drugs have been flowing into the state purportedly with the connivance of those in authority. It is a painful truth that a large number of youngsters, including students, are under the influence of drugs. However, the government has not taken any concrete steps to contain this serious menace. The present situation in the state is bound to ruin the young generation completely. As such, the government must take prompt and stern action against the drug mafia. T T Sakaria | Delhi

AFGHANISTAN STUNS ENGLAND

Madam — Afghanistan pulled off a historic eight-run victory over England, proving once again that cricket is a game of glorious uncertainties. The hero of the night was 23-year-old Ibrahim Zadran, who played a breathtaking knock of 177 off 146 balls, the highest individual score by any Afghanistan batsman in ODIs. His boards, whether Central or State, is uncalled for. This irrational decision has been announced without taking stakeholders-students and teachers-into confidence. It is nothing else but the imposing of the state's will and Punjabi language on innocent students.

How can a student who has never studied Punjabi suddenly take an examination of the same language in the 10th class? It is impossible and irrational. The CBSE was quick to clarify and assure that all regional languages, including Punjabi, will be included in the class 10 board exam. After this clarification and assurance, the Punjab government should immediately withdraw its decision of making Punjabi a mandatory language in all boards' examinations in Punjab.

Vinay Kr Malhotra | Ambala Cantt

fearless stroke play propelled Afghanistan to a challenging total of 325 for 7 despite England's experienced bowling attack.England's chase was anchored by Joe Root, who counterattacked with a brilliant 120 off 111 balls, keeping his team in the hunt.

However, Afghanistan's fiery fast bowler Azmatulla Omarzai turned the game on its head with a sensational 5/58. This is the second time in a row that Afghanistan has beaten England in an ICC tournament. This and Zadran's pedigree once again advertised Afghanistan's evolution as a rapid cricketing force.Despite a late fightback, England fell short by eight runs, handing Afghanistan one of their most significant victories in cricket history. This match will be remembered as a testament to Afghanistan's rising stature and the sheer unpredictability that makes cricket a thrilling spectacle. Gopalaswamy J | Chennai

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Beyond our inner self, natural and material limitations shape our behaviour and outcomes



AJIT KUMAR BISHNOI

e, human beings, are under control at three levels. The first one is at the level of self. We have been blessed with faculties such as mind, intelligence, etc. And we have free will to decide what we would like to think, decide and do. However, thinking and deciding are in our control, but being able to do is not. Our actions are limited by circumstances, instruments we have, how much we can apply ourselves and providence of course.

Then, there are constraints like limited knowledge, facilities, nature, etc. Knowledge is unlimited, but we can have very limited knowledge only. Even good knowledge of a subject is difficult, never mind of countless subjects. This restricts us greatly. Nature is another limiting factor. The three modes of material nature, which are goodness, passion and darkness, determine how we would act manner. For example, a man predominantly in the mode of goodness will generally act wisely.

The same cannot be said about persons under the control of the modes of passion and darkness. They make many mistakes. And we all generate 'karmas' (deeds) by minds, words and bodies (senses). These actions of ours, both good and bad put us in the control of the Divine Authority, appointed by God; it works under the superintendence of God. (The Bhagavad-Geeta 9.10) Imagine the extent of their work.



They have to be alert to record all our actions 24x7. This is nothing compared to what they have to do to decide our rewards and punishments, their timings, etc. In this, they have to correlate how these will impact others associated with us. Therefore, the Divine Authority may delay the punishment to make its effect on the family a little less harsh.

But the guilty person has no hope of reprieve even if the punishment is to be delayed to the next life. Our 'karmaphalas' (fruits of actions) are carried from life to life. If the job of the Divine Authority is mind-boggling, what God does is simply unimaginable. God has to watch the interest of all His devotees, no matter where they are. Then, He must appropriately respond to our prayers every time. He must also guide us if we sincerely seek it. Additionally, God must help if we deserve to come out of troubles we have gotten into due to our past 'karmas'. This is nothing compared to what God does for the Creation; He has to keep it going for millions of years for us souls. Imagine if there was dissolution every hundred years or so. How will we feel? Then, God has innumerable galaxies to control. He has many planets where we can go to from the earth planet. There is heaven, where pious acts take us for limited periods. This is like going on a vacation to a dream place. There are many such planets which are higher and higher ending in the 'Vaikuntha' planet, which is the abode of God. Only those, who have been liberated reach there. They get freed from the cycle of birth and death. They remain there for good.Knowing all this, we must become wise, really wise. We must seek the shelter of God beginning now, not later. We must follow dharma to please God. God will guide and help. The divine Authority will be giving us more rewards than punishments, which we can tolerate easily. And we will be our best friends.

Finding money for 'freebies': BJP faces an uphill task



analys \$ 07

The challenge now is not just about delivering on electoral promises but also about balancing an already precarious fiscal equation that could see deficits skyrocket



aving swept the polls in the Aving swept the poils in the National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi with a clinch-ing 2/3rd majority, Rekha Gupta-led BJP - government faces the daunting challenge of having to find money to fulfil its poll promises. Amongst others, the BJP had promised Rs 2.500 a month to women under Mabila 2,500 a month to women under Mahila Samridhi Yojana (MSY); Rs 21,000 to pregnant women; LPG cylinders for Rs 500 and free cylinder on Holi and Diwali; a stipend of Rs 1000 a month to SC students pursu-ing technical and vocational courses; free education for needy students from KG to PG; free travel for students on Delhi Metro; Atal Canteens in Jhuggi Basti clusters pro-viding nutritional meals for Rs 5 only; imple-mentation of Ayushman Bharat scheme and additional cover of Rs 5 lakh for senior citizens. BJP had also vowed to continue all existing schemes such as free electricity and free water (for monthly consumption up to a specified threshold) run by the erstwhile AAP - dispensation under the then Chief linister, Arvind Kejriwal How much will these freebies cost? Let us look at the Mahila Samridhi Yojana (MSY) under which the party has promised BE DISCONTINUED. to give cash assistance of Rs 2500 per month to every woman. The number of women above the age of 18 years in Delhi is around 6700,000. @ Rs 2500 per month or Rs 30,000 annually to each woman, giving cash assistance to them all will require Rs 20,100 crore per annum $(0.67 \times 30,000)$. The assistance to pregnant women @Rs 21,000 per woman, taking a total of about 1500,000 pregnant women will cost around Rs 3150 crore annually. As for subsidy on LPG, take consumption of 4 cylinders (14 kg each) per household (HH) in a year. The current cost of supply-ing a cylinder is around Rs 1000. For two cylinders (Holi and Diwali) promised to be given free, the subsidy will be Rs 2000 whereas for the other two to be given @ Rs 500 each, the outgo will be Rs 1000. This gives an annual subsidy of Rs 3000 per HH. The current population of Delhi is 330 lakh. Taking an average of 4 members per HH,

we get a total of over 82.5 lakh HHs. Multiplied by Rs 3000 being the subsidy per HH, the annual outgo comes to Rs 2500 crore. Look at free education for needy students from KG to PG. According to the latest data available, around 10 per cent of Delhi's population was considered below the poverty line in 2011-12. On this basis, the number of poor persons comes to $33 \text{ lakh} (330 \times 0.1)$. About one-third of this or 11 lakh would be persons in the studying age 4 - 25 years. Taking the average expense of educating a child in India at the bare minimum of Rs 20,000 per annum, the total annual expense NOW, CONSIDER on "needy students" in the city would be about Rs 2200 crore THE IMPACT OF (0.11x20,000). The additional bur-**BJP PROMISES.** den of these four promises alone on the Delhi government's budget is Rs MODI HAS

27,950 crore (20,100+3150+2500+2200). Other **GUARANTEED** freebies would bloat this figure by THAT EXISTING several thousand crore. Let us take the total to be around Rs 30,000 SCHEMES WON'T crore

come under the Centre's jurisdiction hence, the latter foots the bill for expenses on those functions. Second, Delhi being a major hub of economic activity, its propensity to garner its tax revenue in terms of higher GST collection besides VAT on petrol and diesel and excise duty and VAT on alcohol (these products are outside the GST regime) is greater.

The RD will increase drastically when we consider the cost of servicing the loans taken by various departments of the Delhi government such as the Delhi Jal Board (DJB): over Rs 70,000 crore and Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC): Rs 60,000 crore (according to the CAG, these are cumulative losses of DTC as at end of FY 2021-22 and would have ballooned further during the following three FYs till end March 2025).

The liability for servicing those debts is vested entirely in the NCT gov ernment and should be reflected in its balance sheet. Look at the fiscal deficit (FD) which is the excess of total receipts over total expenditure. For FY 2024-25, it is estimated at Rs 18,000 crore which is 80 per cent higher than the FD during FY 2023-24 at Rs 10,000 crore. The surge is despite a steep reduction of over 30 per cent in CE from the budget estimate (BE) of Rs 22,000 crore for FY 2023-24 to Rs 15,000 crore for FY 2024-25. If interest payments on loans taken by DJB and DTC (Rs 130,000 crore plus) which are merely adding to the mountain of debt on the books of those departments year after year are also included, the FD would be much higher. The situation had come to such a pass that the then CM Atishi had approached the Centre seeking a loan of Rs 10,000 crore from the National Small

Savings Fund (NSSF). The precar-

iousness of the state's finances has a lot to do with the galloping freebies and irregularities and mismanagement in running various schemes and overall governance on a monumental scale. During 2024-25, the cost of free electricity and free water alone is estimated to be about Rs 11,000 crore. According to CAG, during 2015-16 and 2021-22, the losses of DTC went up by Rs 35,000 crore and that was due to both free bus rides and misgover-

nance.

Now, consider the impact of BJP promises. Modi has guaranteed that existing schemes won't be dis-continued. So, free electricity/water costing Rs 11,000 crore will stay. Add to this, the fresh guarantees which would be at least about Rs 30,000 crore. This takes the RE from Rs 61,000 crore during FY 2024-25 to Rs 91,000 crore during FY 2025-26 (assuming all other things remain

(The writer is a spiritual teacher; views are personal)

What is the current state of Delhi's finances?

SO, FREE For the current financial year (FY) 2024-25, the total expenditure of the ELECTRICITY/ Delhi government is estimated at Rs 76,000 crore. This includes revenue WATER COSTING expenditure (RE) of Rs 61,000 crore **RS 11,000 CRORE** and capital expenditure (CE) of Rs 15,000 crore. Against this, the total revenue receipts or RR (tax plus WILL STAY. ADD TO THIS, THE non-tax receipts including transfer from the Central government) is FRESH estimated at around Rs 58,000 crore. That leaves a revenue deficit **GUARANTEES** or RD (RR - RE) of Rs 3000 crore. WHICH WOULD BE This is disconcerting when seen in the backdrop of Delhi's potential to AT LEAST ABOUT generate substantial surplus given two fundamental factors working to **RS 30,000 CRORE** its advantage.

First, due to its special status of being NCT, three major functions namely law and order, police and land

unchanged). The KK is Ks 58,000 crore, we get RD of Rs 33,000 crore - up from Rs 3000 crore budgeted for FY 2024-25. The incumbent government has

also promised to clean Yamuna River, clean the air, renovate/build roads, cleanse the drainage systems, build and renovate hospitals and schools in fact, take up and complete a host of physical and social infrastructure projects needed for ensuring a good quality life for Delhiites. That means even if CE is restored to 2023-24 level Rs 22,000 crore, that won't be enough. Even with this insufficient level, the total expenditure will be Rs 113,000 crore. Minus RR of Rs 58,000 crore, we get FD of Rs 55,000 crore. Put simply, the Centre will have to arrange for at least Rs 55,000 crore to enable the BJP to live up to its promises for Delhi

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

India's solar surge: Powering the journey to net zero 2070 India is charting an ambitious course toward Net Zero 2070, with solar energy emerging as the mainstay of its renewable revolution

ndia's steadfast commitment to achieving Net Zero by 2070 is catalysing a dramatic shift in its energy sector, with solar power emerging as the principal driver of this transformation. Abundant sunlight, rapidly decreasing technology costs, strong government support, and an expanding skilled workforce have combined to place solar energy at the heart of India's renewable strategy. While the country has celebrated significant milestones in solar adoption, it also faces multifaceted challenges that require innovative policy interventions and strategic foresight to sustain its momentum.

Over the past decade, India has achieved remarkable progress in solar energy. The nation not only met its ambitious renew-

able targets but exceeded them, with solar power now accounting for over 60 per cent of its renewable energy mix. By 2024, India surpassed the 100 GW milestone, establishing itself as a global leader in solar energy. For example, Rajasthan's solar capacity exceeds 24 GW. Rapid expansion is evident in a 19 per cent increase in solar generation from 2023 to 2024, with solar installations making up over two-thirds of new renewable

capacity. India's role in the International Solar Alliance underscores its commitment to global solar collaboration, as the initiative seeks to mobilise over \$1 trillion in investments for developing countries. National agencies, particularly the Solar



have been vital in driving the development and implementation of solar projects under the National Solar Mission.

Despite these impressive achievements, significant obstacles remain on the path to full solar integration. One major challenge is the limited connection of solar installations to the national grid, with only 16 per cent of capacity Energy Corporation of India, currently integrated. This gap

restricts the country's ability to fully exploit its vast solar potential. Moreover, there are stark regional disparities in solar development. While states like Rajasthan and Gujarat lead the charge, many eastern and northeastern regions lag behind, resulting in an uneven distribution of renewable resources. Financial hurdles also pose

serious challenges. Although government subsidies help reduce costs, the high initial capital required for large-scale installations, coupled with elevated interest rates and delayed payments, discourages private investment. Manufacturers struggle with a shortage of competitively priced solar cells, a problem compounded by strict Domestic Content Requirements that strain pro-



duction capabilities. These financial constraints not only hinder current project deployment but also threaten future expansion in the sector. Another critical issue is India's heavy reliance on imported components. Despite having a domestic module production capacity of around 11 GW, India still depends on global supply chains for essential items such as polysilicon,

wafers, and solar cells. This dependency leaves the country vulnerable to supply chain disruptions, particularly amid geopolitical tensions and trade imbalances, as China continues to dominate global solar manufacturing. Furthermore, the scarcity of critical minerals like cobalt, nickel, and lithium-vital for solar panel production-further complicates efforts to build a self-sufficient solar industry

Local challenges add another layer of complexity. Land acquisition for solar projects often faces resistance from local communities and farmers, leading to protests, legal disputes, and, in some cases, violent confrontations. In Rajasthan, disputes over land rights have led to project cancellations, highlighting the solar panels and key compo-

need for transparent and inclusive processes that respect local interests and ensure fair compensation. Addressing these local concerns is essential for fostering community support and facilitating smoother project implementation.

To overcome these challenges, India must adopt a multifaceted strategy. Strengthening policy frameworks to provide long-term stability is crucial, as is enhancing inter-state cooperation and ensuring reliable access to energy data for effec-tive monitoring. Public-private partnerships can expand solar adoption in underserved regions by providing risk mitigation instruments to attract investment. Promoting domestic manufacturing of

nents will reduce import dependency and bolster energy security. Additionally, investing in workforce development to build a skilled labor pool for solar installation, maintenance, and manufacturing will be vital for sustaining industry growth. By focusing on robust policy support, financial innovation, domestic manufacturing, and community engagement, India can sig-nificantly unlock the full potential of its solar resources. With sustained government backing and strategic collaboration between public and private sectors, the nation is wellpositioned to lead the global solar revolution.

(The writer is assistant professor IIM Mumbai; views are personal. Inputs from Supriya Kaushik and Asmita Tewari)



Israel's army admits failures leading to Oct 7 attack

PTI TEL AVIV

n investigation by the Israeli military has determined that Hamas Was able to carry out the deadliest attack in Israeli history on October 7, 2023, because the much more powerful Israeli army misjudged the militant group's intentions and underestimated its capabilities.

The findings, released Thursday, could pressure Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to launch a widely demanded broader inquiry to examine the political decision-making that preceded the attack, which triggered the war in Gaza.

Many Israelis believe the mistakes of October 7 extend beyond the military, and they blame Netanyahu for what they view as a failed strategy of deterrence and containment in the years leading up to the attack.

That strategy included allowing Qatar to send suitcases of cash into Gaza and sidelining Hamas' rival, the internationally recognised Palestinian Authority.

The prime minister has not taken responsibility, saying he will answer tough ques-tions only after the war, which has been paused for nearly six weeks by a tenuous ceasefire.

Despite public pressure, including from the families of the roughly 1,200 people killed in the October 7 attack and the 251 taken as hostages into Gaza, Netanyahu has resisted calls for a commission of inquiry

The military's main findings were that the region's most powerful and sophisticated military misread Hamas' intentions, underestimated its capabilities and was wholly unprepared for the surprise attack by thousands of heavily armed militants in the early morning hours of a major Jewish holiday.

In comments made to military commanders Monday, and shared with the media on Thursday, the army's chief of staff, Lt. Gen. Herzi Halevi, said he took respon-sibility for the army's failures. 'I was the commander of the military on

October 7th, and I have my own responsibility. I also carry the weight of all your responsibility — that, too, I see as mine," said Halevi, who announced his resignation in January and is set to step down next week.

The military's findings are in line with past

conclusions reached by officials and analysts. The military released only a summary of the report and military officials out

lined its findings "October 7 was a complete failure," said one military official, who spoke on condition of anonymity in line with regulations

A central misconception was that Hamas, which seized control of Gaza from the Palestinian Authority in 2007, was more interested in governing the territory than fighting Israel, the inquiry found.

The military also misjudged the militant group's capabilities. Military planners had envisioned that, at worst, Hamas could stage a ground invasion from up to eight border points, the official said. In fact, Hamas had more than 60 attack routes

Intelligence assessed in the aftermath of the attack has shown Hamas came close to staging the offensive on three earlier occasions but delayed it for unknown reasons, the official said.

The official said that in the hours before the attack, there were signs that something was amiss, including when Hamas fight-ers switched their phones over to the



Israeli network

The perception that Hamas did not want war guided decision makers away from taking action that night that might have thwarted the attack. The Israeli military official said intelligence shows that Yahya Sinwar, a mastermind of the October 7 attack who was killed last October, had begun planning it as early as 2017. With the military off guard on a holiday

weekend, Hamas launched a heavy wave

of rockets that allowed thousands of fighters to burst through the security fence or fly over it on hang gliders. They knocked out surveillance cameras and auickly overwhelmed hundreds of soldiers stationed along the border.

From there they advanced to key highway intersections and attacked troops dispatched to the area, including some senior officers, disrupting the military's command and control, according to a sec-

ond military official, who also spoke on condition of anonymity. For the first three hours after the attack, Hamas fighters marauded through border communities and a music festival with little resistance. That was when most of the 251 hostages were taken and most people were killed, the official said. The official said the chaos led to friendly fire incidents, although he said there were not many, without disclosing a figure.

world 08

It took hours for the military to regain control and days until the area was fully cleared of militants. According to the first official, the report blamed the military for being overconfident in its knowledge and not showing enough doubt in its core concepts and beliefs. The summary said a key lesson was that Israel could not let a threat develop on its border. It spelled out several recommenda-

tions, including creating special units meant to prepare for such sur-

prise and large-scale events, as well as reform in the military intelligence department that would foster "openness, scepticism, listening, learning.

It did not place blame on any individual soldiers or officers, but is likely to pave the way for a reckoning in the military and eventual dismissals.

Some high-ranking officers other than Halevi have also resigned, including the former head of military intelligence.

claimed nearly 1400 lives.

Bangladesh witnessed a resur-

gence of unrest since February

burned and demolished the

residence of the country's

founding father Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, coinciding

with her daughter Hasina's pre-

viously announced virtual

address to students from India.

The protesters set on fire or

ransacked the houses and busi-

ness establishments of the

this year when protestors

Israel, Hamas have begun negotiating next phase of Gaza ceasefire, says Egypt

PTI KHAN YOUNIS (GAZA STRIP)

Negotiations between Israel and Hamas on the next phase of the Gaza ceasefire began Thursday, Egypt said, averting a collapse ahead of Saturday's expiration of the agreement's first phase.

Officials from Israel, Qatar and the United States started "intensive discussions" on the ceasefire's second phase in Cairo, Egypts state information service said.

"The mediators are also discussing ways to enhance the delivery of humanitarian aid to the Gaza Strip, as part of efforts to alleviate the suffering of the population and support stability in the region," its statement said.

Phase 2 talks are meant to negotiate an end to the war, including the return of all remaining hostages in Gaza who are alive, and the withdrawal of all Israeli troops from the territory. Return of remaining deceased hostages would happen in Phase 3

According to Israel, there are 59 remaining hostages - 24 of whom are still believed to be alive.

It will be difficult to reconcile a deal with the war objectives of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who has called for dismantling Hamas' governing and military capabilities. After suffering heavy losses in the war, Hamas less emerged intact during

of four hostages in exchange for over 600 Palestinian prisoners, the last planned swap of the ceasefire's first phase

US President Donald Trump's Mideast envoy, Steve Witkoff, was expected in

the region in the coming days. Blatant violation: An Israeli official, speaking on condition of anonymity in line with regulations, said the army needed to remain in the so-called Philadelphi corridor, on the Gaza side of the border with Egypt, to prevent

weapons smuggling. Separately, Defense Minister Israel Katz said at a meeting with local leaders that he had seen tunnels penetrating the border on a recent visit to the corridor, without providing evidence or elaborating on Israel's plans. Egypt says it destroyed the smuggling tunnels from its side years ago and set up a military buffer zone to halt smuggling.

Hamas said any Israeli attempt to maintain a buffer zone in the corridor would be a "blatant violation" of the ceasefire agreement. The militant group says that sticking to the agreement is the only way for Israel to secure the release of dozens of hostages still held in Gaza.

Israel was supposed to begin withdraw-ing from the Philadelphi corridor on Saturday, the last day of the first phase, olete it wi and con There was no immediate comment about the corridor from Egypt, which is opposed to any Israeli presence on the Gaza side of its border. Remains of 4 hostages identified: The remains released Thursday were confirmed to be those of Ohad Yahalomi Itzhak Elgarat, Shlomo Mantzur and Tsachi Idan, according to the Hostages and Missing Families Forum, which represents families of the captives.

China to send Pak astronaut as first foreign guest to its space station PTI BEIJING/ISLAMABAD

hina plans to send an astronaut from its all weather ally Pakistan as the first foreign

guest to its space station Tiangong. China and Pakistan on Friday signed an agreement including bilateral efforts to select and train Pakistani astronauts and then send some of them to Tiangong, currently orbiting 400 kilometres above the earth, China Manned Space Agency (CMSA) said in a news release here.

The agreement to send the Pakistani astronaut in space was signed by the China Manned Space Agency (CMSA) and Pakistan's Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (SUPARCO) at a ceremony attended by Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in Islamabad, state-run China Daily reported. China has been launching satellites for Pakistan

for the past few years to help its close ally. The Chinese space station, which has been in orbit for nearly four years, is regarded as a rival

to Russia's international space station Mir, cur rently in orbit. China built Tiangong after the country was reportedly excluded from the International

Space Station (ISS) over concerns that China's space programme is manned by its military, the People's Liberation Army (PLA). China's space station is also seen as a new field

of competition between China and the US. The two robotic arms of the station, especially the long one which has the ability to grab objects

including satellites from space, drew international concerns. er announced plans for the fur has ea

Students-led political party to be launched amid unrest in Bangladesh

PTI 📕 DHAKA

Bangladesh on Friday is set to witness emergence of a political party led by students who spearheaded the 2024 street campaign that led to the toppling of the then prime minister Sheikh Hasina's Awami League regime.

A large stage is ready in central Dhaka's Manik Mia Avenue for the launch of 'Jatiya Nagorik Party' or National Citizen Party (NCP) led by the key-figures of the Anti-Discrimination Student Movement, also called Students Against Discrimination (SAD).

The Anti-Discrimination Student Movement led a mass uprising leading to the ouster of Hasina's over 15 years of rule on August 5 last year. Three days later, Muhammd Yunus assumed charge as the Chief Adviser of the Interim government, effectively the prime minister.

NCP leaders said they expect-ed around 3,00,000 people, including students from across the country, at the launch event. "People from all the 64 districts are to join our inaugu-'We have also invited the leaders of major political parties," he added. The new party is being launched with the blessings of Yunus, who took over as the Chief Adviser as the SAD nominee in August 2024.

NCP leaders said Yunus was also invited to their launch ceremony The other high-profile invitees

include Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) chairperson and ex-premier Khaleda Zia; her son and acting BNP chairperson Tarique Rahman; BNP secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir; Jamaat-

e-Islami ameer Shafiqur Rahman, and leaders of several Islamic, rightist and leftwing parties and groups.

BNP had earlier expressed skepticism about the neutrality of the Yunus' interim administration ahead of expected general elections in December this year, particularly after he extended his support for the proposed student-led party while three of their representatives were serving as advisers, equivalent to ministers, in his government.

One of the advisers, entrusted with the portfolio of information ministry, Nahid Islam, however, resigned earlier this week to head the NCP amid the criticism that the new party was being floated using the advantage of being part of the government.

A recent UN fact-finding report suggested policed actions during the uprising and subsequent violence

Awami League leaders and supporters across the country. Bangladesh's security forces have arrested over 8,600 people in a two-week crackdown named 'Operation Devil Hunt' that targeted gangs allegedly linked with the ousted Hasina government. The arrests came amid growing

concerns about rising crime levels, particularly in Dhaka, with police saying the number of robberies had doubled since January last year.

5 killed, 20 hurt in Pak mosque blast

PTI PESHAWAR

10 Friday

of Nowshera district, Chief during 'Jumma' prayer. Secretary Shahab Ali Shah con-(Sami Group) after the death of

The Darul Uloom Haqqania A powerful blast killed at Aleast five people and Haq became chief of his JUI Hanafi Deobandi school of and removed the bodies and Haq became chief of his JUI Sunni Islam It was founded by

former chief Akhtar Mansour, studied here.

ration alongside the family members of those who gave their lives in the July-August mass uprising," a spokesman of the new party's media cell said.

the ceasefire, and the group says it will not give up its weapons.

Hours before talks began, an Israeli official said the country would not withdraw from a strategic corridor in the Gaza Strip as called for under the ceasefire, a refusal that could severely complicate negotiations with Hamas and key mediator Egypt at a sensitive moment for the fragile truce.

Overnight, Hamas released the remains

ther development of space programmes, which included launching a manned lunar mission construction of a lunar space station, exploration of habitable planets and extra-terrestrial life to expand its space programme in the next few decades

Deputy Director of the Chinese Manned Space Agency Lin Xiqiang told media here earlier that China plans to land astronauts on the moon before 2030 while the US plans to put its astronauts back on the lunar surface in 2025.

prayers at a mosque in northwest Pakistan's restive Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province ahead of the fasting month of Ramazan, police said.

The blast claimed the life of Hamidul Haq Haqqani, chief of his own faction of the Jamiat Ulema Islam (JUI) and caretaker of the Madrassa-e-Haggania, located in Akora Khattak town

his father Maulana Sami ul Haq. Khyber IGP, Pakĥtunkhwa, Zulfiqar Hameed said the blast is suspected to be a suicide bombing and Hamidul Haq appeared to be the target. "We had provided six security guards to Hamidul Haq," he said.

DPO Nowshera district Abdur Rasheed said the blast occurred

Maulana Abdul Haq along the lines of the Darul Uloom Deoband seminary in India, where he had taught.

It has been dubbed the "University of Jihad" due to its methods and content of instruction, along with the future occupations of its alumni. A number of leading members of the Taliban, including

evacuated the injured hospital. An emergency was declared in both Nowshera and Peshawar hospitals.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur and Governor Faisal Karim Kundi have condemned the suicide blast. The Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam leaders have appealed for blood donation for the injured.

Quake rattles Kathmandu PTI 📕 KATHMANDU

At least four people were Ainjured in Kathmandu and elsewhere due to a strong earthquake in the neighbouring Sindhupalchowk district early Friday morning.

The quake measuring 6.1 magnitude was recorded at 2.51 am with its epicentre at Bhairabkunda, Sindhupalchowk district, 65 km east of Kathmandu, according to the National Earthquake Monitoring and Research Centre

Some houses in Sindhupalchowk district developed cracks after the tremor hit the district. Besides Kathmandu valley, the earthquake was also felt by people in southern and eastern Nepal according to officials.

The earthquake prompted many people in Kathmandu and nearby areas to come out of their houses in panic. Two people were injured in Kathmandu while an inmate of Chautara prison was injured as he tried to escape fol

lowing the earthquake. An elderly man was injured in a village in Sindhupalchowk district as he tried to exit his house soon after the earthquake, officials said. Nepal lies in one of the most active tectonic zones, making the Himalayan nation extremely vulnerable to earthquakes. The worst quake it has so far witnessed was in April 2015 when a 7.8 magnitude quake killed more than 9,000 people and damaged over 1 million structures.



Indonesian Muslim women buy vegetables to prepare for the holy month of Ramadan at a market in Jakarta, Indonesia on

Russian, US diplomats meet in Istanbul

PTI 📕 ISTANBUL

Russian and US diplomats met in Istanbul on Thursday to discuss normalising the operation of their respective embassies after years expelling each others' diplomats.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said the talks followed an understanding reached during President Donald Trump's call with Russian President Vladimir Putin and contact between senior Russian and US diplomats and other officials in Saudi Arabia.

Speaking during Thursday's

meeting of the Federal Security Service, Putin hailed the Trump administration's "pragmatism and realistic view" compared with what he described as the stereotypes and messianic ideological cliches" of its predecessors

The first contacts with the new US administration encourage certain hopes," Putin said. There is a mutual readiness to work to restore relations and gradually solve a colossal amount of systemic strategic problems in the global architecture?

Putin said that "part of Western elites are still determined to

maintain global instability" and could try to "disrupt or compromise the dialogue that has begun," adding that Russian diplomats and security agencies should focus their efforts on thwarting such attempts.

Return to civilised communication: In Riyadh, Moscow and Washington agreed to start working toward ending the war in Ukraine and improving their diplomatic and economic ties. That includes restoring staffing at embassies, which in recent years were hit hard by mutual expulsions of large numbers of diplomats, closures of offices, and other

A US Embassy official in Ankara confirmed that the Istanbul talks focused on the issues affecting the operation of respective diplomatic missions. Later Thursday, a spokesman for the US State Department said: "The United States raised concerns regarding access to banking and contracted services as well as the need to ensure stable and sustainable staffing levels at the US Embassy in Moscow. Through constructive discussions, both sides identified concrete initial steps to stabilize bilateral mission operations in these areas.

restrictions

Panama, Costa Rica turning into 'black hole' for migrants, deportees from US, observers warn

PTI MIRAMAR (PANAMA)

Officials in Costa Rica and Panama are confiscating migrants' passports and cellphones, denying them access to legal services and moving them between remote outposts as they wrestle with the logistics of a suddenly reversed migration February. flow. The restrictions and lack of United States immigration pol-icy," said Harold Villegastransparency are drawing criticism from human rights observers and generating Román, a political science professor and refugee expert at the increasingly testy responses from officials, who say their actions University of Costa Rica. "There are aimed at protecting the is no focus on human rights, migrants from human traffickthere is only focus on control and security. Everything is very Both countries have received murky, and not transparent." Deportations and reversed

hundreds of deportees from

migration: Earlier this month. various nations sent by the United States as President the US sent 299 deportees from Donald Trump's administration mostly Asian countries to tries to accelerate deportations Panama. Those who were willing to return to their countries At the same time, thousands of – about 150 to date — were put migrants shut out of the US have on planes with the assistance of started moving south through United Nations agencies and Central America – Panama paid for by the US recorded 2,200 so far in Carlos

Ruiz-Hernandez, We're a reflection of current Panama's deputy foreign minister, said Thursday a small number are in contact with international organisations and the UN Refugee Agency as they weigh whether to seek asylum in Panama.

"None of them wants to stay in Panama. They want to go to the US," he said in a phone interview from Washington. "We cannot

give them green cards, but we can get them back home and for a short period of time provide them with medical and psychological support as well as housing.

Despite Trump's threats to retake control of the Panama Canal, he said Panama had not acted under US pressure. "This is in Panama's national interest. We are a friend of the US and want to work with them to send a signal of deterrence."

the deportees remaining in Panama would be given the option of staying at a shelter originally set up to handle the large number of migrants moving north through the Darien

Gap. One Chinese deportee currently detained in the camp, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to avoid repercussions, said she wasn't given a choice.

She was deported to Panama without knowing where they were being sent, without signing deportation documents in the US and without clarity of how long they would be there. She was among the deportees who were moved from a Panama City hotel where some held up signs to their windows asking for help to a remote camp in the Darien region.

Speaking to the AP over messages on a cellphone she kept hidden, she said authorities confiscated others' phones and offered them no legal assistance. Others have said they've been unable to contact their lawyers.

"This deprived us of our legal process," she said.

Panama President Jose Raul Mulino, asked about the lack of access to legal services on Thursday, questioned the idea that migrants would even have lawyers. "Doesn't it seem like a coincidence that those poor people have lawyers in Panama?" Mulino said.

Black hole for deported migrants: Costa Rica and Panama have so far denied press access to facilities where they are holding migrants. Panama had initially invited iournalists to the Darien this week, but ultimate ly canceled the visit

Panama cannot end up becoming a black hole for deported migrants," said Juan Pappier, deputy director of Human Rights Watch in the Americas. "Migrants have the right to communicate with their families, to seek lawyers and Panama must guarantee transparency about the situation in which they find themselves."

Costa Rica has faced similar criticisms from the country's independent human rights entity, which has raised alarm over "failures" by authorities to guarantee proper conditions for deportees arriving.

Ruiz-Hernandez said some of



weapons and troops, won't

likely embrace Trump's out-

They say Kim could reconsid

er if he doubts he'll maintain

North Korea's current solid

cooperation with Russia after

Last Saturday, North Korea's

Defense Ministry alleged the

US and its allies were ramp-

provocations targeting North

Korea since Trump took

It cited the recent US-South

Korean aerial exercise involv-ing a US B-1B bomber and

other reported activities

involving U.S. military assets.

A Defense Ministry state-ment said North Korea will

counter the strategic threat of

the US with strategic means.

Kim and Trump met three

times from 2018-19 to discuss

ing up more serious military

reach anytime soon.

the war ends.

ower.

Doctors suggest Pope has overcome the worst

PTI ROME

Pope Francis reached the two-week mark recovery from pneumonia Friday as doctors suggested he had overcome the most critical phase of the infection while holding out on declaring him out of danger entirely.

The Vatican's early Friday update also suggested a level of normalcy and routine as the 88-year-old pope continues recovering at Rome's Gemelli Hospital. "As in past days, the night was tranquil and the pope now is resting."

In their Thursday evening bulletin, doctors said Francis' clinical condition had confirmed that he was improving. He was alternating the high-flow supplemental oxygen he had been receiving by a nasal tube with a mask in a sign of improved respiratory function. Additionally, he left his hospital room to go to his nearby private chapel to pray, while continuing with respiratory physiotherapy and work, the Vatican said.

For the second day in a row,

PTI SAN FRACISCO

Afederal judge in San Francisco on Thursday

found that the mass firings of

probationary employees were

likely unlawful, granting tem-

porary relief to a coalition of

labor unions and organiza-

tions that has sued to stop the

Trump administration's mas-

sive dismantling of the federal

US District Judge William Alsup ordered the Office of

Personnel Management to

inform certain federal agencies

that it had no authority to order

the firings of probationary

employees, including at the

Department of Defense. "OPM does not have any

authority whatsoever, under

any statute in the history of the

universe," to hire or fire any

employees but its own, Alsup

labour unions and five non-

profit organizations is among

multiple lawsuits pushing back

to shrink a workforce that

workforce.

said.

doctors avoided saying Francis was in critical condition, suggesting he had overcome the most acute phase of the infection. But given the complexity of his lung infection, they said "further days of clinical stability are needed" before they revise their prognosis officially and say he is out of danger. Francis has been at Gemelli

Hospital since February 14 after his bronchitis worsened. He has shown steady, albeit slight improvements since a respiratory crisis and kidney trouble over the weekend sparked fears for his life. The improvements beat back speculation of an imminent death, resignation or a conclave and signalled that he was still very much in charge

Prayers continued to pour in: In Mexico City, a few dozen people gathered Thursday night at the cathedral to pray for Francis' recovery. "He is like part of the family,"

said Araceli Gutiérrez, who treasures the time she saw the pope during his trip to the country of nearly 100 million

we feel so concerned for him." María Teresa Sánchez, who was visiting from Colombia with her sister, said that she has always felt close to Francis the first Latin American pope. 'That's like having a relative within the higher-ups, with God," she said. "He has done so much for religion; he's such a humble person.

Upcoming calendar in question: Despite his improvements, Francis' near-term upcoming calendar of events was being changed: The Vatican cancelled a Holy Year audience scheduled for Saturday, and it remained to be seen if Francis would skip his Sunday noon blessing for the third week in a row. Ash Wednesday next week starts the Lenten season leading up to Holy Week and Easter, which this year falls on April 20. In past years, when Francis has battled bronchitis and influenza in winter, he curbed his par-

ticipation in Ash Wednesday and Holy Week events, which call for the pope to be outdoors in the cold leading services, Catholics in 2016. "That's why participating in processions

and presiding over prayers in the solemn period in which the faithful commemorate Christ's crucifixion and resurrection. Beyond that, Francis has a few major events coming up that he presumably would hope to keep if well enough. On April 27, he is due to canonize Carlo Acutis, considered to be the first millennial and digital-era saint. The Vatican considers the Italian teenager, who died of leukemia in 2006 at the age of 15, an inspiration for young Catholics. Another important appointment is the May 24 commemoration of the 1,700th anniversary of the Council of Nicea, Christianity's first ecumenical council. The spiritual leader of the world's Orthodox Christians, Patriarch Bartholomew I, has invited Francis to join him in Iznik Turkey, to commemorate the anniversary, which he has called an important sign of reconciliation between the Catholic and Orthodox churches. Before he got sick, Francis said he hoped to go, though the Vatican hasn't confirmed the trip.

84 Indonesians freed from scam centers in Myanmar set to return home PTI MAE SOT (THAILAND)

 $E_{\mathrm{from\ scam\ centers\ in}}^{\mathrm{ighty-four\ Indonesians\ freed}}$ Myanmar were set to return home Friday as the repatriation of thousands of such workers after a crackdown strains regional resources.

The Indonesians were among more than 7,000 people being held in the Myanmar border town Myawaddy following a crackdown on the scam centers by Thailand, Myanmar and China. Two buses carrying the Indonesians arrived Thursday in the Thai border city of Mae Sot, where the passengers had health checks and their identities were verified.

Hundreds of thousands of people are believed to have been lured to work in Myanmar, Cambodia and Laos to commit global scams through false romances, bogus investment pitches and illegal gambling schemes. Many of the workers were recruited under false pretenses, only to find themselves trapped in virtual slavery.

The Indonesian Foreign Affairs Ministry said the 84 Indonesians, which included 69 men and 15 women, were healthy and will fly to Jakarta on three commercial flights Friday. The ministry had said last week as many as 270 Indonesians were stranded in Myanmar after leaving the scam centers, but it was not clear why

North Korea says it performed cruise missile tests Ukraine with supply of

PTI SEOUL (SOUTH KOREA)

North Korea said Friday it had test-fired strategic cruise missiles to demonstrate its nuclear counterattack capability, days after it vowed to respond to what it called escalating U.S.-led hostilities since the start of the Trump administration.

The official Korean Central News Agency said leader Kim Jong Un oversaw the missile tests off the country's west coast Wednesday.

They were the North's fourth missile launch event this year and the second of President Donald Trump's second term. The launches were designed to inform "the enemies, who are seriously violating our security environment and fostering and escalating the

confrontation environment," of the North Korean military's counterattack capability and the readiness of its nuclear operations, KCNA said.

Kim expressed satisfaction over the results of the drills and said the military must be battle-ready and prepared to use its nuclear weapons, the report said.

Trump has said he would reach out to Kim again after they met at three summits in his first term.

North Korea hasn't directly responded to Trump's overture as it continues its typical aggressive rhetoric against the U.S. and weapons testing activities.

Many experts say Kim, now preoccupied with his support of Russia's war against

PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE Notice is hereby given that my client Deepak Kumar Yadav and Manju Devi are in process to purchase the Entire Third Floor built on Front Side Portion of Property bearing Municipal Old No. 7-P13, New No. 54, area measuring 60 Sq. Yds., Out of Khasra No. 133, situated in the area and abadi of Srinwaspuri, New Delhi,: (availing Ioan from PCHFL) from Surest Kumar Arora, having acquired the said property by virtue vide Relinquisitment Deed dated 16/12/2020 (Document No. 12668) executed by Sunita Ran', Mrs. Suman Maggal, Mrs. Lalita, Mrs. Ankita Makkar, Ms. Srishti Arora and Mr. Madhav Arora All personis having any claim against or in respect of the said Property, or any part thereof, by way of sale, exchange, mortgage (equitable/fregistered or othertwise), gift, trust, inheritance, family praragment, maintenance, bequest, partnership, possession, lease, sublease, tenancy, license, lien, charge, piedge, easement or otherwise howsoever, are hereby requested to notify the same in writing to us with supporting documentary evidence at the date hereol, failing which the claim or claims, if any, of such person symba considered to have been waived and/or abandonde. Man Kant Gupta (Advocate) Unit No. Fr.2, First floor, Mahaluxmi Metro Tower Sec.4, Vaishai, Gzb., U.P., Mob. 810063351 PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE Its to inform to the public at large that Mr. Dilip Kumar and Mrs. Arti Kumari who are the owners of Entire Third Floor, with roof terrace rights, area measuring 110 Sq. Yds., I.e., 91971 Sq. Mits., out of Property Bearing No. R2-F21/17, Street No.5, out of Khasra No.447/2, Stuated in the area of Village Mahavir Enclave, New Dehi-110045 vide Sale Deed dated 31.05.2023 (Vide Doc. No.5937) Award Wrs. Geeta Kothari and same to be financed & mortgaged by Acitya Birla Housing Finance Ltd. Intel. Original Sale Deed dated 31.05.2023 executed by Mrs. Geeta Kothari in favour of Mr. Dilip Kumar and Mrs. Arti Kumari in respect of said property, vide Registration No.5937, Book No.1. Vol. No.12176, on pages 191-199, on dated 31.05.2023, SR-IX, New Delhi is lost/misplaced. 1.05.2023, SR.IX, New Delhi is lost/misplaced. So, to comply the requirements of BANK/NBFC, we give this public notice that if any Person naving any type of claim /right/title/interest/ reating mortgage over the said property, may nform in writing, at the address mentioned elow, about his objections, within 15 days from oday, failing which it shall be presumed that the aid property is free from all type of incumbrances, lien etc. Lucem Legal LLP ector 2,Noida,UP-20130/Contact#/0120-4263379

the fate of North Korea's nuclear program, but their diplomacy derailed due to disputes over US-led sanctions on the North. Kim has since sharply increased the pace of weapons tests to expand and modernize his nuclear and missile arsenals. Having a bigger nuclear arse-

nal now, experts say Kim would think he could win greater US concessions if he revives diplomacy with Trump

Opening

21/03/2025

1515 Hrs

21/03/2025

1530 Hrs

21/03/2025

1545 Hrs

1500 Hrs

1500 Hrs

1500 Hrs

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	nk-and-file work-
SU	ed the federal gov-
Regd. Off: N Nea Email : superiorfinle	nake a difference munities, only to terminated due to stration's disdain
In the notice to the memb FINLEASE LIMITED which heading of Public Notice General Meeting dated 20 published as Friday 27 [®] Ma above date as Friday, 21 [®] M	employees and vatize their work." eeking comment fice of Personnel t was not immedi- ned Thursday. an assistant US

of Justice, declined to comment Alsup ordered the personnel

employees will automatically be office to inform a limited numrehired or that future firings Punjab & Sind Bank will not occur. ß 'What it means in practical effects is the agencies of the federal government should hear PUBLIC NOTICE the court's warning that that Puniab and Sind Bank, Bahadurgarh order was unlawful," said is providing loan on the following property Danielle Leonard, an attorney of Sh. Ashish Gulia S/o. Sh. Joginder for the coalition, after the hear Singh and Smt. Sweety W/o. Sh. ing. "This ruling by Judge Alsup is Ashish Gulia situated at Plot No.855. Sector-2, Bahadurgarh, Jhajjar an important initial victory Harvana-124507. We hereby state that the Original Conveyance deed 3810 dated 18-10-2006 is lost. Punjab and

officials with civil service protection

workers likely to be unlawful

Lawyers for the government agree that the office has no authority to hire or fire employees in other agencies. But they said the Office of Personnel Management asked agencies to review and determine whether employees on probation were fit for continued employment. They also said that probationary employees are not guaranteed employ-

ment and that only the highest performing and mission-critical employees should be hired. "I think plaintiffs are conflat-ing a request by OPM with an order by OPM," said Kelsey Helland, an assistant U.S. attorney in court Thursday.

does not mean that fired

The complaint filed by five on the administration's efforts ber of federal agencies represented by the five nonprofits that are plaintiffs in the lawsuit, which include veterans, parks, small businesses and defense. He seemed particularly troubled by firings expected at the Department of Defense.

only 84 were being repatriated. Judha Nugraha, director of Indonesian citizen protection at the ministry, has said that approximately 6,800 Indonesians have fallen victim to illegal job scams, ending up in online gambling operations or bogus investment schemes in Myanmar.

PERIOR FINLEASE LIMITED CIN: L74899DL1994PLC061995 NS- 92, Khasra No-33/21, Ranaji Enclave, Najafgarh ar Ariun Park Bus Stand. New Delhi -110043;

lease@gmail.com; Website: http://www.superior Phone No.: +91-9953798335

Corrigendum

bers regarding the Extraordinary General Meeting of SUPERIOR ch was published on 28th February, 2025, please note that in the for attention of equity shareholders regarding Extraordinary 6.02.2025, the date of Extraordinary General Meeting is mistaken arch, 2025 instead of Friday 21st, March 2025. It is requested to read March 2025. The error is regretted

For Superior Finlease Limit

CHANGE OF NAME

I Shivani Balhara W/o Sh.

Ravi Kumar R/o H. No. 310,

Sector 45, Gurugram, have

changed my name Shivani

Solanki to Shivani Balhara.

Shivani Solanki to Shivani

I, Shobha Sharma W/o Brij

PD(1599)C

PD(1603)C

person. Kindly note.

PUBLIC NOTICE My client HDFC Bank Ltd, Capital Court, Munirka, New Delhi, in the business of Housing Loan, from whom Mrs. Sangeeta Khandelwal and Naveen Khandelwal has taker a housing loan against Flat No. CM309A, Tower-3A, 9 th Floor, CM309A, Tower-3A, 9 th FI DLF THE CAMELLIAS SUBVENTION, S. No. DL M

Gurgaon, Haryana-122001 but in the internal movement of file one

file containing the original Flat Buyer Agreement is not traceable

which was lost/misplaced if any

body find the same may return to

the undersigned, if anybody

misuses the same, the same shall

K-8, LGF Janopura Extn. New Delhi-110014

Karnail Singh, (Advocate)

be at his/their own risk and cost.



Ε Se Estimated Cost of NIT No. Brief Tender Description Cost EMD of Submission RATE CONTRACT FOR SUPPLY OF 1.1KV CMC/BR/25-26/ 21/03/2025 ₹ 22.67 Cr ₹ 22.67 GRADE POWER CABLE OF SIZE 2CX25 FK/PR/FH/1254 lakhs SQ.MM IN BRPL CMC/BR/25-26/ RATE CONTRACT FOR SUPPLY OF 1.1KV 21/03/2025 ₹ 13.48 Cr ₹ 13.48 GRADE POWER CABLE OF SIZE 4C CABLES FK/PR/FH/1255 lakhs IN BRPL RATE CONTRACT FOR SUPPLY OF LT CMC/BR/25-26/ ₹ 40.91 Cr ₹ 40.91 21/03/2025 FK/PR/FH/1256 AERIALLY BUNCHED CABLES OF SIZES lakhs

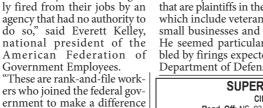
3CX150 & 3CX95 SQ.MM IN BRPL

for patriotic Americans across this country who were illegally fired from their jobs by an agency that had no authority to

Judge finds mass firings of federal probationary

national president of the American Federation of Government Employees. 'These are rai ers who ioine ernment to n in their com be suddenly t this administration for federal desire to priv An email s from the Of Management ately retur Michelle Lo, an attorney with the Department

Attorneys for the coalition cheered the order, although it



Date : 28.02.2025

Place : New Delh

Trump has called bloated and sloppy. Thousands of probationary employees have already been fired, and his administration is now aiming at career

Social Security Administration could reduce 50% workforce

at

"The

benefit program.

ber will soar."

Security.

PTI WASHINGTON

The Social Security Administration is preparing to lay off at least 7,000 people from its workforce of 60,000, according to a person familiar with the agency's plans who is not authorised to speak publicly. The workforce reduction, according to a second person who also spoke on the condition of anonymity, could be as high as 50%.

It's unclear how the layoffs will directly impact the benefits of the 72.5 million Social Security beneficiaries, which include retirees and children who receive retirement and disability benefits. However, advocates and Democratic lawmakers warn that layoffs will reduce the agency's ability to serve recipients in a timely manner.

Some say cuts to the workforce are, in effect, a cut in benefits. Later Friday, the agency sent out a news release outlining plans for "significant workforce reductions," employee reassignments from "non-mission critical positions to mission critical direct service positions," and an offer of voluntary separation agreements. The agency said in its letter to workers that reassignments "may be involuntary and may require retraining for new workloads." The layoffs are part of the Trump administration's intensified efforts to shrink the size of the federal workforce through the Department of Government Efficiency, run by President Donald Trump's advisor Elon Musk.

A representative from the Social Security Administration did not respond to an Associated Press Sind Bank is providing loan on the said property, if any person has any objection to the above consent, then contact the branch within 15 days or Advocate

Pooja Rani (Mobile: 7988636387)

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is to inform to the public at large that Sh. Imran Khan who is purchasing the Plot No. 29, 31, & 33, Area Masuring 50 Sc, Yds. Out Of Khasra No.8/18 & 19/3, Situated In The Area Of Village Hastsal Delhi, State Delhi, Area Abadi Colony Known As Shiva Enclave, In Block-F, Vikas Nagar, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059 from Sh. Bal Gowind Tiwari who became owner vide Notarized GPA dated 04.03.2022, Notarized ATS date 04.03.20228 WILL date 04.03.2022 executed by Sh. Hariom Buddha and same to be financed & mortloaged by Aditya Birla request for comment. The people familiar with the agency's plans say that SSA's new acting commissioner Leland Dudek held a meeting this week with management and told them they had to produce a plan that executed by Sh. Hariom Buddha and same to be financed & mortgaged by Aditya Birla Housing Finance Ltd. So, to comply the requirements of BANK/NBFC, we give this public notice that if any Person having any type of claim/right/title/interest/creating mortgage over the said property, may inform in writing, at the address mentioned below, about his objections, within 15 days from today, failing which it shall be presumed that the said property is free from all type of Encumbrances, lien etc. Lucem Legal LLP B-33B, Second Floor, Opp. SBI Bank Sector 2,Noida,UP-201301Contact#0120-4269379 eliminated half of the workforce SSA headquarters in Washington and at least half of the workers in regional offices. In addition, the termination of office leases for Social Security sites across the country are detailed on the DOGE website,

PUBLIC NOTICE This is to inform the Public at large that Sh. Sumit Arora Sio. Sh. Ramnik Arora is the 'Title Holder' in possession of 'DDA Built Up Freehold Property Bearing Flat No. 113-F, 2nd Floor, Pocket-4, Mayur Vihar, Phase-I, New Delhi-91', hereinafter referred to as 'Schadule Property' vide Sale Deed dated 18.10.19 duly registered as Regn. No. 7268, Book No. 1, Vol. No. 9386, pp. 63-68 on 23.10.2019 in the Office of the Sub Registrar-VIII, Geeta Colony, New Delhi. That original documents is. (I) NOC for Water & Electricity dated 04.09.89, (ii) Possession Silp issued by D.D.A. in favour of Smt. Chotti Mulji David, (iii) Death Certificate of Smt. Chotti Mulji David, (iii) Indemnity Bond dated 14.01.05, (v) Letter of Authority for Appointing Authorized Signatory issued by M/s. Mannil Property & Development Corp. Ltd. (for Sale Deed dated 12.01.05) and (vi) Letter of Authority for Appointing Authorized 22.09.05) w.r.t. the Schedule Property have been lost/misplaced and are untraceable as on date, in lieu of which Information Report dated 25.02.25 bearing LR No. 2619438/ 2025 has been filled with Delhi Police. Thal, 'Smt. Joyco V, Chawhan' prior to her marriage to Sh. VH. Joseph Chawhan was known by the name of 'Ms. JM. David' and thus, the Transfer Letter dated 01.02.93 was issued by DDA in the name of Ms. JM. David' and thus, the Transfer Letter dated 01.02.93 was issued by DA in the name of Ms. JM. David, howev upon her marriage, the Conveyance Deed dated 08.08.01 was executed in the name of 'Smt. Joycos V. Chawhan'. This notice is therefore issued to the Public at large, i.e. any Person(J). which maintains a "Wall of PUBLIC NOTICE Receipts," which is a selfdescribed "transparent account of DOGE's findings and actions." The site states that leases for dozens of Social Security sites across Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, Florida, Kentucky, North Carolina, and other states have been or will be ended. Social Security Administration is already chron-

ically understaffed. Now, the Trump Administration wants to demolish it," said Nancy Altman, president of Social Security Works, an advocacy group for the popular public

Altman said the reductions in force "will deny many Americans access to their hard-earned Social Security benefits. Field offices around the country will close. Wait times for the 1-800 num-

Chawhan' This notice is therefore issued to the Public at large, i.e. any Person(s). Companylies), Authority(ies), Society(ies), Organisation(s), Financial Institution(s), Bank(s), HUPS etc. having any knowledge, custody or possession of the above mentioned lostmisplaced/untraceable original documents or otherwise having any claims, rights, title, Property, by way of Ownership, Succession Inheritance, Sale, Mortgage, Exchange, Charge, Lien, Gift, Trust, Encumbrance etc., may come forward with supporting documents, to be delivered to the undersigned within 15 days from the date of this Publication, post original surved, <u>Joni Kashyap</u>, Advocate Void and as waived. <u>Joni Kashyap</u>, Advocate Social Security is one of the nation's largest and most popular social programs. A January poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research found that two-thirds of US adults think the country Void and as waived. Joni Kashyap, Advoca Address:Chamber No.6, Block-E,Karkardooma Cou New Delhi-110032, Contact No. +91 99716 2644 is spending too little on Social

PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE This is to inform the general public that Gou Tonger is the owner of Hause no. 307, a measuring 170 Sa. Mirs, covered area 70.27 Mirs, situated at Block – B. Sector/Village Kat Greater Norda, District Gautam Budh Nagar, through Transfer Deed Idade 02.05.2022 as o Mir Gouray Tonger in respect of said Property. The above-said owner has misplaced the Original Regd. GPA dated 14.06.2010 as doc. 1011 & ATS WILL dated 14.06.2010 as coc. Sh. Member in favour of Sh. Narendra Kuma respect of said property. (2) Original Trans Deed dated 21.03.2013 executed by Sh. Naren fumar in favour of Sh. Ashok Kumar in respect platno. 307, Itatalpict area 170 Sg. Mirs. Applica No. - 2611137/2025, registered at P.S. Cr Branch, Delhi on dated 23.02.2025 Anyone v anch, Delhi on dated 23.02.2025 Anyon ds the above-mentioned documents, indover the same to the Manager of Adity using Finance Limited, Barakhamba, New burav Tonger intends to transfer the owner over-mentioned Property by way of Tr ed to Sudhir Sheoran. Subsequently, 1 ad to Sudhir Shedran' Subsequently. Su-scrain is in the process of mortgaging the perty with Aditya Birta Housing Fina nited. Any objections or concerns regarding maction should be raised within a period or so from the date of this public notice, ections submitted after the completion of this yperiod will not be considered binding with re-said property or the interests of our client, nyone wishes to raise an objection, please of thin the sitpulated 15-days period by conta

within the stipulated 15-days period by contacting Law Veritas: North (Advocates & Legal Consultants) at Office No. 11, 1st Floor Building No. A-44/A, Sector-16, Noida, Uttar Pradesh-201301; Landline(s); +910120-3101683, e-mail: accounts@lvnorth.in

Form No. URC-2 Advertisement giving notice about registration under Part I of Chapter XXI [Pursuant to section 374(b) of the companies Act, 2013 and rule 4(1) of the companies {Authorised to Register) Rules, 2014}

Notice is hereby given that in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 366 of the Companies Act, 2013, an application is proposed to be made atter fifteen days hereof but before the expiry of thirty days hereinaffer to the Registrar at NCT of Dehi that HOREKAA TECHNOCON LLP (LLPIN: ACH-9205) a (LLP) husiness existence and Part I of business entitymay be registered under Part I Ghapter XXI of the Companies Act 2013, as company limited by shares.

The principal objects of the company are a follows: follows: Manufacture or Trading of tableware kitchenware and other household articles and toilet articles of plastic, including manufacture of vacuum flasks and other vacuuw vessels gas stoves.cooking/kitchen appliances, meta household articles (plates,saucers, pots ketties, saucepans, frying pans and other non-electrical utensils, small hand-operated kitchen, appliances and accessories)

Kitchen, appliances and accessories) A copy of the draft memorandum and articles association of the proposed company may i inspected at the office atHouse No 2/11 Moc Town-2, Block D Landmark Near Mcdonal Model Town, North West Delhi-110009.

Notice is hereby given that any person objecting to thisapplication may communicate their objection in writing to the Registrar at (address) within twenty one days from the date o publication of this notice, with a copy to the company at its registered office. lated this 1st day of March 2025

before Notary Public Delhi. Name(s) of Applican 1. CHIRAG AROR 2. RADHIKA AROR

CMC/BR/25-26/ FK/PR/FH/1257	RATE CONTRACT FOR SUPPLY OF 1.1KV GRADE POWER CABLE OF SIZE 1C Cables IN BRPL	₹ 5.74 Cr	₹ 5.74 lakhs	21/03/2025 1500 Hrs	21/03/2025 1600 Hrs
CMC/BR/25-26/ FK/PR/KG/1258		₹ 44.93 Cr	₹ 44.93 lakhs	21/03/2025 1500 Hrs	21/03/2025 1615 Hrs

Balhara is one and the same Cost of each Tender Document : ₹1180/

For any query call on 011-49107235 or e-mail on Brpl.Eauction@relianceada.com

For details in respect of Equipment/BOM/Services, Qualifying requirements, Terms & conditions, purchase/submission of tender documents etc. please visit our website www.bsesdelhi.com Head (Contracts & Materials)

Regd. Off. : BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, BSES Bha tion No.: U40109DL2001PLC11152 : +91 11 4910 7235 | Website : www.bs

	Telephone No. : +91 11 4910 7235 I Website : www.bsesdelhi.com	
Behari Sharma R/o H.NO.46,		
Vijay Block, Laxmi Nagar	Har Din Da, Har Dil Da	03
Delhi-110092 declare that	THE PUNJAB STATE COOPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS FED	
Sohobha Sharma & Shobha	SCO 153-155. SECTOR 34-A, CHANDIGARH-160022. EPABX NO. Notice Inviting Tender	0172-5041812,66
Sharma both names are same	e tenders are hereby invited for the purchase and supply of following ite	www.verka.coop
	Sr. Name of Work/Item	Period/Tentative
& One Person i.e. myself.	No. 1. For Verka Head Office, Chandigarh	Qty
PD(1600)C	Hiring a professional agency for Designing, Creating and Executing a	
I, JC-472891X Sub Sachin	comprehensive branding and advertisement solution for Milkfed Punjab.	02 years
Kumar R/o- Vill- Jagahari, PO-	2. <u>For Verka Chandigarh Dairy</u> Sealed tender for hiring of five seater Tata Xenon/ Mahindra Bolero	01 No.
Kajikhera, Teh & Dist-	pickup double cabin or equivalent vehicle along with driver	01110.
Muzffarnagar, U.P 251001	3. <u>For Verka Mohali Dairy</u> a) Contract for providing security personnel's.	Annual
have changed my daughter's	 b) Hiring of insulated & refrigerated vehicles with different capacities for supply of verka milk and milk products. 	25 No's (no.of vehicles may be
name from Seneha Kumari to		increased or decreased)
Sneha Malik, vide affidavit	 c) Housekeeping and letting filled milk pouch handling activities 4. For Verka Ludhiana Dairy 	
dated 28/02/2025 before	Job contract for packing of liquid milk, dahi and lassi in pouches and cleaning of milk plastic trays.	Annual
Notary Public Delhi.	5. For Verka Patiala Dairy Hiring of Vehicles:-	
PD(1601)C	i. Tata 207, Mahindra Maxi truck etc. for transportation of milk from	02 No's
I, Badarun Nisha, Mother of-	societies/farms at MCC samana route no.28 & route no.42. ii. Double cabin pickup vehicle for LN2 gas supply route.	01 No.
No.16017500W Hav Meraj	iii. Tata 207, Mahindra Maxi truck etc. for supply of Verka Cattle	01 No.
Ahamad, R/o- Vill- Tandwa,	Feed, mineral mixture, ghee etc. to societies/farms. For Verka Hoshiarpur Dairy	
Post- Ekail, Teh- Sikanderpur,	Advertisement material. (Flexi board, flexi banner, star flex banner, vinyl board, glow sun board, gum sheet sticker, pamphlets, danglers,	Annual
Dist- Ballia, U.P 221711, have	sun board, wall painting, vehicle painting, standies, canopies).	Annua
changed my name from	7. <u>For Verka Sangrur Dairy</u> Allotment of Verka Milk booths on rent.	Three Years
Badarun Nisha to Badrun	i. Civil Hospital Tapa ii. Civil Hospital Bhadaur	
Nisha, vide affidavit dated	8. For Verka Amritsar Dairy	
28/02/2025 before Notary	a) Purchase of:- i. Polypropylene bottles cap. 180ml with caps.	Annual
Public Delhi.	ii. Corrugated tray for PP bottles cap. 180ml.	
PD(1602)C	 iii. Printed shrink sleeve rolls for PP bottles cap. 180ml. iv. Conduction aluminium lid foil for PP bottles cap. 180ml. 	
I, Ram Nath Yadav, F/o-	b) Hiring of:-	01.04.2025 to 31.03.2027/
No.10136992Y RFN Sumit	i. Can route vehicles for lifting of milk from DCS to MCC	15 No's
Yadav, R/o- H-33, Prem	Capacity:- 1 Ton to 2 Ton. ii. Insulated Single portion road milk tankers (Capacity- 10000 Ltr.) for the transportation of milk from BMC/ MCC to Verka	10 No's
Nagar-1, Kirari Suleman	Amritsar Dairy.	
Nagar, North West Delhi,	 c) Supply of Indonesian Steam coal. d) Outsourcing of security, housekeeping & horticulture activities. 	1500 MT Annual
0	9. For Verka Mega Dairy, Bassi Pathana Loading/Unloading of Verka milk & milk products corrugated boxes,	Annual (from the date of issue
Delhi- 110086, have changed	SMP bags.	of work order)
my name from Ram Nath	NOTE: 1. For complete details regarding above tender (NIT), please visit our webs	site i e www.verka.coon &
Yadav to Ram Nath, vide	e Tendering portal i.e. eproc.punjab.gov.in.	no no. ministerica.coop a
affidavit dated 28/02/2025	2. Corrigendum, if any, will be uploaded on website only.	
before Notary Public Delhi		

NA/12/28385/2023/42103 Dated CHD :- 2/28/2025

Dy. General Manager (Purchase)



GDP growth rate 6.2 per cent in Q3

PTI NEW DELHI

India's economic growth rate decelerated to 6.2 per cent in the October-December quarter this fiscal, mainly due to poor performance by mining, manufacturing and all other sectors, with the exception of agriculture. However, on a sequential

basis, the economic growth rate in the third quarter showed improvement over 5.6 per cent recorded in the second quarter.

The GDP (gross domestic product) growth was 9.5 per cent in the October-December 2023 quarter, according to the data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) on Friday.

It also released the second advance estimate for the current fiscal and pegged the economic growth at 6.5 per cent against 6.4 per cent estimated in the first advance estimate released in January. The manufacturing sector's output growth, as per the gross value added (GVA), in the third quarter dipped to 3.5 per cent from 14 per cent in the year-ago period.

Mining and quarrying production growth slowed to 1.4 per cent in the third quarter from 4.7 per cent a year ago.

The construction sector growth too slipped to 7 per cent from 10 per cent a year

However, the output of the farm sector increased by an impressive 5.6 per cent during the quarter compared to a growth of 1.5 per cent in the year-ago period. The national accounts data



Expenditure at Maha Kumbh to push GDP growth in Q4: CEA

Asignificant pick up in the government capex and additional expenditure linked to Maha Kur h congregation are expected to push the fourth quarter GDP growth to 7.6 per cent, required to achieve an overall economic expansion of 6.5 per cent in the current fiscal, Chief Economic Adviser V Anantha Nageswaran said on Friday. Briefing media on the third quarter GDP number, he said the data released by the National Statistics Office (NSO) augurs well, and the upwardly revised 6.5 per cent GDP estimate for the current financial year is realistic. During the third quarter ended December 2024, India's economic growth rate decelerated to 6.2 per cent against 9.5 per cent a year ago, mainly due to poor performance by mining, manufacturing and all other sectors, except agriculture. NSO also released the second advance estimate for the current fiscal and pegged the economic growth at 6.5 per cent against 6.4 per cent estimated in the first advance estimate released in January. To achieve 6.5 per cent growth, India's GDP has to grow at 7.6 per cent in the fourth quarter, which, according to experts, is optimistic. Nageswaran noted that 7.6 per cent growth is realistic and can be achieved during the fourth quarter. "There are some good developments, such as a very significant pickup in government capex and the additional expenditure that we are seeing happening because of the footfalls in Maha Kumbh...That we have been seeing," he said. Amidst external negative factors, he said, there are incremental positive factors, making a good case for implied growth of 7.6 per cent being attained in the fourth quarter. Āsked about the stock market fall, he said looking at the long-term prospects of the Indian economy compared to

showed that the electricity, Current Prices in Q3 of FY gas, water supply, and other utility services segment grew 2024-25 is estimated at ₹84.74 Lakh Crore against ₹77.10 Lakh Crore in Q3 of 5.1 per cent in the third quarter against 10.1 per cent a vear earlier. The GVA growth in the services sector – trade, hotel, the GDP growth for 2023-24 transport, communication

and services related to broadcasting – was 6.7 per cent during the third quarter against 8 per cent.

Financial, real estate and professional services grew by 7.2 per cent in the third quarter over 8.4 per cent earlier. Public administration,

defence and other services posted 8.8 per cent growth, marginally up from 8.4 per cent in the third quarter of the last fiscal. 'Real GDP or GDP at Constant Prices is estimated

to attain a level of ₹187.95 Lakh Crore in the financial year 2024-25, against the First Revised Estimate of GDP for the year 2023-24 of ₹176.51 Lakh Crore. The growth rate in Real GDP during 2024-25 is estimated at 6.5 per cent as compared to 9.2 per cent in 2023-24," the NSO statement said. According to the statement, nominal GDP or GDP at Current Prices is estimated to

attain a level of ₹331.03 Lakh Crore in 2024-25 against Rs 301.23 lakh crore in 2023-24, showing a growth rate of 9.9 per cent. The real GDP or GDP at

Constant Prices in Q3 of FY 2024-25 is estimated at ₹47.17 Lakh Crore over ₹44.44 Lakh Crore in Q3 of FY 2023-24, showing a growth rate of 6.2 per cent, it added. The nominal GDP or GDP at

Guarantor: Sh. Raikumar Raikwar S/o Sh. Dhaneeram Add: 5, Ram Ward, Garhakota Distt. Sagar (M.P.)-470229 Borrower -M/s Shri Radhe Construction Add: Ward No.9 Purani Sabii Mandi Niwari (M.P.) **Proprietor- Mayank Khare** S/o Om Prakash Khare Add: Village – Beejour, Niwari (M.P.) Borrowers Shri Gopal Ahirwar S/o Ashok Ahirwa Add: H.No 103, Ward No. 15,

PTI NEW DELHI

other places and looking at the historical track record of the Indian market, one Other Terms and conditions : (1) The Property will be sold in "AS IS WHERE IS" condition including encumbrances, if any. (There are no encu shouldn't be over-interpreting the Bank. For details of encumbrances, contact the undersigned before deposit of the Earnest Money Deposit re the near-term numbers. Auction/ bidding shall be only through " Online Electronic Bidding" through the website: http://baanknet.in Bidde Benchmark and Nifty tumbled nearly 2 per cent on Friday, mirroring deep losses in global markets as the latest announcement of an additional 10 per cent tariff on Chinese products rattled investors. He also said that the Indian economy is on the verge of crossing \$4 Trillion in FY25. Nominal GDP or GDP at current prices is estimated to attain a level of ₹331.03 Lakh Crore in the year 2024-25. against ₹301.23 Lakh Crore in 2023-24, showing a growth rate of 9.9 per cent.

cent estimated earlier. "Real GDP or GDP at constant (2011-12) prices for the years 2023-24 and 2022-FY 2023-24, registering a 23 stands at ₹176.51 Lakh growth rate of 9.9 per cent. The NSO revised upwards Crore, respectively, showing a growth of 9.2 per cent to 9.2 per cent from 8.2 per during 2023-24 compared to

a growth of 7.6 per cent GDP estimates for the first and second quarters of this Per Capita Income i.E. Per Capita Net National Income at current prices is estimated at ₹1,69,145 and ₹1,88,892 respectively for 2022-23 and 2023-24, it noted. The NS

fiscal to 6.5 and 5.6 per cent from 6.7 per cent and 5.4 per cent, respectively. The economy has expanded 6.1 per cent in April-December 2024 down from

money 10

निविदा संबंधी सूचना

संचायनलय उद्यानिकी तथा खाद्य प्रसंस्करण, 6वीं मंजिल विंध्याचल भवन भोपाल में आल इन वन कम्प्युटर सामग्री का क्रय GEM पोर्टल के माध्यम से किया जाना है। जिसका बिड क्रमांक GEM/2025/B/5992030 है। इच्छुक प्रदायकर्ता फर्मे GEM पोर्टल पर दर्शित नियम एवं शर्तो के अनुरूप में सम्मिलित हो सकते है निविदा की अंतिम तिथि दिनांक 07.03.2025 है। क्रय प्रक्रिया वर्तमान में मान्य मध्यप्रदेश भण्डार क्रय नियम तथा सेवा उपार्जन नियम 2015 (यथा संशोधित 2022) के अनुसार की जाएगी।

कार्यालय प्रमख

the GDP growth for 2023-24 a to 9.2 per cent from 8.2 per du	growth of 9.2 per c uring 2023-24 compared	ent 2023-24, it note	ed. also revised		G-23625/2	उद्यानिकी तथा खाद्य 4 मध्यप्रदेश, भोप	Construction of the second state
क्रिक्ट के Canara Ba अप्रायम् के Canara Ba बिरिक्टिक प्रायम्बर्ग	GDA Building, Phool Bagh,	Gwalior Ph. 0751-2423126	E-AUCTION Ale notice	क्रिनरा बैंक Canara	Bank et india Unidentitation GDA Bui	nal office -1st Floor, Sai Baba Complex, Near Iding, Phool Bagh, Gwalior Ph. 0751-2423126 SAL	AUCTION E Notice
SALE NOTICE FO E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 rea Notice is hereby given to the public in general Immovable property mortgaged/charged to th by the Authorised Officer the Canara Bank (Se & WHAT EVER THERE IS" on 20.03.2025 for re	d with provision to Rule 8 (6) of T and in particular to the Borrowe e Secured Creditor, the Symbolic scured Creditor) will be sold on " scovery of bank dues to the Canad	BLE PROPERTIES and Reconstruction of Fina he Security Interest (Enforcen (s) and Guarantor (s) that the / Physical possession of whic & IS WHERE IS BASIS, AS IS	ancial Assets and nent) Rules, 2002. e below described ch has been taken s WHAT IS BASIS"	SALE NOTICE F E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immova Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 Notice is hereby given to the public in gene Immovable property mortgaged/charged to by the Authorised Officer the Canara Bank	FOR SALE Of able Assets under read with provisio eral and in particu the Secured Creditor (Secured Creditor	ee prevision to rule 8(6)} DF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financi n to Rule 8 (6) of The Security Interest (Enforcemen lar to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the be litor, the Symbolic / Physical possession of which h) will be sold on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS, AS IS WI dues to the Canara Bank (Secured Creditor)	t) Rules, 2002. Now described taken
Name and address of the	Outstanding Amt. Nam	iption of Properties & e of Property Owner	Reserve Price EMD Amt. Bid Increment Amt.	Name of Branch Name and address of the Borrower & Guarantors	Demand Notice Dt. Possession Dt. Outstanding Amt.	Description of Properties & Name of Property Owner	Reserve Price EMD Amt. Bid Increment Amt.
Borrower - M/s Ashish Kumar Mishra, S/o Rajkishore Add- 216K, Nai Basti Ganj, Vill Ganj, Tehsil-Rajnagar, Dist Chhatarpur (M.P.)-471105 Guarantor: Babu Lal Kushwaha So Ghappu Kushwaha Add-Ward No. 6 Kuiya Mohalla, Ganj Teh Rajnagar, Chhatarpur Branch : Canara Bank Bina, Borrower – M/s Shriram Computer	05.09.2019 Emt of Land at 487 Rakwa No 60 Ri Circle Ba Chatarpur (M of Seller, East: south: Land of Proposed Roac 1.11.2021 Philterst & 01.11.2021 20.3.2025 Emt of Land at 487 Rakwa No 60 Ri Circle Ba Chatarpur (M of Seller, East: South: Land of Proposed Roac 1.11.2021 Emt of Land at 487 Rakwa No 60 Ri Circle Ba Chatarpur (M of Seller, East: South: Land of Proposed Roac 1.11.2021 Emt of Land Ai Ai Ai Ai Ai Ai Ai Ai Ai Ai Ai Ai Ai	nd Building Situated at KH N 0.009 Hect Moja Ganj Ph. I sari (M.P.) Tehsil Rajnagar Di P.), Boundaries: North : La Land of Sh Bihari Ji Temp Sh Babu Lal Kushwaha, We 15 Ft cb2383@canarabank.c nd Building Situated At Surv) After Mutation 419/11, Ve	IO. NO St. nd le, st: SOT Rs.13,50,000/- Rs.13,50,000/- Rs.13,50,000/- Rs.13,50,000/- Rs.13,50,000/-	Borrower- 1. Ms. Pal Construction Pro. Madan Pal, S/o Shri Ramavtar Pal Add: Patali Hanuman Mandir Ke Samne Tikoniya, Morar Shri Madan Pal S/o Avtar Pal Add: Prathviraj Marg, Patali Hanuman Mandir Ke Samne, Gwalior, Morar 2. Ms Vivan Cement Agency Pro. Neeru Pal W/o Madan Pal Add: DB City Road, Tendulkar Marg, Gwalior Neeru Pal W/o Madan Pal Add: Prathviraj Marg, Patali Hanuman	07.09.2022 17.11.2023 Rs. 89,86,940.02 + Interest & other Charges Auction Date 20.03.2025	3545-00595, E-mail: cb3910@canarabank.co Emt of Resedentail Property Situated At Part of Survey No. 1794 Ward No. 26 Soraiya Ka Pura Cantonment Area Morar Gwalior Land Area – 1446 Sq. Ft., Boundaries : North- Plot Others, East- House of Pal Sahab, South - House of Kishor Kushwaha, West - Road	n Rs. 58,95,000/- <u>Rs. 5,89,500/-</u> Rs. 10,000/-
Add - Kachcha Road Old No. 3, School Bina, (M.P.)-470113 Proprietor: Shri Anand Soni S/o Ramsvarup Soni Add: 351, Veer Savarkar Ward, Bina Guarantor : Shri Ramsvarup Soni S/o Shri Babulal Soni Add: Veer Savarkar Ward, Bina-470113 Branch : Canara Bank Garhakot	KS. Boundaries - 12,24,958.25 +Interest & other Charges Auction Date 20.03.2025 ia, Ph.: 79990-51400, E-ma		k.com	Mandir Ke Samne, Gwalior, Morar Branch : Canara Bank Bhit Borrower - M/s Thakur Baba Motors Prof. Punjab Singh Parihar Add: Harsi Road, Bhitarwar, Gwalior (M.P.) Pin-475200 Proprietor - Punjab Singh Parihar S/o Shri Khushali Ram 28, Advocate Colony, Bhitarwar Gwalior (M.P.), Pin-475200		293-23374, Email: cb5445@canarabank.co Emt of Land & Building Residential Owned By Punjab Singh Parihar Survey No.3343/ min-1, Ward No.08 Bhitarwar, Gwalior (M.P) Area-800 Sqr Ft (20x40). Boundaries: Boundaries: North: Plot of Nawal Singh,South: Plot of Baghel, East : Road West: Land or Seller	Rs.19,50,000/-
Add: Plot No. 37 12 Kankera Garhakota, Distt. Sagar (M.P.)-470229 Proprietor - Sh. Aravind Raikwar S/o Sh. Dhaneeram Add: Ram Ward Garhakota Distt. Sagar (M.P.)-470229 Guarantor: Sh. Rajkumar Raikwar S/o Sh. Dhaneeram	16.08.2024 Patwari Halka Rs. Tehsil- Garha 11,59,833.33 Hatwari Halka + Interest & other Charges Jagdeesh Swar Auction Date 20.03.2025	ed at Part of Khasra 37/1/2, No. 32/37, Village - Kenk kota, Distt. Sagar (M.F orth: Sagar Damoh Road, Ea r, South: Land of Shree D ni Temple , West: Land of Leo . Gb5921 (@caparabap) kg	Rs. 2,13,570/- R), Rs. 10,000/- st: vev ela	Borrower 1 - Mrs. Puspa Raja Chauhan W/o Sh. Pratipal Singh Chauhan Add: Ward No 10 Gudar Road, Khaniyadhana, Shivpuri (M.P.) Borrower 2 - Miss. Shraddha Raja Chauhan C/o Sh. Pratipal Singh Chauhan Add: Ward No 10, Gudar Road, Khaniyadhana, Shivpuri (M.P.)	21.08.2024 06.11.2024 Rs. 25,93,829.62 + Interest & other Charges Auction Date 20.03.2025	597072, Email: cb4143@canarabank.com Land and Building Situated At Flat No. 322 (2BHK), Fourth Floor Omraj Avenue Part of Survey No 350 of Village Sirol Dist Gwalior (M.P.) Patwari Halka No 79 R. I Circle 79 Zone 22 Ward No 61 H.No. 1198 And Area of Flat is 815 Sq Ft of 75.74 Sq Mtr In Dist Gwalior (M.P.) Boundaries: North: Flat No 323, East: Common Area of Multi, South: Flat No 321, West: Road of Multi 160-25299, Email: cb17837@canarabank.	<u>Rs.2,60,000/-</u> Rs. 10,000/-
Borrower -M/s Shri Radhe Construction Add: Ward No.9 Purani Sabji Mandi Niwari (M.P.) Proprietor- Mayank Khare S/o Om Prakash Khare Add: Village –Beejour, Niwari (M.P.)	12.06.2023 Emt of Land & New Number 2 08.02.2024 New Number 2 Rs. Sqr Feet Situate Ahilyabai War 13,62,631.04 Niwari (M.P.) +Interest & other Charges Auction Date 20.03.2025 Boundaries: N West: House of Mest.	Building Khasra No.2208/1/ 208/1/1/1 Area-30x40=120 d At Village Niwari Ward No. d Patwari Halka No.45 D prth: Plot of Man Singh, Ea ardayal, South: Aam Rast Ramesh Ahirwar	ka <u>Rs. 17,16,000/-</u> 00 15 15 10,000/- 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15	Borrower - 1. M/s Mudgal Construction Company, Prop. Sh. Dinendra Prakash Mudgal, S/o SV Shri Siyaram Sharma Add: Mudgal Bhawan, Jail Road Morena-476001 Borrower: 2. Sh. Dinendra Prakash Mudgal, S/o SV Shri Siyaram Sharma Add: M-30 Mudgal Bhavan Tulsi Colonies, Behind The Jail Laxman Taliya, Morena-476001 Legal Heir 1: (S/o of Guarantor Late Smt.	02.09.2024 06.12.2024 Rs. 87,42,013.96 + Interest & other Charges	Property is Situated at Land Part of The Survey No. 113/2, Village Shikarpur Municipal No. 128 Ward No 03 Situated At Behind Dist Jail, Mudgal School Wali Gali, Tulsi, Colony Morena. Boundaries- East: Rasta Gali At Present Property, South : Property Dulare Singh At Present, West : Rasta, North : Govt. Nala	Rs.
Borrowers: Shri Gopal Ahirwar S/o Ashok Ahirwar Add: H.No 103, Ward No. 15, Bhanwan Gani, Sanar (M P),470001	16.08.2024 Situated At Plopatwari Halka N Rs. Situated At Plopatwari Halka N st.16,081.52 Hair Ward No. + Interest & other Charges Khurai, Dist Sag Auction Date South : Land of 20.03.2025 South : Land of 11:00 PM to 02.00 PM (With Unlimit on including encumbrances, if a undersigned before deposit of the Ear oncinc Bidding" through the website: http://auction aale proceedings. (2) The Pr	operty: Land and Buildi t Part of Khasra No. 34/4, o 25 Circle Khurai, Sahodra E 27 Nagar Palika Khurai, Te ar (M.P.), Boundaries: Nor Seller, East: Land of Dhannal Surendra, West: Land of Sell ted Extension of 5 Minutes Dura ny. (There are no encumbrances to perty will be sold only for a price	ng Rs.15,09,300/- /1, Rs.1,50,930/- Rs.1,50,930/- Rs.10,000/- th: Ial, er Ation Each) to the knowledge of Clause 9(d) below). above the Reserve	Savitri Devi Sharma, W/o Lt. Siyaram Sharma) Shri Harendra Prakash Mudgal, S/o Late Shri Siyaram Sharma Add: Tulsi Colony, Jail Ke Peeche Morena Legal Heir 2: (S/o of Guarantor Late Smt Savitri Devi Sharma W/o Lt. Siyaram Sharma), Sh. Kavendra Prakash Mudgal, S/o Late Shri Siyaram Sharma Add: Tulsi Colony, Jail Ke Peeche, Morena Legal Heir 3: (S/o of Guarantor Late Smt. Savitri Devi Sharma W/o Lt. Siyaram Sharma), Sh Satyendra Prakash Mudgal S/O Late Sh. Siyaram Sharma Add: A-713 Savy Ville De, Raj Nagar Extension Ghaziabad, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh-201001	Auction Date 20.03.2025		
20.03.2025 (4) The intending bidders should regist (5) Prospective bidder may avail online training or Contact No. 98922-19848, E-mail:support.baank http://baanknet.in/ EMD deposited by the unsucce would commence at Reserve Price, as mentioned al the highest bid (above the Reserve price) on closure of the successful bibber, subject to confirmation of price (inclusive of EMD already paid), immediately o confirmation of sale by the secured creditor, it the su Authorised Officer without any notice arid property s and above, the successful bidder will have to deduct the Bank. (9) All charges for conveyance, stamp authority au shall be burnt by the successful bidder conditions of the e-auction without assigning any interested in participating the e-auction, they can al necessary arrangements. (12) EMD Amount of 109 Website by way of Net Banking/Debit Cards/Challa	er their names at portal http://baankm n E-auction from the service provide net@psballiance.com and avp.proje sessful bidder shall be refunded to the bove. Bidders shall improve their offer of 'Online' auction shall be declared a the same by the secured creditor. (7) n declaring him/her as the successful uccessful bidder fails to pay the sale p hall forthwith be put up for sale again. TDS at the rate 1% on the Sale procee duty/GST registration th drges etc, as r only. (10) Authorised Officer reserver reason thereof. (11) In case there pproach concerned Regional office o % of the Reserve Price is to be deposit	et.in/and get their User ID and pass IWs PSB Alliance (baanknet), M ctmanager2@psballiance.com th n. The EMD shall not carry any in s in multiples of Rs. 10,000. The tild s successful bidder. Sale shall be The Successful bidder shall depo- bidder and the balance within 15 di- rice. the deposit made by him shall ds and submit the original receipt of Applicable and any curl, revenue is the right to postpone/cancel or are bidders who do have accesss any branch who, as a facilitating ed in E-Wallet after successful Re	ssword free of cost. r. Dharmesh asher, hough the website : threrest. (6) Auction bidder who submits confirmed in favour osit 25% of the sale ays from the date of II he forfeited by the c (Rupees fifty Lac) of TDS certificate to e/dues to any local vary the terms and to the Internet but to entre, shall make gistration of Ebkray	Borrower - 1. Smt. Meena Kushwah W/o Late Sh. Harvilash Kushwah Borrower - 2. Sh. Sanjay Kushwah S/o Late Sh. Harvilash Kushwah Add- Ward No. 52, Part of Sy No. 327 To 332 Min-1, 333, To 337, 357 & 358, New Sheetla Colony, Near of Preetampuram Colony, Guda, Lashkar, Gwalior (M.P.) Pin-474001. Guarantor- Sh. Hari Singh Kushwah S/o Late Sh. Manni Singh Kushwah Add-New Sheetla Colony, 12 Bigha Transfarm Ke Paas, Ajaypur, Guda	31.05.2023 04.08.2023 Rs. 19,56,462.37 + Interest & other Charges Auction Date 20.03.2025	79838-30415, Email: cb17781@canaraban Land and Building Ward No. 52, Part Of Sy No. 327 To 332 Min-1, 333 To 337, 357 & amp; 358, New Sheetla Colony, Near of Preetampuram Colony, Guda, Lashkar, Gwalior (M.P.)-474001., Area : 1800.00 Sqft., Boundaries: East - Land Mr. Hari Singh, West- Road And Plot Other, North- House Kashiram Kushwah, South- House Mohan Singh Kushwah	Rs. 41,45,000/- Rs. 4,14,500/- Rs. 10,000/-
Bidder can participate in the in Eligible properties. F Mob.: 89899-92605. Place: Gwallor Dat Dat Dat Dat Dat Dat Dat Dat	For further details contact Recovery & te : 28/02/2025 Road, Andheri (East), Mumbai- 4 0661 (Madhya Pradesh) ILE NOTICE construction of Financial Asset a and Guarantor (s) that the below	AUTHORISED OFFICER O AUTHORISED OFFICER O 00069 AUTHORISED OFFICER O Housing Ind Enforcement of Security Ir v described immovable prop	onal office, Gwalior CANARA BANK Chara Finance Ltd nterest Act, 2002 herty mortgaged,	Branch : Canara Bank, Gole ka Ma Borrower - 1. M/s Lalita Oil Mill Prop: Sh. Satish Sharma S/o Shri Jitendra Pal Sharma Add- C-3A Bhagat Singh Nagar, Bhind Road Gola Ka Mandir. Gwalior (M.P.) - 474005 2. M/s Sai Baba Tours & Travel Prop. Sh Santosh Kumar Sharma S/o Jitendrapal Sharma Add- C-3A Bhagat Singh Nagar, Bhind Road Gola Ka Mandir. Gwalior (M.P.) - 474005 Guarantor - Meena Sharma M/o Shri Jeeva Sharma Add: C-3A, Maharajpura, Bhagat Singh Nagar, Gwalior (M.P)	06.04.2022 02.07.2022 Rs. 61,05,648.41 + Interest & other Charges	Abb. 84483-38142, Email: cb2897@canarate Emt of Land & Building Situated At Plot No. C- 3A, House No. 1642/26, Bhagat Singh Nagar, Village Maharaj Pura, Rammanna , Gwalior (M.P.), Boundaries: North: WBM Colony Road, South:Property of Shri Bajpai Ji, East: WBM Colony Road, West : Property of Shri Upadhyay	pank.com Rs. 36,06,000/- <u>Rs. 3,60,600/-</u> Rs.10,000/-
Notice Date and Amount Immovab 07-10-2024 & All that part & parcel of prope H No.14 17 Mouja Hidepur Madhya Pradesh, 470661 Boundaries: East- Plot of Pa	ce Limited will be sold on "As is tion of the le property erty bearing, P O KH No.187 6 P Sagar Bypass Road, Damoh, ateriya Ji, West- Land of Maya buth- Land of Ghanshyam Patel	where is", "As is what is", Reserve Price (RP) Earnest Mon Deposit (EM (10% of RP) Rs. 1,04,0760/-	Physical	Borrower - Smt. Smita Chaturvedi W/o Rajesh Chaturvedi Add- Ashok Colony Road, Morar Co-Borrower- Rajesh Chaturvedi S/o Jagdish Chandra Add- Ashok Colony Road, Morar Guarantor-Jogendra Singh Bhadouriya, S/o Shri Godhan Singh Add- Lala Sahab Ka Bagicha Mall Road, Morar	06.04.2022 11.11.2022 Rs. 5,26,188.82 +Interest & other Charges Auction Date 20.03.2025	Emt of Residential Building in The Name of Smt Smita Chaturvedi W/o Rajesh Chaturvedi Near Pani Ki Tanki Shamshan Nadi Par Tal Road Morar, Gwalior Having Area: 675 Sqft., Boundaries - North : House of Others, East : Road & House of Shri Narayan Jatav, South : House of Ayodhya Mishra, West : House of Pathak.	Rs. 22,01,000/- Rs. 2,20,100/- Rs. 10,000/-

Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd.



Corporate Office: Unit No.802, Natraj Rustomjee, Western Express Highway and M.V.Road, Andheri (East), Mumbai- 400069 Damoh Branch: 1st Floor, Matra Chaya, Killai Naka Chouraha, Balakot Road, Damoh - 470661 (Madhya Pradesh)

E-AUCTION – SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of immovable Properties under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Asset and Enforcement of read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immov possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Aadhar Housing Finance Limited will be sold on "As is where is", "As is there is" with no known encumbrances Particulars of which are given below:-

S. N.	Borrower(s) / Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Description of the Immovable property	Reserve Price (RP)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (10% of RP)	Nature of possession
	(Loan Code No. 1310000388 / Damoh Branch) Manoj Sahu (Borrower), Neha Sahu (Co-Borrower)	&	All that part & parcel of property bearing, P O KH No.187 6 P H No.14 17 Mouja Hidepur Sagar Bypass Road, Damoh, Madhya Pradesh, 470661 Boundaries: East- Plot of Pateriya Ji, West- Land of Maya Patel Kurmi, North - Road, South- Land of Ghanshyam Patel	Rs. 10,40,760/-	Rs. 1,04,076/-	Physical

1. Last Date of Submission of DD of Earnest Money Deposit along with KYC, Tender Form and accepted Terms and conditions (Tender Documents) is 15-03-2025 within 5:00 PM at the Branch Office address mentioned herein above or uploaded on https://bankeauctions.com. Tenders documents received beyond last date will be considered as invalid tender and shall accordingly be rejected. No interest shall be paid on the EMD.

Date of Opening of the Bid/Offer (Auction Date) for Property is 17-03-2025 on https://bankeauctions.com at 3:00 PM to 4:00 AM.

- AHFL is not responsible for any liabilities whatsoever pending upon the property as mentioned above. The Property shall be auctioned on 'As Is Where Is Basis', 'As Is What Is Basis' and 'Whatever Is There Is Basis'
- The Demand Draft Should be made in favorof 'Aadhar Housing Finance Limited' Only.
- Auction/bidding shall be only through "Online Electronic Bidding" through the website https://bankeauctions.com. Bidders are advised to go through the website for detailed terms before taking part in the e-auction sale proceedings.
- 6. The intending bidders should register their names at portal M/s C 1 INDIA PVT LTD through the link https://bankeauctions.com/registration/ signup, and get their User ID and password free of cost. Prospective bidder may avail online training on E- auction from the service provider M/s C 1 INDIA PVT LTD through the website https://bankeauctions.com
- For further details contact Authorised Officer of Aadhar Housing Finance Limited, Lokendra Rathore, (Contact : 9977783890) OR the service provider M/s C 1 INDIA PVT LTD, E-mail: tn@c1india.com & support@bankeauctions.com, Phone No. +917291981124 /25 /26 As on date, there is no order restraining and/or court injunction AHFL/the authorized Officer of AHFL from selling, alienating and/or disposing of the above immovable properties/secured assets.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Aadhar Housing Finance Limited (AHFL), secured creditor's website i.e www.aadharhousing.com.

The Bid incremental amount for auction is Rs.10.000/-

Place : Madhya Pradesh Date : 01-03-2025

(Authorised Officer) For Aadhar Housing Finance Limited

Date & Time of E-Auction: 20.03.2025, 01:00 PM to 02.00 PM (With Unlimited Extension of 5 Minutes Duration Each

Other Terms and conditions

(1) The Property will be sold in "AS IS WHERE IS" condition including encumbrances, if any. (There are no encumbrances to the knowledge of the Bank. For details of encumbrances, contact the undersigned before deposit of the Earnest Money Deposit referred to in Clause 9(d) below). Auction/ bidding shall be only through " Online Electronic Bidding" through the website: http://baanknet.in Bidders are advised to go through the website for details terms before taking part in the e-auction sale proceedings. (2) The Property will be sold only for a price above the Reserve Price. (3) The property can be inspected with prior Appointment with Authorised Officer, on any working day between 3.00 PM to 5.00 PM before 20.03.2025 (4) The intending bidders should register their names at portal http://baanknet.in/and get their User ID and password free of cost. (5) Prospective bidder may avail online training on E-auction from the service provider M/s PSB Alliance (baanknet), Mr. Dharmesh asher, Contact No. 98922-19848, E-mail:support.baanknet@psballiance.com and avp.projectmanager2@psballiance.com though the website: http://baanknet.in/ EMD deposited by the unsuccessful bidder shall be refunded to them. The EMD shall not carry any interest. (6) Auction would commence at Reserve Price, as mentioned above. Bidders shall improve their offers in multiples of Rs. 10,000. The bidder who submits the highest bid (above the Reserve price) on closure of 'Online' auction shall be declared as successful bidder. Sale shall be confirmed in favour of the successful bibber, subject to confirmation of the same by the secured creditor. (7) The Successful bibber, subject to confirmation of the sale price (inclusive of EMD already paid), immediately on declaring him/her as the successful bidder and the balance within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale by the secured creditor, it the successful bidder fails to pay the sale price. the deposit made by him shall he forfeited by the Authorised Officer without any notice arid property shall for thwith be put up for sale again. (8) For sale proceeds of Rs. 50 Lac (Rupees fifty Lac) and above, the successful bidder will have to deduct TDS at the rate 1% on the Sale proceeds and submit the original receipt of TDS certificate to the Bank. (9) All charges for conveyance, stamp duty/GST registration that use etc. as Applicable and any curl, revenue/dues to any local authority au shall be burnt by the successful bidder only. (10) Authorised Officer reserves the right to postpone/cancel or vary the terms and ons of the e-auction without assigning any reason thereof. (11) In case there are bidders who do have access to the Internet but conditio interested in participating the e-auction, they can approach concerned Regional office or any branch who, as a facilitating centre, shall make mecessary arrangements. (12) EMD Amount of 10% of the Reserve Price is to be deposited in E-Wallet after successful Registration of Ebkray Website by way of Net Banking/Debit Cards/Challan on or before 20.03.2025. After Successfully transferred the EMD Amount in E-Wallet, Bidder can participate in the in Eligible properties. For further details contact Recovery & Legal Section, Canara Bank Regional office, Gwalior Mob.: 89899-92605

Date : 28/02/2025

Place: Gwalior

BHOPAL | SATURDAY | MARCH 1, 2025

www.dailypioneer.com/vivacity/

Amit Singh's Rhythmic of Marble explores nature's essence through intricately *carved sculptures*

with deep

symbolism, writes SAKSHI PRIYA

PHOTOS : PANKAJ KUMAR

ne pioneer

[ART & CULTURE] VIVACILY

Patience

THE EXHIBITION CAPTURES THE HUMAN EXPERIENCE, OUR CONNECTION WITH NATURE, THE PASSAGE OF TIME AND THE PATIENCE **REQUIRED TO SHAPE BEAUTY FROM RESIS-**TANCE, MUCH LIKE LIFE ITSELF

arble has a way of holding stories within its veins, waiting for the right hands to bring them to life. Rhythmic of Marble, the solo exhibition by Amit Singh at Triveni Kala Sangam, was a breathtaking display of patience, devotion and an artist's relentless pursuit of expression.

Amit Singh's work is about preserving the delicate balance between nature and human intervention. When asked about the concept behind his exhibition, he spoke with a quiet intensity. "Nature has always been my priority," he said. "My work is about our con-nection with it."

Each sculpture told a different story, some reflecting the tranquillity of nature, others capturing its raw beauty. His intricate carvings on marble ranged from smooth, flowing forms that mimicked water's grace to bold, angular pieces that seemed to resist time itself. The detailing was mesmerising, delicate veins running through stone, each mark a reminder of the patience and precision it took to create. His Nature Series was particularly striking, with sculptures inspired by the elements, wind, water, and earth, translated into marble with astonishing delicacy.

The dedication behind the exhibition was staggering. Singh revealed that it took him five years to complete the entire body of work. "Some pieces were done in minutes," he admitted. "A simple idea, a quick execution. But others, some marble works

demanded days, even weeks. Patience is the key.'

His favourite piece? He smiled at the question. "That's like asking a parent to choose their favourite child," he said. "Every sculpture is a part of me.

The sculptures seemed to hold an unspoke dialogue with their surroundings. Natural light filtered through, casting shifting shadows on the marble, adding depth and

movement to the stillness. The play of light and texture gave each piece a different life depending on the time of day, a quiet reminder of the ever-changing nature of art and perception.

Beyond the aesthetic, *Singh's* work carried an undeniable emotional weight. Some pieces felt serene, almost meditative. Others had a raw intensity, as though the stone itself resisted the chisel before surrendering to form. His ability to extract such depth from a material as unyielding as marble was nothing short of extraordinary.

At a time when mass production dominates, Singh's art stands as a craftsmanship that cannot be rushed. His exhibition was an experience, a moment of stillness in a world that rarely pauses. As I left, I couldn't help but glance back one last time. The sculptures stood there, unmoving yet alive, each a quiet reminder of the hands that



MARBLE, BOTH FRAGILE AND ENDURING, MIRRORS HUMAN EXISTENCE, SHAPED BY TIME, PATIENCE AND THE ARTIST'S SKILLED HANDS

had shaped them, the time they had endured and the stories they would continue to tell long after the exhibition ended.

Chromalogue: Art in Every Shade



BY TEAM VIVA

olours hold memories, emotions and unspoken stories. 🖌 At Chromalogue - Colours & Conversations, they take centre stage, shaping a dialogue beyond words. The group exhibition presented by The Art Exchange Project and curated by Aarti Uppal Singla, brings together 15 artists who use colour as their language, creating an immersive experience where shades and textures communicate in their own quiet yet powerful way.

The gallery becomes a world of shifting moods and narratives. *Neelesh's Echoes of Dawn 1* fills the space with deep blues, evoking the quiet beauty of early mornings. Aarti Uppal Singla's Lotus Pond 1 captures resilience in soft yet strik ing tones.

Silence Speaks in Colour by Madhav Bhardwaj invites viewers to listen beyond the visible, while Portal of Peace by Himani Pasricha offers a sense of stillness. Nikita Gambhir's Smell the Coffee warms the senses, drawing on the simple joys of everyday life. These works do not just exist on the wall, they engage, they invite and they stay with those who witness them. Beyond paint, mixed

media adds depth and dimension. Priya Bery's Poppies: The Intoxicators bursts with life on Waterford paper, while Winnie Singh's Meditative Reveries 9 softens the senses, creating a quiet space within. *Babita Varma's* Aswan, sculpted in clay on wood, and Kripal Mathur's Spring Dance, work with hand-dyed goat's wool, show that colour is not just seen, it is felt.

The exhibition stretches further into digital and graphic precision. Khushroo Kalyanwala's The Blues That Bring Cheer across fine paper, while Sushil Bhasin's Trance Dance moves with an almost hypnotic rhythm. Pragati Gupta's Paws-1, a pen drawing on textured paper, proves that even in black and white, colour is imagined.

Chromalogue is a celebration of this language, a space where colours speak and those who listen will hear.



Experience the evolution of art

At India Design 2025 in New Delhi, Masha Art reinterprets artistic heritage through bold experimentation, transforming tradition into a dynamic, sensorial experience, says SAKSHI PRIYA

A India Design 2025, an exhibition brings this idea to life in a way that feels both rooted in tradition and open to reinvention.Walking through the space, the artworks create a sense of connection between past and present, between intricate craftsmanship and bold contemporary expression. It is a meeting point of heritage and innovation, where stories unfold through colour, form and texture.

The collection, curated with a thoughtful eye, features works by 21 artists including Seema Kohli, Chandrashekhar Morkondo and Sanjay Chakraborty. Every piece feels like a conversation, one that speaks of history, personal narratives and the evolving artistic language of the subcontinent. Some paintings draw from mythology, their golds and deep blue's reminiscent of temple murals, while others break away from

convention with striking abstraction. The sculptures add another dimension, their forms shifting between realism and imagination, inviting the viewer to explore beyond the surface.

A DYNAMIC INTERPLAY OF TRA-

DITION AND INNOVATION, WHERE

21 ARTISTS REDEFINE ARTISTIC BOUNDARIES THROUGH COLOR,

FORM AND TEXTURE

There is an undeniable energy in the way these works come together.

canvas, sits beside an abstract piece movement and emotion where colour dominates form, challenging perception. A sculptural installation nearby, crafted from repurposed materials, transforms discarded objects into something unexpected and powerful. The juxtaposition of mediums and styles creates a dynamic interplay, one that encourages curiosity and dialogue.

> stillness, their subtle shade and delicate strokes evoking a quiet reverence for nature and tradition. Others disrupt

take precedence over precision. The diversity in expression makes the exhibition feels alive, constantly shifting in meaning depending on who is viewing it. Samarth Mathur, the mind behind this Some pieces invite showcase, describes art as an investment in culture and creativity. His approach moves beyond traditional curation, treating each

rt has always been a reflection A painting depicting a celestial dance, this calm with bold, unrestrained piece as part of a larger dialogue. This is intricate lines almost breathing on strokes of pigment, where is not art placed on walls to be admired from a distance, it is art meant to be lived with, engaged

with and understood. The exhibition respects artistic heritage but does not hesitate to push boundaries. It does not try to define what Indian art should be, instead offering a glimpse into what it can become

> DESIGN IS NOT ONLY ABOUT AESTHETICS, IT IS ABOUT CREATING MEANING.THIS EXHIBITION **BRINGS ART TO LIFE**



Hockey India unveils performance-based system for national championship

PTI NEW DELHI

ockey India on Friday unveiled a new format with a promotion and relegation system for the Senior Women's National Championship to be held in Panchkula from March 1 to

The competition will feature 28 teams divided into three divisions titled 'A', 'B' and 'C'. The new format aims to enhance competition but also provides intends to provide a pathway for teams to ascend to higher divisions or risk relegation based on their performances.

The introduction of the promotion and relegation system is a significant step in raising the standard of hockey across the country," Hockey India President Dilip Tirkey said. "It ensures that every match

in the Championship holds importance, whether it's a battle for the title or to avoid relegation. We look forward to an exciting tournament where teams can showcase their skills and aim for the

top." The top 12 teams will compete in Division A which will be further split into four



will play in a league format within their respective pools. The top two teams from each pool will advance to the quarterfinals, scheduled for March 9, followed by the semifinals on March 10 and the final and 3rd/4th place play-off on March 12. The bottom two teams will be

pools of three teams each and relegated to Division B for the next edition Nine teams will compete in Division B, with the goal of earning promotion to Division A. Here, five teams are in Pool A and four are in Pool B.

'The top two teams will earn promotion to Division A for the next season, while the

bottom two will be relegated to Division C. No knockout rounds will be held in Division B; the league standings will determine promotions and relegations," HI said.

Seven teams in Division C will vie for promotion to Division B which will have three teams in Pool A and four in Pool B

Division C will also only play league matches, with the top securing two teams promotion to Division B. During the league stage, teams in all three divisions will earn points based on their performance. Each team will be awarded three points for a

win, one point for a draw, and

no points for a loss. In Division A, the league stage will culminate with the knockout rounds, while Divisions B and C will conclude with final standings determined solely by league matches.

Division A

Pool A: Hockey Haryana, Hockey Association of Odisha, Hockey Karnataka Pool B: Hockey Maharashtra, Manipur Hockey, Hockey Punjab Pool C: Hockey Jharkhand, Hockey Mizoram, Hockey

Unit of Tamil Nadu Pool D: Hockey Madhya Pradesh, Hockey Bengal, Uttar Pradesh Hockey Division B

Pool A: Telangana Hockey, Hockey Uttarakhand, Assam Hockey, Hockey Rajasthan, Hockey Association of Bihar **Pool B:** Delhi Hockey, Chhattisgarh Hockey, Hockey Chandigarh, Hockey Himachal

Division C Pool A: Kerala Hockey, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu Hockey, Hockey Gujarat Pool B: Hockey Andhra Pradesh, Le Puducherry

Hockey, Hockey Arunachal, Hockey Jammu and Kashmir.

inflicted

going



Praggnanandhaa draws against Gurel Ediz Chithambaram's victory had

it slip

stereotype.

PTI PRAGUE

¬randmaster GPraggnanandhaa played out a second straight draw against Turkey's Gurel Ediz while Aravindh Chithambaram crashed through the defences of Germany's Vincent Keymer in the second round of the

Prague Masters here. Chithambaram, who has been knocking hard on the doors of elite circles, scored his first victory with black pieces after squeezing himself out of danger zone in his first-round game against Czech Grandmaster Nguyen Thai Dai Van.

The Indian was involved in the sole decisive game of the day in the 10-players round-robin format, while the other matches ended in draws. Dai Van drew his second

game on the trot with Sam Shankland of the United States, top seeded Wei Yi from China opened his because of his players not account after splitting the point with Dutchman Anish putting themselves under pressure. New Zealand Giri, and Quang Leim Le of humiliating 3-0 Test defeat on Vietnam achieved the same India, becoming the first result against Navara David touring side to seal a series from Czech Republic. With seven rounds to go,

Chithambaram joined Shankland in lead on 1.5 He said the Test series win would give the Black Caps points out of two games. They are followed by Giri, Le, into Dai Van, David, Keymer and Praggnanandhaa. Ediz and Wei Yi share the last

spot on a half point apiece from their two games. On a day when world

champion Boris Spassky breathed his last,

the luxury of a dynamic centre? It was an inch-by-inch invasion that won invasion that won Chithambaram a pawn in the middle game and the trade of queens was later forced by the Indian to harp on the

traits of the Russian's style of

play to go for the kill at the

first opportunity and not let

The Queen's gambit accepted

may have a solid reputation

with black pieces but the

young Indian cavalry is all

out to breakout of that

How else could one explain Chithambaram's choice of

move order that gave white

better possibilities for his troupe. Chithambaram was quite unstoppable as he kept increasing the pressure till Keymer walked in to a lost rook and pawns endgame -

it took 45 moves in all. Praggnanandhaa has shown his ability to play all openings with either colour and his choice of French defence turned out to be a good one guaranteeing an

equal game. The lone problem was to make something out of an equal position and the 16year old Turk proved why he is hailed as one of the brightest among young Europeans, as he gave a little

did not offer chances for

away The players signed the peace on move 46 when it was evident the rook endgame

either of them.

New Zealand excited to play in different conditions: Bracewell

PTI DUBAI

 $N_{\mathrm{Michael}}^{\mathrm{ew}}$ Zealand off-spinner Michael Bracewell on Friday brushed aside any talks about India getting an unfair advantage in the ongoing Champions Trophy by playing all their games in Dubai, simply saying that his team was "excited to try and play in different conditions". Rohit Sharma's team is playing all its matches in Dubai, and even the final will be held here if India goes the distance. New Zealand will be playing their first match of

the tournament here – against

India on Sunday – after their

last two games were held in

D-11203/24

Some cricketers, including African top-order South batter Rassie van der Dussen and former Australia skipper Pat Cummins, have said India are in an advantageous position as they have played all their games at one venue while other teams have had to travel to different venues in Pakistan.

Pakistan.

India had refused to travel to Pakistan for the tournament

in Dubai. citing security reasons. 'Look, it is what it is. It's been decided, and that's the way it exciting. I personally think it's is, and there's no point dwelling on that," said coming to a different ground and trying to figure out those Bracewell, when asked if different conditions. Yeah, India have unfair advantage not much more to say on that



other than we're excited to try "It's part of what makes it and learn and play in different conditions," added the 34vear-old off-spinner.

The New Zealander opined that the pitches here would aid spin and it would be a

good idea to train hard before in ICC tournaments was the game against India.

The wickets here have looked like they've taken a bit of a spin. So, it'll be good to recently try and get used to the wickets as quickly as we can. We've obviously enjoyed the pitches win in India in 13 years. in Pakistan.

"And I think we've got a pretty well-balanced side to play in any condition. So hopefully, we can continue to do that and adjust to what's in front of us. I think that's been the strength of our side, adjusting to the surface. So, hopefully, we continue to do that as a

He said New Zealand doing consistently well against India

confidence Sunday's game. "I think we don't like to put too much pressure on ourselves. Obviously, coming off a great Test series win, it gives us a lot of confidence

side," he added.





