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RANCHI

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HYDERABAD

**Balochis take on Pak army** 

LUCKNOW

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA Karachi/

ecurity forces rescued 190 passengers from a hijacked train, killing 30 Baloch militants in Pakistan's restive Balochistan, as they continued to battle heavily-armed insurgents for a second day on Wednesday.

The Jaffar Express, carrying some 400 passengers in nine coaches, was going from Quetta to Peshawar when militants derailed it using explosives and hijacked it.

The Baloch Liberation Army claimed responsibility for the attack on Tuesday when they said they killed six soldiers. However, there has been no confirmation from the Pakistani authorities on casualties.

The security forces, including the military and frontier corps, are battling the militants who took control of the train near the mountainous terrain of Gudalar and Piru Kunri in a tunnel 160 kilometres from Quetta.

The Balochistan government spokesman, Shahid Rind, said the operation would continue until all passengers were rescued. Rind said extra care was being taken by the security forces because of the hostage situation.

Officials said that some of the militants wearing vests loaded with explosives had formed groups of women and children and forced them to sit near them. Due to the presence of women and children with the suicide bombers, the operation was being conducted with utmost caution, they added.

A security source said that 30 militants had been killed so far in the clean-up and rescue operation, while 190 passengers have been rescued. Around 30 people who sustained injuries had been sent to hospitals. He said two drivers in the main engine and eight security personnel were killed during the operation.

This is the first time the BLA or any insurgent group in the Balochistan province have resorted to hijacking a passenger train, although in the last year, they have stepped up their attacks on securi-



BHOPAL

A paramilitary soldier takes position at a railway station near the attack site of a passenger train by insurgents in Mushkaf in Bolan district of Pakistan's southwestern Balochistan province

ty forces, installations and foreigners in different parts of the province.

The security source said it was not yet clear how many militants were involved in the attack, but some of them were using satellite phones to remain in touch with their handlers.

The Pakistan Railways have set up an emergency desk at the Peshawar and Quetta Railway stations as frantic relatives and friends try to get some information about their loved ones on the train. Pakistan Railways had resumed train services to Peshawar from Quetta after a suspension of more than a month and a half.

The Pakistan media earlier reported intense firing and explosion near the tunnel, where the militants hijacked the train.

The insurgents claimed that they freed women and children. However, their claim was contested by officials, with Minister of State for Interior Talal Chaudhry saying the hostages were rescued by the security forces.

Rana Muhammad Dilawar, a district police officer in the area where the train was stopped, said the security forces had surrounded the area, but there were reports that the militants had taken some women and children as hostages.

There were around four to five government officials on the train, he added.

Tariq Mahmood, a senior official of Peshawar Railway Station, said that people should not pay heed to rumours on social media.

Balochistan has witnessed an uptick in terrorist attacks over the past year. In the past, the railway tracks in this area have been attacked by Baloch militants using rockets or remote-controlled bombs, and the BLA claimed responsibility for most of the attacks

In October last year, Pakistan Railways announced the restoration of train services between Quetta and Peshawar after a suspension of more than a month and a half. A month later, at least 26 people were killed and 62 injured after a suicide blast ripped through a Quetta Railway

Balochistan, bordering Iran and Afghanistan, is home to a long-running violent insurgency. Baloch insurgent groups frequently carry out attacks targeting security personnel, government projects and the USD 60 billion China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects in the oil and mineral-rich

# **Chhattisgarh cabinet resets** policy to wipe out Maoists

DEHRADUN

### **EOW** to probe Bharatmala Land Acquisition scam

STAFF REPORTER RAIPUR

The Chhattisgarh government on Wednesday okayed the new Chhattisgarh Maoism Surrender, Victim Relief, and Rehabilitation policy 2025 for eliminating the red menace from the state.

RAIPUR

A senior government official briefing the cabinet decisions said the new policy will replace the existing Chhattisgarh Maoism Elimination Policy-

In another significant decision, the cabinet decided to hand over the matter of alleged corruption in the Bharatmala Land Acquisition to the Economic Offences Wing



constitute a State Water

CHANDIGARH

Information Centre for better The cabinet also decided to management and scientific planning for the water

would be signed with the Jal Shakti Ministry of the union government for this purpose, the official said.

The cabinet also agreed to compensate for the losses incurred due to making the Chhawa Hindi feature film tax-free in the state.

It also decided to launch the Chief Minister Sushasan Fellowship Scheme in the state for ascertaining the participation of youths in good governance and policy implementation. The scheme would be run with the collaboration of IIM Raipur and Transforming Rural India Foundation New

### Delhi under reporting pollution: Study

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

Pine particulate matter could be absorbing moisture from Delhi's humid air during wint humid air during winters, which could result in an underestimation of the city's PM1 pollution by up to 20 per cent, according to a new study.

Researchers, including those from the University of Birmingham, UK, explained that the swelling of fine particulate matter by absorbing water from the humid air hygroscopic growth — reduces the efficiency of sampling devices, possibly leading to underestimation.

The study, published in the journal NPJ Clean Air, "fills in the gap in the understanding of PM1 pollution in the most polluted megacity in the world."

New Delhi remained the world's most polluted capital city, according to the 2024 World Air Quality report by IQAir, a Swiss organisation.

PM1 particles, sized under a micron in diameter, are especially dangerous as they can penetrate lung tissue and enter the bloodstream, IQAir explains.

Study author Ying Chen, from the University of Birmingham, said, "When carrying out air quality assessments, it is crucial to consider hygroscopic growth and the potential for significant underestimation of pollution levels in humid conditions.'

The greatest underestimates in pollution levels occur during the rush hours of winter mornings in December-January, when humidity is at its peak and

pollution is most severe, the researchers

"The underestimate can be up to 20 percent (or 50 micrograms per cubic meter) of PM1 concentration on average during humid winter morning rush hours," they wrote.

In contrast, pollution estimates during the monsoon season show negligible bias, as the swollen pollutant particles are washed out by heavy rainfall, the team

Controlling emissions from biomass burning and residential sources — which contain highly hygroscopic chlorine particles - could effectively improve air quality and reduce this bias, thereby helping improve how air quality is understood, the study suggested.

### Nitish Kumar gets a taste of Rabri from Tejashwi Yadav

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Patna

ihar legislative Assembly on Wednesday witnessed an unprecedented spat between Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and his predecessor Rabri Devi as the two septuagenarians engaged in a no-holds-barred attack against each other to be joined by an aggressive Leader of Opposition Tejashwi Yadav. While Rabri accused the chief minister of having come to the House after consuming "bhang" (cannabis), Tejashwi, a former deputy CM under Nitish, demanded the resignation of the JDU leader whom he charged with "gesticulating at female legislators". Trouble began when Shashi

Nitish Kumar comes to the Assembly under the influence of bhang and misbehaves with women. Today, he has insulted me for the second time.

- RABRI DEVI, FORMER CM OF BIHAR

Yaday, an MLC of the CPI(ML), an RJD ally, rose in her chair to submit before the House that she was not satisfied with the government's reply to her question. Nitish Kumar, who is also a MLC, reacted remarked the NDA government led by him is doing so much as compared to earlier governments which did nothing.

Rabri, the leader of the opposition in legislative council, intervened saying "You claim no work was done before you took over. Please summon the records of that period. You will understand better."

Nitish, who had demonstrated his quick temper before the House earlier this week, sprang to his feet and vehement-

ly began to reiterate his point. Rabri Devi reacted with the taunt, "According to you, women did not even wear clothes before 2005, when you became the chief minister." The allusion was to a faux pas made by the JD(U) president more than once in recent past, while trying to underscore his push for empowering women.

Bihar CM, however, dug in his heels, dismissed the charge by the opposition that he was disrespectful towards women.

"Never before have women got so much of respect as they are getting now and pointed towards Rabri Devi with the remark, "What did they do for women? Her husband made her the chief minister when he ran into trouble."

Notably, Rabri Devi first became the chief minister in 1997 when her husband Lalu Prasad, the RJD president, had to resign, following a CBI charge-sheet in the fodder scam. The heated exchange caused Chairman Awadhesh Narain Singh to rise and appeal to the opposition to let the House run.

However, the opposition led by Rabri Devi staged a walkout, even as Nitish continued with a brief monologue, accusing the RJD of having been soft on perpetrators of Hindu-Muslim riots because of caste affinity.

He also regretted having tied up with RJD twice and said, "I am back with my old partners (BJP). Now we shall remain together and continue with our good work." Speaking to reporters outside the House, Rabri Devi alleged, "Nitish Kumar comes to the assembly under the influence of 'bhang'. He misbehaves with women. Today, he has insulted me for the second time."

### **Ukraine says it** is open to 30 day ceasefire

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA | Jeddah

**♦** Trump administration lifted its suspension of military aid and intelligence sharing for Ukraine, and Kyiv signaled that it was open to a 30-day ceasefire in the war with Russia pending Moscow's agreement, American and Ukrainian officials said Tuesday fol-

lowing talks in Saudi Arabia. The administration imposed the measures a week ago to push Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to enter talks to end the war with invading Russian forces.

Secretary of State Marco Rubio said the US would present the ceasefire offer to the Kremlin.

"We're going to tell them this is what's on the table. Ukraine is ready to stop shooting and start talking. And now it'll be up to them to say yes or no," Rubio said. "If they say no, then we'll unfortunately know what the impediment is to peace here."

ational security adviser Mike Waltz added: "The Ukrainian delegation today made something very clear, that they share President Trump's vision for peace.

Waltz said negotiators "got into substantive details on how this war is going to permanently end," including long-term security guarantees.

The announcements emerged as senior officials from Ukraine and the United States opened talks in Saudi Arabia focused on ending Moscow's three-year war against Kyiv. The discussions started only hours after Russia shot down over 300 Úkrainian drones. It was Ukraine's biggest attack since the Kremlin ordered the full-scale invasion of its neighbour.

President Donald Trump's special envoy, Steve Witkoff, is expected to travel later this week to Moscow, where he could meet with Russian President Vladimir Putin, according to a person familiar with the matter but not authorized to comment publicly. The person cautioned that scheduling could change.

Earlier in the day, journalists were briefly allowed in a room where a senior Ukrainian delegation met with Rubio, who smiled at the cameras and when asked about his expectations for the meeting, gave a thumbs-up and replied, "Good

Across the table, Ukrainian officials, including the country's top diplomat and defence chief, showed no facial expressions as the meeting got underway at a luxury hotel. However, Ukrainian presidential aide Andriy Yermak told reporters that the most important thing was "how to achieve a just and lasting



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# Centre, State to decide Sainik Farm issue: High Court

he Delhi High Court on Wednesday said the Centre and the Delhi government should iron out the issue of regularisation of Sainik Farm colony in south Delhi and asked the authorities to sit together.

Observing neither was there a demolition action nor legalisation of the colony, a bench of Chief Justice DK Upadhyaya and Justice Tushar Rao Gedela sought the assistance of the additional solicitor general and the Delhi government standing counsel.

"Matter is oscillating between the Centre and the state. We can't permit this to go on and on. You have to take a policy decision. We are not saying what to do. Either regularise or don't.... (but) You are just dragging. Hume na karna pade,

it).. All of you sit together and find a solution, that is what we propose," the bench said. It is hearing pleas, including one filed in 2015, on the colony's regularisation.

"What we prima facie find is that the concern raised in the writ petitions needs to be addressed by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development of government of India, government of NCT of Delhi and the MCD," the court

The court posted the hearing on April 16 and asked the respective lawyers to seek instructions on the matter. The court previously asked the Centre to take a decision on the issue of regularisation of the

The Centre's counsel on Wednesday said the status quo, in relation to the colony, should continue as it was an "afflu-



The court posted the hearing on April 16 and asked the respective lawyers to seek instructions on the

ent" neighbourhood and neither repairs nor demolition could be permitted there.

The counsel appearing for one of the petitioners urged the court to allow repairs in the meantime. The court, however, asked to observe the "larger picture" and said it could not permit a party to "keep on repairing without any sanction". The houses, the bench said, allegedly came up in derogation of the law but since the colony had been around for so long, the authorities were expected to

A policy could be framed and the regulations could be amended or development charges could be collected from its residents, if there was a will, the court added. "Unnecessarily these litigations are going on. They are living in fear. If you want, we will put you together in a mediation centre," the court said.

a conscious decision to not get into the regularisation of illegal colonies that were categorised as affluent colonies such as Sainik Farm and it was presently focusing on the re-development work of the 1,797 unauthorised colonies, subdivided into two classes.

Constructions raised in the affluent colonies like Sainik Farm are protected by law upto December 2023, it added.

In April 2022, while hearing the plea by Ramesh Dugar, convener of the area development committee at Sainik Farm, for regularisation of the colonies in the area, the high court said it was "high time" that the issue of regularisation of Sainik Farms was "resolved once and for all". It said the authorities should take a decision and not keep the pot boiling indefinitely.

# Fresh political row erupts between Atishi, Vijender

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

fresh political row has erupted as Leader of Opposition (LoP) in A Leader of Opposition (Lor) in Delhi Assembly Atishi on Wednesday accused Speaker Vijender Gupta of "undermining democratic norms" by selectively targeting opposition MLAs during the Assembly session that concluded on March 3. Hitting back, Delhi Assembly Speaker Vijender Gupta defended his decision of keeping the suspended members out of the House as he hit out at Leader of Opposition Atishi for making "baseless" allegations.

In a reply to Atishi regarding her memorandum, Gupta reiterated that he had repeatedly clarified the decision to keep out the members who had been suspended by the House was strictly as per Rule 277 read with the definition of precincts. He further mentioned that the definition explains in detail the area covered under precincts and includes 'approaches'.

The first session of Delhi Assembly Session had witnessed war of words between the ruling and opposition dispen-

present in the House. "The opposition members were not present for three days owing to their suspension," Gupta added.

He further said that AAP MLA Amanatullah Khan, who was present in the house during that time, was allowed to participate in the debate, but he rather opted to walk out thereafter, and did not participate in further discussions. He told Atishi that she may also note that the floor time used by the Chief Minister or any Minister is not included while calculating the floor time as they are allowed to intervene at any point as per rules.

Clarifying about his interventions, the speaker expressed that he had to intervene when the House was not in order, and any member was making statements to pro-

voke and disrupt the proceedings.

Regarding LOP mentioning about Gupta's acts during his tenure as an opposition member back in time, he said it will not be appropriate for him to reply in detail about the reasons for protests back then, but mentioned that she must kindly bear in mind that when he was in opposition, his party members resorted to judi-



All opposition MLAs were marshalled out of the Assembly, however, no ruling party MLA was marshalled out

sations after row over allegations of removal of portraits from offices at Delhi Vidhan Sabha. In a letter addressed to Speaker Gupta on Wednesday, Atishi alleged that opposition legislators were unfairly marshalled out during the lieu-

for chanting slogans, whereas BJP MLAs faced no action for similar sloganeering. "During the address of the L-G VK Saxena, sloganeering was done by MLAs of the opposition and the ruling party. The opposition raised slogans of 'Jai Bheem', while the ruling party raised slogans of 'Modi, Modi, Modi'. All opposition MLAs were marshalled out of the Assembly, however, no ruling party MLA was marshalled

tenant governor's address (on February 25)

out or asked to leave despite repeated sloganeering by them," Atishi wrote. Gupta expressed he was surprised that instead of an apology on behalf of her party members' disruptive behaviour, she was rather finding fault with his lawful directions. He mentioned to the LOP regarding floor time, that as per rules and parliamentary conventions, it is allotted as per party's strength, and added that she must keep in mind that the time would also be determined depending on the members

Defended his decision of keeping the members out of the House as he hit out at Atishi for

- VIJENDER GUPTA, ASSEMBLY SPEAKER cial recourse and got relief from the Courts for the actions of the then Speaker and previous government.

making 'baseless' allegations

He assured the LOP that he intends to run the House strictly as per the rules, Constitutional provisions, and parliamentary conventions, and asserted that unparliamentary conduct by any member shall be dealt with strictly.

Meanwhile, ahead of the Delhi assembly's Budget Session which is set to commence on March 24, Atishi wrote to the speaker, demanding fair treatment for opposition MLAs, noting that opposition MLAs have been allegedly silenced.

She also criticised the decision to bar suspended MLAs, calling it "unprecedented in independent India." Additionally, she claimed that AAP MLAs were allotted only 14 per cent of the speaking time during discussions on the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) report, while BJP MLAs were given 86 per cent. "The Speaker's role is not to serve the ruling party's interests but to safeguard the integrity of the legislative process," she wrote, demanding "equal treatment for opposition MLAs, fair allocation of speaking time, and an end to blatantly partisan actions.'

### Financial distress: Woman dies by suicide with two daughters

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

acing financial distress and unable to pay rent for two months, a 42-year-old woman has allegedly died by suicide along with her two daughters, who were eight-year-old and 18-year-old, in Southeast Delhi's Badarpur.

The three decomposed bodies were found after neighbours reported a foul smell emanating from their residence, a police officer said, adding that no suicide note has been recovered from the house so far.

Police received a PCR call on Wednesday afternoon from Molarband, with the caller informing that a strong odour was coming from house number

43 on the second floor in street number 16, where the mother and daughters resided, he said. Responding immediately, Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP) and station house officer, Badarpur rushed to the spot and found the bodies of Pooja and her two daughters, he added.

The three had white foam coming out of their mouths, suggesting the consumption of a poisonous substance, a senior police officer said.

Initial observations suggest that the bodies were around four to five days old. Preliminary investigations suggest financial distress as a possible reason behind the alleged suicide, he said.

Locals informed that the family had not

paid rent for the past two months, which might have contributed to their decision of allegedly killing themselves, police said. The crime team was called to the scene, and forensic experts examined the site for evidence. The bodies have been sent for post-mortem which will confirm the exact cause of death, they said.

The officer said initial investigation suggests that Pooja was staying alone with her daughters and her husband has not been seen for the last few years.

"We got to know that her husband works as a driver in Gurugram in Haryana. But someone also told us that he had died a few months back. We are verifying all the facts," the officer said.

He said that investigation also suggest

that her daughters were not going to school from last few months.

He further said that police teams are also checking CCTV footage to know where the woman was last seen and from where she purchased the poisonous

"The bodies are totally in a decomposed condition. Crime teams will visit the scene of crime again to collect more evidence from the spot. So far no assault marks are seen on the body," he said, adding post-mortem report will ascertain the cause of death.

Further investigation in the matter is underway, with police probing all angles, including financial hardships, the officer added.

### **JNU students** union polls to be held in next two months

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

¬he Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) administration has announced that the students union elections for the 2024-25 term will be held in the next two months subject to the outcome of an ongoing case in the Delhi High Court.

In a circular issued by Dean of Students Manuradha Chaudhary, the university stated that the elections must be conducted in accordance with applicable laws and guidelines. Detailed guidelines from the Office of Dean of Students will be shared in due course," it read. The circular also clarified that the

process is contingent on the verdict in a case in which the university has sought necessary clarifications from the Delhi High Court on some provisions of the Lyngdoh Committee Report, which governs student body elections.

The circular comes amid growing student protests, demanding an immediate election notification. Around 80 students-led by the JNU Students' Union (JNUSU) have been staging a sit-in at the Dean of Students' office for the past six days, alleging the administration was deliberately delaying the elections.

In a separate notice on March 5, the administration cited a report by a court-appointed observer, former Supreme Court judge Ramasubramanian, who pointed out inconsistencies in the Lyngdoh Committee Report which governs student body elections.

The university has sought legal clarification, with the next court hearing scheduled for March 27.

The university has sought clarification from the court, with the next hearing scheduled for March 27. In addition to the election notification, students are also pressing for the opening of Barak Hostel, a facility built for North-East students.

### AAP attacks BJP over false promise on LPG Prime Minister for failing to deliver on

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

**¬**he Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) on Wednesday stepped up its attack on the BJP, reminding it of yet another unfulfilled election promise, free LPG cylinders to women on Holi and staged protest demonstrations across 40 locations in the national capital. With the BJP's earlier pledge of ₹2,500

for women proving to be a "jumla", Aam Aadmi Party leaders, including senior leader and former MLA Rituraj Jha and former Delhi Mayor Dr Shelly Oberoiled demonstrations demanding that Prime Minister Narendra Modi deliver on his commitments. A large number of women joined the

demonstrations, carrying empty cylinders as a symbol of the BJP's broken promises. As the demonstrations intensified, Delhi Police detained Rituraj Jha and several AAP workers while they raised slogans urging the BJP government in Delhi to fulfil its promise and provide free

Opposition (LoP) in the Delhi Assembly tions were held in Kalkaji, Sangam Vihar Atishi took pot-shots at the BJP and and other parts of Delhi.

their promises to Delhi's women before She said, "The BJP's promise of giving

₹2,500 to women by March 8 turned out to be a 'jumla' and a betrayal. Modi also made a second promise, to give one free LPG cylinder to every woman on Holi and Diwali.' "With just two days left for Holi, they

are wondering whether they will receive a free cylinder or if, like the ₹2,500, this too will turn out to be another 'jumla'. Women across Delhi have been staging demonstrations against the BJP, carrying empty LPG cylinders to highlight the unfulfilled promise," said Atishi. On Wednesday, when AAP leaders and

workers gathered at ITO to remind the BJP of its pledge to provide free LPG cylinders on Holi, Delhi Police detained them, party said.

Meanwhile, at Mandir Marg, former Delhi Mayor Shelly Oberoi and Aam Aadmi Party workers held a demonstration, demanding that the BJP fulfil its Senior AAP leader and Leader of election pledges. Similar demonstra-



### **Need structured** approach to review industrial

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

projects: Sirsa

elhi Industries Minister Manjinder Singh Sirsa on Wednesday chaired a review meeting with officers from the Industry Department, GNCTD to assess ongoing initiatives and policies aimed at sustainable industrial development. A key focus of the meeting was to minimise the environmental impact of industrial waste and ensure responsible waste management practices.

During the meeting, Sirsa emphasised the need for a structured approach to reviewing industrial projects. The minister informed that he will conduct a weekly meeting to ensure consistent monitoring and timely decision-making to accelerate the industrial development in capital. A detailed discussion was held on the new proposed industrial policy, including various incentives aimed at promoting sustainable industrial growth.

The minister underscored the importance of balancing industrial expansion with environmental conservation, highlighting measures to control pollution and improve waste management practices. The status of three ongoing Greenfield industrial projects was also reviewed. The minister further instructed officials to expedite necessary approvals and infrastructure development while maintaining strict environmental compliance.

Sirsa reiterated the government's commitment to job creation through industrial growth. He directed officials to implement policies that encourage new businesses, thereby generating employment opportunities for the people of Delhi. Additionally, the Minister stressed the need for the highest quality services in waste management, electricity supply, water availability, drainage systems, and road infrastructure for industrial zones. He emphasised that these essential services must be strengthened to ensure a smooth and sustainable industrial ecosystem.

# Set up control centre, disaster response force, says L-G

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

elhi Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena on Wednesday stressed for the setting up an Unified Command and Control Centre and Disaster Response Force for the capital. This comes at a meeting of Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) chaired by the Lieutenant Governor. The meeting was convened to assess the preparedness of the capital in the wake of earthquake floods, heat events. Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, Chief Secretary of Delhi, Dharmendra, and senior officials attended the meeting.

Notably, Delhi was one of the few states in the country to not have a State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) of its own. The city also lacked a Command and Control Centre (CCC), making a unified and integrated response at the time of disaster impossible.

To this end, the Lieutenant Governor has directed officials to make land/building available at the earliest and requested West Delhi fell in highly quake probable the CM to address the issues of logistics that had been hitherto neglected by the previous government. The authority was

asked to provide all necessary technological support in renovation and restructuring of DDMA and setting up of the CCC. The vulnerability of Delhi to earthquakes owing to its location in Seismic Zone-IV and the recent earthquake on February 18, made a comprehensive mitigation and prevention strategy imperative.

Moreover, microzonation of areas in the

city presented a picture, wherein most of

the densely populated colonies along the

Yamuna, North, North-West and South-

areas. The fact that these areas housed most of the unauthorized colonies wherein structural safety of four-five-storeyed houses on extremely plot sizes was flagged as a matter of grave concern. Apart from this, the issue of heat waves

and resultant hardships faced by the people as also flooding during monsoons, being taken up at the level of the DDMA itself, underlined the importance attached to these core infrastructural issues by the new regime at the helm.

Held much in advance of the forthcoming Summer and subsequent Monsoon seasons, discussion took place upon pre-

ventive, curative and emergent measures concerning various aspects that included availability and distribution management of water, desilting of drains and sewer lines, drainage management, installation of requisite equipments, etc. as far as extreme heat and flooding were concerned.

With regards to earthquake preparedness, the meeting deliberated upon retro fitment of hospitals, identified school buildings for immediate relief, fire stations, gas, water, power supply lines and Metro.

Large scale retro fitment especially in unauthorized colonies, with active public participation to make buildings earthquake-resistant and deployment of civil defence, home guard and disaster relief volunteers in event of an earthquake were also deliberated upon. With regards to the issue of summer heat action plan 2025 and flood management, the Lieutenant Governor and the Chief Minister asked officers to present a comprehensive plan of action within a month and to have them ready for implementation well in advance.

### Government schools to phase out single use plastics: DoE

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

elhi government's Directorate of Education (DoE) has instructed all the government schools to phase out single-use plastics (SUPs), commonly used for serving food and beverages, following a directive from the Department of Environment.

In a circular issued on Tuesday, the directorate said, "All heads of the government and government-aided recognised schools are directed to refrain from using

single-use plastics.' On February 28, the Department of Environment in its advisory highlighted that SUPs are non-biodegradable and create anaerobic conditions. This hinders composting and natural decomposition, leading to foul odours

and environmental hazards. "Many of these items, including carry bags, packaging films, straws, and

cups, are lightweight and can be easily carried by the wind or mixed with other solid waste. They often end up in water bodies, clog drains and sewer systems, and contribute to water-logging," the advisory said.

It further highlighted that urban stray cattle, often seen looking for food through garbage, may accidentally ingest plastic bags, which can be fatal to them. When discarded in landfills or the

environment, single-use plastics can take up to a thousand years to decompose. Plastic waste, once it enters the ecosystem, causes a wide range of environmental issues, it added.

The government has identified 19 single-use plastic items to be phased out, including ice cream sticks, wrapping or packaging films around sweet boxes, plastic flags, candy sticks, straws, plastic spoons, and forks.

# Congress seeks CBI probe into Bharatmala land acquisition scam

### **STAFF REPORTER**

RAIPUR

The Congress legislators in the Chhattisgarh Assembly on Wednesday demanded a CBI probe into the alleged irregularities in the distribution of compensation for land acquisition for the Bharatmala road project.

MLAs also staged a walkout after the BJP government turned down their demand of a CBI or a House Committee probe even after accepting the irregu-

The issue was raised by Leader of Opposition Charandas Mahant during the Question Hour.

The state government admitted that irregularities in the land acquisition in a few villages in Raipur caused a loss of Rs 43.19 crore to the Union govern-

Further, it was accepted that a compensation of more than Rs 350 crore was paid, and funds were misappropriated in the execution of the entire Bharatmala project.

A few officials were suspended, but the CBI needs to probe the entire matter, the Congress leader Mahant demanded.



In his reply, Revenue Minister Tank Ram Verma said the notification for land acquisition for the Raipur-Visakhapatnam economic corridor under the Bharatmala project was issued in January 2020 and the compensation was awarded on March 18, 2021.

As complaints were received pertaining to the distribution of compensation, the Raipur collector was tasked to conduct a probe in August 2022, he said. The minister accepted that irregular-

WHEREAS

ities were committed in the land acquisition process, such as the partition of land after the issuance of notification for acquisition, on-paper acquisition of already acquired land, and allocation of compensation to persons other than the

As per the probe report received from Raipur Collector on April 26, 2024, compensation had been distributed by dividing 13 original Khasras (land tracts) into 53 small plots in the village

Nayakbandha, he said.

The probe report also mentioned that the government suffered a financial loss due to the inclusion of cases of purchase and sale after the issuance of the initial notifications and approval of compensation by preparing fake transfers of ownership on back dates,

Based on the investigation report, action was taken against the guilty officers, the minister said.

Mahant then said that as the minister was accepting that there were irregularities, an FIR should be registered against the guilty officials and a case should be handed over to CBI.

The minister replied that the government will ensure a thorough probe by the Raipur Divisional Commissioner, and no one will be spared.

The Leader of Opposition further demanded from the Speaker that at least a probe by a House Committee must be ordered. However, the Revenue Minister reiterated that the matter is being probed by the Commissioner and that was sufficient. Dissatisfied with the answer, Congress members later staged a walk-

out from the House.

### **Bastar Pandum to be a milestone** in establishing peace: CM

STAFF REPORTER

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai said on Wednesday that the Bastar Pandum will be a milestone in establishing peace in the Naxal-hit region.

He said this at an event in which he released the logo of the 'Bastar Pandum 2025' and its booklet in Assembly premises in Raipur.

Pandum commenced on March 12 in all seven districts of the Bastar division. It is being held as part of efforts to preserve the unique culture of the region.

Sai said that the event will bestow the cultural heritage on the new generation and provide a strong platform to elevate local artists. It will also provide a close look into the real life of Bastar.

He added that the development of Bastar and connecting its people to the mainstream was the top



priority of his government. He also spoke of the provisions in the state budget tribal cuisine. to eradicate Naxalism and works done to provide basic needs in sensitive areas through the Niyad Nellanar scheme. The event will hold

costumes and jewellery exhibition, crafts-painting and

The first phase will be held at the Janpad level from March 12 to 20, the second at the district level from March 21 to 23 and the final phase at the division level from April 1 to 3 in Dantewada dis-

### House uproarious over allotment of land to JSPL

**STAFF REPORTER** 

RAIPUR

Opposition Congress members on Wednesday created a ruckus in the legislative assembly over the allotment of Kelo Reservoir Project land to Jindal Steel and Power Limited after making changes in its

The issue was raised in the house by Umesh Patel, and the Revenue Minister, Tankram Verma, replied that he was unaware of any change in land industry. Congress legislator House Committee probe.

and former Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel said that it was surprising that the minister was unaware as the change in the land use could not be made without the consent of a committee formed by the minister. It is a serious matter and a House Committee probe must be ordered, Baghel demanded

from the chair. The revenue minister, replying to the demand, announced a departmental probe but the opposition members dissatisfied with the announcement staged use and its allotment to the a walkout still demanding a

कार्यालय कार्यपालन अभियन्ता लोक निर्माण विभाग, दक्षिण बस्तर संभाग, दन्तेवाडा

ज्ञाप क्रमांक ०४ / स्कंध/लो.नि.वि./२४–२५ दन्तेवाड़ा, दिनाँक १०/०३/२०२५ --::मूल्यकथन आमत्रण सूचना ::-

वर्ष 2025 हेतु बस्तर पंडुम कार्यक्रम के दौरान लगने वाले टेन्ट, साज–सज्जा व अन्य आवश्यक व्यवस्थाओं हेतु मूल्यकथन आमंत्रित की जाती है। इच्छुक निविदाकार दिनाँक 17-03-2025 को दोपहर 1:00 बजे के पूर्व इस कार्यालय में संबंधित दस्तावेज जमा कर निविदा प्रपत्र प्राप्त करने एवं निविदा में निहित विस्तृत विवरण की जानकारी कार्यालयीन अवधि में इस कार्यालय से सम्पर्क कर प्राप्त किया जा सकता है। निविदा इसी दिन संध्या ४:०० बजे खोली जावेगीं।

छत्तीसगढ़ शासन जल संसाधन विभाग कार्यालय मुख्य अभियंता, महानदी परियोजना जल संसाधन विभाग, रायपुर (छ.ग.)

ई. प्रोक्यूरमेंट निविदा सूचना

eProcurement Portal: https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in

निविदा निरस्तीकरण सूचना

निविदा सूचना क्र./

सिस्टम निविदा क्र./

दिनांक

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13.09.2024 (प्रथम

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सहपत्रः-उपरोक्तानुसार ।

कार्यपालन अभियन्ता. लो.नि.वि., दक्षिण बस्तर संभाग, दन्तेवाडा

का कारण

निविदाकार द्वार

ई.एम.डी. एवं अन्य

दस्तावेज अपूर्ण

प्रस्तुत करने के

कारण।

लागत

# AXIS BANK LTD.

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the AXIS BANK LTD., Under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued, a demand notice, dated 17.03.2023 calling upon the borrowers and guarantors viz MRS. SANDHYARANI GUMAN SINGH D/O PADAM CHARAN GUMAN SINGH & PADAM CHARAN GUMAN SINGH S/O GANGADHAR SINGH to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs. 20,23,075/- (Rupees Twenty Lakh Twenty Three Thousand and Seventy Five only (Amount outstanding as on 14.03.2023) under Loan A/c. No. PHR013901249446 due as on 14-MAR-2023, being the amount due on termination of the agreement (this amount includes interest till 14-MAR-2023) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrowers and guarantors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Physical Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said Act, read with Rule ( of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this 11.03.2025.

The borrowers and guarantors in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the AXIS BANK LTD., for an amount being Rs. 20,23,075/Rupees Twenty Lakh Twenty Three Thousand Seventy Five only (Amount outstanding as on 14.03.2023) under Loan A/c. No. PHR013901249446 due as amount includes interest till 14-MAR-2023 & further interest thereon), till the date o

The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of Sub Section (8) of Section 13 of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 in respect of time available, to redeem Description of the Secured Asset (Immovable Assets)

All that Part & Parcel of Residential Building of Ground Floor & 1st Floor Built on core House No. 1249 & Core House No. 1248, Slice-III Area-387, 36 Sq. Ft + 387, 36

**BOUNDRIES OF 1248:** House No. 1247

BOUNDRIES OF 1249:

House No. 1248. Date: 13.03.2025 Place:Raipur

Registered Office: HDFC Bank House, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel (West), We understand your world Mumbal - 400 013 and having one of its office as

Kanjurmarg (East), Mumbai - 400042 SALE INTIMATION AND PUBLIC NOTICE FOR SALE OF SECURITIES PLEDGED TO HDFC BANK LTD.

The below mentioned Borrowers of HDFC Bank Ltd. (the "Bank") are hereby notified regarding the sale of securities pledged to the Bank, for availing credit facilities in the nature of Loan/Overdraft Against Securities.

Due to persistent default by the Borrowers in making repayment of the outstanding dues as per agreed loan terms, the below loan accounts are in delinquent status. The Bank has ssued multiple notices to these Borrowers, including the final sale notice on the belowmentioned date whereby, Bank had invoked the pledge and provided 7 days' time to the Borrower to repay the entire outstanding dues in the below accounts, failing which, Bank would be at liberty to sell the pledged securities without issuing further notice in this regard. The Borrowers have neclected and failed to make due repayments, therefore, Bank in exercise of its rights under the loan agreement as a pledgee has decided to sell / dispose off the Securities on or after 20th March 2025 for recovering the dues owed by the Borrowers to the Bank. The Borrowers are, also, notified that, if at any time, the value of the pledged securities falls further due to volatility in the stock market to create further deficiency in the margin requirement then Bank shall at its discretion sell the pledged ecurity within one (1) calendar day, without any further notice in this regard. The Borrower(s) shall remain liable to the Bank for repayment of any remaining outstanding amount, post adjustment of the proceeds from sale of pledged securities.

Sr. No.	Loan Account Number	Borrower's Name	as on 06° March 2025 (In Indian Rupees)			
1	XXXX6110	MIRZA KAISER BAEG	4,32,098.32	06-03-2025		
2	XXXX7751	RAJKUMARI SINGH	8,96,684.18	06-03-2025		
3	XXXX6552	RAJESH TIWARI	9,56,134.91	11-03-2025		
4	XXXX1493	POTHANAPALLI NAGESHWAR RAO	8,27,114.42	11-03-2025		
Date: 13.03.2025 Sd/-						
Plac	Place : CHHATTISGARH HDFC BANK LTD.					

### **PM JANMAN illuminates 77** backward tribal villages



**STAFF REPORTER** 

total of 77 special backward tribal villages Ain Chhattisgarh Mahasamund district now have complete electricity connections thanks to the Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM JANMAN), the government said on Wednesday.

About 330 settlements of these villages did not have electricity. Electricity had not reached a majority of them since independence. The authorities, now, are planning to improve

other essential facilities, such as roads, drinking water and health services. The villagers expressed hope that the changes

would bring more comfort and convenience to Under the PM JANMAN scheme, a target has

been set to provide basic facilities

to all the backward and remote

villages of the country.

### **SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY** E-TENDER NOTICE

Tender Notice No.: WRSR-24-25 Dated: 05.03.2025 Name of Work: Stripping, Fitting and Welding of BOXN and BOST Wagons of 600 each at Wagon Repair Shop Raipur for a period of Three Years through Open Tender. Approx Tender Value: ₹ 49.22.31.532.68 Rupees Forty Nine Crores Twenty wo Lakhs Thirty One Thousand Five Hundred Thirty Two and Sixty Figh aise only) Including GST @ 18% Quantity & Contractual Period: 36 Thirty Six) months, Earnest Money 26,11,200.00 (Rupees Twenty Six akhs Eleven Thousand Two Hundred only), Cost of Tender Form: ₹ 0.00

Tender Closing Date & Time: Up to 15:00 Hrs. on 05.04.2025, Bidding Start Date: 22.03.2025, Eligibility Criteria: Can be seen on the website. Manual Tenders shall not be accepted The details of the tender are available

on website www.ireps.gov.in Dy. Chief Mechanical Engineer

WRS - S.E.C. Railway PR/R/WRS/FL/260 f South East Central Railway X @ secrail

### IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and

presently known as IDFC FIRST Bank Limited)

competitions in three phases

and seven genres—tribal

dance, song, drama, music,



CIN: L65110TN2014PLC097792

Registered Office: - KRM Towers, 8th Floor, Harrington Road, Chetpet, Chennai- 600031 Tel: +91 44 4564 4000 | Fax: +91 44 4564 4022

Notice under Section 13 (2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial

Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 The following borrowers and co-borrowers availed the below mentioned secured loans from IDFC FIRST Bank

Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC FIRST Bank Limited) The loans of the below-mentioned borrowers and co-borrowers have been secured by the mortgage of their respective properties. As they have failed to adhere to the terms and conditions of the respective loan agreements and had become irregular, their loan were classified as NPA as per the RBI guidelines. Amounts due by them to IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC FIRST Bank Limited) are mentioned as per respective notices issued more particularly described in the following table and further interest on the said amounts shall also be applicable and the same will be charged as per contractual rate with effect from

Sr	Loan	Type of	Section 13 (2)	Outstanding amount as
No.	Account No.	Loan	Notice Date	per Section 13 (2) Notice
1	105374528	HOME LOAN	27.02.2025	12,93,521.10/-

PROPERTY ADDRESS: ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF ABADI LAND KHASRA NO. 342/14 & 342/39 AREA 0.028 HEC. OR 3013 SQ. FT., SITUATED AT MOUJA GRAM: PAMGARH, P.H.NO. 16, R.N.M PAMGARH, TEHSIL: PAMGARH, DISTRICT: JANJGIR-CHAMPA, CHHATTISGARH-495554, AND BOUNDED AS: EAST: JAGAT RAM, WEST: SHANKAR BHARDWAJ. NORTH: ROAD, SOUTH: BORSIHIN KI BADI

You are hereby called upon to pay the amounts to IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC FIRST Bank Limited as per the details shown in the above table with contracted rate of interest thereupon from the respective dates and other costs, charges etc. within 60 days from the date of this publication, failing which the undersigned shall be constrained to initiate proceedings, under Section 13 (4) and section 14 of the SARFAESI Act, against the mortgaged properties mentioned hereinabove to realize the amount due to IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC FIRST Bank Limited). Further you are prohibited under Section 13 (13) of the said Act from transferring the said secured assets either by way of sale/lease or otherwise.

Sd/- Authorized Officer Date:13.03.2025 IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with Place: CHHATTISGARH IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC FIRST Bank Limited)

PICICI Home Finance | Corporate Office- ICICI Home Finance Company Limited ICICI HFC Tower, Andheri- Kurla Road, Andheri (East), Mumbai- 400059, India Branch Office: Sky Park, Ground Floor, Unit No.1, Near Canal Road Ro

Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets through Private Treaty under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with Rule 8(8)r/w Rule 9 (1)of the Security nterest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

CICI Home Finance Company Limited (ICICI HFC) conducted severale-Auctions for the sale of the mortgaged property mentioned below, however, all such e-Auctions failed. Now, an interested buyer has approached ICICI HFC with an offer to purchase the said property for an amount of Rs. 5,40,000/-. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below-described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of ICICI Home Finance Company Ltd., will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is", by way of Private Treaty as per the brief particulars given hereunder; Amount Reserve Date and Date & One Day Sarfaesi

Details of the

	No.	Co Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Legal Heirs. Loan Account No.	Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Out- standing	Earnest Money Deposit	Time of Property Inspection	Time of Auction	Before Auction Date	Stage
. [	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	(1)
	1.	Mithilesh Singh (Borrower) Rahul Singh, (Co-Borrowers) Man Singh (Co-Borrowers) Loan Account No. LHRPR00001318646	Residential Plot No. 323 & 324, Part of Khasra No. 15001/1, Geekay Township, P H No. 90/20, Ward No. 9, Village Siltara Raipur (C.G.)	Rs. 21,52, 068/- March 04, 2025	Rs. 5,40, 000/- Rs. 54,000/-	March 21, 2025 11:00 AM 03:00 PM	March 28, 2025 02:00 PM 03:00 PM	before	Physical Possession
	The online auction will be conducted on website (URL Link- https://BidDeal.in) of our auction agency Value Trust								

Capital Services Private Limited. The Prospective Bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) RTGS/ Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at ICICI Home Finance Company Limited, Branch Office Address mentioned on top of the article on or before March 27, 2025 before 04:00 PM. The Prospective Bidder(s) must also submit a signed copy of the Registration Form & Bid Terms and Conditions form at ICICI Home Finance Company Limited, Branch Office Address mentioned on top of the article on or before March 27, 2025 before 05:00 PM. Earnest Money Deposit Demand Draft (DD) should be from a Nationalized/Scheduled Bank in fovor of CiciCICI Home Finance Company Limited, Province and Province Company Limited, Province C "ICICI Home Finance Company Ltd. – Auction"payable at the branch office address mentioned on top of the article. The general public is requested to submit their bids higher than the amount being offered by the interested buyer The general public is requested to submit their bids higher than the amount being offered by the interested buyer mentioned above. It is hereby informed that in case no bids higher than the amount being offered by the aforementioned interested buyer is received by ICICI HFC, the mortgaged property shall be sold to the said interested buyer as per Rule 8(8) r/w Rule 9 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. For any further clarifications with regards to inspection, terms and conditions of the sale or submission of bids, kindly contact ICICI Home Finance Company Limited on 9920807300.

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

Authorized Officer, "ICICI Home Finance Company Limited" CIN Number U65922MH1999PLC120106 Date: March 13, 2025

CIN: L65110TN2014PLC097792

कार्यपालन अभियंता

म.ज.प. बांध संभाग क्र. २, रूद्री

कृते अधीक्षण अभियंता,

म.ज.प. बांध मण्डल, रूद्री

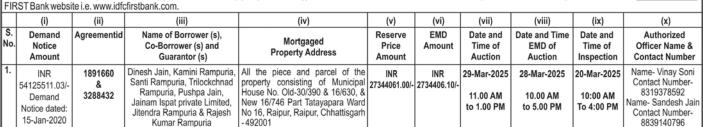
जिला-धमतरी (छ.ग.)

Registered Office: - KRM Towers, 8th Floor, Harrington Road, Chetpet, Chennai-600031. Tel: +91 44 4564 4000 | Fax: +91 44 4564 4022

**IDFC FIRST Bank Limited** 

(erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited) APPENDIX- IV-A [See proviso to rule 8 (6) & 9 (1)] SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) & 9 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s), Co-Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) as per column (iii) that the below described immovable properties as per column (iv) mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Formerly known as IDFC Bank Ltd, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" as described hereunder, for the recovery of amount due to IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (Formerly known as IDFC Bank Ltd) from Borrower (s) and Co-Borrower (s) as per column (i). For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided on IDFĆ



E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and

Disclaimer: Please note that the said notice is issued for sale of immovable property only and IDFC FIRST Bank Limited has no right to sale of the movable assets, if any, present at the mmovable property. **Authorised Office** Date: 13.03.2025 IDFC FIRST Bank Limited 🔃 बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा Bank of Baroda

Date:13.03.2025, Place: Raipur, Chhattisgarh

Regional Office, Jeevan Prakash, L.I.C. Building, Pandri, Raipur (C.G.) PH.:0771-4222635, Mail:operations.raipur@bankofbaroda.com

Authorised Officer, Bank of Baroda

Information For Customers Having Lockers

This is for the information of valued patrons who have taken lockers on rent at Bank of Baroda Branch and not paid rent timely, the notices sent as per the Bank's guidelines to the Renters at their recorded addresses but no response received. Now this final notice is given to all the persons named below for contacting the respective branch and to clear the dues of the bank within a period of 15 days, failing which the bank will proceed to break open the locker on 28.03.2025 at 01:00 P.M. at their cost, risk and responsibility and the bank will exercise its right of lien on inventory for recovery of outstanding rent, costs and other charges.

N.	Phone	Locker Holder's Name & Address		Due Amount	Due Date
01	Branch, Raipur	K D FINANCIAL SERVICES Prop. MR. AJAY GOLCHHA Add.: 102, Marudhar Complex, Shyam Talkies RD, Budhapara, Raipur (C.G.)	OLD LOCKER	Rs.11,934/- +Break Open + Other Charges	06.03.2022
02	Branch Painur	MR. SUSHIL KUMAR MUTHA Address.: 34 Panch Sheel Nagar Near C M House, Raipur (C.G.)	3102AAUU10	Rs.11,934/- +Break Open + Other Charges	06.03.2022

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PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

rime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday received Mauritius highest honour, the Grand Commander of the Order of the Star and Kev of the Indian Ocean. He called it a tribute to the centuries-old cultural and historical bonds of kinship between the two nations.

Modi is the first Indian leader to receive the Grand Commander of the Order of the Star and Key of the Indian Ocean award from Mauritius, which recognises his contributions to strengthening ties between India and Mauritius.

"I express my heartfelt gratitude for being conferred the Highest National Award of Mauritius. This is not just my honour. It is the honour of 1.4 Billion Indians. It is a tribute to the centuries-old cultural and historical bonds of kinship between India and Mauritius," Modi said.

Moreover, Prime Minister Narendra Modi was the chief guest at the National Day of Mauritius on Wednesday, a rare repeat invitation for a leader which, officials said, underscores India's special relationship with the island country rooted in shared history, culture, and diaspora ties. Modi first received the honour in Mauritius in 2015, officials said.

The BJP said Prime Minister Modi has emerged as a "phenomenal leader" in the world with 21 countries bestowing on him their highest civilian award so far and the latest being Mauritius.

The officials cited several instances of Modi being the main guest at signature events of several countries to assert that the prime minister as a "global leader is



PM Modi after being conferred highest civilian award of Mauritius

shaping the rising influence of India" at international level

An official source said, "The 2023 invitation (to PM Modi) to France's Bastille Day Parade was another defining moment, symbolising India's growing military and strategic partnership with France. The sight of Indian tri-services marching

the Champs-Elysees alongside French troops reinforced India's role in global geopolitics.'

In 2022, official sources noted, Modi visited Lumbini in Nepal for Buddha Jayanti celebrations, emphasising India's historical connection to Buddhism and its shared heritage with Nepal. His visit

reinforced India's role in promoting cultural and spiritual ties across the region,

in 2021, Bangladesh had invited him to its National Day celebrations, marking 50 years of its independence, an event closely tied to India's role in its liberation. His visit reaffirmed India's commitment to regional stability and shared prosperity,

In 2017, his visit to Sri Lanka for the International Vesak Day highlighted India's leadership in "civilisational and cultural diplomacy". By reaffirming India's role as a custodian of Buddhist heritage, he strengthened spiritual and diplomatic ties with Buddhist-majority nations, they

Hailing the award, the BJP said "With this, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has received the highest civilian award of 21 countries so far, emerging as a phenomenal leader in the world. Recently, Barbados also bestowed on him its highest civilian award," party national spokesperson Sudhansĥu Trivedi told reporters in the Parliament complex. These 21 countries include Russia, France, the US and nine Muslim countries, he

Trivedi further said, "This shows that under the stewardship of Prime Minister Modi, our relationship with various countries in the world have transcended beyond the utility factor of economic, military or diplomatic aspects. "Now, we have reached a different level in which various countries are feeling a very positive, sentimental attachment and respect towards India," the BJP Rajya Sabha MP said, adding, "It's a matter of pride for 140 Crore people of the country.

Trivedi said Prime Minister Modi has received several other international awards including the UN Champions of the Earth Award and Seoul Peace Prize in 2018. "In our eternal concept of 'vishva bandhutva' (universal brotherhood), Prime Minister Modi has led India in such a way that the entire world is looking at India as 'vishwa mitra (universal friend),' he said. "It is a matter of pride for all Indians that under Prime Minister Modi's leadership, we are not just becoming a ray of hope for the world and the driver of growth engine of the world but also an affectionate point of attraction for the most of the countries," Trivedi added.

### Government to ensure fair conduct of examinations

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

The government is committed to ensure fair conduct of examinations and trying to strengthen the system to prevent any malpractice, Union Minister of State for Education Sukanta Majumdar said on Wednesday in the Rajya Sabha.

Replying to queries during Question Hour related to irregularities in the NEET (UG) exam held last year, the minister cited a Supreme Court order to assert that there was no systemic failure and the government has already asked CBI to investigate the matter and five charge sheets have been filed against 45 people in the paper theft case.

Majumdar said the government has passed a new law 'Public Examination (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act, 2024' and implemented many recommendations of the K Radhakrishnan committee. "Our government is committed that examinations are held in a clean system. We assure that under the Modi government, we will not allow any malpractice,"

Already, he said, the Supreme Court has given a verdict that there is no systemic leakage. "So, if we call it a leakage then, we are disobeying or disrespecting the verdict of the Supreme Court." Steps are being taken and will be taken against those who have availed unfair means, Majumdar said. "In the new Act, we have made some provisions through which we can punish those people who will try to breach the system. We are trying to strengthen our system so that no one can

breach our system of examination," he said, adding that the National Testing Agency (NTA) is using CCTV and also metal detectors for searches.

The minister said that if the recommendations of the Radhakrishnan committee are implemented fully, "then, I think, this type of incident will be curbed". The NEET (UG) 2024 Examination was conducted by the National Testing Agency on May 5, 2024. "After the conduct of NEET(UG) 2024 Examination, certain cases of alleged irregularities/cheating/malpractices were reported," Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan had said in a statement earlier.

The ministry had asked the CBI to conduct a comprehensive investigation into the entire gamut of alleged irregularities, including conspiracy, cheating, and breach of trust with respect to the NEET(UG) 2024 Examination.

"As on November 21, 2024, the CBI has filed five charge sheets in the NEET(UG) paper theft case against a total of 45 accused," Pradhan said.

Names of candidates, who are beneficiaries of the paper theft/unfair means and names of the MBBS students who had solved the stolen paper or who had appeared in the exam as impersonators have already been identified and sent to concerned authorities, as the case may be, for necessary action, he had stated. In order to suggest effective measures for transparent, smooth and fair conduct of examinations by NTA, the ministry constituted a High-Level Committee of Experts (HLCE) on June 22, 2024.

### 2000 kids awaiting adoption in WB

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

ver 2,000 children are awaiting adoption, with West Bengal topping the list among states, the Women and Child Development Ministry said on Wednesday. Replying to a question in Rajya Sabha, Minister of State for Women and Child Development Savitri Thakur said the majority of the Prospective Adoptive Parents (PAPs) prefer to adopt younger children (of normal health and below 6 years of age) in the designated CARINGs portal, Thakur said.

"If there is availability of lesser number of such children in the adoption pool, the waiting period for PAP may be higher," she said in a written response.

According to the data shared by her, 2,321 children are awaiting adoption across the country. The highest number of such children are in West Bengal at 309, followed by Maharashtra at 261, Odisha at 225, Bihar at 205 and Telangana at 197.

Responding to another question, Thakur

said the projected population of all children up to 5 years in India for the year 2021 is 13.75 crores approximately.

"However, only 7.49 crore children up to 5 years were enrolled in anganwadis and registered on Poshan Tracker of the Ministry of Women and Child Development as per the February 2025 data," the minister said.

A total of 7.25 crore of them were measured on growth parameters of height and weight and 39.09 per cent of them have been found to be stunted, 16.60 per cent have been found to be underweight and 5.35 per cent are said to have been wasted (a child too thin for her height), she said. In response to another question, she said the women's helpline has been integrated with Emergency Response Support System and so far, they have handled over 2.10 crore calls and assisted over 84.43 lakh women. She added that as of January 2025, 745 fast track special courts, including 404 exclusive POCSO (e-POCSO) courts, are operational in all states and Union territories

### **IIT-G launches** meta platform for schools

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New Delhi

earning concepts of maths and science in local languages using sible for students at PM Shri Adarsh Vidyalayas in Assam with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Guwahati developing the country's first VR-enabled metaverse platform for schools. The project called "Gyandhara" in collaboration with Ministry of Science and Technology, and Department of Education, Assam Government will start as a pilot initiative in 56 PM Shri schools in Assam, later this year. The program is designed to enhance their educational experience by providing a more engaging way to learn about various scientif-

### Concerns against child marriage raised in Rajya Sabha

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

ssues including child marriage, agents duping people to travel to foreign Lountries and duplicate voter ID cards figured in the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday.

Raising the issue of child marriages during Zero Hour, Babubhai Jesangbhai Desai (BJP) made a demand for effective implementation of child marriage act across the country. He said child marriage is a social problem which is hampering education and development of children.

Balbir Singh (AAP) raised the issue of exploitation by travel agents who traffic innocent youth from Punjab to foreign

He said a large number of illegally sent youth are languishing in foreign jails. He also spoke about the recent deportations from the US, wherein youths were brought chained and handcuffed.

He urged the central government to tighten noose on such travel agents. Senior RJD leader Manoj Kumar Jha expressed concern over duplicate voter ID card numbers and demanded that the Election Commission should immediately take a call on the extent of the duplication in the country. Jha said a large number of duplicate

Electoral Photo Identity Card (EPIC) numbers have been found, and due to which fairness of elections is being com-Stressing that it is a matter of concern, the RJD member said the Article 324 of the

Constitution enshrines free and fair elections as well as the level-playing field. He further said that there is a spirit and philosophy behind the concept of free and

The RJD MP demanded that the Election Commission should determine the extent of duplicate EPIC numbers, investigate from where the fraud started, and

take urgent corrective measures. He further said the Election Commission should also issue a separate list detailing voter deletions, new additions and modifications. Congress MP Vivek K Tankha asked the government to facilitate pilgrimage to Sharda Peeth, located across the Line of Control (LoC) in Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir, on the lines of Kartarpur corridor. The Congress MP also spoke about the need for rehabilitation of displaced Kashmiri pandits and the facilitation of religious visits to Sharda Peeth through the LoC border.

Abdul Wahab (IUML) made a demand for additional fund for infrastructure development of existing ITIs in Kerala under hub and spoke model. While expressing thanks to the Union

Government for allocating ₹60,000 Crores for ITIs, he said the allocation for Kerala He said the Centre should allocate

₹2,100 Crore for Kerala. Harsh Mahajan (BJP) asked the government to strengthen the civil aviation infrastructure in Himachal Pradesh which is celebrated for its breathtaking nature, natural beauty and serene environment.

### CBI, Kerala police arrest founder of cryptocurrency exchange

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New Delhi

he CBI and Kerala Police have arrested Lithuanian national Alekse Besciokov, who was wanted by the United States for setting up cryptocurrency exchange Garantex allegedly to launder the proceeds of criminal activities, including ransomware, officials said Wednesday. He was arrested when he was allegedly plotting to escape from the country, officials

According to the US Secret Service doc-

uments, Besciokov, during 2019-25, allegedly "controlled and operated" Garantex, which facilitated money laundering to the tune of at least USD 96 billion in cryptocurrency transactions by transnational criminal organisations (including terrorist organisations) and violated sanctions.

"Garantex received hundreds of millions



Lithuanian national Aleksej Besciokov, wanted by USA, arrested by CBI and Kerala Police

in criminal proceeds and was used to facilitate various crimes, including hacking, ran-

somware, terrorism, and drug trafficking, often with substantial impact to US victims,"

It said Besciokov was Garantex's prima-

ry technical administrator and responsible for obtaining and maintaining critical infrastructure of the platform as well as reviewing and approving transactions. The indictment documents cited by the

Secret Service said Besciokov is charged with one count of conspiracy to commit money laundering, which carries a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison.

He is also charged with one count of conspiracy to violate the International Economic Emergency Powers Act—which also carries a maximum sentence of 20 years in person—and with conspiracy to operate an unlicensed money-transmitting business, which carries a maximum sentence of five

"On a request submitted by the USA, the Ministry of External Affairs, acting under the Extradition Act, 1962, got issued a provisional arrest warrant on March 10, 2025 against the subject from ACJM Patiala House Court in Delhi. The IPCU, CBI coordinated with Kerala Police for the arrest of fugitive criminal Aleksej Besciokov. The subject would be produced before the Patiala House Court by the Kerala Police," CBI spokesperson said in a statement. He is wanted for facing trial before the United States District Court for the Eastern District Court of Virginia, it said. The US Secret Service executed a seizure order on March 6 authorised by a judge in the Eastern District of Virginia against three website domain names used to support Garantex's operations to prevent these sites from being used for money laundering and additional crimes

### **Defence Ministry inks contract with BEL**

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

n effort to strengthen indigenous defence capabilities of the country, Ministry of Defence on Wednesday here inked a capital acquisition contract with Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), Ghaziabad for the procurement of Lowlevel Transportable Radar, LLTR (Ashwini) at a cost of ₹2,906 Crore.

The radar is indigenously designed and developed by Electronics and Radar Development Establishment, Defence Research and Development Organisation(DRDO).

The contract was signed in the presence of Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh, the ministry said.

The LLTR (Ashwini) is an active electronically scanned phased array radar

The contract was signed in the presence of Defence Secretary **Rajesh Kumar Singh** 

based on state-of-the-art solid state technology. The radar is capable of tracking aerial targets from high-speed fighter aircraft to slow moving targets such as Unmanned Aerial Vehicles and

Its acquisition will significantly enhance the operational preparedness of the Indian Air Force.

The programme is a major step towards achieving self-reliance in defence manufacturing by reducing dependency on Foreign Origin Equipment Manufacturers besides acting as a catalyst for the development of defence industrial ecosystem in the country.

### **BJP loses Manesar Municipal Corporation polls**

PARVESH SHARMA ■ Gurugram

¬he results of the Manesar Municipal Corporation (MMC) were interestingly shocking for the ruling Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP) after the party's mayor candidate and 13 Councillor candidates failed to secure their victory in the civic polls.

The party also failed to get the necessary majority number out of 20 wards of MMC. This was the first MC election in the Manesar area after the formation of the Manesar Corporation.

The saffron party mayor candidate, Sunder Lal Yadav, who was very confident of his victory, was defeated by an independent candidate, Dr. Inderjeet Yadav, wife of Rakesh Yadav, who was claimed by the BJP party as a gangster. MMC's newly elected mayor, Dr.

Inderjeet Yadav, grabbed 26,393 votes, while BJP's Sunder Lal Yadav received 24,100 total votes.

He was defeated with a margin of 2,293 votes. Congress mayor candidate Neeraj Yadav got 5,134 votes, and independent candidate Vijay Singh got 9,163 votes. The newly elected Manesar mayor had asked for a ticket from BJP, but instead, BJP gave the ticket to Sundarlal Yadav. The party also failed to get the necessary majority number out of 20 wards of MMC.

### Stalin using three-language formula as eyewash: AIADMK

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New Delhi

IADMK MP M Thambidurai on Mednesday attackeu ranni runn Chief Minister MK Stalin over the new education policy row, saying if he is sincere about the two-language formula, he should break alliance with the Congress which first introduced teaching three languages.

The Rajya Sabha MP reiterated that his party is also against the three-language formula but accused Stalin of using the issue as an "eyewash" ahead of Assembly elections in the state due next year.

"As far as AIDAMK, we are in favour of the two-language formula. This is a longstanding issue... We are not for English but for Tamil to become official language. We won't accept imposition of Hindi and the Congress is the root cause for all the issues because the three-language formula was introduced by the Congress only," he told PTI Videos in the Parliament complex.

"If Stalin is sincere about the two-language formula and the state's interest, he has to come out from the Congress' alliance. Otherwise, he is only bringing

these issues because elections are coming. "His protest against the three-language formula is just an eyewash because people are against him, nobody likes him. Family domination is there, the cadre is not happy, the public is not happy, liquor issue raids are going on... He is going to face the same fate as Arvind Kejriwal, so to hide



these issues he is playing up the two-language formula," he added.

The Tamil Nadu government and the Centre have been at loggerheads over the implementation of the new National Education Policy and the three-language formula proposed in the policy. Tamil Nadu's refusal to implement key aspects of NEP 2020, particularly the three-language formula, has resulted in the Centre withholding Rs 573 crore in central education assistance under the Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). According to policy rules, states must comply with NEP guidelines to receive SSA funding, of which 60 per cent is provided by the Centre to states like Tamil Nadu. Under the PM SHRI scheme, the state concerned has to sign an MoU with the central government that it would implement the NEP 2020 and in return the Centre provides funds.

### No tribal to be displaced: Oram

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

↑here will be no environmental impact and no tribal will be displaced due to the Great Nicobar project, Tribal Affairs Minister Jual Oram said in the Rajya Sabha while asserting that the project is important for the country owing to its strategic location.

Oram said this while replying to supplementaries during the question hour after several opposition members raised objections to the minister not giving a written reply to the question on tribals who are expected to be relocated as part of the project.

He said China is sitting in Hambantota (Sri Lanka) while noting that "why should India leave our land". "This project is very important

socio-economically and commercially in the interest of the country. We are merely 40 kms away from the sea route. That is why we cannot leave this," the minister said.

TMC member Saket Gokhale and Congress' Jairam Ramesh asked why the minister has not replied to the question. Gokhale had asked on the action taken on concerns raised by the National Green Tribunal (NGT) and the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) over effect of environmental and forest clearances granted for the Great Nicobar project on local tribal communities. Gokhale also said there are only 229 members

Due to this project, no one will be harmed or will suffer any harm, I assure you: Tribal **Affairs Minister** 

of the Shompen tribe living in the

Oram said after the Tsunami struck the island, because of low-lying area, several tribals had shifted out.

A high-powered committee has been formed after the NGT decision and work is being carried out as per NGT orders, he informed the House.

Oram said he has personally as a tribal minister met the Shompen, Jarawa, Andamanese and Great Andamanese, and held dialogue with them. "Due to this project, no one will be harmed or will suffer any harm, I

assure you," the minister said. "No one is being displaced. Only 7.144 square kms of tribal reserve land will be used and no one is being displaced due to the project. The gram sabha has also passed the project. Hence the objection is misplaced. The issue is pending with the high court," the minister told the House.

Oram said on August 11, 2016, the department of border management, Ministry of Home Affairs, and seven other ministries held ameeting and decided to undertake the project since this is at a very strategic point on the southern side and is near the interna-

### **VP Dhankhar** discharged from AIIMS

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

**7**ice-President Jagdeep Dhankar was discharged from AIIMS-Delhi on Wednesday after making a satisfactory recovery, the premier hospital said.

He has been advised to take adequate rest for the next few days. Dhankhar was admitted to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) on March 9 following cardiac-related ailments, it said in a statement.

"After receiving necessary care from the medical team at AIIMS, he made a satisfactory recovery and was discharged on March 12," AIIMS-

In a social media post, Dhankhar thanked the medical team of the AIIMS. "Deeply appreciate the exemplary care and professionalism of the medical team at AIIMS, New Delhi, from my admission on March 9 to discharge on March 12.

Their dedication and meticulous attention ensured a smooth recovery,"

"Grateful for the concern and good wishes from well-wishers across India and beyond. Your thoughtful gestures have been truly heartening," the Vice-President added in the post.

# Widows of Vrindavan unveil a kaleidoscope of hope

**BISWAJEET BANERJEE** ■ Mathura

n a heartwarming display of resilience and change, widows in Vrindavan once again broke societal norms by celebrating Holi at the historic Gopinath Temple on Wednesday.

Defying centuries-old traditions that once kept them in isolation, hundreds of widows drenched themselves in colours, danced to Krishna bhajans, and embraced the festival with flower petals and gulal.

Just a decade ago, such a celebration was unthinkable. Widows in Vrindavan, often abandoned by their families, were considered inauspicious and barred from participating in social and religious festivities. However, change has been sweeping through these sacred lanes, and this Holi, clad in their signature white sarees, these women reclaimed their space in society.

The celebration, organised by Sulabh International, stood as a testament to their journey towards dignity and inclusion. The tradition of Holi for widows began in 2013, initiated by Dr Bindeshwar Pathak, the late social reformer and founder of Sulabh International. His mission was to challenge deeply rooted prejudices and restore joy to the lives of these marginalised women.

Carrying forward his vision, Sulabh International President Kumar Dilip reaffirmed his organisation's commitment to widow welfare. "This celebration reflects the progress we've made in reshaping societal perceptions. Widows actively participating in Holi signals growing social acceptance. At Sulabh, we will continue working towards ensuring they live with dignity, joy, and hope," he said.

The transformation of Vrindavan's widows began in 2012, when the Supreme





Court of India intervened and tasked Sulabh International with their welfare. Over the years, these women have gained access to improved living conditions, financial aid, and social support, breaking free from a cycle of neglect.

India has a long history of advocating for widow rights. In the 19th century, Raja Ram Mohan Roy led the fight to abolish sati, while Pt Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar campaigned for widows' right to remarry. Inspired by this legacy, Dr Pathak dedicated his life to eradicating the stigma attached to widowhood.

Today, Vrindavan's Holi is more than just a festival-it is a symbol of empowerment, a beacon of hope for thousands of widows seeking a life of dignity.

As the colors of Holi brighten their world year after year, the dream of a more inclusive society moves closer to reality.

### How UP youths were lured to Myanmar with fake IT jobs

**BISWAJEET BANERJEE** Lucknow

hen Ankit Sharma (name changed) received a job offer for an AI analyst role in Myanmar, he thought his luck had finally turned. The 26-year-old engineering graduate from Lucknow had been job hunting for months when he stumbled upon a lucrative opportunity through a recruiter on LinkedIn. The salary package—₹70,000 per monthseemed too good to ignore. Within weeks, he and several others were flown to Bangkok, only to realise they had walked into a trap.

As many as 266 Indians, who have been victims of fake job offers in Myanmar and Thailand, were repatriated on Tuesday, the External Affairs Ministry said in a statement. This was in addition to 283 Indian nationals who were repatriated on Monday.

"The moment we crossed into Myanmar, everything changed," Ankit recalled, his voice still shaking. "They took our passports and phones, locked us in a building, and told us we worked for them now. There was no way out."

Instead of coding or working on AI projects, the recruits were forced into cyber fraud. They were made to create fake Instagram and Facebook profiles, using stolen photos of young women to lure unsuspecting Americans.

Once a victim showed interest, they had to extract their WhatsApp numbers and pass them on to their handlers. The information was then sold to Chinese cybercriminals, who ran large-scale online

For those who resisted, punishment was swift and brutal. Some were starved for days; others were beaten. When Rahul Verma, a 28-year-old MBA graduate from Kanpur, refused to comply, he was electrocuted. "They tied wires to my fingers and ceal identity of victims)

shocked me until I begged them to stop," he said, holding up his trembling hands. "They told me-work, or die."

Escape seemed impossible. Their captors controlled every aspect of their livesfood, sleep, even bathroom breaks. When they asked about returning to India, they were laughed at. "You belong to us now," one of the guards sneered at them.

But hope came in the form of a smuggled message. One of the captives managed to send out an SOS to Indian security agencies. Soon, a covert operation was set in motion. In a daring rescue mission, 21 young Indians were extracted and brought back home-just in time for Holi.

As they landed in Lucknow, some fell to their knees, kissing the ground. Others simply broke down in tears. "I thought I'd never see my mother again," whispered 24year-old Rohan Das, who had been promised a cybersecurity iob.

Back home, their families had spent sleepless nights, unaware of their children's ordeal. Ankit's mother, Sunita Sharma, sobbed as she embraced him. "I prayed every day for his return," she said. "Never again will I let him go abroad without checking everything a hundred times."

Officials warn that these cybercrime syndicates are expanding, targeting job seekers through professional networking sites and social media. Many victims were promised salaries between ₹30,000 and ₹70,000 but were paid only ₹24,000if they were paid at all.

The rescued youths, once hopeful professionals, are now grappling with the trauma of their captivity. But for now, they are home. And as they celebrate Holi with their families, they have only one message for others: "If an overseas job sounds too good to be true, it probably is."

(All the names have been changed to con-

# BJP importing fake Hinduism in Bengal: Mamata

**SAUGAR SENGUPTA** Kolkata

pparently betraying nerves over a reported trend of alienation of Hindu votes from her electoral basket, Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Wednesday said that it was not the BJP but she and her Trinamool Congress (TMC), which was destined to protect the Hindu religion.

Banerjee known for her "propagandist sympathy" for the minorities on Wednesday slammed state Opposition leader Suvendu Adhikari for "practicing fake Hinduism." Delivering a speech in the Assembly she said how the BJP had imported a "fake Hinduism" in Bengal and disturbed its communal harmony.

"Your imported Hindu dharma is not supported by the Vedas or the sages. How can you deny the rights of Muslims as citizens? This is nothing but a fraud. You are importing fake Hinduism," Banerjee said adding it was she who would protect Hinduism and not the BJP leaders like Adhikari. "I have the right to protect Hindu dharma. We will protect Hindu religion, but not the one that you preach.

Hindu religion is inclusive, liberal and lenient. Please don't play the Hindu card," Banerjee said.

"Do not engage in deceit in the name of religion. I condemn those who divide people based on religion. They speak of Hindus and Muslims but ignore the true message of humanity," the Chief Minister said. Earlier she had asked the TMC cadres in a party organisational meeting to remain vigilant "against efforts being made by some mischievous elements to stoke communal problem and riots in the State for narrow political gains."

She said that the BJP had been trying to play the Hindu card for years to come to power but the people of Bengal had repeatedly rejected them and they would reject them once again as Bengal being was a politically matured State and traditionally secular.

On Wednesday, Banerjee was referring to a statement made by Adhikari who on Tuesday said that the "Hindus will oust Mamata Banerjee from power," and that when BJP would come to power in 2026 it would ensure that the Muslim MLAs were thrown out of the House.

### Amit Shah to visit Mizoram on March 15

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA Aizawl

nion Home Minister Amit Shah will visit Mizoram on March 15 to attend a function for shifting of Assam Rifles establishments from Aizawl to Zokhawsang, around 15 km from the state capital, an official said on Wednesday.

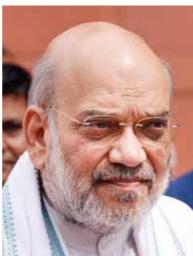
Shah, who will embark on a three-day tour of Assam from March 14 to March 16, will pay a day-long visit to Mizoram on March 15 to attend the function.

He will return to Guwahati on the same  $\,$ day after attending the function, the offi-

During his visit to Assam, Shah is scheduled to attend multiple programmes, including the annual conference of the All Bodo Students' Union (ABSU), he said.

The Mizoram government and Assam Rifles had signed a formal agreement on October 23 last year in New Delhi for relocating the paramilitary force's establishments from the heart of Aizawl to the designated battalion complex at Zokhawsang.

The agreement will come into effect in



Union Home Minister Amit Shah

April this year and the country's oldest paramilitary force will vacate its main barrack complex, AR Ground or Lammual, unit hospital, Loch House, quarters guard and other establishments and lands in different parts of the state capital and shift those to Zokhawsang, officials said.

As per the agreement, Assam Rifles will retain its 23 Sector Headquarters, Mizoram Range in Aizawl's Khatla neighbourhood (95.88 acres) and DIG residence near Raj Bhavan at Tuikhuahtlang area (0.85 acre), they said.

The lands and buildings vacated by the AR will be reserved for public use as per the Restriction of Use of Transferred Land Act, 2022, they said. The demand for relocation of AR bases from the heart of Aizawl to Zokhawsang was first raised by the erstwhile Mizo National Front (MNF) government headed by former chief minister Laldenga in 1988 after the paramilitary force allegedly killed 11 civilians in a violent clash.

In February 2019, the Union Home Ministry had directed the paramilitary force to shift its bases to Zokhawsang by May 31 of that year. However, the relocation was delayed after Assam Rifles alleged that certain infrastructure issues were yet to be resolved.

The Zokhawsang complex was inaugurated by Shah in April, 2023.

Opposition leader Suvendu Adhikari with "physical consequences" hours after the latter vowed to throw the Muslim MLAs out of the state Assembly if the BJP came to power in 2026 state elections. While the police administration

maintained a patent indifference a Congress leader and former MLA Ali Imran Ramz on Wednesday registered a police complaint against Adhikari for trying to fan communal disturbance in the State.TMC MLA from Murshidabad Humayun Kabir gave Adhikari a "72 hours ultimatum to withdraw his statements and apologise to the Muslim legislators for his communal and insulting remarks towards the Muslim community or else all the 42 MLAs of my community will assemble outside his chamber inside the Assembly and make him see consequences." When asked whether he was taking responsibility of his statements Kabir said, "Suvendu Adhikari has crossed his limits. He has lowered the status of the Leader of Opposition by saying that he will throw out the Muslim MLAs from the State Assembly if the BJP comes to power in Bengal. If he comes to beat us are we expected to throw sweetmeat at him. We will see how many central forces can protect him." Another veteran leader and senior Minister Siddiqulla Chowdhury too threatened to break Adhikari's legs if he engaged in any misadventure. "Suvendu Adhikari has spoken in most undignified way against the Muslims. He has defied the Constitution as well as the penal laws and has threatened to throw out the Muslim MLAs from the Assembly. But before he does so his legs will be broken."

Adhikari immediately retorted at the alleged "audacity" of the TMC's minority MLAs saying that he would take them on alone inside the Assembly premises. "I will ask for no additional security, keep coming to the House alone and go to my office with my PA and secretary. Let us see what they can do. But let me remind if anything happens to me Speaker Biman Banerjee will

be held responsible for that. Things took an ugly turn on Tuesday evening when Adhikari leading a bevy of BJP MLAs - that had walked out of the State Assembly after being denied opportunity by the Speaker to speak on alleged attacks on Hindu temples and establishments in some areas of the State - said that the "BJP will come to power in 2026 defeating Mamata Banerjee, and after we come to power in the State we will toss the Muslim MLAs out of this Assembly." He said, "how in the last four to five days, there have been incidents of attacks on Hindu temples and idols vandalised and set on fire in a few areas in Tamluk constituency without a single arrest being made," and how "in as Naoda area in Murshidabad district houses and shop belonging to the Hindus were set on fire and looted."

He also complained that Birbhum Police had asked people to finish playing Basanta Utsav in Santiniketan by 11 am as it would be Friday.

# CM Yogi defends Sambhal's rich history

**BISWAJEET BANERJEE** Lucknow

mid the ongoing controversy surrounding a mosque in Sambhal, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Wednesday asserted that forcibly altering history and suppressing faith is unacceptable. Referring to Sambhal's ancient significance, he claimed that the site predates Islam and once housed a Vishnu temple, which was destroyed in 1526.

"Sambhal has been mentioned in scriptures that are over 5,000 years old, with references to Lord Vishnu's future incarnation. Islam emerged only 1,400 years ago, meaning this history predates it by at least 2,000 years," Yogi stated. He further claimed that archaeological findings have uncovered 18 pilgrimage sites in the area. Speaking at Manthan: Kumbh and

Beyond, an event organised by the RSSlinked weekly Organiser in Lucknow, Adityanath compared the destruction of the Vishnu temple in 1526 to the demolition of the Ram temple in Ayodhya in 1528, emphasising that both incidents were carried out by the same forces.

Tensions in Sambhal have been high since last November following a courtordered survey of a mosque believed by some to have been built over a demolished temple. The Chief Minister strongly criticised those who admire Aurangzeb, calling it a "mental distortion." Citing historical accounts, he noted that Aurangzeb imprisoned his own father, denied him water, and killed his brother. Taking a jibe at Aurangzeb's supporters, he remarked, "If you admire him so much, name your children after him and be ready to suffer his cruelty." CM Yogi also launched a scathing attack on the opposition, accusing past governments of mishandling the Kumbh



Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath

Mela. He recalled several tragedies, including the 1954 Kumbh stampede that claimed over 1,000 lives and the 2013 mishaps under Congress and Samajwadi Party rule, which he described as chaotic and mismanaged.

He pointed out that in 2013, the then Prime Minister of Mauritius was moved to tears by the unsanitary conditions at Sangam, "Past governments turned Kumbh into a hub of filth and disorder, and today, these same people question our 'Swachh

Mahakumbh," he remarked. Highlighting the transformation of Kumbh under the BJP government, Adityanath stated that under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership in 2019, the event was rebranded to focus on cleanliness, security, and technology. He praised initiatives like the Digital Mahakumbh, which helped reunite 54,000 lost individuals through a digital lost-and-

Additionally, he highlighted the construction of 1.5 Lakh toilets linked with QR codes and the introduction of a multilingual mobile app to assist pilgrims Adityanath stated that while the initial estimate for attendees was 40 Crore, the final count exceeded 66 Crore 30 Lakh.

Discussing the 2025 Maha Kumbh, he acknowledged an unfortunate incident during Mauni Amavasya (January 28-30), when a massive crowd of over 10 Crore devotees led to injuries and fatalities. He praised the administration's swift response, which involved coordinating with saints and Akhadas to postpone the Amrit Snan until noon for public safety.

"The saints cooperated without disrupting tradition, allowing bathing to resume smoothly after 2 pm.

This showcases the devotion and unity within Sanatan Dharma," Adityanath stated, lauding the religious leaders for ensuring the event's success.

### Soldier injured in cross-LOC firing which the soldier received a bullet injury

**MOHIT KANDHARI** Jammu

soldier of the Indian Army deployed along the line of control in the Nowshera sector of Rajouri was hit by a stray bullet fired from across the border after a loud mysterious blast rocked the forward area near Kalsiyan early Wednesday morning.

This is the first incident of cross-border

firing in the region after the Brigade commander's level Flag meeting, which took place near Chakan-da-bagh in Poonch, on February 21. According to official sources, the injured

soldier was airlifted to the Udhampur based Command hospital for advanced medical treatment.

Till late evening, no official statement was issued about the circumstances under

on the forward post. Local reports also claimed that an

explosion was also reported along the zero line in the area around 6 am, followed by three rounds of gunfire. However, there was no immediate

report of any casualty in the blast, the cause of which is not known immediately, the official sources said.

### Allahabad HC directs painting, lighting of Sambhal Jama Masjid

**BISWAJEET BANERJEE** Lucknow

n a significant ruling, the Allahabad High Court has directed the ▲ Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) to undertake the painting and illumination of the historic Jama Masjid in Sambhal during the holy month of Ramadan.

The court has given ASI a strict deadline of one week to complete the restora-

The decision came during a hearing on Wednesday, following a petition that sought renovation and upkeep of the mosque premises. Earlier, on March 11, the court had

deferred the matter to March 12 after ASI submitted an inspection report. The report stated that while the mosque did not require repainting, the

premises had accumulated dirt and over-

grown bushes. ASI also provided photographic evidence supporting its assess-In response, the court had earlier ordered ASI to carry out a thorough cleaning of the mosque, including the removal of wild vegetation. Both the Muslim and Hindu sides were given time to file their objections and affidavits regarding the ASI report. After hearing

initially reserved its judgment until However, in the proceedings on Wednesday, the court ruled in favour of the petitioners, allowing the mosque to be repainted and illuminated for

arguments from both sides, the court had

Ramadan. The issue of the Jama Masjid's maintenance has been a contentious one, particularly since November 24, 2024, when a survey of the mosque triggered communal tensions and unrest in the area. Since then, additional police forces have been deployed around the site, with security personnel maintaining a close watch to prevent any disturbances. The court's decision is expected to alleviate local concerns and ensure that the religious site is well-maintained ahead of the sacred month of Ramadan. Meanwhile, the district administration

in Sambhal has taken significant security measures for the upcoming Holi cel-

Given past incidents of communal ten-

sion, authorities have decided to cover mosques located along the route of the Chaupai (religious procession) with tar-

paulin sheets to avoid any controversy. According to Additional Superintendent of Police (ASP) Shachandra, a total of 10 mosques, including the Jama Masjid, will be temporarily covered with plastic sheets or tarpaulin in consultation with both Hindu and Muslim community leaders.

The decision has been taken with mutual consent to maintain communal harmony during the festivities.

Sambhal District Magistrate Rajendra Pensia stated that extensive security arrangements have been put in place to ensure peace during the celebrations.

He highlighted that multiple rounds of peace committee meetings have been held, and 27 Quick Response Teams (QRTs) have been deployed in sensitive

The situation remains completely peaceful. We have made elaborate security arrangements, and agencies are fully prepared

– RAJENDRA PENSIA, DM SAMBHAL

The district administration has divided the city into six zones and 29 sectors, with magistrates and senior police officers assigned to each section. Provincial Armed Constabulary (PAC)

battalions have been stationed in key areas as part of a three-tier security plan. To enhance surveillance, 250 CCTV cameras have already been installed, with an additional 100-150 cameras set up for real-time monitoring. Drone surveillance will also be conducted to maintain law and order during the festival. Authorities have instructed sector magistrates to patrol their designated areas actively and report any suspicious activities. "At present, the situation remains completely peaceful. We have made elaborate security arrangements, and law enforcement agencies are fully prepared to handle any situation," said DM Pensia.

With these measures in place, the administration hopes to ensure a smooth and peaceful celebration of Holi while maintaining communal harmony in

### **Bengal LoP** threatens violence against **Muslim MLAs**

**SAUGAR SENGUPTA** ■ Kolkata

Rank communal and inflammatory invectives hitherto unknown to the Bengali society were hurled and traded with impunity even as

senior Trinamool Congress (TMC) ministers and legislators threatened





### Mark Carney to take on Voldemort

A known Trump critic. Mark Carnev replaces Justin Trudeau as Canada's Prime Minister

a historic political shift, Mark Carney has been announced as the next leader of the Liberal Party and the 24th Prime Minister of Canada, succeeding Justin Trudeau. Carney won the leadership race decisively, securing 131,674 votes, approximately 85.9 per cent of the ballots. His transition into office marks a significant turning point for the Liberal Party and Canada's future, particularly in its economic policies and international relations. Carney brings a wealth of economic expertise to the position, having previously served as the Governor of both the Bank of Canada (2008-2013) and the Bank of England (2013-2020). He is widely credited with steering Canada through the 2008 financial crisis, earning him a reputation as a pragmatic and reliable leader. His experience on the global financial stage, positions him as a leader with strong economic acumen. A former Goldman Sachs executive, Carney has long been seen as a steady hand in times of crisis, making him an ideal choice to ensure stability and economic resilience in the face of global uncertainties.

One of Carney's most immediate and critical challenges will be navigating Canada's relationship with the United States, particularly with former President Donald Trump returning to power. Trump's previous tenure was marked by a disdainful approach toward Canada, imposing tariffs on steel and aluminum, challenging trade agreements, and openly criticising the country's economic policies. In his second term, Trump has become even more vitriolic towards Canada. Carney's economic background makes him suited to address Trump's aggressive trade tactics. Having managed financial stability through turbulent times, he is likely to adopt a measured yet firm approach in negotiations. His experience in global financial leadership suggests he will prioritise economic diplomacy, leveraging Canada's trade alliances, including the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) and the Canada-European Union trade deal, to counterbalance US pressure.

However, Carney's personal history with Trump presents an interesting dynamic. In the past, he has been openly critical of Trump's economic policies and even likened him to Voldemort, the infamous antagonist from Harry Potter. While this past remark may resurface in political discourse, Carney is expected to adopt a professional stance, emphasising economic pragmatism over political rhetoric a stark departure from his predecessor.

Carney's leadership is expected to focus on economic stability, climate change initiatives, and maintaining Canada's social programs. Given his strong advocacy for sustainable finance, his administration may prioritise green investments, aligning Canada's economic policies with global climate commitments. Trade diversification will be another key aspect of his strategy. To mitigate the risk of overreliance on the US market, Carney may seek to strengthen economic ties with Europe, Asia, and emerging markets, reducing Canada's vulnerability to American protectionism.

Mark Carney's rise to Canada's highest office brings a shift from Trudeau's leadership style to one deeply rooted in financial expertise and economic strategy. Under Mark Carney's leadership, Indo-Canada relations are expected to take a pragmatic and economically driven turn. He is likely to prioritise trade, investment, and economic collaboration with India. Canada may seek to expand its role in sectors such as technology, clean energy, and natural resources, aligning with India's rapid economic growth. However, political tensions, particularly surrounding issues like Khalistani separatism, could remain a challenge. Carney's diplomatic approach will likely focus on de-escalation and fostering stronger ties through economic partnerships rather than ideological confrontations. His leadership presents an opportunity for renewed negotiations on a long-pending free trade agreement, which could significantly enhance bilateral trade.



# Delhi's bold step towards sustainability

The newly elected Delhi government is setting ambitious goals for environmental sustainability and disaster resilience, with a strong focus on cleaning the Yamuna River, pollution control, and waste management

leaning the Yamuna river, pollution control, garbage management, and addressing climate and disaster resilience to ensure sustainable development are among the top priorities of the newly elected Delhi government. However, these ambitious goals can only be achieved with active community participation. Raising awareness and fostering public engagement are crucial to creating a more sustainable and disaster-resilient future. In this context, a Centre for Disaster Risk Management and Environmental Sustainability, known as "Yamuna- Apda evam Jalvayu Parivartan Nyunikaran Adhisthan (YAJNA)" meaning- Yamuna -Institute for Disaster and Climate Change Mitigation, is proposed. This centre will serve as a hub for education, collaboration, and action, setting an example for other states to

Delhi, the national capital of India, faces a complex web of hazards. From earthquakes and floods to human-induced crises such as severe air and water pollution, road accidents, and inefficient waste management, the city's vulnerabilities are escalating. Rapid urbanisation and a dense population further compound these risks, leading to widespread environmental degradation and public health crises. Despite existing efforts by multiple agencies, a significant gap remains in public engagement, coordination, and proactive action. A dedicated awareness centre like Yajna will bridge this gap by equipping citizens with the knowledge and tools to become active participants in resilience-

Disaster management museums cum knowledge centres worldwide have demonstrated their potential to drive awareness and preparedness. The Kobe Earthquake Memorial Museum in Japan and the Tsunami Memorial Museum in Thailand have played pivotal roles in educating the public on natural and human-induced hazards and mitigating the risk with better response strategies. In India, the Earthquake Museum in Bhuj, Gujarat, serves as a model for enhancing public understanding of seismic risks. Inspired by these global and national examples, the proposed centre in Delhi will not only focus on disaster risk reduction but also integrate environmental conservation, climate change mitigation, and pollution control efforts, with a special emphasis on cleaning the Yamuna River.

Yamuna, the lifeline of Delhi, has been battling severe pollution for decades. Industrial waste, untreated sewage, and rampant encroachments have turned this once-pris-

tine river into a toxic water body. The newly elected government has placed Yamuna's rejuvenation at the forefront of its agenda, recognising that a clean river is fundamental to public health, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable urban development. However, government initiatives alone cannot restore the Yamuna. Without widespread ommunity participation, even the most well-intentioned policies will fall short. The

proposed centre will be crucial in mobilis-

ing citizens, educating them about the

importance of river conservation, and pro-

viding actionable solutions for sustainable

water management. Environmental sustainability and disaster resilience are deeply interconnected. Poor vaste management contributes to urban flooding, air pollution exacerbates respiratory diseases, and deforestation heightens vulnerability to climate-induced disasters. The centre will function as a convergence point where experts, policymakers, students, and local communities come together to find innovative and practical solutions. Through interactive exhibitions, hands-on training, and community-driven campaigns, the centre will empower people to adopt sustainable practices in their daily lives. It will promote raste segregation, composting, and recycling, significantly reducing Delhi's landfill burden. Additionally, it will advocate for green energy solutions, urban afforestation, and pollution control measures, aligning with India's commitments under the Paris Agreement and the Sendai Framework for

Disaster Risk Reduction.

Public engagement will be at the heart of this initiative. Schools, colleges, resident welfare associations, and corporate sectors will be actively involved in awareness campaigns, training sessions, and workshops. The younger generation, in particular, will be encouraged to take ownership of environ-

mental stewardship, ensuring long-term impact. By fostering a culture of responsibility and collective action, the centre will create a ripple effect, inspiring similar initiatives in other cities Beyond its educa-

tional role, the centre will also serve as a research and policy hub, providing sci-

entific insights and data-driven recommendations to strengthen urban resilience. It will facilitate collaboration between various government agencies, research institutions, and civil society organisations to develop integrated strategies for disaster preparedness and environmental sustainability. With real-time monitoring of air and water quality, the centre will enable authorities to take proactive measures in pollution control and disaster risk reduction.

This initiative is not just about creating another institution-it is about transforming

Delhi into a model city for resilience and sustainability. By integrating disaster risk reduction with environmental conservation, the centre will facilitate enhancing public safety, improve air and water quality, and promote sustainable urban planning. The direct economic benefits in the form of revenue will be significant as well. Similar to the Bhuj Earthquake Museum, which has become a successful revenue-generating centre, YAJNA is expected to attract students, researchers, policymakers, and industry professionals from across the country and beyond. Educational programs, training courses, and consultancy services will generate revenue, ensuring the centre's long-term viabil-

As Delhi embarks on a new chapter under the leadership of the newly elected government, the time to act is now. The commitment to cleaning the Yamuna, controlling pollution, managing waste effectively, and building climate resilience must be translated into concrete actions. This initiative offers a comprehensive and practical roadmap to achieve these goals. By bringing together the government, experts, and citizens, the centre will ensure that resilience and sustainability become embedded in Delhi's development journey. A resilient Delhi is not just a necessity-it is a responsibility we owe to future generations.

(The writer is former executive director, National

# The delicate strength of relationships



elationships are beautiful. However, I often view them through the lenses of the boundaries deeply ingrained during childhood and over the decades. I fail to grasp that human relationships are pure and unadulterated emotions. They cannot follow any scientific formulae. I also need to curb my tendency to judge the raw emotions and reactions of others solely based on my

I am the oldest child of my generation in the entire family. A lesson deeply ingrained into my psyche by my elders was that I needed to be mindful of the youngsters and guests came first. I discharged my responsibilities with the utmost care till I had my first setback in my early teens. A much younger cousin was playing with my sister. Like all children, they also started fighting for the same toy. It fell upon me to mediate. My sister did not say anything but burst into tears when I tried to explain that it was our responsibility to take care of the younger guest. Her tears taught me an important lesson. We have tried hard not to burden our daughters with unnecessary baggage.

A few days into my first posting in the railways, I was asked to chair the farewell meeting of a retiring staff. I was the seniormost official in the gathering at the relatively young age of 25. I was taken aback when I was asked



to speak a few words. Eloquence is not my engineer has made me too rational and logical. I often find brooding, over a long drawn flowery speech. decades later. I compared the professional journey of everyone from the time of joining till retirement to the life of a rose and the fragrance that it spreads till the end. I also compared the new life that the staff would embark upon from the next day to the blooming of a new flower. The staff had tears of gratitude in his eyes. The supervisors applauded me for words well said. It was Bengal

where words spoken from the heart are also received with utmost sincerity. I had developed an instant connection and lasting relationships with them. They recognised me as a sensitive soul they could uninhibitedly approach for help. I may not always have been of much assistance, but it was enough for the person to unburden.

A young neighbour told me that she finds me unduly sensitive to certain situations. She said that she, and probably many more, look up to me for guidance. She went on to mention that I need to curb my impulsive reactions. My response was that I am an extremely sensitive and emotional person, and I have spent a lifetime worrying about others. It is now time for me to be myself. I rather flippantly concluded, "This is what I am."

This is a lesson I sometimes forget when imparting my words of wisdom to those dear to me. A long time as an

strong suit. I prefer brevity, or even silent myself at the receiving end when I abruptly interrupt my wife as she starts talking about something bothering her, I remember my impromptu words even four a situation that I may feel is beyond her control. I conveniently forget my learnings over a lifetime, till she reminds me that she is aware of the impossibility of the situation. She wants me to let her vent her frustrations. I realise there is a lot I need to work on.

In author Mignon G Eberhart's words, "The complexity of human relationships is never simple to follow; it is like intricate lacework, but lacework made of steel."

To conclude, relationships are intricate, shaped by personal experiences, emotions, and deep-seated values. My journey has been one of constant learning—understanding that relationships cannot be governed by rigid logic but by sensitivity and empathy. From childhood lessons of responsibility to professional experiences that connected me with people on a deeper level, I have realised that emotions must be acknowledged, not judged.

Over the years, I have also recognised my own need to evolve. While my rationality has served me well, it sometimes overshadows the simple act of listening. As my wife often reminds me that not every problem requires a solution—sometimes, people just need to be heard. As I continue to navigate relationships, I strive to embrace emotions without overanalysing them.

(The author is an electrical engineer with the Indian Railways and conducts classes in creative writing. Views expressed are personal)

# Letters to the Editor

### **From Goddesses to Subjugation**

Madam — The editorial 'Beyond the rhetoric' should sensitise all the concerned. History presents the picture of women placed in high esteem and treated with dignity and honour. Even where men were ruling women were guiding them in the fields of diplomacy, finance and social issues. We have many women rulers who have been envied by others for their value, popularity they enjoyed, ability to rule to the satisfaction of all their subjects. It is even said that before the male God's came in the scene it was Goddesses who were actually worshiped.

However, in due course of time they have yielded to the dominance of men. Even today the society worships goddesses but keeps women in a tamed status. In spite of their fine and valuable contributions they should not learn and recite Vedas

But women are springing up today proving themselves to be the best in every field. There are scenes of rape and denial their due rights also, which are the fallouts of the impulsive rulers' who still view the women gender as a subjugated section. Some sections justify this by calling them the dictum of the Gods.

If the government is really serious it can implement the deterrent provisions to stop the spate of rapes. Women are paraded nude in public, raped and murder in Manipur.

AG RAJMOHAN | ANANTAPUR

### **India Fights Cancer**

Madam—It is with reference to the news "BJP to open 200 day care cancer centres this year: Nadda". Central government's proposal of opening 200 day cancer centres in the country in 2025- 26 to provide basic facilities to cancer patients is a welcome move. It has also been planned to establish such centres in all districts in the next three years to treat cancer patients. In India, the number of cancer patients is rising and the country needs to improve access to cancer care. It is estimated that one in nine persons in India are likely to develop cancer in their lifetime.

Among the new cases breast, cervix and lung cancer are the most frequently reported. Though India has some of the most advanced cancer treatment methods and technology, there are still gaps in access and affordability. There are also shortage of cancer care facilities, manpower and training. Early detection, screening, education, health promotion and tobacco control are important to prevent and control cancer. It is estimated that by 2050, there will be an 85 per cent increase in the number of new cancer cases and deaths in the WHO'S South East Asia region. It is unfortunate.

Therefore, there is an urgent need for continued efforts from clinicians, researchers and policy makers to collaborate and find the most effective strategies to serve cancer patients in the best way possible

P VICTOR SELVARAJ | TIRUNELVELI

### **Self-Defence or Self-Reliance?**

Madam —The recent report from the Stockholm Peace Research Institute which highlight the Arm Import by the countries has revealed some of the really interesting facts. The report designate India as the second largest arms importing country after Ukraine, followed by Qatar. Although, the fact is not shocking that India is the major arm importing country, because we had a long history of it. There is no such big problem in such imports, but the shocking part of the story is that India fails to implement its so called state of the art plan of Aatmnirbhar Bharat idea of domestic arm manufacturing.

Whereas, China make a drastic shift of altering its import status. It successfully managed to keep itself out of the top ten importer ranking, paving the way for domestic manufacturing of such critical arms and ammunition in their

Arms are the basic need for self defence for any nation, which no country could ever think to avoid for. It is welcoming that despite India stand at the second position in the arm importing list, the import goes 9.3 per cent down in 2020-2024, compared to the arm trade figures of 2015-19.

In a bid to incline for self defence on our own, it is required that India must start satisfying its arm need on its own. We need to be self reliant for our self defence.

KIRTI WADHAWAN | KANPUR

### **SUPREME COURT MOOTS FOR DISABLED FRIENDLY PRISONS**

nupreme Court had expressed concerns over the plight of disabled prisoners which is against the Disability Act 2016 passed by the Parliament and it is worth mentionable that during that Parliament session there was pandemonium and Disability bill was passed and all parties supported the bill and the Supreme Court said a petition highlighting the trauma and inhumane conditions suffered by Professor G Saibaba and the elderly Stan Swamy raised a "serious" issue about the lack of disabled-friendly accommodation and facilities in prisons across the country

While Stan Swamy had passed away while lodged in jail as an undertrial prisoner, Saibaba had passed away last year a few months after he was acquitted and released from jail. The Supreme Court sought the response of the Central government to a PIL seeking adequate facilities for disabled pris-

The PIL cited the instances of treatment meted out to Professor GN Saibaba and Father Stan Swamy to highlight the severe

neglect of disabled prisoners and lack of disabled-friendly accommodation, washrooms and other facilities in jails.

While Stan Swamy passed away in 2021 while lodged in jail as an undertrial prisoner in the Bhima Koregaon violence case, Saibaba passed away last year a few months after he was acquitted and released from prison. The demise of Professor GN Saibaba, a scholar and human rights activist with disabilities, was directly attributable to his deteriorating health, exacerbated by prolonged incarceration and the inhumane conditions of his detention. Stan Swamy also struggled with disability due to Parkinson's syndrome and died while in prison. He was denied medical treatment and basic support," the petition submitted.

The PIL cited the instances of treatment meted out to Professor GN Saibaba and Father Stan Swamy to highlight the severe neglect of disabled prisoners and lack of disabled-friendly accommodation, washrooms and other facilities in jails.

YASH PAL RALHAN | JALANDHAR

Please send your letter to the letterstopioneer@gmail.com. In not more than 400 words. We appreciate your feedback.

# Logistics is holding back north India's growth

India's industrial landscape is marked by a stark regional imbalance, with western and southern states surging ahead while northern states struggle to keep pace. Without urgent intervention to rationalise freight costs and improve logistics infrastructure, northern states risk falling further behind



ndia's industrial growth narrative presents an alarming regional imbalance that cannot be ignored. While western and southern states like Maharashtra, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Telangana stand as formidable economic powerhouses, their northern counterparts state such as Punjab and Uttar Pradesh remain entrenched in stagnation. This disparity poses a significant threat to our ambition of achieving a 'Viksit Bharat' by 2047. A critical factor driving this divide is logistics. The lack of adequate access to seaports makes manufacturing in northern India prohibitively expensive, crippling competitiveness and driving away crucial investment. If we fail to rationalise freight costs, the industrial sector in landlocked states will perpetually struggle, deepening the economic chasm

### Logistics: A Key Driver of Industrial Inequality

With a coastline stretching 4,316 km, southern and western states possess undeniable locational advantages that enable seamless exports to markets in China, Korea, Taiwan, Japan, and throughout the ASEAN region. Tamil Nadu dominates India's automobile sector, while Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, and Telangana lead in engineering, IT, and textiles. Collectively, these five states account for a staggering 53 per cent of India's total factories, firmly establishing their dominance in industrial growth. Maharashtra's industrial sector has experienced explosive growth, achieving a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 11.77 per cent from FY 2021-22 to 2023-24-the highest in the nation. Tamil Nadu follows closely at 11.63 per cent, with Telangana at 11.47 per cent, Gujarat at 10.2 per cent, and Karnataka at 8.47 per cent. In stark contrast, northern states such as Haryana (7.1 per cent), Punjab (6.78 per cent), and Uttar Pradesh (4.7 per cent) are falling behind, as highlighted by the Economic Survey of these states.

The Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) for 2022-23 further underscores this imbalance. Maharashtra and Gujarat contribute nearly 40 per cent of India's industrial output, while Uttar Pradesh and Punjab generate a mere 8.5 per cent and 2.8 per cent, respectively. The exorbitant cost of transporting goods from landlocked northern states to coastal export hubs severely undermines competitiveness. This issue has dampened overall industrial sentiment, making these states far less attractive for both domestic and foreign direct investment (FDI) compared to their southern and western counterparts.

FDI trends paint a stark picture of this disparity. According to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Maharashtra has emerged as the leading recipient of FDI from FY 2021-22 to 2023-24, attracting ₹5,32,429 Crore-an impressive 30 per cent of total FDI equity inflows. Karnataka follows with ₹3,89,483 Crore (22 per cent) and Gujarat with ₹2,99,624 crore (17 per cent). Together, these three



states command an astounding 69 per cent of India's total FDI, while the remaining states are left with a mere 31 per cent. This clearly illustrates how locational advantages significantly dictate industrial investment.

Export statistics serve as further evidence of this imbalance, with Gujarat and Maharashtra accounting for over 50 per cent of India's total exports, thanks to their robust seaport infrastructures. Without immediate and decisive intervention, this disparity will only continue to widen, threatening the future economic landscape of our nation.

### Seaport-Led Industrialisation: A Global Perspective

Seaports play a critical role in industrialisation. Some countries, like China, have successfully leveraged their coastal regions to expand manufacturing capabilities. In China, industrial hubs are strategically located near ports, minimising logistical costs. In contrast, India's hinterland dry ports and container depots are, on average, 1,400 km away

AS MITTAL

from seaports, leading to significantly higher export and import costs. This distance compounds competition from China, which accounted for nearly 42 per cent of India's textiles and clothing imports, 40 per cent of machinery imports, and 38.4 per cent of electronics imports in 2023-24.

Why Freight Costs Matter The Reserve Bank of India that India's logistics costs

(RBI) reported in 2022 that India's logistics costs are already 14 per cent higher than the global average, disproportionately affecting manufacturers in landlocked northern states that rely on dry ports as critical trade gateways. Manufacturers in these areas face higher freight costs due to longer transit distances to seaports like Mumbai, Mundra, Kandla, and Chennai.

Dependence on road transport is 30-50 per cent

more expensive than rail. The lack of dedicated freight corridors slows transportation efficiency and increases operational expenses. Industries in northern states not only receive raw materials from coastal regions but also send finished products to markets using the same routes.

While dry ports have been established to bridge this gap, they often function merely as booking centres rather than effective logistics solutions. As a result, northern manufacturers face a double freight burden, forcing many to relocate or shut down operations due to unsustainable costs. In contrast, industrial clusters in coastal states benefit from proximity to ports, enhancing their global trade competitiveness and generating employment.

Railway freight initiatives: The Indian Railways has successfully implemented targeted freight subsidies in select sectors. First, A 40 per cent discount is available for loading fly ash. Second, Traditional Empty Flow Directions (TEFD) rebate up to a 20 per cent reduction in costs for freight that moves along underutilised routes. Third, 157 'Kisan Rail'

services transport perishable goods and vegetables. A 50 per cent subsidy on railway freight, funded by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries under the "Operation Greens" scheme, has significantly boosted farm exports of agricultural commodities. Fourth, the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) offers a 20 per cent Transport Incentive (TI) Scheme for finished goods transported via rail or the Inland Waterways Authority of India, from the port nearest to the location of industrial units in the North-Eastern Region (NER) to the buyers' area.

### How freight subsidy could be re-structured

Based on previous initiatives, a targeted Northern States Freight Subsidy Program could be a game changer and might be structured as follows: Subsidised Rail Freight Rates:

1. Offering up to a 30-40 per cent subsidy on goods transported from northern dry ports to major coastal hubs.

2-Expanding Empty Flow Rebates: Extending TEFD rebates to northern states to make backhaul freight more economical.

3-Infrastructure Development: Investing in multimodal logistics parks and dedicated freight corridors in the northern states.

### The Way Forward:

The central government must not overlook its land-locked northern states to achieve inclusive industrial growth. Rail freight subsidies will support micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), attract new investments, and create jobs.

While global trade regulations often scrutinise subsidies, the pricing autonomy of Indian Railways allows for strategic adjustments in freight costs without breaching World Trade Organisation (WTO) rules. By revising freight structures, northern manufacturers can enhance their global competitiveness. If we aspire for a 'Viksit Bharat' (Developed India), it is essential to ensure balanced industrial progress. To conclude, India's industrial growth is marked by stark regional disparities, with southern states while northern states lag behind. A key driver of this imbalance is logistics, as landlocked states face high freight costs that hinder competitiveness and discourage investment.

Proximity to seaports has enabled coastal states to dominate exports, attract foreign direct investment, and develop thriving industrial sectors. To bridge this gap, India must implement a targeted Northern States Freight Subsidy Program, including subsidised rail freight rates, expanded empty flow rebates, and enhanced logistics infrastructure.

(The Author is Vice-Chairman of Sonalika ITL Group, Vice-Chairman of the Punjab Economic Policy and Planning Board, Chairman of ASSOCHAM Northern Region Developmen Council. Views expressed are personal)

# Explore the role of foreign investments for economic stability

India's economic trajectory under Prime Minister Narendra Modi blends rigorous analysis with bold policy moves. The BJP-led government has combined openness to foreign capital — through Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and Foreign Institutional Investment (FII) — with initiatives to boost self-reliance. Economists and policymakers alike recognise foreign investment as a pillar of economic stability, providing critical financing, technology, and market access across sectors. This balanced strategy favours pro-growth reforms while building domestic capacity.

### FDI AND FII: Temporary Boost For Long-Term Self-Reliance

Surging FDI inflows have strengthened India's growth and stability. Annual FDI hit a record \$83.6 Billion in FY2021-22, almost double the \$45 Billion in 2014. This reflects investors' confidence in India's reform agenda. Manufacturing FDI alone jumped 76 per cent in FY2021-22 after initiatives like Make in India, and even post-COVID FDI inflows were 23 per cent higher than pre-pandemic levels, underscoring sustained foreign trust during crises.

FII has been crucial in bolstering India's financial markets and boosting its economy. India has managed to extract maximum advantage out of FII Inflows to improve market liquidity and reinforce a strong balance of payments position. Moreover, the Modi government's economic policies have inspired considerable confidence in the Indian economy among global investors leading to ever-increasing inflows of capital that have further firmed up the Indian economy. Timely and proactive actions taken by policy-makers from targeted liquidity infusions during the 2020 global crisis to automatic stabilisers have mitigated volatility and supported growth

This bolstered economic momentum, with its cadre of dedicated professionals, startups, and thriving industries, has catapulted India to a challenging, productive, and sustainable global positioning of higher foreign investments.

### Transformative Impact Across Key Sectors

Liberalised foreign investment regulations have funnelled significant capital reserves into formative industries including information technology, manufacturing infrastructure, healthcare, agribusiness, and education.

Technology corporations have been top beneficiaries, with the software and hardware sector attracting approximately 25 per cent of all foreign direct investment inflows in fiscal year 2021-2022, underscoring India's emergence as a global technology leader. Manufacturing

industries have gained momentum thanks to both foreign capital and domestic incentives designed to stimulate job creation and output. The innovative Production-Linked Incentive schemes introduced in 2020 have since incentivised ₹1.32 Trillion in new investments while expanding total production value by a staggering ₹10.9 Trillion, generating hundreds of thousands of well-compensated employment opportunities.

### Strategic Reforms Boost Self-Reliance

PM Modi has aligned the overarching policy goals of self-reliance with encouraging foreign investment. Prime Minister Modi has shifted policy to turn self-reliance into both a goal and an opportunity for foreign

investors. Launched in 2020 with a \$20 Trillion stimulus, the Atmanirbhar Bharat mission epitomises India's pursuit for selfreliant growth; more efficient, competitive and resilient economies that welcome foreign participation which can strengthen the domestic base.

Defence manufacturing is a case in point. The

FDI cap on it was raised from 49 per cent to 74 per cent to attract joint ventures and technology transfer. On a broader scale, substantive liberalisation of FDI across all sectors (from coal mining and aviation to insurance and the internet) along with simplifying investment rules has radically improved India's investor-friendly environment. Together with the Make in India initiative, this ensures that foreign investment enters the country in forms that are consistent with national goals and strengthen the industrial foundation.

### **Self-Reliant Growth**

Continuing reforms and overall multi-sector growth should keep India firmly on the map as a global place for investment. Nearly constant inflows from abroad, gains in sectors besides heavy industry, and a market that has been proof of the strength of this strategy.

Consequently, strategic foreign direct investment (FDI) and foreign institutional investors (FII) will continue to play important roles in India's pursuit of balanced development. By keeping up steady government policies and forming international partnerships, India can achieve economic self-reliance. This formula for success will ensure that India is a strong and resilient economic power.

### Conclusion

The challenge of balancing foreign investment with self-reliant economic growth in India has its roots in the socialist Nehruvian policies. Historically, India has oscillated between protectionist policies and open-market reforms. Under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, the government has pursued a dual approach: encouraging Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and Foreign Institutional Investment (FII) while simultaneously strengthening domestic industries. The core issue being tackled is how India can leverage foreign capital for growth without becoming overly dependent.

dent on external funding.

FDI brings in critical capital, technology, and expertise, which boost infrastructure, manufacturing, and technology sectors. Meanwhile, FII helps stabilise financial markets and improve liquidity. However, excessive reliance on foreign investments can lead to economic vulnerabilities, particularly during

India has addressed this issue by implementing structural reforms such as Make in India, Atmanirbhar Bharat, and Production-Linked Incentives (PLI).

These initiatives ensure that foreign investments align with national priorities, fostering job creation, technological advancements, and industrial self-sufficiency. In essence, the problem being analysed is whether India can sustain high economic growth, attract global investments, and enhance self-reliance without compromising financial stability.

India's economic trajectory under Prime Minister Narendra Modi reflects a strategic blend of foreign investment and self-reliance.

The record-breaking inflows of FDI and FII underscore global confidence in India's reform agenda, strengthening financial markets, industrial growth, and employment generation. Initiatives like Make in India, Production-Linked Incentives, and Atmanirbhar Bharat have ensured that foreign investments align with national priorities, bolstering domestic capabilities while sustaining economic expansion.

The liberalisation of foreign investment regulations across key sectors such as technology, manufacturing, and defense has attracted significant capital and fostered innovation.

The Modi government's pragmatic policies have mitigated global economic volatility, creating a resilient economic environment that can weather crises and sustain long-term growth. India's rise as a technology and industrial powerhouse is a testament to this strategic approach

(The author is Chairperson - National Unity and Security Council. Views expressed are personal)

# The silent crisis in education: teacher burnout

SETHI

Teachers' are more than just educators. They are mentors, motivators and role models who profoundly shape their students' lives. Teachers' ability to inspire, adapt, and create lasting impact makes them unique.

However, what saddens is that the fast-paced nature of education has left the teachers physically, emotionally and mentally exhausted.

Today, teacher burnout is real, and it is a growing crisis that affects not only educators but also students and the overall quality of education. Burnout, which is characterised by chronic stress, exhaustion and a loss of motivation, has led many skilled educators to leave the profession.

Several factors such as excessive workload, lack of support resources, wherein teachers work beyond their contracted hours, grading assignments, preparing lesson plans, attending meetings and handling administrative

tasks, along with the expectation to constantly perform at high levels with limited time have resulted to overwhelming stress.

Many teachers, especially in underfunded schools, are facing challenges such as overcrowded classrooms, lack of teaching materials and inadequate support staff, which has forced the teachers to find alternative solutions, often at the cost of their time and money.

Teaching is an emotionally demanding job. Today, a teacher apart from just teaching has to support students academically and personally, often acting as mentors, counsellors and caregivers. They even have to deal with student trauma, behavioural issues and academic struggles, which, as per several studies, has taken a significant emotional toll. Studies also reveal that in many countries, teachers are underpaid when compared to other professionals with similar education levels. This has led to financial stress and has contributed to dissatisfaction and exhaustion.

Due to their demanding schedules, many teachers struggle to find time for themselves and their families. The inability to maintain a work-life balance has contributed to chronic fatigue and decreased job satisfaction, resulting in teacher burnout.

Teacher burnout has serious consequences, not only for teachers but also for the education system as a whole. It is quite certain that once the person develops chronic stress, it will lead to physical health issues such as headaches, high blood pressure and insomnia. Not only this, it will also increase the risk of anxiety, depression and emotional exhaustion. Such teachers will at the same time struggle to maintain the same level of enthusiasm, patience and creativity in their teaching, affecting student engagement and learning outcomes.

Today, many dedicated educators are leaving this noble profession due to burnout, resulting in teacher shortages and the loss of experienced pro-

Consequently, schools are compelled to hire less experienced teachers, which impacts the overall quality of education. When teachers experience burnout, students feel less supported and motivated. A disengaged or emotionally drained teacher can create a negative learning environment, impacting student performance and wellbeing.

It is high time to address teacher burnout through systemic changes at multiple levels, requiring action from schools, governments and society to create a healthier teaching environment. Reducing workload by implementing manageable schedules, providing admin-

manageable schedules, providing administrative support and minimising unnecessary paperwork can help alle-

unnecessary paperwork can help alleviate stress.

Additionally, offering mental health resources, counselling services and

Additionally, offering mental health resources, counselling services and stress management programs can support teachers in coping with emotional challenges. Increasing salaries, providing financial incentives and recognising teachers' efforts, can enhance job satisfaction and reduce financial stress.

### Conclusion

Above all, promoting work-life balance by limiting after-hours communication, ensuring adequate breaks and offering flexible schedules is crucial. Furthermore, fostering a supportive work environment through strong leadership, collaboration, mentorship programs and professional development can make teachers feel valued. Lastly, granting teachers more autonomy by reducing excessive standardised testing and allowing them to design engaging, student-centred lessons can boost motivation and fulfilment.

There is no denying that teacher burnout is a serious issue that demands immediate attention. Without proper intervention, the education system risks losing passionate and skilled educators, which will ultimately affect students' success and the future of education.

Investing in teacher well-being is not just about improving their lives, rather it is about ensuring a better future for generations to come. To conclude, teachers are the backbone of education. Yet, the growing demands of the profession have left many educators physically, emotionally, and mentally drained. Teachers have a larger responsibility towards the society. If they are emotionally, mentally and physically fit they can deliver what it takes to build a nation!

(The writer is an educator. Views expressed are personal)

# WORLD 08

# Trump says it is up to Russia to accept ceasefire deal in war with Ukraine

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New York /

President Donald Trump said he is hopeful that Russia will agree to a 30-day ceasefire with Ukraine even as President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on Wednesday termed it as a positive step and said it is up to the US to convince Russia to accept it.

Senior officials from the US and Ukraine held talks in Jeddah in Saudi Arabia on Tuesday focussing on ending the over three year war between Moscow and Kyiv, which gave an indication to accept a 30day ceasefire.

"A while ago, Ukraine has agreed to the ceasefire. Now we go to Russia and hopefully President Putin will agree to it also," Trump said here soon after the Jeddah announcement.

"If we get Russia to do it, that will be great. If we can't, we keep going on and on and people are going to get killed," he said in another video posted on his TruthSocial

He also spoke about meetings with Russia soon, in an apparent reference to Steve Witkoff, his special envoy, who is likely to visit Moscow to meet Russian President Vladimir Putin.

President Zelenskyy said the American side understands his country's arguments and considers their proposals and added that he is "grateful to President Trump for the constructive conversation between our

"Ukraine is ready to accept this proposal—we see it as a positive step and are ready to take it. Now, it is up to the United States to convince Russia to do the same. If Russia agrees, the ceasefire will take effect immediately," Zelenskyy said hours after the announcement came from Jeddah.

"During today's talks, the US side pro-



President Donald Trump and Tesla CEO Elon Musk speak to reporters near a red Model S Tesla vehicle on the South Lawn of the White House in

posed taking an even bigger first step-a 30-day full interim ceasefire, not only stopping missile, drone, and bomb attacks, not only in the Black Sea, but also along the entire front line," the Ukrainian president said in a video, text for which was posted on his official X handle too.

Asserting that Ukraine's position remains absolutely clear, he said, "Ukraine has been seeking peace from the very first second of this war, and we want to do everything to achieve it as soon as possi-

ble and in a reliable way—so that war does not return?

Zelenskyy also talked about the three key points that his team proposed during the meeting with the Americans in Jeddah: silence in the skies-stopping missile strikes, bombs, and long-range drone attacks; silence at sea; real confidencebuilding measures in this whole situation, "in which diplomacy is ongoing, which primarily means the release of prisoners of war and detainees—both military and civilian—and the return of Ukrainian children who were forcibly transferred to Russia."

There has been no official reaction from

Meanwhile, soon after the announcement coming in from Jeddah, the Trump government lifted its suspension of military aid and intelligence sharing with Ukraine, measures that were imposed a week ago in an apparent effort to push

### Centre-right party wins most votes in Greenland's parliamentary election

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA** ■ Nuuk (Greenland)

**¬**he centre-right Demokraatit Partv won the most votes in Greenland's parliamentary elections, a surprise result as the territory went to the polls in the shadow of US President Donald Trump's stated goal of taking control of the island one way or another.

Both Demokraatit — the Democrats – and the second place party, Naleraq — 'Point of Orientation" — favour independence from Denmark but differ on the pace of change.

Demokraatit's upset victory on Wednesday over parties that have governed the territory for years indicates that many in Greenland care just as much about health care, education, cultural heritage and other social

"I think this is a historic result in political Greenland's Demokraatit party leader Jens-Frederik Nielsen said at the election party after the results.

Greenlandic newspaper Sermitsiaq wrote that Nielsen, 33, appeared to be surprised by his party's gains, with photos showing him sporting a huge grin

and applauding at the election party.

The Danish Broadcasting Corporation DR reported that Nielsen said his party would reach out to all other parties to negotiate the future political course for

"We had not expected that the election would have this outcome," Nielsen told Greenlandic Broadcasting Corporation KNR TV. "We are very happy."

Nielsen also said that Greenland needs to stand together "in a time of great interest from outside," KNR TV Prime Minister Mute Bourup Egede

had called the early vote in February, saying the country needed to be united during a "serious time" unlike anything Greenland has ever experienced. On Wednesday, after the results were

known, Egede thanked voters in a Facebook post for turning out and said the parties were ready to turn to negotiations to form a government. Danish Defence Minister Troels Lund

Poulsen congratulated the Demokraatit party and said the future Greenlandic government would likely have to "deal with massive pressure from US President Donald Trump," according to DR.

He added that "it's not the case that you can just take part of the Danish Realm — the future of Greenland is based on what the Greenlandic people and government want," DR reported.

Trump has been outspoken about his desire to control Greenland, telling a joint session of Congress last week that he thought the US was going to get it "one way or the other."

Greenland, a self-governing region of Denmark, straddles strategic air and sea routes in the North Atlantic and has rich deposits of the rare earth minerals needed to make everything from mobile



Electoral workers prepare to count votes during parliamentary elections in Nuuk, Greenland.

phones to renewable energy technology. Egede's Inuit Ataqatigiit (United Inuit) had been widely expected to win, followed by Siumut — two parties which had dominated Greenland's politics in recent years. A break from Denmark wasn't on the ballot, but it was on everyone's mind. The island of 56,000 people has been on a path toward independence since at least 2009, and the 31 lawmakers elected will shape the island's future as it debates whether the

time has come to declare independence. Four of the five main parties in the race sought independence, but disagreed on when and how.

Naleraq is the most aggressively proindependence, while Demokraatit favours a more moderate pace of change.

"What approach to independence will win the day will ultimately depend on if Demokraatit decides to form a coalition government, and if so, with which party," said Dwayne Menezes, managing director of the Polar Research and Policy

# White House pressures Columbia University as it seeks to deport pro-Palestinian activists

US tariffs on steel, aluminum | Trump tariffs disappointing

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New York

he White House complained Tuesday that Columbia University is refusing to help federal agents find people being sought as part of the government's effort to deport participants in pro-Palestinian demonstrations, as the administration continued to punish the school by yanking federal research dollars.

Immigration enforcement agents on Saturday arrested and detained Mahmoud Khalil, a legal U.S. resident and Palestinian activist who played a prominent part in protests at Columbia last year. He is now facing possible deportation.

President Donald Trump has vowed additional arrests. In a briefing with reporters in Washington, White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt said federal authorities have been "using intelligence" to identify other people involved in

unjustified: Australia

ustralian Prime Minister Anthony

Albanese said Wednesday that US

tariffs on Australian steel and

aluminum were unjustified, but his

government would not retaliate with its

own tariffs. US President Donald Trump

said last month he was considering a

tariff exemption for Australia, a free

trade treaty partner that has traded with

the United States at a deficit for decades.

secured an exemption with the previous

Trump administration in 2018 based on

arguments including that Australian

thousands of workers in the US.

Albanese said he would continue to

A former Australian government

antisemitic and "pro-Hamas."

She said Columbia had been given names and was refusing to help the Department of Homeland Security "to identify those individuals on campus."

"As the president said very strongly in his statement yesterday, he is not going to tolerate that," Leavitt said. A Columbia spokesperson didn't imme-

diately return a message seeking comment. Last week, the Trump administration announced it was pulling \$400 million in grants and contracts from Columbia, accusing the school of failing to stop antisemitism on campus. As part of those cuts, the National Institutes of Health late Monday it was cutting more than \$250 million in funding, which included more than

X. Edward Guo, director of Columbia's Bone Bioengineering Laboratory, posted

secure. "It has been foreshadowed that

no country regardless of its relationship

with the United States has been granted

an exemption. Such a decision by the

Trump administration is entirely

are a form of economic self-harm and a

recipe for slower growth and higher

inflation. They are paid by the

consumers. This is why Australia will not

be imposing reciprocal tariffs on the United States," Albanese added.

all steel and aluminum imports to 25 per

cent on Wednesday. The US decision not

to exempt Australia was announced days

after a spat became public between

Trump and the former Australian prime

The US officially increased tariffs on

"Tariffs and escalating trade tensions

unjustified," Albanese said.

notifying him that one of his NIH awards had been canceled. "We understand this may be shocking news," the email reads.

The university was wracked last spring by large demonstrations by students calling for an end to Israeli military action in Gaza and a recognition of Palestinians' human rights and territorial claims. The university ultimately called in police to dismantle a protest encampment and end a student takeover of an administration building

Khalil, 30, had been a spokesperson for the protesters. He hasn't been charged with any crimes, but Leavitt said the administration had moved to deport him under a section of the Immigration and Nationality Act that gives the secretary of state the power to deport a non-citizen if the government "has reasonable ground to believe" the person's presence could have "serious adverse foreign policy conse-

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ London

impose retaliatory measures.

est," Reynolds said.

right to retaliate."

¬he British government on Wednesday

called the Trump administration's tar-

iffs on global steel and aluminium

imports "disappointing," but said that it won't

Business Secretary Jonathan Reynolds,

however, did not rule out future tariffs on US

imports and said he would "continue to

engage closely and productively with the US

to press the case for UK business interests."

won't hesitate to respond in the national inter-

Treasury Minister James Murray echoed

Britain is not part of the European Union,

that, telling Times Radio: "We reserve our

"We will keep all options on the table and

As of Tuesday, Khalil was being held at an immigration detention center in Louisiana. Civil rights groups and Khalil's attorneys say the government is unconstitutionally using its immigration-control powers to stop him from speaking out. A federal judge set a hearing for Wednesday and ordered the government not to deport him in the meantime.

Trump, a Republican, has suggested that some protesters support Hamas, the Palestinian militant group that attacked Israel on Oct. 7, 2023, killing 1,200 people and abducting 251. Israel responded with bombardment and other military offensives that have left over 48,000 Palestinians dead in Hamas-ruled Gaza. Israel says more than 17,000 were militants.

Trump heralded Khalil's arrest as the first "of many to come," vowing on social media to deport students the president described as engaging in "pro-terrorist,

aluminium to bourbon, peanut butter and

Center-left UK Prime Minister Keir

Starmer has worked to build strong ties with

President Donald Trump, in hope of avoid-

ing the tariffs levied on many other US trad-

House, Trump and Starmer said their gov-

ernments would work on sealing a long-elu-

After a meeting last month at the White

Reynolds said the government remains

"focused on a pragmatic approach and are

rapidly negotiating a wider economic agree-

ment with the US to eliminate additional tar-

iffs and to benefit UK businesses and our

The tariffs are a new blow for Britain's once-

mighty steel industry, which has shrunk dra-

jeans in response to Trump's move.

ing partners.

economy."

sive US-UK trade deal.

### Captain of cargo vessel involved in North Sea collision is Russian

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ London

the captain of a cargo ship that collided with a US tanker is a Russian national who remains in UK police custody, the vessel's owner said Wednesday, as it emerged that the ship failed several safety checks last year.

The 59-year-old man, who hasn't been named by authorities, was arrested by police in northeast England Tuesday on suspicion of manslaughter by gross negligence over the collision. He hasn't been charged.

Shipping company Ernst Russ, which owns the Portugal-flagged cargo vessel Solong, said that the ship's 14 crew were a mix of Russian and Filipino nationals.

UK authorities say they have so far found no evidence of foul play in the crash. Humberside Police said that detectives were conducting inquiries alongside partner agencies.

UK Marine Accident Investigation Branch is also involved in investigating what caused the Solong, bound from Grangemouth, Scotland, to Rotterdam, Netherlands, to hit the stationary tanker, which was anchored about 16 kilometres off the English coast.

Port inspection documents show the Solong failed steering-related satety checks in Dublin, Ireland, in July, with the vessel's "emergency steering position communications / compass reading' unreadable. Inspectors found a total of 10 deficiencies, including "inadequate" alarms, survival craft "not properly maintained" and fire doors "not as

found two other deficiencies. The ship wasn't detained after either inspection. The cargo ship collided Monday with

An inspection in Scotland in October

MV Stena Immaculate, a tanker transporting jet fuel for the US military in the North Sea off eastern England on Monday, setting both vessels ablaze. One sailor from the Solong is missing

and presumed dead. The other 36 crew members from the two vessels were brought safely ashore, with no major injuries. The Solong was drifting and still on fire Wednesday, but is likely to remain afloat rather than sinking, officials said.

The 183-metre Stena Immaculate was operating as part of the US government's Tanker Security Programme, a group of commercial vessels that can be contracted to carry fuel for the military

### pursue an Australian exemption. The minister who secured the which Wednesday announced import taxes matically from its 1970s peak and now The investigation is being led by the 2018 exemption took several months to exemption, Malcolm Turnbull. on American goods, ranging from steel and accounts for 0.1% of the economy. US and Portugal, the countries where the Trump halts programme that keeps aging affordable housing livable

but no retaliation: UK

**ASSOCIATED PRESS** ■ Washington

he Trump administration is halting a USD 1 billion programme that helps preserve affordable housing, threatening projects that keep tens of thousands of units livable for low-income Americans, according to a document

obtained by The Associated Press. The action is part of a slew of cuts and funding freezes at the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, largely at the direction of President Donald Trump and Elon Musk's Department of Government Efficiency, that have rattled the affordable-housing industry.

Preserving these units gets less attention than ribbon-cuttings, but it's a centre-piece of efforts to address the nation's housing crisis. Hundreds of thousands of low-rent apartments, many of them aging and in need of urgent repair, are at risk of being

yanked out from under poor Americans. The programme has already awarded the money to projects that would upgrade

at least 25,000 affordable units across the country, and details of how it will be wound down remain unclear.

A spokesperson for HUD did not respond to repeated requests for comment. But an internal document reviewed by the AP said that the programme is being "terminated" at the direction of DOGE. Two HUD workers, who have knowledge of the programme and spoke to the AP on the condition of anonymity for fear of reprisal, confirmed the directive to shutter it.

On it's face, the over USD 1 billion Green and Resilient Retrofit Programme, passed by Congress in 2022, is intended for energy-efficiency improvements. It is distributed in grants and loans to owners of affordable housing in need of updating, including replacing or repairing heating and cooling systems, leaky roofs, aging insulation or windows, or undertaking flood-proofing.

But the money plays a much larger role in preserving affordable units. Projects that use the funds are required

to keep their buildings affordable for up to 25 years. The money is also leveraged to pull in other investments for major repairs and renovations needed to keep the buildings livable.

It's like building a Jenga tower, where one of the programme's grants or loans which range from hundreds of thousands to millions of dollars — is a bottom block and each new block is another investment, experts said.

This money "was essential in order for the project to come together," said Mike Essian, vice president at American Community Developers, Inc., which received funding for several affordable

housing projects. "Projects will fail and these are projects that are already difficult to finance.

The news has been a jolt to Al Hase and Ioan Starr, tenants in an apartment building in Vancouver, Washington, full of other low-income seniors with few or no other options — most of whom live on less than ISD 33,000 a year.

The 170-unit Smith Tower Apartments, built in the 1960s, is in need of updates, including it's first building-wide sprinkler system. The USD 10 million award was a financial kickstart for its nearly USD 100 million project, and is cited in applications for other investments.

The potential loss "seriously jeopardises our ability to be able to provide an upgrade to the current systems," said Greg Franks, president of the property's management company, adding that the work "needed to sustain the livability of this building based on its age, and to keep it viable for another 60 years.'

"We are depending on that USD 10 mil-

So, too, are Hase and Starr, a retired couple in their 70s who have lived there for

They fill their balcony with geraniums and petunias, count the eagles at a nearby park and live off of meagre Social Security incomes. They learned about the potential funding loss in a letter from the apartment's management company.

"It's kinda terrifying, it's almost like getting news from a doctor that something's going to take your life in six months or a year," Hase told the AP in a phone call.

'We're from an era where the wages weren't there, so our Social Security ..." he

said, pausing. "Sucks," pitched in Starr. "If I'd been born a rich man," he said.

Starr added: "We're just regular people." "And we're the lucky ones because we've got two social securities coming in,"

But being lucky ones still doesn't count

keep going up, I've looked, and there's no

"It's the difference between living and not being able to live," he said.

HUD's lack of communication about the programme's future sent organisations in search of contingency plans, though roughly two dozen projects will still get funding, one HUD employee told the AP. The rest are in limbo.

"If these funds aren't reinstated, we will certainly seek other funding to fill that gap. The reality is that will take time and will inevitably make the project more expensive," Travis Phillips of the Housing Development Centre said of funding for Smith Tower.

It's the position several hundred other affordable-housing projects now find themselves in across 42 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. "In all honesty," said Michelle Arevalos,

Smith Tower's administrator, "if this building were not here, a lot of our folks actufor much in today's rental market. "Prices ally probably would be homeless."

# WORLD 09

### **Nearly 550 Indians rescued from scam** centres near Myanmar-Thailand border

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Bangkok

¬he Indian Embassy here in close coordination with its counterpart at Yangon in neighbouring Myanmar has ensured repatriation of 549 Indians after rescuing them from scam centres operating in areas near the Myanmar-Thailand border, officials said on Wednesday. The Indian nationals were repatriated through Mae Sot in Thailand to India on March 10 and 11 by two special flights, according to the Indian Embassy in Thailand.

"This is part of Government of India's sustained efforts to secure release and repatriation of Indian nationals who were lured with fake job offers and were made to work in scam-centres in the neighbouring countries of Thailand," the Embassy said in a post on X.

Earlier on Tuesday, the Indian Embassy at Yangon said in a post on X: "In coordination with Myanmar's Union authorities and local groups, 283 Indian nationals at scam compounds in the Myawaddy area of Myanmar were released and repatriated yesterday through Mae Sot in Thailand. Strongly reiterate our advice against such job offers.

It followed up with another post on Wednesday that pointed out how "the second batch of 266 Indian nationals from scam centres in Myawaddy were repatriated to India via Mae Sot vesterday."

The Indian Embassy thanked "the border authorities and @IndiainThailand for seamless coordination and support" and reiterated: "We firmly advise against such job offers in the

Earlier on Monday, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said in New Delhi that the government of India has been making sustained efforts to secure the release and repatriation of Indian nationals lured to various southeast Asian countries, including Myanmar, with fake job offers.

"These persons were subsequently made to indulge in cybercrime and engage in other fraudulent activities in scam centres operating in regions along the Myanmar-Thailand border," MEA said in a statement on Monday.

The post by the Indian Embassy at Thailand also advised the Indian nationals to verify credentials of foreign employers and check the antecedents of recruiting agents and companies, before taking up job offers.

The MEA statement echoed the sentiment: "The government of India wishes to reiterate its caution, circulated earlier from time

PUBLIC NOTICE

Indoor Medical Records of the

patients admitted during

financial year 2021-2022 (from

01.04.2021 to 31.03.2022) are

scheduled to be disposed off as

Any patient requiring his/her

Medical Records may approach

the undersigned within 30 days

failing which the records will be

disposed off without further

Kailash Hospital & Neuro Institute

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given on behalf of Mr. Sanjee Mahajan with respect to Residential Entir Fourth Floor, with roof rights, part of Propert Bearing No. 94, area measuring 66.60 Sq. Mrs situated in the layout plan of Residentia Scheme Dwarka Sector-12-A, New Delhi; whice

Scheme Dwarka Sector-12-A, New Delhi; whic is presently owned by Mr. Sanjeev Mahajan ha purchased the subject property from The Kangi Co-Operative Bank Ltd. through Sale Certificat dated 16.07-2020, vide Doc. No. 3305, Book No. Volume No. 10393, dated 16.07-2020, SRO-I New Delhi, now Mr. Sanjeev Mahajan intend mortgage against the financial assistance fro IDBI BANK LIMITED. To comply the requirement of BANK/NBFC, we give this public notice that any Person having any type of claim (right/title/interest/creatingmortgage over the sa

/right/title/interest/creatingmortgage over the said property, may inform in writing, at the address mentioned below, about his objections, within 7 days from today, failing which it shall be presumed that the said property is free from all type of Encumbrances, lienetc. Lucem Legal LLP Plot No.136, (Basement) Uday Park, New Delhi-110049,Contact # 011-40046316

**Medical Superintendent** 

NH-1. Sector 71 Noida

per hospital policy.

to time through advisories and social media posts, about such

"Indian nationals are once again advised to verify credentials of foreign employers through Missions abroad and check the antecedents of recruiting agents and companies before taking up a job offer."

According to media reports, Myawaddy and Tachilek near Thailand-Myanmar border have been known as safe havens for criminal syndicates that have trapped thousands of people from across South Asia forcing them to run online scam centres

PUBLIC NOTICE The General Public is Informed that General Power of Attorney which is Executed by Sarthak Jain S/o Mr. Pravesh Jain in favour of Mr Pravesh Jain S/o Late Mr D. C. Jain Reg. as

Docs. No. 101 Dated 22.02.2006. Has been lost any where. If anyone find this Original GPA or having any objection Regarding this GPA. Please Inform me on my given Mob No.-9911004142 within 7 days.

Yogesh Kumar (Advocate)

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

I, HAJERUMA SINGH HAINA SIJO SHIN 3.L. RANA (LATE SHYAM LAL SINGH RANA) R/ H.NO 62 A PKT D-2, JANTA FLATS KONDL EAST DELHI -110096 have severed of m relation and debarred/ disowned/disinherit m Unmarried son ATUL RANA from my moveab or immovable properties due to his bad habits continuous irresponsible behavior breach o trust, not heading to my advice, it appears ha he is involved in such activities detrimental truny family interest for which I shall not be responsible for any of his act, deeds done be him in future in any manner and anybody dealing with him shall be at their own risks and

S CSB Bank PUBLIC NOTICE ON AUCTION OF Trusted Horitage Smart Future PLEDGED GOLD ORNAMENTS

The borrower/s in specific and interested bidders in general, are hereby informed that on account of nor repayment of the Banks due by the borrowers as under despite the payment notice and recall/auction notice issued by the Bank, the gold ornaments pledged with the bank security by the respective borrower for the loan availed by them will be sold in public auction on "as is where is" and "non-recourse" basi through e-auction portal https://gold.samil.in on 24" March 2025 at 10.30 AM. The auction may be adjourned to any other later date at the discreation of the bank upon publication of the same in the Bank notice board. The borrowers are hereby further inform that the gold ornaments will be disposed of b private sale if the public auction is not successful and if there is a further balance to be recovered the halance to be recovered the halance to be recovered to the place account of the same property of the halance amounts due to the property of the place and the property of the place amounts due to the property of the place and the property of the place and the property of the place and the place and the property of the place and the place the balance amounts due to the reading region of the balance amounts due to the balance amounts due to

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### STORES E-PROCUREMENT

Tender Notice No.: S/66/022/24-25; Dated: 10-03-2025. E-Tenders are vited by the undersigned for the following works:

SN. 1; Tender No. NJ255084 Closing/ Opening Date: 31-03-2025

Brief Description & Qty: Traction Motor stacking as per annexure Consignee: - SSE/D/Siliguri Jn., NFR; Qty: 10 Nos.

NOTE:- For full details of Tender notice and tender documents, tendere may log on to the website (www.ireps.gov.in) prospective bidder who ntend to participate in above tenders are required to log in themselves with the above website and submit their offer electronically, if they are already registered with IREPS. In case they are not registered with IREPS, they are advised to obtain class-III Digital Signature Certificate from the certifying agencies under Govt. of India IT Act 2000 and participate in the

Dy. Chief Material Manager, New Jalpaigur



STORES E-PROCUREMENT

E-procurement Tender Notice No. S/40/2024-25 Dated: 10-03-2025. E-tenders are invited by the

SN.1. Tender No. 40/25/0528/OT/314/2024-25

Closing/Opening date: 19-03-2025 Brief Description: LED Based Emergency automatic Light Unit. Type II, with 12V, 7Ah capacity Soaked

Maintenances free Batter for LHB Coaches conforming to RDSO's Specification No RDSO/PE/SPEC/ AC/0180-2016 (Rev. 0) and RDSO Drg No. RDSO/PE/SK/TL/0181-2016 (Rev. 0) Sheet 1 & 2. [Warranty Period:

30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp. No, Stages: 0) (UVAM linking:) Item

Type: Goods (supply). (i) Qty-40 Set for Pandu GSD, NFR (Assam), (ii) Qty-02 Set for New Jalpaiguri GSD, NFR

(West Bengal), iii) Qty-72 Set for Dibrugarh Town WORKSHOP DEPOT, NFR (Assam), iv) Qty-60 Set for

SN.2. Tender No. 37/25/0759/OT/315/2024-25

Closing/Opening date: 25-03-2025

Brief Description: Constant contact polyurethene Side bearer pad assembly for NLB Bogies Drawing-

AAL-021101/N Alt-1.Mat. Spec-WD-38-Misc-2004 (Rev-2) [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of

delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp.: No, Stages: 0] [UVAM Linking:] Item: 3100354, Constant

Contact Side Bearer for rolling stock Sub item: Constant contact side Bearer for CASNUB 22NLB BOGIES,

Item Type: Goods (supply) 1) Qty-100 Nos for Dibrugarh Town WORKSHOP DEPOT, NFR (Assam), ii) Qty-

300 Nos for Pandu GSD, NFR (Assam). iii) Qty-700 Nos for New Jalpaiguri/GSD, NFR (West Bengal), iv)

SN.3. Tender No.61/24/5677/OT/316/2024-25

Closing/Opening date: 17-03-2025

Brief Description: Wider base bridge Approach sleepers (RT-8971-8978) [Warranty Period: 30 Months

after the date of delivery][Inspection Agency: CONSG, Stage Insp.: NA, Stages: 0] [UVAM Linking:) Item

Type: Goods (supply) Qty- 551 Set for Sr. Section Engineer/Works/Concrete Sleeper, NFR (Assam), P.L

SN.4. Tender No. 37/25/0635/OT/317/2024-25

Closing/Opening date: 24-03-2025

Brief Description: Coupler Body With Shank Wear Plate/BG/Wagon, Drawing-SK-62724-item-1 & item -10

alt -30. Mat Spec-WD-70-BD-10(Rev-3) [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection

Agency: TPI, Stage Insp.: No, Stages: 0] [UVAM Linking] Item: 3100446, Upgraded High Tensile Centre

Buffer Coupler for freight stock wagons Sub item: Coupler Body & Shank: Wear Plate, item Type: Good

(supply) i) Qty-161 Nos for Pandu GSD, NFR (Assam), ii) Qty-1242 Nos for New Bongaigaon WORKSHOP

SN.5. Tender No. 50/25/5036/OT/318/2024-25

Closing/Opening date: 26-03-2025

Brief Description: 1) Supply of 6 Quad 0.9mm dia as per spec. no. IRS:TC 30/2005 VER.1, Arndt 5 or

latest. [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] UVAM Item ref. (Item Id:-3I.00047-QUAD

CABLES for S&T INSTALLATION, Sub Item Id:- 3100047001-Underground Railway Jelly Filled Telecom

Quad cables For Signalling And Telecom Installations) Qtv-35.00 Kilometre for SSE/SIG/IC/Guwahati, NFR

(Assam), P.L.No.-561100193138. 2) Supply of 6 Quad 0.9 mm dia as per spec. no. IRS: TC 30/2005

VER.I, Arndt. 5 or latest. [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery) UVAM Item ref. (Item Id:-

3100047-QUAD CABLES for S&T INSTALIATIONS. Sub Item Id:- 3100047001-Underground Railway Jelly

Filled Telecom Quad Cables For Signaling And Telecom Installations) Qty-50.00 Kilometre for SSE/SIG/IC/

SN.6. Tender No. 61/25/5115/OT/319/2024-25

Closing/Opening date: 28-03-2025

Brief Description: 6 mm Thick Nylon Cord Reinforced Grooved Rubber Sole Plates for 52 kg 1 in 12

Turnouts (T-4732). [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery) [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage

Insp.: No, Stages: 0] [UVAM Linking:) Item: 3100584, RAIL PADS Sub Item: GRSP Item Type: Goods

SN.7. Tender No. 30/25/1219/OT/320/2024-25

Closing/Opening date: 31-03-2025

Brief Description: Schaku Semi permanent coupler End 'A' for DEMU 1400 HP (Complete Unit) to M/S

Escorts Drg. No. 40-586 A(0) and SK-750 or Similar Spec: 61-B-36 Rev. 68-1 with amendment no. 1 of

October-2016 [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp.:

No, Stages: 0] [UVAM Linking:] Item: 3100362, Scharfenberg couplers & Draw Gear for Electric Multiple

Unit Rolling Stock for Calcutta & Bombay suburban service Broad Gauge 1676 mm to Spec. No. 61-B-

36 Rev. 68-1 (RECONSTRUCTED November 2004). Sub Item: Scharfenberg Couplers & Draw Gear for

Electric Multiple Unit Rolling Stock for Calcutta & Bombay suburban service. Broad Gauge 1676 mm Item

Type: Goods (supply) Qty- 46 Nos for New Bongaigaon/WORKSHOP/DEPOT, NFR (Assam), P.L. No-

SN.8. Tender No. 50/25/5039/OT/321/2024-25

Closing/Opening date: 31-03-2025

Brief Description: Underground signalling cable of size 2 core x 25 sq, mm. Aluminium, PVC insulated,

as per spec. no. IRS:S-63/2014 & Rev.4.0 or latest. [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery]

(supply) Qty-500 Set for JITENDRA KUMAR, NFR (Assam), P.L.No- 609002780108.

Depot, NFR (Assam), iii) Qty-130 Nos for New Jalpaiguri GSD,NFR (West Bengal). P.L.No- 38135840.

Qty-3120 Nos for New Bongaigaon WORKSHOP DEPOT, NFR (Assam), P.LNo-38106462.

New Bongaigaon WORKSHOP DEPOT, NFR (Assam) P.L. No. -45151489

undersigned for the following works.

No. 609007190137.

32230059.

Guwahati, NFR (Assam), P.LNo-561100193199.



K Thankachen, F/o-

15799374P NK(OPR) Aneesh

T, R/o- Puthenchira,

Thekemuri, Champakulum

PO, Alappuzha, Kerala-

688505, have changed my

name from K Thankachen

to Thankachan K. vide

affidavit dated 12/03/2025

before Notary Public Delhi.

I, Mahadik Dadaso Ramu

Father of- No.14868601F Nk

Mahadik Mahesh D, R/o-

A/P Dhumalwadi, Tal-

Koregaon, Dist- Satara,

Maharashtra- 415010, have

changed my name from

Mahadik Dadaso Ramu to

Dadaso Ramu Mahadik,

affidavit

12/03/2025 before Notary

I, hitherto known as Pratap

Public Delhi.

PD(1671)C

dated

PD(1672)C

### **THANKSGIVING**

Thank you holly spirit for all the blessings Celine PD(1667)C

### CHANGE OF NAME

I,Sangeeta,W/oRiku Kumar Giri R/o Flat No 423, 4th Floor, Tower T8, Dream Homes, Wavecity, Ghaziabad have changed my name to Sangita Kumari for all Purposes. PD(1666)A

Satewan, Father of-No.16020079X Hav Sandeep Sahu, R/o- VPO- Bibipur, Teh & Dist- Jind, Haryana-126102, have changed my name from Satewan to Satywan, vide affidavit dated 12/03/2025 before Notary Public Delhi.

PD(1668)C I, Suresh W/o- JC-472032M Sub Ajit Singh, R/o- VPO-Sultana Ahiran, Teh -Jhunjhunu, Buhana, Rajasthan- 333502, have changed my name from Suresh to Suresh Devi, vide affidavit INDL48330590091923X, dated 11/03/2025 before Notary Public Delhi.

PD(1669)C I, Mohanan V, F/o- JC-858077P NB/SUB(OFC) Sumesh M, R/o- Vill & PO-Balaramapuram. Teh-Neyyattinkara Dist-Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala- 695501, have changed my name from Mohanan V to V Mohanan Nair, vide affidavit dated 12/03/2025 before Notary Public Delhi.

PD(1670)C

PUBLIC NOTICE This is to inform to all concern that LATE SHR BHUVANENDRA AGNIHOTRI who is the

riginal allottee of PLOT NO D-4, SECTOR-27

NOIDA DISTT. GAUTAM BUDH NAGAR UTTAF

PRADESH who expired on dated 21.01.2025 WILL was executed on in favour of SHOBHA

AGNIHOTRI W/O LATE SHRI BHUVANENDRA

DISTT. GAUTAM BUDH NAGAR UTTAR PRADESH which is registered in the office of

Sub-Registrar I. Noida Vide Book No 3 Document No 1145 dated 28.11.2024. So it is

nformed to all concern that the said PLOT NO

D-4, SECTOR-27, NOIDA DISTT. GAUTAM

BUDH NAGAR UTTAR PRADESH is going to be transferred in favour of SHOBHA AGNIHOTRI

through registered WILL. If any one has/have

objection alongwith the sufficient proof in the

Residential Plot Department of the Noida

Authority within 15 days from the date of

**PUBLIC NOTICE** 

FOR SHIFTING OF

Signature/s

publication of this notice.

### AXIS BANK LTD.

THE BORROWERS, IN SPECIFIC AND THE PUBLIC IN GENERAL ARE HERE BUY NOTIFIED THAT PUBLIC AUCTION OF THE GOLD ORNAMENTS PLEDGE IN THE BELOW ACCOUNTS IS PROPOSED TO BE CONDUCTED BY THE AXIS BANK AT THE BELOW MENTIONED BRANCH. THE BELOW MENTIONED BORROWERS HAS AVAILED THE CREDIT FACILITY FROM THE AXIS BANK LIMITED AGAINST THE PLEDGE OF GOLD ORNAMENTS ("GOLD LOAN FACILITY") IN FAVOUR OF THE BANK TOWARDS THE SECURITY. THE DEMAND NOTICES WERE ISSUED TO THE BORROWERS/GUARANTORS CALLING UP THE BORROWERS/ GUARANTORS TO PAY THEIR OUTSTANDING AMOUNT TOWARDS THE GOLD LOAN FACILITY AVAILED. AS THE BORROWERS/GUARANTORS TO PAY THEIR OUTSTANDING AMOUNT, THE BANK IS CONSTRAINED TO INDUCKE THE BLOCK AND PROPOSED TO COMPUTE TAILED TO BANK IS CONSTRAINED. TO INVOKE THE PLEDGE AND PROPOSED TO CONDUCT AN E-AUCTION SALE OF PLEDGED GOLD ORNAMENTS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED IN SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY HEREUNDER ON 24.03.2025 AT 12.30 PM TO 03.30 PM ON "AS IN WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS", "WHATEVER THERE IS" AND "NO RECOURSE BASIS". DETAILS OF BORROWERS AND OUTSTANDING AMOUNT

RECOL	<b>JRSE BASIS</b> ". DETAILS OF B	ORROWERS AND OUT	STANDING AMOUN	T		
SR No.	CUSTOMER NAME	LOAN A/C NO.	AMOUNT OUTSTANDING (IN RS.)	DATE OF RECALL NOTICE	GROSS WEIGHT	NET WEIGHT
		B.O.: ASHOK VIHAR,	NEW DELHI [DL]			N GOOD
1	NASREEN	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX3034	RS. 95,334.00	28-NOV-24	29.500	24.400
2	VINOD KAUSHAL	XXXXXXXXXXXXX4279	RS. 34,682.00	26-JUL-24	8.500	8.200
		B.O.: DARYAGAN	J, DELHI [DL]			
3	ARVIND DUGAWA	XXXXXXXXXXXX5097	RS. 4,51,401.00	30-JAN-25	104.800	102.100
4	KISHAN MAHTO	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX0741	RS. 1,33,523.00	4-AUG-24	34.500	33.000
5	RAJ KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXX9868	RS. 77,685.00	8-MAY-24	12.600	10.500
		B.O.: DWARKA	DELHI [DL]			
6	GHANSHYAM SHARMA	XXXXXXXXXXXX8208	RS. 1,98,541.00	21-SEP-24	53.200	52.700
7	JANARDHAN .	XXXXXXXXXXXX3796	RS. 1,56,542.00	20-JUL-24	26.400	20.800
8	KUMARI RACHNA	XXXXXXXXXXX9669	RS. 1,28,401.00	4-NOV-24	42.030	38.900
9	SUBHOJIT SAH	XXXXXXXXXXX5690	RS. 47,459.00	8-MAY-24	18.700	17.900
		B.O.: FARIDA	BAD [HR]			
10	PRATIMA RAI	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX8122	RS. 83,262.00	8-MAY-24	11.650	11.650
		<b>B.O.: GEETA COLONY</b>	, NEW DELHI [DL]			
11	ASHISH KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXX7960	RS. 4,44,099.00	30-MAY-23	105.820	93.400
		B.O.: GHAZIA	BAD [UP]			
12	BALRAJ SINGH	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX3130	RS. 3,55,518.00	20-JUL-24	109.500	74.000
13	SANJEEV KUMAR TYAGI	XXXXXXXXXXXXX6001	RS. 58,469.00	28-AUG-24	9.500	9.200
14	SANJEEV KUMAR TYAGI	XXXXXXXXXXXXX3265	RS. 58,377.00	27-SEP-24	9.900	9.800
		B.O.: GREATER	NOIDA [UP]			
15	SANGITA .	XXXXXXXXXXXXX7527	RS. 59,035.00	6-JAN-25	21.200	13.000
		B.O.: JYOTI NA	GAR DEL DL			
16	HEMANT GUPTA	XXXXXXXXXXXX9104	RS. 1,71,411.00	8-MAY-24	48.600	48.300
17	HEMANT GUPTA	XXXXXXXXXXXXX8634	RS. 1,71,188.00	20-JUL-24	44.600	37.200
18	MOHIT KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX0448	RS. 1,02,315.00	7-JUN-24	14.300	14.000
19	MOHIT KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXXX3464	RS. 1,02,283.00	8-MAY-24	48.300	35.000
		B.O.: KALKAJI, N	W DELHI [DL]			
20	GYAN SHANKAR SHUKLA	XXXXXXXXXXXX7020	RS. 1,81,382.00	15-FEB-24	40.390	40.210
21	SHAMSHER AHAMAD	XXXXXXXXXXXX6490	RS. 53,530.00	30-JAN-25	15.500	14.600
		B.O.: KAPASH	ERA OD DL			

Sunder Das Makhija S/o Sunder Das Makhija, R/o-328, Sanskriti Apartments, Sec- 19B, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Pratap Makhija. PD(1673)C

I, Dwarika Nath Ram R/o-

RZ- 33/1/195, Gali No.- 14 D, Durga Park, New Delhi-110045, declare that in my service records (Lab Assistant Employee Id 20130613), my name has been erroneously recorded as Dwarka Nath Ram, whereas my correct name is Dwarika Nath Ram, which be amended accordingly.

PD(1674)C

		B.U.: ASHUK VIHAK,	NEW DELHI [DL]			
1	NASREEN	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	RS. 95,334.00	28-NOV-24	29.500	24.400
2	VINOD KAUSHAL	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX4279	RS. 34,682.00	26-JUL-24	8.500	8.200
		B.O.: DARYAGAN				
3	ARVIND DUGAWA	XXXXXXXXXXXX5097		30-JAN-25	104 800	102.100
4	KISHAN MAHTO	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX741				33.000
5	RAJ KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX9868				10.500
_	TINO ROWAIT	B.O.: DWARKA,		0-WA1-24	12.000	10.500
6	СПУИСПЛУУИ СПУВИУ	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX		21 CED 24	53.200	52.700
, 7	GHANSHYAM SHARMA					
	JANARDHAN .	XXXXXXXXXXXXX3796				20.800
B	KUMARI RACHNA	XXXXXXXXXXX9669				38.900
9	SUBHOJIT SAH	XXXXXXXXXXXX5690	RS. 47,459.00	8-MAY-24	18.700	17.900
		B.O.: FARIDA				
0	PRATIMA RAI	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX8122		8-MAY-24	11.650	11.650
		B.O.: GEETA COLONY,				
1	ASHISH KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX7960	RS. 4,44,099.00	30-MAY-23	105.820	93.400
		B.O.: GHAZIA	BAD [UP]			
2	BALRAJ SINGH	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX3130	RS. 3,55,518.00	20-JUL-24	109.500	74.000
3	SANJEEV KUMAR TYAGI	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX6001				9.200
4	SANJEEV KUMAR TYAGI	XXXXXXXXXXXXX3265				9.800
Ť	ONIVEE V NOMENT TINGS	B.O.: GREATER		27 021 24	0.000	0.000
5	SANGITA .	XXXXXXXXXXXXX7527	RS. 59,035.00	6-JAN-25	21.200	13.000
_	JOANGHA .	B.O.: JYOTI NAI		0-0AN-20	21.200	13.000
6	HEMANT GUPTA			0.1447.04	40.000	48.300
6		XXXXXXXXXXXX9104			48.600	
7	HEMANT GUPTA	XXXXXXXXXXXXX8634				37.200
8	MOHIT KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX0448			14.300	14.000
9	MOHIT KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX3464		8-MAY-24	48.300	35.000
		B.O.: KALKAJI, NE				
0	GYAN SHANKAR SHUKLA	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX7020	RS. 1,81,382.00			
1	SHAMSHER AHAMAD	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX6490	RS. 53,530.00	30-JAN-25	15.500	14.600
		B.O.: KAPASH	ERA OD DL			
2	SUNEEL SINGH	XXXXXXXXXXXXX9945	RS. 45.026.00	27-SEP-24	15.400	14.900
		B.O.: LAJPAT NAGAR				
_	ABHINAY KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXXX6176	RS.	20-JUL-24	340.400	333.000
•	SHARMA	700000000000000000000000000000000000000	13,78,429.00	20 002 21	010.100	
4	ASHA RAM YADAV	XXXXXXXXXXXXX7816		20-NOV-24	131 500	106.200
5	LALIT SHARMA	XXXXXXXXXXXX2903				28.300
_	EACH OHATIMA	B.O.: MAYUR VIHAR,		0 10011 24	00.000	20.000
6	SANDEEP KUMAR OJHA	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX7851		27-NOV-24	13 300	12.700
.0	JOHNDELT KOWAN COTTA	B.O.: NEHRU PLA		21-1404-24	10.000	12.700
7	CUMIL KUMAD			0.1407.04	60.000	12.500
7	SUNIL KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX9524			62.300	12.500
_		.O.: NEW RAILWAY RO			01000	
8	ASHOK KUMAR MANDAL	XXXXXXXXXXXXX2390				
9	MITESH VERMA	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX7186	RS. 1,07,854.00			16.700
0	SACHIN TYAGI	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX3067	RS. 61,359.00	4-AUG-24	14.100	13.900
1	SUNIL KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX2815	RS. 44,915.00	30-JAN-25	10.000	9.800
2	SUNIL KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX3841	RS. 44,878.00	30-JAN-25	8.990	8.790
3	SUNIL KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX5263	RS. 44,533.00	7-SEP-24	9.800	8.800
		B.O.: NOID	A (UP)			
4	NIRBHAY SHARAN	XXXXXXXXXXXX4932		27-SFP-24	27.800	22.000
5	SHILENDRA KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXXX7757		8-MAY-24	7.800	7.300
	OTHELIADIA KOMAN	B.O.: NOIDA EXTE		0-WA1-24	7.000	7.000
	TO A IANI, CLIDTA			00 MAD 04	10.000	17 400
6	RAJAN GUPTA	XXXXXXXXXXXXX4451		22-MAR-24	18.200	17.400
_		B.O.: PARADISE M				
7	ANKUR KUDA	XXXXXXXXXXXXX4982	RS. 5,28,139.00	8-MAY-24	78.400	78.400
<u> </u>	VINOD YADAV	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX6853	RS. 34,344.00	28-NOV-24	8.200	7.900
		B.O.: R K MISSION,	NEW DELHI [DL]			
9	SHANNO	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX2336	RS. 53,293.00	20-NOV-24	22.900	10.500
0	VIKRAM SINGH	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX0544	RS. 35,938.00	7-SEP-24	8.100	8.000
1	VIKRAM SINGH	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX6217	RS. 35,904.00	20-NOV-24	7.200	6.850
		B.O.: RAJ NAGAR, G				
2	SITAB SINGH	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX6140	RS. 49,552.00	27-SEP-24	20.600	20.300
3	VIKAS KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXXX5922	RS. 36,305.00	20-JUL-24	8.300	8.200
	THE ROWALL	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	.10. 00,000.00		0.000	1 0.200

B.O.: SECTOR 10A, GURGAON [HR] XXXXXXXXXXXX8115 RS. 5,32,088.00 27-SEP-24 130.990 130.990 44 ANKIT KHERA 45 RUPESH KUMAR PANDEY XXXXXXXXXXX1037 RS. 61.915.28 20-NOV-24 12.300 11.500 B.O.: SECTOR 12 NOIDA 46 SUSANTO PAUL XXXXXXXXXXXXXX545 RS. 42,154.00 30-JAN-25 9.000 9.000

REGISTERED OFFICE lotice is hereby given that **LUCKY** ESTATES PRIVATE LIMITED, a company incorporated under the

New Registered Office Address:

Any person whose interest is likely to be affected by the proposed shifting of the registered office may deliver a representation to the Regional Director. Northern Region, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, within 21 days from the date of publication of this notice.

LUCKY ESTATES PRIVATE LIMITED (CIN: U45201DL2002PTC118246) Reg. Office: 3018/1 G.F Chuna Mandi Pahar Ganj, New Delhi -55

B.O.: SECTOR 14, GURGAON [HR] 47 DEEPAK KUMAR XXXXXXXXX6867 RS. 2,52,509.00 30-JAN-25 59.800 58.800 B.O.: SECTOR 16, FARIDABAD [HR] 48 DEEPAK XXXXXXXXXXX3557 RS. 2,53,226.00 7-JUN-24 39.190 38.790 49 PANKAJ XXXXXXXXXXX3170 | RS. 89,420.00 | 20-NOV-24 | 54.500 | 20.400 50 PRAMOD VERMA XXXXXXXXXXX9574 RS. 83,383.00 30-JAN-25 20.500 XXXXXXXXXXX8890 RS. 62,909.00 20-JUL-24 26.600 20.000 XXXXXXXXXXXX8219 RS. 48,381.00 2-APR-24 11.300 11.000 51 RITU 52 SONU 53 SUBHASH KUMAR XXXXXXXXXXXX3126 RS. 47.527.00 2-APR-24 12.000 11.200 SHARMA 54 SUMAN SINGH XXXXXXXXXXX3405 RS. 45,854.00 8-MAY-24 9.000 8.800 B.O.: SECTOR 57, GURGAON [HR]

**B.O.: SECTOR88 FARIDA FAR HR** 57 RAVINDER XXXXXXXXX7970 RS. 65,360.00 27-SEP-24 12.690 11.990 B.O.: SHAHDARA, DELHI [DL] 58 POOJA XXXXXXXXXX1022 RS. 85,525.00 27-SEP-24 13.200 13.000 B.O.: SHALIMAR BAGH, DELHI [DL] 59 NAVEEN MITTAL XXXXXXXXXX2490 RS. 95,235.16 20-NOV-24 17.800 17.500 60 RAMINDER PAL SINGH XXXXXXXXXXX1649 RS. 69,844.00 20-NOV-23 49.800 18.000 B.O.: SWASTHYA VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]

55 MOHINI VERMA

56 SACHIN TYAGI

XXXXXXXXXXXX9068 RS, 3.91.462.00 28-AUG-24 106.480 96.680 61 AZAD B.O.: VIKASPURI, NEW DELHI [DL] 62 KUNDAN KUMAR SINGH | XXXXXXXXXX1951 | RS. 1,28,065.00 | 20-NOV-24 | 27.600 | 21.100 B.O.: VAISHALI, GHAZIABAD [UP] 63 PRAMILA GAUTAM XXXXXXXXXXXX1363 RS. 83.610.00 20-NOV-24 19.990 19.170 B.O.: BADSHAHPUR GUR HR 64 ANKUR KUDA XXXXXXXXXX9963 RS. 5,27,987.00 20-Jul-24 101.200 80.000

65 KAILASH KUMAR XXXXXXXXXXX2699 RS. 1,45,841.00 27-Sep-24 68.700 25.600 AXIS BANK LTD. HAS THE AUTHORITY TO REMOVE ACCOUNT/CHANGE THE AUCTION DATE WITHOUT ANY PRIOR NOTICE. AUCTION WILL BE HELD ONLINE <u>https://gold.samil.in</u> between 12.30 pm to 03.30 pm. FOR DETAILED TERMS AND CONDITIONS, PLEASE LOG INTO GIVEN WEBSITE HTTPS://GOLD.SAMIL.IN SD/-, AUTHORIZED OFFICER AXIS BANK LTD. DATE: 13.03.2025

XXXXXXXXXXX6010 RS. 1,02,645.00 6-JAN-25 21.600 18.700

XXXXXXXXXXX9236 RS. 61,462.72 20-JUL-24 9.980 9.680

B.O.: SECTOR-22. GURG GUR HR

### THOFC BANK

### HDFC Bank Ltd.

Branch: Alaska Tower, Lodhipara Road, Shankar Nagar, Raipur, Tel: 0771-4243149/240 CIN L65920MH1994PLC080618 Website: www.hdfcbank.com

### DEMAND NOTICE

Under Section 13 (2) of the Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of HDFC Bank Limited (erstwhile HDFC Limited having amalgamated with HDFC Bank Limited by virtue of a Scheme of Amalgamation approved by Hon'ble NCLT-Mumbai vide order dated 17th March 2023) (HDFC) under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued Demand Notices under Section 13 (2) of the said Act, calling upon the Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) listed hereunder, to pay the amounts mentioned in the respective Demand Notice/s, within 60 days from the date of the respective Notice/s, as per details given below. The undersigned have, caused these Notices to be pasted on the premises of the last known respective addresses of the

said Borrower(s)/Legal Heir(s)/Legal Representative(s). Copies of the said Notices are available with the undersigned, and the said Borrower(s)/Legal Heir(s)/Legal Representative(s). may, if they so desire, collect the respective copy from the undersigned on any working day during normal office hours. In connection with the above, Notice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) to pay to HDFC, within 60 days from the date of publication of this Notice, the amounts indicated hereinbelow in their respective names, together with further interest as detailed in the said Demand Notices from the respective dates mentioned below

in column (c) till the date of payment and / or realisation, read with the loan agreement and other documents/writings, if any, executed by the said Borrower(s). As security for due repayment of the loan, the following Secured Asset(s) have been mortgaged to HDFC by the said Borrower (s) respectively. Borrower(s)/Legal Heir(s)/Legal Representative(s) attention is invited to the provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured asset/s.

Total Amount | Date of Description of Secured Asset(s) / Name of Borrower(s)/ Legal Heir(s) Immovable Property (ies) / Legal Representative(s)/Guaranton (Rupees) Notice Layout Plot No.-A2 (Diverson Plot No. 424), Admeasuring-2148 Sq.ft., Kh No. 810/1 Mr. Shukla Avishek, Plot No. A2, Dream City, Kh. No. 827/1, 810/1, 810/5, 810/12, P.H.No. 17, Mauza 8,61,529/-18-Feb-Khamtarai, Bilaspur-Chh-495001. 2025 31-JAN-2025 Mr. Shukla Avishek, Flat No. 9186 Sec B 09, LIG Flats Vasant Kunj, City New Delhi, New Delhi-110017. Part, Situated at - Dream City P.H.N.-25/17, Mr. Shukla Avishek. Care Health Insurance Limited, D-3, Saket District Centre, New Delhi-110017. RIC-Bilaspur, Mauza-Khamtarai Tah & Dist Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh & Boundaries:-North-Boundary Wall of Colony, Mrs. Pandey Rina, Flat No. 9186, Sec B 09, LIG Flats, Vasant Kunj City, New Delhi, New Delhi-110017 Mrs. Pandey Rina, Plot No. A2, Dream City, Kh. No. 827/1, 810/1, 810/5, 810/12, P.H.No. 17, Mauza South-Road of Colony, East-Plot No. 1,

with further interest as applicable, incidental expenses, costs, charges etc incurred till the date of payment and / or realization. If the said Borrowers shall fail to make payment to HDFC as aforesaid, then HDFC shall proceed against the above Secured Asset(s) / Immovable Property (ies) under Section 13 (4) of the said Act and the applicable Rules entirely at the risk of the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) as to the costs and consequences. The said Borrower (s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) are prohibited under the said Act to transfer the aforesaid Secured Asset (s) / Immovable Property (ies), whether by way of sale, lease o otherwise without the prior written consent of HDFC. Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions of the Act or Rules made thereunder shall be liable for imprisonment

and/or penalty as provided under the Act. PLACE: NEW DELHI

Companies Act, 2013, having its registered office presently at 3018/1 G.F. Chuna Mandi, Pahar Ganj, New Delhi 55, has applied to the Regional Director Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA), for approval of shifting its registered office from the National Capital Territory of Delhi to the State of Haryana under Section 13 of the Companies Act, 2013.

160, Sector 4, IMT Manes Gurgaon, Haryana - 122050

NISHANK TANDON

Email: nishanktandon@gmail.com Date: 08.03.2025

### **ENGINEERING WORKS UNDER** KATIHAR DIVISION E-TENDER NOTICE NO. KIR/Engg.

10 of 2025; dated: 10-03-2025. Eenders are invited by the undersigned for the following work: Tender No.1 Brief Description of Work: Gradien verification of stations yards and section using Lidar Survey technology in Katiha Division. Tender Value: ₹2,18,61,953.30; Bid Security: ₹2,59,300.00. E-tenders wil be closed at 15:00 hrs. on 04-04-2025 and Opened at 15:30 hrs. on 04-04-2025 The complete information with the tende document of above e-tender will be available upto 15:00 hrs. on 04-04-2025 n website http://www.ireps.gov.in.

DRM (Works), Katiha NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
"Serving Customers with a smile"

of 2024-25, dtd. 05-03-2025. E-Tende are invited by the undersigned for the following work; SN-1; Tender No. EL/LM/24-25/47; Name of work At Guwahati: Electrical work for provisio of EV charging station and aesthetic lighting of approach road and circulation area at Guwahati Railway station. Tende Value: ₹.1,24,37,871/-; Earnest Money ₹ 2.12.200/-: Date & time of closing of above tender at 11:00 hrs. and opening at 11:30 hrs. on 27-03-2025. For complet information with the tender document o above e-tender will be available up to 11:00 hrs. on 27-03-2025 in website http://

ww.ireps.gov.in.

### **ELECTRICAL WORKS** IN LUMDING DIVISION

Tender Notice No.: Sr. DEE/LMG/39

Sr. DEE, Lumding ON NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

### [UVAM Item ref.) (Item Id:- 3100053 - PVC Insulated Armoured, Unscreened Underground Power Cable, Sub item Id: 3100053001- PVC Insulated Armoured, Unscreened Underground Power Cable) Inspection Details Stage Inspection Not Required Qty- 90.00 Kilometre for SSE/SIG/IC/Guwahati, NFR (Assam), P.L.

certifying agencies under Govt. of India IT Act 2000 and participate in the above tenders

Note: For full details of tender notice and tender documents, tenderer may log on to the website (www.ireps gov.in). Prospective bidder who intend to participate in above tender are required to log on themselves with the above website and submit their offer electronically, if they are already registered with IREPS. In Case they are not registered with IREPS, they are advised to obtain class-III Digital Signature Certificate from the

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

Serving Customers With A Smile

Regd. Office: HDFC Bank House, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel (West), Mumbai- 400020

West-Plot No. 3.

For HDFC Bank Limited Sd/-Authorised Officer

lower on

selling in IT,

telecom stocks

Sensex, Nifty

end moderately

# **Industrial production grows**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New Delhi

ndia's industrial production growth accelerated to 5 per cent in January 2025, driven by a rebound in manufacturing activity, according to official data released on Wednesday.

The government has also revised the December 2024 industrial output figure to 3.5 per cent from the provisional estimate of 3.2 per cent released in the previous month, an official statement said.

The IIP growth in November 2024 was

at 5 per cent in January 2025.

The pace of factory output growth stood

The country's factory output, measured in terms of the Index of Industrial

growth in January 2024.

The data released by the National Statistic Office (NSO) showed that the manufacturing sector's output grew by 5.5 per cent in January 2025, up from 3.6 per cent in the year-ago month.

Mining production growth declined to 4.4 per cent from 6 per cent year-on-year.

Power output growth slowed to 2.4 per cent in January 2025 from 5.6 per cent a year ago. In the April-January 2024-25 period, the IIP grew 4.2 per cent, slower than 6 per cent recorded in the yearago period

As per use-based classification, the capital goods segment growth accelerated to 7.8 per cent in January 2024 against 3.2 per

Production (IIP), witnessed 4.2 per cent cent in the year-ago period. Consumer durables (or white goods production) grew by 7.2 per cent during the reporting month against a growth of 11.6 per cent in January 2024.

In January 2025, consumer non-durables output contracted 0.2 per cent compared to a growth of 0.3 per cent a year ago. According to the data, infrastructure/construction goods reported a growth of 7 per cent in January 2025, up from a 5.5 per cent expansion in the year-ago period. The data also showed that the output of primary goods logged a 5.5 per cent growth in January 2025 against 2.9 per cent a year earlier.The expansion in the intermediate goods segment was 5.2 per cent in the month under review, slightly down from 5.3 per cent a year ago.

### Madhya Pradesh increases Budget

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA Bhopal

he Madhya Pradesh government on Wednesday presented a ₹4.21 Lakh Crore Budget for 2025-26 with no new taxes while announcing new schemes for development of religious sites.

Finance Minister Jagdish Devda presented the ₹4,21,032 Crore budget, a 15 per cent increase over the last fiscal, in the legislative assembly here.

He estimated the fiscal deficit at 4.66 per cent of the Gross State Domestic

The budget was for "Viksit (developed) Madhya Pradesh", he said. Among other things, 'Omkareshwar Lok' will be developed on the lines of Ujjain's Mahakal Lok corridor, he said.

He allotted ₹47,296 Crore for schemes for Scheduled Tribes and ₹32,633 Crore for those for the Scheduled

A provision of ₹18,669 Crore was made for the Mukhya Mantri Laadli Behna Yojana under which monthly financial assistance is provided to eligible women.

Devda, who is the state's deputy Chief Minister, also announced a provision of ₹10 Crore for Shrikrishna Pathey Yojana.

Chief Minister Mohan Yadav had earlier said religious sites associated with Lord Sri Krishna's life will be developed under the scheme.

Similarly, ₹30 Crore were allocated for development of 'Ram Path Gaman' and the town of Chitrakoot.

economic slowdown. The 30-share BSE Sensex fell 72.56 points or 0.10 per cent to close at

touch a low of 73,598.16. Similarly, the NSE Nifty slipped 27.40 points or 0.12 per cent to end

an intraday low of 22,329.55. From the Sensex pack, Infosys, Tech Mahindra, Nestle India, Tata Consultancy Services, HCL Technologies, Asian Paints, Axis Bank,

Bajaj Finance, HDFC Bank, ITC, Sun Pharma, Bajaj Finserv and UltraTech

The BSE Smallcap gauge fell 0.48 per cent, while the midcap index

Focussed IT, IT, Teck, Realty, Telecommunication, Metal, Capital

Auto, Bankex, Consumer Durables, Oil & Gas, and Power were the gainers.

mixed note. European markets were trading higher in the mid-session deals on

went up 0.34 per cent to \$69.80 a barrel.

The 30-share BSE Sensex on Tuesday settled down by 12.85 points at 74,102.32. The broader Nifty of NSE

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA Mumbai

quity benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty closed moderately lower on Wednesday due to heavy selling pressure in IT, telecom, and realty stocks amid growing concerns over a possible global

74,029.76. During the session, it tumbled 504.16 points or 0.68 per cent to

at 22,470.50. In the session, it fell 168.35 points or 0.74 per cent to hit

Zomato, Hindustan Unilever, and Bharti Airtel were among the laggards. On the other hand, IndusInd Bank, Tata Motors, Kotak Mahindra Bank,

Cement were the gainers.

slipped 0.57 per cent. Among the BSE sectoral indices,

Goods, Services, and Industrial were among the major laggards. In contrast, Energy, FMCG, financial services, Healthcare, Utilities,

In Asian markets, Tokyo, Seoul, Shanghai and Hong Kong ended on a

Wednesday. Wall Street ended in the negative zone on Tuesday. Global benchmark Brent crude oil

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) sold equities worth ₹2,823.76 Crore, while Domestic Institutional Investors (DIIs) purchased equities worth ₹2,001.79 Crore on Tuesday, according to the exchange data.

advanced 37.60 points to close at

## Inflation falls below 4 per cent in February

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New Delhi etail inflation slipped to seven-

month low of 3.61 per cent in Rebruary mainly due to easing prices of vegetables, eggs, and other protein-rich items, creating space for the RBI to go for another cut in interest rate

The consumer price index-based retail inflation was at 4.26 per cent in January and 5.09 per cent in February 2024. The previous low was witnessed in July.

The consumer price index (CPI) has been in the comfort zone of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) since November 2024.

"There is a decline of 65 basis points in headline inflation of February 2025 in comparison to January 2025. It is the lowest year-on-year inflation after July 2024," the National Statistics Office (NSO) said while releasing the CPI.

Year-on-year food inflation for February was 3.75 per cent.

"A sharp decline of 222 basis points is observed in food inflation in February 2025 in comparison to January 2025. The food inflation in February 2025 is the lowest after May 2023," NSO said. A significant decline in headline infla-

tion and food inflation during February has been mainly attributed to decline in inflation of vegetables, egg, meat and fish, pulses and products, and milk and

Key items having lowest year-on-year inflation in February were ginger -35.81 per cent), jeera (-28.77 per cent), tomato (-28.51 per cent), cauliflower (-21.19 per cent), garlic

-20.32 per cent). On the other hand, top items with highest inflation were coconut oil (54.48 per cent), coconut (41.61 per cent), gold (35.56 per cent), silver (30.89 per cent), and onion (30.42 per cent).

Data on urban inflation showed a significant decline from 3.87 per cent in January 2025 to 3.32 per cent in February. A similar decline was observed in food inflation, which decreased from 5.53 per cent to 3.20 per cent in February.

inflation in the rural sector was also observed in February to 3.79 per cent from 4.59 per cent a month earlier. The lowest inflation was in Telangana (1.31 per cent) and highest in Kerala

A sharp decline in headline and food

(7.31 per cent). The RBI, which has been mandated to ensure retail inflation remains at 4 per cent (+/- 2 per cent), has reduced the

short-term lending rate (repo) by 25 basis points last month on easing concerns on the inflation front.

The central bank is scheduled to announce the next set of bi-monthly monetary policy on April 9.

ICRA Chief Economist Aditi Nayar said the CPI inflation declined sharper than expected to a seven-month low, appreciably below the mid-point of the RBI's Monetary Policy Committee's medium-term target range, led by a welcome cooling in food inflation.

"However, we believe that the sequential uptick in vegetables inflation in March 2025 is likely to prevent a further softening in the food and beverages inflation print in the month, after the substantial cooling seen over the past four months," she said. Nayar further said the February

inflation print falling well below 4 per cent has cemented the expectation of a back-to-back 25 basis points rate cut in the April 2025 MPC meeting. This may be followed by another 25

bps repo rate cut either in the June 2025 or the August 2025 meetings, she added. NSO collects the price data from

selected 1,114 urban markets and 1,181 villages covering all states/UTs on a weekly roster.

### MRF Vice Chairman takes over as ATMA Chairman

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New Delhi

utomotive Tyre Manufacturers' Association on Wednesday said Arun Mammen, Vice Chairman and Managing Director of MRF Ltd has been elected as its new Chairman. Mammen takes over with immediate

effect from Arnab Banerjee, MD and CEO of CEAT Ltd, Automotive Tyre Manufacturers' Association (ATMA) said

The national industry body for the automotive tyre sector in India further said Hiroshi Yoshizane, Managing Director Bridgestone India is its new Vice

Mammen takes over as Chairman of ATMA at a crucial juncture as the organisation is celebrating 2025 as Golden

Jubilee year, it added On his new role, Mammen said the Indian tyre industry should have plans in place to be a major global supplier during

the decade and he would work towards policy enablers so as to make industry more competitive and technologically superior to meet the needs of developed

Mammen was appointed Managing Director of MRF Ltd in 2004 and Vice Chairman and Managing Director in 2017. He is a graduate from the Madras Christian College, and also holds a Master's Degree in Business Administration (MBA) from the Ashland University, US.

# Rupee trades almost flat



NEW DELHI: RUPEE VS DOLLAR:

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA Mumbai →he rupee turned almost flat and

traded with a marginal loss of 1 paisa at 87.22 against the US dollar in early trade on Wednesday amid volatile sentiment due to uncertainties over trade tariff. According to forex analysts, a strengthening American currency index and a recovery in crude oil prices also added pressure on the local unit, which was already weighed down due to selling in domestic equity and the continuous outflow of foreign capital.

They said, market participants were also trading cautiously awaiting cues from macroeconomic data to be released in India and the US later in the day.

At the interbank foreign exchange, the rupee opened at 87.24, tumbled to 87.32 and then gained to 87.22 against the greenback in early deals, trading 1 paisa lower from its previous closing level.

gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading higher by 0.07 per cent at 103.55. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, traded 0.66 per cent higher at US 70.02 per barrel in futures trade. Domestic equity market traded on a flat note with the 30-share BSE Sensex falling marginally by 0.28 points to 74,102.04 points and the broader Nifty sliding 10.70 points, or 0.05 per cent, to 22,487.20 points. Foreign institutional investors (FIIs)

Meanwhile, the dollar index, which

offloaded equities worth ₹ 2,823.76 crore on a net basis on Tuesday, according to exchange data. According to experts, the uncertainties over tariff moves intensified after President Donald Trump said the US would double the forthcoming levy on steel and aluminium to 50 per cent if they come from Canada but later hinted that he might reconsider the additional hike.

### **Retail inflation** eases to 3.61 per cent: Government

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■New Delhi

etail inflation slipped to 3.61 per cent Rin February mainly due to the decline in the rate of price rise in vegetables and protein-rich items, creating space for the Reserve Bank of India for second reduction in interest rate next month. The consumer price index-based retail inflation was at 4.26 per cent in January and 5.09 per cent in February 2024.

The year-on-year inflation rate for February 2025 was 3.75 per cent, showed the data released by the National Statistics Office (NSO). "A sharp decline of 222 basis points is observed in food inflation in February 2025 in comparison to January

The NSO said the significant decline in headline inflation and food inflation during February is mainly attributed to the decline in inflation of vegetables, egg, meat, and fish, pulses and products; and milk and products. The RBI, which has been mandated to ensure retail inflation remains at 4 per cent (+/- 2 per cent), has reduced the short-term lending rate (repo) by 25 basis points last month on easing concerns on the inflation front.

### Onus on states to curb illegal coal mining: Union Coal Minister

cknowledging the incidence of illegal coal mining, including rathole extraction, the Centre on Wednesday said it is the responsibility of state governments to stop such activities and action against mining mafia cannot

be successful without their cooperation. Replying to questions, including by Gowaal Kagada Padavi of the Congress and Nishikant Dubey of the BJP, Union Coal Minister G Kishan Reddy said in the Lok Sabha that the Cenre is working in close coordination with states to lower the number of accidents in coal fields.

Asked about the recent accident and loss of lives at a coal mine in Assam where rat-hole mining was allegedly being carried out, Reddy said that he has spoken to Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma

"It is the responsibility of the state government to check rat-hole mining," he said. "We need the cooperation of the state government too. I had a meeting with (Jharkhand) Chief Minister Hemant Soren and I am hopeful that we will be successful in our plans," he said.

Reddy said the Assam chief minister has conveyed to him that around 250 rathole mining sites have been closed down in the state and 12 people were arrested in this connection.

Replying to another supplementary question raised by Dubey on alleged illegal mining in Jharkhand, which has large coal reserves, he said the state police and government have to act against such ctivities as it is their responsibility. Reddy said the central government has

a zero-tolerance approach towards coal mafia and violence in coal mining activities. Dubey said an NTCP official was killed in Jharkhand and illegal mining has heightened safety concerns for public sector coal firms like BCCL, ECL and CCL working in the region.

He said his Lok Sabha constituency Godda is home to Asia's largest coal block and accused the JMM-led state government of not cooperating to curb illegal mining.Reddy said illegal mining has been going on in the state for many years and he had recently met Jharkhand Chief Minister Soren over the issue. Safety in coal mines is a top priority

for the central government and it is working to reduce accidents in coal mines.

We have taken a number of steps to reduce accidents in coal mines and results have started coming in," he said.

Asked about the unabated underground blaze in coal mines in Jharkhand's Jharia, Reddy said the fire has been going on for over a century and the central government is working to douse it completely.

### Parliament amends law on oilfields development

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New Delhi

rliament on Wednesday passed a bill that seeks to amend the existing law governing exploration and production of oil and gas as well as delink petroleum operations from mining operations to boost investment in

The Lok Sabha cleared the Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Amendment Bill, 2024, on Wednesday. The bill was passed by the Rajya Sabha on December 3, 2024.

Replying to the discussion on the bill, Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said India is the only country in the world where in the reference period of last three years, the prices of petrol and diesel have actually come down.

"We have brought down the prices of petrol and diesel because the prime minister reduced the central excise (duty) on two occasions," Puri asserted and took a swipe at the Opposition, saying that Congress-ruled states have increased VAT (Value Added Tax) on petrol and diesel. Prices in neighbourhood countries are 15 to 25 per cent higher than in India. Equally, prices in Western Europe and US are much higher than in India, he said.

While moving the bill for consideration and passage in the Lok Sabha, Puri said it does not alter the existing level-

We have brought down the prices of petrol and diesel because the prime minister reduced the central excise (duty) on two occasions

– HARDEEP SINGH PURI, PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS MINISTER

playing field for both public and private sectors. "The oil bill aims to resolve one of the biggest grievances of global oil companies interested in investing in India by providing stability in operation, both in terms of tenure of the lease and the condition. The bill also does not alter the rights of the states, which will continue to give petroleum leases and receive royalties as before.

"The bill also does not alter the existing level-playing field and offers no preference to either the private or the public sector," the minister said.

Among others, the bill aims to decriminalise some of the provisions of the original Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Act, 1948, by introducing "penalties, adjudication by an adjudicating authority and appeal as against

the order of adjudicating authority". Besides, it seeks to introduce 'petroleum lease' and expands the definition of mineral oils to include crude oil, natural gas, petroleum, condensate, coal bed methane, oil shale, shale gas, shale

oil, tight gas, tight oil and gas hydrate,

with a view to raising domestic output and cutting reliance on imports, he said. In his reply, Puri stressed that the

government is taking a holistic approach, and that the overall strategy is to increase domestic exploration and production as also to increase clean energy. Elaborating further, Puri said the long-term strategy for energy security

revolves around the trilemma of availability, affordability and sustainability. "So far, we have navigated all three very successfully," he noted. Currently, India is importing oil from 39 countries and in fact, also buying from a 40th country. "We will buy from wherever we have to... We do not distinguish between the

sources of our supply," the minister said. Congress leader Manish Tewari, while initiating the discussion, said the draft law "lacks vision and roadmap".

Referring to oil imports, Tewari claimed that India was not "future ready". "What is required is a roadmap to make India energy sufficient, which unfortunately is completely missing. What is the government planning to do to encourage independent oil explorers? Is there anything in the bill that incentivises them," Tewari asked.

As far as the bill is concerned, he said it makes minor changes here and there but a vision is missing. "You're not a government that was sworn in yesterday, but 11 years ago".

# IT industry to see 4 per cent to 6 per cent revenue growth

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA New Delhi

ndian IT companies are expected to see moderate revenue growth of 4 to 6 per cent in FY26, with hiring likely to remain subdued until growth accelerates towards the end of the fiscal year, according to credit rating agency Icra.

The agency projected attrition level to average 12 to 13 per cent over the

"Icra projects its sample set of Indian IT services companies (which account for 60 per cent of the industry in revenue terms) to witness a moderate 4 to 6 per cent revenue expansion in USD terms in FY2026.

"Moreover, hiring is likely to remain low until the growth momentum picks up by the end of FY2026," it said.

Icra's sample set recorded a year-on-year Deepak Jotwani said the growth momenrevenue growth of 3.6 per cent in USD terms during the first nine months of This growth was part of a gradual recov-

ery over the past three quarters, aided by a lower base from FY2024. Additionally, there was a slight increase in discretionary spending by customers in the BFSI and retail sectors in certain markets, along with investments in Generative AI initiatives that led to new orders, Icra said. The sample set includes Birlasoft,

Coforge, Cyient, HCL Technologies, Infosys, LTIMindtree, L&T Technology Services, Mastek, Mphasis, Oracle Financial Services Software, Persistent Systems, Tata Consultancy Services, Tech Mahindra, Wipro, and Zensar Technologies.

Icra Vice President & Sector Head

tum for ICRA's sample set of IT services companies is likely to remain muted over the near term, owing to the looming uncertainty related to the imposition of the US trade tariffs and macroeconomic headwinds across the key markets of the US and Europe. Policy changes by the US government

for key sectors catered to by Indian IT services companies as well as future interest rate trajectory will remain the key monitorables, he said. The IT industry experienced relief due

to reduced attrition rates and wage cost

inflation, which were significant con-

cerns during FY2023 and the first half of "Icra expects hiring to remain low in the near term until the growth momentum ties and continue to invest in the same," picks up by the end of FY2026. Lower hir-

ing activity can also be correlated with higher investments by the industry in GenAI and the expected benefits in terms of increased productivity and cost savings," the agency said.

Major Indian IT services companies have trained a significant number of their employees in Generative AI skills and are now expanding their capabilities and service offerings to provide GenAI-based solutions to their clients, it added. "This has started to show results as the

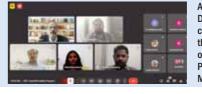
inflow of GenAI-related deals for major industry players has risen in recent quarters and is expected to pick up materially over the medium term, as overall technology adoption is more pervasive. The healthcare and BFSI sectors remain the early adopters of AI/GenAI capabili**INBRIEF** 

### GIRNAR FOUNDATION SPREADS LOVE AND JOY WITH MISSION (DDLJ) CAMPAIGN

Gurugram: Girnar Foundation, the CSR arm of CarDekho Group, launched 'Mission DDLJ' (Donate and Deliver Love & Joy) to spread kindness and strengthen community bonds in Jaipur and Gurugram. The initiative impacted over 1,000 children and senior citizens through thoughtfully curated programs designed to create meaningful change



VIT-AP UNIVERSITY HOSTS ONLINE EDP ON SCIENTIFIC SAFETY DURING NATIONAL SAFETY WEEK



Amaravati: As part of National Safety Week, the Department of Chemistry, VIT-AP University, in collaboration with Deccan Fine Chemicals and the American Chemical Society (ACS), is organising an Employee Development Program (EDP) on Scientific Safety from March 10 to 15, 2025.

# Manchester United to build 'world's greatest' soccer stadium

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA London

anchester United unveiled plans on Tuesday to build the world's greatest" soccer stadium. A proposed 100,000seater arena, costing around 2 billion pounds (\$2.6 billion), would be built next to United's current Old Trafford home and surpass Wembley Stadium as the biggest in the United Kingdom.

"Manchester United is the world's most favorite football club and, in my view, is the biggest and deserves a stadium fitting

of its stature," part owner Jim Ratcliffe said. Work could begin as early as this year, with completion by the 2030-31 season, the

Ratcliffe, who is one of Britain's richest people, said the new venue could be a tourist attraction in the manner of the Eiffel Tower.

"We have 1 billion people around the world who follow Manchester United. They will all want to visit this stadium," he said. Designed by British architect Norman Foster, the first released images of the stadium include three giant tentpoles that would be seen from 40 kilometers (25 miles) away. They support a surrounding covered area, which he describes as "arguably the largest public space in

Wembley is currently the biggest stadium in the UK, with a capacity of 90,000, and is home to England's national soccer teams. Twickenham, the national rugby stadium, holds 82,500



Old Trafford is the country's biggest dedicated soccer stadium with a capacity of just over 74,000, but is dated in comparison to the likes of the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium in London, which regularly hosts NFL games.

Old Trafford, which was bombed during World War II, has been home to United

Under the plans, the 20-time English champion said it would not need to relocate during the construction process. It is estimated it would take around 12 months to disassemble Old Trafford once the new stadium is completed.

Ratcliffe paid \$1.3 billion for an initial 25% stake in United last year and made a new stadium one of his priorities.

"Today marks the start of an incredibly exciting journey to the delivery of what will be the world's greatest football stadium," Ratcliffe said. "Our current stadium has served us brilliantly for the past 115 years, but it has fallen behind the best arenas in world sport."

United has not set a start date yet but Foster said building work, which could include pre-fabricated parts and a "Meccano" type construction, could mean it is completed in five years.

The timing would likely rely on government involvement in what United wants to be part of a wider project to regenerate the surrounding Old Trafford area. It said it would be worth 7.3 Billion pounds (\$9.4 Billion) to the UK Economy, and the UK Government has already voiced its support for the project.

"Our long-term objective as a club is to have the world's best football team playing in the world's best stadium," United chief executive Omar Berrada said.

Managerial great Alex Ferguson said the club "must be brave and seize this opportunity to build a new home, fit for the

future, where new history can be made." The announcement came days after thousands of United fans marched in protest against the club's ownership in the face of cost cuts, ticket price increases and ongoing failure on the field.

United is majority owned by the American Glazer family, which also owns the NFL's Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

Upon investing, Ratcliffe vowed to return the once-dominant club back to the summit of European soccer after more than a decade since it last won the Premier League.

But his first year in charge of soccer operations has been turbulent. United endured its worst-ever Premier League season last year and is on course to set a new low this term, with the team currently languishing in 14th position.

United has not won the league title since Ferguson's final season in 2013.

Berrada said the club was still focused on returning to the summit of European soccer. "We don't want to inhibit our ability to invest in the team, for us to continue being competitive while we are building a new stadium," he said.

Our number one goal is to get our teams winning and to get the men's team competing for all the titles consistently.

### **Argentina puts Maradona's** healthcare professionals on trial

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Buenos Aires

n Argentine court on Tuesday started its trial of seven healthcare A started its trial of seven heads gence in the death of soccer great Diego Maradona, at age 60. Maradona was under the care of those

professionals when he had a cardiac arrest in a house outside Buenos Aires on

Three judges will decide whether those charged, including a neurosurgeon, a psychiatrist and several medical staffers, are guilty of manslaughter. The maximum jail time for those sentenced is 25 years.

According to the prosecution, the accused professionals didn't provide adequate medical care.

Prosecutor Patricio Ferrari said he will provide evidence that, between Nov. 11-25 2020, Maradona was taken to a house in a private neighborhood in the town of Tigre, on the outskirts of Buenos Aires, without being in "full use of his mental faculties" to decide on home hospitalisation. Ferrari said it was a reckless hosp talisation in which there was no control.

"After condemning him to oblivion in that house... They deliberately and cruel-

ly decided that he should die," he said. The prosecutor showed an image of the former soccer star lying in the bed where he was found dead with his abdomen visibly swollen.

The tearful family of the 1986 World Cup winner were present at the courtroom. Maradona's oldest daughters, Dalma and Giannina, sat in the front row near Verónica Ojeda, former partner of the footballer, and Jana, another of his daughters. Minutes before the start of the trial, Ojeda shared a video on social media of Maradona's son Diego Fernando wearing a T-shirt with the face of the football star, and the word "justice."

The trial could last up to four months and there will be three hearings per week.

The spotlight is on neurosurgeon Leonardo Luque, Maradona's personal physician for the last four years of his life. He performed surgery to remove a blood clot from the former footballer's brain just weeks before his death.

### We are doing everything to bring two sides together, says Jay Monahan

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Ponte Vedra Beach

GA Tour Commissioner Jay Monahan wants to get a deal done with the Saudi backers of LIV Golf provided it doesn't compromise what he considers the essence of the tour.

Monahan said on Tuesday that President Donald Trump's involvement makes the prospect of reunification "very real." Missing were details on how to get there, only a suggestion that the PGA Tour and the Public Investment Fund of Saudi Arabia were at a standstill.

"We're doing everything that we can to bring the two sides together," Monahan said ahead of The Players Championship. "That said, we will not do so in a way that diminishes the strength of our platform or the very real momentum we have with our fans and our partners. So while we've removed some hurdles, others remain.

"But like our fans, we still share the same sense of urgency to get to a resolution." Monahan and Adam Scott met with Trump at the White House on February 4. The next meeting included Tiger Woods and Yasir Al-Rumayyan, the PIF governor behind LIV and its concept of

He wants to see the game reunified. We want to see the game reunified. His involvement has made the prospect of reunification very real - JAY MONAHAN, PGA TOUR COMMISSIONER

team golf. It was the second meeting where progress slowed. Monahan said no

other meetings currently are scheduled. "President Trump is a lifelong golf fan. He believes strongly in the game's power and potential and he has been exceedingly generous with his time and influence help bring a deal together," Monahan said. "He wants to see the game reunified. We want to see the game reunified. His involvement has made the prospect of reunification very real.

"When you're in the midst of complex negotiations, particularly when you may be near a breakthrough, there are ebbs and flows in the discussion."

That began a year ago when several players accompanied Monahan to the Bahamas to start the conversation with PIF. The PGA Tour last year brought on the private equity Strategic Sports Group and its \$1.5 Billion investment in a com-

mercial venture. That raised questions whether the tour even needed a deal with the Saudis. Driving the current discussion is how to repair the divide in golf, with players like Jon Rahm, Bryson DeChambeau and Brooks Koepka part of LIV Golf and banned from playing on the PGA Tour. The best players are together only four times a year at the majors.

Monahan invited more questions without providing answers when he said: "We believe there's room to integrate important aspects of LIV Golf into the PGA Tour platform.

We're doing everything that we can to bring the two sides together." That would not appear likely for the rest of the year. LIV Golf, which began in 2022 with a schedule that avoided some of the biggest events in golf, is playing this week in Singapore opposite The Players Championship, the tour's premier event with a \$25 million purse. Monahan has said over the past month that the priority of the meetings with PIF was about reuniting all the best players more often. He declined to say what "more often" meant or even if that required a financial investment from the PIF

# **Bayern Munich victory**

over Bayer Leverkusen PRESS TRUST OF INDIA Leverkusen

arry Kane is one step closer to being a Champions League win-Iner, and he wants to enjoy Bayern Munich's statement victory over German rival Bayer Leverkusen.

"To beat this team 5-0 over two legs shows the type of team that we are," Kane told broadcaster Prime Video after scoring his 10th Champions League goal of the season in Tuesday's 2-0 second-leg win. "We're in the quarterfinal now where Bayern Munich should be and we want to keep pushing," Kane said. "We just want to enjoy this because it's not easy. Especially when you play your domestic rivals, there's a lot of pressure,

there's a lot of intensity that goes into it." Kane added that Bayern hadn't wanted to protect its three-goal lead from the first leg, but instead wanted to put Leverkusen under more pressure by creating chances early on: "In the second half we knew they had to come out and try something and we punished them."

Next stop in the Champions League is a quarterfinal meeting with Inter Milan. "It will be tough," Kane said. "The San Siro's a really tough place to go but also,

any team we play, we know that we can

cause problems." **Kane and Kompany** 

Kane's career has been defined by an abundance of individual awards and a lack of team trophies. With Bayern leading the Bundesliga by eight points from Leverkusen and into the Champions League quarterfinals, that wait could soon come to an end.

The coach who has got the best out of Kane and the players around him wasn't Bayern's first choice last year. Vincent Kompany isn't getting carried away with success. "I won't surf on a hype wave, no chance," Kompany said after beating Leverkusen on Tuesday.

### He praised Kane's contribution "It obviously helps when you have a top

player who only wants to run and fight for the team like a youth player," Kompany said. "That energy just helps." Leverkusen under strain

Xabi Alonso's team is no stranger to a busy schedule — Leverkusen played 53 games last season, losing only the Europa League final — but the extra strain of the Champions League has seemed to take its toll on his relatively small squad.

Both Leverkusen and Bayern lost their Bundesliga games last week after their Champions League first-leg game. That defeat in itself was a blow to Leverkusen's fading German title defense ambitions, but far worse was an injury to attacking midfielder Florian Wirtz, who is set to be out for several weeks.

Against Bayern on Tuesday, Alonso tried to shake up his tactics with more long balls and a starting spot for tall striker Patrik Schick, but the Czech international's main contribution ended up being an involuntary assist for Kane's goal as Leverkusen didn't have a shot on target until the 65th minute.

### Thuram emerges as one of Serie A's leading players

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA Milan

arcus Thuram has emerged as one of Serie A's leading players this season. The Inter Milan forward is now doing it on the international stage.

Thuram scored a stunning early goal to set Inter on its way to a 2-1 victory over Feyenoord in the second leg of the Champions League round of 16

Inter advanced 4-1 on aggregate with Thuram also having scored in the first leg and will face Bayern Munich in the quarterfinals. Thuram, the son of former Juventus

defender and World Cup winner Lilian Thuram, could have added to his tally with more fancy footwork as he showed few ill effects from an ankle injury that has restricted his playing time of late.

"I've had a problem with my ankle for a month, sometimes it hurts more sometimes less," the 27-year-old Thuram said. "I'm not at 100 per cent yet."

However, he certainly seemed back to his best right from the start at San Siro.

There was less than eight minutes on the clock when Thuram received the ball midway inside the Feyenoord half and the France forward then twisted and weaved his way to the edge of the area before unleashing a powerful effort into the top right corner.

That made Thuram only the second Inter player to score in both legs of a Champions League round-of-16 tie, and the first since Dejan Stankovic did so against Ajax in 2006. Thuram almost repeated his exploits

at the start of the second half, turning deftly on the edge of the area before his strike went narrowly over the bar.

He also rattled the crossbar in the 70th minute after again dribbling his way through a maze of Feyenoord shirts. Thuram received a standing ovation

from the San Siro crowd when he was substituted shortly afterward. Thuram, in his second season at Inter, has become one of the league's top players. He helped the team to the Serie A title last year. Known for his assists last season, the forward has developed into a top scorer in this campaign with 13 goals plus four assists in Serie A.

However, he had only scored once in the league phase of Europe's elite club competition, against Young Boys back in October. Inter last won the Champions League

in 2010 as part of a trio of trophies under Jose Mourinho along with the Serie A title and the Italian Čup. The Nerazzurri are again on the tre-

ble hunt as they lead Serie A and are in the Italian Cup semifinal, where they will play city rival AC Milan. They face a crucial match at Atalanta on Sunday, with just three points separating the two teams at the top of the table.

"It's not that I believe it or I don't believe it," Thuram said when asked about Inter's treble chances. "It's that at Inter we play all the games to win it. And if you do that, then at the end of the season beautiful things arrive.

# Paris Saint-Germain defeats Liverpool in quarterfinals of Champions League

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA Madrid

ianluigi Donnarumma came through and Paris Saint-Germain defeated Liverpool in a penalty shootout to join Barcelona, Bayern Munich and Inter Milan in the quarterfinals of the Champions League on Tuesday.

PSG beat Liverpool 1-0 on the night to level the aggregate score at 1-1. Ousmane Dembélé scored 12 minutes into the second-leg match after a blunder by the Liverpool defense.

After extra time, Donnarumma stopped the penalty shots by Darwin Nunez and Curtis Jones to secure his team a 4-1 shootout win. Desire Doue scored the winning spot kick for PSG, which will face either Aston Villa or Club Brugge.

"It does not matter if we deserve the win. Both teams deserved to go through," PSG coach Luis Enrique said. "We were better in Paris and they were better here. My team showed great personality and character at Anfield." The French league leader seeking its first Champions League title had lost at this stage in five of the past eight editions. It lost to Borussia Dortmund in last season's semifinals. "It was the best game of football I have ever been involved in," Liverpool manager Arne Slot said. "It was an incredible performance, especially if you compare it with last week. We were creating chances and then we were 1-0 down. We ran out of luck after last week."

Barcelona cruised past Benfica with Raphinha scoring twice and Lamine Yamal once in a 3-1 win at home.

The Catalan club advanced 4-1 on aggregate score after last week's 1-0 victory and will play either Borussia Dortmund or Lille in the quarterfinals.

After a 3-0 first-leg win, Bayern Munich had no trouble advancing past German rival Bayer Leverkusen. Bayern made it to the last eight a record 23 times in the Champions League era after a 2-0 win at Leverkusen to advance 5-0 on aggregate.

Inter moved on past Feyenoord with a 2-1 victory at San Siro to advance 4-1 on aggregate. Bayern and Inter will meet in the last eight.

### **PSG outlasts Liverpool**

A thrilling clash at Anfield saw chances come and go at both ends, with Liverpool



goalkeeper Alisson pulling off a string of saves to deny PSG, and with Liverpool substitute Jarell Quansah hitting the post in the second half.

Dembélé took advantage of mix up between Ibrahima Konate and Alisson to roll the ball into the empty net for the only

Premier League leader Liverpool, which did not make it to the Champions League last season, won the first leg 1-0 through Harvey Elliott's late goal in Paris last week. Barcelona powers into quarterfinals

Raphinha's double made him the leading scorer in the Champions League this season with 11 goals. He had scored the lone goal last week in Lisbon.

The Brazil forward put Barcelona ahead in the 11th, then Yamal added to the lead in the 27th before assisting in Raphinha's second goal in the 42nd to become the youngest player to score and assist in a Champions League match at 17 years, 241 days. "My teammates make things much easier for me," Yamal said. "It was a good goal but sometimes these things come off and sometimes they don't. For the assist, I tried to shoot and Raphinha turned it

Nicolás Otamendi scored for Benfica in the 13th to become the third-oldest scorer in a Champions League knockout game at the age of 37 years, 27 days, according to UEFA. Yamal's goal meant he became the second-youngest

### Kane leads Bayern

Harry Kane scored his 10th Champions League goal of the season and set up another as Bayern Munich cruised into the quarterfinals. Leverkusen never looked likely to overturn the three-goal deficit from the first leg, even before Kane bundled in the ball at a free kick in the 52nd after Leverkusen's Patrik Schick misjudged an attempted clearance.

Kane set up Alphonso Davies for Bayern's second goal with a flicked cross in the 71st as the all-German rivalry became a one-sided contest. Bayern could have scored more as Jamal Musiala hit the crossbar with one shot and the post with

### Inter comfortably advances

A goal at the start of each half saw Inter easily advance, with Marcus Thuram scoring a stunning eighth-minute opener. The Inter forward received the ball midway inside the Feyenoord half and then weaved his way into the area before unleashing a powerful effort into the top right corner.

Jakub Moder leveled from the penalty spot shortly before halftime after being tripped by Hakan Calhanoglu.

Inter restored its advantage on the night six minutes into the second half with a penalty of its own, which Çalhanoglu converted after Mehdi Taremi was fouled by Thomas Beelen right in the corner

# Rohit is clear about his goals: Ponting

ustralia legend Ricky Ponting believes Rohit Sharma is still going strong and a sense of unfinished business was behind his decision to continue playing and leading India in the 50-over format until the 2027 ODI World Cup to be jointly hosted by South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia.

Barring the ODI World Cup, Rohit has won all ICC titles while captaining India. He came agonisingly close to laying his hands on the 50-over world title at home in 2023, only to lose to Australia

Speaking on The ICC Review, the former Australia skipper said Rohit is pretty clear about his future goals.

"When you start getting to that point of your career, everyone's waiting for you to retire. And I do not know why, when you can still play as well as he's played (in the Champions Trophy final), I think he was just trying to put those questions to bed once and for all and say, 'no, I'm still playing well enough. I love playing in this team. I love leading this team.'

"And I think, the fact that he said that,

WFI to conduct

selection trials

**Championship** 

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA New Delhi

ts status as a National Sports Federation

(NSF) restored, the WFI swung to

Laction, announcing that the selection

trials for the upcoming Asian Championship will be held at Delhi's Indira

It will be first proper trial under the

supervision of the new WFI administra-

tion as it was suspended three days after

it conducted election on December 21,

fy the top wrestlers who will represent the

country in Amman, Jordan from

The trials will be conducted to identi-

2023 to pick new office bearers.

Gandhi Sports Complex on March 15.

for Asian



to me, it means that he must have that goal in mind of playing in the next (50-over) World Cup (in 2027)," Ponting stated.

Handed the responsibility of captaincy in 2021 at the age of 34, Rohit on Sunday clinched his second ICC title following the T20 World Cup win last year as India defeated New Zealand by four wickets to win the Champions Trophy

Chasing 252, Rohit, 38, led from the front with an 83-ball 76 at the top to set the platform for a comfortable win.

In the run-up to the tournament, there were talks around Rohit's retirement from the ODI format after the Champions Trophy, as he had retired from T20Is after winning the T20 World Cup.

But Rohit simply rejected the theories at the post-match press conference following the

"One more thing, I'm not going to retire from this format, just to make sure no more rumours are spread," Rohit told reporters after winning

Sciver-Brunt's wicket-taking ability

too cannot be underestimated, given

that she along with Matthews have

played a pivotal role in MI's success-

Harmanpreet's form has been patchy

this season, she did manage a half-cen-

tury against Gujarat on Monday,

which would have given her enough

confidence going into the Eliminator.

who took over the captaincy from

country-mate Beth Mooney this sea-

son, would know that beating the inau-

gural edition champions in their own

though she still continues to be among

the top-five scorers with 235 runs. She

scored a duck against Mumbai Indians

on Monday, one of the reasons they

lost the match, which dashed their

hopes of automatically qualifying for

the final ahead of Delhi Capitals.

Her form has fluctuated all season,

den wouldn't be easy.

Gujarat Giants skipper Gardner,

ful run this season. While

the player-of-the-match award.

Ponting said the urge to win the only missing ICC trophy in his cabinet, the ODI World Cup, might be behind Rohit's mind to prolong his career.

I think probably the fact that they (India) lost the last one and he was captain, that might be the thing that's playing on the back of his mind," the Australian said. "Just have one more crack at trying to win the T20 World Cup, the Champions Trophy, and the ODI World Cup.

'Ī mean when you see him play like he played in the Champions Trophy final, you wouldn't say that his time is up just yet," Ponting added.

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5	102780342	NITIN KUMAR SONI	Bemetara	47
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22	105117606	GAIND RAM PATIL	Berla	64
23	106153311	KHILAWAN SAHU	Berla	65
24	101526269	VIRENDRA K SAHU	Dhamtari	66
25	101027661	SUNIL JAISWAL	Durg	67
26	101041823	JANARDAN VERMA	Durg	68
27	101895120	V SATYANARAYAN RAO	Durg	69
28	102351108	VISHNU DEWANGAN	Durg	70
9	102785238	RAKHI RATHOR	Durg	71
30	102937062	ZAHID QURESHI	Durg	72
31	103262442	P PRASAD	Durg	73
32	105064353	GAINDLAL SAHU	Durg	74
33	105627739	VIMALA DESHLAHARE	Durg	75
34	105720583	LEELA SAHU	Durg	76
35	106108383	SURAJ SAHA	Durg	77
36	106536817	SOORAJ CHANDRAVANSHI	Durg	78
37	102114996	DEEPAK DEWANGAN	Janjgir Champa	79
88	102823859	SUNITA RAMKUMAR BARETH	Janjgir Champa	80
39	103840415	LAKESHWAR PRASAD SAHU	Janjgir Champa	81
10	104552199	JITENDRA KUMAR DIWAKAR	Janjgir Champa	82
11	105889540	AJIT TAWAR	Janjgir Champa	83
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19	103167307	MANOJ KUMAR SAHU	Berla	61	1056
20	103311298	NARENDRA KUMAR VERMA	Berla	62	1015
21	103489751	PRAKASH	Berla	63	1027
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40	104552199	JITENDRA KUMAR DIWAKAR	Janjgir Champa	82	1034
41	105889540	AJIT TAWAR	Janjgir Champa	83	1038
42	105964547	YOGESH KUMAR SINGH	Janjgir Champa	84	1041

# Janjgir Champa 84 104189822 ARIF KHAN

# Mumbai to host PSA event from March 24 to March 28

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA Mumbai

umbai will host a PSA event from March 24 to 28, pitting **IV I**India's top squash players like Ramit Tandon and Anahat Singh against their overseas rivals.

The \$40,000 prize money Indian Open, to be held at the indoor courts of Bombay Gymkhana, will see participation of players from countries like Egypt, Canada, Malaysia and Japan.

Besides Tandon and Anahat, other Indian players set to take part are Velavan Senthilkumar, Veer Chotrani, and Akanksha Salunkhe. The event will mark the return of a top squash tournament in the country after 2018, when Mumbai hosted the CCI International a PSA World Tour Silver tournament, a release from title sponsors JSW Sports said.

Starting in August 2024, PSA (Professional Squash Association) replaced World Tour tournaments with new PSA World Events, comprising new tournament-tiers Diamond, Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze and Copper. The

The level of competition is right up there, and it is a great opportunity for Indian players to test themselves against

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA Mumbai

armanpreet Kaur's ability to

unflinchingly guide Mumbai

Indians in difficult situations

could be the clinching factor for the

former champions when they take on

Gujarat Giants, a team they have van-

quished twice this season, in the

Women's Premier League (WPL)

snugly in the final after topping the

WPL table with 10 points, the focus

is now on India skipper Harmanpreet

and Gujarat Giants' captain Ashleigh

Gardner to guide their sides into the

Mumbai Indians would certainly

enjoy the home advantage as the

match will be played at the Brabourne

Stadium and the fact that they over-

whelmed Gujarat Giants in their

penultimate league game here on

With Delhi Capitals already sitting

Eliminator here on Thursday.

title round.

- RAMIT TANDON, SQUASH PLAYER

Indian Open will be a copper event. A full-glass outdoor court has been set

up for the quarterfinal, semifinal and

final, creating a thrilling spectator experience, the ISW said.

India Number one Ramit Tandon said, "It's always special to compete at home, and having a PSA event like the Indian Open in India is a huge boost for

"The level of competition is right up there, and it's a great opportunity for Indian players to test themselves against the best. With squash making its Olympic debut at LA28, events like these are crucial in building momentum and inspiring the next generation."

PSA CEO Alex Gough welcomed the return of a PSA tournament to India.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA Dubai

down the England stalwart.

Mumbai Indians takes on Gujarat Giants

Monday, with Harmanpreet blazing to

largely remained unchanged with

Hayley Matthews giving them flour-

ishing starts while also tormenting the

once again prove to be the match-win-

ner for her team following her sterling

performances against the Gujarat side

in their previous two meetings this sea-

son. She broke the back of Gujarat

Giants, returning with figures of 3/16

in Vododara last month and again tor-

mented them in the return match at

Brabourne, snaring three wickets.

With Nat Sciver-Brunt doing the bulk

of the scoring for MI, smashing four

half-centuries and emerging as the top

run-getter this season with 416 runs

from eight matches, the onus would

be on Gujarat Giants bowlers to tie

The West Indian all-rounder could

opponents with her off spin.

Mumbai Indians' playing XI has

a 33-ball 54 in the nine-run victory.

tar India opener Shubman Gill was on Wednesday named the ICC Men's Player of the Month for February following his stellar performances, which includes his exploits in his team's title-winning Champions Trophy campaign.

Gill took home the award, beating competition from Australia's Steve Smith and New Zealand's Glenn Phillips.

In his five ODIs over the course of the month, Gill compiled 406 runs, averaging 101.50 at a strike rate of 94.19.

This included a stellar outing in the 3-0 series win over England, wherein Gill registered three consecutive scores of over fifty. Gill began with a confident 87 in Nagpur and followed it up with a 60

He finished in a grand style, smashing a hundred in Ahmedabad. His 112 came from merely 102 balls and included 14 fours and three sixes.

Gill was awarded player-of-the-match for this innings, and also took home the player-of-the-series award.

Continuing his golden run into the Champions Trophy, Gill hit an unbeaten 101 to lead India's chase in their tournament opener against Bangladesh.

He followed it up with a resolute 46 against Pakistan.

India won both of their opening

matches in the Champions Trophy on the back of these

This is the third ICC Men's Player of the Month honour for Gill, who had previously won it twice in 2023 January and September.

### AXIS BANK

**AXIS Bank Ltd** 

A.C.Market, 4th Floor,1, Shakespeare Sarani, Kolkata- 700071

Public Notice for - E-Auction of pledged assets being Gold

The Borrowers, in specific and the public in general are here buy notified that public auction of the gold ornaments pledge in the below accounts is proposed to be conducted by the Axis Bank at the below mentioned Branch. The below mentioned Borrowers has availed the credit facility from the Axis Bank Limited against the pledge of gold ornaments ("Gold Loan Facility") in favour of

the Bank towards the security. The Demand notices were issued to the Borrowers/Guarantors calling up the Borrowers/Guarantors to pay their outstanding amount towards the Gold loan facility availed. As the Borrowers/Guarantors have failed to repay the outstanding loan amount, the bank is constrained to invoke the pledge and proposed to conduct an e-auction sale of pledged gold ornaments more particularly described in schedule of property hereunder on 24-03-2025 (dated) at 12.30 PM-3.30 PM (time of e-auction) on "As In Where Is", "As Is What Is", "Whatever There Is" and "No Recourse Basis" Details of Borrowers and outstanding amount.

Branch Name	Customer Name	Loan A/c No.	Date of Demand Notice	Amount Outstanding	Weight Grams	
AMBIKAPUR [CT]	MD. ISHAQ ALI	XXXXXXXXXXX5529	30-Jan-25	259614	88.600	83.000
AMBIKAPUR [CT]	ABHIROUP ROY	XXXXXXXXXXX1892	30-Jan-25	53289	15.100	14.300
ARANG C0226 CT	BASANT KUMAR JOSHI	XXXXXXXXXXXX8575	30-Jan-25	136911	33.600	32.400
BASNA CT	SAPAN DAS	XXXXXXXXXXX8842	8-May-24	95724	22.340	22.230
BASNA CT	LOKNATH SATNAMI	XXXXXXXXXXX7594	8-May-24	76929	17.430	17.320
BASNA CT	BALRAM PRADHAN	XXXXXXXXXXXX2813	8-May-24	61822	15.670	15.660
BASNA CT	DEVENDRA CHAUHAN	XXXXXXXXXXX5803	8-May-24	69848	16.850	16.660
BASNA CT	JAYA MANJHI	XXXXXXXXXXXX8311	8-May-24	47559	10.940	10.880
BASNA CT	ALOK MOHANTY	XXXXXXXXXXX8395	30-Jan-25	47657	16.030	15.230
BEMETARA C0697 CT	NITIN KUMAR SONI	XXXXXXXXXXXX1547	4-Aug-24	39539	18.900	16.900
BHILAI [CT]	PRIYANKA KOUR	XXXXXXXXXXX5532	20-Jul-24	77431	19.200	18.800
BIJAPUR CT	GAURI NISHAD	XXXXXXXXXXX6688	30-Jan-25	206761	45.800	45.300
BIJAPUR CT	CHANDRA SWAMY	XXXXXXXXXXXX2087	28-Nov-24	120848	30.100	29.700
BIJAPUR CT	GOVINDA MADKAM	XXXXXXXXXXXX2285	30-Jan-25	84923	19.300	19.300
BIJAPUR CT	LATA SAPETI	XXXXXXXXXXXXX0024	30-Jan-25	66450	17.500	17.500
CHAMPA [CT]	MOHAMMAD JUBER MEMON	XXXXXXXXXXXX8324	8-May-24	71125	16.000	15.700
DANTEWADA C1443 CT	UMASHANKAR THAKUR	XXXXXXXXXXXXX0411	30-Jan-25	69524	18.300	16.000
DHARAMPURA JAD CT	KAMLU NAG	XXXXXXXXXXXX342	4-Aug-24	51769	11.130	10.500
DIPKA BRANCH KORB CT	PRITY KANVAR	XXXXXXXXXXX8945	27-Sep-24	53350	12.200	11.700
GE ROAD, RAIPUR [CT]	AKHIL	XXXXXXXXXXX4854	30-Jan-25	37490	10.020	9.170
KANKER KNK CT	KISHOR KUMAR JAIN	XXXXXXXXXXX9180	30-Jan-25	90702	31.300	30.500
KAWARDHA [CT]	ANIL SAHU	XXXXXXXXXXXX330	4-Nov-24	224378	53.600	53.400
KESHKAL CT	SALIK RAM JAYASAVAL	XXXXXXXXXXXX1501	6-Jan-25	392260	166.610	163.800
KESHKAL CT	RAMESHWAR BESARA	XXXXXXXXXXXX1262	30-Jan-25	61652	13.800	13.300
KHAIRAGARH C6825 CT	AYASH WAHNE	XXXXXXXXXXXXX0434	30-Jan-25	82434	20.000	19.000
KHARSIA KHI CT	TEEJ KUMARI CHANDRA	XXXXXXXXXXX9415	4-Aug-24	139689	55.900	44.000
KONDAGAON C6079 CT	ROUNAK KUMAR PARAKH	XXXXXXXXXXXX6377	20-Jul-24	67991	14.900	14.800
KONDAGAON C6079 CT	MAHESH KUMAR KASHYAP	XXXXXXXXXXX5898	30-Jan-25	86086	25.500	24.250
KORBA [CT]	POORNIMA BAI	XXXXXXXXXXX7542	27-Sep-24	86390	18.330	18.000
KURUD C6255 CT	TUKESHWARI DHRUW	XXXXXXXXXXX5160	30-Jan-25	188685	45.950	45.700
MANENDRAGARH [CT]	NIPENDRA BISWAS	XXXXXXXXXXX7136	30-Jan-25	155919	36.700	34.200
MANGLA CHOWK BILA CT	SAURABH SINGH	XXXXXXXXXXXX0238	8-May-24	121310	29.440	28.000
NARAYANPUR CT	RAJU	XXXXXXXXXXX6614	30-Jan-25	106600	32.000	30.700
NARAYANPUR CT	SOMA SARKAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX3731	30-Jan-25	87784	26.780	25.390
OCM CHOWK CIVIL RAI CT	AJAY DHEERAJ	XXXXXXXXXXXX5067	30-Jan-25	43855	29.400	23.000
PATAN DURG C1759 CT	BABITA DHRUW	XXXXXXXXXXX8944	30-Jan-25	61337	14.790	12.090
PENDRA CT	JAGDISH PRASAD YADAV	XXXXXXXXXXX9030	8-May-24	56846	13.000	12.500
RAIPUR [CT]	TEKRAM SAYTODE	XXXXXXXXXXX1901	27-Sep-24	67566	18.600	18.300
RAJIM [CT]	PYARELAL MARKAM	XXXXXXXXXXX7121	8-May-24	49531	12.900	12.700
SARAIPALI MAH CT	SAKUNTALA DILEEP JAGAT	XXXXXXXXXXX3926	30-Jan-25	45549	10.400	10.200
SARAIPALI MAH CT	MOHANLAL TRILOCHAN PATEL	XXXXXXXXXXX1859	30-Jan-25	146765	53.400	32.100
SARANGARH C4585 CT	AASHUTOSH GOSWAMI	XXXXXXXXXXXX0157	4-Nov-24	119250	35.540	34.400
SEEPAT ROAD, BILASPUR [CT]	NARAYAN MOHANTY	XXXXXXXXXXXX3334	30-Jan-25	98861	26.600	25.000
SUKMA C7099 CT	ABHISHEK KUMAR SINGH	XXXXXXXXXXX9781	8-May-24	192322	57.600	43.900
TAGORE NAGAR [CT]	BHARTI SAHU	XXXXXXXXXXXX5211	30-Jan-25	54017	14.300	14.000
TELIBANDHA SQUA RAI CT	VIJAY KUMAR SHARMA	XXXXXXXXXXXX0656	20-Jul-24	116936	39.580	38.650
TULSI TUS CT	GAJENDRA KUMAR SEN	XXXXXXXXXXX6997	20-Jul-24	65926	13.890	13.700
	emove account/change the auction date					

ndor) between 12.30 pm-3.30pm (time). For detailed Terms and conditions, please log into given website \_\_https://gold.samil.in (website of online

Authorized Officer, Axis Bank LTD

### I do not look back, I care about wins and finishing on top, says Collin Morikawa

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Ponte Vedra

rt's hard to win on the PGA Tour, a sentiment usually heard from players when they are sitting next to the trophy and realise what it took to get there. Collin Morikawa keeps getting reminded after some painful losses. The player who won five times on the

PGA Tour in just over two years as a pro has only one title in his last 75 starts. Morikawa is Number four in the world ranking, and that's not an accident. He is playing good golf and giving himself plenty of chances.

### **Small consolation**

"I don't look back and be like, Man, I had a great week' because I do care about the wins and I do care about finishing on top, Morikawa said Tuesday. "So there's a little bit of yes, I feel great because I know I can keep putting myself in contention, and if I just keeping doing that, it's going to happen. "But for me, it does suck because I do look back at the wins and I do care about winning," he said. "So that's where it kind of hurts."

He can look back to being in the final group of two majors last year. Morikawa was done in at the Masters when it took him two shots to get out of bunker on No. 9 for double bogey. He shared the 54-hole lead at the PGA Championship with Xander Schauffele at Valhalla. That requires good golf.

But remember, Morikawa won two majors, the PGA Championship in 2020, the British Open a year later, before his



40th career start on tour.

Golf felt easy back then, not so much atlMorikawa has better scoring statistics now than when he was winning, but he speaks more about the freedom he felt on Sunday when he was winning with a little more regularity.

There wasn't much freedom when he took his place in the PGA Tour record book for losing a six-shot lead in the final round at Kapalua to start 2023. He played 67 consecutive holes without a bogey that week until one shot after another went wrong. Even more frustrating is losing without really doing much wrong.

Such was the case last week at Bay Hill, when Morikawa lost the lead without really losing control of his game. He was three shots ahead with five holes to play on a course with really one one birdie opportunity left. The other four holes were ranked among the top six in difficulty that day. Morikawa had made only three bogeys in the previous 58 holes at that point. It wasn't a matter of what went wrong as much as it what went right, a lot, for Russell Henley.

There was a two-shot swing on the par-3 14th, the toughest hole Sunday at Bay Hill, which at that point had yielded only

Morikawa missed the green and made bogey. Henley made his best swing of the tournament with a 5-iron to 10 feet for birdie. And then came the breaks that win tournaments. Morikawa found a bunker off the tee at the par-5 16th (the easiest hole of the final round) and had to lay up and hit wedge to a front pin, no easy task. Henley went just over the green in rough so thick he could only see his golf ball by standing over it.

And then he chipped in for eagle, a good shot because it was on line, a massive break because it hit the middle of the pin. An inch to the right or to the left, and Henley isn't sure the ball would have even stayed on the green.

Instead, he had an eagle and the lead for the first time when Morikawa made par.

And that's the way it stayed for the last two holes until Henley held his nerve to make a pair of par putts (the combined length of those putts was 10 feet) for the biggest of his career.

Henley's words were telling when he turned his attention to Morikawa.

"Sometimes golf is just mean like that," he said. Morikawa clearly is trending with his game. The world ranking might not include LIV Golf players, but it's generally accurate at the top. The trick now is moving on, just like he had to do after Kapalua in 2023, after the Masters and the PGA Championship last year. He was in no mood to talk Sunday and

offered no apologies given how he felt in the moment. "I don't owe anyone anything," he said

to a roomful of media at the TPC Sawgrass.

Date: 13.03.2025 Place: Kolkata