

12-year-old girl killed as DTC runs over scooter in east Delhi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

A class 8 student's trip to attend Independence Day celebrations at her school turned fatal when a DTC electric bus, allegedly driving in the wrong lane, hit the scooter she was riding with her uncle in the New Ashok Nagar area on Friday, police said.

Following the incident, angry locals pelted stones at the bus, damaging its front windshield and windows.

Police said they controlled the situation from escalating and arrested the bus driver, who had fled after the accident. The girl, identified as a 12-year-old Kayna Pal, was on her way to school for an Independence Day programme when the accident took place around 8 am on Dallupura Road.

According to police, she was travelling on a scooter with her uncle when the DTC bus hit them, causing her to fall and suffer fatal injuries. Her inconsolable

father, Aman Pal, was seen waiting outside the mortuary as the body was taken for a postmortem.

He said, "My younger brother was taking her to school for the programme when the bus came from the wrong side and struck their scooter. The impact threw the child onto the road, following which her head came under the wheels of the bus."

Police said the girl died on the spot, and they shifted the body to Lal Bahadur



A DTC bus remains parked after a schoolgirl was run over by it in Ashok Nagar, New Delhi

Shastri Hospital for medico-legal proceedings.

The deceased's other uncle, Virender Singh, said the girl died on the spot, and her uncle received injuries, but he is out of danger and was fit to give his statement to police.

Her grandfather, Dharam Singh, said the girl had left home for the school's August 15 programme.

He described her as a bright student and said the family was now waiting for the postmortem process to

be completed before taking her body home.

"The journey to school turned into an unimaginable tragedy. Kayna had left home expecting to attend an Independence Day programme, but within minutes, her family was rushing to the accident site and hospital," said a resident.

Eyewitnesses and residents alleged that the driver fled the spot after the collision while several passengers were still inside the

bus. The accident left residents enraged, with some throwing stones at the bus.

Police said they are also probing the stone-pelting incident.

They said the DTC bus driver, identified as 45-year-old S K Murad, initially fled the scene out of fear but was subsequently apprehended.

A police officer said an investigation was underway to ascertain the circumstances that led to the fatal collision.

Delhi Metro sets up exhibitions remembering Partitions at two stations

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) has set up special exhibitions at Rajiv Chowk and Kashmere Gate metro stations to mark Partition Horrors Remembrance Day, observed annually on August 14. The exhibitions will remain open for public viewing till August 21, 2026.

According to a statement issued by DMRC, the displays portray the horrors of Partition and its lasting impact on the country's

shared history. The corporation said the initiative was designed to highlight the agony and suffering endured by millions of people affected by the division of India.

The observance of Partition Horrors Remembrance Day serves as a reminder of what the DMRC described as the largest displacement of population in the country's history, an event that claimed numerous lives and reshaped the nation's social fabric.

The exhibitions aim to offer commuters a reflective and educational experience, providing deeper insight into



the events surrounding Partition.

DMRC said the exhibition at Rajiv Chowk, one of the busiest interchange stations on the network, has been

complemented by a similar display at Kashmere Gate, another major interchange point. The corporation said placing the exhibitions at these two high footfall sta-

tions would allow a larger number of commuters to engage with this chapter of history during their daily commute. The statement was issued by Anuj Dayal, Principal Executive Director, Corporate Communications, DMRC.

The initiative comes as several government bodies and institutions across Delhi organised events to mark the remembrance day this year. Union ministries, the Delhi government and political parties held seminars, cultural programmes and exhibitions through the day

to recall the events of 1947, when the partition of India led to the displacement of millions of people across the newly drawn border between India and Pakistan.

By placing the exhibition inside metro stations rather than a dedicated venue, DMRC's initiative is aimed at reaching commuters who may not otherwise attend a formal remembrance event. Rajiv Chowk and Kashmere Gate together see substantial daily passenger traffic, given their role as interchange stations connecting multiple metro lines across the city.

Delhi BJP holds seminars to mark Partition Horrors Remembrance Day

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

The Delhi BJP organised seminars across all 14 organisational districts of the city on Friday to mark Partition Horrors Remembrance Day. On the occasion, the senior party leaders recalled the pain of 1947 and called for national unity in tribute to those who suffered.

Delhi BJP President Harsh Malhotra addressed a seminar organised jointly by the Chandni Chowk District BJP and the social organisation Madhyam-Ek Vichar at Kashmere Gate. Speaking there, Malhotra shared his own family's connection to Partition, saying his grandfather had an ancestral shop in Lahore, now in Pakistan, which was left behind during

the division. He said while his family belonged to Amritsar, many relatives and acquaintances had lived in areas that became Pakistan, and he grew up hearing accounts of trains arriving filled with bodies and neighbours turning against each other overnight.

Malhotra said the pain of Partition went beyond the division of land, extending to

relationships, culture and a shared heritage built over centuries. He said refugees had spent days hungry and thirsty in camps before rebuilding their lives from scratch in Delhi and other parts of the country. He said the day was observed under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership to ensure younger generations do not forget the price the country

paid for what he called vote bank and appeasement politics. He described national unity as the truest tribute to those who suffered during Partition.

Member of Parliament Praveen Khandelwal, who also addressed the Chandni Chowk seminar, said millions of families in Delhi today trace their roots to cities like Lahore, Karachi and Sialkot,

where their ancestors left everything behind. He said despite starting from nothing, these families never abandoned their patriotism. He said the remembrance day was meant to convey the truth of Partition to younger generations and said building what he called "Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat" would honour those who endured the period's horrors.

UNITED LEASING AND INDUSTRIES LIMITED					
Regd. Office: Plot No 66 Sector 34 EHTP, Gurgaon, Haryana-122001 CIN NO. L17100HR1983PLC033460, Phone : 011-2628237, Email : teamunited93@gmail.com					
EXTRACT OF STANDALONE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED ON 30TH JUNE, 2026					
(Rupees in Lakhs)					
Sr. No.	Particulars	Quarter ended		Year ended	
		30/06/2026	31/03/2026	30/06/2025	31/03/2026
		Un Audited	Audited	Un Audited	Audited
1	Income from Operations	107.71	137.05	143.45	714.14
2	Net Profit for the period (before tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(14.24)	3.47	0.73	17.29
3	Net Profit before tax for the period (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(14.24)	3.47	0.73	7.21
4	Net Profit for the period after tax and Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items	(14.24)	(0.80)	(0.35)	2.95
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (comprising profit for the period (after tax) and other Comprehensive Income (after tax))	134.82	(0.80)	(0.35)	2.95
6	Equity Shares Capital (Face value Rs.10/- Per equity share)	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
7	Earnings Per Share (for continuing and discontinued Operations) Basic and diluted	(0.47)	(0.03)	(0.61)	0.10
Notes:					
1. This extract of the detailed format of Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under the Regulation 33 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the financial results are available on the stock exchanges website : www.bseindia.com . The same is also available on the company's Website : www.united93.com					
2. The above results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors of the company at their Meeting held on 14 th August, 2026.					
3. The Company has no subsidiary/associate/Joint Venture Company(ies).					
4. The Operations of the company are considered as a single business product. Segment reporting is not applicable.					
					
For UNITED LEASING AND INDUSTRIES LIMITED Sd/- ASHISH KHANNA MANAGING DIRECTOR DIN: 01251582					
Place: New Delhi Date : 14-08-2026					

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given to the general public, concerned authorities, government departments, employees, and creditors that M/s Fiori Creations Private Limited, having its factory premises at Plot No. 99, DLF Industrial Area, Phase-1, Faridabad, Haryana, has permanently closed its manufacturing unit and factory operations with effect from 26/02/2024. The said closure has been necessitated by a severe decline in market demand in the post-COVID-19 pandemic period. Due to the lack of sufficient work orders, the company faced an unsustainable financial crisis, leading to the suspension of all manufacturing activities and the subsequent decision by management to permanently close the unit. All statutory dues, liabilities, and employee claims has settled and cleared accordance with the applicable labor laws and statutory regulations. Then any concerned authority, department, employee, or creditor has any pending statutory dues, outstanding claims, or objections against the company, they are hereby directed to submit their claim or objection in writing, along with necessary documentary proof, within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice to the office of the undersigned at A-121, Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi 110029, please note that no claims or objections will be entertained or processed after the expiry of the stipulated 15-day period.
Director/ Manager

RADICO KHAITAN FINANCE LIMITED									
CIN No. L74899DL1984PLC019092									
Regd. Address: 4A, 4 th Floor, Masoodpur Dairy Farms, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi – 110070									
Telephone No: 011-71859609									
Email: admin@radicoindia.com, Website: www.radicoindia.com									
STATEMENT OF UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30 TH JUNE, 2026									
(Rs. in Lakhs)									
S. No.	PARTICULARS	STANDALONE				CONSOLIDATED			
		Quarter Ended		Year Ended		Quarter Ended		Year Ended	
		30.06.2026	31.03.2026	30.06.2025	31.03.2026	30.06.2026	31.03.2026	30.06.2025	31.03.2026
		(Unaudited)	(Audited)	(Unaudited)	(Audited)	(Unaudited)	(Audited)	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
1	Total income from operations	99.09	172.29	1,909.44	3,485.20	99.09	172.29	1,909.44	3,485.20
2	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exopsonal and /or Extraordinary items)	(309.03)	132.99	33.29	72.54	(309.03)	132.99	33.29	72.54
3	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period (before Share of Profit/(Loss) from Associates & Taxes)	(309.03)	132.99	33.29	72.54	(309.03)	132.99	33.29	72.54
4	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period (after Tax, Exceptional and/ or Extraordinary items)	(309.03)	137.53	33.29	77.08	(309.03)	137.53	33.29	77.08
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income(after tax)]	(95.65)	(129.42)	370.43	(250.58)	(100.09)	(108.08)	368.06	(239.68)
6	Equity Share Capital	900.00	900.00	900.00	900.00	900.00	900.00	900.00	900.00
7	Reserves (Excluding Revaluation Reserve) as shown in the Audited Balance Sheet of the previous year				423.98				410.82
8	Earning per Share (of Rs. 10/- each)								
a)	Basic	3.43	1.53	0.37	0.86	(3.48)	1.77	0.34	0.98
b)	Diluted	3.43	1.53	0.37	0.86	(3.48)	1.77	0.34	0.98
NOTES									
1 The above Standalone & consolidated unaudited Financial Results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at their meeting held on 14 th Aug, 2026.									
2 The Company has adopted Indian Accounting Standards ('Ind AS') notified under Section 133 of the Companies Act 2013 ('the Act') read with the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015 from April 01, 2019.									
3 The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchange under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly Financial Results are available on the Stock Exchange website www.mseil.in and on Company's website www.radicoindia.com .									
By Order of the Board for Radico Khaitan Finance Ltd. Sd/- Krishan Kumar Sharma (Director) DIN: 00856406									
Place : New Delhi Date : 14 th August, 2026									

COSCO (INDIA) LIMITED									
CIN : L25199DL1980PLC010173									
Regd. Office : 2/8, Roop Nagar, Delhi-110 007									
Website : www.cosco.in Email : mail@cosco.in									
Tel. : 91-11-23843000 Fax : 91-11-23846000									
EXTRACT OF STANDALONE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED JUNE 30, 2026									
(` in lakhs)									
Sl. No.	Particulars	Quarter Ended		31.03.2026	Year Ended		31.03.2026	Year Ended	
		30.06.2026	30.06.2025		30.06.2026	30.06.2025		30.06.2026	30.06.2025
		Unaudited	Unaudited	Audited	Audited	Audited		Audited	
1	Total Income from operations	5,515.88	5,022.07	5,356.41				18,978.21	
2	Net Profit for the period before tax	99.01	97.97	77.89				81.20	
3	Net Profit for the period after tax	89.95	54.99	98.14				100.49	
4	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	73.47	55.71	122.05				126.55	
5	Equity Share Capital	416.10	416.10	416.10				416.10	
6	Other Equity							4,756.77	
7	Earnings Per Share (of ₹ 10 each)								
(a)	Basic (₹)	1.68	1.32	2.36				2.42	
(b)	Diluted (₹)	1.68	1.32	2.36				2.42	
Notes :-									
1. The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchange under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly / Annual Financial Results are available on the Stock Exchange Websites (www.bseindia.com/corporates) and on the Company's website www.cosco.in .									
2. The above results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors of the Company at their respective meeting held on August 14, 2026.									
									
By Order of the Board For Cosco (India) Limited									
Devinder Kumar Jain Managing Director and CEO DIN : 00191539									
Place : Delhi Date : 14.08.2026									

PUBLIC NOTICE
General Public hereby informed that My Clients namely Sh. Neeraj Dhawan, S/o. R.C. Dhawan AND Smt. Neeti Dhawan, W/o. Sh. Neeraj Dhawan, R/o. R-6/5, UGF, New Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi-110050, that my above mentioned clients have debarred and disowned their daughter namely KRITIKA DHAWAN due to her utmost rude misbehaviour and wrong recorded from there movable & immovable properties and from there business and also declares that she has no right, title, interest, claim or concern whatsoever in their movable & immovable properties and their business as well. Further declare that my clients shall not be responsible for any act, omission, transaction, representation, liability, debt or dealing by the above said KRITIKA DHAWAN on their behalf. Any person dealing with her in respect of anything shall do so at his/her own risk and responsibility. MAYANK GUPTA ADVOCATE CH. NO. A-25, A.N. MOONGA BLOCK, WESTERN WING, TIS HAZARI COURTS, DELHI-110054.
PUBLIC NOTICE
Re: Property No. 861, area measuring 350 sq. yds., situated in Sector-14, Urban Estate Distt. Gurgaon; hereinafter referred to as the 'said property'. NOTICE is hereby given to general public that our client Mrs. Pinki Gupta, (hereinafter referred as the 'owner') is absolute owner of the said property vide Sale Deed dated 23.10.2009 executed by Mr. Rahul Jain (self) and 1. Mr. Sachin Jain through GPA Mr. Anun Jain 2. Mrs. Shall Bala Jain through GPA Mr. Anun Jain, registered as Document no. 13069 (in Addl. Book No. I, Vol. No. 11653/904 on pages 29-30 registered on 23.10.2009, SRO - Gurgaon. The said owner has informed that Original Sale Deed dated 23.10.2008 registered as Document No.13069 is the title documents in her favour and also forming part of chain documents, is hereinafter called the 'said document' has been lost/misplaced and is not traceable. A FIR to this effect has also been lodged with Sector-14, Gurgaon Police Station, vide application No. 13227092600659. If the aforesaid original document (the said document) or any one of them is found or has been found by any person, the same may be returned and delivered to the undersigned at the address mentioned herein below. Further, if any person, body, institution is having any claim and/or objection in respect of the said property, he/she may raise his/ their objection/s, in writing, with documentary evidence, by Registered AD Post, to the undersigned at the address mentioned herein below within 07 days of publication of this notice. Otherwise, after expiry of 07 days from the date of publication of this notice, no objection shall be acceptable. General Public may also take note that any deal or transaction done by anybody on the basis of the said document or any of the said document shall be illegal and not binding on our clients. The person doing so shall be liable to be prosecuted under the law. SHIVKANT ARORA, ADVOCATE FOR M/S INTELLECTUAL FLOW OFFICES A-74, LOWER GROUND FLOOR, DEFENCE COLONY, NEW DELHI-110024

The black day of Partition: Tilak Raj Madan’s story of pain, faith, survival

ASHOKE RAJ ■ New Delhi

For Tilak Raj Madan, the story of Partition is not something he learned from history books. It is a story he heard from his father, Laxmi Chand, in the form of loriyan — the bedtime stories and memories that were passed down to him when he was young.

Those stories began in a refugee tent near Kalkaji Mandir in South Delhi, where the family had arrived after losing almost everything in the Partition of 1947.

What may have sounded like a story before sleep was, in reality, the painful truth of a family uprooted from its home, separated from loved ones and forced to begin life again from nothing.

Today, as India prepares to celebrate Independence Day, the national flag will rise high, patriotic songs will fill the streets and millions will remember the sacrifices behind India’s freedom. But for Tilak Raj Madan, August 14 carries another memory too.

It reminds him of 1947 — the year of freedom, but also the year of Partition, a time that brought unimaginable suffering to millions of families.

A Home Left Behind

The Madan family originally belonged to Shorkot, Khanewal, in the Jhang-Migyana district, now in Pakistan. Before Partition, theirs was a settled and respectable life.

Tilak Raj’s father, Laxmi Chand, was engaged in the cotton business and also ran a popular sweet shop. The family had a home, livelihoods, relatives and, above all, the quiet security of knowing where they belonged.

Then came 1947. The announcement of Partition transformed that certainty into fear and displacement. Almost overnight, a place that had been home for generations became a place from which the family was forced to flee.

Laxmi Chand left with his three brothers and three sisters, along with his wife, Krishnawanti. There was no time to gather everything they owned or to make plans for a new life. They had to leave behind their home, businesses, possessions, memories and the community that had shaped their lives.

Their journey to India was one of uncertainty and hard-



ship. They travelled partly by bullock cart, partly on foot, and eventually by train, carrying with them only what they could manage. Behind them was everything they had known; ahead lay a country that was new to them and a future they could not yet imagine.

They did not leave because they wanted to start afresh. They left because they had no choice. “We had everything in our village,” Tilak Raj remembers with emotion his father told him the story of partition. “We had a popular cotton business and a sweet shop. We were a happy family. Suddenly,



a map. It divided families, friendships, memories and lives. When everything else had to be left behind, a few photographs became priceless. They were a connection to the home that no longer existed in their lives.

From Everything to Nothing Reaching India did not mean the suffering was over. The family arrived in Delhi as refugees and spent their early years around the Kalkaji Mandir area, living in a refugee camp. Seven members of the family, including their mother and three sisters, endured difficult conditions. They lived in tents and struggled for food

the catering and sweets business in the Nehru Place area to carry the legacy of his father.

There were no shortcuts. There was only hard work.

Day after day, year after year, the family rebuilt what Partition had taken away. Their story is therefore not only about loss. It is also about the extraordinary human ability to start again after everything has been destroyed. From a refugee tent to a settled life in Delhi, the journey took courage, patience and faith.

A Life Built From the Ashes Today, Tilak Raj Madan lives in South Delhi’s Kalkaji area with his daughter, two granddaughters and son-in-law. When he looks at his family, he sees something that his father could perhaps only dream of in those difficult days of 1947 — a secure home, a family together and a future.

Yet the past has never disappeared. When Tilak Raj speaks about Partition, his voice carries the sadness of someone who inherited memories of a homeland he never truly got to know.

He remembers the home his family lost.

He remembers the business that was abandoned.

He remembers the sister who was separated from the family. And he remembers the stories his father told him.

There are tears in those memories, but there is also pride.

Faith That Carried the Family For Tilak Raj, faith has always been an important part of his family’s survival.

He expresses deep gratitude towards Mata Rani lord Maa Durga, whom he believes gave his family the strength to survive its darkest days. With folded hands, he remembers those years not only with sorrow but with gratitude for having survived them. From the pain of Partition to the pride of rebuilding a life in India, the Madan family’s journey is a powerful reminder that even after history breaks a family apart, courage, faith and hope can help rebuild what remains. And perhaps that is the most important lesson Tilak Raj carries from the stories his father once told him before sleep.

Never forget what was lost. Never forget those who suffered.

And never take the freedom and life we have today for granted.

CM Rekha calls trade a pillar of Viksit Bharat

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta attended the Bharatiya Vyapar Mahotsav 2026 at Bharat Mandapam on Friday. The Chief Minister described trade and entrepreneurship as strong pillars of India’s economic strength under the Viksit Bharat vision.

The festival, organised to coincide with Independence Day, serves as a national platform to showcase India’s trade potential, entrepreneurship, innovation and self-reliance. The Chief Minister extended her best



wishes to the Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) and the India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) for organising the event, calling it more than a trade exhibition. She said the festival was

an important opportunity to highlight the contribution of traders, entrepreneurs, manufacturers, MSMEs and startups to India’s economic progress. MP and CAIT Secretary

General Praveen Khandelwal, CAIT National President B C Bhartia and other dignitaries attended the event alongside the Chief Minister.

The Chief Minister said that under Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s leadership, the vision of “Vocal for Local,” “Local to Global” and “Atmanirbhar Bharat” has grown into a mass movement. She said traders, entrepreneurs, startups, MSMEs and manufacturers were now key drivers of this shift, with India-made products gaining recognition in global markets.

Delhi tightens security after bomb threat emails

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

Delhi was placed on high alert Friday after bomb threat emails were sent to major locations, such as Indira Gandhi International Airport, the Delhi High Court, and several Government buildings. The threats came just a day before Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s scheduled Independence Day speech at the Red Fort.

According to officials, the emails arrived around 11:30 AM, claimed that IEDs had been planted at key sites, and demanded the release of unnamed prisoners. At least three central government offices got similar messages. No explosives were found in the initial searches. However, the timing of these



threats has made security agencies more cautious.

Earlier intelligence reports had warned about possible disruption attempts by hostile groups before Independence Day celebrations and the rehearsal at the Red Fort on Friday. A senior Delhi Police officer said these

threats follow a pattern seen every year before August 15, with hoax messages meant to test response times and create public fear. Security agencies said they are taking all threats seriously.

Security measures have been raised to the highest level. Security has been tightened at the airport, court complexes, Metro stations, and all Independence Day event sites.

NSG commandos, bomb squads, and dog units are now stationed at Terminals 1, 2, and 3 of IGI Airport. Baggage and cargo are being thoroughly checked. At the Delhi High Court, lawyers and visitors were evacuated for about 90 minutes while police and fire services searched the building. Court sessions resumed once officials confirmed that nothing suspicious was found.



80वें स्वतंत्रता दिवस

की हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

तेजी से विकसित होते भारत की एक झलक

अंतरिक्ष में भारत

उड़ान भरता भारत

महिला सशक्तिकरण

शिक्षा का प्रसार

जान और अनुसंधान

स्वास्थ्य सेवा

स्टार्टअप और नवाचार

आत्मनिर्भर भारत

मजबूत रक्षा

सशक्त किसान

कृषि समृद्धि

स्वच्छ ऊर्जा

एक्सप्रेसवे और बेहतर सड़कें

मेट्रो का विस्तार

स्पीड और स्केल

डिजिटल इंडिया

इनोवेशन

कृत्रिम उपग्रह



स्वतंत्र भारत

सशक्त भारत। समृद्ध भारत। विकसित भारत



सत्यमेव जयते

दिल्ली सरकार

DIP/Shabdarth/Display/071/26-27

नरेन्द्र मोदी
प्रधानमंत्री

रेखा गुप्ता
मुख्यमंत्री, दिल्ली

IN FOCUS



The Swarna Jayanti Dwar at the Attari Border Outpost is illuminated in the Indian tricolour on the eve of the 80th Independence Day in Amritsar, Punjab on Friday

Union health minister Nadda hospitalised

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
■ New Delhi

Union Health Minister JP Nadda was admitted to AIIMS Delhi after he experienced uneasiness, the hospital said on Friday. Nadda underwent a coronary angiography after being admitted on Thursday. He is currently stable and admitted for observation in the cardiology department, it said. “Union Health Minister JP Nadda was evaluated for uneasiness with tests, including a coronary angiography on the evening of August 13, 2026. He is currently stable and admitted for observation in the Dept of Cardiology, AIIMS,”



the hospital said in a statement. Nadda's hospitalisation came hours after the Monsoon Session of Parliament concluded on Thursday.

The Congress on Thursday condemned the “purification” of the rally venue in Uttarakhand's Haldwani after a public meeting addressed by party chief Mallikarjun Kharge and alleged that the incident reflected the “anti-Dalit” mindset of the BJP and RSS.

Govt to scrap 12-minute TV advertisement cap

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

The Government has decided to remove the 12-minute-per-hour cap on advertisements aired by television channels, the Information and Broadcasting ministry said on Friday, citing sweeping changes in the broadcasting landscape.

The decision comes months after the Delhi High Court upheld the restriction, introduced in 2006, and ruled that there was “no constitutional guarantee of profitability or unlimited monetisation of public resources”.

The restriction, contained in Rule 7(11) of the Cable Television Networks Rules, 1994, currently bars television channels from carrying advertisements exceeding 12 minutes in an hour, including up to 10 minutes of commercial advertisements and two minutes of self-promotional content.

In its statement, the ministry pointed out that in 2006, when the restriction was introduced, there were only 62 TV channels, compared to more than 900 channels at present.

In view of the changes that have occurred in the TV broadcasting sector, a need was felt to revisit the stipulations relating to advertisement duration. In India, the sector is heavily dependent on advertising, irrespective of whether



a channel is ‘pay’ or ‘free-to-air’. Furthermore, there was a non-level playing field for traditional TV channels vis-a-vis digital media, where no such stipulation on advertisement cap regulation exists,” the statement said.

The decision will come into effect once the amendment to the Cable Television Networks Rules, 1994, is notified in the Gazette, it said, adding that it was being done “to enable fair competition and ensure ease of doing business”.

In May, a Delhi High Court bench of justices Anil Kshetarpal and Amit Mahajan dismissed petitions by several general entertainment channels, news broadcasters and regional channels challenging the restriction's legal validity. The court held that

TRAI acted within its statutory authority in fixing a ceiling of “10+2 minutes per clock hour” and said the framework struck a proportionate balance between broadcasters' rights and public interest.

It had observed that spectrum and airwaves were scarce public resources held in trust by the State and said the restriction prevented excessive commercial exploitation while ensuring their equitable use.

“There is no constitutional guarantee of profitability or unlimited monetisation of public resources,” the court had said, rejecting broadcasters' arguments that the cap adversely affected their advertising revenues and commercial speech rights.

Unity essential to protecting Sanatan traditions: Adityanath

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ Ayodhya (UP)

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Friday said unity was essential to protecting Sanatan traditions, noting that the country had suffered because people were divided and lacked unity.

Addressing a programme in Ayodhya to commemo-

rate the life and contribution of late Mahant Paramhans Ramchandra Das Maharaj, Adityanath spoke at length about the Ram Janmabhoomi movement, the transformation of Ayodhya and historical conflicts over religious sites, particularly Sambhal.

He said the country had suffered because people

were divided and lacked unity. Adityanath recalled questioning some clerics over the use of the word “animal” for the cow.

“Our Sanatan tradition and India's heritage — why did you call the cow an animal? And if I used the same word for you, how would you feel?” he said, adding that the clerics replied, “Sir, it was

a mistake.” Adityanath said he then asked whether it was a mistake or a deliberate act. “Will you teach us Hindus how to worship Gau Mata? None of our rituals is complete without Gau Mata,” he said. Adityanath also said cattle smuggling required police deployment that could otherwise be used elsewhere. “If the smugglers



stop their activities, at least the police deployed there can be used somewhere else,” he said, accusing some people of creating confusion over the issue.

“If anything was lacking, it was unity. There was a lack of the ability to stand together, speak in one voice and move forward together,” Adityanath said.

FROM PAGE - 1

Caste returns to census after 1931

Currently married, widowed, divorced and separated women will be asked for the number of children surviving at present, the number of children in the current marriage, and the number of children born alive in the last one year.

According to a gazette notification issued earlier this month, population enumeration in Ladakh and snow-bound non-synchronous areas of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, will take place from September 1 to 30. In the rest of the country, the population enumeration (PE) will begin next year. In January, the RGI had notified 33 questions for the first phase of Census 2027, covering houselisting and housing-related details. The questionnaire included a query on whether the head of the household belonged to the SC, ST or “other” category.

President promises secure exams amid...

Highlighting the spirit of enterprise among young citizens, she said youths are increasingly embracing a culture of job creation rather than job seeking.

“Many of our youth are embracing the culture of job creation as they pursue the path of self-employment. The participation of young entrepreneurs has led to the creation of a strong start-up ecosystem in our country. Major global enterprises are impressed by the talent and dedication of Indian youth and entrust them with leadership roles,” she added.

President Murmu also lauded the “unmatched valour” of the Indian Armed Forces, saying Operation Sindoor demonstrated the country's capability to execute precision counter-terror operations and sent a firm message that terror elements and their backers will face consequences regardless of where they hide.

She recalled the anniversary of the military action alongside historic observances like Kargil Vijay Diwas, reaffirming India's tradition of overcoming forces hostile to humanity.

The President also highlighted the strategic measures accompanying the counter-terror posture, describing the decision to suspend the Indus Waters Treaty with the nation harbouring terror networks as a “decisive step in the interest of our nation, especially the farmers.”

On internal security, she termed the eradication of Naxalism a monumental achievement for the country after decades of struggle. Highlighting the nation's civilisational heritage, the President said that Sarnath, the site of Lord Buddha's first sermon, was included in the UNESCO World Heritage List this year, following the listing of 12 Maratha military forts last year.

Addressing foreign policy, she reiterated that peace, dialogue, cooperation, and the ideal of *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam* (the world is one family) remain the bedrock of India's international relations.

The President also touched upon senior care, pointing out that alongside the world's largest young population, India is also seeing a rise in senior citizens and noted that about six crore senior citizens aged 70 and above can now avail of free healthcare services up to Rs 5 lakh per year under government initiatives, urging society to remain sensitive and uphold their dignity.

She stressed that guided by the spirit of *Antyodaya*, the core resolve of the nation remains ensuring the fruits of development reach every individual, even as global warfare and

instability present severe economic headwinds worldwide. “*Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan* has further strengthened the foundation of our economic progress and national security,” she said. Highlighting internal welfare milestones over the past decade, the President said that more than 25 crore people have been lifted out of poverty and added that nearly 59 crore account holders have joined the banking system under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, with over 32 crore of these account holders being women, while food security has been ensured for over 80 crore people through free rations.

Underlining India's technological leap, she pointed out that the country has developed the world's largest and best digital infrastructure, accounting for more than half of global real-time digital transactions.

Highlighting the demographic dividend, the President said that 65 per cent of the country's population is below the age of 35, describing the youth as India's “most valuable asset.” Women's empowerment remained a central theme of her address. Celebrating achievements ranging from rural self-help groups to high-altitude defence, she said that the initial target of creating three crore ‘Lakshpati Didis’ has been achieved, with the government now pushing towards a goal of creating three crore more.

Airbus flags hydraulics failure in A12379...

The simultaneous failure of all three hydraulic systems is considered an unusual development and is now a central focus of the investigation. Airbus has not yet established what caused the systems to fail in such rapid succession.

Hydraulic power is essential to the operation of the A320's primary flight controls. The elevators control the aircraft's pitch, the ailerons control its roll, and spoilers alter lift and drag to help control the aircraft's speed and descent. Airbus said the A320's hydraulic systems are designed with redundancy, meaning the loss of one system would not normally cause a significant loss of flight control. The unusual feature of this incident was the near-simultaneous disruption of all three systems. Airbus has not yet established why the three hydraulic systems were affected. The aircraft's autopilot subsequently disconnected as the flight-control systems were disrupted. The co-pilot, who was flying the aircraft, then pushed his side-stick forward after stall warnings were reportedly generated in the cockpit. A stall occurs when an aircraft's wings are no longer producing sufficient lift to maintain controlled flight. In such a situation, pushing the nose down is a standard recovery action designed to reduce the angle of attack and restore airflow over the wings.

However, the co-pilot's control input initially produced no corresponding nose-down movement because the aircraft's hydraulic systems were unavailable. The aircraft's flight controls became responsive only after all three hydraulic systems recovered several seconds later.

The findings provide the clearest indication so far of what happened during the critical seconds of the August 4 incident, but investigators are still examining the aircraft's systems, sensors, wiring, maintenance history and recorded flight data before determining the underlying cause.

The incident injured 24 people, with 17 requiring hospitalisation. The aircraft was carrying 137 passengers and eight crew members.

The manufacturer has asked Air India to conduct further inspections, including checks of

the hydraulic systems, pressure sensors, switches and wiring. Recent maintenance involving the hydraulic systems is also being examined. Airbus has additionally asked for inspections for possible structural damage after the aircraft experienced forces above specified limits.

The Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) is leading the investigation, with assistance from Airbus and France's BEA. Investigators are examining the aircraft, maintenance records, flight-data recorder, cockpit voice recorder and other technical evidence.

Air India initially described the event as turbulence-related but later referred to a sudden loss of altitude. The AAIB has cautioned against drawing conclusions before the investigation is complete. The captain's drug screening has also received attention after a preliminary test returned a non-negative result for a psychoactive substance. However, investigators have not established any connection between the result and the altitude loss. The Airbus findings confirm that the aircraft temporarily lost important flight-control functions, but they do not identify the underlying cause. Investigators will now determine whether a component failure, sensor or wiring problem, maintenance issue, cockpit input or another factor caused the unusual hydraulic disruption.

Until the AAIB completes its investigation, the Airbus assessment remains preliminary and should not be treated as a final explanation of the incident.

Uttarakhand: 7 dead in Chamoli tunnel accident

He also visited the 12 injured workers admitted to a hospital in Chamoli.

The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), police, and other technical and specialist teams are engaged in the relief and rescue operation. Due to debris and water in the tunnel, the operation is being carried out with utmost caution and coordination. Garhwal range Inspector General of Police Rajiv Swaroop said that difficulties are being faced in the rescue operation due to continuous rain, but they are confident that the operation will be successful. The district magistrate along with Garhwal MP Anil Baluni, is monitoring the rescue operation at the site. The DM has directed officials to ensure the effective use of all necessary resources and technical assistance to search for the missing people.

Drug kingpin Basoya extradited

Reacting on the extradition Union Minister for Home Affairs, Amit Shah posted on X: “Modi Govt is relentlessly tracking down drug traffickers hiding abroad and destroying their entire ecosystem with a ruthless approach. Creating a new milestone in the policy of zero tolerance against narcotics, the NCB secured the return of fugitive drug kingpin Virender Singh Basoya from the UAE. By tracing the criminal through a top-to-bottom and bottom-to-top approach, our agencies have once again proven that no matter where drug traffickers hide, they cannot escape the long arm of Indian law.”

Investigators say 50-year-old Basoya, a businessman based in Dubai and originally from Delhi's Sarojini Nagar, allegedly funded and ran a transnational drug syndicate. In 2024, Delhi

Police seized 1,289 kg of cocaine and about 40 kg of hydroponic Thai marijuana. The drugs were reportedly smuggled through pharmaceutical companies in south India and Gujarat, using five real firms and three shell companies, and then sent as medicine packages to Delhi-NCR.

Basoya is also linked to a Rs 6,000-crore mephedrone case in Pune from February 2024, where about 1,837 kg were seized. He left for Dubai soon after the Pune raid and continued running the network from there. He is reportedly a close associate of Sandeep Dhunia, the main accused in the Delhi case, who later escaped to Pakistan. Basoya's younger son, Rishab Basoya (25), along with Ritik Bajaj, Pramod, and Vikas Rane, were previously declared proclaimed offenders. Authorities are reportedly working on extraditing Rishab. Out of the 19 people named in the Delhi Police chargesheet against the cartel, 14 have already been arrested.

Investigators plan to question him about international supply routes, money laundering, and other local accomplices. Basoya will be produced before a special court in New Delhi as the investigation continues.

NIA seizes Punjab plots in narco-terror case

“By using anti-terror laws instead of regular crime statutes to target these assets, the NIA is making it clear that the financial side of narco-terrorism is now a main focus. The investigation is still ongoing, with attention on the remaining money trails and the overseas links that have kept this network running for almost ten years”, senior officials said.

What began as a small drug bust by Gujarat ATS in 2018 has now uncovered a complex international network that reaches Pakistan, Dubai, Italy, Australia, the UAE, Thailand, Iran, and Afghanistan. Pakistani fishing boats brought about 500 kg of high-purity heroin, worth ₹1,500 crore internationally, into the waters near Jakhau and Salaya between March and May 2018. From Gujarat, the drugs moved north to Punjab, where local groups stored, processed, and distributed them. The NIA says Dubai was the main planning centre. Pakistani handlers, especially Haji Saab, also known as Bhaijaan, led the operation.

The NIA identified key overseas players, such as Simranjeet Singh Sandhu in Italy and Tanvir Singh Bedi in Australia, who managed logistics. Indian operatives took care of warehouses and hawala transfers, turning drug profits into funds for LeT. Anwar Masih managed the Punjab side of the network and was named in a 2022 chargesheet for distribution offences.

The Special Task Force (STF) of the Punjab Police had already arrested Masih in 2020 for another case involving 194 kg of heroin linked to a processing facility in the same Akash Vihar area. Now, investigators have connected some assets to the larger terror-financing network, turning a local drug case into a national security issue.

This is the second major property seizure in this case this year. In June, the NIA seized a house in Amritsar's Holy City area linked to another suspect, Ankush Kapoor. So far, 26 people have been arrested, and several more chargesheets have been filed in Ahmedabad. The NIA has used its findings to put financial pressure on the network. However, leaders based in other countries remain free, showing how difficult it is to dismantle networks that span borders.

UGC-NET 2026 provisional answer key to be out on August 16: NTA



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

The provisional answer key for UGC-NET 2026 will be published on August 16, the National Testing Agency (NTA) said on Friday.

The NTA said the provisional answer keys for CSIR-NET and ICAR AIEEA (PG) and AICE (PhD) 2026 will also be published on the same day on its website.

“The provisional answer keys for UGC-NET, CSIR-NET and ICAR AIEEA (PG) & AICE (PhD) 2026 will be published on 16 August 2026 on NTA's website,” the NTA said in a post on X.

The NTA advised candidates to rely only on official communications from the testing agency.

The agency conducted the UGC NET examinations on

June 22, 23, 24, 25, 29, 30, and a retest on July 5.

UGC-NET is conducted to determine the eligibility of candidates for the posts of Assistant Professor and admission to PhD programmes. The examination consists of two papers: Paper I, which includes 50 questions on teaching aptitude, reasoning ability, and general awareness, and Paper II, which contains 100 subject-related multiple-choice questions.

The Joint CSIR-UGC NET June 2026 examination were held on July 17 and 18 in Computer-Based Test (CBT) mode to determine the eligibility for the award of Junior Research Fellowship (JRF), appointment as assistant professor, and admission to Ph.D. programmes in institutions across India.

Our blood has been sucked: Omar slams Pak over J&K’s water rights

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ Srinagar

Accusing Pakistan of “sucking the blood” of Jammu and Kashmir by denying it the right to use its river resources, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday launched an attack on Islamabad for staking a claim over waters originating from the region, asserting that the neighbouring country cannot be selective in its sympathy for Kashmiris.

Responding to remarks by Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif regarding the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT), Abdullah maintained that the people of Jammu and Kashmir have historically borne the brunt of the water-sharing framework.

“We have always been saying that our blood has been sucked — these are our rivers. We had the first right on this. Pakistanis say they are great sympathisers of Kashmiris. But when it comes to water, their sympathy dis-



appears. Where was their sympathy when we were denied permission to use our rivers?” Abdullah told reporters here.

Sharif had earlier warned that “every drop of water is our red line” and stated that Islamabad would issue a “direct response” if its water supplies were threatened.

Lashing out at the historical division under the IWT, Abdullah pointed out that out of the six rivers, India retained three belonging to Punjab, while the three rivers of Jammu and Kashmir were

handed over to Pakistan, causing long-term detriment to the local population.

“From then until today, we are suffering the consequences of this Indus Waters Treaty. We could neither draw drinking water from the Chenab, nor could we use the Jhelum for navigation by building a barrage on Tulbul, nor could we stop water by building a big dam on any of our rivers,” he said.

Noting that the IWT was kept in abeyance following the terror attack in Pahalgam, the chief minister asserted

that the treaty should remain revoked to allow Jammu and Kashmir to utilise its natural resources fully.

“Our blood has been sucked, and now that the Indus Waters Treaty has been suspended, it should remain suspended so that we can make proper use of this water,” Abdullah asserted.

Reacting to the assassination attempt on former Punjab deputy chief minister Sukhbir Badal, Abdullah condemned it and said the incident has raised serious concerns over security lapses.

“We strongly condemn this, and such attacks should not take place. Before this also, there was an attack in Amritsar, after which it was stated that special care would be taken of his security, that there will be Z-plus security.

“But where is the Z-plus? The attack took place for the second time, this time he was even injured, and had to be taken to the hospital for treatment,” Abdullah said.

Partition Horrors Remembrance Day observed at Sealdah

SAUGAR SENGUPTA
■ Kolkata

Bengal observed the Partition Horrors Remembrance Day even as a Bhumi Pujan (ground-breaking ceremony) was held at the iconic Sealdah Station in Kolkata for the installation of a memorial statue dedicated to the victims of the Partition of 1947.

The memorial, which was likely to be completed by November, will exhibit and pay tribute to the countless people who endured the largest human displacement, suffering, violence and loss in recorded history during the Partition.

“Trains came from that side loaded with dead bodies and stink of blood ... it all told the grim stories of those who died there or en route and those who were left to die homeless, destitution less far away from their homesteads in Kolkata and suburbs,” Bengal Industries Minister Tapas Roy said.

“The Partition of India was



not a simple drawing of a line through the courtyards, ponds, paddy fields or homesteads ... it was a partition of aspirations, sense of belonging, hope and everything ... lakhs of people came and went when population traversed from this side or that side of the border ... this mural will make us remember their sacrifices and pains suffered by that generation ... the next generation must know what happened to those who were the victims of the partition,” Bengal Minister Agnimitra Paul said

adding from now on the day would be observed on August 13 and 14 every year.

The Bengal Government extended the observance across August 13 and 14, making arrangements for district-level candle marches, documentary screenings, and archival photo exhibitions detailing the human cost of the 1947 Partition.

“Every day several thousand people come to Kolkata via Sealdah, which was a living witness to the horrors of Partition ... the mural and the statue will offer an

insight into what happened then for those who may have forgotten this or who have not known this side of the history,” Paul said.

The programme was held in coordination with the Union Ministry of Culture and the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA).

Apart from Paul and Roy, Bengal Minister of State for Information and Cultural Affairs Purnima Chakraborty and senior Eastern Railway and IGNCAs officials were present at the programme.

On why Sealdah station was to be chosen for the installation of the mural, a senior official said that “because most of the victims of the Partition arrived at Sealdah from living behind their homes, dead relatives and properties, Sealdah became a very important transit point”, adding that not a single day passed when fewer than 2000 refugees were camping at Sealdah Station for three years from 1947. “We still are bearing the brunt of Partition,” he said.

CBI arrests proclaimed offender Masad Sheikh in 2022 Bhadu Sheikh murder case

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has arrested proclaimed offender Masad Sheikh in connection with the Bhadu Sheikh murder case, originating from Wari Bander, Dongri, Mumbai. The accused had been at large since the FIR was filed in 2022 and had not participated in the investigation or trial proceedings. His whereabouts were determined through human intelligence and technical inputs.

The case was registered by the CBI on April 8, 2022, following an order from the Calcutta High Court dated the same day. It involved transferring FIR number 168/2022 from Rampurhat Police Station, concerning the murder of Bhadu Sheikh on March 21, 2022, at Bogtui in Birbhum district, West Bengal.

Following the investigation, the CBI filed a chargesheet and supplementary chargesheets in 2022 and 2023 against nine accused individuals, including Masad Sheikh, before the Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate, Rampurhat, Birbhum. The trial was later transferred to the Additional District and Sessions Judge, 4th Court, Purba Bardhaman, West Bengal.

The accused's prolonged absence delayed proceedings. As a proclaimed offender, he remained untraceable for over four years until CBI teams located him in



Mumbai. The arrested individual will now be transported from Mumbai to Kolkata for presentation before the appropriate court.

The CBI emphasised that the arrest highlights its commitment to ensuring the presence of all charge-sheeted individuals in cases transferred by higher judicial authorities. Further legal actions, including remand, will be pursued once the accused appears in court in West Bengal. The Bhadu Sheikh murder case attracted regional attention due to the circumstances surrounding the crime and the High Court's decision to transfer the investigation to the central agency. Authorities have not disclosed the specific role attributed to Masad Sheikh or the evidence against him beyond confirming his inclusion among the nine individuals already charged.

Additional details are anticipated following formal production and court proceedings. This development occurs amid ongoing efforts by the CBI to resolve pending absconder cases across multiple States. The production of the accused in Kolkata will mark the next phase of the legal process in this four-year-old case originating from Birbhum, an official said.

Luck strikes in Panna: 7 workers find diamond worth ₹50 lakh



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ Bhopal

A stroke of luck has transformed the fortunes of seven daily-wage workers in Madhya Pradesh's Panna district, who discovered a 17.96-carat diamond while working at a leased mine in Sarokha village. The diamond was found by Akhilesh Pal and six other workers, who had taken the shallow mine on lease around two years ago. After working for months without finding anything valuable, the group eventually abandoned the mine and left it untouched for nearly a year.

The workers later began operating another mine nearby. Following heavy rains, they returned to inspect the old site and spotted a stone lying near the surface. The stone was subsequently examined by diamond offi-

cials, who confirmed that it weighed 17.96 carats and was of gem quality.

Diamond official Ravi Patel described the discovery as a valuable find and said the quality of the stone made it particularly significant. The diamond is expected to be put up for Government auction, possibly in October, with buyers from India and abroad likely to participate.

The stone could fetch around Rs 50 lakh at auction, according to officials. Under the applicable arrangement, the Government will deduct 12 per cent royalty from the sale proceeds, while the remaining amount will be divided equally among the seven workers. The discovery adds to a series of significant diamond finds reported from Panna, where people working leased mining areas have occasionally struck valuable stones.



सत्यमेव जयते
Government of India

Heartfelt greetings to all fellow citizens on the

80th



Independence Day



“

I extend my best wishes to all of you on this great festival of Independence. There’s only one mantra for 140 crore Indians - Viksit Bharat. To build a Viksit Bharat, we will neither stop nor bow down, and we will build a Viksit Bharat in 2047.

— Narendra Modi”

”

Live telecast of the Independence Day celebrations from the ramparts
of the Red Fort on Doordarshan Network from 6:30 AM onwards.

CBC 22201/13/0019/2627

I-Day: CRPF gets highest gallantry, service medals among CAPFs

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) bagged the maximum gallantry and service medals — 86 in total — among the central paramilitary forces on the occasion of the 80th Independence Day.

The country's largest paramilitary force received 24 gallantry medals (GM), five President's Medals for Distinguished Service (PSM) and 57 Medals for Meritorious Service (MSM), according to a Ministry of Home Affairs notification on Friday.

The gallantry medals were earned from two counter-terrorist operations in Jammu and Kashmir and one operation against insurgents in Manipur, both taking place in 2024, officials said.

The force is expected to get a few gallantry medals that



are issued by the Ministry of Defence too, they said.

Deputy Inspector General (DIG) M Dhinakaran is among the PSM awardees.

The officer, who earlier served in the Special Protection Group (SPG), currently heads the CRPF Recruit

Training Centre in Avadi, Chennai.

Dhinakaran has served in the paramilitary force for over three decades, commanding units in the anti-Naxal operations theatre and providing leadership to the intelligence and VIP security

wings of the CRPF. "The PSM was awarded to the DIG in recognition of his long and distinguished service, integrity, dedication and exemplary professional performance," an official statement said.

The CRPF, with an estimated strength of 3.25 lakh personnel, is the country's lead internal security force with its units majorly deployed in three main combat theatres — anti-Naxal operations, counter-terrorist tasks in Jammu and Kashmir and anti-insurgency duties in the northeastern states.

The Border Security Force (BSF) is the only other Central Armed Police Force (CAPF) that was decorated with gallantry medals (20).

The border guarding force received 47 service medals (PSM and MSM) in addition to the other CAPFs.

PM, Shah pay tribute on Partition remembrance day, urge unity

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah and several other ministers remembered the victims of the 1947 Partition on Friday, the eve of Independence Day.

The Modi Government has been observing August 14 as the 'Partition Horrors Remembrance Day' since 2021 in remembrance of those who lost their lives in riots after the country's division and the ensuing exodus.

"Today we mark #PartitionHorrorsRemembra



nceDay. We recall the courage of all those who were impacted by Partition. It was a moment in history that tore apart several lives - families were uprooted, loved ones were lost and immense

suffering was endured," Modi said on social media.

The prime minister said that despite the turmoil, people rebuilt their lives from nothing, turned adversity into achievement and con-

tributed to the nation's progress. Their lives remind everyone of the strength of the human spirit, he said.

"May this day deepen our resolve to preserve harmony and brotherhood in our nation and collectively work towards building a 'Viksit Bharat'," Modi said. "Let us further strengthen the national spirit of goodwill and unity," he said. Home Minister Shah said August 14 stands witness to one of the most brutal chapters in history and the scar of the country's partition, "which is a gift from the Congress", will never be forgotten by history.

India prioritises defence modernisation, production jumps to ₹1.78 lakh crore, says Rajnath

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Friday said the Government is according the highest priority to the modernisation of the defence forces driven by a self-reliant and future-ready defence sector.

Stating this is his address to the soldiers through Akashvani on the eve of 80th

Independence Day highlighted the transformative shift witnessed by the defence sector in the last 12 years due to initiatives such as 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' and 'Make-in-India.'

He asserted that India has become a nation which is effectively catering to its own security needs, while emerging as a global defence manufacturing hub and a net defence exporter.

Rajnath Singh emphasised that the domestic defence production, which stood at just ₹46,000 crore in 2014, has skyrocketed to a record ₹1.78 lakh crore in the Financial Year (FY) 2025-26, nearly a four-fold increase over the last decade.

He added that defence exports, which stood at a mere ₹686 crore in FY 2013-14, surged to an all-time high of ₹38,424 crore in FY



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh interacts with Indian Army contingent from Commonwealth Games held at Glasgow in New Delhi

2025-26, an increase of over 5,500 per cent. Rajnath Singh also pointed out that the defence budget has risen from ₹2.53 lakh crore in FY 2013-14 to ₹7.85 lakh crore in FY 2026-27, which is a reflection of India's growing commitment to future defence technologies.

The defence minister said over the past year, the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) has granted

Acceptance of Necessity for projects worth over ₹8.75 lakh crore, which highlights the Government's emphasis on defence modernisation.

He said the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and the defence forces are positioning India at the forefront of technologies for future warfare amidst the evolving defence landscape.

Independence Day: 21 CBI personnel honoured



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

Twenty-one CBI personnel have been awarded the coveted President's Medal for Distinguished Service and Medal for Meritorious Service on the occasion of Independence Day.

Assistant Sub-Inspector Ramesh Chand, Assistant Inspector Shobha Dutta, Additional Superintendent of Police Manoj Banerjee, Ginni Rana, Deputy Superintendent of Police Sanjay Kumar Samal, and Assistant Sub-Inspector Madan Lal Dhimman have been awarded the President's Medal for Distinguished Service (PSM), the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)

said in a statement.

Fifteen personnel have been awarded the Medal for Meritorious Service (MSM).

The awardees include Deputy Legal Advisor, Brijesh Singh, Senior System Analyst Girish Joshi, Deputy SPs Manoj Kumar, Om Prakash Chandra, Zahir Akhtar Ansari, Ashish Anand, Inspectors Sarita Yadav, Sub-Inspectors Roshan Kumar, Assistant Sub-Inspector Dilbar Singh Bisht, Head Constables Balkar Singh, Govind Singh Bisht, Kamlesh Kumar Gurjar, Head Constable, CBI, Constables Pal Pandian R, Ajay Kumar Singh, and Kalyanadurgam Samiullah, it said.

BJP slams Rahul Gandhi over foreign policy jibe

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

The BJP on Friday slammed Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for his remarks on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's handling of foreign policy, saying it seems his "arrogance" is now turning into "madness".

"The nation must decide whether what Rahul Gandhi has done is merely the childish antics of a frustrated, deranged and envious person consumed by jealousy towards Modi, or the nefarious act of an individual serving as an instrument in a systematic conspiracy orchestrated by forces across the border," BJP spokesperson Sudhanshu Trivedi told reporters here.

The Congress and Gandhi have emerged as a "challenge" to the country's "healthy democracy", he charged. This came a day after Gandhi referred to the BJP-RSS as a "bunch of jokers" who have no understanding of India and scoffed at Prime Minister Narendra Modi's handling of foreign policy which he claimed was all about hugging leaders.

Speaking at the

Rachnatmak Congress National Convention here on Thursday, he also said it has somehow been ingrained in Modi's mind that foreign policy is about hugging leaders.

Gandhi then hugged Rachnatmak Congress chief Sandeep Dikshit in a bid to demonstrate what the current Government's foreign policy was about.

"Imagine the ignorance... where did he get the idea that foreign policy was about hugging leaders?" he said. Dikshit then asked Gandhi, "Ek cheez pooch sakta hoon? Meloni samajh ke toh nahi pakda tha?"

Gandhi responded by saying, "I have not reached there yet."

Trivedi condemned Gandhi's remarks, terming them "rude and indecent".

"What Rahul Gandhi has said makes it evident that his arrogance is now turning into madness. He appears to be losing his mental balance," the BJP Rajya Sabha MP said, when asked.

Use of such "rude, indecent and condemnable language" by Gandhi shows he is probably crossing "all kinds of extremes out of frustration" now, Trivedi charged.



Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao officially comes to West Bengal



SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ Kolkata

West Bengal was formally adopting *Beti Bachao Beti Padhao* scheme in Bengal, Chief Minister Suwendu Adhikari said on Friday. The previous Mamata Banerjee Government had refused to implement the scheme in the State.

"The previous Government had repeatedly stalled the *Beti Bachao Beti Padhao* project so conceived by our Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji... now we will implement this scheme in the State to ensure an all-round futuristic development of our girls.

Adhikari's statement came on a day when previous flagship Kanya Shree project of the former Trinamool Congress Government was replaced by the Kanyaratna scheme launched by the BJP regime.

Under the Kanyaratna scheme, a girl child would be entitled to receive ₹2,000 from next year, up from the earlier 1,000 rupees.

Besides, the girl students would also get a one-time grant of ₹ 50,000 for higher studies. This was ₹25,000 during the previous Government. Adhikari said that the girl students who would score more than 60 per cent marks in Class XII exams would get a scholarship under the existing Swami Vivekananda Scheme. Besides a new scheme was also launched after Swami Vivekananda that would entitle students to get an additional grant for higher studies at national level or even abroad.

"Girls are our assets and our government will provide them with all possible support they deserve for their future development," Adhikari said adding 20.13 lakh schoolgirls will receive the ₹1,000 assistance this year for which the Government had earmarked ₹ 400 crore. Both the number of recipients and the amount would increase from the next year.

Amrit Udyan to open for public from August 16

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

President Droupadi Murmu on Friday graced the opening of the famed Amrit Udyan inside the Rashtrapati Bhavan. The summer annuals of Amrit Udyan will be open for the public from August 16 to September 15, between 10 am and 6 pm. It will remain closed on all Mondays for maintenance.



President Droupadi Murmu during the opening of Amrit Udyan Summer Annuals Edition 2026 at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi

"President Droupadi Murmu graced the opening of Amrit Udyan Summer Annuals Edition 2026 at Rashtrapati Bhavan," her office said in a post on social media and shared pictures of the event.

Indigenous and native flowering plants, known for their vibrant colours and ecological significance, will be the major attraction of the Udyan this time.

The indigenous collection

includes Balsam/Gul-mehndi, Aparajita, Rukmini, Barsha Phool, Lal Saag and Nagphana among others, showcasing India's rich floral heritage and enhancing the biodiversity of the gardens.

Sportspersons on August 29 and teachers on September 5 will get exclusive access to Amrit Udyan to mark the National Sports Day and Teachers' Day, respectively.

BSES

BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, New Delhi

TENDER NOTICE

Date: 15.08.2026

Sealed tenders under two Bid System (Unpriced & Priced) is invited for following job from all bidders.

NIT No.	Brief Item Description	Estimated Cost	Cost of EMD	Due Date & Time of Submission	Date & Time of Opening
CMC/BR/26-27/FK/CR/SS/1384	Civil Works of Water proofing for Roof top solar installations on 13 nos. Grid in BRPL.	₹ 1.11 Crore	₹ 2.22 Lakhs	28.08.2026, 15:00 HRS	28.08.2026, 15:15 HRS

Cost of each Tender Document: ₹1,180/-

For details in respect of Equipment/BOM/Services, Qualifying requirements, Terms & conditions, purchase/submission of tender documents etc., Please visit our website www.bsesdelhi.com

Head (Contracts & Materials)

Regd. Off. : BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, BSES Bhawan, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019 | Corporate Identification No.: U40109DL2001PLC111527
Telephone No. : +91 11 4510 7235 | Website : www.bsesdelhi.com

NORTHERN RAILWAY

(E-Auction Notice)

The Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager/G, Northern Railway, Delhi Division, New Delhi invites e-Auction through IREPS (<https://ireps.gov.in/>) for allotment of Misc contracts of NFR at following railway stations:

E-Catalogue No.	Type of Asset	Station	Date & Time for e-auction
Advt-Aug-05-26	Passenger Announcement System (PAS)	New Delhi, Delhi, Hazrat Nizamuddin, Anand Vihar Terminal, Delhi Sarai Rohilla, Kamal, Kurukshetra, Panipat, Sonapat, Meerut Cantt., Meerut City, Muzaffarnagar, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad, Rohtak, Delhi Shahdara, Faridabad, Palwal.	Start: 31.08.2026 at 11:00 hrs
Advt-Aug-05-26	Vinyl Stickers/ Wrapping Exterior	Train No. 22479/80 and 22485/86	Start: 31.08.2026 at 11:00 hrs
Advt-Aug-05-26	DDIS UTS	290 UTS Counters over Delhi Division.	Start: 31.08.2026 at 11:00 hrs
Advt-Aug-05-26	DDIS PRS	165 PRS Counters over Delhi Division.	Start: 31.08.2026 at 11:00 hrs
Advt-Aug-05-26	Glow Ball Towers	4 Glow Ball Towers at Hazrat Nizamuddin.	Start: 31.08.2026 at 11:00 hrs
Advt-Aug-05-26	Head Rest Covers	Train No. 22439/40, 22435/36, 22447/48, 22469/70 & 22425/26	Start: 31.08.2026 at 11:00 hrs
Advt-Aug-05-26	Procurement and Supply of Linen Bag	Reserved Coaches of Mail/Express Trains of Delhi Division.	Start: 31.08.2026 at 11:00 hrs
Advt-Aug-05-26	Unipole OOH	Cluster-D, E, F & G	Start: 31.08.2026 at 11:00 hrs
Advt-Aug-05-26	Unipole	Modinagar	Start: 31.08.2026 at 11:00 hrs
Advt-Aug-05-26	Waiting Rooms	Baghpat Road, Shamli, Khehra, & Mansa, Railway Station	Start: 31.08.2026 at 11:00 hrs

Website particulars where complete details of E-Auction can be seen <https://ireps.gov.in/> (E-Auction-Leasing)

No.: 7PUB/e-Auction/NIT-2026 Dated: ...08.2026 2825/2026

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E-mail id: cs@himalyainternational.com | website: www.himalayafoodcompany.com

EXTRACT OF UN-AUDITED STANDALONE FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED JUNE 30TH, 2026

(Rs. In Lakhs)

S. No.	Particulars	Quarter Ended		Year ended	
		30.06.2026	31.03.2026	30.06.2025	31.03.2026
		(Unaudited)	(Audited)	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
1.	Total Income from Operations	879	844	1039	3985
2.	Net Profit for the period (before tax & exceptional items)	104	-316	259	293
3.	Net Profit for the period before Tax (after exceptional items)	104	-316	259	293
4.	Net Profit for the period after Tax (after exceptional items)	104	-239	259	370
5.	Total Comprehensive income for the period [Comprising Profit for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	104	-239	259	370
6.	Paid-up Equity Share Capital (Face Value of Rs. 10/- per share)	8479	8479	5787	8479
7.	Earnings Per Share i) Basic in Rs. ii) Diluted in Rs.	0.12 0.12	-0.28 -0.28	0.45 0.45	0.44 0.44

Notes:
1. The above unaudited results were reviewed by the Audit Committee and thereafter approved by the Board of Directors at its meeting held on August 14, 2026.
2. The above is an extract of the detailed format of Unaudited Financial results for the Quarter ended June 30th, 2026 filed with the Stock Exchange under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the aforesaid Unaudited Financial results for the Quarter ended June 30th, 2026 is available on BSE Limited (www.bseindia.com) and the Company website (www.himalayafoodcompany.com).
For and on behalf of the Board
Sd/-
Man Mohan Malik
Managing Director

Date: 14.08.2026
Place: New Delhi
(DIN: 00696077)

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that Jasbir Singh claims to be owner and in possession of Ground Floor of Property No. W2-245, Plot No. F-39, Kharsa No. 799 and 380, Shiv Nagar, New Delhi (hereinafter called the said property), said Jasbir Singh inherited the said property after the death of Naninder Kaur and Gurbachan Singh by virtue of Relinquishment Deed dated 09.09.2023 reg. vide Doc. No.23243 & Relinquishment Deed dated 27.08.2025 reg. Vide Doc No. 2025/25/124536 & said Naninder Kaur and Gurbachan Singh were the owner of the said property vide Sale Deed dated 25.03.2000 regd. vide Doc. No. 2848 & said Jasbir Singh has agreed to sell the said Property to Jaspreet Saluja and said Jaspreet Saluja has agreed to create a mortgage in favour of our clients IDFC FIRST BANK LTD, Rajendra Place Branch, any person's having claim against the said Property or any part thereof, by way of sale, exchange, mortgage (equitable/registered or otherwise), gift, trust, inheritance, lien or otherwise howsoever, are hereby intimated to notify the same in writing to us with supporting documentary evidence at the address mentioned below within 7days from the date hereof, failing which claim or claims, if any, of such person or persons will be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned and our client shall proceed with the disbursement of loan and subsequent creation of mortgage in respect thereof

Vishal Diwan (Advocate)
Company
Ho.No.2 (LGF), NRI Complex, N.D-19
Email: vishaldiwan@diwanandcompany.com

India can hit hard: NSA Doval on Operation Sindoor

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

Sending out a stern warning to the perpetrators of terrorism, National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval has said India's generosity and tolerance should not be mistaken for weakness, asserting that the country can take risks and hit hard, irrespective of the consequences.

Breaking silence over Operation Sindoor for the first time, he said the objective of the 88-hour military operation was to destroy enemy camps, particularly those responsible for the Pahalgam terror attack.

Speaking in the upcoming Discovery docuseries "Declassified: Operation Sindoor", Doval said "We had decided the objective of the operation as destruction of the enemy camps, particularly those who had been responsible for the Pahalgam attack."

"Message to the world is very clear — India's generosity or India being tolerant should not be mistaken for its weakness. India can take risks, India can hit hard, irrespective of the consequences," he added.

The two-part docuseries brings together India's mili-



tary and national security leadership to recount the decisions and events surrounding Operation Sindoor, with first-hand accounts from those who oversaw India's response, Discovery said in a statement. In the show, Doval offers an account of the decision-making and resolve behind the military response, it added. "Declassified: Operation Sindoor" will premiere on Saturday at 9 pm on Discovery and streaming service discovery+.

Operation Sindoor was launched early on May 7 last year in retaliation for the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack in which 26 innocents were killed, with Indian forces conducting precision strikes on multiple terror infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied

Kashmir (PoK).

The punitive action by the Indian armed forces killed more than 100 terrorists deep inside Pakistan and destroyed several strategic assets including air fields and other installations.

Pakistan later also launched offensives against India, and all subsequent counter-offensives by India were also carried out under Operation Sindoor.

The military conflict between the two nuclear-armed neighbours, lasting nearly 88 hours, halted after they reached an understanding on the evening of May 10.

The remarks reiterate India's shift toward an active deterrence posture, signaling that restraint does not limit the country's capacity or willingness to respond forcefully to cross-border threats.

Doval's remarks offer a rare insight into the strategic thinking behind Operation Sindoor and the resolve at the highest levels of India's national security establishment following the Pahalgam terror attack.

The two-part docuseries brings together India's senior military and national security leadership, operational commanders and frontline personnel who were involved in planning and executing the 88-hour response.

The series also examines the military thinking that followed once the objective had been set, including target assessment, decisions taken as the situation developed and the responsibility placed on those carrying out the mission.

Former Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan said the Pahalgam attack had deeply affected the country and that India had decided not to bow to such threats.

"Like, I think, all citizens of the country, we were actually hit by the brutality of this attack. I think it was most barbaric. It was decided that India would not bow down to such kinds of threats," Chauhan said.

Certain forces do not want peace in Punjab, says Sukhbir Singh Badal

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ Nanded

A day after he was injured in a *kirpan* attack, former Punjab deputy chief minister Sukhbir Singh Badal said on Friday that some groups are against peace in Punjab and the country, and see the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) as standing in their way.

He said he would follow the example of his late father, former Punjab chief minister Parkash Singh Badal, and would not let such groups take control of the state. He added that he is committed to keeping unity.

Badal, who is president of the SAD, was attacked with a kirpan by a member of the Nihang order inside Gurdwara Mata Sahib Devan Ji Mugat on the edge of Nanded city on Thursday. He had surgery at a local hospital and was released on Friday afternoon.

After leaving the hospital, Badal told reporters, "A lot of forces do not want peace in Punjab and this country. They feel that the Shiromani



AKALI Dal is a hindrance to their mission. My father, Parkash Singh Badal, never compromised with these forces. He always stood for the idea that all communities and religions should live together happily."

"My father was a chief minister. He kept peace among communities and respected all religions. These groups tried to attack me a year ago. Their goal is to take control of Punjab and disturb the peace, but as president of the Shiromani Akali Dal, I will never let that happen. My father did not allow it

either," he said. Badal also said he had been targeted at two of Sikhism's holiest sites. Despite these attacks, he said he would keep standing up to any effort to cause unrest. "Both times, they attacked me in the holiest places. First at the Golden Temple and then at Takht Hazur Sahib (Mata Sahib)," he said. Badal said, "Jihde sir te Guru Sahib da hath hoye, ohnu koi aanch nahi aundi" (one who has the Guru's blessings remains unharmed).

"I thank Guru Gobind Singh ji Maharaj, as this is

his land. The enemies of Punjab's peace tried a lot, but He saved me. I am not afraid, and I am committed to Punjab's brotherhood. Shiromani Akali Dal can make every kind of sacrifice because the development of Punjab is the development of the country for us," he said.

In December 2024, Badal survived an assassination attempt while doing sewadar duty at the Golden Temple in Amritsar.

The incident happened after the Akal Takht announced tankhah, or religious punishment, for actions taken during the party's rule in Punjab from 2007 to 2017.

He reiterated that the SAD remains committed to communal harmony, religious brotherhood, and peace in Punjab and will not be deterred by threats or attacks. Police have arrested the suspected attacker, Jaspal Singh, and have started an investigation. Police say the motive for the attack is still unknown.

Himanta inaugurates development projects in Jalukbari

TONY DAS ■ Guwahati

Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma today inaugurated several development projects in the Jalukbari Assembly Constituency, including an RCC bridge connecting Bamunrajan Road with Forest School Road and 19 single-cell RCC box culverts constructed over the Kalmani stream at Azara. As part of the Mukhyamantrir Unnata Paki Path Nirman Achnoi for 2024-25, Sarma for-



mally inaugurated the RCC bridge, constructed at a cost of more than ₹2.56 crore.

Speaking at the inauguration, the Chief Minister said that the old wooden bridge at

the site was in a highly dilapidated condition, forcing residents of the Baripara area to take a longer route via Bamunrajan Road for their daily commute.

The new bridge, measuring 32.40 metres in length, will provide direct and convenient connectivity to Forest School Road and significantly reduce travel time for students, office-goers, patients and other commuters. Sarma said several thousand people

from nearby areas, including Garigaon, Baripara, Bhakunda, Jeutipara and Noapara, would directly benefit from the bridge.

The Chief Minister further said that the bridge would provide improved and direct connectivity from Forest School Road to the Dharapur area. He also assured local residents that steps would be taken to prevent erosion at Bamunrajan.



INDIAN AIR FORCE

PRESIDENTIAL AWARD WINNERS - INDEPENDENCE DAY 2026

SHAURYA CHAKRA

SQN LDR SUDHIR KUMAR

VAYU SENA MEDAL (GALLANTRY)

GP CAPT RAHUL JAGOTTA
GP CAPT RAHUL RAWAT
WG CDR ASHISH RAJPOOT
SQN LDR YASH
MWO RAVINDERJIT SINGH

MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES

WG CDR RL NAGESH KUMAR
WG CDR CR PRADEEP
WG CDR AMMAR HAIDER NAQVI
WG CDR MANOJ PURI GOSWAMI
SQN LDR KUNDARAPU Koushik
SQN LDR AVIRAL GANDHI
FLT LT PARTHSARATHI MULAY
MWO BRAHM PRAKASH (RETD)
MWO ANOOP SINGH
CPL MOHAN LAL SAINI



14 ITBP officials awarded Police Medals on 80th I-Day

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

A total of 14 officials of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) have been announced to be conferred with Police Medals on the occasion of the 80th Independence Day, 2026.

Of the 14 officials, three will receive the President's Medal for Distinguished Service, while 11 will be conferred the Medal for Meritorious Service.

President's Medal for Distinguished Service

The three ITBP officials selected for the President's Medal for Distinguished Service are:

1. Mandhir Ekka, Inspector General (GD)
 2. Nishith Chandra, Deputy Inspector General (GD)
 3. Mohan Singh, Inspector (GD)
- Medal for Meritorious Service
- The 11 officials selected for the Medal for Meritorious Service are:
1. Rahul Yadav, Commandant (GD)
 2. Chhering Tashi Bodh, Commandant (GD)
 3. Arvind Chandra, Second-in-Command (GD)
 4. Jagdish Chand Masiwal, Deputy Commandant (Office)

5. Rajendra Singh, Subedar Major (GD)
6. Bishan Dass, Inspector (Telecom)
7. Mohan Singh Dogra, Inspector (CM)
8. Narendar Singh, Sub Inspector (GD)
9. Nandan Kumar Singh, Sub Inspector (Pioneer)
10. Chain Singh, Assistant Sub Inspector (GD)
11. Til Bahadur Chhetri, Head Constable (KS)

The Director General, ITBP, along with the entire force family, conveyed congratulations and best wishes to all the medal recipients for their distinguished and meritorious service.



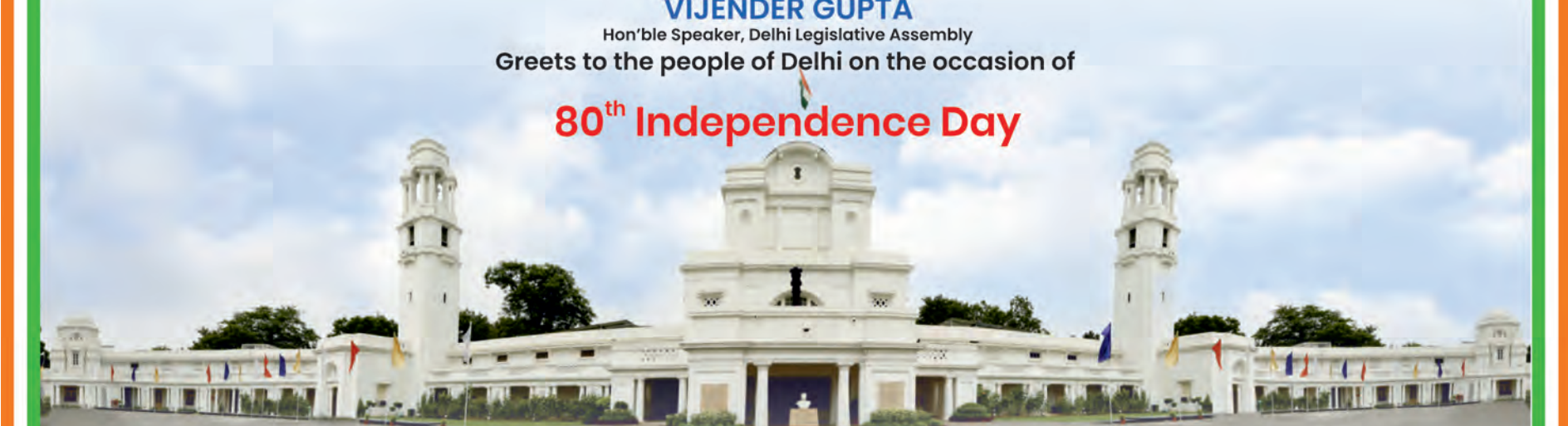


VIJENDER GUPTA

Hon'ble Speaker, Delhi Legislative Assembly

Greets to the people of Delhi on the occasion of

80th Independence Day



The Gates of Delhi Legislative Assembly will be opened for the public To witness the glimpses of colourful L.E.D. Lighting on Historical Building and Musical Fountain.

Date : 14th & 15th August 2026 **Time : 5:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.**

—: Special Attractions :—

Cultural Programme by Sahitya Kala Academy Artists
Performance by Band | Corona Warriors Memorial
Murals of Maharani Lakshmi Bai and Jallianwala Bagh

DIP/Shabdarth/Display/069/26-27 **All are cordially invited** **Secretary**
Delhi Legislative Assembly

Visitors are requested to carry their photo identity Card and cooperate with security personnel at the gate so that their entry could be facilitated.



Editor's
TAKE

Milestones and missing pieces

Since the midnight of August 15 1947 made India an independent nation, each anniversary invites an honest audit, not just a celebration

It has been quite a long time, 79 years since India gained independence from the British yoke. Indeed a moment of joy and cause to celebrate. We have come a long way from the shadow of the Raj. The single most consequential number is 248 million - roughly the number of people who were uplifted from poverty between 2013-14 and 2022-23 alone, as the national poverty rate fell from 29 per cent to 11 per cent.

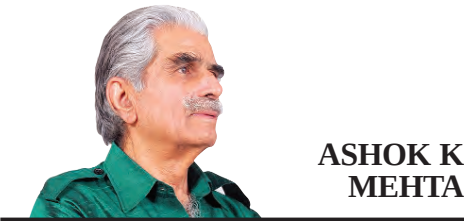
India remains the world's fastest-growing major economy, expanding above 6.5 per cent even as a rebased GDP series and a weaker rupee pushed its dollar ranking from an anticipated fourth place to sixth - a reminder that headline rank matters less than what growth does for a household budget. Elsewhere the gains are more unambiguous: Chandrayaan-3's 2023 lunar landing, a Unified Payments Interface that now moves close to half of the world's real-time digital payments, a February 2026 trade deal that cut US tariffs on Indian exports from 50 per cent to 18 per cent after a bruising year of friction over Russian oil purchases, and last year's Operation Sindoor, fought substantially with indigenous defence systems – a genuine inflection point for "Atmanirbhar Bharat".

Set against this is unfinished business. Annual unemployment sits at a low 3.2 per cent, but this year's data show urban youth joblessness climbing past 15-18 per cent, worse for young women, alongside a labour-force participation rate drifting down when it should be rising to capture the demographic dividend. The UNDP ranks India 130th of 193 countries on human development - better than before, but still 'medium,' with inequality alone erasing nearly a third of its score.

The Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, reserving a third of legislative seats for women, passed unanimously in 2023 and remains unimplemented. India breaches seven of nine planetary boundaries, by one recent assessment, with extreme weather recorded on 99 per cent of days in 2025; and it has fallen to 157th of 180 nations in press freedom – its worst showing yet, a genuine embarrassment for a democracy of this scale. None of this diminishes what India has built; it argues for finishing the job with equal seriousness. Growth needs to become job-rich, not just fast, through skilling matched to real demand and the formalisation of an economy still mostly informal. The demographic dividend has a shelf life, and this decade - not the next - will decide whether India converts a young population into a productively employed one. Institutions – a free press, an independent judiciary, functioning federalism – deserve the same attention as ports and highways. Climate adaptation must be built into spending now, before the next flood erases a decade of poverty gains. Viksit Bharat by 2047 is a plausible destination, not a guaranteed one – it depends on implementing laws already passed, not just announcing new ones. Eighty years ago, freedom was won in a single extraordinary year. Development has to be won again every year after.

Time to break the Agniveer deadlock

For nearly six years, the historic Gorkha connection between India and Nepal has remained caught in an unusual silence. As the Army Chief visits Nepal, a growing movement among former servicemen and political leaders is seeking to break the recruitment deadlock and reopen the door to Agniveer, in a bid to preserve the centuries-old Gorkha warrior tradition



ASHOK K MEHTA

Just as Indian Army Chief, Gen Dhiraj Seth makes his first foreign trip; to Nepal on 16 Aug, a flicker of hope is seen of Nepal Domiciled Gorkhas (NDG) being allowed to be recruited in the Indian Gorkha Brigade after a gap of nearly six years (including two COVID years) following Nepal suspending recruitment in the Agnipath scheme introduced in June 2022, Kathmandu claiming it was infringement of the 1947 Tripartite Treaty for recruitment of NDG into Indian and British Armies. Since then, only Indian Domiciled Gorkhas (IDG) and hill troops from Garhwal and Kumaon have filled up the 60 per cent annual quota of approximately 1400 soldiers from Nepal.

Neither India nor Nepal has sought to break the strategic silence over recruitment, Kathmandu viewing introduction of Agniveer as political and diplomatic breach. Further, Nepal considers the four years service and 25 per cent retention terms of engagement as a security risk - release into the marketplace of combat-trained youth as new supply chain for insurgency-wracked Nepal following 10 years of Maoist civil war. Other dangers and disadvantages were also painted about Agniveer, seen as a bolt from the blue.

On 29 July, in an astonishing turn of events the Indian Ex Servicemen Development Committee of Lamjung led by activist Sub Khem Jung Gurung launched a massive movement demanding permission for joining Agniveer due to the abysmal jobs state in the country where 2000 youth leave Kathmandu every day. A former politician, Gurung said: 'young lads travel abroad to take up menial jobs when their centuries old skill as Gorkha warriors is being unutilized in Agniveer'.

The movement has picked up traction all over Nepal, especially in the nursery of soldiering, Pokhara. Petitions have been forwarded to Prime Minister Balen Shah and Home Minister Sudan Gurung. On 6 August, Rashtriya Swatantra Party MP from Syangja- another warrior recruitment treasure house- Dr Dhananjay Regmi, son of a 5/9 Gorkha Rifles Indian ex-serviceman raised the Agniveer issue for the first time in the new Parliament backing Gurung's advocacy of Agniveer. These two events could catalyse the unarticulated urge to accept Agniveer - a sea change from the erstwhile womb-to-tomb engagement of service- because, Gurung said, "something is better than nothing".

The bulk of Gen Seth's 16 to 20 August programme is in Kathmandu where he will be anointed honorary General of Nepal Army, a lifetime honour tracing its tradition to the legendary Field



NEPAL CONSIDERS THE FOUR YEARS SERVICE AND 25 PER CENT RETENTION TERMS OF ENGAGEMENT AS A SECURITY RISK - RELEASE INTO THE MARKETPLACE OF COMBAT-TRAINED YOUTH AS NEW SUPPLY CHAIN FOR INSURGENCY-WRACKED NEPAL FOLLOWING 10 YEARS OF MAOIST CIVIL WAR

The writer, a retired Major General, served as Commander, IPKF (South), Sri Lanka, and was a founder member of the Defence Planning Staff, now the Integrated Defence Staff

Marshal Sam Bahadur Manekshaw in 1972, who also introduced several welfare reforms including young Indian Gorkha officers getting to know their soldiers by trekking in remote areas of Nepal. Seth will meet PM Balen Shah who is his own Defence Minister before visiting Pokhara the Bhu Pu (ex-servicemen) citadel for a grand rally. Weather permitting, he will go to Mukthinath temple where a former Army Chief, Gen Bipin Rawat, had presented bells for the temple. As no press meet is held for a visiting Chief, there is little chance of the Agniveer issue cropping up, though it could be raised during the rally in Pokhara. Seth's reply will take cue from what follows.

Recently, former CDS Gen Anil Chauhan of 11 Gorkha Regiment said that when Agniveer was implemented, NDG were considered as Indian citizens and it was not feasible to make an exception for them, alluding to their enlistment on separate terms of engagement, adding that the decision to allow Nepali citizens to enlist now rests with Kathmandu. Chauhan could have made a special case out of it by attaching strategic significance to the bonding and reminding Prime Minister Narendra Modi of what he had said in Nepal's Parliament in 2014: "India has fought no war where Nepali blood has not been shed". But the good Chauhan let it pass; a fait accompli. Like the voices now being heard from Nepal about maintaining the warrior legacy and centuries-old tradition of Gorkhas, no similar sentiment has been publicly expressed in India by hundreds of General-rank retired Gorkha officers including a former Army Chief. That tells another story.

Meanwhile, last week, Foreign Minister Shishir Khanal told BBC Nepali service that 'Nepal was ready to discuss the Tripartite Treaty if it needed to be reviewed and if a formal proposal was received from India'. Khanal has pushed the ball in Delhi's court when he knows

neither side has tried to break the impasse for the last five years. Delhi's contention is that Tripartite Treaty has not been violated. Its two key features are Recruitment and Terms of Engagement bound by 'equal treatment'. These provisions of treaty are in tact. But as India claims special and unique relations with Nepal Delhi should have followed diplomatic nicety - at least informed Kathmandu about the bolt from the blue. The truth is: India's unilateral action is seen as unfair and Big Brother-ly. In previous Nepali governments the Communists commanded majority in parliament and have sought to curtail Nepali citizens joining foreign armies. In the new Parliament they are in extreme minority. There is an economic angle too. Nepal earns nearly Rs 5000 crore annually from soldiering in Indian Army and pensioners enormous benefits in India and Nepal. If Nepal keeps the door to recruitment shut, the Nepal Gorkha connection will burn out in 20 years; only pensioners will be around for another 30 years.

In February 2025, Nepal's Supreme Court in a case over pensions of British Gurkhas pre 2009 had suggested that Nepal should negotiate new bilateral treaties with Britain and India as Tripartite Treaty does not meet present conditions. Agniveer does not provide a level playing field for Nepal like substantial reservations for demobilized Agniveers in India in para-police, para-military and several other institutions. A smaller economy like Nepal cannot comfortably absorb the retired Agniveers. Party Chairman Rabi Lamichhane, Prime Minister Shah, Home Minister Gurung and other legislators have been made aware of the groundswell movement for joining Agniveer among the Nepali youth. Some immediate incentives from India for encouraging Nepal to greenlight Agniveer will revive a key strategic asset, make COAS Gen Seth's visit historic and testify special and unique relations.

PIC TALK



Students take part in a "Tiranga Yatra" ahead of Independence Day, in Jammu
PHOTO: PTI

DIGITAL EXPERIENCE



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VANDE MATARAM AND A NEW NATIONAL SPIRIT

The inclusion of Vande Mataram in the 80th Independence Day celebrations at the Red Fort marks an important moment of cultural renewal. Commemorating 150 years of the National Song alongside the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047 creates a meaningful bridge between India's historic struggle for freedom and its aspirations for the future.

The emphasis on youth participation, with thousands of NCC cadets and MyGov competition winners becoming part of the celebrations, is particularly welcome.

It places India's national identity in the hands of its young citizens and recognises the country's growing Yuva Shakti.

Equally significant is the decision to move away from

VIP-centric nomenclature and use the names of Indian lakes. Such symbolism can make national celebrations more inclusive and rooted in India's diverse geography and heritage.

The spirit of decentralisation should be carried forward. Future celebrations could encourage regional innovation, local participation and community-led initiatives across the country.

Vande Mataram is not just a song it is the spirit of freedom that every Indian must have in his heart. What was true 150 years is true now.

Blending heritage with youthful ambition can give India's national celebrations a renewed meaning and help turn the idea of Viksit Bharat into a shared national endeavour.

VIJAYKUMAR H K | RAICHUR

Please send your letter to the info@dailypioneer.com. In not more than 250 words. We appreciate your feedback.

Why science alone cannot keep us healthy



RAJYOGI
BRAHMA
KUMAR
NIKUNJ JI

2ND OPINION

Recently many Indian metro cities witnessed a worst outbreak of dengue, chikungunya and malaria with death toll rising to hundred's even as the number of cases of the vector-borne disease had crossed a thousand numbers in most of these cities. These figures have once again posed a serious question for our society: why is it so that despite the advancement in science and technology, there is an upsurge in diseases everywhere? Who is to be blamed for this?

There are various factors responsible for it. Firstly, let us have a look at the physical environment which has degraded over the decades. Today the quality of natural elements like air, water, soil - and everything around us has been deteriorating, which can be attributed largely to unchecked man made activities that exploit nature



for development. Similarly, the quality of raw materials, the five elements that constitute our bodies, is also becoming poorer. Our bones, spine, teeth, delicate organs like eyes, heart, kidney, liver and others are impacted right at the time of their formation.

Synthetic fertilizers, insecticides and pesticides that sustain the crop production seep into our food, as a result of which our resistance power against diseases has lowered and we contract various infections than before for physical reasons alone. Secondly, we need to examine the psyche of the 21st century modern man who faces high levels of worry, fear, anxiety at work as well as at home due to lack of values like tolerance, respect, patience and value-based co-existence.

Today, negativity of all kinds has increased and ethical and moral values have taken a nosedive. As a

result, the moral stamina of the society has been affected. Lastly, the third reason which is the root cause, for the present scenario is the huge accumulated stock of past negative karma that is the biggest link between disease, environment & lifestyle.

We live in an impure world because of the devastation we have inflicted on our external nature, which in turn has deteriorated under the influence of the vicious internal nature of human beings. We receive pain and suffering from people and situations in return for having created negative energy in the form of negative thoughts, words or actions in the past.

This process is a continuous vicious circle and despite the knowledge of the right and the wrong, humans are unable to change the course of their present action. This is where meditation comes to our rescue, as it helps us to connect to the Supreme Source and helps us to burn our past sins. It helps us to use HIS unlimited powers to absolve the burden of past negative actions so that we may regain and sustain our physical, mental, social and spiritual health.

In other words, regaining health and peace is a process possible only through spiritual elevation of human beings. So, let us get rid of our sick mentality to move into the age of enlightenment where our thoughts will be constantly loving, pure and harmonious.

The writer is a spiritual teacher and a columnist

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Humanity beneath the rubble

A devastating 7.4-magnitude earthquake struck western Colombia on Monday, turning the quiet rhythm of life in Cali, Pereira and communities across Chocó into scenes of destruction and despair. Homes collapsed, walls fractured and, within seconds, years of memories and dreams were buried beneath concrete and rubble.The disaster is a stark reminder of how fragile life can be. One moment brings tranquility; the next, cries for help and grief fill the streets.Yet amid the devastation, the enduring strength of humanity is visible.

Neighbours are digging with their bare hands in search of loved ones. Strangers are comforting one another amid the dust and ruins. Communities are refusing to surrender to despair.Statistics will record the number of casualties and authorities will assess the material damage, but no figure can capture the anguish of families searching for children, parents, brothers and sisters.Colombia must not be seen merely through the lens of destruction. It is a nation showing courage, solidarity and hope amid unimaginable suffering. Its people are not alone. Our prayers, compassion and support must cross borders to help Colombia rise from the rubble.

RANGANATHAN SIVAKUMAR | CHENNAI

Violence has no place in a place of worship

The reported attack on Shiromani Akali Dal president Sukhbir Singh Badal at a gurdwara in Nanded is shocking and deeply condemnable. A place of worship is meant to provide peace, prayer and reflection; there can be no justification for violence within such a sacred space.

The fact that Mr Badal was attacked while performing darshan makes the incident particularly disturbing. It is reassuring that security personnel acted swiftly and prevented the assault from becoming more serious. His receiving timely medical attention and undergoing surgery is also a matter of relief.Such incidents go beyond an attack on an individual.

They threaten the atmosphere of peace, communal harmony and mutual respect that society must preserve. Political disagreements and grievances, however serious, must be addressed through democratic and constitutional means, never through violence.The authorities must conduct a thorough and impartial investigation, establish the motive and examine whether there were security lapses. Political and religious leaders should meanwhile appeal for restraint and harmony.I hope Sukhbir Singh Badal makes a speedy and complete recovery.

SANJAY CHOPRA | MOHALI

Public property must serve the public

The Karnataka government's proposed Bill to regulate the use of government premises and public property by organisations, including unregistered bodies, has opened another chapter in the state's continuing confrontation with the RSS.Under the proposed Karnataka Regulation of Use of Government Premises and Public Property Bill, 2026, organisations would need permission from the concerned authority before holding events on government premises or public property.

The move could affect RSS shakhas conducted in government schools, colleges, public grounds and other government-owned spaces.The proposal follows Home Minister Priyank Karge's earlier demand that RSS activities in government institutions and public spaces be restricted. Karge had questioned the organisation's activities and sought greater transparency regarding its legal status, office-bearers, finances, expenditure and tax compliance.The dispute has since widened from the question of shakhas to a larger debate over the use of public property by organisations that are not formally registered.

Public spaces belong to citizens and must be governed by clear, neutral and transparent rules. At the same time, such rules must be applied impartially and not become instruments of political vendetta.

BHAGWAN THADANI | MUMBAI

Eight decades of transformation: From scarcity to self-confidence

The India of 1947 could scarcely have imagined the India of 2026. The India of 2026 must now show the same courage and imagination in building the India of 2047. As we salute the Tricolour, let us renew our commitment to a strong, prosperous, inclusive, self-reliant and just India and to the Constitution that has made this possible



VIJENDER GUPTA

As India celebrates its 80th Independence Day, we are not merely marking another anniversary of freedom. We are reflecting upon a remarkable national journey, one that began in 1947 amid hope, sacrifice and enormous uncertainty, and has brought us to an India that is increasingly confident, capable and determined to shape its

own destiny. The India that became independent on 15 August 1947 was very different from the India we see today. We inherited poverty, widespread illiteracy, inadequate infrastructure, food insecurity, weak industrial capacity and the deep wounds of Partition. Yet, our founding generation possessed something more powerful than material resources: a profound faith in the Indian people and an unwavering commitment to democracy.

India's journey since then has not always been easy or linear. For decades, India continued to grapple with shortages, inadequate infrastructure, limited economic opportunities and the immense difficulty of delivering development to a population of continental scale. Yet, when we look at India today, we see a country that has progressively overcome many of the limitations that once appeared insurmountable. This transformation has acquired unprecedented scale and momentum over the last twelve years.

India today is among the world's leading economies and has emerged as a major centre of technology, digital innovation, manufacturing, entrepreneurship and human talent. Infrastructure is being created at a scale once difficult to imagine. Highways, railways, airports, digital networks and public infrastructure are connecting people and regions faster than ever before.

Technology has transformed the relationship between citizens and the State. Public services can increasingly reach beneficiaries directly and transparently. A new generation of Indians is growing up with aspirations very different from those of previous decades. Our youth are not merely seeking opportunities; they are becoming entrepreneurs, innovators, scientists, professionals and creators of opportunities themselves.

The journey from scarcity to aspiration, and from aspiration to self-confidence, is perhaps one of the defining stories of modern India. But India's greatest achievement cannot be measured only through economic statistics, infrastructure or technology. Equally remarkable has been the endurance of constitutional democracy in a country of extraordinary social, linguistic, cultural and religious diversity. When the Constitution came into force on 26 January 1950, India became a Republic founded on the ideals of justice, liberty, equality and fraternity. The Constitution gave institutional expression to the values for which generations of Indians had struggled. It established a democratic system in which sovereignty ultimately rests with the people, governments derive legitimacy through elections and State power remains subject to constitutional limitations. India's constitutional journey has not been without turbulence. The Emergency of 1975-77 was perhaps its gravest test, when democratic freedoms and constitutional rights came under severe strain. It remains a reminder that constitutional democracy can never be taken for granted. Yet, India's response demonstrated the remarkable resilience of its democratic system. That experience demonstrated an enduring truth: our democracy is resilient because the Constitution gives citizens not only rights, but also the institutional means to defend them.

Parliament and State Legislatures are the principal forums through which the aspirations, concerns and expectations of citizens are translated into laws and public policy. They are also institutions through which governments are questioned, public expenditure is scrutinised, competing viewpoints are debated and the executive is held accountable. Over the decades, our Constitution and laws have continued to evolve in response to changing social and national requirements.

An important milestone came through the 86th Constitutional Amendment of 2002 under the government of Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, which inserted Article 21A into the Constitution and recognised free and compulsory education for children



INDIA'S CONSTITUTIONAL JOURNEY HAS NOT BEEN WITHOUT TURBULENCE. THE EMERGENCY OF 1975-77 WAS PERHAPS ITS GRAVEST TEST, WHEN DEMOCRATIC FREEDOMS AND CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS CAME UNDER SEVERE STRAIN. IT REMAINS A REMINDER THAT CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRACY CAN NEVER BE TAKEN FOR GRANTED. YET, INDIA'S RESPONSE DEMONSTRATED THE REMARKABLE RESILIENCE OF ITS DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM. THAT EXPERIENCE DEMONSTRATED AN ENDURING TRUTH: OUR DEMOCRACY IS RESILIENT BECAUSE THE CONSTITUTION GIVES CITIZENS NOT ONLY RIGHTS, BUT ALSO THE INSTITUTIONAL MEANS TO DEFEND THEM

Vijender Gupta is Speaker of Delhi Legislative Assembly

between six and fourteen years of age as a Fundamental Right. In more recent years, legislative reforms have increasingly sought not only to regulate society but also to make governance simpler, more transparent and more responsive to citizens. The introduction of the Goods and Services Tax through the constitutional framework created a unified indirect taxation system and strengthened the idea of India as a common economic market. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code created a time-bound framework for dealing with insolvency and represented a significant change in India's economic and financial architecture. One of the most interesting shifts in the philosophy of governance can be seen in the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Act, 2023. For decades, many relatively minor administrative and procedural defaults carried criminal consequences. The Jan Vishwas legislation decriminalised a large number of such minor offences across several Central laws, replacing imprisonment in many cases with monetary penalties.

It represents a change in the relationship between the citizen and the State, from a system based excessively on suspicion and criminalisation towards one based increasingly on trust. India has also undertaken a major transformation of its criminal justice framework through the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam. These laws seek to move India's criminal justice system away from structures inherited from the colonial period and towards a framework suited to the needs of a modern Republic. Another historic development came with the Constitution (One Hundred and Sixth Amendment) Act, 2023, which provides for reservation of seats for women in the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies.

These developments underline an important truth: A successful democracy must constantly respond to new aspirations, technologies, economic realities and social expectations while remaining anchored firmly in its constitutional values. As Speaker of the Delhi Legislative Assembly, I believe a legislature must never be viewed merely as a place where Bills are passed. It is where the people's voice must be heard, where the government must answer questions and where public grievances must find expression.

It is where differing political viewpoints must encounter one another through debate rather than confrontation outside the democratic process. Our parliamentary traditions teach us that disagreement is not a weakness of democracy. Democracy does not require unanimity; it requires respect for institutions, rules, constitutional boundaries and the legitimacy of differing opinions.

This is why the responsibility of protecting the Constitution cannot rest with institutions alone. It belongs equally to every citizen. The Constitution acquires strength not merely from the words written in it, but from the faith that citizens place in it and from the willingness of governments, legislatures, courts, political parties and citizens to respect its true spirit.

India's experience over eighty years tells us that institutions may be tested, political circumstances may change and the democratic journey may occasionally become difficult. But when citizens retain faith in constitutional processes, democracy possesses an extraordinary ability to correct itself and move forward. Many challenges that constrained India for decades are today being overcome. There is a growing confidence that India need not merely adjust itself to a world shaped by others; it can help shape that world. This confidence must become the foundation of our journey towards Viksit Bharat @ 2047. The next phase of development must combine economic growth with social responsibility, technological progress with human values, opportunity with inclusion and national ambition with constitutional morality.

Our young generation will be the principal architect of this future. Along with opportunity, we must give them faith in the Constitution, respect for democratic institutions, pride in India's civilisation and confidence in its future.

Independence Day: Why the sword Is still overhead



ACHARYA PRASHANT

is born anyone's slave. An animal in the forest is free, a bird in the sky is free. You catch the bird and put it in a cage; only then is it subjugated. A nation is no different, and its natural condition too is freedom.

So what India celebrates on Independence Day begins to look a little strange. Freedom is the given; the more honest and more useful question is this: if everything is born free, where did bondage enter later? Was India always enslaved? No. Then where did the slavery come from? This is why I would want Independence Day observed as a day of self-examination. Eat the sweets of freedom today, by all means, but first ask how the bondage arrived, and whether it has truly left, or whether it still hangs over the country like a sword.

This slavery is not a matter of ten or twenty or fifty years: nearly a thousand years, sometimes a part of the land, sometimes the whole of it, under someone else's dominion. Whoever could come, came. From Europe the Portuguese came, the French came, the Dutch came, the British came; the only ones who did not come were those who could not, for reasons of geography.

From nearby came the Afghans, the Iranians, the Turks, the Arabs. Something that happens once, or twice, you may call an accident. Something that continues for a thousand years, is that still an accident, or is there some deep structure behind it? Behind it lies a structural cause, an internal weakness, that has kept forcing the country into the position of prey. And the larger question is this: a cause that persisted for a thousand years and kept the country enslaved, would it have vanished completely in seventy-five or eighty years? If it is still present, then the danger is still equal to what it was; the sword is still overhead.



So what is that cause? Political it cannot be; no political cause lasts this long. Coincidence it cannot be; that much is settled. The cause is cultural, something that has, by misfortune, dissolved into the air of India and settled there as culture, something held sacred and clung to. I call it lokdharma, the folk-religion.

Lokdharma is no external power; it is one's own ego, hardened into rite, tradition, custom and fantasy. It is the structure that merely looks like dharma, resting on Smriti texts severed from Shruti, on the Puranas and on ritual, while the real dharma, the Shruti-dharma of the Upanishads, of Advaita, of truth and freedom, stays far away. Where the very root of a religion lies in fantasy and fear, what price will fact carry there, or the question, or free thought? India is not a religious country; it is a folk-religious country. It accepted fear, superstition, division and self-interest in the name of dharma, and so it felt no hesitation in accepting its own defeat. This is the dishonesty within, the one that turns its face from fact and is afraid of the question.

In the age when the powers of Europe were working out their exact position at sea, what was India doing? While they were racing ahead in astronomy, India was tangled in the auspicious hour, and is tangled there still. The world moves ahead in science; this country moves ahead in casting horoscopes. This is the very astrology that pushed India back; had India attended to astronomy, its defensive strength at sea and on land would have been something else.

There was a news item these days: at a temple in Madhya Pradesh, the religious observance of Independence Day was held on the eleventh of August, because by the temple's panchang the true tithi of independence fell on that day. The train may arrive at seven in the evening; you will still reach the station at ten at night, because your reckoning says the moment is now.

A country that gives no value to fact will give none to knowledge; and for a country that gives no value to knowledge, there is no surprise in its subjugation. Today's Gen-Z is buried in astrology apps too. Lokdharma is still dominant; its grip has not loosened, it has only come forward in new shapes.

So on this Independence Day my request is only this: celebrate, but even amid the celebration, let the gaze turn inward for once. The sword that has hung over the country for a thousand years has not lifted yet. The danger is equal, the danger remains, and the cause of that danger is internal.

The greatest enemy sits within, not in the house next door but in the very heart, in the very lokdharma. It will not come from outside; it lies in that inner dishonesty which turns from fact, is afraid of the question, walks by fantasy instead of Shruti and invests in ritual in the place of knowledge. And so, even as this Independence Day is celebrated, remember that vigilance has no single day.

The festival is today; the watchfulness must be from today too, and every day after. This is not a matter of any declared result, of any medal of victory; it points a direction, and nothing more. Be careful, wake up.

The direction is inward, and no one has promised a destination. Freedom asks to be lived as a responsibility rather than enjoyed as a festival; otherwise the sword stays where it is, and the next slavery, different from the old, will be no less deadly.

Acharya Prashant is a philosopher and author whose work centres on self-inquiry and its application to contemporary life



MP AJITH KUMAR

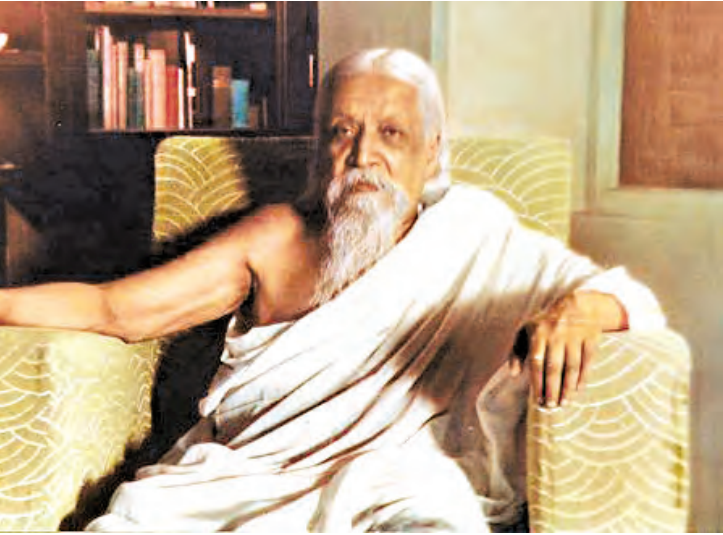
Of the many ancient knowledge systems humanity developed, India's Religion proved outstanding. She developed a coherent system, harmonizing values of inclusivity, and concordance into a balanced worldview. "India is an epitome of the world", commented the philosopher historian Arnold Joseph Toynbee who hailed her as the 'living civilization' that would unite and enlighten the future humanity. India's was a turbulent history with invaders pounding her recurrently, leaving her geographically and psychically torn. Bled white in terrorist violence, her glory often seemed almost irretrievably lost with enemies disturbing her national life. Denunciation of the motherland, derogatory writings against her and declining it for pay-offs were common. Problems confronting our nation are legion. Yet, she sojourns to her destination, determined and untouched by the turbulent surroundings.

India's all-inclusiveness, its readiness to imbibe and harmonize the noble aspects steeled her spirit. Greece was an aesthetic culture that glorified everything beautiful notwithstanding whatever defect what it deemed beautiful had. They would ignore

everything but Beauty. Hence the aesthetic nature of the Greek culture, opined Sri Aurobindo. Ancient Romans ran in contrast. They discarded Beauty for the ethical aspects. Aesthetics gave way to ethics and disciplines of life. A strong and muzzled body was preferred to the beautiful. Romans never thought of a beauty attainable through discipline like the Greeks who never cared the discipline leading to a higher beauty. Beauty and discipline thus had run parallel, never to meet in a creative unity. But India harmonized the both, making discipline a means to realize the beauty.

Ethical life helped her realize the ultimate beauty, Saundarya which is a "joy forever". India's culture was both ethics and aesthetics perfectly mixed. It was satyam-sivam-sundaram - Truth-Bliss-Beauty, synonyms of the divine.

Though many in modern times interpreted Sanatana Dharma, Sri Aurobindo's emendation looms most important. dharayateti dharma - that which sustains is dharma. To sustain what is not specified, and hence the meaning 'sustain all and everything' including the very cosmic order. Rhythm or in Sanskrit the rita is the law of cosmic



order. What is not rita runs in contrast to the natural order. Everything moves in symmetry as if directed by an unseen power. This symmetry and harmony found in cosmic dynamism puzzled even scientists like Einstein as to whether God plays dice.

Even the very aim of diversity, it appears, is to lead things to a creative unity requiring coherence at all levels. For this, one must identify oneself with the entirety, see oneself in others and vice-versa which is the quintessence of Sanatana Dharma. This universal mutuality is the

natural law working behind the secret of the existence. Lokasamgraha - 'holding together' has for long been in India's vision. 'Others first and oneself last' was India's ideal that looked to the world as one family - vasudhaiva kutumbakam. Individual consciousness being the split portion of universal consciousness, any action of man would affect the entire cosmos, opined Erwin Schrodinger when he addressed the question 'What is Life'.

Definitely our thought and action affect the universe and its consciousness both positively and negatively. Having realized this idea, ancient Indian thinkers made this dharma the ideal of national life. To Aurobindo India represented this dharma and believed, nation is parasakti or universal energy in geographical entity and dharma the priestess in its sanctum. Sidetracking this eternal dharma, nothing can thrive, especially the dharma-rashtra or the spiritual nation that is India. Hence the content of his Uttarapara speech, "The Sanatana Dharma, that is nationalism".

Man making was the mission of this dharma and turning the life divine was its end. To it man was of prime importance and the love of man

was pivotal to Aurobindonian vision which is centered on the worship of man. It aims at discovering and acknowledging the inherent divinity and the intrinsic superiority of man. Summing up India's religion of man Sri Aurobindo wrote: "Man must be sacred to man regardless of all distinction of race, creed, colour, nationality, status, political or social advancement. The body of man is to be respected, made immune from violence of outrage, fortified by science against disease or preventable death. The life of man is to be held sacred also, given scope, protected from violations, from suppression, from mechanization, from belittling influences.

The mind of man is to be released from all bonds, allowed freedom and range and opportunity, given all its means of self-training and self-development and organized in the play, of its powers for the service of humanity. And all this too is not to be held as an abstract or pious sentiment but be given full and practical recognition in the presence of men and nations and mankind".

This intellectual religion of man reflects a nation's aspiration, to quote Aurobindo, "to raise the world to god in deathless light, to bring god to the world on earth we come, to change the earthly life into life divine". This is the 'eternal religion' of India that stands above all fetters, limitations and confinements of creed, group or narrow minded nationalism.

Author is Kerala State President, Bharatiya Ithasa Sankalan Samiti



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Odisha: Man gets life for raping girl last year



A fast-track court in Odisha's Angul district sentenced a 23-year-old man to life imprisonment for raping a girl in May last year, an official said on Friday.

The Ad-hoc Additional District & Sessions Judge-cum-Fast Track Special Court on Thursday pronounced its judgment and imposed a fine of 30,000 on the convict, Satyabrata Mishra alias Kalia.

If he fails to pay the fine, the convict will undergo imprisonment for another year, the Government counsel said. The court directed that upon realisation of the fine amount, the entire sum will be paid to the victim.

It also directed the authorities concerned to pay 7 lakh compensation to the victim under the provisions of the POCSO Act. The court convicted Mishra under the provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act and the SC & ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, the Government counsel said.

The convict lured the seven-year-old girl to a deserted place near their village before he committed the crime.

According to the prosecution, the incident took place on May 19, 2025. The victim's mother lodged a complaint the next day, and the police arrested Mishra on May 22.

Days before the incident, the convict had also sexually assaulted the minor.

(PTI)

SC quashes criminal defamation complaint against Rahul Gandhi



The Supreme Court on Friday quashed the criminal defamation complaint and summons issued by a trial court against Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for his remarks against Hindutva ideologue Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, saying the required sanction under the law was not obtained.

The defamation case stems from Gandhi's comments on Savarkar made on November 17, 2022 during his Bharat Jodo Yatra at a rally in Maharashtra's Akola district.

Allowing Gandhi's plea, a bench of Justices Dipankar Datta and Sheel Nagu noted that the criminal proceedings lacked sanction required under the law to prosecute the Leader of the Opposition in this case.

Under Section 196 CrPC, sanction of the state Government is mandatory to take cognisance of an offence under Section 153A IPC (promotion of enmity between groups). "Additional Solicitor General and advocate for complainant, in the affidavit filed by UP, submits there is no disclosure of sanction.

In such view of the matter, the complaint and orders passed by magistrate stand quashed," the bench said. The top court had earlier censured Gandhi for "irresponsible" remarks on Savarkar at a rally in Maharashtra but stayed the criminal proceedings against him.

(PTI)

SC stays Madras HC order on Karur jobs

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

In a relief for the Tamil Nadu Government, the Supreme Court on Friday stayed an order of the Madras High Court which quashed Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay's order providing Government jobs to relatives of people who died in a stampede at Karur last year.

On July 10, Chief Minister Vijay distributed appointment orders to 31 relatives of those who died in the stampede on September 27, 2025 at Karur.

The stampede occurred at a rally addressed by Vijay, leaving 41 people dead and over 60 injured.

A bench of Justices JB Pardiwala and K Vinod Chandran issued notice to the petitioners who challenged the Government order and others.

"Who are you to question the policy of the Government? Suppose the sole member died in the tragedy, shouldn't the Government give some



employment to son or daughter? the bench told the PIL petitioner who had challenged state Government order. The top court's order came on a petition filed by the State and others challenging the high court's judgment.

The Madras High Court on July 27 had quashed Vijay's order providing Government jobs to relatives of people who died in the stampede,



CJI flags misuse of court clips

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

Voicing concern over the circulation of clips of court proceedings on social media without adequate context, Chief Justice of India Surya Kant said that his oral remarks were "misquoted" and misused with "malicious intent" to mislead the youth of the country.

On May 15, 2026, the CJI, while hearing a case in the Supreme Court, had compared certain individuals with fraudulent degrees to "cockroaches" who become social media or RTI activists to attack the system.

The CJI's comment sparked widespread youth backlash, inspiring the satirical online movement "Cockroach Janta Party" (CJP).

In an interview with DD News, the CJI said clips of court proceedings are being circulated nowadays on social media without adequate context.

CJI Kant said whatever happened was truly unfortunate and clarified that he could never imagine such things regarding the people



involved.

"My comment was misquoted and misused. What was not said is presented as though it was said. This is extremely unfortunate. Particularly, it is a major malicious attempt to mislead the youth of the country," the CJI said.

Asking the media to report responsibly on judicial proceedings, the CJI said every citizen has a duty to maintain harmony in society.

"You are on social media, print media or any form of

media or you are simply a citizen. All of us have rights and constitutional duty and responsibilities.

"When we speak of rights, we must also possess the capacity to fulfil our obligations. Therefore, I would urge them to keep their responsibilities in mind; we must all make tireless efforts to ensure that harmony prevails in society," he said.

The over-a-month-long CJP-led protests at the Jantar Mantar against the NEET-UG paper leak led to a clash

between the agitators and police on July 20, which left several individuals from both sides injured. The protests resulted in the resignation of Dharmendra Pradhan as the Union education minister.

The CJI also referred to his recent order barring the unauthorised dissemination, reposting, uploading and monetisation of audio and video recordings of judicial proceedings on social media and other digital platforms.

Gujarat HC orders DCP transfer for impartial probe into assault

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ Ahmedabad

The Gujarat High Court on Friday observed that the deputy commissioner of police (DCP) who allegedly slapped and beat handcuffed accused persons in public in Surat must be immediately transferred to ensure an impartial probe into the incident. A division bench of Chief Justice Sunita Agarwal and Justice DN Ray took up a suo motu PIL over the July 14 incident, after taking cognisance of a written complaint filed by a lawyer.

The case stems from an incident in which a deputy commissioner of police (DCP) and a group of policemen were allegedly seen in video footage parading the handcuffed accused persons publicly and subjecting them to repeated physical assault.

The Government pleader informed the bench that the



issue had come to the attention of the Director General of Police, who ordered an inquiry under the assistant commissioner of police (crime), and statements of all people identified in the videos have been recorded.

Chief Justice Agarwal, in her oral remarks, observed that the preliminary inquiry into the incident cannot be impartial if the police officer in question is in his post.

"Apart from the people present on the spot, there must be some police personnel who were witnesses. They will not speak. He is such a

senior officer, and he did something unacceptable. You continue with your preliminary inquiry, but you will have to transfer him. He should be posted somewhere else," the court noted.

The incident took place in a public place, and everybody saw it, and videos were also circulated, she said.

The matter will be heard next on August 21.

The amicus curiae submitted that the state home department had issued a circular dated May 7 following two High Court orders on similar incidents.

SC slams BCI's move against NALSAR students, says they have right to protest

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

"It's a dialogue between students and me," Chief Justice of India Surya Kant said on Friday as he sharply pulled up the Bar Council of India for its order that the 2026 graduates of Hyderabad's NALSAR University of Law not be enrolled as advocates following their objections to his proposed campus visit.

Students have a right to protest, the CJI-led bench said a day after the BCI directed all state bar councils not to enrol any 2026 graduate of the university until further orders. The order was reversed within hours after

an uproar on social media.

"It's a dialogue between students and me. Who are they (BCI) to interfere? This is totally uncalled for," the chief justice said after a plea challenging the BCI's circular was mentioned before it for urgent hearing.

"I myself, in my student days, was actively involved in student activities," he said.

The bench, also including Justices Joymalya Bagchi and V Mohana, asked NALSAR to tell its students to get enrolled as advocates at the earliest and said, "We will empanel them for legal aid cases." A section of students of the premier law institute had written to the vice chan-



cellor, registrar and professors of the institution, opposing any proposal to invite the CJI as chief guest to the varsity's convocation, the date of which is yet to be announced.

"Assuming even if they (students) are wrong, they have a right to protest. BCI

does not have any business in this," the bench said, terming the BCI's action "absolutely unnecessary".

Observing that students have the right to protest peacefully and nobody can stop them from doing so, the apex court asked the BCI's counsel whether a

SC backs Chandrababu Naidu in Amaravati case

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Friday refused to interfere with the Andhra Pradesh High Court order quashing a case against Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu and minister P Narayana in connection with alleged irregularities in the land pooling scheme in capital Amaravati.

A bench of Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justices Joymalya Bagchi and V Mohana said it is not inclined to interfere with the high court order and clarified that the outcome of the petition will not have bearing on other cases, which should be adjudicated on its own merits.

Senior advocate Ranjit Kumar, appearing for Alla Rama Krishna Reddy, submitted that there were large-scale irregularities in the case which involved land of around 30,000 acres of over 25,000 farmers.

The bench told Kumar, "On the larger issue of farmers, we are with you. Whatever they are entitled to, we will



protect."

The CJI, however, pointed out that the present criminal proceedings were at the instance of a political rival and no farmer had come forward.

"Political battles should not be fought in court," the CJI told Kumar and disposed of the petition filed by Reddy challenging the July 15 order of the high court at Amaravati.

The FIR was registered under the Prevention of Corruption Act on March 12, 2021, following a complaint by then MLA Alla Rama Krishna Reddy over the land pooling scheme announced as per a 2016 Government order.

Calcutta HC seeks balance between census duties and students' education

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ Kolkata

The Calcutta High Court on Friday said it wants both the Census exercise and education of students to continue smoothly, while hearing petitions by school teachers who claimed difficulties in performing Census duties within the prescribed timings.

A section of teachers challenged a Government notification appointing them as enumerators and supervisors for the Census exercise.

Justice Krishna Rao said the court wanted the Census work to continue without affecting the education of students, but the administration should ensure that those assigned the task are able to perform it despite their personal difficulties. The petitioners contended that they have to travel long distances to their respective schools and, with only Sunday as a weekly



holiday, find it difficult to perform Census duties within the prescribed timings.

"If a teacher is working 10 am to 4 pm everyday, coming from 40 or 60 km away, and gets a holiday only on Sunday, do they need to work on that day for some remuneration for the Census?" the court asked. Justice Rao said if teachers were required to undertake Census work during weekends, he would also seek the Chief Justice's approval to sit on Saturdays

and Sundays, as several petitions, including those related to the Special Intensive Revision (SIR), were pending before the court.

The court's observations came after the West Bengal Government's counsel submitted that the notification clearly stated that Census work should be carried out in a manner that does not affect academic activities in schools and should be undertaken after class hours or during weekends.

POCSO case: Delhi HC rejects doubts over homeless minor's testimony in case

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

The Delhi High Court has refused to interfere with the conviction of a man accused of sodomising an 11-year-old homeless boy, asserting that a child surviving on the streets cannot be expected to share details of date, time or clothing with the same accuracy as a witness living in a settled environment.

In a judgement passed on the accused's appeal on August 10, Justice Chandrasekharan Sudha upheld the trial court's August 2025 decision to convict him under Section 377 (unnatural offences) IPC and Section 6 (Punishment for aggravated penetrative sexual assault) of the POCSO Act.

The judge, however, modified the trial court's 20-year jail term to ten years on the grounds that at the time of the offence, the corresponding



sentence was a decade.

Section 6 POCSO Act became punishable with a minimum term of 20 years with effect from August 16, 2019. The minor alleged that in November 2016, the accused sexually assaulted him while he was sleeping under a railway bridge at Kashmir Gate.

The incident was reported on the police helpline by some social workers, who had organised a programme in the area for providing free medical aid to the homeless, after the minor

informed them about it.

The accused's counsel claimed that he had been falsely implicated. He argued that the prosecution failed to prove the boy was under 12 years of age and that there were several inconsistencies in his testimony regarding the incident and the dress he was wearing.

Rejecting the defence, the court said the boy's inability to state his exact age or date of birth or other specific details would not benefit the accused. It said although in his testimony, the survivor

claimed that he was about 15 years of age, given his social background, it was "unrealistic" to expect him to know his exact age.

The school record showed his date of birth as October 12, 2005, making him 11 years old at the time of the incident, the court observed.

The court stated that the accused's identity, the place of incident, the nature of the sexual assault and the sequence of events immediately after the incident remained substantially unchanged throughout all versions testified by the minor boy.

The discrepancies with respect to the exact time, the description and colour of the clothes worn by the boy, the precise order in which the NGO workers and the police reached the spot, etc, do not "detract from the consistent allegation of forcible anal intercourse", it stated.

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LG Electronics India posts strongest quarterly growth

LG Electronics India reported its strongest quarterly performance since listing in Q1 FY27, with revenue rising 15.5% to ₹72.33 billion. EBITDA grew 26.2% to ₹9.04 billion, expanding margins to 12.5%, while profit after tax surged 27.2% to ₹6.53 billion. Growth was broad-based across televisions, refrigerators, air conditioners and washing machines, supported by premiumisation and strong consumer demand.

Home Entertainment led the performance, with revenue rising 22.3% and EBIT margins expanding to 19%. Home Appliances & Air Solutions revenue grew 13.6%. Managing Director Hong Ju Jeon said the results reflected India's shift towards premium, technology-led and energy-efficient products. The company expects further momentum from the festive season, B2B expansion, exports and new capacity at Sri City, while managing geopolitical and commodity pressures through localisation and calibrated pricing.

Industry hails MMDR Bill over greater clarity on levies

Industry leaders on Friday welcomed the passage of the MMDR Amendment Bill, saying it will create a more uniform and investment-friendly regulatory framework for the mineral sector.

The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2026, would improve ease of doing business, provide greater clarity on state-level taxes, cess and other levies on mineral rights and mineral-bearing lands, and help unlock the country's mineral potential.

Vedanta Ltd Chairman Anil Agarwal welcomed the passage of the bill, saying the changes would improve ease of doing business and help the country unlock its mineral potential.

In a social media post, Agarwal congratulated the Centre on the passage of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2026 and highlighted its potential to strengthen the mining sector and contribute to India's economic ambitions.

"The changes to the law will greatly improve ease of doing business. This will help raise production, create massive jobs and promote self-sufficiency," the Chairman said.

Sumit Jhunjhunwala, Vice President, Sector Head, Corporate Sector Ratings, ICRA Ltd, said the bill will enhance clarity and predictability around uneven state-level taxes, cess and other levies on mineral rights and mineral-bearing land, including retrospective tax claims and potential contingent liabilities for mining companies.

He further said greater visibility on the overall fiscal burden on the mining sector could support investment decisions and improve the viability of projects, particularly those that are capital-intensive and have long gestation periods.

Exports to FTA partners gain momentum in Q1 FY27

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

India's exports to key free trade agreement (FTA) partner countries witnessed strong growth in the first quarter of 2026-27, with outbound shipments to Singapore and Sri Lanka more than doubling, according to the commerce ministry data.

India has so far signed 17 FTAs with a number of countries and groups, including Singapore, Malaysia, South Korea, Mauritius, the UAE, Australia, the European Union, Asean and the EFTA bloc. Out of this, 16 are operational.

The data showed that exports to Singapore surged 101.2 per cent to USD 6.52 billion during April-June 2026, from USD 3.24 billion in the year-ago period, while shipments to Sri Lanka rose 123.8 per

cent to USD 2.35 billion from USD 1.05 billion.

The shipments to the ASEAN (Association of South East Asian Nations) region grew 61.6 per cent to USD 14.61 billion in the first quarter of this fiscal, from USD 9.04 billion in April-June 2025-26.

Exports to the South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) region rose 36.6 per cent to USD 8.40 billion from USD 6.15 billion.

Among individual countries, Malaysia recorded a

The Pioneer

NEW DELHI | SATURDAY | AUGUST 15, 2026

Coal demand to hit 1.6b tonnes

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ Mumbai

India's coal demand is likely to touch 1.6 billion tonnes per annum by 2030, a top Government official said on Friday, underlining the need for transparent and market-driven pricing for the commodity.

Speaking at the Global Commodities Conclave here, Union Coal Secretary Vikram Dev Dutt said that the setting up of the 'coal exchange', a Government-established platform designed to work as an independent marketplace will be of help.

He said in each of the last two fiscal years, domestic coal production has crossed 1 billion metric tonnes and the demand is continuing to grow as the commodity is a mainstay of energy needs.

"Coal demand is projected to rise further to an estimated 1.6 billion tonnes by 2030," Dutt said, adding that we are at an "inflection point" where we are shifting from a scarcity scenario to one of surplus.

Such a shift underscores the need for "more efficient, transparent and market driven mechanisms for coal trade", he said, pointing out that till now the state-run Coal India has enjoyed a virtual "monopoly".

"While this model did serve its purpose for the time that it was designed, it

does not fully reflect the competitive, transparent and efficient price discovery that a market of India's scale and India's maturity deserves," he added.

The coal exchanges will provide commercial and captive miners ready and transparent access to a wider market, wherein

buyers and sellers can bid simultaneously enabling efficient, competitive, and market-driven price discovery, he said.

The Government plans to operationalise the coal exchange concept in "the months ahead", he said, without sharing affirm timeline.

FCNR, ECB measures to draw \$90-95 b capital inflows in FY27: Report

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ Mumbai

The RBI's concessional swap windows for FCNR (B) deposits, external commercial borrowings and overseas foreign currency borrowings are likely to draw capital inflows of USD 90-95 billion in 2026-27, according to a report.

CareEdge, in its report, has revised its projections for FCNR flows, considering the inflows observed in the last two months. It now expects FCNR (B) inflows to reach around USD 80 billion, while external commercial borrowings (ECBs) and overseas foreign currency borrowings (OFCBs) are projected at USD 10-15 billion.

Taken together, the measures are likely to generate USD 90-95 billion of capital inflows in FY27.

The report said that considering the inflows received so far and expected to come, India's capital account surplus is now likely to increase to approximately USD 108 billion compared to a surplus of just USD 2 billion in the previous year.

As a result, India's balance of payments (BoP) is expected to improve to a surplus of USD 64 billion in FY27 compared to deficits of USD 23.6 billion and USD 5 billion in FY26 and FY25, respectively, the report added.

Between June 5 and July 31, 2026, these measures have

attracted USD 40.8 billion, with FCNR (B) inflows accounting for USD 36.7 billion, and ECBs and OFCBs together accounting for USD 4.1 billion.

Large banks are currently offering deposit rates in the 6.0-6.5 per cent range, while some smaller and newer

banks are offering rates close to 7 per cent for FCNR deposits.

Additionally, the availability of significant leverage for investors, with some foreign banks reportedly offering leverage as high as 19x-29x in some cases, appears to have enhanced the attractiveness of

the scheme and supported stronger-than-expected participation, the report said.

The inflows received through these measures will have a positive impact on banking system liquidity, with CareEdge expecting core liquidity to boost around ₹8.6 lakh crore.

However, this could be partly offset by a seasonal rise in currency demand and the maturity of the RBI's short forward book. The report estimates that currency in circulation (CiC) could rise by around ₹1.1 trillion in December from levels in June amid a seasonal uptick in festive periods.

The report said that assum-

ing maturity of around USD 30 billion in the RBI's forward position (short-forward book maturing in 3 months and within 1 year stands at USD 16 billion and USD 40 billion, respectively), this could create a drag of roughly ₹3 trillion. After accounting for the incremental CRR requirement on deposit growth, CareEdge estimate core liquidity could still reach a surplus of around ₹9 lakh crore.

This is expected to prompt the RBI to use liquidity management tools such as long-tenor variable rate reverse repo (VRRR) or Open Market Operation (OMO) sales to absorb excess liquidity, the report said.

Stock markets end lower amid geopolitical uncertainty

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ Mumbai

Market benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty ended lower on Friday as elevated oil prices and the prolonged US-Iran impasse weighed on investor sentiment.

The 30-share BSE Sensex dropped 70.71 points, or 0.09 per cent, to settle at 78,009.25. During the day, it declined 395.59 points, or 0.50 per cent, to 77,684.37.

The 50-share NSE Nifty dipped 29.85 points, or 0.12 per cent, to end at 24,366.

From the Sensex pack, Asian Paints, InterGlobe Aviation, NTPC, Power Grid, State Bank of India and HCL Tech were among the major laggards.

Bharti Airtel, Adani Ports, ICICI Bank and Titan were among the winners.

Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, advanced 0.17 per cent to USD 87.15 per barrel. "Indian equity markets ended largely unchanged on

Top Gainers	Top Losers
Asian Paints: +1.88	Asian Paints: -1.88
Adani Ports: +1.82	Adani Ports: -1.82
ICICI Bank: +0.57	ICICI Bank: -0.57
NTPC: +0.57	NTPC: -0.57
Power Grid: +0.56	Power Grid: -0.56
Titan: +0.56	Titan: -0.56
M&M: +0.36	M&M: -0.36

Friday, struggling to build on supportive global cues as persistent uncertainty surrounding the US-Iran stand-off and the Strait of Hormuz kept investors cautious heading into the weekend. Despite a softer US inflation reading and record closes on Wall Street, elevated crude oil prices and the absence of any diplomatic breakthrough continued to cap risk appetite," Ponnudi R, CEO of Enrich Money, an online trading and wealth tech firm, said. Geopolitical tensions

remained the dominant market driver, he added.

"Indian equity markets ended lower on Friday as renewed geopolitical tensions in the Middle East pushed crude oil prices higher, overshadowing the positive global cues from Wall Street's record close. A notable positive for the domestic market was the Nifty-50's ability to defend the 24,325 support zone for the second consecutive session," Hariselman Radhakrishnan, Founder & CEO of HST Wealth, a Research Analyst firm, said.

The BSE SmallCap Select index declined 0.65 per cent and the MidCap Select index dipped 0.13 per cent.

Among sectoral indices, Housing Finance declined 1.40 per cent, MidSmall Private Banks Quality Tilt 0.58 per cent, MidSmall Private Banks 0.46 per cent, Oil & Gas 0.45 per cent, Energy 0.44 per cent and Services 0.39 per cent.

Rupee finds lift as dollar weakens

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ Mumbai

The rupee appreciated 3 paise to close at 95.42 (provisional) against the US dollar on Friday, due to weakness in the greenback against major rivals overseas.

According to forex traders, the rupee stayed under pressure due to foreign fund outflows and rising crude oil prices amid geopolitical uncertainties.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened at 95.39 and moved in a tight range of 95.38 to 95.44 against the American currency before ending the session at 95.42 (provisional), up 3 paise from its previous close.

On Thursday, the rupee closed 12 paise lower at 95.45 against the US dollar.

Jateen Trivedi, VP Research Analyst — Commodity and Currency, LKP Securities, said the rupee traded with a weak bias this week, although the overall movement remained largely

Date	Rate (₹ per US\$)
7	95.30
8	95.17
9	95.36
10	95.33
11	95.36
12	95.42*
13	95.45
14	95.42

range-bound.

"Crude had surged around 25 per cent during July and continues to remain elevated, keeping the import-cost pressure on the rupee. Meanwhile, the dollar index remained below the 100-mark near 99.50, limiting the rupee's downside. Technically, the rupee is expected to remain in the 95.10-95.80 range in the near term, with crude and the dollar remaining key directional triggers," Trivedi said.

Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies,

was trading 0.08 per cent lower at 99.78.

Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, was trading higher by 0.99 per cent at USD 87.93 per barrel in futures trade.

Analysts said the dollar index retreated after a fall in US Treasury yields, and the data showed inflation in the world's largest economy at lower levels.

Also, they said that oil prices bounced back after days of easing, as hopes of a deal to end the West Asia crisis remained uncertain, with both the US and Iran contradicting each other over ship transit conditions through the Strait of Hormuz.

On the domestic equity market front, Sensex fell 70.71 points, or 0.09 per cent, to settle at 78,009.25, and Nifty dropped 29.25 points, or 0.12 per cent, to 24,366.

Foreign institutional investors offloaded equities worth ₹510.69 crore on a net basis on Thursday, according to exchange data.

WPI inflation eases to 9.78%, first dip in nine months

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

Wholesale price inflation softened month-on-month for the first time in nine months to 9.78 per cent in July on easing in fuel and food prices.

Wholesale price index (WPI)-based inflation was 9.87 per cent in June.

This is the first time since October 2025 that WPI inflation has fallen month-on-month. The softening in July numbers is mainly on account of lower inflation in fuel and power even as inflation in primary articles and manufactured products accelerated.

"Across groups, mineral oils (containing petroleum products), food articles, manufacture of basic metals, non-food articles, manufacture of food products, and manufacture of chemicals and chemical products have been major drivers of WPI inflation in July 2026," the commerce and industry ministry said while releasing the

monthly Wholesale Price Index (WPI) data on Friday.

Wholesale inflation in fuel and power dropped to 20.05 per cent in July, as against 27.41 per cent in June.

Inflation in food articles too eased marginally to 5.44 per cent in July from 5.49 per cent in June. However, manufactured products saw an uptick in inflation at 8.29 per cent in July, as against 7.48 per cent in June.

As per the data, the output Producer Price Index (PPI) — which the Government has said will eventually replace

the WPI in about 5 years — remained unchanged at 9.6 per cent YoY in July vis-a-vis June. Output PPI saw lower inflation in manufacturing and mining, but higher agriculture and electricity PPI nullified those gains.

In a research note, Barclays said the direction of the WPI has reversed and WPI inflation should soften in coming months as global prices seem to have peaked.

"In our view, WPI inflation has peaked and gradual and modest disinflation from hereon should continue, in

line with relatively lower global commodity prices in general and crude oil price in particular (since June)," Barclays said.

The war in West Asia war which began on February 28 and the resultant blockade of the Strait of Hormuz, through which the majority of crude oil is imported into India, has kept WPI elevated with pressure on global crude and fertiliser costs.

ICRA Principal Economist Rahul Agrawal said the moderation in July WPI was not broad-based and was entire-

ly led by the fuel and power group whereas all the other groups witnessed a hardening in their inflation prints vis-a-vis June 2026.

"Looking ahead, we anticipate a larger easing in the WPI inflation to below 9.5 per cent in August, after peaking at 9.9 per cent each during May-June 2026. Nevertheless, prints are likely to remain elevated through much of the year, with an average WPI inflation forecast of around 8.5 per cent for FY27," Agrawal said.

The WPI data is in contrast to the retail inflation numbers released earlier this week.

The consumer price index based retail inflation rose to 4.45 per cent in July from 4.38 per cent in June, on high food prices.

The Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy Committee, earlier this month, kept benchmark policy rates unchanged at 5.25 per cent and has projected retail inflation at 5 per cent for FY27.

BUSINESS

11

FROM THE WORLD

LONDON

2 injured as train derails

A passenger train derailed in southern England, seriously injuring two people and leaving nine others with minor injuries after three carriages overturned, the British Transport Police said.

The Southern Rail train from Victoria station in London to Eastbourne was carrying about 150 people when it went off the tracks outside the tourist town of Lewes on Thursday. (AP)

PAKISTAN

Rubio greets Pak on I-Day

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio greeted the people of Pakistan on their Independence Day and said the two countries, through cooperation on regional mediation and critical minerals, were delivering "real results".

"On behalf of the United States of America, I extend warm congratulations to the people of Pakistan on their Independence Day," Rubio said. (PTI)

India, Bangladesh weigh Tarique's Delhi visit

ASHOKE RAJ ■ New Delhi

No date has been announced, but a series of high-level contacts suggests Bangladesh and India are laying the groundwork for a possible Prime Ministerial visit.

Bangladesh Prime Minister Tarique Rahman's possible visit to India is increasingly becoming a focal point of Dhaka-New Delhi diplomacy, with both sides signalling a willingness to deepen engagement even as the timing of the trip remains undecided.

Rather than a confirmed itinerary, the latest developments point to an active diplomatic process. Indian officials have reiterated that an invitation is on the table, while Bangladesh has indicated that a final decision will depend on the Prime Minister's schedule and the outcome of ongoing discussions. India has extended two separate invitations to Tarique Rahman: one for a bilateral visit and another to attend the outreach session of the 18th BRICS Summit in New Delhi on September 12-13.

Indian Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal confirmed that both invitations remain valid,

saying India would provide an update if there is progress.

For Tarique Rahman, such a visit would carry significance beyond protocol. It would provide an opportunity for the new Bangladesh government to engage directly with India on a broad range of issues and potentially establish a new framework for bilateral relations.

The possible meeting comes as the two neighbours seek to navigate a number of complicated issues. Relations have faced tensions over the extradition request for former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, border security, trade and transit, water-sharing, energy cooperation and people-to-people movement.

At the same time, both governments have shown signs of wanting to keep communication channels open. Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Dinesh Trivedi recently held separate meetings with Prime Minister Tarique Rahman, Foreign Minister Dr Khalilur Rahman and Home Minister Salahuddin Ahmed.

During his meeting with Tarique Rahman, Trivedi con-



veyed Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's greetings and expressed New Delhi's intention to pursue relations with Bangladesh in a positive and forward-looking manner.

The discussions also covered areas of mutual interest and possible avenues for expanding people-centred cooperation.

Trivedi later met Modi in New Delhi and briefed him on his discussions with the Bangladeshi leadership, indicating that the recent diplomatic exchanges are being closely followed at the highest level in both capitals.

The BRICS invitation has

added another possible route for Tarique Rahman to travel to India. Bangladesh currently chairs BIMSTEC, and India has invited Tarique Rahman to participate in the BRICS outreach session in that capacity. New Delhi has described the invitation as part of the established practice of inviting heads of regional organisations to BRICS outreach meetings.

If Tarique Rahman attends, the event could provide an opportunity for an informal or formal interaction with Indian leadership alongside the multilateral programme.

However, Bangladesh has not yet confirmed whether

the Prime Minister will participate. State Minister for Foreign Affairs Shama Obaed Islam said recently that there was still time to decide, noting that the Prime Minister's schedule and ongoing discussions would be important factors.

While the proposed visit remains uncertain, energy cooperation has already emerged as a practical area of engagement between the two countries.

Bangladesh currently receives diesel from India through a cross-border pipeline and has requested an increase in supply. Indian officials have said the

request will be examined in light of India's domestic requirements, refining capacity and the availability of diesel.

The issue could become an important component of wider economic and energy discussions between the two governments. For Dhaka, securing reliable energy supplies is a major economic concern, while for New Delhi, any expansion of exports must be balanced against domestic demand and supply conditions.

The most politically difficult issue in the relationship remains Bangladesh's request for the extradition of former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina from India.

Dhaka has pressed New Delhi on the matter, while the Indian government has said the request is being examined through the relevant judicial and legal processes.

Any high-level meeting between Tarique Rahman and Narendra Modi would therefore take place against the backdrop of this unresolved issue.

Other sensitive matters, including border killings, river-water sharing and security cooperation, could also require political attention if the proposed visit

moves forward. For now, the central question is not whether India is willing to host Tarique Rahman — the answer from New Delhi appears to be clear — but when the visit can be arranged and what both sides want to achieve from it.

Diplomatic sources say a high-level visit normally requires agreement on dates, an agenda and adequate preparation. If substantive agreements are expected, officials on both sides would need time to negotiate and settle key issues before the leaders meet.

Reports have suggested possible dates in August or September, but neither government has officially confirmed a schedule.

The continuing diplomatic contacts nevertheless indicate that the possibility of a Tarique Rahman visit is being actively considered.

If the trip goes ahead, its importance could extend well beyond the visit itself. It could serve as an early test of whether Dhaka and New Delhi can turn their renewed diplomatic engagement into practical cooperation while managing the disagreements that have complicated ties.



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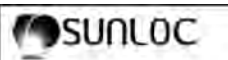
EXTRACT OF STANDALONE AND CONSOLIDATED UN-AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED JUNE 30, 2026

(₹ Lacs unless stated otherwise)								
Sl. No.	Particulars	QUARTER ENDED						YEAR ENDED
		STANDALONE			CONSOLIDATED			CONSOLIDATED
		30-Jun-26 Un-Audited	30-Jun-25 Un-Audited	31-Mar-26 Audited	30-Jun-26 Un-Audited	30-Jun-25 Un-Audited	31-Mar-26 Audited	31-Mar-26 Audited
1	Total Income from operations (Net)	122.03	105.53	128.04	781.44	709.89	1,202.60	468.98
2	Net Profit/ (Loss) for the period (before tax and exceptional items)	(264.94)	(425.07)	(898.38)	453.99	448.20	(1,140.85)	(1,945.90)
3	Net Profit/ (Loss) for the period before tax (after exceptional items)	(264.94)	(425.07)	(898.38)	453.99	448.20	(1,140.86)	(1,945.90)
4	Net Profit/ (Loss) for the period after tax (after exceptional items)	(288.72)	(378.53)	(918.94)	424.68	487.82	(1,387.87)	(1,941.32)
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (after tax)	85.69	89.93	(1,335.87)	431.10	965.92	(2,386.17)	(2,614.50)
6	Equity Share Capital (Face value of ₹10/- each)	2,504.05	2,504.05	2,504.05	2,499.55	2,499.55	2,499.55	2,504.05
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserves as per Financial Statements of previous year)	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A	19,946.84
8	Earnings per share (EPS) (of ₹10/- each) (Not Annualised)							
	(a) Basic and Diluted EPS (before exceptional Items) (₹)	(1.15)	(1.51)	(3.67)	1.70	1.95	(5.57)	(7.75)
	(b) Basic and Diluted EPS (after exceptional Items) (₹)	(1.15)	(1.51)	(3.67)	1.70	1.95	(5.55)	(7.75)

- NOTES:**
- The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly/ Annual Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulations 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly/ Annual Financial Results are available on the stock exchange website, www.nseindia.com, www.bseindia.com and on the Company website www.modirubberlimited.com.
 - The above results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and subsequently approved by the Board of Directors of the Company at their respective meeting held on August 14, 2026. The Statutory Auditors of the Company have carried out an audit of the aforesaid results.
 - Previous quarter/ year end figures have been rearranged and / or regrouped, wherever necessary, to make them comparable with those of the current quarter/ year end.

By order of the Board
Sd/-
Alok Modi
Managing Director
DIN- 00174374

Place : New Delhi
Date : August 14, 2026



SUNIL HEALTHCARE LIMITED

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CIN No. L24302DL1973PLC189662

Extract of Statandalone and Consolidated Unaudited Financial Results for the Quarter Ended 30th June 2026

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	Particulars	Standalone				Consolidated			
		3 Months ended 30.06.2026 Unaudited	3 Months ended 31.03.2026 Audited (Refer note. 3)	3 Months ended 30.06.2025 Unaudited	Year Ended 31st March 2026 Audited	3 Months ended 30.06.2026 Unaudited	3 Months ended 31.03.2026 Audited (Refer note. 3)	3 Months ended 30.06.2025 Unaudited	Year Ended 31st March 2026 Audited
1	Total Income from Operations	1,921.35	2,006.82	2,287.62	8,886.23	1,921.35	2,012.83	2,350.01	8,990.15
2	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax,Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	24.83	29.84	41.01	250.44	20.08	(83.18)	103.17	234.59
3	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	24.83	(928.41)	41.01	(707.81)	20.08	(94.77)	103.17	223.00
4	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	51.06	(682.03)	28.62	(530.21)	46.31	151.61	90.78	400.60
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	319.76	(695.61)	15.90	(581.94)	320.31	135.15	36.39	253.65
6	Paid-up equity share capital (Face value Rs.10/- each)	1,025.48	1,025.48	1,025.48	1,025.48	1,025.48	1,025.48	1,025.48	1,025.48
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve) as shown in the Audited Balance Sheet of the previous year	-	-	-	4,136.34	-	-	-	4,313.01
8	Earnings Per Share (after extraordinary items) (of Rs.10/- each)								
	(a) Basic (Rs.)	0.50	(6.65)	0.28	(5.17)	0.45	1.48	0.89	3.91
	(b) Diluted (Rs.)	0.50	(6.65)	0.28	(5.17)	0.45	1.48	0.89	3.91

Notes:

1

The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarter ended 30th June 2026 Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarter ended 30th June 2026 Financial Results are available on the Stock Exchange websites. (www.bseindia.com) and the Company's website (www.sunilhealthcare.com)

2

As the Company's business fall within a single primary business segment viz. sale of capsule, the disclosure requirement of Indian Accounting Standard (Ind AS-108) "Operating Segments" prescribed under Section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with the relevant rules issued thereunder, is not applicable.

3

The figures for the quarter ended March 31, 2026 are the balance figures between audited figures for the full financial and published year to date figures up to the third quarter of the previous financial year.

4

The above results were reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors in their respective meetings held on August 13, 2026

5

The Company has decided to exercise the option permitted under section 200 of the Income Tax Act, 2025 as introduced by the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 2019. Accordingly, the Company has recognised provision for Income Tax for the quarter ended June 30, 2026 and remeasured its deferred tax assets and liabilities, basis the rate prescribed in the said section. Further, the Company has remeasured the deferred tax liability on gain on fair valuation of leasehold land at a rate without indexation as per section 197 of the Income Tax Act, 2025 resulting net reversal of deferred tax liabilities.The full impact of these changes have been recognised during the quarter ended June 30, 2026.



Anil Khaitan
Chairman Cum Managing Director
DIN 00759951

Place : New Delhi
Date : 13/08/2026

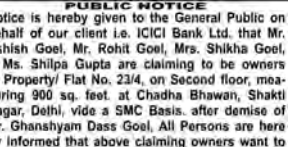
Two UAE tankers attacked while transiting Strait of Hormuz

ASSOCIATED PRESS ■ Dubai

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) is blaming Iran for firing drones at two tankers operated by a state-owned oil company as they sailed through the Strait of Hormuz, saying Friday that the attacks

were acts of piracy.

The attacks caused no casualties but underlined the dangers faced by vessels seeking to move cargo through the critical waterway that leads from the Persian Gulf to the open oceans as Iran keeps a firm grip on the passage.



CHANGE OF NAME

I, Rajender Singh Negi C/o
Ranjeet Singh Negi, R/o B-79, JJ Colony, Near Kaali Mata Mandi, Dwarka Sector 7, South West Delhi. Hereby declare that My all legal documents my name is Rajpal Singh Negi any my children ID records my name is Rajender Singh Negi. Henceforth Rajender Singh Negi and Rajpal Singh Negi both are the same person.

I POOJA JHA W/O SH. SAHIL JHA R/O H.NO.360, POCKET D-7, SECTOR-6, ROHINI DELHI-110085 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM POOJA ARUN JHA/POOJA KUMARI TO POOJA JHA FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSES.

I, Ramveer Singh Yadav, S/o Shri Buddh Singh Yadav, R/o E-118, Sector-52, Noida, District Gautam Buddha Nagar, U.P. - 201301, do hereby solemnly affirm that my name has been erroneously recorded as Ramveer Yadav in my passport. In the future, I should be known and recognized solely by the name Ramveer Singh Yadav.

I, Archana Goyal, W/o Manoj Goyal, R/o Gandhi Colony, Muradnagar, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh, do hereby declare that my name has been wrongly recorded as Archana Goyal in some of my documents/records. My correct and legal name is Archana Goyal. Henceforth, I shall be known and called as Archana Goyal for all purposes.

I, Kanika Arora W/o Prateek Kumar R/o A-3/66 Paschim Vihar New Delhi-110063 have changed my name to Kanika Satja.

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Sr. DMM/NS/LP/93265531A/2026 Date:-14/08/2026

Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement systems)

Sr.DMM, Northern Railway, New Delhi-110001, for and on behalf of the President of India invites e-tenders through e-procurement system for supply of the following items :-

Sr.No.	Tender No.	Brief Description	Qty.	Closing Date
1.	93265531A	Supply of 24 Fiber armoured Optic Fiber cable as per RDSO SPEC NO. RDSO/SPN/TC/110/2020 and with latest amendment/revision till the date of opening of tender (Inspection by RDSO)	97 KM.	09/09/2026

Note :- 1. Vendors may visit the IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for details. 2. No Manual offer will be entertained.

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Iran President likely to attend BRICS Summit in Delhi

ASHOKE RAJ ■ New Delhi

Iranian President's proposed India visit comes amid heightened regional tensions and Tehran's call for a greater diplomatic role for New Delhi. Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian is scheduled to visit New Delhi in September to attend the 18th BRICS Summit, according to Iranian sources, bringing Tehran's leadership to India at a time of heightened tensions in West Asia.

The BRICS summit is scheduled to be held in New Delhi on September 12-13 under India's 2026 chairmanship. The meeting is expected to bring together leaders of the expanded grouping against the backdrop of growing geopolitical and economic uncertainty.

Pezeshkian's proposed visit is likely to add a significant geopolitical dimension to the summit and provide an opportunity for India and Iran to discuss bilateral ties, regional security, connectivity, trade and energy.

India's BRICS presidency is being guided by the theme "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability." New Delhi is also seeking to use its chairmanship to promote dialogue and cooperation among countries with differing positions on major international issues. The Iranian president's visit would come amid intensified diplomatic engagement between New Delhi and Tehran.

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi was in New Delhi in May for the BRICS Foreign Ministers' Meeting, where he held discussions with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar. The Strait of



Hormuz and the wider regional crisis were among the key issues surrounding his visit. Tehran has sought to emphasise diplomacy while maintaining its position on the ongoing confrontation involving Iran, the United States and Israel. Araghchi has said Iran is prepared to engage diplomatically under the right circumstances, while also stressing Tehran's concerns over the security arrangements surrounding the Strait of Hormuz.

Pezeshkian's presence in New Delhi could consequently provide an important opportunity for direct discussions between the Iranian leadership and the Indian government on the rapidly evolving regional situation. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Pezeshkian last met on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit in Kazan, Russia, in October 2024. During that meeting, the two leaders reviewed bilateral relations and discussed regional developments, including the situation in West Asia. Modi also stressed the importance of de-escalation and diplomacy.

The two sides could use their next meeting to review cooperation in connectivity, trade, energy and regional security.

The Chabahar port project remains an important element of the India-Iran relationship. India views the

Iranian port as a strategic connectivity link providing access towards Afghanistan and Central Asia and as an important component of its broader regional connectivity strategy. During their 2024 meeting, Modi and Pezeshkian underlined the importance of the long-term contract relating to Chabahar and its potential to strengthen trade and economic linkages with Central Asia.

Iran's role within BRICS has also acquired greater significance since Tehran became a full member of the grouping in 2024. Iran joined Egypt, Ethiopia and the United Arab Emirates in the expansion that year, while Indonesia became a member in 2025. Iran is among the countries participating in BRICS activities under India's current chairmanship.

Pezeshkian's participation in the Delhi summit would underline Tehran's growing engagement with the expanded grouping and its efforts to strengthen ties with major emerging economies.

The waterway is a crucial artery for global energy supplies, making developments around it particularly significant for India, which relies heavily on imported energy. The security situation around the strait has remained highly sensitive amid the confrontation involving Iran, the United States and Israel.

Iran has said it remains committed to facilitating safe passage for commercial shipping under conditions acceptable to Tehran. At the same time, Iranian officials have insisted that the arrangements governing the waterway cannot simply return to the pre-conflict status quo.

In recent weeks, Tehran has also linked the reopening of the waterway to wider diplomatic and security conditions, while talks involving Oman have focused on possible arrangements for shipping lanes and regional de-escalation. For New Delhi, stability in the Gulf and uninterrupted commercial and energy flows remain major strategic interests.

GIC HOUSING FINANCE LTD.

REGD. OFFICE : NATIONAL INSURANCE BLDG., 6TH FLOOR 14, JAMSHEDJI TATA ROAD, CHURCH GATE MUMBAI -400020 Telephone No.'s:- 022-22851766-68, 022-22849865 **GHAZIABAD AREA OFFICE :** Shop No.-3, 1st Floor, Astoria Boulevard, RDC, Rajnagar, Ghaziabad -201002, 0120-4995536/9918065222 **Ghaziabad nor@gicfl.co.in** **DWARKA BRANCH OFFICE :** F-15 & 16, 1st floor, Manish Global Mall, Plot no 2, LSC-1, Sector 22, Dwarka, Delhi-110075 011-28050910 **dwarka@gicflindia.com** **PITAMPURA AREA OFFICE :** Plot No. C-1,2,3, 511, 5th Floor, PP Tower, Netaji Subhash Place, Pitampura, Delhi-110034

Ref:-Demand notice u/s 13 (2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of the financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

Sr. No.	NAME OF THE BORROWER & CO-BORROWER/LOAN FILE NO./BRANCH NAME	ADDRESS OF THE MORTGAGED PROPERTY	NPA Classification Date	DATE OF ISSUE DEMAND NOTICE	OUTSTANDING DUES (As per Demand Notice) (AMOUNT IN Rs.)
1.	UP0620600000344/ DINESH KUMAR / GHAZIABAD BRANCH	Flat No. U.G.-F-2, Upper Ground Floor, MIG (without roof rights), comprising two bedrooms, with a covered area of 63.66 square meters, Plot Nos. 41 & 42, situated within the boundaries of Kharsa No. 543 (part), Flora Enclave, Gargaspuram, Hapur Road, Hadbast Village Dasna, Pargana Dasna, Tehsil and District Ghaziabad U.P.	30.05.2026	10.07.2026	Rs. 1,123,990
2.	UP0620600000963/ HANUMANT ROY DUBEY / GHAZIABAD BRANCH	Flat No. SF-1 (Second Floor) (MIG) Excluding roof rights, Constructed on half of Plot No. 43 (part of Kharsa No. 22), Total covered area of 46.82 sq. meters, situated at Shatabdipuram, Village Dasna, Pargana Dasna, Tehsil and District Ghaziabad U.P.	02.05.2026	10.07.2026	Rs. 800,210
3.	UP0620600000676/ NARESH KUMAR / ADITI VERMA / GHAZIABAD BRANCH	FLAT No. 409, 4th FLOOR, HAVING ITS SUPER AREA MEASURING 58.88 SQ. MTRS. OUT OF KHATRA NO. 0032, Kharsa No. 137, Situated at VILLAGE BASAI BRAHMAUDINPUR, PARAGNA & TEHSIL DADR, DISTT GAUTAM BUDDH NAGAR, U.P.	30.05.2026	10.07.2026	Rs. 950,482
4.	UP0620600000245/ KUBER DUTTA / SWATI SHARMA / GHAZIABAD BRANCH	House No. 32, (total area of 59 square yards (i.e., 41.80 square meters) Covered area of 41.80 square meters). It is situated on and bearing Kharsa No. 3093 (Mn.) in Village Shahpur Bamheta, Pargana Dasna, Tehsil and District Ghaziabad, U.P.	30.05.2026	10.07.2026	Rs. 1,147,031
5.	UP06206000002471 / SHASHI PRAKASH SINGH / GHAZIABAD BRANCH	House No. B-33/1, Block B situated in Kharsa No. 292, Area measuring 60 square yards (50.16 square meters), Defence Enclave-2, Village Tilapata, Karanwas Pargana, Dadri Tehsil, District Gautam Buddh Nagar U.P.	30.05.2026	10.07.2026	Rs. 1,014,872
6.	DL06206000003200/ ANIL KUMAR / SABITA RAJ / GHAZIABAD BRANCH	Flat of Second Floor, Back Side, Property Bearing No.-10, Block-A, Out Of Kharsa No-56/24, Vill- Hasstai, Om Vihar Phase-V, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059	29.01.2026	10.07.2026	Rs. 2,359,287
7.	UP06206000002753 / DHARMENDRA SINGH / GHAZIABAD BRANCH	House with an area of 60 square yards, Part of plot No. 33 & 34 (pertaining to Kharsa No. 3041), located at Mansarovar Park, Village Shahpur Bamheta, Pargana Dasna, Tehsil and District Ghaziabad U.P.	30.05.2026	10.07.2026	Rs. 1,456,085
8.	UP06206000001879 / HARI PRAKASH / MUNNI DEVI / DULIP CHAND SHARMA / GHAZIABAD BRANCH	House No. C-12, situated in Paradise Dream City, located in Kharsa No. 621 with an area of 145 square yards (i.e., 121.23 square meters), Village Khodna Katan, Pargana and Tehsil Dadri, District Gautam Buddha Nagar U.P.	30.05.2026	10.07.2026	Rs. 1,431,796
9.	UP06206000001184 / RAJESH / KAVITA / GHAZIABAD BRANCH	Flat No. 12 (L.I.G.) (Second Floor) (Front Side) (without roof rights), having a covered area of 450 Sq. Ft. (41.805 sq. meters) Plot No. 116 within the residential colony known as Vikram Enclave Village Pasoda, Pargana Lori, Tehsil and District Ghaziabad U.P.	31.03.2026	10.07.2026	Rs. 1,385,321
10.	UP06206000001440 / RAKHI RATHORE / GHAZIABAD BRANCH	Flat No.UG-2, Upper Ground Floor, Built Up on Residential Plot No. G-76, G-77, & G-78, Out of Kharsa No.1458, Ward No. 52, Situated at Residential Colony Balaji Enclave, in the Revenue Estate Village-Raispur, Pargana-Dasna, Tehsil & Distt. Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh	30.05.2026	10.07.2026	Rs. 1,082,833
11.	UP06206000001485/ RATAN SARKAR / DOLI SARKAR / GHAZIABAD BRANCH	Flat No. SF-1, Second Floor (MIG type, without roof rights), with a super area of 55.74 square meters, constructed on Plot No. 215, situated at Balaji Enclave Colony (Kharsa No. 1482), Hadbast Village Raispur, Pargana Dasna, Tehsil and District Ghaziabad U.P.	15.07.2026	30.07.2026	Rs. 1,420,496
12.	UP06206000002119 / ROHIT KUMAR NAGAR / RESHAN / GHAZIABAD BRANCH	residential House situated in Village Akilpur Jagir, comprising a total area of 302 square yards (i.e., 252.47 square meters) out of the aggregate area of 0.3040 hectares—distributed across three plots (Kharsa No. 208 with an area of 0.0890 hectares, Kharsa No. 209 with an area of 0.1140 hectares, and Kharsa No. 210 with an area of 0.1010 hectares) under Khata No. 47 Pargana and Tehsil Dadri, District Gautam Buddha Nagar U.P.	02.05.2026	10.07.2026	Rs. 1,411,588
13.	UP06206000000791 / SANDEEP MISRA / GHAZIABAD BRANCH	Flat No. 201, on 2nd Floor, Having Its Super Area Measuring 80.41 Sq. Mtrs Building Name Known As Golden Nest-IV, Vide Khata No. 00194 Out of Kharsa No. 152, Situated at Village Basai Brahudinnagar, Pargana & Tehsil Dadri, Distt. Gautam Buddh Nagar U.P.	02.05.2026	10.07.2026	Rs. 1,256,717
14.	UP06206000000730 / SUBHASH KUMAR / RANJANA TARIYAL / GHAZIABAD BRANCH	Flat No. SF-1, Second Floor (M.I.G. type, with roof rights) on Plot No. 15 (pertaining to Kharsa No. 1552) situated in "Keshavpuram Colony", Hadbast Village Raispur, Pargana Dasna, Tehsil and District Ghaziabad U.P.	30.05.2026	10.07.2026	Rs. 1,098,949
15.	UP06206000002359 / VIMMI RALLI / GHAZIABAD BRANCH	Flat No. 303 (Third Floor), Situated in Block- Saras, Krishna City, Situated in the Kharsa No. 41, Village Chhaprauli, Near NH-91, Pargana and Tehsil Dadri, District Gautam Buddha Nagar (U.P.) 201009	02.05.2026	10.07.2026	Rs. 927,578
16.	UP06206000000236 / VIPIN KUMAR JHA / GHAZIABAD BRANCH	House No. B-8 with a total area of 42.5 square yards (i.e., 35.53 square meters). The property is situated within the boundaries of Kharsa No. 569 in the village of Chipiyana Buzurg (across the railway line), Pargana and Tehsil Dadri, District Gautam Buddha Nagar U.P.	09.07.2026	30.07.2026	Rs. 1,028,765
17.	UP06206000001669/ SACHIN KUMAR SHARMA / GHAZIABAD BRANCH	Flat No. SF-1, Second Floor (including roof rights), constructed in a three-story building (excluding the ground floor) situated on Plot No. C-3, Kharsa No. 1447. It has a total covered area of 48 square meters. The property is located in the residential colony of Akshay Enclave Phase-2, within the revenue limits of Village Raispur, Pargana Dasna, Tehsil and District Ghaziabad U.P.	10.07.2026	30.07.2026	Rs. 1,264,676
18.	UP06206000001272 / TUSHAR TYAGI / GHAZIABAD BRANCH	Residential Flat No. UGF-2, Upper Ground Floor (without roof rights), having a covered area of 51.00 square meters, constructed on freehold residential Plot No. J-21 (comprising parts of Kharsa Nos. 1455 and 1462), situated in Balaji Enclave, within the revenue limits of Village Raispur, Pargana Dasna, Tehsil and District Ghaziabad U.P.	10.07.2026	31.07.2026	Rs. 1,290,102
19.	UP06206000001886 / RAHUL KUMAR SHARMA / GHAZIABAD BRANCH	Flat No. FF-2, First Floor (M.I.G. type, without roof rights), with a super area of 50.168 square meters, Constructed on Plot No. K-15, Kharsa No. 1552, situated in "Keshavpuram Colony", Hadbast Village Raispur, Pargana Dasna, Tehsil and District Ghaziabad U.P.	11.07.2026	30.07.2026	Rs. 1,043,500
20.	UP06206000002422 / VINLISH DEVI / DANVIR SINGH RANA / GHAZIABAD BRANCH	H. No-144A, Kharsa No-3018, Colony Known as Mansarovar Park -III, Village Shahpur Bamheta, Pargana Dasna, Tehsil & Distt. Ghaziabad U.P.	30.06.2026	17.07.2026	Rs. 1,603,915
21.	UP06206000002294 / KUMAR DHARMENDRA / GHAZIABAD BRANCH	Residential HNO-No. 93, upper ground Floor, with a covered area of 55 square meters, situated in Kharsa No. 161 within the residential colony known as Raj Compound", Hadbast Village Shahpur Bamheta, Pargana Dasna, Tehsil and District Ghaziabad U.P.	07.04.2026	17.07.2026	Rs. 1,720,883
22.	DL07506000001727 / TEJ PRAKASH DUBEY / PITAMPURA BRANCH	Residential Flat No. 103, on Upper Gr. Floor, Front Right-Hand Side, Without Roof Rights, bearing No. 1, comprised in Kharsa No. 99/2 & 101, situated in the Revenue Estate of Village Nawada, Colony Known as Vijn Garden Extension, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059.	06.07.2026	15.07.2026	2440031/-
23.	UP07506000000902 / RAM RATAN / SANJEEV KUMAR / PITAMPURA BRANCH	PLOT No. 94, BLOCK-B, KHASRA NO. 327, KARAN ENCLAVE, WARD No. 1, VILLAGE- CHIPYANA BULJURG, DADR, GAUTAM BUDDH NAGAR, 203207.	16.07.2026	21.07.2026	1110410/-
24.	UP07506000001150 / GAYANTI DEVI / PITAMPURA BRANCH	FLAT NO. S-4, PLOT NO. E-25 & 26, SECOND FLOOR, SAI UPVAN, KHASRA NO. 157A, VILLAGE- YUSUPPUR CHAKSABERI, DADR, GAUTAMBUDDHANAGAR, 201009	11.07.2026	17.07.2026	655127/-
25.	UP07506000001100 / SONAL GUPTA / DEEPAK GUPTA / PITAMPURA BRANCH	Flat No. o, second floor, without roof rights, Plot no. 69 to 72, 72A, 73, 73A, 74 to 77, Royal Tower-1, Siddharth Vihar, Out of Kharsa no. 3854, Loni, Ghaziabad 201102.	11.07.2026	15.07.2026	1371392/-
26.	DL07506000000211 / VIRENDRA KUMAR / Dwarka Branch	FLAT NO. 301, SECOND FLOOR, PLOT NO. 803, KHASRA NO. 299/201/2, VILLAGE- GHTORN, NEW DELHI 110030	13.07.2026	16.07.2026	1763065/-

1. In terms of our sanction letter, you all have been sanctioned short term loan for construction/purchase of residential project on the above referred respective properties. The respective repayment schedule is as under: As per Title Deed. The said respective loans have been sanctioned vide express covenant on your part to repay the said short term loan promptly as per the terms and conditions incorporated in the separate loan Agreement executed by you in favour of GIC Housing Finance Ltd., You have availed and utilised the said financial assistance, however, the repayment in the said short term loans account have been irregular and your account is have been classified as non performing assets in accordance with the directions / guidelines relating to assets classification issued by National Housing Bank. We uptaken terms called upon you all and informed you about said outstanding dues, however there is no reply and/or compliance on your part. Thus you are commercially insolvent.

2. Therefore GIC Housing Finance hereby call upon you all under this service u/s 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002, to discharge their liabilities to GIC HFL Ltd. in full as stated in aforesaid column no 4, within sixty days from the date of publication of this notice together with further interest and penal interest on balance principal outstanding till payment and/or realisation, failing which we shall be free to exercise all or any of the rights under section 13(4) of the said act, which please note.

3. You are also put on notice that in terms of sub-section 13 of the said Act, you sale not transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise the aforesaid secured assets without obtaining written consent from GIC HFL Ltd., failing which you will be liable for an offence for an offence punishable under section 29 of the said Act, please take further note hereof.

4. This notice is without prejudice to the right of GIC HFL to initiate such other actions or legal proceeding as it deems necessary under any other applicable provision of law. The undersigned is duly authorised officer of GIC HFL to issue this notice and exercise powers under section 12 of section 13 of aforesaid Act.

Place : Ghaziabad Dwarka and Pitampura
Dated : 15.08.2026

Yours Truly, For GIC Housing Finance Ltd
Sd/- Authorized Officer

UTTARAKHAND POWER CORPORATION LIMITED

(A Govt. of Uttarakhand Undertaking)

Victoria Cross Vijeta Gabar Singh Urja Bhawan, Kanwall Road, Dehradun-248001, Corporate Identity No. UA40109P2001SGC025867/2358, Telephone-(0135)-2763672-76, Fax-(0135)-2760289, Website: www.uktenders.gov.in

E-TENDER NOTICE (TENDER SPECIFICATION NO. CCP-II/11/2026-2027

Uttarakhand Power Corporation Ltd., Dehradun invites e-tender for Supply of following item:-

Name of item	Quantity (Nos.)	Estimate cost (₹)	Average yearly Turn Over of Preceding Three Financial Year (₹)	Earnest Money Deposit (₹)	Cost of tender document including GST (₹)	Last Date & time of online request for Tender and Submission of tender in online & Off line mode	Date of opening of Part-I of tender in online & off line mode
9kV 10 KA Polymer Lightning Arrester	5000	131.511 LAKh	2.640 Crore	2.640 LAKH	11 800	07.09.2026 upto 17:00 hrs.	08.09.2026 at 15.30 hrs.

For further details, please visit the website www.uktenders.gov.in

No.: 623/EE/(CM)/UPCUA-2 Dt. 14.08.2026

"SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF THE NATION. Use LED Bulb, Save Electricity (Toll Free No. 1912) "Pay Electricity Bill Online 24x7 from www.upcl.org". (For information on Electricity theft, informer may report to Toll free No 1800 180 4185/ Fax No. 0135-2760911)

Axis Bank Ltd

2nd Floor, Sbb Loan Centre, Sita-usha Square, Kankarbagh Main Road, Patna-800020

Possession Notice (for Immovable Property)

(as Per Appendix IV read With Rule 8(1) Of The Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Axis Bank Ltd, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice calling upon the borrower/s/guarantor/s to repay the amount mentioned in the notice along with contractual rate of interest plus penal interest, charges, costs etc. within 60 days from the date of the said notice.

The borrower/s/guarantor/s, having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower/s/guarantor/s, in particular and the public, in general, that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said Rules on the date mentioned herein after.

The borrower/s/guarantor/s, in particular, and the public, in general, are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Axis Bank Ltd., for an amount mentioned in the notice along with interest thereon and penal interest, charges, costs etc. from date of demand notice.

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 the secured assets.

Name & Address Of Borrower / Guarantor	A) Amount Due As On Date B) Date Of Demand Notice C) Date Of Possession (Symbolic)	Description Of The Immovable Property (Secured Assets)
Mr. Birendra Kumar S/o Late Bisheshwar Prasad Sinha R/o 435Kh, Yamuna Sadan, Kaulitya Nagar, Po- Shastri Nagar, Back To Tara Tower, Patna- 800023 Mrs. Shailja Sinha W/o Mr. Birendra Kumar R/o 435Kh, Yamuna Sadan, Kaulitya Nagar, Po- Shastri Nagar, Back To Tara Tower, Patna- 800023 Mr. Birendra Kumar Prop. Of New Jamuna Optical, Bailey Road, Shahpura, Near Vishal Mart, Patna- 800014 Mr. Birendra Kumar S/o Late Sh. Bisheshwar Prasad Sinha, Flat No- 1708, Block B-17, Eco Village- 1, Plot No-06, Sector-1, Greater Noida, Gautam Budh Nagar- Up- 201301	A) Rs. 26,44,413.34/-including interest till 17.04.2026 (Rupees Twenty Six Lakhs Forty Four Thousand Four Hundred Thirteen and Thirty Four Paise Only) B) 17-04-2026 C) 12/08/2026	All the piece and parcel of the residential Unit No. (R0188171708/Flat # 1708) in B17 Tower in the project called Eco Village -1 situated at Plot No: Plot-08, Sector -1, Greater Noida - 201303, Gautam Budh Nagar (U.P) having Block No. B17 at 17 th Floor, Super Buildup Area - 890 Sqft.. The property belongs to Mr. Birendra Kumar and Mrs. Shailja Sinha.

Date: 15.08.2026
Place: Patna & Greater Noida

Sd/-
Authorised Officer
Axis Bank Ltd

RLF LIMITED

Regd.Office: 14 Kms, Pataudi Road, Village Jhund Sarai Veeran, Gurugram, Haryana, 122016
CIN NO.:L74999HR1979PLC032747, Phone : 011-49075251,Email :compliance@rlfltd.com

EXTRACT OF STANDALONE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED ON 30TH JUNE,2026

(Rupees in Lakhs)

Sr. No.	Particulars	Quarter ended	Year ended
		30/06/2026	31/03/2026
		Audited	Un Audited
1	Income from Operations	3.32	8.36
2	Net Profit for the period (before tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	2.70	(24.14)
3	Net Profit before tax for the period (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	2.70	(24.14)
4	Net Profit for the period after tax and Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items	2.70	(24.14)
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (comprising profit for the period (after tax) and other Comprehensive Income (after Tax)	881.75	(24.14)
6	Equity Shares Capital (Face value Rs.10/- Per equity share)	964.35	964.35
7	Earnings Per Share (For continuing and discontinued operations) Basic and diluted	0.03	(0.01)

Notes:

- This extract of the detailed format of Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under the Regulation 33 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the financial results are available on the stock exchanges website : www.bseindia.com. The same is also available on the company's Website-www.rlfltd.com
- The above results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors of the company at their Meeting held on 14th August, 2026.
- The Company has no subsidiary/associate/Joint Venture Company(ies).
- The Operations of the company are considered as a single business product. Segment reporting is not applicable.

Place: New Delhi
Date :14-08-2026

For RLF LIMITED
Sd/-
ADITYA KHANNA
MANAGING DIRECTOR
DIN: 01860038

HINDUSTAN AUTO FINANCE LIMITED

CIN:L65910DL1980PLC010617

E-mail: hindaf1980@gmail.com, Website: www.hindaf.in

Regd. Off: Cabin No. DA-8, 02nd Floor, Vikas Marg, Shakarpur, New Delhi-110092

Extract of Unaudited Financial Results for the Quarter ended 30th June, 2026

(₹ in Lakhs)

SL. No.	Particulars	Quarter ended 30.06.2026	Year ended 31.03.2026	Quarter ended 30.06.2025
		Unaudited	Audited	Unaudited
1	Total Income from Operations	—	1.32	—
2	Net Profit/(Loss) for period (before tax, exceptional and/or Extra-ordinary items	-6.12	1.42	-6.20
3	Net Profit/(Loss) for period before tax (after exceptional and/or Extra-ordinary items)	-6.12	1.42	-6.20
4	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	-6.12	0.90	-6.20
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)	-6.12	0.90	-6.20
6	Equity Share Capital	350.28	350.28	350.28
7	Reserves (Excluding Revaluation Reserves)	—	-102.05	—
8	Earnings per Share (of Rs. 10 each) (for continuing and discontinued operations)	-0.17	0.03	-0.18
1.	Basic	-0.17	0.03	-0.18
2.	Diluted	-0.17	0.03	-0.18

Notes:

- The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly Financial Results are available on the websites of the Stock Exchange and the listed entity. (<https://www.hindaf.in/investor-deck/financial-statements/>)
- The above financial results for the quarter ended June 30, 2026 were reviewed by Audit Committee and thereafter approved and taken on record by the Board of Directors at their meeting held on August 14, 2026. The Statutory Auditors have conducted limited review on these results and have issued unqualified report.

For M/s Hindustan Auto Finance Limited
Sd/-
Subhash Sapra
Managing Director
DIN:00241940

Date: 14.08.2026
Place: New Delhi

PROSPECT



Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman receives a dividend cheque of ₹259 crore for FY 2025-26 from Swarup Kumar Saha, MD and CEO of Punjab & Sind Bank, on Friday.



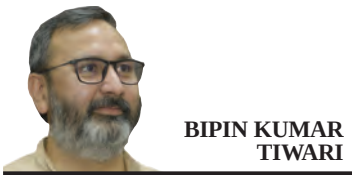
A team led by the Director, Directorate of Sainik Welfare, Assam, undertaking an outreach initiative to extend support and assistance to people affected by the devastating floods across Upper Assam



Tiranga Yatra headed by ACEO (PR) and General Manager (Water Supply and Electrical & Mechanical) with their team in Sector 65



The Bhartiya Vyapar Mahotsav 2026 at Bharat Mandapam is showcasing the strength, innovation and diversity of India's business community, with more than 700 startups, manufacturers, exporters, women entrepreneurs, traders and companies participating. Among the attractions are the Siddharth Fashion stall, led by Siddharth Doshi, which has drawn strong interest for its retail and B2C offerings. The festival, jointly organised by CAIT and ITPO from August 12–15, aims to connect Indian businesses with new markets and create greater domestic and international opportunities for Indian products.



BIPIN KUMAR TIWARI

On 14th August 1947, India was partitioned into three parts. The main actors of this tragic partition were the British, the Muslim League and the Indian National Congress. On the request of Liaquat Ali Khan, Mohammad Ali Jinnah returned from London in 1934 and assumed leadership of the Muslim League. Under Jinnah's leadership, the Muslim League passed the Pakistan Resolution at its Lahore session on March 23, 1940. While addressing this session, Jinnah gave the 'Two-Nation Theory'. He said, "By any definition, Muslims are a nation. It is nothing short of a nightmare to imagine that Hindus and Muslims could coexist as citizens of the same nation. In reality, they represent two distinct civilisations. Muslims will not accept any constitution of India that results in a Hindu-majority government."

The foundation for the country's partition was laid much earlier, with the Partition of Bengal on October 16, 1905, and the establishment of the Muslim League on December 30, 1906. With the partition of Bengal, Muslim elites began to believe that, based on demographics, they could establish dominance and rule over certain regions of the country. The

The tragic Partition of India

League became the proponent of it. The Congress responded to the Muslim League's separatist policies with a policy of Muslim appeasement; the Lucknow Pact and the Khilafat Movement are some examples of this approach.

Dr Keshav Baliram Hedgewar, the founder of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and an active member of the Congress began to perceive that the rhetoric of "Hindu-Muslim Bhai Bhai" is, in fact, a policy of Muslim appeasement and an attempt to make Hindu society forget its true history. The consequences of the idea would prove disastrous for the nation.

Although the increasingly toxic atmosphere in the country since 1940 had instilled a fear of impending calamity within Hindu society, people still placed their trust in the triumvirate of Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, believing they would not allow the country to be partitioned. To force the Congress and British government to accept the demand of separate Pakistan, the Muslim League under the leadership of Muhammad Ali Jinnah gave a call to the Muslims to observe August 16, 1946, as Direct Action Day: 'The Muslims of India would not rest contented with anything less than the immediate establishment of an independent and sovereign state of Pakistan... Now the time has come for the Muslim Nation



to resort to the direct action.'

As 16th August 1946 approached, meetings, processions and calls for jihad against Hindu were held in all big cities. On 16th August 1946, the massacre of Hindus was carried out in Kolkata under the leadership of Bengal premier Hussain Suhrawardy. Later, Hindus were massacred in Noakhali and other parts of the country.

On 22nd March 1947, Lord Mountbatten arrived in India, and the fate of India was sealed. 3rd June 1947, in the House of Commons, British Prime Minister Attlee announced the partition of India. In his book 'The Tragic Story of Partition', HV Sheshadri writes, 'Between the date of announcement of partition 3rd June and 15th August, hardly 72 days were left for carrying out the stupendous task of division of the vast country... The idea was to jostle a settlement through

either Congress or the Muslim League had too much time to think about it, and before any really effective opposition to the partition of the country had time to develop.' The basis for the demarcation of boundaries was 1941 census figure. Congress had issued a call to the people to boycott the Census of 1931 as it entailed communal enumeration. Same repeated in 1941. This resulted in tilting the balance in favour of Muslim in several districts.

According to Prof A N Bali, it was a mistake on the part of the Congress leadership to accept a one-man boundary commission and Sir Cyril Redcliffe as its chairman, who was legally incompetent and also politically biased. The partition of India became the biggest tragedy of humanity. Overnight, crores of innocent people became homeless. The fate of Sikhs and Hindus in the whole of West Pakistan was left

entirely to the mercy of murderous Pakistani jihad monger. Not a single Congress leader felt it was their duty to hasten to their rescue in that hour of grave peril.

During this period, the Sarsangchalak of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh Madhav Sadashivrao Golwalkar: Shri Guruji, was in Sindh and Punjab. He urged all the Swayamsevak to defend the Hindus and Sikhs by sacrificing their own life. He asked the Swayamsevak not to leave undivided India until every Hindu and Sikh reached India safely.

In the book Now It Can Be Told, Prof A N Bali writes, 'Who else came to the rescue of the people of this state but a band of young selfless Hindus, popularly known as the RSS? They organised the work of evacuation of the Hindus and the Sikhs, women and children from the dangerous pocket to the comparatively safe centre.

They ensured and arranged for their clothing and health care. Arranging transport from Pakistan to India was a task. The young man were the first to come to the The horror of the partition of India should not be forgotten. We have to remember this so that it can never be repeated. The solution to this partition is Akhand Bharat.

The author is journalist and political analyst, president of Centre for Policy Research and Studies (CPRS) and editor of Nitipost

ITC celebrates 150 years of Vande Mataram with *Desh Ek Raag 3*

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

On the occasion of India's 80th Independence Day, ITC Limited celebrated 150 years of Vande Mataram, India's National Song, with a soulful tribute, rendered through a music video, 'Desh Ek Raag 3', created by the ITC Sangeet Research Academy (ITC SRA).

The composition has been anchored in Raag 'Desh' and was brought alive by the gurus, scholars and tutors of ITC SRA alongside other musicians. The production reflects ITC's deep homage to a song that has remained one of India's most enduring symbols of national awakening, pride and unity.

In the run-up to Independence Day, ITC Chairman Sanjiv Puri shared the heartfelt creation through a post on LinkedIn. Puri is also the Chairman of the Board of



Trustees of ITC SRA.

In his LinkedIn post, Puri mentioned, "On the eve of India's 80th Independence Day, it gives me immense pleasure to present Desh Ek Raag 3, commemorating 150 years of Vande Mataram, our National Song, whose timeless message of devotion, unity and love for our motherland continues to inspire generations. Specially conceived and performed for this momentous occasion by the Gurus, Musician Tutors and Shishyas of the ITC Sangeet Research Academy,

Desh Ek Raag 3 is ITC's heart-felt tribute to our great nation and its rich cultural heritage. This exclusive rendition of Vande Mataram beautifully brings to life the vocal and instrumental traditions of our nation that ITC SRA has nurtured and preserved for nearly five decades."

The third edition of the Desh Ek Raag series also marks ITC SRA's journey towards its Golden Jubilee in 2027. At the heart of the presentation is the Academy's timeless Guru-Shishya Parampara, with gurus and scholars coming together to present Vande Mataram through the spirit of Hindustani classical music.

Their collective performance reflects a living tradition in which musical knowledge, discipline and artistic sensibility are passed across generations of gurus and scholars.

National vendor meet held in Kolkata to accelerate PM-Surya Ghar Scheme

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ Kolkata

A National Vendor Meet under the PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana (PMSGY) was jointly conducted by West Bengal State Electricity Distribution Company Limited (WBSEDCL) and REC Ltd on August 13 at Hotel Taj Bengal, New Alipore, Kolkata, with an aim to strengthen the implementation of the scheme and accelerate rooftop solar installations across West Bengal.

The meeting was chaired by Santanu Basu, IAS, Principal Secretary, Power Department, Government of West Bengal. Officials from REC Ltd, CESC, the Government of West Bengal, State and National Vendors, and Training Partners also participated in the meeting.

Addressing the gathering, the Principal Secretary,



Power Department, Government of West Bengal, emphasised that the implementation of PMSGY: MBY in the State would be further strengthened through the active participation and coordinated efforts of both State and National Vendors.

He affirmed the collective commitment of the Government of West Bengal, REC Limited, WBSEDCL, Vendors, DISCOMs, financial institutions and other stakeholders towards accelerating rooftop solar adoption

and strengthening the implementation of PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana in West Bengal.

REC Ltd (PMSGY: MBY) headed by S Jayanthi, ED, presented the perspective of the scheme as Nodal Agency for implementation of PMSGY:MBY. She urged National Vendors to deploy adequate manpower and requested Brand Owners to expand their channel partner network across West Bengal to facilitate faster installation of rooftop solar systems.

DAILY SUDOKU

		9						3
5	2						1	9
			5			7		2
2				1	4	3		
	1			5			4	
		7	6	3				5
3		8			6			
	9	1					3	7
6						4		

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

HOW TO SOLVE IT

Sudoku is a logic puzzle where you fill a 9×9 grid so that numbers 1 to 9 appear once in every row, column, and 3×3 box, using elimination and logical deduction—no maths involved.



SOLUTION (14.8.26)

7	2	3	5	8	1	4	6	9
5	9	6	4	2	7	8	3	1
4	8	1	9	3	6	5	2	7
3	7	2	1	9	4	6	8	5
1	5	4	8	6	2	9	7	3
9	6	8	7	5	3	2	1	4
2	3	9	6	1	5	7	4	8
6	4	5	3	7	8	1	9	2
8	1	7	2	4	9	3	5	6

DOUBLE CROSSWORD SATURDAY | AUGUST 15, 2026

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		9					
10						11	
13	14					15	16
17					18		
				19			
20	21					22	23
24							
				25			
27						28	
				29			
30							31

SOLUTION (14.8.26)

ACROSS	23. Left alone	DOWN	1. Consider	22. Hi-at-us
9. Over-nigh-t	25. Appointed	2. Retaining fee	23. Loss of face	24. On the level
10. A-V-Alanche	26. Sined	3. Ign-O-rant	24. Strike	25. A-we
11. P-an-ies	27. Stable	4. Strike	25. Passable	26. Bats-net
12. Stay	28. Off-end-ers	5. Passable	26. Making it up	27. Sadi-Sis
13. P-an-ies	29. Intoned	6. Making it up	27. Sadi-Sis	28. Well-heeled
14. Initial	30. Clad-stone	7. Sadi-Sis	28. Well-heeled	29. It-allians
15. Den-I-grate	31. Clad-stone	8. Well-heeled	29. It-allians	30. Dressers
16. Ring-let	32. Goes	9. Well-heeled	30. Dressers	31. O-N-an-d-on
17. B-a-gat-eile	33. Cant-one-se	10. Well-heeled	31. O-N-an-d-on	32. Fr-own
18. Ring-let	34. Con-tender	11. CH-II	32. Fr-own	33. Fr-own
19. Sheat-H		12. CH-II	33. Fr-own	34. (B)G-lance
20. O-p-AI		13. CH-II	34. (B)G-lance	

NCC Cadets of 1 Assam battalion mark Har Ghar Tiranga across Kamrup district

TONY DAS ■ Guwahati

On the eve of the 80th Independence Day Celebrations, the NCC outfits of 1 Assam Battalion NCC, Guwahati Group, organised and participated in a series of patriotic events across Kamrup District under the national campaign 'Har Ghar Tiranga'.

At KC Das Commerce College, a total of 40 NCC cadets participated in a Tiranga Rally and distributed national flags among citizens as a symbol of unity. The event was followed by an inspiring lecture by Brigadier Ranjit Borthakur, SM (Retd), on



the theme 'The Horrors of Partition'.

Cadets of Guwahati Commerce College also joined the celebrations with 20 NCC cadets taking out a Har Ghar Tiranga flag rally around the college campus. At Gauhati College, NCC cadets along with cadets from 60 Assam Girls Bn NCC participated in a Tiranga Rally. The programme con-

cluded with a drawing and poster-making competition aimed at promoting national integration and patriotism.

In Jawaharlal Nehru College, Boko, 60 NCC cadets participated in a Har Ghar Tiranga Rally followed by the mass singing of 'Vande Mataram' and a Drawing & Poster Making competition. The events witnessed enthusiastic participation from cadets and faculty members. The celebrations reflected the spirit of 'Unity and Discipline' and reaffirmed the commitment of NCC cadets to the nation on the occasion of the 80th Independence Day.

Former IAF chief RKS Bhadauria joins LOHUM as strategic advisor

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

LOHUM, a diversified producer of sustainable critical minerals and advanced materials, has appointed Air Chief Marshal RKS Bhadauria (Retd), former Chief of the Air Staff of the Indian Air Force, as Strategic Advisor to support its Defence Materials Sovereignty Programme.

The initiative, being undertaken in partnership with VishvaSutra, aims to establish a structured ecosystem for recovering critical minerals and advanced materials from decommissioned defence assets and advancing indigenous technologies for their refining and reuse.

The programme will focus on three key areas: creating secure and transparent path-



ways for recovering strategic materials from retired defence platforms; developing indigenous technologies for refining materials such as gallium, titanium and rare earth elements; and contributing to a national framework for strengthening critical-mineral security in the defence sector.

India's dependence on imports for several critical minerals has made domestic recovery and refining increas-

ingly important. Decommissioned aircraft, vehicles, radar and communication systems, batteries, cables and specialised equipment contain valuable materials including titanium, aluminium, copper, nickel, cobalt, rare earth elements, specialised steels and high-performance alloys. Recovering and reintroducing these materials into domestic supply chains can help reduce import dependence and strengthen industrial resilience.

LOHUM brings expertise in advanced refining and recycling of critical minerals and materials, while VishvaSutra contributes strategic capabilities across defence, aerospace, technology, policy and institution-building.

UCO Bank opens new branch in Noida Sector 135



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ Noida

The Noida Sector-135 branch of UCO Bank was virtually inaugurated on Friday by Rajendra Kumar Saboo, Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer (In-charge) and Executive Director of the Bank. Customers and members of the general public were also invited to attend the inauguration ceremony.

On the occasion, Gautam Patra, Chief General Manager, and Rajesh Kumar Tiwari, General Manager & Zonal Head, from the Zonal Office, New Delhi, along with officers and employees of the Zonal Office and nearby branches, participated in the programme. During the programme, customers were apprised of the latest banking products, schemes and customer-centric services being offered by UCO Bank.

The officials encouraged customers to avail themselves of the Bank's various schemes and benefit from modern banking facilities for a better and more convenient banking experience. On the occasion of the branch's inauguration, the Bank officials expressed their commitment to providing better banking services in line with the needs of customers in the area and further strengthening UCO Bank's presence and outreach in the region.

BRIEFLY

Chennai open tennis to be held from November 2-8



Chennai Open International Tennis Championships, a WTA 250 event, will be held from November 2-8, Tamil Nadu Tennis Association (TNTA) announced on Friday.

It is being held for the third time here. "A WTA 250 event is returning to India for the third time and the players expected to participate in the event would be amongst the top 100 in the world," Indian tennis legend and TNTA President Vijay Amritraj said. "The conduct of such an international women's event will fulfil a longstanding need of promoting women's Tennis and will encourage more girls in the state to play the sport which will immensely help them." He said the staging of the tournament will benefit the Indian and local players. "There is no doubt as to the impact of staging major international sports events. Our own Chennai Open, the earlier ATP event and the current WTA event, are an outstanding example. "Not only the best in the world come to Chennai and everyone knows the exploits of our own players who used the home opportunity to the maximum to move onto the top world stage." (PTI)

South Korea soccer players push for K League season shift

South Korea's Pro Footballers Association is calling on the K League to overhaul the domestic soccer season to avoid playing during the height of summer, as local temperatures reached record highs in August. "The K League must transition to the Fall-Spring schedule to protect players from the worsening climate crisis and punishing summer heat," the KPFA said in a statement this week, "and to maintain the league's leadership within Asia and its global competitiveness." On August 2, the southeastern city of Yangsan recorded a temperature of 42.5 degrees Celsius, the highest in decades of official records, prompting authorities to warn residents to stay indoors. The Korean baseball league was suspended for a week because of the extreme heat. The high temperatures also had an impact on the size of the crowd for Manchester City's friendly exhibition against a K League All Star team last week, although the Premier League club's pre-season exhibition win over Atletico Madrid attracted a full crowd on Sunday. (AP)

Pulling out of FIFA ASEAN Cup is bad decision: Bhutia questions AIFF

TAPAN MOHANTA ■ Kolkata

Indian football icon Bhaichung Bhutia on Friday questioned the AIFF's decision to pull out of the inaugural FIFA ASEAN Cup to prioritise a high-profile friendly against Brazil, saying the reported ₹50-70 crore expenditure on the marquee fixture was difficult to justify at a time when the country's club football is grappling with a financial crisis.

India will face the record five-time world champions in a friendly slated in Kolkata on October 3, with the All India Football Federation choosing the invitational fixture over participation in the FIFA ASEAN Cup following a scheduling clash.

Bhutia said he had no objection to Brazil coming to India for a "free friendly", but argued that spending crores on the match at a time when clubs are struggling to survive was simply the "wrong priority".

"If Brazil were coming free of cost to play a free friendly match, I have no problem with that. But to pay Brazil ₹50-70 crore to come and play a friendly in India at this



moment, the timing is not right. The timing is completely wrong," Bhutia said.

He also took aim at AIFF president Kalyan Chaubey, accusing the federation leadership of "completely misguiding" the government and those around Indian football.

"Why do you want to pay ₹50-70 crore at this moment when ISL clubs are shutting down, club after club, and I-League clubs are struggling to pay their entry fees?" he asked.

Bhutia's criticism comes against the back-

drop of a turbulent period for Indian club football. The previous AIFF-FSDL commercial arrangement around the ISL ran into prolonged uncertainty after the Master Rights Agreement approached expiry, forcing the 2025-26 season to be delayed before it eventually began in a truncated format following the Sports Ministry's intervention. The crisis also saw Tata Steel exit Jamshedpur FC, as the club was transferred to Churchill Brothers for a symbolic ₹100 on Friday.

Against this backdrop, Bhutia said decision to sacrifice FIFA-recognised competition for a single friendly was difficult to justify.

India had initially accepted FIFA's invitation to participate in new tournament and were subsequently drawn in Division 1 Group A alongside Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore. (PTI)



Churchill set for ISL entry after acquiring Jamshedpur FC's stake



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New Delhi/Jamshedpur

Churchill Brothers are set to feature in the upcoming Indian Super League (ISL) season starting September 4 after Tata Steel on Friday sold its entire

stake in Jamshedpur Football Club (FC) to the Goan side.

The Goan club is expected to pay the full ₹1.1 crore participation fee to the All India Football Federation (AIFF) by Friday's deadline set for all participating ISL 2026-27 clubs.

Sinquefield Cup: Praggnanandhaa bounces back, crushes Van Foreest

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ St Louis (USA)

Indian Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa bounced back from his previous loss to crush Dutchman Jorden Van Foreest in the fourth round for a share of the second spot at the Sinquefield Cup here. The victory helped Praggnanandhaa reach 2.5 points from four games in the 10-player-nine-round event.

Having lost the previous round against Vincent Keymer of Germany, this comeback is surely going to boost his chances for the podium to qualify for the finale of the Grand Chess tour.

Incidentally, this was the lone decisive game of the day as the remaining four ended in draws



leaving Wesley So of United States still in lead on three points

after his draw with compatriot Levon Aronian.



KIRTI CHAKRA

1. LT COL MANEO FRANCIS PF, SC, 21 PARA (SF)
2. MAJ JITENDRA RATHEE, 2 PARA (SF)
3. HAV GAJENDRA SINGH, 2 PARA (SF) (POSTHUMOUS)

BAR TO SHAURYA CHAKRA

1. MAJ ADITYA PRATAP SINGH, SC, SM, RAJ RIF, 44 ASSAM RIF
- #### SHAURYA CHAKRA
1. MAJ PARAMVEER, GARH RIF, 36 RR
 2. MAJ TARUN VASUDEVAN, ENGRS, 57 RR
 3. MAJ KESHAV KUMAR, 12 DOGRA
 4. MAJ GAURAV SINGH BRIJWAL, 21 GRENADIERS
 5. MAJ VIPREEN KUMAR, SIGS, 11 RR
 6. NB SUB SHANKAR RAM, 3 ASSAM RIF
 7. NB SUB DABBAL SINGH BISHT, 21 PARA (SF)
 8. HAV JAGATTAR SINGH, 4 PARA (SF)
 9. L/NK NARENDER SINDHU, RAJ RIF, 9 RR (POSTHUMOUS)
 10. L/NK KAPIL DEV, DOGRA, 11 RR
 11. SEP JASWINDER SINGH, 7 SIKH LI

BAR TO SENA MEDAL (GALLANTRY)

1. MAJ DS PAOSHO, SM, 7 MADRAS
 2. MAJ ANUJ MAHAJAN, SM, MECH INF, 36 ASSAM RIF
 3. MAJ KRISHAN KANT, SM, 21 PARA (SF)
 4. SUB RAMESH KUMAR, SM, 159 INF BN (TA)
 5. NB SUB RAJENDRA SINGH, SM, 2 PARA (SF)
- #### SENA MEDAL (GALLANTRY)
1. LT COL PUSHKAR VIJAY CHAUDHARY, 27 (I) R&O FLT
 2. LT COL SONAM TOPDEN BHUTIA, 2/8 GR
 3. MAJ SUDHANSU SEKHAR PANI, 10 PARA (SF)
 4. MAJ MOHIT PODIA, ARTY, 37 ASSAM RIF
 5. MAJ R SAHIL, GARH RIF, 33 ASSAM RIF
 6. MAJ BALENDU KUMAR JHA, 24 GRENADIERS
 7. MAJ RAVI SHANKAR JOSHI, RAJ RIF, 57 RR
 8. MAJ RUPAM DAS, 8 BIHAR
 9. MAJ ARNAV BALI, MECH INF, 9 RR
 10. MAJ ANSHUMAN RANJAN, 4 PARA (SF)
 11. MAJ ARVIND KUMAR, ENGRS, 33 ASSAM RIF
 12. CAPT KARAN SINGH CHEEMA, ASSAM, 59 RR
 13. CAPT HARISH SINGH DEWALI, MARATHA LI, 17 RR

14. CAPT MOHIT RAWAT, SIGS, 44 ASSAM RIF
 15. CAPT ANSHUMAAN SINGH, 11 PARA (SF)
 16. CAPT BANE SWARAJ SUDHIR, 21 PARA (SF)
 17. CAPT PRUTHVIRAJ JAYSING NIGHOT, 21 PARA (SF)
 18. CAPT SAVIK, 5/9 GR
 19. LT BHANU PRATAP SINGH, 12 DOGRA
 20. LT AMAN PANDEY, 8 BIHAR
 21. ASST COMDT BIKASH RAI, 11 ASSAM RIF
 22. SUB PAWAN KUMAR, 11 PARA (SF)
 23. SUB PERBHAT GAUR, 10 PARA (SF) (POSTHUMOUS)
 24. SUB KANASE NAMDEV BALKRISHNA, 18 MARATHA LI
 25. SUB BALJINDER SINGH, 7 SIKH LI
 26. NB SUB DAYAL SINGH, GARH RIF, 36 RR
 27. HAV L JOEL KOM, 21 PARA (SF)
 28. HAV MULLA ABIDALI ASHRAFALI, 18 MARATHA LI
 29. L/HAV PALASH GHOSH, 5 PARA (SF) (POSTHUMOUS)
 30. NK ALI MOHAMMAD KHAN, 24 GRENADIERS
 31. L/NK SUJAY GHOSH, 5 PARA (SF) (POSTHUMOUS)
 32. L/NK ABHIMANU SINGH, 21 GRENADIERS
 33. L/NK BIDHA SINGH, JAT, 34 RR
 34. L/NK PRITPAL SINGH, SIKH LI, 19 RR (POSTHUMOUS)
 35. SEP HARMINDER SINGH, SIKH LI, 19 RR (POSTHUMOUS)
 36. PTR HIMANSHU KUMAR, 21 PARA (SF)
- #### MENTION-IN-DESPATCHES OPERATION RAKSHAK

1. COL RANVEER SINGH, 207 ARMY AVN SQN (UH)
2. LT COL ABHISHEK JOSHI, SM, 666 ARMY AVN SQN (R&O)
3. LT COL HIMANSHU SHARMA, 21 COUNTER INSURGENCY INT UNIT
4. LT COL ADITYA JASROTIA, 666 ARMY AVN SQN (R&O)
5. MAJ DEVSHREE ARVIND SHARMA, 25 MADRAS
6. MAJ KUNAL NARULA, 662 ARMY AVN SQN (R&O)

7. MAJ SWAPNIL SRIVASTAVA, RAJ RIF, 9 RR
 8. MAJ AKSHAY SINGH, DOGRA, 11 RR
 9. MAJ ARUN, ARTY, 11 RR
 10. MAJ ABDULASSISS M, MECH INF, 26 RR
 11. MAJ ROHIT SHARMA, 290 FD REGT
 12. CAPT MUNIRAJ T, AMC, 19 RR
 13. DSP SULTAN MAHMOOD, J&K POLICE
 14. SUB MANOJ KUMAR, 4 PARA (SF)
 15. NB SUB KARAMBIR, 21 GRENADIERS
 16. HAV AIJAZ AHMED, 159 INF BN (TA)
 17. NK MUKESH SINGH, 159 INF BN (TA)
 18. NK ROSHAN KUMAR, ENGRS, 3 RR
 19. NK RAJAT SHARMA, 12 DOGRA
 20. NK NANDAN SINGH GUSAIN, 4 PARA (SF)
 21. RFN RANJEET SINGH, RAJ RIF, 57 RR
 22. RFN RAMESH SINGH, GARH RIF, 36 RR
 23. RFN GOVIND SINGH, RAJ RIF, 57 RR
 24. PTR MADHUKAR SHAILESH CHOUGULE, 2 PARA (SF)
 25. ARMY DOG TYSON, RVC, 2 PARA (SF)
- #### OPERATION SNOW LEOPARD
26. LT COL SUHEL SINGH GILL, 666 ARMY AVN SQN (R&O)
 27. LT COL RAKESH VASHISHTH, 301 ARMY AVN SQN (SO)
 28. MAJ ABHIMANYU YADAV, 16 PUNJAB
 29. MAJ RAJIV MEEL, 203 ARMY AVN SQN (UH)
 30. MAJ ABHISHEK ARJUN, GARH RIF, 666 ARMY AVN SQN (R&O)
 31. MAJ RAHUL MEHTA, ARTY, HQ SFF
 32. CAPT MOHIT GANJOO, ASSAM, 59 RR
 33. CAPT GAURAV KUMAR, 60 ARMD REGT
- #### OPERATION HIFAZAT
34. LT COL SOUBAM KINOBABU SINGH, SM, 2 JAK LI
 35. MAJ NIKAM NIKHIL JANARDHAN, 2/8 GR
 36. MAJ AMIT NAIN, 19 GARH RIF
 37. MAJ ABHISHEK KUMAR SINGH, 2 JAK LI
 38. MAJ VISHAL RANA, 2 JAK LI
 39. MAJ C SAI VIVEK, SM, ARTY, 33 ASSAM RIF
 40. MAJ ZUBAIR AHMAD ITOO, ENGRS, 19 ASSAM RIF
 41. MAJ RAJKUMAR SANJEEV, JAK RIF, 31 ASSAM RIF
 42. MAJ SHARMA TANUJ DILIP, 2 JAK LI

43. CAPT ARUN KUMAR SOLANIA, 2 MAHAR
 44. CAPT ATHARV SHRIRANG JADHAV, 5/9 GR
 45. LT SHIVAM PANDAY, 2 JAK LI
 46. SUB TIL BAHADUR DANGI, 21 PARA (SF)
 47. SUB AMIT KUMAR, 2 MAHAR
 48. SUB JARNAIL SINGH, 2 MAHAR
 49. HAV NEHKHOHAO HAOKIP, 165 INF BN (TA)
 50. HAV DEVENDRA SINGH NEGI, 21 PARA (SF)
 51. HAV DONGARE GULABRAO SHAMRAO, 2 MAHAR
 52. NK KAPIL DEV, 21 PARA (SF)
 53. NK SUNIL KUMAR, 2 MAHAR
 54. L/NK BINNAR YOGESH POPAT, 21 PARA (SF)
 55. L/NK JASPUNEET SINGH, 22 SIKH
 56. SEP SHUBHAM KUMAR, 8 BIHAR
 57. RFN BHOJ BAHADUR RANA MAGAR, 2/8 GR
 58. RFN H YANG PANG SHANYEI PHOM, 22 ASSAM RIF
 59. RFN DELBOR ALI MONDAL, 3 ASSAM RIF
 60. RFN ADEPU RAKESH, 3 ASSAM RIF
 61. PTR RAHUL KUMAR YADAV, 21 PARA (SF)
 62. AGNIVEER HARIOM, 2 MAHAR
 63. AGNIVEER KRISHAN KUMAR, 2 MAHAR
- #### OPERATION ORCHID
64. MAJ DEBASHISH PUSTI, ARMD, 13 ASSAM RIF
 65. MAJ LAKSHYADEEP KANKER, AAD, 4 ASSAM RIF
 66. PTR BIKASH KAKATI, 11 PARA (SF)
 67. PTR YOG RAJ, 11 PARA (SF)
 68. PTR LALTAN SANGA, 11 PARA (SF)
 69. PTR DEEPCHAND KARGWAL, SM, 21 PARA (SF)
- #### OPERATION MEGHDOOT
70. MAJ DEVESH BHANDARI, 666 ARMY AVN SQN (R&O)
 71. MAJ RISHIKESH PATHAK, 24 PUNJAB
 72. HAV NARESH SHARMA, 18 JAK RIF
- #### OPERATION FALCON
73. LT COL VIKAS PANDEY, 667 ARMY AVN SQN (R&O)
 74. MAJ KARTIK YADAV, AAD, 667 ARMY AVN SQN (R&O)
- #### MISC OPERATION
75. LT COL ROHIT SINGH SAHI, INT (RETD)

GALLANT ACTS OF OUR HEROES WILL ALWAYS BE A SOURCE OF INSPIRATION TO THE NATION



India, head coach Gambhir eye red-ball reset against Sri Lanka

G UNNIKRISHNAN ■ Galle

A gruelling trial by spin awaits Indian batters in the two-Test series against Sri Lanka beginning here on Saturday with head coach Gautam Gambhir's standing as the country's red-ball in-charge relying heavily on its outcome.

Under Gambhir, India have been a near-infallible white-ball unit as revealed by their rampaging title-winning runs in the Champions Trophy, Asia Cup and T20 World Cup.

But Test cricket paints a grim picture. Home whitewashes against New Zealand and South Africa have put a hole in India's World Test Championship ambitions.

Those string of failures



and the subsequent exit of a bunch of support staff — two assistant coaches and a fielding coach — have made the need for rejuvenation for Gambhir and the team immediate.

This is not to say that Gambhir will be ousted immediately even if victory eludes the team in the island nations, but the corridors of power will certainly be abuzz some talk about the way forward in the red ball format.

However, finding redemption in Galle is a tough task for visiting teams. Often, dreams die here.

If that sounds glib, then one look at the numbers would be enough.

Sri Lanka have won 27 of the 49 Tests played here since 1998, a dominance built around crafty spinners turning the knife in.

The home nation has long moved away from the heady days of Muttiah Muralitharan and Rangana Herath, but they still have spinners Prabhath Jayasuriya and Ramesh Mendis, who have made Galle their fortress.

So, the situation is not to the liking of this particular Indian team, whose batters struggled massively against the likes of Mitchell Santner and Simon Harmer in the not-so-distant past.

But this team carries an eerie similarity to the squad that came to these shores in 2017, the last time India played a Test series

here. The Virat Kohli-led outfit featured a bunch of players who were in the middle phase of their careers but went back with a 3-0 triumph, including one at Galle, and it kicked off a period of India's dominance in Test cricket.

The 2026 squad led by a young captain —Shubman Gill— too is brimming with mid-level seniors and hopefuls, and they are also in need of such a spark that can ignite their journey back to top. (PTI)

I am comfortable with captaincy, team's progressing in right path: Gill

G UNNIKRISHNAN ■ Galle

Under Shubman Gill, India may not have secured a landmark Test series victory yet, but he is "comfortable" with the leadership role after overseeing the team's progress on the right path. Gill's debut series as skipper saw India return from England with a 2-2 draw before going down to South Africa at home, even though the right-hander missed a good chunk of that rubber with a neck injury. India expectedly towelled Afghanistan at home in a non-WTC fixture, but Gill preferred to see the larger picture.

"I am very comfortable with the captaincy role and I think the way we have been, you know, progressing in the past one year... it has been

very pleasing to see from my perspective," Gill said in the pre-match press conference here on the eve of the first Test against Sri Lanka.

"And I think we are taking all the right steps in the right direction." However, Gill did not miss the point that India is lagging at fifth in World Test Championship points table, and need strong effort to be in contention for final.

"Obviously, now the main goal is to play the World Test Championship final, which is next year. We have got about nine Tests and I think we have to win around 6 or 7 to be able to have a good chance at qualifying. "So in terms of that, I think that this is (versus Sri Lanka) a very important series for us and we have had the right kind of preparation leading up to series," added Gill.

Gill will also join some iconic names like Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi (100th) and Virat Kohli (500th) while leading India out in its 600th Test.

"It's a very big honour, you know, any Test Match that you captain for your country. Leading my country in our 600th Test match is a big honour and doing that on Independence Day is even more special," he said. (PTI)



Tanzid Hasan's maiden test century puts Bangladesh in command against Australia

ASSOCIATED PRESS ■ Darwin (Australia)

Tanzid Hasan posted his maiden century in just his second cricket test to help guide Bangladesh to 351-6 at stumps Friday and into commanding position over top-ranked Australia after two days of the Top End series opener.

Tanzid raised his hundred with a single off Nathan Lyon from 188 deliveries but after a patient and resilient innings, he added just one more run before lofting a ball from the veteran Australian spinner to Mitchell Starc at long-off soon after.

He survived two dropped chances and shared two big, important partnerships to set No. 9-ranked Bangladesh on course for a big first-inning lead. Tanzid combined with Mominul Haque (49) in a 102-run second-wicket stand and 93 with skipper Najmul Hossain Shanto for the third.



Shanto went on to score 84 from 126 deliveries before he was one of the three wickets to fall in a four-over period soon after the Australians took the second new ball.

Bangladesh resumed Friday at

96-1, 102 behind on the first innings after dismissing Australia for 198, and finished Day 2 with a 153-run lead and four wickets in hand. Tanzid said he curbed his attacking instinct and "I did what the team required."

Trying to make most of The Hundred so I can go into Asia Cup prepared: Deepti

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Leeds

Seasoned India all-rounder Deepti Sharma is using her stint in The Hundred to fine-tune her skills across all three departments ahead of the Women's Asia Cup later this month.

The Asia Cup is scheduled to begin in Dubai on August 28. Deepti currently in fine form with the ball and in the field for defending champions Sunrisers Leeds Women.

"Right now, my focus is on The Hundred. The Women's Asia Cup is starting from 28th August, and that is an important tournament for the Indian team," Deepti said on JioStar.

"Playing in The Hundred is giving me a great opportunity to work on my skills in all three departments, batting, bowling, and fielding. I am trying to make the most of this tournament so that I can go into the Asia Cup



well prepared.

"I am giving my best for Sunrisers Leeds, and that will help me grow as a player and also benefit the team in the long run," she added.

Deepti said representing India carries a sense of pride as well as responsibility, with the support of the fans providing an added motivation to perform. (PTI)

Jemimah ruled out of Asia Cup and Asian Games due to hamstring injury



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New Delhi

India women's team batter Jemimah Rodrigues was on Friday ruled out of the upcoming Asia Cup and Asian Games due to a hamstring injury she sustained earlier this month while playing in The Hundred tournament in England.

The BCCI said in a statement that the 25-year-old Rodrigues has been assessed by the medical team with a high-grade tear.

The Women's Selection Committee has named Pratika Rawal as Rodrigues' replacement for the Asia Cup to be played in Dubai from August 28 to September 13.

"Jemimah Rodrigues sustained a right hamstring injury on 3rd August while playing in The Hundred in England. The BCCI Medical Team clinically assessed her at the Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru, and the assessment confirmed a high-grade tear," the Board said.

Ridhima Dilawari holds off Mannat Brar to win Women's Pro Golf Tour

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Bengaluru

Ridhima Dilawari managed to hold off a surging Mannat Brar on the back nine to win her fourth title on the Hero Women's Pro Golf Tour at the Prestige Golfshire here.

The seasoned Ridhima shot 4-under 68 for her third straight under par round following 67-71 on the first two days of the 12th Leg of the 2026 season.

Ridhima's total of 10-under 206 saw her finish one shot ahead of Mannat Brar (66), who brought home the best card of the week and totalled

9-under 207. Mannat's 66 had seven birdies against one bogey. Ridhima's earlier wins this season came at Leg 2 at Kalhaar Blues & Greens, Leg 4 at Poona Golf Club and Leg 6 at Jaypee Wishtown, NOIDA. Apart from her wins, Ridhima has also been runner-up twice this season. She has extended her lead at the top of the Hero Order of Merit.

While Ridhima battled to hold on to her lead and stay ahead of Mannat, Vidhatri Urs and Heena Kang were engaged in their own tussle for the third place and finally tied for it. Vidhatri carded 71 and Heena shot 72 to be tied

at 3-under at a distant total of 3-under.

Ridhima had a mixed run from the third to the sixth. After a birdie on the third she gave away a double bogey on the fourth to open the door slightly for Mannat. Ridhima made up with back-to-back birdies on the fifth and the sixth for a front nine of 1-under 35.

Mannat had one bogey on the second and three birdies on the fourth, sixth and the ninth for a 2-under 34.

When the duo came off the front nine, Mannat had reduced the gap from three shots to two.



Theegala placed 26th, Spieth makes strong start at FedExCup Play-offs

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Memphis (US)

Sahith Theegala was the best placed among the Indian-origin quartet, carding a 1-under 69 to sit tied 26th after the opening round, as the FedExCup Play-offs began with the St. Jude Championship at TPC Southwind here.

Sudarshan Yellamaraju was the next best at T-37 after an eventful even-par 70, while Akshay Bhatia and PGA champion Aaron Rai opened with 72s to share 53rd place.

At the top, Jordan Spieth rolled back the years with a bogey-free 5-under 65 to join Michael Thorbjornsen, Jake Knapp, Michael Kim and Kurt Kitayama in a five-way share of the lead.

Spieth, who has not won on the PGA Tour in more than four years, made the ideal start to a Play-off campaign in which every position matters. He and Kim are currently outside the crucial top-50 cut-off in the FedExCup standings, making a strong week essential if they are to advance to next week's BMW Championship.

Theegala, who is backed by Hero, started and



finished his round with birdies. He added two more birdies during his round but gave back shots with bogeys, including consecutive dropped shots on the 14th and 15th holes. His 69 left him in a solid position but with plenty of ground to make

up over the next three rounds.

Bhatia, also supported by Hero, had a mixed day. He made two birdies but was undone by four bogeys, three of them coming during a difficult stretch from the 10th through the 14th. His 72 left him six shots behind the leaders.

Yellamaraju had perhaps the most dramatic round among the Indians. The Indo-Canadian produced an eagle, a birdie, a bogey and a double bogey, along with 14 pars, to finish level par. He began the Play-offs ranked 57th and needs to move into the top 50 to extend his season into the BMW Championship.

Rai, whose highlight this year was his PGA Championship success, struggled to find consistency and carded four bogeys against just two birdies. His 72 left him tied 53rd and facing an uphill task over the next three days.

The battle for the top 50 is one of the major storylines of the Play-offs. Players who finish inside that mark after the FedEx St. Jude Championship qualify for the BMW Championship in St. Louis next week.

Rajnath Singh lauds athletes from armed forces who won medals at Glasgow CWG

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Friday here commended the strong willpower and firm conviction of the Indian defence forces for overcoming physical and mental pressure and making the nation proud at an international sporting event.

Making this assertion while felicitating the Services medal winners at the recently concluded Commonwealth Games, Glasgow, he termed the achievement as "extraordinary."

Of the total 39 medals - 13 Gold, 17 Silver and 09 Bronze - won by India during the Games, the Indian Defence Forces personnel claimed 18 medals (16 by Indian Army and 02 by Indian Navy). Rajnath Singh said these sportspersons are a source of inspiration to the people, particularly the youth, as they are a "perfect blend of a soldier and a champion". On women pugilists securing 04 of the 06 Gold medals in Boxing, the defence minister stated that the feat is a testimony to India's growing Nari Shakti. The achievement will motivate more girls to pursue the sport and join the defence forces, he added. Rajnath Singh acknowledged the fact that Indian champions are emerging from every corner of the country, highlighting that today the field of sports has been democratised, and it is no longer the exclusive privilege of a select few. He extended his best wishes to the athletes for upcoming events such as the Asian Games and the Olympics. Chief of the Army Staff General Dhiraj Seth and other senior Indian Army officials attended the event. The campaign of the Indian Army contingent at 2026 Glasgow Commonwealth Games witnessed a number of firsts and records.

These include: Naib Subedar Sarvesh Kushare won India's first-ever Commonwealth Games Silver Medal in High Jump, a landmark achievement in Indian athletics. Naib Subedar Gulveer Singh created history by becoming the first Indian athlete to win two athletics medals at a single Commonwealth Games, securing Silver in the 10,000 metres and Bronze in the 5,000 metres. Havildar Harsh, competing in the 60 kg category, won India's first-ever Commonwealth Games Gold Medal in Judo, opening a new chapter for the sport in the country. Subedar Soman Rana and Lance Naik Shubham Juyal created history by securing India's first-ever Gold and Silver medals in Para



Shot put at the Commonwealth Games.

In Weightlifting, Havildar Ajaya Babu produced a record-breaking performance in the 79 kg category, registering a Games Record of 149 kg in the Snatch and an impressive total lift of 330 kg. In Boxing, the Indian Army made a historic contribution to an unprecedented national achievement by breaking the 100 year old English Record. India won a total of seven Gold medals, the highest number won by any nation in Boxing at a single edition of the Games. Of these 07 Gold and 03 Silver medals, Indian Army pugilists claimed 06 Gold and 02 Silver.

The list of the Indian defence forces personnel who brought laurels to the country at Glasgow is as follows:

Gold Medal Winners

Hav Sakshi - Boxing (51 kgs)
Nb Sub Preeti - Boxing (54 kgs)
Nb Sub Jasmine - Boxing (67 kgs)
Hav Arundhati Chaudhary - Boxing (70 kgs)
Hav Sachin Sewach - Boxing (60 kgs)
Hav Ankush - Boxing (80 kgs)
Hav Harsh Singh - Judo (60 kgs)
Sub Soman Rana - Para Shot Put (F-57).

Silver Medal Winners

Lt Col (Hony) Neeraj Chopra - Javelin Throw
Nb Sub Sarvesh - High Jump
Hav Jadumani Singh - Boxing (55 kgs)
Sub Narinder - Boxing (90 kgs)
Hav Ajaya Babu - Weightlifting (79 kgs)
Nb Sub Gulveer - 10,000 m
L/NK Shubham Juyal - Para Shot Put (F-57)

CPO COM(TEL) Lovepreet Singh - Weightlifting (+110 kgs)
CPO (PT) Chanambam Rishikanta Singh - Weightlifting (60 kgs)

Bronze Medal Winner

Nb Sub Gulveer - 5,000 m.