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Centre raps TV channels for scandalous coverage

Ukraine attacks, Delhi riots reporting misleading and sensational, says **I&B** Ministry

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

The Centre on Saturday expressed "serious concern" over the manner in which television news channels, journalists and news anchors have gone about their operations while covering the Ukraine-Russia conflict, Jahangirpuri communal violence, and conducting news debates.

In a strongly-worded advisory citing specific programmes and instances, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting termed the coverage "unauthentic, misleading and sensational with false claims, communal overtones scandalous headlines/taglines completely

unrelated to the news item". "Many of the journalists and news anchors of these channels made fabricated and hyperbolic statements intending to incite the audiences," the



backed separatist forces in Mariupol, Ukraine on Friday

Ministry said and advised strict adherence to the Programme Code and compliance to provisions of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act,

1995.
"It has been found that in the recent past several satellite TV channels have carried out coverage of events and incidents in a manner which appears to be using socially unacceptable language and

remarks, offending good taste and decency, and obscene and defamatory and having com-munal overtones, all of which appear to be violative of the Programme Code and infringement of the provisions of sub-section (2) of Section 20 of the Cable TV Act," it main-

tained. In particular, the advisory pointed out, attention is invited to reporting on Russia-

Ukraine conflict, certain incidents in NW Delhi and of certain news debates. "Channels have been making false claims and frequently misquoting international agencies/actors One channel aired a news item 'Ukraine mein Atomi Hadkamp' on 18th April, 2022 during which it mentioned that Russia is planning a nuclear attack on Ukraine.

Continued on Page 2

CBSE drops NAM, Cold War, Islamic empires from syllabus

'To rationalise syllabus', chapters excluded'

STAFF REPORTER/PTI

In what it termed as a move to "rationalise syllabus", the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has dropped chapters about the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), the Cold War era, the rise of Islamic empires in Afro-Asian territories, the chronicles of Mughal courts and the industrial revolution from the history and political science syllabi of Classes 11 and 12.

In the Class 10 syllabus also, the topic "impact of globalisation on agriculture" from a chapter on 'Food Security' has been dropped. This apart, the translated excerpts from two poems in Urdu by Faiz Ahmed Faiz in the 'Religion, Communalism and Politics -Communalism, Secular State section have also been excluded this year. Chapters on 'democracy and diversity' too

have been dropped.
Officials maintained that the changes are part of ratio-nalisation of syllabus and are in alignment with recommendations by the National Council of Educational Research and

Training (NCERT).

The dropped chapter 'Central Islamic Lands" in the Class 11 history syllabus talks about the rise of Islamic empires in the Afro-Asian territories and its implications for economy and society, according to the description in



The chapter focused on arenas of Islam in reference to its emergence, the rise of the caliphate and empire building.

Similarly, in the Class 12 history syllabus, the dropped chapter titled 'The Mughal Reconstructing Court: Histories through Chronicles examined the chronicles of Mughal courts to reconstruct the social, religious and cultural history of the Mughals. The syllabus shared with

schools for the 2022-23 academic session also hints at the board's decision to revert to a singleboard exam in a session from the two term examination last While the two-term exam was announced as a one-time

special measure taken in view of the Covid pandemic, the board officials had last week said a final call will be taken in due course of time keeping in mind the situation.

"CBSE annually provides curriculum for Classes 9 to 12 containing academic content,

learning outcomes, pedagogical practices and assessment guidelines. Considering the feedback of stakeholders and other prevailing conditions, the board is in favour of conducting the annual scheme of assessment at the end of the academic session 2022-23 and the curriculum has been designed accordingly," a senior board official said.

However, this is not the first time the board has dropped from the syllabus certain chapters which have been part of the curriculum for decades. As part of its decision to rationalise the syllabus, the CBSE in 2020 had announced that chapters on federalism, citizenship, nationalism, and secularism in the class 11 political science textbook will not be considered while assessing students, triggering a major controversy.

The topics were restored in the 2021-22 academic session and remain a part of the cur-

CAPSULE

2-YEAR OLD AMONG 5 OF FAMILY MURDERED

Prayagraj: Five members of a family, including a 2-year old, were killed with sharp-edged weapons in Khevrajpur village in Prayagraj district, police said on Saturday. Prima facie, it appears that the deceased were hit with a stick or some blunt weapon and there are injury marks also on the head, said Prayagraj Senior Superintendent of Police Ajay Kumar.

LIKE TIME BOMBS: NGT

New Delhi: The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has expressed serious concern over fire incidents at Ghazinur landfill site in the national Capital saying dump sites are like "time bombs". A massive fire erupted at the Ghazipur landfill site on Wednesday, the third such incident since March 28 this year, sending a dense plume of smoke into the sky and exacerbating the already polluted air in Delhi, Noida and Ghaziabad.

PAK TERRORIST AMONG 2 Ultras killed in Valley

Srinagar: A Pakistani terrorist of the Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) outfit was among two terrorists killed in an encounter with security forces in Kulgam district of Jammu & Kashmir on Saturday, police said.

EV BATTERY EXPLODES 1 DEAD, 3 HURT IN AP Amaravati: A 40-year-old mar was killed when the battery of

his new electric bike exploded causing fire in his bedroom in Vijayawada city in the early hours of Saturday.

AAP accuses BJP Govt of ordering demolition of Neelkanth temple

New Delhi: At a time when a major row rages over the demolition of a 300-year-old Shiva temple in Rajasthan, the Saturday accused the BJP-led Government of ordering the demolition of Delhi's Neelkanth Mahadev Mandir. The BJP is now running bulldozers over temples to fulfil its lust for money, AAP leader Atishi

alleged.
"BJP's Central Government gave orders to run bulldozers over Neelkanth Mahadev temple in Sriniwaspuri," Atishi tweeted sharing an image of the letter in question. The AAP MLA said that the BJP's real face got exposed today after Centre ordered demolition of Neelkanth Mahadev Mandir in

Sriniwaspuri region. Continued on Page 2

Tiranga Guinness Records



Union Home Minister Amit Shah pays tribute to Veer Kunwar Singh during Veer Kunwar Singh Vijayotsav at Jagdishpur, in Bhojpur district on Saturday (photo). Shah was a proud witness to 77,700 people simultaneously waving the lindian national flag at Jagdishpur in Bihar, where the BJP sought to make history by breaking Pakistan's record set 18 years ago. Veer Kunwar Singh, the then king of Jagdishpur who is regarded as one of the heroes of the Revolt of 1857. The event was organised as part of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' (See Page 2)

Jahangirpuri riot accused booked under PMLA

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Enforcement Directorate (EC) has registered a money laundering case against various suspects of the recent Jahangirpuri violence Mohammed Ansar.

An Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR), the ED's equivalent of a police FIR, has been filed by the agency's headquarters here

under Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). The ED will begin ques-tioning of the suspects in a day or two and also undertake assessment of the assets of the accused in riots cases.

Following assessments of the properties, the agency will attach them even as Mohammad Ansar is the prime target for the money laundering probe, officials said.

Continued on Page 2

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climate change: Study 'Local ecosystems, human health, food security at risk'

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

Insects are facing an unprecedented threat due to climate change and habitat loss, a team of researchers has warned and pointed out that there has been at least a 49 per cent reduction in the number of insects already reported in the most impacted parts of the world.

The study by University

College London's Centre for Biodiversity and Environment Research has been published in the journal Nature. The study is the first to identify that an interaction between rising temperatures and land use changes is driving widespread losses in numerous insect groups across the globe.

Lead author Dr Charlie

Insects down 49% in areas most affected by

Outhwaite (UCL Centre for Biodiversity and Environment Research, UCL Biosciences) said, "Many insects appear to be very vulnerable to human pressures, which is concerning as climate change worsens and agricultural areas continue to expand. Our findings highlight the urgency of actions to preserve natural habitats, slow the expansion of high-intensity agriculture and cut emissions to mitigate climate change.

"Losing insect populations could be harmful not only to the natural environment, where insects often play key roles in local ecosystems, but it could also harm human health and food security, particularly with losses of pollinators.

"Our findings may only represent the tip of the iceberg as there is limited evidence in some areas, particularly in the tropics which we found have quite high reductions in insect biodiversity in the most impacted areas.

Rana couple arrested for Hanuman Chalisa dare at Matoshree



Shiv Sena activists protest outside the residence of MLA Ravi Rana and Amravati MP Navneet Kaur at Khar in Mumbai on Saturday

TN RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI

The ongoing "Hanuman Chalisa" controversy snowballed into a major face-off between the ruling Shiv Sena and the Opposition BJP on Saturday evening, as the dareas."

Saturday evening, as the Mumbai Police arrested

Continued on Page 2 Independent MP from

her husband Badnera MLA Ravi Rana after they threatened to recite the Hindu devotional hymn in front of Chief Minister Úddhav Thackeray's private residence "Matoshree" at in north-west Bandra

Amravati Navneet Rana and

Continued on Page 2

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Indians break Pak's 18 yrs old record of flag waving

77K people wave Tiranga on birth anniv of Veer Kunwar Singh

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday was a proud witness to more than 75,000 people simultaneously waving the Indian national flag at this semi-urban town in Bihar, where the BJP sought to make history by breaking Pakistan's record set 18 years

The occasion was the 163rd birth anniversary of Veer Kunwar Singh, the then king of Jagdishpur who is regarded as one of the heroes of the Revolt of 1857. The event was organised as part of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', the 75th anniversary of India's Independence.

Shah was joined by top BJP leaders from Bihar, including Union ministers R K Singh and Nityanand Rai, Deputy Chief Ministers Tarkishor Prasad and Renu Devi and their

predecessor Sushil Kumar Modi in waving the tricolour for full five minutes, to an instrumental rendition of the national song 'Vande Mataram'.

The attendees were made to wear bands for physical identification and camera trap was installed, with Guinness Book of World Records for supervision. The crowds applauded when the gigantic screen installed at the venue put the headcount of flag vers at 77,700.

The previous world record was set by 56,000 Pakistanis who waved their national flag at a function in Lahore in Shah, whose role in bringing about "complete national integration by scrapping of Article 370" was hailed by speaker after speaker, himself spoke for less than 30

The former BJP chief told the gathering that reminding

the younger generation of sacrifices made by freedom fighters was a key component of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' as envisaged by Prime Minister

Narendra Modi. He also recalled the role of RSS ideologue V D Savarkar in highlighting the contributions of the likes of Veer Kunwar Singh. Savarkar had called the Revolt of 1857 'India's first war of Independence' and authored an eponymous book.

Seen as the party's top strategist, Shah also recalled the role played by the BJP, along with Chief Minister Nitish Kumar by whom he was received at the Patna airport, in ridding Bihar of "jungle raj".

In a veiled dig at RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav, Shah remarked, "Merely going about without Lalu Prasad's posters cannot erase the memories of jungle raj.

Shah, who is scheduled to

India has its own problems: Biden on Quad, Xi's fear

Us President Joe Biden has said that his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping once told him that he was strengthening Quad against

China, which has territorial disputes with many countries in the strategic Indo-Pacific region, has been vehemently opposing the Quad alliance since its formation.

during Biden, Democratic Party fundraiser event at a private residence in Seattle on Friday, said that he had indicated to Xi that "I was going to pull together the Quad: Australia, India, Japan and the United States. He said, 'You're just doing that to affect us.' I said, 'No, it's because we're trying to put together those folks who have an opportunity to work together in the Indo-Pacific'".

The point being that one of the things that the autocrats fear the most -- and India has its own problems; all those

problems -- is the notion that somehow we can work together in concert and contrary to what are essentially dictatorships, which a lot of countries have become, particularly not only China but Russia and many other countries...The Philippines,"

In February, China termed the Quad alliance as a "tool" to contain China's rise and to maintain American hegemony.

he said.

'China believes that the so-called Quad group cobbled together by the US, Japan, India and Australia is essentially a tool for containing and besieging China to maintain US

"It aims to stoke confrontation and undermine international solidarity and cooperation," Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesman Zhao Lijian had said in Beijing in February.

During the party fundraiser event, Biden said that when he got elected, Russian president Vladimir Putin thought that he would easily be able to break up the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO).

"That was part of his objective from the very beginning. And I know I've been saying that for eight years, but it was part of his objective," he said. But the irony of all ironies to this... He got exactly what he did not want, Biden said.

The US president said that Putin was looking for further Finlandisation (the process whereby a country is induced to favour, or refrain from opposing, the interests of a more powerful country) of Europe. Instead, he got Finland... wanting to join NATO and Sweden wanting to join NATO. His action is generating exactly the opposite of what he intended.

"I'm not suggesting that makes things all that easier. But the point is that we have a circumstance where the Ukrainian people are incredibly brave; they're incredibly resolved, not just the military that was trained but the people in the streets.

They are making a lie of Putin's theory that somehow because they're Slavic in background and many spoke Russian that somehow there would be a welcoming party.

The exact opposite has happened," Biden added. In November 2017, the US, Australia, India and Japan gave shape to the longpending proposal of setting up the Quad to develop a new strategy to keep the critical sea routes in the Indo-Pacific free of any influence, amidst China's growing military presence in the strategic region. China claims nearly all of the disputed South China Sea, though Taiwan, the Philippines, Brunei, Malaysia and Vietnam all claim parts of it. Beijing has built artificial islands and military installations in the South China Sea. Beijing is also involved in a maritime dispute with Japan over the East China

UP may face power crisis for want of coal

Uttar Pradesh is likely to face a power crisis as the electricity demand is surging and coal stock with state-owned Uttar Pradesh Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam is only 26 per cent, which is only one-fourth of the minimum required level.

Sources said that in the first fortnight of April, the demand for electricity increased due to the scorching summer heat. In the last 38 years, the demand for electricity was highest in the month of April this year. While there was a power shortage of 1.1 per cent in the month of October due to the coal crisis, it was 1.4 per cent in the first fortnight of April. In Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Punjab, Jharkhand, Haryana, there are power cuts ranging from 3 to 8.7 per

In UP, the Anpara Thermal Power Project of 2,630 megawatt capacity, the pit head plant should have a minimum 17 days' reserve coal stock. The other coal fired plants -- Harduaganj of 1,265 MW, Obra of

1 094 MW and Parichha of 1 140 MW -located far away from the coal mines should have 26 days' coal stock as per the standard

According to records, 5,97 lakh metric tons of coal should be in stock in Anpara whereas at present it has only 3,28 lakh MT of coal. Similarly, the Harduaganj plant should have 4.97 lakh MT of coal in stock but at present it has only 65,700 MT of coal. Obra should have 4.45 lakh MT of coal while it has only one lakh MT of coal. In Parichha there should be 4.3 lakh MT of coal in stock whereas only 12,900 MT coal is left with it. Against the total requirement of about 20 lakh MT of coal stock for all the four thermal power plants they have only 5.11 lakh MT of coal in stock. Chairman of All India Power Engineers Federation, Shailendra Dubey, said that as per the Central Electricity Authority's latest daily coal report, the coal stock at 81 out of a total of 150 thermal power stations using domestic coal is critical.

He said the condition of the private

sector thermal plants was equally bad as the coal stock of 28 out of 54 plants was in a

attending the convocation

ceremony of a private university set up by BJP leader

Gopal Narayan Singh, also touched upon the welfare measures taken by the Modi

government, especially during

He said that Modi has set

target of making India

number one in the world by

2047, when the nation

celebrates the centenary of its

praise for the people who

ĥad come out in large

numbers despite "such hot

weather". Notably, this was

Shah's first visit to the state in

in January, 2020 when he

had addressed a rally in

Vaishali district, in the

aftermath of the CAA-NPR-

His last tour of Bihar was

more than two years.

NRC controversy.

He had words of effusive

Independence.

the coronavirus pandemic.

Dubey said that in Uttar Pradesh the demand for electricity had reached 21,000 MW and the supply was around 19,000-20,000 MW

Union Power Minister RK Singh has blamed the steep rise in the prices of imported coal due to the Russia-Ukraine war for the coal crisis as well as the lack of adequate availability of railway wagons to transport coal to power stations.

To supply coal to thermal power stations, 453 rakes are required against which 379 rakes were available in the first week of April.UP thermal power generation officials have, however, denied any impending coal crisis. The official sources while admitting a critical level of the coal stock in thermal plants, said the Railways had stepped up the coal supply and the coal stock as per the standard norm notified by the Union Energy Ministry in October last year would be achieved soon.

UP Govt working to implement Uniform Civil Code: Maurya

PNS LUCKNOW

Aday after Union Home Minister Amit Shah advocated implementation of uniform civil code in the Bharatiya Janata Party- ruled States, Uttar Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya said that the Yogi Adityanath Government was working towards its implementation in the state.

In a statement here on Saturday, Maurya said that the uniform civil code was necessary for the citizens of the

"Everyone should demand and welcome uniform civil

code," he said. "The Uttar Pradesh government is also thinking in this direction. We are in favour of it and it is necessary for UP and the people of the country. This is also one of the main promises of the BJP (during election)," he said. Uniform civil code is a

proposal to formulate and implement personal laws which apply on all citizens equally regardless of their religion, sex, gender and sexual orientation. Currently, personal laws of various communities are governed by their religious

scriptures.

The uniform civil code

could be the next big political and the government should push for the BJP in the run-up implement laws to make all to the 2024 Lok Sabha polls as equal," BJP vice-president Vijay Shah has reportedly said in Madhya Pradesh that after Ram temple, triple talaq, Citizenship Amendment Act code implemented and the (CAA) and repeal of Article Yogi government should do it," 370, now it is time for the

uniform civil code. "The BJP-ruled states should think in this regard," he said.After Shah, the BJP leaders have also come out in support of UCC."It is high time that to look into the modalities. UCC should be implemented not only in the states but across the country. Our Constitution

Bahadur Pathak said. "People have voted us to power to get the uniform civil

Pathak said. Earlier, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami had said that uniform civil code would be implemented in the state. He even claimed that a committee had been formed

The committee includes policy and law experts and it would submit its report soon,

Two fidayeen were transported to Sunjwan in veg truck, says ADGP

day after neutralising two Aday after neutralising two members of the suicide outfit in Sunjwan area of Jammu, the Additional Director General of Police, Jammu range Mukesh Singh on Saturday claimed the two terrorists were transported from Supwal area along the Jammu Kathua highway to Jalalabad area of Sunjwan in a mini truck by an over ground worker of the Jaish-e- Mohammad terrorist outfit on April 21.

Addressing a conference in Jammu, ADGP Mukesh Singh, flanked by DIG Jammu-Kathua range Vivek Gupta and SSP Jammu, claimed the JeM terrorists were ferried in

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is notified for the information of general public that my client Mr. Niraj Garg S/o Mr. Jai Prakash Garg has lost the original documents i.e. Agreement For Allotment Letter 11.05.2006 issued by M/s ATS INFRASTRUCTURE Ltd. in respect of Unit No. 24122, on 12th Floor, Tower-24, "ATS Greens Paradiso-II", built on Plot No. GH-03, Sector-Chi-4, Greater Noida Gautam Budh Nagar. Our client has also lodged a NCR on 23.03.2022 for the same. Any person having any right. interest or claim in respect of the said

23.03.2022 or in salitie. Any person havily person havily any right, interest or claim in respect of the said property are hereby required to give notice of the same to the undersigned on below mentioned address within 15 days from the date of publication hereof together with copies of all documents on the basis of which claims

of all documents on the basis of which claims are made, failing which any such right, title interest, or claim, if any, will be deemed to have been waived and not binding on our Clients. C.K. Jha (Advocate) Chamber No. E-524, Karkardooma Courts, Delhi. M.No. 9811295674.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Rajender Kumar Singh
Virendra Kumar Singh and Mahendra Pratap Singh
sons of late Pahawian Singh are the absolute
owners of property bearing no. V-9, out of khasra
no.1 to 432/1, Village Ghonda Chauhan Bangar
abadi of street no.1, Arvino Nagar, Ghonda, Illaqa,
Shahdara Delhi–110053 (Area measuring 100.
Sqy(s) vide Relinquishment Deed dated 8/1/2015
(Doc. No. 120) overetide by Soyitir Devis and

(Doc. No. 129) executed by Savitri Devi an Madhuri Singh wife and daughter of late Pahawla

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lare hereby requested to notify the same in writing

us with supporting documentary evidence at the address mentioned below within 7 days from the

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of such person or persons will be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned. Kamal Kant Gupta (Advocate Shop No. 5 & 6, Pkt-E, CSC, Mayur Vihar-I

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squad of Pakistan based Jaish- their Paksitan based handler.

cavity was created inside the truck to hide these terrorists. So far the police claimed to

have arrested Shafiq Ahmed Sheikh S/o Ghulam Mohd Sheikh R/o Mir Mohalla, Tral, as he had facilitated the stay of these terrorists in Jallalabad area of Jammu with the help of his brother identified as Asif Ahmed Sheikh. Both these brothers were deeply involved with JeM terrorists and were working here in Jammu at a walnut factory located near Narwal, not very far away from the site of encounter.

a vegetable truck alogn with a of investigations in the case huge consignment of arms and Jammu police have also zeroed explosives by Bilal Ahmed of in on another individual Kokernag on the instructions of identified as Mohd Iqbal Rather S/o Abdul Rehman Rather R/o DH Pora, Malwan, Kulgam for sheltering these JeM terrorists at his residence at Jallalabad.

Addressing a press conference in Jammu late Saturday evening ADGP Mukesh Singh said, during the course of investigation of case FIR No. 115 u/s 302/307/120-B, 121-A IPC, 7/27 Arms Act & 16/18/20 ULA of P/S Bahu Fort Jammu, police investigation team has succeeded in effecting the arrest of a person namely Shafiq Ahmed Sheikh hailing from Tral. Singh said he had facilitated the stay of terrorists in Jallalabad

After the preliminary round area of Jammu.

It further sensationalised the situation and mentioned

that the attack will happen in the coming few days. The mis-quoted international agencies also.

that Russia has given a 24 hours deadline for the Nuclear attack on Ukraine. One channel aired baseless sensational news on 18th April, 2022 titled 'Parmanu Putin se pareshan Zelenski', 'Parmanu action ki chinta Zelenski ko depression' and aired several unverified claims misquoting foreign actors/agencies "Official Russian Media clearly states

Jahangirpuri

riot...

that 3rd World war has started". The channel even showed footage with false claims that the Russian President is

it has initiated action against 160 TV channels while 60 channels on various social media platforms including YouTube, Facebook and Twitter have been blocked. The action was on grounds that "the contents on these platforms compromised the integrity and safety of the nation".

The Ministry further said, "Similarly on the recent

incident in North-West Delhi, the coverage by the TV channels had provocative headlines and videos of carrying a "Nuclear briefcase" violence, scandalous and with him," the advisory listed. unverified CCTV footage, The Ministry recently footage of a specific having unparliamentary, the communal tensions, fabricated headlines sensationalising and giving communal colours to the

actions of authority." It cited some instance like: "Delhi mein Aman ke dushman kaun?' (Date: 16th April); 'Badi Sajis Dange Wali, Karauli, Khargone vaya Delhi' (Date: 17th April, 2022); A channel repeatedly carried a video clipping of a man belonging to a specific community carrying a sword." "It was also observed that

says that every citizen is equal

governments to implement a

in the news, some of the channels broadcast debates unacceptable language, communal remarks and derogatory references which have a negative psychological impact on viewers and may also incite communal disharmony and disturb the peace at large. Some are also found to be disrespectful, passing on insulting remarks or giving reference to the different

Centre raps TV channels for scandalous... religions or faiths or their founders," the Ministry pointed

It cited how a "news channel broadcast a programme titled 'Hunkar' on 20th April, 2022. During the unparliamentary derogatory language towards each other. It was also found that the overall tenor and tonality of the show remains very aggressive and disturbing. Such ambience has a tendency to negatively impact the viewers especially children and may have a long lasting psychological distress and

subliminal impact on them.

Modi to recieve 1st Lata Mangeshkar Puraskar

TN RAGHUNATHA

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will receive the first Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Puraskar — instituted by the Pune-based Master Deenanath Mangeshkar Smruti Pratishthan, a public charitable trust run by the Mangeshkar family, at a function to be held at the Shri Shanmukhananda Hall at Sion in north-central Mumbai on Sunday.

Modi will be felicitated in memory of late Lata Mangeshkar on the occasion of her father Deenanath Mangeshwar's 80th death anniversary.

The Master Deenanath Mangeshkar Smruti Pratishthan gives away the Deenanath Mangeshkar awards every year on the occasion of Deenanath Mangeshkar Memorial day on April 24. This year, the Prathishtan has instituted "Lata Mangeshkar Deenanath

Puraskar " in memory of Lata Mangeshkar, Deenanath Mangeshkar.

Modi has been chosen as the first-ever nominee for the "Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Puraskar".

"We are pleased and honoured to announce the first nominee for this award. He is none other than Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji. He is our most Hon'ble Leader; He is an international statesman who has put India on the path of global leadership," the Prathisthan said in a statement issued to the

"The country has seen and is seeing spectacular progress in various spheres of activity because of our Prime Minister. The nation is driven and inspired by him. He is indeed one of the greatest leaders our great nation has seen. Our family and Trust gratefully thank him for accepting this Award," the statement added.

AAP accuses BJP Govt of...

From Page 1 Police Commissioner Rakesh Asthana had on Thursday written to the ED recommending a money laundering probe by the agency as also investigating the assets acquired by the suspects from possible proceeds of crime. He cited preliminary findings made by his officers in the case and the First Information Reports (FIRs) filed by them.

police complaints, sources said. According to sources, the ED officials will not only probe Ansar but other accused as well under PMLA. Sources said, after going through the documents submitted by Delhi Police in connection with Ansar and his role in the Jahangirpuri violence case, the ED filed a PMLA case based on the FIR in the Jahangirpuri incident. The ED will probe if Ansar or others received any funds, from any organisation or a person, which was used in the Jahangirpuri violence. The officials will also go through the bank accounts and property

details of Ansar and the other

accused.

The ED case stems from these

From Page 1

"As soon as the news came to the fore, the Aam Aadmi Party reached the spot to protect the temple from the demolition and staged a protest. The BJP is not only bulldozing the temple but the faith of crores of people just because it wants to loot money from the temple's gullak," she

"It is an established fact that this is a Government of India/L and DO land and you have unauthorisedly occupied or encroached upon this government land," tĥe missive

Atishi accused the BJP of extortion and "gundagardi" and lashed out for following the 10-year-old Supreme Court notice. She said, "The court order mentioned in this demolition order is more than 10 years old. Why does the BJP all of a sudden remember a 10year-old court order-- because of extortion and gundagardi all over the city. There are more examples from all over the city where the BJP, their councillors and leaders are threatening people. It's shameful."

Rana couple arrested for...

From Page 1 Though the Rana couple

withdrew their plan of reciting 'Hanuman Chalisa" in view of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the metropolis on Sunday, the police went ahead and arrested the couple under section 153-A (promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion, race, place of birth, language etc and doings acts prejudicial to maintenance of

harmony). Their arrest came

after Shiv Sena activists lodged a complaint with the Khar police station.

The police will produce the Rana couple before a holiday court on Sunday.

Earlier, a high-voltage drama unfolded in front of Ranas' Khar residence where hundreds of Shiv Sainiks had gathered to prevent the couple from stepping out of their home to head towards Thackerays' nearby residence "Matoshree" at Bandra's Kalanagar locality. Interestingly enough, the Shiv Sainiks recited 'Hanuman Chalisa" in front of the Ranas' residence. The Shiv Sena workers also threatened to perform "abhishek" and give

"maha-prasad" to the couple. At the Ranas' home, Navneet and her husband Ravi had heated exchanges with the police who wanted them to come to the police station. However, the Rana couple insisted the police produce a

Insects down 49% in areas most affected by climate change...

The researchers analysed a large dataset of insect abundance and species richness from areas across the globe, including three-quarters of a million records for nearly 20,000 insect species.

The team compared insect biodiversity in different areas depending on how intensive agriculture is in the area, as well as how much historic climate warming the local area has experienced. They found that in areas with highintensity agriculture and substantial climate warming, the number of insects was 49 per cent lower than in the most natural habitats with no recorded climate warming, while the number of

different species was 29 per cent lower. Tropical areas saw the biggest declines in insect biodiversity linked to land use and climate change. The researchers found that in areas of low-intensity agriculture and substantial climate warming, having nearby natural habitat buffered the losses: where 75 per cent of the land was covered by natural habitat, insect abundance only declined by 7 per cent, compared to a 63 per cent reduction in comparable areas with only 25 per cent natural habitat cover. Many insects rely on plants for shade on hot days, so a loss

of natural habitats could leave them more

vulnerable to a warming climate.

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Facing hardship due to barricading: Shopkeepers

Most shops remain shut in violence-hit **Jahangirpuri**

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

M ost of the shops remain shut in the violenece-hit Jahangirpuri on Saturday, as the shopkeeper cited that they are facing hardship in running their businesses due to the restricted movement and barricading amid heavy security arrangement. Though police claimed that they have never stopped locals from opening shops however, some movement was permitted in the region as locals, including school students, were seen using the barricaded roads and passing through Kushal Chowk on foot. Nevertheless, vehicular movement is still restricted

The situation remained calm a day after members from both the communities declared restoration of peace in the area and agreed to live in harmony during a meeting of 'aman' committees.

The shopkeepers in vio-lence-hit C-Block said that there is no business due to barricades and that is the reason they are not opening shops.

The number of the Security personnel significantly reduced for the past days and they were seen manning the roads. During the Aman committee meeting on Friday, DCP (northwest) Usha Rangnani had urged the people to maintain peace and clarified that she never stopped the opening of

shops.
"I have never stopped the shops in H and G blocks of th Jahangirpuri from opening. I do not know why these shops are closed. We will facilitate the opening of shops and businesses in these blocks," she underlined.

A majority of shop owners said that they are not opening their establishments as there is no sales due to the barricades.

Akbar, who owns a mobile shop at Kushal Chowk, alleged that he was stopped by police in the morning when he came to open the shop.

'I came in the morning to collect something from the shops, but I was stopped. So I returned home," he said.

Saddam, who runs a shop beside Akbar's, said he was not aware that he can open the

The North Delhi Municipal Corporation on Wednesday conducted a demolition drive in the violence-hit Jahangirpuri area, during which they sent in bulldozers and razed more than 20 temporary shops and kiosks, which was later stopped by the Supreme Court intervention

The area witnessed stone pelting, firing and arson, as members of two communities clashed during the Hanuman Jayanti procession last

'Jahangirpuri residents struggling to make both ends meet due to curbs'

STAFF REPORTER NEW

Trinamool Congress (TMC) MP Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar claimed on Saturday that the residents of Jahangirpuri are struggling to make both ends meet and suffering due to the restrictions in the area in the wake of the clashes last week.

Dastidar, who led an allwomen fact-finding team of the TMC to Jahangirpuri on Friday, alleged residents of Jahangirpuri's C-Block, the epicentre of the April 16 violence, have been "caged" and are not allowed to come out. The TMC claimed that people are "under threat" and living in fear. They also complained of restricted access to water.

All points of entry to the C-Block have been heavily barricaded and security has been beefed up following the clashes. Dastidar said the TMC team managed to enter Jahangirpuri despite the restrictions and spoke to many residents before being stopped by police." Residents of the C-Block have been caged. They could not come out and were also not allowed to speak to us.

There were some children who helped us enter the residential area. Before the police stopped us, we had already met a number of families living there. We also vis-

ited the back lane of the mosque and spoke to people who were present there when the violence took place. We have observed that people are under threat and fear," the TMC leader said.

She said that many of the residents are scrap dealers and unable to earn their daily wage due to the restrictions."We went to extend our support to these residents. We are planning how to help them," Dastidar said.

TMC MP Saugata Roy said

the delegation managed to speak to nearly 200 people in Jahangirpuri. "They will submit a report to West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee by April 24 and after that, the party will take a decision. We are ready to extend help to them (Jahangirpuri residents)," Roy said. In a tweet on Friday, senior TMC leader Aparupa Poddar, who was also part of the party's fact-finding team, alleged they were stopped from meeting residents as the Centre was scared of the truth coming out.

women fact-finding team of @AITCofficial which was sent by @MamataOfficial didi for enquiring about the #Jahangirpuri incident. BJP Govt & Delhi Police is (are) scared of the truth of the violence being exposed if the delegation was allowed to meet the victims," she said.

"Police stopped the all

Court extends custodial interrogation of 5 accused



STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

city court on Saturday Aextended by eight days the custodial interrogation of five persons, booked under the stringent National Security Act in connection with the April 16 Jahangirpuri violence.

Metropolitan Magistrate Mayank Goel sent Ansar, the alleged "main conspirator" behind the violence; Sonu, who was seen in a video opening fire during the clashes Salim, Ahir and Dilshad to further police custody after they were produced before the court on expiry of their earlier cus-

The court, meanwhile, issued non bail able warrants (NBWs) against accused Sanwar Kalia, Saddam Khan, Anwar, Chand and Salman after police said they were absconding. "Eight days PC (police custody) remand of

accused is granted. Accused be produced on May 1 through /C," the court said.

During the arguments, police told the court that all five arrested accused were required for further interrogation and to confront all the co-accused persons with each other.

The police said the accused were required for linking the chain of incident, to ascertain the role of each and every one of them, to find out the source of illegal weapons which were used in the alleged offence and for tracing the other accused persons involved in the

case.
"Sustained interrogation with all the accused person involved in the offence is required," the prosecution told the court. The court also sent four accused - Aksar, Mohd. Ali, Gulam Rasul and Sheikh Hamid - to judicial custody till

Delhi's R-value recorded at 2.1 this week: IIT-Madras the number of COVID-19 Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata,

▼n the wake of Delhi witness $oldsymbol{1}$ ing an increase in the number of Covid-19 cases once again, a new analysis conducted by the IIT-Madras has said that Delhi's R-value was recorded at 2.1 this week.

A preliminary analysis by computational modelling was IIT-Madras' Department of Mathematics and Centre of Excellence for Computational Mathematics and Data Science headed by Prof Neelesh S Upadhye and Prof S Sundar has revealed that Delhi's R-value, which indicates the spread of COVID-19, was recorded at 2.1 this week, implying that every infected person is infecting two others in the national capital.

The 'R' or reproductive value indicates the number of spread the disease to, and a pandemic is considered to end if this value goes below one. Delhi is witnessing an uptick in

cases. The city logged 1,042 fresh Covid cases with a positivity rate of 4.64 per cent on

The report was shared with the PTI and according to it, Delhi's R-value this week was recorded at 2.1. India's R-value, present, stands at 1.3, the analysis found. Asked if it can be deduced

that this is the beginning of the fourth wave of COVID-19 in Delhi, Dr Jayant Jha, Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics, IIT-Madras, said it would be too early to declare an onset of another

"We can only say right now that every person is affecting two others....But we need to wait a bit to declare onset...We don't know about the immunity status and whether the people third wave in January are getting affected or not again," he

For other metro cities —

Jha said the number of cases are too low to ascertain a trend.

The Omicron sub-lineage BA.2.12 has been detected in a majority of the samples sequenced from Delhi in the first fortnight of April and it could be behind the recent surge in COVID-19 cases in the city, sources said on Thursday. However, an Indian SARS-CoV-2 Genomics Consortium (INSACOG) source has claimed that Omicron variant derivative BA.2.12.1 has also been found in a few samples in Delhi which is said to be contributing to the recent rise in cases in the US.

But officials have not confirmed that it indeed was found in some samples in Delhi. An official source said, "New subvariants BA.2.12 (52 per cent samples) and BA.2.10 (11 per found in over 60 per cent of the total samples from Delhi

Capital reports 1,094 fresh cases, two death

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

 $T^{\text{he national Capital on}}_{\text{Saturday reported 1,094}}$ fresh Covid-19 cases and two death, while the positivity rate stood at 4.82 per cent, according to data shared by the health department of the Delhi Government.

According to the health bulletin, the total number of home-isolation cases stand to 2,532. The number of containment zones is 647 on April 23. 'There are 9,489 beds for

Covid patients in Delhi hospitals and 101 (1.06 per cent) of

increased to 1873793 and the death toll has risen to 26,166.



tory at public places with immediate effect, and imposed a fine of Rs 500 for any violation as covid cases rise in the

wheeler are out of the purview of the new rule, according to an order issued by the city's Health

Department.

Coronavirus cases and positivity rate have been on the rise for the past few days in the national capital

Delhi on Friday reported However, those travelling 1042 fresh COVID-19 cases cent, according to data shared by the health department of the

City Govt revokes DPCC's closure notice to hotels

he Delhi Government has **■** revoked the closure notice issued by Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) to 400 hotel owners of Delhi's Paharganj and Karol Bagh area.

The move comes after the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP)MLA from Karol Bagh Vishesh Ravi had written a letter to Delhi's Environment Minister Gopal Rai requesting him to revoke this notice stating closure of these 400 hotels.

Ravi said that he had to intervene in the matter immediately because these hotels tantly, they employ residents from the area who would be distraught and left unemployed if this order came into effect. "On 22nd April, a delega-

tion of the affected hotel owners met the Environment Minister to plead the case. The Environment Minister was very accommodating in his approach and ordered immediate revocation of the said notice. Such quick and apt action shows the citizen-centric mindset of Gopal Rai, for which I thank him whole-

heartedly," said Ravi. "Around 10 hotels had already been sealed by the Sub Divisional Magistrate (SDM) of Karol Bagh after the notice was issued but Gopal Rai underowners and ordered revocation of the previous order, to which the delegation gave a heartfelt standing applause," said Ravi.

Delhi's Ashram road underpass to be opened today has also issued an advisory suggesting the commuters to Sisodia reviews maintenance avoid the stretch due to finish-

In a big relief to commuters using south Delhi's Ashram road, an underpass will open for traffic movement on Sunday. The underpass project has so far missed eight deadlines since the foundation stone laying ceremony by chief minister Arvind Kejriwal in 2019.

Ashram Chowk, where two major projects are being carried out by the government, has become a traffic nightmare for commuters. People passing by get stuck in traffic for hours at any time of the day. The Delhi government's Public Works Department has shut both the carriageways of the underpass for the finishing touches and preparations. The Delhi Police

ing work and the opening the ceremony of the underpass. The four-lane 750 metre underpass connects the Nizamuddin railway bridge and the CSIR Apartments at the busy intersection. The estimated cost of the underpass project is said to be around Rs 78 crores. Last month Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia, who also holds the PWD portfolio, had said the facility will be opened for the public on March 22 but it could not be done because of noncompletion of work. However, the PWD had started the trial run of the facility from March 22. Currently the underpass

remains closed during the night.

works of flyovers in Delhi the repair works and restoration of three

more flyovers of the city

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Delhi's Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia on Saturday reviewed maintenance works of the flyovers in the National Capital. Sisodia also approved the repair works and restoration of three more

flyovers of the city.
Sisodia, who also holds the charge of Public Works Department, during his review visit specifically asked the officials about the regular maintenance measures being taken for the flyovers spread all across

The PWD minister also directed the officials to carry out the maintenance work of flyovers promptly so that commuters do not face any inconvenience. Along with this, the

Sisodia also approved the repair works and restoration of three more flyovers of Delhi.

"There should not be any delay on the PWD's part to carry out the maintenance work. Officials should focus on removing the bottlenecks that cause traffic jams and restrict the smooth movement of the commuters," said Sisodia.

'The three flyovers that have been added to the repairing list include Nangloi flyover, Hanuman Setu flyover and

Mayapuri flyover. The repair work of six main flyovers is already being done in Delhi and the cost of this entire project is Rs 52.35 crore," said a

senior PWD official. "Notably, the flyovers of Delhi are regularly maintained the Public Works Department. However, due to excessive traffic pressure, minor drawbacks occur in flyovers which are maintained by the PWD's repair unit," said the

AAP encroached land outside party office: BJP

he Bharatiya Janata Party The Bharatiya Janata Fally (BJP) on Saturday alleged that the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has illegally encroached the land outside the party office by constructing two tin shed rooms and a kiosk and said that now one can understand that why AAP leaders are so vocal against anti encroachments drive.

The BJP spokesperson Praveen Shakar Kapoor, said that the people of Delhi are surprised to see AAP leaders protest against municipal corporation's drive against encroachment by people of Bangladeshi antecedents in

understand is the reason behind AAP leaders diatribe against anti encroachment drive. "Now as the pictures of massive encroachment on public land outside AAP office have come to light, everyone can understand why AAP sup-ports encroachments on public land," he said.

"People of Delhi want Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal to tell when and how AAP encroached the public land and constructed these two tin sheds and CM should also ask Public Works Department (PWD) officials to pull down these encroachments," he

Ghazipur dump fire: NGT forms joint committee

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The National Green Tribunal has constituted a joint committee headed by former Delhi High Court judge SP Garg in regard to the fire at the garbage dump site at Ghazipur in Delhi and said that the situation in Delhi may be more serious with regard to the size of the garbage dump and its location in a densely populated area. A massive fire erupted at the Ghazipur landfill site on

Wednesday, the third such incident since March 28, sending a dense plume of smoke into the sky and exacerbating the already polluted air in

A bench headed by NGT

Chairperson Justice A K Goel said the dump sites in Delhi and in other cities are like "time bombs" because they constantly generate explosive gases like methane which may escape through vertical and lateral ways posing constant threat of explosion.

"It is a matter of concern

that such incidents are taking place elsewhere also and there is potential for the same wherever legacy waste remains unremediated. It is for this reason that there is a statutory timeline expected to be followed strictly. Situation in Delhi may be more serious having regard to the size of the garbage dump and its location in densely

populated areas," it said.

2 held for killing, dumping body in Northwest Delhi

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Police has arrested two men for allegedly killing a person over a personal issue in northwest Delhi's Karala area and later dumping the victim's naked body at a vacant plot filled with water in Vardhman Enclave near Shiv Vihar, Karala area.

The deceased has been identified as Joginder, a resident of Shiv Vihar while the accused have been identified as Kartik, a resident of Begumpur and Rajkumar, a resident of Baldev Vihar in Karala.

According to Pranav Tayal,

the Deputy Commissioner of

Police (DĆP), Rohini district,

on April 19, a naked dead

body is lying in a vacant plot filled with water in Vardhman Enclave and on enquiry the deceased was identified as

Joginder.

"Accordingly, an First
Information Report (FIR) was
registered under section 302/201/34 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) at Kanjhawala police station. During the investigation, the police arrested two people based on CCTV

footage," said the DCP.
"During questioning,
Kartik revealed that the
deceased had used some inappropriate words for his mother and sister, and in order to take revenge, he, along with Rajkumar, beat the victim up, crushed his face.

permission for protests **STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

DU to students: Take

The Delhi University has I issued a notice asking students to mandatorily take prior permission from the varsity to hold protests. Delhi University proctor Rajni Abbi said the latest notice was issued keeping in view the incidents in the last few days.

Earlier this month, the university had issued an advisory to students to maintain law and order on the campus and focus on preparations for their upcoming exams. "A student told us that he

had been sitting on a hunger

strike for the last four days. We

did not even know it. What do

the student?" she said.

Abbi said they have made it "compulsory" for students to seek permission from the proctor's office for holding protests.

we do if something happens to

"We are not going to deny permission to anyone. There is always a possibility that outsiders might come and do something mischievous. This is also for the safety of the students. We do not want students to destroy university property and that is a new point that we have added which was not there in the earlier notification," she said. Abbi said not only has the notice been posted on the university website, but also sent to student organisations.

BJP man in Ghazipur A man was shot dead by

4 arrested for killing

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police has arrest-L ed four men for allegedly killing a 42-year-old BJP member earlier this week in east Delhi's Ghazipur area.

The accused have been identified as Ujjawal alias Gaurav (26) and Saurabh Kataria (18), residents of Mayur Vihar Phase-III, Raja (22) and Bittu (29), residents of Gharoli

The deceased, identified as Jitender Choudhary alias Jeetu, was the secretary of BJP's Mayur Vihar district unit.

According to police, the incident took place on Wednesday around 9.15 pm.

some unknown persons at Pocket C-1, Mayur Vihar Phase-III. Police reached the spot and found that the blood was lying there, police said.

During enquiry, it was revealed that Chaudhary, a resident of Pocket-C, Mayur Vihar, was shot by some unknown persons and had been taken to the hospital, said Priyanka Kashyap, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), East district.

Police reached Metro Hospital, Noida in Uttar Pradesh where the victim had already been declared brought

Rajnath: India won't hesitate to cross border to punish terrorists

Def Min declares during felicitation ceremony of 1971 war veterans

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI\GUWAHATI

In a tough message to Pakistan, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Saturday said India will not hesitate to cross the border to punish terrorists if the country is targeted from outside

He also said the Armed Forces Special Powers Act(AFSPA)was withdrawn from some north eastern States after the situation improved in the region. Rajnath made these observations at a function in Guwahati where veterans from Assam who fought in the 1971 war with Pakistan were felicitated. Lt Colonel Quazi Sajjad Ali Zahir (Retired), a Bangladeshi veteran of 1971 war, who was awarded with a Padma Shri, was among those present. Some of the veterans of the 1965 war were also in

Speaking on the occasion, Rajnath said the government was working to wipe out ter-



rorism from the country. "India has been successful in giving out the message that terrorism will be strongly dealt with. We will not hesitate to cross borders if the country is targeted from outside," Rajnath

On the situation in the region, he said the eastern boundary of the country is currently experiencing more peace and stability compared to the western frontier(Pakistan), with Bangladesh being a friendly neighbour.

the AFSPA can be removed from there as well, he added. The 1971 war provided India with a strategic advan-tage, Rajnath said adding there has never been any tension on the Indo-Bangladesh border as seen on the western front because Bangladesh has always

experiences on western frontier between the central and states does not exist along eastern governments of the North-east boundary as Bangladesh is a which has ensured peace and friendly country," he noted. stability on the Indo-Bangladesh border and helped "The problem of infiltration has almost ended. There is the region usher into a new era peace and stability at the borof development. der (in the eastern frontier)

On the withdrawal of the

AFSPA, Rajnath said there was

a "public misconception" that

the Army always wanted the

AFSPA to remain in force. "It

is the situation that is respon-

now," the minister said.

On the occasion, Rajnath also released a book 'The Bravehearts of 1971'. Assam Governor Jagdish Mukhi and Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma were among those present during the felicitation cer-

sible for imposition of AFSPA not the Army," he said. The Army wants that the situation

becomes completely normal

in Jammu and Kashmir so that

been India's friendly country

He credited the coordination

Air courier service for paramilitary, IB, NDRF resumes for 4 routes

RAKESH K SINGH

Air courier service for Central paramilitary forces, Intelligence Bureau (IB) and National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) personnel for four routes from the Northeast to Kolkata and Delhi resumed on Saturday. The air courier service from Naxal hit Chhattisgarh to the national capital and vice versa also

resumed during the day. The air courier service for Jammu & Kashmir to the national Capital and vice versa will resume from Sunday and Indigo Airlines has been contracted for provision of the facilitation to the security and intelligence personnel.

The service will be provided by Indigo airlines and it will continue till July 31, 2023.

The air courier service has resumed on the approved routes for the Northeast and Naxal-hit Chhattisgarh, For Jammu and Kashmir it will resume on Sunday.

On the Northeast front, the services will be available for

Kolkata-Agartala-Kolkata route as also for Kolkata-Aizawl -Silchar-Kolkata, Delhi (T-2)-Dibrugarh-Guwahati-Delhi.

For Chhattisgarh, it will be available for Delhi-Raipur-Jagdalpur-Raipur-Jagdalpur-Raipur-Delhi route.

"It is to inform that as per approval received from MHA (Ministry of Home Affairs), now Air Courier Service will be operated by InterGlobe Aviation Ltd (Indigo) Airlines on all approved routes upto 31 July 2023," reads an order of the Administration Directorate of the Border Security Force

BSF is the nodal Force for provision of the Air Courier Service and the order was issued on Thursday.

"It is requested to inform your personnel to utilize optimum allotted seats in Air Courier Service," reads the order circulated to the nodal officers of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Central Industrial Force (CISF) Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB), Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), Assam Rifles (AR),

National Security Guard NSG), Intelligence Bureau

Response Force (NDRF) The services were earlier being provided by Air India but the renewal could not be reached at the old rates after disinvestment of the erstwhile public sector airliner, officials

(IB) and National Disaster

The services were discontinued for a brief spell due nonnegotiation of the facility with Air India and delay in finalization of the same with Indigo Airlines, they added.

The service is being provided to the paramilitary personnel deployed in the Northeast, Jammu and Kashmir besides Naxal-hit Chhattisgarh to reduce their travel time while proceeding to their hometowns for availing

BJP, Cong spar over demolition of temple in poll-bound Rajasthan

PNS NFW DFI HI

The politics over the demolition of a The politics over the demonstration temple in Rajasthan has turned hot in the poll-bound State with the BJP trying to put the Congress Government on the mat over the sensitive issue even as the other side is presenting contrasting "facts"

The BJP State leadership will be meeting Governor Kalraj Mishra to raise its demand for reconstruction of the demolished Shiva temple at Alwar as a fivemember committee constituted by the party to probe the demolition visited Alwar in the state on Saturday and accused the Congress of carrying-out "anti-Hindu

Elections are due in Rajasthan before December 2023. The state BJP committee will prepare

a factual report, and submit it to the Rajasthan BJP chief Satish Poonia.

Addressing a press conference at Jaipur, senior BJP leader and former Union Minister Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore accused the Gehlot government of "appeasement" at the expense of the Hindu sentiments and alleged two temples and a cowshed was demolished in the state at government orders.

He said the state leaders will meet the



governor for the reconstruction of the demolished temples and sought the Ashok Gehlot-led Congress government to "apologize" for their alleged acts.

On the contrary, the Congress leaders have ppintedly alleged that the decision for the demolition of the Alwar temple was taken by the municipal board run by the BIP and claimed that the majority of corporators are from the BJP who voted in favor of the demolition.

It is also reported that according to the Alwar District Magistrate, the decision to demolish the temple was taken after a "consensus" was reached between the two

According to the District Magistrate,

notices were given to all the trespassers personally on April 6, and an announcement was made two days before the antiencroachment drive.

The anti-encroachment drive was carried out on April 17 and April 18, the DM said and that no legal structures were demolished and no protest took place during the demolition drive.

The cowshed demolished was also reportedly constructed illegally in the forest land. A day before BJP's IT cell chief Amit Malviya had attacked the Congress saying "shedding tears on Karauli and Jahangirpuri and hurting the faith of Hindus -- this is the secularism of Congress," he said.

Edible oil prices may surge further as Indonesia bans Palm oil export

This will result in loss of about 4 million tonne of palm oil every month for India

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

 $R_{\text{highs in coming days as Indonesia, the}}^{\text{lising edible oil prices may hit new}}$ world's largest producer of palm oil, has decided to ban exports from April 28. A halt in supplies from Indonesia would mean a loss of about 4 million tonne of palm oil every month for India. India's sunflower oil supplies had halved to nearly 100,000 tonnes per month following the Ukraine war and this could make things worse for households. The edible oil is being sold between Rs 180-260 a kg in the retail markets across India.

Sources in the government said if suddenly, monthly supplies of around 300,000-325,000 tonnes of palm oil stop from May onwards it will cause a sharp escalation in edible oil prices which have been already on the boil due to the ongoing Russia-Ukraine crisis.

A data showed that of the 19 kg of edible oil consumed by an individual in India every year, more than 11 kg comes from imports. Current consumption of edible oil in Îndia is approximately 22 million tons, out of which 13 million tonnes or roughly 59 per cent is imported.

Îndia imports 8 million tonnes of



palm oil from countries such as Malaysia, Indonesia; 3.5 million tons of soybean oil from Argentina, Brazil and USA, and 2 mln tonnes of sunflower oil from Ukraine, Russia and Argentina. Sources in the government said if suddenly, monthly supplies of around 300,000-325,000 tonnes of palm oil stop from May onwards it will cause a sharp escalation in edible oil prices which have been already on the boil due to the ongoing Russia- Ukraine crisis.

Palm oil is used in products from cooking oils to processed foods, cosmetics and biofuels. Ît is the world's most wide-

ly used vegetable oil and is used in the manufacture of many products including biscuits, margarine, laundry detergents and chocolate.Indonesia, on Friday announced plans to ban exports of the most widely used vegetable oil, in a shock move that could further inflame surging global food inflation. The halting of shipments of the cooking oil and its raw material, widely used in products ranging from cakes to cosmetics, could raise costs for packaged food producers globally and force governments to choose between using vegetable oils in food or for biofuel.

Distressed UP, Punjab, Maha farmers fail to benefit from farm loan waivers

Joint study by NABARD, Bharat Krishak Samaj finds that in 3 States 40% farmers did not receive benefit from waiver in place since 2017



Ajoint study conducted by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) in collaboration with the Bharat Krishak Samaj has found that in the three States of Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Maharashtra, which had loan waivers in place since April 2017, almost 40 per cent of 'highly distressed farmers' had not received any benefit from the waivers.

The study, 'Farm loan waivers in India: assess the impact and looking ahead, also found that an average farmer of Punjab borrows four times the amount than his counterparts in Uttar Pradesh (UP) and over five times his counterparts in Maharashtra. The study showed that a marginal farmer in Punjab borrows Rs 3.4 lakh annually, as compared to Rs 84,000 and Rs 62,000 in UP and Maharashtra, respectively.

The study found that only four out of the 21 political parties lost the election following the promise and implementation of farm loan waiver schemes. These parties were the Samajwadi party in Uttar Pradesh, Telugu Desam Party in Telangana, BJP in Maharashtra, and Janata Dal

(Secular) in Karnataka. In the case of Maharashtra in 2019, Shiv Sena was a part of the alliance with the BJP when the loan waiver scheme was

er alliance with the Congress The farm loan waiver scheme was expected to cost the state exchequer Rs. 36,000 crores in UP, making this the largest debt waiver to be declared in the country. About 0.86 crores beneficiaries were initially identified as beneficiaries under the scheme. According to the agricultural

announced. Subsequently, in

October 2019, the BJP did not

form the Government but the

Shiv Sena did as part of anoth-

crores SMFs in the state The study said that Punjab had the highest credit availability per operational land-holding (Rs. 6.84 lakh/hold-ing), followed by Haryana (Rs. 3.44 lakh/holding) and Tamil Nadu (Rs. 2.01 lakh/holding). The eastern Indian states seem to have suffered on this count. The bottom five states in terms of credit availability per landholding were from eastern India - Arunachal Pradesh (Rs.0.08 lakh), Nagaland (Rs.0.09 lakh), Meghalaya

census 2015-16, there are 2.2

(Rs.0.14 lakh) and Manipur (Rs.0.17 lakh). On an average, 50 per cent

(Rs.0.13 lakh), Jharkhand

of the agricultural credit disbursed in a year is accounted for by six states: Rajasthan (6.8 per cent), Kerala (6.9 per cent), Maharashtra (7 per cent), Uttar Pradesh (7.3 per cent), Andhra Pradesh (9.4 per cent) and Tamil Nadu (13.6 per cent).

On the much talked about electoral impact of farm loan waivers, the study found that since 2012, 13 states have implemented loan waiver schemes for farmers. The government must promote a healthy credit culture, invest in farming and address distortion in the agriculture sector instead of waiving farmers' loans irrepective of their distress level, the study report said.

The study revealed that the waivers increased the chances of wilful defaults by farmers (between 68 to 80 per cent respondents in the three states agreed) and the waiver pushed honest farmers to default on agricultural loans (between 72 to 85 per cent of respondents in the three states agreed).

This report makes a case for a deeper analysis and the need to address the structural factors that consistently cause distress to farmers. Loan waivers are considered a onetime solution to farmer distress." Farm loan waivers are expensive; some states fund their waivers by reducing allocations in their capital outlays while others increase their expenditures pushing up their fiscal deficit.

Growing number of political parties are finding it expedient to promise farm loan waivers particularly closer to election time," it said

Modi meets MP CM Shivraj, discusses initiatives in State



Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday met Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan to discuss several issues including holding of Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas in Indore early next year and inauguration of Mahakal Maharaj temple complex in Ujjain besides other governance initiatives of the State government.

"Met MP CM Shri @ChouhanShivraj ji, who discussed the good governance initiatives of the MP Government and how their transformative schemes are bringing a positive change in people's lives," tweeted the Prime Minister after the meet-

On Friday, Chouhan had

hosted Union Home Minister Amit Shah who attended several programmes in the city during his one-day stay.

Chouhan said that "Mahayagya" of good governance, development and public welfare will continue in Madhya Pradesh under the guidance of the Prime Minister.

"Met Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji and informed about the schemes of development and welfare of Madhya Pradesh. The Prime Minister provided his guid-ance on many subjects. Under the guidance of the Prime Minister, the Mahayagya of good governance, development and public welfare will continue in Madhya Pradesh," tweeted.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi Ji always has affection

for Madhya Pradesh. I express my heartfelt gratitude to the Prime Minister for all possible cooperation for the development of the state," he said in

another tweet Issues related to law and order besides the naxal issue, Ken-Betwa river interlinking project and several other matters also figured in their discussion, with Chouhan briefing Modi about the measures taken by his government, sources said.

It was also decided that the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Conference will be held in Indore on January 9 and prior to it, the Global Investor Summit will be held on January 7 and 8. The CM said the Mahakal Maharaj temple complex is ready and the Prime Minister has given his approval to inaugurate it.

My resignation letter permanently with Sonia Gandhi: Gehlot

PNS NEW DELHI/JAIPUR

 $R^{ajasthan\ Chief\ Minister}$ Ashok Gehlot on Saturday said his resignation letter is permanently with Congress president Sonia Gandhi amid speculation that there could be a possible rejig in Rajasthan Congress, ahead of next year's

Speculation around changes in the State government has been doing the rounds following the recent meeting between Congress chief Sonia Gandhi and senior party leader Sachin Pilot in New Delhi.

Gehlot said, "My resignation is permanently with Sonia Gandhi. When Congress decides to change the Chief Minister, no one will get a hint. No deliberation will be done on it [changing CM]. Congress

high command is independent to take decisions and I would appeal to everyone to not pay heed to rumours as it affects governance."
"For the last 2-3 days, there

was talk about changing the chief minister of Rajasthan. This is not right," he added.
"Rumours keep running

in the media and in newspa-pers. You don't have to pay attention to them," Gehlot said during a state-level event of the Rajasthan Revenue Service Council here.Such rumours mislead people and governance is also affected, he said.

"The condition of the Congress should be a matter of concern for the whole country. Common citizens who never vote for the Congress also want the party to be a strong opposition in the country," the chief

Woman allegedly killed by husband in outer north Delhi

STAFF REPORTER ■

A 32-year-old woman was allegedly killed by her husband in outer north Delhi's Budhpur area. Police said that her husband punched and repeatedly smashed her face onto the floor over a trivial issue here.

The victim has been identified as Gudiya Devi, a native of Jharkhand. Devi and her husband Janm Jai Singh (35) were residing in Haryana's Ambala.

According to Brijendra Kumar Yadav, the Deputy

Commissioner of Police (DP), outer north district, on Thursday, the couple arrived at Singh's brother's house in Budhpur to pick up their daughter, who had been living in ter, who had been living in Delhi for the past 15 days. "Singh, who works at a poultry farm in Ambala, wanted to return the same day. However, his wife insisted that they spend the night in Budhpur and travel back the next day. This led to a scuffle between

the couple, and in a fit of anger, Singh punched Devi and smashed her face onto the floor multiple times," said the DCP.

Ukrainian counterattacks slowing Russian offensive in east

 $R^{\text{ussian troops are pressing}}_{\text{their offensive in the eastern}} \\$ Donbas region in an attempt to fully seize Ukraine's industrial heartland but have made little headway as fierce Ukrainian counterattacks have slowed their efforts, Ukrainian and British officials said Saturday. Russia continues to fight for full control of the Donetsk and Luhansk areas that make up the Donbas and seeks to secure "a land route between these territories and the occupied Crimea," including by wiping out the last pocket of resistance in the besieged port city of Mariupol, Ukraine's General Staff said.

Ukrainian forces over the past 24 hours repelled eight Russian attacks in the two regions, destroying nine tanks, 18 armoured units and 13 vehicles, a tanker and three artillery systems, the General Staff said.

"Units of Russian occupiers are regrouping. Russian enemy continues to launch missile and bomb strikes on military and civilian infrastructure," the General Staff said on its Facebook page.

Luhansk Governor Serhiy Haidai said Saturday that two people were killed by Russian shelling in the city of Popasna.

He said an evacuation train for residents of the Donetsk

and Luhansk areas was expect

ed to leave Saturday from the

eastern city of Pokrovsk bound

for the western city of Chop,

near Ukraine's border with

street fighting continues in the

city for several weeks, the

Russian army constantly fires at

multistory residential build-

ings and private houses,'

Haidai wrote on the messaging

dents withstood five enemy

artillery attacks.... Not all sur-

vived," Britain's Ministry of

Defense said despite their

increased activity "Russian forces have made no major

gains in the last 24 hours as

Ukrainian counter-attacks con-

Russia still has not estab-

lished air or sea control due to

Ukrainian resistance, and

tinue to hinder the efforts."

"Just yesterday, local resi-

"In addition to the fact that

Slovakia and Hungary.

app Instagram.

victory in Mariupol, "heavy fighting continues to take place, frustrating Russian attempts to capture the city, thus further slowing their desired progress in the Donbas," the Ministry of Defense said.

Ukrainian officials were trying again Saturday to evacuate women, children and the elderly from Mariupol after many previous attempts failed.

The effort was to get underway at midday "if everything goes according to plan," Deputy Prime Minister Iryna Vereshchuk said on the messaging app Telegram.

Russia has pulled a dozen crack military units from Mariupol to bolster the offensive elsewhere in the Donbas, while other troops continue to keep the remaining Ukrainian troops in the city pinned in the Azovstal steelworks, the last remaining stronghold, Ukrainian officials said.

Putin is said to have ordered his forces not to storm the plant to finish off the defenders but to seal it off instead in an apparent bid to force them to surrender.

Russian forces have been pummelling the 2,000 Ukrainian fighters still holed up inside, the mayor's office reported on Friday.

Sanctions hit Russian economy, although Putin says otherwise

Nearly two months into the Russian-Ukraine war, the Kremlin has taken extraordinary steps to blunt an economic counteroffensive from the West. While Russia can claim some symbolic victories, the full impact of Western sanctions is starting to be felt in very real ways.

As the West moved to cut off Russia's access to its foreign reserves, limit imports of key technologies and take other restrictive actions, the Kremlin launched some drastic measures to protect the economy.

Those included hiking interest rates to as high as 20%, instituting capital controls and forcing Russian business to convert their profits into rubles.

As a result, the value of the ruble has recovered after an initial plunge, and last week the central bank reversed part of its interest rate increase. Russian President Vladimir Putin felt emboldened and proclaimed evoking World War II imagery that the country had withstood the West's "blitz" of sanc-

"The government wants to



paint a picture that things are not as bad as they actually are," said Michael Alexeev, an economics professor at the University of Indiana, who studied Russia's economy in its transition after the collapse of the Soviet Union.

A closer look, however, shows that the sanctions are taking a bite out of Russia's

The country is enduring its worst bout of inflation in two decades. Rosstat, the state's economic statistic agency, said inflation last month hit 17.3%, the highest level since 2002. By comparison, the International Monetary Fund expects consumer prices in developing countries to rise 8.7% this year, up from 5.9% last year.

Ukraine: Russians shift elite units to new battleground

 $R^{\mathrm{ussia}\,\mathrm{shifted}\,\mathrm{a}\,\mathrm{dozen}\,\mathrm{crack}}_{\mathrm{units}\,\mathrm{from}\,\mathrm{the}\,\mathrm{shattered}}$ port of Mariupol to eastern Ukraine and pounded away at cities across the region, Ukrainian authorities said Friday, as the two sides hurtled toward what could be an epic battle for control of the counindustrial heartland.

Russian state TV showed the Russian flag raised on what it said was Mariupol's highest point, the city's TV tower. It also showed what it said was the tallest building at Mariupol's besieged Azovstal steel plant in flames.

The Kremlin has thrown over 100,000 troops and mercenaries from Syria and Libya into the fighting in Ukraine and is deploying more forces in the country every day, said Oleksiy Danilov, secretary of Ukraine's National Security and Defence Council.

We have a difficult situation, but our army is defending

UN SG Guterres to meet President Putin, Zelenskyy

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres will meet Russian President Vladimir Putin and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy next week, as he steps up diplomatic efforts to "silence the guns" in Ukraine.

Guterres will visit Moscow where on April 26 he will have a working meeting and lunch with Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and will be received by President Vladimir Putin," Eri Kaneko, Associate Spokesperson for the Secretary-General said on Friday.

The visit comes two months after Russia's invasion of neighbouring Ukraine. Over five million people have fled the east European country, and thousands have been killed since Russia launched a 'special military operation' against Ukraine on February 24.

"Next week, I will meet with President Vladimir Putin in Russia and President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in Ukraine," tweeted.

Mariupol plant survivors long to see sun as Russia eyes east

Women and children sheltering inside a steel plant in the shattered Ukrainian port city of Mariupol said they longed to see the sun, according to a video released on Saturday, as Russian troops pressed their offensive in the Donbas region against fierce resistance.

The Azov Regiment of Ukraine's National Guard, which has members holed up in the Azovstal steel plant along with other soldiers and civilians, released footage of around two dozen women and children, some of whom said they had been in the mill's underground tunnels for two months. The regiment's deputy commander Sviatoslav Palamar told The Associated Press the video was shot on Thursday.

The contents could not be independently verified.

Lankan PM dismisses calls for forming interim Govt

PTI ■ COLOMBO

Sri Lankan Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa on Saturday dismissed calls by protesters to form an interim government to tackle the unprecedent economic crisis in the country, saying such political formations have no use "when people with varying policies can't see eye to

Thousands of demonstrators have hit the streets since April 9, as the government ran out of money for vital imports; prices of essential commodities have skyrocketed and there are acute shortages in fuel, medicines and electricity

Speaking to Radio station 'Neth FM', the prime minister said: "What use of interim governments when people with varying policies can't see eye to



eye? There has to be accord which is not possible. If there is a need for an interim government it should happen only under my leadership.

Anti-government protesters in Sri Lanka are demanding the resignation of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, Prime Minister Mahinda as they blame government policies for the forex crisis.

Commenting on the economic crisis, Rajapaksa, 77, said, "People need to show patience to face it (the economic crisis). They can keep on they don't want to have

Last week, the ruling dispensation reached out to the Opposition parties and protesters for talks, but all efforts were rebuffed as the agitators said they want the govern-

The prime minister said he wasn't aware personally of anyone calling for his stepping

"Even if there are demands for my resignation, it would not be from the majority, it will be from a minority group who wouldn't know the political history of the country," he

A group of over 40 Parliamentarians from the ruling coalition have declared independence, urging the formation of an interim government comprising all political

Nepal to mobilise nearly 1,68,000 security personnel during local polls

PTI ■ KATHMANDU

Nepal government is planning to mobilise a total of 168,000 security personnel from various agencies to ensure security during the upcoming May 13 local level elections.

There will be a three-tier security system in place during the local election, according to Accordingly, Nepal's secu-

rity apparatus has come to the fore with the necessary security strategy to ensure that local elections are held in a free, fair,

As per the strategy, the Nepal police will be in the first circle of election security, the armed police force in the second circle, and the Nepal Army in the third circle. According to the Ministry

of Home Affairs, the security

mechanism has been mobilised by formulating an integrated as well as separate strategic security plan for the security agencies to conduct the election in a fearless and peaceful

During the upcoming election, Nepal police will mobilise more than 65,000 personnel, while 71,000 personnel of the Nepal Army and 32,000 from the armed police force will be deployed.

The Nepal police have formulated an election security strategy to create a peaceful and fearless voting environment, according to Nepal Police Spokesperson Senior Superintendent of Police Bishnukumar KC.

Similarly, the National Investigation Department will also be mobilised to support the security agencies in performing their duties.

A total of 10,756 polling stations and 21,955 polling booths have been set up for the Accordingly, the govern-

ment has categorised 2,946 polling stations as highly sensitive, 4,423 as sensitive, and 3,387 as less sensitive. According to Nepal Army sources, the army teams will be

deployed at various polling

stations and is also responsible for the transportation of ballot papers and security of ballot Spokesperson of the Armed Police, Deputy Inspector General (DIG) Bidur Khadka said 32,000 armed

police personnel have been prepared for the election secu-

Some have already been deployed and some are preparing to be sent on election

US Parliamentary delegation calls on Nepal PM Deuba, discusses bilateral ties ment of the multidimensional

PTI ■ KATHMANDU

US Congressional delega-Ation led by Senator Kirsten Gillibrand paid a courtesy call on Nepal's Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba on Saturday and exchanged views on various aspects of bilateral relations, including on institutionalising democracy. Prime Minister Deuba thanked the US Congress for its continued support to Nepal, specially during the difficult times of the 2015 earthquakes and the recent COVID-19 pandemic, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said in a statement here.

"During the meeting, the two sides exchanged views on various aspects of Nepal-United States relations and cooperation.

Both sides underscored the importance of parliamentary interactions for the enrich-

Nepal-US friendship," it said. Views were also exchanged

on institutionalising democracy and cooperation in climate change, the statement said.

Earlier, the visiting US delegation called on Foreign Affairs Minister Narayan Khadka, during which he appreciated the longstanding US cooperation on Nepal's development endeavours and expressed hope that the visit by the US delegation to the Himalayan nation will contribute to further strengthening the bilateral relations.

"The US congressional delegation reaffirmed the commitment to working closely with Nepal on the matters of common interests," it said.

The discussion covered mat ters relating to agriculture and food security as well as Nepal's role in the UN peacekeeping.

US military drops appeal of Hawaii order to drain fuel tanks

AP ■ HONOLULU (US)

The US government has I dropped its appeals of a Hawaii order requiring it to remove fuel from a massive military fuel storage facility that leaked petroleum into the Navy's water system at Pearl Harbour last year.

Attorneys for the US Department of Defence notified the state and federal courts of its decision. The move comes more than a month after Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin said the military would permanently shut down the tanks and drain all of their fuel.

The Hawaii Department of Health, which issued the order, said the decision regarding the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility was a "step forward". "While today's announce-

ment is good news, the work continues," the department said

in a statement. It said it would continue to act expeditiously and proactively to oversee the safe defueling and decommissioning of Red Hill and restoration of the aquifer." David Henkin, an attorney

for Earthjustice which is representing the Sierra Club of Hawaii as an interested party in the case said his clients would the tanks are promptly defueled.

gift to the people of Hawaii and in particular to all the residents of Oahu who depend on safe, clean drinking water when they turn on their tap," Henkin

Department of Health did not immediately respond to messages seeking comment.

were to change his mind and try to keep the tanks open, the

they need to follow".

from the tanks 30 days after it's

stick to this deadline now that it's dropping the appeal, Henkin said

department and the US Environmental Protection Agency, is currently developing plans to safely remove the fuel. It's uncertain how long this will take. Sen. Brian Schatz, a Democrat from Hawaii, said in a statement that the dropping of the lawsuit "paves the way for us to shut down Red Hill this

Tour boat with 26

missing in Japan

after distress call

tour boat with 26 people

Atour boat with 20 people aboard was missing in

rough waters off northern

Japan on Saturday after issuing

a distress call and reporting to

be sinking, the coast guard said.

found after more than seven

hours of an intense search

involving six patrol boats and

an emergency call in early

afternoon, saying the ship's bow had flooded and was

beginning to sink and tilt when

it was traveling off the western

coast of Shiretoko Peninsula in

the northern island of

Hokkaido, the coast guard said.

contact, it said. It was carrying

24 passengers and two

The tour boat has since lost

No survivors have been

The 19-ton Kazu 1 made

AP ■ TOKYO

four aircraft.

The legal challenge made it hard for the state to work cooperatively with the Defence Department, Schatz said. He said he pushed hard for the military to make this decision.

Red Hill tanks into a Navy drinking water well late last year, sickening 6,000 people mostly living in military housing. Medical teams treated people complaining of nausea, headaches, rashes and other symptoms. The military put about 4,000 families in hotels for several months while it

cleaned its water pipes. The tanks also pose a threat to water consumed by 400,000 on Oahu. That's because they sit 30 metres above an aquifer that serves the Honolulu Board of Water Supply, the city's water utility, in addition to the Navy's water

AP WARSAW

Coal mining authorities in Poland said Saturday that

contact has been lost with 10

miners following a powerful

underground tremor and methane gas discharge at the Borynia-Zofiowka mine in the

The accident at 3:40 a.M. Saturday occurred some 900

accident in just four days in the

coal mining region around the town of Jastrzebie-Zdroj, near

It was the second colliery

Prime Minister Mateusz

Morawiecki said on Twitter

that this was "devastating news

south of the country.

metres underground.

the Czech border.

10 miners missing

after tremor at 2nd

strike Pakistan army

t least three Pakistani sol-Saturday

border in the Dewagar area of North Waziristan, to which the Pakistan troops "responded in a befitting manner," the army statement said.

"As per credible intelli-gence reports, due to firing from our own troops, the terrorists suffered heavy casualties," it said.

"Pakistan strongly con-

demns the use of Afghan soil by terrorists for activities against Pakistan and expects that [the] Afghan government will not allow conduct of such activities in [the] future," it added. No militant outfit has so far claimed responsibility for

There has been a substantial rise in the number of such attacks in this region over the last two months.

Earlier this month seven Pakistani soldiers were killed after their vehicle was ambushed by militants in Datakhel tehsil of North Waziristan district, the Dawn newspaper reported quoting Pakistan's Ministry of Foreign

could not be higher.

WHAT WOULD THEY DO ABOUT UKRAINE?

role in international talks on supporting Ukraine amid war and imposing sanctions on Russia. His prominence on the international stage at the beginning stages of the race gave him an initial poll bump but impeded his ability to campaign effectively.

it sent 100 million euros in weapons to Ukraine since the Russian invasion and Macron vows to continue this support and "significantly" reinforce European armed forces' capacities and cooperation.

He has supported sanctions against Russia and EU unity on the issue, and likens the presidential vote to a "referendum on Europe", claiming that his rival wishes to trigger a "Frexit" in all but name.

vated ties with Moscow, receiving a loan of 9 million euros from a Russian bank in 2014 and meeting with Putin in 2017. She acknowledged that Russia's invasion of Ukraine "partially" changed her views about Putin, saying he was

able". She says she supports the Ukrainian people and refugees

must be welcomed. Le Pen is sceptical about supplying weapons to Ukraine, opposed to oil and gas sanctions, and wary of NATO, wanting France to remain a member but with a reduced role. Le Pen is no longer calling for a referendum on leaving the EU or withdrawal from

WHAT ABOUT THE ECONOMY?

A former economist and banker, Macron has championed startups and promises "full employment".

The jobless rate decreased during his 2017-2022 term to its lowest level in a generation. Some voters dub him "president of the rich" for abolishing a wealth tax and some of his comments about the poor.

He wants to progressively

raise the retirement age from 62 to 65, boost the minimum monthly pension, and raise teachers' wages. He wants companies to be able to give employees an

untaxed bonus of up to 6,000 pounds and has spent billions capping energy bills.

Le Pen has tapped into frustration among working class voters over inflation, and

promises to cut taxes on energy and essential goods. She wants to maintain the minimum retirement age at 62 and proposes that anyone who began working at 20 can retire

She wants companies to

increase salaries by 10 per cent, and to raise teachers' salaries over the next five years. She claims she could fund this by slashing "massive immi-

Israeli restrictions on 'Holy Fire' ignite Christian outrage

hristians were celebrating Uthe "Holy Fire" ceremony at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem on Saturday against a backdrop of rising tensions with Israel, which imposed new restrictions on attendance this year that it said were needed for

vent another disaster after a crowd stampede at a packed Jewish holy site last year left 45 people dead. Christian leaders say there's no need to alter a ceremony that has been held for centuries. In the dense confines of

İsrael says it wants to pre-

Jerusalem's Old City, where Jews, Christians and Muslims must share their holiest sites -

remain vigilant to make sure 'It's a wonderful Earth Day

The Navy and the Hawaii

Henkin said even if Austin

even small changes can cause

week of clashes between

Palestinians and Israeli police

at the nearby Al-Aqsa Mosque

compound, the third holiest

site in Islam. It stands on a hill-

top that is the holiest site for

Jews, who refer to it as the

Christian and Muslim holidays

have converged against a back-

drop of renewed Israeli-

Palestinian violence. Tensions

have soared as tens of thou-sands of people flock to Jerusalem's Old City to visit

some of the holiest sites for all

three faiths for the first time

since the lifting of pandemic

This year major Jewish,

The city has already seen a

prophetic angst.

Temple Mount.

military will now face "an enforceable, unimpeachable, unchallengeable order from the Department of Health that

The order from the Hawaii Department of Health requires the military to remove fuel The military will have to

The military, with over-sight from the state health

Petroleum leaked from the

post, kill 3 soldiers

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

Adiers were killed after militants from across the border in Afghanistan fired indiscriminately at their military check post, the Pakistan Army said on

The militants opened fire from across the Afghanistan

coal mine in Poland prayers are with those missing and their relatives.

> Repeat methane blasts since Wednesday at the nearby Pniowek mine have killed five and left seven missing and injured dozens. The search for those missing there was suspended Friday after new blasts injured seven rescuers.

Both mines are operated by the Jastrzebska Spolka Weglowa, or The company said that 52 workers were in the area of the

tremor at the Borvnia-Zofiowka mine and 42 of them were unhurt and were able to leave the shaft on their A 12-team rescue opera-

again" from the mining tion has been launched for the He said his thoughts and

kills eight in Sudan's Darfur

Sudan's war-ravaged Darfur region killed at least eight people, including a woman and a child, said an aid worker and activists on Saturday. The clashes erupted on Thursday with the killing of two people by an unknown assailant around the Kreinik area of West Darfur province, said Adam Regal, the spokesman for the General Coordination for Refugees and Displaced in Darfur charity.

Aid group says tribal violence

Tribal violence between

■ Arabs and non-Arabs in

AP ■ CAIRO

The following day, militias known as janjaweed attacked a camp for displaced people just to the south of Kreinik, burning down dozens of houses and forcing large numbers of peo-

Militants in Afghanistan | France's two presidential contenders: Who's proposing what

Tt's crunch time for voters in France as incumbent President Emmanuel Macron, a centrist, is meeting far-right nationalist Marine Le Pen of the National Rally at the ballot

dential vote. With foreign policy an issue as war ravages Europe's east, along with worries over inflation in one of the world's biggest economies, the stakes

box for Sunday's final presi-

Here's a look at their key

Macron has played a key

Macron's government says

Le Pen has for years culti-

"wrong" and it was "unaccept-

at 60. She wants to raise the minimum pension, and end income tax for under-30s.

India gives Sri Lanka additional \$500 mn credit to purchase fuel

Colombo: India has agreed to extend an additional USD 500 million credit line to help Sri Lanka import fuel, Finance Minister Ali Sabry said, amid delays in chalking out a bailout package with the IMF to mitigate the dire financial crisis facing the island nation.

Sri Lanka has been struggling to pay for imports after its foreign exchange reserves plummeted sharply in recent times, causing a devaluation of its currency and spiralling inflation.

"India has agreed to provide an additional USD 500 million for our fuel imports, Sabry said on Friday, while adding that he was hopeful that New Delhi would consider handing out another USD 1 billion dollars as a credit line.

India has already agreed to defer USD 1.5 billion in import payments that Sri Lanka needs to make to the Asian Clearing

On Friday, New Delhi has also extended the tenure of a USD 400 million swap given in January this year, the Indian High Commission said.

Sabry is currently in Washington to negotiate a programme with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The finance minister said that talks have begun on an Extended Fund Facility, but the finer details of the programme are yet to be finalised.



USD 4 billion to tide over its mounting economic woes, and Sabry has been holding talks with international institutions such as the World Bank as well as countries like China and Japan financial

"It will be a difficult period in the next nine months. During that time there is a need to bring in more investments in US dollars into the central

We are talking with several countries. If these efforts are successful, and if investment of about USD 2 billion comes to the central bank, it will help

stop the depreciation and stabilise the rupee," Sabry said.

On April 12, Sri Lanka suspended its debt servicing for the first time in its history.

Last week, the Sri Lankan government said it would temporarily default on USD 35.5 billion in foreign debt as the pandemic and the war in Ukraine made it impossible to make payments to overseas

Sri Lanka has been witnessing mass anti-government protests in recent weeks as it suffers food shortages, soaring fuel prices and major power cuts due to the unprecedented financial crisis.

Govt to release framework on non-personal data use in 10 days: Ashwini Vaishnaw

New Delhi: The government is planning to create public digital platforms in partnership with the industry and will release a framework within 10 days comprising the use of non-personal data for providing better service to people, Communications and IT minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said on Saturday.

While speaking at a CII conference, Vaishnaw said he is working to make the telecom industry a sunrise sector and bring it out from the current state of a continuous tussle with various stakeholders, including regulators and law-makers. "Government is now planning to create public digital platforms on the lines of UPI, Cowin. Such digital platforms will then be opened up to the start up community and industry. Please come, create your consumer-facing applications.

Grow with us. "We provide you the solid base. For that we have formulated a National Data Framework. That data framework based on feedback that we have should be uploaded within a week's or 10 day timeframe," Vaishnaw said.

The government in February had floated a draft India Data Accessibility and Use Policy 2022 which aims to enhance 'access, quality, and use of data, in line with the current and emerging technology needs of the decade

When asked about the expectation from the proposed next round of reforms in the telecom sector, the minister said he wants to make it a sunrise industry.

"We will make sure that the telecom industry, which is the primary source for consuming digital services and which is a driver of the digital services and driver of digitisation specially of MSME sector, has to be cheap. It has to be low cost. It has to be reliable at a low cost," Vaishnaw

He said that the govern-ment is focussing on things to make sure that telecommunications becomes a vibrant industry. "It becomes a sunrise industry. Not an industry which is struggling. Not an industry which is continuously fighting with the stakeholders, whether it be courts or the government or the regulator but rather working all of us together to reach out the least person in the society," Vaishnaw said. He said that the government is making efforts on every basic thing that is required to drive growth.

The minister said that the government is making efforts to establish a semiconductor ecosystem in the country which is going to be the foundation stone for a number of industries in the coming days.

Torrent Power to acquire 50 MW solar plant from SkyPower Group

New Delhi: Torrent Power has inked a share purchase pact to acquire 100 per cent equity in a 50 MW solar plant of SkyPower Group at an enterprise value of Rs 417

Torrent Power Ltd has entered into a Share Purchase Agreement (SPA) with SkyPower Southeast Asia III Investments Limited and SkyPower Southeast Asia Holdings 2 Limited (the Sellers) for the acquisition of 100 per cent securities of Sunshakti Solar Power Projects Private Ltd (the SPV special purpose vehicle).

The SPV operates a 50 MW Solar Power Project in the state of Telangana.

Long-term Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) for the Project is with Northern Power Distribution Company of Telangana Limited (NPDĆTL) for a period of 25 years at a fixed tariff of approx Rs 5.35 per kWh, with remaining useful life of about 20

The enterprise value for this acquisition is around Rs 417 crore, subject to closing price adjustments, if any, the company said in a statement. The acquisition is further subject to customary conditions for transaction clo-

ICICI Bank Q4 profit surges by 59% to ₹7,019 cr

New Delhi: Private sector lender ICICI Bank on Saturday reported a 59 per cent jump in standalone net profit to Rs 7,019 crore for the fourth quarter of FY2021-22.

The bank had earned a profit of Rs 4,403 crore in the corresponding January-March quarter of the last year.

The total income of the bank rose to Rs 27,412 crore in the January-March period from Rs 23,953 crore in the year-ago quarter, ICICI Bank said in a regulatory filing.

Net interest income (NII) increased by 21 per cent to Rs 12,605 crore from Rs 10,431 crore in the same quarter a year ago, it said.

On a consolidated basis, ICICI Bank Group net profit jumped by 58 per cent to Rs 7,719 crore in the March quarter from Rs 4,886 crore in the last quarter of 2020-21.

The bank's asset quality improved as the gross non-performing assets fell to 3.60 per cent of the gross advances as of March 31, 2022, from 4.96 per cent in the corresponding period a year ago.

The net NPAs also declined to 0.76 per cent from 1.14 per cent at the end of the fourth quarter of the previous financial year. As a result, provisions

other than tax and contingencies for the quarter declined to Rs 1,069 crore, from Rs 2,883 crore a year earlier.

Provision Coverage Ratio (PCR) as at the end of thirdquarter stood at 79.2 per cent,

The board recommended a dividend of Rs 5 per equity share of face value of Rs 2 each, subject to requisite approvals, it said.

The net interest margin was 4 per cent in fourth quarter compared to 3.84 per cent in same quarter a year ago.

For the entire financial

year 2021-22, the profit grew by 44 per cent to Rs 23,339 crore from Rs 16,193 crore in the year ended March 31, 2021.

The bank's total capital adequacy at March 31, 2022 was 19.16 per cent and Tier-1 capital adequacy was 18.35 per cent compared to the minimum regulatory requirements of 11.70 per cent and 9.70 per

cent respectively, it said. The bank approved the appointment of Rakesh Jha as a wholetime director (designated as Executive Director) subject to regulatory approvals for a period of five years effective from May 1, 2022 or the date of approval of his appointment by RBI, it said.

Jha was designated the Deputy Chief Financial Officer of ICICI Bank in May 2007 and Chief Financial Ófficer in October 2013. Currently, Rakesh is the Group Chief Financial Officer of ICICI Bank. The Board also took on record the resignation of Vishakha Mulye, Executive Director with effect from May 31, 2022, consequent to her decision to pursue career opportunities outside the ICICI Group, it said.

Sundram Fasteners reports standalone Q4 net at ₹71.41 cr



Ltd., engaged in manufacturing of auto components, on Saturday said the standalone net profit was at Rs 71.41 crore for the fourth quarter ending March 31, 2021. The city-based TVS Group

company had registered standalone net profit at Rs 130.02 crore during corresponding

Net profit for the year ending March 31, 2022 was at Rs 407.46 crore, as against Rs 328.14 crore recorded last fiscal, Sundram Fasteners said in The revenue from opera-

tions for the quarter under review stood at Rs 1,146.44 crore, as against Rs 1,079.25 crore registered in the corresponding period last year. For the year ending March 31, 2022, the revenue from operations was at Rs 4,172.57 crore as compared to Rs 3,065.03 crore registered last year same period.

Sales from exports during the January-March 2022 quar-ter grew to Rs 366.01 crore, as against Rs 337.21 crore recorded in same period last fiscal.

Export sales for the year ending March 31, 2022 went up to Rs 1,421.09 crore, as against Rs 1,009.71 crore recorded in same period last fiscal.

In a statement, Sundram Fasteners Ltd said the company incurred Rs 146 crore towards capital expenditure as

Innovation key to build successful business: Mariwala edible oil and so on, he stated

Mumbai: Constant innovation and creating a culture that encourages new ideas are key to building a successful business, Marico founder and chairman Harsh Mariwala said

"I realised the importance of innovation 20 years back... When I look back at our brands, they all have something different which has succeeded in the market.. So, if you to succeed in the marketplace you have to you innovate, not just to launch a product but also on a perpetual basis, because it is a matter of time others will start copying you," Mariwala said at a session organised by the Centre of Family Business and Entrepreneurship, SPJIMR.

In a product like the Parachute, Marico constantly innovated in its packaging, Safola was a pioneer in healthy

"My belief in innovation is very high and that's why we started the Marico Innovation Foundation. I think, if India has to succeed, innovation has to play a very important role," he noted. However, Mariwala said it is difficult to create a culture of innovation in businesses and it is the leadership to ensure that people in the organisation experiment and take risks and

remove the fear of failure. "To create a culture of innovation, where everybody in the organisation is thinking about new ways of doing things not only at the manufacturing end but at all departments. To create a culture of innovation you need talent, diversity as it brings in great ideas, an open culture where one can communicate ideas", Mariwala

Finance Minister invites US varsities to start Op at IFSC

Washington: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday interacted with the representatives of 14 distinguished US universities and invited them to set up foreign universities/institutions at the International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) in

Budget 2022-23 permitted setting-up of world-class foreign universities in Gandhinagar's GIFT City, free from domestic regulations, to facilitate the availability of skilled manpower in the "Recognising the inherent potential of the IFSC, the Budget announcement paved the way for allowing world-class foreign

universities to offer courses in Financial Management, FinTech, Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics in @GIFTCity_IFSC," a tweet from the Finance Ministry said. "Union Finance Minister Smt. @nsitharaman interacted via VC with several distinguished US universities to explore the

opportunity of setting up foreign universities/institutions in @GIFTCity_IFSC, which was an announcement made in Union Budget 2022," another tweet said. Key advantages for US universities include 100 per cent for-

eign ownership with no restriction on repatriation of profits, no domestic law will apply, regulatory ease through unified regulator IFSCA, and opportunity to collaborate with Indian students, faculty and financial industry, she said during the virtual meet-

Twitter bans ads that contradict science on climate change

Berlin: Twitter says it will no longer allow advertisers on its site who deny the scientific consensus on climate change, echoing a policy already in place at Google. "Ads shouldn't detract from important conversations about

the climate crisis," the company said in a statement outlining its There was no indication that the change would affect what users post on the social media site, which along with Facebook

has been targeted by groups seeking to promote misleading claims about climate change. The announcement coinciding with Earth Day came hours before the European Union agreed a deal requiring big tech com-

panies to vet their sites more closely for hate speech, disinformation and other harmful content. Twitter said it would provide more information in the com-

ing months on how it plans to provide "reliable, authoritative context to the climate conversations" its users engage in, including from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate

Sufficient coal in country, stocks getting replenished on daily basis: Coal Minister

New Delhi: Coal Minister Pralhad Joshi on Saturday said there is sufficient coal availability in the country as 72.50 million tonnes (MT) of dry fuel is available at different sources and 22 MT at thermal power

The capital expenditure

was incurred to augment capacities for meeting the increase in the volume of busi-

ness in tandem with the pro-

duction plans of key customers, it said. *PTI*

The minister asserted that available coal stocks will last for a month and availability is getting replenished on a daily basis with record production. Joshi said that at present 72.50 MT of coal is available at

different sources of Coal India Ltd (CIL), Singareni Collieries Company Ltd (SCCL) and coal washeries among others.

According to the government's provisional data, the total coal production during FY2021-22 was at 777.23 MT compared to 716 MT in FY21, recording a growth of 8.55 per cent, the coal ministry said in accounts for over 80 per cent of



a statement.

duction went up by 4.43 per cent to 622.64 MT in FY'22 from 596.24 MT in FY'21. SCCL registered a growth of 28.55 per cent to 65.02 MT in FY'22 over 50.58 MT in FY'21.

At the same time, coal production of captive mines has increased to 89.57 MT. During FY'21 it was only 69.18

Coal India Ltd (CIL) pro-

Total coal dispatch during FY'22 increased by 18.43 per

cent to 818.04 MT against

690.71 MT in FY'21.CIL

Reliance calls off ₹24,713-cr deal with Future

after secured creditors gives a thumbs down

tions, of listed entities - Future

Retail, Future Enterprises,

Future Lifestyle Fashion Ltd,

Future Market Networks and

Future Consumer -- could not

get the mandatory 75 per cent

Heat waves across several parts of India, the consequent increase in power demand, and fears of a coal shortage have triggered planned blackouts in many states in the country, including Maharashtra

Union Minister Raosaheb Danve said there was enough coal for supply to power plants and alleged that the Maharashtra government was busy blaming the Centre instead of providing electricity to citizens.

Maharashtra Energy Minister Nitin Raut had earlier said that load shedding in the state was a result of increase in electricity demand relaxation of the COVID-19 curbs, and blamed the Centre for poor management of

India to host accountants World | Bridgestone India launches its first tyre store in Noida Cong for the first time in 118 yrs While 6000 delegates "It is a proud moment for ICAI that from across the globe will

it has been able to host the World **Congress for the first time in 118** years of its existence. We were successful in outbidding France in this round," Mitra said.

Kolkata: Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) is set to host 21st World Congress of Accountants (WCOA), the kumbh of accountants, for the first time in 118 years of its existence, ICAI president Debashis Mitra said on Saturday.

The event will be held from November 18 to 21 after outbidding France.

About 6000 top accountants from 130 countries will participate in the programme

opposed by global e-com-

merce major Amazon, on

grounds that the deal violated

physically. The event will take place in newly built Jio World Convention Centre in Mumbai, he said.

"It is a proud moment for ICAI that it has been able to host the World Congress for the first time in 118 years of its existence. We were successful in outbidding France in this round," Mitra said.
The WCOA, a forum for

thought leadership and global exchange of views, is held every four years since it started in 1904.

to join in virtually, Mitra, The theme this time

would be 'Building Trust would be Bunung Enabling Sustainability', he PTI

another 10000 are expected

Noida: Bridgestone India, a global leader in tyres and rubber providing solutions for safe and sustainable mobility, launched in Uttar Pradesh its first walk-through educative tyre store that helps customer make an directly attend the WCOA, informed choice on tyre purchase

its first tyre store in Noida

and related services. The Select Plus concept store in Main Hoshiarpur Road, Sector 51, Noida addresses a long felt need of customers to have a better understanding of tyre selection and its maintenance.

PUBLIC NOTICE

In the Court of Sh. Shirish Aggarwal

Administrative Civil Judge-cum-ARC

(Central) Delhi- 110054.

Smt. Taruna Sharma Vs. State & Ors.

Smt. Taruna Sharma W/o Sh. Jignesh D/

Late Sh. Suraj Prasad Sharma, R/o H.No.

6/65, Third Floor, Geeta Colony, Delhi

FOR SUCCESSION CERTIFICATE UNDER

Also At: H.No. 12(A), Parda Bagh,

N.D.O.H.23.05.2022

NOTICE

Smt. Nirmal Arora has resigned from partnership firm M/s. AKG Ventures: K-20, Udyog Nagar, Peeragarhi, Rohtak Road, Delhi-110041 on closing of 31.03.2022 and the continuing partner Smt. Anupam Kaur has admitted Mr. Kanwarjeet Singh as Partner in the firm w.e.f. 01.04.2022

In the Court of Sh. Shirish Aggarwal Administrative Civil Judge-cum-ARC (Central) Delhi- 110054

SC. No. 71/2022 N.D.O.H.23.05.2022 Smt. Taruna Sharma Vs. State & Ors

Late Sh. Suraj Prasad Sharma, R/o H.No. 6/65, Third Floor, Geeta Colony, Delhi

Also At: H.No. 12(A), Parda Bagh,

FOR SUCCESSION CERTIFICATE UNDER

Whereas in the above noted petition the applicant/petitioner has applied for Succession Certificate to the Hon'ble Court Under Section 372 of the Indian debt and securities amount of Rs. xxx. As per record to be standing in the name of Late Sh. Suraj Prasad Sharma deceased. Whereas the 23.05.2022 at 10'o clock

in the forenoon has been fixed for hearing or the application notice is hereby given to

Whereas in the above noted petition the applicant/petitioner has applied for Court Under Section 372 of the Indian

Whereas the 23.05.2022 at 10'o clock in the forenoon has been fixed for hearing this concerned.

listed companies involved in the scheme have intimated the results of the voting on the scheme of arrangement by their shareholders and creditors at their respective meet-

New Delhi: Almost 21 months . The secured creditors of FRL have voted against the after signing an agreement for a Rs 24,713-crore deal with Kishore Biyani-led Future Group to acquire its retail, wholesale, logistics and warehousing assets, Reliance Industries Ltd on Saturday said the transaction cannot go ahead as secured creditors of the latter have voted against it. In a regulatory filing, Reliance said Future Group companies comprising Future Retail Limited (FRL) and other Lifestyle Ltd (RRFLL).

scheme. In view thereof, the subject scheme of arrangement cannot be implemented," said RIL, while updating on the scheme of arrangement for the transfer of retail and wholesale business and the logistics and warehousing business of Future Group to its subsidiary Reliance Retail Ventures Ltd (RRVL) and Reliance Retail and Fashion

The Future Group companies had called meetings of their shareholders, secured and unsecured creditors this week to get the approval of the scheme of amalgamation and sale of assets as per the deal



Though, the shareholders of the listed entities had supported the deal with Reliance. The meetings were

opposed by e-commerce giant Amazon, which in 2019, had picked up a 49 per cent stake in Future Coupons Pvt Ltd (FCPL), a promoter firm of In August 2020, Future

Group announced the Rs 24,713-crore deal to sell 19 companies operating in retail, wholesale, logistics and warehousing segments to Reliance Retail Ventures Ltd RRVL is the holding com-

pany of all the retail companies

The deal was vehemently

under the RIL Group.

its 2019 agreement through which it acquired a 49 per cent stake in FCPL, the promoter entity of FRL, for about Rs 1,500 crore. There were no immediate

comments, over the development, from Future Group, Reliance Retail and e-commerce major Amazon, which is opposing the deal. In February, Reliance

Retail had taken over the operations of at least 350 stores of FRL and offered jobs to its employees after the Kishore Biyani-led group failed to make lease payments to landPUBLIC NOTICE

Known to General public that my client Sunil Rathi is purchasing property i.e House No. 603/5 Plot No.S-34,KhāSRA NO.S-349,1438-439, Waka Sivana Mauja Hidayatpur Chhawni Hal Colony Patel Nagar, Andrun Nagar Nigam Tehsil and Zila Gurgaon, From Smt. Anju Kapoor and mortgaging with Aditya Birla Housing Finance Ltd. Smt. Anju Kapoor got property from Vishal Kapoor and Rahul kapoor vide transfer deed dt.31.01.2022 and Smt. Anju Kapoor/yishal Kapoor and Rahul kapoor became owner of the said property after death of Raghubir Sharan Kapoor as their legal heirs. And if any person is having any objection, right or claim in respect of the said property in capacity of legal heirs of said Raghubir Sharan in any manner or said mortgage then he may contact the undersign within 8 days of publication of this Notice. An REM LEGAL SOLUTION

Ch. No. 760. Dwala Court. Scroot-10 Newaka New Delhi-75 of this Notice.
AD REM LEGAL SOLUTION
Ch. No. 760, Dwaka Court, Sector-10, Dwarka, New DelhiM:- 9899013918 PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General public that Mr. Ashok Gupta is owner in respect of A Freehold Residential Flat on Third Floor, Property bearing Municipal no. XIII/107 and XIII/108 with roof rights built on plot area measuring 158.86 Sq. Mtrs. Situated in Gali Post Office, SubziMandi, Delhi-11000/7, vide registered sale deed dated 10.06.2011 registration No. 4912. All persons are hereby informed that Mrs. Veena Kumari Wo Mr. Ravi Kumar have approached Poonawalla Housing Finance Ltd to take a Loan who is purchassing the said property from Mr. Ashok Gupta. If anybody has any charge/finterstittle in the said property or any kind of dispute kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present.

Mrs. Prasoon Lata, Advocate, SG Associates (Law Firm)

Unit No 7, Basement, Plot No C 78, Sector 2, Noida, UP 201301.

E-MAIL: sgassociatespl@gmail.com, Ph: 7011172764, 8130200837

his concerned. the court on this 21.04.2022

(Shirish Agarwal) ACJ/ARC Central, Delhi

the court on this 21.04.2022

(Shirish Agarwal) ACJ/ARC Central, Delhi

debt and securities amount of Rs. xxx. As per record to be standing in the name of Late Sh. Suraj Prasad Sharma deceased.

SC. No. 72/2022

Titans beat KKR in a thriller

Andre Russell's batting heroics go in vain

ndre Russell's pyrotechnics proved to be too little too late in the end as Gujarat Titans defended a small total to clinch a dramatic eight-run win over Kolkata Knight Riders in an IPL thriller here on Saturday. With 12 points already in its kitty, the Titans are looking good for a play-off berth in its inception year. KKR's top and middle order batters failed miserably in the wake of a clinical bowling display from the Titans with only Rinku Singh scoring 35 and it was left to Russell (48 off 25 balls) to go for a win and the West Indian nearly did it only to fail in the last over. Chasing 157 for a win, KKR ended

their innings at 148 for 8 after Russell was out in the second ball of the final over.He hit one four and six sixes.

Needing 18 from the final over bowled by Alzarri Joseph, Russell hit the first ball for a six before Lockie Ferguson took a fine catch in the deep under pressure from the vey next delivery to end KKR's hopes.

This was Titan's sixth win in seven matches and they strengthened their position at the top of table while KKR slumped to their fourth straight loss.

For the Titans, Mohammed Shami, Rashid Khan and yash Dayal took two wickets apiece while Alzarri Joseph and Lockei Ferguson got one each.

Veteran India pacer Shami wreaked havoc in his first spell of two overs, taking the wickets of new opening pair of Sam Billings (4) and Sunil Narine (5) to reduce KKR to 2/10 in the third over.

KKR's decision to promote Billings to open the innings backfired while Narine failed for the second time at the



Nitish Rana (2) edged a beautiful delivery from Lockie Ferguson to Wriddhiman Saha to continue his struggle for form this season.

Captain Shreyas Iyer, fresh from a fine 85 against Rajasthan Royals, looked To make matters worse for KKR, in top form with an exquisite six off

end of powerplay. But, KKR suffered their biggest jolt with Iyer edging an angled delivery from pacer Yash Dayal in the first ball after powerplay, that left them a huge

Ferguson as KKR reached 34 for 3 at the

Russell got a life after he holed out to fine leg fielder but Dayal over-stepped for a no-ball. Russell made the reprieve count with two successive

sixes off the same bowler.

KKR knew they were still in the game as long as Russell was there and the West Indian survived two close calls to keep his side in the hunt only to get dismissed in the last over.

Earlier, captain Hardik Pandya's third fifty of the season was the lone saving grace in Gujarat Titans' underwhelming batting show as they scored a below-par 156 for 9.

The Titans skipper missed the last game as a precautionary measure and looked a bit rusty even as he scored 67 off 49 balls with four boundaries and

KKR bowled as many as 43 dot balls and were brilliant at the death as they conceded only 29 runs and took as many as seven wickets in the final five overs. Andre Russell (4/5 in 1 over) got four wickets in the final over as Rinku Singh was a livewire in the field with four catches.

While Shubman Gill (5) was out early as Sam Billings collected a faint tickle down the leg-side off Southee's delivery, Wriddhiman Saha (25 off 25 balls), for the second match in succession, piled on the pressure, consuming too many dot balls.

However, an early breakthrough didn't stop Pandya from playing his natural, aggressive game as there was no marks for guessing as to who dominated their 75-run stand for second wick-

David Miller (27 off 20 balls, 2x6), after a match-winning knock against CSK the other night, gave his skipper some support in a 50-run third wicket stand but there wasn't a lot of resistance

SRH thrash RCB by 9 wickets

Virat Kohli gets another first-ball duck

PTI MUMBAI

 $V^{\rm irat}$ Kohli's continued woeful form was a sign of things to come as Royal Challengers Bangalore were literally walloped by Sunrisers Hyderabad who cantered to an easy ninewicket victory in Saturday's one-sided IPL match here.

Kohli was once again dismissed outside the off-stump off the very first delivery he faced as RCB were shot out for a meagre 68 in just 16.1 overs. This was the sixth lowest total in the history of IPL.

The Sunrisers pace attack led by Marco Jansen (3/25 in 4 overs) and ably supported by Umran Malik (1/19 in 4 overs) and T Natarajan (3/10 in 3 overs) left the star-studded RCB line-up rattled with pace, swing and seam.

In reply, it took SRH only eight overs as Abhishek Sharma butchered an already deflated RCB attack to score 47 off 28 balls in company of Kane Williamson (16 not out).

The win also took SRH to second place with 10 points while RCB, who are still placed third, will like to forget this game as a bad dream. But one would wonder if Kohli can do the same as it's only getting worse for one of the contemporary greats in world cricket.

and unfortunately, one doesn't see any corrective measures in his approach as same kind of technical mistakes are being repeated again and again.

The problems are very real

Some years back, it was James Anderson and now it is a

Marco Jansen, who are exposing the big chink in Kohli's armour.

There couldn't have been a quicker end to a contest as Jansen removed Faf du Plessis (5), Kohli (0) and Anuj Rawat (0) off second, third and final delivery of the second over to make it 8 for 3.

In case of Jansen, it was seam movement off the pitch with a few that were angled across, some that held its line while Natarajan got some movement in the air and Malik was unleashing his thunderbolts at upward of 150 clicks. In between, left-arm spinner

Jagadeesha Suchith (2/12) was

got elbow room to get some momentum going their way.

It soon became 20 for 4 when Natarajan got Glenn Maxwell (12) caught brilliantly by skipper Kane Williamson at mid-off. The other player to reach double figure was Suyash Prabhudesai (15)

But, it is Kohli's dismissal that would certainly deflate his legion of fans as his problems outside the off-stump seems to have resurfaced. Jansen did pose problems for Kohli during the South Africa Test series few months back and again bowled the ideal Test match length, full and getting the ball to either shape in or hold its line.

compound men's team

PTI ANTALYA

Indian men's compound archery team of Abhishek Verma, Rajat Chauhan and Aman Saini downed France by one-point in a thrilling final to win the gold medal at the World Cup Stage 1 here on Saturday.

This was the men's compound team's first World Cup gold medal since Shanghai a second medal after the compound mixed pair of Verma and Muskan Kirar went down 156-157 to Croatia in the bronze medal playoff.

In the compound men's team final, the Indian trio started off with a one-point deficit, losing the first end 56-57 to their French rivals of Jean Philippe Boulch, Quentin Baraer and Adrien Gontier.

India slowly improved on their first-end score by onepoint but the French team had a near perfect set of 59/60 comprising three four 10s, including arrows closer to the centre (X) to extend their lead (113-116). Trailing by three points, Indians showed amazing resilience to drill in a perfect end of 60/60 with two Xs to win the third set 60-58, and curtail the 174). There was no stopping the Indian trio thereafter as they shot a 59 in the fourth end, with the under-pressure Frenchmen managing 57 to go down by one-point. "Mentally we were really strong today, and we've been preparing for this event only and we have the Asian Games coming up this year which is something we also

World Cup: Gold for India | No ball controversy: Pant, Thakur handed heavy fines, Amre suspended for one match

aptain Rishabh Pant was Captain Rolling
On Saturday fined 100 per cent of his match fee, while assistant coach Pravin Amre was handed a one-match ban for breaching the IPL Code of Conduct during Delhi Capitals' 15-run loss to Rajasthan Besides the one match ban,

Amre was also fined his entire match fees, while DC pacer Shardul Thakur too has been penalised 50 per cent of his match-fees, IPL said in a The trio were penalised for

their conduct during the controversial final over of the match in which Delhi Capitals required 36 runs to win on



Friday night. Needing 36 runs for a win off the final over, DC batter Rovman Powell hit three successive sixes from the first three deliveries, including the

third ball which was a hip-high full-toss from Obed McCoy, to bring the equation down to 18 runs from the final three balls.

However, the DC camp

Pant asking his batters -- Powell and Kuldeep Yadav to walk out and assistant coach Amre stepping on to the playing arena to speak to the umpire. Pant admitted to the "Level

called a no ball for height with

2 offence" under Article 2.7 of the IPL Code of Conduct and

Thakur also accepted the sanction for the "Level 2 offence under Article 2.8" of the IPL Code of Conduct and accepted the sanction. Handed a one-match ban,

Amre too "admitted to the Level 2 offence under Article 2.2 of the IPL Code of Conduct and accepted the sanction."

It started with Kuldeep, who was at the non-striker's

to check for a possible no-ball on height after the third delivery. Powell joined in having a chat with the umpires too. But the umpires stood their ground, saying the delivery was legal. Pant looked livid and

demanded that the third ball be end, gesturing to the umpires

called Kuldeep and Powell Shane Watson tried to reason

Amre then went into the playing arena but he was told to go back by the umpires.

RR legspinner Yuzvendra Chahal tried to stop Kuldeep from walking out, while Royals opener Jos Buttler, who hit a match-winning 116, was also seen having words with Pant

near the boundary line.

Wolfsburg needed a reaction from its players after losing 6-1 to Borussia Dortmund last week. It got just that with a 5-0 demolition of Mainz in the Bundesliga.Max Kruse had a hat trick as Wolfsburg scored all five

> The win hauled Wolfsburg up to 11th to make relegation almost impossible. That's a relief

by halftime.

Wolfsburg

hammers

Mainz 5-0 in

Bundesliga

Dominant Ravi grabs gold, struggling Bajrang settles for silver, Gourav impressive in 2nd place finish

want to do well at, Saini said.



(MONGOLIA)

 $R^{
m avi~Dahiya's~physical}_{
m prowess~and~superior~tacti}$ cal acumen was on show yet again as he became the first Indian wrestler to win three gold medals at the Asian Championship but Bajrang Punia struggled badly on his return to action even as he grabbed a silver, here on

Saturday.

Tokyo Olympics silver medallist Ravi was his usual dominant self in his three bouts as he outclassed the 57kg field to emerge champion.

Gourav Balian (79kg) was impressive in his silver-winning effort while Naveen (70kg),

seasoned Satywart Kadiyan (97kg), bagged bronze medals as all five Indians in action earned podium finishes. The 24-year-old Ravi

Dahiya conceded early lead in all his bouts, but as is his wont, he bounced back in tremendous fashion to give India its first gold medal of this edition. He won the final against Kazakhstan's Rakhat Kalzhan by technical superiority. It was his second final of the season, having won a silver at the Dan Kolov event in February. Ravi, who hails from Nahri village in Sonepat, outsmarted Japan's Rikuto Arai (VSU) and pulled off a comprehensive 12-5 win over

Zanabazar

Mongolia's

Zandanbud en route the final. In the title clash, Kalzhan

moved ahead with a take-down and for considerable time did not let the Indian make any move. However, true to his style, Ravi began to dominate the bout with his unmatched

He effected six consecutive two-pointers and in-between saved himself from a left-leg attack to finish the bout early in the second period to secure India's first gold medal of the tournament this year. Before the final, the

Japanese was quick with his moves and initially troubled Ravi with his double-leg attacks which even took the Indian off his feet but once the Haryana wrestler got the measure of his rival, he dictated the terms in the bout. Ravi not only found away to block Arai's attack but also got himself into position to initiate take-down moves from both sides as the Japanese did not have a plan 'B' to counter the in-form Indian.

Ravi kept consolidating his lead and eventually won by technical superiority.

In the semifinal against Zandanbud, Ravi fell behind 0-4 after the home wrestler effected a take-down move and followed that up with a gut-wrench but Ravi again was quick in finding a way to thwart his rival.

Struggling MI take on LSG, aiming to arrest slide

Virtually out of the playoff race and strug-V gling on multiple fronts, a horribly out-of-sorts Mumbai Indians will need a special team effort to arrest their slide when they take on Lucknow Super Giants in a return-leg IPL fixture here on Sunday.

With seven defeats in as many matches, MI are winless this season and are languishing at the bottom with nothing going right for the five-time champions, who have failed to win the crunch moments and will need a miracle to make it to the playoffs.

Lucknow, on the other hand, have looked in good touch with four wins from seven matches but they are coming into the



match after suffering a 18-run loss to Royal Challengers Bangalore. However, the fact that LSG beat MI by

18 runs in their first leg will give them confidence. MI have done well in patches but

Mumbai vs LSG Live from 7:30 pm IST **STAR SPORTS 1**

never looked as a unit, prompting former Australian batter Chris Lynn to stir speculations of a rift within the camp following their last defeat to Chennai Super Kings on Thursday. The defeat also handed MI the dubious record of becoming the first team in IPL history to lose its first seven matches in a season. Škipper Rohit Sharma too seemed clueless as to what is going wrong for the team. It's hard to put a finger on anything, but we're not starting well in the match.

after a disappointing season for the team, which played Champions League soccer in the autumn after placing fourth in the last campaign. Jonas Wind got the scoring started in the eighth minute on the rebound, and Mainz's comeback hopes were swiftly crushed when Niklas Tauer was red-carded for a hard foul in the box on Felix Nmecha, with Kruse scoring the resulting penalty.Kruse scored again off a Ridle Baku pass and Wolfsburg went 4-0 up when Mainz defender Stefan Bell headed the ball into his own teammate, leaving Wind another easy finish.

Alcaraz beats top-seeded Tsitsipas to reach Barcelona semis

AP BARCELONA

Spanish teenager Carlos Alcaraz thrilled the home crowd by beating top-seeded Stefanos Tsitsipas in three sets to advance to the semifinals of the Barcelona Open.

Alcaraz won the quarterfinal 6-4, 5-7, 6-2 after breaking the fifth-ranked Greek five times on the outdoor clay court named for Rafael Nadal.

The 18-year-old Alcaraz is aiming for his third title of the season after he won at Rio de Janeiro in February and in Miami this month.

Alcaraz called it his biggest win on clay. "Unbelievable game that I played, unbelievable atmosphere that I lived today on court. It was unbelievable everything," the precocious talent who is drawing comparisons to a young



Nadal said. "The atmosphere here, the crowd, the level that I played, the level of the match. It was incredible.'

All of the players who reached the quarterfinals had already played thirdround matches earlier on Friday that had been pushed back from Thursday due to rain delays.

Before facing Alcaraz, Tsitsipas needed just over an hour to beat Grigor Dimitrov 6-1, 6-4. Alcaraz similarly eased past fellow countryman Jaume Munar 6-3, 6-3. Tsitispas looked finished when he

was trailing Alcaraz by a set and 4-1. He

fought to pull level with the youngster, but Alcaraz dominated the third set. The teen sensation won the night-

time crowd over with his wide range of winners, including several well-placed drop shots that Tsitispas failed.



■ How did Balle Ni Balle take place? It all started after I had featured in a song for Sony Music. Since then we had been thinking of a song which I could sing as well as feature in. Fast forward to a jam session with Gurpreet Saini, the writer of the song and told me he has written a song and Siddharth Amit Bhavsar has composed it and that he thinks it matches my vibe. I gave it a listen and connected with it

immediately. Within a span of a week we recorded the song and shot the video as well. Today it humbles me to see the love it is receiving. Now when I look back I feel that Balle Ni Balle was just a result of the some cool people bonding over their love for music.

When did you get into music? Music has been a big part of my life since childhood and a major credit for the same goes to Dadi who was deeply connected with music. I was also a Radio Jockey and as one you tend to eat, sleep and breathe music. And I think the dream to sing a song of my own may have started from there. Today, I regret not taking professional training in music when I was a child but I continuously try to be better at my craft.

■If you had to choose between music and acting, what would it be?

It would be tough call to make. But I think even though music is something that is extremely close to my heart, acting would

always be a first priority for me. The joy of bringing a character to life is incomparable.

■ How well did you get along with Dhanashree while shooting the song? Working with Dhanashree was amazing. We were on the same wavelength and our energies always matched. Not sure if many people know but Dhanashree has also choreographed the song. Initially we thought that she would be dancing and I would be singing but later she convinced me to dance as well for one of the shots.

You are back on radio after almost six years. What was holding you back all this

I have always been an artist at heart and radio gave the artist in me a chance to express myself. Over the six years I may have explored different artistic endeavours but there is a soft spot for radio. I have been looking for the right opportunity and I think this might be it.

■How did acting happen?

Radio has been a pathway to many great things in my life. One of them is acting. During my time at Radio, there was a senior I went to for an advice to be better at my craft. He suggested I do theatre and told me how it helps with spontaneity, voice modulation, expressions, memory, confidence and more. I took the advice seriously and went on to love acting so much that I decided to give this love my all and turn it



I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN AN ARTIST AT HEART AND RADIO GAVE THE ARTIST IN ME A CHANCE TO EXPRESS MYSELF. OVER THE SIX YEARS I MAY HAVE EXPLORED DIFFERENT ARTISTIC **ENDEAVOURS BUT** THERE IS A SOFT SPOT FOR RADIO



■You are also a singer. Any song that is very close to your heart?

I love how this question started. Yes, I am also a singer now. I have worn multiple hats in my life and I think this is one of my favourites. I feel blessed to see my utmost fascination for music turn into something as substantial as this. And to answer your question, there are not one but 2 songs very close to my heart at the moment, one is Bas Tere Karke by Wazir Patar and second is Roz Roz by The Yellow Diary and Shilpa Rao.

■When and how did you find your knack for radio jockeying?

So, before I got into radio I was actually practicing at the Delhi High Court. But somehow even after giving it 12-14 hours everyday I used to come home with a lack of contentment. I realised it wasn't something I enjoyed doing and started looking for alternate career options. Something that could help me bring out the best in me. Fortunately, I had a few seniors from my law school who were already working at a radio station. Around the same time, Rochak Kohli, the renowned music composer of today told me about the opening for a Radio Jockey. I decided to try for it and with god's blessings it worked out in my favour. People today assume that Dangal was the turning point in my life. And even though I am utmost grateful to get the opportunity to be a part of Dangal but my turning point in life was moving from a Delhi High Court to a Radio

Plan Your Day

ALL ABOUT MUSIC



In this edition of The Media Tribe Presents Music Production Clinic with Aman Moroney, Aman shows behind the scenes of his upcoming song Aarzuu Kaise Khoju. He will be explaining the session for the song and discussing its making. There will also be discussions on migrating and career opportunities in the US, Contemporary Music Production, Songwriting and Mixing/Mastering

What: Workshop Where: Online When: April 28, 2022

Sound of.



Music is the best medicine. Here are the top 10 songs of the week that will lift up your weekend mood

Bollywood vibes Dafa Kar (A R Rahman) Saamna (Akasa)

Mast Nazron Se (Rochak Kohli) Kya Kar Diya (Vishal Mishra) Macha Macha Re (Mika Singh)

English Vinglish Psychofreak (Camila Cabello) Seven Bridge Road (Jake Bugg) Wings Of Stone (Adam Levine) FREE (John Legend)

e often hear about the need to do our bit for the environment and the importance of leaving behind a better world for the next generation. While some may choose to sweep these warnings under the carpet, others, fight environmental degradation by recycling plastics into carpets. Yes, The Rug Republic (TRR) has

made controlling plastic pollution a profitable proposition and is setting a great sustainable

Crazy (Doechii)

development The creative artisans at TRR use discarded water bottles and give them a new life as a rug that can beautify the buyer's home. The Delhi-based business house with an international presence is



manufacturing and eco-friendly products. Making outdoor and indoor art pieces while using minimum natural resources is the forte of this company and now it has taken another giant leap by recycling bicycle tubes, PET yarns extracted from recycled water bottles, recycled silk yarns, and other multi-fiber textiles, to create unique and vibrant rugs and carpets.

BECAUSE AGE IS JUST A NUMBER

Some of the most important aspects of healthy ageing are within your control. It is time to get your fix of vitamins and revise your way of life. SUPRIYA RAMESH speaks with LAVLEEN KAUR to know more

geing well is an important prerequisite for improving health and well-being in order to increase your quality of life. Ageing gracefully does not only mean looking young in your 50s but it also means maintaining a healthy lifestyle and prioritising wellbeing as you get older. The first and most important step

is to understand the idea of insulin resistance, which impairs our ageing process. "Insulin resistance occurs when cells in our body fail to respond to insulin and are unable to utilise glucose from your blood for energy," says Lavleen Kaur, Co-Founder & Head Dietitian, Diet Insight. She adds that to compensate, your

pancreas produces extra insulin, causing your blood sugar levels to rise over time. This accumulation of extra insulin in your blood, with no pathway to go towards the cells, leads to health issues. Your pancreas will eventually be unable to keep up and your blood sugar levels will grow until you have prediabetes and have a consequential impact on your skin as well.

So, what can be done to avoid cle-free pathway for graceful ageing? Move well to age well

Making healthy lifestyle choices is the most effective strategy to keep your blood glucose levels within the normal range. The greatest thing you can do is avoid sitting for lengthy periods and move every 30-45 minutes if possible.

"According to research, it's found that serotonin (happy hormone) naturally decreases as you age resulting in anxiety, depression, prolonged sadness, or even hardening of arteries," Kaur tells

Well, exercising proves to be an excellent way to not only avoid insulin resistance but also give your serotonin levels a boost. Therefore, make it a part of your daily routine to go for a quick walk or exercise to keep your arteries healthy and to relieve depression, self-



doubt, and lethargy.

Fats are not your enemy

When it comes to ageing gracefully, eating healthy foods is the only way to go. "It's a popular misconception that eating fats causes weight growth, howlesterol, which is required in sufficient amounts to help hormone transportation in the body, bile digestion, and the absorption of fat-soluble vitamins such as Vitamin A, E, and K, as well as for beautiful skin," she says.

We're told not to consume coconuts or oily meals, but it's important to remember that it's unsaturated fats, not saturated fats, that cause our skin to age. Moreover, processed foods, refined carbohydrates, and excessive fats should be avoided along with salt intake kept to a minimum.

Kaur says, "Focus on saturated fats, which can be found in foods like ghee, coconut, nuts like cashew, pistachios, and walnuts, and seeds like pumpkin, sunflower, and sesame seeds, to have radiant skin." As a result, fats, in general, are not your enemy, and good fats



are what you need to incorporate in your diet for youthful, healthy skin, even as you become older.

Get your fix of Vitamin A Vitamin A plays a number of critical roles in the ageing process, includ-

ing immune function and oxidative

processes, as well as collagen production. A lack of Vitamin A has been shown to affect vision and cause skin abnormalities As a result, if you haven't paid

attention to Vitamin A, now is the time. Vitamin A in its active form, known as retinol (bete) is the best. This means that if you eat carrots, for example, and they aren't well absorbed, it's pointless, because the main layer of our cell membrane is largely made up of Vitamin A. "Eating retinol-rich foods including fortified foods carrots, cheese, eggs, fish oil, milk, and yoghurt is vital for skin to remain tightened as we age," she says. Soak in Vitamin E

We all realise the need for Vitamin E as we get older, and we attempt to get it either naturally via our meals or through Vitamin E capsules. "Natural vitamin E compounds can help prevent collagen crosslinking and lipid peroxidation, both of which are associated with skin ageing," Kaur tells us.

For beautiful skin, you can get Vitamin E directly by mixing Vitamin

E capsules in aloe vera gel and applying the mixture to your skin once a day. Otherwise, Vitamin E is also abundantly found in nuts and seeds; especially almonds, peanuts, sunflower seeds, pumpkin, or vegetables such as spinach and beet greens.

Check Vitamin B3 (Niacin) con-

"People that have Vitamin B3 deficiency suffer through pellagra, which can cause pigmentation, skin dryness, pale or scaly skin. The main cause of Vitamin B3 deficiency is inadequate absorption of all B vitamins, which is caused by excessive consumption of refined foods, such as iodized salt, sugar, and filtered oils like vegetable and palm oil," says Kaur. Therefore, stay away from refined and filtered foods in preference for organic or handmade alternatives such as salt rock or brown sugar.

Reject AGE

Avoid AGE as much as possible if you want to age gracefully. No, this does not mean not celebrating your birthday in order to stay the same age. AGE stands for advanced glycation end products, which once consumed creates a sticky substance in our bodies that skin to loosen and form wrinkles.

"When we consume protein with sugar or fat, AGE is generated, which is not the healthiest way to consume protein. Bakery foods like cakes, for example, contain eggs (protein) as well as sugar, which is not ideal, or even mayonnaise and cheese items combined with eggs or any sort of protein are also not recommended," she tells us. Thus, as you become older, try to avoid bakery items, deep-fried foods, and refined foods to keep your skin tight and wrin-

In a nutshell, some of the most important aspects of healthy ageing are within your control. Keep targeted blood pressure, control your cholesterol, eat healthily, exercise regularly, drink alcohol in moderation, and avoid smoking to extend your youth.

THE WAIT IS OVER

After the theatrical release, *Radhe* Shyam in Hindi will come on Zee Cinema today at 12 noon. Does the fate of human beings lie in the lines on their palms or in the power of their love? Catch the love saga of the millennia where destiny is

questioned as love is put to the test of time with the magnum opus Radhe Shyam featuring Bahubali star Prabhas and Pooja Hegde

This complete family entertainer makes for a perfect Sunday afternoon watch. Touted to be India's most expensive romantic genre film, this unique story, set in the background of old Europe, is replete with lavish imagery and spectacular picturisation. All this coupled with dreamy romance, mystery, popular chartbusters, and a narrative that will make you rethink your belief in destiny.

TRANSFORMING WASN'T EASY

Zee TV is all set to bring its viewers a new fiction offering — *Pyaar Ka Pehla Naam* Radha Mohan, a mature romance based in modern-day Vrindavan. The show will take everyone on the intriguing journey of Mohan who was once a charmer - someone who would have everyone swooning around him. But he has somehow lost that spark along the way. He has turned into an intense, brooding man with sorrow in his eyes. In fact, Mohan carries an invisible wall around him and doesn't let anyone in. The only person he is attached to is his mother, whom he loves blindly



WELFARE FOR ALL

The Foundation Day of Dera Saccha Sauda falls on 29th April and is celebrated throughout the month in the form of *Bhandara* at different locations in India and abroad. Recently, the followers of the sect gathered in huge numbers at the recreational complex, Tuglakabad in New Delhi to mark the occasion with pomp and

The event started at 10 am, with a chorus of *Dhan Dhan* Satguru Tera Hi Aasra, a chant of gratitude towards their Guru, to initiate the *Naamcharcha*, which is a medley of bhajans in praise of the revered Guru ji, sung by the devotees.

Addressing the huge gathering the responsible sewadars (volunteers) said that Guruji Saint Dr Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh Ji Insaan has always done good for the society and has instilled the same values in his followers. It is because of his teachings that the followers of Dera Saccha Sauda have taken up 138 acts of social

THAT'S WHAT FRIENDS ARE FOR

"Eijaz is the only personality in the house, who deserves to win the show I feel. I say that because he is being real and not pretending or being fake in the show," says Suhail Ahmed, who is Eijaz Khan's friend. He strongly believes that his friend, Khan, who is one of the four finalists will be the winner. What makes Ahmed think positive about his dear friend is his character, which is very dynamic and has given a good time to all the contestants in the house. "He has shown all his sides — funny,

sides in many tasks," says Ahmed.

romantic and caring. And his angry side, too. In all these days, he has taken a stand, entertained audiences and shown his emotional

COMMITMENT IS HARD BUT FRUITFUL

I had my first asthma attack in 1988 just after my graduation. That was the toughest phase of my life so far. At one point in time, I had given up all hopes of ever leading a normal life without steroids and tons of other



medicines. But fortunately, it did get better with time and minor lifestyle changes However, it relapsed after I got married in 1993, probably due to pollution, and this time the occurrence was more frequent and acute. So much so that, It was extremely laborious for me to walk even a 50meter stretch without panting heavily.

Being the daughter and wife of Indian army officers, I decided to take the matter into my hands. Within six months of deep breathing exercises daily and swimming, the asthma-grip on my lungs loosened In 2015, I ran my first half-marathon. Then there was no looking back My challenges became my achievements. To commemorate my golden jubilee, I completed a scuba diving course, went down 20meters below sea level, and swam with an incredible aquatic life.

It was a rather extraordinary celebration for a 50-year-old female with a history of acute asthma. I wanted to do something which will not only be a milestone in my life but also inspire people like me. I decided to go high up a mountain and dive deep into the sea.

One of my favourite songs, Main Zindagi ka Saath Nibhata Chala Gaya from Dev Anand's film Hum Dono sums up my life's philosophy. I would like to tell everyone that it is all about mind over matter. At 50 plus years if I can defeat asthma with minor lifestyle changes and commitment to a cause, anyone can do it!

New Delhi, April 24, 2022

a Continue pioneer Cont

You know it's love when all you want is that person to be happy, even if you're not part of their happiness



Haryana has made rapid strides on several fronts and is well on its way to inclusive growth propelled by social justice and public welfare. Innovation and people-centricity sign off most of the state government's policies and programmes which have made the difference in the lives of the people. Haryana has traversed the distance to emerge as a trailblazer from a path-chaser. Some of the state's policies have been commended and recommended by the Central Government to the states to emulate. In a free-wheeling interview with **THE PIONEER**, the Chief Minister, **MANOHAR LAL**, dwells on issues as different and distinct as chalk is from cheese. These range from his innovative style of transparent and good governance and delivering hassle-free services at the doorstep of the man in the street to coming down on graft with a heavy hand and making Haryana an economic and sports power house

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN PEOPLE'S LIVES

Your government is credited with several achievements in over seven-year tenure.

What, in your view, is singularly most important change which has positively altered common people's lives?

Frankly speaking, the achievements are many but if you want me to single out one, changing people's mindset is the biggest change we brought about. Change both in the way the administration delivers services and how people look at and up to the government. Drawing inspiration from the vision of the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, the systemic changes we introduced have helped bring services to the doorsteps of the people, and restored the faith they had begun to lose in the administration by slamming the doors shut on graft. Sniff the air and you can feel the change.

Your government bets big on e-governance. How has it worked?

Our stress on transparency explains our focus on e-governance. From day one, we decided to harness e-governance as a major instrument for changing the system. Many schemes and programmes have been digitised. And to bring all of them on a single platform, Antyodaya Saral portal was developed where 618 services and schemes of 47 departments have been made available.

So far, 72.32 lakh people have been registered

on this portal, which means 2.75 crore population of the state has been covered. The data of more than 82 per cent families has already been verified. All schemes and services are being linked with the Parivar Pehchan Patra (PPP) portal. From this year, most of the government services will be available online.

Haryana is a small state from the standpoint of area and population but it has notched extraordinary achievements in sports. What has your government done to promote sports?

Haryana is both a sports power house as well as a nursery. We have sporting talent in abundance. All that the players/athletes need is modern facilities to hone their skills to face up to the best in the world. Realising this full well, we did all that was needed to spawn a sporting culture, developed facilities right up the village level, and incentivized medal winners by giving them both cash awards and government jobs. This explains how Haryana guarantees a bright future for those opting for sports as a career.

What role digital governance played in combating corruption?

When I assumed office in 2014, corruption was rampant. 'Parchi' (recommendation) and 'Kharchi' (paying bribe

to get a job done) was the order of the day. We adopted zero-tolerance policy towards corruption. Conscious efforts have been made to eliminate the menace of graft and ensure that the benefits of government welfare schemes and programmes reach people swiftly and smoothly, something which was lacking. In order to minimize human intervention which left the doors ajar for graft, we introduced digital governance and the advantages started

flowing to the eligible beneficiaries expeditiously.

The digital governance campaign launched in 2014 has now reached PPP. I am of the firm conviction that PPP, designed after drawing inspiration from the Antyodaya vision of the Prime Minister, will prove to be a revolutionary step. It would make benefits of social welfare schemes reach the doorstep of every eligible person. He would not have to run around in government offices to get his rightful due.

Which were the main gates of corruption your government closed?

The Prime Minister says "corruption is like a termite which makes the country hollow and all the people of the country have to work together to rid the nation of it as soon as possible". Getting guided by this, we swung into action to slam the doors shut on all sources of corruption. There were many, the big ones being recruitment to government jobs, granting permission for change of land use (CLU) and transfers.

We are determined not to let anything come in the way of merit-based transparent recruitment to government jobs. We have been able to recruit over 85,000 persons on merit. For making recruitment to government jobs, we have introduced a common entrance test. The first such exam will be held in June, 2022 to fill 50,000 vacancies. We have busted the racket and imprisoned members of various gangs working as touts. In the paper leak case for

WE IMPLEMENTED 'HARYANA

WE IMPLEMENTED 'HARYANA ENTREPRENEURS AND EMPLOYMENT POLICY' IN 2020 TO PROMOTE INDUSTRY IN THE STATE ON A BIG SCALE, IT AIMS AT CREATING 5 LAKH NEW JOBS, ATTRACTING INVESTMENTS WORTH OVER RS 1 LAKH CRORE AND EXPORTS

WORTH OVER RS 2 LAKH CRORE



HARYANA IS BOTH A SPORTS POWER HOUSE AS WELL AS A NURSERY. WE HAVE SPORTING TALENT IN ABUNDANCE. ALL THAT THE PLAYERS/ ATHLETES NEED IS MODERN FACILITIES TO HONE THEIR SKILLS TO FACE UP TO THE BEST IN THE WORLD. REALISING THIS FULL WELL, WE DID ALL THAT WAS NEEDED TO SPAWN A SPORTING CULTURE, DEVELOPED FACILITIES RIGHT UP THE VILLAGE LEVEL, AND INCENTIVIZED MEDAL WINNERS BY GIVING THEM BOTH CASH AWARDS AND GOVERNMENT JOBS. THIS EXPLAINS HOW HARYANA GUARANTEES A BRIGHT FUTURE FOR

recruiting police constables, seven FIRs were lodged and 74 accused have been arrested.

THOSE OPTING FOR SPORTS AS A CAREER

For maintaining probity in examinations, we brought the 'Haryana Public Service Unfair Means (Elimination) Bill 2021'. It provides for a two-year ban on taking examinations, besides imprisonment of two to 10 years and a fine of Rs 5,000 to Rs 5 lakh, on those responsible for paper leak or copying.

Another big source of graft was CLU. It had become synonymous with corruption. We have wiped off this blot by making the entire process online. For checking irregularities in the registration of land and property, the process of issuance of NOC by various departments, boards and corporations has been made online. For bringing about transparency in land records, WEB-HALRIS has been implemented across the state.

For checking malpractices in the Transport Department, the post of DTO has been created as part of 'Operation Shuddhi'.
Besides, E Nilami and E Ravana schemes have been introduced for

awarding mining contracts.

We have also put an end to what had come to be known as the 'transfer industry.' Besides, ghost beneficiaries of ration, scholarships and subsidies have been weeded out by resorting to IT services. Hundreds of welfare schemes have been linked to DBT and the amount is now directly transferred into the bank account of beneficiaries.

Throw some light on your flagship scheme Mukhymantri Antyodaya Utthaan Yoina.

Sourced to the vision of the Prime Minister, the flagship scheme 'Mukhymantri Antyodaya Utthaan Yojna' aims at identifying poor families in the state and improving their living standard. Using the data from PPP, we have

succeeded in developing a system to realise our goal. Our target is to raise the minimum annual income of each family in the state to Rs 1.80 lakh. Under the scheme, 2.49 lakh families with annual income lower than Rs 1 lakh have so far been identified. We organised 570 Mela Diwas in two phases at 156 locations across the state in which

The PPP is seen as a milestone scheme and many states have evinced interest in implementing it. What was the idea behind this

1.22 lakh families participated.

scheme?
We felt that common people, particularly the poor, were unable to avail themselves of benefits of social welfare schemes as they had no time to visit government offices. If they did, they would have to forgo a day's wages. So we decided to ensure delivery of the scheme's benefits and services to the poor at their doorstep. This led to the making of PPPs. It facilitates people to take benefit of all welfare schemes through sole document.

The distribution of food grains under PDS is being done through the PPP and the data on births and deaths is being auto-updated. Data about youth, their skills, education and unemployment is also available on this portal. People no longer need to approach government offices for seeking old age pension; it automatically starts coming to their bank account as per the data available on the PPP. Some states have evinced interest in the scheme and sought details

Despite the pandemic, Haryana remains an attractive destination for investors. What measures have been taken to attract investors, particularly foreign investors, to the state?

the state?
Yes! Haryana has emerged as a cynosure of all investing eyes, both domestic and foreign. This is the outcome of several effective steps

taken to create industry and business-friendly environment. Besides financial incentives, we ensure time-bound delivery of government services, fast-paced clearances and assure ease-ofdoing business.

For providing all services and approvals to entrepreneurs under one roof, Haryana Entrepreneur Promotion Centre has been set up where over 100 industrial approvals and clearances from 20 departments can be obtained through www.investharyana.in portal. All sanctions and permission are granted within 45 days through this portal.

We implemented 'Haryana Entrepreneurs and Employment Policy' in 2020 to promote industry in the state on a big scale, It aims at creating 5 lakh new jobs, attracting investments worth over Rs 1 lakh crore and exports worth over Rs 2 lakh crore. Under this policy, the process of obtaining land, labour laws, environmental clearances and regulatory laws have been simplified for the ease of doing business and 56 services have been brought under the ambit of the Bight to Service Act

of the Right to Service Act.

Five more policies have been implemented for agriculture and food processing, textiles, warehousing — logistics, retail, drug and pharmaceuticals and micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

In the Nation Capital Region (NCR) are of the state, a warehousing and logistic hub is being constructed. Under this project in Gurugram, a global smart city and Mass Rapid Transit System are being developed. At Narnaul, an integrated multimodel logistic hub is being developed at the cost of \$700 million. This project is being developed with assistance from the Delhi-Mumbai industrial corridor project.

>> Page2

NOT SO SWEET FOR YOUR LIVER

Liver regulates most chemical levels in the blood and excretes a chemical called bile that helps carry away waste products from this second largest organ of the body. A recent study says that artificial sweeteners can be harmful to this vital cleaner of the body, PIONEER HEALTH reports

hink artificial sweeteners are health alternatives to white sugar? You may be doing much more harm than good to your body, especially your liver. A new study has said that sugar substitutes such as acesulfame potassium and sucralose, may interfere with liver's ability to detoxify the body.

In their study presented at the Society Biochemistry and Molecular Biology's annual meeting recently, the researchers say that that these sweeteners can have negative impact on liver cells and cell-free

They discovered that the sweeteners disrupted the function of a protein called P-glycoprotein (PGP), which works to help rid your body of toxins, drugs, and drug metabolites (i.e. byproducts that are formed when your body breaks down a drug).

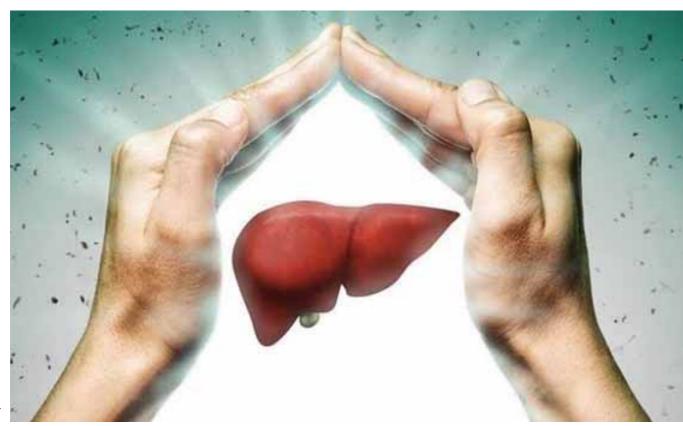
"We think that it might interfere with the efficiency of medication or chemotherapy and increase toxicity," says lead study author Stephanie Olivier Van-Stichelen, Ph.D., an assistant professor of biochemistry at Medical College of Wisconsin. "That's where we're putting our research right now."

Olivier-Van Stichelen points out that while artificial sweeteners will show up on food nutrition labels, the actual amount isn't listed. "We don't usually know how much sweeteners we consume,' she said. "It's not listed on labels for yogurts and diet soda and it's hard for people to know how much they re having.

Acesulfame Potassium is a chemical sweetener about 200 times sweeter than sugar and is typically combined with other sweeteners. It's heat-stable, so it's often found in baked goods but is also widely used in sugar-free frozen desserts, candy, and

Sucralose is another heat stable chemical sweetener that's used in many sugar-free products, including baked goods, beverages, chewing gum, gelatins, and frozen dairy desserts

"The liver is the main-but not only-detoxifying organ in your body," said Jamie Alan, associate



professor of pharmacology and toxicology at Michigan State University. (Your kidneys, lungs, and lymphatic system also play a role in detoxifying your body, along with other organs.) When something interferes with your liver's function, it "may shift metabolism to another non-toxic product and you might not notice anything," Alan said

day the pioneer leading th

But, she adds, "you may build up the active compound or build up a toxic metabolite and then serious side effects or consequences may occur.'

Dr Shalimar, Associate Professor Department of GastroEnterology from Delhibased All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) concurs with the observations made in the study. He says that "Your Liver plays a crucial role in the detoxification process as it is essential for breaking down and clearing waste products from normal metabolism, as well as chemicals, toxins, and medications from your body.

Luckily, there are other natural sweeteners like **Stevia and Monk** fruits which may reduce NAFLD

activity in

your body

and help save your liver. Furthermore, these ingredients display antioxidant and anti-inflammatory

your liver's capacity to do this could mean increased levels of toxins remaining in your system or impairments to metabolism. If you are having non-nutritive sweeteners regularly, this might disrupt Gut Microbiota which is important for optimal health.

He points out that limiting

"Disruption of gut microbiota has also been linked to non alchoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD), and artificial sweeteners may also have a role to play in this condition," Dr Shalimar explains and adds that it indicates that with artificial sweeteners comes NAFLD, a most common chronic liver disease characterized by a buildup of excess fat in liver that is not relat-

ed to heavy alcohol use. "But further studies are needed," he cautions. The NAFLD prevalence has been found to be high among rural and urban North Indian adults, including fibrosis or raised hepatic enzymes. The strong association of metabolic determinants confirms its linkage with

metabolic syndrome, a study conducted by Dr Shalimar among others, too have found. The study is published in PLoSOne.

The health expert from the AIIMS further shares that when NAFLD goes untreated, it can develop into Nonalcoholic Steatohepatitis (NASH). NASH is marked by inflammation in the liver and can set the stage for severe liver damage.

Dr Paul Kasenene, medical doctor and nutrition expert too advises that one should not quit sugar only to go to sweeteners. 'Most times they are worse than sugar. Rather train your tastebuds to appreciate the subtle natural sweetness in most foods. Say No to sugar and No to artificial sweeteners. Don't wait for diabetes to take you off sugar," he says on

So, next time if you find you have high NAFLD or is on the borderline of diabetes/obesity, do keep a watch on sugar substitutes you are consuming.

Anemia: indicator of many diseases

nemia can strike anyone, anywhere And, contrary to general perception, not all anemia is due to iron deficiency. In fact, it could be symptomatic of other diseases, even certain cancers.

Take the case of Naina Bhatia. She had a history of anemia, so when she felt dizziness at an event recently, she thought that her hemoglobin level has gone down. "And that I needed to enhance my iron uptake," said the 52year-old mother of two sons.

Soon after, she caught the flu, accompanied by severe fatigue and unexplained back pain. A round of lab tests revealed high protein levels in her blood. She was told that she had myeloma, a blood cancer that causes abnormal immune plasma cells to grow in the bone marrow.

When myeloma grows in multiple areas of the body, as it typically does, it's called Multiple Myeloma. However, good thing is that, new advances are helping many people with multiple myeloma live disease-free.

Multiple myeloma accounts for almost 2 per cent of all cancers. It more frequently occurs in people over age 65 said Dr Rahul Bhargava, Principal Director of Hematology and Bone Marrow Transplant, Fortis Memorial Research Institute (FMRI) in Haryana's

"Hence, it is important that one should continue having their blood level

In fact, recently, Dr Bhargava has started an Anemia clinic at FMRI Gurugram as a part of the Central Government's initiative of 'Anameia Mukt Bharat'. The FMRI plans to start such clinics Pan India to spread awareness about anemia.

"Anemia at best, impacts every sphere of one's life by rendering the victim too weak and fatigued to even perform basic tasks and at worst. It's silent killer. While the Government initiative targets women, especially adolescent girls, our aim at the FMRI is to include people from all demographics and stages of life whether infants, old, young, man and women," said Dr Bhargava.

TYPES OF ANEMIA □Iron deficiency anemia. This most

□Sickle cell anemia

common type of anemia is caused by a shortage of iron in your body ¬Vitamin deficiency anemia Anemia of inflammation Aplastic anemia Anemias associated with bone marrow disease Hemolytic anemias

SYMPTOMS, IF THEY DO OCCUR, MIGHT INCLUDE:

*Fatigue/Weakness/Pale or yellowish skin/Irregular heartbeats/Shortness of breath/Dizziness or lightheadedness/ Chest pain/Cold hands and

'Skill for Scale' e-courses for nurses

ndia-Sweden Healthcare Innovation Centre, a collaboration between the Swedish Trade Commissioner's Office, AIIMS, New Delhi and AIIMS, Jodhpur, has launched 'Skill For Scale', an elearning initiative designed to equip nurses with hands-on practical knowledge and skills to practice latest patient care for managing noncommunicable diseases (NCDs).

Certified by AIIMS, Jodhpur and endorsed by the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), the programs will allow nurses from across the country to register for free, learn at their own

In its first phase, the program is focusing on Diabetes management prevention and awareness based on a world-class comprehensive curriculum created from diverse resources available within the NCD domain following the NPCDCS auidelines.

The 'Skill for Scale' program is aimed to upskill 5000 nurses across the country within this yearDr. Sanieev Misra. Director, AIIMS Jodhpur said, "NCDs burden is increasing significantly in India

and is already accounting for more than 60% of deaths. This burden of NCDs is expected to increase further over the coming years but the number of doctors with specializations available to treat these increasing numbers are very limited. Through this initiative, we are trying to bridge the knowledge gap that exists at the point of care for patients' This e-learning mobile compatible program is pegged at two levels-basic and advanced and includes a training of 20-24 hours to be completed at the student's own pace. "The Government's recognition of this program will go a long way to deliver accurate health information and ensure safe essential health services. We will continue to focus on upskilling the health workforce and bring impactful solutions locally and globally," said Dr. Anil Kukreja, VP Medical Affairs and Regulatory, AstraZeneca India. Cecilia Oskarsson, Swedish Trade

Commissioner to India added, "ISHIC was created to address the healthcare challenges in the country through key pillars - technology, protocol & process and capability building.

FROM PAGE

Making a difference in people's lives

ear Kharkhauda, a stateof-the-art industrial and commercial township spread over 3,300 acres and a 1,400-acre Industrial Model Township in Sohna are being developed. These townships, besides being closer to the KMP Expressway, are also linked to the Gurugram-Sohna-Alwar highway.

Haryana is the first state in the country to have taken the decision to develop clusters in each district. Under the minicluster project, 15 mini clusters have been completed and the State has plans to develop clusters at the block level.

What has been done to take care of the MSME sector?

A separate department has been set up to promote MSMEs in the state and an online facility has been created for the entrepreneurs. Not limiting our focus to the ease of doing business, we have also concentrated on the 'cost of doing business.' For cutting down the cost of industrial plants, a leasing policy has been

formulated. The 'Haryana Grameen Udyog Vikas Yojna' has been launched to develop micro industries in rural areas. Under the Haryana Agriculture and Food Processing Policy, 2018, approval has been granted to 15 projects worth Rs 200 crore for a food park and food processing

How Haryana stands to gain from being a part of the NCR? Being a part of the NCR and

proximity to Delhi has helped Haryana in a big way. The national Capital, Delhi, is surrounded by Haryana on three sides and 13 districts of Haryana form part of the NCR. The three-side connectivity with the

NCR has not only helped the state in developing a logistics hub but has also accelerated development of trade and industry.

Manesar-Palwal Expressway, Delhi-Mumbai Expressway and the western dedicated freight Gurugram. Work is already in progress on the Gurugram-Alwar road and the Centre has approved Rs 6,000-crore besides the KMP Expressway. The process of land acquisition for these projects has already been set rolling.

The biggest benefit of this connectivity has been the tremendous interest shown by investors. Business tycoons are So far, over 1,000 units with foreign investment have come up in Haryana. These include Siemens, Śuzuki, GE Honda, Smithkline Beecham, JCB, Hollister, Harvel, Osram, Mitsbushi, IBM, Yokohama, Alcatel, POSCO, LG Perfetti, Johnson Matthey, Becton Dickinson, Capro and Harley Davidson.

Give an account of what kind of incentives your government offers to the players and medal winners?

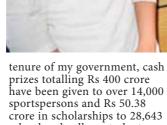
Our government has done what no other government has assuring the winners a secure future. We have many firsts under the belt. Haryana is the first state in India to offer set up Haryana State Development Fund to provide

You know that the Kundli-

corridor of railways pass close to Haryana Orbital Rail Corridors,

trooping in to set up units there.

to incentivize sports right from playing to winning medals and maximum cash prize to medalwinning sportspersons. We have cash prizes and other facilities to deserving sportspersons. During the last more than seven-year



school and college students. Haryana is the first state in the country to provide an advance amount of Rs 5 lakh to

any sportsperson qualifying for Olympic and Paralympic Games. We have enhanced the honorarium amount from Rs 5,000 to Rs 20,000 per month for those winning the Arjun, Dronacharya and Dhyan Chand awards. We have also started a

monthly honorarium of Rs 20,000 to those winning the Tenzing Norgay Adventure Award and Rs 5,000 to those claiming the Bhim Award.

How many medal winners have been given government jobs so

The 'Haryana Excellence in Sports Service Rules, 2021' have been framed to offer

HARYANA IS ALSO WORKING ON THE CONCEPT OF **PROVIDING EDUCATION FROM KG TO PG ON ONE CAMPUS. FOR PROVIDING FACILITIES IN TUNE WITH PRIVATE**

SCHOOLS, 113 NEW SANSKRITI MODEL SCHOOLS HAVE BEEN SET UP AND ONE COLLEGE HAS **BEEN SET UP IN THE RADIUS OF 20 KM. OUR TARGET IS TO OPEN AT LEAST ONE UNIVERSITY AND ONE MEDICAL COLLEGE IN EACH DISTRICT OF THE**

STATE

government jobs to distinguished sportspersons. So far, 85 sportspersons have been given jobs and 550 Group 'A' and C' posts have been created in the Sports Department. Talented sportspersons are also being given 3 per cent reservation in Group 'C' posts and 10 per cent in Group 'D' posts.

What steps have been taken to promote sports culture and set up infrastructure?

With a view to promoting sporting culture in the state, sports calendars are prepared and sub-junior, junior and senior sporting events are organised round the year and all over the state. Besides, sports facilities and infrastructure have been developed right from villages to the state level. Two state-level sports complexes, 22 district-level stadia, 12 sub-divisional stadia and 160 Rajiv Gandhi Sports Complexes have been constructed.

Then, seven swimming

pools, nine synthetic athletics tracks, 13 hockey astro turfs and one football synthetic surface have been built. In 13 districts, sports facility centres have been constructed and these are under construction in four more districts.

Education is very important for building the future of any state. What your government has done in this regard?

Providing quality education and making it accessible to future generations tops our list of priorities. Haryana is the first state in the country to implement the National Education Policy (NEP-2020) for imparting skills and joboriented education to youth. Education from school to the university level has been linked with skill development and technical institutes have signed MoUs with industry as per their requirements.

Haryana is also working on the concept of providing education from KG to PG on one campus. For providing facilities in tune with private schools, 113 new Sanskriti Model Schools have been set up and one college has been set up in the radius of 20 km. Our target is to open at least one university and one medical college in each district of the state.

We have set up 418 Englishmedium government model Sanskriti Primary Schools as centres of excellence and another 1,000 schools have been included in the programme.

Corona has underscored the need for beefing up medical care. What your government

has done in this direction? Proving affordable modern health care facilities to common people remains our primary

concern. While new medical institutes are being opened, medical facilities are being upgraded and strengthened in the existing medical institutes and hospitals.

All Corona patients are being provided free treatment and vaccination. Members of BPL families are being given free treatment in private hospitals also. Financial assistance of Rs 2 lakh is being provided to BPL families for Covid deaths and 79 families have availed themselves of this assistance so far.

Under the 'PM Jan Aarogya Aayushman Bharat Yojna', 27 lakh poor families have been provided medical insurance cover of Rs 5 lakh each. It covers 228 types of surgeries, 70 pathological tests and 21 types of dental facilities, besides 500

The 'Mukhymantri Bal Seva Yojna' has been started for rehabilitating the Covid orphans and Rs 2,500 per month are being given to each of these children. So far, 92 children have benefited under the

Currently, there are 13 medical colleges in Haryana and our target is to set up one medical college in each district. In each of the 13 districts, a 200bed hospital is being set up with ICU and oxygen facilities. A tertiary cancer care centre is being set up at a cost of Rs 72 crore at the Ambala Cantt Civil Hospital with the Centre-State partnership, where cancer patients will be provided all

Haryana successively bagged Category-II award from the National Quality Assurance Standards from 2018-19 to 2020-21 for providing quality facilities at the Community Health Centres and Primary Health Centres in the state.

facilities.

OUTLOOK-

West-led world order in its twilight years

The nations which will have the maximum impact in shaping the international affairs in the upcoming era will be the ones that could not just balance conflicting interests and rival camps but also demonstrate the capability and courage to question and cajole the West towards limiting the weaponisation of finance



 $T^{\text{he end of the Cold War had led to prophecies like Francis Fukuyama's "End of History}$ and the Last Man", declaring mankind's ideological evolution has reached a pinnacle with liberal democracy as the final form of human government. Western hegemony, globalisation, liberal international order and peace in Europe were a given. Cut to two decades later, all the above are suffering an existential crisis. Fukuyama's ultimate nightmare is a world where China supports Russian invasion of Ukraine, and Moscow, Chinese invasion of Taiwan, and the West unable to stop it, which he called as "the end of the end of history".

The onslaught on West-led world order is not temporary; it can be seen from the emphasis on Atmanirbhar Bharat by our External Affairs Minister and Chinese Foreign Ministry's statement that China-Russia cooperation has "no limits" on upholding of security and towards opposition of hegemony. Apart from Russia, China has a strong stake in creating an alternative financial system to evade Western sanctions, when it invades Taiwan or more.

The world is again splitting into two rival camps: the West versus Russia-China with few allies, leaving the rest of the developing world gasping amid geo-political hostilities, sanction regimes, food shortages, skyrocketing energy and commodity prices, supply chain disruptions, gloomy global economic outlook that jeopardise their developmental needs.

De-globalisation and the de-dollarisation

The "weaponisation of finance" by the West on Russia has sounded a death-knell to globalisation, threatening the technological developments, efficiency of production and all other benefits and prosperity ushered by it. Among other sanctions, freezing of Russian Central bank's foreign reserves, cutting Russia off the SWIFT financial payment system, and institutions of international finance, including IMF and foreign banks, were historic and unthinkable. their consequences unpredictable. Raghuram Rajan has called these economic weapons of mass destruction.

Now, situations are building up for secondary sanctions against nations that refuse compliance with the primary. Most nations are themselves adopting import-substitution policies for de-risking.

Alternative financial systems are building up; Chinese-SWIFT CIPS (Cross-Border Interbank Payment System) and the Russian-SWIFT SPFS (System for Transfer of Financial Messages) are expected to merge. Petro-dollar could be a thing of the past as Saudi Arabia is willing to sell oil to China and others in national currencies and Iran is to follow suit. Russia will trade with China, India and Iran in national currencies. Developing countries like India and Israel are diversifying their forex away from dollars. Move away from dollar and euro is fueled not just due to the fear of western diktats, but also expected depreciation of these currencies owing to lower demand.

Cryptocurrency is being used for transferring assets internationally. Russia is preparing to launch digital Ruble which would be used for trade internationally bypassing the dollarbased system. Russia has been lobbying in SCO, BRICS and other forums for using national currencies for trade, integration of payment systems and cards, financial messaging system and creation of an independent BRICS rating agency. In times to come, more trade will happen in national currencies, and developing nations will find new avenues to limit exposure to western currencies like gold, innovative assets in oil and metals or even crypto-currencies if they stabilise.

Post-American hegemony

To measure the decline of any superpower it is needed to gauge the incapability to check a disruptive or destabilising event. A declining power can also continue to reign the world i it has a realistic assessment of its own power and is ready to make compromises to maintain peace

and stability. However, Washington today along with all its allies and their collective might lacks strength in not just having failed in preventing the war but even bringing in a ceasefire. The loss of esteem is visible in Gulf monarchies not taking US President Joe Biden's phone call and Beijing demanding a role in maintaining world eace and stability

Inflation is expected to hit a four decade high in the US at 8.4 per cent, three decades high in the UK at 8 per cent and at record 7.5 per cent in Europe. The Federal Reserve's increasing interest rates to tackle the inflation is expected to send the country into a recession. The largest US banks are reporting their biggest slowdown in investment banking revenues in years due to the war. Europe too is expected to fall into recession, with the World Bank predicting the impact of the war on the economy to be twice as devastating as the Covid impact.

Indo-Pacific: New centre of world

China, though slowing down, is still predicted to grow by 5 per cent this year with inflation at 1.5 per cent. India's GDP is set to grow at 8 per cent this year, though with high commodity and energy prices, inflation in India has reached a worrying 7 per cent. The South Asian economy is poised to grow at 6.6 per cent and East Asia at 5 per cent. Both the regions are expected to return to the economic growth rates they experienced before the pandemic. Beijing and New Delhi are clearly the two actors that received massive attention from the West over Russia, with China engagements being more confrontational for its clear support to Russia, India tactics being of carrot and stick, but reflecting understanding. The Indo-Pacific will not just be the centre of economic growth in the present times but also geo-political heft and cen-

Militarised-Inward looking Europe and rise of the middle powers

As Germany, Sweden, Finland, Romania, Latvia, Netherlands, Belgium, France and the UK decide to increase their defence spending, a militarised Europe is set to give up the advantage of devoting its finances to infrastructure development and socio-economic welfare of their citizens. This will have consequences for their prosperity and quality of life. A Europe lost in continental hostilities, mistrust, weapons race and sanctions will not just be economically weaker but also possesses even lesser appetite for engaging in larger world affairs, more so in confronting China.

Multi-polarity will be the defining theme of the changing world order with nations like China, France, Germany, India, Turkey and Israel, together with other middle powers like Gulf states, and maybe Brazil and South Africa playing greater role in influencing world affairs.

The nations which will have the maximum impact in shaping the international affairs in the upcoming era will be the ones that could not just balance conflicting interests and rival camps but also demonstrate the capability and courage to question and cajole the West towards limiting the weaponisation of finance.

If this world, especially the developing truly neutral nations, seeks and deserves peace, it will have to shoulder the responsibility of not just nudging Russia, but also calling out a stop at further membership of NATO if not its complete de-bundling, when nations like Finland and Sweden make a beeline for it. It ceased being an internal matter for concerned nations, Europe or NATO, the moment the rest of the states became victims of its grave consequences especially as the planet faces its greatest challenge of climate change.

Evolution, seldom linear, is the never-ending process of Fukuyama; to proclaim an ideological end point is the sheer under-estimation of the potential of man, for the good or bad.

(The writer is a foreign policy expert and a



India's non-aligned politics on Ukraine crisis

Tndia has been carefully nego-Itiating the fast-moving geopolitical tectonic plates set in motion by Russia's invasion of Ukraine. On April 1, 2022, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov held talks with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and also met Prime Minister Narendra Modi before his departure. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) stated that the dialogue specifically concerned the impact of the Ukraine crisis on India's economy, noting "that as a developing economy, global volatility in different domains is of particular concern to India. It is important for both countries that their economic, technological and people to people contacts remain stable and predictable".

Tensions

Lavrov's visit synchronised with India's efforts to maintain a neutral position on Ukraine. Not only has India abstained from all five votes in the United Nations to condemn Russia's military operation in Ukraine, it has also refused to participate in Western sanctions aimed at isolating and crippling Russia's economy (Russia has lost \$300 billion of foreign exchange reserves due to these sanctions). At a press conference after his bilateral talks, Lavrov remarked, "I have no doubt that a way would be found to bypass the artificial impediments with illegal unilateral sanctions by the West." This made it clear that Russia and India would go ahead with their plan to use national currencies rather than the dollarbased international system.

India's persuasion of an independent policy with Russia has perturbed the diplomatic martinets of the Global North. Hours before Lavrov arrived in Delhi, US Deputy National Security Adviser (NSA) Daleep Singh, the main designer of the sanctions against Russia, said that there will be "consequences" to countries that actively attempt to circumvent the sanctions". However stressing that "friends don't set red lines", he added, "We are very keen for all countries, especially our allies and partners, not to create mechanisms that prop up the ruble and attempt to undermine the dollar-based financial system".



arrival to India was preceded by the visits of the EU special envoy, the German NSA and the UK Foreign Secretary, all of whom were critical of Indo-Russian cooperation. The particularly sharp exchange between Jaishankar and UK Foreign Secretary Liz Truss highlighted the divergent perspectives that India and Euro-Atlantic nations had on the instabilities in Ukraine. Taking a jibe at the moral hypocrisy of the West, Jaishankar said: "I think what we saw happening in Afghanistan last summer had a very, very strong impact here, certainly in India. I probably would say it didn't have the same impact in Europe...They didn't identify with the people who are affected in the same way. So you know, the truth is that, many of us have similar or shared beliefs, values, but there is ability to relate, the ability to identify, some of it is proximity...the intensity of the reaction may not be the same all over the world."

Declining US hegemony

India's non-aligned response to the Ukraine crisis is similar to the attitude of other Third World nations. On March 2, 2022, non-binding UN resolution that condemned Russia's intervention in Ukraine, populations represented by governments that did not vote for it were much more likely to come from the oil sales to China in Yuan and nations of the Global South. In not dollar. After 1974, this is fact, the UN condemnation of the first time Saudi Arabia Russia was endorsed majorly would sell oil in a currency by rich, white nations that other than the dollar. Russian modities that Russia supplies to

the world's population. What explains this global divide? The countries of the Third World are all too well acquainted with the West's history of bombings, invasions, coups, assassinations, destabilisation campaigns, colour revolutions, etc, to join the latter's supposedly "democratic" chorus against Russia. Instead of this militarist rhetoric against the bogeyman of Russian "authoritarianism", most of them have chosen to adopt the path of diplomatic de-escalation. And in this process, they have weakened Western unilateralism.

The trading partners of

Russia, which is one of the

world's largest exporters of oil, gas, wheat, and fertilizers, have developed alternative payment mechanisms to bypass Western sanctions. Russian financial institutions have been encouraging clients to open accounts in Chinese yuan - a policy direction that is a continuation of the two countries' decision in 2019 to settle all trade between them in their respective currencies. China and the Eurasian Economic Union consisting of Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Belarus and Armenia are also evolving a new monetary system. Saudi Arabia – partly concerned by the way the West arbitrarily seized the dollar holdings of Russia — has indicated that it might designate its relations with Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Qatar in OPEC+ agreements, and the Gulf states' increased sovereign wealth fund investments in Russia are also contributing to the weakening of the dollar's monetary

Presently, the EU gets 40 per cent of its natural gas from Russia; the Kremlin has demanded that Europe pay for this gas in Russian rubles. India has now joined this emerging contestation of UScentered financial architecture by agreeing to a rupee-ruble trade agreement with Russia. For India, the use of non-dollar transaction methods is not new. In 2018, India and Russia entered into an agreement under which Russia agreed to supply five S-400 Triumf air defence systems.

To sidestep the American sanctions imposed under the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA), the two countries agreed that the mode of payment will be in Indian currency. India used a similar system for buying Iranian oil. Through the United Commercial Bank, payments for 30 per cent of the crude oil that India imported from Iran was settled in rupees, which Iran then used to import goods from India.

Unless the core countries of the Global North come to the negotiating table, the attrition of the dollar-dominated system will keep progressing, slowly but steadily. First, given the different kinds of comThe countries of the Third World are well acquainted with the West's history of bombings, invasions, coups, assassinations, destabilisation campaigns, colour revolutions, etc, to join the latter's supposedly "democratic" chorus against Russia. Instead of this militarist rhetoric against the bogeyman of Russian "authoritarianism", most of them have chosen to adopt the path of diplomatic de-escalation. And in this process, they have weakened Western unilateralism



JAWAID IQBAL

the world and the demand from developing economies like China, India, Saudi Arabia, Iran, and those in Southeast Asia, Africa and Latin America, strategic expert Ng Weng Hoong writes that "it is only a matter of time before traders develop an alternative system to make and settle payments without using US-controlled global financial and payment

Moreover, USA's treatment of Russia like a vassal state visible in the financial weapons it has deployed - has made it evident that the American empire will very well bully nations into following the socalled "rules-based order" if the need arises. This had made countries realise that de-dollarisation is important for the protection of political autonomy. In this global conjuncture characterised by multipolarisation, the Indian Government needs to strengthen and expand its non-aligned posture.

(The writer is Dean, Faculty of International Studies, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh)

PERSPECTIVE •

Reviving traditional medicine

 $T^{\text{he inauguration of the Global Centre}} \ \text{for Traditional Medicine (GCTM) on}$ April 19, 2022 in Jamnagar, Gujarat, with the support of World Health Organization (WHO) has paved the way for the traditional medicine in India, including desi dawai, Ayurveda, Yoga and naturopathy, Unani, Sowa-Rigpa, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH).

Sidelined by the advent of modern medicine (western medicine) over the past century owing to the lack of scientific evidence regarding the efficacy of traditional medicine despite its legacy of widespread application in healthcare, the recent upsurge of Covid-19 cases has led to the increasing use of the traditional medicine in the world.

It is understood that the move will help in revival and further global acceptance of the most practised form of health treatment since ages: Ayurveda which has the foundation since 2nd century BC, laid by Vaisheshika (ancient teachings/school of the Hindu) and Nyaya (the school for logic).

Ayurveda has been accepted to be divine and bliss by Hindu over the ages, from Brahma, the Hindu God as the "creator of the universe". It is in the common parlance that the knowledge (Vedas) on holistic healing power of these medicines through 'Shlokas' have been passed from Brahma to the sages and then to the generation for the betterment of mankind.

These are based on four important aspects of knowledge of Hindu beliefs as 'Ŷajur Veda, Rig Veda, Sam Veda, and Atharva Veda". 'Atreya' is considered as the hub of knowledge received from Lord Indra through Lord Brahma and who has scripted these messages in the Atharva Veda and Rig Veda. Among these Vadas,



the Rig Veda is regarded as the most important one which includes 1,028 Shlokas and 67 plants, whereas 81 and 293 useful herbal plants are discussed in the Yajur Veda and Atharva Veda respectively. The famous "Charaka Samhita" encapsulates all this knowledge compiled by Agnivesha and edited by scholars including Charaka.

In these noble Vedas, the popular believe is that Ayurveda is composed of five elements (Pancha Mahabhoota) of the universe: "Vayu (air), Jala (water), Aakash (space or ether), Prithvi (earth) and Teja (fire)". These elements refer to the three basic humors as "Vata dosha, Pitta dosha and Kapha dosha" are known as "Tridoshas". However, these treasures in our ancient wisdom regarding the Indian system of medicine have not been exhaustively explored and scientifically validated.

The present Government has taken some important steps in the context of ISM. The Indian Government founded the Department of Indian Medicine and Homeopathy (ISM & H) in 1995. The latest five-year plan (2012-17) has focused on the role of indigenous medicines in India. In 2014, a dedicated

Ministry of Ayush was set up. The allocation of budget in FY

2022-23 for the health sector stands at ₹86,200 crore. This is an increase of 16 per cent from ₹73,931 crore in FY 2021-22. Through the GCTM, the Indian Government has proposed to revive the Indian traditional medicine by various approaches, such as integration with the modern medicine, data pooling, clinical trials, public private partnership, and equity with sustainability.

It is important to point out that the available written records on medicinal plants are referred to the Sumerians dated back to 5,000 years who established archaeological studies and recognised medicinal practices.

This acknowledges herbal medicinal practices in Iraq about 60,000 years ago, around 8,000 years ago in China and dur-

ing 6000-4000 BCE in India. Japan, China, and Korea have progressed in the case of traditional medicine and developed better traditional medicine systems such as Oriental Medicine of Japan (OMJ), Korean Traditional Medicine (TKM) and Chinese Traditional Medicine (TCM). China is applying TCM on a large scale which accounts for 40 per cent of their healthcare services whereas it is about 69 per cent in Korea. The national policies on healthcare have also included these systems in their treatment. China also gives better training to their healthcare professionals on traditional medicine and official approval was accorded on some herbal drugs for Covid treatment.

(Dr Pratap C Mohanty teaches Economics at IIT Roorkee. He is the principal investigator of the research grant on 'Medical Pluralism in India', sponsored by ICSSR, Govt of India; Kamal Sharma is a research associate)

The treasures in our ancient wisdom regarding the Indian system of medicine have not been exhaustively explored and scientifically validated. The Global **Centre for Traditional** Medicine in Jamnagar is an effort towards making traditional medicine a scientifically proven system of medicine



PRATAP C MOHANTY



KAMAL SHARMA

























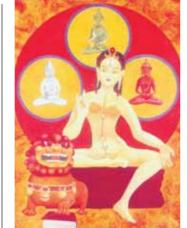




ARIES March 21-April 19

This week you have all the positive energy to take good care of yourself and upgrade your health. However, it depends on how well you channel this energy for your good. This is a period of self-transformation. On the work front, things are not noticeably clear. It is a time when something is not what it appears to be. Practice active listening to make sure that you and your coworkers understand each other perfectly. Some of you may feel lost as you are unsure of your destination. Be calm and let your intuition guide you to success. On the personal front, this is a time to renew your love life. Express yourself to your partner and see how it works in deepening your relationship. You are ready to explore different aspects of your relationship.

Lucky number 8 Lucky colour Pastel colours Lucky day Wednesday



LEO July 23-Aug 22

This week your vitality will be quite strong. Increasing the magnitude of a fitness plan is sure to bring excellent results. Any health challenges that you face at this time will be tackled well by you. Your mental energies are also well-directed and controlled. You must use this time for your best. On the professional front, things are not looking that great. Do not panic and take some time off to re-evaluate what your situation is and what you want out of your job. You must seek answers from within and should be open to taking help from a career counsellor. This will help you to see a fresh perspective on your current situation. Your romantic relationship is likely to go well. You must embrace change and take a long-term view of your future.

Lucky number 19 Lucky colour Black Lucky day Saturday



SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21

On the health front, your biggest success will be based on how you do your everyday affairs. You need to start with the basics. Ensure you are eating right, getting enough sleep and adequate exercise. On the career front, things will be going well for you. You are filled with inspiration and the universe is by your side. But to get actual results, you need to function as well. You may have been through failures in the past but now there is a promise for a bright future. You have it in you to make positive career changes, so go for it. Relationship wise, this is an exceptionally good time for you. Those who are committed will move to the next level. You are likely to have a peaceful and happy

Lucky number 21 Lucky colour White Lucky day Monday



TAURUS April 20-May 20

This week your health is likely to be good. If you are facing health challenges, then be supportive of yourself and love your body. Turn to women with strong feminine energy that will help you heal at this time. Think positively and trust in the universe's healing energy. On the career front, things are looking good. You will be able to achieve quite a lot in a short time. You will be busy, and active and sustain your creative vision even in times of adversity. The best part is that you will be focused on your goals while being friendly and optimistic to those around you. On the personal front, this is an excellent time for you. Unpleasant times are over and there is great potential for happiness in the future.

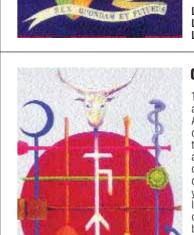
Lucky number 22 Lucky colour Blue Lucky day Sunday



VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

This week you need to pay remarkably close attention to your emotions. You may have to plan for the health that you are currently avoiding. It may be taking a test or getting that surgery or following a fitness plan. Whatever it is, seek opinions, and feedback, and get to know the key information. Also, positive thinking and balanced behaviour are crucial now. On the front, things will go well. If you are already employed, then there are chances for upward mobility. It all depends on whether you utilize your thoughts and conquer your fears to use them for your and everyone else's highest good. On the relationship front, you are aware of any issues that are present in your relationship at this point. The good part is that you are not letting it affect you.

Lucky number 12 Lucky colour Yellow Lucky day Thursday



CAPRICORN Dec 22-Jan 19

This week you need not compromise on the health front as you tend to become inflexible in your approach. Analyse how you are dealing with health issues because chances are you are resistant to changing your ways for the good. You have established your way of living and are following the tried and tested ways. This week on the career front, it is crucial that you have focus and determination to achieve your goals. Chances are that you will be faced with difficulties and others may try to limit you. Be confident and diligent to overcome any opposition. On the personal front, the potential for new beginnings in relationships or renewal is on the cards. Committed people are likely to find a deeper spiritual meaning with their partners

Lucky number 15 Lucky colour Grey **Lucky day** Friday



GEMINI May 21-June 20

This week discipline and logic will be the mantra for your health. You will display self-control in managing your health if you have still not started then this is the right time to do. If you are suffering from an ailment then, layout a healthy regime that suits your body well. Through your attitude, you are likely to bring comfort to those around you. Professionally, this is an excellent time. You will learn to trust yourself and your abilities. You have a strong desire to make the necessary changes that will put you on the path to success. On the relationship front, you are likely to feel disconnected. It is important to let your partner know about this feeling. It may be helpful if you simply spend some time apart.

Lucky number 12 Lucky colour Red Lucky day Thursday



LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

This week the health-related news should be exceptionally good. You will feel exceptionally well at this time. You are thankful for it. Share it with others, as you get back what you give out. You will be feeling upbeat about your future. Give thought to how you may support and continue this good health. Professionally, you can be happy that you will reach the point of accomplishing the goals at the workplace or completing a certain project. However, on the downside, you might get weighed down by the responsibilities and commitments that come with it. Take time out for rest. On the relationship front, you are likely to question the existence of your relationship. The decision is sure to have consequences that will affect your present and your future.

Lucky number 13 Lucky colour Peach Lucky day Thursday



AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

This week your health will be good. You have been through challenges and now are feeling much stronger. With positive health will come happiness in other aspects of life as well. You will feel that you have come a full circle whether it is a career or a relationship. Professionally, you will be quite surprised at how well things are going for you. This period will be marked by the end of any problems that you have been experiencing especially related to your interaction with others. A compromise will be found which will create a harmonious environment. On the personal front, it will be a time of a breakthrough moment in which you feel very inspired and motivated about your relationship with your partner. Ensure you express yourself and know how to use this creative energy.

Lucky number 10 Lucky colour Golden Lucky day Sunday



CANCER June 21-July 22

This week you are neglecting all areas of health from physical to emotional. This is the time to change that pattern and look for more healthful lifestyle choices. You need to take out some quality time for yourself to rest and rebuild your physical, mental, and spiritual energies. Career-wise this period will be crucial. You will be offered a new project or venture. You will feel very enthusiastic about pursuing it. This is the time to use the creative force and inspire in a channelized way to get the desired results. On the personal front, it is time for you to keep your balance in every way you can. Stay mindful of the 'give-and-take' required for all successful relationships. Pay attention to both your and you partner's ideas and share them

Lucky number 11 Lucky colour Brown Lucky day Monday



SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

This week being in control of your emotions will serve you well on the health front. If at all you face illness you should take the doctor's care and can trust them completely. Professionally, you may be presented with a dilemma at your workplace that demands action or decision. Analyse all the available information before you choose the right path. Your value system may be challenged, in that case, stay true to yourself and be as genuine and authentic as possible. There may be an easy choice available; you need to ask yourself whether it is the right choice for you eventually. On the relationship front, you are likely to make a positive start. Do not hesitate to speak your mind to your

Lucky number 14 Lucky colour Green Lucky day Friday

against evil forces



PISCES Feb 19-March 20

Anxiety and stress are likely to affect your life his week. You will feel let down by some health challenges. More than your external situation, it is the troubled psychological state that is bothering you. Stop worrying about what will happen in the future and think objectively about what needs to be done. On the career front, you are on the verge of completing a project but face a setback at the last minute. Know that you have the inner resources to overcome any difficulty or challenge. Be resilient as hidden enemies will oppose you. On the relationship front, you may be confused in deciding whether to stay with your beloved or move on. The decision will affect both your present and future

Lucky number 17 Lucky colour Sky Blue Lucky day Wednesday

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oddess Durga is perceived holding different weapons in her eight arms, evidently aimed at combating the onslaught of demonic forces coming from all possible directions. She, however, is shown carrying accessories reflecting creative potential in only two arms. It simply suggests that forces contrary to our productive aspirations, are far more active and lethal. We, therefore, need to be fully on guard in a combative mode against the evil forces in order to service our existential needs. To drive home this point, the simile of Demon is used to exemplify and forewarn us about impending danger. The demons are believed to be conjurors, capable of hoodwinking us by making varied illusionary presences and charge us from all possible directions unannounced, to their asking.

The weird forms, in which the demons are usually depicted, are nowhere in evidence anywhere on earth. It is so characterised just to exemplify in clear terms the danger inherent in the evil forces existing both within and beyond us. The evil forces dwelling within us are no less potent than those



from beyond. For, human beings, armed with choice option, invariably carry both good as well as animalistic tendencies. If ever the animalistic tendencies

prove heavier, they may prove more dangerous than a carnivorous animal, which is why some of the demons are shown with animal heads

Here, it also needs to be appreciated that the negative memory implants in our minds and the preconditioning thereof, can act a great devil for the self and those around. They often overtake our mind to distract our attention from priority preferences, and which foray into uncontrolled and fanciful inconsequential thoughts. We, thus, often misdirect our energies towards unproductive ends. Our creative potential, thus gets compromised. Trapped into such unproductive voluminous thoughts, we are hardly left with mind-space necessary to invoke our faculty of discrimination. We thus loose our sense of reasons and direction, and thereby objectivity. It, thus, becomes imperative upon us to consciously strike upon such unbecoming tendencies. Otherwise, they will keep

Be on full mental alert

chasing us from within to our detriment. Now, how to figure out the true intent and character of varied demonic presences in disguise, well in time? And then, identify the most appropriate weapon to checkmate their assault? Evidently, it calls for being on full mental alert all the time.

The Mother having 10 arms also correspond to the positive and negative

implications of man's sensory organs – 5 of perception and 5 of action. Experience suggests that in our usual flow of life, more often our sensory perceptions get stuck to the illusionary tempting influences of the seeming world. Ego, further driving one's mind, makes one take things on its face value. Consequently, one does not feel the necessity of invoking the indwelling faculty of discrimination necessary to figure out the underlying truths, otherwise eluding our attention. True picture thus missing, one may inadvertently respond unintelligently on instinctive judgment. By the time one realises, the danger would have caught us unawares. It, therefore, becomes incumbent upon us to be on full mental alert, so as to figure out one's own limitations of mind in time, work upon them aggressively, and ensure being in full control of the self.

Now, why a Lion as Mother's mount? Lion is known to be a very intelligent animal and supposedly the king of jungles. When it goes for a hunt in search of its feed, it moves strategically, carefully, cautiously, without wasting much of its energy, but with its eyes fixed on its prospective kill. It ensures not being

noticed by the kill, till it is ready for its final assault. However, once the prey comes within its reach, it extols all its energy and pounces upon it. But, the lion does not go for its next kill till it has become hungry once again after exhausting its feed. The killing too, is therefore, need based and not out of greed. The animals, unlike human beings, invariably live in their present moment, and are never tempted to amass more than enough to service their immediate needs. Accordingly, Sakti too, ought to be applied intelligently, strategically, with all the care and caution, and focused promptly towards serving need based productive aspirations alone.

If these inputs are made to sink in deep in one's mind through continued reflection, it will induce a person to act accordingly. One may then be able to successfully steer life with ease and comfort, despite all oddities and hazards coming in the way. Life will then turn into a beautiful experience.

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