

The implementation of the new education policy proposed by our respected and Honourable Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi will lead to The Atma Nirbhar Bharat in the field of education.

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# 'Partition Day reminds nation of suffering of Indians'

I pay homage to all those who lost their lives during the Partition: Modi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday remembered 'Partition Horror Remembrance Day', saying the day "reminds the nation of the suffering and sacrifices of Indians".

In tune with the PM, the BJP held peace rallies and programmes across the country to mark the occasion and hit out at the Congress for allowing the Partition. The BJP carried out a silent march led by party president JP Nadda at 'Jantar Mantar' in the national Capital to observe 'Partition Vibhishika Diwas'.

In a tweet, the PM said, "Today, on 'Partition Horrors Remembrance Day', I pay homage to all those who lost their lives during the Partition, and applaud the resilience as well as grit of all those who suffered during that tragic period of our history."

Last year, Modi declared that August 14 would be remembered as 'Partition Horrors Remembrance Day' every year to remind the nation of the sufferings and sacrifices



Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath participates in a silent procession on Partition Day, on the eve of Independence Day in Lucknow on Sunday

PTI

of Indians during the Partition in 1947.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah also paid homage to lakhs of people who he said suffered the brunt of the Partition in 1947 on the occasion of 'Partition Horrors Remembrance Day'.

In a series of tweets, Shah said, "The Partition of the country in 1947 is that inhuman chapter of Indian history which can never be forgotten. The violence and hatred of the Partition claimed millions of lives and displaced innumerable people."

He added that this day will remind the young gener-

ation about the torture and pain suffered by people during the Partition and will continue to inspire countrymen to maintain peace and harmony in the nation.

The BJP targeted the Congress without naming it on the day in a video clip and sought to know why the Partition could not be prevented by those who were in charge then.

The BJP's video featured Cyril John Radcliffe, whose partition map split Punjab and Bengal almost in half, questioning how a person who had no knowledge of Indian cultural

heritage was allowed to divide India in merely weeks.

Significantly, the video which narrated the Partition story had visuals of the first Prime Minister of the country Jawaharlal Nehru appearing frequently as the voice-over continued recounting the horrors of the partition.

"Those who had no knowledge of India's cultural heritage, civilisation, values, pilgrimages, in just three weeks, they drew the border between people living together for centuries", the video said.

"Where were those people at that time who had the

responsibility of fighting against these divisive forces?", the BJP tweeted along with the video.

The party has been organising exhibitions on the issue at various party offices and other places from August 12 to 14.

A six-member committee was set up to ensure the implementation of the idea across the country, which consisted of national general secretary Dushyant Gautam, former Union Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan, Narendra Rana, Anirban Ganguly, Priti Gandhi and Shakti Singh.

## Tragedy of Partition can't be misused to fuel hate: Cong

PM wants to mark August 14 as 'Partition Horrors Remembrance Day' to use it as fodder for his political battles: Jairam Ramesh

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress on Sunday alleged that the real intent of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to mark August 14 as 'Partition Horrors Remembrance Day' is to use the traumatic events as fodder for his current political battles.

Congress general secretary, communications, Jairam Ramesh said the tragedy of the Partition, cannot be misused to fuel hate and prejudice.

He said the politics of hate will be defeated and the Congress will continue its efforts to unite India while upholding the legacy of Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, and Sardar Vallabhai Patel.

"The real intent of the PM to mark August 14 as 'Partition Horrors Remembrance Day' is to use the most traumatic historical events as fodder for his current political battles. Lakhs upon lakhs were dislocated and lost their lives. Their sacrifices must not be forgotten or disrespected," Ramesh said in a series of



tweets.

"The tragedy of the Partition cannot be misused to fuel hate and prejudice. The truth is Savarkar originated the two-nation theory and Jinnah perfected it. Sardar Patel wrote, 'I felt that if we did not accept the Partition, India would be split into many bits and would be completely ruined,' he also said.

The Congress leader also asked, "Will the PM also recall today Syama Prasad Mookerjee, the founder of the Jan Sangh, who championed the Partition of Bengal against the wishes of Sarat Chandra Bose, and who sat in free India's first Cabinet while the tragic consequences of the

Partition were becoming evident?"

Alleging that the "modern-day Savarkars and Jinnahs" are continuing their efforts to divide the nation, Ramesh said the Indian National Congress will uphold the legacy of Gandhi, Nehru, Patel and many others who were untiring in their efforts to unite the nation.

"The politics of hate will be defeated," he asserted.

Pakistan was carved out as a separate country after the division of India by the British in 1947. Millions of people were displaced and many lakhs of them lost their lives in the communal violence that followed.

## Independence Day Greetings to All Fellow Citizens on Completion of 75 Years of Freedom

### Coming 25 years of 'Amrit Kaal' to be 'Kartavya Kaal' of every citizen Let us build together India of our freedom fighters' dreams

“On the occasion of the Independence Day, grateful Indians bow to their countless freedom fighters. As the champion proponents of freedom had joined hands for the cause of independence, in the same way, we have to unite for the development of the country.”

- Narendra Modi

Watch live telecast of the Independence Day ceremony from the ramparts of the Red Fort on Doordarshan from 6:25 a.m. onwards

#HarGharTiranga

  
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting  
Government of India  
75  
Azadi Ka  
Amrit Mahotsav



Jyotiraditya Scindia opens International Center of Media Excelece in Gwalior



PNS ■ GWALIOR

Media across the country will be able to communicate on one platform and researchers are sure to get benefit from the International Center of Media Excellence. This was expressed by Jyotiraditya Scindia, Union Civil Aviation and Steel Minister while inaugurating the center at Gwalior. He added that the International Center of Media Excellence established in memory of Late Praveena Pandey is a gift in the field of media and will benefit Gwalior in many ways. This center will certainly give a new identity to the media of Gwalior.

Scindia during his speech lauded the efforts of Keshav Pandey who is the brain behind this center. The minister said that Keshav Pandey is a person who could make anything possible. Scindia added that Pandey has devoted his whole life to journalism with full devotion and service. Service and journalism has been his second family. Along with journalism, he has given exemplary contribution in the field of sports, education, health and cultural activities.

The minister further said that Pandey has given a great gift to Gwalior in the form of ICOM which he established in memory of his wife. This will prove to be a boon in the field of media. Gwalior's media persons will be able to connect with America, London, Europe and many countries of the world from here.

Scindia said that people build buildings in the memory of their loved ones, but Pandey has taken an exemplary initiative by making ICOM a living institution. This institution built in the memory of his wife will prove to be a milestone. The inauguration ceremony was also attended by Minister of Energy, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Pradyuman Singh Tomar and Seed Corporation Chairman Munna Lal Goyal as special guests.

The patron of the institution, Keshav Pandey said that his late wife Praveena Pandey always had a positive thinking for the progress of Gwalior city. She believed that Gwalior should grow on a new path of development and move with the times, otherwise it will be left behind.

Habibganj police seize a country made pistol and two live cartridges from a miscreant

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

To maintain peace and order on Independence Day, the checking of suspicious persons was done by the police station Habibganj team during which two persons were detained carrying firearms in a SUV.

Acting on a tip off Habibganj police tracked a white colored Fortuner SUV when the driver Durgesh Yadav alias Jeetu was signaled to stop the vehicle bearing registration number MP04CP2743, a country-made pistol was found inside the pants.

In the investigation it was told by the arrested person that he had a dispute with some people, due to which he was keeping the pistol illegally. The country-made pistol along with two live cartridges

and a Fortuner SUV were seized by the police in the investigation.

Police have registered a case under section 25,27 Arms Act, the accused has been arrested and a criminal case has been registered against the accused in the Habibganj police station.

About a dozen criminal cases including attempt to murder, rioting, assault are registered against the accused in police station Kolar and the accused is a listed goon of police station Kolar. The accused does the work of supplying domestic cooking gas.

The source of the firearms is yet to be found and would be investigated in the further investigation, said police. Aide of the accused would be searched and questioned regarding involvement of other criminal activities.

BHEL Ladies Club distributes fruits to patients



pital were also given in which the ICU ward was given the best award. The chief guest of the programme was Sunila Baveja, President, BHEL Ladies Club.

**Bhopal:** A programme of distribution of fruits to the patients admitted in Kasturba Hospital was celebrated under the Amrit Mahotsav of Azadi the other day, under the aegis of Bharat Heavy Electricals Cultural and National Integration Committee (BHECNIS), Kasturba Hospital and BHEL Ladies Club.

On this occasion, fruits were distributed to the patients admitted in Kasturba Hospital and best ward prize based on 55 for various wards of the hos-

Medical Officer of Kasturba Hospital, Dr Alpana Tiwari thanked the BHEL Ladies Club for running the operation of the Vatika Canteen, the supply of various operators through Blue Computer and the necessary assistance from time to time. Avinash Chandra, General Manager TCB and Vice President BHECNIS, members of BHEL Ladies Club, BHEL members, doctors, nursing staff, other officers of the hospital, staff were present in large numbers in the programme.

Police gallantry medals to six police officers of Madhya Pradesh

**Bhopal:** The Police Gallantry Medals has been awarded to 6 officers and employees of the region by the President of India on the occasion of Amrit Mahotsav of Independence.

This medal is awarded for the high degree of valor and indomitable courage displayed in the elimination of 3 hardcore Naxalites active in the region. The honored officers include Superintendent of Police Mandla Yashpal Singh, Additional Superintendent of Police (Anti-Naxal Operation) Balaghat Aditya Mishra, Inspector Salim Khan, Inspector Anshuman Singh, Inspector Sushil Patel, and HCM Atul Shukla.

This medal was awarded to Aditya Mishra and Salim Khan who risked their lives during an encounter in the forest of Malkhedhi near Kanha National

Park in Balaghat District on the night of November 6, 2020 when they killed Sharda alias Pujje, a female Naxalite member of the Khatia-Mocha Area Committee.

Yashpal Singh, Anshuman Singh, Sushil Patel and Atul Shukla were awarded for displaying courage risking their lives at Bodla Area Committee (Bodla Area Committee) in Dalkar for encountering a Maoists in the forest of Lalpur of Mandla District on the mid-night of February 12, 2021.

The four shot down Naxalite member Dulla alias Mainu and female Naxalite member Geeta alias Sukki Markam of Platoon-3) in the encounter. A reward of 14 lakhs each was announced jointly by Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra states on these naxalites.

Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd.

**Corporate Office:** Unit No. 802, Natraj Rustomjee, Western Express Highway and M.V. Road, Andheri (East), Mumbai - 400069  
**Sagar Branch :** 1St Floor, Sakhi Baba Matrix,Makronia Road Sagar-470004,(MP).  
**Bhopal Branch (Old Mandideep) Branch:** 2nd Floor, Alankar Complex,Plot No.10 & 11, Mp Nagar Zone-II Bhopal-462001,(MP)  
**Guna Branch :** P. H. No. 75, Building 1St Floor,in Front Of Hero Showroom, Near Icici Bank, Mahaveerpura, AB Road Guna-473001,(MP).  
**Vidisha Branch :** Shop No. A, 2nd Floor, Gaurav Complex,Ward No. 11, Sanchi Road,Opp. Satya Sai Soya, Plant, Vidisha - 464001,(MP).  
**Betul Branch :** Office No. - 3, 1st Floor, Rajkesri, Civil Lines, Gurudwara road, Betunganji, Betul - 460001 (Madhya Pradesh)  
**Sehore Branch :** Office No-05, 1St Floor, Tamrakar Mall, Commercial Plot No- 15, Sharda Nagar, Sehore-466001,(MP).  
**Hoshangabad Branch :** First Floor, Gram Rasuliya, Near Fouzdar Petrol Pump, Itarasi Road, Hoshangabad-461001,(MP).  
**Ashok Nagar Branch :** Office No.- 3/206,Bachpan School Complex,Near Over Bridge,Ashok Nagar-473331,(Madhya Pradesh)

DEMAND NOTICE  
UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 READ WITH RULE 3 (1) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002.

The undersigned is the Authorised Officer of Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd.(AHFL) under Securitisation And Reconstruction Of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (the said Act). In exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Authorised Officer has issued Demand Notices under section 13(2) of the said Act, calling upon the following Borrower(s) (the 'said Borrower(s)'), to repay the amounts mentioned in the respective Demand Notice(s) issued to them that are also given below. In connection with above, Notice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower(s) to pay to AHFL, within 60 days from the publication of this Notice, the amounts indicated herein below, together with further interest as detailed in the said Demand Notice(s), from the date(s) mentioned below till the date of payment and/or realization, payable under the loan agreement read with other documents/writings, if any, executed by the said Borrower(s). As security for due repayment of the loan, the following assets have been mortgaged to AHFL by the said Borrower(s) respectively.

S. No.	Name of the Borrower / Co-Borrower & Guarantor	Demand Notice Date & Amount	Description of secured assets (immovable property)
1	(Combine LC No. 02300000121 & 02300000596 / Sagar Branch) Ranjit Pal Yadav (Borrower), Anita Pal Yadav (Co-Borrower), Anup Yadav, Sikandar Khan (Guarantor)	18-07-2022 ₹ 4,79,048/- & ₹ 3,02,578/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Plot No 195 D Kh No 151 60 Ward No 16 Bitthal Nagar Ward Old Guru Govind Singh Ward Mauza Madiya Kabula, Sagar, Madhya Pradesh, 470002
2	(Combine LC No. 00600002741 & 00600002950/ Bhopal Branch) Pradeep Singh Gurjar (Borrower), Manjesh Devi (Co-Borrower), Laya Singh Gurjar (Guarantor)	18-07-2022 ₹ 17,56,793/- & ₹ 2,28,325/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Granth No 28878 Flat No M 4 On Plot No E 7 716 2 Floor S Wapnil Aptmrnt Ward No 49 Arera Colony , Bhopal , Madhya Pradesh , 462010
3	(Combine LC No. 00600002169 & 00600002241 / Bhopal Branch) Rama Chourasiya (Borrower), Anil Chaurasiya (Co-Borrower), Jagdish Chandra (Guarantor)	11-07-2022 ₹ 5,51,496/- & ₹ 1,14,439/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, K H No 18 19 1 Part Plot No 32 Ward No 66 Prem Nagar Village Chola Near Rose Marry School Village Chola , Bhopal , Madhya Pradesh , 462001
4	(Combine LC No. 02300001061 & 02300001484/ Sagar Branch) Deep Chand Rathore (Borrower), Lata Bai, Rohit Rathore (Co-Borrower), Vinish Shakespeare Nathaniel (Guarantor)	11-07-2022 ₹ 3,59,413/- & ₹ 3,82,177/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, 475 72 Rajiv Gandhi Ward P O Kh No 475 72 P H No 51 Ward No 20 Rajiv Gandhi Ward Village Etawa Near Vrindavan Colony, Sagar, Madhya Pradesh, 470113
5	(Combine LC No. 07600000200 & 07600000362/ Vidisha Branch) Nafish Khan (Borrower), Shahajad Baano (Co-Borrower),	18-07-2022 ₹ 8,14,206/- & ₹ 2,80,924/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, P H No 42 Aaraji No 347 5 Ward No 03 Aditya Parisar Near Aditya Parisar Durga Mandir Bahlot Tehsil Ganjiba Soda, Vidisha, M.P. 464221
6	(Combine LC No. 00600002273 & 00600004161 / Bhopal Branch) Arjun Singh Vishwakarma (Borrower), Sapna Vishwakarma (Co-Borrower), Barjendra Singh (Guarantor)	11-07-2022 ₹ 3,05,703/- & ₹ 48,748/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, K H No 73 2 P H No 21 Khejda Baramad Plot No 58 Ward No 74 Radhe Dham Colony Khejda Baramad Near Khejda Jain Mandir, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, 462010
7	(Combine LC No. 07000000642 & 07000000723/ Bhopal (Old Branch Mandideep) Branch) Deepak Kumar Singh (Borrower), Kiran Dinesh Singh (Co-Borrower),	11-07-2022 ₹ 15,27,984/- & ₹ 83,077/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, 8 1 1 2 1 Mahakal City Plot No 55 And North Part Of Plot No 56 Mahakal City Transport Nagar Kokta , Bhopal , Madhya Pradesh , 462022
8	(Combine LC No. 00600003426 & 00600004223/ Bhopal Branch) Madho Singh Lodhi (Borrower), Sharda Lodhi (Co-Borrower),	11-07-2022 ₹ 7,63,149/- & ₹ 7,39,366/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Part Kh No 348 349 2 3 3 Kh Sidh Nagar House On Plot No 117 Sidh Nagar Village Sewaniya Omkara Near Isro , Bhopal , Madhya Pradesh , 462010
9	(Combine LC No. 07600000393 & 07600001056/ Vidisha Branch) Akshya Yadav (Borrower), Sunita Bai (Co-Borrower), Chandresh Panthi (Guarantor)	18-07-2022 ₹ 3,66,330/- & ₹ 59,480/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Siraspura House No 19 Ward No 19 Siraspura S No 19 25 Near Dussurpura Dharamshala, Vidisha , Madhya Pradesh , 464221
10	(Combine LC No. 07600000802 & 07600001045/ Vidisha Branch) Azeem Khan (Borrower), Ajji Kha (Co-Borrower),	18-07-2022 ₹ 5,78,943/- & ₹ 63,539/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Nayapura House No 21 Ward No 08 Hajipur Road Naya Pura Near Maha Mayi Mandir, Vidisha , Madhya Pradesh , 464228
11	(Combine LC No. 00600003893 & 00600004229/ Bhopal Branch) Vinod Sharma (Borrower), Nirmala Sharma (Co-Borrower),	18-07-2022 ₹ 5,48,574/- & ₹ 64,129/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Kh No 124 1 1 Ka H No 21 Yashoda Nagar Plot No 27 Yashoda Nagar Ward No 76 Village Malikhedhi Near Gaur Marriage Garden , Bhopal , Madhya Pradesh , 462010
12	(Combine LC No. 07600000043/ Vidisha Branch) Komal Prasad Joshi (Borrower), (Represented Through The Legal Heir) Pushpa Joshi, Ramu Joshi (Co-Borrower)	18-07-2022 ₹ 5,28,236/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Kh No 258 1 1 Ph No 30 Ward No 1 Kh No 258 1 1 Ph No 30 Bhiya Colony Behind B P M School Tehsil Lateri, Vidisha , Madhya Pradesh , 464114
13	(Combine LC No. 07600000487/ Vidisha Branch) Pushpa Joshi (Borrower), (Represented Through The Legal Heir) Ramu Joshi, Ramu Joshi (Co-Borrower)	18-07-2022 ₹ 3,78,428/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Kh No 258 1 1 Ph No 30 Ward No 1 Kh No 258 1 1 Ph No 30 Bhiya Colony Behind B P M School Tehsil Lateri, Vidisha , Madhya Pradesh , 464114
14	(Combine LC No. 07600000883 & 07600000937/ Vidisha Branch) Ashish Dhakad (Borrower), (Represented Through The Legal Heir) Shubham Dhakad (Co-Borrower),	11-07-2022 ₹ 5,58,866/- & ₹ 1,83,273/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Aarji No 1403 1 2 1398 1399 1 Shree Krishna Dham Plot No B 177 Ward No 02 Shree Krishna Dham Colony Jatrapura Near Govt School Ma Hospital, Vidisha, Madhya Pradesh , 464001
15	(Combine LC No. 02300000670/ Sagar Branch) Mohd Shafi (Borrower), (Represented Through The Legal Heir) Mohd Farook (Co-Borrower), Mo. Sahnbaz Malik (Guarantor)	11-07-2022 ₹ 6,65,438/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, House No 18 Ward No 09 Shanichari Ward Mouja Sagar Khas Near Muhammad Masjid, Sagar, Madhya Pradesh , 470002
16	(Combine LC No. 02300001262/ Sagar Branch) Rajesh Soni (Borrower), (Represented Through The Legal Heir) Rekha Soni, Gyarshi Bai Soni (Co-Borrower), Ramakant Soni (Guarantor)	11-07-2022 ₹ 6,37,155/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, P O House No 304 1 A 304 Ba Ward No 36 Vivekanand Nagar Ward Seetla Mata Mandir Road , Sagar , Madhya Pradesh , 470002
17	(Combine LC No. 14500000250/ Ashok Nagar Branch) Nandan Kumar Jain (Borrower), (Represented Through The Legal Heir) Kiran Bai Jain (Co-Borrower),	18-07-2022 ₹ 4,75,035/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Survey No 154 2 2 Ga Ph No 26 Toriya Road Gram Shankarpur Teh Dist Ashok Nagar, Guna, Madhya Pradesh, 473331
18	(Combine LC No. 00600003866/ Bhopal Branch) Mangal Singh Marko (Borrower), (Represented Through The Legal Heir) Mahendra Singh, Phagoo Singh Marko (Co-Borrower),	18-07-2022 ₹ 4,69,694/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Part Of Kh No 86 87 1 2 P Vinayak City House On Plot No 136 Vinayak City Ward No 74 Vidisha Road Village Khedja Baramad, Bhopal, M.P., 462001
19	(Combine LC No. 02300001665/ Sagar Branch) Mahendra Kumar Ahirwar (Borrower), (Represented Through The Legal Heir) Guddeebai Ahirwar (Co-Borrower),	18-07-2022 ₹ 3,75,912/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, P O Kh No 233 P H No 59 Mouja Bandri Karoti Ward No 05 Behind Govt School, Sagar, Madhya Pradesh, 470442
20	(Combine LC No. 07000000161/ Bhopal (Old Branch Mandideep) Branch) Laxman Rao Patil (Borrower), Latika Patil (Co-Borrower), Dilip Bankar (Guarantor)	11-07-2022 ₹ 12,89,494/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, H No 28 Kumarhpura Near Ram Mandir Ward No 21 Tehsil Huzur Bhopal , Madhya Pradesh , 462001
21	(Combine LC No. 00600001112/ Bhopal Branch) Dinesh Kumar Sahu (Borrower), Vimal Sahu (Co-Borrower), Mohd Shahzad Khan, Prakash Sahu (Guarantor)	18-07-2022 ₹ 10,05,493/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, 58 1 59 2 Flat No S 02 Second Floor Plot No 74 75 G B N Apartment Shiv Nagar Gram Hinotiya Ward No 37 80 Fl R , Bhopal, M.P., 462001
22	(Combine LC No. 00600002439/ Bhopal Branch) Mohd Haneef Chouhan (Borrower), Reshma Haneef, Bismillah Bee (Co-Borrower), Mohannad Shafeek (Guarantor)	11-07-2022 ₹ 27,86,743/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Pent House No P 01 P 02 House No 9 Fifth Floor Bhopal Apartment Baramahal Shahjanabad Opp Old Court , Bhopal , Madhya Pradesh , 462001
23	(Combine LC No. 00600001344/ Bhopal Branch) Rahul Singh Chouhan (Borrower), Neha Chouhan (Co-Borrower), Atul Chouhan (Guarantor)	21-07-2022 ₹ 7,42,075/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Flat No 203 Second Floor Plot No 16 17 22 Deep Tower Deep Nagar Mandideep, Raisen, Madhya Pradesh , 462046
24	(Combine LC No. 00600003185/ Bhopal Branch) Rekha Singh (Borrower), Devendra Singh (Co-Borrower), Radheshyam Twivedi (Guarantor)	11-07-2022 ₹ 6,43,128/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, EWS 187 Corner Vishwakarma Nagar Housing Board Colony Berasia Road Ward No 78, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh , 462010
25	(Combine LC No. 02300001286/ Sagar Branch) Ramprasad Kushwaha (Borrower), Phool Bai Kushwaha (Co-Borrower), Shivadhar Sharma (Guarantor)	18-07-2022 ₹ 10,94,688/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Kh No 147 5 2 6 P H No 47 Ward No 2 6 Nanak Ward Mouja Pali Kurwai Road, Sagar, Madhya Pradesh, 470113
26	(Combine LC No. 00600002202/ Bhopal Branch) Narendra Sahu (Borrower), Suman Seema Sahu (Co-Borrower), Manoj Kumar (Guarantor)	18-07-2022 ₹ 16,89,516/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, House On Plot No D 2 Ward No 74 Kailash Nagar Semra Kalan Near Semra Mandi Govt School , Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, 462001
27	(Combine LC No. 00600002862/ Bhopal Branch) Radha Kishan Jangid (Borrower), Reena Vishwakarma (Co-Borrower), Pankaj Kumar (Guarantor)	18-07-2022 ₹ 6,37,415/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Plot No EWS 96 Housing Board Colony Village Satlapur Tehsil Raisen Ward No13 Near Bhaskar Industry Hydro, Bhopal, M.P., 462010

S. No.	Name of the Borrower / Co-Borrower & Guarantor	Demand Notice Date & Amount	Description of secured assets (immovable property)
28	(Combine LC No. 02300000792/ Sagar Branch) Pratap Singh Yadav (Borrower), Pradeep Yadav, Koushyia Bai (Co-Borrower), Ramkrishna Yadav (Guarantor)	11-07-2022 ₹ 2,45,331/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Kh No 823 11 2 P H No 04 Ward No 04 Indira Gandhi Ward Shahpur Road Near Bidhut Karyalay, Sagar, Madhya Pradesh , 470335
29	(Combine LC No. 05800000574/ Guna Branch) Mohneesh Bhargava (Borrower), Suresh Bhargava (Co-Borrower), Yogesh Jeminee (Guarantor)	18-07-2022 ₹ 10,56,077/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Part Of Survey No 857 1 Min Part Of Survey No 857 1 Min P H No 75 Bha Rgava Colony Ward No 20 Near Bhargava Krashi Form, Guna, M.P., 473101
30	(Combine LC No. 07600000470/ Vidisha Branch) Femeed Bhai (Borrower), Igra Bano, Shahjadi Bee (Co-Borrower), Javed Ali (Guarantor)	18-07-2022 ₹ 6,01,707/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Ward No 04 Shop No 7 Mohalla Kahara Bazar Near Nishant Takiz, Vidisha, Madhya Pradesh, 464228
31	(Combine LC No. 13500000156/ Betul Branch) Manoj Kumar Chouksey (Borrower), Savita Chouksey (Co-Borrower),	18-07-2022 ₹ 4,22,389/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Land of Khasra No 177 375 Prasant Vihar Colony Plot No 61 Land of Khasra No 177 375 Rani Pur Road Prasant Vihar Colony Gouth Ana Betul, M.P., 460001
32	(Combine LC No. 00600000934/ Bhopal Branch) Jameel Ahmad Choudhary (Borrower), Rahamat Begm Chodhri (Co-Borrower), Ram Awtar (Guarantor)	11-07-2022 ₹ 5,82,019/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Flat No Mig 107 First Floor Plot No 43 Melanium Haritade Block 2 Near Medical College Hostel Inner Road of, Bhopal, M.P., 462001
33	(Combine LC No. 07000000575/ Bhopal (Old Branch Mandideep) Branch) Geeta Vanshkar (Borrower), Atma Ram (Co-Borrower) Deepak Vanshkar, Kailash Dhanak (Guarantor)	11-07-2022 ₹ 6,38,754/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Part Of Survey No 33 34 2 Plot No 78 Ratlan Colony Road Gopal Nagar W No 78 Gram Palashi Karond , Bhopal , Madhya Pradesh , 462010
34	(Combine LC No. 00600001047/ Bhopal Branch) Amit Soni (Borrower), Sonu Soni (Co-Borrower)	18-07-2022 ₹ 12,90,067/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Flat No M 1 G T 01 Third Floor Plot No 29 1 Jai Maa Apartment Choudhbar Pura Taliya Ward No20 , Bhopal , Madhya Pradesh , 462001
35	(Combine LC No. 05800001155/ Guna Branch) Deepak Prajapati (Borrower), Anita Bai, Bundel Singh Prajapati (Co-Borrower), Sanjay Kushwah (Guarantor)	11-07-2022 ₹ 9,94,644/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Survey No 228 Min 11 Bhagat Singh Colony Aka Part Of Plot No C 6 14 Ward No 01 Bhagat Singh Colony Aka P H No 64 Village Nanakhedi, Guna , Madhya Pradesh , 473001
36	(Combine LC No. 07000000461/ Bhopal (Old Branch Mandideep) Branch) Rahul Gurjar (Borrower), Shankar Lal Gurjar (Co-Borrower), Nitin Tomer (Guarantor)	21-07-2022 ₹ 3,73,845/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, K H No 233 235 237 199 200 1 Plot No 269 Ward No 40 Subhash Colony Semra Kala Near Gwal Baba Mandir, Bhopal , Madhya Pradesh , 462010
37	(Combine LC No. 02300000091/ Sagar Branch) Kamla Thakur (Borrower), Keshav Singh Thakur (Co-Borrower), Balam Thakur (Guarantor)	21-07-2022 ₹ 1,95,949/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Kh No 82 5 P H No 71 Circle Sagar 2 Ban Di No 334150 Moja Rajakhedi Sagar, Madhya Pradesh, 470002
38	(Combine LC No. 07600000381/ Vidisha Branch) Bhagwat Singh Raghuvanshi (Borrower), Mithless Bai (Co-Borrower), Mukesh Raghuvanshi (Guarantor)	18-07-2022 ₹ 10,64,716/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Aaraji No 251 1 2 Plot No 03 Aaraji No 251 1 Dharam Ka Nta Village Hathoda Near Betwa Bayour Ho Use Manakschool, Vidisha, M.P., 464221
39	(Combine LC No. 00600001175/ Bhopal Branch) Sanjay Katara (Borrower), Sangeeta Katara (Co-Borrower), Deepak Baghel (Guarantor)	11-07-2022 ₹ 6,01,986/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Plot No 12 Govardhan Dham Kh No 83 Gram Khushiapura Chandbad Ward No 36, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh , 462001
40	(Combine LC No. 07000000186/ Bhopal (Old Branch Mandideep) Branch) Sandeep Mairade (Borrower), Vandana Mairade (Co-Borrower), Prem Narayan (Guarantor)	11-07-2022 ₹ 4,83,617/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Kh No 22 1 1 2 2 2 2 2 Plot No 322 Saubhagya City 01 Vill Rasulli Chunanager Near MPV Office Chunageri, Bhopal , Madhya Pradesh , 462001
41	(Combine LC No. 14200000025/ Sehore Branch) Prem Narayan Kalal (Borrower), Chanda Bai Kalal (Co-Borrower), Hariom Jaiswal (Guarantor)	11-07-2022 ₹ 6,18,867/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, P H No 103 Ward No 05 Adarsh Colony Village Kurawar Infront Of Adarsh Convent School, Rajgarh , Madhya Pradesh , 465665
42	(Combine LC No. 00600002542/ Bhopal Branch) Shambhu Nath (Borrower), Alok Kashyap, Arati Devi (Co-Borrower),	11-07-2022 ₹ 3,77,427/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Flat No 5 Third Floor Ali Apartment Ward No 08 Noor Mahal Near Tajul Masjid Mulla Ki M, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh , 462001
43	(Combine LC No. 07600000525/ Vidisha Branch) Ghansyam Vishwakarma (Borrower), Krishna Bai (Co-Borrower), Jamana Prasad (Guarantor)	11-07-2022 ₹ 6,11,679/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, S No 1325 1326 1327 1328 1329 Plot No 189 Ward No16 Sarthi City 01 Katra Ward Gali Highschool Marg Near High School Aaron Road, Vidisha, Madhya Pradesh , 464228
44	(Combine LC No. 02300001244/ Sagar Branch) Shubham Jain (Borrower), Archana Jain (Co-Borrower), Abhishek Kumar Jain (Guarantor)	11-07-2022 ₹ 12,20,063/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Plot No 86 415 2 P O Kh No 6 105 6 106 P H No 67 Ward No 22 Ravidas Ward Mouja Bamankhedhi, Sagar, Madhya Pradesh , 470002
45	(Combine LC No. 02300001307/ Sagar Branch) Aarif Khan (Borrower), Makbul Bee (Co-Borrower),	11-07-2022 ₹ 8,19,686/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Kh No 100 3 2 P H No 51 Gram Bardhor A Aagasd Road, Sagar, Madhya Pradesh, 470113
46	(Combine LC No. 02300001300/ Sagar Branch) Ravindra Singh Tomar (Borrower), Ladkunvar Devi Tomar (Co-Borrower),	11-07-2022 ₹ 4,52,746/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, P O Kh No 508 3 2 P H No P H No 51 Ward No 07 Chandrashekar Ward Mouja Gram Etawa, Sagar, Madhya Pradesh , 470113
47	(Combine LC No. 07600000753/ Vidisha Branch) Sachinda Kurmi (Borrower), Sandhya Kurmi (Co-Borrower),	11-07-2022 ₹ 8,70,402/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Free Ganj Plot No 01 K H No 180 2 30 3 Ward No 17 Freeganj Mohalla Khajrod Road Sihora Opposite of Hira Petrol Pump, Sagar, M.P., 470111
48	(Combine LC No. 02300000056/ Sagar Branch) Usha Soni (Borrower), Sanjay Kumar Soni (Co-Borrower), Rameshwar Pd Soni (Guarantor)	18-07-2022 ₹ 1,62,798/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Kh No 49 P H No 66 Circle Sagar Mauza Lalai Tori Sagar, Madhya Pradesh , 470002
49	(Combine LC No. 07000000321/ Bhopal (Old Branch Mandideep) Branch) Vandana Rao (Borrower), Asha Rao (Co-Borrower), Ashok Gour (Guarantor)	18-07-2022 ₹ 7,74,297/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, H No Mig 02 13 Anuja Village Ward No 8 4 Near Hariganja Nagar Bhopal, M.P., 462001
50	(Combine LC No. 00600002321/ Bhopal Branch) Kamlesh Malviya (Borrower), Bali Malviya (Co-Borrower), Horendra Malviya (Guarantor)	18-07-2022 ₹ 2,72,647/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, K H No 116 Ward No 36 Babu Colony Semra Gate Semra



# JeM affiliate PAFF takes responsibility for attack on Army camp

RAKESH K SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

The People's Anti-Fascist Force (PAFF), believed to be an affiliate of Pakistani terror group Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM), has taken responsibility for the attack on an army camp in Rajouri in Jammu early on Thursday in which four soldiers lost their lives and two terrorists were liquidated in the operation.

The PAFF has issued two separate video messages claiming responsibility for the attack and warned of more such attacks to achieve its objective of internationalizing the Kashmir issue.

In one of the videos, a man with his face blurred warns to escalate attacks against the security forces which he dubbed as "Hindutva Forces".

"With Rajouri attack, we began such an operation. We will gradually calibrate to such a level that the international community knows that Kashmir is still a war zone," the man in the video warned.

The outfit further warned that it is determined to not allow India to conduct any G-20 meeting in Kashmir and that it will do anything and everything to stop this.

Besides hard military attacks, the outfit has exhorted the Kashmiri diaspora to raise the issue diplomatically and engage as many foreign governments as possible to highlight the issue.

Four Army jawans were killed in the terrorist attack on an Army camp in the Rajouri district of Jammu early on Thursday, just four days ahead of Independence Day. Both the terrorists involved in the attack were gunned down in the four-hour gunfight that ensued.



# From Delhi to Kashmir — heavy security blanket for I-Day celebrations

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India has not only been decked in tricolour hues in the lead up to the 76th Independence Day celebrations, but also put under a heavy security blanket, right from Delhi, the epicentre of the mega celebrations, to Jammu and Kashmir. The police machinery across states has been put on vigil to ensure that the celebrations are not hampered in any way.

In Delhi, where Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be addressing the nation from the ramparts of the historic Red Fort, security has been stepped up with Delhi Police deploying more than 10,000 personnel to guard the Mughal-era monument.

From facial recognition system (FRS) cameras installed at the entry point of the Red Fort to multi-layered security cover and deployment of over 400 kite catchers and fliers on rooftops and other sensitive locations in the fort area to counter any threats from sub-conventional aerial platforms - the area is under hawk-eye vigil.

With nearly 7,000 invitees expected to attend the event at the Red Fort, a five-kilometre area around the monument has been marked as "no kite flying zone" till the tricolour is hoisted. Dendrapa Pathak, Special Commissioner of Police (Law and Order), had said provisions of Section 144 have already been instituted in Delhi.

Anti-drone systems from Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and other security agencies have also been installed, police said. In the

# Nitish Govt to have panel for coordinating with its allies in Bihar

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ PATNA/NEW DELHI

To prevent any dissatisfaction within its allies in the new Mahagathbandhan Government led by Nitish Kumar, a formula has been worked out for allotting Ministerial berths.

A coordination committee will also be formed to take up issues raised by the alliance partners and ensure that differences do not come into the public domain and are sorted out internally.

Sources said the formula worked upon is one Ministerial berth to a party per every 4 MLAs. This means that the major partner RJD led by Deputy CM Tejashwi Yadav will have a greater share with 18 ministers followed by Nitish's JDU with 12 berths.

The Congress will end up with four Minister berths. The Grand Alliance at present comprises seven parties — JD(U), RJD, Congress, CPIML(L), CPI, CPI(M) and

HAM, which together have more than 160 MLAs in the 243-member Assembly.

Congress state in-charge Bhakta Charan Das said the party as of now will get three Ministers, with 2 taking oath on August 16 and others to be inducted in the next exercise. If the above formula worked, then Congress may get an additional berth later.

The Left parties will not join the Government and extend outside support. The Left block has 16 members in the Assembly. The Nitish-led Mahagathbandhan Government will go on for a floor test on August 24.

Das said the Congress MLAs who will become the Ministers are yet to be decided. "We will finalise the names of our legislators who will be part of the Nitish Kumar Cabinet on Monday," he said.

While Nitish is in touch with Tejashwi, JD(U) president Lalan Singh reached Delhi to meet RJD patriarch Lalu Yadav.

# Army awarded 1 Kirti Chakra, 8 Shaurya Chakra on occasion of I- Day

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Army was awarded one Kirti Chakra, the second highest peacetime gallantry medal, besides eight Shaurya Chakra (third highest) on the occasion of Independence Day.

Two of the Shaurya Chakras out of eight were awarded the medal posthumously. All nine medals were given for the gallant actions of the soldiers in Jammu and Kashmir.

Giving details here on Saturday, officials said the Kirti Chakra was awarded to Naik Devendra Pratap Singh. The Shaurya Chakra awardees include MAJOR NITIN DHAANIA, MAJOR AMIT DAHIYA, SENA MEDAL MAJOR SANDEEP KUMAR, MAJOR ABHISHEK SINGH, HAVILDAR GHANSHYAM and LANCE NAIK RAGH VENDRA SINGH. The posthumous awardees are SEPOY KARN VEER SINGH and GUNNER JASBIR SINGH.

# ICMR receives 31 bids to develop Monkeypox vax

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has received 31 bids from manufacturers showing interest in developing vaccines against the monkeypox virus after the medical body floated the Expression of Interest (EOI) for the development of vaccine and diagnostic kits.

According to the source, of the total 31 bids, eight companies have submitted the EOI for the vaccine development while 23 firms showed interest towards the development of kits. The ICMR had invited the EOI last month after its lab

National Institute of Virology (NIV), Pune isolated the monkeypox virus strain. However, no company has been awarded the tender yet and it is currently under evaluation, the source added. The manufacturers would develop the vaccine through a public-private partnership.

The EOI was invited by experienced vaccine manufacturers and in-vitro diagnostic (IVD) kit manufacturers for joint collaboration in developing vaccine candidates against monkeypox. The last date for submission of EOI was August 10. "ICMR-NIV Pune has successfully isolated and cultured the Monkeypox virus strain

from the samples of infected Indian patients. Genomic sequence of the Indian strains has 99.85% match with the West African strain circulating globally," said the official.

There are two known types (clades) of monkeypox virus — one that originated in Central Africa and one that originated in West Africa. The current world outbreak (2022) is caused by the less severe West African clade. As per the EOI, the ICMR reserves all the Intellectual Property Rights and Commercialisation Rights on the Monkeypox virus isolates and its method/protocols for purification, propagation and characterization.

# I-Day occasion to remember freedom fighters, builders of modern India: V-P Dhankhar

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Independence Day is an occasion to remember the valiant freedom fighters whose courage and sacrifice brought us freedom and the builders of modern India, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar said on Sunday.

As India celebrates "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav", it is time to recall and retell the inspiring stories of the great revolutionaries and freedom fighters to encourage the younger generation to imbibe the virtues of patriotism, sacrifice and service, he said.

In his message on the eve of 76th Independence Day, the vice president said as we celebrate the immense progress made over the last 75 years, "let us not forget how hard-won our freedom is."

"Independence Day is an occasion to remember and pay tribute to those valiant freedom fighters whose courage and sacrifice brought us freedom from the oppressive colonial



rule," he said. Dhankhar said this day is also an occasion to pay our gratitude to the builders of modern India whose hard work and dedication laid the foundation of a sovereign, stable and strong republic.

"Today, India is a country brimming with potential, surging ahead on the path of all round development... On this Independence Day, let us renew our pledge to uphold the civilisational ethos of 'Bharat' and constitutional values and rededicate ourselves to further gallop towards building an inclusive, progressive and prosperous India," he said.

# Nadda takes part in silent procession to mark Partition Horrors Remembrance Day

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

BJP national president J P Nadda on Sunday participated in a silent procession here in remembrance of India's Partition in 1947 and the tragedy associated with it.

The procession from Jantar Mantar to Connaught Place also saw the participation of Union ministers Piyush Goel and Anurag Thakur, BJP vice president Vijayanti Panda, the party's Delhi unit president Adesh Gupta and ex-Union minister Harsh Vardhan, among others.

Holding the national flag, the participants marched silently to mark the Partition Horrors Remembrance Day, paying homage to people who died during Partition. Pakistan was carved out as a Muslim country after the division of



India by the British colonial rule in 1947. Millions of people were displaced and lakhs of them lost their lives in the communal violence that followed.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had announced last year that August 14 will be observed as 'Partition Horrors Remembrance Day' in memory of the struggles and sacrifices of people. India will celebrate its Independence Day on Monday.

# 108: J&K Police personnel get maximum medals for gallantry

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

On the occasion of Independence Day, police personnel from Jammu and Kashmir bagged 108 police medals for gallantry (PMG), the most among States and Union Territories of the total 347 gallantry awards.

The CRPF personnel bagged the maximum number of medals with 109 gallantry awards in serving regions like Jammu and Kashmir and Maoist-affected areas. As many 87 personnel and officers won President's Police Medals for Distinguished Service.

Various categories of service medals, including for gallant action, have been awarded to 1,082 police personnel from CAPFs and state forces, said the Ministry of Home Affairs in a statement said Sunday.

"Among the majority of the 347 Gallantry Awards, 204 personnel are being awarded for their gallant action in Jammu & Kashmir, 80 personnel for their gallant action in Left Wing Extremism affected areas, and 14 personnel for their gallant action in North-East Region.

Among the personnel receiving Gallantry Awards, 109 are from CRPF, 108 are from J&K Police, 19 are from BSF, 42 are from Maharashtra, 15 are from Chhattisgarh, and the remaining from the other States/UTs and CAPFs," said MHA.

Among them, 347 have been awarded police medal for gallantry (PMG), 87 President's police medal for distinguished service, and 648 given police medals for meritorious service.

Out of the 347 gallantry awards, 204 personnel are being awarded for their gallant action in Jammu and Kashmir, 80 for displaying bravery in Left Wing Extremism or Naxal violence-affected areas, and 14 personnel for showing bravery in North-East Region, the Union

Home Ministry said. CRPF IGs Padmakar Santu Ranpise, Rajesh Kumar, CISF IG Hem Raj Gupta, SSB IGs Pankaj Kumar Darad, Pradeep Kumar Gupta, BSF IG Bhupendra Kumar Mehta, and DIGs Indraj Singh, Kamaljit Singh Banyal, Binay Kumar Jha were among the 87 persons won the President's Police Medals for Distinguished Service.

Intelligence Bureau's Joint Directors Rajiv Ahir, Sunita Kakran and Balbir Singh also got the President's Medal. Delhi Police's Assistant Commissioners Pancham Chand and Shivaji Chauhan also won the prestigious President's Police Medals for Distinguished Service.

The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) has received the maximum gallantry medals at 109, followed by 108 to the J&K Police, 19 to the Border Security Force (BSF), and six each to the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) and Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB). Within the state police forces, 42 gallantry medals have been given to Maharashtra, 15 to Chhattisgarh for the anti-Maoist operations.

Ghulam Rasool Bhat, Jatinder Singh, Faiz Mohd, and Allah Din Khatana of the Jammu and Kashmir Police have been awarded the Police Medal for Gallantry for their counter-terrorism operation on March 23, 2021, in the Shopian district that saw protests from locals.

The terrorist was neutralized in an hours-long complex operation. During the operation, "a huge number of miscreants had gathered from nearby villages and started pelting stones on security forces followed by sloganeering against them," reads the citation.

"These teams displayed utmost tolerance and kept the miscreants at bay. In this process, a few men of the law & order team got minor injuries. After a thorough search, bodies of 04 terrorists of LeT out-



DR. BHUPENDRA KUMAR MEHTA, IG (Med) Shri INDRAJ SINGH, DIG (Now IG) Shri KAMALJIT SINGH BANYAL, DIG (Now IG) Shri BINAY KUMAR JHA, DIG, (Now IG) DSPR (Min) VARGHESE VK

fit and their arms/ammunition were recovered from the site and the operation was called-off," said the citation.

Twenty Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) force personnel have been awarded various service medals, including for bravery, on the occasion of Independence Day.

The decorations include six police gallantry medals, three President's police medals for distinguished service, and 11 police medals for meritorious service, ITBP spokesperson Vivek Kumar Pandey said. Sashastra Seema Bal's (SSB) personnel got 20 awards including six medals for President's Police Medals for Distinguished Service.

Those awarded the bravery medals include Assistant Commandants (ACs) Prabhat Mukul Martin Minz and Amit Kumar, Assistant Sub Inspector Kuldip Raj, Head Constable Hamesh Kumar and Constables Brahm Chandra and Shakti Kumar. They have been awarded for undertaking two separate operations against Naxals in Chhattisgarh, the spokesperson said.

Seventy BSF personnel have been conferred with Police Medals which includes 19 Police Medals for Gallantry, 05 President's Police Medals for Distinguished Service, and 46 Police Medals for Meritorious Service. "Constable Kishan Kumar Dubey of 119 Bn BSF

made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty while defending an FDL in Distt - Kupwara (J&K) on July 9, 2015, during unprovoked firing by Pak troops. For meticulous operational planning, exemplary courage, and operational acumen, Ct Kishan Kumar Dubey has been awarded Police Medal for Gallantry (Posthumously).

"During the intervening night of 7/8th August 2016, troops of 156 Battalion BSF while deployed in FDL Bhuriwala in Jammu Kashmir, noticed the movement of heavily armed militants trying to infiltrate into own side.

Party challenged the militants which further lead to an encounter in which SI Mahendra Yadav, HC Chandra Pal Singh, CT (Cook) BananSaha made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty. Own party also neutralized one militant and recovered a huge quantity of Arms and Ammunition from the encounter site.

For the meticulous operational planning, exemplary combat audacity, operational acumen, and flawless conduct of operation, SI Mahendra Yadav, HC Chandra Pal Singh, CT (Cook) BananSaha have been awarded Police Medal for Gallantry (Posthumously) and Ct Harikesh Meena awarded with Police Medal for Gallantry," said BSF quoting the citation.

# Seven decades after Partition, 94-yr-old woman recalls carnage, rebuilding life from scratch

PTI ■ AMBALA

There was bloodshed everywhere... Every other person on the train was mourning the loss of a loved one," says 94-year-old Kailash Rani, recalling the day she and her family were forced to flee their home in Pakistan's Rawalpindi during Partition.

"Some of our close relatives accompanying us were killed in cold blood by some youths," Rani said here on Sunday. The independence of India from British colonial rule in 1947 coincided with Partition that triggered widespread communal violence and resulted in an insurmountable refugee crisis.

Rani said her husband, Suraj Prakash, a businessman, faced communal violence and mindless hate before the family decided to leave Rawalpindi for somewhere safe.

"We were well settled and our family was very prosperous living in a posh colony there. Suddenly, riots erupted and we were forced to leave," the nonagenarian said. She said the situation was so bad at that time that they could not take any valuables with them.

"We buried all our gold ornaments in the corner of our house hoping to collect them after a few years once the situation would return to normal." Unfortunately, we have not been able to visit our ancestral house in 75 years. We don't even know if our house in Rawalpindi still exists," she said.

Rani said she and her family managed to reach the railway station and boarded a train headed to India. "There was chaos, fear and looting on the train. The train was overloaded with refugees. Thank God we reached Ambala safely," she said.

Like millions of others who were displaced during Partition, Rani and her family members had to rebuild their lives from scratch.

Initially, they lived in tents along with other families at Baldev Nagar Camp in Ambala city. "Later, we were shifted to mud houses.

# India well-equipped to handle challenges: Union Min on Colombo allowing Chinese ship to dock

PTI ■ CHENNAI

Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal on Sunday asserted that India is well equipped to handle any kind of challenges that may arise in the wake of Sri Lanka allowing a high-tech Chinese 'research' ship to dock in its waters.

His statement comes a day after the island nation said that it has allowed a Chinese military ship to anchor at the Hambantota port from August 16 till 22 for "replenishment purposes," amidst India's concerns over the presence of the vessel in the neighbourhood.

"We are well equipped and well prepared to handle any kind of situation effectively under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

That is clear," Sonowal said. The Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways was responding to a question from reporters here. To another query regarding Indian cargo ships depending on Colombo port, which acts as a transshipment hub in the Eastern

coast, he said, "The Ministry is very much committed to developing a transshipment hub on the Indian coasts. We have declared it earlier also." Chennai Port Trust Chairman Sunil Paliwal intervened to say, India

already responded strongly on the issue relating to the Chinese ship and cautioned that "security situation of a country should not be discussed like this."

On the development of infrastructure at Ports across the country, the Union Minister said, "We have already started to develop our infrastructure in Paradip, Vishakapatnam and also in Chennai Port. We are also planning to develop infrastructure in Tuticorin port..."

Sonowal said his Ministry has planned to set up a new fishing harbour in Paradip Port, Vishakapatnam and also Chennai Port "within a short span of time".

"We have already sanctioned Rs 99 crore to Chennai (Port Trust) for the fishing harbour", he said.



Schoolchildren participate in a Har Ghar Tiranga campaign under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav in New Delhi on Sunday





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PAPER WITH PASSION

## India survives

India has proved the doomsayers wrong; it has progressed a lot in the last 75 years, but it has to do a lot more

The Narendra Modi Government is celebrating the 75th anniversary of Independence with massive fanfare, calling it Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. Patriotism is in the air—quite literally—as competing with the Prime Minister in the display of tiranga is Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal. Then there are intellectuals, most of them Left-liberal, who are sullenly watching the march of Modi’s nationalism which they intensely dislike. But if one objectively looks at the three quarters of a century of India as an Independent nation, one has to recognise that, despite all the failings and shortcomings, it has been a successful journey. The very fact that our nation still has the same boundaries and the same Constitution is itself a very comforting fact. When India became Independent, not many people in the world gave much of a chance to it to survive for too long as a democratic republic; and the fears and misgivings were real, not the results of conspiracy theories. It was a poor country, beset with all kinds of problems; it was even struggling to feed its teeming millions—a situation that continued for more than two decades after Independence. From the net per capita availability of food-grains ranging from 127 to 145 kg in 1946, it was 180.3 kg in 2018. Life expectancy was just 31 years, which has now crossed 70 years. The infant mortality and maternal mortality rates were very high, while education levels were very low.



Besides, there were mind-boggling diversity and divisive forces; apart from the eternal bane of caste, there were Hindu-Muslim communal tensions, militant regional/sub-nationalist movements, and other disruptive elements. But India survived in the early years, which was attributed to the towering personality of Jawaharlal Nehru, so people asked ‘who after Nehru.’ He died 58 years ago, the years in which the country faced humungous problems, from the Malthusian prospects in the 1960s to a brush with dictatorship (the Emergency, 1975-77) to militancy in Punjab and jihadist separatism in Kashmir to economic crisis in 1991. But India has not perished, neither as a nation nor as a democratic republic. This is not to say that all is well with our democracy and our republic. Our democracy has been weakened by several insidious mechanisms, the prominent among them being the anti-defection law. The republic has been undermined by all governments by way of introducing illiberal changes in the Constitution itself, beginning with the First Amendment in 1951, which curtailed the Fundamental Rights to Freedom of Expression and Property; the later eventually ceased to be a Fundamental Right, getting reduced to a legal right. Similarly, while a lot of economic development has taken place in the last 75 years, India remains a poor country; with its per capita income around \$2,300, its rank in the world is 144. India has progressed a lot in the last 75 years, but it has to do a lot more.

### PICTALK



A 75-ft National Flag being unfurled at the southern tip of India, ahead of Independence Day, in Kanyakumari

PTI

## A cowardly attack

Attack on Salman Rushdie opens up the debate on banning books in a democratic society

In a shocking incident, author Salman Rushdie was stabbed 10 times at an event in New York and was seriously injured. The attacker Hadi Matar follows Shia extremists on social media and is an admirer of Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard (IRGC). He has pleaded not guilty. Rushdie’s book ‘The Satanic Verses’, published in 1988 was considered by Muslim clerics as disrespectful of Islam and the Prophet Mohammad. The novel led to a fatwa, a religious decree, by Iran’s leader Ayatollah Khomeini. The threat forced him into hiding for several years. The author is likely to survive but may lose one eye. He was stabbed 10 times at Chautauqua Institution, where Rushdie was about to speak at the event. The suspect rushed onstage and stabbed him before being wrestled to the ground by staff and other people in the audience. Many world leaders condemned the attack and called it vicious and cowardly.



Back home, the Congress is drawing flak for banning the book. Rajiv Gandhi-led Congress Government was quick to ban the book on the pretext of disturbing law and order. Indeed banning a book or for that matter any work of art is tantamount to negating the very premise of democracy, to give everyone space to speak and express himself without any fear. However, certain reasonable restrictions apply. For instance, no sane society would allow books promoting child pornography or violent actions or drug abuse. Being blasphemous is a little different. It is debatable and should be debated within the boundaries of blasphemy. Satanic Verses is not the only book banned in free India. ‘Rama Retold’ or ‘Ramayana’, a spoof of the Ramayana by Aubrey Menen, was banned in 1955. ‘The land of Lingam’ 1937 Arthur Miles is still banned for being critical of Hinduism and phallic worship. ‘Rangila Rasul’, 1924, which dealt with Prophet Mohammad’s relationships is banned to date. ‘The Jewel in the Lotus’, 1968 by Allen Edwardes for being oriental erotica The list is long; it even includes ‘The Da Vinci Code’, banned in Nagaland for its uncharitable comments on Jesus, and ‘An Area of Darkness’ by Nobel prize winner VS Naipaul, and even classic DH Lawrence’s Lady Chatterley’s Lovers. The books are frozen thoughts and when they melt in the reader’s mind, they trigger a thought process. Needless to say, it depends upon the maturity of the individual or society if it can handle it. We can judge for ourselves how mature we are. We cannot be selective in banning books. Let there be a debate about it.

# Saving India from unruly neighbours

India has two not-so-friendly neighbours in China and Pakistan; though India has moved on, they haven’t

Pakistani rulers suffer from several obsessions; the Olympic torch passing through Srinagar before eventually reaching Chennai is one of many. How unfortunate that so many of their aspiring chess players were denied the opportunity to play on this world platform at the recent Olympiad at Chennai. This was a fleeting whim but now to trade with India is a chronic denial of so many needed items. Why? Presumably to teach India a lesson. Just because India and Pakistan were born simultaneously, in August 1947, Islamabad has taken it for granted that the two countries are comparable if not equal. How presumptuous to believe that a country and its rulers are, more or less, equal to a neighbour seven times larger. What is more remarkable is that India, at least until 2014 when the BJP came to power, also played along with the Pakistani mania of comparability, if not equality. Irritated by this mania, an Indian writer wrote that when a lion treats a rat as an equal, what else do you expect the world to feel? Perhaps take the lion to be a cat! The damage done to India’s image over the years was far greater.

An expert on Strategy: Edward Luttwak years ago innovated the concept of Armed Suatation which, if pursued, would make one’s country appear stronger than it was. His favourite example was pre-World War II Italy which was then widely believed to be the most powerful air power in Europe. Foreign affairs become easier to conduct with Armed Suatation than without it. The most recent example was that of China which appeared too powerful to be challenged in Taiwan. But when Nancy Pelosi, the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives decided to visit Taipei, against Chinese wishes, and did visit, the Chinese government could not do anything to prevent her. But until her airplane landed in Taipei, she attended the required official functions in the city and flew



out, there was tension. India, as brought up by the Nehru government, was the opposite. India and Pakistan were bracketed together.

When war came, as in 1947, 1965, and 1999 with Pakistan, the question on most lips was: who would win? Why should there have been any questions? For a Pakistan chess team to indicate to the world in Chennai that Islamabad does not still accept that Kashmir is an integral part of India is a show of defiance. It is the result of 74 years of inaction or weak action. To offer only one blunder of inaction as an example was the Simla Conference of 1972 between Indira Gandhi and Zulfikar Bhutto following the 1971 war. It was settled between the two leaders that the Line Control, that divides Kashmir and its part that Pakistan had gobbled up in 1947/48, would be the international border. There was to be no dispute in Kashmir left after India returned the 93,000 prisoners of war taken in Bangladesh the previous year.

“  
THE LOGIC OF THIS SITUATION WAS TO THINK. ANY ENEMY WHO WISHES TO CONQUER AND KEEP TERRITORY WOULD NORMALLY LAUNCH HIS ATTACK IN SPRING AND NOT AUTUMN

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY

Sir — What an excellent way to start the 75th platinum jubilee independence year (from 15th August 2022 onwards). Around 1 crore students in Rajasthan set a world record by singing patriotic songs (in the presence of world records officials from London, England) by singing songs such as ‘Sare jahan se accha...’,” ‘Vande maataram...’,” national anthem ‘Jana gana mana...’ for 25 minutes, (at Sawai Mansingh stadium in Rajasthan).

This must be declared the 1st wonder of this excellent world. Because of harmony, inspirational acts, and good words of peace and unity. However, this should be followed by good deeds and good implementation. Congratulations to all the 1 crore participants and the entire India too. Let every nation emulate other nations only in good things. Not just words, but speedy implementation too.

Sahasra Nivriti Vislesha | Secunderabad

### IMPACT OF FREEBIES ON THE ECONOMY

Sir — The Supreme Court made it clear that political parties cannot be banned on the pretext that they distribute freebies. Though it maintained that it is a financial strain on the country’s economy. The BJP and our PM are now talking about Freebies and now say that the freebies are akin to ‘revdi culture’. They have forgotten that BJP has promised 15 lakhs to give freely to every person and afterward they said that it is an election jumla. The party which tried to fool the public with promises which were not fulfilled is now talking against the freebies. What about BJP boasting that it is giving free ration to 80crores people with their fund, is it not freebies?

The freebies situation has now escalated into a full-fledged political crisis. According to AAP MP Sanjay Singh, the central Government committed bank frauds of around 12,40,000 crores and waived off loans of Rs crores of rupees to corporate friends. He further said that if the government would not waive off

## THE BIG BULL IS NO MORE

The demise of an ace stock market investor Rakesh Jhunjhunwala often referred to as India’s Warren Buffett is a huge loss to the Indian financial markets. He began investing with Rs 5,000 in 1985 when the Bombay Stock Exchange’s benchmark index Sensex was at 150; it now trades at over 59,000. How the son of a civil servant came to the market in 1985 with almost nothing and turned it into a fortune, while he made a killing by investing in Titan. Going forward, it is the authenticity of his success story that makes it so powerful. Investors lapped up every word he said on markets and the economy. Company management regularly pitched to him in the hope that he invests with them. They know only too well the value of having him as an investor.

While investor appetite has waxed and waned over the years, the Big Bull has always been an incorrigible India optimist. Over the



years, he’s been out there talking about what makes him so bullish—the skillset of its population and its favourable demographics being the two main reasons - more than any time in the past, he believes India’s time has come. While he had plans to give away a large portion of his wealth to charity, the country, too, has lost a wealth creator.

N Sadhasiva Reddy | Bengaluru

loans to corporate persons then there would have been no necessity in increasing the GST on essential commodities. Is waiving loans of corporates, not a freebie and Revdi culture?

We have to make a distinction. If offering free education, free healthcare, or free power is a freebie?

These political parties should seek the trust of voters only on those promises which are possible to be fulfilled. The Supreme court’s stand on this issue is thus laudable.

Zeeshaan | Kazipet

### A SALUTE TO MARTYRS

Sir — At his funeral, the pathetic sight of his inconsolable mother and the relatives of our soldier Lakshman killed by the terrorists must have moved the hearts of even strong-willed persons.

It is unfortunate that invariably every day we are losing our valiant soldiers in our army camps in Jammu and Kashmir to terrorist attacks. If we count the number of precious lives of our army men lost right



PRAFULL GORADIA

gloves and many of the soldiers had no better than canvas shoes. How on earth could such ill-equipped troops fight?

The logic of this situation was to think. Any enemy who wishes to conquer and keep territory would normally launch his attack in spring and not autumn. The Chinese invasion commenced on the 20th of October 1962. The opportunity for India was to withdraw to the plains of Assam where the terrain, the weather, and the clothes would be congenial. The Chinese would have had to occupy the Arunachal or NEFA then hillside through the bitter cold. Meanwhile, our Army would have gained time and got more ready and capable for a spring battle in conditions more of our choosing. But we did not do any of this and were slaughtered flat-footed or were caught frostbitten.

(The writer is a well-known columnist, an author and a former member of the Rajya Sabha. The views expressed are personal.)

## SOUNDBITE

You keep yourself busy in kite-flying, we will allocate the portfolios and it will be done soon.



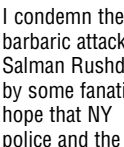
Maharashtra Deputy CM —Devendra Fadnis



The Inflation Reduction Act’s passage through Congress is nothing short of extraordinary. The United States is

taking a historic step towards the clean energy economy we need to meet our climate goals.

Founder Microsoft —Bill Gates



I condemn the barbaric attack on Salman Rushdie by some fanatic. I hope that NY police and the court will take the strongest action possible against the attacker.



Writer —Javed Akhtar



A podium finish at the SeoulEPrx. Well done Team India. What a jubilant way to mark 75 years of Independence of India. Mega job chaps! Cricketer —Virat Kohli

I’m not standing in Islamabad. We don’t need to take any permission for the Tiranga yatra. there’s no need to be scared.



BJP leader W Bengal —Suwendu Adhikari

Send your feedback to: [letterstopioneer@gmail.com](mailto:letterstopioneer@gmail.com)





FIRST COLUMN

METHOD OF WORK IS KEY TO ORGANISATIONS

Internal leadership shapes judgement and processes



VINAYSHIL GAUTAM

Any institution needs a framework of reference to grow. Institutions have their own typologies, like anything else. Institutional typologies can be classified according to their size—large, medium, and small. They can be institutional types by their form of ownership.

They can be proprietary, partnerships, or limited to certain types of people. They can be constituted by people who have invested money in them, and the list can go on.

Besides the types of categories listed in the preceding paragraphs, there can be other types of institutions. The purpose of this text is not to focus on the types of institutions that exist or can exist. The purpose is to highlight how the institutions work. Conventionally this role is performed by a statutory body or a federating body, which decides the method of work. A statutory body determining how institutions work would have a legal status duly enshrined by the process of approval of the statutory body itself, in a legislative system. This legislative system can be an Assembly or a Parliament. Somewhere, a legal framework would come in. The important thing is to understand how it would all work. It is a method of work which will ultimately decide the probity, or indeed, the effectiveness, of the system.



There is a moral dimension also, because in the ultimate analysis, unless it is a private single proprietary ownership, every contributing stream of people who provide money and resources to the organization has a right to know how the institution they have provided money to, is functioning. There is a need to think about corrective measures. There is also a need to ensure that a basic commonsensical fair play is at the root of the institution. It is the system of monitoring which is at the core of organizational and institutional effectiveness. It is here where empirical data on orderly and deviant institutions becomes necessary. So far, it has been the responsibility of the consensus of the social segment where this institution is embedded to determine this. Thus, it is that the general public opinion becomes determinant of ultimate efficacy of the functioning of the institutions. In this the media plays an important role, because it has the responsibility of spreading facts and contributing to a healthy and fair opinion system. Internal leadership of the institution plays a crucial role, because between a flagrant violation of institutional probity and a very rigid form of framework of the institution lies the space for judgment and processes. When it comes to process, there are several indicators of assessing how well or not so well the institution is working. These process issues can be listed, enumerated, and explained. There can be several of them, including size of the institutional bodies, the focus of their sub-objective within the overall objective; how the central figure in that unit is identified, and the list can go on. For purposes of illustration, one could just focus on defining the objectives of the sub-body or indeed, the number of times it meets.

To begin at the top, just the number of times the board of an organization meets is a good example. In streams of organization, say, in education where the statutory systems are not equally rigorously articulated aberration can take place. There have been cases of several educational institutions where the Governing Body neither meets regularly nor for a given span of time. There have been examples in national chains where a newly set up institution in that chain did not meet for as much as nine months. It did not bother anyone particularly. To put it more simply, for the healthy running of institutions, there is a need to establish, observable, actionable, and cognizable method of work.

(The writer is a well-known management consultant of international repute. The views expressed are personal.)

India@75: Unshackle political bondages

Indian democracy must become attractive to skilled people such as those who have domain expertise



SUMET BHASIN

Last month, the YSR Congress elected Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy as its chief for lifetime. In China, Xi Jinping has such credentials. India is a democracy. China is a one party nation and a totalitarian state. What kind of democracy the YSR Congress fosters is not just the business of Jagan Mohan Reddy, but also of those who have stakes in the Indian democracy.

The president of the Rashtriya Janata Dal has invariably been from within the Lalu Prasad Yadav family. Same is the case with the Samajwadi Party. Similar is the story of the Shiromani Akali Dal, the Shiv Sena, the Telangana Rashtra Samithi, and some others. On a closer look, the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam also fits in the same slot. Even the Congress presents no different story in the last few decades.

The Representation of the People's Act has failed to stop some political parties becoming family-owned enterprises. India abolished the practice of Zamindari in 1951. Yet, their political avatars have mushroomed in many states, carving out territories by cashing in on identity politics, to imprison democracy to a few families.

At a time when India celebrates 75 years of Independence, while the world applauds the depth and diversity of democracy, law-makers must introspect that under their watch the political zamindari has taken a large space, which should have otherwise been with the genuine leaders, who would have come from the political grinding to command leadership of a large base of the population.

That makes it incumbent for radical reforms to be carried out immediately by holding discussions with stakeholders in a time-bound manner to blank out any prospect of any family usurping a political party.

To put this to effect, the RPA Act can be suitably amended to prohibit a person from holding more than two terms of the post of the president of a political party. It should also be ensured that when that person leaves the post, it cannot be held by anyone who has family relations with him for not less than 10 years.

There is no denying the fact that politics in the country has become more caste-centric. This calls for a review of the reserved seats for the Lok Sabha, State Assemblies, Zila Panchayat and Local Bodies. Why should only a scheduled caste or tribe politician represent a reserved seat, and what stops a general category politician from working for such constituencies who have been disadvantaged for decades.

The Directive Principle of the Constitution and the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi call for social amity, and politics is the foremost means of achieving such aims. The aims for Samajik Samrasta (social inclusiveness) make it incumbent to shuffle reserved seats without attaching them to demographic profile, while also not impacting on the number of such seats. This will bring true inclusiveness. This will make the



MORE THAN 90 PER CENT OF THE POLITICAL WORKERS ARE NOT KNOWN TO HAVE ANY MEANS OF LIVELIHOOD. STILL, THEY AREN'T SEEN BEGGING ANYWHERE; RATHER THEY MOVE AROUND IN SPORTS VEHICLES

(The author is Director, Public Policy Research Centre.)



candidates from the reserved constituencies win from the general seats, which will boost their political profiles, and also make them take up more meaningful roles in the socio-economic progress of the nation than just being stereotyped as an SC or ST leader.

The reforms should also aim for provisions which will ensure that there is a larger participation of the political workers from the disadvantaged sections of the society in the Indian democracy to genuinely address aspirations of all the sections.

The Election Commission can be mandated to shuffle the reserved seats in each election so that there is a larger pool of leaders available to serve the nation in the true spirit of social democracy.

In this context, reforms should also take a closer look at the participation of women, scheduled caste and tribe leaders in all wings of democracy, and statutorily ensure that anomalies are addressed.

More than 90 per cent of the political workers are not known to have any means of livelihood. Still, they aren't seen begging anywhere, and rather they move around in sports vehicles. This is the story from Gram Panchayat to State capitals and the national capital. People don't pay much attention to their means of income, taking for granted that they must be hailing from well-off family backgrounds.

This brings to the attention of the backgrounds of the likes of Akhi-

lesh Yadav or Aditya Thackeray, for there's no public records to show their sources of incomes to justify their lavish lifestyles. They are prominent names of Indian politics, but there would be millions of political workers who never had enough education to find jobs and so they found it convenient to join politics.

This is indeed India's paradox that we aspire for the country to be free from corruption but the life and breath of democracy are ensured by an army of workers who have no known sources of incomes. They may engage in ways which may not be appropriate for their livelihoods, while also incurring necessary expenditure on behalf of their political parties.

This again calls for deep reforms in electoral politics, and we should not be apologetic to admit that we need to pay a respectable salary to a political worker who is working full time. This salary has to be paid by political parties, but they have to be bound under the suitable law, which should be auditable by a government agency, with the oversight to be vested with the Election Commission. That will be the serious attempt to get rid of political corruption, as it will also pave the way for a close monitoring of the assets of the political leaders.

Additionally, the Election Commission must breathe fresh air and admit that there is no rationality in the expenditure ceilings in the Lok Sabha and the Assembly elec-

tions, and also on the grounds of the geography, as well as the size of the constituencies. There must be rationalization of expenditure ceilings, for this again is a ground for massive electoral corruption, as dummy candidates are put up to cover additional expenses of candidates, besides also being the reasons for more vices in the election system in the country.

In the 1990s, the political leaders brainstormed about India of the 21st century. We have been two decades old in the 21st century and our electoral democracy remains rugged and outdated, not rising to the challenges of the new era, where the people are educated, besides being aspirational, along with India aiming to take a prominent position on the high table in the international arena.

Until we shake off the dust that the electoral democracy has gathered over several decades, no genuine gains can go to the deserving people. India at 75 must ensure that anyone with fire in his or her belly to serve the nation can join politics without worrying for his or her livelihood and progress in politics.

Indian democracy must become attractive to skilled people such as those who have domain expertise of law, international relations, economy, social science, arts, informational and technology and so on. India at 75 must also be of skilled and honest politicians, and zero tolerance for the new-age zamindars.

POINT COUNTERPOINT

'JUNGLE RAJ' HAS RETURNED TO BIHAR WITH THE RJD-JD(U) GOVERNMENT ASSUMING POWER IN THE STATE. —BJP SPOKESPERSON SAMBIT PATRA



HOW MANY PEOPLE FROM BIHAR DID THEY (BJP) MAKE A MINISTER AT CENTRE? I ASKED FOR FOUR MINISTERS FROM OUR PARTY. THEY DID NOT GIVE. —BIHAR CHIEF MINISTER NITISH KUMAR

Indian pharmaceutical industry poised to take off

Ever since the economic reforms of 1991, the domestic pharma industry has grown by leaps and bounds

The 75th Independence Day holds a lot of significance for the pharmaceutical industry in India. Over the past few decades since India's Independence, the industry has witnessed immense growth and emerged as one of the leading providers of drugs/medicines to countries worldwide.

From being non-existent in the 1970s to supplying crucial drugs to more than 200 countries in the fight against the pandemic, the Indian pharmaceutical industry has shown its prowess in its commitment to better health of people across the globe. With the government's strong push towards an 'Atmanirbhar Bharat', several initiatives both at the business and policy levels have been implemented to propel the pharmaceutical industry towards



NIKKHIL K MASURKAR

(The author is CEO, Entod Pharmaceuticals.)

further heights.

Presently, the Indian pharma industry caters to more than 60 per cent of the global demand for different vaccines as well as ARV drug supplies, 30 per cent of UNICEF's annual supply worldwide and almost 60-80 per cent of UN purchases of medicines come from India.

Additionally, India also contributes nearly 57 per cent of APIs and 69 per cent of FPP (Finished Pharma Products) to the WHO's Pre-Qualified list. Furthermore, about 40 per cent of generics drug requirements in the US are met by India. All this is possible due to various initiatives that were taken to boost the domestic pharmaceutical industry. Here's a look at the significant ones that aided in the strong growth of the industry:

The Patent Act, 1970

This was the first patent act introduced after India became independent. It made the way for process patents and restricted patenting of end-products, which enabled manufacturers to develop alternative processes for proprietary products that were already there in the market.

The Drug Policy, 1978

The introduction of this policy along with the Price Control Order of 1979 turned out to be landmark events for the pharmaceutical industry in India. It not only enabled the setting up of a National Drug Authority but also provided a 'directional push' to the sector. The policy aimed at increasing the local production of bulk drugs, providing leadership to the PSUs,

reducing imports of bulk drugs, encouraging the growth of the local industry and reducing the selling prices of important drugs along with their formulations.

Hatch-Waxman Act 1984

Even though this Act was passed in the US, it helped in the proliferation of generic drugs and assisted a lot in the growth of the Indian generic industry. The Act established the economic and legal foundation for the present-day generic pharmaceutical industry.

The 1991 economic reforms

The Indian government in 1991 launched some major economic reforms and entered the world of globalisation. The economic reforms helped in market liberalisation, linking the Indian

pharmaceutical industry with the world economy. It also ensured the end of the 'License-Raj', which allowed the pharma industry to enjoy more freedom in the market. This created more leverage for domestic players and allowed market competition to produce better products. By liberalising the economy, the government increased business opportunities in the country. As a result, a number of entrepreneurs seized the opportunities and grew their pharma business from a small firm to a big company. Ever since the inception of these reforms, the domestic pharma industry has grown by leaps and bounds and currently exports medicines and drugs worth \$19 billion throughout the world.

Recently, the Cabinet also approved two schemes, namely

the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme and the scheme on Promotion of Bulk Drug Parks, to promote domestic manufacturing of critical key starting materials/drug intermediates and APIs (Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients) in India.

The government has plans to develop three mega bulk drug parks in India in partnership with states. A sum of Rs 3,000 crore has been approved for this scheme for the next five years. Under the PLI scheme, financial incentives will be provided to eligible producers of identified 53 critical bulk drugs on their incremental sales over the base year (2019-20) for a period of six years.

The scheme will reduce the country's import dependence for critical KSMs/Drug Intermediates and APIs.

Conclusion

In the recent past, digitisation has also emerged as a key driver for the pharmaceutical industry, helping to deliver top-quality and hyper-personalized customer experiences and also improving business resilience and performance. Without any doubt, digitisation will play an active role in driving agility across the pharmaceutical value chain by bringing the sector closer to patients and doctors.

Most importantly, the pharma industry must work towards further innovation, by manufacturing effective new medicines/ drugs for emerging and unmet healthcare needs. Steps like these will enable the industry to transform into an innovation hub for the future.



# SHELLING KILLS 1 IN UKRAINE; RUSSIA SEEKS N-PLANT SECURITY ASSURANCE



AP ■ KYIV

Russian forces on Sunday fired rockets on the Mykolaiv region in southern Ukraine, killing at least one person, and a Russian diplomat called on Ukraine to offer security assurances so that international inspectors could visit a nuclear power station that has come under fire.

The Mykolaiv region is just to the north of the Russian-occupied city of Kherson, which Ukrainian forces have vowed to retake.

The Ukrainian emergency service said one person was killed in shelling early Sunday of the Mykolaiv region settlement of Berezneuvate.

As fighting steps up in southern Ukraine as Russia's war closes in on six months, concern has grown sharply about the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power

plant, which is held by Russian forces and has been hit by sporadic shelling. Both Ukraine and Russia blame each other for the shelling, which officials say has damaged monitoring equipment and could lead to a nuclear catastrophe.

The Zaporizhzhia facility is Europe's largest nuclear power plant.

Russia's envoy to international organizations based in Vienna, Mikhail Ulyanov, called on Ukraine to stop

attacking the plant in order to allow an inspection mission from the International Atomic Energy Agency.

"It is important that the Ukrainians stop their shelling of the station and provide security guarantees to members of the mission. An international team cannot be sent to work under continuous artillery shelling," he was quoted as saying Sunday by Russian state news agency Tass.

# In Ukraine, rebuilding starts with neighbours' help

AP ■ NOVOSELIVKA (UKRAINE)

As battles raged around Kyiv, one Russian advance was stopped in front of Maria Metla's home. Artillery gutted most of the house, while the rest was pulverized by tank fire.

Metla, 66, is now counting on her neighbours to have somewhere to live this winter.

Crews of volunteers turn up on most mornings to prize away anything that can be reused, setting up neat piles of bricks, destroyed kitchen appliances for scrap metal, and chunks of insulation panels.

The salvaged material is reused to help rebuild homes destroyed along the perimeter of Russia's failed attempt during the initial stages of the war to surround and capture Ukraine's capital.

The village of Novoselivka, 140 km (nearly 90 miles) north of Kyiv, was a scene of intense fighting during the 36-day attack on the capital. Metal doors are buckled by bullet holes from heavy machine-gun fire and houses like Metla's were smashed by ground and aerial bombardment.

"We dragged what we could to the basement. Five bombs, one, two, three, four, five, exploded in the field behind us," Metla said while standing in what used to be the living room of her destroyed home. She keeps a burned exercise bike and a religious icon of St Nicholas as reminders of life before the war.

Ukraine's authorities said last month that the country had suffered more than \$100 billion, equivalent to two-thirds of its 2020 gross domestic product, in infrastructure damage alone



but estimate that the reconstruction effort could cost more than seven times that amount.

Officials are appealing to Western countries to tap frozen Russian assets on top of what they are willing to donate to help pay for the bill.

Container homes from Poland are being set up near Novoselivka, a village filled with orchards, sunflower patches, and back gardens with chickens, outside the historic northern city of Chernihiv. But the scale of the damage has prompted scores of local initiatives.

"In many other countries, if your home is destroyed, you might put up a For Sale sign and move to another town. It's not like that here," said Andriy Galyuga, a local volunteer organizer. "People are very attached to where they are from and they don't want to leave."

Galyuga's organisation, Bomozhemo, is in contact with similar initiatives that have sprung up all around the Ukrainian capital.

At one smashed home, Galyuga bounds up a broken stairwell to direct a 25-member

crew of volunteers loading salvaged cinder blocks onto a slide and determinedly prying off construction material with pickaxes and crowbars.

Children and retired women help the effort watched by the worried home owner, Zhanna Dynaeva, who makes food for the workers, many of whom have also lost their homes.

The gaunt-looking Dynaeva, is staying with a friend, but visits her home daily to maintain an immaculate garden. She carries trays of drinks and sandwiches on the day the volunteers came to visit.

"I am so grateful to them. People around me have helped so much," she said. As she gives an account of her escape from the bombardment, Dynaeva bursts into tears and is hugged by her homeless neighbour, Metla.

"I'm hoping I can stay on my property, maybe in a makeshift home to start," Dynaeva says. "I don't know what will happen to us. Winter will be here soon. I just worry all the time."



# Lankan Navy rejects reports of conducting war games with Pak

PTI ■ COLOMBO

The Sri Lankan Navy on Sunday rejected as "fallacious" media reports that it will hold war games with a Pakistani warship docked at the Colombo port but confirmed that it will hold a "Passage Exercise" in the western seas with PNS Taimur as it leaves the island nation.

The docking of Pakistan's newly-commissioned Chinese-built frigate at the Colombo port on Friday came amid Sri Lankan government allowing a high-tech Chinese research ship to visit the southern port of Hambantota from August 16 till 22 for "replenishment purposes," despite India's concern over the vessel's presence in its neighbourhood.

Sri Lanka allowed PNS Taimur to make a port call in Colombo while on its way to join the Pakistan Navy fleet after the Bangladesh government denied it permission to dock at Chattogram Port.

The Sri Lankan Navy in a statement on Sunday said the Pakistan Navy Ship (PNS) Taimur, which arrived in Sri Lanka on Friday on a formal visit, is scheduled to conduct a Passage Exercise with SLNS Sindurala in seas off Colombo as she departs the island nation on August 15 upon completion of her visit.

"In this backdrop, certain media reports circulating about a 'War Game' between Sri Lanka Navy and Pakistan Navy

are fallacious," the release said.

It said that the Sri Lanka Navy, with the concurrence of foreign navies, conducts Passage Exercises as a routine engagement when their visiting naval ships departing the island after making official port calls.

"The prime motive of these efforts is to enhance interoperability, partnerships and goodwill as well as exchange best practices with foreign navies," it said.

It said the Sri Lankan Navy had conducted similar Passage Exercises with the navies of countries such as India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Japan, Germany, UK, Russia and Australia on a number of previous occasions.

"Conducting similar naval exercises with regional and extra-regional navies will enable each partner to overcome common maritime challenges in the future, through enhanced cooperation. In addition, such engagements will also be vital for its own maritime operations of the Sri Lanka Navy," the statement said.

PNS Taimur is the second of four powerful Type 054A/P frigates built by China. It was delivered to the Pakistan Navy in Shanghai on June 23. The first ship in the Type 054A/P-class, the PNS Tughril, joined the Pakistan Navy Fleet in January. Two more frigates of the same class are currently under construction in China.

PNS Taimur took part in

exercises in Malaysia and Cambodia along its journey to Karachi. The 134m-long ship is a technologically advanced and highly capable sea asset having hi-tech weapons and sensors, the latest combat management and electronic warfare system to fight under multi-threat environments.

The Sri Lankan government on Saturday said that it has allowed Chinese ballistic missile and satellite tracking ship, 'Yuan Wang 5', to dock at the southern port of Hambantota from August 16 till 22 for "replenishment purposes," days after Colombo asked Beijing to defer the port-call amidst India's concern over the vessel's presence in its neighbourhood.

The Chinese research ship was earlier scheduled to arrive on Thursday and remain at the port until August 17 for replenishment. However, the Sri Lankan foreign ministry requested the Chinese embassy here to postpone the vessel's visit following security concerns raised by India. Subsequently, the vessel did not dock at the Hambantota port on Thursday as planned.

The southern deep-sea port of Hambantota is considered strategically important for its location. The port has been developed largely with Chinese loans. India has said it carefully monitors any development having a bearing on its security and economic interests.

# River torrent kills 7 in China amid widespread heavy rain

AP ■ BEIJING

Seven people were killed by a torrent of water that came rushing down a river in a popular recreational spot following mountain rains in southwestern China, authorities said Sunday.

Workers and volunteers mobilized to urge people to leave the area after receiving an imminent heavy rain warning at about 2:40 p.m. Saturday, the emergency management bureau in Pengzhou city said.

People could be seen scrambling to flee in videos posted on social media, but some were caught when the torrent hit less than an hour later at 3:30 p.m.

One man at the scene said several people were washed



# 'Uneasy peace in Indo-Pacific due to recent Chinese actions'

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

There is an "uneasy peace" in the Indo-Pacific due to China's recent aggressive actions, an influential US Congressman has said, underlining that India and the US should work together with countries such as Japan, South Korea and Australia for maintaining stability in the strategically vital region.

Indian-American Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi, who has just returned from a historic trip to the region, including Taiwan, as part of a US Congressional delegation led by US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, in an interview with PTI said one of the interesting topics of conversation during their travels was the rise of India and the importance of the country playing a greater role.

The Congressional delegation led by Pelosi travelled to Japan, South Korea, Singapore and Taiwan. In Taipei, much to the anger of China, thousands of Taiwanese turned out in the middle of the night to welcome their American guests.

"I think there is an uneasy peace (in the region). In all the countries we visited, whether it was Singapore, Malaysia, Japan, Korea or Taiwan, there is a real concern about aggression from the People's Republic of China (PRC)," the 49-year-old Democratic Party leader said.

China's military launched



a week-long military exercises around Taiwan in retaliation for Pelosi's high-profile visit to the self-ruled island, which Beijing views as a rebel province that must be reunified with the mainland, even by force.

China's provocative military drills around Taiwan raised global concerns that Beijing may be preparing to annex the self-ruled island.

In the Indo-Pacific region, where India can exert influence, especially through initiatives such as the Quad in providing stability and security, "I think that partnership with India is extremely important for maintaining an international rules-based order," Krishnamoorthi said.

In November 2017, the US, India, Australia and Japan gave shape to the long-pending proposal of setting up the four-nation Quad grouping to develop a new strategy to keep the critical sea routes in the Indo-Pacific free of any influence,

amid China's growing military presence in the strategic region.

"And so, when the PRC throws itself militarily at its neighbours, whether it is in the South China Sea, or Taiwan, or even against India on the western border of China, then the neighbours...Get very concerned...They definitely want an increased security presence from the United States, among others," Krishnamoorthi said.

He said India and the US working together with countries such as Japan, South Korea, Australia and other Indo-Pacific nations is indispensable for maintaining stability in the region.

He described the challenge from China as "very serious".

The Congressman said the ruling Communist Party of China (CPC) has unfortunately botched its response to COVID-19, causing tremendous economic uncertainty and a slowdown in China's economy, the world's second largest.

away, including some children, when the waterflow in the lower reaches of the river suddenly increased in just 10 to 20 seconds, the state-owned China National Radio reported.

The Chengdu city government said Sunday that seven people died and three others were hospitalized with minor injuries.

Pengzhou is a tourist spot about 70 kilometers (45 miles) north of Chengdu, the capital of Sichuan province.

A video showed a helicopter rescuing a person stranded on a small outcropping by descending to just above the water and opening a door so the person could climb in.

Elsewhere in China, heavy rain flooded streets in the

northwestern city of Xining on Saturday night. Heavy to torrential rain was forecast for the northeast from Sunday to Monday afternoon with 10 to 18 centimeters (4 to 7 inches) of rainfall expected in parts of Liaoning and Jilin provinces.

A heat wave was hovering over a wide swath of southern China, with highs Sunday forecast at 35 to 39 degrees Celsius (95 to 102 degrees Fahrenheit) and possibly surpassing 40 degrees (104 Fahrenheit) in some places including Shanghai.

Jiangsu province warned that road surface temperatures could rise to 72 degrees (162 Fahrenheit), raising the risk of flat tires, state broadcaster CCTV reported.



# Official: Over 50 deaths from seasonal floods in Sudan

AP ■ CAIRO

Floods triggered by seasonal torrential rains in Sudan have killed more than 50 people and inundated over 8,170 homes since the rainy season started, a senior police official said on Saturday.

Nineteen fatalities have been recorded in North Kordofan province, followed by Nile River province, which reported seven deaths, said Brig. Gen. Abdul-Jalil Abdul-Rahim, spokesman for Sudan's National Council for Civil Defence. The western Darfur region, which has five provinces, reported 16 deaths, he added.

He did not say when the first causality occurred. Sudan's rainy season usually starts in June and lasts until September, with floods peaking in August and September.

Abdul-Rahim said at least 25 people were also injured so far this year, according to the

country's state-run SUNA news agency.

The flooding and heavy rainfall inundated 16 government facilities and around 40 stores, and damaged at least 540 feddans (acres) of agricultural land across the country, Abdul-Rahim said.

The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs has said an estimated 38,000 people have been affected by heavy rainfall across the East African country since May.

Last year, flooding and heavy rains killed more than 80 people and swamped tens of thousands of houses across the country. In 2020, authorities declared Sudan a natural disaster area and imposed a three-month state of emergency across the country after flooding and heavy rain killed around 100 people and inundated over 100,000 (one lakh) houses.



# More US lawmakers visiting Taiwan twelve days after Pelosi trip



AP ■ TAIPEI

A delegation of American lawmakers is visiting Taiwan just 12 days after a visit by US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi that angered China. The five-member delegation, led by Democratic Sen. Ed Markey of Massachusetts, will meet senior leaders to discuss US-Taiwan relations, regional security, trade, investment and other issues, the American Institute in Taiwan said. The institute represents the U.S. Government, which does not have official ties with Taiwan. China, which claims self-ruled Taiwan as its territory, responded to Pelosi's Aug. 2 visit by sending missiles, war-

ships and warplanes into the seas and skies around Taiwan for several days afterward. The Chinese government objects to Taiwan having any official contact with foreign governments, particularly with a high-ranking congressional leader like Pelosi. A Taiwanese broadcaster showed video of a U.S. Government plane landing about 7 p.M. Sunday at Songshan Airport in Taipei, the Taiwanese capital. While it wasn't confirmed who was on board, the American Institute issued a brief statement soon after announcing the delegation would be in Taiwan on Sunday and Monday as part of a trip to Asia.

The other members of the delegation are Republican Rep. Aumua Amata Coleman Radewagen, a delegate from American Samoa, and Democratic House members John Garamendi and Alan Lowenthal from California and Don Beyer from Virginia. Chinese warplanes have been crossing the midpoint of the Taiwan Strait on a daily basis even after the conclusion of the military exercises, with at least 10 doing so on Sunday, Taiwan's Defense Ministry said. The 10 fighter jets were among 22 Chinese military aircraft and six naval ships detected in the area around Taiwan by 5 pm On Sunday, the ministry said on its Twitter account.

# Officials: Fire at Coptic church in Cairo kills 41, injures 14

AP ■ CAIRO

A fire ripped through a packed church during morning services in Egypt's capital on Sunday, killing at least 41 worshippers and injuring 14. The church quickly filled with thick black smoke, and witnesses said several trapped congregants jumped from upper floors to escape. "Suffocation, suffocation, all of them dead," said a distraught witness, who only gave a partial name, Abu Bishoy. The cause of the blaze in the Abu Sefein church in the working-class neighbourhood of Imbaba was not immediately known. An initial investigation pointed to an electrical short-circuit, according to a police statement. Footage from the scene circulated online showed burned furniture, including wooden tables and chairs. Firefighters were seen putting out the blaze while others carried victims to ambulances. Families waited for word on relatives who were inside the church. Witnesses said there were many children inside the building when the fire broke out. "There are children we didn't know how to get to them," said Abu Bishoy. "And we don't know whose son this is, or whose daughter that is. Is this possible?" The country's health minister blamed the smoke and a stampede as people attempted to flee the fire for causing the fatalities. It was one of the worst fire tragedies in Egypt in recent years. Witness Emad Hanna said the church includes two places used as a daycare for children, and that a church worker managed to get many children out. "We went upstairs and found people dead. And we started to see from outside that the smoke was getting bigger, and people want to jump from the upper floor. ... We found the children." Egypt's Coptic Church and the country's health ministry reported the casualty toll. The church said the fire broke out while



a service was underway. The church is located in a narrow street in one of the most densely populated neighbourhoods in Cairo. Fifteen firefighting vehicles were dispatched to the scene to put out the flames while ambulances ferried casualties to nearby hospitals, officials said. President Abdel Fattah el-Sissi spoke by phone with the Coptic Christian Pope Tawadros II to offer his condolences, the president's office said. Sheikh Ahmed al-Tayeb, Al-Azhar's Grand Imam, also offered his condolences to the head of the Coptic church. "I am closely following the developments of the tragic accident," el-Sissi wrote on Facebook. "I directed all concerned state agencies and institutions to take all necessary measures, and immediately to deal with this accident and its effects." Health Minister Khaled Abdel-Ghafar said in a statement that two of the injured were discharged from a hospital while 12 others were still being treated. The Interior Ministry said it received a report on the fire at 9 a.M. Local time, and

that they found that the blaze broke out in an air conditioner in the building's second floor. The ministry, which oversees police and firefighters, blamed an electrical short-circuit for the fire, which produced huge amounts of smoke. Meanwhile, the country's chief prosecutor, Hamada el-Sawy, ordered an investigation and a team of prosecutors were dispatched to the church. Later on Sunday, emergency services said they managed to put out the blaze and the prime minister and other senior government officials arrived to inspect the site. Egypt's Christians account for some 10% of the nation's more than 103 million people and have long complained of discrimination by the nation's Muslim majority. Sunday's blaze was one of the worst fire tragedies in recent years in Egypt, where safety standards and fire regulations are poorly enforced. In March last year, a fire at a garment factory near Cairo killed at least 20 people and injured 24 more.



# Despite public resentment, no progress in Iraq political deadlock

AP ■ BAGHDAD

Weeks after followers of an influential cleric stormed parliament, Iraq's political crisis shows no signs of abating, despite rising public anger over a debilitating gridlock that has further weakened the country's caretaker government and its ability to provide basic services. Iraq's two rival Shiite political camps remain locked in a zero-sum competition, and the lone voice potentially able to end the rift - the revered Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani - has been conspicuously silent. For now, hundreds of supporters of Muqtada al-Sadr, a firebrand Shiite cleric, are still camped outside the legislative building in Baghdad, ready to escalate if their demands are not met. Al-Sadr has called for early elections, the dissolution of parliament and constitutional amendments. He has given the judiciary an end-of-the-week deadline to dissolve the legislature. His Shiite rivals in the Iran-backed camp have conditions of their own. They accused him of violating the constitution, prompting counter-protests that have spurred fears of bloodshed.

# Gunman wounds 8 in late-night Jerusalem shooting



AP ■ JERUSALEM

A gunman opened fire at a bus near Jerusalem's Old City early Sunday, wounding eight Israelis in a suspected Palestinian attack that came a week after violence flared up between Israel and militants in Gaza, police and medics said. Two of the victims were in serious condition, including a pregnant woman with abdominal injuries and a man with gunshot wounds to the head and neck, according to Israeli hospitals treating them. The shooting happened as the bus waited in a parking lot near the Western Wall, the holiest site where Jews can pray. Israeli police said forces were dispatched to the scene to investigate. Israeli security forces also pushed into the nearby Palestinian neighbourhood of Silvan pursuing the suspected attacker. Later on Sunday, police said the suspected attacker turned himself in. Police did not immediately disclose details about the suspected attacker's identity. The attack in Jerusalem followed a tense week between

Israel and Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank. Last weekend, Israeli aircraft unleashed an offensive in the Gaza Strip targeting the militant group Islamic Jihad and setting off three days of fierce cross-border fighting. Islamic Jihad fired hundreds of rockets during the flare-up to avenge the airstrikes, which killed two of its commanders and other militants. Israel said the attack was meant to thwart threats from the group to respond to the arrest of one of its officials in the occupied West Bank. Forty-nine Palestinians, including 17 children and 14 militants, were killed, and several hundred were injured in the fighting, which ended with an Egyptian-brokered cease-fire. No Israeli was killed or seriously injured. The Islamic militant group Hamas, which controls Gaza, stayed on the sidelines. A day after the cease-fire halted the worst round of Gaza fighting in more than a year, Israeli troops killed three Palestinian militants and wounded dozens in a shootout that erupted during an arrest raid in the West Bank city of Nabulus.

# Rushdie off ventilator and able to talk

PTI ■ NEW YORK

Salman Rushdie has been taken off a ventilator and was able to talk, a day after the Mumbai-born author was stabbed, in what US authorities said was a "targeted, unprovoked, preplanned" attack. Rushdie, who faced Islamist death threats for years after writing "The Satanic Verses", was stabbed by a 24-year-old New Jersey resident identified as Hadi Matar, a US national of Lebanese origin, on stage on Friday while he was being introduced at a literary event of the Chautauqua Institution in Western New York. "@SalmanRushdie off ventilator and talking! Continued prayers from all @chq," Chautauqua Institution president Michael Hill said in a tweet on Saturday night. Rushdie's agent, Andrew Wylie, also confirmed the news to the US media. Rushdie, 75, was put on a ventilator after he was stabbed by Matar. Earlier on Saturday, Matar pleaded not guilty to charges of attempted murder and assault at a brief court appearance

where he was denied bail. Matar was charged with attempted murder and assault in the stabbing of Rushdie and he pleaded not guilty. He made his appearance in court, wearing a black-and-white striped jumpsuit and handcuffed. Chautauqua County District Attorney Jason Schmidt provided the details of Rushdie's injuries in court during Matar's arraignment Saturday afternoon. The author's injuries include three stab wounds to the right side of the front of his neck, four stab wounds to his stomach, a puncture wound to his right eye and chest, and a laceration on his right thigh, according to the county prosecutor. "This was a targeted, unprovoked, preplanned attack on Mr Rushdie," Schmidt alleged. Matar faces up to 32 years if convicted of both charges, Schmidt said. The attack on Rushdie drew shock and condemnation from world leaders and literary stalwarts. US President Joe Biden said in a statement on Saturday that he and First Lady Jill Biden



were "shocked and saddened" to learn of the "vicious" attack on the author. "Salman Rushdie -- with his insight into humanity, with his unmatched sense for story, with his refusal to be intimidated or silenced -- stands for essential, universal ideals. Truth. Courage. Resilience. The ability to share ideas without fear. These are the building blocks of any free and open society. And today, we reaffirm our com-

mitment to those deeply American values in solidarity with Rushdie and all those who stand for freedom of expression," Biden said. "We, together with all Americans and people around the world, are praying for his health and recovery. I am grateful to the first responders and the brave individuals who jumped into action to render aid to Rushdie and subdue the attacker," he added.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said he is "appalled" to learn about the attack on Rushdie. "The Secretary-General was appalled to learn of the attack on renowned novelist Salman Rushdie," a statement issued on Friday by his spokesperson said. "In no case is violence a response to words spoken or written by others in their exercise of the freedoms of opinion

# Rushdie attack should be wake-up call to sanction Iran, says Sunak

PTI ■ LONDON

The brutal attack on noted author Salman Rushdie should be a wake-up call for the West to impose tougher sanctions against Iran and proscribe the country's elite military unit as a terrorist organisation, British prime ministerial hopeful Rishi Sunak said on Sunday. The former Chancellor told 'The Daily Telegraph' that attempts to revive the Iran nuclear deal, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of



Action (JCPOA), may be futile and therefore it was important to assess action against Iran's

Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC). He spoke as the suspect in the attack on Rushdie, Hadi Matar, was on Saturday charged with attempted murder and assault and remanded without bail. Preliminary investigations suggest his sympathies with the Shia extremism and IRGC. "The situation in Iran is extremely serious and in standing up to [Vladimir] Putin we can't take our eye off the ball elsewhere," Sunak told the newspaper.

# Truss in commanding lead over Sunak in UK PM race

PTI ■ LONDON

The UK prime ministerial race frontrunner, Foreign Secretary Liz Truss, continues to hold on to a commanding 22-point lead over former Chancellor Rishi Sunak in the Conservative Party leadership contest, according to a new survey of Tory members on Sunday. In an Opinion poll for "The Observer" newspaper of 570 Conservative members with a vote in the election, Truss is on 61 per cent and the British Indian former minister is on 39 per cent. With under three weeks to go before the September 2 deadline for postal and online votes to be cast by the membership to elect a successor to outgoing Prime Minister Boris Johnson, Sunak seems to have closed the gap only slightly in recent days. "From the moment we knew the final two candidates, it has been clear that Truss has had all the momentum, and our latest poll sets out just how large her lead among the party members has become," Chris Curtis of Opinion told the newspaper. "With many members having already returned their ballot papers, it is now very unlikely Truss won't become Prime Minister in September. It's clear that Sunak's biggest problem is



trust. While some members respect his economic arguments, this hasn't been enough to overcome the view among members that he isn't honest or trustworthy enough for the top job, particularly after he called for Johnson to go," he said. Opinion's detailed questioning also uncovers a striking lack of enthusiasm for either candidate when members are asked whether they would prefer one of them to Johnson to run the party and country. When offered the choice of Johnson still being in No. 10 Downing Street, or Truss taking over, around 63 per cent of Tory members polled said they would prefer Johnson to be still in charge against 22 per cent who wanted Truss. On the other side, 68 per cent said they would prefer to still have Johnson than see him replaced by Sunak, who was preferred by just 19 per

cent. The poll also found that almost three in 10 of the Tory electorate (29 per cent) had already voted. Some 47 per cent said they would definitely be voting for the candidate they had opted for. Just 19 per cent said they had yet to make up their mind. Opinion said that while these findings meant it may still be possible for Sunak to pull off a "stunning comeback" to enter 10 Downing Street, but to do so he would have to win over almost all the undecideds and convert a sizeable chunk of those not fully behind Truss. The Foreign Secretary's support is particularly strong among older Conservative members, while Sunak's is far higher among younger ones. For Sunak the most cited reason was that he would be better at managing the economy (22 per cent), while 10 per cent said they regarded him as the most competent or intelligent. A main reason mentioned by people who backed Truss was dislike of Sunak (14 per cent). The same proportion (14 per cent) said the Cabinet minister was more honest and trustworthy, while 10 per cent chose the fact that he had remained loyal to Johnson and not called on him to resign.

# Mexico President to bypass Congress to keep army in streets

AP ■ MEXICO CITY

Mexico's president has begun exploring plans to sidestep congress to hand formal control of the National Guard to the army, a move that could extend the military's control over policing in a country with high levels of violence. That has raised concerns because President Andrés Manuel López Obrador won approval for creating the force in 2019 by pledging in the constitution that it would be under nominal civilian control and that the army would be off the streets by 2024. Neither the National Guard nor the military have been able to lower the insecurity in the country, however. This past week, drug cartels staged



widespread arson and shooting attacks, terrifying civilians in three main north-west cities in a bold challenge to the state. Still, López Obrador wants to keep soldiers involved in policing, and remove civilian control over the National Guard, whose officers and commanders are mostly soldiers, with military training and pay grades. But the president no longer has the

votes in congress to amend the constitution and has suggested he may try to do it as a regulatory change with a simple majority in congress or by an executive order and see if the courts will uphold that. López Obrador warned Friday against politicising the issue, saying the military is needed to fight Mexico's violent drug cartels. But then he immediately politicised it himself. "A constitutional reform would be ideal, but we have to look for ways, because they (the opposition) instead of helping us, are blocking us, there is an intent to prevent us from doing anything," López Obrador said. The two main opposition parties also had a different positions when they were

in power. They supported the army in public safety roles during their respective administrations beginning in 2006 and 2012. When López Obrador was running for president, he called for taking the army off the streets. But being in power — and seeing homicides running at their highest sustained levels ever — apparently changed his mind. He has relied heavily on the military not just for crime-fighting. He sees the army and navy as heroic, patriotic and less corruptible, and has entrusted them with building major infrastructure projects, running airports and trains, stopping migrants and over-seeing customs.



# Finance Min plans to review exemption-free tax regime

**New Delhi:** The Finance Ministry is proposing to soon review the exemption-free new tax regime with a view to making it more attractive for individual income taxpayers, sources said.

Eventually, sources said, the Government aims to establish a system where there are no exemptions and the complex old tax regime with exemptions and deductions is terminated.

The Union Budget 2020-21 introduced a new tax regime. Taxpayers were given the option to choose between the old regime with various deductions and exemptions and the new tax regime that offered lower tax rates without exemptions and deductions.

The intention behind the move was to provide significant relief to the individual taxpayers and to simplify the income-tax law. Asked about the experience of the new tax regime, sources said, there are clear signs that people who have finished their home and education loans are willing to shift to the



new tax regime as they have no exemptions to claim.

Sources further said that lowering of taxes in the new regime would make the new tax regime more attractive.

A similar tax regime for corporate taxpayers was introduced in September 2019 by significantly lowering rates and removing exemptions.

The Government had announced a cut in base corporate tax for then existing companies to 22 per cent from

30 per cent; and for new manufacturing firms, incorporated after October 1, 2019, and starting operations before March 31, 2024, to 15 per cent from 25 per cent. Companies opting for these new tax rates will have to forego all exemptions and incentives.

Under the new tax regime for individual taxpayers announced on February 1, 2020, people with an annual income of up to ₹2.5 lakh do not pay any tax. **PTI**

# Commerce Min proposes host of incentives to revamp SEZs

**New Delhi:** The commerce ministry is proposing a host of direct and indirect incentives such as deferral of import duties and exemption from export taxes to revamp Special Economic Zones through a new legislation, an official said.

In the Union Budget this year, the government proposed to replace the existing law governing Special Economic Zones (SEZs) with a new legislation to enable states to become partners in 'Development of Enterprise and Service Hubs' (DESH).

The official said the commerce ministry has sought views of different ministries, including finance, on the new bill. After collating the feedback, the ministry would seek approval of the Cabinet and then introduce the new bill in Parliament.

The proposals seek to provide incentives such as retention of zero-rating of IGST (integrated goods and services tax) on domestic procurement by a unit in an SEZ; continuation of indirect tax benefits to developers of these zones; and allowing depreciation on sale of



used capital goods cleared to domestic tariff areas.

There is also a plan to extend the corporate tax rate to 15 per cent without any exemptions for units undertaking authorised operations in these development hubs.

States can also provide support measures to these zones to boost manufacturing and job creation. The existing SEZ Act was enacted in 2006 with an aim to create export hubs and boost manufacturing in the country. However, these zones started losing their sheen

after imposition of minimum alternate tax and introduction of sunset clause for removal of tax incentives. These zones are treated as foreign entities in terms of provisions related to customs. Industry has time and again demanded continuation of tax benefits provided under the law. Units in SEZs used to enjoy 100 per cent income tax exemption on export income for the first five years, 50 per cent for the next five years and 50 per cent of the ploughed back export profit for another five years. **PTI**

# States should not give freebies beyond fiscal capabilities: Kumar

**New Delhi:** State Governments should not dote out "non-merit freebies" such as gifts and consumer durables beyond their fiscal capabilities, according to former Niti Aayog Vice Chairman Rajiv Kumar.

Kumar noted that there is a difference between merit transfer payment and non-merit freebies, especially those which are done beyond the fiscal capability of any government. "Non-merit freebies which are the nature of giving out gifts, consumer durables... Those are to be looked at carefully and in any case should not be undertaken by the governments who have fiscal constraints," he told PTI in an interview.

Noting that in a democracy, transfer payments via the government through the instrument of taxation and distribution is always necessary, he said, "any transfer payments whose social rate of return is higher than any private rate of

return, in other words which has positive externalities, is worth doing."

On some politicians comparing the current economic situation of Sri Lanka with India, Kumar said, "any such comparison is simply unwarranted and mischievous to different levels."

Sri Lanka is grappling with a severe economic crisis and India has been at the forefront of extending economic assistance to Sri Lanka.

According to Kumar, in the Nordic countries, the tax to GDP ratio is nearly 50 per cent because they spend lots of public money in providing public goods and services to the common person.

"I think that is not something we should discuss or debate. "It is important to increase the quality and access of public goods and services for the common person, especially for those at the bottom of the pyramid," he said. **PTI**

# Greaves Cotton exploring export opportunities for electric two-wheeler

**Mumbai:** Greaves Cotton is exploring export opportunities for its Ampere brand of electric two-wheelers bolstered by the recent investment from global investor Abdul Latif Jameel in the e-mobility arm.

In an interaction with PTI, Greaves Cotton Managing Director and Group CEO Nagesh Basavanhalli said that Greaves Electric Mobility is working on new products, both in two and three-wheeler segments, including on high-speed electric scooters, and may launch a few of them by the fiscal-end.

The Saudi Arabia-based family-owned diversified business Abdul Latif Jameel, which has presence across 30-odd countries, announced in June this year its commitment to invest USD 220-million in the Cotton Greaves' subsidiary.

As part of the deal, it has

initially invested USD 150-million (₹1,171-crore) for a 35.80 per cent stake in Greaves Electric Mobility.

The city-based diversified engineering company has presence in five businesses—engine manufacturing, electric mobility, retail, financing as well as technology.

Greaves Electric Mobility manufactures two-wheelers under the Ampere brand while three-wheelers, e-auto and e-rickshaws, are produced under the Ele and the Teja brands.

"We are exploring export opportunities for our two-wheeler (Ampere) brand. We are still discussing it internally but exports definitely are on our mind," Basavanhalli told PTI. "Our partner (Abdul Latif) has presence across 32 countries and strong partnership globally with certain other global marquee companies", he said. **PTI**

# LIC keen to re-enter mediclaim segment, awaiting regulatory clarity: Chairman

**Mumbai:** Insurance behemoth Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) is keen to re-enter the mediclaim segment as and when the regulator provides clarity on the issue, its chairman has said.

"We are already doing a lot of long-term health protection and guaranteed health products. And we are evaluating the suggestion that the regulator Irdai made recently," LIC Chairman M R Kumar told PTI when asked about the same during its earnings call over the weekend.

The chairman further said, "I don't think it will be difficult for us as we already offer some of the health products."

Mediclaim policies, which are indemnity-based health plans, are the best-selling health insurance products in the country. However, in 2016, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irdai) had asked life insurers to withdraw indem-



nity-based health plans from the market. Life insurers since then have been allowed to offer only fixed benefit health plans.

Under indemnity-based health insurance plans, the insurer provides reimbursement for the money spent on medical treatment up to the sum insured. For fixed benefit health insurance plans, a fixed amount is paid out of the sum insured for pre-determined illnesses or medical conditions.

Recently, the new Irdai Chairman Debasish Panda had said it was time life insurers re-entered the health vertical as he had given a mandate to the industry to ensure that every citizen has a health insurance policy by 2030.

However, Panda later clarified that the regulator was only evaluating the pros and cons of allowing life insurers to sell health insurance policies and that no decision has been taken yet. **PTI**

# Jhunjhunwala will be remembered for his acute understanding of markets, says Ratan Tata

**Mumbai:** Ratan Tata, Chairman Emeritus of the Tata Group, on Sunday said ace investor Rakesh Jhunjhunwala will always be remembered for his acute understanding of the markets as well as for his jovial personality, kindness, and foresightedness.

Jhunjhunwala, often referred to as 'India's Warren Buffett', passed away here Sunday morning due to a cardiac arrest. He was 62.

Jhunjhunwala had investments in more than three dozen companies, the most valuable being watch and jewellery maker Titan, part of the Tata conglomerate. His portfolio includes companies like Star Health, Rallis India, Escorts, Canara Bank, Indian Hotels Company, Agro Tech Foods, Nazara Technologies and Tata Motors.

"Rakesh Jhunjhunwala, who sadly passed away this morning, will always be

remembered for his acute understanding of the stock exchanges of India. He will also be remembered for his jovial personality, his kindness, and his foresightedness," Ratan Tata said in his condolence message.

"My heartfelt condolences go out to his family which has to share the burden of this great loss," he added.

Jhunjhunwala was brought dead to the Breach Candy hospital early on Sunday morning. Suffering from kidney disease and ischemic heart disease, the hospital certified that cardiac arrest was the cause of his death.

A self-made trader, investor and businessman, he was also known as the 'Big Bull' of Dalal Street. With an estimated net worth of around USD 5.8 billion (about Rs 46,000 crore), Jhunjhunwala was the 36th richest billionaire in India, according to Forbes' 2021 listing. **PTI**

# Shareholders approve Ashish Kumar Chauhan as NSE MD, CEO

**New Delhi:** Leading bourse National Stock Exchange (NSE) on Sunday said that shareholders have approved the appointment of Ashish Kumar Chauhan as its managing director and chief executive.

The Extra Ordinary General Meeting (EOGM) of NSE was held on August 11, according to a statement.

Shareholders approved the appointment of Chauhan, who was the MD and CEO of rival bourse BSE, with 99.99 per cent votes. He assumed charge as NSE chief on July 26. His appointment at the top post of the NSE was cleared by the capital markets regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) on July 18.

He took over the helm of NSE from Vikram Limaye, whose five-year term ended on July 16. Limaye did not seek another tenure at the National Stock Exchange (NSE) despite being eligible for it. **PTI**

# Indian toy manufacturers scale up amid rise in demand; eye global markets

**New Delhi:** Government policies such as increasing customs duties on imported toys and mandating BIS certification requirement for imports not only boosted domestic manufacturing but also helped the industry to explore global markets and enhance exports.

The demand for toys based on Indian mythological characters, desi movie characters and superheroes such as Chota Bheem are on the rise as the domestic players break away from the dominance of China and some other countries, according to industry experts.

Now the 'made-in-India' toys have a very clear edge in the domestic markets and the manufacturers are scaling up their production capacity to meet the growing local as well as international demand.

The import of toys into India has declined sharply from USD 304 million in 2018-19 to



USD 36 million in 2021-22, said a data from the Ministry of Commerce & Industry.

On the other hand, exports have increased from USD 109 million in 2018-19 to USD 177 million in 2021-22, it added.

According to the industry, the sector is also going global, as manufacturers are scouting new markets and increasing exports to the Middle East and African countries.

The Indian toy industry is growing as the government has mandated the domestic players to have BIS (Bureau of Indian Standards) certification

for import and also increased customs duty, said Toy Association Of India president Ajay Agarwal.

"These are the two reasons as import of toys has declined," Agarwal told PTI.

Encouraged by these supporting initiatives, the Indian manufacturers are now scaling up their production and investing to augment their capacity, he added.

"Now several makers are manufacturing toys based on Indian ethos and culture. Icons like Chota Bheem are very popular and several manufacturers have the licence to manufacture them," he said, adding that more manufacturers are entering this category of toys.

According to a joint report by industry body FICCI and KPMG, the Indian toy market was estimated to be around USD 1 billion in 2019-20 and is expected to double to USD 2 billion by 2024-25. **PTI**

# Bank of India sees 10-12% growth in advances in current fiscal

**New Delhi:** State-owned Bank of India expects advances to grow by 10-12 per cent in the current fiscal year with corporate loans yet to pick-up, top official said in an analysts call.

The bank's year-to-date (YTD) loan growth stood at about 5 per cent mainly driven by Retail sector advances, Agricultural and MSME loans (RAM).

"Advances growth guidance will be in the range of 10 to 12 per cent for the full year. So far up to June, we had YTD growth of about 5 per cent, but that is mostly on the back of good RAM growth. Corporate is yet to pick up. We believe that from this quarter onwards, there could be some movement in the corporate book," A K Das, Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer (MD&CEO), told analysts in post Q1FY23 earnings conference call.

The bank's gross advances



(global and domestic) stood at Rs 4,77,746 crore at end-June 2022.

In the first quarter ended in June of the current fiscal year, the lender registered a decline of 22 per cent in net profit at Rs 561 crore as against Rs 720 crore in the year-ago quarter.

Exuding confidence that it won't be difficult to achieve the loan growth target for 2022-23, Das said the bank expects Net Interest Margin (NIM) of 2.90 per cent domestically and global NIM of 2.75 per cent. In Q1FY23, bank's domestic and global NIMs stood at 2.88 per

cent and 2.55 per cent, respectively.

Das said a lot of repricing in loan book is happening in both sides and it would be good if the bank could maintain the guidances on its NIMs. In terms of asset quality, the bank said it has set a target of ₹2,500 crore reduction in bad loans every quarter.

Of this, ₹1,700 crore will come from upgradation and cash recoveries and the rest will be through various OTS (One Time Settlement) programmes which the lender has lined-up already, M Karthikeyan, Executive Director, said.

"We are sure that during this year, about ₹3,000 crore will come through resolutions through NCLT, that's what our guidance is," he added. At end of June 2022, bank's gross Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) improved to 9.30 per cent of the gross advances, translating to ₹44,415 crore. **PTI**

# Kotak's maiden FoF to make first make close by mid-Sept with ₹500 cr commitment

**Mumbai:** Kotak Investment Advisors, which launched its maiden ₹1,500-crore fund of funds (FoF) earlier this month, hopes to make the first close by the middle of September, garnering around ₹500 crore.

Established in 2005, Kotak Investment Advisors is the largest homegrown alternate asset fund, managing USD 5.7 billion (around ₹45,000 crore) across, real estate funds, infrastructure funds, special situations fund, listed strategies (stocks), and pre-IPO investments.

Its stressed assets fund is the largest in Asia with assets under management worth over USD 1 billion (about ₹7,900 crore).

According to a Crisil report, as of March 2022, the total investment commitments in the alternate investment funds (AIF) industry stood at ₹4.41 lakh crore between category I, II and III funds.



Of the total ₹2.33 lakh crore of incremental fund inflows between FY21 and FY22, ₹31,988 crore were into 93 category I funds, which are mostly early-stage venture capital and social impact funds; ₹1,47,654 crore into 240 category II funds (listed and unlisted equity funds, realty and debt funds) and ₹53,413 crore into 170 category III funds, which are long-only and short-only equity funds.

The Kotak India Alternate Allocation Fund, which was launched on August 3, is the maiden fund of funds (FoF) from the company. **PTI**

# Six of top 10 companies add ₹1,56,247.35 cr to market cap

**New Delhi:** The combined market valuation of six of the 10 most valued companies surged by ₹1,56,247.35 crore last week, with Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) emerging as the biggest gainer.

While RIL, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, HDFC and Bajaj Finance saw gains in their market capitalisation (m-cap) in the holiday-shortened week, Infosys, HUL and LIC suffered losses.

Stock markets were closed on Tuesday on account of Muharram.

The RIL's valuation zoomed ₹66,772.08 crore to ₹17,81,028.47 crore. The m-cap of TCS jumped ₹12,642.03 crore to ₹12,44,004.29 crore

and that of HDFC Bank advanced by ₹32,346.90 crore to ₹8,25,207.35 crore.

The mcap of ICICI Bank went up by ₹25,467.37 crore to ₹6,70,920.64 crore. HUL lost ₹11,454.26 crore to ₹6,09,765.92 crore in its valuation and LIC saw an erosion of ₹3,289.00 crore to ₹4,31,459.72 crore. The mcap of SBI was unchanged at ₹4,73,584.52 crore. **PTI**

# FPIs invest ₹22,452-cr in Indian equities in Aug on softening inflation concerns

**New Delhi:** After turning net buyers last month, foreign investors have become aggressive shoppers of Indian equities and have invested ₹22,452 crore in the first two weeks of August amid softening inflation concerns.

This was way higher than a net investment of nearly ₹5,000 crore by Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) in the entire month of July, data with depositories showed.

FPIs had turned net buyers for the first time in July, after nine straight months of massive net outflows, which started in October last year.

Between October 2021 till June 2022, FPIs sold ₹2.46 lakh crore in the India equity markets. Going forward, foreign fund inflow is expected to

improve in the emerging markets on account of fading concerns of rising inflation and tightening of monetary policy by central banks, Shrikant Chouhan, Head - Equity Research (Retail), Kotak Securities, said.

According to official figures, India's retail inflation softened to 6.71 per cent in July due to moderation in food prices but remained above the Reserve Bank's comfort level of 6 per cent for the seventh consecutive month.

US inflation slowed down from a 40-year high in June to 8.5 per cent in July on lower gasoline prices, indicating that the US Fed might be less aggressive in hiking interest rates. "As long as energy prices remain low and there are no

surprises from the war zone, foreign flow is likely to continue," Vijay Singhania, chairman at TradeSmart, said.

Brent crude futures, the global oil benchmark, is hovering around USD 98 per barrel.

According to data with depositories, FPIs infused a net amount of ₹22,452 crore in Indian equities during August 1-12. The sentiments in the equity market have turned bullish due to sustained buying by FPIs. "Depreciation in dollar (dollar index declined from above 109 during late July to around 105.26 on August 12th) is the primary driver of capital flows to emerging markets," VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Financial Services, said. **PTI**

# PFC Projects likely to rope in investor partners for stressed power projects

**New Delhi:** PFC Projects Ltd, an equal joint venture of Power Finance Corporation and REC Ltd, is likely to rope in technical or strategic investor partners to operate and maintain acquired stressed or non-performing assets next year.

PFC Projects Ltd (PPL) will rope in strategic investor partners through competitive bidding and the first such bid is likely to be floated next year, a source told PTI.

The joint venture has been set up for taking over stressed assets or NPA (non performing assets) in the power sector. Earlier this month, the boards of PFC and REC approved a subscription of 50 per cent equity each not exceeding ₹50

crore each in the PPL.

"The PPL will explore both options of technical as well as strategic partners for running the acquired stressed power plants. It will select a technical or strategic partner for each acquired stressed project through competitive bidding. First such bid is likely next year." At present, the company has bid for two stressed projects—3600 MW KSK Mahanadi Power project and 1920 MW Lanco Amarkantak Power project. The company filed a joint bid with state-run power giant NTPC for the 3600 MW KSK Mahanadi Power project.

The company will require a technical or strategic investor

partner for the 1920 MW Lanco Amarkantak Power project.

The source said that the company is likely to invite bids for a technical or strategic investor partner next year as the stressed project is undergoing insolvency proceedings which may conclude in 2023.

The company will choose an investor partner for each acquired project. The PFC is a non-banking finance company under the administrative control of the Ministry of Power for financing projects in the sector. The PFC Board on August 12, 2022 accorded approval for creation of Power Asset Management Company (PAMC) for taking over the stressed/NPA power assets. **PTI**



# NEYMAR NETS 2 AS PSG BEATS MONTPELLIER 5-2 IN FRENCH LEAGUE

AP ■ PARIS

Neymar and Paris Saint-Germain's high-powered attack put on another impressive display in a 5-2 win over Montpellier in the French league as Kylian Mbappe opened his account but missed a penalty in his return from a groin injury.

Neymar scored twice on Saturday to take his tally to three goals in two league games for the defending champion on a night when Lionel Messi was held scoreless. The Brazil striker was also PSG's best player in preseason friendlies as he looks to find his peak form for the World Cup in Qatar, which starts in November.

PSG also netted five goals in its league opener and Montpellier opted for a low defensive block to deny space for the hosts. But the pressure was too much for center back Falaye Sacko, who diverted Mbappe's off-target shot into his own net in the 39th minute.

Sacko then handled the ball in the 42nd when Lionel Messi juggled the ball on a dribbling run. Neymar wrong-footed Jonas Omlin to convert the subsequent penalty for a 2-0 lead.

PSG capitalized on another blunder to add a third goal in the 51st. Mbappe blocked



Omlin's pass and found Achraf Hakimi, whose deflected cross was headed home by Neymar. Far from his best level, Mbappe still found the net with a flick from a corner in the 69th.

(Mbappe) is a competitor, he wants to be good, and he wants to be good quickly," PSG coach Christophe Galtier

told Canal Plus. "He needs a bit of time to be 100 percent fit. He will make even more difference when he will be 100 percent fit."

In his PSG debut, Portugal midfielder Renato Sanches rounded off the scoring with a first-time effort in the 88th.

Omlin pulled off some outstanding saves to frustrate

PSG for more than 30 minutes. The Swiss goalkeeper saved a penalty from Mbappe in the 23rd after Jordan Ferri had handled the ball. He then turned around the post a curling free kick from Messi in the 26th.

Montpellier scored with a close-range effort from Wahbi Khazri in the 58th and a half-

volley from Enzo Tchato in stoppage time.

Earlier, Rennes' defensive issues were exposed as it squandered the lead to draw 1-1 with 10-man Monaco.

In a clash between two contenders for European spots, Monaco forward Breel Embolo pounced on a heavy touch from goalkeeper Dogan

Alemdar to equalize with a sliding effort in the 73rd.

Rennes striker Gaetan Laborde opened the scoring by converting a rebound in the 59th.

Monaco was down to 10 men in the 15th when midfielder Youssouf Fofana was red-carded for a stamp on Martin Terrier's ankle.

"We are extremely disappointed," Laborde said.

"When you play with 11 men against 10 almost the entire game, you must come away with three points. It was tense in the dressing room."

Despite its numerical superiority, Rennes looked shaky at the back.

Embolo proved a magnet for fouls and Joe Rodon and Arthur Theate were booked for holding the forward in the 21st and the 23rd, respectively.

Steve Mandanda also received a yellow card in the 31st for catching Embolo in the face while attempting to punch the ball away.

The Rennes goalkeeper made amends by stopping the subsequent penalty taken by Axel Disasi before denying Krepin Diatta in the 36th.

However, Mandanda picked up a knock and was replaced by Alemdar at half-time.



## Nikhat gifts PM Modi boxing gloves, Hima gives traditional gamocha

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Indian athletes expressed their elation at being honoured by Prime Minister Narendra Modi for their superlative showing at Birmingham Commonwealth Games with Nikhat Zareen gifting him her boxing gloves and sprinter Hima Das giving the traditional Assamese gamocha.

Modi, on Saturday, hosted the Indian contingent at his residence to felicitate the players.

The Indian athletes produced a sensational show in Birmingham, claiming 61 medals, including 22 gold, 16 silver and 23 bronze.

"Honoured to gift the boxing gloves signed by all the pugilists to our honourable Prime Minister @narendramodi sir. Thank

you for this amazing opportunity. A great day spent with my fellow athletes who have made the country proud," Nikhat tweeted.

The star boxer, world championship gold medalist, won the yellow metal in her weight category at the Games.

Hima wrote on her Twitter handle, "Elated to receive blessings from our honourable Prime Minister - Shri @narendramodi Ji, by virtue of Commonwealth Games 2022. Fortunate to have presented him with our traditional gamcha, wrapped with immense gratitude from all of Assam."

Champion weightlifter Mirabai Chanu, who won the gold medal without breaking a sweat, a year after her historic silver at the Tokyo Olympics, thanked the PM for his words of encouragement.

## AIFF Electoral list: Legends of '70s and '80s set to 'return' on different turf



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

They mesmerized all and sundry with their skills and 'surefootedness' during those heady Indian club football days of 1970's and '80's but former national captains like Shabbir Ali, Manoranjan Bhattacharya will have a far bigger task at hand in coming days.

Their prudence will decide the course that Indian football system charts, after more than a decade long 'One-Man show' at the helm of affairs, which has done more harm than good for the game in the country.

These two and 34 other prominent internationals of their times are now part of an exclusive voter's list to elect the next governing body of All India Football Federation (AIFF) with an imminent FIFA ban looming large.

There are 24 male and 12 female former India footballers, who have been included in the initial voters' list of 67 for the elections dated on August 28 on the orders of the Supreme Court. It features some of the biggest names, including former India captains like Bhaichung Bhutia, IM Vijayan, Mauricio Alphonso, Climax Lawrence, Prasun Banerjee, Biswajit Bhattacharya, Bruno Coutinho, Oinam Bembem Devi, the lone Padma Shree awardee among women footballers in India.

As per rule, an 'eminent player' must have played at least two matches for India and must have retired two years before the date of election.

The publication of the electoral college also ruled out a big politician running for the AIFF president's post. Former sports minister and current union minister Sarbananda Sonowal's name was doing the rounds as presidential candidate.

Assam Football Association President Naba Kumar Doley, who is also a BJP MLA in the state, is in the electoral college so also Football Delhi chief Shaji Prabhakaran.

Any person who is a member of the electoral college and an Indian citizen can fight for the AIFF president's post.

These elections to the All India Football Federation are being in the backdrop of world governing body FIFA's threat to

ban India and take away hosting rights of Under-17 Women's World Cup on the ground of "third party interference".

FIFA has also expressed its unhappiness on the inclusion of 36 players in the electoral list - the same as the number of representatives from state associations, terming the move as "not prudent".

The three-member Committee of Administrators (CoA), which is running football in the country, is, however, going ahead with the elections. It has appointed a returning officer who prepared the electoral college.

Nomination papers can be filed from August 17 to 19 by the candidates and delivered to the returning officer in person or by post.

Sports ministry, CoA and Fifa are holding discussions on the decisive shape of the AIFF constitution.

Shabbir Ali and Manoranjan Bhattacharya, offensive and defensive bulwark of the Indian team of the 70s and 80s, began their careers four and eight years after India's last medal in the Asian Games — a bronze in 1970 in Bangkok.

Midfielder Prasanta Banerjee, said to be the first Indian player to have earned Rs 1 lakh in a season, and nimble-footed Babu Mani made the electoral college as also their former team-mates Biswajit Bhattacharya, who scored India's lone goal scorer in the 1984 Nehru Cup against Poland. Former national team captain and goalkeeper Atanu Bhattacharya, who made it to the Asian All-Star team, is another big name in the list. Others include Aloke Mukherjee, Brahmanand, Tarun Dey and Parminder Singh.

## New-look Barcelona held 0-0 by Rayo in Lewandowski's debut



AP ■ BARCELONA

Barcelona mortgaged its financial future to give Xavi Hernández the talent he wanted.

But Rayo Vallecano showed Xavi he still has work to do to forge a winning team after his new-look Barcelona was held to a 0-0 draw on Saturday in their Spanish league opener.

The modest club from Madrid frustrated Robert Lewandowski and his fellow Barcelona newcomers by defending well and producing the most dangerous scoring threats.

As the minutes ticked by, the energy drained from the 81,000-strong Camp Nou crowd that had turned out to cheer the team that was only made possible by

the controversial decision by club president Joan Laporta to sell off television rights and other assets in exchange for some much needed cash.

The biggest applause Lewandowski heard from the crowd was to show their appreciation for his hustle on defense late in the match with Barcelona stymied in attack. The closest the former Bayern Munich star went to scoring was a header flicked well over the bar in the first half.

Fittingly, given its poor finish to the match, Barcelona ended with 10 men after Sergio Busquets got a second booking in stoppage time when he swung his arm into the face of Rayo substitute Radamel Falcao.

Busquets' explosion will rule him out of Barcelona's visit to

Real Sociedad. Falcao then had what looked to be a winner waived away for offside as Rayo went close to claiming a third straight win over Barcelona after it stunned the Catalan club twice last season.

"It is too bad because we wanted to show our fans that we are on the right path," Xavi said. "We had generated a lot of expectations, but this is just the beginning. Today is disappointing for every Barcelona supporter, but we have to keep our faith in this way of playing as being the right one to win titles."

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**श्री रावतपुरा सार्कार इंस्टीट्यूट्स, डाटा (म.प्र.)**

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75 Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

Har Ghar Tiranga

13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> August 2022

**श्री रावतपुरा सार्कार इंस्टीट्यूट्स**  
Kamarpur NH-75, Jhansi Road, Datia (M.P.)

Position	Post	Qualification/Experience
Head of College	01	M.Pharm, PGD/15 Yrs. Exp.
Head of Pharmacy	02	M.Pharm, PGD 5-10 Yrs. Exp.
Head of Technology & Science	03	M.Sc. 5-10 Yrs. Exp.
Head of Management & Finance	04	M.B.A./PGD 5-10 Yrs. Exp.
Head of Education	05	M.Tech/PGD 5-10 Yrs. Exp.
Head of Health & Safety	06	M.Sc./PGD 5-10 Yrs. Exp.
Head of Quality	07	PG / 3-5 Yrs. Exp.

75 आज़ादी का अमृत महोत्सव

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75 Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

Har Ghar Tiranga

13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> August 2022

हर घर तिरंगा

कमलेश भार्गव जिला पंचायत सीईओ दतिया

75 आज़ादी का अमृत महोत्सव

जय हिन्द

डी0 डी0 राहुल प्राचार्य शा0 महाविद्यालय दतिया

कार्यालय जिला सहकारी केन्द्रीय बैंक मर्यादित, मंदसौर

बैंक के सम्माननीय अमानतदारों, कृषक सदस्यों एवं नागरिकों को गणतंत्र दिवस पर हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

मातृभूमि की रक्षा के लिए वीरगति प्राप्त समस्त वीर शहीदों को नमन।

जिला सहकारी केन्द्रीय बैंक मर्यादित मंदसौर की आकर्षक ऋण एवं अमानत योजनाओं का लाभ लेने के लिये सहकारी बैंक की नजदीकी शाखा में सम्पर्क करें।

1. कृषकों को रूपे डेबिट कार्ड के माध्यम से 0 प्रतिशत ब्याज दर पर सुलभ फसल ऋण
2. कृषकों को पशु पालन हेतु 0 प्रतिशत ब्याज दर पर सुलभ कार्यशील पूंजी साख सीमा उपलब्ध
3. मछुआरों को फिशरमेन क्रेडिट कार्ड योजनागत 0 प्रतिशत ब्याज दर पर सुलभ अल्पावधि ऋण
4. बैंक की जिला मंदसौर एवं नीमच स्थित समस्त 35 शाखाएं ऑनलाईन कम्प्यूटरीकृत
5. RTGS/NEFT सुविधाएं उपलब्ध
6. बैंक की समस्त शाखाओं में ए.टी.एम. कार्ड सुविधा प्रारंभ
7. अमानतों पर अन्य बैंकों से अधिक ब्याज दरें
8. वरिष्ठ नागरिकों को अमानतों पर 1.00 प्रतिशत अधिक ब्याज दर
9. आवास ऋण, भूमि भवन तारण ऋण, कोलेटरल साख सीमा ऋण, व्यक्तिगत ऋण आदि अकृषि ऋण योजना अंतर्गत आसान ऋण सुविधा उपलब्ध
10. आत्मनिर्भर म.प्र. योजना योजनागत नागरिकों की सुविधा हेतु बैंक से सम्बद्ध पेक्स सहकारी समितियों में सामान्य सुविधा केन्द्र शीघ्र प्रारंभ

पी.एन.यादव मुख्य कार्यपालन अधिकारी

गौतम सिंह कलेक्टर एवं प्रशासक



# WITH RAHUL BACK AS OPENER, GILL MIGHT HAVE TO COME IN AT NO. 3

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The ODI series against Zimbabwe will be KL Rahul's dress rehearsal before the Asia Cup and hence he is all set to replace Shubman Gill at the top-of the order alongside Shikhar Dhawan for the upcoming games.

With T20 World Cup being paramount and Gill not exactly in the scheme of things as far as shortest format is concerned, he might be handed a number 3 slot in order to ensure that his captain gets enough game-time before the continental championship in the UAE, starting August 27.

This provided all three are fit and available for all the games in the series.

While there will be no Rahul Dravid heading the team of support staff for the short three-match series, starting August 18 in Harare, NCA head VVS Laxman is almost certain to follow the blue-print set by the head coach.

Rahul's comeback also creates problems for young Gill, who has had a stellar 50-over series in the West Indies, where he scored 64, 43 and 98 not out in three games to win the 'Player of the Series' award.

So will Rahul allow Gill to continue his good form at the



India-Zimbabwe ODIs

top of the order or perch himself out there at the onset with one eye on the Asia Cup?

"I think Shubman is being groomed in the right way by the Indian team management. While he has done exceedingly well in the Caribbean ODIs, what I can gauge from this team's philosophy is prepare players for multiple slots. Hence I feel for this particular series, Shubman might have to come in at No. 3," former national selector and Test opener Devang Gandhi gave his viewpoint on the issue.

Agreed Deep Dasgupta, another former India player and now a commentator.

"I agree it is difficult after you have had such a good series. But currently, the aim would be to prepare Rahul for the Asia Cup T20's opening slot. He needs to get a lot of batting time and that's a priority. I think it will be a short-term arrangement as Shubman I feel is being groomed as an opener for the ODI World Cup," Dasgupta, currently commenting in 'The Hundred', said.

In the 50-over set-up since the home series against England in 2021, Rahul was being seen as a middle-order anchor rather than an opener but once he was the skipper in the ODI series in South Africa, he had promoted

himself as an opener.

But the last ODI that he played was against West Indies in Ahmedabad, where with both Rohit Sharma and Dhawan present, Rahul was back in the middle-order.

So won't it be unfair to Gill if he isn't opening the innings? Gandhi feels otherwise.

"Look, No.3 is a proper top-order slot. He might have to come in as early as second ball of the innings and that is as good as opening the batting. Also my hunch is that once Rahul has enough game time under his belt, he will again bat middle-order with Gill being prepared for 2023 event," Gandhi said.

**NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ**  
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For and on behalf of the President of India, the Dy. CEE/Work shop, North Central Railway, Jhansi invites open tenders through online (E-Tendering) for the following works:-

Tender No.	Description of Work	Tender value	Bid Security
JHS-DyCEE-WS-T-03-2022-23	GSD/JHS- Improvement of lighting system and rewiring of Administrative building and other wards in Dy. CMM/GSD, Jhansi.	₹ 43,27,005/- Only	₹ 86,600/- Only

**Completion Period :** 04 months  
**Closing date of tender :** 12.09.2022 (upto 15:00 Hrs.).  
Tenderer will submit the tender online upto 12.09.2022 (upto 15:00 Hrs.) . Complete details & for submission of tender can be seen in Indian Railway website <http://www.ireps.gov.in> 1063/22 (ADM)  
f North central railways [www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in) @CPRONCR @northcentralrailway

**NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY**  
E-Tender No.: JHS-ENGG-N-2022-76 & 89 Jhansi Division  
Dated: 10.08.2022  
**E-TENDERING TENDER NOTICE**  
Divisional Railway Manager (Works) N.C. Railway, Jhansi for and behalf of President of India invites sealed "Open Tender" through on Line (E-Tendering) for the following work.

E-Tender No.	Description of Work	Approx. Cost	Earnest Money
JHS-ENGG-N-2022-76	Improvement of level crossing surface by rubber grade crossing system at various L-Xings in BLNR-UDMR section.	₹ 12354360.02	₹ 211800.00
JHS-ENGG-N-2022-89	Improvement & restoration of Structural Strength of over head RCC tanks at Gwalior.	₹ 7188994.29	₹ 143800.00

**Date of Closing Tender:** For both tenders "07.09.2022 at 15:00 hrs."  
**Date of completion / period from issue acceptance letter:** For both tenders "08 Months".  
**Note:** (1) Tender on line can be submitted up to 15:00 hrs. on 07.09.2022. (2) For full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railways website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in). 1042/22 (A)  
f North central railways [www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in) @northcentralrailway @CPRONCR

75 आज़ादी का अमृत महोत्सव  
हर घर तिरंगा  
13-15 अगस्त 2022

मध्य प्रदेश शासन

नरेन्द्र मोदी प्रधानमंत्री  
शिवराज सिंह चौहान मुख्यमंत्री

देश के 76वें स्वतंत्रता दिवस पर  
समस्त प्रदेशवासियों को  
हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

आइये, आज़ादी का अमृत महोत्सव मनाएं,  
हर घर तिरंगा लहरायें

तिरंगे के साथ अपनी सेल्फी  
[harghartiranga.com](http://harghartiranga.com) पर अवश्य अपलोड करें  
या इस website पर वर्युअल फ्लैग पिन करें।

मध्य प्रदेश जनसम्पर्क द्वारा जारी  
D-11074/22  
आकल्पन : मध्य प्रदेश माध्यम/2022

हर घर तिरंगा अभियान  
13-15 अगस्त, 2022

आज़ादी की 75वीं वर्षगांठ अवसर पर

आज़ादी का महापर्व

15 अगस्त, 2022 ♦ सांय 6.30 बजे  
रवीन्द्र सभागम, रवीन्द्र भवन परिसर, भोपाल

माननीय मुख्यमंत्री  
श्री शिवराज सिंह चौहान  
के मुख्य आतिथ्य तथा  
माननीय संस्कृति, पर्यटन, धार्मिक न्यास एवं धर्मस्व मंत्री  
सुश्री उषा बाबू सिंह ठाकुर  
की गरिमामय उपस्थिति में  
प्रख्यात गायक  
शान एवं साध्वी कलाकार मुम्बई  
द्वारा देशभक्ति गीतों की प्रस्तुति।  
इसी अवसर पर  
भारतवर्ष की अक्षय कीर्ति गाथा पर केन्द्रित  
फिल्म श्रृंखला भारत विक्रम लोकार्पण तथा  
ज़रा याद करो कुर्बानी  
एवं  
भारतीय ऋषि वैज्ञानिक  
चित्र प्रदर्शनी का शुभारम्भ होगा।  
सभी सादर आमंत्रित हैं.

स्वराज संस्थान संचालनालय  
संस्कृति विभाग, मध्य प्रदेश शासन का आयोजन

प्रख्यात गायक  
शान

भारत उत्कर्ष और नवजागरण पर एकाग्र  
भारतीय ऋषि वैज्ञानिक चित्र प्रदर्शनी  
16 से 22 अगस्त, 2022 तक  
स्वराज वीथि, रवीन्द्र भवन परिसर, भोपाल में  
दोपहर 2.00 से रात्रि 8.00 बजे तक  
आयोजक - महाराजा विक्रमादित्य शोधपीठ, भोपाल

गतिविधि का प्रसारण लाइव  
/culture mp  
/shaurya smarak