PEACE IN J&K IS

STILL A PIPE DREAM

TRUMP'S ESTATE IN FLORIDA

the pioneer

NEW DELHI, WEDNESDAY AUGUST 10, 2022; PAGES 12 ₹3

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DEHRADUN HYDERABAD VIJAYWADA Late City Vol.32 Issue 220

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5 years later, Nitish trots 7 die of Covid in on the same path again

Nitish divorces BJP, revives RJD-led Mahagathbandhan, to take oath as CM today; Tejashwi to be his deputy

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

After months of sparring with the BJP, Nitish Kumar on Tuesday finally pulled the plug on his party's alliance with the saffron outfit, paving the way for the revival of the seven-party Mahagathbandhan Government and opening up the possibility of his emergence as a common candidate to take on Prime minister Narendra Modi in 2024 Lok Sabha polls.

Kumar will take oath as Chief Minister and RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav as his deputy on Wednesday at 2 pm, sources

Earlier in the day, after resigning as NDA Chief Minister, Kumar staked claim to form a new Government when he was unanimously declared the leader of the Opposition grand alliance. He submitted a list of 164 supporting MLAs to the Governor

In the State Assembly, which has an effective strength of 242, requiring 121 MLAs for a majority, the RJD has the highest number of 79 MLAs followed by the BJP (77) and the JD(U) with 44.

The JD(U) also enjoys the support of four MLAs of former Chief Minister Jitan Ram Manihi's Hindustani Awam Morcha and an Independent.

while the CPIML(L) has 12 and CPI and CPI(M) have two each. Besides, one MLA belongs to Asaduddin Owaisi's AIMIM

The development has come as a setback for the BJP, which is now completely isolated in Bihar. Given the caste combination in the State, the grand alliance will have an edge in the Lok Sabha polls unless the BJP is able to change the narrative of State politics altogether.

The way the relation between the BJP and the JD(U) deteriorated over the months. Tuesday happenings should not come as a surprise to anyone. Any attempt to salvage the alliance fell apart after the Maharashtra development, which made Nitish all the more suspicious about the repeat of the same experiment

After some of the JD(U) MLAs brought it to the notice of Nitish that they were offered huge sums of money to walk out of JD(U), Nitish decided that enough is enough



Bihar Governor Phagu Chauhan in Patna on Tuesday

Kumar speaks with

them for support

Sonia, Rahul, thanks

New Delhi: Nitish Kumar spoke with Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi and expressed his

gratitude to them for supporting him after he broke ties with the BIP. Congress

Going ahead, there is a

strong possibility that Nitish

could pass the Chief Ministerial

baton to Tejashwai Yadav in

2024 and himself take a plunge

that Nitish is the best bet to take

on Modi in 2024 for a variety

of reasons. He has a clean

image, the barb of dynastic pol-

itics will also not stick to him,

and being a powerful OBC leader he could match Modi on

the caste turf as well.
"If you assess the person-

eligible to become Prime

Minister. We are not making any claim today, but he has all

the qualities of a Prime

Minister," Upendra Kushwaha,

president of the Janata Dal(U)

. National Parliamentary Board

Yadav said Kumar could be a

for the 2024 Lok Sabha polls.

Veteran RJD leader Sharad

Continued on Page 2

said in Patna.

His party leaders believe

in national politics.

sources said on Tuesday.

- with Assembly Speaker Vijay Kumar Sinha and wanted the BJP to remove him from the post. Once in last Assembly Session Kumar had lost his cool and accused the Speaker of violating the Constitution by raising questions against his Government. A staunch RSS worker, Sinha's tenure as Speaker has been replete with frequent run-ins with Kumar and the JD(U) on a range of
- Kumar was also upset after his party was offered a single Cabinet berth in the Narendra Modi Government in June 2019. He took with a pinch of salt as his close aide RCP Singh joined Modi Cabinet without his nod leading to exit of Singh from the JD(U).
- The JD and the BJP differed over the Agnipath scheme
- Kumar opposed the BJP's pet agenda the Uniform Civil Code
- JDU had also refused to back the Modi Government on triple talag and Article 370.
- Kumar also reacted sharply to the BJP's demand for a ban on loudspeakers at religious places and said "such things are nothing

Nitish betrayed trust

of people, says BJP

- between the JD(U) and the BJP over the bulldozer culture. The party in a statement said Bihar didn't require a bulldozer culture as the Kumar model of governance is tried and tested and effective enough to check crimes
- Kumar said a terse "no" to implementation of the controversial NRC in Bihar. becoming the first NDA Chief Minister to dump the proposal that Home Minister Amit Shah announced would be implemented all over India
- Kumar disliked the way Chirag Paswan was allegedly used to sabotage his party's prospects in the 2020 State elections. He believed that Chirag had the tacit support of the BJP leadership. LJF engineered the defeat of at least 36 JD(U) candidates by cutting into the ruling alliance votes.
- In a series of retaliation, Kuma did not attend a meeting of all Chief Ministers called by Shah recently. After that, he was invited to the farewell banquet hosted by the PM for outgoing President Ram Nath Kovind but he again stayed away. He also did not made it to the Niti Aayog Governing Council meeting chaired by Modi

Delhi, positivity rate crosses 15%

With the national Capital recording 2,495 new Covid-19 cases and seven deaths in the past 24 hours with positivity rate 15.41 per cent, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said the Government is monitoring the situation closely and there is no need to panic.

As per the Delhi Government's health department data, the national Capital recorded 2,495 new cases in the past 24 hours which saw seven deaths due to the pandemic. The new cases came out of 7,686 Covid-19 tests. With the fresh infections and fatalities, Delhi's caseload increased to 19,70,899 and the death toll to 26,336, it said.

Reacting on the increasing positivity rate, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday said Covid cases are on the rise

to panic as most new cases were mild in nature and the City Government was keeping a close watch on the situation.

"Covid cases are rising. We are keeping watch on it and whatever steps needed will be taken. But most cases are mild and there is no need for panic," the Chief Minister told reporters

Unlike the two minor surges seen in April and June, Covid-19 cases in the national Capital are continuing to increase at present. To compare, fewer than 1,800 cases and around 10 per cent positivity was the highest recorded during the previous two spikes in infection

Delhi on Sunday had reported 2,423 Covid-19 cases with a positivity rate of 14.97 per cent and two deaths.

Continued on Page 2

CAPSULE

VILLAGE SANS MUSLIMS OBSERVES MUHARRAM practice for years now, a village in this district with no Muslim family observed Muharram this year, too, with local Hindus leading from the front. Seen as a sign of religious harmony and brotherhood, several villages in northern Karnataka have a similar practice, where both Hindus and Muslims together observe Muharram



during a Muharram procession to mourn the martyrdom of Imam Hussain, the grandson of Prophet Mohammad, in New Delhi on Ranjan Dimri I Pioneer

TERRORIST PLANNING ATTACK ON I-DAY HELD Lucknow: The Uttar Pradesh Police on Tuesday arrested an alleged terrorists with Islamic State links who was planning a terror attack on Independence

Day, an official said here

Maha Cabinet expands, 9 each from Shinde camp, BJP; no berth for women



Abdul Sattar after being sworn-in as a minister at a ceremony at Raj Bhavan in Mumbai on Tuesday. Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari, Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and Dy CM Devendra Fadnavis are also seen

TN RAGHUNATHA

In the first-ever expansion of his two-member Ministry 41 days after he assumed his office, Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde on Tuesday inducted 18 new Ministers — nine each from the Shinde-led Shiv Sena and the BJP — into his Cabinet.

Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari administered the oath of office and secrecy to 18 new Ministers — all Cabinet rank — at a swearing-in ceremony held at Darbar Hall of Rai Bhavan in south Mumbai on Tuesday.

The nine Shinde-led Shiv Sena Ministers who took oath Gulabrao Patil, Dada Bhuse, Sanjay Rathod, Sandipan Bhumre, Uday Samant, Tanaji Sawant, Abdul Sattar, Deepak Kesarkar and Shambhuraj

The nine BJP Ministers who assumed office are: Radhakrishna Vikhe Patil, Sudhir Mungantiwar, Chandrakant Patil, Vijaykumar Gavit, Girish Mahajan, Suresh Khade, Ravindra Chavan, Atul Save and Mangalprabhat

Desai.

Apart from Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, prominent others present at the swearing-in ceremony were: Union Ministers of State Ramdas Athawale, Raosaheb Danve, Dr Bhagwat

Karad and Kapil Patil, Leader of the Opposition Ajit Pawar and others.

Surprisingly, no woman has found a berth in the State Cabinet — a feature that has not gone well with the elected women representatives in both the ruling dispensation.

Slamming the BJP for not giving representation to the woman in the State Cabinet, NCP MP Supriya Sule said: "Maharashtra was the first State to make reservations for women. Despite the fact that women account for 50 per cent of the population in the State, women have not been given representation in the State Cabinet. This shows the BIP's mindset towards women".

Continued on Page 2

the name of which party?" Taunting the JD(U), Prasad **BJP stands** alities in the country, Nitish is isolated

I Nitish Kumar of betraying

the trust of people of Bihar and

refuted the allegation that the

BJP wanted to break the Janata

Kumar's consent.

PNS NEW DELHI

in Bihar

After Nitish Kumar's departure and a loss of yet another ally of National Democratic Alliance (NDA), the BJP will find itself isolated in the State with all Opposition parties coming together under the leadership of Nitish against the BJP.

The BJP is now left with Rashtriya Lok Janshakti Party leader and Union Minister Prime Ministerial candidate

leader and Union Minister Pashupati Kumar Paras with no MLA in the State Assembly. It is virtually BJP versus the rest in the new power arrangement in Bihar.

Currently, BJP holds 77, JD(U) 45, RJD 79, HAM(S) 4, Congress 19, CPIML 12, CPI 4, and AIMIM and Independent, one each seat in the Bihar Assembly.

The departure of Kumar

when the Lok Sabha polls are only about 18 months away comes as a major challenge for the BJP in Bihar which sends 40 MPs to the Lok Sabha. The BJP-JD(U) alliance had swept the 2019 Lok Sabha poll in Bihar winning 39 of 40 seats. Continued on Page 2

to the corruption allegations now? Is that story over? They have insulted the mandate of the citizens of Bihar time and

again."
"If they had issues with the Dal(U) and made RCP Singh Union Minister without BJP, why did they join hands in Lashing out at the JD(U), 2020? They should've refrained Senior BJP leader Ravi Shankar Prasad questioned, "Wasn't the from doing so back then, why wait for two years? They want to win the Lok Sabha and 2020 election won on the name Vidhan Sabha elections, taste of Narendra Modi? The 2019 LS polls in Bihar was won in victory in the name of Modi and then leave whenever they wish. This is insulting the will of the people, which we con-

demn," the BJP leader said. Former Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Modi dismissed JD(U)'s allegations that the BJP wanted to break the party and that it made RCP Singh Union Minister without Kumar's consent.

He said the JD(U) was looking for an excuse to break ties with the BJP, and under-

further said, "They left the RJD lined that "the BJP will come citing reasons of the corruption back to power with a thumpwhite lie that the BJP had made Singh Union Minister without Nitish consent. It is also a lie that the BIP wanted

to break the JD(U)," Sushil said. Singh was made Union Minister last year as JD(U) representative but forced to resign last month as his Rajya Sabha term ended and his party denied him another term.

Union Minister Ashwini Choubey accused Kumar of being "opportunistic" and said those "betraying" Bihar want to create obstacles in its development. "The BJP does not suppress anyone, does not betray anyone. Those people betraying Bihar want to create obstacles in its development. The development of Bihar has been a priority for us from the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Government to the Modi Government,

Choubey told a TV channel. Continued on Page 2 | of office and secrecy are

Stop Mins from slandering

Baijal, LG asks Kejriwal

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Expressing "grave objection" cover "deliberately misleading" and "baseless" allegations levelled by Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia against former Lieutenant Governor Anil Baijal amid the excise policy row, Delhi Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena on Tuesday advised Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal to ensure his colleagues refrain from such "petty behaviour".

Earlier on Tuesday, Baijal rejected as "baseless and motivated" charges levelled against him by Sisodia and said it was an attempt by a "desperate man to save his own skin".

"LG VK Saxena, having LG, Anil Baijal, expressed grave objection to the deliberately

misleading, baseless & motivated allegations made by Shri Sisodia & other AAP leaders against Shri Baijal over last few

days," the Raj Niwas tweeted. "Saxena has advised

Kejriwal to ensure that his colleagues in the Government and party, refrain from such petty behaviour and statements," it said.
"They are nothing but bla-

tant lies and falsehoods being perpetrated by a desperate man to save his own skin. Sisodia is trying to find some alibi, and his colleagues' acts of commission and omissions. During the implementation of the new Delhi Excise Policy, on several occasions, I had flagged the unlawful decisions taken by the AAP Government which had to be amended on files. These facts are now in the public domain," the statement said.

Chirag slams Bihar CM, seeks President's Rule

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

As Nitish Kumar snapped ties with the BJP, LJP (Ram Vilas) leader Chirag Paswan on Tuesday slammed the Bihar Chief Minister for "insulting" the people's mandate once again and demanded the imposition of President's Rule in the State followed by fresh elec-

Paswan also came out in support of the BJP amid the political turmoil in Bihar and said the saffron party had accepted everything that Kumar wanted as Chief Minister and even compromised on its own policies.

insulted the people's mandate. He has lost his credibility... Is it a joke? At one time you go with somebody and the other time with someone else,' Paswan told reporters here. "I request the Governor to

"Kumar has once again

recommend the imposition of President's Rule in the State. Elections should be held for a fresh mandate," the Jamui MP added. Paswan alleged that Kumar has quit the NDA to join hands with the Mahagathbandhan of the Opposition parties "once again" just to achieve his personal

Continued on Page 2

Self-proclaimed leader who abused, assaulted Noida woman arrested

PTI ■ NOIDA

Absconding politician Shrikant Tyagi was arrested on Tuesday from Meerut, officials said, days after he was seen in a social media video abusing and assaulting a woman for objecting to his alleged illegal constructions at a housing society here. Tyagi was at large since

Friday evening, and the Noida Police had announced a reward of ₹25,000 on his arrest. Additional Director

General of Uttar Pradesh Police (law and order) Prashant Kumar said in Lucknow Tyagi has been arrested. On the controversy sur-

such protection after February

with him? rounding security given to Tyagi by the Uttar Pradesh wife was once again detained Police, Kumar said he had no for questioning on Tuesday



A senior Noida police officer told PTI, "Tyagi's three associates were also held along Before the arrests, Tyagi's

evening, had on Monday moved a court in Gautam Buddh Nagar with a plea for surrender-related procedures. The hearing in the matter has morning in the case lodged at the Phase 2 police station here, been listed for August 10.

Continued on Page 2

according to officials. Tyagi, who was at large since Friday

> read the clear & categorical statement issued by former

Continued on Page 2

sticker given by SP leader on car: Cops

Shrikant Tyagi, arrested on Tuesday for allegedly assaulting a woman in Noida, flaunted a car sticker that false-ly identified him as an MLA and was given to him by Samajwadi Party leader Swami Prasad Maurya, police said.

Police Commissioner Alok Singh said they have impounded his five cars—two Toyota Fortuners, two Tata Safaris and a Honda Civic. He had also purchased special series numbers, all having at least two zeroes and the Lucknow registration, for his vehicles for which he paid Rs 1.10 lakh each. Tyagi, who was arrested Tuesday morning from Meerut, has been an associate of Maurya, the police commissioner said. "He also had a sticker on one of his vehicles which is given to honourable MLAs. Tyagi told police during questioning that this sticker was provided to him by his

Maurya," Singh said. The sticker said the member of legislative assembly, Uttar Pradesh. Maurya could not be immediately contacted for his response. Maurya, who was a minister in the previous BJP government in the state, had quit the party just ahead of the Assembly earlier this year and joined the

Samajwadi Party. Currently, he is a member of the state legislative council from the Samajwadi Party. Until he went underground Friday night, Tyagi claimed to be the national executive member of the BJP's Kisan Morcha and the national co-coordinator of its Yuva Samiti, even as the ruling party denied any links with him.

The Opposition has also mounted an attack on the BJP over the issue, sharing purported pictures of Tyagi with senior saffron party leaders, including its national president

Tyagi flaunted MLA 7 die of Covid in Delhi, positivity rate crosses 15%

On Saturday, it recorded 2,311 Covid-19 cases with a positivity rate of 13.84 per cent and one fatality. On Friday, it logged 2,419 cases with a positivity rate of 12.95 per cent, while two people died due to the disease. On Thursday, the city saw 2,202 cases with a positivity rate of 11.84 per cent and four deaths. On Wednesday, Delhi recorded 2,073 COVID-19 cases with a positivity rate of 11.64 per cent and five fatalities.

The number of active Covid-19 cases in Delhi stands at 7,484, down from 8,048 the previous day. As many as 5,650 patients are in home isolation, the bulletin said.

The rise in Covid-19 cases has brought back concerns about school going children, prompting the institutions to come up with online classes and recorded lectures as experts are against school closures. Health experts believe schools should not be closed. There is, however, a need to reinforce Covid-19-appropriate behaviour, something which

the elders and the younger cohort are not adhering to, they said. As a result, school managements are bringing measures such as sending recorded lectures to students who are ill, allowing online classes for those in isolation and putting study tours on hold. "We are all aware that Covid-19 is not

over yet. We have instituted a prop-er mechanism of checks to ensure that a student's health is not negated and undermined. Unwell students are isolated and dropped off at their homes so that they can have proper rest and others can study without apprehensions or worries," said Anshu Mital, principal of MRG School, Rohini.

"We also send recorded lectures to unwell students so that they do not lag behind in studies. Students are receiving proper training to give priority to hygiene and sanitisation through health-centric workshops organised for them. Proper social-distancing is being followed as usual," she added. Shubhi Soni, head of The Shri Ram Wonder Years in

Rohini, said although the sud-

den uptick in Covid-19 cases is alarming, shutting down schools is not an option as students are habituated to planned routines and study timelines which must not be disrupted as it can impede their revived academic progress after the lock-

"The health of students should also not be compromised, which is why we are taking necessary precautions of temperature checks and isolation measures for students who are ill. We are also sending worksheets to them so that they do not miss out on studies and can comfortably learn from their homes as well.

"School trips have been out on hold for a while. Outside food is not allowed, and we are facilitating hygienic meals for students. Students are encouraged to bring home-cooked food and abstain from sharing meals with peers," she said.

According to Anil Sachdev, director of the Paediatrics Intensive Care at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, children are at an increased risk due to the coronavirus and seasonal ill-

Self-proclaimed leader...

From Page1

He moved the court plea soon after the Noida police declared him "absconding" and announced the reward on his arrest. Until he went underground Friday night, Tyagi claimed to be the national executive member of the BJP's Kisan Morcha and the national cocoordinator of its Yuva Samiti, even as the ruling party denied any links with him.

The Opposition has also mounted an attack on the BIP over the issue, sharing purported pictures of Tyagi with senior saffron party leaders, including its national president J P Nadda.

Meanwhile, police person-nel remained deployed at the Grand Omaxe society in Sector 93B where Tyagi had allegedly abused and assaulted the woman. "We have got to know through media that Shrikant Tyagi has been arrested. His arrest was our main demand since the incident," a member of the society residents. Association told PTI.

Tyagi had allegedly hurled expletives and assaulted woman co-resident of Grand Omaxe who had objected to him planting trees in the common area of society in Noida Sector 93B last Friday. Tyagi had claimed he was well within his rights to do so.

Stop Mins from slander..

From Page1

Responding to Baijal's statement, the AAP said that instead of diverting from the actual issue, the ex-LG needs to answer, what made him change his stand just 48 hours before opening of the shops? "Why did he deliberately cause so much loss to the Government and gave undue favours to selected licensees? Who forced him to take a stand against the

policy passed by the cabinet and LG himself?" the AAP said.
Making his stand clear,
Baijal said, "In the matter of not allowing liquor vends in non-conforming areas. Ldischerged conforming areas, I discharged my constitutional responsibility of upholding the laws of the land. No law in Delhi, even today, allows for the opening of Liquor Vends in non-conforming areas."

"In view of the multiple cases which came to be filed during that period and their pendency in courts and further in view of various observations made therein, I had decided to set up a committee under the chairmanship of VC-DDA with divisional commissioner, excise commissioner, commissioner's of DMC's, secretary (IT) and representative of National Institute of Urban Affairs, MoHUA as its members to

examine the setting up of liquor vends in non- conforming areas". The former LG said that the committee was of the view in its report dated December 10, 2021, that as regards 67 non-conforming wards, the Excise Department can consider allowing Licensee of such wards to open additional vends in the conforming areas of such adjoining wards where conforming areas exist or any other ward allotted to Licensee. Accordingly, no permission was granted for open-ing liquor vends in non-conforming areas".

Baijal said that It appears that the AAP Government of Delhi and its Excise Minister initially claimed record revenue through excise by manipulating figures; but when that got utterly exposed, they are now playing this deplorable game of blaming me, by distorting facts and painting a false narrative.

During my entire tenure as the LG, I upheld constitutional values and laws of land, in letter and spirit, which has always been an issue with the AAP Government of Delhi. The record will speak for itself and I dismiss claims made by AAP Government and its Excise Minister in toto. The time and investigations will reveal truth," the former LG

Delivery man who died was sole breadwinner: Kin

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The sole breadwinner and the only hope of our family is no more, says Puneet, who is yet to come to terms with the death of his brother Narender

PUBLIC NOTICE

Everyone in public is informed unanimously that the permission has been granted by the Jt. CP, Licensing Delhi vide No. 485-488 Joint CP/Lic. (Expl.) dtd. 05/08/2022 with the valid license permission upto 30/03/2023 for the work of breaking the hard 30/03/2023 for tile Work of breaking the fall ock for foundation of proposed Aerospace Museum through controlled blasting by licensed blasters at AF Station, Dwarka Road, Delhi Cantt., Palam, New Delhi-110010 with immediate effect. This work is done in the National interest executed by Military Engineer Services through ITD Cementation India Ltd.

LOST & FOUND

Lost following documents of my property no. A-94, Malviya Nagar, New Delhi- (1) Lease Deed dt 07/12/1974 regd. with Sub Registra 16/01/1975 as Doc. No. 194 in Add. Book No. Vol. No. 3457 on Pages 58 to 60, (2 Agreement to Sell dt 14/02/1991 regd. with Sub Registrar on 15/02/1991 as Doc. No 1168 in Add. Book No. I Vol. No. 6959 or Pages 101 to 106 (3) General Power of Attorney dt. 14/02/1991 regd. with Sub Registrår on 14/02/1991 as Doc. No. 889 in Add. Book No. IV Vol. No. 1772 on Pages 127 to 131 NCR is lodged on 19/05/2022 with P.S. Crime Branch Delhi. Finder may send to: Maya Jain w/o Sh. B. L. Jain A-94, Malviya Nagar, New Delhi-110017 Ph. 9891444888

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Public at large is hereby notified that, We, Pushpa Gupta, Sumitra Devi Gupta (self & legal heir of Late Ayodhya Prasad (self & legal heir of Late Ayodhya Prasad Gupta), Loknath Prasad Gupta are the owners of House No. 61, Situated at Patparganj in the area of Village Gharonda Neem Ka Bangar, Delhi-110092, Area Measuring 500 Sq. Yards i.e. 250 Sq. Yards in favour of Sumitra Devi Gupta, 125 Sq. Yards each in favour of Pushpa Gupta & Loknath Prasad Gupta. It is to inform the General Public that the entire previous original chain of documents in respect of the said property has been lost/misplaced somewhere and not traceable by our best efforts. If anyone found or have any objection/Claim for any found or have any objection/Claim for any type such as any Loan, Mortgage, Surety, Security etc. over the said flat regarding the above said original document, then contact to the undersigned within 10 days of this Notice. Thereafter no body have any right or the said property. f this Notice. The said property.

Pushpa Gupta

killed in a road accident on Sunday. Narender, who had joined online food delivery platform Zomato just 20 days back, died after he fell off his motorcycle and was crushed under the wheels of an unidentified heavy vehicle near the Tughlakabad metro station in southeast Delhi.

Narender was riding on the Badarpur flyover when a stray Chinese kite string (Manjha) lying on the road got entangled around the tyre and the footrest of the two-wheeler. This could have caused him to fall off the motorcycle when a vehicle coming from behind ran over him, the police said."Though my father does some odd jobs from time to time, my brother was the only breadwinner of our family. The major part the family's income came from Narender who recently got me married too. But he is no more," Puneet said. Narender was the sole breadwinner and our only hope, he said.

My brother had left for work carrying a helmet but police did not find it on the spot, Puneet said. "I also reached the spot. All I could see was the completely crushed head of my brother.



Vice President-elect Jagdeep Dhankhar being felicitated by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla as Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu looks on, at Birla's residence in New Delhi, on Tuesday

DISTRICT POLICE HEADQUARTERS KATHUA

LOOK OUT NOTICE

On 27.07.2022, one Rajoo W/O Lal Din R/O Chann Arorian Tehsi Marheen lodged a written report at P/S Rajbagh stating therein that on 26.07.2022 at about 0800 hours, her daughter namely Shabina Begum age 15 yrs went to Govt. High School Chann Arorian and did not returned back. The complainant searched her daughter everywhere but no any clue could be struck out. On this, instant case has been registered at P/S Rajbagh and investigation of the case entrusted to ASI Jugal Kumar. During the course of investigation, best efforts were made to locate missing individual, whereas she is still un-traced.

As such Description Roll/Photograph of said missing individuals is being shared with the appeal that anybody having clue/information about her whereabouts may inform us accordingly. The informer will be rewarded

Description Roll: Name:

Shabina Begum Permanent Address: Vill. Chann Present Address: Vill. Channi Tehsil Tehsil Marheen

Police Station

 Height Complexion:

• Built • Face:

Round Black Languages known: Dogri/Punjabi/Gojri

Kathua

15 years

Average

04 Feet 05 Inch

Eyes:

Any information related to the whereabouts of communicated on following Contacts:-1. DPO Kathua- 01922-234010 (Phone/Fax) 2. dpokathua@jkpolice.gov.in (Mail ID)
3. PCR Kathua-01922-234311(Phone/Fax)

the subject may be

PHOTOGRAPH

Police Station Billawar: 9419156719

No: DIP/J-6438/22

Sd/- Sr. Superintendent of Police Kathua

THE PIONEER ()

LOST & FOUND

I Shyam Mohan Bajaj S/o Late Sh. Pannalal Bajaj Hereby declare that I have lost my Office Property Documents. Address:- B-131, Sector 10, Noida. If anybody finds please contact: 9958952375

PD(90147)C

CHANGE OF NAME

I Sima Ojha W/o Ajit Kumar Shukla R/o Plot No. 64 Flat No. 92 Vardan Apartment I.P. Extension, Patparganj Delhi-110092 changed my name from Sima Ojha to Seema Ojha.

PD(90148)C

👫 DISTRICT POLICE HEADQUARTERS KATHUA E- mail: sspkathua@jkpolice.gov.in Fax/Phone No.: 01922-234010

LOOK OUT NOTICE

On 27.07.2022, one Ali Mohd S/O Sikandar R/O Dadwara Tehsil Billawa odged a written report at P/S Billawar stating therein that on 27.03.2022 at about 1400 hours, his daughter-in-law namely Naseema Begum W/o Akhter Hussain went to buy medicine but did not returned back. The complainant searched her everywhere and also enquired from relatives but no any clue could be struck out. On this, missing report vide DD No. 10 dated 27.07.2022 has been entered at P/S Billawar

During the course of investigation, best efforts were made to locate missing individual, whereas she is still un-traced.
As such Description Roll/Photograph of said missing individuals is being shared with the appeal that anybody having clue/information about he

whereabouts may inform us accordingly. The informer will be rewarded suitably: **PHOTOGRAPH** Naseema Begum

27/28 years

Description Roll: Name

Akhtar Mohd Permanent Address: Vill. Dadwara Present Address: Vill. Dadwara Billawar

Police Station Age

05 Feet 06 Inch Height Complexion Wheatish Built Average

Eves: Black Languages known: Dogri/Kashmiri Any information related to the whereabouts of the subject may be

communicated on following Contacts:
1. DPO Kathua- 01922-234010 (Phone/Fax) dpokathua@jkpolice.gov.in (Mail ID) PCR Kathua-01922-234311(Phone/Fa 4. Police Station Billawar: 01922-222022

No: DIP/J-6436/22

Sd/- Sr. Superintendent of Police Kathua

Maha Cabinet expands, 9 each...

From Page1 Another development that

rubbed the women leaders in the ruling BJP the wrong way is the induction of Sena's Sanjay Rathod, who was embroiled in a controversy with a 22-yearold Tik Tok star committed suicide in Pune in February last year. State BJP woman leader about her displeasure over State Cabinet meeting on

Rathod's induction into the Shinde Cabinet. "It is very unfortunate that former Minister Sanjay Rathod, who caused the woman's death, has been made a Minister once again. I will continue my fight against Rathod even though he has become a Minister again," she said.

Chitra Wagh made no bones convened his first full-fledged

Wednesday. Ahead of the Cabinet meeting, the Chief Minister is expected to allocate portfolios to all the Ministers in his Cabinet. The Monsoon Session of the Maharashtra Legislature - --which was to begin from August 10 - will now get underway from August 17. Available indications sug-Session will be a brief one and it will last for just seven days.

5 years later, Nitish trots...

From Page1

However, Kumar refused to respond to questions about him being the Prime Ministerial face in the next Lok Sabha polls as he stepped out of the Raj Bhawan in Patna after resigning as NDA's Chief Minister.

"Kumar will be more of an acceptable face for a joint Opposition candidate compared to Mamata Banerjee in 2024. To defeat the BJP, you have to either change the rules of engagement or beat them at their own game," suspended Congress leader Sanjay Jha

Leaders close to Kumar feel that the Chief Minister realised that if he wanted to play a long innings in politics, he must jump to the Opposition bandwagon or else he could become irrelevant after the 2024 general election both for the BJP and the Opposition.

The script was ready and the JD(U) legislator party meeting convened by Kumar was a mere formality to endorse a decision that had already been arrived at. After the meeting gave its nod to snap ties with the BJP, Kumar met Governor Phagu Chauhan, first to hand in his resignation as the NDA Chief Minister and then after being elected leader of the RJD-led 'Mahagathbandhan' (grand alliance) to stake claim for the top job in the state once again. His move which was a reversal of what happened in 2017 when he left the Mahagathbandhan to rejoin the cold for the second time in nine years.

After the JD(U) meeting where ally BJP was accused of "backstabbing", Kumar drove to Raj Bhavan to tender his resignation. Kumar told newspersons outside the Raj Bhavan, "It was decided at the party meeting that we quit the NDA. I have, therefore, resigned as the NDA's Chief Minister." From there, he returned to his residence, stopping for a while to inform the large posse of journalists "it was decided at the party meeting that we quit the NDA. I have, therefore, resigned as the NDA's Chief Minister".

Shortly afterwards, Kumar drove to the residence of former Chief Minister Rabri Devi, just across the street, where all leaders of the Grand Alliance, comprising RJD, Congress and the Left, had gathered.

Kumar, who was accompanied by JD(U) national president Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan, spent nearly half an hour at Devi's residence. He returned along with the Leader of the Opposition and his former Deputy Chief Minister Yadav, who was armed with a letter of support to Kumar.

About 15 minutes later, Kumar met the Governor again to stake claim for forming a new Government, this time accompanied by Yadav and senior colleagues in the JD(U) besides former Chief Minister Jitan Ram Manjhi whose four MLA-strong Hindustani Awam Morcha (HAM) has

the NDA, left ally BJP out in expressed "unconditional support" to the new formation. Nitish is the most experienced Chief Minister in the country who has taken a courageous step," said Yadav.

He had deserted the NDA for the first time in 2013 after Narendra Modi became the coalition's Prime Ministerial candidate.

Earlier in the day, when a JD(U) meeting was going on, senior leader Upendra Kushwaha in a tweet congratulated Kumar for leading a "new coalition in new form," implicitly acknowledging the split and embracing the RJD-`Mahagathbandhan' (Grand Alliance) to continue in

A meeting of the RJD-led Grand Alliance, also comprising the Left and the Congress, took place at Devi's house, across the street from the Chief Minister's residence. The CM is understood to have told party legislators and MPs that he had been driven against the wall by the BJP which tried to weaken his JD(U), first by propping up Chirag Paswan's rebellion and later through the party's former

national president RCP Singh. Singh was made a Cabinet Minister at the Centre without Kumar's explicit agreement. Consequently, when his term as a Rajya Sabha member ended, the JD(U) refused to give him another term as an MP, thus ending his stint as Cabinet Minister as well. Following this, rumours of a split in the JD(U) engineered by Singh's supporters surfaced.

From Page1 liamentary board where a deci-

Nitish betrayed...

"Despite having lesser seats, we made him (Kumar) the Chief Minister. He has deceived the people twice. He is suffering from arrogance," the BJP leader said.

Asked about Kumar's immenent tie-up with the Rashtriya Janata Dal, Choubey said, "Vinaash kaal vipreet buddhi" (when doom approaches, one loses wisdom). Earlier in the day, Singh also tweeted expressing similar sentiments saying that JDU's snapping of ties is a "betrayal of the mandate of 2020 given by the people of Bihar in favour of

Sushil, now Rajya Sabha MP, enjoyed good rapport with Kumar while serving as his deputy for many years. Amid breakup in NDA coalition in Bihar, Rashtriya Lok Janshakti Party leader and Union Minister Pashupati Kumar Paras announced that his party will remain with the BIP as it is impossible to get another leader like Modi.

"Our party is with the BJP 100 per cent," Paras told PTI following a meeting of its par-

sion to back the BJP was taken amid an imminent collapse of the saffron party's alliance with the Janata Dal (United).

A decision was taken to ally with the BJP in 2014 under the leadership of LJP founder and Dalit stalwart Ram Vilas Paswan, and his party will continue to adhere to his decision, he said. Paras is a younger brother of Paswan. His decision is significant as the split engineered by him

in the LJP against the leadership of Chirag Paswan was seen to have the backing of Kumar's Kumar was unhappy with Paswan's decision to field can-

didates against his party in 2020 Assembly polls, leading to a drastic fall in the JDU's tally and relegating it to the status of a junior partner of the BJP. Paras was then inducted as a Cabinet Minister in the Modi Government.

"It is impossible to get a leader like Modi. He is the needs of the country. Till I do politics I will be in the NDA" Paras said. His party has five MPs in Lok Sabha.

BJP stands isolated...

From Page1

The Bihar split also leaves the BJP minus one more major ally in the NDA and denting its credibility to carry along diverse ideological parties and run a consensus coalition at the Centre and the States. After the recent exit of Akali Dal (Punajb), Rashtiya LokTantrik Party (Rajasthan) and Shiv Sena (Maharashtra),

the JDU is the 20th ally which has moved out of the NDA. The BJP cannot shrug off the 'thinning-down' of the NDA which otherwise seeks to have a pan-Indian presence addressing diverse social-economic groups and factions. The discomfort for the regional parties in alliance with the BJP had become palpable with the BJP's

coup in Maharashtra.

Chirag slams Nitish...

From Page1
"There is no public interest involved in his decision here. For Kumar, it has always been about the 'kursi' (seat of power)," the LJP (Ram Vilas) leader charged, adding that "he wants to remain the Chief Minister and be projected as the Opposition's PM candidate in 2024 Lok Sabha elections".

Ridiculing Kumar for snapping ties with the BJP, Paswan said it was time for him to address the issue of unemployment and drought in parts of Bihar but he chose to pursue his personal ambitions."But, Kumar cannot stay with anybody (ally) for long. Even if a Government is formed now with the Opposition parties' support to JDU, it won't last long. Mid-term elections are imminent in Bihar," he said.

"That's why I am saying it is necessary that mid-term elections are held for a fresh mandate," he said. The JDU has lost its credibility due to Kumar and the party will score a "zero" if Assembly elections are held in Bihar, he added.

Asked about his own role going forward, Paswan said he doesn't have any role to play "as of now" as his party doesn't have any MLA in Bihar leg-

islative assembly. "But I will definitely have a role to play in the next State elections," he asserted. The LJP had gone alone to contest Bihar Assembly polls in 2020 but lost all the seats. When asked to clarify if he was with the NDA or the Opposition parties, the son of former Union Minister Ram Vilas Paswan said, "It doesn't matter which side I am

"At present, I am just focussing on my party's organisational setup. And, I am in no rush to be part of any alliance, neither I am looking forward to that," he said. Paswan said he will clear his party's stand after announcement of the Assembly polls in Bihar. Paswan also took a dig at

Kumar over the JDU leaders projecting him as Opposition's PM candidate for the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, saying, "How will a person be a PM material when he could not even become a CM material properly."

Kumar would realise his strength and come to know how popular a leader he is if he contests an election, he said. 'Why doesn't Nitish contest any election? At least once, he should dare to contest election," he added.

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he pioneer NEW DELHI I WEDNESDAY | AUGUST 10, 2022

₹6,000 CR TOLL TAX **SCAM IN MCD: AAP**

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) on Tuesday alleged a toll tax scam of ₹6,000 crore in the BJP-ruled Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) and demanded an investigation. The AAP said that the ruling BJP in the MCD gave a tender to a company named MEP Infrastructure Developers Ltd to collect toll tax in Delhi for five years in 2017, for a fee of ₹1,200 crore per year. But the said company only paid the entire money in the first year, afterwards, it did not pay more than 10 or 20 per cent per year. However, the MCD rejected the claims saying the allegations made against it were baseless and without facts.

Addressing the media, AAP incharge of MCD, Durgesh Pathak claimed a toll tax scam to the tune of ₹6,000 crore under the BJP regime in the

"The BJP gave a tender to a company named MEP Infrastructure Developers Ltd to collect toll tax in Delhi for five years in 2017 for a fee of ₹1,200 crore per year. The company only paid the entire money in the first year, afterwards, it did not pay more than 10 or 20 per cent. The BJP-ruled civic bodies neither cancelled the contract nor took any action against the company for default in payment," Pathak said.

"The second tender was given to another company named Sahakar Global Limited in 2021 but this time, the fee was reduced to ₹786 crore despite an increase in toll tax and the number of vehicles in Delhi. The new company is no different from the old one, it only paid



THE BJP-RULED MCD GAVE A TENDER TO A COMPANY NAMED MEP **INFRASTRUCTURE** DEVELOPERS LTD TO **COLLECT TOLL TAX IN DELHI** FOR FIVE YEARS IN 2017, FOR A FEE OF ₹1,200 CRORE PER YEAR. BUT THE SAID **COMPANY ONLY PAID THE ENTIRE MONEY IN THE FIRST**

YEAR. AFTERWARDS, IT DID

NOT PAY MORE THAN 10 OR

20 PER CENT PER YEAR.

about ₹250 crore to the MCD. After reducing the fee, they even gave a discount of ₹83 crore to the new company. Both the companies have the same owner and managerial staff," Pathak said, demanding a probe in this However, a senior MCD

official said that in relation to the news circulating in the media about undue loss caused to the civic agency due to a collusion with the toll tax company, it is clarified by the civic body that in 2017 the contract was awarded to a company named MEP Infrastructure Developers Limited for payment of ₹1,206 crore per annum for a period of five years. "After getting the contract, the company stated that it had suffered loss on

Eastern Peripheral Expressway and Western Peripheral Expressway and due to the order of the court to stop toll collection from the free lane.

"The company instead sought compensation to the loss it alleged to have suffered. The MCD held several rounds of meetings to resolve the matter and on failure of the company to make due payments, it terminated the contract. MCD also forfeited the security deposit of MEP Infrastructure Developers Ltd. At present, MCD has initiated proceedings for attachment of properties of MEP Infrastructure Developers Limited," MCD official said.

"In 2021, the contract of toll tax was given to a company named Shahkar Global Limited for ₹786 crore. The reserve price of tender was ₹636 crore against which the Sahakar Global Limited bid was ₹786 crore. Sahakar Global Limited is paying the full amount as per the contract except for the period when the Delhi Government imposed a lockdown and restricted the entry of heavy vehicles in Delhi. The remission had to be given due to an unprecedented event of imposition of lockdown by Delhi government and it is as per the provision of contract agreement," the MCD official said.

"It may be further noted that both MEP Infrastructure Developers Limited and Sahakar Global Limited are different companies. There is no relation between the two as per records available with the MCD. The allegations made against the MCD are baseless and without facts," MCD official concluded.

Make free education, good healthcare, employment fundamental rights: Kejriwal

These are not freebies but the duty of a responsible Government, says Delhi CM as he hoists 500th Tricolour



Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday advocated for making free education, world-class healthcare and employment for all, fundamental rights, saying these are not freebies but the duty of a responsible Government.

Unfurling the 500th high-mast Tricolour in Mayur Vihar, east Delhi, Kejriwal rued that many countries that got inde-pendence after India have "surassed us".

Kejriwal noted that there is a need to eradicate 'Pariwarwaad' (dynastic politics) and 'Dostwaad' (to favour friends), and also slammed the Congress and the BJP, saying one party exploited its power by spending public money on its family members and the

"On the 75th Independence Day, we all must pledge to make India the number one country of the world. There are several such nations that attained independence after us yet surpassed our growth despite all the potential

and hard work of our people.

"We have to pledge to develop such a system where free excellent education, world-class healthcare and 100 per cent employment become fundamental rights of the citizens," he said. The AAP has been defending announcement of freebies during elections since Prime Minister Modi, while addressing an event last month, cautioned people against what he called as revadi culture of offering freebies for garnering votes, and called it "very dangerous" for the velopment of the country. Kejriwal attacked the

TRICOLOUR IS A SYMBOL OF COUNTRY'S PRIDE: NADDA

Delhi BJP on Tuesday organised a grand Tricolour human chain at the inner circle of Connaught Place to pay homage to freedom fighters, in the national Capital. BJP president JP Nadda flagged off a batch of one lakh Tricolours to be distributed in the west Delhi constituency of party MP constituency of party MP Parvesh Sahib Singh Verma, under the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign. Verma and many other leaders and party workers were present on the occasion of the flag-off.

Addressing the media, Nadda said the, "Tricolour is a symbol of pride of the country and for all of us. Thousands of our freedom fighters sacrificed their lives for this Tricolour.

Congress and the BJP, saying: "We must eradicate 'Pariwarwaad' and 'Dostwaad' and vouch for 'Bharatwaad'.

The Chief Minister said, "One party exploited its power by spending public money on its family members, and another party exploited power by spending public money on its friends. Public money must not be spent on friends and family; public money is meant to generate employment, give free education and healthcare

The Chief Minister hoisted the 166-ft high flag to the tunes of a Homeguard Band and raised "Bharat Mata ki Jai", "Inquilab Zindabad" and "Vande Mataram"



Such an event in Delhi is proving helpful in expressing respect to those martyrs and giving information about the freedom movement to the new generation. Under the leadership of the Prime Minister, it is a matter of pride for us that we are celeorating the Amrit Mahotsav of Independence. This campaign is meant to pay homage to the brave sons. We will go from house to house and inform people about the importance of

slogans before beginning his address. "The goal behind this project is to invoke and inculcate deshbhakti in every citizen every day. I know everyone's chest swells with pride to see the Tiranga in its full glory. At the same time, the Tiranga also reminds us of all the sacrifices that have been made by our forefathers to give it a free sky to fly in." It reminds us of every drop of blood shed by our soldiers to protect the free sky it flies in. I am certain that even if someone leaves their house with an illintention in their mind, this Tiranga will stop them. 500 such Tirangas have been installed all over Delhi," he said.



Delhi Congress launches 'Aazadi Ki Gaurav Yatra'

STAFF REPORTER **NEW DELHI**

The Delhi Congress on Tuesday launched 'Aazadi Ki Gaurav Yatra, to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the country's Independence, by hoisting the national flag in Chandni Chowk on Tuesday. The yatra that was organised by the Chandni Chowk District Congress Committee and the Tilak Nagar District Congress Committee, covered Gaon Wala Chowk, Raghubir Nagar and Hari Nagar Ghanta Ghar, the statement said. The rally is being held in all the 14 districts of Delhi until August 15. Rajya Sabha MP Mukul Wasnik hoisted the national flag at Town Hall in Chandni Chowk to commence the rally.
A large number of Congress
workers and leaders participated in the rally, carrying

national flags in their hands.
Other leaders, including
Rajya Sabha MP Shaktisinh
Gohil, former MLA Anil Bharadwaj, Kunwar Karan Singh, Delhi Congress vicepresident Mudit Agarwal, and members of Mahila Congress and NSUI also participated.

AAP recognised as State party in Goa by EC

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) on Tuesday said it has received State party status in Goa from the Election Commission on the basis of a review of its peron the basis of a review of its per-formance in the February Assembly polls. The party, led by Arvind Kejriwal is already a recognised State party in Delhi and Punjab where it is in power. Citing an official communi-cation from the poll popel party.

cation from the poll panel, party national convenor Kejriwal said "After Delhi and Punjab, AAP is Goa too. If we get recognised in one more State, we will official ly be declared as a national party," he added.

According to an Election Commission letter posted by Kejriwal on Twitter, the poll panel has granted recognition to the AAP as a State party in Goa on the basis of the party's performance in the Assembly polls

"On the basis of review of poll performance of the Aam Aadmi Party at the general election to the Legislative Assembly of Goa, 2022, it is observed that the Aam Aadmi Party, presently, a registered recognised party in the NCT of Delhi and State of Punjab with 'Broom' as its reserved symbol, has fulfilled the conditions laid down in Para 6A of the Election Symbols (Reservation & Allotment) Order, 1968 for recognition as a State party in the State of Goa. Accordingly, the Commission has granted recognition to the Aam Aadmi Party as a State Party in the State of Goa also under the provisions of the Election Symbols (Reservation & Allotment) Order, 1968," the EC's letter said.



AAP Govt pays homage to martyrs, Corona Warriors

Corona Warriors' memorial, renovated British-era 'Phansi Ghar' unveiled at Delhi Vidhan Sabha

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday unveiled the Corona Warriors' memorial and the renovated 'Phansi Ghar', a British-era gallows hall, in the Delhi Vidhan Sabha premises, in the nation-

al Capital. Addressing the media, Kejriwal said that as Corona Warriors helped society by putting their lives at stake, a memorial has been built in memory of 31 such Corona Warriors who attained martyrdom. People coming to the Delhi Assembly will remember and salute the sacrifice of the Corona Warriors who lost their

lives serving the nation.

"Delhi is the only State in the whole country and in the world, where after martyrdom, the families of Corona Warriors are given a Samman Rashi of ₹ 1 crore. We have also unveiled the renovated Phansi Ghar, no one knew that there was a gallow house built during the British era in our Vidhan Sabha premises. The 75th anniversary of Independence is a chance to remember those people who sacrificed their lives to get us freedom. It is our duty to come together to build such an India, where we can accomplish the dreams of our freedom fighters." Kejriwal said.

On the occasion, Deputy

Of this, 402 hectares has

already been given for com-

pensatory afforestation and

plantation for different projects,

Chief Minister Manish Sisodia said, "We faced the challenge of Corona for two long years and saw our Corona Warriors fight and protect the society by sacrificing their own lives."

"Every era has its own challenges and some people fight those challenges without caring for their own lives so as to protect others. The nation always remembers their sacrifice." Sisodia said.

Delhi Legislative Assembly Speaker Ram Niwas Goel informed that from now "every year on August 9, we will gather in the Vidhan Sabha premises to pay homage to the Corona Warriors who attained martyrdom during the pandemic."

Excise Dept gets new Deputy Commissioner

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Excise Department, which is gearing up to revert to the old Excise Policy and sell liquor old Excise Policy and sell liquor through vends run by four Delhi Government agencies from next month, has got a new Deputy Commissioner, Jitendra Agrawal, a 1997-batch DANICS officer, a Delhi Government order said. Of the two posts of Deputy Commissioners in the department one was vacant owing to ment, one was vacant owing to a transfer, while the Lieutenant-Governor (L-G) had approved Deputy Commissioner AK Tiwari along with 10 other officials over allegations of "serious lapses" in execution of the 2021-

Agrawal was posted as Director (Archives), and has also held additional charges of Director (Archaeology) besides some other positions. Further, the two Delhi

Government undertakings the Tourism and Transportation Development Corporation (DTTDC) and Delhi Consumer's Cooperative Wholesale Store (DCCWS) — that will open liquor stores from September 1, have also got new heads.

Geetika Sharma, a 2012-batch IAS officer, currently serving as Deputy Commissioner Northeast district, has been given additional charge of General Manager of the DTTDC.

She will replace Pravesh Ranjan Jha, a DANICS officer, who has been appointed as Additional Secretary to Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal.

Vikas Ahlawat, who was posted as Deputy Director in the DDA, has been appointed as the General Manager of DCCWS.

Baansera: Delhi to get its 1st bamboo-themed park

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

An area of 10 hectares of the Yamuna river floodplain, South of NH-24 on the western banks is being developed as a theme-based multipurpose area using bamboo as a material in biotic and abiotic form. Delhi Lieutenant-Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena on Tuesday laid the foundation of 'Baansera', the city's first Bamboo-themed park, and dedicated it to the people of the café is also proposed along with seating under bamboo trees. Large spaces for congregation have been designed with live bamboo plants forming a curtained enclosure.

The city's first-of-its-kind initiative has been named Baansera as derived from the Hindi word "basera" meaning

The park will have more than 25,000 special variety of Bamboo saplings, brought from Assam. These will be planted to achieve the purpose of augmenting the much-needed public spaces in the Capital and also ensure that the rich biodiversity of the floodplain is preserved and maintained.

According to a senior Delhi Development Authority (DDA) official, on the occasion, the L-G said that plantation of Bamboo on a large scale will help address the Capital's problem of air pollution significantly as the Bamboo plant produces about 30 per cent more Oxygen even as it consumes far less water and

enriches the soil. "While identifying the site



in June this year, the L-G had instructed for a 2.5 hectare depression over there, to be developed into a live water body. Works for the same has been completed and the water body will be a part of Baansera," he stated. Elaborating about the pro-

ject, L-G Saxena informed that "the entire area has been categorised into two parts: Bamboo recreation primarily in the greenway zone and Bamboo plantation along with other riverine plantations.'

"Baansera" will have a unique experience in terms of plantation of different varieties of bamboo plants especially procured for this area. Apart from plantations, the park will have amenities

designed in Bamboo including kiosks, huts, watchtowers and seats for public use in greenway area along kachaa paths," official said.

"The Bamboo recreation area in the greenway zone comprises of an Arrival zone-A transitional area that acts as a journey from the city's busy life into the pristine river floodplains with an experiential walk amongst plantations that takes you into gathering spaces," he informed.

On the occasion several senior dignitaries including Member of Parliament, Gautam Gambhir, Chief Secretary Delhi, Naresh Kumar, and Vice-Chairman of the DDA, Manish Kumar Gupta were

Yamuna floodplain land not available for compensatory afforestation now: DDA

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

he Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has written to the city Forest Department, informing it that land in the Yamuna floodplains is "no longer available for compensatory afforestation and plantation".

The Forest Department had earlier told the DDA that land in the Yamuna floodplains is required for a central Government project to "rejuvenate the Delhi stretch of the river through forestry inter-

The Union Environment Ministry had in March released the detailed project reports (DPRs) for the rejuvenation of

said it conducted a detailed analysis on the direction of the Delhi Chief Secretary and found that land measuring around 9,000 hectares is available in the Yamuna flood-

Forest Department's assessment of land availability in the river floodplains was "not based on facts". The agency said there is just 1,267 hectares of land available for development in the Yamuna floodplains from the Wazirabad barrage to the Okhla barrage.

13 rivers through forestry intervention. The forest department had

while 280 hectares is "under dispute" and the demarcation process is going on. The remaining 585 hectares of land has been pledged for the plantation of riverine grasses on the river

The DDA replied that the banks as mandated by the National Green Tribunal; "In view of the aforementioned facts, land in Yamuna

recreation for public use; development of depressions zones to catch floodwaters; eco-friendly kaccha pathways and public able either for compensatory amenities and ecological planafforestation or compensatory tation of riverine species, it said. plantation... You will also

land since 1990 and the recrefloodplains is no longer avail-

appreciate the fact that there has been no acquisition of

ational area dedicated to the development of greens as per the Master Plan of Delhi is now saturated, as conveyed from time to time," the DDA's reply Okhla barrage, but the river

to the Forest Department read. A Forest Department official said the DDA has mentioned about the land available from Wazirabad barrage to

floodplains in Delhi extend 48 kilometres - up to Palla in the north and Jaitpur in the south." Who owns it if not DDA," the official asked.

According to Forest Department officials, Delhi's green cover can be increased from 23 per cent at present to 25 per cent by 2025 if suitable plantation is raised in the river floodplains.

The DDA has again requested the Forest Department to revise the compensatory plantation scheme guidelines and bring down the number of saplings to be planted for every tree felled from 10

According to the guidelines

Conservation Act, compensatory afforestation is to be done on suitable non-forest land, equivalent to the area proposed for diversion, at the cost of the user agency. A senior DDA official said

issued under the Forest

under the Master Plan of Delhi, it was decided to set aside 15 per cent of the area for recreational land use under which all parks, green belts and forests are maintained. "Against the 15 per cent

area identified for recreational green use, the total forest and tree cover in the Capital is now over 23 per cent, according to the latest State of Forest Report," the official said.

Sensitise, conduct seminars on human trafficking: Govt to HCs

¬he Union Home Ministry has urged all High Courts to hold colloquium (acamdeic conference/seminar) on human trafficking to sensitise judicial officers about the crime as victims often endure extreme hardships, including prostitution, forced marriages and organ trade.

In a communication to the registrar generals of all High Courts, the Home Ministry also said human trafficking has national as well as international ramifications. The Ministry said it will provide a financial support of up to Rs 2 lakh on each judicial colloquium to be held anywhere in the country.

The Home Ministry said the result of globalisation has increased the movement of people in search of better opportunities which often makes them victims of trafficking and leads to their exploitation by unscrupulous elements. "Such exploitation can be in several forms such as labour, prostitution, forced marriages, domestic servitude, begging, organ

trade, drug couriers, arms smug-gling etc," it said.

The Home Ministry said victims of trafficking often endure extreme hardship -physical violence, sexual abuse, harassment, threat and coercion are some common experiences of trafficked persons. Some vic-



tims lose their lives at the hands of ruthless traffickers who exploit their vulnerabilities, it said, adding the complex nature of the crime calls for a multidimensional strategy to tackle it at domestic, regional and international level, it said. The Ministry said strengthening cooperation and establishing interstate channels of communication and with neighbouring countries can be an effective tool

in countering trafficking.

The Government feels the problem of trafficking can be addressed to a large extent with regular exchange of information through designated focal points, sensitisation of police officers, judicial officers, border guard-

Victims of trafficking often endure extreme hardships. **Physical** violence, sexual abuse, harassment, threat and coercion are some common experiences of

trafficked

persons

ing officials and partnership with civil society organisations, the Ministry said. It listed other suggestions such as organising capacity building programmes of concerned officials, monitoring activities of private placement agencies and travel agents etc., and disseminating information to vulnerable sections of

The Home Ministry said to meet the objective of sensitising the judicial officers of states and UTs on wide-ranging issues relating to trafficking in persons, it has been engaging with the iudicial academies of states and UTs for holding judicial colloquiums on anti-human trafficking on periodic basis.

Meet held on developing curricula under new NEP

 $T^{\text{he Ministry of Education}}_{\text{on Tuesday held an inter-}}$ Ministerial meeting for seeking inputs for reconfiguring curricular and pedagogical structure under the National Curriculum Framework (NCF). Senior officials and representatives of all Ministries and important bodies, including NCERT, Election Commission of India, ICAR, and DRDO, attended the crucial meeting on development cial meeting on development of a new curriculum on lines of the new National Education Policy (NEP).

The meeting focused on how Ministries and organisations can contribute in developing a curriculum framework that is responsive and relevant to the developmental needs and interests of learners at different stages of their development. The officials present were first briefed about how a curriculum framework is prepared, what are its deliverables and what is expected from them," a senior MoE official said.

"Many areas of contribution were subsequently dis-cussed, such as the rapidly changing technology, need for innovation and generation of new ideas, need to focus on crucial areas like climate change, future skill requirements, crucial factors for agricultural growth, knowledge of India,



especially in those areas where India is at the forefront for instilling a sense of pride, assistive technology for inclusion, enriching subject knowledge with real-life information, how to promote multilingualism, and integration of sports, fitness and arts," the official added.

The inputs from ministries would help identify and integrate several pertinent areas, skills and competencies in the NCF at relevant stages. "It was also discussed that it would be

very helpful if the ministries also point out their own role in taking certain ideas forward by partnering with school education ecosystem," the official

The Digital Survey for National Curriculum is being conducted by the education ministry and the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) as part of the public consultation process for the formulation of the NCF.

PM Modi reshaped India's foreign policy, says Jaishankar

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Tuesday said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has reshaped the country's foreign policy that has national interest at its core, but in a manner that is harmonised with global good.

Speaking at a discussion on a book titled 'Modi@20: Dreams Meet Delivery', at the English and Foreign Languages University (EFLU) campus here, Jaishankar said that the Prime Minister's language, metaphors, appearance, mannerisms, and habit define a persona that the world has come to recognise.

"There is no gainsaying the fact that Prime Minister Modi looms large on the world stage. Definitely, his policies and initiatives have had their impact. But there is also a personal respect that influences the attitude of others. Peers perceive him as quintessentially Indian, and respond accordingly," a release from EFLU quoted Jaishankar as saying.

"I recall how fascinated American leaders were about his (Modi's) fasting habits during the 2014 visit or the interest that European leaders showed in his Yoga," Jaishankar

Elaborating on the country's foreign policy, Jaishankar said that a large element of this is also the manner in which the PM carries himself.



Cooperative sector must reform at fast pace: HM

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday pitched for reforms in the cooperative societies, saying the same person cannot be elected year after year and the election process has to

The Minister was addressing an event here after the online launch of the onboarding of cooperatives on the government's e-marketplace (GeM)

Shah stressed the need to expand and modernise the cooperative sector, which he said, has been a "neglected"

"There is a need to bring changes in the cooperative sector at a fast pace," he said, adding that "we will have to change, else people will change us". Shah

emphasised bringing transparency in all spheres of the cooperative sector, particularly in three areas, including the elec-tion process. "Election process should be transparent. We would like to bring change in this," he said.

up to hold transparent elections for the cooperative bodies. "It is not right for the same person to get elected year after year. This arrangement is not good, the Minister said. Shah said he himself is a chairman of PACS for the last 25 years and it will be changed this year. Moreover, he said there is a need to bring transparency in the recruitment process and the ministry

is framing rules for this. Shah also spoke about the need to bring transparency in purchases and for that there is

no better medium than the Government e-marketplace (GeM). On its part, the Minister listed out steps the government is taking to bring reform in the cooperative sector through a holistic approach. He said the Shah said an election sys- Ministry is coming up with a tem on the lines of the Election new cooperative policy, up a university for conducting training purposes and also establishing an export house to boost overseas shipments.

Shah said the Ministry will also bring changes to the Multi-State Co-operatives Act. The Minister highlighted that the taxation structure in the cooperatives has been brought to par with other companies. The cooperative sector cannot be treated as a second fiddle now, he said. Shah said cooperation is the only way to do something without much capital.

'Govt had no appetite to run Parl proceedings'

The Congress on Tuesday termed the Monsoon session of Parliament as "highly disappointing" and claimed the Government did not have an appetite to run proceedings even though the Opposition was willing to sit till the very end to debate and pass bills.

principal Opposition party questioned the decision to curtail the session and alleged that after the Prime Minister, his Ministers too were "ignoring" Parliament. The Opposition was ready to sit on August 10 and 12 to discuss and pass Bills but the Government was in a rush to curtail the session, AICC general secreparty's chief whip in Rajya Sabha Jairam Ramesh said at AICC press conference.

He said the Government had listed 32 Bills at the start of the session but managed to pass only seven in the Lok Sabha and five in the Rajya Sabha. "It was also extraordinary that one-and-a-half days of proceedings were disrupted by treasury benches which kept insisting on an apology from Congress president Sonia Gandhi for remarks made by the leader



of the party in Lok Sabha who had already apologised for his statement both verballv as well as in writing," Ramesh said. He said the coming

together of opposition parties to demand a review of the Supreme Court's order on PMLA is a "huge step towards strengthening democracy". He also noted the Congress on people's issues and ED high-handedness" was a "great benefit of the Monsoon session for the party and the August 5 anti-ED protest put the government and even Home Minister Amit Shah on the backfoot.'

Congress spokesperson and deputy leader in Lok Sabha Gaurav Gogoi said the government knew about the holidays beforehand and asked why it did not plan

Welfare schemes transformed lives, 'freebies' PIL malafide: AAP to SC geting fiscal expenditure on has come to aiding the corpo-

am Aadmi Party has moved Athe Supreme Court seeking to intervene in a PIL seeking regulation of 'freebies' and told the court that petitioner advocate Ashwini Upadhyay has strong links to the BJP and wants to oppose welfare schemes, which have radically transformed the lives of the weaker sections of society and have been callously labelled as

The political party said providing free education, drinking water and healthcare is the constitutional responsibility of the government, however waiving corporate loans is a freebie.

The plea by AAP said: "The petitioner's prayer to prohibit political parties from promising or making any claims about the meet this mandate is not just untenable but also malafidé.' It added that by removing

such socialist and welfarist agenda from the electoral discourse, the petitioner seeks to advance the interests of a different, more parochial kind of politics reliant on caste and communal appeals instead of on appeals to the people's welfare.

The petition, while referring vaguely to 'freebies', clearly seeks judicial action against a particular model of economic development by exclusively tar-

socialist and welfarist measures for the masses," said the politi-

The plea contended that it is telling that the petitioner, despite claiming to be concerned about the fiscal deficit, ignores the vast fiscal losses to the exchequer caused by tax rebates, subsidies and other such 'freebies' routinely provided to big industries and businesses by the Centre and various state governments alike. "Instead, the petitioner prefers that the burden of improving the fiscal health of the nation be imposed solely on the under-privileged masses," it said.

AAP claimed that it had the fundamental right to free speech under Article 19 of the Constitution, which included the election speeches and downtrodden.

It further argued that prima facie, any restriction on electoral speech of the kind prayed for by the petitioner is not justified. "Restricting such speech will both be irrelevant to any fiscal reform, and also harmful to the healthy democratic functioning of elections and policy-making,

AAP said the Centre has spent or foregone significant amounts from the exchequer and willingly taken on the concomitant fiscal loss, whenever it

rate sector and further enriching the rich. "The petitioner because of his politics has consciously chosen not to flag the large amount of fiscal loss which the state and consequently the people suffer because of the very selective benefits which are given to certain industrial sectors, the net effect of which is to benefit and enrich certain business houses," it added.

Citing welfare schemes adopted by the developed countries, AAP said particularly in the Scandinavian nations, the socialist and welfarist model of development has allowed significant leaps in the nations performance across several markers of progress, including but not restricted to markers like the Gini Coefficient which represents economic inequality, and which seeks out an overall assessment of social, educational and health indicators of quality of life.

The Supreme Court, while hearing Upadhyay's PIL, had acknowledged that some help to the poor is required, but it also wanted to know the impact of freebies on the national economy. The top court had sought suggestions from stakeholders and recommended setting up an expert panel to scrutinise the issues associated with irrational

CBI to move for extradition of Chinese accused in CWG 2010 scam

The CBI is mulling to move for the extradition of Chinese national Jiashu Zhao wanted in connection with Commonwealth Games scam cases related to the upgradation of Delhi's Shivaji Stadium.

The agency has so far been unable in its efforts to get a Interpol Red Notice (RCN) issued against Jiashu, an alleged representative of China Railway Shisiju Group Corporation in India, officials said.

The agency could not execute non-bailable warrants against him because of the absence of Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty (MLAT) between India and China, they

Jiashu has been named as an accused alongside senior NDMC officials in a chargesheet filed by the CBI in connection with the case, they

The court had already taken cognisance of charges against the accused officials and private persons in the case, they said.

Jiashu's trial was separated from other accused after CBI could not execute summons and NBW against him, they said.

The agency has now decided to move with an application for the extradition of the accused Chinese national, they

The case pertains to alleged corruption in the upgradation of Shivaji Stadium for the 2010 Commonwealth The NDMC had invited

tenders worth Rs 80.85 crore on February 16, 2008 for the upgradation of Shivaji Stadium including its Sports Facility Block, Hockey Stadium warmup pitch, two level basement for parking with the premises and other works such as electrical, fire fighting and protection as a composite exercise.

The civic body had awarded the work to China Railway Shisiju Group Corporation represented by Jiashu at Rs 160.27 crore on June 9, 2008 for which was 98.23 per cent above estimated cost of Rs.80.85 crore, officials added.

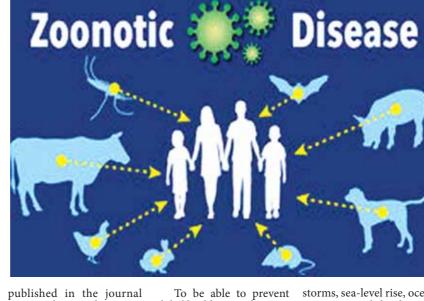
'50% infectious diseases aggravated by climatic hazards'

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

As the world continues to battle the rising cases of Covid-19 caused by zoonotic virus, a study by a team of researchers has found that over 50 per cent (that is, 218 out of 375) of infectious diseases, from common waterborne pathogen to lifethreatening diseases like plague have been at some point aggravated by climatic hazards

The team of environment and health scientists had reviewed decades of scientific papers on all known pathogenic disease to create a map of the human risks aggravated by climaterelated hazards. The outcome was shocking, said the scientists.

Flooding, for example, can spread hepatitis. Rising temperatures can expand the life of mosquitoes carrying malaria. Droughts can bring rodents infected with hantavirus into communities as they search for food, said the lead author, Camilo Mora from Department of Geography Environment, University of Hawai, USA, of the study



published in the journal

Nature Climate Change.
With climate change influencing more than 1,000 transmission pathways like those and climate hazards increasingly globally, the team concluded that expecting societies to successfully adapt to all of them isn't a realistic option. The world will need to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions that are driving climate change to reduce these risks.

global health crises, humanity needs a comprehensive understanding of the pathways and the magnitude with which climate change might affect pathogenic dis-

occurrences linked to those hazards," said "We focused on 10 cliresearchers mate-related hazards linked to rising greenhouse gas

emissions: atmospheric warming, heat waves, drought, wildfires, heavy precipitation, flooding,

storms, sea-level rise, ocean warming and land cover change. Then we looked for studies discussing specific and quantifiable observations of human disease

In total, 77,000 scientifpapers were reviewed. Of those, 830 papers had a climatic hazard affecting a specific disease in an explicit place and/or time, allowing

us to create a database of climatic hazards, transmission pathways, pathogens and

The largest number of diseases aggravated by climate change involved vector-borne transmission, such as those spread by mosquitoes, bats or rodents. Looking at the type of climate hazard, the majority were associated with atmospheric warming (160 diseases), heavy precipitation (122) and flooding (121).

The study found four key ways climatic hazards interact with pathogens and humans: These are climate-related hazards that bring pathogens closer to people; In some cases, climate-related hazards are shifting the ranges of animals and organisms that can act as vectors for dangerous pathogenic diseases.

For example, warming or changes in precipitation patterns can alter the distribution of mosquitoes, which are vectors of numerous human pathogenic diseases. In recent decades, geographic changes in outbreaks of mosquitoborne diseases such as malaria and dengue have been linked to these climatic hazards, the study said.

Parl panel for uniform adoptions law that covers all religions, LGBTQ community

PTI NEW DELHI

A Pparliamentary panel has said there was a need to harmonise the Hindu Adoptions and Maintenance Act and the Juvenile Justice Act to bring out a uniform and comprehensive legislation on adoption. The Standing Committee on Law and Personnel said on Monday the new legislation should cover all religions and the LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer) community.

The panel, headed by BJP leader Sushil Modi, also said such a legislation should be more transparent, accountable, less bureaucratic and applicable to all irrespective of religion.

In its report on the "review of Guardianship and Adoption Laws", the standing committee said the Hindu Adoptions and Maintenance Act (HAMA) and Juvenile Justice Act have their own virtues and shortcomings.

"While the adoption procedure laid down under HAMA is simple and takes less time as compared to that stipulated in JJ Act, adoptions made under JJ Act are transparent, accountable and verifiable," it said. However, the Committee also noted that the Adoption Regulations framed under Juvenile Justice Act provide for an elaborate and time consuming adoption

Nitish: Master of arts in switching sides to stay in power

PTI KOLKATA

Nitish Kumar has again proven that he is a master of the art of changing governments. For some, it was a reversal of happenings in 2017, when he dumped the RJD-led 'Mahagathbandhan' to rejoin the NDA, while for others it was a reversal of happenings in Maharshtra where a Shiv Sena-Congress-NCP Government was overthrown to form a BJPrebel Sena government.

Said Ranabir Samaddar, well-known political scientist and former professor of Maulana Azad Institute of Asian Studies, "Bihar has become the flipside of the Maharashtra coin."

The frequent change of platforms— from secular socialist to aligning with a right wing party to being upholder of Dalit rights may have diminished Nitish's standing as the 'sushasan' (good governance) man, but his political ability to do the impossible has certainly not diminished.

"If he sustains the momentum of what he managed to do now with his new movement, then 2024 general elections in Bihar, where 40 crucial seats will go to polls, will prove to be a real battleground for the BJP," said CPIML(L) general secretary Dipankar Bhattacharya, who also prac-

tices psephology. The 71-year-old Kumar, who became chief minister for a record eighth time, had started out as an engineer in the Bihar Electricity Board to join politics under aegis of socialist leader Ram Manohar Lohia and participated in Jayprakash Narayan's movement in the

After many torturous splits and mergers of the Socialist party, Kumar formed the Janata Dal (United). A JD(U)-BJP combine tried to end the long reign in Bihar of rival erstwhile



Janata Dal (United) leader Nitish Kumar with Rashtriya Janata Dal leaders Tejashwi Yadav, Tej Pratap, in Patna on Tuesday PTI

socialist Lalu Prasad's RJD, and in March 2000, he was elected chief minister of the state for the first time. However, this government was short-lived as the NDA did not have the numbers and had to make way

Kumar then joined the Atal Behari Vajpayee cabinet and proved to be a good administrator in his new role as railway minister, introducing computerised railway reservation among other initiatives.

The backward Kurmi community leader was elected chief minister again in 2005 and this time he had the numbers to continue. Dubbed the 'sushasan' (good governance) man, Kumar improved the backward state's law and order situation, improved its infrastructure and educational insti-

After three terms as NDA chief minister, Kumar dumped the saffron party and joined hands with arch-rival Lalu Prasad's RJD and the Congress to come back to power in 2015 as chief minister once again. However, this uneasy alliance lasted till 2017, and he did a volte face once again to rejoin

'Mahagathbandhan' high and dry. The story of course is playing out in reverse today. "Nitish's move today is a new chapter in one form of federalisation of politics (where

regional parties are taking control of states), Maharashtra where BJP formed a coalition government is one form of centralization of politics," said Samaddar.

Will remain BJP Nitish's exit from ally, impossible to NDA a shot in arm get leader like PM for Opp, says DMK Modi: Min Paras

Chennai: The ruling New Delhi: Amid turmoil in ruling NDA in Bihar, Rashtriya DMK on Tuesday Lok Janshakti Party leader and Union Minister Pashupati said its president M K Kumar Paras on Tuesday announced that his party will Stalin's remain with BJP as it is imposvision to fight BJP at sible to get another leader like Prime Minister Narendra

the national level has gained momentum with Nitish Kumar's JD(U) pulling out of National Democratic Alliance in Bihar.

To take on Saffron party at Centre, DMK organisation secretary R S Bharathi said that his party president M K Stalin, also Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, had batted for opposition parties to join hands, well ahead of Presidential election held last

BJP 'bhagao' slogan has come from Bihar: Akhilesh

Kannauj: Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav on Tuesday welcomed Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's decision to walkout of the BJP alliance, calling it a "good

beginning".

Speaking to reporters,
Yadav said, "This is a good
beginning today, the day when slogan of Bharat chhodo' (Quit India) was given against the British.

If the slogan of 'BJP bhagaao' (drive away the BJP) is coming from Bihar, I feel that in other States also, parties will stand against the BJP, and so is people." When asked to comment on Nitish Kumar and about the stand he has taken, the SP chief said, "He is a leader with vast experience. What



knows Bihar and the arithmetic of Bihar politics better."

About who will be the CM face, Nitish Kumar or Tejaswi Yadav, of the new alliance in Bihar, the SP chief said, "That will be their decision and it will be decided in the alliance. When an alliance is made, decision is made on a number of things put together." PTI

Lalu's daughters share Bhojpuri video, tweet on change of guard

New Delhi: As Chief Minister ernment in state was formed Nitish Kumar severed ties with ally BJP on a day filled with high drama, two of RJD supremo Lalu Yadav's daughters put out amusing and sarcastic tweets, with one signalling a change of guard in Bihar and another describing the state as synonymous with legendary

Rohini Acharya even shared a video of a Bhojpuri singer featuring his catchy number 'Lalu Bina Chalu Bihar Na Hoi' in one of her tweets with a caption: "Rajtilak ki karo tayyari, aa rahe hain laltendhari". Lanten is the party symbol of Rashrtriya Janata Dál (RJD), which was the principal opposition in the Bihar Assembly. The NDA-led gov-

after the 2020 Bihar polls. The mercurial Kumar handed over his resignation as NDA chief minister to Governor Phagu Chauhan and then after being elected leader of RJD-led 'Mahagathbandhan' (grand alliance) staked claim for the top job in the state once again. Acharya shared a poster

hailing her father as a "kingmaker".In another tweet, she wrote: "Boya ped babool ka, aam kaehan se hoi" and alleged that the "hunger for power" will make BJP sink from across the country one day. She also mocked the saffron party, in a tweet in Hindi: "People in BJP had told us to change DP, we Laluvadis changed the govern-

BJP suffers setback in Bihar but sees opportunity to grow

PTI NEW DELHI

Loss of power in Bihar has Lupset the BJP's calcula-tions for the 2024 Lok Sabha polls but a section of its leaders also see a chance for the party to break the dominance of regional parties in the state like it has in Uttar Pradesh.

JD(U) leader and Chief

Minister Nitish Kumar's decision to dump the BJP for the RJD-led opposition, for the second time in nine years, comes when the alliance had lost much of the fizz in the recent months as differences between the two parties grew.

While a section of Bihar BJP leaders was no longer much keen on the alliance, its central leadership believed the JD(U)'s presence in the ruling National Democratic Alliance would help it repeat in the

TMC Govt will fall by Dec: Adhikari

2024 polls its 2019 show when it had won 39 of the state's 40 Lok Sabha seats. A Janata Dal (United) legislator said Kumar told the meeting of

the party MPs and MLAs on Tuesday that he had received a call from Delhi, an apparent reference to the BJP, on Monday. But Kumar had told the person that the decision about the alliance will be taken at the gathering of JD(U) members. He did not take

JD(U) president Lalan Singh was more direct in the meeting as he alleged conspiracy against the party and even named some leaders. Kumar's mind to walk out on the BJP was apparently made up and the meeting was to rally the party leaders around his decision. An increasing showdown between the BJP and issues and Kumar's grouse at the assertiveness of its ally, which used to be a docile junior partner in the alliance till 2013, played a role in wors-ening the relationship which had started immediately after the 2020 assembly polls. The Chirag Paswan-led

ID(U) leaders over a variety of

LJP was then instrumental in the defeat of the JD(U) in over 30 seats, relegating it to the junior status for the first time in the alliance with the BJP. The BJP's recent decision

to send its members to 200 assembly seats in the state to strengthen the party only furthered its suspicion over the intentions of its ally. The Bihar Assembly has 243 seats of which the JD(U)

won 43 in 2020. The BJP had

won 74 and the RJD 75 seats.

With the BJP now faced with

that it is now in a much stronger position. Sanjay Kumar, Director, CSDS told PTI that the JD(U)'s decision to snap ties does open up space for the BJP's expansion in Bihar but added that it is also a signal about the

the prospect of taking on the formidable alliance of the RJD-

JD(U), which had routed it in

the 2015 assembly polls, there is also a view within the party

"It is a clear signal that the allies are not feeling comfortable with the BJP and one by one they are moving out of the ruling alliance.

discomfort of its allies.

But at the same time, this also opens up opportunities for the BJP to expand where the regional parties have left it. "So, I think this will open up further space for BJP's expansion

Opp views BJP-JD(U) divorce as opportunity to take on Modi in 2024

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Opposition parties on Tuesday said the JD(U) breaking ranks with the BJP is a "strong indictment" of the saffron party's "politics of intimidation" and shows a change in Indian politics.

Samajwadi Party, ĎMK to the Left parties all have welcomed Nitish's decision to part ways with the NDA and viewed this as a shot in the arm for the efforts to forge a grand Opposition unity to take on the might of Narendra Modi in the General elections 2024.

Shiv Sena leader Priyanka Chaturvedi said Nitish Kumar's political career has been spotless as far as allegations of corruption are concerned, but one thing that goes against him is the number of times he has changed political allies. "Nitish Kumar has been an ally who keeps changing his mind often. This is one thing that goes against him, the dependability factor," said Chaturvedi, a Rajya Sabha member.

She pointed out that Uddhav Thackeray too had stood against the BJP firmly and run a clean administration during his tenure as chief minister, particularly in the time of Covid-19 pandemic. "There are worthy opposition leaders

and it has to be seen in 2024 how things will shape up," Chaturvedi said. "Nitish Kumar breaking alliance with BJP is a strong indictment of the politics of intimidation practiced by BJP. BJP's authoritarianism leaves no scope for cooperarelationship of BJP and AIADMK too," CPI general secretary D Raja said.

CPI MP Binoy Viswam said the events in Bihar indicate that a change is underway. "Bihar conveys the message of far reaching change in Indian politics. Its final outcome depends on the level of insight expected from the important players. The left will definitely play the responsible role in its consistent fight against RSS-BJP (sic)," said Viswam in a

Former Uttar Pradesh CM and SP president Akhilesh Yadav welcomed Nitish Kumar's decision to walkout of the BJP alliance, calling it a "good beginning". "He is a leader with vast experience. What could be said about him. He knows Bihar and the arithmetic of Bihar politics better," said Akhilesh.

On talks in political circles that Nitish Kumar could be the opposition face in the 2024 general election, SP's chief

Chaudhary said Nitish is our old partner and we have worked together since the days of the Lok Dal.

"Our party is with the BJP

100 per cent," Paras told PTI

following a meeting of its par-

liamentary board where a decision to back BJP was taken

amid an imminent collapse of

saffron party's alliance with

Janata Dal (United). A decision

was taken to ally with BJP in

2014 under leadership of LJP

founder and Dalit stalwart

This is not the time to discuss the prime ministerial candidate." DMK and Tamil Nadu tion. After Akalis and Shiv Chief minister M K Stalin's Sena, JD(U) is the latest exam- vision to fight the BJP at the momentum with Nitish Kumar's JD(U) pulling out of the National Democratic Alliance in Bihar.

To take on the BJP at the Centre, DMK organisation secretary R S Bharathi said that his party president M K Stalinhad batted for opposition parties to join hands, well ahead of the Presidential election held last month.

This vision of his party chief to fight the BJP nationally, has now gained momentum and it would pick up more trac-tion ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha election, Bharathi added.

While RJD leader and a former close aide of Nitish Kumar, Sharad Yadav also said that Kumar could be a prime ministerial candidate for the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, NCP leader Majeed Memon said Nitish Kumar could be one of the few people, including Sharad Pawar and Mamata Banerjee, who could be seen as prime ministerial challengers in

 $T^{\text{he days of the ruling}}_{\text{Trinamool Congress}}$ Government are numbered and it could fall well before completing it's full term, Bengal Opposition Leader Suvendu Adhikari has said.

Adhikar's statement comes in the backdrop of the ongoing investigation in school level recruitment scams that has seen Partha Chatterjee a senior in the Mamata Banerjee Cabinet landing in jail along with his close aide Arpita

Directorate recovered liquid cash, jewellery and property documents worth crore. "By the month of December this government will lose its existence for all practical purpose.. And in 2024 we will see both the State and General Elections taking place simultaneously," Adhikari on Tuesday said adding he meant what he said.

Before Adhikari Mumbai star and BJP campaigner month said in Kolkata that "atleast 38 TMC MLAs are in touch with me." Last month

Uddhav Thakarey Government that "now it is Maharashtra, after this it will be Iharkhand and then it will be the turn of Bengal," leading the TMC to cry "conspiracy" against the BJP national leadership. Adhikari was strongly sup-

ported by his State party leader Bimal Krishna Nanda who said, "practically it is not possible for the TMC to carry on for another four years because chased away in villages after the recruitment scandal. Mamata Banerjee has angered and alienated the entire youth of the

State." Reacting strongly to Adhikar's statement Bengal Finance Minister Chandrima Bhattacharya said, "Suvendu Adhikari is behaving like an astrologer... But if he has so much knowledge of astrology then why could he not go and save Bihar Government... Frst let the BJP control prices, save economy, create jobs and then come to fight Mamata Banerjee who defeated them single handedly in last year's

Senior minister Firhad Hakim also said that "the BJP is trying to use agencies and money power to topple Bengal



government," vowing, "it will not be easy to apply the same trick against Mamata Banerjee." Left on the other hand viewed the development in a different way saying there was no difference between the two parif the entire TMC goes and merges with the BJP," central committee member Sujan Chakrabarty said.

ISIS recruiter planning terror strike during I-Day arrested

 $S_{\text{Squad (ATS) claimed to}}^{\text{leuths of the Anti-Terrorists}}$ have arrested an ISIS (Islamic State of Iraq and Syria) recruiter who was planning a strike terror during Independence Day.

Keeping in view the sensitivity of the Independence Day celebration, the sleuths of the ATS team were on high alert to foil any subversive attempt, claimed Additional Director General (Law and Order) Prashant Kumar here on Tuesday evening. He said that during surveillance, the ATS sleuths got success when they

trapped an ISIS recruiter from Azamgarh on Tuesday. He was identified as Sabauddin Azmi. Reports said that on inputs of counterpart intelligence agencies, the ATS learnt that a youth hailing from Amilo Mubarakpur in Azamgarh was active for ISIS and using social media to lure local youths to join ISIS and help in jihad movement.

The ATS officials claimed to have nabbed Azmi and that after going through his mobile phone, they found that accused was using telegram channel `AL-SAQR MEDIA' and was in touch with local youths to inspire them to join jihad.

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New Okhla Industrial Development Authority

MAIN ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING, SECTOR-6, NOIDA, G.B. NAGAR (U.P.) Website: www.noidaauthorityonline.in

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tendors are invited from eligible contractors/firm for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded and same shall be opened/downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on Noida Authority's official website www.noidaauthorityonline.com & https://etender.up.nic.in. Please ensure to see these websites for any changes/ amendments & corrigendum etc

S. No.	Job No.	Name of the work	Tender Amount (Rs. Lacs)		
1.	15/PGM/Sr.M(E&M)-I/ ET/2022-23	Providing Lighting arrangement instead of missing poles in sector-86, Noida	78.26		
2.	17/PGM/Sr.M(E&M)-I/ ET/2022-23	Providing Lighting arrangement on service road, C-Blcok, Phase-II, Noida	44.77		
3.	18/PGM/Sr.M(E&M)-I/ ET/2022-23	Providing Lighting arrangement instead of missing poles in sector-85, Noida	43.49		
4.	31/PGM/Sr.M(E&M)-II/ 2022-23/ET	Providing G.I. Pole and Street light Infrastructure in Internal/External roads at sector-121, Noida	64.45		
5.	32/PGM/Sr.M(E&M)-II/ ET/2022-23	Providing street light & High Mast light in Parks sector-27, Noida	74.62		
6.	33/PGM/Sr.M(E&M)-II/	Supply and Installation of 2.00/4.00 Ten Capacity	40.48		

The above tenders can be uploaded by dated 23.08.2022 up to 5.00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on dated 24.08.2022 at 11.00 AM

S. No.	Job No.	Name of the work	Tender Amount (Rs. Lacs)
7.	21/PGM/Sr.M(E&M)-II/ 2022-23/ET	SITC of New Fountain (02 nos) with LED colour lighting at crossing Underpass Behlolpur, Noida	55.55
8.	24/PGM/Sr.M(E&M)-II/ 2022-23/ET	Operation & Maintenance of different type fountain at D-Park sector-62 round about Underpass NH-24 (Noida Entry point), sector-62, sector-14A & Stadium, sector-21A, Noida	49.56
9.	28/PGM/Sr.M(E&M)-II/ 2022-23/ET	Providing and Installation of Park light in B-Block park of sector-2 and street light in sector-1, Noida	32.48
10.	27/PGM/Sr.M(E&M)-II/ 2022-23/ET	Providing park light arrangement in Block-B and C, sector-65 and B-Block sector-64, Noida	52.60
11.	15/PGM/Sr.M(E&M)-IV/ 2022-23	External Electrification and Providing street lighting arrangement between road sector-164 and 165, Noida	54.67

PRINCIPAL GENERAL MANAGER Sector-39, Noida

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The above tenders can be uploaded by dated 17.08.2022 up to 5.00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on dated 18.08.2022 at 11.00 AM. Office:

Guj Police goofs up probe of doc death; her parents cry foul

 $D_{\text{that be that Gujarat is the}}^{\text{espite the claim by powers}}$ role model for other States in the country, Dr VK Sudhakaran, former principal of a leading private college and eminent educationist in Kerala's Palakkad district has his own reservations about the state of affairs.

His daughter, Dr Anupama Sudhakar (30), an upcoming dental surgeon with a Master's degree to boast of, was found dead under mysterious conditions in her Gandhinagar apartment on January 14, 2022, while the whole of Gujarat was celebrating Makar Sankranthi. Though the postmortem report could not find out the exact reason behind the death, it was certain that Dr



Anupama was in the best of health till the last day of her life. Kshitij (32), her husband who is a petroleum engineer, was more interested in hushing up the case much to the shock of Anupama's mother and brother who reached Gandhinagar hearing about her demise.

The couple had got married in a function held in

Palakkadu on September 6, 2018. "Kshitij's behaviour on the day they got married and when Dr Anupama's embalmed body was brought back home was suspicious.

"He was trying to hide something from the public and did not allow Anupama's close relations to see her body," said Mini Krishnakumar, councillor of Palakkad Municipal Council and a long time friend of Anupama.

shocked Dr What Sudhakaran further was the indifferent attitude of Gujarat Police in registering a FIR about the incident. "It was only at the intervention of Gujarat High Court they registered the FIR on May 19, 2022. It took the police four months to a register the FIR and too with the prodding of

the High Court. During the period, I had written to all persons including chief minister and home minister of Gujarat, Union Home Minister Amit Shah and minister of State V Muraleedharan from Kerala. But I am thoroughly disappointed with the kind of reaction from them," Dr Sudhakaran told The Pioneer.

The forensic surgeon who did not find the reason for the death attribute it to a possible leak in the geyser in the bath-"But that is not convincing as there was no carbon monox-

ide presence either in the house or in Anupama's body," said Dr Sudhakaran. He said Anupamas' father-in-law and mother-in-law, (Raveendra Natha Pillai and Sabitha Pillai) are known socialites in

Ahmedabad as well as Gandhi Nagar. "From day one of the marriage, the duo as well as Kshitit, their son, were tormenting and harassing Anupama for more gold and cash. Since we were worried about the future of our daughter, we did not make it an issue. But we never thought that it would reach this state," said Dr Sudhakaran.

Mini Krishnakumar, who has been with Anupama's parents most of the time since the bereavement, said that the WhatsApp messages between the deceased and her husband were concrete evidence of dowry harassment and physical assaults.

"Anupama is not a type of person who thinks of suicide or such drastic actions. This is an open case of foul play.

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PAPER WITH PASSION

New friends

Nitish has joined hands with RJD and Congress, but it remains to be seen if it can have national ramifications

oon after parting ways with the Bharatiya Janata Party (for the second time), Nitish Kumar resigned as Bihar Chief Minister. The resignation, however, is just a brief halt; he will soon take charge, holding the same office, but this time in alliance with the BJP's rival party, the RJD. His relations with both parties have been governed strictly by the imperatives of realpolitik; pretexts have been found, and sophistry employed, to befriend one party or the other. The bottom-line, however, has remained unchanged: Chief Ministership of Bihar. This time, the pretext is RCP Singh, a former leader from Kumar's JD(U), who has been accused of being Union Home Minister Amit Shah's man. The JD(U) accused Singh of corruption, leading to his ouster from the party. But tensions between Kumar and the BJP have been growing for some time. Earlier there was Chirag Paswan, son of the later prominent Dalit leader Ram Vilas Paswan. Chirag Paswan's party contested seats in the 2020 Assembly elections polls wherever JD(U) was fighting. While Chirag Paswan's party



did not gain much, the JD(U) suffered a great deal, with its earlier tally of 70 coming down to below 45. JD(U) president called it the "Chirag model." And, of course, there is the issue of caste census. This is something the BJP dislikes intensely, seeing in it a ruse to divide Hindu society, which is the potential vote base of the saffron party.

The BJP's detractors say that breach with the JD(U) was a matter of when, not if; it was part and parcel of the saffron party's strategy: to weaken its regional allies in states, sow seeds of dissension in them. See what happened in Punjab and Maharashtra, they say. That may be true but it is also a fact that the senior leaders like Sushil

Kumar Modi, who played a key role in running the alliance, were sidelined in the last few years. Whatever may be the case, Nitish Kumar joining hands with the RJD and the Congress is not good news for the BJP. A grand alliance in a major state—and that too in the Hindi heartland which is the BJP's stronghold—may give a badly needed impetus to the disunited, fractious, and confused Opposition. At present, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is the tallest politician in the country, and nobody is even near him. And the BJP election machine is sturdy, well-oiled, and efficacious. But such favourable conditions also induce complacency. So, the BJP has to watch how Opposition politics unfolds. Can Nitish Kumar emerge as a challenger to the BJP in the 2024 general polls? Well, perhaps not as a 'secular' challenger, for he has been pally with the BJP for too long to be seen as such. Still, he has experience and the right background (being an OBC) to take on Modi. It is premature to speculate on that possibility, but if that happens, the 2024 elections will become interesting.



No distressing debates, please!

TV channels must own the content broadcast by them; they're responsible for any malicious content

The Supreme Court granted interim protection from arrest to Navika Kumar. Times Now anchor on whose show the BJP spokesperson Nupur Sharma had made certain remarks about the prophet which led to widespread unrest and many human lives were lost. While after the uproar an FIR was filed against the BJP spokesperson on June 8, under IPC Sections 153/153A/153B/295A, the TV anchor wasn't touched. However, a week later complaint was lodged by a Muslim cleric who accused Sharma and Kumar of intending to outrage the religious feelings of the community. Subsequently, an FIR was registered at Nanalpeth police station, Maharashtra. Navika Kumar and Nupur



Sharma were booked under section 295-A (Deliberate and malicious acts, intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs) of the IPC. The Supreme court protection is timely as Nupur Sharma has already been given that protection. It would have been absurd to arrest the anchor on whose show controversial remarks were made while the person who made those remarks enjoys impunity. Sharma's remark on the Prophet during a TV debate had triggered protests across the country. Many innocent lives were lost in the aftermath. Now the big question is who is responsible for it? Was it Nupur Sharma alone responsible? Or

the TV channel that gave her the platform to speak or the moderator who did not stop

her (by muting her) from speaking up or all of them should own the responsibility? Not everything can pass under the garb of freedom of speech and expression. The freedom of the press is also not absolute but it is often taken for granted. If a case is filed against a published story in the newspaper the case is filed not only against the journalist alone but also against the editor and publisher. Going by that logic the anchor, program producer, and channel should be held responsible along with Nupur. The SC has itself said that TV is now all about TRPs. TV journalism as practiced by a plethora of TV channels is irresponsible to the hilt and harps upon theatrics. The choice of the topic of a TV debate, selection of speakers, and timing of the program are carefully chosen to push an agenda and harvest TRPs. The result is most debates on TV are about Hindu Muslim rift rather than on real issues confronting the nation like growth, development, price rise, unemployment, etc. Self-censorship is best but if that doesn't happen then the SC and the government should step in to reign the errant media organisation.

Peace in J&K is still a pipe dream



After abrogating Article 370, the next step was to restore normalcy in Kashmir but three years hence that is still a far cry

hree years after reading down Article 370 of the constitution the government has not achieved its stated objectives of eradicating terrorism from J&K, winning the hearts and minds of the Kashmiris, integrating Kashmir with the mainstream, and ushering in development. Internationalizing the Kashmir issue has not isolated Pakistan diplomatically. Instead, China has been brought into the bilateral issue. Gol cannot wish away issues that have festered for 75 years. The book Hamin Ast ?, a biography of Article 370, published by the Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy has argued that nullification of Article 370 is legally unsound. The matter is languishing in Supreme Court and though Chief Justice Ramanna indicated it will be listed shortly, the petitioners are not hopeful – such is the political climate in the coun-

The Forum for Human Rights, in its annual report, Three Years as Union Territory: Human Rights in J&K (August 2021-July2022) has documented the basic infirmities and unabated gross human rights violations. Although it has not had any effect on state policy, it had noted the abnormalities in J&K.
Last Friday, China said that

India and Pakistan peacefully resolve their differences on the third anniversary of revoking the special status of J&K. It reiterated its call to parties to avoid taking unilateral actions to change the status quo or escalate tension. In 2019, China was incensed by the new map of the Union Territory of Ladakh and Home Minister Amit Shah's boast in Parliament of taking back Aksai Chin. China was not satisfied by Foreign Minister S Jaishankar's plea that it will have no bearing on the boundary dispute and he even traveled to Beijing to placate the Chinese. PLA aggression in Ladakh opened a second active front in May 2020 and it is now constructing a new road, G695 arallel to the existing G219 from Xinjiang to Tibet, 20 to 25 acts like hurling grenades, etc. km from the border. India has lost Many of these are lone wolf

some 1000 km of territory to China by its threat to reclaim Aksai Chin and the reorganization of the J&K Act. Initially jubilant. The Ladakhis are disappointed as under Union Territory status, they are governed by bureaucrats and not their people. Corruption has crept in and central laws are applicable with no administrative accountability. Security has been a top

priority. The strength of security forces in the hinterland has almost doubled since 2019. The situation is 'almost normal' going by statistics. But by no stretch of the imagination has terrorism been eliminated. When asked in Srinagar recently, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said: "It is an old problem and will take time to be eradicated". Of the 690 militants killed since 2019, 135 have been eliminated this year. In addition 136 civilians, 146 security forces, and 57 state officials have also lost their lives. More significantly, while the administration calls militancy Pakistan's proxy war, it has changed tactics. Militancy goes by different names like hybrid terrorism, and faceless militancy... anonymity is key and the new recruit - 572 joined since 2019 - is put to use immediately in distant and random



BUT BY NO STRETCH OF **IMAGINATION HAS** TERRORISM BEEN ELIMINATED. WHEN ASKED IN SRINAGAR RECENTLY, DEFENCE **MINISTER RAJNATH SINGH** SAID, 'IT IS AN **OLD PROBLEM** AND WILL TAKE TIME TO BE **ERADICATED**'

Hindus, Pandits, and migrants have kept the fear of guns alive.

There is no denying that the security situation has improved significantly - no stone pelting, few calls for hartals, no overground worker networks, and top commanders eliminated. This has been achieved by the drastic use of PSA, UAPA, and tax raids. This year alone, NIA carried out 83 raids so far. Dead bodies of terrorists continue not to be returned to families, pandits are in lockdown and do not go to work. Similarly, 'panches' are confined to their homes, Mirwaiz Omar Farooq remains under house arrest, Farooq and Omar Abdullah, and Mehbooba Mufti say they are under house arrest, and all party meetings are not permitted. Though militancy has spilled over to Chenab and Pir Panjal valleys the Multi-Agency Terror Monitoring Group has done well though new challenges could materialize after Al Jawahiri's killing in Kabul and the activation of Al Qaeda and ISIS sleeper cells in the region. The Resistance Front, consisting of jihadis from Jaish e Mohammad is picking up courage and strength.

In the fourth year of the Jovernor's Rule, Manoi Sinha administration's achievements

acts. Targeted killings of in security, development, and outreach to the people. The statistics rolled out are very impressive akin to Amrit Kaal. Nearly 51000 projects were completed in 2021-22 alone and Rs 1 lakh crore is to be spent on connectivity. There are other development schemes in the pipeline – in health, education, hydropower, agriculture, jobs, and tourism. Despite these achievements, alienation has grown. The carrot of restoration of statehood is essential but not sufficient to redress their grievances. There is no political outreach as elections are a distant dream following the Delimitation Commission which has only widened the communal chasm. There is no dialogue either internal or external except for a back channel between NSA Ajit Doval and COAS Gen Bajwa which led to the 2021 cease-

> How long can elections be put off? Restoration of statehood to I&K is an essential first step and should be announced on the 75th year of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav on 15 August.

(The writer, a retired Lt

fire. This Express Tribune said

6Aug has reached a dead end.

Gen, was Commander, IPKF South, Sri Lanka, and founder member of the Defence Planning Staff, currently has made big claims about the Integrated Defence Staff. The views expressed are personal.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WHO CARES FOR CITIZENS?

Sir — A state which has the lowest per capita income has the highest political activities without caring for the problems of the common man. Can such activities stop the exodus of workers to other parts of the country? Can industrialists be ready to establish the industries in the state? will the employment opportunities be enhanced? A common citizen is least interested to know which party is in power and which party is in opposition. The citizen wants the progress of the state as well as the generation of employment opportunities. A large number of people have to go to other states in search of their livelihood and we know when there were targeted killings in Kashmir people from Bihar were targeted. Now a big question arises whether the leaders of Bihar will remain busy in petty politics without caring for the development of the citizens of Bihar. The JP movement was started in Bihar for the all-round development of the state but not for the dirty politics as is happening now in the state. Bihar leaders such as Karpoori Thakur and Rajinder Prasad had set examples for the people and they had never thought of such of politics that is happening.

Yash Pal Ralhan | Jalandhar

CHINESE AGGRESSION CONTINUES

Sir — It's been a continuous 4th day that China is hitting Taiwan with back-to-back drills. The world knows actually what China wants to message out from all this. China wanted to clear again and again that Taiwan is not at all a separate country, instead it is a part of China. China & Taiwan separated with the Communist and Nationalistic feelings back in the 1950s. Today the world has changed its approach to Taiwan in specific. And now that Taiwan wants to have its own open and liberal relations with the rest of the world then what is the problem with this all? It's time for China to quit the aggressive and expansionist attitude towards its neighbors. China

CRIMINALISATION OF POLITICS

t has been reported that the Supreme Court has dismissed a plea filed by an advocate Brajesh Singh seeking contempt proceedings against heads of parties including Sonia Gandhi, Arvind Kejriwal, and Akhilesh Yadav. The rallying point is that it is the direction to prevent the criminalization of politics in the Uttar Pradesh Assembly polls held earlier this year. The crux of the matter is that the three parties — Congress-AAP and SP did not comply with the August 21 judgment to declare criminal

antecedents of UP assembly poll candidates. The SC had directed the parties to upload on their websites and social media platforms the details of pending criminal cases against their candidates and the reason for fielding such candidates. It is of little concern to the voters if a candidate without criminal antecedents is not given a ticket. Because it is the prerogative of the party to or to not give the ticket. For



ters. But if the SC directive is not complied with. it gives the wrong message that the direction of courts including the top court can be taken for granted. If the leaders cannot proceed with the Contempt of Court case, at least they should be issued a notice to comply with the August 21, 2021 court order. The respectability and sanctity of the courts must be protected at all costs. For justice, courts are only the last resort.

KV Seetharamaiah I Bengaluru

must come out of its Two State Principle and must clear out of the Two State policy, where Taiwan had a liberal status itself. It is the right time for China to stop its aggressive attitude and support the cause of nations like India and Taiwan on the global platform. China must support us to set regional peace and delight between the Diaspora.

Kirti Wadhawan | Kanpur

LAW AS AN INSTRUMENT OF SOCIAL CHANGE

Sir — Laws are a set of rules and regulations enforced by legal institutions. Justice, on the other hand, is much more than an esoteric political construct couched in jargon and conventions. The ultimate aim of laws is to provide justice but most often falls short of pursuing justice as society is ever evolving. The relation between law and justice was recently rightly highlighted by Supreme Court Judge, Justice Chandrachud. Changing existing laws and dismantling colonial legacies from time to time that were hitherto left untouched is a strong tool to advance justice.

In its 2018 judgment that decriminalized gay consensual sex between adults justice, Chandrachud maintained that section 377 of the I.P.C. provided for rule by law instead of the rule of law. In the same year, sitting on another constitutional bench he annulled the colonial-era law criminalizing adultery under section 497 of I.P.C. Similarly, an age-old practice legalized by state rule was declared unconstitutional in the Sabarimala temple case too when the order underlined that stopping a class of women on the grounds of celibacy and menstruation indicates how patriarchal. society works. Such practices must be stopped. Achieving justice through social movements and shaping political and cultural understanding is the need of the hour. The message is loud and clear: Criticism, debates, and discussions of laws governing social issues must take prece-

dence if true justice is to be realized. Vijay Singh Adhikari | Nainital

Chhodo' was given and now the slogan of 'BJP Bhagaon' is coming from Bihar.

Samajwadi Party chief

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneér@gmail.com

waived off the loans of Rs10 lakh crore of their friends Such people should be called traitors



Delhi Chief Minister —Arvind Kejriwal



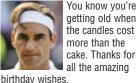
crisis aets worse extreme weather will pose a rapidly growing danger we are investing more than \$1 billion to fund

climate resilience projects **UK Prime Minister** –Boris Johnson

would like to tell you, no matter which industry it is, be it the clothing industry, film industry or any-

thing else, all of these help the

economy. But doing things like boycotting movies, it doesn't -Akshay Kumar



-Roger Federer This day, the slogan of 'Angrezo Bharat

-Akhilesh Yadav

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UNDERSTANDING BONUS SHARES, STOCK SPLIT

Bonus shares don't change fundamentals of companies



S KALYANASUNDARAM

uddenly there is a spurt in issuing bonus shares by Indian companies. This year so far 73 companies have announced bonus issues and this is the second highest since 2010. In 2018, 78 companies had issued bonus shares. More than 90 companies issued bonus shares in 2010.

It is widely believed that there has been an explosive growth in corporate profits and this confidence has manifested in bonus issues. Generally market participants welcome bonus issue of shares, though on a closer look, one will understand that there cannot be any material change in the intrinsic value of a share due to bonus issue.

Bonus issue is nothing but a book entry of transferring funds from reserve account to share capital account to the extent required to issue bonus shares. It does not change the net worth of the company.

A bonus issue, also known as a scrip issue or a capitalisation issue, is an offer of free additional shares to existing shareholders. A company may indulge in issuing bonus shares instead of increasing the dividend payout. While paying a dividend, there is dividend distribution tax, whereas for the issue of bonus there is no such

For issue of bonus shares, the company will transfer funds from its reserve account to share capital account and hence there is no outflow of funds from the company. The shareholder who gets bonus shares may sell his original number of shares or the bonus shares or both as he pleases.



For the purpose, the SEBI guidelines mandate that for issuing bonus shares, if the company is having any fully convertible debentures or partly convertible debentures, proportionate reserve of shares to such holders should be extended/reserved, while the bonus issue shall be made out of free reserves built out of the genuine profits or share premium collected in cash only.

Additionally, the reserves created by revaluation of fixed assets cannot be capitalised, while the bonus issue cannot be made unless the partly paid shares, if any, are fully paid up. Also, the company should not have defaulted in payment of interest or principal in respect of fixed deposits and interest on existing debentures or principal on redemption thereof.

The company should not have defaulted in payment of statutory dues like employees' provident fund, gratuity, bonus, etc., while any bonus announced should be implemented within a period of six months.

While selling shares, the losses arising from such transactions will be ignored for the purpose of calculation of income for capital gain tax if investors who buy the units within a period of three months prior to the record date (date on which bonus is allotted).

If such investor sells or transfers all or any of the original units within the period of nine months after the record date, the loss will be considered as the cost of acquisition for bonus shares

However, stock split and bonus shares are different, though they have some similarities. For example a face value of Rs 10 can be changed as face value of Re 1. So, if a shareholder is having 100 shares with face value of Rs 10, his holding will be changed as 1000 shares of face value of Re 1.

Though the number of shares is changed, there is no change in the capital or reserve of the company. Earnings per share will come down proportionately and per share market price may also come down. (The author is a retired banker)

Legislature reform is must in New India



New India cannot be shaped by existing legislature, and it requires radical reform

he Monsoon session of Parliament was washed out for all the practical purposes. The lawmakers have taken creating pandemonium as their principal vocation. The public issues that the lawmakers of the country should have been representing in Parliament and state Assemblies are hardly being taken up by the elected representatives.

Át a time when India commemorates 75 years of independence, it's worthwhile to examine the functioning of Parliament and the state legislatures. While Parliament sessions are disrupted at the will of the Opposition leaders on the call of their akas on grounds which are largely seen driven by vested interests, the state Assemblies too have become distanced from the people, with their annual average sittings being just about 23 days.

There needs to be hard-nosed reforms in the rule books of both the Houses of Parliament and the state Assemblies, while also carrying out tough and deeper reform measures in the electoral system of India. The next few decades warrant expeditious reforms in the legislature, else the opportunities emerging out of the fastchanging global order and the consequent shift in the global supply chain would skip

Both the Houses of Parliament couldn't function in the Monsoon session merely because the Enforcement Directorate is going ahead with the probe in the National Herald case, and summoned the Congress interim president Sonia Gandhi and her son Rahul Gandhi, besides carrying out raids at the National Herald headquarters. This amounts to influencing the functioning of the investigative agency, which was given much of the powers by the Congress-led UPA government in 2005 only.

This needs examination since the valuable time of the Parliament has been wasted by the Congress. Therefore, the presiding officers of the two Houses of Parliament, the Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla and the Rajya Sabha Chairman M. Venkaiah Naidu and his successor Jagdeep Dhankar, should sit together and decide to call a meeting of leaders of all the political parties and urgently adopt the agenda to reform the rule books of the conduct of the business.

The Biju Janata Dal never troops into the well of the House. The MPs of this arty never raise slogans in Parliament. Even the Congress MP Shashi Tharoor never rushes into the well of the House; he also doesn't indulge in slogan shouting. That makes it incumbent that the ruckus created by the Congress has no support from some sections of the Opposition also.

There should be 'No adjournment' policy for both Houses of Parliament, and the MPs who shout and raise slogans should be named and sent out by the marshals and their salaries and allowances be also cut. There should be severe punishment for holding placards and trooping



PARLIAMENTARY

COMMITTEE SHOULD HAVE SUBJECT EXPERTS, WITH NO VOTING RIGHTS, TO ALLOW SPACE FOR THE DOMAIN **EXPERTISE** WHILE **SCRUTINISING** THE LEGISLATIVE BILLS AND ALSO TO HELP **CAPACITY BUILDING OF**

THE MPs

(The author is

Director, Public Policy

Research Centre)

into the well of the House, while TV broadcast by Sansad TV shouldn't show agitating members.

Erring MPs are first suspended for one day, and if they gain three suspensions, their allowances are cut, while they shouldn't get chances to speak for the next two to three sessions. Let there be a ceiling on the number of incidents that the MPs can violate the norms of the two Houses. If that ceiling is breached, the erring MPs will be barred from contesting next polls.

At the same time, the electoral reforms should make it clear that an MP can have only two continuous terms and after that there should be a break for one term, while the minimum age be lowered from 25 years to 21 years. This will give the millennial a better sense of participation in Indian democracy. Equally important is to have the provision of vote of non-confidence to be brought only with a vote of confidence to ensure that the House is not dissolved before its full term. Such provisions should also apply to the Assemblies.

Also, the Lok Sabha polls can be contested only by those who are in Assemblies or the legislative Councils to help the better integration of the three-tier democracy in the country. This needs to be looked into closely with suitable amendments in the Representation of the Peoples Act to ensure that people do not just parachute into the Lok Sabha or the Rajya Sabha, and rather they go through the full length grinding of the democratic

institutions, beginning from the basic unit of the Panchayati Raj Institutions in the rural areas and the local bodies in the urban centres. This is most needed to ensure that the elected representatives have genuine and broader understanding of the functioning of the Indian democracy at all levels.

Parliamentary committees should have subject experts, with no voting rights, to allow space for the domain expertise while scrutinizing the legislative bills and also to help the capacity building of the MPs. This will address the anomaly of the MPs who have questionable understanding of Defence being members of the Parliamentary standing committee on defence.

It is equally important that there be a sharp eye on the assets of the members of the legislatures. Any disproportionate growth in the assets of the lawmakers should be probed by the competent agencies and the outcomes be revealed in the public domain within a fixed timetrame. The assets of MPs and the MLAs, besides the members of the Zila Panchayat and Parishad, should be tracked closely by appropriate agencies so that neither they nor their near and dear ones abnormally grow their assets by taking the benefits of the positions and the status.

The democratic institutions function on conventions and rules. There is a growing need to accord greater importance to the convention of the good practices as had

been the part of the legislatures in the early days of the formation. Now the trend seems that the Opposition parties believe that they come to the Houses only to speak and they stage walk outs when the ministers reply to the issues that they had raised. This is quite undemocratic in nature, and shows intolerance on the parts of the Opposition parties to debate and discourse.

The Opposition approach of 'My way or No Way' is totally undemocratic in nature. Additionally, the records set in the Houses of the Parliament and the Assemblies are for the posterity. The next generation will learn that the Parliament and the legislative Assemblies are not the places to hold serious discussions on law making or in-depth debate on issues that may shape the future of the country but to indulge in slogan shouting and engaging in rancor. This is not democracy, and the future generation may be deprived of healthy conventions to emulate

rom to further excel. This makes it incumbent upon the presiding officers to evolve conventions, while sensitizing the lawmakers, about preserving the good practices, and avoid playing to the galleries to capture the camera's attention. If the need be even the rules can be amended for the business of the legislative Houses to codify the good practices.

New India cannot function in old ways, and the deep legislative reforms are unavoidable.

I SEE THE MATURITY OF DEMOCRACY IN YOUR (NAIDU) STANDARDS. YOU NEVER **CONSIDERED WORK A BURDEN.** —PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI





MR NAIDU WOULD HAVE TRIED HARD TO GET THE PRIME MINISTER TO PERHAPS ANSWER ONE QUESTION IN HIS FULL TENURE BUT THAT DID NOT HAPPEN. —TMC MP

DEREK O'BRIEN

GST compensation can't be perpetual; States must be prudent

The disruption caused by the pandemic is a thing of the past as tax collection rebounded during 2021-22

n its 47th meeting, the GST (Goods and Services Tax) ■ Council held on June 28/29, 2022, at least a dozen finance ministers and other ministers of the states demanded that compensation for losses due to implementation of the GST should be extended.

In the follow up to the unveiling of the GST by the Modi government, 'The Constitution (One Hundred and First Amendment) Act, 2016, that introduced the GST from July 1, 2017, the Union government also introduced 'The GST Compensation Act,

It provides for compensation to the States for five years (2017-18 to 2021-22) for the loss of revenue. The Centre also passed an amendment to the GST Compensation Act (2018)



UTTAM GUPTA

(The author is a

policy analyst)

to levy a cess on the so-called demerit goods (those which fall in the highest tax slab of 28 percent - other slabs being five percent, 12 percent and 18 percent besides the exempt category) such as automobiles, tobacco, drinks and so on with a proviso to use the proceeds for compensating States.

As laid down in the Act, the compensation ended on June 30, 2022. But the majority of the states want this to be continued arguing (i) the Covid pandemic has severely impacted revenue - their own tax collection, as well as transfer from the Centre, pushing them behind the curve; (ii) they continue to face shortfall in tax revenue. These arguments need close scrutiny.

During the 2020-21, the devastating effect of Covid pan-

resultant dip in tax collection of both the States and the centre resulted in a shortfall in tax revenue of the states of about Rs 300,000 crore. The cess proceeds being only Rs 65,000 crore, this resulted in an unmet deficit of Rs 235,000 crore Meanwhile, during 2019-20

also, there was imbalance though not on a scale seen during 2020-21. In that year, the cess proceeds were Rs 95,000 crore against shortfall in tax revenue of Rs 165,000 crore, resulting in unmet deficit of Rs 70,000 crore. After drawing down the surplus from previous two years (2017-18/2018-19) when cess proceeds were higher than the shortfall, the net amount comes to Rs 35,000 crore.

For the two years 2019-20 and 2020-21 put together, the demic on economic activity and total unmet deficit was Rs



270,000 crore. To make up for this, the Centre, in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) set up a special window for borrowings at "low" rate of interest and transferred the funds to states as back-to-back loans. Under this window, Rs 110,000 crore was borrowed during 2020-21 and Rs 160,000 crore during 2021-22.

During FY 2021-22 also, the shortfall in tax revenue of states about Rs 150,000 crore was higher than the cess collection FY 2021-22 posting a sharp

of Rs 100,000 crore, resulting in unmet deficit of Rs 50,000 crore. This plus additional amount needed to accommodate the mismatch during the three month period ending June 30, 2022 will also have to be plugged by borrowings under the 'special window

In view of above, even if there is no extension of the compensation arrangement, the cess on demerit products will have to continue beyond June 30, 2022 if only to service the loan till such time all loan-related liabilities are fully extinguished. The GST Council has already taken a decision in this regard.

In the context of deciding whether the compensation should be continued or otherwise, a niggling question is: why despite waning Covid, and

rebound in tax collection [gross tax revenue (GTR) of the Centre exceeded the budget estimate (BE) by an unprecedented about Rs 500,000 crore and even the states got more], there was a revenue shortfall. This anomaly may have to do with the formula for determining the shortfall.

Under it, protected revenue (PR) is arrived at by applying annual growth at 14 percent over the 2015-16 level of tax revenue under the erstwhile regime. PR gets unduly inflated due to (a) the base itself being high (that regime was characterized by high tax rate); (b) compounding effect of the percentage growth which is maximum in the fifth year (for instance, @14 percent,

Rs 100 will become Rs 193). The crucial point to note here is: if the erstwhile dispensation were to continue, the

states would not have got revenue as extrapolated on the basis of the formula. In fact, during 2021-22, by artificially boosting the PR, the formula has enabled them to garner more than what they deserved.

To conclude, none of the two arguments given by the states in support of continuing the compensation mechanism are tenable. The disruption caused by the pandemic is a thing of the past as tax collection rebounded during 2021-22 and the buoyancy is being maintained during the current FYas reflected in 35 per cent increase in GST collection during the first quarter.

The claim of 'continued shortfall in revenue' too doesn't cut ice as it is based on comparison of actual revenue with a theoretical figure.

near Russian-held N-plant

t least three Ukrainian civilians were killed and 23 others were wounded by Russian shelling in 24 hours, including an attack not far from a Russian-occupied nuclear power plant, the office of Ukraine's president reported on Tuesday.

The Russians fired over 120 rockets from Grad multiple rocket launchers at the southern town of Nikopol, which is across the Dnieper River from the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant, Dnipropetrovsk Gov. Valentyn Reznichenko said.

Several apartment buildings and industrial facilities were damaged, he said.

Ukraine and Russia accused each other in recent days of shelling the nuclear plant, which is the largest one in Europe and increasing the risks of a nuclear

In his nightly video address, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy invoked the 1986 disaster at the Chernobyl nuclear plant in Ukraine, which at the time was a Soviet republic.

He called for new sanctions against Russia "for creating the threat" of another nuclear dis-

"We are actively informing the world about Russian nuclear blackmail - about the shelling



and mining of the Zaporizhzhia NPP facilities," Zelenskyy said.

"Russia will not pay attention to words and concerns. The Chernobyl disaster is an explosion in one reactor-the Zaporizhzhia NPP is six power

The Kremlin claimed on Monday that Ukraine's military was attacking the plant and urged Western powers to force Kyiv to stop the activity.

A Russian-installed official in the partially occupied Zaporizhzhia region said an air defence system at the plant would be reinforced in the aftermath of last week's shelling. seize all of the concept by Evgeny Balitsky, the head of Donbas region.

the Kremlin-backed administration, told Russian state TV on Tuesday that power lines and damaged blocks of the plant were restored.

"The plant is operating normally, but, of course, with an increased degree of security," Balitsky said.

A Ukrainian counteroffensive and Russian defensive actions in occupied areas have increasingly drawn firepower to southern Ukraine.

After failing to capture Ukraine's capital, Kyiv, early in the war, the Russian military focused its strength on trying to seize all of the country's eastern

Pro-Moscow separatists have fought Ukrainian forces in the region for eight years and control some territory as selfproclaimed republics.

The British Defence Ministry said on Tuesday that Russian forces had made the most progress in the past month in moving toward the town of Bakhmut - an advance limited to about 10 kilometers.

"In other Donbas sectors where Russia was attempting to break through, its forces have not gained more than 3 km during this 30-day period, almost certainly significantly less than planned," the UK ministry said.

has now identified 250 web-

sites actively spreading Russian

disinformation about the war,

with dozens of new ones added

some deadly Russian attacks to

curry global support, that

Volodymyr Zelenskyy is faking

public appearances, or that

Ukrainian refugees are committing crimes in Germany

President

Claims on these sites

in recent months.

Ukrainian

and Poland.

Ukraine: Shelling hits town | Ukrainian resistance grows in Russian-occupied areas

In a growing challenge to Russia's grip on occupied areas of southeastern Ukraine, guerrilla forces loyal to Kyiv are killing pro-Moscow officials, blowing up bridges and trains, and helping the Ukrainian military

by identifying key targets.

The spreading resistance has eroded Kremlin control of those areas and threatened its plans to hold referendums in various cities as a move toward annexation by

"Our goal is to make life unbearable for the Russian occupiers and use any means to derail their plans," said Andriy, a 32-year-old coordinator of the guerrilla movement in the southern Kherson

A member of the Zhovta Strichka – or "Yellow Ribbon" — resistance group, Andriy spoke to The Associated Press on condition of not being fully identified to avoid being tracked down by the Russians.

The group takes its name from one of the two national colours of Ukraine, and its members use ribbons of that hue to mark potential targets for guerrilla attacks.

Ukrainian troops recently used a USsupplied multiple rocket launcher known as HIMARS to hit a strategic bridge on the Dnieper River in Kherson, severing the Russians' main supply link.

The city of 500,000 people, seized by Russian troops early in the war, has been flooded with leaflets from the resistance, threatening Moscow-backed officials.

Just before the bridge attack, leaflets appeared, saying, "If HIMARS can't do it, a partisan will help."

the guerrillas' assistance makes the new long-range weapons, particularly HIMARS, even more powerful," Andriy

told the AP. "We are invisible behind the Russian

lines, and this is our strength." As Ukrainian forces step up attacks in the region and reclaim some areas west of the Dnieper River, the guerrilla activity also has increased.

They coordinate with the Ukrainian military's Special Operations Forces, which

nelps them develop strategies and tactics.

Those forces also select targets and set up a website with tips on how to organise resistance, prepare ambushes and elude arrest. A network of weapons caches and secret hideouts was established in occupied

Bombs have been placed near administrative buildings, at officials' homes and even on their routes to work.

An explosive placed on a tree went off "We are giving the Ukrainian military as a vehicle carrying Kherson prison precise coordinates for various targets, and chief Yevgeny Sobolev passed by, although

he survived the attack.

A police vehicle was hit by a shrapnel bomb, seriously wounding two officers, one of whom later died. The deputy head of the local administration in Nova Kakhovka died of wounds after being gunned down over the weekend.

Guerrillas have repeatedly tried to kill Vladimir Saldo, the head of the Kherson region's Russia-backed temporary administration, offering a bounty of one million hryvnias (about USD 25,000).

His assistant, Pavel Slobodchikov, was shot and killed in his vehicle, and another official, Dmytry Savluchenko, was killed by a car bomb.

The attacks have prompted Moscow to send anti-guerrilla units to Kherson, Saldo said.

"Every day, special units from Russia detect two or three caches with weapons for terrorist activities," Saldo said on his messaging app channel. "The seizure of weapons help reduce the threat of sabo-

US pledges \$1 bn

more rockets, other

Russian disinformation spreading in new ways despite bans

AP ■ WASHINGTON

fter Russia invaded Ukraine Alast February, the European Union moved to block RT and Sputnik, two of the Kremlin's top channels for spreading propaganda and misinformation PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General Public on behalf of our client that Mr. Kallash Verma, Mr. Abhishek Verma and Client that Mr. Kallash Verma and Pibl No. 1/1857, Plot No. 1, Old no. 558, area measuring 100 Sq. Yds., out of Khasa No. 1183/340, 1156/34, 1164/350, 1169/351, Situated in the about 60 British Indic Gionny also known as East Ram Nagar, Moti Nagar, Ram Road, in the area of Village Chandrawali & Sahddara, Illaqa Shahdara, Belhi, by virtue of Sale deed dated 09.11.2017, Doc. no. 5923. All persons are hereby informed that above mentioned owner wants to sell fres add

e/mortgage/litigation, and any other objections, kind inform the undersigned in writing on the below mention address within 07 days of the present.

Total income from operations Net Profit for the period (befor

Tax and exceptional items)
Net Profit for the period (bef

Tax, after exceptional items) Net Profit for the period after

Tax (after exceptional items)
Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising for the Period after Tax and Other

Comprehensive Income after Tax Paid-up equity share capital

5/- each)(Not Annualised)

available on the webites of the stock exchange. (URL-www.bseindia.com)

Particulars

Total Comprehensive income/(loss) for the period/year [Comprising Profit / (Loss)

or the period/year (after tax) and other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]

www.bseindia.com and on the Company's website www.emaar-india.com

before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items

Net profit/(loss) for the period/year before tax

after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items

Net profit/(loss) for the period/year after tax after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items

Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve

Paid up Debt Capital / Outstanding Deb

Earning / (Loss) Per Share (in Rupees) (Basic & Diluted

Total Income from Operations

Paid up Equity Share Capital

Capital Redemption Reserve

Debt Service Coverage Ratio

meeting held on August 08, 2022

6 Interest Service Coverage Ratio

Debenture Redemption Reserve

Debt Equity Ratio

Net profit/(loss) for the period/yea

(Face Value 5/- each)
Earnings Per Share

shifted some propaganda duties PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General Public on behalf of our client that Mr. Asif Ali is the owner of Built up Second floor, without roof rights part of Property bearing No. D-224, area measuring 100 Sq., vds., out of Khasra No. 2, village Ghonda Gujran Bangar, in the abadi of Noor Ilahi, Ghonda Extn., Iliaqa Shadara, Delhi vide a GPA, ATS and Will dated 10.08.2001. All persons are bereby informed that above mentioned owner. are hereby informed that above mentioned owner are hereby informed that above mentioned owner wants to self the said property to a person who intends to obtain loan from our client against the said property, if anybody has any objection/s upon the ownership of above owner over the said floor, its sale/mortgage/ litigation, and any other objections, kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present.

Rumar & Associates (Advocates & Consultants)
200. Ilmd Floor, 23. Shivaji Marg, Wolf Nagar, N. Delhi 15 Ph: 011-4111227-28 ** kumar-associates.advocate@gmail.com**

work to disguise it. They've

1,934.38 39.46 2,218.76

540.00

136.31 1,692.47

1,692.64

540.00

The above is an extract of the detailed format of quarter/annual financial results filed with the stock exchanges under regulation 3:

The above financial results have been reviewed by Audit Committee and thereafter approved and taken on record by the Board ectors in its meeting held on August 8, 2022. The Statutory auditors have expressed an unmodified audit opinion. There is no change(s) in accounting policies which have impact on net profit / loss, total comprehensive income or any other releva-

Emaar India Limited

(formerly known as Emaar MGF Land Limited) CIN - U45201DL2005PLC133161

Registered Office: 306-308, Square One, C-2, District Centre, Saket, New Delhi-110017

Email ID - bharat.garg@emaar.ae, Website - www.emaar-india.com

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

ADDI INDUSTRIES LIMITED

CIN: L51109DL1980PLC256335
A-104, Third floor, Okhla Industrial Area Phase-II, New Delhi-110020
E -Mail: atul.addi@gmail.com, Tel.: 011-45025459

EXTRACT OF STANDALONE AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

to diplomats. And they've cut Nearly six months later, and pasted much of the content the number of sites pushing that on new websites — ones that same content has exploded as until now had no obvious ties Russia found ways to evade the ban. They've rebranded their

NewsGuard, a New Yorkbased firm that studies and include allegations that tracks online misinformation, Ukraine's army has staged

PUBLIC NOTICE

(Partnership Firm) currently at U-14, West Patel Nagar, Delhi-110008 was formed on 01/04/ 1983 by Ish Khanna (expired on 20/10/2018) and Neeru Khanna w/o Prem Khanna. Now Neeru Khanna and Rajeev Khanna S/o Ish Khanna are partners in firm since 21/10/2018.

30.06.2022 31.03.2022 30.06.2021 31.03.2023

6.65

1,689.69

540.00

2,215.54 4,564.52

1,689.52 3,727.7

Chaman Lal Jair Managing Director

(Rs. in million

Year

ended

31 March

2022

Audited

1,894.47

1,894.4

1,894.4

1,907.9

1,693.8

(35,651,2

(33.957.3

65,560.8

11.1

738.13

Quarter

ended

30 June

2021

Unaudited

(258.11

(258.11

(253.91

1,693.87

37,813.07

(36.119.20

67,604.52

(1.52

738.13

(87.31)

3,728.35

540.00

35.67

36.29

133.45

133.50

540.00

For and on behalf of the Board of Director

59.26

1,931.30

1,545.04

1,545.18

540.00

Quarter

ended

30 June

Unaudited

(936.56)

(936.56

(936.56)

(936.67

1,693.87

(36,587.89)

(34.894.02)

82,234.46

(5.53)

738.13

0.03

Quarter

ended

31 March

2022

Unaudited

1,817.80

1.817.80

1,817.80

1.823.5

1,693.8

(35.651.2

33.957.3

65,560.8

10.7

4,577.31

3,740.03

540.00

Asian Welding Products

Some of the sites pose as independent think tanks or news outlets. About half are English-language, while others are in French, German or Italian. Many were set up long before the war and were not obviously tied to the Russian government until they suddenly began parroting Kremlin talking points. "They may be establishing

co-CEO Gordon Crovitz. Sleeper sites are websites created for a disinformation campaign that lay largely dormant, slowly building an audi-



ence through innocuous or unrelated posts, and then switching to propaganda or disinformation at an appoint-While NewsGuard's analy-

sis found that much of the disinformation about the war in Ukraine is coming from Russia, it did find instances of false claims with a proed claims about a hotshot fighter ace known as the Ghost of Kyiv that officials later admitted was a myth.

YouTube, TikTok and



to evade the ban was to post it from a different account. The Disinformation Situation Centre, a Europemation researchers, found that some RT video content was showing up on social media under a new brand name and

AP WASHINGTON

some cases all Russia had to do ping its biggest yet direct delivery of weapons to Ukraine as that country prepares for a potentially decisive counteroffensive in the south against rockets, ammunition and other material to Ukraine from Defense Department stock-

The new U.S. Arms ship-

The Biden administration said Monday it was ship-

arms for Ukraine ment would further strengthen Ukraine as it mounts the counteroffensive, which analysts say for the first time could allow Kyiv to shape the

> now at the half-year mark. Kyiv aims to push Russian troops back out of Kherson and other southern territory

> course of the rest of the war,

Russia in recent days was moving troops and equipment in the direction of the south-

ern port cities to stave off the Ukrainian counteroffensive.

Prez praises Lankan Army for defending Parliament in maiden visit to Army HQ



President Ranil Wickremesinghe on Tuesday lauded the Sri Lankan Army for protecting Parliament when antigovernment protestors tried to take control of the complex during the massive uprising last month, saying their "timely intervention" preserved the constitution, democracy and sovereignty of the country. Wickremesinghe, the

Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, made his first formal visit to the Army Headquarters at Sri Jayawardenepura after he assumed the office following the ouster of former President Gotabaya Rajapaksa. Wickremesinghe was wel-

comed by Lieutenant General Vikum Livanage, Commander of the Army and met a representative gathering of the Army troops who performed their duties on July 13, when a mob tried to take control of the Parliament complex amidst the unprecedented anti-government

while trying to prevent their entry sustained injuries and some of them had to be admitted to hospitals.

Addressing the gathering, Wickremesinghe appreciated "their timely intervention at the expense of their own lives and gave away certificates of appreciation to them. He said "their actions that day preserved the constitution, democracy and sovereignty of the country".

Protesters began demonstrating against the Rajapaksa family in March and demanded the resignation of the entire Rajapaksa family, leading to the resignation of then-Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa on May 9, and his brother Gotabaya Rajapaksa, who fled the country to the Maldives on July 13 and resigned the following day from Singapore. 'There was a party lead-

ers meeting on the day protestors surrounded Parliament. The Speaker had to call off that meeting. It is easy to take over the judiciary and stop all court cases...' Army soldiers on duty



Lanka to concentrate on promoting Ramayan trail to Indian tourists

PTI ■ COLOMBO

Sri Lanka's newly-appointed tourism brand Ambassador and cricket legend Sanath Jayasuriya on Tuesday said his country will concentrate on promoting the Ramayan trail to Indian tourists, as the crisis-hit island nation seeks to boost tourism for economic recovery. Jayasuriya, a former Sri Lankan cricket cap-

tain, met India's High Commissioner in Colombo, Gopal Baglay, on Monday. Sri Lanka's newly-appointed tourism brand

Ambassador, cricket legend @Sanath07 met High Commissioner today. The meeting focused on strengthening ties between the people of India and Sri Lanka and promoting tourism as an instrument for economic recovery," the Indian High Commission tweeted.

Responding to the tweet, Jayasuriya on Tuesday thanked Baglay for agreeing to meet "We will concentrate on promoting the

Ramayana trail to the Indian tourists," he Both India and Sri Lanka agreed in 2008 to

work on enhancing shared cultural and religious values based on the Ramayana heritage. The Ramayana is one of the two major Sanskrit epics of ancient India and an important

text of Hinduism. There are 52 sites on the

Ramayana Trail in Sri Lanka. India in May re-emerged as Sri Lanka's top inbound tourist market with 5,562 arrivals followed by the UK with 3,723 arrivals.

Russia temporarily pulls out of weapons inspection treaty



 $R^{
m ussia's}$ Foreign Ministry announced Monday that Moscow was temporarily withdrawing from the inspection regime established under a key bilateral nuclear arms reduction treaty between it and the U.S.

In a statement on its website, the ministry said Western sanctions made it impossible for Russia to enforce the New START Treaty "in strict accordance with the principles of parity and equality of the parties." It said the sanctions effectively barred Russian inspectors from carrying out activities on US soil.

The ministry also said the barring of Russian planes from U.S. Airspace and that of Washington's Western allies was an obstacle, as was the tightening of visa requirements for Russian inspectors. It claimed that U.S. Inspectors have not faced comparable difficulties, despite Russia closing its skies to the European Union's 27 nations, the U.K. And Canada — though not the U.S. — after the start of the conflict in Ukraine in late February.

Moscow said at the time that exceptions would be made for diplomatic missions and deliveries of humanitarian aid.

The statement Monday said attempts to resume START inspections were "deliberately counterproductive," and urged instead a "a thorough study of all existing problems in this area, the successful settlement of which would allow a return to full-scale application as soon as possible of all verification mechanisms of the Treaty.

It emphasised that the measures were temporary, and said Russia remained "fully committed to complying with all provisions of the

Place: Gurugram Date : August 08, 2022

Jamal Majed Khalfan Bin Theniyah Director

1. The above is an extract of the detailed format of financial results filed with stock exchange under regulation 52 of the SEBI (Listing Obligation

For the other line items referred in regulation 52 (4) of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosures Requirements) Regulation, 2015, pertinent

The above financial results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors of the Company at the

and Disclosures Requirements) Regulation, 2015. The full formats of financial results are available on the website of the stock ex

disclosures have been made to the Stock Exchange and can be accessed on the website of stock exchange www.bseindia.com

FBI AGENTS RAID EX-US PREZ TRUMP'S ESTATE IN FLORIDA

PTI WASHINGTON

→he FBI has raided Donald Trump's private club and residence in Florida and broke open a safe as part of a reported probe into the handling of presidential docu-ments, including classified materials, triggering an angry outburst from the former US president who called it an attempt to block his 2024 White House bid.

"These are dark times for our nation, as my beautiful home, Mar-A-Lago in Palm Beach, Florida, is currently under siege, raided, and occupied by a large group of FBI agents. Nothing like this has ever happened to a President of the United States before, Trump said in a statement Monday

The FBI search was relat-

AP ■ PINGTUNG (TAIWAN)

Taiwan's foreign minister said Tuesday that China is

using military drills to rehearse

an invasion of the self-govern-

ing island democracy, while

Taiwan's military began its

own live-fire exercises in a show of readiness to thwart off

Joseph Wu said Beijing aims to establish its domi-

nance in the Western Pacific

and annex Taiwan, which it

claims as its own territory.

That would include control of

the East and South China Seas

via the Taiwan Strait and preventing the US and its allies

from aiding Taiwan, he told a news conference in Taipei. China says its drills were prompted by the visit to the island last week by US House

Speaker Nancy Pelosi, but Wu

said China was using her trip

as a pretext for intimidating

moves it has long had in the

some Taiwanese food imports

after the visit and cut off dia-

logue with the US on a range

of issues from military contacts

to combating transnational

diplomatic ties with Taiwan in

deference to Beijing, but is

legally bound to ensure the

island can defend itself and to

treat all threats against it -

including a blockade - as

matters of grave concern. That

leaves open the question of whether Washington would

dispatch forces if China

attacked Taiwan. President Joe

Biden has said repeatedly the

U.S. Was bound to do so, in

comments swiftly walked back

The exercises show China's

by his staff.

The U.S. Has no formal

crime and climate change.

a potential attack.

Taiwan holds drills,

says China seeks

control of seas

ments that Trump took to Mar-a-Lago when he departed the White House in January 2021 - some of which the National Archives has said were marked classified, according to US media reports.

In January, Trump handed over the documents to the National Archives, and attorneys for Trump said they were searching for any more records they may have.

The Justice Department and the FBI declined to comment on the raid. The dramatic escalation of

law enforcement scrutiny of Trump comes as he prepares for a possible third presidential run in 2024.

Trump, who was the 45th President of the US, was not at his Palm Beach estate during the search and was in the New

geostrategic ambition beyond

interfere in or alter" the

Taiwanese people's democrat-

ic process or interaction with

other nations, he said, adding

that Taiwan and the mainland

are separate jurisdictions with

"neither subordinate to the

sent military ships and planes

across the midline in the

Taiwan Strait and launched

missiles into waters surround-

calm tensions, Beijing has

extended the exercises that

amount to a blockade without

announcing when they will

flights and shipping in one of

the busiest zones for global

trade. Taiwan has put its forces

on alert, but has so far refrained

from taking active counter

held live-fire artillery drills in

Pingtung County on its south-

train and accumulate strength

to deal with the threat from

China, said Maj, Gen. Lou

Woei-jye, spokesperson for

Taiwan's 8th Army Command.

"No matter what the situation

defend our country.

pared.

The army will continue to

measures.

eastern coast.

The drills have disrupted

ing the island. Ignoring calls to

Since Thursday, China has

"China has no right to

Taiwan," Wu said.



York City area, media reports

"After working and cooperating with the relevant government agencies, this unannounced raid on my home was not necessary or appropriate," the 76-year-old Republican Party leader said.

Trump alleged that such an

before," he said.

attack by Radical Left Democrats who desperately don't want me to run for President in 2024...," he said.

He demanded that the lawlessness, political persecution and witch-hunt must be exposed and stopped.

"They even broke into my safe! What is the difference between this and Watergate, where operatives broke into the Democrat National Committee? Here, in reverse, Democrats broke into the home of the 45th President of the United States," the former president

Trump's son, Eric, told Fox News that "the purpose of the wanted to, you know, corrob-

In February, the National Archives asked the Justice Department to investigate Trump's handling of White House records.

The National Archives, charged with collecting and sorting presidential material, has previously said at least 15 boxes of White House records were recovered from Trump's some that were classified.

The estate sits on 20 acres that border the Atlantic Ocean on one side and Florida's Intracoastal Waterway on the other. In 2018, Forbes valued the Mar-a-Lago estate at USD 160 million. Trump keeps a section of the estate private for his family's personal use.

In early June, a handful of

to the property seeking more information about potentially classified material from Trump's time in the White House that had been taken to

Under the Presidential Records Act, documents received and sent by the president are required to be preserved by

MEYER APPAREL LIMITED

Regd. Office: 3 & 4, Mustil No. 19, Killa No.-5, opposite Tata Consultancy N.H.-8, Village Narsingh Pur, Gurugram-122004 (Haryana) India CIN: L18101HR1993PLC032010, TEL: 91-9953696941, EMAIL: info@meyerapparel.com, WEBSITE: www.meyerapparel.com EXTRACT OF THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30TH JUNE, 2022

	NS. III LAK				No. III Lanii
	Particulars	Quarter Ended			Year Ended
SI.		June	March	June	March
No.		30, 2022	31, 2022	30, 2021	31, 2022
		Un-audited	Audited	Un-audited	Audited
1	Total income from operations	128.84	107.12	43.54	503.56
2	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or	(12.52)	(56.31)	(20.42)	(106.88)
	Extraordinary items)	' '			
3	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before Tax (after Exceptional and/or	(12.52)	(56.31)	(20.42)	(106.88)
	Extraordinary items)			i i	
4	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after Tax (after Exceptional and/or	(12.52)	(56.31)	(20.42)	(106.88)
	Extraordinary items)				
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the	(12.37)	(55.29)	(20.00)	(106.35)
	period (after Tax) and other Comprehensive income (after Tax)]				
6	Paid up Equity share capital (Face Value of Rs. 3/- each)	2,426.67	2,426.67	2,426.67	2,426.67
7	Other Equity				(5,246.45)
8	Earnings Per Share (of Re. 3/- each)				
	Basic	(0.02)	(0.07)	(0.03)	(0.13)
	Diluted	(0.02)	(0.07)	(0.03)	(0.13)
INO	NOTES:				

Companies Act, 2013 read with relevant rules issued thereunder and other accounting principles generally accepted in India. The above financial results of the Company for the quarter ended June 30, 2022 has been reviewed by the Audit committee and approved by the Board of Directors at their meeting held on 9th August, 2022

The above is an extract of the detailed format of audited quarterly and yearly financial Results filed with the Stock Exchange under Regulation 33 of the SEBL (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Regulirements) Regulations, 2015. The Full format of the Quarterly and yearly Financial Result is available on the Stock Exchange's website : www.bseindia.com and also on the Company's website, namely

(Gaiender Kumar Sharma

DIN: 08073521 LOGIX BUILDTECH PRIVATE LIMITED Reg. Office:-DGL006, GROUND FLOOR, DLF GALLERIA, MAYUR VIHAR

PHASE-1, NEW DELHI-110091 Corporate Identification Number:-U70200DL2010PTC200042 E-mail: corporate@logixgroup.in **ANNEXURE I**

(Regulation 52(8), read with Regulation 52(4), of the SEBI (LODR) Regulations, 2015 Statement of Unaudited Standalone Financial Results for the quarter ended June 30, 2022

(All amounts in INR lakhs, unless otherwise state

Year ended Quarter ended 30.06.2022 31.03.2022 **Particulars** 31.03.2022 Audited Audited Total Income from Operations 7,403 2.325 Loss before tax, exceptional items (3,726)(3,846)(18,582)Loss before tax & after exceptional items (3,846)(18,582)(14,046) Loss after tax, exceptional items (2,771)(1,605)Total comprehensive income/(loss) (2,770)(14,041)for the period/year (net of tax) Paid up Equity Share Capital Reserves (excluding Revalution Reserve) 13,751 16.521 15,806 18,575 18,575 Paid up Debt Capital/Outstanding Debt 120,000 120,000 10 Outstanding Redeemable Preference Shares 7.59 6.46 Debt Equity Ratio Earnings per equity share (7.81) (i) Basic (in INR) (13.49)(68.36) (ii) Diluted (in INR) (13.49)(68.36)Capital Redemption Reserve Debenture Redemption Reserve 15 Debt Service Coverage Ratio 0.18 (0.01) 16 Interest Service Coverage Ratio

The above is an extract of the detailed format of annual financial results filed with the Stock exchange under Regulation 52 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the annual financial results are available on the website of the Stock Exchange (www.bseindia.com) and the listed entity (www.logixgroup.in).

For the items referred in Regulation 52(4) of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, the pertinent disclosures have been made to the Stock exchange (BSE India) and can be accessed on the URL (www.bseindia.com) and website (www.logixgroup.in).

For and on behalf of the Board of Directors

Shakti Nath Director

Place: Noida

Date: August 8, 2022

DIN: 00017090

Integra Telecommunication and Software Limited

CIN:L74899DL1985PLC020286

Registered Office: Flat No. 1311,13th Floor, Devika Tower 6, Nehru Place, New Delhi - 110019 Corporate Office: 610/611, Nirmal Galaxy Avior, L.B.S. Road, Mulund (W), Mumbai-400080 Email ID: info@integratelesoftware.com; Website: www.integratelesoftware.com

Extract of Statement of Un-Audited Results for the Quarter ended 30.06.2022

				(AIIIO	uni in iakns)
S.	Particulars	C	Year ended		
No.		30/6/2022 Un-Audited	31/3/2022 Audited	30/6/2021 Un-Audited	
1.	Total Income from Operations	28.01	34.92	26.75	115.61
2.	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	19.88	25.25	16.77	77.61
3.	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax(after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	19.88	25.25	16.77	77.61
4.	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax(after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	19.88	16.64	16.77	69.00
5.	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and other Comprehensive Income(after tax)]	19.88	16.64	16.77	69.00
6.	Equity Share Capital (Face Value of Rs. 10/- per share)	1,056.00	1,056.00	1,056.00	1,056.00
7.	Reserve (exculding revaluation reserves as shown in the balance sheet of previous year)		-	-	(0.94)
8.	Earning Per Share (of Rs.10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations) Basic & Diluted"	0.19	0.16	0.16	0.65

Stock Exchange under Regulation 33 of the SEBI(Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The financial results were reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at their respective meetings held on 08th August, 2022. Format of the Financial Results are available on the websites of the Stock Exchange at www.bseindia.com and on Company's website at www.integratelesoftware.com

Ramaswamy Narayan Iyer Managing Director DIN:03045662

assault could only take place in broken, third-world countries.

"Sadly, America has now become one of those countries, corrupt at a level not seen "It is prosecutorial mis-

conduct, the weaponisation of

raid, from what they said, was because the National Archives orate whether or not Donald Trump had any documents in

Biden admin says 'Remain in Mexico' policy over

 $T^{\text{he Department of Home-}}_{\text{land Security said}}$ Monday that it ended a Trump-era policy requiring asylum-seekers to wait in Mexico for hearings in US immigration court, hours after a judge lifted an order in effect since December that it be reinstated.

The timing had been in doubt since the Supreme Court ruled on June 30 that

the Biden administration could end the "Remain the department said. in Mexico" policy. Homeland Security officials had been largely silent, saying they had to wait for the court to certify the ruling and for a Trump-appointed judge, Matthew Kacsmaryk in Amarillo, Texas, to then lift his injunction. The Supreme Court certified its ruling last week.

The programme will be unwound in a



ner," Homeland Security said in a statement. No more people are being enrolled and those who appear in court will not be returned to Mexico when they appear in the US for their next hear-

The policy "has endemic flaws, imposes unjustifiable human costs, and pulls resources and personnel away from other priority efforts to secure our border,

Many questions remain, including whether those whose claims have been denied or dismissed will get a second chance or if those whose next court dates are months away will be allowed to return to the US sooner. Homeland Security said it will provide additional information "in

Sunak promises more support in **UK energy crisis**



PTI ■ LONDON

 $F^{\text{ormer Chancellor Rishi}}_{\text{Sunak on Tuesday promised}}$ to provide more money to help people cope with soaring household energy bills if he is elected Britain's Prime Minister

is ... This is the best way to The 42-year-old Indianorigin finalist in the Conser-A visitor from the nearby vative Party leadership election port city of Kaohsiung said the pledged government "efficiency savings" to fund the support, exercises were necessary to while limiting borrowing. His pledge came as energy consul-"let China know we are pre-"I hope both sides can tancy Cornwall Insight issued exercise restraint. Fighting a a forecast to say that household heating bills are expected to rise war is not good for the ordinary people," said the man, even further this winter than who gave only his surname previously predicted.

AP ■ TOKYO

"There is no doubt in my

Tagasaki paid tribute to the Nictims of the US atomic bombing 77 years ago on Aug 9,

with the mayor saying Russia's war on Ukraine showed the world that another nuclear attack

is not just a worry but "a tangi-

ble and present crisis." Mayor

Tomihisa Taue, in his speech

Tuesday at the Nagasaki Peace

Park, said nuclear weapons can

be used as long as they exist, and

their elimination is the only

way to save the future of

Nagasaki marks A-bombing

anniv amid nuclear war fears

mind that more support will be needed," Sunak said.

"As soon as we know how much bills will go up by, I will act," he said.

The issue has dominated the campaign for the two finalists, with rival Foreign Secretary Liz Truss focussed on pledges to cut taxes - something the former finance minister has warned would risk making the high inflation even

Deputy Prime Minister Dominic Raab, a key Sunak ally in the leadership race, warned that the governing Conservatives will be writing an "electoral suicide note" if Truss is elected to push ahead with her plans for an emergency tax-cutting budget.

"As Conservative Party members decide which way to cast their vote over the coming weeks, I urge them to consider this point carefully. If we go to the country in September with an emergency budget that fails to measure up to the task, voters will not forgive us as they see their living standards eroded and the financial security they cherish disappear before their eyes," he writes in 'The

3 dead in shooting at Florida Narcotics Anonymous meeting



AP ■ EDGEWATER (US)

Three people have died fol-Lowing a shooting and hostage situation at Narcotics Anonymous meeting in Florida, Officers responded to a

report that a man was shot and a woman was being held hostage on Monday night in Edgewater, which is near Daytona Beach. The other people at the

meeting were able escape the offices of Be The Bridge, a nonprofit organisation that helps the homeless and others get a fresh start in life. Edgewater police said in a

Facebook post that investigators believe it appeared to involve a domestic dispute.

Officers sought to make contact with the suspect to negotiate before a SWAT team breached the building and found the gunman and the two others dead inside, the post said. No additional details were immediately available.

Palestinians say Israel troops kill 3 in West Bank raid

Israeli troops killed three Palestinians and wounded dozens in a shootout Tuesday during an arrest raid in the city of Nablus in the occupied West Bank, the Palestinian Health Ministry said.

The shootout came a day after a cease-fire ended three days of fighting between Israel and the Palestinian Islamic Jihad militant group in the

Israeli police said security forces encircled the home of

Ibrahim al-Nabulsi, who they say was wanted for a string of shootings in the West Bank ear-The Israeli military said

that troops came under attack from Palestinians throwing rocks and explosives, and that soldiers responded with live fire. It confirmed Palestinians were shot, but did not elaborate on their condition.

lier this year. They confirmed that al-Nabulsi and another Palestinian militant were killed in a shootout at the scene, and that troops found arms and explosives in his home.

humankind. Russia's invasion of Ukraine

and threat of nuclear weapons use came only a month after it and four other nuclear powers pledged in a statement that nuclear war should never be fought, Taue noted. This has shown the world that the use of nuclear weapons

is not a groundless fear but a tan-

gible and present crisis," he said.

The belief that nuclear weapons

can be possessed not for actual

use but for deterrence "is a fan-



tasy, nothing more than a mere

As in Hiroshima, Russia and its ally Belarus were not invited to the memorial event in Nagasaki. The United States dropped the world's first atomic bomb on Hiroshima on Aug. 6, 1945, destroying the city and killing 140,000 people. It dropped a second bomb three days later on Nagasaki, killing another 70,000. Japan surrendered on Aug. 15, ending World War II and Japan's nearly halfcentury of aggression in Asia.

Participants, including diplomats from nuclear states observed a moment of silence at 11:02 am, the moment the bomb exploded above the southern Japanese city on Aug 9, 1945. Ethiopia and Somalia.

Kenya in close presidential poll amid prayers for peace

AP ■ NAIROBI (KENYA)

Voting is underway on Tuesday in Kenya's unusual presidential election, where a longtime opposition leader who is backed by the outgoing president faces the brash deputy president who styles himself as the outsider and a "hustler".

The election is considered close, and East Africa's economic hub could see a presidential runoff for the first time. Economic issues such as

widespread corruption could be of greater importance than the ethnic tensions that have marked past votes with sometimes deadly results. Kenya is a standout with its

relatively democratic system in

a region where some leaders are notorious for clinging to power for decades. Its stability is crucial for foreign investors, the most humble of street vendors, and troubled neighbours like

Notes:-The above is an extract of the detailed format of Un-Audited Financial Results filed with the

For Integra Telecommunication and Software Limited

Place: Mumbai Date: 08.08.2022

'IT spends in good shape'

See continued strength in US, European markets: Infosys CEO



PTI BENGALURU

India's second-largest IT services company Infosys is "comfortable" with the higher revenue growth guidance of 14-16 per cent it gave for the full fiscal, as global IT spends are in "good shape", CEO Salil Parekh said on Tuesday.

Infosys' top boss told PTI in an interview that the company sees continued strength in both US and European markets, although it is keeping a close watch on the macroeconomic environment as "these are things one has to monitor on a constant basis"

The optimistic commentary from the Infosys management comes even amid talks that the global economy may be facing an increased risk of recession.

Many analysts have flagged concerns over higher-thanexpected inflation, and some large global tech companies are pulling back on aggressive hiring plans due to concerns about

Parekh asserted that global IT spending is in a good shape and the digital focus of clients

That, along with cost efficiency and automation are acting as twin engines, he said. If indeed the global econo-

my faces more difficulty going forward, automation and cost efficiency will become even more critical for companies, he "We had 21 per cent growth

in Q1 and we have raised our guidance to 14 to 16 per cent (for full year)...We feel comfortable that we see this level of growth in this year...That's the sort of traction, we are seeing," Seated in his office at the

sprawling Infosys campus in the electronics city, Parekh said while there has been a lot of talk and inflation is high, on the ground the July consumer spend data for the US and Europe has shown year-onyear improvement.

9% to ₹ 15,306 cr in April-June All the 12 public sector banks earned a cumulative profit of about Rs 15,306 crore, registering a 9.2 per cent

growth annually, despite poor showing by large lenders like SBI and PNB.

During the April-June period of the previous fiscal, state-owned banks recorded a total profit of Rs 14,013 crore, according to quarterly numbers published by public sector lenders.

Of the total 12, three lenders -State Bank of India (SBI), Punjab National Bank (PNB) and Bank of India - reported fall in their profits ranging from 7-70 per cent. Decline in profit by these lenders

(MTM) losses due to hardening bond MTM losses occur when the finan-

has been attributed to Mark-to-Market

cial assets held are valued by the mar-



Profit of public sector banks rises

Nine lenders have recorded profit ranging from 3-117 per cent during the first quarter of FY23. The highest percentage growth was recorded by Punebased Bank of Maharashtra which earned a profit of Rs 452 crore against Rs 208 crore in the same quarter of the

It was followed by Bank of Baroda which recorded a 79 per cent bottom line growth at Rs 2,168 crore compared to Rs 1,209 crore a year ago.

Despite having witnessed a fall in its profit, SBI remained the highest contributor to the combined profit of banks with Rs 6,068 crore. SBI alone contributed about 40 per cent of the total profit. It was followed by Bank of

During 2021-22, the collective profit of public sector banks more than doubled to Rs 66,539 crore as against Rs 31,816 crore in the preceding year. In FY21, only two public sector banks (Central Bank and Punjab & Sind Bank) reported losses, which dragged down the collective net profit.

Many state-owned banks after a hiatus also declared dividend in the last financial year. In all, nine banks including SBI declared dividends of Rs 7,867 crore to shareholders.

There were collective losses recorded in the five straight years from 2015-16 to 2019-20.

The highest amount of net loss was registered in 2017-18 at Rs 85,370 crore, followed by Rs 66,636 crore in 2018-19; Rs 25,941 crore in 2019-20; Rs 17,993 crore in 2015-16 and Rs 11,389 crore in 2016-17.

PSU general insurers book ₹26,364 cr loss for health portfolio in last 5 years



All four public sector insur-ers incurred losses of Rs 26,364 crore in the health insurance portfolio for the last five years due to higher claims in group policies, a CAG report

"The losses of the health insurance business of PSU insurers either wiped out/ decreased the profits of other lines of business or increased the overall losses," an audit report by CAG tabled in Parliament recently said.

The aggregate loss of the four PSU insurers -- New India Assurance Company Limited (NIACL), United India Insurance Company Limited (UIICL), Oriental Insurance Company Limited (OICL) and National Insurance Company Limited (NICL) -- was Rs 26,364

The health insurance business is the second largest line of business of the PSU insurers (the first being motor insurance), having a gross direct premium of Rs 1,16,551 crore during the five years from 2016-17 to 2020-

PSU insurers' market share in the health insurance business is also reducing continuously vis-a-vis the stand-alone health insurers and private insurers, the report observed.

The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) report said the finance ministry laid down (September 2012/May 2013) guidelines for the underwriting of group policies as per which the combined ratio of standalone group policies shall not exceed 95 per cent and for group policies involving cross-subsidy, the combined ratio shall not exceed 100 per cent.

istry guidelines were not complied with by the PSU insurers and the combined ratio of group health insurance segment as reported by PSU insurers ranged from 125-165 per cent," it said.

With regard to claim management, the report said, the IT systems in PSU insurers lacked appropriate validation checks and controls, undermining the smooth functioning and reporting system.

This has resulted in lapses such as multiple settlement of claims, excess payment over and above the sum insured, excess payments due to ignoring the waiting period clause for specific diseases, non-application of co-payment clause, breaching of capping limit for specific diseases, incorrect assessment of admissible claim amount, irregular payments on implants, non-payment of interest on



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The CAG has slammed the not formulating a data sharing mechanism with the Home Ministry to keep track of foreign contributions received and their utilisation for the declared purpose by charitable trusts and institutions.

The Comptroller & Auditor General's (CAG) Performance Audit report on Exemptions to Charitable Trusts and Institutions' noticed 35 assessment cases where the trusts/institutions received foreign contributions without having registration under FCRA, mismatch of figures of foreign contribution shown in ITR and that disclosed with the MHA, donation of foreign contribution by recipient trust to other trusts that were not registered under the FCRA 2010 or investment in foreign contribution in speculative mode.

In all the cases, the department had allowed exemption involving tax effect of Rs 182.10 crore, said the report tabled in Parliament on Monday.

Non-government organisations (NGOs)/ trusts are allowed to receive foreign contributions (FCs) under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA). The Home Affairs Ministry monitors the receipts

The FCRA envisages reg istration of recipient of FCs with the ministry and also stipulates maintenance of separate accounts in a designated bank for the FCs received and the purpose of its receipt in the accounts. The returns are to be submitted annually to the Ministry of Home Affairs

The Act also provides that before any foreign funds received by a registered association are passed on to any person/ association in India, the transferor has to ensure that the recipient is also registered under the FCRA 2010 and has not been prohibited under the

Airtel to launch 5G services this month, cover every town by 2024: MD Vittal



¬elecom operator Bharti Airtel will start rolling out 5G services this month and cover all towns and key rural areas of the country by March 2024, a senior company official said on Tuesday.

Bharti Airtel managing director and CEO Gopal Vittal also said that the price of mobile services in India is very low and needs to go up.

"We intend to launch 5G

starting August and extend to a Pan India roll out very soon. By March 2024 we believe we will be able to cover every town and key rural areas as well with

"In fact, detailed network rollout plans for 5,000 towns in India are completely in place. This will be one of the biggest rollouts in our history," Vittal said during the company's earning call.

Bharti Airtel in the recently-concluded spectrum auction acquired 19,867.8 MHz frequencies by securing a pan-India footprint of 3.5 GHz and 26 GHz bands and select purchase of radiowaves in the low and mid-band spectrum for a total consideration of Rs 43,040

Share PNR details of global fliers with customs authorities, airlines told PTI NEW DELHI

Vishal Sikka.

irlines will have to mandatorily Ashare PNR details of passengers with customs authorities 24 hours prior to departure of international flights, a move which will help prevent law offenders from fleeing the country.

in the environment...Consumer

spend is a good number, and

that is one example...That gives

you some indication of what is

suit and a crisp white shirt

paired with a striped tie, assured

that the company is being

watchful about the environ-

as mild-mannered and

approachable by those who

know him, has been credited

with the storied turnaround of

the Indian IT giant, after the

Bengaluru-headquartered com-pany hit a rough patch a few

helm in January 2018, after a

public spat between the com-

pany board and founders on

issues of governance, precipi-

tated the exit of then CEO

Parekh has navigated challenges

and steered the company back

Over the last few years,

Parekh took over at the

Parekh, dressed in a blue

Parekh, 58, often described

going on," he said.

The information, which shall include name, contact details and payment details, will be used by the customs department for improved surveillance and risk assessment of passengers entering or leaving the country, according to a finance ministry notification.

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC), under the finance ministry, on August 8 notified the 'Passenger Name Record Information Regulations, 2022', which aims at "risk analysis" of passengers to prevent economic and other offenders

from fleeing the country as well as check any illicit trade such as smug-

gling.

'The National Customs Targeting Centre-Passenger', set up by the CBIC, will process information for the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of offences under the Customs Act and also for the law enforcement agencies or government departments or any other country, it said.

With this, India joins 60 other countries that collect PNR details of international passengers.

Airlines at present are required to share passenger information limited to name, nationality and passport detail in advance with the immigration authorities.

The government had proposed the requirement of airlines sharing PNR details of passengers 24 hours in advance in the Union Budget for 2017



but a formal process for communication of the passenger data has only been formalised now with the notification issued on Monday.

"Every aircraft operator shall transfer the passenger name record information... Of passengers they have already collected such information in the normal course of business operations, to the designated customs systems," the regulations said, adding every aircraft operator will have to seek registration with customs for its imple-

mentation. The information to be shared by airline companies for both inbound and outbound international flights include the name of the passenger, billing/payment information (credit card number), date of issue of ticket as well as intended travel, and names of other travellers in the same PNR, travel itinerary for the

mobile number, details of travel agency, baggage information and code share information (when one airline sells seats on another air carrier's flight).

While the regulation did not state the reason for seeking such information, analysts said this was to prevent bank loan defaulters from fleeing the country to avoid prosecution.

According to information furnished by the government in Parliament, a total of 38 economic offenders, including Nirav Modi, Vijay Mallya and Mehul Choksi, fled the country in the last five years. Industrialist and former MP Vijay Mallya left the country on March 2, 2016, the day a clutch of public sector banks moved the Debt Recovery Tribunal to recover Rs 9,000 crore unpaid dues to his now-defunct Kingfisher Airline.

Lite insurers' new premium income jumps 91% to ₹ 39,079cr in July

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

New business premium income of life insurance companies rose sharply by 91 per cent to Rs 39,078.91 crore in July, according to the Irdai data.

All the 24 life insurance companies had a collective new business or the first year premium income of Rs 20,434.72 crore in July 2021.

The country's largest life insurer LIC registered a more than twofold jump in new business premium income to Rs 29,116.68 crore during the month compared to Rs 12,030.93 crore in the year-ago month, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irdai) data showed.

LIC commands a 68.6 per cent share in the life insurance market

The rest 23 players in the private sector witnessed a nearly 19 per cent increase in their combined new premium income to Rs 9,962.22 crore in July 2022 against Rs



On a cumulative basis, the first year premium of all the insurers grew by 54 per cent to Rs 1,12,753.43 crore during the April-July period of FY23 as against Rs 73,159.98 crore in the same period of 2021-

in the first four months of the current fiscal was up by over 62 per cent to Rs 77,317.69 crore.

Premium income of the private players rose by 39 per cent in April-July of FY23 to Rs 35,435.75 crore.

POWERGRID posts | 'Business environment in **₹11,169 cr income**

New Delhi: Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID), a 'Maharatna' Company under Ministry of Power, GoI, has announced on consolidated basis, total income of Rs 11,169 crore for Q1FY23, which is 7% higher compared to Rs 10,392 crore in the Q1 of the previous year.

The PAT for Q1FY23 on a consolidated basis is Rs 3,801 crore, which is 14% over Q1FY22 (excluding excep-tional items) on comparable basis. In Q1FY22, PAT of Rs 5,998 crore included an exceptional item of Rs 3,014 crore (Rs 2,657 crore net of tax) on account of monetization of assets.

The Company incurred a Capital Expenditure of Rs 1,482 crore and capitalised assets worth Rs 1,345 crore (excluding FERV) on consolidated basis

during Q1FY23. The Company's Gross Fixed Assets on a consolidated basis stood at Rs 2,64,838 crore as on June 30, 2022.

The Company has added a new 765/400/220 kV Bhuj-II GIS sub-station along with augmentation of transformation capacity at Bhadla and Fatehgarh to facilitate evacuation of renewable energy generation. The total transmission assets of POWERGRID and its subsidiaries at the end of the guarter stood at 1,72,662 ckm of transmission lines, 267 substations and 4,85,777 MVA of trans-formation capacity.

With the use of state-of-theart maintenance techniques, automation and digitization, POWERGRID maintained average transmission system availability of 99.79% for

FY23 remains challenging' intends to continue the operat-

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The business environment in **I** FY23 remains challenging due to the lingering impact of high prices of cotton, dyes & chemicals and packaging material witnessed in the last fiscal, says textile manufacturer Arvind Ltd's chairman Sanjay Lalbhai.

However, the company is well positioned to weather the uncertain environment, said Lalbhai in his address to the shareholders in the annual report of Arvind Ltd.

"As FY2023 progresses ahead, we expect the business environment facing your Company to remain challenging and uncertain," Sanjay Lalbhai

As such, the company

ing discipline and financial conservatism that has successfully guided in recent times, he "In tandem, we will also

ensure that the Company's growth engines such as Advanced Materials and Garmenting get requisite investments and sponsorship to realise their full potential," he said adding company "is well positioned to weather the uncertain environment and seize the opportunities that come our way According to the company,

the rise in raw material costs, especially cotton prices fuelled by low cotton stock availability coupled with inflation has put extreme pressure on the margins of the textiles industry.

Sable soars, Paul leaps, Sharath sizzles to script India's CWG 2022 success story

Slipping out of the usual top-five was seen as a real possibility in absence of shooting but phenomenal suc-cess in athletics and lawn bowls propelled India to a commendable fourth place finish at the just-concluded Commonwealth Games.

About 25 percent of India's 66 medals came from the shooting range in the previous edition and not many believed that India will be able to touch even 50 but the country ended up with 61, courtesy unprecedented success in track and field events that delivered eight medals, the highest for India in a Commonwealth Games edition overseas.

It indeed, was a big success story from the Birmingham Games.

Eldhose Paul Abdullah Aboobacker's rare 1-2 finish in triple jump will be cherished for long. Avinash Sable's silver in the 3000m steeplechase and Tejaswin Shankar's bronze in the high jump were also a first for India while Murali Sreeshankar's silver in the long jump was the country's first since 1978.

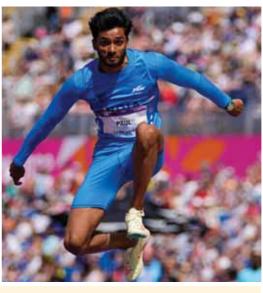
Annu Rani too etched her name in the history books by becoming the first Indian female athlete to secure a medal in javelin throw, a

Priyanka Goswami and Sandeep Kumar brought medals in the 10,000 metre race walk, contributing

immensely to the success.







Musical eve with Bhangra & power-packed show from 'Apache Indian' marked end of CWG 2022

 $F^{\text{rom the beats of Bhangra to}}_{\text{the power-packed perfor-}}$ mance of 'Apache Indian,' it was a carnivalesque atmosphere at the refurbished Alexander Stadium here, as a dazzling closing ceremony brought the curtains down on the high-octane edition of the 2022 Commonwealth Games.

More than 4,500 athletes competed from 72 countries over the past 11 days. India finished with 61

medals, five less than their tally four years ago at Gold Coast. As per the tradition, the flag of the Commonwealth Games Federation, was lowered to officially mark the end of the Birmingham Games and handed over to the state of Victoria, Australia, the host of the next edition of the Commonwealth Games in

Prince Edward "pro-claimed Birmingham 2022 closed" and made a formal invitation to the Australian state of Victoria for the 2026 Commonwealth Games.

You have inspired us and hopefully the future generations. You have demonstrated what unites us. On behalf of the Majesty of the Queen, our

Commonwealth Games packed stadium, celebrating Federation, I proclaim Birmingham 2022 closed," he said, as fireworks lit up the Birmingham sky.

Indian-origin Steven Kapur, a singer-songwriter and a reggae DJ, popularly known as 'Apache Indian' delivered a power-packed performance, belting out chartbusters 'Boom Shack-A-Lak', 'Pass the Dutchie' and 'Red Red Wine' to celebrate sound system culture

It was followed by modelcum-activist Neelam Gill, who was driven in a yellow MG, while Punjabi MC played out 'Mundiyan To Bach Ke' to a

Birmingham 'daytimers' culture — the 80s and 90s cultural phenomenon.

There were 20 musical performances, which included musical legends Goldie and Beverley Knight collaborating on the iconic 'Inner City Life' in a tribute to Wolverhampton's pioneering role in rave culture and 80s

Transgender British model Talulah Eve paid homage to the new romantic era and Birmingham queer culture, while current Birmingham superstars Raza Hussain, Mahalia, Jaykae and Ash gave

a performance "Looking to the

LOW-KEY PRESENCE

Star female boxer Nikhat Zareen and veteran table tennis player Achanta Sharath Kamal led the sparsely populated Indian contingent, who walked into the stadium for the closing ceremony in tandem with the Pakistani athletes and officials.

As soon as they entered, Panjabi MC blasted their hit number 'Mundian To Bach Ke' with a performance by Lions of Punjab, a Midlands-based Punjab Bhangra dance group, with over 85 years of history.

medallist Anju Bobby George had predicted at least seven medals from the Games but Phogat made a roaring come-back after a rough patch. India managed to surpass that despite the absence of Neeraj Three medals also came Chopra, who missed the multi

sporting event due to a groin

A GOLD & SILVER FROM LAWN BOWLS

the Games came from the

lawn bowls greens in Victoria

Park. A police constable,

sports teacher and a forest

officer combined to catch

the imagination of the

winning the women's fours

gold in a sport, nuances of which would still be unknown

Lovely Choubey, Pinki, Rupa Rani Tirkey and Nayanmoni

men's quartet too sprang a surprise by winning silver in

the sport that has been part of

and Dinesh Kumar are hoping

the medal ends up changing

Reaffirming their domi-

nance at the Commonwealth

Games, Indian wrestlers won

medals in all the 12 events

they competed in and that

walk in the park for Olympic

medallists Ravi Dahiya and

Bajrang Punia while by step-

ping on the top of the podium,

Getting gold was like a

WRESTLING SWEEP

included six gold.

their lives.

country

The team comprised

Inspired by them, the

The feel good story of

from the judo mat including a silver from Delhi-based Tullika Maan who is already itching to change the colour of her medal.

Table tennis got India the most number of gold medals after wrestling. Achanta Sharath Kamal showed 40 is just a number by adding three gold to a record equalling 13 medals in Games' history including the singles title after

Paralympic Games medallist Bhavina Patel contributed to India's gold rush by winning the C3-5 category.

The badminton courts at the NEC arena fetched India three gold with superstar P V Sindhu finally winning her maiden title. The young Lakshya Sen also put up an inspiring effort to complete India's sweep in the singles competition. the sports program since 1930. Navneet Singh, Chandan Kumar Singh, Sunil Bahadur

At the boxing arena, Nitu bossed the 48kg weight category while Amit Panghal overcame the disappointment of Tokyo Olympics to top the

51kg category.

There were a few disappointments as well. The women's cricket team did well to get a silver but it had gold for the taking in the final against Australia.

It was a mixed bag in the hockey competition with women winning their first medal since Melbourne 2006 while the men were hammered by Australia in the

Absence of major rivals hardly bothers Medvedev



AP MONTREAL

World number one Daniil Medvedev on Monday said he will carry on as usual at this week's ATP Montreal Masters despite the absence of his major rivals.

The weekend champion at Los Cabos flew to Frenchspeaking Canada to defend his title from last August.

But the top seed will not have to face Novak Djokovic due to the Serb's refusal to take the Covid-19 vaccination. And Rafael Nadal

dropped out before the start as his abdominal injury from Wimbledon flared up during training in Spain. Roger Federer's presence

has never even figured in the calculation as the Swiss, who turned 41 on Monday, puts finishing touches on his knee surgery recovery. For Medvedev, it will just

be business as usual on court.

ments — almost every tournament they play — so there is no surprise when we make them favourites.
"For me, it doesn't change

much if they're here or not my goal is to win the tournament. No matter who I play, I just want to win the match."

The Russian does not

automatically fancy his facing the game's trio of household names. "I've never beaten Roger,

I beat Rafa one time (2020 ATP Finals) and I beat Novak a few times," he said.

"It's a special sensation, brings you a lot of confidence. It's just a good feeling.

SERENA TO RETIRE AFTER US OPEN

US tennis great Serena Williams announced on Tuesday that "the countdown has begun" to her retirement from the sport.

tournament, they are the favourites straightaway," he

"There comes a time in life when we have to decide to move in a different direction," the 40-year-old, 23-time Grand Slam winner said in a post on Instagram.

"That time is always hard when you love something so much. My goodness do I enjoy tennis. But now, the countdown has begun.

"I have to focus on being a mom, my spiritual goals and finally discovering a different, but just exciting Serena. I'm gonna relish these next few

Williams won the last of her 23 Slams at the 2017 Australian Open when she was already pregnant with daughter, Olympia

However, she has failed to add a 24th major which would take her level with Margaret Court's all-time record. Her final attempt will come at the US Open in New



Coady joins Everton on season-long loan

AP LIVERPOOL

 $E_{\text{Coady has joined Everton on}}^{\text{ngland centre-back Conor}}$ a season-long loan from Premier League rivals Wolves, it was announced on Monday.

The Toffees were left short of defenders after both Ben Godfrey and Yerry Mina were injured during a 1-0 defeat by Chelsea in their opening match of the new league season on Saturday.

This move sees Wolves captain Coady, 29, returning to his home city eight years after leaving Liverpool, where he came through the Anfield club's acad-

emy.
"It's incredible to join Everton," Coady told his new club's website.

"As soon as I heard the interest, from the manager but also the football club itself, I really wanted to be part of it straight away. I'm over the moon to join."

He added: "I've grown up

around the city, I know the football club, how big this club is and what it means to the supporters.

perate to come here, to play for this club. I've got family and friends who are massive Evertonians.

"I'm here to give absolutely everything I've got for this football club. It's important I work as hard as I can to help my teammates, help the club move forward and make people proud."

Coady is the fourth player to arrive at Goodison Park during the current transfer window, following the Burnley duo of James Tarkowski and Dwight McNeil as well as Sporting Lisbon defender Ruben Vinagre.

ONANA JOINS

Everton have signed Belgium international Amadou Onana for an undisclosed fee from Lille on Tuesday.

The 20-year-old midfielder has agreed a five-year contract at Goodison Park.

"It feels great to join Everton," he told the Merseyside team's official website. "I know it's a big, big club, one of the biggest in England.

"It's something I want to be

Chhetri, Manisha named AIFF Footballers of Year

National captain Sunil Chhetri was on Tuesday named the AIFF Men's Footballer of the Year for the seventh time while Manisha Kalyan was picked for her maiden honour in the women's category for the 2021-22 sea-

Chhetri and Kalyan were nominated as the winners by coaches Igor Stimac and Thomas Dennerby

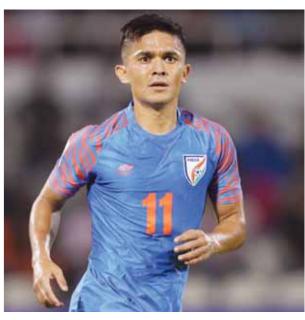
Chhetri, the third highest goal scorer among active international players, was first named for the award in 2007. He then went on to win it in 2011, 2013, 2014, 2017, 2018-19 seasons.

'Sunil was our highest goal-scorer, scoring 5 goals, and also the Player of the Tournament in the SAFF Cup," Stimac said.

"Furthermore, he led from the front scoring 4 goals in 3 games in the 3rd round of AFC Asian Cup qualifiers in Kolkata. His commitment, leadership, discipline and hard work were impressive throughout bad, and good times." For Kalyan, it was her first

Women's Footballer of the Year award. She won the Women's Emerging Footballer of the Year in the 2020-21 season.

'Manisha has come up with some outstanding performances for the National Team, and also her club. She has scored goals, and also assisted on a regular basis," Dennerby



"Blessed with excellent peed and being a good dribbler, she has the potential to play in bigger leagues in the future. She's young, and still developing but has been our best player.

Kalyan recently signed a multi-year contract with Cypriot top division winners Apollon Ladies, which has earned a place in the qualifying rounds of the 2022-23 UEFA Women's Champions League.

In other awards, Martina Thokchom was named the 2021-22 Women's Emerging Footballer of the Year, and Vikram Partap Singh was picked as the 2021-22 Men's Emerging Footballer of the Year by the two national team

AIFF AWARDS (2021-22)

Women's Footballer of the Year: Men's Footballer of the Year: Women's Emerging Footballer of the Year: Men's Emerging Footballer of the Year: Best Referee of the Year: Best Assistant Referee of the Year:

Manisha Kalyan Sunil Chhetri Martina Thokchom Vikram Partap Singh Crystal John Ujjal Halder

Real Madrid motivated ahead of Frankfurt Super Cup clash

 $R^{\rm eal\,Madrid\,are\,determined}_{\rm not\,to\,be\,knocked\,off\,their}$ perch at the summit of European football this season as they prepare to start their campaign against Eintracht Frankfurt in the UEFA Super in Helsinki on Wednesday.

Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti, who is the only manager to win the Champions League four times, said his side's 1-0 victory over Liverpool in last season's final made him "feel like no one should ever take your place".

"And that's a pretty strong motivation to keep winning, he said in an interview with

Ancelotti returned for a second spell in charge of Real ahead of last season and led them to their 35th Spanish

However, it was in Europe where Real really impressed, pulling off comeback victories over Paris Saint-Germain, Chelsea and Manchester City before beating the heavily favoured Reds in the final. "All the comebacks we

made were achieved in our stadium, thanks to that boost which came from the stands. Always believe, never give up. After all, we played against very strong teams. It was inevitable that we would suffer," he said.



The Italian coach said he saw echoes of Real's fighting spirit in their underdog opponents Frankfurt, and was aware not to take last season's Europa League winners lightly.

"Last year, Eintracht achieved something special because they weren't among the favourites," added Ancelotti, whose side recently returned from a pre-season tour to the United States.

Wednesday's game will be played at the Olympic Stadium in Helsinki, where Frankfurt will make their Super Cup in Helsinki. "We have a few more disdebut in their first competitive meeting with Madrid since the legendary 1960 European Cup final which the Spanish

Real will be making their eighth Super Cup appearance, having lifted the trophy four

Ancelotti himself is unbeaten in Super Cup finals. He won two with AC Milan in 2003 and 2007, as well as with Real in 2014.

While Real will take on a side which qualified for the final on the back of winning their first European trophy in 42 years, Ancelotti said Frankfurt had the advantage going into Wednesday's clash

advantages than Eintracht, who start their season earlier, but we'll play to win," he said. Although Madrid's La Liga

Sunday when they take on newly-promoted Almeria, Frankfurt fans may question how much of an advantage they have in the wake of Friday's 6-1 thrashing at the hands of Bayern Munich in their Bundesliga season opener. Frankfurt goalkeeper Kevin Trapp said his side

campaign will not start until

Madrid and were relishing the experience ahead of what will be their maiden Champions League campaign this year. They knocked out

would not be overawed against

Barcelona on the way to winning last season's Europa League, defeating Rangers on penalties in the final in Seville.





Chess Olympiad: India 'B' team wins Bronze

PTI MAMALLAPURAM

 $T^{
m he\ India}$ 'B' team settled for a bronze medal in the Open section while the India 'A' women's side also finished third in the 44th Chess Olympiad here on Tuesday.

India 'B' defeated Germany 3-1 in their final round match to end at third position.

Uzbekistan sprung a sur-prise by bagging the gold medal with a 2-1 win over the Netherlands ahead of a strong Armenian team, which beat Spain 2.5-1.5 in the final round, in the Open section. Uzbekistan and Armenian

secured 19 match points each while India scored 18.

The top-seeded India 'A' women's team crashed to a 1-3 defeat in the 11th and final round to USA to see it's gold medal hopes evaporate. The Koneru Humpy-led team fin-

ever medal at the Olympiad in the women's section.

India 'A', USA and Kazakhstan tied for third place but the home team clinched the

War-torn Ukraine won an emotional gold in the women's event, pipping Georgia to the top

In the Open section, Uzbekistan beat the Netherlands in the final round thanks to Jakhongir Vakhidov's win on board 4. They edged out Armenia on the basis of a better tie-break score. The Uzbeks remained unbeaten through the 11 rounds and finished with 19 match points.

India 'A' took the fourth

It was the second bronze medal for India in the Open section in the Olympiad, replicating its feat in the 2014 edition.

The experienced B Adhiban, who was part of the team in 2014, added to his medal collection while it was the first for young stars D Gukesh, who was in spectacular form during the tournament, R Praggnanandhaa, Nihal Sarin

Speaking after winning the bronze medal, Gukesh, who played all 11 games and tallied nine points, said, "Overall, it has been a very enjoyable event. I didn't expect us to perform so well but it could have been bet-

and Raunak Sadhwani.

"We could have had a great chance at a gold medal if I had won or drawn my game yester-day (on Monday).

"But these things happen. Immediately after the game I was devastated and our mentor (Viswanathan) Anand put me in a better frame of mind by saying that these things happen in sport and he too was at the receiving end himself," he added.

In the women's section, top player Koneru Humpy and R Vaishali drew their games against Gulrukhba Tokhirjonova and Irina Krush respectively. The defeats for Tania Sachdev at the hands of Carissa Yip and Bhakthi Kulkarni to Tatev Abrahamyan hurt the India 'A' team's chances of a gold medal.

India 'A' team coach Abhijit Kunte was all praise for the team. "The team has worked real-

ly hard in the last three or four months and this is India's firstever medal in the history of the Olympics, this should be the beginning of much better days for women's chess in India.

MEDALS GALORE FOR IND

Besides medals in the team events, it rained medals for India in individual section with as many as seven Indians winver and four bronze.

Gukesh and Sarin won gold on top and second board respectively while Arjun Erigaisi secured silver medal on third board. R Praggnanandhaa (third board), R Vaishali (third board), Tania Sachdev (third board) and Divya Deshmukh (reserve board) claimed individual bronze medals.

India also won the presti-gious Gaprindashvili Cup. It is given to the nation for their col-lective performance in both open and women's sections. It was also for the first time India hosted the world's biggest chess tournament.

ARJUN ERIGAISI CROSSES 2700 ELO RATING

Grandmaster Arjun Erigaisi became the seventh Indian to cross the 2700 ELO rating. The 18-year old achieved the feat

Dominguez Perez in India 'A's clash against USA in the final

Playing with the white pieces, Erigiasi made quick work of Perez with white pieces to take his live rating to 2702.2

Open: India's matches: India 'B' beat Germany 3-1. India 'A' drew with USA 2-2. India 'C' drew with Kazakhstan 2-2. Women: India 'A' lost to USA 1-3. India 'C' lost to Kazakhstan 1.5-2/5. India 'B' drew with Slovakia 2-2.

Other important results: **Open:** Armenia beat Spain 2.5-1.5, Uzbekistan beat the Netherlands 2.5-1.5, Azerbaijan beat England 2.5-1.5, Poland beat Turkey 2.5-1.5, Lithuania beat Ukraine 3-1, Hungary beat Iran 2.5-1.5, Greece drew



Former SA umpire Rudi Koertzen killed in car crash

PTI ■ CAPE TOWN

 $F_{\rm international\ umpire}^{\rm ormer\ South\ African}$ Rudi Koertzen was killed in a car crash on Tuesday morning near a town called Riversdale, a local website reported.

He was 73. Koertzen is survived by

his wife and four children. One of the most respected umpires in world cricket from the late 1990s till 2010, Koertzen had officiated in nearly 400 international

"The world-famous cricket umpire, Rudi Koertzen, and three other people were killed in a headon collision near Riversdale on Tuesday morning. The 73-year-old Koertzen from Despatch in Nelson Mandela Bay was on his way back home from Cape Town after a golf weekend," Algoa FM News reported.

The former umpire's son, Rudi Koertzen Jr, confirmed the tragic news.

"He went on a golf tournament with some of his friends, and they were expected to come back on Monday, but it seems they decided to play another round of golf," Koertzen Jr told the website.

Koertzen was inducted into the ICC's Elite Panel in 2002 and was a part of it for eight years.

During his tenure, he officiated as on-field and TV umpire in as many as 397 games, including 128 Test matches, a record 250 ODIs, and 19 T20 Internationals.

He had his share of controversies too, including continuing with the 2007 ODI World Cup final between Sri Lanka and Australia in near darkness due to a wrong interpretation of rule, which forced the ICC to not give him any assignment during the inaugural World T20, which was held in his own country, in

Harry Kane takes part in six-hitting challenge

¬ottenham Hotspur striker Harry Kane is a huge cricket fan and shares a very healthy rapport with some of the leading cricketers around the world, including the Indian batting great Virat Kohli.

On Monday (August 9), Harry Kane made an appearance at the Mecca of Cricket -Lord's Cricket Ground. He came to the iconic stadium to attend The Hundred clash between London Spirit and Manchester Originals and also performed the toss.

footballer took part in a six-hitting challenge and performed commentary duties alongside India legend Ravi Shastri as well. Harry Kane's Spurs team-

each other.

Doherty outperformed Kane in the six-hitting challenge as he found distance and height in his shots. Both the footballers donned London Spirit's jersey to make it clear where their loyal-

Moreover, the England

mate Matt Doherty was also present at the venue. Ahead of the game, the two took part in a six-hitting challenge against Would like to be an asset not liability: Dhawan

 $B^{\rm ehind~Shikhar~Dhawan's}_{\rm cheerful~exterior~lies~an}$ intensely "spiritual man" who has made peace with representing India in only one format.

Approaching his 37th birthday, Dhawan has made a pledge to himself.

"Till the time I am playing for India, I would like to be an asset and not a liability," Dhawan said after leading India to an ODI series victory in the West Indies. From the start of 2020 till

the end of West Indies series, Dhawan has played 22 ODIs and scored 975 runs with 10 half-centuries, the highest by an "I am a calm, matured per-

son. The performance is a reflection of my experience," Dhawan said when he was reminded of his phenomenal

"My basics have been pretty strong and I have put in a lot of work to improve my technique. Understanding a format is also very important. I understand the dynamics of ODI format and that has helped me a lot," he added when probed further.

So what is the process to remain consistent in ODIs at a time when bilateral T20Is are gaining precedence. Besides, there is also considerable gap



between two 50-over series?

"I never let this feeling creep into my system that "Oh God, I am playing only one format or I am playing an ODI series after a long time. Will my body respond well to the rigours of international cricket or will it not? Frankly speaking, I don't like entertaining these thoughts," the senior opener gave a peek into his thought process.

"I view it like this. If I am

playing a format after a gap of two months or three months, it always gives me a chance to remain fresh and come into battle fully fit, and with enough time to work on my game."

For Dhawan, it is important to value what he has rather than cribbing about what he doesn't.

"I am always counting my blessings and if I am playing one format for India, I should try and make the most of it and

give it my all. I am a very positive person. You won't find a negative bone in my body," he

AS A LEADER...

Dhawan will soon be leading India in an away series in Zimbabwe, and is also likely to lead against South Africa at home in October, when the first team will be off to Australia for the T20 World

Renuka surges to career-best ranking Jemimah Rodrigues's

PTI DUBAI

Indian pacer Renuka Singh, the leading wicket-taker Commonwealth Games, reached a career-best ranking of 18 in the latest ICC T20 women's rankings released on Tuesday. The 11 scalps at the

recently-concluded Birmingham Games, where India finished with a silver jump 10 places and enter the top 20 for the first

with his plan B, only when the bowlers have failed to execute

While he completely understands that it is a makeshift role, the veteran of 155 ODIs with nearly 6500 runs is enjoying every moment

"As a leader, my first instinct is to go with a bowler's plan. I ask them what's the plan and what exactly would they want in the fielding set-up. At the highest level, everyone is a hardcore professional, who are there because they know their iob well.

He comes into the picture,

two slots to reach the 36th Among bowlers, leftarm spinners Radha Yadav moved up to 14th.

Deepti Sharma gained

return to form saw her

score 146 runs in

Birmingham, helping her gain seven spots and return to the top 10 batters list for the first time since October

2021. She is ranked 10th. Smriti Mandhana

dropped two spots to fourth while Shafali Verma slipped

to sixth.

their plans. 'But yes, if their plan doesn't work, obviously there needs to be a Plan 'B' and me coming

into the picture. "If a bowler is hit for a few boundaries, he is bound to be under pressure and that's the time the captain needs to put

an arm around his shoulder. "But then also politely nudge him that 'listen your plan isn't working, so why don't you try my plan for a change?"

Keightley to stand down as England women's coach

AP ■ LONDON

isa Keightley is to leave her Lro.le as coach of the England women's team at the end of the home season, the England and Wales Cricket Board announced on Tuesday.

An ECB statement said the former Australia international, 50, had informed the board she would not be seeking a contract extension.

Keightley has been in the role since January 2020.

But on her watch England one of the best resourced women's teams in world cricket — surrendered the 50-over World Cup title they had won on home soil five years ago with a crushing 71-run defeat by Australia, now the dominant force in the women's game, in this year's final in Christchurch.

Australia also overwhelmed England 12-4 in the most recent multi-format Ashes series.

Keightley took England to the semi-finals of the 2020

T20 World Cup. But only last week the team suffered the disappoint-



um finish in the inaugural women's Commonwealth Games T20 competition, with the hosts narrowly defeated by India in the semi-finals before a heavy loss to New Zealand in the Bronze medal play-off at Edgbaston.

However, it is understood Keightley and the ECB came to an agreement prior to the Commonwealth Games.

Keightley's last series in charge will be the visit of India in September, with her successor to be appointed ahead of the 2023 T20 World Cup in



Former India all-rounder Manoj Prabhakar has been appointed head coach of the Nepal cricket team.

Prabhakar succeeds Pubudu Dassanayake, who stepped down from the position in July to take up head coach's role with Canada. Prabhakar has featured in 39 Tests and 130 ODIs for India between 1984 to 1996.

"Seeing the interest for cricket in Nepal, their tal-ent & skill level, I'm really looking forward to working with the Nepal cricket team to make them into a cricketing force to be reckoned with," Prabhakar was quoted as saying in a statement by Cricket Association of Nepal.

Would have picked Shami for Asia Cup, says Kris Srikkanth

AGENCIES NEW DELHI

 $\mathbf{F}^{\mathrm{ormer}}$ Indian skipper and ex-chairman of the selection committee Krishnamachari Srikkanth said that had he been the chairman of selectors currently, pacer Mohammed Shami would have been a part of Men in Blue's squad for upcoming Asia Cup 2022, which will take place from August 27 onwards.

The All-India Senior Selection Committee on Monday announced the 15members squad for the upcoming Asia Cup which will take place from August 27 this year. "In my team, Shami was lit-

erally there. If I was the Chairman of the selection committee, I think Shami would have been there and probably, I would not have gone with Ravi Bishnoi. But I still believe that Axar Patel was a serious contender in my team. It would have been a big toss-up between Axar Patel and Ashwin," said Srikkanth during the show 'Follow The Blues' on



Srikkanth opines that the squad is good but needs one more medium pacer. He feels bad for Axar Patel, who could not make it to the squad.

"I am very happy for Deepak Hooda - he can bowl a bit, he is a good hitter and he's a good striker of the ball. What I like about Deepak Hooda is that he is a good striker of the ball, he is a flirter. Otherwise,

only feel bad for Axar Patel. I still believe that he's a good bowling all-rounder, may be in Australia conditions. I am not going for just the Asia Cup, but yes, this must be a blueprint for the ICC T20 World Cup also," he added.

Former Indian wicketkeeper and ex-chief of selectors Kiran More also said that the event will be special for Virat

a comeback. "It has been too many innings. The other batsmen also have been performing really well. Overall, the squad looks good, and well-balanced. There are good allrounders too - R Ashwin has been batting well. Definitely, Axar Patel has been performing well throughout the year "I like the team combina-

tion and I was really happy with Ravi Bishnoi's selection. It brought a variation to the team. According to me, this is a good team. I am also happy for Arshdeep Singh. He has been performing well in the IPL against West Indies, where he was the Player of the Series and bowled well. We were in search of a left-arm bowler, who we have found in Arshdeep Singh," he added.

Asia Cup will start from August 27 and end on September 11. The muchanticipated match between India and Pakistan will take place on August 28.

Pollard first cricketer to play 600 T20s

Pormer West Indies all-rounder Kieron Pollard became the first cricketer to play 600 T20 matches on Monday.

The hard-hitting batter achieved this landmark during his side's London Spirit's match against Manchester Originals during ongoing The Hundred tournament at Lord's. Pollard made sure to make the occasion memorable. He smashed an unbeaten 34 runs off just 11 balls consisting of one four and four big sixes. Pollard has some brilliant

T20I stats. He has scored 11,723 runs across 600 games at an average of 31.34. He has the best individual performance of 104. Pollard has scored one century and 56 half-centuries in the format. He has also captured 309 wickets with best bowling figures of 4/15. Behind him are players Dwayne Bravo (543 matches), Shoaib Malik (472), Chris Gayle (463) and Ravi Bopara