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Proof of Delhi liquor scam found, says CBI

Sisodia made prime accused; many grilled

PNS NEW DELHI

Aday after the CBI searched 31 locations, including the premises of Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia, in multi-city raids related to the alleged excise scam in the national Capital, the agency on Saturday questioned some of the accused in the graft case. Sisodia has been made the

prime accused in the case. Officials remained tight-

lipped as to who all were questioned in the case. However, they said the agency is examining the documents and digital records seized during the searches at 31 locations, includ ing the residence of Sisodia.

Premises of the accused in Delhi, Gurugram, Chandigarh, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Lucknow and Bengaluru were searched on Friday

The multi-city searches on Friday yielded incriminating documents and digital records, according to the CBI.

Once the scrutiny of the seized documents like banking transactions and electronic gadgets is completed, summonses will be issued to other

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

keeping quiet.

Upping the ante against the AAP, BJP leader and

Information & Broadcasting

Minister Anurag Thakur on

Saturday alleged that it is Delhi Chief Minister Arvind

Kejriwal who is the "kingpin

of the excise scam" in Delhi

and his deputy Manish Sisodia

was good at taking money but

Sisodia saying he has changed his name to "Money Shh". For

his part, Union Law Minister

Thakur took a dig at

Kejriwal kingpin of

excise scam: Thakur



Congress workers hold placards during their protest demanding resignation of Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia, outside AAP's office in New Delhi on Saturday

accused in the case, they said. The CBI FIR registered on Friday has also been shared with the Enforcement Directorate (ED) which will look into the allegations of

money laundering.

The FIR relates to irregularities in Delhi's Excise Policy 2021-22 which led to financial loss to the tune of over ₹144 crore and corresponding gain to the accused persons, including Sisodia, bureaucrats and the

Besides Sisodia, the agency has named former Excise Commissioner Arva Gopi Kirshna, then Deputy Commissioner of Excise Anand Tiwari and Assistant Commissioner of Excise Pankaj Bhatnagar, private firms Buddy Retail Pvt Ltd and Mahadev Liquors, besides nine private persons in the case.

The private persons booked by the agency are Vinay Nair, former CEO of Mumbaibased event management com-

pany Only Much Louder, Manoj Rai, former employee of Pernod Ricard, Amandeep Dhal, Director of Brindco Sales Pvt Ltd, Sameer Mahendru, Managing Director of Jor Bagh Delhi-based Indospirit Group Amit Arora, Director of Buddy Retail Pvt Ltd, Dinesh Arora, Sunny Marwah, authorized signatory of Mahadev Liquors, Arun Ramchandra Pillai of Telangana and Arjun Pandey of Gurugram

Continued on Page 2

Huge fake passport-visa racket busted in Delhi, four arrested

VV ple, including the mastermind, the IGI unit of the Delhi Police on Saturday claimed to have busted one of the biggest fake passport and visa rackets. Total 325 Indian passports, four international passports, 175 forged visas of various countries and over 1,200 immigration stamps have been seized, the police said.

Rameshbhai Ravi Chaudhary, a passenger deported from Kuwait on June 6, was arrested for carrying a fake passport. During interrogation, Chaudhary disclosed that he had come in contact with agents Narayanbhai, Zakir Yusuf Shaikh and Mushtaq, police said.

Chaudhary had initially



a fake passport and visa for him for ₹65 lakh. The agent shared contacts of his Mumbai-based associates Zakir Yusuf Sheikh and Mushtaq with Chaudhary, who paid ₹15 lakh as advance, a senior police officer said.

Then Chaudhary contact ed them, and Mushtaq arranged a fake passport for contacted Narayanbhai in him, along with a fake visa for

to be paid to Narayanbhai after Chaudhary would have landed in the USA, the police said.

According to Tanu Sharma, Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), IGI, Mushtaq was arrested from Mumbai on August 3 and he disclosed that he was working with Sheikh,

"Mushtaq also disclosed that the fake passports were procured by Raju Bhai, alies Imtiaz Ali Śheikh, and Sanjay Dattaram Chavan, both residents of Mumbai," said the DCP.

"A raid was conducted at Madh Mumbai and Sheikh was apprehended on Tuesday. On his instance, Imtiaz and Chavan were arrested from Andheri West and Chuna Bhatti Mumbai," the DCP said.

Sheikh has links with almost all agents in India and he used to procure passports, fabricated visas and other travelling documents from Imtiaz and Chavan. He finances movies and web series in Mumbai, the police said.

They used to procure raw materials from Chennai and other parts of the country, the officials said.

WhatsApp msg from Pak warns of 26/11-like attacks

Mumbai Police on toes after threat

TN RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI

Two days after a crew-less foreign-origin speedboat laden with three AK-47 rifles and ammunition on board was seized off the Raigad coast in coastal Maharashtra, the Mumbai traffic control department on Saturday received a WhatsApp message sent from a Pakistan-based number, warning a repeat of 26/11 attacks which had claimed 166 lives and left more than 300 others injured.

'There is going to be an attack on Mumbai and it will remind you of the 26/11 attacks. If the police try to trace my number, the location will sons will be executing this blast. There will be blasts across Mumbai. What if Osama bin Laden, Ajmal Kasab or Ayman al-Zawahiri was killed, there are many more," reads the WhatsApp message received by the Mumbai traffic control

Confirming the development, Mumbai Police Commissioner Vivek Phansalkar said: "Our investigations have revealed that the message came from a number in Pakistan. We have also received information about some phone numbers in India. I can assure all Mumbai residents that the matter is being taken seriously and we will get to the bottom of the case... A case has been registered by the Worli Police Station. The crime branch of the Mumbai Police is investigating the matter."

"Last night, around 11.35 pm, some terror-related mes-



Police personnel use a sniffer dog to patrol Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus Station in Mumbai on Saturday

sages were received on one of notwithstanding the fact that Mumbai traffic police control room phone numbers. Prima facie, the number seems to be coastal security. trace the call and the sender.

the Mumbai Police chief said Among other things, the threat message claimed while the WhatsApp number originated outside India, the "blast" would happen in Mumbai.

Significantly enough, the the terror message from a Pakistani number has come two days after a crew-less foreign-origin speedboat with three AK-47 rifles and ammunition on board was seized off the Raigad coast. The 16 metre-long boat "Lady Haan", owned by an Australian couple had been adrift for 52 days before it came floating from the Oman coast to Harihareshwar Shrivardhan coast in Raigad district in Konkan region.

Within hours after the vessel was sighted, Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, who holds the State Home portfolio, had ruled out any terror angle,

the incident has given rise to questions of maritime and

the Australian couple reportedly could not arrange to tow the vessel and after remaining adrift over seven weeks in the choppy Arabian Sea waters, it finally landed Harihareshwar Beach today.

It may be recalled that having had sailed from Karachi shores after hijacking an Indian fishing vessel, killing its crew, ten Pakistani terrorists had landed near Colaba in South Mumbai in the late evening of November 26, 2008. They had divided themselves into groups of 2 to 3 and headed to their meticulously planned terror

ed were the world heritage building Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus, Hotel Taj Mahal Palace & Tower, Hotel Trident, Nariman House, Leopold Café and Cama Hospital and Wadi Bunder. Continued on Page 2

Delhi's Mangolpuri. The sites that they target-

31 killed in rain fury in HP, U'khand, **Odisha**

PTI ■ SHIMLA/DEHRADUN

At least 31 people were killed, 22 of them in Himachal Pradesh alone, as heavy monsoon rain triggered flashfloods, landslides, and house collapses, upending normal life across large swathes of the country. The fatalities included four each in Uttarakhand and Odisha, and

one in Iharkhand. Heavy rainfall in Himachal Pradesh since Friday caused landslides and flashfloods.

CAPSULE

1,109 CASES REPORTED

New Delhi: Delhi on Saturday recorded 1,109 fresh Covid-19 11.23 per cent, and nine fatalities due to the viral disease

2 KILLED AT BANKE BIHARI TEMPLE ON JANMASHTAMI

Mathura: Two devotees were killed and seven others hurt in a stampede-like situation at Bankey Bihari temple in Vrindavan during Janmashtami.

TENANT KILLS LANDLORD TAKES SELFIE WITH BODY New Delhi: A tenant killed his landlord, clicked a selfie with his body and escaped with belongings of the deceased in

DEFAMATION: KEJRIWAL SISODIA ACQUITTED

New Delhi: A court here on Saturday acquitted Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, his deputy Manish Sisodia and former AAP leader Yogendra Yaday in a defamation case filed by an advocate in 2013.

Kiren Rijiju made an indirect attack at Kejriwal saying people in India who celebrate their story published in The New York Times trust foreign values, in reference to an article in the newspaper lauding Delhi's education model.

Launching a sharp attack on the AAP-led Delhi Government over the alleged liquor excise scam at a Press conference, Thakur questioned Sisodia as to why the excise policy was taken back if

it was the right decision.
"The No 1 accused of liquor scam is Sisodia but the kingpin is Kejriwal. Today's



Press conference of his clearly showed how the colour on his face was gone after his scam. He could not even answer any questions," the Union Minister said.

Thakur said the Kejriwalled AAP should not try to divert attention from the liquor scam by raising other issues as its "real face has been unmasked".

Questioning the liquor policy, the senior BJP leader asked, "Manish, if your liquor policy was right, why did you take it back' It's like 'chor ki daadhi mein tinka'... why is there a soft corner for liquor businessmen'...I challenge Kejriwal to come in front of the nation and answer me

within 24 hours. Continued on Page 2

Scared of 2024 poll fight, Centre after us: Sisodia

STAFF REPORTER

A pprehending that he may be arrested in the "next 3-4 days", Delhi's Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia on es on his premises on Friday were not related to corruption but to stop the rise of AAP chief and Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal whose policies have been accepted by people of the nation.

"Maybe within the next 3-4 days, the CBI-ED will arrest me... we won't be scared, you won't be able to break us... we are followers of Bhagat Singh...the elections of 2024 will be a battle between Arvind Kejriwal and Prime Minister Narendra Modi," Sisodia said at a Press conference on Saturday, a day after the CBI raided his residence along with establishments of other accused at 30 locations across India in connection with the

alleged Delhi excise scam. Incidentally, both Kejriwal and Sisodia will visit pollbound Gujarat on Monday to "guarantee education and health". "On Monday, Manish



days to guarantee education and health. Like Delhi, Gujarat will also have good schools, good hospitals and Mohalla clinics. Everyone will get a good education and free treatment. People will be relieved We will also interact with youth," Kejriwal tweeted.

Delhi Congress leaders and workers staged a protest outside the Aam Admi Party office here on Saturday demanding the resignation of Sisodia in connection with the alleged corruption in the implementation of the Delhi excise policy.

Sisodia said the BJP was targeting Kejriwal, whose work on education and health was being talked about in the world, and that is why Health Minister Satyendar Jain was arrested.

Continued on Page 2

1st desi RT-PCR kit for monkeypox launched

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

India has got its first indigenously-developed RT-PCR kit for testing monkeypox. Developed by Transasia Bio-Medicals, the kit was unveiled by Principal Scientific Adviser to the Centre Ajay Kumar Sood at an event held in Andhra Pradesh. India has reported nine cases of monkeypox so far.

Founder-chairman of Transasia Suresh Vazirani said the kit would help in early detection and better management of the infection which the WHO declared a public health emergency of international

He added that the Transasia-Erba monkeypox RT-PCR kit is highly sensitive, but an easy-to-use test with uniquely formulated primer and probe for enhanced accu-



Meanwhile, the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) may conduct a serosurvey among contacts of monkeypox patients to check for the presence of antibodies and find out how many of them

were asymptomatic. India so far has reported ten cases of monkeypox. The ICMR is also working for development of a vaccine for the virus. It has received 31 bids from manufacturers showing interest in developing the jab

after the medical body floated the Expression of Interest (EOI) for the development of vaccine and diagnostic kits, a source said on Saturday.

According to the source, of the total 31 bids, eight companies have submitted the EOI for the vaccine development while 23 firms showed interest towards the development of kits. However, no company has been awarded the tender yet and it is currently under

evaluation, the source added.

The manufacturers would develop the vaccine through public-private partnership.

The ICMR had invited the

EOI for the development of vaccine and diagnostic kits for monkeypox last month on July 27. According to WHO, monkeypox is a viral zoonosis — a virus transmitted to humans from animals - with symptoms similar to smallpox, although clinically less severe Monkeypox typically man-

ifests itself with fever, rash, and swollen lymph nodes and may lead to a range of medical complications. It is usually a self-limited disease with symptoms lasting for two to four weeks. The Guidelines on Management of Monkeypox Disease issued by the Centre stated that human-to-human transmission occurs primarily through large respiratory

droplets generally requiring

prolonged close contact.

Charge of non-locals in J&K voters' list canard by vested interests: Admin

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ SRINAGAR

A head of the all party meeting convened by the National Conference president Dr Farooq Abdullah on August 22 over the issue of inclusion of non-local voters in the electoral rolls, the I&K Administration on Saturdav termed it a case of "misrepresentation of facts spread by vested interests".

On the other hand, the Congress party Saturday announced the party leaders would attend the all-party meeting and will oppose the inclusion of non-local voters in the electoral rolls.

Jammu & Kashmir AICC in-charge Rajini Patil alleged that the move to allow non-

locals to vote in J&K was ille-

gal and said the Congress

would attend the all-party meeting convened over the issue by National Conference president Abdullah. "We will discuss this issue. We will... oppose it. The party would also fight the issue legally in the court of law," Patil added. Meanwhile, in an adver

tisement published in local dailies by the Directorate of Information and Public Relations, the administration said the summary revision of electoral rolls is undertaken by the Election Commission from time to time according to the laid down process.

The administration said there have been media reports that over 25 lakh voters will be added to the electoral rolls once the revision process starts. Continued on Page 2 | river may take some more

Hasina picks India for first foreign visit after Covid, to discuss ties, ink water pact

PNS/AGENCIES ■ NEW DELHI/DHAKA

India and Bangladesh will lacksquare review the entire spectrum of their bilateral ties, including defence and trade during the summit here in September between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. She had last come here in 2019 and it will be her first foreign visit since the corona pandemic broke out in 2020.

Besides defence and trade, the two leaders are likely to ink a pact for water-sharing of the Kushiyara river and an extension of the Ganga treaty. The long-awaited agreement on sharing of water of the Teesta



sources said here on Saturday. The visiting Prime Minister, on a four-day tour

starting September 5, will also meet the Indian business delegation here and the two countries may sign a pact between Indian Oil and Beximco for import of LNG from India to Bangladesh to meet the latter's domestic energy needs.

Continued on Page 2

Delhi sees 9 Covid deaths. 1,109 cases

Delhi on Saturday recorded 1,109 fresh COVID-19 cases, with an increased positivity rate of 11.23 per cent, and nine fatalities due to the viral disease, according to data shared by the city health department.

With this, Delhi's caseload went up to 19,92,881 and the death toll to 26,420, as per the latest bulletin.

Delhi on Friday had logged 1,417 COVID-19 cases, with a positivity rate of 7.53 per cent, and three fatalities.

On Thursday, the city



recorded 1,964 COVID-19 cases with a test positivity rate of 9.42 per cent, and eight deaths. The fresh cases on Saturday came out of 9,874 tests conducted the previous day, the

Eight fatalities and 1,652 cases of Covid were logged in the city on Wednesday with a positivity rate of 9.92 per cent. | incidents.

31 dead as rain inflicts chaos on HP, U'khand, Odisha; Jharkhand also hit services between Pathankot deaths, and neighbouring

PTI ■ SHIMLA/DEHRADUN

At least 31 people were killed, 22 of them in Himachal Pradesh alone, as heavy monsoon rains triggered flashfloods, landslides, and house collapses, upending normal life across large swathes of the

The fatalities included four each in Uttarakhand and Odisha, and one in Jharkhand.

rainfall in Heavy rainfall in Himachal Pradesh since Friday caused landslides and flashfloods, with officials saying 22 people, including eight members of a family, died. Ten people were injured in the state which has reported 36 weather-related



As many as 743 roads, including the Manali-Chandigarh national highway at Mandi and the Shimla-Chandigath highway at Shoghi, have been blocked for

In Mandi alone, 13 people died and six went missing in flash floods and landslides triggered by heavy rainfall, Deputy Commissioner Arindam Chaudhary said. Those missing are feared dead, he said.

The Chakki bridge in Himachal Pradesh's Kangra collapsed due to heavy rains on Saturday, disrupting train

In Uttarakhand, a series of cloudbursts early Saturday killed four people, while 10 went missing as rivers breached banks, washed away bridges, and threw mud and waters inside houses, forcing evacuation of multiple

As the gushing waters threatened more damage, a number of roads were blocked for traffic, while all Anganwadi centres and schools were ordered shut in the Pauri district of Uttarakhand.

Rains also pounded parts of eastern India, with Odisha already reeling under floods in the Mahanadi river system with around 4 lakh people marooned in 500 villages - reporting four many districts.

Odisha braced for more damage with parts in its north receiving rains since Friday night. Prices of vegetables have shot up in the markets of Bhubaneswar with the supply chain disrupted.

Water levels in Subarnarekha, Budhabalang, Baitarani and Salandi are being monitored as Balasore, Keonjhar and Mayurbhanj received heavy rain on the previous night, Odisha Water Resources Chief Engineer B K Mishra said on Saturday.

In the neighbouring Jharkhand, heavy rainfall associated with high-speed winds since Friday evening uprooted scores of trees and electricity poles, and submerged low-lying areas in



Collapsed portion of railway bridge over the Chakki river after flash flood triggered by heavy monsoon rain, in Dharamshala, on Saturday

Close restaurants, roadside eateries at Murthal for flouting green norms: NGT to Haryana

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

To ensure effective measures for protection of environment and public health, the National Green Tribunal has directed the Haryana Chief Secretary to close restaurants and roadside eateries at Murthal violating environmental norms and hold a meeting.

A bench headed by NGT

Chairperson Justice A K Goel said no effective action on ground level has been shown by the authorities and there is unchecked continuing damage to the environment.

roadside dhabas/eateries/restaurants need to be made to manage their liquid and solid waste and

maintain general hygienic conditions, it said.

In view of acknowledged rampant violations for a long time in spite of due opportunity, effective action to be expected is to close the units till compliance and recover compensation for past violations on Polluter Pays' principle, following due process of law, the bench said.

"We direct the Chief Secretary, Haryana to look into the matter and remedy the situation by ensuring prompt and effective measures for protection of environment and public health. The Chief Secretary may hold a meeting personally within one month and fix responsibility in the matter for ensuring time-bound action," it said.

Israeli national rescued by IAF personnel in Ladakh

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **SRINAGAR**

n Israeli national, suffering Afrom acute mountain sickness, was rescued by the Indian Air Force personnel in Markha valley of Ladakh on Saturday.

According to a Srinagar based Defence spokesman, Col Emron Musavi, "At around 10.40 a.m 114 Helicopter Unit received a call for Casevac (Casualty Evacuation) from Nimaling Camp near Markha valley. Noam Gil, an Israeli national, was suffering from



breathing in the high altitude area. His oxygen level had dropped to 68%."

In view of the severity of his condition, he had to be rescued from this valley which is known for severe turbulent conditions, he said. Led by Wg Cdr Ashish Kapoor, Flt Cdr 114 Helicopter Unit, with Flt Lt

Kushagra Singh and Wg Cdr S Badiyaree and Sqn Ldr S Nagpal as no 2, got airborne within 20 minutes for this time critical mission. The official said that braving strong winds and turbulent conditions, the formation reached the spot in about 45 minutes, however the casualty was in a steady move to lower altitudes. After a continuous search of 30min the casualty was spotted at river Gorge at valley bottom.

The valley being very narrow there was difficulty in manoeuvring the aircraft, the spokesman said adding the

formation leader led in for an approach on an unprepared surface on the valley bottom. With the assistance of number 2 holding overhead and proficiency of number 1, the landing was carried out in one of the most restricted spaces ever landed in this particular valley. The casualty was emplaned at low hover and the formation got airborne immediately. Being on less fuel, the formation routed back via standby route braving all the difficulties the formation finally landed at Leh, added the

spokesman.

'Spl drive to penalise those using pressure horns, modified silencers in Delhi'

STAFF REPORTER ■

he Delhi Traffic Police on The Delhi Trame Tones
Saturday said it had started a special drive to penalise anyone who used pressure horns and modified silencers in their vehicles.

The campaign has been initiated to educate people about noise pollution and hold accountable those who exploit it. Taking to Twitter, Delhi Police informed people about the new drive. "Starting today, #DelhiTrafficPolice shall be

penalising those who use pressure horns and modified silencers in their vehicles," it tweeted with the hashtag '#DelhiMeinShorNahi'.

According to a senior police official, although police personnel were taking action against such offenders earlier as well, now the focus will increased. "Challans will be issued to

those found creating noise pollution by violating the norms and using pressure horns or modified silencers," said the senior police official.

Hasina picks India for first foreign visit after Covid, to discuss ties, ink water... incidents don't get proper

WhatsApp message...

While Abdul Rehman, Abu Ali and Abu Soheb marched to the Leopold Café in Colaba and then laid siege at Taj Mahal Palace Hotel, Abdul Rehman Chota and Fahad Ullah headed to the Trident-Oberoi Hotel.

Nasir Abu Umar and Babar Imran alias Abu Aakasha targeted Nariman House housing the Jewish Chabad House, and trio - Isamal Khan, Abu Ismail and Ajmal Amir Kasab unleashed terror at CSMT, Cama Hospital and its precincts, before proceeding towards Chowpatty. All the targets were within

a radius of around 4-5 km area in south Mumbai, where the state secretariat, business and commercial hubs, deluxe hotels, residences of ministers, bureaucrats, diplomats, scientists and business bigwigs are located. Assistant sub-26-27, 2008 Inspector Tukaram Omble was instrumental in catching Kasab alive at Girgaum-Chowpatty on the night of November 26,2008. Omble, it may be recalled, had

latter. Omble died and he could be rushed to the hospital.

While nine of the ten

are being enrolled in the new

voting list and not the "non-

locals". Another senior Dogra

leader and President Dogra

Swabhiman Sangathan, Lal

Singh, on Saturday condemned

the move to include the names

of non-locals in the electoral

rolls. He appealed to the local

residents to expose the evil

dispensation as it was robbing

the people of Jammu &

Kashmir of their rich cultural

heritage by allowing non-locals

held onto Kasab even after he

had been grievously injured by

bullets pumped into him by the

terrorists were killed by the security forces during the attack, the remaining one -Mohammed Ajmal Kasab was caught alive by the police at Girgaum Chowpatty on the intervening night of November

After 11-month long trial that saw a trial court sentence him to death on five counts, including mass murder, criminal conspiracy and waging war against the nation and two half years of subsequent incarceration, Kasab was hanged to death in Pune's Yerawada central prison on November 21, 2012.

The two Prime Ministers may also jointly inaugurate a "Swadhinata Sarak" from

Bangladesh to India virtually. With focus on enhancing connectivity through land, sea and rail and people to people contact, both the countries are keen to have robust trade ties with all the seven north-eastern States and Bangladesh.

Apart from the official engagements in the national Capital, Hasina is scheduled to offer prayers at the Ajmer Sharif dargah and the shrine of Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti during her

neighbourhood first policy, Modi had visited Dhaka last year for the commemoration of , 50 years of Bangladesh's war of liberation and the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries.

Incidentally, Hasina has said the Hindu community in Bangladesh has the same rights and that the number of mandaps in Dhaka during the Durga Puja festivities was much higher than in West Bengal.

She made these remarks during in an interaction with the Hindu community leaders on Thursday on the occasion of

Janmashtami and urged believers of other faiths not to think of themselves as minorities, saying everyone irrespective of their religion will enjoy equal rights in Bangladesh, a Muslim-majority country. "We want people of all faiths to live with equal rights. You are people of this country, you have equal rights here, you have the same rights as I have," the Dhaka Tribune newspaper quoted her as saying. You would always think that you are the citizens of this country and you will enjoy

equal rights," the premier noted. Hasina virtually joined the

event at Dhakeswari Mandir in Dhaka and JM Sen Hall in Chattogram from her official residence in Gonobhaban. "We also want to see you in

that way. Please don't undermine yourselves. You were born in this country, you are the citizens of this country," she noted. Hasina lamented that

whenever an untoward incident occurs, it is propagated in such a manner that the Hindu community don't have any rights in Bangladesh. "Colours are given to that incident in a way that the Hindus have no rights here. And the actions of

attention," Prothom Aalo newspaper quoted her as saying. Hasina said her

Government and the Awami League did not believe in undermining people from any religion. "We can say it clearly. Our Government is very cautious about it. I can assure you that," she added. The Hindu community is

the second largest religious affiliation in Bangladesh according to the 2022 census, constituting approximately 7.95 per cent out of the total 161.5 million population.

Charge of non-locals in J&K voters' list canard...

spread by vested interests. This revision of electoral rolls will cover existing residents of the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir and the increase in numbers will be of the voters who have attained the age of 18 years as of October 1, 2022, or earlier," it said.

In Jammu, Apni Party president Altaf Bukhari Saturday thanked the Prime

Notice is hereby given on behalf of **Mr. Basant Gaur** S, Mr. Raghubar Datt Gaur who are intend to purchase th Mr. Raghubar Datt Gaur who are intend to purchase the Apartment bearing No.B-904, area measuring 1329 Sq. Ft, in Tower No.B, on 9° Floor, situated in the residential group housing colony knows as 'Aura', constructed on the property situated at Sector-110/A, in the revenue estate of Village Chouma, Tehsil & Disst., Gurgaon (Haryana), from (1) Mr. Gurinder Singh Sidhu Svo. Mr. S. Bingwan Singh Sidhu & (2) Mrs. Simran Sidhu Wio. Mr. Gurinder Singh Sidhu & (2) Mrs. Simran Sidhu Wio. Mr. Gurinder Singh Sidhu & (3) Mrs. Simran Sidhu Wio. Mr. Gurinder Singh Sidhu & (3) Mrs. Simran Sidhu Wio. Mr. Gurinder Singh Sidhu & (3) Mrs. Simran Sidhu Wio. Mr. Gurinder Singh Sidhu Wio. Mr. Simran Sidhu Wio. Mr. Gurinder Singh Sidhu Wio. Mr. Simran Sidhu Wio. Mr. Gurinder Singh Sidhu Wio. Mr. Simran Sidhu Wio. Mr. Gurinder Singh Sidhu Wio. Mr. Simran Sidhu Wio. Mr. Gurinder Singh Sidhu Wio. Mr. Simran Sidhu Wio. Mr. Gurinder Singh Sidhu Wio. Mr. Simran Sidhu Wio. Mr. Gurinder Singh Sidhu Wio. Mr. Simran Sidhu Wio. Mr. Sidhu Wio. Mr. Simran Sidhu Wio. Mr. Sidhu Wio. Mr. Sidhu Wio. Mr. S Sidhu who are owners of the aforesaid property by virtue (Conveyance Deed Dated 01.10.2015, which is registere as Document No.16,215 in the office of Sub Registra Gurgaon and intend to mortgage the same aga ncial assistance from Aditya Birla Housing Financ Limited. That Original Conveyance Deed 21 10 2015 which is registered as Document No 16 21 in the office of Sub Registrar-Gurgaon are/is not availal lost/ misplaced. To comply the requirements of BANK NBFC, we give this public notice that if any person(s having any objection regarding ownership and/or creating mortgage of the said property is/are hereby requested to intimate in writing to the undersigned within 7 days all below address.

Lucem Legal LLP Lucem Legal LLP 269, Rama House, Ground Floor, Masjid Moth

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE All concern are hereby informed throug this public notice that my Client Saleer Khan S/o Suleman Khan R/o RZ-3206, Ga Khan S/o Suleman Khan R/o RZ-3206, Gali no. 36, Tughlakabad Extension, New Delhi-110019, have debard and disowned there step son namely Aamir Khan aged about 33 years step son of Saleem Khan, from all there movable and immovable properties and have broken all relations with him due to his misbehavior and his bad conduct of black mailing to my client Saleem Khan on account of committing sucide and falsely implicate my client in false and fabricated case. My said Client shall not be responsible for any of his acts, deeds and things whatsoever, and if any illegal act/ conduct is done by Aamir Khan Step son of Saleem Khan then he will only be responsible for his act.

hence they are hereby notified by way of this public notice.

Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address

Shanti Bhavan, Gandhi Gram, Juhu,

ep son of Saleem Niles Saleem Sponsible for his act.

Mohd. Sahil (Advocate)
D - 4747 /2021
Ch. No. 575, Saket Court, Complex, ND. 17
Contact: 9891040208 Opp. Uday Park, South Ext.-II, New Delhi-110049 Contact # 011- 40046316

Anand Dharmpal Rajwanshi & Saakshi Anand Rajwanshi (LBMUM00001240383, LBMUM00003363850 & LBMUM00002628798)/ Flat No 51, CTS No. 1736, S No. 41(pt) Nr Ashoka Academy School,

by them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). A notice was issued to them under Section 13 (2) of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002 on their last known addresses, however it was not served and

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a for issuing clarification that franchise.

mainstream political parties in Kashmir valley had earlier raised question marks over the special summary revision alleging that the "inclusion of non-locals was a clear cut ploy to disenfranchise the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

However, in the newspaper advertisement on Saturday, designs of the ruling the Jammu and Kashmir administration said the summary revision was to enable eligible young people to register themselves as voters.

Besides, it also allows a person who has changed his residence to enrol at a new

Public Notice This is to inform general public that Mr. Vikram Dahiya has acquired the Entire Ground Floor (Without Roof Rights) "Sa.d Floor", part of Property Bearing No. A-7A/9, area measuring 199.26 Sq. Deed dated 30.10.2005. Doc no. 32944 and Now. Mr. Vikram Dahiya is mortgaging the above said property with IndusInd Bank Ltd. & in case anyone has any objection, the same may be raised within 07 days of this publication to Mr. Muneesh Dhawan/ Mr. Sudhir Jain (Advocates), Law Veritas North, Unit no 907, 9th Floor, GD-ITL Tower, (B-08), Netaji Subhash Place, Delhi-110034 or contact at 9066707172/9818228636 (M).

August 04, 2022 11/05

58,83,422.20/-

Minister and Home Minister to exercise their right to location by getting his name deleted from the electoral rolls advertisement stated.

The number of electors as published in the Special Summary Revision of Jammu & Kashmir in 2011 was 66,00,921 and the number in the electoral roll of the Union Territory now is 76,02,397, the Information Department

> This increase is mainly due to the new voters, who attained the age of 18 years," it added. The advertisement stated that there is no change in the special provisions for Kashmiri migrants for their enrolment in the electoral rolls of their original native constituencies. They will continue to be given the option of voting at their place of enrolment or through postal ballot or through specially set up polling stations at Jammu, Udhampur, Delhi, etc," it said.

> The administration clarified that there is no change in rules for buying property and getting jobs in Jammu and Kashmir and "have no link to the representation of voters or

Scared of 2024 poll fight, Centre after us...

From Page 1

The AAP leader said the people of the country were fed up with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "use of CBI and ED for toppling Opposition Governments and wanted to give a chance to Kejriwal in 2024".

He claimed that the raids are part of the "script to stop Kejriwal who has emerged as a national alternative".

'They are not concerned about any scam in the excise policy. They are scared of Kejriwal who has gained the love of people, specially after the party's victory in Punjab Assembly elections," he said.

Noting that the Delhi excise policy was implemented with complete transparency and there was no scam, Sisodia said they want to stop Kejriwal whose work on education and health is being talked about in the world.

Sisodia said the Excise Policy 2021-22 was the "best" in the country, and there was "no wrongdoing" in its implementation. He said the raids were an attempt to scare AAP dispensation.

"This is not befitting of a Prime Minister who has got the people's mandate. The difference between Kejriwal and Modi is that the former thinks about poor people and the latter thinks about his select friends.

"Kejriwal appreciates those who do good work but Modi only dreams of making State Governments fall and using Central agencies like the CBI and the ED to target those who are doing good," he said. The talk about a scam in the excise policy is "nonsense", he claimed.

Showing the CBI FIR, Sisodia claimed the agency citing sources had mentioned in it that there was a "scam of just Rs one crore and added where is the scam of Rs 8000 crore that BJP MP Manoj Tiwari had alleged while another leader had said it was worth Rs 1100 crore."

The real issue is "stopping Kejriwal", they are

not worried about a scam in

excise policy, he charged.

Sisodia further said the same The New York Times which published a story on AAP's education model on the front page had printed a photo of how a thousand bodies of Covid victims were being cremated along the Ganga. "It was shameful to me as an Indian. But this story on Delhi's education model makes us proud. I am not saying I did something for which we were featured on the front page of The New York Times. It is because of Delhi's teachers. I want to thank them," Sisodia said, a day after CBI raided his residence in connection with the liquor policy

investigation. Sisodia also blamed former Lieutenant Governor Anil Baijal for changing his stand over the opening of liquor vends in nonconforming areas, just two before days implementation of the policy on November 17, 2021

Kejriwal kingpin of excise scam...

From Page 1

Deputy Chief Minister, Thakur said Sisodia might now have changed the spelling of his name. "Now, it is 'Money-shh,"

he said. The CBI on Friday carried out raids at the residences of Sisodia, IAS officer Arava Gopi Krishna apart from 19 other locations after registering a First Information Report in connection with the alleged corruption in implementation of the Delhi

excise policy. Adding to an earlier Twitter clip of his address at the 18th All India Judicial Services Authorities Meet in Jaipur, Rijiju argued that people taking great pride in speaking English

is the "tragedy of India".

"The tragedy of India is that many people take great pride in speaking English. These people celebrate when a film is nominated for an Oscar or their story is published in The New York Times. People of this mindset trust and give importance to foreign values," the Union Minister tweeted in

PUBLIC NOTICE Plot No- B3, WIFI IT Park, Wagle Industrial Estate Thane (West) 400604 Proof of Delhi liquor scam found, says CBI The following borrower/s have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained

From Page 1

Vijay Nair, Manoj Rai, Amandeep Dhal and Sameer Mahendru were allegedly actively involved in framing and implementation of excise policy of the Delhi Government. Through their questioning, the agency intends to know how they had free access to the Excise Department.

soon for questioning in the credit notes to retail vendors

Some of the accused private persons themselves were engaged in liquor vending business, making them major beneficiaries of the alleged irregular excise policy approved by Sisodia. Other private persons are suspected to be acting as "middlemen", sources said.

Subsequently, Sisodia and The agency has claimed in the accused Excise Department the FIR that some of the L-1 officials will also be summoned licence holders are issuing

with an ab-initio intention to divert funds as undue pecuniary advantage to public servants.

unravel the specific public servants who benefitted from the alleged excise policy violations.

In its FIR, the agency has alleged that Amit Arora, director of Buddy Retail, Dinesh Arora and Arjun

Pandey are close associates of

Sisodia and the trio was "actively involved in managing and diverting the undue pecuniary advantage collected from liquor licencees to The questioning will also accused public servants."

Being the Deputy CM and Minister in-charge of the Excise Department, Sisodia and others have been charged under IPC Sections relating to criminal conspiracy and falsification of accounts and undue advantage under the Prevention of Corruption Act.

The agency is also probing as to who was to receive the payment of Rs1 crore, transferred by Sameer Mahendru to Dinesh Arora, and another payment of Rs 2-4 crore made by him to Arjun Pandey. The excise scheme came under public glare after Delhi Lieutenant Governor V K Saxena last month recommended a CBI probe into alleged irregularities in the implementation of the Excise

Policy 2021-22.

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CBI had to obey orders, officers behaved nicely: Sisodia

Deputy CM says excise policy implementation transparent, attends Startup Summit day after CBI raid on his house



STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW

Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia on Saturday thanked the Central Bureau of Investigation

(CBI) officials for not causing

any inconvenience to his fam-

Deputy Chief Minister of Delhi Manish Sisodia addresses a press conference in RANJAN DIMRI I PIONEER New Delhi on Saturday

ily during their raid at his resday (Friday). They also raididence on Friday in connection ed the Education Ministry's with alleged corruption in the office. All officers, in both implementation of the Delhi places, were great people. They Excise Policy. "CBI officers behaved with my family very came to my residence yesternicely. They had to obey orders

from high command, but I would like to thank them to have behaved so nicely," Sisodia at a press conference. Rejecting the allegation of irregularities in the Delhi excise policy, Sisodia said it was implemented with complete transparency. "These people are not concerned about the scam. Their worry is Arvind Kejriwal, who is loved by masses and has emerged as a national option," Sisodia said.

On Saturday, Sisodia also attended at Startup Summit 2022 being held at Pragati Maidan thanked the organisers for giving him a break from the CBI raid at his residence that went on for hours on Friday, in connection with the liquor policy.

He said he was in two minds before attending the event just a day after the CBI raid. "But this is what I am made to do, not what I was being made to do yesterday,' Sisodia said. "On Friday, I was among some uninvited and unwanted guests. Nobody likes to spend a day with them. But then I thought I have to be here among you all," Sisodia said. At the event, Sisodia also interacted with the various entrepreneurs from all across the country who have participated in the summit. He added that events like Startup Summit 2022 are providing an opportunity for them to network and

This will also help in boosting the country's economic growth. Sisodia said that generations in the past and even today our children are taught that India is a "developing nation", but now it's time to change this tag to "developed nation" through education and an entrepreneurship mindset.

The Deputy Chief Minister said that the country cannot be made No.1 by the ministers or the Deputy Chief Minister. Neither Prime Minister can make the country No. 1 in the world nor the Chief Minister.

It's the power of innovation, startups and passion of entrepreneurs that can lead the nation towards prosperity. Government and ministers can only be the facilitators."

AAP leaders' kin, friends given licences for liquor shops: Parvesh

 $T^{\text{he BJP MP Parvesh Sahib}}_{\text{Singh Verma on Saturday}}$ slammed the AAP leaders and said that under the new excise policy, close relatives and friends of prominent AAP leaders including Saurabh Bhardwaj, Sanjay Singh, and Atishi were given liquor shops licenses, and corruption worth crores of rupees was siphoned off during the process.

Addressing media, Verma said that names of some of those people who were given license have been mentioned in FIR lodged by CBI. Atishi has close family relations with Arjun Pandey while Saurabh Bhardwaj got license for his close friend Amandeep Dhall .Dinesh Arora collected Rs 5 crore from pub owners and

gave that amount to AAP. Even

blacklisted companies were given liquor license by ignoring rules and regulations. Not only this there is sort of a competition between Saurabh Bhardwaj and Sanjay Singh as to who will replace Sisodia, BJP MP alleged.

"While Kejriwal and his ministers don't get tired of praising their so called education and health model fact is in such a scenario if children of Kejriwal and their ministers study in state Government schools or they go for treatment to government hospitals" I

would accept that AAP gov ernment has really brought revolution in education and health model of national capital," Verma said. "AAP MP Sanjay Singh at his press conference had claimed that his government has trebled pension of senior citizens and widows. However, the fact is nobody got pension in past five years, I challange Kejriwal to first implement such schemes rather than making tall announcements while visiting other states," BJP MP said.

'Modi Govt can't say they found anything in CBI raid

NEW DELHI

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) on Saturday said that the BJP and Prime Minister Narendra Modi Government forced the CBI into raiding 31 locations but failed to state if they even found anything at Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia's house.

AAP comment comes after Union Minister Anurag Thakur accused the party of trying to divert the issue from the alleged scam by linking the CBI action to politics as its real face has been unmasked. Interestingly, top leaders of the AAP are holding four to five press conference defending the Sisodia and works done by the Kejriwal Government.

In yet another press conference AAP MLA Saurabh Bhardwaj and Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh claimed that t the issue is not about liquor policy in the national Capital, but on Saturday and their minister



the rising popularity of Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal. Singh stressed that the raids were an attempt to stop the "revolutionary work done in the education and health sector" by the Kejriwal-led Delhi

Bhardwaj said that people are starting to believe that Kejriwal is PM Narendra Modi's number one opponent. "I believe that in the near future, PM Narendra Modi and Kejriwal will be locked in a battle that will ripple across the entire nation. The stage is set for a Bharatiya Janata Party vs Aam Aadmi Party fight," he added. He also said that the BJP called a press conference



Anurag Thakur tried to portray that Sisodia seemed frightened when he spoke to the media. "On the contrary Anurag Thakur was completely thrown off by the confidence in Sisodia and he seemed extremely uncomfortable while trying to spin his web of lies," said Bhardwaj.

He went ahead to talk about the CBI raid, and said that the CBI raided 31 locations across the country and there is supposed to be a standard procedure for these raids, but that seemed to be missing vesterday.

'The CBI conducted its raids from early morning to late night but they failed to even list out what they found

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unaccounted cash at his house? Any gold? Any papers or assets? You raided 31 locations and returned empty handed? They sent 31 teams on the raids, that's around 900 officers. And the result? Zero. What is this if not a completely failed raid," said Bhadrwaj.

Bhardwaj claimed that the entire exercise was fabricated and conspired at the behest of the BJP ruled Central Government. "We don't have a problem with the CBI officers. They are doing their duty. It is their job. They will have to do whatever the Central Government asks them to do. Earlier, it was the UPA that misused their power now it is the BJP," said Bhardwaj.

"The Central Government is pressuring CBI. Many officers have even been threatened with suspension if they fail to frame AAP. They have been asked to go to extent of hell but bring out something against Sisodia," said Bhardwaj.

Bidhuri demands Monsoon Session to discuss excise policy



STAFF REPORTER ■

The Leader of the Opposition in the Delhi Assembly Ramvir Singh Bidhuri on Saturday demanded that the Monsoon Session of the Assembly be called to discuss the excise policy and said that Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal should tell people why permission was given to open liquor vends in non-conforming areas.

The Government will have to explain why it deliberately ignored the rules of the

master plan," Bidhuri said shops can be opened anywhile addressing a press conference at the party headquar-

Government allowed liquor vends to open in non-conforming areas, which is a clear violation of the Master Plan of Delhi-2021. The new excise policy was illegal and unconstitutional. Delhi Cabinet approved the new excise policy on 5 November 2021. Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal presided over this where in Delhi.

Even permission was given to open liquor shops in nonconforming and residential areas too. The Delhi cabinet had no right to provide such approvals as liquor shops cannot be opened in non-conforming areas as the Master Plan-2021 does not allow it," Bidhuri said. The BJP leader further

said that there is a complete process for changes in the master plan and it is notified cabinet meeting. It was said in the excise policy that liquor DDA and the Ministry of

Housing and urban affairs. But the Delhi cabinet deliberately violated the rules of the master plan. Therefore, the entire cabinet, including CM Kejriwal is liable for the violation of rules and procedural lapses. Hitting out at Kejriwal, Bidhuri said that the Chief Minister had said that the new excise policy will boost the revenue by Rs 10,000 crore.

"While the liquor sales have gone up in the city, the government's revenue from it hasn't. Why so? We want the government to call the monsoon session to discuss the excise policy and all the scams in various departments such as DTC (Delhi Transport Corporation), water (Delhi Jal Board), ration (food supplies department) and making hospitals on papers.
This Government, which

came into power in the name of removing corruption, has been thoroughly exposed now and needs to answer the ques-



Memorial to unsung freedom struggle heroes of Delhi soon

freedom struggle.

Governor The announced this while launching a book "Delhi in the Era of Revolutionaries, 1857 – 1947" at Raj Niwas. At the event, many senior dignitaries including Chief Secretary Naresh Kumar, 94 years old granddaughter of Lala Hardayal, great granddaughter of General Shah

massive efforts and sacrifices.

Speaking on occasion, Saxena said that history of India's Freedom Struggle was also story of every common resident of national Capital and announced that Delhi will soon have a Memorial and Museum dedicated to unsung heroes of

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI Nawaz Khan and relatives of other noted Freedom Fighters Delhi Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena on associated with Delhi were present. As per official statement released by Raj Niwas, Saxena Saturday announced that the national Capital will soon have a memorial dedicated to the dedicated book to memory of relatively lesser known and unsung heroes of Delhi in the unsung heroes of Delhi in the Freedom Struggle who made

Power subsidy for Delhiites just a missed call away

NEW DELHI: Delhiites will soon be able to give a missed call to register for Delhi Government's power subsidy. The Deputy Chief Minister on Saturday chaired a meeting with senior officials of the power department, DISCOMs and other concerned departments on Saturday and decided that all consumers will be given a choice to opt out from the subsidy or continue getting free electricity from October 1. As many as 47,11,176 families taking benefit of the power

subsidy in the national Capital The electricity bill sent to consumers will have a QR code, which the consumer will need to scan, after which the registration form will be acti-

vated and they will be able to give their ascent for subsidy through WhatsApp by entering their CA number A dedicated WhatsApp number may also be provided to consumers just for opting for the subsidy. Sisodia said that the Delhi Government is set to issue a phone number to allow residents to opt-in for the power subsidy at ease.

Delhiites will also have the convenience of opting in through a QR code on the bill or by visiting DISCOM centre, besides filling a form attached to electricity bill. The agenda of meeting was to simplify process of opting-in and opting-out of the power subsidy offered by the city Government.

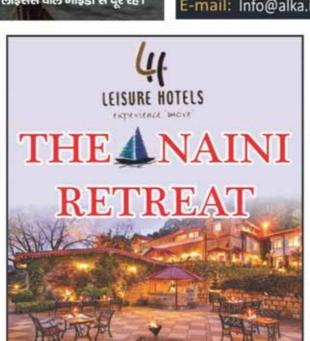


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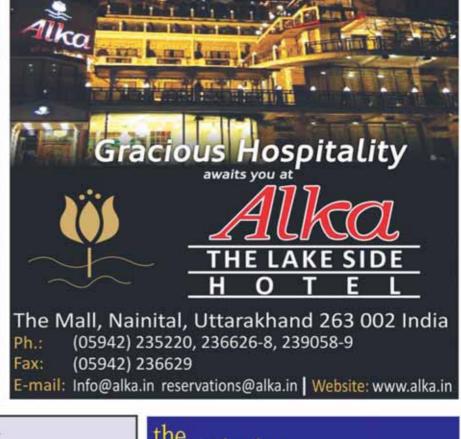
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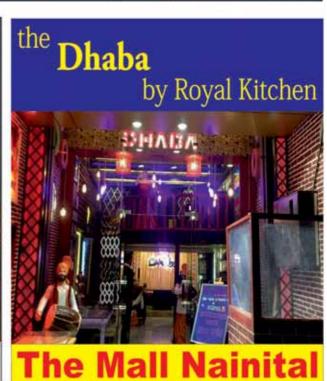
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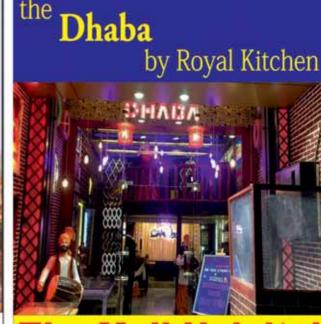
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Govt to empower Armed Forces Tribunal: Rajnath

Def Minister calls for timely justice delivery by Armed forces tribunals

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Saturday called for a balance between 'justice delayed is justice denied' and 'justice hurried is justice buried' to lessen the burden of pendency on the judicial system in general and the Armed Forces Tribunal in particular.

He also said the timely delivery of justice will not only reduce the burden on Armed Forces Tribunal but will also reinforce the confidence of our soldiers in the system. The Minister said the Government is committed to make the Armed Forces Tribunal more empowered and responsive and implement measures that were required in this direction.

Addressing a seminar titled 'Introspection: Armed Forces Tribunal', organised by Armed Forces Tribunal Principal Bench Bar Association, he said the judiciary is a strong pillar of democracy, and judicial officers, and lawyers are in turn pillars of this judicial system.

He said people knock on the doors of the judiciary when all other options were closed to them and sound judiciary delivery systems were the basis for "suraj" or good

Rajnath said domain-specific Tribunals were set up to deal with diverse cases and clear pending cases. He stressed that litigants have trust in our judiciary and whatever measures required were being implemented, such



as filling up of vacancies in the Tribunals, to expedite the justice delivery process.

He pitched for ensuring timely delivery of justice to armed forces personnel under the framework of military tribunals, but at the same time cautioned against the challenge of "justice hurried is justice buried'. "We often talk of 'justice

delayed is justice denied'. We should try to ensure timely justice delivery to our charter by

developing a systematic procedure," Rajnath said.

"However, we also need to be very careful while doing this. Otherwise, there is also a danger of 'justice hurried is justice buried. In such a situation keeping a balance between time and procedure is an important demand of today's time," he added. The defence minister also

highlighted the contributions

of lawyers to India's freedom struggle. "Be it Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Nehru, C Rajagopalachari, Gangadhar Tilak, Dr Rajendra Prasad, S Srinivasa Iyengar Sardar Patel or Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar, there are not one but many names, without whose contribution our India would not have been India it is

today," he said.

'Govt tapping tech to reduce pendency in courts'

With the number of pend-VV ing cases nearing the 5-crore mark, Law Minister Kiren Rijiju on Saturday said if a judge disposes of 50 cases, 100 new litigations are filed as people are more aware now and approach courts to settle

Addressing the seminar on the functioning of the Armed Forces Tribunal in the presence of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Rijiju said the



Government is tapping technology to reduce pendency in courts. Responding to a ques-

tion during Parliament's monsoon session, the law minister had said that over 4.83 crore cases are pending in courts across the country.

While over 4 crore cases are pending in lower courts, the Supreme Court is burdened with a pendency of over 72,000 cases.

The minister said the proposed law on mediation will also help bring down the number of litigations in courts with a renewed focus on alternate dispute resolution mech-

SpiceJet's pilot licence cancelled over

anism. Rijiju also felt that there should be "no comparison" between pendency of cases in India and other countries as "we have a different set of problems".

He said there are some countries that do not even have a population of 5 crore when the number of pending cases in India is nearing the 5-crore mark. He assured the law ministry is willing to offer any help to the Armed Forces Tribunal in quick delivery of

India delivers fresh batch of medical aid to Afghanistan

New Delhi: India on Saturday supplied a fresh batch of med ical supplies to Afghanistan as part of its humanitarian assistance. The consignments of medical aid were handed over to the Indira Gandhi hospital in Kabul.

"Today, India supplied the tenth batch of medical assistance as part of India's ongoing humanitarian assistance," the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said. *PTI*

turbulence incident in which 14 fliers hurt PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has suspended for six months the licence of the pilot-in-command (PIC) of the Mumbai-Durgapur SpiceJet flight that encountered severe turbulence

crew members on May 1. The PIC's suspension is on the ground of his ignoring the co-pilot's input onboard athe

and resulted in injuries to 14

passengers and three cabin

A senior DGCA official on Saturday said the licence of the pilot-in-command of the flight has been suspended for six months due to various violations. Among others, the pilot could have dealt with the bad weather situation in a better manner, the official said. There were no comments on the issue from SpiceJet.

Since it was a serious incident, the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) was probing the matter. As 2 pilots and 4 cabin crew memrs were onboard the flight.

The aircraft took off from Mumbai at approximately 5.13 pm. During the descent, the aircraft experienced severe turbulence and the vertical load factor varied from 2.64G and -

During this period the autopilot got disengaged for two minutes and the crew manually flew the aircraft, the DGCA had said in its statement

Impose anti-dumping duty on Chinese Ofloxacin impacting domestic industry, says Ministry

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

n a move aimed to guard **■** domestic players from cheap imports of Ofloxacin from China, the Union Commerce Ministry has recommended imposition of anti-dumping duty for five years on the drug being imported from the neighbouring country.

The Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) has recommended the duty on imports of 'ofloxacin' and its intermediates from China after concluding in its probe that the product has been exported at dumped prices into India, which impacted the domestic industry

"The authority considers it necessary and recommends imposition of the anti-dumping duty for a period of 5 years," the directorate has said in a notifi-

Ofloxacin is used to treat certain infections including bronchitis, pneumonia and infection of skin, bladder, urinary tract and prostate.

The DGTR had conducted the probe following a complaint from Aarti Drugs Ltd, a drug maker about the dumping and initiation of the investiga-The directorate works under the ministry.

The recommended duty ranges between USD 0.53 per kilogram and USD 7.03 per kilogram. The Union Finance Ministry takes the final call to impose these duties.

The imposition of antidumping duty is permissible under the World Trade Organisation (WTO) regime.

The duty is aimed at ensuring fair trading practices and

PUBLIC NOTICE

creating a level-playing field for domestic producers vis-a-vis foreign producers and exporters.

Further, the department of revenue has said that the government has decided not to extend anti-dumping duty on 'textured tempered coated and un-coated glass' from China as recommended by the DGTR.

The directorate in May had recommended continuation of anti-dumping duty on Chinese solar glass for two years with a view to guard domestic players from cheap imports.

As per the local drug manufacturers, imports were undercutting the domestic industry's prices and causing price depression. Prices of Ofloxacin are volatile due to an increase in raw material cost and hovering around Rs 3,000-3,100 per kg, said the manufacturers.

Shah visits AIIMS to check on health of injured ITBP personnel

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

Union Home Minister Amit Shah visited the AIIMS Trauma Centre here on Saturday to enquire about the health of the ITBP personnel who were injured in the bus accident in Pahalgam, Jammu

He met Constables Balwant Singh, Sewang Dorje and Bablu Kumar and inquired about their health and wished them a speedy recovery. These three critically injured ITBP personnel were shifted from Srinagar to AIIMS Trauma Center in New Delhi on Friday by special air ambulance.

Doctors briefed the Home Minister on the health condition of the Jawans and medical



procedures to be followed in the future. Senior officials of the ITBP also apprised the Shah about the health condition of the injured.

On August 16 seven jawans were killed and 32 others were injured in a trag-

ic bus accident near Pahalgam in Jammu and Kashmir. The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) personnel traveling in the bus were returning from Chandanwadi after successfully performing their duties for the Amarnath Yatra.

Revoke remission of 11 convicts in Bilkis case: 3 Gujarat MLAs to Prez ing the release of the 11 convicts

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Mounting more pressure, three Gujarat Congress MLAs have written to President Droupadi Murmu seeking her direction to the State Government to withdraw its 'shameful decision" to release the 11 convicts serving a life sentence in the 2002 Bilkis Bano case. The three

Gyasuddin Shaikh, Imran Khedawala and Javed Pirzadahave written a letter to the President, Shaikh said.

The letter stated the "shameful decision" of the Gujarat BJP Government orderin the case of gang rape of Bilkis Bano and murder of seven members of her family has "tarnished the day (on which such a decision was taken)."

"Even though the Central Government has a clear guideline that rape convicts serving life imprisonment should not be released under the policy of pardon, the BJP Government of Gujarat has shown its insensitivity by pardoning the 11 convicts in the Bano gang rape case. This is a disappointing decision for those struggling to get justice," said the letter. It said the convicts in the Bano case should be given the harshest punish-

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(COMM) No. 1992/2021

(7304914763)

as per court orders, in the following cases:

It is hereby, informed to the General Public that, I Birinder Singh Brara, S/o. Dr. Raja Singh, R/o. 2024 Port Weybridge, Newport Beach, CA 92660, USA, have lost the Original Provisional Allotment Letter No. JGGNSTR96063 dated 28th January, 2009 / Original Payment Receipts No. 5931 dated 13-01-2009 of Rs. 6,90,000/-, No. 6043 dated 16-02-2009 of Rs. 73,050/-, No. 6043 dated 16-02-2009 of Rs. 51,65,000/-, No. dated 16-02-2009 of Rs. 51,65,000/-, No. 6043 dated 16-02-2009 of Rs. 7,00,000/-, Receipt No. 2300016568 dated 24-03-2012 of Rs. 16,00,000/-, No. 2300010384 dated 23-10-2012 of Rs. 72,143/- and No. 2300060370 dated 18-07-2022 of Rs. 7,724/- issued by Jaiprakash Associates Limited in respect of Unit bearing No. STR0090603 in Jaypee Greens, Greater Noida project, situated at Jaypee Greens, Greater Noida on dated 16-08-2022. Any no finding the said documents is requested

Birinder Singh Brara C/o. D-1000, New Friends Colony, New Delhi - 110025, Mob: 09871075115 Email ID: brara205@yahoo.com

- HR38U9071, Make and Model

Asset Details

Vehicle No. - UP16ET9417, Make and Model - HYUNDAI MOTORS LTD XCENT

Manu Year –2018, Reserve price: Rs.1,80,000/-, EMD Amount: 18,000/-. EMD is to be made in favour of ICICI Bank Ltd

payable at Delhi and bidder has to bring original DD/PO of EMD amount alongwith

his KYC at site of auction.

one finding the said documents is requested to kindly return the same to me or to the

Rajiv single term as PM will be remembered for far-reaching achievements: Cong on his birth anniv

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

The Congress on Saturday **I** paid rich tributes to former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on his birth anniversary, saying his single term as PM will be remembered for far-reaching achievements, including deepening the foundations of the IT evolution that has transformed

Former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi and party general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra visited their father's memorial, Veer Bhumi, and paid homage on his 78th birth



anniversary in the morning. "Papa, you are always with me, in my heart. I will always try to fulfil the dream that you

saw for the country," Rahul

tweeted in Hindi. He also shared a video and picture montage on Rajiv. Congress

general secretary in-charge

communications Jairam

Ramesh said his single term as

prime minister will be remem-

bered for numerous landmarks

and far-reaching achievements

of which six stand out for his

personal drive, commitment

and leadership. First, he deep-

ened the foundations of the IT India, Ramesh said, adding that Gandhi ushered the country into the computer, telecom and software development era. "He launched technology

missions for addressing societal challenges that have, for example, made India a world-leader in vaccine production and made the country polio-free," Ramesh said.

'Second, he led the way personally in ensuring that Panchayats and Nagarpalikas were accorded Constitutional status with one-third reservation for women and emerged as effective institutions of self-government," the Congress general secretary said. The fact that there are now 14 lakh women elected to such institutions is a tribute to his determination. Ramesh added.



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

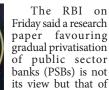
The Congress on The Congress
Saturday accused the Centre of having pressured the RBI to

'disown" its research report which argued against a "big bang approach" to privatisation of banks, and demanded that the Government come out with a white paper on public sector banks' privatisation.

The party hit out at the BJP over the privatisation of public sector banks (PSBs), calling it "Beche Jao Party", and alleged that the central government had changed the Reserve Bank of India (ŘBI) to "Reverse Bank of India" by forcing it to make

a "U-turn" over its own report.

Indian scientists develop smart biopolymer



the authors of the

Addressing the AICC Press conference, Congress spokesperson Supriya Shrinate said the Press conference was scheduled to discuss a very important study by the RBI research unit published in the August RBI bulletin that raised concerns over the reckless privation of PSBs but instead the party has to first address how an institution like the RBI has been pressured by the govern-

ment to issue a clarification.

CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF PSYCHIATRY KANKE, RANCHI-834006, JHARKHAND

- TATA MOTORS LTDACE HT REFRESH BS3 SCV, Manu Year –2015, Vehicle No. - DL1CW4542, Make and Model - TATA MOTORS LTD ZEST XE 75 PS, Manu Year – 2016, No. of post Vehicle No. - UP16ET0758, Make and Model - HYUNDAI MOTORS LTD XCENT BASE CRDI, Manu Year – 2016, 01 (One)

S.N.	Name of post	Pay Scale	Age Limit	
1.	Occupational Therapist	Level 6 of the Pay Matrix (Rs. 35400-112400)	Not exceeding 33 Years for OBCs only	
2.	Library Clerk	Level 2 of the Pay Matrix (Rs. 19900-63200)	Between 18 and 27 years	
3.	Medical Record Clerk	Level 2 of the Pay Matrix (Rs. 19900-63200)	Between 18 and 27 years	
4.	Needle Women	Level 2 of the Pay Matrix (Rs. 19900-63200)	30 years for SCs only	
5. Ward Attendant		Level 1 of the Pay Matrix (Rs. 18000-56900)	25 years for General/ EWS 30 years for SC/ST	

Case Details Asset Details Vehicle No. -UP14HT8563, Make and Model - ASHOK LEYLAND LTD, PARTNER, Manu ICICI BANK LTD VS Auction Date: September 06, 2022 From 11:00 am to 2:00 pm Place of Auction: - Mahakal Parking yard, Khasra No 527 Village Banthla Near Indane Gas Plant Loni Ghaziabad-UP, 201102

Auction Date: September 06, 2022 From 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Contact Person- Rajeev Ranjan (8584874809)/ Jitendra Kumar

Place of Auction: - Godara Yard, Khewat No. 166/1, Near Atul Kataria

Chowk, Behind Gyan Devi, School, Sec- 17, Sukhrali, Gurugram- 122022

The under mentioned Assets will be sold through auction on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" for recovery of dues

Contact Person- Avinash Kumar (8953652366)/ Jitendra Kumar (7304914763) Terms of Sale

The particulars of the said asset specified herein above have been stated to the best of the information and knowledge of the undersigned, who shall however not be responsible for any error, misstatement or omission in the said particulars. The interested participant/s are therefore requested, in their own interest, to satisfy himself / themselves/ itself with regard to the said asset and other relevant details pertaining to it before submitting the bids. All bidders are required to come at auction site with original KYC documents to participate in the auction.

Successfully bidder shall have to deposit sale amount within 5 days from the approval date by the way of pay order/demand draft/RTGS/NEFT. In case if you fail to make the remaining sale amount within 5 days, you

The intending bidders may visit at ICICI Bank Ltd, 1st Floor, SD Tower Community Center, Plot No-7, Rohini Sector-8 New Delhi - 110085 for etails and inspection of the said hypothecated vehicles

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

28 years for OBC

for PwD (General

EWS)

40 years

for PwD

(SC/ST)

38 years

for PwD

(OBC)

Relaxable for

Ex-servicema

Period of

Military

service

The other details of the above mentioned posts are published in the

Employment News dated 20.08.2022 as well as ava

website, i.e. www.cipranchi.nic.in)

than can detect food freshness 01 (One) UR 01 (One) UR PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

01 (One) SC

93 (Ninety-three)

Male-56

OBC-15 & EWS-

Female-37

Vertical

Reservation

JR-18, SC-5, ST

OBC-9 & EWS-3

Horizontal

Reservation

PwD-4: OH (OA o

OL)-2, VH

(LV)-1 & HH-1

OH-Orthopedicall

Impaired, VH-

Visually Impaired

HH-Hearing

Impaired,

OA-One Arm

OL-One Leg,

LV-Low Vision

ilable on the CIF

Sd/- Director

NEW DELHI

team of Indian scientists Ahas developed a smart biodegradable biopolymer nano-composite film which can detect relative humidity in the packaged foods to know the level of food freshness.

The research conducted by the scientists from the Institute of Advanced Study in Science and Technology (IASST), an autonomous institute of the Department of Science and Technology has been published in the International Journal of Biological Macromolecules.

A team of scientists from the Institute of Advanced Study in Science and Technology (IASST), an autonomous institute of the Department of Science and Technology has developed a smart biodegradable biopolymer nanocomposite which can detect relative humidity in the packaged foods. This can help monitor packed food freshness.

According to the team Prof. Devasish Chowdhury, Professor in the Physical Sciences Division, and his INSPIRE Senior Research Fellow (SRF) student Sazzadur Rahman, two biopolymers, Guar Gum (a variety of beans obtained from plant) and Alginate (obtained from brown algae), were blended with carbon dots (nanomaterial) to make a nanocomposite film that was successfully used to detect rel-

ative humidity. The fabricated nanocomposite film was an excellent smart sensor based on the fluorescence 'on-off' mechanisms against humidity," the scientists The nanocomposite film

in presence of high humidity.

fabricated

Hence, the

shows change in fluorescence

using just a UV light source. 'Smart and active packaging can help consumers select a fresh product without breaking the pack. Such innovative packaging boosts sales and reduces consumers' time to identify fresh food products," said Prof. Chowdhury. The innovation can be utilised in the food industry

that has an increasing need for

nanocomposite film can monnon-toxic, biodegradable, lowitor the packed food freshness cost, and environmentally friendly material for use as packaging material to replace petroleum-based material like olastics.

> Besides, it also needs smart and active packaging materials to detect and report food quality in a real-time fashion. Such smart and active packaging systems respond to signals while interacting with the food packaging environment.

UK ex-Minister endorses Sunak in PM race

senior Conservative Party AMP and former minister on Saturday issued a ringing endorsement of Rishi Sunak to succeed Boris Johnson as the Tory leader and the British Prime Minister, saying the former Chancellor has what the top job requires.

Michael Gove, who was dramatically sacked as Levelling Up Secretary by Johnson after he called for him to quit amid a mounting Cabinet rebellion against the outgoing Prime Minister last

trunner Foreign Secretary Liz Truss' tax-cutting plans to tackle the cost-of-living crisis facing the country as a "holiday from reality".

He said Sunak was the one in the leadership contest who was making the right arguments and telling the voters the truth."I know what the job requires. And Rishi has it," writes Gove in 'The Times' newspaper."Even more important is what a future government will adopt as its central economic plan.

And here I am deeply con-

leadership debate by many has been a holiday from reality. The answer to the cost-of-living cannot be simply to reject fur-ther 'handouts' and cut tax," said the veteran Tory politician.

"In contrast, I believe Rishi makes the right arguments... And, even more importantly, on the central economic questions he has told the truth. We cannot cut general taxation further until we get inflation under control, and control spending and reduce borrowing. We cannot reduce spending quickly on the scale



we want when support for the poorest is so necessary," he said. Gove missed out in his own leadership bids first in 2016, when he surprised many by announcing his own candidacy instead of backing Johnson at the time as was expected, and then again in 2019 when Johnson emerged as the unanimous choice to succeed Theresa May.

He has since served in senior Cabinet posts under Prime Ministers David Cameron, May and then Johnson. This week, Gove

alluded to taking a backseat from frontline politics as he said his backing for Sunak comes from the heart."I make my case from my heart too. I do not expect to be in government again. But it was the privilege of

my life to spend 11 years in the Cabinet under three Prime Ministers," he said. Sunak welcomed Gove's endorsement, tweeting: "Brilliant news to have Michael Gove on team #Ready4Rishi.

"Delighted to have the support of a party and Cabinet veteran who has intellectual heft

ing zeal in every job he has had that we now so desperately need," a campaign spokesperson added.

Meanwhile, both candidates continue on a busy campaign trail as they try to win over votes of Tory members who are in the process of casting their postal and online ballots in leadership election set to close on September 2.

The new Tory leader and Prime Minister will be declared on September 5, with the winner taking charge at 10 Downing Street immediately.

At least 10 killed as terrorists storm hotel in Somali capital

AP ■ MOGADISHU

At least 10 people were killed in an attack by Islamic militants who stormed a hotel in Somalia's capital late Friday, police and eyewitnesses said.

Several other people were injured and security forces rescued many others, including children, from the scene of the attack at Mogadishu's Hayat Hotel, they said.

The attack started with explosions outside the hotel before gunmen entered the

Gunfire could still be heard early Saturday as security forces tried to contain the last gunmen, who were thought to be holed up in the hotel. It was unclear how many militants remained on the hotel's top

The Islamic extremist group al-Shabab claimed responsibility for the attack, the latest of its frequent attempts to strike places that are often visited by government officials.

There was no immediate word on the identities of the victims.

"We were having tea near the hotel lobby when we heard the first blast followed by gunfire. I immediately rushed toward hotel rooms on the ground floor, and I locked," eyewitness Abdullahi Hussein told the AP by phone.

"The militants went straight upstairs and started shooting. I was inside the room until the security forces arrived and rescued me." He said that on his way to safety he saw several bodies lying on the ground outside hotel recep-



Executive Engineer (G)

UJVN Limited

Tender Notice

Name of work/supply/services etc.: Removal of Sledge with the help

Date of availability of bid document on website: 20.08.2022 from

Last date for submission of bids: 12.09.2022 up to 11:00 Hrs. For full & further details, kindly visit Nigam's website i.e

from interested parties. Brief summary of tenders are given below

of dredger machine from intake of Chilla Power House. Estimated cost: Rs. 8,78,488/- Plus GST extra

Russia, Ukraine spar over fighting near nuclear facility

fire at a munitions depot Ainside Russia forced the evacuation of two villages near the border with Ukraine, an official said on Friday, while two civilians were reported wounded by Russian shelling near the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant as both sides traded accusations about fighting near the facility in southern Ukraine. The fire late Thursday

struck the munitions storage building near the village of Timonovo in Russia's Belgorod region on Ukraine's northeastern border.

About 1,100 people live in Timonovo and Soloti, about 25 kilometres from the border. No one was hurt, said Belgorod regional Gov. Vyacheslav The fire came days after

another ammunition depot exploded on the Crimean Peninsula, a Russian-occupied

territory on the Black Sea that blamed on "sabotage" was annexed by Moscow in 2014. Last week, nine Russian warplanes were reported destroyed at an airbase on Crimea, demonstrating both the Russians' vulnerability and the Ukrainians' capacity to

strike deep behind enemy lines. Ukrainian authorities have stopped short of publicly claiming responsibility. But President Volodymyr Zelenskyy alluded to Ukrainian attacks behind enemy lines after the blasts in Biden administration, adding Crimea, which Russia has that "deep and open US

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov said in televised remarks Friday that statements from Ukrainian officials about striking facilities in Crimea mark "an escalation of the conflict openly encouraged by the United States and its NATO allies".

Ryabkov said Russian officials had warned the US against such actions in phone calls with high-level members of the Ukraine "effectively puts the US on the brink of becoming a party to the conflict".

In spite of the latest incidents, a Western official said the war is at a "near operational standstill," with neither side able to launch major offensives.

"The whole tempo of the campaign has slowed down, partly because both sides have become more conscious that this is a marathon not a sprint and that expenditure rates and conserving their munitions is important," said official said who spoke on condition of anonymity because he's not authorized to discuss intelligence matters publicly.

"Later Friday, a Úkrainian official said two civilians were wounded by Russian shelling of Ukrainian communities neighboring the Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant, the latest in a long string of such shelling accusations over the past

Watchdog groups call review at American nuclear lab sham process

Albuquerquue (US): The US government is planning to review the environmental effects of operations at one of the nation's prominent nuclear weapons laboratories, but its notice issued on Friday leaves out federal goals to ramp up production of plutonium cores used in the nation's nuclear arsenal.

The National Nuclear Security Administration said the review — being done to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act will look at the potential environmental effects of alternatives for operations at Los Alamos National Laboratory for the next 15 years.

That work includes preventing the spread and use of nuclear weapons worldwide and other projects related to national security and global stability, the notice said.

Watchdog groups contend that regardless of the review, the NNSA will march ahead with its production plans for plutonium

Chinese farmers struggle as scorching drought wilts crops

AP ■ LONGQUAN (CHINA)

Hundreds of persimmon trees that should be loaded with yellow fruit lie wilted in Gan Bingdong's greenhouse in southwestern China, adding to mounting farm losses in a scorching summer that is the country's driest in six decades.

Gan's farm south of the industrial metropolis of Chongqing lost half its vegetable crop in heat as high as 41 degrees Celsius (106 Fahrenheit) and a drought that has shrunk the giant Yangtze River and wilted crops across central China. Gan's surviving eggplants

are no bigger than strawberries. A reservoir beside his farm has run dry, forcing him to pump groundwater."This year's high temperatures are very annoying," Gan said. Drought conditions across a swath of China from the densely populated east across central farming provinces into eastern Tibet have "significantly increased," the national weather agency said Saturday. The forecast called for high temperatures and no rain for at least three more days from Jiangsu and Anhui provinces northwest of Shanghai, through Chongqing and Sichuan provinces to the east of Tibet.

Local authorities were ordered to "use all available water sources" to supply households and livestock, the weather agency said.

The biggest impact is in Sichuan, where factories have been shut down and offices and shopping malls told to turn off air-conditioning after reser-



The province of 94 million people gets 80% of its electricity from hydropower dams. Factories that make proces-

sor chips for smartphones, auto components, solar panels and other industrial goods were shut down for at least six days through Saturday. Some say output will be depressed while others say supplies to customers are unaffected.

The shutdowns add to challenges for the ruling Communist Party as President Xi Jinping, the country's most powerful leader in decades, prepares to try to break with tradition and award himself a third five-year term as leader at a meeting in October or November. Growth in factory output and retail sales weakened in July, setting back China's economic recovery after Shanghai and other industrial centers were shut down starting in late March to fight virus outbreaks.

Tender No:-08/EE(G)/Chilla/2022-23.

$R^{ m epublicans}$ have found success in Democratic strong-

holds like Maryland and Massachusetts when they have fielded moderate candidates who could appeal to voters in both parties. With Democrats facing headwinds this year, Republicans had hoped that strategy could pay off yet again. But Republican voters have

FIA may arrest Imran

in prohibited funding

Former Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan could

be arrested by the country's top

investigating agency for failing to appear before it and snub-

bing its notices in the prohib-

ited funding case, according to

a media report on Saturday.

The Federal Investigation

Agency (FIA) issued a second

notice to Khan on Friday,

according to The News. Khan,

the cricketer-turned-politician,

received the first notice last

Wednesday, but he refused to

appear before the FIA investi-

gation team, the newspaper

said.
"The final decision to

arrest Imran Khan could be

taken after issuing three

notices," the report said, quot-

ing highly-placed sources in

case: Report

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

President Donald Trump in former Connecticut U. Rep. several Democratic states, including Maryland and Connecticut, making the GOP's odds of winning those general election races even longer. Massachusetts will face its own test next month as GOP voters decide between a Trump-backed conservative and a more moderate Republican for the party's

gubernatorial nominee.

Des Moines (US): Former

Vice President Mike Pence

said on Friday that he didn't

take any classified information

with him when he left office.

The disclosure - which would

typically be unremarkable for

a former vice president - is

notable given that FBI agents

seized classified and top secret

information from his former

boss's Florida estate on August

8 while investigating potential

violations of three different

federal laws.Former President

ISIS 'Beatle' gets life for US hostage deaths

Pence says he didn't leave

office with classified material

Christopher Shays, a moderate Republican and Trump critic, referring to the GOP choosing pro-Trump candidates.

Pro-Trump wins in blue states threaten GOP hopes in Nov

"One of the things that will happen is that a lot of the Trump candidates who won the primary will lose the general election. And there are a lot of unhappy Republicans who hold office now who believe that the Senate now is

Donald Trump has claimed

that the documents seized by

agents were "all declassified"

Pence, asked directly if he had

retained any classified information upon leaving office,

told The Associated Press in an interview, "No, not to my knowledge." Despite the inclu-

sion of material marked "top

secret" in the government's list

of items recovered from Mar-

a-Lago, Pence said, "I honest-

ly don't want to prejudge it

before until we know all the

Friday as part of a two day-trip

to the state, which hosts the

leadoff Republican presidential

caucuses. It comes as the for-

in on Republican US Rep.

Pence was in Iowa on

Democratic. Trump's influence was on

full display earlier this month when his last-minute endorsement helped propel Leora Levy, a member of the Republican National Committee who opposes abortion rights, to victory in a Republican US Senate primary in Connecticut over the party's endorsed candidate, former House Minority Leader

ports abortion rights and said she didn't vote for Trump in

"Sad day for CT ...," tweeted Brenda Kupchick, the Republican first selectwoman of Fairfield and a former state representative, after the Aug. 9 race was called for Levy. Days earlier, after Trump endorsed Levy on speakerphone at a GOP picnic, Kupchick tweeted, "How is that helpful in the

Notices under SARFAESI Act for Loan Account No. LBNOD00002267651, Name of the Borrower Abhilasha Sharma property address Flat no. F/UH-806, 8TH Floor, Block-F, Urban homes, Phase -1 A, Shahpur Bamhetta, NH-24, Ghaziabad against which Demand notice publication dated March 04, 2022. We wish to mention that inadvertently and unintentionally a typographical error has occurre in the said publication and was mentioned as Flat no. F/UH-806, 8TH Floor, Block-F, Urban homes, Shahpur Bamhetta, NH-24, Ghaziabac instead of Flat no. F/UH-806, 8TH Floor, Block-F, Urban homes, Phase -1 A, Shahpur Bamhetta, NH-24, Ghaziabad. We therefore, request you to please read the same as Flat no. F/UH-806, 8TH Floor, Block-F, Urban homes, Phase -1 A, Shahpur Bamhetta, NH-24, Ghaziabad. All other details mentioned in the said Notice dated will remain same. We sincerely regret the inconvenience caused to you in this regard.

GICICI Bank | Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, 3rd Floor, Plot No- 23 New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi- 110005

Date : August 20, 2022 Place: Delhi/ NCR Authorized Officer ICICI Bank Limited

GOLDEDGE ESTATE AND INVESTMENTS LIMITED CIN: U70101DL1992PLC047541

🕅 Regd. Office: C-115, Mansarovar Garden Ground Floor New Delhi-110015 , Ph. No.-011-25193268 | 🗠 e-mail: goldedgeestate2016@gmail.com

www.goldedgeestate.in NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that 30th Annual General Meeting ('AGM') of the members of the Company is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 27th Septembe 2022 at 11.00 a.m.(IST) through Video Conference ('VC')/Other Audio Visua Means ('OAVM') in compliance with the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 (the 'Act') and the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India (the "MCA") vide its General Circulars No. 14/2020, No. 17/2020, No. 20/2020, No. 02/2021 and No. 02/2022 dated April 8, 2020, April 13, 2020, May 5, 2020 January 13, 2021 and May 5, 2022, respectively (hereinafter, collectively referred as the "MCA Circulars") read with the SEBI Circulars No. SEBI/HO/CFD CMD1/CIR/P/2020/79, No. SEBI/HO/CFD/CMD2/CIR/P/2021/11 and No. SEBI HO/ CFD/CMD2/CIR/P/2022/62 dated May 12, 2020, January 15, 2021 and May 13, 2022, respectively, (hereinafter, collectively referred as the "SEB Circulars" and together with the MCA Circulars referred as the "Circulars") to transact the businesses as set out in the Notice of the meeting

In compliance with the said circulars, the Notice of the AGM alongwith the Annual Report for Financial Year 2021-22 will be sent to all the members at their email as registered with the Company/Depository Participants. We request the members to register (who have not yet registered) or update

(in case of any change) their email addresses or other mandates in followir Shareholders holding share(s) in dematerialized form, are requested t register/update their email address, mobile numbers or other mandate

with their relevant depositories through their depository participants. Shareholders holding share(s) in physical mode are requested to furnis their email addresses, mobile numbers or other mandate with the Company's Registrar and Share Transfer Agent i.e. Skyline Financia Services Private Limited, D-153A, 1st Floor, Okhla Industrial Area Phase New Delhi-110020, email admin@skylinerta.com, phone number The Notice of 30th AGM and Annual Report for FY2021-22 will also be mad

available on the Company's website at www.goldedgeestate.in and website o the stock exchange, i.e., MSEI Limited at https://www.msei.in/ The Company is providing remote e-voting facility ('remote e-voting') to all it

members to cast their vote on all resolutions set out in the Notice of 30thAGM Additionally, the Company is providing the facility of voting through e-voting system during the AGM ('e-voting'). Detailed procedure for joining the AGM and remote e-voting/e-voting is provided in the Notice of 30thAGM. Members attending the AGM through VC/OAVM will be counted for the purpose o reckoning the quorum under section 103 of the Act.

For Goldedge Estate and Investments Limited

Place: New Delhi Date:20.08.2022

Jagdish Chand Agarwal

DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, DELHI 4th FLOOR, JEEVAN TARA BUILDING, PARLIAMENT STREET, NEW DELHI-110001

"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

SALE NOTICE

The under mentioned Assets will be sold through auction on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" for recovery of dues as per court orders, in the following cases:-

Case Details	Asset Details	Reserve Price	EMD Amount		
ICICI BANK LTD VS V3 Mobi Communications Private Limited, OA No. 02/2019	make a model blanner	Rs. 3,80,000/-	Rs. 38,000/-		
ICICI BANK LTD VS AKSHAY GIRI, OA 494/2019	Vehicle No- UP14GT8288, Make & Model- SWARAJ MAZDA LTD SAMRAT, Manu Year-2017	Rs. 3,50,000/-	Rs. 35,000/-		
ICICI BANK LTD VS AVLESH KUMAR, OA No. 293/2021, IA No. 1837/2021	Vehicle No- HR26CG4646, Make & Model- BMW X1 SDRIVE 20D, Manu Year-2013	Rs. 6,00,000/-	Rs. 60,000/-		
Luction Data: Contember 06, 2022 From 11:00 cm to 2:00 cm					

Place of Auction: Godara Yard, Khewat No. 166/1, Near Atul Kataria Chowk, Behind Gyan Devi, School, Sec-17, Sukhrali, Gurugram- 122022 Contact Person- Rajeev Ranjan (8584874809)/ Jitendra Kumar (7304914763)

(. 66 16 1 11 66)							
Case Details	Asset Details	Reserve	EMD				
		Price	Amount				
ICICI BANK LTD VS JYOTI, OA NO. 473/2019	Vehicle No- HR69C1260, Make & Model- Ashok Leyland Ltd AL 1212, Manu Year-2017	Rs. 4,60,000/-	Rs. 46,000/-				

Auction Date: September 06, 2022 From 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. Place of Auction: SHRIRAM AUTOMALL INDIA LTD., PioManiyaar road, Opposite KanyaGurukulschool, Narela, New Delhi- 110040 Contact Person- Rajeev Ranjan (8584874809)/ Jitendra Kumar

Note: EMD is to be made in favour of ICICI BANK LIMITED payable at Delhi and Bidder has to bring original EMD at site with KYC Terms of Sale

The particulars of the said asset specified herein above have been stated to the best of the information and knowledge of the undersigned, who shall however not be responsible for any error, misstatement or omission in the said particulars. The interested participant/s are therefore requested, in their own interest, to satisfy himself/ themselves/ itself with regard to the said asset and other relevant details pertaining to it before submitting the bids. All bidders are required to come at auction site with original KYC documents and DD/PO of EMD amount in favour of ICICI bank Limited, payable at Delhi to participate in the auction. Successfully bidder shall have to deposit sale amount (Excluding EMD

amount) within 5 days from the auction date by the way of pay order/demand draft/RTGS/NEFT. In case if you fail to make the remaining sale amount within 5 days, your EMD amount will be forfeited. The intending bidders may visit at ICICI Bank Ltd, 1st Floor, SD Tower, Community Center, Plot No-7, Rohini Sector-8 New Delhi- 110085 for details and inspection of the said hypothecated vehicles.

$E^{l\, \text{Shafee Elsheikh, who was}}_{\text{formally sentenced to life in}}$ dubbed them Beatles because of their accents. Their appearance, always in masks, invoked dread among the hostages for

AP ALEXANDRIA (US)

prison for a leading role in the beheading deaths of American hostages, had a somewhat whimsical nickname as a socalled "Beatle" that belied the In fact, he is the most

viciousness of his conduct. notorious and highest-ranking member of the Islamic State group to ever be convicted in a US court, prosecutors said at his sentencing hearing in US District Court in Alexandria on Friday. Elsheikh and British counterparts Alexanda Kotey

and Mohammed Emwazi led

an Islamic State hostage-taking

scheme that took roughly two

dozen Westerners captive a decade ago. The hostages the sadism they displayed. "This

"This prosecution unmasked the barbaric and sadistic ISIS Beatles," said First Assistant US Attorney Raj Parekh. The life sentence was a

foregone conclusion after a jury convicted him of hostage taking resulting in death and other crimes earlier this year. The convictions carried a mandatory life sentence. The US agreed not to pursue a death sentence as part of a deal

that ensured extradition of

Elsheikh and his friend, Kotey,

who has already been sentenced to life. Emwazi was killed in a drone strike. The convictions revolved around the deaths of four American hostages: James Foley, Steven Sotloff,Peter Kassig, and Kayla Mueller. All but Mueller were executed in videotaped beheadings circulated online.

Mueller was forced into slavery and raped multiple times by Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi before she was killed. They were among 26 hostages taken captive between 2012 and 2015, when the Islamic State group controlled large swaths of Iraq and Syria. Parekh said it was difficult to convey the brutali-

ty of Elsheikh's actions.



PTI ■ NEW YORK

week after author Salman mer vice president has made ARushdie was stabbed stops in other early voting onstage at a literary event, states as he takes steps toward mounting a 2024 White House writers and friends of the campaign. Pence also weighed Mumbai-born author gathered at the New York Public Library here and read from his works, expressing their solidarity with him and his "relentless" advocacy for free expression.

Literary and advocacy group PEN America, which Rushdie had helmed as President, his publisher Penguin Random House, the New York Public Library, and House of SpeakEasy on Friday hosted the "Stand With Salman: Defend the Freedom to Write', a special solidarity event that brought together authors, activists, and friends in support of Rushdie.

Authors, writers, artists and members from the literary community, including Tina Brown, Kiran Desai, Aasii Mandvi and Reginald Dwayne Betts read from some of Rushdie's most celebrated works and wished the 75-yearold Booker Prize winner a speedy recovery.

PM Gati Shakti plan will help save taxpayers' money, says Goyal

Mantri Gati Shakti National Master Plan will help develop the future infrastructure in a planned manner, prevent cost overrun, and increase India's cost competitiveness, besides saving taxpayers' money, Union Minister Piyush Goyal said on Saturday.

He said 1,000 geospatial maps have been formed for forests, wildlife sanctuaries, highways and railway infrastructure, power plants and industrial zones in India.

"Maps of states are also being integrated with them. By the last count, around 450 infrastructure data has been mapped," the Commerce and Industry Minister said.

Gujarat-based Bhaskaracharya Institute for Space Applications and Geoinformatics (BISAG-N), which works to implement map-based Geospatial Information Systems (GIS), has developed the PM Gati Shakti Master Plan, Goyal said.

"These maps are all inter-connected, because of which the future infrastructure will be developed in a planned manner," he said at an investors' round-table conference organised by the National Industrial Development Corporation (NICDC) and the Dholera Industrial City



Development (DICDL).

He said the PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan will help in planning the construction of an overbridge, diverting routes if a forest or wildlife sanctuary comes in the way, and figuring out how to construct a bridge with the smallest length for a

"All these can be more effectively planned to prevent time and cost overrun so that the projects are completed in time. It's benefit will ultimately go to the citizens. Any delay in government projects or infrastructures is a waste of taxpayers' money," the Union min-

Goyal, who also holds the charge of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, said if a project is completed in time, it will increase India's competi-

"I believe the Gati Shakti project is perhaps the first-ofits-kind in the world, and there is a lot of inquisitiveness across the world to know about this,"

The country achieved ₹ 50 lakh crore export in 2021-22 and aims to increase it to \$2 Goyal also talked about the National Single Window System, a portal for investors to trillion—\$1 trillion each in serobtain regulatory approvals from the Centre and states. vices and merchandise, he said. *PTI*

Sonowal reviews Chabahar port development work

New Delhi: Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal on Saturday visited the Shahid Behestti port at Chabahar in Iran to review the progress in the development of the port, an official statement said.

The statement further said that in an effort to invigorate the potential of Chabahar port, Sonowal also handed over six mobile harbour cranes to Indian Ports Global Chabahar Free Trade Zone (IPGCFTZ) at the port.

According to the statement, Sonowal said that India remains committed to developing and popularising Chabahar Port in Iran.

He was accompanied by India's Ambassador to Iran, Gaddam Dharmendra and Ali Akbar Safaee, deputy minister and Managing Director of Maritime Ports and Organisation, Iran.

"Sonowal and Safaee had a fruitful meeting on development of maritime and port cooperation between Iran and India. Both the delegation discussed the possibilities of trade and unlock trade potential between Central Asian countries with South Asian, ASEAN and even from Far East countries like Japan and Korea," it

Sonowal reiterated the role Chabahar port can play in



Union Shipping Minister Sarbananda Sonowal during a meeting with Iranian officials on Chabahar Port and trade ties, in Chabahar, Iran on Saturday

reducing distance, time and

It was decided to form a joint technical committee for smooth functioning of the port, the statement said, adding that the meeting also addressed the future course of action towards development of the port.

Sonowal said both India and Iran are continuously working towards making the International North South Transport Corridor as the preferred route of trade between the two regions.

Since India Ports Global Private Limited (IPGPL) assumed operations of Shahid Beheshti Port, it has handled over 4.8 million tons of bulk

The trans-shipment of goods were from varied countries including Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Germany, Oman, Romania, Russia, Thailand, the UAE, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

According to the statement, with close cooperation between India's IGPL and Iranian stakeholders including Iran's Port and Maritime Organisation, Iranian Customs Administration and the Chabahar Free Zone Authority, Shahid Behesti Port Authority and other stakeholders, the Port is likely to act as a catalyst to unlock the huge trade potential in the region.

Chabahar Port is the coun-

Japan's Lixil Corporation aims ₹1K cr sales from **India in next 3 years**

New Delhi: Japan-based building materials and housing equipment maker Lixil Corporation is aiming Rs 1,000 crore worth sales in India in the next three years, a company

next three years, a company official said on Saturday.

Lixil operates in India through its brands Grohe and American Standard. For Lixil, India is one of the fastest growing markets in the India-Pacific region following Japan, the US and China and it would continue to invest here for expansion, said Lixil Water Technology India & Subcontinent Leader Bobby Joseph.

"A lot of investment is coming, what we believe is for next 5 years and 10 years, ahead of time. It (India) is among the top four markets, where Lixil is investing," Joseph told PTI. India has the potential to be one of the largest mar-

Lixil is working on a longterm strategy for the Indian market, where it operates with brands Grohe in the luxury and premium bathroom fitting segment and American Standard in the comparatively

smaller side, Joseph added.
For financial year ended
March 31, 2022, Lixil had
recorded around 50 per cent growth. For the first quarter (April-June) of the current fis-Chabahar Port is the country's first overseas port project.

Cal, it registered over 20 per cent growth quarter-on-quarter, Joseph added.

PTI

We don't influence share price, making efforts to become profitable: Paytm CEO

New Delhi: Digital payments Communications Limited, which operates under the Paytm brand, does not influence the price at which its stock

company has committed earlier, Paytm will post operational profit in the quarter ending

receipt of the said notice.

Name of the

Borrower/ Loan

Account Numbe

LBJAI00003926897

LBJAI00004659498

Date : August 20, 2022 Place: Delhi/ NCR (Noida & Gurgaon)

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
The public at large is hereby informed that our client Sukhleen Kaur Oberol is the co-owner of the property mentioned herein, therefore, any person inlended to purchase or take on lease/rent the built up property's Entire Basement, Entire Ground Floor and half Terrace rights over and above the Entire Second Floor in the property bearing no A-256, situated at Defence Colony, New Delhi - 110024. If anybody intended to purchase or take on lease/rent, he/she may contact the undersigned, as our client is the co-owner alongwith her brother Jasjot Singh Oberol and our client recently came to know that he fraudulently got the property herein transferred on his name. Anybody dealing with her brother shall be responsible for the legal consequences.

RAJAN CHUTANI & PARUL DUREJA, ADVOCATES

1.

2.

CAs can use the same in this tender

OCEB/

2022-20

Key Dates:-

Akhilesh Pathak/

"Share price movement is not influenced by us. There are several factors. Company's profitability plays a very important factor in it. Company's

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Bank Limited under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notices upon

the borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of

As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that

the undersigned has taken Symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers

conferred on him/ her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-

mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the

Description

of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession

Flat No. W 607n, W 608, Pink Pride- The Suites, 6th Floor, Khasra No 9, Jaisinghpura Bass Bhankrota, Sanganer, Jaipur, Rajasthan- 303902./ August 16, 2022

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/ guarantors(s) are hereby given a 30 day notice to repay the amount, else the

mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Known to all that my client Mr. Saleem S/o Sh. Khazansa, and his wife Mrs. Rubina W/o Sh. Saleem Both R/o A- 14,Gali No.2,Village Pochanpur, Sector 23, Dwarka, New Delhi ended all of their relations with his son Ehsan Ali S/o Sh. Saleem (aged 28 years) and his wife Smt. Rihana W/o Ehsan Ali (aged about 26 years) on dated 24.08.2018 and disowned them from all of his succession rights of their movable and immovable properties in future. my clients shall not be

oroperties. In future, my clients shall not be esponsible / liable for any or their acts, behaviors, conduct and deeds with any

RAJIV KUMAR, ADVOCATE D/1699/2005 Contact: 9899331004

Estimated Earnes

4946/

Cr.

23.08.2022

24.73/-

HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LTD.

(A State Govt. Undertaking)

(E-tendering mode only)

ONLINE TENDERS are hereby invited on turnkey basis (two part bid) by the undersigned for 8

on behalf of Managing Director, HPSEB Ltd., Shimla-4 from the Bidders/Joint venture firms having A-Class

The bid document is available online and bid shall be submitted on line on website

https://www.hptenders.gov.in. Bidders would be required to register in the website which is free of cost. For

submission of bids, the bidders are required to have digital signature certificate (DSC) from one of the

authorized certifying authority (CA). Aspiring bidders who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in e-tendering in HPSEBL may obtain the same from the website https://www.hptenders.gov.in

DSC is mandatory to participate in e-tendering. Bidders already possessing valid DSC issued from authorized

Electrical contractor license from Chief Electrical Inspector, for the following work:-

Description of work

Development of Distribution Infrastructure at

Kinnaur District of Himachal Pradesh under Revemped Reforms-Based and Result-

Date of online publication

Energy Saved is Energy Generated Follow COVID Protocol

3. End date & time of bid submission

Start date & time of bid submission

4. Date and time of opening of techno comm. bid

Linked, Distribution Sector Scheme

property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ICICI Bank Limited.

Rakhi Devi-LBJA100004589128/ Sanganer, Jaipur, Rajasthan- 303902./ August 16, 2022

Pranch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, 3rd Floor, Plot No- 23, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi- 110005

rebounding of share price to the IPO level of ₹2,150. The stock closed at ₹771 on Friday. While most of the shareholders who got to speak during the AGM expressed faith in the company's business model, some expressed displeasure at the losses of One97 Communications and drop in share price. A shareholder, Manjit Singh, said the business model of Paytm is good and the brand is visible but the share price is far below the IPO level, which the company

Another shareholder Bimal Kumar asked about employee retention rate, timeline for break-even and valuator of the asked the management about company who pegged the share the path to profitability and price at ₹2,150. *PTI*

Branch

Delhi/

Jaipur/

Gurgaon/ Bhojpur

in Demand Notice (Rs.)

March 30, 2022

March 30, 2022

23,02,511.00/-

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for general information that I, Umair Alam S/o Mohd. Shafique Alam R/o 32/493, Block No.32. Trilok Puri, Delhi-110091 was adopted by a Hindu namely Shri Rakesh Kumar S/o Shri Babu Singh Chauhan R/o H.NO.- 49, Main Road, Mandawali,

Delhi-11092 Vide adoption Deed No. NIL dated 14-06-2004 and I was known as Umesh Kumar. Slo Rakesh Kumar. The said adoption deed was declared not in accordance with law and void ab initio

declared not in accordance with law and void ab initio in Civil Sult No. 9153/16 vide Judgment/Declared dated 22-03-20-19. Henceforth, I will be known as UMAIR ALAM SIo MOHD. SHAFIQUE ALAM R/O VILLAGE KADWA, PO. HALDIYA BIHAR, DISTT. ARARIA, BIHAR-854318 for all future purpose. It is certified that I have compiled with other legal requirements in this connection.

Ch. No. 135, B.G.S Block, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-110054

Cost of Tender

inclusive GST

Rs. 2950/-

(Non-

refundable)

25.08.2022 (1130 Hours)

20.09.2022 (1530 Hours)

(OP) Circle, HPSEB Ltd., Rampur Bushahr

Superintending Engineer

GMR Innovex starts Blockchain CoE to incubate start-us for airports

New Delhi: Infrastructure company GMR Group on Saturday said it has set up a centre of excellence to incubate start-ups in the blockchain

"Going forward, we will

also try to include approval of

local bodies from the same sin-

gle window," he said, adding

that investors and entrepreneurs should get approval from

the same system and provide

feedback for improvement.

Goyal said Dholera has the potential to become one of the world's biggest and best manufacturing industrial

manufacturing industrial

He said Dholera SIR is the first platinum-rated industrial

many as 75,000 startups were

registered in the last six years

and lakhs of youths connected

with the startups are getting

tant role in making the coun-

try an industrial superpower,"

smart cities like the one being

developed at Dholera near

Ahmedabad will play a big role

for investors to set up industries

in Gujarat. He said that his

ministry will soon begin engag-

ing with the industry on

increasing exports.

They will play an impor-

The Union minister said

employment opportunities.

Goyal further said that as

smart city in India.

The Centre of Excellence (CoE) is part of the expansion plan of the group's innovation arm GMR Innovex. GMR Innovex signed a

memorandum of understanding with Idealabs, Polygon, Koinearth, India Blockchain Forum and Veroince to explore opportunities. identify blockchain technology related use cases for airports and ancillary business, the company said in a statement.

The CoE intends to work with various distributed ledger technology (DLT) players to build a slew of applications. The industry is slowly emergvalue that DLT systems present, companies.

specifically for a multi-stakeholder environment like airports, GMR Airports, ED-South and Chief Innovation Officer, SGK Kishore said.

The GMR Innovex -Blockchain Centre of Excellence will identify and incubate startups and catalyze innovative product development under the guidance of business leaders and domain experts in association with blockchain technology partners, the statement said.

As per Grand View Research, the global blockchain

technology market size was valued at USD 5.92 billion in 2021 and is expected to grow at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 85.9 per cent from 2022 to 2030. The market growth can be attributed to the increasing venture capital fund-

Walmart expands abortion coverage for employees

New York: Walmart, the nation's largest employer, is expanding its abortion coverage for employees after staying largely mum on the issue for months following the Supreme Court ruling that scrapped a nationwide right to abortion.

In a memo sent to employees on Friday, the company said its health care plans will now cover abortion for employees when there is a health risk to the mother, rape or incest, ectopic pregnancy, miscarriage or lack of fetal viability."

The new policy will also offer "travel support" for workers and dependents covered under their health care plans so they can access services that are not available within 100 miles of their locations, Donna Morris, the retailer's chief people officer, said in the memo. Walmart employs near-

BUSINESS BRIEF

POWERGRID GETS NEW DIRECTOR (OP)

New Delhi: Ravindra Kumar Tyagi has joined as Director (Operations) at Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID) on 12th August' 2022. He is having work experience of over 32 years in Power Transmission System, out of which over 26 years are in

Operation and Maintenance (O&M) of Substations and Transmission linesat various key positions in premier CPSUs in power sector such as POWERGRID and NTPC.

5TH ICG SUBORDINATE OFFICER'S CONCLAVE HELD

New Delhi: The 5th Indian Coast Guard Subordinate Officers' Conclave 2022 was inaugurated by Director General VS Pathania PTM. TM here on 17 Aug. The two day Conclave at Coast Guard Headquarters comprised of brainstorming sessions and

various other plenary sessions, involving highly motivated and

committed Subordinate Officers who have come from various Coast Guard units, across the country, to attend the event. The Indian Coast Guard has not only been working towards empowering and broadening the horizon of Subordinate Officers but has also been providing them a platform to express their innovative ideas, thought processes, and wishful thinking before the decision making echelons

AZADI KA AMRIT MAHOTSAV CELEBRATED

Alliance, a collaborative body that drives the discourse on faecal sludge and septage management in India, celebrated Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav on Friday along with Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) and Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. On the occasion, a virtual event was organised around the topic of "Safai Mitra Suraksha: Manhole to Machine hole" chaired by Manoj Joshi, Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, and R Subrahmanyam, Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice and

END-TO-END DIGITAL HEALTHCARE SERVICES

New Delhi: MediBuddy, India's largest digital healthcare platform, announced its association with KODA AUTO Volkswagen India Private Limited. Through this association, MediBuddy will provide easy access to quality healthcare services to the auto firm's entire workforce. Our goal is to provide our customers with healthcare support across all specialties at any time and anywhere, said Satish Kannan, co-founder & CEO, MediBuddy.

TAHDCO, Veranda Learning ink MoU to train students on banking, financial institutions

Chennai: The Tamil Nadu Adi Dravidar Housing and Development Corporation (TAHD-CO) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) Veranda Learning Solutions Ltd to train for free

students from backward communities in bank and financial institutions, the company said on Saturday.

The 8-week program, offered under the Veranda RACE, is targeted at the students of Scheduled Castes and Tribes in Tamil Nadu.

It would consist of five classroom sessions with mocktests and personality develop-

"The program is aimed to equip unemployed SC/ST youth to face competitive examination in the banking sector with confidence. The objective of TAHDCO is to achieve and sustain increase in the income levels of the SC/ST, especially those living below povertyline," said TAHDCO Managing Director K S

Kandasamy

RACE (Operation Head) Santhosh Kumar said, "We are honoured to be a part of this program with TAHDCO as it will help us in penetrating and reaching out to students and providing them with complete support in achieving their dream with our structured

supporting many aspirants achieve their dream jobs in var-

Adani to launch open offer for ACC, Ambuja Cements on August 26

New Delhi: The Adani Group letter of offers for the open is likely to launch next week an open offer worth Rs 31,000 crore to acquire 26 per cent stake each in Swiss firm Holcim's two Indian listed entities Ambuja Cements and ACC, from public sharehold-

In May this year, the Adani Group announced that it has clinched a deal to acquire a controlling stake in Holcim Ltd's businesses in India for USD 10.5 billion.

Markets regulator Sebi granted approval for the open offer this week. The open offer is estimated at over Rs 31,000 crore if fully subscribed.

In two separate regulatory filings, Ambuja Cements and ACC have submitted their

offer launched by the Adani family group's Mauritius-based firm Endeavour Trade and Investment.

As per the revised schedule submitted by ICICI Securities and Deutsche Equities India - which are the managers of open offer - tendering of the shares in the open will start from August 26 as against the earlier date of July 6. This will end on September 9, 2022. In May, the Adani Group had made an open offer at Rs 385 per share for Ambuja Cements and Rs 2,300 per share for ACC.

For Ambuja Cements, the group had made an open offer to its public shareholders to acquire up to 51.63 crore equity shares, representing 26

per cent of the expanded share capital, aggregating to Rs 19,879.57 crore. For ACC Ltd, the group had offered to acquire up to 4.89 crore shares held by public shareholders, representing 26 per cent of the expanded share capital, aggregating to Rs 11,259.97 crore.

This open offer has been triggered following the execution of the share purchase agreement between the Adani Group and Holcim to acquire controlling stake in the latter's businesses in India "for an aggregate consideration of USD equivalent to Rs 50,181.04 crore". Endeavour Trade and Investment is promoted by Acropolis Trade and Investment Ltd, which is held by certain members of the Adani family.

GI tag issued to Mithila makhana

New Delhi: The Government has awarded Geographical Indication (GI) tag to Mithila Makhana, a move which is expected to help growers get the maximum price for their premium produce.

"Mithila Makhana registered with GI Tag, farmers will get profit and it will be easier to earn. Due to Geographical Indication Tag to Mithila Makhana in the festive season, people outside Bihar will be able to use this auspicious material with reverence," Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said in a tweet.

Once a product gets this tag, any person or company cannot sell a similar item under that name. This tag is valid for a period of 10 years following which it can be renewed. The other benefits of GI registration include legal protection to that item, prevention against unauthorised use by others, and promoting exports.

A GI is primarily an agricultural, natural or a manufactured product (handicrafts and industrial goods) originating from a definite geographical territory.

EPFO adds 18.36 lakh

EPFO added 18.36 lakh new subscribers in June 2022, registering 43 per cent rise as compared to the yearago period, according to an official data. The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) had added 12.83 lakh net new subscribers in June 2021, the data showed.

The provisional payroll data of

PTI MP Act, 1952 for the first time. **PTI**

net subscribers in June New Delhi: Retirement fund body

EPFO released on Saturday highlights that the organisation added 18.36 lakh net members in June 2022, a labour ministry statement said. In June this year, the net member addition increased by 9.21 per cent as compared to May 2022. Out of the total 18.36 lakh members added during the month, around 10.54 lakh new members have been covered under EPF &



statement. On the MoU, Veranda

curriculum." "Our institute has been

ious public sector banks and government sectors," he said. The program would also include training on the modules such as mathematics, English, general knowledge

trades but the management is growth plays an important role making efforts to make the in it but these two are not the firm profitable, its MD and only factor for share price. CEO Vijay Shekhar Sharma has "Macro, micro, international investors and several told shareholders. Speaking at the company's other sentiments play a role in 22nd annual general meeting (AGM) on Friday, he said till share prices," Sharma said. Responding to shareholders' questions, he said the man-2018-19, the company was in expansion mode and it entered agement is making efforts to ensure that the company reginto the monetisation mode should look at. isters growth and earns strong from 2019-20, according to participants who attended the profit for expanding business. Shareholders of One97 meeting. Sharma said as the Communications Limited

INDIA THRASH ZIMBABWE BY 5 WICKETS

Samson, Thakur fashion India's victory in 2nd ODI, India seal series

anju Samson produced a respon-Sible unbeaten 43 after a clinical bowling display, led by pacer Shardul Thakur, as India sailed to a fivewicket win over Zimbabwe in the second ODI to take an unassailable 2-0 lead in the three-match series here on Saturday.

It was not quite a domination unlike the first ODI but the paltry 162run target meant that the KL Rahul-led side did not have to sweat much despite a mid-innings jolt.

Sent into bowl, comeback man Thakur (3/38 in seven overs) brilliantly set it up and became the wrecker-inchief as the Indian bowlers once again came out on top to skittle out Zimbabwe for 161.

In the absence of Deepak Chahar who missed out after his exploits in the last ODI, Thakur made his presence felt and rocked the Zimbabwe top-order with his double blow in the 12th over.

Shikhar Dhawan and Shubman Gill then showed their same flair and authority, even as the duo batted in difidentical scores of 33.

But the duo could not steer the team home this time as India endured some anxious moments in the middle following the departure of Dhawan.

Luke Jongwe (2/33) produced a double blow, dismissing Ishan Kishan (6) and a well-set Shubman Gill in successive overs, to reduce India to 97 for four at the drinks break.

But with just 65 runs needed from 36 overs, Deepak Hooda and Samson produced a sensible stand of 56-run together to virtually seal the fate of the With nine runs to win, Hooda was

yorked by Sikandar Raza but Samson remained unbeaten on 43 (39 balls; 2x4, 4x6) and wrapped it up with a six off legspinner Innocent Kaia in the 26th Having posted a 192-run unbroken

stand in their previous win, Dhawan and Gill did not open together this time with the skipper Rahul opting to go alongside the former. In the first ODI, Rahul, who was

returning to action after nearly three



months following a sports hernia surgery and a bout of COVID, chose to go with Dhawan and Gill as the two openers. The duo posted a 192-run unbroken stand to fashion India's 10-

But Rahul got back to his usual slot on Saturday, only to get out LBW by pacer Victor Nyauchi after missing the line of the ball.

This was Rahul's first International match since his 49-run outing against the West Indies in an ODI in Ahmedabad on February 9.

After Rahul's brief stay, it was once again business as usual for Dhawan and Gill as the duo started from where they left in the first ODI here two days' back.

Earlier, Sean Williams played a counter-attacking knock and topscored for the hosts with a run-a-ball 42 (1x6, 3x4) after his side was reduced to 31/4 in the 13th over.

India brought in part-time off-spinner Deepak Hooda to give the muchneeded breakthrough in the form of Williams who went for a pre-meditated pull to be taken at the deep square leg by Shikhar Dhawan.

India's veteran Jhulan set for international retirement at Lord's on Sept 24

 $V^{
m eteran}$ bowler Jhulan Goswami, the leading wicket-taker in women's international cricket, is all set to retire at the hallowed Lord's during India's third and final ODI against England on September 24, according to a report.

The 39-year-old pacer was

named in the 17-member Indian ODI squad for the three matches at Hove (September 18), Canterbury (September 21) and the Lord's (September 24). Jhulan, who last played for India during the ODI World Cup in New Zealand in March this year, will be given a "proper farewell" as she could not say "goodbye on the field", ESPNCricinfo reported, quoting a Board official. Jhulan sustained a side strain ahead of



India's final World Cup group game against South Africa and missed the Sri Lanka tour in

According to the report, Jhulan is keeping her "options open" for the inaugural Women's IPL slated from next year and she's also in talks with the men's franchises for a

Man United reaches deal to sign Casemiro from Real Madrid



 $M_{\rm a}$ anchester United reached a deal to sign midfielder Casemiro from Real Madrid, ending the Brazilian's successful stint in Spain and giving the struggling English giant a muchneeded reinforcement.

Both clubs confirmed the deal but did not provide financial details, although Spanish media said the deal for the 30year-old Brazilian was worth about 70 million euros (\$70 million) plus variables.

United said the transfer is subject to the agreement of personal terms, UK visa require-

ments and a medical. United, which has lost its opening two games of the Premier League

season, has been in the market

for a central midfielder since the

transfer window opened. Casemiro's arrival should be a boost for beleaguered United manager Erik ten Hag, who unsuccessfully deployed playmaker Christian Eriksen in a deeper-lying midfield role in last weekend's 4-0 loss at Brentford.

Madrid thanked Casemiro and called him a club legend. He had been with Madrid since 2013 and helped it win 18 titles, including five Champions League and three Spanish

The club said Casemiro will be honored at an event at the team's training center on

Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti had said earlier Friday that Casemiro was in negotiations for a move and a deal was imminent.

He said he spoke with Casemiro and felt "there was no way back,"

"He wants to try a new challenge, a new opportunity," Ancelotti said in a news confer-

"The club understands. With all he's done for this club and the person he is, we have to respect it. There are talks right now, he's still a Real Madrid player at this stage, but he wants to leave.

Ancelotti said he didn't try to change Casemiro's mind about leaving.
"I haven't tried to convince

him, I just listened, because I have spoken to Casemiro throughout my time here and he has helped us so much,"

Gokulam Kerala not playing in AFC Women's Club Championships



A"distraught" Gokulam Kerala women's team will return home on Monday from Uzbekistan after it was removed from the AFC Women's Club Championships following the FIFA ban on

The 23-member team, led by India captain Ashalata Devi, were left stranded in Tashkent for four days since arriving at the Uzbekistan capital on August 16, the day the news of the ban imposed on the AIFF by the world governing body FIFA reached India.

Gokulam, the Indian Women's League champions, were to play against home side Sogdiana-W in Qarshi on August 23 and against Bam Khatoon FC of Iran in its next round-robin match on August

"Yes, it is confirmed. The sports ministry has told us that its request to FIFA and AFC to allows us play in the AFC Women's Club Championships has been refused. So, we are not playing. The organisers have also told us that we can't play," Gokulam Kerala president V C Praveen told PTI.

"We were trying for the players to return home on Sunday but there is no flight from Tashkent to India. The earliest flight is on Monday, so we are trying for the players to return home on Monday or Tuesday," he added.

"Of course, the players are distraught at the turn of events and they had to suffer for no fault of theirs. The club had to

Praveen said the AFC should have allowed his club to take part in the championships as the players had left for the tournament before the ban

India's star Olympic football captain Samar 'Badru' Banerjee dead



 $F^{
m ormer}$ India football team captain Samar 'Badru' Banerjee, who led the country to a historic fourth-place finish in the 1956 Melbourne Olympics, died here in the early hours of Saturday after a prolonged illness.

He was 92. Banerjee is survived by his daughter-in-law.

Fondly known as 'Badru Da', he was suffering from Álzheimer, Azotemia and high-blood pressure related ailments, and was admitted at the MR Bangur Hospital after testing positive

'As his health deteriorated he was shifted to the state-run SSKM Hospital under the supervision of state sports minister Arup Biswas. He breathed his last around 2.10am," Mohun Bagan secretary Debasish Dutta told PTI.

"He was our beloved 'Badru Da' and we had bestowed him with the Mohun Bagan Ratna in 2009. It's another big loss for the Maidan," he added in his condolence message.

His body was brought to the club as the members and fans paid their last respects.

The Indian football teams have participated in three Olympics so far and till date, the performance by the Banerjee-led 1956 side remains the best, when it finished fourth after losing to Bulgaria 0-3 in the bronze medal playoff, in what was known as the 'golden era' of football in the country. Having got a walkover in the first round, the Syed Abdul Rahim-coached side that also had the likes of PK Banerjee, Neville D'Souza and J 'Kittu' Krishnaswamy, defeated Australia 4-2. D'Souza struck a hat-trick in their glorious

Bhagat-Kadam win men's doubles gold, 3 women para shuttlers emerge champions in Thailand

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

ndian para shuttlers Pramod Indian para sinduces I Bhagat and Sukant Kadam claimed the gold after beating Indonesia's Dwiyoko Dwiyoko and Fredy Setiawan in the men's doubles final of the Thailand Para Badminton International tournament in Pattaya on Saturday.

The Indian duo defeated the Indonesian pair 21-18 21-13 in the summit clash of SL3-SL4 cat-

and Kadam had to settle for a silver medal each after losing their respective finals.

While Pramod went down

In the men's singles, Bhagat

fighting to England's Daniel Bethell 13-21 19-21, Kadam lost 2-21 17-21 to France's Lucas

"I am happy with my performance throughout the tournament. I wish to congratulate Bethell on the win and now I will head back to the training ground and train harder for World Championship in Tokyo," Bhagat said in a release. In other results, Ruthick

Ragupathi and Manasi Joshi finished second best in mixed doubles SL3-SU5 class, losing 21-17 15-21 7-21 to France's Lucas Mazur and Faustine Noel in the final. In women's singles,



Mandeep Kaur got the better off compatriot Manasi 20-22 21-19 21-14 in SL3 finals to claim the gold medal, while Manisha Ramadass also bagged the yellow metal after beating Japan's Kaede Kameyama 20-22 21-12 21-19 in SU5 final.

Nithya Sre Sumathy Sivan also won the gold with a 21-9 24-22 win over England's Rachel Choong 21-9 24-22 in SH6

Manasi and Shanthiya Viswanathan also combined to sign off with a silver in the women's doubles SL3-SU5 after going down 20-22 19-21 to Thailand's Nipada Saensupa and Chanida Srinavakul.

Filipino star Superal wins Simone Cup in Jakarta, Amandeep top Indian at 18th

A mandeep Drall shot an Aeven par 72 in the final round to finish as the top Indian golfer in the inaugural Simone Asia Pacific Cup here on Saturday.

Amandeep finished T-18th as her teammate in the team ed 2-over 74 and was T-20th. Together the Indian pair was

India's two other players this week -- Gaurika Bishnoi (72) finished T-22nd and Diksha Dagar (75) was T-26th. Together Ğaurika and Diksha finished T-14th as a team.

Gaurika had one birdie and one bogey in her round, while Diksha started with a bogey and a double bogey on first two holes and dropped another shot on eighth. She dropped yet another one on 15th, but also birdied 10th and 18th for her 75.

Princess Superal of the Philippines got off to a fast start



with three straight birdies from second to fourth and never loosened the grip as she added two more birdies on the back nine without dropping any

Her 5-under 67 gave her a three-day final total of 204 and she won by three shots over Korean Ryu So Yeon (67), while Lydia Ko (70) was third

Lydia Ko, who trailed Princess by one at the start of the day, failed to mount a strong challenge as she signed for a 70 to finish four shots behind the champion.

"It's pretty special to me because this is my first international win as a professional," said Princess, who pocketed a cool USD \$100,000 for the biggest pay check of her career.

"I've been waiting for this moment to arrive. I'm very

happy. Playing alongside the more illustrious Ko, Princess showed no signs of nerves as she birdied three of the opening four holes to open a two-shot lead and never looked back

I would be surprised if India and Pakistan don't come knocking on door: Watson on WTC qualification



PTI DUBAI

India and Pakistan possess a number of match winners and it would be surprising if the two teams don't come close to qualifying for the finals of the World Test Championships, feels former Australian allrounder Shane Watson.

The final of the ongoing cycle is set to be played next year, but the race for the top two spots in the league table is

heating up.
Last edition's finalists India will host Australia for four of their six remaining WTC matches, while the remaining two will be away matches

against Bangladesh. Pakistan, on the other hand, have home advantage in all of their remaining five fixtures. "You can never discount

India and Pakistan, because

they've got so many match winners, outside of their home countries as well," Watson said on The ICC Review. "Those two, I'd be very surprised if they don't come knocking on the door leading

into the final. Currently, South Africa and Australia are occupying the top two positions in the World Test Championships standings, followed by Sri Lanka, India

and Pakistan. "Right now, the way I see it, it's going to be hard for South Africa and Australia to not make it", Watson said, when asked to predict the two final-

"They're both playing really good cricket. Australia played good cricket apart from that last Test against Sri Lanka where they got swept up in turning conditions in the last

New Zealand beat West Indies by 50 runs in 2nd 1-day match

AP ■ BRIDGETOWN (BARBADOS)

 $F_{
m 22}^{
m inn}$ Allen made 96 and Tim Southee took 4-22 as New Zealand beat the West Indies by 50 runs under the Duckworth-Lewis system in the second one-day international to level the three-match series.

New Zealand made 212 batting first and the

West Indies were in dire straits at 27-6, potentially facing their lowest-ever total in a one-day international, until a long rain break and bold late-order batting changed the course of the match on Friday. When the rain stopped late in the evening at Kensington Oval, the West Indies, who were

63-7 at the break, were left to chase 212 from only 51 overs. They found an unusual hero in Yanick Cariah who posted a half century in his first innings in an ODI and shared an 85-run partnership with Alzarri Joseph (49) which raised

the hopes for the home team.

Joseph fell with the total 157-9 and Cariah was the last man out for 52 with the total 161 to make Sunday's third international the series "We were disappointed to lose six wickets in the powerplay," West Indies captain Nicholas

Pooran said. "Having said that, having Yanick coming into the team and putting on that partnership with Alzarri Joseph was great but it came a bit



crash through the West Indies top and middle order, leaving the home team six wickets down in the 10th over. Southee finished with 4-22 and Boult 3-18.

Earlier, Allen fell four runs short of a maiden century as New Zealand overcame the loss of its captain and a stuttering start to post 212 in 48.2 overs.

Skipper Kane Williamson was ruled out with a quad muscle strain suffered in the first match of the three-match series which the West Indies won by five wickets. Stand-in captain Tom Latham was among

three batsmen to fall early as New Zealand struggled to 31-3 in the 10th over. He was out for a three-ball duck while Martin Guptill fell for 3 and Devon Conway for 6.

FTX Crypto Cup: Praggnanandhaa's winning streak ends with loss to Liem Le

PTI MIAMI

Tndian Grandmaster R ▲Praggnanandhaa's winning run came to an end at the hands of China's Quang Liem Le in the fifth round of the FTX Crypto Cup, the American finale

of Champions Chess Tour, here. Liem Le scored an emphatic 2.5-0.5 win over the teenaged Indian GM, securing victories in games two and three after the opener ended in a draw.

A 43-move win in the third

game sealed the deal for Liem Le as Praggnanandhaa's stupendous run was halted. World No.1 Magnus

Carlsen, meanwhile, went down 2-4 in a tie-break to Jan-Krzystof Duda of Poland after the fourgame match ended 2-2. The Norwegian is in sole

lead after the fifth round with 13 match points, one ahead of Praggnanandhaa. The 17-year old Indian prodigy has been in superb form in the tournament, scoring wins over world No.4 Alireza Firouzja, Anish Giri, Levon Aronian and Hans Niemann before the Chinese GM halted the streak.

over four rapid games, with Praggnanandhaa's coach blitz tiebreaks in case of a 2-2 Ramesh said after the player's



first defeat, "Tough loss for @rpragchess against Liem losing with a score of 0.5 - 2.5. Over extended in second game and paid the price. Well done Liem!" In other matches in the

round, Firouzja beat the winless Niemann 2.5-0.5 to close in on Carlsen and Praggnanandhaa with 11 match points. Dutchman Giri beat Levon

Aronian 2.5-0.5 to move into 5th place with 7 points.

The eight-player all-play-all tournament is the American finale of Champions Chess Tour. There is USD \$7,500 at stake for each match win at the event. Each match will be played



with knee injury PTI KARACHI

Pakistan's lead pacer Shaheen Shah Afridi was on Saturday ruled out of the upcoming Asia Cup and the home series against England with a knee injury, dealing a massive blow to the team's prospects.
The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) said Shaheen has been advised four-six weeks rest by the its medical advisory com-

mittee and independent special-

ists following scans.

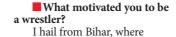
The board said that while Shaheen has been ruled out of the T20 Asia Cup and the

seven-match T20 home series against England, he is expected to return to competitive cricket in October with the New Zealand tri-series, which will be followed by the ICC T20 World Cup in Australia.

DANISH **AKHTAR** SAIFI

sunday pioneer

The actor, who essays Nandi's character in &TV's Baal Shiv, reveals that 'The Great Khali' has trained him for wrestling. He has taken up various mythological roles in his acting career. Howbeit, his love for wrestling is unmatched. He speaks with SUPRIYA RAMESH about how he manages his acting, wrestling and more. Baal Shiv airs every Monday to Friday on &TV at 8:00 pm



kushti is enjoyed by many. And in a similar vein, I was fascinated by wrestling. I was young when I decided to be a wrestler and the first person I told this to was my father. He, too, was amazed by my decision and motivated me for it. He made me go through years

of intense training and a strict regimen, which greatly helped me gain fitness and energy in my body. I admired WWE a lot and wanted to become an international

wrestler. Since facilities were not available in my city to learn wrestling, I went to Jalandhar and started taking the training. Later, I also got an opportunity to be there, but destiny had other plans.

■How did acting In 2010, I went to the National School of

Bodybuilding, Jalandhar and took a

six-month training, which helped me gain a wrestler's body and then moved to Delhi and initially started working as a gym trainer. While in Jalandhar, I connected with The Great Khali's brother. So, one day he called me and said selectors are coming from WWE, and I think you are a good fit for it. So, can you come back to Jalandhar for it? Obviously, I decided to go back in no time. Khali sir had personally trained me for six months before the selection in his academy CWE (Continental Wrestling Éntertainment). I remember around four to five thousand people had come for the selection, out of which only five or six were shortlisted, and I was one of them. But due to some paperwork, I could not fly to America then. After that, I came to Mumbai, and my acting career began

How did you get your first break as an actor?

For a mythological show, auditions were happening; the makers were looking for someone tall, extremely strong, and muscular, with a clean image. A casting friend of mine suggested I go for the audition, and in the

very first audition, I got selected for Hanuman's role. I never thought that I would end up in this field. It was director Nikhil Sinha's vision that convinced me to try out for this role. I had to work a lot on my acting skills, and for almost three months, I studied the character to portray it in the desired way.

■ How has your experience with Baal Shiv been?

I am playing Nandi in the show, who is the guardian deity of Kailash, the abode of Shiva. This character is appreciated, and many people from the industry have also complimented me on how I portray it. The character has helped me get closer to the viewers as many Shiv ji's bhakts follow the show very ardently, and this is one show which every age group enjoys. My journey has been great with all my co-stars. Everybody shares a very great unbreakable bond. Whenever I am on the set, Aan (Baal Shiv) keeps playing with my biceps and tells me that he wants a body like mine.

■ Although your acting career happened by chance, do you feel it happened for good? Absolutely, yes. The audience

enjoys watching me on screen, and over the years, I have learned a lot from my directors and co-stars about how to portray myself and be a good actor. And I frequently mention to people that my first love is wrestling and my last is acting. I feel immense pleasure and satisfaction in performing as an actor and competing in the wrestling ring simultaneously.

You have always played

mythological roles on the screen. Why?

I have portrayed Hanuman on two occasions, Bheem in a Kannada movie and now Nandi in &TV's Baal Shiv. I am incredibly grateful for it. I have received accolades from the audience for every mythological role I have ever played. And I believe their support and acceptance persuades the makers to choose me for such characters, and they continue to offer me similar roles. However, I would also like to give some credit to my physical appearance, which probably makes them think of me for such devotional characteristics. And to be honest, I will do any mythological show that comes

Plan Your Day



'Synthesis of Difference'

showcasing contemporary art

practises like new media art,

photo art and performances

lovers will have a unique

India, realise the subtle

weekend

Bollywood vibes

Halki Si Barsaat (Saaj Bhatt)

Tauba (Badshah, Payal Dev)

Barishon Mein (Drashan Raval)

mood

opportunity to appreciate rich

artistic traditions of Korea and

similarities and differences in out

Sound of.

Music is the best medicine.

week that will lift up your

Here are the top 10 songs of the

Teri Galliyon Se (Jubin Nautiyal, Meet Bros)

Dhoke Pyaar Ke (Rochak Kohli, B Praak)

from four Korean and six Indian

"Through this exhibition, art

Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to India, after inaugurating the exhibition on August 18. Adwaita Gadanayak (Director General of National Gallery of Modern Art). Java Asokan (Director of creativity, then it's time to head India Art Fair), Mahinder Sehgal to Korean Cultural Centre India, (Programme Director of Indian which has put up an exhibition

> also present on the occasion. Jointly curated by senior artists Jeong Heon Ki and B Ajay Sharma, it showcases the unique artworks of 10 artists from Korea and India.

Council for Cultural Relations),

and the artists and curators were

two countries' artistic

creations and develop mutual understanding,"

says Chang Jae Bok,

What: Art exhibition Where: Korean Cultural Centre India, Lajpat Nagar, ND When: On view till Sept 30

DESIGN PHILOSOPHY

With the pandemic, people spent a lot of time at home and realised the importance of a timeless space that reflects one's personality. Hence, it is imperative to create evergreen spaces that always appeal to the residents. DEVIKA KHOSLA shares are a few ways to design spaces

n the design world, trends are seasonal; they come and go. However, spaces are a permanent part of our lives, especially in the case of a home, which is one of the most personal spaces. Here are a few ways to design spaces with a timeless aesthetic:

Set your priorities

Before starting to design a space, you should consider everything they aspire to achieve with it. Be it a multifunctional character, a provisional colour scheme, or unique areas like a home gym or a home theatre. Having clarity on what is important will make moving forward and making choices

Create a layout

Focus on the bigger picture and address all the needs of the space through your layout. Try to accommodate your needs for the next few decades in the area. For instance, depending on your needs, the breakfast counter can be designed as a makeshift work-from-home desk, or your study can accommodate a projector and be converted into a home theatre when required.

Assemble a mood board

rials and aesthetics that speak to you is the next step to grounding the ambience of your space before construction begins. Remember, a well-balanced design will never go out of fashion. And a mood board allows you to try different permutations and combinations because while you like different materials in isolation, they might not always complement each other. With visual boards, one can explore materiality, and the end product acts as a reference to come back to in case of confusion at a later stage, say during selections.

Sort your services

Once the layout and visual palette are finalised, focus on the core of the structure- the services. These include

plumbing, electrification, HVAC system and essential elements like flooring, ceiling and walls. Again, ensure uncompromised quality so that there is little, to no maintenance, in these to achieve

Understand the decor elements

a timeless aesthetics.

space, and hence it is vital to curate pieces in a way that reflects your choices to interest you for a long time. There are two parts of decor- the builtin elements and the dynamic elements. The former is a more permanent part of the interior space, whereas the latter can be experimented with. To balance both, it's essential to understand your own style, likes and dislikes. Fixed elements

The more permanent elements like the wall colours, flooring material and fixed furniture like wardrobes and kitchen counters should ideally be in a neutral palette like creams and beiges. Additionally, natural materials

like wood and stone are functional and

create a wholesome look because they can be amalgamated with most design sensibilities. Finally, consider your materials from a durability and maintenance perspective and choose wise-

Explore with fluid elements

Decor elements such as lounge chairs, ottomans, centre tables, rugs, and cushions can be playful and be



changed periodically. It could be neu-stooth, gingham, and plaids, if done tral that blends with the overall aesthetic correctly and in the right proportions, a statement. However, it is feasible if a proportion of them are versatile to be paired with any other piece of furniture; for a change of look.

Upcycle and reuse

Recycle the old and blend it with the new to personalise the space with nostalgia, making the decor more meaningful. It could be an old mantel, a storage cabinet, or a traditional chair inherited from your family. Such items bring warmth and belonging to a space, while ensuring it feels like home.

Playful patterns and upholstery Prints and patterns are eye-catching elements that are an excellent way to dramatise a space. Classic patterns like chevron, herringbone, houndThese can be explored in elements like cushions, curtains, rugs and throws.

Memorabilia and art Travel souvenirs, photographs,

books and art pieces make the best decor pieces; such a collection is as personal as it gets. Adorn spaces with elements that tell your story to create a

timeless appeal. Biophilia for the win

The pandemic blurred the boundaries between the inside and the outside. Hence, green leafy plants are an economical and eco-friendly way to make any place come alive; these decor

elements can never go out of style.

The writer is Creative Director, The Works

29 (Demi Lovato) Make You Say (Zedd)

English Vinglish

Lobby (Missy Elliott) Super Freaky Girl (Nicki Minaj) Bad Decisions (Benny Blanco)

Masterstroke

Dyson unveiled its best-performing and most efficient Airwrap yet - the Dyson AirwrapTM multi-styler today for the Indian market. Relentlessly dissatisfied. Dyson engineers challenged their own design to miniaturise and multiply the Coanda effect. pioneering a fully customisable styling tool to deliver a range of styles for all Indian hair types, without extreme

Enhanced styling versatility: Led by Dyson's continued dedication to better

understand hair damage and hair types, the new multi-styler now

caters to more hair types and styles Engineering in a simulated world: Iterating virtually through

advanced computational fluid dynamics, machine learning and intelligent digital design software allowed for fewer physical prototypes and more sustainable development practices in Dyson's R&D process.

To achieve well, score well

The past couple of years have impacted the global economy in unprecedented ways. The pandemic, a raging war, an uncertain political climate, and inflation at large have brought more volatility and uncertainty into the business world.

Each year, more than 3 million people take the exam. The test evaluates your proficiency of speaking, writing, reading, and listening in English. Additionally, the test comes in Academic and General Training variants. The General Training IELTS is used for career and immigration objectives while the Academic IELTS is necessary for entry into universities or colleges. The IELTS speaking test involves a live conversation between you and the examiner. This assists in simulating real-world conversations, such as those you would have with your neighbours and coworkers, better preparing

Henry Harvin Language Academy, British Council, JAMBOREE, MEGAMIND and EDWISE are some of the leading IELTS training centres that will help you in achieving your goal.

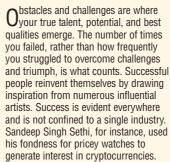
Age is just a number

Ageing is a unique experience that allows life to come a full circle. AYou get to give back to the community and at the same time, you let your heart live again by experiencing each day as it comes. Growing old is something to be celebrated. More time to spend with family, go on trips, develop new hobbies, nurture new talents and learn something you've always wanted to just proves that age is not a barrier. "Always walk through life as if you have something new to learn and you will." It stands true for today's new-age seniors who look at the world with a fresh perspective.

On the occasion of World Senior Citizens —observed on August 21 every year—SeniorWorld Releases a very special Anthem- Dooji Paari Hai. Seniors are living their second innings with utmost zeal and passion as they make a promise to themselves to get more from life. A well-planned first innings can open doors for all those looking forward to spend a fruitful time in their golden years.

Sandeep Singh Sethi turns his passion into a fruitful career

IRKYTALE



Businessman Sethi enjoys wearing expensive watches. He considers life similar to a road. Even in traffic gridlock, the light will suddenly turn green, allowing you to shine.

According to Sethi, anyone who desires to earn more money, particularly those who are young, should make prudent investments in items like expensive jewelry, expensive cars, real estate, and gold. He claimed that having the appropriate watch is necessary to sustain the value of watches as an asset. He converted his passion into a successful career, and his company went global. He is a true example for many youngsters, who want to be successful and wealthy.

Get addicted to good things

Coffee's for every mood and so is mCaffeine's gift kit. Uplift your loved one's mood and skin with a four-step rejuvenating regime. The Coffee Mood gift kit is specially curated to make your dear's day extra special. Thecoffee-based kit contains face wash, scrub, mask and body scrub and no matter what the occasion, your search for the perfect surprise gift ends with this hamper.

Muhammad Adil Mirza is scaling new heights in healthcare sector



Serving as one of the finest examples of such professionals

and entrepreneurs is Muhammad Adil Mirza, who believed in his strong visions and ideas and took every possible step to jump high in the world of business with each of his businesses, which has propelled him forward as a serial entrepreneur of Dubai, the UAE.

From a very early age, seeing his elder brother work hard in the world of business, inspired him and he dreamt of being a part of the entrepreneurial world. Today, Adil Mirza is the head and CEO of Phoenix Group of Companies. After working hard and hustling his way to the top, he eventually created five top companies spread across the UAE in different niches and business areas. They have offices in Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Pakistan, UAE, Oman, and

Adil Mirza's empire includes companies like Allmed FZCO, Phoenix Medicines LLC, Avenue 80 Marketing and Management LLC, Future Mattress & Furniture Factory LLC, and CIS Countries Business and its

The tremendous entrepreneurial talent has truly taken the healthcare sector to greater success levels over the years and as the CEO of Phoenix Group of Companies in Dubai, Adil Mirza looks unstoppable with all his ventures.

the pioneer

The majority of teenagers don't even make eye contact with people, even people of the same age

—Saoirse Ronan





The impact of Bihar's development on national politics can be lasting only if it acted as a catalyst to bring the squabbling opposition on one platform, writes KC TYAGI

he recent political development in Bihar remains the subject of intense discussions in political circles across the country. Before Bihar, it was Maharashtra that witnessed a high degree of upheaval and rebellion ultimately dethroning Shiv Sena chief Udhav Thakare and installing the BJP-Shiv Sena (Shinde) government. The coup in Maharashtra has been interpreted differently by stakeholders and experts, but to those who understand the changing reality of contemporary Indian politics, it is the

'Politics of Horse Trading.

The case is different in Bihar where the ruling Janata Dal-United (JD -U) chose to part way with the NDA to form a new government with RJD, Congress, and others. There was no resort politics, or trading of MLAs; no news of threatening the MLAs, or using probe agencies to influence them,

It is well known that the JDU had been a loyal and honest partner of the NDA alliance since the time of Atal ji and Advani ji. Now, to understand what went led to the breakup of this coalition, let's walk back to the last two major elections held in Bihar i.e. parliamentary elections in 2019, and state assembly elections in 2020. The atmosphere of the 2020 assembly polls was much different than the previous year's Lok Sabha polls. There was a visible lack of cohesion in the NDA partners. It was the first election for Lok Jan Shakti Party after the death of Ram Vilas Paswan. Mr. Paswan was an experienced political player, so he used to constantly make sense of his utility, but his successor Chirag Paswan lacked experience and handled everything in a hurry. It's important to understand that there has been no seat-sharing understanding between LJP and JD(U) in any of the previous elections, so the division of seats was done between LJP and BJP. The BJP offered only 26 seats to LJP, but Chirag Paswan chose to vent his anger on Nitish Kumar and JD(U) calling himself the 'Hanuman' of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He put up more than 75 rebel candidates against JD (U) and declared to send Nitish Kumar to jail on fabricated

It was shocking to see the names of senior

BJP leaders like Rameshwar Chaurasia and Rajendra Singh appearing in the LJP's list. Surprisingly, the BJP central leadership raised no concern over this brazen attempt by Chirag to sabotage the prospects of (JĎ-U)

This betrayal resulted in a situation where the NDA got a majority with great difficulty. The JDU had to bear the loss of around 50 seats due to the infamous "Chirag Model".

Nitish Kumar with BJP leader Sushil Modi as his Deputy ran the alliance government for more than twelve years without any controversy, but the BJP top leadership preferred to drop Sushil Modi and appointed two deputy CMs from the same caste. Unfortunately, these two leaders made no mark on the alliance. The politics of peaceful coexistence of the Atal-Advani era had come to naught long ago, but the Bihar BJP avoided any confrontation. But this time, from the very beginning, the state leadership kept raising controversial issues, resulting in confrontations within the coalition.

The issue of NRC has been confined to the state of Assam, where the task of implementing this process after the Supreme Court's direction was the responsibility of the Assam government, but there the then BJP Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonwal flatly refused to implement these instructions. To capitalize on such emotional issues, some of the BJP leaders started demanding to implement NRC in the state.

Population control has been a major concern of our entire nation. Its density is highest in Bihar, but there has been a decrease of more than 2% in it due to the propagation of the awareness porgarmme of the Government of India. The Home Minister has accepted in Parliament that this national average is encouraging and . we continue to follow the policy of Hum Do Hamare Do. Notoriously, the local leaders kept on repeating the demand for the implementation of a population control law in Bihar just to grab daily newspaper headlines.

The Bihar assembly has all along unanimously supported the demand for special status for the state. Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on many occasions reiterated

THE OPPOSITION WAS COMPLETELY DISMAYED ABOUT THE 2024 LOK SABHA POLLS, BUT THE ARRIVAL OF NITISH **KUMAR HAS** PROVIDED THE MUCH-**NEEDED SPARK TO** RE-IGNITE THE HOPES. THERE IS NO DENYING THE FACT THE OPPOSITION IS BADLY FRACTURED AND NOT **READY FOR THE 2024** COMBAT WITH THE BJP. THE PUBLIC IS FEELING RESTLESS DUE TO A VARIETY OF REASONS, BUT THE OPPOSITION HAS DONE NOTHING AT THE PAN-INDIA LEVEL TO MOBILIZE OPINION AGAINST THE MODI **GOVERNMENT AT THE**



this demand in his meeting with Prime Minister. But the Bihar BJP has been reluctant in supporting this cause for the welfare of the state. In the same way, many states across the country have been rooting for the caste-based census. Bihar assembly had passed a unanimous resolution to this cause. An all-party delegation led by Nitish Kumar last year met the Prime Minister to get his support on this, but it did not work. But the BJP first opposed the demand, and later halfheartedly supported it.

The BJP's demand for the implementation of the Uniform Civil Code also created differences between the two parties. Nitish Kumar has obvious reasons not to endorse such a move, though he has written a letter to the Chairman of the Law Commission, B.S. Chauhan and agreed to welcome any reform. In our opinion, such a sensitive matter should be implemented only after extensive talks with all the stakeholders and political parties.

As per the understanding arrived at among Atal Ji, Advanji, Ji George Fernandes, and Nitish Kumar at the time of the formation of NDA, it was decided to keep in abeyance sensitive and controversial issues to make the coalition sustainable. Not surprisingly, almost all the founding members of the NDA have deserted the BJP. Yet Nitish Kumar backed the NDA candidates in the recent Presidential and Vice Presidential election. But the continued noncooperation from the BJP leadership, sharp differences over sensitive policy matters and agenda, and hostile behavior of the State BJP President and the Speaker of the Assembly forced the JD(U) to walk out of the NDA.

The opposition was completely dismayed about the 2024 Lok sabha polls, but the arrival of Nitish Kumar has provided the much-needed spark to re-ignite the hopes. There is no denying the fact the opposition is badly fractured and not ready for the 2024 combat with the BJP. The public is feeling restless due to a variety of reasons, but the Opposition has done nothing at a pan-India level to mobilize opinion against the Modi government at the centre.

There have been state-level protests against Inflation, Agniveer Yojana, and other public issues but their impact at the national

level was missing. The lack of a prominent PM face and competition from within is a major challenge before the opposition. The NCP supremo Sharad Pawar's success in luring Shiv Sena away from the BJP two years ago was seen as a masterstroke, but the BJP has hit back and severely damaged Sena and captured power in the state. This demoralized the Opposition camps across the country. The country badly needed a leader who could revive the Opposition and give hope.

In this situation, the development of Bihar has raised hopes. Nitish Kumar is a man of the masses. He is no armchair politician, but someone who knows the pulse of the people. He can be seen as a leader with a clean image, bearing no burden of dynastic politics. He may have allied with the BJP for decades, but he is quintessentially seen as a secular leader. Most opposition leaders have an excellent personal rapport with Nitish Kumar. Even Prime Minister Narendra Modi has praised Nitish Kumar for his good governance and non-dynastic politics. Modi also compared him with Dr. Lohia and Jay Prakash Narayan. The political Pundits see Niitish as a name on which the opposition can trust upon. He is seen as a performing Chief minister who has demonstrated an inclusive and sustainable model of development in Bihar. He has proven that he is capable of transforming even a moribund state like Bihar into a model state. Electricity, roads, women empowerment, law and order, economic growth, etc., have been the key area of transformation in Bihar. These skills and experiences are widely recognised in the country. Indeed, our party is not as large as BJP and Congress but it the Nitish Model has helped the party expand. Recently the JDU was recognised as a state-level party in

So, the recent political development in Bihar can be a precursor to unifying the Opposition under the leadership of a man who has an excellent track record in both governance and politics.

The impact of Bihar's development on national politics can be lasting only if it acted as a catalyst to bring the squabbling opposition to one platform

The author is a senior JD(U) leader. The

views expressed are personal)

THE NECTAR OF LIFE

This year's theme for World Breastfeeding Week, which is celebrated in the first week of August, is 'Step Up for Breastfeeding: Educate and Support.' The HEALTH PIONEER presents various aspects of benefits that breastfeeding brings---from promoting bonding between mother and child to providing nutritional and immunological needs and preventing infections in the newborn.

he WHO recommends exclusive breastfeeding ► (EBF) with no other added food or water for the first six months of life - as it provides ideal and adequate nutrition to infants, protects them from immunological infections and is critical to achieve optimal growth, development and health. However, the baby is allowed to receive drops and syrups including vaccines, vitamins, minerals and medicines. In contrast, children who are not entirely or partially breastfed have a higher risk of diarrhoea and other infections, are more likely to suffer from malnutrition and have an increased risk of death in their

The World Health Assembly has set a global target to increase the exclusive breastfeeding rate by 50 per cent by 2025. In India, currently, 55 per cent of children under six months are exclusively breastfed.

However, the results of National Family Health Survey (NFHS)- 5 show that the percentage of mothers following the practice of early initiation of breastfeeding has come down in 12 States and UTs in the country.

The maximum percentage points decline is observed in Sikkim (33.5 percent) followed by Dadra and Nagar Haveli (24.1 percent), and Assam (15.3 percent). In contrast, a rise in the rates of early initiation of breastfeeding is observed in Lakshadweep, Meghalaya, and Andhra Pradesh. Moreover, as also noted in the NFHS 4 findings, in 10 states and UTs, there is a substantial gap in the percentage of mothers who had institutional delivery and in the mothers who followed the practice of early initiation of breastfeeding. The practice of exclusive breastfeeding shows only a marginal improvement, a matter of concern for the authorities.

The standard infant feeding

- Initiation of breastfeeding within one hour of birth,
 Exclusive breastfeeding until babies are six months old and
- Continued breastfeeding along with nutritionally adequate and safe complementary foods, until age two years old or beyond.

The women in urban regions of Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli along with Bihar, Gujarat, Sikkim, Telangana and Tripura recorded a dip in the practice. Out of the 17 states and five Union territories (UT) whose data was made available under the NFHS 5 (phase l), Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu showed the least percentage of children under three years and who were breastfed within an hour of birth. This was followed by Bihar, Sikkim, Tripura, Telengana and Gujarat. The highest percentage of children under three breastfed within one hour of birth was registered in Meghalaya, followed by Lakshwadeep, Kerala and Mizoram. Significant changes in the last five years were noticed in Meghalaya and Lakshadweep as well as Sikkim, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu and Assam. While Meghalaya, followed by Lakshadweep, showed a sharp increase in the percentage of children under three years and who were breastfed within one hour of birth, the rest of the surveyed states and UTs reported a significant decline, especially Sikkim.

The percentage of children under three who were breastfed within one hour of birth in Telangana remains almost stagnant. Overall, it was seen that only 10 states as well as UTs — Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Lakshadweep, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Telangana and West Bengal — of 22 showed increase in the percentage of children that were breastfed. Marked differences were observed in Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu, Manipur and Meghalaya. Kerala showed almost no difference in percentage. But in 13 states and UTs, the percentage of children in rural areas breastfed within an hour of birth was greater than urban areas.

This was seen mostly in Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Goa, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Sikkim. Rural women tend to stick with traditions and breast fed their newborns when compared to their ilks in urban.

Covid Pandemic & Breastfeeding Experiences During Stay-at-home Orders

Investigators from Saint Louis University explored how the Covid-19 pandemic may have impacted mothers' roles and breastfeeding practices in the U.S.

Mothers of a child 12 months of age or younger were asked via an online survey whether they thought their breastfeeding habits would have been different without the pandemic and to answer an open-ended question asking how the pandemic modified or impacted plans to feed their baby.

ed plans to feed their baby.

Of the 1,861 mothers who completed the survey in July or August 2020, one-third thought the pandemic impacted their breastfeeding habits. The survey results revealed that some mothers found that the extra time at home facilitated a bond between them and their baby, resulting in breastfeeding longer than planned. However, many mothers reported the Covid-19 pandemic to be stressful, and in some cases, mothers reported low milk supply due to stress.



BENEFITS OF BREASTFEEDING



Link between breastfeeding duration and cognitive test scores later in childhood persists even after controlling for socioeconomics and maternal intelligence

Breastfeeding duration is associated with improved cognitive scores at ages 5 through 14, even after controlling for socioeconomic position and maternal cognitive ability, according to a study published in the open-access journal PLOS ONE by Reneé Pereyra-Elías, Maria Quigley and Claire Carson of the University of Oxford, UK.

Previous studies have found an association between breastfeeding and standardized intelligence test scores; however, a causal relationship is still debated. Improved cognitive outcomes could potentially be explained by other characteristics—such as socioeconomics and maternal intelligence—of the women who breastfeed their babies.

In the new study, the researchers analyzed data on 7,855 infants born in 2000-2002 and followed until age 14 as part of the UK Millennium Cohort Study. The cohort was not specifically designed to address the association between breastfeeding and cognition but included the collection of information on duration of any breastfeeding,

duration of exclusive breastfeeding, verbal cognitive scores at ages 5, 7, 11, and 14, spatial cognitive scores at ages 5, 7 and 11, as well as potential confounders including socioeconomic characteristics and maternal cognition as based on a vocabulary test.

The unadjusted associations

found that longer breastfeeding durations were associated with higher verbal and spatial cognitive 11, respectively. After taking the differences in socioeconomic position and maternal cognitive ability into account, children breastfed for longer scored higher in cognitive measures up to age 14, in comparison to children who were not breastfed. Longer breastfeeding durations were associated with mean cognitive scores 0.08 to 0.26 standard deviations higher than the mean cognitive score of those who never breastfed. This difference may seem small for an individual child but could be

important at the population level.

The authors conclude that a modest association between breastfeeding duration and cognitive scores persists after adjusting for socioeconomics and maternal intelligence.

The authors add: "There is some debate about whether breastfeeding a baby for a longer period of time improves their cognitive development. In the UK, women who have more educational qualifications and are more economically advantaged tend to breastfeed for longer. In addition, this group tends to score more highly on cognitive tests. These differences could explain why babies who breastfeed for longer do better in cognitive assessments.

nitive assessments.

However, in our study, we found that even after taking these differences into account, children breastfed for longer scored higher in cognitive measures up to age 14, in comparison to children who were not breastfed. This difference may seem small for an individual child but could be important at the population level."

Longer duration of exclusive breastfeeding has protective effect on childhood asthma

A new study in Annals of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology, the scientific journal of the American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (ACAAI) shows that a longer period of exclusive breastfeeding was associated with decreased odds of current asthma

"The results of the study indicated that the longer a mother exclusively breastfed, the lower the relative odds of her child having asthma, or asthma-related outcomes," said Keadrea Wilson, MD, lead author of the study and Assistant Professor of Neonatology at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center. 'There was a 'dose-response' effect depending on how long the mother breastfed: Babies that were breastfed for 2-4 months had only 64% likelihood of having as many asthma outcomes as those who were breastfed less than 2 months; those breastfed for 5-6 months had 61% likelihood, and those breastfed for more than 6 months had a 52% likelihood."

How Govt Can Increase Early Breastfeeding Rate In India

The Union Government should work on strengthening its Mothers Absolute Affection (MAA) programme, a unique initiative launched in 2016 in public, and mobilise the private sector hospitals to aspire to get accreditation for "Breastfeeding Friendly" health care, based on WHO's 'Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding', says DR. ARUN GUPTA.



The World Breastfeeding Week, marked during August 1-August 7 this year, has just passed us. Governments, nongovernment organisations and healthcare professionals have celebrated by organizing webinars and events to mobilize action in this regard. Providing education and necessary logistics' support to mothers by catering to specific health requirements in the maternity care department was the theme for this year. Everyone had one question in mind; why the breastfeeding rate within an hour of birth in India was a dismal 41 per cent when nearly 90 per cent births are delivered in registered healthcare facilities.

To begin breastfeeding within an hour of birth is a public healthcare recommendation. The World Health Organisation, UNICEF and the Government of India have recommended this practice in order to improve the health of newly-born babies, reduce infant mortality, enhance mother-child bonding besides several other benefits for lactating mothers. Early breastfeeding helps achieve better results in the baby's well-being during the first 2 years of life, and has been linked to reducing undernutrition in children.

Early breastfeeding rate, which was 9 per cent in 1992, rose gradually to 41 per cent by year 2015. However, there has been no improvement in it over the last five years. This has been a constant source of worry for the Union Health Ministry, which during the first week of August this year, called a virtual meeting with experts for threadbare discussions on how to increase the rate of early breastfeeding in India.

Experts shared their views on how to better care and support for the mothers who have had caesarean deliveries as such cases are on the rise. They also have suggested measures for addressing low birth weight in babies and the unnecessary use of formula feeding in hospitals. Having worked in this domain over the last four decades, I also have some suggestions to offer, which I feel would help in improving the early and exclusive breastfeeding rate in the country. Let me first begin by differentiating the response in the public and the private sector hospitals.

Strengthening Action in Public Hospitals

I would like to first congratulate the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India for having launched in year 2016 the Mothers Absolute Affection (MAA) programme, with an objective to improve breastfeeding practices in hospitals.

However, the Government has not yet evaluated the performance of the MAA programme since its inception. Review of the MAA programme is recommended to find answers to why there is no improvement in early breastfeeding rate over last five years.

If we want to progress quickly, the Ministry would need to strengthen the MAA programme by taking a string of measures. These include review of current training programme and the skill training of maternity healthcare staff on the basis of 'Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding', appointment of dedicated lactation support staff; monthly monitor-

ing of the data on early breastfeeding within an hour of the birth, use of infant formula during hospital stay, and last but not the least, creation of governance structures, like a breastfeeding committee, comprising of 3-4 persons including nurses, pediatrician and obstetrician, under a nodal authority in all the maternity hospitals.

The committee may be mandated to review the data every month or on quarterly basis, with the objective of effecting necessary structural changes so as to provide requisite support to women before and after their delivery. This is an essential and non-negotiable step for making progress.

Further, to achieve sustainable success, the Union Government needs to consider a twin-pronged strategy that ensures recording of decisions on feeding of babies after taking the consent of mothers who wish to use infant formula at birth. Secondly, it should provide support to women during both vaginal and caesarean deliveries.

Why are these two steps necessary? A realtime mother Jincy Varghese from Mumbai put up a public petition "Stop feeding formula milk to newborns without the parent's consent #MyBabyMyDecision" five years back to show her discomfiture at the hospital's decision to formula feed her baby without first taking her consent. More than 1,10,000 people have supported her petition.

Begin Action in the Private Sector Maternity Hospitals

Strategically, the Government of India should communicate and coordinate with private hospitals to fulfill the requirements of MAA programme in the maternity facilities as per WHO's 'Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding'. Private hospitals should in fact aspire get to their accreditation as "Breastfeeding-Friendly" institutions. Such a new initiative was launched in December last year with the objective of bringing a change in hospital practices

Adoption of scientific measures and ushering in structural reforms in health-care facilities is likely to deliver truly exciting results. Enabling every mother to begin breastfeeding within an hour of birth and to ensure direct skin-to-skin contact for the well-being of both the mother and the baby, is very much attainable. A mother who utilizes services of 'Breastfeeding-Friendly' accredited hospitals is more likely to be successful in breastfeeding her baby. This would also benefit the hospital by raising its popularity among public.

By working on these recommendations, the current statistics of early breastfeeding in hospitals can definitely be improved in India. The implementation of an action plan that seeks to attain at least 10 per cent growth in early breastfeeding rate each year in each hospital, and its monitoring at the highest government level would create favourable results for everyone.

(The writer is a paediatrician, Central Coordinator, Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India (BPNI) and Former Member PM's Council on India's Nutrition Challenges.)

India yet to Become 'Aatmanirbhar' in Medical Devices Sector

India is known as the pharmacy of the world but in the medical devices sector, it lags far behind and is hugely dependent on import. Currently imported medical devices account for 80 per cent of the domestic market, hurting profits of many small manufacturers in the sector. THE HEALTH PIONEER brings a report.

With government's push to Make in India 'Aatmanirbhar' in medical device manufacturing during the pandemic, several local units making masks, PPE kits, thermometers, and gloves made their foray, eyeing the growing market.

However, many units had to close down amid declining demand as Covid-19 waned even as imports from countries like China kept on rising. Now, it is estimated that there are around 1,500 such local units, and many more are on the verge of closure, laments Rajiv Nath, forum coordinator, The Association of Indian Medical Device Industry (AiMeD), an umbrella organisation of domestic medical device manufacturers representing the interest of over 1,500 manufacturers of medical devices.

He said during pandemic time, from 1,200 units, the numbers had gone up to 1.800.

However, medical devices imports continue to grow unabated. India imported medical devices worth Rs. 63,200 crore in 2021-22, up 41% from Rs. 44,708 crore in

2020-21, as per data from the Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The Association has urged the government to neutralise the 12-15 per cent disability factor in manufacturing medical devices in India.

Nath said, "NITI Aayog and the Department of Pharmaceuticals recognises that Indian manufacturers have a 12-15 per cent disability factor in manufacturing medical devices in India. We urge the Government to neutralise this disability for reduction of medical devices imports in India as was in the case of consumer electronics, including mobile phones and even in the toy industry."

At present, the duty on Chinese imports ranges mostly from zero to 10 per cent, but the bulk of the items are in the 7.5 per cent category and one item at 25%.

The Department of Science and Technology (DST) and Department of Biotechnology (DBT) should sit together and work to seek correction of tariff to a nominal 15 per cent so that the entrepre-



neurs can survive and have a productive relationship with Academic institutions for innovations in process and product development or incremental improvements in performance to become competitive, Nath added.

The Association has requested the government to expedite steps to end the 80% import dependence and ensure patients' protection, stronger quality and safety regulations, price controls to make medical devices and quality treatment accessible and affordable and ethical indigenous manufacturing viable.

China remained the top import source for India as medical device imports from China grew 48% from Rs. 9,112 crore in 2020-21 to Rs. 13,538 crore in 2021-22. Imports from the USA also increased steeply by 48% to Rs. 10,245 crore in 2021-22 from Rs. 6,919 crore in 2020-21. The value of medical devices from China was nearly the same as the combined value of imports from Germany, Singapore and the Netherlands in 2021-22.

The capacity utilisation of the domestic industry had dropped by the October-December quarter of 2021-22. From the peak utilisation levels of 100 per cent, by November 2021, around 33 per cent, or one-third of India's medical devices making capacity, was estimated to be lying idle. This is even higher currently, said Nath.

Our analysis shows India's top five medical device import sources -- China, USA, Germany, Singapore and the Netherlands -- together account for Rs. 37,519 crore, or 68%, of the total value of imports, he added.

68%, of the total value of imports, he added.

The Association has also analysed the top 50 medical device import items from China to identify the areas of greater dependence for India. A bulk of the imported medical devices from China (in value terms) fall in the 'other items' sub-sections

under various major categories, it found.

It has called for shifting from an 8 Digit
HS Code to a 10 Digit HS Code as done by
USA and Europe to give more granular data
for enabling better analysis and policy
making. Highlighting the urgent need for

the AiMeD has requested Prime Minister Narendra Modi to change the name of Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP) to Department of Pharmaceuticals & Medical Devices or to have a separate Department of Medical Devices to instill confidence among the local manufacturers.

In fact, recognising this huge import vol-

a separate department for medical devices,

ume, dependency and long technology development cycle of medical devices, the Indian Council of Medical Research too has stressed on need for providing holistic support across the medical device development and commercialization cycle including R&D, scale-up, validation, regulatory compliance, market access etc.

Just a few months ago, it came out with a proposal to support indigenous development, scale-up and pilots of Make-in-India manufacturing of critical medical device and diagnostic products in categories like dialysis machines, ultrasonography, echocardiogram machine and extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) machine(s)

Taiwanese tangle and American interests

Taiwan, aka Formosa, is a case study in the realm of international law with its own trickster's permutations and combinations. John Crawford, an eminent international law scholar, has contended that though Taiwan is not accorded the regularity of a "normal country", most of the nations and the attendant international community regard the twilight zone of Taiwan as an uncontested terrain. If one revisits the sovereign and independent status of Taiwan as an independent and a sovereign nation, then it does not qualify as an independent entity. But with nations such as the United States chaperoning the island nation without according the ordinary sovereign recognition, diplomacy carried on by Washington assumes a new and complicated hue, which is easily explainable going by the dictum of balancing the Chinese hegemonic and expansionist designs in the Asiatic space and the attendant comity of nations.

If one stirs up the hornets' nest of Taiwan's international status, then definitely it leaves the nation in a lurch though it offers passports and visas in its daily travel itinerary which amounts to a novae international posturing. The official name of Taiwan as an independent and sovereign nation state is ROC, that is, Republic of China, which incidentally subsumes the entire mainland territory of the People's Republic of China. Taiwan assumes a unique position in the global geo-economic firmament where-in it is deftly utilised by Washington's subsequent regimes as a containment engine and instrument to belittle the girth and the influence often undertaken by PRC much to the chagrin of the world's sole superpower which is only rivaled by Beijing in the current context.

The theme of maritime security also intervenes over here in a domineering manner. The Chinese stratagem has been the traditional one of, "The Pearls in the Ocean" which relies upon the existing Chinese naval bases in places such as Gwadar in Pakistan, Hambantota in Sri Lanka and Coco Islands in Myanmar. India too has responded with



operation (IOR-ARC) through the establishment of Indian military bases in Chabahar in Iran, Assumption Island in Seychelles along with the Indian obstructions near the Strait of Malacca, the Sunda strait and the Lombok strait in order to strangulate the trade pathways of China, where-in about 70 per cent of the Chinese global trade and supplies are routinely routed through this genre of maritime space. The Indian maritime and containment strategy sails through the nomenclature of "The necklace of Diamonds strategy," which intends to choke the Chinese fluidity through the choke points in the Red Sea, the Strait of Hormuz, the Indian Ocean and the Bay of Bengal. It is here that the new geo-strategic and maritime narrative of the US-led Quad group of nations enters and posits itself with great aplomb and tenacious effec-

Taiwan too can be a chokein the Indian Ocean Rim featuring the United States of malafide intent. Association for Regional Co- America and the People's

Republic of China. Taiwan was recently visited by the US Congressional leader, Nancy Pelosi and the Democrat senator, Edward Markey which initiated the aggressive war games and naval and air warfare manoeuvres of China, bevond the median line of the Taiwan Strait. The Chinese military manoeuvers were enough provocation to intimidate the allies of Taiwan along with the American overarch. It is a known and well received fact that China is no match for Washington in the Indo Pacific at least militarily, but it should not be forgotten that Taiwan is exposed to sleepless nights repeatedly whenever the Han dragon lumbers up and gravitates with its fire and fury highlighting the twilight zone status of the nation-state of Taiwan in contested and uncertain waters.

Harking back to the diatribe filled debate about the legal gargoyle that Taiwan has turned out to be, there is an iota a quaint but effective strategy point in a future Armageddon of history which reeks of

According to Lee KuaTeng,

"Yet Taiwan's unique international status is not only due to using a 'shared domain' with China, but it is also a problem unresolved after the war. Japan, the United States, and the United Nations have all contributed to Taiwan's status today. Japan was responsible for surrendering Taiwan in 1951, but did not specify which country Taiwan was 'returned' to. The US has the most influence on Taiwan and its attitude toward Taiwan is the key to preserving the island's democracy. Meanwhile, the UN has become the unit of approval for any country that wishes to join the 'international family'

All in all, Taiwan can be considered a key territory which was never returned properly and in a legally adequate manner which remains one of the historic flash points between Beijing and Washington in the contemporary context of geo-economics and geopolitics of the regiongration as Taiwan competes as Chinese Taipei in the Olympic Games and the World Trade Organization utilises the tricky titling of, Special Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu. Free China, nationalist China and Formosa are other sobriquets which are cannily bandied about for Taiwan especially during the Chiang Kai Shek era and the cold war years. Still, the official and constitutional name remains "Republic of China"

Still, the US recognises Formosa as a leading democracy and a technological honcho, which has become a key parishioner with the US in the present times where geo-economics rules the roost between Washington and Formosa. A US State Department release contends, "Though the United States does not have diplomatic relations with Taiwan, we have a robust unofficial relationship. The United States and Taiwan share similar valal and global political space. ues, deep commercial and eco- imparting full-fledged recog- International Relations and Nomenclature still remains nomic links, and strong people-nition to Taiwan along with the International Organisations,

bedrock of our friendship and serve as the impetus for expanding US engagement with Taiwan. Through the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT), a non-governmental organisation mandated by the Taiwan Relations Act to carry out the United States' unofficial relations with Taiwan, our cooperation with Taiwan continues to expand. Taiwan has become an important US partner in trade and investment, health, semiconductor and other critical supply chains, investment screening, science and technology, education, and

advancing democratic values." What besmirches the entire labyrinth is the contention of the Taiwan Relations Act of 1971 not to devolve full-fledged diplomatic status to Formosa which is a sort of a legal lurch going by international law conditionalities of the order of Treaty Law and in the perceptions of international law experts such as Oppenheimer.

The twin a roaches of not and persists as another confla- to-people ties, which form the historic reasons concerning IIPA, New Delhi)

the handover of Formosa can be calibrated as the flies in the ointment for Taiwan alone. Beginning from the year 2012, the US China Education initiative along with the fact that Taiwan contributes the seventh largest flock of students to American educational institutions, the people to people exchanges have augmented the proximity between the ROC and the United States of America. Last but not the least, the Chinese conservativeness and family centricity of life finds an indelible echo in the Taiwanese societal construct but despite the commercial element making an incursion in Taiwan, the scholars followed by peasants, merchants and the men in fatigues impart a novae denomination to the nation state of Taiwan and adorn it with the niceties if liberty, freedom and openness

(The writer teaches as

which is absent in the main-

Taiwan assumes a unique position in the global geoeconomic firmament wherein it is deftly utilised by Washington's subsequent regimes as a containment engine and instrument to belittle the girth and the influence often undertaken by China much to the chagrin of the world's sole superpower which is only rivalled by Beijing in the current context



MANAN DWIVEDI

PERSPECTIVE

Spacesuits for kids to fly high in digital space

The online world is a new space and we have already pushed our children into it without protection. However, with a strong collaboration among the government, internet intermediaries and civil society, India can be the world power that understands the nuances of a digital existence, takes actions, and enjoys the fruit of the efforts. Let us give our children the power to excel and have bright futures





SANDEEP JOSHI

Human beings have a complicated relationship with change. Sometimes we welcome it, sometimes we resent it; sometimes we let it come and sometimes we try to stop much more than that. We meet it. But change has a way of sneaking up on us, whether we like it or not. If you are reading this,

you have obviously survived the pandemic that the world was trying to fight for over two years, and still is. We are in the post-pandemic era. It is high time we took stock of the change that surrounds us, and gauged how well we have adapted to it.

A virtual existence was always on the cards. We have watched enough sci-fi movies that impacted our visualisation of the future. We have seen flying cars, robots taking over, people living inside screens, education through means other than institutions and even love and connection happening virtually, in more movies and shows than we wish to care

It is 2022, we urge you to look around. A lot of the

only thought was going to happen in the near future has already come about. We already have a virtual existence. An extension of us, but also as online now, we connect online, we learn online. And this extension of ourselves, this digital persona or facet of our lives, which seems to have a life of its own, impacts our real physical lives from innumerable positions. And the impact on children, whose whole life exists parallel online, now, is even greater than we can imag-

According to Unicef's report "Children in a Digital World", "Connectivity can be a game changer for some of the world's most marginalised children, helping them fulfil their potential and break intergenerational cycles of poverty."

The possibilities are unlimited and extremely powerful. At the same time, we cannot deny there can be some unwanted scenarios that they might face or are already facing. However, children are a lot more resilient. They swiftly adapted to a life prospective development we lived indoors and to a life



lived online. And just as the world opened up, they even more rapidly adapted to being allowed outside, while maintaining their digital presence. They did not make too much noise, because this is their normal now, and it is just the world they live in.

But do you think they are prepared enough? An unknown is an unknown, no matter how hard one tries to fathom it. This digital existence is a huge unknown for all of us. There are obvious monumental benefits, but there are always

two sides to a coin. And this is a very new coin. There are many negative aspects to this world, some known, some not so much. So what do we do? Is it not our job then to figure this out for our children?

Let's go back to the beginning. The survival of mankind is very firmly based on learning through education. We have built systems around this very need. Our offspring are sent out to learn as soon as they are able. And formal learning continues most of the initial life. Why is that? So that we

life. So why are we shying away from creating new systems around this new change that has found its way into our lives, and into the lives of our children. The online world is a new space and we have already pushed our children into it without protection, without as

much as a "spacesuit". In an ideal world, there would be an established system of education and children would slowly get integrated into the new normal over a well-planned period of time. But reality is far removed from this. The pandemic accelerated their introduction and amalgamation into a life lived online. They went into it with their eyes clouded and their hands tied behind their back. It is time we open these ties, and hand them proper tools and a map to navigate the advent of this latest existence.

It should also be mentioned at this point that the ever-existing protectionist attitude towards children needs to be checked. We are talking about equipping the children, not sheltering them. As they

have a better understanding of figure out their world, and the responsibility of the State to newness of it, they need to be facilitated with tools to steer themselves in the right direction. Tools that educate, build capacities and generate aware-

> One of the best ways of going about this would be a strong collaboration among the government, internet intermediaries and civil society. Though there are several organisations working directly with children, youth and women along with social media companies working collectively, but with the support of the government, efforts can be amplified and maximum

impact made possible. With the efforts exerted, has come a greater, stronger understanding of the issues, and interventions required to combat them. This extensive experience has brought forth a strong demand which is that "Online Safety Education" needs to become part of the curriculum in schools, universities, educational institutions across the board. These last two years have poked holes in our current teaching systems. It is

recognise these gaps and fill them with precise modules of training. The government and its policy-makers need to understand the gravity of the situation, wake up to the reality and take meaningful action, in collaboration with individuals and organisations that are already walking this path.

It is high time India understood the power it holds in the form of its future generation(s) and be a pioneer by taking

strong action. Let us for once not follow the rest of the world. Let us be the world power that understood the nuances of a digital existence, took action, and enjoyed the fruit of the efforts. Let us give our children the power to excel and have bright futures. Let us give them not just a "SPACESUIT" but a well-equipped rocket-ship of brilliant, opportune education, so to say. And then, let them

(Jyoti Vadehra is a gender and child rights activist. Sandeep Joshi is a freelance

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Nainital's beauty blooms with the rains



Nainital

Nainital is one of those locations which is beautiful throughout the year but its beauty is enhanced during the monsoon. The refreshing rain not only boosts the mood the people but also rejuvenates nature, which is one of the reasons why those who love such beauty throng to Nainital during this time.

planned development and crowding are forgotten when the rain rejuvenates Nainital and enhances its beauty and ambiance. Apart from the greenery and the streets, the rain also has an invigorating effect on the Naini

and the feature on which the city is named. Apart from the lake, the deodars, oaks and other trees which can be considered the natural heritage of the city also appear in a new form during the rains. The rains also bring a number of avian visitors to this lake city. Interested visitors should know

lake which is the

centre of Nainital

that there are many advantages in visiting this place during the rains, provided one observes basic precautions. Nainital is comparatively less crowded and more peaceful during the rains. Traffic jams common during the tourist

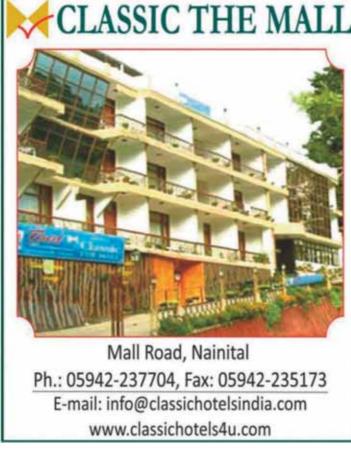
pollution of vehicles is also less. The hotels and other accommodations for tourists also offer 40 to 60 per cent discount during this season.

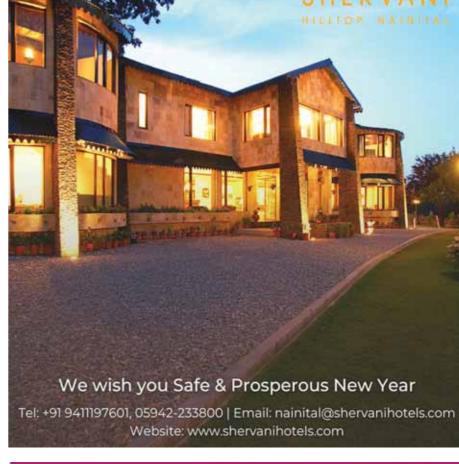
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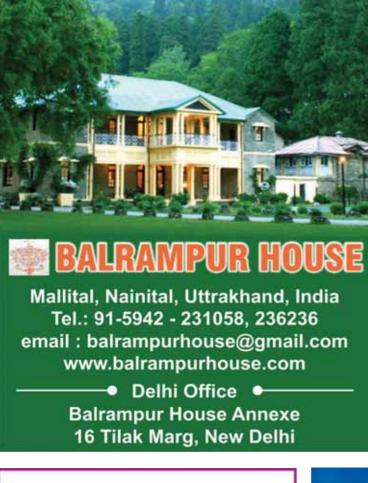


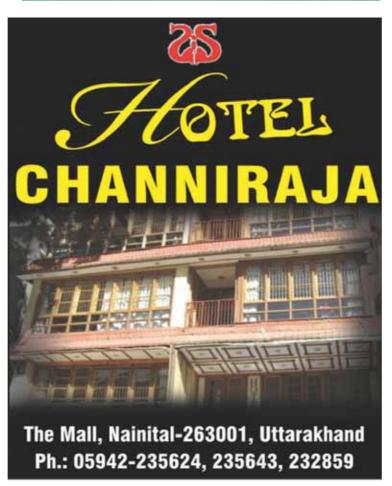






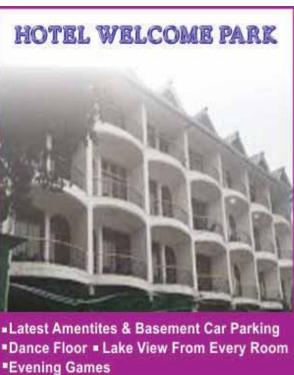








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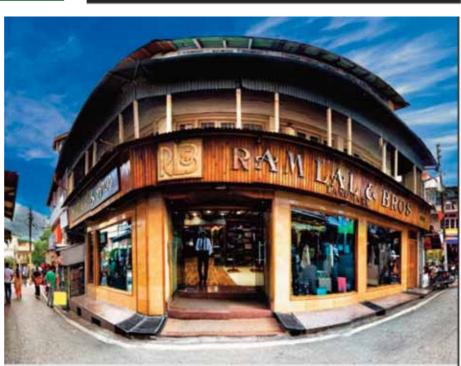


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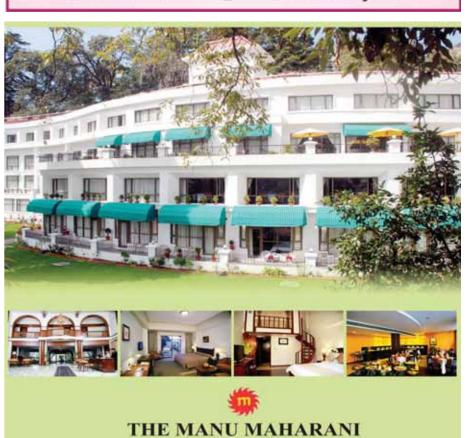
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