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AROUND TAIWAN

LUCKNOW, TUESDAY AUGUST 9, 2022; PAGES 12 ₹3



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RAHUL, VIRAT  
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11 SPORT

# RJD, Cong ready to back Nitish if he 'dumps' NDA

JD(U), RJD call MLAs' meetings

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ PATNA

Bihar is agog with speculation of yet another political volte-face by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, who has convened a meeting of all Janata Dal(U) legislators on Tuesday, conceding with a similar meeting called by the RJD.

JD(U) national president Lallan Singh on Sunday set the cat among the pigeons by claiming that there was a conspiracy to weaken the JD(U) and his party will expose it soon. He called it Chirag Model 2. Chirag Paswan's party fielded scores of candidates against the JD(U) in Bihar Assembly polls 2020, which led to confusion and cost the JD(U) several seats. Lallan Singh said a similar conspiracy was on now.

Sources in the JD(U) said they have an audio recording of conversations where attempts were made to break JD(U). A senior JD(U) leader said that Nitish Kumar suspects that there was a design to repeat a Maharashtra in Bihar, and this may force him to walk out of the NDA and join hands with the RJD.



The Bihar Chief Minister skipped the farewell of former President Ram Nath Kovind and the swearing-in of Droupadi Murmu and, more recently, the NITI Aayog meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday.

Sources said that in the event of Nitish and the RJD reviving the Mahagathbandhan of 2015, the Congress, and the Left will be part of such a formation and Nitish Kumar will continue to be the Chief Minister till 2025. "After that RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav will be projected as CM in the Assembly polls," said a leader privy to negotiation going on between the RJD and the JD(U).

Amid the brewing political storm in Bihar, the Opposition RJD on Monday said it was

ready to "embrace" Nitish and his JD(U) if he breaks ranks with the BJP. RJD national vice-president Shivanand Tiwary said that convening meetings of legislators by both parties on Tuesday were a clear indication that the situation was extraordinary.

"Personally, I am not aware of the goings on. But we cannot ignore the fact that both parties, which together had sufficient numbers to muster a majority, have convened such meetings when an Assembly session is not round the corner," Tiwary told reporters.

"If Nitish chooses to dump the NDA, what choice do we have except to embrace him (gale lagayenge). The RJD is committed to fighting the BJP. If the Chief Minister decides to join this fight, we will have to

**Take on BJP directly: Chirag attacks Nitish over 'conspiracy' accusation**

Patna: Former Lok Janshakti Party (LJP) chief Chirag Paswan on Monday hit out at the JD(U) and dared it to take on the BJP directly instead of accusing him of involvement in a conspiracy to dent Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's popularity.

**Detailed Report on Page 9**

take him along," said Tiwary.

He was also asked whether the RJD would be willing to forget bitter episodes of the past, like Kumar's return to the NDA in 2017, citing allegations of corruption against Lalu Prasad and his family members, including younger son and heir apparent Tejashwi Yadav, who was then his deputy.

The Congress, principal rival of the BJP nationally but a spent force in Bihar, also went into a huddle. "All party MLAs have unanimously resolved to support the new formation that comes into being if Nitish Kumar breaks away from the BJP," AICC secretary and MLA Shakil Ahmed Khan said.

**Continued on Page 9**

# Birmingham CWG one of most memorable editions for India

**Shuttlers dazzle as India finish 4th with 22 gold**

PTI ■ BIRMINGHAM

Led by the iconic PV Sindhu, Indian shuttlers owned the badminton arena by winning all three titles on offer on the day while paddler Sharath Kamal yet again reminded everyone of his class and awe-inspiring longevity with a coruscating show, as the country wrapped up its CWG campaign with 61 medals to finish a creditable fourth.

It was expected that Sindhu, Lakshya Sen and the formidable pair of Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy would end up on top of the podium but what provided the icing on the cake was the 40-year-old Sharath Kamal's gold medal-winning show against an equally good opponent in Liam Pitchford.

That performance took India's gold medal count to 22, which is four less than the 2018 edition, but this time the sport of shooting was missing from the roster. The shooters had contributed seven golds in Gold Coast's 66-medal haul, and considering that, India certainly put up a good show.

India's final tally read 22 gold, 16 silver and 23 bronze and they stood behind third-



PV Sindhu reacts after winning the Women's Singles Final Badminton match against Canada's Michelle Li at the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham on Monday; (Right) Lakshya Sen plays a shot against Malaysia's Ng Tze Yong in the Men's Singles Final Badminton match at CWG, winning the Gold

PTI



placed Canada, which was far ahead with 92 medals (26-32-34). Australia (67-57-54) finished on top ahead of hosts England (57-66-53).

Coming back to TT, Sharath and G Sathian had lost to England's Pitchford and Paul Drinkhall in the men's doubles gold medal match, but on Monday, both the Indians had their revenge. This was after Sathian beat Drinkhall 11-9 11-3 11-5 8-11 9-11 10-12 11-9 in an exciting but nerve-jangling bronze play-off.

Sharath outsmarted the 29-year-old nimble-footed Briton 11-13 11-7 11-2 11-6 11-8 to claim his second CWG singles gold after 16 years.

**Continued on Page 9**

# 'Stormy' Monsoon Session ends 4 days before schedule

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ DELHI

Four days ahead of the scheduled conclusion of the Monsoon Session, both the Houses of Parliament — which witnessed stormy and unrelenting protest from the Opposition on the price and GST increase leading to suspension of 24 MPs — were adjourned sine die on Monday.

For the larger part of the session, which began on July 18, the Government and Opposition have been accusing each other over a host of issues, including inflation, alleged misuse of Central agencies against Opposition leaders and "insulting" the new President of the country.

During the second week, as many as 24 MPs (20 from Rajya Sabha and 4 from Lok Sabha) were suspended. However, the suspension of the Lok Sabha members — all from Congress — was later



Opposition MPs stage a walkout from the Lok Sabha during ongoing Monsoon Session of Parliament in New Delhi on Monday

PTI

revoked.

While Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla adjourned the House sine die, saying it met for 16 days and passed seven legislations, Rajya Sabha Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu, whose

tenure will end on August 10, adjourned the House sine die, saying that detailed statistics pertaining to the session will be circulated during the course by the Rajya Sabha secretariat.

**Continued on Page 9**

# Bulldozer justice for leader who assaulted Noida society woman

SHEKHAR SINGH ■ NOIDA

The Noida authorities on Monday demolished illegal constructions and encroachment at the residence of absconding politician Shrikant Tyagi, who is the main accused in the Grand Omaze Housing Society fracas in Noida's Sector 93. The Gautam Buddha Nagar police has suspended six police men, including chowki in-charge of the area, for laxity and also announced a reward of ₹25,000 on information leading to Tyagi's arrest. Police sources said that his last location was traced in Uttarakhand near Haridwar.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has sought a report from the Home Department in connection with Tyagi's case. The CM called for a detailed investigation into the case as well as stern action against Tyagi.

Meanwhile, Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Monday targeted the BJP amid controversy over the inci-



Residents gather as Noida authority carries out demolition of illegal construction at the Grand Omaze society in Noida on Monday

PTI

dent at the Noida society, which has now caught the national attention. Priyanka called the Noida authorities' action a "pretence".

Priyanka also shared pictures of the politician with BJP leaders even as the party distanced itself from him. After the party shared a video of BJP MP Mahesh Sharma talking on phone and saying "We are

ashamed that our Government is here", in reference to the Noida incident, Priyanka shared a collage that shows Tyagi with top BJP leaders. "Did the BJP Government not know for so many years that the construction of the Noida BJP leader was illegal? The bulldozer action is just a pretence," tweeted Priyanka.

**Continued on Page 9**

# Amid SC dilemma, Shinde to expand Cabinet today

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

More than five weeks after he was sworn into office along with Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde will expand his Cabinet on Tuesday by inducting "anywhere from 12 to 15 ministers" from both his faction of the Shiv Sena and the BJP.

Hamstrung hitherto by the uncertainty arising out of the pending cases in the Supreme Court over the disqualification of the rebel Sena MLAs and other constitutional issues involving the formation of his Government in the State, Shinde has finally decided to bite the bullet by opting for his first Cabinet expansion ahead of a ruling in the litigation in the apex court.

Under pressure from the

BJP and his own camp MLAs, Shinde and Fadnavis had attempted to expand the State Cabinet on at least five occasions. However, they had shelved the plans owing to the developments in the Supreme Court or due to the fear of being reprimanded by the apex court for showing haste in the formation of a full-fledged State Cabinet in the pendency of the litigation before it.

However, on Monday, Shinde gave indications of a possible Cabinet expansion on Tuesday, when media persons buttonholed him for a comment during his tour of Nanded district in Marathwada region. "A cabinet expansion will happen very soon. The names of his new ministers will be finalised either tonight or tomorrow," Shinde said, while replying to a query.

**Continued on Page 9**

# Your every word is heard & revered: PM to Naidu

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Rajya Sabha bade an emotional farewell on Monday to Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu. Naidu demits office as Vice President on Wednesday and his successor Jagdeep Dhankhar will take the oath of office on August 11.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Leader of Opposition M Mallikarjun Kharge and several other MPs cutting across party lines paid tributes to Naidu for his stint as the Chairman. Many of them also fondly remembered him as an excellent host serving sumptuous food.

Naidu turned emotional when Derek O'Brien (TMC) recalled how Naidu lost his mother at the age of one when a bullock attacked her.

Recalling the incident of his mother's death, Derek O'Brien (TMC) said a bullock attacked Naidu's mother in the stomach when she was carrying Naidu in his arms. She later died in hospital and left behind Naidu to find his own destiny.

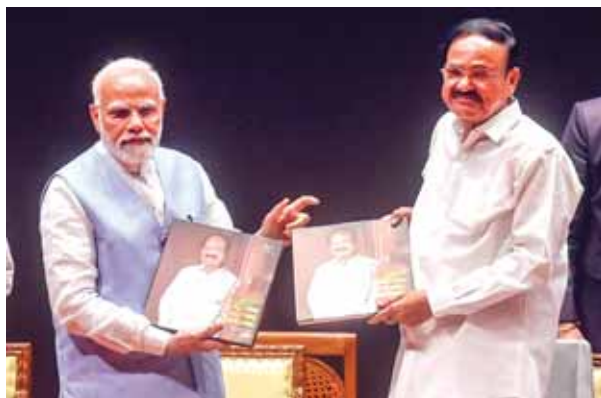
The Prime Minister hailed his contribution to Parliament and recalled his witty one-liners. Modi also praised Naidu for ensuring productivity of the Upper House in his five year tenure and said it increased 70 per cent.

Addressing the Upper House after farewell speeches, Naidu said, "We are not enemies, we are rivals."

On the functioning of the House, Naidu said he tried to accommodate and give opportunities to all sides — South, North, East, West, North-East. "Each one of you has been given time," he said. He also appealed to the members to maintain decorum and decorum of the House.

On his selection for the post of the Vice President, Naidu said the day the Prime Minister told him about this decision he was in tears. "I didn't ask for it. Party had given the mandate, I obliged and resigned from the party. Tears were because I had to leave the party," he said.

Most MPs besides the Prime Minister also appreciat-



Outgoing Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu with Prime Minister Narendra Modi during a farewell function organised for him in New Delhi on Monday

PTI

ed Naidu's efforts to encourage the Members to articulate their points in their native languages in the House.

Touching upon his one-liners, the PM said, "They are win-liners too. It means nothing more needs to be said after those lines. Your every word is heard, preferred and revered and never countered."

He also said Naidu worked on the principle that 'let the Government propose, let the

Opposition oppose, let the House dispose.'

On productivity of the House, Modi said 177 bills were passed or discussed during Naidu's tenure.

Modi said Independence Day this year will be celebrated with the President, Vice President and Lok Sabha Speaker all born in independent India. "And each of them comes from very humble backgrounds," he added.

Referring to the passage of the farm bills in the House in September 2020, Derek O'Brien said. "The day this House passed the farm bills, you were not on the Chair, it was a very important day. Maybe you will write about it in your autobiography."

He also took a swipe at the Prime Minister for not answering even one question during Naidu's tenure.

The TMC MP also reminded Naidu about his "passionate speech" on fuel prices while the BJP was in the Opposition. O'Brien also remarked Naidu had in 2013 also made an intervention regarding phone-tapping but there was no discussion on Pegasus in the Upper House during his tenure as Chairman.

Vijay Sai Reddy (YSRCP), Ram Gopal Yadav (SP), Binoy Viswam (CPI), Sanjay Singh (AAP), Sasmit Patra (BJD), John Brittas (CPM), Praful Patel (NCP), Ramdas Athawale (RPI(ATWL)) and T Siva were some of the other members who spoke on the occasion.

## CAPSULE

**TERROR-FUNDING: NIA RAIDS IN DODA, JAMMU**  
Jammu/Doda: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Monday carried out searches at multiple places in Jammu and Doda districts of Jammu & Kashmir against members of the banned Jamaat-e-Islami (Jel) in a terror-funding case.

**INDIAN WOMAN FOUND IN PAK AFTER TWO DECADES**  
Karachi: An Indian woman, who went missing 20 years ago after a recruitment agent in Mumbai promised her a job in Dubai but trafficked her to Pakistan, has been found with the help of a video on social media and is appealing to the Indian government to help her reunite with her family.

**MARSHAL'S SUICIDE BID: DCW NOTICE TO POLICE**  
New Delhi: The Delhi Commission for Women (DCW) on Monday issued notices to the city police and the Delhi Transport Corporation, claiming that a woman bus marshal allegedly attempted suicide after sexual harassment at work.



## UP to organise MLA sports competition

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Aiming to foster sports culture in Uttar Pradesh, the Yogi Adityanath government is gearing up to organise 'MLA

sports competition' - Khel Mahakumbh - on the lines of 'MP sports competition' in the state soon.

In this 3-day-long Khel Mahakumbh, the MLAs of all

the assembly constituencies will be present in their respective constituencies and encourage the sportspersons.

"The state government will further work to encourage the athletes through this competition," an official said.

Moreover, the provision of facilities like proper grounds, better training as well as a healthy diet for the athletes will also be ensured.

This competition will serve the dual purposes of promoting sports, fitness and team spirit in players and will aid in giving recognition to the rural talents in the state.

The competitions organised separately for women and men will include games like handball, basketball, badminton, hockey, football, volleyball, kabaddi, kho-kho, table tennis, shot put, high jump, long jump, chess, running (100, 200, 400, 800, 1,500 and 3,000 meters), among others. In addition, debates (speech) and painting competitions will also be organised.

Such competitions will be organised in all the assembly constituencies of the state including all the gram panchayats, blocks as well as urban areas.

Through this competition, the youth of the state will not only be playing sports with team spirit but will also develop skills like strategic thinking, analytical thinking, leadership skills, goal setting and risk-taking.

A fit and healthy individual leads to an equally healthy society and a strong nation.

## Govt to upgrade ITIs

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

With the aim to improve vocational training, the government announced its decision to upgrade industrial training institutes (ITIs) for which it has allocated Rs 4,000 crore.

Minister of State for Vocational Education and Skill Development (independent charge) Kapil Dev Agrawal said that the government would enter into an agreement with a private organisation for technical upgradation of ITIs.

"In the first phase, 50 ITIs have been selected for upgradation for which Rs 4,000 crore has been allocated," Agarwal said.

Besides, centres will be started in secondary education schools to hone employment skills of students. For this, two colleges in every district and as many as 150 colleges across the state have been selected, he added.

The minister said the government had set up 10 new ITIs in the private sector where training would start soon.

Besides, the construction of 15 new government ITIs has been completed and they would be inaugurated soon, he added.

Agrawal said that in the financial year 2022-23, the government had identified 29 sectors, in which more than two lakh youth would be trained. About 10,000 youth will be trained in aviation, 33,021 in health, among others.

"The government has planned to promote usage of drones in farming and agriculture and for this we will also begin training for operation of drones which will help crop growers," the minister said.



Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath looking into details of Agra metro route on Monday

## Uttar Pradesh tops in water testing

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Women in Uttar Pradesh have done it again as under the Har Ghar Jal scheme, Uttar Pradesh has got the first place in the investigation of water samples being done by women in rural areas.

According to a report of the Jal Shakti Ministry, UP has overtaken states like Chhattisgarh, Kerala, Jharkhand, Orissa and MP in testing of water samples. In 20,756 villages, women have completed the testing of 11,97,890 water samples across UP. "In these tests 69,279 water samples have been found to be contaminated. Necessary action has been taken at 12,919 places," Jal Shakti Minister Swatantra Dev Singh said here on Monday.

As per the report of the Jal Shakti Ministry, women have tested 11,60,940 water samples in 17,823 villages in

Chhattisgarh and are in second place while Kerala is at number three, Odisha is at fourth and Madhya Pradesh at fifth place.

"The continuous monitoring of the state government and the action plan of Namami Gange and Rural Water Supply Department has given a new impetus to this campaign. UP, which was out of the top 10 till a few days ago, has registered its presence at the number one position in the country," Singh said.

In order to ensure pure water reaches people, the state government has also started a campaign to train five women in every village across the state for water testing. "The intention of the government is to provide tap water to every household," the minister said.

Singh congratulated the officers, employees and women checking water in the village for ensuring that pure drinking water reaches every house.

## PGV targets BJP over action against Tyagi

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Monday shared photographs of Srikant Tyagi, accused of indecency with a woman in Noida, with several Bharatiya Janata Party leaders and tweeted that the action of the bulldozer was just an "eyewash" in the name of stern action.

She also asked who had come to save Tyagi and did the BJP government not know that he had got illegal constructions done?

Priyanka tweeted, "Didn't the BJP government know for so many years that the construction of the Noida BJP leader is illegal? Bulldozer action is a sham."

She alleged, "The government is avoiding answering these questions. Who is giving a man the courage to openly hurl indecent remarks and threaten women by sending 10-15 goons? Who is it that is coming to save him?"

Priyanka asked, "Under whose protection did his hooliganism and illegal business flourish?"

A case has been registered against Tyagi, who claims to be a BJP leader, for indecently assaulting a woman from the Grand Omaze Society. It is being said that the woman had objected to Tyagi planting saplings in the common area of the society, which enraged her.

The Noida authority demolished an "illegal" construction built outside Tyagi's residence in the city on Wednesday.

Tyagi is still absconding and the Noida police have sought the help of Special Task Force (STF) in searching him.

## Yet another meeting to improve traffic of Lucknow and connecting highways

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

With Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath expressing concern over deteriorating traffic system in the state capital,

another high-level meeting was called by Additional Chief Secretary (Home) Awanish Kumar Awasthi to take several measures in this regard.

Briefing media persons after the meeting held in Lok Bhawan here on Monday, Awasthi said that they again discussed how to streamline traffic on all the three national highways connecting with the state capital.

He said that instructions were given to ensure proper lighting and cleanliness on Lucknow-Kanpur, Lucknow-Barabanki and Lucknow-

Sitapur national highways besides taking details of action taken so far since the last meeting about a week back.

The additional chief secretary said for smooth flow of traffic, the officials of the municipal corporation, district and police administration, National Highways Authority of India and the traffic police were jointly responsible and they must act accordingly.

He said that special squads would be deployed by the department concerned to prevent buses from being parked outside the bus stands of the UP State Road Transport Corporation in Lucknow, and action would be taken against the personnel if they found any violation of the rules.

In line with the instruc-

tions given in the earlier meeting, arrangement of two big cranes has also been made on Lucknow-Kanpur highway so that technically damaged vehicles and accidental vehicles could be shifted to other places soon. Instructions have been given to make available the information about the places of availability of these two cranes to all the officers concerned so that their early use could be ensured. In relation to illegal encroachments on the three highways, Awasthi directed the district and police administrations to share the identified sites and the action taken regarding their removal. It was also directed that along with the notice for removal of encroachment, efforts must be made to communicate with the

parties concerned by holding meetings. Awasthi asked the officials to place adequate quantities of signs and marking boards, stickers etc. on national highways as per rules at the earliest, so that accidents could be prevented.

Instructions have also been given to put up boards on Shaheed Path regarding the speed limit of vehicles and the action to be taken on its violation. Information was also given in the meeting about the steps taken to improve street lighting and cleanliness and patrolling. It was informed in the meeting that street lights had been installed on Barabanki road from Kamta crossing to Matiyari, for which instructions had been given to the officials of the Energy

Department to provide electricity connections at the earliest.

The action taken so far against the removal of illegal tempo stands was also reviewed in the meeting and instructions were given to make available the list of vehicles to the city development, police and district administration after determining the places for stand.

Additional Director General of Police (Traffic) was directed to ensure compliance of traffic rules through sensors using the technology of RFID (Radio Frequency Identification).

Awasthi also directed officials to develop halting areas as per rules by taking land on lease or acquiring it for proper accommodation of trucks and other goods carriers.

### Public Notice

TO WHOM SO EVER IT MAY CONCERN

It is informed to public at large that I, Asad Farooqi, was director in a company Ambar Infratech Pvt Ltd, till 26.07.2021. It is also informed to general public that I was never an active director in the above said Company and I did not take part in the management of the affairs of the Company. Anyone dealing with the said Company shall deal with them at their own risk and cost, the undersign will not be responsible for any loss suffered by anyone. The undersign also informs that Amber Infratech Pvt. Ltd is in possession of various documents belonging to undersign which might be misused, therefore the general public must ensure all the precautions before dealing with the company.

Date: 08.08.2022

(Asad Farooqi)

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**DEMAND NOTICE**

Under Section 13 (2) of "The Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (No. 54 of 2002)" To,

- Mohd. Sameem r/o 5/23, Anand Nagar, Shuklaganj, Unnao, Kanpur(Borrower)
- Mrs. Nasreen Bano r/o 5/23, Anand Nagar, Shuklaganj, Unnao, Kanpur(Borrower)
- Mohd. Naseem r/o 5/23, Anand Nagar, Shuklaganj, Unnao, Kanpur(Borrower)
- Mahmood r/o Manohar Nagar, Shuklaganj, Unnao, Kanpur(Guarantor)

No. 1, 2 & 3 amongst you have availed a housing loan from our branch against the security of mortgage of the following asset belonging to No.1 amongst you. An amount of Rs.13,68,806/- is due from you, to Can Fin Homes Ltd. as on 30.07.2022 together with future interest at the contracted rate.

**Details of the mortgaged asset**

233 sq. Mtr House No--37/KHA-1, Arazi-37, Village- katari piper khera, Pargana- Hadaha, Distt-Unnao, Kanpur Nagar, U.P.

**Bounded on the :** East : Arazi other askas, West : Arazi other askas, North :12 ft. Road, South :Arazi Other askas

Registered demand notice was sent to Nos. 1, 2,3 amongst you under Section 13 (2) of the SARFAESI Act, 2002, but the same was returned unserved. The undersigned has, therefore, caused these Notices to be pasted on the premises of the last known addresses of the said Borrowers as per the said Act. Hence this paper publication. As you have failed to adhere to the terms of the sanction, the account is classified as a Non Performing Asset on 29.07.2022 as per the NHB Guidelines. You are hereby called upon to pay the above said amount with contracted rate of interest thereon from 30.07.2022 within 60 days from the date of this notice, failing which the undersigned will be constrained to Initiate action under SARFAESI Act to enforce the aforesaid security. Further, the attention of borrowers / guarantors is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to them to redeem the secured assets.

**Sd/-**  
**Date : 08-08-2022**  
**Place : Kanpur**

**Authorised Officer**  
**Can Fin Homes Ltd.**

## CLASSIFIEDS

### NOTICE

I Prem Chand Jaiswal R/o 51-A, Chandra Nagar Lal Bangla Kanpur-208007 have changed my name to Prem Chandra Jaiswal for future purposes

### NOTICE

I have to changed my name from Devendra Kumar to Devendra Kumar Trivedi S/o Prem Narayan Trivedi for future purpose. 189-A Nankari I.I.T. Kanpur.

### NOTICE

Original allotment letter No. 2357/SAN. PRA dated. 29.09-1984 & possession letter of H.N. Ews-4376 Awas Vikas Scheme No-3 Panki Road Kalyanpur, Kanpur lost. Vishwambhar Nath Upadhaya, S/o- Late Paras Nath Upadhaya R/o H.N. 4376 Awas Vikas-3 Kalyanpur, Kanpur.

### NOTICE

Be it known to all that I have changed the name of my son from Raj Tiwari S/o Satendra Pratap Tiwari to Aastik Tiwari. His name is mentioned as Raj Tiwari in school certificate which should be now changed and he should be known as Aastik Tiwari as per Adhar Card for future purposes. Satendra Pratap Tiwari R/o - 10A/65 Avas Vikas Colony No-3, Jhunsi, Prayagraj.

### आवश्यकता है

**आवश्यकता है**  
मदरसा सईदुल उलूम बेहका पूरागुली प्रयागराज (उच्च आलिया) में स0अ0 आलिया का एक पद रिक्त है। स0अ0 आलिया (मुन्शी/मौलवी) हेतु शैक्षिक योग्यता फ़ालिग अवाय अरबी/ फ़ारसी/ दीनयात से स्नातकोत्तर उपस्थित तथा फ़ौकानियाँ कक्षाओं का तीन वर्ष का शैक्षणिक अनुभव। वेतनमान 44900-142400 लेकिन-7 एवं अन्य भत्ते न्यूनतम आयु 21 वर्ष। इच्छुक अभ्यर्थी विज्ञापन की तिथि से 21 दिन के अन्दर अपना आवेदन पत्र समस्त शैक्षिक योग्यताओं के साथ प्रबन्धक के पदनाम से मदरसा उपरोक्त पर भेजें।  
**प्रबन्धक**  
**मदरसा सईदुल उलूम बेहका पूरागुली प्रयागराज**

### आवश्यकता है

**आवश्यकता है**  
**बाबू राधेश्याम गुप्ता कालेज रामा नगर, देवीगंज-फतेहपुर**  
(प्रो. राजेन्द्र सिंह (रज्जू भैया) विश्वविद्यालय प्रयागराज से सम्बद्ध)  
**प्राचार्य**-पद 01  
**योग्यता**-एग्रेसिवेट प्रोफ़ेसर पद पर 15 वर्ष का अनुभव या सेवानिवृत्त  
**कला संकाय** : हिन्दी साहित्य पद-03, अंग्रेजी साहित्य पद-03, समाजशास्त्र पद-03, संस्कृत पद-03, राजनीति शास्त्र पद-03, शिक्षा शास्त्र पद-03, इतिहास पद-03  
**विज्ञान संकाय** : रसायन विज्ञान -पद-03, भौतिक विज्ञान पद-03, जन्तु विज्ञान पद-03, वनस्पति विज्ञान पद-03, गणित पद-03  
**योग्यता** : परास्नातक 55%, नेट या पीएचडी0  
**वेतनमान** : यूजीसी0 के मानकानुसार आवेदनपत्र डाक द्वारा या स्वयं विज्ञापन तिथि के 15 दिन के अंदर कालेज कार्यालय की प्राप्ता हो जाने चाहिये।  
**प्रबन्धक-गोपाल कृष्ण गुप्ता**  
**सम्यक् सूत्र** : 9415033263, 9956958627  
**E-Mail** : baburadheshyamuptacollege@rediffmail.com

### आवश्यकता है

**आवश्यकता है**  
**श्रीमती रामा अग्रहरि महिला महाविद्यालय रामा नगर, देवीगंज-फतेहपुर**  
(प्रो. राजेन्द्र सिंह (रज्जू भैया) विश्वविद्यालय प्रयागराज से सम्बद्ध)  
**प्राचार्य**-पद 01  
**योग्यता**-एग्रेसिवेट प्रोफ़ेसर पद पर 15 वर्ष का अनुभव या सेवानिवृत्त  
**कला संकाय** : हिन्दी साहित्य पद-03, अंग्रेजी साहित्य पद-03, समाजशास्त्र पद-03, संस्कृत पद-03, गृह विज्ञान पद-03, हिन्दी भाषा पद-02, अंग्रेजी भाषा पद-03, **विज्ञान संकाय** : रसायन विज्ञान -पद-03, भौतिक विज्ञान पद-03, जन्तु विज्ञान पद-03, वनस्पति विज्ञान पद-03, गणित पद-03, **योग्यता** : परास्नातक 55%, नेट या पीएचडी0  
**वेतनमान** : यूजीसी0 के मानकानुसार आवेदनपत्र डाक द्वारा या स्वयं विज्ञापन तिथि के 15 दिन के अंदर कालेज कार्यालय को प्राप्त हो जाने चाहिये।  
**प्रबन्धक-विकास गुप्ता**  
**सम्यक् सूत्र** : 9415033262, 9956958627  
**E-Mail** : smtramagirlscollege@gmail.com

I have changed my name from Utkarsh Pratap Singh to Utkarsh Pratap Singh Chauhan S/o Late Ajay Singh Chauhan R/o- 278, Chandel Gate, Nankari, IIT, Kanpur-16. It should be known by this name in future.

### NOTICE

"I, Subodhinee Devi W/o Mr Gyanendra Pal Singh, R/o Adarsh Nagar, Nawabganj has wrongly entered my name as SubodhineeSingh in the documents submitted at my daughter Kinjal Singh School, ST. THOMAS SCHOOL. The error may be corrected to Subodhinee Devi instead of Subodhinee Singh."

### सूचना

सूचित करते हैं कि मैंने अपना नाम सफ़फ़ान इमरान जमाली (Saffan Imran Jamali) से बदलकर मोहम्मद सफ़वान जमाली (Mohammed Safwan Jamali) रख लिया है। भविष्य में इसी नये नाम से जाना जाये। मोहम्मद सफ़वान जमाली S/o इमरान जमाली R/o ( भवन सं0 10) 2 जगदीश चन्द्र बोस मार्ग, लखनऊ

### सूचना

सूचित करते हैं कि मैंने अपना नाम अफ़फ़ान जमाली (Affan Jamali ) से बदलकर मोहम्मद अफ़फ़ान जमाली (Mohammed Affan Jamali) रख लिया है। भविष्य में इसी नये नाम से जाना जाये। मोहम्मद अफ़फ़ान जमाली S/o इमरान जमाली R/o ( भवन सं0 10) 2 जगदीश चन्द्र बोस मार्ग लालबाग, लखनऊ

### NOTICE

**Notice**  
A Sale deed dated 24/04/2016 duly registered with Sub registrar office Varanasi in Book No. I Vol. No. 9363 as doc. No. 2680 executed Harabansh Ali as Ghuran S/o Anmol in favour of Sita Devi W/o Nandlal Yadav R/o Sa 11/77 Ganj, Sarnath, Varanasi regarding the sale of 2720 sq.ft land of sm Plot no. 209 Mauza Sehawar (Singhwar) Jajhapur, Varanasi has been lost away. This property is going to be mortgaged, with ICICI HFC Varanasi. If any person/institution have any information or objection regarding this inform on Mob. No. 9451525826 Harishchandra Rai Advocate Chamber No. 110 Banaras Bar Building Civil Court Varanasi with-in 15 days. After and of this period no objection will be entertain.

### OBITUARY

**NAIK UTTAM BARDHAN**  
01 MAR 1988 - 23 JUL 2022

ALL RANKS OF ARMY MEDICAL CORPS SOLEMNLY PRAY TO THE ALMIGHTY TO BESTOW PEACE TO THE DEPARTED SOUL AND GRANT STRENGTH TO THE BEREAVED FAMILY TO BEAR THE GREAT LOSS OF NAIK UTTAM BARDHAN WHO DIED WHILE SERVING WITH 421 FIELD HOSPITAL.

FROM: LT GEN SANDIP MUKHERJI AND ALL RANKS OF ARMY MEDICAL CORPS

**HAVILDAR WAQIL AHMED**  
03 APR 1980 - 31 JUL 2022

ALL RANKS OF ARMY MEDICAL CORPS SOLEMNLY PRAY TO THE ALMIGHTY TO BESTOW PEACE TO THE DEPARTED SOUL AND GRANT STRENGTH TO THE BEREAVED FAMILY TO BEAR THE GREAT LOSS OF HAVILDAR WAQIL AHMED WHO DIED WHILE SERVING WITH BASE HOSPITAL LUCKNOW.

FROM: LT GEN SANDIP MUKHERJI AND ALL RANKS OF ARMY MEDICAL CORPS

### OBITUARY

FROM: LT GEN SANDIP MUKHERJI AND ALL RANKS OF ARMY MEDICAL CORPS

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

In a brutal killing in Meerut, a lovesick youth hacked a 21-year-old woman to death as she refused to become his friend.

The youth, identified as Khalid, chopped the woman with a shovel when she refused to reciprocate his feelings. The woman's body was found in a pool of blood on Sunday.

Along with the neck, more than 20 injury marks were found on the body of the woman.

A huge crowd gathered at the spot and staged a protest over the brutal killing of an innocent woman.

Circle Officer of Kotwali, Arvind Chaurasia, and Lisadigate Inspector Uttam Singh Rathore reached the spot on getting information about the murder.

The 21-year-old victim, Rukhsar,

lived in Shahzad Colony. Her husband Shakib is employed in a private company. Khalid also lives in the same locality. Khalid fell in love with Rukhsar at first sight as he moved into their area. Khalid wanted to marry Rukhsar. Unaware of his feelings, Rukhsar used to talk to Khalid as a neighbour. Gradually she understood that Khalid was in love with her, even though she had no romantic affection for him.

According to reports, Khalid murdered Rukhsar when she started avoiding him and did not reciprocate his feelings when he confessed his love to her.

A case has been registered in this regard and efforts were to nab the killer.

Meanwhile, a youth, who was caught on the charge of theft in Pipraich police station area of Gorakhpur, died while he was being taken to the district jail.



struct the house and suddenly the Ayodhya Development Authority was saying that their houses were illegal and unauthorised and had issued notice for demolition.

Several houses have already been demolished.

The residents told Akhilesh Yadav that in revenue records the land where they had constructed the houses was regis-

tered as housing land and the Ayodhya Nagar Nigam had provided all municipal facilities like sewage and water. They said they were regularly paying the electricity bills and municipal taxes.

The delegation was led by former SP MLA from Ayodhya, Pawan Pandey. The SP chief assured the delegation that he would look into the matter.

## Lovesick youth hacks woman to death







# Min awarded one-year simple imprisonment



State MSME Minister Rakesh Sachan heads to surrender in the court of ACMM (III) on Monday

**PNS ■ KANPUR**  
State MSME Minister Rakesh Sachan was awarded one-year simple imprisonment and a cash fine of Rs 1,500 by the court of ACMM (III) Alok Yadav here on Monday. At the same time the court also ordered to release him on personal bond of Rs 20,000 by accepting his bail application. Earlier, the minister had surrendered before the court which after closing its doors and completing the hearing of

the case has announced the judgement. Heavy police force remained deployed outside the court room during the proceedings. Earlier, around 12.30 pm, State MSME Minister Rakesh Sachan reached the collectorate and sat in the chamber of Kanpur Bar Association President Naresh Chandra Tripathi for about two-and-a-half hours. Meanwhile, counsel Ramendra Katiyar submitted application

in the court of ACMM (III) relating to a case of illicit arm pending against minister Rakesh Sachan urging to complete the hearing on Monday itself instead of August 10 fixed for it. When the court refused to hear the case in the absence of the accused on pretext of his ill health, Sachan had to surrender before the judge who after hearing the pleadings of the counsel announced the judgement.

# CSAU&T V-C launches tree plantation drive

PNS ■ KANPUR

Vice-Chancellor of Chandra Shekhar Azad University of Agriculture and Technology (CSAU&T) Dr DR Singh while launching a comprehensive tree plantation drive on the campus on Monday said it was highly essential to plant more and more trees on account of dangerous increase in global warming and the present climate stood testimony to it. He said today millions have come to realise that if global warming continued at the current speed then there could be dangerous consequences not only for human beings but for animals, birds, marine animals and trees too. He said it had been scientifically proved that today to counter the increasing heat on account of vehicular pollution and air conditioners the only way was to plant more and more trees so that they can clean the air and also reduce the harmful impacts. He said trees give off oxygen that one needed to breathe and also reduced the amount of storm water runoff which reduced erosion and pollution in the waterways and may reduce the effects of flooding. He said many species of wildlife depended on trees for habitat as it also provide food, protection and is home to many birds and mammals. Addressing the drive Dr Satyendra Kumar Gupta of Indian Institute of Pulses




Tree plantation drive being carried out at CSA University on Monday

Research said afforestation was a well-known problem and many forests are being exploited for commercial gains. He said single wild forest provided its plants with different nutrients and stability to the soil to help the growth of other plants as it was also the key to the water cycle. He said people enjoy many benefits from trees as they provided fresh air, clean the air from harmful airborne particles and gaseous pollutants by absorbing them. He said it was the duty of agriculture universities to promote awareness and said tree

provided oxygen and in one year two acres of mature trees can provide enough oxygen for 36 people. He said trees also saved water as they transpired they increased the atmospheric moisture. He said non-mature trees needed fewer gallons of water and they always gave back more than they took. Dr Gupta said exposure to high levels of air pollution can cause a variety of adverse health outcomes and it increased risk of respiratory infections, heart disease and lung cancer. He said research showed that visiting a forest had real, quantifiable

health benefits, both mental and physical. He said even five minutes around trees or in green spaces may improve health. He said exposure to forests boosted immune system as when we breathe in fresh air, we breathe in phytoncides, airborne chemicals that plants give off to protect themselves from insects. He said phytoncides had antibacterial and antifungal qualities which helped plants fight disease and when people breathed in these chemicals, bodies responded by increasing the number and activity of a

type of white blood cell called natural killer cells. Soil scientist Dr Khalil Khan said spending time around trees and looking at them reduces stress, lowers blood pressure and improves mood. He said numerous studies showed that both exercising in forests and simply sitting looking at trees reduced blood pressure as well as stress-related hormones cortisol and adrenaline. Dr Manoj Katiyar, Dr Arvind Kumar Srivastava, Dr Akhilesh Mishra and many others took part.



GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA, "e"-PROCUREMENT NOTICE  
WORKS DEPARTMENT  
B-458  
E-mail: [ceroads.bbssr@gmail.com](mailto:ceroads.bbssr@gmail.com)

**Bid Identification No. CE-DPI & R-13/2022-23**  
1. The Chief Engineer (DPI & Roads), Odisha on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bids in double cover system in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for Road work as mentioned below:  
2. Nature of work : Road work  
3. No. of work : 2 Nos.  
4. Tender Paper cost : Rs.10,000.00  
5. Class of Contractor : Super Class/Special Class  
6. Available of bid document : From 10.00 A.M. of 19.08.2022 to 5.30 PM of in the website : 12.09.2022  
7. Date of opening of Bid : Dt.13.09.2022 at 11.30 AM  
8. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: <https://tenderodisha.gov.in> . Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.  
OIPR-34111/11/0021/2223  
Chief Engineer (DPI & Roads), Odisha

# Students motivated to take part in ‘Tiranga Mahotsav’

PNS ■ KANPUR

Principal of Armapore Degree College Dr MK Singh while addressing the students to motivate them to take part in ‘Tiranga Mahotsav’ on Monday said the campaign will be held between August 11 and 17. He said the objective was to make people feel proud for the 75th year of Independence and take part in the celebrations in a big way. He said the govern-

ment launched the Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan to commemorate 75 years of Indian Independence. The main goal of the ‘Har Ghar Tiranga’ campaign was to help people develop a personal connection to their country’s flag. He said as part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav the government launched the Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan to commemorate 75 years of Indian independence. He said the relationship of cit-

izens with the national flag had always been formal and purely institutional. He said this campaign sought to make it a more personal affair for the citizen and also emphasise upon the importance of the commitment of the citizens towards nation-building. He said the general idea behind this initiative was to promote awareness among citizens about the national flag of India and also to

invoke patriotism in their hearts by building a personal connection with the national flag. He said the campaign was launched on July 22 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to encourage citizens to hoist the national flag in their homes during the period of August 13-15. Dr Singh said earlier provision was that the flag could only be hoisted between sunrise and sunset which had been changed.

He said it also included the provision of hoisting of the national flag by the public, private organisations or any educational institution on any day, irrespective of any ceremony or occasion, provided they were following the rules governing the dignity and honour of the national flag. The students were given a national flag each which they had to hoist on the top of their houses.

CONTINENTAL CHEMICALS LIMITED				
CIN - L24123UP1984PLC014111 REGISTERED OFFICE: A-7, SECTOR-7, NOIDA-201301, U.P Tel : 91-120-2423316 Email: <a href="mailto:info@continentalsoft.com">info@continentalsoft.com</a> , <a href="mailto:nkc@continentalsoft.com">nkc@continentalsoft.com</a> web: <a href="http://www.continentalchemicalsltd.com">www.continentalchemicalsltd.com</a>				
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30 <sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2022				
(Rs. In Lakh except EPS)				
PARTICULARS	3 Months Ended 30.06.2022 (Unaudited)	3 Months Ended 31.03.2022 (Audited)	3 Months Ended 30.06.2021 (Unaudited)	Year ended 31.03.2022 (Audited)
1 Income from operations	31.59	18.34	22.05	104.07
2 Net Profit/ (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	7.78	(8.26)	2.92	7.06
3 Net Profit/ (Loss) for the period before Tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	7.78	(8.26)	2.92	7.06
4 Net Profit/ (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	7.97	(9.20)	3.31	5.99
5 Total Comprehensive Income for the period (comprising Profit/ (Loss) for the period (after tax)	8.21	(9.08)	3.35	6.36
6 Equity Share Capital	224.90	224.90	224.90	224.90
7 Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve as shown in the Balance Sheet of previous year)	-	-	-	-
8 Earnings Per Share (of Rs. 10/-each) Basic : Diluted :	0.35 0.35	(0.41) (0.41)	0.15 0.15	0.27 0.27
<b>Notes:</b> 1 The above financial result are reviewed by audit committee and thereby have been taken on records by board of Director in their meeting held on 08.08.2022. 2 Previous period figures have been re-grouped/reclassified whenever necessary to make them comparable with the current period figures. 3 These result have been prepared in accordance with the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rule 2015 (Ind As) prescribed under Section 133 of the Companies Act 2013 and other recognised accounting practices and policies to the extent possible. 4 The company operates only in one segment.				
For and on behalf of the Board of Continental Chemicals Limited Sd/- (Naresh Kumar Chibba) Managing Director DIN: 00376963				
Place : Noida Date : 08.08.2022				

# ‘Govt making every effort to strengthen digital agriculture’

PNS ■ KANPUR

Assistant Director, Agriculture, PK Agnihotri, while addressing a meeting at Vikas Bhawan on Monday said the UP government was making every effort to strengthen digital agriculture so as to ensure best profits of farming to farmers. He said Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath had directed that database of farmers must be accomplished latest by August 15. He said digital technology included Internet, mobile technologies and devices, data analytics, artificial intelligence, digital-delivered services and apps which are changing agriculture and the food system. He said digital technologies can also help governments improve the efficiency and effectiveness of exist-

ing policies and programmes and to design better ones. He said the freely available and high-quality satellite imagery dramatically reduced the cost of monitoring many agricultural activities. He said this can allow governments to move towards more targeted policies which pay farmers based on observed environmental outcomes. He said in addition to monitoring compliance with environmental policies, digital technologies enabled the automation of administrative processes for agriculture and development of expanded government services, such as in relation to extension or advisory services. Agnihotri said digital technologies can support trade in agriculture and food products by connecting private sector suppliers to new markets and enabling new ways for governments to

monitor and ensure compliance with standards and to provide faster and more efficient border procedures that were essential for perishable products. He said technological advances can support the goal of achieving more resilient, productive and sustainable agriculture and food systems which better met consumer needs. He said current focus was how can government policies and programmes appropriately facilitate the adoption of digital technologies by agriculture and food sectors. He said policymakers will need to consider potential benefits, costs and risks and to understand the factors affecting technology uptake so that interventions can be targeted to where there was a market failure or a public interest. He said it also required

understanding how technology can help in different components of the policy cycle and may require government bodies to expand their skillsets, invest in technology and training or partner with others. Dr Agnihotri said digital technologies can change the roles of government and on the one hand, digital technologies may create new roles or responsibilities for governments, including to enable the digital infrastructure but on the other hand, if technology can reduce information asymmetries and transaction costs, less government intervention may be needed. The challenge before the UP government was as how to shape policy and regulatory settings so that they facilitate opportunities offered by digital technologies.

# ‘BJP played vital role in enhancing Backward Class share in politics’

**VARANASI (PNS):** UP Minister of Jal Shakti and UP BJP chief Swatantra Dev Singh on Monday said that the BJP played a key role in enhancing the share of Backward Class in the active politics. Contrary to this, the Congress Party, Samajwadi Party (SP) and Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) used this class as a vote bank, he blamed. While addressing the party workers on the second day of three-days training programme being organised by the Backward Class cell of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) at a hotel in Cantonment area here, Singh said that the BJP-led government at Centre and in the state as well were working to materialise the dream seen by party ideologue Pt Deen Dayal Upadhyay to ensure the upliftment of the last person of the society by providing the facilities of toilets, houses, power, drinking water and gas connection. The working style plays a key role in chalking out any plan and the BJP is the strongest organisation in the world because of its working style, Singh said, adding that the success of any work depends upon four things- drafting out any plan, its implementation, monitoring and review. There should be team spirit while working in the organisation and there should be respect for each other, he said adding that there should be discussion before taking any decision. The important work of any organisation is to make a worker, he said further. Later, the minister took part in a cleanliness drive in Bhairav Ward of City South assembly constituency of the district and claimed that it was the result of the cleanliness drive launched by the state government under the leadership of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath with the inspiration of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi that the infection disease Japanese Encephalitis was effectively controlled in this eastern belt of the state and added that the infection from corona virus was also controlled effectively because of the cleanliness drive.



Indian Bank  
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)





ALLAHABAD

**Zonal Office: 10/379 Rameni (Tarauns), Hamirpur, Uttar Pradesh - 210301**

**Sale notice for sale of immovable properties [See proviso Rule 8 (6)]**  
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower/s and Guarantor/s that the below described immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Indian Bank (e-Allahabad Bank), Zonal Office: 10/379 Rameni (Tarauns), Hamirpur, Uttar Pradesh - 210301 as Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 23.08.2022. For recovery of Bank's dues from Borrowers and Guarantors to the Secured Creditor. The details are described as below:

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower/ Branch/Phone No.	Name of Guarantors	Name of Property owner/Mortgagor	Bank's Dues	Details of Property	Reserve Price Earnest Money	Details of the encumbrance known to the Bank
Branch: Kabrai - Mobile: 9911048033							
1.	M/s Ashoka Stone Crusher Prop.: Sri Ashok Kumar Soni	1. Sri Prateek Soni S/o Sri Ashok Kumar Soni 2. Smt. Laxmi Devi W/o Sri Ashok Kumar Soni	Sri Ashok Kumar Soni S/o Sri Mukund Lal	O/s as on Rs. 17,19,370.00 17.06.2019 + interest till the date of realization and costs, charges and expenses	All That part and parcel of the residential property with Gata/Arazi no. 324, ward no. 4, kalyan nagar, Mauza - Bhatipura, District Mahoba (UP) Total area : 232.35 (Sq.Mt) in the Name of Sri Ashok Soni S/o Sri Mukund Lal Boundaries-East: Plot of Mr. Betu, West: 15 feet Wide Rasta, North: 15 ft wide Rasta, South: Plot of Mr. Naresh Soni	Rs. 60.30 Lacs Rs. 6.03 Lacs	-

**Date & Time of submission of process Compliance form & EMD - 20.08.2022 upto 4 P.M. at and Date & Time of e-auction 23.08.2022 from 10.00 AM - 4.00 P.M.**  
with unlimited extension, with Bid incremental Amount, Rs. 10000/-

**For further details and Terms & Conditions**  
Contact: Himanshu Gupta (Auth. Officer)  
Mo. No. 9120640062  
e-mail: [zohamirpur@indianbank.co.in](mailto:zohamirpur@indianbank.co.in)

**For downloading further details and Terms & Conditions, Please Visit:**  
1. [www.indianbank.co.in](http://www.indianbank.co.in)  
2. <https://www.ibapi.in>  
3. <https://www.msstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi>

Bidders are advised to visit the website ([www.msstcecommerce.com](http://www.msstcecommerce.com)) of our e-auction service provider MSTC Ltd. to participate in online bid. For Technical Assistance Please call MSTC HELPDESK No. 033-22901004 and other help line numbers available in service providers help desk. For Registration status with MSTC Ltd. please contact [ibapiop@msstcecommerce.com](mailto:ibapiop@msstcecommerce.com) and for EMD status please contact [ibapfin@msstcecommerce.com](mailto:ibapfin@msstcecommerce.com).  
For property details and photograph of the property and auction terms and condition please visit: <https://ibapi.in> and for clarification related to this portal, please contact help line number "18001025026" and "011-41106131"

**Corporate Office: Avvai Shanmugam Salai Royalpettah, Chennai-600014**  
**Date: 08.08.2022**  
**Place: Hamirpur**  
**Authorized Officer, Indian Bank**

# Locked house burgled

PNS ■ KANPUR

A locked house was burgled in Panki police station area early on Monday morning. Miscreants stole cash and jewellery worth around Rs 5 lakh from there. The incident took place when the family members had gone to Bithoor for bathing in the Ganga on the occasion of last Monday of Shravan. On return the victim found the locks of his house broken and household goods ransacked. He lodged a complaint with the police which have started investigation with the help of CCTV cameras installed in the locality. Sidharth Yadav, a bank mitra in Bank of Baroda, lives near Mirzapur canal in Panki police station area. Early on Monday morning when he had gone to Bithoor with wife Kamla Devi for bathing in the Ganga miscreants broke into his house and committed the theft. On return around 10 am he found the magnet bolt of main gate broken. On entering the house he found locks of almirah and box also broken. Sidharth said he had proceeded from house with wife around 4 am. SHO Anjan Kumar Singh said after lodging an



Broken locks of main gate and almirah of house burgled in Panki police station area on Monday

FIR, CCTV footages of cameras installed in the nearby houses are being examined. **LOOT CASE WORKED OUT:** The Bithoor police worked out a loot case and arrested two persons with the bike used for committing the crime. Raids were on to nab their third accomplice. Milkman Saurabh Mishra of Paigpur, Bithoor, was robbed of Rs 20,000, mobile phone and documents by three bike-borne miscreants on Ganga Barrage road under Nawabganj police station area late on August 1 night.

These robbers had also looted another milkman Wasi of Gabraha village, Chaubepur, near Pratappur Hari village. Bithoor police arrested two robbers involved in both the loots with their bike used in the crime while the third accomplice was still absconding. The accused were reported to be relatives of a public representative. After committing the crime when all the robbers were eating Maggi at the Ganga Barrage on August 5 suddenly heated argument took place which soon turned into a scuffle.





Police personnel controlling people trying to go to Kashi Vishwanath temple in Varanasi on Monday.

Pioneer

# Lakhs of devotees throng Kashi Vishwanath temple

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

Braving scorching heat and humidity, lakhs of devotees including saffron-clad Kanwarias thronged one of the dwadasa jyotirlingas Kashi Vishwanath (KV) temple here on the fourth and last Monday in the month of Shravan. In comparison of recent years, the auspicious month has witnessed heavy rush of devotees this year when more than six lakhs people reached the temple on all the four Mondays as it is the first Shravan since the inauguration of Shri Kashi Vishwanath Dham (Corridor) by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on December 13 last year. Besides, the rush was heavier than the previous three

Mondays during the day when the security forces had a tough time controlling the sea of devotees reaching from all the sides, especially from Dashashwamedh-Godowlia and Maidagin.

The road between Dashashwamedh Ghat and Godowlia was jam-packed as there was not an inch of space left throughout the day. The same was the scene of about one kilometre between the Dashashwamedh Ghat and Gate No 4 of the corridor. Long queues of devotees were also seen from the Maidagin side crawling towards the temple during the day. Due to the presence of a good number of Kanwarias, the entire area was echoed with the slogans of Bol

Bom and Har Har Mahadev. Right from the early wee hours after Mangla Aarti, the devotees started thronging the temple. For the conveniences of the devotees, at several places big LED screens were installed to display the activities of garbhagriha (sanctum sanctorum) as the devotees were not allowed to touch the Shivling as they offered jalabhishek only through a big metal structure from outside the garbhagriha.

Elaborate security arrangements were made to maintain law and order situation. It was also a big challenge for the River Police and personnel of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) as well as a team of expert divers of PAC to keep

watch on the river Ganga as despite falling in the water level for the last many days, it is still high.

To maintain law and order, the devotees were checked at many places through metal detectors. Senior administrative and police officers were present there to keep watch on the stock of situation in corridor premises. Besides, all the activities were also watched through various CCTV cameras.

To avoid the congregation the devotees were asked to move towards Gyanvapi only through the barricading.

Rapid Action Force (RAF), para-military and PAC jawans were deployed both inside and outside of the premises.

# Long queues at Shiva temples

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

Long queues of devotees, especially the locals, was seen at over a dozen famous temples of Lord Shiva excluding dwadasa jyotirlinga Kashi Vishwanath temple located in the different parts of the city and its outskirts on the fourth and last Monday of the auspicious month of Shravan. Throughout the day, these temples were echoed with the slogan of Har Har Mahadev. Long lines of devotees were seen at Vishwanath temple in Banaras Hindu University (BHU) premises. Right from the morning, the students, teachers and others reached there to offer prayers. The temple located in a sprawling campus is one of the tallest temples of the country.

Long lines of devotees were also seen at Mahamritunjya Mahadev temple at Daraganj. However, the biggest rush was seen at Markandey Mahadev on Varanasi-Ghazipur high-



Students offering prayers at Vishwanath temple, BHU in Varanasi on Monday.

way located near the confluence of rivers Ganga and Gomti at Kaithi as thousands of devotees thronged there from adjoining villages and districts as this old temple is known as parallel to jyotirlingas.

Besides, there was heavy rush of devotees at all famous temples including Gauri Kedarashwar (Kedar Ghat),

Jogeshwar Mahadev (Ishwargangi), Teel Bhandeshwar (Pandey Haveli), Sarang Mahadev (Sarnath) and many others in the city areas. In the outskirts, a heavy rush of devotees was also seen at all the Shiva temples located on Panchkoshi Marg including Karmadeshwar Mahadev, Bhim Chandi, Rameshwar Mahadev,

Paach Pandev and Kapildhara.

Apart from these famous temples, heavy rush of devotees was also seen at Shool Tankeshwar Mahadev (Madhopura) located near river Ganga where it becomes Uttarvahini (flowing toward north). Scores of other temples as the city is famous for having the replicas of all the dwadasa jyotirlingas like Omkareshwar Mahadev (Chittanpura), Mahakaleshwar (Bhairav Nath), Nageshwar Mahadev (Ramghat), Bhimashankar Mahadev (Vishwanath Gali Kashi Karvat), Adi Vishweshwar (Bansphatak), Tryambakeshwar Mahadev (Hauzkatora), Rameshwar Mahadev and Someshwar Mahadev (Manmandir Ghat), Gaurikeshwar Mahadev (Kedarnath Ghat), Ghrihneswar Mahadev (Kamachha), Baijnath Mahadev (Bainnath) and Mallikarajun Mahadev (Sigra) also witnessed rush of devotees.

# Two dozen Shiv Sainiks arrested



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

The police on Monday took about two dozen workers of Shiv Sena into their custody when they were going to offer jalabhishek at the Shringar Gauri Mandir, located at Gyanvapi mosque complex. Later, all the workers were released on personal bonds.

It is noteworthy that the workers of Shiv Sena try to go to Shringar Gauri Mandir to offer jalabhishek on one

Monday of the auspicious month of Shravan. This year too, the Shiv Sena activists gathered at Dashashwamedh and moved for the Shringar Gauri Mandir on the last Monday of this auspicious month to offer jalabhishek but the police stopped them at Godowlia crossing.

When the police stopped them, they sat on the road demanding permission to go to the above mentioned temple. When the cops failed in paci-

fying them, they took the workers into custody. Later, all the workers were released on personal bonds.

To offer jalabhishek and perform puja at Shringar Gauri Mandir is the right of all Hindus, the Shiv Sena leader Ajay Chaubey said.

Besides Chaubey, others workers who were taken in the custody by the police included Dhananjay Tiwari, Babloo Sonkar, Dr Rajaram Tiwari, Hari Narayan and Mukesh

Patel.

In the meantime, the police arrested the president of Vishwa Hindu Sena Arun Pathak when he along with some workers was collecting the holy water of Ganga to offer jalabhishek at Shringar Gauri Mandir as per his earlier announcement.

The Bhelupur police informed that he was wanted in some cases and his arrest was not for trying to go to the temple.

# Netaji's great-granddaughter Rajshri Bose detained

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ PRAYAGRAJ

Rajshri Chaudhary Bose, great granddaughter of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose was detained here by the police on way to Varanasi from New Delhi on Sunday.

It is appreciable on part of the police that she was taken to the Police Lines Guest House with due respect, and was told as to why she was not being allowed to continue her journey to Varanasi.

Vishwa Hindu Sena leader Arun Pathak had made an

announcement that on the last Monday of the sacred month of Shravan, he will march towards Shringar Gauri temple at Gyanvapi from Assi Ghat, and will perform a puja there. Pathak had invited Rajarshi Chaudhary Bose to attend the proposed puja.

District administration of Varanasi did not allow the Vishwa Hindu Sena to offer any such puja at the sub-judice site, but Arun Pathak preferred not to relent.

Police officers at Varanasi came to know that Arun

Pathak had invited the great granddaughter of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose to attend this puja and she had boarded Vande Bharat Express at New Delhi in early morning hours on Sunday.

Varanasi police were alerted with a request to detain Rajarshi, and make sure that she did not reach Varanasi by Monday. The police approached her in Vande Bharat Express, explaining to her as to why they could not take her journey any further. On the request of the police

officers she agreed to court arrest and was taken to the Police Lines guest house with due respect.

Reports from Varanasi suggest that while preparing to leave from Assi Ghat for Shringar Gauri, Gyanvapi, Arun Pathak and his supporters were taken into custody.

Officers were of the view that since the court did not permit any such puja within the Gyanvapi premises, they had to take precautionary measures for maintaining law and order.

# Shiva temples across Prayagraj witness huge rush on last Monday of Shravan

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ PRAYAGRAJ

Devotees in good numbers thronged Shiva Temples here on the last Monday of the sacred Hindu month of Shravan.

Huge rush of devotees and Kanwariyas clad in saffron was witnessed at Dashashwamedh and other bathing ghats besides the Sangam even on last Monday of Shravan.

Flower petals were showered on the devotees from helicopters at Ganga ghats, Shastri Bridge, and Manakameshwar temple situated on the bank of river Yamuna.

Long unending queues of Shiva Bhaktas were witnessed mainly at Mankameshwar tem-



ple, Civil Lines Hanuman Mandir, Someshwar Mahadev, Takshak Tirth, Padila Mahadev, Hatakeswar Nath, and many other Shiva temples where people offered milk, Gangajal, Bel Patra, and flowers to Lord Shiva.

Mostly the Kanwariyas fill their pitchers here at Dashashwamedh ghat on Sunday and march towards Varanasi to offer the same at Kashi Vishwanath temple there, but on Monday also the ghat wore saffron look and the administration also made arrangements of crowd management besides showering flower petals on the devotees. Shiva temples were decorated beautifully on the occasion.

# Traffic advisory issued in view of Moharram

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ PRAYAGRAJ

Keeping in view Moharram processions on August 9, several route diversions have been imposed in the city from Monday evening till immersion of Tazia Phool on Tuesday, the 10th of Moharram.

Traffic will remain restricted on Johnstonganj-Karbala route from 6.00 pm on Monday till Tuesday evening.

To ensure a traffic-free zone in Moharram procession areas traffic from fire station crossing to Johnstonganj will be diverted on NY Road to reach them to Civil Lines.

Traffic from South

Malaka, Rambagh Idgah, Kothaparcha for Johnstonganj will be sent to Rambagh and Bai Ka Bagh.

There will be no traffic on Railway Station-Johnstonganj and Nakhas Kohna road. Vehicles will be diverted towards Jigabir crossing and fly-over.

Traffic will not be allowed on Rajrooppur-Karbala and Khuldabad route. Traffic will be restricted completely on Chauhathka over the bridge.

Hatiya-Sulaki crossing, Ram Bhawan traffic will be diverted towards Muthhiganj.

**ELOCUTION AND FANCY DRESS**

**COMPETITION AT GHS:** An English/Hindi Elocution Competition and Fancy Dress was organised by the Pre-Primary Section of Girls' High School and College during "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav Saptah" on Monday. It was the most awaited day for all the students who were enthusiastic to prove their hidden talents.

The programme commenced with the Lord's Prayer and welcome address. Both the contests were perfectly compared by Mrs. R. Higgins. The judges for the programme, Mrs. A. Sethna, Mrs. H. Verma and Mrs. S. Evans, were welcomed with bouquets by Mrs.

D. Evans.

All the sections of Nursery, LKG and UKG came up with the different poems. Another attraction of the day was the Fancy Dress. The theme of the contest was "Our National Leaders". It was a great joy to see the students dressed up as the freedom fighters and national leaders. Their dresses, props and the rhythm of music with which they co-ordinated their action was praiseworthy.

The Principal, Rev. Dr. Vinita Eusebius appreciated the cooperation of the parents and the hard work put in by the teachers. This was followed by the National Anthem.

# Three constables held for looting silver

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ PRAYAGRAJ

In a case of loot, three police constables of Pratapgarh were arrested here by the Shahganj police of Prayagraj on Sunday. Four kilogram silver and a Bullet motorcycle were recovered from their possession.

The SP Pratapgarh has placed all the three constables under suspension, and a departmental inquiry started against them to trace out their previous criminal record.

A silver trader from Hathras, Vikram Singh used to visit the Kotwali Sarafa Bazar of Prayagraj to buy silver bricks. He arrived here with his nephew Himanshu Singh and

**The SP Pratapgarh has placed all the three constables under suspension, and a departmental inquiry started against them to trace out their previous criminal record.**

purchased silver bricks of 4 kg from the market in the evening on Saturday.

After buying silver bricks the Hathras traders moved towards their hotel, but were intercepted by the police constables, who posed themselves to be from the STF. The traders were frisked and after finding silver bricks from their possession, the police constables started threatening the traders and

took them to a lonely place near Khusrubagh where a demand of bribe was made.

The traders said that they had no money. All they had was spent on the purchase of silver. The constables then grabbed silver bricks and fled away on their Bullet.

The nephew of the trader noted down the number of the bike. They reached Shahganj police station to lodge a com-

plaint.

Surprised over the incident of loot by police constables, the officers came into action, and with the help of the bike registration number, the owner of the vehicle was identified as constable Rahul Singh, posted at present at Kandhai police station of Pratapgarh.

Rahul was arrested on Sunday and he revealed the names of the other two involved in this loot. They were Rakesh Singh and Dharma Dhurandhar Gupta, posted at Pratapgarh.

The police recovered the looted silver from their possession alongwith the Bullet motorcycle and all the three were sent to jail.

# Stolen jewellery recovered

CORRESPONDENT ■ MIRZAPUR

Jigna police on Sunday arrested five persons and recovered stolen jewellery along with a revolver. Reports said Gudiya, a resident of Bajata village under Jigna police station had lodged a case on Saturday about the theft of jewellery and two mobile phones. SO Vijai Kumar Saroj worked on clues and arrested three accused of theft and two accused of purchasing stolen items. The arrested persons were identified as Karan Verma of Rasauli village under Jigna police station, Prinshu Jain of Meja Road under Meja police station, Prayagraj, Raju Nishad of Himmatganj under Dhoomanganj police station, Prayagraj, Ritesh Giri of

Bharatganj under Manda police station, Prayagraj and Gore Agrahri of Chakia under Dhoomanganj police station in Prayagraj. After completing the legal formalities police sent all the accused to jail.

Meanwhile Chunar police arrested an accused late on Sunday night. Chunar police was informed about a clash in Bela village late on Sunday evening. When the police reached the spot it came to light that Vikas Singh and Pawan Singh of Bagahi village were on the way when they were stopped in Bela village by Himanshu Singh and Pradeep Singh residents of the same village and were assaulted. As a result Vikas and Pawan sustained serious injuries. The

police brought the injured to the hospital where Vikas (25) died and Pawan is under treatment. Police registered a named FIR against there accused. SHO Chunar Triveni Prasad Sen said the police arrested an accused Pawan Singh of Bela village late on Sunday night. Besides Madihan police have arrested an accused of murder on Sunday. Kiran of Semari village had lodged a named FIR against Sonu Patel of Rampur Sakteshgarh on July 13 under Sections 366 and 506 of IPC. During investigation sections of murder and SC/ST Act were added and the name of other accused Gabbar Sharma of Dargah Maliyana Tekaur, Chunar had come to the fore.

Police had already arrested Sonu Patel. On Sunday Gabbar was arrested from Rajgarh Tiraha and after completing the legal formalities police sent him to jail. In another case, Katra Kotwali police arrested a kidnaper on Sunday. A woman had lodged a named FIR at Katra Kotwali police station on Saturday stating that her minor daughter was kidnapped by the accused by enticing her. SHO Naveen Tiwari formed a team. The police team led by incharge police outpost Shastri Bridge Kamal Tawari succeeded in nabbing the accused identified as Rahul alias Siddharth Sonkar of Chaubeyghat under Katra Kotwali police station from Bathua Tiraha on Sunday and sent him to jail.



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PAPER WITH PASSION

## Justice at last

The long arm of the law finally reached Shrikant Tyagi but it took longer than it should have

The Yogi Adityanath Government's order—to bulldoze the illegal structures the absconding politician Shrikant Tyagi had built outside his residence in Noida—will restore some faith in the system. It's a case of better late than never, for Tyagi, who has reportedly been terrorising the residents of a posh housing society, claimed to be a leader of the Bharatiya Janata Party (The BJP denies that he was ever a party member). The claim was loud and clear, complete with his photographs with important BJP leaders on his social media posts. Also loud was the message in parenthesis: don't mess with me; I am well-connected. This was perhaps the reason that the local police and administration took little, if any, action against him and his shenanigans, including encroachments and violence, for a long time. Tyagi had occupied a part of the common area in front of his flat by constructing structures using pillars and tiles, despite objections raised by the residents' welfare association. While the Uttar Pradesh Government must be lauded for acting against Tyagi,



it must also be questioned as to how he could continue with his rowdy ways in the housing society for so long. After all, one of the key planks of the Yogi administration has been its ability to tame goons and mafia dons; and yet there was Tyagi in Noida—which is in the vicinity of the national capital and not in some faraway place like, say, Bundelkhand—who was not just intimidating the neighbours and violating all rules and regulations but also brazenly claiming to be a member of the ruling party. Would there have been any action had the video in which he is shown badmouthing and manhandling a woman not gone viral? The answer may not be very comforting.

The entire episode highlights four points. First and foremost, governance and maintaining law and order are reactive rather than proactive. Action should have been taken against him not after but before the video became viral. About half a dozen cops have been suspended on grounds of dereliction of duty; it's a good decision. But even better would be efforts to bring about a system which precludes dereliction of duty in the first place. Second, sloganeering and rhetoric are not substitutes for statecraft and policing. Setting narratives, smart one-liners, and clever memes have their importance in politics, but to keep public opinion on their side—or at least not opposed to them—the powers that be have to do something more substantive than continuous messaging. Third, social media, often blamed for a lot of bad things, can also help ensure justice. It was after all the viral video that led to action against Tyagi. And, finally, we come to... well, a cliché: the power of one. The guts and gumption of one woman will bring him to justice. The citizens of India need not shout or fight like Sunny Deol to get justice. They just have to take a stand.

### PICTALK



Under-15 and 17 hockey players make a formation of '75' to celebrate 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' in Mumbai

# Fighting terror the Husain way

We can draw lessons from the life of Imam Husain to deal with the people who revel in hatred and have scant regard for humanity and human life



HASAN KHURSHID

John Bradshaw once said, "Rebellion to tyrants is obedience to God." Can man stand up to these conditions? "Man can but not necessarily with ease", Imam Husain managed to say daringly from the battlefield of Karbala (Iraq).

From Plato to Locke, all philosophers have been concerned about the danger of power being cornered by unscrupulous elements. The lust for power has been the seed of all-around corruption. There are certain crucial moments in the evolution of the human race, in which according to Ludwig Beethoven, "fate knocks at the gate of existence." These are instances in which socially active individuals are called upon to defend what is right and true, even risking their lives. Virtuous people who were endowed with sagacity and foresight always disliked sitting on the fence just listening to scheming, transgressor, and libertine despots. They acted as if they were the people who valued rectitude and struggled hard to preserve righteousness.

One such most critical situation arose when after the demise of Holy Prophet Mohammad, the school of Islamic thought, philosophy, culture, and administration was shifted to Caliphate with temporal and ecclesiastical powers. The four caliphs were Abu Bakar, Umar, Usman and Imam Ali Murtaza. Ali was assassinated by the henchman of the conspirator and hypocrite Muawiya son of Abu Sufian while Imam Ali was prostrating before Allah in the mosque. Subsequently, Muawiya deceitfully usurped the seat of the Caliphate in Syria and with the might of a sword declared himself the self-appointed caliph. Muawiya, the first ruler of the House of Umayyads displaced the democratic Islamic rule by oligarchical and barbaric despotic rule.

After the death of Muawiya, his son accursed Yazid ascended to the Caliphate seat of Syria. He was a heartless brute and had surpassed all his ancestors in practicing evil and vices. Yazid ibn Muawiya was a hard-core terror-



ist and libertine. The barest mention of Yazid's objectionable character is taboo in this civilised society. Yazid was the mammon of unrighteousness whose lust for power prompted him to beat society into the mould he favoured. Yazid's criminal behaviour indicated the extreme occurrence of vulgar, inhuman innovations in the established Islamic values.

On the contrary, Husain was recognised throughout the Arab world for his excellence of behaviour, wisdom, compassion, and piety. Yazid instructed his governor Walid in Medina to force Husain to pledge allegiance to Yazid. Husain refused.

Husain's patience snapped when Yazid firmly demanded homage from him. Husain refused to subscribe to Yazid every time he was asked for allegiance as caliph and the leader of the faithful. Husain realized that the consequences of this prolonged anarchy in Islam and a wrecking triumph for immorality will permanently deface the true faith and a distorted pseudo-religion will emerge in the guise of Islam. Yazid bargained hard to choose between allegiance to him or facing death. Husain had a clear choice: either stand

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THE HEADS OF 72 MARTYRS, INCLUDING THE SIX-MONTH-OLD ASGHAR, WERE SEVERED FROM THEIR BODIES AND RAISED ON LANCERS. THE BODIES WERE TRAMPLED BY HORSES. THE TENTS OF HUSAIN'S REMAINING FAMILY MEMBERS WERE TORCHED.

aside and let Yazid act according to his whims, justifying his abominable escapades, or counter and confront his lurking menace and acrimonious campaign. Husain who had to ensure the pristine purity of Islam refused allegiance.

The Karbala episode dates back to the 10th of Moharram, 61 Hijri (October 10, 680 AD), when there unfolded a grim spectacle. Husain be sought Yazid's commander-in-chief to let him go to 'Hindustan' but the proposal was rejected. On the morning of 10th Moharram, Husain and 72 immediate family members, including the children and a few companions were mercilessly massacred. Youngest among the martyrs was Husain's infant son, Ali Asghar.

The heads of 72 martyrs including the six-month-old Asghar were severed from their bodies and raised on lancers. The bodies were trampled by horses. The tents of Husain's remaining family members were torched. The children and ladies were made prisoners, paraded handcuffed, and fettered through the bazaars of Kufa and Syria until produced before the tyrant Yazid who was Satan in human form.

To remember the great sacrifice of the Lord of Martyrs, Imam Husain, men, and women, young and old, not only from the Muslim community but also from other faiths gather in homes and Imam bargahs to conduct majlis (congregation), where mournful tributes are paid to Husain through elegies called salam, soz, marsia, nauha and lyrical dirges. The congregation moves inexorably towards a crescendo of grief. The audience groaning heartbreakingly with tears, "Wa Mohammada, kushtashud Husain (O Mohammad, Husain has been assassinated).

Imam Husain is revered not only by Muslims but people of other faiths. The painting by Italian artist Bruno Cabrini shows how Muharram processions had tazias (replicas of Imam Husain's mausoleum in Iraq), during the 18th and 19th centuries in Rajasthan, Gujarat, and Maharashtra. Not only this, the Scindia of Baroda and Holkar of Indore conducted majlis. Even today, in Lucknow and heart of the Hinduism, Varanasi, Hindus join Muslims in mourning sessions.

(The writer is a senior journalist. The views expressed are personal)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### AKASA AIR IN THE SKIES

Sir — Akasa Air, India's newest airline backed by billionaire Rakesh Jhunjhunwala expects to start operations in one of the world's most competitive aviation markets later this month.

Akasa received its flying license from the Indian aviation regulator Directorate General of Civil Aviation after successfully operating test flights. Chief Executive Officer Vinay Dube hailed Akasa Air's entry as 'India's greenest, most dependable and most affordable airline.'

Akasa is trying to stand out from rivals by taking an unusual approach of offering stock options to a larger pool of top employees, rather than a select group of senior executives. With a focus on sustainability, Akasa's cabin crew will wear clothes made from recycled fabrics such as plastic bottles recovered from marine waste.

Sadiksha Agrawal | Ujjain

### DHANKHAR WINS HANDS DOWN!

Sir — Dhankhar's huge victory margin indicates that he managed to draw support even from the Opposition ranks. The VP, who is mandated by the constitution to serve as the Rajya Sabha's ex-officio chairperson, has the difficult task of conducting important legislative business in a polarised House. Since as a Governor, he often exceeded his brief, leading to conflicts with the duly elected West Bengal Government, there is every doubt that under his chairmanship it is unlikely to be a genuine forum for the voice of opposition. The best way for him to do so is to remain tuned to the legacy of his distinguished predecessors.

He should neither allow himself to be dictated to by the Treasury benches nor be guided by the pressure of the Opposition. He should be mindful of the illustrious personalities who have occupied that high constitutional office and set an exemplary benchmark of excellence while performing their duties and conducting the proceedings of the Rajya Sabha with

### WILD SPECULATION ON MAMATA-PM MEET

Speculation is rife on the Mamata-PM meet. Former Meghalaya Governor Tathagata Roy has asked Prime Minister Narendra Modi to convince people that there is no 'setting' between him and West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee. There is indeed no permanent friend or permanent enemy in politics. The apprehension of Roy is that the 'thieves of Trinamool and/or the murderers of BJP workers' would go scot-free. The abstention of TMC from voting in the Vice Presidential election gives fillip to the suspicion that there is a 'setting' between the PM and CM (of West Bengal). Roy has missed the point that the meeting between Modi and Mamata has not taken place secretly. TMC sources said that Mamata took up various issues like MNGREGA dues and GST with the submission of a memorandum quantifying the total dues at ₹1,00,968.44 crore. This could be true also. But BJP's Dilip Ghosh has alleged



that Mamata uses these meetings to send out a signal that a setting has been made. He has advised that the center realize this and not fall for it. Congress's Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury has felt consternation after the meeting fearing rapprochement between the two ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha election. He has alleged that both of them want a Congress-mukt Bharat. CPI(M) has also echoed the voice of Congress. Commonly, political opponents make allegations.

KV Seetharamaiah | Bengaluru

impartiality, dignity, and decorum. He should rise to the challenge by deriving appropriate lessons from the legacy of Shekhawat, who, while hailing from the BJP, acted in a highly bipartisan manner and emerged as a role model.

KV Chandra Mouli | Mysuru

### IT IS A GOLD RUSH

Sir — India's gold rush, so to say, in the Commonwealth Games event can largely be attributed to athletics, boxers, and other field sports. The Indian contingent is participating for the 18th time in the Commonwealth Games and has attained position 5 in the medal tally table. It all started when the famous Indian weightlifting champion, Mirabai Chanu, won the first gold medal for India in the Women's Weightlifting Championship (49 kg). Sanket Sagar was the first Indian athlete to win a silver medal in men's weightlifting (55 kg) at CWG 2022 Birmingham. Sudhir won the first gold medal for India in para-sports. In the last edition of the games, when it was held on Gold Coast,

India finished third with 66 medals including 26 gold medals. Now, with the country excelling in other sports like table tennis and shuttle badminton, a bigger medals tally is expected at the Commonwealth Games 2022.

Krishnan S Maniam | Calicut

### BRIBE GIVER IS EQUALLY GUILTY

Sir — Saddened to read the article "Pandora's box of corruption" published in the August 8 issue that 269 government primary teachers were not eligible for the post of teacher. They got this job by giving bribe. Recently, the way Kubera's treasure was found in the house of Bengal's Education Minister and one of his female friends, it became clear why such parties want to come to power and why the MLAs of these parties want to become ministers. Bribing must be condemned as it is a social evil as well.

Rajender Kumar Sharma | Rewari

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

## SOUND BITE

Every state has played a 'crucial role' in fight against Covid and the country's federal structure has emerged as a "model for the world"

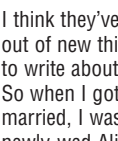


Prime Minister —Narendra Modi



As the climate crisis gets worse, extreme weather will pose a rapidly growing danger. We are investing more than \$1 billion to fund climate resilience projects.

US Vice President —Kamala Harris



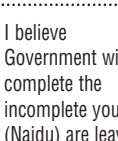
I think they've run out of new things to write about me. So when I got married, I was newly-wed Alia. Now, I'm pregnant Alia, pregnancy glow Alia, or mom-to-be Alia, baby bump hiding Alia and, baby bump flaunting Alia.

Actor —Alia Bhatt



"I want to thank my teammates (Paul and Chithravel). We are all supporting each other. We have been training together. Now we all will celebrate together.."

Athlete —Abdulla Aboobacker



I believe Government will complete the incomplete you (Naidu) are leaving behind.

Congress Leader —Mallikarjun Kharge

## Is religious freedom waning?

India's image as a tolerant society is under duress due to untoward incidents happening rather frequently

The Indian government has sharply reacted to the comments made by US Secretary of State Antony Blinken that religious freedom is being undermined in India and the attacks on a place of worship were on the rise. Losing no time MEA spokesperson debunked the statement saying 'vote bank politics was being practiced in international relations and that the comment was ill-informed and advised the US to 'avoid making an assessment based on biased views.' Indeed the MEA spokesperson Arindam Bagchi did the right thing by rejecting the report on international religious freedom on which Blinken made a statement. Though it will take some time to decipher what he actually meant by saying 'vote bank politics is at play in international relations.' The report on international religious freedom was released some time back and took a serious note of religious intolerance manifesting in attacks on minorities and places of worship in India. We have to make it clear to everyone in unequivocal terms that it is nobody's business to tutor us. India is a sovereign country capable of dealing with such incidents if any. It has been our long-standing policy. We have maintained that no one has the right to interfere in our internal affairs. But now it seems we are wobbling in our approach. When Nupur Sharma made comments that didn't go down well



with the gulf countries, she was quickly admonished and an FIR was filed against her.

The fact of the matter is that today the old plank of 'don't meddle in our internal affairs' doesn't work. Several human rights organizations and individuals take it to the international fora and that becomes an embarrassing situation for the government. In today's world nothing can remain under wraps for long and becomes headlines around the world. Besides, no country can survive in isolation, sanctions and boycott by the world community can hurt. The best way to avoid it is to not let such things happen in the first place. The government should take strict steps so that religious freedom is protected. Let's face it no matter how hard we try to sell that everything is hunky-dory in the country but there aren't buyers for it. Reason, it is not. We all know it and sweeping it under the carpet doesn't help. If we can criticize Pakistan for the plight of minorities and religious intolerance there, we cannot stop others from pointing fingers at us. The world has changed and it is becoming difficult for all governments to hide their dirty secrets. Even the US has a lot to explain when it comes to human rights abuses there.



FIRST COLUMN

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Happiness need not be outside;  
it is an expression of self



RAJYOGI BRAHMAKUMAR NIKUNJ JI

As per World Happiness Report 2021 released by New York based Sustainable Development Solutions Network, India stands at rank 92 in the global happiness ranking list. Happiness is an aspiration of every human being, and it can also be a measure of social progress. Search for happiness is said to be as old as mankind. However, most of us tend to look outside for happiness, feeling that it must be lying somewhere else since we are not experiencing it within ourselves.

Happiness actually is an innate quality of the soul. Hence, each one of us should be experiencing it all the time. But most of us do not. Right? Why is that so? Simply, because we are more focused on the external aspects of our life – our body, roles, responsibilities, possessions, etc., as a result of which we lose our connection with this inner resource of happiness.

When our focus is external, we also tend to blame other people and situations for our state of unhappiness. We think that if the people or circumstances that make us unhappy go away, we will be happy. In doing so, we forget that whether to be happy or not is a matter of our choice. People or situations cannot alter the state of my mind unless I allow them to. So, if I decide to be happy, come what may, I can be so all the time. How we feel in any situation is decided not by the situation but by how we choose to respond. So, if things are going my way, I will certainly have no reason to be cross. But if they are not, I need not get upset, because I can see what I can do about it and get things done differently next time.



And even if there is nothing I can do about it, I can learn from the experience and move on. Then why do we get disappointed and irritated? It only takes away our happiness and reduces our ability to deal with the situation. That is why one must remember this forever, 'Happiness is my property, why should I allow any person or situation to rob me of it?'

Having faith in the intrinsic goodness of every human soul, and understanding that everyone is playing his or her role in this world, also helps us accept all kinds of situations and appreciate different types of people. It saves us from being judgmental, which can make our attitude towards others very negative and damage our relationships.

The biggest secret to happiness is to have good wishes and pure feelings in our heart for everyone. When we hold pure, good wishes in the heart for others, we can maintain a state of constant happiness, because good feelings are like a bouquet of flowers in our heart that spreads its fragrance inside and keeps ourselves happy.

We need to go within ourselves to tap the eternal source of happiness and for that firstly we need to be true to the self, know the self and be the self. Once we have understood the happiness that comes from within and as a result of the manner in which we conduct our lives and ourselves then it is possible to understand how to share that happiness with others. Increasing the happiness of others brings happiness to the self. So, keep distributing it to everyone, as this is the wealth that multiplies by giving, and brings the giver the added bonus of the good wishes and blessings of others.

(The author is a spiritual educator)

# Unstable world energy market worries India

## India has to tread cautiously to protect energy security amid growing global order uncertainty in fossil fuels



SHIVAJI SARKAR

The unstable world energy market, volatile prices and uneven supplies may have repercussions on India's energy security. The first to take the hit is the GAIL LNG deal followed by Russian demand for payment in the UAE dirhams converted in dollar terms.

The GAIL's troubles are traced to the German energy regulator taking over Gazprom Germania, which operates gas to storage and supplies to industries. The move followed Gazprom moving out of the subsidiary so that it could continue business without attracting sanctions. It has led to the default in delivery of five cargoes as per a 20-year-deal agreed in 2012 for 2.5 million tonne LNG a year.

It is dicey on oil supplies as well though Russian oil in April was about 10 per cent of India's oil basket. As much as 40 per cent of the Russian oil has been bought by private refiners—Reliance Industries and Rosneft-backed Nayara Energy.

Russian Rosneft is dithering on supplying crude oil to two Indian state refiners, BPCL and Hindustan Petroleum, as it has committed sales to other customers. The stoppage of supply becomes a problem for GAIL, which meets 50 per cent of the nation's LNG needs. It is scouting for alternative fuel. But it faces the problem of Russia stopping supplies to Gazprom Marketing & Trading that owned the future gas contracts for supplying to Gazprom Germania and other subsidiaries. It used to supply from the Yamal LNG facility. After Russia's stoppage of supplies, Gazprom GM&T initially managed supplies from its floating international portfolio.

As prices rose to \$40 a unit and supplies to Europe became lucrative, it diverted supplies leaving GAIL in the lurch. In fact, the prices are so high that Gazprom Germania is said to have margins after paying damages under the take-or-pay clause. The GAIL has the option to take legal recourse but it is cumbersome, may take years and would not address the problems of the Indian consumers.

The GAIL has long-term liquefied natural gas (LNG) supply contracts from the US to Australia supplementing domestic gas supplies though it may cost a bit more in the prevailing circumstances. Prior to the war, the US LNG used to cost one-third of the price of gas available in the spot or current market.

GAIL has a 5.8 million tonnes per annum LNG contract with US suppliers. These are all linked to the US gas market, where the current rate is \$10 per million British thermal unit. In comparison, the spot price of LNG in Asia is between \$37 and \$40 per million British thermal unit.

The GAIL and the petroleum ministry are scouring the markets for ensuring the supply. The Asian LNG prices are rising with intense demand from Japan, Korea and India. Trading activity in the Asia



THERE HAVE BEEN LONG QUEUES AROUND FUEL PUMPS IN SEVERAL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY IN THE LAST FEW DAYS. SEVERAL PETROL PUMPS IN AND AROUND SRINAGAR AND RAJASTHAN HAVE ALSO FACED SHORTAGES.

(The author is a policy analyst)



LNG market rose as traders and end-users dipped back into the spot market to secure cargoes amid increasing global supply uncertainty as the Gazprom reduction of gas flow into Europe spooked an already fractured market due to the Freeport outage.

The world energy markets are seeing too many oddities. Domestic exports though have seen curtailment but of late with Russian crude being supplied to the private refiners, it is being exported again. The cap through an export tax clamped on July 1 for ensuring at least 50 per cent of the private refiners' production has been removed. The duty, imposed following fuel shortage in a number of states, has been waived off on petrol, and cut by a third on diesel and brought down the wind-fall tax by 27 per cent. The tax has been reduced from Rs 6 to Rs 4 on diesel and done away on petrol. The duty has been waived off on refined products and shipped from SEZs. This will give a big boost to mainly two private refiners Nyara and Reliance. A major benefit will be to the latter, as its refining is based in an SEZ in Jamnagar.

The duty reduction is also said to benefit ONGC and Oil India and Vedanata. Of late, according to tenders by Indian Oil and Bharat Petroleum, diesel imports are expected to rise to its highest since February 202 at over 48,000 barrels per day. India's increased imports are telling on Asian fuel supply as planned petroleum supplies from China have been decreasing.

India is the world's third-largest oil consumer at about 5 million barrels a day. It is growing at 3-4 per cent a year and the demand is likely to go up to 7 million barrels a day in a decade. According to the Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC), India's oil import dependence was 85 per cent in 2019-20, which marginally declined to 84.4 per cent in 2020-21 and again rose to 85.6 per cent in 2021-22, while in April 2022 it rose to 86.6 per cent. This year's imports are to surge beyond the 212.2 million tonnes of crude last year.

The new exploration licenses announced are a good move but it may take a decade to start new production. The aim is to reduce imports to 50 per cent, which is too ambitious, by 2030. Apart from long gestation, the capital requirement is extremely high. India, despite odds, remains dependent on Russian oil. India's crude oil imports from Russia have jumped over 50 times since April and now make up for 10 per cent of all crude bought from overseas. Russian oil made up for just 0.2 per cent of all oil imported by India prior to the Ukraine war.

Unwillingness of Rosneft to give crude to three Indian state refiners—Indian Oil Corp (IOC.NS), Bharat Petroleum Corp (BPCL.NS) and Hindustan Petroleum—is pushing Indian refiners to turn to the spot market for more expensive oil.

The country is facing some petrol and diesel shortages as fuel pumps are reportedly in several

states, including Uttarakhand, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, and Madhya Pradesh and some parts of eastern and north-eastern states.

There have been long queues around fuel pumps in several parts of the country in the last few days. Several petrol pumps in and around Srinagar and Rajasthan have also faced shortages. The US-led sanctions on the energy tie-up with Russia have been contested by a number of gas-starved NATO members, including Germany, Europe's largest economy. Even Japan, the world's third largest economy after the US and China, says it will maintain oil and gas projects in Russia, citing the country's energy security concerns as the reason.

Germany and Japan are the most important US strategic partners in Europe and Asia, respectively. Only a week ago, Japan's Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Koichi Hagiuda made an emphatic statement that his country "does not intend to withdraw" from oil and liquefied natural gas development projects in Russia as they make a choice between energy security and tightening sanctions on Russia for the war in Ukraine.

Several Japanese trading and other firms have invested in the Sakhalin-1, Sakhalin-2 and Arctic LNG 2 (ARC 2) projects. Each has been deemed essential to Japan's energy security. A neutral India has to trudge through a difficult phase to maintain supplies from Russia and the West as well as keep the domestic prices low.

## POINT COUNTERPOINT

NO HOPE LEFT IN SUPREME COURT, SENSITIVE CASES ASSIGNED TO ONLY CERTAIN JUDGES.  
—ADVOCATE & RAJYA SABHA MP KAPIL SIBAL



JUDGMENTS CAN BE CRITICISED BUT INSTITUTIONS SHOULDN'T BE DENIGRATED.  
—ADVOCATE & RAJYA SABHA MP MAHESH JETHMALANI



# Rising US-China tensions can boost Indian manufacturing

## While the US and China spar, India should seize the opportunities in the global supply chain shifts

The Indian economy has the world's most remarkable growth rate and is projected to grow at 7.1-7.6 per cent in 2022. The rising fuel prices caused by the Russian-Ukraine war have created instability worldwide. The South Asian nations like Sri Lanka and Pakistan are already experiencing the consequences, and even Bangladesh is now requesting a bailout loan from the IMF.

A recent report by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) projected India has a zero per cent chance of getting into recession. Whereas a country like the U.S. has a 40 per cent chance, and China has a 20 per cent chance of getting into recession. So, it's important to note how the US-China rivalry could affect India's economy in the long term.



NEERAJ SINGH MANHAS

(The author is Director of research in the Indo-Pacific Consortium at Raisina House, New Delhi)

The rivalry started more recently on Donald Trump's last day in office. The US raised the issue of China's crime against humanity and genocide in the Xinjiang region against the Uyghurs and banned all imports from the area.

Second, the Joe Biden administration continued some of Trump administration policies, with more focus on action. It maintained the tariffs on Chinese imports and sanctioned Chinese officials over policies in Hong Kong and Xinjiang. The US banned dozens of Chinese companies and stressed competing with China.

Third, the collaboration on climate change and agreed to boost cooperation and work together on increasing renewable energy as both the countries are the world's top emitters of

greenhouse gases. But, the collaboration on climate change got more tension.

Fourth, the US imposed a diplomatic boycott on the Beijing Winter Olympics, citing the Chinese government's human rights abuses in Xinjiang and elsewhere.

Fifth, amid the Russian-Ukraine war, Biden pressed Xi Jinping on Russia's war in Ukraine. China refused to condemn Russian President Vladimir Putin for the war and the resulting humanitarian crisis.

Sixth, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken emphasised the importance of strengthening the US competitiveness toward China and called China the most serious long-term challenge to the international order. Seventh, the visit of



Congress member Nancy Pelosi to Taiwan. China warned that US support for Taiwan is like playing with fire. The current situation of small-scale war between both countries arose. Biden has clearly stated that he would come in support of

Taiwan if China attacks it. The US deployed their nuclear warships, men in the Taiwan strait, for regular patrolling as China saw it as their internal matter, even supported by Russia. It will be essential to see further development in China's invasion of Taiwan.

India is one of the developing countries, so bad trade and tariff policies hurt India. India is seeking to give a boost to the manufacturing sector. This could be an excellent chance for India, as a report from the United Nations said that a few countries would benefit from the trade tension, and India is one of them.

The impact on India is both an opportunity and a threat. Everything has two sides, good and evil, and the trade problems between the two countries can

be a good thing for India. It will be an excellent chance for those who sell goods abroad. Since the US taxes Chinese goods heavily, Indian traders can fill the gap and take advantage of the opportunity.

Trade tension between the US and China has some adverse effects on India. Because of the trade tension between the US and China, other countries like India are also affected because they have to deal with the constant changes and can run out of finished goods or raw materials if demand increases. Also, taxes and fees became more expensive in the country.

At 80 rupees per dollar in July 2022, the value of rupees has already gone down. This happened simultaneously with Biden's threat of a new round of export tariffs, which automati-

cally hurt India's trade deficit. Investors are being more careful because of the global trade war.

As trade tensions between the US and China continue, the world economy and India's economy become less stable. Indian traders can fill the gap, and companies that make iPhones can establish factories in India, which is good for the country's growth. As the value of a country's currency falls, trade tensions are likely to rise. The CEOs of Indian companies need to come up with a business-friendly strategy and other plans to help the economy. If the US and China want to avoid a trade war, they must cut taxes as the economic growth of each country depends on trade, which is the backbone of every country.



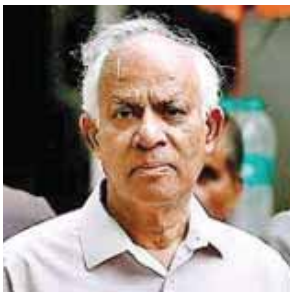
# 3-year prison term for ex-Secy in coal scam

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■**  
NEW DELHI

A Delhi Special Court on Monday awarded a three-year jail term to former Coal Secretary HC Gupta in a coal scam case related to irregularities in allocation of a coal block in Maharashtra, a lawyer associated with the case said.

Special Judge Arun Bhardwaj also awarded two year imprisonment to former joint-Secretary in the Ministry of Coal (MoC), KS Kropha in the case and imposed a fine of Rs 50,000, while Gupta was asked to pay a fine of Rs one lakh.

The court had convicted both for criminal conspiracy, criminal breach of trust, cheating and corruption in the case related to allocation of Lohara East coal block. The court, meanwhile, awarded four year jail term to Mukesh Gupta, the director of convicted company, Grace Industries Ltd. (GIL), for



criminal conspiracy and cheating and imposed a fine of Rs two lakh on him, while the company was also directed to pay a fine of Rs two lakh separately.

Both were convicted for criminal conspiracy and cheating. The trial of the case was conducted by senior advocate RS Cheema, Deputy Legal Advisor for the CBI Sanjay Kumar and senior public prosecutor A P Singh. HC Gupta was earlier convicted in three other coal scam cases and his appeal against those convictions is pending before the

Delhi High Court. He is currently on bail along with other convict persons in the case.

According to the CBI, between 2005 and 2011, the accused persons hatched a criminal conspiracy and cheated MoC, Government of India by dishonestly and fraudulently inducing the MoC to allocate 'Lohara East Coal Block' in favour of GIL on the basis of false information about net worth, capacity, equipments and status of procurement and installation of plant.

The CBI also stated that the company, in its application, claimed its net worth as Rs 120 crore whereas its own net worth was only Rs 3.3 crore, and that the company also falsified its existing capacity as 1,20,000 TPA against 30,000 TPA. The Supreme Court had on August 25, 2014 cancelled the entire allocations of coal blocks. This is the 11th conviction in coal scam cases secured by prosecution.

## DefExpo set be held in Guj from Oct 18 to 22

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■**  
NEW DELHI

The 12th edition of India's international defence exhibition DefExpo on land, naval and homeland security systems will be held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat from October 18 to 22.

Earlier scheduled to be held in March, it was postponed as many countries were not able to reach India due to logistical issues arising out of the Ukraine-Russia conflict.

The five-day event will witness three business days followed by two public days. Live demonstrations showcasing the equipment and skill set of the armed forces, defence public sector undertakings and industry will be held on all five days at Sabarmati River Front through active participation and synchronized efforts at all levels, the defence ministry said here on Monday.

DefExpo- 2022 will be held in a three-venue format across an area of 01+ lakh square metres at Helipad Exhibition Centre, inaugural event and seminars at Mahatma Mandir

Convention and Exhibition Centre and live demonstration at Sabarmati River Front.

The exhibition is being planned with events such as Bandhan for forging of partnerships between companies, seminars and webinars showcasing of start-ups including cutting-edge technology solutions for future battlefield, artificial Intelligence in defence, student visits and showcasing Gujarat as an investment destination for aerospace and defence sector.

DefExpo 2022 is in line with the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to achieve self-reliance in defence and achieve export of \$5 billion by 2025.

India has successfully established itself as an emerging defence manufacturing hub with numerous international orders being bagged by Indian companies in recent years.

The Indian Defence industry has been keenly anticipating DefExpo-2022 which is Asia's largest event in the defence sector. It was postponed in March 2022 due to logistical problems being faced



by the participants.

As India celebrates its 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', DefExpo 2022 gains further significance with its theme 'Path to Pride' invoking nationalistic pride and encouraging citizens to partake in nation building through establishing a capable indigenous defence industry.

The reforms in defence manufacturing are attracting greater interest from Indian Defence manufacturers and it is therefore anticipated that DefExpo-2022 would attract active participation from Indian companies.

At DefExpo- 2022, the participants will get an opportunity to showcase their equipment and platforms and also be able to explore the strengths and capabilities of the expanse of Indian defence industry for

forging business partnerships.

The event will help boost investment, expand manufacturing capacities and capabilities, discover avenues for technology absorption. The DefExpo-2022 website (www.defexpo.gov.in) is available providing online services to exhibitors, besides hosting informative content about the various indigenous defence products and promoting heritage and leisure at Gujarat.

The exhibitor booking would be available for Indian companies which will include Indian subsidiaries of Foreign Original Equipment Manufacturers(OEM) and joint ventures between Indian and foreign companies.

The website will be the first interface making the process of booking and information access effortless.

Jaishankar, Dmytro Kuleba discuss Ukraine war, global impact

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■**  
NEW DELHI

India and Ukraine on Monday discussed the ongoing conflict there since February and its global repercussions during talks between External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and his Ukrainian counterpart Dmytro Kuleba.

Jaishankar assured Kuleba that the next consignment of Indian humanitarian assistance will reach Ukraine very soon.

"Appreciated the conversation today with FM @DmytroKuleba of Ukraine. Discussed recent developments in the conflict and its continuing global repercussions," Jaishankar said in a tweet. "Assured that the next consignment of Indian humanitarian assistance will be reaching very soon," he said. India has maintained that the crisis in Ukraine due to the continuing Russian military action there must be resolved through diplomacy and dialogue.

## India-US commence joint drill in HP

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■**  
NEW DELHI

The elite Special Forces of India and the US on Monday commenced their joint exercise 'Vajra Prahar' at the Special Forces Training School(SFTS)in Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh. It is the 13th edition of the Indo-US Joint Special Forces exercise and will last for 21 days.

The US contingent is represented by personnel from the 1st Special Forces Group (SFG) and Special Tactics Squadron (STS) of US Special Forces and the Indian Army contingent is formed by drawing Special Forces personnel under the aegis of SFTS, officials said here on Monday.

The 'Vajra Prahar' series of joint exercise aims to share best practices and experiences in areas such as joint mission planning and operational tactics

as also to improve interoperability between the Special Forces of both the nations. This annual exercise is hosted alternatively between India and the United States.

The 12th edition was conducted at Joint Base Lewis McChord, Washington (USA) in October 2021.

During the course of next 21 days, teams of both armies will jointly train, plan and execute a series of special operations, counter terrorist operations, air borne operations in simulated conventional and unconventional scenarios in mountainous terrain.

This joint exercise is a significant step in strengthening the traditional bond of friendship between the special forces of both nations. It also improves bilateral defence cooperation between India and the USA.

## Army signs MoU with Drone Federation of India

**New Delhi:** With increasing role of drones or unmanned aerial vehicles(UAV)in modern day warfare, the Army Design Bureau has signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Drone Federation of India to collaboratively work towards promoting research, development, testing and manufacturing of drones, counter-drone and associated technologies.

This MoU also signifies unwavering commitment of Indian Army in supporting Indian industry and complete eco system to develop indigenous equipment and weapon systems in line with Atmanirbharta in defence manufacturing, officials said here on Monday. The Army Design

Bureau is nodal agency of Indian Army to be facilitator for research and development efforts with industry, academia, Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and defence public sector undertakings to enable them to understand and appreciate user requirements in depth.

The Drone Federation of India promotes drone industry by bringing about policy change, creating business opportunities, developing a robust skilling infrastructure, facilitating tech and knowledge transfers, developing standards, and promoting research and development efforts with industry-academia collaboration.



Times Now editor granted interim protection from arrest by SC

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■**  
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday granted interim protection from arrest to Times Now TV channels' editor Navika Kumar in connection with FIRs lodged against her over controversial remarks made by former BJP spokesperson Nupur Sharma on Prophet Mohammad during a TV debate moderated by the news anchor.

A Bench of Justices Krishna Murari and Hima Kohli issued notices to the Centre, West Bengal government, and others on Kumar's plea seeking quashing of proceedings initiated against her. "As an interim measure, no coercive action shall be taken against the petitioner pursuant to the impugned FIRs/complaints or future FIRs/ complaints which may be registered with respect to the broadcast of May 26", the bench said. Senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, appearing for Kumar, submitted that debate was going on over Gyanvapi mosque and suddenly one of the speakers said something, and then another retorted.

Rohatgi stated that the news anchor did not say anything and several FIRs were lodged against her. She in fact doused the fire by saying "we have to go by the Constitution", Rohatgi added. Senior advocate Menaka Guruswamy, appearing for the West Bengal Government, said the first FIR was registered in Kolkata and the FIR in Delhi is not connected with this.

At this juncture, Rohatgi said, "What is the special interest of the State of West Bengal in this matter? The bench then issued a notice in matter and sought replies in two weeks.

'Boarding gates too far, not enough buggies at T3'

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■**  
NEW DELHI

A parliamentary committee in its report has said that many boarding gates in Delhi airport's T3 terminal are very far from the security gates and not enough battery-operated buggies are operating between the two points.

The members of the Parliamentary Committee on Estimates, headed by GB Bapat, visited T3 with the representatives of the Airports Authority of India (AAI) and Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) on September 26 last year. Its report was tabled in Lok Sabha on Monday.

The Delhi airport, which is operated and managed by GMR Group-led DIAL, has three terminals. "The committee had observed that many of the boarding gates at this (T3) terminal were very far from the security gates which made it difficult for the passengers, especially old age, female and child passengers, to reach the boarding gates," the report mentioned.

## Handheld electrostatic disinfection device developed by CSIR scientists

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■**  
NEW DELHI

A team of CSIR scientists has developed a portable handheld electrostatic disinfection device that can be used in all kinds of public places by the small shopkeepers, households, and small businesses for effective disinfection and sanitization to fight the spread of pathogenic infections.

CSIR-CSIO Chandigarh transferred "Portable Handheld Electrostatic Disinfection Device" to M/s. Rite Water Solutions (I) Pvt. Ltd., Nagpur, Maharashtra

Dr. Manoj K Patel, Principal Scientist at CSIR-Central Scientific Instruments Organisation (CSIR-CSIO), Chandigarh, who led the team in designing developing the innovative and advanced technology for effective disinfection and sanitization to fight the spread of pathogenic infections, said that the technology has been transferred to Rite Water Solutions (I) Pvt. Ltd., Nagpur, India for commercialization and large-scale production. "The technology is very efficient and effective to stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus and pathogens," said Dr Patel.

The technology works on two fronts. First, the charged droplets kill the virus in the air due to highly charged droplets. Secondly, the charged droplets reach the hidden areas of any target where the viruses hide.

The device is very handy, portable, and handheld, which can be used by the small shopkeeper, households, and small businesses, further added by the innovator, explained Dr Patel.

On behalf of Rite Water Solutions, the Transfer of Technology (ToT) pact was inked by its Director Abhijeet Gan, Director, while Dr. A K. Shukla, Senior Principal Scientist & Head, Business Development & Project Management (BDPM) represented CSIR-CSIO, Chandigarh in presence of Prof. S. Anantha Ramakrishna, Director, CSIR-CSIO among others.

## Take suo motu action in Ayodhya land scam: Cong urges SC

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■**  
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Monday urged the Supreme Court to take suo motu cognisance of an alleged "land scam" in Ayodhya and demanded that Prime Minister Narendra Modi break his "silence" on the issue.

The Congress' attack came after the Ayodhya Development Authority accused 40 people, including the City mayor, a local BJP MLA and a former party legislator, of illegally trading plots and building infrastructure there. While Congress general secretary and chief spokesperson Jai Ram Ramesh questioned the silence of Home Minister Amit Shah in the BJP led govern-

ment's scam in the name of Maryada Purushottam Lord Ram, party spokesperson, Congress spokesperson Supriya Shrinate alleged a "huge property scam" is happening in Ayodhya.

"We have been saying this since June 2021 when things came to light on how the land scam is happening in Ayodhya but now the Ayodhya development authority has put out a list of 40 people who have been involved in a land scam in the building of the Ram temple and prominent among those are the Ayodhya's BJP MLA Ved Prakash Gupta BJP mayor Rishikesh Upadhyay, former BJP MLA Gorakhnath Baba and multiple officers in the UP government whose rel-

atives have bought land," Shrinate said at a AICC press conference. She said people donated out of faith, but when their money is "played around" it is like "stealing from that donation". "Why are BJP leaders acquiring more land at low cost and then selling it at steeply high prices to the temple trust with the cognisance of temple trust members," she asked.

"The only probe that is happening into the land scam is at the district magistrate-level. How can DM probe the MLA, the ex-MLA, the ministers in the UP government," he said. Shrinate also questioned the "silence" of Prime Minister Modi and Home Minister Shah on matter.

# Lok Sabha passes Bill to rename arbitration centre

**PTI ■** NEW DELHI

Lok Sabha on Monday passed a Bill to rename the New Delhi International Arbitration Centre as the India International Arbitration Centre.

Piloting the New Delhi International Arbitration Centre (Amendment) Bill, 2022, Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju said the objective of the amendment is to have world-class arbitration in the country.

He said that though it is a small Bill, sometimes "a small step can be a giant leap". The minister further said arbitration would also help in reducing pendency of cases in the country.

According to the statement of objects and reasons of the Bill, "it is considered imperative to change the name of the Centre from New Delhi International Arbitration Centre to India International Arbitration Centre so that a unique identity of the institute of national importance as con-

ferred on it by law is evident and reflects its true objective". "It has been felt that the (New Delhi International Arbitration) Centre, being an institution of national importance, gives an impression of being city centric whereas it should be reflective of the aspirations to promote India as a hub of institutional arbitration and establish itself as a centre of international commercial arbitration," the statement said.

On remarks by some members that corporates prefer Singapore and London for arbitration, the minister said work was going on and India would "definitely" become a global hub for international arbitration. "Businesses will come to India also," he added. On increasing pendency of court cases, Rijiju said judges were working to dispose cases at a faster pace now.

Participating in the debate, Amar Singh of the Congress said all big corporates were going to Singapore and London for arbitration. BJP's Ramesh

Bidhuri suggested that cases should be resolved within their stipulated time. Saugata Roy of the TMC described the Bill as a "superfluous legislation". He said international businesses, including those of Indian industrialists Ambanis and Adanis, go to Singapore for arbitration.

"Why has the government not made any progress to make New Delhi a major centre for arbitration," he asked. Supriya Sule of the NCP stated that the Bill talks only of a name change and is a "colossal" waste of Parliament's time.

There is really nothing else in this Bill and this is appalling, she said. Sule added that intellectual lawyers and high-net individuals were leaving India. "Why do you not introspect to improve and strengthen the system instead of bringing a law of just changing names?" BSP MP Kunwar Danish Ali flagged issues on the current judicial infrastructure in India, and referred to the case of journalist Mohammed Zubair's arrest.



JEE-Main: 24 candidates score perfect 100, result of 5 students withheld for using unfair means

**New Delhi:** Twenty four candidates have got the perfect score in the engineering entrance exam JEE-Main, results of which were announced on Monday, according to the National Testing Agency (NTA). Result of five candidates has been withheld by the agency for using unfair means.

Maximum candidates bagging top score in first edition of JEE-Main, 2022 are from Andhra Pradesh and Telangana (5) followed by Rajasthan (4) and Uttar Pradesh (2). One candidate each from Haryana, Maharashtra, Assam, Bihar, Punjab, Kerala, Karnataka, Jharkhand, has bagged the perfect score. *PTI*



Street vendors were seen selling national flags on roads ahead of Independence Day celebrations in Delhi on Monday.

RANJAN DIMRI | PIONEER

## Jamaat-e-Islami J&K raided over terror financing case

**PNS ■** NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Monday conducted searches at Doda and Jammu Districts of Jammu and Kashmir in connection with the Jamaat-e-Islami J&K Terror Financing Case.

The NIA said it conducted searches at premises of six suspects in Doda and one suspect in Jammu in the case relating to Jamaat-e-Islami J&K, which even after its declaration as Unlawful Association in 2019, continues to raise funds in various forms purportedly for charitable purposes.

"These funds are however being diverted to terrorist organisations, such as Hizb-ul-Mujahideen, Lashkar-e-Toiba etc for promoting terrorist activities in Kashmir valley as well as

the rest of India," the agency said in a statement. The case was registered suo-moto on February 5, 2021. Earlier, the agency had filed a chargesheet against four persons in the case. The searches conducted during the day led to recovery of incriminating literature, receipts of funds raised by JEI J&K, bank and property related documents, and electronic devices. Further investigations in the case are in progress, it added.

The case relates to the activities of the JEI members, who have been collecting funds domestically and abroad through donations, particularly in the form of Zakat, Mowda and Bait-ul-Mal purportedly to further charity and other welfare activities, but are using the money for "violent and secessionist" "JEI has also been moti-

### 2 Bangladeshi nationals held for propagating Jihad in India

**New Delhi:** Two "highly radicalised" Bangladeshi nationals, allegedly involved in propagating 'Jihad' in India by posting hateful and incriminating materials online, were arrested from Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh, a NIA spokesperson said on Monday. Hamidullah alias Raju Gaji of Narayanganj district and Mohammad Sahadat Hussain alias "Abidullah" of Madaripur district in Bangladesh were arrested on Sunday. *PNS*

ED attaches deposits, shares worth ₹1.12 cr in Arunachal investors' cheating case

**New Delhi:** The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Monday said it has attached bank deposits and shares worth Rs 1.12 crore in connection with a money laundering probe linked to a case of cheating people in Arunachal Pradesh after promising high returns on investments.

The agency issued a provisional attachment order under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) against Algo Academy and some others, the agency said.

"Proceeds of crime generated by the accused have been layered by transferring amount to various bank accounts and thus (the accused) used banking channels to conceal the actual origin of tainted money.



# Bihar politics: Cong hopes to be bridge between JD(U) and RJD

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI/PATNA

The swift political developments in Bihar have given a fresh hope to the Congress that it may emerge as the 'bridge' between the ruling JD (U) led by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and the partners of the Mahagathbandhan comprising major stakeholders Lalu Yadav's RJD, Left and the party itself, in case a new alliance is forged during the next couple of days. AICC sources said in any case whatever the role the grand old party would play, it is likely to not go beyond the popular opinion of Nitish Kumar as the CM of Bihar. The development is crucial as the Congress just recently lost power in Maharashtra as the Eknath Shinde-led revolt split the Shiv Sena and the MVA government was ousted. The RJD with 80 MLAs, after four AIMIM MLAs joined it a couple of months ago, is the largest party in the Bihar Assembly while the BJP is the second largest with 77 legisla-



tors. While the top leadership of Congress will take a call after the separate meetings of JD(U) and RJD in this regard on Tuesday, the State unit of the party has been asked to meet to discuss the political situation in the state and to "accept" Nitish Kumar into the opposition camp if he chose to sever ties with BJP. Sources said Nitish has already done his homework and spoken to Congress chief Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi in this regard. Nitish has convened a meeting of JD(U) MLAs and MPs on Tuesday to discuss the scenario that emerged following the exit of former national president RCP Singh. Talking to media, JDU chief Rajiv Ranjan Singh

alias Lalan did not react to speculations that Nitish was planning to walk out of the NDA but took exception to the claim that the BJP had decided who would be a minister from the JD(U). "The chief minister has called the meeting of party MLAs to know their views about the situation that has emerged in the wake of the RCP episode," said Lalan. Amid the brewing political storm, RJD said it was ready to "embrace" Nitish and his JD(U) if he broke ranks with the BJP. RJD national vice-president Shivanand Tiwari said that convening meetings of legislators by both parties on Tuesday were a clear indication that the situation was extraordinary. "If Nitish chooses to dump NDA, what choice do we have except to embrace him. RJD is committed to fighting the BJP. If the chief minister decides to join this fight, we will have to take him along," said Tiwari. AICC secretary Shakil Ahmed Khan, who is also a party MLA, said the meeting will be held at the residence of

Congress legislature party leader Ajeet Sharma and is likely to be attended by the party's in charge of Bihar, Bhakt Charan Das, who would reach from Delhi. "We always believe that parties with similar ideologies (samaan vichardhara) should come together. If the CM's JD(U), which believes in socialist ideology, quits BJP we will definitely welcome it. But these are early days. We will discuss the unfolding situation at the meeting in the evening," said Khan when sought for his comments on the sudden developments. Asked to comment on reports that Kumar had spoken to Sonia Gandhi over phone, Khan said "I cannot confirm it. Only top leaders of the party can comment on such matters". He dismissed queries about any realignment hitting a roadblock on account of the Congress' estrangement with RJD and the Left. "We wholeheartedly participated in Sunday's 'Pratirodh march' in the State by the combined opposition," he said.

# Don't accuse me of conspiracy, take on BJP, Chirag tells JD(U)

PTI ■ PATNA

Former Lok Janshakti Party (LJP) chief Chirag Paswan on Monday hit out at the JD(U) and dared it to take on the BJP directly instead of accusing him of involvement in a conspiracy to dent Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's popularity. Addressing a press conference here, Mr Paswan claimed the chief minister faced "greater danger from his close aides than from me" even as he alleged that Kumar has insulted former JD(U) national president RCP Singh, and had previously humiliated Sharad Yadav and George Fernandes. "Never before has one heard of a party accusing its own former national president of corruption. But, this is Nitish Kumar for you," Paswan said. Paswan, who had in the 2020 assembly polls fielded candidates, many of them BJP rebels, in all seats fought by the JD(U) which saw its tally plummet from over 70 five years ago to under 45, bristled at the term "Chirag model" coined by Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan, the party's current national president. "If there is a Chirag model, it stands for our call for 'Bihar First Bihari First', our vision for the state which the CM never respected. He should stop blam-



ing me for his party's debacle. The Janata Dal (United) is, indeed, a divided house. RCP has been made to quit. But Nitish Kumar needs to be wary of people like Lalan and Upendra Kushwaha," he alleged. Paswan mocked the JD(U)'s claim of Kumar having transformed Bihar during the more than a decade and a half he has ruled the state and cited the state's poor rankings in reports of the NITI Aayog. "And when the NITI Aayog met yesterday, our CM refused to attend the meeting. It was an opportunity for him to air the state's demands before the prime minister. In the process, Bihar suffers on account of his arrogance," alleged the son of late Union minister Ram Vilas Paswan. "What problem did Nitish Kumar have in attending the meeting even if he wants to oppose the BJP? Can he be a more vehement opponent than Mamata

Bannerjee and Arvind Kejriwal, both of whom were present," Paswan asked. He said that because of the "tantrums of the Bihar CM", the spotlight is on whether he will continue in chair when it should have been on the floods and the droughts that affect different parts of the state. The Jamui MP, whose father's party was split by rebellious members of his family last year and who now heads a splinter group called LJP (Ram Vilas), seethed at the JD(U)'s allegation that he had worked as a "mohra" (pawn) in the last assembly polls. "I act as per the values I have imbibed from my late father whom the chief minister never gave due respect. The JD(U) should stop making allegations against me and if it suspects BJP of having hatched a conspiracy, it should take on the ally directly," he said. Paswan, who has remained consistent in his admiration for Prime Minister Narendra Modi, deplored the JD(U) for appearing sympathetic towards the opposition's allegations of corruption and price rise. "When they had run short of issues to fight the last assembly polls, they raised the bogey of jungle raj, to dissuade people from voting for the RJD. Now, they seem to be in a mood to join hands," he said.

# Sanjay Raut remanded in judicial custody till Aug 22

T N RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

A Special Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) Court on Thursday remanded Shiv Sena Rajya Sabha member and chief spokesperson Sanjay Raut to judicial custody till August 22 in a money laundering case linked to alleged Rs 1,034 crore Patra Chawl redevelopment scam. After the Enforcement Directorate (ED) made a submission to him that it did not want to seek further custody, Judge MG Deshpande of Special PMLA court sent Raut to 14 days' judicial custody. Having gone through the medical papers submitted by Raut indicating his heart disease, the court allowed home-cooked food and medicines to

the Sena MP while in judicial custody. "ED has prayed to remand the accused (Sanjay Raut) to judicial custody. Accordingly, the accused is remanded to judicial custody till August 22", the Court said in its order. Raut, who was detained by the ED on July 31 after a raid on his Bhandup residence and his questioning that lasted for more than nine hours, was formally placed under by the investigating agency at 12.05 am on August 1 under sub-section (1) of section 19 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002. The PMLA court had earlier remanded Raut to ED custody till August 4. The ED is investigating the alleged irregularities in a money laundering case pertaining to the redevelopment of

Patra Chawl by Guru Ashish Construction Pvt Ltd a subsidiary of Housing Development and Infrastructure Ltd (HDIL). The ED's action against Raut came nearly two months after the investigating agency attached provisionally properties worth Rs 11.15 crore belonging to three persons, including Shiv Sena leader Sanjay Raut's wife Varsha Raut, under the PMLA in a case relating to the alleged irregularities in the Patra Chawl redevelopment project in Mumbai. The ED's action came as a follow-up of the arrest of Pravin Raut under PMLA on February 4 this year in connection with an alleged finding that Pravin Raut had received Rs 100 crore from the HDIL and "diverted" it to various

accounts of "his close associates, family member, his business entities" including the family of Sanjay Raut. The ED's allegation is that in 2010, a part of the proceeds of crime of Rs 83 lakh was transferred to Varsha Raut from Madhuri Raut, wife of Pravin Raut. "This amount was utilized by Varsha Raut for purchase of a flat at Dadar. It is also revealed that after initiation of ED investigation, the amount of Rs 55 lakh was transferred by Varsha Raut to Madhuri Raut," the ED has said. The ED's another allegation is that eight plots of land at Kihim beach at Alibaug were also purchased in the name of Varsha Raut and Swapna Patkar, wife of Sujit Patkar, a close associate of Sanjay Raut. Among other things, the

ED had told the court earlier that it had traced the amount of Rs 1,06,44,375 being transferred to the bank account of Sanjay Raut with his wife Varsha Raut. The ED counsel also told the court that the second allegation against Sanjay Raut related to the purchase of certain parcels of land at Alibaug. "Investigations have revealed that Sanjay Raut has infused/ utilised considerable amount of cash in the purchase of the land at Alibaug which has been confirmed by some other sellers and the cash component has been sourced from Pravin Raut," the ED counsel had told the court earlier.. It may be recalled that on April 5 2022, the ED had attached immovable properties worth Rs 11,15,56,573 under

PMLA in connection with the alleged irregularities in the Patra Chawl redevelopment project undertaken by Guru Ashish Construction Pvt Ltd at Goregaon in north Mumbai. Apart from that of Sanjay Raut's wife Varsha Raut, the other individuals -- whose assets have been provisionally attached -- are businessman Pravin Raut, a relative of Sanjay Raut, and Swapna Patkar, wife of Sujit Patkar who is a close associate of Sanjay Raut. According to the ED, the attached assets are in form of lands held by Pravin M Raut, former director of Guru Ashish Construction Pvt Ltd, Mumbai at Palghar, a flat at Dadar of Varsha Raut and eight plots at Kihim beach at Alibaug jointly held by Varsha Raut wife of Sanjay Raut and Swapna Patkar, wife of Sujit Patkar.



## FROM PAGE 1

### RJD, CONG READY TO BACK NITISH IF HE 'DUMPS' NDA

AICC in-charge Bhakt Charan Das, who is on a scheduled visit, expressed similar sentiments prior to the legislature party meeting but said "no idea" when asked about reports that the Bihar CM has spoken over phone to Sonia Gandhi and sought an appointment on August 11. "In politics, we cannot remain prisoners of the past. We socialists had started off opposing the Congress which was then in power. But, even the Emergency imposed by Indira Gandhi was imposed by invoking the Constitution. The BJP, which has now become a behemoth, seems out to destroy the Constitution. We have to respond to the challenges of the times," Tiwari said. Former Chief Minister Jitan Ram Manjhi, whose Hindustani Awam Morcha (HAM) is an NDA ally, however, claimed there was no crisis in the ruling coalition. "In the JD(U), it is Nitish Kumar who calls the shots. He has not said anything so far. I do not know what he is exactly thinking. But had he planned any major move, he would have given me a hint. I will, however, try to talk to him," Manjhi, whose son is a minister, and who had once agreed to merge his party with the JD(U), said.

### BIRMINGHAM CWG ONE OF MOST MEMORABLE EDITIONS FOR INDIA

He had won the singles title in the 2006 Melbourne Games. The superstar paddler will return from Birmingham with a rich haul of four medals, having won the men's team and the mixed team gold, apart from his silver in the men's doubles. With Monday's sensational gold, Sarath has taken his overall medal tally to 13 at the CWG, since making his Games debut in 2006. The concluding day of the Games began with superstar Sindhu adding a CWG gold to her already bulging collection with a convincing straight game win over Canada's Michelle Li. The world number seven from India outplayed her 13th ranked opponent 21-15, 21-13 in front of a packed crowd at the NEC arena. "I had been waiting for this gold for a long time and finally I have got it. I am super happy. Thanks to the crowd, they made me win today," said Sindhu after the final. Later, 10th-ranked Sen came from behind to end Ng Tze Yong's giant-killing run in the competition. The 20-year-old defeated the world number 42 from Malaysia 19-21, 21-9, 21-16. Sen was at his attacking best in the decider and led until the end. Yong tried his best to mount a comeback, but Sen was unstoppable. He converted his first match point following a long rally, leading to a frenzied celebration that saw him throw his racket into the stands. "It was tense at the start, I had to work really hard. Yong also played a great tournament.

Congratulations to him as well," said Sen after a hard-fought contest. India's star doubles pair of Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy won the country's third gold from the badminton court with a straight game victory over England's Ben Lane and Sean Mendy at the Commonwealth Games. The Indian duo won 21-15, 21-13. India thus finished a fantastic badminton campaign with three gold, one silver and two bronze. While the shuttlers and paddlers dazzled, Australia blew away India with their whirlwind speed and relentless attacks in hockey, extending its dominance at the Games. Since hockey's introduction at the Games in 1998, Australia has always stood on top of the podium. This is India's third defeat against Australia in a CWG final, having lost to them in the 2010 and the 2014 editions of the Games. Nathan Ephraums and Tom Wickham scored a brace each while Blake Govers, Jacob Anderson, and Flynn Ogilvie also found the net in the lop-sided contest. It was a far cry from what was expected in a gold medal clash as a dominant Australia pumped in five goals in the first half to take the game away from India.

### BULLDOZER JUSTICE FOR LEADER WHO ASSAULTED NOIDA SOCIETY WOMAN

The Government is avoiding the answers to these questions. Who is giving this man the courage to threaten a woman by sending 10-15 goons? Who is protecting him?" Priyanka wrote in her tweet. Earlier, on Monday morning around 9 A.M, Noida authority used a bulldozer to remove the illegal structures outside Tyagi's ground floor apartment in Grand Omaxe society in Sector 93B. Tyagi had encroached a portion of the common area of the society in front of his ground floor flat by constructing temporary structures using pillars and tiles. He had also planted trees in a park in front of his residence. As the bulldozer grazed the illegal structure, the residents of the society lauded the Government's "bulldozer" move but also sought the early arrest of Tyagi even as some of them were distributing sweets to each other on the occasion. "We had been raising the issue of encroachment since last three years and finally it has happened. We thank the Uttar Pradesh Government and the Noida authority for it," an elderly resident of the society told reporters. Over 1,000 families reside in the society. After the Sunday night ruckus, a large number of police men were deployed at the society. Even as senior officers interacted with Grand Omaxe residents. The assaulted woman was accorded two personal security officers (PSOs). According to Additional Director General of UP police (law and order) Prashant Kumar,

besides the in-charge of the local police station a sub-inspector and four constables have also been suspended for laxity in work. "Two personal security officers (PSOs) have also been provided to the woman complainant in the case. Efforts are on to nab the accused. The UP Government and the Director General of Police have made it clear that such incidents won't be tolerated," he said, adding that human intelligence and technical surveillance are being used to trace Tyagi. According to sources, multiple teams have been formed which are conducting raids to nab Tyagi. "His last location was traced in Uttarakhand between Haridwar and Rishikesh and multiple police teams went there but still he was not found," said the sources. The Noida Police has also booked 10 close relatives of Tyagi under sections 147 (punishment for rioting), 447 (punishment for criminal trespass), 504 (intentional insult with intent to provoke breach of the peace), 506 (punishment for criminal intimidation), 323 (punishment for voluntarily causing hurt), 419 (punishment for cheating by personation), 120B (criminal conspiracy), 332 (voluntarily causing hurt to deter public servant from his duty) and 353 (assault or criminal force to deter public servant from discharge of his duty) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC). The six supporters of Tyagi arrested for entering the Grand Omaxe society late Sunday evening without being permitted entry and asking about the address of the woman who was manhandled by Tyagi has been sent to 14 days in jail. Meanwhile, Noida authority's GST team also visited Bhagel area, where the shops of Tyagi are located and checked the records. Police teams have also conducted raids at multiple locations, including Gurugram and Lucknow. The incident came to light on Friday when several video clippings of the incident went viral on social media in which the Tyagi could be heard hurling abuses at the woman. The shocking incident evoked a sharp response from the netizens who voiced their support for the woman who was allegedly threatened by the main accused.

### 'STORMY' MONSOON SESSION ENDS 4 DAYS BEFORE SCHEDULE

The session opened with the first tribal woman Droupadi Murmu moving to Rashtrapati Bhawan as President of the country and towards the end witnessed new Vice-President-elect who is also Chairman of Rajya Sabha Jagdeep Dhankhar replacing Naidu. Members of both the Houses of Parliament extended farewell to the outgoing President of India, Ram Nath Kovind, in the Central Hall of Parliament House on July 23 July. Murmu took the oath of office in the Central Hall of Parliament House on July 25, 2022.

At the conclusion of the session, Lok Sabha speaker Om Birla informed that during this session, a total number of 16 sittings were held which lasted for about 44 hours 29 minutes with 48 per cent productivity. Seven Bills passed by the Lok Sabha in the session are Indian Antarctic Bill, 2022, Family Courts (Amendment) Bill, 2022, National Anti-Doping Bill, 2021, Wildlife Protection (Amendment) Bill, 2021, Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2022, Energy Conservation (Amendment) Bill, 2022 and New Delhi International Arbitration Centre (Amendment) Bill, 2022, and Wild Life Protection (Amendment) Bill, 2021. Birla said the Members raised 318 matters of public interest before the House under Rule 377. During the Zero Hour, Members raised 98 matters on various important issues. In Rajya Sabha, five Bills were discussed and passed during the session. 27 private members were also introduced and only one private member Bill regarding the right to health could be partly discussed during the entire session. Naidu lamented that over 47 hours were lost due to disruptions in the Upper House that prevented members from raising issues of public importance. Naidu said the House had 16 sittings during which it conducted business for more than 38 hours. Five Government Bills were discussed and passed. Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha almost through the 16-day session remained paralysed with Opposition, mainly the Congress, remaining daggers-drawn with the Government on Enforcement Directorate's action against its top leaders. The Opposition members most of the day trooped into the Well of the House to protest against the price-rise leading to repeated adjournments in both the Houses. The debate on the price-rise did take place last week after days of disruption of proceedings in both the Houses with Opposition members shouting slogans and carrying anti-Government placards. Parliament business was also derailed by Congress member Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury's 'rasthapatni' remark to which BJP members took strong objection to and sought an apology from Congress leader Sonia Gandhi. TMC MP Derek O'Brien on Monday hit out at the Government over its decision to cut short the Monsoon Session of Parliament. "This is the seventh consecutive time Parliament session has been cut short. Stop mocking #Parliament. We will fight for its sanctity and prevent PM Narendra Modi and Amit Shah from turning this great institution into the Gujarat Gymkhana," O'Brien said in a tweet.

### HEARTBROKEN HOCKEY INDIA CONSOLED WITH SILVER

A minute before the first quarter, Ephramus scored from a counter-attack from the right flank.

It was raining goals for Australia with Anderson making it 3-0 in the 22nd minute, scoring of a rebound, tapping in from close range after Sreejesh made the initial save. India's only shot at the goal came in the 24th minute but Akashdeep Singh's reverse hit was saved by Australian goalie Andrew Charter. Australia added two more goals to their tally in a span of two minutes before half time through Wickham (26th), who deflected in Tim Brand's pass, and Anderson (27th) to take complete control of the match at half-time. An injury to Manpreet Singh after a collision with an Australian player in the second quarter made life more difficult for the Indians as the skipper didn't take the field in the last two quarters. In the 42nd minute, Ephramus scored his second goal with a neat deflection before Ogilvie added another four minutes later. Six minutes later, Australia scored another but the goal was disallowed for backstick after India went for the referral.

### AMID SC DILEMMA, SHINDE TO EXPAND CABINET TODAY

While it looks certain that at least 12 new ministers — six ministers each from the Shinde and BJP camps — will be inducted into the State Cabinet on Tuesday, one should not be surprised if the number of ministers finding a berth in the State goes up to 15, seven from the Shinde camp and eight from the BJP. The six senior BJP leaders likely to be inducted in to the State Cabinet are Chandrakant Patil, Sudhir Mungantiwar, Girish Mahajan, Pravin Darekar, Radhakrishna Vikhe-Patil and Ganesh Naik, while leaders from the Shinde-led Shiv Sena camp will comprise Dada Bhuse, Uday Samat, Gulabrao Patil, Shamburaje Bhosale, Deepak Kesarkar and Sada Sarvankar. In addition to these 12 ministers, Shinde may induct an independent MLA Bachhu Kadu in his Cabinet. In addition to the names of ministers who will in all likelihood make it to the State Cabinet, the names of more ministerial aspirants were making rounds in the state capital on Monday night, hours before the much-anticipated Cabinet expansion. Shinde — who has faced severe criticism from the Opposition for having failed to form a full-fledged State Cabinet more than five weeks after swearing into office as the chief minister — has chosen to expand his Cabinet ahead of the monsoon session of the State Legislature, slated to get underway on August 10. Given that there will be very little time for him to allocate the portfolios for the newly elected ministers, Shinde may postpone the start of the budget session from August 10 to August 17, by when he expects his ministers to get acclimatised to the new portfolios that they will be vested with after the Cabinet expansion slated for Tuesday.



# Grain ship from Ukraine docks in Turkey, nuke plant shelled

AP ■ DERINCE (TURKEY)

The first of the ships to leave Ukraine under a deal to unblock grain supplies and stave off a potential global food crisis arrived at its destination in Turkey on Monday, as Russia again accused Ukraine of shelling Europe's largest nuclear power station.

The Turkey-flagged Polarnet docked at Derince port in the Gulf of Izmit after setting off from Chornomorsk on Aug. 5 laden with 12,000 tons of corn. "This sends a message of hope to every family in the Middle East, Africa, and Asia: Ukraine won't abandon you," Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba tweeted. "If Russia sticks to its obligations, the 'grain corridor' will keep maintaining global food security."

Polarnet Captain Ahmet Yucel Alibeyler highlighted the risks faced by the three grain-carrying ships that left Ukraine.

"These were, of course, dangerous areas, corridors that had been cleared, demined," he said, adding that the convoy was escorted by a harbor pilot ship until it left the risky waters.

A total of 12 ships have now been authorized to sail under the grain deal between Ukraine and Russia, which was brokered by



Turkey and the United Nations - ten outbound and two headed for Ukraine. Some 322,000 metric tons of agricultural products have left Ukrainian ports, the bulk of it corn but also sunflower oil and soya.

Four ships that left Ukraine on Sunday are expected to anchor near Istanbul on Monday evening, Turkey's Defense Ministry said. They are due to be inspected on Tuesday.

Ships leaving Ukraine are checked by officials from the three countries and the U.N. To make sure they carry only grain, fertilizer or food and not any other commodities. Inbound vessels are checked to ensure

they are not carrying weapons.

But the grain deal remains far from plain sailing. The first ship to leave Ukraine, the Sierra Leone-flagged Razoni, which left on Aug. 1, will no longer dock in Lebanon and will change course, the director of the Tripoli Port told The Associated Press on Monday.

The Sierra Leonian-flagged Razoni ship, carrying 26,000 metric tons of corn for chicken feed that departed from Odesa last Monday was set to dock in the northern Lebanese port on Sunday. But according to Marine Traffic, it changed its status on Saturday to "order," meaning the ship was waiting for someone to

buy the corn.

"All that I know is that the ship is no longer coming here," Tripoli Port director Ahmad Tamer said.

Ukraine's embassy in Beirut tweeted Monday that the corn's final buyer in Lebanon refused to accept the cargo due to delivery delay beyond a contractual limit and that the shipper was now looking for another buyer.

The shipment had been a grain of hope for the economically-shattered tiny Mediterranean nation, also suffering from a food security crisis. Soaring food inflation, wheat shortages, and breadlines have crippled a population, of which

about half are food insecure, according to the United Nations World Food Program.

Meanwhile, Moscow again accused Ukrainian forces of shelling the territory of the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Station from Marganets on the opposite bank of the Dniper River on Sunday.

The station, occupied for months by Russian forces, also came under fire late Saturday and each side accused the other of the attack.

Russian Defense Ministry spokesman Lt. Gen. Igor Konashenkov said in a statement Monday that the Ukrainian attack a day earlier caused a power surge and smoke erupted at the power plant's switch facility, causing an emergency shutdown.

Fire teams extinguished the fire, and the plant's personnel lowered the output of reactors No. 5 and No. 6 to 500 megawatt, Konashenkov said.

Rafael Grossi, director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency, recently warned that the way the plant was being run and the fighting going on around it posed grave health and environmental threats.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov urged Western powers to force Kyiv to stop attacking the plant.



## Water crisis looms for eastern Ukrainian city of Sloviansk

AP ■ SLOVIANSK (UKRAINE)

The echo of artillery shells thundering in the distance mingles with the din of people gathered around Sloviansk's public water pumps, piercing the uneasy quiet that smothers the nearly deserted streets of this eastern Ukrainian city.

The members of Sloviansk's dwindling population only emerge — a few minutes at a time — to fill up at the pumps that have been the city's only water source for more than two months. Fighting between Ukrainian and Russian forces near the key city in the Donetsk region has damaged vital infrastructure that has cut residents off from gas and water for months.

The water flows for now, but fears grow that come winter the city only seven miles (12 kilometers) from Russian-occupied territory could face a humanitarian crisis once the pipes begin to freeze over.

"The water infrastructure was destroyed by the constant

battles," said Lyubov Mahlii, a 76-year-old widow who gathers 20 liters (around five gallons) of water twice a day from a public tank near her apartment, dragging the plastic bottles up four flights of stairs on her own.

"When there are bombings and sirens, we keep carrying it," she said on Sunday. "It's a great risk for us, but what can we do?"

Only a fifth of the city's pre-invasion population of 100,000 remains. With heavy fighting raging only miles away as Russian forces continue their push on Donetsk — part of the industrial Donbas region where Moscow-backed separatists have been battling Ukrainian troops since 2014 — residents defy the shelling to make do with the only water source left. And local officials believe things will only get worse once the cold sets in.

Locals fill their bottles with hand pumps or from plastic tanks at one of five public wells before hauling them home in bicycle baskets, wheeled carts and even children's strollers.

## Myanmar's ambassador to China dies



AP ■ BEIJING

Myanmar's ambassador to China has died, the Chinese government said on Monday.

"I can confirm what you mentioned," Foreign Ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin said in response to a question about the reported death of Ambassador Myo Thant Pe.

He did not say when the diplomat had died or what the cause of death was.

Myo Thant Pe had been ambassador to China since 2019, Wang said.

"He dedicated himself to the development of China-Myanmar relations," he said. "We express our deep condolences and regret over his sudden passing and our sincere sympathies to his family."

China is one of Myanmar's closest allies and has expressed unequivocal support for the country's ruling military that seized power last year.

# Fragile ceasefire between Israel, Gaza militants holding

AP ■ GAZA CITY

A fragile cease-fire deal to end nearly three days of fighting between Israel and Palestinian militants in Gaza held into Monday morning - a sign the latest round of violence may have abated.

The flare-up was the worst fighting between Israel and Gaza militant groups since Israel and Gaza's Hamas rulers fought an 11-day war last year, adding to the destruction and misery that have plagued blockaded Gaza for years.

Since Friday, Israeli aircraft had pummeled targets in Gaza while the Iran-backed Palestinian Islamic Jihad militant group fired hundreds of rockets at Israel. Over three days of fighting, 44 Palestinians were killed, including 15 children

and four women, and 311 were wounded, the Palestinian Health Ministry said. Islamic Jihad said 12 of those killed were militants and Israel said some of the dead were killed by misfired rockets.

Israel on Monday said it was partially reopening crossings into Gaza for humanitarian needs and would fully open them if calm was maintained. Fuel trucks were seen entering a cargo crossing for the first time since crossings with the strip were closed last week, prompting a fuel shortage that ground Gaza's lone power plant to a halt on Saturday. The plant was set to resume full operations later Monday. Gaza suffers from a chronic power crisis.

Life for hundreds of thousands of Israelis was disrupted during the violence. Security



precautions imposed in recent days on residents of southern Israel were being gradually lifted Monday, the military said.

Both sides boasted of their successes. Speaking to reporters in Tehran on Sunday, Islamic Jihad leader Ziad al-Nakhalah said the militant group remained strong, despite losing two of its leaders. "This is a victory for Islamic Jihad," he said.

Despite that claim, the group undoubtedly sustained a blow during Israel's fierce offensive. Beyond losing the two leaders, it reduced its arsenal by firing hundreds of rockets without striking a single Israeli, thanks to Israel's missile defense system that shot most of them down. Its own rockets may have killed several Gazans, according to Israel.

# China continues military drills around Taiwan even after end of 4-day schedule

PTI ■ BEIJING

China on Monday continued its unprecedented military drills around Taiwan, extending the schedule of war games launched in retaliation to the visit by US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi to the breakaway island which Beijing claims is part of its territory.

The People's Liberation Army (PLA) Eastern Theatre Command, which oversees Taiwan, said on Monday it would continue drills in waters near Taiwan island, focusing on anti-submarine and air-to-ship strikes, state-run Global Times reported.

The PLA conducted joint drills involving all wings of its armed forces in six areas

around the island from August 4 to 7.

The PLA's latest announcement notice did not specify the location of the exercises nor did it mention when they would end.

The PLA on Sunday proceeded with the plan and continued realistic combat-scenario joint exercises in the sea and air space around the island of Taiwan practicing island capturing drills and bomber deterrence flights in Taiwan Strait, a rehearsal for real operation, state-run Global Times reported on Sunday.

The PLA Command in a late last night press release said its forces continued its joint combat training exercises as scheduled on Sunday in

the waters and airspace around the Taiwan island.

The focus on Sunday was set on testing the capabilities of using joint fires to strike land targets and striking long-range air targets, an early Monday state-run Xinhua news agency report said. The air force under the theatre command deployed multiple types of warplanes, including early warning aircraft, bombers, jamming aircraft, fighter-bombers and fighter jets, to conduct drills on such combat missions as joint reconnaissance, airspace control operation, strikes on ground targets, and air support and cover.

Supported by naval and air combat systems, the air strike

forces, together with long-range multiple launch rocket systems and conventional missile troops, conducted drills of joint precision strikes on targets. Multiple bomber formations flew across the Taiwan Strait from north to south and from south to north, while several fighter jets conducted joint drills with destroyers and frigates.

The operation has tested the tactics of systems warfare under information-based conditions, and honed and improved the capabilities to destroy crucial island targets with precision strikes, Zhang Zhi, an air force officer of the PLA Eastern Theatre Command, said according to the report.

# Top TTP commander Omar Khorasani, 3 others killed in mysterious blast in Afghanistan: Report

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

A top commander of the outlawed Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) Omar Khalid Khorasani and three other top militant leaders have been killed in a mysterious blast in eastern Afghanistan's Paktika province, a Pakistani media report said on Monday.

A vehicle carrying senior commanders of the militant group, including Khorasani, was on Sunday targeted with a mysterious explosive device, according to Afghan officials and local sources, The Express Tribune newspaper reported. The top militants were trav-

elling in the Birmal district of the province for a meeting when their vehicle hit a roadside mine, the report said.

All aboard the vehicle, also carrying other TTP commanders such as Abdul Wali Mohmand, Mufti Hassan, and Hafiz Dawlat Khan, were killed in the explosion, The Express Tribune quoted a senior Afghan official as saying.

According to a local source, the TTP leaders were travelling "for consultation" when their vehicle hit a roadside mine on Sunday.

Khorasani, who belonged to the Mohmand tribal district, was considered a top member of



the TTP — the militant group which wants to impose the law of Sharia across Pakistan. Khorasani, who carried a bounty of Rs 10 million on his head.

Hafiz Dawlat from the Orakzai tribal district was an important member of the group

and a close trustee of Khorasani, while Mufti Hassan hailed from the Malakand division and pledged allegiance to Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, the deceased leader of the Islamic State terrorist organisation.

TTP intelligence chief Abdul Rashid alias Uqabi Bajauri was also killed in a landmine blast in Kunar province of Afghanistan on Sunday morning, according to local Afghan sources.

The TTP is yet to confirm these targeted killings of its top commanders, an incident that would certainly undermine the Afghan Taliban-brokered peace negotiations between the TTP and the Pakistan government.



## ‘Senseless to pressure’ Lanka, says China after Colombo asks it to defer high-tech ship arrival

PTI ■ BEIJING

Riled by Sri Lanka's request to defer the planned docking of a high-tech Chinese research vessel at the strategic Hambantota Port, China on Monday took a dig at India, saying it was "senseless to pressure" Colombo by citing the issue of security concerns.

According to reports from Colombo, Sri Lanka has asked Beijing to defer the planned docking of the Chinese space and satellite tracking research vessel 'Yuan Wang 5' which was scheduled to dock at the Hambantota Port from August 11 to 17 due to security concerns expressed by India.

Responding to the reports, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin told a media briefing here that Beijing has taken note of the reports and asserted that "the cooperation between China and Sri Lanka is independently chosen by the two countries

## UK PM race: Sunak, Truss feel heat over cost-of-living

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

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and meets common interests. It does not target any third party".

It is "senseless to pressure Sri Lanka" by citing the issue of security concerns, he said, in reference to the reports that Sri Lanka's move was attributed to concerns expressed by India.

"Sri Lanka is a sovereign state. It can develop relations with other countries in the light of its own development interests," he said.

"China urges relevant parties to see China's scientific explorations in a reasonable and sensible way and stop disturbing the normal exchange between China and Sri Lanka," Wang said.

Sri Lanka is a transport hub in the Indian Ocean. Many scientific exploration ships including those from China have stopped at the port of Sri Lanka for resupplies, he said. "China has always exercised the freedom of navigation in the high seas and fully respects the jurisdiction of coastal states for the scientific exploration activities within their waters," he said.

According to media reports, India informed Sri Lanka that the docking of the high-tech Chinese research vessel could pose a threat to its national security.

Sri Lanka received strong messages of protests from India as the ship was said to have the capability to track satellites and intercontinental ballistic missiles, the reports said.

## UN chief urges nuke powers to abide by no-first-use pledge

AP ■ TOKYO

United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Monday urged countries with nuclear weapons to stick to their no-first-use commitment of their atomic arsenals, warning that the nuclear arms race has returned amid growing international tension.

"This is the moment ... to ask the nuclear-armed countries to commit to the principle of non-first-use and to commit to not use and not threaten the non-nuclear countries," Guterres said at a news conference in Tokyo, two days after he visited Hiroshima to commemorate victims of the August 6, 1945, atomic bombing. "I think that nobody, nobody can accept the idea that a new nuclear war would happen. This will be the destruction of the planet," Guterres said.

"What is clear is if nobody



uses for the first time then there will be no nuclear war."

Fears of a third atomic bombing have been on the rise amid Russia's threats of a nuclear attack since its war on Ukraine began in February.

On Thursday, Moscow shelled the Ukrainian city of Zaporizhzhia, which holds Europe's largest nuclear plant. When asked about the attack, Guterres said, "Any attack to a nuclear plant is a suicidal thing." He said he fully supports the International Atomic Energy Agency in their effort to stabilise the plant and have access to the facility to exercise its mandate.

## Two more Lankan protesters arrested as they brace for national day of protest on Tuesday

PTI ■ COLOMBO

Sri Lankan police on Monday arrested two more anti-government public protest leaders as they were preparing for a national day of protest on Tuesday, marking one month since the ouster of former President Gotabaya Rajapaksa.

August 9 marks one month since the ouster of Rajapaksa. He fled the island nation two days later and sent in his resignation from Singapore on July 14.

On July 9, the anti-government protesters stormed Rajapaksa's office-cum-official residence forcing him to flee after continuous protests since early April calling for his res-

ignation for his handling of the worst economic crisis faced by the island nation since 1948. At least two of the protesters who had defied a court order in May were arrested on Monday while a prominent trade union leader who was arrested last week and had been ordered remand till August 12 was given bail by the court. Mangala Maddumage and Piyath Nikesshala are the two protesters arrested on Monday.

The police said the magistrate's court had refused two applications to ban the protest action scheduled for Tuesday. The court while refusing the orders said the police have the necessary power to crack down on any unruly protests.

## Protesters block roads in Iraq after third day of power cuts

AP ■ BAGHDAD

Demonstrators blocked roads as protests broke out in southern Iraq on Monday after power outages left many without electricity during scorching peak summer heat.

Temperatures reached 50 degrees Celsius (122 degrees Fahrenheit), nearly matching last year's record high. Southern provinces, where the heat wave is most intense in Iraq, suspended working hours.

The Electricity Ministry last week announced a state of alert, anticipating outages as temperatures rise.

In the oil-rich province of Basra, dozens of people took to the streets for a third straight day and burned tires, blocking the main road to the provincial capital, to protest the power cuts.

While protests against power cuts took place in the south, the followers of Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr entered their ninth day of a sit-in outside the Iraqi parliament building to demand early elections.

Many protesters in Basra said they supported al-Sadr's protest and demands and said they were



tired of rampant government corruption. Protests in the south are common in the summer. In 2018, protests over the lack of basic services turned violent. In 2019, they paved the way for mass anti-government demonstrations in the capital.

"It's not the first time we protest and it won't be the last," said Ali Hussein, 35, in Basra. "We are continuing our protests for electricity and water, which are very basic demands."



# HARMAN RUES TREND OF MISTAKES IN BIG FINAL

PTI ■ BIRMINGHAM

Heartbroken after a gold medal slipped out of their hands, India skipper Harmanpreet Kaur harped on the need to stop repeating same mistakes in 'title clashes', saying the "mental block" has to be broken, going forward.

Indian team came to close winning coveted gold on women cricket's CWG debut but fell short by nine runs after being in a dominant position against mighty Australia. It was deja vu for Harmanpreet and Co. who had suffered a similar inexplicable batting collapse during the T20 World Cup finals defeat against Australia in 2020 and the 2017 ODI World Cup final in England.

"Every time in big finals, we make the same mistakes again and again (with the bat), that is something we have to improve," Harmanpreet said after the match on Sunday.

"We don't do these mistakes in the league phase or in bilateral. That is blocking our mind somewhere," the skipper added.

With 50 needed off the last six overs with eight wickets in hand, India seemed to be on course to title triumph but lost last five wickets for 13 runs owing to some poor shot selections.

Harmanpreet and Jemimah Rodrigues strung a 96-run partnership but both ended up playing some poor shots to make their way back to the dugout. "I am someone who is always looking for one more batter in the side. Unfortunately, we're working on that. Once we get that, this thing [collapse] will go away."

"After losing two crucial wickets, the way Jemi (Jemimah Rodrigues) and I batted was much needed at that time. You need to hold your nerves. We were nearly there."

"Maybe if Pooja (Vastrakar) or I were around, we could've won the game. But that is part of the game;



## Women cricket stars now eye Olympic chance after CWGs

AP ■ BIRMINGHAM

Women cricketers say they would "love to go to LA" to chase Olympic glory after a strikingly successful debut at the CWG.

Women's cricket was on the CWG programme for the first time in Birmingham and had the spotlight to itself, with no matching men's tournament. It is no secret that cricket chiefs want to get the T20 game — the version played in Birmingham — on the list of Olympic sports, even as early as the Los Angeles Games in 2028, although that is a long shot.

ICC chief executive Geoff Allardice said the Commonwealths had been a 'fantastic 10 days of com-

petition" in front of packed-out crowds, describing it as a "superb advert for the women's game".

England captain Nat Sciver agreed that the tournament in Birmingham had been a huge shot in the arm for the women's game.

"This CWG has been an incredible experience and I think the crowds have shown that people really love coming to watch whatever team it is," she said.

"Having that new audience from the CWG where everyone's happy to go and watch any sport is something really special and something that can only help women's cricket. 'I'd love for cricket to be in an Olympics.' Australia's Ash Gardner, who

took three wickets in Sunday's final, would also relish the chance to play on the biggest sporting stage.

"Being involved in a few world cups myself and now the CWG, it was something that us cricketers probably never thought that we'd ever be involved in but we're certainly pretty pleased coming away with a gold medal," she said.

New Zealand captain Sophie Devine said the women's cricketers had put on a "hell of a show".

"Having played in a lot of world events, this was certainly something really different and really special," she said. "Fingers crossed, we've got our foot in the door and there's a few more CWG and the Olympics too."

sometimes some things you can't control. It is great learning for us," she added.

Although India ended on the losing side in the summit clash, Harmanpreet is 'happy and satisfied' with her side's CWG campaign.

"I know we were close to winning gold, but all around our performance was great. This is the first time we got to play in this tournament and we're happy to have won a silver medal.

"A medal is something people back home will get inspired from and they could start playing cricket. As a team, we want to inspire young girls. Doing well on this platform will motivate a lot of people back home."

All-rounder Tahlia McGrath was a part of the Australian playing XI despite testing positive for COVID-19.

"They informed us before the toss. That was something not in our control. The CWG had to take a decision and we were okay with it since she wasn't very ill, so we decided to play. We had to show sportsman spirit.

"I'm happy we didn't say no to Tahlia, it (missing the final) would've even very hard-hitting for her."

India put up a spirited fielding display that helped them restrict Australia 161 for 8.

"If you want to beat this Australian team, you have to field well. If you give them easy runs, they can easily take the game away. We discussed it in the team meeting and Radha (Yadav) set the example for us.

"The effort we put up today is something we wanted to do. I know the last 2-3 overs [in the chase] were not in our favour but throughout the game, the way we played was outstanding to watch."

"We've been working on our fielding for a long time. I'm happy with the way we fielded today. That is something we wanted to do as a team," Harmanpreet said.

## Bumrah ruled out of Asia Cup 2022 due to back injury

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Former skipper Virat Kohli and a fit-again vice-captain KL Rahul were back in the 15-member Indian squad for the Asia Cup while senior pacer Jasprit Bumrah missed out owing to back injury.

Rahul, who did not feature in the T20 series against West Indies due to COVID-19, has recuperated from sports hernia surgery and is back as vice-captain.

The notable names dropped from the main squad are batter Shreyas Iyer and left-arm spinner Axar Patel. Seamer Deepak Chahar, who has had a four month lay-off due to hamstring tear and back injury was also among reserves.

The other absentee from the squad is pacer Harshal Patel owing to rib injury.

India: Rohit Sharma (C), KL Rahul (VC), Virat Kohli, Suryakumar Yadav, Deepak Hooda, R Pant (wk), Dinesh Karthik, Hardik Pandya, R Jadeja, R Ashwin, Y Chahal, R Bishnoi, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Arshdeep Singh, Avesh Khan.

### BUMRAH OUT

Senior fast bowler Jasprit Bumrah is set to be ruled out of the Asia Cup T20 tournament with a back injury, which would require some time to heal.

"Jasprit Bumrah has a back injury and will not play in the Asia Cup. He is our main bowler and we would like him to be back in action before T20 World Cup. WE can't risk him in Asia Cup and the injury could aggravate," a senior BCCI official told PTI on the



condition of anonymity.

Bumrah last played in the ODI away series against England before being rested from the rubber against West Indies and the upcoming one against Zimbabwe.

However, it is understood that the back issue will keep him out for some time and he will need to do rehabilitation work at the National Cricket Academy in Bengaluru before being deemed fit for the white-ball home series against Australia and south Africa in September-October.

Bumrah had had similar issues few years ago and was out for a considerable amount of time.

Currently, the pacer is holidaying with his family in the United States.

Bumrah's injury is a setback for the Indian team as he would need some matches to get into the groove after a long lay-off which will be more than two months.

While he is an automatic choice as and when he makes a comeback, the same can't be said about someone like Avesh Khan, who had to prove his worth to remain in the mix.

## Jayasuriya, Lamb win ICC Player of Month honour

PTI ■ DUBAI

Sri Lanka spin sensation Sri Prabath Jayasuriya and England women's cricket team's emerging all-rounder Emma Lamb were on Monday voted ICC 'Player of the Month' for July.

The 30-year-old Jayasuriya faced off competition from England's in-form batter and June's Player of the Month winner Jonny Bairstow and French youngster Gustav McKeon to claim the honour.

Jayasuriya, who made his Test debut in Sri Lanka's final Test match against Australia in Galle earlier in July, picked up 12 wickets and guided the Lankans to a series-levelling victory.

He also scalped another 17 wickets in the recently-concluded two-match Test series against Pakistan.

Meanwhile, Lamb was rewarded after an extraordinary three-match ODI series against South Africa.

The 24-year-old youngster beat compatriot Nat Sciver and India pacer Renuka Singh to win the award.

Lamb amassed 234 runs in three matches, including a match-winning century (102 off 97 balls) followed by two half-centuries (67 off 65 balls and 65 off 66 balls) in the next two games.



## Lewandowski scores his first Barca goal

AP ■ BARCELONA

Robert Lewandowski scored his first Barcelona goal in a 6-0 rout of Mexican side Pumas in the Joan Gamper Trophy pre-season clash on Sunday.

On his Camp Nou bow, the Polish international, who switched from Bayern Munich in the summer, scored after three minutes from a particularly tight angle.

Pedri added the second and fourth goals in the fifth and 19th minutes, sandwiching a strike from Ousmane Dembele.

Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang and Frenkie de Jong completed the rout in the second half.

Lewandowski also played a key part in Pedri's second goal with an inspired pass to set up the midfielder.

Barcelona begin their La Liga season at home to Rayo Vallecano on Saturday.

### GIGGS GOES ON TRIAL FOR ASSAULT

Former Manchester United star Ryan Giggs stands trial Monday on charges of attacking and coercively controlling his ex-girlfriend, in a case that has upended his managerial career.

The 48-year-old, who until recently served as coach of the Wales national team, has pleaded not guilty to the charges, which carry a maximum jail term of five years.

The jury trial at a crown court in Manchester was set to open at 10:30 am (0930 GMT), presided over by judge Hilary Manley. It is expected to last 10 days.

## Kyrgios wins 1st ATP title in 3 years



AP ■ WASHINGTON

Wimbledon runner-up Nick Kyrgios won his seventh ATP title and first in three years by defeating Japan's Yoshihito Nishioka in Sunday's men's final at the ATP and WTA Washington Open.

The 27-year-old Australian downed 96th-ranked left-hander Nishioka 6-4, 6-3 for his first ATP title since capturing the 2019 Washington crown.

"It's emotional for me to be back here again and claim another title," Kyrgios said.

Kyrgios, who lost to Novak Djokovic last month in his first Grand Slam final, made back-to-back tour-level finals for the first

time in his career and didn't allow a service break all week.

"It's just very emotional for me to see where I was at last year to now. It's just an incredible transformation," Kyrgios said.

In the women's final, Liudmila Samsonova won her second career WTA title by beating Estonia's Kaia Kanepi 4-6, 6-3, 6-3. Her first title came at last year's German Open on Berlin grass.

Kyrgios became the first man to sweep singles and doubles titles in the event's 53-year history — a feat he called "super special" — by joining American Jack Sock to beat Croatian Ivan Dodig and American Austin Krajicek 7-5, 6-4 in the final.

## Medvedev retains top spot

AP ■ PARIS

Daniil Medvedev, who won his first tournament of the year at the weekend, retained his position at the top of the ATP rankings published on Monday while Nick Kyrgios climbed to his highest rank in two and half years.

Medvedev, who is over 1,000 points clear of the injured Alexander Zverev, won his first title since claiming the US Open almost a year

ago, when he roared past defending champion Cameron Norrie in the final of the hardcourt tournament in Los Cabos, Mexico.

Medvedev snapped a five-match losing streak in finals -- a stretch that included his agonising five-set loss to Rafael Nadal in the Australian Open final in February.

In spite of losing his title Norrie still moved up a place to 11 with the Pole Hubert Hurkacz nudging up to 10.

The man on the slide, down two places, is Jannik Sinner, who chose to skip the event in Washington, losing the points he gained last year when he won it.

Sinner's absence left the door open for Australian Nick Kyrgios who followed his journey to the Wimbledon final with his first title in three years.

The Australian climbs 26 places to 37th, his best ranking since February 2020.

## Kasatkina beat Rogers in WTA San Jose final



AP ■ SAN JOSE

Daria Kasatkina rallied to beat Shelby Rogers in three sets on Sunday, capturing her fifth WTA title at the hard-court tournament in San Jose, California.

Kasatkina, ranked 12th in the world and seeded seventh, triumphed 6-7 (2/7), 6-1, 6-2 as she went one better than her runner-up finish to Danielle Collins in San Jose last year, lifting her first WTA trophy since St. Petersburg last year.

The victory will move the 25-year-old back into the top 10 in the tennis world rankings.

Kasatkina denied the 45th-ranked Rogers a maiden title. The 29-year-old American was playing in just her third WTA final, and her first since Rio de Janeiro in 2016.

## Duleep Trophy back in old format, Irani Cup slotted in calendar

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Duleep Trophy, back in the calendar in its old zonal format after three years, will kick-start the Indian domestic season from September 8 with 1500 games across all age-groups over a period of six months, the BCCI said on Monday.

"The prestigious Duleep Trophy will mark the start of a full-fledged season, which will also see a return of the Irani Cup," BCCI secretary Jay Shah was quoted as saying by media release.

"The Duleep Trophy (September 8-25) will be contested between six zones (North, South, Central, West, East and Northeast) on a knockout basis," Shah added.

The BCCI was not following the zonal format for the last few seasons, fielding the India Red, Blue and Green teams instead.

With the zonal format making a comeback, it will have one extra zone in north-east, besides the existing five.

The two multi-day tournaments will be followed by the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy (October 11-November 5) and the Vijay Hazare Trophy (November 12- December 2).

The two white-ball tournaments will be contested between 38 teams split into three groups of eight teams and two groups comprising seven sides.

The Ranji Trophy will be back to its old format and



starts from December 13 and ends on February 20.

The elite and plate groups will be back. The elite group will comprise 32 teams and will have four groups of eight teams in a home and away format with each team playing seven matches in the league stage.

The top two teams from each of the four groups will directly qualify for the quarter-finals.

The plate group will comprise six teams with 15 league matches and the top four will directly qualify for the semi-final while the bottom two

will play against each other for the 5th/6th place.

Both the elite group and plate group league matches will start on December 13 with the plate league concluding on January 29 and the elite group finishing on February 20.

### WOMEN'S DOMESTIC ITINERARY

As the ICC Women's T20 World Cup is scheduled to take place in South Africa in February 2023, the women's calendar begins with the Senior Women's T20 Trophy on October 11 and concludes on November 5.

It will then be followed by the Senior Women's Inter-zonal T20 and T20 Challenger. The 50-over format will then

take over with Senior Women's one-day Trophy and the inter-zonal one-day.

Both the Senior Women's Inter-zonal T20 and one-day have been re-introduced this season.

For the first time, the board will conduct a one-day tournament for girls at the U-16 level. The competition will help the girls get a feel of competitive cricket at a young age and help them make a smoother transition to the U-19 level.

Since South Africa will also host the inaugural U-19 Women's T20 World Cup in January, the women's U-19 T20 Trophy and Women's U-19 T20 Challenger have been scheduled from October 1 to November 7.

DOMESTIC CALENDAR	
SENIOR MEN	
Duration	Tournament
September 8-25	: Duleep Trophy (Multi-Day)
October 1-5	: Irani Cup
Oct 11-Nov 5	: Syed Mushtaq Ali T20
Nov 12-Dec 2	: Vijay Hazare (50 over)
SENIOR WOMEN	
Duration	Tournament
Oct 11-Nov 5	: National T20
November 8-15	: Inter-Zonal T20
November 20-26	: Challenger T20
Jan 18-Feb 7	: National One Dayers
February 12-21	: Inter-Zonal One Dayers



# SINDHU'S WAIT IS OVER

## Indian superstar wins her maiden Commonwealth Games Gold medal

PTI ■ BIRMINGHAM

Glasgow 2014 bronze, Gold Coast 2018 silver and Birmingham 2022 gold, PV Sindhu has finally achieved what she has been longing for at the Commonwealth Games.

But the yellow metal didn't come easy for Sindhu. It took her three attempts, 13 years of toil, and many sacrifices to claim the top prize at the multi-sport event.

Sindhu had won a gold in the mixed team event at the CWG in 2018, but it has been eluding her in singles since her Games debut.

But on Monday, the world number seven outplayed 13th ranked Michelle Li of Canada 21-15, 21-13 in front of a packed crowd at the NEC arena to fulfil her long-cherished dream.

"I've been waiting for this (gold) for a long time now. Of course I'm super happy. I've finally done it. From day one it was important to keep my tempo high and be confident that I can do it," an elated Sindhu said after claiming the top honour.

"We've waited four years now and we're finally here. The Commonwealth Games was really good for me, it was a good tournament."

Contrary to the final scoreline, Sindhu said overcoming Li was not an easy task.

"It was very important to be very focused and in the rhythm. We know each other's game. There are no easy points so

even though I was leading I made sure I was very focused."

The double Olympic medallist said she would take a short break now to re-energise herself before her next goal -- the World Championships -- to be held in Tokyo from August 21 to 28.

"I have the world championships soon, so I'm hoping for the best there. I need to enjoy this moment, take a bit of a break and come back stronger again," Sindhu said.

Sindhu said she can't wait to return home and celebrate her success with her parents.

"Definitely I'm going to celebrate. We will just go out as a team or something like that. I'll go back to India and celebrate with my family members."

"Soon we're going to go back home and I'm going to celebrate with my parents. They've really supported me and they're back there watching the match. It will really mean the world to meet them, it's their hard work and dedication, too," she said.

Lakshya Sen, who won the men's singles gold, rated the CWG medal as one of the "top ones" in his short international career so far.

"Each one of them has its



own importance but this is one of the top ones," said Sen, who has a World Championships bronze and a Youth Olympic Games gold to his kitty.

Sen threw his racket in the crowd after claiming the gold and he said it was just an instantaneous reaction.

"I didn't really plan it well, everything was just coming to me, I just did it."

The 20-year-old shuttler from Almora lost the first game before getting his act right to emerge 19-21, 21-9, 21-16 winner over Malaysia's Ng Tze Young.

"The length was not very good in the first game. In the second game I got a good length and tried to play more freely. That worked. The third game was all about keeping the nerves and maintaining that three-

point lead the whole time," Sen said. "He (Young) won the first set and he had an advantage or luxury to not play that second set and to focus on the third game if he was not doing so well."

"I just focused on getting the lead and keeping the lead. When I got it I thought, 'now I have to not give him any easy points', and as the lead grew he gave up on the points and that gave me a lot of confidence," he said.

"The first five, six points were very important. Then he just gave up, he was trying to conserve his energy for the third game because I don't think he could see a light at the end of the tunnel for the second set. Then he came back very motivated for the third set."



## Sindhu 'phenomenal', Sen 'India's pride': PM Modi

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday heaped praise on India's medal winners at the Commonwealth Games, lauding P V Sindhu as "phenomenal" and Lakshya Sen as "India's pride" after both won gold in women's and men's singles in badminton.

He also praised the women cricket team for fetching silver, saying the first-ever CWG medal in cricket will always be special.

Congratulating Sharath Kamal for winning the gold medal in table tennis, the prime minister said it will be recorded in history as a very special one. "He has shown the power of patience, determination and resilience and also demonstrated great skills," Modi said, adding that this medal is a big boost for Indian table tennis.

Hailing Sharath Kamal and Sreeja Akula for winning the gold in mixed doubles table tennis, Modi lauded their grit and tenacity and said "they showed superb teamwork".

"Playing and winning together has its own joys," he said.

Sharath reaching the finals of all CWG events he competed in is outstanding, Modi added.

"Proud of the men's hockey team for a spirited performance through the CWG and winning a silver medal. I am confident this team will keep making India proud in the times to come and also inspire youngsters to pursue hockey," he said.

After ace badminton player Sindhu clinched gold with a convincing straight-game win over Canada's Michelle Li, Modi said, "The phenomenal P V Sindhu is a champion of champions! She repeatedly shows what excellence is all about. Her dedication and

commitment is awe-inspiring. Congratulations to her on winning the Gold medal at the CWG. Wishing her the best for her future endeavours."

"Elated by the accomplishment of Lakshya Sen. Congratulations on winning the Gold medal in Badminton. He's played excellently through the CWG and showed outstanding resilience during the Finals," Modi said in a tweet.

"He is India's pride. Best wishes to him for his future endeavours," he said after Sen came from behind to end Ng Tze Yong's giant-killing run in the men's singles badminton competition. The 20-year-old defeated the world number 42 from Malaysia 19-21, 21-9, 21-16.

Congratulating Kidambi Srikanth for winning a bronze medal in badminton, the prime minister called him "one of the stalwarts of Indian badminton".

"This is his fourth CWG medal thus showing his skill and consistency. May he keep inspiring budding athletes and make India even prouder," the prime minister added.

Praising the women cricket team, he tweeted, "Cricket and India are inseparable. Our women's cricket team played excellent cricket through the CWG and they bring home the prestigious silver medal. Being the first ever CWG medal in cricket, this one will always be special."

Lauding Treasa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand for winning bronze in badminton doubles, Modi said he is proud of them.

"Before leaving for the CWG, Treasa told me about her friendship with Gayatri but she was not sure about how she will celebrate if she won a medal. I hope she's made her plans now," Modi said in a lighter vein with a video clip of their interaction ahead of the Games.

## Sharath wins singles Gold after 16 years



PTI ■ BIRMINGHAM

Sharath Kamal showed age is just a number as the 40-year-old capped his best ever performance at the Commonwealth Games by winning the men's singles gold here on Monday.

After losing the first game that he should have closed, Sharath beat a much younger yet experienced Liam Pitchford of England 11-13, 11-7, 11-2, 11-6, 11-8 at the NEC arena.

Sharath, who had first won the singles gold back in 2006, had already claimed two golds here in the team and mixed doubles event alongside Sreeja Akula.

With this yellow metal, he increased his tally to a staggering 13 medals across five CWG appearances.

In the final, he was at his finest, firing winners from both sides. Long rallies away from the table was the order of the day and Sharath won majority of them. He was also brilliant in cutting the points short with perfectly placed backhand winners.

In what turned out to be the final game of the title clash, Sharath led 6-1 before Pitchford reduced the deficit to 5-6 by winning the best rally of the match. Sharath absorbed the pressure to make it 10-6 after time out.

He thought he had converted his second match point but the umpires awarded the point to his opponent as the ball was close to Sharath's body at the time of his retrieve.

He converted the next

one to complete a memorable run in Birmingham.

G Sathian secured the bronze after a marathon battle against England's Paul Drinkhall.

Sathian bagged his maiden CWG singles medal after beating home-favourite Drinkhall 4-3 in front of a packed crowd.

The Indian thus avenged his men's doubles final loss against the same opponent by winning 11-9 11-3 11-5, 8-11, 9-11, 10-12 and 11-9.

The bronze was Sathian's sixth overall medal at the CWG since Gold Coast 2018.

On Sunday, Sathian paired up with the Sharath to claim the men's doubles silver after going down to the English duo of Drinkhall and Pitchford.

## Sagar wins Silver on international debut

PTI ■ BIRMINGHAM

Fast-rising Indian boxer Sagar Ahlawat concluded an impressive Commonwealth Games campaign by clinching the silver medal in the super-heavy weight (+92kg) division here.

Competing in his maiden international event, Sagar lost the gold medal bout to home favourite Delicious Orie via a 5-0 unanimous decision late on Sunday.

The 20-year-old, who surprised everyone with his powerful performance in the ear-



ly bouts, was forced to defend in the opening round as Orie assumed the role of the aggressor.

But the Indian defended well and also managed to land some counter punches with all five judges ruling in his favour.

However a minute into the second round, the Haryana

pugilist, who belongs to a family of farmers, seemed to have tired as he repeatedly resorted to clinching, which also earned him a warning by the referee.

By the third round, Sagar looked completely spent but managed to land a few jabs. He also started bleeding as one of Orie's punches left a cut above his left eye. The Englishman took full advantage of that connected a flurry of upper cuts to take the title.

Despite the loss in the final it was a successful campaign for the youngster, who took up the sport five years ago.

## India 'A' crush Kazakhstan in women's event

PTI ■ MAMALLAPURAM

The top-seeded India 'A' team outclassed Kazakhstan 3.5-0.5 for a crucial win in the 10th and penultimate round of the women's section in the 44th Chess Olympiad here on Monday.

Top player Koneru Humpy returned to winning ways, beating Zhansaya Abdumalik while Tania Sachdev and Bhakti Kulkarni scored over Xeniya Balabayeva and Gulikshan Nakhbayeva respectively.

R Vaishali drew with Bibisara Assaubayeva on the second board.

In the Open section, the India 'B' team, which has been in sparkling form, had to settle for a 2-2 draw against Uzbekistan as the in-form D Gukesh lost to Nodirbek

Abdusattorov, the reigning world rapid chess champion.

The teenaged GM Gukesh, who had scored 8.5 points from nine rounds leading into Monday's match, faltered against fellow teenager Abdusattorov in a 72-move match.

Gukesh's talented compatriot R Praggnanandhaa defeated Javokhir Sindarov after Nihal Sarin and B Adhiban had drawn their respective games against Nodirbek Yakubboev and Jakhongir Vakhidov.

The India 'A' team, the second-seeds, overcame a loss for P Harikrishna on the top board to Param Maghsoodloo to beat Iran 2.5-1.5 and improve the chances of a podium finish.

The India 'C' team (seeded 16) was held to a 2-2 draw by 34th-ranked Slovakia.

Armenia, who were in the lead after the eighth round, roared back to join Uzbekistan again following a 3-1 demolition of Azerbaijan. Both Armenia and Uzbekistan moved up to 17 match points with a round to play.

India 'A' has 16 match points. The top-seeded USA roared back into contention with a convincing 3-1 defeat of Turkey and joined India 'A' on 16 points.

**Important results: Open:** India 'B' drew with Uzbekistan 2-2 (D Gukesh lost to Nodirbek Abdusattorov, Nihal Sarin drew with Nodirbek Yakubboev, R Praggnanandhaa beat Javokhir Sindarov, B Adhiban drew with J Vakhidov).

India 'A' beat Iran 2.5-1.5 (P Harikrishna lost to Param Maghsoodloo, Vidit S Gujrathi

beat M Amin Tabatabaei, Arjun Erigaisi drew with Pouya Idani, S L Narayan beat Bardiya Daneshvar).

India 'C' beat Slovakia 2-2 (SS Ganguly drew with Jergus Pechac, S P Sethuraman lost to Viktor Gazik, Karthikeyan Murali drew with Juraj Druska, Abhimanyu Puranik beat Christopher Repka).

Azerbaijan lost to Armenia 1-3, USA beat Turkey 3-1, Serbia drew with the Netherlands 2-2, Spain beat Czech Republic 2.5-1.5, Hungary drew with Ukraine 2-2, Germany beat Israel 3-1, England beat Italy 3-1, France drew with Lithuania 2-2.

**Women:** India 'A' beat Kazakhstan 3.5-0.5 (Koneru Humpy beat Zhansaya Abdumalik, R Vaishali drew with Bibisara Assaubayeva,

Tania Sachdev beat Xeniya Balabayeva, Bhakti Kulkarni beat Gulikshan Nakhbayeva),

India 'B' beat the Netherlands 3-1 (Vantika Agrawal lost to Zhaoqin Peng, Padmini Rout beat Machteld van Foreest, Mary Ann Gomes beat Rosa Ratsma, Divya Deshmukh beat Tea Lachava).

India 'C' beat Sweden 3-1 (Easha Karavade drew with Pia Cramling, P V Nandhidhaa beat Inna Agrest, Varshini Sahiti drew with Bel Cramling, Pratyusha Bodda beat Viktoria Johansson).

Georgia drew with Poland 2-2, Germany told to Ukraine 1.5-2.5, Armenia lost to Azerbaijan 0-4, USA beat Indonesia 3-1, Cuba lost to Slovakia 1.5-2.5, Mongolia drew with Bulgaria 2-2, Hungary beat Italy 3.5-0.5.

## Australia hammer India 7-0 in men's hockey final

PTI ■ BIRMINGHAM

In one of its worst performances in recent times, the Indian men's hockey team suffered an embarrassing 0-7 drubbing at the hands of defending champions Australia to settle for a silver medal at the Commonwealth Games here on Monday.

Australia blew away India with their whirlwind speed and relentless attacks, extending their dominance of the CWG stage.

Since hockey's introduction at the Games in 1998, Australia has always stood on top of the podium.

This is India's third defeat against Australia in a CWG final, having lost to them in the 2010 and the 2014 editions of the Games.

Nathan Ephraums and Tom Wickham scored a brace



each while Blake Govers, Jacob Anderson, and Flynn Ogilvie also found the net in the lop-sided contest.

It was a far cry from what was expected in a gold medal clash as a dominant Australia pumped in five goals in the first half to take the game away from India.

The other time India suffered such a heavy defeat in CWG was in 2010 edition in New Delhi, where Australia hammered the hosts 8-0.

The Indians looked rusty and clueless as they conceded too much space to the Australians in the mid-field, which allowed the Kookaburras

to make inroads.

The structure which the Indians are known for was nowhere to be seen. The defence looked shaky, while there was no co-ordination between the midfield and forward-line.

The past problem of mis-passing and trapping returned to haunt the Indians. It allowed Australia to play free-flowing hockey.

The Indians made very few circle penetrations and whenever they did, they lacked the final pass or looked out of sorts.

Such was India's struggle that the team could not secure a single penalty corner.

Australia secured their three penalty corner inside the first 10 minutes and broke the deadlock from the third through Govers, whose flick went in between India custodian PR Sreejesh's legs.

A minute before the first quarter, Ephramus scored from a counter-attack from the right flank.

It was raining goals for Australia with Anderson making it 3-0 in the 22nd minute, scoring of a rebound, tapping in from close range after Sreejesh made the initial save.

Australia added two more goals to their tally in a span of two minutes before half time through Wickham (26th), who deflected in Tim Brand's pass, and Anderson (27th) to take complete control of the match at half-time.

In the 42nd minute, Ephramus scored his second goal with a neat deflection before Ogilvie added another four minutes later.

Six minutes after, Australia scored another but the goal was disallowed for backstick after India went for the referral.

## Time to do more for chess in India: FIDE deputy president Anand

PTI ■ MAMALLAPURAM

Indian chess legend Viswanathan Anand, who has been elected deputy president of FIDE, on Monday said it is time to do more for the sport in the country.

"We are going to work as a team... Especially do more for India. There are plans to hold more tournaments. Our youngsters are playing very well. We have to use that momentum and do something."

"We have to see what we can do in association with the Tamil Nadu government," Anand, who was part of incumbent FIDE president Dvorkovich's team that contested the elections to the world chess body, told reporters here.

Dvorkovich won the elections convincingly on Sunday to retain his post.

"It is a good time for India, when everybody is talking about chess to do more for the sport,"



the five-time world champion said and underlined the presence of numerous players from Tamil Nadu in the various Indian teams competing at the 44th Olympiad.

Anand further said he was happy because the Olympiad was happening in Chennai and added that "it (the Olympiad) has been an out and out success."

Asked about his vision for India now that he has been elected as FIDE deputy president, he spoke about the need to push the game in schools and various other programmes that are already in place.

"In a sense, we are already one of the top (chess) nations. Now we are one of the top organising nations...With the Olympiad. The next step is to see how to cover the gaps. We need to push it in schools, social programmes that the president spoke about. 'We are strong in some areas. Very happy with the way this Olympiad has been organised,' Anand added.