

OPINION 6
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DO-OR-DIE
GAME FOR
INDIA
12 SPORT

Job, price rise, LAC to heat up Winter Session

EWS quota, women reservation Bill, collegium system also in Opp basket

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Ahead of the Winter Session of Parliament beginning Wednesday, the Opposition parties on Tuesday demanded discussion on a slew of key issues, including unemployment, price rise, quota for the EWS sections, and situation at the Sino-India border in the all-party meeting called by the Central Government. The issues are set to be raised by the Opposition during the Winter Session.

In the meeting, the Biju Janata Dal (BJD) pitched for the passage of the long-pending women's reservation Bill in the Winter Session. The one-third reservation for women in the Lok Sabha and State legislatures was also raised by the TMC, the JD(U) and the SAD parties in the Business Advisory Committee meeting called by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla.

The session would proceed amid the key poll outcomes of Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh Assembly polls.

Exit polls on Monday pre-



Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla holds a Business Advisory Committee meeting with all-party leaders on the eve of the start of Parliament's Winter Session, in New Delhi, on Tuesday

PTI

dicted a big majority for the BJP in Gujarat and a dead heat in Himachal Pradesh where most pollsters gave an edge to the ruling party over the Congress. The session which had to be delayed by a month due to the Gujarat election schedule would witness the Government introducing 16 Bills during 17 sittings of the session.

Leaders from more than 30 parties attended the all-party meeting to discuss the legislative agenda and the issues likely that would be taken up during the Winter Session of Parliament.

The meeting was chaired by Union Minister and Deputy leader of the BJP in the Lok Sabha Rajnath Singh. Leader of the House in the Rajya Sabha

Piyush Goyal and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi were also present.

Talking to reporters after the meeting, Congress leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury said, "There are so many issues before the country, such as unemployment and price rise, and the Government owes an answer to the people."

Continued on Page 2

'Morally wrong': Ukraine slams India's oil import from Russia

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

A day after External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar defended India's decision to buy oil from Russia during the ongoing Ukraine conflict, the Ukraine Foreign Minister on Tuesday said it is "morally inappropriate."

Ukraine's Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba also said, "The opportunity for India to buy Russian oil at a cheap price comes from the fact that Ukrainians are suffering from Russian aggression and dying every day."

Making this assertion in an interview to a private television channel, the Ukrainian Minister said, "If you benefit because of our suffering, it would be good to see more of your help addressed to us."

Jaishankar on Monday said India's decision to buy oil from Russia was largely driven by market forces adding the European Union (EU) has bought more oil from Russia than India during the last few months, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said.

Jaishankar's assertion came during his talks with visiting German counterpart Annalena Baerbock. "The European Union from February to November have imported more fossil fuel from Russia than the next 10 countries combined. The oil import in the European Union is six times what India has imported, gas is infinite times because we don't import it," he said.



In this photo provided by the Ukrainian Presidential Press Office, Ukrainian soldier takes a selfie with President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, left, during his visit to Slavyansk, Donbas region, Ukraine on Tuesday

AP/PTI

Addressing a joint Press meet with the German Minister after talks, Jaishankar also said, "I would urge you to look at these figures. There is a website called 'Russia Fossil Fuel Tracker' it would give you country-by-country data of who is really importing what and I suspect that might be very helpful."

Jaishankar also said there is a finite amount of energy resources and Europe cannot make choices to prioritise its energy needs while asking India to do something else.

On economic ties, he said India's trade with Russia is at a very small level- \$12-13 billion,

in comparison to European countries. "We have also given Russians a set of products... I don't think people should read more into it other than the legitimate expectations of any trading country to increase its trade," he said.

Responding to this assertion by Jaishankar, Kuleba said "It is not enough to point fingers at the European Union and say, Oh, they are doing the same thing."

According to Kuleba, India's decision to import cheap Russian oil needs to be seen through the prism of human suffering in Ukraine.

Continued on Page 2

CAPSULE

ECONOMIST & FORMER MINISTER YK ALAGH DIES

Ahmedabad: Noted economist and former Union minister Yoginder K Alagh passed away here on Tuesday after prolonged illness, his family said. Alagh (83) was an emeritus professor at the Sardar Patel Institute of Economic and Social Research here and was not keeping well for some time, his son Munish Alagh said. YK Alagh was born in Chakwal in present-day Pakistan in 1939 and studied at the University of Rajasthan.

Maha-K'taka border crisis escalates

Fadnavis to take up matter with Bommai, to speak with Shah



TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

The vexed Maharashtra-Karnataka boundary row sparked minor violence in the border city of Belagavi on Tuesday, prompting Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis to take the matter with the southern State Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and announced that he would speak to Union Home Minister Amit Shah in this regard.

A day ahead of the start of the Winter Session of Parliament in New Delhi, the Maharashtra-Karnataka border row escalated in Belagavi as "Karnataka Rakshana Vedike" (KRV) stopped trucks bearing Maharashtra registration numbers and smeared them with black ink and hurled stones at one of the trucks damaging it extensively.

While Fadnavis asked Bommai to initiate action against those behind Tuesday's violence in Belagavi, NCP chief Sharad Pawar warned the Karnataka Chief Minister that if the violence did not stop within 48 hours, then Maharashtra — which had hitherto been maintaining "restraint" — would have no alternative but to "take a dif-

ferent stand in the matter".

Pawar also said he would visit the affected areas in Karnataka if the Bommai dispensation did not restore normalcy in the border areas in the next two days.

Following the incidents of violence, two Maharashtra Ministers, Chandrakant Patil and Shambhuraj Desai, cancelled their scheduled visit to Belagavi.

Meanwhile, the Karnataka Police detained as many as 100 KRV and Maharashtra Ekikaran Samiti (MES), an organisation fighting for the inclusion of the Marathi-speaking villages in the border areas, as a precautionary measure.

Taking serious cognisance of the incidents in Belagavi, Maharashtra's Deputy Chief Minister Fadnavis spoke to the Karnataka Chief Minister and asked the latter to restore normalcy in the border city.

Interacting with media persons in Mumbai, Fadnavis said, "I spoke to the Karnataka Chief Minister and expressed my displeasure and concern over the incidents in Belagavi." I asked him to initiate action against the miscreants behind the incidents."

Continued on Page 2

Ensure nobody goes to sleep on empty stomach: SC to Govt

'Foodgrains under the National Food Security Act must reach last man'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday asked the Central Government to see to it that foodgrains under the National Food Security Act (NFSA) reach the last man.

The court observed that it is our culture to ensure nobody goes to sleep empty stomach.

A bench of Justices MR Shah and Hima Kohli directed the Centre to submit a fresh chart with the number of migrant and unorganised sector workers registered on eShram portal.

"It is the duty of the Central Government to ensure foodgrains under NFSA are reach-



ing the last man. We are not saying that the Centre is not doing anything; the Union of India has ensured foodgrains to people during Covid. At the same time, we have to see it continue. It is our culture (to ensure) that nobody goes to sleep on empty stomach," the bench said.

The SC was hearing its suo moto case on the plight of migrant workers during the Covid pandemic lockdowns.

Advocate Prashant Bhushan, appearing for three social activists Anjali Bharadwaj, Harsh Mander and Jagdeep Chhokar, said the

country's population has increased after the 2011 census and so has the number of beneficiaries covered under the NFSA. He argued that many eligible and needy beneficiaries will be deprived of the benefit under the law if it is not enforced effectively.

Bhushan said the Government claims the per capita income of people has increased in recent years, but added India has slipped rapidly in the global hunger index.

Additional Solicitor General Aishwarya Bhati, appearing for the Centre, submitted there are 81.35 crore beneficiaries under the NFSA, a very large number even in the Indian context. He said the 2011 census has not stopped the Government from adding more people to the list of beneficiaries which is growing.

Continued on Page 2

Appear in person to show sorry for contempt: HC to Vivek Agnihotri

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Filmmaker Vivek Agnihotri tendered a written apology in the Delhi High Court on Tuesday in a criminal contempt case for his remarks against Justice S Muralidhar for granting relief to activist Gautam Navlakha.

However, the HC did not accept the apology affidavit and directed him to appear before it on March 16, 2023 and "show remorse in person."

"We are asking him (Agnihotri) to remain present because he is the alleged contemnor. Does he have any difficulty to appear before this court? He has to be present and show remorse in person. The remorse cannot always be expressed by way of an affidavit," the bench of Justices Siddharth Mridul and Talwant Singh told Agnihotri's lawyer.

Continued on Page 2

AP ■ DOHA

The joy — and the dancing — are back for five-time champion Brazil at the World Cup.

The big win over South Korea secured Brazil a berth in the quarterfinals in Qatar. It also restored the team's confidence after a tumultuous start to the tournament in which the Seleção lost Neymar to injury and saw its unbeaten group-stage streak end in a defeat to Cameroon.

But Neymar returned in style, looking fully fit and scoring a goal in Brazil's 4-1 win at Stadium 974. Vinicius Júnior, Richarlison and Lucas Paquetá also scored, and after each goal the Brazilians broke out dance moves.

They had promised different celebrations for each goal in Qatar, and were at last able to use many of them, after a group-stage in which Brazil scored only three times. It lost 1-0 to Cameroon in its last group game.

Even coach Tite got in on the act, joining Richarlison for



Brazil's goalkeeper Alisson saves the ball during the World Cup round of 16 soccer match against South Korea

AP

his trademark "pigeon" celebration.

The coach and the players got into a circle and put their hands on their hips and started moving their heads back and forth to imitate a pigeon, which is Richarlison's nickname.

After the match, Richarlison showed his dance

to former Brazil star Ronaldo, teaching him the moves.

The Brazil players had already danced after Vinicius Júnior's first goal, when he, Neymar, Raphinha and Lucas Paquetá did a few moves together. It was similar after each goal.

All the dancing got some criticism from former Ireland

player and commentator Roy Keane, who said the Brazilian players were "disrespecting the opposition," especially with the manager getting involved.

Tite defended his players. "It just means being happy because of the goal, the performance, the win..." he said.

"It's not about being disrespectful with the opponent."

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

In its preparedness towards train operations during the foggy days of winter, the Indian Railways has decided to enhance the maximum permissible speed of trains to 75 km per hour from the present 60 km per hour to combat delays caused by inclement weather.

"It has been decided that with the use of fog devices in locomotives, the maximum permissible speed during foggy/inclement weather conditions can be enhanced from 60 kmph (km per hour) to 75 kmph," the Indian Railways

said in a statement.

The national transporter has also asked railway zones to keep adequate supply of detonators — appliances fixed on rails that explode with a loud report when an engine passes so as to attract the driver's attention. It also said lime marking across the track at sighting boards (or at distant signals in case of double-distant signals) must be done.

"All signal sighting boards, whistle boards, fog signal posts and busy vulnerable level crossing gates, which are accident prone, should either be painted or provided with yellow/black luminous strips."

Continued on Page 2

Trains to zip at 75 km/hour to cut fog delay

TMC spokesman Gokhale held at Jaipur airport

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Trinamool Congress on Tuesday claimed that the Gujarat Police has arrested its spokesperson Saket Gokhale, terming it a "political vendetta". In a tweet, TMC national spokesperson and Rajya Dabha MP Derek O'Brien detailed the circumstances under which the arrest was made.

Gokhale took a flight at 9 pm from New Delhi to Jaipur on Monday. When he landed, the Gujarat Police cops who were at the airport picked him up. At 2 am on Tuesday, Gokhale called his mother and told her that the police were taking him to Ahmedabad and he would reach that city by noon, O'Brien claimed.

"The police let him make that two-minute phone call and then confiscated his phone and all his belongings," the TMC leader said on Twitter.

Continued on Page 2

Babri demolition anniversary: Little extra security, but just another day

PTI ■ AYODHYA (UP)

It was business as usual in the pilgrim city on Tuesday, the day that marked the 30th anniversary of the Babri mosque demolition.

In a break from the curfew-like situation on some past occasions, life remained normal in the city with schools, colleges, offices and public institutions remaining open. Police, however, remain on alert.

Like any other day, local people were seen queuing at the Ram temple complex for a 'darshan' while traffic remained heavy during morning rush hour.

Unlike in the past, the Vishwa Hindu Parishad is not



celebrating any "Shaurya Diwas" (bravery day) and there are no plans by the Muslim community to observe a Black Day. With the Supreme Court judgement in 2019 ending the Ram Janmabhoomi land dispute, people from both the communities appear to be yearning for peace.

In past years, Ayodhya used to be turned into a fortress ahead of the Babri mosque demolition anniversary. Not this time, though.

Senior Superintendent of Police, Ayodhya, Muniraj G said "routine arrangements" have been made in the city as precautionary measures.

"We are also continuously monitoring social media platforms, while hotels are also

being checked," Muniraj G, who was recently appointed as the SSP of Ayodhya, told reporters.

"All vehicles coming into Ayodhya are being thoroughly checked. Nothing unusual has been reported so far, however, we are keeping a strict vigil," the SSP, who inspects the city markets on Monday night, said.

VHP spokesperson Sharad Sharma told PTI on Tuesday that no event is lined up for the day on the occasion. Sharma had earlier said events organised to mark December 6 were toned down after the Supreme Court decision "in favour of the Hindu side".

"The 'Shaurya Diwas' which used to be celebrated on

December 6, it has been called off completely as our main 'sankalp' (vow) was fulfilled. And after that, all we wanted was a peaceful environment. "So it was unanimously decided that no event that triggers any tension or hurts anyone should be organised", he has said. He said the organisation didn't want to do anything that damages trust and communal harmony".

However, many Muslims still feel that families of those killed in the aftermath of the Babri demolition are yet to get justice. In two mosques of the city, recitation of the Quran was held after early morning prayers peacefully in small gatherings on Tuesday.

Babri petitioner Haji

Mehboob said, "We organised Quran Khani (recitation of Quran) in remembrance of those who lost their lives in Ayodhya after demolition of Babri Mosque. No other programmes have been planned."

Another petitioner, Iqbal Ansari said, "After the Supreme Court judgment, Muslims have forgotten everything. Ayodhya is dharam ki nagri (City of Dharma)... We have left behind what happened 30 years ago and are now talking of development."

Three decades after the demolition of the Babri mosque, people in the city seem to have moved on and appear to be treating its anniversary on Tuesday almost like any other day.

Hindu Mahasabha leader held for bid to recite Hanuman Chalisa in mosque

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

An Akhil Bharat Hindu Mahasabha (ABHM) leader was arrested on Tuesday while allegedly going to recite Hanuman Chalisa at the Shahi Eidgah Masjid inside the Shri Krishna Janmabhoomi-Eidgah complex in Mathura. Officials said that seven-eight other leaders of the organisation

were also confined to their houses under different police stations. The ABHM had given a call for Hanuman Chalisa recital inside the Shahi Eidgah Masjid to mark the anniversary of Babri Masjid demolition.

Additional Superintendent of Police (City) Martandey Singh said the police arrested ABHM's Agra region incharge Saurabh Sharma when he was

attempting to go towards the mosque on the complex. He said Mahasabha president Rajshri Chaudhary and treasurer Dinesh Sharma were not among those confined in their homes and that there was no information. The Babri mosque in Ayodhya was demolished by Kar Sevaks on December 6, 1992.

Senior Superintendent of

Police (SSP) Shailesh Kumar Pandey said the law and order situation would not be allowed to be disturbed. A strict watch was also being kept on social media, he said. The orders of the Supreme Court would be followed and the implementation of prohibitory orders under Section 144 of CrPC would be ensured in letter and spirit, he said.

The organisation had given a similar call last year but their plan was scuttled by the district administration. "No new tradition or ritual will be allowed to be performed," Pandey said. Earlier, ABHM had sought permission to perform 'Jalabhishek' of Laddu Gopal and recital of Hanuman Chalisa at the Shri Krishna Janmabhoomi-Eidgah complex

in Mathura on Tuesday even as the district administration has banned gatherings and demonstrations there. Nearly 1,500 police, armed constabulary, and paramilitary force personnel were being deployed and traffic restrictions enforced near Shri Krishna Janmasthan temple and Shahi Eidgah Masjid in the temple town, officials had said on Monday.

Girl raped, killed, body found in gunny bag

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

In a suspected case of rape and murder, the body of a girl was found in a sack near a temple in Moradabad on Tuesday morning. Police rushed to the spot soon after getting the information but failed to ascertain the identity of the deceased.

The police also summoned the forensic team and dog squad to the spot to help them in getting some lead. It was suspected that the girl was raped and killed elsewhere and the body was dumped later near the temple. The incident was reported from Ratupura village of Thakurdwara in Moradabad.

Some passerby saw some dogs scratching a white gunny bag lying near the Nagnath temple close to the bypass leading to Madarpur early Tuesday morning.

They also said that the bag was soaked in blood. When the police reached the spot and opened the sack, they were shocked to find the body of a girl tied with a rope. Thakurdwara SHO said the deceased was aged around 25 years and there were injury

marks around her neck.

Meanwhile in Deoria, the body of a woman was found on the banks of Nakata drain in Bardonia village on Monday evening. The deceased was later identified as Archana Devi alias Rani (21), who was the wife of Durgesh Chauhan of Banki village.

On Monday evening, villagers passing by the Nakata drain spotted the body and raised an alarm. The deceased was clad in a yellow shirt, blue salwar and red shawl. Later, her relatives reached the mortuary and identified the body as that of Archana. According to family members, she married Durgesh Chauhan in Banki village of Gauri Bazar police station area six months ago.

The body was recovered four kilometres away from her house. Inspector-in-charge Naveen Singh said the family members of Archana filed a case against her husband Durgesh and other family members, alleging she was killed over dowry. They said that Archana married Durgesh Chauhan on May 12 last. They alleged Archana's in-laws were demanding a motorcycle.

'Morally wrong': Ukraine slams India's oil import...

From Page 1

The Ukrainian Foreign Minister also said India, specifically Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has a key role to play in helping to end the war.

"India is a very important player in the global arena and the Prime Minister of India, with his voice, can make a change." At the same time, New Delhi, he believes, needs to be direct in referring to the situation in Ukraine.

"We are waiting for the moment when Indian foreign policy will call spade a spade, and name the conflict - not 'war in Ukraine', but what it is, a 'Russian aggression against Ukraine'," he said.

Asked if New Delhi's intervention could realistically make a difference in the thinking of Russian President Vladimir Putin, Kuleba said it was important to make a concerted effort. "If you don't try, nothing can change," he said.

"We have seen some encouraging messages coming from your Prime Minister - when he said this is not the time for war. We hope that (there) is more active, even if it is quiet, behind-the-scenes diplomacy (that) will take place in the coming weeks. It's worth trying (in) any way to end the war," he said.

Trains to zip at 75km/hour to cut fog...

From Page 1

The work of repainting for their proper visibility should be completed before onset of the foggy season. Lifting barriers at busy level crossings, where necessary, to be provided with yellow/black luminous indication strips.

"The new existing Seating Cum Luggage Rakes (SLRs) are already being fitted with LED-based flasher tail lights, therefore, the existing SLRs with fixed red lights should be modified and fixed with LED lights. This will be a very important step to ensure safety in foggy weather," the Railways said.

"During fog, when the loco pilot in his judgement feels that visibility is restricted due to fog, he shall run at a speed at which he can control the train so as to be prepared to stop short of any obstruction; this speed shall in any case not be more than 75 kmph (km per hour).

It has also directed loco pilots to whistle frequently to warn the gatemen and road users of an approaching train at level crossings," it said.

Job, price rise, LAC...

From Page 1

Chowdhury alleged that the Government did not "properly" inform the Opposition about the stand-off at the Sino-India border. "In the House, we demand a discussion on it and also on the killings of Kashmiri Pandits," he added.

Congress leader Naseer Hussain demanded discussions on the appointment of Election Commissioner in just one day and the Economically Weaker Section quota. The Congress list of issues to be raised during the session also include "Centre's attack on judiciary and refusal to accept Supreme Court collegium's recommendation."

The party will also take up the Supreme Court's judgement on 10 percent reservation for Economically Weaker Section and Morbi bridge collapse in Gujarat. Trinamool Congress leader Sudip Bandyopadhyay said he, along with party colleague and Rajya Sabha MP Derek O'Brien,

sought discussions on price rise, unemployment, alleged misuse of agencies and economic blockade of States. O'Brien also told the Government that the Opposition should be allowed to raise issues of importance. The BJD demanded passage of the women's reservation bill in the Winter Session of Parliament.

"On behalf of my party, the BJD, I demanded that the women reservation bill be passed in the winter session," Patra told reporters after the meeting. BJD leader and Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik and the party are committed to the cause of women empowerment, the MP said.

The Bill which seeks to reserve one-third of seats in Lok Sabha and state legislative assemblies for women could not be passed by the 15th Lok Sabha. While the bill was pending in the Lower House of Parliament, the term of the 15th Lok Sabha ended and the

constitution amendment bill lapsed.

Meanwhile, the Trinamool Congress, JD(U) and the Shiromani Akali Dal demanded convening an all-party meet to build consensus on the women's reservation bill at a meet convened by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, TMC leader Sudip Bandyopadhyay said. The TMC raised the issue at the meeting of the Lok Sabha Business Advisory Committee, while it was supported by the JD(U) and the SAD.

The BAC meet was convened by the Speaker ahead of the Winter session of Parliament beginning Wednesday. This will be the first session when Vice President Jagdeep Dhankar will also chair as Chairman of Rajya Sabha. The Winter Session is also likely to be the last session to be held in the existing Parliament House as the new Parliament building would be ready for use in the budget session.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE
Invitation of Tenders through E-Procurement system
Principal Chief Materials Manager, Northern Railway, New Delhi-110001, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites e-tenders through e-procurement system for supply of the following items:-

S. No.	Tender No.	Brief Description	Quantity	Closing Date
01	07220466	CIRCUIT BOARD PB03A	66 NOS	28.12.22
02	07223471	CENTERING DISC FOR PRIMARY SUSPENSION FOR LHB COACHES	3812 NOS	02.01.23
03	07220336A	IMPROVED HIGH TENSILE TIGHT LOCK CENTRE	214 NOS	02.01.23
04	77225167	CMS CROSSING 52 KG 1 IN 12	718 SET	06.01.23
05	07223461	Y A W DAMPER FOR LHB COACHES	2141 NOS	09.01.23
06	09222541	CROSS BAR	4396 NOS	09.01.23
07	07220245B	FLEXIBLE HOSE 500 MM LONG FOR BRAKE ACTUATOR	4658 NOS	23.01.23
08	07220249	RUBBER SPRING FOR FIAT BOGIE	4243 NOS	06.02.23

Note:-1) Vendors may visit the IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for details. 2) No Manual offer will be entertained.

Tender Notice No. 67/2022-2023 Date: 06.12.2022 3249/22

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Name of work and its location : 30-Elect-23-T-R1-22-23-E3
Comprehensive annual maintenance contract (CAMEC) of:
A) JOHNSON make lifts installed at NDLS (05 Nos.), DEE (02 Nos.), GZB (02 Nos.), MTC (02 Nos.), HNWM (05 Nos.), PNP (02 Nos.) stations over Delhi division, total 18 Nos. for three years.
B) JOHNSON make lifts (08 Nos.) installed at ANVT Railway Station for three years.
C) JOHNSON make installed lifts (04 Nos.) installed at CNKP for three years.
Approx cost of the works : Rs. 101.21 lacs
Address of the office : Sr. Divl Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi.
Bid Security : Rs. 2,00,600.00
Date & time of submission of tender : 30.12.2022, 12.00 Hrs.
Opening of tender : 30.12.2022, 12.00 Hrs.
Website & notice board : www.ireps.gov.in & Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi.
3250/2022

Serving Customers with a Smile

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

Whereas

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Bank Limited under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/ her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Amit Soni/ Neema Jalal Soni- LBJA100003368110	Flat No. S101, Floor No-1, Khasra No 9, Pink Pride- The Suites, Village Jaisinghpura Bass Bhankrota, Tehsil Sangarner, Jaipur, Rajasthan-303902/ December 05, 2022	September 27, 2022/ Rs. 4866677.00/-	Jaipur/ Noida

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/ guarantors(s) are hereby given a 30 day notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date: December 07, 2022
Place: Noida

Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE
Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)

N.I.T. No.	36A-22-23-W-2 Dated 06.12.2022
1	Name of Work with its location
A)	Provision of H-Beam sleeper in the section of ADEN/MUT
2	Approx. Cost of work 36A-22-23-W-2 As per IREPS Notice
3	Earnest Money 36A-22-23-W-2 As per IREPS Notice
4	Completion period of Work 36A-22-23-W-2 As per IREPS Notice
5	Cost of tender on cash / by post As per IREPS Notice
6	Date & time for submission of tender and opening of tender 16.12.2022 to 30.12.2022 upto 15:00 hrs Opening of tender 30.12.2022 at 15:00 hrs. on
7	Similar nature of Work 36A-22-23-W-2 As per IREPS Notice
8	Website particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can used etc. Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in
NIT - 36A-22-23-W-2 Dated : 06.12.2022	3248/2022
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE	

TMC spokesman Gokhale held at Jaipur airport

From Page 1
"The cooked up case is filed with the Ahmedabad cyber cell about Saket's tweet on the Morbi bridge collapse. All this cannot silence the All India Trinamool Congress and the Opposition. BJP taking political vendetta to another level," he alleged. When contacted, Jaipur airport police station SHO Digpal Singh said he had no such information. "I have no information. Nobody informed us," he said.

TMC spokesman Gokhale held at Jaipur airport

From Page 1
"The Karnataka Chief Minister assured me that his Government would act against those behind the violence. He also assured me that his Government would support or spare anyone behind the violence."

"While we are keeping a watch on the assurances given by the Karnataka Chief Minister, I will also take up the matter with Union Home Minister Amit Shah. Because, we are interested in development and we can ill-afford to have conflicts between the two States. Our Constitution has given freedom of movement to the citizens in the country. People in the country have the freedom to visit any State, do business or live in any state. If citizens' rights are being violated in any state, the local government will have to take action in the matter," Fadnavis said.

Replying to a question, Fadnavis said while he anticipated some "reaction" in Maharashtra to the violence in Karnataka. He, however, appealed to the people in the State to maintain calm and restraint. In a related development, Pawar charged that an "atmosphere of fear" had been created in the border areas of the two states following statements by the Karnataka Chief

Moment of truth for Delhiites, netas today

MCD poll results to be declared after counting of votes under tight security

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Authorities are all geared up for the counting of votes polled in the Delhi municipal elections, with officials saying 42 centres have been set up for Wednesday's exercise which will begin at 8 AM amid tight security. At least 20 companies of paramilitary personnel and over 10,000 officers of Delhi Police have been deployed at the counting centres. Delhi recorded a voter turnout of 50.48 per cent in the keenly-watched polls held on December 4, results of which may have ramifications beyond the national Capital.

"We are all set for the counting of votes tomorrow for which 42 centres have been set up. Counting will take place amid tight security arrangements," a senior official of the State Election Commission (SEC) said. The centres are located in areas across the city, including, Shastri Park, Yamuna Vihar, Mayur Vihar, Nand Nagari, Dwarka, Okhla, Mangolpuri, Pitampura, Alipur and Model Town.

Deputy Commissioner of



A security personnel stands guard outside a strong room where EVMs are kept, ahead of the counting for the Municipal Corporation of Delhi election votes, at Gole Market in New Delhi on Tuesday

PTI

Police (Public Relations) Suman Nalwa said adequate security arrangements have been made for the day of counting. "The police are also keeping tabs on strongrooms where Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) are stored and the counting centres," Nalwa said. Another official of

Delhi Police said, "We have deployed more than 10,000 personnel from local and district levels at the 42 counting centres along with 20 companies of the Central Armed Police Force."

The election was largely touted as a three-way contest between a spirited AAP, a confident BJP and a hopeful Congress. There are 250 wards in the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) and 1,349 candidates were in the fray in this election.

According to data shared by the SEC on Monday, 51.03 per cent of the male voters exercised their franchise while

49.83 per cent of female electorate voted in the crucial civic polls. The lowest voter turnout was seen in Andrews Ganj ward, where only 33.74 per cent of the eligible voters came out to vote. This was followed by the Hauz Khas ward, where only 38.72 per cent turned up. Areas such as Green Park, Greater Kailash, Munirka, Lado Sarai and Dwarka also saw a turnout of less than 40 per cent. Turnouts in areas such as Greater Kailash, Vasant Vihar and Hauz Khas have remained below the 50 per cent mark in both 2012 and 2017 municipal polls.

The figures for some of the other wards were -- Civil Lines (44.86 per cent), Chandni Chowk (44.48 per cent), Karol Bagh (44.72 per cent), Najafgarh (51.97 per cent), Rajinder Nagar (44.26 per cent), Malaviya Nagar (44.89 per cent), Greater Kailash (38.99 per cent), Laxmi Nagar (49.02 per cent). As is usual, rural pockets saw high turnouts, with Northwest Delhi's Bakhtawarpur recording the highest at 65.72 per cent. The rural pocket of Bhati in South Delhi saw a turnout of 62.49 per cent.

According to data shared by the SEC officials, the total number of voters in Delhi is 1,45,05,358 -- 78,93,418 males, 66,10,879 females and 1,061 transgender people.

People of Delhi have again put their trust in AAP: Kejriwal

We hope results will be in accordance with what exit polls have shown, says Delhi CM

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A day after exit polls predicted a sweep by the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in the MCD elections, the party's national convener and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said on Tuesday that he is hopeful of a win in the civic body polls.

"I also saw the exit polls and I thank the people of Delhi for believing in us once again. We are waiting for tomorrow's final result. People of Delhi have again put their trust in the AAP, we are hopeful that very good results will come in MCD elections," said Kejriwal at Delhi Assembly where he along with Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia paid floral tribute to BR Ambedkar on his death anniversary. He also said the prediction for the party in Gujarat was a "positive sign".

"We hope that the results tomorrow will be in accordance with what the exit polls have shown and that the people of the national Capital and the country go on to support AAP in the future as well," Kejriwal stated. But the AAP will wait for the MCD election results to be declared before thanking the people of the national Capital, he said.

Commenting on the Gujarat exit polls, Kejriwal said that it was being said that the State is the BJP's bastion and for the first time a party is getting 15 to 20 per cent vote share, it is a big deal.

"The results shown by the exit polls in Gujarat are posi-



Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal paying tributes to Dr Bhim Rao Ambedkar on the occasion of his 'Mahaparinirvan Diwas' at Vidhan Sabha in New Delhi on Tuesday

Ranjan Dimri | Pioneer

tive as well. A new party has entered Gujarat and if we manage to win 15-20 per cent votes then I believe that this is a very positive result. Everyone until now was speaking about how Gujarat is a stronghold of the BJP," said Delhi CM.

Three exit polls on Monday predicted a clear win for the AAP in the MCD polls, with the BJP emerging a distant second. Kejriwal's deputy Manish Sisodia claimed the AAP is going to sweep the MCD elections, asserting that the public is once again going to choose Kejriwal's "staunch honesty" and "politics of good governance" over the BJP's lies.

"They tried to defame him, levelled false allegations against me and tried to defame Satyendar Jain but the people voted for work, not the BJP's lies. The people of Delhi have proved and given this message to the whole country that the

AAP is a staunch honest party and all the allegations levelled against us are just lies," the Deputy Chief Minister said. Sisodia added that the BJP brought many of its Chief Ministers and Union Ministers to advertise their "lies and false allegations" against Kejriwal.

"Their Ministers kept abusing CM Arvind Kejriwal and levelled several allegations. The people of Delhi know about the work that CM Arvind Kejriwal has done for them and that's why by voting the AAP to power in the MCD, the people have spoken their hearts," he said. On the Gujarat poll predictions, Sisodia said the AAP is going to make a grand entry in Gujarat.

This would be the first time in the history of the country that a party would become a national party in just 10 years, he said.

MCD results will prove exit polls wrong: BJP, Cong

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Ahead of the counting of votes for the MCD polls on December 7, the BJP on Tuesday exuded hope that the tide will turn in its favour even as the AAP claimed a "landslide" victory as predicted by exit polls. The AAP leaders, who are in an upbeat mood after positive predictions, also claimed that the party will do better than exit poll trends.

The exit polls on Monday showed that the AAP was going to sweep the MCD polls by winning more than 150 of the 250 municipal wards, with the

BJP emerging a distant second.

A sombre mood prevailed at the Delhi BJP office ahead of the results, where the party leaders hoped that the exit polls will be proved wrong during the counting of votes.

"The party is going to do much better than what the exit polls have predicted and we expect to comfortably cross the halfway mark. We have had a good campaign and our feedback of polling day gives us reason to be sure of a good performance," said Delhi BJP president Adesh Gupta.

Gupta said that Manish Sisodia should note that he is a prime accused

in liquor and class room scams which are being investigated by the CBI and the ACB and after the investigation is complete, he will land in jail.

For the AAP, a clear victory in the MCD elections will be yet another example of its sway over Delhi and will also serve as a consolation since the exit polls have also predicted that the party's hopes of victory in the Gujarat Assembly polls are likely to fail this time.

The third main contender in the fray, the Congress, too, hoped to prove the exit polls wrong on Wednesday.

"The exit poll surveys will be proven wrong very soon. Our party has

done the groundwork and according to the internal survey of the party, the Congress is winning 60-70 seats," Delhi Congress president Anil Chaudhary said. The MCD exit polls have foretold the Congress's victory in less than 10 wards.

Delhi Congress' media department coordinator Anil Bhardwaj asserted that the party will do "much better" than its performance in the previous polls.

"Our vote share will be better than the previous elections. The party's internal survey is good but doesn't match with the exit poll predictions," he said.

YouTuber who extorted money from bizman after honey-trapping, arrested

STAFF REPORTER ■ GURUGRAM

Gurugram police on Wednesday arrested YouTuber Namra Qadir for allegedly extorting more than ₹80 lakh from a private firm's owner after honey-trapping and threatening to implicate him in rape case.

According to a senior police official, she was arrested from Delhi on Monday and sent to four-day police remand after being produced before a duty Magistrate's court.

Qadir's husband and co-accused Manish alias Virat Beniwal is at large, police said, adding that raids are being conducted to apprehend him.

22-yr-old Qadir has more than 617,000 subscribers on the video sharing platform and Qadir and Beniwal are residents of Shalimar Bagh in Delhi.

Dinesh Yadav (21), a resident of Badshahpur, had lodged a complaint in August but the couple moved court for interim bail, police in Gurugram said.

It was only after their interim bail was cancelled that an



FIR was registered on November 26 at the Sector-50 police station against them, they said.

"Qadir has confessed to the crime and we have taken her on police remand to recover the money and other items that were given to her by the victim under alleged pressure. Her husband and co-accused Manish alias Virat Beniwal will be arrested soon," said SHO Inspector Rajesh Kumar.

In his complaint Dinesh Yadav, who runs an advertising firm, said he got in touch with Qadir sometime ago and Beniwal was with her. He claimed that Qadir demanded ₹2 lakh for promoting his firm on her channel, and he paid the amount.

Qadir after a few days expressed her liking for him and said she wanted to marry him. They became good friends, according to the complaint.

"In August I along with Qadir and Manish went to a club to party. We booked a room there. The next morning, when I woke up, Qadir asked me to hand over my bank cards and (smart) watch. She threatened to implicate me in a rape case," the complainant said.

He claimed that "after this they extorted more than ₹80 lakh and gift items from me. Later, I revealed everything to my father who took me to police," the victim said in his complaint.

MP Police nabs Haryana Independent MLA's brother for cheating contractor

'Case filed against MLA, sibling'

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Madhya Pradesh Police has arrested the brother of Haryana Independent MLA Balraj Kundu from the Sector 50 area of Gurugram on a charge of cheating a Jhajjar-based building contractor, Gurugram police said on Tuesday.

Police arrested Shivraj Kundu, a resident of Rohtak's Meham constituency, late Monday night, they said.

"Madhya Pradesh police arrested Shivraj Kundu, one of the accused, in a case of cheating from Sector 50 Police Station area on Monday night," said Virender Vij, DCR, East.

A case of cheating was registered against MLA Balraj Kundu, his brother Shivraj Kundu and V K Lamba at Moti Nagar Police Station, Sagar in Madhya Pradesh in 2021.

It has been alleged that the three had contracted a Jhajjar-based firm to construct a road in Madhya Pradesh but refused to pay the dues to him.

When the contractor asked for money, the accused allegedly threatened to kill him.

Kundu was arrested on the basis of a complaint filed by Dharamveer, the owner of Balaji Construction, which was contracted to construct the road in Bhopal.

According to the FIR, Dharamveer had met Rohit Sharma, a project manager of Parivartan Buildcon Company, in 2015, when he was in Gwalior city working on some farm work.

In 2018, Rohit came to meet him in Jhajjar and told him he had got some building work from KCC Buildcon company. Around six months later, he roped in Dharamveer to supply the material for the project.

"Rohit took me to the office of KCC Buildcon located in the Sector 50 Police Station area and introduced me to the director MLA Balraj Kundu, his brother Shivraj Kundu and V K Lamba.

"They asked me to build a road from JC Nagar to Sagar in Bhopal. The entire project cost around ₹7 crore and I was asked to set up the plant in

Madhya Pradesh and was promised a payment every month," Dharamveer said in his complaint, according to the police.

He said that after he set up the plant, he was paid ₹1.5 crore and the work began. But as the work progressed, with continued supply from his end, the Kundus stopped his payments. He soon ran up a bill upto ₹6 crore and asked Kundu brothers for his money, but they threatened to kill him, he said.

"Under compulsion, I had to keep the plant running. Later they bought my plant for about ₹ 62 lakh and gave me ₹31 lakh. They gave me a cheque for my dues of about ₹6 crore but it bounced," he added.

An FIR was registered against MLA Kundu, his brother, and Lamba under sections 420 (cheating), 467 (forgery of valuable security), 468 (forgery for purpose of cheating), 471 (using forged document), 120-B (criminal conspiracy), 506 (criminal intimidation) of the IPC at Moti Nagar Police Station, Sagar on January 2021, police said.

Man threatens female friends on Insta with acid attack, held

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A 24-year-old man was arrested for allegedly harassing several women online by threatening to throw acid on them and making their "objectionable" videos viral if they did not meet him.

According to police, Aman Yadav created a fake Instagram profile about one and a half years back and had gathered around 1,100 followers, most of them women.

From his fake profile, he sent messages to women and later, threatened to throw acid on them and make their "obscene videos" viral in a bid to force them to meet him in person, police said.

The matter came to light after a woman, a resident of Farsh Bazaar, lodged a police complaint.

"She alleged that on November 27, she on her Instagram chat was threatened by a user, anshikasharma188, that acid would be thrown on her and her videos would be made viral", said the police.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Shahdara) R Sathiyasundaram said the IP address of the Instagram page (anshikasharma188) and some call records were analysed. The page was being operated by the accused Aman Yadav, he said.

Police conducted a raid and Yadav was arrested from Subhash Nagar, Sathiyasundaram said.

"During investigation, we found out that Yadav had created a fake id — anshikasharma188 — on Instagram around one and a half year ago and since then, he had been chatting with different victims," the officer said.

"Initially, he followed random profiles of beautiful women and then sent them messages. When any women responded to his message, he would threaten the victim with making their objectionable videos viral and throw acid attack on them," Sathiyasundaram said. Out of "fear, many women met with him and accused did this act just to meet the women", he said.

2 students nabbed for cheating people on pretext of providing discounted IDs for online game

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Police on Tuesday arrested two final-year college students from Haryana for allegedly cheating people on the pretext of providing them with player IDs for a popular online game at discounted rates.

The accused, identified as Bunty and Sagar, both 21, were arrested from Sonipat.

According to a senior police official, the matter came to light after one victim, who was duped of ₹88,800, lodged a complaint.

In his complaint, the victim alleged that he saw an advertisement on a video sharing platform regarding the sale of the player ID at a 30 per cent discount. He submitted his mobile number, as per the requirement, and immediately received a call from an unknown number.

The caller promised that the victim would be provided with an ID. Subsequently, the victim transferred ₹88,800 to them through several transactions, the police said.



When he didn't receive the ID even after transferring the money, he lodged a complaint.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Shahdara) R Sathiyasundaram said the number was registered in the name of Bunty. The cops also analysed the bank account details linked to the number.

"On the basis of technical investigation, our team found that the cheats were operating from Sonipat in Haryana and subsequently they were arrested," he said.

Two mobile phones and SIM cards used in the crime were recovered from the dup, he added.

Chinese man held in ₹1.25 cr fraud case in Greater Noida

STAFF REPORTER ■ NOIDA

A 33-year-old Chinese national was arrested by the police in Greater Noida Tuesday in connection with a probe into a case of fraud worth over ₹1.25 crore.

The case was lodged at the Dadri Police Station in April 2021 and four other accused in the matter — all Indians — have already been arrested, the officer said.

"Accused He Haomin was arrested near the Hair roundabout in Greater Noida around 1.30 PM on Tuesday. Haomin, who possesses a Chinese passport, currently lives in Gurugram," the officer said.

"He Haomin is accused in a case lodged under Indian Penal Code sections 420 (cheating), 406 (criminal breach of trust), 323 (voluntarily causing hurt), 504 (insult to provoke breach of peace), and 120B (criminal conspiracy)," the officer said.

According to the complainant Mohammad Anas, he was hired in April

2020 by Haomin and the other four accused who had told him they were running a construction and engineering company.

"I was hired to install water pump plants in 2020 at their company site in Greater Noida. While the total bill amount was decided to be around ₹1.40 crore, the payments were initially made in parts. However, after some time, the group stopped paying," Anas alleged.

He further alleged that to avoid paying the remaining amount of ₹27 lakh, the accused stopped his employees from finishing work at their site and also kept his equipment worth ₹1.25 crore that he was using.

According to local police, the Chinese national had been on the run since the FIR was lodged in April last year.

The other accused arrested earlier were identified as Anupam Sharma, Sachin Giri, Shuzen, and Taylor Tag, police said. Further investigation and legal proceedings in the case are underway, the police added.

‘Af shouldn’t be safe haven for terrorists’

India pitches for collective efforts to combat terror in India-Central Asia NSAs’ meet

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

India and Central Asian countries on Tuesday cautioned that Afghanistan must not become a safe haven for terrorist activities and called for collective action to combat challenges like terror financing, radicalization and use of terror proxies for cross-border terrorism.

National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval said monetary resources are the “lifeblood” of terrorism and countering it should be a priority.

This appeal was made here at the first meeting of the National Security Advisors (NSA) of India and Central Asia hosted by Doval. The high-profile conclave also emphasized the need for respecting Afghanistan’s sovereignty, unity and territory and urged non-interference in its internal affairs. Doval said the meeting was taking place at a time of “great churn,” in international relations.

The NSAs of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan are attending the conclave while Turkmenistan is being represented by its ambassador to India.

Addressing the meet focusing on combating terrorism in the region and situation in Afghanistan, Doval pitched for giving greater priority by countries of the region to counter terror financing, saying monetary resources are the “lifeblood” of terrorism.

Doval also said all United Nations(UN) member states should refrain from providing any form of support to entities or persons involved in terrorist acts and fulfill the obligations enshrined in relevant counter-terror



National Security Adviser Ajit Doval with Afghanistan's Ambassador to India Farid Mamundzay Farid Mamundzay and other delegates during the first India-Central Asia meeting of National Security Advisers and Secretaries of Security Councils, in New Delhi on Tuesday

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conventions. He described Central Asia as India’s “extended neighbourhood”, and said New Delhi accords “highest priority” to this region.

“Afghanistan is an important issue concerning all of us. India’s concerns and objectives with regard to immediate priorities and the way forward are similar to those of many of us around the table,” he said.

Doval said connectivity with Central Asian countries remained a key priority for India and that New Delhi stands ready to cooperate, invest and build connectivity in the region.

“While expanding connectivity, it is important to ensure that connectivity initiatives are consultative, transparent and participatory, with respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity of all

countries,” he said, seen as an oblique reference to China’s Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

Doval hosted the conclave with a focus on evolving a common framework to deal with challenges of terrorism in the region including Afghanistan and ways to bolster overall security cooperation in sync with a decision taken at the first India-Central Asia summit in January.

He said the meeting is taking place at a time of “great churn” in international relations and uncertainty about the future, noting a peaceful, secure and prosperous Central Asia is in “our common interest”.

“Today’s meeting, therefore, assumes importance as it provides us an opportunity to discuss matters which

require greater cooperation and coordination amongst the regional countries,” he said

A joint communique said the officials agreed that the expansion of terrorist propaganda, recruitment and fund-raising efforts have serious security implications for the region, and therefore, a collective and coordinated response is essential.

“The misuse of new and emerging technologies, arms and drugs trafficking, using terrorist proxies for cross-border terrorism, abuse of cyber space to spread disinformation and unmanned aerial systems present new challenges in counterterrorism efforts and call for collective action,” it said.

The mentioning of cross-border terrorism is seen as a reference to Pakistan’s support to various terror groups which have been targeting India. The meeting also strongly called for an early adoption of the UN Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism to effectively deal with the menace.

It also reiterated that greater connectivity could be a force multiplier for enhancing trade and commerce as well as for ensuring closer interactions between India and Central Asian countries. Doval also referred to the first India-Central Asia virtual summit in January that was hosted by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

“Your presence is a testimony to our cohesiveness and it will enrich the discussions. Central Asia is our extended neighbourhood with which we have civilisational linkages and we accord highest priority to this region,” Doval said.

HC nod for rare 33-week pregnancy termination

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

In a rare instance, the Delhi High Court on Tuesday allowed termination of a 33-week pregnancy by saying that the “ultimate decision” in matters of abortion ought to recognise a woman’s choice to give birth and the possibility of dignified life of the unborn child.

Justice Prathiba M Singh observed that while the right of a pregnant woman to terminate her pregnancy has been the subject matter of debate across the world, India recognises the choice of a woman in its law.

In the present case, the petitioner, a 26 year old married woman, sought to terminate her 33-week pregnancy after she found out that the foetus was suffering from certain cerebral abnormalities. Normally, termination is not allowed after 24 weeks of pregnancy.

The petitioner had said during her ultrasounds till the 16th week of gestation period, no abnormalities were found in the foetus but on November 12, an abnormality was observed in the foetus. The court clarified that prior to undergoing termination, the informed consent of the petitioner would be



Delhi High Court

PTI

taken and she would undergo the procedure at her own risk.

The judge, while permitting the woman to immediately undergo medical termination of pregnancy, noted that the medical board unfortunately did not give a “categorical opinion” on the degree of handicap or the quality of the life of the foetus after birth and thus opined that “such unpredictability ought to weigh in favour of the woman seeking termination of pregnancy”.

“In conclusion, the court holds that the ultimate decision in such cases ought to recognise the choice of the mother as also the possibility of a dignified life of the unborn child..This court holds that medical termination of pregnancy ought to be permitted in the present case,” the court ruled.

“The right of a pregnant woman to terminate her pregnancy or abort her foetus has been the subject matter of debate across the world. This right gives the woman the ultimate choice as to whether she wants to give birth to the child

she has conceived. India is among the countries which recognises this choice of a woman in its law,” the court said.

The court said that in the present case, it was able to gauge the mental trauma affecting the parents as well as their economic and social condition, and the petitioner was taking an informed decision to terminate her pregnancy after weighing all factors. “The court comes to the conclusion that the mother’s choice is being made in a bonafide manner”, it added while allowing the petitioner to undergo medical termination of pregnancy immediately at LNJP, GTB or any other approved medical facility of her choice as per law.

The woman represented by advocate Anwesh Madhukar and Prachi Nirwan had approached the High Court last week after the GTB Hospital declined her request for termination of pregnancy on the premise that the process required judicial intervention since the current gestational age of the petitioner was beyond the permissible limit, that is, 24 weeks as per the amended Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act which came into effect from September 24, 2021.

Cong calls for like-minded Opp parties’ meet to mull Winter Session strategy

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Congress president and Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha M Mallikarjun Kharge has convened a meeting of all the ‘like-minded’ Opposition parties on Wednesday before the Winter Session of the Parliament begins.

Party sources said that Kharge has requested almost all the opposition leaders to be part of the meeting which will formulate a strategy to take on the Modi government in both the Houses of Parliament.

Representatives of SP, TMC, Shiv Sena, RJD, DMK, JDU and few others have con-

firmed their participation in the meeting which will happen at 9.45 am just before the Session begins at 11 am. They have been briefed to raise the common issues like economic condition, unemployment, border and security issues, attack on constitutional freedom, sale of certain government establishments and few other agenda which are likely to be discussed in the meeting to be chaired by Kharge.

Meanwhile, accusing the Centre of having “betrayed” the farmers, the All India Kisan Congress wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, highlighting the “plight” of the tillers and reiterating the demand of legal guarantee for MSP for all crops.

The Congress’ unit for farmers also reiterated the demand for dismissal of Union Minister of State for Home Ajay Mishra Teni over the Lakhimpur Kheri violence, release of “innocent” farmers imprisoned in the case, withdrawal of “fake cases” registered against farmers in various states during the farmers’ agitation and compensation to families of the deceased farmers.



President Droupadi Murmu with Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla and Union Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment Virendra Kumar at a ceremony to pay homage to Babasaheb BR Ambedkar on his Mahaparinirvan Diwas, at Parliament House Complex in New Delhi on Tuesday

PTI

How long can Christian Michel be kept in custody, asks SC

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court said on Tuesday just because Christian Michel James, an alleged middleman in the AgustaWestland chopper scam, is a foreign national, how long can he be kept in custody and does his not being an Indian justify “complete deprivation” of his liberty.

James is a United Kingdom national and was extradited from Dubai in 2018.

A Bench of Chief Justice DY Chandrachud and Justice PS Narasimha

AGUSTA WESTLAND CHOPPER SCAM

said, ordinarily, if the accused had been an Indian national, the court would have been willing to grant him bail, especially if he had spent more than four years in custody for the offences the maximum punishment for which is five years.

“Merely because he is a foreign national, how long can we keep him? Can that justify complete deprivation of his liberty? Had he been an Indian national, the

court would have been willing to grant him bail,” the Bench told Additional Solicitor General SV Rau, appearing for probe agencies CBI and the ED.

The Bench said what is worrying the court is the complexity of trial as there are over 250 witnesses in the case and the co-accused government officials have been granted bail for want of sanction for prosecution. “It’s an important issue for consideration, especially the construct between the treaty and the statute (Extradition Act, 1962).

‘Most Asian countries fail global biodiversity target’

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Most countries in Asia have failed to achieve a global minimum target of protecting at least 17% of land by 2020, according to a study based on data from 40 countries.

Under the current trends, the outlook for achieving the UN Global Biodiversity Framework’s 2030 target to protect at least 30 per cent of land is bleak, with Asia set to miss this by an even greater margin, the researchers said in a study published in the journal Communications Biology.

To counter the global biodiversity crisis, at the 2010 UN Convention on Biological Diversity, almost 200 countries pledged to protect at least 17 per cent of their terrestrial environments by 2020 (known

as Aichi Target).

To investigate whether they achieved this, researchers from the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge in the UK, with collaborators in Asia, analysed data from official reports submitted to the World Database on Protected Areas.

In particular, very few countries in West and Central Asia achieved the target. Overall, Asia was the most underperforming continent, with just 13.2 per cent of land being designated as a terrestrial protected area in 2020 — compared with a global average of 15.2 per cent protection, the researchers said.

Asian countries also tended to have a slower year-on-year increase in the amount of land protected for conservation, at just 0.4 per cent per year on average, the study said.

For 241 highly at-risk

mammal species across Asia, on average 84 per cent of their ranges fell outside protected areas, the researchers said.

They calculated that almost all Asian countries will fail to meet the 2030 target unless their rate of establishing protected areas increases by up to six times faster. Under the current trajectory, Asia would only achieve 18% coverage by 2030 — far below the target of 30 per cent protection.

The outlook was worse for West and South Asia, projected to achieve 11 per cent and 10 per cent coverage respectively by 2030.

“Asia is a challenging continent for setting targets for protected areas, since areas of high biodiversity typically conflict with dense human populations and rapid economic growth,” said study lead author Mohammed Farhadinia.

DCGI OK’s 1st ‘Made-in-India’ TB kit

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

With Mylab’s PathoDetect kit patients can with a single test know their active TB infection as well as drug resistance to 2 most common drugs - Isoniazid and Rifampicin - so that they take treatment that will actually work.

The first ‘Made in India’ kit recently approved by the DCGI, TB expert panel under the ICMR has been developed by Mylab. The kit is a RT-PCR based kit for accurate detection and will be used with Mylab Compact device systems — which will allow completely automated testing of multiple samples within 2 hours.

This will be instrumental in supporting the Prime Minister’s vision to eliminate TB by 2025 from India, said Hasnukh Rawal, the MD of Mylab.



He explained that the device will help address several problems simultaneously. It can not only do multiple tests at one time but also does not need highly technical people which we are already short of to handle samples and reagents, he added.

The kit has been approved

after rigorous and large scale field trials and recommended by the TB Expert Committee under ICMR.

“Multicentre centre evaluation study and field feasibility testing studies were carried out for the “PathoDetect MTB RIF and INH drug resistance kits” & Compact device sys-

tems. The centres of trials included the most reputed TB research centres of India, which evaluated the performance of the kit against the currently used diagnostic assays for Tuberculosis,” said Rawal.

He further said, “There is a huge problem of resistance to drugs when it comes to TB. Until now, India had to conduct 2 tests: one to detect TB first and to check drug resistance — that against only one drug (Rifampicin). But with Mylab’s PathoDetect” kit, the test pattern will be changed.”

Also, the test kits have been designed to work in ambient temperatures compared to existing PCR options which need 2-8 degree cold storage. Mylab Compact” device systems do not require special infrastructure for operations and feasibility studies done on mobile vans in rural areas indicate them to be very robust.



TRs MLC K Kavitha's residence at Jubilee Hills, in Hyderabad on Tuesday

PTI

CBI to question K Kavitha in Delhi Excise Policy case on Dec 11

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The CBI has issued a fresh notice to TRS MLC K Kavitha for questioning on December 11 at her Hyderabad residence in connection with the Delhi Excise Policy scam case.

The move comes after Kavitha expressed her inability to appear before the agency on Monday (December 5) and told the agency that she was available for recording her statement from December 11 to 15 (except December 13).

In response to the first notice issued on December 2, Kavitha had said she went through the contents of the FIR copy as well as the complaint available on the website in connection with the case and her name did not figure anywhere in any manner whatsoever.

The fresh notice issued by the agency states, “...CBI team will visit your residence at 1100 hrs on December 11, 2022 for your examination and recording of your statement in connection with investigation of aforesaid (Delhi Excise scam) case. Kindly confirm your availability on the said date and time at your residential address at Hyderabad...”

Kavitha, in a statement on Monday, had said she informed the authorities that they can meet her at her Hyderabad residence.

“I am a law-abiding citizen and will cooperate with the investigation. I will meet you on any of the above said dates to cooperate with the investigation. It is made clear that this is without prejudice to my legal rights available under law,” she had said.

The CBI has already filed a charge sheet against seven individuals in connection with

the excise scam.

“Further investigation is continuing to investigate the role of FIR named accused and other persons on various allegations including conspiracies with other licensees, money trails, cartelization and larger conspiracies in the formulation and implementation of the Excise Policy,” the CBI had said after filing the charge sheet late last month.

The Enforcement

Directorate that is probing a connected money laundering case has alleged, “...Vijay Nair, on behalf of leaders of AAP has at least received kickbacks to the tune of Rs 100 crore from a group, called south group (controlled by Sarath Reddy, Ms K Kavitha, Magunta Srinivasulu Reddy) by various persons including Amit Arora.”

Officials identified Kavitha as the daughter of Telangana CM K Chandrashekar Rao.

CBI arrests Railway DCE for taking bribe, seizes ₹2.51 cr

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The CBI has recovered cash to the tune of ₹1.38 crore cash and ₹1.13 crore in bank accounts of Deputy Chief Engineer of Railways, Arun Kumar Mittal, who was arrested for allegedly taking a bribe from a contractor.

Immediately after Mittal’s arrest last week, the CBI had seized ₹38 lakh cash and about ₹1 crore was recovered during searches at his premises. Kumar was posted as Deputy Chief Engineer (Construction), Northern Railway, Lucknow.

Out of the ₹1.13 crore recovered from the bank accounts of the accused and his family members, majority of the amount was allegedly deposited in cash in various bank accounts, the CBI said. A case was registered on a complaint against Mittal on the allegations of demanding bribes from the complainant in lieu of passing the bills of his firm engaged in project work at Charbagh, Lucknow. The arrested accused was produced on December 2 before the Competent Court, Lucknow which remanded him to CBI custody.

TMC SPOKESPERSON SAKET GOKHALE ARRESTED BY GUJARAT POLICE FOR TWEET AGAINST MODI, ALLEGED FAKE NEWS

Didi cries vendetta, TMC calls it super emergency

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Trinamool Congress (TMC) national spokesperson Saket Gokhale was being interrogated on Tuesday after he was detained by the Gujarat Police from Rajasthan late at night. The TMC leader was arrested allegedly for writing fake news as also for tweeting against Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Morbi, where a bridge collapse killed over 130 people in October. The TMC has called the arrest of Saket Gokhale by the Gujarat Police an act of vindictiveness. Hours after the Gujarat Police arrested Gokhale at Jaipur Airport Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday called the arrest a result of the "BJP's vindictive attitude."

While her party's Rajya Sabha MP Shantanu Sen said, the arrest itself proved that there was a "super emergency going on in India," Banerjee said the act was "very bad and sad." Banerjee who was on a swift trip of Rajasthan —where she visited the Bramha Temple at Pushkar and the shrine of Khwaja Moinudding Chisti at Ajmer Sharif — said "I heard about his arrest ...



Saket Gokhale is a bright man and is very popular in the social media ... he has been arrested for no wrong. "It is very bad and sad ... I condemn this vindictive attitude ... he was arrested because he tweeted against the Prime Minister" on Morbi bridge collapse incident. Gokhale had allegedly written fake news on the Morbi incident and later went on to write that the Prime Minister's visit to Morbi cost more than the compensation provided to the kin of the victims of Morbi.

"The party has been trying to contact him since midnight ... but the police have confiscated his mobile and he is thus

incommunicado," Sen adding, the Chief Minister had directed TMC Rajya Sabha Leader Derek O' Brien to proceed to Ahmedabad to inquire into the matter and arrange for any legal help for the arrested leader. "Anyone who speaks the truth against the BJP and its government is arrested and sent to jail," Sen said while Bengal Minister Sobhandeb

Chatopadhaya said how "about 450 journalists all over the country are languishing in various jails of the country."

The BJP was prompt to hit back showing how a number of opposition people and journalists had either been arrested or served with notices by the police for writing against the Mamata Banerjee Government.

"Gujarat is not Bengal ... if someone has been arrested for writing untrue stories about the Prime Minister and action has been taken by the police ... if he is to be found innocent he will be released but how about Bengal where every journalist gets a notice or the police knock at his door in the midnight for doing stories on the government."

CBI court discharges former IGNOU, PTU V-Cs in graft case

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

After a protracted legal battle of nearly 10 years, former IGNOU Vice-Chancellor VN Rajasekharan Pillai has come out clear after a special CBI court here discharged him in a corruption case, officials said on Tuesday.

Former Vice Chancellor of Punjab Technical University Rajneesh Arora and Joint Registrar RPS Bedi were also discharged from the case related to alleged corruption and forgery in allowing the university to run certain courses through distant mode from the academic year 2007.

"Criminal prosecution has been sought of very high-level dignitaries but the CBI just presented the charge sheet without bothering to see whether the ingredients of the alleged offences are present in this case," Special Judge Naresh Kumar Laka noted.

The CBI, which started the probe in 2011 with a preliminary enquiry, filed an FIR followed by a charge sheet against Pillai, Arora and Bedi under charges of criminal conspiracy, forgery and provisions of the Prevention of Corruption Act, the officials said.

The central agency had alleged that the University Grants Commission, All India Council for Technical Education and Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) had signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on May 10, 2007, which stipulated to set up an expert committee to

visit the particular institution to verify the norms and standards of education before approving recognition.

The decision to approve was to be decided on the basis of the expert committee's report, observations of the joint committee and finally by the Distance Education Council (DEC), which is the primary authority of IGNOU for that purpose, they said. The CBI alleged that Pillai violated the MoU and "unilaterally" gave permission to Punjab Technical University to run certain courses through distant mode.

The court rejected the charge that Pillai misused his official position, as one of the relied documents in the CBI charge sheet having an expert opinion on the MoU, said it was not binding and also AICTE had not ratified the document.

Besides, the court agreed with Pillai that the MoU was to facilitate cordial functioning of three bodies—UGC, AICTE and IGNOU—having some overlapping functions "without losing their own statutory power".

"As per established principles of the rule of law, a private agreement can never supersede the statutory provisions which are enacted by the legislatures i.e. Parliament of India or the State Legislative Body," it said.

The court said according to the charge sheet, the CBI alleged that the three caused undue benefit to Punjab Technical University by granting recognition, which it did not deserve.

SP MLA livestreams UP Assembly proceedings, asked to leave House

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Samajwadi Party MLA Atul SPradhan on Tuesday livestreamed proceedings of the Uttar Pradesh Assembly via Facebook while protesting in the Well, drawing the ire of the Speaker who asked him to leave the House and suspended him for the entire session.

Speaker Satish Mahana said it had come to his notice that a member went live on Facebook while the Samajwadi Party MLAs were protesting in the well of the House over alleged irregularities and police atrocities during the voting in the bypoll to the Rampur assembly seat.

The speaker later said he had verified that it was SP MLA Atul Pradhan, who was asked to leave the House for the entire session. While the Sardhana MLA immediately left the House, the SP members requested the speaker to review his decision as the first-time legislator was not aware of the assembly rules.Holding that "ignorance of law is not an excuse", the speaker said: "Pradhan will not be allowed in the House." However, on being

insisted, the speaker allowed him to attend the proceedings after 1 pm on Tuesday.

Earlier in the day, as soon as the House assembled at 11 am, the Samajwadi Party members raised the issue of alleged police high-handedness in Rampur on Monday. SP MLA Manoj Pandey alleged that the police entered the homes of people and beat them up.

The SP MLAs entered the well of the House and raised slogans denouncing the government. The SP had given notice under rule 56 of the House seeking adjournment of the proceedings to discuss the Rampur issue.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Suresh Khanna denied the charges levelled by the opposition members and claimed that no wrong was committed and polling in Rampur remained peaceful.

Mahana said he was ready to allow the opposition to raise this issue as per rules. He asked opposition members to restore order and go back to their seats. However, the opposition refused to relent, forcing him to adjourn the proceedings of the House for 20 minutes.

3 hurt in yet another blast in West Bengal

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KOLKATA

It is exploding bombs in Bengal. Barely four days after the Bhupatinagar blast that left three persons dead and an unspecified number of victims injured three persons including a woman and two children were severely injured at Ramnagar area of Basirhat sub-division in North 24 Parganas district some 50 miles north of Kolkata.

The incident happened on Tuesday forenoon when a child brought home a round-shaped object taking it to be a ball ... the ball-like object that the child found in the fields exploded inside the kitchen of his house injuring another child and his mother, sources said. All have been admitted to the Basirhat district hospital, police said.

The incident occurred four days after the blast at Bhupatinagar in East Midnpore district where a Trinamool Congress leader's house literally caved in after a stockpile of explosive went off while the victims were allegedly making bombs. While Bengal Opposition Leader Suwendu Adhikari wrote to Union Home Minister Amit Shah seeking an NIA investigation into the Bhupatinagar incident, a Public Interest Litigation petition too was filed in Calcutta High Court demanding a similar order.

About a dozen people have lost their lives and tens of them have received grave injuries in bomb blasts and gun fights in the past little more than a month in Bengal. Such incidents were likely to go up at next year's panchayat elections draw nearer, experts say.

UDF demands judicial probe into Vizhinjam violence

PTI ■ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM


The Opposition UDF on Tuesday made a scathing attack against the Kerala government, alleging that it adopted a "hostile attitude" towards the fishermen protesting against the construction of Vizhinjam port and demanded a judicial probe into the recent violent incidents in connection with the anti-seaport stir. The investigation should bring out the real truth and not cover up the facts, they said during a discussion in the state Assembly on the adjournment motion on the Vizhinjam issue.

The opposition front made it clear that they were not demanding that the construction of the upcoming port be stopped.But, development should be brought through consensus and not through confrontation, Congress legis-

lator M Vincent, who moved the motion, said. The Left government was not keen to reach out to the fishermen community and address their woes despite the latter approaching the authorities with their concerns several times, he alleged.

He accused the state government of viewing the agitators with a "hostile attitude" and charged that some cabinet ministers had called them "terrorists" and "anti-nationals". The Kovalam MLA also alleged that there was a deliberate attempt by the police to provoke the fishermen community and thus create issues in the region.

Several people were arrested without any reason and a case was registered even against the Archbishop, he said, adding that a pregnant woman was summoned to the police station in the name of interrogation.



NEW OKHLA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida, G.B. Nagar (U.P.)
website: www.noidaauthorityonline.com

E-TENDER NOTICE

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

(A)	1.	22/S.M.(JAL)-I/ET/2022-23 , Development and Maintenance of Village (Raising of Manhole Cover frame due to C/o new Cement Concrete road in Village-Hazratpur Wazidpur, Rasoolpur Nawada, Chajjarsi, Bahlopur) Noida. Cost Rs. 51.91 Lacs
	2.	23/S.M.(JAL)-I/ET/2022-23 , Strengthening of Sewerage (Providing and Laying Sewer Line of Making Connection at Various Place in Sector-108 and making Connection of Main Sewer Line of Park Laureate and Divine Mindows Society to Green Belt Deep Sewer Line in Sector-108) Noida Cost Rs. 103.70 Lacs

Which can be uploaded by date **20.12.2022 upto 5:00 P.M.** Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on date **21.12.2022 at 11:00 A.M.**

Office Sector-5

Sd/-
Dy. General Manager (Jal)
Noida
CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

PUBLIC NOTICE					
		Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, 3rd Floor, Plot No- 23, New Rohtak Road,Karol Bagh, Delhi- 110005			
The following borrower/s have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). A notice was issued to them under Section 13 (2) of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002 on their last known addresses, however it was not served and hence they are hereby notified by way of this public notice.					
Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address	Property Address of Secured Asset / Asset to be Enforced	Date of Notice Sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date	
1.	Tahir Hussain, Danish Hussain, H No C 7 381 Shri Ram Colony Rajeev Nagar Delhi. A/c No:- LBNOD00005108741	Shop No 2, Ground Floor, Block D, Type - C, Gaur Siddhartham High Street, Sector 8, Plot No- Bs-01, Siddharth Vihar Yojna, Nh-24, Uttar Pradesh, Ghaziabad	05-Nov-2022 Rs. 25,98,582/-	06-10-2021	
2.	Anju Popli, Archit Popli, Ajay Popli, K 9 Lajpat Nagar II, New Delhi Delhi A/c No:- LBDEL00002095483	Flat No-2182, 18th Floor, Tower-2, Ats Triumph, Type- B, Sector-104, Haryana, Gurgaon	05-Nov-2022 Rs. 1,63,67,212/-	08-08-2022	
3.	Arundhati Kar, Dr. Tangi Rajdev Patro, House No D 70, Finchley Lane Rosewood City Sector 49-50 Islampur Haryana Gurgaon A/c No:- LBGUR00002040536	Villa No-297, Anant Raj Estate Pocket- B, Sector-63A, Haryana, Gurgaon	05-Nov-2022 Rs. 35,75,978/-	03-08-2022	
4.	Bibhav Nath Tewari, Nilima Tewari, 58-G, Jasola Vihar, Sec 8 New Delhi South Delhi Delhi A/c No:- LBDEL00002461673	Flat No 616, 4th Floor, Block-C, Madhurisha Heights, Phase-III, Pragati Nagar, Risali, Chhattisgarh, Durg	05-Nov-2022 Rs. 83,57,154/-	03-08-2022	
5.	Geeta, Gulshan Kumar, H No 182, Maria 4 Model Town Haryana Gurgaon A/c No:- LBGUR00002452547	Unit No. - 903, Tower B, 9th Floor, Ramprastha City, Sector-37D, Haryana, Gurgaon	05-Nov-2022 Rs.48,73,190/-	04-07-2022	
6.	Hardeep Singh Johar, Damandeep Kaur, 1032, Sanskriti Apartments, Plot No.35, Sec.-10, Dwarka Delhi A/c No:- LBDEL00001948393	Unit Reference No-KRH0160003, Krescent Homes, Sector 129 & 134, Wish Town Jaypee Greens, Uttar Pradesh, Noida	05-Nov-2022 Rs. 31,84,270/-	30-07-2022	
7.	Harim Shankar Sharma, Namrata Sharma, H N 67 L 2nd Floor, New Colony Gurudwara Haryana Gurgaon A/c No:- LBGUR00003314858	Plot No 55, Basement &ground Floor, Sec 5, Part 111, Urban Estate, Gurgaon, Haryana	05-Nov-2022 Rs. 82,24,198/-	04-07-2022	
8.	Kirti, Ankit Nigam, Mazuma Marketing Services Private Limited, F No Xa/0 Sahvikas Appt IP Extn, Paiparganj Nr Madhu Vihar Chowk Delhi A/c No:- LBDEL00005137195	Flat No-E-1606, Tower-E, 16th Floor, Cloud-9, Towers of Rishabh Paradise, Khasra No. 519,530, 532,541, 542, & 543, Mall Road, Village Mohiuddinpur, Kanawani Tehsil Noida, Ahinsa Khand-II Indirapuram, Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh,	05-Nov-2022 Rs. 46,10,570/-	14-08-2022	
9.	M/s Connect Consultants India Pvt Ltd, Purnima Chandra, Shobhit Chandra, Suresh Srivastava, M/s Connect Consulants India Pvt Ltd, 203/E 588 Greater Kailash- 11 Delhi A/c No:- LBDEL00002854683	Plot No 50, Block- A, Sector 19, Noida, Uttar Pradesh, Gautam Buddha Nagar	05-Nov-2022 Rs. 50,27,716/-	03-08-2022	
10.	Mahesh Pandey, Usha Pandey, B 601 Pawitra Apt 12, Vasundhara Enclavedelhi A/c No:- LBDEL00002021593	Unit No-KRH0203404, Krescent Homeswish Town Noida, Jaypee Greens, Uttar Pradesh, Noida	14-Oct-2022 Rs.43,59,914/-	08-06-2022	
11.	Nitin Gupta, Shilpi Jain, E-6/4 Krishna Nagar Gandhi Nagar East Delhi A/c No:- LBNOD00002853508	Flat No 1244, 24th Floor, Tower-1 Ats Allure, Plot No P77/TS-02A, Sec-22d, Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh, Noida	05-Nov-2022 Rs. 31,65,309/-	04-07-2022	
12.	Sanjay Gupta, Pooja Gupta, N K House Station Road Uttar Pradesh Moradabad A/c No:- LBGUR00002091679	Flat No 2122, Tower 2, Type -B, 12th Floor, Ats Triumph, Sector-104, Haryana, Gurgaon	05-Nov-2022 Rs.1,60,40,055/-	08-08-2022	
13.	Vikram Kataria, Sandeep Kataria, H No-1084, Sector-4 Haryana Gurgaon A/c No:- LBGUR00004170309	H No-1084, Sector-4, Haryana, Gurgaon	05-Nov-2022 Rs.54,77,994/-	03-08-2022	
14.	Vishal Gupta, Nisha Gupta, Flat No - 904 9th floor Sector-61, Kovalam Tower D-5 Ushay Tower Kundli Haryana Sonepat A/c No:- LBDEL00005209953	Flat No - 904 , 9th Floor, Sector-61, Kovalam Tower P-5, Ushay Tower, Main GT Road, Vill. Rasol, Kundli, Haryana, Sonepat	05-Nov-2022 Rs. 48,45,236/-	09-07-2022	
15.	Yangchan Kishore, Rajneesh Kumar Bharat, 612/B Golfview, Hanuman Camp Ahmedabad Gujarat Ahmedabad A/c No:- LBDEL00002444740	Flat No 1902, 18th Floor, Tower C3, Victory Ace, Plot No- GH-02, Sector-143, Noida , Uttar Pradesh, Gautam Buddha Nagar	05-Nov-2022 Rs. 86,57,907/-	28-02-2021	
16.	Vishwanath Kumar Srivastava, Chitraranj Kumar Srivastava, D3, Ffledeeco Green Residency, G B Nagar Noida Uttar Pradesh A/c No:- LBFDB00002035177	Unit No Daffodil 03, First Floor Eldeco Residency Greens Plot No 12, Pocket-B, Sector- PI, Gautam Budh Nagar, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	05-Nov-2022 Rs. 28,89,275/-	08-08-2022	
17.	Uppender Raghav, Raghuvender Raghav, Raghuvender Raghav SK 116 Shastri Nagar Ghaziabad A/c No:- LBNOD00003363548	Flat No-a136/1, 1st Floor, Wave Executive Floorwave City, NH-24, Uttar Pradesh, Ghaziabad	05-Nov-2022 Rs.31,80,962/-	30-08-2022	
18.	Deepak Kumar Bind, Girija Prasad Bind, 430 Clementi Ave-3, No 06-363 Singapore 120430 120430 Singapore Singapore. A/c No:- LBGHZ00004791837	Apart No-544, 5th Floor, Block-E, Gaur Homes Govind Puram Ghaziabad Uttar Pradesh	05-Nov-2022 Rs. 13,87,163/-	03-08-2022	
19.	Rajesh Tomar, Sai Industries, Poonam Tomer, Ayodhya, Maxi Tech Electricals, Surjeet Singh, House No 548, Sector 30 A Mamagar Haryana Faridabad A/c:- LBDEL00004982931, LBFDB00005387554, LBDEL00004982929.	Plot No 548 P, Sector 30, Urban Estate, Haryana, Faridabad	05-Nov-2022 Rs.61,04,380/- Rs.10,031,270/- Rs.12,65,593/-	03-08-2022	
20.	Tahir Hussain, Danish Hussain, H No-C-7/381, Shri Ram Colony, Rajeev Nagar North East Delhi Delhi A/c:- LBDEL00004897513, LBDEL00004913330.	Flat No 2634, 25th Floor Block D, Gaur Siddhartham, Plot No. Bs-01, Sector 8, siddharth Vihar Yojna Near Indirapuram, Uttar Pradesh, Ghaziabad	05-Nov-2022 Rs.29,72,216/- Rs.2,49,282/-	06-10-2021	
21.	Deepak Kumar Bind, Al- Rigga Road, - P O Box-182845, Opp 4 Seasons Dubai Dubai. A/c:- LBDEL00001703567, LBDEL00002876046.	Apart No-544, 5th Floor, Block-E, Gaur Homes, Govind Puram, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh	05-Nov-2022 Rs.13,20,911/- Rs.96,028/-	03-08-2022	
22.	Mansi Latawa, Gian Chand Latawa, 1018 First Floor Sec-37 Noida Noida Uttar Pradesh A/c:- LBDEL00002054220, LBDEL00005159035, LBDEL00005786698	Flat No 014, 1st Floor, Tower- o, Gulshan Ikebana, Plot No GH-03/ A Sec -143 Noida Uttar Pradesh	05-Nov-2022 Rs.24,74,628/- Rs.10,76,495/- Rs.3,16,738/-	11-07-2022	
23.	Gautam Singh Bashnat, Rupa Bashnat, A 1 174 Ph 4 Aya Nagar Colony A Block Delhi Delhi A/c:- LBDEL00002416666, LBDEL00002437141.	Flat No 2104, 21th Floor, Tower Q, Ajnara Le Garden, Plot No Gh 02, Sec 16, Greater Noida West, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	05-Nov-2022 Rs.28,15,528/- Rs.3,975/-	03-06-2022	
24.	Pranay Sinha, Tilotama Shome Sinha, E 6 2nd Floor Geet Anjali Enclave New Delhi Delhi A/c:- LBDEL00004114677, LBDEL00004114207, LBDEL00004114208, LBDEL00004690008	Property Bearing No 6 in Block- E, Second Floor Portion With Exclusive Terrace/ Roof Above/upon The Second Floor And Above, Situated In Lok Sewak Co Operative House Building Society Ltd., Geetanjali Enclave, New Delhi	05-Nov-2022 Rs.53,34,557/- Rs.54,60,751/- 1,03,00,500/- Rs.89,29,430/-	30/06/2022	
25.	Rajesh Nandal, Sarita, Home 7-D, Dda Sfs Mig Flats, Pocket, 2, Sector 6, Dwarka, New Delhi Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00004848361, LBDEL00001761453	Flat No-7-D, 3rd Floor, With Scooter Garage, Pkt-2, Sec-6, Dwarka, Delhi 110075	09-Sep-2022 Rs.8,47,051/- Rs.10,53,303/-	04-06-2022	
26.	Deepak Rana, Manohar Singh Rana, D 122 Gaur Green Vistanyay Khand 1 Indirapuram Ghaziabad Uttar Pradesh A/c:- LBNOD00001803639	Flat No - 122, First Floor, Block - D, Gaur Green Vista - 2, Indirapuram, Nyay Khand -I, Makanpur, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh	04-Nov-2022 Rs. 16,05,751/-	08-08-2022	
27.	Dharmvir, Pinki, K H No 200 Plot No 3, First Floor Village Rithala Delhi Delhi A/c:- LBDEL00004897559	Dda Lig, Flat No 1274 3rd Floor Sanskriti Apartments Pocket - Gh-1 Sector -28 Rohini Delhi	04-Nov-2022 Rs.16,90,081/-	04-07-2022	
28.	Mohammad Saleem Sultan, Samiya Sultan, Jeddahal A2121A Delhi Delhi A/c :- LBDEL00002079310	Flat No-0301 3rd Floor, Tower-A3 Exquisite, Plot No- GHP-0001 Sector-117, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	04-Nov-2022 Rs. 17,88,841/-	03-08-2022	
29.	Pradeep Sharma, Indra Pal Sharma, E 55 A Pocket E Dilshad Garden, New Delhi Dilshad Garden New Delh Idelh Idelh A/c:- LBDEL00002676210	Flat No E 55A, Ground Floor, Pocket E, Lig, Dilshad Garden, Delhi	04-Nov-2022 Rs. 15,35,977/-	04-07-2022	
30.	Rahul, Ram Chander, House N0-473 Lodhi Road Complex Lodi Road, Ho South Delhi 110003 Hd South Delhi Delhi A/c:- LBGUR00005208306	Flat No-2/1008, Floor-10, Om Apartments, Tower 2 Sector 112, Dwarka Expressway, Gurgaum Manesar Urban Complex, Haryana	04-Nov-2022 Rs. 17,77,052/-	03-08-2022	
31.	Rajiv Ranjan, Nisha Singh, Flat No-1570 Pkt-1sec-C Lane-7 Vasant Kunj, New Delhi Vasant Kunj Delhi Delhi A/c:- LBNOD00001982390	Flat No. 1502, 14th Floor, Plot No 1 Tower B Logix Blossom Greens Sector -143 Noida Uttar Pradesh	04-Nov-2022 Rs. 23,12,335/-	30-08-2022	
32.	Rohtash Kumar Singh, Mini Products, Kamlesh, House No 238 Sector 24 Mujeshar Faridabad Sector 22 Faridabad Haryana A/c :- LBFDB00004713378	Plot No-71, Sector 59 Pargati Vihar Faridabad Haryana	04-Nov-2022 Rs. 21,68,480/-	03-08-2022	
33.	Shankar Sharma, Sakshi Sharma, Flat No-004- Yucca Tower Ground Floor Paramount, Symphony Ghaziabad Uttar Pradesh A/c:- LBGHZ00004929508	Flat No -141, Ground Floor Tower-10 Arocon Golfville Plot No-GH-07 Crossing Republik Nh-24 Ghaziabad Uttar Pradesh	04-Nov-2022 Rs. 23,30,071/-	30-08-2022	
34.	Shishir Kumar, Rashmi Tomar, House No- 3 Block- F Krishna, Gaur Govind Puram Near Ndrf Camp Ghaziabad Ghaziabad Uttar Pradesh A/c :- LBDEL00005131422	Unit No 926/ SC, Adarsh Nagar Khasra No 252 Min Gaur Makapur Latifpur Pargana And Tehsil Roorkee Near Ganpati Hardwar Uttarakhnad Uttarnanchal	04-Nov-2022 Rs. 14,53,594/-	03-08-2022	
35.	Rajesh Singh, Raj Kumar, Vinita, House No 2 Harsaru 107 Gurgaon Haryana Gurgaon Haryana A/c :- LBDEL00005105370	Unit Bearing No 403, 4th Floor Status Residency Tower A 1 Village Tapukara, Bhiwadi, Alwar Tijara Road Tehsil Alwar Rajasthan	04-Nov-2022 Rs. 19,25,451/-	03-08-2022	
36.	Raj Kumar, Rajesh Singh, Pinki, Harsaru 107 Gurgaon Gurgaon Haryana A/c:- LBDEL00005105369	Unit No 405, 4th Floor Tower A1 Village Tapukara Sector 02 Alwar Rajasthan	04-Nov-2022 Rs.21,48,728/-	03-08-2022	
37.	Nikhil Sharma, Sakshi Aggarwal, A-119, 2nd Floor, Shankar Garden Vikas Puri New Delhi New Delhi 110059 Japan A/c :- LBGHZ000050557021	Flat No- Twinz- Sun- 7 1802, 18th Floor, Migsun Wynd, Plot No- GH-01B(1) Sector- Eta-2 Greater Noida	04-Nov-2022 Rs.11,81,502/-	08-08-2022	
38.	Shashi Jain, Rishant Jain, 1829 Gali Matawali Multiwara 1st Floor, Chandni Chawk Floor Chandni Chawk Mumbai A/c:- LBGHZ00001039383	Flat No- 102, First Floor, Krishna Apra Gardens, Block-A-4, Plot No. 7, Vaibhav Khand Indirapuram Ghaziabad	04-Nov-2022 Rs.7,48,135/-	30-07-2022	
39.	Vivek Dang, Flat No-963 Type-III Sec-29arun Vihar Noida Gautam Buddha Nagar Ghaziabad- 201301 Noida A/c:- LBDEL00000887867	Flat No-963, Type -III Sec-29, Arun Vihar Noida	04-Nov-2022 Rs.2,41,683/-	05-08-2022	
40.	Raj Structures Interiors Private Limited, Rajiv Raj Sachdev, Randhir Raj Sachdev, 3rd Floor, N-7 Sector-18, Noida Gautam Buddha Nagar Uttar Pradesh, A/c:- LBDEL00005333347	Plot No- 07, 3rd Floor, Block- N, Sector- 18, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	04-Nov-2022 Rs.21,14,067/-	30-07-2022	
41.	Akshay Grover, Inder Mohan, B-30, Block-B, New Krishna Park, Vikas Puri, Delhi Delhi, A/c:- LBDEL00001951008, LBNOD00001953710	Flat No- F 2, 1st Floor, Back Side Without Roof Rights, Plot No- Niti Khand- II/458, Indirapuram Ghaziabad	04-Nov-2022 Rs.17,55,153/- Rs.58,020/-	11-07-2022	
42.	Savita, Ashwani Yadav, Rz-58 Main Uttam Nagar Road, West Roshan Mandi Najafgarh Delhi Delhi, A/c:- LBDEL00003305888, LBDEL00003399016	Flat No- 1404, 14th Floor, Tower-A, Supertech Hues, Revenue Estate, Vill-Badshahpur, Sector-68 Gurgaon	04-Nov-2022 Rs.24,52,421/- Rs.1,55,833/-	30-07-2022	
43.	Sharad Pathak, Mamta Pathak, A-266 Ground Floor Sec-122 Noida, A/c:- LBDEL00004971499, LBDEL00005105192	Apartment No- 110194, 10th Floor, Block- V, Gaur City- 2, 14th Avenue, Plot No- Gh-03, Sec-16C, Greater Noida	04-Nov-2022 Rs.13,09,141/- Rs.1,36,474/-	30-07-2022	
44.	Deepak Khandelwal, Deepti, Ho No E 8 Partly Ward No 14, Dayal Bagh Vill- Lafarpur, Faridabad, Faridabad, A/c No:- LBFDB00002993646, LBGUR00005336276	Unit No 21, Lower Ground Floor, Charmwood Plaza, Eros Garden Colony, Surajkund Road Faridabad Haryana	07-Oct-2022 Rs.15,66,682/- Rs.4,02,023/-	31-05-2022	
45.	Pankur Tyagi, Abhishek Tyagi, Suman Lata Tyagi, A-54 A Nand Gram, P/o Mariam Nagar, Ghaziabad, A/c No:- LBGHZ00004960883, LBGHZ00005337379	House No-54 A, Ground Floor, Block-A, Ews, Sector-A, Nandni Kunj, Ghaziabad	10-Sep-2022 Rs.31,81,202/- Rs.294717/-	03-06-2022	
The steps are being taken for substituted service of notice. The above					

FIRST COLUMN

EMOTIONS SPOIL LIFE GOAL; AIM SENSIBLY


Lord Krishna counsels a realistic and sensible approach



AJIT KUMAR BISHNOI

Lord Krishna guides in the Bhagavad-Geeta, when He states, “In the bonafide Sankhya philosophy, these five causes have been stated for success in all actions.” (18.13) These are, “The place of action, the doer, many different kinds of instruments, many different efforts and the providence.” (18.14) The Lord states further, “Whatever action is begun by a man by body, speech and mind, these five are the causes of them.” (18.15) Lord Krishna summarises, “This being the case, still, who on account of immature intelligence thinks himself as the only doer, he is foolish; he does not understand.” (18.16)

Are we being foolish? Are we aiming too big or too small? Are we being realistic and sensible in setting our goals? Let us see if we are. There should be a fair assessment of the following. What are our abilities? Connected with this is our potential. An example will help us understand. Suppose there is a girl. Unfortunately, she is not pretty. On top of it she has tendency of becoming obese. Should she plan to enter the glamour world? No, she must focus on something to do with intelligence, if she is sharp in studies. Next come resources. What is available to us? Suppose there is a boy from a poor family, focus on getting a good job to begin his professional life. On the other hand, a boy from a rich family can plan to become a businessman. He should study and specialise in management from the best institutions.



The third criterion must be circumstances and opportunities available. A boy born to a yogi couple can think of becoming a yogi himself, blessed as he is. He has a tremendous start for making good spiritual progress in the present life. The fourth yardstick must be ‘yukta cheshta’ (appropriate efforts), as instructed by Lord Krishna in verse #6.17. Too much is counterproductive like a student appearing for an important exam studying all night. Too little is sick because all of us are expected to help ourselves as much as possible.

What does the Bhagavad-Geeta teach us in this connection? What did Lord Krishna promise Arjuna? In verse #2.37, He told Arjuna that if victorious he will enjoy the earth and if slain will achieve heaven. God did not even mention liberation because Arjuna was not an advanced devotee; he was just thinking of getting started, as he expressed in the verse #6.38. Lord clarified that a yogi, which Arjuna was not, achieves perfection due to practice of many births. (6.45) The creation works on the karmaphala principle, and mostly what we bring from our previous births come to fruition in the present life. Therefore, it is futile to imagine that we can achieve almost anything by our present efforts. This is not the way the creation works. For the present life, He counsels a realistic and sensible approach, when He states, “Be satisfied with any benefit, which comes of its own accord due to acts done earlier.” (4.22)

If we continue to harbour unrealistic desires, we will only get frustrated and waste a valuable human life. This is a materialistic way of thinking, in which God and His rules are ignored. One violates the ‘maryada’ (limit) of thinking and goes very far from reality. Lord Krishna has clearly warned that we have right in action, not ever in pre-determining fruits. (2.47) ‘Ahankar’ (ego) prompts it and should be shunned. We will be well served.

(The author is a spiritual teacher)

Amrit Mahotsav: Saga to tell untold stories

Yesterday was the death anniversary of Ambedkar, which gave us the opportunity to remember the unsung heroes of India

The dawn of the historic 76th Independence Day has marked the beginning of the era of ‘Amrit Kaal’. The valorous saga of struggle against the British Raj and subsequently earned freedom is the outcome of the immeasurable sacrifices of unsung heroes.

Amrit Mahotsav is celebrated to mark the 75th Birthday of the sage in mythology. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has conceptualized ‘Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’ by drawing a similar parallel to Independent India’s 75th year journey. The ever-increasing public participation in Amrit Mahotsav events further pushes for the amalgamation of everything that aids in strengthening the political, social, and economic uplift of a value-driven India.


After the birth of Independent India, the pages of history remained knowingly and unknowingly skewed to celebrate specific Ideas and ideals that have shaped the India we breathe in today. The political aspiration and increasing groves of nepotism had hugely hampered the cause for crediting recognition to builders of the Nation. This opaque idealism towards their contribution might have been addressed in the short-term agenda of the then decision makers, but it became a sentimental hurt for many for a long time.

One such tallest nation builder, Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar, had a similar fate as the subsequent regimes didn’t heed the wholesomeness of Ambedkar’s deed and the subsequent psychological undercurrent among his well-wishers and followers. It is a crystal clear fact that it took 34 years to posthumously award him Bharat Ratna, similar is the fate of the installation of his portrait in the Central Hall, a place where he drafted the Constitution of India. The echo of Ambedkar in the Central Hall was an echo of social, political and economic justice for newly budding independent India. The journey for installing a life-size portrait in Parliament’s Central Hall is very heartening commentary for every fellow Ambedkarite.

A brief account of the record tells a grim picture of the happenings. As Dr Ambedkar breathed last on December 6, 1956, then onwards demand for installation for the Central Hall portrait was raised by his followers.

Despite the need, Jawaharlal Nehru rejected the demand for Dr. Ambedkar’s portraits, and Moti Lal Nehru’s portrait was installed on 30 March 1957. J.L. Nehru’s intentions and deep-rooted superiority complex visibly come out in his remark dated July 23, 1957 on the portrait demand of Prantiya Jataw Sabha, Gwalior, wherein he says: “So far as Dr Ambedkar’s portrait is concerned, I would have no objection to its being put up in the library or somewhere else provided it is relatively small or otherwise good.”

Later, the same demand was declined again by the then Jawaharlal Nehru Portrait



THE LIFE-SIZE PORTRAIT, MADE BY ARTIST ZEBAMAMROHAWI AND DONATED BY ‘THE BR AMBEDKAR VICHAR MANCH’, WAS UNVEILED BY PRIME MINISTER VPSINGH ON APRIL 12, 1990, AS PART OF THE CENTENARY YEAR CELEBRATION OF AMBEDKAR’S BIRTH ANNIVERSARY

(The author is Minister of State for Culture & Parliamentary Affairs, and Lok Sabha MP from Bikaner)



Parliamentary Committee on August 26, 1965, citing the unavailability of vacant panels in the central Hall. Ironically, the same unavailability turned to availability on May 5, 1966, when the Central Hall witnessed Pt Jawaharlal Nehru’s portrait.

It was time when the nation was marking the 75th birth anniversary of Dr Ambedkar. This eager demand for a central hall portrait was pacified by issuing a mere 15th paisa commemorative stamp. This indifferent attitude of the Congress government’s insensitivity towards the aspiration of Dr Ambedkar’s followers further intensified their demand.

Diluting from the core idea, Dr Ambedkar’s bronze statue, received from Dr Baba Saheb Memorial Committee, was installed at Iron Gate No. 3 on 2nd April 1967. The Then Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi did not attend the statue unveiling ceremony.

Meanwhile, on November 19, 1987, the portrait of Indira Gandhi was installed in the Central Hall. At this stage, the demand for duly recognizing Baba Saheb’s portrait gets further impetus, and more and more Dalit MPs call the attention of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi to confer him Bharat Ratna and Central Hall portrait. Under this pressure, the Rajiv Gandhi-led government consented to the portrait installation, and then Lok Sabha Speaker Balram Jakhar installed the central Hall portrait on August 9, 1989, which the B.R. Ambedkar Vichar Manch donated. These dynamics made it clear that this step resulted from compulsion and not

by choice. It is ironic to learn that the installed portrait of Dr Ambedkar was withdrawn by succumbing to the ill-will agenda of congress leaders.

The portrait was removed from the Central Hall and found its new home in the Parliament museum along with other freedom fighters. This whole episode made a severe dent in the feelings of fans and followers of Baba Saheb. Many ambedkariate associations and Dalit MPs protested against this unruly gesture of the congress government. Atal Bihari Vajpayee, a reasoned voice of opposition, was a keen observant figure of the whole portrait dynamics.

The widely held precedent that the Central Hall portrait can be displayed only for the person whose portrait/statue/ bust not already installed in Parliament estate was contravened for the Nehru family by subsequent congress regimes. It was ironic that despite these exceptions, the same precedent was argued during the consideration and delaying of Ambedkar’s Central Hall portrait.

The awakened conscience of the followers of Dr. Ambedkar remained fully intact to check the long-drawn insensitivity of the congress-led dispensation. It was in 1989 that VP Singh’s government, externally supported by BJR, came to power, and Atal Bihari Vajpayee proposed to address this long pending grievance. A genuinely justified decision showed a path of light to the dark-ridden aspirations of fellow Ambedkarite, with the return of Dr Ambedkar’s Portrait in the Central Hall.

The life-size portrait, made by artist Zeba Amrohawi and donated by ‘The BR Ambedkar Vichar Manch’, was unveiled by prime minister VP Singh on April 12, 1990, as part of the centenary year celebration of Ambedkar’s birth anniversary.

Notably, the earlier regimes’ exhibited biases and insensitivities in recognizing the founding father’s significant contribution compelled us to reflect on the time scale for much-needed course correction. It carries a mammoth task to unearth the harsh realities as an outcome of indifference to the aspirations of a downtrodden section of society. The phenomenon of duly recognizing effort and sacrifices is a gesture that presents a better understanding of our past and adds dimensions to rational reasoning for bringing out the best in the future generation.


The ongoing ‘Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’ is a righteous initiative of the Modi Government to express our sincere gratitude to the noble souls and all stakeholders whose unaccounted and undivided efforts are fulfilling the aspiration of the masses, enabling them to realize their full potential. It is a journey of building a value-driven India for nurturing upcoming generations. This festive occasion has brought up the spirit of independence alive again on a massive scale. Today on the death anniversary of Baba Saheb, let’s seize the opportunity by crediting due recognition to the unsung heroes of India by bringing out their hitherto untold stories. Let the spirit of ‘Amrit Mahotsav’ take everyone to scale new heights for the Nation.

POINTCOUNTERPOINT

I HAVEN’T READ THE CONSTITUTION, BUT, FROM WHAT I’VE BEEN TOLD, MOST OF IT IS A WASTE OF PAPER, QUITE FRANKLY. — FORMER US PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP



THE CONSTITUTION IS GREATER THAN ANY PRESIDENT. — TWITTER CHIEF ELON MUSK




How to check cheque bounce? Don’t issue cheques

With the advancement of technology of digital transfer, there is no reason to accept cheque as a payment instrument at all

As there is a large number of pending cases relating to cheque bounces in Maharashtra, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, and Rajasthan, the Supreme Court in May 22 has directed to constitute special courts in these states with retired judges.

Before the introduction of Section 138 of Negotiable Instruments Act in 1989, bouncing of cheque for want of funds was not straightaway a criminal offence. It was considered only as a civil dispute. There was a possibility to invoke Section 420 of Indian Penal Code to treat the cheque bounce as cheating. But in such cases, the beneficiary of the cheque had to prove the intention of the issuer of the cheque to



S KALYANASUNDARAM

(The author is a retired banker)

cheat him. But after introduction of Section 138 of NI Act, if the cheque has been issued for clearance of liability and if the cheque is returned for insufficient balance in the account, it becomes a criminal offence. Of course, there are procedural aspects as to the need to give notice to pay, etc. This was made to enhance the acceptability of cheques in the country.

Now it is reported that many suggestions were made at a high-level meeting recently called by the Government to deal with the high incidence of cheque bounce cases and the government is contemplating to introduce some of the suggestions.

One suggestion is to dip into other accounts of a

cheque issuer in case of insufficient balance in one account which results in return of cheque. It is strange that the suggestion has been made without understanding the legal relationship between a banker and a customer. Banks open and operate accounts for customers as per the contract between the bank and the customer and it is subject to various provisions of Indian Contract Act.

Bankers cannot be made a party in the dispute between the drawer and payee of a cheque. The banker is there to execute the order of the drawer as the contract is between the banker and its customer. Making the banker help the beneficiary of a cheque will be patently illegal.

Banks can debit a cus-

tomers’ account only as per mandate and not otherwise. There is Section 31 of NI Act which states as follows: Liability of drawee of cheque — The drawee of a cheque having sufficient funds of the drawer in his hands properly applicable to the payment of such cheque must pay the cheque when duly required so to do, and, in default of such payment, must compensate the drawer for any loss or damage caused by such default.

The Government is looking at another suggestion that is to prohibit opening of new accounts to offenders of cheque bounce cases. It is possible to implement this suggestion just with an administrative order from Reserve Bank of India. But

the judiciary may look into such direction as discrimination as until an offence is proved and the person is convicted.

The issuer of the cheque bounce case cannot be considered as a person who has committed the offence until convicted by the court.

Yet another suggestion is to treat the cheque bounce similar to loan default and to inform credit information companies for necessary downgrade of score.

Industry body PHDCCI has suggested to the Finance Ministry to take measures like compulsory suspension of bank withdrawals for a few days to make cheque issuers accountable for their action in cheque bounce cases. Again patently it is illegal to stop

operation in bank accounts for such a reason. Operations in bank accounts can be stopped only when there is a court order like Garnishee order, or where there is attachment order from Income Tax department, etc. Or there can be a banker’s general lien over the balance.

The industry body has also suggested enacting a law that from the date of dishonouring of cheque, the dispute between the two parties must be settled within 90 days through mediation. Enacting such a law may be easier. But how to implement the time line? Even in mediation there is scope to drag the case endlessly.

The best way to check cheque bounce cases is to

reduce the incidence of issue of cheque. With the advancement of technology of digital funds transfer, there is no reason to accept cheque as a payment instrument at all. We may even remove the penal provision under Section 138. This penal provision was introduced when online transfers were not possible.

Now there is no necessity to continue the same and to provide an avenue for a number of criminal cases. If someone is still accepting a cheque as a medium for payment, it should be their funeral. Let them understand the risk and let them take that risk. Let them not be allowed to strain the already overburdened judiciary.

Russian airfield hit day after drone strikes on bases

AP ■ KYIV

A fire that broke out at an airport in Russia's southern Kursk region that borders Ukraine was the result of a drone attack, the regional governor said Tuesday, a day after Moscow blamed Kyiv for drone strikes on two air bases deep inside Russia and launched a new wave of missile strikes on Ukrainian territory.

Kursk Governor Roman Starovoy said in a Telegram post that the drone attack ignited an oil reservoir in the area of Kursk airport and the blaze was being contained by crews at the scene.

Ukrainian officials have not formally confirmed carrying out the drone attacks, maintaining their apparent policy of deliberate ambiguity as they have done in the past when it comes to high-profile attacks on Russian targets.

Presidential adviser Mikhail Podolyak taunted Moscow in comments on Twitter.

"If something is launched into other countries' airspace, sooner or later unknown flying objects will return to the point of departure," Podolyak wrote. "The earth is round."

The unprecedented attacks in Russia - more than 500 km (300 miles) from the border with Ukraine - threatened a major escalation of the nine-month war. One of the airfields houses bombers capable of carrying nuclear weapons.

The attacks also exposed the vulnerability of some of Russia's most strategic military sites, raising questions about the effectiveness of their air defences.

Russia's Defence Ministry said three Russian servicemen were killed and four others wounded by debris, and that two aircraft were slightly damaged.

The ministry didn't say where the drones had originated. But Russian military bloggers said they likely were launched by Ukrainian scouts, and argued that the strikes had inflicted serious reputational damage on Moscow.

The attacks on the Engels base in the Saratov region on the Volga River and the Dyagilevo base in the Ryazan region in western Russia were part of Ukraine's efforts to curtail Russia's long-range bomber force, the ministry said.

The Engels base hosts Tu-95 and Tu-160 nuclear-capable strategic bombers that have been involved in strikes on Ukraine. Dyagilevo houses tanker aircraft used for mid-air refuelling.

In a daily intelligence update on the war in Ukraine, Britain's Defence Ministry said



Russia was likely to consider the base attacks as "some of the most strategically significant failures of force protection since its invasion of Ukraine".

It said the bombers would likely be dispersed to other airfields.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said that Russian authorities will "take the necessary measures" to enhance protection of key facilities in view of the latest Ukrainian attacks.

Speaking in a conference call with reporters Tuesday, Peskov said "the Ukrainian regime's course for continuation of such terror attacks poses a threat."

Peskov reaffirmed that Russia sees no prospects for peace talks now, adding that "the Russian Federation must achieve its stated goals."

Russia, meanwhile, maintained intense attacks on Ukrainian territory, shelling towns overnight near the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant that left more than 9,000 homes without running water, local Ukrainian officials said.

The towns lie across the Dnieper river from the nuclear plant, which was seized by Russian forces in the early stages of the war. Russia and Ukraine have for months accused each other of shelling at and around the plant.

The head of Ukraine's northern Sumy region, which borders Russia, said that Moscow launched over 80 missile and heavy artillery attacks on its territory. Governor Dmytro Shvyvitsky said the strikes damaged a monastery near the border town of Shalyhyne.

EU, Western Balkans to boost partnership amid Ukraine war

AP ■ TIRANA (ALBANIA)

EU leaders and their Western Balkan counterparts gathered Tuesday for talks aimed at boosting their partnership as Russia's war in Ukraine threatens to reshape the geopolitical balance in the region.

The EU wants to use the one-day summit in Albania's capital to tell leaders from Albania, Bosnia, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia that they have futures within the wealthy economic bloc and give them concrete signs, rather than just promises, that they will join one day.

Since Russia invaded Ukraine in February, the EU's top diplomat, Josep Borrell, has been repeating that stepping up the bloc's engagement with the six nations is more crucial than ever to maintaining Europe's security.

As Europe's relationship with Russia deteriorates further because of the war, tensions have also mounted in the Balkans and the EU wants to avoid other flashpoints close to its borders.

"In the Western Balkans, several crises are looming, and partners feel the immediate damaging impact of Russia's aggression against Ukraine," Borrell said last month. "The shockwaves of this war are hitting the Western Balkans. To counter that, we are stepping up our engagement as the Western Balkans remain our geostrategic priority - the closest and most important geostrategic priority."

According to a draft of the declaration to be adopted at the summit, the EU will repeat "its full and unequivocal commitment to the European Union membership perspective of the Western Balkans" and call for an acceleration of accession talks with the incumbents.

In return, the EU expects full solidarity from its Western Balkans partners and wants them fully aligned with its foreign policies.

That particular point has been problematic with Serbia, whose president, Aleksandar Vucic, claims he wants to take Serbia into the European Union but has cultivated ties with Russia.

Although Serbia's representatives voted in favor of various U.N. Resolutions condemning Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Vucic has refused to explicitly condemn Moscow. His country has not joined Western sanctions against Russia over the war.

Although the progress of the six nations toward EU membership had stalled recently, there has been some progress over the past few months.

This summer, the EU started membership negotiations with Albania and North Macedonia following years of delays. And Bosnia moved a small step closer on its path to joining the powerful economic bloc when the commission advised member countries in October to grant it candidate status despite continuing criticism of the way the nation is run.

Kosovo has only started the first step, with the signing of a Stabilization and Association Agreement. It said it would apply for candidate status later this month.

Among the concrete measures to be adopted in Tirana, a deal involving telecommunications operators that will bring down data roaming charges will be announced. Discussions will also focus on the negative effects for energy and food security from Russia's war in Ukraine. European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen has already announced financial support to help countries in the Western Balkans cope with shortages and higher prices.

The EU last admitted a new member - Croatia, which is also part of the Balkans - in 2013. Before that, Bulgaria and Romania joined in 2007. With the withdrawal of the United Kingdom in 2021, the EU now has 27 member nations.



Latvia revokes licence of independent Russian TV channel

AP ■ TALLINN

Latvia has revoked the license of an independent Russian TV channel exiled in the Baltic country for, among other things, voicing support for the Russian military and including Crimea in its map of Russia, media authorities said on Tuesday.

The decision by the Latvian National Electronic Mass Media Council was based on number of recent violations by TV Rain and the license was revoked on the grounds of a threat to national security and public order.

The region's main news agency, Baltic News Service, said the decision will take effect on Thursday when not only TV Rain's broadcasts but also its programs on YouTube will be blocked in Latvia.

TV Rain was earlier fined by the Latvian media watchdog for failing to ensure proper translation of its broadcasts into Latvian, the Baltic country's only official language.

On Friday, Latvia's state security service started a probe into statements made by TV Rain on suspicion that it was supporting Russia and its military currently waging a war in Ukraine.

Latvia's decision was triggered by a TV Rain programme in which the anchor invited Russian soldiers and their families watching it to share their stories with the channel and promised to offer help.

The host offered an apology, saying he wasn't promising material assistance to Russian troops on the front line in Ukraine, but the channel quickly fired him and apologized.

The incident came on top of earlier tensions with the Latvian authorities, who issued a reprimand over the channel depicting the Moscow-annexed Crimea as part of Russia on maps and referring to the Russian military as "our army."

TV Rain owner Natalya Sindeyeva said in an interview that she hasn't decided on the next steps yet.



First delivery of South Korean heavy weapons comes to Poland

AP ■ GDYNIA

Polish President Andrzej Duda and the country's defense minister on Tuesday took delivery of a first shipment of tanks and howitzers from South Korea, hailing the swift implementation of a deal signed in the summer in the face of the war in neighboring Ukraine.

Duda and Mariusz Blaszczak were in the Polish Navy port of Gdynia, on the Baltic coast, to mark the arrival by sea of the first 10 Black Panther K2 tanks, along with 24 Thunder K9 howitzers, from a \$5.8 billion deal with Seoul.

They stressed that South Korea responded quickly to the need by Poland, a European Union nation, to urgently increase its deterrence and defense potential as Russia is fighting a war in Ukraine, just across Poland's eastern border.

Korean government and defense industry officials were also present.

"This is the future, this is the real strengthening of Poland's security," Duda said, standing before the tanks and the howitzers.

"In order to stop aggression, to stop the enemy, it is necessary for the army to have this modern equipment," he added. More deliveries are planned through 2025.

Poland is purchasing hundreds of K2 Black Panther tanks made by Hyundai Rotem and of K9 Thunder howitzers made by Hanhwa Defense. The deal includes training, logistics and ammunition.

The conservative government in Warsaw is also buying Korean FA-50 fighter jets, a light training and combat aircraft made jointly by Korea Aerospace and Lockheed Martin, for some USD 3 billion.

Poland is also seeking a technology transfer so it can launch production domestically.



Hungary vetoes EU Ukraine aid, deepening rift with Brussels

AP ■ BRUSSELS

A rift between the European Union and member state Hungary deepened Tuesday when Budapest vetoed an 18-billion euro (\$18.93 billion) financial aid package to Kyiv, exacerbating a dispute over the rule of law in the country and Prime Minister Viktor Orban's outlook over Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

EU finance ministers also postponed any decision to punish Hungary by withholding billions of euros for failing to implement solid rule-of-law reforms.

Instead of ensuring unanimous support for aid to Ukraine, Hungary's veto made sure that the EU's other 26 member states would need work out a more complicated technical plan to make sure aid can keep flowing to Kyiv in the new year.

"In the end agreement was found on formulations that allow a flexible and quick way to deploy funds to Ukraine without fundamentally changing the way the EU manages its funds. I say agreement, but in the reality that agreement was minus one," said Tuomas Saarenheimo, the chairman of the EU Council Economic and Financial Committee.

Many nations see Orban's evasive tactics as a thinly veiled attempt to blackmail the EU into releasing billions in regular funding and pandemic recovery cash that has been held up.

The EU's 27 nations have until Dec. 19 to make a decision, and EU leaders meet for a two-day summit next week, increasing chances that the issues would still need to be grappled with at a later date.

EU nations have been mulling for years now whether to punish Orban for what he calls his brand of "illiberal democracy" but what is seen by many others as unfit for the EU's traditional sense of Western democratic liberalism.

On top of that, Orban has also angered the bloc's officials with his repeated criticism of EU sanctions targeting Russia for its war in Ukraine.

The EU's executive branch proposed that the bloc suspend around 7.5 billion euros (\$7.5 billion) in regular funding to Hungary over concerns about democratic backsliding and the possible mismanagement of EU money. The Commission also wants to put conditions on Hungary's pandemic recovery plan worth 5.8 billion euros and insists Budapest implement 27 "super milestones" on democratic reforms to unlock the funding.



Russia unleashes missiles but Ukraine says most shot down

AP ■ KYIV

Russia unleashed what Ukrainian authorities called the latest "massive missile attack" across their country, striking homes and buildings, killing civilians, and disrupting electrical power and water supplies in areas - notably in the Black Sea port city of Odesa. Ukraine's air force claimed it shot down more than 60 of the 70 missiles fired.

Hours earlier, explosions rocked two air bases deep inside Russia, and the Defense Ministry in Moscow said it had shot down two Ukrainian drones attacking the sites, and that three Russian servicemen were killed by falling debris and four others were wounded.

The attacks at the bases in the Saratov region on the Volga River and the Dyagilevo base in the Ryazan region in western Russia raised the threat of a dangerous escalation in the war.

Kyiv had not commented on the explosions at the Russian bases.

Russian President Vladimir Putin, meanwhile, drove a car across a bridge linking his country to the Crimean Peninsula following its repair from a truck bombing in October that had embarrassed Moscow.

Russia responded to the bridge attack by firing waves of missiles at Ukrainian infrastructure targets in the weeks that followed, and Monday's onslaught was just the latest round of retaliatory strikes. Russia is seeking to disable Ukraine's energy supplies and infrastructure as winter approaches - part of a new strategy in its nine-month war.

Defiant as ever, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy praised his military forces and the technicians who snapped into action to repair the damage.

"Air defense shot down most of the missiles," he said in brief comments on social media. "Power engineers have already started to restore electricity. Our people never give up."

Ukraine's air force said early indications showed Russian forces fired 38 cruise missiles from carriers in the Caspian Sea and from the southern Russian region of Rostov. Another 22 Kalibr cruise missiles were fired from its Black Sea fleet, and kong-range bombers, fighter jets and guided missiles were also involved, it said.

"In total, more than 60 invaders' missiles were shot down!" the air force said on its Telegram channel.

Ukraine's electricity provider, Ukrenergo, lashed out at Russia over "the eighth massive missile attack by a terrorist country," saying its facilities had been hit, triggering blackouts. It urged residents to stay

in shelters as its crews tried to repair the damage.

In the capital of Kyiv, scores of people quickly filled the central Zoloti Vorota metro station after the warnings, and many checked their phones for updates. There were no immediate signs of whether the city or the surrounding region was hit.

Air raid sirens sounded across the country. Ukrainian media reported explosions in several parts of the country south of Kyiv, including Cherkasy, Kryvyi Rih and Odesa. Officials said water, electricity and central heating was cut to many parts of Odesa.

"The enemy is again attacking the territory of Ukraine with missiles!" Kyrylo Tymoshenko, the deputy head of the Ukrainian president's office, wrote on Telegram.

Tymoshenko said two people were killed and three others injured - including a 22-month-old child - in the village of Novosofiyivka in the southern Zaporizhzhya region.

In neighboring Moldova, the Interior Ministry said on its Facebook page that border patrol officers had found a rocket in an orchard near the northern city of Briceni near Ukraine.

Emergency services, including a bomb squad. Were sent to the scene. Controls in the vicinity have also been tightened, the ministry said. It was not immediately clear when the rocket may have landed or who fired it.

Moldovan Prime Minister Natalia Gavrilita stopped short of saying when the missile might have fallen but cautioned that "a new wave of missile attacks is taking place in Ukraine, which has direct consequences for our country." She warned that Moldova could suffer further power outages in the new Russian strikes.

Russia's Defense Ministry said the attack on its bases were part of Ukraine's efforts to curtail operations of Russia's long-range bomber force.

The Engels air base in the Saratov region houses nuclear-capable bombers and was the first time since the start of the conflict that such a facility was attacked. It's located over 600 kilometers (more than 370 miles) east of the border with Ukraine.

The Dyagilevo air base, which houses flight tankers used to refuel other planes in the air, is located about 500 kilometers (over 300 miles) northwest of the Ukrainian border.

The Russian Defense Ministry said four other servicemen were injured and two aircraft were lightly damaged by the drones' debris.

The ministry didn't say



ement official responsible for the project.

Putin had inaugurated the bridge in a highly symbolic move after the annexation of Crimea in 2014.

Zelenskyy's office said three rocket strikes hit his hometown of Rih Krivyy Rih in south-central Ukraine, killing a factory worker and injuring three others. In the northeastern region of Kharkiv, a person was killed in strikes by S-300 missiles on civilian infrastructure in the town of Kupiansk, it said.

The war that began with Russia's invasion of Ukraine on Feb. 24 has displaced millions from their homes, killed and injured tens of thousands of people and shaken the world economy - notably through the fallout on the prices and availability of food, fertilizer and fuel that are key exports from Ukraine and Russia.

Western countries Monday imposed a \$60-per-barrel price cap and a ban on some types of Russian oil, part of new measures aimed at stepping up pressure on Moscow over the war.

The move has prompted a rejection from the Kremlin and also criticism from Zelenskyy - whose government wants the cap to be half as high.

Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Novak, who is in charge of energy issues, warned in televised comments Sunday that Russia won't sell its oil to countries that try to apply the price cap.

"We will only sell oil and oil products to the countries that will work with us on market terms, even if we have to reduce output to some extent," Novak said hours before the price cap took effect.

The 27-country European bloc also imposed an embargo on Russian oil shipped by sea.

Russia, the world's No. 2 oil producer, relies on oil and gas to underpin its economy, which has already come under sweeping international sanctions over the war.

In recent weeks, Russia has been pounding Ukrainian infrastructure - including power plants - with military strikes and keeping an offensive going in the east, notably in and around the town of Bakhmut.

China reiterates ‘no 1st use’ nuke policy, blasts US report

AP ■ BEIJING

China strictly adheres to its policy of no first use of nuclear weapons "at any time and under any circumstances," its Defence Ministry said Tuesday in a scathing response to a US report alleging a major buildup in Beijing's nuclear capabilities.

The Pentagon last week released an annual China security report that warned Beijing would likely have 1,500 nuclear warheads by 2035, and that it has provided no clarity on how it plans to use them.

That report "distorts China's national defence policy and military strategy, makes groundless speculation about China's military development and grossly interferes in China's internal affairs on the issue of Taiwan," ministry spokesperson Tan Kefei said in a statement.

Tan accused the US of being the "biggest troublemaker and destroyer of world peace and stability," and repeated that Beijing has never renounced the use of force to conquer self-governing Taiwan, a US ally that China considers part of its territory.

Tan did not directly address the report's allegations about a Chinese nuclear buildup, but blamed the US for raising nuclear tensions, particularly with its plan to help Australia build a fleet of submarines powered by US nuclear technology, which the French president has described as a "confrontation with China."

Australia has said it will not seek to arm the submarines with nuclear weapons. Tan also accused the US of having the world's largest nuclear arsenal, although that title is actually held by Russia, a close Chinese military, economic and diplomatic partner.

As of 2022, Russia possesses a total of 5,977 nuclear warheads compared to 5,428 in the US inventory, according to the Federation of American Scientists, China currently has 350 nuclear warheads, according to the federation.

China has long adhered to what it calls a purely defensive national security strategy, including a claim that it will never be the first to use nuclear weapons in a conflict. That



stance has frequently been challenged at home and abroad, particularly if it comes to a confrontation over Taiwan.

"What needs to be emphasized is that China firmly pursues the nuclear strategy of self-defense and defense, always adheres to the policy of no first use of nuclear weapons at any time and under any circumstances, and maintains its nuclear force at the minimum level required for national security," Tan said in the statement, which was posted on the ministry's website.

His remarks came days after US Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin said the US is at

a pivotal point with China and will need military strength to ensure that American values, not Beijing's, set global norms in the 21st century.

Austin's speech Saturday at the Reagan National Defence Forum capped a week in which the Pentagon was squarely focused on China's rise and what that might mean for America's position in the world.

China "is the only country with both the will and, increasingly, the power to reshape its region and the international order to suit its authoritarian preferences," Austin said. "So let me be clear: We will not let that happen."

North Korea fires artillery again over South Korea's drills

AP ■ SEOUL

North Korea on Tuesday fired a barrage of artillery rounds into waters near rival South Korea for the second consecutive day in a tit-for-tat for ongoing U.S.-South Korea live-fire drills in an inland border region.

South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said it detected North Korea firing around 90 artillery rounds from the eastern coastal town of Kosong around 10 am and another 10 rounds from the nearby town of Kumgang around 6 pm.

It said the shells landed in the northern side of a maritime buffer zone the Koreans established in 2018 to reduce border tensions.

The South said it communicated verbal warnings to North Korea and urged it to abide by the military agreement.

The South Korean assessments were slightly different from details announced by North Korea's military, which said it fired 82 shells from multiple rocket launchers.

An unidentified spokesperson of the North Korean People's Army's General Staff said the firings were meant as a warning against "enemy side" artillery exercises in a region near the inter-Korean land border.

The spokesperson said South Korea was being hypocritical in criticising North Korea for breaching the 2018 agreement, saying the South's unspecified past actions in violation of the agreement must be "calculated first."

"The (Korean People's Army) seriously warns the enemy side once again to stop at once the irritating military actions in the area close to the front," the spokesperson said. "Our military counteraction against the continued provocative actions of the enemies will be more offensive as the days go by."

North Korea also on Monday fired around 130 artillery rounds into waters inside the maritime buffer zones with South Korea, while accusing the South of raising unnecessary tension in front-line areas.

The latest North Korean



military action has worsened animosity between the rivals, whose relations have sharply declined amid a prolonged pause in nuclear negotiations between Washington and Pyongyang.

The South Korean army had earlier issued a public notice about live-fire exercises involving multiple rocket launch systems and howitzers in two separate testing grounds in the Cheorwon region this week.

South Korea's Defence Ministry on Tuesday confirmed that the exercises, which began on Monday and continue through Wednesday, are part of combined training with U.S. Troops.

The ministry said that the exercises did not run against the 2018 inter-Korean military agreement, because they are being conducted outside the ground buffer zone set within 5 kilometers of the military demarcation line separating the Koreas.

"We sternly warn that North Korea will be solely responsible for any outcome produced by the North's unilateral and consistent violations" of the 2018 agreement, the ministry said in a statement.

North Korea's military said it ordered Monday's artillery fire after detecting dozens of South Korean projectiles flying southeast from the Cheorwon region.

South Korean lawmakers raise concerns over Chinese voters



AP ■ SEOUL

Members of South Korea's ruling conservative party have proposed a bill that would place tighter restrictions on the voting rights of foreign permanent residents in local elections, which they insist is necessary to protect the country's democracy from being undermined by Chinese voters.

Critics say the efforts to pass the bill could exacerbate racism and hatred toward Chinese people living in South Korea and would be a step back in an increasingly multicultural society that needs to embrace immigration to make up for an aging and shrinking population.

People Power Party lawmaker Kwon Seong-dong, a close ally of President Yoon Suk Yeol, said Tuesday it has become crucial to prevent the voting system from being exploited as a "maneuvering tool" by other governments.

Chinese Prez Xi to visit Saudi Arabia to blunt US influence

PTI ■ BEIJING

Chinese President Xi Jinping will make a three-day official visit to Saudi Arabia starting Wednesday during which he will attend the China-Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) meeting.

While there is no official announcement here about his visit, Saudi state media reported on Tuesday that President Xi will arrive in the Gulf Kingdom on Wednesday for a three-day visit to the world's largest oil producer.

The visit will include a bilateral summit chaired by Saudi King Salman and attended by Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, the kingdom's de facto ruler, according to the Saudi state media reports.

Xi will also attend a summit with rulers from the six-member GCC and talks convening leaders from elsewhere in the Middle East, the report said.

The GCC is a regional, intergovernmental, political, and economic union comprising Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates.

Xi's arrival coincides with heightened tensions between Saudi Arabia and the US over issues ranging from energy policy to regional security and human rights.

His visit also comes in the backdrop of assertions by US President Joe Biden that Washington will not cede the Middle East to Beijing. "We will not walk away and leave a vacuum to be filled by China, Russia, or Iran... The US is not going anywhere," Biden told the assembled Arab leaders when he visited Riyadh in July.

The US and Saudi Arabia are still embroiled in a heated spat over oil production. In October, OPEC+ slashed output by two million barrels per day in an effort to "stabilise" prices. The decision was taken despite heavy US campaigning against it.

The Chinese president's visit, which comes as he faces mounting pressure at home over opposition to his "zero Covid" strategy, underscores China's desire to boost links in a region that is traditionally seen by Washington as falling under its sphere of influence, the Financial Times reported.

Officers to receive Congressional Gold Medals for Jan 6

AP ■ WASHINGTON

Top House and Senate leaders will present law enforcement officers who defended the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, with Congressional Gold Medals on Tuesday, awarding them Congress's highest honour nearly two years after they fought with former President Donald Trump's supporters in a brutal and bloody attack.

To recognize the hundreds of officers who were at the Capitol on Jan. 6, the medals will be placed in four locations — at U.S. Capitol Police headquarters, the Metropolitan Police Department, the Capitol and the Smithsonian Institution. President Joe Biden said when he signed the legislation last year that a medal will be placed at the



Smithsonian museum "so all visitors can understand what happened that day."

The ceremony in the Capitol Rotunda comes as Democrats, just weeks away from losing their House majority, race to finish a nearly 18-month investigation of the insurrection.

Democrats and two Republicans conducting the probe have vowed to uncover the details of the attack, which came as Trump tried to over-

turn his election defeat and encouraged his supporters to "fight like hell" in a rally just before the congressional certification.

Awarding the medals will be among House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's last ceremonial acts as she prepares to step down from leadership. When the bill passed the House more than a year ago, she said the law enforcement officers from across the city defended the Capitol because they were "the type of Americans who heard the call to serve and answered it, putting country above self."

"They enabled us to return to the Capitol," and certify Biden's presidency, she said then, "to that podium that night to show the world that our democracy had prevailed and that it had succeeded because of them."

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given to the General Public on behalf of HRC Bank Ltd. that Mrs. Pooja Upadhyay widow of late Mr. Rakesh Upadhyay is owner of Endre Second floor (Said floor) built on Property No. 10, admeasuring 2/2.2 sq. yds., in Block K-2, Situated at Model Town, Delhi. "Said Property", 1/2 share by virtue of Registered Relinquishment deed dated 20.09.2020, registration No. 8732, executed by Mr. Ashish Upadhyay for himself and on behalf of late Mr. Rakesh Upadhyay & Mrs. Kuldeep Upadhyay, and remaining 1/2 share by virtue of sale deed dated 25.09.2020, registration No. 8830, executed by Mr. Pawan Kumar Chhabra) has lost / misplaced SMC certificate stating legal heirs of late Mr. Rakesh Upadhyay. All persons are hereby informed not to deal or carry out any transaction with anyone on the basis of the said missing document. If anyone has already carried out or being carried out kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 10 days of the present.

Kumar Associates (Advocate & Company)
200, Third Floor, 23, Shivaji Marg, Wof Nagar, N. Delhi-15
Ph: 011-0112527-28 kumar.associates.advocate@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE
To be known to all that I S. Kedarnath S/o N.V. Subramanian R/o A-214, Mangal CGHS LTD Plot No. 16 Vasundhara Enclave, Delhi-110096, Allottee of flat No. A-214, Mangal CGHS LTD Plot No. 16, Vasundhara Enclave, Delhi-110096, have applied for conversion of the aforesaid flat from leasehold to freehold vide application LPT/1735/H/O/02/2022, in DDA original documents i.e. Share Certificate of the above flat issued by Mangal CGHS LTD has been lost. An FIR to this effect has been lodged in the Police Station Crime Branch, New Delhi, vide FIRNCR No. LR979253/2021 dated 26/11/2021.

Any person (S) Claiming any right, interest, having any objection or found in possession of original documents, may write/contact with above named person at above address/phone No. 9874374345 within seven days from the date of publication of this notice. The person claiming any right, interest, objections with respect to this property can personally inform or write to the Dy. Director, (GH) or Director(RL), Vikas Sadan, INA, New Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Flat No- CTB-261/PB-B-2076/ PB-B-2077/ N.V. Subramanian R/o A-214, Mangal CGHS LTD Plot No. 16 Vasundhara Enclave, Delhi-110096, Allottee of flat No. A-214, Mangal CGHS LTD Plot No. 16, Vasundhara Enclave, Delhi-110096, have applied for conversion of the aforesaid flat from leasehold to freehold vide application LPT/1735/H/O/02/2022, in DDA original documents i.e. Share Certificate of the above flat issued by Mangal CGHS LTD has been lost. An FIR to this effect has been lodged in the Police Station Crime Branch, New Delhi, vide FIRNCR No. LR979253/2021 dated 26/11/2021.

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Name	Age	Relationship
Sardar Hari Singh	89 years	Husband
Ripdaman Kaur Chandok	62 years	Daughter
Amardeep Kaur Singh	58 years	Daughter
Devinder Jot Singh	56 years	Son
Bobby Singh	53 years	Son
Who are all Relinquishing the Flat / apartment in the name of Ripdaman Kaur Chandok, W/o Sardar Lakhinder Singh Chandok.		
Sardar Hari Singh R/o 8236 firenze Blvd Orlando, FL 32836, U.S.A		

Uttarakhand Police Headquarters
12 Subhash Marg Dehradun

Tender No. DG-III-1(Mod)2022 Date: December, 05 2022

EXTENSION TENDER NOTICE

Ssealed e-tenders was invited from manufacturer/authorised dealer for the supply and installation of Smart & Intelligent Command and Control Room in three district. The date of receipt of tender & opening of tender is being extended as follows:-

Sl. No.	Name of the items	Bids Number	Last date & Time for receipt of tender	Date & Time for opening of technical offer
1	Smart & Intelligent Command and Control Room	DG-3(Mod)-1-2022	19.12.2022 11:00Hrs	19.12.2022 12:00Hrs

For more Information of E-tender Please Login <http://uktenders.gov.in> IG, P&M Police HQ, Uttarakhand, Dehradun

NORTHERN RAILWAY
OPEN TENDER "CORRIGENDUM" NOTICE
Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering

1. N.I.T. No.	GSU/DLI/05/22-23/CORRIGENDUM Dated:- 06.12.2022
2. Name of work with its location	Linking of B.G.P. Way track and other allied works such as Assembling, linking & dismantling of BG Railway track, points & crossing, traps, AT welding work, glued joints, Supply of ballast, leading, loading & unloading of P. Way material & PRC sleepers and balance work of washable apron based on BLT concept and other misc. works at Subzimandi Delhi in c/w Additional Train handling Facilities and Delhi Subzimandi-Delhi Main Additional Line.
3. Approx. Cost of work	Rs. 8.21,58,982.69/-
4. Earnest Money	Rs. 5,60,800/-
5. Completion period of work	8 Months
6. Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender	Upto 15:00 hrs on 20.12.2022 Opening of tender at 15:00 hrs. on 20.12.2022.
7. Website particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc.	Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in

No.- CPM/GSU/Engg./NIT/05/2022-23 (NIT-05) Dated:- 06.12.2022 3245/2022

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

PUBLIC NOTICE
IN THE MATTER OF SECTION 13 OF THE LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP ACT, 2008 READ WITH RULE 17 OF LLP (INCORPORATION OF LLP) RULES, 2009 AND OTHER APPLICABLE PROVISIONS, IF ANY, OF THE LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP ACT, 2008.

AND

IN THE MATTER OF REMONK ENGINEERS LLP (AAV-2275) HAVING ITS REGISTERED OFFICE AT 117, VIJAY CHOWK LAXMI NAGAR, NEAR DESU OFFICE DELHI NEW DELHI 110092 INDIA.

Notice is hereby given to the General Public that the LLP proposes to make an application to the Registrar of Companies, Kanpur Uttar Pradesh under section 13 (3) of the Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008 seeking permission to change its Registered office from the state of "Delhi" (I 17, VIJAY CHOWK LAXMI NAGAR, NEAR DESU OFFICE DELHI NEW DELHI 110092) to the state of "Uttarpradesh" (KC-7, KAVI NAGAR, GHAZIABAD, UP, INDIA 201001). Any person whose interest is likely to be affected by the proposed change of the registered office of the LLP may deliver or cause to be delivered or send by Registered post of his/her objections supported by an affidavit stating the nature of his/her interest and grounds of opposition supported by an affidavit to the Registrar of Companies, Kanpur Uttar Pradesh within twenty one days from the date of publication of this notice.

For and on Behalf of the LLP
FOR REMONK ENGINEERS LLP

Date: 03-12-2022 Place: Ghaziabad	Sd/- SANJAY GARG (Designated Partner)	Sd/- USHA RANI (Designated Partner)
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PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform the General Public that I, R K Nandwani S/o Sh. Sewa Ram Nandwani R/o 13, Nandwani Nagar, Sonapat, Haryana-131001 have lost my Possession letter, Possession Slip, Demand letter & NOC of electricity and others of DDALIG Flat No.-36, Third Floor, BLK-13, PN-1, Sec-34, Rohini, Delhi. Vide File No. L/3531/1088/2015/DDA14/RO, having any objection or found contact at above address/9306927918 or Asstt. Dir.(LIG) - H. DDA, Vikas Sadan, New Delhi Within 15 days from the date of publication.

From:
R K Nandwani S/o Sh. Sewa Ram Nandwani

PUBLIC NOTICE
To be known to all that I, GAURAV MAKHJIA S/O LATE SHRI DHARAN PAL MAKHJIA R/O B-3/G-2, BLOCK-B, DILSHAD GARDEN, DELHI-110095 has applied for conversion of the aforesaid flat from lease hold to free hold in DDA The original documents i.e. Demand letter of the above flat have been lost. An NCR to this effect has been lodged in P.S. Crime Branch in vide S.O.No.430/2014 LR No.10540 59/2022 dated 06.12.2022. Any person(s) claiming any right, interest, having any objection or found in possession of original documents, may write/contact with above named person at above address/phone No.9811855774 within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. The person claiming any right, interest, objections with respect to this property can personally inform or write to Dy. Director (LAB) H or Director(H)-1, D Block, 3 Floor, Vikas Sadan, INA, New Delhi.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE
Invitation of tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)

N.I.T. No. : 30 (A.B.)/22-23/W/E

Name of work with its location: (A) Outsourcing (operation & maintenance) of Bhairon Mandir Nursery in the S/o SSE/Hort/Baroda House & NDLS under ADE/N Hort/NDLS. (B) Annual maintenance & operation of automatic irrigation system in Rail Eco Park Chankya Puri, New Delhi

Approx. cost of work : (A) 91,01,969.27 (B) 19,99,870.00

EMD amount : (A) 1,82,000.00 (B) 40,000.00

Completion period of work : (A) 60 Months (B) 20 Months

Date and Time for submission of tender and opening of tender : Closing date of tender on 27.12.2022 at 15:00 hrs.

Website particular notice board location complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc. : Above tender available on website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in

No. 128-W/269/OET/22-23/WE/NIT/30 (A,B) Dated. 01.12.2022 3240/2022

Serving Customers with a Smile

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE
(Through e-tendering)

Name of work with its location	Provision of LAN Connectivity from nearest RCL Pop for HMIS implementation in Health unit over Delhi Division.
App. Cost of the work (₹)	₹1,19,72,546.62/- only
Earnest Money Deposit (₹)	₹2,09,900.00/- only
Address of the office	Senior Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer- C, Northern Railway, 3rd Floor, Annexe-1, DRM office, New Delhi-110055.
Date & Time for upload the tender / closing of tender	Tender uploading / closing date & time- 04.01.2023 upto to 15.00 hrs.
Website particular & notice board location where complete details of the tender can be seen etc.	See the Northern Railway website www.ireps.gov.in & Notice board at S&T branch, 3rd Floor, DRM office, State Entry Road, New Delhi-110055.

Tender No. 558-Sig-16-Tele-OET-960 Dated: 05.12.2022 3237/2022

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NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE
Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)

N.I.T. No. 29-A/22-23/WE

Name of work with its location (A) Provision of Gym at officers enclave chankya puri New Delhi in the S/o SSE/WHNMZ under ADE/NE-III

Approx. cost of work (A) 3205305.53

EMD amount (A) 64100.00

Completion period of work (A) 4 Months

Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender Closing date of tender on 27.12.2022 at 15:00 hrs.

Website particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc. Above tender available on website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in

No. 128-W/269/OET/22-23/WE/NIT/29-A Dated: 14.11.2022 3241/2022

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Iran officials sentence 5 to death for killing Basij officer

AP ■ CAIRO

Iranian authorities sentenced five people to death for allegedly killing an officer affiliated with Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard, state media said Tuesday. Eleven others received lengthy prison sentences.

The 13 men and three minors had been charged with killing Ruhollah Ajamian, an official from the Basij, a paramilitary volunteer branch of Iran's elite Revolutionary Guard, according to the report from IRNA, Iran's state news agency.

The five sentenced to death Monday were charged by Iran's Revolutionary Court, along with

eight others. Three boys were charged by Iran's Criminal Court, according to the report. Iran's judiciary spokesman, Masoud Setayeshi, who is cited in the report, provided no evidence to support any of the accusations.

The alleged killing took place in Karaj, near Tehran, on Nov. 12 when the 16 encircled and attacked Ajamian with knives and stones, the report said. IRNA did not disclose the identities of the 16. It said their sentences can be appealed.

The sentences come amid months of anti-government demonstrations that have been violently suppressed by Iran's security forces.

Taliban allow high school graduation exams for Afghan girls

AP ■ ISLAMABAD

Afghan girls will be allowed to take their high school graduation exams this week, an official and documents from the Taliban government indicated Tuesday — even though they have been banned from classrooms since the former insurgents took over the country last year.

According to two documents from the Taliban ministry of education, obtained by The Associated Press, the decision applies to 31 out of Afghanistan's 34 provinces where the winter school break starts in late December.

direct voting and it will get five more seats under proportionate voting. Similarly, LSP has won just 4 seats but it would not get any seat under proportionate voting as the party failed to get national recognition.

Political analyst Rajesh Ahiraj, who closely monitors Madhesi politics, said that corruption, communalism and provocative politics are the main factors that made these traditional Madhesi parties weaker and tarnished their image in the Terai region.

Nepal polls: Rise of two new parties ends monopoly of traditional forces in Madhes region

PTI ■ KATHMANDU

The recently concluded election in Nepal has witnessed two new parties - Janamat Party and Nagarik Unmukti Party - entering into Parliament from the Terai or Madhes region, ending the monopoly of the two traditional parties in the southern plains bordering India.

In fact, the combined strength of both the traditional forces of Terai - Janata Samajwadi Party (JSP) led by

Upendra Mahato and Lokatantrik Samajwadi Party (LSP) led by Mahantha Thakur — has been reduced by 50 per cent in the just concluded polls.

Five years ago, the two Terai-based parties had a combined strength of 33 in the House of Representatives. However, their combined strength has been reduced to just 16 seats, with the emergence of two new political parties in the region.

In the recent election, JSP has bagged seven seats under

direct voting and it will get five more seats under proportionate voting. Similarly, LSP has won just 4 seats but it would not get any seat under proportionate voting as the party failed to get national recognition.

Political analyst Rajesh Ahiraj, who closely monitors Madhesi politics, said that corruption, communalism and provocative politics are the main factors that made these traditional Madhesi parties weaker and tarnished their image in the Terai region.

Fitch: India to grow at 7% this fiscal

India could be one of fastest-growing markets this year: Fitch Ratings

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Fitch Ratings on Tuesday retained India's economic growth forecast at 7 per cent for the current fiscal, saying India could be one of the fastest-growing emerging markets this year. It, however, cut the projections for the next two financial years, stating that even though the country is shielded to some extent from global economic shocks but is not impervious to global developments. In its December edition of



the Global Economic Outlook, Fitch projected India's GDP to grow at 7 per cent in the current fiscal and slow to 6.2 per cent in 2023-24 and 6.9 per cent in 2024-25. In September, Fitch had projected 7 per cent growth for the current fiscal, followed by 6.7 per cent in 2023-24 and 7.1 per cent growth in 2024-25. Given the stronger-than-expected outturn, Fitch forecasts growth at 7 per cent in the

financial year ending March 2023 (FY23). "India is expected to record one of the fastest growth rates among emerging markets in our Fitch20 coverage this year," it said. India is shielded to some extent from global economic shocks given the domestically focused nature of its economy, with consumption and investment making up the bulk of the country's GDP.

World Bank revises upwards India's GDP growth forecast to 6.9% for FY23

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The World Bank on Tuesday revised upwards its GDP growth forecast for India to 6.9 per cent for 2022-23, saying the economy was showing higher resilience to global shocks. In its India Development Update, the World Bank said the revision was due to higher resilience of the Indian economy to global shocks and better-than-expected second quarter numbers. India's economy grew at 6.3 per cent in September quarter 2022-23 as compared to 13.5 per cent in the preceding June quarter, mainly on account of contraction in output of manufacturing and mining sectors. This is the first upgrade of India's growth forecast by any international agency amid the global turmoil.

In October, the World Bank had cut India's GDP growth forecast to 6.5 per cent from 7.5 per cent earlier. Now, it has upgraded the projection to 6.9



per cent for 2022-23 (April 2022-March 2023). The report titled 'Navigating the Storm', said while the deteriorating external environment will weigh on India's growth prospects, the economy is relatively well positioned to weather global spillovers compared to most other emerging markets. Impact of a tightening global monetary policy cycle, slowing global growth and elevated commodity prices will mean that the Indian economy will experience lower growth in 2022-23 compared to 2021-22

(8.7 per cent), it said. Despite these challenges, it said, the update expects India to register a strong GDP growth and remain one of the fastest growing major economies in the world, due to a robust domestic demand. "The World Bank has revised its 2022-23 GDP forecast upward to 6.9 per cent from 6.5 per cent (in October 2022), considering a strong outturn in India in second quarter (July-September) of 2022-23 financial year," the India Development Update said.

Markets settle lower, Sensex falls for third day

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Benchmark indices ended the day in the negative territory on Tuesday amid weak global market trends and rising crude prices. Falling for the third day running, the 30-share BSE benchmark ended 208.24 points or 0.33 per cent lower at 62,626.36. During the day, it tumbled 444.53 points or 0.70 per cent to 62,390.07. The broader NSE Nifty declined 58.30 points or 0.31 per cent to end at 18,642.75. "Bears kept pushing domestic indices lower amid unfavourable global cues, with significant selling in metal and IT stocks. The mood was dampened by renewed concerns over policy tightening by the Fed in response to strong economic data out of the US. However, while easing COVID curbs in China benefited the



demand outlook, fresh sanctions on Russian oil further added volatility to global oil markets. Investors at home await the RBI policy meet tomorrow," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services. Among the Sensex pack, Tata Steel, Dr Reddy's, Infosys, State Bank of India, Bharti Airtel, ICICI Bank, IndusInd Bank, Tata Consultancy Services, Tech Mahindra, HCL Technologies and Maruti were the major laggards. Hindustan Unilever, UltraTech Cement, Power Grid and Nestle were among the winners.

Rupee slumps 76 paise to close at 82.61 against US dollar

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The rupee declined by 76 paise to close at 82.61 against the US dollar on Tuesday due to heavy selling pressure in domestic equities and rising crude prices in the overseas markets. In addition, investors remained concerned over continued foreign capital outflows ahead of the RBI's policy announcement on Wednesday, forex dealers said. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened weak at 81.94, then slipped further to end at 82.61, registering a fall of 76 paise. During the day, the local unit witnessed an intraday high of 81.94 and a low of 82.63. In the previous session on Monday, the rupee had settled down by 52 paise at 81.85 against the dollar. The dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, slipped 0.05 per cent to 105.24.



Global oil benchmark Brent crude futures rose 0.64 per cent to USD 83.22 per barrel. On the domestic equity market front, the 30-share BSE Sensex fell 208.24 points or 0.33 per cent to end at 62,626.36, while the broader NSE Nifty 58.30 declined points or 0.31 per cent to 18,642.75. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) were net sellers in the capital markets on Monday as they sold shares worth Rs 1,139.07 crore, according to exchange data. The World Bank on Tuesday revised upwards its GDP growth forecast for India to 6.9 per cent for 2022-23, saying the economy was showing higher resilience to global shocks.

Sebi can relax rules for Govt for PSU disinvestment

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Capital markets regulator Sebi can relax regulatory norms for the Central Government in relation to strategic disinvestment of public sector undertakings (PSUs), according to a notification. "The Board (Sebi) may after due consideration of the interest of the investors and the securities market and for the development of the securities market, relax the strict enforcement of any of the requirements of these regulations if an application is made by the Central Government in relation to its strategic disinvestment in a listed entity," Sebi said in a notification made public on Tuesday. To give this effect, the regulator has amended LODR (Listing Obligations and disclosure Requirements) norms. Earlier in September, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) had decided to dispense with a requirement for calculating open offer price with respect to the disinvest-



ment of PSUs. As per Sebi norms, one of the parameters prescribed to determine the open offer price of a frequently traded scrip is Volume-Weighted Average Market Price (VWAMP) for 60 trading days immediately preceding the date of the public announcement. The board of Sebi approved amending the takeover regulations in the context of strategic disinvestment of PSUs and consideration payable under open offer. "The market price of the PSU company undergoing strategic disinvestment becomes susceptible to... Periodic disclosures.

"Considering the unique nature of transaction and process involved in a PSU disinvestment spanning over a long period, such a requirement of determination of open offer price under the takeover regulations many a time acts as an impediment in fructifying such strategic disinvestment of PSUs," Sebi has said. Against this backdrop, Sebi has decided to dispense with the requirement of calculating 60 days' VWAMP for the determination of open offer price in case of disinvestment of PSU companies wherein it results in its change in control, either by way of direct acquisition or indirect acquisition.

Adani among 3 Indian billionaires on Forbes Asia Heroes of Philanthropy list

PTI ■ SINGAPORE

Indian billionaires Gautam Adani, Shiv Nadar, and Ashok Soota, as well as Malaysian-Indian businessman Brahmam Vasudevan and his lawyer wife Shanthi Kandiah, were named in the 16th edition of Forbes Asia's Heroes of Philanthropy list released on Tuesday. The unranked list "highlights leading altruists in the Asia-Pacific region who demonstrated a strong personal commitment to philanthropic causes," Forbes said in a press release. Adani was listed for having pledged Rs 60,000 crores (USD 7.7 billion) when he turned 60 in June this year. The pledge makes him one of India's most generous philanthropists, the press release said. The money will address healthcare, education, and skill development and will be channelled through the family's Adani Foundation, which was founded in 1996. Each year, the foundation



helps nearly 3.7 million people across India. Self-made billionaire and philanthropist Shiv Nadar counts among the top donors in India, having channelled close to USD 1 billion of his wealth over a few decades to various social causes through the eponymous Shiv Nadar Foundation. This year he donated Rs 11,600 crore (USD 142 million) to the foundation he established in 1994, intending to create an equitable, merit-based society by empowering individuals through education. Nadar, who cofounded

HCL Technologies has helped set up educational institutions such as schools and universities via the foundation, which also promotes art and culture. He stepped down from executive roles at the IT services company in 2021. Tech tycoon Ashok Soota has pledged Rs 600 crore (USD 75 million) to the medical research trust he founded in April 2021 for the study of ageing and neurological illnesses. He started SKAN- Scientific Knowledge for Ageing and Neurological ailments-with a Rs 200 crore outlay, which has since tripled.

Cut excise duty on CNG till gas included in GST: Parikh panel

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Union Government should moderate the excise duty it levies on CNG till such time that the environment-friendly natural gas is included in the one-nation-one-tax GST regime, Kirit Parikh Committee has recommended. Natural gas is currently outside the ambit of GST, and existing legacy taxes -- central excise duty, state VAT and central sales tax -- continue to be applicable on the fuel. While the central government does not levy excise duty on natural gas when sold in gaseous form, it charges a 14 per cent tax on compressed natural gas (CNG). States levy VAT as high as 24.5 per cent on gas. The Parikh Committee, which was formed to recommend fair price of gas to the end consumer and a 'market-oriented, transparent and reliable pricing regime', in its report to



the Oil Ministry last week suggested that "gas should be brought under the GST regime". "The committee recognise that this requires consensus among the states," it said. "To obtain this, if need be the states may be compensated for five years for any loss in revenue. The process of getting the needed consensus should be initiated now." Natural gas along with crude oil, petrol, diesel and ATF were kept out of the GST

regime when the single rate of taxation for goods and services was rolled out on July 1, 2017. Gas-producing states, such as Gujarat, feared a loss of revenue if VAT and other taxes were to get subsumed into the GST. "Till the time the GST regime is implemented, Government may consider moderating the Central Excise duty rate on CNG to reduce the burden of higher natural gas costs on the consumers," the committee report said.

Fertiliser subsidy bill in FY'23 seen at ₹2.3-2.5 lakh cr; may fall 25pc in FY'24: FAI

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The government's fertiliser subsidy will rise to Rs 2.3-2.5 lakh crore in this fiscal but the bill may fall by 25 per cent in the 2023-24 financial year with moderation in global prices, according to industry body FAI. Fertilisers Association of India (FAI) expressed concern that the fixed cost of urea has not been increased affecting the viability of urea plants. It also pointed out that the industry is running on a very thin margin, which is hampering new investments in this sector. The industry body said there is sufficient availability of fertilisers, including urea and DAP, for the ongoing rabi (winter-sown) season. "We estimate the fertiliser subsidy bill at Rs 2.3 lakh crore to Rs 2.5 lakh crore," FAI President K S Raju told



reporters here late Monday. This has helped insulate the farmers from the impact of a steep increase in the cost of all fertilisers due to sharp rise in international prices of fertilisers and raw materials, he added. The fertiliser subsidy stood at Rs 1.62 lakh crore in the previous financial year. FAI board member P S Gahlaut, who is MD of Indian Potash Ltd, said the subsidy bill in the next fiscal year could fall by around 25 per cent as the global prices have softened. However, he said a lot will depend on the future trends of global prices.

Global airline industry to post USD 6.9 bn loss in 2022: IATA

PTI ■ GENEVA

The global airline industry is projected to report a lower loss at USD 6.9 billion in 2022, mainly due to stronger passenger yields and cost control by carriers amid rising fuel prices, according to industry body IATA. In June, the International Air Transport Association (IATA) projected the industry loss at USD 9.7 billion. In October 2021, it forecast a loss of USD 11.6 billion for this year. On Tuesday, IATA said the global airline industry is expected to return to profitability in 2023 and post a small net profit of USD 4.7 billion. After being significantly impacted by the coronavirus pandemic, the airline industry is on the recovery path. In 2022, airline net loss is expected to be USD 6.9 billion.



This is significantly better than loss of USD 42 billion and USD 137.7 billion in 2021 and 2020, respectively, it said. "We are on the right path... But still a long way to go," IATA Director General Willie Walsh said at a briefing here on Tuesday. For 2022, IATA said the improved prospects stem largely from strengthened yields and strong cost control in the face of rising fuel prices. "Passenger yields are expected to grow by 8.4 per

cent (up from 5.6 per cent anticipated in June). Propelled by that strength, passenger revenues are expected to grow USD 438 billion (up from USD 239 billion in 2021)," it noted. In the Asia Pacific region, airlines are projected to post a loss of USD 10 billion this year and the loss is expected to narrow to USD 6.6 billion in 2023. The Asia Pacific region, IATA said, is critically held back by the impact of China's zero COVID policies on travel.

Gold falls ₹473, silver tumbles ₹1,241



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Gold price fell by Rs 473 to Rs 53,898 per 10 gram in the national capital on Tuesday amid weak global trends, according to HDFC Securities. In the previous trade, the precious metal had touched Rs 54,371 per 10 gram. Silver also tumbled by Rs 1,241 per kg to Rs 65,878 per kilogram.

In the international market, gold was trading lower at USD 1,770.75 per ounce while silver was down at USD 22.38 per ounce. "Stronger-than-expected US services data on Monday renewed pressure on the US Fed to keep interest rates higher for a longer and triggered a slide in the yellow metal," said Dilip Parmar, Research Analyst at HDFC Securities.

India's thermal power generation rises by 16% in Nov

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India's thermal power generation registered a growth of 16.28 per cent at 87,687 MU (million units) in November this year as compared to 75,412 MU generated in the corresponding month of previous fiscal. The overall generation of power in the country also increased by 14.63 per cent from 1,02,968 MU to 1,18,029 MU in the reporting month year-on-year. Power utilities' despatch went up by 3.55 per cent to 62.34 million tonnes (MT) during November this year as compared to 60.20 MT in the year-ago month, the coal ministry said in a statement. Meanwhile, the country's total coal output went up by

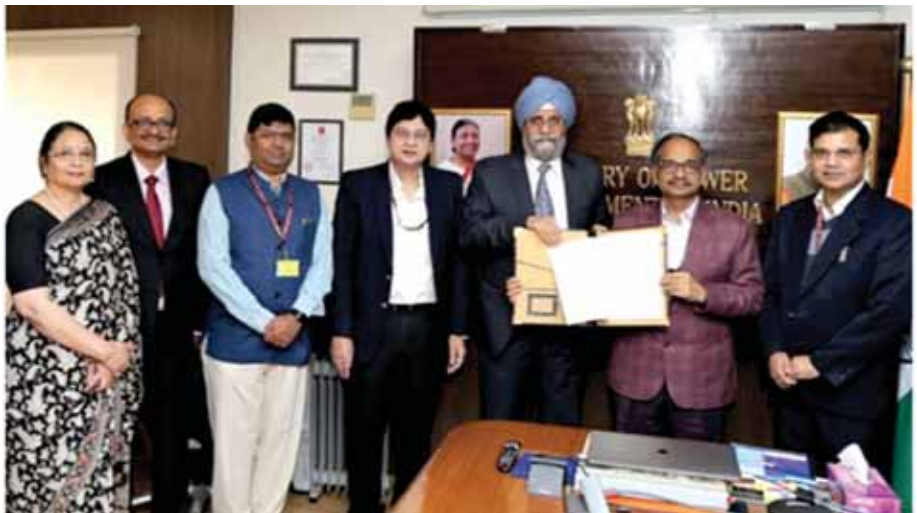


11.66 per cent to 75.87 MT last month over 67.94 MT in November last fiscal. As per the latest figures of the coal ministry, Coal India Ltd (CIL) clocked a production growth of 12.82 per cent during November, whereas the output of Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) and captive mines/others registered a growth of 7.84 per cent and 6.87 per cent, respectively. Of the top 37 coal producing mines, as many as 24 produced more than 100 per cent, while the output of five mines stood between 80 and 100 per cent.

PFC signs MoU with Ministry of Power for FY 2022-23

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Ravinder Singh Dhillion, RCMD, PFC signed the MoU with Alok Kumar, Secretary, Ministry of Power in the presence of Ashish Upadhyaya, Special Secretary & FA, MoP, Ajay Tewari, Additional Secretary, MoP, Piyush Singh, Joint Secretary, MoP, Parminder Chopra, Director (Finance), PFC, and Rajiv Ranjan Jha, Director (Projects), PFC. Established in 1986, PFC today is the largest government owned NBFC in India. In 2021, it became the first CPSE to be accorded the prestigious Maharatna status in the financial space. PFC has been showing a strategic shift in its loan portfolio with focus on the Renewables space, setting itself as one of the largest funding agencies for renew-



ables in the country. Recently the company got its MoA changed to fund the infrastructure and logistics space as well. It is a key partner to Government of India for

implementation of several schemes such as Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS), Liquidity Infusion Scheme under Atmanirbhar Bharat,

Late Payment Surcharge Rules (LPS), Independent Transmission Projects (ITPs) etc and has been one of the highest dividend paying companies.

NEYMAR THOUGHT WC OVER DUE TO ANKLE INJURY

AP ■ DOHA

Brazil superstar Neymar admitted he feared his participation in the Qatar World Cup could be over after he sustained an ankle injury in their opening match against Serbia.

The 30-year-old missed his side's last two group games before making a scoring return from the penalty spot in their 4-1 last-16 thrashing of South Korea on Monday.

"I was afraid of not being able to play in this World Cup again but I had all the support of my friends and family and I tried to find strength where I could not find it," said Neymar.

"I did not feel any pain in my ankle. I think my performance went very well and I'm very content, but that said I think we can always improve and that's what I will try to do."

Brazil coach Tite denied suggestions that he may have shown a lack of respect to his team's opponents after joining Richarlison in a celebratory dance on the touchline during the first period.

Roy Keane was among those who slammed the celebration but Tite insisted it had been pre-planned and was not aimed at mocking the South Koreans.

"I said (to Richarlison) if you show it to me I'll do it, but we have to be careful because various people will say it was disrespectful," said Tite.

"I didn't want it to be misinterpreted as anything less than a sense of happiness for the goal and for the result, and not that we were disrespecting our opponent which was not the case."

South Korea coach Paulo Bento



announced his departure from the role in the wake of his side's comprehensive defeat.

The 53-year-old, who took over in August 2018, said he had already made the decision to bow out after the tournament prior to travelling to Qatar.

"I have just announced to the players and to the president of the South Korean federation and this was a decision I had already taken since September that was set in stone.

"Today I have confirmed it and I have to thank them for everything they have done. They have given their very best and I have been very pleased and proud to have been their manager."

BRAZIL COACH TITE DENIED SUGGESTIONS THAT HE MAY HAVE SHOWN A LACK OF RESPECT TO HIS TEAM'S OPPONENTS AFTER JOINING RICHARLISON IN A CELEBRATORY DANCE ON THE TOUCHLINE DURING THE FIRST PERIOD

VINIcius JR IS CONFIDENT BRAZIL CAN REACH WORLD CUP FINAL

Brazil can power on to the 2022 World Cup final according to Real Madrid star Vinicius Junior.

The Samba Boys cruised in the quarter finals in Qatar on the back of a 4-1 win over South Korea in the last 16 in Doha.

Vincius Jr scored and laid on an assist for Lucas Paqueta as Brazil stormed into a 4-0 lead before half time at Stadium 974.

Up next for Brazil is a last eight meeting with Croatia, and Vini Jr is confident they can continue into the final stages of the tournament in the Middle East.

"I'm very happy with my game and the team's performance", as per reports Diario AS.

"In my last game I scored, but it was ruled out. Now I'm more relaxed.

"With the passing of the games it will become more difficult and against Croatia it will be a battle.

"We want to dance all the way to the final."

If Brazil can beat Croatia in the quarter finals, they will take on either Argentina or the Netherlands in the semi finals, in Lusail on December 13.

Based on the structure of the draw, France and Spain are their most likely final opponents, as Brazil aim for a first World Cup title since 2002.

Bento steps down as South Korea coach



AP ■ DOHA

Paulo Bento announced he would not be staying on as coach of South Korea after they were eliminated from the World Cup with a 4-1 defeat at the hands of Brazil on Monday.

"Now I need to think about the future, but I will not be with the Korea team. I am going to rest and then see," the 53-year-old former Portugal coach said after the loss in the last 16.

"I have just told the players and the president of the national federation.

"This is a decision which I took in September. It was set in stone and today I confirmed it. I have to thank them and am very proud to have been their manager."

Bento took over follow-

ing the 2018 World Cup, succeeding Shin Tae-yong.

In Qatar, he led South Korea to the knockout round for the first time since 2010 with a last-gasp win over Portugal in their final group game.

"I believe we can be very proud of what we have done at this World Cup, and what we have done over the last four years to get here," said Bento, who coached his home country at the 2014 tournament in Brazil.

A Korean side captained by Son Heung-min got to Qatar by finishing second in their qualifying group behind Iran but their last-16 exit means they have still never won a World Cup knockout tie outside of their home country.

"I think we did really well in the group stage although I think we could have picked up more points as we should have beaten Ghana," Bento said.

"But I think we can be very proud and I am proud with what we have done over the last four years."

He added: "This has undoubtedly been one of the best groups of players I have had the opportunity to work with."

Spain shoot-out of WC

AP ■ DOHA

Spain coach Luis Enrique had claimed his players prepared by taking 1,000 penalties as homework but Pablo Sarabia, Carlos Soler and Sergio Busquets all missed from the spot and Madrid-born Hakimi dinked his home to the delight of Morocco's raucous support.

Walid Regragui's side will face Portugal or Switzerland in what is uncharted territory for them, with their previous best a last-16 exit in 1986.

Spain had been hoping they could repeat their 2010 World Cup triumph after reaching the semi-finals of Euro 2020, where they were also beaten on penalties by Italy.

The teams were closely matched through a nail-biting clash, with Spain having more of the ball but Morocco creating the better openings, few though they were.

Luis Enrique trialed his third right-back of the tournament in Marcos Llorente, and benched the team's top scorer Alvaro Morata for Marco Asensio, after the shock defeat by Japan.

Spain monopolised the ball,



with Morocco's fans furiously whistling with their side out of possession.

With La Roja playing in a pale blue second strip, they resembled the away team on hostile territory.

Gavi, who at 18 years and 123 days old became the youngest player to start a World Cup knockout game since Brazil great Pele in 1958, rose to the occasion.

The Barcelona midfielder terrier was at his most intense, smashing into challenges left,

right and centre, even diving to make one with his head.

Morocco goalkeeper Yassine Bounou tipped a Gavi strike on to the crossbar, though it would have been ruled offside, while Asensio drilled into the side-netting, although Spain created little.

Regragui's side sat deep defensively and threatened on the counter, with Unai Simon beating away a long range effort from Noussair Mazraoui.

Toothless Spain Sofiane Boufal, who

bypassed Llorente like sand slipping through the Spaniard's fingers early on, carved the best chance of the half for Nayef Aguerd, who headed inches over.

Bounou pummelled away a Dani Olmo strike from an angle as the tension cranked up after the break.

Luis Enrique raged at Rodri for choosing the wrong option on the ball, and withdrew the dogged and muddled Gavi for Carlos Soler.

He threw Morata on too,

giving Spain a focal point up top, but they struggled to supply him as Morocco sat deeper and deeper.

Another substitute, Nico Williams did find the Atletico Madrid striker on one occasion but the angle was too tight and he scraped a shot across the face of goal.

Bounou made a fine save from Olmo's free-kick as it almost snuck all the way through, with Spain finally creating stronger chances as the game frayed in the moments before extra-time.

Morocco responded in the additional period by finding stability and testing Simon, who made a fine save with his legs to deny Walid Cheddida after he broke in down Spain's left flank.

Despite heavy pressure by Spain in the final moments before penalties, they could not trouble the Sevilla goalkeeper again, with Pablo Sarabia clipping the outside of the post, although he might have been offside.

Having been sent on apparently for the shoot-out, Sarabia struck the post again from Spain's first penalty, after Abdelhamid Sabiri had sent Morocco ahead.

Bierhoff steps aside after Germany's exit

AP ■ DOHA

Germany's team director Oliver Bierhoff has stepped aside two years early after his country crashed out in the group stage for the second consecutive World Cup, the national association said on Monday.

The four-time World Cup winners had a poor campaign in Qatar, which included defeat against Japan in their opening game.

Bierhoff and the German Football Association (DFB) have agreed "to terminate his contract, which runs until 2024, early," the association said in a statement.

Former striker Bierhoff, who scored two goals in the Euro 1996 final when Germany last won the tournament, had worked for the body since 2004.

Bierhoff was an influential and very public figure alongside coaches Juergen Klinsmann, then Joachim Loew before Hansi Flick took over in 2021.

DFB president Bernd Neuendorf said in a statement



that Bierhoff had "rendered great services to the (association)".

While the last few tournaments "fell short", he would still be remembered for "great moments", Neuendorf said, highlighting his work at the 2014 World Cup in Brazil, which Germany won.

"Even in turbulent times, he always pursued his goal and vision, and leaves a lasting mark on the DFB," he added.

The early exit for coach Flick's team has left Germany's once fearsome reputation in tatters.

Germany also crashed out four years ago in Russia, and went out in the last 16 in last year's European Championship.

Neuendorf and Flick have called for an overhaul of Germany's youth development system before the country hosts the 2024 European Championship.

Japan wins count for nothing after WC exit: Doan

AP ■ DOHA

Forward Ritsu Doan said Japan's historic World Cup wins over Germany and Spain counted for nothing after the Blue Samurai were eliminated by Croatia in the last 16 on Monday.

Japan missed out on a first-ever place in the quarter-finals after a 3-1 penalty shootout defeat to the Croatians, following a gruelling encounter that finished 1-1 after extra-time.

Japan beat both Germany and Spain in the group stage in Qatar but Doan took no consolation from his team's achievements.

"I expected someone to say that if we lost, but to be honest it doesn't mean anything," he said.

No matter how well we fought today, we didn't change



history."

Daizen Maeda gave Japan the lead late in the first half before Ivan Perisic levelled for Croatia 10 minutes after the break.

Japan struggled to create more chances but held for penalties, only for Croatia goalkeeper Dominik Livakovic to save their first two spot kicks.

Croatia's Marko Livaja hit the post to give Japan a reprieve but Livakovic saved Maya Yoshida's kick to give Mario Pasalic match point for the Europeans.

Pasalic buried his penalty to send Croatia through, leaving Japan coach Hajime Moriyasu to lament his players' failure to convert their spot-

kicks.

"Penalties are a mix of luck and training," he said.

"Their goalkeeper was excellent but the Japanese players should have done better and that's something we need to work on in the future."

Japan were aiming to reach the quarter-finals for the first time, having lost in the last 16 at three previous World Cups.

The team arrived in Qatar with 19 Europe-based players in their squad and midfielder Wataru Endo said they would need more overseas experience to take the next step.

"We need to have more players playing with European clubs -- we need 20 or 30," he said.

"We can improve our quality and become a better team. We are improving but we weren't good enough to get to the quarter-finals."

AP ■ DOHA

After starting the World Cup in the shadows, Jordan Henderson has emerged as England's unsung hero ahead of their heavyweight quarter-final clash with France on Saturday.

While England captain Harry Kane and teenage sensation Jude Bellingham are expected to deliver the headline moments against France, Henderson will provide the foundation for his more high-profile team-mates to flourish at the Al Bayt Stadium.

Henderson has been a divisive figure among England fans, who have often preferred to see more glamorous options in the midfield engine room.

But critics of the Liverpool captain's international form have been forced to eat their words over the last two weeks.

Although Henderson was among the substitutes for England's opening two games in Qatar, Three Lions boss Gareth Southgate has turned to the midfielder in a move that

Henderson earns respect with influential England role



continues to pay dividends.

With Declan Rice and Jude Bellingham struggling to impose themselves against the United States in the second Group B match, Southgate felt

Henderson's vocal presence and wealth of experience would steady the ship.

The 32-year-old was sent on in the 69th minute and immediately made his presence

felt, cajoling his team-mates to press higher and harder.

Although the United States match ended in a goalless stalemate, Henderson's leadership and work-rate had made enough of an impact to earn a place in the starting line-up for the final group match against Wales.

Henderson's role alongside Rice as twin pivots in front of the England defence gave Bellingham the freedom to express himself as Southgate's men cantered to a 3-0 victory over Wales.

It was a similar story in Sunday's 3-0 win against Senegal in last 16 as Bellingham took the spotlight with a masterful performance made possible by Henderson's selfless contribution.

Fittingly, Bellingham returned the favour by providing the assist for Henderson to put England ahead.

DO-OR-DIE GAME FOR INDIA

Big guns face heat as India meet Bangladesh in must-win 2nd ODI

PTI ■ MIRPUR

Trying to pick up pieces after a demoralising defeat, India's decorated top-order will be desperate to change the narrative and give a better account of itself against slow bowling in the do-or-die second ODI against Bangladesh here on Wednesday.

Having failed to take the last wicket when Bangladesh needed more than 50 runs, Indian bowlers could not deliver but there is no denying the fact that a star-studded batting line-up needs to show more responsibility.

The last time India played a bilateral series in Bangladesh was back in 2015 when under Mahendra Singh Dhoni, the team lost the three-match series 1-2 and the only win came in the dead third rubber.

History could repeat itself at the Sher-e-Bangla Stadium if spinners Shakib Al Hasan and Mehidy Hasan Miraj can once again keep the Indian batters under wraps between overs 11-40.

That was the real period of struggle for all Indian batters, save KL Rahul (73 off 70 balls) who was the best player on show in the opening game.

While there are still 10 months left for the ODI World Cup, it is not yet clear what exactly will be Indian team's approach.

The talks around adopting a "fearless approach" has been going on for some time but its implementation has only been sporadic. At times, adapting to conditions and reacting to situations has got more prominence.

The track at Mirpur wasn't exactly a batting beauty but it also didn't



Dhawan focusing on his sweeping skills

PTI ■ MIRPUR



Battling indifferent form, veteran India opener Shikhar Dhawan is working on his sweep shot and reverse hit as part of his preparation for the ODI World Cup at home later this year.

Having scored just one half-century in his last nine innings, the 37-year-old left-hander faces the heat in the build up to the ODI showpiece.

Shubman Gill, who is not part of the

series in Bangladesh, has emerged as a strong contender to open alongside skipper Rohit Sharma in the World Cup.

Team India head coach Rahul Dravid had a special session with him ahead of the second ODI on Wednesday.

"It's good to practice more. These shots will come handy in these conditions. Even in the World Cup in India where spinners will make an impact, those shots will be helpful. I always enjoy playing them.

warrant a score of 186.

The erstwhile selection committee's decision to rest both Shubman Gill and Sanju Samson for this series has been equally baffling.

The logic given by the former chairman of selectors Chetan Sharma was that due to a short turnaround from New Zealand, they have picked a fresh bunch of players for the series.

Gill wasn't a part of T20 World Cup and also didn't play the T20 series in New Zealand (he was part of the squad though) and hence leaving him out was baffling.

One of the problems with the Indian top order players is that they are accelerating the run-rate but at the same time consuming way more dot deliveries than they should.

In the match against Bangladesh, dot balls worth more than 25 overs were consumed even as they batted for less than 42 overs.

If the eight overs that they couldn't bat is taken into account, the team missed out on scoring off almost 200 balls.

In modern-day cricket, when England is changing the rules of engagement across formats in every sense, the Indian team is taking one step forward and four backwards.

The idea of handing the gloves to KL Rahul wasn't about increasing flexibility in the team but to ensure that both Rahul and Dhawan could be fitted in the same playing XI, going into the World Cup.

Samson, one of the most flamboyant players, wasn't even picked for this series and Ishan Kishan, who scored a 93 in his last ODI series, despite being a specialist keeper-batter was benched.



Stokes hails 'special' win in Pakistan

AP ■ RAWALPINDI

Skipper Ben Stokes hailed England's nail-biting victory in the first Test against Pakistan as "one of the best" of his career -- particularly given the state of the lifeless Rawalpindi pitch.

With just minutes to spare in dying light after five days of enthralling cricket, England finally halted a heroic last stand by Pakistan's tailenders to win the first Test by 74 runs.

It was only the third time England have won a Test in Pakistan, although they haven't visited since 2005 because of security issues.

"To be able to get a result on this type of wicket is mind-blowing," Stokes said ahead of the second Test starting in Multan on Friday.

"I think it's probably one of the best. The effort that everyone has managed to put in this whole week is just incredible."

England have "Bazball" to thank for their victory -- the free-wheeling brand of cricket coined from the nickname of new head coach Brendon "Baz" McCullum, a New Zealander.

McCullum was an aggressive batter in his playing days -- he holds the record for the fastest individual Test century -- and under him, and skipper Stokes, the English have brought one-day cricket to the five-day game.

Records tumbled in Rawalpindi with England becoming the only team in his-

tory to score 500 runs on the first day of a Test -- courtesy of four individual centuries, another record.

Overall, some 1,768 runs were scored in the match -- the third-highest aggregate since Test cricket began.

Still, Pakistan did well to peg back England's daunting 657-run first-innings total to trail by just 78 runs.

England again turned on the fireworks in their second innings before a bold Stokes declaration left Pakistan seeking 343 runs for victory.

For a while, it looked as if the home team would do it -- but a devastating last session saw England shine as the light dimmed for a famous victory.

"We're pretty lost for words," said Stokes, who now has seven wins in the last eight Tests.

"I feel very honoured and feel a very privileged position to be able to lead these guys."

"Jimmy Anderson was saying he felt a bit emotional, so having a bloke with near enough 180 Test matches (176) feeling like that at the end of this is proof that we've achieved something very special."

Stokes suggested "Bazball" was here to stay.

"Test cricket is generally exciting when England are playing," he said. "That's what we set out to do from day one."

And he praised the fighting spirit of his players in dealing with a mystery virus that threatened the start of the first Test.

Youth will play pivotal role in making India a developed nation by 2047: Thakur

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Sports Minister Anurag Thakur says that the youth will play a pivotal role in making India a developed nation by 2047.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has set sight on India becoming a developed nation by 2047

"For the country to progress in Amritkal, the role of young volunteers will play a pivotal role in attaining honour Prime Minister's vision of India at 2047," the

Sports Minister said on the occasion of International Volunteer Day on Monday.

"The Ministry of Youth and Sports Affairs along with its partners and stakeholders remain dedicated to promoting youth action and youth volunteerism in India."

"To optimally engage the constructive and creative energies of the youth, the department of youth affairs will pursue the twin objectives of personality building and nation building," he added.

Women's cricket: BCCI transfers head coach Powar to NCA; Kanitkar appointed batting coach

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

With only two months left for the Women's T20 World Cup, the BCCI on Tuesday shunted head coach Ramesh Powar to the National Cricket Academy as a part of its "restructuring module".

While no head coach was named, former India batter Hrishikesh Kanitkar, who has been a part of Indian men's pathway teams (A and U-19), has been appointed as the new batting coach ahead of the home series against Australia, starting December 9 in Mumbai.



Handscomb is known for his ability to play spin but he will face competition from Travis Head when it comes to finding a place in the team for the India tour.

Head had tough tours of Sri Lanka and Pakistan this year.

"All you can do as a batter is force your way in through weight of numbers," said Handscomb, who will join Melbourne Renegades for the upcoming BBL season.

"I pick up the gloves just to make sure that they also know that I'm still available as a back-up keeper, or can take them if need be."

"That's also an important skill to have in your bag."

Australia will tour India for a four-Test series for the Border-Gavaskar Trophy early in February-March next year.

Abbas, Hasan Ali set to join Pak team after Rauf's injury

PTI ■ KARACHI

The Pakistan team management is set to call up out of favour pacers Muhammad Abbas and Hasan Ali as reinforcements for the remaining two Tests against England after fast bowler Haris Rauf was on Tuesday ruled out of the series with a grade-II strain in his right quad.

The 29-year-old Rauf, who made his Test debut in the first match against England in Rawalpindi, bowled 13 expensive overs on the first day on a placid pitch before injuring himself while fielding and rolling over the ball.

He did not bowl any further in the match although he batted in both the innings.

With just three pacers now in the



Pakistan squad, including the uncapped Muhammad Wasim (jr) and Muhammad Ali who also made his Test debut in Pindi, a reliable source said the team management would be calling up reinforcements before the second Test in Multan starting December 9.

"Most likely Hasan Ali and Muhammad Abbas will be called up to join the squad as the team is also short of bowlers for the nets. But the plan apparently is to go into the second set with three spinners and just two pace bowlers as efforts are being made to prepare a track with turn in Multan," the source said.

Ali played his last Test in Galle in July this year and he was dropped for the T20 World Cup and home series against England after a disappointing show in the Asia Cup.

Handscomb hopeful of earning ticket for India tour

PTI ■ MELBOURNE

In-form batter Peter Handscomb is aware it will be difficult to find a spot in an "impressive" Australian Test squad but said he is still hoping to earn a place for the India tour with his "weight of numbers".

The 31-year-old, who last played red-ball cricket almost four years back, amassed 562 runs at 93.66 in this summer's Sheffield Shield. He notched a pair of fifties for the Prime Minister's XI against West Indies last month.

Handscomb will look to push his case when he leads a



Prannoy eyes glory at maiden World Tour Finals

PTI ■ BANGKOK

Star Indian shuttler HS Prannoy will look to display fearless brand of badminton against the best in the business in his quest for glory on his maiden BWF World Tour Finals appearance, here from Wednesday.

With double Olympic medallist P V Sindhu skipping the event due to an injury, Prannoy will be the lone Indian at the year-ending tournament, which was moved from Guangzhou, China, due to the rise in COVID-19 infection cases.

One of the most consistent Indian players in the circuit this season, Prannoy has been clubbed in Group A along with Olympic champion Viktor Axelsen of Denmark, Japan's Kodai Naraoka and China's Lu Guang Zu.

"I am excited to start my BWF World Tour Finals campaign. It's my first time in the



Manisha wins BWF Female Para-Badminton Player of the Year award

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Young Indian shuttler Manisha Ramadass has claimed the BWF Female Para-Badminton Player of the Year award for her stellar run this season.

The Badminton World Federation (BWF) on Monday named Manisha as the winner after the 17-year-old won the gold in the World Championships in the SU5 section. Overall, she claimed 11 gold and five bronze medals in 2022. Other contenders in this section were India's Nithya Sre Sumathy and Manasi Joshi, Sarina Satomi, Giuliana Poveda Flores, and Pilar Jauregui. Paralympic champion

Pramod Bhagat and Thomas Cup winner HS Prannoy, however, missed out on the prestigious award.

Bhagat, who claimed his fourth world championships singles gold this year, was among those short-listed for the BWF Male Para-Badminton Player of the Year but the award went to WH2 world champion and reigning Paralympic champion Daiki Kajiura, winner of 10 gold and four bronze medals overall. In the award for able-bodied shuttlers, Olympic champion Viktor Axelsen and Zheng Si Wei/Huang Ya Qiong's extraordinary dominance this season was honoured as they won the BWF Player of the Year Awards.

year-ending championships and I hope I can perform well," said the third-seeded Prannoy, who was recently conferred with the Arjuna award.

While Prannoy has got a decent draw and will fancy his chances of making it to the semifinals from the group stage, it will not be an easy task as he doesn't hold a good record against his group opponents.

Prannoy has a dismal 1-5 record against the world No. 1 Axelsen but he would take confidence from the fact that he had defeated the Dane in their last meeting last year in Indonesia Masters.

Against the 21-year-old new sensation Kodai Naraoka, Prannoy had suffered a defeat in their only meeting in Singapore Open in July.

The Indian had lost to China's Lu Guang Zu too in his only meeting at French Open. However, Prannoy is

known to raise his game in big-ticket events and has been a revelation this year.

He played a stellar role in India's epic Thomas Cup win in May and also produced a runner-up finish at the Swiss Open Super 300, besides reaching the semifinals at the Indonesia Open Super 1000 and Malaysia Masters Super 500 event.

His fine run in the world tour events earned him a direct qualification to the season finale for the first time in his career and he would look to make the most of the opportunity this week.

While defending champion Axelsen is certainly the most difficult hurdle on his way, Prannoy can ill-afford any slip-ups against the other two opponents.

For India, Sindhu is the only one to win the prestigious title, while Sameer Verma reached the last four stage in the 2018 edition.