OPINION 6

THE LONG SHADOW

OF BLASPHEMY LAWS

MONEY 10

CLOSE AT RECORD LOW

RUPEE FALLS 20 PAISE TO

WORLD 8

'ENOUGH PROOF UNCOVERED

TO INDICT TRUMP'

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12 SPORT

BHUBANESWAR, TUESDAY JUNE 14, 2022; PAGES 12 ₹4

the pioneer

Monsoon may reach State on Jun 16

BHUBANESWAR

he southwest monsoon is likely to reach Odisha on June 16, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) forecasted on Monday.

"Southwest Monsoon has further advanced into some more parts of Arabian Sea, some parts of Gujarat State, entire Konkan, most parts of Madhya Maharashtra, most parts of Marathwada and Karnataka, Some parts of Telangana and Rayalaseema, some more parts of Tamil Nadu, most parts of Sub-Himalayan West Bengal, some parts of Bihar," the IMD said in a bulletin.

"Conditions would continue to become favourable for further advance of monsoon into some more parts of Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Bay of Bengal, some parts of Odisha, Gangetic West Bengal, Jharkhand, entire Sub-Himalayan West Bengal and some more parts of Bihar during subsequent 2 days," it said.

Rainfall activity is likely to increase in Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha and Gangetic West Bengal with fairly widespread rains with thunderstorms/ lightning/ gusty winds from June 15 to 17, the IMD also predicted.

Rahul's ED grilling to continue today

Senior Congress leaders, workers march in solidarity, hold protests

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

ongress leader Rahul Gandhi Congress leader Kanul Gandin Who was questioned by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Monday in a money laundering probe linked to the National Herald newspaper was asked to appear before it again on Tuesday, officials said. They said the questioning on Monday continued well past 9 pm.

Rahul reached the agency's headquarters accompanied by party leaders and a large number of supporters.

Rahul was questioned for almost 20 minutes when he reached the ED office around 11 am. He was allowed by the ED to leave for lunch around 2 pm and returned for the questioning around 3.30 pm.

Sources said Rahul wrote down his statement under section 50 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) during the first round of ques-

When Rahul left the Congress headquarters he was accompanied by party leaders,



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi leaves for ED office for questioning in the National Herald case, in New Delhi on Monday

Rahul, Priyanka meet Sonia at hospital

New Delhi: Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra visited party president and their mother Sonia Gandhi at the Sir Ganga Ram Hospital here on Monday, a day after she was admitted to the facility.

including Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel and former Union Finance Minister P Chidambaram.

Priyanka sat with Rahul in a vehicle as the convoy of seven SUVs, escorted by armed CRPF personnel, entered the ED office on APJ Abdul Kalam Road. The probe pertains to alleged financial irregularities in the party-promoted Young Indian that owns the National Herald newspaper. The National Herald is published by the Associated Journals Limited (AJL) and owned by Young Indian Pvt Limited.

At a Press conference later in the day, the Congress said the 1937-established AJL faced huge debts and the party during 2002-11, gave ₹90 crore to the National Herald to pay the salaries of the journalists and staffers who worked there.

Booster must as Covid wave likely every 6 months: WHO

Any hope that Covid-19 could soon be a nightmare of the past may be entirely misplaced. The World Health Organization (WHO) has warned that countries are likely to witness waves of Covid-19 infection every four to six months.

Making this prognosis, WHO chief scientist Soumya Swaminathan has said that there is a need to get the booster shots to deal with the situation. "Boosters are important to boost waning immunity, especially in the vulnerable age groups," she said.
"One is likely to see waves

every four to six months, the intensity depends on how many susceptible people are there in the population," she told a TV channel.

She emphasised that booster dose was particularly important for vulnerable people.

After registering a lull period for a few months, India has been again registering an upward trend in Covid infections

Swaminathan outlined several reasons behind the current rise in the number of Covid-19 cases in India. Waning immunity, more transmissible subvariants like BA4 and 5, and crowding with no masks are some of the reasons behind the spike, she said.

She said the Government must explain to the people the booster shot is needed for a



Women walk past a graffiti on a wall urging people to wear face masks in Mumbai

strong long-lasting immunity. Meanwhile, three cases of BA.4 and one of BA.5 Omicron sub-variants of coronavirus were found in Mumbai on Monday. Amid a surge in Covid-19 cases in Mumbai and other parts of Maharashtra, medical experts say most of the patients are showing mild symptoms and fatality is low in the present "mild wave", and also no new virus variant of concern has been observed.

The patients were being administered paracetamol, and not Remdesivir drug, which was used for patients in the first and second Covid-19 waves, they said.

Handlooms, Textiles & Handicrafts Department

Meanwhile, with 8,084 new coronavirus infections being reported in a day, India's tally of

Covid-19 cases rose to 4,32,30,101 while the daily positivity rate was over three per cent after nearly four months, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated on Monday. The death toll climbed to

5,24,771 with 10 fatalities, the data updated at 8 am stated. The active cases comprise 0.11 per cent of the total infections, while the national Covid-19 recovery rate was 98.68 per cent, the Ministry said.

An increase of 3,482 cases has been recorded in the active Covid-19 caseload in a span of

The daily positivity rate was recorded at 3.24 per cent and the weekly positivity rate was recorded at 2.21 per cent, according to the Ministry.



the pioneer

Arukha elected as new Assembly Speaker

BHUBANESWAR

A six-time BJD MLA and former Minister Bikram Keshari Arukha was on Monday elected as the new Speaker of the Odisha Legislative Assembly.

Sixty-year-old Arukha was elected to the post unanimously in a special session held in the Assembly. Opposition BJP and Congress members supported his candidature.

Chief Minister and Leader of the House Naveen Patnaik proposed his name, which was supported by Parliamentary Affairs Minister Niranjan Pujari. Following adoption of the motion, Deputy Speaker Rajanikant Singh declared Arukha elected by a voice vote.

Stating that the Speaker is supposed to be impartial, Opposition Chief Whip Mohan Majhi (BJP) said, "I congratulate you and we hope that you will give us all equal opportunity in participating and putting forth our views on the floor of the House."

Congress Legislature Party Leader Narasingha Mishra congratulated the new Speaker and requested him to listen to all members irrespective of their parties. Mishra further said the ruling party should have consulted the Opposition parties before proposing a name for the Speaker's post. The post of the Speaker was lying vacant after Surjya Narayan Patro, also from Ganjam district, resigned from the post on June 4 due to his health problems. Arukha is the sixth MLA from Ganjam district to be elected for the prestigious post and second man from his constituency, Bhanjanagar.

Interview of the week

Odisha Govt to open office for our labourers in Surat



Srikanta Sahu is currently the Minister of State (Independent

Charge), Labour & Employees'

State Insurance, Odisha. A

grassroots BJD worker, a Naveen

Patnaik loyalist, he started his po-

litical journey from the scratch scal-

ing to dizzy heights as a Minister.

At the outset, he had become the

President of a Seva Samabay Smiti

in his constituency and thereafter

he was elected as a Sarpanch in the

year 2002. He was elected as a

Panchayat Samiti Member in

2007. He was elected as the Vice-

Chairman of Polasara block and he

opened his innings to the State

Assembly in the year 2014. He was

re-elected from the same Polasara

constituency in 2019 with a deci-

sive victory. He was chosen as the

Chairman of the Ganjam District

Planning Board four months after

his election as MLA in 2019. As a

trusted Naveen lieutenant, he was

picked up as a Minister recently.

He has immense faith in the lead-

ership of Naveen Patniak and hopes

that a BJD regime for a sixth time

under Naveenbabu's leadership is a

foregone conclusion in the prevail-

ing political firmament of Odisha.

In an interview to The Pioneer,

Sahu spoke to SugyanChoudhury

at his residence at Gopabandhu

What are your plans for a hike

of daily wages of skilled, unskilled

As you know, our BJD Govern-

ment and especially our popular

CM Naveenbabu lays great empha-

sis on the labour force and is very

keen on their welfare. As per the

desire of the Chief Minister, in 2003

a Nirman Kalyan Shramik Board

and semiskilled labourers?

Square, Bhubaneswar.



SRIKANTA SAHU

scheme already 3,300 crores of ru-

pees has been paid to the labour

force. Shortly, we are going to pay

700 to 800 crores of rupees to the

labour community. I am very much

eager to translate the desire of the

CM for payment of wages to the

beneficiaries through the 5T

programme. I shall take all steps in

this regard soon after I do my offi-

You are well-aware that over six

lakhs of labour force from Ganjam

district are working in Surat and

in other places of India. As a Min-

ister from their home district are

you ready to extend ESI, PF and

other Governmental benefits to

You are right indeed. Yesterday

only, I had a talk with the con-

cerned Commissioner-cum-Secre-

tary as to how many Odia labourers

working in Surat have received their

dues under the Nirman Shramik

Kalyan scheme. We have decided

to visit Surat and Ahmedabad, etc.,

for a first-hand information and

thereafter we have decided to es-

tablished a labour office of our Gov-

ernment in Surat for the benefit of

our seven lakh Odia people there.

After completing our tour, we shall

bring it to the notice of our CM for

extending such provisions as you

have maintained to these people.

This is our concern that we in our

collective wisdom should decide in

favour of our people staying out-

side Odisha as to how they would

be benefitted under the Nirman

Above four lakh child labourers

are reportedly working in our

State. What steps are you going to

take to redeem their plights?

Shramik Kalyan scheme.

cial duties in full swing.

their families?

the CM's dream into a reality. Incidences of Odia bonded (Dadan) labour being exploited are reported from many outside States, from where many of them often send SOS to save them. What

ing in that direction to translate

day at Bhubaneswar we had con-

vened a meeting relating to the

welfare of child labourers. I have issued strict Government order to

engage one officer who will be working in each district along with his team to nab people exploiting children as labourers in their hotels, factories, shops or at their homes. Two years of rigorous imprisonment in jail along with a fine of Rs 50,000 may be imposed upon the accused ones. Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik is hopeful of declaring Odisha as a child labour-free State by the year 2025. We are work-

are you going to do in such cases? Such incidences might be happening somewhere at some places, but as on today we have no such information. If information is provided to us by the media or through any other sources, we are ready to take up the issue and rescue those who are under the clutches of un-

scrupulous mafias. You have come out successful in the political chessboard of Ganjam by cornering many political veterans. How are you going to effectively translate the BJD supremo's trust in the 2024 gen-

eral elections in the dstrict? I am grateful to Hon'ble Chief Minister for having lent his support and blessings to me and I shall leave no stone unturned to see that the BJD wins 13 out of the 13 seats in the district in the 2024 elections.

You know that a working journalist's health insurance is limited to Rs 2 lakh only while a common citizen of the State under the Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana (BSKY) is entitled to Rs 5 lakh and in cases of women it is extended up to Rs 10 lakh. As the Minister of the Labour Department, would you consider to augment the health care provision of working journalists to a mini-

mum of Rs 5 lakh? Soon after I work in full swing, I shall consult with the journalist community, leaders and shall put the matter before the Chief Minister in order to apprise him of what best could be done in this regard.



Protests against summon to Rahul Gandhi

BHUBANESWAR

Protesting against the Enforcement Directorate's (ED) summon to Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, on the call of All India Congress Committee (AICC) thousands of party workers led by newly-appointed PCC president Sarat Pattanayak took out a rally on Monday and demonstrated before the ED office here.

Addressing the party workers, Pattanayak said the Central agencies like CBI and ED are acting on behalf of the BJP-led Union Government with a vindictive attitude all over India which the Congress from the very beginning of the Modi Government is vehemently opposing.

"Against the dictatorial stance of

Emami-KISS school

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Monday

inaugurated a school promoted by the Emami

company and the Kalinga Institute of Social

Sciences (KISS) at Armala near Remuna in

The school, spread over 12 acres of land, has

been constructed with an investment of Rs 50

crore with the KIIT contributing Rs 36 crore

The Chief Minister said this initiative would

Expressing happiness over free educational

further strengthen the State Government's

facilities created for 1,200 students in the

school, the CM said education is principal

medium of transformation and change and it

Patnaik pointed out that under his

Government's 5T initiative, as many as 4,000

schools have been transformed with highly-

KIIT and KISS founder Dr Achyuta Samanta

presented facts about the KISS' initiatives for

in Bhubaneswar

CM opens

PNS BHUBANESWAR

and the Emami Rs 14 crore.

brings changes in one's life.

improved infrastructures.

promotion of quality education.

Baleswar district.

the NDA Government and brazen abuse of the state apparatus for political goals, we stand in solidarity with millions of Congress workers across India in protesting against the attempt to malign our leader Rahul Gandhi," he said.

The rally was joined by former PCC presidents Niranjan Patnaik and Jaydev Jena, Congress Legislature Party Leader Narasingha Mishra, MLAs Suresh Routray, Santosh Singh Saluja, Tara Prasad Bahinipati and Ramesh Jena and other party leaders Sasmita Behera, Biswaranjan Mallick, Suresh Mohapatra, Sandhya Mohanty and Bijoya Lakhmi Sahu.

The party workers shouted slogans against the Modi Government for attempting to malign the Gandhi family.

Former PCC president Niranjan Patnaik described the ED summon to Rahul Gandhi as vendetta

All set for Snan Yatra in Puri today



Traffic resections imposed

PNS PURI

As a congregation of a huge number of devotees is expected for the Snan Yatra at the Jagannath Temple here on the Snan Purnima day on Tuesday, preparations for its smooth conduct were reviewed by the district administration on

The ritual was observed without devotees in the last two years due to the Covid pandemic.

The administration has made elaborate security arrangements to ensure devotes' hassle-free darshan of the deities on the Snan Mandap (bathing altar).

District Collector Samarth Verma and SP Kanwar Vishal Singh reviewed the arrangements made for devotees' safety, crowd control and traffic management.

As part of security arrangements,

barricades have been erected on the Bada Danda (Grand Road) from Market Square. About 50 platoons of police force along with senior police personnel will be deployed to ensure law and order during the

Besides, restrictions have been imposed on movement of vehicles in the town.

Police sources said there would be a 'no-vehicle zone' from Marichikot Chhak to Jaga Balia Lodge at Dolamandap Sahi. Passenger buses plying from Bhubaneswar and Konark on a daily basis would be allowed up to the bus-stand here. Besides, buses running in the pilgrim town would be allowed up to Medical Square. Two-wheelers can be parked in designated areas on the Bada Danda.Light vehicles, including cars, would be allowed for parking at the Jagannath Ballabha Mutt, Sharadhabali, Blue Flag beach and the Digabareni parking lot.

Union Min mixes with tribals at tea stall



BHAWANIPATNA

nion Minister of Tribal Affairs Arjun Munda on Monday had a tea time in the predominated tribal pockets of Lanjigarh.

While visiting many development works in Lanjigarh block, Munda went to a tea stalls at Biswanathpur and interacted with the locals.

Apart from reviewing various projects including the Bhatangpadar Lanjigarh CHC, a pond constructed under MNREGA, Munda met the tribals of eight families who had been living in the hilltop of Upper Nangal

But after much effort, the administration provided them pucca houses under the PMAY

Bahali village.

on a land which was named as Vikas Nagar.

Munda told reporters that the primitive tribals were convinced administration to shift to the new houses. They would also get community rights under FRA, he assured.

He was accompanied by Kalahandi MP Basant Panda, among others.

You are well-aware that yesterwas constituted and under the Road Safety Film Fest 230 entries received from across country

Screening of shortlisted movies in R'kela, Puri

PNS CUTTACK

The National Road Safety Short Film Festival, 2022 has received an overwhelming response. A total of 230 entries were received from across the country for the contest which was open till June 10.

The festival offers an unbiased and a democratic space to storytellers, who are willing to share their ideas about road safety through the audio-visual medium.

Filmmakers, amateur film enthusiasts and students have submitted entries in documentary, experimental, narrative, fiction, non-fiction and animation formats. From Delhi to Kerala, there are entries in many non-Odia languages including Hindi, Telugu, Malayalam and English on various aspects of road safety.

There are film submissions from every nook and corner of Odisha. Apart from Odia languages, there are quite a few entries in Santali language as well from tribal belts of the State.

The shortlisted movies will be



screened on June 18 and 19 at Rourkela. The festival will culminate at Puri where in shortlisted movies will be screened on June 24 and 25. The winners will be selected by a panel of jury comprising film industry and nonindustry professionals, besides luminaries from different walks of

In Odia Category, the cash prize for Best Film is Rs100, 000, first Runner Up, Rs 80, 000 and second Runner- up Rs 60, 000. Rs 25,000 each will be given for Best Direction, Best Screenplay, Best Cinematography, Best Actor/ Actress. In Non-Odia Category, the Best Film will get a cash award of Rs 100, 000, while first Runner Up and second Runner-up will get Rs 80, 000 and Rs 60, 000 respectively. Similarly Rs 25,000 each will be given for Best Director, Best Screenplay, Best Cinematography, and Best Actor/Actress.

the welfare of the weaker sections of the society.

Chief Secretaries' Conclave

Odisha's feats in edu, agri, urban dev to be presented

Team Odisha Administration headed by Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mahapatra will attend a two-day All Chief Secretaries Conclave to be held at Dhramshala in Himachal Pradesh from June 16. This is first of its kind meet of top mandarins across the country to discuss key issues in detailed manner.

The focus of the conclave will be on education, urban governance and agriculture. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address the conference. From Odisha, ACS Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment, Sanjeev Chopra,

Mass Education Bishnupada Sethi and Principal Secretary Housing and Urban Development G Mathivathanan will attend.

Principal Secretary Sethi will make a detailed presentation on the issue of education in general and implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP) in particular, said sources.

Minister Personnel Jitendra Singh, Principal Secretary to PM PK Mishra, Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba, NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant, Union Secretary Personnel and Training S Radha Chauhan and other Secretaries will attend the meet. The conclave will deliberate

efforts of States. Officials say that details of the schedule are being prepared by the Ministries concerned. The conclave will be more consultative in nature and to find out the challenges that the top officers face so that corrective measures can be taken.

The conclave gains importance, considering that States governed by opposition parties have some or other issues with the Centre and in recent months, the differences have grown. While Odisha has earned both national and international recognition on urban governance, the achievements will be presented the conclave. Similarly,

Agriculture sector in Odisha has caught the imagination of the Union Government as Prime Minister's pet project, 'Doubling Farmers' Income' has received a boost in Odisha.

Union Secretary Agriculture, Manoj Ahuja, who will be attending the conclave was Principal Secretary Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment in Odisha and has been implementing various profarmer programs planned by the Naveen Patnaik Government.

Officials say NITI Aayog will be coordinating the conclave, which is likely to help both the States and Centre discuss various ideas to make governance effective.

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Concerns over tardy R'kulya drinking water project

Executing agency asked to speed up works

SABAR TARAI ■ CHHATRAPUR

 ${
m B}_{
m rahmapur}$ MP Chandra Sekhar Sahoo, State Planning Board Vice-Chairman Sanjay Dasburma and Chhatrapur MLA Subash Chandra Behera have expressed concern over tardy progress of the specially designed drinking water projects for Krushnaprasad and Ganjam Blocks.

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik had laid the foundation stone of the Rs 203 crore drinking water projects in November 23, 2018 at

BHUBANESWAR

he Nalinee Vidya Mandir,

a residential tribal girls' school

situated in Rayagada district's

Bissamcuttack block, bagged

this year's 'Prakruti Mitra'

The award is given annually

by the State Forest and

Environment Department for

headmistress Urmila Satpathy

received the award from Forest

Department Additional Chief

Secretary Mona Sharma at a

State level celebration of the

World Environment Day held

MALKANGIRI

Five people, all from

Malkangiri in Odisha, were

killed and seven others injured

in a road accident in Alluri

Sitarama Raju district of

Andhra Pradesh on early

Monday morning. A private

bus by which they were

travelling overturned in

Chinturu mandal of the

district. The vehicle with 60

passengers was on its way to

Vijayawada from Chinnapally in Odisha. The mishap took

In a highly shocking

incident, a 40-year-old man

died after being exposed to

intense heat wave conditions

as his father tied his limbs and

left him outside at

Sanamasinabila village under

Ghatagaon block of Keonjhar

The deceased was identified

as Sumant Nayak, son of

Panua Nayak of the village.

Sumant had created a ruckus

district on Sunday.

In Keonjhar

in Bhubaneswar on Sunday.

work

and forest

Environment

School

on

exemplary

protection.

environment

Humma Salt Ground and Chari Chak under Krushna Prasad block to solve the acute drinking water crisis faced by people of Krusnaprasad block surrounded by the Asia's largest brackish water lagoon Chilika

The work of the project was started under the guidance former Brahmagiri MLA Sanjay Dasbarma. It was initially planned to finish the project by August 20, 2020, work of which was started on August 28, 2018.

The mega project proposal was initially aimed at supplying drinking water to 55 villages of Krushnaprasad block under Buxi Jagabandhu

The school run by leading

civil society organisation,

Society for Nature, Education

and Health, (SNEH) also had

received 'Prakruti Mitra' award

in the year 2016. The school

also had bagged the Best

Forestry award in the year 2016.

A student, Sangeeta Huika, had

received the third prize in a

district level competition by

drawing a picture on the plastic

pollution and its effects. "The

school authorities have

consciously tried to inculcate

the values of conservation of

forest, soil and wildlife among

the students and this effort has

been duly recognised by the

organisation head Subarna

place when the driver lost

control over the wheel while

negotiating a turn. Three

persons died on the spot while

two others succumbed to their

injuries in a hospital at

Bhadrachalam in Telangana.

Three of the deceased were

identified as Dhaneswar

Dalapati, Jeetu Harijan and

Nunena Harijan. The victims

were coming to Vijayawada to

Surviving passengers

alleged that the bus driver was

under the influence of liquor.

in the house and thrashed his

wife. Later, he went to his

father's snacks shop and had

an argument with the latter.

behaviour, Panua tied his

hands and legs and left him

outside under the sun at around

2 pm. Left unattended,

Sumant died sometime later.

Ghatagaon police reached the

spot, recovered the body for

postmortem and detained

Panua for questioning.

Being informed, the

Angry over his son's

work as labourers.

Man dies in scorching heat as dad ties limbs

Government,"

Assured Water Supply to Habitations (BASUDHA) scheme, from Rushikulya river at Kanshari of Ganjam.

After completion of the project 147 villages including 55 villages of Ganjam block 92 villages of Krusnaprasad block would be benefitted of the scheme.

The project is yet to see the light of the day even after four years of its inception.

After taking stock of the progress of work in a meeting held at Chhatrapur on Wednesday, the Hyderabad based company GVPR responsible for executing the project was asked to speed up their work and submit a report

Living miserably

As many as 252 workers of

the Government-run Bargarh

sugar mill, which is now in

shutdown condition, have not

been paid their salary since

August 2017. Consequently,

they are living very miserably

with the Government having

Tube-well dig-

times in campus

AJIT PANDA

NUAPADA

ging fails five

after Govt-run

unit shut

PNS BARGARH

week.

The company was also warned to finish the work within the stipulated time period failing which the project would be withdrawn.

Earlier on the day,

Dasbarma visited the project work site in Malada panchayat. Among others, Drinking Water Project Engineer in Chief Hadibandhu Behera, Chief Engineer Sarbeswar Barik, Additional Chief Engineer Suresh Mohanta, Superintendent Engineer Pratap Mohapatra and Executive Engineer Abhimanyu Barik had attended the meeting.

turned a blind eye to their

plight. There is a provision that

after sale of the sugar from the

factory, the employees are paid

their salary. However, after the

closure of the sugar mill, the

future of the workers is in dark.

The 105 acres of land of the

Not only the workers, the

sugarcane farmers are in great

difficulties too. After the sugar

mill was shut, there are few

takers for their produce. The

mill are lying useless now.

Nupur row: JSpur Muslims lodge plaint

PNS JAGATSINGHPUR A Muslim community

delegation filed a complaint Jagatsinghpur Superintendent of Police against suspended BJP spokesperson Nupur Sharma demanding that an FIR be registered against her over objectionable remarks against Prophet Muhhaamad.

A delegation on Monday submitted the complaint against Sharma at the police headquarters accusing Sharma of provoking hatred between religious communities and igniting mischief to national integration.

Recently, Sharma, a saffron spokesperson party participating in a TV show

old-fashioned machines of the

Hundreds of people in

indirect employment of the

mill, when it was in production

stage, also have lost their

Notably, a high-level

meeting was held in

Bhubaneswar to run the

factory. An expert team later

visited the spot but till date,

no concrete decision has been

mill, established in 1975, are

getting damaged.

means of livelihood.

B'garh sugar mill workers not paid salary since 2017

panel discussion had hailed comments on Islam and its basic principles as well as the prophet Muhhaamad.

After a row over Sharma's alleged derogatory remarks against Muhhaamad and escalating protests across the country and in some Muslim countries, the BJP expelled her from the party. "We strongly condemn the malicious observations of Sharma against Islam and demand lawful action against her," a memorandum submitted by the Muslim leaders revealed.

The delegation included Sk Jahiruddin, Md Iliyas Khan, Ekbal Ahemmed Shah, Sayed Majhar Tauhid, SK Farik, Uddin, Sk Fayaz Uddin and Moulana Irshad Nayeem.

taken. A team of experts from

the National Sugar Institute

(NSI) also had visited the

factory last year with a view to

set up an ethanol plant. But

no final decision has been

The employees of the sugar

mill are running from pillar

to post in the hope of getting

their pending salary but in

vain, lamented union leaders

Benupani Meher and Subrat

department. "Other wise we

would not have spent fund for

five tube wells" the officials

Water availability in the

taken over the project yet.

Brahmapur: The Vigilance police on Sunday apprehended a Junior Clerk red-handed at the Block Education Office (BEO), Aska while accepting a bribe of Rs 5,000 from a teacher. Manoj Kumar Pradhan was allegedly demanding the illegal gratification for preparation and sanction of MACP benefit (financial upgradation) in favour of the teacher. Vigilance officials later conducted raids in his office and rented house at Vani Vihar in Aska. A case was registered under PC Act, 1988 against him and further investigation was on.

LIONS CLUBS DIST 322 C4 HOLDS PRE-CABINET MEET

23 here on Sunday. The meeting, presided over by district

governor (elect) Suresh Chandra Nayak, discussed, among other

things, to undertake different social service activities like women

empowerment, Lions Quest, Lions Idol, membership growth

and club extension. A virtual speech made by past International

director Sangeeta Jatia was presented. Among others, past district

governors Dr PK Tripathy and Suresh Kumar Padhi and present

district governor Purna Chandra Padhi spoke on various aspects

IFFCO PARADEEP BAGS ENVIRON EXCELLENCE AWARD

Paradip: The IFFCO Paradeep Unit has received the Kalinga Environment Excellence Award-Five Star for its performance in the year 2021. In a ceremony at

INBRIEF

Bhubaneswar: The Lions

Clubs International District

322 C4 held a pre-cabinet

meeting for the year 2022-

of the Lions movement.

ASKA BEO CLERK HELD TAKING BRIBE



Bhubaneswar, the award was presented by Deputy High Commissioner for Bangladesh Andalib Elias. The event was organised by the Institute of Quality & Environment Management Services. IFFCO unit General Manager (Production and Environment & Safety) RK Pandey received the award on the company's behalf. The award was been conferred as a recognition of the unit's adherence to best environmental practices in plant operation.

TATA SUKINDA CHROMITE GETS ENVIRON EXCELLENCE AWARD

Bhubaneswar: The Sukinda Chromite Mine of Tata Steel Mining limited (TSML) has been conferred with the Kalinga Environment Excellence Award-2021 organised by the Institute of Quality and Environment Management Services. The award was received by Senior General Manager, Mines, TSML, Sushant Kumar Mishra on behalf of the company.

MIN RELEASES ASCI NORMS ON HARMFUL GENDER STEREOTYPES

Bhubaneswar: The Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) has followed up the successful launch of its GenderNext report in October 2021, a study by ASCI and Futurebrands, with the release of guidelines that guard against harmful gender stereotypes. The guidelines were released at an event held at the India Habitat Centre and presided over by Union Minister for

Women and Child Development Smriti Irani. **UNACADEMY PRODUCES 178 RANKERS OF UPSC CSE**

Bhubaneswar: Learning platform Unacademy has announced that 178 out of 685 rank holders of UPSC CSE 2021 are its learners. Among the top rankers from the Unacademy are Gamini Singla (AIR-3), Aishwarya Verma (AIR-4), Utkarsh Dwivedi (AIR-5) and Yaksh Chaudhary (AIR-6). Three learners have secured ranks between 1-5, 32 have secured ranks from 6-100 and 143 have secured AIRs from 101-685

Multi-storey parking zone in B'pur soon

The boys hostel campus of abundant. One of the tube Salepada residential school, wells here dug by a farmer "Five tube wells have already The campus established by established in the year 2016provides sufficient water for

No water: N'pada tribal school hostel nonfunctional

17 at Salepada village of Sunabeda GP in Nuapada district, to provide boarding facility to tribal children is yet to be made functional as there is no availability of water

been dug but all failed," said the villagers. "We had requested the authorities to dig tubewell inside the village as we knew dug wells inside the campus would be a failure, but they didn't listen," they added.

the ST and SC Development Department is located about 400 metres from the village. The district officials said that the wells were dug after getting confirmation from the testing team of Ground Water

tube wells inside the village is irrigation. The villagers, therefore, had suggested for digging one inside the village and supply water to the hostel through pipes. The officials however, didn't accept people's

Rallies held in Ganjam against child labour

In 7 blocks, 20 BeMC slums

inside the campus.

A campaign against child labour was launched in Ganjam on the World Day Against Child Labour.

"There are many Government social protection schemes for the most vulnerable and poor to prevent them from becoming child labour. These schemes are essential to fight poverty and vulnerability. The Government of Odisha has food (NFSA and SFSA),



and social security (NSAP, MBPS) schemes for the children and families. For the children there are scholarships, for orphans children, there are Ashrivad, PM-CARES and other protection schemes. But it is unfortunate that many eligible people are being left out due to various reasons. During

the Covid-19 pandemic the situation become worse." said Chandan Kumar Sahu of YSD. So it is essential that citizen, civil society and Government should work together to include the most vulnerable people in the social security net and overcome poverty and this will help us for a better family condition

the schooling and education of the vulnerable children, he added. "In Ganjam we have observed rally, campaign, oath taking and sloganeering against child labour and violence against children in Ganjam, Chhatrapur, Rangeilunda, Chikiti, Kukudakhandi, Digapahandi, Khallikote and also in Brahmapur city. The child rights team of Youth for Social Development (YSD) has organised the campaign in 14 Gram Panchayats in seven blocks in Ganjam and 20 slums in Brahmapur Municipal Corporation," he told.

and facilitate continuance of

Brahmapur

Development Authority (BDA) is all set to construct a multi-storey vehicle parking complex in the Old Bus-Stand area here. The parking lot would have the capacity to park as many as 200 cars and an equal number of twowheelers. The facility would also have shopping areas and food joints.

The complex would be built at a cost of Rs 9.5 crore on half an acre of land.

Vice-Chairman BDA Siddheshwar Baliram Bondar stated that the project was



shortly. The Berhampur Municipal Corporation (BeMC) would

provide land to the BDA for the project.

Voluntary blood donation: The Odisha scenario

≺he World Blood Donor Day is celebrated on June 14. In 1901, Dr Karl Landsteiner discovered 'A' 'B' 'O' antigen in blood and in 1902 two of his students Dr Struli and Dr Decastello discovered another antigen 'AB'. Dr Landsteiner was awarded the Nobel Prize in Medicine in 1930 for his epoch discovery 'ABO' group system. His discovery has saved millions of lives so far.

To encourage blood donors and to commemorate the noble soul and deeds of Dr Landsteiner, June 14(his birth day) was declared as the 'World Blood Donor Day'. On the auspicious occasion a slogan or theme is declared every year. 'Donating blood is an act of solidarity. Join the effort and save lives' is the slogan for 2022.

The specific objective of this year's campaign is to thank the blood donors irrespective of countries and to create an environment of wider public awareness to become regular,



DILLIP DASHSHARMA

unpaid blood donors and highlight the need for committed, yearround blood donation to maintain adequate supplies. The other objectives are (a) to achieve universal and timely access to safe blood transfusion (b) to recognize and promote the values of voluntary unpaid blood donation (c) to enhance community solidarity and social cohesion and to raise awareness (d) to stress the need for Government investment to build a sustainable and resilient national blood policy in order to increase collection from voluntary non-remunerated blood donors.

There is no substitute for blood as it cannot be manufactured outside the body although attempts are made to produce artificial blood. Human or any animal body is the manufacturing hub for blood and its components. The only achievable way to overcome shortages is to encourage blood donation from voluntary and nonremunerated blood donors. It will be pertinent to discuss the current scenario of voluntary blood donation in Odisha. The State has been unable to achieve the 100 per cent blood donation from voluntary blood donors so far.

As a matter of fact we have to know the chronological story of voluntary blood donation in Odisha. Until 2001 the percentage of voluntary blood donation was within 13%. In order to increase voluntary blood donation in the State an association was formed on 14-07-2002 named as the Orissa Voluntary Blood Donors' and Motivators' Association. The

association motivated people within the age group of donation resulting in an increase in the percentage of voluntary blood donation. In 2002 the voluntary blood donation jumped from meagre 13% to 24.47%, to 34.3% in 2003, in 2004 (42.45%), in 2005 (57.1%). It was a magical improvement.

Subsequently Amma Orissa

entered the arena of voluntary blood donation on 25-10-2006 at a time when percentage of voluntary blood donation was around 62%, In the later years the donation rose to 69.4% (2007), 66.54%, (2008), 66.50% (2009), 68.29% (2010), 75.65% (2011), 71.27% (2012), 65.81% (2013), 66.52% (2014), 71.77% (2015), 68.95% (2016), 64.41% (2017), 64.20% (2018), 63.66% (2019), 68.83 (2020) and 66.77% (2021). It seems voluntary blood donation has had an undulating progress and reached the peak in the year 2011

with an annual of 67% for the last

10 years.

In addition, an organisation 'Mo Parivar' joined the movement on 05-03-2015 in the brand name of 'Jeevan Bindu'. Since January 3, 2018 the Indian Red Cross Society, Bhubaneswar- Cuttack Police Commissionarate Regional Branch has been organising voluntary blood donation regularly in the name of 'Jeevan Aloka'. Earlier, the Police Commissionarate Red Cross branch was organising voluntary blood donation camps occasionally. Along with these many other small organisations got involved in this noble movement also.

In spite of such attempts the percentage of voluntary blood donation remained low in comparison to some other States like West Bengal.

Odisha needs nearly 5 lakh units of blood annually. Last five years data indicates that the State had a total collection of 42,7, 007 units in 2017 and figures for years 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021 were 45,5,060, 48,2,038, 42,2,128 and 48,7,108 units respectively for nearly 4.5 crores population. The eligible donors in the age group of 18 years to 65 years are estimated to be more than 2.5 crore. Even if due to some reasons we subtract 50 lakh of the population we are still left with 2 crore eligible donors. Whereas we only require 5 lakhs units of blood which is only 2.5% of the eligible donor population, the State is unable to meet the demand.

Although many social, political and Government organisations have been joining and giving support to save lives of hapless people yet the outcome is disappointing. Surprisingly 10 years ago, the percentage of voluntary blood donation was more than 70 % but now it has fallen to 67%. The big question is why? We are lovely people with a lovely mind. Then the big question is why hasn't the State gone past 70% since 2011. Have we become less compassionate towards our fellow beings or just apathy or due to less concerted effort by prime humanitarian organisations like the Red Cross

We are celebrating World Blood Donor Day and National Blood Donation day etc. and we are encouraging the blood donors and donor organisations. Organisations who facilitate blood donation camps spend Rs 60 per donor for refreshment and organisational cost. I-cards and certificates to each donor are issued and mementos to each organisation. Besides, 10% coupon is issued to the organisers to receive blood from the blood bank without exchange. But even after such attempts we are unable to reach 100 per cent target of voluntary blood collection.

State wide? It is time to introspect.

So let us make our efforts more vigorous and widen the ambit to the countryside. Let it be our solemn pledge to worship the immortal soul of Karl Landsteiner. Long live Blood Donors' Movement!

(The writer is founder-president, Odisha Voluntary Blood Donors' and Motivators' Association; Phone: 8984007600)

Cong protests to protect assets of **Gandhi family: BJP**



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

lleging that the Congress Aand corruption were made for each other, the BJP on attacked the Opposition party for taking to the streets as their leader Rahul Gandhi was summoned for questioning by the ED and said the protest was to protect the Gandhi family's assets of over ₹2000 crore.

Addressing a press conference, BJP leader and Union Minister Smriti Irani said the show of strength by the Congress is aimed at putting pressure on the probe agency, and asserted that nobody is above the law "even Rahul

Congress members should also ask Rahul Gandhi about his family's relations with Dotex Merchandise, which she described as a hawala operator

whose transactions have been flagged by the Financial Intelligence Unit.

She alleged that the Gandhi family floated Young Indian to grab the assets worth over Rs 2,000 crore of Associated Journals Limited, which publishes the National Herald

Never before such a blatant attempt was made by a political family to hold a probe

agency to ransom, she said.
For his part, Union
Minority Affairs Minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi alleged that Congress and corruption are "made for each other", and claimed that the opposition party was carrying out a "satyagraha for corruption".

Naqvi said that with the family facing allegations, the Congress was "fabricating agitation". He said this proves that the Congress and corruption

are "made for each other".

The country has earlier witnessed 'satyagraha' against corruption, but the country is witnessing the Congress' culture of "satyagraha for corruption" for the first time.

The Congress' attempt to show strength on the streets during investigation into a corruption case shows its brazen attitude despite indulging in graft, Naqvi told reporters.

"The Congress has become a 'crew of corruption' and a champion of converting corruption into revolution," the senior BJP leader said.

Rahul was questioned by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in a money laundering probe linked to the National Herald newspaper after the MP reached the agency's headquarters here accompanied by a battery of party leaders and

Expedite vaccination of teens, elderly, Covid not over yet: Health Min to States

Cases rising, remain vigilant, follow Covid-appropriate behaviour, says Mandaviya

Dointing to the fact that some States are witnessing a spike in COVID-19 cases, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Monday said that the pandemic was not over yet and the need was to accelerate efforts to identify all beneficiaries in the 12-17 age group for the first and second doses, so that they can attend schools with the protection of the vaccine and the vulnerable group of over 60 years for the precaution doses.

Stressing the need for being vigilant and observing Covidappropriate behaviour, he appealed to States and Union Territories to continue and strengthen surveillance and focus on genome sequencing for identifying new variants in the country.

Mandaviya held a meeting with Health Ministers and senior officials of States and Union Territories via video conference to review the progress of vaccination exercise under the Har Ghar Dastak 2.0 campaign, the Health Ministry said in a statement.

Emphasising the importance of COVID-19 vaccination among the vulnerable age groups, he urged the state health ministers to personally review the status and progress of the special month-long drive of Har Ghar Dastak 2.0 campaign that started on June 1. 'Let us accelerate our

efforts to identify all beneficia-

ries in the 12-17 age group for the first and second doses, so they can attend schools with the protection of the vaccine," Mandaviya said. He urged States for focussed coverage of the 12-17 age group through schoolbased campaigns, along with

targeted coverage of non-school going children during the summer vacation, the statement He added that the population group of above 60 years of age is a vulnerable category and needs to be protected with the

precaution dose. "Our health-

care workers are going from

door-to-door to ensure that

the vulnerable population is administered the precaution dose," he said. Highlighting the increased case positivity rate in some districts and states and reduced COVID-19 testing, Mandaviya stated that increased and timely testing will enable early identification of cases and help curb spread of the infection in the community.

The Minister stated that the five-fold strategy of test, track, treat, vaccination and adherence to COVID-19-appropriate behaviour needs to be continued and monitored by states and UTs.

States were also urged to

lation for ensuring extended protection against COVID-19." "Adequate vaccine doses are available across the country.

Let us ensure accelerated coverage of Covid vaccination during the second phase of Har Ghar Dastak campaign," he stressed. The States were also strongly advised to ensure that there is no wastage of COVID-19 vaccines at any cost. This must be ensured through active monitoring and on basis of "first expiry, first out" principle, where doses that expire earlier should be used for vaccination

first, according to the statement. State Health Ministers Sapam Ranjan Singh (Manipur), Alo Libang (Arunachal Pradesh), Thanneeru Harish Rao (Telangana), Anil Vij (Haryana), Rushikesh Ganeshbhai Patel (Gujarat), Banna Gupta (Jharkhand), Mangal Pandey (Bihar), Rajesh (Maharashtra), Tope Prabhuram Choudhary (Madhya Pradesh), and Ќ

learning from the first Har Ghar Dastak campaign to aim for achieving 100 per cent cov-Sudhakar (Karnataka) were present in the meeting.

BJP alleges Kerala CM blocking gold smuggling case probe

Sharpening its attack on Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan over the gold smuggling scam case, the BJP on Monday alleged that he is using all means to block the investigation as there is a needle of suspicion firmly pointed at him and his family.

The BJP's attack on the Kerala CM comes days after Swapna Suresh, the prime accused in the case, levelled allegations of some sort of smuggling activities against him and his family. The Chief Minister had dismissed the allegations as "baseless". Addressing a press conference at the BJP headquarters here, Union min-

isters Rajeev Chandrasekhar and V Muraleedharan hit out at Vijayan and alleged that he is using the state machinery to block the investigation in the case.

Referring to Vijayan's letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi in July 2020, Chandrasekhar said the chief minister had termed this crime a serious one which warranted thorough investigation and assured the State Government's all assistance.

"From that day till today he has done everything to block the investigation in this crime. He used state police to roadblock the central agencies who have expertise (in probing such cases),"

by Swapna Suresh, which were basically sworn statements in a court, were "explosive and unprecedented". It has firmly pointed the needle of suspicion to Chief Minister Vijayan and his family," he said.

Operational Guidelines for

Revised Surveillance Strategy

for COVID-19 which focuses

on surveillance of incoming

international travellers and sur-

veillance through health facili-

ties, labs, community, etc., the

States were urged to also review

the administration of precaution dose to the 18-59 age group with the private hospitals on a regu-

lar basis, the statement said.

The Health Ministers of

He said, "We can utilise the

statement said.

Muraleedharan alleged that the chief minister, wary of protests, has banned black colour in Kerala.

"Since last week what we are seeing in Kerala is unprecedented. The situation is that black colour is banned in Kerala....Height of fascism in the state," Muraleedharan said adding why Vijayan is so frightened if he has nothing to hide.

Suresh, a former employee of the UAE consulate, was taken into custody by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) along with another accused Sandeep Nair from Bengaluru on July 11, 2020

The NIA, Enforcement Directorate (ED) and Customs conducted separate probes into the racket that was busted with the seizure of gold worth Rs 15 crore from the diplomatic baggage of the UAE Consulate at Thiruvananthapuram airport on July 5, 2020.

Several people, including M Sivasankar, the former principal secretary to the chief minister, and another former employee of the UAE Consulate — Sarith — were arrested in connection

NCW asks Bengal DGP to act on BJP MLA's plaint



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

 $B^{\text{JP MLA from Malda}}_{\text{Dakshin, Sreerupa Mitra}}$ Chaudhury, has complained to the National Commission for Women alleging she was assaulted while participating in a political programme in her constituency on Saturday.

Chaudhury alleged that police remained a mute spectator and failed to control the situation as she and other women accompanying her were attacked, the NCW said in a statement. She alleged that she was assaulted without any provocation.

The incident reflects the increase in atrocities and violence against women in West Bengal, Chaudhury alleged, according to the NCW state-

ment. NCW Chairperson Rekha Sharma has written to Manoj Malviya, Director General and Inspector General of Police, West Bengal to take cognizance of her complaint and to conduct an independent inquiry in the matter. The body also asked the officer to inform it of the action taken in the matter at the

Delhi HC junks plea for hate speech FIR against BJP leaders Thakur, Verma

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Monday dismissed a petition by CPI(M) leaders Brinda Karat and KM Tiwari challenging the trial court's refusal to direct the registration of an Anurag Thakur and his BJP colleague and MP Pravesh Verma for their alleged hate speeches concerning anti-CAA protest at Shaheen Bagh here.

Justice Chandra Dhari Singh, who had reserved the verdict on March 25, refused to interfere with the trial court's order and said that under the law, the requisite sanction is required to be obtained from the competent authority for the registration of FIR in the present facts.

The judge said that the trial court rightly decided the petitioners' plea and that no case for exercise of the high court's writ jurisdictionwas made out in view of the presence of alternate remedy under the

The petitioners had assailed the trial court order before the high court on the ground that a cognisable offence is made out against the two leaders in the present case and an FIR should be lodged against them for their alleged hate speeches concerning the anti-CAA protest at Shaheen Bagh here and that they were only asking the police to inves-

SC notice to CBI, ED on actor's bail plea in Ponzi case

cheating and siphoning of funds in the names

Naseer, a visually impaired actor who had acted in the 2009 Bollywood Hindi movie -'The Shadow, the Dark Side of Truth', is in jail from 2019 in connection with the cases lodged by CBI and the ED.

A vacation bench comprising justices A S in the high court, his lawyer said.

The petitioners had

claimed in their complaint

of firing took place at two dif-

Bopanna and Vikram Nath sought replies of the probe agencies within three weeks after The Supreme Court on Monday sought responses from the CBI and the ED on a senior advocate Siddharth Bhatnagar, appearing for the jailed actor, said the Orissa High plea of actor Mohd Naseer seeking bail in con- Court, which reserved the order on the bail

The actor was arrested on July 20, 2009, and was granted bail on the same day. However, after filing of the charge sheet by the CBI, which was entrusted with the probe by the high court in 2012, the actor was taken into custody in 2019 and since then he is in jail. The order on the bail application is awaited

2 NHAI officials from **Assam held for briberv**

before the trial court that "Thakur and Verma had sought to incite people as a result of which three incidents Monday arrested an

ferent protest sites in Delhi." Delhi Police had defended the trial court order, saying that it rightly held that it does not have jurisdiction to deal with the case and referred to the Supreme Court's judgements which said that if a judge is saying he does not have jurisdiction, he should not comment on merits and that is the right

approach. It was the petitioners' grievance that at the Rithala rally here, Thakur had, on January 27, 2020, egged on the crowd to raise an incendiary slogan - "shoot the traitors" after lashing out at anti-CAA

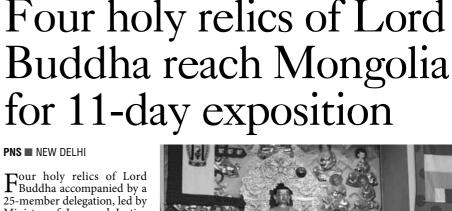
NEW DELHI: The CBI on

Accounts Officer and a Junior Accounts Officer, both of Regional Office, National Highway Authority of India (NHAI), Dispur, Guwahati (Assam) and three employees including Executive Director of a private company based at Gurugram (Haryana) in a bribery case of ₹ 4 lakh. The agency recovered cash to the tune of ₹ 2.33 crore from the premises of Executive Director of the private company GR Infraprojects Ltd. after searches.

After registering the case,

the CBI laid a trap and caught both the public servants -NHAI Accounts Officer Dipak Das and Junior Accounts Officer Manoj Kumar—for demanding and accepting a bribe of Rs 4 lakh from an employee of the said private company, the CBI said in a statement. The three private persons arrested are Executive Director Sunil Kumar Agarwal and two other staffers of GR Infraprojects Ltd., Gurugram Searches were conducted at 15 places including Guwahati, Bengaluru, Gurugram, Shillong and Patna at the premises of the

of monks, The Culture Ministry said in a statement.



 $F^{
m our\ holy\ relics}$ of Lord Buddha accompanied by a Minister of Law and Justice Kiren Rijiju, reached Mongolia on Monday for an 11-day expo-The holy relics were

received ceremoniously and with great reverence at the Ulaanbaatar International Airport by Ch Nomin, Culture Minister of Mongolia, Saranchimeg, MP/Chairperson of India Mongolia Friendship Group, Khamba Nomun Khan, Advisor to the President of Mongolia, and a large number

Rijiju said the historical relations between India and Mongolia will further strengthen with the arrival of Kapilvastu Relics in Mongolia. He maintained that through the delegation India is carrying Buddha's message of peace to the world.

Rijiju also informed that the main Buddha statue in the Gandan Monastery was gifted by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2015 to the people of



Buddhist holy relics, accorded highest presidential status, reached Mongolia on Monday

Mongolia and it was installed

in 2018. He said that the people of Mongolia enjoy a strong bond with India and look up to

India as a source of wisdom. The holy relics were thereafter welcomed at the Gandan Monastery ceremoniously amidst prayers and Buddhist chants. A large number of Mongolian people gathered to

pay their respects to the sacred

Buddha relics. The relics were handed over to the Gandan Monastery in the presence of Buddhist monks for safekeeping ahead of its 11-day exposi-

tion beginning Tuesday.

The relics left Delhi with the delegation Sunday evening after a customary ceremony These are among the 22 special relics kept in the National Museum of the Culture

15-day deadline for food aggregators to spell out consumer grievance redressal mechanism

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

he Department of Consumer Affairs 【 (DoCA) has directed major e-commerce food business operators (FBOs) like Swiggy and Zomato to submit a proposal within 15 days on improving their consumer grievance redressal mechanism amid rising complaints from cus-

The department pointed out that during the last 12 months, "over 3,631 grievances have been registered on the National Consumer Helpline (1915) for Swiggy and 2,828 have been registered for Zomato".

The direction was given during a meeting chaired by Secretary, Department of Consumer Affairs, Rohit Kumar Singh, with major e-commerce food business operators, to discuss pertinent issues which affect consumers in

The meeting was attended by online food business operators, including Swiggy and Zomato as well as the National Restaurant Association of India (NRAI). These platforms were directed to show individual consumer reviews transparently and refrain from

showing only the aggregation of reviews. On Swiggy platform, there were 803 complaints (22 per cent of the total 3,631) related to deficiency in services. Non/delay in delivery of product accounted for 17 per cent of the total complaints, delivery of defective/damaged product 13 per cent. Delivery of wrong product and paid amount not refunded accounted for 11 per cent each to the total complaints. Similarly, on Zomato platform, deficiency in services contributed 25 per cent to the total complaints followed by delivery of defec-

tive/damaged product (18 per cent), non/delay in delivery of product (11 per cent), paid amount not refunded (11 per cent) and delivery of wrong product (11 per cent).

During the meeting, major issues raised by the consumers on National Consumer Helpline of DoCA were discussed including veracity of the amount of delivery and packing charges and the reasonability of such charges, disparity between the price and quantity of food items shown on the platform and actually offered by the restaurant, inconsistency in the delivery time shown to consumers at the time of placing an order and the time at which the order is actually delivered, and absence of any mechanism to separate genuine reviews from

National Restaurant Association of India (NRAI) raised the

issue of customer information not being shared by the e-commerce FBOs with the restaurants which impacts their ability to serve the consumer needs better. Further, delivery charges are determined and levied by the latter. Further, a commission of around 20% is also charged by the online FBOs on each order. In the last few months, the department has taken many steps to protect consumers' interest. It has asked restaurants not to levy service charges and will soon bring a legal framework on this issue. In April this year, the Competition

Commission of India (CCI) asked its director-general to submit a report on the matter in 60 days. The NRAI which represents over 500,000 restaurants, had moved CCI in July 2021 alleging anti-competitive practices by the food delivery platforms.

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 unde 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

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION 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 Name of the Description

Account Number Notice (Rs.) Pratap Singh/ Vimla Choudhary - LBJAl00001135566 Plot No. E-170, Balaji Vihar- 6, Ext- 1st, Benar Road, Jaipur, Rajasthan, Jaipur – 302001./ June 09, 2022 The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/ guarantors(s) are hereby given a 30 day notice to repay the amount, else the

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

Date : June 14, 2022 Place: Delhi/NCR

Authorized Officer ICICI Bank Limited

Nupur effect: Violence continues in Nadia

 $T^{\text{hough life limped back to}}_{\text{normalcy in parts of}}$ Howrah and Murshidabad where the Internet services were still suspended in many places the Prophet row continued to burn some other parts of Bengal including Nadia district where the protesters on Monday resorted to bombing and vandalizing shops even as the police had a hard time to contain the

Large contingent of police forces led by Nadia SP Rashid Munir Khan did the rounds of the National Highway 34 linking Kolkata to Siliguri and the North East where the protesters assembled intermittently often hurling bombs and damaging passing vehicles, sources said.

Though the situation was normal during the noon,



crowds assembled towards the evening and started hurling bombs and damaging the shops along the NH 34 forcing the police to fire tear gas shells, locals said. About 15 people had been arrested.

Bethuadahari, more famous for housing a national park came in the news on Monday when violent mobs attacked local trains injuring

Section 144 was clamped in large parts of the area. Most shops had been closed in the area following a 72hour shutdown call given by the local business community. Meanwhile, ADG Law and Órder Javed Shamim said more than 200 people have been arrested and 42 FIRs

AMU students slam house demolition in Prayagraj

Ctudents took out a protest Smarch in Aligarh Muslim University on Sunday late evening in protest against the demolition of Afreen Fatima's residence in Prayagraj. During this, the students also raised slogans and demanded the arrest of Nupur Sharma. Afreen Fatima of Prayagraj won the president's post in the year 2018 in the student union elections held in the Women's College of Aligarh Muslim University. Afreen graduated from AMU. Afreen Fatima went to JNU after that. Afreen's father Javed Mohammad alias Pump is the mastermind of the violence spread in Prayagraj. Javed's residence in Prayagraj has also been demolished by the government on charges of nui-

The protest march consisted of hundreds of students and these students raised slogans of Islam Zindabad and Modi, Yogi, Shah Murdabad. Student leader



Zaid said that the former student has completed her graduation here and she was the President of Women's College. Afreen Fatima's house has been demolished. Today in India there is no court, no judge, no lawyer, everything is done by the government. We have come to protest that today the government has done a lot wrong and we want the government to return whatever money it will cost for the house which has been ruined.

The student leader said that the question is why Nupur Sharma is not being arrested? Because of this, the atmosphere of the whole of India is getting

responsible for the murder of two innocent girls yesterday. She further asked to arrest her and punish her. Only after that there are chances of controlling the atmosphere in India. I don't think the atmosphere will be under control. The biggest accused is Nupur Sharma and the government who is supporting her and it is visible to everyone. We appeal to the President to get her arrested as soon as possible. Our only appeal here is that if the atmosphere of India is to be normal ized, then we are appealing to the President that Nupur Sharma should be arrested at the earliest.

At the same time, AMU Proctor Waseem Ahmed told that the students have taken out protest march. They have taken out a protest march from Duck Point to Bab e Syed. However, no memorandum has been given. The students just came till Baba Syed Gate and left

Calcutta HC orders CBI probe into TET scam, dismisses 269

Hearing a writ petition regarding large scale corruption in the appointment of primary teachers the Calcutta High Court on Monday not only sacked 269 teachers "illegally" appointed by-passing the merit list but also directed the Central Bureau of Investigation to probe the alleged irregularities in the primary Teachers Eligibility

The Court of Justice Abhijit Gangopadhyay also directed the central agency to question the Chairman and Secretary of the PTET board, Manik Bhattacharya and Dr P Chakrabarty Bagchi. The two senior officials had appeared before the CBI officials and were being questioned when reports last came in.

The Court also directed the respective boards and schools to immediately stop

sacked teachers and asked them not to enter the school premises.It was the eighth CBI investigation ordered by the High Court in the past more than a month into the various transactions of the State government. The same Court had earlier ordered CBI investigations into the appointments of para-teachers in Secondary, Higher Secondary (Plus-2) level directing the central agency to summon and question the then Education Minister Partho Chatterjee and his Deputy Paresh Adhikari.

Latter's daughter Ankita Adhikari who was appointed as a teacher in a higher secondary school bypassing eligible candidates was also dismissed from service. Last months the Court had also ordered CBI probe into the appointment of Group D and

More cases registered for hurting religious sentiments, one held

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The hate campaign is show-I ing no signs of receding as two persons, including a woman, have been booked for allegedly passing derogatory remarks against Prophet Mohammed in Bareilly.

Another person, belonging to the minority community, was also booked for his alleged remarks against a Bharatiya Janata Party leader on social

As a precautionary measure, extra police personnel has been deployed near every place of worship and local leaders have been advised to spread a message of peace to maintain communal harmony.

One of the accused booked by police at Prem Nagar police station is Kuldeep Kumar, who able content, regardless of relision a history sheeter and has gion or caste." been arrested on several occasions by the police. He shared an objectionable post on social

The second FIR was registered for sharing a similar social media post against Prophet Mohammed under Section 295A (deliberate or malicious act intended to outrage religious feelings of any class) while the third FIR was registered against Rehan Khan, who shared an inflammatory content against suspended BJP leader Nupur Sharma.

Bareilly's Superintendent of Police Rohit Singh Sajwan said, "We have booked three persons and will take action against everyone who is sharing this objection-

In Ballia, a youth was arrested in the Rasra area for allegedly posting objectionable content against Prophet Mohammed on a social media site, a police official said on Monday. Krishna Kumar, who posted the objectionable Facebook post on Sunday, was arrested, Circle Officer (Rasra) Shiv Narain Vaish said.

The case has been registered against him on the complaint of Sheikh Huzaifa, a member of Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind, who in a tweet on Sunday urged the police to take action against the accused. Taking cognisance of the complaint, the police on Monday arrested Krishna Kumar, the circle officer added.

Lawyers' group moves HC against razing of violence accused's house

PTI ■ PRAYAGRAJ

Agroup of lawyers has approached the Allahabad High Court against the demolition of the house of Javed Ahmad, the alleged mastermind of the violence that took place following Friday prayers on June 10 here.

Violence had taken place in parts of the state following a row over now-suspended BJP spokesperson Nupur Sharma's remarks against Prophet Mohammed.

Development Authority (PDA) had demolished Ahmad's house on Sunday, with an official of the agency saying the building plan of the structure had not been approved by the PDA. The move came a day after the authorities bulldozed two houses of violence accused in Saharanpur.

Five advocates belonging to the Zila Adhivakta Manch claimed in their petition to the Allahabad High Court chief justice that the house demolished on Sunday was owned by Javed's wife Parveen Fatima.

The house was given to Fatima by her parents before her marriage, so Ahmad had no ownership over it and on the plot, hence the demolition was against the law, claimed the plea which was e-mailed to the

The petition said to justify the demolition, the PDA pasted a notice on the house on June 11, mentioning about a show-cause notice of a previous date. Neither Ahmad nor his wife had got the show-cause notice, it claimed.

Govt creating atmosphere of fear, terror: Mayawati

PNS LUCKNOW

Bahujan Samaj Party chief Mayawati, on Monday, attacked the Yogi Adityanath government over the demolition of the house of an accused in the Prayagraj violence case.

The BSP chief said that an atmosphere of "fear and terror" had been created by the government through unlawful action and the courts should take cognisance of it.

The former chief minister of Uttar Pradesh also demanded the arrest of suspended functionaries of Bharatiya Janata Party, Nupur Sharma and Naveen Kumar Jindal, whose remarks against Prophet Mohammed sparked protests. In a series of tweets in

Hindi, Mayawati said, 'By tar-

ty, doing demolition using bulldozer, other malicious aggressive actions, crushing the protest, an atmosphere of fear and terror has been created. This is unfair and unjust. The court must take cognisance of the faulty action of targeting the entire family by demolishing the houses," she said. Her remarks came a day

Prayagraj the

Development Authority (PDA) demolished the house of the alleged mastermind of the June 10 violence there amid heavy police deployment. The building map of the house of the accused, Javed Ahmad, had not been approved by the PDA, according to an official of the

Mayawati further said, The root cause of the problem are Nupur Sharma and Naveen Kumar Jindal, due to which the honour of the country has been affected and violence broke out. Why has no action been initiated against them, and why has the government ridiculed the rule of law? Not sending both the accused to jail yet is grossly biased and unfortunate. Immediate arrest is

Slogans raised against Pinarayi Vijayan in aircraft by Congress workers

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■

held across Kerala by workers of the Indian National Congress took a turn for the worse on Monday

Thiruvananthapuram IndiGo flight saw Congress activists raising slogans against Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan who was travelling in the aircraft. This is the first of its kind protest seen in Kerala's political history as a reigning chief minister had to face protest while on a flight.

The IndiGo flight from Kannur Thiruvananthapuram was thoroughly checked by the police as the chief minister was scheduled to travel in the aircraft. Each of the passengers were individually questioned by the cops before allowing them inside the aircraft. The two Congress leaders, one of them wearing black shirt, reportedly told the police that they were on their way to the capital city to call on an associate who was admitted to a leading hospiby police at the capital city. the Opposition.

borne, the two Congress leaders stood up and shouted slogans demanding the resignation of the aircraft. Video images released by vernacular news channels showed E P Jayarajan, the CPI-M strongman who is also the convenor of the LDF, rushing to the Congress activists andpinning them down. "They were intoxicated and inebriated and were shouting non sense causing inconvenience to the travellers," Jayarajan told reporters after the aircraft landed

Thiruvananthapuram. But police in Kannur airport told media persons that both the Congress activists were known to them personally and they were allowed to board the aircraft only after the cops made sure that they were bonafide passengers. "How come Jayarajan who rushed to the Congress workers and pushed them down knew that they were intoxicated? Even the police in the airport had given them clear-

ignation of Vijayan as Chief Minister is the fall out of the disclosures made by Swapna Suresh, the prime accused in the infamous Gold Smuggling scam that Vijayan had 'smuggled out" a suitcase stuffed with currency notes during his official trip to West Asia in 2016 with the active help rendered by the UAE Consul General. Swapna was the liaison officer of the Consulate General Office at that time and she claimed it was she who played the role of facilitator in transporting the suitcase through diplomatic channel.

Since the disclosures made by Swapna last week, the Opposition Congress and the BJP were on a warpath against the CPI-M led Government demanding Vijayan's resignation though the latter had categorically denied the allegations.

Since Saturday, the Congress and the BJP were demonstrating across the State demanding the resigna-

tal in a critical stage. Both ance to travel by the flight," tion of Vijayan. On Saturday have been taken into custody said V D Satheeshan, leader of and Sunday, a heavy posse of police men had succeeded in from the venues where the chief minister made his appearance to attend public functions. People in Kottayam, Kochi and Thavanur (in Malappuram district) where the chief minister attended public meetings were put to a lot of hardship by the police who insisted that

those wearing black shirts

and even black masks change

Though Anil Kant, the

the costume.

State Police Chief had denied reports that persons wearing black dress or face masks were asked to remove the same, Jayarajan had asked media persons why the peo-ple were insisting that they would wear only black cos-tumes. The capital city resembled a war zone as Congress and BJP workers fought pitched battle against the heavy security blanket by the police who used water canons and tear gas shells to keep the demonstrators away from the vicinity of chief minister's motorcade.

Bengal passes Bill replacing Guv with CM as Chancellor

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■

The Raj Bhavan-Nabanna India for his consideration." new low as for the first time post Independence the Bengal Assembly on Monday passed a Bill replacing the State Governor by Chief Minister as the Chancellor of the Universities.

The Assembly passed the

Bengal University Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2022 with 182 members supporting it and 40 members voting against it. The State Cabinet had approved the decision early this month. While there was no reaction from Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar whose office perennially had been at loggerheads with the State Secretariat --- on issues of violence, corruption etc --- he had earlier said that he would take appropriate steps when the Bill would be sent to him for consideration. State Opposition Leader Suvendu Adhikari who along with five BJP leaders had earlier been suspended for one year from entering Assembly and was sitting outside the House in protest for a large part of the day said "as Education

comes in Concurrent List ... I will request the Governor to send the Bill to the President of

could either reject the Bill or resend it to the Assembly for or send it to the President for consideration. "If there is a conflict between the State and the Centre the Centre's stand will prevail," experts said adding "Governor himself being a lawyer of repute will take appropriate decision."

Earlier a badge of Bengal civil society members including, poets, painters, cine artists, educationists etc had wrote a letter to the Government requesting appointment of a member from the intelligentsia

as the Chancellor. Following frequent clashes between the Governor and the Chief Minister over crucial policy matters, the Government had earlier decided not only to replace Governor as the Chancellor but also the Visitor of the private universities. The Cabinet has also decided to replace the Governor who is also the Visitor of the private universities with the Education Minister.

Cong workers detained while trying to take out march to ED office

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Hers and workers, trying to march to the Enforcement Directorate to stage a 'satyagrah' against alleged harassment of party president Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi, were taken into custody and later released in the evening. Interestingly, to avert any law and order problem arising out of the demonstration, the local administrations across the state had put senior leaders, including Congress Legislative Party leader Aradhana Mishra Mona, under house arrest since Sunday night. They prevented the movement of the Congress leaders throughout the day on Monday.

Prominent amongst those taken into custody while trying to take out 'satvagrah march' included former UP Congress president Ajay Kumar Lallu, former MLAs Shyam Kishore Shukla, Akhilesh Pratap Singh, and senior leaders Virendra Madan, Amarnath Agarwal, Siddharth Priya Srivastava, Ved Prakash Tripathi, Mukesh Singh Chauhan and others.



and wrote, "Delhi Police's dictatorship is at its peak in the course of Rahul Gandhi's visit to the ED office. The attempt to suppress the opposition on the basis of power is the desperation of the Modi government. Whatever the outcome, we will not back down from the struggle."

Meanwhile in Delhi, the ED questioned Rahul Gandhi in connection with the investigation of a money laundering case related to the National Herald newspaper. He reached the agency's headquarters in Delhi along with party leaders and supporters. After an interrogation of about two-andhalf hours, Rahul was allowed to leave the ED headquarters for lunch at around 2:10 pm, officials said.

World day against child labour has no meaning for kids and labour department of Aligarh

PNS ■ ALIGARH

World Day Against Child Labour is observed every year on June 12 as a day dedicated to creating awareness about the menace of child labour and human trafficking. The theme of world day against child labour, 2022 was "Universal Social Protection to End Child Labour." But in Aligarh 15000 children including 5000 working on Dhabas, 3000 street children and others are engaged in lock and hardware industry out of which 80% are muslim children who are

well. Despite of the fact that world day against child labour was celebrated all over the world, the children of Aligarh working in lock and hardware industry have no hope for the betterment of their life. These children lost their childhood due to poverty and the circumstances as they were forced to do child labour by their own parents.

Despite the right to education being a fundamental under Indian Constitution. Yet we know of many underprivileged children forced into child labour

deprived from education as by their own parents due to certain circumstances, stripped of their childhood and their right to education.

Aligarh is the town his-torically famous for the Aligarh Muslim University and is world famous for its education. But at the same time, the surrounding areas like purani chungi gate, shamshad market, dodhpur, zakariya market etc are all sprawled with a number of tea stalls, or dhabas where a lot of children works. These tea stalls and dhabas operate from 8:00 am to 11:00 pm. The owners of these tea stalls and

dhabas pay only Rs100 to Rs120 per day to the children and make them work for more than 12 hours a day. Not only this, Aligarh is a hub of education, which has 3 main universities including AMU, Mangalaytan University and Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh university. Apart from this there are many graduate and post graduate colleges present here. Despite of this fact many children in Aligarh are deprived of education and are engaged in child labour. Majority of them are willing to go to school if an opportuni-



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PAPER WITH PASSION

Good touch

India's healthy ties with the world have helped it tide over the Prophet comments' embarrassment

angladesh's refusal to comment on the controversy surrounding the derogatory remarks on Prophet Muhammad must have elicited a sigh of relief in New Delhi. Islamic countries and Muslims all over the world have been slamming India for the remarks former Bharatiya Janata Party spokesperson Nupur Sharma made last month. However, Bangladesh Information & Broadcasting Minister Hasan Mahmud on Saturday called it "an external issue (for Bangladesh). This is the issue of India, not of Bangladesh. We don't have to say anything". In fact, he went on to laud the Indian Government for having taken action against her and another leader who supported her: "We strongly condemn any insult to the Holy Prophet whenever and wherever it happens. But the Government of India has taken action, and we thank them for it. We con-



gratulate the Government of India. Now the law will take its course." He made it clear that he didn't want to "instigate" anyone or "ignite the issue". This begs the question: Did the Arab nations ignite the issue? After all, they haven't criticised China for the horrible treatment it metes out to the Uighurs in Xinjiang; the unfortunate Muslims in that province are facing a veritable genocide. Compared to Xinjiang, India is a paradise for Muslims, the depredations of saffron cowboys and hotheads notwithstanding. So why did the Muslim nations slam India over the Prophet remarks? Whatever may be the answer, the powers that be in our country cannot lose sight of the fact that discrim-

ination and atrocities against Muslims cannot be allowed to take place.

Responding quickly to the outrage expressed by the Muslim nations, New Delhi went into an overdrive, rubbishing the controversial views as those belonging to those of "fringe elements" and filing a police complaint against Sharma. The BJP expelled her. This seems to have calmed tempers in the Arab world. Saudi Arabia, which condemned the remarks, had earlier appreciated the action against Sharma. Now Kuwait has also done something that would please the Indian Government. In Kuwait, the law prohibits foreigners from participating in protests and agitations. The authorities arrested and deported those who protested against Sharma's remarks. It may be recalled that last week, it had summoned the Indian envoy to express its displeasure over the remarks. Even as protests against Sharma continue, the international row is likely to blow over in a short time. This has a lot to do with India's conduct in general after Independence. As Bangladesh's Mahmud said, "The soldiers of India shed their blood for the people of Bangladesh. You (India) opened your doors and your hearts to our people. The relationship between the peoples of Bangladesh and India was born out of the ashes of war and forged in our blood. We are indeed blood brothers." Besides, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's emphasis on building good ties with the Arab world. Our good karma shouldn't be allowed to vanish.



Vehicles ply after restrictions imposed following communal clashes were eased, in Ranchi

Raining pollution

Fresh snow in Antarctica contained microplastics. another grim reminder of climate playing havoc

■ n a sad and first-of-its-kind development, microplastics — much smaller than a grain of rice — were found late last week in freshly-fallen snow samples from 19 sites across the Ross Island region of Antarctica. The findings, published in the Cryosphere journal, revealed that an average of 29 microplastic particles per litre of melted snow were present in the snow. This figure is much higher than marine concentrations reported previously from the surrounding Ross Sea and in Antarctica sea ice. Antarctica, the southernmost continent and site of the South Pole, is a virtually uninhabited, ice-covered landmass. Just next to certain scientific bases, including the McMurdo Station which is the largest station in Antarctica, the density of microplastics was nearly three times higher than normal glacier debris. The researchers detected 13 different types of plastic — the most common being PET, commonly used to

make soft drink bottles and clothing. Amazingly, and alarmingly, atmospheric modelling suggested that these microplastics may have travelled thousands of kilometres through air since their small size and relatively low density allow microplastics to become airborne and transported over large distances.

The study raises serious environmental concerns as it fuels the findings of other studies regarding microplastics as a 'ubiquitous airborne pollutant'. Hinting at a possible climate threat in the Antarctica region, scientists said the presence of microplastics in the air has the potential to influence the climate by accelerating the melting of snow and ice.

According to the study, microplastics may further affect climate by acting as cloud ice nuclei in the atmosphere and by contributing to global radiative forcing. Plastic is terribly detrimental to the environment, and microplastics are extremely minute plastic particles resulting from the disposal and breakdown of consumer products and industrial waste. However, we recklessly dump a shocking 12 million metric tonne of plastic in the oceans every year. If this plastic pollution breaks down into microplastics, it is sure to find its way into marine animals, then birds and then the whole marine food chain. It is truly sad but finding microplastics in fresh Antarctica snow highlights the extent of plastic pollution into even the most remote regions of the world. Preserving water and keeping it from pollution is of paramount importance and each one of us on the planet should realise this and control water wastage to the optimum level.

The long shadow of blasphemy laws PRIYADARSHI DUTTA



While Muslims across the world condemn Nupur Sharma's comments, none has actually corrected her. The black hole protests are the same as in Pak

elevision debates are a banality that leaves viewers no more enlightened in the end than in the beginning. The channels in India prefer hosting talk shows because they constitute the most cost-effective format of programme, requiring minimal investment in terms of research, shooting and production. They also suit the psychology of the Indian audience, which takes delight in other people's quarrels. Generally, talk shows are to be watched only to be forgotten, like chewing gums are to be chewed and then spit out. It happens rarely that comments made in the course of talk shows become the main news of the day (or even week).

The comments made by Nupur Sharma, BJP's now-sus pended spokesperson, on Islamic belief in general, and the Prophet of Islam in particular, were apparently off the cuff. These were admittedly made in the heat of the moment, for which television debates provide ample opportunities. She was apparently provoked by a coparticipant calling Shivalinga at Gyanvapi's mosque a fountain. Her observations were casual rather than premeditated. Listening between the sentences, it appears, she was actually trying to say that Islam (like any other religion) also has its own Achilles' heel.

Her party, the BJP, could have handled the matter more clinically by declaring that an internal committee had been set up to examine the issue for necessary action. However, the law of the land would prevail over precepts of Sharia, in case a conflict arose between the two. But both her party, and the Government of India, went into hiding over the issue. Even the RSS and VHP were found completely missing in action.

The developments since then are singularly unfortunate. Protests, diplomatic hectoring and last Friday's violence have scarred the scenario. However, inadvertently, they have also presented us with a upur moment of history. This moment, if seized upon, enlighten us. Even an average can help address the root of communal problems in India (if Kanpur, and Harun, cycle

not also the world). The most interesting observation, in this crisis, is that no Muslim cleric, scholar, nation or organisation has volunteered to dispel the 'misconception' that Nupur might have had on Islam. Doing so must have been the easiest, quickest and most effective way to disarm the critics of Islam. It is normal for people of other religious backgrounds to have preconceived and unfounded notions about each other's faith. Is it not the moral duty of religious scholars to dispel them? Should a Hindu Pundit demand arrest and punishment of a non-Hindu, who is bewildered at why Hindus worship an elephant-headed deity called Ganesha, for instance? Or will he honestly try to share the spiritual symbolism behind it? Since Hindus have chosen the second alternative, one sees images of Ganesha or Nataraj etc adopted in the West.

Mufti Ábul Qasim Nomani, the Vice-Chancellor of Darul Uloom of Deoband, with all the intellectual resources of Islam at his command, could not distinguish himself from the rest of the crowd in his approach? He brought no special faculty on the table to Quyum, halal meat seller of

Why then, for instance,



THE LAW OF THE LAND WOULD PREVAIL OVER PRECEPTS OF SHARIA, IN CASE A **CONFLICT AROSE** BETWEEN THE TWO. BUT BOTH HER PARTY, AND THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, WENT INTO A HIDING OVER THE ISSUE

repairer of Lucknow, are demanding the arrest and punishment of Nupur Sharma, a demand Nomani merely repeated.

What is scarier is that protestors are trying to push for a blasphemy regime in India similar to that exists in Pakistan. In Pakistan, the punishment for blasphemy is death. Muhammed Ismail Qureshy, senior advocate in the Supreme Court of Pakistan, in his book Muhammad: The Messenger of God, and the Law of Blasphemy in Islam and the West (2008), informs that it is 'well-established unanimous religious opinion prevalent in different Islamic compendium of law that the punishment of blasphemy of holy Prophet is death" (P.121). While Qureshy traces a history of blasphemy law, he leaves the fundamental and philosophical question unanswered. The fundamental question is why Islam needed capital punishment in the first place to protect its Prophet from criticism?

There have been great savants in India like Buddha, Mahavira, Shankaracharya, Sri Chaitanya, Guru Nanak etc who were founders of However, their adherents and independent researcher never found it necessary to defend reputation with any

kind of blasphemy law. It is not implied that they were never criticised by anyone. However, people's veneration for them at large outweighed occasional acts of criticism, if any. It was their saintliness and superlative disposition that instantly courted people's

reverence. Why the Prophet of Arabia needed a blasphemy law to protect his reputation is a question that Islamic scholars must answer. In the early days of Islam, there might have been the possibility of criticism for political reasons. However, it is intriguing why Pakistan, a country of 98 per cent Muslims, needed a stringent blasphemy law (Pakistan Penal Code- 295 C) in the 1980s? As experience shows, such law is prone to misuse both against Muslims and non-Muslims. It is easy to accuse anybody of blasphemy as the case of Bibi Aasia Noreen (2015) shows. Registered cases of blasphemy spiralled in Pakistan since 1986 due to amendments in the Pakistan Penal Code by insertion of Section 295 to 298-C between 1980 and 1986. The "Pakistanisation" of India should be opposed at all

based in New Delhi. The views expressed are personal.)

TERS TO THE

NUPUR, JINDAL MUST BE APOLOGETIC

Sir — This refers to 'Protests galore over Prophet remarks' (June 11). Suspended BJP spokesperson Nupur Sharma and her former party colleague Naveen Jindal must be penitent and remorseful for their blasphemy against Prophet Muhammed. They must withdraw their alleged derogatory statements against the Prophet by tendering an apology to mollify and placate the rage of Muslims all over the world. One must be very mindful of one's words and language. One must not incur the wrath of any religion and must not add fuel to the fire to create disruptions and bad blood between religions.

Such sacrilegious comments and remarks lead to communal violence and riots. None has any right to pass such derogatory statements against any religion, sanctum and any sage, saint and prophet. One must hold one's tongue, weigh one's words and think before one speaks. One must propagate and promote fraternity, peace and tranquility and convey the message of communal harmony between religions. There are well known and famous adages and maxims regarding the tongue. So we must be careful and mindful of our words.

Zubair Khan | *Hyderabad*

RELIGIOUS FRENZY AND TV CHANNELS Sir — Nowadays, social media and electronic media are running their own court on a parallel level on any matter, where some party spokespersons, some religious leaders and some 'experts' are invited for a debate on a particular topic and the subject of debate is sort of a burning issue. The topic like Gyanvapi issue was in the headlines in the past, then all the TV channels were sitting in their court on this subject and now the debate is in full swing on the comment made by a spokesperson on Prophet Muhammad. Although that spokesperson has expressed regret over that remark, the party has taken action,

Alarming rise in COVID cases



he spike in COVID-19 cases after a trough should disabuse us of the notion that the pandemic is over. It is a clear indication that we are nowhere near writing the virus' obituary. According to the Government, the daily tally has crossed the 8000-mark and added up to 8,329 cases after 103 days and the daily positivity rate has reached 2.41 per

the police have also started their proceedings.

Now the issue has taken a legal form, so the right to decide it also lies with the court. It should be near and not with TV channels. The debate going on in social media and TV channels creates dissatisfaction among the people somewhere. Because the anchors of TV channels try their best to make a burning issue more burning, so that the spokesperson gives such a statement with enthusiasm which can become a new debate point for the TV channel itself.

Rajender K Sharma | Rewari

STOP CRITICISING SELF-MARRIAGE Sir — The recent incidence of sologamy by Kshama Bindu marks one-of-a-kind story in India. The concept surprised everybody but, at the same time, it seems to be the future of relationships. We all must not be surprised with the introduction of sologamy in India; rather we must be prepared for more incidents of sologamy from every corner of the

cent after 115 days. This is at a time when schools and colleges are reopening. Data show that sub-variants BA.4 and BA.5 of Omicron account for most of the fresh cases. The scale of COVID-19 spread is far below than it was during the three previous waves of the pandemic and does not threaten to assume the

proportions of a 'wave'.

Doctors attest to the mildness of most of the cases and the resolution of the symptoms is 2-3 days. True, these facts are of some comfort. Even so, we have to be worried about the 1.21 per cent fatality rate rather than being content with the 98.71 per cent recovery rate: we have to be aware of the need to be on our guard in our routine life to curb the transmission of the virus. We should not become complacent or believe that we are all safe. How long the vaccine will protect people needs clarity to modify the pandemic response

G David Milton I Tamil Nadu

nation. Kshama, like many other girls, wants to enjoy the aesthetics of marriage, though she does not want to share her life with a partner. Kshama is now a social media sensation with appreciation and critics showering love on her.

Sologamy has its relevance in modern society, especially when we have seen a lot of divorce cases across the world. This is true to many western developed societies also, where 20 or even more years of relationship broke because of ruptures in mutual understanding of partners. Marrying self is not a big antisocial practice that needs to be criticised. What Kshama Bindu did is woman empowerment and Indian society has to accept the fact that a woman is no more a property of her husband. She can be her own husband, a property of her own self and she need not share her body with anybody else.

Kirti Wadhawan | Kanpur

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

We need to bow our heads in shame for our inability to respond to the pandemic in time



Union Minister - Piyush Goyal



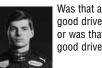
from China, we will not hesitate to fight.

Chinese Defence Minister — Wei Fenahe

I'll act only in my music videos. I am still learning so much about the acting process



— Jubin Nautival



or was that a good drive?

GP world champion Max Verstappen

This (stopping Howrah visit) is a violation of my fundamental rights



W Bengal Opposition leader — Suvendu Adhikari

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ANTI-DEFECTION LAW MUST BE MADE MORE EFFECTIVE

What is needed is the political will; all parties should look at the law afresh



KALYANI SHANKAR

lections and defections go together despite a stringent anti-defection law in the country. The law proves ineffective as legislators are lured by money and position. Lawmakers skirt around the rules, find loopholes to their advantage, and defy them. In last week's Rajya Sabha polls, Rajasthan's BJP legislator Shobharani Khushwaha, Congress's Haryana MLA Kuldeep Bishnoi, and JD (S) lawmaker from Karnataka Srinivas Gowda are classic examples. Cross-voting occurs even in presidential and vice-presidential elections. Vice-President M. Venkaiah Naidu recently commented that the anti-defection law must be amended to rectify the loopholes. Naidu, also the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, said there was no clarity about the time-frame for the Speaker or Chairman of the Rajya Sabha to decide on anti-defection cases. "There are certain loopholes in the anti-defection law. It allows wholesale defection. But retail defection is not allowed. Amendments are required to plug the loopholes," Naidu said. Instead of formally "crossing the floor" or voting against their party in a confidence motion, they resign from the party. Some of them come back in the bye-elections. In the past, there have been some bizarre cases. Gayalal, an independent MLA in Haryana, first joined the Congress Party in 1967; by evening, he shifted to the United Front, and within nine hours, he rejoined the Congress. What was more, he returned to the United Front within a fortnight. This case is known as 'Ayaram, Gayaram' in polit-



ical circles. The 2003 amended law prescribed the penalty for shifting political loyalties: the loss of membership and a bar on becoming a minister. The law has been contested in courts multiple times. Under the anti-defection law, unlimited powers are given to every political party to put down dissent or an alternative view. However, recent developments in many states show that it does not check defections. To keep the flock together, parties often play resort politics by shepherding them to some resort, sometimes outside the state. Defectors have shown this trend many times-Rajasthan (2020), Maharashtra (2019), Karnataka (2019 and 2018), and Tamil Nadu (2017).

In March 2020, Jyotiraditya Scindia and 22 Congress MLAs resigned, resulting in a Government change in Madhya Pradesh. In Rajasthan, six BSP MLAs merged their party with the Congress, and in Sikkim, 10 of the 15 MLAs of the Sikkim Democratic Front have joined the BJP in 2019. The list goes on. Initially, the decision of the Presiding Officer was not subject to judicial review. The Supreme Court struck down this condition in 1992. The apex court intervened again in July 2019 when ten Congress MLAs and two Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party MLAs defected to the BJP and were rewarded with ministries. The court prescribed a maximum of three months for deciding on anti-defection cases in 2020. Parliament needs to look at the law afresh because of the continuing trend of horse-trading. The Supreme Court observed recently, "It is time that Parliament has a rethink on whether disqualification petitions ought to be entrusted to a Speaker as a quasi-judicial authority when such Speaker continues to belong to a particular political party either de jure or de facto. Parliament may consider amending the Constitution to substitute the Speaker of the Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies as an arbiter of disputes concerning disqualification under the Tenth Schedule." The Presidential polls were announced last week, and there are apprehensions about crossvoting. The best way is to tweak the law. Defectors should be barred from holding public office for a reasonable period, and the vote cast by a defector should be considered invalid. The electorate should also have a right to recall the representative. Resort politics should also be banned. (The writer is a senior journalist. The views expressed are personal.)

Ipta: A revolution that redefined art, culture

It began as the cultural front of the Communist Party of India's cultural front but excelled in its own right

aving committed a plethora of gargantuan blunders from the late 1930s, the Communist Party ∟of India in 1942-43 took itself to a near non-acceptable position in India's politics. By opposing the Quit India Movement, supporting the Muslim League's Pakistan demand, castigating Netaji Bose, slamming other Congress leaders, and supporting Britain's war effort after Russia was attacked by Nazi Germany, it was fast losing its mass base, especially among the educated urban middle class.

Puran Chand Joshi, the general secretary of the CPI who was busy in making a nexus with Muslim League, slowly understood that enough is not done to make a strong base of the party among farmers, daily wage-earners, and factory workers. He felt that for mass awakening and implanting the idea of communism, the shortest route is cultural entertainment through which a message of nation building can also be sent across.

It was at this time that Joshi played a masterstroke that no one ever thought of in Indian politics. Understanding the scope of capturing people's interest in cultural entertainment, he formed a cultural front of the CPI on May 25, 1943. A bunch of extraordinarily talented creative minds, young in age and over energetic in spirit, assembled at the Marwari Vidyalaya Hall of Bombay and formed the Indian People's Theatre Association (Ipta). It included poets, singers, musicians, theatre workers, cinema directors, music composers, shadow artists, and painters from across India but largely from Bengal, Bombay, Assam, UP, Punjab and Andhra Pradesh. It was a culturalpolitical unit of CPI.

It was the first of its kind in India. The name of the organisation was given by Homi Jahangir Bhaba the noted scientist. Jawaharlal Nehru congratulated the initiative by sending a message.

The idea of Ipta was not an overnight thought that crossed Joshi's mind; it had a long history dating back to June 1935.

On June 21, 1935, an Anti-Fascist International Conference of cultural activists was held in Paris in which the Indian writer Mluk Raj Anand, who was later associated with Ipta, took part. Its replica conference was held on April 19, 1936, in Lucknow under the chairmanship of Munshi Premchand. The conference saw the dirth of All India Progressive Writers' Association and it was fully backed by the CPI.

In 1937, another cultural front named the League Against Fascism & War was formed in Calcutta and in 1941, as soon as the Soviet Union was attacked by Germany in the Second World War, another intellectual front of intellectuals named Friends of Soviet Union also came up.

Though many non-communist cultural workers joined these organisations, they were all largely motivated and mobilised



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(The views expressed are personal.)



by the members of CPI and the socialist party.

Many other such groups were formed in Bombay and even one by the name Ipta came up in Bangalore in 1942.

In May 1943, during the first congress of the CPI, Joshi worked for an amalgamation of all these cultural fronts and asked the workers to take the cultural heritage of India among the masses. Ipta workers were asked to shape up their creative expression in simple language and tell the reality of common people's life, exposing pain and pangs.

Ipta's purpose was a cultural resurgence of mass struggle against social inequality and oppression. It was born as the voice of the downtrodden but with the purpose of promoting the CPI's political agenda. It had its first head office in Bombay which was later shifted to Calcutta in 1946. The motto of the organization was 'People Theatre Stars the People.' N.M. Joshi was its first president. Chitta Prasad, the famous artist, designed the logo of Ipta that features a man beating the drum, symbolising the oldest form of communication

The time was ripe for Ipta to come to the street as Bengal was devastated in a manmade famine and the city of Calcutta became a city of moving skeletons. Then came the Japanese bombing and cyclone. These all inspired a group of young talented artists to express their creativity with a strong social message. 'Bhukha hai Bangal' was one of the earliest street plays produced by the Punjab squad of Ipta. It created a massive sensation in the Hindi belt of north India.

Ipta soon attracted a galaxy of oung talents. There were writers like Ismat Chugtai, Krishan Chander, Mulk Raj Anand, Prem Dhawan, Bhisham Sahni, and

Manik Bandopadhay. Theatre personalities: Shambhu Mitra, Habib Tanvir, Prithviraj Kapoor, Utpal Dutt, Tapas Sen. Musicians: Pt Ravi Shankar, Salil Chowdhury, Sachin Dev Burman, Timirbaran. Poets: Shailendra, Kaifi Azmi, Sahir Ludhianvi, Majrooh Sultanpuri. Singers: Hemant Kumar, Bhupen Hazarika, Hemanga Biswas.

Then there were film directors: Ritwik Ghatak, K.A. Abbas, Chetan Anand, Basu Chatterjee, Rishikesh Mukherjee. Dancers: Uday Shankar, Zohra Sehgal, Kameshwar. Actors: Balraj Sahni, Deena Pathak, Harindranath Chatterjee, A.K. Hangal, Karuna Bandhopadhay. In a nutshell, some of the finest talents in the field of art and culture enthusiastically joined Ipta, though it was backed

by a political ideology.

Though Raj Kapoor, V.
Shantaram, Saddat Hasan Manto, and Dev Anand were never official members of Ipta, all of them were very closely associated with it at many levels.

These superbly gifted men and women, apart from making their career in their respective field, had the dream of a classless, socialistic society for a new India which was awaiting its freedom.

One of the earliest works of Ipta was the music composition of oularized this song by singing it at all its functions, street plays and conferences, making it almost a national anthem.

From the beginning, Ipta took out its live performance on streets by mingling with common people, walking on pavements, travelling in local trains, and assembling at marketplaces. Ipta used the marketplace, factory gate, slums, railway platform, etc., its stage for per-

formance, gathering a huge crowd. By doing things unconvention-

ally and in a most creative way, Ipta made waves across India. In Bombay and Calcutta's industrial zones, İpta became hugely popular with its street plays, theatre and pro-people songs. In their presentation, they tactfully inserted political messages and a huge number of people were influenced. By the end of 1944, the CPI, which was a marginalised party not long ago, again gained ground.

It performed in almost all public functions, especially in Bombay's Marine Drive on the occasion of the Marathi Stage Centenary Festival. Such was the success that The Times of India wrote on May 10, 1944, "There was nothing pointless or unnecessary in the performance at the People's Theatre. With the limited facilities at their disposal the organisers achieved much."

The heading of the news item was crowned with 'Real Thing.' The message of every single presentation of Ipta—whether it was street play, shadow dance, poetry, cinema, choir, or painting—was about communal harmony, socialism, concord, cosmopolitan culture, and social awareness.

'People's Theatre Show: Unity Main Theme, a report published in The Times of India on October 25, 1947, said, "The message of Iqbal's famous poem 'Sare jahan se Hindu Muslim unity was the cen-Achha' by Pt Ravi Shankar. Ipta tral theme of a programme on variety entertainment staged or Friday by the Indian People's Theatre Association."

> Meanwhile Ipta entered the world of cinema as well. By 1946, Ipta members had done two films. Neecha nagar, released on September 29, 1946, was directed by Chetan Anand. The other was Dharti ke lal; released on August 30, 1946, it was directed by K.A. Abbas.

> (The second part of the article will be carried tomorrow)

WE ARE NOT COMPROMISING ON ANY ISSUE INVOLVING THE HONOUR OF PROPHET MUHAMMAD. BANGLADESH INFORMATION MINISTER HASAN MAHMUD





INDIA ACCORDS THE HIGHEST RESPECT TO ALL RELIGIONS. THE REMARKS DO NOT REFLECT THE VIEWS OF THE GOVERNMENT.

- MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS SPOKESPERSON **ARINDAM BAGCHI**

Let us donate blood because we can

Today is World Blood Donor Day

t is unfortunate that in our country over 12,000 **⊥** persons die daily in accidents or during delivery because blood could not be transfused immediately despite easy availability at the regional or national level.

Blood and blood products are essential resources for women suffering from bleeding in pregnancy and childbirth, children rendered severely anaemic due to malaria and malnutrition, persons with disorders of blood or bone marrow, haemoglobin and immune system. Victims of emergencies, trauma, and accidents and those undergoing surgical procedures may direly need it. The need for blood is universal, but access to blood for all those who need it is not.



HARISH BARTHWAL

About 800 women die from pregnancy or childbirthrelated complications every day all over the world. Most of these deaths occur in developing countries. The risk of maternal mortality is highest for adolescent girls under 15 years of age. Blood shortages are particularly acute in lowand middle-income countries. The issue of safety of blood is very important.

Every year just 1 per cent of eligible persons donate blood in India. The World Blood Donor Day on 14 June each year seeks to enhance awareness of the need for safe blood and blood products for transfusion, educate the lay people on the vital role of voluntary, unpaid blood donors in strengthening national health systems, and support country's



blood transfusion services, blood collection bodies and similar organisations by expanding blood donation

programmes and campaigns. This year's slogan of the World Blood Donor Day is, 'Donating blood is an act of solidarity. Join the effort and save lives' giving' draws attention to the seminal role voluntary blood donations play in saving lives and enhancing solidarity

within communities.

Blood cannot be manufactured in vitro, so it has only to be retrieved from a donor. A major difficulty with blood is our inability to segregate the components of blood since the patient may require only one of its components. Then, there are several taboos; blood or organ donation is just not acceptable to certain mindsets. Blood donors are mostly

student groups; others in the society also need to come to the fore. Worldwide, develop-

ing countries suffer from blood shortages. India has a shortage of 41 million units. To build a sound structure for collection, storage and supply of safe blood to the needy,

the National Organ & Tissue Transplant Organisation website (www.notto.nic.in) provides updated information and level within 48 hours. Any

online facility for registering pledges for organ donation. There are certain visceral

fears and myths: blood donation can impinge upon health or cause blood deficit in the body; it can lead to infections; one with diabetes, blood pressure, etc., or the elderly must avoid it. In reality, blood donation prevents accumulation of excess iron from the body, thus reducing the possibility of developing cardiovascular diseases.

The human body has on average 5-6 litres of blood and formation of new blood is an ongoing process so that at any point of time around onetenth of it (350-450 ml) can always be spared. The quantum of blood donated quantitatively restores to normal

healthy individual can donate blood four times a year within an interval of three months. After blood donation one can immediately resume work, the only advice is, (i) take 10 -12 glasses of water within 24 hours, (ii) avoid driving, excessive exposure to smoking or sun for three to four hours, and (iii) avoid alcohol for a couple of days. All religions and faiths

proclaim the act of giving as one of the greatest virtues, many faiths endorse blood donation as a noble deed. The Hindu call it the greatest gift (Rakt daan mahadan); among Christians organ and tissue donations are ethically acceptable as expressions of love, charity. Let each of us contribute to the noble cause of donating blood.

(The writer is a blogger and senior journalist. The view expressed are personal.)

'Enough proof uncovered to indict Trump'

JAN 6 PANELISTS

AP ■ WASHINGTON

embers of the House committee investigat-ing the Capitol riot said Sunday they have uncovered enough evidence for the Justice Department to consider an unprecedented criminal indictment against former President Donald Trump for seeking to overturn the results of the 2020 election.

The committee announced that Trump's campaign manager, Bill Stepien, is among the witnesses scheduled to testify at a hearing Monday that focuses on Trump's effort to spread his lies about a stolen election.

"I would like to see the Justice Department investigate any credible allegation of criminal activity on the part of Donald Trump," said Rep. Adam Schiff, D-Calif, a committee member who also leads the House Intelligence Committee.

"There are certain actions, parts of these different lines of effort to overturn the election that I don't see evidence the Justice Department is investi-

gating."

The committee held its ring last week, first public hearing last week, with members laying out their case against Trump to show how the defeated president relentlessly pushed his false claims of a rigged election despite multiple advisers telling him otherwise and how he intensified an extraordinary scheme to overturn Joe Biden's

establishment of units under ISDS

oidding will be accepted in physical form.

No. DIPK-3888/22 Dated: 13.06.2022

Vaccine.



Additional evidence is set to be released in hearings this week that will demonstrate how Trump and some of his advisers engaged in a "massive effort" to spread misinformation, pressured the Justice Department to embrace his false claims, and urged then-Vice President Mike Pence to reject state electors and block the vote certification on Jan 6, 2021.

Stepien, a longtime Trump adviser, has kept a relatively low profile compared with many others in the former president's orbit. He previously served as White House political director and also national field director for Trump's 2016 campaign. Before aligning himself with Trump, Stepien had worked in New Jersey for former Gov Chris Christie, a longtime Trump friend turned critic

Monday's witness list includes BJay Pak, the top federal prosecutor in Atlanta who left his position on Jan 4, 2021, a day after an audio recording was made public in which

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

Directorate of Sheep Husbandry Department Kashmir Lal-Mandi, Srinagar 190008
Tel. No: 09194-2310604. Fax No: 0194-2311063, Email id: kashmirmerino.sheep@gmail.com

e-Nit No:-DSHK/ACCTTS/22-23/2839-50 Dated:-11-06-2022

Subject: E-Procurement Notice for the supply of Livestock(Sheep/Goat).
For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, Union Territory of India, expression of interest tenders in two bid system (Technical-1 and Financial bid-2) through Chairman State Level

Purchase committee, Sheep Husbandry Department, J&K, Kashmir (Directorate of Sheep

Husbandry Department, Kashmir) are invited from Interested Persons from Himachal Pradesh fo

1. The bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility, criteria, specifications, bill of

quantities (B.O.Q), set of terms and conditions of supply/contract and other details can be

een/downloaded from the e-procurement website **www.jktenders.gov.in** as per schedule of dates

2. Instructions for bidders regarding e-tendering process:-i.Bidders are advised to download bids submission manual from the "Downloads option as well as from Bidders Manual kit" on the website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint themselves with bid

ii.To participate in bidding process bidder has to get a Digital Signature Certificate (DSC), as pe

iii.The bidder has to submit their bids online in electronic format with the Digital Signature. No

A. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the technical bid.
3. The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reason.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

Directorate of Sheep Husbandry Department Kashmir

Lal-Mandi, Srinagar 190008

Tel. No: 09194-2310604. Fax No: 0194-2311063, Email id: kashmirmerino.sheep@gmail.com

Subject: E-Procurement Notice for the supply of Foot & Mouth Disease (FMD)

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, Union Territory of India,e-Tenders in two bid system (Technical-1 and Financial bid-2) through Chairman State

Level Purchase committee, Sheep Husbandry Department, J&K, Kashmir

(Directorate of Sheep Husbandry Department, Kashmir) are invited from Original

manufacturers/companies of repute and firms in line possessing valid authorization

of principals, for fixing the rate contract for supply of Foot & Mouth Disease (FMD

3. Serotype Asia 1: Strain IND63/1972 (Genotype 1, Lineage B)

The bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility, criteria

specifications, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), set of terms and conditions of

supply/contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the e-procurement

. Bidders are advised to download bids submission manual from the "Downloads

option as well as from Bidders Manual kit" on the website www.jktenders.gov.in to

ii.To participate in bidding process bidder has to get a Digital Signature Certificate

(DSC), as per Information Technology ACT-2000. Bidders can get Digital Certificate

iii.The bidder has to submit their bids online in electronic format with the Digita

/. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the

2. The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to an

(Note: Scan all the documents on 100dpi with Black and White option.)

website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below.

. Period of downloading of bidding documents: - 10-06-2022

5. Date and time of opening of bids (online):-05-07-2022

1. Instructions for bidders regarding e-tendering process: -

1. Date of Issue of Tender Notice :- 09-06-2022

acquaint themselves with bid submission process.

Signature. No bidding will be accepted in physical form.

iv.Bids will be opened online as per the schedule mentioned at Para-1

3. Bid submission start date :- 10-06-2022

4. Bid submission end date :- 04-07-2022

from an approved vendor.

1. Serotype O: Strain INDR2/1975 (O/ME-SATopotype, Lineage Branch

Serotype A: Strain IND40/2000 (Genotype 18, non-deletion group)

COMPOSITION:- Trivalent FMD Oil adjuvant vaccine with the following strains:-

Sd/- Chairman State Level Purchase Committee

Sheep Husbandry Department Jammu & Kashmir

Dated: - 09.06.2022

nformation Technology ACT-2000. Bidders can get Digital Certificate from an approved vendor.

2. Period of downloading of bidding documents :- 11-06-2022 to 04-07-2022 3. Bid submission start date :- 11-06-2022 4. Bid submission end date :- 04-07-2022 upto 4:00 p.m

. Date and time of opening of technical bids (online) :- 04-07-2022 2:00p.m

iv. Bids will be opened online as per the schedule mentioned at Para-1

e-Nit No:-DSHK/ACCTTS/2022-23/2764-74

(Note: Scan all the documents on 100dpi with Black and White option.)

Trump called him a "never-

Trumper," and Chris Stirewalt,

the former political editor for

The committee members on Sunday also reiterated they would present clear evidence that "multiple" GOP lawmak-ers, including Rep. Scott Perry, R-Pa, had sought a pardon from Trump, which would protect him from prosecution. Perry on Friday denied he ever did so, calling the assertion an "absolute, shameless, and soulless lie."

"We're not going to make accusations or say things without proof or evidence backing it," said Rep Adam Kinzinger, R-Ill. Lawmakers indicated that perhaps their most important audience member over the course of the hearings may be Attorney General Merrick Garland, who must decide whether his department can and should prosecute Trump. They left no doubt as to their own view whether the evidence is sufficient to proceed.

"Once the evidence is accumulated by the Justice Department, it needs to make a decision about whether it can prove to a jury beyond a reasonable doubt the president's guilt or anyone else's," Schiff said. But they need to be investigated if there's credible evidence, which I think there is."

Rep Jamie Raskin, D-Md., said he doesn't intend to "browbeat" Garland but noted the committee has already laid out in legal pleadings criminal statutes they believe Trump

Chinese, US envoys pledge support to help Lanka mitigate economic crisis

In a significant development, the Chinese Ambassador to Sri Lanka Qi Zhenhong met his US counterpart Julie Chung here on Monday and held discussions on "broad topics of mutual interest" and pledged support in helping the island nation mitigate its crippling economic crisis.

Šri Lanka is currently facing its worst economic crisis since independence from Britain in 1948.

The economic crisis has prompted an acute shortage of essential items like food, medicine, cooking gas and other fuel, toilet paper, and even matches, with Sri Lankans being forced to wait in lines lasting hours outside stores to buy fuel and cooking gas.

"Ambassador Zhenhong met with the US Ambassador Julie Chung at the Chinese embassy on June 13 and had a friendly discussion on broad topics of mutual interest. China and the United States could work

together to help Sri Lanka nificance and comes at a time when Sri Lankan Prime overcome current difficulties," a tweet from the Chinese Embassy in Sri Lanka said.

Commenting on the meeting, US Ambassador Chung said discussions centered on the current political and economic situation in Sri Lanka and asserted that there was an exchange of ideas on trade investment and devel-

Both envoys agreed on the need to jointly come forward in helping Sri Lanka weather through the current economic and political crisis.

The meeting assumes sig-

Minister Wickremesinghe said last week that his government could not tap on the USD 1.5 billion credit line from China and is yet to hear back from Beijing on the USD 1 billion

In a media briefing last week, Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian said that Beijing had ear-marked humanitarian aid worth USD 73 million to Sri

Last month, Samantha Power, the US Agency for

(USAID) administrator, held a telephone conversation with Wickremesinghe to discuss how USAID is responding to the country's political and economic crises.

Meanwhile, India has provided a USD 55 million Line of Credit to Sri Lanka for the import of fertilisers, in a bid to help the island nation tide over its food scarcity, the Indian High Commission said last week.

Addressing the Parliament recently, Wickremesinghe said Sri Lanka will need USD 5 billion to ensure that the people's daily lives are not disrupted for the next six months.

The nearly bankrupt country, with an acute foreign currency crisis that resulted in foreign debt default, announced in April that it is suspending nearly USD 7 billion foreign debt repayment due for this year out of about USD 25 billion due through

Sri Lanka's total foreign debt stands at USD 51 billion. al-Qaida. ISIS attacks mount in Burkina Faso despite junta's efforts

AP ■ OUAGADOUGOU (BURKINA

The mutinous soldiers who ousted Burkina Faso's democratically elected president early this year vowed they would do a better job at stopping the jiha-di violence rocking the country. Five months later, however, attacks are increasing and patience with the junta appears to be waning.

Many in Burkina Faso supported the military takeover in January, frustrated with the previous government's inability to stem Islamic extremist violence that has killed thousands and displaced at least 2 million. Lt. Col. Paul-Henri Sandaogo Damiba, who led the coup and was later installed as interim president, vowed to restore security.

But violence linked to al-Qaida and the Islamic State increased nearly 7 per cent dur-ing the junta's first three months of rule compared with the three months prior, according to the Armed Conflict Location &
UK to introduce law unilaterally changing post-Brexit rules

 $B^{
m ritain's}$ government is expected to introduce legislation Monday that would unilaterally change post-Brexit trade rules for Northern Ireland amid opposition from lawmakers who believe the move violates international The legislation would let

the government bypass the socalled Northern Ireland Protocol, which requires the inspection of some goods shipped there from other parts of the United Kingdom. The protocol, designed to preserve free trade on the island of Ireland, is part of the broader trade deal that Prime Minister Boris Johnson negotiated with the European Union when Britain left the 27-nation bloc.

But the arrangement has proved politically damaging for Johnson because it treats Northern Ireland differently from the rest of the United Kingdom, potentially weakening the province's historic links with Britain. Northern Ireland's Democratic Unionist the region's power-sharing government until the protocol is amended to address those con-

The opposition Labour Party, and even some members of Johnson's Conservatives, say unilaterally changing the protocol would be illegal and would damage Britain's standing with other countries because its part of a treaty considered binding under international law.

"Breaking international law to rip up the Prime Minister's own treaty is damaging to everything the U.K. And Conservatives stand for," opponents of the bill said in a note being circulated among



Conservative lawmakers, according to the Financial Times.

Arrangements Northern Ireland - the only part of the U.K. That shares a and border with an EU nation - have proved the thorniest issue in Britain's divorce from the bloc, which became final at the end of 2020.

The 1998 Good Friday agreement that ended decades of violence in Northern Ireland was underpinned by the fact that both the U.K. And Ireland were EU members, allowing goods and people to flow freely across the border.

mitted to keeping the border open, other competing interests have made that difficult to The EU, focused on pro-

tecting its internal market, wants to ensure that all goods flowing into the bloc meet its standards. Britain is trying to assert its newly won independence from the EU while preserving the union of England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

After a conversation with British Foreign Secretary Liz Truss, European Commission Vice President Maros Sefcovic said "unilateral action is damaging to mutual trust and a formula for uncertainty."

Virus cluster at nightclub sets off new Beijing clampdown

China's capital has put school back online in one of its major districts amid a new COVID-19 outbreak linked to a nightclub, while life has yet to return to normal in Shanghai despite the lifting of a more than two-month-long

China has stuck to its 'zero-COVID" policy requiring mass testing, quarantines and the sequestering of anyone who has come into contact with an infected person in concentrated locations where hygiene is generally poor. A total of 228 cases have been linked to the Heaven

Supermarket club in the downtown Workers Stadium nightlife area after an infected person visited there Thursday. Of those, 180 were customers, four were staff and 44

were people with whom customers had later contact. The entire area, along with the adjacent Sanlitun shopping and dining complex, was shut down until further notice.

The outbreak prompted authorities in the sprawling back online, with the exception of students taking middle and high school placement exams. Sports gatherings in the city have also been put on hold.

Chaoyang, home to more than 3 million people, has ordered three consecutive days of mass testing, with long lines forming and wait times of two hours or more in some places.

In the city of Shanghai, 502 people have been linked to three positive tests detected Thursday among patrons of the Red Rose Beauty Salon.

The individuals involved come from 15 districts across the city of 25 million people, prompting the first large-scale restrictions since the lockdown

was formally ended June 1.

With mass testing and restrictions on movement back in force, streets and super-markets emptied again over the weekend. Failure to undergo testing

will lead to a yellow code on a person's health status app, forbidding them access to all public places. Most students remain at

home and all but a few restaurants are open only for takeout. Many customers simply partake of their food and drink on outside the establishments.

While 22 million Shanghai residents were released from lockdown almost two weeks ago, 220,000 people are still restricted to their homes under a rule requiring that no positive cases are found within their residential compounds for more than 10 days.

Another 600,000 are in control zones, where their movements are restricted within their compounds.

Corrugated steel fences and other barriers continue to block off neighborhoods and businesses, leading to further discontent and complaints from residents who remain in lockdown.

The strict implementation of lockdowns, along with a lack of information and poor distribution of food and other daily necessities, has led to rarely seen displays of anger and desperation.

Residents have confronted workers and police who have become known as "big whites" for the protective gear they wear, circulated protest videos online and coordinated nightly screaming and pot-banging events to let off steam.

The loosening of restric-Shanghai residents, including foreigners, who had found themselves trapped in the lockdown. Despite the recent outbreak, Beijing reported just 51 new cases on Monday, 22 of them asymptomatic. City residents are still undergoing regular testing — mostly every other day — and must wear masks and swipe a mobile phone app to enter public places and facilitate case trac-

China has maintained its "zero-COVID" policy despite considerable economic costs and an assertion from the head of the World Health Organization that the policy isn't sustainable.

North Korea plans crackdown as Kim pushes for internal unity

other "unsound and non-revolutionary acts," state media reported Monday, as Kim seeks greater internal unity to overcome a COVID-19 outbreak and economic difficulties.

ing Workers' Party meeting on Sunday. But possible state crackdowns on such alleged acts could be an attempt to solidify Kim's control of his people and get them to rally

behind his leadership in the face of the domestic hardships, s o m e

observers say. Kim and other senior party secre-

abuse

power and

bureaucratism

revealed

among_some

party officials,"

the official

Korean

Central News

Kim ordered the authority of the party's auditing commission and other local discitaries displine supervision systems to cussed "wagbe bolstered to promote the party's "monolithic leadering more intensive more ship" and "the broad political activities of the party through struggle the strong discipline system," a g a i n s t unsound and KCNA said. non-revolutionary acts including

Agency said.

Kim has previously occasionally called for struggles against "anti-socialist practices" at home in the past two years amid outside worries about his country's fragile economy that has been battered by pandemic-related border shutdowns, U.N. Sanctions and his own mismanagement.

The North's elevated

in the wake of the COVID-19 outbreak could cause a further strain on the country's economic difficulties, some experts say. North Korea on May 12 admitted the omicron variant of the coronavirus had infected people, and it subsequently has said about 4.5 million people — more than 17% of its 26 million people — have fallen ill with fevers and only 72 have died.

restrictions on movement's

Foreign experts widely doubt the outbreak was North Korea's first, and they believe the statistics being disclosed in state media are manipulated to prevent political damage to Kim while bolstering internal control and promoting his leadership.

AP ■ SEOUL acts were mentioned at the rul-

orth Korean leader Kim Jong Un and his top deputies have pushed for a crackdown on officials who abuse their power and commit

It wasn't clear what specific

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

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

As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken 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.		Description of Property/ Date of Physical Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	
	Simranjeet Singh/ Kawaljeet Kaur Arora/ Manjeet Singh Arora. LBDEL00004931196 & LBDEL00005341290	DDA CSA, Shop-45, Ground Floor, Pocket- B, Ashok Vihar, Phase - III, Delhi June 09, 2022	June 19, 2021 Rs. 31,05,965/-	Delhi
2.	M/s Universal Journeys India Private Limited/ Geetanjali Alamshah/ Journeys & Destinations India Private Limited/ Stephen Alamshah LBDEL00002082106	Office Space No-DPT534 Parking No- PB1001, 5th Floor Block-F, Prime Tower, Plot No. 79 And 80 Okhla Industrial Area Ph-1, Delhi. June 10, 2022	June 19, 2021 Rs. 63,41,264/-	Delhi

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.

Sd/- Chairman State Level Purchase Committee Sheep Husbandry Department Jammu & Kashmii

Authorized Officer ICICI Bank Limited

Battle of Donbas could prove decisive in Ukraine war

ay after day, Russia is pounding the Donbas region of Ukraine with relentless artillery and air raids, making slow but steady progress to seize the industrial heartland of its neighbour.

With the conflict now in its fourth month, it's a high-stakes campaign that could dictate the course of the entire war.

If Russia prevails in the battle of Donbas, it will mean that Ukraine loses not only land but perhaps the bulk of its most capable military forces, opening the way for Moscow to grab more territory and dictate its terms to Kyiv. A Russian failure could lay the grounds for a Ukrainian counteroffensive -- and possibly lead to political upheaval for the Kremlin.

Following botched early attempts in the invasion to capture Kyiv and the secondlargest city of Kharkiv without proper planning and coordination, Russia turned its attention to the Donbas, a region of mines and factories where Moscow-backed separatists have been fighting Ukrainian forces since 2014.

Learning from its earlier missteps, Russia is treading more carefully there, relying on longer-range bombardments

It seems to be working: The better-equipped Russian forces have made gains in both the Luhansk and Donetsk regions that make up the Donbas, controlling over 95% of the former and about half of the latter.

Ukraine is losing between 100 and 200 soldiers a day, presidential adviser Mykhailo Podolyak told the BBC, as Russia has "thrown pretty much everything non-nuclear at the front." President Volodymyr Zelenskyy earlier put the daily death toll at up to 100. Ukrainian Defense Minister Oleksii Reznikov described the combat situation as "extremely difficult," using a reference to an ancient deity of sacrifice by saying: "The Russian Moloch has plenty of means to devour human lives to satisfy its imperial ego."

When the war was going badly for Russia, many thought President Vladimir Putin might claim victory after some gains in Donbas and then exit a conflict that has seriously bruised the economy and stretched its resources. But the Kremlin has made clear it expects Ukraine to recognize all the gains Russia has made since the start of the invasion — something Kyiv has ruled out.

Russian forces control the

of Ukraine, including the rav-

aged southern port of

Mariupol, where a new city

sign painted in the colors of the

Russian flag was unveiled on

the outskirts and Russian flags were flown on a highway lead-

administration in Melitopol

started handing out Russian passports to those who applied

for Russian citizenship. RIA

Novosti posted video of a

Moscow-backed official con-

gratulating new Russian citi-

zens and telling them: "Russia

Also, the Russia-aligned

ing into the city.



entire Sea of Azov coast, including the strategic port of Mariupol, the entire Kherson region — a key gateway to Crimea — and a large chunk of the Zaporizhzhia region that could aid a further push deeper into Ukraine, and few expect that Putin will stop.

Unlike earlier battlefield failures, Russia appears to be using more conservative tactics. Many had expected it to try to encircle Ukrainian forces with a massive pincer movement from the north and south, but instead it has used a series of smaller moves to

force a retreat and not overextend its supply lines.

Keir Giles, a Russia expert at London's Chatham House think-tank, said Russia was "concentrating all of its artillery on a single section of the front line in order to grind its way forward by flattening every-

thing in its path." Western officials still praise the ability of Ukrainian forces to defend their country, fighting back fiercely and similarly relying on artillery and retreating in some sections while launching frequent counterat-

"Ukraine has been pursuing a policy of flexible defense, giving ground where it makes sense to do so instead of holding on to every inch of the territory," Giles said. A senior Western official

who spoke on condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorized to discuss the sensitive issue in public said the Russian campaign "continues to be deeply troubled at all levels," noting that Moscow's forces are taking "weeks to achieve even modest tactical goals such as taking individual

Last month, the Russians lost nearly an entire battalion in a botched attempt to cross the Siverskyi Donets River and set up a bridgehead. Hundreds were killed and dozens of armored vehicles were destroyed.

There is a sense of strategic improvisation or muddling through," the official said, predicting that over the summer the Russian military could no longer effectively generate offensive combat power."

Russia has a clear edge in artillery in the battle for Donbas, thanks to a bigger number of heavy howitzers and rocket launchers and abundant ammunition. The Ukrainians have had to be economical in using their artillery, with the Russians constantly targeting their supply lines.

Ukraine has begun to receive more heavy weapons from Western allies, who have provided dozens of howitzers and are now planning to start delivering multiple rocket launchers.

Putin has warned that if the West gives Kyiv longerrange rockets that could hit Russian territory, Moscow could hit targets in Ukraine that it has spared until now. Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov also said that Russia could respond by seizing more land as a buffer zone from such weapons.

Moscow's earlier territorial gains in the south, including the Kherson region and a large part of the neighboring Zaporizhzhia region, have prompted Russian officials and their local appointees to ponder plans to fold those areas be independent, like the socalled "people's republics" of Donetsk and Luhansk.

Ukrainian officials and Western analysts voiced concern that Moscow could try to press its offensive into the heavily populated and industrialized Dnipro region farther north, an advance that could potentially slice Ukraine in two and raise a new threat for

"Russian objectives in the context of this war are shifting in relation to the situation on the ground," said Eleonora Tafuro Ambrosetti, an analyst with the Milan-based Italian Institute for International Political Studies.

'Their goals are sort of flexible enough to be adaptive to context on the ground," she said, noting that Russia could try to damage Ukraine's economy by seizing the entire coastline to deny access to shipping.

A top Russian general already has spoken of plans to cut off Ukraine from the Black Sea by seizing the Mykolaiv and Odesa regions all the way to the border with Romania, a move that would also allow Moscow to build a land corridor to Moldova's separatist region of Transnistria that hosts a Russian military base.

Moscow-backed officials try to solidify rule

Kremlin-installed officials in occupied southern Ukraine celebrated Russia Day on Sunday and began issuing Russian passports to residents in one city who requested them, as Moscow sought to solidify its rule over captured parts of the country. At one of the central

squares in the city of Kherson, Russian bands played a concert to celebrate Russia Day, the holiday that marks Russia's emergence as a sovereign state after the collapse of the Soviet Union, according to Russia's state news agency RIA Novosti. In the neighboring

Zaporizhzhia region, Moscowinstalled officials raised a Russian flag in Melitopol's city center. Ukrainian media reported

that few, if any, local residents attended the Russia Day festivities in the two cities.

Russia Day was also celebrated in other occupied parts

President Vladimir Putin earlier this year issued a decree fast-tracking Russian citizenship for residents of the Kherson and Zaporizhzhia regions. In captured cities in the south and east, Moscow has also introduced the ruble as official currency, aired Russian news broadcasts and taken steps to introduce a Russian school curriculum.

The Kremlin's administrators in the Kherson and Zaporizhzhia regions have voiced plans to incorporate the areas into Russia, despite protests and signs of an insurgency among local residents.

Russian-installed officials Sunday in Melitopol reported an explosion in a garbage bin near the city's police headquarters and said two residents were injured

Another blast was reported at an electrical substation in the city of Berdyansk, which is also under Russian control. will not go anywhere. We are The Kremlin-backed adminisrorist attack, and officials said electricity was shut down in parts of the city.

On the battlefield, Russia said it is used missiles to destroy a large depot in western Ukraine that contained anti-tank and air-defense weapons supplied to Kyiv by the US and European coun-

It said the attack took place near the city of Chortkiv in the Ternopil region.

Ternopil Gov Volodymyr Trush said four Russian missiles damaged a military installation and four residential buildings in Chortkiv. More than 20 people were wounded, including a 12-year-old girl, President Ukrainian Volodymyr Zelenskyy said.

"This strike had no tactical or strategic sense, just like the absolute majority of other Russian strikes. It is terror, just terror," he said in a video

tration pronounced it a ter- Zelenskyy made another plea for modern missile defense systems from the US and other Western countries, saying, "These are lives that could have been saved, tragedies that could have been prevented if Ukraine had been listened to."

Also, heavy fighting continued for control of Sievierodonetsk, an eastern city in Luhansk province with a prewar population of 100,000 that has emerged as central to Russia's campaign to capture the Donbas, Ukraine's industrial heartland.

Russian forces shelled a Sievierodonetsk chemical plant where up to 500 civilians, 40 of them children, were holed up, Luhansk Gov Serhii Haidai An official with the pro-

Moscow, self-proclaimed Luhansk People's Republic, Rodion Mirosĥnik, said 300 to 400 Ukrainian troops also remained inside the plant. He said that efforts were underway In light of the strike, to evacuate the civilians.

Police investigating killings of 12,000 Ukrainians in war

AP ■ BUCHA (UKRAINE)

Police have opened criminal investigations into the killings of more than 12,000 Ukrainians nationwide during Russia's war, and authorities in the Kyiv region near Bucha on Monday reported discovering the bodies of several victims whose hands were tied behind

"Shots to the knees tell us that people were tortured, said Andriy Nebytov, head of the Kyiv regional police.

The hands tied behind the back with tape say that people had been held (hostage) for a long time and (enemy forces) tried to get any information from them.'

at the end of March, the authorities say they have uncovered the bodies of 1,316 people. One site reporters saw Monday was a mass grave in a forest near Bucha, where the horrors of war shocked the world after a regional Russian withdrawal earlier in the war. Reporters on Monday saw a mass grave just behind a trench dug out for a military vehicle.

Russian troops from the region

The bodies of seven civilians were retrieved from the mass grave. Two of the bodies were found with their hands tied and gunshot wounds to the knees and the head, Nebytov. Nationwide, police chief

Igor Klimenko told the

Since the withdrawal of Interfax-Ukraine news agency on Monday that criminal investigations into the deaths of more than 12,000 Ukrainians included some found in mass graves. He said the mass killings of people resulted from snipers firing from tanks and armored personnel carriers.

Bodies were found lying on streets and in their homes, as well as in mass graves. He didn't specify how many of the more than 12,000 were civilian and military.

Complete information about the number of bodies in mass graves or elsewhere isn't known, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy told the American Jewish Committee on Sunday.

Japan philanthropic group begins fund raising for Ukrainians



and other major industrialised economies in

imposing sanctions on Russia and support-

ing Ukraine because it fears a similar devel-

opment in East Asia, where Beijing has

become increasingly assertive and has threat-

ened to take military actions against Taiwan

unusual for Japan, which has extremely strict

refugee and immigration policies despite its

support for the Ukrainians will lead to a more

lenient immigration policy.

Human rights groups have criticised

Japan for neglecting displaced people from

other countries such as Afghanistan and

Myanmar, who have not received such a

warm welcome or a nationally-organised sup-

Japan could use the help on its labour short-

age and Ukraine people or evacuees can bring

their skill set and find work and contribute

to their temporary new home," Emanuel said.

Sasakawa's grandfather, Ryoichi Sasakawa, a

The Nippon Foundation was founded by

"I would say, this is a win-win situation.

Acceptance of the Ukrainian evacuees is

Advocates have expressed hope that its

it refuses to unite with China.

own shrinking labour force.

A Japanese foundation announced Monday it is launching a fundraising drive to provide more than 1,200 Ukrainian evacuees in Japan with additional financial support for language studies and other needs. Jumpei Sasakawa, executive director of the Nippon Foundation, said it aims to raise 1 billion yen (\$7.4 million) through cooperation with the U.S. And Ukrainian ambassadors.

The foundation has already pledged 5 billion yen (\$37 million) for the transportation and living costs of Ukrainian evac-

Japan has so far accepted more than 1,200 war-displaced Ukrainians since Russia invaded in late February. Sasakawa said he was approached by U.S. Ambassador to Japan Rahm Emanuel, who

asked him to enable ordinary Japanese to help support Ukrainian evacuees Ukrainian Ambassador to Japan Sergiy Korsunsk, who joined Sasakawa and Emanuel at a news conference, urged Japanese to see donations to the fund as an "investment by Japan in a nation that will be always be

friends with you.' He said Úkrainians in Japan will be "a bridge between our countries" when Ukraine

PUBLIC NOTICE General Public is hereby informed that Smt

Munesh Devi W/o Late L/NK Rajendra Singh R/o VILL&P.O. Khekra, Near Police Station, Distt. Bhagpat (U.P.) is owner in possesstion of residential property bearing Flat No. 389, Second Floor, Block-C, Vijay Awas Yojna, CV Block, Sec.-18, Dwarka New Delhi-110078, has lost origina documents pertaining to the said property viz Allotment Letter, Possession Letter and Registration Paper. Having regard to the loss of Original Documents Smt. Munesh Devi, W/o Late L/NK Rajendra Singh lodged an online complaint dated 22.04.2022 vide LAR No. 20220000171320, PS Indrapuram, Ghaziabad, U.P. General Public is hereby cautioned and advised to desist from entering into any Transaction/Dealing in any manner in respect of aforesaid property on the basis of lost original documents referred above and shall be doing so at

Milind M. Bhardwaj 807, Lawyers Chamber, Patiala House Courts, New Delhi-110 001. Mob.: 9818331266 Dated: 13.06.2022

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the Public at large that Sh. Surender Kumar Nagia S/o. Sh. Kewal Ram is the 'Title Holder' in possession of 'Residential House/ Plot No. 377, Block–G, Sector–Alpha–II, Greater Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh admeasuring 60 sq. mtrs.', hereinafter referred to as 'Schedule Property' vide Transfer Deed dated 29.02.2012, registered as Bahi No. 1, Zild No. 10401, pp. 357–420, Par Kramank No. 4197.... on 29.02.2012 in the Office of Sub Registrar–Sadar, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh That Original Documents w.r.t. the Schedule Property i.e. (i) Allotment Letter (of Specific Plot) & (ii) Possession Certificate dated 02.06.1998 have been lost/misplaced and are untraceable, hence unavailable for verification in original, in lieu of which Information Report dated unavailable for verification in original, in lieu of which information Report dated 11.06.2022 is filled with Delhi Police bearing LR. No. 488609/2022. Thus this notice issued to Public at Large, i.e. any Person(s), Company(ies), Authority(ies), Society(ies), Organisation(s), Financial Institution(s), Bank(s), HUFs etc., having knowledge, custody or possession of lost/ misplaced/ untraceable documents as mentioned untraceable documents as mentioner untraceable documents as mentioned herein above or otherwise having any claim, right, title, interest, possession in the Schedule Property, by way of Ownership, Succession, Inheritance, Sale, Mortgage, Exchange, Charge, Lien, Gift, Trust, Encumbrance etc., or objection to the sale/transfer of the Schedule Property, may come forward with supporting documents come forward with supporting documents to be delivered to the undersigned within 14 days from the date of this Publication, post expiration of which, any claim(s) or objection(s), if raised or received, shall be treated as null & void and such claims or objection shall be treated as waived, and the Title Holder shall proceed to sell/ transfer the Schedule Property as per Law, as

Naveen Kumar Sharma (Advocate Regd. No.: D/3083/99 Lawyers Ch. No.: 22, Tehsil Sadar, Ghaziabad (U.P)

PUBLIC NOTICE Notice is hereby given to the General Public on beha of our client i.e. Fullerton India Credit Company Limited that Mr. Rajeev Kumar Gupta and Mrs. Sunita Gupta are No. 304/212, 305/212, 307/212, 216/214, 224, 227, 303/ 215, 308/221, 227, 310, 219 and 222, in Block A, Ganesh 215, 308/221, 227, 310, 219 and 222, in Block A, Ganesh Nagar, Village Shakar Pur, Illaqa Shahdara, Delhi by virtue of Conveyence Deed dated 99.04 2022, Doc. no. 2153. All persons are hereby informed that above memored owners want to mortgage the said property and intend to obtain a loan in the name of Mr. Rishab Gupta from our client against the said property, if anybody has any objection's upon the ownership of above owners over the said property, its mortgageliflugation, & any other objections, kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below menfloned address within 07 days of the present.

Kumar & Associates (Advocates & Consultants). 200, Lind Floro, 23, Shiyal Marky, Mol Nagar, N. Delhi 15 200, IInd Floor, 23, Shivaji Marg, Moti Nagar, N. Delhi-1: Ph : 011-41112527-28 kumarassociates.advocate@gmail.com

To be known to all that Sh. Shiv Nandan S/o Late Sh. Shiv Nandan, both R/o Flat no. 145, Plot no 65, New Surya Kiran Apartment, I.P. Extension Pat Par Ganj, Delhi-110092 have applied fo onversion of House no. 407, Block C, Pocket 5, Sector 34 Robini Delhi from lease hold to fre nold vide File no. F16(20462)2012/RHN in DDA The original documents i.e. Handing over possession letter and Site possession slip of the above said plot has been lost. A NCR/LR no. 492176/2022 dated: 13.06.2022 to this effect has een lodged in P.S. Crime Branch Delhi.

Any person(s) claiming any right, interest, having any objection or found in possession of original documents, may write/contact with above named erson at above address/phone no. 8376002845 vithin 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. The person claiming any right, interest objection with respect to this property, can personall Director (Land), DDA Vikas Sadan, New Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is informed to the general public that the original document i.e. allotment letter, possession certificate, letter of clearance and possession etc. of Flat No. L-151, Jalvavu Vihar, Sector 25, Noida has been misplaced somewhere, whose complaint has been filed on 16.03.2022 in the P.S. Crime Branch Delhi.

Whereas, the allottee Sh. G.S. Bal is selling the said Flat No. L-151. Sector-Noida to Mr. Satpal Girotra and Mr Sanjay Girotra (jointly) and the transfer/sale papers has been initiated to the competent authorities to transfer of said property.

Therefore It is informed to the genera public that, if the above documents are found by any person or if have any right, claim or objection in selling of said property, then he/she should be lodged its claim within 15 days from the date of publication of Notice, either to group housing department of Noida Authority or AFNHB New Delhi. Failing which the claim, right on the said documents/property will be considered completely free and abandoned. Air Cmde G.S. Bal

L-151 , Jalvayu Vihar, Sector 25, Noida

Branch Office: ICICI Bank Limited, 3rd Floor Shal Tower New Rohtak Road, Karol bagh. Delhi- 110005

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of ICICI Bank Ltd. will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is"

Sr. No.		Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
1.	Vikrant Singh (Borrower), Ritu Singh (Co-Borrower) LBGUR00002386632	Flat No. B1-1802, 18th Floor, JKG Palm Court, Gh-1D, Sector 16C, Greater Noida West, UP. Super Builtup Area- 1765 Sq Ft	Rs. 86,38,492/- as on May 18, 2022	Rs. 65,50, 000/- Rs.6,55, 000/-	June 20, 2022 From 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM	July 07, 2022 From 11:00 AM Onwards
2.	Ganesh Sharma (Borrower), Kamla Katwal (Co-Borrower) LBDEL00002947887	Flat No 1804, (18th Floor), JKG Palm Court, Tower B2, Plot No. GH-1D, Sector 16 C, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh- 201307. Super Builtup Area- 1635 Sq. Ft.	Rs. 85,10,872/- as on May 18, 2022	Rs. 60,60, 000/- Rs.6,06, 000/-	June 20, 2022 From 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM	July 07, 2022 From 11:00 AM Onwards
3.	Kanishka (Borrower), Santosh Kumarl (Co- Borrower) LBGUR00002372750	B-2-1303, 13th Floor, JKG Palm Court, Plot No. Gh/1-D, Sector 16C, Greater Noida West, UP. Super Builtup Area-1395 Sq. Ft.	Rs. 73,80,952/- as on May 18, 2022	Rs. 52,00, 000/- Rs. 5,20, 000/-	June 20, 2022 From 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM	July 07, 2022 From 11:00 AM Onwards
4.	Aditya Prakash (Borrower), Prem Shashank (Co- Borrower) LBGHZ00002441728	Flat No 1408, 14th Floor Tower- A2, JKG Palm Court, Situted At Plot No GH-1D Sector-16C, Greater Noida, Noida. Super Builtup Area- 1185 Sq. Ft.	Rs. 53,64,547/- as on May 18, 2022	Rs. 44,00, 000/- Rs.4,40, 000/-	June 20, 2022 From 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM	July 07, 2022 From 11:00 AM Onwards
5.	Vijay Grover (Borrower), Reena Grover (Co- Borrower) LBDEL00002365295	Flat No B1 1301, JKG Palm Court, Plot No GH 1D, Sector 16C, Greater Noida West, UP, Super Builtup Area- 1765 Sq Ft	Rs. 84,43,954/- as on May 18, 2022	Rs. 65,50, 000/- Rs.6,55, 000/-	June 20, 2022 From 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM	July 07, 2022 From 11:00 AM Onwards
6.	Vijay Grover (Borrower), Reena Grover (Co- Borrower) LBDEL00002371601	Flat No B1 1302, JKG Palm Court, Plot No GH 1D, Sector 16C, Greater Noida West, UP Super Builtup Area- 1765 Sq. Ft.	Rs. 8,409,273/- as on May 18, 2022	Rs. 65,50, 000/- Rs.6,55, 000/-	June 20, 2022 From 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM	July 07, 2022 From 11:00 AM Onwards
7.	Neera Sharma (Borrower), Ankur Mohan (Co-Borrower) LBGUR00002313398	Flat No B1 1304, JKG Palm Court, Plot No GH 1D, Sector 16C, Greater Noida West, UP Super Builtup Area- 1635 Sq. Ft.	Rs. 8,304,923/- as on May 18, 2022	Rs. 60,60, 000/- Rs.6,06, 000/-	June 20, 2022 From 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM	July 07, 2022 From 11:00 AM Onwards
8.	Sandeep Kumar Upadhyay (Borrower), Shilpi Upadhyay (Co- Borrower) LBDEL00002275165	Flat No B2 1704, 17th Floor, JKG Palm Court, Plot No GH 1D, Sector 16C, Greater Noida West, UP Super Builtup Area- 1635 Sq. Ft.	Rs. 7,834,678/- as on May 18, 2022	Rs. 60,60, 000/- Rs.6,06, 000/-	June 20, 2022 From 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM	
9.	Sanjiv Lamba (Borrower), Madhu (Co- Borrower) LBDEL00002935333	Flat No 1603, 16th Floor, A2 Palm Court, Plot No.GH-01D Sector-16C, Greater Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar 201301. Super Builtup Area- 1185 Sq. Ft.	Rs. 6,387,173/- as on May 18, 2022	Rs. 44,00, 000/- Rs. 4,40, 000/-	June 20, 2022 From 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM	July 07, 2022 From 11:00 AM Onwards

M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited. The Mortgagors/ noticee are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till July 06, 2022 before 05:00 P.M else these secured assets will be sold as per above

The Prospective Bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at ICICI Bank Limited, 3rd Floor Shal Tower, New Rohtak Road, Karol bagh, Delhi-110005 and thereafter they need to submit their offer through the above mentioned website only on or before July 06, 2022 before 05:00 P.M along with scan image of Bank acknowledged DD towards proof of payment of EMD. Kindly note, incase prospective bidder(s) are unable to submit their offer through the website then signed copy of tender documentsmay be submitted to ICICI Bank Limited, 3rd Floor Shal Tower, New Rohtak Road, Karol bagh. Delhi-110005 on or before July 06, 2022 before 05:00 PM. Earnest Money Deposit DD/PO should be from a Nationalised/Scheduled Bank in favour of "ICICI Bank Limited" payable at Delhi.

For any further clarifications with regards to inspection, terms and conditions of the auction or submission of tenders, kindly contact ICICI Bank Limited on 8584874809/ 9599281817 or M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited on 9710029933/ 9810029926/ 01244233933

Please note that Marketing agencies 1. M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited . 2. Augeo Asset Management Pvt Ltd. have also been engaged for facilitating the sale of this property.

The Authorised Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please visit www.icicibank.com/n4p4s

Date: June 14, 2022 Place: Delhi/ NCR Sd/- Authorized Officer ICICI Bank Limited

far-right politician and businessman, to distribute money earned from motorboat racing, a popular gambling pastime.

Sensex nosedives 1,457 points amid global rout

Nifty crashes below 15,775

Equity benchmarks had Monday, with the Sensex plummeting 1,457 points and the Nifty tumbling to the 15,774 level, mirroring an extremely weak trend in global markets along with unrelenting foreign fund outflows.

Index majors ICICI Bank, Infosys and Reliance Industries bore the brunt of heavy selling.

The 30-share BSE Sensex tumbled 1,456.74 points or 2.68 per cent to settle at 52,846.70. During the day, it plummeted 1,776.36 points or 3.27 per cent to 52,527.08. The Nifty tanked 427.40 points or 2.64 per cent to close at

Bajaj Finserv, Bajaj Finance, IndusInd Bank, Tech Mahindra, ICICI Bank, TCS, NTPC, Infosys and State Bank of India were the major lag-



gards in the Sensex pack

The BSE benchmark had ended 1,016.84 points or 1.84 per cent lower at 54,303.44 on Friday. The broader NSE Nifty had plunged 276.30 points or 1.68 per cent to 16,201.80. Elsewhere in Asia, markets in Seoul, Tokyo, Hong Kong and Shanghai settled with deep cuts.Markets in Europe were also facing heavy selling pressure in mid-session deals.

Stock exchanges in the US ended sharply lower on Friday. Weak global cues ahead of the Fed meet painted benchmark indices here in a sea of red as street awaits CPI data today on a day when the rupee hit a new

The risk off mode in equities globally after the US inflation print raised fears of an aggressive rate hike..." said S Ranganathan, Head of Research at LKP Securities.

Meanwhile, international oil benchmark Brent crude fell 0.98 per cent to USD 120.75 per barrel. Foreign institutional investors (FIIs) remained net sellers in the capital market, as they sold shares worth Rs 3,973.95 crore on Friday, as per exchange data.

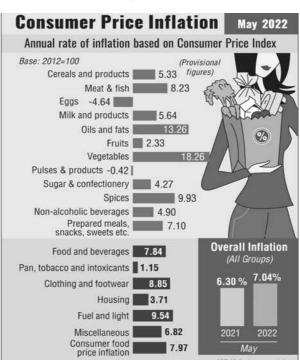
Retail inflation eases to 7.04% in May on softening food, fuel prices

m R etail inflation eased to 7.04 per cent in May, mainly on account of softening food and fuel prices as government as well as RBI stepped in to control spiralling price rise by way of duty cuts and repo rate

However, the inflation print stayed above the Reserve Bank's upper tolerance level of 6 per cent for fifth month in a row. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) based retail inflation was 7.79 per cent in April. In year-ago month of May 2021, retail inflation stood at

Inflation in the food basket in May 2022 was at 7.97 per cent, down from 8.31 per cent in previous month, as per data released by National Statistical Office (NSO) on Monday.

The food basket has weigh tage of 39.06 per cent in the overall Consumer Price Index. As per data, the inflation print in 'cereals and products' segment eased to 5.33 per cent in May as against 5.96 per cent in the preceding month, while that for 'oil and fats' softened to



13.26 per cent from 17.28 per vegetable prices accelerated cent. The rate of price rise for 18.26 per cent as against 15.41 fruits slowed to 2.33 per cent from 4.99 per cent. However, ers, the prices of eggs and

deceleration, with negative inflation prints of (-)4.64 per cent and (-)0.42 per cent, respectively.

In the 'fuel and light' category, inflation during the month softened a tad at 9.54 per cent from 10.80 per cent in April.The Reserve Bank, which factors in CPI in its monetary policy, had earlier this month raised inflation forecast for current financial year to 6.7 per cent from its previous estimate of 5.7 per cent.

As per the RBI's projections, inflation in the first quarter of the fiscal is likely to be 7.5 per cent and at 7.4 per cent in the following three months. It is expected to decline to to 6.2 per cent and 5.8 per cent in the third and fourth quarters, respectively. The government has tasked the RBI to ensure inflation remains at 4 per cent with margin of 2 per cent on either side.

In an off-cycle meeting on May 4, the Reserve Bank had hiked the key repo rate - at which it lends short term money to banks -by 0.40 per



LIC shares tumble nearly 6%; down over 29% from issue price

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Shares of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) continued to fall for the tenth day running on Monday and tumbled nearly 6 per cent.

The stock tanked 5.85 per cent to settle at Rs 668.20 apiece on the BSE. During the day, it plunged 6 per cent to Rs 666.90. On the NSE, it tumbled 5.66 per cent to end at Rs 669.50 apiece.

Shares of the company have been falling for the past ten days, losing 20.17 per cent. LIC got listed on the bourses on May 17.

Rupee falls 20 paise to close at record low of 78.13 against US dollar

The rupee plunged 20 paise to close at an all-time low of 78.13 against the US dollar on Monday, as a lacklustre trend in domestic equities and stronger greenback overseas weighed on investor senti-

Forex traders said weak Asian currencies and persistent foreign capital outflows were the other major factors that dragged the local unit down.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local currency opened at 78.20 and witnessed an intra-day high of 78.02 and a low of 78.29 against the US dollar. The local unit finally set-

tled at its all-time low of 78.13, down 20 paise over its previous close. On Friday, the rupee had tumbled 19 paise to close at a record low of 77.93 against the

Energy Expo, RenewX 2022

concluded in Hyderabad,

which is emerging as the Clean

Technology hub of the country.

target of meeting half of its

energy needs, which is 500 GW,

from renewable resources by

2030 and reach the net zero

'Unlocking the Era to Net Zero

Emissions, the Expo stressed

on the increase in the pene-

tration of renewable energy

adoption and geared up the

stakeholders to progress towards sustainable develop-

of the Expo, N. Janaiah, VC

and Managing Director,

Telangana State Renewable

Speaking on the side-lines

ment goals.

Curated on the theme,

emission levels by 2070.

India has set an ambitious



US dollar."The Indian rupee, taking cues from weaker regional currencies plummet-

The dollar extended gains Monday as US treasury yields rose after Friday's inflation shock raised speculation of a more aggressive rate hike from the Federal Reserve this Wednesday," Dilip Parmar, Research Analyst, HDFC

Parmar further noted that after Friday's US inflation data. money markets are pricing a 175 bps hike by its September decision, implying two half points and one 75 bps hike.

help people set up rooftop

panels, who will approach soci-

eties and educate consumers

about the installation process,

savings, and cost per month.

be made with 3 to 4 con-

sumers to arrive at optimum

costing. Consumers have wel-

come down to \$1/Unit in the

next 4-6 years, which will make

it viable for the consumer."

have to pay the bill."

Cost comparisons will also

PNS ■ NEW DELHI/HYDERABAD Energy Development

"The last 75 bps hike by the Fed was made in November 1994."Spot USD/INR is expected to trade higher and a cross above 78.30 will pave way for 78.50 and 78.70 while on the downside 77.70 acts as support," Parmar noted. The dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, rose 0.55 per cent to 104.71. Brent crude futures, the global oil benchmark, declined 1.58 per cent to USD 120.08 per barrel.

On the domestic equity market front, the BSE Sensex ended 1,456.74 points or 2.68 per cent lower at 52,846.70, while the broader NSE Nifty tanked 427.40 points or 2.64 per cent to 15,774.40. Continuing their selling spree, foreign institutional investors offloaded shares worth a net Rs 3,973.95 crore on Friday, as per stock exchange data.

Government IT spending in India to reach \$9.5 bn this year

IANS ■ NEW DELHI

The government IT spending in India is likely to reach \$9.5 billion in 2022, an increase of 12 in increase of 12.1 per cent from last year, a new report said on Monday. Software will continue to be the highest growing segment in India this year, followed by IT services.

"Contrary to the worldwide spending, all segments will experience growth in 2022 in India," said Apeksha Kaushik, principal analyst at Gartner.

Now, governments are executing innovative activities by harnessing technology to streamline digital services, advance automation processes and evolve citizen experiences and building a data fabric.

Global government IT spending is likely to reach \$565.7 billion in 2022, an



increase of 5 per cent from 2021. Continuing the trend from 2021, software is forecast to record the strongest growth across all segments in 2022.

As legacy modernization continues to be a priority in government organizations, growth in the data center systems segment will continue to slow though the forecast period, the report mentioned. "Governments are execut-

ing innovative activities by harnessing technology to streamline digital services, advance automation processes and evolve citizen experiences," said Daniel Snyder, director

Spending on telecom services is set to decrease in 2022 as governments reduce spending on expensive legacy systems in favour of digital service delivery models. Anything-as-a-Service

(XaaS) is gaining popularity across government organizations as it provides better return on investment normalising IT spend over time making budgeting for IT more predictable. "The pandemic sped up public-sector adoption of cloud solutions and the XaaS model for accelerated legacy modernization and new service implementations," said Kaushik.

With the ongoing talent challenges facing organizations, XaaS makes it easier for government organizations to find the right talent via XaaS operating models.

Govt to pursue \$3.85 billion recovery from Reliance, partners and gas field. The two firms

The government on Monday said it will pursue recovery of USD 3.85 billion from The government on Monday Reliance Industries and its partners in Panna/Mukta and Tapti oil and gas fields case and is mulling an appeal against an English court order over cost recovery dispute in same fields.

Reacting to an English High Court last week dismissing India's appeal against a USD 111 million international arbitration award in favour of Reliance Industries Ltd and Shell-owned BG Exploration and Production India Ltd (BGEPIL), the government in a statement said it has right to seek leave of English commercial court to challenge this judgment.

Reliance and BGEPIL on December 16, 2010, dragged the government to arbitration over cost recovery provisions, profit due to state and amount of statutory dues including royalty payable. They wanted to recovered from sale of oil and gas before profits are shared with government.

The Government of India also raised counter claims over expenditure incurred, inflated sales, excess cost recovery, and short accounting. A threemember arbitration panel, headed by Singapore-based lawyer Christopher Lau, by majority issued a final partial award (FPA) on October 12,

It upheld government view that profit from fields should be calculated after deducting prevailing tax of 33 per cent and not 50 per cent rate that existed earlier. It also upheld that cost recovery in contract is fixed at USD 545 million in Tapti gas field and USD 577.5 million in Panna-Mukta oil

wanted that cost provision be raised by USD 365 million in Tapti and USD 62.5 million in Panna-Mukta. Royalty, it said, had to be calculated after the inclusion of marketing margin charged over and above the wellhead price of natural gas.

The government used this award to seek USD 3.85 billion in dues from Reliance and

"Disputes arose between the parties which were referred to arbitration for resolution in 2010. So far, the Arbitral Tribunal has passed eight substantial partial awards. 66 of the 69 issues were decided in favour of the Government of India in the final partial award passed by the Tribunal in 2016," an official statement said. Pursuant to the 2016 award, the government sought payment of USD 3.85 billionplus interest from Reliance

and BGEPIL. "The Contractor (Reliance-BGEPIL) failed to make the Therefore, the Government has filed an application for execution of final partial award 2016 before the Delhi High

Court," the statement added. Reliance-BGEPIL challenged the final partial award of 2016 before the English Commercial Court. The challenges were classified under nine broad heads. "In April, 2018 the English Court passed a judgment,

in favor of Union of India, dismissing eight out of nine challenges," statement said."Regarding the ninth challenge, the Court directed that matter be remitted back to Tribunal, for reconsideration. The Tribunal subsequently passed its order on this challenge, partly in favour of

RenewX 2022 ends in Hyderabad | Punjab CM assures farmers to provide Energy Development Corporation Ltd, said, "TSPEDCO is committed to

PTI ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Monday assured farmers to provide regular and uninterrupted power supply during the paddy season.

comed this initiative as it pro-According to an official vides them with a one-stop statement, Mann said the state shop advantage and will only government has taken a conscientious decision to conserve Ajay Mishra, Director General - RESI and Former the state's precious natural resource in terms of ground-Special Chief Secretary, Telangana, said: "Today the water by allowing paddy trans-plantation in a phased manner cost of Hydrogen is about \$5across the state from June 10 to 6/unit, and as per the prediction of industry captains the cost of green hydrogen will

Resultantly, the chief minister said Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (PSPCL) had already been directed to ensure a minimum of eight



hours of power supply to farmers during the ongoing paddy season. Showing deep concern over the fast depleting ground-water level, the chief minister urged the farmers to make iudicious use of water.

Mann has already given detailed instructions to PSPCL to make sure that the power supply to other categories of consumers, especially the households, should not be

hampered and ensure they too get regular power supply during the peak summer season, the statement said. Elaborate arrangements have already been made by PSPCL to meet total expected demand of 15,000 megawatt, which includes farm sector requirement for paddy, it added.

To meet this demand, the transmission capacity to procure from outside the state has been enhanced to 8,500 MW as against 7,100 MW in last season and remaining power of 6,500 MW is being arrangedfrom its sources within state, as per statement. According to estimates of the state agriculture department, farmers are likely to sow paddy over an area of nearly 29 lakh.

Live reporting for health tests

Healthians, a leading diagnostic services provider and the pioneer of the healthtest-at-home concept, has launched diagnostic tests live reporting that starts just 4 hours after sample collection.

The service has been launched in Delhi, Gurgaon, Noida, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Ghaziabad, Faridabad, and Greater Noida. "Making India, and eventually the world, healthier is what we are working for, and this service is another step in that direction," said Deepak Sahni, founder & CEO, Healthians.

Star os for Raisays

StartUps for Railways launched

 $P^{\text{olicy aims to leverage innovative technologies devel-}}$ Indian Startups/MSMEs/Innovators/E ntrepreneurs to improve operational efficiency and Safety of Indian Railways Grant up to Rs 1.5 crore to innovator on equal sharing basis with provision of milestone-wise payment Indian

Railways, the National transporter has taken an important ation, maintenance and infrainitiative in field of innovation through participation of startups and other entities. Minister of Railways, Communications and Electronics & Information Technology, Ashwini Vaishnaw has launched "StartUps for Railways" today in Rail Bhavan, New Delhi. This policy will bring scale

structure creation through participation of very large and untapped startup ecosystem. Speaking at event, Ashwini Vaishnaw said that long going discussions over integration of technology into Indian Railways have taken today the firm shape in form of this initiative launched today.

and efficiency in field of oper-

India's coal import may drop 11% to 186 MT in FY'23

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

ndia's coal import is likely to decline by 11.4 per cent to 186 million tonnes (MT) in the current financial year, even as the state-owned firm has issued import tenders to source the dry fuel from overseas.

Coal India Ltd, which accounts for over 80 per cent of domestic coal output, last week issued tenders to import coal in a bid to build up the stock of fossil fuel at the indigenous power plants, as mandated by

the government.

The country imported 210
MT of coal in the 2021-22. According to the mediumterm projections of the ministry of coal, of the 186 MT of coal that the company is expected to import in the ongoing fiscal, 130 MT is noncoking coal and 56 MT is coking coal. Non-coking coal is mainly used as thermal coal for power generation. India is likely to import 172 MT of coal in

and 170 MT in 2029-30. The country imported 215 MT of coal in FY'21 and 249 MT of coal in FY'20, the coal ministry

Coal India last week floated its maiden tender to import 2.416 million tonnes of coal and also floated two international competitive bidding etenders of 3 million tonnes each to source coal from over-

The import tender was floated after the government asked the company to build up stock of fossil fuel to avoid the reoccurrence of power outages, which happened in April on account of shortage of the Though CIL is on its full

steam in augmenting the production to meet the domestic demand of the country, this is a step towards a state of readiness to combat futuristic coal supply crunch if any, the PSU

OVL says oil movement from Sakhalin-1 project disrupted due to sanctions

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

ONGC Videsh Ltd, the over-seas investment arm of state-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), is facing temporary disruptions in moving its share of oil from the Sakhalin-1 project in Far East Russia due to sanctions against Russia, its Managing Director Alok Gupta said.

OVL holds a 20 per cent stake in Sakhalin-1 where ExxonMobil's Russian subsidiary, Exxon Neftegaz, is the operator, Exxon has announced its exit from project following Russia's invasion of Ukraine and has reportedly begun withdrawing expatriates from pro-

Sakhalin-1 produced around 271,000 barrels of oil per day in January and February 2022, according to Russian Energy Ministry data, against average of 227,000 bpd last year. Output has slipped after sanctions against Russia made it difficult to ship oil from project. Production slipped to just over 60,000 barrels per day between May 1 and 15, Moscow-based news agency Interfax reported.

"There are temporary disruptions because of force majeure taken in case of Sakhalin-1," Gupta said at an investor call post-ONGC's FY22 earnings. "This situation is going to be normalized over next two-three weeks, as we are finding out alternative mea-

He did not elaborate on alternatives being explored. The ExxonMobil-led Sakhalin-1 consortium declared force majeure on its scheduled oil export shipments to Asia after it faced difficulties in chartering ice-resistant tankers to ship oil from De-Kastri marine export terminal located on Sakhalin Island in Russia's Khabarovsk region. These tankers are operated by Russian state-owned

Sovcomflot that is subject to sanctions from US and Europe. Shipowners are facing difficulty in arranging insurance coverage. Gupta said sea between Khabarovsk region and Sakhalin usually clears of ice by June and so the ice-class vessels and ice-breaking support are needed before that. According to the transcript

of the call, he termed Exxon's exit from Russia as a result of a "grandstanding or let's say high moral stance taken not exactly in terms of energy sanctions which have been imposed, but (due to) high moral grounds. "The refusal to provide production and indemnity

cover for ice-class vessels has led to an inability to move crude from terminal to transfer point which is in South Korea, he said. "This disruption is going to be there for a couple of months because of which we are having suppressed production from Sakhalin.'

HAALAND 'PROUD' TO MAKE MAN CITY MOVE

rling Haaland said his transfer to Manchester City from Borussia ■Dortmund is a "great move" for his career as the Norwegian aims to fire the Premier League champions to more silverware.

City announced last month they had beaten off competition from Europe's top clubs to agree a deal with the German giants after triggering Haaland's report-ed £51 million (\$63 million) release clause.

The 21-year-old's move was officially completed on Monday with Haaland penning a fiveyear contract to follow in the footsteps of his father Alfie Inge Haaland, who played for City between 2000 and 2003.

"This is a proud day for me and my family. I have always watched City and have loved doing so in recent seasons, said Haaland. "I want to score goals, win trophies, and improve as a footballer and I am confident I can do that here. This is a great move for me, and I can't wait to get started in pre-season.

The arrival of one of world football's biggest talents end City's search for a specialist striker to succeed Sergio Aguero, who left the club last year.

City's attempt to sign



Liverpool agree 75mn-euro deal for Nunez expressed his desire to play for Reds man-

Liverpool have reached a deal with Benfica to buy the Uruguay striker Darwin Nunez for an initial 75 million euros (£64 million), the Portuguese club said on Monday.

The transfer could eventually rise to

100 million euros, Benfica said in a statement, eclipsing Liverpool's club-record £75 million paid to Southampton for Dutch centre-back Virgil van Dijk in 2018.

Nunez scored 26 goals in 28 league appearances last season in Portugal.

The 22-year-old, who was left out of

Uruguay's squad for Saturday's 5-0 friendly victory over Panama, was expected to begin a medical on Monday which could take two days to complete.

Personal terms are not anticipated to be a problem, with the player having

England captain Harry Kane

from Tottenham fell short last

summer, but Pep Guardiola's

men still had enough to pip

Liverpool by a point to win a

fourth Premier League title in

in 19 Champions League appearances for Dortmund and

RB Salzburg and will be expect-

ed to get City over the line when

it matters most in Europe.

Haaland has scored 23 goals

five seasons.



for Dortmund

"There are so many world-

class players in this squad and

Pep is one of the greatest man-

agers of all time, so I believe I am

in the right place to fulfil my

their style of play, it's exciting

and they create a lot of chances,

which is perfect for a player like

me." Haaland had almost his

pick of Europe's top clubs thanks

to a buyout clause below his

'You can't help but admire

ambitions," he added.

ager Jurgen Klopp despite interest from Manchester United.

Nunez is set to sign a reported six-year contract with Premier League and Champions League runners-up Liverpool, who have been in talks with Benfica for several weeks

He netted in both legs of Benfica's Champions League quarter-final defeat against Liverpool in April, earning praise

from Klopp.

Nunez is likely to arrive at Anfield as

' transf for Sadio Mane a direct replacement for Sadio Mane after Bayern Munich stepped up their pursuit of the Senegal forward.

Liverpool have rejected two offers from the Bundesliga champions and are holding out for a fee in excess of £40 million for Mane, who has one year left on his

market value and a stunning we are confident he can get even better working with Pep," said City's director of football Txiki record of 86 goals in 89 games He rejected Manchester United's advances when moving

"He is a huge talent and has from Salzburg to Dortmund in been one of the best strikers in January 2020 and his decision to Europe over the last few seasons.

"His goalscoring record is exceptional and his performances at Borussia Dortmund and in the Champions League in particular have proved he can succeed at the highest level."

Djoker slips to 3rd as Medvedev tops ATP rankings



PNS NEW DELHI

tournament.

ny in New Delhi.

he 21st Kazakhstan

L Curling Cup WCT (World Curling Tour) Mixed

Doubles 2022 was held between May 26 to May 29.

The Indian team bagged the

runners-up position in the

team at a glittering ceremo-

Rashmi Saluja, President of the Curling Federation of India felicitated the winning

She also presented kits to

Daniil Medvedev returned to the top of the ATP rankings on Monday, ahead of Alexander Zverev, with Novak Djokovic slipping out of the top two for the first time in nearly four years.

The 26-year-old Russian, who was surprisingly beaten by Tim van Rijthoven

Weightlifter Gurunaidu

Youth World Champion

IWF Youth World Championships in Leon

While Sanapathi, the 2020 Asian Youth Weightlifitng

Championships Bronze medal-

list, stood on top of the podium,

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's Ali

Majeed 229kg (105kg+124kg)

came in second and Yerassyl

triot Soumya S. Dalvi bagged

time Khelo India Youth Gold

medallist, heaved 148kg

(65kg+83kg) to claim the third

Philipines 155kg (70kg+85kg) and Venezuela Kerlys M.

Montilla 153kg (71kg+82kg). The other Indian in the fray,

R Bhavani finished eighth with a best effort of 132kg

(57kg+75kg).

respective events.

second day of competitions. Maharashtra's Dalvi, a two-

Besides Sanapathi, compa-

(100kg+124kg) third.

Sanapathi becomes

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Mexico.

Sunday night.

in the final at 's-Hertogenbosch on Sunday, briefly occupied the number one spot for two weeks at the end of February and the beginning of March.

But with Djokovic losing in the quarter-finals at the French Open, where he was defending champion, the door opened for Medvedev to rise again to top

World No. 205 Rijthoven shocks Daniil

AP ■ S-HERTOGENBOSCH

Tim van Rijthoven made the most of a rare main tour berth as he claimed a first title by sweeping aside Daniil Medvedev 6-4, 6-1 in the final of the grass court tournament in 's-

Medvedev is unable to compete at Wimbledon as Russian and Belarusian players have been barred following the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Rankings points, however, will not be awarded.

Zverev climbs to number two for the first time having spent a total of 56 weeks since November 2017 at number three. The German, however, is facing a spell on the sidelines after tearing ligaments in his right ankle during his French Open semi-final with Nadal.

Djokovic's grip on the number one ranking had already been weakened by his exclusion earlier in the year, because of Covid regulations, from the Australian Open where he was also the defending

Kazakhstan Curling Cup WCT medal winners felicitated

Hertogenbosch. The 25-year-old Dutchhman, ranked 205th in the world, took 1hr 5min to crush the Russian. Van Rijthoven, who was invited into the Dutch event as a wild card, had spent this season, like most of his career, on the second tier Challenger Tour.

It is the first time since October 2018 that Djokovic is not in the top two.

Ráfael Nadal, who beat the Serb at Roland Garros and went on to take the title for the 14th time, stays at number four, now only 245 points behind his great

Casper Ruud reached his best career ranking of fifth in the world, up one place ahead of Stefanos Tsitsipas.

Former world number one Andy Murray climbed 21 places to 48 following his journey to the final in Stuttgart at the weekend while Medvedev's conqueror Van Rijthoven jumped 99 places

Doubles Curling Cup is part of the World Curling Tour

that connects the world's

most high-profile events in

Curling Federation, it enlists

participation from national

teams worldwide in the

Rashmi Saluja remarked, "We

are happy with Indian Mixed

Doubles team's victory in the

World Curling Tour (WCT).

I extend my best wishes to the

Indian contingent at their

singular achievement."

Unveiling the Jersey,

Mixed Doubles category.

Organized by the World

elite Curling.



choose the Etihad as his desti-

nation is a coup for City's rising

able, but he is still only 21. His

best years are ahead of him, and

"His rise has been remark-

Spain celebrate as Portugal fall

Spain won a second successive UEFA Nations League match on Sunday with a 2-0 win over the Czech Republic while rivals Portugal conceded a goal after just 57 seconds to lose to Switzerland.

Spain went in front in a perfectly-weighted pass by Marco Asensio released Carlos Soler to score.

Pablo Sarabia added the second on 75 minutes as Spain got the better of a Czech side against whom they had drawn 2-2 in Prague last week.

Despite the win, Spain were indebted to some fine saves by Athletic Bilbao goalkeeper Unai Simon.

He thwarted an 18thminute strike from Vaclav Cerny and, two minutes later, denied Jan Kuchta.

In Geneva, Switzerland took the lead after just 57 sec-

onds against a Portugal side playing without Cristiano Ronaldo when Haris Seferovic scored from Silvan Widmer's pass. Portugal's stand-in skipper Pepe made his 128th international appearance and they were unlucky not to get something from the game with Swiss keeper Jonas Omlin sav-

Victory was a welcome boost for a Swiss side who went into the game having lost their previous three matches.

Spain stay top of League A Group 2 with eight points

from four games with Portugal a point further back.

Erling Haaland scored twice and set up the third as Norway beat neighbours Sweden 3-2 in Oslo in League B. "I'm speechless!" the 21year-old striker told Norwegian television, before adding: "To win against Sweden in the last match of the mer, gave Norway the lead in the 10th minute heading in a near-post cross. He added a penalty in the

Haaland, who is heading

for Manchester City from

Borussia Dortmund this sum-

season, it's beautiful.'

54th minute after Hjalmar Ekdal fouled Alexander It was Haaland's 20th international goals in 18

Norway appearances. Sweden replied eight minutes later when Emil Forsberg

smashed home a pass from Dejan Kulusevski. Haaland then crossed for

Sorloth to head home and restore the host's two-goal lead after 77 minutes.

Viktor Gyokeres gave the Swedes brief hope by rifling

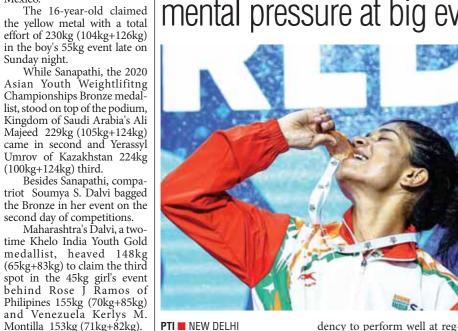
home a shot five minutes into added time.

"This tasted great," said rway coach Stale Norway

Solbakken.

Gurunaidu Sanapathi has Gbecome India's first weightlifter to win a Gold at the Need to train Indian athletes to handle World mental pressure at big events: Nikhat

upcoming Indo-Kazakhstan



the Indian Curling team set Curling Championship 2022. to represent India in the The Indian Curling Team

ticket events.

Handling "mental pressure" at the highest level is something Indian athletes lack, according to reigning world champion boxer Nikhat Zareen, who feels specialised training should be given to overcome this hurdle at big-

Indian athletes have a ten-

India's tally at the word event now stands at four medals. On the opening day of competition, Akansha Kishor Vyavhare and Vijay Prajapati

had won Silver medals in their

dency to perform well at regular events but falter at the big stage like the Olympics or the World Championships.

"Our Indian boxers are very talented, we are not less than anyone. We have strength, speed and power.. Everything," Zareen said when asked where the Indian boxers are lacking.

"It's just that once you reach that (world) level, boxers

should be given training to handle the mental pressure.

Jersey was also unveiled by

The Kazakhstan Mixed

her at the event.

"Once you reach the big platforms a lot of athletes become nervous, they aren't able to perform," added Zareen. Zareen, who was crowned

the world champion in the flyweight event last month, has also sealed a berth for the Birmingham Commonwealth Games, starting on July 28. Zareen has had to wait long

for a chance in the flyweight category which veteran Indian boxer MC Mary Kom has made her own but the Telengana boxer feels the wait increased her hunger to do well. "Not only for me but other boxers in that category, they too wanted a chance. But you have to prove yourself and I have done that by becoming world champion.

"If I hadn't struggled and if Mary Kom wouldn't have been in my weight category I might not have worked so hard.

"And if I hadn't worked hard I wouldn't be a world champion today. So I will take it in a positive way. Maybe I had more hunger because I got a

Sindhu, Sen eye consistency as focus shifts to Indonesia Open



PTI JAKARTA

wo-time Olympic medallist P V Sindhu ■ and rising star Lakshya Sen will seek consistency as they lead the Indian charge at the Indonesia Open Super 1000 badminton tournament beginning here on

Sindhu has managed to secure two Super 300 titles — the Syed Modi International and the Swiss Open — this year but she has looked vulnerable against

top players, facing defeats at the hands of Thailand's Ratchanok Inthanon, China's Chen Yu Fei and Korea's An Se Young.

However, the former world champion is known to up her game in big events and she will look to gear up for next month's Commonwealth Games with another good show at the Istora Gelora Bung Karno when she opens against China's He Bing Jiao.

If Sindhu, seeded seventh, can cross the ppening two rounds, she is likely to face the third seeded An Se Young, who has an overwhelming 5-0 record against the Indian. In men's singles, eighth seed Sen and HS Prannoy — the two architects of India's epic Thomas Cup win — will cross sword in an

all Indian contest. Sen has been in good touch for the last few months. His World Championships Bronze was followed by a maiden Super 500 title win at India Open and a final appear-

ance at the All England Championship and German Open Super 300. World Championship Silver medallist Kidambi Srikanth, who was in sensational form at the Thomas Cup, will meet Chinese

Taipei's Wang Tzu Wei in his opener. Former Singapore Open champion B Sai Praneeth, who hasn't been in the best of form, is pitted against Denmark's Hans-Kristian Solberg Vittinghus in his

opening match. Top men's doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, who had skipped the Indonesia Masters last week, will open their campaign against Korea's Choi Sol Gyu and Kim Won Ho.

In women's doubles, Ashwini Ponnappa and N Sikki Reddy, Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand, and Ashwini Bhat and Shikha Gautam, will also be in the fray.

Ashwini and Sumeeth will also pair up in the mixed event, while Ishaan Bhatnagar and Tanisha Crasto will also look to go deep



DRITI ATRI

fter suffering back-to-back defeats in the first two matches of the five-match T20I series against South Africa, India can't afford to lose anymore if they want to win the home assignment against the Temba Bavuma-led side. The South Africans made a mockery of the Indian bowling attack in the opening two matches and easily chased down the targets to go 2-0 up.

For the Men in Blue, things have gone from bad to worse in the last few

days. After losing skipper KL Rahul and star spinner Kuldeep Yadav ahead of the start of the series, India failed to put up a strong show in the familiar conditions to keep the visitors at bay.

The poor performance of the Indian spinners — Yuzvendra Chahal and Axar Patel — has been a cause of concern. The duo have picked up a total of two wickets in two matches and have conceded 134 runs in 11.1 overs. They leaked runs in the middle orders that allowed Proteas batters to settle down at the crease and play big shots at will

Chahal's performance is a big

DO-OR-DIE GAME FOR INDIA

After suffering back-to-back defeats in first two matches, India take on SA in must-win tie

shocker for the Indian team as the legspinner was in top-form in the recently concluded 2022 season of the Indian Premier League and finished as the leading wicket-taker of the season.

In the batting, Ishan Kishan has done well up till now, but his opening partner, Ruturaj Gaikwad, is yet to make any significant contribution. He hasn't looked comfortable in either of the games. Shreyas Iyer, at three, has tackled Tabraiz Shamsi with ease but is yet to find a solution against the short

The Indian team management will be hoping that the star middle-order trio of skipper Rishabh Pant, all-rounder Hardik Pandya, and veteran Dinesh Karthik will come good and go, all guns blazing, in the must-win match in Vizag.

In the second T20I, which was played at Cuttack's Barabati Stadium, in a surprise call, Axar Patel was promoted to bat ahead of Karthik, who made his comeback to the national setup on the back of an outstanding IPL season. The team's decision has been heavily criticised by fans and former cricketers alike, and in the upcoming matches one can expect Karthik at six.

Pant's captaincy has also been under scanner after the first two matches. The 24-year-old has failed to make the most of the resources available and his decision to hold Axar till the 12th over on Sunday was a bizarre call. In the first match, he was slammed

for not allowing Yuzvendra Chahal to complete the quota of four overs.

Going into the third game, it will be interesting to see if India make any changes to the playing eleven. Even though the changes are quite low if though the chances are quite low, it won't be a surprise if one of Umran Malik or Arshdeep Singh makes his India debut on Tuesday.

The duo have received their maiden call-up on the back of a good performance in this year's IPL. While Umran has impressed with his pace and wicket-taking abilities, Punjab Kings' pacer Arshdeep has established himself as one of the best death bowlers in the country as far as T20 cricket is con-

As for South Africa, they are on the cusp of winning their first T20I series .PTI CUTTACK

It may have looked odd to send Axar Patel ahead of India's 'designated finisher' Dinesh Karthik in the second T20 against South Africa but top-order batter Shreyas Iyer defended the strategy, saying

the need of the hour was to 148/6. "rotate strike". India were struggling to get going and were 112/6 when Axar Patel got out in the 17th over as it was mainly due to the veteran Karthik's pyrotechnics while batting at No 7 that they

could get post a respectable

"It's something we had strategised earlier as well. We had seven overs left when Axar went in, and he's someone who can take the singles and keep rotating the strike," Shreyas said at the post-match media interaction on Sunday.



GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA E.Mail - rw_sundargarh@yahoo.co.in OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER RURAL WORKS DIVISION, SUNDARGARH E-PROCUREMENT NOTICE

BID IDENTIFICATION NO. ONLINE-SESNG-11 of 2022-23 Name of the Work :- Road Works

Total No. of works :- 13 nos Road

Estimated cost :- Rs. . 7.43 Lakhs to Rs.42.48 Lakhs Class of contractor :- 'C' & 'B', 'D', "A'

'Axar sent ahead of DK to rotate strike'

Period of completion :- 01 to 02 calendar months Type of Tender

:- Single Cover Other details

Procurement Office Bid Identification No Superintending Engineer, Online-SESNG-11 17.06.2022 Rural Works Division, Sundargarh. 11.00 A.M 05.30 P.M

Further details can be seen from the website www.tendersorissa.gov.in Superintending Engineer Rural Works Division, Sundargarh

OIPR-25046/11/0013/2223

0-464

F. Mail ID: serwcharipada@gman.com Ph-No-06792-261343/261344

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BARIPADA "e" Procurement Notice for Bridge Work

Identification No.- Online Tender- Bridge N.C.B. No. 231 for 2022-23. Letter No. 1964 / Date. 10.06.2022 //

Name of the work Construction of H.L Bridge over river Kantakhairi at 1.90km on

PWD Road to Nuabeda via Bangriposi in the District of Mayurbhanj under BSY.

:- 01 No. (One) Total No. of work

:- Rs. 840.16 lakhs (approximately) **Estimated Cost** Eligible Class of Contractor As per annexure

Period of Completion

Bid Identification No.	Availability of tender On-line for bidding		Time of	Date & Time of Opening of Tender in O/O C.C.E.R.W. Circle, Baripada		
	From	То	Tender Clarification.	Technical Bid	Financial Bid	
2	3	4	5	6	7	
Bridge On- line N.C.B. No. 231	Dt.18.06.2022 at 11.00 A.M.	Dt.04.07.2022 up to 5.00 P.M.	Dt.02.07.2022 up to 5.00 P.M.	Dt. 05.07.2022 at 11.00 A.M.	Will be intimated later	
	Identification No. 2 Bridge On- line N.C.B.	Bid bid	Identification No. From To	Bid Bid Bidding Time of seeking Tender Clarification	Bid Identification No. From To Clarification Tender Ten	

Any Corrigendum / Addendum will be displayed in the above e_tender website only.

Chief Construction Engineer OIPR-25181/11/0020/2223 R.W. Circle, Baripada

Kotak, Bahutule to be part of Laxman's support staff for Ireland tour

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

National Cricket Academy coaches Sitanshu Kotak, Sairaj Bahutule and Munish Bali will be part of India cricket team's support staff, which will be headed by VVS Laxman, on the short tour of

Kotak, who has been part of the India A set up earlier, will be the batting coach while Bali and Bahutule, who were part of the victorious U-19 World Cup campaign in the Caribbean earlier this year, have been handed the fielding and bowling duties.

NCA head Laxman will coach the team in Ireland with the games scheduled on June 26 and June 28 in Malahide.

With head coach Rahul Dravid and the other senior team support staff set to depart for England with the Test squad later this week, the trio of Bali, Kotak and Bahutule has already joined the squad currently playing South Africa at home.

"After the senior support staff departs for the England tour, Bali, Bahutule and Kotak will take over the duties for the remaining T20 against South Africa in Rajkot and Bengaluru.

They have already been with the limited overs squad for a while and by the time the senior support staff leaves for England, they will be ready for the task," a BCCI official said.

AFFIDAVIT By virtue of an affidavit before

Executive Magistrate Berhampur, I Smt. Madhusmita Pattojoshi aged about 53 years, W/o. Sri Prasanna Pattojoshi, resident of Chandraprabha Street, 1st Lane, PO. Berhampur, Dist . Ganjam do hereby declare that, before my marriage my name was Madhusmita Padhy, which has been mentioned in my educational certificate. But in my Aadhaar Card vide No.2593 8649 0222 & in my PAN Card vide No AUDPP4153C, my name has been mentioned as Madhusmita Pattojoshi and in some documents, I have signed as Madhusmita P. So Madhusmita Patttojoshi, Madhusmita Padhy, & Madhusmita P. is one and same person for all purposes

ODISHA UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH (Formerly College of Engineering & Technology, Bhubaneswar) Techno Campus, Ghatikia, P.O. Mahalaxmi Vihar

BHUBANESWAR-751029 ODISHA, INDIA

Ref. No. 1348 /OUTR, Date: 11.06.2022

EXTENTION OF DATE OF TENDER NOTICE NO. 1110/OUTR, DATED 10.05.2022

The last date of submission of tender for (i) comprehensive student insurance policy for the students to be admitted in the Academic Year 2021-22 and 2022-23 for their entire tenure of study on a long term basis and (ii) the Group Accident Policy for the Employees for one year" is hereby extended up to 30.06.2022. The technical and financial bids will be opened on 02.07.2022 and 08.07.2022 respectively. Other terms and conditions remains the same.

OIPR-16005/11/0014/2223

OFFICER ON SPECIAL DUTY



ବିଶ୍ୱ ରକ୍ତଦାତା ଦିବସ ଉପଲକ୍ଷେ ମାନ୍ୟବର ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟ ଓ ପରିବାର କଲ୍ୟାଣ ମନ୍ତୀଙ୍କ ବାର୍ତ୍ତା



ପ୍ରତିବର୍ଷ କୁନ୍ ୧୪ ତାରିଖ 'ବିଶ୍ୱ ରକ୍ତଦାତା ଦିବସ' ରୂପେ ପାଳନ କରାଯାଉଛି । ଆଜିର ଏହି ଦିବସ ଅବସରରେ ମୁଁ ରାଜ୍ୟର ସମସ୍ତ ସ୍ୱେଚ୍ଛାକୃତ ରକ୍ତଦାତାମାନଙ୍କୁ ଆନ୍ତରିକ ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା ଜଣାଉଛି ।

ଆମ ରାଜ୍ୟରେ ବାର୍ଷିକ ହାରାହାରି ୪ ଲକ୍ଷ ୫୦ ହଜାର ୟୁନିଟ୍ ରକ୍ତର ଆବଶ୍ୟକତା ରହିଛି । ଏହି ଆବଶ୍ୟକତାକୁ ପୂରଣ କରିବା କ୍ଷେତ୍ରରେ ସ୍ୱେଚ୍ଛାକୃତ ଭାବରେ ରକ୍ତଦାନ କରି ବିଶୁଦ୍ଧ ରକ୍ତ ଯୋଗାଇବା ଆମ ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କର ଦାୟିତ୍ୱ । ଏଥିପାଇଁ ସ୍ୱତଃଷ୍କୂର୍ଭ ଭାବେ ରକ୍ତଦାନ କରି ନିଜେ ସୁସ୍ଥ ରହିବା ସହ ଅକାଳରେ ଝଡ଼ି ପଢ଼ୁଥିବା ଜୀବନକୁ ବଞ୍ଚାଇବାରେ ସହଯୋଗ କରି ଜୀବନ ସାର୍ଥକ କରିବା । ରକ୍ତଦାନ କରି ଅନ୍ୟର ଜୀବନ ବଞ୍ଚାଇବାରେ ଥାଏ ଅପୂର୍ବ ଆନନ୍ଦ ।

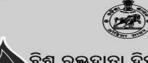
ସ୍ୱତଃଷ୍ଟର୍ତ୍ତ ଭାବେ ସ୍ୱେଚ୍ଛାକୃତ ରକ୍ତଦାନ କରି ରକ୍ତ ଆବଶ୍ୟକ କରୁଥିବା ରୋଗୀମାନଙ୍କର ବହୁମୂଲ୍ୟ ଜୀବନ ବଞ୍ଚାଇବାରେ ଦେବଦୂତ ସାକୁଥିବା ସମସ୍ତ ସ୍ୱେଚ୍ଛାକୃତ ରକ୍ତଦାତାମାନଙ୍କୁ ମୋର ଅନେକ ଅନେକ ଆନ୍ତରିକ ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା ।

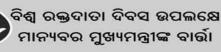
Valor wins aid

(ନବ କିଶୋର ଦାସ) ମାନ୍ୟବର ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟ ଓ ପରିବାର କଲ୍ୟାଣ ମନ୍ତୀ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା

OIPR-10080/13/0002/2223

OIPR-10080/13/0002/2223







କୁନ୍ ୧୪ ତାରିଖ ବିଶ୍ୱ ରକ୍ତଦାତା ଦିବସ । 'ରକ୍ତଦାନ ଏକତାର ପ୍ରତୀକ; ଏହି ମହତ ପ୍ରୟାସରେ ଯୋଗଦେଇ ମୂଲ୍ୟବାନ ଜୀବନ ରକ୍ଷା କରିବା' ଏହା ହେଉଛି ଚଳିତ ବର୍ଷ ବିଶ୍ୱ ରକ୍ତଦାତା ଦିବସ ପାଳନର ମୂଳମନ୍ତ ।

ରକ୍ରଦାନର କୌଣସି ବିକଳ୍ପ ନାହିଁ । ଚିକିସା କ୍ଷେତ୍ରରେ ରକ୍ତର ଆବଶ୍ୟକତା ଉଭୟ ଗୁରୁଦ୍ୱପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣଏବଂ ଜରୁରୀ । ଆପଣଙ୍କ ରକ୍ତଦାନ ଅନ୍ୟପାଇଁ ବରଦାନ ସଦୃଶ୍ୟ । ସ୍ୱେଚ୍ଛାକୃତ ରକ୍ତଦାନ କରି ରକ୍ତ ଆବଶ୍ୟକତା କରୁଥିବା ରୋଗୀମାନଙ୍କର ଦୁର୍ଲୁଭ ଜୀବନ ବଞ୍ଚାଇବାକୁ ଆଗେଇ ଆସିବା ପାଇଁ ମୁଁ ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କୁ ନିବେଦନ କରୁଛି ।

ଆସବୁ, ରକ୍ତଦାନ କରି ଆମ ବିଶ୍ୱର ସନ୍ଦନକୁ ଜାରି ରଖିବା ଏବଂ ରକ୍ତ ପାଇଁ ଅକାଳରେ ଝରି ପଜୁଥିବା ଜୀବନକୁ ରକ୍ଷା କରିବା । ଏପରି ପୂଣ୍ୟ କାମ କରୁଥିବା ସମସ୍ତ ରକ୍ତଦାତାମାନଙ୍କୁ ମୁଁ ଆନ୍ତରିକ ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା ଜଣାଉଛି ।

> निहार अहरार्श (ନବୀନ ପଟ୍ଟନାୟକ)

in India and would like to continue the

good show in the remaining three

After getting bashed by Indian batters in Delhi, their bowlers bounced

back in Cuttack and restricted the hosts

to 148 runs. However, they will hope that the spin duo of Tabraiz Shamsi and

Keshav Maharaj come up with a better

tive for COVID-19 ahead of the first

T20, is likely to miss out, and there is

no update on Quinton de Kock's hand injury either. De Kock's replacement at Barabati Stadium — Heinrich Klaasen

— starred in the second match with his

46-ball 81 and would like to continue

SQUADS

India: Rishabh Pant (c & wk), Ruturaj

Gaikwad, Ishan Kishan, Deepak

Hooda, Shreyas Iyer, Dinesh Karthik, Hardik Pandya, Venkatesh Iyer, Yuzvendra Chahal, Axar Patel, Ravi

Bishnoi, Bhuvneshwar, Harshal Patel,

Avesh Khan, Arshdeep, Umran Malik.

South Africa: Temba Bavuma (c),

Quinton de Kock (wk), Reeza

Hendricks, Heinrich Klaasen, Keshav

Maharaj, Aiden Markram, David

Miller, Lungi Ngidi, Anrich Nortje,

Wayne Parnell, Dwaine Pretorius,

Kagiso Rabada, Tabraiz Shamsi, Tristan

Stubbs, Rassie van der Dussen, Marco

DSPL-77

the ace form.

Aiden Markram, who tested posi-





୧୪ କୁନ ୨୦୨୨ ବିଶ୍ୱ ରକ୍ତଦାତା ଦିବସ ଅବସରରେ ସମ୍ଭ ରକ୍ତଦାତାମାନଙ୍କୁ ମୋର ହାର୍ଦ୍ଦିକ ଅଭିନନ୍ଦନ ।

निर्मार अंदरार्भ ନବୀନ ପଟ୍ଟନାୟକ ମୁଖ୍ୟମତ୍ତୀ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା



ଜୀବନ ରକ୍ଷାକାରୀ ରକ୍ତ ଯୋଗାଣ ପାଇଁ ଆମ ସରକାରଙ୍କ ପ୍ରତିବଦ୍ଧତା



- ସରକାରୀ ଡାକ୍ତରଖାନାରେ ଚିକିହିତ ହେଉଥିବା ରୋଗୀଙ୍କ ପାଇଁ ରକ୍ତ ଏବଂ ରକ୍ତ ସଞ୍ଚାଳନ ପାଇଁ ଆବଶ୍ୟକ ସମୟ ସ୍ତବିଧା ବିନା ପଇସାରେ କରାଯାଉଛି ।
- ୫ ୫ଟି ସରକାରୀ ରକ୍ତ ଯୋଗାଣ କେନ୍ଦ୍ର ସହ ସମଦାୟ ୮ ୫ଟି ରକ୍ତ ଯୋଗାଣ କେନ୍ଦ୍ର ଆମ ରାଜ୍ୟରେ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟ କରୁଛି ।
- ୨ ୪ଟି ରକ୍ତ ପଥକୀକରଣ ୟନିଟ୍ ଏବେ ଆମ ରାଜ୍ୟରେ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ଷମ ଅଛି ।
- ୧ ୧ଟି ରକ୍ତ ଯୋଗାଣ କେନ୍ଦ୍ରରେ NAT ଟେଷିଂ ସୁବିଧା କରାଯାଇଛି ।
- କୋଭିଡ୍ ମହାମାରୀ ପରିସ୍ଥିତି ସତ୍ତ୍ୱେ ଆମ ରାଜ୍ୟରେ ଚଳିତ ବର୍ଷ ୪୮୭୦ ୨ ୨ ୟୁନିଟ୍ ରକ୍ତ ସଂଗ୍ରହ କରାଯାଇଛି । ସେଥିରୁ ୨୬୦୭୯୫ ୟୁନିଟ୍ ରକ୍ତ ୪୯୪୭ଟି ଭ୍ରାମ୍ୟମାଣ ଶିବିରରୁ ସଂଗୃହିତ ହୋଇଛି ।
- ଗ୍ରାମାଞ୍ଚଳରେ ରକ୍ତ ସଂଗ୍ରହ ଶିବିର ଆୟୋଜନ ପାଇଁ ୯ଟି ଭ୍ରାମ୍ୟମାଣ ରକ୍ତ ସଂଗ୍ରହ ଯାନର ବ୍ୟବସ୍ଥା କରାଯାଇଛି ଏବଂ ଏହି ବର୍ଷ ଆଉ ୫ଟି ଭା୍ରମ୍ୟମାଣ ରକ୍ତ ସଂଗ୍ରହ ଯାନର ବ୍ୟବସ୍ଥା କରାଯାଉଛି ।
- ସରକାରୀ ରକ୍ତ ଯୋଗାଣ କେନ୍ଦ୍ରକୁ ଆସୁଥିବା ସମୟ ଥାଲାସେମିଆ ରୋଗୀଙ୍କ ପାଇଁ 'ଲ୍ୟୁକୋଫିଲ୍ଲେସନ୍' ଚିକିସାର ସୁବିଧା ବିନା ପଇସାରେ କରାଯାଉଛି ।
- ଥାଲାସେମିଆ ରୋଗୀଙ୍କୁ ଡାକ୍ତରଖାନାକୁ ନେବା ଆଣିବା କରିବା ପାଇଁ ମାସକୁ ୫ ଶହ ଟଙ୍କା ସହାୟତା ଦିଆଯାଉଛି ।

ସ୍ପେଚ୍ଛାକୃତ ଭାବେ ରକ୍ତ ଦାନ କରନ୍ତୁ । ଅମୂଲ୍ୟ ମାନବ ଜୀବନ ରକ୍ଷା କରନ୍ତୁ ।

ଆସନ୍ତ, ରକ୍ତଦାନ ସମ୍ପର୍କରେ ସଚେତନତା ସୃଷ୍ଟି କରିବା ଓଡ଼ିଶାବାସୀଙ୍କୁ ସୁସ୍ଥ, ନିରୋଗ ରଖିବା ସୁସୁ ଓଡ଼ିଶା, ସୁଖୀ ଓଡ଼ିଶା ଗଢ଼ିବା।

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ସାସ୍ୟୁ ଓ ପରିବାର କଲ୍ୟାଣ ବିଭାଗ