OPINION 6

THE SILENCE OF

PAK CIVIL SOCIETY

Late City Vol.32 Issue 177 *Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable

Established 1864

ENGLAND WHITEWASH **BLACK CAPS**

NEW DELHI, TUESDAY JUNE 28, 2022; PAGES 12 ₹3

the bioneer cinch

WORLD 8

G-7 LEADERS SET TO COMMIT TO

LONG HAUL IN BACKING UKRAINE

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Sena rebels get 14-day reprieve by SC on disqualification notice

Court asks MLAs to file reply to Dy Speaker, rejects Maha Govt plea for no floor test

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

The disqualification proceedings against Shiv Sena's rebel MLAs will be kept in abevance till July 11, and there will not be any stay on the floor test during this period, the Supreme Court ruled on Monday in what is seen as a major setback for the embattled Uddhav Thackeray -led alliance Government.

The top court said the rebels may file replies to the disqualification notices issued by the Deputy Speaker of the Maharashtra Assembly till 5.30 pm on July 12.

The court also sought responses to pleas by rebel MLAs questioning the legality of notices seeking their disqualification.

A vacation bench of Justices Surya Kant and JB Pardiwala, however, refused to pass any interim order on the plea by Senior advocate Devdutt Kamat, who appeared for the MVA Government, that there should not be any floor test in the Assembly and said they can always approach the court in case of illegality.

"We can't pass an order on the floor test as that would create unnecessary complications. If anything illegal happens, you can always move this court," said the SC while refusing to pass an interim order.

The court directed the Maharashtra Government to property of 39 rebel Shiv Sena MLAs and their family

members. While issuing the notice to the Maharashtra Deputy Speaker, the top court directed him to put on affidavit the records of no trust notice served upon him by the rebel MLAs who have relied upon the Nabam Rebia judgment to drive home the point that he cannot proceed with the disqualification proceedings when the resolution seeking his own

removal is pending. "Meanwhile as an interim measure, the time granted by the Deputy Speaker of the Assembly to the petitioners or other similarly placed Members of the Legislative Assembly to submit their written submissions up to today by 5.30 pm is extended till July 12, 2022," the

apex court said. The top court, while post-



Shiv Sena MP Sanjay Raut leaves from Shiv Sena Bhawan after a press conference at Dadar in Mumbai on Monday

ing the matter for further hear-

ing on July 11, said it wants the

status quo to continue till it bal-

ed the statement of

Maharashtra's counsel that ade-

quate steps have been taken to

protect the life and property of

the SC challenging the dis-

qualification notices issued by

the Deputy Speaker under the

Tenth Schedule of Constitution

on grounds including defection. Besides Shinde, the other

15 MLAs are Bharat Gogawale,

Prakash R Surve, Tanhaji

Jaywant Savant, Mahesh S Shinde, Abdul Sattar,

Sandeepan A Bhumre, Sanjay P Sirhsat, Yamini Y Jadhav, Anil

K Babar, Latabai C Sonawane,

Ramesh N Bornare, Sanjay B

Raimulkar, Chimanrao R Patil,

Balaji D Kalyankar and Balaji

cate Neeraj Kishan Kaul,

appearing for Shinde and other

Sena rebel MLAs, submitted

that the Deputy Speaker cannot

At the outset, senior advo-

P Kinilkar.

Shinde and 15 other rebel

rebel MLAs

Amid MVA Govt crisis, Raut gets ED summons in money laundering case

Enforcement Directorate (ED) has summoned Shiv Sena MP Sanjay Raut on Tuesday for questioning in a money laundering probe linked to the re-development of a Mumbai chawl and other related financial transactions involving his wife and associates.

The agency has asked the Rajya Sabha member to depose before the ED's office in south Mumbai and record his statement under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act.

The development comes in the wake of a group of Shiv Sena MLAs turning rebel against the party, putting a question mark on the future of Maharashtra's Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) Government. Rebel Shiv Sena legislators, who were first taken to Surat, are now camping in Guwahati.

In April, the ED had provisionally attached assets worth over ₹11.15 crore of Sanjay Raut's wife Varsha Raut and two of his associates as part of this investigation.

The attached properties are in the form of land held by Pravin M Raut, Sanjay Raut's aide and a former director of Guru Ashish Construction Pvt Ltd, at Palghar, Saphale (town in Palghar) and Padgha (in Thane district).

The attached properties also include a flat in Mumbai's suburb Dadar held by Varsha Raut and eight plots at Kihim beach in Alibaug jointly held by Varsha Raut and Swapna Patkar, wife of Sujit Patkar, the ED said in a statement.

According to the ED, Sujit is a close associate of Sanjay Raut. The agency wants to question Sanjay Raut to know about his "business and other links" with Pravin Raut and Patkar and also about the prop-

erty deals involving his wife. After arresting Pravin Raut in February, the ED had said he appears to be "acting as a front" or in collusion with some influential person(s). Continued on Page 2

conflict in Ukraine.

Invest in clean energy research in big market India: PM to G7

India contributes just 5% to global carbon emission, asserts Modi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE/AGENCIES NEW DELHI/ELMAU(GERMANY)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said India's contribution to protecting climate is noteworthy and urged wealthy nations, including the G7, to invest in research in producing clean energy due to the huge market in India. in India

Underlining various efforts made by the country in protecting climate, Modi also said 17 per cent of the world's population resides in India. "But, our contribution to global carbon emissions is only 5 per cent. The main reason behind this is our lifestyle which is this is our lifestyle, which is based on the theory of coexistence with nature," he said in an effort to dispel the notion that poor people cause more dam-

age to the environment.

Earlier, Modi met US President Joe Biden, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and French President Emmanuel Macron at the G7 summit in Germany

He arrived at the G7 annual summit, where he was welcomed by German chancellor Olaf Scholz. The Group of Seven comprises the US, the UK, France, Italy, Japan, Canada and the European Union. The annual summit may also discuss the ongoing

Addressing the session on



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with USA President Joe Biden and Prime Minister of Canada Justin Trudeau at G7 Summit in Germany on Monday

"Investing in a better Future: Climate, Energy, Health" at the G7 Summit, the Prime Minister said India's dedication to climate commitments is evident from our performance.

"We have achieved the target of 40 per cent energy-capacity from non-fossil sources 9 years before time. The target of 10 per cent ethanol-blending in petrol has been achieved 5 months before time. India has the world's first fully solar power operated airport. India's huge railway system will become net zero in this decade," he said.

With India constantly achieving its goals, the Prime Minister said, "We hope that the rich countries of G7 will support India's efforts. Today, a huge market for clean ener-

gy technologies is emerging in India. The G7 countries can invest in research, innovation, and manufacturing in this

He said the scale that India can provide for every new technology can make that technology affordable for the whole world. The core theories of the circular economy have been an integral part of Indian culture and lifestyle.

The Prime Minister stressed on the need for equitable access to energy and said this should not be the privilege of the rich only — a poor family also has the same rights on energy. He also said he called for a movement called LIFE — Lifestyle for Environment — in Glasgow last year.

Continued on Page 2

Shinde cosies up to Raj

ances competing claims made by the rival Sena camps. TN RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI The top court also record-

> n a new dimension to the **⊥**rebellion-triggered crisis within the ruling Shiv Sena, the Sena's breakaway rebel faction leader Eknath Shinde has chief Raj Thackeray apparently with an eye on the emerging political situation in general and forthcoming elections to Brihanmumbai, Thane, Navi Mumbai and Aurangabad in particular.

> Informed sources within the MNS camp said that Shinde telephoned Raj twice during the last few days to enquire about his health and also discuss the political situation in the State.

Raj — who was discharged from Lilavati Hospital on June 25 after a hip replacement surgery and has been keenly observing the political developments during the last one - spoke to Shinde at length on both the occasions.

proceed with the disqualifica-Despite the fact that the MNS has just one MLA in the tion proceedings when the res-State Assembly, its importance olution seeking his removal is should be seen in the light of the fact that it is an established

regional political party with an election symbol (that of a railway engine) and a decent base

in the urban areas of the State. The telephonic interactions should be seen in the light of the fact that it will take some new party and gets an election symbol of his own and at some stage, he might consider a proposal to merge his outfit with an established political party. Going by the available indi-

cations, the Shinde-led rebel Sena faction — which claims to enjoy the support of 39 out of the total 55 Sena MLAs in the State — will eventually join hands with the Opposition to form a government in the

Apart from sharing power with the BJP in the State, the Shinde faction wants to expand its base in Mumbai, neighbouring Thane, Navi Mumbai and other parts of the State. In pursuit of expanding its base, the Shinde faction needs the help of the MNS which Rai Thackeray — an erstwhile Shiv Sena leader — founded on June 9, 2006 after staging a rebellion against his cousin and Sena president Uddhav Thackeray, and resigning from the Shiv Sena.

The MNS won as many as 13 out of the 288 seats in the 2009 Assembly polls. The MNS won won 28 seats in the 2012 seats won by the Sena and 32 seats won by its ally, the BJP.

It may be recalled that the

BMC polls held in 2017 had thrown up a hung house. The Shiv Sena had emerged as the single largest party with 84 seats in the 227-member BMC, followed by BJP- 82, Congress-31, NCP- 9, MNS- 7 and others-14. During the first two and a half years in power, the Shiv Sena increased its strength to 94 by inducting among others seven corporators from the

The MNS' importance should be seen in the context of the fact that the Opposition BJP has been cosying up to Raj Thackeray with an eye on the BMC polls scheduled to be held in September-October 2022.

No wonder that even the rebel Sena camp is getting closer to the MNS for its own reasons.

94.2k aspirants vie for IAF Agnipath; 8 days left for listing

PNS NEW DELHI

Within just four days of the start of registration process for Agnipath defence recruitment scheme, the Indian Air Force (IAF) has received as many as 94,281 applications for the short-term military job.

"A total of 94,281 Agniveer Vayu aspirants have registered till 10.30 am (Monday). Registration closes on July 5, Defence Ministry Spokesperson A Bharat Bhushan Babu said on Twitter.

Till Sunday, the IAF had received 56,960 applications under the scheme.

After the scheme was unveiled on June 14, violent protests against the scheme rocked several States for nearly a week and several

Opposition parties demanded its rollback.

Under the scheme, the Government had announced that youths between the ages of 17-and-a-half and 21 years would be inducted for a fouryear tenure. Twenty-five per cent of them will be subsequently inducted for regular service

On June 16, the Government increased the upper age limit for recruitment under the scheme to 23 years from 21 for the year 2022, and subsequently announced a slew of placatory steps like a preference for Agniveers in recruitment into the Central paramilitary forces and defence public sector undertakings upon their retirement.

Continued on Page 2

CAPSULE

Sloviansk (Ukraine): Scores of civilians were feared killed or wounded in a Russian missile shopping mall in Ukraine's central city of Kremenchuk, Ukrainian officials said. Over 1.000 civilians were inside the mall at the time of the attack.

ALT NEWS' ZUBAIR HELD FOR RELIGIOUS HATRED New Delhi: Fact-checking website Alt News co-founder

Mohammad Zuhair was arrested by the Delhi Police on Monday in connection with one of his recent tweets that had a questionable image with a purpose to deliberately insult the god of a particular religion, the Cyber Cell DCP said.

MALAYALAM ACTOR ND PRASAD FOUND HANGING Chennai: Popular Malayalam

actor ND Prasad, aged 43, was found hanging from a tree outside his house in Kalamassery near Kochi on

Punjab Govt delivers on poll promises: Free power, Mohalla Clinics, Farishtey



Punjab Finance Minister Harpal Singh Cheema presents the State Budget for the year 2022-23 in Punjab Assembly in Chandigarh on Monday

MONIKA MALIK CHANDIGARH

Pelivering on its pre-poll promises, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Government in Punjab on Monday announced a slew of decisions, including providing 300 units of free

electricity to households from July 1, setting up of 117 Mohalla Clinics, launching much-talked-about Farishtey scheme to help the accident victims, introducing "Punjab Young Entrepreneur Programme" for Class XI students, and upgrading 100 schools as "schools of eminence" in the State.

Presenting the State Budget for 2022-23, Punjab Finance Minister Harpal Singh Cheema on Monday also announced initiatives like setting up the Chief Minister's field offices in all districts, "Lok Milni", annual awards for best districts and sub-divisions.

"Good governance model has eight major characteristics...participatory, consensusoriented, accountable, transparent, responsive, effective and efficient, equitable and inclusive, and follows the rule of law. I assure the people of Punjab that the AAP Government would deliver on these all eight characteristics," said Cheema while presenting the budget proposals.

Continued on Page 2



Rahul Gandhi and Mallikarjun Kharge, and other Opposition leaders at Parliament House in New Delhi on Monday

Covid vax drive at Delhi Mohalla Clinics soon

STAFF REPORTER ■ **NEW DELHI**

¬he Arvind Kejriwal Government has decided to provide Covid vaccinations at Aam Aadmi Mohalla Clinics across the city. The vaccination centres will be set up across all the Mohalla Clinics. The Capital currently has 520 Mohalla Clinics (24 of those with an evening shift), 326 Mohalla Clinics are running in porta cabins while 166 are housed in rented facilities and four operating out of "Basti Vikas Kendra". Every day, over 60,000 people are treated in these Mohalla Clinics.

Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia said, "State has adopted the multi pronged strategy to achieve optimal coverage of vaccination of all eligible beneficiaries. Currently, vaccination is being provided

in a mission mode, but... addition of vaccination centres at Mohalla Clinics will help us achieve the higher vaccination target soon."

Many mohalla clinics have been fully digitised, with infor-

medical histories collected using tablets available at clinics. According to the Minister, the Mohalla Clinic is the very

mation about patients and their

first point of detection for any disease that strikes the city. "The responsibility of Aam Aadmi Mohalla Clinic will be

to provide adequate space for the vaccination site, counsel the beneficiaries, and ensure that Covid vaccination guidelines are followed at the clinic," said Sisodia adding that as soon as the vaccination centres are functional they will be uploaded on the CoWin and beneficiaries will be able to book their slots easily.

NCRPULSE

DELHI GOVT TO PLANT 35 LAKH SAPLINGS

shrubs as part of a 15-day plantation drive starting July 11, Environment Minister Gopal Rai said on Monday. 'Van Mahotsav' will start from the Central Ridge and culminate with the plantation of 1 lakh saplings at the Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary on July 25, he said.

CONGRESS HOLDS SATYAGRAH PROTESTS



New Delhi: The Delhi Congress on Monday held "Satyagrah" protests in all the 70 Assembly constituencies in the national capital alleging that the BJP-led central government was "depriving youth of long-term employment opportunities". At Jalebi Chowk in Sultanpur Mazra assembly, Delhi Congress vice president and former MLA Jai Kishan said that the Modi government has betrayed youth in the name of Agnipath. He said that the Congress will back the youth of the country protesting against the Agnipath scheme till it is shelved and the regular recruitment process in the services resumed. In West Nagar, Delhi Congress president Anil Kumar accused the police of halting the party's protest in Patparganj and several other areas.

DUSIB SEEKING TO ROPE IN COLLEGE STUDENTS

New Delhi: The Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board (DUSIB) is seeking to rope in college students to carry out a survey to identify eligible beneficiaries under the slum and JJ cluster rehabilitation policy, an official said on Monday. The board has also written to vice chancellors of the Delhi University and the Indraprastha University to spread word among students in this regard. The DUSIB is the nodal agency of the Delhi government tasked with the rehabilitation of eligible Jhuggi Jhopri colony dwellers under the Mukhyamantri

EX-SERVICEMAN SHOT DEAD BY BROTHER-IN-LAW

New Delhi: A 38-year-old ex-serviceman was allegedly shot dead by his brother-in-law during an argument between him and his wife at the couple's Bhawani Enclave house. The accused, identified as Naveen Kumar, 20, managed to flee with the weapon after killing his brother-in-law. Following the complaint of the nephew of the deceased an FIR of murder has been registered against the accused. The wife of the deceased initially insisted that her husband, Harvinder Singh, committed suicide, but changed version during

DDA CONDUCTS ANTI-ENCROACHMENT DRIVE

New Delhi: The Delhi Development Authority (DDA) on Monday conducted an anti-encroachment drive in a portion of the environmentally-sensitive Yamuna Flood Zone in the national capital, during which around 20 to 30 illegal constructions were cleared such as "shanties and other illegally built structures. According to a senior DDA official, the drive was carried out by the DDA in pursuant to guideline of National Green Tribunal (NGT) and commitment of Authority that Yamuna FloodPlain should be removed from

PM at G7: India's approach is women-led development

PTI ■ ELMAU (GERMANY)

Drime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday addressed a G7 summit session on food security and gender equality during which he emphasised that India's approach had transitioned from women's development to women-led development.

Modi also suggested that for ensuring food security the focus should be on fertilisers' availability, structured system for use of Indian agricultural talent, nutritious alternatives like millets and natural farm-

"PM @narendramodi addressed the @G7 Session on

PM discusses ways to strengthen bilateral ties with Canada

Elmau (Germany): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday met his Canadian counterpart Justin Trudeau on the sidelines of the G-7 Summit here during which the two leaders took stock of the India-Canada friendship and agreed to expand trade and economic linkages, cooperation in security and counter-terror-

Modi and Trudeau are here at Schloss Elmau, the picturesque venue of the summit in southern Germany, to attend the summit of G7 countries.

"Prime Ministers @naren dramodi and @JustinTrudeau meet on the sidelines of the G-7 Summit in Germany. They took stock of the India-Canada friendship and discussed ways to further strengthen it across various sectors," the Prime Minister's Office tweeted.



food security and gender equality, sharing India's experiences in these domains. Emphasised that India's approach had transitioned from 'women's development' to 'women-led development'," Ministry of External Affairs Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi tweeted.

"(The Prime Minister) suggested the following focus areas for ensuring food security: 1. Fertilisers availability 2. Structured system for use of Indian agricultural talent 3. Nutritious alternatives like millets 4. Natural Farming," he said in another tweet.

Earlier, in his remarks at the session on 'Investing in a better Future: Climate, Energy, Health' at the G7 Summit here,

India's dedication to climate commitments is evident from its performance.

He expressed hope that rich countries of G-7 will support India's efforts in combating climate change and invited them to tap the huge market for clean energy technologies emerging in the country.

Before the start of the summit, Prime Minister Modi

shook hands with US President Joe Biden and Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau as the leaders assembled for a group photo. The Group of Seven (G7) is an inter-governmental political grouping consisting of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the UK and the US. The European Union is a 'nonenumerated member'.

The German Presidency has invited Argentina, India, Indonesia, Senegal and South Africa to the G7 Summit in Elmau, Bavaria. Modi is attending the G7 summit at the invitation by German Chancellor

Modi meets Indonesian President Joko Widodo in Germany

Elmau (Germany): Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a productive meeting with Indonesian President Joko Widodo on the sidelines of the G7 Summit here on Monday and the leaders discussed various bilateral issues, including improving trade and cultural ties between the two countries.

During the meeting, Modi

ments. Following this, the pro-

jects were prepared and approved by the government,

Besides making the roads long-lasting, the PWD is

emphasising on road mark-

ings and plantations, etc., it said.

working in a phased manner to

residents had to face a lot of

inconvenience due to the old

situation, a new road mainte-

nance project is being started in

these areas to avoid any incon-

venience to the common pub-

lic. This will improve the inter-

connectivity in the area and

save the time of commuters," he

The minister said the gov-

added.

dilapidated roads, he said.

make the city roads better.

Sisodia said the PWD is

During the inspections in

Taking cognisance of the

the statement said.

expand bilateral cooperation, particularly in trade and investment. "Met President @jokowi and discussed various bilateral issues between India and Indonesia. We had wide strong bond with Indonesia,

ranging conversations on improving trade and cultural ties between our countries. India greatly cherishes the

ernment is determined to provide a hassle-free commuting experience to the residents of

the top court in its earlier decisions has said that it is impermissible for the Deputy Speaker to decide on the dishim is decided.

He said the "majority faction" of the Shiv Sena legislative party appointed Eknath Shinde as its chief, but the "minority" faction, which has 19 MLAs, quietly made Ajay Choudhari as their chief. "The majority faction

wrote to the Deputy Speaker about their decision. Then the rebel MLAs get a notice to report to a meeting by the minority MLAs. When the MLAs do not attend, based on the notice issued on the same day, a disqualification plea is

tioners why did they not raise the issue of Deputy Speaker's incompetency before the Deputy Speaker himself to which Kaul responded that he proceeded with the notices despite the fact that he was informed.

Speaker is proceeding, allegedly in undue haste, without following the principles of natural justice

Satyendar Jain's custody extended by two weeks

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Aspecial CBI court on Monday extended by two weeks the judicial custody of Delhi health minister Satyendar Jain, arrested by the Enforcement Department (ED) in a money laundering case. Special Judge Geetanjli Goel passed the order on a plea moved by the ED seeking extension of Jain's custody after the AAP leader, who is hospitalised, appeared through a video conference.

Earlier during the day, the judge refused to entertain the plea noting that neither Jain nor any lawyer representing him was present before the court during the proceedings.

After being told that Jain was hospitalised, the court directed the ED to ensure Jain's presence before it later in the day through video conference. The judge heard the arguments on the agency's plea and extended the politician's judicial custody for 14 days.

Sena rebels get 14-day reprieve...

From Page 1

Assam flood

ssam's flood situation is

Ashowing signs of improve-

ment with the water level of

most rivers maintaining a

receding trend while over 22 lakh remain affected

across the state, officials said on

Silchar, headquarter town of

Cachar district, remained grim

as several areas are still water-

increased to 126 after five

deaths were reported on Sunday

while two others had gone

ed people declined to 22.21 lakh

in 28 districts on Sunday while

the figure was 25.10 lakh on the

previous day, according to a

bulletin issued by the Assam

State Disaster Management

and Kushiara are flowing above

The rivers Kopili, Barak

Authority (ASDMA).

The total number of affect-

logged, officials said.

However, the situation in

The toll in the state has

Monday.

situation improving,

the danger level.

copters.

Jalli said.

In Silchar town, which is

submerged for over a week,

efforts are on to provide relief

to those areas where the admin-

istration is vet to reach by air to

drop packets with food, drink-

ing water and other essential

items by Indian Air Force heli-

(UAV) is monitoring and conducting a survey to prepare a flood map of Silchar town so as

to identify the extent of damage

in different areas and help in

taking measures to mitigate

the damage in future, Cachar

Deputy Commissioner Keerthi

Management Authority (DDMA), UNICEF and

OXFAM, an international char-

itable organisation, have start-

ed operating boat-mounted

water treatment units to drink-

ing water to the people in need

within Silchar and its peripheral

areas, she added.

The District Disaster

Unmanned Aerial Vehicle

22 lakh affected

He referred to the Constitution bench decision of the apex court in the "Nabam Rebia" case in which it was held that it would be constitutionally impermissible for a Speaker to adjudicate upon disqualification petitions under the Tenth Schedule while a notice of resolution for his own removal from the office of Speaker is pending.

At this juncture, the bench asked why the rebel Shiv Sena MLAs did not move the Bombay High Court against disqualification notice issued by the Deputy Speaker. Kaul replied that existence of Article 226 is not a Constitutional bar to invoke Article 32 of Constitution to approach the top court. Kaul claimed that the

Uddhav Thackeray group is in 'minority' and 'subverting' the State machinery and attacking the houses of rebel Sena MLAs.

Kaul further submitted that

qualification petition till the no-confidence motion against

The bench asked the peti-

Kaul said the Deputy

Senior advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi, appearing for Shiv Sena legislative party leader Ajay Chaudhary and Sunil Prabhu, questioned the petitioners' move of "leap frogging" to the top court without approaching the High Court

"There is no reason given why your lordships should not exercise the discretion to send them to the High Court," Singhvi said, adding the courts cannot intervene when the proceedings are pending before the Speaker.

Singhvi cited the landmark judgment in Kihoto Hollohan vs Zachillhu and Others (1992), in which the court upheld the sweeping discretion available to the Speaker in deciding cases of disqualification of MLAs.

'They have wrongly interpreted Nabam Rebia and presented it before this Court."

Singhvi said in this case media reports are rampant that these MLAs sent notice from an unverified email, and the Speaker rejected the no-confidence motion and that has not

been challenged.

Girish Chandra Varma daughte and son of Late Shri K.K. Varma. r/o A 116 Defence Colony, ND has lost the purchase agreement and related documents of flat no. 410, 92 Deepali Building Nehru Place, New Delhi, which are in the name of Late Shiva Rani Varma our sister. Finder please contact 9810099550

Lost of Documents

We Veena Rani Varma and

PUBLIC NOTICE
To be known to all that We Veena Aggerwal W/o Sh.
Rajinder Pal and Rahul Aggarwal S/o Sh. Rajinder Pal both R/o B-78, Sarita Vihar, New Delhi -110076 are the purchasers/owners of Flat No.107-A, on Ground Floor, Category LIG, situated at Sunlight Colony, New Delhi-110014 vide DDA's File No. F33(1)74-HB(M-II). The Original Possession Letter & Possession Slin of the said Flat have been misplaced. An Information Repor of this effect has been lodge in Police Station Crime Branch, Delhi vide LR No.507462/2022 on 17.06.2022 Any person(s) claiming any right, interes having any objection or found in possessio of original documents, may write/contact with above named person at above address/phone No. 9312231841 within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. The person claiming any right, interest, objections with respect to this property can personally inform or write to Dy. Director, LAB(H) or Director (H)-1 D-Block, 3rd Floor, Vikas Sadan, INA, New Delhi - 110023.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that my client Man Dogra is in process to purchase the Plot No. 7t Area Measuring 100 Sq. Yds., Part of Khasi Area Measuring 100 Sq. Yos., Part of Khasr, No. 59/21Min, situated in the revenue estate o Village Hastsal Delhi State Delhi area abad known as Colony Mohan Garden in Block-K2 New Delhi from Nirmala Sharma (current owne vide ATS dated 28/5/1988 executed by Mahabi Parsand Sharma.

vide ATS dated 28/5/1988 executed by Mahabir Prasad Sharma). All person/s having any claim against or in respect of the said Property, or any part thereo, by way of sale, exchange, mortgage (equitable, registered or otherwise), gift, trust, inheritance, family arrangement, maintenance, bequest, partnership, possession, lease, sublease, tenancy, license, lien, charge, pledge, easement or otherwise howsoever, are hereby requested to notify the same in writing to us with supporting documentarry evidence at the address mentioned below within 7 days from the date hereof, failing which the claim or claims, if any, of such person or persons will be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned. Kamal Kant Gupta (Advocate

Kamal Kant Gupta (Advocate Shop No. 5 & 6, Pkt-E, CSC, Mayur Vlhar-II, Delhi-91 011-43052822, 09810063351

as mentioned below:

2. Nature of work

4. Tender Paper cost

5. Class of Contractor

6. Available of bid document

also be seen in the said website.

7. Date of opening of Bid

OIPR-34111/11/0007/2223

3. No. of work

Bid Identification No. CE-DPI & R-05/2022-23

B-312

Sisodia approves projects worth ₹13.58 cr to revamp 17 roads in Delhi STAFF REPORTER roads to assess their require-

Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia has approved projects worth Rs 13.58 crore for revamping 17 roads in the national capital. A total of 12.83 km of roads in Tilak Nagar, Vikaspuri and Janakpuri areas will be covered under these projects.

charge of the Public Works

PUBLIC NOTICE This is to bring to notice of the General Public

1) Bharti Taneja Alps Beauty Group does not operate any Academy or Salon either itself or through any agent at BF - 5 First Floor, Janakpuri, Hari Nagar Depot, Jail Road, New Delhi 110064

New Delhi 110064.

2) The agreement by which a Salon under the Brand Name "ALPS" was being operated and managed by Simple Khanna, Anuj Khanna, Dineet Singh and Saak Studio Salon at BF-5 First Floor Janakouri, Hari Nagar Depot, Jail Road New Delhi 110064 has come to an end in November 2021.

3) Simple Khanna, Anuj Khanna, Dineet Singh and Saak Studio Salon are not the agents or authorised representatives of Bharti Taneja Alps Beauty Group and are in no manner associated with Bharti Taneja Alps Beauty Group.

 Bharti Taneja Alps Beauty Group is not responsible or liable for any dispute that may arise on account of any services availed by any person from Simple Khanna, Anuj Khanna, Dineet Singh and Saak Studio Salon at BF - 5 First Floor, Janakpuri, Hari Nagar Depot, Jail Road,

New Delhi 110064 or at any other place.
5) Bharti Taneja Alps Beauty Group is no responsible or liable to honour any Service Coupons or Discount Vouchers under the brand name of "ALPS" or under the name of "Bharti Taneja Alps Cosmetic Clinic" that may by be provided by Simple Khanna, Anuj Khanna or Dineet Singh and Saak Studio Salon at BF - 5 First Floor, Janakpuri, Hari Nagar Depot, Jail Road, New Delhi 110064 or at any other place. This notice is being issued in Public Interest and for Public Good Bharti Taneja Alps Beauty Group

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA, "e"-PROCUREMENT NOTICE

WORKS DEPARTMENT

1. The Chief Engineer (DPI & Roads), Odisha on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites percentage

8. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the

website: https://tenderodisha.gov.in . Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can

rate bids in double cover system in ONLINE MODE form eligible contractors for Road work

Road work

Rs.10,000.00

Super Class

Dt.19.07.2022 at 11.30 AM

Department (PWD), directed officials to complete the work in the stipulated time.

"The PWD has expedited the work of road strengthening and beautification across the city. The department is using modern technologies and global standards of street design to give a new look to the city

"Along with road strength-Sisodia, who also holds ening and maintenance, the s on beautifying the prominent city roads to provide a pleasant commuting experience to commuters," he said.

PWD officials had carried out a thorough inspection of

PUBLIC AUCTION I, on behalf of my client M/s Amrit Humifresh Preservation Pvt. Ltd., hereby give a public notice that my client possesses a lien upon 164 full boxes and 42 half boxes of Himachal apples (Shimla), stored in the cold storage of my client situated at Piau Manihari, Narela Road, Kundli, Sonepat, Haryana, owing to the default in payment of Rs.4,00,000/which is due and payable by Shri R.L. Shyam, proprietor of M/s Shimla Fruit Co. My client is conducting a public auction on 'as is where is basis', which will be held on 30th June 2022 at 11 AM at the cold storage of my client. Successful bidder/auctioneer shall have to make/deposit the payment upon the delivery of the material on the date of public auction. The decision of my client shall be final and binding in this regard. For any further queries/further clarifications, may send an email at ahppl01@gmail.com.

PANKAJ GUPTA ADVOCATE A-67, SECOND FLOOR, DEFENCE COLONY, NEW DELHI-110024

E-mail: ceroads.bbsr@gmail.com

From 10.00 A.M. of 29.06.2022 to 5.30 PM of

Chief Engineer (DPI & Roads), Odisha

Delhi and is following the global standards of street design to make the city roads better and The roads that will be getting a facelift in Tilak Nagar and

Vikaspuri are Keshopur Sabzi Mandi Road, Tilak Vihar Main Road, Pelican Road, Ashok Nagar Road, Chaukhandi Road, Virjanand Marg to District Park Vikas Puri, Brain Public School Road, KR Mangalam Road and Shaheed

Rajguru Marg.
The roads that will be ren ovated in Janakpuri are Prof. Joginder Singh Marg, Major Deepak Tyagi Marg, Lal Sai Marg, 60 Futa Road, Possangi Pur Road, A-1 Block Main Road, Road in Opposite A-1 Block and Asalat Pur Road - 1.

NORTHERN RAILWAY

CORRIGENDUM NO. 2

Ref:- E-Tender Notice No. 196-S/71/2021-22/Tender Notice/TSO-III/Combination SEJ dated 02.06.2022 against Tender No. TS225122 for Fabrication/Manufacturing and Supply of Combination SEJ 60 Kg/52 Kg to RDSO Drg. No. T-6782 with Alt.2 Conforming to IRS-T-10-2000 correction No. 01 of December 2016 (The Alt. on Drawing and Specification issued by RDSO up to one month prior to tender opening date shall be applicable in

(RO No. 1549/22) Following amendments in the aforesaid tender is hereby issued:-

(CURVED) SWITCHES (at page No. 34 of 43 of tender document).

EXISTING CLAUSE

Clause No. 5,0: Requirement of Rails: Combination of Imp. SEJ, 60kg, T-60kg/52kg, T-6782: Rails required for fabrication and supply of various SEJs (with check rails). The length of rails required for switches will be as under:

(i) For Combination of SEJ 60kg/52kg, T-6782: (a) 1 rails of 13 m (52kg) (b) 1 rails of 12 m (60kg) So the maximum rails required for one set of switches is 50 m (for | So the maximum rails required for

SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT FOR FABRICATION CONTRACT FOR FABRICATION AND SUPPLY OF OVER RIDING |/MANUFACTURING AND SUPPLY OF COMBINATION SEJ, 60kg/52kg T-6782.

REVISED CLAUSE

Clause No. 5.0: Requirement of Rails: Combination SEJ 60kg/52kg T-6782:

Rails required for Fabrication/ Manufacturing and supply of Combination SEJ 60kg/52kg, T-6782 will he as below: (I) For Combination SEJ 60kg/52kg

T-6782: (a) 1 rails of 13 m (52kg) (b) 1 rails of 13 m (60kg)

The tender is for Fabrication/Manufacturing and supply of combination SEJ, 60kg/52kg to RDSO Drg. No. T-6782 hence wherever switch / curved switch mentioned in the tender document, i should be read as Combination SEJ, 60kg/52kg, T-6782.

stock rails & for tongue rails) & 26 one set of combination SEJ (60kg.

Other terms & conditions remain unchanged. Note:- The complete information of above E-Procurement tender is available on website "www.ireps.gov.in and "www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in"

No. 196-S/71 /2021-22/Tender Notice/TSO-III/Combination SEJ

m (for check rails for 3 sets 52kg) is 26m.

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Punjab Govt...

From Page 1

Matching steps with the times, Cheema announced the setting up of Centre for Emerging Technologies to enable the use of artificial intelligence and machine learning in the functioning of the Government.

A 'District Performance Dashboard' has also been proposed to monitor the performance of districts on various indicators, while introducing greater purpose and accountability in the administration's functioning.A 'State Institute for Smart Governance and Financial Management' would also be set up for developing a good governance model. In addition, the Government has also proposed to come up with a 'State Data Integration Platform' (SDIP) to facilitate access and management of data across all departments.

Reminding AAP's promise to give "good governance", Cheema pointed out that the Government has already enhanced the timings of all 320 Sewa Kendras and Saanjh Kendras by two hours on weekdays, with these Kendras also remaining open on Sundays. He added that the Government has introduced 100-plus new services through Sewa Kendras taking the total number of such services to 425. "A flagship program, 'Lok Milni', has been launched by our Government for on-the-spot redressal of the people's grievances," he said.

"We also propose to introduce the 'Doorstep Delivery Services' system whereby citizens would be able to avail various services from the comfort of their homes. Essential public services like getting caste or marriage certificates, driving licence, ration card, new water connection or electricity connection etc. would soon be delivered at their doorstep," said Cheema.

Invest in clean energy

research in... om Page I

"This year on World Environment Day, we launched the Global Initiative for LiFE campaign. The goal of this campaign is to encourage an eco-friendly lifestyle. We can call the followers of this movement Triple-P, i.e. "pro planet people", and we should all take the responsibility of increasing the number of Triple-P people in our own countries. This will be our greatest contribution to the coming generations," Modi said.

Highlighting the fact that human and planet health are inter-connected, he said India has adopted the approach of one world, one health. During the pandemic, India found many creative ways to use digital technology in the health sector. The G-7 countries can help India to take these innovations to other developing countries, the Prime Minister

"Recently we all celebrated the International Day of Yoga. In times of the COVID crisis, yoga has become a great tool for preventive health for people all over the world, this helped many people to maintain their physical and mental health," he said. On Sunday, Modi held a

productive meeting with Argentinian President Alberto Fernandez here on the sidelines of the G-7 summit and reviewed the full range of bilateral ties. This was the first bilateral meeting between the two leaders. During the meeting, the

two leaders discussed various issues like trade and investment, defence cooperation. agriculture, climate action and food security. Modi is on a two-day visit

to Germany to attend the G7 summit on June 26 and 27.

Amid MVA Govt... From Page 1 The agency had said during

'politically exposed persons". Sanjay Raut, 60, told reporters that he will not be able to make it to the ED office on Tuesday as he has a public meeting in Alibaug. He, however, said he will cooperate with the agency. The ED may issue him a fresh date.

made payments to certain

In the Alibaug land deal, apart from the registered value, "cash" payments were made to the sellers, the agency had alleged. Pravin Raut was arrested by the ED in a probe linked to a Rs 1,034 crore alleged land scam related to the redevelopment of the Patra chawl in Mumbai's Goregaon area. He is presently undergoing judicial custody. Guru Ashish Construction Pvt Ltd was involved in the re-development of the Patra chawl which had 672 tenants in tenements on 47 acres belonging to the Maharashtra Housing Area Development Authority (MHADA), the ED had said earlier.

94.2k aspirants...

From Page 1 Many BJP-ruled States also

declared the Agniveers — as the soldiers inducted under the Agnipath scheme will be known — will be accorded priority in induction into State police forces. However, amid the then

raging protests over the Agnipath scheme, the defence forces warned that those who had indulged in violent protests and arson against the new recruitment scheme would not be inducted and that the candidates would be required to submit an undertaking to the effect before induction in the respective service.

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Sonia's personal secy

The Delhi Police has registered case of rape and criminal intimidation against the personal secretary of Congress president Sonia Gandhi, 71year-old PP Madhavan after a complaint by a 26-year-old

The woman alleged that the accused Madhavan lured her on the pretext of providing her a job and had promised

A police officer privy to the investigation said that the victim had alleged that she was allegedly raped and threatened of dire consequences by the accused if she reported the matter."A complaint was received at the Úttam Nagar

lowing which a First Information Report (FIR) under Sections 376 (rape) and 506 (criminal intimidation) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) has been registered. Police teams are investigating the matter," said M Harsha Vardhan, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), Dwarka district.

The DCP also said that the police were investigating the allegations levelled against a 71year-old man who is working as a personal secretary to a senior political leader.

Though the DCP did not name the political leader, officials in the Delhi Police said the allegations were levelled against Madhavan. The officials said

her husband died in 2020. The husband used to work at the Congress party office, police said, adding that he used to affix party's hoardings. According to woman, after her husband's death in February 2020, she began looking for a job and got in touch with Madhavan.

"He first called me for interview. He used to make video calls and chat with me on WhatsApp. He took me to an isolated location near the Uttam Nagar Metro Station and forced himself on me inside his car," the woman alleged. "In February 2022, he took me to a flat in Sundar Nagar where he forced himself on me," she

Alt News co-founder arrested for hurting religious sentiments

Delhi Police's Special Cell registered case against fact checker Mohammed Zubair

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police's Special Cell has arrested Alt News co-founder and the fact checker Mohammed Zubair for allegedly hurting religious sentiments. Later in the evening, Delhi Police was given one day custody of the journalist. The Special Cell's Intelligence Fusion & Strategic Operations (IFSO) unit had registered a case after a complaint was received from a Twitter handle alleging that Zubair had tweeted a questionable image with the purpose to deliberately insult a deity of a particular religion.
"A case was earlier regis-

tered under Sections 153A (promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion, race, place of birth,



language etc) and 295A (deliberate and malicious act intended to outrage religious feelings) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) against Zubair," said KPS Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), IFSO unit of the Special

"Zubair joined the probe on Monday and after gathering sufficient evidence on record, he was arrested," said the DCP. As per sources, Zubair was evasive on the questions and neither provided the necessary technical equipment for the purpose of the investigation nor cooperated in the probe.

Significantly, Zubair was the first person to share sus-

(BJP) leader Nupur Sharma's alleged remarks against Prophet Mohammed during a TV debate. The controversial statement made by Nupur Sharma had earlier set off an

international furor.

Several Muslim nations, including Afghanistan, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Kuwait, Bahrain, Indonesia and Iran, as well as the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation have officially protested their statements and demanded an apology. Following the uproar, the BJP suspended Sharma and another leader, Naveen Kumar Jindal, who also made insulting comments against Prophet Muhammad on social media.

However, soon after her comments, Sharma was targeted on social media and received thousands of death threats following which the police provided a security cover to her. Sharma had lodged a complaint with the Delhi Police on May 27 alleging that she has been receiving death threats and target hatred against her.

Rape case filed against | Monsoon is just a few days away from city: IMD



STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The monsoon is just a few days away from Delhi and is expected to yield good rainfall in the first 10 days, weather experts said on Monday.

The national Capital on Monday recorded a maximum temperature of 40.9 degree Celsius, which was three notches above the normal for this time of year, acceding to India Meteorological Department

degree Celsius, which was two notches warmer than the normal for this season, said IMD. However, the relative humidity in weather of capital recorded 62 per cent at 8:30 in the morning and 52 at 5:30 in the evening, stated the IMD data.

According to the experts, Delhi has received just 72.5 mm of rainfall since March 1 this year against the normal of 107.3 mm owing to the lack of strong western disturbances. The city did not record any rainfall in March and saw a minuscule 0.3 mm of precipitation in April against the monthly average of 12.2 mm. The scanty rainfall aggra-

vated the heat, with the capital recording its second hottest April this year since 1951 with a monthly average maximum temperature of 40.2 degrees Prolonged heatwaves saw

maximum temperatures soaring to 49 degrees Celsius in parts of Delhi in May.

The capital has recorded a maximum temperature of 42 degrees Celsius and above on 27 days so far this summer season, the highest number of such days since 2012, stated IMD data. In 2012, the city recorded a maximum temper-

Since June 1, when the monsoon season starts, Delhi has received just 24.5 mm of rainfall against the normal of 59.5 mm. All of it came between June 16 and June 20.

However, a bountiful monsoon is expected to cover the rain deficit in the first week of July and provide respite from the heat, according to Mahesh Palawat, vice-president (climate change and meteorology), Skymet Weather.

Delhi will receive a fresh spell of rain from June 29. The monsoon's arrival in Delhi is likely to be declared on June 30 or July 1, he said.

A significant increase in humidity levels, easterly winds and good rainfall for at least two consecutive days denote the arrival of the monsoon, Palawat said. Last year, the IMD had

forecast that the monsoon would arrive in Delhi nearly two weeks before its usual date, June 27. However, it reached the capital only on July 13, making it the most delayed in 19 years.

The monsoon had entered a "break" phase and there was virtually no progress from June 20 to July 8. "Last year, the monsoon did not get off to a

JNU gives eviction notices

we expect good rainfall for the first two to three days this time," Palawat said, adding that the first 10 days "seem to be good and on and off rain will continue"."There could be a dip in rainfall on July 2-3, but

a prolonged dry spell is ruled out," he added. Though the IMD is yet to provide a tentative date for the arrival of the monsoon in Delhi, the weather office said it will cover some parts of north-west India by June 29 and the

entire country by July 6. Due to an east-west trough over north India and moist winds from the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea in the lower tropospheric levels, fairly widespread to widespread rainfall is very likely over Himachal Pradesh, east Rajasthan and west Uttar Pradesh from June 28 to June 30 and over Punjab, Haryana and Delhi on June 29-30, the

It said conditions are favourable for the further advance of the monsoon into the remaining parts of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar, more parts of Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir during the next

'Demolish or repair damaged buildings to prevent any mishaps'

SAURAV GUPTA NEW DELHI

Delhi Lieutenant-Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena has directed the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) and the NDMC to identify dilapidated buildings and repair or demolish them to prevent any eventuality, such as their collapsing ahead of the Monsoon season,

In a letter written to the two civic bodies on June 20, the L-G said it has been observed in the past that during the

in the past that during the monsoon season, dangerous buildings have caved in, causing loss of lives and property.

According to Section 348 of the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957 the Municipal Corporation is bound to identify such dangerous buildings and take gerous buildings and take appropriate remedial steps.

"In view of the impending to identify such dangerous buildings should be completed by 30th June 2022 so that appropriate action to demolish, secure, repair such buildings is taken so as to prevent any mishap resulting in loss of life or any inconvenience to the public at large," it stated.

"Further for the purpose of rescue and relief in case of any mishap, densely built localities providing limited and restricted access for movement fire tenders, cranes etc. may also be identified.

In public interest an Action Plan should be prepared for effective disaster management in consultation with DMs," it firther read. "The LG has issued written directions to special officer and commis-



sioner of MCD, chairman of the NDMC to undertake the exercise and submit an action taken report within a fortnight," officials said.

"Considering the difficulties in carrying out rescue and relief operations in case of any mishap in congested or densely populated areas, the LG has also asked the agencies to identify such areas that provide limited and restricted access for fire tenders or cranes and address them in anticipation by effective disaster management in consultation with the concerned District Magistrates," the officials said.

"Ever since taking over as the LG has been emphasising on mitigating any inconvenience to the general public during the impending mon-

On several occasions, the LG has directed the civic agencies to ensure there is minimum waterlogging or flooding on the streets during the rain, he said."The civic bodies and road-owning agencies have also been told to carry out pruning of trees, particularly the dead or weak branches that are precariously hanging over the busy arterial roads, streets and lanes of the city," he added.

to canteen, dhaba owners STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) has sent eviction notices to canteen/dhaba owners on campus who haven't paid bills since they started their busi-The eviction notices were

served as these owners did not

respond to several notices that have been issued to them since 2019 with a request to clear the dues, the varsity said in a statement late Sunday evening. Notices have been issued to all those who have been

occupying the space at various places including academic buildings in JNU. They have been doing the business without any due allot-

ment. They continue to do business without payment of any license fees and other dues like electricity/water/conservancy charges," Campus Development Committee Chairperson Sudhir Kumar said in the statement. decision to serve eviction

notice was taken by the CDC in its January 17 meeting. On June 22, the JNU administration had served notices to operators of several canteens and dhabas located on campus to clear dues running up to lakhs of rupees and vacate the varsity premises by June 30.

The notice has sent the canteen operators into panic, who said they are too hard up to pay off the dues and, with eviction notice, risk losing their livelihood entirely.

JNU said it is committed to allotting the approved spaces/shops if the due process is followed. A canteen operator, who has been served a notice, said the administration has served him with a bill of Rs 10

lakh outstanding in rent and electricity charge."I come from a poor economic background. My brother and I are the only earning members and our livelihood depends on this canteen. How can I pay Rs 10

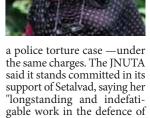
lakh? They should have demanded monthly or annual dues," said the canteen operator, who did not wish to be named."Even if we pay, there is no guarantee they will let us

JNUTA demands release of activist Teesta Setalvad

awaharlal Nehru University Teachers Association (JNUTA) has demanded the release of activist Teesta Setalvad, who was arrested by the Gujarat Anti-Terrorist Squad allegedly for submitting false evidence in the 2002

In a statement issued on Sunday, JNUTA urged the people to stand in "unwavering support" of the activist against, what it called, a "motivated action of the Gujarat police."

On Saturday, the Gujarat ATS detained Setalvad from her house in the Juhu area of Mumbai in connection with an First Information Report (FIR) lodged by Crime Branch Inspector D B Barad in Ahmedabad for "criminal conspiracy, forgery and placing false evidence in court to frame innocent people" in the 2002 Gujarat riots. The ATS also arrested former Gujarat DGP R B Sreekumar and former IPS officer Sanjiv Bhatt -- who is already in prison in



civil liberties" has made justice

for communal violence vic-

"JNUTA expresses its solidarity with Teesta Setalvad and all others who are being persecuted for upholding and affirming the values of India's democratic polity against all forms of autocratic oppression," the teachers' body said in the statement.

It demanded that "the FIR filed against supporters of victims of Gujarat violence be withdrawn and that Teesta Setalvad and others, falsely implicated in this case, be immediately released.'

Commuters see red as snag hits Metro Red Line **STAFF REPORTER** NEW DELHI

technical snag was once Again reported on the Delhi Metro's Red Line on Monday morning, leaving scores of daily commuters stranded for at least 45 minutes. The Red Line connects Rithala in Delhi to Shaheed Sthal in Ghaziabad. This is not the first time the

Delhi metro has faced the glitches on its line. In the last one month, six cases of technical snags have been reported on metro's Blue, Yellow and Red lines.

According to Delhi Metro officials, there have been six instances wherein Metro services were impacted ranging from few minutes to couple of

In three minor incidences, the services were delayed for few minutes on a very limited section to undertake the troubleshooting of the impacted train or signaling system, which is a normal procedure in such a vast technical set up which keeps providing safe, reliable and punctual Metro services for most part of the day throughout the year.

In remaining three incidents, two on the Blue Line and one on the Yellow Line, the services were affected for about one to two hours. "None of these incidences were result of a technical failure," claimed official.

However, the Delhi Metro officials also said that these incidents cause due to external factors resulting into breakdown of a component of Over Head Equipment (OHE) like a bird caught in between charged wires or some foreign materials such as cable, kite maaniha strings etc. being dropped by birds or flown through windstorm etc. hitting the exposed OHE and causing flashing incidents.

"Safety of the passengers is always our priority. In a system where train services are available every 3-5 minutes during



immediate repair work on the affected section requires utmost precision and mobilization of maintenance teams from the nearest depot," he

"Before undertaking such activity, train movement on both sides has to be stopped so that passengers on the affected (mid-section) train, if any are safely taken to the nearest station and this exercise can only take place effectively and swiftly with the passengers' cooperation otherwise it prolongs the effective take up of repair work by the maintenance team," he stated.

While informing about the measures being taken by the Delhi metro to avoid these kind of incidents, Anuj Dayal, a senior DMRC official said that they have plans to install 10,000 bird spikes across the network covering 5000 bird prone location or points. Out of these, 1000 locations are on yellow and 2000 on blue line

"30000 more spikes are planned to be installed covering 12000 more locations covering additional 3500 locations on Blue Line and 2000 on Yellow Line," he said.

"Implementation and upgradation of virtual signaling on Blue Line and Violet

services on major section of a Line during any disruption on some of its section," he told. The copper split pins on

the OHE wires which were in practice before are being replaced with stainless still pins to ensure more durability of the electrical system," he said. "To increase the technical compatibility between Live

Wire and Earth Wire, addi-

tional insulators are being

installed at around 1250 loca-Already 200 have been installed on the Blue and Yellow Lines so far out of total 450 and 250 identified respectively," he

"To improve the present short loop operations of trains during failure, DMRC has also installed 26 additional OHE switching locations in Line-1, Line-2 and Line-3, 4 where modification in traction system (power supply) can provide better short looping and technical failure management," Dayal said.

"Out of these, nine locations are on Blue line, 11 on Yellow and six on the Red Line have been identified and upgradation has been done. This also had helped in reducing the impact zone of failure in the recent times," he added.

130 dengue cases recorded in Capital this year: Report



STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Over 130 dengue cases have been reported in the national Capital so far this year, a civic report said on Monday. Delhi recorded 23 dengue cases in January, 16 in February, 22 in March, 20 in April and 30 in May, it said, adding 23 cases were reported this month till June 25.

As such, the count of dengue cases reported in the national Capital this year stood

to the disease have been reported so far, as per the report by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD).

The count of dengue cases reported in Delhi between January 1 and June 25 last year was 34. The corresponding figure was 20 in 2020, 22 in 2019, 30 in 2018 and 55 in 2017, the report said.

Cases of vector-borne diseases are usually reported between July and November, but the period may stretch till mid-December. Civic officials said dengue cases were being recorded earlier this year due to a congenial weather for

mosquito-breeding.
Last year, 9,613 dengue cases were recorded in national Capital, the highest since 2015, along with 23 deaths, the highest since 2016.



Delhi Fire Service officials demonstrate the working of a robot that was inducted into the city's firefighting fleet last month after a massive fire broke out in a building in Mundka, at Lakshmi Nagar Fire Station, in New Delhi

PREZ POLL FIGHT BETWEEN IDEOLOGY OF **ABSOLUTE POWER & FREEDOM: SINHA**

PNS NEW DELHI

ormer Union Minister Yashwant Sinha filed his nomination on Monday as the common Opposition candidate against the NDA nominee Droupadi Murmu for the NDA nominee NDA July 18 presidential election, a contest described by his supporters as a "battle of ideologies."

The former BJP leader was accompanied by his wife Nilima and flanked by leaders of at least 15 Opposition parties including Rahul Gandhi, Sharad Pawar, Akhilesh Yadav, Farooq Abdullah and KT Rama Rao.

Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao announced his support to Sinha hours before he filed the nomination. Rao's son and senior Minister KT Rama Rao led a delegation of party leaders to be by Sinha's side in Parliament.

Others present were Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, DMK leaders Tiruchi Siva and A Raja, Sitaram Yechury, CPI's D Raja, Rashtriya Lok Dal's Jayant Chaudhary, RJD's Misa Bharti, Revolutionary Socialist Party's NK Premchandran and Indian Union Muslim League's Mohammed Bashir and the NCP's Praful Patel.



There was no representative YASHWANT FILED from the Jharkhand Mukti **NOMINATION** Morcha (JMM), which had endorsed Sinha's candidature. FLANKED BY Leaders of the Shiv Sena, too, were not present as they were **LEADERS OF 15** busy with the political crisis in Maharashtra. **OPP PARTIES**

Addressing the media after filing four sets of nomination support. Sinha said he had reached out to Prime Minister papers, Sinha said he would reach out to his former col-leagues in the BJP seeking their Modi and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh for support.

On the occasion, Sinha hit out at the BJP saying that the saffron party under Prime Minister Narendra Modi lacked internal democracy. "The BJP I was part of had internal democracy, the current BJP lacks internal democracy," he said.

Addressing the media, former Congress president Rahul Gandhi said all Opposition parties were united in supporting Sinha's candidature for the top Constitutional post. "Of course, we support the individual, but the real fight is between two ideologies. One is the ideology of the RSS, that of anger, hatred, and the other of compassion of all the Opposition parties who are standing together," Rahul Gandhi said.

Sinha served as Finance Minister and External Affairs Minister in the Government led by Atal Bihari Vajpayee. He had resigned from the BJP in 2018 and joined the Trinamool Congress in 2021. He quit the Trinamool Congress before his candidature was announced on Sinha described the candi-

dature of his rival NDA nominee Droupadi Murmu, a tribal, as part of "politics of symbolism" and insisted that he would contest the poll on the track record of the Modi Government with regard to the welfare of backward communities and the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. "The current President also belongs to a particular community. Does it mean that the community has benefited," Sinha asked. Śinha said the presidential election was a battle between the ideology of absolute power and that of freedom.

India sees 45% jump with 17,073 new Covid cases

A mid the possible threat of the fourth wave of the coronavirus pandemic, India on Monday logged 17,073 new infections, a 45 per cent jump from Sunday when 11,739 people tested positive for Covid.

The death toll climbed to

5,25,020 with 21 fresh fatalities, data updated at 8 A.M. by the

Ministry stated.

There were — six from Kerala, five from Maharashtra, four from Delhi, two each from Goa and Punjab and one each from Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) and Uttar Pradesh.

The active cases in the country stood at 94,420. The daily positivity rate was recorded at 5.62 per cent, while the weekly positivity rate was recorded at 3.39 per cent, it stated. The daily positivity crossed 5 per cent after a gap of 139 days.

In the last 24 hours, a total of five patients infected with Covid-19 in Mumbai lost their lives. This is the highest singleday deaths reported since February 7, when the city wit-nessed five deaths out of 356 registered cases. Of the five deceased, four were above the age of 70 years with comorbidities. Delhi saw yet another jump in cases with 1,891 cases recorded on Sunday as compared to 666 infections recorded a day before. Kerala, too, has

rise in cases has been worrying.

The active cases increased to 94,420, comprising 0.22 per cent of the total infections. The national Covid recovery rate was recorded at 98.57 per cent, the Ministry said.

An increase of 1,844 cases was recorded in the active Covid case count in a span of

24 hours, as per the data.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease surged to 4,27,87,606, while the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.21 per cent.

According to the Ministry, 197.11 crore doses of vaccine have been administered in the nationwide Covid-19 inocula-

India's Covid tally had crossed the 20-lakh mark on August 7 in 2020, 30 lakh on August 23, 40 lakh on September 5 and 50 lakh on September 16. It went past 60 lakh on September 28, 70 lakh on October 11, crossed 80 lakh on October 29, 90 lakh on November 20 and surpassed the one-crore mark on December 19. The country crossed the grim milestone of two crore cases on May 4, 2021, three crore on June 23 and four crore cases on January

Will Modi, Guj Govt ever be held accountable for 2002 riots, asks Cong

The Congress on Monday termed as "deeply disappointing" the Supreme Court ruling upholding the SIT's clean chit to the then Gujarat Chief Minister Narendra Modi and 63 others in the 2002 communal riots, and asked whether Modi and the State Government will ever be held accountable.

The Opposition party said it stands by party leader, the late Ehsan Jafri, and his family and asserted that what happened to him in a most tragic manner was the result of a "fundamental lapse on the part of the State Government". Ehsan Jafri, a former Congress MP, was among the 68 people killed at Ahmedabad's Gulberg Society February 28, 2002, a day after the Godhra train burning that claimed 59 lives.

The party's detailed reaction to the Supreme Court ruling came after the top court also dismissed a plea by Jafri's wife Zakia, terming it as "devoid of merits".

In a statement on the court ruling, Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said the Supreme Court judgment in the Zakia Jafri case is "deeply disappointing". Despite the judgment dated June 24, 2022, certain fundamental questions still remain unanswered, Ramesh said.

"What is the constitutional and moral responsibility of the Chief Minister and the State Government in cases of large-scale communal riots," Ramesh said. "Is the responsibility in such cases only ever that of the Collector & Deputy Commissioner of Police and not of political executive? Will the Chief Minister, Cabinet and State Government never be held accountable, even if a State is thrown into a circle of violence and riots?" he said.

While the Supreme Court has pronounced its judgment, there are some questions that will continue to haunt Prime Minister Modi, including was he not the Gujarat Chief Minister when the horrific riots took place in 2002, Ramesh said. He listed the following questions:

♦ Why was PM Vajpayee so affected by his lack of action that he had to publicly remind him to do his duty, to follow his 'Rajdharma?'

♦ Was it not the Supreme Court which called out the conduct of the Modi Government in Gujarat as that of "modern day Nero's (who) were looking elsewhere when innocent children and helpless women were burning, and were probably deliberating how the perpetrators of the crime can be saved or protected?

'Why did sections of the BJP, including now member of



The Supreme Court judgment in the Zakia Jafri case is "deeply disappointing". **Despite the** judgment dated June 24, 2022, certain **fundamental** questions still remain unanswered -Jairam Ramesh

the Modi Cabinet Smriti Irani protest and call for his dismissal as CM if he was not guilty of any wrongdoing?

♦ What about all the numerous convictions that have been carried out on the basis of the evidence collected by the SIT relating to the Gujarat riots? Can the BIP claim that those also stand invalidated?

Ramesh asserted that no amount of "propaganda" by the BJP can ever erase these facts. The Supreme Court had on

Friday observed that inaction or failure of some officials of one section of the administration cannot be the basis to readily infer a pre-planned criminal conspiracy by the authorities or to term it as a State-sponsored crime against the minority community.

The Communist Party of India also condemned the arrest and subsequent detention of Teesta Setalvad and R B Sreekumar, ex-DGP who fought for bringing justice to the families of the victims of the 2002 Gujarat massacre. "Teesta Setalvad is an acknowledged renowned fighter for the rights of the citizens and her activities as an ardent fighter against communalism and for the democratic rights of people has been appreciated by even the

"Her arrest along with others is a hard blow to the democratic polity of the country and the right of the people to question the role of the Government when such inhuman riots, targeting one section of the population, resulting in the killings of hundreds takes place.

'The Party reiterates its stand that all those responsible for the massacre must be brought to book," the party said

Modi making cronies daulatveers by handing airports for 50 years: Rahul stop until the youth get justice," years. The Congress had

for the reference years 2017-18 to 2019-20.

Based on the success of State PGI, 83-indi-

cator-based PGI-D has been designed to

grade the performance of all 733 districts. The

data is filled by districts via an online portal.

The PGI-D is expected to help the State edu-

cation departments identify gaps at the dis-

trict level and improve their performance in

a decentralised manner. The indicator-wise

improve. The PGI-D will reflect relative per-

weightage of 600 points across 83 indicators,

which are grouped under six categories viz.,

The PGI-D's structure comprises total

formance of districts in a uniform scale.

PNS NEW DELHI

 $F^{ormer\ Congress\ president}_{Rahul\ Gandhi\ on\ Monday}$ alleged that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is making his friends "daulatveer" by handing airports to them for 50 years while making youths 'Agniveers" on a four-year con-

Rahul's attack came on a day the party's leaders and activists observed a "peaceful satyagraha"

The Education Ministry on Monday released the Performance Grading Index for Districts (PGI-D) for 2018-

19 and 2019-20 prepared by the Department

of School Education and Literacy (DoSE&L),

to assess the performance of the school edu-

cation system at the district level. According

Education System is one of the world's

largest with 15 lakh schools, 97 lakh teach-

ers, and nearly 26 crore students. The

DoSE&L devised the Performance Grading

Index (PGI) for States and released reports

demand a withdrawal of the new military recruitment scheme.

"The Prime Minister is making his friends 'daulatveer' (rich) by handing them country's airports for 50 years while making youths 'Agniveers' on a four-year contract," Rahul Gandhi said in a tweet in Hindi. The Congress party is doing #SatyagrahaForYouth against Agnipath across the country today. This satyagraha will not

Several States witnessed protests, including unbridled violence, after the Agnipath recruitment scheme for the armed forces was announced on June 14. It envisages recruiting youths in the age bracket of 17and-half to 21 years for four years with a provision to retain 25 per cent of them for 15 more years. For 2022, the upper age limit has been extended to 23

observed a peaceful satyagraha at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi as well as in various states on the issue on June 20. Congress MPs had also taken out a peaceful march from Parliament. A delegation of senior leaders submitted a memorandum to President Ram Nath Kovind requesting him to withdraw the controversial scheme. The pres-

ident is the commander-inchief of the armed forces Edu Performance Grading Index for districts released Outcomes, Effective Classroom Transaction, Infrastructure Facilities & Student's Entitlements, School Safety & Child Protection, Digital Learning and Governance Process. These categories are further divided into 12 domains, viz., Learning Outcomes and Quality, Access Outcomes, Teacher Availability and Professional Development Outcomes, Learning Management, Learning

Facilities, Student Entitlements, School Safety

and Child Protection, Digital Learning,

Funds convergence and utilisation, Enhancing

CRCs Performance, Attendance Monitoring

India, Malaysia to **boost Defence ties** existing Malaysia India

PNS NEW DELHI

▼ndia and Malaysia on **I** Monday agreed to further boost their Defence and strategic ties during the talks between Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Senior Defence Minister YB Dato Seri HishammuddinTun Hussein

The two Ministers held the meeting through video conference and also discussed a wide range of issues con-cerning bilateral, regional and Defence industrial coopera-tion, Defence Ministry officials said here.

Rajnath congratulated Dato 'Seri HishammuddinTun Hussein for assuming the office of the Senior Defence Minister in August, 2021. Both Ministers expressed the intent to further boost the already strong India-Malaysia

The two Ministers discussed the existing Defence cooperation activities and framework, and ways to fur-Systems and School Leadership Development. | ther enhance them under the

PIL CHALLENGING SECURITY COVER TO MUKESH AMBANI, KIN

Defence Cooperation Meeting (MIDCOM) framework. The next MIDCOM is scheduled to be held in July

2022, and it was decided to use this platform for a deeper engagement in defence. Rajnath highlighted the

areas in which Indian defence industries could assist Malaysia. He suggested a visit of senior officers from Malaysia to India to get firsthand experience of the facilities and products of the Indian defence industry. The Malaysian Senior

Defence Minister expressed the need for inducting women personnel in peacekeeping missions. Both sides agreed to engage each other on this issue. It was also agreed to upgrade capability for Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) operthe Senior Defence Minister of Malaysia to visit India at an early convenient date to discuss closer and strategic

Reusable, anti-microbial N95 mask made with 3D tech

dhe Researchers from Amity University in Haryana and University of Nebraska, USA have jointly developed a reusable, odourless and anti-microbial N95 mask by using 3D printing technology. The four-layer mask whose outer layer is made up of silicon with a shelf life of more than five years can also be used by workers where they are exposed to high volumes of dust, cement and oaint fumes.

It can be modified by changing the filter configuration according to the place in which it will be used and can help pre-

vent severe lung diseases such as Silicosis, said a statement here.

A trademark and a patent have also been filed for the mask called Nano Breath.

A 4-layer filtration mechanism has been provided in the mask wherein the outer and first laver of the filter is coated with nanoparticles. The second layer is a high-efficiency particulate absorbing (HEPA) filter, the third layer is a 100 µm filter and the fourth layer is a moisture absorbent filter. The mask has been developed under the project funded by the Department of Science & Technology (DST), Union Ministry of Science and PNS NEW DELHI

he Supreme Court on ▲ Monday agreed to hear on June 28, a plea by the Centre against the Tripura High Court orders on a PIL challenging the grant of security cover to industrialist Mukesh Ambani and his family.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta told a vacation Bench of Justices Surya Kant and JB Pardiwala that the High Court has no jurisdiction to entertain the PIL as the State Government has nothing to do with the security cover



provided to the Ambanis by the Centre on the recommendation of the Maharashtra Government.

Mehta said he wants the ppeal to be heard urgently as the High Court has asked Union Home Ministry officials to appear before it on Tuesday with original records concerning the threat perception to the Ambanis, and stated no more adjournment

will be granted. The Tripura High Court had on a PIL filed by one Bikash Saha had passed two interim orders on May 31 and June 21 and had directed the Central Government to place the original file maintained by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) regarding threat perception and assessment report of Ambani, his wife and chil-

dren based on which security has been granted to them. The Centre said that vide Court has also directed the Central Government to depute a responsible officer to appear before the Court with the original record, in a sealed cover, on the next date of hearing on June 28, 2022, for consideration of the Court. The Centre said that while entertaining the PIL petition the High Court had failed to appreciate that Mukesh Ambani and his families were neither residents of Tripura nor any part of the cause of action remotely arising from Tripura existed.

the said orders, the High

'Drug-resistant typhoid strains a worry'

S Typhi strains have spread to many countries nearly 200 times since 1990: Study

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The effectiveness of antibiotics to The effectiveness of anticional treat typhoid infections is threatened by the emergence of the resistant S Typhi strains.

According to a study published in The Lancet Microbe journal, the largest-ever genome analysis of Salmonella enterica serovar Typhimurium (S Typhi), shows that resistant strains – almost all originating in South Asia – have spread to other countries nearly 200 times since 1990.

Calling the finding of the study as a cause for worry, a scientist from AIIMS, Delhi said, "The bacteria causing typhoid has become a "smart bacteria" which has been able to find

mechanisms to evade the usual antibiotics. It's worrying, and the current antibiotic regimen needs to be reviewed urgently."

The Lancet study noted that typhoid fever is a global public health concern, causing 11 million infections and more than 1,00,000 deaths per

While it is most prevalent in South Asia, which accounts for 70 per cent of the global disease burden, it also has significant impacts in sub-Saharan Africa, Southeast Asia, and Oceania, highlighting the need for a global response, they said.

"The speed at which highly-resis-"At the same time, the fact that tant strains of S Typhi have emerged resistant strains of S Typhi have and spread in recent years is a real spread internationally so many times cause for concern, and highlights the also underscores the need to view

need to urgently expand prevention measures, particularly in countries at greatest risk," said the study's lead author, Jason Andrews, from Stanford University.

typhoid control, and antibiotic resistance more generally, as a global rather than local problem," Andrews

In the new study, the researchers performed whole-genome sequencing on 3,489 S Typhi isolates obtained from blood samples collected between 2014-2019 from people in Bangladesh,

India, Nepal, and Pakistan with confirmed cases of typhoid fever.

A collection of 4,169 S Typhi samples isolated from more than 70 countries between 1905 and 2018 was also sequenced and included in the analysis. Resistance-conferring genes in the 7,658 sequenced genomes were

identified using genetic databases. Strains were classified as multidrug-resistant (MDR) if they contained genes giving resistance to classical front-line antibiotics ampicillin, chloramphenicol, and trimetho-

prim/sulfamethoxazole. The authors also traced the presence of genes conferring resistance to macrolides and quinolones, which are among the most critically important

antibiotics for human health. Since 2000, MDR S Typhi has declined steadily in Bangladesh and India, and remained low in Nepal, though it has increased slightly in

Stop Muslims from being misled in 2024 polls, Maya tells party

Hailing the performance of her party candidate in the recent Azamgarh parliamentary bypoll, Bahujan Samai Party president Mayawati, on Monday, asked party workers to keep the momentum and prevent Muslims from being misled in the 2024 general elections

"The determination and courage with which all the BSP workers, office-bearers and party candidate Shah Alam alias Guddu Jamali have fought the Azamgarh Lok Sabha bypoll needs to be maintained till 2024 Lok Sabha elections as part of the resolve while maintaining election readiness," Mayawati said in a tweet in

Hindi. In another tweet, she said, not only in Azamgarh, BSP's struggle and efforts had to be continued in the entire UP to convert the groundwork into votes.

"In this sequence, it is also important to protect a particular community from being misled in the upcoming elections," she said, in an apparent reference to Muslim voters. Mayawati had on Sunday

said that the outcome of the bypoll had proved that only BSP had the "ground force" to defeat the Bharatiya Janata Party in the state.

The UP bypoll result has once again proved that only BSP has the 'ground force' to defeat BJP here. The party's effort to prove this to the entire



community will continue so that the much awaited political change can take place in the state," the BSP chief said.

She tweeted, "The ruling party wins most of the bypolls vet the tough fight the Bahujan Samaj Party has given to the

Janata Party Samajwadi Party Azamgarh is commendable.

move forward more strength." The BSP contested only the Azamgarh bypoll. Party's candidate Shah Alam alias Guddu Jamali stood third with

All party work-

ers have to

29.27 per cent votes there. The He said that these centres BJP candidates won both the were the focal point of the party at the ground level where the Azamgarh and Rampur seats in the bypolls, the counting for leaders apprised the voters about the policies of the govwhich were held on Sunday.

are a clear indication of the suc-

cess of the Shakti centres. The

party workers were able to

meet people and convince

them about the programmes of

the Central and the state gov-

ernments," BJP vice-president

Vijay Bahadur Pathak said.

to cast their votes.

Post up by-election victories, BJP to

strengthen its Shakti Kendras in UP

Dedicating the victory of Bharatiya Janata Party to "During this election, the workers went to over one lakh its Shakti Kendras in Azamgarh Shakti Kendras each in and Rampur parliamentary by-Azamgarh and Rampur constituencies," he said and added elections, the state unit of the party has decided to strengththat the Shakti Kendras would be strengthened for the 2024 en these centres across the general election. Pathak said it was time for "The bye-election results

introspection for Akhilesh Yaday because it was the fourth election the party had lost under his leadership. "The SP has reached its

lowest number in Lok Sabha after this result. It now has three members in the lower House of Parliament," the BJP leader said.

BJP's Dinesh Lal Yadav 'Nirahua' won the parliamentary bypoll from Azamgarh

from Rampur, defeating Samajwadi Party's candidates Dharmendra Yadav and Asim Raja by margins of 8,679 and

42,192 votes, respectively.

Lodhi, an Other Backward Class candidate, is a former SP MLC. He had started his political career with the BJP but he switched sides later. He had contested the Lok Sabha election from Rampur as a Bahujan Samaj Party candidate in 2009 but finished third. He was elected to UP Legislative Council from the Rampur-Bareilly local bodies constituency in 2016 as an SP candidate. His term ended in March this year.

The Azamgarh seat saw a triangular contest between BJP's Dinesh Lal Yadav

Yadav and BSP's Shah Alam while in Rampur, the contest was between BJP and SP because the BSP had not fielded a candidate from there.

Azamgarh was the SP bastion as Mulayam Singh Yadav won the Lok Sabha elections from Azamgarh in 2014 and in 2019 also Akhilesh won comfortably from there. In the byelection the SP had fielded Akhilesh's cousin Dharmendra

Mohammad Azam Khan had won from Rampur in the Lok Sabha election in 2019 when the SP had an alliance with the BSP and the Rashtriya Lok Dal. In 2014, BJP's Nepal Singh, a Lodhi, had won the

Didi wants Agniveers to retire at 65; urges ED to catch Suvendu

SAUGAR SENGUPTA

Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday said that the Centre had launched the Agniveer scheme with an eye on the 2024 general elections and asked New Delhi to extend the retirement age of the new

Agniveer recruits to 65 years. "The BJP is concerned about its own electoral game plans ... its eyes are on the 2024 elections ... so it has created a half-baked scheme like Agniveer where young people will be recruited for only four years ... has anyone heard

short as that?" Banerjee said adding "In the name of the Army recruits the BJP is trying to create its own armed

cadre base."
"We in our State always keep the concern of the youth in mind while taking such schemes ... this is because my motto is to create more employment for the youth ... but here what the young people who will retire --- even before they grow up --- after four years do ... they will again be jobless trained in arms," the Chief Minister told a meeting in Burdwan.

advisable to leave unemployed youth trained in arms to fend for themselves, Banerjee said instead of "giving arms into the hands of the youth," the "Government should consider extending the retirement age of the Agniveers to 65 years... it is not fare to train the youth for four months and then retire

Banerjee's remarks came days after widespread protests broke out all over the country in the wake of the Government's declaration of Agniveer scheme.

them after four years."

In an apparent reference Saying that it was not to the Maharashtra political



turmoil the Chief Minister attacked the BJP for using the central agencies against the Opposition parties. "They (BJP) want to devour everything ... they do not and can-

not tolerate opposition which is why they are sending the ED and CBI to the houses of the Opposition leaders who dare speak against them ...

resorted to only against the opposition parties whereas their own leaders are left off."

Banerjee's comments came at a time when hundreds of Trinamool Congress workers led by leaders like Babul Supriyo, Kunal Ghosh and Sayani Ghosh staged sit-in agitation in front of the CGO complex in Kolkata.

They demanded arrest of Bengal Opposition Leader Suvendu Adhikari for his alleged involvement in the Sharada chit fund and Narada payoff scams where he was seen accepting cash on cam-

"I left the BJP ... and I

dare the Centre to touch me of saving him from the SEBI with the agencies ... they and ED. Adhikari, then a with the agencies ... they cannot but my hands are clean ... but what about Suvendu Adhikari who was caught on camera accepting cash ... though his name figures in the FIR he has been left alone because he has joined the washing machine called BJP."

The TMC staged a number of rallies in Bengal after a letter from Sudipto Sen the prime accused in the Sharada scam — was leaked. The letter alleged how Adhikari repeatedly blackmailed him and extorted money from him in the name

the BJP just ahead of the 2021 Assembly elections in which the BJP suffered a humiliating defeat.
The TMC's protests intensified days after the ED and CBI questioned Rujira Narula Banerjee — the wife of TMC MP and national secretary

Bengal minister, was a pow-

erful TMC leader. He joined

and Mamata Banerjee's nephew Abhishek Banerjee regarding a money laundering case. Several crores had been found in a bank account allegedly related to her in a Thailand bank.

2 more ultras gunned down ahead of Amarnath Yatra

MOHIT KANDHARI JAMMU

head of the beginning of the 42-day Along Amarnath yatra from June 30, two more terrorists were gunned down by the joint team of the security forces in Trubji area of South Kashmir's Kulgam district while a Pakistani intruder was shot dead by BSF per-Pakistani sonnel in R S Pura sector while he was trying to sneak inside the Indian territory on Monday.

On the other hand, Doda police also arrested one terrorist and recovered 01 Chinese pistol, 02 Magazine,14 live cartridges and one mobile phone from his possession. The entire security grid across

state of high alert to ensure peaceful conduct of the yatra. Inspector General of Police Kashmir range, Vijay Kumar chaired the final security review meeting related to Amarnath Yatra in South Kashmir's Anantnag.

of BSF, ITBP, CRPF & JKP besides South Kashmir district SSPs & Commanding Officers attended the meeting. Real threats & countermeadent free yatra this year.



have been sent on a path finding mis-GOC Victor Force, IG CRPF, DIGs sion or to look for possible infiltration routes to push fresh batch of infiltrators to execute a terror plot during the yatra period. In the recent weeks several attempts have been made by sures being taken by police and security forces were reviewed to ensure incideliver arms and ammunition or drop Official sources in Jammu magnetic improvised explosive device claimed, the Pakistani intruder must (IEDs) or sticky bombs to sabotage

peace in Jammu region.

Keeping in view the threat, special security checkpoints have been activated along the entire yatra route while quick reaction teams have been deployed near the yatri base camps at different locations to ensure safety of the pilgrims. The base camps and other vital transit points including refreshment counters, resting places have been kept under close watch

with the help of drone cameras to record any suspected movement of mis-

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, who is chairman of the Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board (SASB) Monday visited Yatri Niwas at Bhagwati Nagar and reviewed arrangements for Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra pilgrims. The security forces are alert and have made adequate arrangements for the smooth conduct of Yatra, besides it has been our endeavor to make the best arrangements this year, the Governor added.

The Lt Governor directed the concerned officials to ensure health facilities, adequate number of Doctors, nursing staff, sanitation staff, duty Lt Governor was briefed by concerned officers regarding the facilities along the Yatra route, besides the arrangements in regard to water, power supply, sewage disposal, food and RFID counters at the Yatri Niwas. Speaking to media persons on the sidelines of the visit, the Lt Governor said, lakhs of families had to face financial hardship since Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra could not be held for the last two years due to Covid pandemic. There is a lot of enthusiasm in the people of Jammu region and in Kashmir too this year and I see the local people are also ready to welcome the



Rose-ringed parakeets eat from a feeder hung on a tree on the outskirts of Ajmer on Monday.

Nation pays tributes to Sam Manekshaw on death anniv

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN WELLINGTON, NILGIRIS

The nation paid rich tributes to Filed Marshal SHFJ Manekshaw, former Chief of Army Staff and Independent India's first Field Marshal, on Monday. It was on June 27, 2008, the Field Marshal breathed his last at the Military Hospital in Wellington.

Wreaths were laid at the final resting place of the revered soldier at Parsi Zoroastrian Cemetery in Udhagamandalam on behalf of the three Services Chiefs, Southern Army Commander and General Officer Commanding, Dakshin Bharat Area.

The senior most General Officer of the Wellington Station Lieutenant General S Mohan, Commandant Defence Service Staff College, Wellington and Station Commander Wellington also laid wreaths and paid their respect.

A release by Madras Regimental Centre, Wellington, said that Field Marshal Manekshaw had settled down at Wellington after active service.



goes back to the time when he was Commandant of Defence Service Staff College. He shared a special bond with the Nilgiris and was equally endearing to the local population. A man

with unflinching moral courage

ities, his life would always remain a source of inspiration to the armed forces and the Nation," said the release.

Nilgiris residents still remember Sam Manekshaw driving around the hill station

months before his demise. "It was a treat to watch him driving around. He never had the aura of a VVIP and always used to wave at us when we greeted him," said Selvaraj, a Nilgiris

Soldiers of MRC attend to health needs of villagers

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ WELLINGTON,

Nanjappa Chattram, a remote and quiet village in Nilgiris district of Tamil Nadu comes alive once in a month as the vehicles of Madras Regimental Centre, Wellington, roar in through the dilapidated roads with medicine and food. It is not for the soldiers who are on a mission but for the villagers themselves. Doctors and para-medical staff from Military Hospital, Wellington, accompanied by a group of soldiers attend to the medical needs of the villagers. If the patients need specialized treatment or diagnosis, they are referred to the Government Hospital with notes issued

by the Army doctors. Sunday turned out to be an important day for the village women folk as gynecologists and obstetricians from MH Wellington made it a 'Mother and Child Day', a new experience to the villagers. They were briefed in their own local language about the importance of pregnancy and childcare by the doctors. All the pregnant women were diagnosed by the specialists and prescribed medicines. The doctors and nurses of State Government's Health Department are yet

to reach the villages. While the lady doctors were explaining the significance of pregnancy, the children in the village were entertained by the



soldiers with toys, learn through fun and story telling sessions. "They gave as paints, paper and brush to tone up our painting and writing skills, The Army uncles had brought lot of chocolates with them and this was cherished by all of us," said Jamuna, a village girl.

The medical camp is Indian Army's way of thanking the villagers for the help rendered by them during the rescue operations of the December 8, 2021 helicopter crash in which General Bipin Rawat and 13 others perished. It was the villagers of Nanjappa Chattram villagers

who reached the spot first and tried to rescue the passengers. As a mark of gratitude, the Dakhsin

Bharat Area of Indian Army adopted the village and is conducting once-in-amonth free medical aid to the villagers. MRC Wellington, one of the oldest Army establishments, is no stranger to villagers in the district as they had provided free food and ration to them during the Covid-19 pandemic proving again that the Army was not only for guarding the borders but helping the civilians in hours www.dailypioneer.com

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- PAPER WITH PASSION-

Breathing easy

Maharashtra rebels have got reprieve in the SC granting them more time to file replies

Inile the Maharashtra crisis seems to be becoming a long-drawn affair, the rebels got a breather from the Supreme Court. In response to rebel leader Eknath Shinde's petition challenging the disqualification notices issued to 16 MLAs, including himself, the apex court extended the deadline given to them to file their responses to the notices till July 12. They were told to reply by 5.30 pm on Monday. As the political battle reached the SC, it issued notices to Maharashtra Deputy Speaker Narhari Zirwal, Chief Whip Sunil Prabhu, leader of Legislature party Anil Chaudhary and the Central Government. Shinde greeted the order tweeting, "This is the victory of the Hindutva emperor Balasaheb Thackeray's Hindutva and the thoughts



of Dharmaveer Anand Dighe Saheb...!" Dighe, who died in 2001, was Shinde's mentor; he was known for his combative ways and had even reportedly become Bal Thackeray's rival. The Supreme Court wanted to know why the rebels didn't move the Bombay High Court; their lawyer said that the situation is bad in the Maharashtra capital. Their residences and properties are under threat. Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray's faction is not doing much to do away with the climate of fear. His loyalist and Shiv Sena MP Sanjay Raut said at a rally of workers on Sunday, "When they step out of Assam, they won't be alive at heart. They know what

can happen in the fire which has been lit here now. The dead bodies of all these 40 MLAs will come to Mumbai (from Guwahati), we will directly send them to the mortuary for post-mortem." This at a time when the country's highest court is seized of the matter!

Meanwhile, the Enforcement Directorate has summoned Raut. The ED's intervention at this point of time will be seen by many as abuse of official machinery by the Centre. Unsurprisingly, Raut has called the summons a "conspiracy." He said, "I am not linked with any of the companies mentioned by the ED. Tomorrow, I will not be able to go to ED as there is a rally in Alibaug which I have to address. It's a legal battle. Arrest me if you have orders from the BJP to arrest me." The political drama played out is quite familiar. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) seems to be getting ready for political intervention. BJP MLA Sudhir Mungantiwar was quoted as saying, "BJP core committee meeting concluded. After SC order, State's political situation was assessed & discussed. Eknath Shinde said that his faction is original Shiv Sena, this too was discussed. We discussed what role should we assume in future in current scenario." No proposal on Government formation was discussed, the BJP said. If two-thirds/3rd MLAs are with Shinde, then how can they be called rebels, the BJP said after the core committee meeting, adding that there is no need for a floor test. This is a new turn in the political drama.



Support for abortion rights on Fifth Avenue during the annual NYC Pride, in New York

Hitchhikers

Viruses can survive for days by binding themselves to plastics in freshwater, finds a new study

aking the known fresh environmental risks a notch higher, scientists have proved for the first time that viruses can survive and remain infectious by binding themselves to plastics in freshwater — thus raising concerns about the potential impact on human health. Rotavirus, which causes diarrhoea and an upset stomach, was found to survive for up to three days in lake water by attaching itself to the surfaces of tiny beads of plastic pollution, called microplastics which are tiny particles less than 5mm long. Around 10 days back, for the first time, microplastics were found in freshly fallen snow in Antarctica. The pollutant poses a growing threat to the region's ecosystem and could increase the melting of ice and snow. Snow samples collected from 19 sites in the Ross Island region of Antarctica were all found to contain microplastics. The research was published in a peer-reviewed

article in a scientific journal, *The Cryosphere*. While microplastics are found across the world, from the world's deepest ocean floors to the peak of Mount Everest, researchers say that it was the first time these were found in freshly fallen snow in

The latest study — led by the University of Stirling and published in the journal Environmental *Pollution* — is the first of its kind to explore the issue using water taken from the natural environment with previous research focusing only on the spread of such viruses in sterile hospital settings. Such enteric viruses remain infectious, posing a

potential health risk. Lead researcher Professor Richard Quilliam said: "We found that viruses can attach to microplastics, which allows them to survive in the water for three days, possibly longer. Even if a wastewater treatment plant is doing everything it can to clean sewage waste, the water discharged still has microplastics in it, which are then transported down the river, into the estuary and end up on the beach. We weren't sure how well viruses could survive by 'hitch-hiking' on plastic in the environment, but they do survive, and they do remain infectious." It doesn't take many such virus particles to make one sick. So this, therefore, is one more box to tick on our list of to-do things. Let's do everything, everything possible to clean up our environment and keep it that way for our upcoming generations.

The silence of Pak civil society



The civil society in Pakistan seems to have lost its vigour and has been forced to shy away from pro-activism under the political-military control

strong and durable demo-A cratic Government is possible only when it and the cratic Government is poscivil society play a collaborative role in upholding the spirit of democratic ethos and spreading awareness about the value of democratic participation. In fact, civil society has a major role to play to promote and consolidate democracy by acting as a link between the people and the Government. Therefore, it is considered the 'third space' between people and the State, incorporating the dimension of pluralism and diversity.

The civil society's activism in Pakistan, however, appears to be at times erratic and compromised. It is also argued that the fundamental obstacle in the path of development and democratisation of civil society there is due to the confluence of military rule and 'religion'.

Pakistan's civil society — A complex matrix: Civil society in Pakistan appears to be complex, assuming a sui generis character over the years. This complexity must be viewed in the context of repeated military interventions and influence of religion. In fact, civil society in Pakistan comprises muti-stakeholders including non-governmental organisations (NGOs), community-based organisations, think tanks, trade unions, cultural groups, religious groups and informal citizen organisations.

Pakistani Mohammad Qadeer aptly categorises its sui generis nature into two tracks. One is the modern secular track and the other is the traditional ideological track. The first track constitutes the urban, modern, liberal/secular and educated section which includes NGO, civil society organisations and professionals advocating human rights through conferences, seminars and protest marches. The traditional is constituted by primordial ties and traditional base of religious civil society and is protected from State's intrusion. This segment comprismosques, seminaries, isiamic/ethnic/territorial segments of students and labour unions, rural groups, bazaar traders and small-town industri-

alists. It is believed that on account of its religious characteristic, civil society could merge as an effective actor in Pakistan, as against the western model, to influence civic life and State. Nonetheless, from a functional perspective based on traditional model of regulating civic life, community action and counter-balance the Sate's excess, civil society in Pakistan has shown some effectiveness.

Civil society's activism in the past: Despite the complexities, spurts of civil society's activism have been discernible, particularly in terms of effecting a democratic transition process and to bring about regime changes — both authoritarian and democratic. Civil society's role in the anti-Ayub and anti-Musharraf agitation as well as during the Government of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto is noteworthy. The most vibrant role and activism of civil society was seen during lawyers' movement ('Adliya Bachao Tehreek' or Save Judiciary Movement) in 2007 when they stood against the dictatorship of Musharraf to restore autonomy of the judiciary and democrac

Civil society and 'tepid' activism: Today, on account of the political reality in Pakistan



PAKISTAN CIVIL SOCIETY'S ACTIVISM APPEARS TO BE **ERRATIC AND** COMPROMISED. IT IS ARGUED THAT THE **FUNDAMENTAL OBSTACLE IN** THE PATH OF **DEMOCRATISATION** OF CIVIL SOCIETY THERE IS DUE TO THE CONFLUENCE OF 'MILITARY RULE' AND 'RELIGION'

marked by continued military control, the civil society has been forced to shy away from pro-activism displayed episodically in the past in terms of raising awareness among its citizens and promoting democratic participation.

While Pakistan's people continue to be perturbed about important issues like corruption and unemployment, the civil society seems to be lacking any constructive debate and meaningful pro-activism. Does such tepid activism reinforce the perception that the civil society is driven either by vested interests or is politically partisan acting under the influence of the military, political parties and other interest groups? Or, is it a reflection of the absence of 'free space' for civil society to thrive in Pakistan? The answers to all these questions continue to perplex everyone, sometimes raising questions on the sustainability of democracy in the

Breaking the silence: Although civil society in Pakistan displayed 'sporadic presence' through demonstrations and rallies, majorly spearneaded by the Opposition, against the Imran Khan Government, such activism has lost the earlier vigour. In

order to sustain and consolidate democracy in its true spirit, it will not be sufficient for civil society to break the silence by simply demonstrating on the streets but independently spearheading and steering such rallies per se to promote the real purpose of its existence and responsibilities like in the past, and adopting a more proactive approach to effect meaningful changes. It has to act as the prime conduit for the demands of the people, restrain the misuse of power of State and serve as a citadel of democracy. At the same time, the Government should also refrain from suppressing the diverse voices and interests expressed though the civil society. In any healthy democracy, a positive Opposition and a culture of debate and dissent is necessary for civil society to flourish and democra-

It is only when both Pakistan Government and civil society understand their responsibilities and collaborate positively that democracy will sustain and consolidate itself and prevent the country's descent into a failed State.

Consultant, Indian Council for Cultural Relations. The views expressed are personal.)

(The author is Senior

TTERS TO TH

DECONSTRUCTING THE MAHA CRISIS

Sir — The political crisis in Maharashtra holds a mirror up to the kind of politics being pursued in our country. It is symptomatic of a degenerate political culture. Thanks to MLAs herded to resorts as part of political power play, the phrase 'resort politics' now has wide currency. One would have expected the dissident Shiv Sena MLAs to go to their respective constituencies and acquaint their electors with why they intend to revolt against the leadership of Uddhav Thackeray. Instead, they are holed up in faraway Guwahati to carry out their pre-planned revolt and dis-

lodge their party's own Government. The visuals of MLAs staying in fivestar hotels and making themselves merry mock the people of Assam struggling to cope with the floods. Nobody thinks that the internecine revolt has anything even remotely to do with public service which the elected representatives are supposed to perform. It is a fond wish that the money, time and effort expended on political machinations and intrigues could have been channelled into tackling issues affecting the lives of people. Whatever grievances the rebel MLAs had, they could have raised them in party forums. Instead, they chose to hobnob with the BJP for a change of Government.

G David Milton | Tamil Nadu

SP LOSES ITS BASTIONS

Sir — Politics is like a game of chess and each and every move counts and that too in bypolls for parliamentary seats seek a phenomenal power game to win prestigious seats. Both Azamgarh and Rampur were considered bastions of the Samajwadi Party in its own right. Moreover, Rampur is the stronghold of Azam Khan and so it is of prime importance to pocket the seat. The BJP did good spadework under Yogi Adityanath and that resulted in a winning spree for the ruling party. It was revealed time and again and the margin of victory revealed the real story. The UP CM attributed the win to the public welfare schemes

No power in Murmu's village



news item is viral in the media and on social sites that the remote native village of Droupadi Murmu, the NDA candidate for presidential election, has had no electricity connection till a few days ago. Now that she's been selected for the presidential poll. there is worry and the power connection is being given on a war footing. That is to say, to get a power connection, one has to be a VIP! Murmu, a tribal woman, has had long career in politics for more than 20 years as

an MLA. Minister and Governor and she is more popular for social service activities and all applaud her for her concern for poor and

But one fails to understand, as per media news, why she could not get an electricity connection to her village for a long time despite her being in power in various posts till she was nominated for the presidential poll. Had she not been selected for presidential election. I am sure her native village would not have had electricity longer. Whatever the reason, when the entire country is covered for electricity, the Government should investigate why this remote village was overlooked for power connection and the officials concerned should be punished for negligence after due investigation. One should know whether it is political or accidental for not providing power to the

JP Reddy | Telangana

of his 'double engine' Government.

In a setback to the Samajwadi Party but a bigger personal jolt for senior party leader Azam Khan, BJP candidate Ghanshyam Singh Lodhi won the Rampur Lok Sabha by election by defeating SP nominee and Khan's long-time associate Asim Raja by a margin of over 42,000 votes. In Tripura, the BJP won three out of four seats with Chief Minister Manik Saha emerging victorious in his first-ever direct electoral battle from the Town Bardowali constituency. The BJP also

won the Jubarajnagar and Surma seats in the Tripura bypolls.

CK Subramaniam | Navi Mumbai

NATIONAL DOCTORS' DAY

Sir — The National Doctor's Day in India is celebrated on July 1 every year. The day honours doctors for their relentless service throughout the year. In India, Doctors' Day is celebrated to honour the legendary Dr Bidhan Chandra Roy, who was also the second Chief Minister of West Bengal. This

day serves to show gratitude to all those who have selflessly aided us in our time of need and tirelessly worked for the health of their patients. With the number of infected people on the rise every day and hospitals teeming with hundreds of patients, it has never been more important to appreciate the efforts that doctors make to ensure that we recover from whatever may be ailing us and continue to remain

Doctors' Day is an opportunity to thank all the heroes in the medical fraternity for their selfless contribution. They are working round the clock to cure people from whatever sickness they may be suffering from. Instead of thinking about their own safety and their family's, they chose to serve the nation. Kudos to their spirit and dedication that they continued to work

untiringly in the hours of crisis! Jubel D'Cruz | Mumbai

> Send your feedback to: letterstopioneér@gmail.com

We achieved the target of 40 per cent energy capacity from non-fossil sources nine years

before time

cv to nurture.



—Narendra Modi



US President –Joe Biden

> It's amazing that Sanjay Dutt is my antagonist! When I was 10 or 11. I had Sanjay Dutt's poster in my cup board.



–Ranbir Kapoor



we got a game

India captain —Hardik Pandva

UP bypoll results show that the Samajwadi Party is incapable of defeating BJP, they don't have intellectual honesty.

> **AIMIM** president -Asaduddin Owaisi

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FIRST COLUMN

COVID COMPLICATIONS CAN DAMAGE KIDNEYS

Reduced oxygen can cause a major complication



SAURABH POKHARIYAL

nomorbidities in Covid-19 patients such as chronic kidney disease (CKD), cardiovascular ailments, diabetes, obesity, cerebrovascular accidents, and hypertension have been shown to increase mortality or severity. However, there's also a need to find out if Covid-19 complications can lead to the exacerbation of comorbidities like kidney failure. Available evidence suggests that there is a connection.

Covid-19 can cause severe damage to organs like the kidney, affecting its function even after the person recovers. In fact, some people suffering from severe Covid-19 complications will show signs of severe kidney damage. This includes those with underlying kidney problems, and these signs often manifest in high levels of blood or protein in the urine as well as abnormal blood work. The results of several studies cited in a report by Johns Hopkins Medicine showed that at least 30 per cent of all hospitalized patients with Covid-19 develop some form

One of the major complications of Covid-19 that could increase the chances of kidney failure is reduced oxygen. Severe cases of the Covid-19 disease usually lead to pneumonia which can result in low levels of oxygen in the patient's blood. This abnormal oxygen level can lead to kidney problems or aggravate the existing one which can even lead to a failure, if not properly managed. The condition, known as hypoxemia, is associated with breathing or circulation difficulty, which is a major symptom of Covid-19.



Another major complication that's of concern is the nature of the receptors of kidney cells which allows Covid-19 to attach to them. Covid-19 targets these cells and enables duplication of these cells which can potentially damage them. These receptors, similar to those found in lung and heart cells, may become easy targets for the new coronavirus which may further cause renal damage, leading to kidney failure. This phenomenon clearly describes the nature of Covid-19 attacking crucial cells and further weakening the effectiveness of the kidney.

There are other ways the kidney can be affected by the coronavirus and lead to failed function. One of them is the body's immune system's reaction to the virus which can result in a cytokine storm. This rush of cytokines, a group of small proteins, is a communicative mechanism of the cells as the body's immune system fights off infection. However, the sudden rush of cytokines can result in inflammation which can destroy the healthy tissue of the kidney. Another worry for us is the blood clot that Covid-19 can cause in the bloodstream and further clog tiny blood vessels in one's kidney.

Covid-19's impact on the kidney can be truly devastating because an attack on the kidney's function can affect the function of other crucial organs like the heart and lungs. This can be even fatal in some circumstances, especially for those requiring dialysis, according to a study.

It is, therefore, important for patients with Covid-19-induced kidney injury to always follow up with their health provider to ensure the kidney is regaining normalcy. Whilst dialysis may help, even after recovery from Covid-19, the best remedy is to adhere to prevention instructions, including vaccines and boosters, handwashing, physical distancing, and masking, among other measures.

(The author, a medical doctor, is Co-Founder, VitusCare Dialysis Centres)

Modi suffered because of the Aandolanjeevis

Modi's name has been cleared by experienced cops as well as by the various levels of judiciary

he Supreme Court's verdict dismissing the appeal filed by Zakia Jafri and Teesta Setalvad challenging the Special Investigative Team's (SIT's) clean chit to Narendra Modi in the 2002 Gujarat riots should settle the issue for once and all. But, alas, that is not likely to happen, what with the aandolanjeevis' obstinacy with maligning the Prime Minister who

was Gujarat chief minister in 2002.

The Bench headed by Justices A.M. Khanwilkar was clear in its ruling: "The SIT has not found any conspiracy, linking separate and disparate acts of arson and looting or outrageous claims made in sting operations or individual utterances/publications of purported hate speech, to any singular larger conspiracy or planned event.

The Bench went on to say: "The materials gathered during the investigation in no way link any 'meeting of the minds' in any of the nine cases investigated by the SIT or for that matter, other incidents alleged in the complaint or the protest petition. The riots across the state had taken place spontaneously, immediately after the Godhra train carnage."

Further, it said that no material was discovered "pointing towards any meeting of minds/conspiracy in the higher echelons of the administration or [that] the political establishment conspired with other persons to cause such riots or [it] turned a Nelson's eye when the riots had triggered and continued'.

Not only was there no conspiracy involving the top ruling politicians but there were also "disgruntled officials" in Gujarat at that time who wanted "to create sensation by making revelations which were false." The apex court said the SIT investigation has "fully exposed" the "falsity of claims" of such officials.

Representing the anti-Modi litigants, senior advocate and former Union minister Kapil Sibal argued that the Supreme Court-appointed SIT did not conduct investigation on the crucial aspects of the matter, which was essential to establish a

larger conspiracy.
Countering Sibal, senior advocate and former attorney-general Mukul Rohatgi said that the SIT not only did its job but often exceeded the remit set out by the Supreme Court. All in its pursuit of justice. He stressed that Zakia's charges mainly pointed towards the dereliction of duty and did not nint at any criminality

Rohatgi also said that he suspected that the petition was being driven not by Zakia, the aggrieved party, but by Petitioner No. 2, i.e. social activist Teesta Setalvad who has ulterior motives in pursuing the same.

In this context, it would be instructive to scrutinize the chronology for the SC order. In 2006, Jafri urged the Gujarat Police to file an FIR against some officials and politicians, including Modi, who was then chief minister. She alleged that the state government had not done enough to prevent the riots and save people, including her hus-



TILL 2014, THE CONGRESS-LED UNITED **PROGRESSIVE ALLIANCE WAS** IN POWER AT THE CENTRE; AND IT WAS IN THIS PERIOD THAT MODI WAS **EXONERATED** OF ALL **CHARGES NOT** JUST BY THE SIT BUT ALSO THE LOCAL MAGISTRATE



In 2008, the apex court appointed an SIT to submit a report on the riots trials and also probe Jafri's În 2012, the SIT gave a clean chit to Modi and others, citing "no prosecutable evidence" and submitted its closure report to the Magistrate. In 2013, Jafri filed a petition

opposing the closure report. The Magistrate upheld the SIT's closure report and dismissed her plea.

In response, Jafri moved the Gujarat High Court which upheld, in 2017, the Magistrate's decision.

In 2018, Jafri and activist Teesta Setalvad approached the Supreme Court, saying the SIT did not examine all the material available, its investigation was biased, and investigators themselves should face a probe.

The allegations against Modi were based on former Gujarat police officer Sanjiv Bhat's submissions. He had claimed to be present at a crucial government meeting. The SIT later found and concluded that Bhatt was not present at the meeting and hence, there was no other way to confirm the charges.

Three points need to be made here. First, Narendra Modi's name nas been cleared by experienced cops (comprising the SIT) as well as by the various levels of judiciary. One has to be a conspiracy theory buff to believe that so many cops and judicial officers, including three Supreme Court judges, could be manipulated.

Second, the Gujarat Police was under Modi, as he was chief minister till 2014, but not the SIT or the judiciary. Till that time, the Congress-led United Progressive Alliance was in power at the Centre;

and it was in this period that Modi was exonerated of all charges not just by the SIT but also the local magistrate.

It is an open secret that the

Congress has never been fond of Narendra Modi; in fact, the grand old party hates him the most. It has done everything possible to demean and demonize him. We should not lose sight of the fact that the UPA was in office for 10 long years (2004-14)—very long from the perspective of Modi, for he was the constant target of calumny, character assassination, and innuendo. The assaults

(from pro-Congress activists like Setalvad), legal and political. In that period, the Congress held every lever of power; as the ruling party, it also had access to the resources of the Indian State. And yet, it could not find anything

against Narendra Modi.

were relentless-direct (from

Congress leaders) and indirect

Instead of acknowledging the truth or at least giving some cre-dence to the possibility of his innocence and going slow against him ('Maybe the person is innocent, maybe we got is all wrong'), the Congress and its privateer-freebooters like Setalvad consistently and persistently worked to malign

As the SC Bench pointed out, "allegations regarding larger conspiracy at the highest level... is founded on the alleged utterances made by the then Chief Minister in an official meeting (on February 27, 2002, in Gandhinagar) while addressing the DGP, the then Chief Secretary and other senior officials of the state to allow to vent to the Hindu anger on the minority in the wake of Godhra incident."

The petitioner relied on the

statements of police officers Sanjiv Bhatt, who claimed to have attended the meeting, and R.B. Sreekumar, and former Minister Haren Pandya, but the SIT concluded "that the claim of concerned persons is false and figment of imagination," the SC

YATINDER CHAUDHARY

"The SIT after thorough investigation has recorded its opinion that neither Mr Sanjiv Bhatt nor Mr Haren Pandya was present in the stated meeting. Similarly, even Mr R.B. Sreekumar had no personal knowledge as he did not attend the said meeting. Besides, Mr R.B. Sreekumar was a disgruntled officer," said the top court.

In a way, the apex court's ruling validates the SIT's findings, which had given a clean chit to Narendra Modi way back in 2013, when the UPA was in office. On April 25, 2013, SIT lawyer R.S. Jamuar said, "Modi has never said that go and kill

Also, he said, "Teesta Setalvad and others have falsified the complaint targeting the chief minister who had never said that 'go and kill

Investigating something again and again doesn't change the result if it has been done properly. But the aandolanjeevis like Setalvad can't believe in any finding unless it is in accordance with their own prejudices and dogmas. She is not bothered how her stubbornness hurts others. She and others of her ilk may face the consequences for maligning others.

The trials and tribulations the aandolanjeevis subjected Narendra Modi didn't shatter him, showing that he is made of sterner stuff. They hounded him for almost two decades, but he continues to strive to take India to greater heights.

THE (UP BYPOLL) OUTCOMES REFLECT PUBLIC MOOD AHEAD OF THE 2024 LOK SABHA **ELECTIONS. WE SHALL WIN ALL 80 SEATS.** —UTTAR PRADESH CHIEF MINISTER **YOGI ADITYANATH**





THE CHRONOLOGY OF MURDER OF DEMOCRACY IN BJP RULE... FROM MISUSE OF FORCE TO DISMANTLING ELECTED GOVERNMENTS. —FORMER CHIEF MINISTER **AKHILESH YADAV**

Shinde may have numbers but Uddhav has party

(The author is an

advocate in the Supreme

Court of India)

Uddhav kept himself in splendid isolation, not realising that his priority should have been keeping his flock together

s the ongoing Maharashtra political crisis an ideological Labattle within the Shiv Sena or the inability of Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray to convince his Sainiks about his soft Hindutva? Or is it the BIP's ambition to eliminate all non-BJP governments? Or is it for the realignment of political forces? It is perhaps a combination of all.

When Uddhav headed the MVA coalition Government in 2019, doubting Thomases were busy speculating how long his government would last. It was because of the heterogeneous nature of the coalition. True to their prediction, Uddhav has been facing crisis after crisis since then. Now it has come to a head.

The party faces a vertical split in a fast-developing drama,



unless there is a realignment of political forces or the two warring factions come together. There is also the danger of the MVA coalition Government

Uddhav woke up on June 21 to hear about the brewing revolt within his party, led by his Cabinet colleague Eknath Shinde. Also, Shinde was not alone as he had mobilised some 30-odd rebel legislators.

In the past three years, Uddhav has grown as one of the prominent Opposition leaders, rubbing shoulders with powerful chief ministers like Mamata Banerjee (West Bengal) and M.K. Stalin (DMK).

Ironically, the present problem is not from the allies but from within Shiv Sena. In an emotional speech, he recently said, "The sad part for me is that

my people (Shiv Sainiks) have lost trust in me." Ignoring the rebellion with-

in the party that has been brewing for some time, Uddhav kept himself in splendid isolation, attending to Covid relief and Opposition politics at the national level. He did not realise that his priority should have been keeping his flock together.

The Shiv Sena and its longterm partner Bharatiya Janata Party fought the 2019 polls together. The BJP won 106 seats; the Shiv Sena bagged only 56. Together, they would have comfortably formed the governin the memberAssembly. But then the Sena wanted the post of Chief Minister to be shared as discussed before the polls between the partners, but the BJP rejected it. Sena had become the



junior partner in the past

It was not the first time the Sena faced rebellion, as three revolts happened under the watch of its charismatic founder Balasaheb Thackeray. He was a mesmerising personality—audacious, smoking pipes, wearing sunglasses and saffron clothes, and even drinking his favourite drink, beer. He was respected by a few but feared by all. Even the Pop King, Michael Jackson, posed with Thackeray and got clearance for his solo concert in

Balasaheb Thackeray's ability to create mass hysteria gave him a larger-than-life persona, though he himself never contested elections or held power. A master orator, he got his party to power in 1995 and aligned with the BJP in the 1990s, which lasted for decades. He anointed his son Uddhav as working president in 2003 against his nephew Raj Thackeray. Uddhav is seeing the fourth revolt now.

But Uddhav's primary miscalculation was taking his Sainiks for granted. He failed to sell his brand of soft Hindutva or the controversial nature of his coalition or alliance with Congress. He also should have been careful about projecting his son Aditya at the cost of some senior leaders. Instead he remained inaccessible to even his senior ministers.

Thirdly, the Sainiks could not be comfortable with the coalition partners as they had grown for decades fighting the Congress. Some sections of the Sena felt that the alliance was damaging the party's growth. Fourthly, the rebels appre-

hend scrutiny from the Enforcement Directorate, the Central Bureau of Investigation, and income tax officials. They see returning to the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance as a way out of this unnecessary harassment.

To escape the rigors of the anti-defection law, the Shinde group has to satisfy the test of two-thirds of elected members. NCP chief Sharad Pawar has rightly said the real test would be the floor test. Hence Hobson's Choice before Eknath Shinde and his supporters.

Uddhav cannot fight on two fronts—the might of the BJP and the growing number of rebels. He may have to compromise or lose both his party and the government. Since Shinde has invoked Balasaheb's name and ideology in his demands to Uddhav, the Thackeray clan must also ensure keeping Balasaheb's legacy. While the legal battles may

go on for months, the ongoing drama has to end sooner or later. In all probability, there is likely to be a realignment of political

It will be challenging for Uddhav to unite the party. If he does so, he will emerge as a strong leader. He has the advantage because the party is with him, though some of the legislators are not. Above all, he has the Thackeray surname.

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

RUSSIA 'POURING FIRE' ON UKRAINIAN CITY AS OFFENSIVE MOUNTS

Russia was mounting an all-out assault on the last Ukrainian stronghold in the eastern Luhansk region, "pouring fire" on the city of Lysychansk from the ground and air, the local governor said Monday, as Western leaders met to discuss ways of bolstering support for Vrive ing support for Kyiv.

Luhansk Gov. Serhiy Haidai said Russian forces were pummeling Lysychansk after capturing the neighboring city of Sievierodonetsk in recent days. It's part of a stepped-up Russian offensive to wrest the broader Donbas region from Ukrainian government control in what Western experts say has become the new main goal of President Vladimir Putin's war in Ukraine, now in its fifth month.

"They're pouring fire on the city both from the air and from the ground. After the takeover of Sievierodonetsk, the enemy army has concentrated all its forces on capturing (our) last stronghold in the Luhansk region: Lysychansk,' Haidai told The Associated Press.

The Russians were trying to blockade the city from the south, "destroying everything that their artillery and multiple rocket launchers can reach," Haidai said.

Over the past week, the Russian army has captured several villages and towns southeast of Lysychansk, now a staging area for airstrikes and shelling

The office of President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said at least six civilians were killed and 31 others injured as part of intense Russian shelling against various cities over the past 24 hours - includ-



ing Kyiv and major cities in the country's south and east.

It said Russian rocket attacks killed two and injured five overnight in Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city, and its surrounding area. Russian forces also continued to target the key south-ern port of Odesa, with a missile attack destroying residential buildings and injuring six, including a child, it said.

The southern city of Mykolaiv likewise saw Russian shells hit civilian infrastructure, including a kindergarten, the president's press office said. It did not give details of any casualties.

In Lysychansk, at least five high-rise

buildings in the city and the last road

bridge were damaged over the past day,

Haidai said. A crucial highway linking

the city to government-held territory further south was rendered impassable because of shelling - but it hasn't been captured, he said.

Such shelling is also making the evacuation of civilians increasingly difficult, Haidai said. The city had a prewar population of around 100,000, approximately half of whom remain.

Analysts say that Lysychansk's location high on the banks of the Siverskiy

Donets river, as well as its large area dotted with hills, give a major advantage to the city's Ukrainian defenders.

"It's a very hard nut to crack. The Russians could spend many months and much effort storming Lysychansk," military analyst Oleh Zhdanov told the

The Siverskiy Donets river encloses Lysychansk from the north and east, while the Ukrainian army continues to hold territory west of the city, which it uses to supply arms and humanitarian aid. Moscow has now moved to attempt to block Lysychansk from the south.

To the west, in the government-controlled city of Sloviansk, local authorities accused Russian forces of firing a cluster bomb, saying it hit a residential neighborhood after dawn on Monday. Authorities say the number of dead and injured are still to be confirmed; the AP saw one fatality. A man's body lay hunched over a car door frame, his blood pooling onto the ground from scattered chest and head wounds. A woman, bandaged and covered in blood, sat shocked by the roadside, waiting for medics to arrive.

The shockwave from the explosion blew out most of the windows in the surrounding apartment blocks and the cars parked below, littering the ground with broken glass.

"In the last week we have seen an

increase in the use of these cluster bombs" said Sloviansk Mayor Vadim Lyakh, who was helping coordinate the emergency response. "As you can see, there is no military base here. This was a residential area where there were only



G-7 leaders confer with Zelenskyy, prepare new assistance for Ukraine

eading economic powers conferred by video link with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on Monday as they underscored their commitment to Ukraine for the long haul with plans to pursue a price cap on Russian oil, raise tariffs on Russian goods and impose other new sanctions.

In addition, the US was preparing to announce the purchase of an advanced surfaceto-air missile system for Kyiv to help Ukraine fight back against Vladimir Putin's aggression. The US was also preparing to announce the purchase of an advanced surface-to-air missile system for Kyiv.

The new aid and efforts to exact punishment on Moscow from the Group of 7 leaders come as a Zelenskyy has openly worried that the West has

a war that is contributing to soaring energy costs and price hikes on essential goods around

Leaders were finalising the deal to seek a price cap during their three-day G-7 summit in the German Alps. The details of how a price cap would work, as well as its impact on the Russian economy, were to be resolved by the G-7 finance ministers in the coming weeks and months, according to a senior administration official spoke on the condition of anonymity to preview the announcements from the summit.

The largest democratic economies will also commit to raising tariffs on Russian imports to their countries, with the US announcing new tariffs on 570 categories of goods, as well as use of sanctions to target Russia's defense supply chains that support its effort to

Biden is expected to announce the US, is purchasing NASAMS, a Norwegiandeveloped anti-aircraft system, to provide medium- to longrange defence, according to the person familiar with the matter, who spoke on the condition of anonymity. NASAMS is the same system used by the US to protect the sensitive airspace around the White House and US Capitol in Washington.

Additional aid includes more ammunition for Ukrainian artillery, as well as counter-battery radars, to support its efforts against the Russian assault in the Donbas, the person said. Biden is also announcing a \$7.5 billion commitment to help Ukraine's government meet its expenses, as part of a drawdown of the \$40 billion military and economic aid package he signed into law

AP source: US providing anti-air defence system to Ukraine



AP ■ ELMAU (GERMANY)

 $P^{\text{resident Joe Biden is set to announce that}} \\ \text{the U.S. Is providing advanced an surface-}$ additional artillery support, according to a person familiar with the matter, in the latest assistance meant to help the country defend against Russia's four-month invasion.

The U.S. Is purchasing NASAMS, a Norwegian-developed anti-aircraft system, to provide medium- to long-range defence, according to the person, who spoke on the condition of anonymity. NASAMS is the same system used by the U.S. To protect the sensitive airspace around the White House and U.S. Capitol in Washington.

Additional aid includes more ammunition for Ukrainian artillery, as well as counter-battery radars, to support its efforts against the Russian assault in the Donbas, the person said.

The announcement comes as Biden is huddling with allies this week on supporting Ukraine in meetings at the Group of Seven advanced economies summit in Germany and NATO leaders' annual gathering in

G-7 leaders set to commit to long haul in backing Ukraine

AP ELMAU (GERMANY)

Leaders of the Group of Seven economic powers are set to commit themselves to the long haul in supporting Ukraine as they meet in the German Alps and confer by video link with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

The G-7 leaders will begin Monday's session of their three-day summit with a focus on Ukraine. Later, they will be joined by the leaders of five democratic emerging economies - India, Indonesia, South Africa, Senegal and Argentina - for a discussion on climate change, energy and other issues.

The war in Ukraine was already at the

forefront of the G-7 leaders' minds as they opened their summit at the secluded just as Russian missiles hit the Ukrainian capital of Kyiv for the first time in weeks.

US President Joe Biden said Russian President Vladimir Putin "has been counting on, from the beginning, that somehow NATO and the G-7 would splinter, but we haven't and we're not going to." Britain's Boris Johnson warned the leaders not to give in to "fatigue."

On Monday, they have the opportunity to demonstrate that unity to Zelenskyy and reaffirm their commitment to supporting Kyiv financially and otherwise. Biden hopes to use his trip to Europe to proclaim the unity of the coalition pressing to punish Russia for its invasion of Ukraine as much as he is urging allies to do even more - seeking to counter doubts about its endurance as the war grinds into its fifth month.

The summit's host, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, said last week that he wants to discuss the outlines of a

डेकोरेटिव

पोलों की सं0



sored plan that helped revive European economies after World War II.

With the war still in progress and destruction mounting by the day, it's unlikely to be a detailed plan at this stage. Scholz has said that "rebuilding Ukraine will be a task for generations.

The G-7 already is committed to help finance Ukraine's immediate needs. Finance ministers from the group last month agreed to provide \$19.8 billion in economic aid to help Kyiv keep basic services functioning and prevent tight finances from hindering its defense against Russian forces.

A senior US administration official, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss private conversations between the G-7 leaders, said the US and Europe are aligned in their aims for a negotiated end to the conflict, even if their roles sometimes appear different.

Scholz and French President

"Marshall plan for Ukraine" with his G- Emmanuel Macron have tried to faciliwith Russian President Vladimir Putin and Zelenskyy, while also supplying weapons to Ukraine. The U.S. Has largely cut off significant talks with Russia and aims to bolster Ukraine's battlefield capacity as much as possible so that its eventual position at the negotiating table is stronger.

The endurance of the tough sanctions on Russia may ultimately come down to whether the G-7 and other leaders can identify ways to ease energy supply issues and skyrocketing prices once winter hits, as they seek to disengage from Russian sources of fuel.

The G-7 meeting is sandwiched between a European Union summit last week that agreed to give Ukraine the status of a candidate for membership - kicking off a process that is likely to take years and whose success isn't guaranteed - and a summit of NATO leaders starting Tuesday in Madrid.

Ukraine's Zelenskyy joins G7 Summit by video

AP ■ ELMAU (GERMANY)

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenksyy has joined the Group of Seven leaders by video link at their summit in the Bavarian Alps.

Zelenskyy could be seen on a television

screen next to the round table where the leaders sat Monday at the secluded Schloss Elmau luxury hotel. His address wasn't being shown to the public.

The G-7 leaders are committing themselves to supporting Ukraine for the long haul at their summit, with both immediate help and long-term rebuilding on the agen-

German Chancellor Olaf Scholz says ahead of a session with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy that the G-7 countries' policies on Ukraine are "very much aligned," and that they see the need to be both tough and cautions.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on Monday that "we are taking tough decisions, that we are also cautious, that we will help ... Ukraine as much as possible but that we also avoid that there will be a big conflict between Russia and NATO.

He added that "this is what is of essence to be tough and thinking about the necessities of the time we are living in.'

The G-7 leaders are to confer by video link Monday morning with Zelenskyy.

The Group of Seven economic powers are set to announce an agreement to pursue a price cap on Russian oil, aiming to curb Moscow's energy revenues, a US official said Monday. The move is part of a joint effort of support for Ukraine that includes raising tariffs on Russian goods and imposing new sanctions on hundreds of Russian officials and entities supporting the four month long

Leaders were finalising the deal to seek a price cap during their three-day summit

in the German Alps. The details of how a price cap would work, as well as its impact on the Russian economy, were to be resolved

The largest democratic economies will also commit to raising tariffs on Russian imports to their countries, with the US announcing new tariffs on 570 categories of Russia's defence supply chains that support its effort to rearm during the war.

by the G-7 finance ministers in the coming

weeks and months.

The senior administration official spoke on the condition of anonymity to preview the announcements from the G-7 leaders' summit, where they are set to confer by video link with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

German Chancellor Olaf Scholz says the West has no intention to "torpedo" the Group of 20 - the group of major economies that also includes Russia.

This year's G-20 summit is due to take place in Indonesia in November. There are questions over whether Western leaders will sit down with Russian President Vladimir

Scholz, who is hosting this week's summit of the smaller Group of Seven industrial powers, on Monday also is hosting leaders from five major emerging democratic economies - India, Indonesia, Senegal, South Africa and Argentina.

EU countries adopt mandatory gas storage amid Russia's cuts

 $E_{\text{agreed Monday that all nat-}}^{\text{uropean Union countries}}$ ural gas storage in the 27nation bloc should be topped up to at least 80% capacity for next winter as they prepare for the possibility of Russia further reducing deliveries.

use of Russian energy amid the Kremlin's war in Ukraine and find other sources. A ban on imports of Russian coal will start in August, and an embargo on most oil from Russia will be phased in over the coming eight months.

Meanwhile, Moscow is dis-

सार्वजनिक निविदा सूचना

नगर चौक से शास्त्रीनगर ढाल तक रोड डिवाईडर के मध्य स्थित डेकोरेटिव विद्युत पोलों पर दिनांक 01.08.2022 से दिनांक 31.07.2024

तक 02 वर्ष के लिये पोल क्योस्क के माध्यम से विज्ञापन प्रदर्शित किये जाने हेतु निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि से दिनांक 19.07.2022 की

अपरान्ह 2.00 बजे तक ई0 निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा का विवरण निम्नानुसार है:

बुद्धा चौक से घन्टाघर, घन्टाघर से किशनपुर मसूरी डाईवर्जन तक,

बहल चौक से नैनी बेकरी चौक तक तथा हरिद्वार बाईपास दीप

नगर चौक से भाास्त्रीनगर ढ़ाल तक डेकोरेटिव स्ट्रीट लाईट पोल।

नगर निगम क्षेत्रान्तर्गत स्थित बुद्धा चौक से घन्टाघर, दिलाराम चौक, नैनी बेकरी चौक किशनपुर तक तथा हरिद्वार बाईपास दीप

तकनीकी निविदा सम्बन्धी दस्तावेजो को www.uktender.gov. in पर संलग्न करते हुए तकनीकी निविदा सम्बन्धी मूल

कार्यालय नगर निगम देहरादून

rupting natural gas deliveries, a fuel used to power factories and generate electricity that the EU didn't include in its own sanctions for fear of seriously harming the European economy. Before the war, the bloc got about 40% of its natural gas

नगर निगम द्वारा

आरक्षित निविदा घनराशि

रूपये 1,97,83,863/

from Russia Moscow has reduced gas

supplies to several EU countries, including heavy importers Germany and Italy, and cut off deliveries to other members, such as Poland and Finland.

The EU Council adopted the gas storage regulation Monday after the European Commission made a proposal in March. The regulation also says underground gas storage on EU soil will need to be filled to 90% capacity before the 2023-24 winter.

Heads of state and government agreed last week during a summit in Brussels to step up preparations for further gas cuts from Russia and to keep searching for other suppliers The EU already has increased deliveries from the United States, Norway, Algeria and Azerbaijan.

Some EU members don't have storage facilities, so the regulation provides that they should store 15% of their annual national gas consumption in other member countries, allowing them access to reserves in other EU nations.



War-damaged Russian weapons on display in Poland

AP WARSAW

Adisplay of war-damaged Russian weapons in downtown Warsaw serves as a reminder of the horrors of the war in Ukraine but also that Russia's aggression can be defeated, officials said Monday.

Ukraine's Deputy Defence Minister Hanna Maliar and the head of Poland's prime minister's office, Michal Dworczyk, inaugurated the exhibit in Warsaw's Castle Square that was painstakingly rebuilt after it's destruction during World War II.

Dworczyk said the damaged T-72 tank, a self-propelled howitzer and elements of Russian missile systems show that Russia's army, once considered invincible, can be defeated. The equipment fell into the hands of Ukrainian forces early in the war that started when Russia invased on

The tank was destroyed March 31 in fighting near the village of Dmytrivka, west of



Maliar said the equipment also demonstrate the effectiveness of Ukraine's defense systems - some of which have been provided by European countries - and underscore need for more such support.

The display, called "For Our Freedom and Yours," opened on the eve of a NATO summit in Madrid that aims to boost the strength of the military alliance's rapid reaction force and military support for

Maliar said Russia's

artillery is 10 times more powerful than Ukraine's. Ukraine has been urging its western allies to provide more military equipment and munitions to support its defense against severe Russian attacks in the east of the country. There are plans to take the

weapons display to the Czech Republic and elsewhere in Europe, Maliar said. Ukraine's neighbour

Poland has been a staunch supporter of Kyiv, seeing Ukraine's resistance as defending all of Europe.

अंकित निविदा धनराशि की 10 प्रतिशत धनराशि की सी०डी०आर० ∕ एफ०डी०आर० तथा निविदा शल्क 18 प्रतिशत जी०एस०टी० सहित कुल रू0–5,900/– का डिमांड ड्राफ्ट को तकनीकी निविदा के साथ संलग्न करना अनिवार्य होगा। तकनीकी निविदायें दिनांक 19.07.2022 को सांयः 4.00 बजे गठित निविदा समिति के समक्ष खोली जायेगी। निविदा की शर्ते तथा निविदा सम्बन्धी सम्पूर्ण विवरण नगर निगम की वेबसाईट <u>www.naggarnigamdehradun.com</u> पर भी उपलब्ध है तथा ईo निविदा www.uktender.gov.in पर उपलब्ध करायी जायेंगी

दस्तावेजों को दिनांक 18.07.2022 की सांय 4.00 बजे तक निगम कार्यालय में जमा कराना होगा निविदा के साथ निविदा सचना प्रपत्र मे

US DELEGATION MEETS LANKAN PREZ RAJAPAKSA, DISCUSSES ECO CRISIS

high-level US delegation on Monday met Sri ALankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and discussed measures to help the island nation cope with an unprecedented economic crisis and severe shortages of essential supplies.

US Ambassador Kelly Keiderling, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the US Department of State, and Robert Kaproth, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the US Treasury accompanied by Ambassador to Sri Lanka Julie J Chung met the President to discuss Sri Lanka's economic

"It's a challenging time, but we continue to deliver assistance and long-term part-nership to help Sri Lanka achieve a prosperous, secure & democratic future," tweeted the US Ambassador.

The US delegation's meeting with the President came as

Power and Energy Minister Kanchana Wijesekera said two ministers are scheduled to leave for Russia on Monday to hold talks with Russian authorities to directly purchase fuel and discuss other diplomatic-related matters.

During their four-day official stay, the top officials from the US Treasury and the State Department, who arrived here on Sunday, will meet a wide range of political representatives, economists, and international organisations to "explore the most effective ways for the US to support Sri Lankans in need, Sri Lankans working to resolve the current economic crisis, and Sri Lankans planning for a sustainable and inclusive economy for the future," the US Embassy had said in a statement.

Over the past two weeks, the US has announced USD 120 million in new financing for Sri Lankan small and medium-sized businesses, a USD 27 million contribution to Sri



Lanka's dairy industry and USD 5.75 million in humanitarian assistance to help those hit hardest by the economic cri-

The United States also committed USD 6 million in new grants to provide livelihood assistance to vulnerable populations, and technical

assistance on financial reform that will help stabilise the econ-

Crisis-hit Sri Lanka, which has remained neutral on the Ukraine war, is exploring options to purchase oil from Russia, as the island nation desperately looks to replenish its dwindling fuel stocks amid an

unprecedented economic crisis due to a crippling shortage of foreign exchange reserves.

On Sunday, petrol price was hiked by LKR 50 and diesel by LKR 60 respectively, the third price revision in just over two months.

The move was necessitated after state-owned refinery Ceylon Petroleum Corporation informed the Sri Lankan government on Saturday that there would be a delay in the arrival of fuel shipments due to banking and logistical reasons.

Since Russia's invasion of Ukraine in late February, global oil prices have skyrocketed. While the US and its allies are trying to cut financial flows supporting Moscow's war effort, Russia is offering its crude at a steep discount.

Sri Lanka is facing the worst economic crisis since independence in 1948 which has led to an acute shortage of essential items like food, medicine, cooking gas and fuel across the country.

Seoul urges China, Russia to prevent North Korean nuke test

A top South Korean official Said Monday that North Korea is increasingly targeting the South with its nuclear arms programme, and urged China and Russia to persuade the North not to conduct a widely expected nuclear test.

Unification Minster Kwon Youngse's comments came after North Korean leader Kim Jong Un re-emphasised his nuclear ambitions in a key military meeting last week and approved unspecified new operational duties for front-line army units.

Éxperts say North Korea could be planning to deploy battlefield nuclear weapons along its tense border with South Korea. During a prolonged stalemate in nuclear diplomacy, North Korea has spent much of the past three years expanding its arsenal of short-range solid-fuel missiles that are potentially capable of evading missile defences and striking targets throughout South Korea, including US bases there.

US and South Korean officials say that North Korea has

all but finished preparations for its first nuclear test since September 2017, when it claimed to have detonated a thermonuclear warhead designed for intercontinental ballistic missiles.

North Korea may use its next nuclear test to claim that it has acquired the ability to build small nuclear warheads that can be placed on shortrange missiles or other new weapons systems it has demonstrated in recent months, ana-

Kwon, who oversees South Korea's relations with North Korea, said at a news conference that the North is exploiting a favourable environment to push ahead with weapons development and overturn the regional status quo as the US-

led West remains distracted over Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

He said North Korea's nuclear ambitions pose a "very serious and fundamental threat" to South Korea and that Seoul is preparing stern countermeasures in response to a possible North Korean nuclear

est. He didn't elaborate. "North Korea's transition in weapons development from long-range ballistic missiles to short-range ballistic missiles, from strategic nuclear weapons to tactical nuclear weapons, is obviously targeted toward South Korea," Kwon said.
"It seems clear that North

Korea is simultaneously pursuing an ability to attack the United States and to attack South Korea," he said.

Spanish Govt approves new bill on transgender rights

AP MADRID

AP ■ PRAGUE

injuring five.

Spain's Cabinet approved on Monday a new draft of a LGBTQ rights bill that if backed by parliament will allow people as young as 16 to change their gender freely, and those as young as 12 to do so with a judge's authorization.

This version of the bill is very similar to the one that was initially presented by the government a year ago but was held up due to debates within Spain's left-wing ruling coalition.

engine; 1 dead, 5 injured

Czech bullet train collides with

bullet train collided with an engine in a

Atrain station in northeastern Czech

Republic Monday, killing one person and

Ćzech Railways said the accident took

place early in the morning in the town of Bohumin, shortly after the departure of the Pendolino train for Prague.

while four Czech Railways employees on the

engine and one on the train were

The driver of the bullet train was killed.

It was unclear whether the engine was



The bill was promoted by the left-wing United We Can party, the government's junior partner. But there was some initial pushback from the Socialist Party of Prime

PTI ■ NEW YORK

in Maryland.

31-year-old Indian-origin

Aman was shot dead while sit-

ting in a parked SUV down the

street from his home in New

York, according to media reports,

days after an Indian national was

killed after sustaining an apparent gunshot wound to his head

ting in the car at around 3:46 pm

on Saturday in the South Ozone

Park section of Queens with

Satnam Singh was found sit-

Minister Pedro Sanchez representing feminist criticism of self-determination on the grounds that it can lead to women being disfavoured in some areas such as sports. That debate appeared to conclude when Sanchez removed a vice-president who was most strident in her criticism of the bill when he remodeled

"We want to send a very clear message that the lives of LGBTQ persons matter," said Equality Minister Irene Montero. "Today we

Indian-origin man gunned down while

newspaper reported quoting

again place ourselves in the vanguard of LGBTQ rights."

If the bill is approved by law-makers as drafted, all Spanish nationals above 16 will be able to change their gender and name by simply stating their desire to do so twice within a period of four months. Previously, applicants needed a diagnosis by several doctors of gender dysphoria, which is the psychological condition of feeling a mismatch between one's biological sex

Nigeria's highest judicial officer has

resigned, an aide said Monday, a week after the country's Supreme Court justices accused the top-ranking judge of corruption. Justice Tanko Muhammad denies

Justice Muhammad resigned as the

The 68-year-old was appointed

Muhammad's resignation comes a

The letter claimed that judges "were not accorded the privilege of travelling with accompanying persons as was the practice." It also said the chief justice "totally ignored" the judges' demand but travelled with his "spouse, children, and personal staff.'

The judges said that although the

Date of MC

02.04.2004

02.04.2004

02.04.2004

15.06.2004

12.07.2004

29.08.2004

15.09.2004

15.10.2004

20.11.2004

Date of MC

Approval

01.05.2004

15.07.2004

16.07.2004

01.09.2004

25.09.2004

01.11.2004

08.11.2004

10.01.2005

Date of

Share Money

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24.09.2004

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08.11.2004

06.01.2005

6 police officers killed in northern Mexico ambush

AP MEXICO CITY

 $S_{
m and}$ four others wounded Sunday in the northern Mexico border state of Nuevo Leon after they were ambushed by a presumed drug gang equipped with 10 home-made armored cars and heavy weaponry.

Nuevo Leon state police said the patrol was outnumbered in the pre-dawn attack on

a highway leading to the Colombia border crossing. The force said the officers performed "heroically" in the

State prosecutors said the dead included one female officer. There was no immediate information on the identity of the attackers. But the nearby city of Nuevo Laredo has long been dominated by the violent Northeast cartel.

Punjab State Power Corporation Limited

(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001) Corporate Identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813 Website: www.pspcl.in (Contact number 96461-47777)

Tender Enquiry No. TSQ-1129/ TD-II/2022-23

Dy. CE/TL (Design), B-1 Shakti Vihar, Patiala invites E-tenders Washers as per PSPCL Specification No. TSQ-1129/TD-2022-

Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published

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C 248/22

Pakistan's participation in BRICS dialogue 'blocked by one member': FO

Rescuers said no passengers were injured. | and torso, the New York Post

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD/BEIJING

Pakistan on Monday alleged that "one member" of the RRICS ber" of the BRICS grouping blocked its participation in a virtual meeting held on the sidelines of the bloc's recent summit hosted by China.

The Foreign Office (FO) said Pakistan has noted that this year a high-level dialogue on global development was held as a side event at the 14th summit of BRICS nations -- Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa. A number of developing/emerging economies were invited to the side event. It said China being the host country engaged with Pakistan before the BRICS meetings, where decisions are taken after consultations with all BRICS members, including extending invitations to non-members.

"Regrettably one member blocked Pakistan's participation," the FO said. Though the FO did not name any country, it was apparently referring to India, given the history of the relationship between the two nations.

The bilateral relations deteriorated after India announced withdrawing the special pow-

the state into two union territories in August,

Pakistan expressed its hope that future decisions of the group would be based on "inclusivity". "However, we do hope that future engagement of the organisation would be based on the principles of inclusivity keeping in view the overall interests of the developing world and in a manner that is devoid of narrow geo-political considerations," it said. When asked about Pakistan's participation in the event, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijia in Beijing said: "The decision to hold the high-level dialogue on global development was based on consultation among BRICS countries."

"China and Pakistan are all-weather strategic cooperative partners. Pakistan is an important member of the group of friends of a global development initiative. China highly values the important role of Pakistan in promoting global development and advancing the imple mentation of the UN 2030 agenda for a sustainable development and boating regional

cooperation," he said.

ers of Jammu and Kashmir and bifurcation of

Will he go or not? Hong Kong awaits word on Xi Jinping visit should ask the "department

AP ■ HONG KONG

hinese President Xi Jinping Ckept Hong Kong guessing on Monday about his possible appearance at the 25th anniversarv of the former British colony's return to Chinese rule.

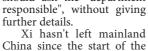
The government has yet to say whether he will be physically present for the events, which include the inauguration of the city's new chief executive.

The event is hugely symbolic for Xi, who wants to be seen as propelling a "national rejuvenation" as he prepares for an expected third five-year term as head of the ruling Communist Party. Part of that



nialism and what China regards as unequal treaties granting rights to foreign nations imposed during the waning years of the Qing Dynasty, which ended in 1911.

Asked about Xi's attendance plans at a daily briefing Monday, Foreign Ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian said he had no additional information and that the reporter



China since the start of the coronavirus pandemic 2 1/2 years ago, and his exchanges with foreign leaders have been mainly limited to video calls.

Hong Kong, meanwhile, faces a renewed rise in COVID-19 infections after an avalanche of cases this year threatened to overwhelm its hospitals. China's official media have

said only that Xi will participate in the July 1 commemorations, without describing any travel plans.

sitting in parked vehicle in New York: police scene to Jamaica Hospital, where doctors pronounced him dead. Although police said the gunman approached Singh on foot, neighbours said the shots came from a silver-coloured sedan with a black trunk as it

125 Mrs. Sumitra Devi & Sumer Singh

Waryam Kaur & Sh. Amarjeet Singh

Name of Member

Satvir Singh Shokeen

Tajinder Singh Kohli

Dina Nath Bhayana

181 904 Ashwani Kumar Arora

Smt Bimla Nerwal

Shiv Shankar Dev

Bhupender Kumar

188 | 704 | Rakesh Verma & Mr. Raji Verma

Rare Impex, Shubham Bansal, Shubham

Bansal, Neelu Bansal, Ajay Kumar, Represented By Proprietor Shubham Bansal, E-105, Kamla Nagar New Delhi, A/c No:- 000705042068 & 000752001525

Satpal Mittal

187 802 Smt. Janak Puri

Pratap Singh Solanki

Ravinder Kumar Girdhar

Ranbir Singh

Vivek Madan

Sonia Arora

141

147

180

105

157

160

90

membership:

M. Flat No No.

182 801

184 406

185 407

186 302

106

183

passed the Jeep.
"(Singh) was walking up 129th St. Going to the car and the New York Police Department as other car with the perp in it came Singh was sitting in the black up," said neighbour Joan Jeep Wrangler Sahara borrowed Cappellani.

[It] made a U-turn, came from a friend when a gunman back and then 'Pow! Pow! Pow! approached and started shooting, Singh was rushed from the she said.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Father's / Husband's Name

Sumer Singh & Day Nand

Late Sh. Lekh Ram

Late S.K. Shokeen

Jiginder Singh Kohli

2. The details of members enrolled in the society during 2004-05 against the above members who resigned from the society

Father's / Husband's Nam

Late Sh. Bishamber Nath

Late Sh. Raghuvir Singh

Sh. MadhBendra Dev

Sh. Dip Chand Mittal

Sh. Pawan Kumar Puri

The above information is being published for regularizalion of membership of the above-mentioned members of the society as per rules and onward transmission to the RCS/DDA for necessary action in the matter. Objection/s, if any, along with proper evidence in this regard, can be filed in writing duly addressed to the President/Secretary, at the office of he society in the

Sh. Rajiv Verma Sh. Rakesh

Sh. Sowarn Dass

Verma

Sh. Parap Singh

Amarjeet Singh

Mohan Lal

S.L. Madan

Hans Rai

Saniay Arora

Nigeria's chief justice resigns amid corruption charges

Chief Justice of Nigeria on Sunday night, his spokesperson told The Associated Press. But he didn't provide an explanation for his decision, though local Channels Television cited health reasons, quoting unnamed sources.

Nigeria's chief justice in July 2019, replacing Walter Onnoghen who was prosecuted on corruption charges.

week after 14 Supreme Court judges drafted a rare letter accusing him of graft.

country's National Assembly approved a budget increase for the Court, "we find it strange" that the "Court cannot cater for

for manufacturer, Testing, Supply & Delivery of 260 MT Hot Dip Galvanised Nuts & Bolts and 15 MT Electro- Galvanised Spring 23. from 29-06-2022 from 11.00 AM onwards.

online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General Public or behalf of our client ICIC Bank Ltd. that Mr. Evnish Singh is Surviving member of late Mr. Devender Singh & Mrs. Hargagan Pal Kaur who was joint owners of property/bearing Flat no. 38-C, on Second Floor, under LIG, in Block -QU, Situated at Pitampura, persons are hereby informed that above mentioned Surviving Member want to sell the said property to Mr. Janak Raj who is taking Loan for purchase the said property from ICICI Bank Ltd., if anybody has any objection/s upon the claiming ownership o surviving member in respect of the said property is sale /Mortgage/iitigation, and any kind of objection

To be known to all that

Arun Mittal S/o A K Mittal R/o 7B Street E, Rajouri Garden Residentia Scheme, New Delhi-110064 has Lost NOC For Electric & Water Connection. 2. Site Possession Slip of Above Flat.

Police Report LR 514360/2022. Finder May Contact 9013304108

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform to all concerned that M/S Inks India (Delhi) through its proprietor Vijay Kumar Arora son of Shri Har Dayal Singh R/o C-49, Sector-8, Noida, U.P. had sold residential LIG Flat No. 98-B, Block-B-10, Udaigiri-II, Sector-34, Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, UP on General Power of Attorney basis to the following person(s). General Power of Attorney was executed on 20.07.1993 in favour of Smt. Geetashree Biswas wife of Shri Alokendu Biswas R/o F-7, Katwaria Sarai, New Delhi duly registered in Sub wife of Shri Alokendu Biswas R/o F-7, Katwaria Sarai, New Delhi duly registered in Sub registrar Delhi on dated 20.07.1993 and Agreement to Sell was not registered, so it is informed to all concerned that the said residential LIG Flat No. 98-B, Block-B-10, Udaigiri-II, Sector-34, Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, UP is going to be transferred in favour of Mr. Aurobindo Biswas Son of Shri Alokendu Biswas R/o Flat No. 98-B, Block-B 10, Udaigiri-II, Sector-34, Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, UP If anyone has/have any objection he/she may file his/her objection along with the sufficient proof in the Housing Department (H) of the Noida Authority within 15 days from the date of publication of this Notice.

UJVN Limited /AL", Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradu lephones: 0135-2763808, Fax: 0135-2763508 Short term e-Tender Notice Dated: 27/06/2022

Office of the Executive Engineer (Civil-I)/SHP, UJVN Limited, Guptkashi, District-Rudraprayag, invites online bids from interested

parties. Brief summary of tender is given below:-Tender No.: 05/EE(Civil-I)/Guptkashi/2022-23 Name of work: Work related to various projects under the office of DGM(SHP)/Civil, UJVN Limited, Srikot Srinagar for one year.

Estimated Cost: 16.89 Lakhs (including GST) Date of availability of bid document on website: 27.06.2022 from 14:30 Hrs. Last date for submission of bid on website: 12.07.2022 up to 17:00 Hrs.

For Fuller & Further details kindly visit e-procurement porta "http://uktenders.gov.in" Executive Engineer (Civil-I)/Guptkashi

"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity" PUBLIC NOTICE We, Mrs. Meenu Garg W/o Mr. Pradeep Kuma

Information is given to general public at large of behalf of my client Mr. Kapil Mittal in respect of Entire Upper Ground Floor with 1/4th undivided share of Stilt Floor Parking and common rights of Lift, A part of Built up Property Bearing No. 136, Luft, A part of Built up Property Bearing No. 136, Area measuring 183.67 sq yards, Situated at Public Sector (P&T) Employees Central CHBS Ltd. Presently Known as Sandesh Vihar, Pitam Pura Delhi-110034. That, Sh. Niranjan Dass Mittal was the owner of the entire property by virtue of Conveyance Deed dated 10.01.1996. After his demise his legal helis relinquished their respectives sharps in favour of Mr. Akshaw Mittal respective shares in favour of Mr. Akshav Mitta and Mr. Kapii Mittal through Relinquishment Deed dated 23.04.2013, who further partitioned the property amongst themselves and Mr. Kapii Mittal became the owner of the said Floor as mentioned

If any person(s) have any objection(s) or claim(s with respect to the right, title or interest in the said property please contact us within 07 days from the date of this notice on the number & address

scription of the same are as under: l- Original Perpetual Lease Deed Dated 22/05/1939 in favour of Kedar Nath Sharma Doc No. 2686 Book 1, Vol No.-122, Page- 116 to 119 istered on 05.07.1939.

Garg and Mr. Pradeep Kumar Garg, S/O Late Sh. Deeputy Swaroop Garg, 6, Todermal Lane, Near Bengali Market, New Delhi-110001, inform that

revious chain of title documents of my Propert

No.6, Todermal Lane, Bengali Market, New Delhi 110001 have been lost near Bengali Market, the

2- Original Sale Deed executed by Mr. Kedar Nath Sharma in Favour of Smt. Vidya wati Gupta Dated 23.11.1959 Doc. No. 5193 Book .1, Vol. 514,

Anurag Gupta and Amit Goel Dated 24.11.1999, Doc No. 5192 Book no.1 Vol. 152 Page, 190 to 193. Registered on 24.11.1999. Further GPA executed by Smt. Vidya Wati Gupta in Favour of Sh. M.C. Gupta and Sh. Atul Goel, GPA Registered as Doc. No. 8625 Book No.4 Vol No. 412, Page No. 30 to 33

Registered on 24.11.1999. We would also like to inform that the above-mentioned property is mortgaged with State Bank of India/SBICAP Trustee Company Ltd, Delhi.

Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, 3rd Floor, Plot No- 23, New Rohtak Road,

PUBLIC NOTICE

OICICI Bank Karol Bagh, Delhi- 110005 The following borrower/s have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by

PRESIDENT - SAKSHAM APARTTMENTS, NIJI CO-OP. GROUP HOUSING SOCIETY LTD.
Plot NO. 40-B, Sector-10, Dwarka, New Delhi -110075

them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). A notice was issued to them under Section 13 (2) of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002 on their last known addresses, however it was not served and hence they are hereby notified by way of this public notice. Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address Property Address of Secured Asset/ Asset to be Enforced Date

The steps are being taken for substituted service of notice. The above borrower/s and/or their guarantors (as applicable) are advised to make the payments of outstanding within period of 60 days from the date of publication of this notice else further steps will be taken as per the provisions of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002. Date: June 28, 2022

17-June-2022, Rs. 18,17,281.71/-& Rs. Plot No:- G- 113 Block- G, Second Floor Without Roof Rights, Ashok Vihar Phase-1 Delhi- 110052

> mentioned herein below, failing which my clients shall not be held responsible in any manner Authorized Officer ICICI Bank Limited

12-10-2020

A-38 Kailash Colony, New Delhi-110048 Mob.-8810391672

Page No. 112 to 115 Registered on 30.11.1959.

Original Agreement to sale and purchase executed by Vidya wati Gupta in Favour of Sh. above. Now, Mr. Kapil Mittal intends to mortgage the said Floor with Bajaj Housing Finance Ltd.

ver. Mohd. Khairul Hussain(Advocate

GST Council meet: Tax tweaks, States' compensation on cards

The GST Council in its two-The GST Council in its two-day meeting starting on Tuesday is slated to discuss an array of issues, including a mechanism for compensating states for revenue loss, tax rate tweaks in some items and relaxed registration norms for

small online suppliers. Further, the Council, chaired by the Union Finance Minister and comprising state counterparts, will also clear levying the highest tax of 28 per cent on online games, casinos and horse racing, besides, discussing a report of a GoM on high-risk taxpayers under GST

The GST Council would also consider a report of the panel of state ministers on making e-way bill mandatory for intra-state movement of gold/ precious stones worth Rs 2 lakh and above and e-invoicing mandatory for all taxpayers supplying gold/precious stones and having annual aggregate turnover above Rs 20 crore. Besides, an interim report of a group of ministers on rate rationalisation,

which is likely to suggest correcting the inverted duty structure and removing some items from exempted list, would also be taken up for consideration.

Separately, the report of the committee of state and central



pensation cess, levied on lux-

ury and demerit goods, till

March 2026 to repay borrow-

ing that were done in 2020-21

and 2021-22 to compensate

July 1, 2017, and states were

assured of compensation for

the revenue loss, till June 2022,

arising on account of GST roll

revenue has been growing at 14

per cent compounded growth,

the cess collection did not

increase in the same proportion, COVID-19 further

increased the gap between pro-

tected revenue and the actual

revenue receipt including

reduction in cess collection. In

order to meet the resource gap

of the states due to short release

reach an agreement on key

of compensation, the

GST was introduced from

Though states' protected

states for GST revenue loss.

officers, commonly referred to as the Fitment Committee which suggested tweaking rates in a handful of items and issuing clarification in case of majority of items would also be deliberated at the meeting to be held at Chandigarh June 28-29. The officers' committee has also suggested defering a decision on taxability of cryptocurrency and other virtual digital assets, pending a law on regulation of cryptocurrency and classification on whether it is goods or services.

The Council may see a stormy discussion around compensation payout to states with opposition-ruled states aggressively pushing for its continuation beyond the five-year period which ends in June.

The Centre, last week, notified extension of the comand Rs 1.59 lakh crore in 2021-22 as back-to-back loans to meet a part of the shortfall in cess collection. The Council is also likely

to relax compulsory registra-tion norms for small businesses with annual turnover up to Rs 40 lakh and Rs 20 lakh for goods and services respectively, using e-commerce platforms to sell products.

Currently, suppliers supplying through e-commerce are required to take compulsory Goods and Services Tax (GST) registration.

Also, businesses with a turnover of up to Rs 1.5 crore and making e-commerce supplies would be allowed to opt for the composition scheme, which offers a lower rate of tax compliance. Currently, businesses supplying through e-

composition scheme. The changes would bring in parity between entities who are doing businesses through either online and offline mode

commerce cannot avail the

under GST. The report of a panel of state finance ministers has suggested verification after registration for high-risk taxpayers under GST, besides using verification of electricity bill details and bank accounts for identifying such taxpapyers.

India witnessing early signs of sustainable eco revival: Deepak Parekh

The country's economy is seeing early signs of sustainable revival amid a volatile global environment, veteran banker Deepak Parekh said on

Addressing the shareholders of HDFC Life at the 22nd Annual General Meeting, he said there is a pick-up in domestic economic activity due to an increase in private consumption.

"We remain optimistic about the resilience of India's economy despite the high volatility in the global environment. We are now witnessing early signs of a sustainable economic revival," Parekh, who is the Chairman of the private life insurer, said.

He said high growth in non-oil and non-gold imports reflects the pick-up in domestic demand and the domestic economic activity is fueled by private consumption and rising discretionary spending. According to him, the expected normal south-west monsoon this year is likely to support rural consumption.

"We remain vigilant of the implications of current geopolitical tensions, elevated commodity prices, growing exter-nal demand-supply disrup-tions, capital outflows, higher inflation in emerging economies and withdrawal of monetary accommodation in developed countries," Parekh said. Speaking on the life insurance industry, he said despite the pandemic, life insurance companies' new business premium grew by 16 per cent in 98.7 per cent, he said.



FY22. However, the insurance penetration and density levels in the country still remain much lower than the global average, he said, adding that with the increase in per capita GDP, there is immense potential for continued sectoral growth.

The Covid-19 pandemic has amplified awareness about life and health protection covers, providing the life insurers opportunity to look forward to continued growth in the sector and increase insurance penetration in the country, he said.

Talking about HDFC Life's performance, Parekh said the insurer achieved a strong business performance by successfully balancing growth, profitability and business quality.
It maintained a new business

ness market share of 21 per cent and 7.7 per cent in the private and overall insurance market respectively in the previous fiscal, he said. In previous fiscal, the com-

pany got impacted due to higher Covid-related claims which hiked to ₹5,800 crore, compared to ₹1,037 crore in FY21. The individual death claim settlement ratio in FY22 was



1 pc in line with global gains; rise for 3rd day

 $B^{\text{enchmark stock indices}}_{\text{Sensex and Nifty rallied}}$ nearly 1 per cent to close at over two-week high levels on Monday, posting gains for a third straight day as global equities advanced on easing inflation concerns.

The 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 433.30 points or 0.82 per cent to settle at 53,161.28, a level not seen since June 10. During the day, the barometer rallied 781.52 points or 1.48 per cent to 53,509.50.

The NSE Nifty also gained 132.80 points or 0.85 per cent to close above the 15,800 level at 15,832.05, the highest closing level since June 10. In the three-day winning run, Sensex jumped by 2.56 per cent or 1,378 points while Nifty rallied 2.73 per cent or 418 points to more than two-week high.

"Declining commodity prices have been lifting the exhausted domestic equity market during the recent sessions," Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial that investors expect oil prices to decline further following easing demand from Europe, China and the US due to the slowdown in the economy.

Larsen & Toubro was the biggest gainer among Sensex shares, rising by 2.69 per cent. Tech Mahindra spurted 2.67 per cent, HCL Tech by 2.61 per cent, IndusInd Bank by 2.27 per cent and Infosys by 2.25 per

Asian Paints jumped 2.19 per cent, Bharti Airtel by 2 per cent , Tata Steel by 1.75 per cent, UltraTech Cement by 1.74 per cent, SBI by 1.51 per cent, ITC by 1.5 per cent and Sun Pharma by 1.44 per cent.

On the other hand, Reliance Industries, Kotak Bank and Titan declined. "Markets started the week on a strong note and gained nearly a per cent.

Upbeat global cues triggered a firm start in benchmark indices, followed by rangebound move till the end," Ajit Mishra, VP - Research, Religare Broking Ltd, said.

India, EU resume negotiations for free trade pact



India and the European Union (EU) on Monday resumed negotiations, after a gap of over eight years, for a comprehensive free trade agreement, a move aimed at strengthening economic ties between the two regions.

Senior officials from both the sides will hold discussions till July 1. India and the EU "today kick-start 1st round of issues, including customs duties on automobiles and spirits, and the movement of professionals. Commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal in Brussels on June 18 had said India wishes to engage with the world on modern products and look at areas where it can gain in terms of new technology and investments. 'All cards are on the table and we are coming with an

open heart and an open mind... Agreements do not have to always be about gain or demands, I think agreements also have to be which is good for both negotiating teams and for the people," he had said.

India's merchandise exports to EU member countries stood at about USD 65 billion in 2021-22, while imports aggregated to USD 51.4 billion.

A GI is primarily an agricultural, natural or a manufactured product (handicrafts and industrial goods) originating from a definite geographical territory. Typically, such a name conveys an assurance of quality and distinctiveness, which is essentially attributable to the place of its origin. The famous goods which carry this tag include Basmati rice, Darjeeling tea, Chanderi fabric, Mysore silk, Kullu shawl, Kangra tea, Thanjavur

paintings, Allahabad surkha, Farrukhabad prints, Lucknow zardozi and Kashmir walnut wood carving. Commenting on pact, Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) vice president Khalid Khan said that agreement would help in significantly promoting exports. "Sectors like apparel, leather and engineering would get a major boost if we get zero-duty access in the EU," Khan

MSME can generate more profits from e-commerce: MoS Verma

can generate higher profits

New Delhi: E-commerce has enabled micro, small and medium enterprises to increase profits, reduce marketing expenses and extend their reach to new markets, Minister of State for MSME Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma said on Monday.

While speaking at the CII Indian MSME growth summit, Verma said that MSMEs play an important role in job creation and expansion of manufacturing base in the country, and there is a need to enhance focus on them to achieve a

"Small businesses need to improve their management skills and make their technology base smart. In recent years online markets have developed through e-commerce which has had a positive impact on MSMEs. "MSME

through e-commerce. It will increase revenue and margin, extend reach to new markets, help them save marketing expenses and customers will get a better experience," Verma said.He said that after the pandemic wave, the MSME sector has been standing firmly. "There is development hap-

pening in MSME space and it can be seen across the country. Main reason for this is progressing changes in our public policies," the minister said. He said that there were neither corona period started in India.

He said that some MSME units became sick, some were unable to pay their labour and due to some other reasons they were on the verge of shutting down. The minister said that the Prime Minister

Narendra Modi had contemplated about the situation in advance and ECLGS (Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme) was launched to help them. MSME secretary BB Swain

said that the ministry has been working to ease credit access for MSME through various schemes.

"Total loan guaranteed under ECLGS is Rs 3.47 lakh crore out of which amount earmarked to MSME is Rs 3.1 lakh crore. The performance of the credit guarantee scheme has antee coverage of Rs 56,000 crore. This is the highest ever since its inception," Swain said. The minister at the event also launched a report on the India D2C market compiled by Praxis in association with Shiprocket and CII.

Zomato shares fall over 6%

New Delhi: Shares of Zomato Ltd fell by over 6 per cent on Monday after announcement that online food delivery plat-form will acquire Blink Commerce Pvt Ltd (formerly known as Grofers) for ₹4,447.48 crore. The stock declined 6.40 per cent to settle at ₹65.85 on BSE. During day, it fell 7.53 per cent to ₹65.05. At NSE, it went lower by 6.59 per cent to settle

at ₹65.85 apiece

Zomato Ltd on Friday said it will acquire Blink Commerce Pvt Ltd for ₹4,447.48 crore in a share swap deal as part of its strategy of investing in quick pany's board at a meeting held on Friday approved acquisition of up to 33,018 equity shares of Blink Commerce Pvt Ltd from its shareholders for a total purchase consideration of ₹4,447.48 crore at a price of ₹13.45 lakh per equity share.

Rupee to remain under pressure; may settle at around 79-80/USD in near term: Experts

New Delhi: India's rupee is likely to remain under pressure due to high prices of crude oil and other commodities, and may stabilise at around 79-80 against the US dollar in the near term, say experts amid limited headroom available with the Reserve Bank to check the weakening of the domestic currency. The currency has slumped over 5 per cent this year after Russia's invasion of Ukraine sent international crude oil prices soaring to a decade high. On Monday, rupee ended at a fresh all-time low of 78.34 (provisional) against the US dollar. The previous all-time low was at the 78.32 level recorded on Thursday.For a nation that is 85 per cent dependent on imports to meet its oil needs and 50 per cent for gas requirements, soar ing international energy and commodity prices have worsened its external finances. India's crude oil imports

Ambassador of the European

Union to India and Bhutan,

said in a tweet. India and the

27-nation bloc on June 17 for-

mally resumed negotiations on

the proposed agreements on

trade, investments and

Geographical Indications (GI).

ations for a trade pact with the

EU in 2007, but the talks stalled

in 2013 as both sides failed to

India had started negoti-

bill had more than doubled in May to USD 19.19 billion.

Also, the continuing FPI (Foreign Portfolio Investments) outflows has put the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in a situation where it cannot go all out to strengthen the rupee as it needs to hold on to forex reserves to meet the import requirements. An article published in the RBI's latest bulletin has cautioned that in case of an adverse global scenario, potential portfolio outflows can average up to 3.2 per cent of GDP or USD 100 billion (Rs 7.8 lakh

IRS officer Nitin Gupta appointed new CBDT chief

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

IRS officer Nitin Gupta has been appointed as the new CBDT chairman, a recent Government order said. Gupta, an Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officer of the 1986 batch of the Income Tax cadre, is serving as the Member (investigation) in the Board and is scheduled to retire in September next year.

The order issued on June 25 said the "Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of Nitin Gupta, IRS (IT:86), Member Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) as chairman, Central Board of Direct tion of the post." The post of the CBDT chief was being held in an additional capacity by Board member and 1986batch IRS officer Sangeeta Singh after J B Mohapatra retired on April 30.

The CBDT is headed by a Chairman and can have six members who are in the rank of special secretary. It is the administrative body for the Income Tax department. There are five members in the Board at present with 1985-batch IRS officer Anuja Sarangi being the senior most. The other members are Pragya Sahay Saksena and Subashree Anantkrishnan, both from the 1987 batch of IRS

Bajaj Auto board approves ₹2,500 cr share buyback

New Delhi: Bajaj Auto Ltd on and promoter group, from Monday said its board has approved a share buyback programme for an aggregate amount of up to Rs 2,500 crore. The board of directors of the company, at its meeting held on Monday, approved the proposal for buyback of the fully paid up equity shares of the company with a face value of Rs 10 each from existing shareholders, except promoters

open market on the stock exchanges, Bajaj Auto said in a

regulatory filing.

The buyback will be carried out at a price not exceed ing Rs 4,600 per equity share and for an aggregate amount of up to Rs 2,500 crore, representing 9.61 per cent of the aggregate of the total paid-up share capital of the company, it

Bank's long-term issuer credit rating 'BBB-' with stable outlook

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The ICICI Bank will maintain its strong market posi-

said the private sector lender is likely to sustain improvements in asset quality, supported by India's economic recovery and

S&P Global Ratings today affirmed its 'BBB-' long-term and 'A-3' short-term issuer credit ratings on ICICI, it said in a release.

"At the same time, we affirmed our 'BBB-' long-term issue rating on the bank's senior unsecured notes," S&P

Global Ratings said. On the stable outlook, it

Indian banking sector."We expect the bank's asset quality to remain better than the Indian sector average and comparable to that of similarly rated international peers.
The bank should maintain

the Risk-Adjusted Capital (RAC) ratio of ICICI Bank will dip marginally below 10 per cent due to strong credit growth from 10.4 per cent as of March 31, 2022. "Despite the decline, its capitalisation is likely to

remain better than most Indian peers. The decline will reflect credit growth of 17-20 per cent that we expect amid a strong economic recovery. Although returns on assets are likely to be healthy at 1.8-

1.9 per cent, they would not be sufficient to sustain a RAC ratio above 10 per cent. "ICICI's earnings can get

some uplift from stake sales in subsidiaries. That said, the timing and quantity of profits from such sales are uncertain," S&P Global Ratings said.

On asset quality front, it said bank's asset quality is likely to improve despite an uneven economic recovery in India and macroeconomic challenges.

"In our base case, the bank's weak loans, defined as Non-Performing Loans (NPLs) and restructured loans, will decline to 3.0-3.5 per cent of total loans over the next 12 months, from about 4.6 per cent as of March 31, 2022. Broadly stable credit conditions will support this. Credit costs should remain at about 1 per cent over the next 12-18

Haryana Govt approves State EV policy, announces sops to manufacturers

PTI CHANDIGARH

The Haryana Government T on Monday approved the State Electric Vehicle (EV) Policy 2022 offering several financial incentives to EV manufacturers.

A decision in this regard was taken at a meeting of the statecabinet which met here under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar.

The EV policy offers various financial incentives to EV manufacturers by giving incentives on fixed capital investment (FCI), net SGST, stamp duty, employment generation,

etc, an official statement said. There is 100 per cent reimbursement of stamp duty along with exemption in electricity duty for a period of 20 years. The SGST reimbursement shall be 50 per cent of the applicable net SGST for a period of 10



upto Rs 50 lakh, for small vears. Companies manufacturing electric vehicles, com-ponents of electric vehicle, EV industry 20 per cent of FCI up to Rs 40 lakh and for micro battery, charging infrastruc-ture etc. Shall be incentivized industry 25 per cent of FCI up to Rs 15 lakh. with capital subsidy.

Under this policy, units Mega industry shall get setting up batteries disposal units will get 15 per cent of FCI capital subsidy at 20 per cent of FCI or Rs 20 crore whichever up to Rs 1 crore. The policy prois lower; large industry will get vides for employment generasubsidy of 10 per cent of FCI up tion subsidy of Rs 48,000 per employee per annum for 10 to INR 10 crores, for medium industry 20 per cent of FCI years in lieu of Haryana domiemployed with EV companies. Efforts shall be made to convert 100 per cent of the bus fleet owned by Haryana State Transport Undertakings into electric buses or Fuel Cell Vehicles or other non- fossilfuel-based technologies by The cities of Gurugram &

ciled manpower being

Faridabad will be declared as model Electric Mobility (EM) cities with phase-wise goals to adopt Electric Vehicles (EVs), charging infrastructure to achieve 100 percent e-mobili-

In addition to this, the Department of Town and Country Planning (TCP) shall mandatorily include the provisions for charging of electric vehicles in places such as Group Residential buildings, commercial buildings, institutional buildings, Malls, Metro Station etc., for enabling the Electric Vehicles. The year 2022 will be declared as "Year of the Electric Vehicles" in Haryana. The EV Policy aims to

overall ecosystem for uptake of

protect the environment, reduce carbon footprint, make Haryana an EV manufacturing hub, ensure skill development in EV field, encourage uptake of EV vehicles, provide EV charging infrastructure and encourage R&D in EV tech-

nology.

The policy provides one time support to facilitate conversion of existing manufac-turers units completely into EV manufacturing of 25 per cent of book value up to Rs 2 crore for Micro, Small, Medium and Large units.

The cost of an electric vehicle is comparatively higher than conventional-fuelbased vehicles which is a major deterrent to buyers in switching to EV, said the statement.

The policy offers incentives to buyers that would reduce the effective upfront cost and motivate individuals to take up electric vehicles as their primary mode for transportation.

The policy will provide early bird direct benefit transfer up to Rs 10 lakh on purchase of Electric Vehicles or Hybrid electric Vehicles in the state. Buyers will also be eligible for relaxation in registration fee and discount on Motor Vehicle Tax.

The policy encourages R&D in educational or research institutes if they setup R&D

The policy will promote Research & Development in the field of EVs by granting 50 per cent of project cost up to Rs crore for developing new electric charging technology and up to Rs 5 crore for devel oping new electric vehicle tech-

S&P Global affirms ICICI

tion and market capitalisation over the next 12-18 months, S&P Global Ratings said on Monday, and affirmed its longterm issuer credit rating 'BBBwith a stable outlook. The global ratings firm

improved risk management.

said ICICI will maintain a strong market position in the

good capitalisation over the next 12-18 months, supported by healthy earnings. The ratings firm said that the bank has adequate capital buffers to support its above-average growth. It also estimated that

NOVAK SURVIVES SCARE



AP LONDON

dhese days, Novak Djokovic makes history just about every time he wins another match. On Monday, the top-ranked Serb did just that at Wimbledon.

Djokovic, a six-time champion at the All England Club, beat Kwon Soon-woo 6-3, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4 on Centre Court, his 80th victory at the grasscourt major. With it, he became the first man or woman to win that many matches at each of the four Grand Slam tennis tournaments.

Djokovic was playing for the first time since losing to Rafael Nadal last

Another major title would also give him 21 for his career. Nadal has 22, and Federer has 20. Most of Djokovic's Grand Slam

singles championships have come at the Australian Open, where he is a nine-time champion. But he was unable to defend his title in Melbourne this year after being deported because of Australia's vaccination protocols.

The first player to reach the second round was Alison Riske. The 28thseeded American defeated Ylena In-Albon of Switzerland 6-2, 6-4.

Other seeded women who advanced were No. 3 Ons Jabeur of Tunisia and No. 29 Anhelina Kalinina of Ukraine. Kalinina will face another Ukrainian, Lesia Tsurenko, in the second round.

Following his triumph at the Mallorca Championships, Stefanos

Tsitsipas has moved back into the Top

5 in the ATP Rankings, while Maxime Cressy jumps to a career-high No. 45

after reaching the final at the

the ATP Rankings after he captured

his first grass-court title and ninth

tour-level crown overall at the

Mallorca Championships. The 23-

vear-old, who was making his debut

at the ATP 250 event, defeated Spaniard Roberto Bautista Agut in the

championship match. Stefanos Tsitsipas showed few signs of nerves

in his maiden ATP Tour grass-court

final at the Mallorca Championships,

where the second seed downed

Roberto Bautista Agut to claim his

first tour-level title on the surface.

Tsitsipas climbed back to No 5 in

Eastbourne International.

AP LONDON





The 25-year-old Maxime Cressy jumped 15 spots to a career-high No 45 after he reached his second tourlevel final of the season in Eastbourne.

The American downed Reilly Opelka, Daniel Evans, Cameron Norrie and Jack Draper before falling to countryman Taylor Fritz.

Tsurenko's match was halted for about 10 minutes when her opponent,

British wild-card entry Jodie Burrage,

stopped to help a ballboy who was feel-

Burrage gave the boy a sports drink and a nutritional gel before someone in the crowd passed her some chewy candy. The boy was soon

won his opening match on Court 12.

The third-seeded Norwegian defeated Albert Ramos-Vinolas 7-6 (1), 7-6

Also in the men's draw, No. 9 Cam Norrie of Britain, No. 22 Nikoloz

Basilashvili of Georgia, No. 23 Frances

Tiafoe of the United States and No. 30

French Open finalist Casper Ruud

ing faint.

helped off court.

Djoker stands by no vaccination stance, likely to miss US Open

AP LONDON

Novak Djokovic repeated his hardline refusal to get a Covid-19 vaccination as he resigned himself to sitting out the season's last Grand Slam at the US Open.

Djokovic was deported from Melbourne in January over his single-minded but controversial stance, forcing him to abandon an assault on a 10th Australian Open title.

With no sign of the US authorities relaxing their rule requiring all visitors to be vaccinated, the 35-year-old Djokovic admitted that Wimbledon will be his last Slam of

When asked if he had completely closed his mind to getting vaccinated, he was unequivocal. Yes," he said.

Djokovic was US Open champion in 2011, 2015 and 2018. He has 20 Slams to his name, two fewer than old rival Rafael Nadal.

Last year, defeat in the New York final to Daniil Medvedev robbed him of the opportunity to become the first man since 1969 to clinch a calendar Grand Slam.

His inability to travel to the United States - he already missed the Indian Wells and Miami Masters - will serve as a key driver as he sets his sights on a seventh Wimbledon

"As of today I'm not allowed to enter the States under these circumstances. That is an extra motivation to do well

here. Hopefully I can have a very good tournament," said Djoković. "I would love to go to States. But as of today, that's not

possible. There is not much I can do any more. "It's really up to the US government to make a decision whether or not they allow unvaccinated people to go into

Also adding fuel to the Djokovic fire is the chance to win a fourth successive Wimbledon title and join a select group. In the Open era, only Bjorn Borg, Pete Sampras and

Roger Federer have managed to complete such a streak of dominance at the All England Club. "As a seven, eight-year-old boy I've dreamt of winning

Wimbledon and becoming No. 1.," he added.

"Pete Sampras winning his first Wimbledon, was the first tennis match I ever saw on the TV.'

Options in drag-flick hands India advantage over others in world hockey: Sandeep

month in the French Open quarterfi-

It didn't all go his way on Monday,

With the roof closed because of

sporadic rain, Kwon was able to pick

his spots with his booming forehand.

It all came together in the second set,

and even continued into the third, but Djokovic stepped it up and played like

he usually plays in southwest London

Wimbledon titles and is going for his

seventh overall. That would put him

in a tie for the second most with Pete

Sampras and William Renshaw. Only

Djokovic has won the last three

unbeatable.

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

 $T^{ ext{he emergence of a number of penal-}}$ ty corner specialists in the national team gives India an edge over the other sides, according to former hockey captain Sandeep Singh, who knows the "difficult art" of drag-flicking like the back of his

The Birmingham Commonwealth Games-bound Indian team has as many as three specialist drag-flickers in Harmanpreet Singh, Varun Kumar and Amit Rohidas.

And with junior players like Sanjay, Araijeet Singh Hundal and Sudeep Chirmako waiting in the wings, India are well placed as far as the penalty corner department is concerned.

"Drag-flick is a difficult art which takes years of practice to master. It is a very technical thing, where besides brute power, you need fast hands and quick

"Having options in drag-flick gives any team an advantage and we are lucky that we have many penalty corner specialists in the team now. It adds variety. Harmanpreet is a world-class flicker," added Sandeep, who is nicknamed 'Flicker Singh' for his exploits with the goal-scoring technique during his playing days.

Sandeep, a fiery drag-flicker in his heydays, said the current national team under Manpreet Singh has the wherewith-



al to break its Gold medal jinx at the Birmingham Games, starting next month.

Since hockey's introduction in the CWG schedule in 1998 Kuala Lumpur edition, Australia has swept all the six Gold medals. India's best results are two Silver medals in the 2010 edition at home and 2014 Games in Glasgow, Scotland.

"Indian hockey has made tremendous progress. The Bronze medal in Tokyo was just the fillip the game needed to revive

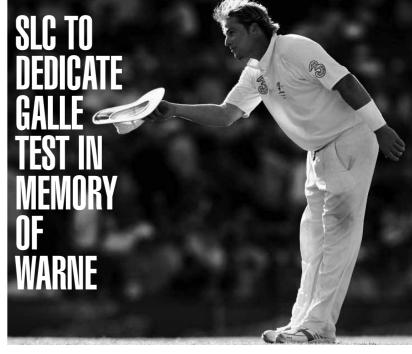
its past glory," Sandeep said. "If you ask me I firmly believe we can win a Gold in this Commonwealth

"In today's hockey there is hardly any gap between the top 5 world teams. If we play to our potential and plan, we can stop Australia's dominance in the CWG this time," added the player-turned-politician, who was part of the 2010 CWG Silver medal-winning squad.

 $S^{\rm ri}$ Lankans will stand to attention in a fitting salute to all-time cricketing great Australian spin wizard Shane Warne when the first Test between Sri Lanka and Australia gets underway on June 29 at the Galle International Stadium.

Sri Lanka Cricket's (SLC's) noble gesture to dedicate the first Test to the memory of Warne, will indeed be a moving solemn occasion that will kindle stirring memories of Warne who died prematurely at the age of 53 of a heart attack on March 4 this year while holidaying in Thailand. "The Sri Lankan cricket establishment's gesture is one of recognising Warne as a true friend of Sri Lanka who came to the country's aid during the 2004
Tsunami devastation by personally flying
over and visiting affected areas and making generous donations especially to
homeless cricketers families. This writer had the privilege of having a word with the legend on that occasion when he visited the Moratuwa Cricket Stadium where several teenage cricketers were lined up in a guard of honour. He did voice that he was concerned about the welfare of Sri Lankans ffected and as much saddened by the astation of the Galle Stadium," SLC in a statement said.

For Galle was the venue where the Australian great became the first bowler in Test cricket history to take 500 wickets. Therein, this June 29 will surely evoke moving memories of Shane Warne, the unrelenting cricketing warrior in the middle who gave no quarter nor asked for any, but who proved to be a true friend to his adversaries off the field in time of distress.



Indeed Warne, by his magnanimous act did signify that the game of cricket transcended beyond the boundaries of competition. It has been recognised by Sri Lanka Cricket by its decision to pay tribute to Warne posthumously by dedicating the Galle Test in memory of the great.

Born Shane Keith Warne on September 13, 1969, the Australian went on to turn the art of spin bowling on its head by taking it to a new level. Among his most famous wicket taking deliveries was the arm ball that stood him out. He claimed a record 708 Test wickets from 145 appearances and 293 ODI wickets from

Warne is also remembered as perhaps the most colourful personality the game has produced by his outgoing approach and his endearing chuckle and a big grin.

Cech joins list of Chelsea departures

AP ■ LONDON

Petr Cech became the latest member of Chelsea's senior management team to leave the club on Monday following a change in ownership.

Long-serving chairman Bruce Buck and director Marina Granovskaia also departed Stamford Bridge last week in the wake of a takeover from American Todd Boehly's consortium



Cech, who won 13 major honours with Chelsea during his playing career as a goalkeeper, became the club's technical and performance advisor when he retired in 2019.

"It has been a huge privilege to perform this role at Chelsea for the past three years," Cech said in a club statement. "With the club

under new ownership, I feel now is the right time for me to step aside. "I am pleased that

owners, and I am confident of its future success both on and off the pitch. Boehly has been installed as Chelsea's new chair-

man and taken over as interim sporting director. "Petr is an important member of the Chelsea fam-

him for his contributions as an advisor and his commitment to the club and to our community.' Cech's departure puts Boehly under even more

scrutiny during what is expected to be a hectic transfer window for the Blues.

ily," said Boehly. "We understand his decision to step away and thank

Chelsea, who finished third in the Premier League last season, have been linked with moves for Juventus defender Matthijs de Ligt, Manchester City's Raheem Sterling and Barcelona forward Ousmane Dembele.

Sindhu, Prannoy lead India's challenge

PTI ■ KUALA LUMPUR

DV Sindhu will look to Pquickly recover from her first-round exit at Indonesia, while HS Prannoy will eye another consistent show as the duo spearhead the Indian challenge at the Malaysia Open Super 750 tournament starting here on Tuesday.

Sindhu, a two-time Olympic medallist, was shown two-time the door in the opening round by China's He Bing Jiao at the Indonesia Open Super 1000 earlier this month and she will have to put behind that defeat when she begins her campaign against a formidable Pornpawee Chochuwong of

While Sindhu enjoys a 5-3 head-to-head count against Chochuwong, the Indian has lost to the Thai world number 10 three times in their last five meetings, making their clash a mouth-watering prospect.

If she can cross the opening hurdle and hit a consistent run, Sindhu might come across Olympic champion Chen Yu Fei of China.

London Olympics Bronze medallist Saina Nehwal also stars in the same half of the draw and will open against USA's Iris Wang. A win will put her face-to-face with Japanese sixth seed Nozomi Okuhara, a former world

Saina had skipped the



Indonesia leg to manage work-load and will look to put up a good show against Wang, whom she had defeated in three games the only time they met last year at Orleans

Masters. In men's singles, Prannoy has been on a consistent run with a series of quarterfinals

since the world championships last year. He played a pivotal role in India's epic Thomas Cup win and then dished out some superlative performances in Jakarta to reach the semifi-

The 29-year-old was crestfallen after a series of unforced errors led to his ouster from

Indonesia.

Prannoy, who is desperate to end his five year title drought, will be pitted against Malaysian veteran Daren Liew, who had defeated him at the Thailand Open in May this

Among others, Tokyo Olympian B Sai Praneeth will

Saina Nehwal had skipped the **Indonesia leg to** manage workload and will look to put up a good show against Wang

be up against sixth seeded Indonesian Anthony Sinisuka Ginting, while Sameer Verma takes on another Indonesian Jonata Christie, seeded sev-

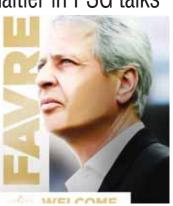
Former Commonwealth Games gold medallist Parupalli Kashyap, also returning after recovering from an injury, will meet Korea's Heo Kwang Hee in the opening round.

World number 8 pairing of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty will also be back in action after skipping the last two events due to fitness issues. The duo will open Malaysia's Man Wei Chong and Kai Wun

In mixed doubles, Ashwini Ponnappa and B Sumeeth Reddy, who are part of India's Commonwealth Games squad, will take on the Netherland's Robin Tabeling and Selena

Venkat Gaurav Prasad and Juhi Dewangan will square off against Korea's Kim Won Ho and Jeong Na Eun.

Favre named new Nice coach as Galtier in PSG talks



AP PARIS

Former Borussia Dortmund coach Lucien Favre was appointed manager of Ligue 1 club Nice on Monday, replacing Christophe Galtier who is in talks with Paris Saint-Germain.

"Christophe Galtier is no longer in charge of OGC Nice's first team," Nice said in a statement.

Favre, the 64-year-old Swiss who has peen without a club since he was released by Dortmund in December 2020, supervised training as the Nice squad returned from a summer break.

PSG president Nasser Al-Khelaifi confirmed last week the Qatari-owned club were in discussions with Galtier about taking over from Mauricio Pochettino.

Al-Khelaifi denied the club had en in touch with Zinedine Zidane. Galtier won the French league title

with Lille in 2021 before leaving for Nice, leading the south coast club to fifth place

'WE'VE TICKED ALL BOXES'

Head coach Dravid satisfied with India's preparations for one-off Test

PTI ■ LEICESTER

ndia ticked all the required boxes during the four-day **⊥**practice match against Leicestershire and will look to hit the ground running when they face England in the rescheduled one-off Test beginning Friday, said head coach Rahul Dravid.

Shreyas Iyer, Virat Kohli, Shubman Gill, Rishabh Pant and Ravindra Jadeja — all struck fifties during the drawn warm-up game.
"I think whatever we need

ed to achieve and whatever boxes we needed to tick in terms of our preparation leading into the Test match on Friday, I think we are very satisfied and happy, we have been able to do that this week," Dravid said in a video posted by Leicestershire Foxes on Twitter.

Asked about the challenges of playing in English conditions, Dravid said: "When you have got just one game or one-off game in a series, its not really a lot of time, you've got to hit the ground running hard and you've got to be able to hopefully get your act together right from the first day of the Test match.

"There is not lot of room to maneuver or things to go wrong. So having said that it has been a good week. I thought the match wicket was challenging on first couple of days and settle down in the last two so, it was good, it was a great week. The former India batter



Mayank Agarwal to join Indian Test squad

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Opener Mayank Agarwal has been called up to join the Indian squad in the UK as cover for skipper Rohit Sharma, who has been rendered doubt-ful for the Edgbaston Test against England after testing positive for COVID-19.

Rohit competed on the first day of the drawn warm-up game against Leicestershire before being placed under isolation. He had tested positive in

also gave a thumbs up to the facilities and atmosphere here. "I thought you know everyone's really looked after



us really well. It's been great crowds you know, it's really lovely to see so many people

come to watch the game like

Mayank Agarwal to India's Test squad for the rescheduled fifth Test as cover for captain this and just the atmosphere

a Rapid Antigen Test (RAT). The 31-year-old Agarwal

had missed out on making the 15-man squad for the game, starting July 1, but an opportu-

nity has come his way as KL

Rahul got injured just ahead of

the South Africa series and now

Rohit has contracted infec-

Selection Committee has added

'The All-India Senior

and the vibe have been excellent," he said. India were leading the

Rohit Sharma, who tested positive for COVID-19. Mayank has left for the UK and will link up with the squad in Birmingham," said the BCCI in a statement

A BCCI source added: "If needed he be will be available for the Test match as UK Covid protocols don't require any quarantine period on landing if RT PCR test is negative.'

Agarwal has featured in 21 Tests so far, scoring 1488 runs at an average of 41.33.

series 2-1 last year before the final Test was abandoned owing to a COVID-19 out-



PTI DAMBULLA

Skipper Chamari Athapaththu struck a counter-attacking 48-ball 80 as Sri Lanka outplayed India by seven wickets in the third and final T20I to avoid a whitewash here on Monday.

The 32-year-old Chamari smashed 14 boundaries and one six and in the process became the only cricketer from the island nation to get to the 2000-run mark in T20Is. Tillakaratne Dilshan (1889) is the highest run-scorer among the male cricketers from Sri

Chasing a modest 139 to avoid a clean sweep by the Indians, Sri Lankan batting finally came good as the hosts hunt down the target with three overs to spare to claim a consolation win.

The three-match T20I series thus ended 2-1 in favour of India, who stuttered after opting to bat before skipper Harmanpreet Kaur's resilient 39 not out (33b; 3x4, 1x6) propped up their total to 138 for

In reply, Sri Lanka lost Vishmi Gunaratne (5) in the first over, but Harshitha over, Samarawickrama (13) gave a fine support to Chamari in the powerplay before being dismissed by Radha Yadav in the fifth over.

Thereafter, Nilakshi de Silva (30 off 28 balls) joined hands with Chamari as the skipper cruised to a 29-ball fifty — the fastest fifty for Sri Lanka

Luck also was on her side as Chamari got a reprieve on 42 when Jemimah Rodrigues one six. missed a running catch in the midwicket boundary. She soon slammed back-to-back fours en route to her fifth T20I fifty.

With Chamari looking furious, Sri Lanka just needed 18 runs in the final five overs and the hosts it without much ado to seal their first T20 win against India at home.

India were sloppy on the field and missed a slew of runouts and signed off the T20I series on a disappointing note.

Earlier, India stuttered in the middle overs after Smriti Mandhana (22 from 21b) and Sabbhineni Meghana (22 from 26b) departed in successive overs to leave the visitors reeling at 51 for three.

The duo looked well in control in their 41-run second wicket partnership after the talented Shafali Verma (5) fell in the opening over but run-rate dried up as the hosts bounced back aided by some fine fielding.

There was a lull in the middle when India failed to get a boundary in 38 deliveries with Harmanpreet and Jemimah Rodrigues struggling to get

The duo finally broke the shackles in the 13th over as Jemimah showed her attacking intent in her 30-ball 33 (3x4), while the skipper was a class

Jemimah fell in the penultimate over but Harmanpreet looked in firm control and displayed her array of shots during her 33-ball knock, which was studded with three fours and

After Jemimah's departure, Harmanpreet took charge and along with Pooja Vastrakar scored 49 runs in the final five overs to prop up the total.

WE'RE ON RIGHT TRACK

India's batting might have come a cropper in the final women's T20Î against Sri Lanka but chief coach Ramesh Powar said they are on the "right track" ahead of next month's Commonwealth Games, where cricket will make its debut.

"We touched upon all the bases. Honestly, the wickets were slow, so we were not expecting too many high-scoring games, but the way Harman, Shafali, Jemimah and Smriti batted, we are on the right track as far as batting is concerned," Powar said at the press confer-

. 'Today Chamari put us under the pump and we should learn from this game and move forward and plan accordingly," Powar said.

The senior pace duo of Jhulan Goswami and Shikha Pandey was dropped for the tour of Sri Lanka, while spinners Poonam Yadav and Rajeshwari Gayakwad were rested.

"The idea behind the bowling unit for this series was to give chances, opening up options. Our frontline bowlers Poonam Yadav, Rajeshwari Gayakwad were rested for that purpose. We wanted to see how our bowlers

PTI MALAHIDE

Ireland put up a spirted fight but India proved too strong for the home team to win the rain-hit opening T20I by seven wickets here on Sunday. Harry Tector's counter-attacking 64

not out off 33 balls took Ireland to 108 for four after the rain reduced the game to 12 overs a side. India were always ahead of the run

rate in the chase and with contributions from Ishan Kishan (26 off 11), Deepak Hooda (47 not out off 29) and skipper Hardik Pandya (24 off 12), cruised to victory in 9.2 overs. Kishan continued his good form to

get India off to a quick start. The first Kishan collected couple of fours and a six off Joshua Little. In a rather surprising move,

Deepak Hooda came to open alongside

Kishan in place of Ruturaj Gaikwad. He found his rhythm after a scratchy start and put up a match winning 64-run stand with Hardik. Just when it seemed Indian were running away with the contest, Craig

Young got rid of Kishan and Suryakumar Yadav (0) in successive deliveries to raise hopes for his team. Kishan's stumps were rattled in

another attempt to get a full ball out of the park.

Returning to the side after an injury break, Suryakumar got a beauty first up that seamed back to trap him

in front of the stumps. However, Hardik and Hooda kept going for their strokes and a 21-run over from Andy Mcbrine put India back in

While Hardik departed after hitting three sixes, Hooda stayed till the end to hit the winning four. His innings comprised two sixes and half a dozen boundaries

Earlier, India opted to bowl in over-

India go 1-0 up with 7-wicket win

cast conditions but soon after the rain arrived, delaying the start of play by more than two hours and 20 minutes.

The conditions were ripe for Bhuvneshwar Kumar to make the ball talk and he did just that in the opening over of the match.

The wily operator got the ball to swing both ways before an inswinger breached the defence of Ireland skipper Andrew Balbirnie. Skipper Hardik Pandya got himself into the attack in the second over and

ous Paul Stirling. Avesh Khan then had Gareth Delany caught behind in his first over

to leave Ireland at 22 for three. India were expected to run through the opposition but Ireland staged a spirited recovery through Tector, who

went for the offensive against the Indian pacers, including debutant



Didn't risk playing Rutu as he had a calf niggle: Pandya

India skipper Hardik Pandya revealed that he didn't want to risk sending out Ruturaj Gaikwad to open the innings in the first T20 against Ireland as he picked up a calf niggle in the first half of the game.

India chased down a 109-run target with relative ease in the rain-curtailed T20 against hosts Ireland on Sunday night. But at the halfway stage instead of regular opener Gaikwad, Deepak Hooda walked out to open the innings alongside Ishan Kishan.

"Rutu had a niggle in his calf," Pandya said. "We had the choice of taking a risk and sending him in (to open), but I was not okay with it. A player's well-being is more important, and (I thought) we'll be able to manage what happens in the match."

Hooda, who was playing his fourth T20I for India, ended up topscoring for the visitors as he remained unbeaten on 47 off 29.

"It was quite simple after that, there wasn't much of a decision to make; whatever our (batting-order) numbers were, we all went up one

spot, and it wasn't a big headache. We wanted to make sure we weren't tak-opportunity. "When you play for ing any chances with Rutu.

Pace sensation Umran Malik was handed a much-anticipated debut after spending time on the bench in the home series against South Africa earlier this month.

However, the 22-year-old just bowled one over in which he gave away 14 runs, including a four and

"Umran was kept back after I had a chat with him, he's more comfortable with the older ball and they bat-

India for the first time, and the journev he has taken, it's important to give such a bowler and such a talent

Malik was named in the Indian squad after a breakthrough IPL season with the Sunrisers Hyderabad.

"Whether it was a good day or a bad day is irrelevant. For him, just to play for India is itself a very big thing, and that is something which I'm very happy for, (irrespective) of how the result went, good or bad, it's okay.

Roach joins 250 wicket club for WI

AP ■ GROS ISLET

✓emar Roach reached the Kelliai Roacii reasii landmark of 250 test wickets as West Indies dominated the third day of the second test with Bangladesh fighting to avoid an innings defeat. Bangladesh was reduced

to 132-6 in its second innings at stumps on Sunday and still Daren Sammy Stadium. Roach took the first three

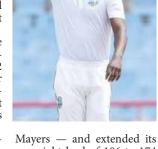
wickets to finish the day on 3-32 in 10 overs and move to 252 wickets in his 73rd test for West Indies. Bangladesh opener Tamim Iqbal (4) was caught behind to give the pacer his 250th wicket. Roach is now the sixth-

highest test wicket-taker for West Indies. Another quick, Courtney Walsh, tops that list with 519 wickets in 132 match-Roach went on to dismiss

opener Mahmudul Hasan Joy (13) and Anamul Haque (4) to leave Bangladesh struggling on 32-3. Najmul Hossain Shanto is

the top scorer so far for Bangladesh in its innings with a 91-ball 42. He was also caught behind off Alzarri Joseph (2-31).

West Indies earlier resumed on 340-5 - thanks to a chanceless and unbeaten 126 from allrounder Kyle



overnight lead of 106 to 174 after being dismissed for 408 in the first innings.

Mayers was dismissed by

Khaled Ahmed after moving on to 146, caught by Shoriful Islam. Mayers' innings included 18 fours and two sixes. Ahmed took 5-106.

Play was called off for the day at 5:30 p.M. Local time after heavy rain.

Bangladesh scored a subpar 234 in the first innings. West Indies won the first

test in Antigua in just over

three days, by seven wickets. Three T20 games and a three-match ODI series are

also scheduled. **England cleansweep Black Caps**

Rohit can be relieved from T20 captaincy: Sehwag

control.

 $F^{\text{ormer India opener Virender}}_{\text{Sehwag reckons that skipper}}$ Rohit Sharma could be relieved from captaincy duties in the T20 format which would allow him to manage his workload better. Rohit has not been able to

feature in all of India's matches since taking over as captain due to injuries and workload management. "If the Indian team management has someone else in mind

as captain in the T20 format, then I think, Rohit (Sharma) could be relieved and the following can be taken into consideration going forward," Sehwag said.

"One, that would allow Rohit to manage his workload and mental fatigue, given his age. "Two, once someone new is



appointed as captain in T20s, it would also allow Rohit to take breaks and rejuvenate himself to lead India in both Tests and ODIs," he said.

However, Sehwag maintained that if the team management sticks with its current policy of having one captain to lead India across the three formats, then Sharma is still an ideal choice.

AP ■ LEEDS

Tonny Bairstow led England to a whitewash of Test world champions New Zealand with a stunning fifty on his Headingley home ground on

Bairstow made a blistering 71 not out, England's second quickest Test fifty of all time, to follow a majestic 162 that helped revive the hosts from a firstinnings collapse after they had slumped to 55-6.

Former captain Joe Root, largely reduced to the role of a spectator by Bairstow, was 86 not out after sharing a partnership of 111 with his Yorkshire team-mate, having started the day unbeaten on 55. England reached their target of 296

with just three wickets down to complete a 3-0 series clean sweep in a first campaign under their new leadership duo of captain Ben Stokes and red-ball head coach Brendon McCullum, a former New Zealand skipper. "To walk away with a 3-0 win over

the best team in the world is very special," said Stokes at the presentation cer-



"The team has been phenomenal. For me when I took over this job it was about more than results, it was about changing mindsets towards Test cricket. "I wanted them to have fun and enjoy representing their country."

New Zealand captain Kane Williamson added: "It's been an incred-

ible series.

"In all three matches we had our opportunities and we were ahead of the game at times in each one but credit to England, they chose to counter-attack when they were under pressure and they did it well, especially in this

England's World Cup-winning Captain Eoin Morgan is set to retire from international cricket, with an official announcement expected as soon as Tuesday, according to the BBC.

Under Morgan, England won the 2019 50-over World Cup their first major global limited overs title — and reached the top of the one-day and T20 rankings. But the 35-year-old Dublin-

born batter has been struggling with form and fitness issues this He was twice out for nought

and withdrew from the third match

during the recent ODI series away to the Netherlands in Amstelveen

England face India in a threematch T20I series starting on July

with a groin issue.

7, while the T20 World Cup in Australia begins in October. If Morgan does indeed step down ahead of the 2023 50-over

World Cup in India, vice-captain Ios Buttler would appear to be the favourite to replace him as England's white-ball skipper. Morgan is England's leading run-scorer of all time in ODI and

T20 cricket with 6,957 and 2,458 runs respectively. His tally of 225 ODIs and 115 T20Is is also an England record. But he has made just two fifties

from his past 28 international innings across the two white-ball