

OPINION 6
UNSETTLED QUERIES
IN L'AFFAIRE NUPUR

WORLD 8
AIDE: TRUMP DISMISSED JAN 6
THREATS, WANTED TO JOIN CROWD

MONEY 10
INDIA NEEDS TO FORM GREEN
HYDROGEN CORRIDORS: NITI AAYOG

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Uddhav resigns as CM after SC refuses to stay trust vote

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI/NEW DELHI

Minutes after the Supreme Court refused to stay Maharashtra Governor's direction to the Shiv Sena-NCP-Congress Maha Vikas Aghadi Government to take a floor test in the Assembly on Thursday, Uddhav on Wednesday announced his resignation as the Maharashtra Chief Minister.

"I am also quitting as the member of the Legislative Council," Thackeray said in a webcast, on Thursday night while appealing to the workers of his party not to take to the streets in protest. He said he was not interested "in playing the numbers game".

"Let the rebels who grew politically because of Shiv Sena and Balasaheb Thackeray get joy and satisfaction of pulling down his son from the post of Chief Minister," Thackeray said.

Earlier, after hearing all sides for more than three hours on Wednesday on Governor's order for a floor test by the Sena-led Government in Maharashtra, a Supreme Court Bench comprising Justices Surya Kant and JB Pardiwala delivered the order around 9 pm, refusing to stay the floor test. However, the court issued notice on Shiv Sena Chief Whip Sunil Prabhukar to appear before the court on July 11. The apex court said the final outcome of the floor test will be subject to the disqualification case. The court allowed jailed Ministers Nawab Malik and Anil Deshmukh to attend the floor test.

"We are not staying the floor test. We are issuing notices. You can file counter. We will hear on merits along with other cases on July 11. The result of tomorrow will depend on the final outcome of this petition," the court directed, adding that the results of tomorrow will be subject to the final outcome of the petition before the court.

Senior Counsel Abhishek Manu Singhvi, appearing for Prabhukar, said the entire voting pool will change if the floor test is held after disqualification. "The decision of the Speaker will change the pool who will be voting. Before plunging into the pool, the size has to be noted," he said.

"If on July 11, the court decides the petition, say the Speaker's bar is lifted, and certain MLAs are disqualified, then the test could have concluded the next day," said Singhvi arguing that the case before the top court will become infructuous.

Singhvi questioned the act of the Governor in showing undue haste in calling for floor test. "The Governor is bound to act on the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers. Here



Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray with Maharashtra Minister Aaditya Thackeray leaves after attending a Cabinet meeting, in Mumbai on Wednesday

he may act on the advice of Ministers or not, but definitely cannot act on the advice of the Opposition," he contended.

Senior Counsel Neeraj Kishan Kaul, appearing for Eknath Shinde, said the Speaker cannot decide disqualification proceedings when no-confidence motion against him is pending. "You (Speaker) are seized of a matter, you know there are pro-

ceedings against you. You cannot proceed at all. It is a jurisdictional issue," Kaul said.

"When the CM has lost confidence in the House, the moment the CM shows reluctance, it shows that he knows he has lost the majority. This is all the more reason to have a floor test," Kaul argued.

"Assuming a floor test takes place, who are competent to participate," asked Justice Kant.

Rebel Sena MLAs land at Goa airport

Panaji: Rebel Maharashtra Shiv Sena MLAs led by Eknath Shinde on Wednesday evening landed at Dabolim airport in Goa from Guwahati en route to Mumbai. The MLAs arrived at the Dabolim airport by a chartered flight.

Udaipur killer has links with Pak outfit: Police

PNS/AGENCIES ■ JAIPUR/NEW DELHI

One of the two prime accused in the brutal killing of a tailor in Udaipur has links with the Pakistan-based organisation Dawat-e-Islami and had visited Karachi in 2014, the Rajasthan Police chief said on Wednesday.

A day after the brutal murder of Hindu tailor Kanhaiya Lal Teli in Udaipur by two radical Muslims, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) took over the probe into the terror incident from the Rajasthan Police.

The police have detained three more people in connection with the killing so far, Director General of Police (DGP) ML Lather said at a press conference in Jaipur.

"One of the accused, Ghouse Mohammad, has links with the Karachi-based Islamist organisation Dawat-e-Islami. He had visited Karachi in 2014. So far, we have detained five people, including the two prime accused," Lather said.

Meanwhile, a policeman was slashed with a sword during a protest march in Rajasmand district's Bhim town, where police used tear gas to stop a stone-pelting mob from advancing towards a mosque. In Udaipur, hundreds took part in a funeral procession for Kanhaiya Lal.

Stones were hurled at a burial ground and some people tried to vandalise its gate as the procession passed by. Elsewhere in Rajasthan, markets were closed in Sojat (Pali), Bhinmal and Sanchore (Jalore) and Reodar (Sikar) in protest



Streets wear a deserted look amid restrictions following the murder of tailor Kanhaiya on Tuesday, in Udaipur on Wednesday

over the Udaipur murder.

Two men, identified as Riaz Akhtari and Ghouse Mohammad, allegedly hacked Kanhaiya Lal to death with a cleaver at his shop in Udaipur on Tuesday and posted videos online saying they are avenging an insult to Islam.

The duo was taken into custody on Tuesday and booked under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and the various sections of IPC, the police chief said.

When asked whether both the accused had links with Dawat-e-Islami, Lather said that it cannot be ruled out as both of them were equally involved.

Lather said that looking into all the perspectives and on directions of the Chief Minister, it was considered as act of terror, so investigation was started after registering a case under the UAPA.

Lather said Ghouse Mohammad in 2014 had visited Dawat-e-Islami, Karachi. The outfit has its offices in Mumbai and Delhi, he said.

Detained accused Riaz works as a welder and Ghouse is into some petty works. "It is also found that the distinct weapon used to hack Kanhaiya was made by Riaz around four-five years ago," said the DGP.

On the trans-border connection of the two prime accused, he said all digital evidence is being looked into.

A case has been lodged under IPC sections 302, 452, 153 (A), 153 (B), 295 (A) and 34, and sections 16, 18 and 20 of UAPA, 1967. Lather also said a case was lodged against Kanhaiya Lal on June 10 by one Nazim at Dhan Mandi police station over an alleged objectionable post hurting sentiments of a community.

VP election on August 6, nomination from July 5

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI

The election to the post of Vice President will be held on August 6, the Election Commission (EC) on Wednesday announced.

As per the poll panel, the notification for the election to decide the successor of M Venkaiah Naidu will be issued on July 5 and the last date for filing of nomination papers will be July 19. The votes will be counted on August 6.

Naidu's term as Vice President ends on August 10. The BJP-led NDA has a clear edge in the poll in which the members of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha, including nominated members, are eligible to vote.

As per Article 68 of the Constitution, the election to fill the vacancy caused by the expiration of the term of office of the outgoing Vice President is required to be completed



Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu being greeted by a young girl near Kelambakkam in Chennai

before the expiration of the term. At a meeting also attended by Election Commissioner Anup Chandra Pandey, Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar finalised the schedule for the Vice Presidential poll.

The scrutiny of nomination papers will be done on July 20 and the last date for withdrawal of candidature is July 22.

For the 16th Vice-

Presidential Election, the Electoral College consists of 233 elected members of the Rajya Sabha, 12 nominated members of the Rajya Sabha and 543 elected members of the Lok Sabha. The voting is done by the secret ballot.

Open voting and showing the ballot to anyone under any circumstances in the case of presidential and vice-presidential elections are totally prohibited, the EC cautioned, adding that parties cannot issue whip to their MPs in the matter of voting.

A nomination paper of a candidate has to be subscribed by at least 20 electors as proposers and by at least other 20 electors as seconders. An elector can subscribe to only one nomination paper of a candidate as either a proposer or a seconder. A candidate can file a maximum of four nomination papers. The security deposit for the election is ₹15,000.

5% GST on pre-packed flour, papad, paneer, curd

28% tax on casino, online gaming put off for deliberation

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

In what will further hurt the middle class, pre-packed and labelled wheat flour, papad, paneer, curd, and buttermilk will be taxed at 5 per cent after the GST Council on Wednesday decided to stop allowing exemptions on such items while raising rates on a host of others.

The GST Council, at a two-day meeting here, accepted recommendations for rate rationalisation made by different groups appointed by it, resulting in tax changes. Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman told reporters. The tax rate changes will come into effect from July 18.

However, the council decided to refer the report of



Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman chairs the 47th meeting of the GST Council in Chandigarh on Wednesday

the GoM (Group of Ministers) on casinos, online gaming and horse racing back to the panel for further deliberation.

The Finance Minister of Goa wanted further discussions on the GST rate to be applicable on casinos and in that context both online gaming and horse racing would be relooked. The panel had recommended 28 per cent GST levy on all three activities and equalled them to gam-

bling. The report is expected to be ready by July 15 and would be taken up by the council in its next meeting in August.

The ending of the exemption would mean the pre-packed and labelled meat (except frozen), fish, paneer, lassi, honey, dried leguminous vegetables, dried makhana, wheat and other cereals and puffed rice (muri) will now attract a 5 per cent tax.

RJD Bihar's largest party after Owaisi's 4 MLAs shift loyalty

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
PATNA

Four of the five MLAs of the AIMIM in Bihar on Wednesday defected to the RJD, helping it become the largest party in the 243-strong Assembly with a strength of 80 MLAs, three more than that of the BJP.

Leader of the Opposition Tejashwi Yadav, who hailed this as strengthening of secular forces, himself drove the four MLAs to the Assembly. The MLAs submitted a letter to Speaker Vijay Kumar Sinha requesting him to accept their group's merger with the RJD.

Yadav was also present with them in the Speaker's chamber. The MLAs who have jumped ship are Syed Ruknuddin Ahmed (Baisi), Shah Nawaz Alam (Jokihat), Mohd Izhar Asfi



RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav offers sweet to AIMIM MLAs after they joined the RJD in Patna on Wednesday

(Kochadhaman) and Mohd Anzar Naemi (Bahadurganj).

The party, headed by Asaduddin Owaisi, which won five seats and cut into RJD-led alliance's vote on several seats in the 2020 Assembly elections is now left with only its State president Akhtarul Iman.

CAPSULE

RANDOM COVID TESTS ON INBOUND FLYERS

New Delhi: In view of a fresh spike in Covid cases being reported from various pockets of the country over the last six weeks, the Union Health Ministry on Wednesday issued fresh guidelines on Covid-19 surveillance, seeking sewage or wastewater surveillance as well as random screening of all international passengers coming to India. In a letter written to the health secretaries of the States, Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan wrote that there should be random screening of 2 per cent of international flyers coming to India using RTPCR.

LIGHTNING KILLS 17 IN UP IN TWO DAYS

Ballia/ Fatehpur: Ten people were killed after being struck by lightning in Ballia and Fatehpur districts, pushing the death toll due to such incidents in the state to 17 in two days.

Amarnath yatra begins amid tight security

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

Undeterred by the looming terror threats, the first batch of 4,890 pilgrims embarked on the Amarnath yatra on Wednesday under unprecedented security cover.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha flagged off the convoy of 176 light and heavy motor vehicles after performing traditional prayers at the base camp at Jammu.

Chief Secretary Arun Mehta, senior police and administrative officers, along with local politicians, attended the ceremony and prayed for peace, prosperity and a safe spiritual journey for pilgrims.

The LG is scheduled to perform pratham pooja inside the holy cave shrine on Thursday.

The atmosphere inside the base camp was upbeat since



Jammu & Kashmir Lt Governor Manoj Sinha flags off the first batch of pilgrims for the Amarnath Yatra 2022 after conducting a puja at the Bhagwati Nagar base camp in Jammu on Wednesday

early morning as a large number of pilgrims from different States were seen singing praises of Lord Shiva and chanting vedic mantras before embarking on the journey.

So far around 3 lakh pilgrims have registered themselves for the yatra this year. The shrine board authorities are expecting the largest ever foothall of 6 to 7 lakh pilgrims this year.

The shrine board authorities have also made elaborate arrangements for spot registration to facilitate rush of pilgrims. For the first time, a Radio Frequency Identification tag has been issued to the pilgrims by the shrine board, while drone cameras have been deployed across base camps and yatri niwas to maintain tight vigil. Pilgrims have been extended helicopter services from Srinagar for the first time

this year.

The Amarnath yatra was cut short in 2019 days ahead of Abrogation of Article 370. However, the yatra remained suspended in 2020 and 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Elaborate security arrangements have been made along the entire yatra route. The Centre has deployed over 350 companies of paramilitary troops to guard the yatra route and base camps along both the Baltal and Pahalgam axis.

J&K's regional parties, including the National Conference (NC) and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), have welcomed the pilgrims and asked people to ensure their security and safety.

The Amarnath shrine board authorities have thrown open both the traditional Pahalgam-Chandanwari route and Baltal route for pilgrims.

Rupee all-time low at 79.03/\$

Mumbai: The rupee depreciated 18 paise to close at a record low of 79.03 (provisional) against the US dollar on Wednesday, weighed down by persistent foreign capital outflows, a strong dollar overseas and surge in crude oil prices.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened lower at 78.86 against the greenback and finally settled at 79.03, down 18 paise over its previous close.

During the session, the rupee touched an all-time low of 79.05 against the American currency.

On Tuesday, the rupee plunged by 48 paise to close at the record low of 78.85 against the US dollar.

The domestic unit has lost 1.97 per cent so far this month and has eroded a staggering 6.39 per cent since the start of this year.

Excesses on Muslims fuel extremism, says Owaisi

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

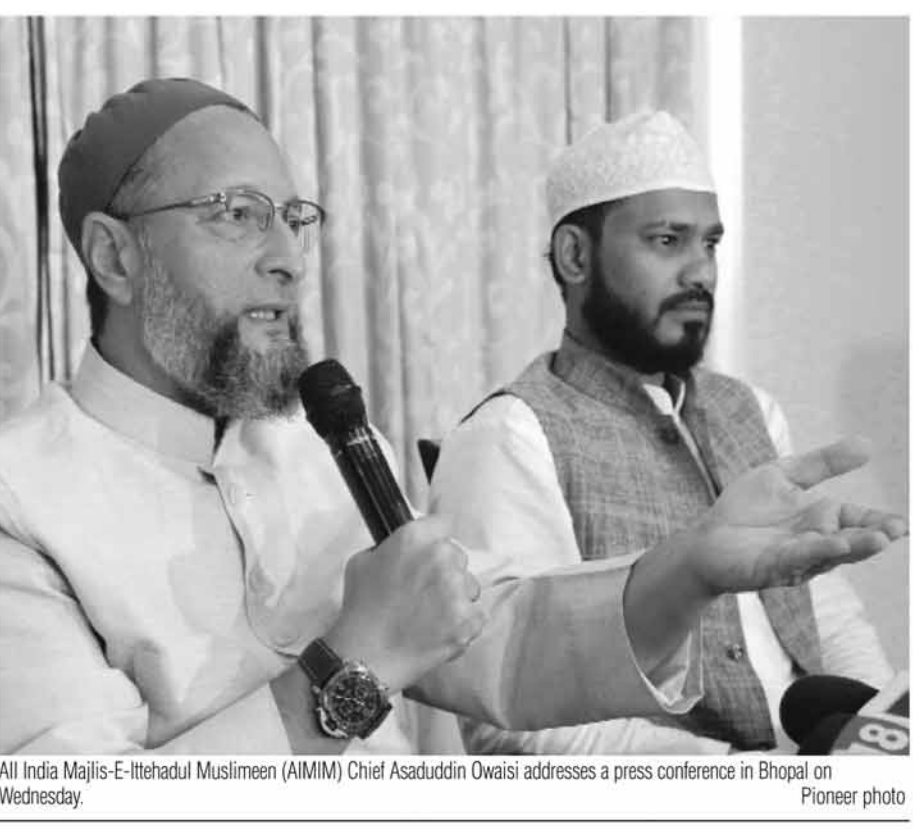
President of All India Majlis-E-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) Asaduddin Owaisi here on Wednesday blamed 'government sponsored excesses' on Muslims for the spurt in extremism in the country. Without naming anyone, he said, "It was not me who spoke on 80:20 (population ratio), Kabristan and Shamshan; and houses were demolished without giving notices to occupants in Sendhwa and Khargone." If you are in power, please propagate principals of natural justice and accept replies, you are the none who is fuelling such things. He was talking to media persons here on Wednesday. He gave an example of love marriage in MP town after

which the DM concerned had demolished the house of the groom calling his family anti-national. The girl later had to seek refuge in High Court seeking protection for herself and in laws, claimed Owaisi adding what kind of message is conveyed by such action. "If these things won't fuel extremism, what else will." He underlined that none of the Muslim organisations is backing what happened in Udaipur. He stated that the Congress party shall be finished, because this party had helped Prime Minister Narendra Modi to come to power twice. The leader criticised both Congress and BJP for ignoring the minority in their regime. He also added that they did not want to form the government, but they want share in power with the help of minority, dal-

its, and tribal. He criticised Congress for losing its government in MP, "Why did Congress ignore Jyotiraditya Scindia's claim in the government? Why the Congress was not ready to send Scindia in Rajya Sabha? All this lead to shift 22 MLA from the government and the Congress lost the government". Talking about the threat given to PM Modi, he condemned "Narendra Modi is our Prime Minister and such things are strongly objectionable". He added that the AIMIM is going to contest state assembly election of 2023 and presently the party is participating in the local bodies elections. Talking about Agniveer scheme, he claimed that the new scheme will be going to destroy the grace of the army personnel and also going to

bring unemployment. You apply the legal provisions in demolition, he demanded. If you start demolishing illegal structures, you will find 70% plus structures in mega cities illegal, will you demolish it, asked Hyderabad parliamentarian. Owaisi claimed that the Congress party shall be finished, because this party had helped Prime Minister Narendra Modi to come in power twice. The leader was addressing the press conference, here on Wednesday. The leader criticised both Congress and BJP for ignoring the minority in their regime. He also added that they did not want to form the government, but they want share in power with the help of minority, dalits, and tribal. The AIMIM chief criticised Congress party for los-

ing its government in MP, "Why did Congress ignore Jyotiraditya Scindia claim in government. Why the Congress was not ready to send Scindia in Rajya Sabha. All this lead to shift 22 MLA from the government and the Congress lost the government". Talking about the threat given to PM Modi, he condemned "Narendra Modi is our Prime Minister and such things are strongly objectionable". He added that the AIMIM is going to contest state assembly election of 2023 and presently the party is participating in the local bodies' elections. Talking about 'Agniveer' scheme, he claimed that the new scheme will be going to destroy the grace of the army personnel and also going to bring unemployment.



All India Majlis-E-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) Chief Asaduddin Owaisi addresses a press conference in Bhopal on Wednesday. Pioneer photo

Class 10 students commits suicide by hanging at her Sunkhedi residence

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

A class 10 student committed suicide by hanging with the ceiling at her residence at Sunkhedi under Kolar police station area on Tuesday; reason behind the suicide remained unknown, said police. The girl committed suicide on her mother's birthday who works with Mansarovar Dental College as Dentist. After the girl Hiya Verma was found hanging she was taken to hospital where she was declared dead. In the afternoon when her mother contacted her over phone and asked that Hiya failed to wish her birthday she told mother that

Police have seized Hiya's phone from the spot which will be investigated. Hiya's last conversation on the phone was with mother Chitra she was planning surprise and later committed suicide. No suicide note was found from the spot. Hiya's mother Chitra Verma is a dentist at Mansarovar Dental College. Chitra told the police she came to college while hiya was alone at home. In the evening

she called his daughter. After some time, Hiya failed to answer even after calling two or three times, she immediately reached home and found Hiya hanging in the room. The police got information about the incident around 10 pm. Kolar police said that at present no suicide note has been found from the spot. Hiya's last conversation on the phone was with mother Chitra. Police have seized Hiya's phone from the spot which will be investigated. Chitra said that she has separated from her husband. She lives in Kolar with her daughter, while her husband lives in Nehru Nagar. The police would also enquire at the school.

Citizens facing hot and humid conditions

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

After rainfall faded away state capital has witnessed hot and humid weather conditions in the past one week. Light to moderate rain is witnessed at isolated places in Madhya Pradesh for the last two days, still weather remained hot and humid. Due to the system being built from Rajasthan to Odisha via Madhya Pradesh, monsoon rains have started again in the state monsoon has become more active from Wednesday. Continuous moisture incursion from the Arabian Sea has induced rainfall. The Meteorological Department has issued an alert of moderate to heavy rain in 14 districts of the state. In the afternoon it rained



heavily in Jabalpur. The Met has issued an alert of heavy rain in Jabalpur. In Sagar, Damoh, Guna, Khajuraho and Nagaon, water fell up to half an inch. It also rained at isolated places in Khandwa, Rajgarh, Chhindwara and Satna. Met said that there is a possibility of good rain for three to four days from Wednesday. With this the monsoon will also set in Madhya Pradesh. Light to very heavy rain may occur at isolated places in Rewa, Satna, Sidhi,

Singrauli, Umaria, Anuppur, Shahdol, Dindori, Chhatarpur, Niwari, Chhindwara and Balaghat districts. Moderate to heavy rain would be witnessed in Sheopurkalan, Morena, Bhind, Shivupari and Datia. Bhopal, Narmadapuram, Gwalior, Chambal, Dhar, Neemuch, Ratlam, Shahjapur, Dewas, Agar and Mandsaur. Thunderstorms and thundershowers may occur at isolated places over Rewa, Shahdol, Jabalpur and Ujjain. At present, a central cyclonic activity is active over west-central Arabian Sea. Simultaneously, the East-West Trough is extending from Southwest Rajasthan to West-central Bay of Bengal across Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and South Odisha. A trough is running parallel to North Kerala Coast from North Maharashtra.

Central Secretariat Delhi defeats Delhi Secretariat

Vikas Chaudhary and Nitin Tigga scored 3-3 and Amit Midhilesh Kumar scored 1-1 for the winning team

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

In the final match of All India Civil Services Hockey Tournament Central Secretariat Delhi defeated Delhi Secretariat by 6-2 goals. Notably, in the first semi-final played in the All India Civil Services Hockey Competition being played at Major Dhyan Chand Hockey Stadium. Vikas Chaudhary and Nitin Tigga scored 3-3 and Amit Midhilesh Kumar scored 1-1 for the winning team. Sandeep and Pradeep scored 1-1 for Delhi Secretariat. In the second semi-final, RSB Indore easily defeated Uttarakhand Secretariat 7-0 to make it to the finals. Captain Mohammad Umar and Nikki Koshal scored 2-2 goals for Indore. Apart from these, Navneet Mohammad Sahil and Azam Baig scored 1-1 goals. It is noteworthy that the All India Civil Services Hockey Tournament being played from June 21 is being successfully conducted under the guidance of Chief Coach Olympian and Tournament Director Samir Dad of Madhya Pradesh Hockey Academy. Technical committee includes technical officer Muin Uddin Qureshi, judge Lokendra Sharma, umpire Feroz Dad, Shadab Khan, Mohammad Nadeem, Javed Khan and Amit Rathor.



Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan during a roadshow in support of BJP mayoral candidate Malti Rai at Narela constituency for upcoming local bodies election in Bhopal on Wednesday. Pioneer photo

20-year-old B.Tech student of TIT colleges drowns at Amargarh waterfall

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

A 20-year-old B.Tech student of TIT College died of drowning in Amargarh waterfall near Sehore district on Tuesday afternoon when the youth has gone for picnic at the spot. Dipesh Kumar Shah is a resident of Madhubani district of Bihar. Along with college friends from Bhopal he had gone for a picnic at Amargarh waterfall located near Shahganj in Sehore district. All the friends were taking a bath in the pool of the waterfall, when Dipesh slipped and went into the deep water his friends tried to save him but failed. Dipesh Shah drowned in the deep water. There is a network problem in the forest due to which they failed to alert for help and rescue. As soon as other friends informed the college management and police, the Shahganj police station reached the Amargarh waterfall site, started rescue work to find the student.

All the friends were taking a bath in the pool of the waterfall, when Dipesh slipped and went into the deep water his friends tried to save him but failed After about two hours of hard work, the body of youth was fished out. After the Shahganj police investigation, around 8 pm, his body was brought to CHC Budhni for post-mortem. Budni SDOP Shashank Singh told that the deceased student Dipesh Shah father Chandrakant Shah (20) was doing B.Tech from TIT College Bhopal. Lived in a rented house in Bhopal Indrapuri C Piplani. He came for picnic with his college students where the accident happened. The matter is being investigated.

Take out Dipendra safe and secure from borewell

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has expressed concern over the incident of a child falling into a borewell in Chhatarpur and directed to carry out rescue and relief work expeditiously and seriously. He also wished the child would be taken out safe and sound. CM Chouhan, after discussing with the Chief Secretary, Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister and Collector Chhatarpur on phone, gave necessary instructions to make proper arrangements for early rescue of the child. On the instructions of the CM, the SDRF team has reached the spot. Rescue operation has been started by Chhatarpur district administration. Chief Minister Chouhan is continuously receiving information about the rescue operation. Dipendra Yadav, 5-year-old son of Akhilesh Yadav, resident of Narayanpura and Patharpur village of Orchha Road police station area of Chhatarpur, had gone to the field with the family. While playing, Dipendra fell into a 40 feet deep borewell.

Two-day workshop on plastic waste management rules held at CIPET

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

A two-day workshop on 'Transition to Alternatives to SUP inline to Implementation of Plastics Waste Management (PWM) Rule:2021 (Amendment)' in MSME Units' is organized at CIPET Bhopal on June 28 and 29 in which Secretary, MSME Department, MP P Narahari was the Chief Guest. Along with the other guests AA Mishra, Member Secretary MPPCB Bhopal, P Jagan, Regional Director CPCB Bhopal, MP Singh, Deputy Commissioner Municipal Corporation Bhopal were also present! Various delegates and industry participants from different departments like Central Pollution Control Board, Chhattisgarh Environment Protection Board Raipur, ITC Limited Bangalore, Bhopal Municipal Corporation, Thiagaraj College of Engineering Madurai (Online) The Energy and Resources participated in the workshop. Around 53 participants from different cities like Indore, Dewas, Pithampur, Hoshangabad, Jabalpur, Mandideep, Raipur, were participated in the workshop. The workshop was duly

inaugurated by lighting the lamp by the guests, after which all the guests were welcomed by the Principal Director and Head of the Institute, Dr. Sandesh Kumar Jain, with a book and a shawl. In his Inaugural address P.Narahari, Secretary, MSME Department, M.P., told that the Govt. of M.P. is government requested all the concerned industries to follow the rules directed by the Government of India for single use plastic and expressed happiness to conduct such workshop by CIPET. AA Mishra, Member Secretary, MPPCB Bhopal, gave necessary information regarding the restrictions on single-use plastic products to be implemented from July 1, 2022. In this workshop, various National experts have their experiences and technical knowledge among all the people. A technical session has also organized by CIPET for manufacturing and testing of single use plastics as per latest Guidelines. This workshop was organized with the support of CPCB, New Delhi and in association with MPPCB Bhopal and CECB Raipur (C.G.).

15-day ballet dance workshop at Utkal Bhavan

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

The dance lovers of the city are experiencing the essence of Ballet dancing in a ballet workshop. A 15-day long workshop is being conducted for the dance lovers of the city at Utkal Bhavan. The workshop began from Wednesday. The students are learning the basics of Indian Ballet dance. Ballet dance form is innovative and enjoyable. Little things are explained through movements and expressions. The workshop is being organized by Chetanya Socio Cultural Society, Bhopal. At the workshop, the students are able to explore the exquisiteness of ballet dance. The students are also exploring the different themes of ballet, plays and other cultural items and are learning the actual concept of staging them. The

workshop. Notably, a 15-day long ballet workshop is being organized for the aspirants to learn the ballet form properly. The dance lovers of the city are enjoying the workshop as they are able to explore different style of dance which is mostly used in theaters. Here on Wednesday, the ballet expert Shruti Kirti Batik told the participants about contemporary dance moves. The workshop is based on musical drama. As many as 14 aspirants are a part of this



artists are preparing with great emphasis on creative style of dance, folk, drama and music. Here on Wednesday, the ballet expert Shruti Kirti Batik told the participants about contemporary dance moves. The workshop is based on musical drama. As many as 14 aspirants are a part of this workshop. Notably, a 15-day long ballet workshop is being organized for the aspirants to learn the ballet form properly. The dance lovers of the city are enjoying the workshop as they are able to explore different style of dance which is mostly used in theaters.

Gond painting exhibition put up at State Tribal Museum

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

An exhibition of Gond Paintings is being put up at Madhya Pradesh State Tribal Museum. The exhibition that began on June 3 will continue till June 30. In her paintings, mainly the traditional Bhili environment and the fauna of animals and animals are seen. In one of the paintings, she depicted the farmer's house in the village, his wife and children, animals, birds and trees, Bhuri Bai described the

life of Bhil tribe through Gond paintings beautifully. Gond paintings can best be described as 'on line work'. The artist makes sure to draw the inner as well as outer lines with as much care as possible so that the perfection of the lines has an immediate effect on the viewer. Lines are used in such a way that it conveys a sense of movement to the still images. Dots and dashes are added to impart a greater sense of movement and increase the amount of detail.

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Baghel for continuing MGNREGA work till rains

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

In view of irregular and deficient monsoon rains, Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on Wednesday asked to continuemployment-oriented work for the needy under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA).

The district Collectors and chief executive officers of Zila Panchayats have been calling for continuation of



Chhattisgarh has recorded an average rainfall of 113.5 mm till June 27. In the current year, it is almost 50 percent less than the average rainfall of 229.7 mm in the same period last year

MGNREGA and also to sanction new work as per requirement. It would help to ensure employment in the villages, an official communication said.

Chhattisgarh has recorded an average rainfall of 113.5 mm till June 27. In the current year, it is almost 50 percent less than the average rainfall of 229.7 mm in the same period last year.

About seven districts have recorded 40 percent less rainfall. Many districts have been hit by deficient monsoon.

Jashpur district recorded 72 percent deficiency followed by Surguja (63 percent), Balarampur (60), Raipur (56), Durg (48) besides Kondagaon and Kanker (47 percent each).

Low rainfall has affected the rain-fed agriculture in these districts, with less sowing of Kharif crops as compared to last year.

Till June 27 last year, the sowing area of Kharif crops was 4,76,000 hectares in the state. Now, the sowing area is just 2,27,000 hectares due to low rainfall.

Alert in C'garh amid rise in Covid-19 cases



STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

Keeping in view the rise in Covid-19 cases, the Chhattisgarh government on Wednesday alerted all departments as well as district administrations. In a circular issued to all the Secretaries, Divisional Commissioners, Collectors and Heads of Departments,

the General Administration Department (GAD) had asked them to follow the strategy of Test, Track, Treat, Vaccination and Covid-19 Appropriate Behavior.

In the coming months, various social and religious programmes are scheduled and this may cause a sudden spike in Covid-19 cases, the government warned.

No lack of funds for civic amenities: Min

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

Chhattisgarh Minister for Urban Administration Shiv Kumar Daharia on Wednesday said there was no lack of funds for arranging amenities in urban civic bodies in the state.

Speaking at a review meeting of the department, the Minister said adequate funds have been made available to all the civic bodies.

At a two-day programme, the Minister reviewed the works of Municipalities and Municipal Corporations in



Raipur, Durg and Surguja divisions.

Saying there was no shortage of funds, he told officials to work with sensitivity to arrange drinking water, healthcare facilities and housing and to develop road infrastructure.

The Minister also urged them keep a vigil on the

fitness of Mobile Medical Units and availability of medicines as well as testing equipment for the Mukhyamantri Urban Slum Health Scheme.

Similarly, the door-to-door collection of garbage and cleaning of drains must be monitored in this monsoon season, he added.

C'garh to plant 2.81 cr saplings

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

The Chhattisgarh government has chalked out a programme for the current monsoon season when it will plant 2.81 crore saplings across the state.

Under the 'Tuhar Paudha Tuhar Dwar' scheme of the Forest and Climate Change Department, the government will plant 1.14 crore saplings and distribute 1.67 lakh more to citizens for plantation, an official communication said on

Wednesday. This information was given at a review meeting chaired by Minister Mohammad Akbar here.

The Minister urged officials to plant herbal plants in order to increase the income of the State Forest Development Corporation.

The distribution of the saplings would start on July 1, the communication said.

The plantation drive was essential for environmental conservation and development of barren land, it added.

Gauthans no longer mere cow shelter: CM

STAFF REPORTER ■ BAIKUNTHPUR

Inaugurating the Katkona Gauthan in Korea district on Wednesday Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel said Gauthans are no longer identified as just cow shelters. They have been transformed into 'multi-activity centres'.

He said the tag of the Gauthans as shelter homes of cows has changed due to different economic activities conducted through women self-help groups (SHGs). They have become hubs to



boost employment opportunities in rural areas.

The villagers have developed a collective spirit towards it, an official communication quoted Baghel as saying.

The Katkona village Gauthan has 14 SHGs groups with 140 members involved in different activities.

The Jai Maa Kali Group manufactures potato chips, spices by Shri Ganesh Group, Dona Patal (leaf plate-cup) by Pratigya Group and LED bulb assembling by Mahamaya group.

Similarly, Pratigya group is operating a mini rice mill, Roshni group is processing pulses, while other groups indulge in poultry and goat farming, vermi-compost production and developing community kitchen gardens.

SHGs rendered jobless: BJP

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

Chhattisgarh's women self-help groups (SHG) have been rendered jobless by the Congress government after axing the manufacture of ready-to-eat food, and this has been done to benefit an industrialist, former Chief Minister Raman Singh said on Wednesday.

He said the women SHGs had invested a lot of money in procuring equipment for manufacture of ready-to-eat food. It will cause an additional burden on them, he told the media.

Only distribution work has been handed over to them. Instead of the



promised Rs 15 per packet, now agreement had been made for Re 1 per packet, he said.

Ready-to-eat is given as a nutrition supplement to eradicate anemia and malnutrition among children, women, girls and pregnant women.

On large-scale shuffling of the bureaucracy, he said a district Collector should have a fixed tenure of minimum two years. It gives him time to work, which can be reviewed.

Tap niche market for organic products: CM

STAFF REPORTER ■ BAIKUNTHPUR

The demand for pure and organic has increased. The need is to cater to this niche market by utilizing all necessary resources present in the villages, said Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on Wednesday.

He was holding a review meeting of district officials at Baikunthpur as part of his Bhent Mulaqat (public interaction) drive.

Baghel said a niche

market was being developed for organic products mainly grains, fruits and vegetables. This needed to be tapped and the rural areas could play a key role through organic farming.

The products will also get the right price. He said all the resources available in the villages can be utilized.

Baghel said with the establishment of a centre to process forest medicine, those making the collection and involved in value addition will get better

prices. He called for streamlining the works related to caste certificates. The process should be done on a regular basis. The sub-castes should also get the certificates, he said.

The Chief Minister said officers and employees are an integral part of the governance system.

Appreciating the officers and employees, he said the feedback from the people was excellent. He urged to keep going a good job.



Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on Wednesday ploughed a field with a pair of oxen in Paradol village in Manendragarh assembly segment. He also sowed paddy seeds. Pioneer Photo

CM flies 'Hexacopter Drone'



STAFF REPORTER ■ MANENDRAGARH

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel tried a hand on flying a 'Hexacopter Drone' on Wednesday after students of the Manendragarh Swami Atmanand English School said: "It is an easy task."

The Chief Minister was inspecting the school when

he met the children in the robotics lab.

Two of them, Dhairya and Avinish, briefed him on the different technical aspects of the Hexacopter Drone made by them. The drone has a camera. It can be used for security and cinematography.

Both urged the Chief Minister to operate the drone. "It is very simple to fly

it, Sir," both said almost in unison.

Baghel could not resist the invitation. The drone was brought to the school ground. Under Dhairya's guidance, Baghel flew the drone to the height of the school building.

He then asked Dhairya: Does it go even higher? Dhairya told him that its range is up to one and a half

kilometers in the sky.

The Chief Minister then took the drone to the maximum height. And he slowly landed it on the ground.

Appreciating the technical skills of the children, Baghel wished them a bright future.

Earlier, he played billiards with students Aradhya Yadav and Neeraj Yadav.

STATE BANK OF INDIA Stressed Assets Recovery Branch, Raipur (10009) **SARB, Block B-1, Pujari Chambers, Pachpedhi Naka, Raipur (C.G.) Ph : 0711-4919726-27-28-29-30 Mob-9425591546, 7747002461, 9826164402, 9926303750**

E-AUCTION NOTICE

Appendix - IVA [See Provision to rule 8 (6)]

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described Immovable property hypothecated/mortgage/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive / physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer State Bank Of India, the Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is Where is", "As is What is" and "Whatever there is" basis on 15.07.2022 (1:00 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M.) for recovery of dues to the secured creditor from Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s). The reserve price will be as mentioned against the property, listed in the table below) and the earnest money deposit will be as mentioned against the property below.

E-Auction Date and Time 15.07.2022, 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM (10 Minutes Extension with unlimited time)				
Sr. No.	Borrowers and Guarantor Details	Brief Description of Assets Other known Debt Encumbrances, if Any & Title Holder Name	Recovery of Arrears Property Being Sold For	Reserve Price (Rs.) EMD (Earnest Money) Bid Increment
1.	Smt.Pooja Tandon W/o Shri Devendra Tandon	Property No. 1 Plot No 46, area 931 sq ft, situated at , Gram-Akhora, Patan,Tah-Patan, Distt.Durg, at Khasra No 11/1 (Part) PH. No.-38 in the name of Smt.Pooja Tandon W/O Shri Devendra Tandon Boundries :- North- Plot No 45, South- Plot No 47, East- 55 ft Road, West- 20 ft Road (Half Constructed Building) Symbolic Possession. Property No.2 Plot No 49, area 931 sq ft, situated at Ward no 03, Gram - Akhora, Patan, Tah. Patan, Distt. Durg, at Khasra No 11/1 (Part), PH. No.-38 in the name of Smt. Pooja Tandon W/O Shri Devendra Tandon. Boundries :- North-Plot No 48, South- Plot No 50, East- 52 ft Road, West- 20 ft Road. (Half Constructed Building) Symbolic Possession	₹ 25,60,919.00 + Interest & Other Charges. Demand Notice Dt. 30.04.19	₹ 12,88,000.00 ₹ 1,29,000.00 ₹ 25,000.00
2.	M/s Bhitai Diesels. Proprietor: Shri Vishwajeet K Anand S/o Shri Ajay Anand	Property No. 1 Flat No 3, Builtup area 528.17 sq ft Block No.A. Ground floor New palash Towers, situated at Chhatrapati Shivaji Nagar, at Khasra No 44/5, Mouja- Risali, Tahsil & District -Durg in the name of Shri Vishwajeet K Anand & Smt Sangeeta Anand W/o Shri Vishwajeet. K. Anand. Boundries: North- Flat 02, South- Flat No 04, East-Boundary wall, West- Flat No -06 (Symbolic Possession) Property No. 2 Flat No 4, Builtup area 528.17 sq ft, Block No.A Ground floor New palash Towers, situated at Chhatrapati Shivaji Nagar Mouja-Risali, at Khasra No 44/5, Tahsil & District -Durg, in the name of Shri Vishwajeet K Anand & Smt Sangeeta Anand W/o Shri Vishwajeet. K. Anand. Boundries: North- Flat 03, South- Flat No 05, East- Boundary wall, West- Flat No -06, (Symbolic Possession)	₹ 26,40,946.00 + Interest & Other Charges. Demand Notice Dt. 08.09.16	₹ 27,60,000.00 ₹ 2,76,000.00 ₹ 25,000.00

Interested bidders/buyers participating in e-Auction process is required to register before the reasonable time of auction through Bank's recognized Service Providers **M/s. MSTC Ltd.** Auction web page/portal <http://www.mstccommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp>. Bidders/buyers have to transfer the EMD amount to their Global EMD Wallet using online mode by registering with respective e-auction web portal of <http://www.mstccommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp>. If the EMD amount is not available in the Global EMD Wallet, the system will not allow the bidding. The registration, KYC documents verification and EMD deposit in the wallet should be done in advance before the auction. As per the information of the authorized officer, there is no other encumbrance on the properties, yet the interested bidders/buyers should get all requisite information from the concerned office/department any encumbrances related to the property before submitting their bid. The decision regarding properties to be taken at the discretion of the bidder. The e-auction will be online and sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" basis. For details of e-auction from Bank's recognized service provider **M/s. MSTC Ltd.** will be conducted by Web Portal: <http://www.mstccommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp>. Online Auction Sale Tender Documents, Online E-Auction Tender Form, Declaration Form, Terms and Conditions are available on the website. For details of terms and conditions of sale, kindly visit the website of State Bank of India Secured Creditor i.e. <http://www.sbi.co.in> and <https://www.ibapi.in> (website details) given.

This publication is also a 15 days notice to the borrower/guarantors/mortgagors under the Securities Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Property Inspection Date & Time : Between 01.07.2022 to 13.07.2022 (As per the time mentioned above)

Date: 30.06.2022, Place: Raipur

Authorized Officer
State Bank of India, SARB, Raipur

BJP terms Udaipur murder as 'terror attack'



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The BJP on Wednesday accused the Congress-led Gehlot Government in Rajasthan of pursuing "vote bank politics of appeasement" and termed the killing of tailor Kanhaiya Lal in Udaipur as a "terror attack".

remained a "mute spectator" as the Congress' internal rivalries affected law and order. The Information and Broadcasting Minister was responding to reporters' questions on the killing of Lal Monday.

At a separate Press conference, BJP spokesperson and former Union Minister Rajyavardhan Rathore said Lal's killers filmed the incident and made the video viral in an attempt to terrorise society and accused the State police of not acting on the complaint of the deceased and allowing a free-run to the 'jihadi nexus' in the State.

"Festivals of different religions are given different treatment by the State Government," he said while leveling charge of appeasement on the Gehlot government. "Not a single week has gone by in the last six months when terrorist, jihadi incidents have not happened in Rajasthan. The Government of Rajasthan is solely responsible for this," he said adding the Gehlot Government is seen as "giving support to terrorist organisations".

Former Rajasthan Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje also slammed the Gehlot government over the beheading incident in Udaipur saying "policies of incitement and appeasement" led to the Communal violence in state. "It has become clear that due to the instigation and appeasement of the state government morale of criminals is high."

Tailor's killing un-Islamic, say Muslim bodies



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

"The Government not taking any action against Nupur Sharma is like rubbing salt on the wounds. But despite this, taking the law into one's own hands and killing a person by declaring him a criminal is a condemnable act," the statement issued on behalf of AIMPLB general secretary Maulana Khalid Saifullah Rahmani.

In a statement, Maulana Arshad Madani said that just as "we had opposed moblynching in many places, we also consider this an inhumane act". "We are always against anyone taking the law into their own hands. The Udaipur incident is a very tragic, un-Islamic and inhumane act, it is highly condemnable. The law of the state would work accordingly in this case as well," he said.

India's desi mRNA Covid-19 vaccine approved for 18+

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) has approved country's first indigenously developed mRNA vaccine GEMCOVAC-19 against Covid-19. The vaccine has been given approval for restricted emergency use for those aged 18 years and above.

manufacturer Gennova Biopharmaceuticals on Wednesday. It is a two dose vaccine to be administered intramuscularly at 28 days apart. The vaccine will be sold under the brand name GEMCOVAC-19. GEMCOVAC-19 is the very first mRNA vaccine developed in India and only third mRNA vaccine to be approved for Covid-19 in the world.

Those talking of appeasement forgot Shambhu incident: Congress to BJP

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI/JAIPUR

The Congress on Wednesday asserted that the Ashok Gehlot Government in Rajasthan was aware of its 'raj dharma' and said action in the brutal killing of a tailor would be taken in accordance with law, unaffected by the religion or caste of those involved.

high-level meeting in which he reviewed the situation in Udaipur. Gehlot also convened an all-party meeting at his residence over the Udaipur incident. Congress' media department head Pawan Khara said the party condemns the incident and said the Gehlot Government had acted swiftly in the matter.

he said. Khara alleged that polarisation is evident in every nook and corner of the country, and asked why this was not the case earlier. The Congress spokesperson asserted that whoever is found guilty in the probe, strictest action will be taken against that person "There should be no doubt regarding that."

JD(S) indicates support to Murmu in presidential poll

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Janata Dal (S) leader and former Chief Minister of Karnataka H D Kumaraswamy on Wednesday indicated support to BJP-led NDA's candidate for Presidential polls Droupadi Murmu.

"She has already won...She need not come so far...We will decide in the party...You (media) may have understood by now what our decision might be. Before taking a final decision, we will look into the background of both candidates. There is no question of Congress or BJP or any B-team here," he said, adding that he has gone through Murmu's background and her struggle.

NDA nominee backing-off from the opposition side. Meanwhile, as many as 115 nominations were filed till Wednesday, the last day of the filing papers for the July 18 presidential election, the Rajya Sabha Secretariat.

India slams UN Human Rights for comments on Teesta, calls it unwarranted

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Taking exception to a comment by the UN Human Rights office regarding the arrest of social activist Teesta Setalvad and two others, India on Wednesday termed them as "unwarranted." It also said it constitutes an interference in India's independent judicial system.

The sharp reaction by the ministry of external affairs(MEA) here came a day after the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)voiced concern over the arrest and detention of Setalvad and called for her immediate release. "#India: We are very concerned by the arrest and detention of #WHRD @TeestaSetalvad and two ex-police officers and call for their immediate release. They must not be persecuted for their activism and solidarity with the victims of the 2002 #GujaratRiots," the UN Human Rights office said in a tweet on Tuesday.

SC stays Tripura HC order seeking scrutiny of security cover of Ambani, family

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday stayed the orders of the Tripura High Court on a PIL challenging the grant of security cover to industrialist Mukesh Ambani and his family members in Mumbai.

The High Court on the PIL had also stayed as Tripura has nothing to do with the security of individuals provided in Mumbai. He said if the proceedings are not stayed, then again he will have to knock on doors of the top court.

'Rotavirus survives for up to 3 days in lake water'

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

As pollutants, microplastics can be harmful to the environment and animal health. But now a team of scientists have found that the microplastic also acts as a potential surface for the lethal virus to move into the freshwater.

studies have focussed only on the spread of such viruses in sterile hospital settings, however, the new study published in the journal Environmental Pollution has shown how they are present in the fresh water as well. This study has come close on the heels of an almost similar report by researchers at IIT-Bombay which has found the presence of microplastics in food, air and water at the institute's Powai campus.

per day, with cooked food being the dominant mode. Professor Richard Quilliam, lead researcher from the varsity whose study has been published in journal Environmental Pollution said, "We found that viruses can attach to microplastics, which allows them to survive in the water for three days, possibly longer," said "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."

with an envelope, or "lipid coat" around them, such as the flu virus (they tested bacteriophage Phi6), and those without: enteric viruses, such as rotavirus and norovirus (they tested rotavirus strain SA11). They found that in those with an envelope, the envelope quickly dissolved, and the virus was deactivated, whereas those without an envelope successfully bound to the microplastics and survived.

Global warming to impact water resources, agriculture: Study

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Global warming is expected to increase the intensity and frequency of future drought in several global regions, adversely affecting the water resource, agriculture, and energy sectors, as per a study by the National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES).

regional disparities in their intensity and the pace of their growth over time," said the corresponding lead author Yusuke Satoh, a research associate professor at Korea Advanced Institute of Science & Technology. "Regarding precipitation and temperature, preceding studies report the timing at which the impact of climate change emerges."

mate adaptations, in the long term and in time." The paper published in Nature Communications estimates the periods when drought conditions will shift to an unprecedented state in a warmer world. The research group evaluated changes in drought day frequency for 59 global subcontinental regions until the end of the 21st century. They estimated the time of first emergence (TFE) of consecutive unprecedented drought, which is the first onset of exceedance beyond the maximum bound of the historical climate variability during the reference period (1865-2005) that occurs consecutively for a certain number of years.



Lightning claims 2 dozen lives in UP

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Rains and thundershowers gave the much needed relief to the people but also played havoc in the eastern parts of the Uttar Pradesh, where lightning and thunderstorms claimed about two dozen lives.

According to information received here, the spire of a temple built in Kashi Vishwanath Dham also collapsed due to rain and lightning on Tuesday.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has expressed grief at the death of people due to lightning and expressed condolences to the bereaved families. He also directed senior officers to extend all possible help to the family members of the victims.

Two deaths were reported from Kanpur and one from Fatehpur due to lightning. A minor girl died after being struck by lightning in Prayagraj. The girl was in the house of her maternal grandfather. Two minor children died due to lightning in Varanasi.

These incidents took place in Mirzamurad police station area where 11-year-old Hemant and 15-year-old Prabhat, residents of Adamapur village, died after being struck by lightning. In Varanasi, a former cook of a government school working in a field was also struck by lightning, and died on the spot.

A 15-year-old boy and a 50-year-old woman died due to lightning at two different places in Bhadohi. Besides, three more people, including a teenager, died after being struck by lightning late in the evening on Tuesday in Bhadohi. Additional Superintendent of Police Rajesh Bharti said that Shashi Bhushan Dubey (45), Sukhna Devi (60) and Ankit Gautam (45) died of burns.

Two children died due to lightning in the Baldi Rai area of Sultanpur district on Tuesday. Police officer Rajaram Choudhary said that three children were grazing their buffaloes on Tuesday afternoon in the Dihwa village under Baldiray police station area when suddenly it started rain-



ing with thunder, during which all the three children were scorched after being struck by lightning. He said the relatives of the victims and villagers took the three children to the hospital where Shatrughan (11) and Amit (13) died during the treatment while the third child Aham (8) was undergoing treatment.

According to a report received from Maharajganj, Raghuvir Nayak (45) and Khushi (16) died after being

struck by lightning in the field in Badi village under Nichloul police station. Additional District Magistrate Satya Prakash Mishra said that two other people also sustained burns in this incident.

Three people lost their lives in Ballia's Bairia, Dokati and Sikanderpur due to lightning. In Mirzapur's Lalganj, two people, including a teenager, died after being hit by a thunderstorm while one person each died in Siddharthnagar and Basti due to lightning.

Meanwhile, as many as 26 passengers were injured, three of them seriously, when a private bus hit a road divider and overturned on Agra- Lucknow Expressway on Wednesday. The injured were admitted to a community health centre and three of the injured were referred to the district hospital.

According to reports, the bus was coming from Chhapra in Bihar and was on its way to Delhi. Most of the passengers were sleeping when the accident took place. It is presumed that the driver had dozed off and lost control of the vehicle.

Mamata, Bengal clerics condemn Udaipur killing

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee too joined the group of leaders in condemning the brutal murder of a tailor at Udaipur in Rajasthan by some religious fanatics.

Taking to the Twitter the Chief Minister wrote "violence and extremism are unacceptable, no matter what! (might be the provocation). I strongly condemn what happened in Udaipur." She further appealed for calm saying "as the law takes its own course of action, I urge everyone to maintain peace."

Two men from a particular community carrying a cleaver murdered a tailor and posted online videos of the brutal act saying that they were avenging the insult to Islam by eliminating the tailor belonging to another community.

The victim has made a social media post where he had supported BJP leader Nupura Sharma for her alleged remarks against Prophet Muhammad.

Curiously the Chief Minister who had from a public rally attacked Sharma for her offensive statements promising legal action against her would not condemn the Udaipur attack in a similar manner.



Banerjee had on Tuesday told a public rally at Asansol that "those who are spreading hatred and creating animosity among communities in the country are let off ... they are not being touched ... they are even being given protection whereas those who are criticizing such acts are being arrested," adding in reference to Nupur Sharma case that "we will not spare her ... my Government has already taken action and she had been summoned."

She also condemned the arrest of journalist, Md Zubair and social activist Teesta Sitlval for fighting the cases of the victims of Gujarat riots.

Meanwhile, a group of Bengal Imams too condemned the Udaipur killing saying Islam never permitted taking

someone's life.

Md Yahia Chairman of Bengal Imams Association on Wednesday condemned the killing of the Udaipur tailor saying "no true Muslim will support a heinous crime as this," and asked for exemplary punishment for the perpetrators of the crime.

"There are people who are out to malign religions ... no religions preach violence ... there is no issue that cannot be settled through legal way ... such acts must be condemned and strict actions must be taken against the perpetrators of such crimes," he said.

Another cleric from Nakhoda Masjid however said, "an entire community must not be judged by the acts of a few persons."

Bahujan Bharat for strict action in Udaipur case

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Condemning the Udaipur incident, Bahujan Bharat, a social organisation, has demanded stern action against the guilty and a probe without any discrimination.

In a meeting held at the organisation's headquarters, Bahujan Bharat president and former IAS officer Kunwar Fateh Bahadur said that the governments, both state and Central, should set an example and take strict action against the fanatics so that they could not incite religious hysteria any more.

"The Indian Constitution is secular and does not allow the promotion of any particular religion by the government. It is the responsibility of the secular forces as well as the governments to oppose religious bigotry and they should not give social recognition to those who spread religious fanaticism," Singh said in a statement issued here on Wednesday.

He said the government should conduct an impartial probe and take action against such elements who spread hatred in the name of religion.

Mumbai building collapse: Owner who had rented out flats arrested

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Police on Wednesday arrested a 40-year-old man who had allegedly rented out his flats in the ill-fated building in suburban Kurla which collapsed and claimed the lives of 19 persons.

A case of culpable homicide not amounting to murder was registered earlier in the day against some flat owners and others at Nehru Nagar police station in connection with the Monday midnight's incident.

Most of those who died in the incident were tenants.

Dilip Vishwas, the arrested man, was a contractor by profession, and named in the First Information Report, said a police official.

He had allegedly rented out his flats in the building, locat-



ed in Naik Nagar Housing Society, he said.

As per the FIR, flat owners including Rajni Rathod, Kishore Chavan, Balkrishna Rathod and Vishwas rented out their flats even though the building had been declared as dilapidated by the civic body BMC. A case under Indian Penal Code (IPC) sections 304

(2) (culpable homicide not amounting to murder), 338 (causing grievous hurt by act endangering life or personal safety of others) and 34 (common intention) has been registered against them.

Senior BMC officials had claimed that residents of the building, constructed in 1973, had undertaken to carry out repairs, but apparently no repairs were carried out.

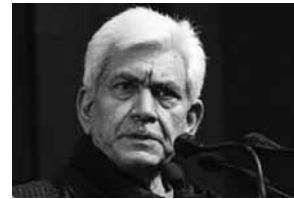
High tea at Raj Bhawan at J&K

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ JAMMU

Reaching out to the leaders belonging to different political parties Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha Wednesday hosted them over high tea at Raj Bhawan, Srinagar.

During the meeting, the Lieutenant Governor held deliberations focusing on the smooth conduct of the Amarnath yatra with these leaders.

National Conference President Dr Farooq Abdullah, Peoples Democratic Party Chief Mehbooba Mufti, BJP unit Chief Ravinder Raina, Peoples Conference Chairman Sajjad Lone, President of Jammu and Kashmir Apni party Altaf Bukhari, CPI(M)



leader Mohammad Yousef Tarigami, JKPC president G A Mir, PDF president Hakeem Mohammad Yaseen and several others were invited for the high tea.

Significantly, PDP Chief Mehbooba Mufti chose to stay away from the meeting.

During the meeting, it is learnt, JKNC President Dr Farooq Abdullah advised Lt-Gov Manoj Sinha to separately convene another meeting to deliberate on the prevailing political situation in Jammu and Kashmir.

Hope Cong fades away paving way for new political era: Owaisi

PTI ■ BHOPAL

AIMIM leader Asaduddin Owaisi on Wednesday said Congress is losing its relevance fast and should wither away which will pave the way for the beginning of new politics in the country.

Taking a swipe at Congress, the All India Majlis-E-Ittehadul Muslimen (AIMIM) chief also said Narendra Modi could become the prime minister twice because of Congress' (performance).

He dismissed the allegation that the AIMIM cuts into the votes of Congress in elections. "....If that is the case then it seems Pragna Thakur (BJP MP from Bhopal) won the election and also the 22 legislators of Congress joined hands with BJP to bring Shivraj Singh Chouhan to power again due to AIMIM," he said

sarcastically.

"You see that Congress is going down. We expect the Congress will not only be weakened but should fade away so that a new politics can begin in the country. Narendra Modi became the prime minister twice due to Congress," Owaisi told reporters.

The Hyderabad MP said Congress's politics will finish if Muslims understand the exact share of their representation in political leadership.

He said the poor condition of Congress could be gauged from the fact that it failed to gather even 100 people when its leader (Rahul Gandhi) was summoned by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) for questioning.

Owaisi appealed to Muslim residents of the Hindi heartland to ensure their adequate representation in local bodies and

the Assembly, and create leadership in alliance with Dalits and STs.

He said some legislators have been representing their respective constituencies for three decades but have failed to develop the education infrastructure, resulting in the lowest literacy among Muslims.

Queried on a proposal before the Maharashtra government demanding that Aurangabad city be renamed Sambhaji Nagar, Owaisi said the Maha Vikas Aghadi should first face the floor test in the state Assembly (on Thursday as directed by the state governor).

The Shiv Sena should take care of its flock and the government instead of Aurangabad, which is facing a water crisis, he said referring to the political crisis in Maharashtra.

Muslim bodies in UP demand stern action against Udaipur killers

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Muslim clerics and organisations in Uttar Pradesh have condemned the beheading of a tailor by Islamic extremists at Udaipur in Rajasthan on Tuesday and have demanded stern action against the accused who have been arrested.

Prominent Shia cleric Maulana Kalbe Jawwad said the murder of a person at his shop by criminal elements was most dastardly and condemnable. He said the gov-

ernment should act fast and take tough action against those who had violated the law.

Maulana Jawwad added that Islam does not permit such acts and Muslims condemn this act.

Maulana Jawwad said the government should also take action against anti-social elements who were in the habit of making provocative statements and vitiating the atmosphere. He said that had action been taken against those making provocative

statements, such a situation would not have arisen.

The Shia cleric said under the prevailing circumstances in the country it was the first duty of every citizen of the country to maintain peace and harmony in the country.

Imam of Aishbagh eidgah, Maulana Khalid Rashid Farangi Mahali, also condemned the incident and demanded stern action against the accused. He appealed to the people to maintain peace and social harmony.

UP Madarsa Shiksha

Parishad chairman Ifitikhar Ahmed Javed also condemned the incident. He said such incidents in the cover of religion tarnished religion as well as the image of the country at the global level. Bunkar Beradrana Tanzeen, an organisation of the weavers' community of Muslims, also condemned the Udaipur incident.

Its president Sardar Ikramuddin said, "We condemn this incident. There is no place for such persons in Islam who commit violence against innocent people."

Ally Rajbhar attacks Akhilesh

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Continuing his tirade against the senior ally Samajwadi Party, Om Prakash Rajbhar, who heads the Suheldev Bhartiya Samaj Party, said on Wednesday that "can Akhilesh Yadav point out one election that he has won on his own?"

Akhilesh Yadav has drawn flak from allies after the Samajwadi Party's debacle in the by-polls to Rampur and Azamgarh Lok Sabha seats.

Rajbhar said Akhilesh Yadav had become the chief minister of UP in 2012 because of his father Mulayam

Singh Yadav's "largesse".

"The 2012 election was fought under Mulayam Singh Yadav's strong leadership," he said, listing out a string of losses under Akhilesh Yadav -- the assembly elections in 2017 and earlier this year; and the Lok Sabha polls in 2014 and 2019.

He added, "Akhilesh Yadav could not retain even the strongholds of his party."

"The Samajwadi Party is harming itself. A party whose chief does not campaign in elections, what election will that party fight? He should step out of air-conditioned rooms and go to the ground.

No one will join you if you sit in AC rooms," Rajbhar added.

The SBSP chief has been repeatedly using the "AC room" jibe against Akhilesh Yadav. However he has repeatedly clarified that he would not quit the alliance.

Continuing with his jibes, Rajbhar added, "How many villages has Akhilesh Yadav visited? How much grassroots leadership has he built? Let him ask Mulayam Singh Yadav and his uncle Shivpal Singh Yadav and they will tell him about blocks and villages they had visited in last couple of decades." Rajbhar's party has considerable influence among

the non-Yadav Other Backward Classes in eastern UP. He was part of a rainbow coalition stitched by Akhilesh Yadav ahead of the UP assembly elections to add to his party's Yadav-Muslim core base. With 125 seats -- Samajwadi Party won 111 -- the opposition alliance improved its position but could not unseat the Bharatiya Janata Party-led National Democratic Alliance in UP.

In 2017, Rajbhar had contested the assembly polls as part of the BJP-led coalition. But he left the coalition in May 2019 -- after the Lok Sabha elections.

Driven by property greed, toddler 'sacrificed' to appease deity

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A self-styled exorcist killed a two-and-a-half-year-old boy in the name of "sacrifice" in Kheragarh tehsil of the Agra district.

The accused, Bhola alias Hukam Singh, a self-styled exorcist who was arrested by the police on Tuesday night, killed Hrithik "to please Chamad Mata" in the village.

As per the police, the accused confessed that on June 15, he kidnapped the son of Ramavatar, a resident of Barigwan, after seeing him playing alone near a well and took him to his room and strangled him to death and placed the toddler's body at the feet of the deity.

The self-styled exorcist later put Hrithik's body in a

sack and hid it in the bushes. The body was recovered by the police and the villagers on June 16 last. The police, however, zeroed in on the accused on Tuesday night, and he told the police that at 4 o'clock in the morning of June 16, he had thrown the child's body in the dry river Kibar.

It is learnt that one Sheru of the village saw Bhola taking Hrithik with him but was threatened by the exorcist of dire consequences if he disclosed it to anyone. Despite the threat, Sheru mustered courage and provided a tip-off to the police which finally led to the arrest of the accused.

Agra's Superintendent of Police (West) Satyajit Gupta said that the victim's father had filed a missing complaint on June 16. Gupta said that the

accused had killed the boy "for sacrifice" after his exorcism was not working.

Sources also confirmed that Bhola tried to take advantage of a property dispute between two families. He believed that offering a young child to the goddess would solve his problems. He chose the kid from the opposing family itself for the sacrifice. After murdering the child, he offered the child's blood to the goddess, wrapped the body in a sack, and dumped it in the river.

The property dispute involved Ramavatar and his stepfather, Gareeba. Bhola had thought that after Ritik's death Ramavatar would leave the village and he would purchase Gareeba's property at a throw-away price.

UP CM stresses safety of people during floods

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Stressing on the safety of people during floods, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath ordered field officers to be on their toes to provide relief to the people affected by floods and asked them to ensure that relief reached the people at the earliest.

"The highly sensitive embankments should be inspected by the district magistrates and district police chiefs while the remaining embankments should be inspected by officials of the level of deputy collector and deputy superintendent of police. For a quick response, assistant engineers should be made in-charge of embankments and they should be put on 24x7 alert mode. Keep an eye on the condition of the breach in embankments during the initial days of rain

so that major damage can be prevented," Yogi said during a review meeting held here on Wednesday.

There are 523 embankments of 3,869 kilometre length constructed on various rivers in the state.

The chief minister said efforts had been made in the last five years to find a permanent solution to the problem of floods, which was a factor in extensive loss of life and property in the state. He said good work had been done by inter-departmental coordination in the last five years for the protection of public life from floods and this year also, with better coordination, quick action and better management, the safety of people should be ensured in the event of floods.

As per the government record, there are 24 districts which are in the 'very sensitive'

category from the point of view of floods. They include Maharajganj, Kushinagar, Lakhimpur Kheri, Gorakhpur, Basti, Bahraich, Bijnor, Siddharthnagar, Ghazipur, Gonda, Ballia, Deoria, Sitapur, Balrampur, Ayodhya, Mau, Farrukhabad, Shravasti, Budaun, Ambedkar Nagar, Azamgarh, Sant Kabir Nagar, Pilibhit and Barabanki.

Saharanpur, Shamli, Aligarh, Bareilly, Hamirpur, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Rampur, Prayagraj, Bulandshahr, Moradabad, Hardoi, Varanasi, Unnao, Lucknow, Shahjahanpur and Kasganj are in the 'sensitive' category.

"We have to make concerted efforts to prevent water-logging. By June 30, the work of cleaning drains should be completed," the chief minister said.

1 held in connection with Meerut house blast

PTI ■ MEERUT (UP)

One person has been arrested in connection with the blast in a house here that left a woman dead and seven others injured, a senior official said on Tuesday. Police, however, did not disclose the name of the arrested accused.

Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Rohit Sajwan said on Tuesday that one person has been arrested in connection with Monday's blast.

Earlier in the day, police had said the blast took place as firecrackers being illegally manufactured inside the house in Summer Garden Colony caught fire.

Sajwan said during an on-site investigation by a field unit of police, evidence of firecrackers being manufactured in the house was found.

2 LeT terrorists killed

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ JAMMU

On the eve of the start of Amarnath yatra two more terrorists belonging to the Pakistan based Lashkar-e-Tayyeba terrorist outfit were gunned down by the joint team of the security forces in Nawapora area near Mir Bazar in South Kashmir district of Kulgam on Wednesday.

Inspector General of Police Kashmir Vijay Kumar said both the terrorists have been identified as categorised local terrorists of proscribed terror outfit LeT. He said it was an important encounter as the operation site was very close to the National Highway (Yatra route).



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PAPER WITH PASSION

Murder most foul

The Udaipur incident is another reminder that timely action can prevent a situation from unravelling

The gruesome murder of Kanhaiya Lal, a tailor in Udaipur, is a reminder to all, especially the political class, that there is a lot that is rotten in the statecraft and politics of India. The killers, Gos Mohammad and Riyaz Akhtari, not only slaughtered Lal in his shop but also shot a video of their misdeed. They cut his throat with a cleaver and, according to the police, wanted to behead him but couldn't. In another video, the murderers not only gloated over the killing but also threatened to kill Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The case has been handed over to the National Investigation Agency (NIA). Meanwhile, in Udaipur, after a few violent incidents, curfew has been imposed; in entire Rajasthan, large gatherings have been disallowed for a month; mobile internet services have been shut down for 24 hours across the State. The authorities are alert now, but a little action and some alertness earlier by the local cops could have preempted the murder and the unfortunate situation that has arisen now. What led to the murder is still not quite clear. There are reports that Lal supported former BJP spokesperson Nupur Sharma, who was recently in the news for her controversial remarks about Prophet Muhammad. But it has also been reported that Lal did not know how to operate a mobile phone. When he was arrested following a complaint against him, he told the police that it was his child who, while playing a game, had shared an objectionable post by mistake. Lal was arrested but was bailed out the next day, that is, June 11.

Whatever be the truth, it is undeniable that he had informed the police that he was receiving death threats, and yet no action was taken. ADG (Law and Order) Hawa Singh Ghumaria told a newspaper, "Then, on June 15, he submitted a written complaint that he is getting death threats and sought police protection. The SHO concerned called the persons who were allegedly issuing the threats. And then, five-seven responsible persons from both the communities sat down and reached an agreement. In a handwritten note, Kanhaiya Lal said he doesn't need any more action against anyone. Hence, the police did not proceed on the security threat." All this may be correct, but what was local intelligence doing? That Gos Mohammad and Riyaz Akhtari were quite radicalised is evident from not just their crime but also their belief that anyone offending their Prophet has to be executed. As they said in their video, "Gustakh-e-Nabi ki ek hi saza, sar tan se juda (There is only one punishment for disrespect to the Prophet, beheading)." This is a favourite slogan of Pakistan's Muslim fundamentalists. Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has denounced Lal's murder, as also have other prominent leaders. Typically, they appeal to people to maintain peace. There is something that our political masters also need to do: Strengthen the law-enforcement apparatus and detox politics.

PICTALK



Men walk at the Nokian Tyres manufacturing plant in Vsevolozhsk, outside St Petersburg, Russia

Unsettled queries in l'affaire Nupur



PRADEEP BAJPAI

There's no merit in demands to lynch anybody without first appreciating the circumstances under which the person may have uttered angry words

In the emotional thrust and parrying of viewpoints over Nupur Sharma's remarks, some fundamental points have been lost sight of. Now that an authentic video of the TV programme is no longer available, we can only go by inferences and deductions and try to answer some fundamental questions based on these. What exactly did Nupur say that sparked this outrage both domestically and in Islamist nations? Indications are that she alluded to some details of the Islamic Prophet's life. Did she invent these details to malign Islam and mock its followers? If so, she deserves the strongest condemnation and a harsh punishment. If, however, what she mentioned was derived from Islamic sources, then her misdemeanour falls in the category of an unfortunate choice of words or a tactless iteration in the heat of debate. In that case, her immature simplicity was her only sin, quite understandable in somebody in her 30s. And that requires at best a reprimand from her party, the BJP, and an admonition to be more circumspect and to avoid such indiscretions.

The veracity of the above scenarios notwithstanding, was the overblown reaction to an off-the-cuff remark on national TV discussion, in response to provocation, proportionate and justifiable? Are the rabid chants of sar-tan-se-juda asking for her beheading, in Kanpur and elsewhere, condonable in civilised society? Should it be par for the course for any community to make children hold up posters asking for somebody's head? And all this when Nupur had already apologised unconditionally?

Something forgotten in the present overcharged discourse is what Nupur stated in a video flicker, since gone missing; that she cannot remain silent when her Mahadev is insulted and that she had made the remarks in anger. What did her Muslim interlocutor on the TV debate say about Lord Shiva that she was referring to? And why are his comments muted and lost in the din of her universal condemnation by the secular lobby in India and the Islamist one abroad?



In the pan-India protests after Friday prayers, the posters at different locations had an eerie commonality — of image, banner text. The similarity across distant locations points to coordinated planning and execution. Were the protests orchestrated by vested interests out to undermine the Modi Government by sowing discord between communities? Were these instigators, inimical to Indian national interest, inspired and funded by foreign agencies?

Now about the protests abroad. Does Qatar have any right to demand a public apology from the Government of India when in 2010 it had given shelter and honorary citizenship to artist MF Husain who, after painting Hindu goddesses in the nude, refused to appear before court and fled the country? Almost every Islamic nation, as well as the 57-member OIC, initially lambasted India for the intemperate remarks by somebody not holding any Government position. The Pakistan press lamented that "the idea of India was facing an existential crisis", presumably because the idea was secular, quite forgetting that the country itself is a theocratic State that unabashedly persecutes minorities.

An Arab newspaper point-

ed out that Nupur's Muslim copanelist was not blaspheming Ram or Sita when in anger she uttered the offending remarks. While that may well be true, she was instead provoked probably by the worst blasphemy possible for Hindus — the ritual washing of feet, *Vazoo*, by Muslim worshippers at Gyanvapi mosque. That surely is an offence much greater than a tactless, angry remark.

Why was the reaction overblown? The Grand Mufti of Oman exhorted all Muslims to rise as one nation, there were calls in the Gulf countries for boycott of Indian goods, and there were reminders of India's dependence on the Gulf countries for oil imports and inward remittances.

Under Modi, India has tried its best to improve relations with the Gulf countries and obtained significant success. Modi himself has paid several visits to the region, been received warmly and had national honours bestowed on him. Pakistan often invokes the Islamic Ummah for undermining India; it did so this time also, especially with OIC. However, since its credibility is rather low, many Islamic countries did not take long to recover from the initial kneejerk reaction. The Iranian Foreign

Minister after his recent visit to New Delhi approved of the Indian Government's handling of the controversy and its fall-out. The Kuwait Government has taken strict action against the anti-India protesters, even deporting some expatriates and banning them from entering the country again.

Domestically, it was a god-send opportunity for the Opposition to malign Modi and BJP. Though religious figures like the Shahi Imam of Jama Masjid in Delhi distanced themselves from the unruly protests and violent rioting, leaders who cultivate the simple, unaware Islamic vote bank played to their gallery and feigned righteous indignation. The fact that major rioting started 10 days after the TV episode lends credence to the allegation that mob anger was built up over time deliberately by leaders like Owaisi. One of the downsides of democracy is that unscrupulous politicians may pander to the rabble's irrational sentiments for electoral gains at the cost of social cohesion; this episode illustrates it vividly.

(A former banker, the writer's love for words and ideas has turned him towards writing columns. The views expressed are personal.)



THE SIMILARITY IN PROTESTS ACROSS DISTANT GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATIONS POINTS TO COORDINATED PLANNING AND EXECUTION. WERE THE PROTESTS ORCHESTRATED BY VESTED INTERESTS OUT TO UNDERMINE THE MODI GOVERNMENT BY SOWING DISCORD BETWEEN COMMUNITIES?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PROBE SHOULD BE FAIR, UNBIASED

Sir — The reports suggest that the PMO has responded to a letter by the Contractors' Association of Karnataka, in which the body alleged that the Ministers and MLAs demand hefty commissions of about 40 per cent for giving approval to development projects in the State. Meanwhile, the contractors' association president has said the relevant documents pertaining to the case have been submitted to the officer sent by the Union Home Ministry. It's a positive development as the Centre has taken an initiative to dig out the truth in the serious charges of corruption.

However, the Centre's initiative to probe the menace of corruption among Ministers making headlines shouldn't become an eyewash and a ploy to give the clean chit to the BJP leaders — just to blunt the Opposition attack. The corruption deals between the Ministers and contractors executing Government projects are an open secret. The investigation shouldn't end up as an image makeover exercise ahead of the Assembly elections. Also, the Prime Minister's oft-repeated public statement "Na khaunga, na khane doonga" should hold good universally. Transparency and fairness should be the prime criteria to make the investigation convincing and justifiable.

N Sadhasiva Reddy | Bengaluru

31% RS MPS FACE CRIMINAL CASES

Sir — It's a big shock to the citizens that 31 per cent of the Rajya Sabha members across political parties have criminal cases against them, according to Association for Democratic Reforms, National Election Watch. The Members of Legislative Assemblies elect the required number of MPs to the Rajya Sabha. The RS also includes men of integrity excelling in arts, literature, games and social service as they are nominated by the President on the Government's advice. Though ours is the biggest democracy, the way these leaders are elected is concerning for the democ-

Modi makes a point at G-7



In his address to the G-7 Summit recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's concern for global development and its betterment was noteworthy. Through his worthy words, the Prime Minister mentioned the utmost contribution made by India that was aimed at throwing a major light on the ultimate goal of global development. With special emphasis on the contributions made by the country, he further reiterated that we are the country that has been able to transform robustly with the help of concept of women-development to women-led develop-

ment. The importance of agriculture, thereby availing trusted fertilisers for producing healthy and safe food, were the major aspects of discussion carried out at the Summit.

The special emphasis on the concept of India as the world's first solar-power airport leaves a serious sense of concern towards maintenance of environmental health. The concept of the import-export culture since the ancient times has led to the foundation of robust and resilient relations among the countries. Along with other important topics, this significant Summit also highlighted the importance of alliance among one another other, especially the Indo-Canadian relations, strengthening the platform of companionship and thus combating the terrific global threats like terrorism. This G-7 Summit is surely going to render the message of staunch relations among all the invited nations and, therefore, could prove to be a threat to various ordeals.

Sarthak Sharma | Ujjain

THE INTERNATIONAL ASTEROID DAY

Sir — June 30, the International Asteroid Day, will have everyone looking toward the skies. The day was founded after the 2014 release of the film *51 Degrees North*, which seeks to explore what would happen if an asteroid were to strike London. The film's creative team (many of whom are actual

scientists) wanted to raise more awareness about the threat of asteroids to earth, and how we can help protect ourselves. To make that happen, they formed a foundation, and in 2015, they celebrated the world's first International Asteroid Day. There are over one million asteroids in space that could potentially strike the earth, but modern scientists have discovered only about one per cent of them.

To combat this real and actual threat, the Asteroid Day's founders as well as a host of accomplished scientists, created the 100X Asteroid Declaration. The declaration aims for scientists to work towards increasing the rate of asteroid discovery to 100,000 per year within a decade. The International Asteroid Day focuses on spreading the word of the declaration and helping fellow earthlings prepare for a potential asteroid impact.

Faizan Khan | Ujjain

SOUNDBITE

The deputy CM (Manish Sisodia) is unnecessarily politicising a desirable administrative action.



Delhi L-G —VK Saxena

Seven democracies would maintain sanctions against Russia as long as necessary. Russia cannot and should not win.

French President —Emmanuel Macron

More layers, characters and mysteries will unfold when the audience will watch *Shamshera* on the big screen.



Director —Karan Malhotra

I will be gunning for the team to win 3-1... I can say I was in a team that won in Australia and England.

Indian spinner —R Ashwin

It is clear from the brutal daylight murder that miscreants feel confident under this State Government.



Former Rajasthan CM —Vasundhara Raja

A soldiers' soldier

Sam Bahadur, the architect of the 1971 victory against Pakistan, deserves the Bharat Ratna

He is the only military commander in modern times who can be described as the "soldiers' soldier". Sam Hormusji Framji Jamshedji Manekshaw, or Sam Manekshaw, led India in the 1971 war against Pakistan which resulted in the birth of Bangladesh. How he won the war despite odds like shortage of weapons and manpower has been recorded in golden letters in military history. He was the country's Chief of Army Staff from 1969 to 1973 and was promoted as India's first Field Marshal in January 1973. An Army commander who never hesitated to speak his mind to the highest political leadership, Sam Manekshaw is not a name to be remembered only on his birth or death anniversaries because he was much more than a military chief. Born as the son of a doctor in a middle class family, Sam could have opted for any profession of his choice but he ended up in the military academy. The story of Manekshaw as a soldier, officer and commander is folklore. Bravery, gallantry, intelligence and the willingness to go to the extra mile to realise his mission endeared him to his officers and subordinates.

The best example of his professional prowess was the decision of his British commander Major General David Cowan honouring a critically injured Manekshaw, then a captain fighting on the Burma front in 1942, with a Military Cross. The award was in recognition of his valour and fighting spirit against the Imperial Japanese Army. Since a dead man cannot be awarded the

Military Cross, the British commander decorated Manekshaw, who was fighting for his life after being felled by Japanese bullets. The appointment of Manekshaw as CoAS was a morale booster to the Indian Army which has not looked back since. India owes a lot to Sam for the win in the 1975 World Cup Hockey Championship at Kuala Lumpur. It was Sam who asked MAM Ramaswamy, an industrialist in Chennai, to pay for the air tickets of the Indian team with the day's Government looking the other way. Each person who has met him at least once has many things to reminiscence about this legendary soldier. This great son of India is a real Bharat Ratna and it would be ideal to honour him with the top civilian award during the 75th anniversary of India's freedom.



FIRST COLUMN

LET'S BE THE CHANGE THAT WE WANT TO SEE

We have to develop a culture that springs from non-violence



RAJYOGI BRAHMAKUMAR NIKUNJJI

In the past couple of years, there has been a growing concern across the world with regards to ruthless killings of whistleblowers, most of whom were courageous citizens who fought to secure the truth at the risk of their lives. These whistleblowers play an essential role in exposing corruption, fraud, mismanagement and other wrongdoing that threaten public health and safety, financial integrity, human rights, the environment and the rule of law.

By disclosing information about such misdeeds, these courageous people have helped save countless lives and billions in public funds, while preventing emerging scandals and disasters from worsening. Hence, such violent resistance to truth and its custodians in innumerable cases across the world shows extreme moral degradation of our society and the erosion of values. What kind of society would punish its whistleblowers and stifle the truth? Perhaps that's the question we all need to ask ourselves. When muscle and money power call the shots everywhere, it is obvious that truth will always be on the run and evil on a perpetual chase.

The dictum of might is right has been strengthened by the depiction of violent episodes in history as well as through religious writings. There are many religious scriptures that show that even the Almighty showed His might by decimating the evil forces by means of a violent war to contain unrighteousness in the world. Hence, using force to set a wrong right or to discipline a wrong doer has been adopted as a norm by humans at all levels of existence.



To change this scene, patchwork solutions will no longer suffice. Because we need a complete transformation that can emerge when we change the powers we use. From the power of might, we now have to shift to the power of right and develop a culture that springs from non-violence.

Discarded as a theoretical tool and reduced to a mere embellishment in books, non-violence is actually a magic wand that can protect against the wrong and wrongdoer. One should not forget that we have already witnessed that the policy of an eye for an eye has made the whole world blind, so we need to now make use of the power of values to connect and correct.

The great potential of non-violence needs to be explored—a value which asks its users to refrain from aggression not just in action but also in words and even thoughts. The simplicity of non-violence lies in the fact that it can be used by anyone and at all levels—personal, social and global. Peace, spirituality and self-sustainability will be dominant in a culture nourished by non-violence. It will naturally ooze with security and brotherhood and any anti-social elements will soon be forced to the road of guilt and self-realisation.

Ideals that we struggle and fight for today—freedom, justice and equality—will be natural there. From a place where anything can happen to anyone at any time, the world will be transformed to a place where everything would happen at the right place, at the right time and in the right manner. There, the right would not just be right but right would be right.

Is it all as simple as it sounds? Yes, it is! Together, we all can, through spiritual empowerment, create such a way of life, but the fundamental rule for it is self-change. Most of us have wasted much of our precious time and energy in checking others and the quality of people at the social level, without realising that the creation of a fair society would begin from personal change that would work from the inside out. This change would be contagious which would spread through all of us, thus triggering a social transformation at global level. So, Let's Be the Change.

(The author is a spiritual educator and popular columnist for publications across India, Nepal, and the UK)

Higher education has to become meaningful

Indians going to the US for education need to be informed about the world-class institutions India has



LN JHUNJHUNWALA

My mind goes back to 1945 and 1946. I was a postgraduate student in pure mathematics. We were just six students. Shree Satyen Bose was our Professor. He used to wear Dhoti Kurta (snow-white). Our classes were on the 3rd floor and there were no lifts.

Bose and Einstein were collaborating on some research which resulted in the discovery of the Bose-Einstein (Bosen) theory. Bose used to love me and was keen that after finishing studies, I go to study astronomy at Mount Wilson observatory in America. He was disappointed when I did not continue my studies.

I came from a very poor family. My mother died of tuberculosis without proper treatment for want of funds in 1936. My family had great expectations from me, that I would earn money as I was brilliant in education. But I became brilliant in business. I started learning business from my uncle in 1946 side by side with studies.

I came into business full-fledged in 1946 and retired in 2000. I have been very close to the Ramakrishna Mission since 1951. The mission had a splendid educational institute at Narendrapur in the suburb of Calcutta with about 3,000 students. Of the top 10 students in Calcutta University, at least two students were from Narendrapur. I was dreaming of having something like Narendrapur but on a tiny scale run by the Ramakrishna Mission monks.

Shree Arjun Singh was the human resource development minister. He belonged to Madhya Pradesh where I had established a technologically challenging graphite electrode plant. I had become very close to him. He would attend lectures of Swami Atmanandaji, whom we used to invite to Bhopal for lectures.

The mission had a number of educational institutions but no university. They decided to establish one at Belur Math in their large compound on the banks of the Ganges. They decided to send a delegation of monks to meet Arjun Singh. Knowing my closeness with him, they asked me to accompany them. His response was good; the next meeting was fixed after a month.

The Ramakrishna Mission had three subjects in mind for the University: (i) disaster management whose practical experience they had in floods and famines; (ii) rural development; and (iii) poverty alleviation. I was keen that they included mathematics so that their performance could be compared internationally.

I met Arjun Singh alone and requested him, while interacting with them, to emphasise on mathematics. He was enthusiastic. The ministry did their homework. An additional secretary and other officers attended the meeting. Five senior monks of the mission and I attended the meeting. On Singh's emphasis, mathematics was agreed upon.

He was highly impressed that the proposed vice-chancellor was a scholar of



SATYEN BOSE AND EINSTEIN WERE COLLABORATING ON SOME RESEARCH WHICH RESULTED IN THE DISCOVERY OF THE BOSE-EINSTEIN (BOSEN) THEORY. BOSE USED TO LOVE ME. HE WAS DISAPPOINTED WHEN I DID NOT CONTINUE MY STUDIES

The author is Emeritus Chairman, LNJ Bhilwara



physics and was teaching it to graduates of the mission college and another monk, Mahan Maharaj, was a great scholar of mathematics and famous internationally.

The mission pointed out that the mathematics education would be expensive. Faculty will have to be paid liberally. As there are Nobel Laureates in other subjects, mathematics also has able laureates. The mission wanted a grant of Rs 40 crore and Singh agreed to that.

The mission started looking for a mathematics scholar to start this course. Fortunately, there was a Bengali mathematician, Abhijeet Dutt, at the Kyoto University who was engaged in research with Japanese students. He was keen to come to Bengal. With his coming back, the RK Mission University became a hub of mathematics in India. The board of governors included four monks of the mission and four officials of the Ministry. Singh nominated me on the board. He told the mission that I had vast experience in dealing with the bureaucracy and that I would be helpful. Thus I became a board member.

Unfortunately, Arjun Singh passed away in 2011. Dealing with the ministry became difficult.

The senior Sanyasinis of Sarda Math once came to visit the university. Abhijeet Dutt welcomed them in his half pants and a sports T-shirt. The Sanyasinis were not very comfortable. Nobody told anything to the professor but he started feeling uncomfortable. He resigned and went back to Kyoto. This was unfortunate. I wish the mission had handled the professor better.

After the demise of Arjun Singh, I found my name had disap-

peared from the board without my knowledge. I was not happy.

In 2020, I came across an IIT dean. I informed him that I have four thousand students studying for higher secondary at four places where we have schools. I requested his assistance. He visited one of our institutes and was highly impressed with our research activities. We were looking forward to some kind of association with IIT. But nothing came up.

Recently, my daughter became very enthusiastic for our schools. Therefore, I fixed a meeting with the Dean of an IIT. The Dean was warm and he briefed me about their activities in mathematics research done by postgraduate mathematicians.

Similarly, I am now associated with the Harish-Chandra Maths research institute at Allahabad. With my daughter's involvement and my good health and alert mind, I am hopeful that I will be alive to see India produce an able laureate in mathematics.

I requested the Vice-Chancellor, Swami Atmapriyanadaji, to include artificial intelligence and I donated Rs 15 lakh for that. He was also thinking about artificial intelligence. One of his students is teaching artificial intelligence at the South African University; he has agreed to join soon. I hope something emerges.

I look across at my friends and my own family. My grandson went to the United States to study mathematics. After two years, he wanted to specialise in some branch of mathematics whose expertise was available at Cambridge; he moved to Cambridge. I was hopeful that

he would make his mark internationally but he lost interest in mathematics.

It is difficult for me to evaluate whether his education abroad for five years did him some good. He took up music and joined Fayaaz Dagar, where I also joined him to renew my interest in vocal music. He lost interest in vocal music too and joined sarod, and moved to Bombay because his teacher was in Poona.

One of my grandsons from my daughter's side did his graduation abroad and entered the business. It is difficult to conclude whether his foreign education was helpful.

Similarly, my granddaughter from my daughter's side did architecture in the US with great enthusiasm. On her return, she joined an architecture firm where she did well. But she is no longer in the field of architecture.

The younger generation of rich people is not accustomed to hard work for a livelihood.

They are guided by their temporary whims.

The US earns billions of dollars from students coming from China and India. India spends a large amount in foreign exchange on Indians studying abroad. Affluent families send them abroad even after higher secondary education. After graduation, the US is well equipped for studies in artificial intelligence, space travel, mathematics, etc. But what do we get?

The Institute of Science in Bangalore and the Atomic Research Institute are world-class. IITs are growing well. Indians going to the US for education need to be informed about the international status of some such institutions.

POINTCOUNTERPOINT

AS HEAD OF THE FAMILY, I TELL YOU THE TIME HAS NOT PASSED YET. I APPEAL TO YOU... WE'LL RESOLVE ALL DIFFERENCES.

—SHIV SENA CHIEF AND MAHARASHTRA CM UDDHAV THACKERAY



ALL THE MLAS HERE (GUWAHATI) ARE HAPPY AND UNITED. THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY. WE'LL ALL GO TO MUMBAI SOON.

—REBEL SENA LEADER EKNATH SHINDE

Murmu: NDA's choice for inclusive democracy

Draupadi Murmu struggled to raise her children, while also becoming a foremost social and political worker

Democracy serves people best when it's inclusive. The Bharatiya Janata Party-led National Democratic Alliance, by picking up former Jharkhand governor Draupadi Murmu as its candidate for the July 18 Presidential election, has abided by the inclusive Dharma of democracy.

The two successful candidates of the NDA in the past who made to Rashtrapati Bhavan equally emphasised inclusivity and most suitable to hold the top Constitutional post. APJ Abdul Kalam, India's missile man, not only lived to give the country strategic deterrence but also became a role model for all, particularly youth. His life was a living testimony to the Indian tradition of pursuit of knowledge and humility.



SUMEEET BHASIN

The author is Director, Public Policy Research Centre (@Sumeeetbhasin)

In Ram Nath Kovind, India got a President who was most humble and democratic, who opened the doors of Rashtrapati Bhavan for the people while being most courteous in his conduct and discharge of the duty. The political commentators sought to bracket him as the BJP's Dalit bet, but he eventually proved that he could conduct the Constitutional duties most efficiently.

Murmu struggled all her life but beat the odds to raise her children, while also becoming a foremost social and political worker. From being a legislator, she proved her mettle in Odisha as a minister and thereafter as the governor of Jharkhand.

She would be the first tribal President of India since the

NDA has the support of the Biju Janata Dal and the YSR Congress for the July 18 election. The BJP has for long been pursuing an inclusive agenda. Even in 1996, when the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government fell in 13 days despite being the single largest party, it had the largest number of the tribal MPs in its ranks. The BJP's foremost commitment to take all sections of society has been an abiding principle.

Murmu will be a candidate in the Presidential election at a time when the Narendra Modi-led government has given a new hope to the tribal population in the country by taking his mantra of 'Sabka Sath, Sabka Viswas aur Sabka Prayas' to every nook and corner of the country, including the tribal areas in Jharkhand, Odisha

and Chhattisgarh. During the rule of the United Progressive Alliance, Leftwing or Maoist extremism was at its peak; people talked about the Red Corridor, connecting the hotbed of Maoist violence in Nepal to the deep forests in Sukma in Chhattisgarh. The violence cost several lives of paramilitary forces.

The NDA government set out for course correction right at the outset, and gave hope to the tribal youth that they can see better future in the mainstream of society, as several welfare schemes brought benefits to the people without hassles, without paying bribes. The government's honesty was visible, and the tribals of the country turned their backs to violence.

In the last few years,

Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Telangana and Odisha have largely been peaceful, with a decline in Maoist violence.

When Murmu takes the oath of the office as the President of India, the tribal population will see the fulfillment of their political aspirations. They will see that one from among them is the first citizen of India.

The Aspirational District programme of the Central government was envisioned with clear objective that the gains of the development must reach the poorest of the poor, in accordance with the true of Deen Dayal Upadhyaya.

The tribals have seen that they have been brought in the mainstream of the economy with financial inclusion, pucca houses with toilets, pension

schemes and so on. They don't need to fall for the allurements of the evangelists to embrace their religion.

The elevation of Murmu to the post of the President of India will be the firm democratic empowerment of the tribal population, as well as women of the country. She has thoroughly been a spiritual person and her association with Brahmakumaris is well known. She was sweeping the floor of a temple a day after her name was announced by the BJP president JP Nadda; people have seen how humble a person she is. She stands for simplicity, spirituality.

She is a Constitutionalist, a firm believer in the Indian Constitution's capacity to fulfill the aspirations of all sections of society. Her life is also a living

testimony of perseverance. She never lost hope even when she faced personal losses. In her, India will have a President who will give hope to the vast majority of the people that all hardships can be won over with honesty and patience.

While the Opposition parties were busy in elimination rounds to find a candidate for the Presidential election, the BJP was thinking of national interest. When the BJP named Murmu as its Presidential candidate, even the rivals suggested that the contest has become one-sided. The Opposition candidate, Yashwant Sinha, can save his lost reputation by gracefully withdrawing from the Presidential election to pave way for the unanimous election of Murmu as India's President.

US to boost military presence in Europe for Russia threat

AP ■ MADRID

US President Joe Biden on Wednesday said the US will significantly increase its military presence in Europe for the long haul, including by establishing its first permanent presence in Poland, to bolster regional security after Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Meeting NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg at the opening of the alliance's annual leaders' summit in Madrid, Biden said "NATO is strong and united" and that steps to be taken during the gathering will "further augment our collective strength."

Biden opened his participation in the summit by announcing the permanent basing of a US military garrison in Poland.

He also said the US is sending two additional F-35 fighter jet squadrons to the UK

and will send more air defense and other capabilities to Germany and Italy.

"Today I'm announcing the US will enhance our force posture in Europe and respond to the changing security environment as well as strengthening our collective security," he said.

Stoltenberg, who earlier on Wednesday said the alliance was facing its biggest challenge since World War II because of Russia's aggression toward Ukraine, welcomed Biden's announcement.

"This really demonstrates your decisive leadership and strength in the trans-Atlantic bond," Stoltenberg said, thanking Biden for the "unwavering support from you and from the US to Ukraine."

Biden said the US will permanently station the US Army V Corps forward command in Poland, a move that he said would strengthen US-NATO



inter-operability across the alliance's eastern flank.

The move marks the first permanent basing of US forces on NATO's eastern edge.

Biden added that the US is also stepping up its rotational

key to helping NATO navigate the changed security environment in Europe caused by Russia's invasion. The US supplies the bulk of NATO's military power.

US officials emphasised that the permanent basing applied only to headquarters units, not combat troops, and was therefore consistent with a 1997 agreement between NATO and Russia in which the alliance agreed not to permanently base combat troops in Eastern Europe as it aimed to build more constructive ties in the post-Cold War environment.

Poland's Deputy Foreign Minister Pawel Jablonski told Poland's state PAP news agency that the decision to add US command structure was a "manifestation of the ever closer cooperation between the US and Poland" and would give NATO allies a frontline insight into the Russian threat.

The combat units Biden is sending to Romania and the Baltic region are on rotational deployments, rather than permanent assignment, to remain in compliance with that agreement.

"There has been no communication with Moscow about these changes, nor is there a requirement to do that," John Kirby, a spokesman for Biden's National Security Council.

Biden announced on Tuesday after arriving for the summit that the US would base two additional destroyers at its naval base in Rota, Spain, bringing the total number to six.

The US currently has more than 100,000 service-members deployed across Europe, up by about 20,000 since just before Russian President Vladimir Putin's invasion of Ukraine began four months ago.

Biden predicted that meetings this week would make for a "history-making summit" as leaders were set to approve a new strategic framework, announce a range of steps to boost their defense spending and capabilities, and clear the way for historically neutral Finland and Sweden to join NATO.

Biden said Putin thought NATO members would splinter after he invaded Ukraine, but got the opposite response instead.

"Putin was looking for the Finland-isation of Europe," Biden said. "You're gonna get the NATO-isation of Europe. And that's exactly what he didn't want, but exactly what needs to be done to guarantee security for Europe."

Turkey, the last remaining holdout to approve the Nordic countries' accession into NATO, reached an agreement on the eve of the summit late

Tuesday to support adding them to the 30-nation alliance.

While the White House said the US was not a direct party to the negotiations, a senior administration official said Biden spoke with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Tuesday to encourage him to clear the way for Sweden and Finland to join. The two leaders are set to meet on Wednesday afternoon to discuss other issues, the White House said.

Biden will also sit down on Wednesday with South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol and Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, who are attending the NATO summit as the alliance looks to strengthen its ties in the Indo-Pacific region and address challenges from China.

The White House said the three leaders would also discuss North Korea's nuclear and ballistic missile programmes.

Putin has become 'a terrorist': Zelenskyy



EDITH M. LEDERER

The Ukrainian leader began his speech listing Russia's attacks in recent days and giving the first names and ages of many of the victims. He ended his address asking the 15 Security Council members and others in the chamber to stand in silent tribute to commemorate the "tens of thousands" of Ukrainian children and adults killed in the war.

All members rose including Russia's deputy UN ambassador Dmitry Polyansky.

When he took the floor later, Polyansky protested against giving Zelenskyy a second opportunity to address the Security Council, a decision by Albanian which holds the council presidency this month.

The Russian envoy said the Ukrainian president's video address violated the council's traditions and existing practices which state that leaders who wish to speak to the council must be present in the chamber.

"The U.N. Security Council should not be turned into a platform for a remote PR campaign from president Zelenskyy in order to get more weapons from participants at the NATO summit" starting Wednesday in Madrid, Polyansky said.

He claimed that there was no Russian strike on the shopping centre in Kramatorsk, saying Russian precision weapons struck hangars in the Kramatorsk road machinery plant with weapons and ammunition from the United States and Europe destined for Ukrainian troops in eastern Donbass.

The shopping centre was some distance away but the detonation of ammunition "created a fire which then spread to the shopping centre," Polyansky said.

The Russian envoy told Western nations that by supplying weapons to Ukraine they were prolonging the time when Ukraine's leaders "will sit down at the negotiating table with a realistic position rather than with slogans."

"We began a special military operation in order to stop the shelling of Donbass by Ukraine and so that the territory of this country, which has been turned into anti-Russia at the behest of a number of Western countries, as well as its nationalist leadership, ceases to pose a threat to Russia or to the inhabitants of the south and southeast of Ukraine," he said. "And until those goals are achieved, our operation will continue."

US deputy ambassador Richard Mills, like many other Western ambassadors, accused Russia of "destroying the shopping center, saying the attack 'fits into a cruel pattern, one where the Russian military kills civilians and destroys civilian infrastructure in Ukraine."

He stressed that there is ample publicly available evidence "that Russia, and Russia alone" is responsible for this and other attacks.

Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy accused Russian President Vladimir Putin Tuesday of becoming "a terrorist" leading a "terrorist state" and urged Russia's expulsion from the United Nations.

In a virtual address to the UN Security Council, Zelenskyy urged the UN to establish an international tribunal to investigate "the actions of Russian occupiers on Ukrainian soil" and to hold the country accountable.

"We need to act urgently to do everything to make Russia stop the killing spree," Zelenskyy said, warning that otherwise Russia's "terrorist activity" will spread to other European countries and Asia, singling out the Baltic states, Poland, Moldova and Kazakhstan.

"Putin has become a terrorist," he said. "Daily terrorist acts, without weekends. Every day they are working as terrorists."

In urging Russia's ouster from the 193-member United Nations, Zelenskyy cited Article 6 of the UN Charter which states that a member "which has persistently violated the principles contained in the present Charter may be expelled from the organization by the General Assembly upon the recommendation of the Security Council."

Russia's expulsion, however, is virtually impossible. That's because as a permanent council member Russia would be able to use its veto to block any attempt to oust it.

Ukraine called the council meeting after Russia's recent upsurge in attacks including Monday's fiery airstrike on a crowded shopping mall in the central city of Kramatorsk that Zelenskyy said killed at least 18 people and wounded 30 others. "Dozens are missing" and body fragments have been found including hands and feet, he said, adding that unfortunately there may be more victims.

Ukrainian survivor: Only 'monster' would attack mall



AP ■ KREMENCHUK (UKRAINE)

The mall was nothing extraordinary, but in the middle of a war it was an escape for those in this Ukrainian city who had decided not to flee. Then it exploded in a Russian airstrike.

In moments on Monday afternoon, a summer hangout became a hellish inferno. Life and death depended on a shopper's decision whether to heed yet another air raid siren and take shelter. Among those who stayed, at least 18 are dead, more than 20 are missing and scores are wounded.

The crowded mall in Kremenchuk, which housed the largest toy store in town, is now the latest shorthand for allegations of war crimes against Russia. As with earlier attacks on a theater, a train station and a hospital elsewhere in Ukraine, authorities in Moscow said the mall was not the target.

One day after the airstrike, the scene still smelled of charred debris. Grit hung in the air, irritating the skin and throats. Visitors laid red carnations, a spot of color in the still-smoking ruins.

Images on social media showed the burned body of a woman, white sneakers still intact, who appeared to have been caught in the blast as she tried to run. In another video, around the time of impact, a man could be heard calling for his mother.

One mall employee, who gave only his first name, Oleksandr, said he had stepped outside with a colleague for a cigarette when the air raid siren went off. He described the moment of impact.

"There was darkness in my eyes for two minutes," he said. "There was a black tunnel, smoke, fire. I started to crawl. I saw the sun up there, and my brain was telling me I needed to save myself."

Everything was on fire, he said. A blast wave threw him under a car. He couldn't hear. Bits of shrapnel were embedded in his leg.

"Thank God that was it," he said. "I was very lucky."

He estimated 1,000 shoppers and employees had been in the mall at the time, contradicting Russia's claim that it was empty.

Kateryna Romashnyia had just reached the mall on her walk home from work when the explosion threw her to the ground and blew out nearby windows. Stunned, she estimated that 10-15 minutes passed before another explosion occurred.

'Reports of deaths of civilians in ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict deeply disturbing'

Voicing grave concern over reports of civilian deaths in the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict, India has said that critical civilian infrastructure in urban areas have become easy targets in situations of armed conflict.

Speaking at the UN Security Council Briefing on Ukraine on Tuesday, India's Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador R. Ravindra said the conflict has resulted in the loss of lives and countless miseries for its peoples, particularly for women, children and elder-

ly, with millions becoming homeless and forced to take shelter in neighbouring countries.

Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs Rosemary DiCarlo told the Council that the Russian missile strike on a mall in the Ukrainian city of Kremenchuk killed 18 civilians and injured 59 and the final toll may be much higher.

"India remains deeply concerned over the situation in Ukraine," Ravindra said.

The Council meeting was also addressed virtually by Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, the second time that

leader spoke directly to the powerful 15-nation UN organ since the start of the conflict in February.

"Reports of deaths of civilians in the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict are deeply disturbing and in this regard, we express our grave concern. In recent years, critical civilian infrastructure in urban areas have become easy targets in situations of armed conflict," Ravindra said.

India added that the issue of the protection of civilian objects in armed conflict should be considered within the framework of applicable international law.

Ukraine's leader pushes for fuller NATO embrace, more arms

AP ■ MADRID

Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy chided NATO for not embracing his embattled country more fully and asked for more weapons to fight Russia's invasion, as the leaders of the alliance met amid what his chief called its biggest crisis since World War II. Russia's invasion of its neighbour shattered Europe's peace, drove NATO to pour troops and weapons into eastern Europe on a scale not seen since the Cold War and is set to give the defence organisation two new members in Sweden and Finland.

Members of the alliance have also sent billions in military and civilian aid to Ukraine. But Zelenskyy lamented that NATO's open-door policy to new members did not apply to Ukraine.

"The open-door policy of NATO shouldn't resemble old turnstiles on Kyiv's subway, which stay open but close when you approach them until you pay," Zelenskyy said by video link. "Hasn't Ukraine paid enough?"

He asked for more modern artillery systems and other weapons and warned the leaders that they either had to provide Ukraine with the help it needed to defeat Russia or "face a delayed war between Russia and yourself."

Zelenskyy has acknowledged that NATO membership is a distant prospect. The alliance is trying to strike

a delicate balance, letting its member-nations arm Ukraine without sparking a direct confrontation between NATO and nuclear-armed Russia.

As 30 NATO leaders met in Madrid, Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg acknowledged the alliance is "in the midst of the most serious security crisis we have faced since the Second World War."

US President Joe Biden, whose country provides the bulk of NATO's military power, said the summit would send "an unmistakable message ... That NATO is strong and united."

"We're stepping up. We're proving that NATO is more needed now than it ever has been," said Biden.

He announced a hefty boost in America's military presence in Europe, including a permanent US base in Poland, two more Navy destroyers based in Rota, Spain, and two more F35 squadrons to the UK.

But strains among NATO allies have also emerged as the cost of energy and other essential goods has skyrocketed, partly because of the Russia and tough Western sanctions on the war.

There also are tensions over how the war will end and what, if any, concessions Ukraine should make to stop the fighting.

Money could also be a sensitive issue — just nine of NATO's 30 members currently meet the organisation's

target of spending two per cent of gross domestic product on defence.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson, whose country does hit the target, urged NATO allies "to dig deep to restore deterrence and ensure defence in the decade ahead."

The war has already triggered a big increase in NATO's forces in eastern Europe, and allies are expected to agree at the summit to boost the strength of the alliance's rapid reaction force nearly eightfold, from 40,000 to 300,000 troops, by next year.

The troops will be based in their home nations, but dedicated to specific countries on NATO's eastern flank, where the alliance plans to build up stocks of equipment and ammunition.

Stoltenberg said NATO was undertaking "the biggest overhaul of our collective defence since the end of the Cold War."

The leaders are also set to publish NATO's new Strategic Concept, its once-a-decade set of priorities and goals.

The last such document, in 2010, called Russia a "strategic partner". Now, the alliance is set to declare Moscow its No. 1 threat. The document will also set out NATO's approach on issues from cybersecurity to climate change — and the growing economic and military reach of China.

For the first time, the leaders of

Japan, Australia, South Korea and New Zealand are attending the summit as guests, a reflection of the growing importance of Asia and the Pacific region.

Stoltenberg said China was not NATO's adversary, but posed "challenges to our values, to our interest and to our security."

Biden was due to hold a rare meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida and South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol on the sidelines of the summit, focused on North Korea's nuclear programme.

The summit opened with one problem solved, after Turkey agreed on Tuesday to lift its opposition to Sweden and Finland joining NATO.

In response to the invasion, the two Nordic nations abandoned their long-held nonaligned status and applied to join NATO as protection against an increasingly aggressive and unpredictable Russia — which shares a long border with Finland.

NATO operates by consensus, and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan threatened to block the Nordic pair, insisting they change their stance on Kurdish rebel groups that Turkey considers terrorists.

After urgent top-level talks with leaders of the three countries, alliance Secretary Stoltenberg said the impasse had been cleared.

PUBLIC NOTICE
DESTRUCTION OF OLD MEDICAL RECORD OF PATIENTS
 It's hereby notified to all our patients and general public that "Kailash Hospital Gr. Noida" and "Kailash Institute of Naturopathy, Ayurved & Yoga" proposes to destroy old Indoor Medical Records of patients (from I.P. No. 186/1001 to 186/15610) admitted during the period of 01.04.2018 to 31.03.2019 as per hospital policy.

Any patient requiring his/her Medical Records may approach the undersigned within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice and failing which the records will be disposed off without further notice.

Ph : 0120-2327265 AM-MRD
 Kailash Hospital, 23 KP-1, Greater Noida, G.B. Nagar-201310 U.P.

Debs Recovery Tribunal-I, Delhi
 4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001

O.A. No. 312/2021
PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK Versus ...Applicant
DINESH RANA ...Defendants

To,
 1. Sh. Dinesh Rana S/o Sh. Bhup Singh Rana, R/o D-23, Near Gate No. 1, Sector-MU-1, Kasana Greater Noida, Gautam Budh Nagar, UP-201310
Defendant 1
 2. M/s Morpheus Developers Pvt. Ltd. Reg. Office: House No. 1, Shiv Mandir Wai Galli Maujpur, Delhi-110053, Also at: 154, 5th Floor, Tower-A, The Corentium Tower, Plot No. A-41, Sector-62, Noida-201301, U.P. **Defendant 2**

Whereas the above named applicant has instituted a case for recovery of Rs. 33,55,840.86 (Rs. Thirty Three Lacs Fifty Five Thousand Eight Hundred Forty and Paise Eighty Six Only) against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way. Therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance before LD Registrar on 17-08-2022 at 10.30 A.M. (for further details kindly visit DRT website www.drt.gov.in) Phone No. 011-23748473.

Take notice that in case of your failure to appear on the above mentioned day before this Tribunal, the case will be heard and decided in your absence.

Due to ongoing Pandemic Situation, all the matters will be taken up through Video Conferencing and for that purpose:
 (i) All the Advocates/Litigants shall download the "Cisco Webex" application/Software;
 (ii) "Meeting ID" and "Password" for the next date of hearing case to be taken by "Registrar/Recovery Officer-I" and Recovery Officer-II shall be available one day prior to the next date at DRT Official Portal i.e. "drt.gov.in" under the Public Notice Head.
 (iii) In any exigency you that, the Advocates/Litigants can contact the concerned official at Ph. No. 011-23748473.

Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal on this 27th June of 2022,
by order of this Tribunal for Registrar

Respondent may contact under mention phone number for further enquiry.
 Amit K. Dar, Ld. Registrar, DRT-I, New Delhi, Phone: 011-23748473
 E-mail: drt1delhi@drti.nic.in

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF PSYCHIATRY
 KANKE, RANCHI-834006, JHARKHAND

No.: 2501 **NOTICE** Date: 29.06.2022

Computer Based Test (CBT) for the posts of Clinical Psychologist, Assistant Psychologist, Pharmacist, Nursing Officer, Tailor and Cook will be held on 09.07.2022. Intimation to all candidates has already been sent to their email address. All candidates are requested to check their email and download their E-admit card for CBT along with necessary instructions from the CIP website (www.cipranchi.nic.in) and follow the instruction contained therein.

URL for downloading: <https://register.cbtextams.in/CIPRANCHI/admitcard/> **Sd/-Director**

STATE INFRASTRUCTURE & INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF UTTARAKHAND LTD.
 29, IIE, SAHASTRADHARA ROAD (IT PARK), DEHRADUN
 Ph No. 0135-2692292, 2708100 Fax No. 0135-2708109 Web site: www.siidcul.com

E-TENDER NOTICE

SIIDCUL invites online bids for "Selection of agency for Manpower Services in SIIDCUL, Dehradun for a period of Two Years under e-procurement system". The tender document would be available from 01.07.2022 till submission date i.e 21.07.2022 up to 14.00 Hrs. Tender document can be downloaded from <http://www.uktenders.gov.in> or www.siidcul.com.

Note: Manual bids shall not be accepted. The bid shall be submitted online at <http://www.uktenders.gov.in>

Managing Director (SIIDCUL)

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, KURUKSHETRA
 (Under the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)
 KURUKSHETRA-136119 (Haryana)

Walk-In-Interview **Advt. No.06/2022**

National Institute of Technology, Kurukshetra requires qualified and experienced persons for the engagement as Officer on Special Duty, Training & Placement Officer and Assistant Engineer SG-II (Electrical) on contract basis. Interested candidates may appear for Walk-In-Interview on 11.07.2022 in the Board Room, Golden Jubilee Administrative Building of the Institute along with application, all original certificates and one set of attested copies of certificates, a recent Passport size photograph and an original identity proof for verification.

For more details, please visit our website: www.nitkkr.ac.in. **Sd/-Registrar Incharge**

Public Notice

Trade Name of Member : Acumen Capital Market (India) Ltd Member of Multi Commodity Exchange of India Limited (MCX)& M e m b e r I D : 10275, National Commodity & Derivatives Exchange Limited (NCDEX) & Member ID : 00094, National Stock Exchange of India Limited (NSE)& Member ID : 08814 Bombay Stock Exchange Limited (BSE) & Member ID : 0156 & SEBI Regn No: IN2000170434 Registered office Address of Member **ACUMEN CAPITAL MARKET (INDIA) LIMITED**, S T R Building, Veekshamn Road, Kochi-682035

This is to inform that we have initiated the process of cancellation of our below mentioned Authorised Person (AP).

Name of Authorised Person	Trade Name of AP	Address of AP	AP Registration No.
Gaurav Sachdeva	Gaurav Sachdeva	Ram Leel Ground, 56/7, 1st Floor, Ashok Nagar, (W) Delhi, Tlak Nagar, Delhi-110018	MCX : MCX / AP / 147243 NCDEX : NCDEX / AP / 124838 NSE CM : AP0610047521 NSE F&O : AP0610047521 BSE Cash : AP/015601125129

Please note that the above mentioned Authorised Person is no longer associated with us. Any person henceforth dealing with the above mentioned Authorised Person should do so at their own risk. ACUMEN CAPITAL MARKET (INDIA) LIMITED (Name of the member) shall not be liable for any dealing with him. In case of any queries, investors are requested to inform ACUMEN CAPITAL MARKET (INDIA) LIMITED (Name of the Member) within 15 days from the date of issuing this notice.

*Mention as applicable For **ACUMEN CAPITAL MARKET (INDIA) LIMITED (Authorised Signatory)**

Place : Kochi
Date : 30-06-2022

Stocks halt 4-day winning run, Sensex down 150 pts

Weak global mkts stir fall

Mumbai: Snapping its four-day winning run, benchmark Sensex declined by over 150 points on Wednesday due to profit booking in IT, FMCG and banking shares following weak global trends and persistent foreign capital outflows.

In a volatile session, the 30-share BSE Sensex settled 150.48 points or 0.28 per cent lower at 53,026.97 as 20 of its stocks ended with losses. During the day, it tumbled 564.77 points or 1.06 per cent to a low of 52,612.68 ahead of the expiry in the derivatives segment on Thursday.

The broader NSE Nifty declined by 51.10 points or 0.32 per cent to 15,799.10 with 34 of its constituents closing in the red. In the four-day rally to Tuesday, Sensex spurted by 2.59 per cent or 1,354 points while Nifty had gained 2.84 per cent or 436 points.

Among Sensex shares, Hindustan Unilever fell the most by 3.46 per cent.

However, gains in NTPC, Reliance Industries, Sun Pharma, UltraTech Cement and ITC restricted a major fall in the barometer. NTPC rose the most by



2.46 per cent while Reliance Industries advanced 1.98 per cent. "Markets traded volatile for yet another session and lost nearly half a percent. Weak global cues were weighing on the sentiment in early trade which triggered a gap-down start however buying in select index majors trimmed the losses as the day progressed," Ajit Mishra, VP - Research, Religare Broking Ltd said.

Consumer confidence is declining rapidly due to the uncontrolled and constant rise in inflation, Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services said.

However, the domestic market was able to recover most of the losses due to the strong movement of index heavyweights, PSUs, metals and oil & gas stocks before slipping some gains by the end of the day due to volatile global market," Nair said.

Among the BSE sectoral indices, bank fell by 1.20 per cent, while FMCG (1.01 per cent), finance (1 per cent), teck (0.83 per cent), and telecom (0.54 per cent) also declined.

Energy, utilities, auto, metal, oil & gas, power and realty were the gainers. A total of 1,781 firms declined, while 1,521 advanced and 148 remained unchanged.

Meanwhile, international oil benchmark Brent crude gained 0.31 per cent to USD 118.3 per barrel ahead of the meeting of the oil cartel OPEC.

PTI

The report titled 'Harnessing Green Hydrogen - Opportunities for Deep Decarbonisation in India', the Aayog also suggested that there is a need to facilitate investment through demand aggregation and dollar-based bidding for green hydrogen.

Three hydrogen corridors should be developed across the country based on state grand challenges... The government can provide grants and loans to startups and projects, support entrepreneurs through incubators and investor networks, and put in place regulations that manage first-mover risks, "the report said.

The report suggested that the government should promote export of green hydrogen and green hydrogen-embedded products through a global hydrogen alliance.

Green Hydrogen/ Green Ammonia is defined as hydrogen/ ammonia produced by way of electrolysis of water using renewable energy, including renewable energy which

India needs to form Green Hydrogen Corridors: NITI Aayog

New Delhi: India needs to form Green Hydrogen Corridors and governments can look at providing grants to startups as well as support entrepreneurs to promote green hydrogen, NITI Aayog said on Wednesday.

In a report titled 'Harnessing Green Hydrogen - Opportunities for Deep Decarbonisation in India', the Aayog also suggested that there is a need to facilitate investment through demand aggregation and dollar-based bidding for green hydrogen.

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Green Hydrogen/ Green Ammonia is defined as hydrogen/ ammonia produced by way of electrolysis of water using renewable energy, including renewable energy which

has been banked and the hydrogen/ammonia produced from biomass. Most large economies including India have committed to net zero targets.

Transition to green hydrogen and green ammonia is one of the major requirements for reduction of emissions, especially in the hard to abate sectors. The report predicted that hydrogen demand in India could grow more than fourfold by 2050, representing almost 10 per cent of global hydrogen demand.

In the longer term, steel and heavy-duty trucking are likely to drive the majority of demand growth, accounting for almost 52 per cent of total demand by 2050, it added.

Emphasising that the roadmap should also identify a timeline and scale of manufacturing support for electrolysers, the report said India may aim for 25 GW of electrolysers by 2030, while also investing USD 1 billion in R&D to catalyse the development of commercial green hydrogen technologies across the value chain.

It noted that radically improving the speed of regulatory clearances coupled with preferential treatment in public tenders will help catalyse local manufacturing.

The report suggested that grand challenges, public-private venture capital and financing test bench infrastructure could be part of the R&D investments. PTI

EV-bus manufacturers worried after DHI makes sporting FAME logo must in buses



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

Months after the Department of Heavy Industries (DHI) notified an order making it mandatory for the ev-buses operator(s) to place the FAME logo on both the sides of the vehicles prominently, the manufacturers are feeling the pinch with advertisement revenues taking a significant hit, according to sources close to funding agencies/lenders.

The order released by the DHI makes it compulsory for the manufacturers to get the FAME logo on the buses, at the spots which the manufacturers earlier used to lease out to potential advertisers for some revenue.

A couple of industry insiders told The Pioneer on the condition of anonymity that

this move has not gone down well with the operator(s) and has caused considerable losses for them as per early assessment.

Earlier in the contracts, advertisements were allowed on the FAME contracts-awarded products, ev-buses mostly, and the revenue generated from them used to go to the manufacturers or the Operator. The latest move has left them squandering for options to deal with it, with little or no mechanism to raise their concerns. According to sources, the new directions have been laid out retrospectively which impact the revenue. Industry experts see the move by the government as its intent to reduce overall cost for the state governments.

A top official of one of the major lending agencies said the manufacturers don't have any

issue with keeping the FAME logo on buses but with size and placement of the logo, which directly impacts their revenues. The loss becomes significant in the long run as the buses are to be operated and maintained for 12 years.

"Can the OEMs/Operators manage for 12 years making losses continuously? It might lead to a situation where the manufacturers start showing their inability to operate the buses," another official said, adding the "purpose of promoting Green mobility is getting defeated in the process".

The Indian EV sector is seeing a massive boom with both central and governments going full throttle in acquiring electric buses in their bid to ensure clean and green transportation. States after states are placing big orders for electric buses.

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ments stood at USD 5.82 billion last fiscal year. The segment accounts for 75.11 per cent of the total dollar earnings. The US is the largest market of frozen shrimp, followed by China, the European Union, South East Asia, Japan, and the Middle East.

Frozen fish, frozen squid and frozen cuttlefish, are also major items for exports.

"The US continued to be the major importer of Indian seafood in value and volume terms with an import worth USD 3,371.66 million, accounting for a share of 37.56 per cent in terms of dollar value," it added. It said China has emerged as the second largest seafood export destination for India in terms of quantity with an import of 2,66,989 MT worth USD 1,175.05 million. PTI

Gold declines ₹176 amid weak global trends



New Delhi: Gold price in the national capital fell by ₹176 to ₹50,649 per 10 grams on Wednesday, reflecting a decline in international precious metal prices, according to HDFC Securities.

In the previous trade, the yellow metal settled at ₹50,825 per 10 grams.

Silver also fell by ₹443 to ₹59,725 per kg from ₹60,168 per kg in the previous trade. "Spot gold prices for 24-carat gold in Delhi fell by Rs 176 in line with decline in COMEX gold prices," said Tapan Patel, Senior Analyst (Commodities) at HDFC Securities.

PTI

Sebi issues ₹27 lakh recovery notice to individual in L&T Finance Holdings case

New Delhi: Capital markets regulator Sebi has sent a notice to an individual asking him to pay ₹27 lakh in a case pertaining to violation of insider trading norms in the matter of L&T Finance Holdings Ltd.

The notice came after Uday Agarwal failed to pay the fine imposed on him by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi).

Sebi has directed Agarwal to pay ₹27.01 lakh, which includes interest, all costs, charges and expenses, within 15 days. In the event of non-payment, it will recover the amount by attaching and selling their moveable and immovable properties.

He will also face attachment of his bank accounts and arrest, Sebi said in an order passed on Tuesday.

The regulator, through an order passed in November 2021, levied a fine of ₹25 lakh



information during trading window closure period, failed to obtain pre-clearance and failed to make disclosures for his trading and further made contra trades.

FPIs permitted to participate in exchange-traded commodity derivatives market by Sebi

Mumbai: Markets regulator Sebi on Wednesday allowed Foreign Portfolio Investors to participate in the exchange-traded commodity derivatives market.

At its board meeting, the watchdog also cleared amend-

ments to regulations governing mutual funds and portfolio managers.

According to a statement, the board has approved Sebi Annual Report: 2021-22. The report will be submitted to the central government. PTI

Ukraine conflict casts shadows on global food situation

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE/AGENCIES NEW DELHI/UNITED NATIONS

Expressing concern over food scarcity in the wake of the ongoing Ukraine conflict, India has said it exported more 1.8 million tons of wheat to countries suffering from shortage. It also flagged the issue of civilian deaths in the military action terming them as "deeply disturbing" and called for cessation of hostilities.

Highlighting these issues in the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) briefing on Ukraine, India's Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador R Ravindra also said the conflict has resulted in the loss of lives and countless miseries for its peoples, particularly for women, children and elderly, with millions becoming home-

less and forced to take shelter in neighbouring countries.

Making this point, he said on late Tuesday India has all along favoured the path of peace, dialogue and diplomacy to end the conflict which began in February.

"We support all efforts to alleviate the suffering of the people of Ukraine, especially talks" between Ukraine and Russia.

He noted that India has also been sending humanitarian supplies to Ukraine and its neighbours, which include medicines and other essential relief materials.

Underlining that the impact of the Ukraine conflict is not just limited to Europe, Ravindra said the conflict is exacerbating concerns over food, fertilizer and fuel security, particularly in the developing countries. PTI

Marine exports up 30% to nearly USD 8 bn in FY22

New Delhi: Exports of marine products rose 30.26 per cent to USD 7.76 billion during 2021-22 as against USD 5.96 billion in previous fiscal year, the commerce ministry said on Wednesday. India shipped 13,69,264 MT (metric tonne) of seafood worth ₹57,586.48 crore during 2021-22. During 2021-22, the export improved in rupee term by 31.71 per cent, in USD terms by 30.26 per cent and in quantity terms by 19.12 per cent," the ministry said in a statement.

K N Raghavan, Chairman, Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), said India managed to do "all-time high" exports of USD 7.76 billion.

Frozen shrimp remained the major export item in terms of quantity and value. Its ship-

ments stood at USD 5.82 billion last fiscal year. The segment accounts for 75.11 per cent of the total dollar earnings.

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Ease of doing business: UT, States' ranking to be released on Jun 30

New Delhi: The Government will release the ranking of states and Union Territories (UTs) in terms of ease of doing business on June 30, the commerce and industry ministry said on Wednesday.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will release the assessment report of states/UTs under Business Reforms Action Plan (BRAP), 2020 in the presence of Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Thursday, it said.

The exercise is aimed at triggering competition among states to improve the business climate to attract domestic and global investors.

BRAP 2020 includes 301

reform points that cover 15 business regulatory areas such as access to information, single window system, labour, environment, sectoral reforms and other reforms spanning across the lifecycle of a business.

Sectoral reforms have been introduced this time wherein 72 reforms were identified across nine sectors - trade license, healthcare, legal metrology, cinema halls, hospitality, fire NOC (no objection certificate), telecom, movie shooting and tourism.

The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), since 2014, has been releasing BRAP for steering business reforms to

create an investor-friendly ecosystem across the country.

Till date, state rankings have been released for 2015, 2016, 2017-18 and 2019.

"DPIIT has undertaken a feedback-based exercise wherein feedback was taken from businesses on the quality of implementation of the reforms carried out by the states and UTs. The assessment is based on the feedback obtained from the actual users of respective states/UTs," it added.

In the last ranking released in September 2020, Andhra Pradesh topped the chart, followed by Uttar Pradesh, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand. PTI

Housing sales grow 4.5 times in Apr-Jun period in top 8 cities

New Delhi: Housing sales jumped over 4.5 times year-on-year in April-June across eight cities to 74,330 units on lower base effect, while demand was up 5 per cent from the previous quarter, according to PropTiger data.

Housing sales stood at 15,968 units in the April-June period last year and 70,623 units in the January-March quarter of 2022.

The price of residential properties rose 5-9 per cent annually, driven by rise in input costs, inflationary pressures and premium attached with ready-to-move-in inventory. Pune and Chennai saw

maximum appreciation at 9 per cent each.

In its latest 'Real Insight Residential' report, Australia's REA group-owned PropTiger.Com, said the YoY (Year-on-Year) growth in April-June 2022 is multi-fold due to the low base as demand in April-June 2021 was severely impacted owing to the second wave of the COVID pandemic.

On the sequential rise in sales, Vikas Wadhawan, Group CFO of REA India, said: "Even though the RBI increased the repo rate twice during the quarter, home loans remained largely affordable."

The biggest booster to

housing demand has been the increased importance of owning a property, he said.

This, he said, has been further backed by the consumer confidence in the overall economic scenario and impending income stability.

As per the data, housing sales in Ahmedabad rose sharply to 7,240 units in April-June 2022, from 1,280 units in the year-ago period. Sales were up 30 per cent from 5,550 units in the January-March quarter this year.

Bengaluru saw sales of 8,350 units in April-June, as against 1,590 units in the year-ago period. PTI

Govt gives marketing freedom to domestic oil producers

New Delhi: The Government on Wednesday decided to give marketing freedom to domestic crude oil producers, allowing them to sell oil to whosoever they want.

Briefing reporters on the decisions taken at a meeting of the Union Cabinet, Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur said the Cabinet approved deregulation of the sale of domestically produced crude oil.

From October 1, condition in Production Sharing Contracts (PSC) to sell crude oil to the government or its nominee or government com-



panies will be waived. This essentially means producers will be free to sell oil from their fields in the domestic market. PTI

Steel prices likely to go up again from July 1 on high input cost: JSPL MD

New Delhi: After back-to-back downward corrections, steel prices are expected to rise from July due to high input costs, an industry executive said on Wednesday.

"While coal price is at ₹17,000 a tonne, iron ore prices by Odisha Mineral Corporation are still high. It is the main supplier of iron ore in Odisha," JSPL Managing Director V R Sharma told PTI on the sidelines of an event organised by the Indian Chamber of Commerce here.

"The prices have already bottomed out. There is no chance of reducing them further. There will be an upward price correction from Friday, July 1 by (primary players) mainly on account of higher input



costs," he said.

Secondary steel makers have already increased the price of rebars by ₹2,000 to ₹55,000 per tonne in the last four days, Sharma said.

There are various other factors building pressure on steel makers, Sharma said, adding there are issues with the availability of coal. Rakes are also not available for the supply of

coal as most of them have been diverted for power sector.

Steel players use iron ore as raw material to make steel and coal to feed their captive power plants.

According to SteelMint, prices of hot rolled coil (HRC) are ruling in the range of ₹59,000-60,000 a tonne from its peak in May at ₹76,000/tonne. PTI

Expect govt to withdraw duties on steel items once inflation moderates: Sajjan Jindal

New Delhi: Terming duties imposed on steel products a "short-term headwind", JSW Group CMD Sajjan Jindal said he is hopeful of the government withdrawing the levies once inflation moderates. The duties were imposed last month with the objective of controlling inflation, the industrialist said.

Jindal's statement comes days after he along with other top industry leaders met Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in her office.

In a tweet on June 16, office of the Finance Minister, without sharing the details of the meeting had said, "Delegation of Indian Steel Association @steel_indian, including Shri @MPNaveenJindal - Chairman JSPL, Shri @sajjanjindal - Chairman JSW, Smt Soma Mondal - Chairman @SAILsteel & other senior members of the industry, calls on Smt @nsitharaman." PTI

Tata Tech joins Foxconn-led consortium to develop sustainable mobility solutions

New Delhi: Tata Technologies Ltd on Wednesday said it has joined the Foxconn-initiated MIH Consortium to promote development of sustainable mobility solutions and encourage collaboration within the industry.

The MIH (Mobility In Harmony Consortium) comprises more than 2,300 members in the field of software, hardware, and services.

Together to build the next generation of EV, autonomous driving, and mobility service applications, the global engineering and product development digital services firm said in a statement.

"Tata Technologies is at the forefront of the eMobility revolution and our association with MIH Consortium reinforces our position as a key partner in the automotive value chain," Tata Technologies Managing Director and CEO Warren Harris said. PTI

Affordable fashion footwear brand store in Faridabad

Faridabad: Home grown affordable fashion footwear and accessories brand Khadim India Ltd has opened a new store in association with its franchisee partner SAR Retail Pvt Ltd in Faridabad.

"We are confident that the people of Faridabad will be delighted by our trinity of fashionable range of products, a great in store experience and affordable pricing."

We hope to make Khadim the first choice brand for footwear for the complete family," said Namrata A Chotrani, CEO, Khadim India Ltd. PNS



Serena brushes off retirement talk

AP ■ LONDON
Serena Williams brushed off any talk of retirement on Tuesday by insisting she is "motivated" to play at the US Open later this year despite a shattering Wimbledon defeat. "The US Open was the place where I won my first Slam, it's super-special. There's definitely a lot of motivation to get better and play at home," the 40-year-old American said.

Williams was speaking after losing in her first singles match for a year when she went down 7-5, 1-6, 7/6 (10/7) to unseeded Harmony Tan, the world number 115, in the opening round of Wimbledon.

The 23-time major winner, who debuted at the All England Club in 1998, refused to speculate on whether or not she will be back at Wimbledon in 2023. "I am just playing for right now. I see how I feel and go from there.

"Who knows where I will pop up."

Williams walked onto Centre Court for the evening match and quickly looked rusty. She was broken in her first service game.

Williams, far below her imperious best and apparently lacking fitness, bounced back, breaking in the fourth game to level at 2-2, buoyed by a supportive crowd.

The pair swapped further breaks but Tan, ranked 115th, broke again in the 11th game and held her nerve to close out the set 7-5.

Williams broke after a mammoth second game of the second set and went on to level the match 6-1.

The American was first to break in the decider but Tan levelled at 3-3.

Williams broke again in the ninth game, throwing her arms into the air in jubilation but faltered as she served for the match.

She faced a match point

on her own serve in the 12th game but saved it with a forehand volley, taking the contest into a third-set tie-break.

Williams stepped up a gear, winning the first four points as the match, under the Wimbledon roof, ticked past three hours.

But still her French opponent was not down and out, winning the next five points to edge ahead.

Williams, looking out of breath, could not find inspiration, netting when facing a second match point.

'I'M SO EMOTIONAL'
She finished with 61 winners but 54 unforced errors in the 3-hour, 11-minute evening match.

"I'm so emotional now," said Tan. "She's a superstar. When I was young, I was watching her so many times on the TV."

"When I saw the draw, I was really scared. She's such a legend. I thought if I can win one game, two games, that would be really good for me."

Twelve months ago, Williams quit her Wimbledon first-round match in tears after suffering an injury and she had not played singles tennis since until Tuesday.

Doubts had been growing about whether the former world number one — who has slumped to 1,204th in the rankings after her period of inaction — would return to the sport.

But she warmed up by teaming with Ons Jabeur in the doubles at Eastbourne last week.

Williams won the last of her seven Wimbledon singles titles six years ago but reached the final in 2018 and 2019.

The American, who was given a wildcard for this year's tournament, remains stuck on 23 Grand Slam singles titles — agonisingly one short of Margaret Court's all-time record.

DJOKER IN 3rd ROUND, RUUD OUT

AP ■ LONDON

Top-seeded Novak Djokovic advanced to the third round at Wimbledon with a 6-1, 6-4, 6-2 victory over Thanasi Kokkinakis of Australia.

The six-time Wimbledon champion has won the past three men's singles titles at the All England Club.

The 26-year-old Kokkinakis is ranked 79th.

French Open runner-up Casper Ruud lost in the second round at Wimbledon.

The third-seeded Norwegian was beaten by Ugo Humbert of France 3-6, 6-2, 7-5, 6-4 on No. 2 Court.

Ruud was making his third appearance at the All England Club. His victory over Albert Ramos-Vinolas on Monday was his first at the grass-court Grand Slam.

Second-seeded Anett Kontaveit of Estonia was eliminated in the second round of Wimbledon, losing to Jule Niemeier of Germany 6-4, 6-0.

Kontaveit has never reached the fourth round at the All England Club, the only one of the four major tournaments in which she has failed to get that far. She was making her eighth appearance at Wimbledon.

It was Kontaveit's first match on grass this year.

On Tuesday, an off-key Nadal, already halfway to a calendar Grand Slam after winning the Australian Open and French Open, dug deep to beat Francisco Cerundolo 6-4, 6-3, 3-6, 6-4.

The two-time Wimbledon champion, who has not played at the tournament since 2019, thanked the crowd for their wholehearted support.

"It's not a surface that we play very often, and especially in my case, for different reasons, the past three years



I didn't put any foot on a grass court, so it always takes a while," said Nadal, 36.

"It was my first match and as I know, every day is a test and today was one of these important tests."

OUT FROM DOUBLES

A day after eliminating Serena Williams from Wimbledon in her debut at the grass-court Grand Slam, Harmony Tan surprised and angered her doubles partner by withdrawing

Murray to play Laver Cup in London

AP ■ LONDON

Three-time Grand Slam champion Andy Murray will play alongside Rafael Nadal and Roger Federer at the Laver Cup in London in September.

Murray will be making his debut at the competition, which is played in a Europe vs. World format and does not award ATP ranking points.

This will be the fifth edition. It's being held at the O2 Arena on September 23-25. Team Europe is 4-0 so far.

from that tournament on Wednesday with a thigh injury.

Tan, a Frenchwoman ranked 115th who beat the 23-time Grand Slam singles champion 7-5, 1-6, 7-6 (10-7) on Centre Court on Tuesday, was scheduled to team with Tamara Korpatsch for their opening doubles match on Wednesday.

"She just texted this morning. Let me wait here 1 hour before the match start," Korpatsch wrote in an Instagram post. "I'm very sad, disappointed and also very angry that I can't play my 1st Doubles Grand Slam."

"And it's really not fair for me ... I didn't deserve that."

Tan is scheduled to play No. 32 Sara Sorribes Tormo of Spain in the second round of the singles tournament on Thursday. Sorribes Tormo advanced by defeating American qualifier Christina McHale 6-2, 6-1.

The 24-year-old Tan is ranked 611th in doubles and has never played

in that event at Wimbledon. Korpatsch, a 27-year-old German who is ranked 298th in doubles, lost in the first round of the singles tournament but has never played a doubles match at any Grand Slam tournament.

Tan was two points from losing to Williams, a seven-time Wimbledon champion who hadn't played a singles match since injuring herself in the first round a year ago at the All England Club.

The match lasted 3 hours, 11 minutes.

"If you're broken after a 3 (hour) match the day before, you can't play professional (tennis). That's my opinion," Korpatsch wrote.

Tan and Korpatsch were scheduled to play 15th-seeded Nadiia Kichenok and Raluca Olaru on Wednesday in the first round of the doubles tournament. They were replaced in the draw by Valentina Grammatikopoulou and Peangtarn Plipuech.

CHARITY MATCH

Top-ranked Iga Swiatek of Poland will host a charity tennis tournament next month to raise funds for children and teenagers impacted by the war in Ukraine.

The event will be held in Krakow on July 23 and will feature a mixed doubles exhibition match. Ukraine soccer great Andriy Shevchenko will be a special guest.

Elina Svitolina of Ukraine will serve as umpire for the event. They hope to sell at least 10,000 tickets.

Swiatek has been wearing a pin with the Ukrainian colors during her matches. More than 4 million refugees crossed into Poland after Russia invaded Ukraine in February. Poland is providing them with free shelter, social and medical care, education and job opportunities.

Sindhu, Kashyap win; Saina loses in Malaysia

PTI ■ KUALA LUMPUR



Two stalwarts of Indian women's badminton, PV Sindhu and Saina Nehwal, suffered contrasting fates at the Malaysia Open Super 750 tournament with the former progressing to the second round and the latter bowing out after losing her opener here on Wednesday.

Sindhu, a former world champion, dished out a fine performance to outwit Thailand's world number 10 Pornpawee Chochuwong 21-13, 21-17, but London Olympics Bronze medallist Saina went down fighting against American Iris Wang, ranked 33rd in the world, 11-21, 17-21 in 37 minutes.

Former Commonwealth Games champion Parupalli Kashyap also made a positive return from injury as he prevailed 21-12, 21-17 over Korea's Heo Kwang Hee to advance to the second round in men's singles.

Sindhu, seeded seventh, will next face Phittayaporn Chaiwan, a 21-year-old from Thailand who held the number one ranking in world junior ranking and also was part of the Bronze medal-winning team at the Uber Cup in Bangkok.

Kashyap, ranked world number 39, will meet Thailand's Kunlavut Vitidsarn, who had won the German Open Super

300 in March.

B Sumeeth Reddy and Ashwini Ponnappa, who will be leading India's charge at the Commonwealth Games, couldn't get past world number 21 pairing of Robin Tabeling and Selena Piek of the Netherlands.

The Indian duo lost 15-21, 21-19, 17-21 after a 52-minute battle.

Sindhu enjoys a 5-3 head-to-head record against

Chochuwong, having won the last time they met, at the 2021 World Championship, and the Indian looked in good touch against the Thai, who struggled with her lengths and finishing strokes.

The match started with the duo playing at a good pace but it was Sindhu who dictated terms with her better court coverage. Chochuwong matched Sindhu in the rallies but faltered in her finishing.

The result was Sindhu led throughout the first game after securing a 4-1 advantage early on. Sindhu's front court play was more polished than her rival and she used the smashes and attacking returns to good effect whenever there was an opportunity.

Sushila looking to make up for 2018 WC miss

PTI ■ AMSTELVEEN

Ruled out of the 2018 FIH World Cup due to an injury, experienced India midfielder Sushila Chanu is looking to the upcoming edition of the tournament to make amends.

Sushila may have played 208 matches for India but the tournament in the Netherlands will be her maiden World Cup appearance.

"In 2018, I missed playing the World Cup in London due to an injury. Subsequently, I struggled with form which resulted in me missing out on the Asian Games that year. It was perhaps one of the biggest lows of my career.

"It was a difficult phase but I was determined to overcome

it and earn my place in the squad again," recalled an emotional Sushila.

While the tournament starts on July 1, India begin their campaign against England on July 3.

The 30-year-old made a strong comeback and has played a significant role in the team's progress over the past four years after missing out on the Asian Games in 2018.

"For many of my teammates, it's their second outing at the World Cup but for me, it's a first. It is an emotional moment for me and I surely believe it will be a memorable one for us," she said on the sidelines of the team's practice match against Chile on Tuesday evening.



Neeraj primed to win medal in Stockholm Diamond League

PTI ■ STOCKHOLM

Buoyed by a strong start to the season, Olympic champion javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra is primed to clinch his maiden Diamond League medal in his first appearance in four years in the prestigious one-day meet here on Thursday. The 24-year-old Chopra was second in the Paavo Nurmi Games in Turkey with a big national record throw of 89.30m before winning his event at Kuortane Games with a credible 86.60m effort under treacherous conditions.

Both the events in Finland had strong fields, though the Turkey line-up had more stars than at Kuortane, where Chopra slipped after an awkward release of his spear in his third attempt under slippery conditions due to rains. Luckily, he was up on his feet immediately and won the event without any injury.

This will be Chopra's first

competition in a Diamond League meet after his fourth-place finish in Zurich in August 2018 with an effort of 85.73m. He has taken part in seven Diamond League meets -- three in 2017 and four in 2018 -- but is yet to win a medal. He had two fourth-place finishes, the other one being in Doha in May 2018, where he had thrown 87.43m.

The prestigious one-day meet at the Swedish capital will be Chopra's biggest event ahead of the World Championships in Eugene, USA, next month. He will also be facing the toughest field of the season so far with all the three Tokyo Olympics medallists in fray.

Germany's Johannes Vetter, who has the maximum number of 90-plus throws among the active throwers, continues to be in the sidelines. He is not fully fit and also did not take part in the German nationals.

PHYSICAL POSSESSION NOTICE
ICICI Bank
Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, Landmark Building, 4th Floor, 228A, AJC Bose Road, Kolkata 700020
CIN No: L65190GJ1994PLC021012, www.icicibank.com

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

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

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Physical Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	K B Priyan/ Shalini Priyan/ Block No 55 Plot No 33 Nehru Nagar Bhalil Motilal Chhattisgarh Bhalil- 490020/ LBLLI00004580511	House No LIG 283 First Floor and House No LIG 287 Second Floor Ward No 01 Pt. Dindayal Aawas Yojana Cghb Khasra No. 201 Junwani, Bhalil Tahasil And District Durg Chhattisgarh Bhalil. (addressing an area of LIG-283- 45.26 Sq.mtr/ 487 Sq.ft., LIG-287- 45.26 Sq.mtr/ 487 Sq.ft./ Date of Possession 27.06.2022	31.08.2019 Rs. 15,72,676/-	Chhattisgarh

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

Date: June 30, 2022
Place: Raipur
Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

pnb Housing Finance Limited
Regd. Office : 9th Floor, Antriksh Bhawan, 22, K.G. Marg, New Delhi-110001. Phones : 011-23357171, 23357172, 23705414, Website : www.pnbhousing.com
BRANCH ADDRESS : Office No. 111-112, First Floor, Plot No. 1, Block No. 9, DB Corporate Park, Rajbandha Maidan, Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492001. E-Mail: raipur@pnbhousing.com

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF CHAPTER III OF SECURITISATION & RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT 2002, READ WITH RULE 3(1) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002 AMENDED AS ON DATE

We, the PNB Housing Finance Ltd. (hereinafter referred to as "PNBHFL") had issued Demand notice U/s 13(2) of Chapter III of the Securitisation & Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (hereinafter referred to as the "Act") by our Raipur Branch office situated at Office No. 111-112, First Floor, Plot No. 1, Block No. 9, DB Corporate Park, Rajbandha Maidan, Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492001. The said Demand Notice was issued through our Authorized Officer, to you all below mentioned Borrowers/Co-Borrower/Guarantors since your account has been classified as Non-Performing Assets as per the Reserve Bank of India/National Housing Bank guidelines due to nonpayment or instalments interest. The contents of the same are the defaults committed by you in the payment of instalments of principals, interest, etc. The outstanding amount is mentioned below. Further, with reasons, we believe that you are evading the service of Demand Notice and hence this Publication of Demand Notice which is also required U/s 13(2) of the said Act. You are hereby called upon to pay PNBHFL within a period of 60 Days of the date of publication of this demand notice the aforesaid amount along with up-to-date interest and charges, failing which PNBHFL will take necessary action under all or any of the provisions of Section 13(4) of the said Act, against all or any one or more of the secured assets including Your kind attention is invited to provisions of sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 where under you can tender/pay the entire amount of outstanding dues together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred by the PNB HFL only till the date of publication of the notice for sale of the secured assets by public auction, by inviting quotations, tender from public or by private treaty. Please also note that if the entire amount of outstanding dues together with the costs, charges and expenses incurred by the PNB HFL is not tendered before publication of notice for sale of the secured assets by public auction, by inviting quotations, tender from public or by private treaty, you may not be entitled to redeem the secured asset(s) thereafter. FURTHER you are prohibited U/s 13(13) of the said Act from transferring either by way of sale, lease or in any other way the aforesaid secured assets.

S. No.	Loan Account No.	Name/Address of Borrower & Co-Borrower	Name/ Address of Guarantor	Property Mortgaged	Date of Demand Notice	Amount O/s as on Date of Demand Notice
1.	HOURAI/ 0620/796209 B.O.: Raipur	Mr. Mahesh Kumar Sachan, J 382, Janita Colony, Gudhiyari Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492009	N.A.	Plot No.168, Maruti Infra City, P.H. No. 08, Gram Sankra, R.N.M. Bhalil - 3, Tahsil- Patan, Durg, Chhattisgarh - 490001	14-06-2022	Rs. 10,38,881.14 (Rupees Ten Lakhs Thirty Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty One And Fourteen Paise Only) as on 14-06-2022
2.	HOURAI/ 1116/329703 B.O.: Raipur	Mr./Ms. Ranju Ravi, Mr./Ms. S Sudeep Kumar Nair, House No 2 C/O Ranjan Parashar, Basant Vihar Mahavir Nagar, Near Jagannath Enclave, Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492001	N.A.	Z-19, NA, Empressia Earth E3 Block Z, Empressia Earth E3 Plots Only, P.H. No. 48, Mouza Kandul, RIC - Raipur, Teh. & District Raipur, Near Kingstown, Raipur, Chhattisgarh- 492001	14-06-2022	Rs. 9,72,475/- (Rupees Nine Lakhs Seventy Two Thousand Four Hundred Seventy Five Only) as on 14-06-2022

PLACE:- RAIPUR, DATE :- 29-06-2022
AUTHORIZED OFFICER, PNB HOUSING FINANCE LTD.

Bandhan Bank Regional Office: Netaji Marg, Nr. Mithakhali Six Roads, Ellisbridge, Ahmedabad-6. Phone: + 91-79-26421671-75

Demand Notice to Borrowers

The under mentioned account turned into N.P.A and demand notice is issued by Bandhan Bank Ltd. to the following borrower(s), under sec.13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act (The Act), 2002 which was returned unsecured. Hence, this notice is issued to you all and public at large through publication.

Name of borrower(s), Loan Account No.	Description of mortgaged property (Secured Asset)	Date of Demand Notice/Date of NPA	O/S Amount as on Date of Demand Notice	Date of Posting of Notice
Mr. Mohammad Kaif Sulemani Mr. Mohammad Danish 851/3116 & 851/3119	All that piece and parcel of the immovable property situated at Khasra No. 239/24, P. H. No. 61, RNM Raipur-01, Ward No. 52, Chandrashekhar Azad Ward, Rakba 600 Sq. Ft., Tahsil and District- Raipur- 492001 and bounded by: North: House of Ahmad Khan, East: House of Pandeyji, West: Road, South: Land sale by Rajesh Patel	17.06.2022/ 04.01.2022	Rs. 17,12,041.10 for loan a/c no. 851/3116 & Rs. 4,37,38.72 for loan a/c no. 851/3119 aggregating to Rs. 17,55,779.82	23.06.2022

Demand made against you through this notice to repay to the Bank dues mentioned against your name with interest, costs and charges within 60 days from the date hereof, failing which the Bank will further proceed to take steps u/s. 13(4) of the SARFAESI Act. The borrowers'/mortgagors' attention is invited to the provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Place: Raipur
Date: 30/06/2022
Authorized Officer
Bandhan Bank Limited

2 IN 2 FOR MEN IN BLUE

Hooda's maiden century helps India beat Ireland by 4 runs to pocket series 2-0

Deepak Hooda hit a master-class maiden century as India survived a mighty scare before defeating Ireland by four runs in a nail-biting high-scoring second T20 International to sweep the two-match series here on Tuesday.



Hooda scored 104 off 57 balls to become only the fourth Indian to hit a T20 International ton, while Sanju Samson contributed 77 off 42 balls to power India to a mammoth 225 for seven after opting to bat.

Ireland took the chase to the last over with skipper Andy Balbirnie (60 off 37), Paul Stirling (40 off 18), Harry Tector (39 off 28) and George Dockrell (34 not out off 16) shining bright but they eventually fell short as rookie India pacer Umran Malik defended 17 runs in the final over.

Opting to bat, Hooda showed he belonged to the big stage with his scintillating stroke play, both off the front and backfoot.

While Hooda was elegant and at ease on the frontfoot, he was equally good on the backfoot, dispatching the ball over the midwicket boundary for a few sixes.

Hooda decorated his knock with nine fours and six hits over the fence.

He was ably supported by Sanju Samson, who, opening the batting in place of injured Rituraj Gaikwad, played second fiddle but grabbed his opportunity with both hands.

Both Hooda and Samson's strokeplay down the ground were a treat for the eyes.

Rohit ruled out of fifth Eng Test, Bumrah to lead India



Jasprit Bumrah is set to become first fast bowler in 35 years to lead Indian Test team in the rescheduled 'fifth Test' against England as regular captain Rohit Sharma has been ruled out of the game after testing positive for COVID-19 for the second time on Wednesday.

The last pacer-captain that India had was the great Kapil Dev, who was removed from captaincy in 1987. Since then India has never had a speed merchant leading the team in traditional cricket.

Rohit is out of this Test match, starting July 1, as his RT-PCR test has come positive again. He is still in isolation. Jasprit Bumrah, who is one of the vice-captains in absence of KL Rahul, will lead the team," a senior BCCI official said.

Bumrah will be the 36th cricketer to lead India in the longest-format since the country first played in 1932. The Gujarat pacer, who has 123 wickets in 29 Tests, has grown into world's best fast bowlers.

The Chairman of selectors Chetan Sharma had already said that he is being groomed as a future leader.

PUJARA/VIHARI TO OPEN
With the experienced Rohit out of the playing eleven, seasoned Cheteshwar Pujara has a good chance of opening the batting with young Shubman Gill.

The source said that Mayank Agarwal has just been brought as "cover" and is not in the scheme of things as far featuring in the playing eleven is concerned. It is understood that the specialist batters in the set-up will be Pujara, Gill, Virat Kohli, Shreyas Iyer, Vihari and Rishabh Pant.

Samson toyed with the Irish bowlers and did not let them settle down.

Except for a difficult chance which Paul Stirling dropped at extra off in the eighth over, Hooda played a perfect knock.

Backed Umran for final over because of his pace
PTI MALAHIDE
"I think we've come to play a game of cricket, so Ireland were going to show us what they have. Credit to them, they played amazing shots. At the same point of time, credit to our bowlers to cross the line."

Ireland took the chase of 226 to the last over but fell short by four runs as Umran defended 17 runs in the last over on Tuesday.

KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK LTD.
Public Notice For E-Auction Cum Sale
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower/Co-Borrower/Guarantor that the below described immovable property mortgaged to the Authorized Officer of Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd, the Physical Possession/Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd, will be sold on "AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS" and "WHATSOEVER THERE IS" basis, offers are invited to submit online through the Web Portal of our E-Auction Service Partner, M/s. C1 India Pvt Ltd. e. www.c1india.com by the undersigned for sale of the immovable property of which particulars are given below:-

Bandhan Bank
Regional Office: Netaji Marg, Nr. Mithakhali Six Roads, Ellisbridge, Ahmedabad-6. Phone: +91-79-26421671-75
SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE
NOTICE is hereby given under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Authorized Officer issued demand notice on the date mentioned against the account stated hereinafter calling upon them to repay the amount within 60 days from the date of receipt of said notice. The borrower(s), having failed to repay the amount notice is hereby given to the borrower(s) and the public in general, that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules 2002 on the date mentioned against the loan account. The borrower(s) in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with the property will be subject to the charge of the Bank for the amounts, interest, costs and charges thereon. The borrowers' /borrowers' attention is invited to the provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured asset.

DEMAND NOTICE
Under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (the said Act) read with Rule 3 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (the said Rules). In exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the said Rules, the Authorized Officer of IIFL Home Finance Ltd. (IIFL-HFL) (Formerly known as India Infoline Housing Finance Ltd.) has issued Demand Notices under section 13(2) of the said Act, calling upon the Borrower(s), to repay the amount mentioned in the respective Demand Notice(s) issued to them. In connection with above, notice is hereby given, once again, to the Borrower(s) to pay within 60 days from the publication of this notice, the amounts indicated herein below, together with further interest from the date(s) of Demand Notice till the date of payment. The detail of the Borrower(s), amount due as on date of Demand Notice and security offered towards repayment of loan amount are as under:-

Name of the Borrower(s) / Co-Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s)	Demand Notice Date & Amount	Description of secured asset (immovable property)
1. Mrs. Rehana Parvin 2. Mr. Mohammad Zuhur (Prospect No. 840840)	16-Dec-2020 Rs. 8,33,122/- (Rupees Eight Lakh Thirty Three Thousand One Hundred And Twenty Two Only) Bid Increase Amount Rs. 20,000/- (Rupees Twenty Thousand Only)	All that part and parcel of the property bearing P.H. No. 81/2, Khasra No. 720/5, Block-E Plot No. 52, admeasuring 1000 sqft. Aranya Real Estates, Mauja Pacheda, Rm Mandir Hasaud, Tahsil Aarang, Dist. Raipur, Chhattisgarh-492001

Place: Raipur Date: 30-June-2022
Sd/- Authorised Officer, IIFL Home Finance Limited

Authorised Officer Bandhan Bank Limited