OPINION 6

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NEW DELHI, WEDNESDAY MAY 18, 2022; PAGES 12 ₹3

Protect shivling, allow namaz: SC

Supreme Court refuses to stay Varanasi lower court proceedings

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday directed the District Magistrate of Varanasi to ensure protection of area inside the Gyanvapi mosque where "shivling" is said to have been found in the survey but allowed Muslims to offer "namaz" and perform "religious observances" there without any impediment.

The bench comprising Justices DY Chandrachud and PS Narasimha, however, refused to stay the ongoing proceedings before the lower court.

The bench issued notices to the petitioner Hindu devo-tees and posted the plea of the mosque committee for hearing on May 19.

The bench said it needed to "balance" the rights of contesting parties and clarified that the order of the civil judge (senior division), hearing the plea of petitioner Hindu devo-



Media persons gather and interact with Advocate Barun Kumar Sinha, who is representing Hindu Sena after the hearing of the case of Varanasi's Gyanvapi Masiid-Shringar Gauri Temple complex's survey, outside the Supreme Court in New Delhi on Tuesday

tees, directing authorities to ensure the protection of the area would not restrict and impede the rights of Muslim to offer namaz and to perform religious observances.

The petitioner Committee of Management Anjuman Intezamia Masjid which manages Gyanvapi mosque - repeatedly argued for the stay citing Places of

Worship Act of 1991. This is an interim arrangement till counsel for the plaintiff is here. We need to balance the rights of contesting parties. The order of May 16,

2022, to the extent that DM Varanasi, shall ensure the protection of area where shivling is said to be found will not impede upon the rights of the Muslims to offer namaz and perform religious observances,"

Senior advocate Huzefa Ahmadi, appearing for the Gyanvapi mosque committee, said the Muslims need to perform "wazu" or ablution as without that "namaz" would have no meaning under Islam.

the bench said in its order.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Uttar Pradesh Government, submit

ted that he was not a party to the civil suit, but the place where "shivling" is said to have been found is a place where Muslims perform "wazu" and any damage may create a law and order problem.

"They can perform 'wazu somewhere else if it is necessary but the area where shivling is said to be found needs protec-

tion," the law officer said.
The Solicitor General informed the apex court that the plaintiff's lawyer Hari Shankar Jain had suffered some cardiac issues and was hospitalised in Varanasi. Ahmadi said a series of orders, which are unconstitutional, has been passed by the civil judge and the latest of which was passed on Monday ordering the sealing of the area on an application by Jain in the ex-parte proceedings in which the survey report was yet to be filed.

He said since the top court is now seized of the matter, the entire proceedings before the civil judge needed to be stayed.
The SC, however, refused

to stay the proceedings before the civil judge and said, "Any judicial officer would understand the meaning of our

orders. We don't need to stay it." Continued on Page 2

Gyanvapi survey head removed

Court raps Ajay Mishra for info leak

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

Taking the matter seriously, the Varanasi court of Civil Judge (Senior Division) Ravi Kumar Diwakar removed Advocate Commissioner Ajay Kumar Mishra for leaking the secret information related to the Gyanvapi survey case. Now, Assistant Court Commissioner Vishal Singh, along with Ajay Pratap Singh, will present the survey report in the court.

During the last three days, under the leadership of Advocate Commissioner Ajay Kumar Mishra, the videography survey was done amid tight security on the Gyanvapi premises.

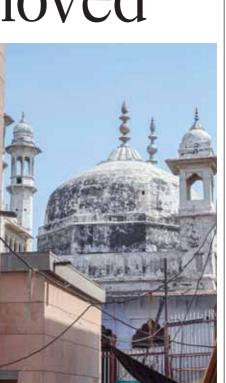
As per the court order, the report was scheduled to be submitted on Tuesday but the survey continued till Monday. Vishal Singh has sought more time for submission of the report as two draftsmen of Varanasi Development Authority (VDA) are busy in making the blueprint of the Gyanavpi-Shriingar Gauri area.

During the hearing earlier, the Muslim side had also expressed doubts over the impartiality of Ajay Kumar Mishra and demanded that the survey commissioner be changed. However, the court did not change him at that time and made him chief advocate commissioner. During the hearing on Tuesday, the court removed Mishra and asked Vishal Singh and Ajay Pratap Singh to submit the detailed survey report.

During the hearing, the advocates of the defendant's side accused Mishra of leaking secret information to the media.

Meanwhile, a petition was filed on behalf of the plaintiff to remove the closed wall towards Shringar Gauri and to appoint a court commissioner for the survey of the closed basement in front of Nandi.

The respondent advocate raised the objec-



tion that without the completion of the proceedings of the court commission, the action of the sealing was not justified. The Muslim side claimed that the entire country was being misled by describing the fountain as a "Shivling". In reply to this, Hindu side's lawyer Vishnu Jain said they knew the difference between a fountain and

India's breather to wheat export ban; US urges Govt to lift curb

PNS/PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Relaxing norms, the Government on Tuesday said it has decided to allow shipments of wheat consignments that were registered with the customs authority before the wheat export ban came into force on May 13. On May 13, the Directorate

General of Foreign Trade issued a notification banning exports of wheat with immediate effect to control price rise "It has been decided that wherever wheat consignments have been handed over to

Customs for examination and have been registered into their systems on or prior to May 13, such consignments would be allowed to be exported," the Commerce Ministry said. Meanwhile, the US said it

hopes India will "reconsider" its decision to ban wheat exports US Ambassador to the UN Linda Thomas-Greenfield said, "We have seen the report of India's decision. We're encouraging countries not to restrict exports because we think any restrictions on exports will exacerbate the food shortages".

The Government has also allowed a wheat consignment headed for Egypt, which was already under loading at the Kandla port, the Commerce

Ministry said. Continued on Page 2

Karti booked in visa payoff case

CBI raids 10 sites

In fresh trouble for Lok Sabha member Karti

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Chidambaram, son of former Minister Finance Chidambaram, the CBI has registered a case against him for allegedly facilitating visas to over 263 Chinese nationals after receiving a bribe of ₹50 lakh in 2011.

Following the registration of the case, the agency conducted searches at 10 locations in Chennai, Mumbai, Koppal (Karnataka), Jharsuguda (Odisha), Mansa (Punjab) and

Delhi Besides Karti, the agency has also named his close associates S Bhaskararaman, Vikas Makharia, Talwandi Sabo



Power Limited, Mansa (Punjab) and Bell Tools Limited, Mumbai besides unknown public servants and private persons.

"It has been alleged that the private company based at Mansa (Talwandi Sabo Power Limited) was in the process of establishing a 1,980 MW thermal power plant at Mansa (Punjab) and the plant was outsourced to a Chinese firm.

HC asks Bengal Min to appear before CBI in daughter job scam

Iment for the Trinamool in political programmes. Calcutta High Court on Tuesday directed Minister of State for Education Paresh Adhikari to appear before the CBI by 8 pm.

Abhijit Justice Gangopadhyay also made recommendations to Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar and Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee to remove Adhikari from his post if he did not resign on his own.

The court ordered a probe into a recruitment scandal featuring the Minister's daughter who was appointed as a teacher in a Government school bypassing other successful candidates who had secured better marks than her in the selec-Continued on Page 2 | tion tests. When contacted

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA Adhikari said he was not in Kolkata and was unaware of n another big embarrass- any such order as he was busy

the school services commission admitted to lapses in the appointment of Paresh's daughter Ankita Adhikari.

"The petitioner had secured 20th position in the merit list for a teaching job, but later her position was changed to 21. This happened after the introduction of a candidate named Ankita in the merit list This Ankita is the daughter of the State Minister Paresh Chandra Adhikari. So by virtue of being the daughter of the Minister her name was included in the merit list despite getting less marks than the petitioner," said the petitioner's

advocate Continued on Page 2

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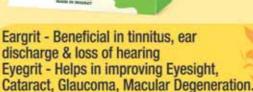
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CAPSULE

NAVEEN SRIVASTAVA IS INDIA'S ENVOY TO NEPAL New Delhi: Seasoned diplomat Naveen Srivastava was on Tuesday appointed India's new ambassador to Nepal. The Ministry of External Affairs announced the appointment a day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid a visit to Lumbini in Nepal. Srivastava, a

additional secretary in the MEA NO-TRUST VOTE AGAINST LANKA PREZ FAILS

1993 batch Indian Foreign

Service, is currently serving as

Colombo: A no-confidence motion tabled by the Opposition against Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa was defeated in Parliament on Tuesday, in a comfortable win for the embattled President amid nationwide protests demanding his resignation.

WORK FOR RAM TEMPLE CONSTRUCTION ON TIME New Delhi: The construction work of Ram temple at Ayodhya, a three-storev structure, is proceeding as per schedule, an official statement

said on Tuesday

RFID tag, ₹5L insurance, fast mobile link for Amarnath Yatra

Amit Shah reviews security for smooth Amarnath pilgrimage

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Amarnath pilgrims will be provided with Radio Frequency Identification (RFID), ₹5 lakh insurance each, and better mobile connectivity as the Government on Tuesday reviewed the security situation for a hassle-free yatra.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah held a series of meetings with security and intelligence top brass along with Jammu & Kashmir's senior officials to assess the prevailing situation and recent

targeted killings in the valley. According to officials, the Union Territory administration proposed RFID tags to every pilgrim to ensure complete informed the meeting that each



Lt Governor of J&K Manoj Sinha was present in all the three back-to-back meetings chaired by the Home Minister. National Security Adviser Ajit Doval and Army Chief Gen Manoj Pande attended the meetings to discuss the security situation in the UT. Senior officials from the Centre, paramilitary forces and the UT administration were present

in these meetings. Later in a statement, the Union Home Ministry said the I&K Chief Secretary

₹5 lakh. Shah said a "hassle-free"

journey for the pilgrims is a priority of the Modi Government and directed that all arrangements, including additional electricity, water and telecom facilities be made. He directed for the enhancement of mobile connectivity along the Yatra route and suggested that earth moving equipment should be placed at vantage points to clear the route in case of landslides.

Continued on Page 2

Elated at Ray's film screening at Cannes: PM | Delhi CM, Israeli envoy

head of the Cannes film Afestival where India is named as "country of honour', the Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday expressed happiness that a film by one of India's most renowned filmmakers, Satyajit Ray, has been restored for screening at the Cannes Classics section in the film festival in France "when India is celebrating the birth centenary of the legendary filmmaker", he said.

Information Broadcasting minister Anurag Thakur is leading an Indian film delegation, the largest so far to Cannes, where he will inaugurate the India Pavilion at the business event alongside the Cannes Film Festival and participate in the opening night

Thakur, who will also walk the red carpet on the occasion, was received by India's Ambassador to France Jawed Ashraf on Tuesday. India has been named as 'country of honour" at the festival.

The Indian delegation is comprising film personalities including Shekhar Kapur, A R

Madhavan, Tamannaah Bhatia, Vani Tripathi, Pooja Hegde and folk artist Mame Khan for the red carpet event ahead of the screening of opening film "Coupez" (Final Cut) by Michel Hazanavicius.

In his message Modi said "films and society are mirror images of each other. Cinema showcases human emotions and expressions in an artistic manner, binding the world together with a common strand of entertainment".

He said India is the largest film-producing country in the world. With films in many languages from different regions, the multifariousness of our film sector is remarkable.

"It is heartening to note that a film by one of India's most renowned filmmakers, Satyajit Ray, has been restored for screening at the Cannes Classics section, when India is celebrating the birth centenary of the legendary filmmaker", the Prime Minister said.

Modi further said " this edition of Cannes film festival is special in many ways. Many Startups from India will showcase their strengths to the cin-



ema world. India Pavilion will display facets of Indian cinema and promote international partnerships and learnings",

As one of the highlights of India's status as the 'country of honour, a special screening of restored Indian classic "Pratidwandi", directed by Satyajit Ray, has been planned as part of the festival's Cannes Classics selection.

In addition, world premieres of a selection of Indian films will be held at the Olympia Cinema.

India will be showcasing five movies – "Baghjan" (Assamese) by Jaicheng Zxai Dohutia, "Bailadila" (Chhattisgarhi) by Shailendra Sahu, "Ek Jagah Apni" (Hindi) by Ektara collective, "Follower"

14 new cases

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

With 14 fresh cases of dengue reported in a week in the national Capital,

the total number of people

infected with the vector-borne

disease has reached 145 this

According to reports released by all three municipal

corporations, six cases of

malaria were also reported in

the city till May 17, taking the

total tally to 33 this year.

However, 12 cases reported in

Delhi were from other

chikungunya are accompanied

by a high fever. Cases of vector-

borne diseases are usually

reported between July and

November, but the period may

stretch till mid-December. Last

year, 9,613 dengue cases, the highest number of such cases

Malaria, dengue, and

States.

of dengue

reported

in Capital

(Marathi) by Harshad Nalawde and "Shivamma" (Kannada) by Jai Shankar – under the "Goes to Cannes Section".

Actor R Madhavan's film, 'Rocketry: The Nambi Effect", will have its world premiere at the festival on May 19.

Actor Akshay Kumar, also an invitee to the Cannes festival, is not attending it as he has got infected by Covid19.

discuss ways to boost ties

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi's Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and Israel's Ambassador to India Naor Gilon on Tuesday dis-cussed on enhancing the relationship between the coun-

tries over the course of time.

According to a statement issued by the Delhi Government, the CM and Ambassador talked about the rich history both the countries share and how they can further

be made stronger.

"Both the leaders also deliberated on how Delhi and Israel can help each other become more efficient and work towards positive progress and growth. Arvind Kejriwal asserted that both Delhi and Israel have the potential to work together towards ensuring peace and welfare for

humanity," it said.
The CM Office also tweeted about the meeting and said, "Israel Ambassador to India H.E. Shri Naor Gilon called upon Chief Minister of Delhi Shri Arvind Kejriwal at Delhi Secretariat today. Both Delhi and Israel will work together towards ensuring peace and welfare for the people (sic)."

The statement said that the Israeli ambassador heaped praises on the development of Delhi in the recent past and expressed his delight on meeting Kejriwal.

Kejriwal informed Gilon about the welfare policies of the Delhi government and said that Delhiites live a peaceful life because of government programmes that seek to minimise their problems.

"Évery resident gets free education, free healthcare, free electricity and free water. On top of that, women and construction labourers get free bus transport in the city. All of this helps them lead a peaceful and dignified life," he said.

Shah to open DU's 3-day global seminar

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah will be the chief guest at the inaugural ceremony of a three-day international seminar being organised at the Delhi University on May

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan will be the special guest during the opening ceremony while the function will be presided over by DU Vice Chancellor Yogesh

According to a statement issued by the varsity, the seminar titled 'Revisiting Ideas of India from 'Swaraj' to 'New India' is being organised as part of the DU's centenary celebrations and it will be inaugurated on May 19 at the multipurpose hall of the university's Delhi Sports Complex.

After the inaugural session, there will be a special lecture by Mukul Kanitkar, the National Organisation Secretary of the Bhartiya Shikshan Mandal.

fter the College of Art

After the Conese of the (CoA) started its admis-

sion process as a part of the

Ambedkar University, 11

teachers of Delhi University's

Academics for Action and

Development on Tuesday

wrote to varsity's Vice

Chancellor Yogesh Singh seek-

ing his necessary intervention.

ers, including members of the

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R.O. Date - 17.05.2022

In the letter, the 11 teach-

STAFF REPORTER

"Kantikar will throw light on his perspective on various aspects of the theme of the seminar. After the inauguration of this seminar, the remaining academic sessions will be held in the conference centre of the

university," it said. The journey from Swaraj to New India is a journey to reestablish our rich social, cultural, spiritual and holistic existential heritage over the centuries and to embody the ideas that once made us a prosperous civilization beyond the realm of imagination," the university said in the

This seminar will have sixteen sessions, including four plenary sessions and about a hundred eminent speakers of national and international importance will present their views, the university said. The brochure containing

the abstract of the papers will be presented in this seminar.

The valedictory session will be held on May 21.

Teachers write to V-C on CoA

nate action" is in contraven-

tion of the Acts and Statutes

of the Delhi University

This comes amid an ongo

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AISA stir at Hansraj over IAS coaching agreement

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The student outfit All India Students' Association (AISA) on Tuesday staged a protest outside Delhi University's Hansraj College against its tie-up with a private institute

AISA members raised slogans against what they termed the "raging privatisation of education" and carried placards that read: 'Shame on Hansraj Principal', 'No private coaching in DU', 'Beacon IAS Go

Hansraj College has been providing IAS coaching to Delhi University students in association with a private institution, Beacon Institute, since last year, DU Academic Council member Alok Pandey

problems. The Ambedkar

University (AU) is a Delhi

government-funded univer-

sity. Admissions could not be

held at CoA during the last

academic session due to an

affiliation issue. The CoA

offers master's and bachelor's

member Alok Pandey said

the Ambedkar University

recently held a meeting in

which it announced that the

admission to CoA will begin

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Place:- Porvorim Bardez-Goa.

Dated: 05/05/2022

DU academic council

courses in fine arts.

as part of the AU.

were recorded in the Capital in a year since 2015, along with 23 In the years prior to 2021, the total dengue cases reported were 4,431 (2016), 4,726 (2019) and 1,072 (2020), as per

In 2015, the number of dengue cases reported had crossed 10,600 in October itself, making it the worst outbreak of the vector-borne disease in the national Capital

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Himanshu Ahuja (Advocate)

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Himanshu Ahuja (Advocate)

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WHEREAS, the above mentioned Complainant has filed Complaint U/s. 35 of Consumer Protection Act, 2019 (copies of complaint may be collected from this office on any working day)against Opposite Party No. 2 which is fixed THE PIONEER (for your appearance on 29/06/2022 at 10.30 a.m. AND WHEREAS, Notice sent to Opposite Party The Complainant has prayed service of notice by publishing the notice to Opposite Party No. 2 in Local Newspaper circulating in local newspaper, New Delhi at the address known to

CHANGE OF NAME

I GAURAV CHAUHAN R/o A-7/1, 20 Yrs, Gali No 6, before this Commission on 29/06/2022 at 10.30 South Anarkali Delhi-110051, Do hereby declare that my Father is Rajeev Kumar Chauhan and Rajiv Chauhan (as mentioned in (Quincy Gonsalves)
Asst Registrar, Records) CBSE Rajiv Chauhan are the same District Commission, North Goa person.

Protect Shivling...

From Page 1

The clarification was given by the top court after Ahmadi pointed out that the impugned order in the opening para-graph says the application filed by Jain (plaintiff) is allowed and had also issued specific direction to seal the area where the 'shivling' is said to be found the 'shivling' is said to be found and restrict the entry of Muslims to 20 and direction to CRPF commandant to provide protection to the premises. Ahmadi said the order impugned is an order passed in a civil lawsuit where prayers were made to allow the plaintiff and others to worship and a declaration about the place.

"The prayer categorically speaks about changing the status quo of the religious structure which is a mosque since time immemorial. This suit is barred as per the act of Parliament passed in 1991 but despite that, it was entertained and a series of orders were passed by the trial court including the appointment of court commissioner," he said. Mehta said Ahmadi should not cast any aspersion on the civil

He further said while the commission work was in progress an application was filed by the plaintiff saying that a 'shivling', which, as per the mosque committee a water the court allowed the applications and passed the order ex parte in a "tearing hurry".

From Page 1

The move follows a request

by the Egyptian Government to

permit the wheat cargo that

was being loaded at Kandla

port. Mera International India

Pvt Ltd, the company engaged

for export of the wheat to

Egypt, had also given a repre-

sentation for completion of

loading of 61,500 MT of wheat

of which 44,340 MT had

already been loaded and only

17,160 MT was left to be

to permit the full consign-

ment of 61,500 MT and

allowed it to sail from Kandla

against the backdrop of reports

that thousands of trucks carry-

ing wheat were in the queue

to Egypt, the Ministry said.

The Government decided

The move also comes

loaded, it added.

India's breather to....

HC asks Bengal...

From Page 1

The Minister's daughter has been teaching political science in Class XI and XII in a school in Coochbehar in North

Reacting to the court order, TMC spokesperson Kunal Ghosh said his party had no problem in law taking its own course but added in every case the three arms of the State judiciary, executive and legislative — should work within precincts.

"The law should take its own course and we accept the court order but ... certain issues like whether a Minister should or should not be in the Ministry is the Chief Minister's prerogative," he said.

Earlier the court had ordered a CBI investigation into the role of the TMC leader and Minister Partho Chatterjee in making hundreds of appointments depriving the genuine candidates. A judicial committee created by the High Court has not only indicted the five-member panel "illegally" created by the then Minister

recommended criminal against Chatterjee is pending for hearing in the Division of

outside some ports due to the

sudden announcement of wheat

export ban. The Government

had earlier restricted wheat

exports to manage the overall

food security situation in India

and to support the needs of

neighbouring and vulnerable countries that have been

adversely affected by the sudden

changes in the global market for

wheat and unable to access

May 13, the restrictions would

not apply in cases where prior

commitments have been made

by private traders through

Letter of Credit as well as in sit-

uations where permission is

granted by the government to

other countries to meet their

food security needs and on the

requests of their governments.

As per the order issued on

adequate wheat supplies.

NCRPULSE

PANEL MEMBERS TRAVEL BY CABS TO UNDERSTAND **WOES OF DRIVERS DUE TO FUEL PRICE HIKES**

New Delhi: Amid rising fuel prices, the members of the committee formed for the fare revision of auto-rickshaws and taxis by the Delhi government have been travelling by cabs and autos for the past two weeks to understand the demands and expectations of drivers, said

BOOK ON LIFE BY SOCIAL ACTIVIST SAKSENA UNVEILED BY UNION MINISTER OF STATE

New Delhi: Union Minister of State for Finance Pankai Choudharv unveiled a book 'Life' by noted writer and social activist Dr Krishna Saksena. In this small book, Saksena has described the ups and downs of life through various aspects in a simple language.

NMC CONDUCTS ANTI-ENCROACHMENT DRIVE; 400 SQUATTERS CLEAR THE ROAD THEMSELVES

New Delhi: With an aim to remove the encroached structures from public land, the NMC on Tuesday conducted an 'anti-encroachment drive at the Rithala Metro Station, in the national Capital. According to a senior official, ironically in Tuesday's demolition drive, around 450 encroachers out of 400 vacated the road side themselves before the action started and the bulldozers started rolling. The city has seen unruly scenes during the SDMC's demolition drives by the SDMC with people protesting

Karti booked

From Page 1

It has been further alleged that the project was running behind its schedule. In order to avoid penal actions for the delay, the said private company of Mansa was trying to bring more and more Chinese persons/professionals for their site needed Project VISAs over and above the ceiling imposed by Ministry of Home Affairs," the CBİ said in statement.

It has also been alleged that for the said purpose, the representative of Talwandi Sabo Power Limited, Vikas Makharia approached Karti through his close associate/front man S Bhaskararaman. Thereafter, they devised a backdoor way to defeat the purpose of ceiling (maximum number of Project Visas permissible to the company's plant) by granting permission to re-use 263 Project VISAs allotted to the said Chinese company's officials. Pursuing the alleged con-

spiracy, Makharia submitted a letter to the Home Ministry, then headed by P then headed by Chidambaram, seeking approval to re-use the Project Visas allotted to this company. This was approved within a month and permission was issued to the company, the

"A bribe of ₹50 Lakh was allegedly demanded by said pri-

(Karti) through his close associate/front

vate person based at Chennai

(Bhaskararman) which was paid by the said Mansa-based private company (Talwandi Sabo Power Limited)," it said.

It has been further alleged that the payment of said bribe was routed from Mansa-based ate company to his close associate/front man Bhaskararman through a Mumbai-based company Bell Tools Limited as payment of false invoice raised for consultancy for Chinese visas related works. However, the Mumbaibased firm was never engaged in any kind of work relating to visas, rather it was in an entirely different business of industrial knives, officials said.

Reacting to the CBI searches against his son, senior Congress leader Chidambaram on Tuesday said a CBI team searched his residence in Chennai as well as his official residence in Delhi but "found nothing and seized nothing"

Chidambaram also said the "timing of the search is interesting".

'The team showed me an FIR in which I am not named as an accused. The search team found nothing and seized nothing," the former Union Minister said.

"I have lost count, how many times has it been? Must be a record," Karti tweeted.

place in 2020 and 2021 due to security forces to ensure the

This is the first Yatra after the Covid-19 pandemic, and due to the high altitude, adequate arrangements will have to be made for yatris who have any health-related problems, he said

Shah asked for an adequate number of oxygen cylinders, medical beds at an altitude of more than 6,000 feet, and deployment of ambulances and helicopters to deal with any PD(9096)A emergency medical situation.

vices should be increased during the Amarnath yatra for the convenience of passengers.

During the meeting, it was also decided to enable WiFi hotspots to ensure connectivity throughout the 39 km of the Yatra route from Pahalgam in South Kashmir. The other route is through Baltal in Central Kashmir where a pilgrim treks for nearly 15 km.

The Yatra, which presents a big security challenge to the Government, could not take

the coronavirus pandemic and was cut short in 2019 just before the abrogation of Article 370. About three lakh pilgrims are likely to take part in the pilgrimage, scheduled to begin on June 30 and expected to end on

August 11.

About 12,000 paramilitary personnel (120 companies) in addition to Jammu and Kashmir Police are expected to be deployed along the two pilgrimage routes, officials said. Drone cameras will help the protection of the pilgrims. Besides the Amarnath pilgrimage, the meetings also

reviewed the security arrangement especially in the wake of several targeted killings, including of Kashmiri Pandits, in Kashmir. Top officials of the Ministries of Health, Telecom, Road Transport, Civil Aviation and IT took part in the meeting to discuss logistics for the annual pilgrimage to the cave shrine dedicated to Lord Shiva at an altitude of 3,888 metres.

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Dry Delhi appeals to Haryana to release water

Khattar Govt must comply with SC's order as our share of water is our right. says Satyendar Jain

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Government has requested its counterpart in Haryana to release water in the almost dry Yamuna River, amid the water crisis that has gripped the national Capital.

Delhi Water Minister, Satyendar alleged that the BJPled Haryana Government has withheld the share of water that belongs to Delhi.

The Delhi Jal Board (DJB) has written thrice to the Irrigation Department in this connection in a fortnight and had shot off request letters on May 12, May 3 and April 30.

Jain on Tuesday conducted an on-site review of the Wazirabad barrage. He was also concerned about the impact of the water output from the Wazirabad and Chandrawal Water Treatment Plants (WTP) due to the Harvana Government's reduced water release in the Yamuna River.



The water level at the Wazirabad barrage has dropped from its typical 674.5 feet to this year's lowest level of

"Due to a lack of water supply from Haryana, the water treatment plants in Delhi are currently running at a fraction of their peak capability. As a result, Wazirabad WTP's water production has decreased by 60-70 MGD. The Yamuna has dried up as well due to the withholding of water by the Haryana Government," he

"The water supply is being impacted in several places across the city including Civil Lines, Hindurao Hospital, Kamla Nagar, Shakti Nagar, Karol Bagh, Paharganj, Old and New Rajinder Nagar, Patel Nagar, Baljit Nagar and Indrapuri," said Jain

"We have appealed to the Haryana Government, requesting that they come here and assess the state of the Yamuna. We are not expecting the Haryana Government to provide water in proportion to the 2022 population of Delhi, but at the very least they need to comply with the Supreme Court's ruling. Our share of

water is our right," said Jain. Meanwhile, an official said that residents facing water shortage can contact Delhi Jal Board's Central Control Room at 1916, 23527679, 23634469 for water tanker facilities.

"We are taking all measures necessary to meet the demand but the situation is worsening by the day due to the intense heat and Haryana releasing less water in the river," said an official on condition of

City continues to simmer Capital's peak power at 41.1 degrees Celsius

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The national Capital on Tuesday witnessed a max-imum temperature of 41.1 degrees Celsius, which was one notch warmer than normal for this time of the year.

The minimum temperature recorded at the Safdarjung Observatory was 27.5 degrees Celsius, which was one notch above the normal for this sea-

The relative humidity at 8:30 on Sunday morning was recorded at 57 per cent and 32 per cent in the evening at 5:30. The weather stations at

the Ridge, Ayanagar, Mungeshpur, Najafgarh, Pitampura, Palam, and Lodhi Road recorded maximum temperatures of 42.4 degrees Celsius, 43 degrees Celsius, 44.6 degrees Celsius, 44.2 degrees Celsius, 42.5 degrees Celsius, 42.4 degrees Celsius and 41.5 degrees Celsius respectively, according to the India Meteorological Department (IMD).

The IMD said that the fresh spell of heatwave condi-



tions is likely over northwest and central India from May 19.

"Heavy to very heavy rainfall over Kerala, coastal and south interior Karnataka, Assam and Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh during next three days," predicted the IMD. "Advancement

Southwest Monsoon into some more parts of the South Bay of Bengal, the entire Andaman Sea and Andaman Islands and some parts of East central Bay of Bengal during next two days," said IMD.

The weather station further predicted heatwave conditions in Southwest Uttar Pradesh between May 17-19.

On Sunday, Delhi saw a tormenting heatwave pushing the mercury to 49.2 degrees Celsius at Mungeshpur in northwest Delhi and 49.1 degrees Celsius at Najafgarh in the southwest parts of the

demand falls further, slips to 6,587 MW

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The national Capital on Tuesday witnessed the peak power demand of 6,587 MW, which was slightly less than the demand on Monday.

According to the sources in discoms, Delhi's peak power demand on Tuesday clocked 6,587 MW at 3:32 in the after-

"Delhi's peak power demand in May had never crossed the 6,000 MW-mark in 2021 and 2020. In 2019, it had crossed the 6,000 MW-mark only on three occasions i.e. May 29 (6,020 MW), May 30 (6,240 MW) and May 31 (6,461 MW)," a senior official said.

"In May so far, the peak power demand has been higher on 100 per cent of the corresponding days of May of 2021, 2020 and 2019," he said.

"Earlier, in April 2022, the peak power demand had been higher on 100 per cent of the corresponding days in respect

CITY'S PEAK POWER DEMAND IN MAY NEVER CROSSED 6,000 MARK IN 2020, 2021

to that of April 2021, 2020 and 2019. Moreover, on seven occasions in April 2022, Delhi's peak power demand clocked the highest-ever in April, each breaking the previous record in quick succession. On April 19, it was 5,735 MW, 5,761 MW on April 20 it was 5,781 MW on August 21 it was 5,786 MW on April 27, 6,050 MW on April 28, 6,197 on April 29 and 6,036 MW on April 30," he said.

"Delhi's peak power demand had breached the 7,000 MW-mark for the first time - peaking at 7,016 MW in

This expected peak power demand of around 8,200 MW is an increase of around 285 per cent over the peak power demand of 2,879 MW in 2002,"

Building owner among 3 sent to police custody in Mundka fire probe

 $T^{\text{hree men, including the building owner, were taken by Delhi}\\$ Police on one day custody, as part of the probe into the massive fire that broke out in outer Delhi's Mundka leaving 27 people

A Delhi Court handed oneday police custody of the building owner Manish Lakra and two brothers -- Vijay and Harish Goel-- who rented two floors in the building to run their CCTV company, for further investigation.

According to Sameer Sharma, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), Outer district, police need to collect blood samples of the brothers-- Vijay and Harish

"Also, we need to know their background, company details and about the permissions taken by them from the authorities concerned. Lakra's documents are yet to be verified," said the DCP.

Out of the 16 people injured, at least 10 have recorded their statements. Besides them, statements of the witnesses are being recorded, they said.

A senior police official said the police are asking the authorities concerned, including the North Delhi Municipal Corporation, to give documents pertaining to the building and the businesses there for investigation.

"More than 100 exhibits have been received by the Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL). We have formed multiple teams for DNA examination...Now that we have received the samples, we are proceeding with the entire process of DNA profiling. Since it is a complex process, it takes time," a senior FSL official said.

DNA sampling generally takes about one to two weeks. It also depends on the condition of the samples, the official said.

'Heroes proved Delhiites stand united in a crisis'

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

 $D^{elhi\,Chief\,Minister\,Arvind\,Kejriwal\,on}_{Tuesday\,met\,the\,heroes\,who\,saved\,lives}$ of several people during the fire at CCTV cameras and routers manufacturing and assembling company in Outer Delhi's Mundka, which claimed lives on 27 people.

The CM said, "Such heroes proved how Delhiites stand together as a family during all highs and lows. We all have to be united and always help each other and work

In the Mundka fire incident, many people came forward and saved the lives of dozens of people trapped in the building.

Dayanand Tiwari, a crane driver, who happened to be in the area, broke the glass of the building with the crane and started taking people out.

A 38-year-old Bablu, who runs a junk shop in the area, took out mattresses from his shop and laid them on the sides of the building, so that people who jumped down from above do not get hurt.

A 45-year-old, Surendra, a transporter, brought down several people with the help of a rope. Farmer Vijay Mann, along with



the villagers, started bringing down the people with the help of rope even before the fire brigade arrived and also took the injured to the hospital.

Similarly, 37-year-old Sanjeev, who works in MCD, brought down people with the help of ropes and stairs. During this time mattresses and ropes were falling short, so social worker Vikas and Pradeep, who runs a groceries shop, arranged for them by asking the people around.

Anil (35) also helped by arranging mattresses and ropes. Deepak Yadav, a construction worker, brought ropes and mattresses from his nearby village.

NMC suspends licensing inspector, 2 SOs for laxity Narela zone has been issued

STAFF REPORTER NEW

The North Delhi Municipal Corporation (NMC) on Tuesday suspended Licencing Inspector Sandeep Kaushik, Section Officer of General Branch S.K Sharma and Section Officer of House Tax Department B. R. Meena of Narela Zone on finding laxity prima facie, in connection with the recent fire tragedy at Mundka, which claimed 27

As per the suspension order, NMC today suspended Licensing Inspector Sandeep Kaushik, Section Officer of General Branch and Section Officer of House Tax Department B. R. Meena of Narela Zone in view of unfortunate fire incident happened at Mundka area on 13.05.22. Prima facie, it appears to be the laxity on the part of the officials of general branch, house tax department and erstwhile 'AS PER THE RECORD, NO PROPERTY TAX HAS BEEN PAID BY THE OWNER OR OCCUPIER OF THE PREMISES'

Najafgarh Zone of unified

MĆD. "As per the record, no

property tax has been paid by the owner/occupier of the premises and notices were issued by the department. Action against the building in the past was taken in 2019, As per directions of Monitoring Committee, the liquor shop, running at the ground floor of the premises was sealed on 24.1.19. Thereafter, as per order of

the Monitoring Committee dated 24.7.2019, the property was de-sealed after removing the belongings and accordingly ground floor is lying vacant,"

Further show cause notice to Deputy. A&C and Joint

and disciplinary proceeding has also been initiated against the then area Junior Engineer of the building department In Narela Zone/Najafgarh Zone posting during 01.01.2011 to 31.12.2011, when the alleged construction took place," it

"In order to prevent recurrence of such tragic incident, all Dy. Commissioners of Zones and officers/officials of Factory Licensing Department and Health Department have been directed to carry out a detailed survey of unauthorized factory units/restaurants operating in non-confirming areas without proper directed to carry out a detailed survey of FIR/NOC and Health License etc.

Those found violating the law, will be prosecuted and panel action including sealing etc, shall be taken against the defaulters as per relevant provisions of the DMC Act," order

More armed guards at CM's house now, Delhi Police tells HC

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

¬he Delhi Police on Tuesday The Delni rolled on Tuesday Court that security outside Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's residence, where an incident of vandalism occurred in March, has been beefed up with the deployment of additional armed guards.

A Bench of Acting Chief Justice Vipin Sanghi and Justice Navin Chawla granted time to the police to file the status report and said it shall be filed positively before the next date, that is, May 30. The police said the pro-

posal to curtail entry on the road where the Chief Minister's residence is located is also under consideration and discussions are on with the Residents Welfare Associations The court was informed by

the counsel for police that the status report is under preparation and sought some time to file it on record.

The Delhi Government

standing counsel (criminal) Sanjay Lau submitted that the status report of the Delhi Police was under preparation and it could not be filed as Additional Solicitor General Sanjay Jain was not available.

He further said more police personnel have been deployed outside the Chief Minister's house and they were talking with RWAs to install two gates on both sides of the road and that no assembly or protests will be allowed near the Civil Lines Metro Station.

The court was hearing a plea by AAP MLA Saurabh Bhardwaj about the March 30 attack during a protest against Kejriwal's remarks on 'The Kashmir Files', a film on the plight of Kashmiri Pandits.

Scores of protesters belonging to the Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJÝM), the youth wing of the BJP, had allegedly breached the barricades to reach the entrance of the Chief Minister's residence and destroyed public property in the presence of police.



File photo of the attack on the CM's house in March



BJP-ruled MCD responsible for Mundka blaze, says Atishi STAFF REPORTER NEW fire was situated on a stretch MCD's blatant misgover-

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) legislator from Kalkaji, Atishi, on Tuesday blamed Bharatiya Janata Party for the Mundka fire incident which claimed 27 lives and injured 19 people.

Slamming the BJP-led Municipal Corporation, Atishi said, "People all over Delhi as well as the country are curious to know who is behind this tragic fire and how is it that unauthorised construction and illegal activity at such a large scale had been taking place and no one dared to question or take action against it."

"The building in Mundka that was completely gutted by

of land in Lal Dora Extension, where no one is permitted to run commercial businesses as per the law. Despite this, how were commercial activities operating through this particular building?," she questioned "Every incident of unau-

thorised construction in Delhi takes place with the blessings of BJP councillors and leaders, where they arrive to extort money and pocket their share with the blink of an eye. Similar is the case for illegal commercial activities which are enabled and permitted by the BJP-ruled MCD after they extort their desired amount of money," she said.

"The Mundka building is a prime example of BJP-led

have documents enough to prove that BJP-ruled North MCD permitted commercial activities to operate from the building in Mundka - the owner of the building, Manish Lakra, was given this licence despite the fact that the law states that no commercial businesses can run in the Lal Dora Extension," she

claimed. "How did the BJP-ruled MCD issue this licence to Manish Lakra when it was strictly illegal to do so? The answer to this is clear, as the BJP only has two goals; first extortion, and second to protect and promote the criminals and goons," said Atishi.

Govt identifying land for setting up food truck hubs

DELHI TOURISM & TRANSPORTATION

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STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The teams of Delhi Tourism and Transport Transport Development Corporation (DTTDC) and land owning agencies have started conducting surveys across the city to identify land for setting up food truck hubs as announced in the Aam Aadmi Party-led Delhi Government's Rozgar Budget

Meanwhile, the Delhi Fire Services (DFS) has already clarified that if the area occupied by a food truck is below 90 square metres, the fire No Objection Certificate (NOC)

would not be required A report on the identified locations based on the survey is expected to be submitted to

the Government this week said an official of the DTTDC. The DTTDC, assigned to prepare the food truck policy,

is also working on various initiatives of the Delhi Government, including redevelopment of five prominent retail markets in the city.

"Various factors, including the availability of land, footfall and infrastructure, are to be considered in setting up the food truck hubs as per a poli-cy to be framed by the Government," the official said. The food truck markets

would create a "vibrant nightlife experience" for the had said earlier. people of the city besides serving as a catalyst to Delhi's night-time economy, Deputy Government in the country to Chief Minister Manish Sisodia come up with 'Food Truck

Policy' on the lines of the US The Arvind Kejriwal disand Europe, to streamline food pensation is the first truck business in the city, he

had said. The Delhi Government

has estimated that at least 15,000 new job opportunities would be created with the promotion of food truck business

The land owning agencies of the Delhi Government, including the Public Works Department, Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board, Delhi State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation, the Delhi Jal Board, Delhi Metro Rail Corporation and Delhi Transport Corporation, have been involved in the project. The hubs would be devel-

oped with food trucks offering local and global cuisines from 8 P.M. to 2 A.M. The Government is also likely to consider incentivising the food truck business and relax certain norms for it, in the policy that is yet to be framed, they

INSHORT

SC IMPOSES EXEMPLARY COST ON 2 ADVOCATES

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Tuesday imposed an exemplary cost of Rs 8 lakh on two advocates, who had filed a plea on the issue of traffic density, air pollution and emission norms. A threejudge bench headed by Justice L Nageswara Rao said this is not a moot court competition and dismissed the plea.

DEEPEN BONDS WITH VOTERS: NADDA

New Delhi: BJP president J P Nadda on Tuesday stressed on the need for party leaders to deepen bond with voters from Scheduled Castes and other deprived sections of the society. In a closed-door meeting with senior party leaders from the party's SC wing and other Dalit leaders, Nadda asked them to reach out to members of the community and maintain constant dialogue with them. party has called the meeting "Samajik Samvad Programme"

SC GRANTS 3-MONTH INTERIM BAIL TO JN TYAGI

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Tuesday granted three months of interim bail to Jitendra Narayan Tyagi on medical grounds in connection with the Haridwar Dharma Sansad case involving alleged inflammatory speeches made against Muslims.

APPEAL IN SC FOR MARITAL RAPE CRIMINALISATION

New Delhi: An appeal has been filed in the Supreme Court challenging the Delhi High Court's split verdict on the issue of criminalisation of marital rape on a batch of petitions challenging the exception in the law that exempts husbands from being prosecuted for non-consensual sexual intercourse with their wives

Aim to roll out 6G network by decade end: PM

Ctating that mobile manu-Sfacturing units in the country have increased from two to more than 200 thereby bringing mobile phone "within the reach of the poorest of poor families", Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday informed that India is targeting the rollout of 6G telecom network, which will provide ultra high speed internet con-nectivity, by the end of the

Moving ahead of the 4G regime, the mobile telecom networks and companies are gearing up to launch 5G over the next few months.

Addressing a programme marking the silver jubilee celebrations of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) via video conferencing, Modi said the self-made 5G

the nation today is an important step toward self-reliance in critical and modern technology in the telecom sector.

He congratulated all those associated with the project including the IITs. "The country's own 5G standard has been made in the form of 5Gi, it is a matter of great pride for the country. It will play a big role in bringing 5G technology to the villages of the country", he said.

The Prime Minister also released a postal stamp to commemorate the occasion. Union Ministers Ashwini Vaishnaw, Devusinh Chauhan and L. Murugan and the leaders of telecom and broadcasting sectors were among those present on the occasion.

Modi said it is estimated that the 5G network rollout will add USD 450 billion to the

"This is not just increasing internet speed but also the pace of development and creating jobs," he said, adding the 5G technology will bring positive change in governance of the country, ease of living and ease of doing business.

It will boost growth in agriculture, health, education, infrastructure and logistics, he

According to the PM, a task force has started work on rolling out the 6G network by the end of the decade. Without naming the Congress-led-UPA government, Modi said, "Coming out of the despair, frustration, corruption and policy paralysis of the 2G era, the country has moved rapidly from 3G to 4G and now 5G and 6G" with TRAI paying a very important role in the

industry has faced challenges like retrospective tax or adjusted gross revenue, then his government has responded to the crisis expeditiously and undertaken reforms wherever required.

These efforts have created new trust. The result of this is that over one-and-a-half times more FDI in the telecom sector has come in the last 8 years compared to the amount that came into the country before 2014," Modi said adding teledensity and internet users are fast expanding.

The Prime Minister affirmed that today India is connecting every village in the country with optical fibre. Today we have made broadband connectivity reach about 1.75 lakh gram panchayats. Hundreds of government services are reaching the villages

because of this, he said. Telecom Minister Ashwani Vaishnaw said the country's scientists and engineers have developed a complete 4G stack which is ready for deployment by the BSNL and the 5G stack is at an advanced stage of development. "By the end of

this year, we should see our

indigenously developed 5G

technology stack," Vaishnaw

I&B secretary Apurva Chandra said the media and entertainment industry is expected to grow to USD 70 billion by 2030 from USD 25 billion and TRAI as a broadcasting regulator will have to play an important role in steer-

India rejects Pak resolution on delimitation in Kashmir

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

India on Tuesday rejected the resolution passed by the National Assembly of Pakistan on the delimitation exercise in Jammu and Kashmir and termed it "farcical." New Delhi also asked Islamabad to stop cross-border terrorism and shut down its "infrastructure of terrorism."

Making the country's stand clear, Ministry of External Affairs' spokesperson Arindam Bagchi also said Pakistan has no locus standi to interfere in the internal matters of India.

"We categorically reject the farcical resolution passed by the National Assembly of Pakistan on the subject of the delimitation exercise in the Indian Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

"Pakistan has no locus standi to pronounce on or interfere in matters that are internal to India, including the Indian territories under Pakistan's illegal and forcible occupation," Bagchi said.

He made these assertions while responding to media queries regarding the resolution passed by the Pakistan National



Assembly on May 12 against

"It is regrettable that instead of putting their own house in order, the leadership in Pakistan continues to interfere in India's internal affairs and engage in baseless and provocative anti-India propaganda," he said.

Entire territory of the union territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh "have been, is and shall always remain an integral part of India," he reiterated.

The delimitation exercise in the Union Territory of

Jammu and Kashmir is a democratic exercise based on principles of extensive stakeholder consultation and participation," he said. The delimitation commis-

sion, tasked with redrawing parliamentary and assembly constituencies in Jammu and Kashmir, notified its final report earlier this month. Bagchi asked Pakistan to

refrain from effecting any further material changes in the status of Pakistan occupied Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh (PoJKL) and vacate the Indian territories that are under its

"illegal and forcible occupa

"We reiterate that Pakistan must immediately cease anti-India cross-border terrorism and shut down its infrastructure of terrorism; stop the grave and persistent human rights violations in Pakistan occupied Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh (PoJKL); refrain from effecting any further material changes in the status of PoJKL, and vacate Indian territories that are under its illegal and forcible occupation," Bagchi

Pakistan Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, who moved the resolution, had claimed India's move is aimed at artificially altering the electoral strength of Jammu and

On Monday, the external affairs ministry had asked the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) to refrain from "unwarranted" comments on Jammu and Kashmir.

"The OIC should refrain from carrying out its communal agenda vis-a-vis India at the behest of one country," the Ministry spokesperson said in an oblique reference to

India may reopen embassy in Kabul; security review on

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

India may re-open its embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan, which was shut down two days after the Taliban took over the country on August 15 last year. More than 15 countries have already reopened their embassies there.

Various Indian agencies are reviewing the situation in Afghanistan to come to a final decision in this regard. With security of the staff of paramount concern, some security teams of India recently visited Kabul to take stock of the ground realities, sources said here on Tuesday.

Incidentally, the ongoing counter-terrorism meeting here of the Regional Anti-Terrorism Structure(RATS) under the aegis of the Shanghai Co-operation Organisation on Monday discussed the situation there with special focus of some groups operating from the Taliban governed nation. Representative from Pakistan, China, Russia and Central Asian countries are participating in the four-day conclave ending Thursday.

As regards the possibility of re-opening the Indian embassy, sources said if it so happens, personnel will be posted for liaison services and consular services. However, no top officials or diplomats may be deployed there to begin with, they added.

Even as India is yet to recognize the Taliban regime, New Delhi is regularly sending food and medical aid to Afghanistan via the land route passing through Pakistan from Attari-Wagah border. India is committed to send more than 50,000 tons of wheat to Afghanistan as part of humanitarian assistance. The Taliban dispensation

has many times expressed gratitude to India for the aid and has urged New Delhi to reopen its embassy in Kabul. It has assured Indía of all possible security and safe environment to operate there.

Incidentally, India has reopened its embassy in strife torn Ukraine from this week. It was closed shortly after the Russian military action there began on February 24. The embassy in Kyiv commenced operations on Tuesday.

'India, Africa must respond to volatile, uncertain world'

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Tuesday said India and Africa must respond to the "volatile and uncertain" world and learn appropriate lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic and knock-on effects of the Ukraine conflict.

Making this point here in an address at a book release event, Jaishankar said development partnership and capacity building is at the core of India's relationship with the African continent and it speaks for New Delhi's shared desire of developing together as "equals".

He said India was "very conscious" of the expanding threats of radicalism, fundamentalism and terrorism to African societies and both sides have been cooperating in dealing with the challenges.

"Today, our ties too must respond to the volatile and uncertain world that we confront," he said. "There are important lessons to be learnt

from the pandemic disruption. The stresses from the knock-on effects of the Ukraine conflict are also relevant," Jaishankar

Underlining some of the works undertaken there, he said till now India has completed 189 projects in Africa, with 76 at the execution stage and 68 today at the pre-execution stage. Financed by lines of credit with an outlay of over USD 12 billion, they extend to over 41 countries, the minister

Jaishankar also said Prime Minister Narendra Modi has not only brought new thinking and energy into the ties but also devoted a much higher degree of attention, resources and capabilities to this account.

Gay marriage: Govt not for live streaming of hearing; HC miffed

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday expressed displeasure over the filing of an affidavit by the Centre opposing a plea by LGBTQ couples seeking live streaming of proceedings on a batch of petitions to recognise same-sex marriage under various laws, as it contained certain alleged objectionable words.

As the petitioners claimed that the Centre has used "highly objectionable and demeaning comments" in the affidavit, the high court said the affidavit should not come from

"Have you read the affidavit? We advise you not to place it on record and have a relook. Don't place it on record. This is not correct. Your affidavit should not come from the ministry and you should not file it without reading. That should not happen," a bench of Acting Chief Justice Vipin Sanghi and Justice Navin Chawla told the counsel representing the Centre.

The bench further said, "as a counsel it is your responsibility to read it and say if there is something objectionable, you are not obliged to file it. You

the ministry and the counsel should be able to advise your should not file it without client accordingly. Don't do a mindless exercise on this." To this, the Centre's counsel said "I take the blame" and added he will examine the response and

will file a better one. The court said the reply vetted by the counsel be placed on record before the next date of hearing on August 24. The Centre has opposed the application for live streaming and sought its dismissal saying the matter is not of national importance and that the applicants were attempting to create a dramatic impression of the proceedings before the court and to win sympathy.

of 5 as HC Chief Justices

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

The Supreme Court Collegium headed by Chief Justice NV Ramana on Tuesday recommended the elevation of five Judges as Chief Justices of various High Courts. Collegium has also recommended the transfer of Justice Satish Chandra Sharma, Chief Justice, Telangana High Court to Delhi High Court.
The names recommended

for elevation as Chief Justice are -- Justices Vipin Sanghi (from Delhi HC to Uttarakhand HC), Amjad A Sayed (from Bombay HC to Himachal Pradesh HC), S S Shinde (from Bombay HC to



Rajasthan HC), Rashmin M Chhaya (from Gujarat HC to Gauhati HC) and Újjal Bhuyan who is presently judge in Telangana HC will be elevated as Chief justice there.

Besides Ramana, Justices UU Lalit and A M Khanwilkar are part of the three-member Collegium which takes decisions concerning the High Court

SC Collegium for elevation | SC stays HC order dismissing TMC MP's plea on ED summons

PTI NEW DELHI

↑he Supreme Court Tuesday stayed the Delhi High Court order, which had dismissed the pleas filed by TMC MP Abhishek Banerjee and his wife Rujira Banerjee seeking quashing of summons issued to them in a money-laundering probe, and said the Enforcement Directorate (ED) can examine them in its Kolkata office by giving 24-hour advance notice. Observing that it would not tolerate any kind of "interference or hooliganism", the apex court said the state shall provide adequate police protection to ED officials

The ED told the top court that according to them, the TMP MC is a "potential accused" and they want to interrogate him.

A bench headed by Justice U U Lalit issued notice to the ED on the plea filed by Abhishek and his wife against the high court order.

"Pending further consideration, there shall be interim stay on the effect and operation of the judgement presently under challenge, subject to; It shall be open to the directorate (ED) to require the attendance of the petitioners in its office situated at Kolkata by giving at

least 24-hour notice," the bench, also comprising Justices S R Bhat and Sudhanshu Dhulia, said.

"Simultaneously, notice shall also be issued to the commissioner of police, Kolkata, and the chief secretary, state of West Bengal, so that adequate police protection is afforded to the persons seeking to examine or interrogate the petitioners are concerned," the bench said.

It noted that the state's counsel has assured that complete assistance shall be rendered by state machinery so that effective interrogation or examination can be undertaken by ED.

ITBP to use its veteran canines to improve lives of special children PNS NEW DELHI the ITBP.

The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) has taken the lead in becoming the first Central paramilitary force to use its veteran canines to improve the lives of the special children. The ITBP has collaborated with the Government's Institute of Special Children for the purpose.

On Tuesday, retired ITBP dogs Sultan and Rozy , both Labradors along with Speed , a GSD and Toofan, a Malinois, visited the Institute of Special Children and spread joy amongst Autism Spectrum Disorder children in Chandigarh, said Deputy Inspector General Sudhakar Natarajan of the ITBP veterinary

Quoting the Joint Director of the institute, Dr Sangeeta, Natrajan said that she has never seen the autistic children so thrilled to meet the K9 friends of

All the four dogs of ITBP have retired after putting in many years in counter insurgency areas and have detected numerous explosives and enemy ambushes. They are presently housed on the ITBP's "Second Innings" Retirement Home at National Training Centre for Dogs (NTCD) Bhanu,

"The presence of a non-verbal: non-human company for some Autism Spectral kids is very soothing and brings tranquility in hyperactive children, in addition to improving their hand-eye coordination and stabilises the eye-contact time," Natarajan said.

Unlike human company, the camaraderie with the dogs is completely non-judgmental and the child gazing deeply into the eyes of a dog can bring lots of cognitive changes in the child, he

Effects of climate change seem to trigger rise in dengue cases, deaths PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■

NEW DELHI

 $R^{\text{ising temperatures and}}_{\text{untimely rain linked to cli-}}$ mate change seem to have had an impact as 2021 witnessed a manifold rise in dengue cases compared to 2020.

The vector-borne infections and mortalities stood at 193245 cases and 306 deaths in 2021, the highest since 2018. In 2020, the number of dengue cases stood at 44525 while 56 deaths were reported.

In the first four months till April this calendar year, the country has reported over 8,000 dengue cases but in a major relief, death has been limited to one only. Unreported the fatalities though haven't been ruled

According to reports, the country is likely to see erratic and excessive rainfall in various pockets towards the end of September which will result in a surge in cases of dengue. In fact, some of the States

like Karnataka which is witnessing rains have started reporting an increase in vectorborne infection cases in the past

For instance, the number of dengue cases registered in the Dakshina Kannada (DK) and Udupi districts in Karnataka increased rapidly in the recent weeks. In the past four months, DK has reported 48 dengue cases and 20 among them are from Mangaluru City Corporation limits, as per various reports.

In 2021, the maximum deaths due to dengue were reported from Rajasthan at 96 followed by Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Infection-wise, most of the States registered a significant

spurt in dengue cases in 2021

when compared to the previous

year. The ICMR has already

attributed rise in dengue cases in many parts of the country to the climate crisis and increasing urbanization.

In fact, last year in September, in a high-level meeting chaired by Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba and attended by representatives of 11 affected states/UTs, the government had flagged the emerging challenge of serotype-II dengue which is associated with more cases and more complications than other The States reporting serotype - II dengue cases were Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, MP, UP, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana.

Several scientists and medical journals had earlier warned about the link between global warming and climate change with the spread of diseases such as malaria and dengue.

According to a study by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) published in The Lancet Planetary Health journal, a rise in temperature of nearly 3.7 degrees Celsius over the next 80 years may lead to the "worstcase scenario."

The study stated that nearly 8.4 billion people (or nearly 90 percent of the estimated population) would be at risk for malaria. In case of dengue, the modelling estimated around 8.5 billion people would be at risk in 2080 compared with an average of 3.8 billion in 1970-

An analysis of data available from 400 stations of the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) across the country indicates that in the last 50 years, the number of hot days has increased manifold. Scientists say that heat waves incidents are projected to increase eight times in the near future and will spike to alarmingly 30 times in 2071-

to discuss modalities of Bharat Jodo Yatra

Cong holds meeting

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

ongress on Tuesday held a Cmeeting of its AIĆC general secretaries and in-charges to give shape to the recommendations of the just-con-cluded three-day 'Chintan Shivir' at Udaipur in Rajasthan and further discuss the modalities of the Bharat Jodo padyatra. The party has given the "Bharat Jodo" slogan "to unite India" and a 75-km yatra will be undertaken after August 9 during the 75th year of India's Independence. A follow up meeting of the same is sched-uled again for Wednesday.

Briefing the details of the meeting, senior party spokesperson Ajay Maken said 'Bharat Jodo' is not a unification of land masses of India but is about uniting the people of

Top Congress leaders,

including Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, K C Venugopal, Randeep Surjewala and Maken, were among the leaders who attended the meeting at AICC headquarters to evolve an action plan for the early implementation of the "Nav Śankalp' declaration made at the Shivir. The host of structural

changes that were announced

by the Congress at the threeday conclave will be implemented in the next few months. Maken informed that AICC general secretaries and

in-charges will meet again on Wednesday to chalk out the detailed plan for the implementation of the recommendations that include the "below 50" formula of granting party positions and tickets to youths, putting a cap of five years on one person holding a particular position, "one family, one ticket" and "one person, one post" formulas.

Jammu civic body seeks removal of loudspeakers

Plan against illegal loudspeakers from religious places moved by BJP Corporator

PNS JAMMU

In order to curtail the rampant use of loudspeakers atop religious places, banquet/community halls and other places the Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) Tuesday passed a resolution seeking removal of 'illegal loudspeakers' with immediate

The resolution was moved by a local BJP corporator Narotam Sharma from Ward no 3 falling in the walled city area of 'City of temples'.

At the time of tabling the resolution in the house opposition members tried to raise objections but BJP, enjoying a comfortable majority in the house, managed to pass the same with voice vote.

Welcoming the move JMC Mayor, Chander Mohan Gupta Tuesday said, "To check the



rampant use of loudspeakers JMC has passed a resolution in the house today. We already have guidelines from the Supreme Court and Pollution Control Board with regard to the noise pollution control", he added

Responding to a direct question on launching the special drive to remove the loudspeakers JMC Mayor clarified, "We will not remove them, but the administration will remove the illegal loud speakers".

The corporator had asked the District Magistrate Jammu to remove all the "illegal" loudspeakers and public address systems from all 'religious' places, banquet/ community halls which have installed and are operating them "without any legal permission".

"The DM Jammu shall also be asked to ensure that between 10 PM to 6 AM no loudspeaker and public address system is used at least within JMC jurisdiction. Only those community halls, banquet halls, organizations and religious places are allowed to use public address systems and loudspeakers that have got permission from the concerned authorities with undertaking to use it within permissible decibel and only within time allowed by the authorities," the resolution reads.

The resolution also suggested creating public awareness among common masses about the causes and impact of noise pollution on the health of the citizens including patients, old aged people and children. The resolution also sought

hassle and discrimination.

sufficient time for the organizations to comply with the provisions of this rule and judgement so that no one complains of any

UP looking at renewable energy to end power woes

LUCKNOW

As a sudden shortage of fos-sil fuel led to closure of many thermal power stations, the Uttar Pradesh Government is looking for renewable energy options including generating electricity from huge water reservoirs and canals and harnessing solar power. Ial Shakti Minister Swatanra

Dev Singh said that a number of private companies have shown interest in working with the department and exploiting the potential of water bodies. A few companies from Israel and Gujarat have contacted our department to utilise water bodies to generate electricity.

'There are new technologies which are even generating electricity from the sea waves. We have a canal system where water is available round the year. In some places the flow of water is good enough to generate electricity. We should give this concept a try," the minister said.

Uttar Pradesh, home to 230 million has the biggest rivers like Ganga and Yamuna flowing across the state. Besides, it has over 75,000 km-long flowing not only touted as the first such project in the state, but also the largest floating solar project anywhere in India.

The suggestion has come at the background of Uttar Pradesh government's commitment to bolster the renewable energy sector. The government has cleared solar energy projects of 1,535 megawatt (mw) worth Rs 7,500 crore. Majority of these projects are likely to be commissioned this year.

The government dossiers claim that Uttar Pradesh has capacity to produce 28GW of renewable energy. The State Government has set an ambitious objective of annual addition of 2,000 MW production capacity of solar energy. It further says that Bundelkhand and Mirzapur-Sonbhadra regions have favourable conditions for producing wind energy.

A government official claims that Yogi Adityanath government in UP has launched a new solar energy policy to give filip to renewable energy projects. Under the new solar energy policy, the UP government has approved a proposal for setting up solar power plants at a 2022 in order to produce 1,535 mw of solar energy, the government official said.

Moreover, the state government had invited private investment of Rs 2,492 crore under Bio-Energy Enterprise Promotion Policy, which helped

setting up of solar power units

of 180 mw capacity at a cost of

"We had made a commitment to the people during our election campaign to intensify our renewable energy projects and are fulfilling the same," A K

Sharma, Energy minister said. Meanwhile, the state has intensified laying of cable networks for rural electrification. The solar rooftops of 225 mw capacity have been installed across the state to illuminate the countryside with solar street

"The installation of 180,000 solar power units has transformed rural pockets, where oower outage is now a rare affair. This stands in sharp contrast to the situation during previous governments when power supoly was available only for a few

AIMPLB terms Gyanvapi survey a bid to create communal strife

PNS LUCKNOW

The All-India Muslim Personal Law Board condemned the survey of the Gyanvapi mosque complex and sealing of the 'wazu khana' (ablution area) terming it unfair and an attempt to create communal disharmony.

On Monday, the courtmandated videography survey of the Gyanvapi mosque complex in Varanasi concluded amidst tight security. Following the claim by a lawyer that a 'Shivling' was found in a well inside the premises, a civil court issued an order to seal the area and prohibit entry of people.

In a statement, AIMPLB general secretary Khalid Saifullah Rahmani said, "Gyanvapi mosque is a mosque and will remain a mosque. The attempt to term it a temple is nothing more than a conspiracv to create communal disharmony. It is a matter of constitutional rights and is against the

"In 1937, in the case of Deen Mohammad Vs State, the court

testimony and documents that this entire compound (Gyanvapi mosque complex) belongs to the Muslim Waqf and Muslims have the right to offer namaz in it," he

Rahmani said the court had also decided how much area belongs to the mosque and how much to the temple. At the same time, the 'wazu khana', a small reservoir used by Muslims to perform ablution before offering namaz, was accepted as the property of the mosque.

Then in 1991 came the Places of Worship Act which states that the places of worship, as they were in 1947, will be maintained in the same condition. Even in the Babri Masjid judgment, it was said that now all places of worship will be under this law," he added.

The AIMPLB general secretary also said that the claim of the mosque being a temple should have been immediately rejected by the court, but it ordered the survey and videography. The board has moved the high court and the case is pend-

had decided on the basis of oral ing there. The Gyanvapi mosque management committee has also approached the Supreme Court against the civil court's

> The issue is being heard. But by ignoring all these things, the civil court first issued the order of the survey and then issued an order to seal the portion of 'wazu khana," Rahmani

> Seeking government's intervention, the AIMPLB said, "This order is an excess and also a violation of law which cannot be expected from a court. The government should stop the implementation of the order and wait for the Allahabad High Court's decision. The government should protect all religious places as per the 1991 Act."

Rahmani said, "If the status of the places of worship is changed on the basis of such arguments, the whole country will be pushed into turmoil. because many big temples are made by converting Buddhist and Jain shrines and their traces are also visible there. Muslims cannot tolerate this atrocity."

CBI raids diversion from key issues, says Cong in support of Chidambaram

PNS NEW DELHI

The Congress on Tuesday **■** put its weight behind party leader P Chidambaram, saying the CBI raids against him and his in connection with an 11year-old case are "wrong" and aimed at diverting attention from the key issues of inflation and unemployment. The party also said P Chidambaram is a nationalist and patriot whose commitment to the country is beyond question. The CBI registered a fresh case against Lok Sabha MP Karti Chidambaram to probe the allegation of facilitating visas of 250 Chinese nationals in lieu of Rs 50 lakh when his father P Chidambaram was Union home minister. The agency also conducted coordinated searches at 10 locations in multiple cities including the Chidambarams' residences in Chennai and Delhi.

At the AICC Press conference Congress spokesperson Ajay Maken said that the "raids were wrong". "The Congress party stands behind P Chidambaram. This is being done to divert the attention of people from the issue of rising inflation and unemployment, he told reporters.

The issue is being raised 12 years later and Chidambaram has also raised questions on the timings of the raids," Maken said. Congress chief spokesperson Randeep Surjewala said, "Mr P Chidambaram is a nationalist and a patriot, whose commitment to the country is unques-

"To plant source-based preposterous allegations against a former Home Minister and Finance Minister by CBI reflects the lowest ebb in political discourse," Surjewala said on

Chidambaram has also raised questions over the timing of the raids which were conducted on charges dating back 11 years. He said a CBI team searched his residence in Chennai as well as his official residence in Delhi but "found nothing and seized

10 sectors identified for giving push to development in UP

PNS LUCKNOW

In an attempt to give an impetus to development, the UP Government has identified 10 sectors where the progress will be monitored regularly while the scope of aspirational districts will be further expanded. Information regarding this was given by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath here on Tuesday.

canals, 33,800 government tube-

wells, 92 huge water reservoirs and 281 lift-irrigation

posals, canal top solar plants

would be installed over canals,

while the selected reservoirs

would be equipped with floating

solar plants for tapping solar

energy. The department has

also estimated that for generat-

ing 13,500 mw of solar energy,

27,000 hectares of canal area and

150 hectares of the reservoir

cabinet had cleared the propos-

al of renewable energy majors

ReNew Power and Shapoorji

Pallonji to collectively invest Rs

750 crore in a 150 mw floating

In August 2019, the state

span would be required.

Under the preliminary pro-

The chief minister said that 10 presentations were made sector-wise before the cabinet in relation to the action plan of the government.

"Continuous monitoring of progress and implementation of the action plan should be done by appointing 10 senior officers as nodal officers for all these 10 sectors," the CM said.

He said the construction of Bundelkhand Expressway is in the final stage. It should be completed by the end of June while the construction of



Ballia Link Expressway be expedited further, he added. The CM said that among

the aspirational districts, all the districts of Uttar Pradesh have done commendable work on various parameters of development. NITI Aayog has appreciated the efforts of various districts.

He asked the officers to expedite the development works of 100 aspirational development blocks.

The chief minister said that in view of the huge importance of road safety, an action plan for awareness campaign is prepared with the mutual coordination of the departments concerned like Police, Traffic, Basic Education, Secondary Education, Higher Education, Technical Education, Transport, Urban Development, PWD. On May 18, with this

action plan, a dialogue will be held with the public representatives and officials of all the urban bodies of the state, after which the road safety campaign will start. Special efforts need to be

made to make children comply with traffic rules in council and secondary schools. Children should be given from the very beginning the virtues of compliance with traffic rules, he said. "Awareness-related 'prab-

hat pheris' should be taken out by schoolchildren. Meetings should be held in schools with parents for awareness. People should be made aware about the traffic rules," the CM said

Govt ban on wheat export regressive: Farmer leader

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

The farming community has **1** been shocked by the decision of the Government of India to ban the export of wheat with immediate effect. "This is a very regressive and retrograde decision for which the Narendra Modi-led Central Government and the BJP would have to pay a high price," said P Changal Reddy, veteran farmer leader and advisor to the Consortium of Indian Farmers' association (CIFA), an umbrella organisation working for the cause of the farmers.

Reddy told The Pioneer that he as well as wheat farmers across India were taken aback by the decision of the Centre late Saturday night to ban wheat export. "There was no reason which demanded such a drastic action," said Reddy. He pointed out that the price of global wheat shot up to new heights once India decided to ban the export of the commodity. office of the

Director General of claimed that the action was necessitated because of the risks haunting the food security of the nation. Because

of the Russia-Ukraine war that continues unabated, there has been severe shirtage in the arrival of wheat to global mar-ket. Russia and Ukraine account for 30 per cent of the global supply of wheat and the war has put a hold on the arrival of the commodity in the market. "This was the ideal time for Indian wheat growers to earn some additional money as the minimum support price announced by the Government is hardly Rs 2015 per quintal,"



said Anil Ghanavat, president of Shetkari Sanghatan.

The MSP itself crashed by Rs 150 per quintal once the Government declared the

export ban. Reddy said the warehouses have filled to brim with wheat and this was not at all an ideal time to order a ban on wheat exports.
"Interestingly, the Prime Minister has been unequivocal in his statements that the farmers should be competitive and should be able to reach the status of global players. While he

sector to be competitive and earn foreign exchange, why farmers are treated like this? asked Reddy.

Ghanavat said he could not understand about the concern of the Prime Minister for foreign farmers and food security in other countries. "The Government of India says that food security in countries like Bangladesh, Myanmar and Indonesia is a subject of concern. Doesn't he has any concern for farmers in his own country?" asked Ghanavat.

India is the second largest producer of wheat after China. Reddy is of the view that the Central Government should have given top priority to the interests of the domestic farmers. "We as farmers assure you that there is no domestic crisis which mandates a ban on wheat export. We do have enough buffer stock to address any issues and hence the interests of the farmers should have supports industry and services been protected," he said.



Villagers wade through a flooded road after rain at a village in Nagaon District on Tuesday

Mumbai-New Delhi Rajdhani Kashmir grenade attack | completes 50 years in service

Mumbai CGST Ashok Kumar

surveillance to detect Covid cases

PNS NEW DELHI

With few people preferring to visit hospitals to undertake tests for the Covid-19 virus despite showing symptoms like fever, cough and cold or with flu like symptoms, the Government is mulling to expand sewage sample surveillance to detect if infection is increasing in any particular

Sewage surveillance helps detect the presence of contaminants in a given area. Since the pandemic broke out two years ago, authorities have been dependent on this method to monitor the presence of novel coronavirus in a given popula-

Sewage testing involves sur-

veillance and monitoring of states are conducting few tests sewage water or the water that we flush down our toilets to look out for contaminants and viruses. The virus needs a host cell to survive and the technique involves looking out for the genetic material or the RNA fragments of the virus in the wastewater, according to reports. In the case of Covid-19, the virus is SARS-CoV-2, according to a senior health official.

Govt may conduct sewage sample

He explained that infected patients shed virus fragments in the form of bodily fluids or faeces. Once flushed into the sewage system, the virus disintegrates, leaving behind frag-

ments of the genetic material. The move to widen the sewage surveillance comes following the observation that

while people preferring home isolation and using home remedies to treat the Covid-variant which is non-virulent unlike Omicron, he said. The World

Organisation (WHO) has already stressed that the decrease in cases is due to the drop in the number of tests worldwide. India has reported 1,569

new coronavirus cases and 19 related deaths in the last 24 hours, as per the Union Health Ministry. With the latest fatalities, the death count has increased to 5,24,260. The active cases stand at 16,400. A decrease of 917 cases has been recorded in the active Covid-19 caseload in a span of 24 hours.

One killed, 3 injured in

Alammu based employee, working in a newly opened wine shop, was killed while three others received injuries after a terrorist lobbed a grenade inside the shop in Dewan Bagh area of North Kashmir district of Baramulla on Tuesday evening. According to ground reports, confirmed by the local police authorities, an unidentified terrorist posing as a customer arrived at the newly opened wine shop and hurled a grenade inside the shop leaving at least four employees in a pool of blood. All of them were immediately rushed to the nearby hospital where one of them succumbed to his injuries.



Confirming the incident Kashmir Zone police in a tweet said, "Terrorists lobbed hand grenade inside a newly opened wine shop in Baramulla. Four employees got injured. One among them succumbed to his injuries. All are from Jammu division". Till the time of filing the report the local policemen had cordoned off the entire area and searches were launched to track down the footprints of the

T N RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI

Having embarked upon its maiden journey from Mumbai Central station (then Bombay Central) to the national capital on May 17, 1972, the Western Railway's prestigious Mumbai-New Delhi Rajdhani Express completed 50 glorious years of its operation between the two cities, on Tuesday.

To celebrate this Golden Jubilee celebration, Western Railway organised a commemorative event at Mumbai Central station & flagged off the train in a befitting grand honour. A special postal cover and a VIP album were also released to mark this occasion. While Principal Chief Commissioner,

Mehta was the chief guest of the ceremony, Chief Postmaster General, Maharashtra Circle Veena R Srinivas and Divisional Railway Manager of Mumbai Central Division G V L Satyakumar were prominent among those present on the occasion. Members of the Rotaract Club of HR College performed a flash mob skit on the occasion. Two senior WR officials who retired from rail-

way service working in this

prestigious train, and one serv-

ing employee shared their

memorable experiences. Souvenir tickets and mementos were presented to the travelling passengers. Also, instant photographs were

clicked to cherish their journey on this memorable day.

Ninety-year-old Qamruzzaman Sarang, one of the passengers who had travelled by the maiden trip of Rajdhani Express is undertaking his journey to the national capital on this historic day. He was the first person to receive the souvenir ticket from the Chief Guest Ashok Kumar Mehta. Thakur stated that the Rajdhani Express offered impeccable services, fastest speed, punctuality and sumptuous catering services. The Mumbai — New Delhi

Rajdhani Express covers a distance of 1383 km in 15 hours and 32 minutes, traversing through seven states.

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- PAPER WITH PASSION-

Belief vs fact

A spate of legal petitions is seeking reparatory justice for temples razed during Mughal rule

he Babri Masjid verdict is out, and the Ram temple is coming up where the mosque stood in Ayodhya. It is now the turn of the Vishwanath temple-Gyanvapi Mosque dispute in Varanasi. The Sri Krishna Janambhoomi-Shahi Idgah Mosque case in Mathura is in the queue. Mughal emperor Aurangzeb apparently destroyed thousands of temples during his long reign. There is no way of confirming this figure, but 300-odd years after his death the courts of modern India are busy with petitions seeking to rectify Mughal 'wrongs'. The shrill demands for what can be called reparatory justice or compensatory justice can be heard across the country. The petitions are based on assumptions from mythology, folklore, the architecture of pre-colonial



victors, and the politics of communal retribution during the Mughal times. The courts are, however, expected to give their verdicts based on reason and rationality. How is that possible? The disputes at present are of two types. In the Ayodhya case, the issue was determining the place of birth of a Hindu god based entirely on belief and faith. In Varanasi, it is about an alleged demolition of a Hindu temple and the construction of a mosque over it. In the first case, jurisprudence faces the difficulty of considering intangible, unscientific and personal factors like belief and faith. In the second case, the task is to set right a wrong allegedly committed 353 years ago.

The judiciary faces another set of questions as it grapples with such cases: Is it a measure of progress of a nation and its people if they are willing to go centuries back in time to compensate for an ancient wrong? If the petitioners believe that thousands more such wrongs were committed in the past, would not the Public Works Department be busy digging the earth up in search of Hindu temple relics? Is there any statute of limitations on filing suits for anti-religion crimes committed eons ago? But why are these petitions referring to Hinduism as a religion? That brings us to a crucial point: What is the definition of Hinduism in the legal context? We now enter a gray area. In 1966, then Chief Justice of India PB Gajendragadkar said, "...we find it difficult, if not impossible, to define Hindu religion or even adequately describe it....(It) may broadly be described as a way of life and nothing more". In 1996, the apex court reiterated that "Hinduism embraces within its self so many diverse forms of beliefs, faiths, practices and worships that it is difficult to define the term 'Hindu' with precision". Six years ago, a seven-judge Bench of the apex court was to reexamine the question: What is Hinduism, a way of life or a religion? The apex court may wish to first review the legal definition of Hinduism before entertaining the Varanasi and similar petitions. What if Hinduism is truly a way of life? That alters everything.



Samyukt Kisan Morcha activists protest near the Chandigarh-Mohali border after their march was curtailed

Scorcher

Monsoon has hit the Andamans but relief from the heatwave isn't likely soon in the north

s the Capital continues to take a severe battering from hot and dry westerlies, the ongoing spell of heatwave may peak around Sunday with the maximum temperature predicted to settle around 48 degrees Celsius in many regions across Delhi-NCR and the northern plains, according to the weatherman. An orange alert has already been issued to caution people about the impending inclement weather conditions. To understand its seriousness, one must realise that the IMD uses four colour codes to issue weather warnings: Green (no action needed); Yellow (watch and stay updated); Orange (be prepared); and Red (action required). A 'heatwave' is declared when the maximum temperature is over 40 degrees Celsius and at least 4.5 notches above the normal; and, a 'severe heatwave' is declared when the deviation from normal temper-



ature is more than 6.4 notches or if the maximum temperature crosses the 47-degree Celsius mark. Late last week, the heatwave had pushed the maximum temperature to an unbearable high of 47.2 degrees Celsius in the Capital. The rising mercury is somewhat of a threat, "moderate health concerns" it was termed, to vulnerable people — infants, the elderly and those suffering from chronic diseases.

The residents of the heatwave-affected regions should avoid direct exposure to the sun and wear lightweight, light-coloured, loose cotton clothes and cover the head using a turban, hat or umbrella. But, to slightly modify an old saying, when peak summer comes, can the monsoon be far behind? The southwest mon-

soon has already hit the Andamans and heavy rain is likely to commence "in the next four-five days" in Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, West Bengal and Sikkim. The onset of monsoon over the Andamans occurred a day later than the IMD's prediction date. A cyclonic circulation over Punjab and Haryana on Monday and Tuesday, which would manifest itself in the form of a thunderstorm or dust storm, is slated to induce pre-monsoon activity which will provide some relief from the intense heat, according to weather forecasting websites. With scanty rains owing to feeble western disturbances, Delhi had recorded its second hottest April this year since 1951 with a monthly average minimum temperature of 40.2 degrees Celsius. In April, the Capital had received a miniscule 0.3 mm of rainfall against a monthly average of 12.2 mm. Going further back, March registered no rainfall at all against a normal of 15.9 mm. To its credit, the IMD had predicted in advance "above-normal temperatures" for May.

Govt fumbling on Defence issues



The 26-month blanket ban on recruitment and rethinking over the charter of CDS are casting a shadow on our operational capabilities

nationalist Government that treats national security as a sacred patriotic duty has surprisingly pulled the brakes and taken a laid-back position on two critical Defence matters: Recruitment of Personnel Below Officer Rank (PBOR) and appointment of the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS). Much has been written about

the mysterious silence over the CDS, very little on the freeze in recruitment. I have met several senior serving officers, including one last week, and quizzed them over the Government's 26-month blanket ban on recruitment. When queried, the Brigade Commander winced and said: "Sir, this is an extremely serious matter and its deleterious effects have already undermined our operational capabilities." The matter has been raised in Parliament but everyone is strangely sanguine, even nonchalant. The high-profile Brigadier said: "It seems the Government has lost interest in Defence."

After milking the armed forces through cross-border strikes — the Uri surgical raids, Balakot airstrikes or hot pursuit in Myanmar against dissident Naga groups, that yielded enormous electoral dividends — the Government has gone kind of numb and begun fumbling on key issues. Late CDS Gen Rawat would not have let recruitment stop for so long at a time when Chinese PLA is breathing down the neck of our troops across multiple un-vacated intrusion points. Nothing explains the suspension of soldier recruitment in combat and combat-support arms.

The Brigadier pointed to infantry battalions being on an average 150-200 soldiers short of their fighting strength. When elections could be held, religious festivals, melas and yatras organised and crowds requisitioned for political rallies, why COVID had blocked recruitment rallies, he asked.

This Government, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi in particular, had placed soldiering on the highest pedestal, uniess it was just lip-service and showmanship. The result is that suggested that ToD should unemployed youth wanting to not be dismissed out of hand.

become warriors are in despair. Social media is full of stories about soldier aspirants who have turned overage having begun peacefully protesting over missed opportunities. The anecdotes about lads running miles to join the Army have a bad ending.

Many local academies in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Haryana, which were coaching potential candidates for the Fauj, are running out of work. This is the first time that a moratorium on recruitment has been promulgated in the country at a time when we are celebrating 75 years of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. No- recruitment echoes

are reverberating in neighbouring Nepal, which provides Gorkhas for Indian Army's 40 Gorkha battalions. Recruitment rallies have not been held in the famed Gorakhpur Gorkha recruitment depots. Wannabe Gorkhas are pasting fake posters about recruitment to uplift their morale. Is it possible that despite most COVID restrictions being lifted and the third wave suitably under control, the recruitment ban has not been lifted as it may be linked to the preposterous idea of 3/5 Tour of Duty proposal? Or is it simply revenue saving through reduced salary and pension bills?

The thinking



add-on.

It should be test-bedded in one

The current mess in Defence is partly due to the absence of CDS. But the cat is out of the bag. After six months of suspense, MoD officials are leaking information to justify delay in naming CDS that some of us in the strategic community had predicted — that the Government is rethinking the charter of CDS, in particular, remit of the Department of Military Affairs which has deprived the Defence Secretary and his bureaucrats of the control they exercised over the military. By transferring several sections/ departments that the Defence Secretary controlled to DMA, the civilian officials were marginalised. The CDS became super powerful: Single point of advice to Defence Minister, Permanent Chairman Chiefs of Staff Committee, Secretary

DMA (which is demotion for CDS as he is several notches above Secretary to GoI in Warrant of Precedence) advisor to Nuclear Command Group, final arbiter in prioritisation of Defence acquisitions and operational head of Theatre Commands. Although CDS is primus inter pares among service chiefs, his charter of work makes him mightier than the colonial era C-in-C who was at loggerheads with the Governor General.

When Rawat was hurriedly appointed CDS on December 31, 2019, his charter of duties was worked out by CoSC and the innovative DMA approved by NSA Ajit Doval who heads the Defence Planning Committee and de facto is the security supremo. The appointment of Lt Gen (retired) VG Khandare as first-ever military advisor to Defence Secretary who had an earlier stint as military advisor to NSA is probably the spark that ignited the rift between Defence Secretary and CDS/DMA. The Defence services will likely revert to absolute control of civilian bureaucracy in MoD with or without CDS. Long live Atmanirbharta!

(The writer, a retired Lt Gen, was Commander, IPKF



LATE CDS **GEN RAWAT** WOULD NOT HAVE LET RECRUITMENT STOP FOR SO LONG AT A TIME WHEN CHINESE PLA IS BREATHING DOWN THE NECK OF OUR TROOPS ACROSS MULTIPLE **UN-VACATED** INTRUSION

South, Sri Lanka, and founder member of the Defence Planning Staff, currently Integrated Defence Staff. The views expressed are personal.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SEARING HEATWAVE ENVELOPS INDIA

Sir — The spectre of climate change is to stay in India and get worse, say climate scientists as searing winds blow across swathes of north India, including New Delhi, where temperatures have crossed 49 degrees Celsius, while flash floods ravage parts of the Northeast. With increasing temperatures as a result of global warming in South Asia and the consequent exceeding levels of heat and humidity, it is predicted that the country will experience more intense, longer and frequent heat waves in India. Over the last few decades, global warming has been on an accelerating pace and its effects can be seen any single day of global weather since the 2000s.

March 2022 was India's hottest March in recorded history (1901-2022). The temperatures were high across all of India, especially in the northwest regions that underwent a heat wave. Temperatures continued to be significantly above normal in April 2022 over large parts of India. Heat waves affect work productivity by reducing performance and increasing heat-related illnesses. A decline of 30-40 per cent in the work performance is projected over India by the end of the century due to the elevated heat stress levels. Extreme heat causes several health impacts such as severe dehydration, acute cerebrovascular accidents and contributes to thrombogenesis (blood clots).

Bhagwan Thadani | Mumbai

RUSSIA MUST FIND A WAY OUT

Sir — Finland and Sweden, the immediate neighbours of Russia, have started expressing interest for the first time to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) and it's an alarming development on several counts. It's an indication that the ongoing war in Ukraine is not confined to only the two countries directly engaged in the war. It has been causing insecurity and concern in other neighbouring countries, too, particularly from Russia. The irony is that the war has erupted out of insecurity on the part of Russia on

Cong needs to reinvent itself



was widely expected that the Congress' Chintan Shivir would provide greater clarity on the path the party must tread to counter the BJP's aggressive brand of Hindutva. However, the much-hyped conclave ended without any suggestions to tackle the ideological crisis the party faces. Instead of finding a solution, the Congress only reaffirmed its commitment to pluralism. There was no reference to Hindutva. There was no attempt to criticise the RSS or the BJP's divisive politics either. The conclave devised some strategies to re-establish

its connect with people and to equip the party for the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. However, political observers feel it needs to go miles to achieve success in its plans.

The party must regain its credibility, which is currently in a shambles. The party cannot succeed by merely depending on the reputation of the Gandhi family and the legacy of the 'grand old party'. It must provide clarity on what it has to offer to people and communicate this effectively to them. For this, it requires powerful leaders who can interact effectively with the electorate. Given that the three Gandhis have failed miserably to impress the voters, new leaders need to step forth and take charge. The party's leaders must understand that politics is full-time work; leaders sitting in ivory towers cannot understand the pulse of common citizens. Let's hope that the incumbent leadership will give way to a new leadership.

Ukraine's intention to join the NATO grouping.

Now that the two other neighbours, those of the Baltic and Nordic regions who are traditionally not interested in such military arrangements, intend to join forces with the anti-Russian bandwagon, it is certainly a cause for concern. Now it's Russia's turn to find a way out for stopping the war and for ending the burgeoning of new challenges. The world leaders should help end the war rather than trying to fish in troubled waters.

DVG Sankararao | Vizianagaram

SOUTHERN CINEMA MAKES A MARK Sir — The south Indian film industry has its own place in India and, in the post-COVID era, it seems it is all poised to lead the Indian cinema industry as most of the movies made in the four major languages there — Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Kannada — are doing roaring business in theatres and OTT platforms. It shows that these production houses and filmmakers

are really serious when it comes to filmmaking. Their target is not just making the box office ring but to carve a niche of their

Venu GS I Kollam

own in the global film world. An analysis of the recently released movies in the four languages shows that they are far ahead of Bollywood — be it the subject, star cast, setup, technique or music. Starting with Bahubali some time ago and then with the KGF series, RRR, Pushpa and other super-duper hits from the Tamil and Malayalam industries, the south has contributed abundantly in recent times. According to film critics and buffs, Bollywood movies need to undergo a complete transformation. The new generation needs more than the frills as a lot of technical, mental and scientific changes have taken place. The audiences have become more prudent, intelligent, besides more analytical and critical.

M Pradyu | Kannur

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneér@gmail.com

What moral authority does the BJP have (to launch the bulldozer drive)?



Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal



win this war. Ukrainians are bravely defending their homeland

NATO chief Jens Stoltenberg

This (her miscarriage) is a devastating time for any parent





red-letter day for Indian badminton! Brilliant team

Badminton legend Prakash Padukone

Rahul Bhat's killing is a targeted one. The SIT will probe it.



J&K Lt Governor Manoj Sinha

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USCIRF REPORT IS NOT CREDIBLE

It fails to document even a single case of victimisation



VIVEK GUMASTE

he conclusion of the recently released USCIRF 2022 annual report that India be designated as a 'Country of Particular Concern' in the company of Afghanistan, China, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and North Korea — is not only preposterous but also laughable. The scatter-brained script invokes the CAA, rants about attacks on religious minorities, criticizes the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA) and decries India's anti conversion laws. But how the committee reaches its conclusion is a mystery for the evidence presented does not justify the conclusion. First, to call the CAA discriminatory is indicative of rank ignorance. In its attempt to demonize the CAA as biased, the report resorts to selective snippets of information like this: "In an ongoing state-level NRC effort in Assam, in 2019 approximately 1.9 million persons were omitted from Assam's NRC list; approximately 700,000 Muslim residents of Assam are at risk of being stripped of citizenship." However, the report expediently fails to complete the statement and mention that of the 1.9 million people there were 1.1 million Hindus; to do so would expose its chicanery and deflate its claim of the law being discriminatory. Next focusing on the FCRA (Foreign Contribution Regulation Act) the report avers: "The government erected hurdles against the licensure and receipt of international funding by religious and charitable nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA), significantly impacting religious communities" but fails to provide credible proof of its abuse



to target minorities. The FCRA was not formulated by the BJP. The FCRA was enacted in 1976 by a Congress Government to ensure that NGO's conduct themselves with transparency and utilize the foreign monies that they receive for the purpose intended.

The UPA Government under Manmohan Singh rusticated over 4000 NGOs in 2012 following the protests against the Kudankulam nuclear power project in Tamil Nadu which were alleged to be foreign instigated; the same government also refused registration to Amnesty India in 2009. In the 2022 report, the USCIRF highlights the case of Missionaries of Charity to claim bias. The Missionaries of Charity initially had its reqistration denied because of allegations of child trafficking at one of its institutions; in January 2022, however, the government reinstated its registration. But the report deliberately overlooks the Hindu organizations impacted by the law, namely the Ramakrishna Mission Ashram, Divyajyot Ayurvedic Research Foundation, Shri Swaminarayan Sarvopari Si Digvijay Trust (Vasna) among others. Anti-conversion laws again find mention in this year's report. To deem anti-conversion laws as bigotry is to fail to understand the ethos of India. The Supreme Court of India (Rev. Stainislaus vs State Of Madhya Pradesh (1977) has clarified that Article 25 which gives all Indians the right "freely profess, practice, and propagate religion' does not axiomatically mean the right to convert. Laws that echo Gandhi's thoughts and are in line with the Constitution of India cannot be seen as violating religious freedom. A background check of the key personnel of the USCIRF is an eye-opener. There appears to be a strong Pakistani influence. The outgoing chair Nadine Maenza has strong connections with Terry Allen, the President of the lobbying group Fidelis Government Relations which was hired by IAMC (Indian American Muslim Council an Islamist organization with a strong Pakistani connections) for \$55K to get India blacklisted by the USCIRF. In summary, the USCIRF report is a compendium of outright lies, half-truths and distorted information; a vitriolic Hindu-phobic diatribe that reads like a rabid evangelist's sermon; a one-sided propaganda that fails to document even a single instance of Hindu victimhood but piles on a list of atrocities allegedly perpetrated against minorities in India--all totally unsubstantiated.

(The author, a US-based academic and political commentator, frequently writes on current affairs in India. The views expressed are personal.)

Petitions and Gyanvapi and Eidgah mosques

Why are the petitions filed now? Is it to use them to expand the Mandir-Masjid issue beyond Ayodhya to give BJP a chance to sharpen its Hindutva campaign?

uring the Ram Temple agitation days, the war cry of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) was, "Ayodhya is just a trailer, the issues of Kashi and Mathura are still pending". The construction of the Ram Temple at Ayodhya is going on at a fast pace. Sri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra, the trust which is responsible for the construction of the Ram Temple, has declared that the deadline for completion is December 2023, probably a few months before the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, when Prime Minister Narendra Modi will contest for the third term.

In this background, the petitions filed in the lower courts of Varanasi and Mathura to ascertain any sign of the Hindu religion in the Kashi-Vishwanath-Gyanvapi Mosque in Kashi and Shahi Eidgah mosque in Mathura raises the question whether we are going to see the repeat of Ram Janmabhoomi - Babri Mosque issue. The bigger question is why now?

The premise of both the petitions is the

same. The petitioners claim that the mosques were built on temple land after demolishing a part of the temple premises. The petitions harp on verification of any sign of Hindu religion inside the mosque. If these signs are found, through archego-nial evidence or videography, then the petitioners from the Hindu side would claim that these mosques were built atop Hindu temples and so the land should be given to the Hindus.

The process of verification has started in Varanasi when the court of Civil Judge (Senior Division) Ravi Kumar Diwakar has appointed Ajay Kumar Misra as court commissioner and asked him to conduct a survey and videography of Shringar Gauri and other idols located on Gyanvapi premises. The Anjuman Intejamia Masjid Committee, which takes care of the Gyanvapi mosque,

is opposing this move.
Similarly, a petition was filed in the court of Civil Judge (senior division) Mathura demanding the appointment of an advocate commissioner to conducing a spot inspection within the Shahi Eidgah mosque adjoining Sri Krishna Janmabhoomi to find out if there are any signs related to Hindu religion inside the mosque premises.

The pattern of petitions of Varanasi and Mathura are akin to Ayodhya. In Ayodhya, too petitions were initially filed in a lower court of Faizabad (now Ayodnya) and from there the case went first to High Court and then to Supreme Court. On November 9, 2019, the Supreme Court allowed the construction of Ram temple at the disputed site and handed over the entire land to the Trust for the construction of the Temple.

Interestingly, the intrigue of filing a petition is not limited only to Shahi Idgah in Mathura and the Gyanvapi mosque in Varanasi, as Court cases are ongoing over the Qutub Minar and the Tile Waali Masjid in Lucknow. Here too the claims are being made that Qutub Minar



CHARACTER OF AYODHYA IS DIFFERENT FROM KASHI AND MATHURA. IN THE CASE OF AYODHYA, MUSLIMS HAD **STOPPED OFFERING** *NAMAZ* INSIDE THE BABRI **MOSQUE IN** THE 1940S WHILE IN THE **GYANVAPI MOSQUE IN** KASHI AND SHAHI EIDGAH IN MATHURA, **MUSLIMS** OFFER PRAYERS REGULARLY

(The writer is Political Editor, The Pioneer, Lucknow edition. The views expressed are personal.)



Minar in New Delhi. These petitions raise a big question. Why now? Is it a subtle move to keep the temple issue alive? On December 1, 2021, a month before assembly elections in Uttar Pradesh, Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya put up a tweet saying: "Ayodhya hui hamari, ab Kashi-Mathura ki baari'. (Ayodhya is ours. Now, it is the turn of Kashi and Mathura). This was a clear indication that through these petitions, efforts are being made to keep the Mandir-Masjid issues alive. This would definitely give the BJP an opportunity to sharpen its

and Teele Wali Masjid are being

built over Hindu temples. Last

week, activists of Vishwa Hindu

Parishad chanted Hanuman

Chalisa at the compound of Qutub

Hindutva campaign by widening the Hindu-Muslim chasm.
Superficially, the Kashi and the Mathura issues may look similar to Ayodhya but there is a difference in their character. First, the Ayodhya case was built up by the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) with its firebrand leaders like Ashok Singhal and Praveen Togadia taking the lead. The Rath Yatra of Lal Krishna Advani in 1989 gave a political colour to this campaign and it slowly emerged as a people's movement. In the 1980s there was a frenzy over the name of Ram Mandir. The BJP took it to a higher pedestal to counter former Prime Minister VP Singh's 'Mandal' issue and thus, the contours of the Ram Janmabhhomi agitation changed.

In the case of Kashi and Mathura, that frenzy is not visible.

The VHP is still to enter the fray, though its leaders have demanded that the acquired temple land should be returned to Hindus. Moreover, the character of Ayodhya is different from Kashi and Mathura. In the case of Ayodhya, Muslims had stopped offering namaz inside the Babri Mosque in the 1940s while in the Gyanyapi mosque in Kashi and Shahi Eidgah in Mathura Muslims offer prayers regularly and the area is demarcated as a Place of Worship.

Legal luminaries believe that in the Ram Janmabhoomi- Babri Mosque judgment of November 9, 2019, the Supreme Court has interpreted the significance of the Place of Worship Act saying the law prohibits conversion of any place of worship. The Judges said that the character of a place of public worship shall be preserved and not

The question raised is whether these sentiments would be applicable to Kashi and Mathura because prayers are being offered in both the mosques under litigation. Secondly, the Supreme Court held High Court Judge DV Snarmas views as erroneous. Justice Sharma, one of the three judges who decided the Ayodhya dispute in the Lucknow bench of Allahabad High Court, had said that if a religious dispute was about a declaration or about a right that was recognized before the enforcement of the Places of Worship Act, it could be entertained as per the law.

According to the Supreme Court, the Places of Worship Act is a legislative instrument designed

to protect the secular features of the Indian polity, which is one of the basic features of the Constitution. "Above all, the Act is an affirmation of the solemn duty which was cast upon the State to preserve and protect the equality of all faiths as an essential constitutional value, a norm which has the status of being a basic feature of the Constitution," it said.

The controversy on the Taj Mahal, which some believe a Shiv Temple called Tajo Maholaya took a curious turn when some petitioners filed a plea in 2015 saying they should be allowed to carry out "darshan" and "aarti" throughout the monument because it is a Shiv Temple.

The petitioner was Sri Agreshwar Mahadev Nagnatheswar Virajman Tejo Mahalaya Temple Palace. The controversy was first stirred by Purshottam Nagesh Oak, a historian, who claimed that the Taj Mahal initially was a Shiva temple and a Rajput palace named Tejomahalaya, which Mughal emperor Shah Jahan seized and adopted as a tomb.

The argument was debunked by a number of historians, and even Supreme Court in 2000 rejected a petition by Oak to declare that the Taj Mahal was constructed by a Hindu king. The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), in August 2017 said that the Taj Mahal was not a temple but a tomb constructed by Shah Jahan within the reminiscence of his queen on land obtained from Raja Jai Singh, grandson of Raja Maan Singh, the Maharaja of Jaipur.

THE KERALA GOVERNMENT FAILED TO CHECK THE SPREAD (OF TOMATO FLU). THE SITUATION MAY WORSEN IN MONSOON SEASON. — LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION **VD SATHEESAN**





WE HAVE SET UP A SURVEILLANCE TEAM. THE INFECTED CHILDREN HAVE BEEN ISOLATED. THERE IS NO REASON TO PANIC. - KERALA HEALTH MINISTER

Congress needs new narrative, clear ideology, firm leadership

Though the Gandhi loyalists demanded that Rahul should become the president again, the Udaipur declaration was mum on it

There does Congress go from Udaipur Chintan Shivir? Was the conclave an exercise in futility, or will it revive the party? It all depends on the implementation of the decisions taken at the conclave. Congress President Sonia Gandhi said that the Shivir should not become a ritual. "I request your full cooperation in ensuring that the single overriding message that goes forth loud and clear from Udaipur is one of unity, cohesion, determination and commitment to our party's accelerated revival," she said. The much-needed conclave has

come after nine years The timing of the conference is amid serious issues raised by the G-23 rebels after continuous defeat, including leadership crisis, organizational revamp, revival, and election strategy.



KALYANI SHANKAR

(The writer is a senior

journalist. The views

expressed are personal.)

Also, the party has lost contact with the common man. Perhaps to rectify that, the Shivir has announced a padayatra from Kashmir to Kanyakumari to

In Udaipur, the party came up with recommendations in six broad areas, with six senior leaders heading each group. They are organization revamp, political issues, economy, social justice, welfare, education, and employment. The Congress Working Committee on Sunday approved most of the recommendations for organizational reforms. These include one family, one ticket rule, 50 percent representation for those below 50 years of age at all levels, including the CWC, and a five-year term limit for those holding positions at all levels. Needless to say that the Gandhis are exempt



However, what is missing is more glaring. For instance, one of the most critical issues is the leadership crisis at the top. Rahul Gandhi resigned as party chief on August 6 after the party lost the 2019 polls, and Sonia became the interim party chief. Though the Gandhi loyalists demanded that Rahul should become the president again, the Udaipur declaration was mum about it.

family- a one-ticket decision.

The second is about one

2019 poll results, Rahul Gandhi had criticised senior leaders like Ashok Gehlot and P Chidamabaram for working for the success of their families. Congress should shed dynastic

The third is about reviving the Parliamentary board, which is one of the demands of the rebel group G-23. After P V Narasimha Rao took over as Prime Minister, he wound up the

Board in 1992. Though the sub-

group recommended the revival of the Parliamentary Board, the CWC rejected it. Instead of activating the existing party constituents like the Mahila wing, NSUI, Seva Dal, and others, the conclave also decided to constitute new departments of public insight, election management, and cadre training to make the party battle-ready.

Fourthly, the political resolution left a door open for

Congress could not form its government since 1998, and after the emergence of regional powers, it is more dependent on coalitions with them to oppose the BJP. Congress had not been in power in UP since 1989, Bihar in 1990, Tamil Nadu in 1967, West Bengal in 1973, Odisha since BJD came to power, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana since 2014. Sonia Gandhi brought the Congress-led UPA to power in 2004 and 2009.

The party has almost no presence in around 180 Lok Sabha seats. Even as a junior partner, it needs to form alliances to be a formidable challenger. The contradiction is that Congress cannot come to power without gaining, and yet it cannot do so without coming into

conflict with its allies. Congress should have identified where the BJP is weak and formulated a poll strategy for 2024 with or without alliances. The BJP has not been able to penetrate the East and South

despite constant efforts. Last but not least, the Shivir has shown that the party cannot be without Gandhis. This year, the preliminary test will be in Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, and Madhya Pradesh will go to the polls in 2023. These are the principal states where the Congress has to perform better and win elections to pose a challenge to the BJP in the 2024 general elec-While Rahul said, "We will

and then states like Karnataka,

win", Sonia, in her wrap-up statement, gave a clarion call to party workers and said, "We will overcome., we are going to overcome, and we are going to overcome, that is our will power, that is our Sankalp But for that Congress should

focus on a new narrative, clear ideology, tactical alliances, leadership, and resources- all of which it lacks. Congress needs major surgery, not merely a makeover, to stay afloat and grow further.

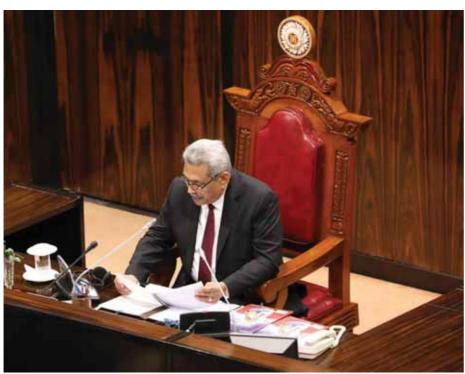
Lankan Parliament defeats no-trust motion against Prez

no-confidence motion tabled by the Opposition against Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa was defeated in Parliament on Tuesday, in a comfortable win for the embattled President amidst nationwide protests demanding his resignation due to the country's worst-ever economic crisis.

The motion by Opposition Tamil National Alliance (TNA) MP M A Sumanthiran to suspend Parliament's standing orders in order to debate an expression of displeasure over President Rajapaksa was defeated with 119 MPs voting against it, the Economy Next newspaper reported. Only 68 MPs voted in

favour of the motion, it said, giving the 72-year-old President a comfortable victory.

With the motion, the Opposition sought to demonstrate how nationwide calls for President Rajapaksa's resignation are reflected in the country's legislature, the report said. The main Opposition Samagi Jana Balavegaya (SJB) MP Lakshman Kiriella had supported the motion. According to SJB MP Harsha de Silva, among those who voted against the motion was Sri Lanka's newly-elected Prime Minister



Ranil Wickremesinghe.

Human rights lawyer Bhavani Fonseka tweeted after the vote that the motion's defeat exposed MPs who protect President Rajapaksa.

On Tuesday, Parliament met for the first time after the appointment of new Prime Minister Wickremesinghe, as the country looks to undertake a vote on the question of sus-

major constitutional reforms amid the worst economic crisis. Sumanthiran, who moved the motion, wanted the standing orders suspended to carry on with the debate.

The government, however, objected to suspending the standing orders.

The Speaker then ordered

moved on Friday. Sri Lanka is witnessing an

motion of displeasure could be

unprecedented economic crisis. The Rajapaksa government had taken some arbitrary decisions like banning chemical fertiliser imports in favour of organic farming and resisting turning to the International Monetary Fund which led to the country's worst economic crisis since its independence from Britain in 1948.

A crippling shortage of foreign reserves has led to long queues for fuel, cooking gas and other essentials while power cuts and soaring food prices heaped misery on the people.

The economic uncertainty also triggered a political crisis in Sri Lanka and a demand for the resignation of the powerful

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa sacked his Cabinet and appointed a younger Cabinet as a response to the demand for his resignation. A continuous protest opposite his secretariat has now gone on for well over a month.

On May 9, Gotabaya Rajapaksa's elder brother Mahinda Rajapaksa resigned as the prime minister to make way for the president to appoint an interim all political party government. Wickremesinghe was appointed the country's new prime minister on Thursday.

Sri Lanka's ruling party wins Deputy Speaker's election



PTI ■ COLOMBO

 $S^{ri\,Lanka's\,ruling\,party\,won}_{a\,\,key\,\,vote\,\,when\,\,its\,\,law-}$ maker Ajith Rajapaksha was on Tuesday elected deputy speaker of the country's Parliament, which met for the first time since the resignation of the former prime minister Mahinda Rajapaksa and the swearing-in of the new Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe.

Rajapaksha, 48, from the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna party was elected following a secret ballot conducted in Parliament.

He secured 109 votes and the main Opposition Samagi Jana Balawegaya nominee Rohini Kavirathna received 78

Rajapaksha is not related to the ruling Rajapaksa family but comes from the same home district of Hambantota.

Speaker Mahinda Yapa

Abeywardena said 23 votes were rejected.

The post of deputy speaker was left vacant after Ranjith Siyamabalapitiya resigned from the post twice in one month this year.

Åbeyawardene was asked by the independent group who called for the appointment by consensus without opting for the secret ballot.

Several lawmakers spoke against the vote, claiming it was a waste of Parliament's valuable

A heated exchange took place between the Opposition, the government and the

Speaker Abeyawardene said he had to abide by the house rules, the standing orders of Parliament which allow only a secret ballot when two contestants emerge from either side.

The House met for the first time since the resignation of the former prime minister Mahinda Rajapaksa and the cycle of violence which forced the country under a curfew as nine people, including a parliamentarian, were killed.

Both Mahinda Rajapaksa and his son Namal were absent while Basil Rajapaksa and Shasheendra Rajapaksa the other members of the Rajapaksa family were present in Parliament.

Luxembourg: Turkey likely to let 2 join NATO



uxembourg's foreign min-Lister says he doesn't believe Turkey will prevent Sweden and Finland from joining NATO, despite the Turkish president's stated objections.

All 30 current NATO members, among them Turkey, must agree to let the Nordic neighbours join. But Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has said they failed to take a "clear" stance against Kurdish militants and other groups that Ankara considers terrorists, and imposed military

sanctions on Turkey.

However, Luxembourg's ong-serving Foreign Minister Iean Asselborn told Germany's Deutschlandfunk radio on Tuesday that he suspects Erdogan is merely "pushing up the price" for the two countries' membership. He said: "At the end of the day, I am convinced that Turkey can't slam the brakes on this?

Activists ask top court to block Marcos Jr's presidential win

pending the standing orders.

The government won the vote

and forced the adjournment

motion moved on the violence

suffered by the ruling party

that some 78 ruling party politi-

cians had suffered damage to

The police on Monday said

The Opposition said the

politicians since May 9.

properties.

AP MANILA

Human rights activists have asked the Philippine Supreme Court to block Congress from proclaiming Ferdinand Marcos Jr as the next president, alleging that he lied when he said he had not been convicted of any crime.

The Commission on Election had twice dismissed the petition and six other similar complaints to cancel Marcos Jr's candidacy papers

to be deposited Three Hundred Only)

of tender bid and opening of tender

Website particulars where complete

Notice/NIT/11/2022-23/W-3 Dated: 17.05.2022

No. 128-W/280/e Tender Notice/NIT/10/2022-23/W-3

Rs. 0.00/-

10.06.2022 @15:00 Hrs.

The tenderer/s must be registered on the Indian Railway E-Procurement systematical and the India

(IREPS) site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for participating in the e-tender system. • For a terms and conditions please refer tender document. • No manual offers an

acceptable. • Cost of tender document and Earnest money will be acceptable through

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

www.ireps.gov.in

the following work

Name of work

2 Approx cost of world

3 Earnest Money to

be deposited

1 Cost of tender

5 Date & Time of

bid and opening of

6 Website particulars

documents car

net banking or payment gateway only.

be seen.

details of tender documents can be seen

4. Cost of tender document

5. Date &Time of submission

petitioners elevated the case to the highest court on Monday, saying Marcos Jr had been convicted of tax evasion, which should have permanently barred him from seeking public office.

Most of the petitioners are leaders of groups representing survivors of martial law in the 1970s under late dictator Ferdinand Marcos, the father of the presumptive next president. They want the court to temporarily block

OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE

The Sr. Divisional Engineer-III, Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites E-Tender

1. Name of Reconditioning of worn out points & crossings & SEJ in the

Earnest Money Rs. 1,13,300/- (Rupees One Lakh Thirteen Thousand

The tenderer/s must be registered on the Indian Railway E-Procurement System (IREPS) site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for participating in the e-tender system. • For all terms and conditions please refer tender document. • No manual offers are

acceptable. • Cost of tender document and Earnest money will be acceptable through net banking or payment gateway only. No. 128-W/280/e-Tender

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY

OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE

The Sr. Divisional Engineer-III, Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites E-Tender fo

Reconditioning of worn out points & crossings & SEJ in

Rs. 5664203.30 (Rupees Fifty Six Lakh Sixty Four Thousand Two Hundered Three and Thirty Paise Only)

Rs. 1,13,300/- (Rupees One Lakh Thirteen Thousand

the section of SSE/P-way/DLI in the jurisdiction of

section of SSE/P-way/SSB in the jurisdiction of ADEN/DLI

Rs. 5664203.30 (Rupees Fifty Six Lakh Sixty Four

Thousand Two Hundred Three and Thirty Paise Only)

Rs. 0.00/-

10.06.2022 @ 15:00 Hrs.

Dated :- 17.05.2022



Sumit Khadria, son of S M Khadria and resident of Flat No. 1117, Tower H, Prateek Edifice, Sector 107, Noida, Pin code 201305 Dist Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh, hereby declare that we have changed the name of our minor son \parallel said Fides Lim, spokeswoman

om Aahaan Khadria to **Daksh**

Khadria.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public at arge, on behalf of our client, Mohd. Akram i/o- Mr. Hazi Mehmood Hasan R/o H. No. (2, Jassipura, near Janta Chikan Point, Shaziabad, U.P. (Mortgagor''), that his/her absolute owner of the said property. Mr. Tahesh Chand was the owner of said property by virtue of Sale Deed dated 25.06.1989 area 32.46 sq. yds., from Mr. Jai Dayal & Sale Deed dated 11.01.2010 area-5.015 sq. mtrs. vide Doc. No. 213 from Mr. Rakesh Kumar Gupta, Unfortunately Lt. Mahesh Chand died on 21.05.2010 & his wife namely Lt. Indu Rani also died leaving behind following legal heirs namely Mrs. Nidhi Gupta, Mr. Amit Gupta & Mr. Sumit Kumar Gupta, Further Mrs. Nidhi Gupta, Mr mit Gupta & Mr. Sumit Kumar Gupta sold the said property to Mohd. Akram vide Sale Deed dated 21.06.2021 Doc. No.6686, Book No.1, Vol. No.18029,on pages 213-254 dated 21.06.2021 SR-II Sadai Shaziabad Mortgagor mortgage the schedule Property with Cholamandalam nvestment & Finance Company Ltd., IInd Floor 6th Pusa Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi. f any person race any objection for nortgaging the said property please race your Objection with documentary proof vithin 15 days of Publication blow

SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY Property Bearing Shop No. 124, Nambari Nagar Nigam 103, Old No. 101, area measuring 37.17 sq. mtrs., situated at Mohalla Chatta Bazar, Delhi Gate, Ghaziabad, Tehsil & Distt. Ghaziabad., (hereinafter referred to as "said property").

Sachin Maheshwari & Associates (SMA) Sachin Maheshwari Advocate 2381, LGF, Opp. Bikaner Misthan Bhandar, IInd 60, Futta Road, M. B. Extn. Badarpur Border, New Delhi. Phone No. 011- 42236352 of one of the human rights father out of office following

groups.
"If the Supreme Court were to allow such a brazen lie to trump the rule of law, all substantive eligibility requirements in all future elections can be circumvented by ineligible candidates who happen to secure a victory," she said.

Marcos Jr had more than 31 million votes in an unofficial count in what's projected to be one of the strongest majority mandates for a Philippine president in decades. His vice-presidential running mate and daughter of the outgoing populist leader, Sara Duterte, appeared to have also won with a massive

His electoral triumph is an astonishing reversal of the army-backed but largely peaceful "People Power" revolt in 1986 that forced his

years of massive human rights atrocities and plunder that Marcos Jr never acknowl-Unofficial counts also

show that the allies of Marcos Jr and Sara Duterte were set to capture most of the 300 seats in the House of Representatives and half of the 24-seat Senate that was up for election, and likely the chambers' top leaderships. The 12 winning senators,

including lone opposition Senator Risa Hontiveros, who ran for reelection, were to be proclaimed Wednesday by the Commission on Elections. All key challengers of

Marcos Jr, including current Vice President Leni Robredo, a human rights lawyer, and former boxing star Manny Pacquiao, have conceded defeat.

UK raises stakes in EU spat with threat to break Brexit deal

The British government dra-I matically escalated a fight with the European Union on Tuesday by saying it will pass a law to change the trade treaty signed by the two sides less than two years ago. Britain says its move to scrap parts of the legally binding treaty is an insurance policy in case it can't reach agreement with the bloc to end a long-running dispute over post-Brexit trade rules.

The threat of legislation is sure to rile the EU, which accuses Prime Minister Boris Johnson of trying to wriggle out of a deal that his government negotiated and signed as part of the UK's exit from the bloc in 2020. It

between Britain and the 27nation bloc that is - even after Brexit - its major economic partner. Foreign Secretary Liz Truss told lawmakers in the House of Commons that the move "is consistent with our obligations in international law". Truss said the bill will be

published in the coming weeks, and she hopes to keep up talks with the bloc in the meantime.

"Our preference is to reach a negotiated outcome with the EU," Truss said.

Britain says post-Brexit trade rules are hurting the economy and undermining peace in Northern Ireland, the only part of the UK that shares a border

with an EU member state.

SUNLOC

the Senate and the House of

Representatives from under-

taking an official canvassing

of votes starting next week

that would eventually pro-

claim Marcos Jr as the winner.

candidate's imminent victory

cannot cure his ineligibility,

"Our petition notes that a

SUNIL HEALTHCARE LIMITED

Regd. Office: 38E/252-A, Vijay Tower, Shahpurjat, New Delhi-110049 CIN-L24302DL1973PLC189662/ Email ID: - info@sunilhealthcare.com/

Web:- www.sunilhealthcare.com Tel;-+91-11-49435555/00, Fax; +91-11-43850087 NOTICE OF POSTAL BALLOT Members of the Company are hereby informed that pursuant to Section 110 and other applicable provisions, if any, of the Companies Act, 2013 including any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof for the time being in force ("Act") read

with Rule 20 and 22 of the Companies (Management & Administration) Rules, 2014 including any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof for the time being in force ("Rules") read with General Circular Nos. 14/2020 dated 8th April, 2020, 17/2020 enactment thereof for the time being in force ("Hules") read with General Circular Nos. 142020 dated 8th April, 2020, 17/2020 dated 18th April, 2020, 22/2020 dated 18th April, 2020, 33/2020 dated 28th September, 2020, 39/2020 dated 31st December, 2020, 10/2021 dated 23rd June, 2021, 20/2021 dated 8th December, 2021 and 3/2022 dated May 05, 2022 (collectively referred to as the "MCA Circulars") and Circular Nos. SEBI/HO/CFD/ CMD1/CIRIP/2020/79 dated May 12, 2020 and SEBI/HO/CFD/CMD2/CIRIP/2021/11 dated January 15, 2021 issued by the Securities and Exchange Board of India ("SEBI Circulars"), and other applicable laws, rules and regulations, if any, the following Special resolution is proposed to be passed by the Members through Postal Ballot only through remote e-voting process:
1. Re-appointment and payment of remuneration to Shri Anil Kumar Khaitan (DIN:-00759951) as Chairman & Managing

Members of the Company are hereby informed that the Company has completed dispatch of Notice of Postal Ballot dated May 06, 2022 through electronic mode on May 17, 2022 to the members of the Company, whose name appears in the Register of Members/List of Beneficial Owners as received from NSDL and CDSL as on Friday, May 13, 2022 and who has registered their email with our RTA/Company, for seeking the consent of the members by way of Special Resolution through Postal Ballot only through remote e-voting. A person, who is not Member as on Friday, May 13, 2022 should treat postal ballot notice for information The Postal Ballot Notice is also available at website of the Company at https://www.sunilhealthcare.com/general-meeting, on the website of Link Intime India Private Ltd., the Company's Agency for conducting Remote E-Voting at https://instavote.linkintime.co.in

and on the websites of BSE Limited (www.bseindia.com).

The Members holding shares in dematerialized mode are requested to update their KYC details including email address with the relevant Depository Participants. Members holding share in Physcial mode are requested to update/register their KYC details including email address by submitting duly filled and signed form ISR-1, with details of Folio number and attaching self-attested copy of a PAN card to M/s Alankit Assignment Limited at "4E/2, Alankit House, Jhandewalan Extension, New Delhi 110055", Contact no. 91-11-4254 1234 nail id: rta@alankit.com, lalit@alankit.com or cs@sunilhealthcare.com/ info@sunilh

The members may note that: The remote e-voting period shall commence on Friday May 20, 2022 from 09:00 A.M. (IST) onwards and shall end on Saturday, June 18, 2022 at 5:00 P.M. (IST) (both days inclusive). During this period, Members of the Company holding equity shares either in physical or dematerialized form as on the Cut-off date, i.e. Friday, May 13, 2022 (including those Members who may not have received this Notice due to non-registration of their e-mail address with the Company or the Depositories Depository Participants or RTA), may cast their vote electronically, in respect of the resolution as set out in this Notice only through remote e-voting. The remote e-voting module shall be disabled by LIIPL thereafter. Once the vote on resolution is case by a Member, no changes shall be allowed subsequently.

The Board of Directors of the Company has appointed Mr. Tara Chand Sharma, Proprietor of Jain Sharma & Associates Company Secretaries (ICSI Membership No.: F-5749, C.P No. 4078), Company Secretary in Practice as Scrutinizer for conducting the Postal Ballot through remote e-voting process in a fair and transparent manner. iii) The results of the Postal Ballot will be announced by the Chairman or any other person authorized by the Chairma

in writing for this purpose on or before Tuesday, June 21, 2022 at the Registered Office of Company. The said result along with Scrutinizer's report would also be displayed at the Registered and Corporate Office of the Company. Additionally, the Results will also be uploaded on the Company's website of the Company www.sunilhealthcare.com as well as on LIPL website https://instavote.linkintime.co.in.
iv) Helpdesk for Individual Shareholders holding securities in demat mode:

In case shareholders/ members holding securities in demat mode have any technical issues related to login through Depository i. NSDL/ CDSL, they may contact the respective helpdesk given below:

Login type Individual Shareholders holding securities demat mode with NSDL

Helpdesk details Members facing any technical issue in login can contact NSDL helpdesk by sending a request at evoting@nsdl.co.in or call at toll free no.: 1800 1020 996 evoting@nsdl.co.in or call at toll free no.: 1800 1020 990 and 1800 22 44 30

Members facing any technical issue in login can contact CDSL helpde by sending a request at helpdesk.evoting@cdslindia.com or contact at Individual Shareholders holding securities demat mode with CDSL 022- 23058738 or 22-23058542-43. v) Helpdesk for Individual Shareho olders holding securities in physical mode/ Institutional shareholders & evoting service

case shareholders/ members holding securities in physical mode/ Institutional shareholders have any queries regarding remote voting, they may refer the Frequently Asked Questions ('FAQs') and InstaVote e-Voting manual available at https://instavote.linkintime.co.in, under Help section or send an email to enotices@linkintime.co.in or Contact Mr. Rajiv Ranjan of LIIPL, C-101, 247 Park, L.B.S. Marg, Vikhroli (West), Mumbai 400 083, Maharashtra, India or call at: - Tel: 022 -4918 6000.

vi) for details instruction of Re-voting, the members are requested go through the notice of the Postal Ballot (especially note no. 13) On behalf of the Board For SUNIL HEALTHCARE LIMITED

SANTOSH KUMAR SHARMA COMPANY SECRETARY & COMPLIANCE OFFICER

Dated-May 17, 2022 Email: cs@sunilhealthcare.com Contact No. 011-49435541

38E/252A, Vijay Tower, Shahpurjat, New Delhi-110049 CIN No: L24302DL1973PLC189662 Phone No: +91-11-49435555/00 Fax no 011-43850087 Email ID: info@sunilhealthcare.com

Beijing locks down more people in China's 'zero-Covid' fight

AP ■ BEIJING

 $A^{\mathrm{uthorities}}$ in Beijing restricted more residents to their homes on Tuesday in a now 3-week-long effort to control a small but persistent Covid-19 outbreak in the Chinese capital. Seven adjoining areas in

the city's Fengtai district were designated lockdown zones for at least one week, with people ordered to stay at home in an area covering about 4 by 5 km (2.5 by 3 miles). The area is near a wholesale food market that was closed indefinitely on Saturday following the discovery of a cluster there. The added restrictions

come as Shanghai, China's largest city, slowly starts to ease

a citywide lockdown that has trapped most of its population for more than six weeks. The twin outbreaks in Beijing and Shanghai, the country's most prominent cities, have focused attention on whether China can sustain its strict "zero-COVID" approach, as many other countries adapt to the fast-spreading omicron variant

and ease restrictions. China recorded 1,100 new cases on Monday, the National Health Commission said Tuesday. Of those, about 800 were in Shanghai and 52 were in Beijing. The daily number of new cases in Shanghai has declined steadily for more than two weeks, but authorities have been moved slowly to relax restrictions, frustrating resi-

German prosecutors seek 5 years for ex-Nazi guard

AP ■ BERLIN

Terman prosecutors on Tuesday sought a five-year prison sentence for a 101-yearold man who is on trial for his alleged role as a Nazi SS guard at a concentration camp during World War II. The defendant is charged with 3,518 counts of being an accessory to murder at the Sachsenhausen concentration camp, where he allegedly worked between 1942 and 1945 as an enlisted member of the Nazi Party's paramilitary wing. He has been identified only as Josef S. In keeping with German privacy rules. Prosecutor Cyrill Klement

and place of birth.

The defense is expected to make closing arguments on June 1 and a verdict has been penciled in for June 2.

the Neuruppin state court, with hearings being held in the nearby eastern city of Brandenburg. He has told the court that he didn't know the Sachsenhausen camp. There are no formal pleas in the German legal system. Prosecutors have pointed

told the defendant that he

"accepted the dehumanization

of the victims," news agency dpa

reported. The defendant has

been on trial since October at

to documents on an SS guard with the man's name and date

Date : May 18, 2022 Place: Faridabad

receipt of the said notice.

section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

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

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

the undersigned has taken Symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/ her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the belowmentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ICICI Bank Limited. Name of the Description Date of Demand of Property/ Date of Borrower/ Loan

		Notice (Rs.)	Dianon	
1. M/s Spaak Super Infra India Pvt Ltd./ Pankul Rathore/ Khairoon R Rathore/ A/c No. 002105017982/ 002160000707/ 002160000723	1. Flat No 1 2nd Floor Royal Retreat 3 Charmwood Village Faridabad- 122009/ 2. Flat No 2 2nd Floor Royal Retreat 3 Charmwood Village Faridabad-122009/ May 13,2022	June 19,2021 Rs. 10,217,760/-	Faridabad	

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. Authorized Officer ICICI Bank Limited

the pioneer

AP ■ ZORYA TRUDA

The countryside was in full I bloom when Iuliia Loseva buried her husband in the village cemetery near her home. On her knees in the grass,

she bowed her head over the open coffin and kissed him one last goodbye before they lowered him into his grave.

There was a military band, and a six-gun salute. His teenage sons, pale and stunned, walked behind their father's coffin holding framed photographs of him in his camouflage uniform.

But this was not a military funeral for a career soldier. Volodymyr Losev's foray into the army was as sudden as it was brief.

A little over three months ago the 38-year-old was just another civilian, driving trucks and operating cranes, working to take care of his family in a small village near the port city of Odesa in southwestern Ukraine.

Then the war came, and everything changed.

"He had never been in the army, but he signed up on the first day of the war," said Losev's brother-in-law, Viktor Chesolin after the funeral.

Russia invaded Ukraine on Feb. 24. Like so many other Ukrainian men, Losev decided he wanted to help defend his country. He had no prior military experience. But he knew how to shoot an air rifle, and he had specialized driving skills due to his job, Chesolin said.

So when a letter arrived from the army recruitment center in February, Losev turned up and asked to be enlisted. Skilled drivers were in demand, and the army took him up on his offer.

He left his wife and sons -13-year-old Hrehorii and 15year-old Denys - at home and headed off to western Ukraine for two or three weeks of training. He was a good marksman, it turned out, and the army made him a sniper, said

Soon, he was on the front lines in eastern Ukraine, fighting Russian forces. His family didn't know much about where he was - he didn't discuss loca-Then the dreaded call

came. One of Losev's fellow soldiers, a friend, called Iuliia. Her husband was dead. Losev had died May 7 near

the eastern Ukrainian city of Severodonetsk, his family was



told. A mine in the road detonated as the military vehicle he was driving ran over it, wounding the other soldiers in the vehicle and killing Losev, Chesolin said. As far as they know, he died at the scene.

Fighting in the area was fierce, and retrieving his body complicated. It took days for the army to manage to extract him and get him home.

On May 16, Iuliia, her nails painted alternately in the blue and yellow colors of the Ukrainian flag, waited outside their home as the funeral van arrived with his coffin. Mourners lined the street, kneeling in respect as the van

She clutched her son's

hands as the funeral procession made its way to the small cemetery on the outskirts of the village, national flags fluttering in the breeze.

The grave was open and waiting, the band standing to one side. Leaving the mourners behind, his wife walked ahead with the coffin and asked the pallbearers to set him down on the grass.

She sank to her knees,

ragged sobs escaping in ago-nizing breaths. One last time, she caressed his chest and bowed over him. For a final few moments, she could be alone with her husband, the man who had gone so quickly from civilian to soldier - and then

From civilian to soldier: Lviv rocked by number Army volunteers buried of very loud explosions

The western Ukrainian city of Lviv has been rocked by number of very loud explo-

An Associated Press team in the city witnessed the glare of bright explosions which lit up the night sky to the west of the city shortly after midnight local time.

Witnesses counted at least eight explosions accompanied by distant booms.

The smell of burning was apparent some time later. The city is currently under curfew from 11 p.M. To 6 a.M.

Makysym Kozytskyy, chairman of the Lviv Regional Military Administration, said the Russians had fired on military infrastructure in the Yavoriv district. The city of Yavoriv is about 15 kilometers (less than 10 miles) from the Polish border.

Andriy Sadovyi, the mayor of Lviv, said on Facbeook that there was no confirmed information about the missiles hitting the city.

"Let's thank those who protect our sky for this!," Sadovyi said. "In the morning we will give more accurate information. Take care of your-

self and do not ignore air alarms!"

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said the evacuation of the fighters from Azovstal to separatist-controlled territory saved their lives. More than 260 Ukrainian fighters, including some who are badly wounded, were evacuated Monday from a steel plant in the ruined city of Mariupol and taken to areas under Russia's control, according to a Ukrainian military

Deputy Defense Minister Hanna Maliar said 53 seriously wounded fighters were taken to a hospital in Novoazovsk, east of Mariupol. An additional 211 fighters were evacuated to Olenivka through a humanitarian corridor.

Malyar said an exchange would be worked out for their return home. She also said missions were underway to rescue the remaining fighters inside the plant, the last stronghold of resistance in the ruined southern port city of Mariupol.

'Ukraine needs Ukrainian heroes to be alive. That is our principle," Zelenskyy said in his nightly address. "Our military and intelligence have started the operation to save

Mariupol's defenders. The continues to bring the guys

home, and it requires delicacy and time.' More than 260 Ukrainian

fighters, including some who are badly wounded, were evacuated Monday from a steel plant in the ruined city of Mariupol and taken to areas under Russia's control, the Ukrainian military said. Deputy Defense Minister

Hanna Maliar said 53 seriously wounded fighters were taken to a hospital in Novoazovsk, east of Mariupol. An additional 211 fighters were evacuated to Olenivka through a humanitarian corridor.

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She also said missions were underway to rescue the remaining fighters inside the plant, the last stronghold of resistance in the ruined southern port city of Mariupol.

Earlier Monday, the Russian Defense Ministry announced an agreement for the wounded to leave the steelworks for treatment in a town held by pro-Moscow separatists. Áfter nightfall Monday, several buses pulled away from the steel mill accompanied by Russian military vehicles. There was no immediate word on whether the wounded would be considered prisoners of war.

A senior U.S. Defense official said Monday that Russian long-range strikes near Lviv appeared to target the Ukrainian military training center in Yavoriv, which is less than 15 miles (25 kilometers) from the border with Poland.

War Crimes Watch: Targeting schools, Russia bombs the future

AP KYIV

As she lay buried under the rubble, her legs broken and eyes blinded by blood and thick clouds of dust, all Inna Levchenko could hear was screams. It was 12:15 pm on March 3, and moments earlier a blast had pulverised the school where she'd taught for

Amid relentless bombing, she'd opened School 21 in Chernihiv as a shelter to frightened families. They painted the word "children" in big, bold letters on the windows, hoping that Russian forces would see it and spare them. The

bombs fell anyway

Though she didn't know it yet, 70 children she'd ordered to shelter in the basement would survive the blast. But at least nine people, including one of her students - a 13-year-old boy - would not.
"Why schools? I cannot

comprehend their motivation,"

died...And how many children who remained alone without parents, got traumatised.

They will remember it all their life and will pass their stories to the next generation."

The Ukrainian government says Russia has shelled more than 1,000 schools, destroying 95. On May 8, a bomb flattened a school in Zaporizhzhia which, like School No 21 in Chernihiv, was being used a shelter.

Ås many as 60 people were feared dead. Intentionally attacking

schools and other civilian infrastructure is a war crime. Experts say wide-scale wreckage can be used as evidence of Russian intent, and to refute claims that schools were simply collateral damage.

But the destruction of hundreds of schools is about more than toppling buildings and maiming bodies, according to experts, to teachers and to others who have survived conmany friends of mine a nation's ability to rebound ters and residential neigh

after the fighting stops, injuring entire generations and dashing a country's hope for

In the nearly three months since Russia invaded Ukraine, The Associated Press and the PBS series "Frontline" have independently verified 57 schools that were destroyed or damaged in a manner that indicates a possible war crime. The accounting likely represents just a fraction of potential war crimes committed during the conflict and the list is updated daily.

In Chernihiv alone, the city council said only seven of the city's 35 schools were unscathed. Three were reduced to rubble. The International Criminal

Court, prosecutors from across the globe and Ukraine's prosecutor general are investigating more than 8,000 reports of potential war crimes in Ukraine involving 500 suspects. Many are accused of "It is painful to realise how in Syria and beyond. It hinders structures like hospitals, shel-



bourhoods.

Targeting schools - spaces designed as havens for children to grow, learn and make friends is particularly harmful, transforming the architecture of childhood into something violent and dangerous: a

place that inspires fear. PUBLIC NOTICE

Kudrik, lay dead on the floor of Ukrainian town of Gorlovka. Amid the wreckage surrounding her were books and papers, smeared in blood. In the corner, another lifeless body -Elena Ivanova, the assistant PUBLIC NOTICE
To be known to all that I, MANMEET SINGH,
S/O Late Sh. Jai Singh, R/o Flat No. B-161,
(Duplex) Scond+Third Floor, Pocket-B, Sarita
Vihar, New Delhi-110076, owner of property Information is given to general public at large that my client Mr. Vipin Sharma S/o Mr. Rambharose owner of Freehold Residential Plot admeasuring area 150 Sq. Yd. or say 125.41 Sq. Mt., Pertaining to Khatauni 1423 to 128

A geography teacher, Elena School 50 in the eastern

headmaster- slumped over in an office chair, a gaping wound torn into her side.

'It's a tragedy for us ... It's a tragedy for the children," said school director Sergey But, standing outside the brick building shortly after the attack. Shards of broken glass and rubble were sprayed across the concrete, where smiling children once flew kites and posed for photos with friends.

A few kilometers away, at the Sonechko pre-school in the city of Okhtyrka, a cluster bomb destroyed a kindergarten, killing a child.

Outside the entrance, two more bodies lay in pools of Valentina Grusha teaches

in Kyiv province, where she has worked for 35 years, most recently as a district administrator and foreign literature instructor. Russian troops invaded her village of Ivankiv just as school officials had begun preparations for war. On Feb 24, Russian forces driving toward Kyiv fatally shot a child and his father there, she said. "There was no more

instruction because the war started. And then there were 36 days of occupation." They also shelled and destroyed schools in many

schooling," she said. "We called all the leaders and stopped

nearby villages, she said. Kindergarten buildings were shattered by shrapnel and machine-gun fire.

Despite the widespread damage and destruction to educational infrastructure, war crimes experts say proving an

targeting civilian structures, and local media reports in Russian-held Gorlovka alleged Ukrainian forces trying to recapture the area were to blame for the blast that killed the two teachers there.

But the effects of the destruction are indisputable.

"When I start talking to the directors of destroyed and robbed institutions, they are very worried, crying, telling with pain and regret," Grusha said. "It's part of their lives. And now the school is a ruin that stands in the center of the village and reminds of those terrible air raids and bombings.' UNICEF communications

director Toby Fricker, who is currently in Ukraine, agreed. "School is often the heart of the community in many places, and that is so central to every-

attacking military's intent to target individual schools is difficult. Russian officials deny Amba.... Rainbow memories 21 beautiful years from 19.05.1980 We've been blessed to have your Laughter



Every precious moment

Gun Nidhi & Manju Kapur Dalmia Agastya, Katyayani & Maya Amba's many friends and family

And your wonderful, loving presence

Vatican Minister visits Ukraine as Pope toes delicate line tweeted Tuesday that the visit

Ukraine, "reaffirming the impor-

tance of dialogue to reestablish

See toes a delicate line in trying

to keep alive newly improved ties

with the Russian Orthodox

Church while offering support to

the "martyred" Ukrainian faith-

ful. At the same time, the Holy

See is reconciling Pope Francis'

frequent denunciation of the

weapons industry and "crazy"

recourse to rearming Ukraine

with Catholic teaching that says

states have a right and duty to

Gallagher told RAI state televi-

sion in announcing his trip.

"It has to be proportional,"

repel an "unjust aggressor."

The trip comes as the Holy

The Vatican's foreign minister, Archbishop Paul Gallagher, is heading to Kyiv this week as the Holy See seeks to balance its concern for Ukrainians amid Russia's war with its efforts to keep open a channel of dialogue with Moscow. Gallagher is due to arrive

Wednesday and meet Friday with Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba, a visit that was originally scheduled for before Easter but was postponed after Gallagher came down with COVID-19. The Vatican said that

Gallagher would stop first in Lviv to meet with refugees and regional officials, and then move onto Kyiv for the meeting with Kuleba and to tour the destruc-

The secretariat of state

R.O. No. 91206/6

R.O. Date: 17/05/2022

defend itself and it needs weapons to do it, but it has to be would mark the 30th anniversary of diplomatic relations with prudent in the way it's done. Ukraine and show the closeness Gallagher, a 68-year-old of the pope and Holy See to

career Vatican diplomat from Liverpool, becomes the third papal envoy dispatched to the region by Francis, after two trusted cardinals went to Ukraine and bordering countries to assess the humanitarian needs of Ukrainian refugees and bring them the pope's solidarity.

Francis has drawn criticism from some for refusing to condemn Russia or President Vladimir Putin by name, though he has stepped up his criticism of the "barbaric" war and recently met with the wives of two Ukrainian soldiers holding out at the besieged steel mill in Mariupol, a gesture of "our concern and participation in the suffering of these families, "Yes, Ukraine has the right to Gallagher said.

Plot admeasuring area 150 Sq. vt. or say 125.41 Sq. Mt., Pertaining to Khatauni 1423 to 1428 Fasii Year Khata No. 619, Khasra No. 84, situated in Village Achtheja, Pragana & Tehsii Dadri, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P above Mention Property Documents Glif deed executed by Mr. Rambharose s/o Mr. Kashiram in favour of his Real Son Mr.Vipin Sharma S/o Mr. Rambharose in respect of the said Plot admeasuring area 150 Sq. yd. or say 125. 41 Sq. Mt., Pertaining to Khatauni 1423 to 1428 Fasii YearKhata No.619, Khasra No.84, Glyk yegistered with the office of SR. Dadri, Doc. No. 15925 in Book No.1, Vol. No. 20730, Pages No. 349/368, on dated 04.05. 2022 Present owner of the above Property Mr. Vipin Sharma s/o Mr. Rambharose and Same Property to be Loan financed by M/s Vastu Housing Finance Corporation Ltd. If any person(s) have any objection(s) or claim(s) with respect to the right, title or interest in the Said Property then contact us within 7 days from the date of this notice on the number mentioned herein below, failing which my client i. e. M/s Vastu Housing Finance Corporation Ltd. 2nd Floor, Commercial Market, Sanjay Vihar, Awas Vikas, Opp. Prachin Shiv Mandir, Hapur-245101 U.P. Shall not be held responsible in any manner whatsoever.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Regulation 29 read with Regulation 47 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, that a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company will be held on Friday, 27th May, 2022, at 2.00 PM. inter-alia, to consider and approve the Audited Financial Results, of the mpany for the quarter and year ended o 31st March 2022. The information contained in this notice

also available on the Company's website www.cubical90.com as also on the website of the Stock Exchange viz. BSE Limited www.bseindia.com

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

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

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

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

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch	
	Praveen Kumar/ Khushboo Kumari/ LBDEL00003446307	Flat No G 3046/ GC- 16, 3rd Floor Tower G 16th Avenue Gaur City 2 Plot No Gh-03, Sec-16 C Greater Noida/ May 12, 2022	October 16, 2021 Rs. 31,31,971/-	Delhi/ NCR	
	Ashish Kumar Sethi/ Mamta Sethi/ LBDEL00005144228	December 13, 2021 Rs. 26,76,158/-	Delhi/ NCR		
- 1	Anita Negi/ Om Prakash/ Brijesh Kumar/ LBDEL00002371119 Flat No 822, 2nd Floor, Pocket- B, Janta Flat, Sector-16 B, Dwarka, Delhi-110075 / May 12, 2022		November 15, 2021 Rs. 4,98,761/-	Delhi/ NCR	
	Anand Parkash/ Jagwati/ LBDEL00002370036 Plot No C 3/264, Yamuna Vihar, Delhi/ May 12, 2022		August 30, 2021 Rs.18,30,634/-	Delhi/ NCR	
	Geeta/ Amit Kumar/ LBDEL00002377971	Flat No 48, 2nd Floor, Block F3, Pocket 3, LIG Sector G 8, Narela, Delhi/ May 12, 2022		Delhi/ NCR	
	Raj Sighanya/ Seema Sighanya/ LBNOD00001789522	eema Sighanya/ Phase- I, Shivaji Marg, Plot No. 15, Delhi/		Delhi/ NCR	
	Vimmy Chandok/ Sandeep Singh Chandok/ Amarjeet Singh/ LBDEL00000807235 Flat No. C-120, Lajpat Nagar - 1, New Delhi, Delhi / May 12, 2022		August 30, 2021 Rs. 3,59,851/-	Delhi/ NCR	
	Barunjit Singh/ Jasleen Kaur/ LBNOD0005169626 Flat No H-1404, 14th Floor, Stellar One, Tower H, Plot No Gh-09, Sector 1 Greater Noida West, Noida / May 12, 2022		October 16, 2021 Rs. 28,31,842/-	Delhi/ NCR	
	arun Prakash/ Uma Sharma/ BDEL00004371313/ BDEL00004373483 Flat No- A-602, 6th Floor, Appu Enclave, Cghs Ltd Apartments, Plot No-3d, Sec-11 Dwarka, Delhi/ May 12, 2022		December 17, 2021 Rs. 1,01,94,930/-	Delhi/ NCR	
	Varun Prakash/ Puneet Prakash/ Uma Sharma/ LBDEL00004423376	House No-hs-19, Kailash Colony, Delhi/ May 12, 2022	December 06, 2021 Rs. 49,45,383/-	Delhi/ NCR	

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

Authorized Officer **ICICI Bank Limited**

Nodal Officer Jila Nirman Samiti, Executive Engineer P.W.D. North Bastar Division-1, Jagdalpur

OFFICE OF THE COLLECTOR JILA NIRMAN SAMITI, JAGDALPUR DISTT. BASTAR (C.G.)

Expression of Interest (EOI) (1st Call)

Jagdalpur Dated. 11.05.2022

No. 01/JNS /2022-23 Jila Nirman Samiti, Jagdalpur Distt, Bastar invites Empanelment of Consultants for Architectural Engineering/Structural & Other Related Services.

General condition: All the documents & Information shall be submitted through speed post/Registered post, so as to reach the office of under signed on or before dated 08.06.2022 by 15.00 hour. Any documents received after the last date and time will not be entertained.

The detailed RFP is available on the website http://bastar.gov.in from where it can be downloaded for submission. Collector, Jila Nirman Samiti Jagdalpur. reserves the right to reject all or any of the application without assigning any reason. Right to modify the process of Pre-qualification is reserved with Collector, Jila Nirman Samiti Jagdalpur.

Place: New Delhi (Ashwani Kumar Gupta) Date17-05-2022 Managing Director NORTHERN RAILWAY **OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE**

The Sr. Divisional Engineer-III, Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites E-Tender fo the following work. 1 Name of work Cleaning of Railway land and disposal of materia beyond Railway Boundary which includes removal of garbage, rag picking, cleaning of drain, cow dung, leaves, muck, malba, debris soil heap, animal carcass, building material and shifting and stacking of Railway material in the section of SSE/P-way/DLI under ADEN/DLI Rs. 55.99.552.31 (Rupees Fifty Five Lakh 2 Approx. cost of work

Ninety Nine Thousand Five Hundred Fifty Two and Thirty One Paise Only) Rs. 1,12,000/- (Rupees One Lakh Twelve 3 Earnest Money to be Thousand Only.) Rs. 0.00/-4 Cost of tender document 5 Date & Time of submission 10.06.2022 @15:00 Hrs of tender bid and opening

Website particulars where www.ireps.gov.in complete details of tende documents can be seen The tenderer/s must be registered on the Indian Railway E-Procurement syste

(IREPS) site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for participating in the e-tender system For all terms and conditions please refer tender document. No manual offers are acceptable

banking or payment gateway only No.: 128-W/280/e Tender Notice/NIT/12/2022-23/W-3 Dated: 17.05.2022

Serving Customers with a Smil

Cost of tender document and Earnest money will be acceptable through ne

Date: May 18, 2022 Place: Delhi/ NCR

(Unjext) sectors + Initer a long, Pocket-8, Sarita Vihar, New Delhi-110076, owner of property bearing SFS Flat No. B-161, (DUPLEX) Second + Third Floor alongwith Scooter Garage, Pocket-B, Situated At Sarita Vihar, New Delhi-110076 Vide DDA File No. F-128 (220) 86, FSF /SV/III, has applied for supplying the certified copy in DDA. All the original documents i.e. Allotment cum-demand Letter, Allocation Letter, Possession Letter, site possession Slip, & NOC for electricity & water connection issued by the DDA of the above flat have been lost. An FIR/NCR/LR to this effect has lodged in Police Station Crime Branch, New Delhi, vide NCR/FIR /L.R. No. 408933/2022. Any person(s) claiming any right, interest, having any objection or found in possession of original documents, may write/contact with above named person at above address/phone No. 9911883355 within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. The person claiming any right, interest, objections with respect to this property can personally inform or write to Dy. Director (LAB) Hor Director (H)-1,D Block, Vikas Sadan, INA, New Delhi.

Sensex, Nifty zoom over 2.5% as global stocks rise

Mumbai: Benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty on Tuesday spurted by over 2.5 per cent to log their best single-day gains in three months, propelled by heavy buying in metal, energy and banking stocks amid a global rally in

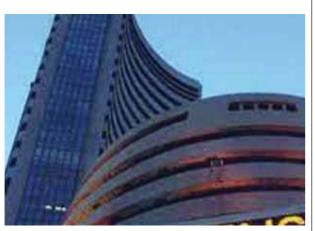
The 30-share BSE benchmark zoomed 1,344.63 points or 2.54 per cent to settle at over one-week high of 54,318.47 points with all of its constituents closing with gains. During the day, it jumped 1,425.58 points or 2.69 per cent to 54,399.42.

The broader NSE Nifty rallied 417 points or 2.63 per cent to finish at 16,259.30 points. All the 50 stocks advanced led by steel and energy stocks.

Both Sensex and Nifty notched their best single-day gain since February 15.

"A ferocious up-move from the metal index lifted Reliance together with other sectoral indices, leaving bears gasping and covering short positions and looking out for reasons for the rally," S Ranganathan, Head of Research at LKP securities,

April crossed 15 per cent, over 2.5 per cent rise in benchmark



indices coupled with the breadth of the rally surprised many on the street despite the move coming after a relentless fall, Ranganathan added.

Among Sensex stocks, Tata Steel emerged as lead gainer, rising by 7.62 per cent.

The most valuable company Reliance zoomed 4.26 per cent, helping Sensex to close at over one-week high.

Among others, ITC, Larsen & Toubro, Wipro, Bank HCL Technologies, Bajaj Finance, SBI and Maruti also added to the rally.

. "After a long gap, the mar-On a day when WPI for ket has witnessed a strong resilience supported by heavyweights and broader markets.

oversold territory and was inspired by optimism in the Asian markets," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial

"Indian markets made a superb comeback today gaining over 2.5 per cent on back of improving global clues and asian markets trading in the green. Metal sector was the top performer," said Rahul Sharma, Head, Research Equity 99

In the broader market, the BSE smallcap gauge rallied 2.78 per cent and midcap index jumped 2.51 per cent. All BSE sectoral indices also ended

WPI inflation at record high of 15.08% in April

based inflation soared to a record high of 15.08 per cent in April mainly on account of spiralling prices of food, fuel and other commodities, which may prompt the Reserve Bank to hike interest rates in upcoming monetary policy review next

The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) at 15.08 per cent is the highest in the new series, the data for which is available since 2012-13. The WPI inflation has remained in double digit for the 13th consecutive month since April last year.

"The high rate of inflation in April 2022 was primarily due to rise in prices of mineral oils, basic metals, crude petroleum & natural gas, food articles, non-food articles, food products and chemicals & chemical products etc. As compared to the corresponding month of the previous year," the commerce and industry ministry said in a statement.

Inflation in food articles was 8.35 per cent as prices of vegetables, wheat, fruits and potato witnessed a sharp spike over the year-ago period.

In the fuel and power basket, inflation was 38.66 per cent, while in manufactured products and oil seeds, it was 10.85 per cent and 16.10 per



Inflation in crude petroleum and natural gas was 69.07 per cent in April.

Data released last week showed that retail inflation rose to a near eight-year high of 7.79 per cent in April, remaining above the Reserve Bank's inflation target for the fourth straight month.

To tame stubbornly high inflation, the RBI earlier this month hiked its key interest rate by 0.40 per cent and cash reserve ratio by 0.50 per cent in a surprise move.

ICRA chief economist

BUSINESS BRIEFS

INFORMA MARKET TO HOST SATTE 2022

organizer, is geared to host SATTE 2022, South Asia's leading travel trade exhibition, from May 18 – 20 at the India Expo Mart, Greater Noida, Delhi-NCR. The 29th edition of SATTE aims to provide a great business opportunity to stakeholders to conduct business with over 36,000 + qualified industry buyers and trade visitors from the travel, wedding planning, corporate travel, hospitality and leisure industries, as well as leading television and film production houses.

RBL RAISES USD 100 MN FROM BONDS

New Delhi: RBL Bank on Tuesday said it has raised USD 100 million (about ₹ 770 crore) through its first issuance of Basel IIIcompliant unsecured and subordinated tier 2 bonds. The tier 2 bond issuance increases the bank's total Capital Adequacy Ratio to 17.85 per cent, RBL Bank said in a statement.

KAJARIA CERAMICS Q4 PROFIT DOWN 26% AT ₹ 97 CR

New Delhi: Kajaria Ceramics Ltd on Tuesday reported a decline of 25.87 per cent in consolidated net profit at ₹97.23 crore for the fourth quarter ended March. The company had posted a net profit of ₹ 131.17 crore in the year-ago period, Kajaria Ceramics said in a BSE filing.

INDIAN OIL APPOINTS V C ASOKAN AS ED

Chennai: Oil major IndianOil on Tuesday said it has appointed V C Asokan as its executive director and state head for Tamil Nadu and Puducherry. Prior to taking up the new role he was heading Kerala state office of the oil marketing company as its executive director and state head, a press release said.

GOVT MULLS EXTENDING APRIL GST PAYMENT DEADLINE

New Delhi, May 17 (PTI) As taxpayers face technical glitch on the GST portal, the government on Tuesday said it is considering extending the April tax payment deadline and has directed Infosys for early resolution of the problem. The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) said a technical glitch has been reported by Infosys in generation of April 2022 GSTR-2B

REGISTRATION IN 'DO NOT DISTURB' & PESKY CALLS New Delhi: A majority of mobile phone users receive

unwanted or pesky calls and text messages even after having registered their numbers in the Trai's 'national do not call' registry, a survey report said on Tuesday

RBI rejects 6 applications for setting up banks

Mumbai: The Reserve Bank has rejected six applications for setting up banks, including for small finance banks, as these were "not found" suitable, the central bank said on Tuesday. The RBI in a statement

said the examination of six applications has now been completed as per the procedure laid down under the guidelines. "Based on the assessment

of the applications, (six) applicants were not found suitable for granting of in-principle approval to set up banks," it

Applicants not found suitable under the guidelines for 'on tap' Licensing of Universal Banks are: UAE Exchange and Financial Services Limited; The Repatriates Cooperative Bank Limited (REPCO Bank); Chaitanya India Fin Credit Private Limited, and Pankaj Vaish and others, it said. The RBI further said the

applicants not found suitable



under Guidelines for 'on tap Licensing of Small Finance Banks are: VSoft Technologies Private Limited and Calicut City Service Co-operative Bank

The Reserve Bank had received 11 applications to set for 'on tap' Licensing of Universal Banks and Small Finance Banks.

The remaining applications are under examination, the central bank added. PTI

Gold jumps ₹388, silver rallies ₹1,046

Delhi:



al capital on Tuesday jumped ₹388 to ₹50,282 per 10 gram, reflecting rally in international precious metal prices, according to HDFC Securities .In the previous trade, the precious metal finished at Rs 49,894 per 10 gram.

Silver also rallied by Rs 1,046 to Rs 60,957 per kg from Rs 59,911 per kg in the previous trade.

In the international market, gold was trading higher at USD 1,825 per ounce and silver was marginally lower at USD 20.96 per ounce.

"Gold prices traded firm with spot gold prices at COMEX trading 0.13 per cent Tuesday. Gold prices rebounded supported by weaker dollar despite firm US bond yields," said Tapan Patel, Senior Analyst (Commodities), HDFC

Challenge for India is to sustain 8-9% growth for three decades: Niti Aayog



New Delhi: India has done extremely well on the vaccination front and the challenge for the country is to grow 8-9 per cent over the next three decades, Niti Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant said on Tuesday.

Addressing an event organised by Public Affairs Forum of India (PAFI), Kant capita income of India is critical for removing poverty in the

"We bounced back post-COVID-19, and have done extremely well on vaccination,

next year as well we will grow. "The challenge (for India) is to sustain high growth of 8-9 per cent over the next three decades," he said.

According to Kant, the government's role should be in public policy and the policy should create wealth through the private sector.

be in education, health and nutrition," he said. According to Kant, it is important for Indian manufacturers to penetrate global markets and value

'Wheat export ban marginally positive for domestic inflation'

Mumbai: The ban on wheat exports is only "marginally positive" for the domestic inflation outlook, a British brokerage said on Tuesday.

Aditi Nayar said with some cor-

rection in commodity prices as

a result of the bleaker demand

outlook in China offsetting

the depreciation in rupee, the

WPI inflation may recede

mildly below 15 per cent in

May 2022, while remaining

spike in prices of perishables

such as fruits, vegetables and

milk, which along with a spike in tea prices pushed up the pri-

mary food inflation. The core-

WPÍ inflation reverted to a

four-month high of 11.1 per cent in April.

The heat wave led to a

uncomfortably elevated.

The ongoing heatwave poses "significant risks" to the wheat output, and the government's surprise move to ban the exports will ease domestic price concerns only at the margins, analysts at Barclays said.

Firming prices of the grain aggravating the already uncomfortable inflation situation was speculated as one of the reasons for the surprise move from the government to ban wheat

The headline inflation accelerated to nearly 8 per cent in April and is expected to stay elevated for some more time. Already, there have been a slew of moves by Indian policymakers to contain inflation rates before the export ban.

"Wheat export ban marginally positive for domestic inflation outlook," the analysts said, adding that a 10 per cent **PTI** | rise in domestic wheat prices

pushes up the headline inflation by 0.27 per cent.

The report said the move by India - which was one of the key suppliers of wheat following the Russian invasion of Ukraine - is akin to similar ones by Indonesia (which banned palm oil exports) and Serbia and Kazakhstan (on

Till now, wheat prices in the domestic market have risen only by 3 per cent as against a 44 per cent rise globally since February 24, when the invasion

The British brokerage said if not for the ban, it would have been difficult for the government to achieve the target of 10 million tonnes without putting pressure on domestic prices as it has entered the financial vear with a buffer stock of only 19 million tonnes of wheat.

The potential downside to because of the heat wave could wipe out the small surplus that the country has enjoyed over the past few years, which perhaps influenced the decision to ban exports, it said.

LIC sees lacklustre debut in stock market, lists at over 8% discount

Mumbai: The country's largest insurer LIC on Tuesday made a lacklustre debut on stock exchanges on Tuesday, listing at over 8 per cent discount after a successful initial public offering (IPO) which fetched ₹20,557 crore to the exchequer.

As against the issue price of ₹949, shares of LIC listed at ₹872, a discount of ₹81.80 apiece, on the BSE. The stock listed at ₹ 867.20, showing a discount of ₹ 77 apiece, on the

The listing price was also below the price at which shares were allotted to LIC policyholders, employees and retail

The scrip remained below



the issue price throughout the trading hours and closed at ₹873 on NSE and ₹875.45 on BSE.In the intra-day trade, the shares had touched a low of ₹860 apiece.

Over 4.87 crore shares changed hands on the NSE, while on BSE it was over 27.52 lakh. With the listing, LIC got into the list of top-5 most valued companies with market capitalisation of nearly ₹5.54 lakh crore.

LIC shares listed at a discount even as the benchmark BSE Sensex opened in positive zone and closed with a gain of over 2 per cent over previous

Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) had fixed the issue price of its shares at Rs 949 apiece after a successful initial public offering, which was over subscribed nearly 3-times when it closed on May 9.

The shares were lapped up mainly by retail and domestic investors, even as foreign demand

MCX profit falls to ₹36.53 crore in Q4

New Delhi: Multi Commodity Exchange of India Ltd (MCX) on Tuesday reported a 5 per cent decline in consolidated net profit at ₹36.53 crore for the quarter ended March.

Its net profit stood at ₹38.44 crore in the year-ago period. Total income increased to ₹121.04 crore in the fourth quarter of last fiscal from ₹108.46 crore in the corresponding period of the previous year. Net profit fell to ₹143.45 crore in the last fiscal from ₹225.22 crore in the 2020-21 financial year. Total income also declined to ₹433.31 crore during 2021-22 from ₹494.34 crore in the pre-

Maruti to open its 3rd plant in Haryana

PNS NEW DELHI

n the past few years, Haryana That past ten years, riar years has made rapid strides on several fronts including industrial development under the able guidance and leadership of Chief Minister, Manohar Lal Khattar.

Haryana is well on its way to inclusive growth driven by a strong commitment of the Government towards public welfare and ensuring the advanced facilities to its citizens. Likewise, Haryana Government is actively working towards making Haryana an industrial and automobile

The growth in automobile sector in Haryana can be gauged by the fact that Maruti is coming up with its 3rd plant in the state.

Maruti Suzuki India Limited (MSIL)/ Suzuki Motorcycle India Private Limited (SMIPL) and Haryana Industrial

Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (HSI-IDC) are all set to sign an agreement for the allotment of 800-acre & 100 acre land at IMT Kharkhoda, respectively, in a ceremony being organised on May 19, 2022 in the presence of Chief Minister, Manohar Lal Khattar.

World Dairy Summit 2022 to be held in mid-September

The Centre on Tuesday announced that International Dairy Federation's World Dairy Summit 2022, the most coveted event of the dairy sector, will be organised in mid-September this year in which dairy industry stakeholders from across over 40 countries would participate and work towards ways to further

develop dairy industry.
Union Minister of State for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Sanjeev Balyan expressed his delight over India hosting the World Dairy Summit after 48 years.

"It is a matter of great delight that India has got the opportunity to host the World Dairy Summit after 48 years," said Balyan while speaking at the curtain raiser event of the IDF World Dairy Summit 2022 to be held in Greater Noida Expo Centre from September 12-15, 2022.

'The world's growth rate in this sector is just two per cent, while the growth rate in our country is six per cent. The growth rate in this sector in India will further grow in the coming times," Balyan added. Atul Chaturvedi, Secretary, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, was present on the

Bharti Airtel Q4 net profit zooms to ₹2008 cr

New Delhi: India's second largest telecom operator Bharti Airtel on Tuesday posted over two-fold jump in its consolidated net profit to ₹2,008 crore for the March quarter.

The net profit stood at ₹759 crore in the year-ago period. Airtel's revenue from oper-

ations rose 22.3 per cent to ₹31,500 crore during the fourth quarter of FY2021-22, from ₹25,747 crore in the corresponding period of the previ-

For the full year FY22, the Sunil Mittal-led telco logged a



against a loss of ₹15,084 crore in the previous fiscal (FY21).

Bharti Airtel posted a revenue of ₹116,547 crore for FY22, up from ₹100,616 crore recorded in the previous finan-

Auditor training progamme

New Delhi: The FHRAI Institute of Hospitality Management has signed an MoU with the



Sattvik Council of India to offer hospitality students a course in 'Sattvik Lead Auditor Programme'.

The three-week training programme is for students and professionals interested in pursuing a career in the rapidly growing vegetarian certifica-

India's mineral production increases by 4% in March

New Delhi: The country's mineral production rose by 4 per cent in March compared to the year-ago period, the mines ministry said Tuesday.

The index of mineral production of mining and quarrying sector in March 2022 at 144.6 was 4 per cent higher as compared to the level in March

"As per the provisional figures of the Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), the cumulative growth for the period April-March, 2021-22 over the corresponding period of the previous year has increased 12.2

per cent," the mines ministry said in a statement.

The output of important minerals in March includes coal 958 lakh tonnes, lignite 60 lakh tonnes, petroleum (crude) 25 lakh tonnes and iron ore 270 lakh tonnes.

The production of important minerals showing positive growth during March, 2022 over March, 2021 include iron ore, phosphorite, lignite and gold and minerals showing negative growth are coal, petroleum (crude), bauxite, chromite (-31.8%) and manganese ore, among others.

Mumbai: The rupee on Tuesday recovered from its alltime intra day low of 77.79 to close higher by 7 paise on a stel-

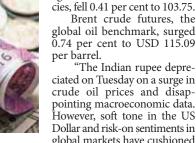
lar rally in domestic stock mar-

After opening lower at 77.67, the local unit plunged further to its all-time intra-day low of 77.79 due to a spike in crude oil prices and disappointing macroeconomic data. However, a strong rally in domestic equities helped the

ket was closed on Monday on rupee rebound and close at the account of Buddha 77.48 (provisional), showing net gains of 7 paise over the last The dollar index, which close of 77.55. The forex margauges the greenback's strength

Rupee recovers from record lows to end

7 paise higher at 77.47 against dollar



crude oil prices and disappointing macroeconomic data. However, soft tone in the US Dollar and risk-on sentiments in global markets have cushioned the downside," said Praveen Singh, AVP- Fundamental currencies and Commodities analyst, Sharekhan by BNP

against a basket of six curren-

Brent crude futures, the

"The Indian rupee depre-

keep slim hope alive

Live from 7:30pm IST olkata Knight Riders need a Kolkata Knight Kiders need a big win in their final round-

robin match to keep their slim IPL play-off hopes alive, while Lucknow Super Giants will look to seal their position in the top four when the two teams face off here

on Wednesday. With seven losses and six wins, KKR are placed at the sixth spot with 12 points and they will not only have to win but do

it with a big margin and then hope that

other results go their way to salvage any hope of sneaking into the knockout LSG already have one foot at the play-offs as they are placed at the third spot with 16 points but with a number of teams jostling it out for remaining three berths, they will look to add two more points to avoid any last-minute hic-Two-time former champions

KKR, which had reached the final last year, have managed to keep their theoretical chances alive after coming good in the last two matches against Mumbai Indians and Sunrisers Hyderabad. Shreyas Iyer's men rode on Andre Russell's all-round bril-

liance and near perfect execution from the bowlers to notch up a comprehensive 54-run win over SRH in their last match. LSG, on the other hand, are

coming into the match after suffering two successive defeats and will have to put up an improved show to end things on a high. The main con

cern for LSG is their poor batting show in the last two matches with the batters struggling in

Kolkata vs Lucknow

bowling.

LSG's batting is a lot dependent on skipper KL Rahul, who has done bulk of

the scoring with two hundreds but he has been off-colour in the last three games

Other opener Quinton de Kock, who has scored three half centuries, too has been dismissed for 11 and 7 in the last two games, which added to the team's

> However, Deepak Hooda has been rock solid and it was his fifty that kept LSG in the hunt in the Young Ayush Badoni too will be eager to prove he is not a

one-game wonder, while Krunal Pandya also has to step up in the rear end of the tournament. LSG will also look to use Marcus Stoinis better as he is one of the most prolific all-rounders in

world cricket. Bowling has proved to be the weak link for LSG though the likes of Avesh Khan and Jason Holder have delivered with 17 and 14 wickets so far but Mohsin Khan was taken to the cleaners in the last

Bishnoi picked up two against Rajasthan Royals and LSG would expect him to keep things tight in the middle overs on

KKR eye big win to SUNRISERS STILL ALIVE

Rahul, Umran and Bhuvi shine in Orange Army's 3-run win over Mumbai Indians



PTI MUMBAI

ahul Tripathi scored 76 from 44 balls to guide Sunrisers Hyderabad to a challenging 193 for six in their must-win Indian Premier League match against Mumbai Indians here on Tuesday.

Tripathi, who struck his third half century of the season with the help of nine fours and three sixes, set himself up brilliantly for a memo-

He was ably complemented by Priyam Garg (42) and Nicholas Pooran (38).

Invited to bat, the Sunrisers' punt to play Garg at the top of the order paid off. The 21-year-old played a fine knock while sharing a

78-run partnership with Tripathi after the in-form Abhishek Sharma (9) was sent back in the third over.

Garg, who was dropped on 10, made good use of his reprieve as he smashed the ball four times to the fence and twice over it in his 26-ball innings. At the other end, Tripathi looked in his element. He smacked Jasprit Bumrah (1/32) for a six and

	poin	ts	<u>ran</u>	<u> </u>			
Po.	TEAM	M	W	L	NR	Pts	NRR
1.	GT (Q)	13	10	3	0	20	0.391
2.	RR	13	8	5	0	16	0.304
3.	LSG	13	8	5	0	16	0.262
4.	DC	13	7	6	0	14	0.255
5.	RCB	13	7	6	0	14	-0.323
6.	KKR	13	6	7	0	12	0.160
7.	PBKS	13	6	7	0	12	-0.043
8.	SRH	13	6	7	0	12	-0.230
9.	CSK	13	4	9	0	8	-0.206
10	. MI	13	3	10	0	6	-0.577

boundarymeter

1774 915

back-to-back fours in the fifth over.

Tripathi and Garg collected 57 in a productive powerplay and maintained a healthy run rate which was close to 10 runs per over while batting responsibly.

Once Garg was caught and bowled by medium pacer Ramandeep Singh (3/20) Pooran, who was promoted to No. 3, joined the party. The flamboyant left-hander smoked two consecutive sixes over long on and deep backward square off Riley Merdith (1/44) in the 13th over before whacking Mayank Markande (0/31) for a boundary and a maximum in the next over.

The MI bowlers, led by Ramndeep, were able to stage a mini comeback as they got rid of Pooran, Tripathi and Aiden Markram (2) in the space of eight balls.

Batting down the order, skipper Kane Williamson's (8 not out) struggles continued as he was unable to get the big shots going. The Sunrisers, who were looking set for a 200 plus score, could manage only one boundary in the last two overs, which yield-

AB, Gayle inducted into RCB Hall of Fame

egendary cricketers Chris Gayle and AB Legendary cricketers Chris Gayle and AB de Villiers have become the first two players to be inducted into the Royal Challengers Bangalore's Hall of Fame.

Former RCB skipper Virat Kohli made the announcement about the inductions of his two dear mates.

"AB has truly changed the game of and sportsmanship which truly defines the RCB Play Bold philosophy," Kohli said in a statement posted on the franchise's web-"It's truly special for me to be doing this

for both of you. We saw videos of how you have changed the way the IPL has been played over the years. Two people who have had a huge impact in IPL being where it is today; and RCB being where it is today," he added. While South African great de Villiers

had been an integral part of RCB from 2011 to 2021, dashing left-handed batter Gayle from West Indies was with the franchise for six years. De Villiers, who had joined the induc-

tion virtually, gave an emotional message to everyone in the team camp.

"To the RCB boys sitting there, what an amazing privilege. Quite emotional to be honest," he said.

"Virat, thanks for the kind words. Mike (Hesson), Nikhil, everyone from the fran-



chise who set this up, it's a really special touch. We had some amazing times together as a team, and the sun has moved on for Chris and I now, but we're still very much part of the family and will always be.

"So yes, thank you very much for the very special touch. Faf and the guys sitting there, Virat and the guys that know me really well for many years know how special stuff like this is to me. You guys know how much of an amazing journey I had during the IPL, especially with my RCB family, and how it changed my life. So, huge privilege to be part of this. I don't have enough words to thank you for this touch.'

West Indies batting stalwart Gayle, who has played for RCB from 2011 to 2017, said: "I want to thank the RCB family for the opportunity, for everything. It's been really special to me as well. And to be inducted is something fantastic, and I will always keep RCB close to my heart.

"I share a lot of memories with some special players, some special coaches as well. It's been really, really fantastic. And to Virat, thank you for the kind words as well, fantastic sharing the dressing room with you guys as well.

Mixing up deliveries paid off against Punjab: Shardul

Pacer Shardul Thakur credited his success against Punjab deliveries, which paid rich dividends during the "big win" that kept Delhi Capitals in the IPL play-off race.

Spinners Axar Patel and Kuldeep Yadav were inspirational in the middle overs even as Shardul complemented the duo with career-best IPL figures as DC beat Punjab by 17 runs to climb to the fourth spot with 14 points from 13 games.

"There was difference in both the side boundaries, but there was dew and it was humid, so I felt they could hit a six on the bigger side (boundary). So the better idea was to mix up deliveries and confuse the batter. "Along with the knuckleball, use an off-cutter for a left-hander, then seam-up, slow-bouncer or bouncer or use the hard length," Shardul said at the post-



match press conference.

Shardul lauded his colleagues in the bowling department, saying frequent wickets always kept Punjab under the pump during their chase.

..The scenario was completely different. Yes, if there was no dew 160 would have been a great score, but with dew coming in after 12 overs and probably eight overs in the end, they (Punjab) could have used the dew factor to their advantage if they had wickets in hand. "But



PTI ■ MUMBAI

Delhi Capitals' swashbuck-ling opener David Warner says he gets "a buzz" out of his Warner may have got out

for a golden duck in the team's previous IPL match against Punjab Kings, but he made vital contributions in the field.

When asked about his outstanding fielding, Warner said, "There are two facets of the game for me — batting and fielding. I look to stop

credit goes to our bowling unit that we kept on taking wickets and at the same time the chase kept getting bigger and bigger for them," he said. The pacer

Former India

Gavaskar has sec-

Indians' skipper Rohit

Sharma's opinion that young Tilak Varma could be an all-format batter for

Sunil

Mumbai

captain

India. Verma, who has been one of the finds of IPL and

with 368 runs from 12 games,

is the lone bright spot in an

otherwise dismal season for

the Mumbai Indians. "Tilak

Varma's temperament has

been fantastic. In his knock

against Chennai Super

Kings, he walked into

onded



some catches near the boundary. Fortunately, I got one and it was a great result for us. I get a buzz out of fielding and try to save runs for the bowlers."

from Palghar believes they lacked momentum at the start of the tournament but Monday's win kept them very much in the

Stubbs gets maiden SA call-up for India T20Is

PTI JOHANNESBURG

South Africa on Tuesday handed rookie right-handed batter Tristan Stubbs a maiden call-up, while Wayne Parnell made a comeback after five years for the upcoming fivematch T20 tour of India starting June 9. The 16-member contingent will be led by Temba Bavuma as South Africa make a return to international T20 cricket for the first time since the ICC T20 World Cup in late 2021. The 21-year-old Stubbs, who impressed in the past season while playing for the Gbets Warriors in the Cricket South Africa (CSA) T20 Challenge, scored 293 runs in seven innings, at an average of 48.83 and a strike rate of 183.12, including 23 sixes.

He was also part of the South Africa 'A' team to Zimbabwe before he was summoned by the Mumbai Indians for the ongoing Indian Premier League. Among other notable selections is the return of Anrich



Nortje, who has been recovering from a hip injury since December last year and batters, Reeza Hendricks and Heinrich Klaasen. Nortje has been medically cleared for return and is currently playing for the Delhi Capitals in the IPL.

Parnell also makes a comeback to the T20 set up for the first time since South Africa's tour of England in Besides, Keshav

Maharaj and number one men's T20I bowler Tabraiz Shamsi, the rest of the South African team consists of IPL players, namely, Quinton de Kock, Aiden Markram, David Miller, Lungi Ngidi, Dwaine Pretorius, Kagiso Rabada, Rassie van der Dussen and Marco Jansen.

"This is the Proteas like we have not seen them in a long time. The injection of the IPL players means that we will have a team that's ready to fire on all cylinders immediately and has vast experience of the conditions that we will be playing in," Cricket South Africa Convenor of Selectors, Victor Mpitsang said in a statement.

"Tristan Stubbs is an exciting prospect and we're keen to see what he's made of and we are looking forward to the return of the experience of Reeza, Klaasie and Wayne Parnell to join the likes of Temba, Tabraiz and Keshav.

The five-match T20I series will kick start at New Delhi on June 9, followed by matches in Cuttack (June Visakhapatnam (June 14), Rajkot (June 17) and Bengaluru (June 19)

South Africa T20 team for India tour: Temba Bavuma (C), Quinton de Kock, Reeza Hendricks, Heinrich Klaasen, Keshav Maharaj, Aiden Markram, David Miller, Lungi Ngidi, Anrich Nortje, Wayne Parnell, Dwaine Pretorius, Kagiso Rabada, Tabraiz Shamsi, Tristan Stubbs, Rassie van der Dussen, Marco Jansen.

Tilak could be an all-format India batter: Gavaskar

I get a buzz out of

fielding: Warner

the middle when the team was under pressure. But the way he dealt in ones and twos (early on) was impressive," Gavaskar said on Star Sports. "He played a wide range of shots and kept rotating the strike. This shows that he has a good cricketing head on his shoulders, and I think that's important. "Once you have that good cricketing brain, you will be able to lift yourself when

things are not going your way. You can analyse yourself and get back to scoring runs," the legendary opener said.

Gavaskar further praised the youngster for having the basics right and agreed with Rohit's observation that the rising Hyderabad cricketer could be an all-format India batter in the future.

"Rohit Sharma rightly mentioned that he could be an all-format player for India. So now it's up to him to work that little bit extra, get his fitness going, get a little tighter as far as the technique is concerned and prove Rohit right," Gavaskar said.

What has impressed Gavaskar most is his temperament.

"He's got the basics right. Technically, he's right. He gets right behind the line of the ball. He's got a straight bat, and while defending on the front foot his bat is close to the pad. So, all his basics are right.

after topping the selection trials, disposed off France's Christo Popov 21-17, 21-16 in

his opening qualification round, only to go down 10-21, 24-22, 12-21 to China's Li Shi

Feng.
Kiran, Odisha Open champion, beat Denmark's Victor Svendsen 21-19, 13-21,

21-13 before losing 17-21, 21-14, 16-21 to Germany's Kai

Schaefer, while Subhankar defeated France's Arnaud

Merkle 21-16, 17-21, 21-17 but suffered a narrow 14-21, 21-18, 7-21 loss to Denmark's

Kidambi Srikanth, B Sai

Praneeth and other Indians

will start their campaign on

Mads Christophersen.

India on Sunday dethroned 14-time winners Indonesia with a commanding 3-0 win in the summit clash of the Thomas Cup Final to script a historic win

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

ndian team's historic Thomas Cup victory will make it a "badminton superpower" as it has well and truly arrived on world stage with an achievement, which is way bigger than any individual accomplishment, feels legendary Prakash Padukone

India on Sunday dethroned defending champions and 14time winners Indonesia with a commanding 3-0 win in the summit clash of the Thomas Cup Final to script a historic

"I didn't expect this to happen so early, not at least in the next 8-10 years. I think we have truly arrived and India will be considered a superpower and a threat from now on. It will give a big fillip to the sport," Padukone, India's first All England Champion in 1980

Padukone has no doubt that this Indian badminton's watershed moment and there is a need to capitalise and build on this stupendous success.

"It was a complete team effort and a convincing win and a momentous occasion. I think it is equally great or perhaps greater than the Individual success. We needed this and I think our moment has truly arrived. Now there is no looking back and its time to capitalise on it."

Padukone, who had led India to the semi-finals in 1979 edition of Thomas Cup, feels this win will have a great impact on the sport in the country and as a nation, it is paramount that we don't let the momentum slip.

"It will make it more popular, trigger more growth in the sport, more youngsters will be taking it up, more corporate and government support will come and overall the standard should improve and the trend should show an upward graph," he

For the touch artist of yesteryears, the next decade will be very important in order to carry the momentum.

"The onus will be on federations and also on state associations to seize this opportunity and see how they can capitalise on this in the next 5 to 10 years. It is important to get more people involved in the sport, come

Padukone feels the emergence of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Sen is one of the prime reasons behind India's victory at the Thomas

up with innovative ideas."

"Doubles has always been our weakness but now we have a doubles pair which can beat anybody in the world. Earlier there was too much pressure on the singles but now they could play freely and it showed on the

court," he said.

"So when Lakshya Sen didn't win, India still won because of doubles. They are an established pair and it has provided a good balance to the team. Everything came together this

Padukone, who has produced a lot of players after setting up his academy (PPBA) in Bangalore way back in 1994, feels a lot of youngsters will pick up doubles after watching Satwik and Chirag at the Thomas Cup.

"This title will help youngsters to take up doubles as a spe-

Ashmita, Malvika enter Thailand main draw

Indian shuttlers Ashmita Chaliha and Malvika Bansod entered the women's singles main draw at the Thailand Open Super 500 tournament here on Tuesday.

While Ashmita beat USA's Jennie Gai 21-16, 21-18, Malvika defeated fellow Indian Anupama Upadhyaya 21-18, 21-8 in their respective opening round matches.

However, it was curtains for Thomas Cup winner Priyanshu Rajawat, Kiran George and Subhankar Dey as they failed to cross the second qualification round.

Priyanshu, who had made it to the Thomas Cup squad

cialised sport. Earlier, they would try singles and then move to

doubles. But the way Satwik-

Chirag performance, this victo-

The 66-year-old, who was

ranked world No 1 in 1980, feels

the men's team is in safe hands

but he is worried about the lack

of depth in women's badminton.

"We have depth in men's team at least. I mean, Lakshya is

still young, few players like

Mithun, Kiran are doing well

and there are few from

Gopichand academy as well.

Srikanth and Prannoy are slight-

Wednesday. ly older but they will be there at least when we defend it in two years time so we have good bench strength in men's section," ry will do wonders to Indian

badminton and focus will be on "But it is the ladies front, doubles now. where it is slightly worrying. We "It will get its due in terms don't have the same bench of prize money, recognition, selection, which is a great sign. strength in women compared to men. I am not saying we don't have the talent, we do. But none of them are at the same level as SIGNS FOR WOMEN'S Saina or Sindhu, which is a bit

> about his apprehensions. The Indian women's team had won the Bronze medals twice but it failed to cross the

worrying," Padukone was clear

quarterfinals after losing 0-3 to Thailand in the Uber Cup. Padukone said that India will have to keep aiming higher after setting the bar high with the Thomas Cup win as there will be a lot of expectations.

Newcastle blow up Arsenal's CL dreams

rsenal's exile from the Arsenars exile from the Champions League looks son after losing 2-0 at Newcastle on Monday.

Tottenham remain two points above their north London rivals in fourth place in the Premier League.

Spurs now realistically only need a draw away to alreadyrelegated Norwich on Sunday to secure a top-four finish thanks to their superior goal difference.

Arsenal's defeat also guaranteed third-place Chelsea's place in the Champions League next season

Ben White's own goal and Bruno Guimaraes' late strike was the difference between the sides on the scoreboard.

But the manner of the Newcastle performance was even more impressive as Eddie Howe's men sent a message

they could be challenging for a top-four finish themselves next Only Manchester City and

Premier League points than the Magpies in 2022 since they began to splash to wealth of the Saudi sovereign wealth fund in the transfer market. More big money signings

are expected to arrive at St. James' Park in the coming months, but Arsenal's budget in the transfer market could be severely dented by again missing out on the riches of the Champions League.

Mikel Arteta's men were in the driving seat with three games to go as they lead Spurs by four points.

But Tottenham's 3-0 derby

win on Thursday cranked up the pressure on the young Gunners who failed to respond.

Indeed Arsenal were lucky to escape without a more comprehensive defeat.

Nikhat, Manisha & Parveen to go for Gold at World's PTI NEW DELHI

Nikhat Zareen, Manisha Moun and Parveen Hooda will fight hard to change the colour of their medals when they enter the ring for the semifinals of the IBA Women's World Boxing Championships in stanbul on Wednesday. The three boxers are assured of

at least a Bronze after they pulled out thrilling victories in their respective quarterfinal bouts on Monday.

"The performance has been satisfactory. The boxers have performed very well although they weren't able to convert it (into wins). But all of them have payed well. They have given their best in the ring," women's beed coach Bhaskar Bhatt said head coach Bhaskar Bhatt said.

Nikhat (52kg) will be aiming to upgrade her maiden medal at the world event from Bronze to Gold and standing in her way is Caroline De Almeida of Brazil. The 25-year-



on, is enjoying a great year having clinched the Gold at the prestigious Strandja Memorial Tournament in

She has continued to dominate all her bouts in the ongoing event and will be brimming with confidence. "She has lots of experience from the years spent in ring. We are trying to use those years of experience to eke out wins and she has been able to do that successfully till now," Bhatt said.

The spotlight will also be on young Parveen (63kg) who has shone bright in her debut appearance at the world event, registering

impressive wins.

The 22-year-old's next opponent will be European championship Bronze medallist Amy Broadhurst of

"Parveen is a good technical boxer who plays in the long range. But in the ring on the basis of the game a bit so that we can confuse the opponent. Till now she has adapted herself very well," Bhatt said of the Haryana boxer.

The third boxer bidding to change the shade of her medal is Manisha (57kg). The 2019 Asian Championships

Bronze medallist, who got evicted at the quarterfinal stage in the 2018 edition has gone one step ahead this time. She outclassed a technically superior opponent in the last eight stage to earn her maiden worlds medal. But she will have her task cut out

as she faces Tokyo Olympic Bronze medallist and former European champion Irma Testa of Italy, who is a strong favourite to win the featherweight Gold.

India's best performance in the event came in 2006 when the country snared eight medals, including four Gold, one Silver and three

Chinappa withdraws from Round of 16 of **PSA World C'ship**

PTI ■ CAIRO

Tndia's ace woman squash player Joshna Chinappa on Tuesday withdrew from the prequarterfinals of the PSÁ World Championships due to illness. Chinappa, seeded 12th, was scheduled to face local favourite and eight seed Rowan Elaraby, who got a walkover into the quarterfinals.

World No 14 Chinappa had earlier defeated Katie Malliff of England 3-0 (11-6, 11-8, 11-9) in the first round before getting the better of Wales' Emily Whitlock, seeded 18th, 3-0 (11-8, 12-1,011-5) in the next round. Chinappa was the lone India in the women's section.

Lazio spoil Chiellini & Dybala's home farewell

iorgio Chiellini bid farewell to Juventus fans on Monday in his last home match for the Turin giants, a disappointing 2-2 draw which earned Lazio a place in the Europa League after Sergej Milinkovic-Savic levelled with the last kick of the game.

Fans chanted "there's only one captain" as a giant choreography depicting his shirt number '3' was displayed in the stands ahead of the match and they then gave Chiellini a huge round of applause after he was substituted in the 18th minute.

The 37-year-old had played the

full 120 minutes of Juve's Italian Cup



on Wednesday, after which he announced that he would be leaving Juve after 18 years at a club where he has won nine league titles and a clutch of other trophies.

When he left the field he handed his captain's armband to another player on the way out -- Paulo Dybala. Argentina international Dybala will leave at the end of the season after the club decided not to renew his contract after a verbal agreement with the 28year-old struck in the autumn was publicly rejected by the club earlier this year. Dusan Vlahovic did the Argentine's "mask" celebration when he headed in the opener in the 10th

tuted with 12 minutes remaining, with the hosts leading 2-1, he did a tour of the stands and was embraced by fans. Juve looked to be cruising to a routine home win to honour their two departing heroes when Alvaro Morata doubled the hosts lead in the 36th minute.

However Alex Sandro poked into his own net for no apparent reason five minutes after the break and Maurizio Sarri's Lazio pushed for a leveller which came in the 95th minute, Milinkovic-Savic rifling past Mattia Perin from a tight angle to give Lazio a spot in Europe's second-tier

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

7ou will soon see the Bajrang who ruled You will soon see the Bajtang

the mat in 2018," assured Tokyo Olympics Bronze medallist Bajrang Punia after winning the 65kg trials for the Commonwealth Games while Ravi Dahiya and Deepak Punia also expectedly triumphed in their respective categories, here

Bajrang, who is under the scanner for lack of attacking moves in his bouts since the Asian Championship, booked his berth in the national team with wins over Sujeet (4-0) and Vishal Kalliraman (2-1).

Like it happened in the Asian Championship in Mongolia, where he won a Silver, Bajrang was largely engaged in standing wrestling against Sujeet, winning points on passivity of his rival.

In the final against Vishal, he attempted a few moves but was put on clock himself for lack of action and eventually pre-

"I have just started competing after a long gap, injury was also there, so certainly there is a bit of hesitancy in going for attacks," Bajrang said.
"But you will soon the Bajrang of 2018

(who dominated the mat across globe). It's just a matter of playing more matches. I have World Championship in mind, and will play Ranking Series events before that. I will get better with more competitive bouts."

Talking about the final, the 28-year-old said,"Vishal is not a bad wrestler. Also, due

'The dominant Bajrang will be back soon'



to heavy sweating, the mat was getting slip-pery and that at times nullifies the difference (in quality) between two wrestlers?

In the 57kg, the gulf between Tokyo Games Silver medal winner Ravi Kumar Dahiya and others was apparent.

He won by fall against Vijay and eked out a win by technical superiority against

Aman in the final. To his credit, Vijay, who hails from

Maharashtra, did not get intimidated by Ravi and showed stomach for bout. There was intense competition in the

74kg where Naveen emerged champion with a TSU win over Gaurav Baliyan, who recently win a silver in Asian Championship in 79kg. There were many quality yet ageing wrestlers in this category such as Amit Dhankar, Parveen Rana, national champion Pritam along with young guns like Yash

Singh during CWG trials, gets life ban PTI ■ NEW DELHI

In an unprecedented incident, Services' wrestler Satender Malik launched a physical assault on referee Jagbir Singh after losing the 125kg final during the Commonwealth Games trials, prompting the national federation to impose a life ban on him, here on Tuesday.

An incident of this magnitude has never taken place at an event organised by the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) although clashes between the supporters of wrestlers have been witnessed in the past.

The Air Force wrestler was leading 3-0 with just 18 seconds left in the deciding bout when Mohit effected a 'takedown move and also pushed Satender out of the mat for another point. However, referee Virender Malik did not award two points to Mohit for the 'takedown' move and gave only one point for the pushout.

The decision upset Mohit, who requested for a challenge. Satyadev Malik, the jury for

the bout, excused himself from the decision for the sake of impartiality, since he belonged to the Mokhra village from where Satender also comes. Senior referee Jagbir Singh

assault him. then slapped him, who lost his balance and fell on the ground. Jagbir also tried to retaliate but

Wrestler Satender Malik assaults referee Jagbir

should be given three points. The score became 3-3 and remained like that till the end,

was requested to look into the

challenge and with the help of

TV replays, he ruled that Mohit

and eventually Mohit was declared the winner on criteria since he had scored the last point of the bout. Satender lost his cool, walked across to Mat A where

Ravi Dahiya and Aman were locked in the 57kg final, went straight to Jagbir, and began to He first abused Jagbir and

weight wrestler. The 57kg bout was stopped as the incident created a furore

was overpowered by the heavy-

inside the KD Jadhav hall at the IG stadium. Hundreds of fans, officials and participants were shocked to witness a scene like that. The WFI officials managed to send Satender out of the hall and restarted the bout. Everything was happening right before the eyes of WFI President Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, who was sitting on the dias. "We have imposed life ban on Satender Malik. The decision was taken by the WFI president," WFI's assistant secretary Vinod Tomar said.

Tunir. In the 86kg, Deepak Punia easily sailed through, winning against Vickey (4-3) and Sanjeet. In the 97kg, Satyawart

Kadiyan and Mausam Khatri bit the dust as Ahlawat. Mohit won the controversy-Deepak claimed his place in the Indian team with an authoritative win over talented Sahil

marred 125kg final. The Birmingham Games will begin on July 28.