OPINION 6

CHECKMATE BY THE

'NEUTRALS' IN PAK

WORLD 9

RUSSIAN ROCKETS HIT

EASTERN UKRAINIAN TOWN

Late City Vol.32 Issue 144 *Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable

RANCHI RAIPUR CHANDIGARH

DEHRADUN HYDERABAD VIJAYWADA

EMMA OUT OF FRENCH **OPEN 2022**

DELHI LUCKNOW BHOPAL BHUBANESWAR

the pioneer

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NEW DELHI, THURSDAY MAY 26, 2022; PAGES 12 ₹3

Yasin awarded life for terror funding that the convict may have given up the gun in 1994, but he had never expressed any regret for the violence he had committed PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Court also imposes a ₹10 lakh fine on Malik



Kashmiri separatist leader Yasin Malik being produced at Patiala House court in New Delhi on Wednesday

Malik's past catches up with him

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

were framed and to which convict has pleaded guilty, Life has come a full circle for chief of the banned Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front 'The entire movement was planned to be a violent move-(JKLF) Yasin Malik, who gradment and large-scale violence uated from being a Pakistanensured is a matter of fact," said trained terrorist to a separatist force in the Kashmir valley durthe judgment convicting Malik ing his anti-India career span-Continued on Page 2 ning over three decades.

He has been in and out of jail several times dating back to his student activism days before the onset of militancy in J&K in 1990.

In his bid to mainstream himself, he "renounced" violence and donned the political cloak in 1994. Malik — mar-

On Wednesday, Malik, 56, was sentenced to a life term by a designated NIA court. ried to a Pakistani artist — had announced Gandhian way of protest after his release and sought to project himself as a moderate voice in separatist

camp.
Malik was arrested in early 2019 in connection with a 2017 terror-funding case registered by National

Investigation Ágency (NIA). Continued on Page 2

Teen massacres 19 kids in Texas school

2 teachers among dead, attacker killed by police

PTI ■ HOUSTON

In one of the worst school shootings in the US, an 18-year-old gunman in body armour massacred at least 21 people, including 19 children and two adults inside one classroom at a Texas elementary school, prompting President Joe Biden to issue an emotional appeal to lawmakers to "turn this pain into action" to enact tougher gun laws to curb such recurring tragedies.

The youth opened fire at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde town, Texas, 134 km from San Antonio, on Tuesday morning before he was killed by law enforcement officers.

All fatalities and injuries took place inside one classroom, according to Lt Chris Olivarez, spokesperson for the Texas Department for Public Safety.

The shooter barricaded

himself in one room, killing two teachers and 19 children, he told CNN.

"Just goes to show you the complete evil from this shooter," Olivarez said, just 10 days since 10 people were killed in a mass shooting in New York. All the victims have been

removed, identified and their

families have been notified, the lieutenant said. Multiple children were wounded inside the classroom, according to Olivarez, but there is no exact number as to how many at this "It's a small classroom, you

reported earlier in the day at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas

Law enforcement personnel walk outside Uvalde High School after a shooting was

can have anywhere from 25 to 30 students in there, plus there were two teachers in there. .. So don't have exact number of how many students were in that classroom," Olivarez said. When asked if the school

was a target, Olivarez said there are still "a lot of unanswered questions?

Investigators say the suspect was armed with a handgun, an AR-15 semi-automatic rifle and high-capacity mag-

Texas Governor Greg Abbott identified the killer as Salvador Ramos, a resident of the area where the school is located. The shooter's motive remains unclear. The teenager is suspected of shooting his grandmother at the start of the rampage, US media reports

Chief of Police, Uvalde, Pete Arredondo said the "mass casualty event occurred at Robb Elementary School at about 11:32 this morning". He said the killer acted as a lone wolf — who was shot dead in a police exchange.

The deceased children are in the second, third and fourth grades — aged between 7 years

and 10 years, he said. Continued on Page 2

Ultras kill famous TV artist in Valley

10-yr-old nephew gets bullet wounds

A Delhi Special court on Wednesday awarded life imprisonment to Kashmiri ter-rorist Yasin Malik in a terror

Special Judge Praveen Singh also awarded varying jail

terms for various offences

under the stringent Unlawful

Activities Prevention Act

(UAPA) and the Indian Penal

Code (IPC). The court also

imposed a fine of over ₹10 lakh

for two offences — Section 121

(waging war against the

Government of India) of the

IPC and section 17 (raising

funds for the terrorist act) of

the UAPA. All the sentences

National Investigation Agency (NIA) during the argument on

quantum of sentence demand-

ed death sentence for Malik,

highlighting crimes and ter-

rorism he committed in

Kashmir for the past three decades. "Let's not go into all

this. Stick to the facts. This is a terror funding case," said

Judge Singh, who delivered the judgment by 6.15 pm.

there was no reformation of this convict. It may be correct

"However, in my opinion,

Earlier in the day, the

will run concurrently.

The life term was awarded

funding case

on Malik.

prior to 1994.

"It is noticed that, when he claimed to have given up the path of violence after 1994, the

Government of India took it upon its face value and gave him an opportunity to reform and in good faith tried to

engage in a meaningful dia-

logue with him and as admit-

ted by him, gave him every

platform to express his opinion.

the order on charge, the convict did not desist from violence. Rather, betraying the

good intentions of the Government he took a differ-

ent path to orchestrate violence

in the guise of political strug-

gle. The convict has claimed that he had followed Gandhian

principle of non-violence and

was spearheading a peaceful

the basis of which charges

"However, the evidence on

non violent struggle.

speaks otherwise.

to life imprisonment.

"However, as discussed in

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

 $B^{\text{arely hours after Kashmiri}}_{\text{separatist Yasin Malik was}}$ awarded life imprisonment by the NIA court in a terror funding case, a famous Kashmiri TV artist and singer Amreena Bhat was gunned down by "unidentified" terrorists while her 10-year-old nephew received bullet injuries on his arm in Chadoora area of central Kashmir district of Budgam on Wednesday.

Amreena was a famous TV artist and singer. She appeared in many music videos and small skits uploaded on the

social media platforms According to initial reports both Amreena and her nephew



were targeted at their home in Chadoora by the armed ter-

In a tweet Kashmir zone police said, "Around 7.55 pm, terrorists fired upon one lady Amreen Bhat daughter of Khazir Mohd Bhat and resident of Hushroo Chadoora at her home. She was shifted to hospital in an injured condition where doctors declared her

dead. Her 10-year-old nephew who was also at home received a bullet injury on his arm."

reports three terrorists of LeT terror outfit were involved in this heinous terror incident.

The security forces have launched a massive manhunt to track down the foot prints of LeT terrorists.

Earlier, a joint team of security forces eliminated three Pakistani terrorists of Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) terrorist outfit in a chance encounter near Najibhat crossing in Kreeri area of north Kashmir's

Baramulla district. Special police officer Mudasir Ahmed was also martyred in the encounter. So far 22 foreign terrorists have been gunned down by the security forces in different encounters since January 1, 2022.

Sidhu given job of Patiala jail munshi



MONIKA MALIK CHANDIGARH

ricketer-turned-politician →Navjot Singh Sidhu is all set to play a new innings in Patiala Central Iail. Once considered a frontrunner for the Punjab Chief Minister's post, the multifaceted Sidhu will be playing the role of a "munshi" (a clerical job) within the four walls of the Patiala Central Jail, after he was sentenced to a year's rigorous imprisonment by the Supreme Court in a 1988 road

rage case. Continued on Page 2



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It is made from anardana, cumin, clove, nutmeg, ginger, ajwain, cinnamon, coriander powder, amchoor, bay leaf, red chilli, black salt etc., such 16 natural herbs provide both health and taste.

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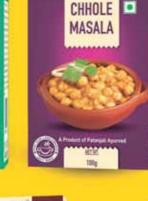
SP chief Akhilesh Yadav and SP general secretary Ram Gopal Yadav to Central Hall of UP

"I have filed the nomination as an independent candidate. I thank Akhilesh for supporting me. I resigned from the Congress on May 16 and am no longer a senior Congress leader," he said. The SP chief later said

Sibal was being supported by the SP. A prominent member of the G23 which had sought an organisational overhaul in the Congress, Sibal's tenure as Congress' Rajya Sabha member

Continued on Page 2

cumin, clove, black pepper, garlic, onion, turmeric, coriander powder, red chilli, bay leaf, ginger etc., such 17 natural herbs enhance the taste of all vegetables and



CAPSULE ABHILASHA ARMY'S FIRST WOMAN COMBAT AVIATOR New Delhi: Captain Abhilasha

Barak on Wednesday became the first woman combat aviato of the Indian Army. She has been awarded the coveted 'wings' along with 36 Army pilots at a ceremony held at Combat Army Aviation Training School in Nashik. officials said Captain Barak hails from Harvana and was commissioned into the Army Air Defence Corps in September, 2018

LAKHIMPUR: ASHISH BAIL **HEARING ON MAY 30**

Lucknow: The Allahabad High Court will hear on May 30 the hail plea of Union Minister Ajay Kumar Mishra's son Ashish Mishra, arrested in connection with the Lakhimpur Kheri violence that claimed eight lives in October last year.

'SHRI RAMAYANA YATRA **LAUNCH ON JUNE 21** Lucknow: The IRCTC is set to

launch a 18-day 'Shri Ramayana Yatra' through a special tourist train on June 21 to take pilgrims to sacred places associated with the life of Lord Ram

Sibal quits Cong, files RS papers with SP's support

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE LUCKNOW

 $F^{\text{ormer Union Minister and}}_{\text{senior Supreme Court}}$ lawyer Kapil Sibal filed his nomination papers for the Rajya Sabha seat from Uttar Pradesh as an Independent candidate backed by the Samajwadi Party and said he has already resigned from the Congress. Javed Ali Khan also filed his papers as SP candidate. There was speculation that the SP could field Sibal as a Rajya Sabha candidate. Kapil Sibal — the lawver

who secured senior SP leader Mohammad Azam Khan's bail from the SC — after filing his papers, said he had resigned from the Congress on May 16. Sibal said his ideology was related to the party he had been with for three decades. His exit from the party is another jolt to the electorally battered

Congress.
Sibal was accompanied by

Vidhan Bhawan

ends in July

3 Pak ultras killed, SPO martyred in Baramulla

joint team of security Aforces on Wednesday eliminated three Pakistani terrorists of Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) terrorist outfit in a chance encounter near Naiibhat crossing in Kreeri area of north Kashmir's Baramulla district. Special Police Officer

Mudasir Ahmed was also martyred in the encounter. So far 22 foreign terrorists have been gunned down by the security forces in different encounters since January 1 this year. According to a Srinagar-

based defence spokesman, "On receiving specific intelligence regarding movement of some Mirangund from Puthkah in a Santro car, a joint team of the Indian Army, the J&K Police and the Special Operations

From Page 1

neighbours.

People in the largely

Hispanic neighbourhood sat

outside their homes after the shooting, some with their fam-

ilies while others gathered with

Tuesday, a visibly emotional

Biden asked what it would

take to convince fellow law-

to comfort a nation grieving

after a mass shooting, urging

action to counter powerful

gunmakers and repeatedly

questioning why the country he

leads lacks "the backbone" to

children who witnessed what

happened - seen their friends

die as if they're on a battlefield,

for god's sake," said Biden. "To

lose a child is like having a

piece of your soul ripped away.

There's a hollowness in your

Turning to the issue of gun control legislation, Biden

implored lawmakers to "turn

this pain into action" as he ticked through some of the

mass shootings since the 2012

massacre at Sandy Hook

Elementary School in

Newtown, Connecticut, when

"I am sick and tired of it.

he was vice president.

BCLL

NO.

No.: BCLL/2022/03

NIT no.

website only

"How many scores of little

stem the bloodshed.

makers that "it's time to act."

In a prime-time address on

President Biden again tried



Group launched a joint operation on Wednesday." The team was fired upon by the terrorists and gunfight ensued, between terrorists and security forces leading to elimination of three Pakistani terrorists. Defence spokesman said,

"The Jammu & Kashmir Police has identified the terrorists as Haneef, Ali Bhai and Shah

We have to act. And don't tell

me we can't have an impact on

this carnage," he said, asking: "Why do we keep letting this

happen?"
"Where in God's name is

our backbone to have the

courage to deal with and stand

locked once the gunshots were

said he had instructed the

Texas Department of Public

Safety and the Texas Rangers to

work with the local law

enforcement to investigate the

centre was being used as a

reunification centre where the

kin of victims can procure

information from the state and

The shooting stoked the

Texas Attorney General

Bhopal, Date 25.05.2022

Assistant Engineer

Bhopal Municipal Corporation

Bhopal City Link Limited

(In Rs.)

coordinate other functions.

fiery debate on gun control.

incidents in the future.

prevent such crimes.

n't prevent crime".

Bhopal City link Limited

IInd Floor, Kushabhau Thakre Inter-State Bus Terminal (ISBT)

Campus, Ambedkar Marg, Near Chetak Bridge, Bhopal (M.P)

Tender for online submissions are invited on website www.mpten

ders.gov.in under "Live Tender" and Department Name "Bhopal City

Link Limited" for following work. Detailed NIT, Tender Schedule and

other information can be seen on the website www.mptenders.gov.in

Name of Work

2022_BCLL Strengthening of roads and parking Base 1,30,50,547/

Corrigendum and Amendment for above NIT shall not be issue

separately in newspapers & correction if any, would be Published on

GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH, WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER

MAHANADI CIRCLE, RAIPUR (CHHATTISGARH)

e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

eProcurement Portal: https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in

(First Call)

Online Tenders are invited for the following works up

Name of work: - Construction of R.C.C. Drain from

R.D. 0 m to 170 m & Ghat down stream of Rajim

The details can be viewed and downloaded online

directly from the Government of Chhattisgarh Integrated

e-Procurement Portal (https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in)

NOTE:- All eligible/interested contractors/bidders are

mandated to get enrolled on the Integrated e-

procurement portal (https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in) and

get approval on specific vendor class from PWD under

Centralized Contractor/Supplier Registration in order to

download the tender documents and participate in the

from Date 31.05.2022, at 17.31 Hours.(IST) onwards.

Anicut on left side bank of Mahanadi River. Probable Amount of Contract: - Rs. 111.87 Lakhs

System Tender No. 100336/NIT No.: 03/SAC/22-23

to 15.06.2022 at 17.30 Hour

subsequent bidding process.

_206665_1 at ISBT Complex by Asphalting, Marking etc.

Officials said the city's civic

In Uvalde, all schools were

Texas Governor Abbott

up to the lobbies?" he said.

Teen massacres...

and were active in this area for the last three to four months."

Inspector General of Police, Kashmir range, Vijay Kumar, said while the police force was pained at the loss of one of its men, the killing of the three terrorists was a huge success. Kumar said the three terrorists could have come to Srinagar and carried out some big attack.

Senior police officers along with DGP Dilbagh Singh paid rich tributes to Mudasir Ahmed. His father said, "My son sacrificed his life to save innocent lives and he died while fighting, am proud of him' Meanwhwile, commenting on the terror attack in Soura area on Tuesday in which one police constable was killed, the IGP said two local terrorists of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) behind the attack have been identified.

Haryanvi singer stangulated in Meham after she was picked up from Delhi, investigation reveals

video shoot.

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The investigation of the mur-der of Haryanvi Singer Sangeeta has revealed that she was picked up from Delhi by one of the accused as a part of conspiracy and taken to Haryana's Meham area where she was strangulated, said sources in Delhi Police.

Sources said that there were no signs of sexual assault as per initial investigation.

The body of Sangeeta alias Divya, who was missing since May 11, was found buried in Haryana's Meham on Sunday. Sangeeta's family members reside in Delhi's Jaffarpur Kalan area and had reported the matter to the police on May 14.

The accused Ravi and Anil, who were arrested from Meham on Saturday, disclosed that they had hatched a con-

spiracy to kill the singer.
The family of Sangeeta

as 3rd choice said that she had told them that she was going to Bhiwani for a

Sources said that Ravi was the mastermind behind the incident and on his direction, Anil came to Delhi, took the victim in a car and gave her 10 sleeping pills in sugarcane juice while heading back to Meham.

Anil and Sangeeta also had meal at Gulati Dhabha at Kalanaur in Harvana. The distance between Meham and Kalanaur is around 21 kilome-

"When he reached Meham, Ravi joined them. He strangulated the woman and also checked whether the victim has died or not. Later, they buried the body in Meham area," sources said.

The sources further said that Anil had told Ravi that he can't kill the woman, following which he was asked to take her from the national capital.

SP may send Jayant to RS

PNS LUCKNOW

Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav has deferred the decision on the third party candidate for the Rajva Sabha polls scheduled on June 10.

Former MP from Kannauj and Akhilesh' wife Dimple Yadav was scheduled to file her papers as the third SP candidate on Wednesday, but the move was stalled at the eleventh

SP sources said that Akhilesh Yadav was weighing options and might nominate Rashtriya Lok Dal president Jayant Chaudhary as the third candidate in the Rajya Sabha The RLD is an ally of

Samajwadi Party and the two parties joined hands to contest the last assembly poll. The SP had earlier indicated that the party would not send Jayant Chaudhary to the Rajya Sabha

NCRPULSE

PWD TAKES STEPS TO PREVENT WATERLOGGING New Delhi: To prevent waterlogging during monsoon season in the

national capital, Public Works Department has taken a range of steps including construction of separate drains, high capacity sumps and installation of automated pumps among others at critical locations prone to waterlogging. The department has identified at least seven locations which are critical in terms of waterlogging out of the around 145 such locations in the city. "Out of these 145, seven are critical points that include underpasses at Minto Bridge and Pul Prahladpur, IP State Ring Road near WHO building, underpasses at Pul Prahladpur, Minto Bridge, Zakhira, Okhla, Azadpur and Jahangirpuri metro station road.

WON'T BE SHORTAGE OF EV CHARGING STATIONS: MIN New Delhi: There will be no shortage of charging stations for electric vehicles in the national capital, Industries Minister Satyendar Jain said on Wednesday announcing three such facilities will be set up by Kejriwal Government in industrial areas of the city. Battery swapping stations will also be set up to simplify the system of replacing the discharged battery of the e-vehicle with a fully charged battery, an official statement said.

WEEKLY FAIRS TO DISSUADE SINGLE-USE PLASTIC

New Delhi: The Delhi Government will conduct a weekly fair to promote alternatives to single-use plastic (SUP) items from June 1. Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai said on Wednesday that the government will also incentivise units engaged in the production of alternatives to SUP items under the Delhi Start-up Policy. The policy aims to promote entrepreneurship in the national capital by providing financial assistance to build a successful business.

PLEA AGAINST ONLINE GAMING

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court Wednesday sought the stand of the central government on a petition to regulate online gaming and stop the games that are not games of skills but chance. A bench of Acting Chief Justice Vipin Sanghi and Justice Sachin Datta issued notice on the petition by lawyer Atul Batra who said in his plea that his concern was that online games of chance are promoted as games of skill and that online gambling is as bad as any substance addiction.

GOVT ISSUES ORDERS TO MCDS ON PARKS New Delhi: Considering the replicas of monuments made by the

Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) using waste materials, the Government of India has issued guidelines for every urban body to develop at least one park in its area for Swachh Survekshan-2023. The civic body has developed two such parks in India focused on the 'Kachre Se Kanchan' theme as their construction has been done using scrap

GOVT PANEL SURVEYS MARKETS FOR REDEVELOPMENT New Delhi: A Delhi Government panel on Wednesday visited Lajpat Nagar and Sarojini Nagar markets as part of its survey of 20 major markets for feasibility of beautification. The panel is to shortlist five of these markets to redevelop as announced in the Rozgar Budget for 2022-23. The officials said that during its visit the panel came across issues such as lack of toilets, improper lighting, and dangling wires in the two

MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE REACHES 34.4 DEGREES C

New Delhi: Cloudy skies kept the mercury in check in Delhi on Wednesday, with the maximum temperature settling at 34.4 degrees Celsius, six notches below normal. The capital logged a minimum temperature of 23.6 degrees Celsius. A slight increase in temperature up to 41 degrees Celsius — is predicted over the next three to four days but there is no forecast of a heatwave for another week, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said.

By-elections for Rajendra Nagar seat on June 23

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The by-elections for the Rajendra Nagar constituency in the national Capital will be held on June 23, as per the statement issued by the Election Commission of India on Wednesday here. The assembly seat fell vacant after MLA Raghav Chadha, a senior leader of the AAP party was elected to Rajya Sabha from Punjab. As per

the ECI statement, the Model Code of Conduct shall come into force with immediate effect. Counting of votes will take place on June 26.

Once considered a BIP stronghold with the saffron party winning three consecutive elections between 1993 and 2003, Rajinder Nagar assembly seat was won by the Congress in 2008 before being won again by the BJP in 2013.

Sidhu given job...

A jail official, who did not wish to be named, maintained that the Congress leader — a three-time MP, a former Minister — had already started his work, checking the files, from Tuesday itself. The official said Sidhu's

Ken Paxton said teachers post would be referred to as should be armed to stop such munshi, as per jail terminology. "Sidhu has been assigned the clerical work, he will be Texas Senator Ted Cruz described the Uvalde shooting working on the paperwork. We have decided on Sidhu's as "truly horrific", but said gun work keeping in mind his secureforms were not the way to rity inside the jail which is a major challenge for us. Sidhu Speaking to reporters, he said restricting the rights of "law-abiding citizens... Doesn't will work from his barrack only in two shifts with ne break," a work. It's not effective. It doesjail official told *The Pioneer*.

The prisoners, undergoing **PUBLIC NOTICE**

any manner whatsoever, must immediately conta the undersigned in writing along with all supportin documents in respect of their claim(s)/ objection(s).

If no such claim is received with in a period of 14 day from the date of publication of this notice, then it will b

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nesame. Himanshu Ahuja (Advocate) Contact No.: 9810310373, 011-41830049 E-mail Address : alolegals@gmail.com

work in the jail factories or the bakeries. Considering that many hardcore criminals also work in jail factories and bakeries, the jail authorities have decided to assign the clerical work to Sidhu keeping in mind his security. Moreover, Sidhu is well

educated, suitable to handle paperwork. The official said Sidhu would be working in two shifts — from 9 am to 12 pm and 3 pm to 5 pm; with a threehour break in between. For the work, Sidhu will

not get any salary for the first three months. "As Sidhu has no clerical experience, he is categorised as an unskilled worker. So he will be working as a trainee for first three months. After that, he will start getting salary of Rs 30 per day on becoming the semi-skilled when he will be a skilled work er," said the jail official.

PUBLIC NOTICE Notice is hereby given to general public at large that my client Indusind Bank Ltd, having one of its Branch at Plot No. 2E/1, 2nd Floor, Jhandewalan Extension, New Delhi-110055 intends to grant Loan facility to Ms. Prema Narula against security of Residential House, Built upon Plot bearing No.13, on Road No. H-3, having land area measuring 250.5 Sq. Mtr. & Covered area measuring 3250 Sq. Ft., in the residential colony known as DLF City (Drmerly Romon Sulley Sikanderpur Ghosi Tehsi-I-Wazirabad & Distt. Gurugram, Haryana (hereinafter referred as "Said Property"). 1) Smt. Prema Narula & 2) Smt. Manju Narula claims to be the Co-Owner of the Said Property by virtue of Gift Deed dated 12.11.2014 duly registered as Document No. 19853 on 12.1.2014 & Deed of Property Transfer / Gift Deed with in Blood Relation dated 13.03.2020 duly registered as Document No. 19903 on 13.03.2020. Further, it is informed that Sale Deed dated 31.03.2010 duly registered as Document No. 27955 on 31.03.2010 in Javour of 1) Sh. Kumar & 2) Smt. Manju Narula has been misplaced/ lost. Any person(s) has/have any objection(s) or claims(s) with respect to right, tille or interest in the said property in any manner whatsoever, must immediately contact the undersigned in writing along with all supporting THE PIONEER (

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Kulvinder Ram R/o Z-36/A, Dayalsar Road, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi, declare that in my driving license No. DL-0420010423549 my name is wrongly mentioned as Kulvinder Singh, however, my actual name is Kulvinder

PD(90101)C

Woman held for hiring man to kill husband **STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police has arrested a 28-year-old woman, who had hired a contract killer for getting her philanderer husband, having two wives, killed. Police said that the contract killer was also arrested by the police team. The accused woman has

been identified as Chander Kala alias Chanda and the contract killer Jumman (27) alias Jumma is a history-sheeter of the Ranhola area. Police said that she had also given Jumma a hammer and Rs 1.5 lakhs for the job. The weapon and Rs 50,000 has been recovered Police said that the woman

also tried to mislead investigators by making the killing look like an outcome of an attempther husband was a philanderer and had extra-marital affairs, police said. According to the

The woman alleged that

husband was asleep, police "Kala called Jumman and kept the main gate of her house open for him to enter easily. Jumman came to her house at night with the hammer and hit on the man's head twice killing him instantly," said Sameer

plan, the killing was executed on May 18 when the woman's

(DCP), Outer district. "To make it look like a robbery and mislead the police, Kala gave money and jewellery to Jumman," said the

The lawyer, who attended

the court proceeding, quoted

Malik saying in the court-

room, "If I have been involved

in any terrorist activity or vio-

lence in 28 years, if Indian intel-

ligence proves this, then I will

also retire from politics. I will

accept the hanging. I have

the death penalty to Malik, he

said, "I will not beg for any-

thing. The case is before this

court and I leave it to the court

to decide it." The court had on

May 19 convicted Malik, after

he pleaded guilty in the terror

Malik had on May 10 told

the court that he was not con-

testing the charges levelled

against him that included sec-

tions 16 (terrorist act), 17 (rais-

ing funds for the terrorist act).

18 (conspiracy to commit ter-

rorist act), and 20 (being mem-

ber of terrorist gang or organ-

isation) of the UAPA and sec-

tions 120-B (criminal conspir-

acy) and 124-A (sedition) of

ked with seven Prime

On the demand by NIA for

Sharma, the Deputy

Commissioner of Police

Yasin awarded...

cretion.

Ministers."

Earlier in the morning, Advocate Akhand Pratap Singh (court-appointed amicus) sought minimum punishment (life imprisonment) for Malik. "These crimes were intend-

ed to strike at the heart of the idea of India and intended to forcefully secede J&K from UOI. The crime becomes more serious as it was committed with the assistance of foreign s and designated terror ists. The seriousness of crime is further increased by the fact that it was committed behind the smokescreen of an alleged peaceful political movement," the judge said.

AFFIDAVIT

ANANYA, d/o Mukesh Kumar Singh, resident of 136 A/D Sri Krishna Puri, Patna-800001 hereby declare by birth certificate from Purnea Muncipal Reg. No 578 dt. 06.01.2022 that henceforth I will be known as ANANYA

funding charges and had directed the NIA authorities to assess his financial situation to determine the amount of fine likely to be imposed.

SINGH.

Malik's past... Malik said, "I have already given my words in the court From Page 1 and now it is at the court's dis-

Born on April 3, 1966 in

Srinagar, Malik is also facing trial in the much-publicized abduction case of Rubaiya Saveed, daughter of the then Union Home Minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed in 1989, and an attack by JKLF militants on IAF personnel in Srinagar ers injured in 1990. Malik was initiated in anti-national activities at a very young age in 1980s when he formed Tala party which was involved in an attempt to disrupt the 1983 cricket match between India and West Indies in the Sher-e-Kashmir Stadium in Srinagar besides staging a protest against the hanging of JKLF founder Mohammad Maqbool Bhat in Delhi's Tihar Jail on February 11, 1984.

Maisuma locality in downtown

After undergoing detention for months together on different occasions, Malik's activities increased after his Tala party rechristened itself as Islamic Students League (ISL) that campaigned vigorously for Muslim United Front (MUF) candidates in the 1987 Assembly polls. The MUF candidates including Mohammad Yousuf Shah lost the elections amid allegations of mass rigging. Shah alias Syed Sallahuddin is now the self-

styled supreme commander of banned Hizbul Mujahideen based in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) and patronized by the Pakistan Army-ISI combine. Both Shah and Malik were prominent faces among many others arrested for several months in the aftermath of the elections without a formal charge. After his release, Malik was among the first batch of youths who crossed the for arms training in 1988 to join

Malik along with Hameed Sheikh, Ashfaq Wani and Javed

Mir formed the core group of the JKLF. While Wani died in a gunfight with security forces in March 1990, Malik was captured in an injured condition in August 1990 and remained imprisoned till May 1994. Sheikh and six other JKLF terrorists were killed at Ali Kadal in downtown Srinagar on November 19, 1992, while Mir is now heading a separate fac-tion of JKLF. After his release on bail in May 1994, Malik declared an indefinite unilateral ceasefire to follow non-violent struggle for so-called "independence" of Jammu and Kashmir from both India and Pakistan. Pakistan-based JKLF founder Amanullah Khan removed Malik as the President of the outfit in 1995.

Sibal quits Cong....

From Page 1

On his leaving the party, Sibal said, "I had a deep relationship with the Congress. It was for 30-31 years. This is not a small thing. I joined the Congress because of Rajiv Gandhi. You must be thinking how one can go from the Congress after 31 years. Sometimes such decisions are to be taken?

We are all constrained by the fact that we are members of parties and have to abide by the

discipline of that party but it is Lok Dal, Mamata Banerjee or important to have an independent voice. When the voice of an independent is raised, people will feel that he is not associated with any other party," Kapil Sibal said after filing his papers.
"We want to form a coali-

tion and oppose the (Narendra) Modi Government. We want to create an atmosphere in which we can oppose the BJP (Bharatiya Janata Party). I will personally work towards that," he said. Asked whether his ideolo-

now would be of the SP. Sibal said, "I am with all-inclusive ideologies, be it of the Samajwadi Party, Rashtriya Stalin (Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin)." Sibal's resignation comes close on the heels of Sunil Jakhar and Hardik Patel resigning from the Congress, which recently held a Chintan Shivir in Udaipur. Elections for 11 Rajya

Sabha seats of Uttar Pradesh are underway. On the SP's support to Sibal, Akhilesh Yadav said, 'Kapil Sibal is a senior leader and a known lawyer. He has been in the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha and put his point across well everywhere. I hope he will put his views on big questions of unemployment and inflation, insecure borders and China.'

Sibal, who has been vocal in his criticism of the Congress leadership, had called for a non-Gandhi leader as the new party chief.

Water Management Division No. 1, Raipur R. O. No.:- 91512/7 For, Superintending Engineer R.o.No - 91504/8 R. O. Date: -25/5/22 Mahanadi Circle, Raipur (C.G.)

Executive Engineer

निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी खण्ड कबीरधाम (छ.ग.)

कार्यालय कार्यपालन अभियंता

ऑनलाईन निविदाएं "प्रपन्न-ए" में प्रतिशत दर पर नीचे उल्लेखित कार्य के लिये DWSM.KABIRDHAM की ओर से कार्यपालन अभियंता

एवं सिवव DWSM द्वारा, एकीकृत पंजीयन व्यवस्था ई—रजिट्रेशन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है हार्य का विवरण :– कबीरधाम जिले के विभिन्न विकासखण्ड में स्वीकृत एकल ग्राम नल जल प्रदाय योजनार्गत पेयजल एवं इत्यादि कार्य।

निविदा सूचना क्रमांक / दिनांक	कमांक	योजना का नाम एवं विकासखण्ड	अनुमानित लागत (रूपए लाख में)
75 / Dt. 20-05-2022	100302	विकासखंड पण्डरिया के ग्राम सिगंपुर	79.04
76 / Dt. 20-05-2022	100303	विकासव्यंड पण्डरिया के ग्राम जैवपुरी	66.93
77 / Dt. 20-05-2022	100304	विकासखंड पण्डरिया के ग्राम दुल्लीपार	84.12
78 / Dt. 20-05-2022	100305	विकासखंड पण्डरिया के ग्राम भड़गा	53.32
79 / Dt. 20-05-2022	100308	विकासखंड पण्डरिया के ग्राम टाटाकसा	73.79
80 / Dt. 20-05-2022	100312	विकासखंड पण्डिरया के ग्राम तिलई भाट	92.69
81 / Dt. 20-05-2022	100330	विकासखंड स०लोहारा के ग्राम ईरीमकसा	68.58
82 / Dt. 20-05-2022	100331	विकासखंड सoलोहारा के ग्राम पैलपार	74.73
83 / Dt. 20-05-2022	100332	विकासखंड संवलोहारा के ग्राम रमपुरा	76.81
84 / Dt. 20-05-2022	100333	विकासखंड सoलोहारा के ग्राम निवासपुर	74.97
85 / Dt. 20-05-2022	100341	विकासखंड बोडला के ग्राम नेवासपुर प्लाट	53.05
86 / Dt. 20-05-2022	100342	विकासखंड बोडला के ग्राम छुड़ी	126.79

उपरोकत निर्माण कार्यों की निविदा की सामान्य शर्ते, धरोहर राशि, विरतृत निविदा विज्ञप्ति निविदा दस्तावेज व अन्य जानकारी ई—प्राक्योरमेंट वेब पोर्टली https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in से दिनांक 20.05.2022 से देखी जा सकती हैं। निविदा डाउनलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि :- 10.06.2022

कार्यपालन अभियंता

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CoA affiliation row: **DU** teachers appeal to V-C for best legal aid

DSEU to offer several new UG, PG courses, add 6 new campuses

STAFF REPORTER

With several new under-graduate and postgraduate courses in the academic year 2022-23, the Delhi Skill Entrepreneurship University (DSEU) will also add six new campuses this academic year that will increase the seat strength by 800 across courses. Officials said that the university, which was established in 2020, will admit around 7,000 students this

DSEU Vice-Chancellor Neharika Vohra, said that at present they have 15 campuses and six more campuses are being readied.

Elaborating on the new programmes, Vohra said two undergraduate programmes related to emergency medical technology and dialysis technology have been started.
"Besides these, four new

bachelor's programmes will start by end of this year. Both the courses have 60 seats each. Their classes will begin in

We are also starting four other bachelor's programmes, including Bachelor in Hospital Management, Bachelor in Optometry and Bachelor in Autosales. Optometry is the

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

 $F_{(\text{CoA})}^{\text{ollowing the College of Art}}$ members of Delhi University's (DU) Academics for Action and Development have urged large programme with 180 seats, which is being done in partnership with Lenskart,"

"The new programmes will not be "very expensive" and will have a very reasonable fee structure. The university is doubling seats in the engineering programme as well,"

Among the postgraduate courses, the university has started three new MTech programmes.

"In the MTech pro-rammes, we are taking 20 students each but we will be offering fellowship to all of them," she said.

The university is also planning to launch PhD programmes in four subjects -computer application, computer science and IT, tool and dye and mechanical engineering, she informed.

"We haven't decided on the number of seats (in these PhD programmes). However, we will not take more than 20 students," she said. The university said it is

planning to start a post-graduate diploma programme in digital marketing in December. DSEU, which is recognised as a State university by

the UGC, was established by

the Delhi Government.

Vice-Chancellor Yogesh Singh to secure the "best legal representation" for the varsity in the matter. The fate of CoA is uncertain as DU has claimed that it has not de-affiliated it, even as Ambedkar University



(AU) announced the admission process on May 23 in a meeting with Delhi Government officials.

In a letter to DU V-C, the 11 members said that the CoA is facing a "harsh situation of losing its identity and existence." In the last hearing in Delhi High Court on May 17, due to poor representation on behalf of the DU, the order went in favour of AU.

The university has been asked to conduct admission to CoA as part of AU. We have asked the V-C for proper representation," said Seema Das, a member of the DU's Executive Council and one of the authors of the letter.

In the letter to Singh, the teachers noted that the interim order "went in favour of AU" as far as the admission for the current session is concerned."The same order has given two weeks to DU for filing an appeal and nowhere does it endorse the merger of CoA with Dr BR Ambedkar University," the letter pointed

The letter comes a day

after AU, which is funded by the Delhi Government announced that a committee has been constituted to ensure a "smooth" process for admission in various courses of College of Art for the academic year 2022-23.

The teachers have requested Singh to seek a stay of the order directing the admission process under AU as well as for the appointment of the Dean. In April, the DU had asked the CoA to start its admission process and had informed the institute that it would not be de-affiliated from the univer-

The Office of the Lieutenant-Governor had earlier given in-principle approval to the merger of CoA with AU, subject to its de-affiliation from

However, the DU's Executive Council, its highest decision-making body, refused to de-affiliate the college. In March last year, the Delhi Government announced that the CoA would be affiliated with AU, as the college was facing various problems.

EATERIES SERVING NON-VEG FOOD NEAR RELIGIOUS PLACES NDMC to hold survey, may shift shops

The New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) has decided to conduct a survey in the area under its jurisdiction, to find out if any eatery near religious places is selling or serving non-vegetarian food. The decision was taken at a council meeting on Wednesday.

The issue was discussed after the NDMC Chairman and Vice-Chairman visited the Sri Venkateswara Swamy-Tirupati Balaji Temple and found that many shopkeepers were selling non-vegetarian

food near the temple wall. NDMC_Vice-Chairman, Satish Upadhyay said, "I visited the Sri Venkateswara Swamy-Tirupati Balaji Temple along with the NDMC Chairman and found that many shopkeepers are selling and serving non-vegetarian food near the wall connecting to the temple, which is not

Such issues will not be tolerated and I warn the heads of departments to take immediate action on it." "All NDMC areas should be surveyed to check if

Implementation of AB-PMJAY approved

STAFF REPORTER NEW

The NDMC on Wednesday approved the implementation of the Centre's flagship Ayushman Pradhanmantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) scheme in New Delhi area.

It has also directed preparation of a detailed report on the beautification of the area ahead of the G20 summit next year. NDMC Vice-Chairman, Satish Upadhyay said: "The

meat shops are near or adjoining to religious places and these should be relocated," he added. The decision by the civic body comes weeks after South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) and East Delĥi Municipal Corporation (EDMC) had asked for closure of meat shops under their jurisdiction during Navratri. Fear of the loss of livelihood G20 Summit will be held in New Delhi next year and the municipal council should enhance the beauty of the area. For the purpose, we suggested making of a compre-hensive detailed report consisting maintenance, repair, beautification like the Commonwealth Games pro-

The decision was taken in the council meeting held on Wednesday during which several citizen and employee-centric proposals were tabled.

spread across meat markets in the city in April after the SDMC Mayor Mukesh Suryan threatened serious action if the meat shops were not shut down during the nine-day Navratri festival. EDMC Mayor Shyam Sunder Aggarwal fol-lowed suit and called for the shops' shutting down. However, most meat shops in these areas remained open with owners

NDMC member urges Kejriwal to attend all council meets

STAFF REPORTER

NDMC member Kuljeet Singh Chahal raised the issue of attendance of Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal Chairman of the NDMC. Chahal stated that

Kejriwal did not attend coun-

cil meetings on 31.03.20221 07.01.2022, 23.02.2022 and 30.03.2022, in which 26 items were approved in interest of rojana", "Swachchta-Chatravriti" 'Redevel 'Redevelopment of Hanuman Vatika." Ĥe has written to Kejriwal urging him to attend meetings for interest, benefit, and welfare of area residents.

citing the absence of an official

Newly-inducted e-bus breaks down

Hours after Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal flagged off 150 new electric buses on Tuesday, one of the ebuses broke down due to an increase in the vehicle's temperature beyond the specified

However, the Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) clarified that the bus stopped because of an in-built security feature and was put back on the road within two hours after a team attended to it.

The DTC Karamchari Union stated that bus number DL 516G D2610, which was from Rohini Depot Sector 37, broke down around 4 pm on the day of launch. The DTC took to Twitter and wrote, "Electric Bus no. 2610 had an indication of increased temperature beyond specified/designed limit and therefore vehicle stopped automatically, due to its inbuilt safety feature. The response team reached immediately, attended the bus and put it on road within two hours.

On occasion, Kejriwal also announced that capital will boast of 2,000 more such buses by next year. "The Delhi government is planning to spend Rs 1,862 crores on procuring electric buses over the next 10 years," Kejriwal said. Three new EV charging depots at Mundela Kalan, Rohini Sector 37 and Rajghat, built at a cost of around Rs 150 crores, were also inaugurated on Tuesday. Kejriwal had taken a ride in one of new e-buses along with Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot, chief secretary Naresh Kumar and other senior officials.

The induction of 150 electric buses equipped with state-of-art features, including CCTV cameras, panic button and GPS, into the DTC's fleet on Tuesday came after almost 11 years when public transporter procured buses in such a large number.

Govt makes it mandatory for DTC officials to undertake at least one journey per week

NEW DELHI: The Delhi Government has made it mandatory for Transport Department and DTC officials, from Group A and B, to undertake at least one journey per week in the city's public buses.

"All these officers have been directed to submit their feedback on buses and public transportation services in the city," said a senior transport department official. "When it comes to improving the public transportation of Delhi, we want to walk the talk. Our officers are excited and committed to develop a world-class public transport infrastructure," he said.

Delhi, UP cops nab Gogi-Deepak gang's man Biomass-burning, not firecrackers,

STAFF REPORTER **NEW DELHI**

After a brief exchange of fire, the Delhi Police's Special Cell in a joint operation with its counterpart force of Uttar Pradesh has nabbed a member of the Jitender Gogi-Deepak Narela Industrial Area.

The accused has been identified as Sandeep alias Bassi. He sustained a bullet injury in his leg during the

According to Jasmeet gh, the Deputy Singh, Commissioner of Police (DCP), Special Cell, on May 24, specific inputs were received that Sandeep would come to meet one of his associates near Shani Bazaar Crossing, Narela Industrial Area on bike.

"On May 25, a team of UP Special Task Force along with a special cell police team, acting on the inputs laid a trap.
About 5.00 AM when

in his right leg on the knee. He

Sandeep was spotted near Shani Bazar Xing on his bike, he was signaled to stop by the police, but instead of stopping, he dropped the bike and fired three rounds towards the police teams,' said the DCP. "In retaliation, police team also fired in self defense in which Sandeep was got injured

was immediately rushed to Raja Harish Chander hospital for treatment and later on he was shifted to Safdarjung hos-pital for treatment," said the DCP."A total five rounds were fired from both sides. A semiautomatic pistol of .30 with three live cartridges was recovaccused," said the DCP.

Sandeep is previously involved and arrested in four criminal cases including mur-

"During interrogation, it was revealed that he was presently wanted and absconding in six heinous crimes murders, dacoity/robbery, assault and firing on police, abduction cases registered in Delhi, UP, Uttrakhand and Haryana," said

"Recently on April 18, Sandeep along with his associates had robbed cash from a petrol pump in Bhagwanpur near Haridwar.

In another sensational crime, Sandeep along with other associates had forcefully entered in the house of one Nirankaar on May 20 in Kankarkhera Meerut and pumped multiple bullets into his son Prayag who later on died in the hospital," said the DCP. "On May 1, Sandeep with his associates had also robbed a bike from Yamuna

2 juveniles planning to kill Neeraj Bawana's father apprehended

wo juveniles, who were I planning to kill the father of jailed gangster Neeraj Bawana, were apprehended by the police in Delhi's outer north district.

To establish their supremacy in outer Delhi area and to take command over the extortion racket, gangs of Neeraj Bawania and Jitender Gogi target members of rival gangs.

On May 7, members of Neeraj Bawana-Tillu Tajpur-Parvesh Mann gang had killed Braham Prakash, the father of Kapil alias Kallu Khera, who too is a gangster associated with Gogi gang.

Nagar in Haryana and on same day, using the robbed bike, he looted a petrol pump on gun point in the area," said the DCP. "The gang members including Sandeep are also wanted in a case of assault and firing on police on May 13 in Daurala near Meerut when they had fired on the police team on being challenged by

Commissioner of Police (DCP), Outer north district, police team was working on the task of apprehension of criminal gangs and their sharp shooters when they came to know that Kapil, an active members of Jitender Gogi's along with others are planning to take revenge of murder of gangster Neeraj Baawana's father in their village Khera Khurd.

"Police teams further learnt that Kapil and members of Gogi gang directed their members to eliminate the father of gangster Neeraj Bawana's with the aid of juveniles," said the

Two of their associates were caught by the police at spot but others had escaped from the spot by doing incessant firing on police," said the

'The gangster Sandeep and his associates Atul and Sunny Kakran have been working with gang of Deepak Boxer (Gogi gang) for a few months. After the killing of police team accelerated their pace to apprehend them. Using technical surveillance, the police team succeeded in identifying the location and move-ment of juveniles," said the DCP adding that juveniles were nabbed by the police teams"Two sophisticated semiautomatic pistols and 20 live cartridges were recovered from their possession.

Further, it came to light that the arms and ammunitions were supplied to them by Vivek and Doni on the direction of Hitesh, a resident of Bajitpur, Delhi, active member of Kapil and Gogi gang, said the DCP.

Jitender alias Gogi in Rohini Court by the members of rival gang last year, Deepak Boxer is the leader of Gogi gang," said police.

"Sandeep and his associates used to commit crime and execute the killings of the rivals in Delhi at directions of Deepak Boxer," said the DCP adding that further investigation of case is in progress.

cause of post-Diwali pollution: Study

STAFF REPORTER

Astudy conducted by the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi found sions, rather than fireworks, drive the poor air quality in the national Capital during the days following Diwali.

The study titled "Chemical speciation and source apportionment of ambient PM2.5 in New Delhi before, during and after the Diwali fireworks", led by IIT-Delhi researchers, has shed light on the pollution sources impacting the ambient air quality in the capital before, during and after the festival.

The team found that biomass burning-related emissions rise steeply in the days following Diwali, with average levels almost rising twice compared to the pre-Diwali concentration.

Also, the source apportionment results pertaining to the organic PM2.5 indicate a significant rise in both primary and secondary organic pollutants in the days following Diwali, suggesting the role of biomass burning-related emissions in the increase of primary organic emissions and, in turn, their aged products following



the Diwali festival," Chirag Manchanda, the lead author of the study, said. "We also found that the metal content in PM2.5 levels rose by 1,100 per cent and the fireworks alone accounted for 95 per cent of the metal PM2.5 during Diwali. However, the impact of the

fireworks plummets within around 12 hours following the festival," he added. The research study published in the journal "Atmospheric Pollution Research" has presented source-apportionment results for highly time-resolved elemental and organic fractions of PM2.5 to address the challenge. "Both stubble burning and increased heating requirements of the region in winter drive the biomass-burning activity. The study thus concluded that the biomassburning emissions rather than the fireworks drive the poor air quality in Delhi during the days following Diwali," said Vikram Singh, Department of Chemical Engineering, IIT-

The result of this study provides crucial insights into a topic of long-standing debate and concern between air quality experts and policymakers committed to alleviating the extreme air pollution events in the capital of Delhi following Diwali, " he added.

Delhi gets three automated driving test tracks

People can take test for obtaining a driving licence in the evening

STAFF REPORTER ■ **NEW DELHI**

To facilitate those who are unable to spare time during the day to take a test for obtaining a driving licence, the Delhi Government has started three automated driving tracks where people can do so in the evening, an official said on Wednesday. Delhi Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot inaugurated the three tracks in Mayur Vihar, Shakur Basti and Vishwas Nagar.

As per data shared by the transport department, 45 appointments will be booked daily on each track and 3,000 appointment schedules will be available per day after the commissioning of night shifts at all 12 automatic driving test tracks. At present, 135 driving tests are being scheduled daily on these three automat-

ic driving test tracks.
"In the pilot test that was conducted at the three centres between April 30 and May 24, a total of 2,565 slots were booked at the automatic driving test track at Shakur Basti, Mayur Vihar and Vishwas Nagar," said Gahlot. "As many as 855 slots among these were

booked at the centre in Shakur Basti, 243 of these tests were conducted during the night shift. Out of this, 129 people passed the test and 126 people failed," he said.

"Similarly, in Mayur Vihar, 855 people had booked their slots for the driving licence. Out of which, 424 people had appeared for the driving test.
Out of this, 23 people passed the automatic driving test track and 192 people failed it," he

"At the same time, 855 people booked their slots for the driving licence test at Vishwas Nagar. Of this, only 266 people arrived for it and 149 people passed the auto-

matic driving test track, while

117 people failed," he stated.

The officials said that appoint-

ments can be booked for a test slot between 5 P.M. and 7 P.M. on all three tracks and no test will be conducted without the booking of a token. "A total of 17 high resolu-

tion cameras have been installed, which capture real time footage and images, for the driving test to be closely monitored. In addition, an Electronic Queue Management System (EQMS) has also been installed for distribution of tokens," said Gahlot.

the Motor Vehicle Act, 1999

will be tested," said Gahlot.

"Further, 10 CCTV cameras have been installed at all automatic test track centres to enable the driving test to be conducted in a transparent and effective manner and 20 essential driving skills under

The city Government had started the trial of automated driving test track at the end of April and it was formally inaugurated on Wednesday. "We are also adding eight

new Accelerator Driven Transmutation Technology (ADTTs) systems at educational institutions, which is in its tendering stage and this will be a major step in decreasing

waiting times," said Gahlot.

"The department has entrusted the Maruti Suzuki foundation to set up 12 automatic driving test tracks.

Along with this, the responsibility of the operator supervision of all 12 automatic driving test track centres has been given to Rosmerta Technology Limited," said



A birthday party being celebrated inside a metro coach, at Sector-51 station of Aqua Line, in Noida on Wednesday

2K registered unrecognised parties to face EC action

The Election Commission (EC) has decided to act against over 2,000 Registered Unrecognised Political Parties (RUPP) whose numbers saw a 300 per cent increase in the last two decades with most coming into existence just before Lok Sabha or Assembly elections. Saying it is placing the facts in public domain so that the citizens know the affairs of the political parties, the EC said in 2019, of the 2354 RUPPs only 623 contested even as 87 RUPPs were found to be nonexistent on ground. Many RUPPS do not comply to the Alarmingly, the RUPPs combined claimed Income Tax exemption in the range of 100 crore to 608 crore.

This is the first time that the poll body has decided to act against RUPPs for flouting rules, including failure to furnish a contribution report and communicate any change in its name, head office, office bearers and address to the poll panel. The EC said that it has been reported that income tax

the tune of Rs 445 crores in 2018-19 by 199 RUPPs and Rs 608 crores in 2019-20 by 219 RUPPs. Of these, 66 RUPPS have claimed income tax exemption without submitting contribution reports in Form 24A as mandated under section 29C of the Act.

In view of the fact that there are 2174 RUPPs, which have not submitted contribution reports, the list shall be sent to the Department of Revenue for taking all consequential action as per the RP Act 1951 read with the relevant provisions of the Income Tax Act, 1961 and other statutory/regulatory regime including not granting exemption / withdrawing exemption, if already granted/ examining liability of wrongly claiming exemption as the case may be.

The poll body has directed chief electoral officials of state and union territories to put this order on their websites for compliance and for affording an opportunity to anyone aggrieved by above action.
"Action to be initiated against those receiving donations without due statutory compliances.

registered unrecognized political parties (RUPPs) reported to be involved in Serious financial impropriety," the EC said in a statement.

There are 87 RUPPs, whose address of communication, was statutorily required as registration requirement under section 29A(4). Any change in address was required to be communicated to the EC under section 29A(9), which they have not complied. "These RUPPs have been found to be non-existent after a physical verification carried out by the respective Chief Electoral Officers. The names of such non-existent RUPPs shall be deleted from the list and benefits under the Symbols Order (1968) withdrawn" the EC said.

As per data shared by the poll body, of the 2354 RUPPs over 92 per cent have not filed their Contribution Report in 2019 to the poll body.

The data showed that near-2056 RUPPs, which have failed to furnish Annual Audit Account of the (5) concerned financial year, are indicative of gaps in vital financial information including bank

natories pertaining to those RUPPs, statement of assets and liabilities, contributions received, details of donors and

expenditure.

"Any RUPP aggrieved by any action may approach con-cerned CEO with full facts within 30 days of the issue of this direction with all evidences inter-alia including proof of existence, other legal and regulatory compliances made till now such as submission of year wise annual audited accounts, contribution report, expenditure report, if any, updation of office bearers including authorized signatories for financial transactions including bank account) and operations under the Symbols Order 1968," the EC said.

that 100 RUPPs, which have failed to furnish Election Expenditure Statements after the contest of election(s), have violated the directions of Election Commission. They may approach concerned CEO with full facts within 30 days of the issue of this direction for remedial action, if any, to avoid any consequential action.

The poll body further said

MP Karti booked in Honcho held under

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has reg-Enforcement istered a money laundering case against Congress MP Karti Chidambaram and others in connection with the visas-forbribery scam entailing irregular issuance of visas to 263 Chinese nationals in 2011 when his father P Chidambaram was the Union Home Minister.

The ED has filed the case under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) taking cognisance of a recent CBI case related to the scam.

The case pertains to allegations of Rs 50 lakh being paid as kickbacks to Karti and his close associate and Chartered Accountant S Bhaskararaman by a top executive of Vedanta Group company Talwandi Sabo Power Ltd. (TSPL), which was setting up a power plant in Punjab, according to the CBI FIR. The CBI had raided the premises of the Chidambaram family and arrested Bhaskararaman last week, even as Karti is likely to depose before it on Thursday.

This is the third money laundering case against Karti with the INX Media and



Aircel-Maxis cases being probed by the agency for the ast few years.

The ED will probe the possible "proceeds of crime" that could have been generated due to the alleged illegal activity in the visa case and once prima facie evidence is gathered, it can attach those assets, they said. The accused persons in the case will be questioned as part of the investigation, they further said.

Karti, 50, has denied all the allegations. In a statement posted on his Twitter handle on Tuesday, he said "if this is not harassment, not a witch hunt, then what is." Meanwhile, Karti has been summoned by the CBI for questioning on Thursday in connection with visa scam. He has been asked to join the probe within 16 hours after he returned from

visa-for-bribery scam PMLA for causing ₹155 cr loss to bank



PNS NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has arrest-Enforcement ed Ashok Kumar Mittal, Director of Karnal-based Mahesh Timber Pvt. Ltd. in a bank fraud case under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) for diverting funds to Singapore through fake imports, causing a loss of Rs 155 crore to the

The ED initiated money laundering investigation on the basis of an FIR registered by the CBI here for criminal conspiracy, cheating, forgery and criminal misconduct of a public servant against the accused firm, its directors and others. "Ashok Kumar Mittal is

the key director of Mahesh

Timber Pvt. Ltd. who alleged ly connived with the bank officials and fraudulently got Letter of Credit limits enhanced from Rs 21 crore to Rs 195 crore, which were diverted to his Singapore based entities on account of fake imports. The accused firm and its directors caused overall wrongful loss to the bank to the tune of Rs 155 crore and wrongful gains to themselves in this manner,"

the ED said in a statement. Mittal was non-cooperative during the investigation and withheld relevant information apart from misleading the investigation. After the arrest, he was produced before the Special Court, Panchkula, Haryana on Tuesday and has been remanded to ED custody for four days, the agency added.

Indian-Bangladeshi Navy bilateral exercise underway

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

n an effort to further strengthen ties in In an effort to further strength.

The maritime domain, the four-day third edition of Indian Navy-Bangladesh Navy bilateral exercise "Bongosagar" is now on in Bangladesh.

Giving details of the exercise, navy officials said here on Wednesday, the drill commenced at Port Mongla, Bangladesh on Tuesday. The harbour phase of exercise is scheduled for two days followed by a sea phase in the northern Bay of Bengal from

Exercise 'Bongosagar' is aimed at developing a high degree of interoperability and joint operational skills through the conduct of a wide spectrum of maritime exercises and operations between the two Indian naval ships Kora, an indige-

nously built guided missile corvette, and Sumedha, an indigenously built offshore patrol vessel, are participating in the Exercise. The Bangladesh Navy is being represented by Abu Ubaidah and Ali Haider, both guided missile frigates.

The harbour phase of the exercise includes professional and social interac-



addition to the tactical level planning discussions on the conduct of the exercises

The sea phase of the exercise would cal scenario

tions, and friendly sporting fixtures, in facilitate ships from both the navies to participate in intensive surface warfare drills weapon firing drills, seamanship evolutions and coordinated air operations in a tacti-

CJI-chaired panel deliberated upon issue of tenure of 23 NCLT members: Centre to SC

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

The Centre on Wednesday told the Supreme Court that a committee chaired by the Chief Justice of India had held a meeting on April 20 in which the question regarding the tenure of 23 members of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) has been deliberated upon. Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre, told a vacation bench of Justices DY Chandrachud and Bela M Trivedi that the committee, which also comprises apex court judge Justice Surya Kant and Secretary of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, is seized of the issue and the next meeting is likely to be held within a week or 10 davs

Mehta said the committee had considered all aspects of the matter, including verifica-





antecedents, which are considered to be one of the important factors for the assessment of the suitability of the 23 members for extension of their term of office keeping in view the sen-



"Now, I am given to understand that the next meeting is scheduled in a week or 10 days," he said while requesting the top court to hear the matter on June 15. Mehta said the next retirement of one of the NCLT members is on June 20. The bench was hearing a plea that has raised issues about the tenure of the members of the tribunal.

The apex court noted the submissions of senior advocate

Maninder Singh, who appeared for the petitioner and submitted that term of all the members of the 2019 batch would come to an end on July 3, 2022, though the term should legitimately be for a period of five

"List the proceedings on June 15, 2022," the bench said, adding, "We request the Solicitor General to appraise the court of the developments which have taken place in the meantime."

Delhi HC seeks Centre stand on plea to regulate online gaming

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

 $T^{\text{he Delhi High Court on}}_{\text{Wednesday sought the stand of the Central}}$ Government on a petition to regulate online gaming and stop the games that are not games of skills but chance.

A bench of Acting Chief Justice Vipin Sanghi and Justice Sachin Datts issued paties are

Sachin Datta issued notice on the petition by lawyer Atul Batra who said in his plea that his concern was that online games of chance are promoted as games of skill and that online gambling is as bad as any substance addiction. Noting that betting and gambling is a State subject, the court asked the

petitioner to implead the Delhi Government as a party to the petition. Central government counsel said that various ministries are deliberating on the issue, which concerns a State subject, and the Centre, therefore, cannot legislate upon it without the consent of the State. In the petition, the petitioner stated that if online gambling and betting are not regulated, it is likely to cause immense damage to the society at large as youngsters with impressionable minds can fall prey to such games, which will have an adverse effect on their personal and professional life.

The petitioner sought appropriate action against an entity offering an online crick-



et game involving money on its website and prima facie promoting a game of chance.

The petitioner said that under the Information and Technology Act, the Centre is empowered to issue appropriate instructions to ban the operation of illegal gambling online websites. The matter would be heard next on

Captain Abhilasha becomes first woman officer to join Aviation Corps as combat pilot

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

aptain Abhilasha Barak has become the first woman officer to join the Army Aviation Corps as a Combat Aviator or pilot. Fifteen women officers had expressed their desire to join Army Aviation Corps but only two officers were selected after Pilot Aptitude Battery Test and Medical examination.

Giving details of the momentous achievement, the Additional Directorate General of Public Information, defence ministry on Wednesday described it as a "Golden Letter Day" in the history of the

Indian Army Aviation Corps.
It flies Chetak, Cheetah and Dhruv helicopters and forms the life line for troops guarding the Siachen glacier and other inaccessible forward posts along the Indian borders. The helicopters are used for reconnaissance besides medical evacuation and disaster relief.

Upon successful completion of her training, Captain Barak was awarded the Coveted Wings along with 36 Army pilots, the directorate post said. The post, shared on Instagram, also features a set of

pictures from the ceremony.

It said "Golden letter day in the history of Indian Army aviation. Captain Abhilasha Barak becomes the first woman officer to join Army Aviation Corps as Combat Aviator after successful comple-

tion of training."
"Captain Abhilasha Barak has been awarded the Coveted Wings along with 36 Army Pilots by Director General and Colonel Commandant Army Aviation. Young Aviators are now ready to spread their wings in Combat Aviation Squadrons," it read. The Army Aviation wing of the Royal Air Force(RAF) in India came into being took place in 1942. In August 1947 the first Indian Air Observation Post-flight was raised.

The present day Army Aviation Corps was established on November 1, 1986. It was "immediately inducted into Operation Pawan," which has been described as a "crucial test" for the Corps that had been newly formed. It was the first major participation by the Corps in the Indian Peace Keeping Force(IPKF)operations in Sri

At present, women are given the responsibility of air traffic control and ground duty in the Aviation Department. Now Barak will take over the responsibility of the pilot. The Corps candidates are trained at the Combat Army Aviation Training School, Nashik. In June, last year, for the first time, two women officers were selected for helicopter pilot training.

The IAF already has started inducting women officers as fighter pilots and in 2018, Flying Officer Avani Chaturvedi became the first Indian woman to fly a

Some antivirals may shorten monkeypox symptoms: Study

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ **NEW DELHI**

Some antiviral medications might have the potential to shorten symptoms of monkeypox and reduce the amount of time a patient is contagious, according to a study of seven patients diagnosed with the rare viral disease in the UK between 2018 and 2021.

The cases analysed in the study, published on Tuesday in The Lancet Infectious Diseases journal, represent the first instances of in-hospital transmission and household transmission outside of Africa.

The research also reported the patient response to the first off-label use of two different antiviral medications -brincidofovir and tecovirimat

-- to treat the disease.

The study found little evidence that brincidofovir was of clinical benefit but concluded that further research into the potential of tecovirimat would be warranted.

The researchers also report detection of monkeypox virus in blood and throat swabs.

As optimum infection control and treatment strategies for this disease are not yet established, data from the study could help inform global efforts to further understand the clinical features of the disease as well as transmission dynamics,

"As public health officials are trying to understand what is causing the May 2022 monkeypox outbreaks in Europe and North America -- which



have affected several patients who reported neither travel nor an identified link to a previously known case — our study offers some of the first insights into the use of antivirals for the treatment of monkeypox in humans," said Hugh Adler of the Liverpool University Hospitals NHS Foundation

"Although this latest outbreak has affected more

patients than we had previously encountered in the UK, historically monkeypox has not transmitted very efficiently between people, and overall the risk to public health is low," Adler, lead author on the paper, caid. With international tray. said. With international travel returning to pre-pandemic levels, public health officials and healthcare workers around the world must remain vigilant to the possibility of new cases

of monkeypox, said Nick Price of Guy's & St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, senior author on the paper.

Of the seven UK mon-

keypox cases analysed in the study, four were imported from West Africa with three further cases occurring due to human-to-human transmission within the case clusters.

Monkeypox, a close relative of the smallpox virus, is a rare disease classified as a High Consequence Infectious Disease (HCID) by the UK Health Security Agency.

There are currently no licensed treatments for monkeypox and there is limited data on the duration of its contagiousness, with the incubation period ranging from five

Financial support to rare disease patients increased from ₹20L to ₹50L under RAN

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■

 $F_{
m activists,\,the\,Union\,Health}^{
m ollowing}$ Ministry has increased the financial support from 20 lakh to 50 lakh for treatment of patients suffering from rare diseases under the umbrella scheme of Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN).

Beneficiaries for such financial assistance would not be limited to BPL families, but extended to about 40% of the population, who are eligible as per norms of the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, their treatment in Government tertiary hospitals only," as per the official statement of the Health Ministry. The RAN was set up to provide financial assistance to patients, living below the

poverty line and who are suffering from major life threatening diseases, to receive medical treatment at any of the super speciality Hospitals/Institutes or other Government hospitals.

The financial assistance to such patients is released in the form of a 'one-time grant', which is released to the Medical Superintendent of the Hospital in which the treatment has been received.

The Government had in May last year approved the National Policy for Rare Diseases 2021, aiming to lower the high cost of treating rare diseases in India.. Activists like Saurabh

Singh, co-founder-director of Rare Disease India Foundation (RDIF), have been pointing out the need for higher funds for the sector.

He had been urging the Government to address the gaps in providing life-saving treatment to those requiring it. Singh has suggested that the annual budgetary allocation of Rs. 25 crore under the RAN for 2021-22 that has not been spent could be immediately used to treat patients with diseases under Group (3) such as Gaucher, Pompe, Fabry disease and MPS I and

Tripura CM calls

on President.

Shah, Rajnath

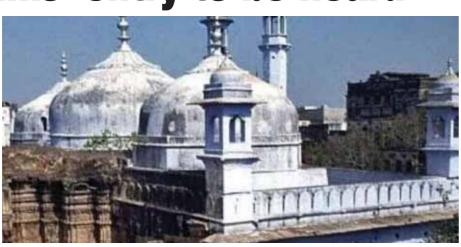
Gyanvapi row: Fresh plea on ban on Muslims' entry to be heard

Afresh petition in the Shringar Gauri-Gyanvapi Mosque complex lawsuit seeking a ban on the entry of Muslims in Gyanvapi complex was on Wednesday transferred to the court of civil judge (senior division/fast track) from the court of civil judge, senior division.

The fast track court will hear the petition on May 30. International general sec-

retary of Vishwa Vedic Sanatan Sangh, Kiran Singh, on Tuesday last had filed a fresh petition in the court of Civil Judge (Senior Division) Ravi Kumar Diwakar in the Shringar Gauri temple-Gyanvapi complex matter seeking a ban on the entry of Muslims in the Gyanvapi complex in which the Gyanvapi mosque is located.

The petitioner also demanded that the entire Gyanvapi complex be handed over to Hindus and sought permission for worship of 'Shivling'claimed by the Hindu side to have been found in the wuzu khana of the Gyanvapi



complex. The civil judge (senior division) had accepted

District Judge Dr Ajay Kumar Vishvesha on Wednesday transferred the petition to the court of Civil Judge (Senior Division/ Fast Track) Mahendra Kumar Pandey. The fact track court posted the hearing for May 30.

It is learnt that the court of the district judge will hear the maintainability of the Shringar Gauri-Gyanvapi mosque com-

plex lawsuit on Thursday. The five women filed a petition in the court of Civil Judge (Senior Division) Ravi Kumar Diwakar seeking permission to worship in the Shringar Gauri temple and preservation of the idols located in the Gyanvapi mosque complex.

The defendants, including the Anjuman Intezamia Masjid Committee, which looks after the management of the Gyanvapi mosque, had moved an application in the Supreme

Court under Order 7, Rule 11 of the Civil Procedure Code (CrPC), raising question on the maintainability of the suit. The apex court on May 20 had transferred the petition to the court of the district judge from the court of the civil judge, senior division and directed him to hear the application moved by the defendants on priority basis. The court of district judge on Tuesday posted the hearing on the maintainability

of the suit first on May 26.

TN BJP leader hacked to death in Chennai in broad daylight

BJP leader K Balachander

er city suburb that law and

order was under control in the

State and there were no reports

of any unpleasant happenings.

State. No instance of caste or

communal clash in Tamil Nadu

or firing or deaths due to spu-

rious liquor has been reported

in the State," Babu had told

reporters at Avadi Police

chief took to the social media

within hours and said that

nobody was safe in Tamil Nadu. He asked the Police to

K Annamalai, BJP State

Commissionerate.

Tamil Nadu is a very peaceful

day before Prime Minister Aday before Prime vimisor
Narendra Modi was to make an official visit to Chennai to dedicate to the nation Rs 31,400 crore worth infrastructure works built as centrally-sponsored projects, a popular BJP leader in the State was murdered in front of hundreds of onlookers at Chintadripet, a city suburb on Tuesday evening at 7.50.

Two motorcycle borne gangs hacked to death K Balachander (30), Chennai Central District Secretary of the BJP's Scheduled Caste Wing in front of a crowd who ran for their lives after watching the gruesome murder.

Balachander who was accompanied by a security guard was on his way to a tea shop while the gangs of unidentified persons struck him, killing him on the spot and withdrew from the scene as fast as they made their appearance.

Hours before the incident, Sylendra Kumar, director general of police (law and order), Tamil Nadu Police had told reporters at Avadi, anoth-

arrest all the accused in the murder of the party functionary. Karu Nagarajan, senior BJP leader who staged a sit-in in front of the Government hospital where Balachander's body was taken for autopsy asked reporters whether Chennai was the polit-ical capital of Tamil Nadu or murder capital. In an embarrassment to the

M K Stalin-led Government, a popular TV channel friendly to the DMK, aired a news on Wednesday stating that Chennai has seen 18 murders in the last 20 days. The report contained the details of the murders with date, time and information about the victims.

But Shankar Jiwal, Commissioner, Chennai City Police, described the news as wrong. "There has been a 25 per cent reduction in the number of murders," said Jiwal while speaking to reporters. No arrests have been made

in the Balachander murder case at the time of going to Press though hectic combing operations are underway across the city. This is Prime Minister's first visit to Tamil, Nadu after the change of Government in the State in last May.

PNS NEW DELHI The new Chief Minister of the poll-bound Tripura Dr Manik Saha, who had this month replaced Biplab Kumar Deb, called on President Ram

Minister Rajnath Singh here on Wednesday. The change in the north East state was affected by the BJP central leadership as elections to the Tripura assembly are about Year away and the change is aimed at reducing the anti-incumbency of four

Nath Kovind, Home Minister

Amit Shah and defence

year-rule of Deb as CM. It was Saha's first visit to the national Capital since taking charge as the chief minister of the northeastern state on

Saha said he met the home minister and sought his continuous guidance for all-round development of Tripura.

"Delighted to meet the Union Home Minister Hon'ble Shri @AmitShah ji. Requested him for his continuous guidance so that I can devote myself to the all round development of Tripura as Chief Minister of the state," Saha tweeted.

SSC RECRUITMENT SCAM MAY GO BEYOND ₹15K CR

CBI grills senior Bengal Minister for 8 hrs as more scams surface

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

The Central Bureau of Investigation probing the School Service Commission recruitment scam following a Calcutta High Court order on Wednesday subjected Bengal Industries Minister and former Trinamool Congress secretary general Partho Chatterjee to intensive 8-hour grilling.

Chatterjee, was the State Education Minister when the large-scale recruitment scam that saw junior Education Minister Paresh Adhikari's daughter Ankita landing a teacher's job by-passing empanelled candidates took place. The said teacher has since been dismissed from service following a court order.

According to sources Chatterjee was asked a whole range of "uncomfortable" questions that he either circumvented or replied in a roundabout manner. Chatterjee had created a five-member screening panel comprising among others his own personal assistant and officer on special duty in order to advice the SSC which is presumed to be an autonomous body responsible for appointments in school

A judicial committee appointed by the High Court by Justice RJ Bag had indicted not only the minister but the aforementioned panel and even recommended criminal proceedings against the offenders saying the formation of the screening committee was an illegal act. When asked as to why he

went out of the way to appoint the screening panel or under whose supervision it worked, Chatterjee reportedly said that he had no control over the committee. When asked as to who controlled the committee or for that matter if any outsider was controlling it he

allegedly feigned ignorance, sources said adding he also failed to answer why he did not take action when reports of irregularities were coming in.

Sources in the CBI which has been grilling five senior State government officials who were in the screening committee and through whom the scam was operated said "Chatterjee's statements and the statements given by the five officials were not matching." They even said that the statements given by Chatterjee and his former Deputy Paresh Adhikari too contradicted at places."

The senior minister who has been asked to furnish his income details was on Wednesday asked to reduce his statements in writing for perusal.

While CBI sources said that the Minister could be summoned again they claimed that information regarding an

alleged newly constructed international school in West Midnapore and multiple apartments and hotels were also being collected.

While prima facie at least one thousand people were illegally given jobs by passing the empanelled candidates the High Court has directed the CBI to find out the total number of illegal appointments which the petitioners' lawyers Firdous Shamim said could run into thousands - and money trail if any behind such recruitments.

Saying that it was a "multilayered scam equivalent to Vyapam scam or chit fund" Shamim said illegal appointments took place in Group D, Group C, Primary, upper Primary, secondary and higher secondary level involving thousands of teachers.

"The rate for illegal appointments hovered anywhere between Rs 5 lakh for the Group D level to Rs 20 or Rs 25 lakh for Higher Secondary level," he said adding "roughly it could involve a total scam of Rs 15,000 crores and this is by the lower side."

Already about 600 people have been identified and lost their jobs and many more hundreds or even thousands could face a similar fate, sources said.

Meanwhile, there were

more recruitment scams reported in other departments to 33 members. too, sources said. Protests were staged in front of the Calcutta University by aspiring professors who complained of a massive scam in the recruitment process of college teachers by the College Service Commission. CSC chairman Dipak Sarkar however denied such allegations. Similar scams were reported in the Health Department with the aspiring nurses staging protests outside the health ministry for the past two days.

Cong likely to get 11 seats in upcoming RS elections (Uttar Pradesh) and Chhaya the lone Rajya Sabha seat from Tamil Nadu. He has already

Congress is likely to get 11 Rajya Sabha seats in the upcoming election cycle with some of its top leaders, including P Chidambaram and Jairam Ramesh, eyeing another term. This will also help the Congress strengthen its party position in the Upper House of Parliament from the current 29

Some other top Congress leaders, including Ghulam Nabi Azad, Anand Sharma, Mukul Wasnik, Randeep Surjewala, Ajay Maken and Rajeev Shukla, are waiting in the wings to get a Rajya Sabha nomination. Of the 55 vacancies arising in the Rajva Sabha in the next two months. seven Congress members -Chidambaram (Maharashtra). Ramesh (Karnataka), Ambika Soni (Punjab), Vivek Tankha (Madhya Pradesh), Pradeep Tamta (Uttarakhand), Kapil Siba

Verma (Chhattisgarh) — will be completing their terms.

The Congress will be gaining three to four seats in the Upper House if it manages to get all the three seats that are falling vacant in Rajasthan. While the party will get two seats in Chhattisgarh, where it is in power, it will get one seat each in Tamil Nadu, Jharkhand and Maharashtra, where it shares power with other likeminded parties.

The Congress is also likely to get one seat each in Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka on the strength of its MLAs in these states. Sources said while Chidambaram and Ramesh are hopeful that the party leadership would give a nod to them for another term, there are a host of other leaders who are waiting for a Rajya Sabha berth for some time now

Chidambaram is eyeing

met Tamil Nadu Chief Minister and DMK leader M K Stalin. However, former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi's team is pushing for a young face in Praveen Chakravarty, the head of the party's Data Analytics department, for the seat.

Three-time Rajya Sabha member Ramesh will get a fourth term if his name is cleared for the lone seat in Karnataka, from where Surjewala is also a contender.

In Haryana, Surjewala, Kumari Selja and Kuldeep Bishnoi are vying for the lone seat, but former chief minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda is pushing for the nomination of Anand Sharma. The former Union minister is a prominent member of the "Group of 23" and is considered close to Hooda, who is also a member of the grouping.

After Nitish, Pawar raises 'caste-based' census issue

Making a strong case for the reservations for the Other Backward Classes (OBCs), NCP chief Sharad Pawar on Wednesday rooted strongly for the conduct of a 'caste-based' census by the Centre to determine the quantum of reservations for OBCs in the country. Addressing a state con-

vention on reservations organised by the NCP's OBC Cell at the YB Chavan Centre here, Pawar slammed the Narendra Modi-government at the Centre and the RSS that supports the government, for opposing the caste-based census in the country. "The OBCS are not asking

for anything free. They are merely demanding reservations as their right. The reservations cannot happen unless there is a caste-based national census. The SC and ST communities benefited by way of reservations made in the Constitution, We should make

OBCs," the NCP chief said.

"For the purpose of providing reservations to the OBCs, we need to ascertain their exact population. Only way to ascertain the OBC population in the country is to conduct a caste-based national census. Once the caste-based national census is done, we will know what exactly is the OBC population in the country, The reservations for them can be decided on the basis of their population," Pawar said. At the convention attended

by the OBC leaders from across the state, north Maharashtra representative Umesh Nemade moved a resolution demanding a "caste-based" national census so as to pave the way for reservations for the OBCs living across the country.

Coming down heavily on the Modi government at the Centre for resisting a "castebased" census in the country, Pawar said: "Yesterday, Bihar chief minister Nitish Kumar

caste-based census. But till the Modi-led BJP is in power at the Centre, I don't think castebased census will happen in the country. This is because the mindset of the BJP and its ide-

ological allies is different".

Pawar said that RSS' joint secretary Bhyajji Joshi had gone on record that his organisation was totally opposed to the caste-based census on the assumption that it would vitiate the atmosphere in the country. "I would like to know from him: how will the atmosphere get vitiated? When there is an imbalance in the society, we need to do something. The NCP is prepared to do whatever it takes to create awareness in the society," he said.

When he targeted the BJP and RSS for their resistance to "caste-based" census, the NCP chief was apparently alluding to an affidavit filed by the Centre before the Supreme Court on September 23 last year that a "caste-census", stating that a caste sible" and that it had taken a "conscious policy decision" to not to seek information regarding any

other caste, except SCs and STs. The Centre had filed an affidavit to this effect in the apex court in response to the Maharashtra government's plea to count Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in the upcoming census.

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and former Bihar CM Jitan Ram Manjhi too have for some time been mounting pressure on the Modi government to get a clear count on OBCs. Even Union Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment Ramdas Athawale is in favour of the caste-based census.

Pawar said that the ruling MVA in Maharashtra — comprising Shiv Sena, NCP and Congress — would go in for the upcoming civic polls only after the resolution of the reservations



NCC cadets perform a routine drill during their annual Army Training Camp, at Nagrota on the outskrits of Jammu.

PNS NEW DELHI

The BJP on Wednesday

■ started a week-long cam-

paign to strengthen the organ-

isation and boost outreach

'Booth

BJP starts week-long campaign to strengthen party for 2024 elections

PNS LUCKNOW

Uttar Pradesh Finance Minister Suresh Khanna Thursday.

cal 2022-23 is expected to be the biggest ever and is likely to be over Rs 6 lakh crore. The size of the 2021-22 budgets was Rs 5, 50 Lakh crore. Official sources said the

budget would be paperless and inclusive and would cater to the aspiration of all sections of

legislature, proposing an expenditure of Rs 5,45,370.69 crore and estimated receipts of Rs 5,44.836.56 crore. This left

accommodate the promises on the state's finances.

likely to announce the creation of a stabilisation fund for ensuring remunerative prices for the crops of tomato, onion and including vice president Dilip Ghosh, general secretary CT Ravi, and the party's Scheduled Caste (SC) Morcha

head Lal Singh Arya as its

members. The party has identified around 74,000 booths across the country that are to be strengthened under the campaign. All party MPs have been asked to strengthen 100 weak booths in their respective constituencies and a 30-member team will be formed for the purpose, party sources

Similarly, party MLAs have been given the task of strengthening 10 weaker booths in their constituencies, sources said adding the BJP's Rajya Sabha MPs have been given the responsibility of strengthening polling booths in those Lok Sabha constituencies where the party lost.

The weaker booths have been identified on the basis of the results of the 2014 and 2019 Lok Sabha elections and state assembly polls, they said adding these booths have been divided into various categories on the basis of demography, organisational strength and other aspects. A similar exercise was ini-

tiated by the BJP in 2016 and the party had identified around 115 constituencies in six states Odisha, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana,

Tamil Nadu, Kerala — and the Northeast. The party had never been able to win these constituencies till that

NAS report on school education System in country released Mathematics, Science & Social in developing in developing long term, mid-term and short-term interven-Science for class 8 and Language,

The Education Ministry on Wednesday released the National Achievement Survey (NAS) 2021 report which assesses the health of school education system in the country by conducting comprehensive evaluation survey of children's learning compétencies at classes III, V. VIII and X with a cycle period of three years. It reflects the overall assessment of school education system. The last NAS was held in 2017.

The NAS 2021 was held on 12.11.2021 at all India level and covered Government Schools (Central Government and State Government); Government Aided Schools; and Private Unaided Schools. Subjects covered are Language, Mathematics & EVS for class 3 & 5; Language,

Mathematics, Science, Social Science and English for class 10. According to the Department of School Education

and Literacy, about 34 lakh students of 1.18 lakh schools in 720 districts from both rural and urban areas have participated in NAS 2021. The National Report Card has been released and placed in the public domain on nas.gov.in. It will enable analysis of results and remedial action at the appropriate levels. The objective of NAS 2021 is to evaluate children's progress and learning competencies as an indicator of the efficiency of the education system, so as to take appropriate steps for remedial actions at difent levels. It will help to unravel the gaps in learning and will support state/UT governments

tions to improve learning levels and orient on differential planning based on NAS 2021 The report is based on the

performance in all subjects through disaggregation by gender (female, male), Area (Rural and Urban), Management of schools (Government, Government aided and Private unaided) and Social Groups (Schedule Caste (SC), Schedule Tribe (ST), Other Backward Communities (OBC) and General. This nation-wide survey was administered by the CBSE in one single day at the same time. The survey was managed through the technology platform designed and developed by National Informatics Centre (NIC).

UP Finance Minister to present budget today

will present the first budget of the second term of the Yogi Adityanath-led Bharatiya Janata Party Government on The budget for the next fis-

The Uttar Pradesh government had on December 16, 2021 presented an interimbudget for 2022-23 in the state a deficit of Rs 534.13 crore. The budget is likely to

activities in around 74,000 made by the BJP in its election electoral booths across the manifesto ahead of the 2022 country where it is relatively weak. The move is keeping the UP assembly elections. The budget is likely to be focused on next Lok Sabha elections in the agriculture sector. The BJP mind. BJP president J P Nadda had promised free power to addressed Empowerment Campaign' farmers in its election manievent at the party headquarters festo. Free power to farmers is likely to entail additional expenditure of Rs 1,800 crore here, the party said in a tweet. The meeting was attended by several Union ministers and The government is also leaders from across the coun-

try. The campaign will continue till May 31. The BJP has formed a committee chaired by party and potato. vice president Baijayant Panda www.dailypioneer.com

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- PAPER WITH PASSION-

Cost of 'service'

The Govt is set to discuss the contentious issue of applying 'service charge' to restaurant bills

ipping is not just about slipping some money to a waiter. Ideological battles were fought over it in the past. Today, the Governments square off with restaurateurs over it, pitting the customer's right of choice against the waiter's fruits of labour. On June 2, the Department of Consumer Affairs and the National Restaurants Association of India will meet to thrash out a contentious issue: Are eateries collecting service charge — tipping in legalese — by default even though it is voluntary. The question is, do restaurants 'force' them to pay the service charge? At least that is the allegation against the eateries. The other is that the service charge is fixed arbitrarily. Eateries are also accused of misleading customers about the legality of the service charge. The service charge is a transaction between the customer and the waiting or serv-



ing employees. It involves the staff offering the service of serving the customers and the latter, if happy, tipping the staff. When the tip is part of the bill in the form of a charge, it is called a service charge. Restaurants are not involved in this transaction at all, except by facilitating the voluntary collection of the service charge from customers instead of individual tipping. Why then is the Government inviting only the restaurants' bodies for the talks and not the employees' unions? Many customers are truly ignorant about service charge; many are still confused between service tax and service charge.

Many cannot be sure that the restaurant has calculated the service charge before charging GST and other taxes. The restaurants argue they have done their duty by mentioning the service charge on the menu card and the bill. For that matter, the Government is still not clear whether the service charge is taxable. The logic of the Goods and Services Tax is that all services are taxable. Even service charge, apart from service tax? The Government's service charge guidelines of 2017 are only advisory. No legislation backs them. The Consumer Protection Act, 2019, does not refer to tipping or service charge. Against this backdrop, what will the June 2 meeting achieve other than issuing "advice" to the restaurateurs' body? In the meanwhile, who will protect the interests of the waiting staff? A tip attests to the waiter's abilities. The best waiters corner the maximum tips. It is they who, apart from food and ambience, contribute to a restaurant's popularity. The service charge, on the other hand, is a level playing field for all waiters. They receive an equal share of the charge irrespective of their efficiency levels. For all waiters, however, tips represent extra income that makes a major difference in their lives. There may be cases where the employers are keeping a portion of the service charge with themselves. Why not bring in legislation that protects the interests of these waiters by legalising tipping if the service charge system is so complicated? That is the real issue.



Tourists ride a horsecart as clouds hover in the sky at Dadar beach, in Mumbai

Warming warning

The unusual and unseasonal prolonged spells of high temperatures are here to stay, reveal studies

f alarm bells on deteriorating weather conditions in India are not ringing just about yet, it's better to double-check the power supply. In a bad omen for our planet, it has been found that climate change made the extreme temperatures that baked northwest India and Pakistan in April and May over 100 times more likely and also increased the chances that such heat waves will occur more frequently by the end of the century. To put it in simpler terms, without accounting for climate change, a heat wave exceeding 2010's average temperature could happen once in every 312 years, according to an attribution study published recently. Taking climate change into account, however, the probabilities increased to once in every 3.1 years in the current climate, and to once in every 1.15 years by the end of the century. Climate change is already mak-



ing extreme weather events such as heatwaves more intense and more frequent, and will continue to do so in future. India and Pakistan's heatwave is also extraordinary in its duration — extremely high temperatures started as early as in March.

In another surprising revelation, a study has found that, contrary to popular perception, biomass emissions (stubble burning and increased heating requirements) rather than bursting of fireworks drive the poor air quality in the Capital during the days immediately succeeding Diwali. The study, conducted by IIT-D researchers before, during and after Diwali, threw light on the pollution sources impacting the ambient air

quality in the Capital. The team discovered that biomass burning-related emissions rose steeply in the days following Diwali, with the average levels rising almost twice as compared to the pre-Diwali concentration. Also, the organic PM2.5 indicated a significant rise in both primary and secondary organic pollutants in the days following Diwali. Shockingly, the study discovered that the metal content in PM2.5 levels rose by 1,100 per cent ... and the fireworks alone accounted for 95 per cent of the metal PM2.5 during the Festival of Lights. However, the impact of the fireworks was noticed to plummet within around 12 hours after the day of the festival. What makes these studies important is the result which provides crucial insights into a topic of longstanding debate and concerns between air quality experts and the policymakers. Hopefully, this newfound knowledge will help alleviate the problems emanating from the extreme air pollution events in the Delhi-NCR areas.

Checkmate by the 'Neutrals' in Pak



No one in Pakistan has any doubt over the long, deep and dirty hands of the Pakistani military, called the 'establishment', in all sovereign decisions

he Pakistani Army's complicated relationship with democracy started with its first native chief, Gen Ayub Khan. Ayub's selection baptised the 'institution' with the political culture of out-of-turn nomination to the Chief of Pakistani Army Staff for posterity (Ayub was the junior-most Maj Gen in the Pakistani Army and his name was not even in the first consideration list). Soon the ambitious General took over the formal reins from the civilian politicians and promulgated the creatively deceptive concept of 'Basic Democracy' — a farcical system legitimising his iron-fisted dictatorship whilst providing a semblance of democracy. A similarly out-of-turn and ostensibly pliant General Zia-ul-Haq was to repeat the Ayub feat by deposing the civilian Government of Zulfiqar Ali

The even more unhinged dictator in General Zia immediately promised a restoration to democracy after taking over, "My sole aim is to organise free and fair elections", and within months shifted his stance to 'retribution first, elections later' he stayed on for the next 11 years till he died in a mysterious plane crash. In 1999, yet another out-of-turn and supposedly 'safe' Gen Pervez Musharraf grabbed power in a coup d'état and promised 'true democracy' which he claimed wouldn't be the "evil of sham democracy" but he, too, hung around for another nine years!

Much wisdom has dawned on the subsequent Pakistani Army Chiefs like Pervez Kayani, Raheel Sharif and, most recently, Qamar Javed Bajwa. All of them have preferred a more discreet, 'democratic' and highly effective way of running the show, without attracting international opprobrium. They have effectively 'chosen' civilian Governments as per their topical interests, extended their terms unilaterally to six-year terms (Pervez Kayani and Imran nadinyoked a stinging



legislations towards securing their own interests in plum post-retirement roles (currently heading the Islamic Military Counter-Terrorism Coalition).

No one in Pakistan has any doubts of the 'establishment's' (Pakistani military's) long and deep hands in all sovereign decisions. The once out-of-favour with the Pakistani military, Nawaz Sharif, had called the Generals as 'Khalai Mukhlooq' (aliens or the invisible hand) as the 'establishment's' hand in elevating Imran Khan to power in 2018 was undeniable. Obviously, as the beneficiary of the Pakistani military's favour, Imran had dissed all murmurs about the military's extra-constitutional abilities as he probably assumed that he'd be able to defang the Generals over time tried but failed miserably.

Ultimately, a desperately struggling Imran struggled to nuance the military's claimed apolitical and neutral stand when the tables turned, and he had become an outsized nuisance for the Generals. Facing a no-confidence vote, Qamar Bajwa) or, like Gen appeal for support by saying, Raheel Sharif, managed to twist "Allah did not allow us to be



ULTIMATELY, A **DESPERATE IMRAN** STRUGGLED TO NUANCE THE MILITARY'S CLAIMED APOLITICAL AND **NEUTRAL STAND** WHEN THE TABLES TURNED, AND HE HAD BECOME AN **OUTSIZED NUISANCE** FOR THE GENERALS

neutrals as only animals are neutrals!" Clearly, the Generals were not amused and they remained 'neutral' to Imran's extreme discomfiture. Soon the dejected and ejected Imran was left lamenting, "Neutrals weren't actually neutral." Today, as the vainglorious Imran replots his journey back to political relevance, he is left hoping in sarcasm, "I also say to my Army that you said you are neutral, so now remain neutral." Deep down, Imran would know better of the shift in tide and circumstances of his equation with these socalled 'neutrals'.

Meanwhile, in a curious closing of the loop, it is the Sharif family (deposed and hounded out of Pakistan in the 1999 military coup d'état) that is singing hosanas of the Pakistani military's 'neutral-

Tellingly, no Pakistani Prime Minister has ever completed his/her tenure and almost all were tripped through extra-constitutional or judicial intervention that invariably could be traced back to the shadowy Generals at the Rawalpindi Military Headquarters Ministers were able to go beyond the four-year mark. The fissures in each case were triggered by political efforts to undermine or diminish the Pakistani Military — in Imran's case, his grandstanding in delaying the transfer of his preferred spy chief ie, then DG of ISI, General Faiz Hameed, was tantamount to crossing the traditional 'red lines' of noninterference in certain matters. Imran could no longer be trusted to walk the line of the 'establishment's' formula for Pakistani governance, and thus had to be removed.

Today, the Pakistani mil-

itary has further denied any

imminent threat to national security or the alarmist 'international conspiracy'. Making it worse for Imran is the careful recalibration of the Sharif-Bhutto combine towards the Generals, and the deliberate assertion by the Pakistani military spokesperson that General Baiwa seeks no further extension === both moves deflate Imran's expected aspersions and stridency against the 'neutrals'. Somewhere along the line, Imran had managed to create a dangerous divide within the ironclad 'establishment' with purported factionalism between a General Bajwa and a possible faction led by politically beholden/preferred, Lt Gen Faiz Hameed. This was unprecedentedly and unexpectedly brazen interference into the insular affairs of the Pakistani military, even by the standards of the hugely egotistical Imran. For now, the possible succession of Lt Gen Faiz Hameed as the Pakistani military chief has been checkmated, as has been the possibilities of a civilian dispensation attempting to usurp the powers of the incorrigible

(The writer, a military veteran, is a former Lt Governor of Andaman & Nicobar isianas (GHQ). Only three Prime Puducherry. The views expressed are personal.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

INDIA MUST CONSOLIDATE GAINS

Sir — While India has joined the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF), a forum to enhance cooperation among 13 countries in areas such as clean energy, supply chain resilience, decarbonisation, digital trade and infrastructure, it is seen as a counter to the RCEP, from which India has stayed away. At a time when every country is trying to secure its own economic interests. India must be wary that all IPEF members except India and the US are part of the China-backed trading agreement, the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) and yet have chosen to be a part of the US-led initiative.

The dream of a win-win situation for all members can only be realised if this framework provides a level playing field. Otherwise, it will become only a tool for the assertion of America's hegemony considering the fact that the latter's previous initiatives like Blue Dot Network and Build Back Better Initiatives had made little headway towards changing the region's infrastructural needs. India has a favourable balance of trade with the US, about \$33 billion of trade surplus from January to December 2021, the exports to America were valued at more than \$73 billion, way above imports worth around \$40 billion.

Vijay Singh Adhikari | Nainital

STRIKING THE RIGHT BALANCE

Sir — The Union Government's decision to reduce the taxes on petrol and diesel to curtail the inflation rate is strategic in nature. The cost of movement of goods and people directly adds to the cost escalation of every product and it has come to a point where the "consumption" factor gets a hit and demand automatically goes for a nosedive under compulsion. It, therefore, leads to excess supply pushing the graph further down to hit the bottom of the line, drastically affecting the economy in the long run. This price reduction and correction process was supposed

America and its gun culture



alvador Ramos, an 18-year-old gunman, opened fire at a Texas Robb Elementary School, killing at least 19 children, two are as easy to find in stores across America as grocery shopping in any country. Hence no one

adults (including a teacher) as he went from classroom to classroom. It was the deadliest school shooting since the 2012 massacre in Newtown, Conn. The US Constitution gives all its citizens the right to own a gun, and guns

to be taken up much earlier by the Government.

Taxing corporations and companies drives them away to another country, resulting in more job losses, reduction in IT revenues, more NPAs from failed businesses, and so on. While the rich must be taxed more heavily than they are now, middle income groups need to pay up their fair share. The cess collected by the Union Government is used to pay back the loans borrowed by State Governments on account of the GST revenue deficit to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. When people didn't have objection to collecting doles, they shouldn't object to paying their taxes either.

CK Subramaniam | Navi Mumbai

COURTS SHOULD DISMISS SUCH CLAIMS

affiliated religious groups, has stemmed

from the manner in which the Babri

Sir — The current situation of disgruntled communal elements trying to dig and explore mosques like Gyanvapi Masjid, saying Hindu temples existed under such structures, encouraged by politically-

is surprised that how much untrue it is that America has launched a decisive fight against terrorism, and calls itself the 'big brother' of

humanity. It may declare itself the champion of

democracy in the world, but it has never been

able to do anything to stop the prevailing gun



culture there As a result, in the last five decades, more than 1.4 million people have died due to America's gun culture. Interestingly, hours after the attack, US President Joe Biden who was in Japan appeared ready for a fight in an address to the nation. "As a nation, we have to ask when in God's name are we going to stand up to the gun lobby?" Biden asked. "Why are we willing to live with this carnage?" It remains to be seen

whether Biden will take specific action to con-

trol the powerful gun lobby. **Bidyut K Chatterjee** I *Faridabad*

Masjid was allowed to be demolished and the Supreme Court's verdict to hand over the disputed site in Ayodhya to the Hindu claimants. It is also a blunder and flagrant violation of the law by the hon-

such claims which are in contravention to the 'Places of Worship (Special Provisions)

It is an open secret that such moves are encouraged by the powers that be with a motive to reap political benefits. It is time the Supreme Court intervened, put an end to this menace and upheld the spirit of the Places of Worship Act and preserve communal peace. If this is not done urgently, India will have to lose its great name as a land of great values and heritage. Further, any more demolitions similar to that of the Babri Masjid would confirm that we too are a bunch of barbarians, like those who are said to have demolished other religious

ourable courts by repeatedly entertaining

Tharcius S Fernando | Chennai

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneér@gmail.com

I'm absolutely sure the India-US friendship will continue to be

a force for good

Generals.



Narendra Modi



I'm committed to making the US-India partnership among the closest

> **US President** — Joe Biden

People should respect that my job is not to put pictures on Instagram... It's to make good films



Thank you Roland Garros. Thank you. Mister Tennis.



French tennis professional Jo-Wilfried Tsonga

of Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann who immediately removed his Minister found involved in corruption

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SOME BRANDS ARE AGGRESSIVELY CAPITALISING ON CANCEL CULTURE

A new public sphere in a network society





UTTAM CHAKRABORTY

nderstanding cancel culture and a new public sphere are becoming imminent. Constructing and deconstructing the suitability of such culture is largely contextualized and is heavily relied on the cultural context. It has invariably attempted to redefine Jürgen Habermas' public sphere, especially the future of the public sphere in a network society. In the digital arena, the argumentative discussions on the public sphere are increasingly relevant and yet problematic. There is a little denial that public sphere is subjected to dramatic change and re-change. Reasons and passion in the public sphere are many and it has been increasingly interdisciplinary in approach. Over the years, cancel culture is getting more apparent from comedy to cricket. A product of internet culture, it has spread its wings across the globe including India. Several celebrities have faced severe backlash for their alleged deeds or narratives which were deemed offensive and inappropriate in the public. The butterfly effect of social media is adding to the cancel culture. The dark holes of disinformation are becoming rampant. The pandemic situation across the globe had added to the woes of the public. On the other hand, it has different implications in brand communication. Some brands are aggressively capitalizing on this culture and using this trend as branding. Of course, this needs to be handled with utmost care. Whether cancel culture actually works or not, it remains debatable. Cancel cul-



ture has become a common phenomenon in our society. To be precise, cancel culture means a practice of withdrawing support for public figures or companies or even against an individual after they have done or said something considered objectionable or offensive. It is generally discussed in the social media in the form of group shaming.

Cancel culture attempts to enforce some degree of accountability on an individual even though it demands a series of arguments and deliberations on the topics or individuals or institutions. This culture surfaced across nations when the #MeToo movement gained traction in 2016 in the US where people resorted to social media to cancel or boycott public personalities of repute. Last year #BanNetflix was getting viral for alleged inappropriate content. Cancel culture as a medium of showing disbelief towards a person or any organization or thought is nothing new in India. In the year 2019, the former US President Obama appealed to discard the cancel culture. The actor and activist Jameela Jamil claimed that cancel culture as pointless and is a waste of time. The names of JK Rowling and Harry Potter rose to some extent. Cancel culture has shared some common space in the pandemic and online trolling. According to reports, online hate speech rose 20% during the pandemic. However, it was often normalized in most of the circumstances.

Cancel culture has its own implications on brands and brand communication. The trolling in the Internet has become a common phenomenon. It has caused a stir in the recent times. One of the renowned jewelry apps had to face the wrath of the consumers for one of their promotional advertisements. A popular TV show anchor is being alleged trolled for not providing promotional space for a film. Cancel culture has encroached into the space of marketing and advertising. Usually, brands are politically non-partisans However, in applarisedworld, brands are slowly taking political patronage. Boycotting has become a mainstream consumer reaction. Consumers are increasingly demanding the brands to take a stand on any social or political issue. Consumers are also aware of the fact that several brands use societal issues as a marketing ploy to sell more of their product. Cancel culture is thus negotiating its space in the public sphere.

(Chakraborty is an Assistant Professor and teaches at Jaipuria Institute of Management, Lucknow.Rejikumar is working as a professor at Department of Management, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Kochi)

Pak oppression stoking Baloch 'azadi' fires



Balochs say the CPRC ignores them and is Punjab-centric. The Gwadar-Karachi route goes through developed areas of Punjab and Sind while bypassing Balochistan districts

alochistan is Pakistan's biggest occupied province, making about 14% of the country's total land area. With a coastline of 770 kilometres, Balochistan also shares borders with Iran and Afghanistan, and 40% of the world's oil travels via Gwadar port, located near the opening of the Strait of Hormuz.

Pakistan's display of unified nationalism is met with ethno-nationalist opposition from Balochs, Pashtuns and Sindhis, who have been protesting against their political and economic marginalisation since the formation of Pakistan. The Punjab-centric planning and implementa-tion of projects under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) have worsened the conflict between the state and the Azadi-seeking forces. A takeover of Gwadar port and subsequent exclusion of the Baloch firms, workers and fishermen from Gwadar-linked CPEC projects, and various developmental policies apart from exploiting its natural resources have exacerbated pre-existing secessionist sentiments in Balochistan. Furthermore, the Eastern route or alignment of the Chinese Project connects Gwadar and Karachi through the developed portions of Punjab and Sind while leaving behind several districts of Balochistan. The Baloch main-stream parties have thus opposed the pro-ject entirely and have called for complete

Further, political discrimination against the Shia Hazara community in Quetta has also been a human rights issue. Shia Hazaras are considered Iranian spies by Sunni sectarians. Restrictive practices in Rawalpindi are evident in the massacre of Shia Hazaras and their lack of mention in the national media. Nevertheless, East Pakistan (Bangladesh) was the only region to achieve liberation from all forms of tyranny.

Today, the unification of various Baloch rebel groups- Baloch Republican Army (BRA), United Baloch Army, Baloch Raji Ajoi Sangar (BRAS) to form a Baloch National Army (BNA) or the 'Azadi brigade' might result in the establishment of a Baloch territory carved out from Pakistan. If Rawalpindi increases its atrocities, the Balochs might retaliate further by calling all the Balochs in Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan to unite and form a 'Greater Balochistan'. The recent suicide bombing of Shari Baloch calls for the attention of the intensification of the freedom struggle in Baluchistan. Severaldisgruntled Pakistani factions have hailed Shari Baloch's decision to oppose the CPEC and Rawalpindi. On social media sites like Twitter, Sindhi separatists have expressed their admiration for her bravery. It is an indication thatthe Baloch National Army would expand to

include Sindhi factions in the future. Until now, the Baloch rebel groups' classic modus operandi used improvised explosive devices and hit-and-run attacks apart from the protests. Suicide bombing by Shari Baloch has commonalities with the



PAKISTAN'S **MAJOR** FOREIGN AND **SECURITY** POLICY FLAW HAS PRIMARILY BEEN AN ANTI-INDIA APPROACH. VIEWING THE **MUSHROOMING** OF JIHADIST **ORGANISATION** FROM THIS LENS, IT HAS **ONLY AIMED** TO RECEIVE AID FROM EITHER OF THE POWERS WHILE TRYING TO DESTABILISE

(The writer is an Assistant Professor at Central University of Punjab, Bathinda. The views expressed are personal.)

INDIA



Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and its affiliates. The TTP aims to establish an Islamic Emirate of Pakistan, very similar to what the Taliban did in Afghanistan. TTP recruits are primarily from the Afghanistan-Pakistan border, and thus it has sympathies with the BLA. However, a catch is that the TTP swears its allegiance to the Afghan Taliban and is backed by Al Qaeda. This makes TTP a dicey player between BLA and the Pakistan forces.

Interestingly, is it possible that TTP's leader Noor Wali Mehsud has allied with the Baloch rebels? Till now, independent acts have been carried out by TTP (North-West of Pakistan) and BLA (South of Pakistan). However, that might not be the case any longer. From a Pakistani perspective, the Afghan Taliban's takeover might have driven out the US and posed severe issues for its allies, yet, the Taliban's aspirations and capabilities to function independently of Rawalpindi cannot be ruled out. There have been statements from the Taliban "ministers" seeking an independent role in its 'national' and regional affairs. Moreover, the Taliban might have the revenge objectives of post 9/11 developments wherein Pakistan cleverly helped the U.S. crush the Taliban. One might assume that the equalled the Afghan Taliban's posi-Taliban has been going slow to oppress TTP's rearming and a resurgence for the reasons mentioned above, apart from forging alliances with Baloch rebels.

If one can recall, in the early 2010s, the Tehrik-e-Taliban Balochistan (TTB) emerged on TTP lines. TTB aspired for the complete exit of foreigners from Baluchistan apart from fighting the Pakistani security forces and

vert Pakistan into a battlefield. The organisation recruited indigenous fighting units and foreign fighters primarily of the Afghan-Pashtun tribes. However, the Baloch are traditionalists and not fundamentalists, and hence the assumptions and possibilities of TTP and BLA finding conver-

law enforcement agencies to con-

gences for their operational synergies is a strong possibility. The 'Azadi Brigade' can also be joined by the ISKP (Islamic State -Khorasan Province), proving fur-ther detrimental to Pakistan's

Although the intensity and the number of attacks against the Pakistani military establishments increased after the US exit from Afghanistan, the recent extension of the ceasefire between TTP and Pakistan, mediated through the Afghan Taliban and the Haqqani network, reminds us of 2020 when in a surprising move the truce and subsequent mergers between TTP with its splinter groups and rivals moderated by the Al-Qaida. Important groups which merged with TTP were a faction of the sectarian group Lashkar-e-Jhangvi (LeJ) and the splinter groups of TTP- Hakimullah Mehsud faction, Jama'atul-Ahrar (JuA), and its sub-splinter Hizbul-Ahrar (HuA). The mergers gave a predominant position to the TTP, which tion in Kabul. Despite ideational and strategic divergences, the ceasefire raises essential questions. Rawalpindi might be trying to establish another regional Sunni proxy terror alliance in Balochistan with Jaish ul-Adl, first to suppress the Baloch movement and second to revive the Iranian Jundullah organisation while creating instability in Sistan and Balochistan

'destructive forces'to be diverted elsewhere Whether the BLA fights along

with the TTP or Pakistan and finally succeeds in creating instabilities, the Chinese CPEC is bound to be in the doldrums for violence plays an essential role in the region. A pertinent question is whether Pakistan is playing the same game with China as it played with the U.S. in Afghanistan? By attracting the Chinese money and infrastructure toBalochistan and Iran; encouraging Iran to remain isolated while simultaneously attempting to bring the extremist group under a single umbrella to launch offensive actions against Baloch citizens, groups, as well as Iranian Baluchistan, does it not hint at the same methodology as it adopted in the last decade for ousting the US? If the violence between factions intensifies, the Chinese Projects andits citizens will be affected. In an extreme case, would not the Chinese be forced to abandon theirprojects the same way the U.S. and the NATO forces

Pakistan's major foreign and security policy flaw has primarily been an anti-India approach. Viewing the mushrooming of the Jihadist organisation from this lens, it has only aimed to receive aid from either of the powers while simultaneously trying to destabilise India. Soon, isiamadad would de a victin of its homegrown terror and might enlist as a nation that dug its own grave. Joseph Nye once stated, 'Important political leaders never just followed their interests - they were concerned about the interests of their people". Islamabad has never produced a leader of that kind. With more chaos, terror, external loans and inflation, it would not be wrong to predict that 'Azad Balochistan' would see the light of the day very soon. province.Pakistan would want the

were forced to leave their airbases?

UTTAR PRADESH IS ON TOP IF WE LOOK AT THE STATISTICS ON CRIMES AGAINST WOMEN. THE STATE GOVERNMENT IS NOT SERIOUS. — SAMAJWADI PARTY CHIEF **AKHILESH YADAV**





ANY KIND OF CRIME IS UNFORGIVABLE. THE GOVT IS TAKING STRICT ACTION... ESPECIALLY THOSE COMMITTING CRIMES AGAINST WOMEN. — CHIEF MINISTER **YOGI ADITYANATH**

Messed up post-COVID job statistics in India

MGNREGA job demand was less in 2021-22, meaning people who migrated to villages after COVID got their jobs back in urban areas

he Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) says that though the GDP has bounced back post-Covid, its biggest impact has been on employment. Employment reached only 40.18 crores in 2021-22 as against 40.89 crores in 2019-20. Unemployment which was 3.29 crore in 2019-20 reached 3.33 crore in 2021-22 — an increase of only 4 lakhs.

The CMIE concludes that though the decrease in employment has been nearly 7 million i.e. 70 lakh, the increase of unemployment is only 4 lakh, indicating that the people who got unemployed during this period have given up hope of employment and they are now

out of the race for employment. It's notable that for some time, due to some reasons, the employment related data in the



country is not being published by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO). It is natural that in the absence of official figures, the figures of institutions like CMIE get space in the media. However, their credibility is questionable.

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) guarantees at least 100 days of employment in every financial year to every rural unemployed. So, when people are unemployed, they are entitled to get 100 days of employment under MGNREGA. În such a situation, even if a person is getting casual employment anywhere and if he remains unemployed for 100 or less days, then he can seek employment under

'MGNREGA'.



employment decreased and people migrated to villages, then in those days the number of 'MGNREGA' beneficiaries This logically means that if increased to 7 crores from

lockdown. Interestingly, the period (2021-22) for which the CMIE

report is talking about a rise in unemployment, demand for MGNREGA employment was actually 6.55 percent less than the previous year. That is, it can be said that during the Corona period, people who had migrated to the villages had got employment back in the urban areas. In this sequence, if we look at the figures of April 2022, it is found that in April 2021, 2.62 crore people had sought work under 'MNREGA', whereas in April 2022, only 2.33 crore people sought work under MGNREGA, that is, a decline of 11.15 percent. Analysts believe that the fall in demand for employment under MGNRE-GA is due to increased employ-

merely 5 crores before the ment in urban areas. This figure is in stark contrast to the report published by CMIE, which says that people have moved out of the labour force, giving up the hope of employment due to the loss of employment opportunities. Instead of giving its own value judgement about unemployment, CMIE should have taken note of the MGNREGA figures to arrive at a conclusion.

The CMIE report states that even if 7.5 percent GDP growth is achieved in 2022-23, the unemployment rate will increase rather than going down. For this they talk of employment elasticity with respect to GDP. But we have to understand that the recovery after Covid in the economy is not a normal recovery. This recovery accompanies some fundamental changes in the Indian economy. All indicators of the economy are pointing towards these changes

Significantly, in the last quarter of the last financial year (2021-22), the monthly average of GST collection was 1.42 lakh crore. The unprecedented GST collection of ₹1.68 lakh crore in the first month of this financial year (April 2022), is definitely pointing towards an upsurge in the economy. In March 2022, 7.7 crore e-way bills were generated, 13 per cent more than 6.8 crore e-way bills generated in February 2022. This clearly shows a sharp recovery in the economy.

Significantly, due to the shortage of semiconductors in the country, many of our industries including automobile, electronics, telecom have been

GST revenue is indicating an uptick in manufacturing in the economy. It is true that imports have also increased during this period, due to which the revenue of GST has increased, but where the revenue of GST has reached ₹1.68 lakh crore, the share of import GST in this revenue is ₹36705 crore, which is greater than import GST of March 2021 by 5608 crores only. It's notable that import GST in March 2021 was ₹31097 crore. This implies that domestic businesses have definitely grown during this period, resulting into this huge increase in GST. The Government should

affected. Despite that, rising

soon publish robust official NSSO data and present the correct picture of employment in the country.

(The writer is Professor, PGDAV College, University of Delhi. The views expressed are personal.)

Families mourn, worry in wake of US school shooting



Tuesday's attack at Robb

Elementary School in the town

of Uvalde began to emerge. One

man at the civic centre walked

away sobbing into his phone "she is gone". On the backside of

the building, a woman stood by

herself, alternately crying and

yelling into her phone, shaking

her fist and stamping her feet.

Safety Lt Christopher Olivarez

told CNN on Wednesday morn-

ing that all the dead were in the

same fourth-grade classroom,

where the shooter barricaded

himself and opened fire on the

O.S.No. 917 of 2020 and I.A.No.311 of 2021

AND

Sri Anil Sharma, S/o. Sri Bachan Sharma, aged 45 years, Occ: Business, R/o. H.No.E374,

New Delhi-110078. ...Respondent/Defendant

The Plaintiff filed above suit against you, for recovery of Rs. 1,50,153-90ps (Rupees One lakh

fifty thousand one hundred and lifty three and paise ninety only) due under credit card together with service tax, Service tax and interest @

2.95% per month and costs and I.A.No. 311 of 2020 is filed for amendment of cause title as "Union Bank of India" in the place of Andhra

Bank" at the appropriate places in the cause title

and pleadings. Take notice that the suit and I.A. stand posted to 14-06-2022, for your appearance in person or through duly appointed Advocate at 10.30 AM and if you fail to so appear,

the amendment petition and the suit will be decided on merits, in your absence.

IBY ORDER OF THE COURT!

(S. VIKRAMADITYA BABU)

Counsel for the Plaintiff H.No. 16-11-16/T/5, West Prasanthnagar Colony,

Gaur Atulyam AoA Invites quotations from compar

ies/vendors / firms engaged in following services:

1. Overall facility services (including

housekeeping, security & technical services).

Accounting firms for the overall management

3. CA firm for the Statutory Audit of our AoA for

Quotations to be submitted: - Secretary, Gau

Omicron- I, Greater Noida, 201310, in a seale

7042098337, Secretary.atulyam2022@gmail.com

envelopes latest by 6 pm on 01 June 2022.

Contact person for Site inspection / Query: Dr. D. N. Yadav, Secretary, GAAOA, Mob.

Atulvam Apartment Owners Association

of day to day accounts.

the F Y 2021-22 & 2022-23.

Moosarambagh, Hyderabad-500036

harat Vihar, Near Kali Mandir, Kakrola,

.Petitioner/Plaintiff

Union Bank of India, [A Govt. of India undertaking] [formerly] Andhra Bank,

Credit Card Division

Head Office, Koti, Hyderabad, rep. by its Sr. Manager [Law].

Texas Department of Public



AP UVALDE (US)

istraught families gathered at a local civic centre and turned to social media to mourn and to make desperate pleas for help finding missing children as the death toll in a gruesome school shooting at a Texas elementary school rose to at least 19 students and two teachers. By nightfall, names of those killed during

Public Notice
This is to inform general public that Smt. Sunita Garg has acquired the Property bearing No. 495. New No. 495-A, area measuring 90 Sq. yds., i.e., 75.24 Sq. meters., Situated at Village Ghondli in the abadi of Cali No. 10, West Kanti Nagar, Illaga Shahdara Delhi-110051 vide Sale Deed dated Delhi-170051 vide Sale Deed dated 08.05.2012, reg. as doc. no. 8423 executed by Smt. Om Kali, and Now, Smt. Sunita Garg is intending to sell the above said property to Mr. Manoj vide Sale Deed. Further Mr. Manoj is mortgaging the above said property with Fullerton India Home Finance Co. Ltd. & in case anyone has any objection, the same may be raised within 07 days of this publication to Mr. Muneesh Dhawan/ Mr. Sudhir Jain (Advocates), Law Veritas, Unit no 907, 9th Floor, GD-ITL Tower, (B-08), Netaji Subhash Place, Delhi-110034 or contact at 9066707172/9818228636 (M).

PUBLIC NOTICE

singh R/O B-65, Block-B, Bhgwant Garde Extention, DK Mohan Garden, Delhi-11005 bearing RZ-27-K Second Floor, Khasra No. 676/272 West Sagar Pur New Delhi. His back chain sale deed dated 07.01.2015 doe no. 203 chain sale deed dated 07.01.2015 doc no. 203 has been lost. This property is under sale which is going to be Mortgage with IIFL HOME FINANCE Ltd by purchaser. Any person/bank/financial institution having and talim/right, lien any objection whatsoever in regard to above property, should notified to the undersigned/Adv. Vishal Mehan, E-713, Karkardooma Coust. Dail: 110002.45 cm. sit. Karkardooma Court, Delhi-110092 along with documentary evidence under address through registered A/D within 15 days from the date o ublication of this notice failing which an laim, lien or objection shall be deemed to ha

Visha Mehan (Advoc: Ch. No. E-713, Katkordooma Co Delhi-110092

LOST & FOUND

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned to the public in general that Original Transfer Deed registered on13.09.2017 executed by Mr. Jagdish Lal in favour of his wife Mrs. Manju Mendiratta (Registered as Document No. 1676) pertaining to Plot bearing No. 6 measuring 147 sq. yds. out of 247 sq. yds. being part of Industrial Plot No. 27, NIT, Fariďabad has been mislaid/lost If found, Kindly contact the undersigned

MANJU MENDIRATTA Mobile No.: 9873237731

ADDRESS: 3D, 108 NIT, NH3, NEAR ESI HOSPITAL, FARIDABAD -121001

जन साधारण को सूचित किया जाना है कि श्रीस्त्री कमलेश घली औ लाकक प्रम प्रतिमान में 50.00 वर्ग गंज अपांत 41.80 वर्ग मील: के आयानीय मुखंड की मारिक हो जो जबता नं, 70.37 स. मान क्रुस्ता, गरणना बारी, तास्त्रीत और फिला गीलम दुव लगर, उत्तर प्रदेश में रिश्यत हो बिक्री विशेक्त दिनोक 29.01.2016 के आजार पर, स्तराकेश के बना मितियन पर्वोक्तन मेंत्र 1988, कुक नंदग 1, किंदन संख्या 19447, पेज नंबर 181–292, दिनांक 29.01.2016, उपार्ट्याच्या निक्ता होत्री मार्चित है की पर की प्रिमाण कुमार को बेचगे का इस्तार प्रवासी है, और करियन हींड्या होग लोग विरोध का ब्राह्म को बेचगे का इस्तार प्रवासी है, और करियन हींड्या होग लोग होत्या देशका रम्मानीतर है। उत्तर संयोध में जून दरनाकेश जो भी स्थान कुमार पुत्री मीद प्रकाश मार्च झार भोगनी गीला देवी पहली औं गरेश कुमार के पात्र में गिम्पादित मूल बिक्री दिलेश दिलांक 23.05,2012, विधिवस केशकत नंबर 10550, कुमांकर 3.05,2012,उपनिधास मेटन ने प्रतिकृत है कि स्तार में है के स्तार की प्रधानी होता है के स्तार की स्तार की

ह। यदि किसी भी व्यक्ति को इस संपत्ति में कोई आपत्ति या दावा है, तो नीचे दिए गए प पर इस नोटिल की तारीखा से 15 दिनों में अघोहस्लाक्षरी से संपर्क करें, ऐसा न हो पर, यह माना जाएगा कि उपरोक्त संपत्ति के संबंध में कोई दावा या मुखे नहीं हैं।

PUBLIC NOTICE A notice of intended marriage has beer received from Mr. Rupam Chaudhury s/c latePareshChandra Chaudhury r/o 794 LatePareshChandra Chaudhury r/o 794, Arun Vihar, Sector29, NOIDA (UP) and Ms Rodingliani d/o Thangliana, r/o 23, Champhai Zote, Dist: Champhai, Mizoram Vihar, Sector29, NOIDA (UP) in the office of the undersigned. Any person interested therein, may file objections to it on any day upto 16-06-2022 in the office of the

Deputy Collector/ I/C City Magistrate, Marriage Officer, NOIDA, Gautam Budh

OFFICE OF THE TEHSILDAR NAGRI PAROLE

Email:- Tehsilnagriparole@gmail.com Whereas, as per the Jamabandy for the year 2019-20 Smt. Sudershan Vaid D/o Fakir Chad R/o A/p Kathua is recorded as the owner of the land measuring 10 Kanal 13 Marla under Khewat No. 72 located at village Matore, Tehsil Nagri Parole

District Kathua; Whereas, this office has received an application from Sh. Anil Mehta S/o Sudershan Mehta (mother) R/o 2/2D Gali No-8 Eas Azad Nagar Dehli -110051, for attestation of inheritance mutation of Smt. Sudershan Vaid @ Sudershan Mehta for the above said land in favor of the legal heirs of the deceased;

Whereas, as per death certificate annexed with the application issued from Govt. of National Capital Territory of Delhi, East Dehli Muncipal Corporation vide no. MCDOLIR-3118 004881169, Smt. Sudershan Mehta has expired on 26/07/2018 Whereas, as per the legal heir certificate annexed with the application, issued by Tehsildar Vivek Vihar vide No.

90000000	r137954 the legal fields of above s	aid deceased are
S.No	Name of Legal Heirs	Relationship
1.	Smt. Kanika Mehta	Grand Daughter
2.	Smt. Seema Mehta	Daughter-in-Law
3.	Sh. Akash Mehta	Grand Son
4.	Sh. Anil Mehta	Son
5.	Sh. Ashok Mehta	Son

Whereas, the undersigned has to attest the inheritance mutation of above said deceased, in respect of the above said land, favour of the above mentioned legal heirs of the deceased;

In view of above facts it is hereby informed through the medium of this notice that any person / persons having objection / objections regarding the death of Smt. Sudershan Mehta @ Sudershan Vaid, above mentioned legal heir of the deceased or the attestation of mutation of the above said deceased in favour of the above said legal heirs can file his / her objections personally or through any authorized person before this office within 15 days from the publication of this notice failing which is shall be presumed that there is no objection regarding the attestation of said mutation.

No. DIP/J/1950/22

Sd/- Tehsildar, Nagri Parole.

children and teachers. Manny those wonderful things about her Renfro said he got word Tuesday that She is definitely going to be very

> Ybarra prepared to give blood for the wounded and pondered how no one noticed trouble with the shooter in time to stop him.

Amber Ybarra, of San Antonio.

missed," said 34-year-old relative

"To me, it's more about raising mental health awareness," said Ybarra, a wellness coach who attended the elementary school where the shooting happened. "Someone could possibly have seen a dramatic change before something like this happened."

Lisa Garza, 54, of Arlington, Texas, mourned the death of her it exactly like we practiced."
Fourth-grade teacher Eva cousin, Xavier Javier Lopez, who had been eagerly awaiting a summer of swimming. "He was just a loving 10loving mother and wife. "She was adventurous. I would definitely say year-old little boy, just enjoying life, not knowing that this tragedy was going to happen today," she said. "He was very bubbly, loved to dance with his brothers, his mom. This has just taken a toll on all of us." She also lamented what she described as lax gun laws.

"We should have more restrictions, especially if these kids are not in their right state of mind and all they want to do is just hurt people, especially innocent children going to the schools," Garza said.

On social media, pictures of smiling children were posted, their families begging for information. Classes had been winding down for the year and each school day had a theme. Tuesday's was Footloose and Fancy. Students were supposed to wear a nice outfit with fun or fancy shoes.

Adolfo Cruz, a 69-year-old air conditioning repairman, remained outside the school Tuesday night, waiting for word about his 10-year-old great-granddaughter, Eliajha Cruz Torres, whose whereabouts remained unknown to family.

Cruz drove to the scene after receiving a tearful and terrifying call from his daughter shortly after the first reports that an 18-year-old gunman had opened fire at the school.

While he waited outside the school Tuesday night, his family was at the hospital and civic centre waiting for any potential word on her condition. Cruz called the waiting the heaviest moment of his life. "I hope she is alive," Cruz said. "They are waiting for an update."

Federico Torres waited for news about his 10-year-old son Rogelio. He told KHOU-TV that he was at work when he learned about the shooting and rushed to the school. "They sent us to the hospital, to the civic centre, to the hospital and here again, nothing, not even in San Antonio. Torres said. "They don't tell us anything, only a photo, wait, hope that everything is well."

Description of secured asset

(immovable property)

Biden: When are we going to stand up to gun lobby?

AP WASHINGTON

Dresident Joe Biden delivered an Pemotional call for new restrictions on firearms after a gunman opened fire at a Texas elementary school on Tuesday. "When in God's name are we going to stand up to the gun lobby?" Biden said at the White House shortly after returning from a five-day trip to Asia that was bookended by tragedy.

With first lady Jill Biden standing by his side in the Roosevelt Room, Biden added, "I am sick and tired. We have to act."

At least 18 students were killed, according to a state senator who said he was briefed by law enforcement, in addition to a teacher.

Just two days before Biden left on his trip, he met with victims' families after a hate-motivated shooter killed 10 Black people at a grocery store in Buffalo, New York. The back-to-back tragedies served as sobering reminders the frequency brutality of an American epidemic of mass gun violence. "These kinds of mass shootings rarely happen anywhere else in the world," Biden said. "Why?" He directed that American flags be flown at half-staff through sunset Saturday in honor of the victims in Texas. Vice President Kamala Harris said earlier that people normally declare in moments like this, "our hearts break — but our hearts keep getting broken ... And our broken hearts are nothing compared to the broken hearts of



"We have to have the courage to take action ... To ensure something like this never happens again," she said. White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said Biden was briefed on the shooting by deputy chief of staff Jen O'Malley-Dillon and other members of his senior team aboard Air Force One.

Shortly before landing in Washington, Biden spoke with Texas Gov. Greg Abbott from the presidential plane to offer any and all assistance he needs in the wake of the horrific shooting in Uvalde, TX," White House communications director Kate Bedingfield tweeted.

'Humbled' Boris

apologises for

@ Piramal

his grandson, 8-year-old Uziyah

ever known," Renfro said. "I'm not

just saying that because he was my

"The sweetest little boy that I've

Renfro said Uziyah last visited

him in San Angelo during spring

break. "We started throwing the

football together and I was teaching

him pass patterns. Such a fast little

boy and he could catch a ball so

good," Renfro said. "There were cer-

tain plays that I would call that he

would remember and he would do

Mireles, 44, was remembered as a

Name of the Borrower(s)/

Garcia, was among those killed.

Registered Office Address: Unit No.601, 6th Floor Piramal Amiti Building, Piramal Agastya Corporate Park, Kamani Junction, Opp Fire Station, LBS Marg, Kurla (West), Mumbai-400 070. CIN: L65910MH1984PLC032639, Webside:www.piramalfinance.com Branch Address: Dhiraj Baug, Building "A" Ground & 1st Floor, Beside Axis Bank, Opp. Monalisa Building, Agra Road, Hari Niwas Circle, Naupada, Thane (West) – 400 602.

DEMAND NOTICE

Under Section 13(2) of the Security Interest Act, 2002 read with Rule 3 (1) of the Security Interest Act, 2002 read with Rule 3 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. The undersigned is the Authorised Officer of Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Limited (PCHFL) [formerly known as Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Ltd.(DHFL)] under Securitisation And Reconstruction Of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (the said Act, In exercise Jowers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Authorised Officer has issued Demand Notices under said Act read with role 3 of me security interest (Enforcement) Muley, 2002, the Authorised Officer has issued bemand Notices under Section 13(2) of the said Act, calling upon the following Borrower(s) (the "said Borrower(s)"), to repay the amounts mentioned in the respective Demand Notice(s) issued to them that are also given below. In connection with above, notice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower(s) to pay to PCHFL, within 60 days from the publication of this Notice, the amounts indicated herein below, together with further interest as detailed in the said Demand Notice(s), from the date(s) mentioned below till the date of payment and/or realization, payable under the loan agreement read with other documents/writings, if any, executed by the said Borrower(s). As security for due repayment of the loan, the following assets have been mortgaged to PCHFL by the said Borrower(s) respectively.

Demand Notice Date and Amount with NPA date

(LC No. 00001321 of New Delhi-west Branch) Rakesh Kumar (Borrower) Meera (Co Borrower 1)	26-04-2022 /₹ 1333479 /-(₹ Thirteen lakh Thirty Three Thousand Four Hundred Seventy Nine Only) NPA (11-03-2022)	Plot No-8503, Ground Floor, Front Side Gali Abdullah Beg, Near Jaipur Golden Arya Pura, Subzi Mandi New Delhi New Delhi Delhi :- 110007
(LC No. 00008918 of Akola Branch) Dilip Pandurang Chavan (Borrower) Sunita Chavan (Co Borrower 1)	26-04-2022 /₹ 1143444 /-(₹ Eleven lakh Forty Three Thousand Four Hundred Forty Four Only) NPA (11-03-2022)	plot no. 43 east part sr.no. 7 wankhade nagar, dabki road nr. shriram tower Akola Akola Maharashtra :- 444006
(LC No. 00001724 of New Delhi-west Branch) Amit Harjai (Borrower) Simmi Harjai (Co Borrower 1)	26-04-2022 /₹ 1031197 /-(₹ Ten lakh Thirty One Thousand One Hundred Ninety Seven Only) NPA (11-03-2022)	1st Floor, H. No. 114 Block Hp Pitam Pura Delhi New Delhi Delhi :- 110034
(LC No. 00000500 of Dwarka Branch) Vinod Saini (Borrower) Neelam Devi (Co Borrower 1)	26-04-2022 /₹ 902921 /-(₹ Nine lakh Two Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty One Only) NPA (11-03-2022)	Rz-22a,3rd Floor (front & Northern Side) Gali No-9, Kh No-645 Part Of Kh 645/2 Indra Park,Village Nasirpur New Delhi New Delhi Delhi :- 110045
(LC No. 00002459 of Noida Branch) Vijaya Kumar (Borrower) Omana T (Co Borrower 1) Vistar Enterprises (Co Borrower 2)	25-04-2022 / \$371934 /- (\$Three lakh Seventy One Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty Four Only) NPA (10-12-2021)	Flat Nof-1,1st Floor Front Side,prop. No-f-18, khasra No. 1076/5/2/519,village Jhilmil Tahirpur, Dilshad Colony, Delhi New Delhi Delhi :- 110002
(LC No. 00004951 of New Delhi Branch) Satinder Singh Nijhawan (Borrower) Taranpreet Singh Nijhawan (Co Borrower 1) Jaswant Kaur (Co Borrower 2)	26-04-2022 /₹ 11886903 /-{₹ One Crore Eighteen lakh Eighty Six Thousand Nine Hundred Three Only) NPA (11-03-2022)	Plot No. M- 61, Ground Floor Village Basai Darapur, Block- M Kirti Nagar, New Delhi New Delhi Delhi :- 110015
(LC No. 00041411 of Delhi - Pitampura Branch) Naveen Kasera (Borrower) Neeta Aggarwal (Co Borrower 1) Taran Aggarwal (Co Borrower 2)	26-04-2022 /₹ 6547331 /-(₹ Sixty Five lakh Forty Seven Thousand Three Hundred Thirty One Only) NPA (11-03-2022)	Flat No-315, Third Floor Printer Appartments (printer C.g.h.s Ltd) Block-c-2 , Sector-13 Rohini, Delhi New Delhi Delhi :- 110085
(LC No. 00041568 of Delhi - Safdurjung Branch) Sanjay Martin (Borrower) Arpana Sanjay Martin (Co Borrower 1)	26-04-2022 /₹ 5596133 /-(₹ Fifty Five lakh Ninety Six Thousand One Hundred Thirty Three Only) NPA (11-03-2022)	Plot No 1 2nd Floor Without Roof Right Road No F 8 Malviya Nagar Delhi New Delhi Delhi :- 110017
(LC No. 00000861 of Raj Nagar Branch) Anil Kumar Singh (Borrower) Arti Singh (Co Borrower 1)	26-04-2022 /₹ 3728822 /-(₹ Thirty Seven lakh Twenty Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty Two Only) NPA (11-03-2022)	Flat No- C 4 Second Floor middle Rhs plot No. 4/10 Block 4 Sector2 Rajendra Nagar Ghaziabad Ghaziabad Uttar Pradesh:- 201010
(LC No. 00001030 of Cannaught Place Branch) Rajwinder (Borrower) Pinki (Co Borrower 1)	26-04-2022 /₹ 3203654 /-(₹ Thirty Two lakh Three Thousand Six Hundred Fifty Four Only) NPA (11-03-2022)	Khasra No. 123/13, Entire Property Extended Lal Dora Village Burari New Delhi North West Delhi Delhi :- 110084
(LC No. 00000585 of Gurgaon Branch) Vikram Singh Nagar (Borrower) Kartar Singh Nagar (Co Borrower 1)	26-04-2022 /₹ 2660644 /-(₹ Twenty Six lakh Sixty Thousand Six Hundred Forty Four Only) NPA (11-03-2022)	Flat No 176 Ground Floor Sector 16 Vasundhra Ghaziabad Ghaziabad Uttar Pradesh :- 201010
(LC No. 00001650 of Netaji Subhash Place Branch) Deepak Pathak (Borrower) Poonam Kumari Singh (Co Borrower 1)	26-04-2022 /₹ 2456003 /-(₹ Twenty Four lakh Fifty Six Thousand Three Only) NPA (11-03-2022)	Property No. Rz F 30a 3rd Floor, Khasra No-22/17, Block-f Village Dabri, Sagarpur, New Delhi New Delhi Delhi :- 110046
(LC No. 00044460 of Delhi - Safdurjung Branch) Rozy (Borrower) Khairati Lal Chawla (Co Borrower 1)	26-04-2022 /₹ 2406286 /-{₹ Twenty Four lakh Six Thousand Two Hundred Eighty Six Only) NPA (11-03-2022)	P.No.A-130/1,First Floor, kh no-903, Gali No.03, Village. Nawada, Gulab Bagh, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi New Delhi Delhi :- 110059
(LC No. 00002063 of Raj Nagar Branch) Arun Kumar (Borrower) Nisha (Co Borrower 1)	26-04-2022 / \$1869093 /- (\$Eighteen lakh Sixty Nine Thousand Ninety Three Only) NPA (11-03-2022)	Plot No 54 2nd Floor With Roof Rights Kh No 1580/2 Kailash Puram Phase 2 Vill Raispur Dasna Ghaziabad Ghaziabad Uttar Pradesh:- 201005
(LC No. 00043670 of Delhi - Safdurjung Branch) Anil Kumar (Borrower) Mamta (Co Borrower 1)	26-04-2022 /₹ 1746475 /-(₹ Seventeen lakh Forty Six Thousand Four Hundred Seventy Five Only)	Plot No-rzf-1/5,ugf Lhs,old Plot No11&12 Khasra No-88/3, Village Palam,gali No-1, Mahavir Enclave

If the said Borrowers shall fail to make payment to PCHFL as aforesaid, PCHFL shall proceed against the above secured assets under Section 13(4) of the Act and the applicable Rules, entirely at the risks of the said Borrowers as to the costs and consequences. The said Borrowers are prohibited under the Act from transferring the aforesaid assets, whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of PCHFL. Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions of the said Act or Rules made there under, shall be liable for imprisonment and/or penalty as provided under the Act.

NPA (11-03-2022)

Date: 26-05-2022

(Authorised Officer)
Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Limited

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

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

Whereas

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

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.)		
1.	Vikas Singh/ Abha Singh/ LBDEL00003758879	Flat No-T-4-706, 7th Floor, Tower-T-4, Nirala Estate Phase-1, GH-04, Techzone-IV, Greater Noida West, Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh/ May 23, 2022	August 13, 2020/ Rs.20,95,095/-	Delhi/ NCR	
2.	Rajesh Kapoor/ Riya Kapoor/ LBNOD00002006011	Plumeria Garden Estate, Flat-N1801, 18th Floor, Greater Noida/ May 23, 2022	August 18, 2020/ Rs.47,49,796/-	Delhi/ NCR	
3.	Mukesh Singh/ Kiran/ LBDEL00002378475	Flat No-0207, 2nd Floor, Block-C2, Delight Residences, Khasara No. 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 697/210, Vill- Tapukara, The-Tijara, Distt-Alwar, Bhiwadi/ May 24, 2022	December 13, 2021/ Rs.18,42,491/-	Delhi/ NCR	
4.	Sanjay Drall/ Poonam/ LBGUR00003296834	Flat No 201, 2nd Floor, Tower C3, Delight Residences, Tapukara, Bhiwadi-301019/ May 24, 2022	December 13, 2021/ Rs.14,85,819/-	Delhi/ NCR	
5.	Ravinder Kumar/ Sarita Sharma/ LBDEL00002385356	Unit No P SF 08, 2nd Floor, Plot No A-56 & A-57, Riico Capital High Street, Bhiwadi/ May 24, 2022	October 16, 2021/ Rs.10,33,479/-	Delhi/ NCR	
6.	Susheel Kumar/ Suraksha Rani/ LBDEL00001953102	Flat No-A4/904, Block-A-4, Avalon Residency, Alwar Bypass Road, Bhiwadi, Distt-Alwar/ May 24, 2022	October 05, 2021/ Rs.8,45,979/-	Delhi/ NCR	

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

Date: May 26, 2022 Place: Delhi NCR

Authorized Officer **ICICI Bank Limited**

China wants 10 Pacific nations to endorse sweeping agreement also mentions the possibility of

AP WELLINGTON NEW 7FALAND

hina wants 10 small Pacific Cnations to endorse a sweeping agreement covering everything from security to fisheries in what one leader warns is a "game-changing" bid by Beijing to wrest control of the region.

A draft of the agreement obtained by The Associated Press shows that China wants to train Pacific police officers, team up on "traditional and non-traditional security" and expand law enforcement cooperation. China also wants to jointly develop a marine plan for fisheries — which would include the Pacific's lucrative tuna catch increase cooperation on running the region's internet networks, and set up cultural Confucius Institutes and classrooms, China

 $N^{
m orth}$ Korea test-launched a suspected intercontinental

ballistic missile and two short-

er-range weapons toward its

eastern waters on Wednesday,

South Korea said, hours after

President Joe Biden ended a

trip to Asia where he reaffirmed the US commitment to

defend its allies in the face of

n't fly its full range. But if con-

firmed, it would still be North

Korea's first test of an ICBM

system in about two months

amid stalled nuclear diploma-

cy with the United States. The

launch suggests North Korea is

determined to continue its

efforts to modernize its

weapons arsenal despite its

The suspected ICBM did-

the North's nuclear threat.

setting up a free trade area with the Pacific nations. China's move comes as

Foreign Minister Wang Yi and a 20-strong delegation begin a visit to the region this week. Wang is visiting seven of the countries he hopes will endorse

the "Common Development Vision" — the Solomon Islands, Kiribati, Samoa, Fiji, Tonga, Vanuatu, and Papua New Guinea. Wang is also holding virtual meetings with the other three potential signatories — the Cook Islands, Niue and the Federated States of Micronesia. He is hoping the countries will endorse the pre-written agreement as part of a joint communique after a scheduled May 30 meeting in Fiji he is holding with the foreign ministers from each of the 10 countries

which has caused outside wor-

ries about a humanitarian dis-

provocations can only result in

stronger and faster South

Korea-U.S. Combined deter-

rence and can only deepen

North Korea's international

isolation," the South Korean

government said in a statement

after an emergency security

Nobuo Kishi called the launch-

es "an act of provocation and absolutely impermissible." The US Indo-Pacific Command

earlier said the missile launch-

es highlight "the destabilizing impact of (North Korea's) illic-

it weapons program" though

they didn't pose an immediate

threat to US territory and its

Japanese Defense Minister

meeting.

"North Korea's sustained

Seoul: N Korea fires suspected

ICBM, 2 other missiles

PTI ■ LONDON

partygate

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson on Wednesday issued another apology over partygate after top civil servant Sue Gray's damning report into breaches of coronavirus lockdown rules at Downing Street concluded leadership failures were behind a culture of rulebreaking within UK government offices.

Making a statement in the House of Commons soon after Gray's findings were published, Johnson said he took "full responsibility" for everything that happened and said all the senior management has changed within Downing Street since the time of those rule-breaking parties in 2020-2021. Amid jeers and benches, the prime minister insisted his statement is aimed at setting out the context, not to mitigate or excuse what happened. "I am humbled and I have learned a lesson...I also want to say above all that I take full responsibility for everything that took place on my watch," said Johnson.

"Whatever the failing of No. 10 [Downing Street] and the Cabinet Office throughout this difficult period and my own, I continue to believe the civil servants and advisers... Are good, hard working people motivated... To do the very best for our country," he said. He went on to explain how he thought it was "appropriate" to thank staff who were leaving for the work they had done, with reference to a particular farewell drinks party that was found to have been in breach of COVID

first COVID-19 outbreak, Marcos Jr proclaimed next Philippine Prez with huge win

Ferdinand Marcos Jr. Was proclaimed the next president of the Philippines by a joint session of Congress on Wednesday following a landslide election triumph 36 years after his dictator father was ousted in a pro-democracy uprising. The Senate and House of

Representatives also declared that his separately elected vice presidential running mate, Sara Duterte, had won by a wide margin. She is the daughter of outgoing President Rodrigo Duterte, whose turbulent sixyear term ends on June 30.

They will lead a nation battered by COVID-19 lockdowns, crushing poverty, gaping inequality, Muslim and communist insurgencies, crime and political divisions further



Marcos Jr., a 64-year-old former governor, congressman and senator, has refused to acknowledge or apologise for massive human rights violations and plunder under his father's strongman rule and has defended his legacy.

When they take office, Marcos Jr. And Sara Duterte will likely face demands to prosecute her father over thousands of killings of mostly poor suspects under his yearslong crackdown on illegal drugs. The deaths are currently under investigation

Marcos Jr. Received more than 31 million votes and Sara Duterte more than 32 million out of more than 55 million votes cast in the election. It was the first majority presidential victory in the Asian democracy in decades.

During the campaign, they avoided controversial issues and focused on a call for national unity, although their fathers' presidencies opened some of the most volatile divisions in the country's history. Marcos Jr. Appealed to be judged "not by my ancestors, but by my actions".

Sen. Imee Marcos, the president-elect's sister, thanked those who voted for her brother after what she described as years of humiliation.

Ukrainian town of Pokrovsk

AP POKROVSK (UKRAINE)

The Russian rocket strikes came early in the morning in the eastern Ukrainian town of Pokrovsk on Wednesday, shaking buildings, jolting people out of bed and sending chunks of concrete and jagged pieces of metal flying through

One of the two rockets left a crater at least three metres deep, remnants of the projectile still smoldering as nearby residents picked through the debris of their homes, trying to salvage whatever they could.

A row of low terraced houses nearby suffered significant damage, with roofing tiles blown off, door frames ripped from the walls and pieces of brick, concrete and asphalt scattered on the ground. Four civilians were wounded, said Pavlo Kyrylenko, head of the Donetsk military administration.

At least one of them suffered a head wound and was ferried to the local hospital by ambulance, blood seeping through the bandages and trickling down the side of his

The strikes in Pokrovsk were among several over the past two days that have hit towns and villages as Russia pressed forward in its offensive in the Donbas, Ukraine's eastern industrial heartland.

"There's no place left to live in, everything is smashed," said Viktoria Kurbonova, a mother-of-two who lived in one of the terraced houses.

The windows had been blown out by an earlier strike about a month ago, and they had replaced them with plastic sheeting. That, she said, probably saved their lives as at least there was no glass flying

She had been asleep when the strike hit, just metres from her house. "There was a really big flash and a lot of dust, Kurbonova said, standing outside her home still in her paja-



mas, her legs and arms black

Her four-year-old son wandered around, clutching a toy

train, while her two-year-old daughter smiled in a stroller "I was reaching for my child and I couldn't find him in

the dust," she said. The boy had been sleeping in the same room as her, while her daughter had been in the next room with Kurbonova's mother. They were all shaken, but none were Kyrylenko said Russian

strikes killed 12 civilians the previous day in the Donetsk region, and wounded another 10. Another strike on the city of Kramatorsk, northeast of Pokrovsk, hit a multi-story building under construction, damaging it and blowing out windows in nearby buildings but causing no casualties.

"Russians continue hitting the cities that are away from the front line," Kyrylenko said on his Telegram channel. "They would like to kill as many civilians as possible and cause panic. That is why the only good choice is evacuation. acuation saves lives.

The governor of the neighbouring Luhansk region, Serhiy Haidai, said at least six civilians had been killed and eight wounded over the past 24 hours in shelling in the town of Sieverodonetsk, at the heart of the Russian offensive in eastern

Russian forces have been attempting to encircle Sieverodonetsk and cut off

LATEJAGAN SINGH R/O C-415 SECTOR-22, NOIDA, DIST GAUTAM BUDH NAGAR, UTTAR PRADESH, shall be mutated on the basis of Will Deed to the following

CHAUHAN BOTH S/O LATE VIKRAM SINGH RANA R/O C 415 SECTOR 22, NOIDA, DISTT. GAUTAM BUDH NAGAR UTTAR PRADESH, if someone has/have any objection h Mr. Joginder Singh Rana and Mr. Dharmendra Chauhan, sons of Late Vikram Singh Rana, resident o

2007, applications are invited from general public of Delhi who fulfill the conditions laid down in rule-19 & 20 of DCS Rules, 2007 for filling up one vacancy in Raman Vihal CGHS Ltd. (Regd. No. 872GH) for proposed three bedroom flat (Tentative cost of flat 87,31,610/-) (having area approximate 1750 Sq. Feet), which ha arisen due to resignation of member interested persons can collect the application form in person from society office ie Plot No.5A, Sector-11, Dwarka. New Delhi-1 10075 between 10.00 am to 4.30 pm free of cost and the same have to deposited along with the amount of Rs 87,31,610/- which includes Share money admission fee, land &Construction mone and Equalization money through Pa order/ Demand Draft within 15 day Vihar Co-operative Group Housing Society Ltd

PUBLIC NOTICE 79, Block-A, Sector-30, Noida, has been allotted in the name of Surender Kumar S/o Shri Kashmiri Lal R/o 283/53A, Vishnu Garden, New Delhi presently residing at 1/265, Subash Nagar (Opp. Aianta Cinema) New Delhi, had sold/transfer the said property, on the basis of GPA to the following

. The GPA of the above said property has been executed by the original allottee in favour of Gurcharan Ahuja S/o Shri Sant Lal Ahuja R/o House No. 370, First Floor, Chandi Wali Gali, Pahar Ganj, New Delhi-110055 which is registered in the office of Sub Registrar Noida Vide Block No.Volume No...... on pages...... to...... at Document No.........dated

16.11.1987 and the Agreement to Sell of the above said property was executed by the original allottee in tavour of Shri Sant Lai Ahuja S/o Late Shri Gurdass Mal Ahula & Smt. Raj Kumari Ahuja W/o Shri Sant Lal Ahuja both R/o House No. 927 Sector-28, Noida registered in the office of Sub Registrar Noida Vide Block No.Volume on pages...... to......at Document ...dated 16.11.1987. At present the agreement to sell holders Shri Sant Lal Ahuia expired on 22.04.2019 & Smt. Rai Kumari Ahuia

Now the above said property is going to be transferred in favour of Pramod Ahuja & Sunil Ahuja both S/o Late Shri Sant Lal Ahuja Both R/o A-79, Sector-30, Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P. through the GPA, if any one has/have any objection he/she may submit his/her, objection in the Residential Plot Department of Noida Authority along-with sufficient proofs

AP ■ BAKHMUT (UKRAINE)

Saving the children:

eastern Ukrainian town

War closes in on

hunks of thick, twisted Cmetal and wood splinters lie among the swings and slides in the playground outside a bombed-out school. Some streets away, a yellow bathtub dangles over the void left when part of an apartment building collapsed in a bomb-

The eastern Ukrainian town of Bakhmut has been coming under increasing bombardment in Russia's war, particularly over the last week, local officials and residents say, as Russian forces try to press forward in an effort to encircle and capture the key city of Sieverodonetsk to the north-

Moscow-backed separatists have fought Ukrainian forces in the Donbas for eight years and hold large swaths of territory. Sieverodonetsk and neighboring cities are the only part of the Donbas' Luhansk region still under Ukrainian government control.

Most of Bakhmut's population has already fled, and more are leaving every day. Evacuation minibuses run mainly by volunteers shuttle back and forth, sometimes even during bombardments, to get people out.

"Now it's a question of saving the children," said Olga Hordiyenko, 51, as she stood in a playground on Tuesday near her apartment building. "The Russians are shelling us,

so there's this burning issue to get the children out of here.'

Ignoring the repeated background sounds of shelling, her three grandchildren, girls ages 7, 9 and 11, focused on learning dance moves from a video on their mother's mobile phone.

Hordiyenko and her daughter Ánna Dyachenko, 28, wanted to leave on Tuesday but there was no room on the bus for them, they said. Instead, they would be leaving on Wednesday, heading to western Ukraine initially and then abroad to relatives.

"People say it's time to go, and we're happy to leave, Dyachenko said. But they still fear they will have nothing to come home to once the war is

"Here we have our apartment, our house," she said. "Everything will be smashed and destroyed."

With a pre-war population of around 85,000, there are now around 30,000 people left, Bakhmut City Council Secretary Ganna Petrievnko-Poluhina said. While authorities are encouraging more people to leave, some are hesitant, she said.

"Life is the most important thing for a person. But people are tied to their homes, to what they remember," Petrieynko-Poluhina said. "Every day we see that shelling happens more often, and people leave. We would like that more people

hold large swaths of territory. Sievierodonetsk and neighbouring cities are the only part of the Donbas'

Ukrainian forces there. Haidai

accused the Russians of delib-

erately targeting shelters where

civilians were hiding.

Moscow-backed separatists

have fought Ukrainian forces in

the Donbas for eight years and

Luhansk region still under

Ukrainian government con-

publically notified that PLOT NO. A-438, SECTOR , NOIDA, DISTT. GAUTAM BUDH NAGAR, UTTAR tee of SHRI VIKRAM SINGH RANA S/O

PUBLIC NOTICE

RAMAN VIHAR COOP. GROUP HOUSING SOCIETY LTD. Plot No.5A, Sector-11, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075 In pursuance to rule 19(2) of DCS rules

of issue of this notice in favour of Rama Secretary-Raman Vihar CGHS Ltd

expired on 09.02.1998.

within 30 days of the publication this notice. Gurcharan Ahuja

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform public in general that Kotak Mahindra bank Ltd has organized an auction in below mention respect of Vehicles. **VEHICLES FOR SALE**

1) M&M SCORPIO REG. NO. DL8CAC1371-YOM -2014 2) FORCEFORCETTFB REG. NO.

HR38Z3433-YOM -2019 3) CB AL ECOMET 1412 ASHOK LEYLAND LIMITED- REG. NO. UP14HT8964-YOM -2019

4) TATA ACE- REG. NO.

UP15ET9861-YOM -2021 5) SUPRO MINI ENGNNO.

LHM6K24141-YOM -2021 6) TATA MOTOR ULTRA 1518 REG. NO. UP14HT4779

YOM 2018 FICHER 10.49 REG. NO. DL1LAB4102 - YOM - 2018

8) CB TATA LPT 1109 FULLY BUILT REG. NO.UP16ET4703-YOM-2017

UNDER HYPOTHECATION WITH M/S KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK IS UNDER SALE IN ITS "AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION" INTERESTED PARTIES CAN GIVE THEIR QUOTATIONS WITH IN 3 DAYS AT

BRANCH ADDRESS: KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK LTD., 3RD FLOOR, PLOT NO 7,SECTOR 125,NOIDA-201313 OR CONTACT: ABHINAV LAL / RAJESH ANTIL

KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK LTD. Cont.No.7798988481/9711173320 E Mail -abhinav.lal@kotak.com

Russian rockets hit eastern | EU seeks more clout against sanctioned Russian oligarchs

The European Omono Survey utive arm entered sensitive he European Union's execlegal territory on Wednesday with a proposal to confiscate the frozen assets of oligarchs who try to violate the bloc's sanctions over Russia's war in Ukraine.

The European Commission proposed two EU laws that would require the 27 member states to cede a degree of jealously guarded national sovereignty over

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Drillers/Contractors as per the details given in tender document.

Estimated Cost (Lacs):- Rs.36.74

Earnest money Deposit :- Rs. 73840/-

Time of Completion of work (days):-60 Days

Tender fee (in Rs):-Rs. 1100/-

Class of Contract :- AAY/BEE

Estimated Cost (Lacs):- Rs.19.98

Earnest money Deposit:- Rs. 39960/-

100% coverage of FHTCs "Under JJM).

Earnest money Deposit:-Rs. 65420/-

Time of Completion of work (days):-60 Days

Gulshanpora for 100% coverage of FHTCs "Under JJM).

Estimated Cost (Lacs):- Rs.32.71

Tender fee (in Rs):- Rs. 1100/-

Class of Contract :- AAY/BEE

Estimated Cost (Lacs):- Rs.35.02

Estimated Cost (Lacs):- Rs.61.02

Earnest money Deposit: - Rs. 122040/-

I) Publish Date: - 23-05-2022 at 9.00 AM

Time of Completion of work (days):-60 Days

Tender fee (in Rs):-Rs. 1600/-

Class of Contract :- AAY

Earnest money Deposit:- Rs. 70040/-

Time of Completion of work (days):-60 Days

Tender fee (in Rs):-Rs. 1100/-

Class of Contract :- AAY/BEE

Class of Contract: - AAY/BEE/CEE

Time of Completion of work (days):-60 Days

Tender fee (in Rs):-Rs. 800/-

Union Territory of JAMMU & KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

SPECIAL SUB DIVISION GUREZ

Fresh e-NIT No (39) EE/SSDG/1391-1401 2022-23 Dated:-21-05-2022

For and on behalf of lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, e-tenders are

invited in two cover system with 50 meters depth from registered Water Well

Sr.No 1. Particulars of the work :- Laying and fitting of GI pipes including

replacement /improvements of damaged / wornout pipes and Construction of Intake

Chamber near head site, 0.10 lac gallon SR, Protection work at head site, Sluice

Chamber, Cattle Trough, Anchor/Saddle block, Chain Link fencing around structures

Sr.No 2. Particulars of the work :- Laying and fitting of GI pipes including

Construction of protection works/ head works at head site, Intake Chamber near head

site, 0.02 lac gallon SR, Sluice Chamber, supporting pillars for RWM at spots, cattle

trough for Retrofitting of WSS Check Bayant Tulail for 100% coverage of FHTCs

Sr.No 3. Particulars of the work :- Laying and fitting of GI pipes including

Construction of protection works/ head works at head site, Intake Chamber near head

site, 0.05 lac gallon SR, Sluice Chamber, supporting pillars for RWM at spots, Chair

Link fencing around structures, cattle trough for Retrofitting of WSS Dangithal Tulail for

Sr.No 4. Particulars of the work :- Laying and fitting of GI pipes including

Construction of protection works, Intake Chamber near head site, 0.25 lac gallon SR

Sluice Chamber, supporting pillars for RWM at spots, Crate work, Chain Link fencing

around structures, Cattle troughs, PST near head site for Retrofitting of WSS

Sr.No 5. Particulars of the work :- Laying and fitting of GI pipes including

Construction of protection works/ head works at head site, crate protection work at

sports, Intake Chamber near head site, 0.06 lac gallon SR, Sluice Chamber

supporting pillars for RWM at spots, Chain Link fencing around structures, cattle trough

The tender inviting authority is Executive Engineer, Special Sub Division Gurez.

1. Bid documents can be accessed and downloaded from the website

2. The whole bidding process shall be completed online on tender porta

www.jktenders.gov.in. The intending bidders can download the bid document from

3.The valid bids received shall be opened online in the office of the Executive Special

Sub Division Gurez Bids must be accompanied by bid security and cost of Tender

a. The cost of tender documents should be in form of DD/TR/e challan in favour or

4. The hard copies of cost of tender document in shape of TR/e-challan, Earnes

money in shape of CDR/FDR/BG and other relevant documents shall be obtained

5. The bid shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the last date of submission of

bids. If any bidder withdraws his bid before the said period or makes any modifications

in the terms and conditions of the bid, the same shall be considered to be in

violation of bid security declaration and shall be dealt with accordingly and the bid shall

6.Other details can be seen in the bidding documents from the website

from the bidder who is declared as L1 after opening of financial cover.

the tender portal and can submit their bids by uploading the month e tender portal.

Document as specified in column 4 & 5 of the table and shall be payable at Srinagar.

for Retrofitting of WSS Javdara 1st for 100% coverage of FHTCs "Under JJM).

Position off under: Approved Under Jal Jeevan Mission(JJM)

The awarding authority is District Jal Jeevan Mission (DJJM).

II) Document Download Start Date :- 23-05-2022 at 9.00 AM

III) Clarification Start date: - 23-05-2022 from 10: A.M

V) Bid submission Start date: - 23-05-2022 from 10: A.M

VI) Bid submission End date: - 31-05-2022 at 4:00 P.M.

IV) Clarification End date: - 30-05-2022 up to 6: P.M

VII) Date of Bid opening: - 31-05-2022 at 5.00 P.M.

Executive Engineer Special Sub division Gurez.

7. Queries by email if any should be made at.

be declared non-responsive.

www.jktenders.gov.in.

No. DIPK-2591/22 Dated: 24-05-2022

CriticalDates:

for Retrofitting of WSS Agnikoot Baduab for 100% coverage of FHTCs "Under JJM).

One piece of draft legislation seeks new European rules on freezing and confiscating the assets of people blacklisted by the EU. The second legislative pro-

posal aims to expand the list of acts deemed to be "EU crimes" by including breaches of European sanctions. Both initiatives need the

approval of EU governments in a scrutiny process that usually takes many months and can even last for years.

ernment are due to discuss options for using the frozen assets of sanctioned Russian oligarchs to support the recon-

struction of Ukraine during a

two-day summit next week. "There is no time to lose," Margaritis Schinas, a European Commission vicepresident in charge of security matters, told reporters in Brussels. "Many times we see assets recovery and confisca-

tion of the small fry, whereas

the big sharks find ways to

While the EU has spent decades crafting common rules on various areas of criminal law, European sanctions against Russian leaders and oligarchs over the past three months have added impetus to calls for a stronger European framework.

The EU has imposed asset freezes and travel bans on more than 1,000 people, including over 30 oligarchs, in response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine on February 24.

POSSESSION NOTICE (for immovable property)

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of INDIABULLS RURAL FINANCE PRIVATE LIMITED (CIN:U74140MH1993PTC074596) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act. 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notice dated 22.12.2021 calling upon the Borrower(s) ANIL MALIK PROPRIETOR MALIK TRADING COMPANY, SANGEETA MALIK AND KRISHNA MALIK to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice being Rs.1,11,64,042.35 (Rupees One Crore Eleven Lakhs Sixty Four Thousand Forty Two and Paise Thirty Five Only) against Loan Account No. HRSMDPR00482712 as on 17.12.2021 and interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice

The Borrower(s) having failed to repay the amount, Notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub-Section (4) of Section 13 of the Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on 23.05.2022 The Borrower(s) 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 INDIABULLS RURAL FINANCE PRIVATE LIMITED for an amount of Rs.1,11,64,042.35 (Rupees One Crore Eleven Lakhs Sixty Four Thousand Forty Two and Paise Thirty Five Only) as on 17.12.2021 and interest thereon. The Borrowers' attention is invited to provisions of Sub-Section (8) of Section 13 o the Act in respect of time available, to redeem the Secured Assets.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

PROPERTY BEARING NUMBER 215/6 (OLD NUMBER 92 AND 93) MEASURING 300 SQUARE YARDS, SITUATED IN ABADI OF NIJAD STATE BANK, BAHDURGARH, ZILAROHTAK, JHAJJAR-124507, HARYANA.

Date: 23.05.2022 Place: JHAJJAR

Authorised Office INDIABULLS RURAL FINANCE PRIVATE LIMITED



ई-निविदा सूचना

मुख्य महाप्रबन्धक, उत्तराखण्ड जल संस्थान, देहरादून की ओर से निम्नलिखित कार्यों हेतु -िनिवेदा, टू—बिंड सिस्टम (तकनीकी बिंड एवं कोमर्शियल बिंड) आधार पर निम्नानुसार मामंत्रित की जाती हैं :-

घरोहर निविदा कार्य पूर्ण घनराशि का मूल्य करने की (रू. में) (रू. में) अवधि नेविदा विकासखण्ड कार्य विवरण डोईवाला इकाई के अन्तर्गत 134815.00 4000 डोईवाला नगर पालिका वार

नं0—01 के अन्तर्गत खादर में 01 नग नलकूप अधिष्ठापन, पाइप लाइन् सुदृढ़ीकरण एवं डोईवाला इकाई के अन्तर्गत 134320.00 डोईवाला नगरीय पेयजल योजन के अन्तर्गत वार्ड नं0-18 (प्रेमनगर) में 01 नग नलकूप अधिष्ठापन तत्सम्बन्धित कार्य। डोईवाला इकाई के अन्तर्गत 133505.00 4000 06 माह अठूरवाला पेयजल योजना के +GST सुदृढीकरण हेतु वार्ड नं0-09 01 नग नलकूप अधिष्ठापन, पाइप लाइन सुदृढ़ीकरण एव तत्सम्बन्धित कार्य। डोईवाला इकाई के अन्तर्गत 132380.00 डोईवाला नगर पालिका के अन्तर्गत 4000 वार्ड नं0-10 (भानियावाला) 01 नग नलकूप अधिष्ठापन पाइप लाइन सुदृढीकरण एव डोईवाला इकाई के अन्तर्गत 123510.00 अठूरवाला पेयजल योजना के सुदृढीकरण हेतु वार्ड नं0-08 01 नग नलकप अधिष्ठापन पाइप लाइन सुदृढीकरण एवं

निविदा समय सारणी (मुख्य तिथियाँ) निम्नवत् हैं। विवरण अनुसूची ऑनलाईन प्रकाशन की तिथि। 28.05.2022 at 11:00 Hrs निविदा प्रपत्र डाउनलोड करने की तिथि 28.05.2022 at 11:00 Hrs 3 प्री-बिड मीटिंग की तिथि। 04.06.2022 at 11:00 Hrs बिड ऑनलाईन जमा करने की प्रारम्भ तिथि। 07.06.2022 at 11:00 Hrs बिड ऑनलाईन जमा करने की अन्तिम तिथि। 13.06.2022 up to 17:00 Hrs ऑफ लाईन रूप से जमा किये जाने वाले प्रपत्र 13.06.2022 up to 17:00 Hrs (निविदा प्रपत्र हेत् निर्धारित शुल्क, बिड सिक्योरिट स्टॉम्प पेपर एवं अन्य सम्बन्धित दस्तावेज। तकनीकी बिड खोलने की तिथि। 14.06.2022 at 11:00 Hrs वित्तीय निविदा खोलने की तिथि सूचना पृथक से दी जायेगी

तत्सम्बन्धित कार्य

ई–निविदा से सम्बन्धित समस्त जानकारियां व शर्तें उत्तराखण्ड राज्य की वेबसाइट nders.gov.in पर ऑन लाइन देखी / प्राप्त की जा सकती हैं। (कें 0सी0 पैन्युली) अधिशासी अभियन्ता

IST LIMITED CIN: L33301HR1976PLC008316

Sd/- Executive Engineer

Special Sub Division Gurez

Regd. Office: Dharuhera Industrial Complex, Delhi- Jaipur Highway No.8, Kapriwas, Dharuhera, Rewari (Haryana)-123106 Head Office: A-23, New Office Complex, 2nd Floor, Defence Colony, New Delhi-110024 Phone No.: 011-41044511-14; Fax: 011-24625694; Email: istgroup.ho@gmail.com; Website: www.istindia.com

EXTRACT OF FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 2022

		Standalone				Consolidated					
\$I	Particulars	Quarter Ended		Year Ended		Quarter Ended			Year Ended		
No	r articulars	31.03.2022 Audited	31.12.2021 Unaudited	31.03.2021 Audited	31.03.2022 Audited	31.03.2021 Audited	31.03.2022 Audited	31.12.2021 Unaudited	31.03.2021 Audited	31.03.2022 Audited	31.03.2021 Audited
_											
1	Total Income	963.54	1031.16	1712.39	4388.52	3917.78	4554.16	4606.35	5264.83	18363.19	17711.85
2	Net Profit before exceptional items and tax	24.39	365.39	342.27	1202.04	969.39	2253.54	3349.33	3645.15	12771.24	13221.92
3	Net Profit after exceptional items before tax	24.39	365.39	342.27	1202.04	969.39	2253.54	3349.33	3645.15	12771.24	13221.92
4	Net Profit after tax	(32.05)	291.68	270.34	932.79	813.63	1562.43	2518.47	2653.56	9597.07	9518.26
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Net of Tax)	(33.77)	293.63	276.14	936.92	821.43	2226.47	1679.55	3036.29	10896.28	12037.56
6	Equity Share Capital (Face Value Rs. 5/- per share)	584.68	584.68	584.68	584.68	584.68	584.68	584.68	584.68	584.68	584.68
7	Other Equity	-	-	-	20121.37	19184.45	-	-	-	102670.86	91774.58
8	Earning Per Share (Face Value Rs. 5/- per share)										
	Basic (Rs.)	(0.27)	2.50	2.32	8.00	6.98	13.40	21.53	22.85	82.79	82.07
	Diluted (Rs.)	(0.27)	2.50	2.32	8.00	6.98	13.40	21.53	22.85	82.79	82.07
	· /	(0.27)	2.50	2.32	0.00	0.90	13.40	21.33	22.00	02.79	02

The above is an extract of the detailed format of the Standalone and Consolidated Financial Results for the Quarter and Year ended 31st March, 2022 filed with the Stock Exchange (BSE Ltd.) under Regulation 33 of the SEBI beite (www.bseindia.com) and the company Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Standalone and Consolidated Financial Results is available on the Stock Exchange By Order of the Board

Place : New Delhi

(S.C. Jain DIN: 00092079

'India's economy seen **growing 9.2 % in FY22'**

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India's economy is expected to have grown at 9.2 per cent in the fiscal ended March 2022, after having contracted by 7.3 per cent in the previous financial year, aided by resilience in the rural economy, uptick in bank credit and rising GST collections, a note by Bank of Baroda said.

As per government's advance estimates, the gross domestic product (GDP) in FY22 is projected to grow by 8.9 per cent. The National Statistical Office (NSO) will release the final GDP growth figures for FY22 on May 31.

Bank of Baroda (BoB), in a note on GDP expectations by its Economic Research Department, said it expects the economy to post higher growth in the last quarter ended March as mobility improved, allowing opening up of economy with much lower COVID-19 cases across

Contact-intensive sectors are expected to make stronger recovery, and the economy is projected to grow by 5.5 per cent in Q4 FY22 against 5.4 per cent in Q3, it said. A much needed pick up will be visible

and hospitality contributing significantly. Construction is also likely to edge upwards.

However, agriculture growth might be a tad slow as compared to government expectations (3.3 per cent against government estimate of 3.5 per cent) owing to lower yield of wheat crops, conflict between Russia-Ukraine and heat wave conditions, as per the research

BoB said these might pose downside risks to its projections. Industrial growth might be adversely impacted too. It said India's economy is poised to recover in FY22 after contracting by 7.3 per cent in FY21.

The main factors contributing to this kind of growth are -- resilience shown by the rural sector with normal monsoon and higher production of foodgrains; uptick in bank credit growth to push financial services and improvement in services sector with passenger traffic (-62 per cent to 59 per cent), rail freight (2 per cent to 15 per cent) and port cargo (-4.6 per cent to 7 per cent) leading the race.

Higher GST collections have also provided much needed support. "Against this back-

Baroda said. However, there are downside risks emanating from the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict, soaring of commodity prices and acceleration in global inflation going ahead, it added. Further, aggravating heat wave conditions have curbed wheat output and added some pressure to industrial growth.

A mix of both monetary

(RBI frontloading with rate hike) and fiscal policy (reduction in excise duties) at play is expected to boost growth prospects, it contended.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) expects India's economy to grow by 9 per cent in FY22, while Asian Development Bank (ADB) has projected India's growth at 7.5 per cent. "However, we expect the economy to do much better sequentially specially on the back of base effect and normalisation of economic activi-

"The overall impact of Omicron variant which resulted in the 3rd wave of COVID-19 seems to be relatively muted than was initially anticipated.

Further, rapid pick up in pace of vaccination programme is also expected to support growth," as per research note by drop, we expect GDP growth at the public sector lender.



Sensex tumbles over 300 points in volatile trade

PTI ■ MUMBAI

 $B^{\text{enchmark indices wiped}}_{\text{out early gains as volatility}}$ yet again ruled the markets, with the Sensex extending its decline to the third day running on Wednesday, falling over 300 points amid a sell-off in IT stocks.

The 30-share BSE Sensex tanked 303.35 points or 0.56 per cent to settle at 53,749.26. During the day, the bechmark hit a low of 53,683.16 and a high of 54,379.59. The broader NSE Nifty declined 99.35 points or 0.62 per cent to end at 16,025.80. From the Sensex pack, Asian Paints, TCS,

Wipro, Tech Mahindra, Larsen & Toubro, Infosys, State Bank of India, HCL Technologies and M&M were among the biggest laggards. In contrast, NTPC, Bharti Airtel, HDFC, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Nestle, ICICI Bank and ITC were the prominent gainers.

Asian markets in Hong Kong, Shanghai and Seoul ended with gains, while Tokyo was marginally lower.

Exchanges in Europe were trading in the green in the afternoon trade.Stock markets in the US had mostly ended lower on Tuesday. International oil benchmark Brent crude jumped 1.37 per cent to USD 115.1 per barrel. Continuing their selling spree, foreign institutional investors offloaded shares worth a net Rs 2,393.45 crore on Tuesday, as per stock exchange data.

"Domestic indices wavered tracking mixed sentiments from global markets as investors assessed the possibility of a recession in the US followed by the Fed policy tight-

ening.
"Global markets are awaiting the release of the Fed minutes, which will be evaluated for details on the path of the upcoming rate hikes," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services.

Rupee edges up 3 paise to close at 77.54 against US dollar

The rupee recovered 3 paise to settle at 77.54 (provisional) against the US currency in a restricted trade on Wednesday as interventions by banks supported the local unit while a stronger dollar in overseas markets restricted the

At the interbank forex market, the rupee opened higher at 77.54 against the greenback and moved in a range of 77.44 to 77.57 in the day trade. The rupee finally ended at 77.54, higher by 3 paise over its previous close of 77.57 against the American currency.

"Rupee traded with pendulum swing on a range fight between hedgers as participants from banks tried to support rupee whereas remittance

takers of dollar equally bought keeping rupee ranged between 77.47-77.60. The US Fed statement minutes later in the night might give some trend to the USDINR pair in futures," said Jateen Trivedi, VP Research Analyst at LKP Securities.

On the domestic equity market front, the BSE Sensex ended 303.35 points or 0.56 per cent lower at 53,749.26, while the broader NSE Nifty fell 99.35 points or 0.62 per cent to

The dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, rose 0.36 per cent to 102.22. Foreign institutional investors were net sellers in the capital market on Tuesday as they offloaded shares worth Rs 2,393.45 crore, as per stock exchange data.



'Inflationary concerns may delay GST rate rationalisation³



GST tax rate rationalisa-Ation is likely to be delayed due to elevated inflation, sources said on Wednesday.

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime taxes goods and services in four tax slabs of 5 per cent, 12 per cent, 18 per cent and 28 per cent.

It was being considered to reduce these tax slabs possibly to 3, an exercise which would have involved raising taxes in some items and a reduction in others. But with inflation rate ruling at all-time high, such an

Govt's 29.5% stake sale in Hindustan Zinc Limited OK'd

PNS NEW DELHI

The Cabinet Committee on ■ Economic Affairs (CCEA) on Wednesday cleared the Government's 29.5 per cent stake sale in Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL), which could fetch around Rs 38,000 crore to the exchequer. The decision would give a push to the Government's disinvestment drive in the current fiscal.

The government has budgeted Rs 65,000 crore from PSU disinvestment and strategic sale. The sale of 29.5 per cent stake representing over 124.96 crore shares would fetch around Rs 38,000 crore to the exchequer at current market prices, said officials. Shares of HZL closed at Rs

305.05, up 3.14 per cent on the BSE. During the day, the scrip touched a high of Rs 317.30 a

till 2002. In April 2002, the Government offloaded a 26 per cent stake in HZL to Sterlite Opportunities and Ventures Ltd (SOVL) for Rs 445 crorethereby giving Vedanta group management control in HZL. . Vedanta group later

bought 20 per cent from the market and another 18.92 per cent from the government in November 2003, raising its ownership in Hindustan Zinc to 64.92 per cent. This 20 per cent sale became a controversy and recently Supreme Court directed CBI to probe into the price variations between the first offloading and second offloading of shares happened during the Vajpayee Government.

Vedanta, led by mining magnate Anil Agarwal, recently said the company can buy just 5 per cent additional stake

RBI issues norms for import of gold by qualified jewellers

The RBI on Wednesday came up with norms for facilitating physical import of through International Bullion Exchange IFSC (IIBX) or similar authorised exchange by Qualified Jewellers in India. In addition to agencies

nominated by the RBI and by DGFT, Qualified Jewellers (QJ) as approved by International Financial Services Centers Authority (IFSCA) were permitted to import gold in Ianuary The RBI issued the guide-

lines in order to enable resident Qualified Jewellers to import gold through IIBX or any other exchange approved by IFSCA and the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT).

As per the guidelines, banks may allow Owalies.

banks may allow Qualified Jewellers to remit advance payments for 11 days for import of ance to the extant Foreign lion in the year-ago month.

Trade Policy and regulations issued under IFSC Act. "The advance remittance for import of Gold should not be leveraged in what-so-ever form for importing gold worth more than the advance remittance made," the Reserve Bank of

In case the import of gold through IFSCA authorised exchange, for which advance remittance has been made, does not materialise, or the advance remittance made for the purpose is more than the amount required, the unutilised advance remittance shall be remitted back to the same bank within the specified time limit of 11 days.

RBI also said all payments by qualified jewellers for imports of gold through IIBX, shall be made through exchange mechanism as approved by IFSCA. Gold imports dipped by about 72 per cent to USD 1.72 billion dur-

Paper exports from India jumps 80% to all-time high of ₹13,963 cr in FY22: IPMA

 $E_{\text{board from India jumped}}^{\text{xports of paper and paper}}$ nearly 80 per cent in FY 2021-22, touching a record Rs 13,963 crore, according to industry The export growth has

straddled across different grades of paper, said a statement from Indian Paper Manufacturers Association (IPMA) while citing data released by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCI&S).

"In value terms, exports of coated paper and paperboard increased by 100 per cent, uncoated writing and printing paper by 98 per cent, tissue paper by 75 per cent and kraft paper by 37 per cent," said IPMA.

Paper exports from India

Saudi Arabia, Bangladesh, Vietnam and Sri Lanka."In volume terms, paper exports from India have gone up four times from 0.66 million tonnes in FY17 to 2.85 million tonnes in FY22.

Similarly in value terms, the figures for corresponding years rose from Rs 3,041 crore to Rs 13,963 crore," it said.
"Exports have been rising

in the last few years due to capacity expansion and technological upgradation under-taken by Indian paper mills, leading to better product quality which has found wider acceptance globally," said Rohit Pandit, Secretary General, IPMA.

In the last five to seven years, paper mills in India have invested over Rs 25,000 crore to create new capacities and action of clean and green | \$114. technologies, he said.

Crude oil futures gain on spot demand



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

rude oil prices on Wednesday rose by ₹102 to ₹8,614 per barrel as participants widened positions on a firm spot demand.

On the Multi Commodity Exchange, crude oil for June delivery traded higher by ₹102 or 1.2 per cent at ₹8,614 per barrel in 6,907 lots. Analysts said the raising of bets by participants kept crude oil prices higher in futures trade higher in futures trade.

Globally, West Texas Intermediate crude oil was up by 1.03 per cent at \$110.90 per barrel, while Brent crude traded 1.03 per cent higher at

Govt imposes restrictions on sugar exports from June 1

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Government on Tuesday imposed restrictions on sugar exports from June 1, a move aimed at increasing availability of the commodity in the domestic market and curbing price rise.

"Export of sugar (raw, refined and white sugar) is placed under restricted category from June 1, 2022 onwards," the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) said in a notification. However, it said that these

restrictions would not be applicable on sugar being exported to the EU and the US under CXL and TRQ. A specified amount of sugar is exported to these regions under CXL and TRQ.In a statement, the government said that with a view to maintain domestic and price stability during the Public Distribution," it said.



availability and price stability of sugar in the country during sugar season 2021-22 (October-September), it has decided to regulate the sugar exports with effect from June 1."The government has decided to allow export of sugar up to 100 LMT (Lakh Metric Tonnes) with a view to maintain the domestic availability

season 2021-22 (October-September)," it said. 'As per the order issued by DGFT, with effect from 1st June, 2022 till 31st October, 2022, or till further order, whichever is earlier, the export of the sugar will be allowed with specific permission of the Directorate of Sugar, Department of Food and

Repos Energy partners Mahindra for doorstep fuel delivery

Ratan Tata-backed energy distribution startup Repos Energy has partnered with Mahindra for doorstep fuel delivery through the automaker's Furio trucks, a release said on Wednesday.

The Pune-based firm Repos is currently present across over 220 cities through its over 1,500 partners and more than 2,500 mobile petrol

pumps.
The doorstep fuel delivery model has grown rapidly across the country and scaled up even faster in the post-Covid era, owing to many factors, such as structural constraints of the existing distribution model, changing buying behaviour of consumers and technological disruptions, according to the

release. Nagpur-based startup Navankur Infranergy has recently launched a mobile fuel station for the doorstep diesel delivery to various customers across Nagpur.

The mobile station, built on a Mahindra Furio 11 truck, with a double dispensing Alpha mobile pump, has been sup-plied by Repos Energy, accord-ing to the release.

Repos Energy has tied up with Mahindra to cater to doorstep fuel delivery demand through their Furio trucks, said the release.

"Mahindra's range of light and the intermediate commercial vehicle come with their inherent advantages to make it a perfect fit for fuel Bowser operation and ensure profitability," said Jalaj Gupta, Business Head for commercial vehicles at Mahindra & Mahindra Limited. A major proportion of the diesel goes into fuelling industries, where it is often required in bulk.

These industries resort to procuring diesel from fuel pumps using improper receptacles like barrels and bowsers, which cause great losses in the form of spillage, pilferage, dead mileage, and manpower costs, he stated.

"Combining with the expertise of Repos Energy in fuel bowser business solution, we are introducing a com-pelling product offering to cater to the emerging need of industries," Gupta added. Doorstep diesel delivery in India has eased the way fuel is being delivered in the country, according to Chetan Walunj, co-founder of Repos Energy.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

BEST AGROLIFE FY22 NET PROFIT JUMPS TO ₹104.76CR Agrochemical firm Best Agrolife Ltd has reported a nearly three-fold jump in its

net profit at Rs 104.76 crore in FY 2022. Its net profit stood at Rs 37.08 crore in the 2020-21 financial year, Best Agrolife Ltd (BAL) said in a statement. The company posted a 34 per cent increase in its revenue at Rs 1,210.79 crore in the period under review as against Rs 905.45 crore in the previous fiscal. "Our performance this year boosts our confidence and confirms that we are on track to achieve our strategic and financial objectives.

MANGO FESTIVAL FROM MAY 23

New Delhi: To refresh your taste-buds with ripe, sweet and delectable mangoes in this sweltering heat, Barista, a leading coffee chain, is starting a mango festival. The festival will be on in all Barista cafés in Delhi NCR, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Kolkata from May 23. "The mango affair is very refreshing, natural and replenishes your body's lost minerals while battling out in the sun. We expect to have a great response to the festival," said Rajat Agrawal, COO, Barista Coffee

EMPYREAN CASHEWS GROWS 101%

Mumbai: The revenue of Empyrean Cashews Limited, a leading firm engaged in processing raw cashew nuts, grew by 101 per cent touching Rs 12.41 cr for Q4FY22 and Rs 52.2cr for FY22. The firm is planning to set up 4 COCO outlets in Goa in Q2 FY23. Empyrean Cashew Ltd went public in March 2022.

Sebi to auction properties of Golden Life Agro India, Sunshine Agro Infra on June 16

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

o recover investors' money, ■ Sebi on Wednesday said it will auction a total of five properties of Golden Life Agro Îndia Ltd and Sunshine Agro Infra Ltd for a reserve price of Rs 11.5 crore on June 16.

The two companies raised

funds from investors without complying with regulatory norms.

The properties put on the block include land parcels and a double storied building situated across West Bengal, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) said in a notice.

Inviting bids for the sale of recovery proceedings against Golden Life Agro India and Sunshine Agro Infra and their directors, Sebi said auction of

properties will be conducted through online mode on June 16, 2022 during 10.30 am to 11.30 am. Out of the five properties being put on the block, three belong to Golden Life Agro India and remaining two relate to Sunshine Agro Infra.

Total reserve price of these properties is pegged at Rs 11.53 crore, as per notice.Quikr Realty has been appointed as eauction service provider. The regulator said bidders

should make their own independent enquiries regarding encumbrances, title of properties put on auction and claims, among others, prior to submitting their bids.

"The properties are being sold with all the existing and future encumbrances whether known or unknown to Sebi.

Standard Chartered Bank settles case with Sebi in CG Power case, pays ₹4.97 cr



Standard Chartered Bank has settled with markets regulator Sebi a case pertaining to alleged violations of regulatory norms in the matter of CG Power and Industrial Solutions Ltd after paying Rs 4.97 crore towards settlement charges. The order came after Standard

Chartered Bank (SCB) approached Sebi proposing to settle case pertaining to alleged violations of PFUTP (Prohibition of Fraudulent and Unfair Trade Practices) rules "without admitting or denying findings of fact and conclusions of law", through a settlement order. "Pending enforcement proceedings for alleged defaults ... Are settled qua applicant," Sebi said in its settlement order

passed on Wednesday. The regulator further said it will not initiate other enforcement actions against the applicant for the defaults. Sebi had initiated proceedings through a show cause notice issued to alleged violations of PFUTP rules. In the show cause notice, Standard Chartered Bank was alleged to have benefitted a private limited company controlled by the promoter group companies, at the expense of a listed company (CG Power) to the detriment of the interest of the minority shareholders of CG Power.

Ltd or CG Power, had taken a

loan from SCB. In October

2017, SCB disbursed a loan of

the bank in May 2021 for the

As per the order, Avantha International Asset BV (AIABV), an entity related to the promoter group of CG Power and Industrial Solutions

International BV (CGIBV) which was transferred to AIABV on the same day to repay its earlier loan from SCB. The funds were later frozen by SCB at AIABV. In February 2018, SCB disbursed another loan of Euro 44

Euro 44 million to CG

million to CG Industrial Holdings Singapore Pte Ltd (CG Singapore') which was transferred to AIABV on the same day. On the same day, AIABV returned the funds received from CGIBV which were frozen and CGIBV utilized these funds for repayment of the loan taken from SCB in October 2017.

RBI cancels registration of 5 NBFCs due to irregular lending practices PTI MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank on Wednesday said it has cancelled Certificate of Registration (CoR) of five NBFCs for violation of norms related to outsourcing and fair practices code in their digital lending operations.

Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) whose CoR stands cancelled are: UMB Securities Ltd, Anashri Finvest, Chadha Finance, Alexcy Tracon, and Jhuria Financial

"The CoR of the (five) NBFCs have been cancelled on account of violation of RBI guidelines on outsourcing and

Fair Practices Code in their digital lending operations undertaken through third party apps which was considered detrimental to public inter-

loan recovery purposes.

est," the RBI said. It further said these com-

panies were also not complying vith extant regulations pertaining to charging of excessive interest and resorted to undue harassment of customers for

Patidar 112* helps RCB post 207-4 vs LSG Bangalore's No. 3 remained unbeaten and scored 12 fours, 7 sixes during his 54-ball knock in IPL 2022 eliminator

ittle-known domestic bulwark Rajat Patidar found his hour of fame as his magnificent 49-■ball hundred propelled Royal Challengers Bangalore to an imposing 207 for 4 against Lucknow Super Giants in the IPL Eliminator on

Courtesy Patidar's 54-ball-112 not out which had 12 fours and seven huge sixes, RCB literally knocked the stuffing out of LSG attack with Mohsin Khan's superb 1 for 25 proving to be only saving grace.

On a day their famed batting duo trio of Faf du Plessis (0), Ğlenn Maxwell (9) and Virat Kohli (25) failed to enthrall a capacity Eden crowd, RCB's No, 3 played out of his skin as 90 runs came in fours and sixes off just 19 balls.

While most of the star-studded RCB batters struggled for timing, the 28-year-old looked effortless with his slices, punches, counter-punches and drives to tower over the rest.

And to make Patidar's story more interesting, he wasn't picked from auction this season and joined the team after start when a player called Luvnith Sisodia was injured.

Had Sisodia been alright, RCB

wouldn't have required services of Patidar, who made 65,000 at Eden Gardens stand on their feet.

He along with Dinesh Karthik (37 not out from 23 balls) put on a match-turning unbroken partnership of 92 runs from 41 balls as RCB scored 84 runs in the last five overs to prop up the total.

First, he showed the glimpses of his stroke-making skills to slam Krunal Pandya for three boundaries and one six inside the power-play to overshadow Kohli in a 66-run partnership from 46 balls.

Having cruised to his half-century in 28 balls, he took another 21 balls to reach his maiden hundred in T20s.

He got to the landmark pulling Mohsin Khan over square leg with a sweet-timing of the bat that summed up his effortless stay at the crease.

RCB lost three key wickets of a well-set Kohli, Maxwell and Mahipal Lomror in the middle overs to see their run-rate drop. In-form Dinesh Karthik, who has

played the role of a finisher to perfection for RCB this season, also survived some anxious moments against Ravi Bishnoi to start with.

But Patidar turned it around in the last over Bishnoi when he smacked the 'googly-man' for three



HISTORY MAKER RAJAT PATIDAR

Rajat Patidar is the first uncapped player to score a century in the play-offs/knockouts of the IPL. The previous highest score by an uncapped was the 94 off 50 balls that Manish Pandey scored for Kolkata Knight Riders in the final of the 2014 IPL.

 He scored his century in 49 balls which is the joint fastest ton scored by any played in the playoffs or knockouts of the IPL. Patidar equalled the record set by Wriddhiman Saha, who scored 115 off 55 balls for Kings XI Punjab in

sixes and two fours in succession in an over that read 1 6 4 6 4 6.

A sloppy LSG also helped his cause as Patidar, who got reprieves on 59, 72 and 93. After a 40-minute delayed start due to bad weather, Lucknow got off to a superb start when Mohsin got RCB skipper Faf du Plessis for a golden duck in the

Having lost their skipper early, it was about biding time as Kohil and Patidar opted for a wait-and-watch policy before the latter broke loose

the 2014 IPL final.

◆Patidar's 112 not out has helped him go past a player who was recently inducted in RCB's hall of fame. He has surpassed the 89 off 47 balls that Chris Gayle scored against Mumbai Indians in 2011.

This is the third-highest score by an uncapped player in the IPL. Patidar crossed the unbeaten 101 that Devdutt Padikkal scored for RCB against Rajasthan Royals last

onslaught in the final overs helped RCB take as many as 88 runs in the death overs. That is the most scored

while Paul Valthaty tops the list.

✓ It is also the fifth instance of a play-

er scoring a century in the

playoffs/knockouts of an IPL tour-

nament. Patidar's 112 not out is also

the fourth highest score ever in the

Meanwhile, Patidar and Karthik's

season. Manish Pandey is second

against Krunal Pandya in the last over

three boundaries and one six in an

over that yielded 20 runs to make it

up for their slow start and cruise to

SACHIN, VIRU IMPRESSED

Patidar slammed Krunal for

Patidar's binder earned him a lot

of praise of social media and taking

to Twitter, Master Blaster Sachin

Tendulkar and legendary Indian

opener Virender Sehwag hailed him

of the power-play.

 $5\frac{1}{2}/1$ in six overs.

by any team in this period of a match in the 2022 season.

for playing a match-changing knock for the Faf du Plessis-led side.

"Serious hitting by Rajat Patidar and nicely supported by @DineshKarthik. It's a great total but given how the surface is playing and the fast outfield, I feel it'll be a close game. Well played by @rcbtweets in the first half!," Tendulkar said in his tweet. Tendulkar's former Team India teammate Sehwag also shared

a special tweet for the middle-order batter of the Bangalore-based fran-

You've got to swallow your ego sometimes and hang in there: Buttler

Rajasthan Royals opener Jos Buttler had no qualms in admitting that he struggled to get going initially against Gujarat Titans in the first qualifier, saying sometimes you have to "swallow your ego" and hang in there without panicking. This season's Orange Cap

holder Buttler, who now has 718 runs in 15 games, initially failed to time the ball and was 39 off his first 38 balls. But the opener shifted gears

in style and smacked another 50 off his next 18 deliveries faced to lift RR's total to a challenging "I was determined to hang

in there. It was a big game for us and we wanted to make sure to put a big score," Buttler said at the post-match press conference after RR's seven-wicket loss to "Sometimes you got to swal-

low your ego, if you are finding it hard, you are finding it hard. I don't try to force too much,

"The opposition would prefer me to panic and get out, just try to hang in there. I knew at some point I would get away. I trusted myself. Today, it came late in the innings," he added. Buttler also had plenty of

luck go his way as he got two reprieves in the middle in his 89 off 56 balls. It was Sanju Samson who gave RR a fiery start with his 47

Royals skipper took some pressure off him. "Yes I was finding it tough to start with and then Sanju came in and played well from

off 26 and Buttler said the



ball one. He took a lot of pressure off me. I wouldn't say it was my most fluent innings but I just tried to hang in there and managed to get a little bit away in the

The 189-run target proved insufficient for the Royals as David Miller and Hardik Pandya shared a 106-run unbroken partnership for the fourth wicket to seal a win and take GT to the final in their maiden IPL season. "We just could not break that partnership, if we managed to take a wicket and found a way to break that partnership, it would have been crucial for us. The deeper they took, the harder it became for us.

"But we are still alive in the tournament after finishing in the

top-two, we still got a chance. We're disappointed today, but still in the tournament," he

The Purple Cap-holder Yuzvendra Chahal and India senior off-spinner R Ashwin, who have a combined tally of 37 wickets this season, were wicketless and leaked 72 runs against the Titans. "Those two guys have been outstanding for us this sea-

son. It's a tough place for bowlers

— spin or pace bowling.

"It's a small ground with a fast outfield. A lot of boundaries are available on this particular ground. So it is always going to be tough. There was a bit of dew also in the second innings," he said, throwing his support to the

Hardik says his name 'always sells, no problem with it'

PTI ■ KOLKATA

n his short international career, Hardik Pandya has seen it all — highs and lows, injuries, surgery, being embroiled in controversies — but he says he faces them with a smiling face. Putting behind all these, Pandya has

shone not just as an all-rounder but as a leader, taking an under-rated Gujarat Titans to the final in a dream IPL debut "People always talk, that's their job. I can't help," Pandya said after Titans win.

"The name 'Hardik Pandya' always sells. I've no problem with it, I just take it easy with a smiling face." After making his international debut in 2016 following his success with

Mumbai Indians, expectations skyrocketed with Pandya as he was compared with the legendary World Cup-winning India skipper Kapil Dev. In 2019, Pandya was suspended for

his loose talk on women on 'Koffee with



committee of the BCCI. The 28-year-old star all-rounder

made his last appearance for India against Namibia in the T20 World Cup in Dubai on November 8 and then strug-Karan'. He later apologised to the inquiry gled to manage his bowling workload

post his back surgery. Released by Mumbai Indians, Hardik was picked by Gujarat's for ₹15 crore ahead of this IPL season. Questions were raised when he was handed captaincy for a team making its debut, but Pandya has delivered,

be it with the bat, ball or in his 'Captain Cool' demeanour, much like his mentor "Obviously Mahi bhai has played a

big role in my life. He's a dear brother, a dear friend, and family to me," Pandya "...I've learnt a lot of good things from him. For me, it was more about being individually strong which I'm really proud of myself as well how I was able to manage all the parts."

Mostly coming at number four, Pandya is at the fifth spot in the chart for most prolific batters this season, with 453 runs at a 45-plus average and a healthy strike rate of 132.84.

Pandya has also come handy with the ball, giving crucial breakthroughs for his team. He has bowled 26.3 overs so far and taken five wickets with an economy of 7.73. "Before the captaincy as well, I always made sure that I approached all the situations in a cool-headed way. Generally, you make better decisions that way," he said about his recipe for success in this IPL.

Test rankings: Kohli, Rohit, Ashwin maintain their top-10 positions

 $B_{\text{Sri Lankan veteran Angelo}}^{\text{angladesh's Liton Das and}}$ Mathews have made valuable gains in the ICC Men's Test Rankings after fine performances in the drawn first match while there has been no movement in latest top-10 list issued by the world body.

In the batter's list, Marnus Labuschagne maintained his pole position while India captain Rohit Sharma and his predeces-

at eighth and 10th place respectively. Similarly in bowling, Pat Cummins (901 points) has a 51point lead over his nearest rival Ravichandran Ashwin, who is followed by countryman Jasprit Bumrah. India's Ravindra Jadeja also remained on top of the allrounders' table.

With only Sri Lanka and Bangladesh engaged in a WTC series, it was inevitable that players from those two nations earned points.

I feel extremely backed: Miller after his match-winning knock against RR

AGENCIES KOLKATA

(A) ATHER

mee.

After helping Gujarat Titans to seal a spot in the final of the ongoing Indian Premier League 2022 on Tuesday, star batter David Miller said continued backing from the team has played a big role in improving his game in this season.

Miller was the chief creator of GT's brilliant great seven-wicket win over Rajasthan Royals. David Miller played a ballistic knock of 68 from 38 balls and captain Hardik Pandya's 40 off 27 balls guided debutants Gujarat Titans to a

> seven-wicket win over the inaugural champions Rajasthan Royals at the Eden Gardens. "I think opportunity,

firstly (what's changed?). I've been given a role, I felt extremely backed from the outset. My personal game - I'm enjoying my role, I've been playing for many years now. Understanding

my game a lot better. In high-pressure situations, you tend to go away from your game plan but I feel like I'm trying to keep everything together close to the game plan", said David Miller

in a post-match presentation. David Miller further said that the plus point of IPL is that

you play for different teams in it.

"There has been a lot of going wide to me on the off-side, so I decided actually for the first time to step across. Backed me and went with it. The rest I tried to hit as hard as possible. That's the joys of IPL you play for different teams, and get

to meet different players," he added. Miller struck five sixes, including three in the final over when 16 runs were needed in a thrilling chase of 189

Gill feels he doesn't have to prove anything to anyone

KOLKATA: Chasing a challenging 189-run target, Shubman Gill along with Matthew Wade laid a solid foundation striking a 72run partnership for the second wicket to pave way for a seven-wicket win over Rajasthan Royals here at the Eden Gardens Stadium on Tuesday to enter the final of the IPL. The GT opener scored 35 off 21 balls hitting five fours and one six. "Kolkata has always been nice to me, fortunately, it was one of those nights where we were on the winning side, happy we are in the final. After Saha got out, we got off to a good start in the powerplay, batting in the Eden Gardens is always fun," said Shubman.

Talking about the batting surface and his team, he said "We expected the surface to be better, but the ball was holding a bit and spinners were getting a bit of grip on this wicket. It's a new team but the way the support staff and players have come together has been tremendous to watch, we are all really enjoying our cricket.

Shubman further added that he played well for Gujarat and had a good season.

"There hasn't been any added pressure on me, I was picked (in the draft) because I have done well for my earlier franchises, I don't have to prove anything to anyone, I just had to contribute to my team and play well for them. It was nice to watch (from sidelines), a semi-final and your teammates are doing the job, it was amazing," he added.

as Gujarat Titans became the 3rd team to reach

the final in their debut season. "It was a new team so there are a few butterflies here and there. From the first win, everything sort of aligned. You have to control what you can, can't think too much ahead. Concentrate on your breathing, and if it's in your area, you have to capitalise. We've got a few days off. There's a bus trip back, we'll have a few drinks and celebrate," said

Gujarat Titans will now wait to see who among Lucknow Super Giants, Royal Challengers Bangalore and Rajasthan Royals meet them in the title clash in Ahmedabad on May 29.

Mathews, de Silva keep Sri Lanka alive 5 at stumps on the third day, still trailing



ngelo Mathews and Dhananjaya de Silva each hit Aa fifty and put on a 102-run partnership to keep Sri Lanka going strong in the rain-hit second Test against Bangladesh on Wednesday

Mathews remained unbeaten on 58 after de Silva went out with the same score to take Sri Lanka to 282-

sion but the duo stepped up their scoring rate to make up for lost time, with de Silva

Bangladesh by 83 runs.

striking nine fours before Shakib Al Hasan The right-hander, who faced 95 balls, was

Rain washed out entire post-lunch ses-

initially given not out on a caught-behind appeal before Bangladesh successfully reviewed.

Mathews, who smashed four fours and a six, was batting with Dinesh Chandimal on 10 Bangladesh made early inroads after Sri

Lanka resumed on 143-2, Ebadot Hossain bowl-

ing nightwatchman Kasun Rajitha for a duck

with the second ball of the day.

A gem of a delivery from Shakib dismissed Dimuth Karunaratne for 80 soon afterwards, with the Sri Lankan skipper adding 10 to his overnight score.

Shakib tossed the ball up on off-stump and Karunatne went for a drive but saw the flighted delivery dip and turn between bat and pad before crashing into his stumps.

Karunaratne, who was dropped on 37.

struck nine boundaries in his 15th Test fifty.

De Silva hit Ebadot for three fours in one over just before the break after he and Mathews survived a difficult spell from the right-arm pace bowler and Shakib.

Shakib, the most successful bowler for Bangladesh so far, has claimed 3-59.

Kerber, Azarenka win; Emma out

ormer Grand Slam champions Angelique Kerber and Victoria Azarenka advanced to the third round of the French Open on Wednesday.

Kerber, who won her first clay title in six years on the eve of the French Open, defeated French wildcard and 2020 junior champion Elsa Jacquemot 6-1, 7-6 (7/2) as she seeks the only Grand Slam missing from her collection.

The German 21st seed next plays Aliaksandra Sasnovich, the Belarusian who knocked out US Open champion Emma Raducanu 3-6, 6-1, 6-1

"I think the last week was really important for me to get the title," former number one Kerber said of her Strasbourg triumph. "I had a lot of confidence. It's

great to be back here and I hope I can still play a few more matches. "When you achieve everything you want, you play for the love of the game. I just love the sport. Let's

see how long I can keep playing at a high level." Azarenka, a two-time Australian Open winner, beat 2014 Roland Garros semi-finalist Andrea Petkovic 6-1, 7-6 (7/3). She meets Swiss 23rd seed Jil Teichmann for a place in the

fourth round.

Sakkari crashed out in the French Open second round, going down 7-6 (7/5), 7-6 (7/4) to Czech world number 81 Karolina Muchova.

Sakkari, a 2021 Roland Garros semi-finalist, is the fifth women's top-10 seed to lose in the first four days at Roland Garros.

Muchova has matched her run to the third round from 12 months ago and will next play 27th seed Amanda Anisimova, who reached the last four in Paris three years



added the world number 47 from

"They have families there. It's a very bad situation for them. We try to live our lives and find the positives. These are tough times.

"I would have no problem if I had to play against a player from

On Wednesday, Sasnovich made the third round of the French Open for the first time by stunning US Open champion and 12th seed Emma Raducanu 3-6, 6-1, 6-1.

'AGAINST THE WAR'

Belarus tennis star Aliaksandra Sasnovich may be banned from Wimbledon but she insisted Wednesday that she opposed the ongoing war in Ukraine and supports players from the embattled country "100%".

Belarusian players such as Sasnovich, compatriot and former world number one Victoria Azarenka, as well as a host of Russians including men's world number two Daniil Medvedev, were declared persona non grata by Wimbledon in response to the invasion of Ukraine.

"I wanted to play Wimbledon so much, it's one of my favourite tournaments but I respect the decision," the 28-year-old said.

"Normally, I speak with some of the Ukraine players. We are not

friends, we are just colleagues but I support them 100%.

T want the war to finish as soon as possible. I don't support the war and am against the violence. I just want peace.'

1ST SLAM MAIN DRAW WIN

Indian tennis player Ramkumar Ramanathan cherished his first ever main draw win at a Grand Slam as he combined with American Hunter Reese to beat the German team of Daniel Altmaier and Oscar Otte in the men's doubles event of the French Open, here on Wednesday.

Ramkumar, who has made umpteen attempts to crack a singles main draw of a Grand Slam without success, and Reese beat their rivals 7-6(4) 6-3 in their opening round of the clay court The 27-year-old Indian had

broken into the doubles top-100 early this year, following his maiden ATP Tour title win with compatriot Rohan Bopanna in Adelaide and at home in Pune, competing in the Tata Open Maharashtra.

Rohan Bopanna and his Dutch partner Matwe Middelkoop had progressed to the second round with 6-4, 6-1 win over local wild cards Sascha Gueymard Wayenburg and Luca Van Assche, on Tuesday.

SAKKARI OUT

Greek fourth seed Maria

ing player. It was a big fight, a little bit of a test and challenge for me

mer world number one and fourtime Grand Slam title winner

and I'm happy I took it the way I did," said Muchova.

The 25-year-old reached the semi-finals at last year's Australian Open and the last eight for the second time at Wimbledon, but is playing just her fourth tournament since the US Open after struggling with an abdominal injury. "It's an amazing feeling I can play again

Sasnovich also said she "respects" the controversial decision of the ATP and WTA to strip Wimbledon of ranking points.

That move has prompted a "It's very special, she's an amaz-number of players, including for-

Naomi Osaka, to consider with-drawing from Wimbledon which starts on June 27.

Wimbledon chiefs said the ATP and WTA decision was "disproportionate".

Russian men's star Andrey Rublev said the atmosphere in the sport is currently "toxic" while French player Benoit Paire believes '99%" of players want a Wimbledon with points.

"I'm sorry for Russia and Russians, but they are the ones causing all the trouble," he said.

Sasnovich said she talks to Ukrainian players in the locker

"I ask them how they feel. We

Wimbledon 'will never be an exhibition': Murray

AP ■ PARIS

Two-time former Wimbledon champion Andy Murray ofr Britain on Wednesday said that the tournament "will never feel like an exhibition" despite it being stripped of ranking points over the ban on Russian and Belarusian

The decision by the ATP and WTA to remove the sport's most prestigious tournament of ranking points has prompted some players to say they may skip Wimbledon, the year's third Grand Slam.

"I'd hazard a guess that most eople watching on centre court Wimbledon in a few weeks' time wouldn't know or care about how many ranking points a player gets for winning a 3rd round match," tweeted Murray.

"But I guarantee they will remember who wins. Wimbledon will never be an exhibition and will never feel like an exhibition."

Former world number one Naomi Osaka has revealed she is "leaning towards not playing" Wimbledon while defending champion Novak Djokovic said he will play despite losing 2,000

But Djokovic described it as "lose-lose situation", and the controversy has showed no signs of abating, with several players at the ongoing French Open likening Wimbledon to a high-profile exhibition event this year.

"I follow golf very closely and have no idea how many ranking points the winner of the the Masters gets," said Murray, who opted to miss the French Open to prepare for the grass-court season.

'Me and my friends love football and none of us know or care how many ranking points a team gets for winning the FIFA World

"But I could tell you exactly who won the World Cup and the

Chelsea sale gets green light from UK Government

The UK government on Wednesday announced it had given the green light to Todd Boehly's proposed takeover of Chelsea football club from the sanctioned Russian oligarch Roman Abramovich.

Culture, Media and Sport Nadine Dorries said she had issued a licence permitting the deal late on Tuesday, shortly after it won approval from the Premier League.

"We are satisfied the proceeds of the sale will not benefit Roman Abramovich or other sanctioned individuals," Dorries tweeted. "Given the sanctions we

placed on those linked to (Vladimir) Putin and the bloody invasion of Ukraine, the longterm future of the club can only be secured under a new owner,' she said. A consortium led by Boehly,

a co-owner of baseball's Los Angeles Dodgers, had already agreed a record £4.25 billion deal to buy the Premier League club from Abramovich on May 7.

The Premier League said its approval hinged on the government sale licence "and the satis-



factory completion of the final stages of the transaction".

Officials wanted everything completed on Tuesday so Chelsea could meet all registration deadlines for next season's

football competitions. Abramovich put Chelsea on the market in early March, just before he was sanctioned by Britain following Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Completing the purchase has been a lengthy process due to government concerns over the potential for Abramovich to profit from the sale.

The total value of the deal smashes the previous record for the sale of a sports team - \$2.4 billion for the New York Mets baseball franchise in 2020.

Liverpool's Klopp named PL manager of the year

Liverpool's Jurgen Klopp has been named the League Managers' Association Premier League Manager of the Year, it was announced on Tuesday.

The Reds won both the English League

Cup and FA Cup, beating Chelsea in penalty shoot-outs at Wembley on both occasions.

League title to Manchester City by just a point after both Klopp's men and Pep Guardiola's side won their respective matches on Sunday's final day of a thrilling Klopp, collecting his accolade at the

LMA Awards dinner in London on Tuesday, said: "It is a great honour and it was an insane season. The last matchday when only two

games were meaningless and in the rest, we all played for absolutely everything.

"It was not the best outcome for us, but we are already over it."

The German, paying tribute to his backroom team, added: "When you win a prize like this you are either a genius or you have the best coaching staff in the world — and I am here with all of my coaching staff, they know how much I appreciate them."
Klopp also collected the Sir Alex

Ferguson Trophy, named in honour of the celebrated former Manchester United boss, which is voted for by the full membership of managers across all the divisions in English senior football.

"This being voted for by my colleagues



is obviously the most important prize you

can get," Klopp said. I don't believe in individual prizes in football generally, it is a team sport and I would be nothing without these boys

"It is all about what we can do togeth-

er and what we did together." Liverpool may have been denied an unprecedented quadruple by City, but they will now try to add the Champions League to their impressive trophy haul this season when they face Real Madrid in a Paris final

on Saturday.

India will put up fantastic show in U-17 WC: Aditi

Star India women's football team goalkeeper Aditi Chauhan feels that the under-17 team is not short on preparation for the upcoming World Cup despite the absence of senior nationals in the country since 2019. India organised its last U-17 National Championships

in April 2019 before the coronavirus outbreak upset all plans. But Aditi feels the Indian team is on the right track and would be one of the sides to watch out for in the U-17 Women's World Cup.

"This group has been preparing for this moment for

"They've been getting regular match time and training regularly and hopefully, they'll be able to gain more exposure and play more friendlies before the World Cup. "I am confident that they will put on a fantastic per-

formance in front of their home crowd at the World Cup.' India under coach Thomas Dennerby has already named 33 probables who are currently training in Jamshedpur. There have been questions about the selection

policies without a national tournament. 'I think India has a lot of potential in their U-17 squad and I have been lucky to play with a few of them.

The young girls have shown their fighting spirit in their last SAFF Cup where they were the champions. The players have been practicing together for a long

time and I am sure India will be one of the teams to watch out for," she said. The tournament is slated from October 17-30 in the

five cities of Bhubaneswar, Kolkata, Guwahati, Ahmedabad and Navi Mumbai. "The U-17 World Cup is going to be a huge opportu-

nity for our girls to play and compete against the best in the world.

"It is important that we put on a good display because all eyes will be on our team from across the world. We can demonstrate that women's

football in India is progressing on the

our ranks, and I'm sure

we'll see a lot of Indian

players playing in foreign

leagues in the coming

years," the star goalkeeper

from Tamil Nadu added.



India need luck, big win against Indonesia

PTI ■ JAKARTA

Defending champions India need to beat hosts Indonesia by a huge margin and hope Japan defeat Pakistan in the other Pool A match for advancing to the knockout stage of the Asia Cup men's hockey tournament here on Thursday.

India's fate is not in their own hands anymore as even a win against lowly Indonesia will not guarantee them a knock-out berth. Japan will have to beat Pakistan to keep India's faint hopes alive.

With a draw and a loss, India are placed third in Pool A behind Japan (6 points) and Pakistan (4 points).

Under the guidance of Sardar Singh, India fielded a young team in the tournament alongside a handful of seniors like Birendra Lakra and SV Sunil, who came out of retirements. But the senior duo looked well past their prime if their performances in the two matches so far are to go by.

India conceded a last minute goal to draw 1-1 against Pakistan in their

tournament opener before being thrashed by Japan 2-5.

But now, a "next to impossible" task awaits the Indians as they not only have to score big against Indonesia but also hope that Japan beat Pakistan in the other Pool A match on Thursday if they are to progress to the Super 4 stage.

India have a goal difference of minus three as against Pakistan's plus 13. If Pakistan lose to Japan, India will have to beat Indonesia by a huge margin to go past their western neighbours in goal difference and advance further in the tournament.

Inexperience was the major reason behind India's below-par performances as the young players, mainly drafted from the last Junior World Cup squad, are finding it difficult to get a measure of the level of international

Indians lacked cohesion in the three departments — defence, midfield and forwardline. The Indians lacked a quality playmaker in the midfield, which was evi-

In the two matches so far, the



dent from their constant efforts of building attacks from the centre instead of using both the flanks more Lakrá looked a pale shadow of

himself in the backline, which has crumbled big time when put under relentless pressure. The forwadline has been wasteful with the likes of Tokyo Olympian

Simranjeet Singh and youngster Uttam Singh not having the best of outings. The lanky and strongly built Pawan Rajbhar is the only player who have impressed with his commitment and stick work in the two matches, creat-

ing chances and also scoring a goal. Penalty corner conversion is another area where the Indians are struggling as they lack a quality drag-flicker in the side after veteran Rupinder Pal Singh pulled out at the last minute due to a wrist injury.
With the odds staked against

them, the young Indian players could

be pepped up to give their best shot on Thursday and show they can rise to the