

## OPINION 6

JUSTICE DELAYED  
IS JUSTICE DENIED

## WORLD 8

LANKAN PM STRESSES URGENCY  
FOR ECONOMIC REFORM PLAN

## MONEY 10

STRUCTURAL REFORMS MUST  
FOR INCLUSIVE GROWTH: RBI

NEW DELHI, SATURDAY MAY 28, 2022; PAGES 12 ₹3

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LIVERPOOL  
TO FACE  
REAL IN CL  
12 SPORT

## CAPSULE

3RD MODEL FOUND DEAD  
WITHIN WEEK IN KOLKATA

**Kolkata:** A third model was on Friday found dead in mysterious conditions in a matter of little more than a week. Model-cum-small time television actress Manjushri Neyogi was found hanging from the ceiling fan of her room at Patuli area in the southern fringes of Kolkata just a couple of days after her friend and co-model Bidisha De Majumdar was found dead in her Dum-Dum flat. **P5**

UCC COMMITTEE  
ANNOUNCED IN U'KHAND

**Dehradun:** Uttarakhand Govt announces a drafting committee to implement Uniform Civil Code. The State Committee is headed by retired SC judge Ranjana Desai and comprises retired Delhi HC judge Pramod Kohli, ex-State chief secretaries Shatrughan Singh, Manu Gaud & Surekha Dangwal as members.

ED SUMMONS FAROOQ IN  
MONEY LAUNDERING CASE

**New Delhi:** The Enforcement Directorate has summoned Lok Sabha member Farooq Abdullah on May 31 at its Srinagar office in connection with a money laundering case linked to alleged financial irregularities in the Jammu & Kashmir Cricket Association, officials said on Friday.

BJP GAINS MAJORITY IN  
KARNATAKA COUNCIL

**Bengaluru:** All the seven candidates in the fray for the biennial election to Karnataka Legislative Council, slated to be elected by the MLAs, were on Friday declared as elected "unopposed".

NCB's clean chit to  
Aryan in drug case

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan's son Aryan Khan heaved a huge sigh of relief on Friday as the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) gave him a "clean chit" in the much-discussed mid-sea drug bust case, citing "lack of sufficient evidence" against him.

Apart from Aryan, the NCB also spared five others — Avin Sahu, Gopal Anand, Samir Saighan, Bhaskar Aroda and Manav Singhal — of prosecution in the October 3, 2021 drug bust.

In effect, the NCB did not name Aryan and five others in the charge-sheet before a special court in the drug bust case on Friday.

However, the NCB filed a 6,000-page charge-sheet in the special court against 14 others, including Arbaaz Merchant and Munmun Dhamecha, in the case, before the expiry of the extended deadline for filing of the charge-sheet in the case.

The Special Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act court had on March 31 granted 60 days' extension to the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) to file a charge-sheet in the much-discussed drug-bust case in which Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan's son Aryan Khan and others are accused.



Hours after the charge-sheet against 14 persons, NCB Director General SN Pradhan said his organisation had applied "the touchstone of the principle of proof beyond reasonable doubt" while filing the charge-sheet in the case.

"All accused were found in possession of narcotics except Aryan (Khan) and Mohak (Jaiswal). The touchstone of the principle of proof beyond reasonable doubt has been applied. Based on which a complaint has been filed against 14 accused and a complaint against six (including Aryan Khan) is not filed due to lack of sufficient evidence," Pradhan said in a statement released to media.

Continued on Page 2

Govt orders action  
against Sameer  
Wankhede for  
'shoddy' probe

**New Delhi:** The Union Government has ordered action against former NCB officer Sameer Wankhede for his alleged "shoddy" work while probing a "drugs-on-cruise" case in which Aryan was arrested last year.

Appropriate action is also being initiated against Wankhede for allegedly providing a fake caste certificate, officials added.

I inspect dev work with  
drones, reveals ModiPIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■  
NEW DELHI

Painting a very promising future for drone technology in India, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday revealed he even "conducts surprise inspections of development work across the country with the help of drones".

And maintaining that they would also help in ensuring last-mile delivery of services across the country, Modi attacked previous regimes when "technology was considered part of the problem and efforts were made to portray it as anti-poor." Inaugurating the two-day Bharat Drone Mahotsav 2022, Modi said the use of drones will rise in agriculture, sports, defence and disaster management sectors.

"Every month I organise a pragati meeting with Government officials and review the development works in various parts of the country with the help of drones. I conduct surprise inspections of development work across the country with the help of drones," Modi pointed out giving an interesting insight into his drone-linked governance style. "Exactly eight years ago we started implementing new mantras of good governance in India following the path of minimum Government - maximum governance. Today we are making technology avail-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi flies a drone at the inauguration of the Bharat Drone Mahotsav, at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi. Union Minister for Civil Aviation Jyotiraditya M Scindia and MoS for Civil Aviation General VK Singh are also seen **PTI**

able to the masses first," said Modi at India's biggest drone festival here at Pragati Maidan.

Due to misplaced aversion, he said there was an atmosphere of indifference regarding the use of technology in governance before 2014. "The poor, the deprived,

and the middle class suffered the most due to this," he said.

He also recalled the complicated procedures for availing of basic facilities leading to a sense of deprivation and fear.

"In earlier Governments technology was considered part of the problem and efforts

were made to portray it as anti-poor," he further said.

Modi said progress is possible only when we change with time adding "We have made technology a key tool to impart new strength, speed and scale to the country".

Continued on Page 2

Chautala gets  
4-yr jail in DA  
case, slapped  
with ₹50L fine

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A Rouse Avenue court on Friday awarded a four-year jail term to former Haryana Chief Minister Om Prakash Chautala in a disproportionate assets (DA) case. The court also imposed a fine of ₹50 lakh on 87-year-old Chautala and ordered the seizure of four of his properties.

In his judgment convicting Chautala, Special Judge Vikas Dhull noted that the accused had acquired disproportionate assets to the tune of 103 per cent of the known sources of income.

According to the order passed by the court, out of the ₹50 lakh fine amount of ₹5 lakh would be given to the CBI from that.

Continued on Page 2

7 jawans  
killed after  
vehicle falls  
into riverPIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■  
JAMMU

At least seven Indian Army jawans died and 19 others received critical injuries after the vehicle they were traveling in fell into the Shyok River, 25 km ahead of Thoise, in Turtuk sector of Ladakh on Friday.

According to official sources, all 19 injured personnel have been airlifted to the Western command's hospital in Chandimandir, Panchkula, for advanced medical treatment.

The accident took place around 9 am, official sources said. At the time of the incident, soldiers were on their way to a forward location in sub-sector Hanif.

According to field reports, the Army vehicle fell into the Shyok River to a depth of approximately 50 to 60 feet from the road.

Continued on Page 2

CBI summons  
Rubaiya Saeed  
in her 1989  
abduction case

PTI ■ JAMMU

A special CBI court here has summoned Rubaiya Sayeed, daughter of former Jammu & Kashmir Chief Minister Mufti Mohammed Sayeed, on July 15 in a case related to her kidnapping in 1989, officials said on Friday.

This is the first time Rubaiya Sayeed has been asked to appear in the case relating to her abduction on December 8, 1989. She was freed from captivity five days later on December 13 after the then VP Singh Government released five terrorists from the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) in her exchange.

Rubaiya Sayeed, who stays in Chennai, is listed as a prosecution witness by the CBI which took over the investigation in early 1990.

Continued on Page 2

3 botch up Fast  
& Furious, land  
in prison after  
stealing 40 cars

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police has arrested three men, who were inspired by the Hollywood blockbuster "The Fast and the Furious", for stealing over 40 cars using hi-tech tools, including scanners and GPS jammers.

The accused — identified as Manish Rao (42) and Jagdeep Sharma (43), both residents of Uttam Nagar and Aas Mohammad (40), a native of Meerut — had stolen the cars from Uttam Nagar, Tilak Nagar, Subash Nagar, Pashim Vihar, Munirka and Dwarka among other places in Delhi.

The Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), Southwest district, Manoj C, said police teams worked relentlessly and gathered information about people involved in stealing cars and ultimately arrested them.

Detailed Report on P3

Inverted rifle,  
helmet shifted  
from India Gate  
to War MemorialPIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■  
NEW DELHI

The iconic Inverted Rifle and Helmet at Amar Jawan Jyoti, India Gate, was on Friday shifted by the Armed forces in a ceremony to the National War Memorial. Symbol of Fallen Soldiers of 1971 war, the Rifle and Helmet are now installed in the midst of busts of Param Vir Chakra awardees.

With this process, integration of Memorial of Fallen Soldiers of 1971 war with the National War Memorial is complete, the Defence Ministry said here on Friday.

The ceremony was led by Chief of Integrated Defence Staff to Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee (CISC) Air Marshal BR Krishna and attended by Adjutant General (AG) equivalents from three Services. As part of the ceremony, a final salute was given and the CISC offered a wreath at India Gate.

Detailed Report on P4

Shree's Tomb of Sand first  
Hindi novel to bag BookerPIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■  
KOCHI

*Tomb of Sand*, a Hindi novel authored by New Delhi-based Geetanjali Shree, the unassuming literary figure, and translated into English by Daisy Rockwell based in the USA, won the International Booker Prize 2022 on Friday.

*Tomb of Sand*, originally titled *Ret Ki Samadhi* and published in 2018, is the first Hindi work translated to English to have received the coveted recognition. Penguin India released its English translation in March 2022. The book has also been the winner of the English Pen Award. Within hours of hitting bookshelves across the nation, *Tomb of Sand* became a hotly debated and discussed literary work among readers.

The story revolves around an octogenarian woman slipping into a deep depression after the death of her husband and then resurfaces to gain a new lease of life. The change in



Author Geetanjali Shree, right, and translator Daisy Rockwell pose with the 2022 International Booker Prize author and translator awards for Shree's novel 'Tomb of Sand' in London on Thursday **PTI**

Ma's way of thinking and her new found interest in life confuses even her daughter who considers herself as ultramodern. The author takes the reader from the present day to the days of Partition, a time which

saw the protagonist undergoing traumas and shock. Ma, through her eyes and words, re-evaluates what it means to be a mother, daughter, a woman and a feminist.

Continued on Page 2



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OIC’S STATEMENT ON YASIN MALIK VERDICT

India slams OIC for unacceptable comments

AGENCIES ■ NEW DELHI

India on Monday slammed the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) for its “unacceptable” comments on the judgment in the case of Kashmiri separatist leader Yasin Malik, who has been awarded life imprisonment for terror funding. Malik had pleaded guilty for terror funding crimes and was convicted of terror funding, spreading terrorism, and secessionist activities in the Valley in 2017. Malik, who headed the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF), was handed a life sentence by a court Delhi on Wednesday. The OIC’s Independent Human Rights Commission (OIC-IHRC) had expressed “deep concern” over the 56-

year-old’s Malik’s sentencing in terror funding case. Reacting to the OIC’s statements, Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi on Friday said, “India finds unacceptable the comments by OIC-IPHRC today criticising India for judgement in the case of Yasin Malik. Through these comments, OIC-IPHRC has implicitly expressed support for terrorist activities of Yasin Malik, which were documented and presented in the court.” The statement added that the world seeks ‘zero tolerance’ of terrorism and urged the OIC not to justify terror activities in any manner. The MEA said the OIC had “implicitly expressed support for terrorist activities of Yasin Malik, which were documented and presented in the court.”

LG surveys stretch between Raj Niwas and Connaught Place

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Continuing with his inspection visits on roads, Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena on Friday took stock of the stretch between Raj Niwas and Connaught Place along with Senior Officers in-charge of horticulture from concerned ULBs and Departments/Agencies. Stopping at Vikas Bhawan 2, Chandagi Ram Akhara, Monastery- ISBT, the over bridge connecting Geeta Colony on the road behind the Samadhi complex, the turning towards ITO near Arun Jaitley Firoz shah Kotla stadium and Sikandra Road, Saxena pointed out the lack of uniformity and haphazard growth of plants, dried up vegetation, litter and garbage, mounds of malba as a result of desilitation and construction/repair waste on central verges, foot paths and the vacant stretches besides them. The Lieutenant Governor instructed officials to address these issues and rectify them by

undertaking watering of drying vegetation by using recycled water; pruning and shaping haphazard growth of plants and trees that were obstructing pathways, roads and foot paths physically and also creating dark spots by obstructing street lights, 3.removeal of garbage, malba and construction/repair waste; repair of pavements; refurbishing/ replacing broken flower/plant pots that went back as long as the CWG 2010, selection of aesthetically appealing and resilient plants, and grilling of ungrilled spaces. “All these works should be undertaken only between 12:00 PM in the night to 5:00 AM in the morning, so as to not inconvenience people, traffic and commuters”, the LG emphasized. Underlining the need to achieve and establish aesthetic uniformity in horticulture, plantations and grill designs across the Capital, the LG directed officials to immediately start work so that results could start becoming visible within the next 15 days.

Chhatrapati Shivaji scion Sambhajiraje withdraws from RS election fray

T N RAGHUNA/THA ■ MUMBAI

Having triggered a debate in the Maharashtra political circles about his decision to contest the forthcoming biennial Rajya Sabha (RS) polls as an Independent, Maratha warrior Chhatrapati Shivaji’s scion Chhatrapati Sambhajiraje on Friday withdrew from the RS poll fray, saying that he was doing so out of “self-respect” and to prevent ‘horse-trading’ in the polls. Sambhajiraje’s decision to withdraw from the RS poll fray came three days after the ruling Shiv Sena — ignoring his claims for poll nomination — had decided to nominate its Kolhapur district party chief Sanjay Pawar for the biennial RS polls scheduled for June 10. The Sena had announced Pawar’s nomination, after Sambhajiraje Chhatrapati refused to join the Sena to contest the biennial polls. Talking to media persons, Sambhajiraje — who is the 13th direct descendent of Chhatrapati Shivaji — hit out

Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray for “not honouring” his word to support his solo candidature and insisting that he (Sambhajiraje) should first join Shiv Sena before getting a ticket. “For me the RS seat is not the concern... The welfare of the masses is more important for me... I will go on a statewide tour to strengthen the idea of ‘Swarajya’ now and see my strength,” Sambhajiraje said. Sambhajiraje said that two Sena MPs had met him in a five-star hotel recently to discuss the issue and conveyed the CM’s desire that Sambhajiraje should become a Shiv Sena member and the party would immediately nominate him for RS. “I made it clear that I wish to contest as an independent and will not join any party for the RS ticket... Now, I shall have nothing to do with the RS elections,” Sambhajiraje said. Sambhajiraje said that he had no ‘angst or ill-will’ against any party as they all had their respective agendas to pursue and he respected their stand.

NCRPULSE

**27.45 CR LABOURERS REGISTERED ON NIC**  
**New Delhi:** The Centre has told the Supreme Court that approximately 27.45 crore unorganised labourers or migrant workers have been registered on a portal developed in consultation with the National Informatics Centre (NIC) on the basis of information given by states.

**SC STAYS HC BAIL CONDITION ON AZAM**  
**New Delhi:** The Supreme Court on Friday stayed the Allahabad High Court’s bail condition imposed on Samajwadi Party MLA Azam Khan directing the District Magistrate of Rampur for taking possession of land attached to the Jauhar University campus in an alleged grabbing of enemy property case.

**SC DIRECTS BCI TO REPLY ON CONTEMPT PLEA**  
**New Delhi:** The Supreme Court has directed the Bar Council of India to file a detailed reply on a contempt plea alleging disobedience of its order asking state bar bodies to decide complaints against lawyers within a year. The Bar Council of India is required to see that the directions issued by this Court are truly and fully complied with by the Bar Council of India as well as all the State Bar Council/s, the court said.

**NOTARIES ONLINE PORTAL LAUNCHED**  
**New Delhi:** Seeking to usher in more transparency and reduce the use of paper, Law Minister Kiren Rijiju on Friday launched a dedicated portal for receiving applications online from those applying to become notaries. Union Minister of State for Law S P Singh Baghel was also present at the launch of Notaries Online Application Portal.

**181 CANDIDATES REGISTER FOR NEET-2022**  
**New Delhi:** The number of registrations for medical entrance exam NEET has crossed 18 lakh this year, recording a significant jump of over 2.5 lakh since 2021. Over 18.72 lakh candidates have registered for the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) out of which over 10.64 lakh are women and 8.07 lakh are men.

7 jawans killed after vehicle falls....

**From Page 1**  
Local teams comprising rescue workers and medical staff from the Partapur field hospital were rushed to the spot to provide immediate medical aid to the injured soldiers. “Seven soldiers died on the spot while 19 others were later airlifted to the Chandimandir command hospital,” official sources said.

Shree’s Tomb.....

**From Page 1**  
“We are quite incoherent. We are both ecstatic and wonder if we are dreaming!” were the first reaction by the author, according to a release by Penguin Books, the publishers of Tomb of Sand. “This is a bolt from the blue but what a nice one, and I am still reeling. Tomb of Sand is an elegy for the world we inhabit, a laughing elegy that retains hope in the face of impending doom. The Booker will surely take it to many more people than it would

have reached otherwise,” said Shree while accepting the prize. Shree has four novels and several story collections to her credit. The jury that decided the prize was chaired by Frank Wynne, an Irish literary translator from French and Spanish. The judging panel consisted of Merve Emre, Associate Professor of English Literature at the University of Oxford, Zimbabwean lawyer and writer, Petina Gappah, translator and author, Jeremy Tiang, and Viv Groskop, writer, critic, broadcaster and stand-up comedian.

I inspect dev work with drones...

**From Page 1**  
Modi, who has been, for some time, advocating the increasing use of drone technology across the country, said technology has helped a lot in furthering the vision of saturation and in ensuring last-mile delivery. “And I know that we can achieve the goal of Antyodaya by moving forward at this pace and are able to provide the poor segment with their entitlement by the use of Jan Dhan, Aadhar, Mobile (JAM) trinity,” he said. Experience of the last 8 years further strengthens my belief, the Prime Minister said. Also, he said the use of drones will rise in sectors such as agriculture, sports, defence and disaster management. Till a few months ago, there were various restrictions on drone technology.

Chautala gets 4-yr jail in...

**From Page 1**  
The court also refused to grant Chautala 10 days’ time to surrender as requested by his lawyer Harsh Sharma. “Disproportionate assets acquired by the accused, during the check period, were to the tune of 103 per cent of the known sources of his income. The accused has failed to satisfactorily account for such disproportionality by proving his source of income or means by way of which he acquired assets during the check period,” the court said. Chautala, who appeared physically and was present in the courtroom , was found guilty under Section 13(1)(e) read with 13(2) of the Prevention of Corruption (PC) Act. After the conviction, his son Abhay Singh Chautala said he believes in the Indian justice system and hopes to get justice in the High Court.

CBI summons Rubaiya Saeed in her....

**From Page 1**  
Yasin Malik, chief of the banned JKLF who has recently been sentenced to life imprisonment in a terror funding case, is an accused in the case. The case had gone into virtual cold storage and was revived after Malik was picked up by the National Investigation Agency in 2019 on charges of terror funding. In January last year, the CBI, with help from Special Public Prosecutors Monika Kohli and S K Bhat, framed charges against 10 people, including Malik, in the Rubaiya kidnapping case that turned out to be a turning point in the Valley’s volatile history. The release of the five JKLF members was seen as a morale booster for terror groups, which had started raising their heads at the time. The CBI moved an application summoning Rubaiya Sayeed as she was listed as a prosecution witness.

NCB’s clean chit...

**From Page 1**  
The 14 persons who have been charge-sheeted in the case are: Arbaaz Merchant, Munmun Dhamecha, Vikrant Chhokar, Mohak Jaiswal, Ishmeet Singh Chadha, Gomit Chopra, Nupur Satija, Abdul Kadar Shaikh, Shreyas Nair, Manish Rajgariya, Aachit Kumar, Chinedu Igwe, Shivrav Harijan and Okoro Uzeoma. IRS officer Sameer Wankhede, then NCB’s Mumbai Zonal Director, who led the investigations in the case and is now attached to Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, refused to comment on the anti-drug agency’s decision to drop charges against Aryan and five others. It may be recalled that the NCB had arrested Aryan Khan, Arbaaz Merchant, Munmun Dhamecha and five others on October 3, after its officials busted a rave party and seized 13 grams of cocaine, 5 grams of MD (Mephedrone), 21 grams of Charas, 22 pills of MDMA (Ecstasy) and ₹1.33 lakh in cash from Goa-bound Cordelia Cruises’ Empress ship, off the Mumbai coast. Subsequently, the NCB arrested 12 more persons in connection with the mid-sea rave party. The permanent relief to Aryan in the sensational case came seven months after the Bombay High Court on October 28, 2021 granted bail to him and two others, 25 days after they were arrested in the sensational case.

Clean chit to Aryan slap on Opp face, says MVA

**T N RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI**  
Hours after the the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) gave ‘clean chit’ to Aryan Khan and 5 others in the mid-sea drug bust case, the ruling Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) leaders said on Friday that they stood “vindicated” and that the development was a “huge slap” on the Opposition BJP in the state. Defending currently incarcerated senior NCP leader and state minister Nawab Malik who had accused the NCB of trying to implicate falsely Aryan Khan and others in the drug bust case, NCP’s Chief Spokesperson Mahesh Tapase said: “Malik’s observations of how the entire raid was conducted and selection of witnesses having ‘close affinity with BJP’ was valid and now is laid bare by the NCB”. “We have always maintained that the NCB is a very credible organisation having impeccable track record but the way things were happening in recent times put question marks on the conduct of the organisation,” he said. “Nawab Malik had made serious allegations on the style of working of ( NCB’s then Mumbai zonal chief Samir Wankhede thereby drawing the ire of some powerful people in Delhi. Today Nawab Malik is paying the price for speaking the truth,” Tapase said. It may be recalled that Malik had dubbed the mid-drug bust case as a ‘farij-wada’ (fraud) perpetrated in collaboration with the BJP. Congress’ Chief Spokesperson Atul Londhe said the raid on the Goa-bound Cordelia Cruises’ Empress ship, off the Mumbai coast on October 2-3, 2021 and subsequent happenings were part of the “huge conspiracy by the BJP government misusing the central probe agencies to discredit and topple the MVA government” which have failed. “Now, the NCB’s decision to drop charges against Aryan and five others is a slap on their face... Satyameva Jayate... Instead of continuing to indulge in such tactics, it will be better if the BJP learns now that it works for the welfare of the people,” Londhe said.

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5) CB, SML SARTAJ UP15DT7330-YOM -2018 MINIMUM RESERVE PRICE 421721  
6) PRO 2110 EICHR\_VECV HR38AB3917-YOM -2021 MINIMUM RESERVE PRICE 860625  
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Mob. No. 839228226/9410121166, Email: purchase@kiccha@gmail.com  
संकेत : सेल/किच्छा/ 2022-23/305 ई-निविदा सूचना दिनांक : 27.05.2022  
निविदा बर्म 2022-23 के लिए सामग्री क्रय एवं जॉब कार्य हेतु, GST के अनुरूप पंजीकृत निर्माण/अधिकृत निष्कर्ष/सहम उद्देश्यों से, उत्तराखण्ड अधिष्ठान (प्रोक्वोरमेंट) नियमावली 2017 में निहित प्रविधानों के अनुरूप दो निविदा प्रणाली (Two Bid System) की ई-निविदायें [www.uktenders.gov.in](http://www.uktenders.gov.in) पर विभिन्न विधियों में आमंत्रित की जाती है। जिसकी विस्तृत सूचना मिल की वेबसाइट [www.kicchaugars.com](http://www.kicchaugars.com) पर उपलब्ध है। [www.uktenders.gov.in](http://www.uktenders.gov.in) पर प्राप्त निविदा ही मान्य होगी, अन्य माध्यम से प्राप्त निविदा स्वीकारी नहीं होगी। अधिशासी निदेशक

**मध्यप्रदेश गृह निर्माण एवं अधोसंरचना विकास मण्डल** प्रॉपर्टी फॉर सेल  
**इन्दौर शहर की प्राइम लोकेशन में बिखरे भवन, फ्लैट, कामायनी नगर एवं कादम्बरी नगर राज में विभिन्न श्रेणी के भवन उपलब्ध हैं ।** ई-ऑफर दिनांक 20.06.2022 तक आमंत्रित  
क्र. ई-ऑफर आई.डी. नम्बर उपलब्ध सम्पत्ति का स्थल सम्पत्ति का विवरण  
1. 024 कामायनी नगर राज SR. HIG. DM 5, DM 6 112.50 125.00 59.58 8.94 1180/-  
2. 024 कामायनी नगर राज SR. HIG. DM 7, DM 8, 114.00 125.00 59.96 8.99 1180/-  
3. 024 कामायनी नगर राज FL 05, FL 21, FL 24, 40.50 45.53 13.18 2.64 590/-  
4. 024 कामायनी नगर राज JR. MIG EL 43, EL 44, EL 45, EL 48 81.00 48.54 37.68 7.54 590/-  
5. 024 कामायनी नगर राज JR. HIG EL 09, EL 08, EL 13, EL 24, EL 26, EL 30, EL 36, EL 37 90.00 115.00 46.76 9.35 1180/-  
6. 024 कामायनी नगर राज JR. HIG EL 16 91.50 115.00 50.08 7.51 1180/-  
7. 024 कामायनी नगर राज JR. HIG EL 02 96.00 115.00 48.07 9.61 1180/-  
8. 024 कामायनी नगर राज JR. HIG EL 20, EL 34, EL 31 90.00 115.00 47.74 9.55 1180/-  
9. 024 कामायनी नगर राज JR. HIG EL 22, EL 32 91.50 115.00 48.08 9.62 1180/-  
10. 024 कामायनी नगर राज EWS FL 41, FL 50, FL 55 36.00 21.00 11.86 2.37 590/-  
11. 024 कामायनी नगर राज EWS EF 27, EF 35, EF 77, EF 138, EF 155, EF 156 40.50 24.91 10.63 2.13 590/-  
12. 024 कादम्बरी नगर राज इन्दौर SR. HIG DUPLEX CH-39 (3 BHK) 206.25 125.00 87.25 13.09 1180/-  
13. 024 कादम्बरी नगर राज इन्दौर BH 15 HIG DELUXE TYPE A 150.00 145.83 93.58 14.04 1180/-  
14. 024 कादम्बरी नगर राज इन्दौर BH 59 HIG DELUXE TYPE A 155.00 145.83 92.96 13.94 1180/-  
15. 024 कादम्बरी नगर राज इन्दौर BH 60 HIG DELUXE TYPE A 153.50 145.83 92.59 13.89 1180/-  
16. 024 कादम्बरी नगर राज इन्दौर BH 61 HIG DELUXE 184.53 145.83 104.85 15.73 1180/-  
17. 024 कादम्बरी नगर राज इन्दौर AH 5, 6, SUPER DELUXE 216.00 159.20 123.37 18.51 1180/-  
आवेदन एवं धरोहर राशि जमा करने की दिनांक 20.06.2022 बिड डालने की दिनांक 22.06.2022 समय 5.30 बजे सायं 15.07.2022 समय 5.30 बजे सायं ऑफर खोलने की दिनांक 24.06.2022 समय 11.30 प्रातः 17.07.2022 समय 11.30 प्रातः  
नियम एवं शर्तें :- 1. अस्वीकृत प्रस्तावों की धरोहर राशि एक माह में बिना कटौती एवं बिना ब्याज के आवेदन में अंकित बैंक अकाउन्ट में लौटाई जावेगी। आवेदन फार्म की राशि वापसी योग्य नहीं है। 2. प्रस्ताव प्रस्तुत करने के उपरांत आवेदन निरस्तीकरण पर 50 प्रतिशत धरोहर राशि राजसात कर शेष राशि वापस की जावेगी। 3. आवेदन एवं धरोहर राशि आनलाइन RTGS से जमा होगी। ऑफर आई.डी. रजिस्टर्ड मोबाइल पर प्राप्त होगा। मण्डल नियमानुसार लीजेंड एवं अन्य शुल्क, कर प्रयुक्त से देय होगा। 4. ऑफरदाता द्वारा प्रस्तुत ऑफर राशि ऑफर स्वीकृत होने के बाद मण्डल नियमानुसार जमा करना होगी। 5. राशि रुपये 50.00 लाख से अधिक की सम्पत्ति में प्रस्तुत ऑफर राशि अन्य शुल्क सहित 3 किश्तों में ब्याज सहित एक वर्ष की अवधि में जमा कराने की सुविधा। 6. आयकर अडिनियम अनुसार टी.डी.एस. नियम लागू। मण्डल को जमा की जाने वाली राशि पर टी.डी.एस. की राशि शासन को देय होगी। 7. वेबसाइट [www.mphousing.in/](http://www.mphousing.in/) [www.mponline.gov.in](http://www.mponline.gov.in) एम.पी. ऑनलाइन कियोस्क पर सुविधा उपलब्ध। 8. मण्डल/शासन के नियम, शर्तें बंधनकारी रहेगी।  
संपर्क : राजेश गुप्ता (सहायक यंत्री) मो. 94069-12054, संजय अग्रवाल (संपदा अधिकारी/संपदा प्रबंधक) मो. 8826644908, अरुण अवस्थी, उपयंत्री (कादम्बरी नगर) (कामायनी नगर) मो. 8085499919, पी.एन. उपाध्याय सहायक यंत्री (कामायनी) 9826377796, M.P. Online Help Line 0755-6720200, कार्यालय, संपदा प्रबंधक प्रक्षेत्र इन्दौर फोन : 0731-2551177  
सरल एवं पारदर्शी ऑनलाइन भुगतान की सुविधा उपलब्ध भुगतान की कोई असुविधा होने पर WhatsApp Help Desk Number 7974264023   /mphidd  /mphidd संपदा अधिकारी, प्रक्षेत्र इन्दौर म.प्र. माध्यम/105105/2022

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
To be known to all that my clients, (1) LALU KAPOOR S/O LATE O.P. KAPOOR, (2) SH. ANIL KAPOOR, S/O LATE O.P. KAPOOR, & (3) SH. ARUN KAPOOR S/O LATE O.P. KAPOOR, owners/mutates: Plot No.13, Block-B-5, SAFDARJUNG ENCLAVE, NEW DELHI have applied for conversion of the aforesaid property from lease hold to free hold vide File No.F.4(660)/1964/LAB(R) in DDA. The original documents i.e. Perpetual Lease Deed, Allotment / demand letter, Possession Letter, Site Possession Slip and C and D Form of the above said property has been lost. An NCR/LR NO.439259/2022 dated 26.05.2022 to this effect has been lodged in P.S. Crime Branch, Delhi. Any person(s) claiming any right, interest, having any objection or found in possession of original documents, may write/contact with above named person at above Address/Phone No.9650190006 within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. The person claiming any right, interest, objection with respect to this property, can personally inform or write to Deputy Director (LAB) Residential or Director (Land), DDA, Vikas Sadan, New Delhi. Naveen Aggarwal (Advocate) Ch.No. M-7, Near SBI, Western Wing, Tis Hazari Court, Delhi-54

**KEY CORP LIMITED**  
CIN No.:L65921UP1985PLC007547  
Regd. Office:16/16-A, Civil Lines, Kanpur - 208001  
Email: [keycorppltd@gmail.com](mailto:keycorppltd@gmail.com) ; Phone: 0512-3013416, 3010422, 2305416  
**STATEMENT OF AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULT FOR THE QUARTER AND YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022** (₹ in Lakhs)  

Sl. No	Particulars	Current Quarter ended	Corresponding Quarter ended	Year to date figures for current period ended	Previous year ended
1.	Total income from operations(net)	1753.26	945.74	1788.21	1405.56
2.	Net Profit / (Loss) from ordinary activities after tax	1731.38	927.50	1718.56	1268.39
3.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after Extraordinary items)	1731.38	927.50	1718.56	1268.39
4.	Equity Share Capital	0.00	0.00	600.00	600.00
5.	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve as shown in the Balance Sheet of previous year)	0.00	0.00	4273.17	3474.30
6.	Earnings Per Share (before extraordinary items) (of ₹ 10/- each)	28.85	15.47	28.64	21.14
7.	Earnings Per Share (after extraordinary items) (of ₹ 10/- each)	28.85	15.47	28.64	21.14
	Basic : Diluted:	28.85 0.00	15.47 0.00	28.64 0.00	21.14 0.00

Notes:  
1. The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly/Annual Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly/Annual Financial Results are available on the Stock Exchange websites, of BSE and also on company's website at [www.keycorppltd.com](http://www.keycorppltd.com)  
2. Above results have been approved by the board of directors of the company at its meeting held on 27.05.2022.  
By Order of the Board (G.D. Maheshwari) Executive Director DIN 00235209  
Place: Kanpur Date: 27.05.2022



# 3 held as gang inspired by ‘Fast and Furious’ busted

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Police has arrested three men, who were inspired by the Hollywood blockbuster 'The Fast and the Furious', for allegedly stealing over 40 cars using hi-tech tools, including scanners and GPS jammers.

The accused have been identified as Manish Rao (42) and Jagdeep Sharma (43), both residents of Uttam Nagar and Aas Mohammad (40), a native of Meerut in Uttar Pradesh. According to Manoj C, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), Southwest district, police teams worked



relentlessly and gathered all information about the people involved in stealing luxury cars. "With the help of technical surveillance and specific inputs the police team succeeded in apprehending Manish Rao and Jagdeep Sharma when they came to make a deal for a stolen car," said the DCP. "The Hyundai Creta car with a fake number

plate was found stolen from Paschim Vihar area. On a cursory search police teams found various instruments, including sensor kit, magnet, LNT keys and eight remote keys of cars and a lot of other keys for various cars," said the DCP. "Another accused, Aas Mohammad was also arrested in this case with another stolen Creta car. He is the main sup-

plier of the stolen cars and sells these stolen cars in Rajasthan," said the DCP.

"During interrogation, it was revealed that Manish, Jagdeep and Aas Mohammad are members of the infamous Ravi Uttam Nagar Gang and were previously involved in more than 10 to 25 cases of auto lifting," said the DCP. Explaining their modus operandi the DCP said that they kept illegal firearms, while committing the theft in order to protect themselves from the police and the public.

"The accused were inspired by the Hollywood movie 'The Fast & the Furious' and used scanners to unlock the cars within minutes and jammers to disable the GPS if it was installed in the car," the DCP said. The three accused disclosed that they, along with

Auto-lifters stole over 40 cars using hi-tech tools, including scanners and GPS jammers

their leader Ravi, have stolen over 40 cars since April from various areas of the city.

"The accused disclosed that by using a software-based hacking device, they unlocked cars and after formatting the vehicle's software, installed new software. The new keys became ready and they stole the cars within two to three minutes," the DCP said.

After stealing the car, they parked it outside societies, near hospitals and other such places where CCTV cameras were not installed, police said. They used to transport the vehicle to the buyer according to the demand, police said.

Two pistols with five live cartridges, tool kits, hacking devices, 30 keys of cars, tools and seven stolen cars were recovered from their possession, police added.

# DU, St Stephen's standoff continues

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Following the row over the premier college St. Stephen's insisting on following its age-old interview process for admissions along with the Central Universities Entrance Test (CUET) guidelines, the Delhi University (DU) on Friday said any admission in violation of the CUET norms will be declared as "null and void" and its rock solid on its stand.

The DU wants interviews to be conducted only for the reserved category students but the college, asserting its minority institution character, has said it will accord 85 per cent weightage to the CUET score and 15 per cent to physical interviews for all categories of candidates.

On Thursday, St Stephen's College principal John Varghese had written to DU, conveying that the college will retain its 'tried and trusted' interview process during admission and asked the varsity

College says it is strange university is questioning interview process after over 4 decades; DU says firm on stand declaring admissions null and void if CUET norms violated

to "avoid creating an unpleasant situation" for students seeking admission to the college.

John Varghese pointed out that to suddenly forget the interview process that the college has followed and which the university has approved for the last four decades and more is "strange indeed".

"The decision taken by the college to retain its stellar, tried and trusted interview process and other related steps in the admission process shall continue. All candidates who apply to the college shall face the same admission procedures, without discrimination,"

Varghese said.

However, DU Registrar Vikas Gupta said the college will have to follow the admission guidelines issued by DU.

"We will again convey to them that they will have to follow the admission guidelines issued by Delhi University. They will have to conduct admission to unreserved seats solely based on CUET scores. We are firm on our decision," Gupta said. He questioned the need for a separate mechanism for admission when the CUET is already in place.

The university and the college are at loggerheads over the admission process, with both sides refusing to back down.

On May 9, the varsity had written to the college, asking it to conduct admissions to the unreserved seats solely based on CUET scores.

However, college said that it reserves the right to proceed with admissions in accordance with its own admission policy guaranteed to it as a minority institution.

# CM meets LG, both pledge to work together



STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal met Lieutenant-Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena on Friday and said they both decided to work together for the development of the national Capital and the betterment of its people. This was Kejriwal's first formal meeting with Saxena, who took oath of office on Thursday.

"I extended my best wishes to him for a fruitful tenure. We discussed many issues and decided to work together for

ous issues pertaining to the development of the national Capital.

"Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri @ArvindKejriwal ji called on me today. We discussed various issues pertaining to the development of Delhi and the welfare of its people," he tweeted.

In Delhi, the L-G, who is a representative of the Union Government, is the administrative head, and holds a post senior to that of the Chief Minister. As such, there have been several instances of the L-G overruling decisions of the UT's elected Government, leading to a tussle with the Centre.

After assuming charge on Thursday, Saxena also met Union Home Minister Amit Shah to seek his insights on various aspects related to Delhi. "Called on Hon'ble HM Shri @AmitShah ji after assuming charge as the L-G of Delhi. Sought his guidance and valuable insights on administration and good governance for making national Capital safe, clean, livable and truly 'City of Joy'," he tweeted on Friday.

# Gupta, Bagga refuse to contest Rajinder Nagar by-election



STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) president, Adesh Gupta, and its leader Tajinder Pal Singh Bagga have conveyed their unwillingness to contest the bypoll from West Delhi's Rajinder Nagar to national leaders. The seat fell vacant when AAP MLA Raghav Chadha resigned as he was promoted to Rajya Sabha by his party. Meantime, Delhi BJP has accelerated the process of candidate selection for the seat that has a large chunk of slum-dwelling voters.

The Election Commission on Wednesday announced bypoll to the Rajinder Nagar seat, along with six other Assembly constituencies and three Lok Sabha seats in different states, on June 23. "We



are working on ground and process of candidate selection has also been fast-tracked. Delhi BJP in-charge Baijayant Panda and other leaders held a meeting in constituency on Thursday, in which the preparations for the bypolls were discussed," said a leader of the saffron party.

He said 12 of winning candidates in last 14 Assembly polls held in Rajinder Nagar were Punjabis. The Punjabi voters account for 40 per cent of total votes in constituency, he said.

The constituency has a diverse mix of voters, including dominant Punjabis and Scheduled Caste voters. There are 17 large slum settlements in constituency, including Inderpuri and Pandav Nagar, BJP leaders said.

# Delhi Govt to redevelop 12 roads

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

To provide hassle-free commute to the residents of the national Capital, the Arvind Kejriwal Government has approved a fund of ₹16.03 crore for redeveloping, strengthening and beautification of 12 roads across the city.

These roads include Marginal Bund Road, a key link between Noida and Delhi that caters to lakhs of commuters every day.

The major area of focus on this road is the stretch in front of Akshardham temple which includes two road over bridges (ROBs), roads connecting ROBs and three U-turns.

"The Public Works Department is continuously working towards road development projects across the city and this also includes maintenance of roads across the city ahead of monsoon season," said a senior PWD official.

"For redevelopment and maintenance ₹16.03 crores were approved for strengthening of 12 major roads by the Delhi's Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia. PWD is using modern technology to increase the strength of roads for the longer run," said the official. "Ahead of the approval of the

## Roads earmarked for project

➤ Marginal Bund Road (road stretch in front of Akshardham Temple)
➤ Dr Kundan Lal Marg
➤ Rajouri Apartment Road
➤ Subhash Nagar
➤ Hari Nagar
➤ Shanti Devi Marg
➤ Ayodhya Prasad Chopra Marg
➤ BA-BB Block Road
➤ Prem Nagar Gurudwara Road
➤ Shaheed Mangal Pandey Marg
➤ Bhai Kanheya Ji Marg (ITI Road)

projects, a thorough inspection was taken up by the PWD officials to check the current conditions and requirements for strengthening of these roads," said the official adding that the strengthening of this road will reduce the travel time of the commuters and make the travel easier.

Under various projects of PWD, the Kejriwal Government is working on a

war footing to provide beautiful and safe roads to commuters of Delhi. For this, modern technologies are being used by PWD Delhi for the strengthening of roads.

It is noteworthy that the strengthening of these roads will not only decongest the traffic but will also save the time of the people and it will also be helpful in bringing down the pollution levels in the city.

# Nigerian man dupes 300 women of crores on promise of marriage

He was using social media and matrimonial sites to ensnare women

STAFF REPORTER ■ NOIDA

The Noida Cyber Crime Police has arrested a 38-year-old Nigerian national staying in Delhi on the charge of cheating at least 300 women and duping them of crores of rupees on the pretext of marriage.

The accused has been identified as Garuba Galumje (38), who hails from Lagos in Nigeria who is staying in the Kishan Garh area of South Delhi. Police said that the accused befriended women

through social media sites and matrimonial websites, where he introduced himself as a Non-Resident Indian (NRI) settled in Canada. "The accused has been arrested in connection with a complaint from a woman who lives in Meerut district of Uttar Pradesh. He claimed that she had registered herself on Jeevansathi website for marriage.

A man approached her through the website and introduced himself as Indo-Canadian NRI Sanjay Singh," said Inspector Reeta Yadav, in-charge of the Noida Cyber Crime Police Station.

"The man eventually gained her confidence and made emotional appeals as he tricked her into transferring Rs 60 lakh in multiple instalments into his various bank accounts before she realised the fraud,"

she said. "When the matter was brought to the police, an investigation was taken up and the culprit was tracked down to Delhi and arrested. During questioning, we came across multiple similar cases involving Garuba.

There are over 300 women who he had targeted through various popular websites and cheated of crores. On social media and matrimonial websites, he used profile pictures of smart-looking men and not his own in order to dupe women," Yadav said.

According to police, Garuba had first come to India in February 2019 on a six-month visa in connection with a business related to human hair and readymade garments.

He once again came to India on March 18 on a medical visa till May 22 but had

over-stayed while relocating himself several times during the period, police said. "Garuba has been transferring the fraud money to his family members in Nigeria through international money exchange services," police added.

During the arrest, police recovered a passport, seven mobile phones, 15 photocopies of documents, which included forged letters in the names of Bank of Thailand, National Bank of Dubai, Interpol, US Department of State and FBI, officials said.

An FIR has been lodged against the accused under Indian Penal Code 406 (criminal breach of trust), 419 (cheating by impersonation) and Sections 420 (cheating), and under provisions of the Information Technology Act, police added.



Congress president Sonia Gandhi offering floral tributes to the first Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, on his 58th Death Anniversary at Shanti Vana, New Delhi on Friday

# Police yet to take call on extending restrobars' timings

Everyone's licencing conditions need to be amended, say police

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Days after the Excise Department proposed to work with other agencies, including Delhi Police, to extend restrobars' timings till 3 A.M., the Delhi Police is yet to take any decision on it, stating that if the timings need to be extended, then everyone's licencing conditions need to be amended.

According to a senior police officer, "The existing order is only till 1 P.M. and if it needs to be extended, then everyone's licencing conditions need to be amended." Licences for restaurants are approved by the licencing department of



Delhi Police. In a move aimed at making the nightlife of the city more happening, the Delhi Government has taken a policy decision to allow bars to serve liquor till 3 A.M.

The Government has issued necessary directions to the Excise Department and an order is likely to be issued soon in accordance with the Excise Policy 2021-22, a senior Government officer had said earlier.

"Bars at restaurants are now allowed to operate till 1 A.M. The Excise Department

will work with other agencies, including the police, if the timing is extended till 3 A.M.," he had said. The Excise Policy that came into force from November 2021 recommended that the timings of operation of bars may be brought at par with neighbouring cities.

In the NCR towns of Gurugram and Faridabad in Haryana, bars are allowed to open till 3 A.M. However, in Noida and Ghaziabad in Uttar Pradesh, bars are open till 1 A.M. There are around 550 independent restaurants in Delhi that serve Indian and foreign liquor on being granted L-17 licence from the Excise Department.

The restaurants within hotels and motels, numbering around 150, are already allowed to serve liquor round-the-clock. Such restaurants are granted L-16 licence by the

Excise Department.

The Excise Policy calls for creating a conducive environment and improving conditions for smooth business.

Many of the conditions related to Excise operations in hotels, clubs and restaurants need to be in sync with the present-day business and social perspectives, says the policy. In order to meet the twin goal of increasing Excise revenue and providing a favourable environment and conditions to the licensees of hotel, club and restaurant segment, the policy made several recommendations.

The recommendations included rationalisation of licence fee, lowering legal age of drinking from 25 years to 21 years, and doing away with the archaic rules related to not allowing music in independent restaurants.

# Excise Dept extends licences of hotels, clubs till July 31

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi's Excise Department has extended licences of hotels, clubs and restaurants in the national Capital till July 31 in view of a delay in grant of approval to the city's excise policy for 2022-23 by the Lieutenant-Governor.

In an order issued on Monday, the Excise Department of the Delhi Government extended the Excise Policy 2021-22 for two months till July 31.

The Excise Policy 2022-23 was approved by the Delhi Cabinet on May 5. It is yet to be approved by the L-G. For the extension, the licence-holders

will have to pay a pro-rate licence fee for two months by May 31.

"All the licensees of L-15/L-16/L-17/L-19/L-20/L-21/L-28/L-9 and L-38, are hereby directed to submit their application for renewal of licences online by accessing their account in ESCIMS portal through their ID and password along with the applicable licence renewal fee for the period of two months by providing requisite information and payment of renewal licence fee on or before May 31," the Excise Department's May 25 order read.

It added that there has been no increase in licence fees.

# NDMC gets new Chairman

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Bhupinder Singh Bhalla, a 1990 batch IAS officer has been appointed as the new Chairman of the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC). He succeeds Dharmendra, a 1989-batch officer, as the civic body Chairman. Bhalla, is currently Additional Chief Secretary of Delhi.

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) on Friday issued an order to this effect. According to order issued by MHA, it is decided to appoint Bhupinder Singh Bhalla, IAS (AGMUT:1990), as Chairperson, New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) with effect from 27.05.2022.

"The notification (Hindi

and English) issued in this regard is enclosed for its publication in Delhi Gazette, Extraordinary. It is further requested that Dharmendra, Chairperson of the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC). He succeeds Dharmendra, a 1989-batch officer, as the civic body Chairman. Bhalla, is currently Additional Chief Secretary of Delhi.

Immediately," the order further stated.

Bhalla succeeds Dharmendra, a 1989-batch officer, as civic body chairman, who has worked over ten years in Urban Sector in Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation, Government of India and DDA.



# Need to help Af combat terror groups, says Doval



**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE/AGENCIES ■ NEW DELHI/DUSHANBE**

India is an important stakeholder in Afghanistan and favours strengthening its capability to fight terrorism and terrorist groups posing a threat to peace and security in the region, National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval said on Friday.

Underlining these points, he also said India has always stood by the people of Afghanistan while speaking at the 4th Regional Security Dialogue on Afghanistan in Dushanbe, Tajikistan. His counterparts from Tajikistan, Russia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Iran, Kyrgyzstan and China also took part in the high-profile conclave.

His assertions came in the backdrop of India providing humanitarian assistance to the war-torn Afghanistan after the Taliban took control last August. India has committed to provide more than 50,000 metric tons of food grains including wheat to Afghanistan.

India has already provided 17,000 metric tons of wheat to

this," Doval said.

The top security officials, who discussed the situation in Afghanistan and the region, highlighted the need to find constructive ways to ensure peace and stability in Afghanistan and combating risks from terrorism emanating from the region, sources said.

"There is a need for all present at the dialogue to enhance capability of Afghanistan to counter terrorism and terrorist groups which pose a threat to regional peace and security," Doval said.

He said the foremost priority should be the right to life and a dignified living as well as protection of human rights of all the people in Afghanistan. "Assistance should be accessible to all, respect for all obligations under international humanitarian law should be ensured," he added. India has focused on infrastructure, connectivity and humanitarian assistance in Afghanistan over the decades.

Doval also highlighted the need for representation of all sections of Afghan society including women and minorities so that the collective energies of the largest possible pro-

portion of the Afghan population feel motivated to contribute to nation building.

"Women and youth are critical for the future of any society. Provision of education to girls and employment to women and youth will ensure productivity and spur growth. It will also have a positive social impact including discouraging radical ideologies among youth," he said.

"With collective efforts of Regional Dialogue members, we can help proud people of Afghanistan to build a prosperous and vibrant nation once again," he said.

Doval also met his counterparts from Iran, Tajikistan, Russia and other partners in the Dialogue on the sidelines of the meeting.

The dialogue is aimed at firming up a common approach for practical cooperation in confronting increasing threats of terrorism, radicalisation and drug trafficking following the Taliban's takeover of Kabul in August last.

New Delhi had hosted the third dialogue in November 2021 which was attended by eight nations including Iran and Russia.

## ED summons Farooq for money laundering



**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has summoned former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah on May 31 at its Srinagar office in connection with a money laundering case linked to alleged financial irregularities in the Jammu and Kashmir Cricket Association.

The ED had questioned Abdullah in connection with the multi-crore Jammu and Kashmir Cricket Association (JKCA) scam case earlier as well.

Abdullah (84), a three-time Chief Minister of the erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir State and is the President of the National Conference besides being a Lok Sabha MP. His statement was recorded in the same case in 2019.

Political parties in the valley said the summons were "common to all opposition" leaders in the country.

Reacting to the development, National Conference (NC), said the veteran leader would continue to cooperate with the authorities like he has done in the past.

"ED summons to JKNC President Dr Farooq Abdullah is nothing new; this is common for all opposition parties in India. He has continued to maintain his innocence in the matter and has cooperated with the investigative agencies and will do so in this case as well," the NC posted on Twitter.

Between 2011 and 2012, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) had given Rs 112 crore to the state cricket association for the promotion of the game in Jammu and Kashmir. It was alleged that Rs 46.30 crore from the grant was misappropriated.

## ED attaches ₹62.70 cr immovable properties of Maha-based firm



**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has attached immovable properties of Maharashtra-based Nipko Engineering Services Pvt. Ltd. worth Rs 62.70 crore in a money laundering case linked to a bank fraud.

The ED had initiated money laundering investigation in 2020 on the basis of an FIR registered by the Anti Corruption Branch, CBI, Pune, wherein a complaint was filed against Nipko Engineering, its director Narendra Achyut Rao Korde and unknown officials of Andhra Bank and other persons for a bank fraud of about Rs 72.99 crore.

"The modus operandi used for laundering the funds was that the accused obtained false/fake purchase orders from different companies/ firms and thereafter prepared forged supporting documents like invoices, delivery challans, goods receipts notes etc. to show the genuine transactions of goods between the companies," the ED said in a statement.

Thereafter, these documents along with application for bill discounting were submitted to Andhra Bank. Then other associates like directors/proprietors/authorized signatories of fictitious buyer companies used to give acceptance of the said bills to their respective banks wherein no physical transactions of goods were done, it said.

The said fake bills were discounted and amounts were credited in the companies' account of Korde. The funds generated were further laundered in the guise of payment to third parties / fictitious firms and cash withdrawal.

## CBI grills Karti for 8 hrs in visa-for-bribe scam

**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**

The CBI on Friday questioned Lok Sabha MP Karti Chidambaram for nearly eight hours on the second consecutive day in connection with alleged bribery of Rs 50 lakh in the issuance of visas for 263 Chinese workers in 2011 when his father P Chidambaram was the Union Home Minister.

The Congress MP who arrived at the CBI headquarters in the morning was confronted with documents related to

## ED books WB coal scamster

**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**

The Enforcement Directorate has arrested an accused in a money laundering case linked to illegal coal mining in West Bengal, Gurupada Majhi.

Majhi was arrested on Thursday and produced before Rouse Avenue court here that granted his seven-day custody.



Gurupada Majhi is one of the partners of Anup Majee alias Lala (kingpin of illegal coal mining business activities in West Bengal) and has received more than Rs. 66 crore from the Proceed of Crime (PoC) generated through illegal coal mining business.

Further, Gurupada Majhi had provided Rs 26 crore in cash to a Kolkata based chartered accountant for arranging shell companies for the purpose of taking accommodation e n t r i e s .

In this process, Gurupada Majhi had acquired 13 shell companies with the help of the said Kolkata-based CA.

## Rajnath lauds Navy for high state of readiness to meet any threat

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI /KARWAR(KARNATAKA)**

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Friday undertook a sea sortie on submarine INS Khanderi and lauded the Navy for maintaining high state of readiness and offensive capability to meet any threat.

After spending hours under the sea, witnessing the combat capabilities and offensive strength of the submarine, he termed the experience as "wonderful and thrilling", and said, he is more assured of India's security.

He also said operational readiness and preparations are not a provocation to any aggression but a guarantee of peace and security in Indian Ocean region. The Defence Minister made these observations during his two-day visit to Karwar starting Thursday.

The Karwar naval base is spread over 11,000 acres and is home to lone aircraft carrier INS Vikramaditya. The base is being developed under Project Seabird and plans are to base more than 30 warships and submarines there by the end of 2025. The indigenously designed and built INS Vikrant, likely to be inducted into the Navy this August, will also be based at Karwar.

INS Khanderi was built at the Mazagon Docks Limited(MDL), Mumbai in collaboration with France.

He was given a first-hand insight into the combat capabilities and offensive strength of the state-of-the-art Kalvari class submarine. For over four hours, the full spectrum of capabilities of underwater operations of the stealth submarine was demonstrated to him, officials said here later.

The day-at-sea also provided him a glimpse of the submarine's capability to effectively counter anti-submarine operations by an adversary.

Navy chief Admiral R Hari Kumar and other senior officials of Indian Navy and Ministry of Defence were also present.

Interacting with media persons after the sortie, Rajnath said, "Today, Indian Navy is counted among the frontline navies of the world. Today, the



world's largest maritime forces are ready to work and cooperate with India."

He described 'INS Khanderi' as a shining example of the 'Make in India' capabilities of the country and appreciated the fact that 39 of the 41 ships and submarines ordered by the Indian Navy are being built in Indian shipyards.

He, however, assured that the preparations being made by the Indian Navy are not a provocation to any aggression, but a guarantee of peace and security in the Indian Ocean region. The operational sortie was accompanied by the deployment of ships of the Western Fleet, an anti-submarine mission sortie by a P-8I MPA and Sea King helicopter, a fly past by MiG 29-K fighters and a search and rescue capability demonstration.

With this, the defence minister has now witnessed first-hand the three-dimensional combat capability of Indian Navy, after having embarked INS Vikramaditya in September 2019 and conducting a sortie on the P-8I Long Range Maritime Reconnaissance Anti-Submarine Warfare aircraft earlier this month.

ReNew Akshay Urja Limited					
CIN : U40300DL2015PLC275651					
Regd. Office : 138, Ansal Chambers II, Bikaji Cama Place, Delhi-110066					
Corporate Office : ReNew.hub, Commercial Block-1, Zone-6, Golf Course Road, DLF City Phase-V, Gurugram, 122009, Haryana, Phone – 0124-4896 670/ 80					
Statement of Audited Financial Results for the year ended 31 March 2022					
Particulars	Quarter ended 31 March 2022	Quarter ended 31 March 2021	Quarter ended 31 December 2021	Year ended 31 March 2022	Year ended 31 March 2021
	(Unaudited) (refer note 5)	(Unaudited) (refer note 5)	(Unaudited) (refer note 5)	Audited	Audited
	INR in millions				
Total Income from Operations	407	409	334	1,447	1,461
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	142	139	86	423	312
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	142	139	86	423	312
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	122	169	68	346	365
Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax))	122	169	68	346	365
Paid up Equity Share Capital	133	133	133	133	133
Reserves (including Revaluation Reserve)	2,682	2,336	2,559	2,682	2,336
Equity component of compulsory convertible debentures	1,144	1,144	1,144	1,144	1,144
Net worth**	3,959	3,613	3,836	3,959	3,613
Paid up Debt Capital / Outstanding Debt*	6,079	6,448	6,270	6,079	6,448
Debt Equity Ratio *	2.35	2.61	2.51	2.31	2.55
Earnings Per Share (of Rs. 10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations)					
1. Basic :	5.35	7.41	2.98	15.17	15.97
2. Diluted :	5.35	7.41	2.98	15.17	15.97
Debt Redemption Reserve *	270	304	286	270	304
Debt Service Coverage Ratio *	(1.35)	2.41	0.20	0.53	1.73
Interest Service Coverage Ratio	2.31	2.24	1.92	2.05	2.21
Disclosures pursuant to Regulations 52(4) and 52(7) Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015.					
Credit Rating : IND AA+ (CE)					
Change in credit rating : No					
Asset Coverage Ratio : 167% (31 March, 2021 : 164%)					
Debt Equity ratio : mentioned above					
Debt Service Coverage Ratio : mentioned above					
Interest Service Coverage Ratio : mentioned above					
Previous due date for the payment of interest/ repayment of principal of non convertible debt securities and whether the same has been paid or not (as on 31 March, 2022)					
Previous due date for the payment of interest : 31 March, 2022 and the same was paid					
Previous due date for the payment of principal : 31 March, 2022 and the same was paid					
Next due date for the payment of interest/ repayment of principal of non convertible debt securities (as on 30 September, 2022)					
Next due date for the payment of interest : 30 June, 2022					
Next due date for the payment of principal : 30 September, 2022					
Outstanding redeemable preference shares (Quantity and Value) : Not Applicable					
Net Worth ** (31 March, 2022) : INR 3,959 (31 March, 2021 : INR 3,613)					
Net profit after tax : mentioned above					
Earning per share : mentioned above					
Debt Redemption Reserve (31 March, 2022) : INR 270 (31 March, 2021 : INR 304)					
There are no material deviation in the use of proceeds of issue of Non Convertible Debentures from the objects stated in the offer document (Regulations 52(7))					
Notes :					
1. Ratios have been computed as follows:					
- Earning per share (Basic & Diluted) = Profit after Tax / Weighted average number of equity shares					
- Debt Equity Ratio* = Debt (Amount due to Debenture Holders) / Equity (Equity share capital + share premium + quasi equity i.e. Short term borrowing but excluding unamortized fees)					
- Interest Service Coverage Ratio = Profit before interest, prior period items, tax, extraordinary items and depreciation / (Total Interest Expense).					
- Debt Service Coverage Ratio* = ((PAT based on Project Revenues realised (excluding non-cash adjustment, if any) + Depreciation + Interest (Interest, Guarantee Fees, other financing costs payable under Debenture and Project Documents )) / (Interest + Principal Repayment+Guarantee fee).					
- Asset Coverage Ratio = (Total Assets) / Debt (Amount due to Debenture Holders)					
*As per Debenture Trust Deed dated 20 September, 2017.					
** Networth represents issued subscribed and paid up capital plus reserves and surplus. Reserves and Surplus includes Capital reserve, General reserve, Debenture redemption reserve, Securities premium account and Profit and loss account balance.					
2. The company is in the business of development and operation of solar power. There is only one segment (business and/or geographical) in accordance with the requirements of IND AS - 108 "Operating Segments".					
3. The above financial results of the Company for the quarter and for the period ended March 31, 2022 have been approved by the Board of Directors of the Company at the meeting held on 27-May-2022. The statutory auditors of the company have carried out the limited review of the above unaudited financial results of the Company for the quarter and audited financial results of the Company for the year ended March 31, 2022.					
4. The figures of the last quarter are balancing figures between audited figures in respect of the full financial year upto March 31, 2022 and the unaudited published year-to-date figures upto December 31, 2021, being the date of the end of the third quarter of the financial year which were subject to limited review.					
5. The figures of the quarter ended March 31, 2021 are the unaudited and unreviewed management internal reporting figures . However, management has exercised necessary due diligence to ensure that the financial results for the periods provide a true and fair view of the Company's affairs.					
For and on behalf of ReNew Akshay Urja Limited (Sd./) Rahul Jain Managing Director, DIN : 07641891					
Place : Gurugram Date : 27 May, 2022					

## Rifle and helmet at Amar Jawan Jyoti shifted to War Memorial

**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**

The iconic Inverted Rifle and Helmet at Amar Jawan Jyoti, India Gate, was on Friday shifted by the armed forces in a ceremony to the National War Memorial. Symbol of Fallen Soldiers of 1971 war, the Rifle and Helmet are now installed in the midst of busts of Param Vir Chakra awardees.

With this process, integration of Memorial of Fallen Soldiers of 1971 war with the National War Memorial is complete, the defence ministry said here on Friday. The ceremony was led by Chief of Integrated

Defence Staff to Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee(CISC) Air Marshal BR Krishna and attended by Adjutant General(AG) equivalents from three Services.

As part of the ceremony, a final salute was given and the CISC offered a wreath at India Gate. Thereafter, the Inverted Rifle and Helmet was removed and carried in a ceremonial vehicle to the Param Yodha Sthal and installed at a newly created monument. The CISC accompanied by the AGs equivalents from three Services presented a salute to the new monument.

## Southwest monsoon expected to reach Kerala in 3 days: IMD

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI**

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Friday said the southwest monsoon is expected to reach Kerala during the next two to three days.

Earlier, the IMD had forecast the onset over Kerala on Friday (May 27) with help from the remnants of Cyclone Asani, that struck the Bay of Bengal a fortnight ago. The forecast had a model error of four days. However, the influence of the remnant weather systems, that lingered over the

southern peninsula, petered out, dashing the forecast of early onset over Kerala and a swift progress towards the north, the IMD said.

"As per the latest meteorological indications, westerly winds have strengthened in the lower levels over the south Arabian Sea and deepened.

As per satellite imagery, there is an increase in cloudiness over Kerala coast and adjoining southeast Arabian Sea. Hence, conditions are becoming favourable for monsoon onset over Kerala during the next 2-3 days," the IMD said.

## India, Hungary review entire spectrum of bilateral ties

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI**

India and Hungary on Friday reviewed the entire spectrum of their bilateral ties and global affairs including Ukraine during the bilateral meeting here between External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and his counterpart Peter Szijarto. The two sides also inked a pact on international solar alliance. Jaishankar thanked him for Hungarian support for Operation Ganga and its offer to admit evacuated Indian medical students in Hungarian universities.

Hungary facilitated airlift of Indian nationals including medical students from Ukraine soon after the Russian military action started in late February. Many Indians crossed over to Hungary from Ukraine when the offensive commenced. The evacuation was named Operation Ganga in which more than 20,000 Indian nationals were brought out from Ukraine including 6,000 from Hungary. Meanwhile, Jaishankar in a tweet message regarding his talks with Szijarto also "recalled Hungary's early recognition of Covaxin and openness to travel arrangements."

On his part, the visiting Foreign Minister said Hungary on Friday joined the international alliance of solar energy launched by India and France.



"We hope that with your corporation we can further accelerate our investment in solar energy," he said.

The two sides signed two contracts including development of trade and on attracting investment. Szijarto said there is going to be an energy supply crisis in Europe and globally may be as well. "And those countries will be safe who can produce the most of energy they consumed," he said. The Hungarian minister noted that economic corporation between India and Hungary has been hitting records.

 <b>M. P. MADHYA KSHETRA VIDYUT VITARAN CO. LTD.</b> (Govt. of M.P. Undertaking) Nishtha Parisar, Bijalee Nagar, Govindpura, Bhopal-23 Phone : 0755-2602033-36, Fax : 2589821, 2586636 No. : MD/MK/04/Abgd.NIT/450 Bhopal, Date : 27.05.2022					
TENDER NOTICE					
MPMKVVCL, Bhopal, invites following bids from manufacturers/repairers through e-tendering.					
Tender Specification Number	Particulars	Approx. Value (Rs. Lakh)	Tender Fee (in Rs.)	Date of Pre-Bid Conference	Date of opening of tender
MD/MK/04/781	Repairing & Testing of BGP failed 11/0.4 KV Distribution Transformer (25 KVA to 200 KVA)	11612.08	23600/-	06.06.22 3:30 PM	21.06.22 12:00 noon
Other details are available on Company website <a href="https://portal.mpcz.in">https://portal.mpcz.in</a> & <a href="https://mptenders.gov.in">https://mptenders.gov.in</a>					
M.P. Madhyam/105097/2022				CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (PROC.)	



# Anti-terrorist operations intensify ahead of June 30 Amarnath Yatra

**In the last 24 hours the security forces have gunned down four LeT terrorists in two operations**

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

In order to check the targeted killing of innocent civilians the security forces have intensified anti terrorist operations to flush out fresh crop of local terrorists and their 'hybrid' associates in Kashmir valley to ensure peaceful conduct of the Amarnath yatra starting June 30.

In the last 24 hours the security forces have gunned down four Lashkar-e-Toiba terrorists in two back to back operations including those behind the cold blooded murder of famous Kashmiri TV artist Amreen Bhat in Chadoora area of Budgam. Besides, 01 hybrid terrorist has been arrested along with arms/ammunition in Bemina area of Srinagar.

In the coming days the security grid is also going to finalise the comprehensive deployment plan of additional

companies of the para military forces along the entire yatra route to plug any gaps.

According to official sources the Union Home Ministry has given its nod to deploy more than 300 additional companies across transit camps, base camps, and security checkpoints along the yatra route. IGP Kashmir Shri Vijay Kumar Friday congratulated the joint teams of security forces for their valour and determination to neutralize and avenge the killing of artist Amreen Bhat within 24hrs. He also termed these operations as a big success and said that during past three days 10 terrorists including 3 from JeM and 7 from LeT proscribed terror outfits have been neutralized in the Kashmir valley.

According to a spokesman of the Jammu and Kashmir police, at around 9.33 p.m on a specific input generated by Awantipora Police regarding presence of terrorists in village Aghanzipora area of Awantipora, a joint cordon & search operation was launched by Police, Army (55RR) and CRPF (130Bn) in the said area. During the operation, as the joint search party was laying

cordon around a cluster of houses, the hiding terrorists fired indiscriminately upon search party which was retaliated leading to an encounter. In the ensuing encounter, two local terrorists identified as Shahid Mushtaq Bhat resident of Hafroo Chadoora, Budgam and Farhan Habib resident of Hakripora, Pulwama linked with proscribed terror outfit LeT were killed and their bodies were retrieved from the site of encounter.

While interacting with media, IGP Kashmir Vijay Kumar said that both the killed terrorists had joined terror ranks recently and were involved in killing of artist Amreen Bhat in Chadoora area of Budgam on the directions of LeT Commander Lateef.

Meanwhile, in Soura area of Srinagar, a special & small team of Srinagar Police also launched a cordon and search operation in the said area. During the search, as the presence of terrorists was ascertained and search party proceeded towards suspected spot the hiding terrorists fired indiscriminately upon search party which was retaliated leading to an encounter.

In the ensuing encounter, two terrorists of proscribed terror outfit LeT were killed and their bodies were retrieved from the site of encounter. They have been identified as Shakir Ahmad Waza and Afreen Aftab Malik both residents of Trenz Shopian.

As per police records both the killed terrorist were categorized terrorists and were part of groups involved in several terror crime cases including attacks on Police and security forces. Incriminating materials, huge cache of arms & ammunition was recovered from both the sites of encounter. All the recovered materials have been taken into case records for further investigation.

According to a police spokesman, "Srinagar Police along with security forces also arrested one hybrid terrorist of proscribed terror outfit LeT from Bemina area along with arms and ammunition.

Preliminary investigation revealed that, the arrested accused was working as a hybrid terrorist of proscribed terror outfit LeT outfit and was involved in delivering pistols in Srinagar City to carry out targeted killings.

# Gujarat has become gateway of drugs to country: Congress

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's home state of Gujarat has become the "gateway of drugs" to the country under his watch, the Congress alleged on Friday, questioning the "silence" of the PM and Home Minister Amit Shah.

Congress spokesperson Pawan Khara said there has been a series of recoveries of drug consignments starting from July, 2017 right up to this week from several ports including Mundra and Pulpavav in the state. Just on Thursday, 52 kilograms of cocaine, worth Rs 500 crore, was recovered from Mundra Port that had come from Iran, he alleged at the AICC Press conference.

When under "pressure from the Congress", the Mundra port had announced they will not handle cargos from Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan, then how the latest consignment of cocaine was recovered from there, he asked.

Khara said the Congress had to question the govern-



ment on the post of Narcotics Control Bureau head lying vacant for 18 months, before the appointment was made under "pressure" from the opposition party.

He alleged Gujarat has become a 'gateway of drugs' to the country under the watch of PM Modi and Home Minister Shah.

"This is a prime minister who talks more and does less. On this particular issue, (he has said) not a word. Why this silence?" Congress leader said drugs cannot be traded just at a retail level and this trade is always a part of larger global syndicates which enjoy active political patronage in whichever country they operate.

Under this government, Khara alleged, the NCB, Enforcement Directorate, CBI and other agencies have been reduced to dealing with "retail politics" and are being "misused" by the ruling dispensation against political opponents.

Instead of "forcing" these agencies to deal into "retail politics", the government should allow them to focus more on recovering the wholesale drug consignments that are coming, he said. He also referred to a major smuggling of drugs that allegedly happened in June, 2021 and "did not get caught". He said it involved consignments of 25 tonnes and costing around Rs 1,75,000 crore.

# CM Yogi rebuts Opp charges on crime, jobs

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Friday rebutted the charges of Opposition on zero tolerance towards crime, employment, and free food grains. The Chief Minister also accused the opposition of double standards by questioning the EVM (electronic voting machines).

"Leader of the Opposition is insulting the people's mandate. The people have returned the Bharatiya Janata Party to power due to its hard work and welfare works done for the people by the government.

"The people know who has laid the foundation of development works and which government actually completed the work. After 37 years a government has been voted back to power in Uttar Pradesh", the chief minister said in UP Vidhan Sabha on Friday while replying to the debate on the motion of thanks to Governor Anandiben Patel's address to the joint sitting of the UP legislature.



# Jeweller's wife, son stabbed to death in broad daylight

PRADEEP SAXENA ■ ALIGARH

A 37-year-old mother and her 8-year-old son were stabbed to death with knives in broad daylight in the densely populated Surendra Nagar of Qwarsi police station area of the city. Both were alone in the house at the time of the incident and the miscreants left after killing them. When the news of the incident that took place in the afternoon spread in the area, the entire staff, including the SSP, reached the spot. The police was engaged in the investigation and are probing all angles including robbery and enmity. On behalf of the jewellers, a complaint has been given expressing the suspicion of murder in the ongoing dispute with the sister-in-law.

Lalit Saraf, originally a resident of Bijauli village of Palimukimpur, has been living here for more than a decade in a house on the street opposite Singhal Sadan and has a shop in the name of Radhika Jewelers at Phool Chowk. The

house is survived by 37-year-old wife Shikha Verma, eight-year-old son Digwanshu alias Govinda, besides two elder daughters. At the time of incident, the daughters had gone to Mathura at aunt's house. Lalit was at the shop. During this, two masked people entered the house and killed both of them and left. The news of this incident spread after neighbors peeped into the house. Lalit himself reached here on information.

Police officers including SSP Kalandidhi Naithani also reached. Two masked men entering and exiting the house have been found imprisoned in CCTV. Several cupboards in the house were open and items were found scattered in them. Lalit has expressed suspicion of murder in the ongoing dispute with sister-in-law during interrogation. A complaint has been



lodge against the sister-in-law and her future husband on suspicion of murder. The police is investigating both the rivalry murder and the robbery aspects. There is also a possibility that the goods were spread to show the incident as loot or to find something.

Kalandidhi Naithani, SSP told that the murder of jeweller's wife and son in Saraf's house has been taken seriously. In the investigation and interrogation so far, the matter of murder has come to the fore. Five teams have been formed. All the teams have been instructed to investigate on every aspect. Soon this matter will be revealed.

# Now, ED begins probe in SSC recruitment scam

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

After the Central Bureau of Investigation it is the turn of the Enforcement Directorate to take a look into the high-profile Bengal School Services Commission recruitment scam that has already sucked into its vortex two TMC ministers and a bevy of retired bureaucrats, Vice Chancellors et al.

After perusing the Justice RK Bag Commission report and conducting a preliminary inquiry the ED is known to have registered a case and sought all the details including the copy of the FIR from the CBI which is currently investigating the case following a Calcutta High Court order.

The ED was drawn into the case following reports that hundreds of crores were invested in flats, international schools and other real estates including separate ken-

nels for a minister's pets both within and outside Bengal. According to sources a whopping Rs 15,000 crore or more might have changed hands in the job-for-money scam.

Justice Bag Committee created by the High Court had earlier submitted a damaging 1,500 page report in which it not only showed how fake candidates were given appointments by-passing the merit-listed aspirants at various levels of the recruitment — including Groups C, D, secondary and higher secondary teachers — but it declared appointment of a designated 5-member screening committee created by then Education Minister Partho Chatterjee as totally illegal.

The judicial Panel also recommended criminal proceedings against those guilty leading both the single and the division bench of the High Court to order CBI investigation into the recruitment

scam. Subsequently the Court also ordered the dismissal of Ankita Adhikari the daughter of Minister of State for Education Paresh Adhikari who allegedly topped the merit list of aspiring teachers for Class XI-XII despite securing lesser numbers from her fellow aspirants.

Referring to the new development, senior Trinamool Congress parliamentarian Saugata Roy said that ED's entry into the case was a sheer example of vindictive politics of the Centre. "I do not know whether the High Court order cannot be misinterpreted as the Court had ordered the CBI to probe the matter whereas the ED has not entered the scene ... this indicates vindictive politics of the Centre," he said.

Meanwhile, Congress Lok Sabha Leader Adhir Chowdhury hit out at Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee for harbouring a whole galaxy of corrupt ministers.

# Two promoters of DHFL held by CBI in UPPCL PF scam

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The sleuths of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) investigating the multi-crore rupees provident fund (PF) scam in Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Limited (UPPCL) reportedly made a big breakthrough when they arrested Dewan Housing Finance Ltd (DHFL) promoters Kapil Wadhawan and Dheeraj Wadhawan, the two key accused in the case.

The arrest was made from Mumbai and both were produced by the CBI in the special court. The CBI team sought their police custody remand to grill them in the case.

Both Kapil and Dheeraj are alleged to have bought the Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Ltd. (UPPCL) employees' provident fund amounting to over Rs 2,267 crore for illegal investment.

Special CBI Court Judge Vikram Singh decided to hand over both the accused to the CBI on seven days' remand.

In the application seeking remand, the CBI said that in the initial investigation of the case, it was found that over Rs 2,267 crore of employees' provident fund had been misused.

Despite the notification of the finance ministry, the accused got a commission of crores of rupees by investing the provident fund money in DHFL. It was said that the information of those documents and mediums was to be obtained from the accused.

On the other hand, advocate Pranshu Agarwal, appearing for the defense, opposed the application. He said that half of the amount invested in DHFL had been paid and the accused were ready to pay the remaining amount.

# 3rd model commits 'suicide' in Kolkata

PNS ■ KOLKATA

A third model was on Friday found dead in mysterious conditions in a matter of little more than a week.

Model-cum-small time television actress Manjushri Neyogi was found hanging from the ceiling fan of her room at Patuli area in the southern fringes of Kolkata just a couple of days after her friend and co-model Bidisha De Majumdar was found dead in similar circumstances at her Dum Dum flat in northern Kolkata.

Though the reason of the death was not clear family sources did not rule out suicide as she had been suffering from depression for quite some time. The mother of Neyogi who had

married a few months ago told reporters that she had been suffering from depression and had attempted suicide earlier too.

"She looked depressed following her friend Bidisha's death and was constantly talking about her since then," the mother of the deceased said.

Little more than a week ago another actor-cum model Pallabi Dey had died in similar circumstances at her Garfa residence in South Kolkata.

"All these models had sufficient work in their hand which meant that they were not depressed due to professional reasons," a colleague of De Majumdar said, adding that she could be in depression on account of her break-up with her boyfriend.



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh had a surprise interaction with the crew of INS Gharia in Sri Lanka over video conferencing. The ship is in Colombo to deliver critical relief material. Photo | The Pioneer

# 3 women who consumed poison during police raid in Baghpat die, cops booked

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A case of culpable homicide was finally registered against the cops of Baghpat police after all the three women — a mother and her two daughters — who consumed poison during a police raid on their house died. The beat sub-inspector has been placed under suspension and a special investigation team (SIT) has been formed to probe the incident.

The police allegedly misbehaved with them following which they tried to commit suicide. The local superintendent of police, however, gave a clean chit to the officials claiming that the local villagers were also accompanying the police party during the raid. He also said

that if any complaint was filed in this regard, he would get the incident probed afresh.

Reports confirmed that the woman and her two daughters consumed poison last Tuesday in the presence of police personnel in their house in Baghpat after the cops allegedly misbehaved with them.

While Geeta, the mother, and one of her daughters Preeti, died while being treated in a hospital in Meerut on Thursday, the other daughter, Swati, died on Wednesday.

Geeta's husband, Mahak Singh, has lodged an FIR under Section 306 (abetment to suicide) of the Indian Penal Code against Chhaprauli police station incharge Naresh Pal. Also named in the FIR are a man

called Kantilal and his two sons, who had formerly filed a complaint against Singh's son Prince and are alleged to have accompanied the police team to Singh's residence when the said incident took place.

On May 3, an FIR was lodged against 24-year-old Prince under Section 366 (kidnapping, abduction and inducing woman to compel her marriage) of the Indian Penal Code, after Prince and Kantilal's 22-year-old daughter reportedly went missing together.

Kantilal's family is Dalit and Singh is an OBC of blacksmith caste. Last Tuesday night, the Chhaprauli police raided Prince's home and during the course of the raid the three women consumed poison.

# Karti writes to LS Speaker over CBI interrogation in Chinese visa case

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Congress MP Karti Chidambaram has written to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla regarding his questioning by the CBI in the Chinese visa scam case, saying "gross breach of Parliamentary Privilege by the central probe agency." Karti has alleged that during a raid CBI officers seized "highly confidential" personal notes and papers pertaining to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Information and Technology of which he is a member, and sought redressal for what he said was a "breach of his parliamentary privilege."

"I've written to Lok Sabha Speaker that there has been a gross breach of Parliamentary

Privilege by the CBI. My parliamentary committee papers that pertain to IT Committee have been taken during search and seizure. No one has the right to take these confidential papers," Karti told a news agency.

"I am writing to you now because I have become the victim of a grossly illegal and patently unconstitutional action," Karti Chidambaram said in his letter to Birla.

"The Central Bureau of Investigation in the garb of conducting an investigation into an 11-year-old decision of the Government in which I have absolutely no involvement raided my residence in Delhi," he said. In the course of this so-called raid, certain officers of the CBI seized my "highly confidential and sensi-

tive personal notes and papers" pertaining to the Parliamentary Standing Committee for Information and Technology, Karti Chidambaram alleged.

"Shockingly, even my draft notes and questions which I had intended to ask witnesses summoned to the Committee, were also seized," he alleged. He claimed that his handwritten notes pertaining to the depositions made to the Committee by witnesses were also seized for reasons best known to the Agency.

Karti Chidambaram alleged that these actions by the CBI, in so far as they relate to "interference with my duties as a Parliamentarian, amount to a direct assault upon democratic principles on which our Parliament is founded".

# LS Secretariat summons Maha DGP, Mumbai CP after Navneet Rana's harassment complaint

PNS ■ NEW DELHI/MUMBAI

Acting on the complaint of Aillegal arrest and harassment by Lok Sabha MP Navneet Rana, the Privilege & Ethics Branch of the Lok Sabha Secretariat on Friday issued a notification directing Maharashtra DGP Rajnish Seth along with Mumbai's Police Commissioner Sanjay Pandey to appear before the Committee of Oral Evidence on June 15.

Yashwant Bhanudas, Superintendent of Women District Prison Class-2, Byculla has also been issued with the same directives. "It may kindly be ensured that the officials of the Government of Maharashtra mentioned above

appear before the Committee of Evidence on the date, time and venue indicated above," the order read.

The development comes days after Navneet Rana appeared before the Parliamentary Privilege Committee over her allegation of "patently illegal arrest and the consequent inhuman treatment meted out to her at Khar Police Station, Mumbai". Stating that she had placed everything in front of the committee, the Independent MP said that those responsible for alleged atrocities should be punished.

"I have kept everything in front of the committee right from the time they arrested me from my place till 14 days that

I was in the custody. Sanjay Raut (Rajya Sabha MP and Shiv Sena leader) is also a part of it. Now, it is on the committee to decide. They should be punished and they will be punished," Navneet Rana said.

Earlier, the Amravati MP had written a letter to the Lok Sabha Speaker, and informed how she along with her MLA husband Ravi Rana was 'illegally arrested' on April 23 from their Mumbai residence after they declared to recite the Hanuman Chalisa outside Shiv Sena supreme and Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray's residence. She also alleged being denied access to drinking water and washroom after the arrest.

# SP's Lal Bihari may be Leader of Opp in Council

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Samajwadi Party MLC Lal Bihari Yadav is likely to be leader of opposition in the UP Legislative Council as his party has sent a proposal in this regard to the chairman of the Upper House.

The tenure of Samajwadi Party MLC Sanjay Lather, who was hitherto leader of opposition, ended on Thursday. The SP had entrusted the assignment to Lather after the demise of MLC Ahmed Hassan, who was the then leader of opposition in the legislative council.

On Thursday, a proposal recommending MLC Lal Bihari Yadav from Varanasi block teachers' constituency for the post was sent to the legislative council chairperson on behalf

of the SP.

A resident of Azamgarh, Lal Bihari Yadav was elected MLC in 2020 and his term will expire in 2026. He was the principal of Lal Bihari Inter College founded by Uttar Pradesh Secondary Teachers Association (Financeless Group).

Yadav shot into the limelight by undertaking a 1200 km Teacher Sandesh Padyatra in 49 days from Ballia to Mathura and has been continuously fighting for the interests of teachers. Also, the upcoming Azamgarh Lok Sabha byelection is also believed to be the reason behind making him the leader of the opposition in the legislative council as SP chief Akhilesh Yadav's wife Dimple Yadav is set to be fielded by the party from that seat.








FIRST COLUMN


PUTIN SACKS TOP GENs FOR KHARKIV FAILURE

Agreeing to a ceasefire is the only way out for Russia



PK VASUDEVA

President of Russia Vladimir Putin has sacked a top General who failed to capture Ukraine's key city of Kharkiv, blaming him for botching his war. Lieutenant General Serhiy Kisel was the head of the elite 1st Guards Tank Army, charged with taking Ukraine's second biggest city. But he has now been suspended for his failure to capture Kharkiv. Vice Admiral Igor Osipov, the commander of Russia's Black Sea Fleet, has also been suspended following the sinking of the flagship Moskva last month. This was one of the greatest successful events of the Ukraine's Navy. It seems that Putin is very upset in losing battles but still not agreeing for a ceasefire, which may salvage his prestige. Putin may have also lost the confidence in General Valery Gerasimov, his senior-most general in Ukraine, as his campaign faltered. As a matter of fact Putin has fired a number of senior commanders who have performed poorly and failed to capture of Ukraine's important strategic military establishments. A culture of cover-ups and scapegoating is prevalent within the Russian military system. Many officials involved in the invasion of Ukraine are likely to be distracted by efforts to avoid personal culpability for Russia's setbacks. This is likely to place further strain on Russia's centralised model of command and control, as officers are increasingly seeking to defer key decisions of their superiors resulting in unrest among the officers and soldiers. However, Russian forces have been forced to withdraw



from around Kharkiv after months of heavy bombardment failed to break stiff resistance, leading to Moscow's second major defeat during the war. It has been reported that a number units have revolted the higher command orders. Chances of a military Coup cannot be denied if the present defeats of Russian troops persist. At the end of March 2022, Russian forces carried out a tactical retreat from the capital city of Kyiv, after a sustained bombardment. Kyiv was considered to be the main objective of the Russian Army. Intelligence sources indicate that Russia might have pulled back its forces from Kharkiv to relocate them to the eastern Donbas region now a priority target.

The poor performance of the mighty Russian Army has shocked the Western strategic analysts who feel that the Russian troops had lacked direction, motivation, intelligence failure, poor strategic vision and the proper equipment to achieve its objective of capturing Ukraine. A lack of experience and empowerment among Russian army's cadre of noncommissioned, and junior commissioned officers so important in world armies and battlefield tactical tinkering by Putin, has also hampered the performance of the Russian troops. Despite their reinforcements, there is widespread scepticism that Russian forces will achieve any breakthrough fast. Russian forces have already sustained high losses after nearly three months of conflict and morale is thought to be low. Their units are made up of men enlisted from the local separatist areas, many under duress, as well as the broader Russian army. The US Senate on May 19 approved a \$40 billion emergency and humanitarian aid package for Ukraine, as the US deepens its support for an increasingly costly and protracted fight against Russian invasion. The measure would bring the total investment in the war roughly \$54 billion in just nearly three months. The Senate approved it overwhelmingly on a vote 86-11, in the latest reflection of the remarkable bipartisan support on Capitol Hill for a massive investment in Ukraine's war effort, which propelled the spending package through the House. The US and EU military aid to Ukraine has shown good results of repelling attacks in Ukraine and Russia is now feeling the heat even as Putin continues his belligerence against the Ukrainians.

*(The writer is former Senior Professor, International Trade and Member, Vivekananda International Foundation. The views expressed are personal.)*

Nature: The Bharatiya Biocentric Discourse

In the Vedic culture, plants are believed to have consciousness like humans and can feel pain as well as happiness



THOUSANDS OF SPECIES HAVE ALREADY BECOME EXTINCT AND THOUSANDS ARE ON THE VERGE OF EXTINCTION. EMISSION OF GREENHOUSE GASES, TEMPERATURE RISE & CLIMATE CHANGE HAVE CROSSED ALL LIMITS. WE NEED TO RESTORE VEDIC CULTURE, TRADITIONS AND WAYS OF INTERACTION WITH NATURE IN ALL SPHERES OF HUMAN DOMAIN

*(The writer is Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Punjab, Bathinda. The views expressed are personal.)*

POINT COUNTERPOINT

I HAVE FILED NOMINATION (TO THE RAJYA SABHA) AS AN INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE. I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO BE AN INDEPENDENT VOICE. — CONGRESS EX-LEADER KAPIL SIBAL



HE HAD ALREADY WRITTEN TO PARTY PRESIDENT (SONIA GANDHI). PEOPLE COME AND GO FROM OUR PARTY. THIS IS A BIG PARTY. — CONGRESS GENERAL SECRETARY KC VENUGOPAL



Taiwan: The Codger Misspeaks Again - or Does He?

Joe Biden did not actually promise to commit American forces to defend Taiwan against a Chinese invasion



GWYNNE DYER

Well, my dear, we didn't know where to look. The old codger was getting away with it again, fielding the questions like a man only nine-tenths of his age, and then somebody asked him about Taiwan. He must have rehearsed that one, but still he blew it - big time. We'll be picking up the pieces for weeks.

President Joe Biden was speaking at a Tokyo press conference, looking not a year older than 79, and somebody asked him if he were "willing to get involved militarily to defend Taiwan if it comes to that?" Since the official US position on that question for many years has been 'constructive ambiguity', he was supposed to avoid both 'yes' and 'no'.

Biden has been playing the international game at the highest level for longer than most people have been alive, and he should know the drill. Say how much he loves Taiwan and how devoted he is to its democracy. He can even mention that he'd be really disappointed and quite cross if China invaded it. But he mustn't say what the United States would actually do.

Instead, with a loud clatter, the president of the United States jumped the tracks. "Yes," he said, "that's a commitment we made. The idea that (Taiwan) could be taken by force, just taken by force, is not...it would dislocate the entire region and be another action similar to what happened in Ukraine."

Compounding his crime, Biden went on to express the hope that China was paying attention to how the US and its allies have responded to the Russian invasion of Ukraine. "This is not just about Ukraine," he said. China is watching to see if the Western response to the invasion stays strong, or if it loses focus as the war drags on. It must stay strong, because otherwise "what signal does that send to China about the cost of...attempting to take Taiwan by force?"

Quite a performance, and the headlines said things like 'US would defend Taiwan militarily if China attacked'. But being an old codger has its advantages, and one is that people panic less when you make some apparently radical remark or commitment. They're in doubt as to whether you just misspoke, or whether you really meant it. Was Biden really sending a serious warning to China, but doing it in a way that did not compel China to respond directly? I suspect the answer is yes, because if you listen closely to what he said, he did NOT actually promise to commit American forces to defend Taiwan against a Chinese invasion.

He meant it to sound as if he had said that - warning that China would be "flirting with danger" if it invaded Taiwan - but there was no such definitive statement.

Maybe Joe Biden has just lost his marbles, but instilling a bit more doubt in the Chinese regime about his likely reaction in the event of a Chinese attack on Taiwan is not necessarily a blunder. 'Constructive ambiguity' requires both the 'yes' and the 'no' to be plausible, and the 'yes' has been losing credibility recently.

In the much more fraught case of the US response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine, Biden has been notably cautious in his actions. Before the invasion had even begun, he made it publicly clear that American or NATO forces would not intervene directly to defend Ukraine.

As the strength of the Ukrainian forces and the sheer incompetence of the Russian army became clear, his willingness to give Ukraine more advanced weapons in larger quantities grew. But his seemingly accidental asides about how Putin cannot remain in power never become actual policy. Every option remains open.

This is a man who has been around the block a few times, and he knows how the game is played. So, if I were an adviser to Taiwan's president, I would tell her the most important thing in the event of a Chinese invasion attempt is to make a good show of resistance in the first few weeks.

There is no more difficult military operation than an opposed amphibious landing, and China has no real-world experience of carrying out that kind of attack across 200 km. of open ocean. So, if you can hold the invaders on the beaches for a week or two, American arms and supplies will start to flow in abundance.

But don't expect US troops to help you directly. Biden is not willing for fight a war against China either. Consider Ukraine.



# Lankan PM stresses urgency for economic reform plan

AP ■ COLOMBO

Sri Lanka's prime minister said on Thursday that he will quickly prepare an economic reform programme and seek approval from the International Monetary Fund — because global inflation and the financial impact of Russia's invasion of Ukraine on other countries could limit their ability to help the island nation.

Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe said that officials have reached agreement on basic reforms concepts with the IMF and that he plans to have the economic reform program ready within two weeks. After it is finalised, an IMF del-



egation will visit Sri Lanka to evaluate the programme.

"I have placed my special attention on this because of the present global situation, the war in Ukraine and global inflation. From what we can see a number of countries may have to face economic problems like ours," Wickremesinghe said.

He added: "At the moment the United States and the Europe are spending a lot on the war and there is a possibility of the aid given to us being reduced."

Sri Lanka is nearly bankrupt with an acute foreign currency crisis that resulted in a foreign debt default. The country announced last month that

it is suspending nearly \$7 billion foreign debt repayment due for this year out of about \$25 billion due through 2026. Sri Lanka's total foreign debt stands at \$51 billion. The IMF said in a statement Thursday said that a team remotely concluded initial discussions about Sri Lanka's reform plan on Tuesday.

"The team made good progress in assessing the economic situation and in identifying policy priorities to be taken going forward," the statement said.

The statement added that discussions focused on restoring fiscal sustainability while protecting the vulnerable and

poor; ensuring monetary policy credibility and exchange rate regimes; preserving financial sector stability; and structural reforms to enhance economic growth and strengthen governance.

"We expect that these discussions will help the authorities formulate their reform programme," the IMF said.

Sri Lanka's former finance minister Ali Sabry has said that badly timed tax cuts led to a reduction in government revenue, reducing the country's ability to borrow and releasing existing reserves to maintain the US dollar at a fixed rate against the local currency — and that those factors triggered the

foreign currency crisis.

Also the COVID-19 pandemic nearly severely reduced tourism revenue, one of the country's economic lifelines. The economic crisis has caused a reduction of imports of goods and industrial raw material, prompting an acute shortage of essential items like food, medicine, cooking gas and other fuel, toilet paper and even matches. Sri Lankans for months have been forced to wait in lines lasting hours outside stores to buy fuel and cooking gas.

Protesters have occupied the entrance to President Gotabaya Rajapaksa's office for nearly 50 days, demanding

his resignation because they blame him and his powerful, and politically connected family for the economic crises. The protests have nearly dismantled the powerful Rajapaksa political dynasty after the president's brother resigned as prime minister amid countrywide violence earlier this month, when his supporters attacked peaceful protesters.

Two of the president's other siblings and nephew resigned from their Cabinet posts. Wickremesinghe has promised to propose constitutional changes to curtail presidential powers, strengthen Parliament and resolve Sri Lanka's economic difficulties.

## China, Russia veto new UN sanctions on North Korea

AP ■ UNITED NATIONS

China and Russia vetoed a U.N. Resolution sponsored by the United States on Thursday that would have imposed tough new sanctions on North Korea for its spate of intercontinental ballistic missile launches that can be used to deliver nuclear weapons.

The vote in the 15-member Security Council was 13-2 and marked a first serious division among the five veto-wielding permanent members of the U.N.'s most powerful body on a North Korea sanctions resolution.

A united Security Council imposed sanctions after North Korea's first nuclear test explosion in 2006 and tightened them over the years seeking to rein in its nuclear and ballistic missile programs and cut off funding.

U.S. Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield appealed for unity before Thursday's vote, calling North Korea's six ICBM tests this year "a threat to the entire international com-



munity."

She stressed that in the last sanctions resolution adopted by the council in December 2017, members committed to further restricting petroleum exports to North Korea if it conducted a ballistic missile launch capable of reaching intercontinental ranges.

North Korea suspended ICBM tests for five years, but she urged the council to act against its "dangerous and threatening" ICBM launches in the last five months including one on Wednesday.

China's U.N. Ambassador Zhang Jun reiterated Beijing's opposition to new sanctions against North Korea ahead of Thursday's vote. He called instead for the United States to take "meaningful, practical actions" to resume its dialogue with the country and find a

political solution to the situation on the Korean Peninsula, where the 1950-53 war between North Korea and South Korea stopped with an armistice, not a peace treaty.

With tensions on the peninsula, Zhang said, it's important to stay calm, avoid any provocative actions and "really give hope" to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea -- by lifting some sanctions instead of imposing new ones.

"We do not think additional sanctions will be helpful in responding to current situation," he told reporters Thursday. "It can only get situation even worse. ... so that's what we really want to avoid."

Alluding to U.S. "pivot to Asia" reflecting rise of China as an economic and military power and America's most significant competitor, Zhang said, "We do not want to see anyone make use of DPRK situation or Korean Peninsula situation as a card for their strategic or geopolitical agenda."

## Republicans block domestic terrorism bill, gun policy debate

AP ■ WASHINGTON

Democrats' first attempt at responding to back-to-back mass shootings in Buffalo and Uvalde, Texas, failed in Senate as Republicans blocked a domestic terrorism bill that would have opened debate on difficult questions surrounding hate crimes and gun safety.

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., tried to nudge Republicans into taking up a domestic terrorism bill that had cleared House quickly last week after mass shootings at a grocery store in Buffalo, New York, and a church in Southern California targeting people of color.

He said it could become basis for negotiation. But Thursday vote failed along party lines, raising fresh doubts about possibility of robust debate, let alone eventual compromise, on gun safety measures. The final vote was 47-47, short of 60 needed to take up bill. All Republicans voted against it. "We're disappointed,"

said White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre. She said it's "shameful" that National Rifle Association and others have stood in the way of advancing such measures but encouraged Congress to press ahead.

"The president has been very clear that's it's time to act," she said. Rejection of bill, just two days after mass shooting at a Texas elementary school that killed 19 children and two teachers, brought into sharp relief Congress' persistent failure to pass legislation to curb nation's epidemic of gun violence.

It also underscored prevalence of mass shootings in the U.S. As Congress struggled to react to earlier shootings but was confronted by yet another massacre, Schumer said he will give bipartisan negotiations in Senate about two weeks, while Congress is away for a break, to try to forge a compromise bill that could pass 50-50 Senate, where 60 votes will be needed to overcome a filibuster.

## China's Pacific plan seen as regional strategic game-changer

AP ■ WELLINGTON (NEW ZEALAND)

When China signed a security pact with the Solomon Islands in April it raised concerns from the US and its allies that Beijing may be seeking a military outpost in the South Pacific, an area of traditional American naval dominance.

But China upped the ante further this week, reaching out to the Solomon Islands and nine other island nations with a sweeping security proposal that, even if only partially realised, could give it a presence in the Pacific much nearer Hawaii, Australia, New Zealand and on the doorstep of the strategic American territory of Guam.

China insists its proposals are targeted at regional stability and economic growth, but experts and governments fear that beneath the surface, it is a brazen attempt to expand its influence in a strategically critical area.

David Panuelo, the presi-

dent of Micronesia, one of the nations targeted by China, warned the others against signing on, saying it "threatens to bring a new Cold War at best, and a world war at worst."

"Aside from the impacts on our sovereignty ... It increases the chances of China getting into conflict with Australia, Japan, United States and New Zealand on the day when Beijing decides to invade Taiwan," Panuelo warned in a letter obtained by *The Associated Press*, noting China has not ruled out using force to take the self-governing island, which it claims as its own territory.

A draft of the proposal 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, and raises the possibility of a free trade area with the Pacific nations.

## China raps US as tensions rise in South Pacific

AP ■ BEIJING, MAY

China on Friday criticised a speech by US Secretary of State Antony Blinken that focused on relations between world's top two economic powers, saying US was seeking to smear Beijing's reputation.

In his Thursday address, Blinken said administration of President Joe Biden wants to lead international bloc opposed to Russia's invasion of Ukraine into a broader coalition to counter what it sees as a more serious, long-term threat to global order from China.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin responded that US was "essentially spreading disinformation" and "smearing China's domestic and foreign policy."

Delton Cables Limited						
Regd. Office : Delton House 4801 Bharat Ram Road 24 Darya Ganj New Delhi -110002 Website : www.deltoncables.com, E-mail: cs@deltoncables.com, CIN: L31300DL1964PLC004255						
EXTRACT OF AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2022 (Rs. in lakhs)						
SL No	Particulars	Quarter ended 31.03.2022	Quarter ended 31.12.2021	Quarter ended 31.03.2021	Year Ended 31.03.2022	Year Ended 31.03.2021
		Audited	Unaudited	Audited	Audited	Audited
1	Total income from operations (net)	4,821.84	4,157.14	4,213.31	16,026.20	12,470.41
2	Net Profit for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and / or Extraordinary items)	386.26	(224.88)	79.36	105.02	122.92
3	Net Profit for the period before Tax (after Exceptional and / or Extraordinary items)	386.19	(224.88)	86.45	104.95	130.01
4	Net Profit for the period after Tax (after Exceptional and / or Extraordinary items)	294.40	(198.59)	7.76	76.61	62.32
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit for the period (after tax) and other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	317.42	(200.72)	9.44	92.89	53.00
6	Equity share capital (Face Value of Rs.10/- each)	864.00	864.00	864.00	864.00	864.00
7	Earnings Per Share (before extraordinary items) (Face Value of Rs.10/- each)					
	(a) Basic (Rs.)	3.41	(2.30)	0.09	0.89	0.72
	(b) Diluted (Rs.)	3.41	(2.30)	0.09	0.89	0.72
<b>Notes:</b>						
1) The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly / Annual Financial Results are available on the Stock Exchanges website (www.bseindia.com) and on Company's website (www.deltoncables.com).						
2) The above results have been prepared in accordance with the principle and procedures of Indian Accounting Standards (Ind AS) as notified under the companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015 as specified under section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013.						
3) The above results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at their respective meetings held on May 27, 2022. The Statutory Auditors of the Company have carried out audit for the year ended March 31, 2022 and have expressed an unmodified audit opinion on these results.						
				for and on behalf of the Board		
Place : Delhi				Vivek Gupta		
Date : 27-May-22				(Managing Director)		
				DIN 00035916		

ReNew Wind Energy (Jath) Limited					
CIN No. U40101DL2012PLC236227					
Regd. Office : 138, Ansal Chambers II, Bikaji Cama Place, Delhi-110066					
Corporate Office : ReNew.hub, Commercial Block-1, Zone-6, Golf Course Road, DLF City Phase-V, Gurugram, 122009, Haryana, Phone – 0124-4896 670/ 80					
Statement of Audited Financial Results for the quarter and for the year ended 31 March 2022					
(Amounts in INR thousand, except share and per share data, unless otherwise stated)					
Particulars	Quarter ended 31 March 2022	Quarter ended 31 December 2021	Quarter ended 31 March 2021	Year ended 31 March 2022	Year ended 31 March 2021
	(Unaudited) (refer note 5)	(Unaudited) (refer note 5)	(Unaudited) (refer note 6)	Audited	Audited
Total Income from Operations	85,332	2,00,492	81,393	8,34,742	6,92,074
Net Profit / (Loss) for the year (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(39,077)	38,833	(76,570)	2,09,121	39,792
Net Profit / (Loss) for the year before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(39,077)	38,833	(76,570)	2,09,121	39,792
Net Profit / (Loss) for the year after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(20,156)	47,286	(57,860)	1,71,265	28,929
Total Comprehensive Income for the year [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	(20,156)	47,286	(57,860)	1,71,265	28,929
Paid up Equity Share Capital	1,52,967	1,52,967	1,52,967	1,52,967	1,52,967
Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve)	15,77,462	16,28,939	14,06,196	15,77,462	14,06,196
Securities premium	13,66,029	13,66,029	13,66,029	13,66,029	13,66,029
Net worth	17,30,429	17,81,906	15,59,163	17,30,429	15,59,163
Paid up Debt Capital / Outstanding Debt	30,02,418	31,75,717	33,40,334	30,02,418	33,40,334
Debt Equity Ratio	1.77	1.87	2.26	1.77	2.26
Earnings Per Share (of Rs. 10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations)					
1. Basic :	(1.32)	3.09	(3.78)	11.20	1.89
2. Diluted :	(1.32)	3.09	(3.78)	11.20	1.89
Debt Redemption Reserve	2,96,035	3,19,567	3,44,312	2,96,035	3,44,312
Debt Service Coverage Ratio	0.98	9.42	(0.10)	0.98	0.02
Interest Service Coverage Ratio	0.09	1.87	0.70	2.00	1.86
<b>Notes :</b>					
1. For the other line items referred in Regulation 52 (4) of the SEBI (LODR) Regulations, 2015, the pertinent disclosures have been made to the National Stock Exchange of India Limited and can be accessed on the URL (https://www.nseindia.com).					
2. The statement has been prepared in accordance with recognition and measurement principles laid down in accordance with the Indian Accounting Standard 34 "Interim Financial Reporting" ("Ind AS 34") as prescribed under Section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013 ("the Act") read with Rule 3 of the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015 and relevant rules issued thereunder and other recognized accounting practices and policies.					
3. The company is in the business of development and operation of wind power. There is only one segment (business and/or geographical) in accordance with the requirements of IND AS - 108 "Operating Segments".					
4. The financial results for the quarter and for the period ended March 31, 2022 have been approved by the Board of Directors in their meeting held on May 27, 2022.					
5. India Ratings and Care Ratings has assigned long term issuer rating and rating for the outstanding non-convertible debentures of the Company to "IND AA (CE)" with negative outlook and "CARE AA (CE)" with stable outlook, respectively. Previous period figures have been re-grouped / re-classified wherever necessary, to conform to current period's classification in order to comply with the requirements of the amended Schedule III to the Companies Act, 2013 effective from 1 April 2021.					
For and on behalf of the ReNew Wind Energy (Jath) Limited					
(Sd/-) Balram Mehta					
Managing Director, DIN : 06902711					
Place : Gurugram					
Date : 27 May, 2022					

## Prez: 11 babies killed in fire at Senegalese hosp

Tivaouane (Senegal): Police were on guard and nearby residents and parents stood mourning outside a hospital in Senegal where a fire in the neonatal unit killed 11 newborns. Only three infants could be saved, President Macky Sall said before calling on Thursday for three days of mourning for the young lives lost.

Mamadou Mbaye, who witnessed the fire Wednesday at the Abdoul Aziz Sy Dabakh Hospital in Tivaouane, a town 120 kilometers (75 miles) northeast of the capital, Dakar, told The Associated Press that conditions inside the hospital were "atrocious."

"It was hot and smoky inside with a suffocating heat, and there was a power outage," Mbaye said. Grieving parents were still in shock. "I baptized my child on Wednesday and he was baptized here in the hospital."

## Nearly 200 cases of monkeypox in more than 20 countries: WHO

AP ■ LONDON

The World Health Organisation says nearly 200 cases of monkeypox have been reported in more than 20 countries not usually known to have outbreaks of the unusual disease, but described the epidemic as "containable" and proposed creating a stockpile to equitably share the limited vaccines and drugs available worldwide.

During a public briefing on Friday, the UN health agency said there are still many unanswered questions about how the current epidemic arose, but there is no evidence that any genetic changes in the virus are responsible for the unprecedented epidemic.

"The first sequencing of the virus shows that the strain is not different from the strains we can find in endemic countries and (this outbreak) is probably due more to a change in human behaviour," said Dr



Sylvie Briand, WHO's director of pandemic and epidemic diseases. Earlier this week, a top adviser to WHO said the outbreak in Europe, US, Israel, Australia and beyond was likely linked to sex at two recent raves in Spain and Belgium.

That marks a significant departure from the disease's typical pattern of spread in central and western Africa, where people are mainly infected by animals like wild rodents and primates, and outbreaks haven't spilled across borders.

On Friday, Spanish authorities said the number of cases there had risen to 98, including one woman, whose infection is "directly related" to a

chain of transmission that had been previously limited to men, according to officials in the region of Madrid.

Doctors in Britain, Spain, Portugal, Canada, the US and elsewhere have noted that the majority of infections to date have been in gay and bisexual men, or men who have sex with men.

The disease is no more likely to affect people because of their sexual orientation and scientists warn the virus could infect others if transmission isn't curbed.

WHO's Briand said that based on how past outbreaks of the disease in Africa have evolved, the current situation appeared "containable."

Still, she said WHO expected to see more cases reported in the future, noting "we don't know if we are just seeing the peak of the iceberg (or) if there are many more cases that are undetected in communities," she said.

## Turkey keeps up pressure on Sweden, Finland

AP ■ ISTANBUL

Turkey's foreign minister says Sweden and Finland must now take "concrete steps" to alleviate his country's security concerns to overcome Ankara's objections to their NATO membership bid.

Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu said Friday that delegations from the two Nordic countries have returned home with Turkey's demands after a visit this week and Ankara is awaiting their answers.

The countries' membership bids require support from all NATO countries, but Turkey is objecting to them. It has cited alleged support for Kurdish militants that Turkey considers terrorists and restrictions on weapons sales to Turkey.

Cavusoglu said that "an approach of we'll convince Turkey in time anyway, we are friends and allies" would not be correct."


KAMA HOLDINGS LIMITED

CIN : L92199DL2000PLC104779

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AUDITED STANDALONE AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS

FOR THE QUARTER AND YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Particulars	STANDALONE				CONSOLIDATED			
		QUARTER ENDED		YEAR ENDED		QUARTER ENDED		YEAR ENDED	
		31-Mar-22	31-Mar-21	31-Mar-22	31-03-2021	31-03-2022	31-03-2021	31-03-2022	31-03-2021
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1	Total Income from Operations	7136.79	5709.40	10742.97	7212.09	356364.81	262310.10	1250241.17	846755.24
2	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (including discontinued operations)	7075.96	5643.64	10542.20	6994.87	78768.92	51056.88	259314.72	161426.80
3	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (including discontinued operations)	7026.94	5807.15	10493.61	6986.38	60265.36	38078.12	188885.87	119662.50
4	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	7027.15	5807.35	10493.80	6986.05	63449.69	40185.90	197235.02	138274.91
5	Paid up Equity Share Capital	645.26	645.26	645.26	645.26	645.26	645.26	645.26	645.26
6	Earnings Per Share (of Rs. 10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations) -								
	(a) Basic :	108.90	90.00	162.63	108.27	471.10	298.38	1,483.68	939.10
	(b) Diluted:	108.90	90.00	162.63	108.27	471.10	298.38	1,483.68	939.10

Note: The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly/Annual Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly/Annual Financials Results are available on the Stock Exchange websites (www.bseindia.com) and the Company's website (www.kamaholdings.com).

For and on behalf of the Board

Kartik Bharat Ram

Chairman

(DIN:00008557)

Place : New Delhi

Date : 27th May 2022



Integra Telecommunication and Software Limited					
CIN:L74899DL1985PLC020286					
Registered Office: Flat No. 1311, Devika Tower 6, Nehru Place, New Delhi - 110019					
Corporate Office: 610/611, Nirmal Galaxy Avior, L.B.S. Road, Mulund (W), Mumbai-400080					
Email ID: info@integratelesoftware.com; Website: www.integratelesoftware.com					
Extract of Statement of Audited Results for the Quarter and Year Ended on 31/03/2022					
(Amount in lakhs)					
Particulars	Quarter ended			Year ended	
	31/3/2022 (Audited)	31/12/2021 (Un-Audited)	31/3/2021 (Audited)	31/3/2022 (Audited)	31/3/2021 (Audited)
1. Total Income from Operations	34.92	27.13	76.61	115.61	160.96
2. Net Profit/(Loss) for the period(before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	25.25	15.46	67.80	77.61	134.13
3. Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax(after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	25.25	15.46	67.80	77.61	134.13
4. Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax(after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	16.64	15.46	67.82	69.00	134.14
5. Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	16.64	15.46	67.82	69.00	134.14
6. Equity Share Capital (Face Value of Rs. 10/- per share)	1,056.00	1,056.00	1,056.00	1,056.00	1,056.00
7. Reserve (excluding revaluation reserves as shown in the balance sheet of previous year)		-	-	(0.94)	(69.94)
8. Earning Per Share (of Rs.10/- each)(for continuing and discontinued operations) Basic & Diluted	0.16	0.15	0.64	0.65	1.27
<b>Notes</b>					
1 The above is an extract of the detailed format of Audited Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchange under Regulation 33 of the SEBI(Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The financial results were reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at their respective meetings held on 26th May, 2022 format of the Financial Results are available on the websites of the Stock Exchange(s)at www.bseindia.com and on Company's website <a href="http://www.integratelesoftware.com">www.integratelesoftware.com</a>					
<b>For Integra Telecommunication and Software Limited</b>					
Sd/- Ramaswamy Narayan Iyer Managing Director DIN:03045662					
Place: Mumbai Date: 26.05.2022					



# Structural reforms must for inclusive growth: RBI

**Mumbai:** Making a strong case for structural reforms, the Reserve Bank on Friday said they are essential for sustained, balanced and inclusive growth, and also to deal with the after-effects of the pandemic.

In its annual report, the Reserve Bank of India also stressed that the future path of growth would be conditioned by addressing supply-side bottlenecks, calibrating monetary policy to bring down inflation and boosting capital spending.

“Undertaking structural reforms to improve India’s medium-term growth potential holds the key to secure sustained, balanced and inclusive growth, especially by helping workers adapt to the after-effects of the pandemic by reskilling and enabling them to adopt new technologies for raising productivity,” it said in the chapter on ‘Assessment and Prospects’.

The escalation of geopolitical tensions into war from late February 2022 has delivered a brutal blow to the world economy, battered as it has been through 2021 by multiple waves of the pandemic, supply chain and logistics disruptions, elevated inflation and bouts of financial market turbulence, triggered by diverging paths of



monetary policy normalisation, it added.

“... The immediate impact of geopolitical aftershocks is on inflation, with close to three-fourths of the consumer price index at risk. The elevation in international prices of crude, metals and fertilisers has translated into a term of trade shock that has widened trade and current account deficits,” the report said. High-frequency indicators already point to some loss of momentum in the recovery that has been gaining traction from the second quarter of 2021-22, with 86.8 per cent of the adult population fully vaccinated and 3.5 per cent having received booster doses.

“The inflation trajectory going forward is subject to considerable uncertainty and

would primarily depend on the evolving geopolitical situation,” the report said.

The RBI further said supply-side policy interventions such as removing customs duty on import of raw cotton, prohibiting wheat exports, reducing road and infrastructure cess (RIC) on petrol by ₹8 per litre and diesel by ₹6 per litre, increasing exports duty on certain steel products, reducing imports duty on certain raw materials for steel and plastic manufacturing, restricting sugar exports, removing customs duty and agriculture infrastructure and development cess (AIDC) on import of 20 lakh tonnes of crude sunflower oil and crude soybean oil and other measures as may be taken could, however, provide some offset. **PTI**

# No wheat shortage, ban slapped to check rampant export: Min

**Gwalior:** There was no shortage of wheat in India, but the Centre has imposed a ban on its export to check “rampant” overseas sales of the grain, Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar has said.

Speaking to reporters after attending a function here on Thursday, Tomar said it was the government’s duty to maintain a balance in the market.

“For us, the nation’s interest comes first. And that is why there was no shortage of wheat in the country. It is the government’s duty to maintain a balance in the market. Hence, we have imposed a ban to check rampant export of the food grain. We have to meet the country’s demand,” the minister said.

On May 14, India, the world’s second biggest producer of the cereal, announced a ban on wheat exports as a part of measures to control rising domestic prices amid concerns of output being hit by scorching heatwave.

India’s wheat exports stood at an all-time high of 7 million tonnes, valuing USD 2.05 billion, in 2021-22 on better demand of Indian wheat from overseas. Of the total wheat



exports, around 50 per cent went to Bangladesh.

Tomar said India has to also look after the foodgrain needs of its neighbours.

“Our neighbouring countries depend on us. Many countries in the world need foodgrains, and they are looking at India. We have a responsibility to our neighbouring countries,” he said.

“To discharge all these responsibilities, we have taken the decision (to ban export) by checking our account (stock),” the minister said, responding to a query on the Congress’s allegation that overseas shipment of wheat was stopped without any planning. **PTI**

# Markets dart up for 2nd day amid firm global trends; log weekly gains

**Mumbai:** Equity indices extended their winning run to a second straight session on Friday, buoyed by robust demand for IT, bank and auto stocks amid a supportive trend overseas.

The two-day rally also helped the benchmarks post their second straight weekly advance, in lockstep with a global rebound despite lingering concerns over high inflation and coordinated policy tightening by central banks.

Continuing with the previous session’s momentum, the 30-share BSE Sensex rallied 632.13 points or 1.17 per cent to settle at 54,884.66.

Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty jumped 182.30 points or 1.13 per cent to 16,352.45.

Tech Mahindra was the top performer in the Sensex pack, spurring 4.10 per cent, followed by IndusInd Bank, Wipro, Bajaj Finance, M&M, Infosys, L&T and Bajaj Finserv.

On the other hand, NTPC, Bharti Airtel, PowerGrid, Tata Steel, Reliance Industries, Asian Paints and Nestle were the laggards, slumping as much as 2.43 per cent.

“Joining the global rally, the investors were in a buying mood following favourable retail earnings in the US. Receding FII selling also pro-



vided comfort to the domestic market in bringing down volatility.

“The RBI’s upcoming policy meeting will be a key factor in the market, where they are expected to announce an additional policy rate hike of 25-35 bps,” said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services.

On a weekly basis, the Sensex climbed 558.27 points or 1.02 per cent, while the Nifty gained 86.30 points or 0.53 per cent.

“The recent rebound shows that we’re just mirroring the global markets, especially the US and it may continue ahead

as well. Besides, upcoming macroeconomic data and auto sales numbers will also be in focus... Meanwhile, we recommend maintaining a positive yet cautious approach and focusing more on stock selection,” said Ajit Mishra, VP - Research, Religare Broking Ltd.

In the broader markets, the BSE midcap gauge jumped 1.69 per cent and the smallcap index gained 1.20 per cent in Friday’s session. Among BSE sectoral indices, IT jumped 2.38 per cent, followed by tech (1.84 per cent), capital goods (1.69 per cent), industrials (1.58 per cent), auto (1.50 per cent) and bank (1.35 per cent). **PTI**

# Gold jumps ₹303; silver rallies ₹1,023 amid firm global trends

**New Delhi:** Gold in the national capital on Friday jumped



₹303 to ₹50,939 per 10 grams in line with rally in international precious metal prices, according to HDFC Securities.

The precious metal settled at ₹50,636 per 10 grams in the previous trade.

Silver also rallied by ₹1,023 to ₹62,365 per kg from ₹61,342 per kg in the previous trade.

In the international market, gold was trading higher at USD 1,859 per ounce and silver gained marginally to USD 22.22 per ounce. “Gold prices traded higher with spot gold prices at COMEX trading around half a per cent up at USD 1,859 per ounce on Friday,” said Tapan Patel, Senior Analyst (Commodities) at HDFC Securities. **PTI**

# Sebi tweaks SOP in case of defaults by trading, clearing members

**New Delhi:** Capital markets regulator Sebi on Friday tweaked the standard operating procedure specifying steps to be taken by stock exchanges, clearing corporations and depositories for dealing with possible defaults by trading or clearing members.

The measures are aimed at protecting the interest of non-defaulting clients of trading members (TMs) or clearing members (CMs) in the likely event of default.

The regulator, in consultation with the Market Infrastructure Institutions, has decided to modify the framework in order to provide equitable distribution of funds amongst investors, according to a circular.

Under the new framework, within 30 trading days from crystallization of balances, stock exchanges (SEs) or clearing corporations (CCs) will

have to endeavour to settle the claims of maximum number of clients by way of interim measures under their supervision, prior to issuing show cause notice (SCN) for declaring the TM a defaulter.

The TM is required to be instructed to pay small investors out of available funds and own resources (movable and immovable) under the supervision of the SEs.

Further, the unencumbered deposits available with the SEs or CCs, after adjusting their dues and maintaining the minimum base capital requirement, will also be utilised for settling the credit balance of investors starting from the smallest amount.

“Such amount shall be paid in full to all such investors having credit balance up to the amount of ₹25 lakh, subject to availability of funds. **PTI**

# Ola scouts for land to set up cell, electric car factories

**New Delhi:** Mobility giant Ola Electric is scouting for land to set up its cell and electric car factories and is in talks with multiple states, sources said.

Ola Electric needs 1,000 acres of land to set up its cell gigafactory and electric car factory which is expected to attract an investment of ₹10,000 crore.

Some states are already vying, sources aware of the matter said.

Ola Electric’s four-wheeler ambitions are taking a serious shape with some concept designs almost ready.

It is in talks with governments of Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana for land acquisition, they said adding the company is likely to finalize it as early as next month.

The firm already has 500 acre in Krishnagiri in Tamil Nadu where it has built its Futurefactory, the world’s



largest two-wheeler factory.

A company spokesperson declined to comment on the developments.

Ola’s current plans for additional 1,000 acre of land are for a separate four-wheeler factory for its much-anticipated car factory and for its proposed cell gigafactory that will supply cells for its 2-wheeler and 4-wheeler product range.

# Number of ₹2000 currency notes continue to decline

**Mumbai:** The number of bank notes of ₹2000 denomination has steadily declined over the years to touch 214 crore or 1.6 per cent of the total currency notes in circulation at the end of March this year, according to RBI annual report.

The total number of currency notes of all denominations in circulation stood at 13,053 crore as of March this year, up from 12,437 crore from the year-ago period.

At the end of March 2020, the number of ₹2000 denomination notes in circulation stood at 274 crore, accounting for 2.4 per cent of the total number of currency notes in circulation. The count declined to 245 crore or 2 per cent of the total bank notes in circulation as of March 2021 and further fell to 214 crore or 1.6 per cent



at the end of last fiscal year.

In value terms also, the ₹2000 denomination notes dipped from 22.6 per cent of the total value of currency notes in circulation to 17.3 per cent at the end of March 2021 and further to 13.8 per cent at the end of March 2022.

According to the report, the number of ₹500 denomination notes in circulation rose to 4,554.68 crore at the end of March this year as against 3,867.90 crore in the year-ago

period. “In volume terms, ₹500 denomination constituted the highest share at 34.9 per cent, followed by ₹10 denomination bank notes, which constituted 21.3 per cent of the total bank notes in circulation as on March 31, 2022,” the annual report for 2021-22 released on Friday said.

The ₹500 denomination notes accounted for 31.1 per cent share at the end of March 2021 and 25.4 per cent as of March 2020. In value terms, these notes rose from 60.8 per cent to 73.3 per cent from March 2020 to March 2022.

The total value of currency notes in circulation of all denominations rose to Rs 31.05 lakh crore at the end of March this year from ₹28.27 lakh crore at the end of March 2021. **PTI**

# TCI Express Q4 net profit dips over 14% to ₹36 crore

**New Delhi:** Logistics company TCI Express on Friday posted over 14 per cent fall in its net profit at Rs 35.93 crore during the March 2022 quarter. The company had clocked a net profit of Rs 42.57 crore in the same period of FY21, it said in a regulatory filing.

Its total income, however, increased to Rs 300.28 crore in the quarter from Rs 282.86 crore in the year-ago period.

The company’s expenses soared to Rs 251.43 crore in the said period from Rs 228.12 crore a year ago.

In the entire 2021-22 fiscal year, the company’s net profit rose by about 29 per cent to Rs 128.85 crore from Rs 100.60 crore in the preceding financial year.

The company clocked a turnover of Rs 1,081.47 crore during FY22, higher from Rs 843.99 crore a year ago. In a separate statement, the company’s managing director Chander Agarwal said the last quarter of the fiscal has ended on an overall positive note. “Some operating constraints were present in January due to regional restrictions, but these were offset with subsequent recovery and strong demand from SME customers. EBITDA for the quarter stood at Rs 52 crore, registering a sequential growth of 6.2 per cent with margins of 17.4 per cent.” **PTI**

# Non-alcoholic beverage market likely to hit ₹1.47 lakh cr by 2030: ICRIER report

**New Delhi:** India has the potential to become a non-alcoholic beverage hub and the country’s non-alcoholic beverage market is expected to touch a market size of ₹1.47 lakh crore by 2030, says a report.

According to the report by economic policy think tank ICRIER, “the size of the market was estimated at ₹671 billion (₹67,100 crore) in 2019, which is projected to reach around ₹1,472.33 billion (₹1,47,233 crore) in 2030, in the realistic scenario.”

“India has the potential to become a non-alcoholic beverage hub, given its endowments of raw materials, labour and policy support for encouraging food processing in the country,” the report said.



Bottled water and carbonated soft drinks still account for the bulk of the non-alcoholic beverages sector, the report said, adding that the market for juices, energy drinks, tea, milk and coffee-based beverages and organic drinks is expanding. In India, domestic consumption and exports are low, compared to ASEAN countries

and there is enough space to grow for the non-alcoholic beverage industry.

“India’s per capita sales volume was just 21.36 litres in 2018, and exports were worth USD 29.89 million in 2020. There is scope for increasing both domestic sales volume and diversifying products and export markets. For example, India can develop and export organic fruit-based drinks,” it said. The study found that the non-alcoholic beverage sector contributes significantly to the Indian economy in terms of value addition and job creation.

“The total job creation from this sector is estimated to be 6.91 lakh which includes employment creation both in the upstream and downstream operations,” the study said. **PTI**

# TVS Motor launches limited edition of HLX bike range in Kenya

**New Delhi:** TVS Motor Company on Friday said it has launched a limited edition of HLX 125 Gold and HLX 150 Gold bikes in Kenya.

The company has introduced the two editions to commemorate over two million unit sales milestone achieved by the HLX series.

“Kenya is an important market for us. Most two-wheelers in Kenya double up as boda boda and delivery vehicles, customers always look for long-lasting and durable products,” TVS Motor Company’s Head of International Business H G Rahul Nayak said in a statement.



The HLX brand has consistently catered to these evolving mobility needs backed by a wide service network with trained mechanics and spare parts support, setting a benchmark for superior customer experience and quality in the

African countries, he added.

“We are thrilled to introduce the two celebratory limited editions of TVS HLX in Kenya with multiple first-in-segment attributes for our valued customers. With smart lock anti-theft features and exciting new offerings, the motorcycle will further enhance the pride of ownership amongst the Boda-Boda riders,” Nayak said.

The newly launched limited edition HLX 150 Gold and HLX 125 Gold are equipped with first-in-segment features like smart lock (anti-theft security feature using key-FOB) to enhance the safety and security of the vehicle. **PTI**

# Rupee inches 2 paise higher to 77.59 against US dollar

**Mumbai:** The rupee inched 2 paise higher to close at 77.59 (provisional) against US dollar on Friday, supported by positive domestic equities and weakness of the American currency overseas. Forex traders said the rupee consolidated in a narrow range as elevated crude oil prices, fiscal deficit concerns and persistent FII outflows weighed on the local unit.

At the interbank forex market, the rupee opened at 77.60 against the greenback and moved in a range of 77.57 to 77.67 in the day’s trade. The rupee finally ended at 77.59, higher by 2 paise over its previous close of 77.61.

“Rupee continued to trade in a narrow range and volatility remained despite gains in domestic equities. Dollar retraced after the US preliminary GDP number came in below estimates,” said Gaurang Somaiya, Forex and Bullion Analyst, Motilal Oswal Financial Services. Euro and pound got support at lower levels and extended support, Somaiya said, adding that “we expect the USD-INR to trade sideways and quote in the range of 77.20 and 77.80.” On the domestic equity market front, the BSE Sensex advanced 632.13 points or 1.17 per cent to end at 54,884.66, while the broader NSE Nifty jumped 182.30 points or 1.13 per cent to 16,352.45. **PTI**

# UAE, India discuss economic opportunities of energy transition

**Dubai:** Government and business leaders in India and the UAE have held a series of high-level meetings focused on opportunities within the energy transition and industrial growth.

The meetings were held on the sidelines of UAE Climate Envoy and Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology Dr Sultan Al Jaber’s visit to New Delhi on Thursday, UAE’s official news agency Wam said.

Union Environment Minister Bhupendra Yadav on Thursday met Al Jaber and the two discussed issues relating to climate change, hosting of COP

28 and other related matters. Prior to the bilateral meeting, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on climate action was also signed by the two ministers to establish a framework to facilitate and enhance bilateral cooperation on climate action, and also contribute towards implementing the Paris Agreement.

Following Dr Al Jaber’s meeting with Yadav, the UAE and India agreed to expand bilateral cooperation towards accelerated climate action and implementation of the Paris agreement, including public-private partnership across renewable power deployment,

agriculture efficiency, green hydrogen, sustainable finance, and carbon market development, the official Wam news agency reported.

The UAE-India cooperation in climate aims to support India’s ambition to achieve 450 gigawatts (GW) of renewable energy installed capacity by 2030 and aligns with the UAE’s ambitions to expand its low and zero-carbon energy capabilities.

The UAE delegation also met with Indian business leaders discussing new opportunities, particularly those in decarbonisation and climate solutions. **PTI**





the pioneer

# INDIAN PREMIER LEAGUE 2022

11

We learnt a lot from the last game. We have discussed a few changes. The team environment is really good. We have got an extra opportunity for finishing second in the table.

— RIYAN PARAG

## 14 YEARS LATER...

### Jos Buttler's 4th hundred in IPL 2022 takes Royals to final

PTI ■ AHMEDABAD

Jos Buttler extended his dream run this season with a record-equaling fourth hundred as Rajasthan Royals produced a ruthless performance to beat Royal Challengers Bangalore by seven wickets here on Friday and reach their first IPL final since the inaugural edition in 2008.

Pacer Prasidh Krishna (3/22) came back strongly from the hammering he received in the last game to help Rajasthan restrict RCB to 157 for eight in Qualifier 2 despite a stellar 42-ball 58 from Rajat Patidar.

Buttler (106 not out off 60 balls), the leading run getter of the tournament by a fair distance, then toyed with the RCB attack to ensure the Royals romped to victory in 18.1 overs. It was only fitting that Buttler hit the winning runs as he clobbered Harshal Patel for his sixth maximum. With his special innings, Buttler matched Virat Kohli for most hundreds in a single season. Kohli had achieved that feat in 2016.

Royals take on IPL debutants Gujarat Titans in the final here on Sunday and would be looking to emulate the special feat of the 2008 batch which lifted the title under the inspirational leadership of the late Shane Warne 14 seasons ago.

The pitch offered extra bounce but after Buttler provided a flying start in the company of Yashasvi Jaiswal (21 off 13 balls), the Royals had the game in the bag.

RCB, who had raised hopes for a long awaited title with a resurgent run, committed too many errors after Royals put them in to bat.



After a below-par batting effort, their bowlers ran out of ideas against a marauding Buttler. Mohammad Siraj ended a forgettable IPL campaign on a dismal note. He leaked 31 runs in his first two overs, allowing the Royals to run away with game.

Buttler crossed the 800-run mark this season and dispatched bowlers to all corners in his match-winning effort comprising sixes and fours. Jaiswal, who smashed Siraj for two sixes and a four in the opening over, too played his part as the Royals raced to 67 for one in the powerplay.

Earlier, Patidar extended his stellar run in the IPL but his effort was the lone bright spot of the RCB innings as the other batters struggled on a tricky pitch.

Royals gained the upper hand by taking five wickets in the last five overs that went for only 34 runs.

After smashing a sensational hundred in the Eliminator, Patidar played with supreme confidence after high-profile openers Virat Kohli (7) and Faf du Plessis (25) failed to come up with impactful knocks. Rajasthan Royals pace duo of Trent Boult (1/28) and Krishna were impressive throughout the innings.

While Boult got his inswingers going in the powerplay, Krishna, who had a horror night against Gujarat Titans in the Qualifier 1, got the ball to rise sharply from good length.

Kohli started with a spectacular six off Boult, a whip over deep square leg, before falling to a loose shot off Krishna. It was a wide ball that rose sharply and Kohli played away from his body to edge it to the wicketkeeper. The extra bounce contributed to his dismissal.

### Dhoni sir's WC winning hit inspired me to hit sixes in every game: Navgire



PTI ■ PUNE

Mahendra Singh Dhoni's World Cup winning six resides in India's collective consciousness and it was a shot that changed a lot of lives, including that of little-known Solapur athlete Kiran Navgire.

And so, athletics' loss became cricket's gain as the former Maharashtra state level athlete decided that there is no fun if she can't tonk the ball like her 'idol'. Eleven years later, at 28, Navgire, who plays domestic cricket for Nagaland, has found instant stardom, with

some of the most powerful blows that one has ever seen from an Indian batter.

In her very second big stage game in the Women's T20 Challenger, the right-handed Navgire hit the fastest fifty for her team Velocity and her 34-ball-69 will certainly be remembered for a long time, especially the five sixes.

"I really feel good when I hit sixes and whenever I practise in the nets, I practice hitting sixes, I follow Dhoni sir and I love finishing like him, hitting big sixes," Navgire told her teammate Yastika Bhatia

during an interaction for bcci.Tv.

For her, Dhoni's unbeaten 91 against Sri Lanka made her set new goals as she concentrated more on athletics, kho-kho, kabaddi during her formative years while helping out her father in family farm in Solapur district's Mire village.

"I watched the 2011 World Cup final and Dhoni sir's winning sixer is something that impressed me and remained imprinted in my head. That six inspired me and I always feel that in every match, I can hit a six like that," said the stockily built Navgire, who was a state level shot-putter.

On Thursday, Velocity skipper Deepti Sharma sent her up the order at No. 3 and Navgire didn't disappoint anyone, taking international bowlers like Poonam Yadav, Salma Khatun and Rajeshwari Gayakwad to the cleaners.

"I don't like playing dot balls and want to score something off every ball and hence I got a good score," her answers were as uncomplicated as her lofted hits. "In domestic cricket, I hadn't batted up the order but I had a good season there and had some good scores. My game revolves around my power hitting ability and if it's in my arc, I send it out of the park and if there are good balls, I like to rotate strikes playing singles and doubles," Navgire said.



### 'Pant's name would be etched in record books forever if he play 100 Tests'

PTI ■ MUMBAI

If Rishabh Pant wants to get this name etched in record books forever, he should strive to play 100 Test matches for the country, one of India's greatest long format match-winners Virender Sehwag said on Friday.

Sehwag, the country's only cricketer to have struck two triple hundreds in Test cricket, is among the 11 Indians to have played 100 plus Tests and scored over 8500 runs.

Pant, who has an enviable record being the only Indian keeper to have scored Test hundreds in Australia, England and South Africa, has played 30 Tests and scored 1920 runs so far at an average of 40.85.

"If he (Pant) goes on to play 100+ Tests, his name would be etched in the history books forever. Only 11 Indian cricketers have achieved this feat, and everyone can recall those 11 names," Sehwag said on 'Sports18' while making it clear that white-ball exploits are not for posterity.

The instant gratification of matches won in T20Is and ODIs are fine but in the long run, people only remember what you have done in a white jersey, said the 'Nawab of Najafgarh'. "Why does Virat Kohli emphasise so much on playing Tests? He knows that if he plays 100-150 or even 200 Tests, he will be immortalised in the record books," Sehwag said.

### Babar can become 1st batter to be ranked No.1 batter in all formats: Dinesh Karthik

PTI ■ DUBAI

Veteran India wicketkeeper Dinesh Karthik reckons Babar Azam will soon become the top-ranked batter across formats, adding that Pakistan skipper is reaping the benefits of the subtle changes made in his batting technique.

The 27-year-old, who has been a consistent campaigner across all three formats, currently holds the top spot among batters in T20Is as well as ODIs and Karthik is confident Babar can become the first player in the history of the sport to be ranked No.1 across all three formats.

"One-hundred per cent (he is capable of achieving the No.1 ranking in all three formats). He (Babar) is a high-quality player who is at the peak of his batting prowess and he has got some Test matches coming up," Karthik said on The ICC Review.

"He has been phenomenal in all three formats of the game and he has done well in different batting positions too. I think he has the potential. He has got all the following of Pakistan helping him in abundance to go on and do special things for his country," he added.



recently which has helped the right-hander become a better player and his timing of the ball is now on par with all modern-day batters.

The seasoned wicketkeeper-batter feels Babar has tweaked his batting technique

me when I watched him bat is his balance and his striking point when he plays a ball.

"Whether it is on the front foot or the back foot, his ability to strike the ball more often than not under his eyes, has been phenomenal."

"He strikes the ball at the point where it is optimum power for where the ball is pitched and that makes him a very special player."

In the longest format of the game, Babar is ranked fifth in the world, behind Australia's Marnus Labuschagne and the 'Big Four' of India's Virat Kohli, England's Joe Root, Australia's Steve Smith and New Zealand's Kane Williamson.

"It is a very strong 'Fab Four' that we are talking about and they have obviously been there for much longer, but there is no doubt that Babar has all the credentials and he is going to make it a 'Fab Five'."

"There is no doubt he is there or thereabout ... He is a very special player."

Karthik believes Babar will continue to develop further as he learns how to adapt to different conditions that players face when playing away from home.

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"The two things that struck



### Bilaterals may get 'squeezed' with longer duration for leagues: Barclay

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The bilateral contests between international teams may get "squeezed" if the window for T20 leagues like the IPL keep getting longer, ICC Chairman Greg Barclay said on Friday.

With the addition of two teams this season, the IPL has been expanded to 74 games over a two month window compared to 60 matches last season.

Asked how one strikes a balance between the IPL and the international calendar, Barclay said, "It is a good question. There will be an increase in both the scoping scale of some of the domestic leagues like the IPL and possibly some of the others and there will be new leagues."

"But they are the sovereign domain of the members, the domestic competitions, they can run as they choose to. But

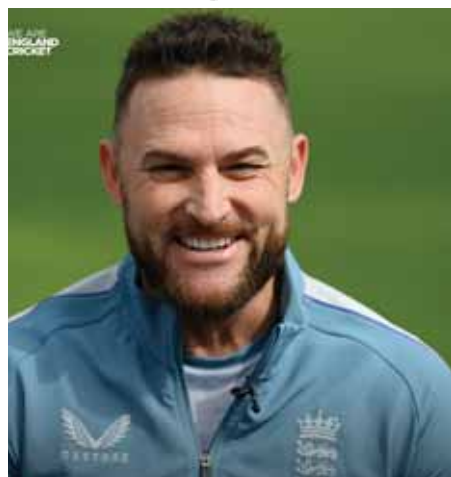
more events, and longer time periods through those events mean there is going to be squeeze, we know there are only 365 days a year..."

"So if there are more domestic leagues, that are attracted to the players, so something has to go and I don't think ICC events, which are there every year, and those events have got more teams, so they are going to take longer, so the bit that gets squeezed are the bilateral arrangements," Barclay said.

The ICC Chairman however praised the IPL saying he loved the cash rich league.

"First thing I would say after two years of not being able to travel, it is great to be back in India. And great to have my first trip back with the IPL - the semis and the final coming up.

### McCullum eager to support 'strong leader' Ben Stokes



AP ■ LONDON

Brendon McCullum is relishing the prospect of working alongside a "really strong leader" in new captain Ben Stokes as they prepare to launch a new era for the England Test team.

McCullum himself has only been recently appointed to the role of England Test coach, with the team on a woeful run of one win in 17 matches ahead of their series opener against his native New Zealand starting at Lord's next week.

Former Black Caps skipper McCullum is known for a bold approach that helped kickstart a revival in the fortunes of New Zealand, the reign-

ing world Test champions, and his outlook is expected to dovetail with the attacking instincts of dynamic all-rounder Stokes.

The England job is McCullum's first as a red-ball coach, a point he acknowledged to reporters. "I certainly don't coach technically," he told Sky Sports. "I understand the technique obviously but for me it's more around tactics and management and trying to provide the right environment for the team to try and go out there and be the best versions of themselves."

The 40-year-old added: "I think with Stokes as captain we've got a really strong leader, a 'follow me' type of captain and so I think my job will be to try and ensure that we're consistent with a lot of our messaging."

"I'll look after the guys inside the environment as well and try and allow them to really grow at a speed which they might not have got to previously, so it's a big challenge."

McCullum said an improved England side would benefit Test cricket as a whole.

"I think for me red-ball cricket has always been the pinnacle of the sport," he said.

"If you look at where the game sits currently, it's probably on a bit of a downward trend and to me the nation that can really change that is England — because of the tradition of Test cricket here in England and I guess the fan following and the support that it gets in this country."

"For us to be competitive in Test cricket, I think will go a long way in trying to be able to hopefully just shift that a little bit in terms of the perception of red-ball cricket."

### Australia bids farewell to Andrew Symonds



AP ■ SYDNEY

Andrew Symonds was remembered as a supremely talented cricketer with "a pure heart" at a memorial service on Friday for the Australian former all-rounder who died aged 46.

Symonds was killed in a single-vehicle accident in northern Queensland earlier this month, leaving Australian cricket reeling once more following the recent and unexpected deaths of greats Shane Warne and Rod Marsh.

Family, friends, fans and former teammates gathered to celebrate his life at a public memorial service at a stadium in the coastal city of Townsville, where he lived.

Former cricketers Ricky Ponting, Allan Border, Adam Gilchrist, Darren Lehmann and Ian Healy turned out for the man affectionately known as 'Roy'.

It followed a private funeral where a cricket bat, fishing rod, crab pot and a number of hats were placed alongside the timber coffin, local media reported.



### SL beat B'desh by 10 wickets, win series 1-0

AP ■ DHAKA

Asitha Fernando finished with a career-best 6-51 as Sri Lanka thrashed hosts Bangladesh by 10 wickets in the second Test on Friday to win the series 1-0.

The visitors bowled out Bangladesh for 169 runs in their second innings with the 24-year-old playing a starring role at Dhaka's Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium.

"We knew we needed a couple of wickets to go our way," said Sri Lanka skipper Dimuth Karunaratne. "The fast bowlers

did the job for us, both in the first innings as well as the second."

Sri Lanka made 506 runs in the first innings after bowling out Bangladesh for 365.

Oshada Fernando sealed the devastating win with an unbeaten 21 in three overs.

Play had resumed on the fifth and final day with the hosts at a precarious 34-4 and Sri Lanka upped the pressure when Kasun Rajitha bowled Mushfiqur Rahim for 23 in the eighth over.

Shakib Al Hasan and Liton Das both hit fifties in a 110-run

stand and held on through the first session with a mix of caution and aggression, before Asitha drove the hosts' collapse after lunch.

He took the scalps of both Liton and Shakib soon after the break, claiming four of the last five wickets after dispatching openers Mahmudul Hasan Joy and Tamim Iqbal the previous day. Ramesh Mendis trapped Mosaddek Hossain for nine before Asitha wrapped up the Bangladesh innings with the wickets of Taijul Islam and Khaled Ahmed in successive deliveries.





AP ■ PARIS

Jurgen Klopp's Liverpool are seeking to cap a remarkable season by avenging their 2018 defeat against Real Madrid when the sides meet again in the Champions League final in Paris on Saturday, but the Spanish giants have their sights on a 14th European Cup triumph.

It is Liverpool's third Champions League final in five seasons, after they followed their 3-1 loss to Real in Kyiv by beating Tottenham Hotspur in Madrid a year later, and they are widely seen as slight favourites at the Stade de France to become kings of Europe for a seventh time.

That would put them level with AC Milan, with only Saturday's opponents having won the trophy more often, and it would allow the Anfield club to finish the campaign with a treble after they lifted the English League Cup and FA Cup.

For a long time an unprecedented quadruple was on, but Klopp's side fell just short in the Premier League, finishing a point behind Manchester City. "Without the Champions League it would be a great season. With the Champions League it would be a fan-

# AN EVENING IN PARIS

Liverpool eye revenge against Real Madrid in Champions League final rematch

tastic season," said Klopp.

It has already been a memorable few years for Klopp's side following their loss in Kyiv, when Mohamed Salah was forced off injured in the first half. Lorius Karius endured a nightmare in goal, and Gareth Bale's brilliance won the trophy for Real.

"I think it is revenge time," Salah, scorer of 31 goals this season, admitted recently. Liverpool appear well placed given how much they have strengthened since 2018, chiefly in goal with the arrival of Alisson, while Thiago Alcantara has been a standout in midfield.

## ANCELOTTI TARGETS NUMBER FOUR

The problem is that you could be forgiven for thinking that Real's name is on the cup, as it has literally been so many times before.

While Liverpool saw off Inter Milan, Benfica and Villarreal in the knockout rounds, it is easy to forget now that Carlo Ancelotti's Real side lost at home to Sheriff Tiraspol in the group stage, such has been their extraordinary run since.

They were 2-0 down on aggregate to Paris Saint-Germain in the last 16 before a Karim Benzema hat-trick in 17 second-half minutes in the second leg took them through.

Against Chelsea in the quarter-finals they scored late at home in the return leg to force extra time before Benzema got their winner.

The best was saved for the semi-final against Manchester City when they went into the 90th minute of the second leg needing two goals just to force extra time. They duly got them, and Benzema then struck the winner.

The 34-year-old Frenchman now leads Madrid into the final in his home country after a campaign in which he has scored 44 goals, with 15 in Europe and 27 on their run to the Spanish title.

Benzema will surely be nailed on to win the Ballon d'Or if his club triumphs in Paris, where victory would also help Real supporters get over Kylian Mbappe's decision to snub them. Madrid are chasing their fifth Champions League in nine seasons, a run that began when they beat Atletico Madrid in Lisbon in 2014.

Benzema was in that team, as was Luka Modric, while Ancelotti was the coach in his first spell in charge.

The veteran Italian can now become the first coach to win the Champions League four times, having also triumphed with AC Milan in

2003 and 2007.

The latter victory came against Liverpool and was revenge for the Anfield club's win over Ancelotti's Milan in Istanbul in 2005.

"Playing a final with them is something special. They have won six Champions Leagues, and if they reach seven they would go level with Milan, so I have extra motivation to win this final," smiled Ancelotti, who had a spell as boss of Liverpool's local rivals Everton before returning to Madrid. This will be the third final between the clubs, who also met in Paris in 1981 — then the English side were victorious thanks to Alan Kennedy's goal at the Parc des Princes.

Champions League Final  
Live from 12:30am IST  
SONY TEN 2 NETWORK

# Ibrahimovic intends to continue playing: Maldini

AP ■ MILAN

Zlatan Ibrahimovic intends to continue playing despite the end of his contract with AC Milan and a lengthy layoff in store following knee surgery, club director Paolo Maldini said on Friday.

"From what I understand, his intention is to continue," Maldini told Gazzetta dello Sport, two days after the striker, who turns 41 in October, underwent surgery that is expected to sideline him for eight months.

"We have made an appointment in a fortnight. I don't see any problem in reaching an agreement. He is certainly not at ease playing so little. We will see what happens in the next two weeks," Maldini said.

Ibrahimovic, who returned to AC Milan in January 2020 eight years after leaving and has just helped the club win their first Serie A title since 2011, has had the anterior cruciate ligament in his left



knee reconstructed. The former Inter Milan, Paris Saint-Germain and Manchester United forward said this week he endured six months of sleepless nights due to the pain in his knee because he was determined to fulfil his promise to AC Milan of delivering their first Serie A crown in 11 years.

# Thiago, Fabinho fit for final

AP ■ PARIS

Liverpool's preparations for the Champions League final were boosted by the news that midfielders Thiago Alcantara and Fabinho will be fit to face Real Madrid after injury scares.

Thiago was brought off at half-time of Liverpool's 3-1 win over Wolves last weekend nursing an Achilles problem.

Fabinho has not featured since sustaining a muscular injury in a 2-1 win at Aston Villa on May 10. However, the Brazilian took a

full part in an open training session in front of the media on Wednesday.

"Thiago Alcantara and Fabinho will be included in Liverpool's travelling squad for the Champions League final against Real Madrid," Liverpool said in a statement.

"The pair will be among the players journeying to Paris for Saturday's clash at Stade de France following injury concerns and are set to come into contention to return." Both players have been pivotal to Liverpool's stunning season that has already seen them lift two trophies in the League Cup and FA Cup.

# Confident India eye revenge against Japan

PTI ■ JAKARTA

Having risen like a proverbial phoenix from the ashes, a rejuvenated Indian men's hockey team would like to put up a much-improved performance when it takes on Japan in its first 'Super 4' match of the Asia Cup here on Saturday.

Despite facing a below-par Indonesia in its final group league game, the young side coached by Sardar Singh must be lauded for being able to score a whopping 16 goals in just an hour.

It was one more than what India required to put a final nail in Pakistan's coffin as far as harbouring World Cup qualification hopes were concerned.

Both India and Pakistan finished on four points each in Pool A behind Japan but the defending champions qualified for the next round due to better goal difference (+1).

But it was not a smooth sailing for India in the first two matches.

Having already qualified for next year's World Cup by virtue of being the hosts, India fielded an inexperienced team with as many as 12 debutants for the tournament to gain much-needed experience.

The young boys did not have the best of starts drawing 1-1 with Pakistan before losing 2-5 to Japan, which pushed them on the brink of elimination.

But the Indians were in no



India vs Japan  
Live from 5:00pm IST  
STAR SPORTS SELECT 2

mood to bow out without a fight even as they stood at the point of no return. They staged a dramatic turnaround to keep alive their hopes of title defence.

They were also aided by Japan, who beat Pakistan 3-2 in their final match.

Their first goal achieved, the Indians would like to start afresh in the Super 4 stage, where Japan, South Korea and Malaysia are the other three teams. All the teams will play each other with the top two progressing to the final. Revenge

would be high on India's agenda having lost to the Japanese in the pool stages.

But it would be easier said than done as the nimble-footed Japanese rely mostly on counter attacks to surprise their opponents, a ploy they used to perfection against India in their last outing.

One of the perennial areas of concern for India is poor percentage of penalty corner conversions as this team doesn't have a designated drag-flicker like Rupinderpal Singh or Amit Rohidas. In fact, even against minnows Indonesia, India failed to convert even half of the 20 plus short corners that they earned.

# Asian Games postponement give us more time to improve: Savita

PTI ■ BENGALURU

Indian women's hockey team captain Savita is confident of a good show at the Asian Games as the postponement of the continental event in Hangzhou provides the side with more training time and improve just like it did when Tokyo Olympics was deferred by a year. "We will once again deal with this postponement as an opportunity to train and be better prepared for the Asian Games," Savita said on the Hockey India podcast 'Hockey Te Charcha'.

"The one-year postponement for the Olympics gave us significant time to

improve and personally for me, I got to work closely with Janneke (Schopman), who has had a great impact on my improvement as a goalkeeper," she added.

One of the most successful goalkeepers in recent times, Savita will lead the Indian team in the FIH Pro League matches in Europe ahead of the FIH Women's World Cup which begins in July.

"Having finished fourth in Tokyo, everyone took notice of us. Earlier, there were expectations from the men's team only. But now, people expect the women also to finish in top three in any tournament we play and that is good for the sport,"

"No one expected we will go beyond the quarterfinals in the Olympic Games. Many of our supporters thought we would reach upto the quarterfinals at the outset, but I don't think anyone believed we could win the quarter finals.

"This zeal to win and not to give up till the last second of the match was inculcated by our coaching staff. We had to, and we knew we would change the script of Tokyo," added the experienced goalkeeper. Speaking about the team's preparations here in SAI, Bengaluru, for the Pro League and World Cup Savita said the side is hoping for a top four finish.

# Fit-again Chhetri boosts India's chances in Jordan friendly



PTI ■ DOHA

Upbeat with the return of talismanic striker Sunil Chhetri in their ranks, India still have a tough task at hand when they face higher-ranked Jordan in an international football friendly match here on Saturday.

The 37-year-old Chhetri last played for India during their 3-0 win over Nepal in the

SAFF Championships final in October 2021, but since then was side-lined due to injuries.

The match is India's last preparatory outing ahead of the 2023 AFC Asian Cup Qualifiers which kicks off in Kolkata from June 8.

Jordan is placed at 91st as against 106th of India in the FIFA rankings.

"Another game against a stronger team will always help,"

head coach Igor Stimac said about which team which reached here on Wednesday.

"It's our last friendly game prior to qualifiers, and we need to get final answers on certain questions. Some of our youngsters will have a great opportunity to gain more experience at international level," he added.

The squad has been in a preparatory camp for over a month, first in Bellary in Karnataka and then in Kolkata, and the coach said that the fitness levels of his players "are quite good".

"We have another 10 days (before the Asian Cup qualifiers), and it should be perfect. The boys have done a great job, and they need to be rewarded with some good results in the Qualifiers," Stimac said.

About Jordan as an opposition team, the coach said: "Jordan are ranked better than Belarus (FIFA Ranking 93) but are not as physical as Belarus. So for us, it should be a bit easier in regards to the build-up and ball possession."

The 'Blue Tigers' had played against Belarus in the FIFA International window in March, a match where they went down 0-3.

The Indian squad has been bolstered by the joining of the ATK Mohun Bagan players, who missed the preparatory camp owing to their club commitments in the AFC Cup.

# Djokovic, Nadal roll into last 16 at French Open

AP ■ PARIS

Novak Djokovic and Rafael Nadal closed in Friday on a blockbuster clash at the French Open as both reached the last 16, while Carlos Alcaraz prepared to face the only man to beat him on clay this year.

Reigning champion Djokovic and 13-time winner Nadal are on course to meet in the quarter-finals, with the Spaniard seeded outside the top four at Roland Garros for just the second time.

World number one Djokovic strolled to a 6-3, 6-3, 6-2 win over Slovenia's Aljaz Bedene and Nadal eased past Dutch 26th seed Botic van de Zandschulp 6-3, 6-2, 6-4.

"I'm always very motivated when I get on the court, with the desire to produce my best level each time. It's not always possible to do it, but today it was very good," said Djokovic.

The 35-year-old Serb is aiming to become the oldest men's singles champion in Paris in the Open era as he chases a record-equalling 21st Grand Slam title.

Next up for Djokovic, who was also French Open champion in 2016, is a match-up with Argentina's Diego Schwartzman, the 15th seed.

Nadal, the 21-time major champion, improved his record at Roland Garros to 108-3 after seeing off 2021 US Open quarter-finalist Van de Zandschulp.

He has now reached at least the fourth round in 17 of 18 visits to Roland Garros, with the exception of 2016 when he withdrew in the third round with a wrist injury.

"I think I played a good match against a good player. I'm very happy to win," said Nadal.

The Spaniard had a break point for 5-0 in the third set, but Van de Zandschulp refused to roll over, winning four of the next five games before Nadal put away his second match point, having saved a break point in between the two.

"You always feel a little bit the nerves to finish the match, so I'm happy to be through in straight sets," said Nadal, who plays Canadian ninth seed Felix Auger-Aliassime



French Open (Day 7)  
Live from 2:30pm IST  
SONY TEN 2, 3, 4 & SIX

for a place in the last eight.

"I think it was my best match of the tournament so far for two-and-a-half sets, so I'm very happy with that."

Amanda Anisimova, the 27th seed and a 2019 semi-finalist, advanced to the last 16 as injury-plagued Karolina Muchova retired down 6-7 (7/9), 6-2, 3-0 after falling and twisting her ankle midway through the second set.

Last year's US Open runner-up Leylah Fernandez beat Olympic champion Belinda Bencic 7-5, 3-6, 7-5, while Aliaksandra Sasnovich defeated three-time Grand Slam winner Angelique Kerber 6-4, 7-6 (7/5).

Coco Gauff, the youngest player left in the French Open, made the last 16 with a straight-sets win over Kaia Kanepi, the oldest woman in the tournament at 36.

After saving a match point in a thrilling five-setter against countryman Albert Ramos-Vinolas, Spanish teenage star Alcaraz goes up against Sebastian Korda, the US 27th seed who won their meeting in Monte

Carlo last month.

"I believe in myself, and of course I work hard every day," said the 19-year-old Alcaraz.

"You have to have a good goal, good dreams. Of course trying to follow your dream. Work hard every day. I think that's the secret."

"I'm still young, but I would say pretty experienced player now. I feel comfortable playing on the big stadium, big matches, playing in a Grand Slam. As I said, physically I'm strong. Mentally I'm strong, as well."

Alexander Zverev, the third seed and 2021 semi-finalist, was also staring at defeat in the second round against Sebastian Baez, saving a match point on serve at 4-5 in the final set after fighting back from two sets down.

The German Olympic champion meets Brandon Nakashima of the US who is enjoying his best Grand Slam run on his Roland Garros main-draw debut. It is the first time since Wimbledon in 2011 that all top 12 men's seeds have reached the third round at a major.