

OPINION 6

THE KEY TO WILD
LIFE CONSERVATION

WORLD 8

NATO BELIEVES BALTIC SEA
GAS LEAKS WERE SABOTAGE

MONEY 10

INDIA 'STAR' EMERGING
MARKET ECONOMY: S&P

CHANDIGARH, FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 30, 2022; PAGES 12 ₹2



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**BUMRAH OUT
OF ICC MEN'S
T20 WC 2022
12 SPORT**

'All women entitled to safe, legal abortion'

Now, SC extends provision of MTP at 24 weeks to single ladies too

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

In a landmark order, the Supreme Court held on Thursday that all women are entitled to safe and legal abortion till 24 weeks of pregnancy under the Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Act, and making any distinction on the basis of their marital status is "constitutionally unsustainable". The apex court also said that the meaning of offence of rape must include marital rape for the purpose of the MTP Act.

A Bench of Justices DY Chandrachud, JB Pardiwala and AS Bopanna said the rights of reproductive autonomy give similar rights to unmarried women as that to married women.

The Bench, in its verdict, said the distinction between married and unmarried women under the abortion laws is "artificial and constitutionally unsustainable" and perpetuates the stereotype that only married women are sexually active.

Under the MTP Act provisions, the upper limit for the termination of pregnancy is 24 weeks for married women,



THE CATEGORIES OF WOMEN MENTIONED IN RULE 3B OF THE MTP RULES FRAMED BY THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

- Survivors of sexual assault or rape or incest
- Minors
- Change of marital status during the ongoing pregnancy (widowhood and divorce)
- Women with physical disabilities, major disability as per criteria laid down under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.
- Mentally-ill women including mental retardation;
- The foetal malformation that has substantial risk of being incompatible with life or if the child is born it may suffer from such physical or mental abnormalities to be seriously handicapped;
- Women with pregnancy in humanitarian settings or disaster or emergency situations as may be declared by the Government.

special categories including survivors of rape and other vulnerable women such as the differently-abled and minors. However, the time period

is 20 weeks for widows and unmarried women, who are or were in consensual relationships, for allowing abortion under the statute.

The Bench delivered the verdict on the interpretation of the MTP Act and whether unmarried women or single women can be allowed like their married counterparts the benefit of abortion up to 24 weeks.

The Bench, on August 23, had reserved its verdict on interpretation of the MTP Act provisions which makes a distinction between married and unmarried women on the issue of abortion.

Observing there is a need to "fine-tune" the provisions in the MTP rules, the top court had also said it would like to add a category of women, who suffer desecration irrespective of marital status, to the seven categories of women eligible to seek abortion till 24 weeks of pregnancy.

Gift to women came just after Safe Abortion Day

The SC's decision was a gift to women on International Safe Abortion Day. After the judgment was pronounced, a lawyer informed the Bench that September 28 happens to be the international safe abortion day.

"I had no idea that this would coincide with safe abortion day. Thank you for informing us", Justice Chandrachud said.

Gehlot out of prez race, Digvijaya gets Cong nod

Rajasthan CM apologises to Sonia, but fate seems uncertain

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Ending days of speculation ahead of the Congress' forthcoming presidential polls, former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Digvijaya Singh on Thursday reportedly got the nod from the party High Command to contest the election for the AICC's top post as the party's "official" candidate in place of Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot.

Gehlot, who met Congress interim president Sonia Gandhi on Thursday, has paid the price for failing the "loyalty" test and publically humiliating the party. The Congress High Command is unlikely to forgive him anytime soon for orchestrating a rebellion in Jaipur against the party's central leadership.

After meeting Sonia, the Rajasthan Chief Minister announced that he was out of the race for the presidential elections. Gehlot also said he apologised to the Congress chief for the developments on Sunday, when MLAs supporting him defied the central observers and thwarted their move to hold a meeting of party legislators. Gehlot may



Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot addressing media persons after a meeting with party interim President Sonia Gandhi, at 10 Janpath in New Delhi on Thursday

have apologised to Sonia, but his fate seems uncertain now. Congress general secretary KC Venugopal has said the party president will decide on the Rajasthan Chief Minister's post within a day or two.

Gehlot, a three-time Chief Minister, described himself as a disciplined soldier of the party and expressed his sadness over the turn of events in the State.

Asked if he will continue as Chief Minister, Gehlot said Gandhi will decide on the issue.

"For the last 50 years, I have worked as a loyal Congress soldier from the time

of Indira Gandhi, Rajiv Gandhi, Narasimha Rao, and Sonia ji, be it becoming a Central Minister or State unit chief, general secretary, or Chief Minister for the third time, I cannot forget that. The events that happened (on Sunday) have shaken all of us. Only I know how hurt I am because a message went out that I want to remain Chief Minister," Gehlot said.

"I have apologised to Sonia ji because a simple resolution, which is our tradition and which we always pass, could not be passed as a situation emerged. I, as a CLP leader, whatever the reasons, could not

get the resolution passed," he said.

Meanwhile, talking to the media at the AICC headquarters Digvijaya Singh said he has collected the nomination papers and will most probably file them on Friday. Asked if he was acting at the behest of the party leadership, he said, "I am responsible for myself."

More than 10 Congress legislators from Madhya Pradesh will reach Delhi to be the proposers for Digvijaya Singh when he files his nomination. Singh, arrived in Delhi late Wednesday night leaving the Bharat Jodo Yatra midway.

₹5 cr fine on PFI for damage during Kerala strike: HC

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

The Popular Front of India (PFI), which was banned for five years by the Union Home Ministry on Thursday, got another jolt in the form of an order by the Kerala High Court (HC) to deposit ₹5.2 crore with the Additional Chief Secretary (Government of Kerala), towards the damages estimated by the State Administration as well as the Kerala State Road Transport Corporation on account of its flash strike on September 23.

The PFI observed the strike across Kerala to protest arrests of its leaders from different places in the State on September 22.

A Division Bench of Justices AK Jayasankaran Nambiar and C P Mohammedi Nias ruled that the PFI and its general secretary were "wholly and directly" respon-



Association for Protection of Democratic Rights (APDR) and Bandi Mukti Committee members being detained by police during a protest against the ban on PFI and its affiliate organisations, in Kolkata on Thursday

sible for the injuries inflicted by their supporters on the citizens as also for the damage caused to public and private properties.

The PFI activists had rioted across the State on

September 23 and forced shopkeepers to down their shutters and blocked roads.

They damaged commodities stored in the shops of traders who refused to oblige them.

Oracle fined \$23 mn for bribing officials in India, Turkey and UAE

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) on September 27 fined tech giant Oracle \$23 million for violating the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) for creating slush funds for bribing officials in India, Turkey and the UAE.

This is the second time Oracle has been accused of engaging in corrupt practices in India. In 2012, the SEC had fined Oracle for corrupt practices in India in relation to the contracts with the Ministry of Information Technology in 2006-2008.

As per the 10 page order by SEC, \$3,92,000 (₹2.8 crore) was the slush funds created by Oracle India to bribe an Indian Railway owned Transport firm

in 2019.

Detailing the company's India operations, the SEC said Oracle India's employees used "an excessive discount scheme" in connection with a transaction in 2019 with a transportation company owned by the Ministry of Railways.

However, the order by SEC did not specify the name of the transport company.

The page 6 of SEC's order details the Oracle operation in India with a headline "Improper Conduct at Oracle India". It said in 2019, Oracle India sales employees also used an excessive discount scheme in connection with a transaction with a transportation company, a majority of which was owned by the Indian Ministry of Railways (Indian SOE).

175 drug peddlers held after CBI raids on narco networks

Nationwide raids held to dismantle, disrupt networks with int'l linkages

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The CBI on Thursday carried out a massive nationwide crackdown on narcotics networks in coordination with the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), Interpol and police in multiple States. The searches led to the arrest of 175 alleged drug peddlers and seizure of narcotics.

The CBI carried out the raids as part of "Operation Garuda" which started earlier this week to "disrupt, degrade and dismantle" drug networks with international linkages, the CBI said in a statement.

The global operation was planned through a "rapid



exchange" of intelligence on narco-trafficking and coordinated actions with enforcement agencies across international jurisdictions through Interpol, it said.

The police of eight States and Union Territories, including Punjab, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, and Maharashtra, and the NCB tracked around 6,600 sus-

pects during the operation. The agencies filed 127 FIRs and arrested 175 people, including six absconders and proclaimed offenders, the CBI said.

The agencies targeted smuggling of illicit drugs and psychotropic substances, with a special focus on the Indian Ocean Region, the statement said.

CAPSULE

INTEREST RATES HIKED ON SMALL SAVING SCHEMES

New Delhi: The Government on Thursday raised rates on some small savings schemes by up to 30 basis points in line with the hardening interest rate in the economy.

SC ORDERS NAVLAKHA'S HOSPITALISATION

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Thursday directed the Taloja Jail Superintendent to immediately shift activist Gautam Navlakha, jailed in connection with the Elgar Parishad-Maoist link case, to Mumbai's Jaslok Hospital for treatment. **P-5**

TWIN BLASTS RATTLE UDHAMPUR

Udhampur: The garrison city of Udhampur, housing Indian army's Northern command headquarters, was rattled by the twin bomb blasts inside passenger buses.

6 airbags in cars mandate put off by one year

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari on Friday announced that the implementation of "the proposal mandating a minimum of six airbags in passenger cars (M-1 category) would be from October 1, 2023." Earlier it was planned to be implemented from this October.

"Considering the global supply chain constraints being faced by the auto industry and its impact on the macroeconomic scenario, it has been decided to implement the proposal mandating

a minimum of six airbags in passenger cars (M-1 Category) w.e.f October 01, 2023," Gadkari said in a statement released by the Ministry.

The Road Ministry had earlier announced mandatory six airbags from October 1, 2022.

Earlier in September, MoRTH issued draft rules to make it mandatory for car makers to install an alarm system for rear seat belts.

Besides, there has to be a speed alert system to check over-speeding and manual override for the central locking system.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the inauguration of 36th National Games in Ahmedabad on Thursday

4 regions of Ukraine to be annexed by Russia today; Kyiv defiant

KYIV ■ AP

Russia confirmed on Thursday it will formally annex parts of Ukraine where occupied areas held Kremlin-orchestrated "referendums" on living under Moscow's rule that the Ukrainian Government and the West denounced as illegal and rigged. Russian President Vladimir Putin will attend a ceremony on Friday in the Kremlin when four regions of Ukraine will be officially folded into Russia, spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters.

Peskov said the pro-Moscow administrators of the regions will sign treaties to join Russia during the cere-

mony at the Kremlin's St. George's Hall.

Administrations in the four regions of southern and eastern Ukraine claimed on Tuesday night that 93 per cent of the ballots cast in the Zaporizhzhia region supported annexation, as did 87 per cent in the Kherson region, 98 per cent in the Luhansk region and 99 per cent in Donetsk.

However, an adviser to Ukraine's President said that Ukraine was determined to reclaim territory that Russia will annex and takes seriously Moscow's threats to use nuclear weapons in the war with its neighbour.



Jal Jeevan Mission 16 lakh rural households Provided Tap Water

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BRIEFS

Govt will compensate for damage caused to crops due to incessant rain, says Dushyant Chautala
Chandigarh: Haryana Deputy Chief Minister Dushyant Chautala on Thursday said that the state government will compensate the farmers for the damage caused by the rains in the last few days and orders have been given to the district administration to conduct special girdawari. Apart from this, farmers themselves can also report the loss of their crops on the 'e-Fasal Kshatipurti Portal'. Apart from the fields, directions have been given to the district administration to take prompt action regarding the drainage of water logging in rural and urban areas as well. The Deputy Chief Minister was addressing a public meeting at village Tazia Khara in district Sirsa.

Haryana signs MoU with University of Birmingham
Chandigarh: A MoU has been signed between the Haryana Government and the University of Birmingham for the establishment of the Centre of Excellence for Crop Post-Harvest Management and Sustainable Cold Chain in the state. In the presence of the Haryana Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Minister JP Dalal, Additional Chief Secretary Dr Sumita Misra, signed a MoU at Birmingham (UK) on Thursday.

Haryana to have a State Minority Commission, says member of NCM
Chandigarh: The member, National Commission for Minorities, Government of India, Syed Shahezadi on Thursday said that a letter would be written to the Haryana Government for setting up a State Minority Commission having one representative from each minority community. During her two days visit to the State, Shahezadi held important meetings with the Chief Secretary Sanjeev Kaushal and officers of the department concerned to review the schemes being run under Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram. "I have asked the Chief Secretary to ensure that the six constitutionally certified minorities should not face any difficulty in getting the minority certificates and also to mention the minorities in Parivar Pehchan Patra," informed Shahezadi.

Abducting shooter associated with Bambiha gang held: Punjab DGP
Chandigarh: The Punjab Police's Anti-Gangster Task Force on Thursday arrested Neeraj Chaska, an abducting shooter of the Davinder Bambiha gang, a senior police officer said. Neeraj Chaska, the topmost wanted shooter of the Bambiha gang was arrested from Jammu for his involvement in multiple murders, including that of Student Organisation of Panjab University leader Gural Brar, DGP Gaurav Yadav said. The murder of Gural Brar, who was a close relative of Canada-based gangster Goldy Brar, triggered an inter-gang rivalry between the gangs of Davinder Bambiha and Lawrence Bishnoi, leading to a spate of murders in Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh and the National Capital Region (NCR), the DGP said.

Vij asks officers to seek help of experts to crack cyber crime cases in Haryana
Chandigarh: Stating that there has been an exponential surge in the cases of Cyber Crime everywhere, Haryana Home Minister Anil Vij on Thursday said that till the regular recruitment of forensic experts is not done; private experts should be taken on the panel to solve the cases related to cybercrime. Presiding over a review meeting with the senior officials of the Police and Home Department, he said that the footage of CCTV cameras is an important link in reaching the criminals, so the work of installation of CCTV cameras at bus stands and other public places in all cities should be expedited. Cooperation of other organizations like CSR, RWA, Vyapar Mandal and Banks can also be taken.

Governor launches accidental & disabilities insurance cover for MCC employees



Chandigarh: Banwarilal Purohit, Governor, Punjab and Administrator, UT, on Thursday launched accident & disabilities insurance cover for the Municipal Corporation employees. As per the scheme, Rs. 40 lacs will be given to families of account holders in case of accidental death or total disability. This mega beneficiary scheme for MCC employees, conceived in collaboration with Punjab & Sind Bank, was launched in the presence of Kirron Kher, MP, Sarbjit Kaur, Mayor, Dharam Pal, Adviser to the Administrator, Nitin Yadav, Home Secretary UT, Swarup Kumar Saha, MD & CEO, Punjab and Sind Bank, senior officers and councilors of MCC. Anindita Mitra, Commissioner, MCC said that zero balance salary accounts of all category of employees i.e. regular, contractual, daily wagers, outsourced, such as door to door waste collectors, safaimitras, safai karamcharis have been opened in the P&SB, which has offered insurance in death case Rs. 40 lacs accidental coverage, total disability Rs. 40 lacs accidental coverage; Rs. 40 lacs for death due to animal bite, insect bite, snake bite.

SAD leader Majithia urges PM to commute death sentence of Rajoana

Chandigarh: Shiromani Akali Dal leader Bikram Singh Majithia on Thursday urged the PM and the Union home minister to commute the death sentence of Balwant Singh Rajoana, a convict in the assassination case of former Punjab CM Beant Singh. The former state minister said Punjabis across the world feel that the commutation of Rajoana's death sentence has been delayed. "Bhai Rajoana has been incarcerated for the past 26 years in an eight feet by eight feet cell without parole. Since he has completed a life sentence, he should be released immediately," Majithia said here. He said now the apex court has "asked the Centre to take a decision in the case". The central government should take the extraordinary conditions of the case into consideration and commute the death sentence, he said. Majithia said not doing so would send a wrong signal to the Sikh community. Referring to the Bilkis Bano case in which remission was granted to the convicts, Majithia said "a message should not go that there are different rules for minorities".

Haryana to develop largest safari park in World, spread over 10,000 acres

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Haryana Government is all set to develop one of the largest jungle safari parks of the world in the Aravalli Mountain range of Gurugram and Nuh districts. This project — spread over an area of 10,000 acres — will be the largest such project in the world, said an official spokesperson on Thursday.

At present, the largest curated safari park outside Africa is in Sharjah which was opened in February 2022 on an area of about 2,000 acres, he added. In statement, the spokesperson said that the proposed Aravalli Park would be five times more this size and it would include a large serpentarium, aviary/bird park, four zones for big cats, a large area for herbivores, an area for exotic animal birds, an underwater world, nature trails, visitors, tourism zones, botanical gardens, biomes, equatorial, tropical, coastal, desert, etc. Union minister for forest,



environment and climate change Bhupender Yadav, Haryana chief minister Manohar Lal Khattar, along with the delegation, had visited Sharjah Jungle Safari. Khattar reached Dubai on a day's visit on Wednesday. After coming back, Khattar said that the NCR region of Haryana has

immense potential to be developed into a jungle safari. After the implementation of the Jungle Safari scheme, not only will tourism in the state get a big boost but it will also provide ample employment opportunities to the local people.

"The Jungle Safari project of Haryana would be a joint project of the ministry of environment, forest and climate change, government of India and the government of Haryana. Under a scheme, the central government will also provide funds to Haryana for this project," said the CM. He further said that an international expression of interest was floated for the project and two companies with international experience in designing and operating such facilities have been shortlisted. The said companies will now compete in an international design competition for the designing, overseeing and operating of the park. An Aravalli Foundation will be set up which will manage the project, he

added. It has been learned that the Central Zoo Authority (CZA) has done an evaluation study of the area for this and has agreed upon the technical feasibility of setting up such a park. According to Khattar, on one hand developing Jungle Safari would help in preserving this mountain range while on the other a large number of people from Delhi and adjoining areas would come here for tourism, which would create ample employment opportunities for the local people.

Furthermore, villagers in the surrounding villages will benefit from the Home Stay.

The Aravalli Mountain range is a cultural heritage where many species of birds, wild animals, butterflies, etc. are found. As per a survey conducted a few years ago, 180 species of birds, 15 species of mammals, 29 species of aquatic animals and reptiles and 57 species of butterflies exist in the Aravalli Mountain range.

Bill to be tabled today to dissolve Punjab State Vigilance Commission

MONIKA MALIK ■ CHANDIGARH

Two years after it was set up by the then Congress-led Punjab Government in October 2020, the Aam Aam Party (AAP) led State Government has decided to do away with the Punjab State Vigilance Commission. For the same, the Government will table the Punjab State Vigilance Repeal Bill, 2022, on Friday. If passed, the Commission would be dissolved for the second time.

As per the tentative schedule of the Friday's House proceedings, the government will table three bills, of which Punjab State Vigilance Repeal Bill, 2022.

The Vigilance Commission has been set up twice-both times by the former Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh. Firstly, during Capt Amarinder's tenure in 2002, the

Assembly had passed a bill to set up the Vigilance Commission, under the Chief Director, Vigilance Bureau. In 2007, when the Shiromani Akali Dal came to power in collaboration with BJP, it was dissolved. In 2020, Capt Amarinder against introduced the Bill to constitute the Vigilance Commission.

Punjab and Haryana High Court's former acting chief justice Justice Mehtab Singh Gill was appointed as the Punjab State Chief Vigilance Commissioner.

The move came at a time when the Vigilance Commission has become quite active working under the AAP Government's main objective to curb corruption.

It has been learnt that by dissolving the Commission, the Government is planning to come up with a new setup. However, as of now, there is no information regarding what it

would be. Earlier also, the AAP Government has cut down the number of Commission's members from 11 to five.

Apart from repealing the Vigilance Commission Bill, the Punjab Village Common Land Regulation Amendment Bill will also be brought, in which Panchayati land cannot be sold to anyone and will be owned by the Panchayats. Besides, the Punjab Goods and Service Tax Amendment Bill will also be tabled.

Bajwa to bring a calling attention proposal on crop loss

Congress MLA and the Leader of Opposition Partap Singh Bajwa will raise the demand for compensation for the crop damaged due to recent rains in the House on Friday. As per the schedule, Bajwa will bring a calling attention motion on the issue.

Oppn seeks minister Sarari's dismissal from Pb cabinet over 'extortion' audio clip

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Opposition on Thursday pushed the ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) on the back foot over the issue of its Cabinet Minister Fauja Singh Sarari's alleged extortion audio clip on the second day of the Punjab Vidhan Sabha's ongoing session. The session on Thursday started on a stormy note with the Congress MLAs, led by the Leader of Opposition Partap Singh Bajwa, staging a strong protest demanding the dismissal and arrest of Minister Sarari right at the onset of the House proceedings. Arriving in the House wearing aprons with Sarari's picture and written slogans demanding action against the Minister photos of Sarari, Bajwa raised the issue in the Zero Hour and demanded an action against the Minister over the issue of an audio clip in which he was purportedly discussing ways to trap some contractors to "extort" money. "A case should also be registered against the Minister just the way the Chief Minister acted against Vijay Singla on the basis of some audio clip, he should also be sent there," said Bajwa while also seeking investigation of the purported audio clip through the Central Government's forensic lab.

He said that a different yardstick is now being adopted in connection with another Minister, in whose case too an audio clip has surfaced.

After Bajwa, Congress's Gidderbaha MLA Amrinder Singh Raja Warring and Bholath MLA Sukhpal Singh Khaira sought the Speaker Kulter Singh Sandhwan's permission to speak on the same issue, which he denied pointing that the leader of Opposition has raised the said issue. As the Congress legislators continued sought a reply by the State Government or the Chief Minister's statement on the issue, the Speaker asked them to wait till the Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann arrives in the House. Unhappy, the Congress MLAs trooped inside the well of the House, raising slogans against the AAP Government at the time when the Finance Minister Harpal Singh Cheema speaking. Cheema pointed that though any MLA can raise any issue during the Zero Hour, but they can only make their point and cannot force the government to reply. As the Congress MLAs continued to disrupt Cheema's statement, the Minister asked the Speaker to conduct a special class for the legislators of Congress party.

Cheema also pointed out that the opposition parties had all along been demanding Zero Hour but now they were not allowing the House to function as they do not have any issue against the government and related to Punjab that's why they are doing all this. AAP legislators also raised slogans against the Congress, calling it

"the B-team of the BJP". Speaker also appealed to Punjab Congress president and MLA Warring to maintain calm. Despite repeated requests by the Speaker, the Congress MLAs continued to protest in the well forcing an adjournment for half an hour. As the House proceedings resumed, Congress members continued their protest. Speaker Sandhwan asked the Congress MLAs that they owe it to the public to let the House function properly. Not paying any heed, they rushed to the well of the House and started sloganeering. Even as the AAP MLAs also started exchanging heated words with protesting MLAs, Minister Sarari was sitting quietly in the House. Besides, all the three SAD MLAs and one BSP MLA were also sitting quietly, as both BJP MLAs decided to boycott the House. Cheema pointed out that none of the 18 Congress MLAs have not listed a single question to be asked in the Vidhan Sabha, while the ruling AAP MLAs put up all 47 questions. "But the Congress MLAs are now indulging in this drama inside the House," he said. Cheema dared the Leader of Opposition to discuss the issues like stubble burning and others in the House. "Congress is worst affected by the Operation Lotus, and despite that, instead of speaking against Operation Lotus, it is speaking against an honest government," said Cheema.

Former IPS officer makes fresh revelations in the sacrilege case

MONIKA MALIK ■ CHANDIGARH

Aam Aadmi Party's (AAP) legislator and former IPS officer Kunwar Vijay Partap Singh on Thursday made startling revelations in the matter of sacrilege and related firing incidents that rocked the state in 2015. The former IPS officer claimed that the former Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh had, even

before the High Court's verdict, "rejected" his report on the behest of his advisor and renowned political strategist Prashant Kishor.

Also putting in dock the Punjab Police's Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing Kotkapura firing incident, led by LK Yadav, Singh alleged that when the former Deputy Chief Minister and SAD president Sukhbir Singh Badal appeared before it recently on

September 14, "no questions were asked, instead he was sent after treating him with chai-pakodas". Raising objection, SAD MLA Dr Sukhwinder Singh Sukhi sought time from the Speaker Kulter Singh Sandhwan to speak, which was rejected. After this, SAD's all the three MLAs boycotted the House, and staged the walkout. Raising the issue during the Zero Hour amidst sloganeering by the Congress MLAs in the well of the House, Singh asserted that till date, no one has been able to point put any mistake on his report, that he had submitted as the SIT chief.

Himachal CM reviews arrangements for PM visit at Bilaspur

PNS ■ SHIMLA

Adequate and foolproof arrangements must be made to ensure making the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Bilaspur an historic one, Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur said on Thursday. Presiding over the meeting through video conference with the Deputy Commissioners, Superintendents of Police from Bilaspur, he said that other than AIIMS, the Prime Minister would also inaugurate Hydro Engineering College at Bandla, Bilaspur and would also lay the foundation stones of Medical Devices Park at Nalagarh and the Four-lane project from Pinjore to Nalagarh.

The Prime Minister is slated to visit Bilaspur on October 5 to dedicate AIIMS at Bilaspur to the people of the State and thereafter will address a public meeting at Luhn ground, Bilaspur.

Thakur directed the authorities to make adequate arrangements to ensure that the general public does not face



any inconvenience. He directed the State PWD authorities to ensure proper maintenance of roads leading to the Bilaspur town besides making elaborate arrangements for adequate parking for the buses and other vehicles in and around Bilaspur town.

He said that smooth and uninterrupted flow of vehicular traffic must be ensured so that no inconvenience to the general public.

He also directed the offi-

cers of Jal Shakti Vibhag to ensure uninterrupted water supply in the town. He also directed the concerned authorities to launch a special cleanliness campaign in the town, both before and after the public meeting.

The Chief Minister on his arrival at Bilaspur, visited Luhn Maidan, Bilaspur, the venue of the public meeting of Prime Minister Narendra Modi slated for 5th of next month. Chief Secretary R.D.

Dhiman said that adequate arrangements would be made to ensure that this programme becomes a grand success.

Principal Secretary GAD Bharat Khara gave detailed information regarding the proposed visit of the Prime Minister.

Deputy Commissioner Bilaspur Pankaj Rai welcomed the Chief Minister and gave a detailed presentation regarding the preparedness of the visit of the Prime Minister.

MP and State BJP President Suresh Kashyap, MLA Jhundutta Jeet Ram Katwal, Political Advisor to the Chief Minister Trilok Jamwal, District BJP President Swatantra Sankhayan, Superintendent of Police Bilaspur Diwakar Sharma attended the meeting at Bilaspur.

CM lists schemes for women at Janjheli

The Chief Minister also inaugurated and laid the foundation stones of 14 developmental projects worth about Rs. 29 crore at Janjheli in Seraj assembly constituency of district Mandi.

Addressing a "Mahila Sammelan" at Dheemkataru, Thakur said that the State Government from the very first day of coming to the power had always worked for the welfare of every section of the society including the poor, weaker sections and women. He said that social security pension was being given to all the eligible people above 60 years of age in the state. He said

that earlier about 4 lakh people had been getting pension, whereas today more than 7.50 lakh people were being given this pension.

Referring to the welfare and empowerment of women, the Chief Minister said that it was the BJP government in 2010 which had made a provision of 50 per cent reservation for the women in Panchayati Raj Institutions and Urban Local Bodies. Now, the participation of women in these institutions has exceeded 50 percent, added the Chief Minister.

He said that the State Government had made a provision of a revolving fund of Rs. 40,000 for the economic empowerment of self-help groups run by the women. 35 percent subsidy was being given to the women entrepreneurs under the Mukhya Mantri Swavalamban Yojna, added the Chief Minister. He said that more than 3.35 lakh women of the state had been given free gas connections under Mukhya Mantri Grihini Suvidha Yojna.

Classifieds

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Krishna w/o Jaspal Singh R/o VPO Sursala Tehsil Thanesar District Kurukshetra, have disown my son Mintu from all my movable immovable properties, as he is out of my control.

I, Bhupinder Singh S/o Kashmiri Singh R/o Vill. Aryanwahi, PO Dadiala Nazara, Tehsil Batala, Distt. Gurdaspur declare that my son Karanbir Singh and daughter in law Simranpreet Kaur are out of my control. I disown them from my movable and immovable property. I and my family shall not be responsible for any acts and dealing.

I, Sajjan Pal S/o Sh. Jeet Singh R/o VPO. Machhroli, Distt. Panipat. declare that my daughter name is Mahima Ruhai & Date of Birth 07-08-2005 in his documents and Mahima mention in his passport. Mahima Ruhai and Mahima both are name my daughter. So in future my known as Mahima Ruhai.

I, Number 13981036M (M/KNA Anil Kumar of AMC centre and college Lucknow son of Rameshwar Das village Narayana Tehsil samalkha district Panipat, Hitesh Kumar is my real son in my service record my son name is Hitesh Kumar but his real name is Hitesh Kumar Sharma in future in my service record my son name is Hitesh Kumar Sharma.

I, Anil Kumar Gugnani S/o Sh. Jaman Dass Gugnani R/o H. No 1164, New Housing Board Colony, Sai Chowk, Panipat, my Son Arpit Gugnani & his wife Ritika Taneja Gugnani both are out of control. I disown my son & his wife from all my movable & immovable properties. anybody deals with them deals at own risk & responsibilities.

I, Tara Rni W/o Sh. Suraj Lal R/o H.No-941-A, Friends Colony Ambala City informs that my Son Nem Chand, his wife Sunita are out of my control. So I disown both of them from my movable/immovable properties. if anybody deals with them will do so his/her at their own risk.

We, Kanwar Pal S/o Shiv Charan, Kusum W/o Kanwar Pal R/o 66A, Ram Nagar, Samta Gali, Ambala Cantt declare that our Son Jagdeep Kumar and his wife Rashi Tanwar are out of our control. So we disown them from our all Movable Immovable Properties.

We, Suresh Kumar S/o Narata Ram and Suman w/o Suresh Kumar R/o 742, Sector-1, Shahabad Markanda (Kurukshetra) inform that our son Navi Sharma and his wife Geetika are out of control. That's why we disown them from our movable and immovable properties. Our family will not be responsible for their good and bad deeds and transactions in future.

I, Mastan Singh S/o Bakshish Singh R/o Lalina, PO: Sanour, Patiala (Pb.) Inform that my birth place is Village Lalina. Concerned please note.

I, Bhawana Rana D/o Rajesh Kumar R/o 1004, Part-3, Sikha Wala Mohalla, Lairo, SAS Nagar (Mohali), Punjab-140501. Declare that Name of My Father and My Mother has been wrongly written as Rajesh Rana and Archana Rana in my 10th & 12th Class Certificate. The actual name of My Father and My Mother are Rajesh Kumar and Rachna Devi, which may be amended accordingly.

I, Army No. 4478171L, Rank-Hav, Name Balwinder Singh Son of Mukhtar Singh serving with 15th SIKH LI and residence of VPO. Bhatla, Distt. Amritsar, Punjab declare that in my army record my Wife's name is wrongly mentioned as Parmjit Kaur, whereas her correct name is Parmjit Kaur and changed my wife's date of birth from 15/02/1982 to 20/02/1980.

I, Kachhatiya Kastur Ben is legally wedded spouse of No.-JC-72370A, Kachhatiya Arvind Ratanshi Unit, 14 CORPS OMC C/o 56 APO declared that in my husband army record my name is wrongly recorded as Kastur Ben please add my husband surname before my name. correct name is my Kachhatiya Kastur Ben. please correct it.

I, Puna Devi W/O Late Gurmukh Singh R/O #167, Sector 10-A, Mandi Gobindgarh Distt Fatehgarh Sahib declared That My Daughter In Law Rupinder Kaur Alias Ravi W/O Late Parvinder Singh Alias Pappi And His Family Is Out Of My Control. So I Disown Them From All My Movable Or Immovable Properties. Anybody Dealing With Her On Their Own Risk.

I, Balvir Kaur mother of No.2517377P /5sep Ajaypal Singh S/O Dilbagh Singh, Resident of Village Bopari, Tehsil Patti, District Tarn Taran, Punjab, declared my correct name is Balvir Kaur whereas my son Army record my name wrongly mentioned as Dalbir Kaur. Please correct it.

I, Sunita Chhetri Sah spouse of No.14704507F /LNK Saran Chhetri resident of Village Kilaram Jote Po Naxalbar Tehsil Siliguri District Darjeeling (WB) in my husband service record my name wrongly recorded as Sunita Chhetri Sah instead of Sunita Chhetri Sha Vide affidavit No.IN-PB30108219805697Udated 29Sep 2022 before notary public Pathankot

I, No.JC-542237F Sub Jagjeevan Singh resident of Village Kota Po Kharik Tehsil Munsiyari District Pithoragarh(Uttarakhand) have changed my Son name from Rahul Singh Pawan to Rahul Singh Vide affidavit No.IN-PB3052613406884U dated 29 Sep 2022 before notary public Pathankot

I, Leela Pawar spouse of No.JC-542237F Sub Jagjeevan Singh resident of Village Kota Po Kharik Tehsil Munsiyari District District Pithoragarh (Uttarakhand) have changed my name from Lila Devi to Leela Pawar Vide affidavit No.IN-PB30519928197249U dated 29 Sep 2022 before notary public Pathankot

I, Sakhubai spouse of No.2799806Y Hav Garje Pandharinath Fulchand resident of VPO Mahsangvi Tehsil Patoda District Beed State Maharashtra Pin414204 have changed my name from Sakhubai to Garje Sakhubai Pandharinath Vide affidavit No.IN-PB30091791808865U dated 28 Sep 2022 before notary public Pathankot

I, Sangeeta spouse of No.JC-462545N Nb/Sub Kharde Nandakishor Narayan resident of VPO Aland Tehsil Deulgaon Raja District Buldana State Maharashtra Pin-443206 have changed my name from Sangeeta to Sangeeta Nandakishor Kharde Vide affidavit No. IN-PB30090561314991U dated 29/09/2022 before notary public Pathankot

I, No.JC-542237F Sub Jagjeevan Singh resident of Village Kota Po KharikTehsil Munsiyari District Pithoragarh (Uttarakhand) have changed my Daughter name from Chandra Kala to Chandrakala Vide affidavit No.IN-PB30526134068804U dated 29 Sep 2022 before notary public Pathankot.

We Jagdish Lal S/o Giyasi Ram and Santosh W/o Jagdish Lal R/o #516 Vikas Nagar Rajpura Distt Patiala declare that our daughter Sunita are out of our control so we disown her all moveable immovable property anyone dealing with her at their own risk.

I, Army NO. 3360776Y Rank EX Sep Mohinder Singh S/O Kartar Singh R/O Patti Dhalwail VPO Sudhar, teh Raikot, distt Ludhiana Punjab 141104 declare that in my Service Record book my wife name mentioned as Amarjit Kaur, but her correct name is Parmjit Kaur and DOB is 30-05-1943.

ਮੈਂ ਰਣਜੀਤ ਕੌਰ ਉਦਯੋਗ ਜਵਾਇਰ ਕੌਰ ਨੇੜੀ ਅਣਥਾਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਪੱਤਾ ਵਾਸੀ ਪਿੰਡ ਲੱਖਣਾ ਕੋ ਪੱਤਾ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਫਿਲੌਰਾ ਜ਼ਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਕਪੂਰਥਲਾ ਇਹ ਵਿਆਹ ਕਰਵਾਉਂਦੀ ਹਾਂ ਕਿ ਮੇਰਾ ਕੁੱਝ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਮੇਰਾ ਨਾਮ ਰਣਜੀਤ ਕੌਰ ਦੱਸਦਾ ਹੈ ਅਤੇ ਕੁਝ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਮੇਰਾ ਨਾਮ ਜਵਾਇਰ ਕੌਰ ਦੱਸਦਾ ਹੈ। ਮੈਨੂੰ ਦੋਵਾਂ ਨਾਂਵਾਂ ਨਾਲ ਜਾਣਿਆ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ।

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Vipam Kumar S/o Vishwa Mitter Sanan R/o House No. 166, Sector 16, Panchkula, Haryana, have changed my name to Vipam Kumar Sanan.

I, Anokhi Lal Gupta s/o Ram Raj Gupta, R/o # 1983, Mauli Jagran Colony, Chandigarh have changed my name to Raju Gupta.

I, Jagdip Kaur W/o Upkar Singh Var R/o V.P.O Sangat Pur Tehsil Phagwara Distt. Kapurthala have changed my name to Jagdip Kaur Var. Concerned Note.

I, Jagdip Kaur W/o Upkar Singh Var R/o V.P.O Sangat Pur Tehsil Phagwara Distt. Kapurthala have changed my minor daughter's name from Khushmeet Kaur to Khushmeet Kaur Var. Concerned Note.

I, Pusaam Begam W/o Sh. Mohmmad Ajit R/O Dasmesh Wood Works Vill. Ajawal Mengrowal Road Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed my name from Pusaam Begam to Pushpa Devi.

I, Harsimar Kaur D/o Jagpal Singh R/o 4078 Sunny Enclave Sector 125 Kharar SAS Nagar Mohali, have changed my name from Harsimar Kaur to Harsimar Kaur Taneja.

I, Balraj Sharma S/o Des Raj Sharma R/o #1293 / B-1 Ratpur Colony Pinjore, Tehsil Kalka District Panchkula Haryana I have changed my minor son name from Shiven to Shiven Moudgil.

I, Mohd Gulsher S/O Ilyas # 2237, Dadu Majra Colony, Chandigarh have changed my name to Monu.

I, Sarabjit Kaur W/O Pushpinder Singh # Modern Housing Complex, Manimajra Chandigarh have changed my name to Sarbjit Kaur.

I, Suresh Parshad S/O Ramaavtar Mahato # 491, Burali Chandigarh have changed my name to Suresh Kumar Mahato.

I, Sheetal Kumar son of Jagpal Singh resident of Village Fatehpur, Tehsil Dasuya, Distt. Hoshiarpur (Punjab). Declare that I have changed the name of my daughter from Tanvi Dhadwal to Tanvi Dadhwah be treated in all documents.

I, Ritu Prashar (Aadhar No 6731-6330-1605) W/O Pankaj Kumar R/O Plot No- 17, Sant Estate, Shahpur To Sujnar Road, Vill-Chak Madho Singh, Teh/ Distt Pathankot Declare That Ritu Prashar and Ritu Are One And Same Person.

I, Dharam Parkash, r/o Pratap Singh Memorial School Jote Po Naxalbar Tehsil Siliguri District Darjeeling (WB) in my husband service record my name wrongly recorded as Sunita Chhetri Sah instead of Sunita Chhetri Sha Vide affidavit No.IN-PB30108219805697Udated 29Sep 2022 before notary public Pathankot

I, Suman w/o Ravinder Kumar r/o 102, Adarsh Colony, Ward No. 15, Assandh, Distt. Karnal have changed my name from Suman Devi to Suman.

I, Smt. Kumari Geeta W/o No. 1772476W Ex Hav Bhupinder Singh R/o VPO Nadalon Tehsil & Garhshankar Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed my name from Kumari Geeta to Geeta Devi.

I, Bijender Malik S/O Randhir Malik R/O H.No. 188, Raja Kheri (25), Panipat(Hr) Declare That My Name Bijender & Bijender Malik Both Are Same Person Name.

I, Anmol Ghuman D/o Gurmukh Singh r/o House Number B-1623 Mohalla Partap Nagar Railway Road, Qadian Teh Batala District Gurdaspur have changed my name from Anmol Ghuman to Anmol Kaur Ghuman. Now I will be known by Anmol Kaur Ghuman. All concerned please note.

I, Amit S/O Baldev Singh R/o #414, Phoolyan Kalan, Distt.Jind (HR) have changed my name from Amit to Amit Malik.

I, Indrajit Singh S/o Surjan Singh R/o VPO Umri, Tehsil Thanesar District Kurukshetra, have changed my name to Indrajit Singh.

I, Chitra Tushar Rane W/o Tushar Rane R/o 509 Block-3, 5th floor City Heights Near Royal, Estate 2 Peermuchalla Zirakpur SAS Nagar, Punjab have changed my name Kavita Vasudeo Talele to Chitra Tushar Rane.

I, Shevya Rawal W/o Anuj Mehta R/o H.No- 80 Kabir Nagar, Near GT Road, Ambala City have changed my name from Shevya to Shevya Rawal.

I, Malik Singh S/O Avtar Singh R/O Village Bodhi, Po. Umri Distt. Kurukshetra I Have Changed My Name Malak Singh.

I, Rajina Munish W/o Munish Kumar R/o 6, street no. 2, Shivaji Nagar, Pathankot, declare that my daughter Harshita Mahajan on her School record & Birth Certificate my name mentioned as Rajina Mahajan but my correct name is Rajina Munish.

I, Rajat Singh S/o Sh Charan Singh R/O H. No. 422 Vill. Bhadour Tehsil Madlauda Distt. Panipat. I have changed my name from Sachin to Rajat Singh & D.O.B 15-05-2005 to 01-03-2001. for all future purposes.

I, Kavita Giri W/o Suraj R/o 5, Pakki Sarai, Ambala Cantt. Have Changed my Name from Deepa To Kavita Giri.

I, Rajat Ahuja s/o Surennder Ahuja r/o Shri yug Abhyas Ashram model town Panipat declared that Rajat and RajatAhuja both are my name and in future my name is RajatAhuja with all concern noted.

I, No- 15611497M Rank HAV Name Sunil Singh Yadav R/O Village Bhagwari Khurd, PO Jakhrana, Distt. Alwar, Rajasthan-301713 have changed in army record the name of my daughter from Divya Yadav to Divya vide affidavit dated 29-09-2022 before Session Court Hisar.

I, Sumitra Mother of No. JC406571H Rank NB SUB Name Harpal Singh R/O VPO Makrana, Distt. Bhiwani, Haryana-127022 have changed in army record my name from Sumitra to Sumitra Devi vide affidavit dated 29-09-2022 before Session Court Hisar.

I, Satish Kumar Goyal S/O Sh. Tara Chand Goyal R/O Multan Colony, Harsai, Tehsil Hisar, Distt. Hisar (Haryana) hereby declare that I have changed my name from Satish Kumar Goyal to Satish Goyal for all future purposes.

I, Surjit Kaur W/O Harbans Singh R/O Village Kohali Po Ladhra Munda Gurdaspur Have Changed My Name From Surjit Kaur To Sarjeet Kaur

I, Sumitra Mother of No. JC406571H Rank NB SUB Name Harpal Singh R/O VPO Makrana, Distt. Bhiwani, Haryana-127022 have changed in army record my name from Sumitra to Sumitra Devi vide affidavit dated 29-09-2022 before Session Court Hisar.

I, Satish Kumar Goyal S/O Sh. Tara Chand Goyal R/O Multan Colony, Harsai, Tehsil Hisar, Distt. Hisar (Haryana) hereby declare that I have changed my name from Satish Kumar Goyal to Satish Goyal for all future purposes.

I, Surjit Kaur W/O Harbans Singh R/O Village Kohali Po Ladhra Munda Gurdaspur Have Changed My Name From Surjit Kaur To Sarjeet Kaur

I, No. 1542892A Var (GD) Koyani Chandrakant Gokalbai presently serving at 1452 PNr Unit, C/o 56 APO My daughter's old name is Kumari Karvi shall henceforth be known as Koyani Karvi Chandrakant vide affidavit dated 27-Sep-22 before KP Singh Notary Public, Zirakpur (PB)

I, Aishwarya Karupiah, Spouse of 14944632X SEP Gavaskar.K Presently Residing at 1/203, Annagar, Vill - Anedungulam, Taluk Ilavangudi, District Sivaganga, State Tamilnadu Pin 623701. have changed my name from Aishwarya Karupiah to Aishwarya K Vide Affidavit Dated 29 September 2022 before Notary Ferozepur.

I, Jc - 570848M, Sub, Ogale Tukaram Sudam Unit Of 48 lbc C/O 56 APO , Resident At Jay Bham Nagar, Morewadi, Teh, Ambajogai, Distt . Beed . (Mh) 431517 Have Changed My Son Name In All Documents From Sushant To Sushant Tukaram Ogale. Vide Affidavit Dated 29 September 2022 Before At Notary Ferozepur.

I, Sarvjeet Kaur, Wife Of No.4577818w, Hav, Sandeep Singh, Unit Of 4 Mahar (Borders) C/O 56 APO, Resident Of Vpo Kheri Sharf Ali, Teh. Assandh, Distt. Karnal, Haryana- 132039, Have Changed My Name From Sarvjit Kaur To Sarvjeet Kaur Vide Affidavit Dated 29 September 2022 Before At Notary Ferozepur.

I, Deepika D/O Mohan Lal R/O Ward No. 2 Bedi Colony Dharwail Distt.Gurdaspur Have Changed My Name To Deepika Kaur. I Have Changed My Name Only Not My Religion.

I, Hitherto Known As Doris Daughter Of Jaswant Masih Residing At Vpo Gurdas Nangal, Gurdaspur-143520 Punjab Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Doris Masih.

I, Ranjeet Singh S/O Suba Singh R/O Vpo Chhattiana Tehsil Gidderbaha District Sri Muktsar Sahib Have Changed My Name From Ranjeet Singh To Ranjit Singh.

I, Hitherto Known As Gurjeet Singh Sandhu Son Of Gulab Singh Residing At Vill.Lalleh Po Fatehgarh Panjtoir Tehsil Zira Distt. Ferozepur-142043 Punjab Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Gurjeet Singh

I, Ranjeet Singh S/O Suba Singh R/O Vpo Chhattiana Tehsil Gidderbaha District Sri Muktsar Sahib Have Changed My Name From Ranjeet Singh To Ranjit Singh.

I, No.15580424w Rank Nk Yogesh Pandurang Kand S/O Pandurang DhoniBada R/O 99 APO Distt. Dimapur, Nagaland Have Changed My Mother's Name And Dob From Bhagubai 24.03.1976 To Bhagubai Pandurang Kand 01.01.1959.

I, Hitherto Known As Bipan Preet Daughter Of Amrik Singh Wife Of Harikshan Singh Residing At H.No.458, E-Block, Ranjit Ajeit Avenue, Kapurthala-144601, Punjab have changed my minor son name from Gunraj to Gunraj Singh.

I, Balwinder Singh S/o Balbir Singh R/o 43, Near Christ The King Convent Junior School, Ajeit Avenue, Kapurthala-144601, Punjab have changed my minor son name from Gunraj to Gunraj Singh.

I, Hitherto Known As Reebka W/O Emanuel Masih R/O Ward No.1, Golden Avenue, Dharwail, Tehsil And District Gurdaspur-143519 Punjab have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Kaur Reebca.

I, Nishan Singh S/o Charan Singh R/o Jansui, District. Ambala, have changed my name to (Surname) Singh and (given name) Nishan.

I, Meenakshi alias Meenakshi Oberoi w/o Vipam Oberoi R/O # 138, Sector 46A, Chandigarh have changed my name to Meenakshi Kohli.

I, Malket Kumar son of Sh. Naresh Kumar Resident of Village Bhilpura PO Plikhani Distt. Ambala, Haryana have changed my name from Malket Kumar to Malket.

I, Surinder Pal S/o Sh. Bal Krishan Sharma R/o #399, Sector-15 A, Chandigarh, have changed my name to Surinder Sharma.

I, Abhas Khan S/o Sh. Abdul Aziz R/O #5976, Maloya Colony, Maloya, Chandigarh, have changed my name to Abhas Khan.

I, Manjeet Kaur W/O Amar Singh, VPO Majra, SAS Nagar, have changed name to Manjit Kaur.

I, Pardeep Kumar S/o Ram Karan, 147 Satnam Nagar, Green City Phase 1 Neelpur Rajpura, Patiala, declare that Pardeep is my name and Surname is Kumar.

I, Smt Parmjeet Kaur W/O No. 3396756-W, Ex, Nk/Ts, Balwinder Singh R/O Vpo Jaura Chhtrnan Tehsil And Distt Gurdaspur State Punjab, Have Changed My Name From Parmjit Kaur To Parmjeet Kaur And My Date Of Birth Is 20-04-1977 To 31-03-1973.

I, Smt Kamla Kumari W/O No. 3956143L Late Hav Ranjit Singh R/O Vpo-Chounta, Tehsil And Distt Gurdaspur State Punjab, I Declare Changed My Date Of Birth From 26-06-1954 To 15-09-1950 In My Record.

I, Smt Kamla Kumari W/O No. Jc-840079x Late- Sub- Ranjit Singh R/O Vpo Chounta Tehsil And Distt Gurdaspur, Punjab, that I Declare Changed My Name From Kamala Kumari To Kamla Kumari And Date Of Birth From 02/07/1953 To 15/09/1950 In Dsc Record.

I, No 15699917W Rank Hav Name Shyam Sundar S/O Late Grish Chandra Resident Of Village - Chandanpur, Post Office - Bislar, Tehsil Aliganj, Distt Etah (U.P.), Declared That I Have Changed The Name Of My Daughter From Shomya To Saumya Vide Affidavit Dated 22-07-2022 Before Notary Public Farrukhabad (U.P.).

I, Paramjit Singh S/O Kulwant Singh R/O #420 Street No.1, Jagtar Nagar, Patiala (Punjab) declare that both name's Paramjit Singh and Paramjeet Singh are mine and of one same person.

I, No 8034892A Var (GD) Koyani Chandrakant Gokalbai presently serving at 1452 PNr Unit, C/o 56 APO My daughter's old name is Kumari Karvi shall henceforth be known as Koyani Karvi Chandrakant vide affidavit dated 27-Sep-22 before KP Singh Notary Public, Zirakpur (PB)

I, Aishwarya Karupiah, Spouse of 14944632X SEP Gavaskar.K Presently Residing at 1/203, Annagar, Vill - Anedungulam, Taluk Ilavangudi, District Sivaganga, State Tamilnadu Pin 623701. have changed my name from Aishwarya Karupiah to Aishwarya K Vide Affidavit Dated 29 September 2022 before Notary Ferozepur.

I, Jc - 570848M, Sub, Ogale Tukaram Sudam Unit Of 48 lbc C/O 56 APO , Resident At Jay Bham Nagar, Morewadi, Teh, Ambajogai, Distt . Beed . (Mh) 431517 Have Changed My Son Name In All Documents From Sushant To Sushant Tukaram Ogale. Vide Affidavit Dated 29 September 2022 Before At Notary Ferozepur.

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I, Hitherto Known As Doris Daughter Of Jaswant Masih Residing At Vpo Gurdas Nangal, Gurdaspur-143520 Punjab Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Doris Masih.

I, Ranjeet Singh S/O Suba Singh R/O Vpo Chhattiana Tehsil Gidderbaha District Sri Muktsar Sahib Have Changed My Name From Ranjeet Singh To Ranjit Singh.

I, Hitherto Known As Gurjeet Singh Sandhu Son Of Gulab Singh Residing At Vill.Lalleh Po Fatehgarh Panjtoir Tehsil Zira Distt. Ferozepur-142043 Punjab Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Gurjeet Singh

I, Ranjeet Singh S/O Suba Singh R/O Vpo Chhattiana Tehsil Gidderbaha District Sri Muktsar Sahib Have Changed My Name From Ranjeet Singh To Ranjit Singh.

I, No.15580424w Rank Nk Yogesh Pandurang Kand S/O Pandurang DhoniBada R/O 99 APO Distt. Dimapur, Nagaland Have Changed My Mother's Name And Dob From Bhagubai 24.03.1976 To Bhagubai Pandurang Kand 01.01.1959.

I, Hitherto Known As Bipan Preet Daughter Of Amrik Singh Wife Of Harikshan Singh Residing At H.No.458, E-Block, Ranjit Ajeit Avenue, Kapurthala-144601, Punjab have changed my minor son name from Gunraj to Gunraj Singh.

I, Balwinder Singh S/o Balbir Singh R/o 43, Near Christ The King Convent Junior School, Ajeit Avenue, Kapurthala-144601, Punjab have changed my minor son name from Gunraj to Gunraj Singh.

I, Charnjit Kaur Toor W/O Fateh Pal Singh Taur R/O VPO. Pattar Kalan, Ps- Kartarpur, Distt. Jalandhar-144806, Punjab have changed my name from Charnjit Kaur Toor to Charnanjit Kaur Toor.

I, Sam Jacob Pappali S/O Pappali Varkey Jacob R/O Dhira Jattanda, Golden Colony, Pathankot-145001, Punjab have changed my name from Sam Pappali Jacob to Sam Jacob Pappali.

I, Kuldip Takhar S/o Gurdial Takhar holder of Indian Passport No. V2312347 and presently residing at UMM AL QUWAIN, UAE and permanent H.O. X53-VPO. Shankar, Patti Takhar Distt.Jalandhar, Punjab-144042. Do hereby declare that I have changed name from Kuldip Takhar to Kuldip Singh with immediate effect.

I, Kanika Arora W/o Pankaj Nayyar R/o H.No.84, Ground Floor, Madhuvan Vatika, Landran Road Kharar, Divine Global Homes, Sector-115, Sante Majra, SAS Nagar (Mohali), Punjab- 140307, have changed the name of my minor Son Jivaj Nayyar to Jimmy Nayyar.

I, Kamlesh Devi W/o Naresh Kumar R/o Village Bagpur Kamlooh, Dhiamin, Hoshiarpur, Punjab-144221, have changed my name as Kamlesh Kumari.

I, Guru Parshad Verma S/o Prem Chand Verma R/O 3854 VPO, 19 Pull Chameli Kacha Bazar Ambala Cantt that I have changed my name from Guru Parshad to Guru Parshad Verma. Concerned note

I, Singh Gurpreet S/O Amarjeet Singh R/O Vill. Khanahmedpur P.O. Alipur Tehsil Barara distt. Ambala state Haryana have changed my name from Gurpreet Singh to Singh Gurpreet. Concerned note.

I, Gaurav Gupta S/O Bhushan Gupta Father of Ishkeha Gupta R/o 775 Housing Board Colony Ambala Cantt have changed my minor daughter's name from Ishkeha Gupta to Anushka Gupta. Concerned note.

I, Darbara Singh S/O Nar Bishan Singh R/O H.O. S-301, Badi Jaat Ki Chopal, Saran, Faridabad, my father known by two name Bishan Singh & Bishan Singh Nain, That both name are of the name of the same person.

I, Jitender Marwaha S/o Krishan Kumar Vpo Chammu Kalan, Kurukshetra Have Changed My Name Jitender Kumar Marwaha.

I, Rajni Bala W/O Jitender Kumar Marwaha Vpo Chammu Kalan, Kurukshetra Have Changed My Name Rajni Marwaha.

I, Naresh Kumar S/o Mewa Singh Vpo Naina, Tehsil and Distt. Kaithal, Haryana have changed My Name Naresh Nain.

I, Kashmir Singh S/o Kala Singh Village Sahal, Rajpura, Patiala Changed Given Name Kashmir Surange Singh.

I, Gagandeep Singh S/o Naseeb Singh Vpo Gumthala Garhu, Pehowa, Kurukshetra Changed Given Name Gagandeep Surame Singh

I, Paramjit kaur W/o Kashmir Singh Village Sahal, Rajpura, Patiala Have Changed My Name Parmjeet Kaur.

I, Kulwinder Kaur W/o Balwant Singh Ghotra R/O Bhana Plot, Kalsa, Pehowa, Kurukshetra, I Changed My Minor Daughter Name From Sehajpreet Kaur To Given Name Sehajpreet Kaur Surname Ghotra.

I, Kulwinder Kaur W/o Balwant Singh Ghotra R/O Bhana Plot, Kalsa, Pehowa, Kurukshetra, I Changed My Minor Daughter Name From Sukhwinder Kaur To Given Name Sukhwinder Kaur Surname Ghotra.

I, Rashi Pal S/o Shri Ram Vill.Tuker, Po Bodhni Tehsil PDRwa, Kurukshetra Have Changed My Name Rishi Pal.

I, Dilbag S/O Balbir Singh Vill. Kakheri, Guhla, Kaithal Changed Given Name Dilbag Surange Singh.

No efforts made for decades to develop Guj coastline, says Modi

PTI ■ BHAVNAGAR

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said although Gujarat has the longest coastline in the country, no attention was paid for its development for decades post-Independence, but "honest attempts" were made in the last 20 years by the BJP Government to turn it into the country's "door of prosperity".

He said the BJP Government in Gujarat implemented several big-ticket projects along the state's coastline without wasting money on publicity.

Modi also said the BJP always fulfils the promises it makes because it believes that



power is only a means to serve the people.

He was addressing a public rally at Jawahar Maidan in Bhavnagar city of Gujarat's Saurashtra region after inaugurating and performing the ground-breaking ceremony of projects worth more than Rs

6,000 crore meant for Bhavnagar, Botad and Amreli districts. Some of these projects in Bhavnagar included the world's first CNG terminal, development of a brownfield port and a cargo container manufacturing unit.

"Gujarat has the longest coastline in the country, but no attention was paid for its development for decades after India gained independence. As a result, the coastline created challenges for the people living along it," he said in a veiled attack on the Congress.

But honest attempts were made in the last 20 years to turn the State's coastline into India's door to prosperity, he said the massive gathering.

Modi was the Chief Minister of Gujarat from 2001 to 2014. Since May 2014, he has been serving as the Prime Minister of the country.

"We have developed many ports and modernised several others. Today, there are three LNG terminals and a petrochemical hub on the Gujarat coast. Apart from playing a crucial role for the export and import sector, Gujarat's coastline has created employment opportunities for lakhs of youths," the prime minister said.

According to him, the State's coastline has now become synonymous with the renewable energy sector and hydrocarbon ecosystem.

DREAM city project will make Surat safest, convenient diamond trading hub: PM

Surat: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said once the Diamond Research and Mercantile (DREAM) city project is completed, Surat will emerge as the safest and convenient diamond trading hub in the world.

Addressing a rally after laying the foundation stone and inaugurating a host of projects here in Gujarat, Modi said in the last 20 years Surat has progressed by leaps and bounds. **PTI**

Twin blasts in 8 hours rock Udhampur

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

The garrison city of Udhampur, housing Indian Army's Northern command headquarters, was rattled by the twin bomb blasts inside passenger buses in a span of 8 hours in which two civilians received injuries in the last 24 hours.

According to Additional Director General of Police Mukesh Singh, "the first blast took place late Wednesday night around 10.30 p.m inside a bus parked near the petrol pump in Domel chowk of Udhampur while the second blast was reported early Thursday morning around 6.00 am at an old bus stand in Udhampur".

In both the cases the passenger buses were empty and



no loss of life was reported. Singh said, both the injured were out of danger. They have been identified as Sunil Singh and Vijay Kumar, both the cleaners. They were present inside the bus when the first blast was triggered. Due to the intensity of the blast several buses parked in the close vicinity also suffered major damages.

The fact that the blasts took place ahead of the three day long visit of the Union Home Minister Amit Shah to Jammu and Kashmir beginning October 3 is keeping the entire security apparatus on its tenterhooks across the region.

This is the third incident of a similar bomb blast in the Udhampur city this year. Earlier, a street vendor was killed when a blast ripped apart his cart leading to his death and injuries to at least 17 others present in the busy market area of Udhampur on March 9.

100 workers hospitalised after ammonia gas leak in Aligarh meat factory

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

In a shocking incident in Aligarh, about one hundred of workers, mostly women, fell ill after inhaling ammonia gas that leaked in a meat factory on Thursday morning.

The workers were rushed to a nearby hospital after they complained of breathing difficulties following leakage of ammonia gas.

DIG Range Aligarh Deepak Kumar said, "Around 60 female workers were admitted to hospital and all of them are stable currently."

The incident took place at the Al-Dua meat factory that falls under the jurisdiction of



Roravar police station. Several women are engaged in the factory for packaging-related work.

Sources, however, maintained that about 100 workers were rushed to different hospitals of Aligarh after they started fainting following ammonia gas leakage.

"Information was received about an ammonia gas leak in

a meat factory in the Roravar area where women workers are engaged in packaging work. Around 60 workers were admitted to a medical college hospital after they complained of breathing difficulties. Doctors confirmed that everyone is stable," DIG Range Aligarh Deepak Kumar said.

The doctors said that everyone who was in the factory was brought to the medical college hospital and they are being treated. "Everyone is out of danger and there is nothing to worry about as of now," they said.

The fire brigade personnel were also summoned to avert any eventuality.

The factory is reportedly owned by one Haji Zaheer and the local police so far managed to pick up one of the managers to grill him regarding the cause of the gas leakage.

It may be mentioned that in a similar incident in 2020, two senior officials working at the Pulpur plant of Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) in Prayagraj died while 13 others fell sick following a gas leak. The PF-1 unit of the IFFCO plant located around 25 km from Sangam city in the trans-Ganga area of Prayagraj had developed an issue and ammonia gas began to leak. The leakage was later stopped by experts at the plant.

'Foreign ultras in Valley below 200'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Outgoing CRPF DG Kuldip Singh on Thursday said despite a slight upward trend in the number of foreign terrorists operating in Jammu and Kashmir post the Taliban takeover in Afghanistan last year, the overall strength of jihadis in the Valley is just below 200.

He said all the security forces operating in Kashmir are working in a coordinated manner and terrorist incidents have gone down post the abrogation of Article 370 from the erstwhile State in 2019.

"This is a challenge... After Afghanistan, this challenge has grown in many forms and you can see it... Also like the number of foreign terrorists



goes up and sometimes down. However, the total number of terrorists in J&K is less now... It is under 200 now as compared to the earlier times when it used to be 230-240," Singh said when asked during a Press conference about the killing of locals and Kashmiri Pandits by lone wolf terrorists.

The 1986-batch IPS officer of West Bengal cadre took charge as the CRPF DG last year in March. He will retire from service on Friday.

Farewell parade for outgoing CRPF DG stirs row

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The farewell parade for the outgoing CRPF DG Kuldip Singh has stirred a row with a section of officials pointing to the violation of the BPR&D manual for drafting out a battalion strength of the Force for his send off.

As a custom and tradition, outgoing chiefs of three services and also of the Paramilitary Forces such as BSF, CRPF, CISF etc are given ceremonial farewell on the day they demit office.

The instructions for such farewell parades have been given and institutionalised in BPR&D Drill manual 2012, which stipulates a designated strength of officers and jawans for such farewell parades.

However, through an order issued last month, the CRPF ordered its formations to pool "excessive" manpower including commanding rank officers from the field units to host this farewell parade against the norms, said personnel involved in the scheduled farewell function for Friday.



Last phase of Cong's Bharat Jodo Yatra in Kerala ends

PTI ■ MALAPPURAM

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Thursday concluded his Kerala leg of the Bharat Jodo Yatra, which entered the State on September 10 and will resume the foot march from Tamil Nadu in the afternoon.

After the yatra ended its Kerala phase at Vazhikaddavu here, Gandhi and senior Congress leaders Jairam Ramesh and Digvijaya Singh thanked the KPCC and UDF leaders, party workers and everyone else who participated in the foot march during the over 18 days it spent in the state.

"Home is where you get love, and Kerala is home for me. No matter how much affection I give, I always get more in return from the people here. I am forever indebted. Thank you."

"I would also like to wholeheartedly thank the Congress & UDF leaders and workers, Kerala police, media personnel & every individual who has been part of the #BharatJodoYatra in this beautiful state. The support you have given us makes our resolve firmer & our strides stronger," Gandhi, who was accompanied by a huge crowd of sup-



porters in the morning phase of the yatra, tweeted.

Ramesh, the AICC general secretary in-charge communications, tweeted, "Day 22 of #BharatJodoYatra is last day in Kerala. Padayatri is walking from Nilambur to Vazhikaddavu this morning. From Vazhikaddavu we cross to Gudalur in Tamil Nadu by vehicle thro' Nilgiris hills. We are extremely grateful to people of Kerala for their goodwill and response."

Senior Congress leader and national coordinator of the yatra, Digvijaya Singh tweeted, "All PCCs in other States should come and learn the organisational work of Kerala PCC. Finally a Big Thank You to the People of Kerala and all Congressmen of Kerala for their tremendous support and response. #BharatJodoYatra @INC Kerala @INC India @Jairam_Ramesh."

He also said in his tweet that

"today we leave Kerala after 22 days of warm hospitality of PCC Kerala. The tremendous response of the people of Kerala was most encouraging."

"All our Bharat Yatris loved the lovely green terrain and also enjoyed the Boat Race. Thank you PCC President K Sudhakaran ji and our most active State Coordinator K Suresh ji for responding to all our requests," he further said.

The foot march -- which resumed from Marthoma College Junction at Chungathara here -- took a break at CKHS Manimooly at Vazhikaddavu after covering around 8.6 km. According to the itinerary of the yatra, from Vazhikaddavu, Gandhi would travel to Government Arts and Science College at Gudalur in Tamil Nadu by car as the route goes through a forest reserve and it is not possible to go on foot there, Congress party sources said.

'Bharat Jodo Yatra' posters found torn a day before its K'taka entry

PTI ■ BENGALURU

Some posters put up to welcome leaders to the Congress' Bharat Jodo Yatra were found to be torn at Gundlupet in Chamarajanagar district on Thursday, a day before it is set to enter Karnataka.

Reacting sharply, the Congress said, "The 40% Commission Bommai Govt is already getting the jitters".

The BJP's "Bharat Todo Team" of paid goons has been pressed into service to destruct, destroy and tear up posters, the Congress incharge of Karnataka Affairs, Randeep Singh Surjewala alleged.

"They'll never be able to stop the war cry against Price Rise, Unemployment, Disparity & Divisiveness," he tweeted.

Congress state president D K Shivakumar alleged that a few posters were torn and burnt by

the BJP. "Preparations are afoot to receive the Bharat Jodo Yatra' but the BJP people have torn and burnt some banners. We will not be cowed down. We have faced enough of such things. They (BJP) should know this," Shivakumar told reporters in Chamarajanagar.

He demanded that the police initiate action against those who tore the banners.

"Let them (police) refuse to take action, then we will speak

rest of the things," Shivakumar said.

The Congress lodged a police complaint in this connection in the police station concerned, sources close to the Congress state president said.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai said: "All know who is doing Bharat Jodo' and who's doing 'Thodo'. Addressing reporters in the district headquarters town of Haveri, Bommai said let Shivakumar

comment on the incident, permission must be obtained for putting up posters.

The BJP need not tear the posters of any political party. Since people knew "everything," there was no need for him to say much about it, the Chief Minister said. Sources close to Shivakumar said the Congress leaders lodged a complaint at the police station concerned against those who tore and burnt the banners.

BJP Govt running on lies, propaganda: Akhilesh

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav, on Thursday, launched a scathing attack on the Bharatiya Janata Party and said that the ruling party was running on the basis of "lies and propaganda".

Akhilesh Yadav, who was unanimously elected SP chief for the third consecutive time, alleged that the BJP and its machinery snatched power from the SP as it knew if it lost power in Uttar Pradesh it would also lose power in Delhi.

"This (BJP) government is not made by the people; even people don't know how it (BJP) formed the government again. The BJP and its machinery snatched away the government from the SP because it knew if it lost power in UP it would lose power in Delhi also," he said.

"Those who know about Hitler's

time would know that there used to be a propaganda minister in his government. There was only one propaganda minister, but here if we see the work of the BJP, it seems that the whole party is running on the basis of lies and propaganda," he said.

Akhilesh further targeted the BJP, saying that the party was against farmers. "By introducing black farm laws, the BJP has proved that it is against farmers. Hundreds of farmers lost their lives and farm loans were not waived. If you are bringing industries to Gujarat then why can't you bring them to states like UP and Bihar?" the SP chief questioned.

"Why is there so much bias against UP? This state has made your government and you are showing your bias against this state now," he said.

Akhilesh Yadav also alleged that the Election Commission "deliberately" reduced the votes of Yadavs and



Muslims by 20,000 in almost every assembly seat on the "diktat" of the BJP and its allies.

"If a probe is conducted, it will be found that the names of many people were removed (electoral rolls)," the SP chief said.

The SP chief called upon party cadre to be ready to fill up jails. Quoting Netaji (Mulayam Singh Yadav), Akhilesh said this was the only way out when someone was denied justice.

"Samajwadi people should be ready to fill up jails as the time has

come. Even Netaji had said that when you are not getting justice then this is the only way out," Akhilesh Yadav said as he addressed the party workers at the event.

Earlier, the decision to elect Akhilesh Yadav as national president of the SP was taken unanimously at the national convention of the party being held at Ramabai Ambedkar Maidan in Lucknow.

On getting re-elected for the third consecutive time, Akhilesh Yadav said, "This is not just a post, you have given me a huge responsibility. This responsibility has been given to me at a time when our constitution is in danger. I assure you that I will prove my worth for the post which you people have elected me to. Even if I have to work day and night for this responsibility, I will not hesitate. We samajwadi people have to work hard for the next five years to make a new history."

Shift Navlakha to hospital for treatment, SC tells Taloja jail superintendent

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday directed the Taloja jail superintendent to immediately shift activist Gautam Navlakha, jailed in connection with the Elgar Parishad-Maoist link case, to Mumbai's Jaslok hospital for treatment. The top court said receiving medical treatment is a fundamental right of a prisoner.

A bench of Justices K M Joseph and Hrishikesh Roy also allowed Navlakha's partner Sabha Husain and sister to meet him in the hospital. "Having heard the counsel for parties, we are of the view that receiving medical treatment would be a fundamental right. We direct that the petitioner be taken immediately for thorough medical check-up.



"Accordingly, we direct Superintendent Taloja jail to take the petitioner to Jaslok hospital so that he is able to undergo requisite medical check-up and receive treatment. We make it clear that the petitioner will remain in police custody," the bench said.

The 70-year-old activist linked to Maoists has appealed the apex court against the April 26 order of the Bombay High Court dismissing his plea for house arrest over apprehensions of lack of adequate medical and other basic facilities in Taloja jail near Mumbai where he is lodged.

Bullet remarks: BJP leader moves court against TMC's number 2

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

The political controversy over Trinamool Congress national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee's "bullet in the head" remarks have now spilled over to the court with Bengal BJP president Sukanta Majumdar on Thursday filing a petition against the top TMC leader for his "bullet" remarks.

Banerjee a TMC MP and nephew of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee had recently said -- in reference to the free-for-all that ensued in Kolkata streets on BJP's Nabanna Abhiyan (Nabanna march) day and subsequent attack on a senior police officer who got a fractured hand -- that had he been a senior police officer he would have directed his men to shoot right through the heads of the rampaging BJP men.

"I met the injured officer who was badly beaten up by the

BJP goons and also saw how public properties including police vehicles were set ablaze ... I have to congratulate the top officers for the restraint they displayed in the face of saffron attack ...

"If I would have been there I would have asked my men to shoot through the heads of the mischief mongers," Banerjee had said a day after BJP's September 13 Nabanna Abhiyan. Majumdar said that he had earlier tried to file an FIR in the case but the police would not take his complaint following which he moved the court.

"Such statements of top politicians should stop ... this remark of Abhishek Banerjee will only provoke the police to fire at will ... what does he want to convey through such remarks ... does he want to make Bengal a police state ..."

Majumdar who personally appeared before the court sub-

sequently said.

TMC spokesperson Kunal Ghosh reacted to Majumdar's action saying having failed to compete with the Bengal ruling outfit politically and electorally the BJP was taking help of the agencies and moving the court in order to "remain afloat" in the news channels.

"They have been rejected by the people in the elections ... they are losing their political relevance in the state and so they are rushing to the court to remain relevant in the state politics," Ghosh said adding Banerjee had never instigated the police "rather he had congratulated ACP Chatterjee for showing restraint."

Meanwhile, in a parallel development the Trinamool Congress leadership had a big relief with the Supreme Court on Thursday setting aside a Calcutta High Court order in a Disproportionate Asset case.



Devotees carry a Goddess Durga idol through wild sugarcane plants for Durga Puja festival, in Nadia on Thursday

PTI



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PAPER WITH PASSION

Incongruity

The Govt slams freebies and yet extends the free ration scheme for three months

The Government's move to extend the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PM-GKAY) for a further period of three months, from October to December 2022, flies in the face of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's stand on freebies. The incongruity appears starker against the backdrop of resistance by the Finance Ministry to the extension. Under this scheme, 5 kg of food grain per person per month is provided free of cost for all the beneficiaries covered under the National Food Security Act (NFSA). The PM-GKAY came into being during the first wave of Covid-19 over two years ago to provide food security to the poor, needy, and the vulnerable households. Even after the pandemic subsided and normalcy restored, the Government kept extending the scheme. The Finance Ministry also said that since the pandemic has abated considerably, distress for which relief was given doesn't appear to be prevalent. Financial implications for the Central Government have been about Rs 3.45 lakh crore so far. The latest extension will cost about Rs 44,762 crore. The official press release announcing the latest extension called it a "welfare scheme." This may not be a very accurate description, for the economy is back on track with hardly any restrictions on people and businesses. The rationale offered by the Government for the extension is that major festivals like Navratri, Dussehra, Milad-un-nabi, Deepawali, Chhath pooja, Guru Nanak Dev Jayanti, Christmas, etc., are forthcoming. Another extension would help people "celebrate [these festivals] with great gaiety."



At best, this is a specious justification: the festive season arrives every year, but that doesn't mean that government, at the Centre or in states, should start distributing one thing or the other for free. The business of government is governance, not distributing freebies, especially when the fiscal situation is strained and when the economy is facing global and domestic headwinds. This is the reason that the Finance Ministry talked about the fiscal pressure due to the Russia-Ukraine War, effect on fuel prices, and rise in other subsidies. The Finance Ministry is also worried that the continuation of the scheme for a long period could give the impression of its permanent or indefinite continuation. FinMin bureaucrats seemed to be echoing great economist Milton Friedman's famous quote, "Nothing is so permanent as a temporary government programme." The Finance Ministry has made some very valid points, but are the powers that be listening? The answer may not be very comforting. It seems that all the fuss the Modi Government and the Bharatiya Janata Party have been making about freebies is politics; there may not be any genuine desire to restrain the evidence of freebies. Otherwise, the Government would not have continued with the scheme of free rations for another three months. What was a welfarist measure a couple of years ago has become a freebie. One can only hope that the PM-GKAY doesn't get another extension.

PICTALK



Commuters cross the Ganga river during sunset, in Patna

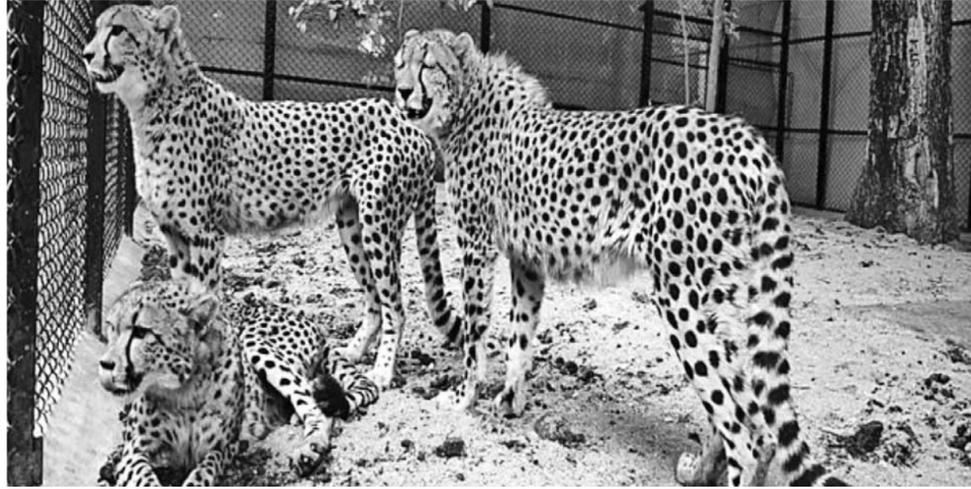
The key to wild life conservation



SWAPNA MAJUMDAR

Wildlife conservation cannot be achieved by ad hoc measures, it should involve people and have a grounded policy framework

The African cheetahs arrived in India earlier this month amid great fanfare and political hoopla. They have been kept in an enclosed area for now but will soon be released in the hope that they will boost efforts to conserve India's threatened and largely neglected grasslands. However, many wildlife conservationists believe that the introduction of these cheetahs not only goes against national conservation priorities but will also not have any impact on protecting grasslands and open forest ecosystems as has been claimed. Conservation scientists like Ravi Chellam contend that a quicker and more efficient way to conserve the grasslands would be to stop categorising them as wastelands and delete them from the Wasteland Atlas of India. This would enable a more focused conservation plan for them.



But has protecting habitats always been the prime consideration behind all decisions related to wildlife conservation? If yes, why was the Galathea National Park, an iconic nesting site of the leatherback sea turtle, located in the Great Nicobar Island, denotified in 2021? Entire sanctuaries have been denotified and erased off the map of India in the name of development, says Prerna Bindra, author and former member of, the National Board for Wildlife. The denotification of the Galathea National Park coincided with the development plans for Great Nicobar put forward by the NITI Aayog, the government's public policy think tank. Little thought was given to where the leatherbacks would nest once their site was destroyed for a shipping project and how this would accelerate the steep decline in their population, contends Bindra.

Securing the Wild
Protecting habitats for the leatherback turtles assumes critical importance as their numbers are decreasing sharply. These are the world's largest turtles and the only species without scales and a hard shell. Named after their tough rubbery skin, leatherback

turtles have existed in their current form since the age of the dinosaurs. As leatherbacks are migratory, some of them swim over 10,000 miles a year between nesting and foraging grounds. The chances of survival for these turtles making this arduous journey and then finding their nesting grounds destroyed are bleak.

Shouldn't this project have been stopped by the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL), the government institution constituted to protect wildlife, sanctuaries, and parks? Bindra points out that instead of exercising its authority and taking corrective action, the NBWL allowed this to happen.

While denotification of the Galathea National Park could not be prevented, a move to denotify a wildlife sanctuary in Himachal Pradesh to set up a cement factory was scuttled thanks to a newspaper report by award-winning veteran journalist Usha Rai.

Why Stories Are Important
This was not the only time Rai used her pen to stop the destruction of wildlife in the name of development.

It was Rai's story on how

the rich and powerful like industrialist Sameer Thapar, owner of JCT Mills, Phagwara, would fly in helicopters and shoot at wildlife in the Corbett National Park that sent shockwaves across the country with the issue even being raised in Parliament. A case was lodged against Thapar for flouting environmental norms by landing a helicopter inside the Corbett Tiger Reserve, a protected area.

These stories are part of an absorbing book that chronicles fifty years of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972. This is what makes the book, titled 'Wildlife India @50,' a great read. The book has been edited by Manoj Kumar Misra, a former Indian Forest Service officer, this 517-page Rupa publication.

Conservation Champions
It is a fact that policies alone cannot protect wildlife. An informed community is perhaps the biggest conservation champion. This has been seen over and over again across the country. In Arunachal Pradesh had it not been for the commitment of the community, the red panda, an endangered species, found only in the eastern Himalayas,

may have become extinct much like the cheetahs. Engaging the community constructively has worked not only in Arunachal Pradesh but also in Kerala. Realising the importance of tapping the potential of the community in planning and management of conservation of wildlife habitats paid rich dividends in Kerala's Parambikulam Tiger Reserve. Making forest management inclusive and participatory was key to sustaining the protection of wildlife habitats. For the first time, forestry students, local scientists, naturalists, photographers, and the local tribal community along with the staff of the Reserve were involved in planning which areas needed to be categorised as buffer zones.

The sixth assessment report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has underlined that India's human vulnerability. Climate change coupled with a 'development-at-any cost' attitude is a double whammy for India's fragile ecosystem and wildlife.

(The author is a journalist writing on development and gender. The views expressed are personal.)

IT IS A FACT THAT POLICIES ALONE CANNOT PROTECT WILDLIFE. AN INFORMED COMMUNITY IS PERHAPS THE BIGGEST CONSERVATION CHAMPION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

APPOINTMENT OF THE NEW CDS

Sir — The Appointment of New Chief of Defence Staff, Lt Gen Anil Chauhan (Retd), military adviser to the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS), is the most timely and most needed one, he will be the 2nd CDS of the country after the sad demise of 1st CDS Gen Bipin Singh Rawat in a helicopter crash. Lt Gen Anil Chauhan is a highly experienced army officer who has held significant positions like that of the GOC of the eastern command, Director Of Military Operation, and has extensive counter-insurgency experience in J and NE, he has wide experience in strategic and national security issues.

India's prevailing security environment is marked by regional instability with a nuclear overhang, on the western front is Pakistan and on the eastern sector is China and both have a common agenda of destabilizing India, they can't see India inching towards becoming a global economic power. The appointment of the 1st CDS was a significant step to carry out India's most significant military reform since Independence. The post of CDS is an institution that carries tremendous responsibility for modernizing the Indian military, hence more than ever before, it is now necessary for the national security decision-makers to be given 'single-point military advice that takes into account the operational strengths and weaknesses and the inter-dependence of each of the armed forces. New CDS Lt Gen Anil Chauhan has a Hercules task to carry forward the unfinished agenda of his predecessor Gen Rawat, who was pushing forward the agenda of the modernisation and reorganization of the armed forces into the integrated theatre commands.

Ramesh G Jethwani | Bengaluru

TOKENISATION IS SAFE AND SIMPLE

Sir — Tokenisation is a welcome mandate of RBI. Tokenisation is a safe, secure, simple, and fast method for online payment. It is the replacement of actual card details with a unique configurable token

Healthcare must be digitalised



The Covid-19 pandemic has made the healthcare industry worldwide realize the need for speeding up its infrastructure on digital transformation. The 2018 Digital Trends report from Econsultancy, a leading Digital Marketing organization in London, reveals that only seven percent of healthcare and pharmaceutical com-

panies have gone digital, compared with 15 percent of companies in other industries. ('Digitised healthcare depends on faster connectivity', Sep. 26). The pandemic has taught a lesson to the healthcare industry on the value and importance of digitalization of medical service, which provides dual benefits of lower costs and higher quality. In fact, in Austria, e-Medication has been successfully running for years, with Electronic Medical records allowing patients there to view all their e-Results anytime and anywhere.

Similarly, doctors in Sweden and Denmark send e-prescriptions to pharmacies. Also, the National Health Service in the UK is working with Google to deploy Artificial Intelligence in the medical field. Digital transformation in medical services will allow patients to manage their treatment independently and share data with doctors. Medical history is critical in emergencies when a physical copy may not be available. In such a scenario, digitization helps by keeping the doctor informed about the patient's medical history in every situation.

Ranganathan Sivakumar | Chennai

without exposing the sensitive card details of consumers.

With the help of this, our sensitive card details will be safe and cannot be stolen. It will have benefits such as two-factor authentication like OTP (One Time Password). It is simple to use with just three easy steps, First - Punch in your card number, Second - Agree to securely save your card one time, Third - Enter the OTP received via SMS. Like this merchants can't access consumers' data. Thanks to the RBI for a great mandate.

Somya Agrawal | Ujjain

MOONLIGHTING A BIG NO-NO

Sir — Bottom line is that the issue of moonlighting is simply a mess and a lack of authentic information spoils the show. If you pay all your employees well no one will moonlight. And it is quite common sense that no one wants to trade extra 4 hours of sleep and 48 hours of the week-

end if your primary employee takes good care of you and your family. Instead of sacking their employees, they need to stop exploiting them and thereby reduce the workload and provide them with the best way possible.

This raises the question of why their employees were forced to or even motivated to engage in such risky, work-life balance and ultimately a career in health-impacting behaviour. Same competency, double delivery, two different laptops, same WiFi and thereby catering to two different clients - all from the comfort of their own home, in their hometown. In the background, India is integrating all of its islands of excellence in the best way possible. Moonlighting should not fade the light at the end of the tunnel.

CK Subramaniam | Mumbai

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

Real face of PFI

PFI is not as clean as it claims; the truth is that it hides behind a carefully constructed veil

Fans of psychological thrillers rate Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde as one of the best novellas ever written. The story published in 1886 by RL Stevenson is about Dr Jekyll, a gentleman, and Mr Hyde a murderous criminal, and a series of murders that shook society. It turns out that Jekyll and Hyde are the same person with Jekyll transforming into Hyde with the help of a chemical concoction. A real-life drama of the Jekyll and Hyde genre is being staged in India with the Popular Front of India and the Social Democratic Party of India (SDPI) as the main characters. The SDPI is the political face of PFI, a terrorist organisation that is responsible for murder and mayhem in the many States of India. Nobody was surprised when the National Investigation Agency and Enforcement Directorate swept down on the leaders of the PFI and SDPI across the country on Thursday and arrested nearly 100 prominent faces of these outfits. The PFI called for a hartal in Kerala last Friday to protest against the raids and arrests of its establishments and leaders respectively. Unlike the previous hartals, the one on Friday turned out to be the most violent.



Police looked the other way when the Popular Front of India workers damaged the Karnataka SRTC buses and made shopkeepers down the shutters. Shop owners who refused to heed the hartal call saw their shops and establishments getting destroyed. Policemen were attacked and there were a couple of attempts on the lives of policemen who were on patrol. It was the suomoto intervention of

the Kerala High Court which made the police take action against the hartal mongers. Strangely, neither chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan nor the Opposition Congress were heard condemning the widespread rioting by the PFI activists. The recent rallies staged by the PFI and which were attended by lakhs of activists stand out for the kind of slogans raised by the participants. All one could say is that they were despicable of the highest order. The SDPI, the political arm of the PFI plays a double game by washing its hands off the words and deeds of the latter. This is a ploy to facilitate the growth of the PFI, an organisation known for its religious bigotry. There is no space in Indian society for organisations that promote religious hatred and communal divide. It is time we identified real cancer that is eating up the aged-old Indian psyche.

SOUNDBITE

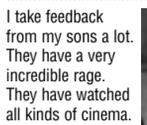
We have, we have never thought that it was an easy process. But we do believe that the need for reform cannot be denied forever."



External Affairs Minister —S Jaishankar



We will continue to work with allies and partners to bring even more pressure on Russia and the individuals that are helping support its attempted land grab. US State Dept spokesperson —Ned Price

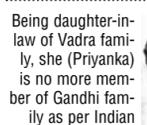


I take feedback from my sons a lot. They have a very incredible rage. They have watched all kinds of cinema. They have a very refined perspective. And think, that is the perspective we need.

Actor —Hrithik Roshan



While the pool matches might not have gone in the side's favour in the FIH Women's Hockey World Cup, the fact that the team was still alive in the competition is all that mattered right now. Indian women hockey team captain —Savita



Being daughter-in-law of Vadera family, she (Priyanka) is no more member of Gandhi family as per Indian tradition.

Congress MP —Abdul Khaleque

FIRST COLUMN

INDIA HEADS G20 AMID FLUX

Multilateralism is pushed to the wall as world order looks fluid



KUMARDEEP BANERJEE

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has been a busy man in the last few months, more so, last week when he managed marathon meetings at the United Nations General Assembly. The meeting participants suggest India's new foreign policy stance of finding allies and strategic partners around the globe. India met with its QUAD (US, Australia, and Japan) partners, also Libya, Syria, Cuba, renewed its commitment to France, India, Australia trilateral and France, India UAE strategic partnership.

France, Australia, UAE trilaterals with India are relatively new, born out of the need to find allies post pandemic and keep a check on China in the Indo Pacific region. Prime Minister Narendra Modi was on a short visit to Japan this week to attend the funeral of former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. The focus was Indo pacific, shared interests and building on the India Japan bilateral.

Clearly, the world order has undergone a significant shift since 2020 with two course altering events, the Covid pandemic and Russia's military attack in Ukraine, thereby shattering the myth of no war in the Eurozone.

If the Covid pandemic and the subsequent disruption in global supply chains (mostly concentrated in China) hadn't dented the existing order, Russia's invasion of Ukraine and subsequent push to annex territories has created a shock in energy and food prices around the globe. There are multiple streams of evolving partnerships which will forever shape the way planet earth emerges in the 21st century.



First, faced by a clear danger of nuclear-powered Russia in the backyard, the larger European countries are rethinking their nuclear strategies. Most of them except for France had given up the nuclear shield to be under US-led NATO providing them umbrella cover. Meanwhile in the eastern hemisphere, Japan faced by a belligerent neighbour, China, is also rethinking its nuclear celibacy strategy.

The US and the UK have already come together to provide Australia with nuclear capabilities in the Indian Ocean region to prevent China from being adventurous. The headwinds are a clear indication of a world again looking at nuclear weapons as a go to deterrent/safety net in case of full-fledged war.

Second, global energy prices, threatening to put almost all of Europe through a very cold and dark winter of 2022, will shape the way the hastily glued western alliance against Russia will behave in 2023.

A clear and present danger in Russia is forcing ideological shifts in Europe. Meanwhile, the energy and food prices have pushed a couple of nations (including two in India's neighbourhood) in Asia and Africa on the verge of economic breakdown and are looking at institutions such as the IMF for bailouts.

Third, there is a huge drop in acceptance for multilateral institutions as platforms for sorting global common problems. China has been persistently denying India and a couple of other large economies from taking their rightful positions as permanent members of the United Nations Security Council.

There is a huge lack of consensus globally on ways to reap the dividends of a digital economy and therefore effectively tax the technology companies.

This leads to India's presidency of the G20 beginning towards the end of the year. The current Indonesia presidency ends in November and depending on the outcome the baton will be passed on to New Delhi to shape the global narrative. This will be at a time when India would be the most populous democracy, besides being the fifth largest economy in the world. It must find innovative ways of negotiating a consensus on most pressing world issues.

(The author is a foreign affairs commentator)

Freebie powers the AAP Govt in Delhi

The State of Delhi stands out for all the ills plaguing the politics of freebies across the country, for many people have been deprived of basic amenities



ASHWANI MAHAJAN

To speak against distribution of freebies, of course, will attract the wrath of those who benefit from them. That is, if we say that electricity, water, travel should not be made free or that television sets or other types of temptations by political parties are wrong and they should end, then it is possible that people unaware of the possible consequences of announcements of such freebies may not like it.

After Independence, the emphasis has generally been on development, poverty alleviation, better social services, drinking water, road, rail, etc. But now some political parties have started making promises to provide electricity, water, transport, television sets and even mangalsutra, all for free, despite poor economic conditions of the states.

Result of such freebies is that states are coming under huge debts and the quality of public services is the major victim. Significantly, Delhi is a prosperous region of the country. The per capita income here is second highest in the country, after Goa. Due to this, the revenue of Delhi is also very high.

A large number of migrants also live in Delhi, who have migrated from other states in search of employment. Their economic conditions are not so good, which can be gauged from the fact that a large number of people had to leave for their villages, as soon as the lockdown was imposed due to the pandemic. The sight of a large number of migrants going on foot, on bicycle or in buses, with just one bag, still haunts us. Most of the migrant labourers are daily wage earners, or engaged in micro businesses. A large number of them live in horrible conditions, where even basic facilities are lacking.

In such a situation, there is usually no question of their families joining them. The number of such migrant labourers in Delhi is not less than 50 lakhs. The labourers who bring their families with them are living in very pathetic conditions in Delhi. Schools, colleges and other educational institutions are needed for them and their families.

There is also a need for a better sewerage system and good health facilities. Roads, flyovers, etc., are also needed for their movements. But all these works require huge expenditure. It is seen that due to lack of funds, Arvind Kejriwal's Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government in Delhi is not able to provide a budget for development and maintenance.

After assuming power in 2015, till date the AAP-led Delhi government has not been able to build any new school, college, hospital, flyover, etc. In such a situation, the plight of the poor can be easily imagined. The roads, water and sewage system are also not being taken care of properly. Lack of finances is the main reason for this. It is not that the



THE TOTAL REVENUE OF DELHI FOR 2021-22 IS ESTIMATED AT ₹53,070 CRORE, WHICH IS 3 PER CENT OF THE REVENUE OF ALL STATES. IN 2019-20, IT WAS ₹47,136 CRORE AND, IN 2014-15, IT WAS ONLY ₹29,584 CRORE

(The author is Professor, Department of Economics, DAV College)



revenue of Delhi is deficient. The fact is that the per capita revenue in Delhi is much higher than the rest of India and is increasing continuously.

The total revenue of Delhi for 2021-22 is estimated at ₹53,070 crore, which is 3 per cent of the revenue of all the states. In 2019-20 it was ₹47,136 crore and in 2014-15, it was only ₹29,584 crore.

But along with this increasing revenue, the expenditure on free electricity, water, and transport of the Delhi government is increasing. The expenditure on free electricity was ₹1639 crore in 2015-16, which increased to ₹2968 crore in 2021-22. The Power Department has demanded ₹3200 crore from the Delhi government for this power subsidy for 2022-23. That is, it can be understood that the burden on the budget is increasing in the name of making electricity free by the Delhi government and it has almost doubled between 2015-16 and 2022-23. By huge spending on free electricity, water and transport, there is always a shortage of funds for essential civic amenities.

As a result of the exercise of Delhi Government towards reducing water bills to zero, both the deficit and debt of the Delhi Jal Board are mounting. In the first three years of the Kejriwal government, the loss of Delhi Jal Board tripled from ₹220.19 crores in 2015-16 to ₹663 crores in 2018-19.

According to the CAG report, in 1998-99, ₹26,620 crore was lent to the Delhi Jal Board, out of

which only ₹351 crore was returned and till March 31, 2018, ₹26,269 crore was outstanding. Meanwhile, the Delhi government has given ₹41,000 crore as loan to Delhi Jal Board in the last five years. The deteriorating conditions of Delhi Jal Board can be gauged from the slow pace of its development works and poor water system. It is believed that the financial conditions of the Delhi Jal Board have become very bad due to the Delhi government and the free water policy.

Slow pace in water connection in unregulated colonies by Delhi Jal Board and poor conditions of sewer system is primarily because of poor financial health of Delhi Jal Board. The opposition parties have also been making allegations of alleged corruption in Delhi Jal Board. Apart from this, free travel for women in Delhi Transport Corporation buses is yet another freebies scheme run by the Delhi government. Thousands of crores of rupees are lost by the government through freebies. It is natural that due to the limited resources, this freebies policy puts pressure on the government finances and many essential expenditures are sacrificed.

At present, the AAP, which is in power, promised in its election manifesto in the year 2015, about opening 20 new colleges in Delhi, providing free Wi-Fi, building 20,000 public toilets, constituting women security force, installation of three lakh CCTV cameras,

expansion of health facilities, among others.

There were 69 such promises, including creation of eight lakh jobs, skill training of one lakh youth every year by Delhi Skill Mission, which either remained mere promises or in which progress was very slow. It may be noted that prior to AAP government, 15 years between 1999-2000 and 2014-15, growth in capital expenditure was 19.6 per cent per annum (increase from ₹510.5 crores to ₹7430 crores), which declined to hardly 9.2 per cent in the first five years of the AAP government (increase from ₹7430 crores to hardly ₹11549 crores). It can be easily understood that the main reason behind the stalling of Delhi's development was lack of resources, as more and more resources are being used for giving freebies.

If it is said that these freebies schemes are targeted at the poor, then it will not be right. In 2021-22, in Delhi, where per capita income at current prices was ₹401,982 per year, out of 54.5 lakh electricity consumers, 43.2 lakh people are being provided electricity either free of cost or at half price. A big chunk of those, who can easily pay for electricity, are also being given electricity free. The facilities are being badly affected and the debt on the government is increasing, so it cannot be justified.

Not only this, 20,000 liters of water per month is also being provided free of cost to 5.3 lakh households.

POINTCOUNTERPOINT

THERE IS ALWAYS DISCIPLINE INSIDE THE CONGRESS... SONIA GANDHI IS OUR PRESIDENT. I HAVE APOLOGISED TO HER. —RAJASTHAN CHIEF MINISTER ASHOK GEHLOT



MAXIM OF ONE 'ONE PARTY, ONE POST' WOULD BE STRICTLY ADHERED TO. —CONGRESS LEADER JAIRAM RAMESH

BJP will play up the question of Modi-versus-who?

The Opposition dreams of unity but has a decisive disadvantage as it is still searching for a challenger to Narendra Modi

Political parties in India have begun advance planning for the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. However, it is early yet; the ruling National Democratic Alliance and the Opposition parties have been vying with each other in their preparations. They are making and remarking strategies according to the political climate. The stage is set for the next general elections in 2024.

The regional parties might threaten the Bharatiya Janata Party. While the ruling BJP plans a hat-trick for Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Opposition is trying to unseat him. Both sides are strengthening with a 350-plus target in a Modi-versus-all scenario.



KALYANI SHANKAR

(The author is a senior journalist)

of unity but has a decisive disadvantage as it is still searching for a challenger to Modi. This lack of a prime ministerial candidate may hurt the Opposition—and the BJP will play up the question of Modi-versus-who.

With Mamata Banerjee in West Bengal, Nitish Kumar in Bihar, K Chandrasekhar Rao, MK Stalin in the south, and Arvind Kejriwal in the north, the BJP has formidable contests from different regions. There are more than 200 seats in the Opposition strongholds. Himachal Pradesh and Gujarat vote later this year, and next year six key states—Karnataka, Tripura, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Chhattisgarh—go to the polls.

The BJP is yet to conquer the southern states (129 seats). While Aam Aadmi Party chief Kejriwal takes on the PM on the corruption issue, others plan to corner the BJP on price rise and unemployment.

Secondly, right or wrong, the BJP is clear about its ideology, has a compelling narrative and poll preparedness, active cadres, and huge finances to fight the poll. Modi has the Government machinery and welfare schemes and works to show while the regional satraps are pretty strong in their states.

Modi has not only kept his flock together but, despite criticism, has also broken other parties and lured them into the BJP. More importantly, he has fulfilled the

core agenda of the Sangh Parivar, like Ram mandir, removal of Article 370 in Kashmir, and triple talaq. He is likely to take up the issue of a uniform civil code soon. All these will keep his committed voters intact.

However, the recent Parliamentary Board revamp and JD(U) exit in Bihar last month triggered some unrest within the BJP. Still, leaders bank on the BJP's ability to make course corrections. The BJP also needs to get more allies.

The party has begun aggressive preparations for the general elections. It held a meeting recently in Delhi to draw a blueprint for strengthening its position in 144 Lok Sabha weak constituencies. The party also proposes to

focus on the 70 Lok Sabha seats it never won.

On the other hand, the Opposition is not coherent and is a mixture of different ideologies. They all must adopt a give-and-take posture. While regional leaders have performed well in their respective states, they must work out a common minimum programme acceptable to all partners.

Despite their indifferent health, Deve Gowda, Lalu Yadav, Nitish Kumar, and Sharad Pawar may collaborate to unite the former Janata constituents. With the Congress, they could consolidate across multi-party states such as Haryana, Karnataka, Bihar, Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh. That's nearly 200 Lok Sabha seats. Rahul

Gandhi's current Bharat Jodo Yatra might help the Congress if it clicks.

The Samajwadi Party, a solid regional party in UP, focuses on strengthening its organisational structure. On the other hand, UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has targeted 75 seats for the BJP, which has 80 Lok Sabha seats.

The BSP has launched a massive membership drive with a target of making 75,000 members from each assembly segment as the first step. BSP chief Mayawati has been facing defeat after defeat in the past decade but has a solid Dalit vote bank.

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy has warned his MLAs to perform or perish. He has

also launched a door-to-door visit of his legislators. Telangana chief minister K.Chandrashekhara Rao also plans to launch a national party, seeking a national role.

It will be a thrilling ride until 2024 for all players. Modi will have ten years of anti-incumbency behind him, but the BJP depends on his magic. But there are many questions, like will Modi perform a hat-trick? Will the Opposition unite? Will Rahul emerge as a successful challenger?

In politics, one week is said to be a long time. We have 18 months to go before the 2024 polls. The picture will become clear when we get near the elections. Till then, political pundits will whistle in the dark.

North Korea fires missiles after Harris leaves South Korea

AP ■ PANMUNJOM, KOREA

In a show of defiance, North Korea fired two short-range ballistic missiles into the sea on Thursday, hours after U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris flew home from a visit to South Korea during which she emphasized the "ironclad" U.S. commitment to the security of its Asian allies.

It was the third round of missile launches by North Korea this week, extending a record pace in weapons testing as it accelerates a push to expand its arsenal and pressure Washington to accept it as a nuclear power.

South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said the North Korean missiles were fired nine minutes apart from an area near the city of Suncheon, just north of the capital, Pyongyang, and flew toward waters between the Korean Peninsula and Japan. It didn't immediately release more details.

Japan's military said it also detected a launch. North Korea fired two short-range ballistic missiles on Wednesday, while Harris was in Japan, and fired one before she left Washington on Sunday.

Harris earlier capped her four-day trip to Asia with a meeting with South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol and a stop at the Demilitarized Zone dividing the Korean Peninsula, where she addressed the threat posed by the increasingly hostile North.



There are also concerns that North Korea may conduct a nuclear test, which would move the country closer to being acknowledged as a full-fledged nuclear power. Visiting the DMZ has become something of a ritual for American leaders hoping to show their resolve to stand firm against aggression.

At the DMZ, Harris went to the top of a ridge, near guard towers and security cameras. She looked through bulky binoculars as a South Korean officer pointed out military installations on the southern side. Then an American officer pointed out some of the defenses along the

military demarcation line, including barbed-wire fences and claymore mines. He said American soldiers regularly walk patrols along a path. "It's so close," Harris said.

Harris then visited one of a row of blue buildings that straddle the demarcation line, where an American officer explained how the buildings are still used to conduct negotiations with North Korea. Sometimes they pass messages back and forth and sometimes they use a megaphone, he said.

"That's high tech," Harris joked, before adding, "We've stepped into history."

"It's still going," the colonel said.

Harris agreed. "The past and present are happening every day."

She then walked out of the building and up to the demarcation line. On the North Korean side, two figures dressed in what appeared to be hazmat suits peeked out from behind a curtain in a second-floor window. Then they disappeared back inside.

Harris described the North Korean missile launches as provocations meant to "destabilize the region" and said the United States and South Korea remain committed to the "complete denuclearization" of the North. "I cannot state enough that commitment of the United States to the defense of the Republic of Korea is ironclad," she said.

"In the South, we see a thriving democracy. In the North, we see a brutal dictatorship," she said before flying out of the border on a U.S. military helicopter.

Earlier, Harris met with President Yoon at his office in Seoul and reaffirmed the U.S. commitment to defend the South with a full range of its military capabilities in the event of war, Yoon's office said.

They expressed concern over North Korea's threats of nuclear conflict and pledged an unspecified stronger response to major North Korean provocations, including a nuclear test.

India can play stabilising, bridging role: Jaishankar

PNS/AGENCIES ■ NEW DELHI/WASHINGTON

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has said India can play a stabilising and a bridging role at a time when in the world it is not an "optimistic picture" and there is a "worried international community." Underlining the country's growing global stature, he also said late Wednesday in the US capital India can also contribute towards de-risking of the global economy and in political terms, in some way, help depolarise the world.

He said there are more than opportunities for India, because it is a very difficult situation. "I think there are contributions that India can make. I think we have today, a stabilising role today. We have a bridging role. We have a diplomatic role. We have to really see in economic terms, how can we contribute to the de-risking of the global economy? I think in political terms, how can we in some way help depolarise the world?" he said. "I think those are really expectations that a lot of other countries, especially countries of the global south have of us. Obviously, we will try and do what we can, and we remain in touch with all the bottom countries of the world," he said. During his just-concluded trip to New York to attend the annual session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), Jaishankar had nearly 100 meetings with world leaders and his counterparts from across the world.

"Today, there is an expectation and here I go back to my UNGA discussion. One of the reasons why there were so many meetings this time. Frankly, there was a lot of demand for meetings. Countries wanted to talk to us," he said.

US: China's overreaction to Taiwan spells danger to peace in Southeast Asia

PTI ■ BEIJING

China is endangering peace in Southeast Asia with its "overreaction" to US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's visit to Taiwan, America's envoy Nicholas Burns said on Thursday, while reiterating that there is no shift in America's 'one-China policy' as alleged by Beijing. Pelosi visited Taiwan on August 2, becoming the highest-ranking American official in 25 years to visit the self-ruled island claimed by China, which conducted a series of provocative military maneuvers in retaliation for her presence.

The US has not shifted its stance on Taiwan and remains committed to the 'one-China policy', but Beijing's "overreaction" to Pelosi's visit to Taipei risks a peaceful resolution, Burns said. Burns, who was appointed US Ambassador to China in March, said countries in Southeast Asia should also be concerned about China's aggression in the Taiwan Strait, given its importance as a major shipping route.

"If anyone has changed policy here, it's really the People's Republic of China, with their overreaction, for nearly two months now since Speaker Pelosi's visit," he said speaking at



the Milken Institute Asia Summit in Singapore.

"We've had a median line in the Taiwan Strait (separating between China and Taiwan) for 68 years; it has really kept the peace. [China] tries to erase that: they fired missiles over Taiwan into the Japanese economic zone, they simulated a naval blockade and air blockade," Burns was quoted as saying by the Hong Kong-based South China Morning Post. For days, China has launched massive military drills encircling Taiwan, which it regards as a breakthrough province after Pelosi defied Beijing's warnings and visited the self-ruled island in early August.

Later suspended dialogue with the US on military and climate change matters. For its part, China earlier angrily responded to US remarks that the US forces would defend Taiwan if Beijing tries to invade the self-ruled island, saying it will "strive" for the peaceful reunification of Taiwan with "utmost sincerity" but "reserve all options."

Japan's army issues rare apology over sexual harassment case

AP ■ TOKYO

In a rare admission of sexual harassment in Japan's military, its army chief apologised Thursday to a former soldier for suffering caused by a group of servicemen.

Yoshihide Yoshida, head of Japan's Ground Self-Defence Force, said an internal investigation found evidence that several servicemen were involved in the case brought by former soldier Rina Gonoï last month.

"Representing the Ground-Self Defence Force, I deeply apologise to Ms. Gonoï for the pain she had to suffer for a long time," Yoshida told a news conference.

"We offer a sincere apology." The investigation was ongoing and further details, including the assailants and their punishment, were not yet released Thursday.

Japan's Defence Minister Yasukazu Hamada earlier this month ordered a ministry-wide investigation into growing reports of sexual assault after Gonoï brought allegations of harassment of her and others.

Gonoï came forward in late August to request a reinvestigation of an alleged assault on her in 2021 by former male colleagues.

She also said she had received information from 146 servicemen who said they had been harassed while on duty.



The ministry said the number of various types of harassment complaints rose from 256 in 2016 to 2,311 last year.

In a country where gender inequality remains high, sexual harassment is often disregarded and the #MeToo movement has been slow to catch on. But Japanese women have started to speak up.

Earlier this month, Gonoï submitted a petition to the Defense Ministry signed by more than 100,000 people seeking a reinvestigation of her case by a third party.

She said three senior male colleagues in August 2021 in a dorm at a training ground pressed the lower part of their bodies against her, forcing her to spread her legs, as more than 10 other male colleagues watched and laughed, but none tried to stop them.

Sri Lanka's Parliament to debate 22nd Constitutional amendment next week

PTI ■ COLOMBO

Sri Lankan lawmakers will debate next week on the 22nd Amendment to the Constitution aimed at empowering Parliament over the executive president.

Party leaders agreed to take up the debate on the 22nd Amendment in Parliament on October 6 and 7, Communications Department of Parliament said on Thursday.

The decision was taken at the Business Committee meeting held at Parliament Complex on Thursday morning chaired by Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena.

If enacted, the amendment would come to be known as the 21st Amendment to the Constitution of Sri Lanka which was first adopted in 1978.

Earlier this month, the Supreme Court ruled that the bill seeking the 22nd Amendment to the Constitution can be adopted with a two-thirds majority in the House but some clauses will require a nationwide referendum unless some of the



clauses inconsistent with the Constitution are left out of the Bill.

The government responded then saying that debatable clauses would be left out for its adoption in Parliament.

The draft bill on the 22nd Amendment was approved by the Cabinet and gazetted last month. The amendment was formulated amid the ongoing economic turmoil in the country which also caused a political crisis.

It is meant to replace the 20A adopted in 2020 that had given unfettered powers to ex-President

Gotabaya Rajapaksa after abolishing the 19th Amendment. With protests raging calling for Rajapaksa's resignation since March end, the need to reform the Constitution to reduce absolute power in the office of the President was brought forward by the protest movement.

Rajapaksa had reversed through 20A the features of the 19A which had empowered Parliament over the presidency.

Rajapaksa was ousted in mid-July through the popular uprising against him for mishandling the country's economy.



UN envoy: Israel defies UN resolution on halting settlements

AP ■ UNITED NATIONS

Israel continued its defiance of a 2016 UN Security Council resolution demanding an immediate halt to all settlement activity in lands the Palestinians want for their future state, advancing plans for construction of nearly 2,000 housing units in the last three months, the UN Mideast envoy said Wednesday.

Tor Wennesland told the council that no progress was made by Israelis and Palestinians on other demands in the resolution -- preventing all violence against civilians, refraining from acts of provocation, incitement and inflammatory rhetoric, distinguishing between Israeli territory and territories occupied since the 1967 war, and exerting "collective efforts to launch credible negotiations."

He did cite several positive steps during the three-month period ending Sept. 20 -- two contacts between Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and high-level Israeli officials in July, Israel's issuance of some 16,000 permits for workers and businesses for Palestinians in Gaza, and a 1.5 per cent increase in imports and 54% increase in exports through the main Kerem Shalom crossing from Israel to Gaza compared to the monthly average for the first two quarters of 2022. But Wennesland said "We continue to see little progress" in implementing the resolution since its adoption in December 2016.

The resolution was approved by the Security Council when the United States, in the final weeks of the Obama administration, abstained rather than using its veto to support longtime ally Israel as it had done many times previously. The Trump administration strongly opposed the resolution. U.S. Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield told the council Wednesday that from day one the Biden administration has supported a two-state solution, a position President Joe Biden reiterated to world leaders at last week's high-level meeting at the General Assembly.

At least 6 people wounded in shooting at school in Oakland

AP ■ OAKLAND

At least six people were wounded in a shooting at a school in Oakland on Wednesday, officials said.

The scene of the shooting was "no longer active," according to Alameda County Sheriff spokesperson Lt. Ray Kelly. Paramedics had transported six patients to hospitals, all with gunshot wounds, according to Oakland Fire Department spokesperson Michael Hunt.

Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf tweeted that all of the



wounded were adults and the shooting happened at Sojourner Truth Independent Study, an alternative K-12 school that is located on the same block as three other

schools. Officials didn't say if any of the victims might be students age 18 or older.

Three of the wounded were in critical condition at Highland Hospital in Oakland, the other three were taken to Eden Medical Center in Castro Valley and their conditions were not known, officials said.

John Sasaki, a spokesperson for Oakland Unified School District, said in a statement that district officials "do not have any information beyond what Oakland Police are reporting." He said the

Sojourner Truth Independent Study headquarters has no students. Television footage showed dozens of police cars and yellow tape on the street outside the schools and students leaving the campus.

City Council Member Treva Reid said investigators told her the shooting may be tied to rising "group and gang violence."

Oakland Police Capt. Casey Johnson confirmed in a brief news conference that six people were shot, and didn't answer any questions.

Iraq summons Iranian Ambassador after drone bombing campaign

AP ■ BAGHDAD

Iraq summoned the Iranian ambassador on Thursday to deliver a diplomatic complaint following a deadly drone bombing campaign, the Iraqi Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

The Iranian drones targeted an Iranian-Kurdish opposition group in northern Iraq on Wednesday, killing at least nine people and wounding 32 others.

The strikes took place as demonstrations continued to engulf the Islamic Republic after the death of Mahsa Amini, a 22-year-old Iranian Kurdish woman who died while in the custody of the Iranian morality police.

Iran's attacks targeted positions of the Democratic Party of Iranian Kurdistan in Koya, some 65 kilometres (35 miles) east of Irbil.

The group, known by the acronym KDPI, is a leftist armed opposition force banned in Iran.

The Foreign Ministry said in its statement that civilians were among those killed. It added that the Iraqi government condemned "this crime, which represented the continuation of Iranian forces' encroachment on Iraq's sovereignty."

The ministry also warned of repercussions on "the societal peace of both countries and on regional security and stability."

People trapped, 2.5M without power as Ian drenches Florida

AP ■ ST PETERSBURG (US)

Hurricane Ian left a path of destruction in southwest Florida, trapping people in flooded homes, cutting off the only bridge to a barrier island, damaging the roof of a hospital intensive care unit and knocking out power to 2.5 million people as it dumped rain across the peninsula on Thursday. One of the strongest hurricanes to ever hit the United States threatened catastrophic flooding around the state.

Ian's tropical-storm-force winds extended outward up to 415 miles (665 km), drenching much of Florida and the southeastern Atlantic coast.

Authorities confirmed at least one storm death in Florida. A 72-year-old man was found dead early on Thursday in water in a canal behind his home in Deltona near Daytona Beach, the Volusia County Sheriff's Office said in a statement.

It said he appeared to be using a hose to drain his pool into the wide canal and fell down an incline that was "extremely soft and slippery due to the heavy rain." Another Florida sheriff said he believed the death toll would be "in the



hundreds." Lee County Sheriff Carmine Marceno told ABC's "Good Morning America" that his office was receiving thousands of 911 calls from people needing rescue in the county that includes Fort Myers, but roadways were still impassable and bridges are compromised.

As Japan and China mark 50-year ties, moods are mixed

AP ■ TOKYO

Japan and China marked the 50th anniversary of normalization of their ties Thursday as their leaders Fumio Kishida and Xi Jinping stressed the importance of their strengthened relationship over the decades, though they still face difficulties.

On Sept. 29, 1972, then-Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka and Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai signed a communique normalizing their ties and pledging peace and friendship. In the communique, Japan expressed remorse over wartime damage on China and acknowledged Beijing as the country's only legitimate government.

Despite the milestone, the ceremony lacks a celebratory mood as the two countries remain at odds over disputed East China Sea islands and China's growing military and economic influence in the region.



Japan considers China a security threat and is promoting security and trade frameworks with the United States and other democracies as a counter to Beijing's growing influence. China's escalating tension around Taiwan is also a growing concern. While Japan-China relations today have a variety of possibilities, they face a number of issues and concerns, Kishida said in a message to Xi, which was shown on a big screen at a ceremony sponsored by Japanese influential business organisations and

friendship groups and held at a Tokyo hotel.

Kishida said he hoped to develop "constructive and stable relations" with China to fulfil a responsibility they share as major powers in contributing to regional and global peace and stability, looking ahead the next 50 years of their ties.

He said it is important to remember their starting point 50 years ago when the normalization was achieved. Xi, in his message sent to Kishida, said normalization of their ties in 1972 opened "a new chapter" in bilateral relations and the two countries have since deepened exchanges and cooperation, bringing welfare to both peoples and peace and development to the region and the world.

He said he attaches "great importance" to the development of their ties and is willing to work with Kishida "to build a China-Japan relationship that meets the requirements of the new era."

APPENDIX IV A
[See proviso to Rule 8(6)]
Sale Notice for sale of Immovable Properties
E-Auction sale notice for sale of immovable assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable Property mortgaged to Indiabulls Commercial Credit Ltd. [CIN: U65923DL2006PLC150632] ("Secured Creditor"), the constructive possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of the Secured Creditor, will be sold on "as is where is", "as is what is" and "whatever there is" basis on 31.10.2022 from 02.00 P.M. to 04.00 P.M., for recovery of Rs. 3,44,74,257/- (Rupees Three Crore Forty Four Lakh Seventy Four Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Seven only) pending towards Loan Account No. HLLADM700318649, by way of outstanding principal, arrears (including accrued late charges) and interest till 20.09.2022 with applicable future interest in terms of the Loan Agreement and other related loan document(s) w.e.f. 21.09.2022 along with legal expenses and other charges due to the Secured Creditor from Avinash Kumar Punjani, Mukesh Punjani and Saroj Bala Punjani with Punjani Chits Pvt. Ltd. (Corporate Guarantor).
The Reserve Price of the Immovable Property will be Rs. 4,06,00,000/- (Rupees Four Crore Six Lakh only) and the Earnest Money Deposit ("EMD") will be Rs. 40,60,000/- (Rupees Forty Lakh Sixty Thousand only) i.e. equivalent to 10% of the Reserve Price.
DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY
Plot bearing Number S-10 admeasuring area of 180.5 Square Yards in Block-S out of Khalsa Number 301/1 situated in the Revenue Estate of Village Tehar in Colony known as Ajay Enclave, Delhi-110018, within the Limits of Delhi Municipal Corporation and the Plot is bounded as under:
North : Service Lane, South : Road 15',
East : Plot Number S-9 West : Plot Number S-11
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided on the website of the Secured Creditor i.e. www.indiabullscmccredit.com ; For bidding, log on to www.auctionfocus.in. Sd/
Date : 26.09.2022 Authorized Officer
Place : NEW DELHI INDIABULLS COMMERCIAL CREDIT LTD

Hundreds of children from east Ukraine stranded in Russian camps

AP ■ IZIU, UKRAINE

The Russian occupation radio and newspaper ads promoted the camps as a summer break from the war for Ukrainian children under their control, free of charge. Hundreds of families agreed in the occupied east and the south, Ukrainian officials and parents say. One bus convoy left Izium at the end of August, with the promise that the children would return home in time for the school year. Instead, Ukrainian forces swept through in early September, driving the Russians into a disorganized retreat and liberating territory that had been in enemy hands for months.



Fifty-two children from Izium and around 250 more from other towns in the Kharkiv region, all between the ages of 9 and 16, are now scattered in camps, according to a Ukrainian intelligence official and a mother who hitchhiked into Russia to retrieve her daughter. Both, like nearly everyone involved in the issue, spoke on condition of

anonymity to describe a sensitive and fraught situation. "Our main goal was to give the children a break from everything that was happening here, from all the horrors that were here," said Valeriya Kolesnyk, an Izium teacher whose 9-year-old is now in

Russia. "The problem is that the Russian side does not plan to return the children to us." That doesn't seem to have been the initial expectation. Kolesnyk said she had sent her elder daughter to a camp in July and the girl returned home with no complications. The

retrieve their kids. They are afraid they are seen as collaborators, willing participants in handing their children over to the enemy.

"We are simple people. We could never afford a seaside holiday for our children and we saw this as a chance," said one Izium father who has a 9-year-old child among the group. No town official was present at Wednesday's gathering.

The Washington Post first reported on the stranded children last week, but AP was able to learn the magnitude of the issue after speaking with 20 parents and officials in both Russia and Ukraine.

Families of the missing children said the Izium couple who organized the trip now tell them Ukraine is too dangerous for children. The couple are planning a permanent future in Russia. "I'm not going back," said the husband, Valeriya Polyvoda, reached by phone in Russia. Polyvoda blamed the children's plight on local authorities in Russia. He refused to say how many children were with him.

US: Focus on new Russia sanctions on oil revenue, arms supplies

AP ■ WASHINGTON

Future sanctions over President Vladimir Putin's invasion of Ukraine must focus on depriving Putin of what he needs to fund and fight the war: revenue from Russia's oil and gas sales and access to global supply networks to replenish his military, two architects of the Biden administration's sanctions campaign told lawmakers on Wednesday.

While calling for stronger action against Russia, the State and Treasury department officials appearing before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee faced complaints from both Democrats and Republicans that the first rounds of sanctions did not hit Moscow as hard or fast as the administration had forecast.

"What we were told was these were going to be the toughest sanctions ever on a country. That they were going to have certain impacts," said



Sen. Jeanne Shaheen, a New Hampshire Democrat, recounting early predictions from administration officials that the sanctions would plunge the country into recession, send the value of the ruble plunging, and trigger unrest among Russians. "And we have not seen the full impact that was described to us."

"The frustration is we know that while we're playing the long game, Ukrainians are dying," Shaheen added.

Putin has vowed to press his offensive in Ukraine despite battlefield losses to motivated and NATO-supplied Ukrainian

forces. Within the past week, Russia has started calling up hundreds of thousands of civilian men to replenish its depleted forces in Ukraine and held sham referendums in Russian-occupied territory, as an expected prelude to claiming those lands for Russia.

In response to those referendums, the U.S. and its allies are preparing new sanctions that White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said Wednesday would impose a "severe economic cost on Russia when they move forward with annexation."

Moscow tries to draft fleeing Russian men at borders

AP ■ LARSI, GEORGIA

Long lines of Russians trying to escape being called up to fight in Ukraine continued to clog highways out of the country on Wednesday, and Moscow reportedly set up draft offices at borders to intercept some of them.

North Ossetia, a Russian region that borders Georgia, declared a state of "high alert" and said that food, water, warming stations and other aid should be brought in for those who have spent days in queues. Volunteers

on the Georgian side of the border also have brought water, blankets and other assistance.

North Ossetia restricted many passenger cars from entering its territory, and set up a draft office at the Verkhy Lars border crossing, Russian news agencies said. Some media outlets released photos at the crossing showing a black van with "military enlistment office" written on it.

Another such draft checkpoint was set up in Russia along the Finnish border, according to the independent Russian news

outlet Meduza. Tens of thousands of Russian men have fled in the week since President Vladimir Putin announced a mobilization to bolster struggling Russian forces in Ukraine. Although Putin said the callup was "partial," aimed at calling up about 300,000 men with past military service, many Russians fear it will be much broader and more arbitrary than that. There are numerous reports of men with no military training and of all ages receiving draft notices.

Alexander Kamisentsev, who left his home in Saratov for Georgia, described the scene on the Russian side of the border. "It's all very scary — tears, screams, a huge number of people. There is a feeling that the government does not know how to organize it. It seems that they want to close the border, but at the same time they are afraid that protests may follow, and they let people leave," he told the AP.



He said he decided at the last moment to leave "because I am not going to kill my Ukrainian brothers or go to

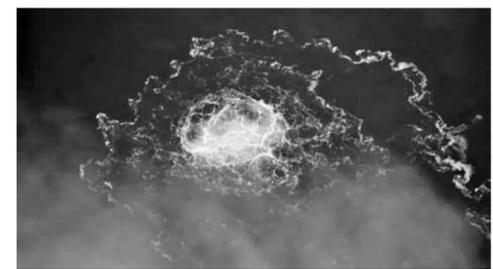
prison." Protesters carrying Georgian and Ukrainian flags and signs like "Russia Kills" greeted Russians at the border Wednesday. Giga Lemonjva of the political party Droa, which organized the protest, said the evacuees threaten Georgia's security and economy.

One protester, Helen Khoshtaria, tweeted: "We organized a protest at the border today so that the incoming Russians know how we feel about their 'Russian world.'" Russians have been crossing

by car, bicycle, scooter and foot. According to Yandex Maps, the traffic jam leading to Verkhy Lars, a town near the border between Georgia and North Ossetia, stretched for about 15 kilometers (over 9 miles) on Tuesday.

Georgia's Interior Ministry said over 53,000 Russians had entered the country since last week. There also are long lines at the border with Kazakhstan, which has taken in more than 98,000 Russians in the past week.

NATO believes Baltic Sea gas leaks were sabotage



AP ■ COPENHAGEN, DENMARK

NATO said Thursday it would retaliate for any attacks on the critical infrastructure of the 30-member organization as it suggested that damage to two gas pipelines off Denmark and would-be member Sweden in international waters in the Baltic Sea is the result of sabotage.

"Any deliberate attack against Allies' critical infrastructure would be met with a united and determined response," NATO ambassadors

said in a statement. They said that the damage to the pipelines between Russia and Germany "is of deep concern."

The alliance also said that "all currently available information indicates that this is the result of deliberate, reckless, and irresponsible acts of sabotage. These leaks are causing risks to shipping and substantial environmental damage."

The Swedish coast guard on Thursday confirmed a fourth leak on the Nord Stream pipelines off southern Sweden. "We have leakage at two positions" off Sweden, coast

guard spokesperson Mattias Lindholm. There are two more off Denmark, he said.

Two of the leaks are on the Nord Stream 1 pipeline that recently stopped supplying gas, while the other two are on Nord Stream 2 that never started operating. Although they weren't running, both pipelines were filled with gas, which has escaped and bubbled to the surface.

The Nord Stream pipelines run through the Baltic to transport gas from Russia to Germany. The Danish and Swedish governments believe that the leaks off their countries were "deliberate actions."

Before the leaks were reported, explosions were recorded. A first explosion was recorded by seismologists early Monday southeast of the Danish island of Bornholm. A second, stronger blast northeast of the island that night was equivalent to a magnitude-2.3 earthquake. Seismic stations in Denmark, Norway and Finland also registered the explosions.

Another top Chinese official indicted on bribery charges ahead of CPC's key meeting



PTI ■ BEIJING

The purge of top Chinese officials of the ruling Communist Party ahead of its key Congress next month in which President Xi Jinping is widely expected to get endorsed for an unprecedented third term, continued on Thursday with another top official being indicted over corruption charges.

Zhang Yongze, former vice chairman of the provincial government of Tibet Autonomous Region, has been indicted on charges of taking bribes, state-run Xinhua news agency reported.

According to his indictment, Zhang took advantage of

his former positions and power to seek benefits for others in areas, including project contracting and personnel promotion, and illegally accepted a large amount of money and valuables in return.

The National Commission of Supervision had concluded its probe into Zhang's case and initiated a public prosecution against him at the Intermediate People's Court of Xi'an.

Finland to ban entry to Russian tourists starting midnight

AP ■ HELSINKI

The Finnish government said Thursday it would significantly limit passenger traffic on Finland's border with Russia, banning Russian citizens travelling with tourist visas from entering the Nordic country effective Friday.

"The decision in principle aims to completely prevent Russian tourism to Finland and the related transit through Finland," Foreign Minister

Pekka Haavisto said during a news conference.

The government justified its decision by saying that continued arrivals of Russian tourists in Finland is endangering the

country's international relations.

It said it had discussed the issue with Ukraine's leadership, among others, ahead of the decision.

US candidate to lead UN telecoms agency after US-Russia race



AP ■ BUCHAREST (ROMANIA)

Doreen Bogdan-Martin of the United States was elected on Thursday to head the UN's telecommunications agency, winning a US-Russia face-off for the leadership of a key global agency that sets guidelines for radio, internet and television communications — ending a race that has been overshadowed by geopolitics in the wake of Russia's war in Ukraine. Envoy from the 193 mem-

ber states of the Geneva-based International Telecommunications Union, selected Bogdan-Martin over lone rival Rashid Ismailov of Russia at the latest meeting in the Romanian capital of its policy-making body — which meets every four years. Bogdan-Martin, who will begin her four-year term as ITU secretary-general on January 1, is a 29-year ITU veteran and the current director of its telecommunication development bureau. Her career began in the US Commerce Department.

She won the position in a 139-25 vote in which there were also a number of abstentions. Speaking in the plenary hall in Bucharest after she was elected on Thursday, Bogdan-Martin described the leadership position as "an immensely important position" and said it will be an "honour for me and my country" to lead the organisation.

She is the first woman to head the ITU, and the first American in charge since the 1960s.

Ukrainian activist among winners of Alternative Nobel

AP ■ STOCKHOLM

The Right Livelihood Award — known as the "Alternative Nobel" — was awarded on Thursday to community activists and organisations working on three continents, including a Ukrainian civil rights activist.

Oleksandra Matviichuk and the Center for Civil Liberties that she heads were honoured "for building sustainable democratic institutions in Ukraine and modeling a path to international accountability for war crimes."

In a statement released by the award committee, Matviichuk said that "now we are going through a very dramatic time of Ukrainian history... This award is a gesture of support for our struggle in general, and for my work, in particular."

Somalia human rights activists Fartuun Adan and Ilwad Elman, who lead community-based peacebuilding initiatives and provide support to marginalised groups, were cited



"for promoting peace, demilitarisation and human rights in Somalia in the face of terrorism and gender-based violence."

Two organisations were also honoured. Cecoseola, a Venezuelan association of cooperatives, was cited "for establishing an equitable and cooperative economic model as a robust alternative to profit-driven economies." The Africa Institute for Energy Governance (AFIEGO) won "for their courageous work for climate justice and community rights violated by extractivist energy projects in Uganda."

THAT IT BE KNOWN TO ALL... that M/s Sterling Motor Co. having its erstwhile workshops at 14/2 Mathura Road, Faridabad (HR) and GP-11, Sector-16, HSIDC Industrial Estate, Gurugram (HR) and carried on vehicle repair and body job work of the vehicles. Under mentioned vehicles are lying as scrap within the premises/workshop as unclaimed & abandoned since very long inspite of regular collection notices to owner. Now M/s Sterling Motor Co. are unable to take care & spend their time and money to look after such unclaimed vehicles/scrap. Hence through this public notice, owners of the under mentioned vehicle are finally called upon to collect their vehicle from the workshop/premises after showing proof of ownership, job card order form of their respective vehicle and after making full payment of all the outstanding repair bills etc. along with parking charges from the workshop/premises latest with 7 days from date of this notice, and thereafter M/s Sterling Motor Co. will not be responsible for any liability of any type whatsoever and will be free to dispose the unclaimed vehicles/scrap to recover its dues.

DETAILS OF VEHICLES & OWNERS:
1. REGN NO.: HR26BX2428 | OWNER NAME: SAGPLAN CONSULTING PVT LTD
2. REGN NO.: DL12C5996 | OWNER NAME: Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd

For Sterling Motor Co
Admin Manager (9910697060)

UJVN LIMITED
H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephone: 0135-2763808 & Fax: 0135-2763508
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: www.ujvn.com

पत्र नं. 713
Office of the Executive Engineer (C&M), MB-II, Joshiyara, Uttarkashi invites sealed Tender from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below:

Tender No.: 15/EE(C&M)/MB-II/Joshiyara/2022-23
Name of work: Deployment of one number Retired Tehsildar and one number Revenue Inspector for proper upkeep of Purchased and Acquired land and land records of M.B-II project at Joshiyara, Uttarkashi.

Estimated cost: Rs. 5,78,328.00 (Excluding GST)
Date of availability of bid document on: 30.09.2022 From 17:00 Hrs. website

Last Date for submission of bids on: 21.10.2022 upto 17:00 Hrs. website

For fuller & further details, kindly visit "e-procurement portal <http://uktenders.gov.in>" Executive Engineer (C&M) MB-II Joshiyara

"AVOID WASTEFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY"

कार्यालय नगर निगम, हरिद्वार
पत्रांक- 1357/सं०सो(नगनिहरी)/2022-23 दिनांक- 29.09.2022

ई-निविदा सूचना
नगर निगम हरिद्वार द्वारा कावड मेले में सफाई हेतु आउटसोर्सिंग के माध्यम से कामियों को रखे जाने हेतु दू-बिड (लोकनीकी एवं वित्तीय) प्रक्रिया के माध्यम से [www.uktenders.gov.in](http://uktenders.gov.in) पर पुनः अल्यकालीन (7 दिवसीय) ई-निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा से सम्बन्धित सभी सूचना www.uktenders.gov.in से प्राप्त की जा सकती है। जिसका विवरण निम्नानुसार है:

S. No. Scheduled/Information Date Time

1 Date of Online publication 30.09.2022 04:00 PM

2 Document Download start Date 30.09.2022 04:00 PM

3 Bid submission Start Date 30.09.2022 04:00 PM

4 Bid submission End Date 07.10.2022 02:00 PM

5 Offline Submission of Hard/ Original copy of Document End date 07.10.2022 03:00 PM

6 Bid opening Date 07.10.2022 04:00 PM

उपरोक्त तिथियों में कोई भी संशोधन/परिवर्तन मात्र www.uktenders.gov.in वेबसाइट पर ही Publish किया जायेगा।

सहायक नगर आयुक्त नगर निगम हरिद्वार

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given to the General Public that Mrs. Meenu Singhal is owners of Residential Property Bearing No. 305, (area measuring 180 sq. mtrs), in Block C, Subant Lok, Phase II, Village-Sarhad, Chakrapur, Sitokra, Katoh, Sakrawi, Tehsil-Wazirabad, Distt. Gurugram, Haryana the said property by virtue of Sale deed dated 11.12.2020, registration No. 5399, executed by Mrs. Shilpa Sachdeva for self and attorney of Mr. Kunal Bhatia & Mrs. Shilpa Sharma and & Mr. Harsh Agrawal and Mr. J. C. Agrawal. All persons are hereby informed that above mentioned owner want to sell entire ground floor with out roof rights of the said property to Mr. Vishal Sharma of his nominee, who is taking loan for purchase of the same from KICI Bank Ltd., if anybody has any objection upon the ownership of Mrs. Meenu Singhal in respect of the said property its sale/mortgage/ litigation, and any kind of objection kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given to the General Public on behalf of our client that Mr. Vaidhyan Bratani is the owner of Property bearing No. 10/113, area measuring 100 Sq. Yds., in Block 10, out of Kharsa No. 764 Min. Situated in the area of Village Chandrawali, @ Shahdara, New Delhi vide Gift Deed dated 23.10.2007, Doc No. 10681. All persons are hereby informed that M/s Shree Krishna Industries wants to mortgage the said property and intend to obtain a loan from our client against the said property, if anybody has any objection upon the ownership of above owner over the said property, its mortgage/litigation, and any other objections, kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present.

STATE INFRASTRUCTURE & INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF UTTARAKHAND LTD.
29, IIE, IT PARK SAHASTRADHARA ROAD, DEHRADUN - 248001
Ph No. 0135-2700292, 2708100, 2600097 Fax No. 0135-2708109 Web site: www.siidcul.com

Notice for Recruitment on Deputation Basis - 03/2022
Applications are invited from eligible candidates in the prescribed form for recruitment of following vacant post through deputation basis initially for one year in SHIDCUL which may be extendable.

Sl. No.	Name of Posts	Pay Band and Grade pay (as per 6th pay commission)	No. of posts
1	Assistant General Manager (Civil)	15600-39100(Grade pay-6600)	03 Nos.
2	Manager (Civil)	15600-39100(Grade pay-5400)	03 Nos.
3	Manager (Electrical)	15600-39100(Grade pay-5400)	02 Nos.

Candidate must submit their application through proper channel alongwith No Objection Certificate, Vigilance Clearance from his/her Competent Authority. Last date for submitting the application is 20th Oct. 2022, till 5.00 PM. Applications received after due date will not be entertained. For details regarding qualification, experience, age, application format and other details and instructions please visit company website www.siidcul.com. In future all corrigendum will be published on same website www.siidcul.com

Managing Director (SHIDCUL)

APPENDIX IV A
[See proviso to Rule 8(6)]

Sale Notice for sale of Immovable Property

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

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable Property mortgaged to Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd. [CIN: L65922DL2005PLC136029] ("Secured Creditor"), the constructive possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of the Secured Creditor, will be sold on "as is where is", "as is what is" and "whatever there is" basis on 31.10.2022 from 02.00 P.M. to 04.00 P.M., for recovery of Rs. 4,94,57,082/- (Rupees Four Crore Ninety Four Lakh Fifty Seven Thousand Eighty Two only) pending towards Loan Account No. HHLGR00419145, by way of outstanding principal, arrears (including accrued late charges) and interest till 24.09.2022 with applicable future interest in terms of the Loan Agreement and other related loan document(s) w.e.f. 25.09.2022 along with legal expenses and other charges due to the Secured Creditor from Madhusudan Parikh and Madhu Parikh.

The Reserve Price of the Immovable Property will be Rs. 5,00,00,000/- (Rupees Five Crore only) and the Earnest Money Deposit ("EMD") will be Rs. 50,00,000/- (Rupees Fifty Lakh only) i.e. equivalent to 10% of the Reserve Price.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Apartment No. MGE TW-01/32B of super area admeasuring approximately 4944 Sq. Ft. (459.31 Sq. Mtrs.) on the level 32 in the Golf Estate Tower -1 M3M Golf Estate, Fairway West in Group Housing Colony situated at Sector 65 Gurugram, 122001 Haryana together with three exclusive car parkings.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided on the website of the Secured Creditor i.e. www.indiabullshomeloans.com; For bidding, log on to www.auctionfocus.in.

Date : 27.09.2022
Place : GURUGRAM

Authorized Officer
INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

Qatar says WC fans do not need Covid vaccination



ing spectators," the ministry said.

All visitors aged over six will have to produce negative Covid-19 tests before taking flights to Qatar for the tournament that starts November 20.

Fans will have to wear masks in public transport but authorities are only recommending the use of masks at the eight stadiums in the Doha region where matches will be played.

Anyone who tests positive for Covid-19 in Qatar will have to isolate for five days, the guidelines added.

BIO-BUBBLE READY

Organisers and FIFA are most worried about the first two weeks of the tournament when four matches a day are planned and the peak number of supporters from the 32 competing nations will be packing stadiums, fan zones and tourist spots.

Some estimates say there could be up to 350,000 visiting fans in Doha at the same time during the weekend of November 26-27.

Officials say Doha airport and the city's roads will be facing peak pressure that weekend.

Because of the pressure on accommodation, only fans with tickets can enter Qatar from November 1, though each person with a ticket is allowed to invite three guests.

Each person entering the country must download a special fan pass, a Hayya card, and Qatar's anti-Covid health application, Ehteraz.

The app has to be shown at the entrance to metro stations and most shopping malls. "If metro stations and malls want to check the app, then people need to be ready for some queues," said one tourism consultant who is advising a major chain of hotels in Qatar.

Other measures may also be difficult to enforce because of the sheer numbers, experts said.

The ministry is recommending a one metre (three feet) space between diners in cafes and restaurants.

MAX: I DON'T REALLY THINK ABOUT C'SHIP



AP ■ SINGAPORE

Max Verstappen on Thursday said he thinks he is "quite a long shot" to retain his Formula One world championship at this weekend's Singapore Grand Prix, even though it is mathematically possible.

Red Bull driver Verstappen, who will celebrate his 25th birthday on Friday, is running away with the title battle but must win Sunday's race and then depend on his closest rivals faltering, or the fight will move on to Japan the following week.

"I don't really think about the championship," said the dominant Dutchman, who has won 11 of 16 races in 2022 and the last five in a row.

"It's quite a long shot and I just want to enjoy the weekend and of course try to win it," he told

reporters.

"I need a lot of luck for it to happen here so I don't really count on it." Verstappen admitted he knew the scenario required for him to secure back-to-back championships.

"I need to win and Checo (Red Bull teammate Sergio Perez) needs to finish fourth or lower and (Ferrari's) Charles (Leclerc) eighth or lower.

"So I mean it's a bit unrealistic for it to happen, so I don't really think about it," he said.

Verstappen said he was more concerned about the single-lap pace of the Red Bull at Singapore, where qualifying in pole position is crucial on a track where it is almost impossible to overtake.

"We really need to focus over one lap. This year we've never really been incredible over one lap," he said.

"We've always been good in the race but around here we know that

one-lap performance is very important."

Verstappen has never won Singapore's spectacular night race, which is returning to the calendar for the first time since 2019 because of Covid.

The nature of the city centre circuit and Singapore's tropical heat and humidity means it is the most demanding venue on the calendar, both physically and mentally.

Every running of the Singapore Grand Prix has featured a safety car and the race requires huge powers of concentration.

There are no long straights to give drivers a breather and concrete walls line the bumpy tarmac ready to punish the slightest error.

"We haven't been to Singapore for a while so it will be interesting to see how the track has evolved," said Verstappen, who has a 116-point lead

Hamilton 'feels for fans' as Verstappen runs away with title

AP ■ SINGAPORE

Seven-time world champion Lewis Hamilton on Thursday said that he feels for the fans with Max Verstappen on the cusp of wrapping up the world championship early at this weekend's Singapore Grand Prix.

Last year's title chase saw Verstappen pip Hamilton on the very last lap of a controversial final race of 2021 in Abu Dhabi.

But Verstappen can clinch his second successive world championship for Red Bull on Sunday night with five races to spare if he claims a sixth consecutive win and his rivals finish down the field.

After some patchy results in the first three races of 2022, after which Verstappen found himself 46 points behind Ferrari driver Charles Leclerc, the Dutchman has dominated.

Verstappen has won 11 of 17 races and now has an almost unassailable 116-point lead over Leclerc with just six grands prix to go.

"I definitely feel for the fans because, even for us, last year going right down to the wire was intense for everybody," said Hamilton, who has struggled all season in his Mercedes and is himself out of the championship running.

"So it's never great when the season finishes early," he said.

The 37-year-old Briton said he was "grateful" to have his 2008 season -- when he won his first world title -- right down to the last 17 seconds.

"And obviously last year, pretty much the same thing. Let's

hope for the future, it's a bit better," he said.

Hamilton has grappled all season with a car that has suffered from instability over bumps and bouncing at high speed.

But he said the team now understands the new 2022 car "100 percent" better than at the season's previous street races at Monaco and Baku, and that gives him hope for this weekend.

"We've learned a huge amount about the car," he said.

"I think we're very fortunate that we're in a much better place than I think we have ever been. So I hope we are not that far away.

"We hope that the car works better here but it really depends how bumpy it is. The bumps often set the car off and upset the car in a lot of instances. We do know it will be bumpy.

"They have resurfaced some parts of the circuit so hopefully it is not as bouncy as before. Maybe the car will be fine, maybe it won't."

Hamilton is looking to keep his proud record of winning at least one race in every season since his debut for McLaren in 2007.

"For me, we've still got six races, I'm still enjoying the challenge and proud of the strength and the growth in our team," he said.

"Just seeing how hard everyone works is for me the most inspiring thing. Trying to come up with solutions, trying to crack the code. That's really impressive because it's just relentless.

"I have no expectations at all, just going to try and have the best weekend with whatever we are faced with."

to equal the single-season mark of 13 jointly held by Schumacher (2004) and Sebastian Vettel (2013).

"It will be nice if we get it," said Verstappen. "But for me personally it's not something. It's nice what we've done the last few races but I don't think about it any more.

"I'm just focusing on what we have to do here."

UWW gives 18 World C'ship quotas for Paris Olympics to World Qualifiers

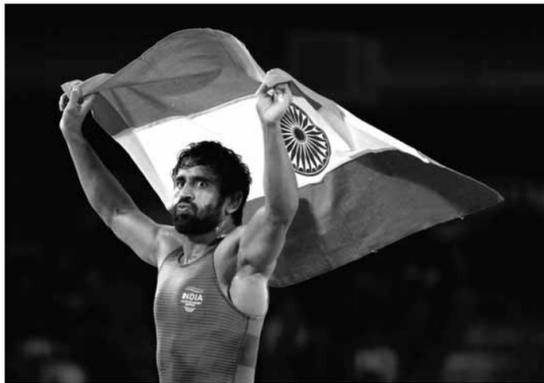
PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The top-five and not top-six wrestlers at the World Championships will earn quota places for the 2024 Paris Games in each of the 18 weight categories, as the world governing body UWW has announced changes to the qualification process for the Olympics.

The 18 quota places taken away from the 2023 World Championships, the first event offering quotas, have been added to the World Qualifiers, which will be the last chance for wrestlers to secure spots for the Paris Games.

United World Wrestling (UWW) President Nenad Lalovic was quoted as saying by the official website of the world governing body on Wednesday that the changes are aimed at creating "further fairness in the distribution between the World Championships and the World Qualifiers."

The World Championships is set to be held in Russia from September 16-24. Apart from the 2023 World Championships, the continental qualifiers (Asia, Africa, Pan-America, European) in 2024, and the 2024 World Olympics Qualifiers will also



offer quota for the Games.

Earlier, 108 quotas were awarded at the World Championships (six per Olympic weight) but now 90 quota places will be on offer.

From India Bajrang Punia (65kg), Ravi Dahiya (57kg), Deepak Punia (86kg) and Vinesh Phogat (53kg) had qualified for the Tokyo Games through the 2019 World Championships in Nur Sultan while Anshu Malik (57kg), Sonam Malik

(62kg) had qualified through the Asian event in Almaty, Kazakhstan.

Heavyweight wrestler Sumit Malik (125kg) had qualified through the World Qualifiers in Sofia, Bulgaria.

In Russia next year, all four medalists (gold, silver and two bronze winners) will secure the quotas for their respective nations and the two bronze medal play-offs losers will contest for the fifth spot.

A total of 144 wrestlers will qualify for the Paris Games through the continental qualifying events (Asian, African, Pan-American and European). The top two wrestlers in each Olympic weight class will get one spot each for their NOCs.

The quota winners at the 2023 World Championships will not be eligible to participate in the continental qualifiers unless they participate in a different style.

At the World Olympic Qualifiers, three quotas in each Olympic weight class instead of the two previously will be at stake.

Not just the gold and silver medal winners will secure quotas but the bronze medal winners will also get a chance to qualify for the Olympics.

The bronze winners will fight it out for the quota in each of the 18 categories.

Unused quotas due to withdrawal, doping offence, or non-participation, will be transferred to the next best wrestler of that weight category of the tournament.

The deadline for the Olympic Games entries will be July 8, 2024. The wrestling competition will be held from August 4-11.

PM Modi declares 36th National Games open

PTI ■ AHMEDABAD

The 36th National Games was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at a glittering opening ceremony here on Thursday evening in the presence of over 100,000 ecstatic spectators.

In keeping with the Olympic convention, but with a modern twist, Gujarat's swimming star Maana Patel brought in the symbolic Torch of Unity into the arena and handed it over to the Prime Minister.

Watched and applauded by several current and past sports icons, including Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra, Olympic medalists PV Sindhu, Ravi Dahiya, Mirabai Chanu, Gagan Narang, former national hockey captain and new HI chief Dilip Tirke along with World Championship medalist Anju Bobby George, the Prime Minister placed the Torch on the podium for it to be lit by augmented reality.

When the PM rose to speak, a roar as loud as thousand lions echoed in the stadium, underlining his continued popularity in the state.

"This sight, this ambience can't be described in words. In the world's biggest stadium, one of the world's youngest countries is witnessing India's biggest sports festival," he said.



Messi's form gives Nice defenders reason to fear PSG trip

AP ■ PARIS

Nice's defenders must be hoping their former coach Christophe Galtier is kind enough to rest Lionel Messi for Saturday's game at Paris Saint-Germain.

Messi's two goals for Argentina against Jamaica on Wednesday — a typical solo goal followed by a free kick — made it nine goals in his past three games for the national team, taking his international tally to 90.

So far this season Messi has four goals and a league-high seven assists for league leader PSG and his partnership with Neymar is looking much like their Barcelona days from 2013-17.

"We have known each other for a long time, by heart, since Barcelona," Messi told sports channel TUDN in an interview this week.

"We are happy to be together. I love playing with him."

With Messi serving up scoring chances galore thanks to his rare vision of the game and exquisite passing, it is perhaps no surprise that Neymar is leading the league with eight goals and that France star Kylian Mbappé is next with seven.

None of which is good news for a Nice side languishing in 13th place, weakened during the offseason by the sale of key forward Amine Gouiri to Rennes and by Galtier's departure to PSG after Mauricio Pochettino was fired.

A rash of late summer signings seemed like a quick fix and

created an imbalance to the side that Nice coach Lucien Favre has yet to resolve.

Losing Galtier after just one season in charge was a big blow.

His arrival at PSG surprised some observers, as it marked a significant shift away from the club's habit of chasing big-name, fan-pleasing coaches. Galtier's credentials were etched in fact rather than any illustrious reputation. After all, he is a three-time French league manager of the year.

He knocked PSG off its perch when he led Lille to the league title against the odds in 2021, before joining Nice and sending PSG out of the French Cup in Paris.

In a combined five games as Lille and Nice coach, Galtier's sides were unbeaten against PSG without conceding a goal. A remarkable statistic considering the firepower PSG has, and proof of Galtier's shrewd tactical sense.

The fact Galtier's made such a fine start to this campaign, with seven wins and a draw, is also because he knew just how to eliminate the same PSG weaknesses he had exploited.

"I worked a lot on PSG's last season and previous seasons. I also had a lot of my own analysis on PSG," Galtier said. "I worked to find the best system possible to really bring out the incredible qualities of the players."

That has certainly worked with Messi and also with Neymar, who is fitter, leaner and hungrier than for many years.

Injury-hit Barca visit Mallorca with hole in defence

AP ■ BARCELONA

When Xavi Hernández oversaw the remodeling of Barcelona's squad this summer, the coach made sure he was so well covered at right-back that his club could afford to loan out United States defender Sergiño Dest to AC Milan.

But after a spate of injuries that has decimated Barcelona over the international break, Xavi may have a huge hole in his defense ahead of Sunday's game at Mallorca.

Jules Koundé, Ronald Araújo and Héctor Bellerín, who have played at right back this season, are all out for an undetermined period of time. Koundé and Araújo, who can play at center back as well, were hurt while playing for France and Uruguay, respectively, in games to prepare for the World

Cup in November. Bellerín hurt his left leg while training for Barcelona.

That leaves Barcelona waiting to see if veteran Sergi Roberto can recover from a muscle problem that has sidelined him for three weeks in time for the trip to the Balearic Islands.

If not, Xavi may be forced to shoehorn a player with little or no experience at right back into the position, draft a player from Barcelona's youth team, or opt to play with three center-backs and two wing backs.

Barcelona will also be without midfielder Frankie de Jong and forward Memphis Depay after they were both hurt while playing for the Netherlands. Neither has been a first-choice player for Xavi this season.

Of the injuries, Araújo's appears to be the most serious. The 23-year-old defender



underwent surgery this week in Finland to repair an abductor muscle in his right thigh that he damaged in Uruguay's 1-0 loss to Iran on Friday.

Over the next three weeks, Barcelona faces two Champions League group games against Inter Milan and a clásico against

Real Madrid on October 16.

The only good news for Xavi is that Robert Lewandowski returned in perfect shape from his stint with Poland. The striker leads the Spanish league with eight goals in six games.

Mallorca, coached by

Mexican Javier Aguirre, has lost 12 of the last 13 visits by Barcelona to its stadium. Its only win during that stretch came in 2009 with Barcelona already crowned the league champion.

BENZEMA BACK

Karim Benzema is back for Real Madrid after recovering from a tendon injury and a strained muscle in his right thigh that had kept him off the field for over three weeks.

Benzema led Madrid to the Champions League and Spanish league double last season after scoring 44 goals in all competitions.

But his team has not missed him much and has kept up its perfect record this season of nine wins in as many games in all competitions.

Carlo Ancelotti's side leads the league by two points ahead

of Barcelona before it hosts fifth-placed Osasuna on Sunday.

"I'm feeling very good, comfortable. I'm looking forward to the game on Sunday," Benzema said.

"We've got a great team, although it could be said that we've got two teams. There's no difference between those who start the game and those who come on."

A struggling Sevilla faces a tough test when it visits Atlético Madrid on Saturday. Pressure is growing on coach Julen Lopetegui and the club's leadership, which sold off talented players this summer, after the team has won just once in eight games overall.

Third-place Real Betis plays at Celta Vigo on Sunday, while fourth-place Athletic Bilbao hosts Almería on Friday.

BUMRAH RULED OUT OF T20 WC

Jasprit will be forced out of action for six months due to a back injury

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India's pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah was on Thursday ruled out of the T20 World Cup due to a back stress fracture, dealing a massive blow to team's chances at the ICC flagship event starting next month in Australia.

A BCCI official told PTI that Bumrah will be forced out of action for six months due to the back injury.

"Bumrah is not going to play the T20 World Cup for sure. He has a serious back condition. It's a stress fracture and he could be out for a period of six months," a senior BCCI official told PTI on conditions of anonymity.

Stress fracture is a tiny crack in the bone, caused by overuse and is common in sports persons. When stress reaction (bone bruise) goes undetected for a considerable time, it develops into stress fracture.

Almost 50 per cent of sports injuries are caused by stress fractures.

Back stress fractures do not require surgery but a lot of time to heal. Rest is best solution to treat stress fractures.

It is understood that either Deepak Chahar or Mohammed Shami could replace Bumrah in the main



India's pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah (right) is ruled out of the T20 World Cup due to a back stress fracture. He is expected to be replaced by Deepak Chahar or Mohammed Shami.

squad. Both were named as stand-by players for the prestigious tournament by the BCCI.

Bumrah, who played the second and third T20 against Australia, had travelled with the team to Thiruvananthapuram for the series-opener against South Africa but left for Bengaluru to be at National Cricket Academy (NCA) for rehabilitation.

The 28-year-old fast bowler is the second senior star player to be ruled out after Ravindra Jadeja, who is recovering from a knee

surgery. The Indian team is already looking unsettled at the moment and Bumrah's injury has only compounded the woes for skipper Rohit Sharma and coach Rahul Dravid.

"Losing Bumrah and Jadeja will be huge for India. We didn't expect that things will pan out as they have. He was rested for the Asia Cup precisely to manage his workload management. Now it remains a question if he was even fit enough to play the Australia series," the senior official said.

Many senior players have been given adequate rest, keeping in mind their workload.

What is more interesting is the fact that Bumrah has played only five Tests, five ODIs and as many T20Is in 2022 apart from IPL games for Mumbai Indians.

"That's not a lot of cricket, considering that he was rested for Asia Cup, West Indies tour and also some of the bilateral cricket played in India. That's a lot of rest."

"As of now he is at the NCA and the rehab will be a long and arduous one. Yes, World T20 is important but he is still young and India's biggest bowling asset. You can't take risk with him," the official said.

Bumrah, who has a slinging action, puts a lot of pres-

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PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for the information that registry of my Plot No. 531, khasra No. 72/20, 72/21, 72/22, 72/12, 72/19 min the measuring length of which is 87 feet width 32.50 feet total area 314.16 sq yards, Colony Thakur Ji Estate, Village Muradpura, Teh & Distt. Amritsar and NOC of PUDA No. ADA/puda/ Chief Manager/ Amritsar/2019/ 9678 dated 13.06.2019 that was in my bag. While coming home from the shop my bag had fallen somewhere on the way at Lohgarh, Amritsar. I have lodged a complaint at D-Division police station Amritsar under P.O. No. 018 dated 28.09.2022. So if any one finds it then inform me on my address: Dheeraj Mehta S/o Late Sh. Satish Kumar Mehta, 13, Prince Avenue, Circular Road, Amritsar.(M) 9876153303

HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

The Executive Engineer HPPWD Division Bhoranj Distt. Hamirpur H.P. on behalf of Governor of H.P invites the item rate bids, in electronic tendering system from the eligible class for the works as detailed in the table:-
Sr. No.1, Name of Work:- Clo Link road to Harzan Basti Bah Bag 9 P/L G-I, G-II and Tarrying in Km 0/0 to 0/350 Estimated Cost (Rs.):- 7.91,312 Earnest Money:- 16,000/- Starting Date for downloading Bid:- 03.10.2022 Deadline for Submission of Bid:- 11.10.2022
The bidders are advised to note other details of tenders from the department website www.hptenders.gov.in.

Executive Engineer, Bhoranj Division, HPPWD, Bhoranj, Pin Code 176045 Telephone No. 01972-268099 e-mail: eepwd-bhoranj-hp@gov.in On behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh HIM SUCHANA AVAM JAN SAMPARK RO NO. 4533/22-23 Dt. 29-09-2022

CHANDIGARH HOUSING BOARD

PUBLIC NOTICE

Before Secretary, CHB Exercising the Powers of the Estate Officer, UT Chandigarh. Subject: Mutation/Transfer of ownership right in respect of Dwelling Unit No. 3373-1 (First Floor) of LIG (D) - MIG Category in Sector 47-D, Chandigarh on the basis of Sale Deed in the names of (i) SH. DINESH PARSHAD, S/O SH. LALIT PARSHAD, AND (ii) SMT. POONAM, W/O SH. DINESH RATURI, from the name of allottee/transferee SMT. SHERO DEVI, W/O SH. GURDIAL SINGH. It is hereby notified for the information of the general public and all concerned that the Dwelling Unit No. 3373-1 (First Floor) of LIG (D)/MIG Category in Sector 47-D, Chandigarh stands in the name of allottee/transferee SMT. SHERO DEVI, W/O SH. GURDIAL SINGH. Now, SMT. SHERO DEVI, W/O SH. GURDIAL SINGH, has sold the above said dwelling unit to (i) SH. DINESH PARSHAD, S/O SH. LALIT PARSHAD, AND (ii) SMT. POONAM, W/O SH. DINESH RATURI vide Sale Deed Executed and registered in office of Sub-Registrar Chandigarh on 29/08/2022. (i) SH. DINESH PARSHAD, S/O SH. LALIT PARSHAD, AND (ii) SMT. POONAM, W/O SH. DINESH RATURI have requested this office for transfer the above said dwelling unit in their name on the basis of sale deed.

If any body has any objection upon the mutation of the said property in favour of applicant, he/she/they may submit the objection in writing to the undersigned within 15 days of the publication of this notice, failing which, the ownership of the said dwelling unit shall be transferred in favour of above said claimant(s).

Secretary, Chandigarh Housing Board, Chandigarh.

CHANDIGARH HOUSING BOARD

PUBLIC NOTICE

Before Secretary, CHB Exercising the Powers of the Estate Officer, UT Chandigarh. Subject: Mutation/Transfer of ownership right in respect of Dwelling Unit No. 3215-2, Sector-41-D, Chandigarh has approached to the Chandigarh Housing Board for the issuance of Duplicate copy of transfer Letter, in respect of Dwelling Unit No. 3215-2, Sector-41-D, Chandigarh due to loss of this document. They have also furnished L.A.R No. 2022/030718 and serial no. 300800 registered with Chandigarh Police, Chandigarh on dated 28.09.22 regarding the loss of above said document. Any person having any objection, against the issuance of duplicate copy of transfer Letter, in respect of the above said Dwelling Unit to the said SH. NIRMAL SINGH S/O SH. CHIRANJEE SINGH, he/she should file the objection before the undersigned in writing within 15 days from the publication of this notice, failing which the documents shall be issued. Further, in case original documents as mentioned above are found by anyone, the same should be submitted in the above noted Police Station or in the office of the undersigned.

Secretary, Chandigarh Housing Board, Chandigarh.

CHANDIGARH HOUSING BOARD

PUBLIC NOTICE

Before Secretary, CHB Exercising the Powers of the Estate Officer, UT Chandigarh. Subject: Transfer/Mutation of Allotment/Registration D.U. No. 2110 of MIG Category in Sector 45-C, Chandigarh in the names of (i) SMT. SUDESH BANSAL, W/O LATE SH. SOM NATH AGGARWAL, (ii) SMT. ASHU GARG, D/O LATE SH. SOM NATH AGGARWAL, W/O SH. DINESH GARG, (iii) SH. ANUP BANSAL, S/O LATE SH. SOM NATH AGGARWAL, on the intestate demise of allottee/transferee SH. SOM NATH AGGARWAL S/O SH. SOHAN LAL. It is hereby notified for the information of the General Public and all concerned that SH. SOM NATH AGGARWAL S/O SH. SOHAN LAL, owner of Dwelling Unit No. 2110 of MIG Category in Sector 45-C, Chandigarh expired on 24/10/2019 at Chandigarh as informed by their legal heirs. (i) SMT. SUDESH BANSAL, W/O LATE SH. SOM NATH AGGARWAL, (ii) SMT. ASHU GARG, D/O LATE SH. SOM NATH AGGARWAL, W/O SH. DINESH GARG, (iii) SH. ANUP BANSAL, S/O LATE SH. SOM NATH AGGARWAL, have requested for transfer of ownership of Dwelling Unit No. 2110 of MIG Category in Sector 45-C, Chandigarh in their name on the basis of intestate demise of SH. SOM NATH AGGARWAL S/O SH. SOHAN LAL. They have further stated that no other legal heir has been left out and they are the only legal heirs of deceased owner of the above said Dwelling Unit.

In case anybody has any objection regarding the claim/right/ interest in the dwelling unit which is proposed to be transferred by the Chandigarh Housing Board in favour of (i) SMT. SUDESH BANSAL (wife) (ii) SMT. ASHU GARG (Daughter) (iii) SH. ANUP BANSAL (Son), he/she may submit the objection in writing to the undersigned within 30 days of the publication of this notice, failing which the registration and allotment of the said dwelling unit shall be transferred in favour of the above claimant(s).

Secretary, Chandigarh Housing Board, Chandigarh.

CHANDIGARH HOUSING BOARD

PUBLIC NOTICE

Before Secretary, CHB Exercising the Powers of the Estate Officer, UT Chandigarh. Subject: Mutation/Transfer of ownership right in respect of Dwelling Unit No. 994, of MIG-II (INDEPENDENT), Category in Sector 41-A, Chandigarh on the basis of Sale Deed in the names of (i) SMT. PRAMOD BALA SHARMA, W/O SH. LALIT MOHAN SHARMA, AND (ii) SH. SUCHARU SHARMA, S/O SH. LALIT MOHAN SHARMA, from the name of allottee/transferee (i) SH. VIKRAMJEET SINGH KAMBOJ, S/O SH. MAHINDER LAL KAMBOJ, AND (ii) SMT. MAHINDER KAUR, W/O SH. MAHINDER LAL. Now, (i) SH. VIKRAMJEET SINGH KAMBOJ, S/O SH. MAHINDER LAL KAMBOJ, AND (ii) SMT. MAHINDER KAUR, W/O SH. MAHINDER LAL, have sold the above said dwelling unit to (i) SMT. PRAMOD BALA SHARMA, W/O SH. LALIT MOHAN SHARMA, AND (ii) SH. SUCHARU SHARMA, S/O SH. LALIT MOHAN SHARMA, vide Sale Deed Executed and registered in office of Sub-Registrar Chandigarh on 09/09/2022. (i) SMT. PRAMOD BALA SHARMA, W/O SH. LALIT MOHAN SHARMA, AND (ii) SH. SUCHARU SHARMA, S/O SH. LALIT MOHAN SHARMA, have requested this office for transfer the above said dwelling unit in their name on the basis of sale deed.

Secretary, Chandigarh Housing Board, Chandigarh.

SA need to find ways to combat new ball: Maharaj

PTI ■ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

South Africa left-arm spinner Keshav Maharaj feels the Proteas need to re-assess how to combat the new ball which swung "prodigiously" in the first few overs of the series opener against India.

South Africa's batting unit crumbled as Indian seamers Arshdeep Singh (3/32) and Deepak Chahar (2/24) swung the ball both ways to set up an eight-wicket win for the hosts in the first T20I here on Wednesday night.

"I don't think it's a chapter we need to dwell too much on. However, we do need to chat about how we started," Maharaj said at the post-match press conference.

"The application we saw upfront, we need to re-assess that and find ways to combat the swing. The ball did swing prodigiously in the first couple of overs."

Maharaj, who top-scored for the visitors with a 35-ball 41, feels some adjustment and a change in mindset could help them combat the swing.

"Something that we need to address is the new ball, the way we are playing it, there is a lot of swing in it. So maybe just adjust our plan and mindset and take it



South Africa left-arm spinner Keshav Maharaj (right) feels the Proteas need to re-assess how to combat the new ball which swung "prodigiously" in the first few overs of the series opener against India.

from there," he added. South Africa were reeling at 9/5 with in the first three overs before Aiden Markram (25) and Wayne Parnell (24) steadied the ship before Maharaj took them over the 100-run mark.

"We didn't expect the ball to swing so prodigiously. It wasn't an easy wicket to bat

on, it was two paced, the odd balls skidded through, a lot of tennis ball bounce at various points," Maharaj said.

"I don't think we want to dwell too much on what has transpired, but it is something that we can address going forward and hopefully we can rectify that," he added.

SKY is now India's highest run-scorer in T20Is in single calendar year

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Suryakumar Yadav's status as India's best T20I batter in recent times has been reaffirmed as he became the highest scorer in a single calendar year with 732 runs, surpassing Shikhar Dhawan's 689 back in 2018.

Suryakumar, who scored one of his finest T20I half-centuries against South Africa on a seaming track in Thiruvananthapuram on Wednesday, is only 24 runs short of completing 1000 runs in the format.

His strike-rate in 2022 is a whopping 180.29, while his career strike-rate is a stagger-

ing 173.35 across 32 games. He has already hit 57 sixes and 88 boundaries in his career so far.

Coming onto bat at No.4 position in the first T20I against South Africa with India being reduced to 17/2 in the seventh over, Suryakumar hit two sixes off his first three balls to give the innings a change in momentum after a slow start.

He remained unbeaten on 50 off 33 balls as India scaled the target with more than three overs to spare and eight wickets in hand.

With the two sixes early in the innings, Suryakumar also went past Pakistan's Mohammad Rizwan to record the most sixes in any calendar year

in T20Is. Rizwan held the record for his 42 sixes in 2021 with Martin Guptill also smashing 41 sixes in the same year.

Suryakumar has taken his tally of sixes to 45 in 2022 already, a record in all T20Is, with three more months to widen the gap with Rizwan.

While Rizwan took 26 innings to hit 42 sixes, Suryakumar has broken the record batting five times fewer.

Suryakumar is up to second position in the latest MRF Tyres ICC Men's T20I Player Rankings with 801 rating points after his half-century in the third and final T20I against Australia in Hyderabad.

the seven-match T20I series here on Wednesday. Pakistan defeated India by 10 wickets — for the first time in a world tournament — in the last edition of the T20I World Cup in UAE. But recently in the Asia Cup, India secured a clinical five-wicket win before losing to Pakistan in the Super 4 stage.

The 28-year-old fed the Indian batters with short-pitch deliveries as he returned wicketless in their first match of the Asia Cup. But in the Super 4 stage, he accounted for the key wicket of India skipper Rohit Sharma.