

**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

DEHRADUN, 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 desertion 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 Mohammed 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 countrywide 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.

# Rs 20 lakh penalty imposed on Clement Town Cantonment Board for illegal garbage dumping

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The Municipal Corporation of Dehradun (MCD) imposed a fine of Rs 20 lakh on Clement Town Cantonment Board on Thursday for illegally dumping garbage in its garbage transfer station at Kargi Chowk last week. As per the notice issued by the chief municipal health officer Dr Avinash Khanna on Thursday, the corporation had seized two vehicles of the Ministry of Defence belonging to the cantonment board that were caught illegally dumping garbage at the MCD's garbage transfer station on September

22. The municipal commissioner Manuj Goyal had issued an order on July 13 according to which, the board was not allowed to dump its garbage in the MCD's garbage transfer station for its disposal in the solid waste management and recycling plant in Sheeshambada from August 1. Despite this, the corporation caught two vehicles of the board illegally dumping garbage in the transfer station. The notice stated that the corporation had sent a notice to the cantonment board on September 24 to give its clarification

on the matter without any delay but the board failed to respond in time. Considering this, the MCD has imposed a fine of Rs 10 lakh on each seized vehicle of the board and has stated in the notice to submit the amount of penalty within one week. The notice stated that required action will be taken against the board if it fails to submit the penalty in due time. The MCD will file an FIR under relevant sections of IPC if the board is found to be dumping the garbage illegally again, as per the notice.

# Focus on hard work, perseverance to achieve success- Anand Kumar

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The founder of Super -30 and famous teacher Anand Kumar said that relentless hard work is the only way to achieve excellence at the global level.

He was addressing an orientation and induction programme at Doon University here on Thursday. Quoting his father Kumar said, "Only one who works hard is entitled to rule. Education opens the way of progress for every person. If money was to buy knowledge and education, then only people with money would get education in the world."

He shared success stories of his students who belonged to rural and poor families and were always surrounded by the difficulties of life, but their dedication and hard work gave them a new identity along with their targets.

Stressing on sheer hard



work, positive thinking and great patience to the students, he said that there is no substitute for hard work to achieve success.

He stressed that challenges and difficulties always go hand in hand, and many times challenges suddenly arise for which we are not even mentally prepared but we have to face these challenges. "We not only have to face it, but

emerge from it successfully. With positive thoughts and efforts we can achieve our goals," he said. The university vice chancellor Surekha Dangwal said that imparting quality education to the students is the priority of the university. The registrar MS Mandarwal, dean of student affairs HC Purohit and a large number of students were present on the occasion.

# MCH & five municipal bodies selected for presidential award under SS22

PNS ■ HARIDWAR

The Municipal Corporation of Haridwar (MCH) has been selected for the presidential award under Swachh Survekshan 2022 (SS22). The award will be given to MCH under the Ganga City category in which 15 municipal bodies were the participants from Uttarakhand and over 75 cities from across the country. The officials informed that MCH was selected on the basis of the survey conducted between January and March this year by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) under its Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban. The officials of MCH are also considering this award to be a good sign to get a better ranking in SS22 as Haridwar slipped to 285th position in 2021 from 244th in 2020 making it among the worst performing cities in the

survey. The Haridwar mayor Anita Sharma also expressed her happiness on receiving the presidential award and said that the corporation has been working on every factor associated with cleanliness to improve the sanitation conditions across the city. She said that she is sure the city will attain a good position in SS22. Besides this, five other municipal bodies of Uttarakhand have also been selected to be felicitated under SS22. These bodies are Municipal Corporation of Dehradun (MCD), municipal bodies of Doiwala, Narendranagar, Ramnagar and Landour cantonment. The representatives of these cities will be felicitated by the President of India Droupadi Murmu in an award ceremony to be organised by MoHUA on October 1.

# MCD imposes fine of Rs 10 lakh each on two residential societies for sanitation violations

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The Municipal Corporation of Dehradun (MCD) issued a notice to two residential societies imposing a penalty of Rs 10 lakh each for discharging untreated sewage water in open drains, Rispana river and roads. As per the notices issued by the chief municipal health officer Dr Avinash Khanna, the MCD teams along with the councillors of the respective areas conducted inspections of Resizone Residency Society that has 225 flats situated at Mayur Vihar in Sahasthradara Road and Classic Apartments with 65 flats at Gangotri Vihar in Chironwali. The team did not find Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP) in both residential societies. The team found out that the



sewerage water of Resizone Residency Society was being discharged in nearby drain and streets.

The sewerage water of the Classic Apartments was also being discharged into nearby drains, Rispana river and roads due to which the area stinks and can potentially cause health risk among locals. The teams also found several other irregularities on both premises, considering which MCD issued a fine of Rs 10 lakh each on the management of both residential societies. Considering that the maps of both societies are approved by the Mussoorie-Dehradun Development Authority (MDDA) despite the absence of STPs, the corporation has asked the latter to inquire into the matter and take the necessary action.

# Garbage dumped outside trader's premises for questioning grounds for award

PNS ■ HARIDWAR

Garbage was dumped outside the home and shop of a trader fraternity leader after he questioned the Presidential award to be presented to the Municipal Corporation of Haridwar under the Ganga City category. Sunil Sethi opined on social media and through other means that the MCH had failed in ensuring necessary arrangements and questioned the grounds for the award. On Thursday

morning, sanitation workers allegedly dumped garbage outside this home and shop. Following this, shopkeepers of the locality, municipal councillors and even the police reached the site.

Sethi said that he had not questioned the work of the sanitation workers but had questioned the system. He alleged that the mayor and her husband had instigated the

sanitation workers against him. The trader further said that he had expressed his regret to the sanitation workers. The matter was reportedly resolved later in the day.



# Pari foundation inks MoU with Education Dept SSA

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) of the Education department of Uttarakhand has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Pari foundation. Under the initiative, the Pari foundation would help in areas of emotional wellness, stress management, building up self esteem, improving communication and building confidence in the children of the government schools of the State. Noted Psychologist and head of the Pari foundation Dr Sonia

Kaushal said that the objective is to empower the children of the government schools. The foundation would also encourage the children to 'say No' to the social media addictions and drugs. Dr Sonia Kaushal has started taking online classes of the students under the initiative and in the initial classes she is making the students aware about peer pressure and its hazards. "We will be taking fortnight sessions and building up our children's emotional quotient," she said.

# Notification issued for enforcing ban on PFI & affiliates in U'khand

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

With the Central government banning the Popular Front of India (PFI) along with its affiliates, associates and fronts under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, the State government has directed its officials concerned to take necessary action in line with directions issued by the Centre.

stated that the Central government has directed that all the States and Union Territories' administration shall exercise the power exercisable by the Central government under sections 7 and 8 of UAPA. Following the Centre's directions, all the district magistrates and senior superintendents of police/superintendents of police in the State have been directed to exercise the powers accordingly.

In the notification signed by chief secretary SS Sandhu, it is

# Survey nearing completion for repairs in Badrinath

PNS ■ JOSHIMATH

Survey for the first phase of repair work along the Sinh Dwar of Badrinath temple is nearing completion. The Badrinath Kedarnath Temple Committee (BKTC) chairman Ajendra Ajay was told about this by Archaeological Survey of India treatment experts Neeraj Maithani and Ashish Semwal who informed that considering the minor cracks in the walls near the Sinh Dwar the survey work is being completed for the first phase of repair work. Ajay inspected arrangements for pilgrims at the temple and the committee's office on Thursday.



After inspecting the counters at the office he also checked the pilgrimage arrangements at the temple. Ajay also interacted with pilgrims in the temple compound and learnt about their problems. He directed officials concerned to take cognisance of the suggestions made by the pilgrims.

# Police find two missing teenage girls from Delhi in 24 hours

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The Dehradun police found two missing teenage girls of Rishikesh in Delhi within 24 hours after they were allegedly lured by two men of Haryana through social media with the promise of good jobs. The police informed that parents filed a missing report on Wednesday morning that their 17-year-old and 15-year-old daughters have been missing since Tuesday night. Considering the sensitivity of the matter, the senior superintendent of police (SSP) of Dehradun constituted two teams to investigate the matter and

find the missing girls. The police activated the Informers network and started the first team search by checking the footage of CCTV cameras installed outside shops and other establishments situated near the house of missing girls. The police also interrogated neighbours and relatives of the complainant. The second police team started the search operation of missing girls in bus stops and railway stations in Dehradun, Rishikesh and Haridwar.

sisters were in contact with two males of Faridabad in Haryana through social media who had promised them well paying jobs due to which both girls left their house on Tuesday night without informing any family member. They went to Delhi via Haridwar to go to Haryana but the Dehradun police team recovered both girls safely near Kashmiri Gate in Delhi on Thursday. The officials informed that the police are gathering information on the two accused from Haryana to take required action against them.

It was revealed in the investigation of both teams that the

# Girl's body found a day after alleged suicide

PNS ■ BAGESHWAR

The body of a school girl who had jumped into the Sarayu river here was recovered on Thursday. Class XII student Richa Gadia had jumped into the river on Wednesday morning from the Sarayu bridge near Saman temple in Bageshwar. Her body was found the next day at Seraghat. After it was identified by her uncle, the body was sent to Almora for post mortem by the police.

Richa was a student of the government inter college in Bhatkholra where her widow mother also works as a class IV employee. It is learnt that the girl did not go to school on Wednesday and instead reached the Saman temple wearing her school uniform in a taxi. She then jumped into the river after which the police searched for her till late on Wednesday evening. While the police also started investigating the incident the personnel of the State Disaster Response Force also joined the search operation. On Thursday morning the police found a girl's body at Seraghat. Anand Gadia identified it as that of his niece Richa.

**उत्तराखण्ड पेयजल संसाधन विकास एवं निर्माण निगम**  
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अधोस्तराक्षरी के पत्रांक 2921/निविदा/212 दिनांक 29.09.2022 द्वारा अमृत कार्यक्रम में देहरादून जलापूर्ति की 23 जोन आच्छादन के अन्तर्गत देहरादून नगर के ग्रीन पार्क, जोन सं 28 में शेष रह गये क्षेत्र में पेयजल वितरण प्रणाली विद्यार्थे जाने एवं तत्सम्बन्धी कार्य हेतु राज्य सरकार की वेबसाइट <http://www.uktenders.gov.in> के माध्यम से दिनांक 29.09.2022 से 12.10.2022 तक ई-निविदा (e-tender) आमंत्रित की जा रही है। निविदा की नियम एवं शर्तें उपरोक्त वेबसाइट से निर्धारित तिथि एवं समयान्तर्गत प्राप्त की जा सकती है। अधिशासी अभियंता  
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**सूचना**  
यह कि मेरे व्यवहारी उमेश सिंह पुत्र श्री बचन सिंह रावत द्वारा मुझे खाता सं 650 खसरा नं 10573/1 रकबा 141.26 वर्गमीटर स्थित मौजा बालावाला, जिला देहरादून इसकी पूर्ण स्वामी श्रीमती निजयलक्ष्मी देवी पत्नी श्री ओम प्रकाश से कच की थी तथा श्रीमती निजय लक्ष्मी द्वारा उक्त मुझे श्रीमती महेशी देवी से कच की थी, श्रीमती महेशी देवी द्वारा उक्त मुझे इसकी पूर्ण स्वामी श्रीमती रामेश्वरी शीखायल पत्नी रमो श्री विश्वरत दत्त शीखायल से कच की थी, जिसका पंजीकरण कार्यालय नगर-विद्यार्थे देहरादून में बही नं 1 जिल्द 3518 पृष्ठ 145 से 162 में नं 1338 पर दिनांक 24.02.2011 को विधिवत नगर व पंजीकृत है। उक्त मूल विक्रम पत्र दिनांकित 24.02.2011, जो कि कहीं खो गया जिसकी नगरीय दिनांक 24.09.2022 को खाना गद्दी कट, देहरादून में मेरे व्यवहारी द्वारा दर्ज कराया गया है। उक्त सम्पत्ति पर श्री उमेश सिंह एलओओडीए एडवोकेटले लिंग से ऋण प्राप्त करना चाहते हैं, यदि इस सम्बन्ध में किसी को कोई आपत्ति है तो 7 दिन के अन्दर निम्न पते पर सम्पर्क करें: पता-(मुकुश सिंह राणा) एडवोकेट, कैम्बर नं 50, ब्लॉक-2, डिस्ट्रिक्ट कोर्ट, देहरादून। मो.नं-9997722404

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**NOTIFICATION**  
Applications are invited for the post of Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary of the National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions (NCAHP).  
1. Applicant must be less than 65 years of age as on 01.10.2022.  
2. The last date of receipt of application shall be 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2022.  
3. Detailed advertisement and the application format will be hosted on the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare website at [www.main.mohfw.gov.in](http://www.main.mohfw.gov.in) and may be downloaded.  
4. Duly filled application in the prescribed proforma along with attested copy of all relevant certificates super-scribing on the envelope "Application for the Post of Chairman and Vice-Chairman and the Secretary of the NCAHP" should be sent to the following address:  
**Secretary, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Nirman Bhawan, Maulana Azad Road, New Delhi, 110011,**  
5. Scanned copies of the applications along with all relevant documents must be sent on the email address: [ahssection@gmail.com](mailto:ahssection@gmail.com).  
6. Both the hard copy and online applications are mandatory for consideration of candidature. The scanned online copy will be considered as the final application and must be received by the due date and time at the designated email address. CBC 17102/11/0041/2223

**कार्यालय नगर निगम, देहरादून**  
**अल्पकालीन निविदा सूचना**  
नगर निगम देहरादून वर्ष 2022-23 में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से नगर निगम क्षेत्रान्तर्गत विभिन्न वर्डों में निर्माण कार्य की सीलबन्द निविदा निर्धारित प्रयोजन पर दिनांक- 12.10.22 को 3.00 बजे आमंत्रित की जाती है, जो निविदा समिति के समक्ष खोली जायेगी। निविदा के कार्यों का विवरण एवं शर्तें नगर निगम की वेबसाइट [www.nagamigamdehradun.com](http://www.nagamigamdehradun.com) एवं कार्यालय नगर निगम, देहरादून के सूचना पट्ट एवं अभियन्ता अनुभाग में देखा जा सकता है। निविदा खुलने की तिथि से 120 दिन की अवधि के लिए वैध रहेगी। निविदा फार्म व शर्तें नगर निगम, देहरादून के कार्यालय से दिनांक-10.10.22 से 11.10.22 तक कार्यालय दिवस में अपराह्न 3.30 बजे तक निर्धारित शुल्क जमा कराकर प्राप्त किये जा सकते हैं। निविदा आमन्त्रण की तिथि पर अवकाश होने पर अगली तिथि पर निविदा की जायेगी। रक्षाघन, एफ०डी०आर०/सी०डी०आर० एवं अन्य समकक्ष रूप में शुल्क जमा करने से पूर्व कार्यालय में जमा करानी अनिवार्य होगी। बिना रक्षाघन के निविदा प्रपत्र जारी नहीं किया जायेगा। किसी भी अथवा समस्त निविदाओं को स्वीकार/अस्वीकार करने का अधिकार नगर निगम में निहित है।  
पत्रांक- 475/साओपि/ना/नि/देहरादून/2022-23 नगर आयुक्त  
दिनांक 28.09.2022 नगर निगम, देहरादून

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**ICICI Bank** Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, 3rd Floor, Plot No- 23, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi- 110005  
The following borrower(s) have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). A notice was issued to them under Section 13 (2) of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002 on their last known addresses, however it was not served and hence they are hereby notified by way of this public notice.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address	Property Address of Secured Asset to be Enforced	Date of Notice Sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date
1.	Deepak Kumar/ Rajuli Devi/ No 45 A, Ground Floor, IP Colony, Faridabad, Haryana- 121003/ LBJA/00004280140/	Flat No S206 To S210, 2nd Floor, Pink Pride, Village Jaishnghpura Bass Bhankrota, Tehsil Sangarner, Jaipur, Rajasthan, Jaipur- 303902	July 5, 2022/ Rs. 48,17,987/-	05/04/2022

The steps are being taken for substituted service of notice. The above borrower(s) and/or their guarantors (as applicable) are advised to make the payments of outstanding within period of 60 days from the date of publication of this notice else further steps will be taken as per the provisions of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.  
Date : September 30, 2022 Place : Champawat Authorized Officer ICICI Bank Limited

**NORTHERN RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE**  
No. M-1-AMC-Crane-MB-22 Dated: 26.09.2022  
Sr. DME/C&W/MB acting for and on behalf of the President of India invites e-tender against Tender No. M-1-AMC-Crane-MB-22, closing date & time 21.10.2022 up to 15.00 hrs and will be opened on the same day at 15.30 hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their bids upto closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Information regarding this tender is available on website [www.treps.gov.in](http://www.treps.gov.in) on internet & can be seen/download. The tenderers/bidders will have to make payment towards Tender document cost and Earnest Money against this tender through online payment mode like Net Banking, Debit/ Credit cards etc. available on IREPS portal. Manual/ offline mode of payment through Demand Draft, Banker's cheque, Cash Deposit receipts etc. are not permitted.

Name of work	Tender Type	Tender closing Date & Time	Advertised Value	Bidding Style	Earnest Money	Tender Doc. Cost	Bidding start date	Property Address of Secured Asset to be Enforced	Date of Notice Sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date
"Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract of Main Engine No. NTA 855 L (BC) of Gottwald 140 T Diesel Hydraulic Breakdown Crane No. 144014 (New Design) with ART/Moradabad for three years"	Single	21.10.2022 15.00 hrs	Rs. 10,33,404.01 (Inclusive of all taxes and charges excluding GST)	Single rate for each schedule item	Rs. 20,700/-	Rs. 2,000.00	07.10.2022	Flat No S206 To S210, 2nd Floor, Pink Pride, Village Jaishnghpura Bass Bhankrota, Tehsil Sangarner, Jaipur, Rajasthan, Jaipur- 303902	July 5, 2022/ Rs. 48,17,987/-	05/04/2022

Authorized Officer ICICI Bank Limited

# Develop effective registration system in hospitals to prevent long queues: Dhami

## Tells Health Dept to remain prepared to meet the challenge of dengue, viral fever & malaria in post monsoon period

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami has said that an effective mechanism for registration should be set in place in the government hospitals so that patients do not have to undergo the ordeal of standing in long queues.

The CM chaired a review meeting of the officers of the medical education and health department at the State secretariat on Thursday. He said that a system of online and token should be developed and the helpline number 104 should be widely publicised so that the patients can avail the benefit of telemedicine. The CM said that the officers and the public representatives should be encouraged to adopt the TB patients under the campaign to free Uttarakhand from TB. He suggested that for monitoring the Aysun cards, golden cards and cards issued by the labour department should be brought on one platform.

He directed that the health department should undertake an awareness campaign to ensure that information about different schemes of union and State government in the health sector reaches out to the masses. Stressing on the need for taking innovative measures for improving health services in the mountainous areas, the CM said that doctors should be encouraged to work in remote areas. He said that every pos-



sible effort should be done to provide better health facilities to the people at block and Tehsil level. On a stern note the CM directed the officers to ensure proper sanitation and availability of quality food in the hospitals.

He said that diseases like dengue, viral fever and malaria are more prevalent during the period after the monsoon and to meet the challenges posed by them necessary arrangements should be made in the hospitals. Dhami said that regular fogging should be undertaken in the municipal corporations and municipalities and special

vigil should be maintained in view of the festival season.

He said that a stern stance should be adopted against the work execution agencies which are responsible for delay in completion of construction works. He said that delay in construction escalates the project cost so the responsibility of the officers should be fixed. Dhami said that a concrete planning is needed to make Uttarakhand a drugs free State by the year 2025 and directed that a monthly meeting in this regard should be taken by the health minister.

The Health minister Dhan

Singh Rawat said that a uniform system of charging registration fee should be adopted in all the government hospitals. He suggested that best practices of other states should be kept in mind while making plans to improve the health services.

The additional chief secretary Radha Raturi, Health secretary R Rajesh Kumar, additional secretary Arunendra Chauhan, director general (in-charge) of Health Services Dr Vinita Shah, principal of Government Doon Medical College (GDMC) Dr Ashutosh Sayana and others were present on the occasion.

# U'khand to give 50 % extra salary in Govt medical colleges located in mountains

Step aimed at attracting specialist doctors to work in these medical colleges suffering from faculty shortage

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

In a major decision aimed at removing the problem of shortage of faculty, the Uttarakhand government has decided to provide 50 per cent extra salary to faculty members in the government medical colleges located in the mountainous areas of the State. The faculty members of Government Medical Colleges in Srinagar, Almora and Pithoragarh would get this benefit of enhanced salary.

The proposal, a brainchild of the Health minister Dhan Singh Rawat has received the acceptance of the State cabinet and soon the government order (GO) for this would be issued. This allowance which would be 50 per cent of their salary would be given under the Medical Teachers Deficiency Compensatory Scheme (MTDCS). This would replace the existing difficult hill area allowance which is 20 per cent of the salary. For MTDCS, a corpus would be created in the

college concerned and the principal of the college would operate this corpus. This allowance would be payable to both the regular and contractual faculty members.

Rawat said that the medical colleges located in the mountainous areas of the State were facing the problem of shortage of faculty members for a long time. He said that the new initiative has been taken with an objective of resolving this problem. He said that students of the medical colleges would get the benefit of the initiative.

It is pertinent to mention here that a large number of posts of professor, associate professor and assistant professor are vacant in the government medical colleges located in the mountainous areas of the state. It is generally observed that most of the specialist doctors do not join their duties in these medical colleges after selection.

# USCW to propose measures for women safety in workplaces

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

In wake of the recent murder of a 19-year-old female Ankit Bhandari who worked as a receptionist at Vanantara resort in Pauri district, the Uttarakhand State Commission for Women (USCW) is planning to prepare a proposal to send it to the State government to ensure the safety of women in workplaces. The member secretary of the commission Kamini Gupta told The Pioneer that USCW has interacted with officials concerned of various departments regarding the safety of women working in various sectors and industries across the State. She said that the commission will hold a meeting with district and State level officials concerned in October to discuss the women safety issue and what can be done to address it. The commission has already interacted with the Tourism department regarding the safety and wellbeing of the women working in the tourism industry and has asked them to conduct verifi-

cation of each person working in hotels, restaurants and homestays among others, said Gupta. She further stated that the commission will include the issue of safety of women in education institutions and hostels in the proposal too as the commission has observed safety irregularities in several of such places in some districts. "Suggestions and recommendations of the officials and experts concerned given in the meeting will be analysed and subsequently added to the proposal. The commission will send the proposal to the State government to consider it to issue guidelines for women's safety in workplaces in Uttarakhand as soon as possible," said Gupta. The women commission has also formed a special committee which will keep the commission apprised of the investigation in the Ankit Bhandari murder case and assist in analysing the progress of the case.

# Hooch case accused arrested a day after Panchayat poll win

PNS ■ HARIDWAR

A day after she was elected the Gram Pradhan by a margin of one vote, one of the accused in the Pathri hooch incident which resulted in the death of 12 persons, Babli Devi was arrested by Haridwar police on Thursday. The police will be presenting her in the court.

It will be recalled that on September 9, the hooch incident in Pathri police station area came to light in which a total of 12 persons died in Phulgarh village and neigh-

bouring areas. While

Babli's husband Bijendra is the main accused in the case for supplying the spurious liquor which resulted in the deaths, she along with his brother Naresh were also accused in the case. Bijendra had been arrested earlier by the police while Babli was arrested on Thursday whereas Naresh is still absconding.

Patthri police station officer Pawan Dimri said that



Babli Devi had been arrested and would be produced in the court while efforts are underway to nab absconder Naresh. Earlier, during the counting of votes Babli won over her rival candidate Swati. Babli got 855 votes while Swati got 848 votes but Swati appealed for re-counting. When the administration got the re-counting done Babli got 859 votes while her rival Swati got 858 votes making the accused the winner by a margin of one vote.



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Don't miss your chance to bid on the many mementos presented to our Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi



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11:00 AM - 6:00 PM

The proceeds of the auction will be utilised for the 'Namami Gange' project

उत्तराखण्ड सरकार

महिला कल्याण विभाग

रेखा आर्या  
मा. कैबिनेट मंत्री  
महिला सशक्तिकरण एवं बाल विकास विभाग

मुख्य अतिथि

# मुख्यमंत्री वात्सल्य योजना

(कोविड - 19 से प्रभावित बच्चों हेतु)

मा. मुख्यमंत्री जी के कर कमलों द्वारा लगभग 5 हजार लाभार्थी बच्चों को, अगस्त - सितम्बर, 2022 की सहायता राशि ₹3 करोड़ की धनराशि (₹ 3 हजार प्रति माह की दर से), PFMS के माध्यम से डिजिटल हस्तांतरण

महिला कल्याण विभाग, उत्तराखण्ड

दिनांक : शुक्रवार, 30 सितम्बर, 2022 (आश्विन मास शुक्ल पक्ष पंचमी तिथि विक्रम संवत् 2079)

स्थान : मुख्य सेवक सदन, मुख्यमंत्री कैम्प कार्यालय, देहरादून

Child Help Line no. 1098 | Women's Help Line no. 181 | website: [www.wecd.uk.gov.in](http://www.wecd.uk.gov.in)

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# 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

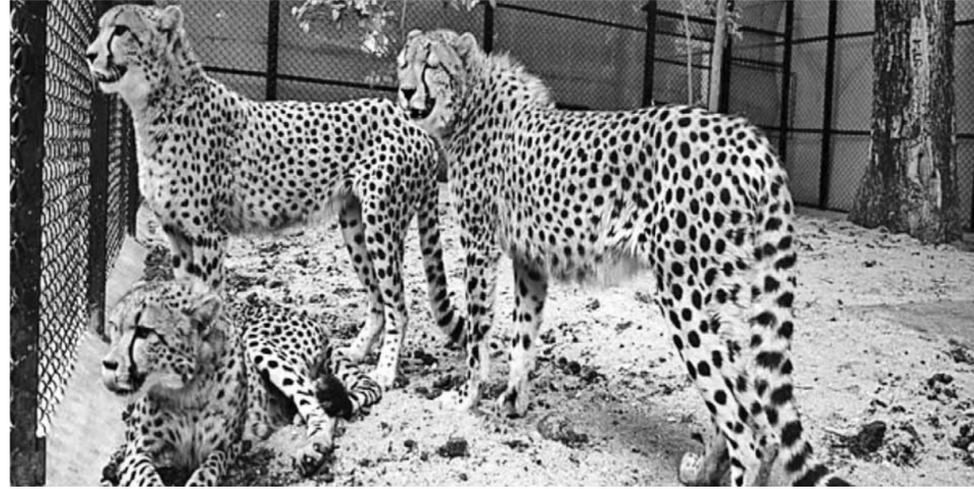
# The key to wild life conservation



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 K 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

## SOUNDBITE

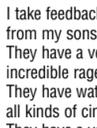
We have, we have never thought that it was an easy process. But we do believe that the need for reform cannot be denied forever."



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

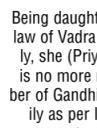


I take feedback from my sons a lot. They have a very incredible rage. They have watched all kinds of cinema. They have a very refined perspective. And think, that is the perspective we need.

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

## 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 suomot 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.

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 20000 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 JI 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.

The Opposition dreams



KALYANI SHANKAR

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 con-

quer 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.

(The author is a senior journalist)

# 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 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.

It 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 Kharsa 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.indiabullscorporatecredit.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

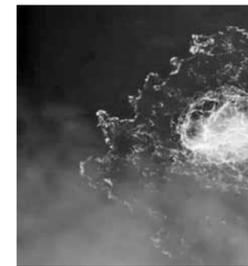
prison." Protesters carrying Georgian and Ukrainian flags and signs like "Russia Kills" greeted Russians at the border Wednesday. Giga Lemonjva of the political party Droa, which organized the protest, said the evacuees threaten Georgia's security and economy.

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-countries 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

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.

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.

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.

# 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.

According to his indictment, Zhang took advantage of

# 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 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."

## PUBLIC NOTICE

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 owners. 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)  
Dated: 30 Sep, 2022

## 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 क्र. 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

पत्रक्र- 1357 / संसोध (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://www.uktenders.gov.in) पर पुनः अल्यकालीन (7 दिवसीय) ई-निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा से सम्बन्धित सभी सूचना [www.uktenders.gov.in](http://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](http://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-Sarhal, Chakrapur, Sitohra, Kathi, Sakra, Tehsil-Wazirabad, Distt. Gurugram, Haryana the said property by virtue of Sale deed dated 11.12.2020, registration No. 5599, executed by Mrs. Shilpa Sachdeva for self and attorney of Mr. Kunal Bhatia & Mrs. Shilpa Sharma and P. 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.

Kumar & Associates (Advocates & Consultants) 200, First Floor, 23, Shivaji Marg, Mot Nagar, N. Delhi-15 Ph: 011-4112527-28 kumarassociatesadvocates@gmail.com

## 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 Khasra 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.

Kumar & Associates (Advocates & Consultants) 200, First Floor, 23, Shivaji Marg, Mot Nagar, N. Delhi-15 Ph: 011-4112527-28 kumarassociatesadvocates@gmail.com

## STATE INFRASTRUCTURE & INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF UTTARAKHAND LTD.

29, IIE, IT PARK SAHASTRADHARA ROAD, DEHRADUN - 248001  
Ph No. 0135-2207292, 2708100, 2600097 Fax No. 0135-2708109 Web site: www.sildcul.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 20<sup>th</sup> 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.sildcul.com](http://www.sildcul.com). In future all corrigendum will be published on same website [www.sildcul.com](http://www.sildcul.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 movable 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](http://www.indiabullshomeloans.com); For bidding, log on to [www.auctionfocus.in](http://www.auctionfocus.in).

Date : 27.09.2022  
Place : GURUGRAM

Authorized Officer  
INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

# India 'star' emerging market economy: S&P

'Estimated 7.3% growth in FY-2023'

PTI ■ NEW DELHI  
S&P Global Ratings said rising rates and increased



European energy insecurity are hitting growth in almost every country, but India with an estimated 7.3 per cent growth this fiscal, would be the 'star' among emerging market economies.

In a report, S&P said global macro performance over the next few quarters points towards growth slowdown with tightening financial conditions amid rate hikes by central banks. Most leading and sentiment indicators are pointing toward slower growth as well.

Growth eased in the second quarter across emerging markets as inflation reduced real household income, business confidence deteriorated, and the external environment became more complicated, it said.

Emerging-market central banks have been ahead of their advanced-country counterparts in hiking policy rates, and in Latin America they are now near the end of their tightening cycles.

Elsewhere, core inflation continues to rise, suggesting there is more work to do. Large recent hikes by the US Federal Reserve are exacerbating balance-of-payment strains across emerg-

ing markets.

"For the 16 emerging economies that we cover, excluding China, 2022 GDP growth will hit 5.2 per cent this year, in our view. This forecast is up 30 basis points from our previous round. India is the star of this group with growth of 7.3 per cent this fiscal year (ending in March 2023)," S&P said. The US-based agency said as central banks aggressively raise rates to fight inflation, our confidence is waning that they can avoid generating a sharp downturn.

"We are now expecting a mild recession in the US," it said, adding that rising rates, increased European energy insecurity, and the lingering effects of Covid-19 are hitting growth almost everywhere.

"This may be the most anticipated economic slowdown on record, but the data have yet to fully fall in line," S&P said.

## Current account deficit widens to 2.8% of GDP in Q1 of FY23



PTI ■ MUMBAI

India's current account deficit, a key indicator of the balance of payment position, widened to 2.8 per cent of GDP at USD 23.9 billion in the first quarter of the current financial year, mainly on account of a higher trade deficit.

As per the data released by the Reserve Bank of India's Balance of Payments during the First Quarter (April-June) of 2022-23, the current account balance recorded a deficit of USD 23.9 billion (2.8 per cent of GDP) in the first quarter, up from USD 13.4 billion (1.5 per cent of GDP) in January-March

period of the last fiscal. India's current account surplus stood at USD 6.6 billion, equivalent to 0.9 per cent of GDP in the first quarter (April-June) of 2021-22.

"Underlying the current account deficit in Q1:2022-23 was the widening of the merchandise trade deficit to USD 68.6 billion from USD 54.5 billion in Q4:2021-22 and an increase in net outflow of investment income payments," the RBI said.

It also said net services receipts increased, both sequentially and on a year-on-year (y-o-y) basis, on the back of rising exports of computer and business services.

## Govt lowers borrowing target for FY-2023

To borrow just ₹5.92 lakh crore in second half

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

A day after doling out Rs 44,762 crore for free ration to the poor, the Government on Thursday cut its market borrowing target for the current fiscal by Rs 10,000 crore in signs of buoyant tax collections.

In a statement, the finance ministry said the government will do total borrowing of Rs 5.92 lakh crore during October-March period of the current fiscal, including from issuance of its maiden Sovereign Green Bonds of Rs 16,000 crore.

The government had in Budget for 2022-23 projected a gross market borrowing of Rs 14.31 lakh crore.

Of this, the government decided to borrow Rs 14.21 lakh crore during 2022-23.



"Accordingly, the balance amount of Rs 5.92 lakh crore (41.7 per cent of Rs 14.21 lakh crore) is planned to be borrowed in the second half of the fiscal year 2022-23 through dated securities, including Rs 16,000 crore through issuance of Sovereign Green Bonds (SGrBs) as per the announcement made in the Union Budget 2022-23," it said.

The government will continue to exercise greenshoe option to

retain an additional subscription of up to Rs 2,000 crore against each of the securities indicated in the auction notification.

The amount raised through this option will be limited to 3 to 5 per cent of the gross issuance for second half and within the gross borrowing limit for the 2022-23. The gross direct tax collections till September 17 grew 30 per cent to over Rs 8.36 lakh crore.

## Sensex slips for 7th day amid F&O expiry

RBI policy in focus

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Benchmark indices failed to hold on to early gains and closed in the red for the seventh straight session on Thursday, with participants remaining in wait-and-watch mode ahead of the RBI's interest rate decision.

Unabated selling by foreign funds added to the pressure, though a modest recovery in the rupee cushioned the fall, traders said.

After rallying in early trade, the 30-share BSE Sensex came under selling pressure in the afternoon session and closed 188.32 points or 0.33 per cent lower at 56,409.96.

Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty dipped 40.50 points or 0.24 per cent to end at 16,818.10.

Asian Paints was the biggest laggard in the Sensex pack, tumbling 5.22 per cent, followed by Tech Mahindra, Titan, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Bajaj Finance, TCS, Wipro and Bajaj Finserv.

In contrast, ITC, Dr Reddy's, Tata Steel, Sun Pharma, Nestle India, M&M and NTPC were among the major winners, climbing as much as 2.51 per cent.

The Reserve Bank of India



(RBI) may take cues from its global counterparts, including the US Federal Reserve, to raise interest rate for the fourth time in a row on Friday to tame stubborn inflation.

The RBI, which has since May raised the short-term lending rate (repo) by 140 basis points (bps), may again go for a 50-bps increase to take it to a three-year high of 5.9 per cent, say experts.

"The initial uptick in the domestic market was short-lived due to its weak global peers and declining rupee. As the yield differential between India and the US fell to a multi-year low of 348 bps, foreign investors are still departing from the Indian market."

"Amid the ongoing global trend of aggressive rate hikes, markets are braced for a 50 bps increase by RBI.

## 'Retirement planning not topmost priority for urban India'

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Retirement planning is not the topmost priority for urban India but they worry that savings will not be enough to cover for old age life, with only one in three actively working to meet retirement goals, according to a study.

Max Life Insurance in partnership with marketing data firm Kantar conducted a survey to assess the urban salaried class' readiness for content and financially independent retired life. About 90 per cent of people above the age of 50 years in the survey regretted not starting early enough in life to save for retired life.

In its second edition, the survey finds the India Retirement Index Study (IRIS) remaining at 44, pointing there is a lag in preparedness over the last one year among the urban salaried class for retired life planning. Conducted through a self-administered digital manner, the survey involved 3,220 male as well as female respondents across 28 cities, of which 6 were metro cities and 12 tier I and 12 tier II cities.

Life expectancy is consistently rising over the years.

"The objective here is to create a barometer or mirror through which we can keep observing how we are making progress. I think there are several questions when you start to consider about retirement," Prashant Tripathy, Managing Director and CEO, Max Life Insurance said.

## Gold gains ₹460; silver rallies by ₹1,035



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Gold rose by Rs 460 to Rs 49,960 per 10 gram in the national capital on Thursday amid a rally in prices of the precious metal in international market, according to HDFC Securities.

In the previous trade, the yellow metal settled at Rs 49,500 per 10 gram.

Silver also rallied by Rs 1,035 to Rs 56,230 per kg.

"In the physical market of Delhi, Gold prices traded higher in the morning trade after spot COMEX Gold witnessed a rally in US trading sessions," said Dilip Parmar, Research Analyst at HDFC Securities.

In the international market, gold was trading higher at USD 1,642 per ounce while silver was up at USD 18.57 per ounce.

## Flyers to get 5G services at IGIA

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Indira Gandhi International Airport in Delhi is ready to support 5G services and passengers will be able to utilise the high-speed mobile service inside Terminal-3 (T-3) and its surrounding areas as soon as it is rolled out.

Flyers having a 5G-enabled mobile phone and sim card can experience a better signal strength, seamless connectivity, negligible latency, and faster data speed at the Domestic Departure pier and International Arrival Baggage area at Terminal 3, and between T3 Arrivals and Multi-Level Car Parking (MLCP).

According to the GMR group, passengers can avail these services once 5G is rolled out in the country. Apart from these, people visiting GMR Aerocity Delhi can also get a feel of the 5G network at GMR Square.

"The 5G network offers a faster speed and lower latency. At the airport, this feature of the next-generation mobile technology will help improve



connection density and will also lead to greater efficiencies and aid in faster decision-making," Videh Kumar Jaipuria, CEO at DIAL in a statement.

Wi-Fi relies on the unlicensed spectrum which is free for anyone to use, as per the Delhi International Airport Ltd (DIAL). With the rise in passenger footfall, the airports have witnessed a rise in demand for more bandwidth and faster speed for using gadgets like smartphones and laptops, among others.

Airlines and other airport stakeholders are also seeking fast, seamless and secure connectivity for their essential technologies to meet the demand, DIAL said, adding with 5G network passengers will be able to enjoy a 20 times faster data speed over the available Wi-Fi system, it said.

## Rupee rises 13 paise to close at 81.80 against US dollar

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The rupee consolidated in a narrow range and settled 13 paise higher at 81.80 against US dollar on Thursday, ahead of the RBI monetary policy decision scheduled to come out on Friday.

At the interbank forex market, the local unit opened at 81.60 against the greenback. It witnessed an intra-day high of 81.58 and a low of 81.94 during the session.

It finally ended at 81.80, up 13 paise from its previous close.

On Wednesday, the rupee plunged below the 82-mark for the first time in intraday trade before settling 40 paise down at 81.93 against the dollar.

"In the last hour of trade, the Indian rupee strengthened along with the Chinese Yuan which appreciated after a report of China state bank may stock up for Yuan intervention. However, the month-end rebalancing, foreign fund outflows and dollar demand from the importers limited the gains in



the rupee," said Dilip Parmar, Research Analyst, HDFC Securities.

Traders remained cautious ahead of the RBI's monetary policy decision.

"In the near-term, spot USD-INR is having resistance near 82.40 and support at 81.30. A recent, parabolic up move in USD-INR in the last seven days warrants some retracement in the coming days but the directional trend remains up as long as it trades above 80.10," Parmar added.

The dollar index, which measures the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, rose 0.55 per cent to 113.22.

## 'Merger between LIC Mutual Fund, IDBI MF at an advanced stage'

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Merger between LIC Mutual Fund and IDBI Mutual Fund is at a "fairly advanced stage", a top official said on Thursday.

"The process is on, it is at a fairly advanced stage," LIC MF's managing director and chief executive T S Ramakrishnan told reporters, when asked about reports of the merger.

Recent media reports have said that LIC Mutual Fund plans to absorb IDBI Mutual Fund following a regulatory diktat barring a single promoter from owning more than 10 per cent stake in two asset management companies. IDBI Bank, the parent of IDBI MF, is majority owned by LIC for the last few years.

Ramakrishnan added that as and when LIC MF, the 22nd largest MF in the country with over Rs 18,000 crore in assets under management, is in a firm comment on the merger process, it will inform everybody.



According to reports, there were two attempts to sell IDBI Mutual Fund that could not be successful, and it resulted in the merger with a company owned by the same parent.

Meanwhile, Ramakrishnan said the fund house is targeting to be among the top 10 by AUM (Assets Under Management) in the next five years, and will be taking specific steps like pushing its distribution efforts and investing in the brand.

It is aiming to increase the share of equity investments to the industry average of 45 per cent of the AUM by FY24 from the present level which is about 12-13 per cent lower, Ramakrishnan said.

The fund house will play to its core strength of reach in the tier-II and tier-III cities which present the biggest opportunity of growth for the industry, he said, adding that focus on high net-worth individuals will also continue.

## Adani Enterprises' subsidiaries secure ₹10 K cr fund for Ganga Expressway Project in UP

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Adani Enterprises Ltd on Thursday said its three wholly-owned subsidiaries have achieved financial closure for the access-controlled six-lane greenfield Ganga Expressway Project in Uttar Pradesh under public-private partnership mode.

The company in a statement said it has secured finances of Rs 10,238 crore from lenders, and the concession period of the project shall be 30 years with traffic link extension provision of six years, including three years of construction period.

"Budaun Hardoi Road Private Ltd (BHRPL), Hardoi Unnao Road Private Ltd (HURPL) and Unnao Prayagraj Road Private Ltd (UPRPL) — wholly-owned subsidiaries of Adani Enterprises Ltd (AEL) — have achieved financial closure for the access-controlled six-lane (expandable to eight lane) greenfield Ganga Expressway Project (Group-II, III & IV) in Uttar Pradesh (UP) respectively on DBFOT (toll) basis under PPP mode," it said.

The Ganga Expressway in Uttar Pradesh, which will connect Meerut with Prayagraj, will be India's longest express-

way to be implemented on Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) model.

Adani Enterprises' road business CEO K P Maheshwari said the State Bank of India has underwritten the entire debt requirement of Rs 10,238 crore for the project.

AEL's road portfolio has grown to 18 projects with more than 6,400 lane kilometres and an asset value exceeding Rs 44,000 crore spread over ten states — Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Kerala, Gujarat, West Bengal and Odisha.

## Ford India loss widens to ₹4,229 cr in FY-22

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Indian arm of US car-maker Ford, which had last year decided to exit from the country, saw widening of its loss after tax to Rs 4,229 crore in fiscal 2021-22, according to data provided by business intelligence platform Tofler.

Ford India Pvt Ltd had posted a loss after tax of Rs 188 crore in 2020-21.

The widening of loss was



primarily driven by restructuring and included exceptional items outflow of Rs 4,226 crore. Revenue from operations in FY22 stood at Rs 10,202 crore as against Rs

12,057 crore in FY21, down 15 per cent. The total revenue from operations included domestic sale of Rs 2,399 crore, which was 49 per cent lower than the prior year's figure of Rs 4,742 crore, as per regulatory filings by Ford India Pvt Ltd.

"Financial performance for the current year is largely impacted by restructuring decision announced in September 2021. The decision resulted in

exit from vehicle and engine manufacturing operations at Chennai and vehicle manufacturing operations at Sanand," the company said.

In terms of volume, Ford India sold 69,223 cars during 2021-22 as compared to 94,112 cars in the prior financial year, down 26 per cent. This included domestic sales of 15,870 cars, as compared to 48,042 units in the previous year, down 67 per cent.

## TVS Motor signs MoU with FCDO to offer scholarships to aspiring individuals

PTI ■ CHENNAI

Two and three-wheeler major TVS Motor Company has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office to offer Chevening TVS Motor Company Scholarships to candidates who show great potential to become decision-makers,

the company said on Thursday.

The Chevening Programme, is a scholarship programme that aims to attract select students around the world who demonstrate great potential to become leaders, decision-makers in their own country. The United Kingdom government's global scholarship programme is awarded to those individuals with strong



academic backgrounds who can also demonstrate their leadership potential, a company statement said here.

"At TVS Motor Company it has been our endeavour to create future leaders and sup-

port them in their journey. Our collaboration with FCDO and the Government of United Kingdom is a testimony to this commitment," TVS Motor Company MD, Sudarshan Venu said. "This partnership is an unique opportunity for the talented and dynamic minds in the country and we are excited to be a part of their growth," he said.

# Qatar says WC fans do not need Covid vaccination



AP ■ DOHA

Coronavirus vaccinations will not be mandatory for the million-plus fans going to the World Cup in Qatar this year, the Gulf state said Thursday. But players and match officials may be forced into a secure "bio-bubble" if Covid-19 cases take off again, with the threat of expulsion from the tournament for those who breach the secure environment, the health ministry said. The 29-day tournament will be the first major global sporting event with fans since the eruption in December 2019 of the Covid pandemic, which has since killed more than six million people. Qatari organisers, who have predicted that more than one million people will pack Doha for the matches, and football's governing body, FIFA, have said they want the event to be a sign the world is getting over the devastating pandemic. But Qatar's health ministry warned in its World Cup guidelines that special measures would be ordered "in the event of a worsening pandemic situation in the country", such as the emergence of a threatening new variant. With Covid-19 currently considered under control, "there will be no vaccination requirement for participants and visit-

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

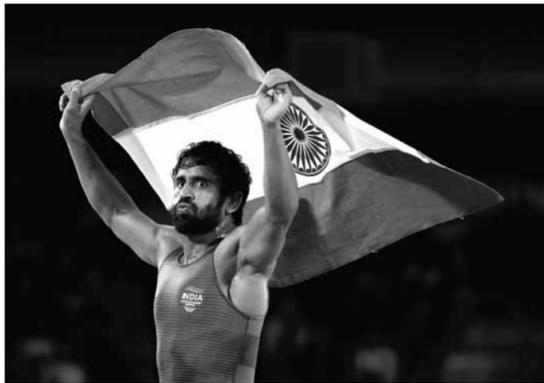
PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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.

# 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.



## 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.

# 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 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 com-

pounded 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 pressure on his back during loading. Former West Indies pace bowler Michael Holding had assessed that Bumrah was always a candidate for back injuries.



**NAND LAL SHARMA**  
Chairman & Managing Director

- Highest portfolio addition since incorporation of the company.
- 68 Projects aggregating 41,028 MW spread across 11 states and 3 countries of Indian sub-continent.
- Project development activities have scaled to an all-time high during the previous year.

“ Shared Vision has been upgraded ”

50000 MW by 2040

25000 MW by 2030

5000 MW by 2023



## The Power of Progress



### CHAIRMAN'S LETTER TO THE SHAREHOLDERS

Dear Shareholders,

I am delighted to welcome you to 34th Annual General Meeting of your company. It is my privilege to present the Annual Report which gives an insight into exemplary performances for the financial year 2021-22.

On completion of yet another outstanding year, the Audited Financial Statements of the company along with the Reports of the Auditors and Directors for the year 2021-22 are presented for your approval. Also, I take this opportunity to share with you the company's performance, position and future prospects.

#### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR 2021-22

Economies around the world that were still weathering the setbacks of global pandemic, have once again been, severely impacted by the ongoing Russia-Ukraine War. However, with your unstinted support and the efforts of the employees with strategic intent to ensure sustained growth, your company managed to deliver steady performance. Emerging from the recent turbulent times, our projects are back on track and we are taking extraordinary measures to re-coup the progress that was adversely impacted in last two years.

#### OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE

It gives me great pride to share with our shareholders that during financial year 2021-22, we have maintained the outstanding performance from our Power Stations. Surpassing the total Design Energy of 8705 Million Units, our Power Stations generated 9208 Million Units of energy.

I am also glad to inform that your company has earned ₹43 crores as Incentive under Deviation Settlement Mechanism (DSM) from Nathpa Jhakri & Rampur Hydro Power Stations in the financial year 2021-22. This incentive earning is in addition to the revenue earned from power generation.

Company's flagship power stations, namely NJHPS & RHPS achieved the Highest Ever Monthly Generation of 1217 MU and 336 MU respectively in July, 2021 pushing the Company's aggregate Monthly Generation to a Record High of 1580 MU during the same month.

NJHPS also achieved Highest Ever Daily Generation of 39,493 MU on 16th August 2021.

Continuing the record-breaking spree, the Company's Power Stations achieved the Highest Ever Quarterly Generation of 4404 MU and 1480 MU during two consecutive Quarters i.e. Second and Third Quarter of FY 2021-22 respectively. Incidentally, Generation Record of 4404 MU during Q2 of FY 2021-22 is also the Highest Ever Quarterly Generation during any Quarter since inception of the Company.

In another significant achievement, NJHPS has secured Information Security Management System - ISMS 27001:2013 Certification for best Information Technology & Operational Technology Systems.

#### FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

During the financial year 2021-22, mainly due to reduction in Late Payment Surcharge (LPS) from beneficiaries and increased costs due to increase in debt, the standalone revenue from operation decreased marginally by ₹68.87 crore to ₹2421.96 crore compared to ₹2490.83 crore during previous year. The standalone Profit After Tax decreased by ₹655.52 crore to ₹977.52 crore against ₹1633.04 crore for the previous year.

An Interim dividend of ₹1.15 per share was paid in the month of February 2022. In addition, your Board has recommended a Final dividend of ₹0.55 per share. Thus, subject to your approval, a Total dividend of ₹1.70 per share is proposed to be paid for financial year 2021-22.

With the exponential increase in CAPEX and project development activities, the profits are expected to remain subdued for next few years. However, I would like to re-assure our shareholders that their funds are being invested prudently, productively and profitably into company's business.

#### BUSINESS EXPANSION

24th May 2018, 31st Raising Day of the company was the day SJVN's Shared Vision of 5000 MW by 2023, 12000 MW by 2025 & 25000 MW installed capacity by 2040 was formulated and set out. This Shared Vision gave focus and right direction to our endeavors. The results were visible within four years as there has been exponential growth in portfolio of the company. The growing portfolio further motivated the Management and on 26th January 2022, Shared Vision has been upgraded to 50000 MW by 2023, 25000 MW by 2030 & 50000 MW by 2040.

During the financial year 2021-22 and first quarter of the financial year 2022-23, 4237 MW has been added to the portfolio of the company. This is highest capacity addition since incorporation of the company thirty-four years ago.

I have always been advocating the concept of 'One Basin, One Developer' for integrated River Basin Development for optimum utilization of resources and reduction of generation costs. Our persistent efforts have gained acceptance and acknowledgement. Government of Himachal Pradesh has allocated six hydro projects on Chenab basin to your company. Similarly in Arun River Basin in Nepal, in addition to Arun-3, SJVN got 689 MW Lower Arun Hydro Electric Project and 490 MW Arun-4 Hydro Electric Project. This development also has a strategic significance in strengthening diplomatic and bilateral relations between India and Nepal. With the invaluable guidance and support of Ministry of Power, SJVN is major contributor in achieving India-Nepal Joint Vision on Power Sector Co-operation.

In another significant development, your company has obtained Category-I Trading License for interstate trading of electricity across entire Country in January 2022.

SJVN has also re-engineered its Business Model in sync with the commitment of Hon'ble Prime Minister

Sh. Narendra Modi of 50% energy from non-fossil fuel-based energy resources by 2030. As a step forward to achieve this vision and catalyze the future growth of the company, a fully owned subsidiary company SJVN Green Energy Limited has been incorporated in March 2022.

The project portfolio of the company has expanded rapidly to the present level of 55 Projects aggregating 31,905 MW spread across 13 states and 3 countries of Indian sub-continent. Out of these, 7 Projects including 6 Generation Projects of 2016.5 MW and 1 Transmission Line Project of 86 km are Operational, 13 Projects including 11 Generation Projects of 4428 MW and 2 Transmission Line Project totalling 254 km are under Construction, 11 Projects of 1878 MW are under Investment approval & Pre-Construction Stage and 12 Projects of 4538 MW are in Survey & Investigation Stage.

Ministry of Power has identified five hydro projects of 5097 MW capacity in Dibang Basin of Arunachal Pradesh for allocation to SJVN. Also, 10 Pumped Storage Projects having an estimated capacity of 13,950 MW and spread across four states have been identified for allocation by the Ministry.

#### PROJECT EXECUTION

It gives me great satisfaction to share that displaying remarkable perseverance, our projects have been consistently performing well and their progress is either on track or has surpassed the set targets. The project development activities have scaled to an all-time high during the previous year.

The detailed status and progress of the Power Stations and Projects have been amply covered in the Directors' Report. Hence, I would only like to highlight some noteworthy accomplishments.

In 2021-22, we were given the mammoth CAPEX target of ₹5000 crores, almost double of what it was last year. This was the test of our determination and as always, your company rose to the challenge. 90% of this CAPEX target was achieved by December 2021. Your Company emerged as one of the two Power CPSUs & the only hydro CPSU to achieve this target fixed by Government of India. By the end of March 2022, we managed to clock CAPEX of ₹5259.39 crore and surpassed the assigned target.

Foundation stone of 210 MW Luhri Stage-1 Hydro Electric Project & 66 MW Dhaulasidh Hydro Electric Project and the Ground-Breaking Ceremony for 382 MW Sunni Dam Hydro Electric Project were done by Hon'ble Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi on 27th December 2021. At one point of time, these projects were considered unviable. It is testimony of our persistence and hard work that these projects have seen the light of the day.

Electro-Mechanical works of Luhri Stage-1 Hydro Electric Project have been awarded in July, 2021. Similarly, EPC package for Civil and Hydro-Mechanical works of 66 MW Dhaulasidh Hydro Electric Project has been awarded in May, 2021. The construction activities in 60 MW Naitwar Mori Hydro electric Project are ongoing at war footing pace and the project will be commissioned in the current financial year.

Financial closures of Luhri Hydro Electric Project Stage-1, Parasran Solar Power Project, Bagodara Solar Power Project and Dhaulasidh Hydro Electric Project have been achieved in 2021-22. Work for construction of 75 MW Solar Power Project at Parasran, Uttar Pradesh has been awarded in August, 2021.

Investment approval for pre-construction activities of Lower Arun Hydro Electric Project has been accorded by Ministry of Power in March, 2022 and DPR has been approved by Investment Board of Nepal in April, 2022.

SJVN is re-writing the rules of the game by focusing on the completion of its projects without time & cost overruns. Riding on the strength of the dedicated team, we aspire to set the benchmark by completing the projects within scheduled timelines. We are cruising ahead and demonstrating our mettle & competitive edge in the domestic and international markets amongst toughest of the competitors.

#### OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

As a part of its long-term Corporate Strategy, SJVN has entered into series of MOUs with various Government and Non-Governmental agencies during the financial year 2021-22.

Your company is enthusiastically participating in Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebration, an initiative of the Government of India to commemorate 75 years of progressive India. This Mahotsav is dedicated to the people of India who have the potential to enable Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi's vision of activating India 2.0, fuelled by the spirit of Aatmanirbhar Bharat. As a part of the Aatmanirbhar Bharat, SJVN is promoting the indigenous market, local producers and manufacturers by encouraging usage of Make in India material & products in its projects & power stations. Vendor development programs are regularly organized to increase the participation of MSMEs in the procurement process and to also strengthen interaction amongst local businesses. Your company is providing them the platform and opportunity to develop themselves and succeed in the highly competitive market.

The performance and achievements of your Company and Management have been recognized and rewarded by different institutions at various forums. Ministry of Power conferred first position in Swachhta Pakhwada Award 2022 to SJVN for outstanding contribution to Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. Our Corporate Head Quarters 'Shakti Sadan' became the first building in Himachal Pradesh to be rated Four Star by Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment 'GRIHA' Council. SJVN has also been conferred with Most Efficient & Profitable Mini Ratna of the Year Award by Dalal Street Journal; 13th CIDC Vishwakarma Award 2022 in Corona Warriors

Award and Partners in Progress category; Prestigious Corporate Award 2021 in the category of Best Growth Performance in Power Sector by Dun & Bradstreet.

#### HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

To assist us in imbuing best global practices to be a future-ready organization, we have engaged best in class International Consultants in technical, financial & management areas. Our aim is to drive every resource be it human or material towards achieving the Shared Vision. Your company gives utmost importance to the enrichment of employee skill and knowledge. For this, the employees are being imparted online, external and in-house, short and long duration trainings through organizations of national repute. Also, motivational talks by renowned speakers of international repute are being organized to motivate and energize them to achieve professional and individual objectives.

#### RISK MANAGEMENT

Your company has a comprehensive Risk Management Policy. The Risk Management Strategy includes assessment of risk to designate as falling under Avoidance, Transfer, Reduction or Retention with associated action plan. Further, risk management framework entails formulation of a Risk Matrix to assign the likelihood of occurrence to the assigned risks along with definition of nature of risk viz. controllable, uncontrollable & partly controllable, suggesting a mitigation mechanism and lead responsibility centre.

#### CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

SJVN has formulated and adopted a well-perceived Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainability Policy, which is in consonance with the Companies Act, 2013 and CSR guidelines issued by DPE. The CSR initiatives are pursued through a registered trust 'SJVN Foundation' with an aim to reach the wide spectrum of beneficiaries.

During financial year 2021-22, the Company has spent a total amount of ₹51.67 crore on CSR activities which is ₹12.23 crore more than the statutory obligation of ₹39.44 crore. Year on year CSR expenditure by Company over and above the statutory obligation demonstrates the fact that we do not consider CSR a mere obligation rather it is our contribution towards Nation Building. In recognition of its outstanding contribution, your company has been conferred with Global CSR Excellence & Leadership Award by World CSR Congress for Best Covid-19 Solution for Community Care.

The particulars of our CSR initiatives are detailed in the Annual Report.

#### CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Your company believes in the importance of developing a robust governance framework and embracing best governance practices. As a listed company, SJVN has been complying with the requirements of Corporate Governance under the SEBI LODR Regulations and also Guidelines issued by Department of Public Enterprises, Government of India. In this regard, your company has been constantly achieving "Excellent" rating for compliance with 'DPE Guidelines on Corporate Governance' under the 'Corporate Governance Grading System' prescribed by DPE.

#### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR 2022-23

We have embarked on a new financial year to take the company to greater heights by drawing strength from cooperation of the stakeholders and commitment of the employees.

In the first quarter of the Financial Year 2022-23, our power stations have already generated 2736 MU. Out of this, NJHPS generated 2090 MU, RHPS generated 588 MU and solar & wind Power Stations have generated a total of 58 MU till 30th June 2022. NJHPS has set a new record in Highest Ever Single Day power generation of 39,524 MU on 18th July 2022.

In the august presence of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India and Hon'ble Prime Minister of Nepal, MoU for 490 MW Arun-4 Hydro Electric project has been signed on 16th May 2022. Further, the EPC package for 1000 MW Solar Power Project in Bikaner, Rajasthan has been awarded in May 2022.

The construction activities of ongoing projects are in full swing. I am confident that under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi and guidance of Hon'ble Union Power Minister Sh. R.K. Singh, we will achieve the CAPEX target of ₹8000 crores for financial year 2022-23.

#### MACRO ECONOMIC SCENARIO AND GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES

Despite the global pandemic, all India demand in power sector continued to achieve new benchmarks. The highest all India demand of 2,00,570 MW was achieved on 07th July 2021 and this was 14 percent higher than the previous year. Addition of 28 million new consumers is indicative of the fact that our economy is recovering well. During the financial year 2021-22, Ministry of Power undertook many comprehensive reforms covering the entire gamut of the energy sector.

For addressing the issue of timely recovery of the costs due to change in law, Electricity (Timely Recovery of Costs due to Change in Law) Rules, 2021 have been issued. The Electricity (Promotion of generation of Electricity from Must-Run Power Plant) Rules, 2021 have been issued to ensure that the consumers get green and clean power and secure a healthy environment for the future generation. Also,

amendment in the existing Renewable Energy Certificate mechanism is being made to align the present mechanism with the emerging changes in the power scenario and to promote new renewable technologies.

A Model Contract Document for Dispute Avoidance Mechanism in Hydro CPSUs through "Independent Engineer" has been issued by Ministry of Power. Electricity (Late Payment Surcharge and Related Matters) Rules, 2022 covering liquidation of old outstanding dues and payment security mechanism will help in clearing of old outstanding dues of SJVN by state power utilities.

The market has been widely expanded with the launch of Real Time Market, Green Term-Ahead Market and Green Day Ahead Market which has proven extremely beneficial to all the stakeholders.

In addition, the Government has taken several other steps to promote renewable energy. This includes - Permitting Foreign Direct Investment up to 100 percent under the automatic route; Waiver of Inter State Transmission System charges for inter-state sale of solar and wind power for projects to be commissioned by June 2025; Setting up of Ultra Mega Renewable Energy Parks to provide land and transmission to renewable energy developers on a plug and play basis; Schemes such as PM-KUSUM, Solar Rooftop Phase II, 12000 MW CPSU Scheme Phase II, etc; Laying of new transmission lines and creating new sub-station capacity under the Green Energy Corridor Scheme for evacuation of renewable power; Setting up of Project Development Cell for attracting and facilitating investments; Standard Bidding Guidelines for tariff based competitive bidding process for procurement of Power from Grid Connected Solar PV and Wind Projects. Government has issued orders that power shall be dispatched against Letter of Credit or advance payment to ensure timely payment by distribution licensees to renewable energy generators.

All these reforms and initiatives have brought in transformation in Indian power sector, on a scale, which is unparalleled in the energy history of the world.

#### FUTURE PROSPECTS

The Russia-Ukraine war has the potential to trigger a long-term global turmoil and change in world order. It has accelerated the global shift to green energy. The investment into renewable energy is being considered a component of energy security and political stability.

I recall the time when in December 2017, only one wind power project with an investment of ₹300 crores was under construction. In subsequent period of less than four years, there has been a complete transformation in the company's portfolio. At present, the estimated cost of under construction projects and transmission line projects is about ₹33,000 Crores. Continuing to reorient and readapt to the ever-changing business environment, we are venturing into the new fields of Hybrid Energy, Pumped Storage, Green Hydrogen and Battery Storage Energy Systems. As the company gets to execute more projects, the overall investments are estimated to rise to about ₹30,000 crores by 2040. We are taking significant steps for spearheading energy transition to deliver excellent growth.

In recent years, SJVN has truly transformed itself into a Fully Diversified Multinational Power Company striding ahead to meet the power demands of the nation. SJVN aspires to be a one-stop source for any generator and consumer wanting to trade power in the country and contribute to the evolution of a robust and competitive energy market in India.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I feel highly privileged and honored to be leading a company that is breaking barriers and conquering new frontiers.

In recent years, our Shareholder base has grown to over 3 lakhs from less than 1 lakh shareholders which is indicative of the trust and commitment of retail shareholders towards the company. I am highly grateful for the continued confidence and trust posed by our Shareholders, Investors and Partners.

I take this opportunity to place on record my sincere appreciation and thanks for the support, guidance and cooperation extended by Government of India, State Governments of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Bihar, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Mizoram; the Governments of Nepal and Bhutan; other Governmental and Non-Governmental agencies; Statutory, Cost, Secretarial and Internal Auditors; our Customers; Business associates; various Financial Institutions & Bankers and Regulatory authorities.

Most importantly, I place on record my deepest admiration for my colleagues on the Board - past & present. I take great pride in acknowledging that in all the accomplishments of the company my fellow Board Members have stood by me and extended their unfaltering trust, co-operation and guidance. During the challenging times, SJVNites, as always, have shown uncharacteristic determination and consistently delivered outstanding results despite all odds. Their efforts and commitment allows us to dream and aim big and achieve higher and higher goals.

We reaffirm our commitment to excellence with the determination to sustain and enhance our successful momentum.

Thanking you.

(Nand Lal Sharma)  
Chairman & Managing Director  
DIN: 03495554

Date: 29 Sep., 2022

Place: Shimla

एसजेवीएन लिमिटेड  
(भारत सरकार एवं हिमाचल प्रदेश सरकार का संयुक्त उपक्रम)  
सिन्धी रज एवं सोवियुल 'ए' पीएसयू  
Visit us at: www.sjvn.nic.in



SJVN LIMITED  
(A Joint Venture of Govt. of India & Govt. of Himachal Pradesh)  
A Mini Ratna & Schedule 'A' PSU  
CIN : L40101HP1988GOI008409

Note : This document does not purport to be record of proceedings at the Annual General Meeting.

Regd. Off.: Shakti Sadan, SJVN Corporate Office Complex, Shanan, Shimla - 171005, Himachal Pradesh (India)