

## OPINION 6

AFTER MUCH ADO,  
TRUSS IS UK PM

## WORLD 9

TAIWAN LEADER CITES THREAT OF  
CHINESE 'COGNITIVE WARFARE'

## MONEY 10

INDIA PROVIDES BEST INVESTMENT  
OPPORTUNITY: GOYAL

NEW DELHI, WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 7, 2022; PAGES 12 ₹3

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# India, B'desh must fight terror together: Modi

Kushiyara river water sharing among seven pacts inked; 2 nations to boost bilateral trade, connectivity relations

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

India and Bangladesh resolved on Tuesday to further strengthen their bilateral ties, including trade, water-sharing, connectivity and nuclear energy with Prime Minister Narendra Modi noting Bangladesh is the biggest trade and development partner in the region.

He also called for jointly facing terrorist and fundamentalist forces that threaten to attack mutual trust between the two nations.

The Prime Minister made these observations after holding talks with visiting Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

The two countries inked seven pacts, including one on sharing of waters of Kushiyara River, which will benefit the regions of southern Assam and Bangladesh's Sylhet region. Hasina urged early conclusion of the Teesta water sharing agreement.

The interim water sharing



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with his Bangladeshi counterpart Sheikh Hasina during her ceremonial reception at the Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi on Tuesday

PTI

agreement for Kushiyara river is the first such pact since the signing of the Ganga water treaty in 1996. The Ganga water pact for a period of 30 years was signed by then Prime Minister HD Deve Gowda and Hasina.

On his talks with the visiting dignitary, Modi said, "Today we also stressed on cooperation against terrorism

and fundamentalism. To keep the spirit of 1971 alive, it is also very necessary that we face such forces together, who want to attack our mutual trust."

On water sharing pacts, the Indian Prime Minister said 54 rivers pass through the borders of India and Bangladesh and are linked to the livelihood of the people of both the countries for centuries.

"I recall that the two countries have resolved many issues in the spirit of friendship and cooperation. We hope that all outstanding issues, including Teesta water sharing agreement, will be concluded as an early date," Hasina said at a joint media interaction with Modi at the Hyderabad House here.

Continued on Page 2

## Liquor scam: ED raids across India

Like CBI, ED too won't find any proof: Sisodia

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate on Tuesday conducted nationwide searches in connection with a money laundering probe linked to the alleged excise scam in Delhi in which Deputy CM Manish Sisodia is the prime accused.

Besides Sisodia, some bureaucrats have also been named as accused in the alleged scam related to the now scrapped Delhi excise policy.

The agency searched about 30 premises in Delhi, Telangana, Maharashtra, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and

Karnataka and the operation covered private individuals named in the case, officials said. They said Tuesday's search operation did not include premises linked to Sisodia or any other Government servant named in the case.

The ED initiated a probe in the case under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) after taking cognisance of a CBI FIR that has named Sisodia and 14 others as accused in the case. Reacting to the raids, Sisodia said he has nothing to hide and did his job honestly. "First the CBI conducted raids, they found nothing. Now, the ED is conducting raids, they too won't find anything," he said.

Continued on Page 2

## Nitish casts his net wide for Opp unity

Bihar CM meets Kejriwal, Chautala, Left leaders

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Tuesday continued with his efforts to bring together all Opposition parties under one umbrella and met several leaders, including those from the Left, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and Samajwadi Party patriarch Mulayam Singh Yadav.

The JD(U) leader who quit the NDA fold to join the RJD, the Congress and others to lead a grand alliance Government in Bihar last month, also called on INLD supremo OP Chautala



and JDS leader HD Kumaraswamy amid speculation that Nitish may also want to bring together Janata parivar to take on the Narendra Modi juggernaut in the 2024 polls.

Soon after the Nitish-Chautala meeting, it was also announced that the Bihar CM and his deputy RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav, NCP supremo Sharad Pawar, National Conference leader Farooq Abdullah will attend the INLD's September 25 rally in Haryana.

Continued on Page 2

## Anti-Covid nasal vax by Bharat Biotech gets nod

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation has issued restricted emergency use approval to Hyderabad-based Bharat Biotech's recombinant nasal vaccine for primary immunisation against Covid-19. The vaccine, which has advantages of easy nasal delivery, is claimed to be more cost-effective.

Continued on Page 2

## PM to introduce cheetahs in Kuno park on his b'day

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Seventy-five years after India's last cheetah died in 1947, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will introduce five of the world's fastest animals in Madhya Pradesh's Kuno National Park on September 17, which also happens to be the PM's birthday. Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan confirmed the development on Tuesday.

All hotels and restaurants around Kuno have been booked by the district administration from September 14 to 20. Cheetahs would reach Kuno from Namibia, a day before Modi's arrival.

The five cheetahs will be brought from Windhoek in Namibia to Jaipur and from there they will be shifted through airways to Palpur in Kuno. Two helpads have been developed inside the park.

Continued on Page 2

## CAPSULE

### ANT ATTACK FORCES PEOPLE TO FLEE VILLAGE

**Bhubaneswar:** Lakhs of red ants invaded Brahmanasahi village in Puri district after flood water receded, prompting scientists to launch an operation to rid the hamlet of the army of poisonous insects. **P2**

### LOCALS RAZED MADRASSA USED FOR JIHAD: POLICE

**Goalpara:** The Assam Police on Tuesday claimed that locals have demolished a madrasa and a house adjacent to it in Goalpara district in protest against the use of its premises for 'jihad' activities. **P2**

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NCR-PULSE

**APPU GETS NEW SECRETARY GENERAL**  
New Delhi: Dr VP Singh, who is Member (Personnel) at India Post Directorate, will be appointed as next Secretary General of the Asian Pacific Postal Union (APPU), which was constituted by International treaty through an Asian-Pacific Postal Convention signed in Yogyakarta on March 27, 1981. Singh, who is a technocrat, will hold the Secretary General post of APPU for a period of four years from 2023 to 2027. Singh has thanked all the APPU member countries for electing him for the GS Post.



**17-YR-OLD APPREHENDED FOR KILLING FATHER**  
New Delhi: The Delhi Police has apprehended a 17-year-old youth for allegedly killing his father in north Delhi's Sarai Rohilla area. According to Sagar Singh Kalsi, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), North district, the incident took place on August 22 when the victim, who was in the Railway Protection Special Force (RPSF), arrived home in an inebriated condition and began abusing his wife.

**26-YEAR-OLD SHOT AT OVER PERSONAL ENMITY**  
New Delhi: A 26-year-old man was allegedly shot at over personal enmity in southwest Delhi's Cantonment area on Tuesday. The victim — Narender, resident of Bindapur, admitted in Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital is unfit for statement. Manoj C, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), Southwest district said an intimation was received regarding patient Narender been admitted to DDU Hospital with an alleged history of gunshot injury".

**DCW ISSUES NOTICE TO POLICE ABOUT ATTEMPTED MURDER**  
New Delhi: The Delhi Commission for Women (DCW) on Tuesday issued notice to Delhi Police after a woman was allegedly burnt at her matrimonial house in the national Capital. The Commission said it received a complaint regarding the attempt to murder of a woman by her husband. The complainant submitted that she lives with her husband and in-laws at her matrimonial house in Mandawali.

**4 MORE ARRESTED IN FAKE RAILWAY JOB RACKET**  
New Delhi: Delhi Police has arrested four more people for their alleged involvement in a fake railway job racket that was busted last week. The fake railway job racket was busted on August 31 with the arrest of five persons who impersonated as Trainee Ticket Examiners (TTE) and allured the prospective job aspirants after negotiating the amount to be paid for the job.

**GOA POLICE REACHES NOIDA IN PHOGAT DEATH PROBE**  
New Delhi: A team of Goa Police on Tuesday reached Noida, adjoining Delhi in Uttar Pradesh, as part of its investigation into the death of social media influencer and BJP politician Sonali Phogat. According to officials, Phogat owned an apartment in the Aravalli housing society in Noida's Sector 52 and the visiting police team was here for a verification of the property.

**FIRE BREAKS OUT AT PLASTIC WATER TANK GODOWN**  
Gurgaon: A fire broke out in the vicinity of an ordnance depot here on Tuesday, damaging three buses, a few shanties and plastic water tanks, a fire department official said. No one was hurt in the incident. According to a fire officer, the fire broke out in a plastic water tank godown on Sheelta Mata Road at around 11:15 am.

**THOUSANDS OF FARMERS GATHER FOR 'MAHAPANCHAYAT'**  
Gurgaon: Thousands of farmers from Kasan, Maakdola, Mokaiwas and Sehrawan gathered at the Manesar Tehsil office here on Tuesday to take part in a "mahapanchayat" called by these villages", and demanded more compensation for 1,810 acres of land acquired by the Haryana government. Farmer leader Naveen Jaihind also extended his support to the protesting farmers on Tuesday.

Ants force people to flee Odisha village

PTI ■ BHUBANESWAR

Lakhs of red ants invaded Brahmansahi village in Odisha's Puri district after flood water receded recently, prompting scientists to launch an operation to rid the hamlet of the army of poisonous insects.

Swarms of ants infested every nook and corner of the village, including houses, roads, fields and trees, throwing normal lives out of gear. Many have been bitten by these ants, causing swelling and irritation on the skin.

Even domestic animals and house lizards have fallen prey to the ants. The situation is such that villagers are to be forced draw circles with pesticide powders wherever they sit, stand or sleep.



Three families of the village have fled due to the ant menace and are staying at their relatives' place, locals said.

Loknath Dash, a villager, said he has not seen anything like this in the past despite floods hitting the village earlier as well.

"The ants have made our lives miserable. We are unable to eat, sleep or sit properly. The children are unable to study due to the fear of ants," said Renubala Dash, who along with her family is now staying

at a relative's house in a nearby village.

Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology (OUAT) and the district administration have launched an operation to provide relief to the villagers.

Senior OUAT scientist Sanjay Mohanty said the village is surrounded by a river and bushy forests. "The ants which live on the river embankment and bushes moved to the village as their habitats were inundated by flood waters."

Mohanty said it was a new phenomenon in the village, where around 100 families live.

"However, we are trying to find the place from where the ants are coming. Once the place is located, pesticide can be sprayed on a two-metre radius of it," he said.

Locals demolished madrassa used for jihadi activities: Assam Police

PTI ■ GUWAHATI/GOALPARA

The Assam Police on Tuesday claimed that people have demolished a madrassa and a house adjacent to it in Goalpara district in protest against the alleged use of the institute's premises for 'jihadi' activities.

Local people accused two Bangladeshis, who are currently absconding, of using the premises of the madrassa located at Pakhiura Char under the Matia Police Station limits for 'jihadi' activities, Goalpara Superintendent of Police V V Rakesh Reddy told reporters.

"The local people have taken the initiative to demolish the madrassa.....The police and the district administration are not involved in it," the SP said.

AIUDF's Badruddin Ajmal said the state government

should not bulldoze educational institutes.

Reacting to madrassas being razed to the ground by the state administration, he said, "It is not right to demolish educational institutes, be it a madrassa or any other educational or religious institute".

"If any 'jihadi' is found, the state must properly investigate the matter and take action as per the law of the land. If a court gives orders for demolition, then it is fine but any random exercise is not accepted," the MP said. A Congress spokesperson said the party is looking into the matter and will give a detailed response to the Goalpara incident only after talking to the local people.

The use of the madrassa premises in Goalpara for anti-national activity came to light following the arrest of

Jalaluddin Sheikh, a cleric of the institute with his alleged links with the two Bangladeshis who are suspected members of terror outfits- Al Qaeda in Indian Subcontinent (AQIS) and Ansarul Bangla Team (ABT), the SP said.

According to the police, Sheikh had allegedly engaged the duo as teachers of the Darogar Alga Pakhiura Char Madrassa by "convincing the villagers that they are very knowledgeable and have come from West Bengal though they are Bangladeshis".

A local resident Shah Alam Sheikh told reporters that villagers did not know anything about 'jihadi' activities being carried out on the madrassa premises and were under the impression that the teachers had come to teach their children.

JNU prospectus for PhD admission sparks row

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The prospectus for PhD admission to the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) has sparked a row, with students and teachers decrying the lack of clarity around the process and the decline in the number of seats.

The students have claimed that the total number of PhD seats across centres in the JNU will decline by 32 per cent from the academic year 2022-23 and many centres plan to fill all the seats with students selected for Junior Research Fellow (JRF).

Moreover, teachers and students at the university have raised concerns over the lack of clarity as regards the starting of the admission process. There was no immediate response

from the administration.

The JNU recently released the PhD prospectus for the academic session 2022-23, according to which admissions will be based on merit.

The candidates seeking admission into PhD programmes have to appear in the CBT (Computer Based Test).

"It is to be noted that merely qualifying in the CBT does not entitle the candidates to be shortlisted for viva-voce examination. Shortlisting of the candidates to be called for viva-voce shall be done as per the following criteria," the prospectus mentioned.

The JRF-qualified candidates will be exempted from the CBT. They are required to apply separately under the JRF category. Such candidates shall be shortlisted and called directly for viva-voce.

ED arrests ex-NSE CEO Ravi in money-laundering case

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate on Tuesday arrested former NSE CEO and MD Ravi Narain in a money laundering case, officials said.

His role is being investigated by the federal probe agency as part of two criminal cases linked to the bourse — the alleged co-location 'scam' case and the purported illegal phone tapping of employees. Narain is understood to have been arrested in the tapping case under the criminal sections of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

The ED earlier had arrested another former National Stock Exchange (NSE) MD and CEO Chitra Ramkrishna in the alleged phone tapping case while the CBI, which is parallelly probing these cases, had arrested her in the co-location case.

The Enforcement Directorate has also arrested former Mumbai Police Commissioner Sanjay Pandey in the alleged illegal phone tapping case.

HC seeks Delhi Govt's stand on plea challenging constitution of 'Committee of Municipal Corporation'

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday sought the stand of the city Government on a plea by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) challenging the constitution of a "Committee of Municipal Corporation" by the Delhi Assembly. The MCD also objected to the subsequent demands by the Committee of Municipal Corporation about the information on the corporation's internal affairs.

In the petition filed through lawyers Sanjeev Sagar and Nazia Parveen, the MCD said that the act of questioning it through the Committee of Municipal

Corporation was bad in law and illegal as the Delhi government has "no power and no legal right to constitute the Committee" or seek information and compel the presence of officers without sanction and approval of Lieutenant Government in view of the amendment to GNCTD Act.

"Respondent cannot act contrary to provisions of DMC (Delhi Municipal Corporation) Act because only UOI (Union of India) has the power of superintendence as well as control over the affairs of Corporation. No rules have been framed post amendment to section 33 of the GNCTD Act.

Nitish casts net wide for Opp...

**From Page 1**  
Chautala invited Nitish to attend the rally to mark the birthday of former Prime Minister Devi Lal. Nitish held a meeting with former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi a day earlier. Asked about his aspirations to become the Prime Minister, Nitish said, "This is wrong. I am not a claimant for the post, nor am I desirous of it." Nitish has maintained that any Opposition alliance against the BJP must include the Congress and the Left, a contention that is not fully shared by the AAP, Mamata Banerjee's TMC and K

Chandrashekar Rao's TRS. KCR was in Patna last week and held talks with Nitish in his effort to galvanise a non-BJP non-Congress front to which Nitish responded calling it has be a main Front. Nitish asserted that his focus is to bring together all Opposition parties. "It is time for the Left parties, the Congress and all regional parties to come together to form a united Opposition," Nitish told reporters soon after his meeting with CPI-M general secretary Sitaram Yechury. According to Yechury, Nitish's return to the Opposition fold and his desire

to be part of a fight against the BJP is a great signal for Indian politics. "First, the agenda is to unite all parties, not to decide on the PM candidate. When the time comes we will decide the PM candidate and let you all know," he said. The JD(U) leader also met CPI general secretary D Raja. "I have had a long association with the CPI-M from my younger days. You all have not seen me, but whenever I used to come to Delhi, I used to come to this office. Today we are all together again. Our entire focus is to unite all Left parties, the regional parties, the Congress. This will be a big deal if all of

Anti-Covid nasal vax by...

**From Page 1**  
Announcing the approval, Union Health Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya said "it is a big boost to India's fight against Covid-19". "Bharat Biotech's ChAd36-SARS-CoV-S Covid-19 (Chimpanzee Adenovirus Vectored) recombinant nasal vaccine approved by @CDSCO India INF for primary immunisation against Covid-19 in 18+ age group for restricted use in emergency situation," he tweeted. "This step will further strengthen our collective fight against the pandemic," he said. India has harnessed its science, R&D, and Human Resources in the fight against Covid-19 under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership. "With the science-driven approach and Sabhka Prayas, we will defeat Covid-19," he said. BBV154 is a recombinant replication-deficient adenovirus vectored vaccine with a pre-fusion stabilised spike protein. This vaccine candidate was evaluated earlier in phase I and II clinical

trials with successful results. BBV154 has been specifically formulated to allow intranasal delivery. In addition, the nasal delivery system has been designed and developed to be cost-effective in low and middle-income countries, said the company during the time. BBV154 was developed in partnership with Washington University St Louis, which had designed and developed the recombinant adenoviral vectored constructs and evaluated them in preclinical studies for efficacy. Two separate and simultaneous clinical trials were conducted to evaluate BBV154 as a primary dose (2- dose) schedule and a heterologous booster dose for subjects who have previously received 2 doses of the two commonly administered Covid vaccines in India. BBV154 has the double benefit of enabling faster development of variant-specific vaccines and easy nasal delivery that helps mass immunization protect from emerging concern variants, it added.

Liquor scam: ED raids across...

**From Page 1**  
Sisodia added, "They will only find more blueprints of schools." Later addressing a press conference, AAP spokesperson Saurav Bhardwaj said that after the CBI's clean chit Dy CM Sisodia has received a clean chit from the ED too. "Several reporters from various news channels were stationed at Manish Sisodia's residence after getting a tip from the ED; however, the ED officers ditched the plans of raiding his residence," Bhardwaj said. The AAP leader said that the ED understood that they

will become a laughing stock in front of the entire country if they raided the Deputy Chief Minister's residence because they were aware that they will come back empty handed just like the CBI. The CBI had conducted searches in the case on August 19, covering the Delhi residences of Sisodia (50), IAS officer and former Delhi excise commissioner Arava Gopi Krishna, and 19 other locations across seven States and Union Territories. Sisodia holds multiple portfolios in the Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal-led Delhi Government, including

excise and education. The ED is probing if alleged irregularities were done in the formulation and execution of the Delhi Excise Policy brought out in November last year. The scheme came under scrutiny after Delhi Lieutenant Governor V K Saxena recently recommended a CBI probe into the alleged irregularities in the implementation of Delhi excise policy. Saxena had also suspended 11 excise officials in the matter. Sisodia had also demanded a CBI probe into the

PM to introduce cheetahs in Kuno park on his...

**From Page 1**  
These two helipads will be used for landing helicopters carrying the cheetahs while five helipads have been developed for the VIPs coming to attend the event. Earlier, there were concerns that the project might get delayed since officers were unable to catch four leopards that were fenced inside the cheetah enclosure when it was built. However, three of them were caught later and the remaining one is not a

problem, officials said. Officers say everything else is in place for the reintroduction of cheetahs. The 500-hectare fenced-off area is still a hive of activity. The transport logistics are being carefully planned to ensure that the fastest route is taken, with the fewest number of stops and transfers. The aerial distance is close to 9,000km but it's the proverbial last mile that is causing creased eyebrows. The MP forest department has invited

its staff to volunteer for a cheetah project posting. The last cheetah died in the country in 1947 in Korea district in present day Chhattisgarh, and the species was declared extinct in the country. The "African Cheetah Introduction Project in India" was conceived in 2009 and a plan to introduce the big cat by November last year in KNP suffered a setback due to the Covid-19 pandemic, officials said.

India, B'desh must fight terror together...

**From Page 1**  
As regards flourishing trade between the two neighbours, Modi said, "Across Asia, India is the biggest market for exports from Bangladesh. To further expedite this progress, we will soon initiate discussions on a bilateral economic comprehensive partnership agreement." He also said India-Bangladesh relationship will achieve new heights in the coming time adding, "Today, Bangladesh is India's biggest development partner and our biggest trade partner in the

region. There is a continuous improvement in the people-to-people cooperation." Modi said trade between India-Bangladesh is increasing rapidly and both the countries have decided to extend cooperation in the Information Technology (IT), space and nuclear sectors. Talks are also underway between the two sides on power transmission lines, the Prime Minister said. Modi and Hasina also talked about Bangladesh flood situation, terrorism, bilateral, regional and international issues. "We have extended our

cooperation on flood mitigation. We have been sharing real-time data regarding floods with Bangladesh and have also discussed terrorism. It's imperative, that we together face the forces that are adversarial to us," Modi said. Hasina said the outcome of the discussions with Modi will benefit the people of both countries and congratulated the Indian government on the "successful completion of the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav." She underlined that India is the most important and closest neighbour of Bangladesh and the bilateral relations between the two countries are known to be role models for neighbourhood diplomacy. Hasina also offered floral tributes at Rajghat, the memorial to Mahatma Gandhi. She arrived in Delhi on Monday afternoon on a four-day visit. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar called on Hasina on Monday evening. Adani Group Chairman Gautam Adani also called on the Bangladeshi Prime Minister on Monday evening. Hasina also visited Nizamuddin Aulia Dargah in the national Capital

on Monday and is scheduled to travel to Ajmer Sharif on Thursday. Bangladesh is now India's biggest trade partner in South Asia and the bilateral trade has grown from USD 9 billion to USD 18 billion in the last five years. It has also become the fourth largest export destination for India with the exports registering a growth of over 66 per cent from USD 9.69 billion in 2020-21 to USD 16.15 billion in 2021-22. The visiting Prime Minister on Monday had said India can do a lot to help her country deal with the issue of

Rohingya refugees and that both countries can work jointly to rejuvenate the cross-border rivers. She made the comments during an informal interaction with a group of reporters on the sidelines of a reception hosted for her by the Bangladesh High Commission. Over 10 lakh Rohingya refugees are currently living in Bangladesh after fleeing from Myanmar's Rakhine. Hasina also talked about the scope for Bangladesh and India to work together to carry out dredging of cross-border rivers so that they can

be rejuvenated. She said the dredging of rivers will improve their flow. Hasina said she expected to have a meeting with West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee but it could not happen. She is like a sister, I can meet her whenever I want... We have always had good relations," the Bangladeshi Prime Minister said. Giving details of the talks between Modi and Hasina, Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra said later India is aware of the Rohingya issue. There is a global appreciation of Bangladesh's role in giving



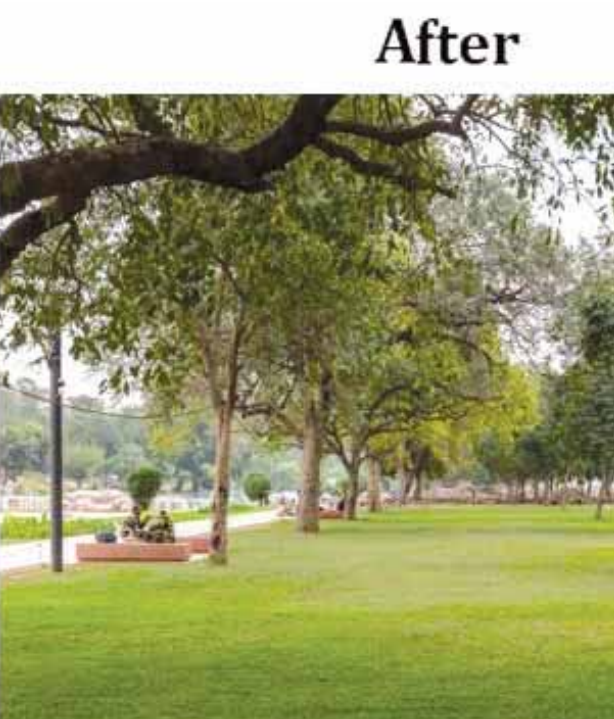
Photo by Ranjan Dimri



Photo by Ranjan Dimri



Before



After

# Traffic advisory issued ahead of Central Vista inauguration

STAFF REPORTER  
■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi traffic police have issued an advisory anticipating a large number of people to turn up around the Central Vista project after its inauguration scheduled for Thursday.

The traffic police announced general traffic diversions from 6 pm to 9 pm on several roads to ensure the safety of children and pedestrians, and smooth traffic movement in the New Delhi district. The avenue that will be

open to the masses on September 8 stretches from Vijay Chowk to India Gate.

Delhi Police said elaborate arrangements have been made in order to facilitate the safety of pedestrians, including children and to ensure smooth movement of traffic in the New Delhi district.

General traffic will be diverted from the specific roads from 6 pm to 9 pm.

According to the traffic advisory, traffic movement will be diverted from roads such as -- Tilak Marg (From C-Hexagon to Bhagwan Dass

Road Crossing), Purana Quila Road (From C-Hexagon to Mathura Road), Shershah Road (from C-Hexagon to Mathura Road).

Dr. Zakir Hussain Marg (From C-Hexagon to Subramanian Bharti Marg Crossing), Pandara Road (from C-Hexagon to Subramanian Bharti Marg Crossing), Shahjahan Road (from C-Hexagon to Q-point), Akbar Road (from C-Hexagon to RoundAbout Mansingh Road), Ashoka Road (from C-Hexagon to R/A Jaswant Singh Road), it said.

K.G Marg (from C-Hexagon to Madhav Rao Scindia Marg Crossing), Copernicus Marg (from C-Hexagon to Madhav Rao Scindia Marg Crossing) from 6 pm to 9 pm, the advisory added.

Commuters using two-wheelers, three-wheelers and four-wheelers are requested to plan their journey in advance accordingly and avoid roads such as W-Point, Mathura Road, Ashoka Road, Q-Point, Prithvi Raj Road, Akbar Road, Subramanian Bharti Marg, APJ Abdul Kalam Road, Rajesh

Pilot Marg.

Similarly, roundabout Windsor Place, roundabout Claridge Hotel, Man Singh Road, roundabout MLNP, Janpath, Firoz Shah Road, roundabout Mandi House and Sikandra Road as these points and junctions are expected to witness a heavy volume of traffic.

The advisory stated keeping in view the large number of expected pedestrians who will be visiting Central Vista post-inauguration, diversion for buses will start at Moti Bagh Crossing on Ring Road, Bhikaji

Cama Crossing on Ring Road, South foot of Lodhi Flyover, ITO, I.P.Flyover-Vikas Marg, Ring Road-Yamuna Bazar, Tis Hazari-R/A Mori Gate Junction, Panchkuian Road (Dayal Chowk), AIIMS Flyover, SBM-Mathura Road, Neela Gumbad, Ashram Chowk, NH-24-Ring Road, Ring Road-ISBT, ISBT- 'T' Point, Dhaula Kuan.

Moti Bagh crossing on Ring Road, Bhikaji Cama Crossing on Ring Road, South foot of Lodhi Flyover, ITO,

I.P.Flyover-Vikas Marg, Ring Road-Yamuna Bazar, Tis Hazari-R/A Mori Gate Junction, Panchkuian Road (Dayal Chowk), AIIMS Flyover, SBM-Mathura Road, Neela Gumbad, Ashram Chowk, NH-24-Ring Road, Ring Road-ISBT, ISBT- 'T' Point, Dhaula Kuan.

Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC), Delhi Integrated Multi-Modal Transit System (DIMTS) and other public transport authorities are also requested to plan the movement of their fleet vehicles in advance and avoid the

above-mentioned roads for the convenience of the general public.

DTC has also been requested to organise a 'Park & Ride' facility from the following pick-up points to C-Hexagon — Bhairon Road, Rajghat, Connaught Place and JLN Stadium.

In view of a large number of expected footfall, people are advised to avoid using their private vehicles and cabs to travel to Central Vista. Instead, they should use public transport or avail 'Park & Ride' facility, the traffic police advisory added.

## Delhi Govt to decongest 77 choke points

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Government will take up a range of steps including construction of flyover and underpass to decongest 77 choke points in the national Capital.

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday held a meeting with the Public Works Department (PWD) to discuss the plan on decongesting these choke points.

The Kejriwal Government is planning decongesting arterial stretches such as Outer Ring Road, Ring Road, NH-10 and Wazirabad Road, among others.

Announcing the project, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said his government will decongest 77 choke points by redesigning roads, and constructing flyovers, underpasses and foot overbridges at a large scale to rid Delhiites of traffic snarls.

"The project will be implemented in a phased manner, with high-traffic density zones being decongested first. Outer Ring Road, Najafgarh Road, Wazirabad Road, Rohtak Road, and Anand Vihar-Apsara Road are set for a revamp under the decongestion project and lakhs of commuters will be benefited daily," Kejriwal said on Tuesday.

During the meeting, PWD officials informed the CM that the task force of the government had identified 77 corridors where bottlenecks were leading to traffic jams.

An elevated corridor will be constructed from Anand Vihar to Apsara border with flyovers at Surya Nagar and Ramprastha traffic intersections to cater to the requirement of residents of Vivek Vihar, Surya Nagar and

Ramprastha Colony, the statement said. Another road that will be decongested includes eight km stretch of Wazirabad Road from Karawal Nagar to Bhopura Border.

Here the government will redesign Wazirabad Road along with service road by developing footpaths and construction of two flyovers at Karawal Nagar-Gokulpuri junction and at Gagan Cinema T-Junction and Nand Nagri.

The flyover at Karawal Nagar-Gokulpuri will be a double decker flyover where metro train will ply at the top level and vehicles will move on levels below the deck.

Besides, an FOB will be built between Chand Bagh Colony and Bhajanpura Petrol Pump on Wazirabad Road.

The government will also construct two skywalks -- one near Ajmeri Gate and the other in Pitampura.

The skywalk from Pitampura metro station to Rohini district court will decongest Madhuban Chowk intersection on Outer Ring Road while the skywalk at Ajmeri Gate Chowk will ease pedestrian movement and decongest JLN Marg.

The statement further said that under the long term East-West corridor project, the government will take up the construction of an elevated road from Delhi Gate to Kamal T-Point and from Delhi Gate to New Delhi railway station.

Similarly, to decongest the Rohtak Road (NH-10), the PWD will widen the rail overbridge on the way from Peeragarhi Chowk to Mangolpuri and develop a slip road at Peeragarhi intersection for the traffic taking left turn on the way from Nangloi to Mangolpuri.



## Sisodia lays foundation stone of flyover at Sarai Kale Khan

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Government is constructing a flyover at Sarai Kale Khan to ease traffic movement. Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia on Tuesday laid the foundation stone of a flyover at Sarai Kale Khan. The three-lane flyovers will come up parallel to an existing one on the other carriageway of the Ring Road at Sarai Kale Khan. The flyover would cost Rs 65.55 crore.

"Sarai Kale Khan is one of the busiest areas of Delhi, where traffic will increase further due to ISBT, metro station, railway station, and RRTS," Sisodia said in a series of tweets in Hindi.

"To make the traffic smooth, the foundation stone of a new 3-lane flyover was laid here today, it will be ready in 1 year and will make this T-junction signal free," Sisodia said. The project, which was planned at the beginning of this year, will aid commuters trav-

elling from the NCR cities of Noida and Ghaziabad and ITO connecting to the Ashram flyover and other areas. The 550m-long three-lane flyover is proposed to be constructed along the existing single flyover on Ring Road for vehicles travelling from ITO towards Ashram via the Sarai Kale Khan T-junction.

The new flyover would help decongest the ISBT and T-junction, where a Rapid Rail Transit System station is coming up, apart from Nizamuddin Railway Station. Currently, traffic coming from Mayur Vihar and Noida via Delhi-Meerut Expressway merges at Sarai Kale Khan bus stand, which makes this stretch very busy.

The diverging point on the road leads to Barapullah elevated corridor, where there is already traffic slowdown due to construction of a pillar of RRTS. "With this flyover, lakhs of vehicles going from ITO to Ashram daily will get rid of traffic.

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

With the arrest of two Afghan Nationals, the Delhi Police's Special Cell on Tuesday claimed to have busted 'transnational drug cartel' and seized 312 kilograms of methamphetamine, biggest haul this year, along with 10 kg of heroin. Police said that the international value of the seized contraband is estimated to be over Rs 1200 crores.

The accused have been identified as Mustafa Stanikzai (23), a resident of Kabul in Afghanistan and Rahimullah Rahimi (44), a resident of Kandahar in Afghanistan. Police said that Stanikzai was presently living at Khadda Colony near Jaitpur while Rahimi, was residing at Unitech Horizon in Greater Noida. Addressing a

press conference, H G S Dhaliwal, the Special Commissioner of Police, Special Cell said that on September 3, specific inputs were received that two Afghan nationals, Rahimullah and Mustafa, were reaching Delhi in a luxury Skoda Superb car and were expected to be carrying some contraband with them.

"Acting on the inputs, a trap was laid and both were apprehended from near Kalindi Kunj Metro Station. On cursory check police recovered 1.360 kgs of heroin from the possession of Mustafa while another 1.040 kgs of heroin was recovered from the possession of Rahimullah," said the Special CP. "Since the intel pointed towards a bigger consignment that was being shepherd by the apprehended duo, quick, intense interro-



gation at the spot was carried out. This succeeded in extracting information regarding a white colour Mahindra Pickup which was trailing Rahimullah and Mustafa," said the Special CP. "However, the Mahindra pickup was intercepted near SDMC Toll, Kalindi Kunj and during the search of onboard 16 bags, white crystalline material

was found. This suspect chemical was checked using the narcotic field testing kit which revealed that nine out of 16 bags were containing contraband Methamphetamine," said Special CP.

"The contraband containing bags were weighed and total weight was recorded to be approximately 311.4 Kgs.

## Kejriwal to undertake country wide 'yatra' from today



STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

After the Congress, the AAP has also decided to undertake a country-wide 'yatra', as part of the party's "Make India Number 1" campaign, from Haryana on Wednesday. The yatra is seen as the AAP attempts at expanding its base beyond Delhi and

Punjab." I will undertake a country wide yatra from my birth place, Hisar in Haryana from Wednesday. From there one by one, I will go to all States and will join people in the movement. People can join the movement by giving a missed call to 9510001000.

AAP convener and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday announced while addressing a digital press conference that he will undertake a country wide yatra from my birth place, Hisar in Haryana from Wednesday. "From there one by one, I will go to all States and will join people in the movement. People can join the movement by giving a missed call to 9510001000.



## Delhi BJP stages protest near Sisodia's residence

Demands Kejriwal and Sisodia should step down over liquor scam

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi BJP MLAs, led by Leader of Opposition in the Assembly Ramvir Singh Bidhuri, staged a protest near Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia's residence on Tuesday, demanding his dismissal over the alleged liquor scam.

Besides, BJP leaders including state president Adesh Gupta and MPs Manoj Tiwari and Ramesh Bidhuri among others participated in the campaign being conducted outside around 20 metro stations and other prominent locations in the national capital.

The Leader of Opposition Ramvir Singh Bidhuri led the protest raised slogans against Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and Sisodia, demanding that they should step down.

The protesters were stopped by police as they tried to march towards Sisodia's Mathura Road residence. The BJP leaders had started their protest from National Sports Club of India.

Bidhuri, along with his fellow legislators Mohan Singh Bisht, Vijender Gupta, Om Prakash Sharma, Jitendra

Mahajan, Ajay Mahawar and Abhay Verma, was detained during the protest and later released from the Mandir Marg police station.

"We have been raising the issue of scam in the excise policy of the Kejriwal government for months but neither the chief minister nor Sisodia has answered our questions.

The BJP workers will not rest till Sisodia is removed from the government," Bidhuri said. He alleged that the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) came to power by raising the slogan of war against corruption, but it is "completely submerged" in corruption. After the protest, Bidhuri participated the signature campaign outside Rajiv Chowk metro station.

Delhi BJP chief Adesh Gupta who participated a signature campaign outside Karol Bagh Metro station, said that a sting video that BJP released yesterday clearly reveals the scam in Kejriwal government's excise policy. "We are seeking public support for our demand to sack Sisodia as the AAP leadership has so far avoided answering questions about the scam," Gupta said.

Union Minister of State, Meenakshi Lekhi after participating in signature campaign in Sarojini Nagar Market, said that who gave permission to Kejriwal to loot Delhi's revenue and tax payers money.

# Excise dept collects ₹269.08 cr since Sept 1



STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

As the old regime of excise policy returned from September 1, the exercise department has collected Rs 269.08 crore revenue as excise duty and license fees so far.

According to sources, more than 500 retail shops have been granted licences out of which 350 shops have already started sales since September 1.

As many as 72 wholesale suppliers have registered 600 brands of which 60 licenses with 430 brands (195 Indian and 235 Foreign) have been approved. Besides, about 926 Hotels, Clubs & Restaurants liquor licenses have also been auto renewed for period till 28th February 2023. "Rs 269.08 crore excise revenue, including licence fee and excise duty, has been collected (up to

September 5) under the current regime. In addition to this, revenue, as VAT on liquor sales, of proportionate value will also be received," the excise department said.

"More than 1000 brands will be brought into the Delhi market to cater to different strata of the society in the coming days. As on date, sufficient liquor for more than 12 full days is available in Delhi.

Liquor outlets have reported an average sale of about 8 lakh in the first week of September which is likely to go up in the coming days," sources said.

The AAP Government reverted to its old excise regime from September 1 with over 350 liquor vends opened by the Delhi Tourism and Transportation Development Corporation, Delhi State Industrial and Infrastructure

Development Corporation, Delhi State Civil Supplies Corporation and Delhi Consumers' Cooperative Wholesale Store.

Sources said that more than 500 retail shops have been granted licences out of which 350 shops have already started sales and that remaining retail vends will be made operational after following laid down procedure in this regard.

Under the Excise Policy 2021-22, private vends had logged a sale of around 13 to 14 lakh liquor bottles daily. The policy was withdrawn by the government in July after a CBI probe was recommended by Lt Governor V K Saxena into alleged irregularities.

"These include many premier vends and 6 shops in shopping malls. These Government corporations will be catering to Delhi's Liquor

requirements till January, 2023 and special efforts were made to improve the user experience, which will be further enhanced," they added.

According to the sources, the Excise Intelligence Bureau (EIB), 33 teams at Sub-division level headed by the area Sub-divisional Magistrates have been constituted to ensure no malpractices like bootlegging, cross border liquor smuggling, hoarding, and illegal practices like discounting/overcharging, brand pushing, etc.

As part of Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) and also considering the fixed timelines, licensees are being facilitated through NOCs from the trade and taxes department within 24 hours through a nodal officer, they added.

A help desk has also been made operational in the excise department that has taken

all necessary steps to ensure seamless transition in a span of less than a month's time to provide adequate liquor supply in Delhi from 01st September, 2022.

Meanwhile, the liquor vends in the capital, still striving to get their hands on the supply of popular brands such as Blenders Pride, Royal Stag, etc. The stock is available but not sufficient to meet the demand of booze lovers in the city.

"The supply of the liquor is now on the daily basis, but the only struggle that we are facing is of the brands which are not available with suppliers.

Only some brands in the expensive liquor such as black dog, black label are available, while the others are still missing from the shelves," said a liquor vend owner at Shahdara, east district.

# BJP discusses strategy for 144 LS seats it lost in 2019

DEEPAK K UPRETI ■ NEW DELHI

Feedback on probable candidates for 144 Lok Sabha seats which the BJP lost narrowly in the 2019 Lok Sabha polls and analysis of the pattern of voting along with suggestions for "better coirdination" at booth level committees in these constituencies ahead of the 2024 general elections were the issues discussed by BJP leaders here on Tuesday in a meeting attended by Union Home Minister Amit Shah and party president JP Nadda.

Over 25 Union Ministers, including Bhupender Yadav, Giriraj Singh, Smriti Irani, Parshottam Rupala and Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, were among those who were present in the key meeting at the BJP headquarters.

The big BJP huddle was one of the "series" of "continuous discussions" undertaken by the party leadership to bring "clarity" on the strategy to win "350 Lok Sabha seats" in 2024, sources said. " In 2019, from 282 seats we increased to 314,"



they said. The seats lost in 2019 spread over several states including Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Telangana, Punjab and West Bengal.

As part of the strategy, the party classified these 144 seats in groups with identical issues as also where BJP stood a close second or third in the poll outcome. One Union Minister each is made in-charge of each group tasked to give a "winning strategy" to the party leadership.

All 144 Lok Sabha constituencies have been visited, surveys carried out in assembly segments and a list of probable candidates in each

constituency is being prepared to whet it further with the micro level inputs by people outside the party structure, sources said.

The Ministers gave detailed presentations such as electoral profile, voting pattern in urban and rural segments, weak areas, latest feedback of local level surveys on the respective constituencies designated to them.

Caste profile of each of 144 constituencies was deliberated extensively and more visits by the central leaders to these constituencies have been planned to implement "corrective measures", they said

# India-Oz ties moving into higher orbit: Jaishankar

Minister also hails Australia as an early and vigorous supporter of India's Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

With ties between the two countries on an upward trajectory, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Tuesday hailed Australia as "an early and vigorous supporter" of India's Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI) and said the relations between the two countries have shifted gears and moved into a higher orbit.

Making this observation in an online address to the Australia-India Leadership Dialogue 2022, he also said a trade of over \$20 billion and investments at the \$25-billion level stand to rapidly expand by the Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement concluded in April 2022.

Jaishankar said Australia is a major educational destination

for Indian students, who number in excess of 100,000, while the Indian community, estimated at 7.2 lakh, is a source of strength for both societies. "But it is really in the realm of politics and strategy that the transformation has been the sharpest. Much of the growing convergence has been driven by concerns about the region's stability, prosperity and security," Jaishankar said.

He further said the deficit in global goods has been sought to be addressed by India and Australia working together bilaterally as well as in larger formats.

"This reflects their shared concerns about respect for international law and a rules-based order. The two countries may have long interacted in ASEAN-led forums, Commonwealth, Indian Ocean Rim Association, etc.

But stronger leadership and more open exchanges have brought out mutual benefits of closer cooperation and coordination. "Australia has been an early and vigorous supporter of India's Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI). In fact, the big change has been realization that a stronger bilat-

eral relationship today allows the two nations to contribute much more effectively at a regional and at a global level," he added. The IPOI builds upon the 'Security and Growth for All in the Region'

(SAGAR) initiative announced by Prime Minister Modi in 2015. The Australia-India Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative Partnership (AIIPOIP) in particular is focussed on maritime cooperation in the Indo-Pacific to support an open, inclusive, resilient, prosperous and rules-based maritime order.

Jaishankar also talked about a new intensity in the interactions between the two countries from the leadership level downwards and referred to a number of agreements in recent months.

These include pacts ranging from maritime collaboration, defence science exchanges, mutual logistics support to cooperation in cyber-enabled critical technology, critical and strategic minerals, water resources management, vocational education and training, as well as public administration and governance.

Sanjay Kumar Verma appointed High Commissioner to Canada

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Government on Tuesday appointed seasoned diplomat Sanjay Kumar Verma as India's next High Commissioner to Canada, while Amit Kumar, currently Consulate General of India in Chicago, will be the next ambassador to the Republic of Korea.

Verma, a 1988-batch Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer and presently India's Ambassador to Japan, is expected to take up the assignment shortly, the Ministry of External Affairs said in a statement.

He succeeds Acting High Commissioner Anshuman Gaur. Amit Kumar, who joined the Indian Foreign Service in 1995, was earlier Deputy Chief of Mission in the Embassy of India, Washington DC with Ambassador-rank. PNS

Jaishankar congratulates UK's new PM Liz Truss

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Tuesday congratulated Liz Truss on being chosen to be the next Prime Minister of the UK and said he is confident that the India-UK relationship will grow further under her leadership.

Jaishankar tweeted, "Your commitment to raising India-UK cooperation to a higher level is well known. Confident that our relationship will grow further under your leadership."

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had also congratulated Truss on Monday night after she was chosen to be next prime minister of UK and expressed confidence that under her leadership, the India-UK Comprehensive Strategic Partnership will be further strengthened.

# BJP hits out at Nitish after his meeting with Rahul

Your bid to unite Opp won't bear fruit, there is no vacancy for PM's post, says Prasad

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A day after Bihar Chief Minister's Nitish Kumar met former Congress president Rahul Gandhi in his bid to "unite" Opposition leaders in the run up to the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, the BJP on Tuesday claimed that his efforts would not bear any fruits as "there is no vacancy" for the Prime Minister's post and reminded him that many opposition leaders were "already in the queue."

"Nitishji! Rahul Gandhi ke saath aapki muskurati tasveer TV aur akhbaron mein dekh. Socha, aapko smaran karun ki aap toh Dr Ram Manohar Lohia ke shishya hain jo gair Congresswad ke pahle pravartak thay. Aaj kahan kaise gaye aap," tweeted Senior BJP leader and former union minister Ravi Shankar Prasad in Hindi.

The BJP leader sought to remind the Bihar Chief Minister that he is the disciple of Dr Ram Manohar Lohia who was the first promoter of

"anti-Congressism". Prasad suggested that Nitish was defeating the ideas espoused by Lohia by meeting the Congress leader. Prasad said that efforts of uniting opposition was made in the past met with no success and that there are several claimants to the Prime Minister's post in the opposition camp and he being only one of them in the queue.

"What you are doing today — knocking on every door — is not new. Many did the same before you but with no result. There is no vacancy for the prime minister's post. But many opposition leaders are already in the queue. You too stand," Prasad said.

"Had Nitish Kumar been proactive in developing Bihar like he is for his personal ambition, many Bihari youth would have got employment opportunity," the former Minister took a swipe in yet another of his tweet.

BJP's Rajya Sabha member and former deputy-chief Minister Sushil Kumar Modi also described Nitish's visit to the National Capital as "political tourism".

BJP and JDU are locked in a war words over several political issues following JDU's sudden exit from the BJP-led National Democratic alliance, last month, and Nitish forming a new coalition government with RJD, Congress and other parties in Bihar.

# SC may refer Shinde faction plea to Constitution bench



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday took note of the Eknath Shinde faction's claim about the Uddhav Thackeray camp stalling the proceedings before the Election Commission where the former's application staking claim over the Shiv Sena and its symbol is pending, and said it will consider listing its plea before a Constitution bench.

The Election Commission is seized of a plea by the faction led by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde seeking it be declared the real Shiv Sena and granted the party's bow and arrow poll symbol.

The top court, while referring to a five-judge constitution bench several questions related to defection, merger and disqualification arising out of the recent Maharashtra political crisis had on August 23 directed the Election Commission not to pass any order on the Shinde faction's plea.

"According to us, there was no interim order. The court had granted an extension of time to the other side (Uddhav group). Now, the other side is stalling the proceedings before the Election Commission.

Some elections are coming up in the month of October in the state," senior advocate N K Kaul, appearing for the Shinde faction, told a bench headed by Chief Justice UU Lalit.

"I will look into that and I cannot say anything off the cuff, but certainly, there will be something by tomorrow," the CJI said.

A bench headed by the then CJI N V Ramana (since retired) had on August 23 referred to a five-judge bench the petitions filed by both the factions of Shiv Sena.

UP Govt opposes Kerala journo's bail plea, alleges he has close links with PFI



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Uttar Pradesh Government has opposed the bail plea filed by Kerala journalist Siddique Kappan in the case filed against him under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA).

In an affidavit filed before the Supreme Court on Monday, the State Government said that Kappan has close links with extremist organisation Popular Front of India (PFI), which has an anti-national agenda and he was part of the larger conspiracy with the co-accused (including the financial launderer of CFI, Rauf Sharif) to foment religious discord and spread terror in the country especially in the wake of anti CAA protests and violence, the Babri Masjid decision of this Hon'ble Court and the Hathras incident.

"The anti-national and terrorist PFI conspiracy and agenda dates back to 2010 (when PFI cadres (ex SIMI) had brutally maimed (hacked off the hands) of Christian Lecturer TJ Thomas of Newman College, and to 2013 when a PFI-backed weapons training terrorist camp was raided by the Kerala police at Narath, an investigation which was later taken over by the NIA," said the affidavit, opposing bail petition.

Kappan who worked in PFI's newspaper Thejas was arrested on October 5, 2020 on his way to Hathras along with other two PFI leaders. Kappan was Delhi Unit Secretary of Kerala Working Journalists Union. Kappan's claim was he as a journalist was going to report the rape and murder incident in Hathras.

# Top court to hear from Sept 13 plea against Govt's call for 10% quota to EWS in jobs/admission

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday said it would begin hearing from September 13 a batch of pleas on the Constitutional validity of the Centre's decision to grant 10 per cent reservation to Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) in admissions and jobs.

A five-judge Constitution bench headed by Chief Justice UU Lalit said this after it was told that the lawyers for the parties would need 18 hours in all to argue.

The bench assured all the counsel that they would be provided adequate opportunity for advancing arguments and said it would assemble again on Thursday to pass directions to ensure smooth hearing on as many as 40 petitions. "Some suggested issues, framed by Gopal Sankarnarayanan, a senior advocate of this court, have been submitted.

These draft issues be circulated among all the counsel and after consulting all the crystallised version of all the issues be placed before this court on Thursday (September 8)," said the bench which also

comprised Justices Dinesh Maheshwari, S Ravindra Bhat, Bela M Trivedi and J B Pardiwala. Most of the petitions, including the lead one filed by 'janhit abhiyan' in 2019, challenge the validity of 103rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 2019, which provides for quota for EWS category candidates.

The Centre, through the 103rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 2019, introduced the provision for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) reservation in admissions and public services.

Earlier, the Centre had told the apex court that its law, granting 10-per cent quota for Economically Weaker Sections (EWSs), was brought in to promote "social equality" by providing "equal opportunities in higher education and employment to those who have been excluded by virtue of their economic status".

The Government had said the new law will not be covered by the Indra Sawhney versus Union of India (popularly called Mandal Commission verdict) verdict of 1992 as provision for reservation was made after amending the Constitution.

# India, Mongolia talk ways to boost defence, strategic cooperation

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

India and Mongolia on Tuesday discussed ways to further enhance bilateral defence and strategic ties during talks between Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and his counterpart Lt General Saikhanbayar Gursed in Ulaanbaatar. Rajnath is the first Defence Minister to visit Mongolia.

Giving details of his engagements, defence ministry officials said here Rajnath also called on the President of Mongolia Ukhnaagiin Khurelsukh and Chairman of State Great Khural.

The defence minister also inaugurated a Cyber Security Training Centre, built with assistance from India and laid the foundation stone of the India-Mongolia Friendship School, to be constructed with Indian assistance. On bilateral talks, the officials said the two ministers discussed effective and practical initiatives to further expand bilateral defence engagements.

The two leaders deliberated on regional and global issues of mutual interest. Both Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to fully implement the Strategic Partnership based on mutual trust and

understanding, common interests and shared values of democracy and rule of law. The two Ministers also reiterated their resolve to reinvigorate the India-Mongolia Joint Working Group (JWG), which will meet in India later this year.

In his interaction with the Mongolian president, the two leaders recalled their strong bonhomie and previous interaction in 2018 when together they laid the foundation stone for the ongoing oil refinery project being undertaken by assistance from India.

Rajnath also met Chairman of State Great Khural of Mongolia G Zandanshatar.

Rajnath along with Minister of Education and Science of Mongolia, laid the foundation stone of the India-Mongolia Friendship School, which is being established with the assistance from Government of India.

India established diplomatic relations with Mongolia in 1955. Mongolia has declared India as a strategic partner and "spiritual neighbour". In 2015, "strategic partnership" between the two Asian democracies was declared during the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Defence is an important element of bilateral engagements with Mongolia.

# Hasina announces Mujib Scholarship for Indian martyrs of 1971 B'desh war

New Delhi: Prime Minister of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina on Tuesday announced Mujib Scholarship for direct descendants of the Indian soldiers killed or grievously injured in the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War.

The awards will be conferred on Wednesday, she said. The award is named after Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Hasina's father. A total of 200 family members of Indian Army personnel will receive the scholarship.

"We are grateful for valuable support from government and people of India in great war of liberation of Bangladesh in 1971, which was a watershed moment in our bilateral relations....Tomorrow, I will confer Mujib Scholarship to the direct descendants of soldiers

or officers of defence forces of India who were martyred or gravely wounded during Bangladesh Liberation War," Hasina said. As many as 1,984 Indian Army personnel were killed in the war, according to the Bangladeshi government.

The Hasina government had earlier honoured other Indian supporters of the freedom movement of Bangladesh, including writers and politicians. In the past, Hasina had also proposed to confer similar honours to those soldiers who laid down their lives to liberate the country. Hasina, who is on a four-day visit to India, also oversaw the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between Prasar Bharti and Bangladesh Television (BTV) on cooperation in broadcasting. PNS

**FORM NO. 5**  
**DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL**  
600/1, University Road, Near Hanuman Setu Mandir, Lucknow-226007  
(Area of Jurisdiction-Part of Uttar Pradesh)  
**Summons for Filing & Appearance by Publication**  
**O.A. No. 517/2022**  
**Date 02.09.2022**  
[Summons to defendant under section 19(3) of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rules 12 and 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules, 1993)]  
ICICI BANK LTD. ..Applicant  
**Versus**  
VIKAS KUMAR SHARMA AND OTHERS  
...Defendants  
**To,**  
**Defendants :**  
**1. VIKAS KUMAR SHARMA S/o. SHIV RAJ SHARMA**  
House No. 267, Near Shiv Mandir, Kidwai Nagar, Sonda Modi Nagar, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201010  
**2. BABITA W/o. VIKAS KUMAR SHARMA**  
House No. 267, Near Shiv Mandir, Kidwai Nagar, Sonda Modi Nagar, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201010  
**3. DREAM PROCON PVT. LTD. Corporate Office at :** D1, Sector-3, Noida, Uttar Pradesh-201301  
In the above noted application, you are required to file in Paper Book form in two sets along with documents and affidavits (if any), personally or through your duly authorized agent or legal practitioner in this Tribunal, after serving copy of the same on the applicant or his counsel/duly authorized agent after publication of the summons, and thereafter to appear before the Tribunal on **07.11.2022 at 10.30 A.M.** failing which the application shall be heard and decided in your absence.  
**Registrar**  
**Debts Recovery Tribunal, Lucknow**

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**Original Application No. 516/2022**  
**ICICI BANK LTD. ....Applicant**  
**Versus**  
**SUMIT AGARWAL AND OTHERS**  
...Defendants  
**To,**  
**Defendants :**  
**1. SUMIT AGARWAL S/o. ASHOK AGARWAL**  
House No. A-134, Near NMC Hospital, RWA Society, Sector-30, Noida, Gautambudh Nagar, U.P.-201301  
**Also at :**  
Flat No. 2103, 21st Floor, Tower-C, Manorath, Plot No. Gh-04b Sec-16, Greater Noida- 201307  
**2. SONAL RAJAWAT W/o. SUMIT AGARWAL**  
House No. A-134, Near NMC Hospital, RWA Society, Sector-30, Noida, Gautambudh Nagar, U.P.-201301  
**3. M/S. MASCOT SOHO HOMES PVT. LTD. Registered Office at :** B-22 GAZIPUR VILLAGE, GAZIPUR, NEW DELHI-110096  
In the above noted application, you are required to file in Paper Book form in two sets along with documents and affidavits (if any), personally or through your duly authorized agent or legal practitioner in this Tribunal, after serving copy of the same on the applicant or his counsel/duly authorized agent after publication of the summons, and thereafter to appear before the Tribunal on **07.11.2022 at 10.30 A.M.** failing which the application shall be heard and decided in your absence.  
**Registrar**  
**DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, LUCKNOW**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Notice is hereby given to the General Public on behalf of our client that Mrs. Preeti Chaudhary is the owner of Built up Flat bearing No. UG-2, on Upper Ground floor, without roof rights, of property bearing No. F-110, Old No. 43, out of Kharsa No.1 etc/65, Situated in the area of Village Zaudin Pur, in the abadi of West Jyoti Nagar, Ilaga Sahibpur, Delhi vide a Regd. General Power of Attorney dated 11.10.2013, bearing document no.861. All persons are hereby informed that above mentioned owner wants to sell the said property to a person who intends to obtain loan from our client against the said property, if any body has any objection/s upon the ownership of above owner over the said property, its sale/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, 11th Floor, 23, Shivaji Marg, Mori Nagar, N. Delhi-15  
Ph: 011-40112229 Email: kumar.associates.advocates@gmail.com

**FORM NO. 5**  
**DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL**  
600/1, University Road, Near Hanuman Setu Mandir, Lucknow-226007  
(Area of Jurisdiction-Part of Uttar Pradesh)  
**Summons for Filing & Appearance by Publication**  
**O.A. No. 518/2022**  
**Date 02.09.2022**  
[Summons to defendant under section 19(3) of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rules 12 and 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules, 1993)]  
ICICI BANK LTD. ..Applicant  
**Versus**  
**MANISH SAXENA AND OTHERS**  
...Defendants  
**To,**  
**Defendants :**  
**1. DREAM PROCON PVT. LTD. Corporate Office at :** D1, Sector-3, Noida, Uttar Pradesh-201301  
In the above noted application, you are required to file in Paper Book form in two sets along with documents and affidavits (if any), personally or through your duly authorized agent or legal practitioner in this Tribunal, after serving copy of the same on the applicant or his counsel/duly authorized agent after publication of the summons, and thereafter to appear before the Tribunal on **07.11.2022 at 10.30 A.M.** failing which the application shall be heard and decided in your absence.  
**Registrar**  
**Debts Recovery Tribunal, Lucknow**

# Taken up as challenge to restore rain-ruined Bengaluru, says CM



PTI ■ BENGALURU

Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Tuesday blamed the previous Congress Governments’ “mal-administration” and unprecedented rains in the capital city for the deluge.

He said, despite all odds, his Government has taken it up as a challenge to restore the rain battered city, and make sure that such things don’t recur in the future.

Owing to the torrential downpour that lashed the state capital for the last couple of days, several areas are still under water with houses and vehicles partially inundated, there by affecting normal life.

“Karnataka, especially Bengaluru has not received unprecedented heavy rain. For the last 90 years such rain has not been recorded. All the tanks are full and are overflowing, some of them have breached, and there have been

continuous rains, every day it is raining,” Bommai said.

Speaking to reporters here, he said a picture is being portrayed that the entire city is facing difficulties, which is not the case.

“Basically the issue lies in two zones, particularly the Mahadevapura zone for reasons such as presence of 69 tanks in that small area and almost all of them have either breached or are overflowing, secondly, all establishments are in low lying areas, and the third is encroachments,” he listed out.

Noting that his government has taken it as a “challenge”, the CM said officers, engineers and workers and State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) teams are working 24/7.

“We have cleared lots of encroachments and we will continue to clear them. We are installing sluice gates to the tanks so that they can be man-

## Several streets, areas still inundated in State

PTI ■ BENGALURU

The situation in several parts of rain battered Bengaluru, by and large continued to remain the same on Tuesday, with streets waterlogged, houses and vehicles partially inundated, as torrential downpour lashed the capital city on September 5 night.

Using boats and tractors to cross the streets submerged in water by office goers and school children was a common sight this morning in several parts of the city like Yemalur, Rainbow Drive layout, Sunny Brooks Layout, Marathahalli among several others. “I came by tractor as roads are all submerged in water, also our vehicles are under water... I have exams from tomorrow, so I have to go to school,” a girl

dressed in school uniform said.

“Water has not receded, as there was rain once again last night (Monday), in fact I feel it has increased. I have to go to the office, kids have schools, and I somehow used a tractor today. Request the government and authorities to do something and restore normalcy,” said an office goer.

According to Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, some areas in the state capital have received 150 per cent more rains than normal between September 1 and 5. Mahadevapura, Bommanahalli and K.R.Puram have recorded 307 per cent excess rain. “This was the highest rainfall in the last 42 years. All the 164 tanks in Bengaluru are filled to the brim,” he said.

aged better. I have instructed officials to ensure that the control room works 24/7. We have started dewatering in most of the areas. Other than one or two areas almost all areas have been dewatered,” he said, adding that rain is not giving respite to work properly as there have been rains every day. Blaming “maladministra-

tion and unplanned administration” of the previous Congress governments for the present misery, Bommai said they had given permissions for construction activities “right-left-centre” in the lake areas, on the tank bunds and buffer zones.

They had never thought of maintaining the lakes, he said.

## 23-yr-old woman electrocuted

PTI ■ BENGALURU

A 23-year old woman, who allegedly died due to electrocution after she came into contact with an electric pole while navigating a road flooded with rain water here was a “pillar of support” for the family, both financially and morally.

With aged parents and a handicapped brother at home, Akhila started working after completing her graduation to support the family’s needs.

Akhila worked in the administration department of a private school. “We (parents) had called her last night and she had told me that she will come home, once the rain stops...No child should face what my child faced. Our life was dependent on her earnings, my wife can’t work, son is handicapped...,” Akhila’s father Somashekar said.

“Now I have taken it up as a challenge. I have given Rs 1,500 crores for development of storm water drains, I have yesterday released Rs 300 crore to remove all encroachments and do a pucca structure along the storm water drains and for the infrastructure, so that there are no impediments and bottleneck in the flow of water.”

# Cong to launch ‘Bharat Jodo Yatra’ in Kanyakumari

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress is all set to launch its 3,570-km ‘Bharat Jodo Yatra’ on Wednesday at a mega rally in Kanyakumari with former Congress president Rahul Gandhi to take part in a prayer meeting at former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi’s memorial in Sriperumbudur.

It will be followed by an event where DMK leader and Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and Chhattisgarh CM Bhupesh Baghel will be present where Rahul will be handed over a Khadi national flag.

Stalin is in a coalition Government with Congress and the grand old party has invited all the like minded parties to join the Yatra which seeks to highlight the plights of economic disparities, social polarisation and political centralization amidst host of issues concerning the general citizens.

Before the launch of the yatra, Rahul will also visit the Vivekananda Rock Memorial, Thiruvalluvar Statue and Kamaraj Memorial in Kanyakumari. Though the 3,570-km yatra from Kanyakumari to Srinagar, covering 12 states and two Union Territories in about five months, will be formally launched at the rally, it will actually begin at 7 AM on September 8 when Rahul and



several other Congress leaders will embark on the march.

Ahead of the Yatra, Rahul has said that with all paths allegedly blocked by the government, the Congress now has to go to the people and tell them the truth, and that is why the party is undertaking the ‘Bharat Jodo Yatra’.

The ‘padayatra’ will move in two batches, one from 7-10:30 am and the other from 3:30 pm to 6:30 pm. While the morning session will include a lesser number of participants, the evening session will see mass mobilisation. On an average, the ‘padayatri’ plan to walk around 22-23 km daily. Congress has asserted that its Yatra from Kashmir to Kanyakumari is not a ‘Mann Ki Baat’ in any manner, but its objective is to ensure that the concerns and demands of the people reach Delhi.

The party has classified 119 leaders, including Rahul Gandhi, as ‘Bharat Yatri’ who will walk through the entire distance from Kanyakumari to Srinagar. The ‘padayatra’ will reach Kerala on September 11 and will traverse through the State for the next 18 days.

## Centre likely to sign peace accord with Assam Adivasi ultras: CM Biswa

PTI ■ KOKRAJHAR (ASSAM)

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa on Tuesday said the Centre is likely to sign a peace accord with militant organisations from the State’s Adivasi communities within September.

Addressing a Press conference after a Cabinet meeting here, he said his Government has found a gap of around 50 lakh beneficiaries after linking Aadhaar cards with ration cards across the State.

“The Central Government is likely to sign a peace accord with militant groups from the Adivasi communities of Assam within this month,” Sarma said.

Without sharing any detail, he said that the entire process is being carried out under the initiative of Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

A senior official from the Assam Police headquarters told PTI that five militant groups are likely to sign the peace agreement. These groups are All Adivasi National Liberation Army, Adivasi Cobra Militant of Assam, Birs Commando Force, Santhal Tiger Force and Adivasi People’s Army.

“These groups have been in ceasefire for many years after announcing Suspension of Operations. Their cadres live at designated camps under police protection,” the official said.

The central government in January 2020 signed an agreement - Bodo Peace Accord - with militant group National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB).

# BSF silences Pak Rangers’ guns in Arnia; 2 Hizbul terrorists killed

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

Peace prevailing along the International border with Pakistan, since February last year, was once again shattered by the Pakistani Rangers by resorting to ‘unprovoked’ firing on the BSF patrol party near Chinaz border outpost in the Arnia sector of Jammu frontier on Tuesday.

In response the alert BSF troops gave a befitting response to silence their guns.

This is the first incident of ‘unprovoked’ firing targeting the Indian border guards this year. A similar incident was earlier reported in May 2021 in the Rangarh sub sector of Samba after both India and Pakistan had renewed their mutually brokered ceasefire agreement from the midnight of February 24-25, 2021. In



Meanwhile, two terrorists belonging to the pro-Pakistan Hizbul Mujahideen terrorist outfit were neutralised by the joint team of the security forces at Poshkreeri area of Anantnag. Both the killed terrorists have been identified as Danish Bhat @ Kokab Duree & Basharat Nabi. They were affiliated with proscribed terror outfit Hizbul Mujahideen In a written statement Jammu and Kashmir police spokesman said, both the terrorists were involved in the killing of one Territorial Army personnel Saleem on 9 April 2021 & killing of two civilians on 29 May 2021 in Jablipora. In Jammu, the BSF and Pakistan Rangers held a flag meeting hours after exchanging several rounds of fire and decided to adhere to the ceasefire agreement.

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# Madrasa survey in UP mini-NRC, move to harass Muslims: Owaisi

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The Yogi Adityanath Government’s decision to launch a survey to identify the unrecognised madrasas and gather details such as organisations running them, curriculum and source of income has sparked a political row. The Opposition alleged that the exercise was meant to harass Muslims in Uttar Pradesh.

Jamiat Ulema-e-Hind, an organisation of Islamic clerics, said on Tuesday that they would not oppose the survey if it was done under the law. The Jamiat has also formed a steering committee to decide on the survey and asked madrasas in UP to maintain their accounts.

However, Jamiat president Maulana Mahmood Madani said, “The UP Government should try to understand, and



not misunderstand us.”

All-India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimin (AIMM) chief Asaduddin Owaisi said the exercise was not a survey but a “mini-NRC”.

He hit out at the UP Government for “harassing Muslims” and said the government could not interfere with their rights under Article 30 of the Constitution.

There are 16,513 recognised madrasas with about 20 lakh students in the state, according to the Uttar Pradesh Madrasa Shiksha Board.

# SC voices concern over people getting booked under scrapped Sec 66A of IT Act

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Calling a “matter of serious concern” the registration of FIRs under Section 66A of the Information Technology Act it had scrapped in 2015, the Supreme Court on Tuesday asked the Chief Secretaries of States concerned to take back the cases within three weeks.

Under the scrapped section 66A of the IT Act, a person posting offensive content could be imprisoned for up to three years and also fined. Terming liberty of thought and expression “cardinal”, the top court had on March 24, 2015 done away with the provision, saying “the public’s right to know is directly affected by Section 66A of the Information

Technology Act”.

Later, it took a serious note of the use of the scrapped provision by the law enforcement agencies and issued notices to states and high court registries.

“It is the matter of serious concern that despite an authoritative pronouncement of this court by which the validity of the provision was set aside, the cases are still being registered,” a bench comprising Chief Justice Uday Umesh Lalit and Justice S Ravindra Bhat said on Tuesday.

The top court directed the chief secretaries of the states had on March 24, 2015 done away with the provision, saying “the public’s right to know is directly affected by Section 66A of the Information

# TMC leader raped, extorted cash for group D job: Victim

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Even as the Trinamool Congress grappled with school level recruitment scams and other instances of corruption that have seen a number of senior party leaders, including Ministers going to jail, a new case of sex-for-job has burst in Bengal ruling party’s face.

A TMC block president has been accused of repeatedly raping a Group D job seeker besides extracting Rs 10 lakh from the victim.

The incident has taken place at Mangalkot region of Burdwan district, sources said.

Not only the TMC leader extracted cash for job from the woman and raped her but also

beat her up when she went to demand the money after the leader failed to provide her the job.

“I approached Pal da (the TMC leader) for Group D government job ... He asked for Rs 10 lakhs... Later even after repeated reminders he failed to arrange for the job ... He also raped me... And I conceived ... Subsequently when I asked him to return my money he beat me so severely that I suffered abortion,” the victim said.

The Burdwan Police refused to comment but a senior official said actions would be taken if the allegations were true.

Meanwhile, the Calcutta

High Court on Tuesday passes yet another judgement directing the State Government to immediately provide appointment to 54 candidates who could not get appointment due to lapses on the part of primary teachers appointment board.

The same court had earlier ordered CBI investigation into school level recruitment scam that ultimately saw former Education Minister Partha Chatterjee land in jail.

The Court had on Monday directed the Government to appoint 23 TET candidates in coming 23 days.

The Tuesday’s order provides respite to 77 candidates in two consecutive days.

# Four newly-wedded girls commit suicide in 3 days over dowry demand in Kerala

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Five newly wedded girls dying due to murders and suicides in the last three days has shocked the Kerala psyche again.

Out of the five victims, four lost their lives as the fallout of ill treatment by the in-laws who demanded from the new brides more money and gold as dowry. Paravoor in Ernakulam woke up to a sad Monday morning as 22-year-old Amala was found hanging in her husband’s house.

The girl was found to be three months pregnant and was not allowed to speak with her parents in



Thiruvananthapuram. “It was an arranged marriage and the couple visited our house only twice after the marriage. My daughter is not one who resorts to suicide or extreme measures. There is foul play behind this death,” her mother told journalists on Monday. Police have registered a case over unnatural death and a probe is on to ascertain the factors that led Amala to resort to the extreme step.

Even before the autopsy of

Amala could get over, 26-year-old Nikita of Alappuzha was murdered allegedly by her husband Aneesh at Varkkala early Tuesday morning. The couple got married in July and was abroad for sometime before they returned home in August. Aneesh reportedly stabbed his wife with a lamp made of brass and Nikita died on the spot.

There was report of another unnatural death from Payyannoor in Kannur district where K P Soorya, another newly married girl was found dead under mysterious conditions. Her parents alleged that her husband Rajesh had been behaving in a cruel manner from day one with her.

# Yogi Govt OK’s ₹193 cr aid for farmers in UP

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

In an attempt to provide the much-needed relief to farmers facing challenges, the Uttar Pradesh Cabinet, under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, approved an aid of Rs 192.57 crore for them on Tuesday.

The amount will be used for weed control as well as safe storage of standing and ready crops in the field, using various ecological resources in the next five years.

In this regard, the required chemical and biological pesticides will be given to the farmers on a grant from

the Agricultural Defense Unit. A proposal to give a 50 per cent subsidy on storage units has also been approved for the safe storage of crops.

It is worth noting that farmers suffer huge crop losses due to weeds, insects, pests, damage due to unsafe storage, and rats every year.

To reduce the loss of farmers, the cabinet approved an assistance of Rs 192,57,75,000 for a period of five years from 2022-23 to 2026-27.

The government will spend Rs 34.17 crore in the current financial year for the benefit of farmers.

**SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE**  
**ICICI Bank** Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, 3rd Floor, Plot No- 23, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi- 110005  
**Whereas**  
The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Bank Limited under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) R/w Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, (on underlying pool assigned to ICICI Bank by Dewan Housing Finance Ltd.) in relation to the enforcement of security in respect of a housing loan facility granted pursuant to a loan agreement entered into between DHFL and the borrower, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.  
As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/ her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ICICI Bank Limited.  

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number (DHFL Old LAN & ICICI New LAN)	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Aman Kathuria/ Amrita/ QZGUR00005000123-19700041618	Fiat No. 405, Tower 8, Fourth Floor, M V N Athens Sohna, Sector 5 Sohna, Haryana, Gurgaon 122103/ September 03, 2022.	April 16, 2022 Rs. 12,74,524/-	Delhi/ NCR

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/ guarantors(s) are hereby given a 30 day notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.  
**Date : September 07, 2022**  
**Place : Delhi/ NCR**  
**Authorized Officer**  
**ICICI Bank Limited**

**SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE**  
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Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Narender Kumar/ Sunita Rani/ LBDEL00001980116	Plot No- 137, Block- D, Sector- 11, Dlf Model Town, Faridabad, Faridabad/ September 03, 2022	June 19, 2021 Rs. 3.54,104/-	Delhi/ NCR
2.	Nitin Tiwari/ Shilpi Tiwari/ Ram Naresh/ LBGUR00002654054	Fiat No.19001, Ground Floor Tower 19 Pine Wood Zara Aavaas Sec 104 Gurgaon Haryana 122001./ September 03, 2022.	April 16, 2022 Rs. 23,29,014/-	Delhi/ NCR
3.	Sonu Kumar/ Preeti/ LBFDB00005075313	Fiat No-A7/201, 2nd Floor, Habitat 78, Tower A7, Village Faridpur, Sector 78, Faridabad, Haryana./ September 03, 2022.	November 15, 2021 Rs. 13,90,391/-	Delhi/ NCR
4.	Tejpal Singh/ Sanjeev Singh/ LBFDB00003683826	Fiat No- 1207A Tower No- 1, 12th Floor, Tower- 1, Sector- 84, Devaan Gurgaon 122001./ September 03, 2022.	April 16, 2022 Rs. 12,63,348/-	Delhi/ NCR

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/ guarantors(s) are hereby given a 30 day notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.  
**Date : September 07, 2022**  
**Place: Delhi/ NCR**  
**Authorized Officer**  
**ICICI Bank Limited**

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PAPER WITH PASSION

# Good for India

We can expect Truss' premiership to benefit us, given her tough stance vis-à-vis China

The mainstream media loves to lambaste and lampoon Rightwing leaders. Their shortcomings are magnified a million times and achievements shrunk in similar proportions. US president Ronald Reagan was ridiculed as a trigger-happy cowboy who mistook world politics for the Wild West; George Bush Jr was the butt of jokes among journalists; and Donald Trump was not just continuously mocked but also viciously maligned. In our own country, BJP leaders are often denounced not for what they say or do but for being what they are, for their political beliefs. So it should not come as a surprise that even before she took oath as British Prime Minister, Mary Elizabeth Truss began attracting uncharitable comments from political analysts. Perhaps this has something to do with her identification with Margaret Thatcher, the legendary British PM who, along with Reagan, brought down the Soviet Union. Thatcher, by the way, was another hated figure among the liberal establishment which is increasingly being infected with all manner of Leftist viruses.



Truss has already been called a political chameleon; she has been depicted as a leader whose stand on any issue is a function of expedience, not of principle. Once she was a Republican, favouring the abolition of monarchy, but now she, as a Conservative leader, seems to have discarded her antipathy towards monarchy. She opposed Brexit, but eventually went for it. All politicians, even great statesmen, change their views and give considerable concession to pragmatist policies, but Rightwing politicians are slammed more than others. Truss is no exception.

Third woman Prime Minister after Thatcher and Theresa May, Truss has promised to cut taxes and deal with a growing energy crisis. A massive economic crisis greets Truss, with inflation at 13 per cent, the highest in four decades, and projected by Goldman Sachs to climb to 22 per cent. Deutsche Bank has warned of the risk of a balance of payment crisis. The fiscal situation is also tight. Against this backdrop, Truss' insistence on no new taxes and less regulation will help, because it will help the economy. From India's perspective, her term should be good. She is likely to soon sign the comprehensive free trade agreement (FTA) with India. India is convinced of that. Commerce Secretary BVR Subrahmanyam said the "Diwali deadline is not going to be missed. Mark my words." Also, Truss is quite tough on China. In a speech earlier this year, she said, "China and Russia have spotted an ideological vacuum and they're rushing to fill it. They are emboldened in a way we haven't seen since the Cold War. As freedom-loving democracies, we must rise up to face these threats. As well as Nato, we are working with partners like Australia, India, Japan, Indonesia and Israel to build a global network of liberty." Such an attitude will help India counter a bellicose China better. In a nutshell, we can expect that Truss' premiership will benefit us.



Tribal youth celebrate 'Karma' festival, in Ranchi

## Skipper fights back

Going by his track record as cricket captain, the fighter that Imran Khan is not going to be cowed easily

The way ousted Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan is taking on the new Government and Pakistan Army, it is clear that he is in no mood to be subdued and is not bowing out of Pakistan's unstable politics. He has become more aggressive after the Government slapped him with terrorism charges after he allegedly threatened the Islamabad police chief and a judge in his speech. He is accusing officials of delaying snap elections so that the successor of Pakistan Army Chief Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa can be chosen as per their desires. But since the present political dispensation and Army chief Gen Bajwa have made a common cause against him, it is very unlikely that his appeal for early elections would be heard. Bajwa is to retire in November. It is no secret that any civil Government in Pakistan needs to have the Army on its side and if that doesn't happen, the days of democratically elected Government are numbered.



Initially, Imran Khan was a blue-eyed boy of Army Generals and enjoyed a good rapport with Bajwa but they fell apart on the choice of the successor of Bajwa. He wanted to replace Lt Gen Faiz Hameed, the director-general of the Inter-Services Intelligence, Imran's favourite. Eventually, Bajwa removed Hameed and soon the two parted ways. It is not that Imran doesn't have support in the Army. He does and that is where his confidence comes from but his open criticism of the Pakistan Army is doing him no good as he has questioned the credentials of top Generals. This means he would be

having more enemies than friends in the Pakistan Army even after Bajwa's departure. The Generals are not going to like the insults heaped upon them; after all, the military has ruled Pakistan directly or by proxy since its birth. Imran Khan was removed from his post on April 10 this year. He maintains it was on the US behest, though his fallout with Bajwa is closer to the truth. But since then he has maintained pressure on Shehbaz Sharif's Government. But by roping in the Army into his tirade, Khan is walking a tightrope. He even went on to say that Sharif's Government wanted to avoid the 'patriotic' Army chief, the ultimate insult to any Army personnel. He is also doing some serious disservice to 'jhamooriya' in his country by openly politicising the Army and involving them in the political process. But then that is how Pakistani politics has always been!

# After much ado, Truss is UK PM

Liz Truss beats Rishi Sunak by a whisker but the ex-Finance Minister did create history of sorts by coming so close to 10 Downing Street

I'm wandering across Scotland spreading time between tasting Scotch, admiring the stunning terrain, imbibing the Scottish way, and witnessing historic political events in the UK from Melrose, on the Scottish-English border. Dominating the news are two events: the battle for No 10; and the embarrassing failure of HMS Prince of Wales to sail.

At 12.30 PM Monday, the Conservative Party at Westminster chose Foreign Minister Liz Truss over Rishi Sunak with a surprisingly small majority to become Prime Minister of Britain following the coup against Boris Johnson in July. Truss's win was widely predicted and only a miracle could have helped Sunak win. Commentators said they would 'eat their hat' or any other item of accoutrement was Truss to lose. The UK is not yet ready to have a non-White as Prime Minister.

At 96, the ailing but most loved Queen did not ask the heir to the throne, Prince Charles to swear in Liz Truss, a ceremony that was performed for the first time at Balmoral Castle during her 70-year reign and not Buckingham Palace where thousands of tourists pay Pound Sterling 30 (Rs 3000) for a guided tour. Instead, yesterday the Queen received the PM-in-waiting Truss for the 'kissing of the hand', forming the government, and a photograph. In 1908, King Edward VII gave an audience to Herbert Asquith when the monarch was relaxing at the French coastal resort of Biarritz. Both Truss and Sunak had agreed to meet the Queen wherever she was, with Sunak adding: "the PM serves her Majesty". For Indians, Sunak reaching so close (and yet so far) to becoming PM must be something to celebrate.

On 27th August, the Daily Telegraph put out a two-page supplement for its guestimate of the Truss cabinet. Expected for the three most senior posts of Chancellor, Home Secretary, and Foreign Secretary are Kwasi Kwarteng, Suella Braverman, and James Cleverly. Kwarteng is a free marketeer and a consistent political ally of Truss. Together they have advocated low taxes, low



regulation economy, and minimum governance. John Redwood and Jacob Rees-Mogg are likely to assist the Chancellor. Braverman will have the challenging mission of ending illegal immigrants across the Channel (last Sunday 1061 crossed over). She's known to have favoured their deportation to Rwanda, since suspended by the courts. Braverman, a child of Kenyan and Mauritian immigrants had described the British empire as "on the whole, a force of good". For Foreign Secretary, Truss' likely choice and replacement are James Cleverly assisted by Tom Tugendhat, who was one of the PM aspirants. Cleverly was a junior minister in the Foreign Office. Tugendhat, a former Army officer, and like Truss a China hawk is chairman Foreign Affairs select committee. Ben Wallace, the current Defence Minister, is likely to keep his job. He has advocated a higher defence budget which agrees with Truss'pledge to raise it to 3 per cent of GDP. Some other 'likelies' in the Cabinet are Sir Ian Duncan Smith as leader of the House, Nadeem Zahawi whose lead-

“AT 96, AILING BUT MOST LOVED QUEEN DID NOT ASK HEIR TO THE THRONE, PRINCE CHARLES TO SWEAR IN LIZ TRUSS

ership bid failed spectacularly, as Health Secretary, and Ranil Jayawardene of Sri Lankan descent as Environment Secretary. Whether Sunak will be in the big question. He has said he wants to support the Conservative Government in "whatever capacity".

Sajid Javed who triggered the coup against Boris Johnson and later backed Truss may be rewarded with a ministerial post. Big names likely to be left out are Rishi Sunak, Dominic Raab, and Alok Sharma. The Truss government faces enormous economic challenges especially meteoric energy bills. While the pound sterling is struggling, funding the National Health Service is the other big challenge. The never-ending row with France is back in the spotlight. When asked last week whether she considered Macron a friend or foe, Truss replied: 'the jury is out'. Macron's response: 'The UK is a friendly nation, regardless of its leaders'. Macron added: 'if Britain and France cannot determine whether they are friends or enemies, then we are heading for serious problems. An embarrassing event

that Britain could have done without last week was the failed maiden voyage to the US of the UK's largest (65,000 tonnes) aircraft carrier, HMS Prince of Wales, dedicated to Nato. Earlier this year, the second aircraft carrier, Queen Elizabeth, was on a long tour of the Indo-Pacific which included exercises with the Indian Navy. A British Gurkha veteran I spoke to, was puzzled about the four-year Agnipath scheme. Operation Bojo (return of Boris Johnson as PM) many Brits feel, could happen before Christmas following a no-confidence vote in Truss so that he can lead Tories into elections in January 2025. Labour is ahead in the recent polls. India is hoping the FTA under India-UK Comprehensive Strategic Partnership due by Diwali will happen and the price of Scotch will be deregulated. Cheers from Melrose!

(The writer, a retired Lt Gen, was Commander, IPKF South, Sri Lanka, and founder member of the Defence Planning Staff, currently the Integrated Defence Staff. The views expressed are personal.)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### RIISING FATALITIES ON THE ROAD

Sir — The fatal road accident involving former Tata Sons chairman Cyrus Mistry once again brings into focus the high number of deaths caused in such incidents every year in the country, with Government data showing that a record 1.55 lakh lives were lost in 2021. Mistry, 54, was killed after his car hit a divider in Maharashtra's Palghar district while travelling from Ahmedabad to Mumbai in a Mercedes car. According to the recent National Crime Records Bureau data, over 1.55 lakh people were killed in road crashes across India in 2021 — an average of 426 daily or 18 every single hour.

This is the highest death figures recorded in such accidents in any calendar year so far. Besides the deaths, 3.71 lakh people were also injured in 4.03 lakh road accidents across the country last year, shows the NCRB figures under the 'Accidental Deaths & Suicides in India 2021' head. The data showed a majority (59.7 per cent) of the road accidents were due to speeding, accounting for 87,050 deaths and injuries to 2.28 lakh persons. With Mistry's death, the focus has already come back to the alarming increase in road accidents.

Bhagwan Thadani | Mumbai

### KARNATAKA BJP MLA IS A SHAME

Sir — The uncivilised behaviour of a BJP legislator from Bengaluru towards a woman is abhorrent. It demonstrates that he does not have the patience to receive petitions and listen to people's woes. The same BJP MLA had previously apologised for her daughter's behaviour toward the traffic police after she was accused of breaking traffic laws. Leaders and public representatives are always expected to be restrained and display decent behaviour. There have been many such cases across the country when public representatives have abused people and sometimes even the higher authorities.

The police present at the spot are seen attempting to make the woman go away instead of addressing the visibly aggressive

## Political scene is hotting up



In an intriguing turn of events at the national political stage, Bihar Chief Minister and veteran political leader Nitish Kumar has surpassed a couple of his counterparts including West Bengal's Mamata Banerjee, Tamil Nadu's MK Stalin and Telangana's K Chandrashekar Rao in the race to the united Opposition's prime ministerial candidate in the general elections due in 2024, thanks to Nitish's success in clutching to power as the Chief Minister for a record fourth

time with the support of the RJD and other non-BJP outfits following his differences with the Speaker that snowballed into a major controversy leading to the political flip-flop.

Emboldened by his signature masterstroke, Nitish is on a three-day visit to the national Capital, obviously with a view to mustering support in this regard. Ironically, five of the six JD(U) legislators in Manipur have switched over to the BJP in the meantime. Already beleaguered by its internece bickering, the 'grand old party' has maintained a studied silence vis-a-vis the grouping of the Opposition parties against the formidable BJP taking place in the run-up to the Lok Sabha polls. Let's wait and watch as to how many more surprises are there to be sprung upon us in the coming days, given that 'politics' is dubbed as a game replete with uncertainties coming out till the last minute!

Azhar A Khan | Rampur

leader. The police machinery had been lax by not receiving the complaint lodged by the woman for five hours and making her sit unnecessarily inside the station. A member of the Aam Aam Party (AAP), the MLA from Deoli, was arrested on charges of misbehaving with a woman when the victim lodged a complaint with the Lieutenant Governor. Unfortunately, in Karnataka, the police top brass is still groping in the dark without initiating action as per the law.

KV Chandra Mouli | Mysuru

### SEVERAL DECADES OF HARD WORK

Sir — India has joined an elite group of countries, viz: the US, the UK, China, France, Japan and Russia, who have the technological capability to construct large-sized futuristic warships with the commissioning of INS Vikrant, the first indigenous aircraft carrier built by Cochin Shipyard. The warship's keel laying was done in 2009. The 262-metre-long and 62-metre-wide 45,000-tonne carrier can carry 10 helicopters and 20 warplanes on board. Cochin

Shipyard at Kochi is the largest shipbuilding facility in the country. It started its operations in 1982.

SAIL, HAL, Tata, L&T, Wartsila, Kirloskar Pneumatics and public sector undertakings, Bharat Electronics Limited and Mishra Dhatu Nigam, that played a pivotal role in putting together the warship's structure and contributed prominently to the carrier's construction, came into being many years ago. In short, independent India's march towards self-sufficiency (Atma Nirbharta) began decades ago, thanks to the visionary zeal of our former Prime Ministers, particularly Jawaharlal Nehru. It would have been gratifying had the current ruling dispensation at the Centre ordered the construction of a bigger 65,000-tonne aircraft carrier as the Shipyard had proposed, to make the country absolutely self-sufficient.

Haridasan Rajan | Kozhikode

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

## SOUND BITE

The BJP Govt (in Gujarat) will waive loans of top industrialists but have they ever waived loans of farmers?



Congress leader —Rahul Gandhi

We now unite behind the new PM, Liz Truss, as she steers the country through difficult times.

UK ex-Finance Minister —Rishi Sunak

OTT's contribution to my career is huge. In fact, it's a great time for everybody.



Actor —Sikandar Kher

Under pressure, anyone can make a mistake. It (India vs Pakistan) was a big match.

Indian cricketer —Virat Kohli

Manish Sisodia has earned a lot of commission and money because of the (now scrapped) excise policy.



BJP spokesperson —Sambit Patra

FIRST COLUMN

THERE IS NO WILL TO LIMIT NOISE POLLUTION

The SC should fix accountability for noise pollution in States



S KALYANASUNDARAM

News report last year about ill effects of noise pollution said that a poultry farmer in Odisha's Balasore district reported more than 60 broiler chickens in his farm dying due to heart attacks. That was caused by loud music coming from a bridegroom party that came to his village. According to the report, Ranjit Parida, the farmer, said that the bridegroom's wedding procession came to his village around 11 pm on the day of the incident and started playing loud music and also burst loud firecrackers.

The farmer requested people in the marriage procession to lower the volume but they were all drunk. Terrified chickens in his farm started running around in fear and an hour later Parida found 63 chickens dead, according to the news report.

When the aggrieved farmer consulted with a local veterinarian, he said that the loud noise had caused the birds to go into shock, killing them. It is reported that an FIR has been lodged with the local police.

We can't ignore this as a stray incident, as all over the country, throughout the year, some noise pollution is allowed to exist and no one seems to bother the ill-effect on the health of human beings and other living creatures. Temple functions, marriage parties, political meetings, etc., are invariably organized with loud music through cone loudspeakers.



In July 2005, the Supreme Court banned the use of cone speakers after it was found that they produce very high decibels of sound compared to the box-shaped sound systems. But in any city one can see that many residents complain that the Pollution Control Board does not take any action against such users of cone speakers.

Now there is a fresh debate on the use of loudspeakers by places of worship in the country. In April this year, the Uttar Pradesh Home Department said that illegal loudspeakers will be removed from religious places across the state. It also said that loudspeakers flouting the noise limit standards will be removed. This was following the statement of the Chief Minister that loudspeakers can be used at religious places with permission but the sound must not come out of the premises. He also said that no new permits will be issued for loudspeakers.

In August 2016, the Bombay High Court ruled that the use of loudspeakers was not a fundamental right. The Bombay High Court observed that no religion or sect could claim that the right to use a loudspeaker or a public address system was a fundamental right conferred by Article 25 of the Constitution of India.

On June 26, 2018, the Uttarakhand High Court set a five-decibel limit for loudspeakers, but modified in July 2020 the order, limiting the noise level at five decibels calling it an "accidental error".

In September 2018, the Karnataka High Court banned the use of loudspeakers after 10 pm. In July 2019, the Punjab and Haryana High Court banned the use of loudspeakers at public places, including religious bodies.

On May 15, 2020, the Allahabad High Court held that azaan could be recited by a muezzin from minarets of the mosques by human voice only without using any amplifying device or loudspeakers. On January 11, 2021, the Karnataka High Court directed the state government to act against illegal loudspeakers at religious places in the state.

The real issue is not absence of legal provision but absence of execution of the directions of various courts, including that of the Supreme Court.

*(The author is a retired banker)*

A Barefoot journey to lifelong live learning

Accessible quality education rooted in indigenous wisdom is the mantra at Tilonia's Barefoot College



SHEFALI MARTINS

Rajasthan: An engineering class is underway. The 45 students are grandmothers from 10 different countries. None of them have formally studied science. In fact, most of them are semi-literate. Dressed in a ghaghra odhni, their rural instructor Magan Kanwar doesn't speak any of their languages or even English. But their communication is perfect, as she instructs them on assembling circuits for solar lamps. This group of women, after a six-month training, will return to their respective villages and electrify them. If you thought this was unusual, this is just one of the multiple uncommon but highly effective educational innovations at Social Work and Research Centre, Tilonia's Barefoot College, located in the heart of rural Rajasthan, 110 kilometres from Jaipur.

In the past half-century, it has stood for bringing together technology, communication, education and handicrafts for the betterment of the rural communities rooted in traditional wisdom and practiced through Gandhian values. The college, right from the beginning, has been putting into practice all the values of modern education: breaking silos between subjects, experimental and hands-on learning and most important of all learning for change and impact.

In 1975, the institution began with evening literacy classes for 15-35-year-olds. As the student body expanded across villages, so did the numbers of Night Schools. Community-run village education committees (VEC) appointed local teachers provided with uniform training on basic subjects, civil and Constitutional rights.

Learning in these schools is integrated in the pupils' lives. They learn mathematics through the number of animals they take for grazing and science through the concepts they see around them. Local and relevant environment issues are added to the teaching alongside agriculture and animal husbandry, because most of them tend cattle. Though the journey is barefoot, the approach is modern and updated, and 2014 onwards, when it was seen that digital growth is imperative to education, Barefoot College equipped the schools with technology and thus began Solar Digital Night Schools. These Night Schools across 10 states have impacted 80000+ working children.

As far back as 1988, Shiksha Niketan, a primary school for low-income, marginalised children, practised methods we often associate with modern pedagogy: experiential learning, learning from one's immediate environment, project-based learning and STEAM. "The mother of a child does at least 20 experiments in science every day. She does it without realising this is the study of science. The same concept is there in the book, but is unfamiliar territory for the child. We connect the students to the subject through examples of routine activities around them. The focus is on

developing the curiosity of the child," shares Durga Singh, a founder teacher of Shiksha Niketan.

The communication team simplifies a concept through puppets and the carpentry department becomes a lesson in geometry. Functional props, origami and visitors at Tilonia expand the perspective of the learners. "The alumni of Shiksha Niketan are in various government and other high-paying jobs across different levels. But there is a greater sense of pride when our alumni are recognised as good citizens of their villages, helping others grow along with themselves," says Singh.

Even Shiksha Niketan cannot meet the needs of 10-year-old Anshu, who moves with his nomadic sheep herder parents. Like him, there is an entire section of children of nomadic communities that cannot pursue education as their families constantly move for work. A six-month programme to address this gap was started in 2007 in the form of a residential Bridge School at Singla, 25 kilometres from Tilonia. The programme, now is 10-month-long, covers the entire syllabus till Class V for children between 8 and 12 years, who never went to school. Students from five districts come to this school where a greater preference is given to the enrollment of girls. Besides attending regular classes and extra work in the evenings, the students learn grooming and care. They play games and work with the volunteers to explore concepts in their academics through the simple, practical model that Tilonia creates. At the end of the course, the students take

ALUMNI OF SHIKSHA NIKETAN ARE IN VARIOUS GOVERNMENT AND OTHER HIGH-PAYING JOBS. BUT THERE IS A GREATER SENSE OF PRIDE WHEN OUR ALUMNI ARE RECOGNISED AS GOOD CITIZENS OF THEIR VILLAGES, HELPING OTHERS GROW ALONG WITH THEMSELVES

*(The author is an independent writer from Ajmer, Rajasthan (Charkha Features; features@charkha.org))*



the Class V exam via Shiksha Niketan and can then pursue their further education.

There is no rulebook in the ever-evolving lab of Barefoot experiments. However, the Barefoot College lives by the Constitution of India. From slates to iPads, this educational journey has kept up with contexts. So, with the implementation of the Panchayati Raj Act, a new model was created to explain the basic Constitutional framework to the children. In classic Barefoot style, it was learnt by doing.

A ward was made of 10-12 students and they elected one member representative. The ward representatives together formed a Bal Sansad. This Parliament chose its Prime Minister through an election that had proper canvassing and election symbols. Secret ballots were maintained. The PM chose a Cabinet and assigned roles. They participated in the various meetings of the organisation and gave recommendations to the programme coordinators. The children who grew up with this learning went on to mobilise people to get water supply lines to their village, agitated for removal of alcohol 'thekas' and even contested polls. Devika, as the PM of her Sansad, also went to Sweden to receive an award where she met the Queen and they exchanged notes as heads of institutions!

From making the campus self-sufficient in energy requirements back in 1996 to the renowned Solar Mamas programme that teaches components, colour coding and circuits of solar home-lighting systems to women from non-electrified villages, this transfer of solar energy to

the rural community has a three-layered impact. It sustains the villagers' need for electricity at reasonable costs through the most vulnerable section, the women. It lights up perspectives – a significant takeaway of education across all areas. Thirdly, it saves millions of litres of kerosene from being used as an energy alternative.

At the Barefoot College, string puppets evolved into more practical glove and rod puppets besides life-sized and giant puppets. Made of scrap cloth and paper, the puppets are contemporary characters identifiable by the villagers.

When they give out information about a programme or a government scheme, they both engage and simplify the concepts, creating wide-spread awareness. Traditional folk instruments and songs are part of the performance. This delightful, digital fatigue-free audio-visual medium has been working with the villages for the past 40 years.

The puppets go by relatable names to be one with the villagers. As Chetan Kaki and Dhanno Bua, they propagate equality and fight for women's rights. The revered puppet, Jokhim Chacha, the bard of Tilonia, is 365 years old.

"We engage the students in a conversation about various facets of learning. The puppet makes them curious through a peculiar style of talking based on the character," shares Ramnivas from the communications team. In the past four decades, the team has performed interactive shows in 3,000 villages changing mindsets, gently but firmly.

POINT COUNTERPOINT

THOSE WHO WANT TO DEFAME ME HAVE THEIR REACH ONLY ON TWITTER, WHICH IS THE MAIN REASON WHY CONGRESS HAS VANISHED. —FORMER CONGRESS LEADER GHULAM NABI AZAD



(GHULAM NABI) AZAD'S CLAIMS OF BEING A POLITICIAN CONNECTED WITH PEOPLE ARE FAR FROM TRUTH. HE NEVER WON A POLL. —CONGRESS GENERAL SECRETARY JAIRAM RAMESH



Climate change risks may hurt global economy

Climate change at the current pace can bring in unmitigated disaster, as global economy could shrink sharply

Taiwan, considered as the world's chip factory, has for long been the major source of electronic chips used in a wide variety of products ranging from mobile phones to high end cars. The importance of Taiwanese chip manufacturing on the global centre stage can be gauged by the fact that the recent trip by Nancy Pelosi to Taiwan included her meeting with Mark Lui, chairman of the Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Corporation (TSMC).

Pelosi's trip coincided with the US efforts to convince TSMC – the world's largest chip manufacturer, on which the US is heavily dependent – to establish a manufacturing base in the US and to stop making advanced chips for Chinese companies.



KOTA SRIRAJ

*(The writer is an environmental journalist. The views expressed are personal)*

But all has not been well for Taiwan. Besides the Chinese threats, the small island nation has been at the receiving end of one of the worst droughts seen in the last five years on account of inadequate Monsoons and now rare typhoons. Given the fact that chip factories are water guzzlers, this drought has triggered production cuts due to water scarcity and sent shockwaves across the world supply chain for chips. This shortage severely impacted global industry, especially the automotive sector and resulted in frozen delivery schedules, as vehicle inventory could not be forwarded to the dealers.

The rapidly worsening climate change conditions have played a key role in the above instance and if the report by Swiss Re Institute is to be considered, the larger impact of climate change could wipe out 18 per cent of GDP of the global economy by 2050 if global temperatures rise by 3.2°C. The Swiss Re Institute forecast is based on temperature increases staying on the current trajectory and the Paris Agreement and net-zero emissions targets not being met. The Institute warns in its report that climate change is a systemic risk that must be addressed immediately, but unfortunately the adverse impacts of climate change on the global economy are already evident.

The spectre of rising global temperatures as predicted by The Swiss Re Institute report seems to be coming true considering the increasing heat waves across the world, especially in the West where tem-

peratures of 40 degree Celsius were hitherto unheard of but are a reality today. The United Kingdom for instance recently experienced searing hot days that saw traffic signals and road surfaces melting. The spiralling temperatures aided by climate change are not only impacting the economy and industrial output, but are also extracting a huge cost from the global agricultural sector. Europe especially is experiencing stiff price hikes of food items due to falling food production in the face of unfavourable farming conditions arising out of erratic Monsoons and punishing summers.

The Indian economy too is seemingly fighting a losing battle with climate change. It is projected that climate change is poised to erode India's GDP by 2.6 per cent by 2100 even if the global temperature rise is held below 2°C. In a scenario where global temperatures breach 3.2°C the GDP erosion is projected to be 13.4 per cent. Despite this grim reality, it is noteworthy that India is not responsible for rising temperatures despite having 17.8 per cent of the world's population. It accounts for only 3.2 per cent of cumulative emissions. However, the crossing of paths between economic progress and climate change is unavoidable as many aspects of the economic development are interlaced with the wellbeing of the environment in the absence of which economic growth is adversely impacted.

The major manifestation of

climate change playing with the economy in India is in the form of dwindling rainfall. The Indian Summer Monsoon (ISM) has a major influence on agriculture, water resources, human health and ecosystems, which in turn ensure a robust economy. However, of late the ISM has seen erratic patterns of either excessive rainfall to the point of triggering devastating floods or scanty rainfall resulting in droughts. This manifestation has indeed put the Indian economy in a tight spot and unless remedial measures are undertaken to dial down emissions and ambient temperatures, the economy can incur irreversible sectoral losses in the form of \$ 1.5 trillion per year.

Today, India and the world are moving from climate change to climate emergency. India must hasten to protect those vulnerable sectors of the economy that are exposed to the vagaries of climate change. Sectors such as services, retail, tourism and construction require urgent protective measures as these account for over 80 per cent of the GDP of India. As a first step, the "silo" approach needs to be dispensed with and instead an integrated strategy that combines policy making with technology needs to be adopted. Additionally, compelling financing models need to be designed for climate action projects, thereby putting climate change mitigation on centre stage in India. These efforts will undoubtedly insulate the economy against climate change and enable India to surge ahead.

# US: Russia to buy rockets, artillery shells from North Korea

AP ■ WASHINGTON

The Russian Ministry of Defence is in the process of purchasing millions of rockets and artillery shells from North Korea for its ongoing fight in Ukraine, according to a newly downgraded U.S. Intelligence finding.

A U.S. Official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss the intelligence determination, said Monday that the fact Russia is turning to the isolated state of North Korea demonstrates that “the Russian military continues to suffer from severe supply shortages in Ukraine, due in part to export controls and sanctions.”

U.S. Intelligence officials believe that the Russians could look to purchase additional North Korean military equipment in the future. The intelligence finding was first reported by The New York Times.

The U.S. Official did not detail

how much weaponry Russia intends to purchase from North Korea.

The finding comes after the Biden administration recently confirmed that the Russian military in August took delivery of Iranian-manufactured drones for use on the battlefield in Ukraine.

The White House said last week that Russia has faced technical problems with Iranian-made drones acquired from Tehran in August for use in its war with Ukraine.

Russia picked up Mohajer-6 and Shahed-series unmanned aerial vehicles over several days last month as part what the Biden administration says is likely part of a Russian plan to acquire hundreds of Iranian UAVs for use in Ukraine.

North Korea has sought to tighten relations with Russia as much of Europe and the West has pulled away, blaming the United States for the Ukraine crisis and decrying the West’s “hegemonic policy” as justifying military action by Russia in Ukraine to protect itself.



territories in the Donbas region of Ukraine and expressed optimism about cooperation in the “field of labor migration,” citing his country’s easing pandemic border controls.

In July North Korea became the only nation aside from Russia and Syria to recognize the independence of the territories, Donetsk and

Luhansk, further aligning with Russia over the conflict in Ukraine. The provocative move by North Korea comes as the Biden administration has become increasingly concerned about stepped-up activity by North Korea in pursuit of nuclear weapons.

North Korea has test-fired more than 30 ballistic missiles this year, including its first flights of intercontinental ballistic missiles since 2017, as leader Kim Jong Un pushes to advance his nuclear arsenal despite U.S.-led pressure and sanctions.

The U.S. Has frequently downgraded and unveiled intelligence findings over the course of the grinding war in Ukraine to highlight plans for Russian misinformation operations or to throw attention on Moscow’s difficulties in prosecuting the war. Ukraine’s smaller military has put up a stiff resistance against the militarily superior Russian forces.

Russian President Vladimir Putin and Kim have recently exchanged letters in which they both called for “comprehensive” and “strategic and tactical” cooperation between the countries. Moscow, for its part, has issued statements condemning the revival of large-scale military exercises between the United States and South Korea this year, which North Korea views as an invasion rehearsal.

Russia, along with China, has called for the easing of U.N. Sanctions imposed on North Korea over its nuclear and missile tests. Both countries are members of the U.N. Security Council, which has approved a total of 11 rounds of sanctions on the North since 2006. In May, Russia and China vetoed a U.S.-led bid to impose new economic sanctions on North Korea over its high-profile missile tests this year.

Some experts say that Kim could likely bolster his resolve to retain his nuclear weapons because he may think the Russian attack happened because Ukraine had signed away its nuclear arsenal.

Relations between Moscow and Pyongyang go back to the 1948 foundation of North Korea, as Soviet officials installed young, ambitious nationalist Kim Il Sung, the late grandfather of Kim Jong Un, as the country’s first ruler. Since then, Soviet aid shipment had been crucial in keeping North Korea’s economy afloat for decades before the disintegration of the Soviet Union in the early 1990s.

Moscow had since established formal diplomatic relations with Seoul as part of its hopes to draw South Korean investment and allowed its Soviet-era military alliance with North Korea to expire. But after his election in 2000, Putin actively sought to restore his country’s ties with North Korea in what was seen as an effort to regain its traditional domains of influence and secure more allies to better deal with the United States.

## Fears grow for Ukraine nuke plant ahead of inspector report

AP ■ KYIV

Fears grew on Tuesday for Europe’s largest nuclear power plant as shelling around it continued, a day after the facility was again knocked off Ukraine’s electricity grid and put in the precarious position of relying on its own power to run safety systems.

Repeated warnings from world leaders that fighting around the Zaporizhzhia plant has put it in an untenable situation that could lead to a nuclear catastrophe have done little to stem the hostilities.

Russian-installed officials accused the Ukrainian forces of shelling the city where the plant is located on Tuesday, hours after the Ukrainians said Kremlin forces attacked a city across the river.

Both sides have traded such accusations since Russian troops seized the plant early in the war.

With the danger rising, an International Atomic Energy Agency team finally traveled to the plant last week, and inspectors are expected to report what



they found to the UN Security Council later in the day.

Two inspectors remain at the plant, which is run by Ukrainians workers, and Ukrainian presidential adviser Mykhailo Podolyak applauded that decision.

“There are Russian troops now who don’t understand what’s happening, don’t assess the risks correctly,” Podolyak said.

“There is a number of our workers there, who need some kind of protection, people from the international community standing by their side and telling (Russian troops): Don’t touch

these people, let them work.”

But that appears to have done little to lessen the risks. On Monday, the IAEA said Ukrainian authorities reported that the plant’s last transmission line was disconnected to allow workers to put out a fire caused by shelling.

“The line itself is not damaged, and it will be reconnected once the fire is extinguished,” the IAEA said.

In the meantime, the plant’s only remaining operational reactor would “generate the power the plant needs for its safety and other functions,” the agency said.



## Putin attends joint military drills with China, others

AP ■ MOSCOW

Russian President Vladimir Putin on Tuesday attended sweeping war games in his country’s far east involving troops from China and other nations, in a show of military muscle amid the tensions with the West over Moscow’s action in Ukraine.

The weeklong exercise that began Thursday is intended to showcase growing defense ties between Russia and China and also demonstrate that Moscow has enough troops and equipment to conduct the massive drills even while its forces are engaged in fighting in Ukraine.

The Russian Defense Ministry said that the Vostok 2022 (East 2022) exercise that runs until Wednesday at seven firing ranges in Russia’s Far East and the Sea of Japan involves more than 50,000 troops and over 5,000 weapons units, including 140 aircraft and 60 warships. It engages troops

from several ex-Soviet nations, China, India, Laos, Mongolia, Nicaragua and Syria.

Beijing sent more than 2,000 troops along with more than 300 military vehicles, 21 combat aircraft and three warships to take part in the drills, according to Chinese news reports. As part of the maneuvers, the Russian and Chinese navies in the Sea of Japan practiced joint action to protect sea communications and support for ground forces in coastal areas.

The exercise marked the first time that China has sent forces from three branches of its military to take part in a single Russian drill, a sign of increasing close ties between Moscow and Beijing, which have grown stronger since Putin sent his troops into Ukraine on Feb. 24. China has pointedly refused to criticise Russia’s actions, blaming the U.S. And NATO for provoking Moscow, and has blasted the punishing Western sanctions against Russia.

## ‘US to work with partners in South Asia to address climate crisis’

PTI ■ KATHMANDU

A top American diplomat on Tuesday said that the US is dedicated to working together with its partners throughout South Asia to address the climate change crisis.

The US government’s Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for South and Central Asian Affairs Elizabeth Horst said this during the first Climate Action Champions Network Conference here.

She arrived here on Tuesday on a brief visit to Nepal to attend the conference during which 100 young leaders from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka developed action plans to face the numerous challenges that climate change brings.

During her visit, Horst will focus on our partnership on climate change and attend the first ever Climate Action Champions Network Conference,” US Embassy had said earlier in its Facebook page.

Addressing the conference, Horst spoke about the need for urgency and unity to fight the



climate crisis.

“Climate change hurts communities, and the United States is dedicated to working together with our partners throughout South Asia to address this critical crisis,” Horst said.

The Climate Action Champions Network aims to harness the potential of the youth in the region by bringing together 100 individuals from the countries of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka, over 30 months to discuss and deliberate about creating a climate action vision for South Asia and the Indo-Pacific, according to website of the Conference.

## Typhoon batters S Korea, preparations cut casualties

AP ■ SEOUL

The most powerful typhoon to hit South Korea in years on Tuesday dumped a metre (3 feet) of rain, destroyed roads and fell power lines, but the death toll of three could have been higher if not for proactive evacuations and closures of schools, officials said.

There was also greater public awareness about the storm and its risks. Typhoon Hinnamnor made impact just weeks after heavy rains around the capital Seoul caused flooding that killed at least 14 people.

Government officials had put the nation on high alert for days as Hinnamnor approached, warning of potentially historic destruction and putting in motion life-saving measures.

After grazing the resort island of Jeju and hitting the mainland near the port city of Busan, Hinnamnor weakened as it blew into waters between



the Korean Peninsula and Japan.

South Korea’s weather agency said Hinnamnor was over the open sea 280 kilometres (173 miles) northeast of Ulleung island with winds weakened to 115 kilometres (71 miles) per hour on Tuesday afternoon.

It was expected to be downgraded to a tropical cyclone by night as it moves northeast between Russia and the northern Japanese island of Hokkaido, the agency said.

However, the damage was still severe in the southern city

of Pohang, where two people were found dead and at least seven others were missing after the storm submerged roads and buildings, triggered landslides and flooded a shopping mall.

Cars with smashed windows and trunks open lay scattered on roads like garbage. An entire two-story pool villa was uprooted from the ground and swept away in flash floods.

Troops were deployed to assist with rescue and restoration efforts, moving in armored vehicles rolling through streets that turned into chocolate-coloured rivers.

Firefighters navigated flooded neighbourhoods in rubber boats, rescuing people and their pets.

Merchants scrambled to salvage furniture and other belongings at the famous Guryongpo outdoor market, where workers deployed excavators to clear huge piles of debris.

**HIMALAYA FOOD INTERNATIONAL LIMITED**  
**Regd. off: 11B, 1stFloor, 12 Gagandeep Building, Rajendra Place, New Delhi-110008**  
**CIN: L70102DL1992PLC047399 Website: www.himalayafoodcompany.com**  
**Email: cs@himalyainternational.com Ph. No. 011-45108609**

**NOTICE OF THE 31ST AGM AND REMOTE E-VOTING INFORMATION**

In continuation to our earlier advertisement dated 04.09.2022, NOTICE is hereby given that the 31st Annual General Meeting of the Company is scheduled to be held on Thursday, the 29th Day of September, 2022 at 05:30 PM THROUGH VIDEO CONFERENCING (VC) OTHER AUDIO VISUAL MEANS (OAVM) to transact the business as set out in 31st AGM Notice in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 and the rules made thereunder, read with MCA/SEBI Circulars without physical presence of members at common venue.

In compliance with the circulars, the Notice of virtual AGM and the Annual Report for the financial year 2021-22 have been sent to all the members electronically to the e-mail ID registered by them with the Company/Depository Participants/RTA on or before 06.09.2022. The requirements of sending physical copy of the notice to the Members have been dispensed with vide relevant Circulars.

The e-copy of the notice of the AGM along with the Annual Report for the FY 2021-22 of the Company will be available on the website of the Company at [www.himalayafoodcompany.com](http://www.himalayafoodcompany.com) and on the website of the BSE Limited at [www.bseindia.com](http://www.bseindia.com).

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 108 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with the rules made thereof and Regulation 44 of SEBI (LODR) Regulations, 2015, the company is providing e-voting facility to its members holding shares as on Thursday, 22nd September, 2022 being cut off date, to exercise their vote at the ensuing AGM. The members may cast their vote by using an electronic voting system from a place other than that the venue of meeting (e-voting). The company has engaged CDSL to provide remote e-voting facility. The details pursuant to the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 and rules thereof are as under:

- E-voting period commences on Monday, 26th September, 2022 at 9:00 A.M and ends on Wednesday, 28th September, 2022 at 5:00 P.M.
- The voting through electronic means shall not be allowed beyond 05:00 P.M. on 28th September, 2022.
- The businesses set out in the notice of AGM, may be transacted through e-voting or e-voting facility at the AGM.
- The share transfer book of the Company will remain closed from Friday, 23th September, 2022 to Thursday, 29th September, 2022 (both days inclusive) for the purpose of the Annual General Meeting.
- The facility of joining the AGM through VC/OAVM shall 15 minutes before and after the scheduled time of the commencement of the Meeting and will be available for members on first come first served basis.
- The voting right of members shall be in proportion to their shares of the paid up equity share capital of the company as on the cutoff date i.e. 22nd September, 2022. Any person who becomes the member of the company after dispatch of notice of AGM and holding shares as on cutoff date i.e., 22nd September, 2022, may obtain the login Id and Password by sending a request to [helpdesk.evoting@cdslindia.com](mailto:helpdesk.evoting@cdslindia.com). Members are requested to login at <https://web.cdslindia.com/myeasi/home/login> by using the remote login credentials. The link for electronic participation through VC/OAVM during the meeting will be available in shareholder/members login portal where the EVEN of the company will be displayed. The facility for appointment of Proxies by Members will not be available since the AGM is being held through VC/OAVM. A person who is not a member as on the cut-off date should treat the Notice of AGM for information purpose only.
- In case of any query or grievance pertaining to e-voting and attending the AGM through VC/OAVM, Members may contact Mr. Rakesh Dalvi, Sr. Manager, (CDSL), A Wing, 25th Floor, Marathon Futurex, Matatal Mill Compounds, N M Joshi Marg, Lower Parel (East), Mumbai - 400013. Email: [helpdesk.evoting@cdslindia.com](mailto:helpdesk.evoting@cdslindia.com), Tel: 022- 23058738 and 022-23058542/43. Further, Members may also contact with Mr. Bhawendra Jha, General Manager, BEETAL Financial & Computer Services Pvt Ltd, RTA at [beetalrta@gmail.com](mailto:beetalrta@gmail.com) or on Telephone No.: 011-29961281-283, 26051061.
- Mr. Rahul Sharma, a Practicing Company Secretary (Membership No. ACS 49969), Proprietor, M/s. RBS & Co. has been appointed as the Scrutinizer to scrutinize the voting and remote e-voting process in a fair and transparent manner.
- The results shall be declared not later than forty-eight hours from conclusion of the meeting by posting the same on the website of the Company ([www.himalayafoodcompany.com](http://www.himalayafoodcompany.com)), and by filing with the BSE Ltd. It shall also be displayed on the Notice Board at the Registered Office of the Company.
- A member may participate in the AGM even after exercising his/her right to vote through remote e-voting but shall not be allowed to vote again in the meeting. Members who have not registered their email-id are requested to register the same by following the procedure given below

Physical Holding

Send a request to Registrar and Transfer Agents of the Company, BEETAL Financial & Computer Services Pvt Ltd. at [beetalrta@gmail.com](mailto:beetalrta@gmail.com) providing Folio number, Name of the shareholder, scanned copy of the share certificate (Front and Back), PAN( Self attested scanned copy of PAN Card), AADHAR ( Self attested scanned copy of Aadhar Card) for registering email address.

Please send your bank detail with original cancelled cheque to our RTA (i.e. BEETAL Financial & Computer Services Pvt Ltd, BEETAL HOUSE, 3rd Floor,99, Madangir, Behind LSC, New Delhi - 110062 alongwith letter mentioning folio no. If not registered already.)

Demat Holding

Please contact your Depository Participant (DP) and register your email address as per the process advised by DP.

Please also update your bank detail with your DP for dividend payment by NACH if declare by company.

All shareholders/members attending AGM through VC or OAVM, who wish to speak or pose questions shall register themselves on or before 22nd September, 2022 with their Folio no, DP ID/Client ID, E-mail id and Mobile no. at the e-mail id of the Company i.e. [cs@himalyainternational.com](mailto:cs@himalyainternational.com)

**For Himalaya Food International Ltd**  
**Sd/-**  
**Mamta Sharma**  
**Company Secretary**

**Date: September 7, 2022**  
**Place: Delhi**

**MAHINDRA RURAL HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED**  
**Corporate Office:-** Mahindra Rural Housing Finance Ltd, Sadhana House, 2nd Floor, 570, P.B. Marg Worli, Mumbai 400 018 India,Tel: +91 22 66523500  
Fax: +91 22 24972741  
**Branch Office:** 3rd Floor 139-141 Mangal Pandey Nagar Opposite CCS University Meerut Uttar Pradesh 250002,

**SALE NOTICE**

**PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION-CUM-SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES**

In exercise of powers conferred under section 13 (4) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (herein after referred to as "SARFAESI Act") and Rule 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (hereinafter referred to as "Rules")for the purpose of recovering the secured debts, the authorized officer of the secured creditor M/s Mahindra Rural Housing Finance Ltd. (hereinafter referred to as "MRHFL") has decided to sell the secured asset (immovable property), the possession of which had been taken by the Authorised Officer of the Secured Creditor under S. 13 (4) of SARFAESI Act, described herein below on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IT IS BASIS" and the public and all concerned including the concerned borrowers/ mortgagors, their representatives, as the case may be are hereby informed that the secured asset listed below will be sold, particulars of which are given below:

S.N.	Name of Borrowers/ Co-Borrowers /Guarantors /Mortgagers	Date & Amount of 13(2) Demand Notice	Date of Possession	Description of Property	Reserve Price EMD Bid Increase Amount	Property Inspection Date & Time	Date & Time of Auction
1.	Branch: MEERUT <b>Borrower:</b> SANTOSH W/O RAMESH, 39 HOLI CHAUK, JASWANT NAGAR, MALYANA MEERUT, UP 250002 <b>Co-Borrower:</b> RAMESH S/O KALICHARAN, 39, HOLI CHAUK,JASWANT NAGAR, KISHANPURA, MALYANA MEERUT 250002 <b>LAN: 722482/ XSEMMER00613439</b>	4/Dec./2020 & Rs. 9,72,553/- (Rupees Nine Lakh Seventy Two Thousand Five Hundred Fifty Three Only)	<b>1-Jun-22 Physical Possession</b>	Khasra No. 1319^ Jaswant Sugar Mill Colony, Revenue Vill- Malyana ^ Pargana & Tehsil & Distt. Meerut Pin-250002, North : House Of Prakash Chand , South, Rasta 18ft Wide , East : House Of Rajwati, West: House Of Deep Chand	Rs.9,20,000/- Rs.92,000/- Rs.10,000/-	23-09-2022 Time 10:00 to 3:00 PM	27-Sept.-2022 Time 10. Am. TO - 03 Pm

- MRHFL acting through its Authorized Officer has now received offers to buy the same (offer amount is tabulated in the table above), and We intend to accept it, interalia considering the fact that the previous public auction held was unsuccessful.
- To Participate in Auction intended bidder has to deposit 10 % of the Reserve Price.
- The detail terms and conditions of the auction sale are incorporated in the prescribed tender form. Tender forms are available on [www.mahindraruralhousingfinance.com](http://www.mahindraruralhousingfinance.com) as well as above branch office. The sale will be subject to terms and conditions mentioned in Tender Form.
- For further details, contact the Authorised Officers, **Deep Joshi on Mobile 8853265434**. Last date of submission of sealed offers in the prescribed tender forms along with EMD is **26 – Sept. - 2022 Time 10:00 to 3:00 PM** at the branch office address mentioned herein above. Tenders that are not filled up properly or tenders received beyond last date will be considered as invalid tender and shall accordingly be rejected. No interest shall be paid on the EMD.
- Date of opening of the offers for Property is **27 – Sept. - 2022 Time 10:00 to 3:00 PM** at the above mentioned branch office address at the tender will be opened in the presence of the Authorised Officer.
- Date of inspection of the immovable property is **23 – Sept. - 2022 Time 10:00 to 3:00 PM**
- The Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s) are hereby given **15 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002** to pay the sum mentioned as above before the date of Auction failing which the offer received will be accepted and the immovable property will be auctioned and balance, if any, will be recovered with interest and costs. If the Borrower pays the amount due to Mahindra Rural Housing Finance Ltd., in full before the date of sale, auction is liable to be stopped.
- The immovable property will be sold to the highest tendered. However, the undersigned reserves the absolute discretion to allow inter se bidding, if deemed necessary.

**Place :- DELHI, NCR Date: 07.09.2022**

**Sd/- Authorised Officer Mahindra Rural Housing Finance Limited**



## Earthquake kills 65, triggers landslides in southwest China

AP ■ BEIJING

The powerful earthquake that set off landslides and shook buildings in southwestern China killed at least 65 people and injured hundreds, state media said Tuesday.

At least 16 other people are missing a day after the 6.8 magnitude earthquake struck a mountainous area in Luding county in Sichuan province, which sits on the edge of the Tibetan Plateau where tectonic plates meet and is hit regularly by quakes. The tremor shook buildings in the provincial capital of Chengdu, whose 21 million residents are already under a COVID-19 lockdown.

Power was knocked out and buildings damaged in the historic town of Moxi in the Tibetan autonomous prefecture of Garze, where 37 people were killed. Tents were erected for more than 50,000 people being moved from homes made unsafe by the quake, the official Xinhua News Agency reported.

State broadcaster CCTV showed rescue crews pulling a woman who appeared uninjured from a collapsed home in Moxi, where many of the buildings are constructed from a mix of wood and brick. Around 150 people were reported with varying degrees of injuries.

Another 28 people were killed in neighbouring Shimian county on the outskirts of the city of Ya'an. Another 248 people were reported as injured, mainly in Moxi, and another 12 people were reported missing.

# Lanka SC OK's more power to Parliament over President

Foreign minister Ali Sabry said on Monday that the 22A would be presented in Parliament very soon for approval.

# INDIA PROVIDES BEST INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY, DESTINATION THAT CAN'T BE MISSED: GOYAL

PTI ■ SAN FRANCISCO

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal has pitched India as the best investment destination, saying the time is "just ripe" to engage in areas of mutual interests of India and the US.

Addressing industry leaders of the US and India here, the minister on Monday said both countries can promote global security, stability and resilient supply chains.

"There are many competi-

tive advantages that the US-India relation has to offer. The resilience of our supply chains and the way talent India has provided to the US and invest-ments the US has provided to India, all of these cumulatively make a very good business case," he said while addressing the US India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF).

He added that India provides best investment opportunity.

"It is a destination you cannot miss. It is a market of a



billion plus aspirations," Goyal said.

Inviting US businesses to invest in India, the minister said the time is just ripe for "all of us to engage in areas of mutual interest."

Foreign direct investment equity inflows into India stood at USD 16.59 billion during April-June this fiscal year as against USD 17.56 billion in the same period last year.

According to an official statement released in May, India recorded "highest" ever

annual FDI inflow of USD 83.57 billion in 2021-22.

The government reviews the FDI policy on an ongoing basis and makes significant changes from time to time, to ensure that India remains attractive and investor-friendly destination.

FDI norms have been eased in several sectors such as coal mining, contract manufacturing, digital media, single brand retail trading, civil aviation, defence, insurance and telecom.



## Airlines count on business travellers to keep recovery going

AP ■ DALLAS

With summer vacations winding down, airlines are counting on the return of more business travellers to keep their pandemic recovery going into the fall.

Air travel in the United States, bolstered by huge numbers of tourists, has nearly recovered to pre-pandemic levels.

Inflation - and especially this year's sharp rise in airfares - raises concern about how long vacationers can afford to keep flying at their current pace. Airlines say they see no signs of a slowdown in leisure travel.

Business travel, however, remains about 25% to 30% below 2019 levels, according to airlines and outfits that track sales.

And it is not clear when - or if - road warriors will return to their old travel habits.

"The whole challenge for the industry is around the return of the corporate traveler, and whether he is going to come back in enough volume and frequency that is going to help these airlines," says John Grant, an analyst with travel-data provider OAG.

The Global Business Travel Association recently predicted

that corporate travel won't fully return until mid-2026, 18 months later than the trade group had previously forecast.

Business travelers generally pay higher fares, so their absence has an outsized impact on airline revenue and profit.

Business travel is slower to return because it is more complicated than somebody deciding they want to take a vacation after staying home during the first two years of the pandemic, says Chuck Thackston, who leads data research at the Airlines Reporting Corp., a ticket-settlement firm that operates as a middleman between airlines and travel agents.

"On the corporate side, it just takes a little more to restart that because there are so many moving parts," Thackston said. "If you want to go visit clients in New York, it could be that nobody is in the office in New York. That is slowly building back." Conventions and other big meetings are another key driver of business travel, and also seem to be coming back, Thackston said.

Airline officials say that travel by small-business operators has recovered nearly fully, but that many corporate travelers have not returned to the road or skies.

## Govt sets up Kirit Parikh committee to moderate gas prices

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The government has set up a panel to review the formula that dictates the pricing of gas produced by companies like ONGC and Reliance as it looks to moderate the steep increase that producers would have otherwise got.

The committee under former planning commission member Kirit S Parikh will suggest a "fair price to the end consumer", according to an order of the oil ministry.

The panel, which will include representatives of the gas producers association as also producers ONGC and OIL, has been asked to submit its report by the month-end.

It also has a member from private city gas operators, state gas utility GAIL, a representative of Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) and a member from the fertiliser ministry, the order

said.

The government had in 2014 used prices in gas surplus countries to arrive at a formula for locally produced gas. The rates according to this formula were subdued and at times lower than the cost of production till March 2022 but rose sharply thereafter, reflecting the surge in global rates in the aftermath of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. The prices, which are payable to producers like Reliance Industries as well as state-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) are due for revision on October 1 and are expected to go up further.

The price of gas from old fields, which are predominantly of state-owned producers like ONGC and Oil India Ltd, was more than doubled to USD 6.1 per million British thermal unit from April 1 and is expected to cross USD 9 next month.

## Over 52 pc gig workers feel work environment makes it difficult to upskill, find new jobs: Report

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Over 52 per cent of gig workers or contract employees feel that their work environment makes it challenging for them to upskill or find new job opportunities, according to a report.

According to the report by CII.CO, a startup platform built at Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Ahmedabad, most young respondents increasingly look towards gig economy platforms for their first jobs. However, over 52 per cent of gig workers said the gig working environment makes it difficult to upskill or find new job opportunities, it added.

The report further analysed that gigs offered by platforms initially hook individuals with the opportunity of short-term income but keep them employed for prolonged periods of time in a career without a long-term growth trajectory.

"Only about one in three individuals we spoke to had clear plans for shifting jobs in the near future. This was despite the vast majority reportedly working overtime in their current shifts and having no resources for up-skilling at the jobs they held," said the report.

This skills gap, however, has another



significant impact on the long-term growth of the economy, the report said, adding the data has revealed that platforms today are increasingly becoming the source of a first job for young graduates leaving university. If they are not upskilled and placed in good organisations with better income, it leads to underutilised human capital within the country, it stated.

The CII.CO report is based on a survey among 4,070 platform based gig workers, including the high earning knowledge workers and daily-wage agricultural workers.

The report further said that 50 per cent of platform workers today find their jobs through traditional referral networks despite 80 per cent having internet access.

"In many ways, gig workers are channels through which the old and new India interact. We're in 2022, it is about time that each of us has access to our own data. Enabling gig workers to own and use their employment, financial, health etc. Data will improve their well-being and unlock the growth of both traditional and new economies," CII.CO Partner - Insights Supriya Sharma said.

## Benchmarks settle modestly lower in volatile trade

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The Sensex and Nifty closed modestly lower on Tuesday after investors offloaded FMCG, IT and banking stocks in the last hour of trade amid mixed global cues.

After rising over 320 points in intra-day trade, the 30-share BSE Sensex pared all gains to settle 48.99 points or 0.08 per cent lower at 59,196.99.



On similar lines, the broader NSE Nifty slipped 10.20 points or 0.06 per cent to 17,655.60.

Bajaj Finserv was the top laggard in the Sensex pack, dropping 2.08 per cent, followed by Kotak Mahindra Bank, HUL, M&M, Bajaj Finance, Nestle India and Asian Paints.

On the other hand, Bharti Airtel, NTPC, Tata Steel, Reliance Industries, Power Grid, Dr Reddy's and Sun Pharma were among the major gainers, spurring as much as 2.79 per cent.

The market breadth was negative, with 20 of the 30 Sensex components closing in the red. "Domestic indices wiped out early gains to close flat, tracking mixed global cues. While the energy crisis and ECB interest rate decision later in the week pressurised European markets, Chinese policymakers' renewed efforts to strengthen its economy boded well for the Chinese bourses.

"In an effort to stabilize declining oil prices, OPEC+ opted to cut back on the output given the faltering global growth outlook," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services.

## Irish regulators fine Instagram 405mn euros for data breach

AP ■ LONDON

Irish regulators are slapping Instagram with a big fine after an investigation found the social media platform mishandled teenagers' personal data. Ireland's Data Protection Commission said by email Monday that it made a final decision last week to fine the company 405 million euros (\$402 million), though the full details won't be released until next week. The penal-

ty is the second-biggest issued under the European Union's stringent privacy rules, after Luxembourg's regulators fined Amazon 746 million euros last year.

Instagram parent Meta, which also owns Facebook and can appeal the decision, didn't respond to a request for comment.

The Irish watchdog's investigation centered on how Instagram exposed the personal details of users ages 13 to 17.

## Adani group says not overleveraged, loans from public banks halved

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Richest Indian Gautam Adani's Rconglomerate has cited an improved net debt to operating profit ratio and more than halving of loans from public sector banks to allay concerns about it being overleveraged.

In a 15-page note in response to CreditSights report calling the group overleveraged, it said companies in the group have consistently de-levered, with the net debt to Ebitda ratio declining to 3.2 times from 7.6 times in the last nine years.

"The businesses operate on a sim-



ple yet robust and repeatable business model focused on development and origination, operations and management and capital management plan," the note, reviewed by PTI, said. The group had a gross debt of Rs

1.88 lakh crore in March 2022 and net debt of Rs 1.61 lakh crore after considering the cash balance.

While loans from public sector banks in 2015-16 accounted for 55 per cent of all debt of the group firms, in 2021-22, borrowing from PSBs made up for 21 per cent of all debt, it said.

In FY2016, private banks accounted for 31 per cent of loans, which has now shrunk to 11 per cent. Money raised through bonds has jumped from 14 per cent of all loans to account for 50 per cent now.

In a report titled 'Adani Group: Deeply Overleveraged', CreditSights,

a Fitch group firm, had last month stated that the ports-to-power-to-cement conglomerate is "deeply overleveraged" with the group predominantly using debt to invest aggressively across existing as well as new businesses. "In the worst-case scenario, overly ambitious debt-funded growth plans could eventually spiral into a massive debt trap, and possibly culminate into a distressed situation or default of one or more group companies," it had said.

Adani, 60, has in the last few years expanded his coal-to-ports conglomerate into airports, data centres, cement, aluminium and city gas.

## Insurance claims independent of human errors: Industry players

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The death of former Tata group chairman Cyrus Mistry in a road accident has ignited a debate over the eligibility of insurance claims in accident cases but industry players say the very purpose of buying insurance is to hedge against risk, whether due to human error or otherwise. Human error or violation of rules is unlikely to vitiate an insurance policy and accidental death claims will continue to be honoured albeit in exceptional cases the compensation amount may be lowered.

Insurance documents per se do not list out acts, such as not wearing a seat belt, that could impact payment of compensation in case of death of occupants other than the driver, they said.

However, most policies mention "any accidental loss or damage suffered whilst the insured or any person driving the vehicle with the knowledge

## Cooperating with authorities probing Mistry car crash: Mercedes-Benz India

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Luxury carmaker Mercedes-Benz India on Tuesday said it is cooperating with the authorities investigating the car crash that led to the death of former Tata Sons chairman Cyrus Mistry.

Mistry (54) and his friend Jahangir Pandole were killed on Sunday afternoon when their Mercedes GLC 220d 4MATIC car hit a road divider in Palghar district of Maharashtra.

Two other car occupants -

- Anahita Pandole (55), who was at the wheel, and her husband Darius Pandole (60) -- suffered injuries and are admitted to a private hospital in Mumbai.

Mistry was cremated on Tuesday. The last rites were performed in an electric crematorium at Worli in central Mumbai.

"As a responsible brand respecting customer privacy, our team is cooperating with the authorities where possible, and we will provide any clari-

fications to them directly as required," the automaker said in a statement.

The German auto major noted that it would continue ongoing efforts to increase road safety awareness as a responsible manufacturer while equipping its vehicles with the latest safety features and technologies.

"We are deeply saddened by the untimely demise of Cyrus Mistry and Jehangir Pandole in the unfortunate road accident.

along with two other persons, who have sustained injuries.

As per the preliminary investigations by the state police, the deceased were not wearing seat belts and termed over-

speeding and an "error of judgement" by the driver to have led to the accident. "Majority of the accidents happen because of human negligence. We are here because such human errors happen, if such human errors didn't happen, then very less number of accidents will happen. One buys a policy which actually covers his/her negligence.

"But our emphasis is always on safety. We keep on educating the customers about their safety and sensitise them through sustained campaigns because an insurance cover can only compensate for the financial loss but not for the loss of human life," Sanjay Datta, Chief - Underwriting & Claims, ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company, said. Insurance companies cover the claims arising out of human error or negligence, for example, one may even sustain an injury while cooking at home or there may be a fire incident, he added.

## SER clocks nearly 27pc growth in coal loading in first 5 months of FY23

PTI ■ KOLKATA

The South Eastern Railway (SER) has registered nearly 27 per cent growth in coal loading in the first five months of the 2022-23 fiscal, an official said here on Tuesday.

Revenue generation of SER from "originating freight" loading has also increased to Rs 7,039.60 crore during the April-August period of the 2022-23 financial year (FY23) as against Rs 6,646.93 crore in the corresponding months last fiscal.

The Kolkata-headquartered zonal railway has loaded 81.83 million tonne of "originating freight" in the first five months of FY23, of which coal constitutes 21.10 million tonne, the official said. This is "26.65 per cent higher than the coal loading done by the SER during the same period last year", he said.

The main commodities of freight loading, apart from coal, are iron ore, pig iron, finished steel, cement and petroleum products, the official added.

## Global stocks rise as Europe wrestles with gas shortage

AP ■ BEIJING

Global stock markets and Wall Street futures rose Tuesday as Liz Truss prepared to become British prime minister and Europe wrestled with uncertainty about Russian gas supplies.

London and Frankfurt opened higher. Shanghai and Tokyo gained. Benchmark US crude rose more than \$2 per barrel. The euro edged higher against the dollar.

European markets were jolted by Friday's announcement that the suspension of Russian gas supplies through the Nord Stream 1 pipeline would be extended indefinitely. Shortages have pushed up prices and weigh on economic growth.

Truss "will have to hit the

ground running as the U.K. Prepares for a brutal winter," Craig Erlam of Oanda said in a report. Noting news reports that Truss plans to freeze energy bills, Erlam said "the question is what impact it will have on inflation and gas demand."

In early trading, the FTSE 100 in London rose 0.3% to 7,307.22 and Frankfurt's DAX advanced 0.4% to 12,816.01. The CAC 40 in France gained 0.2% to 6,103.77.

On Wall Street, futures for the S&P;P 500 index and the Dow Jones Industrial Average were up 0.5% as U.S. Markets prepared to reopen after a three-day holiday weekend.

On Friday, the S&P;P and the Dow both lost 1.1% after government data showed U.S. Hiring



slowed in August but wages rose. Forecasters said the Federal Reserve might see that as evidence more rate hikes are needed to cool inflation that is at a multi-decade high. Investors worry repeated rate

hikes by the Fed and central banks in Asia and Europe to control surging inflation might derail global economic growth. Central banks say they must slow business and consumer activity to get prices under control.

In Asia, the Shanghai Composite Index rose 1.4% to 3,243.44 after the government promised Monday to accelerate easier lending and other policies to shore up economic growth that sank to 2.5% over a year earlier in the first half of 2022, less than half the official annual target.

The announcement might "provide a short-term uplift" to sentiment, but investors "ultimately want to see a stronger recovery," said Yeap Jun Rong of IG in a report.

# TIAFOE SENDS NADAL CRASHING OUT

AP ■ NEW YORK

Frances Tiafoe of the United States produced the performance of a lifetime to send Rafael Nadal crashing out of the US Open in a stunning fourth round upset on Monday.

Tiafoe, who had only reached one major championship quarter-final in his career before, shattered Nadal's hopes of adding to his record collection of 22 Grand Slam singles titles with a 6-4, 4-6, 6-4, 6-3 victory.

A packed Arthur Ashe Stadium crowd roared in delight as the 24-year-old 22nd seed bombarded Nadal with 18 aces and 49 winners to seal victory in 3hr 34min.

The win sends Tiafoe into a last eight showdown against Russian ninth seed Andrey Rublev on Wednesday.

"I don't even know what to say right now," Tiafoe said after his superb victory. "I'm beyond happy, I'm almost in tears. I can't believe it."

"He's definitely one of the greatest of all time. I played unbelievable tennis today but yeah - I really don't know what happened."

Tiafoe, the son of immigrants from Sierra Leone who began playing tennis as a four-year-old when his father worked as a live-in caretaker at a tennis facility in Maryland, had never gone further than the fourth round at the US Open in seven previous appearances.

"When I first came on the scene a lot of people had expectations of me of how I would do and stuff, but I wasn't ready for it. Mentally I wasn't mature enough for those moments," Tiafoe said.

"But these last couple of years I've been able to put my head down and develop."

Nadal paid tribute to



Tiafoe's performance, and admitted he had struggled to cope with the American's tactic of moving him around the court.

"I played a bad match" "I played a bad match and he played a good match. At the end that's it, no?," Nadal said.

"Tennis is a sport of position a lot of times, no? If not, you

need to be very, very quick and very young. I am not in that moment anymore," the 36-year-old said.

## EARLY MORNING EPIC

Carlos Alcaraz reached the US Open quarter-finals for a second successive year when he defeated 2014 champion Marin Cilic in an epic last-16 tie which

finished at 02:23 a.m. on Tuesday.

In a gruelling three-hour and 54-minute encounter, Cilic was under siege, having to save 12 of 18 break points while committing 66 unforced errors.

The 19-year-old Alcaraz, seeded three and seen as the title favorite after the elimination of four-time champion Rafael

Nadal, will face Jannik Sinner of Italy for a semi-final place.

Sinner holds a 2-1 advantage over Alcaraz with both wins coming this year at Wimbledon and Umag.

"I believed in myself, it was pretty tough," said Alcaraz.

"I was a break down in the fifth set. It was tough to come back after losing the fourth set."

## SINNER INTO QFS

Earlier, Italy's Jannik Sinner reached a Grand Slam quarter-final for the third time this season after beating unseeded Ilya Ivashka in five sets.

The 11th seed squeezed past the 28-year-old Belarusian 6-1, 5-7, 6-2, 4-6, 6-3.

The Monaco-based 21-year-old has performed consistently well at Grand Slams this year, reaching quarter-finals at the Australian Open and Wimbledon, and the fourth round at the French Open.

## RUBLEV DOWNS NORRIE

Andrey Rublev shrugged off a rain delay to breeze past Cameron Norrie and reach the quarter-finals for the third time.

The ninth-seeded Russian triumphed 6-4, 6-4, 6-4 and will face Frances Tiafoe of the United States for a place in the semi-finals.

"It was two and a half hours, it was tough," said 24-year-old Rublev who had needed four hours and five sets to get past Denis Shapovalov in the third round.

"Cameron and I, we have known each other for a long time. I knew I had to give my best."

"I played a good match. I was able to win in three sets so I am super happy."

Rublev, who also made the last-eight in New York in 2017 and 2020.

# I don't know when I'll be back, says Nadal

AP ■ NEW YORK

Rafael Nadal admitted on Monday that he wasn't sure when he will return to action after Frances Tiafoe condemned him to his earliest US Open exit since 2016.

For Australian and French Open champion Nadal, it was a first Grand Slam loss of 2022 after an abdominal strain forced him to forfeit his Wimbledon semi-final.

The defeat ended a run of 16 successive Slams where the Spaniard had made at least the quarter-finals.

"I need to go back. I need to fix things. I don't know when I going to come back," Nadal told a press conference.

"I going to try to be ready mentally. When I feel that I will be ready to compete again, I will be there."

Nadal has endured a rollercoaster year.

His two Slam titles have taken him one clear of Novak Djokovic but his physical frailties have also returned to haunt him.

Nadal suffered a stress fracture of the ribs in March before requiring daily pain-killing injections in his left foot to see him through to a 14th French Open title in June.

Then his bid for a third Wimbledon crown was shattered by an abdominal injury.



Nadal is due to become a father for the first time in the coming weeks, a factor which will factor heavily into his future on-court plans.

"Now I have to go home, I have more important things than tennis to attend to," he said.

"Decisions will be made based on how everything goes in my personal life, which comes before my professional life."

He added: "It's been a bit difficult for a few months but I want to finish the year with something very important that is my first child."

Nadal is scheduled to return to action at the Laver Cup in London from September 23. He has already qualified for the ATP Tour Finals in Turin to be staged in November.

Despite his doubts over his future plans, Nadal told Spanish media that he won't rule out playing again this year.

"I will do a mini pre-season to finish the year in Europe with good feelings and that is what we are going to try. There is a tournament ahead if everything else goes well," he said.



# UEFA president confident Spain, Portugal will host 2030 WCup

AP ■ NYON

UEFA president Aleksander Ceferin is certain Spain and Portugal will host the 2030 World Cup despite strong bidding competition from South America.

The Iberian nations agreed in 2020 to submit a proposal to stage matches in the World Cup's centenary year. However, a four-way bid from Argentina, Chile, Paraguay, and Uruguay is expected to be among 2030's top candidates given that the latter country hosted and won the inaugural World Cup in 1930.

"I am sure that the 2030 World Cup will be played in Spain and Portugal," Ceferin said.

"This bid is a winning one, and we will do everything possible to help two countries that are passionate, live and breathe football, and that have a good infrastructure."

Eleven Spanish venues are expected to be used for the 2030 tournament if the bid is successful, while Portugal will put three stadiums forward for consideration, Kallas reports.

Spain last staged a World Cup in 1982. Portugal has never hosted the prestigious competition but provided the venues for Euro 2004.

South America has held only one World Cup - Brazil in 2014 - within its shores since the 1978 edition in Argentina.

## Vinicius takes ESP nationality

AP ■ MADRID

Brazil international Vinicius Junior has acquired Spanish nationality, his club Real Madrid announced on Monday, allowing the club to register another non-European Union player.

"Our Brazilian player Vinicius Junior took the oath of allegiance to the Spanish Constitution on Friday 2 September, so from that moment he also has Spanish nationality," said a Real Madrid statement.

# World No. 1 Iga makes Polish victory

AP ■ NEW YORK

World number one Iga Swiatek became the first Polish woman to reach the US Open quarter-finals on Monday when she defeated Jule Niemeier in an error-strewn last-16 clash.

French Open champion Swiatek recovered from a set and a break down to see off her 108th-ranked German opponent, 2-6, 6-4, 6-0.

Top seeded Swiatek will face US eighth seed Jessica Pegula for a place in the semi-finals.

In a mistake-riddled clash on Louis Armstrong Court, there were a total of 15 double faults, 12 breaks of serve and 76 unforced errors.

"It's really satisfying. This is my first quarter-final in New York so I am really proud of it," said Swiatek.

Wimbledon quarter-finalist Niemeier hadn't won a hardcourt match in her career before coming to New York.

However, went into Monday's match not having dropped a set and fired up to repeat her Wimbledon journey where she had also beaten world number two Anett Kontaveit.

## SABALENKA WINS

Aryna Sabalenka reached the US Open quarter-finals for a second successive year with a three-set comeback win over Danielle Collins.

The world number six from Belarus triumphed 3-6, 6-



3, 6-2 over her American opponent who she has now beaten in New York three times in the last five editions.

Sabalenka eventually fell at the semi-finals in 2021 and her 2022 bid looked in danger on Monday when she needed a medical time-out to treat a leg injury.

However, she eventually fought back from a set down against the Australian Open runner-up and sealed victory on the back of a double break in the decider.

## PEGULA INTO LAST 8

Jessica Pegula became the second American woman into this year's US Open quarter-finals after brushing aside two-time Grand Slam champion Petra Kvitova in straight sets.

The 28-year-old eighth seed shrugged off a rain delay on the Arthur Ashe Stadium court to win 6-3, 6-2 and ease into a last eight meeting with either world number one Iga Swiatek.

Pegula, whose parents are

the billionaire owners of the Buffalo Bills NFL franchise, was always in control against out-of-sorts Czech veteran Kvitova, who had taken down Spain's Garbine Muguruza in the third round.

Pegula has reached quarter-finals at the Australian Open and French Open this season but had never gone further than the third round in five previous appearances at the US Open. She joins fellow American Coco Gauff in the last eight.

# Pogba set for knee surgery, could miss WC

AP ■ TURIN

Paul Pogba's return to Juventus' training pitches was short-lived after tests determined the midfielder requires knee surgery.

The 29-year-old is therefore a huge doubt for France's defense of its World Cup crown this winter. Pogba played the first half of a preseason friendly against Chivas de Guadalajara after rejoining Juventus in July but has since been sidelined with a torn meniscus.

"I hope we get him back before the World Cup," Juventus head coach Massimiliano Allegri said on Monday, according to The Athletic's James Horncastle. "But ... the World Cup isn't my problem. Juve's problem is he comes back in January."

Allegri added on Pogba's latest setback: "This morning he trained for the second time, but then stopped, and it was then decided that he undergo surgery."

Pogba should take around 40-60 days to recover from meniscus surgery, according to multiple reports.

France's World Cup campaign kicks off against Australia on November 22. Juventus' final match before some of their players leave for the tournament in Qatar is Lazio's visit on November 13.

AP ■ MANCHESTER

Manchester City coach Pep Guardiola on Monday said the team cannot rely on Erling Haaland to single-handedly win them the Champions League this season following his remarkable start to life in England.

The Norway striker has scored 10 goals in his first six Premier League games since his £51 million (\$58 million) move from Borussia Dortmund this summer.

"All the players who come here were brought here by the club to make us better, that makes sense," said Guardiola ahead of Tuesday's opening group game away to Sevilla.

"If we rely on Erling's shoulders, we will not win the Champions League."

City reached the semi-finals of last season's competition before an astonishing comeback from Real Madrid cost them a shot at winning a first European title.



# Haaland alone won't win CL for Manchester City: Guardiola

The Premier League champions have brought in England midfielder Calvin Phillips, Argentine striker Julian Alvarez and defenders Manuel Akanji and Sergio Gomez to strengthen the squad.

However the capture of Haaland was the headline deal, and one that Guardiola hopes can inspire City to the trophy in Istanbul next June.

"Hopefully, we can do it," said Guardiola.

"He came here because we convinced him. We didn't have strikers and he felt he could play with us."

"He has settled well, like with Julian and the other new players."

"I understand completely why everyone is talking about

Erling but I have six new players and I want them to settle as quickly as possible.

"We won't win just because of Erling but he has a special talent, and he can help us solve problems, definitely. But if we don't play well, we will not win."

City will be without defensive pair Kyle Walker and John Stones against Sevilla.

Walker limped off towards the end of Saturday's 1-1 draw with Aston Villa, while Stones also picked up a minor knock.

"(They are) injured. John is not much. Kyle is not much too, but I don't know if he will be ready for Saturday, or Dortmund or Wolves before the international break," said Guardiola.

# HOJLUND FIRES ATALANTA PAST MONZA

AP ■ BERGAMO

Rasmus Hojlund helped move Atalanta two points clear at the top of Serie A on Monday after opening his account for the club in a 2-0 stroll against bottom side Monza.

Dane Hojlund, 19, has been compared to Manchester City star Erling Haaland and began to repay the 17 million euro fee paid to Sturm Graz late last month by netting 56 minutes into his first start from Ademola Lookman's low cross.

Nigeria international Lookman then forced in the away side's second via a big deflection off Marlon Santos eight minutes later to put Gian Piero Gasperini's side, who had been top at the start of this round of matches, on 13 points. Unbeaten Atalanta lead



Napoli and champions AC Milan and do not have any European football on their schedule after finishing eighth last season.

Monza have had a dismal start to their first ever Serie A season despite a summer spend-

ing spree and remain on zero points after their first five games in Italy's top flight.

Salernitana, who escaped relegation thanks to a miracle run at the end of last season, are 10th after their 2-2 draw with Empoli.

# SL beat India by 6 wickets

PTI ■ DUBAI

Defending champions India went perilously close to elimination after a six-wicket defeat against Sri Lanka in their super four stage match of the Asia Cup here on Tuesday.

The result left the Men in Blue at the mercy of the other teams to have a chance of making it to the final. It also meant that India skipper Rohit Sharma's scintillating 41-ball 72 went in vain, as the islanders completed a chase of 174 with a ball to spare.

Needing 21 in 12 balls, Sri Lanka scored 14 runs off the penultimate over bowled by Bhuvneshwar Kumar, almost sealing it in their favour.

India will be out of the tournament if Pakistan beat Afghanistan on Wednesday.

Chasing what looked like a par score at the innings break, the Sri Lankans were off to a blazing start with openers Kusal Mendis (57 off 37 balls) and Pathum Nissanka (52 off 37 balls) putting on 91 runs at a brisk rate.

The fifty was up in the sixth over with both batters regularly finding the gaps and the boundaries with consummate ease, putting tremendous pressure on the Indian bowling attack that looked clueless against the positive approach adopted by the two Lankan batters.

However, leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal had other ideas as he struck twice in the 12th over to put the brakes on Sri Lanka's march.



Ravichandran Ashwin sent back Danushka Gunathilaka (1) to leave Sri Lanka in a spot of bother at 110 for three in the 14th over.

In the first ball of the next over, Sri Lanka suffered a body blow as Chahal got the big wicket of Mendis, who was trapped lbw in front of the wicket.

But Sri Lanka skipper Dasun Shanaka and (33 not out) and Bhanuka Rajapaksa

(25 not out) remained till the end to complete the task for their team with a match-winning, fifth-wicket partnership of 64 runs.

Earlier, Rohit led by example with his fine knock.

Rohit blazed away after India lost two early wickets, hitting five fours and four sixes during his entertaining knock. He was well supported by Suryakumar Yadav (34 off 29 balls) during a stand of 97 runs

for the third wicket.

But Rohit's dismissal triggered a slide as India added 63 runs after being 110 for three in the 13th over, when the skipper got out.

Sri Lanka were off to a dream start as they removed opener KL Rahul (6) and one-down Virat Kohli (0) in quick succession, leaving defending champions India in early trouble at 13 for two in the third over.

Right after getting a boundary with a lofted drive over extra over, Rahul was trapped in front of the wicket by off-spinner Maheesh Theekshana's arm ball in the second over of the game.

Having failed to connect with the ball after coming down the wicket, Rahul had opted for a review but it did not go his way as replays showed the ball going on to hit the leg stump.

In came Kohli, only for the Indian star to walk back to the dressing room after facing four deliveries for his zero, bowled neck and crop by left-arm fast bowler Dilshan Madushanka at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium.

Trying to slog a length ball over midwicket, Kohli missed and his off and middle stumps were disturbed.

Rohit though remained positive and kept the scoreboard moving at a healthy rate, making his intention clear when he played Chamika Karunaratne over wide mid-on for a boundary.

Fast-medium bowler Asitha Fernando was introduced into the attack, and Rohit smashed him for a six and a four off successive balls as 14 runs came in the fifth over.

The Indian captain then hit Theekshana for a four over square leg, helping India score 44 runs in the six powerplay overs.

Leg-spinner Wanindu Hasaranga and Karunaratne then bowled a couple of tight overs, succeeding in containing

the duo of Rohit and Suryakumar Yadav.

Meanwhile, Rohit was dropped at extra cover when batting on 40, off Hasaranga's bowling.

Suryakumar brought up his first boundary after playing 12 balls, which was also India's first after a quiet period.

In the next over, Rohit took advantage of his reprieve and whipped Asitha Fernando over deep square-leg for a six, and then reached his half-century with a four.

Suryakumar also got into the act, striking Madushanka for a maximum. It was then again Rohit's turn to get a six as the Indian captain danced down the wicket to loft Hasaranga over long-on. He followed that up with a four and then another six.

However, Karunaratne dismissed Rohit in the next over with a slower one.

## AVESH OUT, CHAHAR IN

Pacer Avesh Khan has been ruled out of the remainder of the Asia Cup due to fever related illness, a senior BCCI official confirmed the development on Tuesday.

Seamer Deepak Chahar, who was in stand by for the tournament, has been drafted in.

"Avesh has fever and he has also got sinus related problems which has escalated post illness. It will not be possible for him to take further part in the tournament. Deepak Chahar is already there and he will be drafted in THE main squad," a senior BCCI source told PTI.

# Raina retires from all forms of cricket



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Former India batter Suresh Raina on Tuesday announced his retirement from all forms of cricket, a move that makes him eligible for competing in overseas T20 leagues.

The 35-year-old had followed M S Dhoni into international retirement on August 15, 2020.

He continued playing the IPL in 2021 but was released by Chennai Super Kings ahead of the 2022 season.

"It has been an absolute honour to represent my country & state UP. I would like to announce my retirement from all formats of cricket," Raina tweeted while thanking the BCCI, Uttar Pradesh Cricket Association and CSK.

Since an active India or domestic player can't take part in overseas leagues, Raina needed to take this step for him to explore T20 leagues around the world.

He could also be seen in Cricket South Africa's new T20 league, to be held next year, with all six teams owned by IPL franchises, including CSK.

Raina played his last competitive game in October 2021 when he turned up for CSK against Rajasthan Royals in Abu Dhabi.

As an India player, Raina played 18 Tests, 226 ODIs and 78 T20s. He was part of the World Cup winning squad in 2011.

## JEMIMAH TO PLAY FOR MELBOURNE STARS

**Melbourne:** Melbourne Stars on Tuesday announced the signing of India batter Jemimah Rodrigues for the eighth season of Women's Big Bash League (WBBL).

The 22-year-old represented Stars' cross-town rival Melbourne Renegades last season, scoring 333 runs at a strike rate of over 116.

"I am super excited to be a part of the Stars family," Jemimah said in a statement.

"I've been told that I'm the first ever Indian to sign for the Stars and it is my honour to do so.

"Melbourne has always been my favourite city in Australia and I can't wait to get back there," she added.

# Kolkata, Ahmedabad to host SMAT & Hazare knockouts

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Kolkata and Ahmedabad will host the knockout stages of Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy (SMAT) and Vijay Hazare Trophy, respectively, while the BCCI will conduct two Irani Cup ties over the next months.

SMAT, the domestic T20 event, will take place from October 11 to November 5 while the Vijay Hazare one-day competition will run from November 12 to December 2.

Lucknow, Indore, Rajkot, Punjab and Jaipur will host the league stage of SMAT while Mumbai, Bangalore, Delhi, Kolkata and Ranchi will stage the Vijay Hazare league fixtures.

The BCCI is conducting a full-fledged domestic season for the first time since 2020.

The Board also confirmed that the two Irani Cup ties will be held at the start and end of season.

The 2020 Ranji Trophy champions Saurashtra will host Rest of India from October 1-5 while current champions Madhya Pradesh host ROI from



March 1-5 next year, as per the scheduled shared by BCCI to state units.

Saurashtra were not able to play the Irani Cup after their maiden Ranji triumph in March 2020 due to the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic.

The inaugural women's under-15 event will be played from December 26 to January 12 across five venues including Bangalore, Ranchi, Rajkot, Indore, Raipur, Pune.

"BCCI is glad to announce a girls U-15 One Day tournament. This tournament is intro-

duced to create a pathway for our youngsters which will help introduce fresh talent," read a BCCI note to state units.

The season begins with Duleep Trophy in September 8 to 25.

The premier domestic event, Ranji Trophy, returns to the traditional home and away format and will run from December 12 to February 20.

Teams could only get to play three league games in Ranji Trophy due to a truncated season.

# Cricketing landscape is changing fast: Kane



PTI ■ CAIRNS

New Zealand captain Kane Williamson feels the cricketing landscape around the world is witnessing a rapid change with the emergence of T20 leagues and striking a balance between franchise cricket and national duty has become the need of the hour.

Williamson's comments came at a time when cricketers around the world are preferring playing in cash-rich T20 leagues over international cricket.

"It's a tricky one because it is changing. So much seems to have happened so quickly,"

Williamson told reporters.

"It does seem to be a movement in the landscape of the game. Every case is unique and every case has got their individual needs at different stages of their lives.

"There are a lot of different franchise events happening and seeing players make decisions on their playing careers... Suggests that there is a balance to strike and some things to work through," he added.

Recently, Trent Boult was released from his central contract after the star New Zealand pacer made a request to spend more time with his family and also take part in T20 leagues across the world.

Boult was roped in by Melbourne Stars for the Big Bash League (BBL) soon after.

On the other hand, New Zealand all-rounder Colin de Grandhomme decided to retire from international cricket, and was roped in by BBL franchise Adelaide Strikers in the draft process.

# Hardik probably best T20 all-rounder, Bumrah most complete bowler across formats: Ponting

PTI ■ DUBAI

Australian batting great and World Cup winning captain Ricky Ponting has included India's Hardik Pandya and Jasprit Bumrah among his first five players for a World T20 playing eleven.

Ponting reckons Pandya is arguably the best T20 all-rounder in the world while Bumrah is the most complete bowler across the three formats.

"On current form, it's pretty hard to go past Hardik Pandya at number three. His IPL was outstanding.

"To see him back at the bowling crease is something that I was always a little bit unsure would actually ever happen... he's had some really big injury setbacks, which has obviously affected how much he's been able to play for India," said Ponting on the ICC Review.

Pandya is back to bowling regularly lending much needed balance to the Indian team.

"But he's back bowling, and at 140kph which he was doing four or five years ago. But his batting and his maturity while batting has come on in leaps and bounds.

"He understands the game better and he understands his game better than ever before and right now he's probably the best allrounder in the world in T20 cricket, and could potentially be in ODI cricket," said the former Australian captain.

The other three players in Ponting's first five include Rashid Khan, Babar Azam and Jos Buttler.

On India's pace spearhead, Ponting added: "He is probably the most complete bowler across Test cricket, One Day cricket and T20 cricket in the world right now. Very good with the new ball when anyone decides to use him that way.

"India might think of giving him an over with the new ball in Australia (at the T20 World Cup) where it might



swing but what you can guarantee is a couple of great high quality death overs, which every team is looking for — someone that can execute slow balls and bouncers."

Ponting reserved a lot of praise for Afghanistan star Rashid Khan.

"I've actually gone with Rashid Khan at number one, and the reason I thought about that was if we actually had a player event in an IPL auction now and there was no salary cap, he's probably the one that's going to go for the most amount of money.

"I've got him at number one for his consistency, his wicket-taking ability over a long period of time, but also the fact that his economy rate in the T20 game is just outstanding.

"When you're playing against any team that he's playing in you probably have less sleep that night than you do for any other game that you play during the year," he added.

# Fit-again Bavuma returns to lead Proteas in T20 WCup

IANIS ■ JOHANNESBURG

South Africa white-ball skipper and Test vice-captain Temba Bavuma, who was ruled out of the three-Test away series against England currently underway due to an elbow injury, will return to lead the 15-member side in the ICC T20 World Cup in Australia.

The 32-year-old had suffered a left-elbow injury during the five-match T20I series against India in June and has fully recovery ahead of the showpiece event Down Under.

The 15-member squad and three travelling reserves will also make the trip to India ahead of the T20 World Cup for the three-match T20I series later this month.

Rassie van der Dussen has been ruled out of the tournament due to a fracture of his left index finger he sustained during the second Test against England in Manchester. He will require surgery and is expected to take up to at least six weeks to recover.

All 15 players are capped, with 22-year-old Tristan Stubbs receiving his maiden World Cup call up following an impressive outing in the recent T20I series against England.

**Squad:** Temba Bavuma (captain), Quinton de Kock, Reeza Hendricks, Heinrich Klaasen, Keshav Maharaj, Aiden Markram, David Miller, Lungi Ngidi, Anrich Nortje, Wayne Parnell, Dwaine Pretorius, Kagiso Rabada, Rilee Rossouw, Tabraiz Shamsi, Tristan Stubbs.

**Travelling Reserves:** Bjorn Fortuin, Marco Jansen, and Andile Phehlukwayo.



# Payas-Yashaswini pair wins Gold at Asian Junior TT

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Indian paddlers ended their campaign in the Asian Junior and Cadet Championships in Laos on a golden note as Payas Jain and Yashaswini Ghorpade defeated the Chinese duo of Han Xinyuan and Qin Yuxuan 3-2 in a thrilling final on Tuesday.

The Indians won 11-9, 11-1, 10-12, 7-11, and 11-8.

Incidentally, this was the first Gold medal that the Indian juniors have won in an Asian Championships, and it came close on the heels of our first mixed Gold at the CWG through Sharath Kamal and Sreeja Akula in Birmingham last month.

Besides, India also grabbed three Bronze medals, one each in the U-19 Boys Doubles, in the U-19 girls singles, and in the U-19 Boys team event. Overall, the Indians did well to return home with four medals.

The top-seeded Indian duo started well to surge into a 2-0

lead before the Chinese pair came back to take the next two games. However, in the decider, Payas and Yashaswini combined cleverly and attacked in a measured way to outwit their opponents. Earlier, the top-seeded Karnataka girl did well up to the quarterfinals in the Under-19 Girls singles but lost to Chen Yi of China in the semis, losing the match in straight games of 13-11, 11-9, 11-4, 11-3.

After the first two games, where Yashaswini showed her fighting qualities, she lost steam in the next two and didn't play as well.

Payas, who combined with Delhi-mate Yashansh Malik in the U-19 Boys Doubles till the previous round, failed to repeat their performance in the semi-finals against the Japanese duo of Yuta Iimura and Yui Sakai.

The Japanese paddlers, which became the eventual Gold-winner, beat the Indians 11-8, 11-7, 12-14, 11-6, and settled for Bronze.

# Green, Carey take Oz to 2-wicket win

AP ■ CAIRNS

Cameron Green scored an unbeaten 89 and shared a 158-run sixth-wicket partnership with Alex Carey as Australia recovered from a top-order collapse Tuesday to beat New Zealand by two wickets in the series-opening ODI.

Australia won the toss and restricted top-ranked New Zealand to 232-9, with allrounder Glenn Maxwell taking an ODI career-best 4-52 and paceman Josh Hazlewood snaring 3-31 for the hosts.

Devon Conway (46), skipper Kane Williamson (45), Tom Latham (43) and Michael Bracewell (26) all made promising starts for New Zealand before losing their wickets to the versatile Maxwell in conditions perfect for his slower off-spinners.

Trent Boult grabbed three early wickets with some vintage in-swing bowling for New Zealand, removing skipper Aaron Finch (5), Steve Smith (1) and Marnus Labuschagne (0), and Matt Henry dismissed David Warner (20) and



Marcus Stoinis (5) to have Australia reeling at 44-5 after 12 overs.

But Carey (85) and Green combined to steady the innings and, with plenty of overs in hand and the pitch improving, set about gradually chasing down the required runs.

# BAI announces cash rewards for CWG, World C'ship medallists

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Badminton Association of India (BAI) on Tuesday announced cash rewards of close to Rs 1.5 crore for the medallists at the Commonwealth Games and World Championships.

The Indian contingent came home with its best ever showing from the Birmingham Commonwealth Games, bagging three Gold, one Silver and two Bronze medals while the Indian men's shuttlers fetched three medals at the World Championships in 2021 and 2022 respec-

tively. "Our Badminton players have been consistently winning laurels for the country and this cash award is a small effort to acknowledge their amazing achievements over the last two years," said BAI president Himanta Biswa Sarma while announcing the prize money.

The 10-member mixed team, which won the Silver medal in Birmingham will get a total of Rs 30 lakh, or Rs 3 lakh each, for their effort while the eight members of the support staff will get Rs 1.5 lakh each. Commonwealth Games



men's and women's singles champions Lakshya Sen and PV Sindhu would take home Rs 20 lakh each while the men's doubles combination of Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy will be rewarded with Rs 25 lakh for bagging the historic Gold in Birmingham.

Apart from the Gold medalists, the young women's doubles combination of Gayatri Gopichand and Treasa Jolly will get home Rs 7.5 lakh for their maiden Bronze medal winning effort.

Former world No. 1 Kidambi Srikanth will also get

Rs 5 lakh for his men's singles Bronze in Birmingham along with Rs 10 lakh for his Silver medal winning effort at the 2021 BWF World Championships in Huelva, Spain.

Sen would add Rs 5 lakh to his kitty for bagging the men's singles Bronze in 2021 while Shetty and Satwik will get another Rs 7.5 lakh for becoming the first Indian men's doubles pair to clinch a World Championships Bronze in Tokyo last month.

"BAI plans to continue to encourage the players for their super series performances too," it said.