

OPINION 6

NETAJI ARRIVES IN
DELHI & IN STYLE

WORLD 8

UKRAINE KEEPS INITIATIVE, CLAIMS
IT REACHED RUSSIAN BORDER

MONEY 10

GOVT WORKING ON ELECTRIC
HIGHWAYS: NITIN GADKARI

NEW DELHI, TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 13, 2022; PAGES 12 ₹3



the pioneer

www.dailypioneer.com

ENG BEAT SA
BY 9 WICKETS
IN THIRD TEST
12 SPORTGyanvapi worship plea
maintainable: CourtNext hearing on
Sept 22; Muslim
side to move HCRAMATMA SRIVASTAVA ■
VARANASI

The Varanasi District Court on Monday held that the civil suit filed by five Hindu women seeking permission for unhindered daily worship of Shringar Gauri and other visible and invisible deities located on Shri Kashi Vishwanath Temple-Gyanvapi Mosque complex was maintainable and dismissed the application filed by Anjuman Intezamia Masjid Committee, which sees management of the mosque, challenging the suit. The court fixed September 22 as the next date of hearing of the case.

District Judge Ajay Kumar Vishvesha, who had on August 25 reserved the order in the case, delivered the 26-page order in 10 minutes in the presence of 32 persons inside the courtroom, including lawyers of the two sides and plaintiffs, according to an advocate who was present in the courtroom. In his order, the district judge said, "In view of the discussions and analysis, I have come to the conclusion that the suit of the plaintiffs is not



Security personnel deployed near Kashi Vishwanath Temple ahead of the Varanasi District Court verdict on the Gyanvapi mosque-Shringar Gauri case, in Varanasi on Monday

PTI

barred by the Places of Worship (Special Provision) Act, 1991, the Waqf Act, 1995 and the UP Sri Kashi Vishwanath Temple Act, 1983, and the application 35C filed by the defendant No. 4 (Anjuman Intezamia) is liable to be dismissed."

The plaintiffs and their advocates welcomed Monday's order of the court and described it as their victory. On the other hand, the defendants expressed disappointment.

Merajuddin Siddiqui, the advocate representing the Muslim side, said they would move the Allahabad High Court against the District Court order.

Five women, Lakshmi Devi, Sita Sahu, Rekha Pathak, Manju Vyas and Rakhi Singh had filed a civil suit in the court of Civil Judge (Senior Division) Ravi Kumar Diwakar of Varanasi seeking the right to offer prayer to Goddess Shringar Gauri, located on the

outer wall of Shri Kashi Vishwanath Temple-Gyanvapi Masjid complex and other deities located on the complex.

On the order of the court, Advocate Commissioner Ajay Kumar Mishra had conducted a video-survey of the complex on May 6 and 7 but he was removed by the court later on the question of his fairness raised by the Anjuman Intezamia Masjid Committee.

Continued on Page 2

India, China walk
the talk on pullback
from Pt-15 face-offTwo sides raze
structures, return
to bases, will now
have buffer zonePIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■
NEW DELHI

Abiding with their pact to ease tension on the border, India and China on Monday completed the disengagement of their respective troops from the Gogra-Hot Springs (Patrolling Point-15) stand-off site in Eastern Ladakh. The two sides also dismantled temporary structures which came up during the last two years when the face-off started.

The two sides returned to their respective bases in the rear on either side and will now observe a buffer or no patrolling zone.

The zone will stretch from two to five km, sources said here on Monday.

Earlier in the day, Army Chief General Manoj Pande had said here, the pullback was "going on as per schedule." His remarks came as the two countries agreed to complete disengagement by Monday after the process commenced on Thursday last week.

Moreover, the withdrawal of troops from an eyeball to eyeball situation came days before Prime Minister



GOC-in-C Northern Command Lt General Upendra Dwivedi during his visit to review operational preparedness along forward areas in Batalik Sub-Sector of Western Ladakh

PTI

Narendra Modi travels to Samarkand, Uzbekistan for the annual Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit on September 15-16. China President Xi Jinping and Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif too will attend the event, besides Russian President Vladimir Putin.

However, there was no official word about any bilateral meeting between Modi and Jinping and Modi and Sharif on the sidelines of the SCO summit. It will be the first time Modi and Jinping will come face to face after their meeting at Brasilia on the sidelines of the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) in 2019.

Continued on Page 2

NIA crackdown on
emerging nexus of
narco-terror-donsHouses of Moosewala's
killers among 50 places
in Delhi, Punjab, Raj
Haryana searchedPIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■
NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Monday conducted searches at as many as 50 locations in Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Delhi/NCR "to dismantle and disrupt the emerging nexus between terrorists, gangsters and drug smugglers/traffickers based in India and abroad". Some of those raided were also allegedly involved in the killing of Punjabi singer Sidhu Moosewala.

The NIA crackdown followed the launch of an investigation against this nexus by the agency after the re-registration of two cases, earlier registered by the Delhi Police on August 26.

The NIA is probing the alleged involvement of gangs in Punjab in smuggling drugs from Pakistan and the money later being pumped into terror-related activities.

The case of Moosewala's murder is being probed by the Punjab and Delhi Police and 23 persons have been arrested in this connection so far.



Police personnel deployed during a raid by NIA officials in connection with a case related to narco-terrorism by alleged gangsters, at multiple locations in Outer Delhi on Monday

PTI

Moosewala was killed in Mansa on May 29 when he along with his friend and cousin was travelling in a jeep to Jawahar Ke village. A day earlier, the Punjab Police had pruned his security cover on a temporary basis. Goldy Brar, who is a member of the Lawrence Bishnoi gang, had claimed the responsibility for the murder.

Bishnoi is facing nearly 60 cases, including murders, attempt to murders and extortion. He is suspected of running his crime syndicate from behind bars.

Last week, Delhi Police's Special Cell also nabbed three sharpshooters of the Bishnoi and Brar gangs after an encounter in Delhi's Rohini area. Police said the arrested trio was in direct contact with Brar in Canada through the Signal app regularly for the past many days.

Continued on Page 2

Double whammy: IIP
sinks, inflation soarsRetail inflation shoots
up to 7% in Aug, factory
output plunges to 2.4%

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

In a double whammy of sorts for the Indian economy, retail inflation accelerated to 7 per cent in August driven by high food and fuel costs, while factory output plunged to a four-month low of 2.4 per cent.

The reversal of a three-month declining trend in CPI inflation will put pressure on the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to again raise interest rates to tame prices, which have stayed above the comfort zone for the eighth month in a row. CPI inflation climbed to 7 per cent from 6.71 per cent in July and 5.3 per cent in August 2021, official data released on Monday showed.

A sharp increase in cereals



and vegetable prices owing to erratic monsoon impacting yield was the main reason.

While the country was already facing double-digit wheat inflation due to unexpected heat wave pulling down the output, a lower area sown under paddy due to the short-fall in monsoon rainfall is expected to reduce the rice output. The twin effect of this means inflation in cereals will remain at elevated levels.

Continued on Page 2

SC hearing on
constitutional
validity of CAA
on October 31

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday said it will hear on October 31 a batch of pleas challenging the constitutional validity of the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA) which seeks to grant citizenship to non-Muslim migrants fleeing religious persecution in Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan who entered India on or before December 31, 2014.

A bench comprising Chief Justice UU Lalit and Justice SR Bhat noted the matter will be referred to a three-judge bench.

The 2019 amended law, which seeks to grant Indian citizenship to non-Muslim migrants has come in for stinging criticism by opposition parties, leaders and other entities over exclusion of Muslims.

Continued on Page 2

Burning 'khaki shorts' sparks
BJP-Cong slanging matchPIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■
NEW DELHI

A picture of burning "khaki shorts" posted by the Congress in social media on Monday evoked the ire of the RSS and the BJP which accused it of "connecting" with people through "hatred" and claimed that the depiction was "instigation for violence" across the country.

The Opposition party hit back saying both the RSS and the BJP are not "ready for aggressive responses from the Congress" and "if they will be aggressive, we will be double aggressive".

The sharp verbal exchanges were triggered following Congress tweeting a picture of a burning khaki shorts — a part of the RSS uniform earlier — saying "to free the country from shackles of hate and undo



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi with athlete Padmini Thomas during the party's Bharat Jodo Yatra, in Palayam on Monday. Senior Congress leaders Shashi Tharoor and KC Venugopal are also seen

PTI

the damage done by BJP-RSS. Step by step, we will reach our goal. 145 days more to go", inferring the party's ongoing "Bharat Jodo Yatra".

The yatra, led by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi with a stated aim to "revive" the party is in progress in Kerala.

Continued on Page 2

MHA hands over
Sonali Phogat death
case probe to CBI

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Union Home Ministry on Monday handed over BJP politician Sonali Phogat's death case probe to the CBI after Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant recommended to the Centre an investigation by the Central agency. Phogat's family welcomed the Centre's decision.

Rinku Phogat, brother of Sonali Phogat, said that "our family has been demanding CBI investigation into this matter right from the beginning".

He said the family suspects a "conspiracy" behind her death and only a CBI probe can bring out the truth.

Rinku expressed confidence that the CBI will probe deeply into the matter.

The Union Home Ministry on Monday handed over the case to the CBI after Goa Chief



Minister Pramod Sawant recommended it in a letter.

Phogat (43), a BJP leader from Hisar in Haryana, died in Goa last month under suspicious circumstances and it is being treated as a case of murder. So far, Sudhir Sangwan, another aide Sukhwinder Singh and three others have been arrested by the Goa Police in connection with the case.

Continued on Page 2

CAPSULE

JESWIN WINS GOLD IN
3RD GOLDEN FRY SERIES

New Delhi: Top Indian long jumper Jeswin Aldrin won gold in the 3rd Golden Fry Series athletics meet at Schaan in Liechtenstein, with an impressive effort of 8.12m.

SGPC PROTESTS FOR SIKH
PRISONERS' RELEASE

Amritsar: The apex gurdwara body, SGPC, on Monday held protests at many places in Punjab, demanding the release of Sikh prisoners who have "completed their sentence".

UP: 'ILLEGAL' MADRASA
DEMOLISHED IN AMETHI

Amethi: A madrasa, built "illegally" on Government land, was on Monday demolished by the district administration here, officials said.

KEJRIWAL ACCEPTS AUTO
DRIVER'S DINNER INVITE

Ahmedabad: Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) national convener Arvind Kejriwal on Monday readily accepted an auto-rickshaw driver's invitation for a dinner at his home in Ahmedabad.

Jacqueline seeks
extension of
summons date
in Sukesh case

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Bollywood actress Jacqueline Fernandez has requested the Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of Delhi Police to postpone her questioning on Monday, pointing out that she has some pre-scheduled shoots. According to a senior police official, fresh summons were issued to Fernandez asking her to appear at the EOW office at Mandir Marg at 11 am on Wednesday.

The actor had been summoned in connection with the ₹200-crore extortion case filed against alleged conman Sukesh Chandrashekar and this is the second time that Jacqueline has requested the investigation team to postpone it citing prior commitments.

Earlier, in August the actress was summoned by the EOW to record her statement in the case on September 12.

Continued on Page 2

Last of 25 Kuno villages to make way for Cheetahs

Bagcha village, with
148 families, to be
resettled before PM's
visit on Sept 17

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

Twenty six years after it first started, the process of resettlement of 25 villages situated within the Kuno National Park (KNP) in Madhya Pradesh will be completed by September 17, when the first batch of eight Cheetahs to be brought in from Namibia will be released by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on his birthday.

So far, 24 of the 25 villages with a population of about 5,000 have been resettled. The lone remaining village, Bagcha, with 148 families, will be resettled before September 17 to ensure a safe habitat to the big cats which had become extinct from India way back in 1952.

Not just that, the Madhya Pradesh Government has

decided to accord the status of revenue village to all the resettled 25 villages.

"The Madhya Pradesh Government has promised to give "revenue village" status to the land where these villagers have been relocated," Union Environment Minister Bhopender Yadav on Monday said, sharing the details of the last-moment arrangements made for the hassle-free introduction of the spotted big cats.

A revenue village is a small administrative region with defined borders where owners have rights to use it commercially and can enjoy all the welfare schemes of the Government.

Overall, between 1996 and 2002, the families were relocated to make way for another charismatic mammal — the Asiatic Lion from Gujarat's Gir forests. However, the plan was shelved after the Gujarat Government refused to part with its "pride."

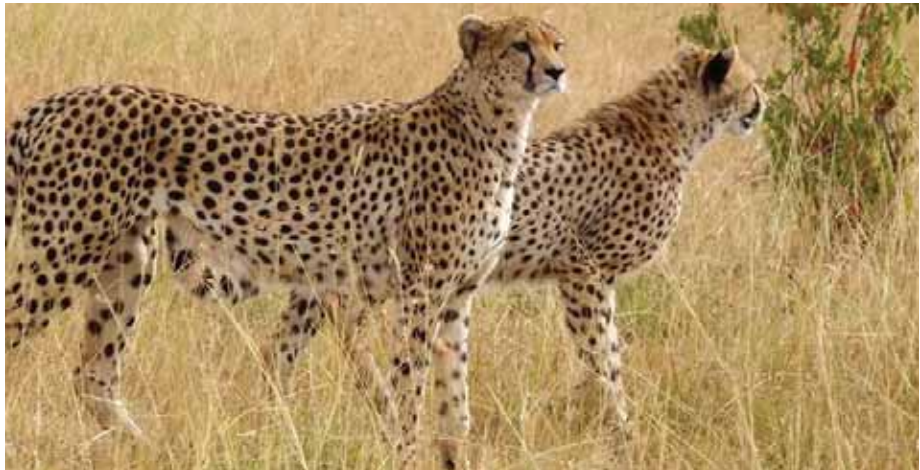
Now with the ambitious Cheetah introduction plan going on at full throttle, the Government hopes to boost the

conservation and eco-tourism prospects in the region.

SP Yadav, head of the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), shared that a chartered flight carrying eight radio-collared Cheetahs, five females and three males, will depart from Namibia's Capital Windhoek on September 16 and reach Jaipur airport on the morning of September 17, which is also Modi's birthday. They will then be flown to the KNP in helicopters which will take 40-42 minutes.

"The KNP, which spans across 740 square kilometres, has enough prey base to host the Cheetahs. It has a lot of positive factors such as good quality and diversity of habitats - grasslands, bamboo, wet patches. And then there are perennial massive tributaries to the Chambal river and diverse species of prey for survival of the Cheetahs," he said.

Also, feral dogs in the region have been vaccinated to ensure that they do not spread any disease in the spotted animals aged 3 to 5 years," the NTCA chief said, adding that



locals in the regions have been sensitised about the new guests.

At the KNP, the Prime Minister will release the Cheetahs in smaller quarantine enclosures where they will be kept for 30 days. They will then be released in a six-sq km predator-proof holding facility with nine compartments.

A senior official said facilities created at the KNP for the reintroduction of Cheetahs are "10 times better" than those in

Namibia and South Africa.

Union Minister Yadav on Sunday had taken stock of the preparations made at the KNP for the ambitious programme which is the world's first inter-continental translocation project of the fastest animal in the world.

The Government plans to acquire 50 African Cheetahs over the next five years. Namibia and South Africa are home to more than a third of

the world's 7,000 Cheetahs. The Cheetah is the only large carnivore that got completely wiped out from India, mainly due to over-hunting and habitat loss.

"The main reasons for the decline of the feline in India were a large-scale capture of the animal from the wild for coursing, bounty and sport hunting, extensive habitat conversion along with consequent decline in prey base," said officials.

NCR-PULSE

JNUSU STAGES SIT IN PROTEST ON CAMPUS
New Delhi: The Jawaharlal Nehru University Students' Union (JNUSU) staged a sit-in protest in the campus, raising several issues including "delay" in scholarship disbursement, problems related to infrastructure and "discrepancies" in PhD prospectus, a statement by the students' body said on Monday. It said many requests were made to the vice chancellor's office for an appointment to discuss pertinent issues within the campus premises.

RLY BOARD CEO INSPECTS ONGOING WORKS ON KATRA-BANIHAL
New Delhi: The chairman and CEO of Railway Board, Vinay Kumar Tripathi, has inspected the ongoing works on Katra-Banihal in Jammu and Kashmir. According to officials, during inspection of Tunnel T-1, the executing agency was advised to complete balance excavation of 260 meters expeditiously by augmenting resources. Northern Railway/Konkan Railway Corporation Limited was directed to closely monitor the progress.

AIIA LAUNCHES 6-WEEK-LONG AYURVEDA DAY PROGRAMME
New Delhi: The Delhi-based All India Institute of Ayurveda on Monday launched six-week long 'Ayurveda Day 2022', programme (12 September-23rd October) with the theme 'Har Din Har Ghar Ayurveda' under the guidance of the Union Ministry of Ayush. Prof. (Dr.) Tanuja Nesari, Director, AIIA said that the programme will see participation from various ministries of the Union Government with the aim of 3Js – Jan Sandesh, Jan Bhagidari, and Jan Aandolan.

25-YR-OLD WOMAN STABBED BY NEIGHBOUR
New Delhi: A 25-year-old woman was allegedly stabbed by her neighbour in southwest Delhi's Sagarpur for abusing his mother. The incident occurred on Sunday. Police said that the accused identified as 40 year-old Sunil, has been booked for attempt to murder and arrested. In a purported video of the incident, a man can be seen stabbing a woman with a knife while grabbing her hair.

HC DISMISSES 'ABSURD' PLEA ON LIQUOR VENDORS
New Delhi: The Delhi High Court has dismissed with Rs one lakh costs public interest litigation by a lawyer seeking directions for the identification of persons "harassing" private liquor vendors in the national capital and forcing them to close their shops. A Bench headed by Chief Justice Satish Chandra Sharma said that the petition by lawyer Narinder Khanna was "nothing but a sheer abuse of the process of law" and he wanted a "roving inquiry" on the basis of "vague and absurd allegations" and directed that the costs be deposited by him towards the Army War Widows Fund.

PUNISH ERRING POLICE OFFICER OVER 1984 SIKH RIOTS: HC
New Delhi: Observing the "nation was still bleeding" years after the anti-Sikh riots of 1984, the Delhi High Court on Monday granted liberty to the competent authority to issue "appropriate order of punishment" to a retired city police officer who allegedly failed to deploy adequate force, make preventive detentions and take action to break up miscreants during the violence.

MOBIUS FOUNDATION ORGANISES 4TH ICSE
New Delhi: Mobius Foundation, a non-profit organization working towards environmental sustainability organized its 4th International Conference on Sustainability Education (ICSE). The two days conference was held in SCOPE Complex, Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium Marg, Pragati Vihar, and featured several keynote addresses in three plenaries, 17 thematic sessions, exhibition, oral and poster presentations besides inaugural and concluding plenaries.

SC hearing on constitutional...

From Page 1
During the hearing on Monday, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre, told the bench that several issues have been raised in the petitions filed before the top court. "Our reply is filed so far as some amendments and challenge is concerned. In some of the matters, our reply is yet to be filed," he said.
Mehta said some time would be required for preparation and also for the hearing the matter. The bench said the office of the Solicitor General shall prepare a complete list of matters which shall be put in different segments depending upon the challenge raised in the petitions.
"The Union of India shall thereafter file its appropriate responses with respect to these segments of challenges," the

ADMISSION NOTICE
Applications are Invited for
DPSE (2022-24) under
Management Quota for Affiliated
Institutes of SCERT (Govt. of Delhi)
For further details, please contact:
Satyam International Polytechnic
GD Block, Near Pitampura Metro Station,
Pitampura, Delhi-110088. Ph:9711396842

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given to the general public on behalf of I/P C First Bank Ltd. that Mrs. Sudha Rani is owner of Flat, P-4, No. SF-1, on Second Floor without roof/terrace rights, area measuring 50 sq. yds, (said flat) built on Property bearing No RZ-D-2/29, area measuring 150 sq. yds, out of Kharsa No 758/99, Situated in the area of Village Hassanpur, colony known as Mahavir Enclave, New Delhi "The said property" by virtue of Sale deed dated 17.09.2021, registration No. 9138, executed by Mr. Dipak Sharma & Mrs. Suman Sharma, has been impounded the previous sale deed dated 15.12.2010, executed by Mr. Indrajit Singh in favour of Mr. Dipak Sharma & Mrs. Suman Sharma. All persons are hereby informed not to deal or carry out any transaction with anyone on the basis of missing document. If anyone has already carried out or being carried out, kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 10 days of the present.
For Kumar & Associates (Advocates & consultants)
200, Second Floor, 23, Shivaji Marg, Moti Nagar, New Delhi-15 kumarassociatesadvocate@gmail.com, Ph. 011-41172521-28

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given to the General public that: Mrs. Nimrula Devi W/o Mr. Ram Narain is owner of through REGISTERED GENERAL POWER OF ATTORNEY of A Plot No. 196 comprising of one shop on Ground Floor & One Room Constructed on First Floor/land area measuring "10'25" Situated in the Revenue estate of Village Bindapur, Delhi State, Colony known as Ujain Nagar, vide REGISTRED GENERAL POWER OF ATTORNEY dated 27.04.1998. All persons are hereby informed that MRS. REENA JINDAL W/o Mr. Om Prakash Jindal is purchasing the above-mentioned property from Mrs. Nimrula Devi W/o Mr. Ram Narain by way of REGISTERED SALE DEED the said above mentioned property with FULLERTON INDIA HOME FINANCE COMPANY, General public hereby informed that if anybody has any charge/interested in the said property or any kind of dispute kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present.
Mrs. Prasoon Lata, Advocate, SG Associates (Law Firm)
Unit No 7, Basement, Plot No C-78, Sector 2, Noida, UP 201301, E-MAIL: sgassociatespl@gmail.com, Ph: 7011172764, 8130200837

THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS
• CHANGE OF NAME •
I, Sunny Kumar S/o Mr. Shankar Prasad Sah R/o 31-B, 2nd Floor, DDA Flat, Shahpur Jat, New Delhi-110049 declare that My Driving Licence bears the name of my father as S P Sah. But his Correct Name is Shankar Prasad Sah. Please correct.
PD(90168)C

MHA's Delimitation Committee for MCD wards completes draft

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI
The Delimitation Committee constituted by the Ministry of Home Affairs on Monday completed the work of draft for delimitation of wards of the erstwhile Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD).
As per the statement released by the State Election Commission, in pursuance of the provisions of the Delhi Municipal Corporations Act, 1957, as amended by the Delhi Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Act, 2022, the Central Government through extraordinary gazette notification dated September 10, 2022 has determined 250 as total number of seats of councillors for MCD.
"Further, in pursuance of the provision of the Delhi Municipal Corporations Act (as amended), the Central Government has also determined the total number of the seats of Councillors in the Municipal Corporations of Delhi to be reserved for members of Scheduled Castes as 42, based on the ratio of the total number of seats as the population of Scheduled Castes bears to the total population of Delhi (Census 2011)," it read.
"It is for information of Political Parties, aspiring candidates for General Election to MCD and to the General Public that the Delimitation Committee as constituted by Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, has completed the work of draft delimitation of wards of MCD.
The draft delimitation order for the proposed delimited wards has also been put on the

Double whammy: IIP sinks, inflation...

From Page 1
This is the second instance since RBI adopted the inflation targeting approach that the retail inflation has breached the upper tolerance limit of 6 per cent for eight consecutive months — the earlier instance was from April 2020 to November 2020.
Separately, the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) for July 2022 recorded a tepid year-on-year growth of 2.4 per cent, falling sharply from 12.7 per cent in June.
Rumki Majumdar, economist, at Deloitte India said the CPI and IIP data show just how much work the RBI has to do. "The challenge is that the RBI is faced with a difficult balancing act, needing to raise interest rates aggressively to control inflation without impacting the recovery."
While Icra chief economist Aditi Nayar said the CPI inflation print is expected to rise slightly to 7.1 per cent in September, India Ratings said retail inflation will fall below 6 per cent only by January next year.
"We expect inflation to ease in 2023, with an improved supply side situation and global economic weakening leading to falling energy prices," Deloitte's Majumdar said.
The government has already announced restrictions on the export of wheat flour and more recently for rice

NIA crackdown on emerging nexus of...

From Page 1
"Through his undisclosed sources, Goldy Brar has arranged money, shelter and weapons for them for eliminating a target, which is to be disclosed to them on the day of execution only," the police said after their arrest.
"A few of the most desperate gang leaders and their associates based in India and abroad, who are spearheading and carrying out such terror and criminal activities were identified and booked," the NIA said in a statement.
In its ongoing efforts to dismantle these transnational terror and crime networks, the NIA conducted searches at 50 locations in Fazilka, Fairdkot, Mukhtsar Sahab, Moga, Taran Taaran, Amritsar, Ludhiana, Chandigarh and Mohali districts of Punjab, East Gurugram, Bhiwani, Yamuna Nagar, Sonapat and Hajaraj in Haryana, Hanumangarh and Ganganagar districts of Rajasthan and Dwarka, Outer North, North West, North East and Shahdara Districts of Delhi/ NCR.
Besides Bishnoi and Brar, the agency conducted searches at the premises of notorious gangsters Jaggu Bhagwanpuria, Varinder Pratap alias Kala Rana, Kala Jathedi, Vikram Brar, Gaurav Patyal alias Lucky Patyal (who was earlier arrested in Armenia), Neeraj Bawana, Koushal Chaudhary, Tullu Tajpuria, Amit Dagar, Deepak Kumar alias Tinu, Sandeep alias Bandar, Umesh alias Kala, Irfan alias Cheenu Pahlawan, Ashim alias Hashim Baba, Sachin Bhanja and their associates, it said.
During the searches, six pistols, one revolver and a shotgun were seized, along with ammunition. Besides these, drugs, cash, incriminating documents, digital devices, details of benami property and threat letters among others were also seized by the NIA.
"The recent sensational crimes and extortion calls by criminal syndicates and gangsters to businessmen, professionals, including doctors, etc., had created a widespread scare among the people.
These gangs were using cyber-space to publicise these crimes to create terror among the public at large," the agency said.
The NIA investigation further revealed that such criminal acts were not isolated local

Burning 'khaki shorts' sparks BJP-Cong slanging...

From Page 1
Responding to the tweet, RSS joint general secretary Mannohan Vaidya said the Congress wants to connect people through "hatred" and asserted that the party's earlier generations too harboured hatred and contempt for the Sangh.
Addressing a press conference after the conclusion of the three-day coordination meeting of the RSS, Vaidya claimed there was a "growing support" for Hindutva in the society.
"They (Congress) want to connect people through hatred. Can you unite India through hatred? They have harboured hatred and contempt for us for a long time. Their earlier generations (baap-dada) too tried to stop the RSS but we kept growing as we were supported by the people," he said at the Akhil Bharatiya Samanvay Baihath of the RSS which was attended by Sangh chief Mohan Bhagwat, its general secretary Dattatreya Hosabale and BJP

Reference : Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) :
POLICE TELECOMMUNICATION HEAD QUARTER, M.P.,
Bhadbhada Road, Bhopal- 462003
Fax No. 0755-2443674, E-mail: sspradiomppbl@gmail.com
NIT No. PDM/Pr/Dial-100/Videowall/F-684/2022, Dated: 07/09/2022
-:: e-Tender Notice (3rd Call) ::-
e-Tender/Sealed tenders are invited by Senior Superintendent of Police (Radio) MP Bhopal on behalf of DGP MP Bhopal for the following items :-

S.N.	NAME OF ITEMS & DESCRIPTION	QTY	Required EMD Rs.	Tender Fee Rs.
1	Supply of Video Wall with All accessories Curve Screen Size in MM- 8640 x 3240 (± 5%) for CCTV Surveillance System control Room	01	3,00,000/- (Three Lakhs)	10,000/-
2	Supply of Video wall controller unit for curve screen	01		
3	Complete installation charges with all necessary hardware and fitments.	01		

- Cost of tender documents (Tender Fee) is non refundable and cannot be exempted in any condition.
- The Tender should be submitted online on website <https://www.mptenders.gov.in> in favor of SSP (Radio) MP, Bhopal within scheduled date and time. Tender fees and EMD should be deposited online through the website.
- Tender documents are also available on the website of MP Police (www.mppolice.gov.in) for ready reference.
- Schedule :-**

Documents download/Sale Start Date	08/09/2022 from 1800 Hrs.
Bid Submission Start Date	20/09/2022 from 1800 Hrs.
Bid Submission End Date	01/10/2022 up to 1700 Hrs.
Opening of bid Date	03/10/2022 at 1200 Hrs.

Sr. Superintendent of Police (Radio)
Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal

G-16751/22

Kejriwal accepts Ahmedabad autorickshaw driver's dinner invite; BJP calls him 'actor'

PTI ■ AHMEDABAD
A political slugfest broke out between the BJP and the AAP after the latter's national convener Arvind Kejriwal on Monday accepted an autorickshaw driver's invitation for a dinner at his home in Ahmedabad.
The ruling BJP, reacting to the development, took potshots at the Delhi Chief Minister and termed him as an "actor". Kejriwal, who is on a two-day Gujarat visit as part of the AAP's campaign for the upcoming Assembly polls, addressed a gathering of autorickshaw drivers in Ahmedabad. After his address, an autorickshaw driver named Vikram Dantani, a resident of the city's Ghatlodia area, requested Kejriwal to have a

Gyanvapi worship...

From Page 1
The court then appointed Vishal Singh and Ajay Pratap Singh as special advocate commissioner and assistant court commissioner respectively for the survey. Both conducted surveys on May 14, 15 and 16 and submitted their reports on May 19. Advocate commissioner Ajay Kumar Mishra also submitted his report.
The plaintiffs had claimed that a shivling was found in the wuzu khana of the mosque during the survey while the defendants claimed that it was a fountain. In the meantime, the Anjuman Intezamia Masjid Committee filed an application in the Supreme Court challenging the maintainability of the suit filed by five Hindu

MHA hands over Sonali Phogat...

From Page 1
Sawant told reporters in Panaji that the Goa Police has done a "tremendously good investigation" into the case and have also got some clues.
"But due to the demand of people from Haryana and also Sonali Phogat's daughter, we have decided to write to the Union Home Ministry to hand over this case to the CBI," Sawant said.
Notably, on Sunday in Hisar, the "Sarv Jatiya Khap Mahapanchayat" had given an ultimatum to the Government to recommend a CBI probe into the case by September 23 or else they will start a mass agitation.

Noting that many members of the RSS, the Hindutva organisation considered the BJP's ideological mentor, have been killed in Kerala where the Congress yatra is going on presently, Patra alleged that the Opposition party has signalled to "terrorists" in the southern State to target their functionaries. Patra asked the Congress to immediately take down the post, saying there is no room for violence in India's Constitutional scheme of things.

India, China walk the talk on...

From Page 1
Meanwhile, once the disengagement is complete, the two sides will maintain a buffer zone of two to five km on either side as a confidence building measure to avoid any confrontation.
Similar buffer or no patrolling zones were agreed upon between the two armies while disengaging from four other stand-off sites in the last two years, sources said here on Monday. The face-offs at some friction points including Patrolling Point-15 started soon after the first stand-off at the Pangong Tso(lake)in Eastern Ladakh in May 2020.
The External Affairs Ministry had said on September 9 the disengagement process will be completed by September 12. Announcing the schedule of disengagement, Ministry of External Affairs Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi had said here, "as per the agreement, the disengagement process in this area started on 08 September 2022 at 0830 hrs and will be completed by 12 September 2022. The two sides have agreed to cease forward deployments in this area in a phased, coordinated and verified manner, resulting in the return of the troops of both sides to their respective areas.
It has been agreed that all temporary structures and other allied infrastructure created in the area by both sides will be dismantled and mutually verified. The landforms in the area will be restored to pre-stand-off period by both sides.
The agreement ensures that the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in this area will be strictly observed and respected by both sides, and that

there will be no unilateral change in status quo.
With the resolution of stand-off at PP-15, both sides mutually agreed to take the talks forward and resolve the remaining issues along LAC and restore peace and tranquility in India-China border areas.
The latest disengagement or withdrawal of troops from both the sides from the friction points was the fourth one. The first withdrawal took place at the Pangong Tso(lake)in February 2021. Incidentally, the face-off at the lake was the first one in 2020 triggering tension all along the LAC in Ladakh.
The second disengagement became effective at Patrolling Point-17 in the Gogra-Hot Springs area in August last year besides withdrawal of troops from the Galwan valley.

Yogi takes stock of twin towers' debris management

STAFF REPORTER ■ NOIDA
Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Monday took stock of the debris management following the demolition of the illegally constructed Supertech's twin towers in Noida that were razed on August 28. The chief minister was apprised by the Noida Authority CEO Rituh Maheshwari that the debris is being processed at the construction and demolition waste management unit in Sector 80, according to an official statement.
The demolition of the nearly 100 metre tall twin towers in Sector 93A has left behind an estimated 80,000 tonnes of debris which is to be recycled and scientifically processed.
"The chief minister was informed that the C&D waste processing unit has a daily capacity of 350 tonnes to 400 tonnes. But due to the debris generated by twin towers demolition, the unit is now functioning at 700 tonnes a day capacity," the Noida Authority said in a statement.

LG writes to 10 varsities to send students on visits to border regions

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI
Delhi Lieutenant Governor Secretariat on Monday wrote a letter to the Vice Chancellors of 10 Universities to submit an Action Plan till September 15, 2022, to send the students from the national Capital, on exposure visit to the Border Areas of the country, as a part of "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav".
This move came following the meeting of the National Committee for Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations headed by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, of which the LG Vinai Kumar Saxena is also a member.
According to a senior official, aimed at sensitizing the students about the exemplary work being done by our Defence Forces and Central Police Organizations despite difficult terrain and inclement weather, these visits will ensure that the students understand and appreciate the importance of our independence and sovereignty.

India, China walk the talk on...

Noting that many members of the RSS, the Hindutva organisation considered the BJP's ideological mentor, have been killed in Kerala where the Congress yatra is going on presently, Patra alleged that the Opposition party has signalled to "terrorists" in the southern State to target their functionaries. Patra asked the Congress to immediately take down the post, saying there is no room for violence in India's Constitutional scheme of things.

India, China walk the talk on...

From Page 1
Fernandez had communicated to police through an email, in which she stated that she won't be able to join the investigation on September 12 due to prior commitments and had asked police for a date after 15 days, however, the police team privy with the investigation didn't give her much time and issued fresh summons to join the investigation on September 14.
This will be the third time that the police had asked Jacqueline to assist the investigation. On August 17, the ED filed a chargesheet naming actor Jacqueline as an accused in a multi-crore money laundering case linked to Chandrashekar. According to the ED, actresses Norah Fatehi and Fernandez received luxury cars and other expensive gifts from Chandrashekar.

Although every possible care and caution has been taken to avoid errors or omissions, this publication is being sold on the condition and understanding that information given in this publication is merely for reference and must not be taken as having authority of or binding in any way on the writers, editors, publishers, and printers and sellers who do not owe any responsibility for any damage or loss to any person, a purchaser of this publication or not for the result of any action taken on the basis of this work. All disputes are subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of competent court and forums in Delhi/New Delhi only. Readers are advised and requested to verify and seek appropriate advice to satisfy themselves about the veracity of any kind of advertisement before responding to any contents published in this newspaper. The printer, publisher, editor and any employee of the Pioneer Group will not be held responsible for any kind of claim made by the advertisers of the products & services and shall not be made responsible for any kind of loss, consequences and further product-related damages on such advertisements.

Printed and published by Narendra Kumar for and on behalf of CMYK Printech Ltd., No. 6, Behind Gulab Bhawan, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi-110 002, Phone: 011-40110455, Communication Office: F-31, Sector 6, NOIDA, Gautam Budh Nagar-201301, U.P. Phone: 0120-4879800 & 4879900 and printed at Jagran Prakashan Ltd, D-210, 211 Sector-63, Noida (U.P.). Executive Editor: Navin Upadhyay. AIR SURCHARGE of ₹ 2.00 East: Calcutta, North: Leh West: Mumbai & Ahmedabad South: Bangalore & Chennai. Central : Khajuraho. Lucknow Office: 4th Floor, Sahara Shopping Centre, Faizabad Road, Lucknow-226 016. Telephones: 0522-2346443, 2346444, 2346445.

DU launches CSAS for UG admissions

New academic session is likely to begin on Nov 1

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi University (DU) on Monday launched the Common Seat Allocation System (CSAS) for undergraduate admissions for the 2022-23 academic year, with the Vice-Chancellor (V-C) saying the new academic session is likely to begin on November 1.

Candidates who have appeared for the Common University Entrance Test (CUET) can register on the portal. The admission process will take place over three phases. This marks the much-awaited commencement of the admission process at Delhi University. CUET results are expected to be announced on September 15.

Addressing a press conference, DU V-C Yogesh Singh said the university is likely to begin the new academic session on November 1. "We are launching the CSAS portal today for undergraduate programmes.

This is the first time we are taking admission through CUET," he said. The portal will remain open till October 3, giving students a 21-day window to apply for their desired undergraduate programme, Singh said.

To apply, candidates will have to visit the DU admission website and register by clicking on the link that reads 'admission for undergraduate programmes'. They will have to fill in all basic details, upload mark sheets, photographs and signatures, and pay the registration fee.

Admission through the CSAS will be conducted in three phases — submission of



the CSAS-2022 application form, selection of programmes and filling of preferences, seat allocation, and admission.

On this occasion, Dean Admission, University of Delhi, Professor Haneet Gandhi gave detailed information about the admission process. In the first phase, which began on Monday, applicants have to furnish their personal information, upload their documents and apply for admission under the extracurricular activities (ECA) or the sports quota if they wish.

The registration fee is Rs 250 for unreserved candidates, with an additional fee for ECA and sports-quota admission which will be non-refundable. Candidates wanting to take admission in DU will have to apply through the CSAS-2022 application form only. The application number of CUET (UG)-2022 will be mandatory to apply for CSAS-2022.

In the second phase, the applicants will have to choose their course and college preferences. The CUET score will be required in the second phase of the process, which can only take place once the results have been announced.

A candidate will be required to select the programmes in which they want to take admission. They will have to confirm the programme-specific CUET-UG merit score

for all the selected programmes. In the third phase, a merit list will be issued by DU and based on it seats will be allocated.

Applicants will have the option to "freeze" their admission process if they are happy with the course and college they have got. If they opt for "upgradation" instead, they will be allotted a more preferred course-and-college combination subject to availability. For seat allocation in Performance-Based Programs, 50 per cent weightage will be given to the CUET score and 50 per cent to Performance Test Score. For admission under ECA, and Sports Supernumerary Quotas, 25 per cent weightage will be given to the CUET score and 75 per cent to certificates and trials.

For both ECA and Sports, the certificates issued between the time period of April 1, 2017 to June 30, 2022 will be considered. For admissions to ECA and Sports Supernumerary Quota, Combined ECA Merit (CEM) and Combined Sports Merit (CSM) will be the basis for seat allocation.

DU has also decided that in the first round of seat allotment, each program in each college will have an additional 20 per cent allocation in UR, OBC-NCL, EWS categories and 30 per cent in SC, ST, PWBD categories.

HC asks St Stephen's to follow DU admission policy

Court also says DU can't insist on single merit list for admission of Christian candidates regardless of denomination

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Monday directed St Stephen's College to follow the admission policy formulated by Delhi University (DU) and accord 100 per cent weightage to the CUET 2022 score while granting admission to non-minority students in its undergraduate courses.

A bench headed by Chief Justice Satish Chandra Sharma, however, held that DU "cannot insist upon a single merit list for admission of candidates belonging to Christian community regardless of denomination, subsets etc," the court ordered.

The Bench, also comprising Justice Subramonium Prasad, said the fundamental right under Article 30(1) of the Constitution accorded to a minority institution cannot be accorded to non-minority admissions.

"Aided minority institutions must follow the norms and procedure of the said university. Protection under Article 30(1) can be extended to the extent that it allows minority institutions to subclassify the reservation accorded to minority community," the court said.

The court's order came on petitions by a law student and St Stephen's College with respect to the legality of admission procedure for admission of students against unreserved non-minority seats for UG



courses. "Consequently the communication ... issued by respondent no 1 (DU) is liable to be set aside to the extent that the petitioner college (St Stephen's) shall follow the directive that 100 per cent weightage must be given to CUET 2022 score for students of the non-minority category applying to UG courses. However, respondent 1 cannot insist upon single merit list for admission of candidates belonging to Christian community regardless of denomination, subsets etc," the court ordered.

"The petitioner is, therefore, directed to follow the admission policy 2022-2023 as formulated by respondent 1 to this extent. The petitioner college must withdraw its admission prospectus and issue of public notice," it ordered.

Law student Konika Poddar, in her public interest litigation, had sought a direction to the college to take admission on its 'unreserved seats' only based on marks received by students in the Common University Entrance Test (CUET). St Stephen's College had challenged Delhi University (DU)'s letter asking it to withdraw its prospectus which gave 85 per cent weightage to CUET and 15 per cent weightage to college interview for admission to its unreserved seats in UG courses.

2015 mob attack on Burari police station Two AAP MLAs among 15 convicted by court

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A court has convicted AAP MLAs Akhilesh Pati Tripathi and Sanjeev Jha for being part of a mob that attacked policemen at the Burari police station in north Delhi in 2015. Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (ACMM) Vaibhav Mehta also convicted 15 others in a case of rioting and causing hurt to police personnel.

The court also convicted Balram Jha, Shyam Gopal Gupta, Kishore Kumar, Lalit Mishra, Jagdish Chandra Joshi, Narender Singh Rawat, Neeraj Pathak, Raju Malik, Ashok Kumar, Ravi Prakash Jha, Ismail Islam, Manoj Kumar, Vijay Pratap Singh, Heera Devi and Yashwant.

They were found guilty of offences under Sections 147 (rioting), 186 (obstructing public servant in discharge of public functions), 332 (voluntarily causing hurt to deter public servant from his duty), and 149 (every member of unlawful assembly guilty of offence committed in the prosecution of common object) of IPC.

The court will hear the case on the quantum of sentence on September 21, where they may get a maximum three-year jail term. "This court is of the view that the prosecution has been able to prove beyond doubt that the accused persons namely



Sanjeev Jha and Akhilesh Pati Tripathi were part of the unlawful assembly... and were part of the mob and they had indulged in sloganeering and had provoked the crowd, and encouraged them to get violent, and as a result of which they resorted to stone pelting thereby causing injuries on some police officials," the judge said in a 149-page judgement passed on September 7.

According to the prosecution, the incident took place on the night of February 20, 2015, when the mob was demanding the custody of two men who had been arrested and brought to the police station.

The police had tried to pacify the crowd but the MLAs joined the mob and attacked them and resorted to stone pelting, the prosecutor told the court.

The judge held that the prosecution witnesses were "consistent" in their statements on the point of presence of the



two Legislators at the place of the incident and had indicated that they were not only "active participants but were in fact leading the crowd".

Besides, the two men were stated to have provoked the mob as a part of a "common object of the unlawful assembly" in order to "teach police officials a lesson and to overawe the police by force". The judgment, however, acquitted 10 people in the case.

Reacting on the court's decision, Delhi BJP president, Adesh Gupta demanded that both the MLAs should be sacked not only from the party but also from the post of MLA.

Gupta said that once again the abominable face of AAP has come in front of the people. Today, not only Delhi, the whole country has come to know that how AAP's MLAs, Ministers and leaders do corruption, hooliganism and do not shy away from assaulting the police.

'AAP backtracked after BJP brought DTC scam to light'

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A day after the AAP said that 1,000 buses for DTC were never purchased and tenders were cancelled, the Leader of Opposition (LoP) in Delhi Assembly, Ramvir Singh Bidhuri, on Monday claimed that the Arvind Kejriwal Government itself has replied in the Assembly that after the decision of the Cabinet, not only tenders were issued but work orders were placed, and contracts were also signed with companies.

He said that the work order was postponed after BJP members brought the scam to light and complained to the Lieutenant-Governor, Vinai Kumar Saxena. Bidhuri said that the AAP leaders have claimed that no tender has been floated in this matter and they even tried to mislead the people of Delhi by telling white lies.

Bidhuri, while presenting a document related to the issue, said that BJP MLA, Ajay Mahawar had raised a question in the Delhi Assembly and the reply given in the Assembly on January 3, 2022 signed by Ashish Kundra, Principal Secretary (Transport), completely belies the claim of the AAP leaders. "It has been clearly stated in the reply that as per the decision of the Cabinet, tenders were issued in March 2020 for the purchase of 1,000



new buses, on which two bids were received," said Bidhuri. "The order for the supply of 1000 low floor CNG buses on January 15, 2021 and for the AMC order was placed on January 29, 2021 and February 1, 2021 to the bus manufacturers," said Bidhuri.

"But on March 12, 2021, due to the complaint given eight BJP leader, including me, to the Lieutenant Governor, the purchase of 1000 buses and their AMC contract was postponed till further orders," said Bidhuri.

BJP resorts to baseless allegations, says AAP

NEW DELHI: This challenge is nothing but a symbol of BJP's frustration. When they found nothing against the AAP even after sending the ED, CBI, police, I-T after us, they have resorted to baseless allegations and slander, the AAP said. SR

AAP slams L-G for DDA's registry scam

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The AAP on Monday alleged that a huge scam is taking place in DDA in the name of registry where the residents are being charged Rs 3,000 for registry tax worth Rs 800 and even after paying registry tax the DDA officers are asking for Rs one lakh bribe from residents.

Addressing a press conference, the AAP MLA, Somnath Bharti said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi and BJP promised registries for residents of 1731 unauthorised colonies, but even today, only 15,000 houses out of 8 lakh have got a registry.

Alleging the scam in the booklet titled 'PM-UDAY-Delhi', Bharti said that despite rate list provided by the government, DDA is demanding a minimum Rs one lakh extra. "Pankaj Kumar, Assistant Director DDA was arrested by CBI for taking bribe while similarly, in Munirka, Assistant Director DDA Abhinash Dadar was suspended for taking bribe.

Upon my enquiry, DDA told me that till now they have

given 15,000 registries. Out of 8 lakh houses, only 15000 houses are registered in three years. Then mathematically, 8 lakh houses will take 160 years to get registered. This is the great scheme of PM Modi," said Bharti.

"They are cheating and betraying the people of Delhi and the entire responsibility of this goes to Lieutenant Governor, Vinai Kumar Saxena. Being the chairman of DDA aren't you (L-G) responsible for corruption happening in your department? And shouldn't you resign because of this? Shouldn't a CBI investigation take place on the matter and ED should conduct a raid for the money trail?" Bharti questioned.

"L-G is sending such cases to the CBI that never happened. Like corruption in DTC which is ludicrous because they haven't even issued their tender yet. As a member of DDA, I raised my obligations on the misuse of PM UDAY Scheme by leaders of BJP wherein they were making false registration of the government land," said Bharti.

BJP leaders submit 'evidence' to ACB in classroom scam

NEW DELHI: Delhi BJP leaders on Monday got their statements recorded with the Anti-Corruption Branch (ACB) on Monday in connection with a complaint of a "scam" by them with regard to construction of classrooms in schools run by the AAP government.

The leaders, including Delhi BJP spokesperson Harish Khurana, former minister Kapil Mishra and Neelkant Bakshi, also submitted evidence and other documents in support of their allegations.

Soon after filing documents BJP leaders said that they have submitted evidence and recorded their statements with the ACB. The BJP leaders said that they are confident that Lokayukta will punish the guilty involved in the classroom construction scam. Khurana said the BJP leaders may also submit the documents to the lieutenant governor, if needed.



"The issue was raised by us two years ago and we got complaint of corruption lodged with Central Vigilance Commission (CVC), the ACB and Lokayukta. The complaint with Lokayukta has already been referred for a probe," he said. Bakshi, a former head of Delhi BJP's media relations department, accused AAP government of obstructing ACB probe. "In July 2019, a complaint was filed by us with Delhi Police for a probe into irregularities in construction of classrooms in Delhi government's schools. SR



If improving schools is graft then Govt must commit corruption: AAP

As attack incidents rise, MCD asks Delhiites to register pet dogs

It will also help in tracing missing pets with the help of registration number the dog will sport on its collar, says civic body

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

In view of the increasing number of dog bite incidents in the national Capital, the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) urged Delhiites to get their pet dogs registered with it.

According to a senior official of the Veterinary Department, MCD, under Section 399 of Delhi Municipal Act 1957, it is mandatory to register all pet dogs with the municipal corporation.

"The Section also gives power to the MCD to detain a dog found in a public place, if a pet dog is not registered with the civic body. There is also a provision of fining the pet owner and even prosecution," a senior municipal official said.

"The Delhi Municipal Corporation Act mandates registration of pet dogs with civic body, but residents have remained reluctant to come forward to get their pets registered. We appeal to citizens to get their pet dogs registered at the earliest, otherwise appropriate action can be taken as per the DMC Act.

The rule applies even to those who have adopted stray dogs as pets," he said. While informing about the importance of registration of pet dogs, he said that the registration process helps in maintaining the exact count of pet dogs that are rabies virus vaccinated in different zones.

"It will also help in tracing a missing pet with the help of a registration number that the dog will sport on its collar.

The purpose of the exercise is to prepare a database of pet dog owners, control illegal practices like unregistered dog breeding, and monitor pets vaccination schedules," he stated. "In order to facilitate the pet owners in the Capital, the

municipal corporation is providing convenient and hassle-free online facility for dog registration," he said.

"Through an online system, an applicant can register for a dog licence by providing the relevant details in the application form available on the civic body official portal mcdonline.nic.in. The documents that needed to be submitted are anti-rabies vaccination certificate, a photograph of the animal, residence proof and identity proof of the owner," official further stated.

Earlier, multiple incidents of attacks by pets have been reported in neighboring cities, Noida, Gurugram and Ghaziabad. A video went viral recently, showing a pet dog attacking a minor boy inside a lift of a residential society in Ghaziabad. In another incident from Ghaziabad, a teenage boy was attacked by a dog leaving him with multiple stitches.

Another video shows a food delivery agent being attacked by a dog while coming out of a lift.

Snag in Yellow Line compounds Monday Blues

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A technical snag in the yellow line of Delhi Metro train between Sultanpur and Ghitorni stations led to a chaos



at several stations on Monday morning. Hundreds of office goers and metro commuters faced a harrowing time as metro route was disrupted for around three hours. The Yellow

Line of the Delhi Metro connects Samyapur Badli in Delhi to HUDA City Centre in Gurugram. Several people were stranded as services remained affected between 7 am and 10 am, with an official saying there was a "snag in the signalling system" of a train. Commuters were also seen walking from Sultanpur metro station towards Gurgaon to reach their offices.

The Delhi Metro later issued a statement saying, "Train services between Sultanpur and Guru Dronacharya stations were affected from the start of revenue services till 10.07 am today due to a technical issue reported in a non-revenue train approaching towards Ghitorni for induction into regular passenger service from Huda City Centre."

It said no train services were available between Sultanpur and Guru Dronacharya i.e. Sultanpur, Ghitorni, Arjanagarh and Guru Dronacharya) during affected period. "Centralised announcements were done on frequent intervals at station premises and inside trains to inform passengers about disruption.

NCM seeks report from DMRC head over Sikh man's plight

NEW DELHI: The National Commission for Minorities (NCM) has sought a report from DMRC chairman and Delhi chief secretary over a complaint by a Sikh who was allegedly stopped from entering a metro station in the national Capital with kirpan.

The NCM called for necessary action against the officials responsible in the matter. In a statement, the NCM said it has received a complaint from Gyani Kewal Singh, former Jathedar Damdama Sahib, that he was stopped from entering Dwarka Sec 21 Metro station, New Delhi, and was asked to remove kirpan.

As kirpan is an integral part of Sikh religion and Article 25 of the Constitution allows wearing and carrying of kirpans by Sikh persons, the incident has hurt the religious sentiment of Sikhs, the statement said. SR

"We have requested for demolition of residential buildings APS Ashiyana, APS Ashiyana 2, APS Heights, APS Royal Homes, APS Crystal Homes and APS Gold Homes," said Sachin Raghav, a Shahberi resident.

Abhinav Khare, another resident, said a team of IIT Delhi had conducted a building safety survey in Shahberi under the direction of the previous CEO of the Greater Noida Authority and found that these buildings are not safe for living. "The audit had found that living in these buildings is dangerous for life as buildings can fall anytime," he said.

Meena Mohapatra, a Shahberi homebuyer and living in one such building, also raised this demand. "Even the IIT Delhi audit found that several buildings in Shahberi are a safety hazard, risking the lives of residents. We want these buildings to be demolished and we be provided with homes in different areas as per government norms," Mohapatra, who lives in Shahberi's Dev Homes, said.

Raghav alleged the Greater Noida Authority had in 2018 only ordered sealing and demolition of the illegal structures but no action has been taken yet.

Conflict tests national resilience: Army Chief

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ NEW DELHI

Wars are not fought by militaries alone as it is a national endeavour and the conflict tests “national resilience,” Army Chief General Manoj Pande said here on Monday.

He also said logistics support to the frontline troops is a paramount importance in fighting as intensity and reach of military operations rides on strength, agility and capacity of this back up provided by fusion between military and civil infrastructure including Indian industry.

Underlining this crucial factor in modern warfare, he said, “Wars test national resilience and stretch the nation’s resources and capacities. Ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine, which has already passed the half-year mark is an apt example,” he cautioned. Pande made these observations in the first Indian Army Logistics seminar, organised on the theme ‘Samanjasya Se Shakti’.

Addressing the seminar, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said the government is committed to creating a robust, secure and self-reliant logistics system to effectively deal with future security challenges.

Giving this assurance, he also said the government is focussing on establishing common logistics nodes in the country in tune with the needs of the three services.

Through these nodes, the resources of one service will be seamlessly made available to the rest, he said. Elaborating upon the seamless logistics



backup especially after the Russian military action in Ukraine, the Army Chief said the quick steps taken by the US, UK, Russia and most recently by China in implementing efficient joint military-civil structures underline the urgency attached to the issue.

“While the war shows little signs of ebbing, there are important lessons for those concerned with national security. One such lesson that has emerged clearly is that pace, intensity and reach of military operations rides on strength, agility and capacity of logistic support,” he said.

Pande emphasised on bringing synergy in the efforts of the nation to make India a global powerhouse of defence logistics.

He exuded confidence that the ongoing efforts will not only cater to the domestic needs, but also help the friendly foreign countries.

Rajnath said Information and Communication Technology (ICT) architecture is a major part of efficient logistics. He also called for civil-military fusion to further strengthen the logistics system and stay prepared to deal with future

challenges.

The minister emphasised that logistics in future wars will require jointness not only among the three services, but “also among different bodies in the form of industrial back-up, research and development, material support, industry and manpower”.

Rajnath spoke about the synergy needed between civil and military stakeholders, and asserted that presence of representatives from different sectors of the two sides showed the “commitment” to achieve the goal as India stood on the threshold of an ‘Amrit Kaal’.

He also underlined that India has made rapid progress in the rail and other sectors in transportation. In the five years preceding 2014, doubling of tracks of 1,900 km of railway lines was done. And, in the last seven years doubling of line has been done for over 9,000 km of railway lines, he said.

Rajnath termed jointness among the three services as one of the major policy changes made in Ministry of Defence in the last few years, which has benefited a number of sectors across the board, especially logistics.

Women are real leaders of India’s dairy sector: Modi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ NEW DELHI

Informing that women represent 70 pc of workforce in India’s dairy sector and that more than a third of dairy cooperatives’ members are women, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said, “Women are the real leaders of India’s dairy sector”.

“Dairy Cooperative in India is unique in the whole world and can be a good business model for poor countries”, said Prime Minister addressing the International Dairy Federation World Dairy Summit (IDF WDS) 2022, being organised at India Expo Centre & Mart here at greater Noida.

“Dairy cooperatives collect milk twice a day from about two crore farmers in more than two lakh villages in the country and deliver it to the customers...” “More than 70 per cent of the money that is received from the customers goes directly to the farmer”, Modi said in his address.

Modi observed that there has been a loss of livestock in many states of India due to the disease named Lumpy in the recent past and assured everyone that the central government, along with various state governments, is trying their level best to keep a check on it.

An estimated 67,000 cattle have died by Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) in the country, playing havoc with the lives of the livestock.

“Our scientists have prepared indigenous vaccine for Lumpy Skin Disease”, the Prime Minister said and pointed out that efforts are being made to track the movement of animals to keep the outbreak



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses the inauguration of the International Dairy Federation World Dairy Summit 2022, at India Expo Centre & Mart in Greater Noida on Monday

under control. Be it vaccination of animals or any other modern technology, the Prime Minister said that India is always eager to contribute to the field of dairy while striving to learn from its partner nations. “India has acted swiftly on its food safety standards”, said Modi.

The Prime Minister reiterated that India is working on a digital system which will capture the end-to-end activities of the livestock sector.

He said this will provide accurate information needed to improve this sector and put forward the work that is being done around the world regarding many such technologies.

The Prime Minister also urged everyone present to suggest ways to share the expertise related to this field. “I invite the global leaders of the dairy industry to join the drive to empower the dairy sector in India.

I also appreciate the International Dairy Federation for their excellent work and

contribution”, the Prime Minister concluded.

Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Yogi Adityanath, Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Parshottam Rupala, Union Minister of State for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Dr L Murugan, Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Food Processing, Sanjeev Kumar Balyan were among others present in the summit.

Shah aims to make 2L more dairies before 2024 elections

NEW DELHI: For his part, unveiling the government’s ambitious plans, Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah said, “We will make 2 lakh more dairies before 2024 elections.” **PNS**

CPM questions focus on Kerala in Bharat yatra

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ NEW DELHI

At a time when efforts are on for a combined Opposition front, the Communist Party of India (Marxist) on Monday criticised the Congress’ Bharat Jodo Yatra’, saying spending 18 days in Left-ruled Kerala and just two in BJP-ruled Uttar Pradesh is a “strange way to fight BJP-RSS”.

The remark prompted a strong response from the Congress which derided the Left as the “A team” of the BJP in the southern State. The CPI(M) tweeted a caricature of

former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi with text wondering if it was a “Bharat Jodo” or “Seat Jodo” campaign. “18 days in Kerala...2 days in UP. Strange way to fight BJP-RSS,” read the text. The photo also carried maps of Kerala and Uttar Pradesh illustrating the difference in their size.

Responding to the tweet, Jairam Ramesh, Congress General Secretary in-charge Communications, said, “Do your homework better on how and why yatra was planned the way it is. And silly criticism from a party that is the A team of BJP in land of Mundu Modi.”

Irani accuses Rahul of not paying respect to Vivekananda statue; Cong tweets event pics

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ NEW DELHI

The Congress on Monday slammed Union Minister Smriti Irani after she accused its leader Rahul Gandhi of not bowing down and touching the feet of Swami Vivekananda’s statue while launching the Bharat Jodo Yatra at Kanyakumari last week.

Taking to Twitter, Youth Congress president Srinivas BV shared side-by-side clips of Irani making the aforementioned accusation and Rahul paying tribute to Vivekananda’s statue. The video was shared by many other Congress leaders as the grand old party took digs at the BJP leader.

“Today, I want to ask the Congress party, you say you’re on a ‘yatra’ to unite India. Then, at least don’t be so shameless as to have ignored Swami Vivekananda. But it seems even such a gesture does not have Rahul Gandhi’s approval,” Irani said in the video in Hindi. “Chal Jhoothi (liar)...Don’t you get ashamed of telling such a silly lie?” Srinivas tweeted with the side-by-side clips.

Congress MP Jairam Ramesh also lashed out at Irani for her comments, accusing the BJP of believing in “propagating lies”. He said that if Irani needs a fresh pair of spectacles to help her “see things with more clarity”, the Congress can “always provide her with one”. Ramesh also retweeted a series of posts by

his colleagues who also shared the side-by-side clips on the micro-blogging site. Congress spokesman Pawan Khera also shared the clip and took a swipe at Irani. “What a silly thing to do! God bless Silly Souls,” he tweeted.

Earlier, Irani slammed Rahul for harming the unity of India through this yatra. The Union minister, who defeated the former Congress chief in 2019 Lok Sabha polls to win the Amethi constituency, expressed displeasure over his “fight is now against the structure of Indian state” remark in Kanyakumari.

“You have waged a war against India. I am shocked by your hunger for power,” Irani said. Hitting out further at Irani, Congress said she was “involved in a scam” and “does not believe in speaking the truth”.

Ramesh said with the yatra in its fifth day having gone through Tamil Nadu and now in Kerala, there is “new enthusiasm and energy” in the party organisation.

IN SHORT

SC REJECTS PLEA OF FATHER OF AMIR MAGRAY
New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Monday rejected a prayer by the father of Amir Magray, killed in an encounter in Hyderabad in Jammu and Kashmir last year, seeking directions to allow the exhumation of his son’s body and handing it over to the family for performing last rites.

SC DISMISSES PLEA OF O PANNEERSELVAM
New Delhi: “In democracy, a political party cannot be stopped from functioning by sealing its office”, observed the Supreme Court Monday as it dismissed the plea of ousted AIADMK leader O Panneerselvam (OPS) against the Madras High Court order directing to hand over the keys of party headquarter to party chief K Palaniswami.

PM LAUDS VOLUNTEERS FOR GARBAGE REMOVAL
New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday stressed on keeping India’s coasts clean as he praised efforts of volunteers to remove garbage from Juhu beach in Mumbai. “Commendable... I appreciate all those involved in this effort. India is blessed with a long and beautiful coastline and it is important we focus on keeping our coasts clean,” Modi tweeted. He was responding to a video posted by Union Minister Jitendra Singh about clean-up at beach.

STATE’S HEALTH EXPENDITURE ROSE TO 65.7% IN 2018-19
New Delhi: The Government’s health expenditure as a percentage of the GDP fell from 1.35 in 2017-18 to 1.28 in the next year. While the Centre’s share in the total Government health expenditure fell to 34.3 per cent in 2018-19, from 40.8 per cent in the previous year, the States’ share during the same period rose from 59.2 per cent to 65.7 per cent, the latest national health estimates showed.

SIBI GEORGE APPOINTED JAPAN AMBASSADOR
New Delhi: Sibi George, presently Ambassador of India to the State of Kuwait, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Japan.

Gadkari asks US businessmen to invest in Indian road sector

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ NEW DELHI

Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari on Monday called for investors from the USA to come forward and invest in roads and highway projects in India, according to an official statement released by the Road Ministry.

Inaugurating virtually the 19th Indo-US Economic Summit of The Indo-American Chamber of Commerce, Gadkari said the US and India are prominent democracies of the World with strong bilateral relations. “We are natural partners and have



a lot to contribute to mutual growth. Both countries have

always shown mutual trust, respect, and co-operation on

the social, economic and strategic front. The theme chosen this year- ‘The New Agenda for next 25 years’ will set the roadmap for strengthening our relationship,” the minister said.

He said road infrastructure plays a critical role in the growth of the Indian economy as 70 per cent of goods and nearly 90 per cent of passenger traffic uses the road network to commute. In 2014, we had around 91,000 Kms of National Highway network.

At present, this Network has reached around 1.47 lakh Kms. The Government is dedicatedly to working towards expanding National Highway

network to 2 lakh kilometers by 2025, he added. The minister further said, “we are constructing 27 Greenfield Expressways of 10,000 Kms across the country with an investment of Rs 5 lakh crore that is about \$60 billion.”

He said these corridors result in 14 per cent reduction in travel distance between the key economic centres and this would further ensure reduction in Transportation cost by 2.5 per cent.

In addition, there would be saving of around 110 crore liters of fuel and reduction of carbon dioxide emission by 250 crore kg every year, he said. Gadkari further said

India’s emphasis has been on creating a sustainable business ecosystem with an inclusive growth model. “We need to encourage out-of-the-box thought process and promote creative agenda to weave new pathways,” he said.

A well-developed infrastructure enhances economic activity, creates new businesses and promotes job creation. He said our Government is investing \$1.4 trillion in infrastructure development through National Infrastructure Pipeline.

The Road sector will account for 19 per cent of this capital expenditure over period of 2019 to 2025.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Inviting the objections/suggestions for approval of revised building plans of commercial A & B, Anganwari-cum-Community Hall and proposed additional Tower-8 falling in the Affordable Group Housing Colony on the area measuring 5.5825 Acres (Licence No 109 of 2019 dated 11.09.2019) in Sector-70, Gurugram Manesar Urban Complex being developed by Pyramid Dream Homes LLP.

Vide this public notice to individual person jointly and severally who have made bookings/entered into Agreement for allotment of flat/Shop in the said colony (hereinafter referred as allottees). The building Plan earlier approved is now proposed to be revised of commercial A & B, Anganwari-cum-Community Hall and additional Tower-8 in the project And Whereas, The office of Director, Town and Country Planning, Haryana Chandigarh is seeking objections/suggestions against revised building plans of commercial A & B, Anganwari-cum-Community Hall and proposed additional Tower-8. Accordingly, vide this notice, objections/suggestions are hereby invited on the changes in the building plan of the colony. A copy of the earlier approved building plans bearing no ZP-1355/JD(RD)/2020/5074 dated: 25.02.2020 and revised plan bearing memo no. ZP-1355/AD(RA)/2022/26842 dated 05.09.2022 are available for perusal at our office and also on website https:// www.pyramiddreamhomes.com and displayed at our site office for information of all such existing allottees. The said approved building plans and the revised building plans can also be perused in the office of undersigned at Unit No. 501-508, 5th Floor, Unitech Trade Centre, Sector-43, Sushant Lok-1, Gurugram as well as in the office of Senior Town Planner, Sector-14, Gurugram, Haryana -122001.

If you have any objection /suggestion, you may file the same in our office and/or in the office of Senior Town Planner, Sector-14, Gurugram, Haryana -122001 within 30 days of the issuance of this notice i.e. 12th October, 2022, failing which it shall be presumed that there is no objection /suggestion at your end on the above said changes.

Contact Detail of M/s Pyramid Dream Homes LLP.
Mr. Sunil Kumar, (Authorised Representative) Mob. No: 9811000240
Address: Unit No. 501-508, 5th Floor, Unitech Trade Centre, Sector-43, Sushant Lok-1, Gurugram

SC junks plea on studying link between pornography and sexual abuse, says petitioner advocating surveillance

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday refused to entertain a plea by a BJP leader seeking a study to see if there exists a link between pornography and sexual abuse cases, saying it has to tread a “very careful path” as what the petition is advocating is some kind of a surveillance.

The apex court bench comprising Chief Justice U U Lalit and Justice S R Bhat said the government has “enough arsenal” in law to block offensive material on internet. “We have to tread a very careful path here because what you are advocating is ultimately some kind of a surveillance and maintenance of data,” the bench observed. The top court



was hearing a plea filed by advocate Nalin Kohli, a BJP spokesperson, who later withdrew the petition.

During the hearing, Justice Bhat referred to a verdict of the Supreme Court of the USA on a petition seeking certain restrictions on the internet. He said one of the judges there observed “we cannot set the house on fire to roast a pig”. “This is a tiger. If it gets loose, then how do we control that?” the apex court bench observed.

India, France to review Defence ties

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ NEW DELHI

India and France will review the entire gamut of their bilateral defence and strategic ties during French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Catherine Colonna’s three-day visit here beginning Tuesday. She will hold talks with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar. It is her first bilateral visit to India as foreign minister.

As part of her official visit from September 13-15, Colonna will travel to Mumbai for engagements with industry leaders and site visits on Thursday, a statement issued by the Ministry of External Affairs said on Monday. During her stay in New Delhi, Colonna will hold talks with Jaishankar on September 14 “on bilateral, regional and international



issues of mutual interest”, the statement said. India and France have a long-standing strategic partnership, strengthened by regular high-level consultations and growing convergence in various areas.

The minister’s visit will pave the way for further strengthening of the partnership across trade, defence, climate, migration and mobility, education and health sectors, the statement said.

She will also virtually participate in the discussion on the theme “France and India in the Indo-Pacific: An essential part-

nership in challenging times.” The two countries are closely working on initiatives focused on the Indo-Pacific region.

A French Air and Space Force contingent, including three Rafale combat jets, recently made a technical stopover at IAF station at Sullur in Tamil Nadu during a long-distance deployment to the Indo-Pacific, reflecting the close defence ties between the two sides.

The French Air and Space Force was conducting a long-range mission in the Indo-Pacific, codenamed “Pégase 22”. The first stage of the mission aimed to demonstrate France’s capacity for long-distance air power projection by deploying an air force contingent from metropolitan France to the French territory of New Caledonia in the Pacific Ocean in less than 72 hours.

PHYSICAL POSSESSION NOTICE

Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, 3rd Floor, Plot No- 23, New Rohlak 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 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/ Number (Loan Account Number) (DHFL Old LAN & ICICI New LAN)	Description of Property/ Date of Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Manorama Devi/ Rakesh Kumar A/c No- 27300000358, A/c No- QZDWA00005021560	DDA Janta Flat No-198, 3rd Floor, Pocket-7, Phase-1, Nasir Pur, Dwarka Delhi. 08-September-2022	June 03, 2021 Rs. 12,65,589/-	Delhi

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 13, 2022
Place: Delhi NCR

Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

TB Mukth Bharat portal to be launched on PM’s birthday

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ NEW DELHI

A string of programmes including the launch of India’s biggest blood donation drive and the TB Mukth Bharat portal has been planned by the Union Health Ministry on September 17 to mark the birthday of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, with Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya himself taking lead by pledging to donate blood and adopting TB afflicted people on the D-Day.

Talking to reporters here, the Minister said that registrations for the Raktdaan Amrit Mahotsav’ have begun on the Aarogya Setu app and e-

Raktkosh portal as part of a mega voluntary blood donation drive planned across the country from September 17 till October 1. October 1 is observed as the National Voluntary Blood Donation Day (NVBDD).

The activity aims to collect close to one lakh units of blood from voluntary blood donors on a single day besides raising awareness about the need for regular non-remunerated voluntary blood donations, he added.

“The main purpose of the drive is to create a repository of voluntary blood donors so that anyone in need can help on time and minimise the need for replacement blood donation,” he said. Every blood bank is

being encouraged to organise at least one blood donation camp as part of the mega drive, he said. There are more than 3,900 blood banks in the country having adequate storage capacity and facilities for processing it. So far, 3,600 blood banks have linked with e-Raktkosh portal and efforts are on to rope in the remaining with the same portal, he informed.

All ministries and departments of government of India, state and Union governments, citizens, especially the youth, various non-government and community based organisations and other stakeholders will be involved in the event, the Minister said. Mandaviya also gave details about the launch of

policy through which people can adopt a TB patient anywhere in the country and provide for their nutritional needs to be launched on September 17. There are around 13.5 lakh active Tuberculosis cases in the country.

Of them, nearly 9.26 lakh were approached by government officials for consent to participate in the adoption scheme called ‘Ni-Kshay Mitra Initiative’ and 8.95 lakh have already given their consent.

The ‘Ni-kshay Mitra’ initiative was launched by President Droupadi Murmu recently. The Union Health Minister said that he will also adopt TB patients to help them get rid of the dreaded disease.

Over 67,000 cattle have died since outbreak of LSD: Centre

Massive vax drive on in eight badly-hit States

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre on Monday said over 67,000 cattle have died since the outbreak of the lumpy skin disease in July, prompting a massive effort to vaccinate cattle in over eight States with most cases of the disease.

Union Animal Husbandry and Dairying Department Secretary Jatindra Nath Swain said states are currently using the 'goat pox' vaccine to control lumpy skin disease (LSD) in cattle. The commercial launch of a new vaccine 'Lumpi-ProVacInd' for LSD, developed by two institutes of agri research body ICAR, will take the next "three-four

months," he said. The lumpy skin disease has spread mainly in Gujarat, Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir. There are some stray cases in Andhra Pradesh and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

"In Rajasthan, the number of death is 600-700 per day. But in other states, it is less than 100 in a single day," he said, adding that the ministry has asked states to accelerate the vaccination process.

According to Swain, the goat pox vaccine is "100 per cent effective" and already 1.5 crore doses have been administered in the affected states.

He also said there is a sufficient supply of goat pox vaccine in the country. Two companies are manufacturing this vaccine and they have the capacity to produce 4 crore doses a month. The total cat-



tle population is around 20 crore. Already, 1.5 crore goat pox doses have been given, he said. While "only 1 ml dose" of the goat pox vaccine is sufficient to help fight LSD in areas where no case has been reported, doses of 3 ml each can be administered in cattle where an outbreak has been reported, he added. With regard to the new vaccine, Swain said the commercial launch of 'Lumpi-ProVacInd' would take the next "three-four months."

"The manufacturers will have to take permission from the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) for commercial production of the new vaccine. It will take next 3-4 months for commercial launch," he added.

On the impact of LSD on milk production, the managing director of Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation, RS Sodhi said there has been a marginal impact of 0.5 per cent on milk production in Gujarat.

Centre unleashing Agency Raj in Bengal, says Didi

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday launched a scathing attack on the BJP-led central Government for unleashing an 'Agency Raj' in Bengal.

"The Centre is trying to create an Agency Raj in Bengal," Banerjee said at a State Government programme where appointment letters were given to beneficiaries under the Utkarsh Bangla scheme.

Banerjee's remark coincided with the Enforcement Directorate's six-hour interrogation of Maneka Gambhir the sister-in-law of Abhishek Banerjee who is also the nephew of the Chief Minister and TMC's national general secretary.

Saying that at a time when her government was trying to develop business to create jobs the Centre was unleashing ED



and CBI to thwart the State's development.

Banerjee's attack came two days after about Rs 18 crore was recovered by the ED from the house of Amir Khan a business man who ran a fake online gaming App.

Her statement also came two months after Rs 50 crore

was recovered from the apartments of Arpita Mukherjee a close aide of jailed TMC minister Partha Chatterjee.

Banerjee's statement came at a time when the ruling Trinamool Congress was planning to pass motions against ED and CBI in the State Assembly. The resolution is likely to be passed later this month, sources said.

Slamming the Centre for trying to sell out public sector undertakings Banerjee said "the Centre is selling the Railways, SAIL, BSNL, CIL" wondering how new jobs could be created if PSUs were divested like this.

Curiously senior minister Firhad Hakim too had attacked the central agencies for trying to coerce the business men of Bengal out of the State. His statements too had come hours after the ED had raided Amir Khan's house.

The CBI and ED had recently arrested a number of TMC politicians including Chatterjee in school level recruitment scam and Anubrata Mondal on charges of coal smuggling.

Meanwhile, the ED on Monday interrogated Maneka Gambhir the sister in law of TMC national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee in relation to coal smuggling cases.

Gambhir was grilled for about six hours in relation to one of her bank accounts in England where huge cash was transferred. Similar questions were asked from Rujira Narula Banerjee the wife of Abhishek regarding the transactions in her accounts in Thailand.

Regarding Maneka's questioning the TMC sources said she was not related to the party ad was being harassed only because she was related to the Banerjee family.

Ahmedabad office raided, claims AAP

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

After the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) claimed that its data management office in Navrangpura area of Ahmedabad raided soon after AAP's national convener Arvind Kejriwal landed for a two-day visit, but found nothing, the Ahmedabad police on Monday refuted the claim saying no such raid was carried out.

Tagging Gujarat unit party's national joint general secretary Isudan Gadhvi's tweets, AAP convener and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal in a Twitter post said, "The ruling BJP has lost its senses due to the unprecedented support AAP is



getting from the people of Gujarat. After Delhi, they have started raids in Gujarat too. But, just like Delhi, they have not found anything in Gujarat."Meanwhile, the Gujarat Police in its tweet clarified that there was no such raid conducted at the AAP office in Ahmedabad. The tweet was from the official handle of Ahmedabad Police in which it was said that they got the infor-

mation about the police raid from social media. "No such raid was conducted by Ahmedabad city police," said the police.

Kejriwal claimed the policemen were asking about money. "We are a poor party with no money. The policemen searched our office for two hours and left. They were asking our people about money. They left when we said there was no money. Today, the Ahmedabad police said no raid took place. This is surprising," he said. "What is going on in this country? Is this how a policiya sarkar (police state) works? Police are entering any house or office without valid papers," he questioned.

BJP: Kejriwal in habit of making false claims

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi BJP on Monday slammed Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal over the alleged police raid at AAP office in Gujarat and said that Kejriwal wrote a false script of police raid on AAP office.

Delhi BJP president Adesh Gupta said it is the nature of AAP leaders to first write a false script and then read that script so many times so that people feel the truth. While terming the reports of police raids at AAP's office in Ahmedabad as false, Gupta said that the Ahmedabad

Police itself has confirmed that they have not conducted any such raids. "AAP has been lying since they came to power in the national capital. The leaders of the AAP are playing with the sentiments of the citizens since then. AAP is so engrossed in its political ambition that it can go to any extent," he said.

"The AAP is not concerned about the people residing in Delhi. The people who made Kejriwal sit on the chair of Delhi CM so that city can develop, but he is busy in polishing his politics by strangling the aspirations of the people," Gupta said.

Navmantra developed for Modi's dream of Swavalambi Bharat

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

To help achieve Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ambitious target of making India a developed nation by 2047, "Navmantra," a nine-pronged approach for Swavalambi Bharat: five thematic areas and four geographic focal regions, has been prepared.

"The thematic areas are youth and productivity, women and productivity, innovations, agriculture and cooperatives and industry partnerships," National Productivity Council Director General Sundeeb Nayak told reporters here on

the concluding day of the two-day conference with NPC's affiliated bodies, Local Productivity Councils.

He said that each of the thematic areas and focal regions would be steered by professionals from NPC and co-steered by LPC representatives.

Speaking in the concluding session, BP Bakshi, president of Assam Productivity Council stated that all LPCs are energized to work towards realizing the goal of USD 5 trillion Indian economy while Vipinchandra Patel, president of Baroda Productivity Council stressed the need to focus on agro based industries and cooperatives.

Dr Chitra, vice president of Coimbatore Productivity Council emphasized the need to focus on intellectual property rights in industry. JP Meena, former Secretary, Union Ministry of Food Processing Industries, said NPC and LPCs need to be creative, innovative and develop evidence-based competencies in a collaborative model for sustainable Atmanirbharta.

LPCs were in unison while emphasizing strengthening of NPC's activities and expanding the spread of engagement with LPCs in the light of its big contribution to the growth of productivity, particularly in MSME sector.

UP tops in Mission Amrit Sarovar with 8,462 sarovars

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

With the construction of 8,462 Amrit Sarovars (lakes), Uttar Pradesh has topped the states in the implementation of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ambitious mission which aims at conserving water for the future.

Madhya Pradesh is ranked second, Jammu and Kashmir third, Rajasthan fourth and Tamil Nadu fifth in the implementation of Mission Amrit Sarovar.

Within Uttar Pradesh, Lakhimpur Kheri has secured the first position by constructing 256 Amrit Sarovars, while Gorakhpur and Pratapgarh have bagged the second and



third positions respectively with 244 and 231 lakes.

Rural Development Director GS Priyadarshi said that on the instructions of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath as many as 15,497 Amrit Sarovars were identified in various village panchayats of which 8,462 had already been developed -- twice the number of Amrit Sarovars developed collectively in MP, Jammu and Kashmir, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu.

Rahul hears out Church leaders agitating against Adani's Port

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Rahul Gandhi who is on Bharat Jodo Yatra spent nearly an hour on Monday with the spiritual leaders of Thiruvananthapuram based Latin Catholic Church who are spearheading an agitation against the Vizhinjam International Seaport Limited.

The bishops and priests conveyed their apprehension over the environmental impact of the Greenfield Project, which was given environmental and coastal regulation zone (CRZ) clearance by the Union Ministry of Environment and Forests in January 2014 itself.

the view that the International Deepwater Multipurpose Seaport which is being built by the Adani Group at a cost of Rs 7,525 crore would destroy the livelihood of thousands of fishermen along the Thiruvananthapuram coastline.

"Rahul Gandhi gave us a patient hearing and asked the Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee to brief him about the ground realities. The Congress leader was moved by the uncertainty in the livelihood of the fishermen community," said Eugene Pereira, diocesan priest and prominent face of the agitation.

Father Pereira and other Church leaders including the



former Archbishop Susai Pakiam have declared that the agitation would be called off only if the Government puts on hold all the works associated with the multipurpose seaport.

But many environmental activists including Dr C M Joy questioned the real intention behind the agitation and expressed shock over the demand by the Church and

fishermen to put on hold all works associated with the seaport. "The environmental clearance for this project was issued in January 2014 and that too after a comprehensive environmental impact assessment. As per the directive of the National Green Tribunal, a team of experts is conducting studies once in every six months to monitor the changes in environment and ecology around the project site. Hence the agitation demanding the cancellation of the project is enmeshed in mystery," said Dr Joy, The Bharatiya Vichara Kendra (a centre for studies on National Reconstruction) in a statement released on Monday pointed out that the agitation

against the Seaport is being led not by fishermen but by persons representing various NGOs with international links. The BVK release said the agitation at this stage would further delay the commissioning of the first phase which was scheduled for October 2023. "The multi purpose seaport which is coming up close to the international navigation route is expected to usher in an era of economic and social developments in the region and create thousands of jobs," said Dr Mohan Das of BVK.

Interestingly, both the Congress and the CPI(M) are maintaining silence over the month-long agitation by the Church.

Tata Hospital's intervention holds hope for breast cancer patients

T N RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

A clinical trial conducted at the Tata Memorial Hospital has shown that a simple, low-cost intervention significantly and substantially increases the cure rates and survival rate among early breast cancer patients.

Announcing the results of the clinical trial, Dr Rajendra Badwe, Director Tata Memorial Centre (better known as the Tata Memorial Hospital) said that the trial in women undergoing breast cancer surgery involved the injection of a commonly used drug around the tumour on the operating table, just prior to surgery.

"The results of this trial show that this simple, low-cost intervention significantly and substantially increases the cure rates and survival with a benefit that is ongoing for several years after surgery.

The injection requires no additional expertise, is inexpensive, and can result in saving up to 100,000 lives annually globally," Dr Badwe said.

Dr Badwe said that the benefits of the trial were substantial and they were achieved with an intervention the cost of which was less than Rs.100/- per patient. "For comparison, benefits of far lesser magnitude have been achieved in early breast cancer patients by much more expensive, targeted drugs which cost more than ten lakhs per patient," he said. Dr Badwe presented the results of a landmark multi-centre Indian breast cancer study at the ongoing European Society of Medical Oncology (ESMO) Congress in Paris, one of the most prestigious cancer conferences in the world held annually in Europe.

The study, 'Effect of Peri-tumoral Infiltration of Local Anaesthetic Prior

to Surgery on Survival in Early Breast Cancer' is a randomized controlled trial, conceived and designed by Dr Badwe, who is the principal investigator. The study was conducted by investigators at 11 cancer centres in India including Tata Memorial Centre in Mumbai over an 11-year period between 2011 and 2022. Joining from Paris immediately after his presentation, Dr Badwe said: "This is the first study of its kind globally, that has shown a sizable benefit by single intervention prior to surgery. If implemented across the world, it has the capability to save over 100,000 lives annually"

"For scientists, it opens the window of peri-operative intervention to modulate the environment of cancer in such a way as to prevent its deleterious reaction to the act of surgery [observation]. Evolving low-cost interventions for

cancer has been a mission of Tata Memorial Centre and Department of Atomic Energy for the benefit of Indian and global population and this study, supported by the Department of Atomic Energy, is a major step towards Atma nirbhar Bharat," Dr Badwe said.

Dr Sudeep Gupta, Professor of Medical Oncology at TMC and Director ACTREC, one of the co-investigators of the study -- made the live streaming of Dr Badwe's presentation said: "This study provides an inexpensive and immediately implementable treatment in breast cancer which can be practiced by every surgeon who treats this disease. The results from a large randomized trial, which is the gold-standard way of evaluating the worth of new treatments, provides the highest level of evidence to support the use of this technique.

ICICI Bank

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

The following borrower/s have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). A notice was issued to them under Section 13 (2) of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002 on their last known addresses, however it was not served and hence they are hereby notified by way of this public notice.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address	Property Address of Secured Asset / Asset to be Enforced	Date of Notice Sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date
1.	Ajit Kumar/ Shipra Singh/ LBDEL00003356957/ Flat No- 02191 Tower No- 2 Floor No -19 Ats Advantage Ahinsha Khand- 1 Indirapuram Shipra Sunchity Shipra Sunchity Ghaziabad- 201014	Flat No-101, 1st Floor Mahagun Modrne, Block Marvella, Plot No. GH 02, Sector 78, Noida, 201305	08/08/2022 Rs. 52,92,303/-	02/05/ 2022
2.	Kiran Arora Kapoor/ Surinder Kapoor/ LBGUR00004663386/ 234- 2nd Floor, Farmer Apptt Sec-13 Rohini Delhi-110085	Property, No C-12/160 Ground And First Floor, Block- C-12 Yamuna Vihar, Shahdara, Delhi-110053	08/08/2022 Rs. 75,51,213.88/-	06/05/ 2022
3.	Lalit Kumar Agarwal/ Anita Agarwal/ LBDEL00002146529/ 1341- P. Sector 46 Gurgaon Haryana Gurgaon-122001	Apartment No- 4202, 20th Floor, Type B, Tower- 4, Ats Triumph, Sector- 104, Gurgaon- 122101	08/08/2022 Rs. 1,50,93,393/-	03/05/ 2022
4.	Mahinder Gautam/ Tarun Gautam/ Hadron System Private Limited/ Mithlesh Gautam/ LBFDB00004758518/ House No- 2400, Sector- 9 Faridabad-121006	Plot No- 2400, Sector 9, Faridabad - 121006	08/08/2022 Rs. 1,32,35,839.25/-	16/05/ 2022
5.	Prabhudutta Sharma/ Neeta Rani Sharma/ LBDEL00004923655/ E 244 Gali No. 7 Mittal Colony Pul Pehlad Pur Jait Pur South Delhi Delhi Delhi-110044	Flat No- A1703, 17th Floor, Sethi Venice, Sc- 01/A-4, Sector-150 Gautam Buddha Nagar, Noida- 201301	08/08/2022 Rs. 54,21,588/-	06/04/ 2022
6.	Rodrigues Roland Joseph/ Monika Sharma/ LBGHZ00005043777/ Plot No. 585 Setore 28 Near Malsakani Chowk, Niggal Pradhikaran Pune- 411044	Flat No. G- 803, 8th Floor Sector- 35, The Melia- Tower G, Sohna Distt Gurgaon-122103	08/08/2022 Rs. 66,20,498/-	06/05/ 2022
7.	Suman Lata/ Brij Bala/ Subash Chander Kundu/ Naresh Kumar/ LBGUR00004914848/ H No. 420 A, Sector 38 Gurgaon Haryana Gurgaon-122001	Plot No - 596 B, Sector- 56, Haryana, Gurgaon-122001	08/08/2022 Rs. 1,31,87,358.4/-	15/04/ 2022
8.	Ankit Batra/ Pushpa Batra/ LBGHZ0000475567/ 25- Borboleta ST Tarnet, Victoria Tarnet, Melbourne 3029 Maribyrnong-3021	Flat No. 402, 4th Floor Speedway Avenue- Tower 3a Plot No- GH- A2 Sector- 25, Jaypee Greens, Greater Noida Noida- 201307	08/08/2022 Rs. 45,43,485.72/-	03/01/ 2022
9.	Mohd Ikram/ Ruhi Ikram/ LBNOD00002428956/ 77 A Sector 100 Mig Flat Noida Gautam Buddha Nagar Noida- 201310	Flat No AM D 307, 3rd Floor Tower D, Ajnara Ambrosia Plot No. GH 01 Sec 118 Gautam Buddha Nagar Noida- 201301	08/08/2022 Rs. 52,58,436/-	30/12/ 2021
10.	Ashish Rajkumar Gupta/ Jai Prakash Tiwari/ LBNOD00002099852/ 14 Cargate Avenue Aldershot Hampshire Hampshire 9 1P Hampshire UK G11 PZ	Flat No- 312 A, 12th Floor, Golf View Apartment, Sushant Golf City Sector- I, Pocket- D, Lucknow, 226030	08/08/2022 Rs. 76,37,953.12/-	09/09/ 2021
11.	Atul Rajpali/ Atal Rajpali/ LBDEL00002059731/ 127 Beaulieu Gardens Black Water, Camberley Surrey GU153 YL	Flat No. 312 A, 12th Floor, Golf View Apartment, Sushant Golf City Sector- I, Pocket- D, Lucknow, 226030	08/08/2022 Rs. 1,00,74,930.12	09/09/ 2021
12.	Babita Kumari/ Updesh Kumar Ray/ LBGUR00004837466/ H No- 3 Vatika Kunj, Bhandis, Gurgaon- 122001	Plot No. C-12/ 337, Ground Floor And First Floor Without Roof/ Terrace Rights, Block C 12, Yamuna Vihar, Delhi- 110053	08/08/2022 Rs. 75,51,622/-	06/04/ 2022
13.	Rishi Sharma/ Vijeta Sharma/ LBDEL00005117973/ Property No- 116 Third Floor Vignay Lok Delhi- 110092	Flat No 2- 805, 8th Floor Goa Paradise, Plot No. 215/1 Zuari Nagar, Sancaole, Goa- 403710	08/08/2022 Rs. 63,89,657/-	06/04/ 2022
14.	Akhilesh Kapoor/ Tact India Pvt Ltd/ Neeru Kapoor/ LBDEL00005371925/ Tact India Pvt Ltd, 51 Harton Electronic City Sect 8 Ghaziabad- 201014	Flat No. 1004, 10th Floor, Blk A Sissal Vihar, Sector 49, Sohna Road, Gurgaon- 122001	08/08/2022 Rs. 25,57,279.12/-	30/09/ 2021
15.	Rajeev Ranjan/ Sarb Narayan Mallik/ LBNOD00002078874/ 768 Saratoga Ave 202 San Jose Casan Carlos CA- 94070	Flat No. 3 B-117 Tower- B, Floor- 17 Golf View Apartments, Sushant Golf City Sulatanpur Road Lucknow Uttar Pradesh	08/08/2022 Rs. 2,02,20,953.11/-	30/09/ 2021
16.	Vivek Chauhan/ Sheela Chauhan/ LBDEL00004222055/ P- 24 Third Floor South Extension Part- 2, And Rews Ganj Delhi And Rews Ganj Delhi Delhi- 110017	House No 24, 3rd Floor With Terrace Block- P, South Extension, Part- II, Delhi-110049	13/08/2022 Rs. 56,62,892/-	06/04/ 2022
17.	Vivek Chauhan/ Sheela Chauhan/ LBDEL00004222054/ P- 24 Third Floor South Extension Part- 2, And Rews Ganj Delhi And Rews Ganj Delhi Delhi- 110017	House No 24, 3rd Floor With Terrace Block- P, South Extension, Part- II, Delhi- 110049	13/08/2022 Rs. 56,24,571/-	06/04/ 2022
18.	Vivek Chauhan/ Sheela Chauhan/ LBDEL00004222051/ P-24 Third Floor South Extension Part- 2, And Rews Ganj Delhi And Rews Ganj Delhi Delhi-110017	House No. 24, 3rd Floor With Terrace Block- P, South Extension, Part- II, Delhi- 110049	13/08/2022 Rs. 56,21,843.5/-	06/04/ 2022
19.	Manoj Jitendra Singh/ Usha Singh/ LBGHZ00005792456/ UG 1 Plot No. 141 Sector 2 A Vaishali I E, Sahibabad Ghaziabad- 201014	House No. 138, Hig Duplex Niti Khand 3 Indira Puram Ghaziabad 201001	13/08/2022 Rs. 77,64,296/-	30/05/ 2022
20.	Manoj Jitendra Singh/ Usha Singh/ LBGHZ00005799912/ UG 1 Plot No. 141 Sector 2 A Vaishali I E, Sahibabad Ghaziabad- 201014	House No. 138, Hig Duplex Niti Khand 3 Indira Puram Ghaziabad- 201001	13/08/2022 Rs. 3,59,855/-	30/05/ 2022

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

Date : September 13, 2022

Place : Delhi/ NCR

Authorized Officer

ICICI Bank Limited

FIRST COLUMN

THERE IS NEED TO BAN CRYPTO CURRENCIES

Many countries have already banned crypto currencies




S KALYANASUNDARAM

Replying to a query in the Lok Sabha, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said in a written reply: “RBI is of the view that crypto currencies should be prohibited. Crypto currencies are by definition borderless and require international collaboration to prevent regulatory arbitrage. Therefore, any legislation for regulation or for banning can be effective only after significant international collaboration on evaluation of the risks and benefits and evolution of common taxonomy and standards.”

The Finance Minister has also said that the RBI has registered its concern over the adverse effects of crypto currency on the Indian Economy. “RBI mentioned that crypto currencies are not a currency because every modern currency needs to be issued by the Central Bank/Government. However, the value of crypto currencies rests solely on the speculations and expectations of high returns that are not well anchored, so it will have a de-stabilising effect on the monetary and fiscal stability of a country,” FM said.

It is strange to note that the government is of the view that we can ban crypto currencies only after “evolution of common taxonomy and standards” at international level.



All along the RBI Governor was against permitting crypto currencies in the country. The earlier attempt to restrict crypto currencies was struck down by the Supreme Court as there was no clear policy on crypto currencies. The Supreme Court said, “When the consistent stand of the RBI is that they have not banned virtual currencies and when the Government of India is unable to take a call despite several panels coming with several proposals, including two draft Bills, both of which advocated exactly opposite positions, it is not possible for us to hold that the impugned measure is proportionate.”

There is no need to wait for any collaboration with other countries to ban crypto currencies in our country. There are already restrictions and bans by different countries as per their individual requirement.

Algeria currently prohibits the use of crypto currency following the passing of a financial law in 2018 that made it illegal to buy, sell, use or hold virtual currencies.

In Bolivia, there is a complete ban in place on the usage of Bitcoin since 2014. The Bolivian Central Bank issued a resolution banning it and any other currency not regulated by a country or economic zone.

China has cracked down on crypto currencies with increasing intensity throughout 2021. Chinese officials have repeatedly issued warnings to its people to stay clear of the digital asset market and have clamped down hard on mining in the country as well as currency exchanges in China and overseas. The People's Bank of China treats Crypto currencies as speculative assets and warns people to protect their pockets. On 24th September last year, China out rightly banned crypto currency transactions.

In Colombia, financial institutions are not allowed to facilitate Bitcoin transactions. Egypt has classified Bitcoin transactions as ‘haram’ which is prohibited under Islamic law. In Indonesia, Bitcoin cannot be used as a means of payment since January 1, 2018. In Nepal, Bitcoin has been declared illegal since August 2017. Russia has its own restrictions on crypto currencies. In Vietnam, using crypto currencies is a punishable offence.

Hence, waiting for some international collaboration to ban crypto currencies in our country does not seem to be logical. Over 115 million Indians have already invested in crypto currencies. By 2030, the total value of investments in crypto currencies from India will cross \$241 million (about ₹1,900 crore). To save these common investors, the government must immediately ban crypto currencies.

(The author is a retired banker)

India must enact laws for the rights of nature



GOVIND BHATTACHARJEE

A number of countries, including even Bangladesh, have prudently put several laws into place to protect the rights of their rivers on a par with humans

The Parana Delta in Argentina is a huge mosaic of wetlands, which are incredibly rich in biodiversity. But for the last three years now, it has been facing severe drought. The receding water level and human activities like clearing the land for cattle grazing or for real estate development combined with intense heat have led to the shrinking of the wetlands.


In July 2020, two NGOs filed a Collective Environmental Appeal before the Supreme Court of Justice to preserve the integrity of the wetlands. Citing precedents from countries like Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, India and New Zealand, it urged that “the Paraná Delta lives, breathes, develops, pulses, feels. Our petition goes beyond the demand of the right to live in a healthy environment.... The Delta has its own life and it is succumbing. It deserves protection and the recognition of rights.”

The case is pending for a decision, like a similar case in Peru. They are part of an international movement called Nature's Rights—giving the same Constitutional rights to the natural environment as humans, recognising the inherent rights of Nature to exist, thrive and evolve.

Four countries have already enacted laws or amended their Constitutions to this effect. Ecuador was the first country which in 2008 wrote nature's rights in its Constitution, enabling its ecosystem to be defendant in any court of law. Ecuador's largest export, crude petroleum worth some \$6 billion, represents 29 per cent of GDP, but its extraction has led to huge deforestation in the Amazon basin inhabited by eight indigenous tribes, contaminating their water and causing widespread illness.

Subjected to increasing encroachment of their land by greedy oil companies, the country witnessed several uprisings by these communities. Now, its Constitution has a chapter called Rights for Nature, which the Ecuadorian refer to as the Rights of Pachamama, the Mother Earth: “Nature, or Pachamama, where life is reproduced and occurs, has the right to integral respect for its existence and for the maintenance and regeneration of its life cycles, structure, functions and evolutionary processes. All persons, communities, peoples, and nations can call upon public authorities to enforce the Rights of Nature.”

The ancient indigenous tribes viewed life and nature as one. The ancient Maori tribes in New Zealand had regarded their Whanganui River as a living being inseparable from them. “Ko au te awa, ko te awa ko au (I am the river, the river is me)”, that's their connection to the ancient river they had revered for the past 700 years. The river has been their life - it gave them food and medicine and means of communication and transport. An indivisible living whole, the river was their physical healer and spiritual redeemer, their “awa tupua”—the river of sacred



IN 2017, THE NEW ZEALAND PARLIAMENT PASSED A LEGISLATION DECLARING THAT TE AWA TUPUA—THE RIVER AND ALL ITS PHYSICAL AND METAPHYSICAL ELEMENTS WILL HENCEFORTH POSSESS ‘ALL THE RIGHTS, POWERS, DUTIES, AND LIABILITIES’ OF A LEGAL PERSON

(The author, former Director General at the Office of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India, is a Professor at the Arun Jaitley National Institute of Financial Management)


power. Their paramount authority over it was usurped by the European settlers when they arrived in the mid-1800s.

This loss of authority was sealed finally by a government decree that took away all their rights, to leave them helplessly watch and resent the exploitation of the Whanganui for tourism, extraction of gravel from its bed, and most audaciously, diversion of its for headwater for hydroelectricity, deeply affronting the Maori's belief that the river head was the most sacred part the river that was their ancestor.

In 2017, the New Zealand Parliament passed a legislation declaring that Te Awa Tupua—the river and all its physical and metaphysical elements will henceforth possess “all the rights, powers, duties, and liabilities” of a legal person, representing “the beginning of a renewed and enduring relationship,” with the river, while the government sought to “atone for its past wrongs and begin the process of healing.”

The Te Awa Tupua Act, appointed two guardians of the river: one representative of the Maoris and another of the government to facilitate such reconciliation.

Columbia has also protected its part of the Amazon, giving the rainforests the same legal right as humans. In 2018, in response to a petition, the Supreme Court of Colombia recognized that “fundamental rights of life, health, the minimum subsistence, freedom, and human dignity are substanti-



ally linked and determined by the environment and the ecosystem” and declared that the Colombian Amazon was entitled to protection, conservation, maintenance and restoration, while it ordered the government to develop and implement action plans to address deforestation.

The movement for nature's rights has now spread across all continents. In the USA, some lawsuits are pending before Courts claiming legal rights for ecosystems. In 2010, the City Council of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania had unanimously passed an ordinance recognizing the rights of nature as part of a ban on shale gas drilling and fracking. In Canada, in 2021, a county municipality recognised the Canadian Magpie River's “legal rights of personhood”. Across the world, many countries, including Switzerland, Portugal, France and Brazil, have specified to the government its obligations regarding protection of nature.

In our neighbourhood, in a landmark ruling in 2019 without parallel anywhere in the world, the Bangladesh Supreme Court has accorded all its rivers – and there are hundreds - the same rights as living beings, protecting hundreds of waterways and the world's largest delta, the Sundarbans.

People who damage the rivers can now be taken to court by the government-appointed National River Conservation Commission for harming a living entity. In 2021, the Pakistan Supreme Court also recognized the need to protect the rights

of nature by observing that “the environment needs to be protected in its own right” and that “man and his environment each need to compromise for the better of both and this peaceful co-existence requires that the law treats environmental objects as holders of legal rights.”

As an ancient civilisation rooted in nature, India also recognises the rights of nature in the Constitution. Article 48A under the Directive Principles of State Policy demands the State to “protect and improve the environment and safeguard the forests and wildlife of the country”, while Article 51A (g) imposes a fundamental duty upon citizens to “protect and improve the natural environment, including forests, rivers, and wildlife, and to have compassion for all living creatures”.

In 2017, taking a cue from the Whanganui, the Uttarakhand High Court had explicitly recognized the rivers Ganga and Yamuna as living entities “with all corresponding rights, duties and liabilities of a living person”. The Supreme Court has also passed various orders from time to time to protect the Holy Mother who is forced to absorb more than 1 billion gallons of waste that flow into it every day from sewer drains, leather tanneries, factories and elsewhere.

Namami Gange has been more about rodomontade than real cleaning of the river. Courts cannot force behavior change of people and businesses. Only the State can do that. Unfortunately, it is yet to act with the required urgency.

POINT COUNTERPOINT

THIS MAN (PRIEST GEORGE PONNAIAH) WAS ARRESTED FOR HIS HINDU HATRED EARLIER. BHARAT JODO WITH BHARAT TODO ICONS? —BJP SPOKESPERSON SHEHZAD POONAWALLA



PEOPLE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE KILLING OF MAHATMA GANDHI AND SEVERAL OTHERS... ARE RAISING QUESTIONS. WHAT A MORBID JOKE! —CONGRESS GENERAL SECRETARY JAIRAM RAMESH



Putin threatens to punish EU by cutting gas supply

The European Union, particularly Germany, will be in a spot with Russian gas supply squeezed as peak winter months approach

Russian President Vladimir Putin has stopped Russian gas from flowing to Europe in retaliation to its imposition of economic sanctions in the wake of the invasion of Ukraine. By July 25, the flow of gas had fallen to about 20 per cent of usual seasonal volumes.

Disruptions to gas supplies over the past few weeks represented an ominous foreshadowing of what Russia might do to Europe this winter. European countries use much more gas in the winter than they do in the summer.

As Putin planned his invasion of Ukraine in 2021, he honoured Russia's long-term contracts, but found excuses to stop selling into European short-term spot markets,



PK VASUDEVA

(The author is a retired professor, international trade)

despite the lucrative opportunities of soaring prices. The supply squeeze in the summer and fall of 2021 left Europeans with dangerously low reserves over the winter of 2021–22.

The European Union Commission's president, Ursula von der Leyen, warned recently that a total Russian cutoff was “likely”, and she urged member countries to plan to reduce their gas consumption by 15 per cent (from their average level of use over the past five years).

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has modeled the effect of a Russian gas embargo. It predicts a surge in inflation and outright recession in many countries in Central and Eastern Europe. Germany is at the worst risk among the European coun-

tries. A generation of German politicians bet their country's energy security on faith in Russia as a reliable supplier. That bet is a bust, and Germany must now scramble through the warm-weather months to prepare for Russian economic warfare.

Gas moves to homes and factories via pipelines. Those networks commit countries to patterns of distribution that are not fast, easy, or cheap to change. For example, Spain imports much of its natural gas from North Africa through underwater pipelines.

An ambitious project to build a major new pipeline from Spain to France was abandoned in 2019. If work were resumed, the project would take at least three years to finish. Germany's network

could receive more gas from neighbours nearer than Spain via France. It has some capacity for receiving more liquid natural gas by sea and is rushing to provide more. A new facility at Wilhelmshaven, on Germany's North Sea coast, might be ready late this year.

The EU is hastening to sign new contracts with Azerbaijan, moving the gas via a pipeline across Turkey to Southern Europe. Gas might also someday come from farther airfields in Central Asia. Turkmenistan has built a pipeline to the Caspian Sea. An underwater pipeline across the Caspian could bring that gas to the Azerbaijan network. Perhaps the most dangerous point of vulnerability is within the German network itself. Gas is pushed through

pipelines under pressure. If the network doesn't contain enough gas, the pressure drops and the gas cannot move. A big enough shortfall going into the pipe can translate into a 100 per cent shortage at the other end. So any rationing plan is likely to be very unequal.

To sustain pressure in high-priority pipes, the gas may have to be turned off altogether to lower-priority pipes. Another agonizing dilemma is much of German industrial production is outsourced to nearby EU partners, Hungary and Slovakia. Those countries depend even more on Russian gas than Germany does.

The US is helping its European partners by redirecting American liquid natural gas from Asian to European markets. Over the past decade,

the US has emerged as the world's top producer of natural gas. It produces so much, in fact, that despite its large domestic consumption, the US now ranks second only to Russia as a gas exporter.

Unfortunately, increasing the volume of those exports as rapidly as needed will not be easy. The US gas exports to Europe must be compressed into liquid form to be loaded aboard ships. Building new liquefaction plants is a complex and costly undertaking. A rule-of-thumb calculation suggests a cost of \$5 billion over four to five years, if regulatory approvals are sped up.

The balance of energy power between Europe and Russia is not all one-sided. Over the medium and long term, Europe can find new

sources of gas more easily than Russia can find new customers. The most economical way for Russia to sell gas to China would require a vast pipeline-building project across Siberia. The distances and costs are mind-boggling and likely prohibitive, given the competition from liquid natural gas shipped across the Pacific from North America. Russia risks a post-Ukraine-war future as an isolated energy pariah, and its energy behaviour this winter will determine whether that risk becomes an enduring reality.

The Western alliance has a gathering energy emergency on its hands. One of the world's largest energy producers is using its oil and gas as weapons against its formerly best customers.

Ukraine keeps initiative, claims it reached Russian border

AP ■ KHARKIV

Ukraine kept the counterof-fensive momentum in its war against Russia going Monday, saying it liberated one vil-lage after another and claiming that in one region it pushed the invaders back right up to the border.

"In some areas of the front, our defenders reached the state border with the Russian Federation," said the regional governor of the north-eastern Kharkiv region, Oleh Syniehubov. Russian troops crossed the border in the region on Feb. 24, the first day of the invasion.

As throughout the war, such military claims were hard to verify independently.

After Sunday's attacks by Russia on power stations and other infra-structure that knocked out elec-tricity in many place across Ukraine, Kyiv authorities also said that electric power and water sup-plies have been restored to some 80 percent in the Kharkiv region.

"You are heroes!!!", wrote Kharkiv mayor Ihor Terekhov early in the morning on Telegram, high-lighting the ebullient mood in the

nation that has endured more than 200 days of war and occupation. "Thanks to everyone who did everything possible on this most difficult night for Kharkiv to nor-malize the life of the city as soon as possible."

The General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine said that its troops had liberated more than 20 settlements within the last day.

The buoyant mood was also captured by a defiant President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on social media late Sunday, comments that immediately went viral.

"Do you still think you can intimidate, break us, force us to make concessions? Did you really not understand anything? Don't understand who we are? What we stand for? What we are talking about," Zelenskyy exhorted.

"Read my lips," he continued. "Cold, hunger, darkness and thirst for us are not as scary and deadly as your friendship' and brother-hood."

He added: "We will be with gas, lights, water and food... and WITHOUT you!"

The turn of events and all-



important reversal of initiative was backed up by international observers who warned of dire times ahead for Russian troops. It stood in sharp contrast to the first days of

the war when Russian troops were moving toward Kyiv's doorstep.

"In the face of Ukrainian advances, Russia has likely ordered the withdrawal of its troops from

the entirety of occupied Kharkiv Oblast west of the Oskil River," the British defense ministry said Monday, signifying a major advance by Kyiv. "Ukraine has recaptured

territory at least twice the size of Greater London," it said.

The British said that likely will further deteriorate the trust Russian forces have in their commanders. Ukraine's initial move on the south-ern Kherson area, drawing the attention of enemy troops there, before pouncing on more depleted Russian lines in the northeast beyond Kharkiv has been seen as a great military move so far.

Even around Kherson, Russia is struggling to bring forces across the Dnipro River to stop the Ukrainian offensive there, the British military said.

It added: "The rapid Ukrainian successes have significant implica-tions for Russia's overall operational design. The majority of the force in Ukraine is highly likely being forced to prioritize emergency defensive actions."

The Washington-based Institute for the Study of War said Monday that Russia likely lacks the reserve forces it needs to bolster its defenses in Ukraine.

While the war likely will stretch into next year, the Institute believes that "Ukraine has turned the tide of

this war in its favor" by effectively using Western-supplied weapons like the long-range HIMARS mis-sile system and strong battlefield tactics. "Kyiv will likely increasingly dictate the location and nature of the major fighting."

Seeking to contain its loss of momentum, Russia fired missiles at power plants and other critical infrastructure, immediately meet-ing with Ukrainian and U.S. Criticism for centering on civilian targets.

The bombardment ignited a massive fire at a power station on Kharkiv's western outskirts and killed at least one person. Zelenskyy denounced the "deliberate and cyn-ical missile strikes" against civilian targets as acts of terrorism.

"Russia's apparent response to Ukraine liberating cities and villages in the east: sending missiles to attempt to destroy critical civilian infrastructure," U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Bridget A. Brink wrote.

Separately, the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant in the Russia-occupied south completely shut down in a bid to prevent a radiation disaster as fighting raged nearby.

UN nuclear chief pushes for deal on nuke plant safety zone

AP ■ BERLIN

The head of the UN nuclear watchdog agency said Monday that he has started consultations with Ukraine and Russia on his call for a "nuclear safety and security protection zone" around the Zaporizhzhia power plant, and the two sides appear to be interested.

Rafael Grossi, the director-general of the International Atomic Energy Agency, made his proposal last week after leading a team of inspectors to the nuclear plant, Europe's biggest with six reactors, but gave few details at the time.

"What we need here really is Ukraine and Russia to agree on a very simple principle of not attacking, or not shelling, at the plant," Grossi told reporters at the agency's Vienna headquarters. The IAEA has not assigned blame for recent shelling, for which Ukraine and Russia have blamed each other.

The plant has been occu-pied by Russian forces but operated by its Ukrainian employees since early in the war.



Pressed on whether his proposal includes demilita-rization, Grossi said: "Basically, it's a commitment that no mil-itary action will include or will imply aiming ... at the plant, or a radius that could be affecting its normal opera-tion."

Grossi said of the two sides that he has "seen signs that they are interested in this agree-ment." He added that technical details are being explored, including the radius that an accord would apply to and how IAEA experts would work. Two IAEA experts remain at

the plant after the rest of Grossi's team returned home. "What I see ... is two sides that are engaging with us, but that are asking questions, lots of questions," he added. He said that "we try to keep it simple, we try to keep it practical, because we need it as soon as possible."

The Zaporizhzhia plant was reconnected to Ukraine's electricity grid at the weekend, allowing engineers to shut down its last operational reac-tor in an attempt to avoid disas-ter as fighting rages in the area.

Russia hits power stations after Ukraine counteroffensive

AP ■ KYIV

Russia attacked power sta-tions and other infrastruc-ture, causing widespread out-ages across Ukraine as Kyiv's forces pressed a swift coun-teroffensive that has driven Moscow's troops from swaths of territory it had occupied in the northeast.

The bombardment on Sunday ignited a massive fire at a power station on Kharkiv's western outskirts and killed at least one person. President Volodymyr Zelenskyy denounced the "deliberate and cynical missile strikes" against civilian targets as acts of ter-rorism.

Ukraine's second-largest city of Kharkiv appeared to be without power Sunday night. Cars drove through darkened streets, and the few pedestrians used flashlights or mobile phones to light their way.

Separately, the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant in the Russia-occupied south completely shut down in a bid to prevent a radiation disas-ter as fighting raged nearby.



Kyiv's action in recent days to reclaim Russia-occupied areas in the Kharkiv region forced Moscow to withdraw its troops to prevent them from being surrounded, leaving behind significant numbers of weapons and munitions in a hasty flight as the war marked its 200th day on Sunday.

Ukraine's military chief, Gen. Valerii Zaluzhnyy, said its

forces had recaptured about 3,000 square kilometers (1,160 square miles) since the coun-teroffensive began in early September.

He said Ukrainian troops are only 50 kilometers (about 30 miles) from the Russian border.

One battalion shared a video of Ukrainian forces in front of a municipal building in

Hoptivka, a village just over a mile from the border and about 19 kilometers (12 miles) north of Kharkiv.

Kharkiv Gov. Oleh Syniehubov said Ukrainian troops have reclaimed control of more than 40 settlements in the region.

In Sunday night's missile attacks by Russia, the Kharkiv and Donetsk regions seemed to bear the brunt. Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhzhia and Sumy had only partially lost power, Zelenskyy said.

Kharkiv Mayor Igor Terekhov called the power out-age "revenge by the Russian aggressor for the successes of our army at the front, in par-ticular, in the Kharkiv region."

Ukrainian officials said Russia hit Kharkiv TEC-5, the country's second-biggest heat and power plant, and Zelenskyy posted video of the Kharkiv power plant on fire.

"Russian terrorists remain terrorists and attack critical infrastructure. No military facilities, only the goal of leav-ing people without light and heat," he tweeted.

Germany's Scholz sees no quick nuclear deal with Iran

AP ■ BERLIN

German Chancellor Olaf Scholz made clear on Monday that he doesn't expect an agreement with Iran in the immediate future to restore Tehran's tattered nuclear deal with world powers, though he said there's no reason for Iran not to sign up and European countries would remain "patient".

Scholz spoke after meeting in Berlin with Israeli Prime Minister Yair Lapid, who insist-ed that restoring the 2015 agreement would be a mistake.

Germany, along with France, Britain, Russia, and China, is still a party to the deal.

The European countries "have made proposals, and there is no reason now for Iran not to agree to these proposals, but we have to take note of the fact that this isn't the case, so it certainly won't happen soon, although it looked for a while like it would," Scholz said.

"We remain patient, but we also remain clear: Iran must be prevented from being able to deploy nuclear weapons."

The United States unilat-erally pulled out of the accord in 2018 under then President Donald Trump and reimposed sanctions on Iran, prompting Tehran to start backing away from the deal's terms.

Iran earlier this month responded to a final draft of a roadmap for parties to return to the tattered nuclear deal.

A probe by the International Atomic Energy Agency into man-made urani-um particles found at three undeclared sites in the country has become a key sticking point in the talks for renewing the agreement.

Iran's hard-line president, Ebrahim Raisi, has said that the IAEA investigation into the issue must be halted in order for the 2015 deal to be renewed.

The IAEA, the UN nuclear watchdog agency has for years sought answers from Iran to its questions about the particles.

US intelligence agencies, Western nations and the IAEA have said Iran ran an organised nuclear weapons program until 2003. Iran long has denied ever seeking nuclear weapons.

Pro-Kremlin candidates win all 14 Russian governorships

AP ■ MOSCOW

Pro-Kremlin candidates won all of the 14 regional gov-ernorships that were chosen in the first elections in Russia since it sent troops into Ukraine, according to prelim-inary results Monday.

Most of the winners ran as members of United Russia, the country's dominant political party that is closely tied to President Vladimir Putin. Two ran as self-nominated but sup-port United Russia.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov, asked by reporters Monday, if the results constitute a show of support for Russia's military operation in Ukraine, said "Absolutely." "This shows a high level of sup-port for both the current head and the decisions he makes."

United Russia candidates also dominated the elections for six regional parliaments in the voting that was held Friday through Sunday. However, in the Sakhalin region, they totaled only 47% of the vote.

UJVN LTD. H.O.: 'UJJWAL', Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road Dehradun-248006 Telephones : 0135-2763808, Fax : 0135-2763508 CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: www.ujvnl.com		
Ro.No.- 641	Tender Notice	Date- 12.09.2022
Office of Executive Engineer (E&M), Dakpathar Barrage, invites sealed tenders from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below. Tender No 06/EE(E&M)/DKPBRG/2022-23 & Tender No 07/EE(E&M)/DKP BRG/2022-23 Name of work : (1) Protective Coating on both side surface of Head regulator gates no. 01 to 06 of Dakpathar barrage. (2) Annual Trash rack cleaning and conducting flushing during Monsoon period at Dakpathar Barrage. Estimated cost (In Lakh) : Rs. 21.22 (GST extra) & Rs. 22.55 (GST extra) respectively. Date of availability of bid Document on website: 13.09.2022, 10:00 hrs Last date for submission of tender: 03.10.2022, 16:00 Hrs. For fuller & further details, kindly visit our website. The tender document can be downloaded from the Nigam's website " www.ujvnl.com ". Executive Engineer (E&M) "Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"		

UJVN LTD. H.O.: 'UJJWAL', Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006 Telephones : 0135-2763808 & Fax : 0135-2763508 CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: www.ujvnl.com	
Letter No.635	TENDER NOTICE Dated 12.09.2022
The Office of the Executive Engineer (E&M), Joshiyara Barrage Joshiyara (Uttarkashi), invites sealed tenders from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below :: Tender No: NIT- 13/EE(E&M)/MB-II/Barrage/2022-23 NIT- 14/EE(E&M)/MB-II/Barrage/2022-23 Name of work / Supply/Services: 1."Earthing arrangement in Joshiyara Barrage Residential Colony, 11/0.4 kv Substation and Other associated works at Joshiyara Barrage, Uttarkashi" 2."Repairing and overhauling of 50 ton Gantry Crane at Joshiyara barrage Uttarkashi" Estimated cost : Rs.6,22,260/- Only (Taxes extra) Rs.20,18,500/- Only (Taxes extra) Date of availability of bid document on website: - 14.09.2022 Last date for submission of tender:- 07.10.2022up to 15:30 Hrs. For fuller & further details, kindly visit our website. The tender documents can be downloaded from the Nigam's website " www.ujvnl.com " Executive Engineer (E&M) "Avoid Wasteful use of Electricity"	

With no clear winner, Sweden in limbo after vote

AP ■ STOCKHOLM

Sweden awoke Monday to the prospect of weeks of political uncertainty after neither of the country's blocs secured a clear governing majority in an election, though it was clear that a populist anti-immigration party surged to become the country's second largest political force.

With more than 94% of the ballots counted, the center-right opposition that includes the populist Sweden Democrats, had a razor-thin edge over the governing Social Democrats and their allies in the center-left bloc.

The left bloc is headed by Prime Minister Magdalena Andersson, who has not resigned.

The result was so close that the election authority said a definitive outcome would not be known before Wednesday, when the uncounted votes, including those cast abroad, have been tal-



lied. With eight parties con-tending for seats, none will secure a majority of 175 seats in the 349-seat Riksdag, Sweden's parliament, meaning that laws can only be passed with differ-ent parties working together "It is extremely close. Things can change but I doubt," said Zeth Isaksson, a sociologist at Stockholm University. "As it is now, it is more likely that the right side will win."

Votes abroad are tradition-ally conservative, meaning that the still-uncounted votes are

unlikely to swing the momen-tum back to the left, according to Isaksson.

The biggest winner of the evening was undoubtedly the populist anti-immigration Sweden Democrats, which had a strong showing of nearly 21%, its best result ever. The party gained on promises to crack down on shootings and other gang violence that have shaken a sense of security for many in Sweden. The party has its roots in the white nationalist move-ment but years ago began expelling extremists. Despite its rebranding, voters long viewed it as unacceptable and other parties shunned it. But that has been changing, and its result in this election shows just how far it has come in gaining acceptance.

The Social Democrats, who have been in power in Sweden since 2014, remain the largest party, even gaining slightly over four years ago to get 30.5% of the vote.

Xi to attend SCO summit, will visit Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan

PTI ■ BEIJING

China officially announced on Monday that President Xi Jinping will travel for the first time out of the country in over two years this week to visit Kazakhstan and attend the SCO summit being held in Uzbekistan.

Xi will attend the 22nd meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) in the city of Samarkand, and pay state vis-its to Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan from September 14 to 16, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying announced here in a



brief statement.

He would first visit Kazakhstan on September 14, which will be his first visit abroad since January 17-18. Myanmar was the last country Xi visited on January 17-18,

2020.

Just days after his return, China had announced the mas-sive outbreak of the coronavirus in Wuhan, which later spiralled into a global pandemic resulting in millions of deaths around the world.

Since then, Xi, 69, has not ventured out of China and has attended global events virtually. From Kazakhstan, Xi would travel to the neighbour-ing Uzbekistan where the SCO summit is scheduled to be held on September 15-16.

The Beijing-headquartered SCO is an eight-member eco-nomic and security bloc con-sisting of China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan,

Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, India and Pakistan.

After the Samarkand sum-mit, where Iran was expected to formally be admitted into the SCO, India will take over the Presidency of the influential grouping of Central Asian Republics.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin are expected to attend the SCO summit. Russian officials have announced that Putin and Xi will meet on the sidelines of the SCO summit in Samarkand, which will be their first visit since Moscow attacked Ukraine in February this year.

Jaishankar calls on Saudi Crown MBS, hands over Modi’s written message

PTI ■ JEDDAH

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has called on Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman and handed over a written message from Prime Minister Narendra Modi and apprised him of the progress in bilateral ties.

Jaishankar arrived in Saudi Arabia on Saturday on a three-day visit to discuss ways to further strengthen relations between the two countries. It is his first visit to Saudi Arabia as External Affairs Minister.

He met the Saudi Crown Prince in Jeddah on Sunday.

Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz, Crown Prince and the Deputy Prime

Minister, received a written message from Prime Minister Modi, the official Saudi Press Agency reported.

The written message was handed over to the Crown Prince by visiting Foreign Minister Jaishankar during a meeting at the Crown Prince’s office in Jeddah, it said.

During the meeting, bilateral relations between the two countries and opportunities for enhancing them were reviewed and the latest regional and international developments, as well as the efforts being exerted towards them, were discussed, it said.

“Honoured to call on HRH Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman in Jeddah this evening.



Conveyed the warm greetings of PM @narendramodi. Apprised him of the progress in our bilateral relations. Thank him for sharing his vision of our ties,” Jaishankar tweeted after the

meeting.

Earlier on Sunday in Riyadh, Jaishankar held “warm and productive” talks with his Saudi counterpart Prince Faisal bin Farhan during which they

discussed current global political as well as economic issues and agreed to work closely together in G-20 and multilateral organisations.

They co-chaired the first ministerial meeting of the Committee on Political, Security, Social and Cultural Cooperation (PSSC), established under the framework of the India-Saudi Arabia Strategic Partnership Council. Jaishankar also addressed diplomats at the Prince Saud Al Faisal Institute of Diplomatic Studies in Riyadh.

India and Saudi Arabia enjoy cordial and friendly relations reflecting the centuries-old economic and socio-cultural ties. Saudi Arabia is India’s fourth-largest trading partner.

India for full implementation of 13th Amendment in Lanka

PTI ■ GENEVA

Voicing concern over the lack of “measurable progress” by Sri Lanka on its commitments of a political solution to the ethnic issue, India on Monday called for “immediate and credible action” for the full implementation of the 13th Amendment and holding of Provincial Council elections at the earliest in the crisis-hit island nation.

During an Interactive Dialogue on the report of OHCHR on promoting reconciliation, accountability, and human rights in Sri Lanka at the 51st session of the United Nations Human Rights Council, India said it has always believed in the responsibility of States for promotion and protection of human rights and constructive



international dialogue and cooperation guided by the principles of the UN Charter.

Speaking at the dialogue, an Indian representative noted with concern the lack of “measurable progress” by the Sri Lankan government on their commitments of a political solution to the ethnic issue- through full implementation of the 13th Amendment of the Constitu-

tion, delegation of powers to Provincial Councils and holding of Provincial Council elections at the earliest.

“India’s consistent view on peace and reconciliation in Sri Lanka has been for a political settlement within the framework of an united Sri Lanka, ensuring justice, peace, equality and dignity for the Tamils of Sri Lanka,” the Indian diplomat said.

Trial opens of 10 accused over 2016 Brussels suicide attacks

AP ■ BRUSSELS

More than six years after the deadliest peacetime attack on Belgian soil, the trial of 10 men accused over the suicide bombings at Brussels airport and an underground metro station opened on Monday amid high security.

The only survivor among the Islamic State extremists who in 2015 struck the Bataclan theatre in Paris, city cafes and France’s national stadium, Salah Abdeslam, is among the accused.

In all, 32 people were killed in the March 22, 2016 Brussels attacks. Around 900 people were hurt or suffered mental trauma.

The 10 face charges including murder, attempted murder and membership of, or participation in, the activities of “a ter-



rorist group” over the morning rush hour attacks at Belgium’s main airport and on a central commuter line.

If convicted, some of them could be sentenced to terms of up to 30 years in prison.

Abdeslam, who was sentenced to life in prison without parole over the atrocities in Paris, was at the Brussels court on Monday but refused to take part, saying it was “unfair” that he should have to watch proceedings from inside a reinforced glass cubicle.

Sebastien Courtoy, a lawyer for another suspect, Smail Farisi, also complained about conditions. He said his client was “put on display like an animal in a cage. I want — I demand — to see the sick person who designed these cages to ask what kind of pleasure that person gets from this.”

For those who were hurt or lost loved ones, the trial will revive painful memories, but it also offers an opportunity for them to take a fresh step in their long recovery.

Rights group: Egypt stifles environmental work ahead of COP

AP ■ BEIRUT

An international human rights group called on Monday on the United Nations to ensure that countries hosting its climate conference commit to meeting human rights standards after it documented instances of repression against environmental groups in Egypt, the host of COP27 later this year.

Human Rights Watch said in a report based on interviews with more than a dozen academics, scientists and activists that government restrictions amount to a violation of basic human rights and throw into question the Egyptian government’s ability to meet basic climate commitments.

Egypt’s government has engaged in a widespread crackdown on dissent in recent years that has detained thousands, many without trial, according to rights groups.

Under President Abdel Fattah el-Sissi, Egypt has also intimidated activists and new laws have practically barred many civil society organisations from operating.

“The world needs more climate activism, not less, and there can be no such effective activism when the government treats civic groups as a threat, not an asset,” said Richard Pearshouse, environment director at Human Rights Watch, in the



report.

“The UN Framework Convention member states and the Secretariat should press the Egyptian government to make sure environmental groups feel it is safe to engage in and beyond the COP.”

Egypt’s human rights record is coming under scrutiny as the country prepares to host the international conference aimed at slowing climate change through coordinated global action.

In July, several dozen organisations called on Egypt to end its crackdown and allow people to exercise freedom of expression ahead of the summit.

Pak security forces kill four terrorists in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province

PTI ■ PESHAWAR

At least four terrorists were killed in a shootout with the security forces in Pakistan’s northwest restive district bordering Afghanistan, the police said on Monday.

The joint operation was conducted by the police, CTD, and security forces in the Takhtikhel area of Lakki Marwat District of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. When the terrorists attacked the contingent, the forces responded and in the ensuing gun battle four terrorists were killed, police said. The identity of the killed terrorists could not be ascertained yet, the police said. Following the attack, the police cordoned off the entire area and launched a massive combing operation in the area.



Military convoys often come under attack in the restive Northwest region of Pakistan.

In July this year, at least eight Pakistani soldiers were injured when a suicide bomber rammed his bike on a military convoy in North Waziristan.

Terrorists and separatists have been regularly carrying out attacks on security forces and government officials in the volatile province, which has seen the heavy loss of lives and government security installations since last year.

In parts of West Asia, power generators spew toxic fumes 24/7

AP ■ BEIRUT

They literally run the country. In parking lots, on flatbed trucks, hospital courtyards and rooftops, private generators are ubiquitous in parts of the Middle East, spewing hazardous fumes into homes and businesses 24 hours a day.

As the world looks for renewable energy to tackle climate change, millions of people around the region depend almost completely on diesel-powered private generators to keep the lights on because war or mismanagement have gutted electricity infrastructure.

Experts call it national suicide from an environmental and health perspective.

“Air pollution from diesel generators contains more than 40 toxic air contaminants, including many known or suspected cancer-causing substances,” said Samy Kayed, managing director and co-founder of the Environment



Academy at the American University of Beirut in Lebanon.

Greater exposure to these pollutants likely increases respiratory illnesses and cardiovascular disease, he said. It also causes acid rain that harms plant growth and increases eutrophication — the excess build-up of nutrients in water that ultimately kills aquatic plants.

Since they usually use diesel, generators also produce far more climate change-inducing emissions than, for example, a natural gas power plant does, he said.

UN to EU: Don’t back track on climate goals amid energy pinch

AP ■ GENEVA

The acting UN human rights chief on Monday urged European Union member states to avoid “backtracking” on their efforts to develop renewables and energy-efficiency projects at a time when soaring energy prices have prompted some to ramp up use of and searches for fossil fuels.

Nada al-Nashif, the acting UN high commissioner for human rights, laid out rights concerns about more than 30 countries, regions and territories including Ethiopia, Ukraine, Myanmar and Haiti in an opening speech to the latest session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva.

Beyond expressing concerns about the direct impact of Russia’s war in Ukraine, she noted how the war has dented exports of food and fuel from those two countries, who are major producers of both, forcing EU states, for example, to scramble to boost their energy sources.



ISIS ultras kill 6 US-backed fighters in eastern Syria

AP ■ BEIRUT

The Islamic State group killed six US-backed Syrian fighters in eastern Syria saying on Monday that the killing was in retaliation for an ongoing operation inside a sprawling camp housing tens of thousands of family members of the extremist group.

The IS-linked Amaq news agency released a video showing the shooting of the six members of the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces near the eastern village of Ruwaisheed where they were captured alive and later shot dead late Sunday.

AXIS BANK PUBLIC NOTICE FOR E-AUCTION OF PLEDGED ASSETS BEING GOLD ORNAMENTS					
THE BORROWERS, IN SPECIFIC AND THE PUBLIC IN GENERAL ARE HERE BUY NOTIFIED THAT PUBLIC AUCTION OF THE GOLD ORNAMENTS PLEDGE IN THE BELOW ACCOUNTS IS PROPOSED TO BE CONDUCTED BY THE AXIS BANK AT THE BELOW MENTIONED BRANCH. THE BELOW MENTIONED BORROWERS HAS AVAILED THE CREDIT FACILITY FROM THE AXIS BANK LIMITED AGAINST THE PLEDGE OF GOLD ORNAMENTS ("GOLD LOAN FACILITY") IN FAVOUR OF THE BANK TOWARDS THE SECURITY. THE DEMAND NOTICES WERE ISSUED TO THE BORROWERS/GUARANTORS CALLING UP THE BORROWERS/GUARANTORS TO PAY THEIR OUTSTANDING AMOUNT TOWARDS THE GOLD LOAN FACILITY AVAILED. AS THE BORROWERS/GUARANTORS HAVE FAILED TO REPAY THE OUTSTANDING LOAN AMOUNT, THE BANK IS CONSTRAINED TO INVOKE THE PLEDGE AND PROPOSED TO CONDUCT AN E-AUCTION SALE OF PLEDGED GOLD ORNAMENTS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED IN SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY HEREUNDER ON 23.09.2022 AT 12.30 PM TO 3.30 PM ON 'AS IN WHERE IS', 'AS IS WHAT IS', 'WHATSOEVER THERE IS' AND 'NO RECOURSE BASIS'.					
DETAILS OF BORROWERS AND OUTSTANDING AMOUNT					
BRANCH NAME	CUSTOMER NAME	LOAN A/C NO.	AMOUNT OUTSTANDING	DATE OF RECALL	GROSS WEIGHT
ASHOK VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	KUMAIL ABBAS	XXXXXXXXXXXX8833	222641	27-Jun-22	81.10
ASHOK VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	SAROJ DEVI	XXXXXXXXXXXX5605	103554	27-Jun-22	37.10
ASHOK VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	SANJAY CHOUDHARY	XXXXXXXXXXXX4679	57403	18-Jul-22	22.40
ASHOK VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	AMIT JAIN	XXXXXXXXXXXX4197	42630	18-Jul-22	14.80
BALI NAGAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	MANVENDRA YADAV	XXXXXXXXXXXX7903	514049	22-Jun-22	170.50
BALI NAGAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	ASHISH KUMAR MISHRA	XXXXXXXXXXXX5363	181270	26-Jul-22	71.00
DARYAGANJ, DELHI [DL]	SUNITA	XXXXXXXXXXXX4829	303580	26-Jul-22	121.00
DARYAGANJ, DELHI [DL]	NAWAZISH AHMAD	XXXXXXXXXXXX5926	78125	26-Jul-22	25.40
DARYAGANJ, DELHI [DL]	ANAMIKA DEVI	XXXXXXXXXXXX8288	38965	22-Jul-22	13.70
FARIDABAD [HR]	BABITA	XXXXXXXXXXXX3377	843181	26-Jul-22	253.40
FARIDABAD [HR]	BABITA	XXXXXXXXXXXX6541	374148	26-Jul-22	223.20
FARIDABAD [HR]	POOJA RANI	XXXXXXXXXXXX9047	299707	26-Jul-22	107.50
FARIDABAD [HR]	GEETA	XXXXXXXXXXXX4155	279540	11-Aug-22	97.90
FARIDABAD [HR]	VERANDER SINGH	XXXXXXXXXXXX5887	142954	26-Jul-22	49.50
FARIDABAD [HR]	KANCHAN KUMARI	XXXXXXXXXXXX9321	93382	26-Jul-22	33.10
FARIDABAD [HR]	PARMANAND SINGH	XXXXXXXXXXXX6771	96754	24-Mar-22	35.00
FARIDABAD [HR]	GOURAV	XXXXXXXXXXXX3237	53937	26-Jul-22	18.50
FARIDABAD [HR]	ASHOK KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX3152	45161.07	26-Jul-22	15.80
FARIDABAD [HR]	PREM WATI	XXXXXXXXXXXX2088	34371	26-Jul-22	11.10
GHAZIABAD [UP]	MOHD SHAHID	XXXXXXXXXXXX9929	195211	26-Jul-22	67.30
GHAZIABAD [UP]	HAIKAT ALI	XXXXXXXXXXXX9608	59771	14-Jul-22	20.80
JYOTI NAGAR DEL DL	SURENDER KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX0089	511582	6-Aug-22	229.40
JYOTI NAGAR DEL DL	MANISH SHARMA	XXXXXXXXXXXX5595	346680	26-Jul-22	135.00
JYOTI NAGAR DEL DL	AMIT PANWAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX9328	274349	26-Jul-22	95.50
JYOTI NAGAR DEL DL	MOHIT	XXXXXXXXXXXX7592	127247	26-Jul-22	54.90
JYOTI NAGAR DEL DL	AMIT KUMAR SHARMA	XXXXXXXXXXXX8487	58759.42	6-Aug-22	22.00
JYOTI NAGAR DEL DL	MOHIT	XXXXXXXXXXXX7494	54370	24-Mar-22	19.20
KALKAJI, NEW DELHI [DL]	AGAMYA JHA	XXXXXXXXXXXX1894	558785	28-Jul-22	208.90
KALKAJI, NEW DELHI [DL]	GAURAV DUBEY	XXXXXXXXXXXX8283	407802	26-Jul-22	186.90
KALKAJI, NEW DELHI [DL]	SUMIT BIDHURI	XXXXXXXXXXXX4042	121946	26-Jul-22	43.00
KALKAJI, NEW DELHI [DL]	MUKESH KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX5675	390335.78	26-Jul-22	126.60
KALKAJI, NEW DELHI [DL]	MAMTA	XXXXXXXXXXXX5189	70767.8	14-Jul-22	36.70
KISHANGANJ OD DL	AJAY KUMAR SHARMA	XXXXXXXXXXXX6135	112223	26-Jul-22	33.40
KISHANGANJ OD DL	AJEET KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX4400	58622	28-Jul-22	22.80
KISHANGANJ OD DL	MOHD SHAHID ANSARI	XXXXXXXXXXXX2402	125621.83	28-Jul-22	43.80
KISHANGANJ OD DL	SATISH KUMAR PANDEY	XXXXXXXXXXXX3598	27168.9	26-Jul-22	10.50
LAJPAT NAGAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	DINESH SINGH	XXXXXXXXXXXX7223	574765	11-Aug-22	218.80
LAJPAT NAGAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	ARUN SHARMA	XXXXXXXXXXXX2397	535782	26-Jul-22	204.80
LAJPAT NAGAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	ARUN SHARMA	XXXXXXXXXXXX8864	507387	26-Jul-22	175.40
LAJPAT NAGAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	SANJAY KUMAR TEWATIA	XXXXXXXXXXXX2401	380088	28-Jul-22	126.60
LAJPAT NAGAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	VIJAY SINGH	XXXXXXXXXXXX8603	291122	26-Jul-22	96.30
LAJPAT NAGAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	SANDEEP KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX9427	203028	28-Jul-22	70.40
LAJPAT NAGAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	KAUSAR ALI	XXXXXXXXXXXX7503	159163	24-Mar-22	84.00
LAJPAT NAGAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	MANGAL RATAN KASHYAP	XXXXXXXXXXXX1834	90674	26-Jul-22	34.90
LAJPAT NAGAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	VIJAY CHOWDHARY	XXXXXXXXXXXX9433	58300.15	26-Jul-22	20.10
LAJPAT NAGAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	ANKUSH SHARMA	XXXXXXXXXXXX7898	31201	18-Jul-22	7.50
MALVIYA NAGAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	GEETANJALI SINGH	XXXXXXXXXXXX3735	282942	7-Jul-22	115.90
MAYUR VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	SHIV KUMARI JAISWAL	XXXXXXXXXXXX6874	1021165	22-Jul-22	319.90
MAYUR VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	RAJEEV CHAUHAN	XXXXXXXXXXXX2876	458317	26-Jul-22	163.40
MAYUR VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	PRIVANKA YADAV	XXXXXXXXXXXX5554	166135	18-Jun-22	60.20
MAYUR VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	AJAY VIR SINGH	XXXXXXXXXXXX9853	62872	22-Jul-22	27.60
MEERA BAGH, NEW DELHI [DL]	BILAL RIVAZ	XXXXXXXXXXXX1682	398890	26-Jul-22	149.50
MEERA BAGH, NEW DELHI [DL]	AMIT KUMAR TIWARI	XXXXXXXXXXXX7643	40009.75	30-Apr-21	15.90
NAZAFGARH, NEW DELHI [DL]	GULAB	XXXXXXXXXXXX0039	908985	18-Jun-22	390.50
NAZAFGARH, NEW DELHI [DL]	AMITA SHARMA	XXXXXXXXXXXX5398	108204	6-Jun-22	41.90
NAZAFGARH, NEW DELHI [DL]	RAHUL SINGH	XXXXXXXXXXXX4114	61670	26-Jul-22	22.70
NAZAFGARH, NEW DELHI [DL]	MONU KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX1944	44038	26-Jul-22	15.20
NAZAFGARH, NEW DELHI [DL]	RAHUL	XXXXXXXXXXXX3685	84280	7-Jan-22	36.20
NEW FRIENDS COLONY,NEW DELHI	DILSHAD HAIDER	XXXXXXXXXXXX8523	499073	17-May-22	181.90
NEW FRIENDS COLONY,NEW DELHI	MOHD MOHSIN KHAN	XXXXXXXXXXXX1305	155224	28-Jul-22	58.20
NEW FRIENDS COLONY,NEW DELHI	EBRAHIM KHAN	XXXXXXXXXXXX6896	126704.76	9-Jun-22	43.00
NEW FRIENDS COLONY,NEW DELHI	SHAHNAJ	XXXXXXXXXXXX2723	36928.77	22-Jul-22	13.90
NOIDA [UP]	SUNITA	XXXXXXXXXXXX5944	334034	26-Jul-22	133.60
NOIDA [UP]	KISHOR KUNAL	XXXXXXXXXXXX8216	330660	22-Jun-21	108.80
NOIDA [UP]	PRADEEP AWANA	XXXXXXXXXXXX4021	285617	26-Jul-22	93.50
NOIDA [UP]	ARVIND KUMAR SINGH	XXXXXXXXXXXX9468	280823	18-Jun-22	92.40
NOIDA [UP]	PROMISH KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX6958	185947	17-May-22	84.50
NOIDA [UP]	RATAN CHANDRA	XXXXXXXXXXXX5279	145448	28-Jul-22	80.40
NOIDA [UP]	SANTOSH KUMAR BHARDWAJ	XXXXXXXXXXXX0011	95868	26-Jul-21	37.20
NOIDA [UP]	SANTOSH KUMAR BHARDWAJ	XXXXXXXXXXXX1861	36854	21-Jan-21	11.80

BRANCH NAME	CUSTOMER NAME	LOAN A/C NO.	AMOUNT OUTSTANDING	DATE OF RECALL	GROSS WEIGHT
NOIDA [UP]	ABHAY RAJ MISHRA	XXXXXXXXXXXX6156	158239	30-Mar-21	61.70
NOIDA [UP]	RAM KUMAR CHOUDHARY	XXXXXXXXXXXX6929	77739	22-Jul-22	25.00
NOIDA [UP]	AKASH YADAV	XXXXXXXXXXXX8768	68187	18-Jun-22	24.40
NOIDA [UP]	RAJNIKANT KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX0656	44989	29-Jan-22	15.20
PALAM VIHAR, GURGAON [HR]	POOJA BARALA BARALA	XXXXXXXXXXXX6441	304861	18-Jun-22	98.00
PALAM VIHAR, GURGAON [HR]	POONAM SINGH	XXXXXXXXXXXX5377	97825	29-Jan-22	25.60
PALAM, DELHI [DL]	NAVEEN KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX8100	101656	26-Jul-22	31.10
PALAM, DELHI [DL]	GYAN SINGH RAWAT	XXXXXXXXXXXX7873	56037	26-Jul-22	18.60
ROHINI, DELHI [DL]	VIKAS GARG	XXXXXXXXXXXX5046	1024902	22-Jul-22	475.70
ROHINI, DELHI [DL]	ASHISH DABAS	XXXXXXXXXXXX6362	675227	22-Jun-22	236.80
ROHINI, DELHI [DL]	CHANDER PRAKASH PANDEY	XXXXXXXXXXXX0043	446666	17-May-22	145.70
ROHINI, DELHI [DL]	ANIL KUMAR MISHRA	XXXXXXXXXXXX6436	342621	22-Jun-22	137.10
ROHINI, DELHI [DL]	YOGESH	XXXXXXXXXXXX6340	336050	18-Jun-22	106.60
ROHINI, DELHI [DL]	BHUPINDER SINGH RANDHAWA	XXXXXXXXXXXX5213	269132	30-Mar-22	91.80
ROHINI, DELHI [DL]	BHUPINDER SINGH RANDHAWA	XXXXXXXXXXXX3453	235600	17-May-22	81.50
ROHINI, DELHI [DL]	SANJAY KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX0390	224648	26-Jul-22	81.90
ROHINI, DELHI [DL]	PARAMJIT CHOPRA	XXXXXXXXXXXX3320	160095	17-May-22	71.80
ROHINI, DELHI [DL]	HIMANSHU KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX4600	86294	15-Mar-21	26.50
ROHINI, DELHI [DL]	PREETI GARG	XXXXXXXXXXXX3067	72801	5-Feb-22	28.60
ROHINI, DELHI [DL]	SUSHIL KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX3764	96399	28-Feb-22	33.70
ROHINI, DELHI [DL]	BHUPENDER KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX5761	33903	18-Jun-22	13.40
SECTOR 10A,GURGAON [HR]	ATAUR REHMAN	XXXXXXXXXXXX9065	32399	18-Jun-22	17.75
SECTOR 10A,GURGAON [HR]	ANKIT YADAV	XXXXXXXXXXXX2524	32472	11-Aug-22	11.50
SECTOR 10A,GURGAON [HR]	HARIOM MISHRA	XXXXXXXXXXXX9275	119550	24-Jan-22	47.69
SECTOR 10A,GURGAON [HR]	HARIOM MISHRA	XXXXXXXXXXXX4133	58719.82	28-Jul-22	21.34
SECTOR 14, GURGAON [HR]					
SECTOR 14, GURGAON [HR]	SHRUTI VERMA	XXXXXXXXXXXX7254	361008	26-Jul-22	136.50
SECTOR 14, GURGAON [HR]	VINOD KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX4547	297280	26-Jul-22	103.80
SECTOR 14, GURGAON [HR]	SACHIN	XXXXXXXXXXXX9621	170780	29-Jan-22	58.20
SECTOR 14, GURGAON [HR]	SURENDER KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX6697	152691	17-May-22	55.10
SECTOR 14, GURGAON [HR]	RAMBAHADUR SINGH	XXXXXXXXXXXX6013	147781	6-Aug-22	52.60
SECTOR 14, GURGAON [HR]	RUBBI DEVI	XXXXXXXXXXXX6965	108221	3-Dec-21	38.90
SECTOR 14, GURGAON [HR]	LOKNATH GIRI	XXXXXXXXXXXX5739	51496	18-Jul-22	19.30
SECTOR 14, GURGAON [HR]	PINKI	XXXXXXXXXXXX4678	231742.36	9-Jun-22	83.90
SECTOR 14, GURGAON [HR]	SUMAIYA AHMED	XXXXXXXXXXXX9582	156980.79	26-Jul-22	78.00
SECTOR 16, FARIDABAD [HR]	AMIT BEHL	XXXXXXXXXXXX5344	697588	22-Jul-22	255.30
SECTOR 16, FARIDABAD [HR]	POONAM SINGH	XXXXXXXXXXXX0753	690284	28-Jul-22	210.10
SECTOR 16, FARIDABAD [HR]	DHARMENDER SINGH	XXXXXXXXXXXX9415	468717	22-Jun-21	170.80
SECTOR 16, FARIDABAD [HR]	SUNITA YADAV	XXXXXXXXXXXX1266	439054	12-Aug-21	144.40
SECTOR 16, FARIDABAD [HR]	PRASENIJT DE	XXXXXXXXXXXX6879	343715	26-Jul-22	119.00
SECTOR 16, FARIDABAD [HR]	MUKESH CHAUHAN	XXXXXXXXXXXX6771	36460	21-Apr-22	25.00
SECTOR 16, FARIDABAD [HR]	NITIN JINDAL	XXXXXXXXXXXX1618	224771	22-Jul-22	61.10
SECTOR 16, FARIDABAD [HR]	VINOD KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX3778	192775.86	7-Jan-22	68.50
SECTOR 16, FARIDABAD [HR]	ONKAR PRASAD SHARMA	XXXXXXXXXXXX7473	170576	30-Mar-22	55.20
SECTOR 16, FARIDABAD [HR]					
SECTOR 16, FARIDABAD [HR]	DEEPAK	XXXXXXXXXXXX3254	126068.27	24-Mar-22	62.40
SECTOR 16, FARIDABAD [HR]	NITIN JINDAL	XXXXXXXXXXXX8953	75712	30-Mar-22	30.30
SECTOR 16, FARIDABAD [HR]	PARMOD GUPTA	XXXXXXXXXXXX5808	69674.56	24-Mar-22	28.20
SECTOR 16, FARIDABAD [HR]	GIRRAJ SHARMA	XXXXXXXXXXXX5567	55496	17-May-22	27.70
SECTOR 16, FARIDABAD [HR]	ONKAR PRASAD SHARMA	XXXXXXXXXXXX6848	55300	26-Jul-22	28.60
SHAHDARA, DELHI [DL]	SAYAD SARFARAJ	XXXXXXXXXXXX3042	113588	26-Jul-22	37.30
SHALIMAR BAGH, DELHI [DL]	MANNU KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX2064	6216.27	17-May-22	23.90
SWASTHYA VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	RAVI PAL	XXXXXXXXXXXX7236	237392	22-Jun-22	81.90
SWASTHYA VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	MOHD WASEEM	XXXXXXXXXXXX6658	206426	26-Jul-22	77.20
SWASTHYA VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	PRIYA KUMARI	XXXXXXXXXXXX9640	103150	22-Jun-22	35.60
SWASTHYA VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	NEELAM TIWARI	XXXXXXXXXXXX2189	93263	29-Jan-22	32.30
SWASTHYA VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	ADITYA MORAL	XXXXXXXXXXXX9937	327510.36	6-Aug-22	141.40
SWASTHYA VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	RINA SINGH	XXXXXXXXXXXX5984	177627.5	26-Jul-22	69.10
SWASTHYA VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	ARTI AGGARWAL	XXXXXXXXXXXX8175	134448	22-Jun-22	37.40
TILAK NAGAR, DELHI [DL]	RAJESH KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX1014	891241	30-Apr-21	316.00
TILAK NAGAR, DELHI [DL]	MOHD KALAM	XXXXXXXXXXXX9238	169761	26-Jul-22	67.60
TILAK NAGAR, DELHI [DL]	MUJAMIL	XXXXXXXXXXXX5442	121144	26-Jul-22	40.80
TILAK NAGAR, DELHI [DL]	MUJAMIL	XXXXXXXXXXXX2117	61057	30-Mar-21	22.70
TILAK NAGAR, DELHI [DL]	RANI DEVI	XXXXXXXXXXXX0166	121184	22-Jul-22	44.10
TILAK NAGAR, DELHI [DL]	RUDRADEV PANDEY	XXXXXXXXXXXX4102	19751.27	22-Jul-22	24.10
UTTAM NAGAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	MANAS KUMAR PARIDA	XXXXXXXXXXXX2417	297349	30-Mar-21	106.40
UTTAM NAGAR, NEW DELHI [DL]	ROHIT SODHI	XXXXXXXXXXXX6656	14881.65	18-Jun-22	97.30
VAISHALI, GHAZIABAD [UP]	RAJEEV MEHTA	XXXXXXXXXXXX2548	274672	24-Mar-22	50.50
VAISHALI, GHAZIABAD [UP]	RAJEEV MEHTA	XXXXXXXXXXXX8837	238807	24-Jan-22	49.20
VAISHALI, GHAZIABAD [UP]	RAJAN AHLAWAT	XXXXXXXXXXXX1127	211157	24-Jan-22	88.60
VAISHALI, GHAZIABAD [UP]	KULDIP SINGH SENGAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX4864	98642	26-Jul-22	34.50
VAISHALI, GHAZIABAD [UP]	MOHD AKHLAK	XXXXXXXXXXXX6740	95743	26-Jul-22	35.00
VAISHALI, GHAZIABAD [UP]	VISHAL SAGAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX9862	67362.82	25-Mar-21	20.70
VAISHALI, GHAZIABAD [UP]	ADITYA GANJOO	XXXXXXXXXXXX7864	46977.63	26-Jul-22	14.40
VAISHALI, GHAZIABAD [UP]	RAJAN AHLAWAT	XXXXXXXXXXXX0003	45598	29-Jan-22	16.80
VIKAS PURI, NEW DELHI [DL]	VINIT YADAV	XXXXXXXXXXXX5046	82341.83	18-Jul-22	31.20
AXIS BANK LTD. HAS THE AUTHORITY TO REMOVE ACCOUNT/CHANGE THE AUCTION DATE WITHOUT ANY PRIOR NOTICE. AUCTION WILL BE HELD ONLINE HTTPS://GOLD.SAMIL.IN BETWEEN 12.30 PM TO 3.30 PM.					
FOR DETAILED TERMS AND CONDITIONS, PLEASE LOG INTO GIVEN WEBSITE HTTPS://GOLD.SAMIL.IN					
SD/-					
AUTHORIZED OFFICER,					
AXIS BANK LTD.					

Govt working on electric highways: Nitin Gadkari

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Government is working on developing electric highways powered by solar energy that will facilitate the charging of heavy duty trucks and buses, Union road transport and highways minister Nitin Gadkari said on Monday.

Addressing an event organised by the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce (IACC), Gadkari reiterated that the government wants to develop India's public transport system on electricity.

"The government is strongly encouraging solar and wind energy-based charging mechanisms for electric mobility.

"We are also working on developing electric highways, which will be powered by solar energy and this will facilitate charging of heavy duty trucks and buses while running," he said.

An electric highway generally refers to a road which supplies power to vehicles travelling on it, including through overhead power lines.

Gadkari said that the government is also encouraging toll plazas to be powered by solar energy.

The minister said the road ministry has conducted route optimisation exercises across major corridors and has designed a newer alignment.

Emphasising that a well developed infrastructure enhances economic activities,



creates new businesses and promotes job creation, Gadkari said, "We are constructing 26 greenfield expressways."

With the launch of PM Gati Shakti Master Plan, he said projects will get faster clearance and it would cut down logistic costs.

Stating that both India and the US are natural partners, the minister invited the US private investors to invest in India's logistics, ropeways and cable car sectors.

He informed that around 3 crore trees would be planted along the national highways and the government is adopting tree plantation practices while construction and expansion of highways.

"And till now we have successfully transplanted 27,000 trees in national highways projects," he said

According to Gadkari, the government is formulating a new policy called "Tree Bank" for tree cutting and tree plantation.

As per policy, authorities such as National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), The National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHID-CL) will have to maintain a tree bank account of planting trees during the project development. Gadkari said the government's emphasis has been on creating a sustainable business ecosystem with an inclusive growth model.

He said there is a need to encourage out-of-the-box thought processes and promote creative agenda to weave new pathways.

Stocks rise for 3rd day; Sensex closes above 60,000

Nifty scales 17,900

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Benchmark BSE Sensex rose by about 322 points to close above the 60,000 level on Monday tracking gains in banking, IT and energy stocks amid positive global equities.

Rising for a third straight day, the 30-share barometer closed higher by 321.99 points or 0.54 per cent at a three-week high of 60,115.13.

As many as 21 of the index constituents closed in the green. After a strong opening, the index touched a day's high of 60,284.55 and a low of 59,912.29.

The broader NSE Nifty spurred by 103 points or 0.58 per cent to settle at 17,936.35 points, with 36 of its constituents ending with gains.

In the three-day rally, Sensex advanced 1,086 points, while Nifty gained nearly 312 points.

Foreign fund buying, crude oil prices trading near USD 93 level, and macro data reflecting the strong growth recovery, boosted investor sentiment. Gains in global equity markets also propped up the local equities.

"Domestic economy is witnessing strong vigour and



the same is assisting a steady growth in Indian equities. A 15.5 per cent YoY increase in bank credit during August suggests that the economy is recovering rapidly," Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services said.

Investors were also awaiting key consumer inflation and industrial production data to be released after market hours.

Due to rising food prices, domestic inflation figures are predicted to show a gradual rise from 6.7 per cent in July, which could add volatility in the short-term, Nair said.

Among Sensex stocks, Titan rose the most by 2.39 per cent, followed by Axis Bank, Tech Mahindra and Tata Steel. Gains in RIL, Infosys, TCS, ICICI Bank, Bajaj Finance and L&T aided the rally.

'Indian rupee shown more resilience than other currencies in recent yrs'

PTI ■ LOS ANGELES

Indian rupee has shown more resilience than most of the other currencies in recent years and the compounded average growth rate of depreciation is lower as compared to pre-2014, commerce and industry Minister Piyush Goyal has said.

He also said that exporters should not be dependent on a depreciating rupee and they should stand on their own based on the quality of products and ability to serve the needs of customers in the global markets.

"I do not think there is any comfortable or uncomfortable level for the rupee. Rupee finds its own place. It's a function of several natural factors -- a function of inflation, capital flows and the risk-reward ratio in each country. I am happy that the Indian rupee has shown more resilience than most of the currencies in recent years," Goyal said in a media interaction.

To a query on what could be the comfortable level of the rupee where it does not hurt imports, and make exports competitive, the minister said: "If you look at the Indian rupee solely before 2014, and if you took a CAGR (Compounded Annual Growth Rate) of the rupee depreciation, it was in the range of about 3.25-3.5 per cent. Currently, the Indian rupee is depreciating at about 2.5 per cent CAGR, so there has been a significant improvement in the strength of the Indian rupee."



The Indian rupee was trading at Rs 79.67 to a US dollar in early trade on Monday.

When asked about the European Union's plan to withdraw export benefits under the Generalised Tariff Preference Scheme (GSP), Goyal expressed confidence that Indian exporters will be able to supply significantly on the basis of their strength.

India's exports from sectors such as plastics, stone, machinery and mechanical appliances worth about USD 8 billion to the EU would not be eligible for low- or zero-duty concessions from January 2023 after removal of GSP benefits by the EU.

"We are undertaking free trade agreement negotiations with them (EU). We will focus on that negotiation. I don't think GSP is necessary for expanding trade engagement in any case. It's better to have a FTA with the EU. Without GSP (with the US), our exports have not suffered," he added.

On further expanding

trade with the US, the commerce minister said every sector in America is an opportunity for Indian businesses, given the size and scale of the US market.

The US is a big player in international trade, given the fact that they are looking for massive expansion on technology, he said, adding, "the sky's the limit".

"The potential in the US is to increase our trade from the current USD 159 billion to at least USD 500 billion in the next six to eight years," he added.

Further replying to how Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) would help India narrow the widening trade deficit, Goyal said each pact will help India grow trade with all its partner countries.

"Of course, exports will grow, and there could also be some growth in imports. Ultimately, economic activity grows both ways. So, I am looking at international trade overall, taking a big upswing."

Industrial production grows just 2.4% in July



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India's industrial production rose 2.4 per cent in July, according to the official data released on Monday.

The IIP had grown 11.5 per cent in July 2021.

As per the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO), the manufacturing sector's output grew 3.2 per cent in July 2022.

The mining output contracted 3.3 per cent while power generation increased 2.3 per cent during the same period.

In April 2020, industrial production had contracted 57.3 per cent due to a decline in economic activities in the wake of the lockdown imposed to curb the spread of coronavirus infections.

'India may need up to 28W of additional coal-based power generation capacity by 2032'

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India may need additional up to 28GW of coal-fired power generation capacity by 2032 apart from the 25GW thermal projects that are under construction, said a report by advisory body Central Electricity Authority (CEA).

"It is seen that apart from under construction coal-based capacity of 25GW, the additional coal-based capacity required till 2031-32 may vary from 17 GW to around 28 GW," CEA said in a draft national electricity plan.

The CEA has put up the 'Draft National Electricity Plan (Vol-I Generation)' for feedback of stakeholders on September 8, 2022.

As per the Electricity Act, 2003, CEA has to prepare the National Electricity Plan once in five years. The Act stipulates that CEA, while preparing the National Electricity Plan (NEP), shall publish the draft and invite suggestions and objections thereon from licensees, generating companies and the public. The inputs on the draft can be given latest by December 5, 2022.

It is also seen that the BESS

(Battery Energy Storage System) requirement in 2031-32 is varying from 51GW to 84GW, stated the document.

It also said that in the event of delay in achievement of hydro-based plants, which are in concurred/under construction stage, there is additional requirement of coal of around 4 GW in capacity mix in 2026-27.

In the event of non-availability of the base load nuclear capacity, the (study) model opts for cheaper coal candidates available to provide base load support, it explained.



When the peak demand and energy requirement increases, both the coal-based capacity and storage requirement -- PSS (Pumped Storage Schemes) and BESS -- increases along with marginal increase in hydro-based capacity, it found.

The projected all-India peak electricity demand and electrical energy requirement is 272 GW and 1,874 BU (billion units) for the year 2026-27 and 363 GW and 2,538 BU for the year 2031-32 respectively, as per the preliminary estimates of demand projections, it stated.

Gold futures gain ₹ 79 per 10 gram



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Gold prices on Monday increased by Rs 79 to Rs 50,608 per 10 gram in futures trade as speculators created fresh positions on a firm spot demand.

On the Multi Commodity Exchange, gold contracts for October delivery traded higher by Rs 79 or 0.16 per cent at Rs 50,608 per 10 gram in a business turnover of 10,073 lots.

Fresh positions built up by participants led to the rise in gold prices, analysts said.

Globally, gold was trading 0.17 per cent higher at USD 1,731.60 per ounce in New York.

Rupee rises 2 paise to close at 79.55 against US dollar

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The rupee pared its initial losses and settled 2 paise higher to close at 79.55 (provisional) against the US dollar on Monday, tracking positive domestic equities and foreign fund inflows.

At the interbank forex market, the local unit opened at 79.66 against the greenback. It witnessed an intra-day high of 79.47 and a low of 79.72 during the session.

It finally ended at 79.55, up 2 paise from its previous close of 79.57. The dollar index, which measures the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, fell 0.89 per cent to 108.03.

Brent crude futures, the global oil benchmark, advanced 1.04 per cent to USD 93.81 per barrel.

"Rupee continued to appreciate as the dollar weakened against its major crosses. Market participants remained cautious also ahead of inflation and IIP numbers that will be released on the domestic front,"



said Gaurang Somaiya, Forex & Bullion Analyst, Motilal Oswal Financial Services.

Somaiya further said the expectation is that inflation could remain unchanged compared to the previous month.

"Gains in the currency were led also by a rally in domestic equities. Euro did witness volatility but hawkish central bank statements kept the currency supported at lower levels. We expect the USDINR(Spot) to trade sideways and quote in the range of 79.40 and 80.05," Somaiya said.

On the domestic equity market front, the BSE Sensex ended 321.99 points or 0.54 per cent higher at 60,115.13, while the broader NSE Nifty gained 103.00 points or 0.58 per cent to 17,936.35.

GMRAA announces strategic alliance with Aptech aviation academy

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

With an aim to prepare undergraduate students for careers in airport management and customer service GMR Aviation Academy, the training and education arm of GMR Airports Ltd on Monday announced its strategic alliance with Aptech Aviation Academy. This programme will be known as 'Professional in Airport Management & Customer Service' (PAMCS).

As per the statement released by the GMR Aviation Academy, this employment-driven programme would create job opportunities for undergraduates in various fields such as Airport Ground Staff, Airport ticketing, Passenger service, Airport security, Cabin crew, Airline customer service, Cargo agent, Load control officer, or Cargo attendant.

"The PAMCS aims to provide hands-on and in-depth training in all aspects of airport management and customer service right from grooming to operations," it stated.

BUSINESS BRIEF

FOOD MIN PUSHES FOR WIDE USE OF MILLET PRODUCTS

New Delhi: The Food Ministry on Monday said it has decided to promote millet products like ragi biscuits and cookies in its canteen and all meetings. A directive in this regard has been issued recently in order to promote the consumption of healthy products ahead of the International Year of Millets to be celebrated in 2023. Millets products such as ragi biscuits, cookies, laddoos, baked millet chips etc. As snacks to be served in the meetings. Dosa, idli and vada with millet as the main raw material to be used in the canteens and as far as possible locally available millet-based products should be used, the ministry said in a statement. Ahead of 2023 international year of millets, the Food Ministry has been actively promoting procurement, and consumption of millets in the country.

BLTM TRADE SHOW CONCLUDES

New Delhi: BLTM, the leading trade show on Business, Leisure, Travel and MICE, concluded on September 11. It saw the participation of over 100 exhibitors from four countries and more than 13 Indian States and UTs. St. Petersburg, Russia was the Feature Destination of the show; while Singapore the Feature Country. Goa, Odisha and Gujarat displayed their best as Partner States, and Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh are participating as Feature States.

MOBILITY TIES UP WITH FLIPKART

New Delhi: Electric mobility firm Magenta Mobility has tied up with Flipkart under which it will deploy 400 cargo electric vehicles for the e-commerce company's last-mile transportation in Delhi-NCR, a statement said on Monday. This deployment is over and above the existing fleet that Magenta operates for Flipkart in Bengaluru, it said. Flipkart will utilise Magenta's electric cargo fleets, including the newly launched Mahindra Zor Grand and other select OEMs to accelerate EVs' growth in the last-mile logistics, it added. Pune-based Magenta Mobility operates an electric fleet of over 500 vehicles in Bengaluru, Hyderabad, and Mumbai, catering to e-commerce, grocery delivery, FMCG, food and pharmaceuticals.

MATERIALS TIES WITH GRAVTON MOTORS

New Delhi: Advanced battery technology startup Log9 Materials has inked a strategic collaboration with Hyderabad-headquartered EV manufacturer Gravton Motors for chaggrinning technology. Under the long-term partnership, Gravton will roll out an electric bike, Gravton RapidEV for the last mile-logistics and delivery segment, which will be powered by Log9's InstaCharge battery technology, the company said.

Industrial production data to be released on Monday



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The government will on Monday evening release the keenly-watched factory output data for the month of July. The factory output measured in terms of Index of Industrial Production (IIP) grew 12.3 per cent in June this year, remaining in double digit for second month in a row due to base effect.

Industrial production grew by 13 per cent in August last year. Thereafter, the IIP growth remained below 4.4 per cent (in September) and touched the lowest level of 1 per cent in November as well as December last year.

The IIP growth was 2 per cent in January, 1.2 per cent in February and 2.2 per cent in March.

The industrial output growth picked pace at 6.7 per cent in April, the first month of current fiscal year 2022-23 and touched double digit at 19.6 per cent in May 2022.

The IIP growth was recorded at 27.6 per cent in May last year, mainly due to the low-base effect.

This macroeconomic data is important for policymakers as it showcases the current state of manufacturing, mining and other important sectors.

Releasing the IIP data for June last month, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation had said the growth rates over corresponding period of previous year are to be interpreted considering the unusual circumstances on account of the pandemic since March 2020.

Crude Oil futures decline on low demand

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Crude oil futures on Monday declined by 0.1 per cent to Rs 6,902 per barrel as participants trimmed their positions on low demand.

On the Multi Commodity Exchange, crude oil for September delivery fell by Rs 7 or 0.1 per cent to Rs 6,902 per barrel with a business volume of 8,746 lots. Globally, West Texas Intermediate crude oil was trading 0.61 per cent lower at USD 86.26 per barrel, and Brent crude was down by 0.42 per cent to USD 92.45 per barrel in New York.

Skoda Auto Volkswagen India begins export of Virtus sedan

PTI ■ MUMBAI

European carmaker Skoda Auto Volkswagen India has expanded its export portfolio from India with the inclusion of mid-sized Virtus sedan, the company said on Monday.

It said as many as 3,000 units of the vehicle are being shipped out from India to Mexico in the first phase of Virtus exports.

Skoda Auto Volkswagen commenced vehicle exports from India in 2011 with 6,256 units of the India-built Vento for the South African market. Virtus is the second prod-



uct under the Group's India 2.0 project that is developed on the MQB-A0-IN platform with up to 95 per cent localisation level.

Taigun was the first in a range of vehicles built on the MQB-A0-IN platform, to be exported from India, it stated.

The first shipment of 3,000 Volkswagen Virtus cars is being sent to Mexico from the port of Mumbai.

Skoda Auto Volkswagen

BIS comes out with handbook on safety in electrical installations, simplified version of NBC 2016

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has come out with a handbook in a bid to create awareness about electrical safety and provide technical guidance for wiring installations in buildings.

It has also simplified a technical document on National Building Code of India 2016 (NBC 2016) in

which all provisions relating to planning, design, construction and operation and maintenance of buildings are covered.

That apart, the BIS has come out with three pamphlets for creating awareness among general public about their rights and duties while constructing their own home or buying one from a builder are also developed.

The handbook and pam-

phlets were released by food and consumer affairs minister Piyush Goyal during the fourth Governing Council Meeting of BIS recently, an official statement said.

The handbook on 'Safety in Electrical Installations' -- jointly developed by BIS and International Cooper Association (ICA) India -- will help electrical engineers and technicians to understand the

basic need and procedure for safe and reliable electrical low-voltage installations.

In order to promote the use of NBC 2016, the simplified guide for using the Code has been brought out by BIS for all stakeholders like academicians, students, building authorities, builders, and most importantly building professionals like architects, engineers, plumbers, etc.

THERE'S A NEW KID ON TOP

Alcaraz wins US Open and becomes youngest world number one

AP ■ NEW YORK

Spanish teenager Carlos Alcaraz claimed his maiden Grand Slam title at the US Open on Sunday and became the youngest man to ascend to the world number one ranking.

The 19-year-old dragged his weary body to a 6-4, 2-6, 7-6 (7/1), 6-3 victory over Norway's Casper Ruud in the final.

Alcaraz, the first teenager to claim the top ranking, is the youngest Grand Slam men's champion since Rafael Nadal at the 2005 French Open after a performance which yielded 55 winners and 14 aces.

On a day of landmarks, he is also the youngest champion in New York since Pete Sampras in 1990.

"This is something that I dreamt of since I was a kid -- to be number one in the world, to be a champion of a Grand Slam," said Alcaraz.

"This is something that I worked really really hard for. It's tough to talk right now, a lot of emotions.

"This is something that I tried to achieve, all the hard work that I did with my team and my family. I'm just 19 and all the top decisions were taken by my parents and my team. This is something that is really, really special for me."

It was a gruelling tournament for Alcaraz who also claimed the record for most time spent on court at a single Grand Slam event, passing the 23 hours and 21 minutes it took Kevin Anderson to finish runner-up at



Wimbledon in 2018.

Most of his 23 hours and 40 minutes were taken up by the more than 13 hours it took him to play three successive five-setters to reach the final.

He had to save a match point in his five-hour 15-minute quarter-final win over Jannik Sinner.

Nadal was quick to congratulate the player widely seen as his heir apparent.

"Congratulations @carlosalcaraz for your first Grand Slam and for number 1, which is the culmination of your great season, which I am sure will be many more," tweeted the 22-

time Slam title winner.

Defeat for Ruud, who was also vying for the world number one ranking, was his second in a Slam final this year after he was routed by Nadal in the French Open.

"Today was a special evening for both Carlos and I. We knew what was at stake, and I think it's fitting both finalists will be number one and number two in the world," said Ruud.

"I'm happy with that number and I will continue to chase that ranking and my first Grand Slam."

With the roof closed, the Arthur Ashe Stadium crowd

observed a moving moment's silence on the 21st anniversary of the September 11 attacks before the final got off to a tentative start.

RUUD SPORTSMANSHIP

Both men saved break points in their opening service games before Alcaraz gained the only break of the first set for a key 3-1 lead.

Ruud dropped the set but triumphed in terms of sportsmanship when he called a double bounce on himself in the eighth game, conceding the point to the Spaniard.

Alcaraz served it out to

love and a one set lead courtesy of his 13 winners to six for the Norwegian.

The Spanish teenager, who went into the final with a 2-0 winning record over Ruud, squandered a break point at 2-2 in the second set.

Ruud made him pay, edging ahead for 4-2 and then levelling the final on a second set point after another careless Alcaraz drop-shot opened the court invitingly for the Norwegian.

At that moment, Alcaraz had been on court at the tournament for almost 22 hours, passing the mark set by Andy Murray when the Briton claimed the 2012 title.

He was ahead for 2-0 in the third set before Ruud hit back.

The 23-year-old Norwegian had two set points in an 11-minute 12th game but was unable to convert as Alcaraz put away inch-perfect, back-to-back volleys.

Alcaraz made the most of his reprieve, racing through to his first tiebreak success of the tournament as Ruud's game fell suddenly apart.

The Spaniard sensed his chance, breaking for 4-2 in the fourth set before taking his aces count to 12 to lead 5-2.

Ruud held to love but Alcaraz claimed his slice of history on a second match point before collapsing to the court in celebration.

Ruud salutes 'hard nut' Alcaraz

AP ■ NEW YORK

Casper Ruud saluted Carlos Alcaraz as a deserving world number one after the Spanish teenager swept to the top of the global rankings with his US Open victory on Sunday.

Ruud, who leapt up to second in the rankings following his 6-4, 2-6, 7-6 (7/1), 6-3 defeat, had no complaints following the loss against a player he described as a "hard nut to crack."

"He's riding that wave," the

23-year-old Norwegian said of Alcaraz.

"At the moment he's the best player in the world in my eyes. He deserves that spot.

"He's one of these few rare talents that comes up every now and then in sports. That's what it seems like."

Ruud said Alcaraz's formidable combination of speed around the court and flexibility in making shots from improbable positions were reminiscent of Rafael Nadal, Roger Federer and Novak Djokovic.



"He's very fast. He's very quick. He's a great mover. He

can get to balls that we've probably never seen before," Ruud said.

"Carlos has sort of a mixture ... He's fast, flexible. He can slide around. It's impressive. He's a hard nut to crack."

Alcaraz's achievements were all the more impressive given he was still only 19-years-old, Ruud added.

"It's sometimes hard to believe he's only a teenager," he said. "But, yeah, he is. He's more than four years younger than myself. It's incredible."



India book spot in SAFF U-17 C'ship final

PTI ■ COLOMBO

India defeated Bangladesh 2-1 in the SAFF U-17 Championship semifinal here on Monday to book their spot in the summit clash.

Striker Thangalsoun Gangte (51st, 59th) netted a second-half brace to win the match for India. Bangladesh pulled one back through a Mirajul Islam penalty in the 62nd minute.

Both teams created several chances in the first half, which were wasted.

The only real chance of the half fell India's way, but the Blue Colts failed to make it count.

In the 16th minute, Korou Singh sent in a cross from the right for Gangte who managed to shoulder his marker in the box. But even with rival goalkeeper Sohanur Rahaman caught in the net, he failed to direct his header into the net.

India came out after the change of ends with all the impetus, and soon took the lead.

The Blue Colts surged into the lead five minutes after the resumption as striker Gangte, who was lurking around the opposition box, received it just outside the area, and even as the jungle of legs tried to close him down, the striker delectably finished it to the right of the goalkeeper.

The lead was doubled seven minutes later off a brilliant counter-attack. The Indian defenders thwarted a rival attack inside the box, and the counter-attack down the right caught Bangladesh unaware. Eventually, Vanlalpeka Guite sent it into the box and Gangte made no mistake to tap it in.

However, Bangladesh pulled one back just a few minutes later, after they were awarded a penalty for a soft foul. Striker Mirajul stepped up to the spot and sent Indian keeper Sahil the wrong way, scoring his side's only goal of the match.

PTI ■ BENGALURU

Veteran India hockey goalkeeper PR Sreejesh feels their opening two FIH Pro League matches against ever-improving Spain will be a "mock test" ahead of the World Cup to be held early next year in Bhubaneswar and Rourkela.

India are set to host the men's World Cup from January 13 to 29 next year.

But before the marquee event, India will host world No.8 Spain on October 30 and November 6 in their first tie of the upcoming FIH Pro League 2022-23 at the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar.

"FIH Hockey Pro League is the best platform for us because we get to play against some of the top teams. The upcoming matches at home will be like a mock test for us, it will help us for the real challenge which we will face in January 2023," Sreejesh said in a Hockey India release.

"It will also help us in providing young players the experience of playing high-level hockey. So, it's a great opportunity for us as it will sort of help us set the tempo for the World Cup."



Marijne writes book on Indian women's hockey turnaround in 2020 Olympics

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Former Indian women's hockey coach Sjoerd Marijne is set to turn author with his upcoming book, "Will Power", sharing the inside story of the team's incredible turnaround at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

The book, published by HarperCollins India, will hit the stands on September 21. It is touted to be a moving tale

about a team with zero self-belief and its quest to rise from the pits to achieve a fourth-place finish — its best ever performance in the Olympics.

When Marijne was appointed the chief coach of the women's team in 2017, India were laggards in world hockey. Four and a half years later — and despite his seeing stint as the coach — he turned the team's fortunes around and made them a

force to be reckoned with, globally.

"Every individual, team or organization has a dream about they would like to achieve. The Indian women's hockey team also had a dream and that was to win a medal at the Tokyo Olympics 2020. In 'Will Power', I describe the journey we embarked on as a team and I, personally, as a coach," said the 48-year-old Marijne in a statement.

Striker Diego Costa back in PL at Wolves

WOLVERHAMPTON: Former Spain striker Diego Costa joined Wolverhampton on a free transfer on Monday, securing a surprising return to English football for one of the most hot-headed and confrontational players in Premier League history.

Costa is well known in England from his spell at Chelsea from 2014-17, during which he won two Premier League titles, but hasn't played since terminating his contract at Brazilian team Atlético Mineiro in January. In between, he played for Atlético Madrid.

Wolves turned to the 33-year-old Costa after Sasa Kalajdzic, who joined in the final week of the transfer window, damaged his anterior cruciate ligament on his debut against Southampton on September 3.

Costa, who has signed a deal until the end of the season, said he will need "two to three weeks to get back in shape" but feels "physically and mentally ready for this new challenge." "What they can expect from me," Costa said in a message to Wolves fans, "is dedication, willingness, discipline and goals which is what I will try to bring to the team to thank for all the support and all the trust." **AP**

Juve held by Salernitana after VAR controversy

AP ■ TURIN

Juventus came back from two goals down at half-time to draw an incident-packed match with Salernitana 2-2 on Sunday.

Massimiliano Allegri's Juve drew for the fourth time this season but the point shared doesn't tell the story of a match which ended with four red cards being shown after Arkadiusz Milik's last-gasp winner was ruled out following a VAR check.

The Poland striker sent the Allianz Stadium into raptures with a glancing header five minutes into stoppage time, but the goal was chalked off for Leonardo Bonucci being offside and interfering with play.

Bonucci had levelled on the rebound from his own missed penalty just two minutes previously to set up a grandstand finish which ended in farce.

Milik was given a second yellow card for removing his shirt after scoring what he thought was the decisive goal and then Juan Cuadrado, Salernitana defender Federico Fazio and



Allegri were all sent off as tensions flared on the sidelines.

Allegri later asked to see footage which featured Antonio Candreva, who was near the corner flag and appeared to be playing everyone aside.

"We haven't seen that video, what if he keeps everyone outside? We don't have that video, nobody has it, so I don't know," he said on DAZN.

A match that ended in chaos began with Salernitana putting in a superb opening 45 minutes which had them two goals to the good through Candreva's tap-in and a Krzysztof Piatek penalty on the stroke of half-time.

Davide Nicola's side pulled off a survival miracle on the final day of last season and have got off to a promising start this term.

Salernitana are 10th on seven points, three behind unbeaten Juve who are struggling with injuries and form in the early part of the season.

Their first ever point at Juve was the fourth draw in six games so far in the new campaign.

Arsenal's Europa League clash with PSV postponed

AP ■ LONDON

Arsenal's Europa League clash with PSV Eindhoven on Thursday has been postponed due to a lack of police resources in the wake of Queen Elizabeth II's death last week. A huge police operation is required in London this week with the queen to lie in state between Wednesday and her funeral on Monday, September 19.

"The UEFA Europa League tie between Arsenal FC and PSV Eindhoven, originally to be played on Thursday 15 September, has been postponed with a new date to be communicated in due course," UEFA said in a statement on Monday.

Unnati, Anupama to lead Indian challenge in Jr World C'ships

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Newly-crowned junior world no.1 Anupama Upadhyaya and Odisha Open Super 100 champion Unnati Hooda will lead India's challenge at the BWF World Junior Badminton Championships to be held at Santander, Spain from October 17-30. The Indian team for the prestigious tournament, to be held after a gap of two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic, was picked after a thorough selection process that included two All India Ranking tournaments and a selection trial in Raipur.

Unnati had topped the girls singles trials with S Rakshita Sree and Anupama finishing second and third respectively.

In-form Bharat Raghav, who won both the All Indian



ranking titles in Goa and Panchkula and former junior world No.1 Sankar Muthusamy, will be India's best bet in the boy's singles category with Ayush Shetty completing the line up.

India has so far won one gold, three silver and five bronze medals in the competition with reigning Commonwealth Games gold medallist Lakshya Sen being the last Indian to

stand on the podium by bagging a bronze in 2018. The event will start with the mixed team event.

India will also field two pairs each in the men's and women's doubles and mixed doubles events.

The new combination of Arsh Mohammad and Abhinav Thakur along with Nicholas Nathan Raj and Tushar Suver will shoulder the men's doubles responsibility.



BUMRAH, HARSHAL BACK FOR T20 WORLD CUP

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Fit-again pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah and death overs specialist Harshal Patel were back as the national selection committee didn't spring any surprise in the 15-man India squad for the upcoming T20 World Cup in Australia starting October 16.

India will play their first match against Pakistan at the MCG on October 23.

Bumrah, who was suffering from back injury and Harshal, who had a side strain, had done an intense rehabilitation programme at the National Cricket Academy and the BCCI medical team has deemed them fit for the marquee series.

The two players, who missed out on World Cup berth were pacer Avesh Khan and leg-spinner Ravi Bishnoi, who was picked by senior off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin.

Once Harshal was fit and available, there was very little chance for Avesh to make a cut especially with a death overs economy rate of 18 in recent times.

If there was one player who would feel hard done by, it would be young Bishnoi as he was fantastic against Pakistan in the Super 4s game of the Asia

Cup where he had outshone senior wrist spinner Yuzvendra Chahal.

While Chahal was an automatic choice but Bishnoi's fight was always for the third spinner's slot with veteran Ravichandran Ashwin.

Obviously, two leg-spinners wouldn't have added variations but Ashwin's presence on big Australian grounds and his ability to take the ball away from the left-handers got precedence.

Pakistan, South Africa and Sri Lanka (likely Qualifier in India's group) all have a couple of left-handers in top five and if Ashwin is played, he can exploit that advantage.

The batting unit, which hasn't performed up to expectations on big days more or less remained the same and in fact there aren't any new faces from the last T20 World Cup squad save Deepak Hooda, who won't always be an automatic first XI player.

The Rohit Sharma inter-view of Virat Kohli was a clear indicator that there won't be any change in top three and the only debate that remains unsolved is whether Dinesh Karthik will play or Rishabh Pant, who is the only specialist left-hander in the top-order with Ravindra Jadeja ruled out

for indefinite period.

SHAMI BACK IN T20 MIX

Veteran pacer Mohammed Shami was back in the T20 scheme of things as he has been picked for the T20 series versus Australia and South Africa prior to the big event and is also among the four stand-bys who will travel Down Under.

The other three reserve players are Shreyas Iyer, Bishnoi and seamer Deepak Chahar.

Shami wasn't directly picked for the World T20 as he hasn't played any cricket after England series and the upcoming six T20Is will give Rahul Dravid and Rohit Sharma chance to check out his rhythm and bowling at the death.

Hardik Pandya, Arshdeep Singh and Bhuvneshwar Kumar will be reporting to the NCA for workload management and conditioning work during the course of the home series against Australia and South Africa.

Bhuvneshwar will miss the South Africa series while Hardik and Arshdeep will skip the Australia series beginning September 20.

SQUADS

For World Cup: Rohit Sharma (Captain), KL Rahul (vice-captain), Virat Kohli, Suryakumar

Yadav, Deepak Hooda, Rishabh Pant (wicket-keeper), Dinesh Karthik (wicket-keeper), Hardik Pandya, R. Ashwin, Yuzvendra Chahal, Axar Patel, Jasprit Bumrah, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Harshal Patel, Arshdeep Singh.

Standby players - Mohd. Shami, Shreyas Iyer, Ravi Bishnoi, Deepak Chahar.

For Australia T20Is: Rohit Sharma (Captain), KL Rahul (vice-captain), Virat Kohli, Suryakumar Yadav, Deepak Hooda, Rishabh Pant (wicket-keeper), Dinesh Karthik (wicket-keeper), Hardik Pandya, R. Ashwin, Yuzvendra Chahal, Axar Patel, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Mohd. Shami, Harshal Patel, Deepak Chahar, Jasprit Bumrah.

'SHAMI FOR HARSHAL'

Former India captain Kris Srikkanth on Monday said experienced pacer Mohammad Shami should have been a part of the 15-member squad for the

upcoming T20 World Cup, even if that meant leaving out Harshal Patel.

The T20 showpiece will be held in Australia in October-November.

Fit-again pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah and death overs specialist Harshal were back as the national selection committee didn't spring any surprise in the India squad.

Speaking on Star Sports show 'FOLLOW THE BLUES' post the squad announcement, the ex-chairman of selection committee said, "If I was the chairman of the selection committee, Shami is definitely in the team. "We are playing in Australia, the guy's got the real action, the guy's got bounce, he can bare the moment and he can get on early wickets, so I would have probably got Shami instead of Harshal Patel."

Srikkanth, a dashing opener in his playing days, added, "Yes, Harshal Patel is a good bowler, no doubt about it, but Mohammad Shami is the right guy."

"I mean they can say not the scheme of things, he's only for Test cricket or one day cricket but we are playing in Australia. That guy has done well last IPL, so Shami is the must in my team."

India look for improved batting effort in must-win tie

Mandhana considering pulling out of WBBL to manage workload

PTI ■ DERBY

India vice-captain Smriti Mandhana is considering pulling out of the Women's Big Bash League to manage her workload, allowing her to be in top shape for national duty.

Mandhana has been on the road since February when India played a bilateral series against New Zealand ahead of the ODI World Cup. After the Commonwealth Games last month, the southpaw stayed back in the UK for the Hundred and is now part of the bilateral series against hosts England.

"I think more than the mental part, it's about managing a little bit of physical part," Mandhana said in a virtual media interaction ahead of the second T20.

"Definitely, I'll be thinking about pulling out of WBBL because I don't want to miss out on playing for India or having any niggles when I play for India because I want to give my 100% when I play international cricket. So definitely, I'll be thinking about playing or pulling out of Big Bash."

India's women cricketers did not

play for 12 months during the COVID-19 pandemic. Mandhana, however, has no issues with the busier schedule that she is having to deal with.

"I have been on the road for a while now. Post the one-day World Cup, I have been on the road with the domestic and the tournaments you mentioned (the Sri Lanka tour, the Commonwealth Games, the Women's Hundred).

"I just try to tell myself that because of Covid we haven't really played a lot of cricket and we really hoped that we came back and start playing cricket."

"And now, I can't be complaining that we have a lot of cricket on the platter. As a woman player we always wanted this sort of schedule for us."

"I'm really happy to be playing so much cricket and I've had my family over, like my mom is over here and she was here for the Hundred as well. So that also helps to be in a good mindset and the team-mates have been just amazing. It feels like we're a family together."



PTI ■ BRISTOL

After an underwhelming performance in the series opener against England, the Indian women's cricket team will be eyeing a much improved batting effort in the second T20 here on Tuesday.

The first game at Chester-Le-Street saw the Indian batters coming a cropper against the English bowlers.

"We discussed a few things after the first game. We obviously

didn't play the brand of cricket we played over the last few months."

"We really need to match the standards of what we have achieved in the past. It was a bit disappointing but it was just another bad day," said opener Smriti Mandhana in pre-match press conference.

Smriti reiterated on what skipper Harmanpreet Kaur had to say after the loss in the first game on the unfit conditions at Chester-Le-Street but admitted

that the team really need to improve its batting especially in the middle overs.

"Yes, the conditions were not that good in the first game and there were patches on the outfield too. But, we won't use it as an excuse."

"We need to improve our batting between the 12th and 18th over. That is something we haven't done in the first game."

Smriti admitted that an insipid approach from the Indian batters resulted in a

disappointing performance and the aim is to put the score around 160 to 170 if they are to beat a quality side.

"Given the standard of T20 cricket these days, we have to score somewhere around 160 to 170 to be on the safer side. But that also depends on the nature of the wicket," Smriti said.

"Post the CWG, I feel it is Harman, Jemimah or my responsibility to take the team through in the 20 overs. But, given it is T20 cricket, we have

introduced the likes of Hemalatha and Kiran into the mix. But, you have to give them time to perform to get to that level," she added.

Radha Yadav, whose diving effort in the second over of England's chase in the first game resulted in a shoulder injury, seems to be doubtful for the second game.

The 23-year-old left the field in pain and her departure also meant India were a bowler short.

Rajapaksa dedicates Asia Cup title to 'crisis-hit' SL

PTI ■ DUBAI

Sri Lanka's Asia Cup winning hero Bhanuka Rajapaksa, whose stellar show with the bat played a pivotal role in his side's sensational Asia Cup victory, has dedicated the title to his crisis-hit island nation.

Batting first, Sri Lanka were reduced to 67 for 5, but made a brilliant turnaround riding on Rajapaksa (71 off 45 balls) and Wanindu Hasaranga (36 off 21 balls) to reach a competitive 170 for 6.

"We always wanted to show the world - a couple of decades back, we had aggression in our side, and we wanted to create those moments (again) as a unit," a beaming Rajapaksa said at the post match press conference.

"Looking forward, we want to keep up this momentum ahead of the World Cup. With the crisis happening back home, this is a tough time for all the Sri Lankans, but hope we brought some smiles on the faces of our people."

"This is to the whole nation; they were waiting for this for so long," a smiling Rajapaksa added.

Sri Lanka clinched the much-needed Asia Cup title in the backdrop of the country's worst economic crisis coupled with political unrest.

Sitting beside Rajapaksa was Sri Lanka's captain Dasun Shanaka and the 31-year-old praised his teammates for responding so well throughout the tournament despite losing to Afghanistan in their tournament opener.

"After that first loss, we



had a serious discussion," Shanaka said.

"We knew we had the talent, but it was about applying those in game scenarios and all the players stood up. It's the environment we created as a team and coaching staff that has paid off," he added.

The Sri Lankan skipper also had a message for the fans back home following the title win.

"Believe in our cricketers. A lot of bad things are going around. As cricketers, they too should enjoy their lives as well,

not spreading bad things. They have private lives too. Keep believing, that is the key. As a captain, I give confidence to the players, (whatever) I can. I can't ask more than that," Shanaka said.

Shanaka further said that the Asia Cup win could be a stepping stone for greater things to come for Sri Lanka cricket, which is going through a transition phase for a long time. "Even two-three years back, the team used to play good cricket, but the winning factor wasn't there," he said.

Raza, McGrath win ICC Player of Month for Aug

PTI ■ DUBAI

India's Jemimah Rodrigues missed out as Australia's Tahlia McGrath and Zimbabwe's Sikandar Raza were named as ICC Player of the Month for August following their outstanding international performances in their respective categories.

Rodrigues was nominated for the award in the women's category, which also featured Commonwealth Games gold medal-winning Australian duo of Beth Mooney and Tahlia McGrath.

However, McGrath became the latest Australian star to win the ICC Women's Player of the Month award after helping her country claim the Commonwealth gold in Birmingham.

Following in the footsteps of Alyssa Healy, who claimed the award in April, McGrath amassed 114 runs at an average of 57 dur-

ing the month, together with five wickets at 13.40.

Amongst a series of strong displays, undoubtedly her star performance came in the victory over Pakistan, where McGrath scored an unbeaten 78, before her three wickets and a run out helped maintain her side's unbeaten path marks in their respective categories.

Raza, on the other hand, became the first Zimbabwe international to win the award among men.

On his way, the 36-year-old overcame leading all-rounders Mitchell Santner of New Zealand and England's Ben Stokes who also starred during an action-packed month of men's cricket.

"I'm incredibly humbled and honoured to have won the ICC Men's Player of the Month award from the ICC. It's even more humbling being the first Zimbabwean to ever win the award," he said in an ICC release.

"I would like to thank every-

body who has been in the changing room with me over the past three to four months, namely the technical staff and the players. Without them this would not have been possible."

Raza produced an unforgettable series of scores against Bangladesh and India in Harare across two ODI series.

The all-rounder struck two magnificent unbeaten centuries (135 not out and 117 not out) during the historic 2-1 series victory over Bangladesh, on both occasions securing win for his side in dramatic fashion while chasing big targets.

He scored another memorable century against India later in the month, albeit in a defeat, continuing his sensational form shown throughout 2022.

In addition to his exploits at the crease, Raza also highlighted his bowling threat in the shorter format, taking seven wickets during the month.

Eng beat SA by 9 wickets, seal series

AP ■ LONDON

England thrashed South Africa by nine wickets in the third and deciding Test at the Oval on Monday, completing a 2-1 series win in just over two days of action.

The home side, who resumed on 97-0, needed just 5.3 more overs to reach a victory target of 130. Zak Crawley was 69 not out and Ollie Pope unbeaten on 11.

England have now won six of their seven Tests under their new leadership pairing of captain Ben Stokes and coach Brendon McCullum, having managed just one victory in their previous 17 matches when former skipper Joe Root was in charge.

"I'm delighted," said Stokes. "It's been a great series for us as a team. It has been one of those series where we haven't had many individual standout performances, but different people have put their hand up for us throughout and that's what you want in team sport."

"You want to be able to turn to people at key times and break the game open with either bat or ball and that's what we've had throughout."



Defeat means South Africa have suffered their first Test series loss since Dean Elgar took over as captain last year.

England resumed just 33 runs shy of their target after the umpires had halted play on Sunday because of bad light to the disappointment of a capacity crowd.

Alex Lees was 32 not out and Zak

Crawley 57 not out -- his first fifty in 17 Test innings -- when play started Monday under sunny skies but in front of a handful of spectators, who had been let in for free.

Lees, having added just two to his overnight score, was dropped off the third ball of the day when he edged Kagiso Rabada, only for diving wicketkeeper Kyle Verreynne to floor the

chance.

The batsman's luck ran out, however, when he was lbw on review to Rabada for 39, with South Africa at least spared the embarrassment of a 10-wicket defeat.

Crawley hit the winning runs when he punched left-arm quick Marco Jansen through the covers for four -- the 12th boundary of his innings.