

CITY 2
COMPLETE VINDHYA CORRIDOR
WORKS ON TIME: YOGI

NATION 6
NITISH, LALU TO MEET
SONIA TODAY

SPORT 7
INDIA WHITEWASH ENGLAND
IN JHULAN'S LAST WALTZ

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Ankita murder fury engulfs U'khand

Protesters set resort on fire; BJP expels accused's father and former Min from party

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Public anger over the murder of 19-year-old Ankita Bhandari in Uttarakhand led local residents on Saturday to set part of the resort run by main accused Pulkit Arya, son of a BJP leader and former State Minister level position holder Vinod Arya, on fire after the Government earlier started demolishing it late on Friday.

Enraged over the development, residents also damaged the vehicle of BJP's Yamkeshwar MLA Renu Bisht when she reached All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Rishikesh after Ankita's body, recovered from Chilla canal early on Saturday morning on the seventh day after she was reported missing, was brought there for post mortem.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami ordered a probe by a Special Investigation Team (SIT) while the BJP expelled the former



An illegally built resort of Ankita murder accused Pulkit Arya after it was partially demolished by authorities overnight, in Pauri Garhwal district on Saturday PTI

State Minister Vinod Arya and Ankit Arya, brother of main accused Pulkit, from the party with immediate effect. On Dhami's instructions, Ankit was also removed from the post of nominated vice chairman of OBC commission.

The State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) personnel had started searching for Ankita's body on Friday after learning from the accused about the location where she was thrown into the canal. The personnel found her body early on Saturday morning. The body was taken to AIIMS

Rishikesh where a number of protesters had gathered demanding the death penalty for the perpetrators of the crime.

Bisht reached the institute only to be greeted by slogans by the irate crowd with one of the people also breaking the rear window of her SUV.

Meanwhile, Director General of Police Ashok Kumar in a telephonic talks with the father of the victim assured him of all possible action to ensure that the perpetrators receive the death sentence.

Continued on Page 6

C'garh varsity video leak: Soldier held for blackmailing accused girl student

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

The Punjab Police on Saturday arrested an Army personnel posted in Arunachal Pradesh in connection with the Chandigarh University case, in which it was alleged that a hostel inmate recorded several objectionable videos of girl students in the common wash-room, Director General of Police (DGP) Punjab Gaurav Yadav said on Saturday.

The police had earlier arrested a girl student and two men from Himachal Pradesh. Identified as Sanjeev Singh, he is suspected of blackmailing the accused girl student.

Yadav said based on forensic and digital evidence, the police team from SAS Nagar was dispatched to Arunachal Pradesh to arrest the accused.

He said the accused Army personnel was arrested from Sela Pass in Arunachal Pradesh with the support of Arunachal Pradesh Police, Assam Police and Army authorities in Arunachal Pradesh. The police have also obtained a 2-day transit remand of the accused from the Court of Chief Judicial Magistrate (CJM) Bomdila to produce him before the Magistrate, he added.

During the ongoing probe by the Punjab Police, it is revealed that a serving Army soldier is likely to have been involved in acts chargeable under sections of the IPC and IT Act, an Army official said.

Continued on Page 6

CBI raids 59 spots in biggest crackdown on child porn in India

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In its biggest crackdown on child pornography, the CBI on Saturday carried out searches at 59 locations in 21 States and Union Territories in connection with two cases of circulation of online child sexual abuse material (OCSAM). The raids were part of the operation "Megha Chakra".

Dubbing "Megha Chakra" a painstaking and meticulous operation, the agency said it conducted nationwide searches at around 59 locations, including Faridabad and Fatehabad (Haryana); Dehradun (Uttarakhand); Kachh, Lunavada, Rajkot and Godhra (Gujarat); Maharaigan, Hathras and Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh); Bardhaman and Murshidabad (West Bengal); Mumbai, Pune, Nashik, Thane, Nanded, Solapur, Kolhapur and Nagpur (Maharashtra); Dhanbad and Ranchi (Jharkhand); Chittoor and Krishna (Andhra Pradesh); Bengaluru, Kodagu, Ram Nagar and Kolar (Karnataka); Raipur (Chhattisgarh), and New Delhi, the CBI said in a statement.

Likewise, the CBI also conducted the searches at Chelakkara and Mallapuram (Kerala); Dindigul (Madurai); Gurdaspur and Hosiarpur (Punjab); Chennai; Goa;



Hyderabad; Ajmer and Jaipur (Rajasthan); Cuddalore (Tamil Nadu); Guwahati, Dhimaji (Assam); Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh); Saran and Bhagalpur (Bihar); Agartala (Tripura); and Mandi (Himachal Pradesh) in two cases related to downloading/circulation of child sexual abuse material (CSAM).

The CBI has registered two cases under relevant provisions of the Information Technology Act based on information received from the Crime Against Children (CAC) unit of Interpol, Singapore, which had received the same from New Zealand police for sharing with the relevant country, the CBI said.

"It was alleged that a number of Indian citizens were involved in circulation/downloading/transmission of child sexual abuse material using cloud-based storage.

Continued on Page 6

6 months of Yogi govt 2.0 devoted to fulfilling lok kalyan sankalp

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The first six months of the Yogi government 2.0 have been devoted to fulfilling the resolutions made in the Bharatiya Janata Party's Lok Kalyan Sankalp Patra which includes providing employment to the youth, making the state's infrastructure investment-friendly and working towards achieving the goal of a one-trillion dollar economy.

The performance of the government is impressive as it has cracked down on mafias and criminals.

In these six months, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath not only laid the foundation stones of schemes and inaugurated projects but also reviewed progress being made in projects from time to time, so that no scheme was buried in government files and people got their benefits with complete transparency.

The network of expressways spread over 1,225 kilometres in Uttar Pradesh has not only made travel easier and faster but is also leading to development of industrial hubs on both sides of the expressways, giving impetus to the development of the state.

The government is also working on having six new expressways in future. The Yogi government has also fast tracked its efforts to enhance

Continued on Page 6

CAPSULE

INDIA SLAMS PAK FOR KASHMIR RANT AT UNGA

New Delhi: Taking exception to Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's comments on Kashmir in the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), India on Saturday charged him with efforts to "obfuscate misdeeds in his own country and justify actions against India." New Delhi also blamed Islamabad for sponsoring cross-border terrorism.

INDIA 'STALLED' DURING UPA ERA: NR MURTHY

Ahmedabad: N R Narayana Murthy, co-founder of IT giant Infosys, has lamented that economic activities in India were "stalled" and decisions were not taken by the Manmohan Singh government in time in the Congress-led UPA era.

GUV SEEKS TO REMIND CM MANN OF HIS DUTIES

Chandigarh/New Delhi: The tussle between Punjab Governor Banwarilal Purohit and the State's AAP Government over the convening of the Assembly session escalated further on Saturday with the former seeking to remind Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann of his duties.

JHULAN BIDS ADIEU, GIVEN GUARD OF HONOUR

London: Playing her last international match on the third and final ODI here on Saturday, Jhulan will end her glorious, two-decade career as women's cricket's highest wicket-taker.

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Complete Vindhya corridor works on time: CM



Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath during the inspection of Vindhya corridor in Mirzapur on Saturday

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Saturday inspected the ongoing construction of Vindhya corridor after offering prayers to Maa Vindhyavasini in Mirzapur and directed officers to complete the work of the corridor in six months.

The chief minister's chopper landed in Mirzapur police lines where he was welcomed by Union Minister of State for Industries and Commerce and Mirzapur MP Anupriya Patel.

Ahead of Shardiya Navratri starting from Monday, the chief minister made an on-site inspection of Vindhyachal temple and Vindhya corridor under construction.

During the inspection of the grand Vindhya corridor project under construction, Divisional Commissioner Yogeshwar Ram Mishra and District Magistrate Divya Mittal informed the chief minister about the progress.

The chief minister also studied the Vindhya corridor model and gave the instructions to the project manager to finish everything on time while maintaining the standards.

In view of Shardiya Navratri, the chief minister gave the officials instructions regarding the security and convenience of the pilgrims travelling to Vindhyachal temple from across the nation.

Along with the chief minister, Principal Secretary (Tourism and Culture) Mukesh Meshram was also present. In the office hall of commissioner Mirzapur, the chief minister presided over a review meeting with the officers and enquired about the status of the Vindhya corridor and the Navratri Mela preparations.

He gave instructions to expedite the construction work in a time-bound manner and complete it within the next six months. The chief minister asked the officials to divide the work into three shifts and engage more workers and artisans. He also asked the district administration to review the progress and obtain the progress report while keeping timeliness and quality in mind.

...stresses on protection of gauvansh

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Saturday said that the Indian farmers used natural agricultural methods to increase soil productivity before the development of modern technologies therefore protection of gauvansh was mandatory.

"When the industrial revolution took place in Europe and India moved towards slavery, traditional farming in the country came under attack and that was the beginning of our defeat. Even though after independence the nation became self-sufficient in food grains, it was unable to escape its negative repercussions," Yogi said. The chief minister was speaking at the state-level Cow Based Natural Farming Workshop-2022 at Indira Gandhi Pratishthan. He said this workshop was an effort to preserve Mother Earth's natural state and save India's faith.

The chief minister remarked: "I frequently interact with the public during Janata Darshan and I have found that 10 out of every 100 applications that we receive are for financial aid for people with critical illnesses. Assistance is being provided to them from the CM Relief Fund, but I am also interested in learning about the cause of their illnesses. Food is a contributing factor in this. When adults should be contributing to mankind and the well-being of the world, they are afflicted with diseases. This is something to be worried about."

The chief minister proposed two additional measures to prevent illness -- save the Indian breed of cows and help conserve and preserve the actual potential of the soil by boosting its fertility through cow-based farming.

"This initiative aims to protect both the present and the future. The prime minister incorporated cow-based natural farming in the Union budget and put it into mission mode. In 2021, the prime minister launched this initiative from Varanasi. The state has also endorsed this programme," he said.

By establishing 235 clusters in seven districts of Bundelkhand with 47 development blocks and 11,750 hectares of land, the state government began to provide incentives for cow-based natural farming, he added. The chief minister said that the goal was to promote natural farming and cow-based nurseries in areas situated on the banks of the river Ganga, and to expand horticultural crops, in order to preserve the unceasing flow of the river as well as its purity.

"The state's 27 districts that would practice cow-based farming were chosen. The state government has earmarked 62,200 hectares for such farming while 1,244 clusters are being created for this," Yogi remarked.

The chief minister asserted, "We will work towards practising natural farming in accordance with the National Mission on Natural Farming. Additionally, the government is promoting it by establishing 470 clusters on 23, 510 hectares in 39 development blocks spread over 23 districts, increasing natural farming on about 100,000 hectares."

Assuring that the government would continue to take on a lot more responsibilities in promoting natural farming, the chief minister said that there were four state agricultural universities in UP whereas directives had been issued to boost setting up of laboratories for natural agriculture certification.

"By boosting certification in 89 Krishi Vigyan Kendras alongside these universities in the initial phase, a better market will be provided. We have come to the conclusion that special arrangements should be made for the sale of food, fruits and vegetables produced naturally in every market," the chief minister pointed out.

Expressing concern over the diseases prevailing in the younger people, the chief minister said, "It seems that we have been denied the benefit of their potential and enthusiasm. We are here to save them. I went to Kurukshetra and visited Acharya's gurukul where I observed the process of advancing farming and animal husbandry. I also saw how horticultural crops can be grown in an advanced manner."

Addressing the farmers, the chief minister said, "It is a chance for you to grow as a master trainer over the two-day training. We will provide the market and make arrangements to ensure that you receive the highest possible price for natural products."

The chief minister added that although there was no chance for loss, the government would support farmers who suffered losses after switching to natural farming. "The prime minister has vowed to double the income of farmers. The minimum support price (MSP) has been increased. By providing subsidies, we broadened agriculture's horizons and offered a good irrigation system," Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath remarked.

"The state government will support you throughout this campaign," the chief minister declared as he concluded his remarks, adding, "We will not allow any difficulty to arise."

from major roads of Mirzapur city area within three days. Union Minister of State Anupriya Patel and Jal Shakti Minister Swatantra Dev Singh along with other MLAs were present in the meeting.

Vindhya Corridor, modelled after Kashi Vishwanath Dham, is being built around

Vindhyachal temple at an estimated cost of Rs 224 crore in an effort to boost pilgrimage travel. The Vindhya corridor is being built using pink stones of Ahraura that have been expertly crafted by Jaipur and Rajasthan artisans. This year will mark the official opening of the corridor.



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AUCTION NOTICE

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D/o Mr. Binod Hisaria,
Wife Mr. Manas Jhunjhunwala
Sagar Sadan, Opposite Kotwali
Ayodhya Road, Barabanki

Yogi govt empowering youth on priority

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

In line with his vision to empower the youth of Uttar Pradesh on a priority basis, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has taken phase-wise initiatives to create abundant opportunities for them within the state itself.

Ensuring progress of the youth, the Yogi Adityanath government in the first six months of its second tenure, has provided employment to 93,682 youths through Rojgar Melas. In addition, over 1.42 lakh youths have been provided career guidance through career counselling sessions during this period.

Moreover, lakhs of youth have also been provided self-employment opportunities.

Yogi Adityanath's Bharatiya Janata Party-led government has made significant efforts to foster sports culture, which has enabled the youth of the state to perform and shine internationally.

The government has not only worked to support the athletes, but also develop sports infrastructure in the state. Taking inspiration from Prime Minister Narendra Modi's resolve to encourage athletes and sports activities, the Yogi government 2.0 has ensured encouragement and inclusiveness of women in sports. Besides undertaking the skill development programme, promotion of technology-driven sectors like aviation and drones are also opening new employment avenues for the youth in the state.

ROJGAR MELAS MAKING YOUTH SELF-RELIANT

Progressing on the mission of providing employment or self-employment opportunities to at least one person in every family in Uttar Pradesh, the Yogi government in its second tenure has so far provided employment to nearly 93,682 youths through over 900

Rojgar Melas organised in the last six months.

At the same time, 1,42,402 youths got guidance in 1,752 career counselling sessions. From the start of fiscal 2022-23 till September 12, 15,01,49,762 mandays have been created through schemes and programmes operated in various departments. In the first term, under the leadership of Yogi Adityanath, the state government had given government jobs to over five lakh youths with utmost transparency. Besides, 1.61 crore youths were associated with various employment-oriented programmes. In addition, 60 lakh youths were linked with self-employment.

FELLOWSHIP SCHEME EMPOWERING YOUTH

Through the Chief Minister's Fellowship Scheme, the state government has provided a platform to young research scholars. The Chief Minister's Fellowship Scheme received an overwhelming response in the state with over 26,000 youths applying for it.

Students from reputed institutes like the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) and National Institute of Technology (NIT) have also been availing the scheme. Under the scheme, young candidates are provided Rs 30,000 per month to complete their fellowship research, Rs 10,000 for tours and Rs 15,000 for purchase of mobiles/tablets.

SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE

The government has been engaged in developing world-class sports infrastructure for the youth in the state. Under this, a state-of-the-art stadium is under construction under the Smart City Project in cities like Kanpur Nagar and Varanasi, while there is a plan to develop proper sports infrastructure in each district. Sports hostels with 50 beds each are being built in cities like Mirzapur, Aligarh, Basti, Deopatan and Moradabad, while stadiums are being built in cities like Shamli and Hapur.

An international cricket stadium is also under construction in Varanasi.

The government is providing both recognition and monetary rewards to the players performing well at the national and international levels. Besides, the government is also coming up with a new sports policy, after which the budding athletes will be given more facilities. Sports culture is also being encouraged at the school-college level. For this, the government is providing all the necessary things including funds and equipment.

FOCUS ON UPGRADING SKILLS OF YOUTH

The government has also taken various steps for improving the skills of the youth of the state. In the last six months, under the Skill Development Mission, more than one lakh youths have been linked with different programmes, while about 10,000 youths have been trained and given employment or self-employment opportunities.

A target has been set to train 10 lakh youths in the state. At the same time, preparations are also being made to open the state's first skill development university in Varanasi.

DRONES, TECH OPENING NEW EMPLOYMENT AVENUES

Under the Dual System of Training (DST) introduced by the Directorate of Training, industrial training is also being provided to the youth in various polytechnics and ITI institutes of the state. Industrial training, under this, in sectors like aviation and drone technology, will also be imparted. Besides, the government's emphasis is also on generating efficient manpower in the fast emerging solar energy sector. With this, the youth will get an opportunity to meet the increasing demand for employment in these new sectors.

6 PFI members held in Meerut, Varanasi

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The Anti-Terrorists Squad (ATS) of the UP Police has arrested six members of the Popular Front of India (PFI) from Meerut and Varanasi on suspicion of their involvement in 'dubious deals' which were possibly linked to terror activities.

The arrests were made on Friday night and Saturday morning.

The arrests came two days after the National Investigation Agency (NIA) and Enforcement Directorate (ED) searched over 100 premises of PFI members spread across 11 states.

Those arrested were identified as Mohammed Shadab and Maulana Sajid, both of Shamli district, Mufti Shahjad of Ghaziabad and Mohammed Islam of Muzaffarnagar from Meerut and Rizwan Ahmad and Mohammed Shahid both of Varanasi from Varanasi.

ATS officials said that the PFI members had been booked under the provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and the Indian Penal Code (IPC).

The Uttar Pradesh Anti-Terrorists Squad conducted statewide raids on Popular Front of India (PFI) members, arresting six members from Meerut and Varanasi in overnight

operations, booking them for promoting enmity on grounds of religion, conspiracy, under sections of the stringent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act among others.

The arrest came following the nationwide crackdown on the PFI on Thursday jointly by NIA, ED and police of various states.

Three members of the organisation were arrested by the state security agencies from Barabanki and Lucknow on Friday under similar sections while one, Wasim Ahmed, the divisional president of the PFI, was arrested on Thursday. Ahmed was also arrested in 2019 when anti-CAA protests in Lucknow turned violent. In Meerut, the ATS arrested four members, two of whom hail from Shamli, one from Ghaziabad and one from Muzaffarnagar.

They were booked on charges of criminal conspiracy, promoting enmity between groups on grounds of religion, outraging religious feelings, issuing statements likely to create enmity on grounds of religion and under a section of the UAPA. In Varanasi, the two accused belong to the district itself and were booked on similar charges.

The ATS claimed to have recovered objectionable literature and other incriminating material from the arrested members.

Mayawati concerned over falling rupee

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Bahujan Samaj Party chief Mayawati attacked the government over the continuous devaluation of Indian rupee in the international market.

Mayawati said in her tweet on Saturday that even though the continuous fall of the Indian rupee in the world market may not be directly related to the prestige of the government and people should not be worried about it, but due to this the country's economy crumbles and morale also breaks down. She said the government should not take lightly the devaluation of the rupee like inflation, poverty, unemployment.

She further said that the news of the foreign exchange reserves coming down to a two-year low was also in the headlines. She said the Reserve Bank of India and all others were worried and distraught about this therefore, there was a need to take quick effective steps in this direction instead of getting entangled in allegations and counter allegations of wrong economic policies and priorities of the government.



Yogi Adityanath's temple built to grab land: AKY



PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The Samajwadi Party has alleged that the temple of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath at Bharatkund in Ayodhya has been built by "Bharatiya Janata Party supporters" to "grab" the barren land owned by an individual.

In a tweet on Saturday, the SP also attached a newspaper report in which a native of Ayodhya alleged that his nephew got the temple constructed on his land on the Ayodhya -Prayagraj highway, 25 kilometres from the temple town of Ayodhya, without his permission.

The temple has a life size 'idol' of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, having a bow and arrows and a halo around his head. The 'idol' is clad in a saffron robe.

Special prayers are being offered twice every day at the temple, followed by morning and evening prayers. Prasad is also distributed to the "devotees".

SP chief Akhilesh Yadav said in a tweet "The uncle of the person who has built the temple has complained to the chief minister himself that the temple has been built with the

intention of taking illegal possession of his land. Now, the chief minister should tell whether he will take action against the 'land mafia' or a special squad will come from Delhi." The SP separately issued a tweet from its official handle in which it attached the clipping of a newspaper report carrying the complainant's version against his nephew and said, "The biggest land mafia is the BJP! To grab the barren land in Ayodhya, BJP supporters built a temple of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on it. Very embarrassing! How much more will the BJP stoop? Get the matter investigated and take action against the culprits under the National Security Act."

Prabhakar Maurya, who got the temple built, had earlier said, "We have built the temple of Yogi, who is building the temple of Lord Ram." Maurya had said he was deeply impressed by Yogi Adityanath's works.

"The chief minister has acquired a deity-like place because of the public welfare works he has undertaken. That is why the idea of a temple for him came to my mind," he has said.

मोहिनी बी० मनवाणी गर्ल्स डिग्री कालेज
(अल्पसंख्यक संस्थान)
सम्बद्ध-सी०एस०जे०एम० विश्वविद्यालय, कानपुर
आवास विकास नं०-३, पनकी कल्यानपुर रोड, कल्यानपुर, कानपुर- 208017

सूचना
अल्पसंख्यक संस्थान में अल्पसंख्यक प्रबन्धकीय कोटे के अन्तर्गत एम०एड० सत्र 2022-24 में प्रवेश हेतु दिनांक 26/09/2022 को होने वाली प्रवेश परीक्षा स्थगित है। अर्हता, नियम, शर्त व मेरिट वरीयता पूर्ववत् ही लागू होगी। **नोट-** प्रवेश परीक्षा दिनांक 16/10/2022 को कालेज परिसर में होगी। अधिक जानकारी के लिए वेबसाइट www.mbmgedc.in पर जायें।

प्रबन्धक

Rape accused ends life, names complainant in suicide note

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A rape accused ended his life while holding the complainant, who is a government employee, responsible for his death in the suicide note he left behind in his house in Gomti Nagar Extension.

As per reports, Prashant Vijay Singh (40) of Shipra Apartment in the area was found hanging from the ceiling with a bedsheet tied around his neck on Saturday morning. He was taken to RML hospital where he was pronounced 'brought dead'.

"He retired to his room around 11 pm on Friday and was found hanging around 6 the next morning," his family said. Investigating officer Ashok Kumar Gaud (sub-inspector) said the police searched the room and a pur-

ported suicide note was recovered. "Why did you do so? Why did you lodge a fake case of rape? Why did your father hatch a conspiracy. You could have punished me for my fault. I am going but God will never pardon you," he was quoted as having written in the said suicide note. The body was sent for autopsy and further investigation was underway. DCP, East, Prachi Singh said Prashant was named in a case of rape at Ghazipur police station and was also chargesheeted. "He was sent to jail and had come out on bail only a month back. He was under mental duress and ended the life due to that," she said.

Later in the night, deceased's brother lodged a case of abetment to suicide and criminal breach of trust against the woman, who is a

junior engineer in a government department, and her father. Deceased's brother Swantantra Vijay Singh alleged that the woman had borrowed Rs 40 lakh from Prashant and was not ready to repay. He alleged that the woman had been harassing Prashant and threatening to spoil his career. Prashant was a contractor and a native of Gonda district.

Meanwhile, a 45-year-old man ended his life at his house in Mahanagar on Saturday. Police said Raj Kumar of Akbarnagar locality had been suffering from a mental disease for a long time and was under treatment. "He was also addicted to intoxicants," the police said.

Wife Sunita said Raj Kumar was found hanging from the ceiling with a dupatta tied around his neck on Saturday morning. Police sent

the body for autopsy and started further investigation.

Meanwhile, a 45-year-old farmer was found murdered in Gosianganj police station area on Saturday. Ramesh Rawat of Baburiya Khera locality was staying in one-room house built in a field outside the village he belonged to. On Saturday, his family found him lying in a pool of blood with his throat slit.

Police said Ramesh was accompanying some people in the light of the circumstantial evidence collected from the scene. "He was said to be addicted to drugs and alcohol. He may have been killed by them," the police said. The bereaved family said Ramesh had an argument with Ram Singh and Ram Bhola of the village on Friday night and both had threatened him with dire consequences.

BJP has spoiled future of 80 pc Hindus: Sanjay

Lucknow (PNS): Aam Aadmi Party leader Sanjay Singh said the Bharatiya Janata Party had spoiled the future of 80 per cent Hindus by playing the fear card that Muslims may harm them. Addressing a meeting of party workers and leaders of Rohilkhand zone in Moradabad district on Saturday, Sanjay Singh said the BJP should not try to mess up the piousness of our country with the colour of communalism.

Singh was addressing the meeting as part of the party's preparation for local bodies election. He also criticised SP, BSP and Congress in the same vein. "For the last 75 years, these political parties have plundered public money in the name of giving good schools, bettering the education and medical system and for other facilities. These parties are neck deep in corruption and the AAP is doing the work of cleansing this corruption, plunder and the dirt from the system," he said.

'Bulldozer Baba' to be theme of Cantonment Durga Puja

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The Cantonment Durga Puja has 'Bulldozer Baba' as its theme this year. President of the puja committee SN Pal said they would put up a poster of the 'Bulldozer Baba' outside the pandal.

"Everybody knows that Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath is also known as 'Bulldozer Baba' and hence the theme needs no explanation. He is a symbol of honesty and people have started getting justice because of the same. Mafia ruling the roost has become a thing of the past which needs to be lauded," he said.

Army personnel and civilians visit the Cantt Durga Puja and celebrate together. Pal said they have made a permanent place for Goddess Durga and they also have temples of Shiva, Hanuman and Maa Ambe.

Meanwhile, president of Charbagh Durga Puja com-



mittee PK Ghosh said that 'sarvajani puja' was slowly losing out amidst the trend of puja pandals and sponsorships.

"This is because of various reasons. In 'sarvajani puja', people have contributions from the entire community and then organise the celebrations. However, the youngsters are no longer interested in carrying forward the tradition. As youngsters, we did not think twice when asked to collect funds for Durga Puja, but the youngsters now have a lot of things to do

and hence do not participate in such activities," he pointed out. He said there also has been a problem with space. "Some committees wound up because they did not have the space," he said. He added that the government should also give some money to the committees like in some states.

"Inflation is also a factor which makes a difference. We used to spend Rs 16,000 in 1992 but now the expenses go up to Rs 2.5 lakh. Getting this amount is difficult," he added.

Woman duped of ₹1.36 lakh in cyber fraud

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A woman was duped of Rs 1.36 lakh by a fraudster who sent her a follow request on Instagram. As per reports, the unsuspecting woman, Dr Radha Shivhare of Jankipuram, accepted the request sent by 'Lewis Froster living in the United Kingdom'.

"He talked to me for a few days and we exchanged our WhatsApp numbers. After a few days, he told me that he had sent her a parcel. On August 11 last, I got a call from an unknown number and a woman introduced herself as an employee of the customs department. She told me that there was a parcel from the UK and I could receive it after paying customs duty which would be refunded. She messaged me a Canara Bank account number and asked me to transfer the money. I first transferred Rs 2,000, Rs 40,000 and Rs 96,000 to that account number. However, I neither got any parcel nor the money refund," she explained.

THEFT

Ornaments and cash were stolen from a house in a posh colony in Indiranagar. Complainant Salman Akhtar of Ehsan Nagar in Indiranagar, is a clerk in the Cooperative department. He said the miscreants sneaked into his house in the wee hours of Friday and decamped with gold jewellery and Rs 1.25 lakh in cash.

Akhtar said he and other family members were asleep in different rooms when thieves tip-toed into the house and decamped with the booty. He said the thieves had probably conducted a recce before entering the house.

He blamed it lax police patrolling in the area and said other residents were apprehensive following the theft at his house. The police said a case had been registered against four unidentified accused. "The miscreants were seen in a CCTV and we are doing the process of face identification," the police said.

'BJP MLAs turning assembly into an entertainment hub'

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The Samajwadi Party, on Saturday, released visuals of two Bharatiya Janata Party MLAs playing video games and chewing tobacco inside the UP Assembly.

One video that was shared on Twitter and Facebook shows BJP MLA from Mahoba, Rakesh Goswami, playing a mobile game. In another video, BJP's Jhansi MLAs Ravi Sharma can be seen chewing tobacco during the just-concluded monsoon session of the UP Assembly. Attacking BJP over the videos, the SP alleged that these MLAs were ruining the dignity of the assembly and turning it into an entertainment

hub. "The BJP MLAs tarnishing the dignity of the House. A BJP MLA from Mahoba is playing a mobile game in the House and another BJP MLA from Jhansi is consuming tobacco. These people do not have answers to public issues and consider the House as a place of entertainment. Highly condemnable and shameful," the SP tweeted. The BJP has not officially responded to the videos yet. The monsoon session of UP Assembly was adjourned sine die on Friday. SP, which is the main opposition party, walked out of the assembly session on its final day and staged a protest, alleging that the government had failed to discuss raging issues of inflation and

unemployment in the House.

SP chief Akhilesh Yadav, who led the foot march, alleged that the government had failed to discuss inflation, unemployment, corruption and poor law and order due to the short duration of the monsoon session. Rashtriya Lok Dal also staged a walkout following the SP. However, BJP's Parliamentary Affairs Minister Suresh Khanna said the opposition parties boycotted the assembly without any reason. He said by deciding to boycott the House, the SP leaders were pursuing their private agenda.

The five-day monsoon session of the UP legislature started on September 19 and concluded on September 23.

Student opens fire on principal

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A student shot at the principal of his college for being admonished for his conduct when the latter was taking a round of classrooms in Sitapur on Saturday morning.

Principal Ram Singh Verma of Adarsh Ramswaroop Inter College in Sadarpur police station area suffered critical injuries and was referred to the Trauma Centre of King George's Medical University in Lucknow.

The principal had intervened in a brawl between accused Gurvinder Singh and his rival student on Friday and admonished him.

As per reports, Gurvinder had a fight with fellow student Rohit on Friday and during the brawl he ransacked college's property, inviting the ire of the principal who summoned both and reprimanded the accused for damaging college's property and also beat up both the students. Later, Gurvinder, who felt offended on being reprimanded, had reportedly told his classmates that he would shoot the principal on Saturday morning to avenge the insult. But the college administration



did not take notice of his threats even though some of the students intimated them.

Around 8:30 am, Gurvinder stood up soon after he saw the principal entering the classroom and opened fire on him. He fired three rounds at the principal and was nabbed by the students when he was loading the fourth bullet in the gun. However, he freed himself from the students and escaped.

On getting information, a police team reached the college and rushed the victim to district hospital in Sitapur. The doctors there referred him to Lucknow. Two police teams have been formed to nab Gurvinder after registering a case against him. Police also quizzed the student with whom the miscreant had a brawl to find out the cause behind the brawl.

Stress on keeping lungs healthy

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Although every part of the body has a special importance, lungs play an important role. As lungs weaken, many serious diseases, including TB, pneumonia, asthma, Covid-19, COPD, etc can be caused. World Lung Day is celebrated every year on September 25 to create awareness about keeping the lungs healthy. The theme this year is 'Lung Health for All'.

Dr Suryakant, chairman of the department of respiratory medicine, King George's Medical University, said the increasing tendency of people to smoke and the increasing air pollution has caused the

most damage to lungs.

"Statistics show that about 17 lakh people die every year in the country due to the rising air pollution. Apart from this, about 120 million people smoke, putting their own lungs at risk as well as the lungs of others."

"Smokers inhale only 30 per cent of the smoke and exhale 70 per cent, which causes harm to others too. Therefore, for the health of lungs, it is necessary that people avoid smoking and strictly control the increasing pollution. A lot of its side effects can be avoided by using a mask," he said.

Dr Suryakant, who is also the national vice-chairman of

IMA-Academic of Medical Specialties, said: "We get oxygen only from the lungs. If the lungs become weak, we will not be able to survive."

"Due to the Covid pandemic, we all have adopted masks in our lives. Masking up is important even today because it can also help us avoid air pollution and related diseases."

"Smoking also adversely affects our health and should be avoided. To improve the respiratory muscles and immune system, measures should be taken to increase the stamina of lungs with good food, green vegetables, fruits, pranayama, exercise, etc," he added.

Travelogues in demand at National Book Fair

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The new trend amongst readers is to go through travelogues so that they can be able to write travel blogs themselves. Ram Singh from Raj Kamal Prakashan at the National Book Fair, which is underway at Balrampur Gardens, said they have brought a number of travelogues penned by both old and young authors and that they are expecting good sales since these books are seen as becoming increasingly popular.

One such book is 'Kutch Katha' authored by Abhishek Srivastava. "This book brings in the actual state of this region

which has witnessed two major earthquakes, as is known to everyone. The author, who is also a traveller, has jotted down all his experiences of travelling in the area in the past 11 years. The book is not only an interesting example of what can be seen through the eyes but also what cannot. It also highlights the culture and society of the place, the past and the present, and defines the myths and folklore associated with the place," he said. He added that the book is a time machine which highlights the story of snow-capped mountains in moonlit nights.

The second travelogue, which is popular among the

readers, is 'Khushdesh Ka Safar' written by Pallavi Trivedi.

"Those who have assessed the book say that normally authors just book a flight and reach their destinations where they travel a few places and then pen a book. A critic who has read this book says that it is one of the rare ones in which the author has followed her own trail, thus creating something wonderful for the reader. Normally people like to move within restricted areas and are not able to have the courage to move out and explore the world, but this traveller has done a remarkable job," he said. He pointed out that '1232 km' written by Vinod Kapri has

been a big favourite amongst the readers. "In the lockdown during Covid in 2020, many of the migrant labourers lost their jobs and had to return home, which was a very tragic scenario. This book is about seven ordinary people who carry out extraordinary work and brings us face to face with their problems, hopes and helplessness. It is an eyewitness account of seven labourers who returned home from Ghaziabad to Bihar. They had cycles but the journey was not at all easy. We have gone for a second edition of this book," he added.

Another popular book is 'Log Jo Mujhme Reh Gaye', written by Anuradha Beniwal.

"This book, written by a former chess champion, has caught the attention of readers. She has given the account of people with whom she spent a few days while travelling and how they became a part of her life. A girl from a simple village of Haryana visits different countries and meets different kinds of people, including gays and closed societies. She understands that though they are different, they are special," Singh pointed out.

Yet another book is 'Sarhthwah Himalaya' written by Ajay Sodani. It deals with the life in and around the Himalayas and is a perennial hit.

CITYBRIEFS

FOUNDATION DAY

The department of critical care medicine, SGPGI, celebrated its 20th Foundation Day on Saturday. The programme was inaugurated by SGPGI director Prof RK Dhiman. Head of the department Dr Benani Poddar welcomed all the guests. The programme started with a talk by principal of GMC (Pithoragarh) Prof AK Baronia who shared his over 20-year journey in critical care. Vice-Chancellor of Uttar Pradesh University of Medical Sciences, Saifai, Dr PK Singh delivered 'Professor AK Baronia Oration' on "Transition from anaesthesia to critical care" and shared his experience on the creation of the department of critical care medicine in 2002. Intensive care specialist from Sydney (Australia) Prof Yogan Mudaliar spoke on simulation and artificial intelligence in critical care. A nursing CME was also organised as a part of the Foundation Day. The CME included training and skill enhancement for management of critically ill patients.

MEMENTOS PRESENTED

Mementos were presented by 20 UP Girls Battalion of NCC, Lucknow, on Saturday to the families of seven heroes of the city who made supreme sacrifice in the service of the nation. Three defence person-

nel were posthumously decorated with 'Shaurya Chakra' and two with 'Sena Medal'. The families of the bravehearts who were presented mementos included Arun Kumar Tripathi, Lt Hari Singh Bisht, Lt Navneet Rai, Capt Mukesh Srivastava, Major Sameer-UL-Islam, Sepoy Rajkumar and Sepoy Devendra Pratap Singh. They sacrificed their lives for the safety of the nation between 1999 and 2003.

SCHOLARSHIP



Arav Gupta, a student of City Montessori School, Gomti Nagar Campus I, has been offered a US\$ 58,000 scholarship by the Arizona State University, USA, for pursuing higher education. The scholarship will be provided to him during the four-year undergraduate course. Arav credited his teachers and the educational environment in school for his achievement. CMS founder

Jagdish Gandhi congratulated Arav and wished him success in future endeavours.

BREAST UPDATE

'KGMU Breast Update 2022', organised by the department of endocrine surgery, kicked off on Saturday. The morning session highlighted pertinent issues related to care and support of breast cancer patients that are often neglected. Dr Arun Goal from Delhi highlighted the needs of India-specific screening programmes and suggested that screening of women at hospitals may be a viable solution. Dr Swati stressed on the importance of preservation in nulliparous women with breast cancer. A panel discussion having surgeons, medical oncologist radiation oncologist and breast cancer survivors deliberated upon financial and social distress in breast cancer patients and highlighted the lacunae in government health schemes. Breast cancer survivor Rekha Gulabani shared her experiences about the various types of problems that come in the practical life of cancer survivors. Dr Diptendra Sarkar, Prof Sanjeev Mishra, Prof Arun Chaturvedi, Prof Anand Mishra and Dr Vaishali Jamare were also present. KGMU Vice-Chancellor Dr Bipin Puri expressed happiness over the functioning of the department.

OUTREACH PROGRAMME

Financial Advisor (Defence Services) Rasika Chaube, who was on a visit to Lucknow, was the chief guest at an outreach programme held at Surya Auditorium in Lucknow Cantonment. The programme was organised for the pensioners of the Armed Forces to have a first-hand grasp of the digital initiative. Chaube stressed on the need to be proactive in addressing the requirements of Armed Forces personnel vis-à-vis their pecuniary and pensionary benefits. She also noted the specific grievances of personnel present on the occasion and directed the pension office, HoDs and record offices to take immediate remedial action. Chief of Staff Lt Gen Vivek Kashyap, Col YK Gautam, AN Das, Mukesh Sinha, JP Pandey, etc were present on the occasion.

FELICITATED

Spring Dale Institution on Thursday felicitated its students who excelled in studies and sports. Those who were honoured included ISC toppers Harsh Pathak (99.25%), Yash Sharma (97.6%) and ICSE toppers Harshjyot Kaur (98.6%), Laranya Pradhan (97.5%), Aadhya Singh and Abhinav Jindal. For national-level representation in sports Varun Singh, Aditi Singh,

Srishti, Ishita, Charu Patil were also honoured.

GOLD MEDAL



Jyoti Yadav, a class XI student of City Montessori School, Station Road campus, grabbed a gold medal in National Boxing Championship held in Jamshedpur. The championship was organised under the aegis of the Council for the Indian School Certificate Examination (CISCE). Students of various noted schools from across the country participated in this event in which Jyoti walked away with the gold medal.

WORKSHOP

The second day of an international workshop on Saturday on cross-cultural communication was replete with events and academic discussions. Souvenirs were presented to the delegates and then papers were presented.

The presenters explored the ethnicity, heritage and culture of countries. The delegates from China and Afghanistan presented papers on the way Chinese and Indian culture affects life. A few students of Shri Ramswaroop Memorial University and delegates of various countries celebrated the culture in the form of joy and festival through cultural performances. The two-day workshop ended up with the valedictory address by registrar VK Singh.

INAUGURATED

Minister of State for Housing & Urban Affairs, Union government, Kaushal Kishore inaugurated the zonal headquarters of Centrum Housing Finance Limited in Lucknow. Others present were general secretary of All-India Railwaymen's Federation Shiva Gopal Mishra, and Jaspal Bindra & Sanjay Shukla from CHFL. "Housing for all is one of the major flagship programmes of the Government of India. Given the strong demand for affordable housing in the country and to provide assistance to home buyers, the government has recently extended the PMAY-U scheme till December 31, 2024 and CHFL plays a key role in providing last-mile finance assistance to home buyers," the minister said.

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KDA Vice Chairman presents development plan of Kanpur

PNS ■ KANPUR

Vice Chairman of Kanpur Development Authority (KDA) Arvind Singh presented the draft plan of city development in the two-day National Urban Planning and Management Conclave organised in Lucknow on Friday. He informed that apart from housing projects, there were plans to launch commercial and industrial projects in the city, thereby creating newer job opportunities. Besides, the 45 acre area on the banks of Ganga would also be developed as a tourist place. He informed that KDA was going to launch housing complex on NH-19 on 2.4 hectare land which will also facilitate the people of Bundelkhand area. On 65 hectare area between Mainawati Road and Kalyanpur-Singhpur Road, a New Kanpur City would soon be set up wherein plots for residential, commercial, hotel, hospital etc. would also be developed.

In a bid to promote eco-tourism on 45 acre area, a botanical garden would be developed near the Ganga Barrage. He further informed that KDA had signed an MoU with the IIT Kanpur to contain



KDA VC Arvind Singh presenting development plan of Kanpur

misappropriation of former's properties. He said in the Master Plan-2021, 328 sq kms area had been covered while in Master Plan-2031, expansion on 580.78 sq kms area was being carried out.

He also informed about many ambitious projects executed by KDA in the recent past. These included the installation of theme light and two LED screens at Ganga

Barrage; development of Signature Greens City, Vikas Nagar, by land pulling; setting up of housing, commercial complexes and bus terminal on 17 acre land, construction of rain water harvesting theme park, the first in the state, in Indira Nagar, aimed at awarding people about the methods of harvesting rainwater and development of boat club at the Ganga Barrage to promote

water sports. The conclave was inaugurated by the Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. Chief Secretary Durga Shanker Mishra, Chairman, High Level Committee Keshav Verma, Principal Secretary (Housing) Nitin Ramesh Gokarn, Principal Secretary (Urban Development) and other senior officers of the state administration were present at the conclave.

Karbingwa rail overbridge to be opened for public by March 2023

PNS ■ KANPUR

The District Magistrate, City, Visakh G Iyer while inspecting the progress of Karbingwa Rail Overbridge on Saturday said it was estimated that the overbridge will be opened for the public by March 2023. He said for the beam launch by DFCC-IL the material needed had already been mobilised and its verification should be carried out by the Bridge Corporation at the earliest. He said similarly the rail overbridge at Sarasaul will be opened for public by June 2023.

He said during inspection it was found that for the laying of the beam the required material was not available there and directed that the issue needed to be inquired and the report be put up at the earliest. He said the ratio of the work to be done and the material required should be ensured so that there was no delay. He directed the officials to ensure that the link roads should be repaired at the earliest. He was later informed by the railway officials that the work was being carried out on a war footing and without any compromise on quality. He said construction of the overbridge will be accomplished by March 2023.

He said officials at the Sarsaul construction site informed that the work related to beam laying was about to be started and said by June 2023 it would be opened for public use. He directed the officials to ensure that a proposal for a dedicated road for the DFCC-IL containers should be forwarded at the earliest.

SAINIK KALYAN BANDHU MEET: Later chairing the Sainik Kalyan Bandhu



District Magistrate, City, Visakh G Iyer, inspecting the railway overbridge at Karbingwa on Saturday.

Meeting at the Collectorate on Saturday the DM informed that all the problems faced by the SKB should be settled in a stipulated timeframe. He said it was a matter of concern that the issues were pending for quite a long time and thus it should settled on top priority. He said

Sainik welare was of top priority in Uttar Pradesh and the government was making every effort to ensure that it was settled at the earliest. Others present in the meeting were ADM City, Atul Kumar and several other officials and members of the KBM.

Extension of Metro up to Shuklaganj demanded

PNS ■ KANPUR

A delegation of Kanpur Nagrik Manch (Citizens' Forum) led by its convener, Chotebhai met the Divisional Commissioner, Lucknow, Dr Roshan Jacob, at her office and handed over a memorandum appealing that the Kanpur Metro should be extended up to Shuklaganj-Magarwara-Unnao. The KNM had carried out a signature campaign under which residents of Shuklaganj were strongly in favour of the Metro being extended till Shuklaganj. The DC assured the delegation to take up the issue with the higher authorities.

Chotebhai said Shuklaganj area alone had a population of over 7 lakh and was a very densely populated. He said as the area had no industry or major commercial activity the entire population was dependent on Kanpur for employment and livelihood. He said it

was estimated that 3-4 lakh persons commute daily between Shuklaganj and Kanpur and ironically there was just one two-lane bridge for them at Golaghat, which was congested and accident prone.

He said extending the Metro to Shuklaganj and beyond will generate handsome revenue for the Metro as this was the dense corridor entering into the Central Business District (CBD) of Kanpur. He said it was located at the narrowest point of the Ganga, and save valuable time and the resultant tension and health problems, thereby increasing productivity. He said above all it will drastically reduce vehicular and noise pollution.

Dr Jacob assured to take up the issue during her visits to Unnao district on September 29. The delegation comprised Suresh Gupta, Putilal Varma, Sanjay Gupta and Akhtar Ali of the Shuklaganj Nagrik Manch.

AKSS hails decision to postpone COP renewal

PNS ■ KANPUR

Members of Adhivakta Kalyan Sangharsh Samiti (AKSS) have hailed the decision of Bar Council of Uttar Pradesh to postpone the renewal of Certificate of Practice (COP) of lawyers. At a virtual meeting of the Samiti, Convenor Pt Ravindra Sharma informed that the state council had urged the Bar Council of India to formulate new guidelines in this respect to start further process of the COP renewal. Under the directives of the state council president Madhu Sudan Tripathi, a letter has also been issued by the Secretary Imran Mabood Khan to this effect. It may be recalled that the state lawyers had protested against the recovery of Rs 500 as renewal fee.

Lawyers of Kanpur had also launched a signature campaign to mark their protest which forced the Council to



AKSS Convenor Pt Ravindra Sharma shows the letter of UP Bar Council postponing the COP renewal process.

postpone the COP renewal process and urge its national body to issue further guidelines on the issue. Prominent members present at the meeting were BL Gupta, Bhanu Pratap Dwivedi, SK Sachan, Rajendra Awasthi, Satish Tripathi, Amit Agarwal, Devendra Yadav, Vijay Sagar, Ashwani Anand, Ashok Srivastava, Mohd Wasik, Sanjiv Kapoor, Ankur Goel, Rajendra Verma and KK Yadav.

Min inspects preparations at HBTU for NAAC grading

Kanpur: The State Minister for Technical Education, Ashish Patel carried out an inspection for the preparations being carried out at the Harcourt Butler Technological University for NAAC grading on Saturday and interacted with the Vice-Chancellor Dr Shamsher Singh and took a feed back of the preparations. He held a review meeting with the faculty members and other dignitaries of the varsity. He also gave valuable suggestions to the V-C as well so as the NAAC approved the grading for HBTU.

He first distributed tablets and smartphones to 40 selected students and interacted with the students as well. He then observed the powerpoint presentation made on the seven point for grading of any university which included course, studies and evaluation, research.

CSJM Univ holds Alumni Meet



Alumni Meet of Department of English, CSJM University, organised on Saturday.

PNS ■ KANPUR

The Department of English, School of Languages, CSJM University, organised its first Alumni Meet 'Montage 2022' on Saturday. The Director, Prof Sanjay Swarnkar, Secretary Alumni Association, Dr Vivek Sachan, Co-ordinators of Alumni Cell Dr Sumana Biswas and Dr Prabhat Gaurav Mishra, along with the faculty members Dr Ankit Trivedi, Dr Sonali Maurya, Dr Bhawna Singh, Dr

Richa Shukla and Dr Pooja Agarwal graced the occasion with their presence.

The event was inaugurated with the lighting of the lamp, followed by Ganesh Vandana. The Director, Prof Sanjay Swarnkar gave an enlightening speech thanking the honourable Vice-Chancellor for the renovation of the Department and also for introducing the BA (Hons) programme in the year 2021.

The Alumini Association

Secretary Dr Vivek Sachan also gave an exemplary speech, informing the alumni members about the introduction of Alumni Portal and website.

The alumni members poured in huge numbers, expressing their gratitude towards their erudite teachers and towards the department.

The current students of the department organised the cultural programme including music and dance performances.

Felicitation ceremony organised

PNS ■ KANPUR

A felicitation ceremony of outstanding students of Dr Virendra Swarup Education Foundation was held at Virendra Swarup Institute of Computer Studies. The acting director, Dr Arpit Awasthi felicitated 20 students and the toppers were given medals and certificate of merit. Prominent felicitated were Yukti, Yashavi, Preeti, Bobby, Yash, Kirti, Smriti, Kshama and Ishita Gupta. This year there had been 140 campus placements. Prominent present on the occasion were Dr SC Chandel, Dr Pragma Awasthi, Sashi, Shubhi, Sumedha Kapoor and several others.



Virendra Swarup Institute of Computer Studies organised a felicitation ceremony of the outstanding students on Saturday.

AU students call for maha panchayat

Prayagraj (PNS): Students of Allahabad University (AU) protesting the recent fee hike have called for a maha panchayat on the campus to muster support from political parties. The maha panchayat could be held on the campus either on Monday or Tuesday. The student leaders have also shaved their heads as a mark of protest. The protestors are in an upbeat mood after Samajwadi Party (SP) president Akhilesh Yadav raised the issue in the state assembly. The SP president had raised the issue of fee hike by Allahabad University as well as the issue of students' union. One of the student lead-

ers of Samajwadi Chatra Sabha, Ajay Yadav 'Samrat' has been leading a protest on the campus for around 800 days demanding student union elections that have been scrapped since 2019. "We are happy and thankful to our leader for raising the issue in the state assembly because here at AU, there is no one to hear our demand," said Ajay Yadav. Friday's protest coincided with the foundation day of AU which was formed on September 23, 1887. Because of the ongoing protests, the AU administration has not organised any function to mark the day.

Durga Puja committee to promote female literacy

Prayagraj (PNS): After appointing women office bearers on all posts, the Central Barwari Durga Puja committee of Govindpur locality has taken a step forward and decided to promote women empowerment and female literacy through its pandal. Durga puja starts from October 1 and all puja committees in Sangam city are working overtime to make their pandals and idols stand out among others.

Talking to the mediapersons, general secretary of the committee, Runu Chakrovorty said: "With strong support of our patrons, especially that of the chief patron Shubhra Singh we have decided to promote women empowerment and female literacy through our

pandal. Those visiting the pandal would be made aware through posters, pamphlets, placards and other mediums about the need to improve the literacy rate in the country, especially in terms of female literacy."

She added that it is the support and guidance from patrons like Shubra Singh that the barwari stands out in the ideas it presents. She further said the barwari will also try to make the visitors aware about the need to send girls to school and take steps to reduce the dropout rates in education especially in terms of girl child.

The general secretary said despite having an all-women team, it is the strong support of male team members that is

helping the committee to achieve its goals. Senior members, including Sameer Banerjee, SK Debray, Debashish Chakravarty and others, have applauded the efforts of their female counterparts especially when it comes to making people aware of respecting the female fraternity.

"We have always abided by the instructions of the district administration, especially in terms of Covid protocol and like the previous year, this time too we would be making arrangements so that not more than 100-150 people gather inside the pandal. Besides, there would be separate entry and exit points of the pandas," said Debashish Chakravarty.

Breast cancer accounts for 14 per cent of cancers in Indian women

PNS ■ KANPUR

Noted Professor, Department of Radiology and Imaging, Vardhman Mahavir Medical College and Safdarjung Hospital, Dr Shabnam Bhandari Grover, while addressing the inaugural lecture on "Breast Imaging-Basics to Advanced" at the 34th RICON 2022 at Vijay Intercontinental on Saturday said breast cancer accounted for 14 per cent of cancers in Indian women and added that it was really a matter of concern that every four minutes, an Indian woman was diagnosed with breast cancer.

She said the current gold standard for categorising breast density consisted of a radiologist's estimation, Breast Imaging Reporting and Data System (BI-RADS) criteria.

She said this could be useful to establish the effect of the automated evaluation of breast density with the currently available software. She said apart from this evaluating how breast cancers were depicted by artificial intelligence-based computer-assisted diagnosis (AI-CAD) could also be highly relevant in the current times.

Dr Shabnam said breast imaging was one of the most exciting subspecialties in radiology and the importance of early diagnosis was widely confirmed, and the modalities of breast cancer screening were highly debated, with several guidelines proposed in the world. She added that in the current challenging times, a well-established diagnostic-therapeutic care pathway (DTCP) was fundamental to guarantee an essen-



District Magistrate, City, Visakh G Iyer inaugurates 34th RICON 2022 at Vijay Intercontinental on Saturday.

tial level of care.

She said the of late the need for personalised medicine has also changed our vision of the field, giving even more impor-

tance to multimodality and to the integration of both artificial intelligence and human resources. He said consequently, evaluating the application of

radiomics could be of particular interest. She said increased mammographic breast density was a well established risk factor for the development of

breast cancer, regardless of age or ethnic background. She added that examining the real impact of the most recent advancements in standard imaging techniques on breast cancer prevention, such as digital breast tomosynthesis (DBT) and automated breast ultrasound (ABUS), could be incredibly challenging, especially in women with dense breasts.

Dr Shabnam said in addition, contrast-enhanced spectral mammography (CESM) could be considered a true alternative to the most expensive magnetic resonance imaging

(MRI) and on the other hand, the evaluation of fast MRI could have a great impact on breast cancer prevention, especially in women at high risk.

Later Padmashri Dr Harsh Mahajan, Chief Radiologist, Mahajan Imaging New Delhi delivering his key note address at the inaugural session on radiology special reference to chest informed that there had been many remarkable advances in conventional thoracic imaging in recent times. He said the most remarkable was the rapid conversion from film-based to digital radiographic systems. He said computed radiography was now the preferred imaging modality for bedside chest imaging. He said direct radiography was rapidly replacing film-based chest units for in-department posteroanterior and lateral examinations. He said in an exciting aspect of the conversion to digital radiography was the ability to enhance the diagnostic capabilities and

influence of chest radiography newer techniques such as dual-energy and temporal subtraction radiography show promise for improved detection of subtle and often obscured or overlooked lung lesions. He said digital tomosynthesis was a particularly promising technique that allowed reconstruction of multisection images from a short acquisition at very low patient dose. He said preliminary data suggested that, compared with conventional radiography, tomosynthesis may also improve detection of subtle lung lesions. He said the ultimate influence of these new technologies will, of course, depend on the outcome of rigorous scientific validation. Over one dozen lectures related to radiology and breakthrough were carried out on the first day of RICON-2022.

Ganga rising slowly in Varanasi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

For the last many days, the water level of river Ganga not only in the city but also in this region of Purvanchal (eastern UP) continued to rise slowly and this rising trend has been maintained even on Saturday in Varanasi. However, the news that the river was recorded steady at upstream Prayagraj has given a sigh of relief, though the river Ganga continued to rise at Phaphamau prior to Sangam, the confluence of rivers Ganga and Yamuna. The region which had faced a lot of worries in the recent floods are still facing another threat in some parts of Purvanchal as the river was still flowing above the warning level and close to red mark in downstream Ballia where the river was recorded steady at 8 am on Saturday and it is expected that it would remain stable even after 24 hours there, as per the report of Middle Ganga Division-III of Central Water Commission (CWC). In Ballia, the river was recorded at 57.31 metres against warning level of 56.615 metres and danger mark of 57.615 metres.

During the last 24 hours most of the places of the region received brief spells of rains and it is expected that in the coming couple of days, the region will also receive more rains. If there will be heavy rains like some parts of north India and



Water level of river Ganga continues to rise in Varanasi on Saturday.

Pioneer

western UP, it may not only speed up the rising trend in river Ganga but also increase the worries of low lying areas which are also facing threat of floods, once again, due to continuous rise in the water level of river Ganga. During the last 24 hours, Phaphamau received 20 mm rains while Varanasi, Ghazipur and Mirzapur received 10 mm rain each. Though the river water level was increasing slowly, just one centimetre per hour, it has increased the pulse rate of residents of several low lying

areas and colonies located near the rivers Ganga and Varuna in southern and northern parts of the city respectively which had recently faced grim flood situations recently.

As per the report, the river rising trend has continued right from upstream Phaphamau to downstream Ghazipur except Prayagraj including Mirzapur and Varanasi and Ghazipur. In Varanasi, it was at 66.85 metres against the warning level of 70.262 metres. In Ghazipur, the river was also close to the

warning level of 62.105 metres as it was recorded at 60.42 metres. Due to high level of water, the people reached Dashashwamedh and adjoining ghats for pind-daan on the penultimate date of Pitru Paksha faced a lot of inconveniences as the level already reached close to the feet of Sheetla Mata Mandir at Old Dasaswamedh Ghat. Dozens of low lying temples located at internationally famous 84-odd ghats were either submerged into the water fully or partially.

Ban on sale of meat, liquor demanded

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

A section of batuks (Sanskrit students), along with others, took out Shri Ram Padyatra here on Saturday, demanding a complete ban on the sale of meat and liquor in Kashi and declaring this holy city as a meat and liquor free zone like Ayodhya and Mathura. On the initiative of social organisation Aagman and Brahm Sena, hundreds of Gurukul students of Swami Vedanti Ved Vidyapeeth, took out the procession from Ram Mandir, Kashmiri Ganj. Prior to this, they recited the collective Hanuman Chalisa under the leadership of Pt Ram Bharat Shastri after the ritualistic worship of the deity. After 13 group recitations, the batuks started their awareness procession through which people also tried to connect with this campaign to send their voice to the government.

Eminent scholar Prof Chandramouli Upadhyay, Prof Ram Narayan Dwivedi of Kashi Vidvat Parishad, Prof Vinay Pandey of Jyotish (Astrology) department of Banaras Hindu University (BHU) and Prof Subhash Pandey offered coconut to mark the beginning of the campaign amidst the chanting of mantras and raising of slogan of Har Har Mahadev. Two groups of students raised the voice of free-



Procession being taken out for ban on sale of meat and liquor in Varanasi on Saturday.

Pioneer

ing Kashi from meat and liquor and they were carrying placards and Sanatani flags in their hands. They were raising slogans like 'Kashi vasi kare pukar, mansh madira mukt ho Kashi darbar', 'Divya Kashi, Pavitra Kashi, Mansh Madira Mukt ho Kashi'. This 11-kilometre long Shri Ram Yatra started from Ram Mandir in which one team reached back to the same place passing through Kabir Nagar, Durgakund, Gurudham while other via Gurudham,

Sonarpura Bhelupur and Chetmani crossing

Convenor of campaign and founder secretary of Aagman Santosh Ojha urged the Yogi government to impose ban on the sale of meat and liquor in the internal area of the city while declare Saptapuri Kashi as a meat-liquor free zone. He said that for the success of the holy Kashi campaign, the Aagman and Brahm Sena are getting affidavits filed by 50,000 people for public support and

the drive has already been started from the auspicious month of Shravan and till now about 2,000 letters have been received. VP Singh, Rahul Gupta, Harikrishna, Luv Tiwari, Shobnath, Abhishek Jaiswal, Rambali Maurya, Govind Tiwari, Satish Upadhyay, Mahesh Pandey, Sunil Pandey, Nikhil Trivedi, Ajay Dubey, Arjun Maurya, Shravan Maurya, Navratna Kumar, Amit Keshari and many others were also present.

DC for maximising farm exports

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

Divisional Commissioner (DC) Deepak Agrawal stressed the need for maximising the agricultural exports from the Purvanchal (eastern UP) region especially Varanasi division with the creation and development of more clusters to strengthen backward supply chains, capacity building programmes to organise more numbers, terms between Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) and potential exporters. He also emphasised on branding of Purvanchal based agricultural products and identifying new products like honey, babycorn, bajra, mushroom and agri GI products etc. He was holding a meeting with FPOs of Varanasi and Mirzapur divisions here on Friday. "Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) and the divisional administration are working towards increasing the agricultural exports rapidly and we have also coordinated with the Airport Authority of India (AAI) and Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) for smooth logistics," he said.

According to him, in order to boost agricultural exports from the Purvanchal region, the APEDA (Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry) organised a capacity building



DC Deepak Agrawal addressing a meeting on agri exports in Varanasi on Friday.

Pioneer

and sensitisation programme for FPOs to promote agri food products produced widely in the surrounding areas in the global market. In the programme, more than 70 FPOs and their representatives from seven districts of the region including Varanasi, Jaunpur, Ghazipur, Jaunpur, Mirzapur, Sonbhadra and Bhadohi were present. "Purvanchal has a diverse variety of agricultural products including green chillies, ladies finger (okra) etc. To ensure uninterrupted quality production to promote agricultural exports, APEDA has recognised more than 35 potential FPOs in these seven districts," the DC said.

Regional Head of APEDA Dr CB Singh said that since

2019, APEDA has organised more than 100 capacity building programmes in the region apart from eight international buyer-seller meets, which provided a platform to FPOs and exporters to market their agricultural products in the global market. He said that although the region has an airport, earlier it did not have facilities for direct export of agricultural products, as exporters were reluctant to use this airport due to several constraints.

"After the intervention of APEDA, the Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport in Varanasi now has a full-scale functional window for agri-exports. APEDA facilitated the export of the first consignment

of green chillies to the Middle East, then the mango consignment to London and the first shipment of rice from Chandauli," he said, adding that so far 20,000 Metric Ton (MT) of agricultural commodities out of total 90,000 MT have been exported from Purvanchal region in the last two years.

According to him, the total agricultural export from Varanasi in August last year was eight MT but with the intervention of APEDA and divisional administration in the last month, the total agricultural export from Varanasi airport was 81 MT whereas in September this year so far the export figure from Varanasi Airport has crossed 75 MT.

4 killed in lightning strike

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ PRAYAGRAJ

Four people were killed due to lightning and downpour which lashed the city on Friday evening. People of Prayagraj were also shocked by the thundering clouds on Friday. For an hour, the clouds kept thundering, leaving everyone terrified.

There was considerable damage to many buildings as well. In the meantime, incidents of lightning strikes were reported from many places.

Many people made videos and clicked photos. A video which went viral was said to be of Damupur village in Prayagraj. Kasari in Damupur village Dhumanganj is behind Masari. Some people also posted this video on social media platforms like Facebook and Twitter.

It is seen in this video that something like a fire is burning above the trees at some distance from the people making the video. People are say-

ing that the lightning is cracking. In the video, people of the village are talking that the fire broke out due to lightning falling on the Gular tree. Somebody is saying that the fire has been set, then the other says that it is a lightning strike. In the video, villagers are seen saying that the fire seen from afar is a result of lightning.

People were astonished that a massive fire was caused by lightning. However, people

in and around Damupur have been talking about this, so they said that such an incident happened on Friday evening, but people are not saying anything clearly about this when there was a lightning strike or something. Some people said that 11 thousand voltage wires had passed through the tree of the village. There was a fire in it during the rainy season and people made a video of the same scene and called it a fire caused by lightning.

CM pays floral tributes to MP's father

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ PRAYAGRAJ

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath was in Prayagraj on Saturday evening. He came here in the evening. The Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath attended the Trayodshah(terahvi) ceremony of Kaushambi MP Vinod Sonkar, Late father Amarnath. Many other veteran leaders were also in Sangam city to join the terahvi of MP's father. The house of the MP is in Pritamnagar Colony of the city.Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath reached Bamrauli Airport in Prayagraj on Saturday evening from Lucknow by state plane. After landing at Bamrauli airport, CM Yogi reached the residence of Kaushambi MP Vinod Sonkar by car, where he paid floral tributes to his father's portrait. MP Vinod Sonkar's residence is in Pritamnagar Colony of the city. Chief



Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath offering floral tribute to Amarnath Sonkar, father of BJP MP Vinod Sonkar at his house in Prayagraj

Pioneer

including ADG Prem Prakash, IG Rakesh Kumar Singh, SSP Shailesh Pandey took stock of the security arrangements. Divisional Commissioner Vijay Vishwas Pant, DM Sanjay Kumar Khatri also visited the spot and saw the arrangements. Apart from Chief Minister Yogi, in the tervi of

MP Vinod Sonkar's father, many ministers including Bharatiya Janata Party's National General Secretary Arun Singh, State Cabinet Minister Nand Gopal Gupta Nandi, Minister of State Girish Chandra Yadav attended. Senior party office-bearers, leaders and workers also came

to attend the terahvi. The Kaushambi MP is currently the National Secretary of the BJP. From Saturday afternoon, a crowd of people paying tribute started gathering at his residence. Along with Prayagraj and Kaushambi, people from other districts of the state were also involved in this.

Molester injured in encounter with police

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ PRAYAGRAJ

Mohammad Kaif, who molested a girl in front of her fiance in Prayagraj, was injured in a police encounter late on Friday night. Kaif, a resident of Sisai Sipah village, has been shot in the leg. He has been admitted to Swaroopnani Nehru Hospital. A pistol and live cartridges have been recovered from the possession of the accused. Two accused had already surrendered before the police due to fear of their house being bulldozed. Police claimed that checking was being done late on Friday night in search of suspected miscreants by putting up a barrier. Meanwhile, a suspicious person appeared. When the police tried to stop him, he opened fire on the police team. When the police also fired in self-defense, he was shot in the leg. It may be pointed out here that the video of molestation went viral on social media recently. In the investigation, it was found that a young woman and her fiance were talking while sitting near the river in Sisai Sipah area. At the same time, three youths reached there and beat up the girl and her fiancé. Police station in-charge Suresh Singh had registered a

case against Vasik, Jikiriya, Mashook in this case. Meanwhile, the police had got another video, in which Kaif was also molesting. On this basis his name came to light during the investigation. Earlier, On receiving the news of the bulldozer arriving in front of the house, two accused surrendered after reaching the police station. The family members of the accused persons have accused the police of sabotage, which the officials are calling baseless. The engagement of a youth resident of Soraon has been fixed with the girl of Mauaima, 35 km from the city. On Wednesday, he had gone towards the river to meet his fiancée, when three youths from Sisai Sipah village reached. Seeing the girl and her fiancé together, the three youths tried to act arbitrarily and started beating on the protest. They also molested the girl. When the video of the incident was circulated on the internet media, the police filed a case against the three under sections including molestation. As soon as the FIR was lodged, the accused had fled the house. When the pressure of arrest was made after the video went viral, on Friday, the police reached the house of the

accused with a bulldozer. Seeing the bulldozer, a panic gripped in the village. After some time it was learned two accused had surrendered at the police station, after which the police returned with a bulldozer. It is learned that the accused surrendered themselves after going to the police station as they were afraid that the police would demolish their family's houses.

TEEN GIRL GANGRAPE CASE: The police arrested three accused, including the son of the leader of the Apna Dal, who were involved in the gang rape of a teenage girl in an area of Pratapgarh district. On the pretext of friendship, a youth along with two other his accomplices had gang-raped the girl. The incident came to light after the girl raised an alarm. The matter is of Vishwanathganj area. A 20-year-old girl from Fatanpur was friends with Shivam Saroj of Vishwanathganj. She reached Vishwanathganj, Mandhata police station on Friday evening to meet him. There, along with Shivam, Mohd Tafseer, son of Apna Dal leader and former District Panchayat member Fahim alias Pappu (Fahim was in BSP for a long time, had also contested the

assembly elections from Kunda against Raghuraj Pratap Singh 'Raja Bhaiya' in the same year) resident of Govardhanpur and Munnu of the same village, Rafiq of Paharpur were also found there. All these people took the girl by car to the bald forest on the banks of Prayagraj-Ayodhya highway. There Munnu was keeping an eye on the outsiders and three including Shivam raped her in turn. After being released from their clutches, at around 6 o'clock in the evening, the girl came to the highway and made noise, then people came to know about the incident. After that she fainted. The police took her to the medical college for examination, but the investigation could be done on Saturday. On the basis of the statement of the girl, SO Delhupur Dharendra Thakur registered a case against the four accused. The family members of the girl had also created a ruckus late night in the hospital, accusing the police of not being active. SP Satpal Antil said that in view of the seriousness of the incident, four police teams were formed. After the incident, all the three accused except Shivam have been arrested after raiding the whole night.

Murder accused gets life imprisonment

CORRESPONDENT ■ MIRZAPUR

An accused for murdering the witness was sentenced for life imprisonment on Friday. As per the reports, Ganesh Giri the resident of Pachengadara village under the Adalahaat police station had lodged an FIR at police station on January 8 in 2018 alleging that his elder brother Prabhat Giri who was the witness in the murder of his cousin Govind Giri was murdered by the accused of the murder of Govind Giri. According to the case the accused Rishu Patel was acquitted in the murder case of Govind Giri in the lack of any witness. In the case of murder of the witness the ADGC Kashi Nath Dubey and public prosecutor Vinod Yadav effectively prosecuted the case and as the result the ADJ Jitendra Kumar Mishra sentenced the accused Rishu Patel with life imprisonment.

RECOVERED: GRP have arrested one person and recovered stolen goods from his possession on Friday. As per

the reports, the GRP personnel were on their routine patrolling that one suspect was spotted near Chunar railway station at the temple of Hanumanji under the limits of GRP Mirzapur. The team led by SO Santosh Kumar nabbed the suspect and after frisking jewellery and a mobile phone was found from his possession. After registering the case, the GRP sent the accused to jail. The accused was identified as Santosh Kumar Pandey the resident of Chhattipar Khusrupur, district Patna, Bihar.

INSPECTED: In view of Navratri Mela IG RPF Ravindra Verma inspected Mirzapur railway station and issued the necessary directions on Friday. During the inspection the IG became aware with the Childline and gave the tips for effective working to the officials concerned. Inspecting the CCTV room, barracks and the office records the IG directed the staff to maintain more alertness during mela and keep close watch on the suspects. During the inspection the IG

interacted with the staff too and became aware with their genuine problems during duty. On the occasion the IG was accompanied by Dinesh Kumar the SHO RPF Mirzapur along with Avinash Shankar, Vivek Tripathi, Gaurav, Sandeep Kumar and the others.

EXHIBITION INAUGURATED: Union State Minister for Industry and Commerce Anupriya Patel has said that Vocal for local policy was introduced under the visionary approach of PM Modi and the positive result was before us. These views were expressed by her while inaugurating the three-day exhibition of ODOP products and the other hand-made items of the district at a ground located at Shiwala Mahanth on Friday.

Speaking more as the chief guest she conceded that during Corona pandemic the chain of demand and supply had been collapsed at international level so our prime minister gave the incantation to make the nation as self dependent and made the formula to create the broad

market for the local products. ODOP policy was a step to promote the products of the district at international level and government was providing the several facilities including the bank loan to enhance the local products. She further said that it was the strong will power of the PM that several medicines and the equipments related to Corona were produced in our country and even the vaccine was prepared within a short period.

Watching the locally hand-made products including the wooden toys as well as the home products manufactured by the SHGs the minister appreciated the quality and appealed the gathering to purchase the items displayed in the exhibition and boost up the morale of the entrepreneurs. The minister was welcomed by the DM Divya Mittal and the officials of the Industry department and said that the Central Government was committed to provide all the possible support to make the nation as self-dependent.

PFI incite youth to join ISIS, LeT: NIA

Agency: Group conspired to establish Islamic rule in India by committing terrorist activities

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has alleged that the radical outfit Popular Front of India (PFI) encouraged vulnerable youths to join terrorist organisations, including Lashkar-e-Tayyeba (LeT), Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) or Daesh and Al-Qaida, and also conspired to establish Islamic rule in India by committing a terrorist act.

The NIA has also claimed that the documents seized during the nation-wide searches conducted at offices of PFI and its leaders contain highly incriminating materials targeting prominent leaders of a particular community. In a remand petition submitted before the NIA special court in Kochi on Thursday seeking custody of 10 persons in connection with a case registered



by the agency's Kochi office, the agency alleged that the radical Islamist outfit conspired to establish Islamic rule in India by committing terrorist act as a part of violent jihad. It said the PFI spreads "dis-affection against India by wrongful inter-

pretation of government policies to the particular section of people" to create hatred against the state and its machineries.

"During the investigation, based on materials collected, it has been disclosed that the accused named in the FIR were actively involved in the organised crimes and unlawful activities repeatedly, to terrorise other religious sections of the society, besides creating fear in the mind of general public based on the larger conspiracy hatched among themselves and others," the report said.

In near simultaneous raids across the country, a multi-agency operation spearheaded by the NIA on September 22 led to the arrest of 106 activists of the Popular Front of India in 11 States for allegedly supporting terror activities in the country. "The seized documents also contain highly

incriminating materials related to targeting prominent leaders of a particular community. The Hit List seized clearly shows that the PFI, which is working through its leaders, members and associates have gone far ahead in creating atrocities among the community," the report said.

With an intention to disrupt public tranquility and propagating alternative justice delivery system, "the PFI encouraged youths to join terrorist organisation" including Lashkar-e-Taiba, Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) and Al-Qaida and "also conspired to establish Islamic rule in India by committing terrorist act" as a part of violent jihad, it said. "The case involves key players of the society and they are highly influential even to the effect of stalling the community and its progress by a mere call.

The common man stands threatened by the stand taken by the accused and their henchmen," the report added. The agency said the devices confiscated from the accused and from the offices of the PFI needed to be analysed at Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC) in Thiruvananthapuram. The probe agency had produced 10 accused before the court and sought their custody to "unearth larger conspiracy hatched by the accused/cadres and office bearers/leaders of PFI".

The agency said the Ministry of Home Affairs had on September 16 directed it to probe the matter following which a case was registered on September 19 under various sections of the IPC and the UAPA. The NIA court had remanded the accused to judicial custody.

Nitish, Lalu to meet Sonia today, may push for pre-poll alliance

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, along with RJD patriarch Lalu Prasad and Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav, will call on Congress president Sonia Gandhi on Sunday.

The meeting assumes importance in the backdrop of discussions on Opposition unity. Both Nitish and the RJD are pushing for a pre-poll alliance ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha election rather than a loosely tied-together front.

The Bihar leaders will be in the national Capital to attend a rally to mark the birth anniversary of former deputy Prime Minister and Indian National Lok Dal (INLD) founder Devi Lal in Fatehabad, Haryana, organised by INLD leader O.P. Chautala. A senior JDU leader said a formula is being worked upon similar to 2004 for a pre-poll alliance where alliances can be forged at the State level



amongst parties comfortable in sharing space like the one that exists in Bihar.

Such an alliance can be explored in five major States — Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Maharashtra, which together send 222 members to the Lok Sabha.

CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury asserted that Opposition unity at the national level is a chimera that no one should chase. "I have said it repeatedly, that alliances have to be formed at the State level keeping in mind the unique political factors of each State," he said.

In 2004 too informal alliances existed prior to the

election among the several of the constituent parties of the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) at State level. The Congress for example was in alliance with Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) in Jharkhand, the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) in Maharashtra, the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) in Tamil Nadu and the RJD and the LJP in Bihar. The rally organised by Chautala will be attended by several Opposition leaders including NCP patriarch Sharad Pawar, Shiv Sena leader and former Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray, DMK leader Kanimozhi and National Conference leader Farooq Abdullah.

Yechury too will be present at the rally. Chautala has also sent invitations to West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao and Telugu Desam Party chief (TDP) Chandrababu Naidu, for attending public meeting.

MEA warns Indians against fake job rackets in Thailand, Myanmar



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Government on Saturday asked all Indian nationals aspiring for jobs in foreign countries to be wary of dubious foreign companies and urged them to verify the credentials of foreign employers and antecedents of recruiting agents in view of many Indians lured to Myanmar as part of a scam.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said instances of "fake job rackets" offering lucrative jobs in Thailand by dubious IT firms have come to the notice of Indian missions in Bangkok and Myanmar.

Instances of fake job rackets offering lucrative jobs to entice Indian youths for the posts of digital sales and marketing executives' in Thailand by dubious IT firms involved in call centre scam and cryptocurrency fraud have come to our notice recently by our missions in Bangkok and Myanmar," the MEA said.

"The target groups are IT skilled youth who are duped in the name of lucrative data entry jobs in Thailand through social media advertisements as well as by Dubai and India-based agents," it said in an advisory.

The MEA said the victims are reportedly taken across the border illegally, mostly into Myanmar, and held captive to work under harsh conditions. It advised Indian nationals not to get "entrapped" in such fake job offers being floated through social media platforms or other sources.

"Before travelling on tourist/visit visa for employment purposes, Indian nationals are advised to check/verify credentials of foreign employers through concerned Missions abroad, and antecedents of recruiting agents as well as any company before taking up any job offer," it said.

The Indian embassy in Myanmar recently rescued over 30 Indians out of 60 who were trapped in that country's Myawaddy area after falling prey to an international racket promising jobs in Thailand.

Myawaddy area in south-eastern Myanmar's Kayin state bordering Thailand is not fully under the control of the Myanmar government and certain ethnic armed groups hold sway over it.

QUAD leaders vow free, open Indo-Pacific region

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE/AGENCIES ■ NEW DELHI/NEW YORK

With China asserting itself in the Indo-Pacific region, the Quad combine has said it is against any unilateral actions to change the status there or increase tensions and called for rules-based international order.

This caution was sounded by the foreign ministers of the Quad grouping comprising India, Australia, US and Japan. The Ministers met late Friday on the sidelines of the ongoing 77th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).

The Quad grouping meet was held to deepen Quad multilateral cooperation in support of advancing a free and open Indo-Pacific, which is inclusive



and resilient, according to the joint readout of the meeting held here on Friday.

The meeting was attended by External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and his counterparts Penny Wong of Australia, Hayashi Yoshimasa of Japan and US Secretary of State Antony Blinken.

"The Quad's vision is for a

region where the rules-based international order is upheld, and where the principles of freedom, rule of law, democratic values, peaceful settlement of disputes, sovereignty, and territorial integrity are respected," the joint readout released by the US State Department said. "We strongly oppose any unilateral actions that seek to

change the status quo or increase tensions in the region," the four foreign ministers said.

They reaffirmed their conviction that international law, peace, and security in the maritime domain underpins the development and prosperity of the Indo-Pacific," according to the readout.

"We also reaffirmed our unwavering support for ASEAN (the Association of Southeast Asian Nations) unity and centrality, ASEAN-led regional architecture, and practical implementation of ASEAN's Outlook on the Indo-Pacific," it said.

China claims nearly all of the disputed South China Sea, though Taiwan, the Philippines, Brunei, Malaysia and Vietnam all claim parts of it. Beijing has built artificial islands and military installa-

tions in the South China Sea. China also has territorial disputes with Japan in the East China Sea. China and India are also involved in a protracted military standoff in eastern Ladakh. India has been consistently maintaining that peace and tranquility along the Line of Actual Control were key for the overall development of the bilateral ties.

In the meeting, they also underscored the Quad's unwavering support for the UN Charter, including its three pillars, and their steadfast commitment to strengthening and reforming the UN and international system.

"The Quad affirmed its support for a UN that solves the consequential challenges of our time and safeguards our shared and interconnected resources. This includes the full

implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals," the four ministers said.

The leaders said they are committed to advancing a comprehensive UN reform agenda, including through the expansion of permanent and non-permanent seats of the UN Security Council so that the Council reflects the current global realities and incorporates more geographically diverse perspectives.

The foreign ministers said they look forward to the counter-terrorism tabletop exercise being hosted by Australia later in 2022. They intend to meet in person for the next Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting in New Delhi in early 2023.

'Army capable to give befitting reply to enemy'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Indian Army is capable of giving a befitting reply to any adversary and when it engages with China, it does so on an equal footing, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said here on Saturday.

Asserting this point at an event to release a five-volume book on Deendayal Upadhyay in presence of Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar, he said, when China conducted first nuclear test in 1964, Deendayal Upadhyay was the first one who spoke in favour of India



conducting its nuclear test, the minister said. When India carried out its first nuclear tests in 1998 in Rajasthan under the leadership of then prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the idea was not to use the weapon against any country but to maintain a deterrent, he said.

"Because of that deterrence, the Indian Army today has full confidence of self-defence. Today in 2022, when India's army engages with China, it does so on an equal footing. If any power looks towards India with evil intention, Indian soldiers have the capability to give a befitting reply," he said.

Rajnath said country's goal is not only to make items for its needs, but also to export defence items to other countries. "I can say we are moving fast towards fulfilling dreams of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay," he said.



Union Minister for Home Affairs and Cooperation Amit Shah during inauguration of five Border Outposts of 'Sashastra Seema Bal', in Fatehpur, Bihar, on Saturday

PTI Photo

FROM PAGE 1

ANKITA MURDER FURY ENGULFS U'KHAND

In the audio clip of the conversation shared on social media, the emotional father could be heard opining that the accused should have been encountered, though Kumar told him that action has to be taken according to the law. He was assured that the police will aim through investigation and evidence to secure the death penalty for the perpetrators.

The murder of Ankita has caused a stir in Uttarakhand with the heinous crime eliciting focus on various aspects of the crime, including indiscriminate and illegal construction of resorts and land laws among other aspects. The CM has ordered a survey of all tourist resorts in the State, while Vidhan Sabha Speaker Ritu Khanduri has raised questions at the efficacy of the revenue police system and stressed on the need for strong land laws in the State. Meanwhile, Opposition parties are organising protests to pay homage and demand justice for the victim.

CBI RAIDS 56 SPOTS IN BIGGEST CRACKDOWN ON CHILD PORN

The said information received by Interpol from law enforcement authorities of New Zealand was analysed and developed by the CBI, and suspected persons were identified to locate and disrupt further distribution," it said.

The crackdown was a follow up of massive operation (Operation Carbon) carried out by the CBI last year against online child sexual abuse material. During the searches, electronic devices, including mobiles, laptops belonging to more than 50 suspects have been recovered. Preliminary scrutiny of these electronic devices using cyber forensic tools has revealed the presence of huge quan-

tity of child sexual abuse material in a number of electronic devices, it said.

The suspects are being questioned with regard to the child sexual abuse material found in their electronic devices so as to identify the child victims and the abusers.

"Operation Chakra is one of the CBI-led global operations in recent times for rapid response to online child sexual exploitation cases with international linkages and organised cyber enabled financial crimes with victims, accused, suspects, conspirators located across international jurisdictions, requiring a globally coordinated law enforcement response. Operation Chakra seeks to collate information from various law enforcement agencies within India, engage with relevant law enforcement agencies globally and coordinate closely through Interpol channels to combat online child sexual exploitation and such organized cyber criminal activities," it said.

Coordination meetings were organised with Interpol and foreign law enforcement agencies for sharing critical information to dismantle such cyber-crime networks. Investigation is continuing, it added.

C'GARH VARSITY VIDEO LEAK: SOLDIER HELD FOR BLACKMAILING ACCUSED GIRL STUDENT

Immediately on receipt of information from the Police authorities, all possible assistance was extended to Punjab and Arunachal Pradesh Police to arrest the soldier and handover his custody for further investigations, he said.

Indian Army practices zero tolerance of such acts and will continue to provide all assistance for early conclusion of investigation, the official stressed.

Protests had rocked the university campus in Punjab's Mohali last week over allegations levelled by students that a hostel inmate recorded several objectionable videos of students in the common washroom.

Some students had even claimed that the videos were leaked. The university authorities, however, dismissed these allegations as "false and baseless".

The SIT headed by SP Counter Intelligence Ludhiana Rupinder Kaur Bhatti, along with two members, including DSP Kharar-1 Rupinder Kaur and DSP AGTF Deepika Singh, has been conducting investigations in the case. "The guilty in this case will not be spared and justice will prevail," said the DGP.

6 MONTHS OF YOGI GOVT 2.0 DEVOTED TO FULFILLING LOK KALYAN SANKALP

air connectivity with five international airports and connect all divisions of the state by air.

In terms of health infrastructure, Health ATMs are being installed in all 4,600 primary health centres of the state. Besides, medical colleges are operational in 65 districts while All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) is running in Gorakhpur and Rae Bareilly. A total of 6.51 crore people of the state have been covered under health insurance of up to Rs 5 lakh through Ayushman card.

On the law and order front, as many 36 mafias and their goons, including Mukhtar Ansari, have been sentenced to life imprisonment and two to death. Along with this, in the last six months, illegally earned properties worth more than Rs 2,200 crore of 62 mafias have been confiscated and demolished.

Uttar Pradesh also ranks first in the

country in awarding punishment in the shortest time. The UP Police have registered 396 cases against 860 associates of mafia gangs and arrested more than 400. Action has been taken against 174 under Goonda Act, 355 under Gangsters Act, 13 under National Security Act while 310 arms licences have been cancelled.

In the campaign against the drug mafia from August 24 to September 8 this year, the police identified 2,833 suspected accused and took action against 2,479 while registering 2,277 cases.

More than two dozen government policies are being upgraded ahead of the Global Investor Summit-23 (GIS) to be held in January next year. The new Industrial Policy, Warehousing and Logistics Policy and Electronic Vehicle Policy are on the anvil. Road shows for GIS-23 will also be held in seven major cities of the country and 17 foreign countries.

In the last six months, 55 companies have received investment proposals worth Rs 45,000 crore. In the last five years, the maximum investment of Rs 94,632 crore has been made in the information technology (IT) and electronics sector. In the last five-and-a-half years, the Yogi government has signed memorandums of understanding (MoUs) worth Rs 4.68 lakh crore, out of which projects worth Rs 3.82 lakh crore have been completed. Under the ease of doing business, 205 reforms have been implemented till August 21 this year and another 142 reforms will be implemented by October 31.

So far more than 13.67 lakh girls have benefited in the state from Kanya Sumangala scheme. Under the Chief Minister's Mass Marriage Scheme, the government has so far got 1,91,686 daughters of economically weaker families married in Uttar Pradesh. The purpose of deployment of Banking Sakshis in 58,000 gram panchayats is to strength-

en daughters and women. The chief minister's initiative has helped around 48,000 women do financial transactions worth Rs 5,451 crore and earn more than Rs 14.15 crore as commission since 2020. Women self-help group members in the form of Bijli Sakshis have so far made collections of electricity bills of more than Rs 173.5 crore, earning a commission of Rs 2.39 crore.

To create a safe environment for daughters and women, the Yogi government is raising three women Provincial Armed Constabulary (PAC) battalions for the first time in the state. At the same time, women help desks have been set up in all 1,584 police stations (including Government Railway Police) of the state. In all 1,535 police stations, 10,417 women police beats have been constituted.

By setting a record in payment to sugarcane farmers, the Yogi government has silenced the opposition parties. During the year 2012-2017, only Rs 95 lakh crore was paid to sugarcane farmers while Rs 1.51 lakh crore has been paid during 2017-2022 after Yogi Adityanath became the chief minister. The total payment of sugarcane arrears made by the Yogi government is around Rs 1.78 lakh crore. This is a record since independence.

Sugarcane production, which was 1,486.57 lakh metric tonnes in 2016-2017, has increased to 11,059 lakh metric tonnes in 2020-2021. During the same period, sugar production increased from 87.73 lakh metric tonnes to 110.59 lakh metric tonnes and sugarcane productivity increased from 72.38 MT per hectare to 81.5 MT per hectare. Presently 55 mills are making ethanol from heavy molasses. Pipraich will be the first mill in North India to produce ethanol directly from sugarcane juice. At present, UP is also number one in the country in the production of ethanol.

Mumbai's former Police Commissioner arrested in NSE phone tapping case

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The CBI has arrested former Mumbai Police Commissioner Sanjay Pandey in relation to the National Stock Exchange (NSE) phone tapping case. He was earlier arrested by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and was presently in judicial custody.

The CBI has secured from a Mumbai court four-day custody of Pandey in connection with the alleged illegal phone tapping of NSE employees by his information technology firm. The CBI approached a special CBI court seeking his custody in connection with the tapping case.

The CBI will subject Pandey to custodial interrogation during his four-day custody. In addition to Pandey and former Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of National Stock Exchange (NSE) Chitra Ramkrishna, the CBI has also named another former NSE CEO and MD Ravi Narain in the case.

It is alleged iSec Securities Pvt. Ltd, one of the firms that conducted a security audit of NSE, had illegally tapped phones of NSE employees during 2009-17, the CBI has alleged in its FIR. The company was incorporated by Pandey in March 2001 and he quit as its director in May 2006. His son and mother took over charge of the company after Pandey's exit. On July 19, the ED Pandey in connection with a money laundering case linked to the alleged illegal phone tapping of NSE employees. The retired 1986-batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer was arrested after two consecutive days of questioning in connection with the money laundering case.

Pandey is facing two connected FIRs by the ED and Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) of illegal interception of phones of NSE employees by iSec Services Private Ltd, a company founded by him, and violation of Securities and Exchange Board of India guidelines in conducting NSE's system audit.

In its FIR, the CBI had alleged that Ravi Narain and Ramkrishna, both former chief executives of the NSE, had roped in company founded Pandey to snoop on the stock market employees by illegally intercepting their phone calls.

INDIA WHITEWASH ENGLAND IN JHULAN'S LAST WALTZ

Record first ever clean sweep on England soil

PTI ■ LONDON

A fairy-tale ending befitting her glorious career marked Jhulan Goswami's last waltz as India Women beat England by 16 runs in the third and final ODI to record their first clean sweep in this country.

That the feat was achieved at the Mecca of Cricket — Lord's — made it doubly satisfying.

Sent into bat, India were all out for a paltry 169, and at that point it looked like the tourists may have fallen many runs short of making the match a memorable one for their legendary seamer, who is calling it quits after two decades of incredible service to the game.

However, the Indians managed to eke out a win as Charlotte Dean (47) was adjudged run out in controversial fashion, for backing up. Dean, who nearly pulled off a stunning win for the hosts after they were reeling at 65 for seven and then 103 for eight, was out of her ground and Deepti Sharma simply held the ball to remove the bails, leaving the English flabbergasted.



Recently, ICC while modifying the playing conditions had moved this kind of dismissal from 'unfair play' to 'run out'. The changes would come into effect from October 1. On expected lines, the day revolved around the 39-year-old warhorse Jhulan Goswami, who is leaving the scene as women's cricket's highest wicket-taker, having started her journey way back in 2002.

Harmanpreet Kaur, who let Jhulan call the toss in a touching gesture, was

unable to hold back her tears, even as the Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) planned to name a stand at the Eden Gardens after the 'Chakdaha Express'.

She finished with excellent figures of 2/30 in her full quota of 10 overs, including three maiden overs.

The competitive Indian has seen the game evolve during her long journey that was marked with some unforgettable moments and few unpleasant days.

While she was not expected to be at

her peak in her final series, Jhulan did enough on her own to go out on a high, having bowled tidily in her last three international matches.

She was lucky to have got her first wicket of the day with a short one, her second scalp came when the pacer bowled Kate Cross with her ball number 10,001 in ODIs, again something which no other player has achieved.

England captain Amy Jones's decision to field first seemed to have paid dividends as India kept losing wickets at regular intervals to be bundled out in 45.4 overs. India were in deep trouble at 29 for four pretty early into their innings, but them came the revival.

All-rounder Deepti Sharma top-scored for the visitors with an unbeaten 68 off 106 balls, while opener Smriti Mandhana was the second highest scorer, making exactly 50 runs in 79 deliveries. Barring these two, and Pooja Vastrakar (22), to some extent, none of the Indian batters could make any substantial contribution in the final game of the series, which the tourists had pocketed with wins in the first two matches.

Among England bowlers, medium pacer Kate Cross returned with excellent figures of 4/26, while there were two wickets apiece for Freya Kemp and Sophie Ecclestone.

Harshal, Chahal's form in focus ahead of series decider against Australia

PTI ■ HYDERABAD

India will be hoping their key bowlers, Harshal Patel and Yuzvendra Chahal, are back to their best when the hosts take on Australia in the series-deciding third T20 International here on Sunday.

India were able to plug the gaps in Nagpur to level the three-match series with a comprehensive win in the eight-over-a-side contest. But they will need their bowlers, especially Harshal and Chahal, to overcome their struggles ahead of the T20 World Cup.

India had got off to an electric start in the last game with Axar Patel bowling a fiery two-over spell that included a couple of wickets but they are struggling at the back end of the innings.

While Jasprit Bumrah is sure to carry the responsibility, senior seamer Bhuvneshwar Kumar's poor show at the death overs is a real concern. He struggled in the Asia Cup and in the opener against Australia.

He was dropped for the second T20, perhaps, because skipper Rohit Sharma felt he needed only four bowlers for the eight overs but Bhuvneshwar's form is worrisome.

Death overs specialist Harshal, who is returning from an injury, also hasn't inspired confidence and perhaps needs a couple of matches more to find his rhythm.

The right-arm medium pacer, who relies on his variations to be effective, has conceded 81 runs in his six overs at an economy rate of 13.50 and is the most expensive bowler in the series. He has struggled to get his lengths right, remaining



wicketless.

India rely on their spinners in the middle overs and while Axar has been a big positive, Chahal has faltered. He went for a lot of runs in the Asia Cup and the trend has continued against Australia.

India will, however, breathe a sigh of relief as Bumrah was his vintage best, showing no signs of rust after returning from his back injury.

In the batting department, the famed top order comprising Rohit, KL Rahul and Virat Kohli needs to be more consistent. The trio has not fired in unison for a while.

Suryakumar Yadav has also been patchy in the past few games with Hardik Pandya churning out match-winning performances.

Another chink in the Indian batters' armour is leg spin. The have continued to struggle against leggies and Adam Zampa has utilised this weakness well.

Dinesh Karthik, who played his role of a finisher to perfection in the previous game, is likely to get more game time. Skipper Rohit would also

like to give Axar, who is a like-to-like replacement for the injured Ravindra Jadeja, a go with the bat to see how the all-rounder performs in crunch situations. Additionally, he is the only left-hander in the side apart from Rishabh Pant.

The Australians, on the other hand, would also be concerned with their bowling.

After outplaying India in the first game, the Australians were at the receiving end in the second match, eventually losing by a massive six wickets. While Aaron Finch and Matthew Wade managed to put runs on the board, their bowling department failed miserably once again.

In the absence of the injured Nathan Ellis, pacers Pat Cummins, Josh Hazlewood and Daniel Sams leaked over 11 runs an over. All-rounder Cameron Green has also been expensive.

Wade has been brilliant with the willow but with a World Cup to defend in their backyard, the Australian team management would like the big-hitting Glenn Maxwell, who has scored just a run in two games, to pick up form.

She would spit fire even while bowling at me in nets: Mithali



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Jhulan Goswami's commitment to the game was such that she would "spit fire" even while bowling in the nets, and at the receiving end of it often was her longtime teammate and captain, Mithali Raj.

India's finest ever batter Mithali, who called time on a glorious career in July, on Saturday welcomed her contemporary and fast-bowling great Jhulan into the former cricketers' club.

Having shared the dressing room for close to two decades, Mithali and Jhulan saw the massive growth of women's cricket in India, shared many memorable wins and also some heart-breaking losses.

Speaking to PTI on Jhulan's immense impact, longevity and relentless hard-work over the years, Mithali began by talking about the 'Chakdaha Express' early days when she came into the Indian team as a 19-year-old.

"We are of the same age, so we have that comfort level and communication. It was always very easy to reach out to her and speak to her. Someone who

was always high on energy on the ground, may be because she is a fast bowler," said Mithali.

The 39-year-old became the leading wicket-taker in ODIs through sheer dedication. Though swing was not her biggest weapon, accuracy and use of the seam got her a bagful of wickets.

The competitive spirit in Jhulan was very much evident even in the nets, recalled Mithali. "In the nets, I would often ask her 'why are you spitting fire, you are my teammate only na'. Then she would say 'to get out is the toughest'. She always had the competitive streak including domestic cricket where we played against each other often. I enjoyed that rivalry as well."

A fast bowler is expected to have a tough exterior but Jhulan was also gentle at heart. Mithali recollected a game in domestic cricket that revealed Jhulan's softer side.

"We were playing in the semifinals (Railways versus Bengal). I did not carry my helmet during that domestic season. Jhulan was aiming right at my head and I did leave a lot of her bouncers.

CAB planning to name stand at Eden Gardens after Jhulan Goswami

PTI ■ KOLKATA

The Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) is planning to name a stand at the Eden Gardens after legendary India seamer Jhulan Goswami, in recognition of her excellent services to the game.

Hailing from West Bengal's Chakdaha town in Nadia district, the 39-year-old Jhulan brought the curtains down on her glorious, two-decade career with the third and final ODI against England at Lord's on Saturday.

"We are planning to name a stand after Jhulan Goswami at Eden Gardens. She is a special cricketer and deserves to be with the legends. We will approach the army for the necessary permission. We are also planning a special felicitation for her on the annual day," CAB President Avishek Dalmiya said. "At CAB we give equal importance to women's cricket and hence we see so many talented cricketers. They are of course inspired by Jhulan's achievements. Though she has retired from international cricket we would love her to play in the woman's IPL," he added.

Women's cricket's highest wicket-taker, Jhulan, fondly known as 'Chakdah Express', bids adieu to international cricket with over 350 wickets, a feat no bowler has achieved so far.



I don't practice too much but like to be specific: Karthik

PTI ■ NAGPUR

Specific practice and not 'too much of it' helps Dinesh Karthik come up with the big hits in extreme pressure situations.

One such case was on Friday night when he smashed a six and four to seal the game for India after nine runs were needed off the last six balls.

Asked about his process, the designated finisher in the team said creating scenarios in the nets helps him perform in the middle.

"Over a period of time, I've been practising for this, I've been doing it for RCB now and I'm happy doing it here. So it's a consistent routine for a period of time.

"I do a lot of scenario practices and also Rahul (Dravid) bhai and Vikram (Rathour) bhai has been accommodating of how I want to practice, what are the kinds of shots I want to practice.

"I have been very specific with it. I don't practice too much but I like to keep it as specific as possible," said Karthik after India levelled the series

against Australia.

In the first game, Karthik came to bat after Axar Patel while on Friday he was sent ahead of the left-arm spinner.

"I think it's something that we are trying, there are times when there could be a couple of overs where an Axar Patel could target a spinner and take them on.

"So that is the kind of logic at that stage and having a left hander and leg spinner bowling is a good matchup. So we try and use that option sometimes.

"So that's one of the reasons why we try and do it depending on how the game is unravelling at that point of time," said the 37-year-old.

Karthik played ahead of Rishabh Pant in the opener but a truncated game allowed the management to accommodate both in the playing eleven for the second T20.

"Today we required four bowlers to finish off the 8 overs as each bowled two but we actually had five options. So when you have five options, that's the luxury of having a world class all rounder in Hardik Pandya," said Karthik.

David is versatile and adds to Australia's batting options: Finch

PTI ■ NAGPUR

Big-hitting Tim David is a "versatile and flexible" player and his presence only adds to the options that Australia possess going into the T20 World cup, feels skipper Aaron Finch.

The Singapore-born batter, known from his explosive knocks, made his debut for Australia in the first T20.

"What Tim brings to the table obviously is some great form in competitions around the world. In various batting positions I know in the PSL, he batted at 4 and had a great tournament, other tournaments, he batted five and six," Finch said.

"So we see him as a really versatile and flexible player and obviously his power speaks for itself.

"We've all seen how destructive he can be once he gets in and in terms of the order I think it just depends on the game situation, maybe, some matchups in the opposition as well."

Talking about David's batting position, he said, "Ideally, it'd be right towards the back



end because the top order has done a great job.

"But I think if you look down our World Cup squad, we've got some power there with Maxwell, Stoinis, David, Wade and Smith. We've got a lot of options there which is really good."

Australia suffered a six-wicket loss to India in the second T20 which was reduced to 8 overs a side due to wet outfield.

"It's important that you're always looking at ways to improve and obviously we were with Maxwell at three, Tim David at four. So we're trying to be a bit more aggressive up

front and yeah, we haven't played too many shortened games," Finch said.

"Especially leading into a World Cup, we've to put some thought into it over some time. Josh Inglis came out at the last minute, and Sean Abbott took his spot. That was just to give us an extra bowling option, not knowing how the wicket would play."

"So there's just a little bit of execution with bat and ball I think at times that probably just swung the momentum of the game. And obviously, the way the Rohit played was pretty special. And also Axar the way that he bowled, he was outstanding."

Bangladesh, Ireland qualify for 2023 Women's T20 World Cup

PTI ■ DUBAI

Bangladesh and Ireland have qualified for the 2023 Women's T20 World Cup in South Africa after winning their respective semi-finals at the qualifying event in Abu Dhabi.

Bangladesh completed a 11-run win over Thailand and Ireland beat Zimbabwe by four runs in matches played at the Zayed Cricket Stadium on Friday to book their berths, joining Australia, England, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka and the West Indies, who have already made it to the 10-team tournament.

Bangladesh captain Nigar Sultana Joty said: "We came here to qualify for the T20 World Cup, and we did it! We have been playing together for so many years, this is our time to show the world how good we are, how much we have improved as a side."

Ireland captain Laura Delany said: "It (qualification) is massively important for the



growth of the game in Ireland. We feel fortunate that Cricket Ireland have introduced full-time contracts and I think we are starting to see the benefit of that.

"It is a lot of relief that we won. They run us till the last ball, it was a very competitive game. We are thrilled to be there. We have tried to veer off from focusing on the World Cup. We weren't successful last time so wanted to do things differently. We are proud to have got over the line today."

Papua New Guinea (PNG), Scotland, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and the United States of America (USA) were the other teams to compete in the eight-team tournament.

Duleep Trophy Final: West Zone have one hand on trophy

PTI ■ COIMBATORE

West Zone closed in on a memorable come-from-behind victory as they took out the South Zone top and middle-order after setting them an improbable victory target of 529 in the Duleep Trophy final here on Saturday.

Reeling at 156 for six at stumps on the fourth and penultimate day, South Zone were staring at a heavy defeat as they trailed by 375 runs.

West Zone put up a mammoth 585 for four in their second innings after conceding a 57-run first-innings lead to their opponents.

Prolific run-scorer Sarfaraz Khan recorded a fine, unbeaten century (127 off 178 balls) to continue West's charge after overnight double centurion Yashavi Jaiswal was dismissed for 265 at the SNR College Cricket Ground.

At the end of third day's



play, West Zone were 376 for three and Jaiswal was batting on 209 off 244 balls. Jaiswal began the day from where he had left last evening, adding seven more boundaries to the 23 he had hit by the end of third day's play.

Jaiswal eventually fell to off-spinner Krishnappa Gowtham, having faced 330 deliveries during his monumental knock and added 164 runs with Sarfaraz for the fourth wicket.

There was no respite, however, for the South bowlers as Sarfaraz went about his task with consummate ease to swell his team's overall lead and put them in a commanding position.

In all, Sarfaraz found the fence 11 times and cleared it twice, while also stitching together an unbroken partnership of 103 runs with Het Patel (51 not out) to compound South Zone's misery.

The declaration from West

skipper Ajinkya Rahane came after Sarfaraz completed his century on Duleep Trophy debut. Patel, coming off an excellent 98 in the first innings, scored his runs quickly, facing just 61 balls while hitting seven fours and a six.

Batting for five sessions, West left their opponents flattened, and the South Zone team did not quite recover from that. This was evident from their second innings batting as, with the exception of Rohan Kunnummal (93 off 100 balls), all batters failed to live up to the challenge.

Even as his colleagues left one after another, Kunnummal was able to bat fluently for the runs he scored with his team in an extremely difficult situation.

All of South Zone's experienced batters failed and fell to the pace duo of Atit Sheth and Jaydev Unadkat, who bowled very well and grabbed two wickets apiece.

PCB appoints foreign coaches for two domestic first class teams

PTI ■ KARACHI

Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has appointed two foreign coaches for two of its domestic teams for the upcoming premier first class tournament and the national 50-over competition.

Nottinghamshire's Paul Franks and Leicestershire's Paul Nixon will be the head coaches of the Central Punjab and Sindh sides in the Quaid-e-Azam Trophy and national 50-over competition this season.

Franks, who has worked as assistant coach under Peter Moores at Nottinghamshire county, has replaced Pakistan's Abdul Razzaq as head of the Punjab side while Nixon, a former head coach with Leicestershire and England player, will be at the helm of affairs for the Sindh team.

PCB Chairman Ramiz Raja has made his intentions clear to have more foreign influence in domestic and junior cricket. Apparently, it is his brainchild to have foreign coaches and trainers working with the six

domestic first class teams.

Also, this could be the first time that any foreign coach has been appointed to work with domestic teams in a full season.

In the inaugural Pakistan Junior League which begins next month, the PCB has appointed South Africa's Gordon Parsons, New Zealand's Nicholas Webb, England's Julian Fountain, Julian Wood, and Toby Radford to work with the six teams under the Board's pathways development programme.

A reliable source in the PCB said all the foreign coaches working in domestic and junior teams are being paid through sponsors working with the Board.

The local coaches working with domestic teams are also getting a good amount of money as they are paid monthly salaries of between five to six lakh rupees along with other benefits.

The Board has encouraged former Test, international and first class players to work as coaches.

FERCE LIKE FIRESTORM YET SOFT LIKE MARSHMALLOW: FEDERER AND NADAL

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Holding hands and crying together, while sitting next to each other, Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal, the two biggest sporting icons, unknowingly, produced yet another unforgettable moment that will be recorded for posterity.

There was not a single eye that wasn't moist at the O2 Arena in London, the place where Federer bid a tearful adieu to the game during the Laver Cup.

It was an unforgettable and emotional moment.

The players who appeared to be made of steel and were driven by an indomitable spirit, were melting. There was no inhibition, no shame. Such was the occasion.

Tears trickled down his cheeks, and the sobs were loud as Federer began thanking his companions, his fans and family after playing his last game.

It was simply overwhelming, it was human. The two, without an iota of doubt, are the most fiercest of players to have stepped on the tennis courts. The ones who redefined the game and showed how much a human body can be pushed or can achieve.

And yet they showed, inside those steely bodies they possessed child-like pure hearts that knew more than just the exhilaration of victory, and the agony and torment that accompanies defeat.

They showed that despite being fierce rivals inside the sporting arena, off it you could be respectful to your competitors. That they are more than just incredibly skilful artists.

It is this adorable and inspiring human element that catapults Federer and Nadal to a different pedestal in today's world, when hurling insult in the garb of aggression has become fashionable.



The humility of these two legends is like a balm for the soul.

While what they did with racquets in their hand will always be priceless teaching lessons for budding players, their public conduct and the way they carried themselves, is equally invaluable and worth emulation.

Indian cricketing icon Virat Kohli, too, gushed over their statesmanship.

"Who thought rivals can feel like this towards each other. That's the beauty of sport. This is the most beautiful sporting picture ever for me," Kohli tweeted with the a picture of the two.

"When your companions cry for you, you know why you've been able to do with your god given talent. Nothing but respect for these 2."

While tournaments are public events, where people can choose to hide their real selves and rather create an image, Federer's genuineness and humility has been testified by his tennis colleagues.

Recently a player revealed how inside the locker rooms, Federer won't speak without "please" and "thank you".

It's not that they did not have moments where they faltered, but maintaining decorum, grace and humbleness for over two decades, is simply amazing.

He possesses the toughest of shots, found impossible-looking angles with ridiculous ease, and yet arrogance was miles away from him.

He would pull off a magical shot but won't yell after executing that. Wearing a sweet smile, he would simply go back to the baseline and get ready for his next shot.

In a brutal sport that the game of tennis has evolved into, a persona like Federer, who not just won 20 Grand Slams but also the hearts of his rivals and a legion of fans, will be missed sorely.

National Games TT: Harmeet, Sutirtha clinch men's, women's singles



PTI ■ SURAT

Gujarat's Harmeet Desai and West Bengal's Sutirtha Mukherjee clinched the men's and women's table tennis singles titles with dominating wins in the National Games here on Saturday.

Local hero Harmeet thrashed Haryana's Soumyajit Ghosh 4-0, while Sutirtha proved too good for national champion Sreeja Akula, with the Olympian winning 4-1 in the women's final.

Sutirtha ended the National Games with three gold medals — women's singles, doubles and team — while Harmeet and another Gujarat paddler Manush Shah won two each.

Gujarat men had won the team gold, with Harmeet and Manush playing stellar roles in front of home crowd. Manush also clinched the mixed doubles title, partnering wife Krittika Sinha Roy.

West Bengal emerged as the overall champions in table tennis, bagging four gold, one silver and three bronze. Gujarat finished second with three gold and three silver. Maharashtra was third with one silver and four bronze medals.

The final day well and truly belonged to Harmeet and Sutirtha as they vanquished top seeds G Sathiyar and Manika Batra in their respective semifinals before dominating the gold medal matches.

Harmeet, who had won the silver medal in Kerala seven years ago, wasn't going to let go of another chance of standing atop the podium and began the match with an aggressive mindset. He kept Ghosh on the defensive by finding angles from both forehand and backhand shots to win 11-8, 11-4, 11-7, 11-8.

Sutirtha was equally clinical in quelling the attacking instinct of 2022 Commonwealth Games

mixed doubles champion Sreeja, who had thrashed the likes of Ayhika Mukherjee and Diya Chitale on her way to the final.

Sreeja also ended up on the losing side in the mixed doubles final as she and partner FR Snehit were beaten in straight sets by Shah and Krittika.

Earlier Sutirtha had teamed up with Ayhika to defeat Karnataka's Yashaswini Ghorpade and Kushi V in straight sets in the women's doubles final.

West Bengal's Jeet Chandra and Ronit Bhanja clinched the men's doubles gold, beating statesmates Arjun Ghosh and Anirban Ghosh in straight sets.

Earlier in the day, Harmeet and Sutirtha came up with inspired performances to upset top seeds G Sathiyar and Manika Batra in the men's and women's singles semifinals.

Harmeet defeated Sathiyar 4-2 while Sutirtha got the better of Manika by an identical margin.

LOCAL EVENTS



SEHGAL VISITS GGS SPORTS HOSTEL

Additional Chief Secretary (Sports) Navneet Sehgal, on Saturday, visited Guru Gobind Singh Sports Hostel and inspected the velodrome under construction. He also tasted the food being served to the students and directed Principal Mudrika Pathak to improve the quality of the food and to send a proposal for the appointment of a dietician. He asked the principal to ensure the best of the facilities to the students. Sehgal was annoyed with the slow progress of the construction of velodrome and asked the construction agency to prepare and submit the time schedule for completion of the work within a week

MOHAMMAD HANNAN WINS GOLD

Mohammad Hannan of Uttar Pradesh bagged 21-kg weight category gold medal in the 11th National Vovinam Championship underway at KD Singh 'Babu' Stadium. MLA Neeraj Bora, MLC Mahendra Singh and Aparna Yadav gave away the prizes to the winners. **OTHER RESULTS: (Sub-junior 36-kg)** 1- Nikita (UK), 2-Shatakshi (UP), 3-Archita Ghosh

(WB) & Renisha (UK); **(Men's 66-kg)** 1-Somorjeet (Manipur, 2-Krunal Sagar (UK), 3-Ashish Singh (UP) & Tupan Kole (WB); **(Men's 88-kg)** 1-Kunjdeep Chanu (Assam), 2-Arun (Manipur), 3-Shubham Bolni (UP).

TEAM ANNOUNCED

The Lucknow teams for Inter-Region Sub-Junior boy's Under-14 and Junior girl's under-19 school cricket tournament to be held at Rae Bareilly have been announced on Saturday.

TEAMS: Boy's U-14: Wasim Khan, Aman Verma, Himanshu Yadav, Rajveer Srivastava, Puru Pandey, Tanishq Diwakar, Ronit Singh, Shaurya Srivastava, Utkarsh Sharma, Zain Ali, Mohammad Shefaz, Veer Saxena, Mohd Hamaad Khan, Nipun Chhabra, Abhay Bharti, Ishan Srivastava. **Manager:** SK Watson, **Coach:** Sanjay Kumar. **Girl's U-19:** Saloni Rajput, Aseerva Kashyap, Riya Verma, Aapsa, Avaniika, Tanishqa Singh, Shashi Balan, Nidhi Singh, Christina Singh, Shivani Maurya, Mehak Rawat, Akansha Rawat, Yashi Singh, Neha Gupta, Sazia Khan, Ritu Seth. **Manager:** Raj Kumar Tripathi. **Coach:** Komal Chaurasiya.

Dominant India held to 1-1 draw by Singapore

PTI ■ HO CHI MINH CITY

India dished out a dominating performance but failed to notch up a win, playing out a 1-1 draw against lower-ranked Singapore in their FIFA international friendly match in the Hung Thinh Tournament here on Saturday.

Ikhsan Fandi put Singapore ahead in the 37th minute when his free-kick from about 25 yards out took a deflection off the Indian wall and beat a diving goalie Gurpreet Singh Sandhu who could lay a hand on the ball but failed to stop it from entering the net.

Singapore's joy lasted just six minutes as Ashique Kuruniyan equalised in the 43rd minute off an assist from captain Sunil Chhetri.

Jaekson Singh made an interception in the Singapore half, passed the ball to Chhetri, who put Kuruniyan through on goal. Kuruniyan calmly slotted the ball home with a left-footed grounder which beat Singapore goalie and captain Hassan Sunny.

India are currently ranked 104th while Singapore are at 159th. The last time the two sides met each other in 2012, Singapore had won 2-0.

Singapore had lost 0-4 to hosts Vietnam in their first match.

As expected senior player Sandesh Jhingan and his defensive partner Chinglensana



Singh didn't feature in the match as they reached here only on Friday. They did not accompany the team which flew out of India on Tuesday night due to travel document related issues.

Singapore were the more attacking side in the early stages of the match and they had a good chance in the 15th minute. Ikshan Fandi was played through behind the Indian defence, but his first touch off the high ball was too heavy and defender Anwar Ali cleared it for a corner and averted the danger.

India settled down nicely, and Liston Colaco was on target in the 19th minute, when he fired in a long range shot, only to see Singapore goalie Sunny

make a fine save.

Gurpreet made a fine save in the 25th minute as Fandi leaped high and headed a cross towards India goal.

Two minutes later, Kuruniyan was on to the Singapore goal but he could not make the final touch from near the post, even as Chhetri was waiting.

The second half saw India dominating the match with more attacks.

Kuruniyan's powerful left-footer in the 49th minute was somehow saved by the Singaporean goalie while Chhetri's shot from just outside the box, two minutes later, missed the target by a whisker.

India play hosts Vietnam in their last match of the friendly tournament on Tuesday.



Superb finish ensures cut for Tvesa and Vani at Irish Open

PTI ■ DROMOLAND

Faced with the prospect of missing the cut with four holes to go, India's Tvesa Malik (69) and Vani Kapoor (70) moved into a different gear to safely get into the weekend at the KPMG Women's Irish Open.

At 2-under each for 36 holes, both, Tvesa (73-69) and Vani (72-70), getting ready for the Hero Women's Indian Open next month, were T-42.

The cut fell at one-under-par with 63 players making it through to the weekend.

Playing together, Tvesa was 1-over and Vani was 2-over with just four holes to go and the cut looked likely at 1-under. Coming off a disappointing bogey each on the 14th, Tvesa and Vani birdied the 15th.

Then on Par-5 16th, Tvesa birdied yet again but Vani went one better by landing an eagle. Then as Tvesa parred the Par-3 17th, Vani picked another birdie. On the closing par-5 18th, Tvesa picked a birdie and Vani parred and both were well inside the cutline, which duly fell at 1-under.

However, Diksha Dagar (72-75) and Amandeep Drall (74-80) had a disappointing week as they missed the cut.

Sweden's Moa Folke fired an exceptional round of 10-under 62 and led by two strokes at the halfway stage.

It was a sensational day for the 27-year-old Swede who started with a birdie on the first and then added another on the third. Then came three more in a row from sixth through to the eighth to make the turn in 5-under 30.

A dropped shot on the 11th was overcome as Folke rolled in four birdies consecutively on holes 13 through 16 before finishing with an eagle on 18.

Three players sit in a tie for second place with Denmark's Smilla Tarning Soenderby, Spain's Carmen Alonso and Czechia's Klara Spilkova all on 10-under-par.

Two players share fifth place after 36 holes with Dutch golfer Anne Van Dam and Finland's Ursula Wikstrom on nine-under-par having shot rounds of 68 and 66, respectively.

Julius Baer Cup: Erigaisi to meet Carlsen in final



PTI ■ NEW YORK

Young Indian Grandmaster Arjun Erigaisi got the better of Liem Quang Le (Vietnam) to set up a final clash with world no.1 Magnus Carlsen in the Julius Baer Generation Cup online rapid chess tournament.

While the 19-year old Erigaisi had to fight hard to subdue the challenge of his Vietnamese rival, Carlsen won 3-1.

In the Erigaisi-Liem Le match, the first game ended in a draw before the Indian won the second to go ahead. A draw followed in the third before the Vietnam player drew level with a 32-move victory.

However, in the tie-breaker, it was Erigaisi all the way as he won two straight games to book a spot in the final, to be played

Carlsen was made to work hard for his passage into the final by the Keymer. The German teenager fought to stay in the match as both games 1 and 2 ended in draw before the World No.1 broke through to win the next two.

The USD 150,000 event's two-day final begins late on Saturday with the first match being a best of four games encounter. The second match will take place on Sunday when the winner will be crowned.

Earlier, Carlsen had topped the preliminary standings with 34 points followed by Erigaisi and Indian R Praggnanandhaa in fourth place.

The event features 16 players spanning three generations and is being held on a round-robin-cum-knockout format.

Sindhu to miss National Games

PTI ■ HYDERABAD

Two-time Olympic medallist P V Sindhu will not participate in the National Games as she has not recovered fully from an ankle injury, but the ace shutter will be present at the opening ceremony.

Sindhu, who is on the path to recovery after sustaining an ankle injury during the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham, is going to be in Gujarat for the opening ceremony on September 29 along with other sports stars.

Badminton action begins in Surat on October 2.

"It is unfortunate that I will not be competing in the Games due to my injury. Had I been fit, I would have definitely represented my state (Telangana)," Sindhu said.

"The National Games is a great opportunity for all the athletes and everyone I have spoken to is excited about it. I am sure the badminton matches will be very exciting."

Winner of silver medal in the 2016 Rio Games and bronze in Tokyo Olympics, Sindhu is the flag-bearer of Indian badminton.



Indian team for FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup leaves for Spain to play friendly matches

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Indian team for the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup, to be held in the country from October 11, has left for Spain to play international friendly matches next week.

The All India Football Federation (AIFF), however, did not mention the teams the Indians will play against.

"These friendlies have been planned as part of the team's preparation for the upcoming FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup, which is scheduled to take place in India from October 11," the AIFF said in a release.

"The details of the upcoming matches will be confirmed soon."

The Young Tigresses have

been camping in Bhubaneswar. The 23-member squad, along with the support staff, travelled left for Spain on Friday night.

The Squad: Goalkeepers: Melody Chanu Keisham, Monalisha Devi Moirangthem, Anjali Munda

Defenders: Astam Oraon, Gladys Zonunsangi, Kajal, Naketa, Purnima Kumari, Varshika, Shikhy Devi Hemam, Nikita Jude

Midfielders: Babina Devi Lisham, Nitu Linda, Shailja, Shubhangi Singh

Forwards: Anita Kumari, Lynda Kom Serto, Neha, Rejiya Devi Laishram, Shelia Devi Loktongbam, Kajol Hubert Dsouza, Lavanya Upadhyay, Sudha Ankita Tirkey.

Junior men's trap team wins gold in Shotgun World Championship

PTI ■ OSIJEK (CROATIA)

India won a sensational gold in the junior men's trap team event at the ISSF Shotgun World Championship, beating Italy 6-4 in the final here on Saturday.

This was also India's first medal of the Championship. USA won the bronze.

It was no mean feat for the trio of Shaphat Bharadwaj, Shardul Vihan and Arya Vansh Tyagi as the Italians are long established powerhouses in the shotgun discipline.

Even more so as the Indians were trailing the Italian team of Edoardo Antonioli, Emanuele Iezzi and Gianmarco Barletta 0-4 before staging a remarkable comeback.

Earlier in the day, Shaphat, Shardul and Arya Vansh had shot a combined 205 in the qualification stage, where each member shot three rounds of 25 targets each, to finish second behind the Italians who shot 206, thereby making it to the gold medal match.

Nothing came easy for the Indians on the day as they tied



with team USA on the same score and then beat them 2-0 in a shoot-off to ensure a medal for themselves.

In the final, all the three Indians missed a target each in the first 15-shot shoot-off. The winner of each shoot-off is awarded two points and the first to six wins.

The Italians missed two and took the first two points. Luck kept eluding the Indians till the second shoot-off, where they missed two out of 15, only to find the Italians missing just one to take the round and go 4-0 up.

The Indians came back to

win the third 13-12 to make the score 4-2. Arya Vansh shot a second consecutive perfect five to lead India's fightback.

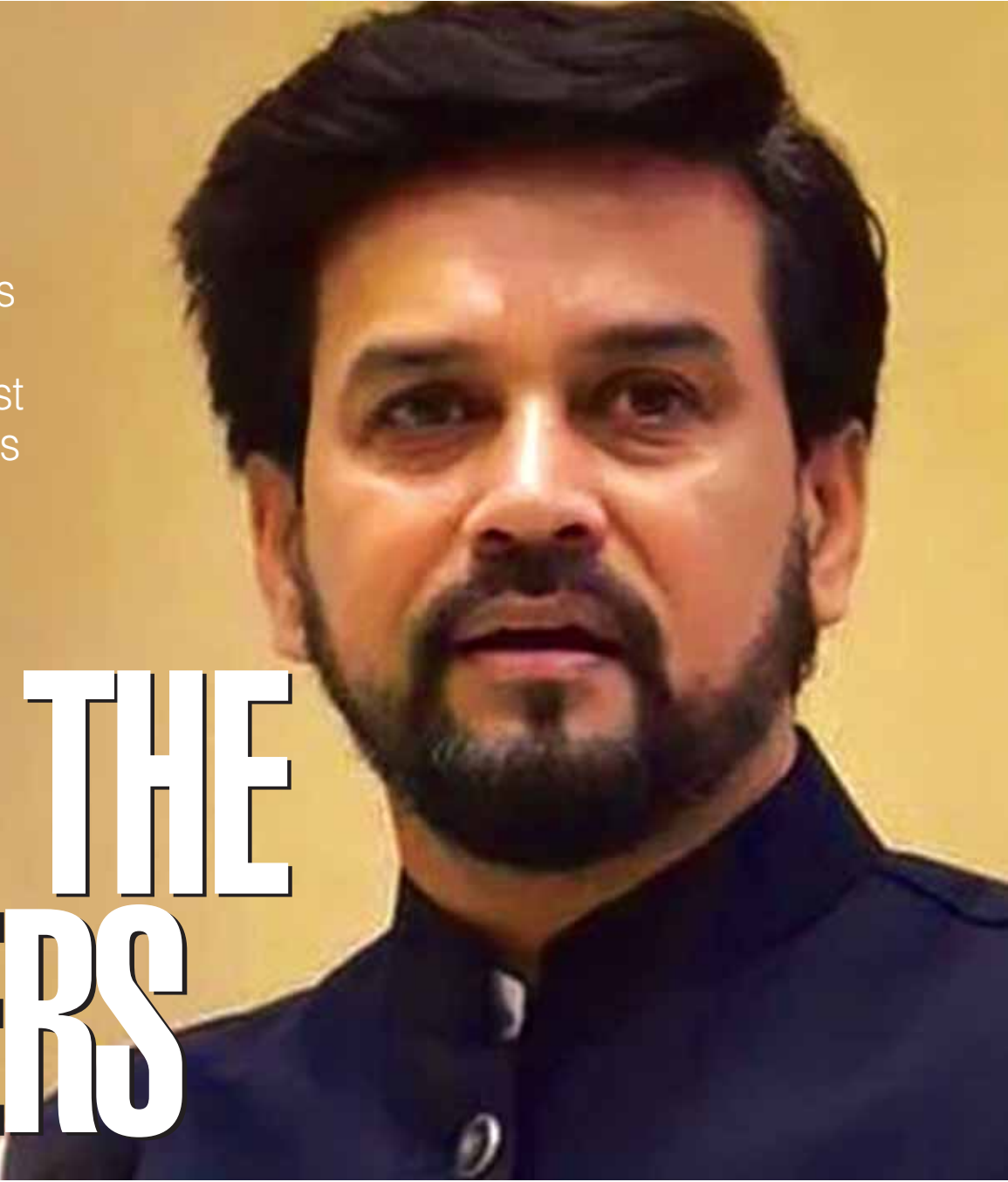
For the Italians, it was Edoardo Antonioli who was doing the star turn with three perfect fives, and he eventually did not miss in the final to finish with five perfect fives. It got even better for the Indians as they shot a perfect 15 in the fourth shoot-out and Emanuele Iezzi missed the 13th target to help India draw level at 4-4.

Gianmarco Barletta then missed his first target in the fifth shoot-out and India went ahead 6-5, forcing the Italians into a tie. That did not help, as Iezzi missed the first shot after it and the Indians marched along for a 9-7 lead. They had not missed 24 straight targets. India made that 26 before Vihan missed the 27th but they were still ahead 11-9. The Italians finished strong, getting all three of their last birds but the Indians were equal to it, closing out 14-12 with Arya Vansh shooting four straight fives and an overall 24 out of 25 targets.

“Life is tough; and if you have the ability to laugh at it, you have the ability to enjoy it.”
—Salma Hayek



Notwithstanding, the red flag raised by Minister Anurag Thakur and judges of the Supreme Court, TV debates continue to focus on polarizing topics. In many cases, the language and expression of the guests and anchors are both inflammatory and offensive. The media has played little heed to such counsel for sobriety in the past as well. In its blind pursuit of TRP sometimes it becomes a real source of threat to peace and harmony of the country, writes NAVIN UPADHYAY



TIME TO TAME THE RABBLE ROUSERS

The cat is out of the bag. Or it was always out in the open but everyone pretended to look the other way, till its low growl turned into a high-pitched roar and its threat menacing and imminent. No offenses to the canines, though; we are referring to the big cats of the TV screens.

Two back-to-back whistleblowing—first by Union Information and Broadcasting minister Anurag Thakur, and second by the Supreme Court of India—underline the threat posed by the TV anchors, to both the mainstream media itself and the peace and harmony of the country.

Notwithstanding, the red flag raised by the Thakur and judges of the Supreme Court, the TV debates continue to focus on polarizing topics. In many cases, the language and expression of the guests and anchors are both inflammatory and offensive. The media has played little heed to such counsel for sobriety in the past as well. In its blind pursuit of TRP sometimes it becomes a real source of threat to peace and harmony of the country.

Not for nothing, speaking at the 7th Annual Gathering and 20th Meeting of Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD), Thakur focused his speech on the threat posed by such dangerous debates.

Speaking on the occasion Thakur has said that the biggest threat to mainstream media is not from new age digital platforms but from the mainstream media channel itself.

The minister said inviting guests who are polarizing, who spread false narratives and who shout at the top of their lungs damages the credibility of a channel. “Your decisions regarding the guest, the tone, and visuals - define your credibility in the eyes of the audience. The view may stop for a minute to watch your show, but will never trust your anchor, your channel or brand as a trusted and transparent source of news”, he added.

Turning to the audience, the Minister asked “Are you going to watch as the younger audience switches and sweeps through the shrill on TV news or are you going to bring back the Neutrality in NEWS and Discussion in DEBATES to stay ahead of the game?”

A day later, on September 21, the Supreme court expressed serious concern at the hate speeches in the media and hinted that it might put in some regulations/guidelines to check the menace.

Upset that the Government has done nothing to curb the propagation of hate speeches in the media, the Court asked the Government of India "why it is standing as a mute witness when all this is happening".

A bench of Justices KM Joseph and Hrishikesh Roy was hearing a batch of writ petitions seeking the Court's intervention to regulate hate speech.

"What are the provisions of law which relates to Hate Speech in India?", Justice Joseph asked when the hearing started.

This is the crux of the matter. Hate speech is not defined under any law, though there are

- specific provisions to check them.
- In its report submitted to then I@B minister Ravishanker Prasad in March 2017, the Law Commission of India underlined the following legislation to deal with hate speech.
- (i) *the Indian Penal Code, 1860* (hereinafter IPC)
- Section 124A IPC penalises seditious
 - Section 153A IPC penalises 'promotion of enmity between different groups on grounds of religion, race, place of birth, residence, language, etc., and doing acts prejudicial to maintenance of harmony'.
 - Section 153B IPC penalises 'imputations, assertions prejudicial to national integration.
 - Section 295A IPC penalises 'deliberate and malicious acts, intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs'.
 - Section 298 IPC penalises 'uttering, words, etc., with deliberate intent to wound the religious feelings of any person.
 - Section 505(1) and (2) IPC penalises publication or circulation of any statement, rumour or report causing public mischief and enmity, hatred or ill-will between classes.
- (ii) *the Representation of The People Act, 1951*
- Section 8 disqualifies a person from contesting an election if he is convicted of indulging in acts amounting to the illegitimate use of freedom of speech and expression.
 - Section 123(3A) and section 125 prohibit the promotion of enmity on grounds of religion, race, caste, community, or language in connection with an election as a corrupt electoral practice and prohibits it.
- (iii) *the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955*
- Section 7 penalises incitement to, and encouragement of untouchability through words, either spoken or written or by signs or by visible representations or otherwise
- (iv) *the Religious Institutions (Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1988*
- Section 3(g) prohibits religious institution or its manager to allow the use of any premises belonging to, or under the control of, the institution for promoting or attempting to promote disharmony, feelings of enmity, hatred, ill-will between different religious, racial, language or regional groups or castes or communities.
- (v) *the Cable Television Network Regulation Act, 1995*
- Sections 5 and 6 of the Act prohibit transmission or re-transmission of a programme through cable network in contravention to the prescribed programme code or advertisement code. These codes have been defined in rules 6 and 7 respectively of the Cable Television Network Rules, 1994.
- (vi) *the Cinematograph Act, 1952*



COMMENTING ON THE ROLE OF THE ANCHORS IN PROPAGATING HATE SPEECH, JUSTICE JOSEPH SAID - "THE ROLE OF THE ANCHOR IS VERY IMPORTANT. HATE SPEECH EITHER TAKES PLACE ON MAINSTREAM TELEVISION OR IT TAKES PLACE IN SOCIAL MEDIA. SOCIAL MEDIA IS LARGELY UNREGULATED. ...AS FAR AS MAINSTREAM TELEVISION CHANNEL IS CONCERNED, WE STILL HOLD SWAY, THERE THE ROLE OF THE ANCHOR IS VERY CRITICAL BECAUSE THE MOMENT YOU SEE SOMEBODY GOING INTO HATE SPEECH, IT'S THE DUTY OF THE ANCHOR TO IMMEDIATELY SEE THAT HE DOESN'T ALLOW THAT PERSON TO SAY ANYTHING FURTHER. UNFORTUNATELY, MANY TIMES SOMEBODY WANTS TO SAY SOMETHING HE IS MUTED, A PERSON IS NOT GIVEN PROPER TIME, HE IS NOT EVEN TREATED COURTEOUSLY"



- Sections 4, 5B, and 7 empower the Board of Film Certification to prohibit and regulate the screening of a film.
- (vii) *the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973*
- Section 95 empowers the State Government, to forfeit publications that are punishable under sections 124A, 153A, 153B, 292, 293 or 295A IPC.
 - Section 107 empowers the Executive Magistrate to prevent a person from committing a breach of the peace or disturbing the public tranquility or to do any wrongful act that may probably cause breach of the peace or disturb the public and tranquility.
 - Section 144 empowers the District Magistrate, a Sub-divisional Magistrate or any other Executive Magistrate specially empowered by the State Government on this behalf to issue an order in urgent cases of nuisance or apprehended danger. The above offences are cognizable and thus have serious repercussions on the liberties of citizens and empower a police officer to arrest without orders from a magistrate and a warrant as in section 155 CrPC.
- The commission suggested amendment to the Indian Penal Code, 1860 and the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 by adding new provisions on '**Prohibiting incitement to hatred**' following section 153B IPC and '**Causing fear, alarm, or provocation of violence in certain cases**' following section 505 IPC, and accordingly amending the First Schedule of the CrPC.
- The commission in its report said that hate speech has always been a live debate in India and the issue has been raised time and again before the legislature, the court as well as the public. In Pravasi Bhalai Sangathan v. Union of India¹¹, the Supreme Court dealt with a case where the petitioners prayed that the State should take peremptory action against makers of hate speech, the Commission said, and added, the Court did not go beyond the purview of existing laws to penalise hate speech as that would amount to 'judicial overreach.
- "The Court observed that the implementation of existing laws would solve the problem of hate speech to a great extent. The matter was referred to the Law Commission to examine if it 'deems proper to define hate speech and make recommendations to the Parliament to strengthen the Election Commission to curb the menace of "hate speeches" irrespective of, whenever made', the commission said.
- Justice Joseph suggested that the government should come forward to put in place an institution to check hate speech. The court also asked the Government to clarify whether it proposes to act on recommendations of the Law Commission of India regarding amendments to deal with hate crimes.
- The Centre told the court that only 14 states have given their response to the Law commission's recommendation. The Sc

directed the remaining states to immediately file their replies and asked Senior Advocate Sanjay Hegde to collate the responses of the States.

Commenting on the role of the anchors in propagating hate speech, Justice Joseph said - "The role of the anchor is very important. Hate speech either takes place on mainstream television or it takes place in social media. Social Media is largely unregulated....As far as mainstream television channel is concerned, we still hold sway, there the role of the anchor is very critical because the moment you see somebody going into hate speech, it's the duty of the anchor to immediately see that he doesn't allow that person to say anything further. Unfortunately, many times somebody wants to say something he is muted, a person is not given proper time, he is not even treated courteously".

Justice Joseph went on to add: Freedom of expression of the press, we don't have it separately unlike the US....there should be free debate no doubt about it but, you should also know where to draw the line because there is a huge influence, particularly with the visual media....they produce a very serious effect on your brain. Freedom is for the listener. The freedom of speech is actually for the benefit of the listener. How would the listener ever make up his mind after listening to a debate where it is just a babble of voice, you cannot even make out what is happening."

When Senior Advocate Sanjay Hegde stated that, "the industry is unregulated and there are no sanctions" one of the petitioners Ashwini Upadhyay countered, "Until hate speech is defined this will go on."

Asserting that hate speech poisons the very fabric, and can't be permitted, Justice Joseph said, "Political parties will come and go but the nation will endure the institution including press it is the important part, without an independent press no country can go forward, it is important that we have true freedom, there", Justice Joseph said.

"Stressing the need for a regulatory mechanism, Justice Joseph continued: "The problem is we don't have a regulatory mechanism for TV. I believe that all channels were fined heavily in England. We don't have that system here. Law means sanction, sanctions must be effected...the problem is that they are not being dealt with firmly. If sanctions are effected this will go... Any anchor will have his views, any anchor will not diverge from the view the channel is taking, they will all be intertwined, you can't divulge from it, but what is wrong is when you have people of different views you are calling them and you are not allowing them to express those views....in doing that you are bringing hate and your TRP is going up and you are driven by that and nobody is going to look into it and take care of it then it is very sad".

(The writer is Executive Editor, The Pioneer)

DECODE 'THOSE' GENES

In a healthy person, BRCA1 (BRest CAncer gene 1) and BRCA2 (BRest CAncer gene 2) are genes that produce proteins that help repair damaged cells. But when these genes carry mutations, they are responsible for higher risk of breast, ovarian and uterine cancers. At least, five to ten per cent of all cancer cases are estimated to be hereditary. Oncologists tell THE HEALTH PIONEER how the new tool, Genetic Testing, can be used in high-risk hereditary patients, to help them opt for risk reduction surgeries as a preventive measure, screening and, regular follow-up.

DR SVS DEO

Head of Surgical Oncology at AIIMS, Delhi and National Cancer Institute, Jhajjar, Haryana



LACK OF AWARENESS ABOUT THESE CANCERS AMONG PUBLIC, LIMITED AVAILABILITY OF GENETIC COUNSELLING AND TESTING SERVICES, THESE SERVICES ARE MAJOR ROADBLOCKS

nessed over the last 20 years. As many as 1.5 lakh new breast cancer cases are diagnosed in India every year.

Lack of awareness about these cancers among doctors and the general public, limited availability of genetic counselling and testing services, and reluctance to avail these services are major roadblocks to preventive health care in cancer treatment.

Genetic counselling before genetic testing for hereditary breast and ovarian cancer is important to determine whether you and your family are likely to have a mutation that is worth getting tested. Usually, genetic testing is recommended if you have:

- A strong family health history of breast and ovarian cancer.
- A moderate family health history of breast and ovarian cancer, and are of Ashkenazi Jewish or Eastern European

ancestry.

- A personal history of breast cancer and meet certain criteria (related to age of diagnosis, type of cancer, presence of certain other cancers or cancer in both breasts, ancestry, and family health history)
- A personal history of ovarian or fallopian tube cancer, or primary peritoneal cancer
- A known BRCA1, BRCA2, or other inherited mutation in your family

DR SUSHMA BHATNAGAR

Chief IRCH and National Cancer Institute (NCI) AIIMS, Jhajjar, Haryana



Women with hereditary gynecological cancers are more worried about the fate of their babies in future. If yes, what they should do. At our Jhajjar institute we already have a dedicated infrastructure and a dedicated team of experts and researchers to work in this area as pre-test counselling and post-test counselling are very important.

Within a year or two, we will be ready with a detailed educational draft guideline to help the family members, including sisters and daughters of the patient know about the genetic testing, their risk of developing breast or ovarian cancer and whether they should or not go for this test.

As this is a relatively new and fast emerging field in oncology, the draft guidelines will also have various modules focussing on increasing awareness among doctors, patients and the public.

FACT FILE

- The genetic factor can raise the breast cancer risk from 4 per cent to 80 per cent and ovarian cancer risk from 1 per cent to 40 per cent.
- On an average, 20% ovarian cancers, 4 to 5% breast cancers and 3 to 5% uterine cancers can be prevented through genetic testing.
- On an average, four in 100 women in a given population get breast cancer, while one in 100 gets ovarian and uterine cancers.

DR NEERJA BHATLA

Professor & Head, Obst & Gynaec & WHO CCR, AIIMS, Delhi. Head, Gynae Oncology NCI, Jhajjar, AIIMS



Genetic testing aids by revealing the risk of types of cancers for a woman carrying the mutation. If a breast cancer patient is found carrying a cancer-causing gene, she can be advised to have regular check-ups for timely detection of potential cancers. They have options of having risk-reduction surgeries in which we remove

the normal organ of the patient after the genetic tests reveal the organ is at high risk of malignancy. These tools may also help the patients learn how to manage their risks with personalized cancer screening, and identify preventive steps that they can take to reduce the cancer risk. For those expecting a baby, can look for oncofertility.

DR VAISHALI SHARMA

Senior Gynaecologist, Laparoscopic Surgeon and Infertility Specialist



Genetic Tests is usually helpful in cases of couples with recurrent miscarriages, family history of any genetic diseases, or when woman's age is more than 40 years. There are many types of genetic tests ranging from basic karyotype to detailed whole exome microarray. When only a number of chromosomes or any major genetic abnormalities are suspected, then we do karyotype. In cases where we are looking for any specific genetic disease localised to specific gene on any chromosome, we go ahead with detailed genetic tests like Microarray.

In cases where there is a known genetic disease in

the family, we do a PGD (Pre-implantation Genetic Diagnosis) test in the embryo before transferring it inside the woman's womb. In cases

GENETIC TESTS IS MOSTLY HELPFUL IN CASES OF COUPLES WITH RECURRENT MISCARRIAGES, FAMILY HISTORY OF GENETIC DISEASES, OR WOMAN IS ABOVE 40 YEARS.

where there is a higher risk of genetic diseases due to the woman's age or history of previous pregnancies with genetic disease like Down's Syndrome, we do PGS (Preimplantation Genetic Screening) test.

DR RANJIT MANCHANDA

Consultant Gynaecological Oncologist at Barts Health NHS Trust, and Clinical Senior Lecturer at Queen Mary University of London



Technology to undertake gene testing on a large scale is now available and needs to be used more for cancer prevention. Identification of women harboring genetic mutations that cause cancer, not only allows their optimum treatment with newly available drugs, but also helps identify unaffected at-risk relatives who can then access screening and preventive strategies.

Ovarian cancer (OC), breast cancer (BC), endometrial cancer (EC) and colorectal cancer (CRC) account for approximately 50% of cancers in women.

There are several effective preventive therapy options like risk-reducing surgery (mastectomy, risk-reducing salpingo-oophorectomy (RRSO) or hysterectomy), chemoprevention (e.g. aspirin or selective estrogen receptor modulators) and screening for women at high risk of breast cancer or CRC to reduce these CSG carrier-associated cancer risks.

In fact, changing the paradigm to population testing can address the limitations in the current clinical genetic testing model for CSGs across healthcare systems. It also provides a forward-looking strategy to maximise precision prevention.

Precision prevention encompasses a prevention strategy that incorporates individual variation in genetic, epigenetic and non-genetic (environmental, hormonal, reproductive and lifestyle) factors.

Genetic tests are available for cancers like:

Breast cancer/Ovarian cancer/Colon cancer/Thyroid cancer/Prostate cancer/ Pancreatic cancer/ Melanoma/ Sarcoma/ Kidney cancer/ Stomach cancer

PROS AND CONS OF GENETIC TESTING

PROS

- A sense of relief from uncertainty.
- In-depth knowledge about one's cancer risk.
- Awareness to help make informed medical and lifestyle decisions.
- Opportunity to help educate other family members about potential risk.

CONS

- Testing may increase anxiety and stress for some individuals.
- Testing does not evaluate a person's risk for sporadic cancers.
- Results in some cases may turn out to be inconclusive or uncertain.

DR RAJIV SARIN

Professor of Radiation Oncology & In-Charge Cancer Genetics Unit at Tata Memorial Hospital & Advanced Centre for Treatment Research & Education in Cancer (ACTREC), Mumbai Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai



hereditary cancer every year, and a third of these families have breast, ovarian or uterine cancers.

There are several good private labs in the country that provide high quality and reliable genetic testing, but the cost, ranging from ₹ 5,000 - ₹ 40,000 is unaffordable for many families. We at TMC has provided free testing under research funded by the Indian Council for Medical Research to a few thousand families so far. The country urgently needs many more counsellors, oncologists as well as geneticists with expertise in handling hereditary cancer in families.

The cost of genetic testing also must be reduced for it to become more accessible to people.

DR NEENA MALHOTRA

Head, IVF Unit AIIMS, Delhi



Genetic testing has significant importance of preserving childbearing function as these women are young and keen to have pregnancies. The cancer treatments lowers the childbearing potential but with advancements in the field of IVF, it is now possible to share their gametes prior to treatment and freeze them to be used once treatment is over.

COVID-19 Pandemic: The Battles India Won

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India -- a country of 1.3 billion people -- stood in unison to handle the pandemic. The Prime Minister ensured that we not only tackled this pandemic, but also progressed firmly towards an inclusive, accessible and affordable healthcare system, becoming an example for other countries to follow, says Prof (Dr) BALRAM BHARGAVA

The COVID-19 virus continues to linger amidst us since the onset of the pandemic two and a half years back. During this period, India has worked proactively towards solving the complex problems we faced on daily basis.

Now that we can finally sit back and reflect on the learnings from the past challenges and losses imposed by the pandemic, as well as the collective gains made during this challenging time, we are reminded of the countless stories of immense courage, solidarity and enterprise in addressing such an unprecedented health emergency.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India -- a country of 1.3 billion people sharing several cultures, geographies and socio-economic backgrounds-- stood in unison to tackle the pandemic. The Prime Minister ensured that we not only tackled this pandemic, but also progressed firmly towards an inclusive, accessible and affordable healthcare system. This has now become an example for other countries to follow.

The progress started with the collective efforts by India's researchers' and scientists' communities in streamlining the country's response towards an evidence-based approach to successfully tackle the pandemic.

They worked round the clock to study the virus, establish treatment protocols, create tools and technologies for managing cases and administering of vaccines, and build public awareness around COVID-19 appropriate behaviour. From the beginning of the pandemic, India defied all the odds to become one among the five

nations that successfully isolated the SARS-CoV-2 strain.

This was the first validation of our scientific vigour. Its' testing started during January 2022 with just 1 laboratory. Over months, this base has expanded to over 3,300 COVID-19 testing labs spread all across the country. In diagnostics, India swiftly became self-sufficient, as the brightest of India's scientific minds worked on indigenous solutions for devising affordable testing kits for antibody detection. This led to India's emergence as the world's cheapest provider of RT-PCR tests.

Our vaccination ecosystem has always been supported by a strong manufacturing and production capacity which made us one of the leading low-cost vaccine providers across the world.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we utilized the existing mechanisms to successfully develop effective indigenous vaccines. India's first indigenous vaccine 'Covaxin' was developed in a record period of 9 months. It was a testament to India's strategic focus on public-private partnerships which provided the best of products and benefits to people at home as well as abroad.

The next big challenge was vaccination of a large indigenous population, although this was tackled with relative ease: we have achieved the historic milestone of administering vaccines to over 90 per cent of Indian population.

To ensure that these vaccines were widely available, India developed a one-of-a-kind digital platform, Cowin, which ensured easy access to



At a time when other nations were galvanizing their local resources to address the COVID --19 healthcare emergency which was ballooning beyond their control, India came to their rescue by providing them with abundant and affordable life-saving vaccines, testing and treatment aids.

vaccines to people across the country. To make these life-saving vaccines accessible to remote and geographically challenging terrains in India, drones were used which made delivery of vaccines possible in a short time. Like this, there have been several other achievements that helped India ace the pandemic.

While we made progress in preventive healthcare by developing diagnostics and testing kit, we did not forget to share the fruits of our enterprise with other countries across the world.

At a time when other nations were galvanizing their local resources to address the precarious COVID--19 healthcare emergency which was ballooning beyond their control, India came to their rescue by providing them with abundant and affordable life-saving vaccines, testing and treatment aids, and even the safety masks. India also participated in global trials and provided evidence on multiple interventions utilized across the pandemic.

India's multifarious achievements towards addressing Covid-19 pandemic were acknowledged by global leaders who praised India for its 'Vaccine Maitry (Friendship)' initiative which provided over 2,544 lakh vaccine doses to over 100 countries around the world. The COVID-19 pandemic cemented our reputation as a country with compassion, commitment and capacity to provide effective solutions to the global challenges.

We must acknowledge the critical role played by the scientific and medical fraternities in India, as without their collective and dedicated

efforts, such a success would not have been possible. It is also important to appreciate the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi who by his constant and holistic support to all the stakeholders in the pandemic situation, ensured things worked efficiently and round-the-clock, and that the morale stayed high even during the most challenging times.

Despite the vicarious nature of an unprecedented health emergency, the Indian Prime Minister took unprecedented measures to ensure people had access to preventive healthcare infrastructure as well as speedy and effective treatment facilities. Without his constant efforts, such a large number of people could not have been vaccinated in time, and many more lives would have been lost.

Every cloud has a silver lining. It is thus not surprising that something good came out of the Covid-19 global health emergency. During the pandemic, our nation -- led by an able Prime Minister and guided by its ancient philosophy of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' -- soared above the daunting challenges to serve people in India and across the world as one large family.

Thanks to our collective efforts to combat an unprecedented pandemic, we are now better prepared to overcome obstacles and function to the best of our capabilities under the guiding principles of hope, health and cooperation.

(The author is Chief, Cardiothoracic Centre, AIIMS, Immediate Past Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR))

NEWSBRIEF

Microrobots treat deadly pneumonia in mice

Nanoengineers at the University of California San Diego have developed microscopic robots, called microrobots, that can swim around in the lungs, deliver medication and be used to clear up life-threatening cases of bacterial pneumonia.

In mice, the microrobots—made of algae cells whose surfaces are speckled with antibiotic-filled

nanoparticles—safely eliminated pneumonia-causing bacteria in the lungs and resulted in 100% survival. By contrast, untreated mice all died within three days after infection.

The results are published in Nature Materials.

The work is a joint effort between the labs of nanoengineering professors Joseph Wang and Liangfang Zhang.

SUGAR-COATED POUCHES IN BODY FLUIDS TO DETECT CANCER

Detection of the cancer microenvironment may soon become much easier with the help of a new molecular biosensor recently developed by a team of India scientists. Cancer cells secrete small pouches, namely extracellular vesicles (EV) covered with sugar molecules, Hyaluronan (HA), which has a direct link to tumour malignancy and is considered a potential biomarker for early diagnosis of colon cancer.

These EVs are abundant in body fluids (blood, faeces, etc.), and all types of cells secrete these EVs into the extracellular matrix. Cancer cells secrete at least two times more EVs into the body fluids than normal cells). Therefore, these EVs could be isolated non-invasively from a patient's body for early cancer diagnosis.

Dr. Tatini Rakshit laboratory, supported by Inspire faculty grant of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), at Shiv Nadar Institute of

Eminence, Delhi, in collaboration with S. N. Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences (SNBNCBS), Kolkata, Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics, Kolkata and IIT Bhilai, Chhattisgarh has unravelled the contour lengths of HA on a single cancer cell-derived EV surface.

Their study showed that a single cancer cell-derived EV is coated with very short chain HA molecules (contour length less than 500 nanometers) using single molecule techniques and elucidated that these short-chain HA-coated EVs are significantly more elastic than the normal cell-derived EVs. This intrinsic elasticity of HA-coated EVs in cancer helps them to withstand multiple external forces during extracellular transportation, uptake, excretion by cells, adhesion to cell surfaces, etc.

The study has been published in Physical Chemistry Letters.

Copyright falls prey to mighty Internet

Globalisation and post-glob-alisation have brought us ever closer to each other. This intricate journey was only made possible by a vast network of information and communication technologies (ICTs). As a result, we all have experienced a slew of modernisation, standardisation and deterritorialisation drives all around the world. At the heart of this colossal process lies a “superior and never seen before “brand new upheaval called “information revolution”. As this information is gone in the great internet machine, it has witnessed another global movement called the digital revolution. The information revolution accompanied by the digital revolution has pushed knowledge beyond the control of the sovereign nation-states.

Before moving into the problems and prospects of safeguarding the copyright laws, let us see what copyright is all about. Copyright is regarded as “author’s right”. In legal terms, it is meant to describe the set of rights that the creators or the owners have over their literary and artistic works. The very word “works” refer to books, music, paintings, sculptures, films, computer programmes, databases, advertisements, maps and technical drawings as specified by the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO). Regardless of the WIPO conventions and other relevant global covenants, the copyright law is territorial and national in scope. Therefore, wherever an author or a creator resides or his work is first published, the applicability of the copyright protection depends on the national laws of the country in which the particular author demands protection. The term of a copyright law depends on several factors such as whether the work has been published or if so, the date of its first publication. Once it is published, the copyright lasts for the life of the author and additional 70 years after his/her death. Under the US Copyright legislation, an anonymous work, a pseudonymous work or a work made for hire, the copyright is guaranteed for a period of 95 years from the year of its first publication or a period of 120 years

from the year of its creation, whichever expires first.

Precisely, there is nothing like international copyright law applicable to all the nations. Therefore, no single copyright law can protect an author’s work throughout the world with a single registration like the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) that allows patent filing in a multinational context. Nevertheless, nearly 180 nations have already ratified the historic Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works of 1886, administered by the WIPO. This convention sets a minimum standard for the protection of the rights of the creators of the copyrighted works across the nations. Besides, there have been serious efforts to bring copyright legislations under one single umbrella among the members of the European Union (EU). However, the biggest challenge to this harmonisation effort is emerging from a host of numerous national copyright laws currently existing in the EU nations. The Berne Convention, apart from calling for establishing minimum standards of protection, has two unique principles: “National Treatment” and “Automatic Protection”. The first principle of “National Treatment” underlines that works originating in one signatory nation are given the same protection in other signatory nations as each grant to works of its creators. The second principle of “Automatic Protection” refers to the idea that copyright inheres automatically in a qualifying work upon its fixation in a tangible medium and without any required prior formality.

Indeed, the origin of the global copyright governance system is very much linked to the invention of the printing machine by Johannes Gutenberg in Germany around 1440. By 1483, when printing machines reached England, various monarchs starting from the King Richard III to King Henry in 1553 shaped a new regime of copyright that later defined the international copyright governance. Then, the era from 1661 to 1911 witnessed the evolution of a detailed copyright law in Britain.

Now in India, we have a



defined copyright regime, and its roots lie in the long British colonial regime. The copyright legislation was first introduced in India in 1874 during the time of East India Company. This act was replaced by the Copyright Act of 1914 which was just a replica of the then existing Copyright Act of 1911 in Britain. When India became independent, we got our first Copyright Act in the year 1957 which came into practice in 1958. The new Act immediately replaced the colonial

copyright laws thereafter. The same Copyright Act was subsequently amended in 1983, 1984, 1992, 1994 and 1999. Again, the Copyright Act was amended in 2012. It was done to bring the Copyright law into compliance with the WIPO treaties such as the WIPO Copyright Treaty (WCT) and WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT). Further it must be highlighted that the obligation under Article 11 of Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property

Rights (TRIPS) which came into effect under the World Trade Organization (WTO) in 1995, Article 7 of the WCT and Article 9 of the WPPT are to provide for commercial rental rights for computer programmes and cinematograph films. This right was introduced in India by using the word “hire” in Section 14 of the current Copyright Act. Thus, the Indian Copyright Law is now capable of addressing both national and global concerns under the new global gover-

nance regime brought by the WTO-TRIPS.

In spite of having a globally effective IPR regime, the information revolution and digital revolution have pushed knowledge maintenance to the brink of a serious danger. We receive information so very easily that we don’t even realise the worth of the creator or the owner. Information superhighway is widely perceived as a modern-day colonial tool both to subjugate and exploit the massive resources from the Global South by the rich and technologically advanced nations from the Global North.

With connectivity growing at an unimaginable speed, people are increasingly becoming restless. Once powerful nation-states seem to surrender to market forces. What Karl Marx, the legendary German socialist thinker, prophesised in the 19th century about the “withering away of the state” (capitalist) is now turning right at the very heart of the capitalist nations. Nonetheless the bitter truth is that today the mighty western liberal nation-state is facing challenges from several points, and they are all multinational forces. These counterforces are not only transnational corporations and the gigantic markets controlled by them but also from civil and human rights movements, global civil society and international non-governmental organisations and at times from international terrorist organisations consistently backed by very strong radical religious movements. It is all spearheaded by the availability of knowledge networks accompanied by advancements in communication and technology networks. Super knowledge owners like Google, Microsoft, Facebook and a host of other electronic platforms have made learning available to all. And it is both a boon and bane. The information superhighway is now dominated by a large network of MNCs mostly based in advanced nations like the US, Japan, the UK, Germany, France, Canada, etc. The global flow is in their hands. The poor and developing nations are at the mercy of these gigantic corporations controlled by the developed countries.

The world is now at a crossroads. Knowledge has exploded. The owners of knowledge are finding it too difficult to protect their creations. The intriguing part of the TRIPS and post-TRIPS global IP regime is that they all have failed to address the pitfalls of the huge information revolution. Today no single person or enterprise is the sole owner of knowledge or any other technical knowhow. It is fully diffused. It is there everywhere. Then how to safeguard it and how the creators will be benefitted from their long hard work? The solution to this problem is too complex.

The global and national copyright legislations are facing an uphill task today. Nowhere the knowledge is safe. And there is no place to hide. Of course, there are stringent punishments awarded to law breakers, but then there is no end to predators till date. Frankly, the wide network of the transnational forces has weakened the long hand of the copyright law that used to be there much before the advent of the mighty Internet. Today the global knowledge economy is beyond the reach of the nation-state. Therefore, the knowledge networks that are supposed to aid all and share the benefits of innovations do not accord equal power to all. It further leads to a great digital divide between the countries of the North and the South. And this is creating an uneven world of knowledge. There is a large gap between access to knowledge and exploiting the benefits of the same in both sides of the globe. Today the global knowledge economy has gone beyond the arms of the copyright laws. It has long been Microsoftified. Thus the owners of knowledge are solely in the hands of the big corporations of the advanced nations.

(Dr Makhan Saikia has taught political science and international relations for over a decade in institutions of national and international repute after specialisation in globalisation and governance from Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai. He is the chief editor of the Journal of Global Studies, an international journal.)

Despite a robust IPR regime, the information revolution and digital revolution have pushed knowledge maintenance to the brink of a serious danger. We receive information so easily that we don’t even realise the worth of the creator or the owner... Therefore, the knowledge networks that are supposed to aid all and share the benefits of innovations do not accord equal power to all. It further leads to a great digital divide between the countries of the North and the South



MAKHAN SAIKIA

PERSPECTIVE

Tobacco ads: Celebrities shirk moral responsibility

Professional ethics entail a cluster of values and principles that guide the behaviour of the professionals concerning what is right and what is wrong based on loyalty, accountability, honesty, and respect for the law. Hence, the celebrities’ acts of promoting harmful practices like tobacco consumption certainly are incompatible with the professional moral principles that posit serving larger social interests



NIBEDITA PRIYADARSHINI JENA

The “smoking zone” has been shifted from industrialised developed countries to developing countries. While eighty per cent of the 1.3 billion tobacco users belong to the third-world countries, India sees more than a million deaths due to tobacco consumption accounting for 9.5 per cent of all deaths. Going by a World Health Organization report of 2014, a scary health concern induced by tobacco consumption puts a heavy burden on India’s economy as around 53 per cent of the tobacco-related deaths are attributed to non-communicable diseases and 80 per cent of them include chronic respiratory diseases, cancer, cardiovascular diseases, and diabetes. Accordingly, it is no surprise that the Indian state has been struggling to reduce tobacco consumption by 30 per cent by 2025.

At this juncture, promoting tobacco consumption by cinema celebrities is indeed not only depressing but also immoral, unsocial if not completely illegal. In a country like India, the cinema celebrities are often followed and imitated by the people passionately. Such fan following is often capitalised on by the big business and corporate bodies to further their business interests. It is not uncommon to see the people imitating the dressing and other

styles of the cinema celebrities in their daily life. Such imitations reflect upon the tremendous effect the celebrities have on the fans. While these celebrities are well within their rights to endorse a brand, the promotion of tobacco consumption invites criticism on moral and social grounds, for society demands a minimum amount of moral and social responsibilities from the public figures.

Accordingly, the general actions of the cinema celebrities and their acts of promoting tobacco consumption warrant moral scrutiny. These actions of promoting something as bad as tobacco that has negative implications on human health and societal integrity can be evaluated on various moral parameters. First, the performance of the action in the realm of restricted individual liberty (harm principle) can be employed. According to utilitarian philosopher John Stuart Mill, two types of actions are performed by humans: Self-regarding action (SRA); and Other-regarding action (ORA). The SRA is the one that influences the agent himself or herself. Explaining further, Mill says, an action ceases to be an SRA when it directly impairs others. However, the ORA is the one that affects others and thus it entails moral criticism.



This distinction, fundamentally, serves as a base for the broader horizon of individual liberty as well as serves as a reason to delimit individual liberty by justifying the state/country’s interference in it. The state’s interference in individual liberty is conditioned by the “Harm Principle” which says, “The only purpose for which power can be rightfully exercised over any member of a civilised community, against his will, is to prevent harm to others. His own good, either physical or moral, is not a sufficient warrant”. It entails

that the harmful ORA of an agent morally permits others, including the state, to intervene in individual liberty. Thus, the state has the right to interfere in an individual’s liberty when it is required for the well-being of others/society. However, drawing a sharp line between SRA and ORA is difficult which leads to the claim that they both overlap each other and the act of promoting tobacco consumption is a good example in this regard.

Although the cinema celebrities do have their liberties to select the

roles to enact, the platform and the message they want to deliver through the act cannot be left unevaluated. With a clear knowledge that tobacco causes irrecoverable diseases and immense suffering, the action of the cinema actors’ promotion of tobacco consumption certainly influences the common people in many ways, eventually harming their bodies. Thus, these other-regarding actions of the celebrities fail to satisfy the condition which prevents the state to interfere and it is immoral as well since it ceases to bring maximum good in maximum number. While the state is taking major steps in the form of enacting laws to prevent tobacco consumption, those laws should include taking stringent actions against those who foster harmful practices like tobacco consumption despite their social position.

The second moral issue concerning advertising tobacco centres on the action itself. It violates the moral universal humanity principle that says, “act in such a way that you always treat humanity, whether in your own person or in the person of any other, never simply as a means, but always at the same time as an end.”

In other words, this principle entails that an agent should act in

such a way that action never uses humans as means for any end. On the contrary, the cinema celebrities are using, though indirectly, other humans for their vested interests of making fortune ignoring their moral responsibility and respect towards other fellow humans and the society. Accordingly, these celebrities fail to satisfy the humanity principle since they are using others in the form of exploiting the passionate emotions of the common humans and thereby these celebrities lap into the sphere of immorality.

Moreover, it is pertinent to reiterate that the noble professions tend to serve the well-being of fellow humans and society alike. Professional ethics entail a cluster of values and principles that guide the behaviour of the professionals concerning what is right and what is wrong based on loyalty, accountability, honesty, and respect for the law. Hence, the celebrities’ acts of promoting harmful practices like tobacco consumption certainly are incompatible with the professional moral principles since it entails responsibilities to serve larger social interests.

(The writer is ethical consultant, National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bengaluru)

