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AFTER MUCH ADO,
TRUSS IS UK PM

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TAIWAN LEADER CITES THREAT OF
CHINESE 'COGNITIVE WARFARE'

MONEY 10
INDIA PROVIDES BEST INVESTMENT
OPPORTUNITY: GOYAL

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India, B'desh must fight terror together: Modi

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

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■
NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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

The interim water sharing



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

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

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

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

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

turies.

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

Liquor scam: ED raids across India

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

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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

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

Nitish casts his net wide for Opp unity

Bihar CM meets Kejriwal, Chautala, Left leaders

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■
NEW DELHI

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

Nitish held a meeting with former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi a day earlier.

The JD(U) leader who quit the NDA fold to join the RJD, the Congress and others to lead

a grand alliance Government in Bihar last month, also called on INLD supremo OP Chautala and JDS leader HD Kumaraswamy amid speculation that Nitish may also want to bring together Janata parivar to take on the Narendra Modi juggernaut in the 2024 polls.

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

Chautala invited Nitish to attend the rally to mark the birthday of former Prime Minister Devi Lal.

Anti-Covid nasal vax by Bharat Biotech gets nod

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■
NEW DELHI

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

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

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■
NEW DELHI

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

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

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

CAPSULE

ANT ATTACK FORCES PEOPLE TO FLEE VILLAGE

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

LOCALS RAZED MADRASSA USED FOR JIHAD: POLICE

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

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Rs 763 cr to strengthen 36 saline embankments

To ward off land-mass, habitations from floods, tidal surge in 4 dists

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR
Following a nod of the State Cabinet, the Water Resources Department has notified a scheme called "Cyclone-Resilient Saline Embankment Projects."

Rs 763.48 crore. The objective of the scheme is to raise and strengthen the saline embankments to sustain the impact of severe cyclones in order to protect the adjacent landmass and habitation from flood, saline ingress and tidal surge of Bay of Bengal in four coastal districts such as Baleswar, Bhadrak, Kendrapada and Puri. It will help to withstand cyclonic storms of higher magnitude such as high wind speed and sea storm surges; mitigate floods by keeping

flood waters within channel boundary and protect public infrastructure like school, hospital, anganwadi centre, utilities like electricity and road communication from extreme storm during cyclone. The projects would also protect nearby habitation and agricultural land from saline ingress. They will also help in early restoration of all forms of economic activities in the region after the cyclonic event. The State Government has planned for raising and

strengthening of 36 saline embankments measuring total length of 198.81 km to cyclone resilient standard to sustain the impact of very severe cyclone with speeds up to 250 km/hr and to protect the adjacent landmass and habitation from floods, saline ingress and tidal surge of sea. According to sources, upon completion of the projects, about 21,690 hectares of agricultural land will be protected from flood and saline ingress and 2,92,500 people in 136 villages in the four districts will

be benefitted. Due to raising and strengthening of embankments, road communication, scope for fishing and eco-tourism will be improved, the officials said. The Water Resources Department has planned to make an expenditure of Rs 290.60 crore during the current year while Rs 305.96 crore has been provisioned for 2023-24, Rs 166.92 crore for 2024-25 and Rs 763.48 crore for 2025-26. The department has also notified the scheme- "Community Harnessing and

Harvesting Rainwater Artificially from Terrace to Aquifer (CHHATA)" for conservation of rainwater. The scheme will be implemented in 29,500 private buildings and 1,925 Government buildings covering water-stressed 52 blocks and 27 urban local bodies (ULBs) of the State for a period of five financial years from 2022-23 to 2026-27 with a budget outlay of Rs 270 crore. A target is set to harvest 373.52 crores litres of water roughly on completion of the scheme.

Paradip College welcomes Startup Yatra

Special vehicle by DIC reaches
PNS ■ PARADIP
The Paradip College welcomed the Start up Yatra of the State Government in its campus on September 3. On the occasion, a special vehicle reached the college under the guidance of the District Industries Centre (DIC) Manager. Paradip College Principal Dr Sasmitha Satapathy presided over the meeting and delivered the welcome address. This is a Government of Odisha initiative the chief objective of

which is to infuse innovation and entrepreneurship in the young minds so as to encourage business and industry in the State, said the resource persons. A large number of students were present and participated in an interactive session. The Paradip College employees and students extended their active cooperation for the smooth management of the programme. A few teachers also motivated the students to develop innovation and entrepreneurship among them. At the end IQAC, Coordinator Ganeswar Patra extended the vote of thanks.

Postage stamp on Alka Ashram unveiled

Preparatory meet for ashram's centenary held
PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR



A 'Mo Dak Ticket' based on the historic Alka Ashram in Jagatsinghpur was unveiled on Sunday by Governor Dr Ganeshi Lal here. Alaka Ashram Centenary Committee chairman Laksha Keshari Mohapatra, editor Devendra Nath Raut, coordinator Nagendra Nath Swaween, Somnath Parida and stamp sculptor Lal Laksha Keshari Roy were present.

Built on the backdrop of the Non-Cooperation Movement and playing a major role in civil disobedience across Odisha, the Alaka Ashram, which was declared illegal by the British Government during the Quit India

Movement, is celebrating its year-long centenary celebrations this year. A preparatory meeting was also held on the occasion before the unveiling of the postal tickets. Many dignitaries of the State attended and expressed

their views to make the centenary ceremony very memorable. The ceremony will be held in the presence of national and international Gandhian followers including many dignitaries of the country and the State.

Smart Power launches Rooftop Solar Prog

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR
The Smart Power India (SPI) launched a Rooftop Solar Programme for MSMEs in Odisha. Announcing here at Annapurna Finance complex at Khandagiri, Programme head of SPI Samit Mitra said, "Our vision is solarizing MSMEs in rural areas and improving lives through holistic socio-economic development." On being asked about the vision plan of SPI, Mitra explained that it is committed to creating knowledge and accountability in the public domain through robust evidence-based research and providing field and analytical support to the Government, private sector, implementers and other donors in their pursuits for rural electricity access. While explaining the economic advantages due to SPI, Mitra asserted that its aim

is to provide green jobs to the unemployed youths at the rural sector improving their socio-economic development. SPI has plans in its agenda to work on a robust engagement in the State that will support the Government of India and the Government of Odisha's vision. The SPI will closely work with the key stakeholders to accelerate renewable energy development and increase the RPO target. Additionally, the SPI has recently launched a pilot project in aquaculture and introduced solar aerators to shrimp farmers. Managing Director of Annapurna Finance Divyajyoti Patnaik announced that Annapurna Finance will provide hassle free loans to the enterprisers and to the rural youths for their MSME projects under SPI. Patnaik finally informed that UP, Bihar and Nagaland, Odisha are going to be a hub for SPI activities by 2024.

'Gorbachev worked for world peace'

FPI holds talk
PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR



The Freethought Party of India (FPI) in association with the AMOFOI on Sunday held a seminar on Mikhail Gorbachev's distinct contributions to mankind. The seminar was chaired by AMOFOI president Manas Jena. Rationalist leader Sundhansu Dhada, HRO, Brahmapur, president Basanti Acharya, MS Yadav of BSP and Swapna Bijayini of AMOFOI spoke. Introducing the topic of the discussion and throwing light on the greatness of the last

Soviet Union President Gorbachev who passed away in Moscow on August 30 at the age of 91, FPI general secretary B Ramchandra CST Voltaire pinpointed that Gorbachev was a leader of unique statesmanship, and because of his love for human

freedom and tolerance of opposition views, he worked for ending the Cold War. He had the mission to prevent wastage of huge public money running into trillions of US Dollars and diverting the same in providing standard houses to all the

people of the world. Indeed, he was for planned parenthood and no wonder, he and his wife Raisa were satisfied with a daughter-centric one-child family, told Voltaire. Dhada and Yadav regretted that the good work done by Gorbachev was not carried forward by the subsequent leaders of Russia and the US. Bijayini praised Gorbachev as he had no love for dictatorial or repressive power. Jena said that the problems of mankind are huge from nation to nation and in this regard right public opinion has to be created. Among others, Basanti Acharya spoke.

Mission provides relief to Puri flood-hit

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR
The Ramakrishna Mission, Bhubaneswar, provided relief to more than 15,000 flood affected people of Nimapara and Gop blocks in Puri district. The relief operation was started on August 21 at Khandiakuda village which is situated near the embankment of Kushabhadra river and ended at Bhandigram Harijan Sahi of Salanga Panchayat of

Nimapara. Chuda and Jaggery were supplied to the flood victims, said Swami Atmaprabhananda. He also informed that 1,000 sets of saree, dhoti and Gamuchha will be distributed soon among the flood victims in the 2nd phase at affected Banki and Malipada areas. During the relief operation more than three monastic members and 20 devotee volunteers worked day and night to serve the people.

Protests against liquor shops at Astarang

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR



Protests are mounting up in Astarang area against a proposal of the State Excise Department to open five liquor shops in Puri district. Women activists, youths, social workers, lawyers and intelligentsia of Puri district are up against the move which they apprehended would not only boost consumption of liquor in the area but also give rise to anti-social activities. This is pertinent to mention here that there are two colleges nearby along with a boy's high school and a girl's high school at stone throw distance from the proposed liquor

bazaar. Senior citizens have decried the move by the district administration to forcefully go ahead with the plan and cautioned the administration of dire consequences. "All the protest rallies and petitions of the general

public have fallen in deaf ear of the Government, who is interested in revenue augmentation without concern for public health and dignity of our mothers and sisters," lamented a noted educationist of the area. The five proposed on-shops

within a distance of one km is nothing but a cruel mockery to the Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi. One of the colleges in close proximity of which the liquor shops are going to be set up, is named after Gandhi, said a student leader.

4 yrs on, Nuagarh bridge work still incomplete

Villagers swim river to reach nearby Athamallik town
SANGRAM MISHRA ■ ATHMALLIK



Even after a lapse of four years, the construction of Nuagarh bridge is still not completed. The bridge is being built over the Chadka canal of Nagaon panchayat under Athamallik block in Angul district. The State Government had decided to build the bridge and a barrage on Chadka canal after prolonged agitation by the locals. The 115.60 meter long bridge on the canal was to be finished in two years at a

cost of Rs 22, 99, 32,304. Construction company, called Orient Construction, has started the work by taking the tender. So far, the construction of the bridge has not been raised from the soil. It is estimated that around 3,000 people will get benefitted from the construction of the bridge. Villages such as Nuagadh, Khambeswaripali of Naugaon

Panchayat and Jirad, Malipadar, Kusupur and Kairighanti of Puruna Mantri Panchayat will be benefited from the bridge. In absence of a bridge, the villagers of Chadka swim through the river to buy rations from the Athmalkik town. The people are unable to get proper medical facilities as well as services of ambulances. It is

alleged that undue favour is shown to the construction company for which it has been delaying the work. In the meantime, the villagers of Nuagarh in the District Magistrate grievance hearing camp held at Athmalkik have demanded to hand over the construction work to another company for speedy completion of the bridge work.

In Sundargarh Pregnant women killed in honeybees' attack

PNS ■ SUNDARGARH

A pregnant woman died after being attacked by a swarm of honeybees on Monday late afternoon under Mahulpada police limits in Bonei sub division of Sundargarh district. The incident came to the fore on Tuesday morning, after the family of the deceased woman lodged an FIR. According to sources, deceased Sumi Munda (35) of Dhokamunda village was seven months' pregnant. On Monday afternoon at around 4 pm, Sumi went to a nearby nallah to wash her utensils.

Sumi's two children had also gone with her. However, suddenly hundreds of honeybees attacked her following which she screamed and fell down there. Her two children ran up to their home and told their uncle Miridha about the incident. Later, Sumi was rescued from the spot and was rushed to Bonei sub divisional hospital. She was declared brought dead by the hospital. The Mahulpada police seized the body and sent it for post mortem. An unnatural death case was registered and the police have started an investigation in the case.

IN BRIEF

PARADIP PORT BRIBERY: CHARCHIT GETS BAIL FROM CBI COURT
Bhubaneswar: A CBI court here on Tuesday granted bail to Charchit Mishra, son of shipping tycoon Mahima Mishra and Director of Orissa Stevedores Limited (OSL), in the Paradip Port Trust bribery case. However, the court asked Charchit not to influence witnesses of the case, to submit his passport and meet the investigating officer once in every 15 days. The CBI had arrested him on August 6 after raiding office and residence of Mahima Mishra on allegation of bribery. The agency recovered Rs 84.5 lakh during searches at various locations in Cuttack and Paradip.

LIONS CLUB NAYAPALLI'S INSTALLATION FEST HELD (Pix)
Bhubaneswar: Lyons Club, Nayapalli's new president T Rabikummar Patra administered oath to the all the office-bearers, including secretary Bharati Patnaik, treasurer Debasmitha Mishra, vice-presidents Nikunja Sarangi and Pramod Patra and sensitised them about their responsibilities. Former district Governor Purna Chandra Padhi welcomed the members, office-bearers different clubs' presidents, secretaries and offered a vote of thanks. Former secretary Debashish Patnaik informed about the various welfare activities undertaken by the club. Chief guest DSP Venugopal Acharya was felicitated on the occasion. Pradipta Mohanty and Parvej Khan coordinated the function.

HEALTH TEAM VISITS GAJAPATI DENGUE-HIT AREAS
Paralakhemundi: Under the direction of Collector Gajapati Lingaraj Panda, a health team visited Mohana block after the death of a few persons in dengue fever was reported. The doctors and other officials in the team visited the affected areas and disinfected the water sources. BDO Tapaswini Hansada, Block Chairman Ranjib Sabar, ZP Vice Chairperson Kuntala Mallick, members Sunil Bisoyi and Chandra Kumar Mallick, local Sarpanch, Samiti members, RWSS and Block officials were present.

B'PUR MLA HELPS CREMATING POOR MAN'S BODY
Brahmapur: Brahmapur MLA Bikram Kumar Panda has earned praise from residents of the city for helping in cremating the body of a poor man, who died while undergoing treatment at the MKCG Medical College Hospital. The deceased Buna Mohanty, who was ailing for long, had been admitted to the hospital by the 'Ama Odisha Parivar'. After he died, Panda's help was sought for cremating the body. During the cremation, Brahmapur MP Chandra Sekhar Sahu and BeMC Mayor Sanghamitra Dalai were also present.

TEACHER'S DAY CELEBRATED IN BRAHMAPUR
Brahmapur: The Teacher's Day was celebrated in the premises of the City High School here. On the occasion, the statues of Mahatma Gandhi, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Utkalmani Gopandhu Das, Utkalgaurav Madhusudan Das, APJ Abdul Kalam and school founder Ramlingam were unveiled. Head Master Panag Bhusan Majhi presided over the function. Additional District Education Officer Pabitra Kumar Sahu, Rangeilunda BEO Santilata Muni, Rabindra Kanta Das, GPCDA president P Satyanarayan, advocate Pradipta Behera, former school headmasters Laxmi Naryan Das, Kuni Padhy, Arun Chand Das and Subash Chandra Moharana were felicitated on the occasion.

JHARSUGUDA DIST GURU DIVAS CELEBRATED
Jharsuguda: District-level Guru Divas was observed at the Rabindra Bhawan here on Monday by the Prasanna Panda Memorial Committee and the Jharsuguda District Primary School Teachers' Association with Health Minister Naba Kisore Das as chief guest, Lakhnapur GM RS Gupta guest of honour, educationist Tapan Barik chief speaker and association president Pramod Nayak, Kanhu Charan Mohanty, BEO J Sahoo and All India Primary School Teachers' Association general secretary Kamalakanta Tripathy other distinguished guests. Twenty-five retired teachers along with seven incumbent teachers and high school exam topper Asha Barik, Plus Two topper Rakhi Kanta and Plus two science topper Rajesh Agarwal of the district were felicitated.

PRATIKHYA PERFORMS DALKHAI DANCE AT P'KHEMUNDI
Paralakhemundi: Cultural organisation Samalei Nritya Kala Parishad observed Nuakhai here in which Pratikhya Patra performed Sambalpuri Dalkhai dance and enthralled the audience. Pratikhya, a Class-VIII student at the Paralakhemundi Central School, is daughter of Prasant and Tanuja Patra and granddaughter of Nirupama Patra and Harishchandra Sahu. She learned dance from Guru Bishnupriya and Pritipriya Behera.

VEDANTA SMELTER IS INDUSTRY BENCHMARK IN WATER EFFICIENCY
Bhubaneswar: The Vedanta Aluminium has declared that its Aluminium Smelter-I at Jharsuguda has emerged as a national benchmark in water efficiency amongst aluminium smelters in India. The smelter has substantially reduced its specific water consumption (water consumed per unit of metal produced) by around 11% in FY22 over the previous fiscal while producing more than 17,400 tonnes of aluminium over FY21.

DHAMRA PORT CONFERS 'GURU SAMMAN' ON 6 TEACHERS
Dhamra: On the Teacher's Day, the Adani Foundation conferred "Guru Samman" to six retired teachers who have contributed immensely for the growth of education in rural areas of Bhadrak district. They were Babaji Charana Nayak, Nirmala Chandra Maity, Ramesh Chandra Patri, Laxmikant Rout, Kamalakant Mohanty and Pares Kumar Das.

Chhattisgarhiya Olympic Games to tap regional talent

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

In a bid to promote regional and traditional games in Chhattisgarh, the government on Tuesday announced a Chhattisgarhiya Olympic Games this year.

Briefing newsmen Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel said a decision in this regard was taken at a cabinet meeting chaired by him.

Under the Chhattisgarhiya Olympics, competitions will be organized in various disciplines, from kabaddi and kho-kho to tennis and cricket, he said. Everyone can participate



in these games, Baghel said, but they must be domiciles of Chhattisgarh. Gedi, pitthul, volleyball, hockey and tennis ball cricket have also been included in the games. Competition will be for males and females and at

four levels: Gram Panchayat, Block, District and State.

Coaches from the Chhattisgarh Sports Development Authority, representatives of state and district sports associations and sports teachers of the education department will provide technical support and guidance in organizing these games.

After the talent hunt, the coaches will prepare selected sportspersons for national and international competitions.

Budget will be sanctioned for food, transportation and other facilities, the communiqué said.

Horticulture farmers to get zero interest loans up to Rs 3 lakh



STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

Small and marginal farmers will get zero-interest short-term loans of up to Rs 3 lakh for horticulture work, fisheries and cow rearing, the Chhattisgarh government announced on Tuesday.

This follows a cabinet approval of an amendment draft for interest subsidy rules for farmers cooperative loans, Agriculture Minister Ravindra Choubey and Transport Minister Mohammed Akbar said on Tuesday.

The Cabinet also approved the allocation of 3.14 acres of land in Sector 19, Nava Raipur, Atal Nagar for construction of a Krishi Bhawan, to bring all the allied departments of agriculture under one roof, Choubey said.

The Ministers were briefing the media on cabinet decisions taken here.

It was also decided to build paved roads in the service bank of irrigation canals utilizing resources of other departments, Choubey said.

A nod was given to set up solar power plant of capacity 810 MW (DC)/675 MW (AC) to energize the agricultural feeders with solar power, the Minister said.

This would be done under Component-C of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha Avam Utthana Maha Abhiyan (PM Kusum) scheme. This would help farmers utilize both solar and conventional electricity. If solar energy is not available to operate agriculture pumps, he can use conventional electricity, Choubey said.

Minister Akbar said the cabinet has given go-ahead to appoint a Central Public Sector Undertaking as Project Management

Consultant through limited tender for construction of Government Medical Colleges and Hospitals on turnkey basis.

Three medical colleges in Kanker, Mahasamund and Korba have been approved.

One-year validity period for the selection list issued for appointment of 43 Assistant Cartographers in the Public Works Department was approved. Recruitment will be done on 12,489 posts of teachers in Bastar and Surguja divisions.

It was also decided to give two bonus marks for each year of service and a maximum of 10 bonus marks to guest teachers working in the schools of the Education Department, said Akbar.

Post-facto approval was given to produce a short film based on the culture of Chhattisgarh and a documentary on 75 years of independence, he said.

Cycle rally in Raipur for nutritional awareness

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

The Chhattisgarh government on Tuesday organized a cycle rally in Raipur to spread nutritional awareness among people under the Nutrition Awareness Drive (Poshan Jagrukta Abhiyan).

Women and Child Welfare Minister Anila Bhedia led the rally, which started from Marine Drive in Telibandha. Scores of Raipurians took part, an official statement said.

The rally passed through various places before culminating at the starting point.



Bhedia also flagged off the Poshan Jagrukta Rath on the occasion and administered oath to people to achieve a malnutrition free society. The campaign was

Cooperative banks' meet explores banking business



STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

To strengthen existing banking relationship and to explore the scope for other banking business, a meeting of cooperative banks was held in Raipur.

The meeting was attended by CEOs and key functionaries of various cooperative banks operating actively in Chhattisgarh and branch heads of IDBI Bank among others. The meet was chaired by Kuntal Biswas and Soumen Dalal.

Three Naxalites surrender in Sukma

STAFF REPORTER ■ SUKMA

Three Naxalites surrendered to security forces in Sukma district of Chhattisgarh on Tuesday.

The Maoists, including a woman, gave themselves up to the police and the Central Reserve Police Force, Sukma Superintendent of Police Sunil Sharma said.

Madkam Hidme was Vice President of Jantana Sarkar in Bijapur, Punem Kanna was a member of the Naxalite doctors panel and Karam Sukku was Vice President of Peddagalur Jantana Sarkar also in Bijapur, the officer said. All three were involved in

All three were involved in a gun battle with security forces in Budgicheru village in Bijapur district in 2015

a gun battle with security forces in Budgicheru village in Bijapur district in 2015.

Separate directorates for SC, ST, OBC welfare

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on Tuesday said separate departments will be formed for Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Other Backward Class. There will be a separate directorate but a single Minister and senior officers.

Briefing cabinet decisions, Baghel said that for more centralized implementation of the welfare schemes of each category, it had been decided to form separate departments. At present, all these

categories are under a department, which has created hurdles and delays in reaching out to the targeted beneficiaries.

On a query, he said at present the cabinet portfolio will continue even after separation of the departments. As there is a shortage of Secretaries, the department will be handled by them.

The only part is that at the directorate level, there will be clear cut separation with a separate director for each department. This will ease their functioning.

Also, people appointed on Grade III and IV in district-level and division-level posts in Korba and



Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi districts of Bilaspur division and districts in Bastar and Surguja divisions notified as Scheduled areas will not be

transferred, deputed, merged or annexed outside the district and the division, Baghel said. The Chhattisgarh State

Hydroelectric Project (Pump Storage Based) Establishment Policy 2022 was approved to encourage investment for setting up the

pump storage-based hydro power projects in the state, Baghel said.

The cabinet has decided to extend by 10 years the duration of the notification issued for the establishment of a small hydro power project of 25 MW capacity. This had expired in February 2022.

Farmers keen to lease their land to establish solar power plants will get Rs 30,000 per acre annually. Every year, a 6 per cent increase is also assured.

The tenure will be 25 years after which if a farmer is interested he can continue otherwise he can dismantle it. The land can be given to private players also, he said.

Cabinet nod to 7 small hydro power plants in Chhattisgarh



STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

The Chhattisgarh cabinet on Tuesday gave a go ahead to establish pump storage based hydropower projects of about 10,000 MW capacity at seven sites.

An official communication said the Chhattisgarh

State Power Generation Co Ltd (CSPGCL) will survey the viability for the projects in Korba, Jashpur, Surguja, Gariaband, Dhamtari and Balrampur districts.

A large number of coal-based power generation projects are being set up in the state due to availability of coal.

For the stability and smooth operation of any power system, there should be a proper ratio of thermal power generation capacity and hydropower generation capacity.

At present, there is a need to boost the development of hydropower generation projects, the communication said.

RMC seizes over 5K kg plastic bags

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

The Raipur Municipal Corporation on Tuesday seized more than 5,000 kg of single use polythene bags from various places in the Chhattisgarh capital.

Around 4,000 kg polythene was seized at Hari Om Enterprises in Pandri and the firm was fined Rs 50,000, an official statement said.

Similarly, 25 kg polythene bags were seized from Shri Shivam showroom in Pandri. It was fined Rs 25,000.

Over 1,000 kg of plastic bags were seized from Van Shree Enterprises in Mana. It was fined Rs 25,000.

Ten kg of plastic bags



were seized from Sumeet Bazar showroom in New Rajendra Nagar. A penalty of Rs 50,000 was imposed.

A fine of Rs 500 each was imposed on seven shopkeepers.

Also, 10 kg plastic polythene seized from 26 shopkeepers and a penalty of Rs 14,000 was imposed on them.

RMC on Monday seized around 400 kg plastic bags in the city.

बैंक ऑफ इंडिया Bank of India RAJNANDGAON BRANCH : DIGVIJAY COLLEGE ROAD, RAJNANDGAON (C.G.)
TATIBANDH BRANCH : NEAR RAILWAY OVERBRIDGE, G.E.ROAD, TATIBANDH-492009

POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Properties)
[Under Rule-8(1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002]

Whereas, The undersigned being the authorized officer of the Bank of India, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice calling upon the following borrower/s to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being detail as mentioned here under, within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said rules as mentioned below.

The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Bank of India for an amount detail given as below.

Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s)	Description of the Properties	Demand Notice	Amount Due
Rajnandgaon Branch- 1. Mr. Premal Sinha & Mr. Kunjal Sinha	EOM of Residential Property Land and Building Situated at Kh.No. 312/161, 313/100, 314/100, 315/109 & 316/110, Ph.No. 35/2, Ward No. 16, Tulsipur Bhaktawar Chaa, Rajnandgaon, C.G. area 48.77 Sqmtr. Standing in the name of Mr. Kunjal Sinha, Boundaries : North: House of Mr. Manohar Bandra, South: House of Mr. Ghanshyam Ramekte, East: Gali No. 08, West: House of Mr. Shashi Bhushan.	Date 03.04.2021 Possession Notice Date 02.09.2022	1. ₹ 1,86,218.69/- (Rupees One Lakh Eighty Six thousand Two Hundred and Eighteen and paise sixty nine only) and interest + other expenses 2. ₹ 5,35,201/- (Rupees Five Lakh Thirty Five thousand Two Hundred One only) and interest + other expenses
Rajnandgaon Branch- Borrower Mr. Vikas Ahuja S/o Dharamdas, Mr. Dharamdas Ahuja S/o Lt. Mohanlal Ahuja & Mr. Rinkesh Ahuja S/o Dharamdas Ahuja	EOM of Land and Double Storied Residential Property Situated at Kh. No. 401/21 (Part of K.H.No. 401/13) Ph No. 29/22 at Village-Bhedikala-Rajnandgaon (C.G.) Area 3237.00 Sqft. Standing In The Name of Mr. Vikas Ahuja S/o. Dharamdas Ahuja & Mr. Dharam Das Ahuja S/o Lt. Mohanlal Ahuja, Boundaries : North: Land of Biseshar, South: Land of Shiv, East: Land of Prakash, West: Land of Shiv.	Date 13.05.2022 Possession Notice Date 02.09.2022	₹ 16,88,630.35/- (Rupees Sixteen Lacs Eighty Eight Thousand Six Hundred Thirty Paise Thirty Five Only) and interest + other expenses
Tatibandh Branch- Sri Santosh Viswakarma & Sikha Viswakarma / NIL	All that Part and Parcel of the Property Consisting of MIG-II/35, Phase-2, in front of Holy Faith School, Kabir Nagar, Ramkrishna Paramhansh Ward No.-02, Tehsil & Dist-Raipur in the name of Sikha Viswakarma Within the registration Sub-District Raipur and District-Raipur, Boundaries : North: 6mt Road, South: MIG-II/30, East: MIG-II/34, West: 7.5 mt. Road.	Date 11.01.2022 Possession Notice Date 03.09.2022	₹ 21,66,953.40/- (Rupees Twenty One Lakhs Sixty Six Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty Three and Paise Forty Only) and interest + other expenses

Date: 07.09.2022.
Place : Rajnandgaon/Raipur

Authorized Officer
Bank of India

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BJP discusses strategy for 144 LS seats it lost in 2019

DEEPAK K UPRETI ■ NEW DELHI

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



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

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

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

India-Oz ties moving into higher orbit: Jaishankar

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

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

Jaishankar said Australia is a major educational destination

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

He further said the deficit in global goods has been sought to be addressed by India and Australia working together bilaterally as well as in larger formats. "This reflects their shared concerns about respect for international law and a rules-based order. The two countries may have long interacted in ASEAN-led forums, Commonwealth, Indian Ocean Rim Association, etc.

But stronger leadership and more open exchanges have brought out mutual benefits of closer cooperation and coordination. "Australia has been an early and vigorous supporter of India's Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI). In fact, the big change has been realization that a stronger bilateral relationship today allows the two nations to contribute much more effectively at a regional and at a global level," he added. The IPOI builds upon the 'Security and Growth for All in the Region' (SAGAR) initiative announced by Prime Minister Modi in 2015. The Australia-India Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative Partnership (AIPOIP) in particular is focussed on maritime cooperation in the Indo-Pacific to support an open, inclusive, resilient, prosperous and rules-based maritime order. Jaishankar also talked about a new intensity in the interactions between the two countries from the leadership level downwards and referred to a number of agreements in recent months. These include pacts ranging from maritime collaboration, defence science exchanges, mutual logistics support to cooperation in cyber-enabled critical technology, critical and strategic minerals, water resources management, vocational education and training, as well as public administration and governance.

Sanjay Kumar Verma appointed High Commissioner to Canada

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

Jaishankar congratulates UK's new PM Liz Truss

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

BJP hits out at Nitish after his meeting with Rahul

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

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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

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

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

SC may refer Shinde faction plea to Constitution bench



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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

Some elections are coming up in the month of October in the state," senior advocate N K Kaul, appearing for the Shinde faction, told a bench headed by Chief Justice UU Lalit. "I will look into that and I cannot say anything off the cuff, but certainly, there will be something by tomorrow," the CJI said.

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

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



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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

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

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday said it would begin hearing from September 13 a batch of pleas on the Constitutional validity of the Centre's decision to grant 10 per cent reservation to Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) in admissions and jobs. A five-judge Constitution bench headed by Chief Justice UU Lalit said this after it was told that the lawyers for the parties would need 18 hours in all to argue.

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

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

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

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

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

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

India, Mongolia talk ways to boost defence, strategic cooperation

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

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

Giving details of his engagements, defence ministry officials said here Rajnath also called on the President of Mongolia Ukhnaagiin Khurelsukh and Chairman of State Great Khural. The defence minister also inaugurated a Cyber Security Training Centre, built with assistance from India and laid the foundation stone of the India-Mongolia Friendship School, to be constructed with Indian assistance. On bilateral talks, the officials said the two ministers discussed effective and practical initiatives to further expand bilateral defence engagements.

The two leaders deliberated on regional and global issues of mutual interest. Both Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to fully implement the Strategic Partnership based on mutual trust and understanding, common interests and shared values of democracy and rule of law. The two Ministers also reiterated their resolve to reinvigorate the India-Mongolia Joint Working Group (JWG), which will meet in India later this year.

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

Rajnath also met Chairman of State Great Khural of Mongolia G Zandanshatar. Rajnath along with Minister of Education and Science of Mongolia, laid the foundation stone of the India-Mongolia Friendship School, which is being established with the assistance from Government of India.

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

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

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

"We are grateful for valuable support from government and people of India in great war of liberation of Bangladesh in 1971, which was a watershed moment in our bilateral relations.... Tomorrow, I will confer Mujib Scholarship to the direct descendants of soldiers or officers of defence forces of India who were martyred or gravely wounded during Bangladesh Liberation War," Hasina said. As many as 1,984 Indian Army personnel were killed in the war, according to the Bangladeshi government.

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



President Droupadi Murmu with Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi on Tuesday. PTI Photo

Around 250 terrorists waiting across LoC

Army gears up to counter design

PTI ■ KERAN SECTOR/LOC (JK)

With intelligence reports suggesting presence of around 250 terrorists across launch pads in PoK, the army along the Line of Control (LoC) has upped its ante to counter any nefarious design from across the border.

Maintaining a high vigil at the forward post in Keran sector, the northern most part of Kashmir along LoC, troops are maintaining a birds-eye vigil despite ceasefire between two countries since February last year. For soldiers at this frontier, it's a battle that has to be fought

on two fronts — hostile neighbour and harsh winter, which is approaching. Though the claims of army that infiltration has reduced in the past few years, officials, who spoke to a group of visiting journalists, said there were intelligence inputs about presence of about 250 terrorists at various launch pads waiting across the LoC to sneak in. "So, we cannot let our guard down," one of army officials said.

Besides infiltration of terrorists, the army is also worried about flow of drugs from across border. Recently, Director General of Jammu and Kashmir Police Dilbag Singh said smuggling of drugs from across border is on rise and Pakistan is using it to fund terrorism in Kashmir.

NMC allows Ukraine medics to move to colleges in other countries

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The National Medical Commission (NMC) has allowed the medical students who had to return to India due to the Russia-Ukraine war to transfer to colleges in other countries. Earlier, students studying medicine in a foreign country were not allowed to shift their country of study mid-course.

Considering the special circumstances, the NMC in its recent notice said, "NMC conveys its no-objection for academic mobility program in respect of Indian medical students who are studying in Ukraine provided that other criteria of Screening Test Regulations 2002 are fulfilled. The earlier rule stated, "the entire course, training, and internship or clerkship shall be done in the same foreign medical institution throughout the course of study and no part of training/internship shall be done from another institute." It is informed that the mobility program offered by Ukraine has been considered in the Commission in

consultation with the Ministry of External Affairs, wherein it was intimated that the academic mobility program is a temporary relocation to other universities in different countries globally. However, the degree will be awarded by the parent Ukrainian University," NMC said in its latest order. Even though universities in Ukraine have started to operate, students are not going to the varities due to geopolitical conditions. Most of the students are attending classes online, however, NMC only recog-

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



PTI ■ BENGALURU

Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Tuesday blamed the previous Congress Governments' "maladministration" and unprecedented rains in the capital city for the deluge.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Several streets, areas still inundated in State

PTI ■ BENGALURU

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

Using boats and tractors to cross the streets submerged in water by office goers and school children was a common sight this morning in several parts of the city like Yemalur, Rainbow Drive layout, Sunny Brooks Layout, Marathahalli and K.R.Puram have recorded 307 per cent excess rain. "This was the highest rainfall in the last 42 years. All the 164 tanks in Bengaluru are filled to the brim," he said.

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

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

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

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

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

23-yr-old woman electrocuted

PTI ■ BENGALURU

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

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

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

Cong to launch 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' in Kanyakumari

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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



several other Congress leaders will embark on the march.

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

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

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

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

PTI ■ KOKRAJHAR (ASSAM)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

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

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

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



Meanwhile, two terrorists belonging to the pro-Pakistan Hizbul Mujahideen terrorist outfit were neutralised by the joint team of the security forces at Poshkreeri area of Anantnag.

Both the killed terrorists have been identified as Danish Bhat @ Kokab Duree & Basharat Nabi. They were affiliated with proscribed terror outfit Hizbul Mujahideen in a written statement Jammu and Kashmir police spokesman said, both the terrorists were involved in the killing of one Territorial Army personnel Saleem on 9 April 2021 & killing of two civilians on 29 May 2021 in Jablpora.

In Jammu, the BSF and Pakistan Rangers held a flag meeting hours after exchanging several rounds of fire and decided to adhere to the ceasefire agreement.

Between a cross border tunnel was detected along the International border in the Samba sector besides several incidents of cross border narcotics smuggling, drone droppings and intruders trying to sneak in were reported in the region. Luckily, the BSF patrol party escaped unhurt. Official sources in the BSF confirmed, "no loss of life/injury was reported on ground zero". Ground reports suggested, BSF personnel were engaged in the repair work of lights when Pakistani rangers targeted them around 9.00 am in the Arnia sector.

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

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

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

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

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



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

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

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

However, a rough estimate suggests that there are over 40,000 private madrasas in India's most populous state. In Deoband alone, there are over 100 private madrasas not recognised by the UP Madrasa Shiksha Parishad.

"Almost all mosques have a madrasa," says Maulana Khalid Rasheed Farangi Mahali, rector of Darul Uloom, Farangi Mahal, and chairman of Islamic Centre of India, Lucknow.

The Minority Welfare department in UP, in an order issued on August 30 last, asked all the district magistrates to start a survey of the unrecognised madrasas in their respective districts and gather details including the name of organisation running them, location, year of establishment, if the building is suitable for students, curriculum, source of income, etc.

Physically-challenged youth beaten to death by UP cops

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A physically-challenged youth was allegedly beaten to death by police in Kaushambi district. As per reports, on receiving information about a minor dispute and clash between two parties on Monday, the police reached the spot and tried to forcibly take the youth to the police station.

When he resisted, a constable thrashed him with a rifle hook. The police left the scene after some neighbours intervened. The youth was rushed to a hospital where he was pronounced dead upon arrival.

The bereaved relatives alleged that the cops of Paschimshira police station killed him. The police sent the body for autopsy and also started a probe.

The superintendent of



police reached the spot and took stock of the situation. He assured action against the cops found guilty in the probe.

Meanwhile, allegedly tortured by loan sharks, the principal of a primary school committed suicide at his office in Karmaha, Maharajganj district, police said on Tuesday.

In a suicide note, the principal held three people responsible for him taking the extreme step. On a complaint by his wife, the police registered a case against the accused.

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

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

Technology Act".

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

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

The top court directed the chief secretaries of the states had to take remedial measures as early as possible and complete the exercise of taking back the cases in three weeks.

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

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Meanwhile, the Calcutta

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

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

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

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

Kannauj perfume to reach Europe, West Asia soon

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The perfume of Kannauj will soon reach Europe and the Middle East as the Uttar Pradesh Government is making efforts to take 'One District One Product' (ODOP) under MSME to the global level.

A Government spokesman said the first step towards achieving the above goal is that for the first time, the International Perfume Festival is being organised in the state.

"A delegation from European and Middle East will be invited to this event to be held in February next year. The delegation will get an opportunity to meet the perfume traders of Kannauj. Along

with this, they will also be made acquainted with the merits of the perfume of Kannauj and the process of its manufacturing. Through this, the perfume traders of Kannauj will also get an opportunity to showcase their products to foreign buyers and explore the possibilities of global trade," he said.

Perfume of Kannauj is discussed all over the world. It is said that the smell of perfume also comes from the soil of the streets of Kannauj.

According to information, the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) will be responsible for bringing the foreign delegation to the International Perfume Festival. Under this event, there will be a one-day

programme in Lucknow, in which various seminars will be organised. Thereafter, all the foreign guests will be taken to Kannauj. They will get an opportunity to meet perfume entrepreneurs, perfume manufacturers and exporters.

The International Perfume Festival will be attended by representatives from countries around the world, especially those from European countries like France, Germany, Switzerland.

Many countries of the Middle East, including Dubai, will also participate in it. France is the most important of all these countries, as it is considered a leader in the perfume industry.

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

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

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

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

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



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

Even before the autopsy of

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

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

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

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Artisans work on idols of Goddess Durga ahead of the upcoming festival of Durga Puja, in Guwahati on Tuesday PTI

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PAPER WITH PASSION

Good for India

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

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



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

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

PICTALK



Tribal youth celebrate 'Karma' festival, in Ranchi

PTI

Skipper fights back

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

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



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

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

After much ado, Truss is UK PM

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



ASHOK K MEHTA

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

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

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

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



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

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

ership bid failed spectacularly, as Health Secretary, and Rishi Sunak, Dominic Raab, and Alok Sharma. The Truss government faces enormous economic challenges especially meteoric energy bills. While the pound sterling is struggling, funding the National Health Service is the other big challenge. The never-ending row with France is back in the spotlight. When asked last week whether she considered Macron a friend or foe, Truss replied: "the jury is out". Macron's response: "The UK is a friendly nation, regardless of its leaders". Macron added: "if Britain and France cannot determine whether they are friends or enemies, then we are heading for serious problems. An embarrassing event

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

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

RIISING FATALITIES ON THE ROAD

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

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

Bhagwan Thadani | Mumbai

KARNATAKA BJP MLA IS A SHAME

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

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

Political scene is hotting up



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

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

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

Azhar A Khan | Rampur

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

KV Chandra Mouli | Mysuru

SEVERAL DECADES OF HARD WORK

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

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

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

Haridasan Rajan | Kozhikode

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

SOUNDBITE

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

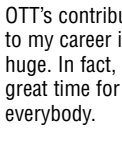


Congress leader —Rahul Gandhi



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

UK ex-Finance Minister —Rishi Sunak



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

Actor —Sikandar Kher



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

Indian cricketer —Virat Kohli

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



BJP spokesperson —Sambit Patra

FIRST COLUMN

THERE IS NO WILL TO LIMIT NOISE POLLUTION

The SC should fix accountability for noise pollution in States



S KALYANASUNDARAM

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(The author is a retired banker)

A Barefoot journey to lifelong live learning

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



SHEFALI MARTINS

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

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

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

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

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



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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

POINTCOUNTERPOINT

THOSE WHO WANT TO DEFAME ME HAVE THEIR REACH ONLY ON TWITTER, WHICH IS THE MAIN REASON WHY CONGRESS HAS VANISHED.

—FORMER CONGRESS LEADER

GHULAM NABI AZAD



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

—CONGRESS GENERAL SECRETARY

JAIRAM RAMESH

Climate change risks may hurt global economy

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

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

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



KOTA SRIRAJ

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

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

The rapidly worsening climate change conditions have played a key role in the above instance and if the report by Swiss Re Institute is to be con-

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

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

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

The Indian economy too is seemingly fighting a losing battle with climate change. It is

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

The major manifestation of

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

Today, India and the world are moving from climate

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

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

AP ■ WASHINGTON
The Russian Ministry of Defence is in the process of purchasing millions of rockets and artillery shells from North Korea for its ongoing fight in Ukraine, according to a newly downgraded U.S. intelligence finding.
A U.S. Official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss the intelligence determination, said Monday that the fact Russia is turning to the isolated state of North Korea demonstrates that "the Russian military continues to suffer from severe supply shortages in Ukraine, due in part to export controls and sanctions."
U.S. Intelligence officials believe that the Russians could look to purchase additional North Korean military equipment in the future. The intelligence finding was first reported by The New York Times.
The U.S. Official did not detail

how much weaponry Russia intends to purchase from North Korea.
The finding comes after the Biden administration recently confirmed that the Russian military in August took delivery of Iranian-made drones for use on the battlefield in Ukraine.
The White House said last week that Russia has faced technical problems with Iranian-made drones acquired from Tehran in August for use in its war with Ukraine.
Russia picked up Mohajer-6 and Shahed-series unmanned aerial vehicles over several days last month as part of the Biden administration says is likely part of a Russian plan to acquire hundreds of Iranian UAVs for use in Ukraine.
North Korea has sought to tighten relations with Russia as much of Europe and the West has pulled away, blaming the United States for the Ukraine crisis and decrying the West's "hegemonic policy" as justifying military action by Russia in Ukraine to protect itself.
The North Koreans have hinted interest in sending construction workers to help rebuild Russian-occupied territories in the country's east.
North Korea's ambassador to Moscow recently met with envoys from two Russia-backed separatist



territories in the Donbas region of Ukraine and expressed optimism about cooperation in the "field of labor migration," citing his country's easing pandemic border controls.
In July North Korea became the only nation aside from Russia and Syria to recognize the independence of the territories, Donetsk and

Luhansk, further aligning with Russia over the conflict in Ukraine. The provocative move by North Korea comes as the Biden administration has become increasingly concerned about stepped-up activity by North Korea in pursuit of nuclear weapons.
North Korea has test-fired more than 30 ballistic missiles this year, including its first flights of intercontinental ballistic missiles since 2017, as leader Kim Jong Un pushes to advance his nuclear arsenal despite U.S.-led pressure and sanctions.
The U.S. Has frequently downgraded and unveiled intelligence findings over the course of the grinding war in Ukraine to highlight plans for Russian misinformation operations or to throw attention on Moscow's difficulties in prosecuting the war. Ukraine's smaller military has put up a stiff resistance against the militarily superior Russian forces.
Russian President Vladimir Putin and Kim have recently exchanged let-

ters in which they both called for "comprehensive" and "strategic and tactical" cooperation between the countries. Moscow, for its part, has issued statements condemning the revival of large-scale military exercises between the United States and South Korea this year, which North Korea views as an invasion rehearsal.
Russia, along with China, has called for the easing of U.N. Sanctions imposed on North Korea over its nuclear and missile tests. Both countries are members of the U.N. Security Council, which has approved a total of 11 rounds of sanctions on the North since 2006. In May, Russia and China vetoed a U.S.-led bid to impose new economic sanctions on North Korea over its high-profile missile tests this year.
Some experts say that Kim could likely bolster his resolve to retain his nuclear weapons because he may think the Russian attack happened because Ukraine had signed away its

nuclear arsenal.
Relations between Moscow and Pyongyang go back to the 1948 foundation of North Korea, as Soviet officials installed young, ambitious nationalist Kim Il Sung, the late grandfather of Kim Jong Un, as the country's first ruler. Since then, Soviet aid shipment had been crucial in keeping North Korea's economy afloat for decades before the disintegration of the Soviet Union in the early 1990s.
Moscow had since established formal diplomatic relations with Seoul as part of its hopes to draw South Korean investment and allowed its Soviet-era military alliance with North Korea to expire. But after his election in 2000, Putin actively sought to restore his country's ties with North Korea in what was seen as an effort to regain its traditional domains of influence and secure more allies to better deal with the United States.

Fears grow for Ukraine nuke plant ahead of inspector report

AP ■ KYIV
Fears grew on Tuesday for Europe's largest nuclear power plant as shelling around it continued, a day after the facility was again knocked off Ukraine's electricity grid and put in the precarious position of relying on its own power to run safety systems.
Repeated warnings from world leaders that fighting around the Zaporizhzhia plant has put it in an untenable situation that could lead to a nuclear catastrophe have done little to stem the hostilities.
Russian-installed officials accused the Ukrainian forces of shelling the city where the plant is located on Tuesday, hours after the Ukrainians said Kremlin forces attacked a city across the river.
Both sides have traded such accusations since Russian troops seized the plant early in the war.
With the danger rising, an International Atomic Energy Agency team finally traveled to the plant last week, and inspectors are expected to report what



they found to the UN Security Council later in the day.
Two inspectors remain at the plant, which is run by Ukrainian workers, and Ukrainian presidential adviser Mykhailo Podolyak applauded that decision.
"There are Russian troops now who don't understand what's happening, don't assess the risks correctly," Podolyak said.
"There is a number of our workers there, who need some kind of protection, people from the international community standing by their side and telling (Russian troops): Don't touch these people, let them work."
But that appears to have done little to lessen the risks. On Monday, the IAEA said Ukrainian authorities reported that the plant's last transmission line was disconnected to allow workers to put out a fire caused by shelling.
"The line itself is not damaged, and it will be reconnected once the fire is extinguished," the IAEA said.
In the meantime, the plant's only remaining operational reactor would "generate the power the plant needs for its safety and other functions," the agency said.



Putin attends joint military drills with China, others

AP ■ MOSCOW
Russian President Vladimir Putin on Tuesday attended sweeping war games in his country's far east involving troops from China and other nations, in a show of military muscle amid the tensions with the West over Moscow's action in Ukraine.
The weeklong exercise that began Thursday is intended to showcase growing defense ties between Russia and China and also demonstrate that Moscow has enough troops and equipment to conduct the massive drills even while its forces are engaged in fighting in Ukraine.
The Russian Defense Ministry said that the Vostok 2022 (East 2022) exercise that runs until Wednesday at seven firing ranges in Russia's Far East and the Sea of Japan involves more than 50,000 troops and over 5,000 weapons units, including 140 aircraft and 60 warships. It engages troops from several ex-Soviet nations, China, India, Laos, Mongolia, Nicaragua and Syria.
Beijing sent more than 2,000 troops along with more than 300 military vehicles, 21 combat aircraft and three warships to take part in the drills, according to Chinese news reports. As part of the maneuvers, the Russian and Chinese navies in the Sea of Japan practiced joint action to protect sea communications and support for ground forces in coastal areas.
The exercise marked the first time that China has sent forces from three branches of its military to take part in a single Russian drill, a sign of increasing close ties between Moscow and Beijing, which have grown stronger since Putin sent his troops into Ukraine on Feb. 24. China has pointedly refused to criticize Russia's actions, blaming the U.S. and NATO for provoking Moscow, and has blasted the punishing Western sanctions against Russia.

'US to work with partners in South Asia to address climate crisis'

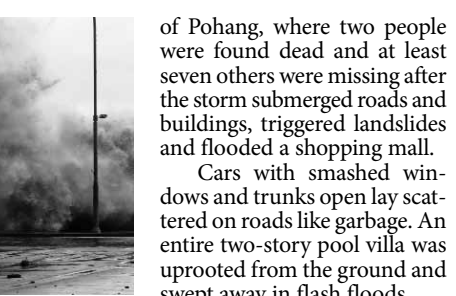
PTI ■ KATHMANDU
A top American diplomat on Tuesday said that the US is dedicated to working together with its partners throughout South Asia to address the climate change crisis.
The US government's Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for South and Central Asian Affairs Elizabeth Horst said this during the first Climate Action Champions Network Conference here.
She arrived here on Tuesday on a brief visit to Nepal to attend the conference during which 100 young leaders from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka developed action plans to face the numerous challenges that climate change brings.
"During her visit, Horst will focus on our partnership on climate change and attend the first ever Climate Action Champions Network Conference," US Embassy had said earlier in its Facebook page.
Addressing the conference, Horst spoke about the need for urgency and unity to fight the



climate crisis.
"Climate change hurts communities, and the United States is dedicated to working together with our partners throughout South Asia to address this critical crisis," Horst said.
The Climate Action Champions Network aims to harness the potential of the youth in the region by bringing together 100 individuals from the countries of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka, over 30 months to discuss and deliberate about creating a climate action vision for South Asia and the Indo-Pacific, according to website of the Conference.

Typhoon batters S Korea, preparations cut casualties

AP ■ SEOUL
The most powerful typhoon to hit South Korea in years on Tuesday dumped a metre (3 feet) of rain, destroyed roads and fell power lines, but the death toll of three could have been higher if not for proactive evacuations and closures of schools, officials said.
There was also greater public awareness about the storm and its risks. Typhoon Hinnamnor made impact just weeks after heavy rains around the capital Seoul caused flooding that killed at least 14 people.
Government officials had put the nation on high alert for days as Hinnamnor approached, warning of potentially historic destruction and putting in motion life-saving measures.
After grazing the resort island of Jeju and hitting the mainland near the port city of Busan, Hinnamnor weakened as it blew into waters between



of Pohang, where two people were found dead and at least seven others were missing after the storm submerged roads and buildings, triggered landslides and flooded a shopping mall.
Cars with smashed windows and trunks open lay scattered on roads like garbage. An entire two-story pool villa was uprooted from the ground and swept away in flash floods.
Troops were deployed to assist with rescue and restoration efforts, moving in armored vehicles rolling through streets that turned into chocolate-coloured rivers.
Firefighters navigated flooded neighbourhoods in rubber boats, rescuing people and their pets.
Merchants scrambled to salvage furniture and other belongings at the famous Guryongpo outdoor market, where workers deployed excavators to clear huge piles of debris.

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

NOTICE OF THE 31ST AGM AND REMOTE E-VOTING INFORMATION
In continuation to our earlier advertisement dated 04.09.2022, NOTICE is hereby given that the 31st Annual General Meeting of the Company is scheduled to be held on Thursday, the 29th Day of September, 2022 at 05:30 PM THROUGH VIDEO CONFERENCING (VC) / OTHER AUDIO VISUAL MEANS (OAVM) to transact the business as set out in 31st AGM Notice in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 and the rules made thereunder, read with MCA/SEBI Circulars without physical presence of members at common venue.
In compliance with the circulars, the Notice of virtual AGM and the Annual Report for the financial year 2021-22 have been sent to all the members electronically to the e-mail ID registered by them with the Company/Depository Participants/RTA on or before 06.09.2022. The requirements of sending physical copy of the notice to the Members have been dispensed with vide relevant Circulars.
The e-copy of the notice of the AGM along with the Annual Report for the FY 2021-22 of the Company will be available on the website of the Company at www.himalayafoodcompany.com and on the website of the BSE Limited at www.bseindia.com.
Pursuant to the provisions of Section 108 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with the rules made thereof and Regulation 44 of SEBI (LODR) Regulations, 2015, the company is providing e-voting facility to its members holding shares as on Thursday, 22nd September, 2022 being cut off date, to exercise their vote at the ensuing AGM. The members may cast their vote by using an electronic voting system from a place other than that of the venue of meeting (e-voting). The company has engaged CDSL to provide remote e-voting facility. The details pursuant to the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 and rules thereof are as under:
1. E-voting period commences on Monday, 26th September, 2022 at 9:00 A.M and ends on Wednesday, 28th September, 2022 at 5:00 P.M.
2. The voting through electronic means shall not be allowed beyond 05:00 P.M. on 28th September, 2022.
3. The businesses set out in the notice of AGM, may be transacted through e-voting or e-voting facility at the AGM.
4. The share transfer book of the Company will remain closed from Friday, 23rd September, 2022 to Thursday, 29th September, 2022 (both days inclusive) for the purpose of the Annual General Meeting.
5. The facility of joining the AGM through VC/OAVM shall 15 minutes before and after the scheduled time of the commencement of the Meeting and will be available for members on first come first served basis.
6. The voting right of members shall be in proportion to their shares of the paid up equity share capital of the company as on the cutoff date i.e. 22nd September, 2022. Any person who becomes the member of the company after dispatch of notice of AGM and holding shares as on cutoff date i.e., 22nd September, 2022, may obtain the login Id and Password by sending a request to helpdesk.evoting@cdsindia.com. Members are requested to login at <https://web.cdslindia.com/myeasi/home/login> by using the remote login credentials. The link for electronic participation through VC/OAVM during the meeting will be available in shareholder/members login portal where the EVEN of the company will be displayed. The facility for appointment of Proxies by Members will not be available since the AGM is being held through VC/OAVM. A person who is not a member as on the cut-off date should treat the Notice of AGM for information purpose only.
7. In case of any query or grievance pertaining to e-voting and attending the AGM through VC/OAVM, Members may contact Mr. Rakesh Dalvi, Sr. Manager, (CDSL), A Wing, 25th Floor, Marathon Futurax, Mafatal Mill Compounds, N M Joshi Marg, Lower Parel (East), Mumbai - 400013. Email: helpdesk.evoting@cdslindia.com, Tel: 022-23058738 and 022-23058542/43. Further, Members may also contact with Mr. Bhawendra Jha, General Manager, BEETAL Financial & Computer Services Pvt Ltd, RTA at beetalra@gmail.com or on Telephone No.: 011-29961281-283, 26051061.
8. Mr. Rahul Sharma, a Practicing Company Secretary (Membership No. ACS 49969), Proprietor, MBS. RBS & Co. has been appointed as the Scrutinizer to scrutinize the voting and remote e-voting process in a fair and transparent manner.
9. The results shall be declared not later than forty-eight hours from conclusion of the meeting by posting the same on the website of the Company (www.himalayafoodcompany.com), and by filing with the BSE Ltd. It shall also be displayed on the Notice Board at the Registered Office of the Company.
10. A member may participate in the AGM even after exercising his/her right to vote through remote e-voting but shall not be allowed to vote again in the meeting. Members who have not registered their email-id are requested to register the same by following the procedure given below

Physical Holding	Send a request to Registrar and Transfer Agents of the Company, BEETAL Financial & Computer Services Pvt Ltd. at beetalra@gmail.com providing Folio number, Name of the shareholder, scanned copy of the share certificate (Front and Back), PAN (Self attested scanned copy of PAN Card), AADHAR (Self attested scanned copy of Aadhar Card) for registering email address. Please send your bank detail with original cancelled cheque to our RTA (i.e. BEETAL Financial & Computer Services Pvt Ltd, BEETAL HOUSE, 3rd Floor, 99, Madangir, Behind LSC, New Delhi - 110062 alongwith letter mentioning folio no. If not registered already.)
Demat Holding	Please contact your Depository Participant (DP) and register your email address as per the process advised by DP. Please also update your bank detail with your DP for dividend payment by NACH if declare by company.

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

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

Date: September 7, 2022
Place: Delhi

UJJAIN SMART CITY LIMITED
Mela Office, Kothi Road, Ujjain (M.P.) 456001 Ph. 0734-2525856
Recruitment of Company Secretary and Public Engagement & Partnership Officer
Ujjain Smart City Limited invites applications for following positions:

Designation	No. of Vacancy
Senior Architect	1
Executive Engineer (Civil)	1
Junior Engineer Electrical	1

Interested candidates may submit their application on or before 21.09.2022 through any one of the HR Agency given below :

Mount Talent Consulting Services, Delhi	Primeone Workforce Pvt Ltd., Bhopal
Shweta.rawat@mounttalent.com	aparna.rajesh@primeoneindia.com
Shweta Rawat - 880062549	Aparna Rajesh - 9669201370

For more details please visit <http://ujjainsmartcity.com/en/recruitment/> or www.ujjainsmartcity.com
For, Ujjain Smart City Limited

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

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

S.N.	Name of Borrowers/ Co-Borrowers / Guarantors / Mortgagors	Date & Amount of 13(2) Demand Notice	Date of Possession	Description of Property	Reserve Price EMD Bid Increase Amount	Property Inspection Date & Time	Date & Time of Auction
1.	Branch: MEERUT Borrower: SANTOSH W/O RAMESH, 39 HOLI CHAUK, JASWANT NAGAR, MALYANA MEERUT, UP 250002 Co-Borrower: RAMESH S/O KALICHARAN, 39, HOLI CHAUK, JASWANT NAGAR, KISHANPURA, MALYANA MEERUT 250002 LAN: 722482 / XSEMMER0613439	4/Dec./2020 & Rs. 9,72,553/- (Rupees Nine Lakh Seventy Two Thousand Five Hundred Fifty Three Only)	1-Jun-22 Physical Possession	Khasra No. 1319 Jaswant Sugar Mill Colony, Revenue Vill- Malyana & Pargana & Tehsil & Distt. Meerut Pin-250002, North : House Of Prakash Chand , South, Rasta 18ft Wide , East : House Of Rajwati, West: House Of Deep Chand	Rs.9,20,000/- Rs.92,000/- Rs.10,000/-	23-09-2022 Time 10:00 to 3:00 PM	27-Sept.-2022 Time 10. Am. TO - 03 Pm

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

Place :- DELHI, NCR Date:-07.09.2022
Sd/- Authorised Officer Mahindra Rural Housing Finance Limited



Earthquake kills 65, triggers landslides in southwest China

AP ■ BEIJING
The powerful earthquake that set off landslides and shook buildings in southwestern China killed at least 65 people and injured hundreds, state media said Tuesday.
At least 16 other people are missing a day after the 6.8 magnitude earthquake struck a mountainous area in Luding county in Sichuan province, which sits on the edge of the Tibetan Plateau where tectonic plates meet and is hit regularly by quakes. The tremor shook buildings in the provincial capital of Chengdu, whose 21 million residents are already under a COVID-19 lockdown.
Power was knocked out and buildings damaged in the historic town of Moxi in the Tibetan autonomous prefecture of Garze, where 37 people were killed. Tents were erected for more than 50,000 people being moved from homes made unsafe by the quake, the official Xinhua News Agency reported.
State broadcaster CCTV showed rescue crews pulling a woman who appeared uninjured from a collapsed home in Moxi, where many of the buildings are constructed from a mix of wood and brick. Around 150 people were reported with varying degrees of injuries.
Another 28 people were killed in neighbouring Shimian county on the outskirts of the city of Ya'an. Another 248 people were reported as injured, mainly in Moxi, and another 12 people were reported missing.

Taiwan leader cites threat of Chinese 'cognitive warfare'

AP ■ HENGCHUN

Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen said Tuesday that China is conducting "cognitive warfare" by spreading misinformation...



Tsai also referenced China's use of drones "to increase pressure on Taiwan's military..."

hovering over their positions. Anti-drone defenses are included in a 12.9% increase in Taiwan's budget for next year...

Alongside promoting Taiwan's high-tech economy, Tsai has made strengthening the island's defenses a key feature of her second and last four-year term in office...

Lanka SC OK's more power to Parliament over President

PTI ■ COLOMBO

Sri Lanka's Supreme Court has ruled that the Bill seeking the 22nd amendment to the Constitution can be adopted with a two-thirds majority in Parliament...



The amendment was formulated amid the ongoing economic turmoil in the country which also caused a political crisis. It is meant to replace the 20A that had given unfettered powers to ex-President Gotabaya Rajapaksa...

Official: Qaeda ambush security post in Yemen; 14 killed

AP ■ CAIRO

Suspected al-Qaeda militants on Tuesday attacked a security post in southern Yemen, sparking clashes that killed at least eight troops and six militants, officials said.

The separatist council is backed by the United Arab Emirates and controls much of Yemen's south. It is at odds with the internationally recognized government.

Brig. Abdou Megali, a military spokesman for the internationally recognized government, said at least eight troops and six militants were killed in the attack...

35 killed as roadside bomb hits convoy in Burkina Faso

AP ■ OUAGADOUGOU (BURKINA FASO)

A suspected jihadi roadside bomb has hit a convoy in northern Burkina Faso, killing at least 35 people and injuring dozens more.



country's democratically elected government claiming they could better secure the country from the extremists.

'Rajapaksas and friends thought they owned Lanka'

PTI ■ COLOMBO

Sri Lanka's former president Chandrika Kumaratunga on Tuesday blamed the Rajapaksa family for the country's current economic crisis...

Kumaratunga, Sri Lanka's first and only female president to date, said actions taken by the Rajapaksa regimes had led to a serious crisis situation in the country.

Queen Elizabeth II appoints Truss as Britain's new PM

PTI ■ LONDON

Conservative Party leader Liz Truss was on Tuesday appointed as Britain's new Prime Minister - the third female premier of the country - amid pressure to tackle the looming energy crisis and soaring prices.



Until now, the constitutional process of the monarch inviting the leader of the majority party to form a government in her name has taken place at Buckingham Palace in London.

Administration. Ms Truss accepted Her Majesty's offer and kissed hands upon her appointment as Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury...

This is the fifth explosion in Soum province since August, particularly around Djibo, which has been under siege by jihadists for months...

Monday's attack comes one day after interim President Lt. Col. Paul-Henri Sandaogo Damiba spoke to the nation saying the junta had achieved some progress in pushing back the jihadists...

"Not only the Rajapaksas, but the government representatives around them, their friends, and associates are also to be blamed for the prevailing crisis," the Daily Mirror, an online newspaper quoted the 77-year-old Kumaratunga as saying.

Her remarks came during the opening of the new office of the 'Nava Lanka Freedom Party' in Battaramulla. The party is led by former minister and Kalutara District parliamentarian Kumara Welgama.

For fuller & further details, kindly visit our website. The tender documents can be downloaded from the Nigam's website "www.ujvnl.com".

By order of the Board for Rathi Bars Limited Sd/- (Anurag Rathi) Managing Director

By order of the Board RLF Limited Sd/- Poonam Company Secretary & Compliance Office

By order of the Board For Indag Rubber Limited Sd/- Company Secretary

By order of the Board For Santh Industrial Investments Limited Sd/- Vivek Gupta Director

Advertisement for UJVNL Ltd. (An Uttarakhand Govt. Enterprises) TENDER NOTICE for Executive Engineer (Generation), Maneri Bhalai Stage-II, Chinyalisaur (Uttarkashi) invites online bids from interested parties.

Advertisement for RATHI BARS LIMITED. NOTICE OF THE 29th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. NOTICE is hereby given that 29th Annual General Meeting of the Company will be held on Thursday, 29th September, 2022 at 10.00 AM.

PUBLIC NOTICE. Notice is hereby given on behalf of (1) M/S Emerald Homes and Builders Private Limited through its Director, Mr. Dinshad Yadav (65% Share) and (2) Mr. Raj Kumar Yadav both sons of Mr. Ashok Kumar (11% Share) who are owners of the Plot No. D-3/15 Road D-3, area measuring 225 Sq. Meters i.e., 269.10 Sq. Yards, situated in residential colony known as DLF City Phase-V, in the Village Wazirabad, Tehsil & Distt. Gurgaon...

THE PANIPAT CO-OP. SUGAR MILLS LTD., PANIPAT Corrigendum. The tendered notice published on dated 30-08-2022 in News Papers i.e. Dainik Jagran, Hari Bhoomi & The Tribune is amended to the extent that the negotiation if necessary will be held in presence of lowest tenderers or his representatives who may be present at that time on 10-09-2022 at 11:30 AM in the Mills premises.

INDAG RUBBER LIMITED. NOTICE (For the Attention of Equity Shareholders of the Company) Compulsory Transfer of Equity Shares of the Company to the DEMAT Account of the Investor Education and Protection Fund (IEPF) Authority.

By order of the Board For Indag Rubber Limited Sd/- Company Secretary. Date: September 06, 2022 Place: New Delhi

MAHARAJA AGRASEN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT STUDIES. Affiliated to GGSIP University, Delhi. Admission Notification (2022-23) Management Quota. Applications in prescribed form are invited from the eligible and interested candidates for admission to following courses under Management Quota (10% of the sanctioned intake as approve University):

Santh Industrial Investments Limited. NOTICE is hereby given that the 42nd Annual General Meeting of the Members of M/s Santh Industrial Investments Limited (CIN : L74899DL1980PLC060079) will be held on Friday, 30th September, 2022 at 11:00 A.M. at the registered office of the Company at Delton House, 4801, Bharat Ram Road, 24, Darya Ganj, New Delhi-110002.

By order of the Board For Santh Industrial Investments Limited Sd/- Vivek Gupta Director. Date: 06.09.2022 Place: New Delhi

Rathi Bars Limited. Place: New Delhi Date: 06.09.2022

RLF Limited. Regd. Office: 14 Kms, Gurgaon, Patandi Road, Sec-95, Village Jhund Sarai Veeran, Distt. Gurgaon, Haryana-122001. Correspondence Office: D-41, South Extension, Part-II, New Delhi-110049. Tel: 011-26258237, 011-49075251. Email Id: investorrelations@rfltd.com Website: www.rfltd.com

NOTICE OF 42nd AGM. Notice is hereby given that the 42nd Annual General Meeting of the Company will be held on Friday, 30th September, 2022 at 10:00 A.M. at the Registered office of the Company at 14 Kms, Gurgaon, Patandi Road, Sec-95, Village Jhund Sarai Veeran, Distt. Gurgaon, Haryana-122001 to transact the businesses as set out in the Notice of the AGM dated 20th July 2022.

By order of the Board RLF Limited Sd/- Poonam Company Secretary & Compliance Office. Date: 07/09/2022 Place: Gurgaon, Haryana

GDL Leasing & Finance Limited. Notice is hereby given that 29th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the members of the Co. will be held on Friday, the 30th Sept 2022 at 05:00 AM at 234, Sirgaha Village, Hari Singh Road, Delhi-110066 to transact the business mentioned in the Notice of the AGM, which has been despatched to the Members on 05th Sept 2022, along with the Annual Report for the year ended 31st March 2022.

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

PTI ■ SAN FRANCISCO

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal has pitched India as the best investment destination, saying the time is "just ripe" to engage in areas of mutual interests of India and the US. Addressing industry leaders of the US and India here, the minister on Monday said both countries can promote global security, stability and resilient supply chains. "There are many competi-

tive advantages that the US-India relation has to offer. The resilience of our supply chains and the way talent India has provided to the US and investments the US has provided to India, all of these cumulatively make a very good business case," he said while addressing the US India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF). He added that India provides best investment opportunity. "It is a destination you cannot miss. It is a market of a



billion plus aspirations," Goyal said.

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

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

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

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

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

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



Airlines count on business travellers to keep recovery going

AP ■ DALLAS

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Global Business Travel Association recently predicted

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

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

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

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

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

Govt sets up Kirit Parikh committee to moderate gas prices

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

PTI ■ MUMBAI

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

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

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

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

This skills gap, however, has another



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

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

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

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

Benchmarks settle modestly lower in volatile trade

PTI ■ MUMBAI

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

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



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

Bajaj Finserv was the top gagger in the Sensex pack, dropping 2.08 per cent, followed by Kotak Mahindra Bank, HUL, M&M, Bajaj Finance, Nestle India and Asian Paints. On the other hand, Bharti Airtel, NTPC, Tata Steel, Reliance Industries, Power Grid, Dr Reddy's and Sun Pharma were among the major gainers, spurring as much as 2.79 per cent.

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

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

Irish regulators fine Instagram 405mn euros for data breach

AP ■ LONDON

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

ty is the second-biggest issued under the European Union's stringent privacy rules, after Luxembourg's regulators fined Amazon 746 million euros last year. Instagram parent Meta, which also owns Facebook and can appeal the decision, didn't respond to a request for comment.

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

Adani group says not overleveraged, loans from public banks halved

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

In a 15-page note in response to CreditSights report calling the group overleveraged, it said companies in the group have consistently delevered, with the net debt to Ebitda ratio declining to 3.2 times from 7.6 times in the last nine years. "The businesses operate on a sim-



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Insurance claims independent of human errors: Industry players

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

Two other car occupants -

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

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

"As a responsible brand respecting customer privacy, our team is cooperating with the authorities where possible, and we will provide any clarifications to them directly as required," the automaker said in a statement.

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

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

along with two other persons, who have sustained injuries.

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

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

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

released the 6th monthly instalment of Post Devolution Revenue Deficit (PDRD) Grant of Rs 7,183.42 crore to 14 states," the ministry said in a statement.

The 15th Finance Commission has recommended a total PDRD grant of Rs 86,201 crore to 14 states for the financial year 2022-23. The grant is released in 12 equated monthly instalments.

The ministry said with the release of the sixth instalment for the month of September 2022, the total amount of PDRD grants released to the states in 2022-23 stands at Rs 43,100.50 crore.

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

PTI ■ KOLKATA

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

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

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

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

Global stocks rise as Europe wrestles with gas shortage

AP ■ BEIJING

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

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

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

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

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

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

On Friday, the S&P; 500 and the Dow both lost 1.1% after government data showed U.S. Hiring



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

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

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

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

SEBI calls for information on unclaimed non-convertible securities by September 15

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Capital markets regulator Sebi on Tuesday asked all entities which have listed non-convertible securities to submit information pertaining to unclaimed redemption and dividend amounts by September 15.

The information has been sought from all the entities which do not fall within the definition of 'company' under the Companies Act and which had listed non-convertible securities, including non-convertible debt securities, non-convertible redeemable preference shares and perpetual non-cumulative preference shares and perpetual debt instruments, according to a public notice. Also, information has been sought from those who have unclaimed interest, dividend, principal and redemption amount on such instruments as on August 31.

FinMin releases 6th instalment of revenue deficit grant of ₹7,183 cr to 14 States

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The finance ministry on Tuesday released the sixth instalment of revenue deficit grant of Rs 7,183 crore to 14 states for the current fiscal.

The states for which the Post Devolution Revenue Deficit (PDRD) grant has been recommended by the 15th Finance Commission during 2022-23 are -- Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura, Uttarakhand and West Bengal.

"The Department of Expenditure has on Tuesday

TIAFOE SENDS NADAL CRASHING OUT

AP ■ NEW YORK

Frances Tiafoe of the United States produced the performance of a lifetime to send Rafael Nadal crashing out of the US Open in a stunning fourth round upset on Monday. Tiafoe, who had only reached one major championship quarter-final in his career before, shattered Nadal's hopes of adding to his record collection of 22 Grand Slam singles titles with a 6-4, 4-6, 6-4, 6-3 victory.



A packed Arthur Ashe Stadium crowd roared in delight as the 24-year-old 22nd seed bombarded Nadal with 18 aces and 49 winners to seal victory in 3hr 34min. The win sends Tiafoe into a last eight showdown against Russian ninth seed Andrey Rublev on Wednesday.

"I don't even know what to say right now," Tiafoe said after his superb victory. "I'm beyond happy, I'm almost in tears. I can't believe it. He's definitely one of the greatest of all time. I played unbelievable tennis today but yeah - I really don't know what happened."

Tiafoe's performance, and admitted he had struggled to cope with the American's tactic of moving him around the court. "I played a bad match" "I played a bad match and he played a good match. At the end that's it, no?," Nadal said. "Tennis is a sport of position a lot of times, no? If not, you need to be very, very quick and very young. I am not in that moment anymore," the 36-year-old said.

finished at 02:23 a.m. on Tuesday. In a gruelling three-hour and 54-minute encounter, Cilic was under siege, having to save 12 of 18 break points while committing 66 unforced errors. The 19-year-old Alcaraz, seeded three and seen as the title favorite after the elimination of four-time champion Rafael

Nadal, will face Jannik Sinner of Italy for a semi-final place. Sinner holds a 2-1 advantage over Alcaraz with both wins coming this year at Wimbledon and Umag. "I believed in myself, it was pretty tough," said Alcaraz. "I was a break down in the fifth set. It was tough to come back after losing the fourth set."

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

The 11th seed squeezed past the 28-year-old Belarusian 6-1, 5-7, 6-2, 4-6, 6-3. The Monaco-based 21-year-old has performed consistently well at Grand Slams this year, reaching quarter-finals at the Australian Open and Wimbledon, and the fourth round at the French Open.

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

The ninth-seeded Russian triumphed 6-4, 6-4, 6-4 and will face Frances Tiafoe of the United States for a place in the semi-finals. "It was two and a half hours, it was tough," said 24-year-old Rublev who had needed four hours and five sets to get past Denis Shapovalov in the third round. "Cameron and I, we have known each other for a long time. I knew I had to give my best. "I played a good match. I was able to win in three sets so I am super happy," Rublev, who also made the last-eight in New York in 2017 and 2020.

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

AP ■ NEW YORK



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

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

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

"I need to go back. I need to fix things. I don't know when I'm going to come back," Nadal told a press conference. "I going to try to be ready mentally. When I feel that I will be ready to compete again, I will be there." Nadal has endured a rollercoaster year. His two Slam titles have taken him one clear of Novak Djokovic but his physical frailties have also returned to haunt him. Nadal suffered a stress fracture of the ribs in March before requiring daily pain-killing injections in his left foot to see him through to a 14th French Open title in June. Then his bid for a third Wimbledon crown was shattered by an abdominal injury.

Nadal is due to become a father for the first time in the coming weeks, a factor which will factor heavily into his future on-court plans. "Now I have to go home, I have more important things than tennis to attend to," he said. "Decisions will be made based on how everything goes in my personal life, which comes before my professional life." He added: "It's been a bit difficult for a few months but I want to finish the year with something very important that is my first child."

Nadal is scheduled to return to action at the Laver Cup in London from September 23. He has already qualified for the ATP Tour Finals in Turin to be staged in November. Despite his doubts over his future plans, Nadal told Spanish media that he won't rule out playing again this year. "I will do a mini pre-season to finish the year in Europe with good feelings and that is what we are going to try. There is a tournament ahead if everything else goes well," he said.



World No. 1 Iga makes Polish victory

AP ■ NEW YORK

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The world number six from Belarus triumphed 3-6, 6-2 over her American opponent who she has now beaten in New York three times in the last five editions. Sabalenka eventually fell at the semi-finals in 2021 and her 2022 bid looked in danger on Monday when she needed a medical time-out to treat a leg injury.



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

PEGULA INTO LAST 8 Jessica Pegula became the second American woman into this year's US Open quarter-finals after brushing aside two-time Grand Slam champion Petra Kvitova in straight sets.

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

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

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

Pogba set for knee surgery, could miss WC

AP ■ TURIN

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

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

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

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

Pogba should take around 40-60 days to recover from meniscus surgery, according to multiple reports. France's World Cup campaign kicks off against Australia on November 22. Juventus' final match before some of their players leave for the tournament in Qatar is Lazio's visit on November 13.

UEFA president confident Spain, Portugal will host 2030 WCup

AP ■ NYON

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Vinicius takes ESP nationality

AP ■ MADRID

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

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

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

AP ■ MANCHESTER

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

The Norway striker has scored 10 goals in his first six Premier League games since his £51 million (\$58 million) move from Borussia Dortmund this summer. "All the players who come here were brought here by the club to make us better, that makes sense," said Guardiola ahead of Tuesday's opening group game away to Sevilla.

"If we rely on Erling's shoulders, we will not win the Champions League." City reached the semi-finals of last season's competition before an astonishing comeback from Real Madrid cost them a shot at winning a first European title.



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

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

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

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

"He has settled well, like with Julian and the other new players. "I understand completely why everyone is talking about

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

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

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

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

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

HOJLUND FIRES ATALANTA PAST MONZA

AP ■ BERGAMO



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

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

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

Napoli and champions AC Milan and do not have any European football on their schedule after finishing eighth last season. Monza have had a dismal start to their first ever Serie A season despite a summer spend-

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

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

Rohit takes India to 173-8

Raina retires from all forms of cricket

PTI ■ DUBAI

Skinner Rohit Sharma led by example with a scintillating 41-ball 72 before India stuttered to settle for 173 for eight against Sri Lanka in their Asia Cup Super Four match here on Tuesday. Rohit blazed away after India lost two early wickets, hitting five fours and four sixes during his entertaining knock. He was well supported by Suryakumar Yadav (34 off 29 balls) during a stand of 79 runs for the third wicket. However, Rohit's dismissal triggered a slide as India added 63 runs after being 110 for three in the 13th over, when the skipper got out. Sri Lanka were off to a dream start as they removed opener KL Rahul (6) and one-down Virat Kohli (0) in quick succession, leaving defending champions India in early trouble at 13 for two in the third over.



arm fast bowler Dilshan Madushanka at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium. Trying to slog a length ball over midwicket, Kohli missed and his off and middle stumps were disturbed. Rohit though remained

positive and kept the scoreboard moving at a healthy rate, making his intention clear when he played Chamika Karunaratne over wide mid-on for a boundary. Fast-medium bowler Asitha Fernando was intro-

duced into the attack, and Rohit smashed him for a six and a four off successive balls as 14 runs came in the fifth over. The Indian captain then hit Theekshana for a four over square leg, helping India

score 44 runs in the six powerplay overs.

Leg-spinner Wanindu Hasaranga and Karunaratne then bowled a couple of tight overs, succeeding in containing the duo of Rohit and Suryakumar Yadav.

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

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

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

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

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

AVESH OUT, CHAHAR IN

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

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

"Avesh has fever and he has also got sinus related problems which has escalated

post illness. It will not be possible for him to take further part in the tournament. Deepak Chahar is already there and he will be drafted in THE main squad," a senior BCCI source told PTI on conditions of anonymity.

Avesh has been in poor form since the tour of West Indies and the Indian team management's worries increased after he was hit for 50-plus runs by Hong Kong batters.

He was ruled out of the Pakistan game due to fever but coach Rahul Dravid had expected him to get fit for the remaining games.

With Avesh's sinusitis problems surfacing, the medical team had no option but to rule him out.

However in Chahar, India has a very potent swing bowler, who has a knack of picking wickets in Powerplay overs.

He recently made a comeback during the tour of Zimbabwe where he played two 50-over games.

Since the Asia Cup squad was announced before the Zimbabwe tour, the selectors couldn't pick him in the primary squad as his match fitness wasn't proved by then.

"In any case, Deepak's comeback was a matter of time as before injury he was ahead in the pecking order compared to Avesh. Yes, it's an unfortunate circumstance that our fast bowler is out and we hope Avesh is fit before the Australia series," the source said.



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

JEMIMAH TO PLAY FOR MELBOURNE STARS

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

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

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

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

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

Kolkata, Ahmedabad to host SMAT & Hazare knockouts

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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

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

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



Madhya Pradesh host ROI from March 1-5 next year, as per the schedule shared by BCCI to state units.

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

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

"BCCI is glad to announce a girls U-15 One Day tourna-

Cricketing landscape is changing fast: Kane



PTI ■ CAIRNS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

PTI ■ DUBAI

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

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

"On current form, it's pretty hard to go past Hardik Pandya at number three. His IPL was outstanding. To see him back at the bowling crease is something that I was always a little bit unsure would actually ever hap-

pen... he's had some really big injury setbacks, which has obviously affected how much he's been able to play for India," said Ponting on the ICC Review.

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

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

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

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

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

"India might think of giving him an over with the new ball in Australia (at the T20 World Cup) where it might swing but what you can guarantee is a couple of great quality death overs, which every team is looking for — someone that can execute slow balls and bouncers."



Payas-Yashaswini pair wins Gold at Asian Junior TT

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Indian paddlers ended their campaign in the Asian Junior and Cadet Championships in Laos on a golden note as Payas Jain and Yashaswini Ghorpade defeated the Chinese duo of Han Xinyuan and Qin Yuxuan 3-2 in a thrilling final on Tuesday. The Indians won 11-9, 11-1, 10-12, 7-11, and 11-8.

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

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

The top-seeded Indian duo started well to surge into a 2-0 lead before the Chinese pair came back to take the next two games. However, in the decider, Payas and Yashaswini combined cleverly and attacked in a measured way to outwit their opponents. Earlier, the top-seeded Karnataka girl did well to the quarterfinals in the Under-19 Girls singles but lost to Chen Yi of China in

the semis, losing the match in straight games of 13-11, 11-9, 11-4, 11-3.

After the first two games, where Yashaswini showed her fighting qualities, she lost steam in the next two and did-

n't play as well. Payas, who combined with Delhi-mate Yashansh Malik in the U-19 Boys Doubles till the previous round, failed to repeat their performance in the semifinals against the Japanese

duo of Yuta Iimura and Yui Sakai.

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

Public Notice For E-Auction Cum Sale (Appendix - IV A) (Rule 8(6))
Sale of Immovable property mortgaged to IIFL Home Finance Limited (Formerly known as India Infoline Housing Finance Ltd.) (IIFL-HFL) Corporate Office at Plot No.98, Udyog Vihar, Phase-IV, Gurgaon-122015, (Haryana) and Branch Office at: 1st Floor, Lal Ganga City Mart, Banjari Chowk, Opposite Hotel Amit Regency, Raipur, CG 492001 under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (hereinafter "Act"). Whereas the Authorized Officer ("AO") of IIFL-HFL has taken the possession of the following properties pursuant to the notice issued U/S 13(2) of the Act in the following loan accounts/prospect nos. with a right to sell the same on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS & AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" for realization of IIFL-HFL's dues. The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the website: www.bankauctions.com.

Borrower(s) / Co-Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Description of the Immovable property/ properties	Date of Physical Possession	Reserve Price
1. Mr. Rajeswar Kumar 2. Mrs. Pramila Devi (Prospect No. 867644)	23-Dec-2019 Rs. 2,16,825/- (Rupees Two Lakh Sixteen Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty Five Only)	All that part and parcel of the property bearing Flat No. 804, 8th Floor, Block No.D., E.W.S. Indraprastha - Raipura Phase 2, Raipur Development Authority, Raipur Chhattisgarh-492001 (Super Built up Area- 533.48 Sq Ft.)	17-Jun-2022 Total Outstanding As On Date 28-Aug-2022 Rs. 4,88,732/- (Rupees Four Lakh Eighty Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty Two Only)	Rs. 4,26,800/- (Rupees Four Lakh Twenty Six Thousand Eight Hundred Only) Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Rs. 42,680/- (Rupees Forty Two Thousand Six Hundred Eighty Only)

Terms and Condition

- For participating in e-auction, intending bidders required to register their details with the Service Provider <https://www.bankauctions.com>, well in advance and has to create the login account, login ID and password. Intending bidders have to submit/send their "Tender FORM" along with the payment details towards EMD, copy of the KYC and PAN card at the above mentioned Branch Office.
- The bidders shall improve their offer in multiple of amount mentioned under the column "Bid Increase Amount". In case bid is placed in the last 5 minutes of the closing time of the auction, the closing time will be automatically get extended for 5 minutes.
- The successful bidder should deposit 25% of the bid amount (after adjusting EMD) within 24 hours of the acceptance of bid price by the AO and the balance 75% of the bid amount within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale by the secured creditor. All deposit and payment shall be in the prescribed mode of payment.
- The purchaser has to bear the cess, applicable stamp duty, fees, and any other statutory dues or other dues like municipal tax, electricity charges, land and all other incidental costs, charges including all taxes and rates and outgoing relating to the property.
- Bidders are advised to go through the website <https://www.bankauctions.com> and <https://www.iifl.com/home-loans/properties-for-auction> for detailed terms and conditions of auction sale & auction application form before submitting their bids for taking part in the e-auction sale proceedings.
- For details, help procedure and online training on e-auction prospective bidders may contact the service provider E Mail ID: support@bankauctions.com, Support Helpline Numbers: 07291981124/25/26 and any property related query Mr. Jitendra Gupta | E Mail ID: jtendra.gupta1@iifl.com.
- Notice is hereby given to above said borrowers to collect the household articles, which were lying in the secured asset at the time of taking physical possession within 7 days, otherwise IIFL-HFL shall not be responsible for any loss of property under the circumstances.
- Further the notice is hereby given to the Borrower/s, that in case they fail to collect the above said articles same shall be sold in accordance with Law.
- In case of default in payment at any stage by the successful bidder / auction purchaser within the above stipulated time, the sale will be cancelled and the amount already paid will be forfeited (including EMD) and the property will be again put to sale.
- AO reserves the rights to postpone/cancel or vary the terms and condition of tender/auction without assigning any reason thereof. In case of any dispute in tender/auction, the decision of AO of IIFL-HFL will be final.

15 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER THE RULE 9 SUB RULE (1) OF SARFAESI ACT, 2002

The Borrower are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned above along with upto dated interest and ancillary expenses before the date of Tender/Auction, failing which the property will be auctioned/sold and balance dues if any will be recovered with interest and cost.

Place : Raipur
Date : 07-Sep-2022

Sd/- Authorized Officer,
IIFL Home Finance Limited

KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK LIMITED
Corporate Identity No. L65100MH1985PLC030137
Registered office : 27BKC, C-27, G Block, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai-400 051, Maharashtra
Corporate Office : Kotak Infinity, Zone-II, 4th Flr., Bldg. No. 21, Infinity Park, Off. W. E. Highway, Goragan, Mumbai-400 097, Maharashtra
Branch / Regional Office : Block B E, 3rd Floor, Pujari Chambers, Pachpedi Naka, Raipur-492 001, (C.G.)

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION CUM SALE

NOTICE is hereby given to the Public in General and in particular to the Borrower / Co-Borrower / Guarantor that the below described immovable property mortgaged to the Authorized Officer of Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd., the Physical Possession / Symbolic Possession being taken by the Authorized Officer of Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd., will be sold on "AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS" and "WHAT EVER THERE IS" basis. Offers are invited to submit online through the Web Portal of our e-Auction Service Provider, M/s. CI India Pvt. Ltd. i.e. www.ciindia.com by the undersigned for sale of the immovable property of which particulars are given below:-

Name of the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) / Mortgagee(s)	Demand Notice Dt. & Amt.	Description of the Immovable properties
Loan A/c. No.: RHB 681229660 & CRN No. 268716653 (1) M/s. Amit Radio Center (Borrower) - Having Address at: Amit Radio Center, Bramh Road, Ambikapur, Surguja C. G. (2) Mr. Sandeep Kumar Agrawal (Co-Borrower / Guarantor) - Having Address at: S/o. Suraj Bhan, H. No. 22, Gungma Surguja, C. G.-497 116 -Also at: Indira Gandhi Ward No. 17, Mission Chowk, Ambikapur-497 001, C. G. (3) Mr. Rohtas Agrawal (Co-Borrower / Guarantor) - Having Address at: S/o. Suraj Bhan, H. No. 22 Gungma, Surguja, C. G.-497 116 -Also at: Indira Gandhi Ward No. 17, Mission Chowk, Ambikapur-497 001, C. G. (4) Mrs. Minakshi Agrawal (Co-Borrower / Guarantor) - Having Address at: Nr. By Jastambh Agrasra Ward 34, Dist. Surguja, C. G.-497 116, -Also at: Indira Gandhi Ward No. 17, Mission Chowk, Ambikapur-497 001. (5) Mrs. Kalawati Agrawal (Co-Borrower / Guarantor) - Having Address at: Indira Gandhi Ward No. 17, Mission Chowk, Ambikapur 497 001, C. G. (6) Mr. Rajnikant Agrawal, S/o. Suraj Bhan - Having Address at: S/o. Rohtas Agrawal, Indira Gandhi Ward No. 17, Kedarpur, Ambikapur, Surguja, C. G.-497 116 (7) Mrs. Neha Agrawal (Co-Borrower / Guarantor) - Having Address at: H. No. 22, Gungma Mahadev Para Vill. Gungma, Teh. Udaypur, Dist. Surguja, C. G.-497 116.	Demand Notice Date : 18.08.2021 (Loan A/c. No. : RHB 681229660 and CRN No. 268716653) ₹ 70,54,266.23 (Rs. Seventy Lakhs Fifty Four Thousand Two Hundred Sixty Six & Twenty Three Paise Only) as on 17.08.2021 (Loan A/c. No. : RHB 962850 and CRN No. 268716653) ₹ 54,11,482.10 (Rs. Fifty Four Lakh Eleven Thousand Four Hundred Sixty Two & Ten Paise Only) as on 17.08.2021 (Loan A/c. No. : "ECLGS" RHB 2049561 and CRN No. 268716653) ₹ 28,43,710.77 (Rs. Twenty Eight Lakhs Fifty Three Thousand Seven Hundred Ten & Seventy Seven Paise only) as on 17.08.2021	Mauza - Ambikapur, Bramharoad, Brahma ward No. 34, Najul Plot kh. No. 3091/3 & 3092/3 me se, sheet No.-08, New Najul Plot No.-3091/3, 3092/3, 3091/8 (Area - 423 + 436 + 339 + 544 = 1742 sq. ft.), R. N. M. & Tah. - Ambikapur, Dist. Surguja (C. G.) 497 001.

Total aggregating outstanding in all loan accounts : ₹ 1,63,09,439.1 (Rs. One Crore Fifty Three Lakhs Nine Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Nine & Two Paise Only) as on 17.08.2021

Bid Increase Amount ₹ 50,000/- (Rs. Fifty Thousand Only)

Reserve Price ₹ 2,70,01,000/- (Rs. Two Crore Seventy Lakhs One Thousand Only) / ₹ 27,00,100/- (Rs. Twenty Seven Lakhs One Thousand Only)

Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) 10% the Reserve Price

Date of Inspection of Immovable Properties	Date / Time of Auction	Last Date for Submission of Offers / EMD
07.10.2022 11:00 Hrs. - 12:00 Hrs.	12.10.2022 from 11:00 Hrs. to 12:00 Hrs.	11.10.2022 till 5.00 p. m.

IMPORTANT TERMS & CONDITIONS OF SALE: (1) The Auction is conducted as per the further Terms and Conditions of the Bid document and as per the procedure set out therein. Bidders may go through the website of our E-Auction Service Provider, M/s. CI India Pvt. Ltd. i.e. <https://www.bankauctions.com> for bid documents, the details of the secured asset put for e-Auction and the Bid form which will be submitted online; (2) All the intending purchasers / bidders are required to register their name in the Web Portal mentioned above as <https://www.bankauctions.com> and generate their User ID and Password in free of cost of their own to participate in the e-Auction on the date and time aforesaid; (3) For any enquiry, information, support, procedure and online training on e-Auction, the prospective bidders may contact the M/s. CI India Pvt. Ltd. Department of our e-Auction Service Partner **Danish Ulha Khan**, through Mobile No.: 9826804343 & E-mail ID : mpeg@ciindia.com & support@bankauctions.com; (4) To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorized officer, there is no encumbrance in the property/ies. However, the intending bidders may inspect the property and its documents as mentioned above or any other date & time with prior appointment and they should make their own independent inquiries regarding the encumbrance, title of property/ies put on e-Auction and claims / right / dues / affecting the property prior to submitting their bid. The e-Auction advertisement does not constitute any commitment or any representation of **KMBL**. The property is being sold with all the existing and future encumbrances whether known or unknown to **KMBL**. The Authorized officer / Secured Creditor shall not be responsible in any way for any third party claims / rights / dues; (5) For participating in the e-Auction, intending purchasers / bidders will have to submit / upload in the Web Portal (<https://www.bankauctions.com>) the details of payment of interest-free refundable Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) of the secured asset as mentioned above by way of Demand Draft in favour of **Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited** payable at Delhi along with self-attested copies of the PAN Card, Aadhar Card, Residence Address Proof, Board Resolutions in case of company and Address Proof as specified above. The Borrower (s) / Mortgagee(s) / Guarantor(s) are hereby given **STATUTORY 30 DAYS NOTICE UNDER RULE 6 (2), 8 (6) & 9 (1) OF THE SARFAESI ACT** to discharge the liability in full and pay the dues as mentioned above along with upto date interest and expenses within 15 days from the date of this notice failing which the Secured Asset will be sold as per the terms and conditions mentioned above. In case there is any discrepancy between the publications of sale notice in English and Vernacular newspaper, then in such case the English newspaper will supersede the vernacular newspaper and it shall be considered as the final copy, thus removing the ambiguity. If the borrower / guarantors / mortgagees pay the amount due to Bank, in full before the date of sale, auction is liable to be stopped. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, kindly visit our official website <https://www.kotak.com/en/bank-auctions.html> or contact the Authorized Officer **Ravindra Dwivedi** @ 7208051081 & Mr. Ashok Motwani @ 9873737351 at above mentioned Regional office of Bank. **Special Instruction :-** E-Auction shall be conducted by our Service Provider, M/s. CI India Pvt. Ltd. on behalf of **Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited (KMBL)**, on pre-specified date, while the bidders shall be quoting from their own home / offices / place of their Bid as per their choice above the Reserve Price. Internet connectivity and other paraphernalia requirements shall have to be ensured by bidders themselves. Please note that failure of internet connectivity (due to any reason whatsoever it may be) shall be sole responsibility of bidders and neither **KMBL** nor M/s. CI India Pvt. Ltd. shall be responsible for these unforeseen circumstances. In order to ward-off such contingent situation, bidders are requested to make all the necessary arrangements / alternatives whatever required so that they are able to circumvent such situation and still be able to participate in the e-Auction successfully. However, it is requested to the Bidder(s) that they are to wait till the last moment to quote / improve his / her bid to avoid any such complex situations.

Date : Ambikapur, Chhattisgarh.
Place : 07.09.2022

Sd/- Authorized Officer
For **Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited**