

OPINION 6
ADAPTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE IS IMPERATIVE

WORLD 8
IMRAN KHAN GETS INTERIM BAIL TILL MAY 4 IN 3 CASES

MONEY 10
MARKETS EXTEND GAINS FOR 9TH SESSION ON FAG-END BUYING

Published From
DELHI LUCKNOW BHOPAL BHUBANESWAR
RANCHI RAIPUR CHANDIGARH
DEHRADUN HYDERABAD VIJAYWADA

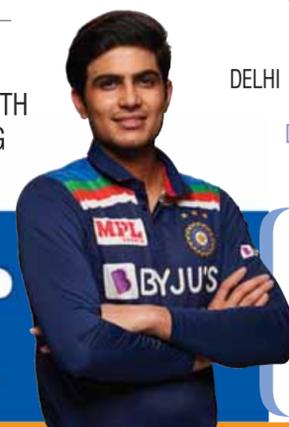
Late City Vol. 33 Issue 102
*Air Surcharge Extra If Applicable

NEW DELHI, FRIDAY APRIL 14, 2023; PAGES 12 ₹3



the pioneer

www.dailypioneer.com



GT BEAT
PUNJAB IN IPL
MATCH
12 SPORT

Atiq's son Asad killed in STF encounter in Jhansi

Accomplice also shot in encounter

PNS ■ PRAYAGRAJ/LUCKNOW

Asad Ahmad, son of jailed gangster-turned-politician Atiq Ahmad, and shooter Ghulam Mohammad were killed in an exchange of fire with the UP Special Task Force team in Jhansi on Thursday afternoon, officials said. Both were wanted in the Umesh Pal murder case and carried a reward of ₹5 lakh each. Asad Ahmad was caught on CCTV when Umesh Pal was killed and had been on the run for the past 50 days, police said.

"Sophisticated foreign made weapons were recovered from the accused. Further details are awaited," said Special Director General (Law and Order) Prashant Kumar. He added the UP STF team that gunned down Asad and Ghulam was led by deputy superintendents of police Navendu Kumar and Vimal Kumar.

Atiq Ahmad was in the court of chief judicial magistrate in Prayagraj in connection with the murder case when the news of Asad's encounter broke. He started crying after hearing the news of his son's encounter death. He asked for water and sat down holding his head in the district court premises.

STF officials said Asad and Ghulam were on the run since the murder of Umesh Pal on February 24. Several STF teams were pressed to track them down. On Thursday, they were trying to flee on a motorcycle when they were intercepted by an STF team in Jhansi, the officials said, adding they opened fire on the police and were killed in the retaliatory firing. ADG (STF) Amitabh Yash said, "We knew that they had foreign weapons. We were ready. The way this gang killed Umesh Pal and his two gunners, it was not easy to catch these accused. Both had British Bull Dog revolver and Walther pistol. These weapons are rare. Generally not found."

Visuals showed two bodies lying beside a motorcycle at the site of the alleged encounter. An ambulance later took them away.

With Thursday's encounter in connection with the Umesh Pal murder case, the UP Police have so far gunned down four



Bodies of Atiq Ahmad's son Asad and his accomplice Ghulam at the encounter site in Jhansi on Thursday

shooters. Earlier Arbaaz was killed in the first encounter on February 27 in Prayagraj. Arbaaz was driving the Creta car in which the assailants had reached Umesh Pal's house. Asad was also in it. The second encounter took place on March 6. In this, Vijay Chaudhary, alias Usman, who fired the first shot at Umesh, was killed.

Umesh Pal, a key witness in the 2005 murder case of then BSP MLA Raju Pal, and his two police security guards were shot dead outside his home in Prayagraj's Dhoomanganj area on February 24 this year.

His wife Jaya Pal had lodged a report on February 25 against Atiq Ahmad, his brother Ashraf, Asad, Ghulam and others.

Reacting to the news of the encounter, Umesh Pal's family thanked Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and the police administration. "Whatever they have done is right. He (the chief minister) has punished the killer of his daughter's husband. I express my gratitude. He is like a father. Justice has been done," Jaya told the media, adding she hoped strict action would be taken against other accused.

Umesh Pal's mother said, "The two gunners who were killed in broad daylight today had committed a sin. They have been punished today. We have faith, we will get complete justice."

The Samajwadi Party and the Bahujan Samaj Party have demanded an investigation into the Jhansi shootout, suggesting that the Special Task Force staged a fake encounter.

K'taka call to end 4% Muslim quota flawed, observes SC

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Expressing displeasure over the decision of the Karnataka Government to scrap the four per cent reservation for OBC Muslims and raise quotas in government jobs and educational institutions for Vokkaligas and Lingayats by two per cent each, the Supreme Court on Thursday observed the decision prima facie appeared to be on a "highly shaky ground" and "flawed".

A bench of Justices KM Joseph and BV Nagarathna said from the records tabled before the court it appears that the Karnataka Government's decision is based on "absolutely fallacious assumption".

Senior advocates Kapil Sibal, Dushyant Dave and Gopal Sankarnarayanan, appearing for members of the Muslim community from



Karnataka said no study was conducted and there was no empirical data available with the Government to scrap the quota for Muslims.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for Karnataka, sought some time to file replies to the petitions and assured the bench that no appointments and admissions will be made in the meantime based on the March 24 Government order which has been challenged by the petitioners.

Senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, appearing for members of the Vokkaliga and Lingayat communities, said no

interim order should be passed without allowing them to place their response to the petitions.

The bench posted the matter for further hearing on April 18 and asked Mehta and Rohatgi to file their responses.

The State Government decided to scrap the four per cent reservation for Muslims in government jobs and educational institutions weeks ahead of the state assembly polls on May 10.

The State Government announced two new categories for reservation and divided the four per cent Muslim quota between the Vokkaligas and Lingayats, the two numerically dominant and politically influential communities. Muslims eligible for quotas were categorised under the economically weaker sections.

The State Government's decision has pushed the reservation limit to around 57 per cent now.

CAPSULE

ATTACK ON MIN: SC SETS ASIDE CBI PROBE VERDICT

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Thursday set aside a Calcutta High Court order for a CBI probe in the alleged attack on Union Minister Nisith Pramanik's convoy during a visit to his constituency in West Bengal in February this year and directed fresh adjudication of the PIL filed by BJP leader Suvendu Adhikari on the issue.

TRUCK RUNS OVER PILGRIMS, 7 KILLED

Hoshierpur: Seven pilgrims, including five women, on their way to celebrate Baisakhi at Khuralgarh Sahib in the district were killed while ten were injured after being run over by a truck near here early Thursday, police said.

SEARCH ON TO NAB JAWANS' KILLERS

Bathinda/New Delhi: A massive hunt is underway on Thursday to nab the assailants behind the killing of four soldiers in a firing incident at the Bathinda Military station even as base reported death of another personnel due to gunshot wounds.

Atiq gets 5-day police remand; wife wants to surrender

Prayagraj: A Prayagraj court on Thursday sent gangster-politician Atiq Ahmad and his brother Ashraf to 14-day judicial custody and also allowed five-day police remand in connection with the Umesh Pal murder case.

Ahmad and Ashraf, alias Khalid Azim, will be kept in judicial custody till April 26, said advocate Vikram Singh, the counsel for Umesh Pal's wife Jaya.

Singh said after arguments on the application submitted by police seeking their custody were completed, the court allowed five-day police remand of the duo which will remain effective till evening of April 17.

He said that the next date of hearing in the case has been fixed for April 26.

Meanwhile, sources said Atiq's wife Shaista Parveen wants to surrender before police in order to have access to the last look at her son Asad — who was killed in an encounter with UP STF in Jhansi — before his last rite.

ED books BBC India for foreign funds violations

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has registered a case under Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) against British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) India for alleged foreign exchange violations.

The agency also summoned BBC staffers for questioning following which its Deputy Managing Editor deposed on Thursday. The ED action came nearly two months after the Income-Tax Department surveyed the BBC India's offices in Delhi and Mumbai on February 14. The survey operation lasted for three days. The FEMA case was registered about two weeks back to essentially probe purported foreign direct investment (FDI) violations by the company and related instances, according to officials.



ITBP and police personnel guard outside the BBC office at KG Marg in New Delhi

The ED has called for documents and the recording of statements of some company executives and a team of lawyers representing the company has already submitted some financial documents last week, they added.

Modi asks Sunak to take action against anti-India elements in UK

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday raised the issue of security of Indian diplomatic establishments in the United Kingdom in a telephonic conversation with his British counterpart Rishi Sunak and called for a strong action against anti-India elements, a statement said.

About the vandalism at the Indian High Commission last month, Sunak conveyed to Modi that the UK considers the attack "totally unacceptable" and assured the security of the Indian Mission and its personnel, the statement said.

Last month, the tricolour flying atop the Indian High Commission in London was grabbed at by a group of protesters waving separatist Khalistani flags.

Modi also sought progress on the return of economic offenders wanted in India. India is pursuing the extradition of Vijay Mallya and Nirav Modi from the UK.

Pawar meets Kharge; Manjhi-Shah meeting triggers speculation

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

On a day NCP supremo Sharan Pawar met Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, former party chief Rahul Gandhi and other top leaders of the Congress in the national Capital for Opposition unity, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's ally Jitan Ram Manjhi set political circles abuzz with a meeting with Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday.

The development came amid the Janata Dal (United) leader's talks with several Opposition leaders as part of his effort to forge an alliance against the BJP.

Manjhi, however, sought to quell any speculation and reiterated that Nitish has all the qualities to become the country's Prime Minister.

He asserted that he has sworn to remain with Nitish and rejected any possibility of



joining hands with the BJP, saying it has spoken against the existence of small parties like his. During his 2-day Delhi visit, Nitish interacted with Kharge and Rahul and CPI's D Raja, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal accompanied by Bihar Deputy CM and RLD leader Tejashwi Yadav during his two days to Delhi.

Queried about his absence from Wednesday's meeting, Pawar said he was asked to join the meeting in Delhi but was unable to do so as he had work in Pune. The leaders are likely to take forward unity talks as more deliberations are expected in the coming days.

Continued on Page 2

Covid 8-month high at 10K+, but just 1 of 1K patients hospitalised

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Amid warning that Covid cases in the country will peak in the next couple of weeks, India on Thursday recorded a single-day rise of 10,158 new infections, highest in nearly eight months and up by 30 per cent over the previous day, according to the Union Health Ministry data.

However, low hospitalisation has come as a breather. "Currently, the hospitalisation ratio is 1:1,000 and this is not a wave. It may be an endemic cycle of Covid-19," officials in the Union Health Ministry said. The daily positivity rate was recorded at 4.42 per cent while the weekly positivity rate was 4.02 per cent. The active cases now constitute 0.10 per cent of the total infections, as per the Union Health Ministry data.

AIIMS, Delhi, has issued an advisory for its staff to follow Covid-19 appropriate behaviour saying that people "must use reusable cloth face cover/surgical mask in the workplace. Ensure proper



cleaning and frequent sanitation of the workplace, particularly of the frequently touched surfaces."

A few AIIMS doctors too have tested Covid positive with a newborn diagnosed with Covid-19 at Delhi's LNJP Hospital.

The number of active cases has increased to 44,998, the data updated on Thursday showed. India had reported 7,830 coronavirus infections on Wednesday. The nationwide Covid-19 recovery rate has been recorded at 98.71 per cent, according to the Health Ministry website.

The case fatality rate was recorded at 1.19 per cent.

Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology

KIIT Deemed to be University, Bhubaneswar

YOUTH-20 CONSULTATION 2023

Under the aegis of Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Govt. of India

April 14 - 15, 2023

Inauguration by

Shri Giriraj Singh
Hon'ble Minister of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Govt. of India

in the august presence of

Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey
Hon'ble Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, and Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India

Shri Tusharkanti Behera
Hon'ble Minister of State for Home, Sports & Youth Services, and E&IT, Govt. of Odisha

Special Guest:
Mr. Ricky Kej, Multiple Grammy Winner, India

Gracious Presence

Hon'ble Members of Parliament from 20 countries (USA, UK, Switzerland, Germany, Ukraine, Poland, Armenia, Slovakia, Bulgaria, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ivory Coast, Liechtenstein, Sierra Leone, etc.)

25 Hon'ble Members of Parliament from India

Over 200 Academicians from different countries

5 Hon'ble Diplomats from five countries

Future of Work: Industry 4.0, Innovation and 21st Century Skills

व्युद्येव कुटुम्बकम्
ONE EARTH • ONE FAMILY • ONE FUTURE

UP Opp wants probe into Atiq's son's encounter

Justice served, says Umesh Pal's family



PTI ■ LUCKNOW

Opposition parties in Uttar Pradesh raised questions on the killing of gangster-turned-politician Atiq Ahmad's son Asad and his aide in a police encounter in Jhansi on Thursday and demanded a high-level probe to bring out the facts before people. SP chief Akhilesh Yadav alleged that the BJP government was trying to divert attention from real issues with "fake encounters" and BSP supremo Mayawati said the killing could be a repeat of "Vikas Dubey incident". Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya, on the other hand, congratulated UP Police on the action. "Nobody will touch you if you don't commit a crime. And nobody will be spared if they commit a crime," Maurya

told PTI. He asserted this was a BJP government and not an SP regime that criminals would be spared. Within hours of the killing of Asad and his aide Ghulam, both wanted for the daylight murder of Umesh Pal and his two security guards in Prayagraj in February, Yadav suggested the police encounter could be "fake". "By doing fake encounters, the BJP government is trying to divert attention from real issues. The BJP does not believe in courts at all. Today's and other recent encounters should be thoroughly investigated and the culprits should not be spared. The government does not have the right to decide what is right or wrong. The BJP is against brotherhood," the Samajwadi Party chief said in

a tweet in Hindi. Shortly thereafter, Mayawati too demanded an investigation as "many types of discussions" are happening. She also linked the police encounter to notorious gangster Vikas Dubey's killing in July 2020.

Dubey, who was wanted in connection with the ambush-killing of eight policemen in Kanpur, was shot dead when he tried to escape police custody while being brought to UP from Ujjain in Madhya Pradesh. Police said Dubey's vehicle had overturned during the transit and he had snatched a police official's gun. "Many types of discussions are happening on the killing of Prayagraj's Atiq Ahmed's son and one other person in a police encounter today. People feel their apprehension of a repeat of the Vikas Dubey incident has come true. Therefore, a high-level inquiry is necessary so that the complete facts and truth of the incident can come before the public," Mayawati, the Bahujan Samaj Party supremo, said.

Cong in Catch-22 over action against Pilot's anti-Gehlot fast

'Sachin will neither join BJP nor AAP'

DEEPAK KUMAR JHA ■ NEW DELHI



After going to town over action against Sachin Pilot for observing a daylong fast to protest against his own government led by Ashok Gehlot, the Congress has now found itself in a catch-22 situation. On the other hand sources close to the rebel leader Sachin Pilot refuted speculations that he may go to BJP neither he is 'bargaining' with Aam Admi Party (AAP) which is eyeing to set its foot in Rajasthan which so far has seen the toss of power game only between Congress and BJP with BSP making a significant presence. "But he is mentally prepared if any action is taken then the former Union Minister in Congress led UPA governments will float his own outfit which will not damage Congress but BJP only," a close aide of Pilot told The Pioneer. Sources said Pilot has been

trying to convey to the central leadership that he did not defy the party since his fast was an internal matter. Sources mentioned that when Gehlot was let scot free despite his complete disobedience to the directives of the then President Sonia Gandhi to take over the reins of the grand old party then Pilot has done nothing as his protest pertains to corruption in Vasundhara Rajje led BJP government. Pilot has stationed himself in the national Capital after his one day fast on Tuesday and seeking a meeting with top party leadership. Sources said neither the Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge, nor former chief Rahul Gandhi or General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi have met him so far. Pilot's last rebellion



when he along with his supporters had lodged in a Gurugram resort two years ago was pacified by Priyanka with whom he is considered to be very close. While the Congress general secretary in-charge for Rajasthan Sukhjinder Randhawa has held several rounds of meetings including that on Thursday with party chief Mallikarjun Kharge and former party chief Rahul Gandhi for the second time in two days as the party continues to grapple with the situation arising after Pilot's fast in defiance of the central leadership, sources in the grand old party said the Congress leadership is caught in a peculiar situation as it neither wants Pilot to quit the party nor it wants to be seen condoning his action.

Will prefer begging from State's people to pleading before Centre: Mamata

They won't release funds till 2024 Lok Sabha polls but I will manage, says Didi



SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

With the BJP Government blocking release of MNREGA and other funds pertaining to various social welfare schemes, Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Thursday said that she better be going around to beg from door to door than submitting before New Delhi with a begging bowl. An apparently emotional Banerjee said, "I have tried to serve you (the people) with best of my capacity and have still been doing so though the Centre has blocked State's funds," adding the people not to misconstrue her. "There have been problems in implementation of projects on account of fund crunch ... I will request you not to misunderstand me or my intention

to serve you," Banerjee, a bevy of whose ministerial colleagues and senior party functionaries have landed in jail in connection with a plethora of scams said. Banerjee was speaking at the inaugural function of Dhana Dhanya, a state-of-art auditorium constructed at the cost of ₹440 crore at plush Alipore in South Kolkata. The auditorium resembles a giant-turquoise-and-white conch shell. Alleging that the Centre had not been releasing funds worth thousands of crores meant for clearing wages under the 100-days' work scheme, Banerjee said "they (BJP) are thinking that I will go begging before them but I will not ... I have reports that they will not release the funds before 2024 (general elections)."

Shah reviews security arrangements ahead of G-20 meet in J&K

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Ahead of G20 meeting in Srinagar, Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday reviewed the functioning of the security grid and all security-related aspects in Jammu and Kashmir. The meeting was attended by the top brass of security and intelligence units. At the security review meeting, attended by National Security Adviser Ajit Doval, Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha among others, Shah took stock of the functioning of the security grid and various aspects related to security, an official statement said. Union Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla, J&K DGP Dilbag Singh, IB Chief Tapan Kumar Deka, RA Chief Samant Goel also attended the high-level security review meet chaired by the Home Minister.



Union Home Minister Amit Shah chairs a high-level meeting to review security situation in Jammu and Kashmir, in New Delhi on Thursday

Shah also reviewed the preparations for a G20 meeting to be held in Srinagar next month and directed all relevant agencies to work in coordination for successful conduct of the event. India is hosting a meeting of the G20 Tourism Working Group in Srinagar in May while a youth engagement group meeting is scheduled to take place in Leh later this month. The Home Minister reiterated the Modi Government's unflinching resolve to the policy of zero tolerance against terrorism.

Man arrested for marriage with minor, tampering with her date of birth on Aadhaar card

T N RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

In a classic case of the groom of a "Balika Badhu" landing in trouble within hours of their marriage, the Mumbai police have arrested a 23-year-old man for entering into a court marriage with a minor girl after allegedly tampering with her real date of birth on her Aadhaar card to prove that she was a major. The fraud came to light within hours after they got married in a civil marriage on Tuesday (April 11) at the office of Marriage Registrar at Bandra in north-west Mumbai, when the boy and girl visited the Dahisar Police Station to complete the mandatory legal formalities.

Suspecting foul play, the police summoned the girl's father Sabajit Pal, a tailor, to ascertain facts about the bride's age. Pal told the police that his daughter's date of birth had been tampered with allegedly by the boy to prove that she was 18 years, an age criterion for Court Marriage. Under the Special Marriage Act, 1954, the Court Marriage age for a boy is 21 years and the Court Marriage age for a girl is 18 years. On his part, Pal produced his daughter's original birth certificate, as submitted to a local school as proof of the real date of birth.

SC quashes Calcutta HC order for CBI probe into attack on Union Min Pramanik's convoy

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday set aside a Calcutta High Court order for a CBI probe in the alleged attack on Union Minister Nisith Pramanik's convoy during a visit to his constituency in West Bengal in February and directed fresh adjudication of the PIL filed by BJP leader Suvedu Adhikari on the issue. The top court also rejected the vehement submissions of Adhikari, the leader of the opposition in the West Bengal Assembly, for a "status quo" on the probe into the incident by

the state police which, otherwise, will proceed with a "lightening speed" in view of the fact that they have not given the case files to the CBI as directed by the high court. "No we cannot pass such an order," a bench comprising Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justices P S Narasimha and J P Pardiwala said. The top court referred to the fresh affidavit filed by the West Bengal police before it with regard to the actions taken so far in the incident and set aside the high court judgement ordering a CBI probe, saying the "the High Court has not noticed any of the facets".

Appoint child marriage prohibition officers in all dists: SC to Centre

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday asked the Centre to ensure appointment of child marriage prohibition officers in every district and directed it to specify the policy steps it has taken for enforcement of the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act. A bench of Chief Justice DY Chandrachud and Justices PS Narasimha and JB Pardiwala asked the Ministry of Women and Child Development to furnish data after collecting them from all states on the number of cases



registered under the 2006 law and steps taken for its enforcement. "The Union Government shall engage with State Government and ensure appointment of child marriage prohibition officers in every district and that they are not given multifarious duties," the bench said.

PACS to get priority in allotment of petrol/diesel dealerships, purchase of ethanol

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Now Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) in the country will get priority in allotment of new petrol/diesel dealerships and purchase of ethanol produced by cooperative sugar mills. They will also be able to apply for LPG distributorship and have the option to convert existing Wholesale Consumer Licensed PACS into retail out-

lets. This was decided at a meeting held between Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri here in the national capital on Wednesday. The move was taken with an aim to strengthen the PACS as well as pave a way for them to convert into multipurpose economic units, which will provide regular sources of income to crores of farmers of

the country and hence realize the goal of "Sahakar se Samardhi" as envisioned by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Giving details, a senior official from the Cooperation Ministry said that Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas agreed to convert existing wholesale petrol and diesel dealership licensed under Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) into retail outlets, provided they fulfil all the requirements for setting up

retail outlets in rural areas, including statutory approvals and other permissions. The decision also aims to give priority to PACS in the allotment of new petrol and diesel dealerships. Now, PACS have been made eligible to get LPG distributorship as well. As per an official from the Union Ministry of Cooperation, the existing PACS will be given a one-time option to convert their wholesale consumer pumps into retail outlets.

With the eligibility for LPG distributorship, the PACS will become the economic hub of rural development, the official said, adding that the PACS will become a strong empowered entity after the option to convert existing wholesale consumer-licensed PACS into a retail outlet. In addition to the above, rules will also be changed by the Ministry of Petroleum to make PACS eligible for LPG distributorship. Also, under the Ethanol

Blending Program, the Ministry of Petroleum will ensure that cooperative sugar mills are given priority for ethanol procurement at par with other private companies, explained the officials. It has also been decided that PACS will be considered under the Combined Category -2(CC 2) along with the freedom fighter and sports quota in the allotment of new petrol/diesel dealerships, he said.

छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल
पर्यावास भवन, सेक्टर-19, नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर, जिला- रायपुर (छ.ग.)

// सर्व संबंधित को सूचना //

भारत सरकार, पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय की ई.आई.ए. अधिसूचना दिनांक 14/09/2006 (यथा संशोधित) के अंतर्गत सर्व संबंधित को सूचित किया जाता है कि मेसर्स भिनपुरी लाईन स्टील क्वारी प्रोजेक्ट (प्रो.- श्री कौशल चंद्रवंशी), ग्राम- भिनपुरी, तहसील- सहसपुर लोहार, जिला- कबीरधाम स्थित खसरा क्रमांक - 7, 8/1, 10/1 एवं 10/4, कुल क्षेत्रफल - 1.83 हेक्टेयर में प्रस्तावित चूना पत्थर (गौण खनिज) खदान उल्लंघन श्रमता-57,750 टन प्रतिवर्ष के पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृति हेतु लोक सुनवाई बाबत छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल, नवा रायपुर अटल नगर, रायपुर में आवेदन किया गया है।

उक्त परियोजना के संबंध में आपूर्ति/सुझाव/विचार/टीका टिप्पणी, इस सूचना के जारी होने के दिनांक से 30 दिवस के अंदर क्षेत्रीय अधिकारी, छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल, 5/32 बंगला, भिलाई, जिला- दुर्ग के कार्यालय में मौखिक अथवा लिखित रूप से कार्यालयीन समय में प्रस्तुत की जा सकती है। इस परियोजना के लिए लोक सुनवाई दिनांक 18/05/2023 को समय दोपहर 12:30 बजे, स्थान- ग्राम पंचायत भवन, ग्राम- राम्हेपुर, तहसील- सहसपुर, लोहार, जिला- कबीरधाम (छ.ग.) में नियत की गई है। यद्य भी सूचित हो कि:-

1. लोक सुनवाई के दौरान सम्मिलित होने वाले व्यक्तियों को फिजिकल/सोशल डिस्टेंसिंग का पालन करना अनिवार्य होगा।
2. लोक सुनवाई में सम्मिलित होने वाले व्यक्तियों द्वारा मास्क का उपयोग किया जायेगा तथा समय-समय पर सेनेटाइजर का उपयोग किया जाना अनिवार्य होगा।
3. लोक सुनवाई स्थल पर सम्मिलित होने वाले व्यक्तियों की बैठक व्यवस्था कम से कम 02 मीटर की दूरी रखना अनिवार्य होगा।
4. कोरोना वायरस के नियंत्रण एवं रोकथाम हेतु शासन द्वारा जारी समस्त दिशा-निर्देशों का अक्षरशः पालन किया जाना अनिवार्य होगा।

ई.आई.ए. नोटिफिकेशन 14 सितम्बर 2006 (यथा-संशोधित) के अनुसार संबंधित व्यक्तियों के अवलोकन/पठन हेतु ड्राफ्ट ई.आई.ए. रिपोर्ट कार्यालयक सार हिन्दी एवं अंग्रेजी भाषा तथा सी.डी. (साफ्ट कॉपी) डायरेक्टर, पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार, इंदिरा पर्यावरण भवन, जोर बाग रोड, नई दिल्ली, क्षेत्रीय अधिकारी, एकीकृत क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार, अरण्य भवन, नार्थ ब्लॉक, सेक्टर-19, नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर, रायपुर, छत्तीसगढ़, कलेक्टर, कार्यालय कलेक्टर, जिला- कबीरधाम, मुख्य कार्यपालन अधिकारी, जिला पंचायत, जिला-कबीरधाम, महाप्रबंधक, जिला व्यापार एवं उद्योग केन्द्र, जिला- कबीरधाम, संपर्क/सचिव, ग्राम पंचायत राम्हेपुर, जिला- कबीरधाम, क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल, 5/32 बंगला, भिलाई, जिला- दुर्ग एवं मुख्यालय, छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल, पर्यावास भवन, सेक्टर-19, नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर, जिला- रायपुर में रखी गई है।

सदस्य सचिव
छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल,
नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर, जिला- रायपुर (छ.ग.)

STATE INFRASTRUCTURE & INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF UTTARAKHAND LTD.
29, IIE, SAHASTRADHARA ROAD (IT PARK), DEHRADUN
Ph No. 0135-2708100 Fax No. 0135-2708109 Web site: www.siidcul.com

Short Term Tender Notice

सिडकुल के औद्योगिक आस्थानों (सेलाकुई, पन्तनगर, कोटद्वार, आईटीओपार्क) में इलेक्ट्रिकल अवस्थापना आदि कार्यों के वार्षिक अनुसंधान की कुल 04 नग निविदाएं दिनांक 24.04.2023 के अपराह्न 02.00 बजे तक e-tendering द्वारा आमंत्रित की गयी है। विस्तृत निविदा नोटिस सिडकुल की वेबसाईट www.siidcul.com एवं www.uktenders.gov.in पर दिनांक 15.04.2023 से देखी जा सकती है। इस सम्बन्ध में यथा आवश्यक **Corrigendum** केवल उक्त **Website** पर ही **upload** किये जायेंगे।

Managing Director

M. P. PASCHIM KSHETRA VIDYUT VITARAN Co. Ltd., GPH COMPOUND, POLOGROUND, INDORE.
(Ph. No: 0731-2426144, 2426204, 2426205)
(Email: spurchase06@gmail.com, CIN-U40109MP2002SGC015121)

No. MD/WZ/06/PUR/INT-289/5153 Indore, dated: 13.04.2023

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Online tenders are invited for supply/Services of following item as per Tender Specification:-

| TS No. | Name of Item | Unit | Approx Qty | Online tender opening date |
|--------|---|------|------------|----------------------------|
| 1688 | 33/11 KV 5 MVA Power Transformer | No. | 40 | 11.05.2023 |
| 1689 | 100 KVA BIS Certified EEL-3 (Oldy) EEL-2 (New) DTRs | No. | 3450 | 09.05.2023 |
| 1690 | 11 KV & 33 KV Current Transformer | No. | 2462 | 16.05.2023 |

For further detailed information visit web-site <http://www.mpwz.co.in> or <https://www.mptenders.gov.in>

Chief Engineer (Purchase)

अधीक्षक का कार्यालय, शहीद निर्मल महतो चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय अस्पताल, धनबाद।
पत्रांक :- 550/SNMMCH दिनांक :- 13.04.2023

ई-निविदा सूचना

शहीद निर्मल महतो चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय अस्पताल, धनबाद में वित्तीय वर्ष 2023-24 के लिए मानक स्तर के निर्माताओं अथवा उनके अधिकृत एवं अनुमोदित वितरक से सर्जिकल सामग्रियों एवं छोटे-छोटे उपकरणों की आपूर्ति हेतु 2-बोली व्यवस्था (2-bid system) के अन्तर्गत निम्नांकित शर्तों के अधीन ONLINE निविदा आमंत्रित किया जाता है। निविदा अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि- 06.05.2023 को संध्या 5.00 बजे तक होगी। विलम्ब से निविदा जमा नहीं किया जा सकेगा। निविदा केवल ONLINE जमा करना है जो www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in में देखा जा सकता है।

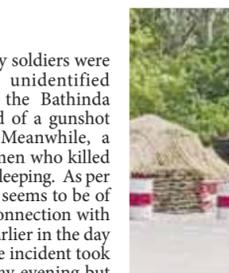
र०/-
अधीक्षक
शहीद निर्मल महतो चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय अस्पताल, धनबाद।

PR 295150 Health Med Edu and Family Welfare(23-24)D

Another soldier dies of gunshot wound in Bathinda Military Station

PTI ■ CHANDIGARH

Hours after four Indian Army soldiers were killed in their sleep by unidentified assailants, another soldier at the Bathinda Military Station in Punjab died of a gunshot wound Wednesday evening. Meanwhile, a search is going on for the two men who killed the four jawans while they were sleeping. As per the Army, the case purportedly seems to be of attempted suicide and has no connection with the incident which took place earlier in the day in the same military station. The incident took place around 4.30pm Wednesday evening but was made public only Thursday morning even as he was evacuated immediately to the Military Hospital, where he succumbed to his injuries. He had returned from leave a day ago on 11 April, the Army said.



"Bathinda is a huge military station and the location of this incident was nowhere close to where the earlier incident took place," a source said, adding that "he might have been facing some domestic issues."

Rahul plea to stay conviction in Modi defamation case: Verdict on Apr 20

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI/SURAT

A Surat court on Thursday said it would pronounce on April 20 the order on Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's plea for a stay on his conviction in a criminal defamation case over his "Modi surname" remark, made exactly four years ago during a poll rally. After hearing arguments from both sides, additional sessions judge RP Mogera said he will pronounce the order on April 20.

Pawar meets Kharge; Manjhi-...

From Page 1

The Congress will convene a meeting of top opposition leaders very soon. Samajwadi Party (SP) chief Akhilesh Yadav too on Thursday said people of the country want change of power, but evaded a direct reply on whether his party would join an Opposition alliance to the BJP. "This is a big question. What name are you giving to it (the grand alliance)? But I know one thing that people of Uttar Pradesh will unseat the BJP," said Yadav who had met West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee in Kolkata last month. Both TMC and SP had said the two parties would stay away from both the Congress

and the BJP and indicated possible talks with other regional players ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. Yadav had given his party's support to the TMC during the 2021 West Bengal Assembly poll, which was reciprocated by Mamata when she campaigned for the former in Uttar Pradesh during the 2022 State election.

No indication Omicron variant XBB.1.16 infecting children: Health Min

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Health Minister Saurabh Bharadwaj on Thursday said there were no indications that Omicron variant XBB.1.16 was leading to severe infection among children, and assured that the government was closely monitoring the situation. Addressing a press conference, the minister said the government was fully prepared to handle the Covid situation. Earlier in the day, Delhi Education Minister Atishi said the government is reviewing the situation and guidelines for schools will be issued soon. "Our government is reviewing the Covid situation and guidelines will be issued to all the schools in this regard very soon," she said during a press conference.



variant XBB.1.16 was leading to severe infection among children, and assured that the government was closely monitoring the situation. "Commonly, any illness affects children and the elderly. But there is no information coming in from experts that says that the Omicron XBB.1.16 variant infection is more severe among children," he said.

"I would advise people with low immunity or those with severe illnesses to avoid crowded places and wear masks. The transmissibility of this variant is high," he added. Noting that the cases are rising, Bharadwaj expressed hope that they will plateau soon. "The government is fully prepared. There are adequate number of oxygen beds, ventilator beds, ICU beds. By the grace of god, we should not require them."

The government is closely monitoring the situation," he said. The national capital logged 1,149 fresh cases and one fatality on Wednesday.

Meanwhile, according to the chairperson of the National Progressive Schools' Conference Sudha Acharya, over 200 private schools have already made masks mandatory for students. Acharya said around 230 private schools in Delhi have mandated mask for all students and imple-

mented social distancing norms as well.

"Since the Covid situation is deteriorating again, we have decided to take precautionary measures beforehand.

Masks have been made compulsory for students and social distancing norms have also been implemented," Acharya said. Schools including Bal Bharti, Delhi Public School, St Mary's school and Alchon Public School have implemented Covid-related norms.

The national capital logged 1,149 fresh cases and one fatality on Wednesday.

Delhi's single-day caseload addition on Wednesday breached the 1,000-mark for the first time in over seven months with 23.8 per cent positivity rate, according to data shared by the Health department.

Newborn diagnosed with Covid, admitted to LNJP Hospital

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A newborn diagnosed with Covid-19 has been admitted to Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Hospital, its medical director said on Thursday, as he cautioned that coronavirus cases in the national capital will peak in the next couple of weeks.

Dr Suresh Kumar, the medical director at LNJP Hospital, said during an interaction that wearing masks has been made "mandatory" at the facility. The 2,000-bed British-era facility is the largest hospital under the Delhi government.

"Children are not vaci-



nated, so we need to take precautions for them as they are getting symptoms like fever, cough, eye infection and stomach infection as well. This variant (XBB.1.16) is affecting children more.

An 18-day-old newborn has been admitted to our hospital and the child is Covid positive," he said. Four more children are admitted to the hospital, Kumar said.

It is better to wear masks in schools and public places and even senior citizens should wear masks. Precaution is surely better, he said. "We will see the peak of Covid cases in one-two weeks and the graph will go down from thereon," Kumar said, adding, "We have made all arrangements in the hospital for patients, including children, as they are coming in more numbers with infection".

Delhi's single-day caseload additions on Wednesday breached the 1,000-mark for the first time in over seven months while the positivity rate stood at 23.8 per cent, according to data shared by the Health department.

AIIMS Delhi issues Covid advisory

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Amid the rising coronavirus cases, AIIMS Delhi has issued an advisory making it mandatory for all hospital staff to wear masks inside the premises and follow Covid-appropriate behaviour. "Must use reusable cloth face cover/surgical mask in the workplace. Ensure proper cleaning and frequent sanitisation of the workplace, particularly of the frequently touched surfaces," the advisory issued on April 8 said.

According to the advisory, gatherings of five or more persons in canteens or offices should be avoided.

Delhi Govt releases ₹100 cr to fund DU colleges

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Amid conflict between the Delhi Government and 12 Delhi University colleges fully funded by it, the Delhi Government on Thursday released Rs 100 crore, the first quarter of the budget funds to these colleges. Addressing a press conference, Delhi Higher Education Minister Atishi on Thursday informed that there are 12 such colleges that are fully funded by the Delhi government. We allocated Rs 400 crore for these colleges and the first quarter of the fund of Rs 100 crore has been released today.

"The Delhi government has always prioritised the education sector and has always allocated the highest amount of funds to it. Since the Kejriwal Government came to power in Delhi, there has been an increase by more than 300% in the budget allocated to these colleges, which shows the government's commitment to education," she said.

According to the Delhi government, Rs 361 crore were allocated to these colleges during the Assembly budget in



The Delhi government has earlier accused these 12 DU colleges of "gross financial mismanagement", "corruption" and "ghost (unauthorised) recruitments". However, despite three-level annual audits and special probes by the Delhi government, - including the latest one, the report on which will be released on February 2 - nothing concrete has been found to substantiate the government's allegations, other than crores worth of accumulated student society funds, meant for student welfare activities, kept in fixed deposits by the concerned colleges.

The 12 fully-funded colleges are the Indira Gandhi Institute of Physical Education & Sports Science, Shaheed Sukhdev College of Business Studies, Shaheed Raj Guru College, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya College, Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar College, Acharya Narendra Dev College, Bhagini Nivedita College, Keshav Maha Vidyalaya, Maharaja Agrasen College, Aditi Mahavidyalaya, Maharishi Balmiki College of Education and Bhaskaracharya College of Applied Science.

Atishi said, "This magnificent campus of IP University is the result of Delhi Education Revolution crusader Manish Sisodia's vision. It has been designed to meet the demands of 21st-century skills and will

provide students with a world-class education. We are confident that it will be a game-changer for higher education in India." She added that the new campus of GGSIPU promises to be a hub of innovation, research, and learning. It is a testament to the government's commitment to providing students with the best possible education and preparing them for the future.

Five specialised centres including those of Robotics & Automation, Design & Innovation, Fire Management, and Liberal Arts are being constructed to meet the demands of 21st-century skills. These centres will provide students with the opportunity to learn and develop skills that are essential for their future careers. The University's East campus includes facilities such as an administrative block, an auditorium, an academic block and a sports block, a separate library and a residential hostel block.

The campus is built with 5-star rating standards and has world-class facilities such as modern laboratories, sports halls, a library, and hostel blocks for students. 2400 students will be able to receive a world-class education at this magnificent campus.

Atishi said, "This magnificent campus of IP University is the result of Delhi Education Revolution crusader Manish Sisodia's vision. It has been designed to meet the demands of 21st-century skills and will

Kejriwal to inaugurate East campus of GGSIPU

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal will inaugurate the state-of-the-art East campus of Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University (GGSIPU) in May, which is almost ready to welcome students. Delhi Higher Education Minister Atishi visited the campus with department and university officials to inspect the various facilities on Thursday.

The campus is built with 5-star rating standards and has world-class facilities such as modern laboratories, sports halls, a library, and hostel blocks for students. 2400 students will be able to receive a world-class education at this magnificent campus.

Atishi said, "This magnificent campus of IP University is the result of Delhi Education Revolution crusader Manish Sisodia's vision. It has been designed to meet the demands of 21st-century skills and will

AAP to apply for bigger plot to build office in Lutyens' Delhi

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has decided to apply with the Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry next week for a bigger plot of land to build its office in Lutyens' Delhi area after the Election Commission recognised it as a national party.

The fate of land allotted to the Trinamool Congress (TMC) at central Delhi's Deen Dayal Upadhyay Marg on December 20, 2013, is uncertain as the party has not constructed its office yet. The Purana Qila Road facility was allotted to CPI when it got the national party status during the tenure of AB Bardhan as general secretary, said CPI's present in-charge D Raja. Raja currently stays in Vallabhbai Patel House.

Sources said that the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) and the Communist Party of India (CPI), which were derecognised as national parties by the poll panel on

Monday, may be asked to vacate the government bungalows allotted to them on Canning Road and Purana Qila Road respectively.

An official in the Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry said that once a plot is allotted to a national party by the Land and Development Department and the party constructs its office there, the land remains with it irrespective of whether it continues to hold a national party status or not. An AAP functionary said the party will apply for land next week.

According to the rules, a party has to construct its office within three years of the allotment of land. The AAP will also get a government bungal-



low in central Delhi to run its office until it builds party headquarters on the plot of land allotted to it.

The president of a national party is also eligible to get a bungalow. However, if the person is already staying in a government accommodation, he is not entitled to get another bungalow.

This implies that AAP national convener and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, who is presently staying at a state government accommodation in the Civil Lines area, will not get the new facility from the Union government. The AAP is currently running its office from a bungalow allotted to it by the Delhi Public Works Department on the DDU Marg. On Monday, the Election Commission recognised the AAP as a national party and withdrew the national party status of the All India Trinamool Congress, Nationalist Congress Party and the Communist Party of India.

'Will file defamation suit against ED for falsely naming me in chargesheet'

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

AP Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh on Thursday said he will file a criminal defamation case against the Enforcement Directorate (ED) officials for "falsely" naming him in their excise policy case chargesheet. Addressing a press conference here, Singh alleged that the ED is "involved in making false cases without any facts or evidence".

Responding to the Singh's allegations, Delhi BJP chief Virendra Sachdeva said it seems that the fear of arrest is haunting the AAP MP with each passing day. The AAP leader also invited those who have been victimised by the agency to come forward and inform him.



"As the Privileges Committee of Parliament has asked me to expose how the ED is fabricating false cases, I will bring your case and information before the Privileges Committee. It's time to hold the ED accountable for their abuse of power and false accusations," he added.

Singh accused ED of targeting him after he raised his voice against the agency's actions in the Parliament. He said he had given a speech on

ED-CBI in the Parliament on December 12 last year, and his name appeared in ED's chargesheet on January 6 this year.

"I will file a criminal defamation case against ED director S K Mishra, officer Bhanu Priya who signed the chargesheet, and IO Joginder Singh," he said.

The AAP leader also alleged that he had sought an appointment with ED 11 times to give information on the Adani issue.

Reading out the contents of the chargesheet, Singh said it claimed that on October 1, 2022, Dinesh Arora had told the ED that the transfer of a liquor shop of Amit Arora was done by Manish Sisodia on the direction of Sanjay Singh.

Not getting appointment with LG to discuss power subsidy: Atishi

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Power Minister Atishi on Thursday claimed that she was not getting an appointment to discuss with the Lt Governor the issue of electricity subsidy which many people may not get since the file is yet to be returned to the city government. The Lt Governor office has, however, termed her claim "misleading and false" while asserting that her request for an appointment was under "active consideration". Reacting to her claim, the LG office said, "Again misleading and false statements are being made by/on behalf of the power minister. A request has been received TODAY from her office at 12:26 pm and is under active consideration. LG has NOT refused to meet her."

Atishi had earlier alleged a



"conspiracy" by Lt Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena and the BJP to stop subsidy under the Arvind Kejriwal government's free electricity scheme. In a letter to Saxena, she stated that it was "deeply distressing" that a minister of an elected government was not getting time from the Lt Governor.

Atishi claimed that there was an "emergency situation" in Delhi as lakhs of power con-

sumers may not get their electricity subsidy since a file with the Cabinet decision on the issue has not been returned by the LG Office.

"I would like to request the Lt Governor to clear the file immediately so as not to cause distress to lakhs of households in NCT of Delhi," she wrote in the letter. She expressed apprehension about the BJP "trying to stop" the electricity subsidy,

adding, "Now it appears that is exactly what is going to happen". Atishi claimed that she "repeatedly" sought time from the LG office to meet Saxena on an "urgent" matter and had asked for only five minutes of time. "My office was informed after 3 pm that you are not available today. At 5.45 pm, I again sought time but my office was informed that the matter has been put up to you and I will be informed later," she claimed in the letter.

The AAP government in Delhi provides free electricity to consumers with 200 units of monthly consumption. Those having 201 to 400 units of consumption per month get a 50 per cent subsidy capped at Rs 850. Last year, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal announced that a power subsidy would be

provided to only those consumers who apply for it. According to official figures, over 48 lakh among more than 58 lakh domestic consumers have applied for power subsidy. The AAP government allocated Rs 3250 crore for power subsidy in its budget for 2023-24.

The dispute over the power subsidy began on March 10 when the LG asked the chief secretary to instruct the power department to present the statutory advice of the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC) before the council of ministers. The DERC's recommendation was to continue the subsidy only for consumers with up to 5KV sanctioned load, a move that could have saved the exchequer Rs 200 crore annually by covering nearly 95% of the total consumers availing subsidies

provided to only those consumers who apply for it. According to official figures, over 48 lakh among more than 58 lakh domestic consumers have applied for power subsidy. The AAP government allocated Rs 3250 crore for power subsidy in its budget for 2023-24.

LG directs officials to develop Qutubgarh in North West Delhi

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Lieutenant Governor DVK Saxena on Thursday directed officials to develop Qutabgarh in northwest Delhi into a model village that can be replicated in other areas. During a visit to Qutabgarh village, Saxena distributed 2,000 guava and grape saplings to promote their cultivation among the residents and interacted with villagers.

He also visited a local city forest developed by the Forest department and planted guava saplings. During the visit, BJP MP Hans Raj Hans, Chief Secretary Naresh Kumar and other senior officials of the Delhi government and other stakeholder agencies were present on the occasion.

This is the second visit of the LG to Qutabgarh village. Earlier he had visited on September 2, last year where he had distributed 1000 saplings of Sandalwood to 500 local farmers, in order to provide the city with a fragrant green cover. Hundreds of farmers who had assembled to welcome the LG, profusely thanked him for all the steps



being taken under his guidance to develop Qutabgarh into a model village.

Addressing the villagers, the LG said that with participation of the local farmers, Qutabgarh could develop into a major producer of Guava, which is at present coming in Delhi from neighbouring states including Rajasthan. Similarly, the plantation of Grapes in Delhi also aimed at enhancing the diversity of flora in Delhi.

The LG said the local production of Guava and Grapes would make the farmers financially self-sustainable, while also increasing the crop area in Delhi. He said that the farmers will be trained in Grape culti-

of 1 km, widening and deepening of pond, installation of bamboo huts and construction of toilet and other public amenities. This development will promote eco-tourism in the village and also support sustainable and healthy living among the villagers.

LG also visited a private plantation site where the villagers have planted guava saplings on their own. The LG was informed that the villagers have identified 6.5 bighas of land for guava plantation and more such land is being iden-



tioned. The LG inspected a MCD dispensary in the village and directed officials to upgrade this into a poly clinic and make it operational at the earliest. The LG was informed that 3 specialized doctors have already been posted at the Dispensary recently and other necessary equipment and facilities will be put in place soon. The villagers urged the LG to provide a wrestling facility for women in the village, which has produced a number of wrestlers and athletes in recent

years. To this, the LG immediately directed DDA to identify a suitable space and make the necessary arrangements at the earliest.

The LG also visited Mungeshpur drain site where I&FC Department is working on desilting and beautification of the drain. A 200 meter walking track has already been built by the Department while bamboo saplings have also been planted along the drain, so as to give an aesthetic makeover and increase the green cover in the area.

The LG immediately directed DDA to identify a suitable space and make the necessary arrangements at the earliest.

The LG also visited Mungeshpur drain site where I&FC Department is working on desilting and beautification of the drain. A 200 meter walking track has already been built by the Department while bamboo saplings have also been planted along the drain, so as to give an aesthetic makeover and increase the green cover in the area.

Unique functioning model of SGRH should be replicated all over India, says DU VC

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi University Vice Chancellor Yogesh Singh said on Thursday the unique model of functioning of the Sir Ganga Ram Hospital should be replicated all over India. He attended the 68th Founder's Day celebrations at the premises of the hospital which was set up in Delhi in 1950s. The original Sir Ganga Ram Hospital was established in Lahore in 1921.

"I have seen this hospital very closely as a patient, atten-

tant and visitor. I am pleasantly surprised and happy to know that all consultants of this hospital contribute 20 per cent of their earnings back to the hospital. "It needs real dedication and commitment to run good healthcare institutions like Sir Ganga Ram Hospital," a statement issued by the hospital quoting Singh said. In his address as the chief guest, he urged healthcare institutions to show kindness, passion and goodness towards the poor who get neglected.

delhi University Vice Chancellor Yogesh Singh said on Thursday the unique model of functioning of the Sir Ganga Ram Hospital should be replicated all over India. He attended the 68th Founder's Day celebrations at the premises of the hospital which was set up in Delhi in 1950s. The original Sir Ganga Ram Hospital was established in Lahore in 1921.



"I have seen this hospital very closely as a patient, atten-

tant and visitor. I am pleasantly surprised and happy to know that all consultants of this hospital contribute 20 per cent of their earnings back to the hospital. "It needs real dedication and commitment to run good healthcare institutions like Sir Ganga Ram Hospital," a statement issued by the hospital quoting Singh said. In his address as the chief guest, he urged healthcare institutions to show kindness, passion and goodness towards the poor who get neglected.

This is different India, can meet security challenges: EAM

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
SERVICE/AGENCIES ■ NEW DELHI/KAMPALA, UGANDA

Giving a tough message to Pakistan and China, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has said this is a "different India" that can meet its national security challenges. He also said Indian soldiers have now the "full backing, they have the right equipment and the infrastructure."

Making these assertions while addressing the Indian community in Uganda late Wednesday, he said forces, who indulged in cross-border terrorism against India for decades, now know this is a "different India" which will give them a reply. He emphasized that today the country can meet its national security challenges posed by Pakistan and China while underlining the transformation of the country into a new India.

Speaking about the challenges India faces on its borders, Jaishankar said: "Today, people see a different India that is willing to stand up and India



which will meet its national security challenges whether it is Uri or whether it is Balakot."

He was referring to the 2016 Uri attack by Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) insurgents from Pakistan against an Indian Army brigade headquarters and the 2019 Balakot airstrike conducted by Indian warplanes in Balakot, Pakistan against a terrorist training camp.

"Today, the forces which indulged in cross-border terrorism against India for decades and which India tolerated, they now know this is a different India and this India will give them a reply," he said.

As regards challenges on

the border with China, Jaishankar said "For the last three years, in violation of the agreements, the Chinese have brought large forces," he said. Today the Indian military is deployed at great heights and in very tough conditions, he added.

This situation is different from the past as Indian soldiers have now the "full backing, they have the right equipment and the infrastructure," he said. He acknowledged that more work has to be done to develop the infrastructure on the border with China as it has been neglected in the past.

"This is a different India which will stand up for its

interests and the world will recognise that," he said. Today, he said India's policies are not impacted by any outside pressure. "It is a more independent India," he said.

Today, India cannot be put under pressure by countries that will "tell us where we should buy our oil and where we should not buy our oil."

"This is an India which will do what is in the interest of its citizens, its consumers," he said.

India has been snapping Russian oil available at a discount after the West sanctioned Moscow over its invasion of Ukraine. India continues to buy Russian oil in large quantities.

He said some people felt "bad" when India joined the Quad.

In November 2017, India, Japan, the US and Australia gave shape to the long-pending proposal of setting up the "Quad" to develop a new strategy to keep the critical sea routes in the Indo-Pacific free of any influence. China has been criticising the formation

of the Quad grouping, saying it was aimed at containing Beijing's rise.

In 2007, Jaishankar said Quad had come up but they bent to pressure and gave up. "But this time we are very clear that if the Quad is in global interest and is good for the world it is good for us," he said, adding India will do whatever is necessary for the global interest.

Jaishankar said today's India is an Atmanirbhar (self-reliant) country.

"Atmanirbhar Bharat at the end of the day is actually a confidence that we are capable of many things. We need a leader who gives us the confidence that we can realise that capability and who can give us the policies that will enable us to go in that direction and it is happening," he said.

This is today a different India which will take positions which will be determined by India's national interest and "that is very much that you can actually see in the personality of Prime Minister (Narendra) Modi", he said.

Army, IAF joint exercise in Eastern Theatre to meet any Chinese threat

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI

With the objective of honing their operational readiness in meeting any challenge from China, the strategic forces of the Indian Army including its elite commandos of the Shatrughat Brigade and IAF in the first week of April jointly conducted a multi domain exercise in the Eastern Theatre.

China had tried to change the status quo at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh on December nine last year. It led to a clash between the troops from both the sides and some soldiers from both the armies also received injuries.

The drill was undertaken to validate joint plans for strategic airlift of specialised forces employing IAF fixed



and rotary wing platforms by landing and dropping in designated areas for undertaking kinetic actions to provide surge to ongoing operations by regular land forces, sources said here on Thursday.

Such Special Operations Exercises are a mix of conventional and unconventional military actions that are undertaken by specially designated, selected, trained and equipped units.

The C17 Globemaster

transport aircraft, Chinooks and Mi 17s helicopters undertook multi-mode insertion into designated greenfield landing zones with surgical precision.

Paratroopers from the Shatrughat Brigade conducted special heliborne operations with the aim of validating their ability to rapidly deploy into hostile environment using Chinooks and Mi17 helicopters to augment the capability of the regular ground forces.

Opp slams Govt for omitting Maulana Azad's name from NCERT textbook

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI

Yet another omission, this time removal of references to freedom fighter and India's first Education Minister Maulana Abul Kalam Azad from the new class 11 political science textbook by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), has invited sharp reaction from the Opposition parties.

While Congress lashed out at the Government saying there is a concerted attempt to "rewrite" history and pass on a "distorted legacy built on lies", CPI(M) alleged that such "vengeful rewriting of history" is aimed at creating a false narrative to further the RSS "ideological projects".

The NCERT has, however, claimed that no curriculum trimming has taken place this year and the syllabus was ratio-



nised in June, last year.

As part of its "syllabus rationalisation" exercise last year, the NCERT, citing "overlapping" and "irrelevant" as reasons, dropped certain portions from the course including lessons on Gujarat riots, Mughal courts, Emergency, Cold War, Naxalite movement, among others from its textbooks. The rationalisation note had no mention of any changes in class 11 political science textbook.

"Certain changes not finding mention of in the rationalised content book could be an oversight," NCERT Director Dinesh Saklani reiterated.

In the class 11 political science textbook's first chapter, titled 'Constitution - Why and How', a line has been revised to omit Azad's name from the constituent assembly committee meetings. The revised line now reads, "Usually, Jawaharlal Nehru, Rajendra Prasad, Sardar Patel or BR Ambedkar chaired these Committees."

In the tenth chapter of the same textbook, titled "The Philosophy of the Constitution", the reference to Jammu and Kashmir's conditional accession has also been deleted.

"For example, the accession of Jammu and Kashmir to the Indian union was based on a commitment to safeguard its autonomy under Article 370 of the Constitution," says the dropped paragraph.

Tender apology for anti-judiciary remarks, SC orders Lalit Modi

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday came down heavily on ex-IPL commissioner Lalit Modi over his remarks against the judiciary made in social media posts and directed him to tender an unconditional apology on social media platforms and national newspapers. Observing that Modi is not above law and the institution, a Bench of Justices MR Shah and CT Ravikumar warned any repeat of such conduct will be viewed very seriously.

The apex court also directed him to file an affidavit before it tendering an apology and stating no such posts will be made in future which would tantamount, even remotely, to tarnishing the image of the Indian judiciary. "We have



gone through the counter affidavit filed by the respondent (Modi). We are not at all satisfied with the explanation given. We are of the view even the clarification would tarnish the image of the judiciary.

"Counsel for respondent AM Singhvi has stated at bar that an unconditional apology would be tendered in all social media where he has followers and leading newspapers at Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore, Madras and Kolkata editions," the Bench said while posting the matter for further hearing on April 24.

ED takes statement of Lalu's daughter in land-for-job case

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Thursday recorded the statement of RJD chief Lalu Prasad Yadav's daughter Chanda Yadav in a money laundering case linked to the land-for-jobs 'scam' in the railway.

Chanda Yadav's statement was recorded under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) during her deposition before the ED. She is the fourth child of Lalu, a former Railway Minister, to have deposed before the ED in this case till now. Lalu has nine children.

On Wednesday, his other daughter Ragini Yadav was questioned. Earlier, his MP daughter Misa Bharti and his son and Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav have also been questioned at the agency's office here.

In March, the agency had searched the premises of



Chanda Yadav, her sisters Ragini Yadav and Hema Yadav, and former RJD MLA Abu Dojana in Patna, Phulwari Sharif, Delhi-NCR, Ranchi and Mumbai. The ED had on Monday questioned and recorded the statement of Tejashwi Yadav in this case.

Misa Bharti was similarly questioned by the ED in this case on March 25, the same day Tejashwi Yadav had deposed before the CBI.

Both the central agencies recently initiated action in the case, with the CBI questioning Lalu Prasad and his wife and former Bihar chief minister Rabri Devi and the ED carrying out raids against the RJD chief's family.

Congressional Caucus meet on Apr 26 to boost US-India ties

PNS/AGENCIES ■ NEW DELHI / WASHINGTON

The Congressional Caucus on India and Indian Americans has announced a meeting to strengthen US-India partnership by bringing key stakeholders together. It is the first of its kind meeting at the US Congress and will take place on April 26. The meeting has bipartisan support and has gained momentum in the past decade.

"I am very excited that leading members of the Indian American community, senior members of the Congress, critical Administration leaders and foreign policy experts will be convening on April 26 to chart out a comprehensive strategy for strengthening US-India partnership," Indian American Congressman Ro Khanna said late Wednesday.

PUBLIC NOTICE

ICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd. 4/10, Mythree Tower, Bommanhalli Hosur Main Road Bangalore-560068

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

| Sr. No. | Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address | Property Address of Secured Asset / Asset to be Enforced | Date of Notice Sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice | NPA Date |
|---------|--|---|---|------------|
| 1. | Rejini Thomas/ Viji C George/ Hostel Plot No 11 B 3 B/8 Vasantenilave Nagaldevat Vasantakuni Delhi- 110070- LBKOM00005079267 | (As described in the Loan document/property document covering All parts and parcels in property bearing Sy No 174/9A 1, 9A 2 Block No: 20, Re SY No: 251/6-1, 251/15-2, Panachikkad Village, Kottayam taluk, Kottayam dist- (Admeasuring an area of 03.70 Cents North: Property of Rajeswary South: Balance Property East: Road West: Property belongs to paraparambi | 15/03/2023/ Rs. 18,95,337.00/- | 02/12/2022 |

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

Date : April 14, 2023
Place : Delhi
Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

PUBLIC NOTICE

The general public is hereby informed that the original certificate of Registration (CoR) beginning registration No.14.00765 issued on 15th May 1998 by Reserve Bank of India under section 45IA of the Reserve Bank of India Act 1934 in favour of Ms Bhavani techno projects limited ("The Company") (CIN: U45202DL1985PLC021344) having office situated at 407, New Delhi House, 27 Barakhamba Road New Delhi Central Delhi DL 110001 registered as "Category B" Non Banking Financial Company with RBI, to carry on the business of Non Banking Financial Institution, has been lost on Kasturba Gandhi marg, New Delhi and not traceable since 10th September 2019, if found by any one, request to return as such to the Company at its registered office. All the persons are hereby informed not to utilize the CoR and the Company should not be held responsible and the Company hereby undertake that CoR would be returned to the RBI, New Delhi Regional office, if subsequently found.

By the order of the board
For Bhavani Techno Projects Limited
Sd/-
Place : Delhi (Mahesh Dutt)
Date : 23-03-2023 DIN: 07568985

Data on attacks on Christians not correct, Centre tells SC

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre on Thursday disputed in the Supreme Court the figure pertaining to alleged attacks on Christian institutions and priests, terming the data "wrong" and claiming the petitioners wanted to keep "the pot boiling" to sully the image of the country abroad. The apex court was hearing a PIL filed by Rev. Peter Machado of the National Solidarity Forum, Rev. Vijayesh Lal of Evangelical Fellowship of India, and others claiming violence against Christians.

A Bench headed by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud was earlier told by the PIL petitioners that from 2021 to May 2022, 700 cases of violence against Christians were reported and a majority of those arrested were followers of the faith.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre, referred to a report containing the case data

received from Bihar and Chhattisgarh and said most of them related to disputes involving neighbours and, coincidentally, one of the parties happened to be a Christian.

He said the Bench, also including Justices PS Narasimha and JB Pardiwala, had taken note of the matter based on the figures provided by the PIL petitioners which were wrong. "The petitioner claimed that there are some 500 incidents where Christians were attacked. We sent everything to the State Governments. We collated all the information we got. The figure given by them, which obviously persuaded your lordships, was not correct," said Mehta, citing that Union Home Ministry has collated the responses from all the States. Altogether 38 such incidents were reported from Bihar, and as per the report, they pertained to fights between two neighbours of whom one happened to be a Christian.

Delhi HC speeds up appeal process in 2G scam cases

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Speeding up the appeal process in 2G scam cases, the Delhi High Court on Thursday asked the CBI, ED, former Telecom Minister A Raja and others to file their submissions in the appeals challenging the acquittal by the trial court. Justice DK Sharma said the parties shall file brief written submissions not exceeding five pages. The CBI demanded day-to-day hearings and its counsel urged the court to list the matter on an early date when he would argue on the aspect of granting leave to appeal, the judge fixed the matter for May 22 and 23.

The CBI and ED filed appeal against the trial court's verdict acquitting all accused persons on March 2018, five years ago. There were 95 listings and seven judges presided on the appeal process. At one point Justice Najmi Waziri in mid 2018, fined some accused for delaying the process and

ordered them to plant 16,000 trees at Delhi Ridge forest area. "The matter requires urgent hearing. Fix anytime of the day for conducting day-to-day hearing in the matter," the CBI counsel submitted.

Though the CBI had earlier concluded its submissions on the issue of leave to appeal, it will have to argue the matter afresh due to change of the judge.

Leave to appeal is a formal permission granted by a court to a party to challenge a decision in a higher court.

Earlier, the case was being heard on a day-to-day basis by Justice Brijesh Sethi, who retired on November 30 and had released the matter from his board on November 23 owing to paucity of time. Before retiring, Justice Sethi had decided various petitions and applications filed by the acquitted individuals and firms in the three cases arising out of the 2G scam probe lodged by the CBI and ED.

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

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

Whereas The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Bank Limited under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/ her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ICICI Bank Limited.

| Sr. No. | Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number | Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession | Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand (Rs.) | Name of Branch |
|---------|---|---|---|--------------------------|
| 1. | Vicky Rana/ Meenu/ LBCHD00003752795 | Flat No 69 C, 2nd Floor Dhf Prime City Landran Road Kharar Punjab/ April 11, 2023 | January 18, 2022 Rs. 16,09,997/- | Sarkaghat/ Delhi/ Kharar |

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/ guarantors(s) are hereby given a 30 day notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date : April 14, 2023
Place : Delhi/NCR
Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

Public Notice

This Public Notice has been published for "GENERAL INFORMATION OF THE PUBLIC" THAT the concerned Built-up Flat No.H-172, on Third Floor, comprising of three bedrooms, one drawing Cum Dining room, Kitchen, Three Toilet/Bathrooms, one Store and Two Verandahs, situated in the Layout plan of retired & Retiring Group, Employees Co-operative Group Housing Society Ltd. Built on Plot No.29, Known as Rama Krishna Vihar, I.P.Extension, Patparganj, Delhi-110092, has been purchased jointly by Smt. Sneha Lata Sharma W/o. Sh.Harish Kumar Sharma & Mr.Saksham Sharma S/o. Sh.Harish Kumar Sharma R/o. 230/29B, Flat No.4, Gali No.9A, Railway Colony, Mandawali, Delhi-110092, vide Agreement to Sell and Purchase dated 22-03-2023, with the previous owner of this flat namely : Mrs Anupa Ghosh w/o. Late Sh.Nirmal Ghosh, Signed through her Lawful Attorney Dr. Alok Ghosh S/o. Late Sh.Nirmal Ghosh, R/o. 929, Terramore LN Waxhaw, NC-28173-3048. Any Person living or dead or resembling through any of his/her legal heirs successor & assigns thereof, if having any objections, stakes or interests of whatsoever kind/type upon this above mentioned property, then he/she/they can/may contact the below mentioned person for any details/query regarding the present sale & purchase of this above mentioned property immediately within one week from the date of this News Paper Publication, failing which thereafter no further objections/stakes/interest of whatsoever kind/type from any other Person living or dead or resembling through any of his/her legal heirs successor & assigns thereof shall not be at all entertained or taken into consideration by any of the above mentioned & below mentioned persons which are parties to this agreement to sell & purchase regarding this above mentioned flat, and thereafter the present purchasers of this flat shall become the absolute & complete owners of this flat thereafter by virtue of the sale deed to be executed amongst the above mentioned parties to this agreement to sell & purchase dated 22-03-2023.

Harish Kumar Sharma
S/o Late Sh. Baldev Raj Sharma,
R/o. 230/29B, Flat No.4, Gali No.9A,
Railway Colony, Mandawali, Delhi-110092,
Phone No.910487549, 901358419

IMD warns of heatwave in 4 States

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Thursday issued a heatwave warning for four states - West Bengal, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, and Bihar - over the next three to four days. Earlier this month, the IMD predicted above-normal maximum temperatures for most parts of the country from April to June, except parts of the northwest and the peninsular regions.

According to the IMD, heatwave conditions are likely in isolated pockets of Gangetic West Bengal until April 17, north coastal Andhra Pradesh and Odisha until April 15, and in Bihar from April 15 to 17. The IMD said that the maximum temperatures in several parts of the western Himalayan region and northeast India, West Bengal, Sikkim, Odisha,



coastal Andhra Pradesh, and Kerala are three to five notches above normal. Above-normal heatwave days are expected in most parts of the country during this period.

The maximum temperatures in central and north peninsular India are hovering in the range of 40 to 42 degrees Celsius at present. At present, certain regions of Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, interior

Maharashtra, Odisha, and Telangana are experiencing maximum temperatures between 40 and 42 degree Celsius, while the other parts of the country have temperatures below 40 degrees Celsius. Additionally, some areas of Jammu & Kashmir, northeast, and adjoining East India are witnessing temperatures that are 2-3 degree Celsius above the normal range. The Odisha government has even

announced the closure of schools till 16 April in the wake of "intense heat wave conditions" in the state.

The IMD said maximum temperatures are three to five notches above normal in many parts of the western Himalayan region and northeast India, West Bengal, Sikkim, Odisha, coastal Andhra Pradesh and Kerala. In an extended-range forecast, the IMD said heatwave conditions are likely over parts of Bihar, West Bengal, Odisha, and Andhra Pradesh on some days between April 20 and April 26.

A heat wave is declared if the maximum temperature of a station reaches at least 40 degrees Celsius in the plains, at least 37 degrees in coastal areas and at least 30 degrees in hilly regions, and the departure from normal is at least 4.5 degrees.



Govt. of Haryana



Heartiest Greetings to all on the occasion of **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Jayanti and Vaisakhi**

April 14, 2023

“Greetings on Ambedkar Jayanti. Pujya Babasaheb gave hope to lakhs of people belonging to the poorest and marginalised sections of society. We remain indebted to him for his efforts towards the making of our Constitution.”

- Narendra Modi



Following the ideals of Babasaheb, Haryana Government provides various facilities to the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes

- Under the Mukhyamantri Vivah Shagun Yojana, financial assistance of Rs. 71,000 for the marriage of girls belonging to BPL Families of Scheduled Caste, Vimukt Jati / Tapriwas.
- Under Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Awas Navinikarn Yojana, a provision of Rs. 80,000 for the repair of house.
- Under Dr. Ambedkar Medhavi Chhattar Sansodhit Yojana, the family income limit has been increased from Rs. 2.50 lakh to Rs. 4 lakh.
- Under Mukhya Mantri Samajik Samrasta Antarjatiya Vivah Shagun Yojana, Rs. 2.50 lakh incentive on marrying a Scheduled Caste boy/girl who is a permanent resident of Haryana.
- Free coaching facility for competitive exams.
- Up to 60 percent subsidy on fish farming to fish farmers.
- 10 percent discount on the industrial plot allotted to the candidate.
- Up to 20 percent discount in land cost for micro and small scale industries.
- Financial assistance of Rs. 85,000 to Rs. 8.25 lakh to the victim's family in case of various types of atrocities.
- Legal aid of Rs. 22,000 for defending court cases.
- Educational allowance from Rs. 2500 to Rs. 13,500 per annum under Post Matric Scholarship Scheme.
- Haryana Vimukt Nomadic Caste Development Board constituted.
- Haryana State Safai Karamcharis Commission constituted.
- Haryana State Scheduled Caste Commission Act 2018 implemented.
- Haryana Backward Classes Commission Act 2016 implemented.
- Haryana Backward Classes (Reservation in Services and Admission in Educational Institutions) Bill 2016 implemented.





www.dailypioneer.com

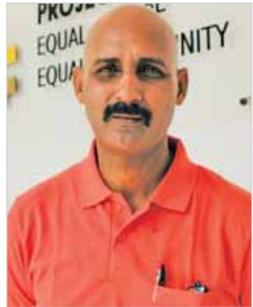
facebook.com/dailypioneer | @TheDailyPioneer | instagram.com/dailypioneer/

PAPER WITH PASSION

Systemic failure

A 12-year-old was tried for murder, convicted, and spent his best years on death row

Niranaram Chetanram Chaudhary is a living testament to the pathetic state of our police and justice systems. In 1994, he was 12 years old — and tried for murder on the presumption that he was 22. This happened because somehow he got dragged into a murder case in Pune, in which five women and two children were knifed to death. After class three he ran away from his school at Bikaner in Rajasthan, went to Pune, and began working in a tailoring shop. He doesn't remember why he ran away from his home or with whom, nor could any of his brothers. Some cop misspelled his name as Narayan instead of Niranaram, leading to his trial, conviction, and death sentence. What is startling and heartrending is the fact no one in the system — from cops of various ranks and lawyers to judges at different levels in the judicial hierarchy — could even notice that a child was being on trial. A junior police officer may have misspelled the name, but could he tell a 12-year-old kid from a 22-year-old youngster? And what about the senior officers? And the prosecuting lawyers and defence counsels? And judges in the trial and appeal courts? A 42-year-old man, if he abuses his own body, may look 52; and a 52-year-old man, who takes good care of his body, may pass off as 42. But how on earth can a 12-year-old boy be mistaken as 22 years of age? Even if he did commit the crime, he could not have been imprisoned for more than three years, as per the juvenile law in effect at that time.



Justice is said to be blind, but those responsible for dispensing it are not supposed to be blind; their cognitive and cogitative faculties ought to be sound. In Chaudhary's case, all these were found wanting — and he paid a terrible price. He had to spend 28 long years in prison, and on death row to boot. The best years of his life — adolescence and most of his youth — were spent behind bars. "When you are on death row, every hope is broken. You just try to get through the day," he recently told a newspaper after his release, adding that he now feels blessed to look at the stars on a dark night after spending years confined to four walls under the glare of lights. In prison, he studied a lot, getting a master's degree in sociology. It was at this time that he realised that he was much younger than the prison records showed. The Supreme Court ended his ordeal in March when it concluded that Niranaram was 12 years and six months old at the time of the murders. School documents and medical examination proved that. The exercise was carried out as part of the National Law University's Project 39A which works on death penalty reform. This episode proves, if any proof is needed, that India's justice and police systems urgently need reforms. Our political masters, however, have not shown great zeal for reforms in the justice system. People like Niranaram Chetanram Chaudhary continue to suffer.

PICTALK



Students perform 'Bhangra' during Baisakhi celebrations, at a wheat field on the outskirts of Amritsar

Adapting to climate change is imperative

For a country like ours, which experiences almost extreme weather conditions every year, resilience building must be given top priority



AS MITTAL

The agriculture sector is highly vulnerable to climate change and is a big challenge for the agrarian economy. Food-bowl Punjab and Haryana farmers' fetish for unsustainable big cereal wheat this time has begun to hurt, as returns diminish due to climate challenges. The climate challenge farmers faced this time was erratic rainfall at the end of March, while crops were ready to harvest, likely to affect the yield significantly. In the case of Punjab, the initial deliberation by the agriculture department has indicated that at least 40 per cent of 35 lakh hectares of wheat sown is impacted by rain, winds, and hailstorms.

The serious challenges from climate change-induced impacts of erratic rainfall and the heat waves are not just a threat to our food security and nutrition as well as to the livelihood of 45 per cent of the country's population that depends on farming. It has an impact on their crop loan cycle to return on time to get fresh lending and to invest back into their farms.

Policy-makers, agri-scientists and farmers must come together to confront the challenge of climate change. Various climate change policies are established at international, national and state levels to address the impacts of climate change. Traditionally, the focus of such policies remained on mitigation instead of adaptation measures. Adaptation actions are needed to respond to climate change as these actions help reduce vulnerabilities.

Overuse of resources like water, soil, fertilisers and pesticides to boost yield resulted in Green-House Gases Emissions (GHGs). Take the example of Punjab, after the implementation of the Food Security Act; the nation is again looking toward Punjab, but Punjab farmers need to conserve its soil and water management along with adopting diversification in agriculture.

Why are the funds dwindling?

However, the National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change (NMSKCC) seeks to build a dynamic knowledge system that would inform



and support action for responding effectively to the objective of ecologically sustainable development making agriculture climate resilient.

The National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change (NAFCC) was established in 2015 to meet the cost of adaptation for the States but why are the funds dwindling to address this serious challenge? The grants released under NAFCC fell from ₹350 crore in 2015-16 to ₹27.76 crore in 2022-23, while the sub-committee of the Ministry of Finance estimates the cumulative expenditure for adapting to climate change at ₹ 85.60 lakh crore by 2030.

Research and development is the bedrock of climate resistance agriculture but the minuscule investments in R&D impede the ability of science and technology research to tackle multiple challenges. As per the Indian Council of Agriculture Research, around 85 per cent of their budget goes towards salaries and other administrative/establishment expenditures, with little left for research. The same is with state agriculture universities facing a financial crunch for R&D work. The total R&D expenditure in India as a percentage of agricultural GDP has been



POLICYMAKERS, AGRI-SCIENTISTS AND FARMERS MUST COME TOGETHER TO CONFRONT THE CHALLENGE OF CLIMATE CHANGE. VARIOUS POLICIES ARE IN PLACE AT INTERNATIONAL, NATIONAL AND STATE LEVELS TO ADDRESS THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

stagnant at 0.3 to 0.5 per cent in the last two decades. It is much lower than in the US (2.8 per cent), China (2.1 per cent), South Korea (4.3 per cent), and Israel (4.2 per cent).

For a country that experiences almost extreme weather every year, adaptation and resilience building must be a priority. India needs more granular risk analysis that can help target appropriate adaptation action locally while making new infrastructure climate resilient and strengthening early warning systems.

An analysis by the Council on Energy, Environment, and Water found the frequency and intensity of extreme climate events increasing by almost 200 per cent since 2005 and three out of four districts of India are facing extreme climate change. Experts' analyst estimates show that climate change might reduce global agriculture productivity by 17 per cent by 2030. According to a study by the World Meteorological Organisation, India is estimated to have suffered an average annual loss of more than ₹6 lakh crore from climate-induced changes.

The way forward:

To face these risks, adaptation is the key factor. Farmers

should start promoting sustainable integrated agriculture practices that could enable them to lower their vulnerabilities by higher crop diversity from staples to high-value crops, fruit and vegetables. Integrated farming with the inclusion of dairy, poultry, beekeeping, fisheries and mushroom cultivation can give additional high-energy food without affecting the production of food grains. There are four sustainable ways farmers can produce more food.

First, Farmers need hand-holding in the early phases. Support them for knowledge exchange with skill-intensive practices. Second, support technology innovation and adaptation to minimise their vulnerability. Third, Instead of input-based subsidies for fertiliser and power, incentivising outcome-based support could encourage innovation. Fourth, and the most significant, is enhanced research and development for impact studies compared with conventional farming across agro-climatic zones.

(The writer is vice-chairman of Sonalika Group, and vice-chairman (Cabinet Minister rank) of Punjab Economic Policy and Planning Board)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SUPREME COURT NOD TO RSS MARCH

Sir — The tussle between the Tamil Nadu Government and the RSS began when the former denied permission to organise route marches and public gatherings to the latter in September 2022. The government cited that since the Government of India's decision to ban PFI under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), the law-and-order situation is not conducive to organising marches. The single-judge Bench also reprimanded the Tamil Nadu police as it observed that there was nothing adverse in the intelligence reports cited by them. The Supreme Court has given a green signal to the RSS Route March in Tamil Nadu.

CKR Nathan | Trichy

CONSOLATION FOR YASH DAYAL

Sir — It is really heartening to see that left-arm pacer Yash Dayal, who was hammered for five consecutive sixes by Rinku Singh in the final over to seal the game for KKR, has been receiving consolation messages from all around, including from his father. It is all the more encouraging that the entire KKR team reached out to the GT bowler with a moving post, backing him to bounce back from the setback. KKR's message for Dayal read: "Chin up, lad. Just a hard day at the office happens to the best of players in cricket." No doubt, these words will lift the morale of the bruised bowler and come up strongly in the remaining matches. Yash Dayal can take solace from England's Stuart Broad, who is still respected as one of the great fast bowlers in the world despite he was taken to the cleaners by Yuvraj Singh in the 2007 T20 world cup. Sport is a great leveller, and it always gives a second chance for a player to come good.

Ranganathan Sivakumar | Chennai

SACHIN ON PILOT'S FLIGHT ROUTE?

Sir — Now that Sachin (the pure) Pilot is set on steering the Rajasthan Congress aircraft to his own chosen course against instructions of central control, it is like-

Ambedkar's views on religion



Dr BR Ambedkar had asserted "I tell you, religion is for man and not man for religion". Perhaps his words have turned "antique" and so immediately require to be junked! Currently, man is for religious shrines, epic and mythological figures, mythical unseen rivers

urgently in need of "rejuvenation", "holy" animals and "sacred" books! Today, religion is not for married couples even, rather matrimonial bonds are for religion; with divine love getting interpreted as "jihad" of sorts!

So by ignoring all "stories" revolving around poverty-malnutrition-hunger-illiteracy-child labour-human trafficking-unemployment, let's invest all our energy, time and resource to commemorate epic figures monopolised by the "religious" brigade and revolve our precious lives around myths, rituals and "sanctity" of animals! Grand temples and glittering corridors should be our "national pride"; never mind if billions of fellow citizens remain deprived of minimum dignity and rights entitled to human beings!

Kajal Chatterjee | Kolkata

ly that he has laid his hands on the same route map taken earlier by Jyotiraditya Scindia. And his landing destination may well be the same. In which case, it befits Pilot to be left to handle Civil Aviation and for Scindia to take over the Shipping portfolio. After all, he is from the lineage of the Maharaja of Gwalior who set up the Scindia Shipping way back in 1914. The BJP is decidedly generous in disbursing landing rights to carriers flying colours other than their own.

R Narayanan | Mumbai

CROREPATI, TAINTED LEADERS AS CM

Sir — The citizen is not at all surprised to read that 29 of the current 30 Chief Ministers are crorepatas, or 13 (43 per cent) have declared serious criminal cases against them. Based upon the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) report, it was revealed that money power and muscle power have a large bearing on the outcome of the election results. If not, then how Andhra Pradesh CM YS Jagan Mohan Reddy is the richest CM in the country with ₹510 crore assets, whereas he with 38 cases, including 35 serious offences (non-bailable offences with over five years of

imprisonment), stood third among the CMs with the highest number of cases booked against him? Telangana CM K Chandrashekar Rao faces the highest number of criminal cases (64), including 37 serious offences and financial liability.

Actually, being a crorepati is not a huge thing as you talk about total money, I'm sure West Bengal's Mamata Banerjee is the only CM (who is not a crorepati) would move close to other crorepati CMs. Interestingly, we are talking about the current 30 CMs, but what about all the Ministers who are not in power or who have already made the loot and are now sitting silently? Unfortunately, our law is so blind that in the defamation case a lawmaker, if found guilty, not only lost his seat but also won't contest an election for the next eight years. But politicians with huge money and muscle power rule the country freely. Truly, 'Mera Naya Bharat Mahan'!

Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee | Faridabad

Tailored corporate courses in demand

A growing number of companies are now opting for flexible training courses that allow executives to attend sessions as per their comfort



YAJULU MEDURY

Continuous learning is essential in the business world to keep up with the constantly changing landscape. Executive education programs provide tailored courses to meet the specific needs of professionals and organisations. The demand for such courses is global and not limited to specific industries or regions.

Upskilling employees to adapt to new technologies and building leadership and management skills to tackle organisational changes are some examples of the specific challenges that executives face. A skills-based approach can make an organisation achieve greater diversity, equity, and inclusivity (DEI) advantages. Providing the right opportunities and enabling employees to learn skills that the company finds necessary for its future growth can help employees grow individually and the organisation collectively.

Flexible training courses that allow learners to attend sessions as per their comfort, and choose offline, on-campus, or online learning options are being preferred by



corporates. As an executive, every individual and their organisation needs to focus on upskilling and reskilling. Deeper analytical insights can also be provided by executive learning programs apart from the skills that are in demand.

With digital automation making existing technologies go obsolete rapidly, upskilling or reskilling can also be instrumental in ensuring that a person remains relevant and effective in the current role, even in the future. As per a global study by Deloitte, about 86% of organisations are aware of this need, but just 10% find themselves ready to address them.

The need for executive education programs is growing as businesses face rapid changes in technology and the global market. Executives need to continually upgrade

their skills and knowledge to keep up with the demands of their industry. Organisations are looking for courses that are not only relevant to their industry but also address the specific challenges they are facing, such as upskilling employees to adapt to new technologies or building leadership and management skills to tackle organisational changes. With digital automation making existing technologies obsolete rapidly, upskilling or reskilling can also be instrumental in ensuring that a person remains relevant and effective in their current and future roles.

To stay ahead of the curve, businesses need to identify the right skill sets that will keep their workforce proficient and in sync with evolving technologies such as AI automation and SaaS-driven activities. Flexible training courses that allow learners to attend sessions as per their comfort, and choose offline, on-campus, or online learning options are being preferred by corporates.

Executives themselves feel the need to retain their competitive edge and acquire skills that will help them take

up new and more complex leadership roles in the times ahead. By joining learning and development programs aimed at specific areas, employees can acquire skills that make them leaders in their areas of expertise and achieve better growth in terms of corporate hierarchy and remuneration. To achieve greater diversity, equity and inclusivity advantages, organisations should focus on providing opportunities for employees to learn skills that the company finds necessary for its future growth. Executive learning programs can provide deeper analytical insights apart from the skills that are in demand.

In conclusion, executive education is necessary to keep up with the ever-changing business landscape. Organisations must identify the right skill sets and provide flexible training courses to keep their workforce proficient and in sync with evolving technologies. Executives themselves need to focus on upskilling and reskilling to retain their competitive edge.

(The writer is Vice Chancellor, Mahindra University)

FIRST COLUMN

MANAGING EMPLOYEE EXPERIENCE IS THE KEY

Companies must invest in staff, listen to feedback and prioritise work-life balance



KARAN JAIN

The success or failure of a business ultimately hinges on the productivity and work quality of its workforce. The workforce is truly the foundation of every corporate and industry, and understanding their experiences within an organization is crucial. This is where employee experience comes into play, as it enables organisations to gain valuable insights into the needs and sentiments of their people.

The unprecedented changes the world of work has gone through have severely impacted and shaped how employees act and what they expect. The workforce is fluid and diverse which makes each of them have a different 'want'. There exists a common underlying tone to their expectations making work-life balance, employee engagement and productivity vital elements for HR to decide what kind of experience they are gaining.

If it becomes complex and opaque, employee experience management (EXM) could become the key to improving the overall situation.

Build better understanding for the employees: The pillar of EXM is based on how much HRs or CXOs understand their people or teams. Build a workspace where your employees feel much appreciated and assured.

Bring dynamic leaders: Dynamic leaders know the way, go the way, and show the way to their people — a famous quote by author John C Maxwell. Without good leaders, it is more challenging to establish a great company culture and a more positive working atmosphere.

Create more learning opportunities: A workplace should be a place for learning and development for the employees. Offer your employees more learning, skilling, and reskilling opportunities. These opportunities give more confidence to your employees to take on new challenges, improve their skill set, and get career maturity within an organisation.



Continuous feedback and evaluation: Employee experience management is an ongoing process. The HR department should continuously identify the issues and improve them regularly to ensure employee satisfaction and a transparent workplace setting.

Offer smooth onboarding: Onboarding is a vital period for both; new employees and HR. Offer an optimised and smooth onboarding to new hires by providing information regarding their job and tasks, the right tools and software, and a lot of training and guidance to avoid frustration.

Accept inclusion and diversity: If an organisation has a diverse workforce, its culture, policies and hiring practices must support diversity and inclusion. Ignoring these critical components could lead to stereotyping, disrespect among employees, and stress.

Priority to work-life balance: Employees have realised the essentiality of work-life balance. An organisation must necessitate changes in their office programs and policy to offer flexible workspace, remote work options, more breaking hours, and prioritise employees' mental and physical health.

Notice the departing employees: Employees leave organisations regardless of what kind of employee experience they get. It is necessary to know what motivates them to quit.

Recognise and reward performers: Reward and recognition are salient components of employee experience. It is a good way to motivate other employees by gratifying the performers with gifts or rewards. It imbues gratitude and inspiration.

Get rid of micromanagement: The less micromanagement, the more employee experience. Employees don't feel very comfortable with nagging from seniors or management. Micromanagement spreads a feeling of insecurity among the workforce.

Focus on employee retention: An organisation should keep high-performers and talented workers for success and avoid frequent turnovers. To make employees stay, compensate them fairly, focus on engaging them.

Organisations can start investing in their employees, listening to their feedback, bridging the gap between leaders and team members, and prioritising work-life balance.

(The writer is founder, HROne)

Importance of being Dr BR Ambedkar



BANDARU DATTATRAYA

Our true homage on his jayanti would be to resolve to end poverty and ensure justice and equality for all by sharing national opportunities and facilities

For centuries, we as a nation struggled to cope with untouchability and caste-based discrimination. Such inhuman practices demeaned a vast section of Hindus, who were categorized as untouchables. From time to time, great souls tried to salvage us from the repercussions of various social evils. Some of them were Sant Shiromani Ravidas, Sant Chokhama, Sant Kabir Das, Swami Dayanand Saraswati, Swami Ram Krishna Paramhans and Sant Tukaram to name a few.

At the fag-end of the 19th century, a boy full of promises was enjoying his classroom teaching the school. One day he was made to sit at the back of the classroom when it was found that he was untouchable. Once he was travelling to his maternal uncle's village along with his brother and cousin. The cart man dropped them midway when he came to know that they were untouchables. One day the boy was going somewhere. In between, he stopped to drink water from a public tap. He was beaten as untouchables were not allowed to use the facility.

The boy was none other than Dr Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar, popularly known as Babasaheb Ambedkar, born to Ramji Maloji Sakpal, father, and Bhimabai Murbadkar Sakpal, mother, on April 14, 1891, in Mhow Army Cantonment. He was the 14th child of his parents. His tryst with social evils as worse as untouchability, caste-based persecution and discrimination during his childhood left an indelible mark on his life and thought process.

His own experience from the incidents in his life made him realize how deeply casteism, untouchability, insults and humiliation were rooted in Hindu society. Even the cruelty of fate did not spare him. He lost his mother when he was just six years old. Notwithstanding the trauma of discrimination and discrimination, he did not give up and continued his struggle and studies against all odds. It was an incredible example of exemplary grit, determination and a never-say-die spirit.

Dr Ambedkar did his matriculation in 1908 from Elphinstone High School. His father gave him good sanskrit and used to share stories and thoughts of great saints like Tukaram, Gyaneshwar, teachings of the Ramayana and the Mahabharata. He studied Economics and Political Science at Elphinstone College. In 1912, he got a degree from Bombay University. With a scholarship from Maharaja of Baroda, he went to Columbia University, New York City where he got a Master's degree in June 1915 after successfully completing his thesis on 'Ancient Indian Commerce'.

In 1916, he went to the London School of Economics and worked on his doctoral thesis - "The problem of the Rupee: Its Origin and its solution". He took Rs 5000 as a loan from Chhatrapati Shahu ji Maharaj for his further studies. In 1920, received the D Sc from London University! He also went to the University of Bonn, Germany. In June 1927, he was awarded a Doctorate by the University of Columbia. He was a rare Indian politician of his time who studied at Columbia University, LSE and the University of Bonn.

Dr Ambedkar was worried about the fate of poor people, and untouchables. Dr Ambedkar wanted them to be independent. He established the Depressed Classes Society under the presidency of Baroda Maharaj. In 1920, he started The Mooknayak, a Marathi publication that enabled him to criticize the rigid Hindu



DR AMBEDKAR WAS WORRIED ABOUT THE FATE OF POOR PEOPLE AND UNTOUCHABLES. HE WANTED THEM TO BE INDEPENDENT

(The writer is the Governor of Haryana. The views expressed are personal)



beliefs and Bahishkrit Bharat, also a Marathi magazine in 1927, to highlight the issues and aspirations of depressed sections of society. He was so passionate about eradicating the practice of caste discrimination in India that led him to establish Bahishkrit Hitakarni Sabha. In 1936, he founded the Independent Labour Party. He contested the 1937 Bombay election to the Central Legislative Assembly for 13 reserved and four general seats and won 11 reserved and three seats respectively. For him, democratic values were of paramount importance!

After completing his studies and defying all hardships, Dr Ambedkar dedicated his life to the cause of the downtrodden, their emancipation and empowerment. Hence, the struggle became an integral part of his life. In 1927, Dr Ambedkar led a peaceful agitation by drinking water from Chowdar tank in Mahad, Raigad district in Maharashtra along with thousands of his followers when untouchables were not allowed to access water from the tank despite a 192 resolution moved by CK Bole and adopted by the Bombay government, allowing all untouchables to use public watering places, wells and Dharamshala, which were maintained through public funds.

Dr Ambedkar led a movement on March 3, 1930, to secure the entry of all Hindus to Kalam temple in Nasik. He was in favour of a complete overhauling of Hindu

society and Hindu theology and securing equal rights for all Hindus. He was a votary of inclusivity, Casteism and untouchability go against the spirit of Hinduism, the Vedas. Its essence lies in quality, justice, fraternity and brotherhood. He was surprised that Hinduism is so accommodating and yet treats a vast chunk of Hindus as untouchables, even worse than animals. This was his pain.

He was not inimical to Hindutva. He had resentment against Hinduism but he was not opposed to Hinduism. His acceptance of Buddhism on October 14, 1956, is a case in point as Buddhism is very much rooted in Bharatiya culture. He did not embrace any other religion though Islamic and Christian scholars tried their best to influence him. It is said that when Dr Ambedkar met Mahatma Gandhi during the second Round Table Conference, he told him that he could not accept a religion that treats humans as cats and dogs, and he will embrace a religion that is less harmful to Hinduism.

The versatility of Dr Ambedkar's personality was matchless. His ability to listen to his critics was simply brilliant. Notwithstanding his differences with Veer Savarkar and Mahatma Gandhi on a number of issues, they were unanimous in their views of achieving the goal of social equality and freeing society from abominable evils such as untouchable. Dr Ambedkar did never sup-

port armed struggle but always favoured unity among oppressed social groups to get their socio-political and economic rights. He wanted downtrodden and oppressed sections of society to stay united and acquire knowledge and education so that they are not oppressed.

As the architect of our Constitution, Dr Ambedkar has given us the mantra and roadmap to build a stronger, healthier and more inclusive society. His commitment to the cause of social equality and social justice is a guiding force for all those who are part of public life. He is not only the leader for the oppressed and depressed. He is the leader of 135 crore people in our country - India. He was a true nationalist leader, a true patriot. He has achieved an eternal place in people's hearts. His contributions cannot be estimated but can only be felt and lived by all.

Our true homage to Dr BR Ambedkar on his Jayanti would be to resolve to end poverty and ensure justice and equality for all by sharing national opportunities and facilities. We have rejected untouchability but still, a lot needs to be done to end social disparities in totality. Those who are deprived have to be holistically empowered. By rising above the petty considerations of caste, creed, region and religion, we have to make India Vishwa Guru. Let noble thoughts come from all sides, and let us spread them across the globe in Amrit Kaal!

The top MedTech trends to watch out for in 2023

Increased demand for treatment facilitated by technology is driving the innovation in the MedTech industry as it would improve access to health equity

The combination of rapid advances in revolutionary healthcare technology and increased demand for treatment has continued to spur innovation in the MedTech industry.

Many leading healthcare experts predict 2023 to be a pivotal year for the Medtech industry, as the rapid adoption of virtual care and demographic fads, such as an ageing population, rising chronic diseases, and health worker shortages, sustain demand for MedTech-enabled solutions.

Recent research indicates that the market for medical technologies is valued at around \$19.65 billion. The market is anticipated to reach \$22.84 billion by 2027, with a CAGR of 3.83 per cent. Innovators and regulators



CHANDRA GANJOO

in life sciences and healthcare are also looking to MedTech to improve access to care and health equity. From Robotics to Next-Gen Sequencing, let's delve into the list of MedTech trends offering new chances in this dynamic business. The field is rapidly advancing, and new trends and innovations are emerging each year. Here are some of the top MedTech trends to expect in 2023:

Telemedicine: Telemedicine, or remote medical consultations, is becoming increasingly popular due to the comfort and accessibility it offers. With telemedicine, patients can acquire medical care from the convenience of their own homes. In 2023, telemedicine is expected to become more prevalent as tech improves

and more healthcare providers adopt this mode of care.

Artificial Intelligence (AI): AI is transforming the healthcare industry in numerous ways. It is used to analyse patient data, diagnose and develop personalised treatment plans. In 2023, we can expect AI to become even more advanced, and it will likely play a bigger role in healthcare decision-making. AI will also be used to develop new drugs and therapies.

Next-Gen Sequencing (NGS) technology: It is a rapidly evolving field that has revolutionised the way genetic information is analysed. In 2023, the trend in NGS is expected to continue to advance with an emphasis on improving sequencing speed, accuracy, and cost-effectiveness.

The use of NGS in precision medicine is expected to grow as the technology provides a way to analyse large amounts of genetic information quickly and accurately to inform the development of targeted treatments for individual patients. Additionally, the integration of NGS with other technologies, such as CRISPR-Cas9, will continue to expand the possibilities for genetic research and biotechnology.

Newborn Screening (NBS): It is a diagnostic test performed in newborns or infants who are tested for certain genetic or metabolic disorders shortly after birth. In 2023, the trend in newborn screening is expected to continue to focus on improving these tests' accuracy, speed, and cost-effectiveness. This

will likely involve implementing new, more advanced screening technologies to develop new, more comprehensive screening panels. Additionally, there may be a growing emphasis on incorporating genomic information into newborn screening to enable earlier detection and diagnosis of genetic disorders.

Another trend in newborn screening is the increasing use of digital technologies, such as electronic health records (EHRs) and telemedicine, to improve the efficiency and accessibility of screening services. This will likely involve the integration of screening results into EHRs and telemedicine to provide remote consultations and follow-up care to families and infants. Overall, these trends

aim to ensure that all newborns have access to high-quality, effective, and timely screening services to detect and treat genetic and metabolic disorders as early as possible.

Surgical robots: Investments in robotic surgical firms have been one of the primary drivers of the increase in venture capital funding for medical technology. In addition, many experts assert that the employment of robotic technology during COVID-19 is particularly advantageous because it helps reduce human-to-human physical contact.

As MedTech evolves, the industry will face both obstacles and possibilities. Better patient care solutions that can enhance outcomes and lower

costs will face fewer impediments to implementation. Consequently, this will create further chances to deliver value to healthcare services worldwide and challenge the status quo for inpatient and outpatient care standards.

Providing a more promising future for healthcare: Trivitron Healthcare, a leading global MedTech organisation, is establishing sustainable goals and has created numerous advancements in Medical Imaging, In-vitro Diagnostics, Next Generation Sequencing, Newborn Screening, Critical Care, and Radiation Protection. Following the mission to deliver efficient and advanced care, Trivitron positively influences people's lives through collaboration, advancement, and innovation.

Japan to counter China with like-minded countries

PTI ■ BEIJING

Japan has unveiled a new plan to provide "like-minded" countries especially in Asia with military aid as it looks to expand its influence in the Indo-Pacific region to counter China's aggressive push over Taiwan and the South China Sea issues.

The guidelines announced by Tokyo early this month included a new programme to strengthen the militaries of like-minded countries by providing "official security assistance" - a move that breaks with its previous policy of avoiding the use of development aid for military purposes other than disaster relief, the Japan Times reported.

Japanese Foreign Ministry officials said the Philippines will be one of the first beneficiaries of Overseas Security Assistance (OSA), with Malaysia, Bangladesh and Fiji also among those being considered, the report said.

Japan, a member of the

Quad alliance consisting of the US, India and Australia, is actively pursuing the Indo-Pacific strategy which China claims aimed at countering its rise.

Tokyo's decision to use international aid for military purposes is a "paradigm shift" but won't lead to an arms race in Asia, the Hong Kong-based South China Morning Post reported on Thursday.

The move will not only build up the defence capabilities of Asian nations amid changing security dynamics, but boost the competitiveness of Japan's defence sector, it said.

Japan's new policy of defence aid to neighbours was announced after this month's visit of Japanese Foreign Minister Yoshimasa Hayashi to China.

In his talks with Hayashi on April 2, Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang said Japan should not "help a villain do evil", apparently referring to Tokyo's close ties with

China rolls out new wartime military recruitment rules

Beijing (PTI): China has released a new set of revised rules for military recruitment in wartime, including giving priority to the veterans, drafting high-calibre soldiers and optimising conscription procedures, which an analyst described as combat readiness for a war over Taiwan.

A set of revised rules regarding military recruitment has been released by the State Council and the Central Military Commission (CMC) - the high command of the Chinese military headed by President Xi Jinping - aiming to provide institutional guarantees for consolidating national defence and building strong armed forces, state-run Xinhua news agency reported on Wednesday. The new regulations, with 74 articles in 11 chapters, focuses on recruiting more high-calibre soldiers, standardising and optimising conscription procedures, and improving the system's efficiency, it said in a brief report. The new rules will come into effect next month.

The regulations said recruitment should "focus on preparing for war" and increase efficiency by calling up "high calibre" recruits, the Hong Kong-based South China Morning Post newspaper reported. For the first time, a separate chapter on wartime recruitment has been included in the regulations, which state that ex-servicemen would be prioritised and expected to join their original units or similar positions.

Washington.

This was the first visit by the Japanese Foreign Minister to China since 2019.

China and Japan have a long-festering dispute over uninhabited East China Sea islands controlled by Japan but claimed by China.

The islands are known as the Senkakus by Japan, while China named them as Diaoyu.

Taiwan also claims the islands but has forged agreements with Japan to avoid any conflict as Tokyo maintains close defence ties with Taipei.

The purpose of Tokyo's new initiative is to "contribute to the creation of a desirable security environment for Japan," while maintaining Japan's "basic principles as a peaceful nation," according to the Japanese ministry statement.

The OSA is being presented as an expansion of Japan's official development assistance (ODA) - one of the world's largest foreign aid programs - to cover projects "for the benefit of

armed forces and other related organisations," the Japan Times report said.

The new framework was revealed as Tokyo moves away from a strict non-military approach to ties with its neighbours and looks to realise its vision of a Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP), it said.

According to its fiscal 2023 budget, the Japanese government has set aside two billion Japanese Yen (USD15 million) for OSA. Funding will be separate from the Yen 570.9 billion in economic and social development assistance that Tokyo provides to developing countries.

While this year's modest OSA budget appears largely symbolic, especially compared with the ODA funds, experts say the decision to launch the program is significant, as it marks another step in Japan's march toward a more robust and proactive defence posture that could ultimately allow it more leeway in defence transfers, Japan Times report said.

China's exports see unexpected growth in March

Beijing (AP): China's exports rebounded unexpectedly to growth in March despite a decline in US and European demand following interest rate hikes to cool inflation.

Exports rose 14.8 per cent over a year earlier to USD 315.6 billion, recovering from a 6.8 per cent decline in January and February, customs data showed Thursday. Imports sank 1.4 per cent to USD 227.4 billion, a smaller contraction than the 10.2 per cent slide in the previous two months.

China's politically sensitive global trade surplus widened by 82 per cent over a year earlier to USD 88.2 billion. Exports to the United States and the 27-nation European Union, China's biggest foreign markets, declined after the Federal Reserve and other central banks raised rates to slow consumer and business activity.

That was offset by double-digit gains in sales to Canada, Indonesia, Russia and other markets. "The current external environment still is severe and complex," said a government spokesperson, Liu Daliang, at a news conference.

Trade weakness adds to complications for President Xi Jinping's government, which is trying to revive economic growth that sank last year to 3 per cent, the second-weakest since the 1970s. The ruling Communist Party set this year's growth target at "around 5 per cent." In the first three months of the year, exports edged up 0.5 per cent over the same period of 2022 to USD 821.8 billion, the General Administration of Customs of China reported. Total imports contracted 7.1 per cent to USD 617.1 billion. A revival in Chinese demand would be a boost to global suppliers, replacing weak US, European and Japanese sales. China is the

biggest export customer for its Asian neighbors and a key consumer market.

Retail sales and other activity are gradually improving after anti-virus restrictions that kept millions of people at home and temporarily shut down Shanghai and other industrial centers were lifted in December.

The economy also is under pressure from tighter controls on the use of debt in China's vast real estate industry, which triggered a slump in mid-2021.

Exports to the United States slid 7.7 per cent in March from a year earlier to USD 45.9 billion, an improvement over the 21.8 per cent contraction in January and February.

Imports of US goods gained 5.6 per cent to USD 16.1 billion, rebounding from a 5 per cent decline in the first two months of the year. The Chinese trade surplus with the United States shrank by 14 per cent compared with a year earlier to USD 27.6 billion.

Imports from Russia, mostly oil and gas, surged 40.5 per cent over a year ago to USD 11 billion, accelerating from a 31.3 per cent increase in January and February.

China, the biggest global energy consumer, has stepped up purchases from Russia to take advantage of price discounts after Washington, Europe and Japan cut imports to punish President Vladimir Putin's government for its attack on Ukraine. China can buy Russian oil and gas without triggering Western sanctions. That helps to buoy the Kremlin's foreign revenue, but President Joe Biden has warned Beijing against helping Moscow's military. Exports to Russia more than doubled to USD 9 billion. China's trade deficit with Russia narrowed by 50 per cent to USD 2 billion.

NY fraud lawsuit: Trump set to give 2nd deposition

New York (AP): Former President Donald Trump was expected to visit the offices of New York's attorney general Thursday for his second deposition in a legal battle over his company's business practices.

The Republican was scheduled to meet with lawyers for Attorney General Letitia James, who sued Trump last year. Her lawsuit claims Trump and his family misled banks and business associates by giving them false information about his net worth and the value of assets such as hotels and golf courses. The lawsuit is unrelated to the felony criminal charges filed against Trump by the Manhattan district attorney, which led last week to his historic arraignment, the first for a former president.

Trump and his lawyers have said the Democrat's lawsuit against him is politically motivated and legally baseless. He and the company have denied doing anything wrong. James declined to answer a question about the planned

deposition at a news conference on an unrelated matter Wednesday.

Trump previously met with James' lawyers Aug. 10, but refused to answer all but a few procedural questions, invoking his Fifth Amendment protection against self-incrimination more than 400 times.

"Anyone in my position not taking the Fifth Amendment would be a fool, an absolute fool," he said in the session, which was recorded on video and later released publicly. Trump predicted a "renegade" prosecutor would try to make a criminal case out of his answers, if he gave them. "One statement or answer that is ever so slightly off, just ever so slightly, by accident, by mistake, such as it was a sunny, beautiful day, when actually it was slightly overcast, would be met by law enforcement at a level seldom seen in this country, because I've experienced it," he said. A trial for the lawsuit is scheduled for October.

North Korea fires missile that may have been new type of weapon

Seoul (South Korea): North Korea on Thursday conducted its first intercontinental ballistic missile launch in a month, possibly testing a new more mobile, harder-to-detect missile for the first time, its neighbors said, as it extends its provocative run of weapons tests.

Japan briefly urged residents on a northern island to take shelter in an indication of its vigilance over North Korea's evolving missile threats.

The missile was launched on a high angle from near the North Korean capital of Pyongyang and fell in the waters between the Korean Peninsula and Japan following a 1,000-kilometre (620-mile) flight, South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said in a statement.

It described its range as medium or longer. The US National Security Council



A TV screen is seen reporting North Korea's missile launch with file footage during a news program at the Seoul Railway Station in Seoul, South Korea, on Thursday.

called it a long-range missile and Japan's government said it likely had an intercontinental range. South Korea's military believes North Korea launched a new type of ballistic missile, possibly using solid fuel, a defense official said under the condition of anonymity because of office rules.

If the launch involved a solid-fuel ICBM, it would be the North's first test of such a weapon. North Korea's known

ICBMs all use liquid propellants that must be fuelled before launches.

But the fuel in a solid-propellant weapon is already loaded, allowing it to be moved easier and fired faster.

A solid-fuel ICBM is one of the key high-tech weapons that North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has vowed to build to better cope with what he calls US military threats.

He also wants a multiwarhead missile, a nuclear-powered submarine, a hypersonic missile and a spy satellite. Kim Dongyub, a professor at the University of North Korean Studies in Seoul, said the launch may have involved a new intermediate- or long-range missile powered by solid propellants, or be linked to North Korean preparation to launch a spy satellite. AP

Syria, Saudi move toward restoring embassies, flights

AP ■ BEIRUT

Syria and Saudi Arabia are moving toward reopening embassies and resuming flights between the two countries for the first time in more than a decade, the countries said on Thursday in a joint statement. The announcement followed a visit by Syria's top diplomat to the kingdom, the first since Saudi Arabia cut off diplomatic relations with Syria in 2012.

Syria was widely shunned by Arab governments over Syrian President Bashar Assad's brutal crackdown on protesters, and later civilians, in an uprising turned civil war that began in 2011.

The breakdown in relations culminated with Syria being ousted from the Arab League. However, in recent years, as Assad has consolidated control over most of the



country, Syria's neighbors have begun to take steps toward rapprochement.

The overtures have picked up pace since the massive February 6 earthquake in Turkey and Syria, and the Chinese-brokered reestablishment of ties between Saudi Arabia and Iran, regional rivals that had backed opposing sides in the Syrian conflict.

A delegation headed by Syrian Foreign Minister Faisal Mikdad, at the invitation of Saudi Foreign Minister Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud arrived in Saudi Arabia on Wednesday for talks about bilateral relations between the two countries, state media from the two countries reported.

Biden to stress shared ties in address to Irish Parl

AP ■ DUBLIN

After spending most of a day on a whirlwind countryside tour of his ancestry, President Joe Biden is turning back to diplomacy on Thursday, with an address to the Irish parliament and meetings with the country's leaders, with Ukraine high on the agenda.

On his first stop of the day, Biden will meet with President Michael D. Higgins at the president's Dublin residence and will ring the Peace Bell, unveiled in 2008 to mark the 10th anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement, which ended decades of violence in Northern Ireland.

Biden also will participate in a tree planting ceremony, with his Irish oak close to the one planted by then-President Barack Obama.

Biden will also meet with Taoiseach Leo Varadkar,

Ireland's prime minister, before a speech to parliament in which "he'll be reflecting on the long, close and shared history between the United States and Ireland," said Amanda Sloat, the National Security Council's senior Europe director.

In the meetings with leaders, Ireland's continued support of the US-led effort to help Ukraine in the war against Russia will be a focal point, particularly on humanitarian and security assistance. Biden arrived in the Republic of Ireland after an appearance Wednesday in Northern Ireland. Crowds lined five-deep and waited for eight hours to catch a glimpse of Biden in the towns of Carlingford and Dundalk, where the Democratic president toured a castle, gazing out over the sea where his ancestors sailed, and gave an address in a local pub. Along the streets of

Dundalk, photos of the president and huge welcome signs were plastered along shop fronts.

Children hung out of windows to wave at the president and display the US flag.

From inside a packed old pub with a sticky wooden floor, Biden acknowledged that his ancestors emigrated to the United States to escape famine, but he added, "When you're here, you wonder why anyone would ever want to leave."

And he jokingly delivered bad news, saying: "We'll be back. There's no way to keep us out." Biden's mother's family comes from County Louth, and the president was elated by the dive into his Irish heritage, which he often cites as a driving force in his public and private life. According to the Irish Family History Centre, Biden "is among the most Irish" of all US Presidents.

GOVERNMENT OF GOA
Medical Store Depot (MSD),
Directorate of Health Services, Campal,
Panaji, Goa 403 001
 Email: msdhs.goa@yahoo.in Ph. Nos. 2225646/5540/5668
NO. 96/DHS/MSD/PT/2023-24/40 dated.12/04/2023
E-tendering mode only
 E-tenders are invited on behalf of the Governor of Goa for purchase of **laboratory reagents/chemicals/consumables kits/drugs and surgicals** for Directorate of Health Services, Campal, Panaji Goa.
 The Tender Notice with Terms and Conditions are available online on the website: <https://eprocure.gov.in>
 The last date for uploading the tender documents is 10/05/2023 upto 5.00 p.m. and the Tenders (Technical Bids) will be opened on 12/05/2023 at 10.30 a.m.
 The right to reject any tender is reserved.
 Sd/-
Dr. Rupa Naik
Dy. Director (Public Health)/
Di/Adv/2022-23/88/210
 I/c MSD

THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION LTD.
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 /w Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) that the below described immovable property, mortgaged with THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION LTD., the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION LTD., will be sold by way of an E-Auction, on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" basis, on 8th May 2023

The said E-Auction is for the recovery of 19,78,786.23 due as on 10-Apr-23 to THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION LTD. from Gaurav Panwar & Sakshi Gandas.

| Name of the Borrowers. | Description of Property with Sq. Ft. | Reserve Price | EMD (10% of Reserve Price) |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Gaurav Panwar and Sakshi Gandas | Apartment K-801, admeasuring about 1226 Square Feet Super area alongwith open parking No. 241 in Umang Monsoon Breeze (Earlier Known as Canary Residency), Sector 78 Gurgaon, Haryana | 42,66,480/- (Forty Two Lakh Sixty Six Thousand Four Hundred Eighty only) | 426648/- (Four Lakh Twenty Six Thousand Six Three Hundred Forty Eight Only) EMD Date & time: 2nd May 2023 before 4 pm Account Detail: A/C Number 010 909968 042 Beneficiary Name - E-Auction EMD Suspense account number IFSC Code: HSBC0400002 |
| Inspection Date & time | Inspection Date & time: 25th Apr 2023 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM | | |

Notice is hereby given that the said property shall be sold by e-auction and bidding shall take place through "Online Electronic Bidding" through the website <https://www.bankauctions.com> (E Auction house website) on **8th May 2023**. The detailed terms and conditions of sale are available on the E Auction house website (www.bankauctions.com) / HSBC website (www.hsbc.co.in)

The property will be sold on an "As is where is" "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" condition. The e-Auction advertisement does not constitute and will not be deemed to constitute any commitment or any representation of the Bank. The intending bidders are required to do their own due diligence. The Authorized Officer has the absolute right to accept or reject any bid or adjourn/postpone the sale without assigning any reason thereof.

For any details, support, help regarding the procedure of online bidding by way of the-auction, prospective bidders may contact: **Mr. Vinod Chauhan, Mobile No. 9813887931, Email Id :delhi@c1india.com**

Date: 14th April 2023
 Place: Delhi
 Authorised Officer

US Prez to expand migrant access to health plans

Washington: President Joe Biden is set to announce that his administration is expanding eligibility for Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act's health insurance exchanges to hundreds of thousands of immigrants brought to the US illegally as children, according to two US officials briefed on the matter.

The action will allow participants in the Obama-era Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, or DACA, to access government-funded health insurance programs. The officials spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss the matter before the formal announcement on Thursday.

The 2012 DACA initiative was meant to shield from deportation immigrants brought to the US illegally by their parents as young children and to allow them to work legally in the country. However, the immigrants were still ineligible for government-subsidised health insurance programs because they did not meet the definition for having "lawful presence" in the US. That's what Biden's Department of Health and Human Services will aim to change by the end of the month.

The White House action comes as the DACA program is in legal peril and the number of people eligible under the program is shrinking.

An estimated 580,000 people were still enrolled in DACA at the end of last year, according to US Citizenship and Immigration Services. That number is down from previous years. Court orders currently prevent the US Department of Homeland Security from processing new applications. The DACA program has been mired in legal challenges for years, while Congress has been unable to reach consensus on broader immigration reforms. DACA recipients can work legally and pay taxes, but they don't have legal status and are denied many benefits available to US citizens and foreigners living in the US. In recent years, millions of people in the US signed up for Medicaid, the program that provides health care coverage for the poorest Americans, during the COVID-19 pandemic. AP

Oxford Univ, SII tie-up delivers 'high efficacy' malaria vaccine

London (PTI): A University of Oxford developed and Serum Institute of India (SII) manufactured and scaled up "high efficacy" malaria vaccine has been licensed for use in Ghana by Africa's Food and Drugs Authority, the university announced here on Thursday.

The R21/Matrix-M vaccine, leveraging Novavax's adjuvant technology, has been approved for use in children aged 5 to 36 months - the age group at the highest risk of death from malaria. It marks the first regulatory clearance for the R21/Matrix-M malaria vaccine for use in any country. "This marks a culmination of 30 years of malaria vaccine research at Oxford with the design and provision of a high efficacy vaccine that can be supplied at adequate scale to the countries who need it most," said Professor Adrian Hill, Chief investigator of the programme and Director of the Oxford University's Jenner Institute at the Nuffield Department of Medicine.

Norway expels 15 Russian diplomats for 'spying'

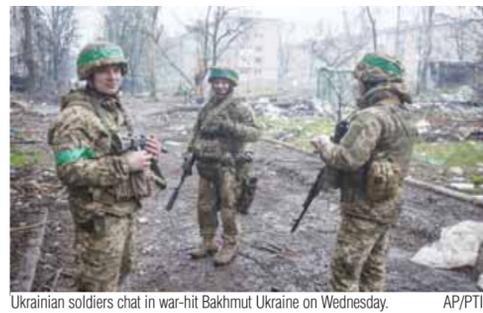
AP ■ COPENHAGEN
 Norway's government said Thursday that it was expelling 15 Russian diplomats from the country, saying they were suspected of spying while working at the Russian Embassy in Oslo. Foreign Minister Anniken Huitfeldt said the move was "an important measure to counter and reduce the scope of Russian intelligence activities in Norway, and thereby secure our national interests."
 The Russians declared personal non grata "short leave" Norway within a "short time," Huitfeldt said, adding: "We will not grant visas to intelligence officers who apply for a visa to Norway."
 The minister declined to say whether the government was acting in response to a specific incident, referring questions to

Norway's domestic security agency PST for details. The government said the activities of the expelled diplomats were "incompatible with their diplomatic status."
 "We are not talking about regular diplomats, but intelligence officers under diplomatic cover. Their activities are a threat to Norwegian interests," Huitfeldt said.
 The Russian Foreign Ministry said Moscow would respond in kind to Norway's action, Russia's Tass and RIA Novosti news agencies reported. Huitfeldt reacted during an afternoon news conference, saying: "Russia has no reason to respond. We have Norwegian diplomats stationed in Russia, but none of them are undercover intelligence officers." She called Russia "an unpredictable neighbor" and "many European coun-

tries in the past year have expelled hundreds of Russian intelligence officers under diplomatic cover."
 At the same time, she stressed that the government in Oslo wants "normal diplomatic relations with Russia, and that Russian diplomats are welcome in Norway."
 "We do not want people who claim they are diplomats and who are actually are intelligence officers," she said. "We cannot accept that."
 NATO-member Norway has a 198 kilometer-long (123-mile) border with Russia in the Arctic. Norwegian newspaper VG said expulsions would reduce the number of staff members at the Russian missions in Norway - the embassy in Oslo and the consulates in Kirkenes and Barentsburg from about 40 people to about 25.

Ukraine stands firm on Crimea

AP ■ KYIV
 Ukraine's foreign minister said Thursday his country wouldn't budge from its demand that Russia withdraw its forces from Crimea, as well as from other parts of Ukraine that Moscow illegally annexed more recently. Calling the war in Ukraine "a bleeding wound in the middle of Europe," Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba said all his country's territory must be treated equally in dealing with the Kremlin after its full-scale invasion more than 13 months ago.
 "We are united by UN charter principles and the shared conviction that Crimea is Ukraine and it will return under Ukraine's control," said Kuleba, speaking by video link to a gathering in the Romanian capital, Bucharest.
 "Every time you hear anyone from any corner of the world saying that Crimea is somehow special and should not be returned to Ukraine, as



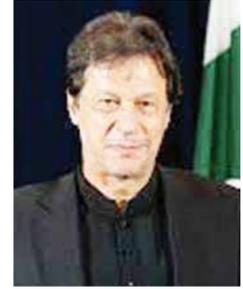
Ukrainian soldiers chat in war-hit Bakhmut Ukraine on Wednesday. AP/PTI

any other part of our territory, you have to know one thing: Ukraine categorically disagrees with these statements," he said at the Black Sea Security Conference.
 The Kremlin wants Kyiv to acknowledge Russia's sovereignty over Crimea and also recognise September's annexation of the Ukrainian provinces of Donetsk, Kherson, Luhansk, and Zaporizhzhia. Ukraine has

rejected those demands and won't hold talks with Russia until Moscow's troops pull back from all occupied territories.
 Though there is no sign of possible peace talks, the two countries have sporadically exchanged prisoners of war and have engaged in a wartime deal for the export of Ukrainian grain and Russian grain and fertilisers.

Imran Khan gets interim bail till May 4 in 3 cases

Lahore (PTI): An anti-terrorism court in Pakistan on Thursday extended interim bail to Imran Khan till May 4 in three cases related to the clashes between his supporters and the police during an operation to arrest the former premier in the Toshakhana corruption case last month. Lahore's Anti-terrorism court (ATC) granted one-time permission to Khan, the chairman of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), to appear for the hearing via video link in the case. Khan had filed petitions for bail in three FIRs registered with the Race Course police station under anti-terror laws.
 Khan, 70, has been repeatedly claiming that his life is under threat because of which he was abstaining from attending court hearings. ATC judge Ejaz Ahmad Bhutta asked Khan's lawyer Salman Safdar what he had done for which he was facing threats to his life. To this, Safdar said those who were behind a gun attack on his client (in last November) could answer this. "If Imran Khan is assassinated Pakistan will descend into chaos like what had happened after the murder of former premier Benazir Bhutto," he said.
 "There are credible reports that Mr Khan can be targeted by snipers on his way to courts and these can be verified from the law enforcement agencies," he said. In November last year, Khan survived an assassination attempt on his life.



After hearing arguments, the judge allowed Khan to mark his attendance in court through a video link and extended his pre-arrest bail till May 4, a court official said.
 The Lahore police had booked Khan and hundreds of his party workers in three terrorism cases during clashes with police last month in an operation to arrest him in the Toshakhana case.
 Khan has been in the crosshairs for buying gifts, including an expensive Graff wristwatch he had received as the premier at a discounted price from the state depository called Toshakhana, and selling them for profit. He was disqualified by the Election Commission of Pakistan in October last year for not sharing details of the sales. The election body later filed a complaint with the district court to punish him, under criminal laws, for selling the gifts he had received as prime minister of the country.

US lawmakers write to USCIS on immigrants impacted by job layoffs

APTI ■ WASHINGTON
 Expressing concern over the large-scale layoffs in the tech industry, a group of lawmakers from Silicon Valley has written to the US immigration agency to ensure that the highly-skilled immigrants on H-1B visas, the most sought-after by Indian IT professionals, can remain in the country even after losing their jobs.
 Thousands of highly skilled foreign-born workers, including Indians, in the US, have lost their jobs due to the series of recent layoffs at companies like Google, Microsoft and Amazon. According to US media reports,

nearly 200,000 IT workers have been laid off since November last year.
 Industry insiders say that between 30 to 40 per cent of them are Indian IT professionals, a significant number of whom are on H-1B and L1 visas.
 In their letter Ur Mendoza Jaddou, the Director of US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), the lawmakers noted that this group of immigrants possess skills that are highly valuable in today's knowledge-based economy and "forcing them to leave the US is harmful to our nation's long-term economic competitiveness."

SC notices to Pakistan government, political parties on Chief Justice bill

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD
 Pakistan's Supreme Court on Thursday heard petitions against the bill curtailing the country's chief justice's power and issued notices to the federal government and political parties, amidst a raging row between the ruling coalition and the judiciary.
 The apex court adjourned the hearing till next week, saying that the date for the proceedings will be announced as per the availability of the judges.
 At the hearing, Chief Justice Umar Ata Bandial said the independence of the judiciary was an important matter but at the same time noted

that he had the utmost respect for parliament, the Dawn newspaper reported.
 An eight-judge bench of the apex court heard the petitions against the Supreme Court (Practice and Procedure) Bill, 2023, which seeks to curtail the Chief Justice of Pakistan's powers to initiate suo motu proceedings and constitute benches on his own.
 Besides Chief Justice Bandial, the larger bench comprises Justice Ijazul Ahsan, Justice Muneeb Akhtar, Justice Mazhar Ali Akbar Naqvi, Justice Muhammad Ali Mazhar, Justice Ayesha Malik, Justice

Hasan Azhar Rizvi and Justice Shahid Waheed.
 During the hearing on Thursday, the court issued notices to the political parties, the federal government, Attorney General for Pakistan (AGP) Mansoor Awan, Pakistan Bar Council (PBC), the Supreme Court Bar Association of Pakistan and other respondents in the case.
 As the hearing commenced, AGP Awan and the petitioner's lawyers Advocate Azhar Siddique and Advocate Imtiaz Rashid Siddiqui were present in the courtroom.
 Advocate Imtiaz said that in the current scenario, the case held a lot of importance.

He stated that ever since the National Assembly was restored in April last year, the political divide and crisis had increased.
 He further argued that the federal government and the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) were not willing to hold elections, thus the court itself had to take notice of the matter and order the ECP to conduct polls.
 "On April 3, the court ordered elections, however, after the court's directives to follow the Constitution, more problems were created.
 The court and judges were criticised personally," he said.

Russia identifies suspect in war blogger's killing

AP ■ KYIV
 Russia's top security agency on Thursday accused a Ukrainian man of involvement in a bombing that killed a well-known Russian military blogger at a St. Petersburg cafe. Vladimir Tatarsky, 40, an ardent supporter of the war in Ukraine who filed regular reports on the fighting from the front lines, was killed on April 2 as he led

a discussion at a riverside cafe in the historic heart of St. Petersburg, Russia's second-largest city. Over 50 people were injured.
 A 26-year-old St. Petersburg resident, Darya Trepova, who was seen in video moments before the blast presenting Tatarsky with a statuette that contained explosives, was quickly arrested.

Sweden shuts down Pak embassy

Islamabad (PTI): Sweden has announced closing its embassy in Pakistan "indefinitely" due to the prevailing "security situation" in the crisis-hit country's capital. The embassy did not elaborate on the nature of the threat, but Pakistan's political situation is getting worse amid growing tension between the government and the Supreme Court. Pakistan's Supreme Court was hearing a petition to annul a bill aiming at curbing the powers of the chief justice to form panels of his choice for dif-

ferent cases. "Due to the current security situation in Islamabad, the Embassy of Sweden is closed for visitors. The Migration Section is not, at the moment, able to handle requests of any kind," a notice on the embassy's website reads. "Also, we cannot send any documents to our consulates, Gerry's, or to your home address. We understand that this will cause inconvenience. However, the safety of our applicants and staff members is of the highest priority," it said.

Public Notice
 My clients Mr. Pramod Kumar Jain S/o Late Shri. Mohan Lal Jain & Smt. Neelam Jain W/O Pramod Kumar Jain both R/o A-205, Jyoti Super Gardenia, AhinsaKhand-I, Indrapuram, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201014 have debarred their son Vastu Jain and his wife Swati Jain from their all movable immovable properties due to their misconduct, misbehaviour. They are living separately and have no concern with my clients since just after their marriage on 12.02.2023.
 Any person dealing with them, then they will be self-responsible.
BHARTI GUPTA
 Advocate
 Enrl. No. D/631/2012-55, Lawyer's Chamber Supreme Court Buildings New Delhi-110001

NORTHERN RAILWAY (E-Auction Notice)
 The Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager/PS, Northern Railway, Delhi division, New Delhi invites e-Auction through IREPS (<https://ireps.gov.in/>) for allotment of contracts of Advertisement/Parking at following railway stations/locations:

| No. | E-Catalogue | Type of Media | Location/Station | Date & Time for e-auction |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| DLIADVT | Advertisement-Glow Ball Towers | | New Delhi, Delhi, Ghaziabad, Sonipat, Delhi Sarai Rohilla = (5 Lots) | Start: 01.05.2023 at 10:00 hrs |
| APR23-01 | | Sleeping Pods | Delhi Jn., Sonipat- Total (2) Lots | |
| | | RDN- 51" LED TV | Delhi Jn. - 1 Lot | |
| | | RDN-Digital-Wideowalls | Ghaziabad, Delhi Cantt., Rohtak, Faridabad (2), Faridabad New Town, Ballabhgarh, Palwal, Panipat, Karnal=(10 Lots) | |
| | | Out of Home Sites-Hoarding/ Unipole | New Delhi (1), Delhi (3), Faridabad (1), Meerut (1), Hazrat Nizamuddin (1)- Total (7) Lots | |
| | | Outsource- Pay & Use- Waiting Rooms | Karnal, Sonipat, Rohtak (3 Lots) | |
| Parking-17-2023 | Parking Sites | | New Delhi (NDLS) Access Control Rights (For 18 Months), Adarsh Nagar PRS (ANDI), Madipur PRS, Naya Ghaziabad (GZN) and Delhi Cantt (DEC) = Total 5 Sites | Start: 28.04.2023 at 12:00 hrs |

Website particulars where complete details of E-Auction can be seen <https://ireps.gov.in/> (E-Auction-Leasing)

All contractors who intend to participate in the e-auctions conducted through E-Auction Leasing module of IREPS should fulfil following mandatory requirements before they can submit their bids:

- Registration on IREPS for E-Auction Leasing module -Active IREPS User Account for E-Auction Leasing Module
- Payment of One Time Registration Fee; Current Account in State Bank of India; Integration of SBI Bank Account with IREPS Account; Lien Marking of Funds; Updation of Turnover Details
- A new mechanism namely **Virtual Account Number (VAN)** has been introduced now for E-Auction Leasing module, which can be used by the bidders as an alternative to Lien Marking Mechanism.

The bidders are free to switch between Lien Marking Mechanism (if activated) and VAN mechanism at any point of time, before entering the bidding room. VAN mechanism does not require the bidder to have a current account in State Bank of India. The users are free to transfer money from any of their existing bank accounts in any bank to their VAN account, which enables them to participate in IREPS E-Auctions.

- Contractors who do not have IREPS account for any module of IREPS can submit their online request for registration by clicking on New Vendors / Contractors (E-Tender/ E-Auction Leasing) link on IREPS Home page.

Railway Authority to contact, in case of any query
Divisional Railway Manager's Office, Commercial Branch, State Entry Road, New Delhi 110055; Email:publicitycelldl@gmail.com Tel: 011-23743084

No.: 7PUB/NR-DLI0COMM(PUB)/9/2022 Dated: 13.04.2023 1119/2023
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

PARADIP PORT AUTHORITY e-TENDER CALL NOTICE
No. CE/R&B/ACCTS-71/22/107 Date: 11.04.2023
Name of the Work: "Widening of Existing Bitumen Road from Cabin Market Square to Central School Square". Estimated cost put to tender: ₹.1,28,31,999.94. Last Date and time of submission of Bid 02.05.2023 at 17.00hrs. For further details, please refer our website <https://eprocure.gov.in/> eprocure/app.
Sd/- Executive Engineer Road & Building Division Paradip Port Authority
 PPA/PR/03/2023-24 dtd. 13.04.2023

Public Notice
 My clients Mrs. Anu Jain W/o Sh. Anshul Jain D/o Sh. Pramod Kumar Jain R/o 7/118, Sector-2, Rajendra Nagar, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201005 have debarred their brother Vastu Jain and his wife Swati Jain due to their misconduct, misbehaviour and she has no concern with the matrimonial life of her brother and his wife.
 Any person dealing with them, then they will be self-responsible.
BHARTI GUPTA
 Advocate
 Enrl. No. D/631/2012-55, Lawyer's Chamber Supreme Court Building, New Delhi-110001

Public Notice
 It is informed that the applicant Nikhat Khatool wife Mohammad Ali, resident of Address B-6, Sector-108, Noicda, District Gautam Budh Nagar U.P. The registry of his said plot has been executed on date 31.12.2018 in the same No.-1, Volume No.-2278, Page Number-431 to 480, Number 9545 in Deputy Registrar-II, Noicda. Whose original Lease deed has been lost somewhere and could not be found even after a lot of searching. In future, if he get the said original documents, I will not misuse them.
Nikhat Khatool

Public Notice
 This is to inform general public that Smt. Satwant Kaur has acquired the Ground Floor rights, built up Property bearing no. WZ-7-A-1, Plot no. 46, area measuring 62 sq. yards, out of rectangle no. 15, Kila no. 231, Original Sale Deed dated 09.08.2016, Document No. 7664. That Smt. Satwant Kaur has mislaid the below mentioned documents. a)Original Sale Deed dated 22.12.2005 executed by Sh. Manoj Singh & Sh. Amarji Singh in favour of Smt. Manjit Kaur in respect of Built-up Ground Floor without roof rights, Plot bearing no. 46, New No. WZ-7-A-1, area measuring 62 sq. yards, out of rectangle no. 15, Kila no. 231, B)Original Sale Deed dated 09.08.2016 executed by Smt. Manoj Singh & Sh. Manjit Kaur in respect of Ground Floor without roof rights, built-up Property bearing no. WZ-7-A-1, Plot no. 46, area measuring 62 sq. yards, out of rectangle no. 15, Kila no. 231, C)Original Sale Deed dated 09.08.2016, Document No. 7664, Book no. 1, Page No. 178-180, on 11.08.2016. Anyone who find the above said documents shall handover the same to the Manager of Suryoday Small Finance Bank. Now, Smt. Satwant Kaur is intending to sell the said property to Mrs. Renu Kaur and further Mr. Manoj Singh and Mrs. Renu Kaur are mortgaging the above said property with Suryoday Small Finance Bank & in case anyone has any objection, the same may be raised within 07 days of this publication to Mr. Munesh Dhawan/ Mr. Sudhir Jain (Advocates), Law Veritas North, Unit no 907, 9th Floor, GD-TL Tower, (B-08), Netaji Subhash Place, Delhi-110034 or contact at 9066707172/981228636 (M).

NOTICE
SRF LIMITED (SRF)
Selenium Tower-6, 6th Floor, Plot No.31 & 32, Gachibowli, Financial District, Hyderabad - 500 032 (Telangana State)
 Notice is hereby given that the Certificate(s) for the under mentioned Equity Shares of the Company have been lost / mislaid and the holder(s) / purchaser(s) of the said Equity Shares have applied to the Company to issue duplicate Share Certificate(s). Any person who has a claim in respect of the said Shares should lodge the same with the Company at its Registered Office within 21 days from this date else the Company will proceed to issue duplicate certificate(s) to the aforesaid applicants without any further intimation.

| Sl. No. | Folio No. | Name of the Holder/Claimant | Share Certificate No. | Number of Shares | Distinctive Nos. From To |
|---------|-----------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | SRFO17720 | Seema Das Kundu | 90143421 | 50 | 10001070 10001219 |
| 2 | SRFO17720 | Seema Das Kundu | 90143422 | 50 | 10001220 10001269 |
| 3 | SRFO17720 | Seema Das Kundu | 90143423 | 50 | 10002030 10002079 |
| 4 | SRFO17720 | Seema Das Kundu | 90143424 | 50 | 10002080 10002129 |
| 5 | SRFO17720 | Seema Das Kundu | 90143425 | 50 | 10002130 10002179 |
| 6 | SRFO17720 | Seema Das Kundu | 90206680 | 50 | 10002180 10002229 |
| 7 | SRFO17720 | Seema Das Kundu | 90206681 | 50 | 15580200 15580249 |
| 8 | SRFO17720 | Seema Das Kundu | 90206682 | 50 | 15580250 15580299 |
| 9 | SRFO17720 | Seema Das Kundu | 90206683 | 50 | 15580300 15580349 |
| 10 | SRFO17720 | Seema Das Kundu | 90206684 | 50 | 15580350 15580399 |
| 11 | SRFO17720 | Seema Das Kundu | 90206685 | 50 | 15580400 15580449 |
| 12 | SRFO17720 | Seema Das Kundu | 1131286 | 2200 | 310592446 310594845 |

Name : New Delhi Date : 14-04-2023
 Name of Applicant/Holder : Seema Das Kundu

PUBLIC NOTICE
 This is to inform public in general that Kotak Mahindra bank Ltd has organized an auction in below mention respect of Vehicles. **VEHICLES FOR SALE**
1) ASHOK LEYAL 1214 UP37AT2456 -YOM 2019
MINIMUM RESERVE PRICE 6,97,388.94
UNDER HYPOTHECATION WITH M/S KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK IS UNDER SALE IN ITS "AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION" INTERESTED PARTIES CAN GIVE THEIR QUOTATIONS (ONLINE/OFFLINE) WITHIN 15 DAYS FROM THIS PAPER PUBLICATION I.E. ON OR BEFORE 28.04.2023 (PLEASE NOTE THAT CLOSING AUCTION DATE/WOULD NOT BE A WEEKLY OFF/HOLIDAY).
BRANCH ADDRESS: KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK LTD., PLOT NO.7 INSTITUTIONAL AREA, SECTOR-125 NOIDA NEAR DELL CAMPUS NOIDA (U.P.) UP-201313 OR CONTACT : GUNJAN SINGH KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK LTD. CONTACT /+918510032426 EMAIL-gunjansingh1@kotak.com

PUBLIC NOTICE
 General public is hereby informed that Late Mr. Under Pal Singh was the owner of the property House area measuring 129.63 Sq. Yds. i.e. 108.58 Sq. Meters, out of Kharsa No. 698, situated at Village Anwarpur, Tehsil & Distt. Hapur, by virtue of Sale Deed dated 28.01.1997, regd. at doc. No. 296, and the same is to be financed & mortgaged with my client i.e. Piramal Capital and Housing Finance Ltd and the legal heirs of Late Mr. Under Pal Singh namely Mr. Adarsh Kumar & Mr. Prashant. Have objection regarding mortgage of aforesaid property to Mr. Mukesh Kumar. If any person(s) have any objection(s) or claim the property, then they contact the undersigned within 7 days from date of this notice on below address, failing which, it will be assumed that there are no claims or issues in respect of the aforesaid property.
Raghav Tiwari (Advocate)
 Ch. 830, Patelia House Courts, New Delhi-110011, Mob. - 91-3076158328

PUBLIC NOTICE
 This is to inform General Public that M/s Anita Builders Pvt Ltd acquired the Second Floor (Without Roof Rights), "Said Floor", Built on Property Bearing No. D-267, Land area measuring 153.25 Sq. mtrs. i.e. 163.33 Sq. yds. in Block-D, situated in the Layout Plan of The Railway Board Employees Co-Operative House Building Society Ltd, Colony Known as "Anand Vihar", New Delhi vide Sale Deed dated 02.08.2020, (Doc. no. 2019). Now, M/s Anita Builders Pvt Ltd has intending to sell the above said property to Mr. Lalit Bharamji Choudhary and further Mr. Lalit Bharamji Choudhary agreed to create mortgage in respect of the said property in favour of our client IFCO First Bank Limited. Further, if any person, body, individual, institution having any claim, title, interest and/or objection in respect of or against or relating to or touching upon said property or part of the property by way of sale, exchange, lease, lien, mortgage, charge, encumbrance, gift, trust, easement, maintenance, inheritance, testamentary disposition or otherwise or having in their custody any title, documents pertaining the said property shall communicate the same to the undersigned at below mentioned address within 14 days from the publication of this notice with documentary evidence in support thereof, failing which all the claim, of such person shall be considered to have been waived and abandoned. Any objections raised after the completion of the 14 days shall not be binding upon the said property or my Client & in case anyone has any objection, the same may be raised within 14 days of this publication to Mr. Munesh Dhawan/ Mr. Sudhir Jain (Advocates), Law Veritas North, Unit no 907, 9th Floor, GD-TL Tower, (B-08), Netaji Subhash Place, Delhi-110034 or contact at 9066707172/981228636 (M).

Public Notice
 General public is hereby informed that Late Mr. Under Pal Singh was the owner of the property House area measuring 129.63 Sq. Yds. i.e. 108.58 Sq. Meters, out of Kharsa No. 698, situated at Village Anwarpur, Tehsil & Distt. Hapur, by virtue of Sale Deed dated 28.01.1997, regd. at doc. No. 296, and the same is to be financed & mortgaged with my client i.e. Piramal Capital and Housing Finance Ltd and the legal heirs of Late Mr. Under Pal Singh namely Mr. Adarsh Kumar & Mr. Prashant. Have objection regarding mortgage of aforesaid property to Mr. Mukesh Kumar. If any person(s) have any objection(s) or claim the property, then they contact the undersigned within 7 days from date of this notice on below address, failing which, it will be assumed that there are no claims or issues in respect of the aforesaid property.
Raghav Tiwari (Advocate)
 Ch. 830, Patelia House Courts, New Delhi-110011, Mob. - 91-3076158328

कार्यालय : अधिशासी अभियन्ता, उत्तराखण्ड जल संस्थान, खटीमा
ई-निविदा संशोधन सूचना
 इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक 352 / ई-निविदा / 2022-23 दिनांक 23.03.2023 द्वारा खटीमा नगरीय पेयजल योजना के अन्तर्गत वार्ड नं-7 एवं 8 (अमाड) में पेयजल योजना के निर्माण हेतु नलकूप छिद्रण, ऊर्ध्वजलाशय निर्माण, पाइप लाईन एवं लक्सम्बन्धी कार्य हेतु आमंत्रित ई-निविदा (दू. बिड सिस्टम) में उत्तराखण्ड जल संस्थान एवं उत्तराखण्ड पेयजल निगम में पंजीकृत फर्म / ठेकेदार प्रतिभाग कर सकते हैं।
 निविदा की शेष शर्तें एवं नियम पूर्ववत् रहेंगे।
अधिशासी अभियन्ता

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE
Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)

| 1. N.I.T. No. | GSU-DLI-NIT-02-2023-24 |
|--|--|
| 2. Name of work with its location | Extension of diesel Shed Bogle Shop including track and other allied works in c/w development of infrastructure facilities for maintenance of Electric Locomotive at TKD Shed. |
| 3. Approx. Cost of work | Rs. 5,04,53,492.18/- |
| 4. Earnest Money | Rs. 4,02,300.00/- |
| 5. Completion period of Work | 8 Months |
| 6. Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender | Upto 15:00 hrs on 04.05.2023 Opening of tender at 15:00 hrs. On 04.05.2023 |
| 7. Website particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc. | Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in |

No.128-W-269-O.E.T-GSU/DLI/02/2023-24 (NIT-02) Dated : 12.04.2023
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 1105/23

INDIAN RAILWAYS GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (BHARAT SARKAR) MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (RAIL MANTRALAYA) (RAILWAY BOARD)
No. 2022/RS(WTA)-149/TENDER/532 New Delhi, dated 13/04/2023
CORRECTION NO.7 to the Tender No. WTA-532
E-Tender No. WTA-532 due on 27.04.2023 for "Manufacturing cum Maintenance of 100 nos. of New Generation Energy Efficient Vande Bharat Trains with Concentrated Power System including upgradation of the Government Manufacturing Units & Trainset Depots."
 The due date of the subject tender is postponed from 27.04.2023 to 30.05.2023 (Tuesday). The prospective Bidders are requested to visit website <https://ireps.gov.in> for more details.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, RAILWAY STORES (RS) MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (RAILWAY BOARD) RAIL BHAWAN, RAISINA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001 Email-dsrsm@rb.railnet.gov.in 1112/2023
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY Invitation of Tenders through E-Procurement system
 Principal Chief Materials Manager, Northern Railway, New Delhi-110001, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites e-tenders through e-procurement system for supply of the following items:-

| S. No | Tender No. | Brief Description | Qty. | Closing Date |
|-------|------------|---|----------------|--------------|
| 01 | 07223464 | RUBBER PAD FOR LONGITUDINAL BUMP STOP | 15312 NOS | 08-05-23 |
| 02 | 19230994 | GEAR BOX CASE (MACHINED) FOR WAP-5 LOCO | 19 NOS | 08-05-23 |
| 03 | 07223452A | SECONDARY SPRING (INNER) | 657 NOS | 11-05-23 |
| 04 | 09232218 | BRAKE CYLINDER 355 MM | 529 NOS | 11-05-23 |
| 05 | 08231504 | RELAY, NON AC IMMUNE, PLUG IN TYPE, STYLE QN1 | 3449 NOS | 11-05-23 |
| 06 | 08235045 | YELLOW ASPECT MAIN LED SIGNAL | 4070 NOS | 12-05-23 |
| 07 | 08235081 | LED SHUNT SIGNAL LIGHTING | 6161 NOS | 15-05-23 |
| 08 | 77236008 | RUNNING CONTRACT FOR PROCUREMENT OF VARIOUS TYPES OF GROOVED RUBBER SOLE PLATES | 113920 SET/NOS | 15-05-23 |
| 09 | 19230632 | ELASTIC RING ACLATHAN RING FOR WAG-9. | 269 NOS | 05-06-23 |

NOTE -1. Vendors may visit the IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for details. 2. No Manual offer will be entertained.
Tender Notice NO. 05/2023-2024 Dated : 13.04.2023 1109/2023
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

IN THE COURT OF THE ADDL. DISTRICT JUDGE OF HOSUR O.S. No: 435/2022
Prakash S/o Beerappa @ Veerappa, Hindu aged about 57 years residing at Upparapalli Village, Madhagonadapalli Post, Denkanikotta Taluk, Krishnagiri Dist. TN
M/s Hema Engineering Industries, Register office at Sachidanand Farm House, Krishnagarh Villagem in front of Swimming pool (near DDA Sports Complex), Lane Green Avenue, Vasanth Kunj, New Delhi- 110070Defendants No:1
NOTICE
 Please take notice that the above Petitioner/Plaintiff has filed a suit against you for the relief of Vacate the Suit Property and delivery of vacant possession as Parties defendant no 1 in the suit against in the above Hon'ble court. The above case is posted on 27.04.2023 for the appearance of Defendant You are hereby directed to appear on 27.04.2023 at 10.00 am before this Hon'ble Add- District Judge, Hosur, either in person or through a pleader and state your objections if any in the above case, failing which the Hon'ble court will be pleased to pass exparte order against you.
//By order of the Court// D.YAMUNA, B.A. B.L., Advocate, Hosur

Markets extend gains for 9th session on fag-end buying

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Benchmark equity indices Sensex and Nifty ticked higher for the ninth straight session on Thursday, buoyed by fag-end buying in banking, financial and realty stocks amid encouraging domestic retail inflation data.

Weak trends in IT counters and fall in the overnight US equity markets triggered by fresh concerns over recession, however, put a check on markets' uptrend.



In a largely subdued session, the 30-share BSE Sensex went up marginally by 38.23 points or 0.06 per cent to settle at 60,431. During the day, it hit a high of 60,486.91 and a low of 60,081.43.

The broader NSE Nifty climbed 15.60 points or 0.09 per cent to finish at 17,828.

"After the flat start, pressure in the IT majors pushed the Nifty lower however buying in select heavyweights especially from the banking pack trimmed all the losses and helped index to close flat," said Ajit Mishra, VP - Technical Research, Religare Broking Ltd.

Among the Sensex firms, IndusInd Bank, Power Grid, Axis Bank, Bajaj Finserv, Kotak

Mahindra Bank, ICICI Bank, State Bank of India and Tata Motors were the biggest winners.

Infosys, Tech Mahindra, HCL Technologies, NTPC, Tata Consultancy Services, Larsen & Toubro, Wipro and UltraTech Cement were among the major laggards.

Shares of Infosys fell by nearly 3 per cent ahead of its quarterly earnings announcement later in the day.

The country's largest IT services exporter TCS on Wednesday reported a 14.8 per cent increase in March quarter net profit at Rs 11,392 crore but flagged worries from its key market of North America.

"Indian shares experienced

a downturn, weighed down by IT stocks following weak quarterly earnings and a cautious outlook from the top IT firm, which flagged apprehensions over deferred spending and uncertainty in its BFSI segment.

"The decrease in CPI inflation to 5.66 per cent in India, coupled with the moderation of core inflation, supports the decision of the MPC to keep policy rates on hold. While US inflation cooled to 5 per cent, anxieties grew globally after the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) minutes hinted at a possible "mild recession" due to the impact of banking turmoil," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial

Services.

In the broader market, the BSE smallcap gauge climbed 0.33 per cent and midcap index advanced 0.16 per cent.

Bankex rallied 1.38 per cent, realty jumped 1.17 per cent, financial services climbed 0.97 per cent and auto went up by 0.35 per cent.

However, IT fell by 2.05 per cent, teck (1.94 per cent), capital goods (0.57 per cent), oil & gas (0.55 per cent), energy (0.32 per cent) and telecommunication (0.23 per cent).

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India's gross direct tax collection increased 173 per cent to over Rs 19.68 lakh crore in 10 years to 2022-23.

On a net basis, after adjusting refunds, direct tax collection zoomed 160 per cent since the 2013-14 fiscal to over Rs 16.61 lakh crore in 2022-23.

The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has released Time-Series data as updated up to fiscal 2021-22 and also provided provisional data for 2022-23.

Direct Tax Buoyancy at 2.52 in FY 2021-22 is the highest Direct Tax Buoyancy recorded over the last 15 years. The direct tax to GDP ratio has increased from 5.62 per cent in 2013-14 to 5.97 per cent in 2021-22.

"I am delighted to share

with you the outstanding export performance for 2022-23, with India's overall exports scaling new heights at USD 770 billion, registering 14 per cent growth over the previous year and all-time high record growing from USD 500 billion in 2020-21 to USD 676 billion in 2021-22," the minister told reporters here.

Goyal is on a three-day visit to France and Italy from April 11-13 to hold a series of meetings with leaders and top CEOs in these two countries to further boost trade and investment ties.

India's services exports too have increased by 27.16 per cent to USD 323 billion in 2022-23 as compared to USD 254 billion in 2021-22.



Direct tax mop up skyrockets 173% to over ₹19.68 lakh cr

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India's gross direct tax collection increased 173 per cent to over Rs 19.68 lakh crore in 10 years to 2022-23.

On a net basis, after adjusting refunds, direct tax collection zoomed 160 per cent since the 2013-14 fiscal to over Rs 16.61 lakh crore in 2022-23.

The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has released Time-Series data as updated up to fiscal 2021-22 and also provided provisional data for 2022-23.

Direct Tax Buoyancy at 2.52 in FY 2021-22 is the highest Direct Tax Buoyancy recorded over the last 15 years. The direct tax to GDP ratio has increased from 5.62 per cent in 2013-14 to 5.97 per cent in 2021-22.

'India's exports up 6% to \$ 447 billion in 2022-23'



PTI ■ ROME

The country's exports rose by about 6 per cent to a "record" USD 447 billion during 2022-23 on account of healthy growth in the outbound shipments of sectors such as petroleum, pharma and chemicals and marine, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Thursday.

The country's imports also grew by 16.5 per cent to USD 714 billion in 2022-23 as against USD 613 billion in 2021-22.

He said that the exports of goods and services together scaled "new heights" and has increased by 14 per cent to USD 770 billion in 2022-23 as against 676 billion in 2021-22.

India's expanding our international footprints," he added.

The overall imports of goods and services have touched USD 892 billion and it reflects that the country's economic activities are growing and that has supported the exports.

Talking to reporters here, Goyal said that the growth in exports would help in containing the current account deficit.

In the services sector, there is a healthy growth in areas including IT, accounting and business processing. In the goods segment, sectors which recorded growth include oil meals, electronic goods, tobacco, oil seeds, rice, coffee, fruits and vegetables, leather goods, ceramic, pharma, marine products, chemicals, and ready-made garments of textiles.

Services imports are estimated at USD 178 billion in 2022-23 as against USD 147 billion a year ago.

Goyal said that the exports of goods and services has increased by about USD 100 billion to cross USD 770 billion in such challenging times, when the world is seeing softening and slowing of international trade, recessionary conditions in the developed world, and unprecedented high inflation in many developed countries.

India's expanding our international footprints," he added.

The overall imports of goods and services have touched USD 892 billion and it reflects that the country's economic activities are growing and that has supported the exports.

Talking to reporters here, Goyal said that the growth in exports would help in containing the current account deficit.

In the services sector, there is a healthy growth in areas including IT, accounting and business processing. In the goods segment, sectors which recorded growth include oil meals, electronic goods, tobacco, oil seeds, rice, coffee, fruits and vegetables, leather goods, ceramic, pharma, marine products, chemicals, and ready-made garments of textiles.

Services imports are estimated at USD 178 billion in 2022-23 as against USD 147 billion a year ago.

Goyal said that the exports of goods and services has increased by about USD 100 billion to cross USD 770 billion in such challenging times, when the world is seeing softening and slowing of international trade, recessionary conditions in the developed world, and unprecedented high inflation in many developed countries.

IN BRIEF

MARUTI SIGNS MOU WITH IDFC

New Delhi: Maruti Suzuki India Limited has announced the signing of a MoU with IDFC FIRST Bank Limited. As part of this collaboration, the bank will offer personalised finance options across New Car Loans, Pre-Owned Car Loans and Commercial Vehicle Loans to customers looking to purchase Maruti Suzuki vehicles. The MoU was signed in the presence of senior management from Maruti Suzuki and IDFC FIRST bank, from MSIL Shashank Srivastava, Senior Executive Officer, Marketing and Sales amongst others and from IDFC FIRST bank Vaidyanathan, MD and CEO and firms top executives were present.

ANDAMAN CHAMBER OBSERVES BANDH

New Delhi: Andaman observed a full-day bandh, under which all shops, establishments, and transportation along with auto, jeep & private buses were non-functional. The call for this trade bandh was given by the Joint Action Committee of the Andaman Chamber of Commerce & Industry (ACCI) comprising all trade, industry, and commercial establishments. ACCI said that the strike was called over several issues, including a steep hike in power tariff, arbitrary increase in circle rates of land, non-registration of flats, and demand for better infrastructure and ease of doing business.

NATIONAL MISSION FOR CLEAN GANGA MOU

New Delhi: Union Ministry of Jal Shakti signed an MoU with Amity University, Uttar Pradesh, for National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) efforts in the presence of Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, NMCG DG G Asok Kumar, AICTE Chairman TG Sitharam, and Amity Education Group founder president Ashok K Chauhan.

TRAINING IN AVIATION SECURITY IN NE

New Delhi: Central Association of Private Security Industry (CAPSI) has decided to set up eight "Centres of Excellence" for training in State Capitals of North-East. CAPSI chairman Kunwar Vikram Singh the organisation also plans to start three Drone Pilot Training Academies in the N-E. The Centre of Excellence will impart training in Aviation Security as per global standards, Singh said.

PATIENT GETS TREATMENT IN DELHI HOSPITAL

New Delhi: CK Birla Hospital in Punjab Bagh area successfully treated a 33-year-old Australian patient suffering from cervical spinal stenosis for the past two years under the guidance of Dr Ashwani Maichand, Director Department of Orthopaedics. Vijul Jain, Chief Business Officer, CK Birla Hospital said the hospital is committed to achieve the goal of providing global standards of healthcare by using advanced medical innovations and techniques. The hospital said it is committed to achieve goal of providing global standards of healthcare.

P-notes investment declines to ₹88,398 cr in Feb

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Investment in the Indian capital markets through participatory notes dropped to Rs 88,398 crore month-on-month in February amid higher valuation of domestic markets.

This was the third consecutive monthly decline in the investment level. Before this, investment through the route had been on an increasing trend since July 2022 because of a slump in the oil and other commodities prices and the relative outperformance of Indian equity markets.

Participatory notes (P-notes) are issued by registered Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) to overseas investors who

wish to be a part of the Indian stock market without registering themselves directly. They, however, need to go through a due diligence process.

According to Sebi data, the value of P-note investments in Indian markets — equity, debt, and hybrid securities — stood at Rs 88,398 crore at the end of February compared to Rs 91,469 crore in January-end.

Prior to that, the investment level through the route was Rs 96,292 crore at the end of December 2022 and Rs 99,335 crore at the end of November 2022. It was Rs 97,784 crore at October-end last year.

Investment via P-notes normally moves in line with FPI investment. When there is a



global risk to the environment, investment through this route increases and vice-versa.

"Last several months have seen a steady decline in investments through P-notes. This is because Foreign Portfolio Investment has seen outflows,

particularly since the beginning of 2023. P-notes normally follow the trend in FPI flows. The trend through P-note investment may increase in April since FPI inflows have started looking up," VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment

Strategist at Geojit Financial Services, said.

Market experts said FPIs are finding Indian markets as expensive compared to other emerging markets. Indian market could probably be the only one where they would have made profits last year. Now, it is a good opportunity for them to book profits and look for cheaper valuations elsewhere.

Of the total Rs 88,398 crore invested through this route till February this year, Rs 78,427 crore was invested in equities, Rs 9,851 crore in debt and Rs 119 crore in hybrid securities.

Meanwhile, FPIs pulled out Rs 5,294 crore from the Indian equities in February and Rs 28,852 crore in January.

Wagering barred in all forms, be it game of skill or chance: MoS IT

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Online gaming rules do not need to get into the nuances of chance or skills as wagering is barred in all forms of games irrespective of the nature of the game, Union Minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar said in a tweet on Thursday.

The minister of state for electronics and IT was responding to an editorial, which said that the online gaming rules avoid dealing with nuances of games of chance versus games of skill.

Chandrasekhar said that wager is a well-defined expression in contract law, and decisions have clearly held the meaning of wager.

"There is no need in this framework to get into "nuances" of chance or skill, bcz the harm of wagering is directly being prohibited - regardless of the nature of the game," the minister tweeted.

The Centre had last week notified norms to regulate the online gaming sector, wherein real money games involving wagering or betting have been prohibited.

"The ITRules for OnlineGaming hv been developed after extensive consultation, are quite clear n deal with every aspect. This framework liberates startups from multiple conflicting state laws, court decisions etc n establishes clarity n growth," Chandrasekhar said. The government has opted for a self-regulation model for the online gaming sector and will initially notify three self-regulatory organisations that will approve the games that can operate in the country as per the rules.

Under the notified rules, SROs will have to publish a framework to safeguard users against



the risk of gaming addiction, financial loss and financial fraud on its website.

Chandrasekhar said real money games, involving prize money, are permitted, but real money games with wagering are not.

"SROs will evolve framework on how to deal with addictive n harmful gaming as they develop capacity," the minister said. As per the rules, the online games will be regulated by SROs, which will include the industry, gamers and other stakeholders and not the government.

The SROs, as per the rules, should also include an educationist, an expert in the field of psychology or mental health, an individual who is or has been a member or officer of an organisation dealing with the protection of child rights etc.

The online gaming rules have been included as an amendment in the IT Rules of 2021.

According to the rules, the online gaming self-regulatory body may declare an online real money game as a permissible online real money game if the online real money game does not involve wagering on any outcome".

'Rupee trade arrangement to help cut transactions cost'

PTI ■ ROME

International trade in the domestic currency will help reduce transaction cost for the industry and several countries are in discussion with the RBI on this, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Thursday.

Last year, the RBI and finance ministry asked the top management of banks and representatives of trade bodies to push export and import transactions in the rupee. They want banks in India to connect with their foreign counterparts for opening special rupee vostro accounts to facilitate cross-border trade in the Indian currency rather than the popular mode of the US dollar.

Goyal said that today several countries are realising that in trade, there is a need for change in currency for that and it involves a conversion cost, which in turn increases transactions cost also.

"We can address these issues through rupee trade (arrangement)," he told reporters here, adding that several countries are under discussions with the RBI



on the subject.

Several banks, including HDFC Bank and UCO Bank, have opened special vostro accounts as of date to facilitate overseas trade in the rupee.

Sberbank and VTB Bank — the largest and second-largest banks of Russia, respectively — are the first foreign lenders to receive the approval after the RBI announced the guidelines on overseas trade in the rupee in July last year.

Another Russian bank Gazprom, which does not have its unit in India, has also opened this account with Kolkata-based UCO Bank.

The move to open the special vostro account clears the deck for settlement of payments in rupee for trade between India and Russia, enabling cross-border trade in the Indian currency, which the RBI is keen to promote.

SAT reduces Sebi's penalty on former Maars Software MD to ₹10 lakh in GDR case

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT) has slashed the penalty imposed on the former MD of Maars Software International to Rs 10 lakh from Rs 1 crore in a case related to manipulation in the issuance of global depository receipts. Maars Software International Ltd (MSIL) came out with a global depository receipts (GDRs) issue on August 10, 2007.

Pravin Champalal Jain was the former managing director of MSIL.

"While affirming the order of Sebi's Adjudicating Officer (AO) for the violations committed by the company, we reduce

the penalty from Rs 1 crore to Rs 10 lakhs.

"In our opinion, the penalty imposed is excessive and disproportionate to the violation and is also discriminatory," the tribunal said in its ruling on Tuesday.

The verdict came after Jain challenged the order passed by Sebi in July 2020.

Sebi's AO had imposed Rs 10.25 crore on MSIL, Rs 1 crore on Jain and Rs 10 lakh each on Harshwardhan S Rathore and Nikunj Babul Choradiya for flouting Prohibition of Fraudulent and Unfair Trade Practices rules. Rathore and Choradiya were also the directors of MSIL.

'India Inc's topline growth in Q4FY23 to halve to 10-12%'

PTI ■ MUMBAI

India Inc is likely to report a halving of revenue growth in the fourth quarter of FY23, a credit rating agency said on Thursday, as companies start reporting their financials.

The revenue growth will come down to 10-12 per cent as against 22.8 per cent for the January-March period in the year-ago, Crisil's Market Intelligence and Analytics arm said.

For the full fiscal FY23, revenue is estimated to have grown 19-21 per cent, which is slower than over 27 per cent growth registered in FY22, it

said, adding that operating margin is likely to have moderated by 3 percentage points.

The continuing headwinds to exports which have had an impact on volume growth, and the high-base were cited as the main reasons which will cause the sharp slowdown in topline growth for Q4FY23, Crisil, which analysed 300 companies across 47 sectors to arrive at the expectations, said.

It said revenues of commodities and export-oriented sectors such as textiles, gems and jewellery, and information technology-enabled services, declined on-year.

Coal India boosts coking coal output, production up 17%

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Coal India Ltd, the world's largest coal miner, on Thursday reported a 17.2 per cent rise in production of coking coal, helping cut on imports of the fuel that is an essential input for production of iron and steel.

In a statement, Coal India said coking coal production has risen to 54.6 million tonnes in 2022-23, up 17.2 per cent year-on-year growth compared to 46.6 million tonnes in FY'22 (April 2021 to March 2022).

"The quantum leap in the year was a whopping 8 million tonnes," it said, adding the output was 107.3 per cent of the target. This assumes significance at a time when the Ministry of



Coal has asked the company to raise the output of this category of coal to 105 million tonnes by 2030 in a bid to reduce its imports and forex outgo.

BCCL and CCL, the two Jharkhand-based subsidiaries of CIL, are major producers of coking coal and together accounted for almost the entire output of 54.3 million tonnes in 2022-23.

"BCCL alone produced

nearly 62 per cent or 33.7 million tonnes during the year, posting 16 per cent growth over 29 million tonnes of FY'22. Whereas, CCL clocked around 20 per cent growth at 20.6 million tonnes," it said.

Mineable reserves of coking coal, which is an important feedstock in steel making, in India are scarce. Also its quality inadequacy for direct use in steel making necessitates washing. This forces imports.

During FY'23 coking coal imports were 56 million tonnes, down by 1.1 million tonnes compared to 57.1 million tonnes in FY'22.

Apart from the meagre availability, Indian coking coal has high ash content requiring washing for use in steel mills.

RAHUL SEALS DEAL FOR GT

PTI ■ MOHALI

Gujarat Titans roared back to winning ways with a six-wicket victory over Punjab Kings after Mohit Sharma's excellent return to the IPL and Shubman Gill's 49-ball 67 here on Thursday.

Medium pacer Mohit marked his comeback with figures of 2/18 as holders GT restricted PBKS to 153 for eight.

Playing in his first game in the league since 2020, Mohit was exceptional in the penultimate over, giving away as little as six runs.

When their turn to bat came, Gill led the way with his fine half-century as GT completed the chase of 154 in 19.5 overs, four days after suffering a heartbreaking loss to Kolkata Knight Riders.

Having done duty as the team's net bowler last season, Mohit, who has also played for the Indian team including in the World Cup, mixed his pace and varied his lengths well throughout his spell.

Later, the young Gill once again showed his class with a quality innings that contained seven fours and a six.

From GT's point of view, it was extremely important that Gill stayed on till the end, especially after the dismissal of captain Hardik Pandya with the team still 48 runs away from their third victory in 34 balls.

For PBKS, Matthew Short top-scored with a 24-ball 36 but it was Masood Shahrubh Khan's nine-ball 22, which helped the team cross 150.

GT were off to a flyer and scored 56 in the six powerplay overs with the Gill going great guns.

Meanwhile, PBKS' lead pacer Kagiso Rabada became the fastest to 100 wickets in the IPL, when he had Wriddhiman Saha (30 off 19 balls) caught at deep square leg off a short ball.

The South Africa speedster took



just 64 games to reach the landmark, six matches fewer than Lasith Malinga's 70. Earlier, sent in to bat after the coin landed in favour of the returning GT skipper Hardik, PBKS lost Prabhsimran Singh in the second ball of the over when his attempted flick off a length ball from Mohammed Shami went

straight to Rashid Khan at short mid-wicket.

Prabhsimran departed without scoring.

Short walked in at number three and he got off the mark with a boundary over cover, Dhawan produced a delightful shot in the next ball, caress-

ing the ball past mid-off in what was a high-class cover drive.

Australia's Short, who has done well for Adelaide Strikers in the Big Bash League back home, took on Shami and hit him for back-to-back fours including an authoritative boundary through mid-off.

seasoned India seamer through the square leg region for another four.

Sharing the new ball with Shami, Joshua Little was welcomed with two boundaries by the in-form Shikhar Dhawan. While the first one was lofted over cover, Dhawan produced a delightful shot in the next ball, caress-



KKR eye hat-trick of wins

PTI ■ KOLKATA

Ahmedabad, courtesy Rinku's astonishing power-hitting.

The two-time former champions, who were hit hard by the absence of their skipper Shreyas Iyer and star allrounder Shakib-
 Al-Hasan and were written off by many following a low-key auction, suddenly have become the side to beat this season.

Having started off their campaign with a reversal against Punjab Kings at Mohali, KKR found two unlikely heroes in two matches to get their campaign up and running.

First, it was Shardul Thakur's storm with the bat that took a star-studded Royal Challengers Bangalore by surprise as the pace bowling all-rounder's 29-ball 68 led KKR to their first win of the season, a dominant 81-run victory.

Then the low-profile Rinku has become the flavour of the season after pulling off the greatest heist in T20 history by scoring 31 runs in the last over to win a match.

KKR defeated the reigning champions Gujarat Titans by three wickets in their den, the Narendra Modi Stadium in

Friday.

While Shardul and Rinku have undoubtedly provided the finishing options, KKR think-tank would be keen to prove that these two wins were not a fluke.

By his standard, Russell, the fearsome Jamaican power-hitter, has looked a shadow of his past, barring a 19-ball 35 in their rain-hit loss to Punjab Kings in their season opener.

With scores of 0 and 1 in the next two matches, Russell would be keen to prove his credentials as he sweated it out during practice ahead of the match on Friday.



Markram pins hopes on death bowlers

PTI ■ KOLKATA

Sunrisers Hyderabad are not

intimidated by the sensational batting display of Rinku Singh and Shardul Thakur in KKR's last two IPL matches, and skipper Aiden Markram on Thursday said he is confident of their bowlers executing their plans at the death.

Kolkata Knight Riders posted consecutive 200-plus totals courtesy the duo's power-hitting en route to securing splendid wins over Royal Challengers Bangalore and Gujarat Titans in their last two matches.

"If you look at their squad make-up as a whole, they are going to play aggressively and an attacking brand of cricket. On each one's given day, they can certainly be a massive threat for us," Markram told reporters on the eve of their match.

"It's about sticking to our strengths out in the middle, that will give us the best chance to execute whatever plans we have. Guys have been doing very well for KKR, they (Shardul and Rinku) have been finishing well.

"But we are going to have some good plans in place, we have some good experience in our camp, some really good death bowlers as well, we are

confident in them. Hopefully we can execute nicely, on the night (tomorrow)."

SRH have Indian veteran Bhuvneshwar Kumar to lead the pace attack, which is bolstered by the addition of Markram's fellow South African Marco Jansen, and they will also have the fiery Umran Malik in a three-pronged pace attack.

Having released Rashid Khan, SRH have the spin duo of Washington Sundar and Mayank Markande.

Starting the season with back-to-back losses, SRH got their campaign back on track when they rode on an unbeaten 74 from Rahul Tripathi to defeat Punjab Kings by eight wickets.

A former KKR player, Tripathi will look to give his valuable inputs to the team.

"It's always nice having someone in your team who has been a part of the team who you are going to play against. Definitely, we will use Rahul's experience, knowledge as best as we can."

"It's great to see a player like Rahul in form, he's really entertaining to watch and the way he goes about his work. It's great to have him in that frame of mind at the moment," Markram said.

Don't think Russell is underperforming: Ferguson

PTI ■ KOLKATA

Andre Russell may have had

a quiet campaign so far in the IPL but pacer Lockie Ferguson on Thursday believed that his star Kolkata Knight Riders teammate will turn things around in their match against Sunrisers Hyderabad.

Russell got out cheaply for 0 and 1, even as KKR secured splendid wins over Royal Challengers Bangalore and Gujarat Titans in their previous two matches. But Ferguson said a big knock is due from the explosive Jamaican batter.

"I don't think Andre is underperforming. He played well in the first game (35 vs Punjab Kings), then he had a



couple of early dismissals. I would say he's far from underperforming.

"We all know what Andre can do, particularly here that was my first season and first experi-

ence of Andre, and Jesus! I've not seen a guy hit a ball like that. I'm sure he will put us a show for us tomorrow night," he said, recalling his first season in KKR in 2019. The Kiwi pacer returned

to KKR after being traded from Gujarat Titans along with Rahmanullah Gurbaz.

Playing under an Indian coach in Chandrakant Pandit, Ferguson said he's doing a great job in creating a fine team atmosphere. "It's been a great experience with Chandru from the start. I love his honesty. He gets around all the players. He knows how the team's morale is and how we are going to go about our business as a team."

"Probably from the outset, it's just win or loss but it's about that consistency and try to create a culture and a team value that has Chandru brought into the team from an early stage. It's nice to have him lead from the front," he said.

It is too late to change action: Bishop's advice to Bumrah

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Someone who has endured multiple back

injuries himself, former West Indies fast bowler Ian Bishop on Thursday said a "generational" talent like Jasprit Bumrah is going through at the moment.

The 29-year-old underwent a surgery in New Zealand last month following recurring back issues that have kept him away from the game since September 2022.

Bumrah is now racing against time to get fit for the ODI World Cup at home in October-November.

Bumrah's "unique" action has worked wonderfully for him but it has also put a lot of load on his back, making him susceptible to injuries.

Bishop, who could have played a lot more than 43 Tests and 84 ODIs if it wasn't for injuries, feels it is too late for Bumrah to change his action at this stage of his career and he can only be "managed" by picking and choosing tournaments amid the relentless schedule.

"Any fast bowler worth his soul can play all formats of the game all year and main-



tain his cutting edge pace, it is just too demanding. The sprint up and down, the hamstring, the workload of the body. It has to be managed," Bishop told PTI in an interview.

"I don't think there is any one recipe (to manage workload). Because we don't decide on the minds and bodies of these outstanding athletes. That decision has to be made by the individual and administrators close to him but I will throw one thing out for governing bodies, it is just an advice. You can't play these guys (Bumrah and Co.) in every tournament," he said.

The 55-year-old from Trinidad is not only worried about Bumrah's future, he is

equally concerned for the likes of Jofra Archer, Anrich Nortje and Shaheen Afridi who too have battled injuries.

"With so much cricket going on, the players will have to start choosing most important tournaments. It is about how can a player secure his financial future and at the same time play enough to secure his cric-

keting legacy and help his country. "You want guys like Bumrah and Jofra playing at their best with cutting edge pace. That is what when they have great value. Be very meticulous and specific with when you want them to play," he said.

In 2020, the great Michael Holding had expressed his doubts over Bumrah's longevity considering he generates a huge amount of pace with a short run-up and a unique action.

For Bishop, changing action following injuries did not work and he believes Bumrah is past that stage too.

"Everybody has got a unique way in how they formulate their action and Jasprit is more unique than most others so I think he has got to use the physical gifts he was blessed with and fine tune it as he goes along.

PTI ■ CHENNAI

Chennai Super Kings captain

Mahendra Singh Dhoni is nursing a knee injury, which is hindering his movement somewhat, said head coach Stephen Fleming after the four-time IPL champions lost a last-ball thriller to Rajasthan Royals by three runs.

Adding to the injury worries, CSK's South African pace bowler Sisanda Magala too suffered a split webbing at the MA Chidambaram Stadium on Wednesday night.

"He (Dhoni) is nursing a knee injury, which you can see in some of his movement, hindering him somewhat. His fitness has been professional. He comes in months before the tournament starts. He does some nets in Ranchi, but his main pre-season is a month

before he comes to Chennai," Fleming told reporters at the post-match press conference after CSK suffered their second defeat in four games this season.

MSD nursing a knee injury: Fleming

Seamer Sandeep Sharma nailed a couple of perfect block-hole deliveries to earn a hard-fought victory for the Royals. Chasing 176, Dhoni (32) and Ravindra Jadeja (25) were on course requiring 21 runs off the last over. CSK's final score was 172/6 as Dhoni couldn't end his 200th game for CSK in a manner he would have wanted to on home turf.

Fleming, though, expressed confidence that the former India captain will manage his injury well and will continue to lead the side.

"He works his way back into match form, and you can still see he is playing pretty well. So we always have confidence about how he manages himself.

He always keeps himself up to speed," said Fleming, allaying concerns about Dhoni's fitness. On Magala, who had to



leave the field with a split webbing after bowling two overs, Fleming said, "For us again, it's losing another player — that's two games in a row -- and we're already pretty thin, so we'd like it (injuries) to stop."

CSK's list of injured players is growing by the day with England all-rounder Ben Stokes, bought for Rs 16.25 crore at the IPL auction, missing the game due to a heel injury, while pacer Deepak Chahar has been almost ruled out of IPL 2023 due to a hamstring injury he sustained during the match against Mumbai Indians.

Magala's hand was split unfortunately, so he was unable to bowl those last two overs. And same with Deepak Chahar

in the last game, so we're operating on pretty thin resources. But we're not the only team to have that."

"I think a lot of players coming out of a big domestic season are a little bit broken, but we just keep having to find solutions," Fleming said.

"So we'll do that in the next four days. But, yeah, it's not ideal yet. The captain has to then think on his feet (if bowlers keep getting injured). Moeen Ali had to come back (after Magala hurt his webbing), and he hadn't had a great day but he got the wicket of (Jos) Buttler which was good.

"And you've got young players like Akash (Singh) who is coming in for his first game, having to bowl some key overs. It's not how we plan, but T20 very rarely goes to plan," the CSK coach added.

| NORTHERN RAILWAY | | Tender Notice | |
|--|--|---|--|
| Invitation of tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems) | | | |
| N.I.T. No. | | 01(A,B,C,D,E,F,G,H,I,J,K,L,M,N)23-24/WE | |
| (A) | Annual zone work of staff Qtrs. And Service building of Sarojini Nagar, Sewa Nagar, Lalpat Nagar, Gulabi Bagh, HN2M, Jungpura, Okhla and Lodhi colony for P/E for 30.06.2023 in the section of SSE/W/HN2M under ADEN/E-II | | |
| (B) | Annual Zone work of staff Qtrs. and service buildings of MNTB, Thomsan Road, M.S. Place, Central Place, Babar Road and other colonies for the period ending on 30.06.2023 in the section of SSE/W/MNTB under ADEN/E-II | | |
| (C) | Annual Zone work of staff Qtrs. Bunglows & service building at Tis Hazari, More Sarai, Motia Bagh, Sri ram Road & Sadar bazar for year ending 30.06.2023 in the Section os SSE/W/Tis Hazari under ADEN/E-I | | |
| (D) | Annual general repair and white washing, painting of staff qtrs and service building for period ending 30.06.2023 in the section of SSE/W/DKZ-I under ADEN/E-IV | | |
| (E) | Annual zone work of White Washing and Painting of staff quarters, bungalows and service buildings at Punjabi Bagh, Panday Nagar, Wazirpur, RPF-RPSF complex & Printing Press/SSB for the period ending 30-06-2023 in the section of SSE/W/Punjabi Bagh under ADEN/E-II | | |
| (F) | Annual general repair and white washing painting of staff qtrs and service building at loco, Mori, Gate, Sarai Phos, DEE for period ending 30.06.2023 in the section of SSE/W/DKZ-I under ADEN/E-IV | | |
| (G) | Annual zone work of staff quarters and service buildings at P.K road and other offices and colonies for period ending 30.06.2023 in the section of SSE/W/PG under ADEN/E-I | | |
| (H) | Annual zone work of staff quarters and service buildings at Basant Lane and Ajmeri Gate side railway colony and other offices for period ending 30.06.2023 in the section of SSE/W/PG under ADEN/E-I | | |
| (I) | Annual General repair & white washing, painting of staff quarters and service buildings for the period ending 30.06.2023 in the S/o SSE/W/E/SSB under ADEN/E-IV | | |
| (J) | Annual General repair and white washing, painting of staff qtrs. and service building for the period ending 30.06.23 in the S/o SSE/W/DKZ-II under ADEN/E-IV. | | |
| (K) | Annual zone work of staff quarters and service buildings at S.P.Marg, Barar Square and other offices and colonies for the period ending on 30-06-2023 in the section of SSE/W/SP Marg under ADEN/E-II | | |
| (L) | Annual Zone work of staff Qtrs. and service buildings at S.M.Marg, Moti Bagh, NRM, ECO Park, and other offices and colonies for the period ending on 30.06.2023 in the section of SSE/W/S.M.Marg under ADEN/E-II | | |
| (M) | Annual Zone work of general repair, white washing, painting and petty repairs of Rail Shawan for the period for 30.06.2023 in the section of SSE/W/Rail Bhawan under ADEN/E-III. | | |
| (N) | Annual Zone work of staff qtrs., officers flats & service buildings like DRM office, DAO NDCR, CPRO, TMC, Yamuna rest house Railnwas rest House, IRCA, Reservation Center, Officer's club, Bungalow no. 1/CF road etc. for the period ending on 30.06.2023 in the section of SSE/W/Transit Camp under ADEN/E-I | | |
| | (A) | 9500039.88 | |
| | (B) | 8999976.30 | |
| | (C) | 7499878.04 | |
| | (D) | 8499968.25 | |
| | (E) | 8999937.69 | |
| | (F) | 8499844.17 | |
| | (G) | 8499965.33 | |
| | (H) | 8499931.24 | |
| | (I) | 9999996.65 | |
| | (J) | 8999962.14 | |
| | (K) | 9997313.95 | |
| | (L) | 8532261.20 | |
| | (M) | 9391060.07 | |
| | (N) | 12499996.97 | |
| | (A) | 190000.00 | |
| | (B) | 180000.00 | |
| | (C) | 150000.00 | |
| | (D) | 170000.00 | |
| | (E) | 180000.00 | |
| | (F) | 170000.00 | |
| | (G) | 170000.00 | |
| | (H) | 170000.00 | |
| | (I) | 200000.00 | |
| | (J) | 180000.00 | |
| | (K) | 200000.00 | |
| | (L) | 170000.00 | |
| | (M) | 187800.00 | |
| | (N) | 212500.00 | |
| | (A) | 02 Months | |
| | (B) | 02 Months | |
| | (C) | 02 Months | |
| | (D) | 02 Months | |
| | (E) | 02 Months | |
| | (F) | 02 Months | |
| | (G) | 02 Months | |
| | (H) | 02 Months | |
| | (I) | 02 Months | |
| | (J) | 02 Months | |
| | (K) | 02 Months | |
| | (L) | 02 Months | |
| | (M) | 02 Months | |
| | (N) | 02 Months | |
| Date and Time for submission of tender and opening of tender | | Closing date of tender on 08.05.2023 at 15.00 hrs. | |
| Website particular notice board location complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc. | | Above tender available on website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in | |
| 128-W/269/OET/23-24/WE/NIT/01(A,B,C,D,E,F,G,H,I,J,K,L,M,N) | | Dated:-13.04.2023 | |
| | | 1123/2023 | |

ECONOMY

“China’s economy will recover and develop at a faster pace”

“I visited China three years ago. This time I’ll spend half a month in China. Apart from Beijing, I’ll also go to other cities such as Shanghai, Hong Kong, and Hangzhou. We’ll continue to invest in China on all fronts, because China’s high-quality development and opening up to the outside world is providing us with rare opportunities,” said Ola Kaellenius, chairman of the Board of Management of Mercedes-Benz Group AG, at the China Development Forum Annual Meeting 2023.

Recently, the China Development Forum Annual Meeting 2023 and the Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) Annual Conference 2023 were

held in Beijing and Hainan respectively. Many overseas guests and executives of multinational companies in China agreed that from a global perspective, China’s economic development has shown remarkable resilience and great certainty this year, continuing to bring valuable incremental increase and innovative vitality to the world economy.

At the Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) Annual Conference 2023, International Monetary Fund (IMF) Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva said that China’s economy is gaining momentum, and its contribution to the world’s economic growth is expected to exceed one-

third this year.

This year, many international institutions have raised their expectations for China’s economic growth. Among them, the IMF expects China’s economy to grow by 5.2%.

During his recent visit to China, Christian Bruch, president and CEO of Siemens Energy AG, met with not only his colleagues and team in China but also some Chinese government departments and relevant partners. “I need to understand the opportunities and challenges facing China’s energy transition. I also want to better understand the Chinese market to make sure that we continue to make the right decisions in the future,” he said.

These visits by executives of foreign companies have shown the world’s confidence in China, a giant consumption market of more than 1.4 billion people. Not long ago, the China Council for Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) conducted a survey of more than 160 foreign companies and business associations in China. The results show that 99.4 percent of the foreign companies surveyed are confident in China’s economic development prospects in 2023 and will continue to invest in China. In addition, 98.7 percent of the foreign companies surveyed said that they will maintain and expand their investments in China.

“As China’s epidemic pre-

vention and control enters a new phase, China’s economy is warming up and improving. We’ve noted that China has recently introduced a number of policy measures to boost consumption. We believe that driven by these new policies, China’s economy will recover and develop at a faster pace,” said an executive of Panasonic China and Northeast Asia Company.

According to CCPIT spokesperson Wang Linjie, the CCPIT will organize more policy briefings and government-enterprise dialogues to help foreign-funded companies gain a deeper understanding of China’s policy initiatives and enhance their

confidence in operating in China.
(Xinhua, People’s Daily)



“We’ll actively shift the focus of our services for foreign-funded companies to aspects such as carrying out in-depth research, further optimizing the business environment, and helping local governments attract investment, and make greater efforts to retain and increase foreign investment.”
—Wang Linjie, CCPIT spokesperson

FOCUS

We advocate the respect for the diversity of civilizations. Countries need to uphold the principles of equality, mutual learning, dialogue, and inclusiveness among civilizations, and let cultural exchanges transcend estrangement, mutual learning transcend clashes, and coexistence transcend feelings of superiority.

—An excerpt from Chinese President Xi Jinping’s keynote speech at the Communist Party of China in Dialogue with World Political Parties High-level Meeting

“The Global Civilization Initiative advocates the respect for the diversity of civilizations”

Asadollah Badamechian, Secretary-General of the Islamic Coalition Party of Iran, recently attended the Communist Party of China in Dialogue with World Political Parties High-level Meeting via video link from Tehran. He pointed out that the Global Civilization Initiative proposed by General Secretary Xi Jinping of the CPC Central Committee at the meeting not only advocates the respect for the diversity of civilizations but also will promote the unity of civilizations in their common pursuit.

Badamechian said both Iran and China are time-honored civilizations, and that Iran is “very pleased” with the Global Civilization Initiative proposed by the Chinese leader and feels obliged to respond to it. “Gen-

eral Secretary Xi Jinping’s proposal advocates the respect for the diversity of civilizations and promotes greater unity among civilizations, which will lead to greater and better development of global civilizations.”

Badamechian stressed that China’s call for countries to contribute to the promotion of world peace and to sustain mutual help among them shows that China is an important force in promoting world peace and global good. He believes that the Islamic Coalition Party of Iran is willing to strengthen exchanges with the Communist Party of China to help the two countries make new progress in cooperation in various fields such as politics, economy, culture, and medicine.

(Xinhua, Guangming Daily)

CULTURE

Zhang Hanmin: composing a “symphony” of tie-dyeing and coffee

Zhang Hanmin, a 39-year-old tie-dye artist, repeatedly soaked a silk scarf in a dyestuff of ochre-colored coffee grounds while adding Pu’er tea to it. She completed tie-dyeing the scarf in a matter of half an hour.

With spring flowers blossoming, Zhang brought her parents and eldest son to Shanghai. At an intangible cultural heritage-themed Starbucks outlet, she demonstrated the Bai people’s tie-dyeing techniques—a national intangible cultural heritage item from Dali, Yunnan. Right in front of a group of coffee lovers, she also showed the unique dyeing and color-fixing effects of coffee grounds and Pu’er tea, composing a “symphony” of tie-dyeing and coffee.

Tie-dyeing, originally known as “jiaoxie”, is a set of Chinese textile dyeing techniques dating back ancient times, and Zhang’s hometown—Dali City, Yunnan Province—is believed to be the birthplace of tie-dyeing. About a decade ago, Zhang set up the Lanxu tie-dyeing studio in the village, which has now opened chain stores—downtown Dali, Kunming, and other places, hiring more than 20 full-time employees and 168 part-time workers in total.

At the intangible cultural heritage-themed Starbucks outlet, Zhang was dressed in an exquisite ethnic costume. After demonstrating the coffee tie-dyeing techniques, she also taught a group of coffee lovers to try their hands on this traditional handicraft.

Soon, these keen “apprentices” succeeded in producing their own tie-dyeing patterns, such as cloud, pearl, and fish scale patterns.

Zhang explained that she has named her studio “Lanxu” because she hopes to pass on the “Dali blue” deeply rooted in her memory. “After my grandmother, who took care of me since I was a child, passed away, the dusty loom in her house kept reminding me that if we young people don’t work hard to inherit, the tie-dyeing techniques would be lost forever. I felt a strong sense of urgency,” Zhang recalled.

About a year ago, Starbucks China joined hands with a Chinese public interest organization in launching the “Starbucks Future” project to empower rural women, pass on intangible cultural heritages, and promote rural development. The project has given Zhang opportunities to travel around the country and better promote the Dali Bai people’s tie-dyeing techniques.

“We can dye fabrics blue with *Baphicacanthus cusia*, pink with *Caesalpinia sappan*, yellow with gardenia fruit, onion skin, and turmeric, yellow-green with pomegranate skin, brown with walnut skin, and light brown with coffee grounds and Pu’er tea leaves. The silk scarfs tie-dyed in this way are not only beautiful but also convey environmental protection concepts such as recycling and reuse,” Zhang said.

(Xinhua)

IN-PICS



In the past few days, in preparation for the upcoming Water Splashing Festival, or the Dai New Year, the Dai people in Jinghong City, Xishuangbanna Dai Autonomous Prefecture, Yunnan Province have been busy making dragon boats and training for a dragon boat race. For the Dai people in China, the Water Splashing Festival is their most important traditional festival, during which they usually hold dragon boat races that attract excited spectators.
(Xinhua)

STORY

Hiroto Goto, a devoted Japanese teacher at Yunnan Minzu University

For Hiroto Goto, a teacher of Japanese at Yunnan Minzu University, Yunnan represents a special lifestyle. Now that he has long settled down in Yunnan, he considers this once-strange place his second hometown.

Mr. Goto has recently been awarded the Yunnan Friendship Award. “The award means greater responsibility and spurs me on to work harder in my teaching. I must live up to the expectations for me,” he said earnestly.

“Why have I been awarded the Yunnan Friendship Award? Because I’ve been living in Kunming long enough,” Mr. Goto said proudly, referring to the fact that he has been in Yunnan for nearly two decades.

When Mr. Goto first visited south Yunnan’s Xishuangbanna in 2004, he was deeply impressed by the exotic ethnic culture. Ever since then, he has traveled around Yunnan and taken a large number of pictures of the beautiful landscapes

and unadorned mountain villages. The more he learned about Yunnan, the more fascinated he became. Finally, he chose to stay in Kunming, where he has been teaching Japanese to university students since 2009.

Mr. Goto believes that he has won the Yunnan Friendship Award mainly because of his teaching experience and achievements over the years. “I’ve coached many students in writing and speech competitions. I remember that a

student of mine won second prize in the 2021 ‘China Cup’ National Japanese Speech Contest Southwest China Division. It was really inspiring because that was the best result ever achieved by a contestant from Yunnan.”

“Kunming offers beautiful scenery, a good environment, and living conveniences. I don’t plan to go anywhere else, so I’ll just continue to be a teacher here,” Mr. Goto said with a smile.
(Yunnan Daily)

CONSUMPTION

Yunnan, vegetable producer for China, ASEAN

At 6:00 am, workers at the plantation base of Yunnan Shenchuang Vegetable Cultivation Co Ltd are busy harvesting baby cabbages with lights on head and knives in hand. The Shenchuang baby cabbages will be served on the dining tables in Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen and Guangzhou in two days. Carried by cold chain trucks, they will also be sold to ASEAN countries like Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore.

With great weather, Yunnan province is one of the main vegetable producers in China. Various ecological vegetables of high quality are produced here all year round.

At present, Yunnan sells 70% of its vegetable products to more than 150 cities and 40 countries and regions via diverse distribution channels. Thus, Yunnan is becoming the “vegetable garden” for China, and even for the world.

According to statistics from Kunming Customs, the export volume of Yunnan vegetables has reached 116,300 tons in the first two months this year with a year-on-year increase of 25.78%.

“In recent years, our vegetables can retain freshness through professional cold storage method, and they can be sold smoothly,” said Guo Wang, the General Manager of Shenchuang. Now a China-Laos-Thailand freight train is

available for transporting Yunnan vegetables. Compared to the fragmented transport of railway and road in the past, the new transport mode has cut the transport duration by one day and reduced the cost by more than 20%.

With the multiple effect from RCEP, Yunnan will build new channels for cold chain transport of higher efficiency and stability, and its vegetable sales enjoy a promising future.
(Yunnan Gateway)

A LIFESTYLE CALLED YUNNAN

Yunnan’s tourism market recovering quickly

As the warm spring breeze blows, the tourism consumption market in Yunnan is recovering quickly.

You can experience a study tour at the Red Panda Manor in Pu’er, watch a sunrise at Songtsam Meili Lodge in Deqin, sample a cup of coffee in China’s first coffee village—Xinzhai Village of Baoshan Prefecture, buy a piece of Jianshui purple pottery in Lin’an Old Town of southern Yunnan, or join in a Dabiya dance in Laomudeng Village of Nujiang Prefecture. “You’re welcome to experience a lifestyle called Yunnan,” Wang Ning, secretary of the CPC Yunnan Provincial Committee, sent an invitation to people all over the world on March 7.

After the Chinese New Year holiday, tourists are showing an increasingly strong intention to travel, and Yunnan’s tourism industry is ushering in a full recovery. To meet the tourists’ demand for high quality tourism, all localities in Yunnan have released a series of innovative tourism products such as health preservation holidays, outdoor sports, entertainment and performances, study tours, and self-drive camping. The diversified tourism experiences Yunnan has to offer have made the province a pioneer in meeting the needs of tourists and one of the most popular tourist destinations in China.

Ctrip data show that Dali remains a popular destination for staggered travel. The village of Fengyangyi, where the TV series *Windy Courtyard* was filmed, has received a large number of tourists. In Dali Ancient City, crowds of tourists are seen everywhere. “The once-familiar atmosphere is back,” many busi-

ness owners said.

While improving its tourism products, Yunnan has implemented a package of measures to strengthen the tourism market order, and set up tourism volunteer service organizations at the provincial, prefectural, and county levels to provide tourists with peace of mind. As a new example of smart tourism, the “Yunnan at Your Fingertips” applet also helps to protect the rights of tourists when they travel, shop, and enjoy themselves in Yunnan.

From January to February 2023, Yunnan received 197 million tourists and achieved tourism revenue of 234.171 billion yuan (US\$ 34.118 billion), up 78.4 percent and 71.7 percent year on year, respectively, marking a strong beginning for this year. Since March, despite the usually slack season for tourism, Yunnan has received a large number of tourists in this staggered time slot.

Colorful Yunnan has always been a popular tourist destination. The Yunnan Provincial Government’s work report this year has set the goal of achieving a total tourism revenue of over 1.2 trillion yuan (US\$ 174.84 billion). To deliver a series of world-class tourism products and build itself into a world-class tourist destination, Yunnan will pick up speed to establish a tourism data center, build a number of demonstration scenic spots and hotels for digital application, and promote the transformation, upgrading, and high-quality development of Yunnan’s cultural tourism.

(People’s Daily Overseas Edition, Qijing on Your Palm-top, Spring City on Your Palm-top, and China.org.cn)



Huama street in Kunming, Yunnan province, was bustling with tourists.
(Yunnan Daily)

NEWS

China sees nearly 24 million domestic tourist trips on Qingming Festival

On April 5, the Chinese Qingming Festival or Tomb Sweeping Day, China registered 23,766,400 domestic tourist trips, up 22.7 percent from last year. These trips

were estimated to bring in 6.52 billion yuan (US\$ 945 million) in tourist revenue, an increase of 29.1 percent year on year.
(People’s Daily)