

Ajit skips NCP meeting, attends events in Pune

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Senior Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) leader Ajit Pawar on Friday skipped a meeting of his party's Mumbai unit raising eyebrows in political circles as speculation about his next political move refuses to die down.

Speaking to reporters in Pune, Pawar played down the buzz saying that he was unable to attend the NCP convention as he had to remain present for some other programmes happening at the same time in Pune. He said nothing much should be read into this. BJP said Maha Vikas Aghadi leaders were defaming him and questioning his credibility.

The daylong meeting in Mumbai was addressed by party chief Sharad Pawar and other senior leaders like Praful Patel, Jitendra Awhad, Supriya Sule, Chhagan Bhujbal and state president Jayant Patil. Praful Patel said Mumbai and Thane region have 60 Assembly



NCP leader Ajit Pawar

seats and NCP must do well in this belt if it has to emerge as the number one party in the state. In the 2019 state elections, the party had won 54 seats in the 288-member Assembly.

Awhad said the party can do well if civic elections are fought under the leadership of Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray in an alliance. NCP, Congress and the Shiv Sena under Thackeray were part of the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government that collapsed last year following a rebellion by Eknath Shinde, who later joined hands with the Bharatiya Janata

Party (BJP) to become the chief minister. NCP has fought elections in Mumbai in alliance with the Congress with mixed results, said Jayant Patil. "We also have to renew efforts to strengthen ourselves at the grassroots and connect with people on issues of housing and basic amenities," he said.

Will 100% like to be Maha CM, says Ajit Pawar

Pune: Amid speculation over his next move, senior Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) leader Ajit Pawar on Friday said his outfit can stake a claim to post of Maharashtra's Chief Minister "now also" instead of waiting for 2024 when Assembly polls are due in State. The Leader of Opposition in Assembly also told an interviewer that he will "100 per cent" like to be Chief Minister of Maharashtra. PTI

SC orders UP to put water tubs for wazu in Gyanvapi mosque

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court asked the Varanasi District Collector on Friday to ensure that a sufficient number of plastic tubs with water is made available for "wazu" (ritual ablution) for Muslim devotees at the Gyanvapi mosque complex.

A bench comprising Chief Justice DY Chandrachud and Justice PS Narasimha recorded the statement of Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, who appeared in the court on behalf of the Uttar Pradesh Government, that the collector would ensure the availability of water at the mosque complex.

"The solicitor general states that in order to facilitate the performance of 'wazu', the District Magistrate shall ensure that a sufficient number of tubs for water is made available to avoid inconvenience," the bench said.

The apex court had earlier directed the collector to hold a meeting for providing congenial working arrangements for "wazu" at the mosque complex. The court was hearing a plea moved by the Anjuman Intezamia Masjid Committee, seeking permission for "wazu" at the mosque complex in Varanasi during the month of Ramzan.

Supreme Court had earlier referred to its order passed on May 20 last year, directing that facilities for "wazu" and washrooms be provided to devotees following the sealing of certain areas



inside the mosque premises. The Solicitor General had assured the court that a meeting shall be convened by the collector so that a congenial working arrangement is provided, the bench noted in its order. The court had also recorded the mosque management committee's statement that it will be satisfied even if mobile toilets are provided.

The apex court had, on November 11 last year, extended till further orders the protection of the area inside the mosque complex where a "Shivling" was claimed to have been found.

Senior advocate Huzefa Ahmadi, appearing for the mosque committee, had requested the bench to take up the matter for hearing soon, saying the month of Ramzan is underway and adequate arrangements should be made. He had said the water for "wazu" was being used from a drum and the number of worshippers had increased in view of Ramzan.

PM woos Eshwarappa via video call after son denied K'taka poll ticket

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In a reminder to the Himachal Pradesh elections, last year, when Prime Minister Narendra Modi made a 'placatory' telephone call to a BJP leader denied ticket by the party, former Karnataka minister and sitting MLA KS Eshwarappa on Friday received a video call from Modi, days after his son's candidature was passed over for the Shivamogga Assembly seat in the poll-bound Karnataka.

In the call the Prime Minister lauded Eshwarappa for his "commitment to the BJP". Eshwarappa, 74, who recently announced his retirement from electoral politics, also shared a video of him talking to Modi in a phone call.

In the video, the Prime Minister is heard saying, "You have demonstrated your commitment to the party. I am very happy with you. So, I decided to talk to you." Modi is also

heard saying that he will meet him whenever he visits poll-bound Karnataka. In reply, Eshwarappa told the PM that the BJP will win the upcoming election.

In 2022 Himachal elections the Prime Minister had reportedly made a similar call to Kripal Parmar, the BJP leader in Himachal Pradesh after he was not allotted the party ticket in the assembly polls. Parmar, however, contested as an independent even after the phone call from Modi but lost his election.

Parmar, 63, who contested from the Fatehpur seat and finished third with just 2,800 votes.

After speaking to the Prime Minister, Eshwarappa, a backward class leader, told newsmen "I had no clue even in my dream that the Prime Minister will call me. His phone call has inspired me. We will win the election in the Shivamogga city."

NOW, HC ORDERS CBI PROBE IN MCD SCAM

Cash for job: CBI raids another TMC MLA's house

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

There was more embarrassment for Mamata Banerjee's Trinamool Congress with the Central Bureau of Investigations on Friday raiding the residence of party MLA Tapas Saha in connection with the school-level cash-for-job case that has already seen three party legislators including former Education Minister Partha Chatterjee and Manik Bhattacharya, a former TET chairman, going to jail.

Days after the federal agency arrested party's Baroan MLA Jiban Krishna Saha in the same case the CBI on Friday raided the house and office of Tapas Saha a TMC MLA from Tehatta in Nadia district. This, even as the Calcutta High Court on Friday gave a fresh order directing the CBI to investigate the multi-crore State municipal services scam which had accidentally come before Enforcement Directorate while conducting raids related to the school-level recruitment scam.

Back at Tehatta, Tapas Saha was being grilled for more than six hours when reports last came on Friday evening, sources said. Curiously in a video going viral hours before the raids, the Tehatta MLA was seen sitting

by a pond behind his house burning a pile of documents, sources said adding the officials had taken cognizance of the matter. Incidentally, the "Ponds" had been playing an important role in recent investigations. A few days ago arrested TMC MLA from Baroan, Jiban Krishna Saha too had lobbed off his two mobile sets into a pond behind his house.

The CBI which took about 60 hours to fish out the two mobile phones on Friday however said that the phones were water resistant and were being sent to Delhi for forensic tests.

The Baroan MLA who had allegedly raised Rs 300 crore by selling school teachers' jobs allegedly owned joint properties (lands) with a member of the State's highest political family, the investigators have allegedly found.

Cut to Tehatta. Unlike Chatterjee, Bhattacharya and Jiban Krishna whose names bobbed up during investigation by Enforcement Directorate and CBI that were conducting probe following a High Court order, the Bengal government started probes against Tapas Saha after some party members and Nadia residents reported to TMC national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee about his alleged involvement in recruitment racket.

Tiruppur textile hub happy as work hours go up

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ COIMBATORE

The textile hub of South India, Tiruppur, heaved a sigh of relief on Friday as the Tamil Nadu Government acceded to the long pending demand by the industry to increase the working hours of the textile units from eight hours to 12 hours per day in the backdrop of the failure of the units to meet the deadline caused by Covid-19 and the resultant of shut down.

Eight lakh families in Tiruppur and surrounding regions were facing uncertainties as many units started shutting down for reasons ranging from shortage of labor and poor infrastructure facilities in the knitwear capital of the country.

The Government has been sitting over the industry's demand for increasing the working hours by four hours. The Pioneer had reported recently about the dire consequences faced by the Tiruppur Textile Association because of the callousness of the State administration. K M Subramanian, president, TEA,



in a statement on Friday welcomed the Government's move to increase the working hours. "The employees are ready and the units are willing to pay the overtime wages. But we did not get the green signal from Chennai," said Subramanian.

He also stated that during peak period, the requirement of overtime was absolutely needed to meet the delivery schedule and make shipment in time. "Transporting the goods by air is a costly affair and it brought down the competence of our units," said S Sakthivel, executive secretary, TEA.

Many demands made by the TEA remain unfulfilled, said Sakthivel. The district as well as Tiruppur Municipal Corporation limits which were vibrant and lively till the pandemic struck in 2019, are yet to get back to the rails, said Rajendra Prasad Pareek, owner of a small scale industrial unit.

Heartiest Greetings to all on Bhagwan Parshuram Jayanti & Akshaya Tritiya

April 22, 2023

“ देशवासियों को परशुराम जयंती की ढेरों बधाई। भगवान परशुराम दया और करुणा के साथ ही अपने शौर्य और पराक्रम के लिए पूजनीय हैं। ”

- नरेन्द्र मोदी

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PAPER WITH PASSION

Different standards

British Dy PM has to resign on charges of bullying but liberal politicians get away with such allegations

British Deputy Prime Minister Dominic Raab had to quit on Friday over the allegations that he bullied his colleagues. He had himself requested the investigation in November after government officials filed formal complaints about his behaviour. Though he resigned, saying that he felt "duty bound" to accept the outcome of the inquiry, he was unapologetic about his conduct. He said that, according to the probe, in the last four and a half years, he didn't abuse, shout at or physically intimidate anyone. However, the report found him guilty on two complaints. Raab asserted that the threshold for bullying is low and it sets "a dangerous precedent for the conduct of good government." He went on to say that it will "have a chilling effect on those driving change on behalf of your government—and ultimately the British people." A couple of points need to be made here. First, in mature democracies, the rules governing the conduct of politicians, especially those in office, are very strict, and strictly implemented. A British prime minister is hauled over the coals for violating the Covid rules; another one is penalized for not wearing the seat belt while driving. This is in sharp contrast with the situation in our country where our political masters believe that rules are for fools, which are made by wise men and women. At any rate, there is hardly any possibility of a traffic policeman getting near a top politician's convoy and enquiring about the compliance of traffic rules.



The charges against Raab and his eventual resignation hint at a pattern: conservative, Right-leaning politicians are more likely to be noticed by the media and hauled over the coals by opinion makers than their liberal counterparts. Liberal politicians, especially those leaning Leftwards, are handled with kid gloves. Consider the case of US Vice-President Kamala Harris. In December 2021, there were reports about an "exodus" of her personal staff. "Staffers who worked for Harris before she was vice president said one consistent problem was that Harris would refuse to wade into briefing materials prepared by staff members, then berate employees when she appeared unprepared," The Washington Post reported. A former staffer was quoted as saying that her criticism was "soul-destroying." The exodus did not hurt her; she continues to hunker her way as the chief functionary in-charge of stopping the influx of illegal aliens from the southern border. Similarly, former US president Donald Trump is being prosecuted for paying a porn star, even though the money was not drawn from the public exchequer. On the other hand, the mainstream media downplayed US President Joe Biden's son Hunter's improprieties. Raab, however, is a major Conservative leader, a close aide of Prime Minister Rishi Sunak. He expressed his "sadness" in accepting Raab's resignation. With the low threshold for bullying, Raab there will encourage "spurious complaints" against ministers. Sunak must ensure that doesn't happen.

PICTALK



Children bathe in the Hooghly river on a hot summer day, in Nadia

'Blue economy' as next great frontier

This economy encompasses cross-cutting sectors, ranging from fisheries and aquaculture to maritime transportation and renewable energy



REBECCA MATHAI

GAUTAM GAHLAUT

W edged behind towering skyscrapers is the 800-year-old Worli Koliwada, the home of Koli community in Mumbai. A lively fish market typically awaits visitors at the entrance of these settlements. However, behind the charm of such "artisanal fishing" is a tale of threats to their very source of livelihood, fish, to a receding and restricted shoreline. The upcoming coastal road is built on land reclaimed from the sea and the long-term impact of the reclamation on the availability of fish stock hasn't been assessed.

Worli Koliwada is just a tiny blip on the 7,516-km-long jawline of the country that abuts the sea. This long coastline was the subject of a performance audit conducted by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India last year. By its very nature, a performance audit goes beyond conventional audit to evaluate the key challenges in say, a programme or a scheme and provide actionable recommendations to the Government. This audit on the conservation of coastal ecosystems in India covered ecological, societal and economic issues on the coastline under the larger gamut of the blue economy.

The blue economy emerged as one of the two priority areas (the second theme being Responsible Artificial Intelligence) for collaboration amongst Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) of G20 nations — the SAI20 — at the meeting in Guwahati in mid-March under the chairmanship of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India. The coastline of G20 countries accounts for 45 per cent of that of the world's and India's theme found an encouraging resonance among the member SAIs.

The blue economy encompasses a wide range of cross-cutting sectors ranging from fisheries and aquaculture to maritime transportation and renewable energy, making it a complex and labyrinthine landscape to navigate in the audit. But it also holds tremendous value. The



World Bank pegs the economic potential of ocean resources at \$24 trillion to provide livelihood to over 3 billion people. India has 1.85 lakh licenced vessels for industrial fishing, besides small-scale artisanal fishery that bears a significant footprint of fisherwomen.

Living in fishing hamlets with a proud history like Worli Koliwada and now, sharing the same uncertain future. Nearly 34 per cent of global fish stocks are currently overfished, and another 60 per cent are fished at their maximum sustainable level. Ocean ecosystems are under threat from many directions. For instance, ballast water of large shipping vessels has brought along alien invasive species like Mytella strigata, a mussel of South American origin, which has wiped out populations of green mussel (Perna viridis) in the Ramsar site of Ashtamudi Lake in Kerala, besides threatening the survival of indigenous clam and backwater oysters.

The enormous potential of the blue economy cannot be realised without addressing critical issues such as marine biodiversity conservation, gender equity and effective coastal spatial planning. Spatial planning divides the



OCEAN ECOSYSTEMS ARE UNDER THREAT FROM MANY DIMENSIONS. FOR INSTANCE, BALLAST WATER OF LARGE SHIPPING VESSELS HAS BROUGHT ALONG ALIEN INVASIVE SPECIES TO INDIAN SHORES

coastal map into thousands of bite-sized squares. For instance, the Worli hamlet falls in grid number 75 in a 100-plus grid for the coastline in Maharashtra. Each grid demarcates an ecologically sensitive zone, supported by management plans that specify the (permissible) activities that it can sustain — fisheries, tourism, infrastructure projects etc.

One of the areas examined in the performance audit was the extent of compliance with management plans for grids along 6,100 km of the coastline, which would have been impossible to check but for the use of a technology-enabled toolkit. Using GIS software, the grids were assigned geographical attributes that transformed the management plan maps into dynamically active spatial files with grids colour-coded on the grade of their ecological sensitivity. By transposing on this base (of "what should be"), the images from Google Earth (of "what is"), the auditors could see how far the on-site reality differed from what is mandated.

The toolkit revealed, among others, a racetrack in a Coastal Regulation Zone-1 area in Pattipulam in Tamil Nadu; Coastal Regulation

Zone-1 being the ecologically most sensitive in the hierarchy of regulated areas. While resorts and shopping malls dotted "no development zones" along the coastline of Kerala.

This toolkit is not just an audit resource shared by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India at the SAI20 meeting. It can be adapted for use by the Government for oversight of compliance with the coastal management plans. And since it uses open resources, the same tools can be put together in an app that allows communities to partner government in conservation as "blue marshals".

Imagine if the Kolis were to be drafted to monitor activities in grid number 75. And what if the Kolis could join hands with other fishing communities along the coast — just as auditors and Governments join hands under the G20 banner — to protect the waters which, in any case, recognise no grids or boundaries? The waters bind us to one earth, one family and one future and as Amitav Ghosh reminds us: "No place was so remote as to escape the flood of history."

(Mathai is the Additional Deputy CAG and Gahlaut is Senior AO, CAG of India)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A GREAT SCIENTIFIC FEAT

Sir — The universe is a never-ending saga of cosmic forces such as black holes colliding to emit gravitational waves, neutrinos and even vibrations emanating from the expansion of the universe. Much progress has been made in the field of gravitational waves ever since it was first detected by Albert Einstein in 1916. It delves deeper into the antecedents of cosmic collisions by closely watching the sky through gravitational wave observations. With the recent Cabinet approval for the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO) India project, the country has taken a big leap forward in terms of inculcating scientific temper. This is the third LIGO coming to Maharashtra after Louisiana and Washington in the US which will work in tandem with them.

This ambitious project began with big fanfare in the US and now Europe and Japan have also joined hands. Advanced gravitational wave detectors and an international web of observatories will keep a hawk's eye to determine exactly why, when and where cosmic collisions take place. A rare observatory in fundamental science at the global level of operational expertise that is likely to groom newer enthusiasts and can make a huge impact. A new era has dawned that will set the stage for new vistas for young scientists to make a mark in this mysterious realm. A new observatory on Indian soil has the potential to open up newer avenues only if it can come to terms with ultra-sophisticated technology. Now it remains to be seen as to how far Indian scientists, science educators and budding enthusiasts can extract their true potential and grab the opportunities with both hands that underlie gravitational wave physics.

Vijay Singh Adhikari | Nainital

SHOCKING INCIDENT

Sir — Shocked to read that, in another incident, five Army soldiers were killed while another was injured in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district on Thursday

A laudable act of compassion



As the father of an 18-year-old boy studying in faraway south, my heart is shattered reading about the inconsolable sudden death of 18-year-old Rudra in Pune and feeling the shock and pain of his father Haladhar Let, a migrant labourer from Birbhum district. But along with such grief, my chest also swells with pride and joy on reading about the humanity and liberalism of labour contractor Abdul Gaffar (also from Birbhum) who, despite his modest means, immediately paid ₹80,000 for embalming the body and transporting it to Birbhum in an ambulance!

"I just had my iftar... I thought it was my duty as a pious Muslim to help Haladhar in this time of distress. It was not about money, it was about humanity," the words of Abdul Gaffar are music in this rabidly communal environment. May all Indians draw inspiration from this Haladhar-Gaffar saga and return to their all-embracing cultural roots and take a vow not to sacrifice their secular legacy and the all-embracing spirit of the Indian Constitution on the altar of sword-flexing barbaric "celebration" of epic heroes leading to all sorts of communal disharmony! May the humanitarian spirit of Rabindranath-Nazrul-Gandhi-Nehru-Netaji enjoy the last laugh in Bengal and India and let this be the spirit on the holy occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr.

Kajal Chatterjee | Kolkata

when the vehicle they were travelling in caught fire due to the likely use of grenades by terrorists, as per the Army's statement. The Army vehicle was fired on by unidentified terrorists, taking advantage of heavy rains and low visibility in the area. The Army said the vehicle caught fire due to the likely use of grenades by terrorists. Five personnel of the Rashtriya Rifles unit deployed for counter-terrorist operations in this area have unfortunately lost their lives in the incident. "Another seriously injured soldier was evacuated immediately to an Army Hospital and is under treatment," the Army said, adding that operations were in progress to locate the perpetrators of the dastardly act. It has been observed that it has become routine of killing soldiers by terrorists before the State Assembly elections.

Bhagwan Thadani | Mumbai

INDIA SURPASSES CHINA

Sir — In the Global Hunger Index, India is at the 101st position out of the 116 countries on the list. But while surg-

ing ahead on this index, which is a welcome development, India has surpassed China in terms of population numbers and our nation now boasts of the maximum number of people in any country in the world.

However, it remains to be understood well that it is not really a good piece of news, rather it's an alarming indication. Nearly 50 per cent of the Indian population is currently below the age of 25 years, as per the United Nations Fund for Population Activities. No wonder that it is becoming increasingly harder for the Governments to provide jobs, healthcare and a host of other necessary facilities to the youth. Understandably, it is hard for our Governments to create employment for such a huge population, so it should strictly consider the policy of birth control. Now we should strictly focus on the policy, "Hum do, hamare do".

Zeeshaan | Kazipet

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

A-HELP for sustainable livestock, a better life

Accredited Agent for Health and Extension of Livestock Production is bridging the gap between livestock farmers, health service providers

Livestock production is a very important component of the national economy, a contribution that goes beyond direct food production to include multipurpose uses such as skins, fibre, fertiliser and fuel, as well as capital accumulation.

Livestock management practices and production diseases are seriously influencing the productivity of the livestock population. As an outcome of livestock diseases, animal protein output has not been able to meet up with the demand. Livestock diseases can be infectious, communicable or zoonotic.

The prevention and control of animal diseases is a reoccurring problem which brings about direct action by veterinary services. The services make the farmer aware of livestock management in terms of prevention and control of animal diseases.

Empowerment by sharing responsibilities
In India, women are often responsible for the day-to-day care and management of livestock. They also often provide basic veterinary care, such as administering medicines and treat-



ing injuries. They play a major role in processing, packaging and selling dairy products. "More than a third of dairy cooperatives members in India are women," Prime Minister Modi emphasised at International Dairy Federation World Dairy Summit, 2022.

Bridging the gap
In every village/panchayat, there is a veterinary dispensary aid centre manned by a vet, livestock assistant and attendant. This staff often gets engaged in campaigns etc, leaving behind other routine duties. Their responsibilities do not allow them to take up the responsibility of a primary service provider.

Role of A-HELP
A-HELP will act as a "Livestock Resource Person" for the designated area/village. The selected person will serve as a last-mile extension worker providing 24x7 services at the doorstep of farmers. She will sensitise livestock owners on ear-tagging, registration on the Information Network for Animal Productivity & Health (INAPH), scientific health management of livestock, basic sanitation and hygienic practices.

A-HELP is like ASHA
Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying came up with a new band of community-based functionaries; named A-HELP to fill this void by utilising the existing cadre of Pashu Sakhis under DAY-NRLM, which is a cadre of community animal care providers. This was institutionalised on September 1, 2023, for leveraging the SHG platform for rural economic growth.

Developing a training module for A-HELP and their master trainers was the biggest obstacle. The A-HELP training was undertaken using a "consortium" approach with DAHD,

NRLM, and NDDB on board to have a complete approach towards livestock health, welfare, and women's empowerment to make it a sustainable model. After the 42-day basic training by NRLM, the Animal Husbandry Department will provide a further 16 days of training to make them eligible to become "A-HELP". National Dairy Development Board is the nodal institution for training which includes ToT programmes for vets and SRLM officials and a comprehensive 16-day training programme with hands-on farm practicals for selected Pashu Sakhis. Following training, their performance will be tested and accredited by the Rural Self Employment Training Institutions.

The success of ASHA workers in the Health sector paved way for this novel idea of A-HELP in the livestock sector, which will act as the first port of call for any livestock health-related issues, especially those who find it difficult to access veterinary health services.

(The writer is Asst Commissioner, DAHD, GoI, New Delhi)



SULEKHA SL



FIRST COLUMN

TIPS FOR SOLO WOMEN TRAVELLERS

It's time to enable an environment that welcomes solo travellers without fear



NIHARIKA NIGAM

My latest travel fiction novel 3...2...1...JUMP has become a favourite with travel influencers for its various shades of travel: the yearning for a scenic destination, the apprehensions, making new friends, impulse excursions, and yes, the loneliness of it too! It's a treat to experience all of it, as a part of it. Practically, however, the moment you think to vocalise this desire to friends and family, the safety concerns are the hardest to dodge! These are of course genuine concerns, and well-founded. However, with some planning, your next solo trip can be a breeze and a half!

PLAN IN ADVANCE

While living spontaneously is one of the perks of solo travel, have a few basics in place. What's the usual mode of transport? How crowded are roads at night? How far your accommodation is from the places or adventures you wish to have? These help you account for your money, and time.

CARRY-ONS

A pepper spray for creeps, pee safe for public restrooms and hand sanitisers for everywhere! Mustn't must. Always have cash handy, you'd be surprised by how many places en route can leave you with terrible network and no signal.

ADVENTURE

When choosing adventure operators, always do your due diligence in terms of their expertise. This should not be taken lightly. Look at testimonials, the years of operations and their safety standards.



ACCOMMODATION

When looking at cheaper accommodation alternatives, look at customer reviews and make sensible decisions. If the location is isolated and dingy, chances are it isn't frequented by solo women travellers and you'd rather choose differently. Hostels are great for meeting new people and there are tons of cool options now as the hostel culture seems to be here to stay!

BUY YOUR DRINKS

Nobody, and I mean nobody, should be trusted with your drinks when you're by yourself. Get bottled water and get your drinks made. Spiking drinks is more common than you think and winging it is a recipe for disaster.

Try local experiences. Chances are, there's a reason they're popular. Rishikesh has gained popularity for adventures like Bungy and rafting. Goa is expanding beyond beaches and nightlife too!

Have fun with the world around you, and let it take you in. As long as you're well and safe!

WRAPPING UP

Planning and strategizing your trip in advance will help you be prepared for the troubles you might face. There are many women-friendly hostels and hostels available in various places these days. You can research and check reviews about the same. Services like homestay are also good to go. Ensure that your loved ones are aware of the place you stay and try to be in touch with them at least once a day. A solo trip will help you meet the miraculous person you are. People often find the answer to their questions this way. You never know, it might heal you to be a better person and even strengthen your mind to face anything. Hope you have a great experience!

(The writer is the Director, of Business Development Jumpin Heights)

Earth Day and 'Sanatan' ecology

On Earth Day we must resolve to recreate ancient doctrines of regenerative lifestyle to ensure our planet and its inhabitants remain healthy



RAGHAVENDRA P TIWARI

The celebration of Earth Days or for that matter any day is the occasion for educating the public on issues of concern to humanity, discussing concerns having global relevance, mobilising public opinion, showcasing the achievements of humanity, and revisiting the civilizational discourses for drawing a road map for the future. Human civilization is at a cross-road due to the planetary climate crisis. Unquestionably, human indulgence and the plundering of natural resources is the prime reason for the mess we are in.

The Vedic culture is a set of doctrines for living in perfect harmony with nature. The verses in the Vedas manifest the sacred relationship between biotic and abiotic components. To the Vedic people, the Earth was an object of worship and its bountiful natural resources were utilised to meet the bare minimum needs for survival. A Hymn in Prithvi Sukta in Atharva Veda is the foremost inspirational ecological proclamation. Through this, we earnestly vouch for the ever-lasting allegiance to Mother Earth- 'Mata Bhumi Putroham Prithivyah. Rig Veda (8.8.49.4) contemplates that 'United be your purpose, harmonious be your feelings, collected be your mind, in the same way as all the various aspects of the universe exist in interconnectedness, wholeness and oneness'.

Prithvi Sukta says 'O Mother Earth! Be kind to us and bestow happiness upon us. May you be fertile, arable, and nourisher of all? May you continue supporting people of all races and nations?' Through these, Mother Earth's blessings are sought for the prosperity of all creatures and the fulfilment of righteous aspirations of man. We solemnly Mother Earth for all her natural bounties, especially for her gifts of water, herbs and vegetation, and we pray for the wellness of the sky, hills, mountains, rivers, clouds, seas and oceans and wish that all components of Earth remain healthy.

Through such principles, man secured the Earth from all environmental misadventures and ill-treatment. In Sanatan culture, we firmly believe that the earth and all its objects are not merely the creation of God but also possess his divine energy ('Tat sristva ta devanu pravisat': after creating the universe, He entered into every object created). Thus, we developed close interconnections and a co-existential mindset with nature. Contrastingly, to satisfy our greed and unlimited wants, we are now polluting the hydrosphere, lithosphere, biosphere and atmosphere- crucial components of Earth. Consequently, mother earth is wounded, its ecosystem polluted to the extent of becoming incapable of supporting.

Verse 12.1.35 in Bhumi Suktam warned us about the overexploitation of natural resources irreparably damaging the environment. In Atharv Veda, we prayed that What, O earth, I dig out of thee, quickly shall that grow again: may I not, O pure one, injure thy vitals or thy heart. Since we no longer celebrate the divine energy in Earth and its components, our indulgence with nature has become 'Prakriti Virodhi'. Therefore, the question arises: What should be our Sanatan discourse on the irreversible planetary climate crisis? Contextually, the Sanatan worldview, scholarship, traditions, civilizational discourses and nature-cen-



WE SHOULD NOT LIVE IN THE ILLUSION THAT MAN IS SPECIAL OR DIFFERENT FROM OTHER BIOTIC AND ABIOTIC COMPONENTS AND ALSO FROM EACH OTHER



tric indulgence can provide a spiritual roadmap to address the threat of climate change.

Pancha mahabhutas (Prithvi, Agni, Jal, Akash, and Vayu) originate from nature and depend upon each other for existence. Earth, the densest of all, is the ground upon which life originates and flourishes. For us, the Earth is an organic entity, metaphysically and metaphorically. We worship these elements for their sacredness and divine energy. We used to perform the prayer before any action that we thought might pollute these elements. Through yagnas and sacrificial fire, we used to purify the environment. Practices like daily greetings to mother earth before stepping onto it, praying to the sun at the first sight, greetings to food and offering it to God before eating, worshipping rivers, mountains, vegetation and various other lands- and life-forms, and thanking God before sleeping amply demonstrate the depth of our intimate relationship with nature. In Vishwamitra Smriti we pray Samundrasvane devi parvatstamandale? Vishnupatni namstubhyam padsparsah kshamaswame- Oh Mother Goddess, the one who is covered with oceans as her garments and mountains as her bosom, the consort of Lord Vishnu, please forgive us for touching you with our feet.

This does not mean that Hindus mindlessly worship the superiority of nature due to fear or superstition. Vedic culture taught

us that human beings are not the supreme species and have no right to dominate or conquer other entities. Vedas advised us to live in a co-existential mindset. Ishavasya Upanishad verse-1 says that Isavasyamidam sarvam yatkinca jagatyam jagat; Tena tyaktena bhunjitha ma grdhah kasya svid-dhaman; meaning that 'All natural resources belong to the God and our share is the bare minimum necessary for survival and earn without committing sins. So we should not covet others' wealth. The irony is that the modern Hindus are en-route to forgetting their traditional sacred relationship with nature and their ecological vision is becoming blurred. Consequently, the life support system of the earth has been degraded and polluted and the earth is becoming unfit to nurture and support life. We need to restore our ancient ecological vision to reverse this trend. We ought to embrace our traditional lifestyle, world view and civilizational discourses of green living. The Vedic philosophy of oneness must be the guiding principle for our indulgence with nature where the universe is considered an integral part of our own higher self.

From scientific materialism and dualistic Western metaphysics, we learnt that man is independent of nature and God is independent of both, man and nature. This prompted us to consider mother earth a dead object and encouraged us to exploit nature that can be naturally regenerated whereas

Atharva Veda taught us: 'O Mother Earth, May whatever I dig from you grow back again quickly, and may we not injure you by our labour'. This is leading to the collapse of the earth's ecosystem. The fact is Mother Earth does not discriminate against the creatures decorating her body and soul. To Her, all creatures are equally important. Thus, we arrive at the dictum 'Sarva Bhuta Hita'.

We should not live in the illusion that man is special or different from other biotic and abiotic components and also from each other. We must restore and promote the deep-rooted benign interconnectedness that exists between man and nature. We need to interface our Sanatan worldview and modern science to experience and enrich inner harmony and peace, universal brotherhood and respect for mother earth.

We need to recreate ancient doctrines of regenerative lifestyle which can ensure the sustainability of nature. We must ensure that all life-sustaining components of mother earth remain healthier than ever before. On Earth Day, can we commit ourselves to restoring Earth's life-sustaining ecosystem, re-establish the Sanatan connection with nature and natural resources, celebrate God's creativity and divine energy, and learn to live harmoniously with Nature? After all, 'Wisdom comes to a man, who meditates, acts and lives according to the true eternal laws of Nature' (Rig Veda).

(The writer is Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Punjab, Bathinda)

Earth Day is for everyone, everywhere

Climate change is undoubtedly the biggest environmental issue we face today, and we are running out of time to combat it

Earth is home to nearly 7 billion people, 300,000 plant species, and about 10 million animal species. Ecosystems around the world provide precious services and resources to sustain all life on Earth, yet humanity continues to take them for granted. Our activities and climate change are threatening the planet, and we need to do everything we can to conserve and protect our homes. Earth Day reminds us of the biggest environmental issues and their drivers. The theme of Earth Day in 2023 is "Invest in Our Planet". Earth Day is celebrated to raise public awareness about the environment and mark the anniversary of the first Earth Day. Decades later, environmental issues continue. The fight for a clean environment



SUNIL GOYAL



DIMPLE KHOKHAR

(Prof. Sunil Goyal is the Dean and Chairman of - the Board of Studies, Dr BR. Ambedkar University of Social Sciences, Dr Ambedkar Nagar and Dimple Khokhar is a PhD Research Scholar)

is becoming more urgent to address environmental issues, especially climate change.

Climate change is caused by human activities such as burning fossil fuels, which emit heat-trapping carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases into the atmosphere that raise global temperatures and disrupt weather patterns. The impacts of climate change around the world include extreme weather events such as floods and intense wildfires. The first Earth Day helped put environmental issues on the national agenda in the U.S. The event also inspired various environmental legislation in the 1970s, including the Clean Water Act (1972) and the Toxic Substances Control Act (1976), according to Columbia University's State of the



Planet (opens in new tab) news website.

And the impact of Earth Day has gone far beyond the U.S. For example, the United Nations General Assembly formally recognized April 22 as International Mother Earth Day in 2009, according to the United Nations Environment Programme (opens in new

tab). On Earth Day 2016, the United Nations adopted the Paris Climate Agreement (opens in new tab), which saw nations around the world aim to keep global warming preferably below 1.5 Celsius (2.7 Fahrenheit) and well below 2 C (3.6 F) compared to pre-industrial levels.

However, despite Earth Day moments such as the Paris Climate Agreement pledges, climate change is far from resolved. The UN Secretary-General António Guterres said at the Economist Sustainability Summit in 2022 that the 1.5-degree goal is on "life support," and with emissions continuing to increase, "we are sleepwalking to climate catastrophe."

GET INVOLVED

Climate change is

undoubtedly the biggest environmental issue we face today, and we are running out of time to combat it. The latest reports published by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change warn that global temperatures will very likely rise 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels by 2040, and it's "now or never" to limit global warming. Despite the progress on climate pledges, it is not enough.

CIVIL ACTION

Public pressure and civil society mobilisation are the greatest tool in the global shed to drive institutional and systemic changes. Hold politicians, governments and companies across sectors accountable for their actions - target organisations and businesses that are linked to fossil fuel

industries, deforestation, and harmful activities to the environment that could lead to the loss of habitats and biodiversity. Whether it is the fast fashion industry that is generating millions of tonnes of textile waste and wastewater or the companies that neglect plastic pollution, you can use your voice and make a difference. From local petitions and advocacy to large-scale boycotts and protests, there's no action too small.

INDIVIDUAL ACTION

We can achieve a sustainable future for us with our combined efforts if every individual in the world makes changes to their lifestyles. You can make it a habit to join in community reforestation efforts or beach clean-ups. On the individual level, simple

switches to plant-based diets (or at least reduce meat consumption) can alleviate significant stress on deforestation and emissions in the agricultural sector; eliminating single-use plastics and replace them with reusable and recyclable materials; giving up fast fashion in support of sustainable fashion; opting for public transportation and low-emission means of transport such as biking and electric cars can all go a long way. Acts of composting and recycling are not to be underestimated in reducing your carbon footprint.

The current warming is happening at a rate not seen in the past 10,000 years. Scientific information taken from natural sources and modern equipment show the signs of a changing climate.

MAN UTD COLLAPSE AT SEVILLA

AP ■ SEVILLE

Manchester United imploded in Seville in the Europa League on Thursday while Juventus completed a good evening for the club by holding on away to Sporting and advancing to the semi-finals.

In the quarter-final second legs, United succumbed 3-0 at Sevilla to go out 5-2.

Juventus hung on to draw 1-1 with Sporting in Lisbon to advance 2-1 on aggregate while Bayer Leverkusen won 4-1 in Belgium to eliminate Union Saint-Gilloise 5-2.

Jose Mourinho's Roma beat Feyenoord 4-1 after extra time to advance 4-2.

United, who led by two goals with six minutes left in the first leg before conceding a pair of late own goals, completed the collapse in Spain.

Goalkeeper David de Gea had a disastrous night as lacklustre United were dispatched by the six-time competition winners.

After eight minutes De Gea rolled a pass to an isolated Harry Maguire, scorer of one of the first-leg own goals. This time, ambushed by three opponents, he gave the ball away and Youssef En-Nesyri accepted the present.

Sevilla dominated and could have scored again before centre back Loic Bade headed onto his own shoulder and looped the ball over De Gea in the 47th minute.

In the 81st minute, De Gea



charged out but sliced a dropping ball. It fell to En-Nesyri who curled into the empty net to complete the victory.

"It's clear that when we make mistakes, it's very difficult to win a football game. We have to do better. That's a demand," said United coach Erik ten Hag.

Juventus received potentially good news earlier in the evening when Italy's highest sporting court revoked a 15-point Serie A points deduction for illicit transfer activity but asked that the case should be re-examined.

In Lisbon, Juventus started fast as Adrian Rabiot spun and scored after Sporting failed to clear a ninth-minute corner.

The French midfielder then fouled Manuel Ugarte in the penalty area and Marcus Edwards converted the 20th-minute penalty.

The home team struggled against the Juventus defence and Ricardo Esgaio and Sebastian Coates missed Sporting's best chances in the closing minutes.

Juventus will next face Sevilla and coach Massimiliano Allegri said he had thought the writing was on the wall for United.

"I expected Sevilla to be honest. They are a tricky team," the Juventus coach said. "They have won so many Europa Leagues so they definitely have an advantage. The signs from the last game were in their favour, I had that feeling."

'YOU WANT MORE'

In Brussels, Union Saint-Gilloise could not claim a second German scalp.

In the first leg in Leverkusen, Union Saint-Gilloise had managed a draw as they had in the round of 16 on their way to eliminating Union Berlin.

On Thursday, their hopes of a repeat began to fade after 90 seconds, as Moussa Diaby pounced on some poor defending and round-eyed goalkeeper Anthony Moris.

Mitchel Bakker volleyed a second after 38 minutes.

Morris then played the ball straight to Jeremie Frimpong who fired it straight back past the Luxembourg international after 60 minutes.

Casper Terho replied for Union but Adam Hlozek restored the three-goal advantage.

"Being in the semi-finals is great, but once you get there you want more," said Leverkusen coach Xabi Alonso whose team will face Roma for a place in the final.

After a cagey first hour in Rome, Leonardo Spinazzola levelled the tie for the home team with a deflected shot.

Paixao flicked Feyenoord level on the night and ahead on aggregate. But in the final seconds of regular time, Paulo Dybala scored for Roma to send the tie to extra time.

Stephan El Shaarawy struck from close range to put Roma ahead 11 minutes into extra time and Lorenzo Pellegrini scored from a rebound three minutes into the second period.

In the Europa Conference League, Fiorentina blew a three-goal first-leg advantage over Lech Poznan before scoring twice in the last 12 minutes to lose 3-2 at home but advance 6-4 on aggregate.

Gent took the lead against West Ham at the London Stadium when Hugo Cuypers put them ahead on aggregate after 20 minutes. But Michail Antonio scored twice, Lucas Paqueta converted a penalty and Declan Rice also scored in a comfortable 4-1 win for West Ham to advance 5-2 on aggregate.

France's last representative in Europe, Nice went out 3-2 on aggregate after losing 2-1 in extra time at home to Basel. Kasim Adams headed the deciding goal in the 98th minute.



Packed football calendar makes no sense: Ancelotti

AP ■ MADRID

Real Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti complained about the packed football calendar on Friday and insisted something has to change to protect the players.

Madrid beat Chelsea this week to reach the Champions League semi-finals and they will play the first leg three days after competing against Osasuna in the Copa del Rey final.

"The calendar is a calendar that we have said many times, objectively makes no sense," Ancelotti told a news conference.

"It's too packed, there are too many games. La Liga are thinking about themselves, the (Spanish football) federation are thinking about themselves, UEFA are thinking about themselves, FIFA are thinking about themselves, and they don't consider the players.

"It's not a good path for football, something has to change, there are too many games."

Despite the proximity of the cup final, on May 6 and Man City's visit to the Santiago Bernabeu on May 9, Ancelotti said he would not be forced to rotate his team between the matches.

"I think (I can use the same players), what has to change is the routine we have after games," added the Italian. "I am not worried about this."

Madrid host Celta Vigo on Saturday in La Liga, looking to reduce Barcelona's lead at the top of the table to eight points before they host Atletico Madrid on Sunday.

Ancelotti confirmed striker Karim Benzema was fit to play, despite the French forward taking a knock against Chelsea on Tuesday at Stamford Bridge.

Benzema was substituted and did not seem happy to be removed, but Ancelotti said he had explained to the 35-year-old that sometimes he needed to be rested.

Juventus' transfer penalty revoked but new ruling looms

AP ■ TURIN

Juventus' 15-point penalty for illicit transfer activity was revoked on Thursday but the spectre of sanction did not disappear completely after Italy's highest sporting court ruled that the case should be re-examined.

In a statement, the Sports Guarantee Board asked the Italian Football Federation's (FIGC) appeals court to revise punishments handed down in the original ruling to the club and some key figures, including former deputy chairman Pavel Nedved.

However the long bans given to former chairman Andrea Agnelli, ex-CEO Maurizio Arrivabene and sporting directors Federico Cherubini and Fabio Paratici were upheld.

The Sports Guarantee Board has a month to publish the reasoning behind its ruling, only after which the FIGC court can then reassess the case, meaning the affair will likely drag on until the end of the season.

Thursday's decision moves Juve up from seventh in Serie A to third on 59 points when they await a new ruling from the FIGC court.

Juve are 16 points behind league leaders Napoli, who they host in Turin on Sunday, while AC Milan have been bumped out of Serie A's Champions League places as a result.



Spurs' Paratici resigns after failed appeal against ban

AP ■ LONDON

Tottenham's managing director of football Fabio Paratici resigned on Friday after losing an appeal against a 30-month worldwide ban.

Paratici was handed the suspension by the Italian football federation (FIGC) in January after his former club Juventus were found guilty of false accounting.

Initially the ban only applied to his homeland, meaning he was free to continue working at Spurs, who he joined in June 2021.

However, FIFA last month extended the scope of the ban to having worldwide effect, following a request from the Italian federation.

On Thursday, Paratici's appeal was dismissed by Italy's highest sports court.

"Whilst there continues to be a dispute as to the scope and extent of the ban, the current worldwide ban prevents Fabio from fulfilling his duties as our managing director of football," Tottenham said in a statement.

"Fabio has consequently taken the decision to resign from his position at the club with immediate effect to focus on his legal position in respect of the FIGC and FIFA rulings."

Paratici had already stepped back from his role pending the appeal with Scott Munn appointed as Tottenham's new chief football officer earlier this month.

Compound mixed team in final, India eyeing two WC gold

PTI ■ ANTALYA

The compound mixed pair of Jyothi Surekha Vennam and her debutant partner Ojas Deotale showed perfect chemistry and cruised into the final with three easy wins to confirm a second gold when they take on the Archery World Cup Stage 1 here on Friday.

The duo defeated Malaysia's Fatin Nurfaheh Mat Salleh and Mohd Juwaidi Mazuki 157-154 to set up a gold medal clash against 12th seed Chinese Taipei, slated on Saturday.

The Indian men's recurve team of Atanu Das, B Dhiraaj and Tarundeep Rai will also fight for a second gold when they take on their Chinese counterparts on Sunday. India also are in contention for a third medal in the women's compound individual section where former World Championship silver medalist Jyothi Surekha Vennam has advanced into the semi-final.

Jyothi and her 20-year-old partner, who got a bye into the second round after qualifying as second seed, began with some flawless shooting as they defeated Luxembourg and France dropping just one point.

'Don't know when I'll be back': Nadal out of Madrid Open

AP ■ MADRID

Rafael Nadal admitted on Thursday he doesn't know when he'll be back after announcing he will miss next week's Madrid Masters as he continues to struggle to recover from a hip injury which threatens to destroy his French Open hopes.

"For the moment I've missed Monte Carlo and Barcelona. And unfortunately I won't be able to be in Madrid either," Nadal said on Instagram.

"The injury still hasn't healed," he added.

The 36-year-old Spaniard has not played since losing in the second round of the Australian Open in January.

Nadal is hoping for a record-extending 15th French Open title at Roland Garros in May, but his hip flexor problem he suffered in Melbourne has badly disrupted his run up to the tournament. The 22-time Grand Slam champion -- he shares the men's record with Novak Djokovic -- had originally thought he would be out for up to two months.

He pulled out of hard-court tournaments at Indian Wells and Miami, with his sights set on a return at the start of the clay-court season, but it did not come to fruition.

"In principle it was supposed to be a recovery period of six to eight weeks and now we're around 14," said Nadal.

"The reality is that the situation is not what we would have hoped for. All medical indications have been followed, but the healing has not gone as they told us initially and we find ourselves in a difficult situation," Nadal, who turns 37 in June, said he and his team have decided to try a different treatment and see if things improve, but that he was not setting a deadline for his comeback.



Alcaraz reaches Barcelona Open quarters

AP ■ BARCELONA

World number two Carlos Alcaraz had to sweat as he beat Roberto Bautista Agut 6-3, 7-5 to reach the Barcelona Open quarter-finals on Thursday.

Alcaraz pulled out of the recent Monte Carlo Masters with back and hand problems and struggled at times against the veteran Spaniard as he continues to warm up for the French Open in May.

Top seed Alcaraz breezed past Nuno Borges on Tuesday but found it much tougher going in the last 16 amid windy conditions as he continued his Barcelona title defence on the court named after Rafael Nadal.

"I'm very happy to go through to the next round, it was a very difficult game," Alcaraz told Spanish broadcaster Teledeporte.

"Everyone knows the capacity Roberto has, how tough he is, and it wasn't easy at all with the wind."

Alcaraz said that he had to accept the weather conditions with a "good face and a good attitude". "We say that games like this you have to win with professionalism and hard work," he continued.

"It was very hard to play at the best level, for Roberto too, I'm sure."

Earlier, second seed Stefanos Tsitsipas eased past Denis Shapovalov 6-3, 6-2, to set up a quarter-final clash with Australia's Alex de Minaur.

De Minaur progressed with a walkover after Bulgarian Grigor Dimitrov withdrew due to illness.

Jannik Sinner beat Yoshihito Nishioka 6-1, 4-6, 6-3 and will face Italian compatriot Lorenzo Musetti, who overcame Briton Cameron Norrie 3-6, 6-4, 6-1.

However, world number three Casper Ruud was knocked out by Argentina's 32nd-ranked Francisco Cerundolo, 7-6 (7/5), 6-3.



कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम, भोपाल
यांत्रिक विभाग (मुख्यालय) गोविंदपुरा (बी.एच.ई.एल.)
निविदा आमंत्रण घोषणा-पर
भोपाल, दिनांक .../.../2023

क्रं. /वा.वि./2023

निम्नलिखित निर्माण कार्य हेतु दो लिफाफा पद्धति के अनुसार म.प्र. लोक निर्माण विभाग में केन्द्रीयकृत व्यवस्था के अंतर्गत पंजीकृत टेकरेड परसेन्टेज मोहरबंद निविदाएँ निधितरि प्रपत्र पर ऑनलाईन आमंत्रित की जाती है।

क्र.	ऑनलाईन निविदा क्रं.	कार्य का नाम	अनुमानित राशि	घरोर राशि	प्रपत्र राशि	कार्य हेतु निर्धारित एस्.ओ.आर.	कार्य की अवधि
01	2023_UAD_269407_1	KAYAKALP KE ANTARGAT CONST. OF CC ROAD AT SUPER STATE, KRISHNA NAGAR PHASE 2 KARMA DEVI MANDIR ROAD AND SURROUNDING AREAS WARD 78 AND WARD 79 ZONE 17.	1,64,77,165/-	82,388/-	12500	MPUADD ISSR 2021	6 Month
02	2023_UAD_269413_1	KAYAKALP KE ANTARGAT CC ROAD CONSTRUCTION WORK IN NAYAPURA, GWAL BABA MAIN ROAD AND GOKULDHAM GOPALPURA MAIN ROAD AND DURGA NAGAR AND VARIOUS ROADS OF WARD 75 ZONE 17	84,76,199/-	63,571/-	10000	MPUADD ISSR 2021	6 Month
03	2023_UAD_269416_1	KAYAKALP KE ANTARGAT CONST. OF CC ROAD AND RESURFACING WORK AT NAVI-BAGH ROAD MOURYA COLONY YADAV BASTI DANGI COLONY MAYA ENCLAVE AND RADHA KRISHNA COLONY MAIN ROAD AND INSIDE STREETS SURROUNDING AREA WARD 79 ZONE 17	1,52,53,391/-	76,267/-	12500	MPUADD ISSR 2021	6 Month
04	2023_UAD_269419_1	KAYAKALP KE ANTARGAT CONST. OF CC ROAD AT SHANTI NAGAR MAIN ROAD TO JAI NAGAR ROOP NAGAR AND SURROUNDING AREA WARD 79 ZONE 17	72,02,328/-	54,017/-	10000	MPUADD ISSR 2021	6 Month
05	2023_UAD_269418_1	KAYAKALP KE ANTARGAT ASPHALTING OF ROAD AT PANCHWATI PHASE3 SHIWANI HOMES RAJWANSH COLONY BACK SIDE INSIDE STREETS AND KAROND VILLAGE ROOP NAGAR JAY NAGAR SURROUNDING AREA WARD 79 ZONE 17	1,68,03,396/-	84,017/-	12500	MPUADD ISSR 2021	6 Month
06	2023_UAD_269423_1	KAYAKALP KE ANTARGAT CONST. OF CC ROAD AND RESURFACING WORK AT VILLAGE BADWAI GWAL BABA BASTI PLASI RAJNAGAR GALI NO.2 AND 3 KARMA NAGAR SATYA CYAN COLONY GOKULDHAM COLONY SUNDAR NAGAR, GARIB NAGAR MAIN ROAD AND INSIDE STREETS AND SURROUNDING AREA 75, 76 ZONE 17	1,51,44,647/-	75,723/-	12500	MPUADD ISSR 2021	6 Month
07	2023_UAD_269422_1	KAYAKALP KE ANTRGAT Asphalting road construction work from FCI God am to Navjeevan Main Road, Shankar Nagar, Chhola, Dussehra Maidan WARD 76 ZONE 17	1,86,97,217/-	83,486/-	12500	MPUADD ISSR 2021	6 Month
08	2023_UAD_269430_1	KAYAKALP KE ANTARGAT CONST. OF CC ROAD AT PA WAN HOMES TO KASHVISHWANATH MANDIR MAIN ROAD WARD 75 ZONE 17.	45,97,994/-	34,484/-	5000	MPUADD ISSR 2021	3 Month
09	2023_UAD_269427_1	KAYAKALP KE ANTARGAT ASPHALTING OF ROAD WORK from Peepal Square to Aditya Cyan School till Russellii AND surrounding AREAS WARD 78 ZONE 17	1,66,10,252/-	83,051/-	12500	MPUADD ISSR 2021	6 Month
10	2023_UAD_269434_1	KAYAKALP KE ANTARGAT CONST. OF CC ROAD AT GOYA COLONY,POOJA COLONY, MAIN ROAD AND CROSS ROAD AND SURROUNDING AREAS WARD 79 ZONE 17	1,57,63,282/-	78,816/-	12500	MPUADD ISSR 2021	6 Month
11	2023_UAD_269432_1	KAYAKALP KE ANTARGAT CONST. OF ASPHALTING ROAD AT SHANTI HOMES MAIN ROAD AND INSIDE STREETS WARD 79 ZONE 17	31,30,330/-	23,477/-	5,000	MPUADD ISSR 2021	3 Month

- Interested bidders can view the NIT on website <https://www.mptenders.gov.in/>
- The Bid Document can be purchased only online from 10:30A.M. (time) 20.04.2023 (date) to 17:30 P.M. (time) 04.05.2023(date).
- Amendments to NIT, if any, would be published on website <https://www.mptenders.gov.in/> only, and not in newspaper.
- For special condition pleas read carefully section 3 condition of contract part-II special condition of contract (SCC).

The initial period of 05 (FIVE) year after completion shall be treated as Defect Liability Period (DLP).

Executive Engineer
Municipal Corporation Bhopal
District Bhopal

दि.क्र. 126/023/024

Jadeja, Conway script 7-wicket win for CSK

PTI ■ CHENNAI

Ravindra Jadeja's three-wicket haul was complemented by a magnificent unbeaten fifty from opener Devon Conway as Chennai Super Kings cantered to a comfortable seven-wicket win against Sunrisers Hyderabad in a low-scoring IPL match here on Friday.

Jadeja (3/22) spun a web of spin with a three-wicket haul to restrict SRH to a below-par 134 for 7 and Conway then slammed a 57-ball 77 not out as CSK made light of the target, reaching 138 for 3 in 18.4 overs for a fourth straight win over SRH at Chepauk.

The stylish left-handed batter hit 12 fours and one six during his sensational knock and shared an 87-run stand with opening partner Ruturaj Gaikwad (35) to provide a rollicking start to the chase.

Conway and Ruturaj Gaikwad notched up 50 in the 6th over.

Conway waded into the tall pacer Marco Jansen, smacking a six and four boundaries as CSK appeared to hurtle towards the target.

The New Zealand batter reached his 50 from 33 balls to power CSK's chase, overshadowing the talented Gaikwad in the process.

The opening duo appeared set to see the team home when misfortune struck Gaikwad, who was run-out after a shot by Conway got deflected off Umran Malik's hand and hit the stumps with the CSK batter out of his crease.

Leg-spinner Mayank Markande was the best performer with the ball for SRH on a rather forgettable day, finishing with 2 for 23 (4 overs). He got the wickets of Ajinkya Rahane (9) and Ambati Rayudu (9), bowling the latter with a googly.

In the end, Moeen Ali (6) hit the winning runs of Washington Sundar.

Earlier, it was trial by spin for the Sunrisers Hyderabad batters as the Chennai Super Kings slow bowlers, especially Jadeja, came up with a superb performance to restrict the visiting team to a modest 134 for 7.

Jadeja was the best bowler for CSK with 3 for 22, while Abhishek Sharma (34) was the top scorer for the Sunrisers, who just couldn't get going after being sent in to bat by skipper M S Dhoni.

SRH batters faltered



Dhoni made the spinners bowl in tandem from over 7 to 15. Jadeja, as always, got through his 4 overs quickly and put the brakes on the SRH scoring. He picked up the wickets of Sharma, Tripathi and Mayank Agarwal (2).

Such was the dominance of the spinners that after 10.3 overs, SRH batters couldn't get any boundary for the next 36 balls.

Brook appeared to find his groove and hit Tushar Deshpande for two consecutive boundaries before he fell to a good catch by Ruturaj Gaikwad off Akash Singh.

Sharma, who hit the first six of the match in the third over off Singh, hit three fours and a six before becoming Jadeja's first victim.

The left-handed batter fell to a good catch by Ajinkya Rahane in the deep as Jadeja got into the act.

Agarwal, who was bumped down the order to No.6 did not last too long.

After surviving a caught and bowled chance to Jadeja, who could not hold on to a chance as Klaassen got in the way, Agarwal jumped out of the crease only to miss the ball as Dhoni did the rest behind the stumps.

despite a 35-run partnership for the opening wicket between Harry Brook (18) and Sharma and a 36-run stand for the second wicket between Sharma and Rahul Tripathi (21) as the CSK spinners took over.

There was no significant partnership in the middle order as the Hyderabad batters failed to push the score, struggling against the CSK spinners took over.

Jadeja was the key bowler for the Super Kings as he spun a web around the opposition batters.

The experienced Jadeja (3/22) and Maheesh Theekshana (1/27) strangled the SRH batting unit after

GT seek return to winning ways

PTI ■ LUCKNOW

Gujarat Titans would look to shrug off the defeat in the previous outing and get their mojo back when they clash with Lucknow Super Giants, who will be eager to keep the winning momentum going in IPL here Saturday.

While the Titans will look to start afresh after the three-wicket loss to the Rajasthan Royals, LSG got a confidence-boosting 10-run win against the Sanju Samson-led side to climb to the second spot in the points table.

Both teams have been a tad inconsistent this season, losing two games each although the Titans have played a match less than LSG.

The Titans, who are fourth in the league table, have struggled to defend totals this season.

Mohammed Shami has been a constant wicket-taker and has looked potent in the powerplay but more is expected of Alzarri Joseph and Josh Little.

Skipper Hardik Pandya also hasn't been at his best with the ball, having picked only one wicket so far. Pacer Mohit Sharma, however, has done well in the two games he has played.

Rashid Khan has spearheaded the spin department, but against the Royals when he was taken to the cleaners by Samson, GT had no answer but to hand debut to 18-year-old Afghan wrist spinner Noor Ahmad, who did well under pressure, albeit in a losing cause.

The Gujarat batting department looks sorted with likes of Shubman Gill, David Miller, Sai Sudarshan striking the ball well.

But the reigning champions will have their task cut out against LSG, who boast of a formidable batting line up.

LSG have no dearth of power in their batting, with Kyle Mayers, Nicholas Pooran and Marcus Stoinis capable of pulverising any opposition. Mayers has been in sensational form at the top while Pooran and Stoinis doing the job in the middle order.

But skipper KL Rahul's form is a little concerning. He has batted with strike rate of 114.79 this season. All-rounder Deepak Hooda is also yet to play an impactful innings he is capable of.

Talented leg-spinner Ravi Bishnoi and veteran Amit Mishra are doing well for LSG in the spin department while Krunal Pandya has also put in a match-winning performance.

In Mark Wood, Avesh Khan and Yuvraj Singh Charak, LSG also possess a good pace department. Debutant Naveen-ul-Haq sizzled in his maiden game against RR and will look to continue in the same vein.

The Titans, however, may have a slight psychological edge having defeated the Super Giants on both occasions last season.

MI look to maintain momentum against PBKS

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Perennial slow starters Mumbai Indians have found their mojo and will be favourites against a faltering Punjab Kings in their Indian Premier League clash here on Saturday.

Having made a poor start with defeats in first two matches, Mumbai Indians, who are placed sixth in the points table, have been able to bounce back impressively with wins against Delhi Capitals, Kolkata Knight Riders and Sunrisers Hyderabad.

On the other hand, Punjab Kings, ranked seventh in the points table, have stuttered in the absence of their regular captain and the highest run-

scorer Shikhar Dhawan, who is unlikely to play against Mumbai Indians here at the Wankhede Stadium owing to a shoulder injury.

Dhawan played a key role in PBKS making a confident start to the season but his absence has made a significant difference in the outcomes that have come along their way.

Punjab Kings' fielding coach Trevor Gonsalves informed after their 24-run loss to Royal Challengers Bangalore on Thursday that Dhawan would need another 2-3 days to attain complete fitness.

Punjab Kings have three wins to show from overall six matches but all three losses have come in their last four

matches, with PBKS desperately missing the stability and firepower that Dhawan provides at the top.

With the ball, PBKS have again blown hot and cold and it will be a challenge to stop the Mumbai batters, who seem to have found their feet and have fired in unison.

The trio of Arshdeep Singh, Kagiso Rabada and stand-in captain Curran, the costliest player ever in the history of IPL auction, will have their task cut out as Punjab Kings look to arrest their slide.

Rohit Sharma and Ishan Kishan at the top have provided brisk starts to Mumbai Indians, getting their runs at an almost 10 runs per over which has set the platform for the others that followed.

The overseas pair of Cameron Green and Tim David has done well in the last three games or so with the bat, but it remains to be seen how their middle-order mainstay Suryakumar Yadav goes about his job.

In the bowling department, Mumbai Indians are likely to be without their overseas star Jofra Archer who continues to carefully tread his way back into top flight cricket.

The right-arm pacer has not played since MI's opening match against RCB on April 2, while he has trained with the team but not in the full tilt.

Won't see IPL's impact player rule in int'l cricket anytime soon: Behrendorff

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Mumbai Indians left-arm pacer Jason Behrendorff does not think the 'Impact player' rule introduced in the Indian Premier League this season will be implemented at the international level anytime soon.

The 'Impact Player' rule allows teams to replace any one member of their playing XI during the match.

"I do not think we will see it at the international level for probably a while," Behrendorff told the media during MI's pre-match media conference.

"Looking back at what the Big Bash (League) has done in Australia with some different rules coming in at different stages, different competitions are going to try to have something,

that is maybe a little bit different that can change the course of their competition or their game, but at this stage I do not see the international game changing too much."

Behrendorff backed Mumbai Indians to continue their winning momentum, having bounced back from a familiar poor start to win three games on the trot.



IPL final to take place in Ahmedabad on May 28

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad will host Qualifier 2 and the final of the ongoing Indian Premier League on May 26 and 28 respectively, the BCCI said on Friday.

Chennai's M.A. Chidambaram Stadium will stage the Qualifier 1 and the Eliminator on May 23 and 24 respectively, the IPL said in its advisory after the sport's apex body finalised the schedule for the league four biggest matches.

The 16th IPL began on April 31 at the Narendra Modi Stadium, the world's biggest cricketing arena. The venue also hosted the final of the league's last edition in 2022.

The 2022 edition was played across four venues in Mumbai and Pune but the play-offs and the final were held in Kolkata and Ahmedabad.

DC recover stolen cricketing gear, culprits found: Warner

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Capitals cricketers have something more to cheer about after their maiden victory in IPL 2023, with skipper David Warner confirming on Friday that most of the cricket gear, which had been stole in transit from Bengaluru to Delhi a few days back, had been recovered.

Warner had posted a message on social media about the theft, giving details about the items stolen and he revealed on Friday that most of the gear had been recovered and the culprits "found".

They found the culprits. Few (bats) missing still but thank you," he wrote on Friday.

PCB propose to host India's Asia Cup matches at neutral venue: Sethi

PTI ■ KARACHI

The PCB has proposed that India can play their Asia Cup matches at a neutral venue while Pakistan and other competing teams play in the host country, its chief Najam Sethi revealed on Friday.

Sethi said they have sent a proposal to the Asian Cricket Council (ACC).

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) had refused to travel to Pakistan due to political tension between the two nations and demanded the shifting of the continental tournament to a neutral venue.

"We have decided on this hybrid model that Pakistan plays its Asia Cup matches at home and India their matches at a neutral venue and that is our proposal to the Asian Cricket Council," said Sethi, who took over as the PCB chairman from former cricketer Ramiz Raja, during a press conference.

The Asia Cup, involving six teams, will be played from September 2 to 17, though the exact schedule of matches is yet to be announced due to uncertainty over the venue.

Besides Pakistan and India, the other competing countries are Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Bangladesh and one team

Hailstorm ends Pak-NZ 4th T20I after Chapman blitz

AP ■ RAWALPINDI

A hailstorm shower ended the fourth T20I in Rawalpindi after New Zealand's Mark Chapman and Chad Bowes hit aggressive half centuries against Pakistan on Thursday.

Chapman was 71 not out off 42 balls as New Zealand - sent in to bat by Pakistan - were 164-5 in 18.5 overs when rain stopped play at Rawalpindi stadium.

It turned into a hailstorm as match officials assessed the

conditions before calling off the match as abandoned.

Pakistan leads the five-match series 2-1 after winning the first two matches by 88 and 38 runs while New Zealand took the third by four runs - all in Lahore.

The final match is in Rawalpindi on April 24 after Eid holidays.

Left-hander Chapman held the innings with stands of 54 for the fourth wicket with Bowes who made 38-ball 54, lifting New Zealand

from a precarious 3-54.

Pakistan's left-arm spinner Imad Wasim had derailed New Zealand by dismissing Tom Latham (13), Will Young (six) and Daryl Mitchell (three) to finish with figures of 3-19 in his four overs.

Chapman, who hit ten boundaries and a six, completed his 1,000 T20I runs on 49 and also added 56 for the fifth wicket with Rachin Ravindra who scored eight.

Bowes hit seven boundaries and a six before falling to Shaheen Shah Afridi.

which will emerge from the ACC qualifiers.

The qualifying tournament is underway in Nepal.

Sethi hoped that the visit of his country's foreign minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari next month to the Indian coastal city of Goa for the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation's (SCO) Council meeting will help thaw relations between the two nations.

"We have been told that, maybe, the ice will keep on melting. If this happens when the Champions Trophy is held in Pakistan in 2025, India would consider playing in Pakistan. We have been advised to play the Asia Cup at a neutral venue and also go to India for the World Cup," said Sethi but did not say exactly who has advised them.

"What impressed me most were his hands, the speed of his hands. When Grant Bradburn first told me look at this guy in the nets, I was amazed. I had never seen such hand speed and a talent like him, and the key was to give him opportunities to succeed," Arthur said.

"I knew he was going to become a key part of the team. I believe he is the number one batsman right now and he is a wonderful, wonderful talent. I still think he has room for improvement. I will keep challenging him. He is going to be a legend of the game."

Arthur, who rejected an offer to become a full-time head coach with the Pakistan team, said there is "no such thing like an online coach".

