

### CAPSULE

MODI TO ATTEND QUAD MEET IN OZ ON MAY 24 New Delhi: Prime Minist New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will join US President Joe Biden and his counterparts from Australia and Japan at a summit of the Quad leaders in Sydney on May 24.

CABBY HELD FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT ON 6-YEAR-OLD New Delhi: A six-year-old girl was sexually assaulted by her cab driver while driving her from school. The accused driver, Jaitpur resident Mohd Azhar (30), has been arrested

US N-SUBS IN S KOREA 1ST TIME IN 40 YEARS Washington: Presidents Joe Biden and Yoon Suk Yeol on Wednesday will sign an agreement that includes plans to have US nuclear-armed submarines dock in South Korea for the first time in more than 40 years P9

### 157 new nursing colleges, medical devices policy get **Cabinet** approval

### PNS 🗖 NEW DELHI

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved the establishment of 157 nursing colleges at a cost of ₹1,570 crore in co-location with existing medical colleges. These new colleges will be producing 15,700 nursing graduates per year. The Cabinet meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi also approved National Medical Devices Policy with an aim to increase domestic production and reduce imports of such equipment

## **10 cops killed in Naxal** 250 Indians stranded **IED blast in Dantewada**

## PM condemns attack; Shah talks to CM, offers all help

### PNS DANTEWADA/NEW DELHI

In the biggest strike by the Maoists in Chhattisgarh in the last two years, ten police personnel and a civilian driver were killed after Naxals blew up a vehicle which was part of a convoy carrying security personnel in Aranpur police station area in Dantewada district between 1 pm and 1.30 pm on

Wednesday, an official said. The blast, carried out using an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) containing an estimated 40 kg of explosive

material, took place when a team of the State police's District Reserve Guard (DRG) was out on an anti-Naxal operation, Inspector General of Police (Bastar Range) Sundarraj P said

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has condemned the attack. "Their sacrifice will always be remembered. My condolences to the bereaved families," Modi tweeted. Union Home Minister

Amit Shah spoke to Baghel folthe lowing incident. "Anguished by the cowardly attack on the Chhattisgarh Continued on Page 2 | police at Dantewada. Have



personnel at the Maoist blast site in Chhattisgarh's Dantewada district on Wednesday

spoken to Chhattisgarh's Chief Minister and assured all possible assistance to the state government. My condolences to the bereaved family members of the martyred Jawans," Shah tweeted

DRG personnel are mostly recruited from the local tribal population and trained to combat Maoists. Sometimes surrendered Maoists are also recruited in the DRG. The area where the blast took place is around 450 km from Raipur.

The Multi-Utility Vehicle (MUV) had been rented by the security personnel. Reinforcement was rushed to the spot and the bodies of the deceased were brought to Dantewada, the IGP said.

Security personnel have launched a search operation in the area, he added. Another senior police official posted in Dantewada said that around 200 security personnel had set out from Dantewada district headquarters on Tuesday night after getting information about the presence of Maoists belonging to the Darbha division in the area.

On Wednesday morning, there was an exchange of fire between the patrolling team and Naxals near Nahadi village, around seven km from Aranpur, following which two

Gunman enters classroom in

Bengal; DSP pins him down

suspected Naxals were held, he said on the condition of anonymity.

Subsequently, security personnel were returning to their base in a convoy of vehicles, he said. There was a gap of around 100-150 metres between vehicles, and the Naxals targeted the second vehicle in the con-voy, he said. After the blast, the security personnel in the leading and following vehicles took positions and opened fire on

both sides of the jungle. Visuals from the spot showed a huge crater across the road at the blast site, almost 10feet deep. **Continued on Page 2** 

# in Sudan reach home

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE/** AGENCIES NEW DELHI/ PANAMA CITY

First flight carrying 250 Indian nationals evacuated from war-torn Sudan landed in Delhi on Wednesday night. The IAF C-17 transport aircraft had left for Jeddah on Wednesday evening from the Hindon airbase, Ghaziabad to bring back Indians from there to Delhi

Having launched Operation Kaveri" to evacuate its nationals from strife-torn Sudan, India on Wednesday brought out over 250 citizens in two military transport aircraft of the Indian Air Force (IAF) to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, after a naval ship rescued another 278 citizens from the strife-torn country. The total number of Indians evacuated so far from Sudan stands at around 530, according to official data.

Moreover, stepping up the tempo of evacuation, an Indian Navy ship INS Teg is now stationed at Port Sudan to bring back Indians from there to Jeddah. INS Sumedha has already disembarked 278 Indians from there to Jeddah.



Indians evacuated from violence-hit Sudan under Operation Kaveri on their arrival at the IGI Airport in New Delhi on Wednesday night

Another ship INS Tarkash is in the vicinity to take part in the operations there, they added.

India has set up a transit facility at Jeddah and all the Indians have been taken to the Saudi Arabian city after their evacuation from Sudan. Minister of State for External Affairs V Muraleedharan reached Jeddah to oversee the evacuation mission. The first batch of 278 Indians was evacuated by Indian Navy's ship INS Sumedha on Tuesday.

Hours later, the first C130 transport aircraft of the IAF landed at Port Sudan to bring back more Indians. It was followed by evacuation by another C130J. From Jeddah, India is set to bring back the Indians home in military transport aircraft of the IAF.

According to External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, the first C-130J aircraft brought to Jeddah 121 passengers, the second plane evacuated 135. **Continued on Page 2** 



Prime Minister Narendra Modi pays his last respects to Punjab's former Chief Minister and Shiromani Akali Dal patror

## AAP's Shelly, Aaley get 2nd term as MCD Mayor, Deputy

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

A P's Shelly Oberoi became

took the step because the election to the

PNS KOLKATA

and pointed the gun at me

A the Mayor of Delhi for the second-consecutive term after BJP's mayoral candidate Shikha Rai withdrew her nomination as soon as the House met for the mayoral polls on Wednesday. BJP's candidate for the Deputy Mayor's post Soni Pandey, too, withdrew her nomination minutes before the voting process began, paving the way for a second term as Deputy Mayor for AAP's Aaley Mohammad Iqbal



AAP Mayor candidate Shelly Oberoi and Deputy Mayor candidate Aaley Mohammad Iqbal flash the victory sign after the mayoral elections, at Civic Centre in New Delhi on Wednesday Ranian Dimri I Pioneer

the apex decision-making The Bengal Police revealed two opposite sides of itself body of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD)

Rai told the House that she

has not been conducted. The AAP claimed that the BIP candidates withdrew their nominations "minutes before voting, fearing defeat".

Police Station and set it ablaze, on Wednesday a brave officer put his life at risk and saved the The mayoral election in Delhi was supposed to be a direct contest between incum-bent Oberoi and Rai. The AAP lives of scores of students taken hostage by heavily-armed man at Muchia Anchal Chandra Mohan High School at Old is the ruling party in the MCD. Continued on Page 2 Malda.

A scene, that usually plays out in the US, unfolded in West Bengal on Wednesday afternoon when a man, later iden-tified by locals as Raju Vallabh, carrying two loaded 9 mm pistols, two bottles of petrol bombs and two knives, entered a packed classroom and took its students hostage.

He threatened to blow himself up if action was not taken on his complaints that he had been bringing to the notice of authorities in writing, including the State secretariat. "Even as he was reading

secret today. Modi is such a

leader who turns every chal-

earthquake in 2001.



A gunman barges into a classroom of a high school in West Bengal's Malda district on Wednesday

out his grievances, while keeping his loaded guns pointed at the students in the classroom and the policemen standing outside it, DSP Azharuddin Khan leapt inside the room and in a flash seized the gun and overpowered man without caring for his life," locals praising the brave officer said.

The students were immediately taken out of the classroom to safety. "The situation has been taken under control and we have arrested the person," the SP said.

The Bengali teacher who was present in the class said, "There were 80 students of combined Class VII A and B sections in the room. Suddenly the gunman entered the room

me to go out and ordered the students not to create trouble. Fortunately, police came and the students were rescued."

Sources said that the man had mental issues and he was reportedly disturbed ever since his wife, a local BJP panchayat member who had won on a BJP ticket, had joined the TMC. However, the man alleged, "My wife was kidnapped by powerful people and repeated letters yielded no result ... so I have thought about blowing myself up along with many others."

### Bomb hoax at DPS

New Delhi: Delhi Public School, Mathura Road, Delhi, received a bomb threat early on Wednesday morning via email. This is the second school in the national Capital to get a bomb threat in a fortnight. No suspicious object was found during an intensive search on the premises of the school, police said. See P3

SC relaxes ban on activities in eco-sensitive zone of forests PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

Parkash Singh Badal, in Chandigarh on Wednesday

The Supreme Court on Wednesday modified its 2022 order which directed that each protected forest such as national parks and wildlife sanctuaries must have an ecosensitive zone (ESZ) of one kilometre.

The court was hearing a plea filed by the Central Government contended that if the directions are not modified a severe hardship would be caused to the millions of people living in ESZ.

Continued on Page 2

## War on graft to go on even if my rivals join hands: Modi

### PTI NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi asserted on PModi asserted on Wednesday that his government's action against corruption has made some people angry but he will not turn back in this fight against graft and nepotism, however big an alliance his rivals form against him.

Those angry and making noise want to "destroy" the honest system his government has created in the last nine years, the Prime Minister said in his address at a Republic TV programme, but they will not succeed in their "conspiracies" because their fight is not with him but against the common people.

His remarks came amid a renewed push in the opposition ranks to join hands against the ruling BJP in the run-up to the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. The Congress and a host of regional parties have accused his government of using probe agencies to target their leaders and also of "weakening" democratic institutions.

Modi said his government's use of technology has weeded out leakage in government schemes and other expendi-tures to the tunes of tens of thousands of crores of rupees, stopping the source of corruption for some people. What else will they do if not abuse him, he said.

Noting that his govern-ment's use of JAM (Jan Dhan PTI

bank accounts, Aadhaar and mobile phones) axed 10 crore fake beneficiaries of various welfare schemes, the prime minister accused the previous Congress government of sending money to people who did not exist and whose number was bigger than the combined population of Delhi, Punjab and Haryana. This was a source of corruption and has been stopped now, he added.

There are no half measures and isolated approach in the fight against corruption now, he said, asserting that an integrated and institutionalised nechanism is in place.

"However big an alliance they make, let all corrupt people, all 'parivarvadi' come on a dais, Modi is not going to turn back from his path. I have pledged to rid the country of corruption and nepotism and this will continue. I seek your blessings," he told the audience.

His government has stopped the means for some people to make money through corruption, making them angry, Modi said. His rivals would have succeeded in destroying him if their fight was only with him but they are against the common people of

this country, he added. Modi also said he risked his "political capital" during the Covid-19 outbreak when he chose the path of self-reliance for manufacturing vaccines against the virus when many

supported import of jabs. Continued on Page 2

## Mann Ki Baat has won people's trust: Aamir

### Shah: Modi turns every challenge into opportunity

### PNS 📕 NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has built a trusted relationship with citizens with his "Mann Ki Baat", said actor Aamir Khan on Wednesday, calling the monthly radio programme "a people's movement".

"People want to believe in him (Modi) and follow him. They trust him and he has built this relationship with the public. Trust does not come automatically, it has to be earned. And clearly he has earned it,"

Aamir said at a panel discus- 19 pandemic. I will tell you the sion called "Awahan Se Jan Andolan".

Aamir was in Delhi to attend the "National Conclave on Mann Ki Baat @100", a daylong programme inaugurated Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar with Union Minister

for Information and Broadcasting Anurag Thakur as the guest of honour, and Union Home Minister Amit Shah as a speaker. Shah said PM Modi turns

every challenge into an opportunity, a trait which he used to successfully wade the country through the Covid-19 pan-

demic with the active cooperation of 130 crore Indians. "Many foreigners asked me what is the secret behind India's

success in tackling the Covid-

programme in 2014. Continued on Page 2

episode of the Maan Ki Baat.



Bollywood actors Aamir Khan and Raveena Tandon with music composer Ricky Kej during the inauguration of a national conclave on 'Mann ki Baat @100', in New Delhi on Wednesday



local bodies elections.

Singh's parliamentary con-

stituency, Jhansi, Agra and

Firozabad in the first phase

Muslims in Rampur, Bareilly,

Tanda, Moradabad, Bijnor and

Saharanpur in the 2nd phase.

## **UP CIVIC POLLS** -**BJP** gives tickets to 367 Muslims

### PNS LUCKNOW

With an eye on the Muslim vote bank, the Bharatiya Janata Party has given over 367 tickets to Muslim candidates in the urban local bodies elections, thus fulfilling the promise that it would give tickets to Muslims who have the potential to win elections.

The move indicates BJP's minority outreach in an apparent bid to blunt the allegation of Samajwadi Party that it is anti-Muslim. The SP has Muslims and Yadavs as its major vote bank.

Under its new strategy, the BJP has set an eye on the Pasmanda community which constitutes over 85 per cent of the Muslim population while the rest are Ashraf or elite class of Sheikh, Sayyed, Turk and Pathan.

In the Yogi Adityanath government, Danish Azad to Muslims in 35 nagar panchayat chairpersons' elections, Ansari, who hails from the and polls for five nagar palika

Pasmanda community, has chairpersons and 18 nagar been inducted as a minister of panchayat members. state.In the first phase of elec-

Mehnaz Jahan from Tanda tion, to be held on May 4, the and Mushrat Mujib from BJP has given tickets to over Rampur nagar palika parishad are the party candidates. 200 Muslims while in the second phase of election on May Mehnaz had won the Tanda 11, 167 Muslims will contest seat in 2017 as an independent elections on BJP's 'kamal' and this time she would be (lotus) election symbol.It is contesting as BJP candidate. the first time in the history of

On the other hand, Mushrat's husband was in the the party that the BJP has given tickets to Muslims in the Bahujan Samaj Party and he himself wanted to contest this The party has given tickets seat but once it was reserved for to Muslims in Prayagraj, women, he approached the BJP and got a ticket for his wife. Varanasi, Gorakhpur, Lucknow, Defence Minister Rajnath

The thinking goes in BJP that if even 200 candidates win elections on BJP tickets, it will prop up 200 new minoriwhile tickets have been given to ty leaders to increase its prospects in the run-up to the Lok Sabha elections in 2024.

"This is a wrong perception The party has given tickets among masses that BJP is anti-Muslims. This is a canard being spread by SP national president Ákhilesh Yaday

selves as the protectors of Muslims have not given tickets to Muslims in the Upper House of the state legislature," BJP state vice-president Vijay Bahadur Pathak said.

He said the party believed in Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas and Sabka Vishwas and followed this dictum in word and spirit. The local bodies polls will take place in two phases on May 4 and 11, and counting on May 13.

A total of 17 municipal corporations, 199 municipal councils and 439 nagar panchayats will elect their new representatives. Elections will be held for 1,420 corporators, 5,327 nagar palika parishad members, 544 nagar panchayat chairpersons and 7,178 nagar panchayat members.

## IT notice to mafia-politician Mukhtar Ansari seeks benami assets' details

### PNS LUCKNOW

Mafia-turned-politician Mukhtar Ansari and his family face further trouble as the Lucknow unit of the Income Tax Department has served notice on him seeking details of 'benami properties' procured by him and his associates in other persons' names. The notice was served in

Banda district jail under the Benami Property Act. This is the first notice issued to Mukhtar Ansari in the case of benami properties worth Rs 127 crore. Sources said that in the

notice, information had been sought about a property worth Rs 12 crore in Ghazipur.

In the notice given to Mukhtar Ansari, the Income Tax Department said that this Ghazipur land was bought by a person named Ganesh Dutt Mishra. It was said that this land was bought for Rs 1.29

AAP's Shelly,

it has also come to light that Mohd Suhaib Mujahid is also a shareholder-cum-director in the company. Sources in the Income Tax

Department confirmed that the company's name also figured in the Mukhtar Ansari's ambulance case, which pointed that the company was work-ing at behest of the underworld don and procuring property with the money earned by him and his family members through dubious means.

Sources in the Income Tax Department further said that Mukhtar Ansari's wife, Afshan Ansari, was also involved in these companies in one way or the other, which showed that this unnamed property indi-rectly belonged to Mukhtar Ansari.

It may be mentioned that the Uttar Pradesh Police have already declared a cash reward on Afshan Ansari and she is said to be absconding at pre-

and reduction in carbon foot

approved National Medical

Devices Policy with an aim to

increase domestic production

and reduce imports of such

equipment. Mandaviya said it

will promote domestic pro-

duction of medical devices.

Last year, the Government had

floated an approach paper on

the draft national medical

devices policy 2022 for con-

help the medical devices sector

grow from the present USD 11

billion to USD 50 billion in the

next five years. The

Government has already initi-

ated implementation of the

PLI Scheme for medical devices

and extended support for set-

ting up of four medical device

agreed to between the Sudanese

army and the paramilitary

Rapid Support Forces (RSF)

following intense negotiations. Jaishankar on Monday

announced launch of the mis-

sion "Operation Kaveri" to

bring back the stranded Indians

from Sudan. India on Sunday

said it has positioned two

transport aircraft of the IAF in

From Page 1

with plastic sheets were also

seen in the video. During a

search of the spot, around 150

metre-long wire connected to

the trigger of the command

Baghel said the fight against

Naxalism was in its last phase,

and the Naxals will not be

spared under any circum-

stances. "We will work in a

coordinated way and eliminate

to leave for poll-bound

Karnataka this evening for campaigning, cancelled his visit. He will attend wreath lay-

ing ceremony for the mar-

tyred jawans in Dantewada on

fied as head constables Joga

Sodi, Munna Ram Kadti,

Santosh Tamo; constables

Dulgo Mandavi, Lakhmu

The deceased were identi-

Thursday, officials said.

Baghel, who was scheduled

Chief Minister Bhupesh

IED was recovered.

Naxalism," he added.

10 cops

The policy is expected to

sultation.

The Union Cabinet also

print," said Mandaviya.

**Aaley** get

Deputy Mayor and also tweeted a congratulatory message to them. Kejriwal tweeted, 'Congratulations Shelly and Aley on again becoming Mayor and Deputy Mayor, this time unopposed. Best wishes to

newly-elected Mayor and

both. People have huge expec-tations from us. Work hard to meet their expectations." As soon as Oberoi became Mayor, a few members of the House raised 'Bharat Mata ki

Jai' and 'Kejriwal Zindabad' slogans. At a Press conference after the House proceedings ended, AAP MLA and the party's in-charge of MCD Durgesh Pathak claimed that the BJP and its councillors "surrendered in front of Kejriwal's AAP". Delhi Minister Saurabh Bharadwaj came down heavily on the BJP's decision to participate in the election, despite not having enough councillors to support their candidate. "The BJP did not even have the support of its own 104 coun-

cillors; they ran away from the election for fear of being nologies will also be explored in these Nursing colleges and exposed, he said. The Delhi BJP, in a statewill be adopted as per relevanment, said it decided to withcy to ensure energy efficiency

draw the nominations as "despite our best efforts, the AAP is not ready to make the MCD functional by allowing the formation of a standing committee and ward committees"

Interacting with the media, Mayor Oberoi said, "We want to thank Arvind Kejriwal, all councillors and the people of Delhi. We will fulfil the promises made to the people of Delhi.

All the expectations of the people, including clean streets, world-class schools, hospitals, and parks, will be fulfilled very soon. Salaries, regularisation, and other issues of MCD employees will be resolved. We will rise above politics and run the House in an impartial manner."

The municipal House proceedings were short and the next House session will now take place on May 2, a senior official said.

parks in Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. Under the Production The proceedings began at Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme around 11 A.M. with senior for medical devices, till now, a AAP leader Mukesh Goyal as the pro tem presiding officer. total of 26 projects have been approved with a committed BJP's Rai made a short of Rs 1,206 crore and out of this, so far, an investment of Rs 714 crore has been achieved.

itics who contributed greatly to the nation.

of Shri Parkash Singh Badal Ji. He was a colossal figure of Indian politics and a remarkable statesman who contributed greatly to our nation," Modi had said in a tweet.

> was running an illegal factory in his house in UP's Aligarh. and Narender Sharma. Mohit,

Uday and Mukesh were arrested from Gurugram on differ-"All the suspects were involved in the illegal arms ent occasions while Ravi, who supplied the illegal weapon to trade. The police team of the trio was arrested from Sector-50 police station from weapons from their possession. Aligarh on Mohit's disclosure Gurugram with the help of the arh Police raided the ille

SC relaxes ban

on activities...

Aggarwal, DCP (east) said.

A case has been registered in this connection against the accused in the concerned Aligarh police station and the Sector-50 police station in Gurugram. Further investiga-

RSS: Parkash Singh |157 new nursing colleges...

### From Page 1

Addressing the media, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said the new 157 nursing colleges' aim is to provide quality, affordable and equitable nursing education in the country and enhance the number of nursing professionals. Co-location of these nursing colleges with medical colleges will allow optimal utilisation of the existing infrastructure, skill labs, clinical facilities and faculty, he said.

Health Minister said the Government plans to complete the project within two years with detailed timelines laid out for every stage of planning as well as execution. National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) also collaborates with leading international and national agencies for skill development and place-ment of qualified nurses for overseas positions, he added. "Co-location of these nurs-

ing colleges with existing medical colleges will allow optimal utilization of the existing infrastructure, skill labs, clinical facilities, and faculty. This initiative is expected to provide better clinical exposure to nursvill also result in better care and service provision for patients in medical colleges. Use of green tech-

### 2nd term as **MCD...** From Page 1 Later, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal met with the

nation 02



Department came to know during investigation that Ganesh Dutt Mishra's annual income was very less and he could not pay this much amount

Along with this, the company from which Ganesh Dutt Mishra has taken a loan to buy the property includes members of Mukhtar Ansari's family as directors and shareholders.

The Department has said in the notice that during investigation

## Modi pays last tribute to Badal, terms demise as 'personal loss' place in public life NS 🗖 NEW DELHI

### PTI CHANDIGARH

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday paid floral tributes to five-time Punjab chief minister Parkash Singh Badal at the Shiromani Akali Dal office here.

SAD patriarch Badal was admitted to the Fortis Hospital in Mohali on April 16 after he complained of uneasiness in breathing. He breathed his last around 8 pm Tuesday aged 95.

After arriving in Chandigarh, Modi reached the SAD office accompanied by Punjab Governor Banwari Lal Purohit and Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar.

He laid a wreath on the mortal remains of Badal and then sat beside SAD chief Sukhbir Singh Badal. The prime minister was seen holding the hands of Sukhbir Singh Badal, expressing grief over the passing away of the SAD chief's father.

Modi stayed at the SAD office for a few minutes. The mortal remains of Parkash Singh Badal, who straddled the politics of Punjab for over seven decades, were kept at the party office here for a few hours for people and political leaders to pay their last respects. Immediately after Modi left, Badal's body was taken to his native village



in Muktsar where cremation will take place Thursday afternoon. Modi had on Tuesday described the demise of Badal as a "personal loss' and said he was a colossal figure of Indian pol-

"Extremely saddened by the passing away

Haryana Police arrests 5 for selling illegal weapons

#### The RSS on Wednesday con-doled the demise of Shiromani Akali Dal patriarch humility Parkash Singh Badal and said He will be fondly rememthat he will be fondly remembered for his qualities for a long bered for a long time for his time, they added. qualities. The RSS had earlier also paid homage to late UP strongman late Mulayam

Singh Yadav, socialist leader Sharad Yadav and lawyer Bhushan and Shanti recognized his 'political contribution'.

In a joint message posted on Twitter, Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat and general secretary Dattatreya Hosabale said Badal "carved a special place in the public life

movement for a separate Punjabi-speaking state, died at a private hospital in Mohali near Chandigarh on Tuesday, nine days after being admitted with breathing problems. He was 95

of Punjab" through his impres-

sive personality and work, and

across the country by his sim-

plicity

With his passing away, the absence of a dedicated, experienced personality in the political life of the nation will be felt for a long time, Bhagwat and Hosabale said.

Badal, who became Punjab's chief minister five times and had been part of the

and

Badal carved special

Income Tax

### In the 100-member Vidhan Parishad, there are four Muslim MLCs and all of them are from BJP. The SP, BSP and Congress which call them-

Uttar Pradesh's Aligarh who were allegedly involved in man

The Haryana Police has

**L** arrested five persons, three

from Gurugram and two from

STAFF REPORTER

GURUGRAM

PUBLIC NOTICE Notice is hereby given to the General public on behalf of ou client fullerton India Credit Company Limited. that Mis Maya Devis the owner of Property bearing No. 24-NZ, Are measuring 217.50 Sq. Yds., out of Khasra No. 22, Situate in the old Lal Dora, abadi of Village Chaukhandi, New Dehil "the said property: by virtue of said ead dated to 0.02 0.202, registration No.978, has lost/misplaced Original Agreement to sell and Original Will dated 08.02.1996, executed by Mr. Mukesh Kumar Vashisht in tavour of Mr. Mahinder Kumar and Mr. Shiv Charan Vashisht. All persons are hereby informed not to deal or carry out any transaction with anyone on the basis of the said missing documents. If anyone has already carried out to being carried out kindy inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present. in the old Lal Dora, abadi of Village Chaukhandi, New Del

### For Kumar & Associates (Advocates & Consultants 200, Second Floor, 23, Shivaji Marg, Moli Nagar, New Delhi-1: E-mail: legal@knalegal.com, Ph. 011-41112527-20

LOST & FOUND LOST ORIGINAL SALE DEED REGD ON 13/12/1941 AND SALE AGREEMENT STANDS IN THE NAME OF SH. MITH MAL S/O SH. MUSADDI LAL IN RESPEC OF PROPERTY NO. 4307 (OLD NO. 6546) ARYA PURA, SUBZI MANDI, DELHI-110007 VIDE NCR LODGED LR NO. 350904/2023 DATED.17/04/2023. IF ANY PERSON(S) FOUND THE DOCUMENTS PLEASE CONTACT TO MR. PARVEEN JAIN (MOBILE: 9313003932)

### PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that Gursharan Singh Kalsi (hereinafter called the Owner/s) claims to be owner and in possession of Prop. No. 219, Block No. A, Sector-19, Noida District Ghaziabad, U.P. (hereinafter called District Gridziabad, O.P. (hereinater catality the said property) by virtue of Mutation Letter 24.08.2022 issued by NOIDA being one of the surviving legal heirs and beneficiaries of late Harinder Kalsi, other legal heirs i.e. Jaspreet Singh Kalsi & Simran Kaur Kalsi have also executed an NOC in favor of Gursharan Singh Kalsi and said Owner/s has arreed to sult he said Property to Sudeen agreed to sell the said Property to Sudeep Chandra And Said Sudeep Chandra has agreed to create a mortgage in favour of our clients IDFC First Bank Limited, ITO Branch, any person/s having claim against the said Property, or any part thereof, by way of sale, exchange, mortgage (equitable/registered or otherwise), gift, trust, inheritance, lien or otherwise howsoever, are hereby intimated to notify the same in writing to us with supporting documentary evidence at the address mentioned below within 10 days from the date hereof, failing which the claim

or claims, if any, of such person or persons will be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned and our client shall proceed with the disbursement of loan and subsequent creation of mortgage in respect Vishal Diwan (Advocate)

For Diwan and Company LLP Advocates and Solicitors H. No.2 (LGF), NRI Complex New Delhi-19 Mobile No. 9818399999

ave been iccused

identified as Mohit Bansal, Ravi's disclosure statement Uday, Mukesh Kumar alias police nabbed Narender, a Gun Nikita, Ravi Kumar alias Dada manufacturer kingpin, who

Mann Ki Baat...

gal arms manufacturing factory running at Narender's house and nabbed him," Nitish

the case is underway so that the names of others involved in this network can be unearthed," he said.

eech in the House saying was standing as a worker of the biggest party in the country.

Jeddah and naval ship INS

Sumedha at Port Sudan as part

of its contingency plans to

authorities, the Ministry of

External Affairs (MEA) and the

Indian embassy in Sudan are in

regular touch with the UN,

Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Egypt,

Apart from the Sudanese

evacuate the Indians.

and US among others.

steadily forward," he tweeted. Sudan is witnessing fighting between the country's army and a paramilitary group for the last 12 days that has reportedly left around 400 people dead. More than 3,000 Indians

From Page 1 "A second C-130 flight are living in Sudan.

reaches Jeddah bringing 135 passengers from Sudan. #OperationKaveri moving

War on graft

From Page 1

He took a jibe at those who

to go on...

they did so.

path.

first time.

progress, he said.

but are now accelerating its

they will get their rightful

share, it is social justice in true

sense," the prime minister said.

"Poor people now believe

Modi said the New India's

story of transformation was both timeless and futuristic.

It took India 60 years to killed... become a USD 1 trillion economy and it reached 2 trillion by 2014 but it has reached USD 3.5 trillion in the nine years of The MUV was completely destroyed while bodies covered his government, he said.

India stepped up its efforts

to evacuate the Indians from

Sudan as a 72-hour truce was

Mudra scheme was startlobbied for imports and woned to give financial support to dered under whose pressure micro and small entrepreneurs. "I risked my political cap Under this scheme, more than ital in a big way. I did it only for 40 crore loans were disbursed the country," he said, adding and of the recipients, 70 per that he could have emptied the cent were women," he said.

treasury by opting for imports More than 3.75 crore housbut did not choose such a es have been built for the poor while the health insurance Citing the second and third scheme of 'Ayushman' has order impacts of his governsaved over ₹80,000 crore of the ment's welfare schemes such as poor, he said.

direct benefit transfer (DBT), His government also made bigger allocation for the rural housing, Mudra, and power and water connections, he said employment guarantee scheme MNRÉGA, boosted transthey gave a sense of security and dignity to the poor for the parency and used it to create permanent assets in villages, he They were earlier seen as a added. burden on the country's growth

"In the last nine years, the poor, deprived, middle class, every section of society can see the obvious change in their lives. Today, we are working with a systemic approach and on a mission mode," Modi said.

Markam, Joga Kawasi, Hariram Mandavi, and `secret police' Raju Ram Kartam, Jairam Podiyam and Jagdish Kawasi. The driver was identified as Dhaniram Yadav. Most of the victims were residents of

Dantewada district. Asked if Naxal incidents are showing an uptick, Chhattisgarh Home Minister Tamradhwaj Sahu told reporters that the rebels' activities had declined 40 percent in the four years of Congress rule and the government has succeeded in putting them on the back foot.

The Naxals carry out one or two such incidents periodically to show their presence, he added. In the past, numerous attacks have taken place on the security forces in the Bastar region of Chhattisgarh, comprising seven districts including Dantewada, between March and June. During these summer months the Maoists carry out their 'Tactical Counter Offensive Campaign'. Security officials say the menace of stealthily placed IEDs, especially in the border areas of south Chhattisgarh, "continues to pose a challenge".

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From Page 1 "It's a very important piece of communication that the leader of the country does with the people, discussing important issues, putting forward thoughts, giving suggestions, leading ...

ufacturing, selling and buying illegal weapons, police said.

The police team recovered 3

country-made pistols, 1 live

cartridge, 1 scooty and mater-

ial used in making illegal

"That is how you lead by communication. You tell your people what you're looking at, how you're seeing the future, how you want your support in that. (It's an) important communication that happens in 'Mann Ki Baat," Khan said. Asked if Modi only talks

about his "mann ki baat" (what he wants to talk about) in the radio programme, the Bollywood star said, "I think it's his prerogative because he's doing it... It is his method of hearing what the people have to say connecting with people across the country. I think it's a very important initiative."

sion, the 58-year-old actor said the programme is "one of the examples of a people's movement, which has been successfully spearheaded by the prime minister".

self with so much success that he has the support of the people. It is because he has tried to connect with people. I believe this effort is quite significant and important for any society in the world.

"It is very important for a leader to communicate and

take people into confidence about what he is planning so that the people also know how they should conduct themselves. They get a vision, they get a direction to follow. And that is something which is a huge concept and is actually the start of a huge people's move-

ment." Being able to communicate and present thoughts in front of the public is a fundamental requirement from any leader, he added. "If you're not able to talk with your citizens who have elected you, then how will vou understand them and they understand your 'mann ki baat

and what you're thinking," he said The prime minister, Aamir said, touched on various topics, be it citizen issues or econom-

had

Amitji (Amitabh

ics, in the monthly radio programme. "When we think of an idea for the country, a During the panel discuswhole campaign is built around it. Like the polio campaign, it

... He has conducted himissue. the stronger and more meaningful the dialogue between the public and the leader, the stronger and more successful the democracy becomes. And

through the Mann Ki Baat a great politician like Modi interacted with the public, he said.

that it has already issued guidelines for declaration of ESZs on February 9, 2011, around national parks and wildlife sanctuaries which were framed after consulting the National

From Page 1

The Government argued

Board for Wildlife and hence, was seeking the modification of the June 3 last year court order on demarcation of such zones. A three-judge bench of justices BR Gavai, Vikram Nath and Sanjay Karol, however, held that mining within a national park, a wildlife sanctuary and within an area of one kilometre from their boundary shall not be permissible as it would be hazardous for wildlife.

The 2022 order, besides demarcation of ESZ, had also banned mining within such parks and sanctuaries across the nation. Modifying its last year order, the court said its direction would not be applicable where national parks and sanctuaries are located on interwas such a big campaign and it State borders and share common boundaries.

Bachchan) in it... But here The order will also not be ('Mann Ki Baat'), the PM just applicable to draft and final had to speak about an notifications in respect to national parks and sanctuaries Shah said in a democracy, issued by the Environment Ministry and in respect of the proposals that have been received by the Ministry, it said. It also directed the Centre to give wide publicity to the draft notification issued by it so that all persons interested have knowledge about it.



## **DJB ex-CEO gets notice for usurping land of heritage site**

#### RAJESH KUMAR/RAKESH KUMAR SINGH NEW DELH

The Vigilance Directorate of the Delhi Government has issued a show cause notice to 2007-batch IAS officer and the then CEO of Delhi Jal Board, Udit Prakash Rai for alleged misconduct in demolition of a heritage site in the Lajpat Nagar area, construction of residential accommodation and their illegal allotments. The vigilance department has asked him to submit his reply within two weeks

The demolished site, "Mahal as well as Gateway" are listed monuments of the "list of Mohammedan & Hindu Monuments" as compiled by the Archaeological Survey of

India (ASI). The Mahal (Palace), located at Bhagola village (old location name) having current location near DTC Bus Terminal, Jal Vihar, Shiv Mandir Road, Lajpat Nagar (East of Lajpat Nagar-1),

belongs to Pathan Period, and is constructed of brick masonry and red sandstone. The main feature of the structure is a three-arched dalan on the north and south, each of which is flanked by two-compart-

ments at either wing. "The roof of the (South)-southern dalan together with the red stone chhajja, has now disappeared," the show cause notice highlighted. The original name of the village Bhagola is

Khizrabad which is supposed by Sayyid Ahmad Khan to have been the city of Khizr Khan, the first of the Sayyid Kings, founded by him about the year 1418 A.D. No remains of this city are now in existence except the palace under notice, which might possibly have been connected with it.

Instead of handing over the site to Art, Culture and Languages Department of Delhi government for declaring the monument as protected monument in terms of the Delhi Ancient And Historical Monuments And Archaeological Sites And Remains Act, 2004, CEO DJB has taken steps to get this area allotted to him as his residence with the connivance of staff,

reads the show cause notice served to Rai. In January, a joint inspection was conducted on the site that revealed the violations of the ancient monument and only one structure, the gateway could be identified on the site and the Mahal was missing

The "Mahal of Pathan period" was allegedly demolished as per the directions of Udit Prakash Rai, CEO (DJB) with the help of DJB engineers Virender Kumar, Chief Engineer (W) Project-I, Deepak Srivastava, ACÉ (C)-I, Rajiv Sharma, EE (C) Dr-II, Anoop Goyal, AE (C) and Lalit Gulyani, JE (C) C/O EE (EAP) II. In its show cause notice, the vigilance department said that demolition of

part of the entire structure of Mahal of Pathan Period" was, in violation of GNCTD notification dated 25/02/2020 and Notification of Govt, of India dated 09.02.2004, wherein violation the Delhi Building Bye-Laws, 1983

"Udit Prakash Rai, was well aware of the fact that there exists a Historical Monument which belongs to Pathan period and is mentioned at SI. No. 17, Vol. IV in the "List of Mohammadan and Hindu Monuments" in Delhi prepared & compiled by Archeological Survey of India in the first quarter of 20th Century," it said.

The notice further said that violation of the of General Residential Pool

Accommodation by occupying a bungalow of size about 5500 sq. m. which is having size of more than 94 houses of Type V(A) each having size of 106 sq. m. and a multiple of 94x in case multi- storeys are constructed on that plot.

capital 03

And a built up area of approx. 700 Sq. meters. Even in cost of Rs. 4 Crores, more than 20 Types VA houses would have been constructed even @Rs.2000/sq. ft. Rai was eligible only for

Type-V accommodation with a unit area of 144 Square Meters only but he was provided a 670 sq mt house with an open area of 5,500 sq m on the demolished heritage site excluding the

servant quarter and constructed at a cost of Rs 2.88 crore.

## Ceiling of CM's house built in 1942 collapsed thrice, says AAP

Posts videos of debris on floor as BJP, Cong accuse CM of extravagance

### STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

A political row has erupted between the AAP and the BJP-Congress over Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's official residence getting a face-lift at a reported cost of Rs 45 crore. While the BJP and the Congress accused him of extravagant hypocrisy, the AAP rebutted them with videos of crumbling ceilings in the CM's official bungalow. APP MLA Naresh Balyan also shared a video in which debris from a

broken roof could be seen lying on the floor of the bedroom of the CM's residence. Accusing the BJP of divert-

ing attention from key issues the AAP said that the CM's official residence was built in 1942 and the roof had collapsed thrice. Following the roof collapse incidents, the Public Works Department suggested a new house be built and this was done, AAP Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh said at a press conference. "The house ĥas been rebuilt at an expenditure of Rs 30 crore," he said.

There have been attempts to divert attention from key issues such as the Pulwama attack and the Adani matter by discussing the chief minister's residence. It was an 80-year-old house constructed in 1942. There had been not one but three instances of the roof col-

lapsing," he said. In one, the roof of the room Kejriwal's par-

ents stay in collapsed; in another, it was the chief minister's bedroom; and in the third, the ceiling of the room he meets people in gave way.

Singh also hit out at Delhi Lieutenant Governor V K He said Saxena's Saxena. house only underwent repairs and Rs 15 crore was spent. Former Gujarat chief minister Vijay Rupani's aircraft cost Rs 191 crore while Rs 65 crore was spent on buying an aircraft for Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan," he claimed.

Earlier addressing a press conference, BJP spokesperson Sambit Patra said Kejriwal, who leads the AAP, had betrayed his promise of promoting honesty and simplicity when he entered politics.

### Need initial probe before filing FIR against WFI chief: Delhi Police to SC

### STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police on Wednesday told the Supreme Court that L some kind of preliminary probe was needed before it can proceed with the registration of an FIR over sexual harassment alle gations levelled by seven women wrestlers against WFI chief Bri Bhushan Sharan Singh. A bench comprising Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justice P S Narasimha was told by Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Delhi Police, that if the top court felt that an FIR was to be lodged straightaway then it may be done. "However, the police felt there are some issues which needed preliminary inquiry before the registration of the FIR," the top law officer said. "You know Solicitor we also don't do something without hearing the other side and unless we have some material. Please furnish the material which you have on Friday...We took it up as this involves a minor etc," the CJI said. The law officer said let an impression be not created that the FIR has not been registered despite the court asking for it.

The bench took note of the submissions of Mehta, and said Delhi Police may put forth their views on registration of the FIR on April 28 when the plea of wrestlers will be heard. Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for the wrestlers, said he would be filing some additional material on the matter.

The top court on Tuesday issued notices to the Delhi Police and others on a plea by the seven women wrestlers, saying the matter is "serious" and requires its consideration. Several national award winning wrestlers have been protesting at Jantar Mantar here demanding the government make public the findings of an oversight panel that investigated the sexual harassment allegations against Singh, also a BJP MP.

## Protesting wrestlers want to meet Modi

Wrestlers have turned protest site into their training centre

### STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Protesting wrestlers at Jantar Mantar on Wednesday expressed their desire to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The wrestlers said that after meeting them, the prime minister would be able to understand their pain.

The top wrestlers have turned the protest site into their training centre on the fourth day of their protest. The grapplers were seen doing wrestling exercises. Vinesh was training with Sangita Phogat,

whereas Sakshi was helped by her husband Satyawart Kadian, the Arjuna awardee wrestler. Meanwhile, a physio was assisting Bajrang on the mat, before the Olympic bronze medallist

did some stretching. Former Jammu and Kashmir Governor Satya Pal Malik and Olympic champion shooter Abhinav Bindra extended their support to protesting wrestlers.

### Bomb hoax at Mathura Road DPS **DU prepares Panchang**

New Delhi: In a first, Delhi University has prepared a Panchang – ancient Indian knowledge system-based almanac — for the revival and propagation of India's intellectual heritage.

The official said the Panchang is more advanced than the Western calendar and will help in the "dissemination of ancient Indian knowledge". Panchang is the annual compilation of planetary moments. In simple terms, "Panchanga" means the

Chairman of the Value Addition Courses Committee of DU, Niranjan Kumar said, "DU is releasing a Panchang for the dissemination of ancient Indian knowledge. Much more detailed and

informative than the Western calendar, the Panchang con-tains all festivals and other important dates as well as tithi, vaar, karan, nakshatra and yog." He noted the Panchang

will be a useful first step in introducing students to the f Indian knowl edge tradition. "Unfortunately, it is disappearing from our launched on April 28. homes and the minds of the scheduled to be organised.

youth. In such a situation. The historic centenary almanac will be provided free of cost to every person coming to the programme," he added. The Value Addition Courses Committee of the DU, in the centenary year of the university, is organising a programme on 'Panchang and Indian Knowledge Tradition' at 3 pm on April 28 at the Convention Hall of the

varsity. A special lecture on important topics like the significance

### STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

D<sup>elhi</sup> Public School, Mathura Road, received a bomb threat early on Wednesday morning. Information about a bomb being placed in the school was received through email. This is the second school in the national capital which received a bomb threat in the past 15 days. According to police, no suspicious object was found during an intensive search on of



## **MCD** planning to set up stray dog shelters

### STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

The Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) is considering to set up stray dog shelters amid an increase in dog bite incidents in the national capital. According to MCD, 75 per cent of the canines have been immunised against rabies and sterilised.

A proposal in this regard is ine nascent stage but s

held several meetings and are considering building shelters for these dogs," officials said. However, the plan is being opposed by some "animal lovers", according to another MCD official."There is opposition to the plan but we are hopeful that we would be able to find a way to end the men-

ace of stray dogs," he added. As per the data provided by sterilised nearly 7,000 stray dogs in January and February and more dogs are being picked up daily for sterilisation and then released back to the same area. Recently, a stray dog was thrashed to death by a group of people in central Delhi's Karol Bagh area. The canine had attacked and bitten several residents of the area in the past.

Wrestlers Bajrang Punia, Vinesh Phogat and Sakshi Malik at a press conference during their protest at Jantar Mantar, in New Delhi on Wednesday, Ranian Dimri Pionee

kshatra (sta and karana every day, the official said. The Panchang will be

cision of mathematical calculations found therein is also

## Marriott Hotel staff harassed, held me hostage, says woman Aerocity hotel denies all allegations as baseless

### PTI 📕 NEW DELHI

55-year-old woman, who Aworks as a legal advisor for a women business organisation, has accused the staff of IW Marriott Hotel in Aerocity of holding her hostage for hours and harassing her when she complained of poor services and sought time to settle the hotel bill.

The hotel has denied all allegations as baseless. "The JW Marriott New Delhi Aerocity strongly refutes the allegations made against the hotel in the

concerned matter and are her and held her captive under authorities in their investiga-

cooperating with the relevant the watch of two male employees, who constantly followed tion," a spokesperson from JW her in the hotel.

Marriott told PTI. The spokesperson further said, "We "Even when I went to the lavatory, they kept waiting outside," she wrote in her comoperate with the highest levels of integrity, ethics and values plaint, based on which the that extend to all our partners, Indira Gandhi International associates and guests. Ĝiven the (IGI) Airport Police Station matter is currently being hanlodged an FIR. According to the FIR, written in Hindi, the dled by the police, we are unable to provide any further dispute arose over payment of information." The woman, who a bill for an event held on doesn't want to be named, said December 26, 2022 for which in her complaint to police that the organisation had booked 94 the hotel staff verbally berated rooms and halls in the hotel.

Public School in Mathura Road

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Southeast) Rajesh Deo, after reviewing the situation, said the bomb threat was received on the official emailid of the school administration and the police were informed around 8 am. Local police personnel, a bomb disposal squad, a dog squad and a SWAT team were immediately sent to the spot, he said. "It was a challenge... All the buildings on the

going towards Nizamuddin

station of the bridge over the

Barapulla drain will remain

closed for 20 days from April

28 for repairs, the Delhi Traffic

Police said on Wednesday.

Commuters are advised to take

specified routes from April 28

to ensure smooth traffic man-

agement in the area, it said. The

police have also advised the

Delhi Police at the DPS Mathura Road after the school received a bomb threat via email. at Nizamuddin area in New Delhi on Wednesday. Ranian Dimri Pioneer

school premises were checked and no suspicious object was found. The situation is normal. We also searched the outline areas of the school premises," the police officer added.

As the news of the bomb threat spread, panic-stricken parents gathered outside the school and took their children

Bridge on Barapulla drain to shut for 20 days

New Delhi: The carriageway commuters to follow direc- Nizamuddin railway station to

tions of its personnel in the area

to avoid inconvenience. The

commuters coming from Neela

Gumbad to reach Hazart

Nizamuddin station via Nikku

Chowk and the Rajdoot traffic

signal will have to take oppo-

site carriageway from the left

turn near Preet Palace hotel,

according to the advisory. "The

commuters coming from the

home. The school was evacuated and the fire department was informed about the threat around 8 am. A fire tender was rushed to the spot, officials said.The Indian School in Delhi's Sadiq Nagar had received bomb threats twice in April this year and in

November 2022

reach Neela Gumbad will have

to take a right turn from the

traffic signal near Nizamuddin

police post on the drain first to

reach the Mathura Road T-

point and then turn right in the

service road towards Neela

Gumbad and then take main

carriageway of Mathura Road

towards Neela Gumbad from

the traffic signal," it said. SR

al meetings are underway. The aim is to ensure 100 per cent sterilisation of stray dogs in the city. Officials said that after being sterilised and immunised against rabies, the canines are released in the same area from where they had been picked up. "There has been an increase in dog bite incidents in the national capital in the past six months. People are very upset with the menace of dogs. We are looking into preparing a policy in this regard. We have

On Monday, a 14-year-old boy was injured in a stray dog attack in southwest Delhi's Rangpuri.

### NCR PULSE

### KEJRIWAL MEETS SISODIA'S SICK WIFE IN HOSP

New Delhi: Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Wednesday met the ailing wife of his former deputy Manish Sisodia at a private hospital. Seema Sisodia, 49, is suffering from an autoimmune disorder, multiple sclerosis, and was admitted to the neurology department of Indraprastha Apollo Hospital on Tuesday. "I am returning after meeting Seema Bhabhi (Manish ji's wife) in the hospital. She is admitted in the hospital since vesterday. She has multiple sclerosis. It is a very serious disease. I pray to God for her good health," Kejriwal said in a tweet in Hindi.

### LG OK'S 244 ADDITIONAL POSTS OF PRINCIPALS

New Delhi: Delhi Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena has approved the creation of 244 additional posts of Principals in the government run schools. "While approving the revival of above mentioned 126 posts the LG had asked the Education Department to submit a proposal for creation of additional 244 posts of Principals, after getting a comprehensive study conducted by the AR Department, in consultation with the Services Department," reads the statement issued by Raj Niwas. The LG had also directed that suitable financial provisions be made and ensured for these 244 posts in the Level-12 of the Pay Matrix. These posts will now be sent to the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) for being filled as per their prescribed recruitment.

### DELHI ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD TO BE SET UP

New Delhi: Delhi's Development Minister Gopal Rai on Wednesday announced the setting up the Delhi Animal Welfare Board for betterment of animals. The decision was taken after a high level review meeting with the officials of the Animal Husbandry Department at the Delhi Secretariat. "In this Animal Welfare Board of 27 members divided under 19 categories, MLAs, people actively working in animal welfare work in the state, high officials of the concerned department. and representatives from SPCA, gaushalas and Animal Welfare Board of India have been included," Rai said.

### MEET WITH MLA DRIVE: BHARATI MEETS KONDLI MLA

New Delhi: Delhi Jal Board Vice Chairman Somnath Bharti held a meeting with Kondli MLA Kuldeep Kumar at DJB Headquarters on Tuesday in the presence of senior officials of Delhi Jal Board. The meeting was held under the special campaign "Meet with MLA" launched by the DJB Vice Chairman under the guidance of Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal

## **5 held for cheating, siphoning ₹2.38 cr insurance money**

#### STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Delhi Police have arrested five people, including two former employees of a leading insurance firm, for allegedly cheating 22 policy holders and withdrawing Rs 2.38 crore that remained with the insurer unclaimed either as surrendered amount or after maturi-

A senior police official said one of the accused, Rohit Kumar Aggarwal (28), who worked with Max Life Insurance as a senior executive, had access to the company data. Aggarwal used to identify the policy holders whose surrendered and maturity amount remained unclaimed with the company for an

unusually long time. He would give the details of the target policy holders to Sujeet Kumar Mishra (41), who too was an employee of the insurance firm. Mishra would pass on the information to Chandan Jain (41), who would give the details to Prem Parkash (37) to open new bank accounts in the

name of these policy holders. Vikas (30), the fifth accused, worked at an Aadhaar Centre and he helped the gang in updating Aadhaar details in the new bank accounts. Officials said the case has exposed the vulnerability of the process of updating personal

misuse Deputy Commissioner of Police (Intelligence Fusion & Strategic Operations) Prashant

details at Aadhaar centres for

Gautam said Prakash would lure poor people, mostly those from slum clusters near Rana Pratap Bagh, and take them to an Aadhaar centre to get their names and addresses changed to the names and addresses of the policy holders.

Vikas, who worked at the Aadhaar centre at SBI, Gujranwala Town, got these changes updated without taking any relevant documents after taking Rs 1,000-1,500 per case.

"Thereafter, these people applied for PAN cards and voter cards on the basis of the updated Aadhaar. After getting PAN and voter cards, their bank accounts were opened. Many of these accounts were opened digitally using eauthentication Aadhaar

process," Gautam said. He said Prakash would give cheque or passbooks of the bank accounts displaying the names of the policy holders to Jain, who passed on these documents to Aggarwal through Mishra. Aggarwal, who at the time was an employee of the insurance firm, would process the documentation and send them from his official email Id to the data entry team to initiate the refund process.

The refund was received in the new bank accounts opened by Prakash and his associates, the DCP said. Most of the amount was then transferred to the bank accounts opened in the name of Rinku Sales, whose proprietor was Prakash, having the address of Kabir Nagar, Rana Pratap Bagh,

Delhi

From these bank accounts, the accused would withdraw the amount, the official said. The bank accounts of

Rinku Sales were operated by Jain from whose possession, the SIM card linked with the account number, debit cards and cheque books have been recovered," Gautam said.

Police said they exposed the whole operation by the five men after receiving a complaint by Max Life Insurance Corporation, which alleged nearly Rs 51 lakh related to surrendered and maturity amount of two of its policy holders had been fraudulently received by unknown per-

The company later found that one of its policy holders

had died on March 13, 2018, and no request for withdrawal of money was made on his behalf.After examining the documents and information shared by the company and it was revealed that nearly Rs 2.38 crore — from 37 policies of 22 policy holders — was refunded fraudulently, police said. Gautam said the accused opened accounts in several banks in the name of policy holders.

Many of these accounts were opened digitally using the e-Aadhaar authentication process, the official added. The DCP said they first arrested Prem Prakash.

Police first tried to locate the address of Rinku Sales but could not find it at the given Kabir Nagar address.

## nation 04



## **Centre urges SC to leave same-sex marriage issue to Parliament**

Very heart of the Special Marriage Act is recognition of marriage between a conventional man and conventional woman, says Solicitor General Tushar Mehta

### PNS NEW DELHI

The Centre on Wednesday reiterated to Supreme Court to consider leaving questions raised in the pleas seeking legal sanction for same sex marriages to Parliament, saying the court is dealing with a "very complex" subject having a very "profound social impact" and which would also require going into 160 provisions of different laws. Solicitor General Tushar Mehta argued that the real question is as to who would take a call on what constitutes marriage and between whom and told the bench there are several ramifications not only on the society but unintended ramifications on other statutes which would need a debate in the society, various state legislatures and civil society groups. Contending that marriage is a socio-legal institution and its

recognition squarely falls with-Dobbs case which had held in the domain of legislative pol-icy decisions, Mehta said the there is no constitutional right to abortion. 'very heart" of the Special It expressed strong reser-

Marriage Act is the recognition vation to the Centre making a of marriage between a conreference to the verdict in supventional man and conven-tional woman. Asserting that port of the contention that judiciary should not venture revisiting these provisions would be a "humongous exerinto the domain of the legislature, saying the point is well cise" even for Parliament and taken but the case be not that the judiciary was not at all referred to as India has moved equipped and empowered to do so, the Centre vehemently far beyond in recognising the rights of women.

Presenting his arguments, Mehta had referred to several argued and urged the fivejudge Constitution bench headed by Chief Justice D Y judgements delivered by courts in India and abroad and said Chandrachud to stop the exercise arising out of the pleas the judiciary can't indulge in seeking legalization of same sex usurpation of power to be marriages. During the hearing, the court observed it is a well exercised by the legislature. Mehta further said despite settled principle that "judges marriage being the personal don't legislate" and asked the affair of two individuals, legis-Centre not to cite in its support latures do intervene to decide the controversial verdict of the various modalities such as age US Supreme Court in the and grounds of divorce.



"Your lordships are dealpetitions. Mehta said the court ing with a very, very complex is dealing with LGBTQIA+ subject having a very, very (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transprofound social impact. I gender, queer, questioning, would earnestly reiterate my intersex, pansexual, two-spirit, request if your lordships can asexual, and ally) and there are consider leaving all these ques-72 shades or variations and that tions to Parliament...," the solic-"is why we write +". Referring itor general told the bench, to the impact on several prowhich also comprised justices visions of law, he said, "Even if S K Kaul, S R Bhat, Hima Kohli the Parliament decides to reand P S Narasimha, during the visit these 160 provisions of fifth day of hearing of the various laws, then also it is

going to be a humongous exer-cise." "I understand the difference between gender and sex, sexuality and gender etc. We are not going into it. But all laws, whether it is criminal law, civil law, any other law, law giving protection to women etc., they define man and woman in the conventional sense.

When this question is being debated before your lord-ships for the first time, I am posing a question to myself, and based on that appealing to your lordships, should it not go first to the parliament or the state legislature," Mehta argued. He rebutted the vehement submissions of senior advocates Mukul Rohatgi and Saurabh Kirpal, who have argued for the petitioners' side, that the concept of homosexuality was not deliberated upon in Parliament at the time of framing of the Special Marriage Act in 1954

and hence the court can now read in certain provisions to grant marriage right to samesex partners.

Mehta extensively referred to the parliamentary debates for legislating the Special Marriage Act and said the law-makers were "quite aware" of homosexuality and with a clear intent, had decided not to ven ture into it. He questioned the submissions of those seeking validation of same sex marriages and referred to the minimum age prescribed for male and female to enter into a relationship of marriage. "Can we read this into the law that a person has to complete 18 years and 21 years for marrying? We don't know what age would be for which person," Mehta said. The Solicitor General said the legislative policy has always been in all the laws to recognise convention-

al man and conventional woman.

"No one is sitting on value judgement whether this is good, this is bad. This should be done, this should not be done. There is no stigma attached. The Parliament has accepted their right of choice, their right of sexual preference, their right of sexual preference, the right of autonomy and pri-vacy that is the right of intimate relationship in which your lordships said something happening between two consent-

ing adults in privacy." Mehta said the limited question is whether the right to marry can be prayed for as a social institution by way of a judicial adjudication before this court. "Right to marry does not include the right to compel the state to create a new definition of marriage. Parliament can do but it is not an absolute right."

high-quality infrastructure, global health, climate change,

maritime domain awareness,

and other issues that matter to

the people of the Indo-Pacific," White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said late

Albanese said it will also be

an enormous opportunity to showcase the beautiful city of

Sydeny to the entire world.

We are always better off when

Tuesday.

### Ongoing fight will |NHAI engineer, wife booked in not impact India, Sudan ties: Envoy India, they came to Sudan 100

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

Ongoing strife in Sudan will not have any adverse impact on its ties with India, its envoy to New Delhi Abdalla Omer Bashir Elhussain said here on Wednesday. He also appreciated India's prompt action to evacuate its stranded citizens from the war-torn country.

"Definitely not a negative impact... if there is any impact that is positive. I think there is a good level of cooperation and coordination during this crisis...will make us look into the future more optimistic," the Sudanese envoy told news agency ANI.

He also added that both India and Sudan share a lot of cultural similarities and diversification. "India and Sudan have very special ties even in Sudan. We have a Sudanese community originally from

## DA case by CBI

"I have been working close-

ly 24 hours a day and we real-

ly did a good job in coordinat-

ing cooperation, providing nec-

essary permits for aircraft, for

ships to fly and to land in

Sudan and to bring back Indian

ous negotiations on ending

the fight for power from two

warring factions amid ceasefire

which is partially holding, according to UN envoy to Sudan Volker Perthes.

Similarly, the Sudanese envoy

said there are still violations

from rebel side but the current

ceasefire is maintained better

fourth one, which is going

through right now is holding

on the ground relatively.

'The last three ceasefires were not so successful. But the

than the earlier ones.

There are no signs of seri-

citizens," Elhussain said.

### PNS 📕 NEW DELHI years ago, and they are staying there and now they are Sudanese," he said.

The CBI has booked National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) Superintending Engineer Akil Ahmad and his wife Rafia Ahmad for allegedly possessing disproportionate assets to the tune of Rs 4.1 crore.

The duo has been booked under Section 109 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) relating to abetment of offence and provisions of the Prevention of Corruption Act relating to criminal misconduct.

The case was registered on April 21, the day Inspector of CBI Dinesh Kumar submitted a complaint against him. The disproportionate assets case is a fallout of a separate CBI probe during which huge cash to tune of Rs 50 lakh, gold and jewellery worth over Rs 2,22 crore and documents related to three immovable properties were recovered during searches at his premises. Ahmad had joined

moted as Superintending Engineer (Civil) on April 2, 2016 and served as GM (Tech) on deputation from June 1, 2016 to May 31, 2022. During the check period from March 1, 2016 to December 31, 2021, Ahmad had intentionally enriched himself

Ministry of Road Transport

and Highways as Assistant Engineer (Civil) and was pro-

illicitly with both movable and immovable assets by corrupt and illegal means, reads the FIR. During the check period, he was in possession of three immovable properties in his name and in the name of his wife. One of these properties is

a residential plot measuring 297 square metre in Sector 45 Gurugram, Haryana on which a four-storey building has come up during the period. During check period, his

income was Rs 3,91,12,622 and his expenditure was RS 75,86,741

## PM to attend Quad meet in Oz on May 24 PNS/AGENCIES ■ NEW DELHI/CANBERRA/WASHINGTON

With China flexing its mus-cle in the strategically important Indo-Pacific region, Australia will host the third in-Person Quad summit in Sydney on May 24. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, US President Joe Biden, Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida and Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese will take part in the high-profile and review the entire gamut of issues related to the Indo-

Pacific. The four leaders will focus on deepening cooperation on critical and emerging technologies, high-quality infrastructure, global health, climate change and other pressing issues pertaining to the strate-

gic Indo-Pacific region, Albanese announced on Wednesday. The Quad or Quadrilateral Security Dialogue comprises India, the US, Japan and Australia. The May 24 meeting, scheduled to be attended by

Prime Minister Modi, will be the first that Australia will be hosting. "I'm pleased to



announce that Australia will be hosting the Quad Leaders' Summit for the first time on May 24 in Sydney. Hosting our Quad partners in Sydney next month will be an opportunity for Australia to help shape the region we all want to live in,"

Albanese tweeted. "The hosting of this Quad leaders' meeting at the Sydney Opera House, Australia's most recognisable building, will be a chance for us to work cooperatively with the United States, Japan and India," he said in a video message.

"Quad partners are deeply invested in the success of the Indo-Pacific," Albanese said in a statement. "Leveraging our collective strengths helps Australia advance its interests and more effectively respond to the region's needs. We are

always better off when we act together with our close friends and partners," he added. The Quad was committed to supporting an open, stable and prosperous Indo-Pacific that is respectful of sovereignty and ensures security and growth for all, he said.

"I look forward to dis-cussing with Quad leaders how we - alongside important regional institutions, such as AŠEAN, the Pacific Islands Forum, the Indian Ocean Rim Association and our regional partners - can shape the Indo-Pacific region we all want to live in," Albanese said.

In Washington, the White House said US President Biden will attend the third in-person Quad Leaders' Summit in Sydney

Albanese attended the previous Quad summit in Tokyo hours after he was sworn in as prime minister last year. Biden will arrive in Australia after attending the G7 Leaders Summit in Hiroshima, Japan from May 19 to May 21.

"The Quad leaders will discuss how they can deepen their cooperation on critical and emerging technologies, we act together with our close friends and partners. The Quad is committed to supporting an open, stable, and prosperous Indo-Pacific that is respectful of sovereignty, and ensures security and growth for all," he was quoted as saying by ABC News India, the US and several

other world powers have been talking about the need to ensure a free, open and thriving Indo-Pacific in the backdrop of China's rising military manoeuvring in the region.

In 2017, the US, Australia, India and Japan gave shape to the long-pending proposal of setting up the Quad to devel-op a new strategy to keep critical sea routes in Indo-Pacific region free of any influence.

**Branch Office:** ICICI Bank Ltd, 3rd Floor, Plot No- 23, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi- 110005 Notices under SARFAESLAct for Loan Account No. LBGUR00004931127, Name of the Borrower/ Co-borrower LATA./ DEEPAK CHOUDHARY Symbolic Possession notice dated January 11, 2022 & Physical Possession notice dated March 28, 2023 published in News Paper The Pioneer (Eng.) & Pioneer (Hindi). We NCR Ref No. 382021/2023 has been registered. This property is going to be mortgage with IIFL Home Finance Limited. Any Person/Bank/Financial Institution having any claim/right, lien any objection whatsoever in regard to above property, should notified to the Undersigned/ Adv. Vishal Mehan, E-713, Karkardooma Court, Delhi-110092. Along with documentary evidence under address through registered A/D within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice failing which any claim, lien or objection shall be deemed to have been waived. Vishal Mehan (Advocate) E-713, Karkardooma Court, Delhi-110092 Mobile No. 9811215181

CORRIGENDUM

PUBLIC NOTICE My client IIFL HOME FINANCE LIMITED is mortgaging property bearing second floor without roof rights, portion of property bearing no. WZ-355, land measuring 100 Sq. Yds part of Khasra No. 1575 situated within the old lad dora of village Thar New Delhi-110018 currently owned by Smt. Anju vide registerd sale deed dated-17.01.2022 Doc No-908 SR II-B Janakpuri Delhi. The last chain document of this property GPA has been lost which is Doc No. 3522 dated-13.04.2012 and in this regard NCR Ref No. 382021/2023 has been registered.

CR Ref No. 382021/2023 has been rer

:

Guj HC judge recuses from hearing Rahul's anti-conviction petition

wish to mention that inadvertently and unintentionally a typographical error has occurred in the said notices and property address mentioned in as PLOT NO 1/6426 PLOT NO 18, 1ST & 2ND FLOOR, ROHTAS NAGAR SAHADHARA DELHI instead of PROPERTY NO 1/6426 PLOT NO 18, 1ST & 2ND FLOOR, ROHTAS NAGAR SAHADHARA DELHI. We therefore, request you to please read the same as PROPERTY NO 1/6426 PLOT NO.18, 1ST & 2ND FLOOR, ROHTAS NAGAR SAHADHARA DELHI. All other details mentioned in the said Notice dated will remain same. We sincerely regret the inconvenience caused to vou in this regard.

Date: April 27, 2023 Place: Delhi/ NCR

### Authorised Officer ICICI Bank Limited

### JHARKHAND EDUCATION PROJECT COUNCIL **DoSE&L, GOVERNMENT OF JHARKHAND**

Old HEC High School, JSCA Stadium Road, Sector-III, Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004 Phone No.- 0651-2444501, 2444502, Fax-0651-2444506, email: jepcranchi1@gmail.com

### e-Procurement Notice

JEPC invites Separate Technical & Financial Bids through e-procurement method from eligible and interested bidders for Supply, Distribution and 3 years Maintenance of 28,945 Tablet computers with Mobile Device Management (MDM) software to the Government Primary Teachers of Jharkhand. Interested and eligible bidders are requested to submit their proposal latest by **16.05.2022 at 06:00 PM**. The details of GeM Tender Reference No.-GEM/2023/B/3385933 dated 25.04.2023 can be

seen and applied through website https://gem.gov.in only. A Pre-Bid Meeting in this regard is scheduled on 02.05.2023 at 11:30 AM at our above mentioned office.

BID No. MIS	6/06/2022/173/1936	Date :25/04/2023	50/- (Kiran Kumari Pasi)
PR 296006 Jhar	khand Education Project C	ouncil(23-24).D	State Project Director

झारखण्ड सरकार ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग,मुख्य अभियंता का कार्यालय 102, द्वितीय तल्ला, अभियंत्रण भवन, कचहरी रोड, राँची

### ई--निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

ई--निविदा संख्या:- 06/2023-24/RWD/DALTONGANJ दिनाक :- 25.04.2023 मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, झारखण्ड, राँची द्वारा निम्न विवरण के अनुसार e-procurement पद्धति से पैकेज के रूप में निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती हैं।

क्र0	आईडेन्टी फिकेशन	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित रा	शे (रूपये में)	कार्य समाप्ति
र्स0	संख्या∕पैकेज संख्या	काय का गान	अंक में	अक्षर में	की अवधि
1.	RWD/ DALTONGANJ/ 30/2022-23	एन0एच0–75 चियांकी रोड से बैगा टोला, चन्द्रिका सिंह के घर एवं दशगात्र मण्डप होते हुए अमरेश यादव के घर तक पथ निर्माण कार्य (लं– 2.030 कि0मी0)	1,84,01,775.00	एक करोड़ चौरासी लाख एक हजार सात सौ पचहत्तर रू0 मात्र	12 माह

वेबसाईट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि:- 08.05.2023

ई-निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय:- 17.05.2023 अपराह्न 5.00 बजे तक

- (क) मुख्य अभियंता कार्यालय, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, अभियंत्रण भवने, कचहरी, राँची अथवा (ख) जिला नियंत्रण कक्ष, राँची अथवा (ग) जिला नियंत्रण कक्ष, **डालटनगंज** में से किसी भी कार्यालय में निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि वं समयः— 18.05.2023 अपराहन 3.30 बजे तक।
- निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि स्पीड पोस्ट के माध्यम से भी मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, 102, द्वितीय तल्ला, अभियंत्रण भवन, कचहरी चौक, राँची, झारखण्ड, पिन– 834001 को भेजा जा सकता है। यह निविदाकार की जिम्मेवारी होगी कि स्पीड पोस्ट के माध्यम से भेजा जाने वाला निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि निर्धारित तिथि एवं समय (18.05.2023 अपराहन 3. 30 बजे तक) से पूर्व प्राप्त हो जाय। अंतिम तिथि एवं समय से पूर्व प्राप्त निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि पर ही विचार किया जायेगा ।
- निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय:- 19.05.2023 अपराहन 3.30 बजे।
- निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता— मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, 102, द्वितीय तल्ला, अभियंत्रण भवन, कचहरी चौक, राँची, झारखण्ड, पिन— 834001
- ई—निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दरभाष सं0- 0651-2207818
- . निविदा शुल्क झारखण्ड राज्य में अवस्थित भारतीय स्टेट बैंक / राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक / अनुसूचित बैंक द्वारा निर्गत बैंक ड्राफ्ट के रूप में जो कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, डालटनगंज के पक्ष में एवं डालटनगंज में भुगतेय जमा करना होगा जो लौटाया नहीं जायेगा।

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाईट jharkhandtenders.gov.in में देखा जा सकता है।	नोडल पदाधिकारी
PR 295977 Rural Work Department(23-24).D	ई-प्रोक्युर्मन्ट सेल

### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE AHEMDABAD/NEW DELHI

In a new twist to the Congress leader Rahul Gandhi conviction case, a Gujarat High Court judge on Wednesday recused herself from hearing an the application filed by the disqualified Lok Sabha MP seeking a stay on conviction recorded last month by a Surat magisterial court in connection with the Modi surname case.

Soon as Rahul Gandhi's lawyer P S Champaneri mentioned the case before the court of Justice Gita Gopi, seeking an urgent hearing, the court said, "Not before me." The develop-ment comes a day after Rahul Gandhi filed the appeal in the High Court.

Sources said Justice Geeta Gopi has directed the court registry to hand over the case



to the Chief Justice for assignment to a different bench and now assigning a new judge might take another couple of days two days

Champaneri said the court earlier granted him permission to circulate the matter for Wednesday, but when it came up for hearing, it recused itself from hearing the case. Legal experts suggested that now a note will be sent to the Acting Chief Justice to place the matter before any other court. The to stay his conviction.

case was requested to be taken up in the court of Justice Gita Gopi because her court deals with the subject of criminal revision.

court in Surat on March 23 sentenced the former Congress president to two years in jail after convicting him under Indian Penal Code (IPC) sections 499 and 500 (dealing with criminal defamation) in the 2019 case filed by Gujarat BJP MLA Purnesh Modi.

Following the verdict, Rahul Gandhi, elected to the Lok Sabha from Wayanad in Kerala in 2019, was disqualified as a Member of Parliament (MP) under provisions of the Representation of the People Act. Rahul Gandhi challenged the order in a sessions court in Surat along with an application

### difficult circumstances

'India has courage to do

something new even in

### PNS NEW DELHI

Virtually addressing the closing ceremony of 'Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam' at Somnath in Gujarat, Prime Minster Narendra Modi on Wednesday said India has the courage to do something new, even in the most difficult circumstances, as it faces forces threatening to break it and blocking its way to its target for 2047. Saurashtra

Tamil Sangamam' at Somnath is second 'Tamil Sangam' after the first held in Varanasi, the home constituency of Modi. Kashi Tamil Sangamam was a monthlong programme in 2022 orga-nized by the Union Ministry of Education to celebrate, reaffirm and rediscover the age-old links between Tamil Nadu and

laria stage but ineffective in

killing adult worms, whereas

albendazole can kill adult

worms only when treated for

21 days with 400 mg which

causes adverse effects, need has

been felt for alternative tools

provide the antigens of lym-

phatic filarial parasite, W. ban-

crofti, for development of vac-

In India, LF is endemic in

The ICMR-VCRC shall

such as drugs/vaccines.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi on November 19, 2022.

Modi has since asked BIP leaders to organize such events to celebrate unity and diversity of country, Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam' is event celebrating ancient links of Saurashtra and Tamil Nadu since time of attack on Somnath temple by Mahmud of Ghazni in 1025 AD when several families from Gujarat had fled to Tamil Nadu and settled there.

Addressing the closing ceremony of the event, the Prime Minister said that India has the courage to do something new, even in most difficult circumstances, as it faces forces that threaten to break it and hurdles on the way to its target for 2047.

Modi said that India is a country that celebrates its diversities that do not divide "us but strengthen our bond and relationships". the Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam takes forward the PM's 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha

Bharat' vision by celebrating the shared culture and heritage between Gujarat and Tamil Nadu, according to a press statement. "Today we have the target of India at 2047 (to make India a developed nation). We also have the challenges of the era of slavery and the period of seven decades after that.

"We have to take the country forward, but on the way, there will be forces that will threaten to break us and people to mislead us. But India has the courage to do something new even in the most difficult of circumstances," Modi said.

## **ICMR** keen to partner with pharma firms for Lymphatic Filariasis vax

ARCHANA JYOTI - NEW DELHI

 $S_{\rm Control\ Research\ Centre}^{\rm cientists\ from\ ICMR-Vector}$ (ICMR-VCRC), Puducherry have for the first time cloned 12 well-characterised antigens of the Lymphatic Filariasis (LF) causing parasite, W. bancrofti, which the institute said can be promising vaccine candidates for the neglected disease which mostly ails the poor. The ICMR is now seeking

collaboration with research institutions and pharma companies keen to undertake research to develop the vaccine against the disease.

Currently, there is no vaccine available for LF, and the development of an effective vaccine may be a highly beneficial tool for LF elimination efforts. According to the WHO report 2019, 859 million peo-



ple in 50 countries are at the for a preventive therapy to interrupt the transmission as well as for treatment.

India has set a target of eliminating the LF by 2027, three years ahead of the glob-al target. LF is a major public health problem impairing the lymphatic system and can lead to the abnormal enlargement of body parts, causing pain, severe disability and social stig-Vaccine ma. manufacturer/pharma companies/R&D Institutions etc

should have experience in developing vaccines for nematode parasite and with global marketing network, for undertaking R&D activities using recombinant antigens of the lymphatic filarial parasite, Wuchereria bancrofti for developing vaccine against LF and their manufacturing/commercialization etc," says the ICMR in its expression of interest issued recently.

cines while the collaborative company will undertake the These antigens have exhibited good antibody reactivity, in research & development, scaleup of vaccine candidate(s), preliminary assays and hence as promising vaccine candidates, manufacturing and commer-cialization of LF vaccine(s). it says. Presently, to stop the transmission of infection, Mass Drug Administration (MDA) is 328 districts of India in 20 states/UTs including Bihar, being implemented wherein annually a combination of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, diethylcarbamazine (DEC) and albendazole for 5 years is pro-West Bengal, Karnataka, vided. However, as DEC is Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, and effective against the microfi-Andhra Pradesh.

risk of LF and there is a need

A metropolitan magistrate's



## nation 05

## **PM PACKAGE EMPLOYEES 576 new houses inaugurated**

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE JAMMU

ieutenant-Governor Manoj Lieutenani-Governor Inano, LSinha inaugurated 576 newly-constructed residential accommodations for PM Package Employees at Baramulla, Bandipora, Ganderbal and Shopian on Wednesday.

"Today's inauguration is a testimony to our commitment to create adequate facilities for a future of prosperity & dignity of Employees," said the Lt-Governor.

The Lt-Governor said, "The Government is sensitive to the issues of the Kashmiri migrant families. We understand their pain and are working with the right intent to complete the construction of residential accommodations on priority." 'The administration has

taken various initiatives to expedite the process of construction of housing units for PM Package employees and 2000 more flats will be completed by December 2023," he Governor



added. The Lt Governor highlighted the remarkable progress spoiled the generations, sepavarious sectors including rated your own brothers from industries, empowerment of you. Come forward and say citizens and building a comthat what had happened was wrong and now we won't let it petitive economy & inclusive happen to anyone, he added.

"Óur young generation is The Lt Governor also our greatest asset and they spoke on progressive reforms should take the lead to build a introduced to boost infrastronger, prosperous and a structure, employment genermore dynamic J&K," said the Lt ation and ease of living in the

vested interest

Today, the domestic and foreign companies are willing to invest in J&K. More than 1.25 lakh crore rupees worth highways and tunnel projects are going on in the UT. Increased flight operations in both Jammu & Srinagar airports, improved road and rail connectivity have brought J&K closer to the world, he added. The Lt Governor also

shared the key initiatives taken to tap the growth potential of various priority sectors, extending handholding to budding entrepreneurs, creating large self-employment opportunities, and ensuring fast track & transparent recruitments.

Safina Baig, DDC Chairperson, Baramulla, in her address, said the Transit Accommodations will give a boost to the communal harmony and brotherhood in Kashmir. Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary highlighted the efforts of the administration in the timely completion of the residential accommodations for PM Package Employees.

## BJP behind Kaliaganj stir: Mamata It is CM who is disturbing Bengal peace by criminalising politics: BJP

### SAUGAR SENGUPTA KOLKATA

Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has blamed the BJP for Tuesday's attack on Kaliaganj Police Station that left properties worth lakhs torched and a dozen police personnel and some civilians injured.

A day after angry mobs protesting against the alleged rape and murder of a minor girl torched the Kaliaganj Police Station in North Dinajpur district reducing to ashes properties including dozens of twowheelers worth lakhs, Banerjee said on Wednesday said that the attackers had been imported by the saffron outfit from

Bihar. She said the BJP, which in connivance with the Centre was "disturbing all the Opposition States" — had been creating problems in Bengal

"We have all the information of how they are carrying out hooliganism here and attempting to disturb the peace in Bengal... But we will defeat



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee holds an administrative review meeting at Nabanna, in Kolkata on Wednesday

later was planned."

human beings.

Comparing Bengal with

BJP-ruled Uttar Pradesh she

said, "we don't have a jungle-raj

like UP ... today they are

threatening us ... but tomor-

row they may not be there ...

they are playing with fire which

should stop ... I want to see

what is more powerful: bull-

dozers (a machine that the UP

Government often uses) or

reports, however, suggested some of the villagers who had

allegedly arranged logistics for

these terrorists before the attack

were being subjected to sus-

tained interrogation to extract

any vital clue about their hide-

out in the nearby villages of the

commander of the Udhampur

based Northern Command

headquarters Lt-Gen Upendra

Dwivedi visited Rajouri &

Poonch Sector & reviewed

operational preparedness &

took stock of ongoing opera-

tions. This was his second visit

after an army truck was

interacted with the troops

deployed in remote areas and

exhorted them to be innovative

and relentless in their pursuit.

Lt-Gen Upendra Dwivedi

NPA Date

On Wednesday Army

border district.

ambushed.

this conspiracy to create anarchy," the Chief Minister said, adding the State would make the mischief mongers pay for the damage they had done to the public property.

Apparently referring to the alleged rape and murder Banerjee said, "I won't say that the Kaliaganj incident was planned. It's an unfortunate incident and we are with the family. But what happened

The BJP immediately hit back at the Chief Minister saying it was she who had been disturbing the State by criminalizing its politics and reducing the police to a servile class. Taking a jibe at the Chief Minister on her meeting with her Bihar counterpart Nitish Kumar State BJP leader Sajal Ghosh said "it is not the BJP but TMC which is bringing people from Bihar as can be proved from the meeting she had with Bihar leaders (read Nitish Kumar and Tejaswi Yadav) in Kolkata.

Cut to Kaliaganj. More than a dozen two-wheelers, furniture and important documents were torched after hundreds of people barged into the police station and pulled down its concrete parapet.

PTI

The attack was so violent that the intruders even chased the men in uniform - who fled for their lives taking shelter in nearby houses - pulled them out after vandalizing those houses and beat them up mercilessly.

Hours after video clips oing viral showed policemen lying on the ground with fold-ed hands and begging for their lives with the marauders raining lathis on them, the Chief Minister said "outsiders were brought in to set fire to Kaliaganj police station as well as ordinary people's property. The mob mercilessly beat up the women police personnel too besides damaging property. Police will explore attaching properties of those involved in rioting.

Most of the attackers were local villagers belonging to the Raj bangshi community which the deceased belonged to. While the BJP and the girl's father alleged rape and murder the police after post mortem said that she had died after consuming poison. "The entire postmortem has been videographed bit by bit," a senior police officer said.

Meanwhile, 35 people had been arrested in connection with the Kaliaganj incident, police said.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Md. Nasim Akhtar son of Mohd. Azimuddin is the registered owner of Freehold First Floor without root rights of Property No. 31-B, Church Road, Bhogal, Jangpura, New Delhi-110014 purchased from Mr. Rajesh Bakshi Intrough his General Attroney Mr. Sarwan Kumar Mansukhani (vide Sale Deed dated 05.04.2023) and said Mr. Rajesh Bakshi along with his borther Mr. Anil Bakshi had acquired the said properly by virtue of Relinquishment Deed dated 25.02.2014 and Relinquishment Deed dated 25.02.2014 executed by the legal heirs of Late Mr. Girdhar Lal and Late Mrs. Urmila Bakshi who in herited Backshi and Late Mrs. Wash Devi Backshi and except the legal heirs as mentioned in said Relinquishment Deed, there are no other lega

## Talk to locals opposing refinery, get another site if issue not resolved, Pawar tells Govt

society

### PTI MUMBAI

Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) president Sharad Pawar on Wednesday said the Maharashtra government should hold a dialogue with local villagers who are opposing a refinery project in the coastal Ratnagiri district.

If the issue was not resolved even after that, an alternative site should be found, he said. Pawar spoke to reporters here after state industries minister Uday Samant met him to discuss the issue. Residents of Barsu village in Ratnagiri district's Rajapur tehsil, more than 400 km from Mumbai, are up in arms against the project and the Shiv Sena (UBT) and Congress, the NCP's allies in the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) coalition, are supporting them.

Pawar said his party did not oppose development projects in Konkan, but finding out the opinion of the locals was a must.

"The government needs to find out why the locals are angry... Having a dialogue with them is the only solution. If the matter is not resolved through a dialogue, an alternative site should be found," the former Union minister said.

On the State Government's contention that



Uddhav Thackeray, when he was chief minister, had suggested Barsu as an alternative instead of Nanar, the original site, Pawar said he was not aware of that. "Industries minister Uday Samant who met me assured that a dialogue will take place tomorrow

Yesterday only soil testing was being done at the site," he further said. NCP leaders will visit the site and talk to the locals, Pawar added. Samant, who is the guardian minister of Ratnagiri district, told reporters that the women protestors detained at the project site have been released. "The Government will speak to the villagers," he added.

Pawar, meanwhile, told reporters that he would be visiting Punjab on Thursday for Shiromani Akali Dal leader Parkash Singh Badal's last rites.

## Combing Op on in terror attack on Army truck Security forces search Bhatta Durrian forests as terrorists remain at large

### MOHIT KANDHARI 🗖 JAMMU

n the absence of pinpointed human Intelligence from ground zero the ongoing combing and search operations launched by the Indian Army to bring to justice the perpetrators, behind the gruesome terror attack on an Army truck in which five Indian soldiers were killed in the line of duty on April 20, 2023, is testing the patience of the field commanders leading the operations on ground zero.

A joint team of security forces led by the army jawans have been combing the thickly forested area of Bhatta Durrian since April 20 but so far they have failed to track down the footprints of terrorists behind the attack. More than 50 people



including over one dozen over ground workers have been interrogated by the various

agencies but the terrorists remained at large. Unconfirmed

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, Landmark Building, 4th Floor, 228A, AJC Bose Road, Kolkata- 700020 CIN No: L65190GJ1994PLC021012, www.icicibank.com 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.

Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/

Date of Notice Sent/ Outsta-

Property Address of Secured Asset Asset to be Enforced

media

criminal defamation com-Aplaint was filed against Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav in a court here on Wednesday over his alleged remark suggesting "only Gujaratis can be thugs in the current situation".

Now, Tejashwi faces

criminal defamation

plaint for calling

**Gujaratis 'thugs'** 

PTI 📕 AHMEDABAD

The complaint was filed against the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader by social worker and businessman Haresh Mehta, 63, under Indian Penal Code sections 499 and 500 (dealing with criminal defamation) in the court of additional metropolitan magistrate DJ Parmar.

"We submitted the complaint along with proof in form of a pen drive containing the statement. The court has accepted the complaint and will verify it on May 1," Mehta's lawyer P R Patel said.

The complaint stems from 33-year-old Yadav's statement made before the media in Patna on March 21.

"Only Gujaratis can be thugs in the present situation, and their fraud (crime) will be forgiven. Who will be responsible if they run away with the money belonging to LIC or banks?" the Bihar Deputy CM

had allegedly said. The complainant said the statement, calling the entire Gujarati community as "thug", was made before the media. It in the May 10 Assembly polls defames and humiliates all Gujaratis in public. in Karnataka.

The Congress on Wednesday **I** appointed five observers for the May 10 Karnataka Assembly elections, each taking care of one region of the coastal southern State, while Congress leader Rahul Gandhi will address a massive rally in Mangaluru on Thursday, the party said on Wednesday.

PTI NEW DELHI/ HIRIYUR/

MANGALURU

While general secretary Avinash Pande will be the observer for the Central Karnataka region, A Chella Kumar will be for the Mysore region and Manickam Tagore for the Mumbai-Karnataka

region. Party leader Ajoy Kumar has been appointed as regional observer for the coastal Karnataka region, while Mohan Prakash will take care of the

Hyderabad-Karnataka region towards the north of the state. The Congress is seeking to

wrest power from the BJP in Karnataka, the lone southern state where the BJP is in power. Assembly elections to elect the new 224-member Karnataka

assembly will be held on May 10 and results will be out on May 13. Meanwhile, Congress

General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Wednesday held a massive roadshow here waving at a large enthusiastic crowd along the route, seeking people's support for the party

11

Cong appoints 5 observers for

May 10 Karnataka elections

### ## 1 #####

AICC general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra during her visit to the Sringeri Sharda Peeth in Karnataka on PTI Wednesday

crowd gathere the sides of the roads and on nearby buildings.

designed vehicle, she was greet-

Standing atop a specially-

A large number of party workers holding Congress flags were seen marching along with the vehicle, as it passed through the streets, amid drum beats and slogans like 'Congress party ki jai', 'Priyanka Gandhi ki jai, 'Rahul Gandhi ki jai'.

Vadra was accompanied by AICC General Secretary Randeep Singh Surjewala and other local party leaders.

Cong use	ed 'relig	ion' to
come to	power:	Rajnath

PTI BELAGAVI

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Wednesday came down heavily on the Congress alleging that it used 'mazhab' (meaning religion in Urdu) to come to power.

Singh also slammed the party for having introduced four per cent reservation, in its earlier term, on religious lines in Karnataka, saying it had been done only to appease

Muslims. "If there is any political party in the history of India which took the support of 'dharma', or rather, 'mazhab' to come to power, then it is Congress," Singh said, address-

ing a public meeting at Kagwad in Belagavi district.

Karnataka votes on May 10, with the results slated to be declared on May 13.

The Congress does the "politics of Hindu, Muslim and Christians", Singh said. "Politics of this sort should never ever be done."

Only to appease Muslims, the four per cent reservation was given on religious lines, he alleged.

"We will welcome if an economically-weaker Muslim or a Christian gets reservation benefits but the Constitution of India does not permit religion-based reservation," the Defence Minister said.

#### nding as on Date of Notice heirs remains of Late Mr. Deputy Lat Bakshi, Late Mrs. Wash Devi Bakshi, Late Mr.Girdhari Lat, Late Mrs. Umila Bakshi, and said Mr.Ani Bakshi and Mr. Pajesh Bakshi had also partitioned the said property by way of Registered Partition Deed dated 11.12.2020, and my clients is mortgaging the same to LIC HFL. If anybody including Bank, Financial Institutions, persons, relative has any claim, right, interest whatsoever in the said property shall inform within 7 days to the undersigned with documentary evidence. In the event of no response to this notice, than cur client shall presume that title of the said property is unencumbered and clear. Kanail Singh, Advocate. Number) & Address heirs remains of Late Mr. Deputy Lal Bakshi, Lat Mouza-Sikandarpur, Tauji No 3936, Jamabandi No 357, Thana East Colony, Thana No 08, Khata 21 22, Ward No 05, Hal 15, Sheet No. 21 & 22, Plot No. 917, Anchal-Jamaipur, Sub Registry Office Munger, District-Munger Admeasuring an area of 1.56 Decimal or 1361.25 Sq. Ft. or 10 Dhur Satyam Shivam Sundaram/ February 28, 2023 06/12 Laxmi Sundram/ Shivam Sundram/ S/o-Parmeshwai 2022 Rs.6,41,194/-Prasad At-Nayagown Jamalpur Dist-Munger Bihar Jamalpur-811214/ LBPTN00005838110 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 Financia Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002. Karnail Singh, Advocat Date : April 27, 2023 Place : Ghaziabad Authorized Officer ICICI Bank Limited K-8, Basement, Jungpura Extension New Delh Contact No. 9811163363 & 9953683363

Regional Office: ICICI Bank Limited, NBCC Place, Bisham Pitamah Marg, Pragati Vihar, New Delhi- 110003 Regd. Office: ICICI Bank Tower, Near Chakli Circle, Old Padra Road, Vadodara- 390 007 Corporate Office: ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra- Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai- 400 051 CICICI Bank

PUBLIC NOTICE - TENDER CUM AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSET

Sale of Immovable Asset under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to rule 8(6) and rule 9(1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 ("Rules").

The second secon Noticee(s) failed and neglected to comply with the said demand.

The Secured Asset (as detailed below) has been mortgaged by **Mr. Firodosh Rohintan Mahuvawalla** as Security for the facility granted by ICICI Bank to the Borrower and whereas, in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(4) of the SARFAESI Act read with the Rules, the Authorized Officer had taken possession of the Secured Asset on November 16, 2022.

Public at large is hereby informed that ICICI Bank is inviting offers for the sale of Secured Asset (as described in the Schedule below) under the provisions of SARFAESI Act and the Rules thereunder on "As is where is basis", "As is what is basis", "Whatever there is basis" and "Without any recourse of SARFAESI Act and the Rules thereunder on "As is where is basis", "As is what is basis", "Whatever there is basis" and "Without any recourse of SARFAESI Act and the Rules thereunder on "As is where is basis", "As is what is basis", "Whatever there is basis" and "Without any recourse of SARFAESI Act and the Rules thereunder on "As is where is basis", "As is what is basis", "Whatever there is basis" and "Without any recourse of SARFAESI Act and the Rules therein the sale of Secure Asset (as described in the Schedule below) under the provisions of SARFAESI Act and the Rules therein the sale of Secure Asset (as described in the Schedule below) under the provisions of SARFAESI Act and the Rules therein the sale of Secure Asset (as described in the Schedule below) under the provisions of SARFAESI Act and the Rules therein the sale of Secure Asset (as described in the Schedule below) under the provisions of SARFAESI Act and the Rules there are a sale of Secure Asset (as described in the Schedule below) under the provisions of SARFAESI Act and the Rules there are a sale of Secure Asset (as described in the Schedule below) under the provisions of SARFAESI Act and the Rules there are a sale of Secure Asset (as described in the Schedule below) and the Rules the sale of Secure Asset (as described in the Schedule below) and the Schedule below (as the sale of Secure Asset (as described in the Schedule below) are a sale of Secure Asset (as described in the Schedule below) are a sale of Secure Asset (as described in the Schedule below) are a sale of Secure Asset (as described in the Schedule below) are a sale of Secure Asset (as described in the Schedule below) are a sale of Secure Asset (as described in the Schedule below) are a basis" as per details given below SCHEDUI E

		SCHEDULE				
Description of Secured Asset	Reserve Price (In ₹)	Earnest Money Deposit ("EMD") (In ₹)	Bid Increment Value (In ₹)	Date of Property Inspection and time	Last date of submission of EMD	Date and time of e-Auction
Commercial property located at 405-B, 4th Floor in the scheme name "Benison Complex" located in the land bearing R.S. No. 83, 84, 85, 142 and 143 of Mouje Jetalpur on which Haribhakti Colony is organized and out of the said revenue survey, R.S. No. 83A is bifurcated, which is in T.P Scheme No. 14, F.P. No. 7 bearing Tenure-C in the City Survey No. 1864, Vadodara, Gujarat- 390007 admeasuring buildup area of 1,240 Sq Ft. and carpet area of 1,177 Sq. Ft. in the name of Mr. Firdosh Rohinton Mahuvawalla.		9,00,000.00	1,00,000.00	May 15, 2023 (01:00 PM to 02:00 PM) with prior intimation	May 22, 2023 upto 4:00 PM	May 24, 2023 (11:00 AM to 12:00 Noon)
	TE	MS & CONDITI	ONS			

TERMS & CONDITIONS

(1) The online auction will be conducted through M/s e-Procurement Technologies Limited (Auction tiger) on the website of auction agency i.e. https://icicibank.auctiontiger.net. and shall be subject to terms & condition contained in the tender document which is available on https://icicibank.auctiontiger.net.

(2) For any clarifications with regard to inspection, terms and conditions of the auction or submission of tenders, kindly contact Mr.Karan Kakkar Authorized Officer of ICICI Bank Limited on + 91-70427-92970 or write at karan.kakkar@icicibank.com.

(3) The Noticee (s) are given last chance to repay the total outstanding dues aggregating to Rs. 2,42,53,081.40 (Rupees Two Crore Forty Two Lakh Fifty Three Thousand Eighty one and Paisa Forty Only) outstanding as on April 02, 2023 along with further interest and other charges thereon at the contractual interest rates. The said dues are required to be paid by the Noticee(s) on or before May 23, 2023 failing which, the Secured Asset will be sold as per schedule, as mentioned above.

(4) The Noticee (s) in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned and restrained not to deal with the Secured Asset, as detailed above, in any manner in terms of Section 13(13) of the said Act and any dealing with the Secured Asset will be subject to the charge of ICICI Bank for the amounts and further interests thereon.

(5) The Authorised Officer has absolute right and discretion to accept or reject any bid or postpone/cancel the e auction without assigning any reason. (6) In case there is any discrepancy between the publication of sale notice in English & vernacular newspaper, then in such case the English newspaper will supersede the vernacular newspaper and it shall be considered as the final copy, thus removing the ambiguity.

#### Statutory 15 Days sale under notice under Rule 9(1) of the rule

The Noticee(s) once again are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned above along with up to date interest and ancillary expenses before the date of e-auction, failing which the Secured Asset will be auctioned/sold and balance dues, if any will be recovered with interest and cost. If auction fails due to any reasons whatsoever, Bank would be at liberty to sell the above secured asset through private treaty or any other means as provided under sub-rule (5) of rule 8 of the Rules or otherwise without any further notice to the Noticee(s) as per the provisions mandated under SARFAESI Act and the Rules.

Date: April 27, 2023 Place: Delhi

Authorized Officer For ICICI Bank Limited

### Allow retrospective gender change in edu institutes' records: HC

### PTI MUMBAI

Responding to a plea by a transgender person, the Bombay High Court has directed the Maharashtra government to instruct all educational institutions in the state to allow retrospective changes of name and gender in their records.

A division bench of Justices Gautam Patel and Neela Gokhale, in its order of April 25, said the questions of identity and gender perception do not happen at a "biologically definable point".

The petitioner, an alumnus of the Tata



Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), identifies as a transgender and sought to change their name and gender in the education records of the institute.

In 2013, the petitioner received an MA in Development Studies from the TISS with their original feminine name.

In 2015, the petitioner adopted anoth-er name, self-identifying as transgender and applied to the TISS for a new certificate reflecting the changes in name and gender. When there was no response from the institute, the petitioner approached the HC. The High Court said that earlier orders passed by the Supreme Court "direct us towards greater inclusiveness and acceptance of individuality and individual traits.

"These are not to be compromised because of some bureaucratic requirements," the division bench said.

NEW DELHI | THURSDAY | APRIL 27, 2023

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-PAPER WITH PASSION-

## **AAP's whataboutery**

No amount of sophistry would be able to justify Rs 45crore renovation of Delhi CM Kejriwal's official residence

he only shield that the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) can lay its hands on to ward off the charges of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's Rs 45-crore renovation of his official residence is whataboutery. Bharatiya Janata Party spokesperson Sambit Patra called Kejriwal "Maharaja" who has a "lust for luxury and comfort." Senior Congress leader and former Union minister Ajay Maken also reportedly alleged that Kejriwal spent Rs 45 crore of public funds on his luxurious bungalow, including on extravagant items like Dior polish, Vietnam marble, expensive curtains, and high-end carpets. It is important to note that till the writing of these lines, the Delhi Government had not denied the said expenditure on the beautification of Kejriwal's bungalow at Civil Lines; AAP, however, had reacted with its characteristic fulminations. Equally, if not more, important is the fact that the party did not deny the obscene spending on an official residence; it

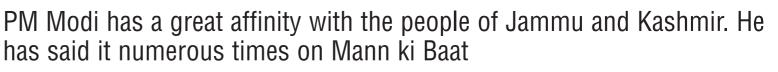


just pointed fingers at others. What about Prime Minister Narendra Modi's residence where Rs 500 crore has been spent? What about the Rs 200-crore aircraft that the Chief Ministers of Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh take for themselves? What about this? What about that? Whataboutery unadulterated and unabashed. To be fair to AAP, it is not the only party that indulges in such tactics. When a BJP leader is cornered over some financial misdemeanour, they say, "What about 2G?" When Congress leaders are questioned about dynasticism in the party, they begin mentioning the names of BJP leaders whose rise owes a lot to their prominence in politics.

But just because whataboutery is practiced widely by leaders of all parties doesn't mean that it can be accepted as a valid form of argumentation. The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy and others regard tu quoque, the Latin name of whataboutery, as a fallacy. In AAP's scheme of things, whataboutery, like ostentation, should never have existed in the first place. For these are folks who claimed to be the true representatives of the common man (aam aadmi), who joined politics claiming to be the true representatives of common people. They ensured that they looked like common people; hence, Kejriwal is rarely, if ever, seen in kurta pyjama, the informal dress of Indian politicians. It was AAP which loudly protested against the corruption and lavish lifestyles of politicians. AAP leaders and activists sanctimoniously claimed to live honestly and simply. The reality is that many of AAP leaders, including former Delhi deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia, are facing charges of graft. AAP spokespersons call these charges politically inspired, but Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann himself sacked the State's health minister Vijay Singla in May 2022. And now the revelations about Kejriwal's renovation have completely exposed AAP's claims of being a genuine representative of common people. AAP seems to be unraveling, its leaders' rants and cant notwithstanding.



## PM Modi's special bond with J&K



rime Minister Narendra Modi in the last almost nine years has shown a special bond with the people of Jammu and Kashmir. Under the leadership of PM Modi, the people of Jammu and Kashmir have felt and experienced the healing touch of the central government, as well as a vision of taking visible wings of eco-

nomic prosperity. This is also reflected in Baramulla deputy commissioner Syed Sehrish Asgar bagging the top award for civil services, as she executed the vision of the aspirational district of PM Modi on the ground by bringing the gains of the Central schemes to the people in a proactive manner. No wonder that the people in Jammu and Kashmir have begun believing in PM Modi's mantra of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas..

A close examination of the 99 episodes of PM Modi's monthly radio broadcast Mann Ki Baat reveals that Jammu and Kashmir has always been at the core of his conversation with the people. There have been numerous accounts of people who found mention of PM Modi.

It has been an earnest resolve of the Central government that democracy at the grassroots takes strong roots in Jammu and Kashmir. This alone can ensure sustainable development and the participation of the people in the journey of the progress of the Union territory, as well as India. The overwhelming participation of hundreds of people in the Panchayat elections in Jammu and Kashmir firmly endorses PM Modi's vision for the UT.

People all across the world, including India, have curiosity about Jammu and Kashmir. PM Modi by sharing the stories of the people of the UT in the radio broadcast regularly has kept the world updated about the marching progress of the UT and the deepening partici-

GI-tagged saffron at a Pampore trading centre, found mention in Mann Ki Baat. The historical significance of the Kashmiri saffron was brought before the global audience. Saffron indeed is the identity of Jammu and Kashmir. The most sought-after commodity is also the source of livelihood for the local people, and PM Modi gave a global scale by making a special mention of Mann Ki Baat.

took to e-commerce to sell

Javed Ahmed had survived a terrorist attack in the Kashmir valley in 1996. He now has dedicated his life to improving infrastructure for the specially challenged people in the valley. His life is for humanity, and an example of selfless service to society. PM Modi showered praise on him, as he is an example for everyone, besides he proved to be a reason for an elaborate thoughtful reflection by the top leadership of the country on the issue of ease of access to public places for specially challenged people.

Balbir Kaur, Sarpanch of

Panchayat, also found mention in Mann Ki Baat. This again was an acknowledgement of efforts at the local body level for the well-being of the people.

Zaitoona Begum, a Sarpanch, decided that her Panchayat would fight against the Corona pandemic while also creating income opportunities for the local people. She distributed free masks and free ration, and also crop seeds and apple saplings so that people could be effectively empowered. The world got to know of her after she found mentioned in Mann Ki Baat.

Mohd Iqbal, municipal president of Anantnag, too found mention in the radio programme for his feat of designing a sprayer machine for Rs 50,000 while the machine if brought from another town would have cost Rs six lakh. BY mentioning Mann Ki Baat, PM Modi lauded individual efforts of finding local solutions with innovations.

J&K has regularly been featured in the radio broadcast to show that PM Modi

Manzoor Ahmad Alai, have shown entrepreneurship. Alai sold his ancestral land to establish a unit for manufacturing wooden boxes and later expanded his business to include supplying pencil slats to big companies. His business is now worth crores and provides livelihood to

TARUN CHUGH

around 200 people. Srinagar Municipal Corporation, which appointed Bilal Dar, an 18-year-old from Srinagar, as brand ambassador for the Swachhata Abhiyan, too was lauded. Also, Manzoor Ahmed Larhwal from Srinagar, who installed a solar rooftop plant, to cut down the electricity bill was lauded by PM Modi.

Similarly, Vinod Kumar from Palli village of Jammu, who has been beekeeping in more than 15000 colonies, also featured along with cyclist Adil Altaf from Srinagar, who bagged laurels. Muhammad Aslam from Shopian, Jammu and Kashmir, who played a role in organizing the community mobilization program 'Back to Village' too was appreciated by PM Modi. Author is the national general secretary of the Bharatiya Janata Party. *Views expressed are personal)* 



**PEOPLE ALL** 

ACROSS THE

INCLUDING

INDIA, HAVE

CURIOSITY

ABOUT JAMMU

AND KASHMIR

WORLD,

People fish during a tidal swamp at the end of prawn farming season in Kochi

### ation of democracy and partaking by the people in the gains of development.

of Abdul Majeed Wani, who roads leading to the

Gram Treva in Jammu, who constructed a 30-bed quarantine centre and made The entrepreneurial journey arrangements for water on

is closely following the developments in the UT. In one such mention, PM Modi stated that the people of Pulwama, including

## **U P: Transformation** of a State



BRIJ LAL

The eradication of mafia raj in UP under Yogi has resulted in all-round progress of the State and improved the law and order situation

ttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's recent remarks in a campaign rally in the State highlight the significant strides that the State has made under his leadership. The CM spoke about the transformation of the State from a place of lawlessness, corruption, and fear to a prosperous, peaceful, and secure environment.

His commitment to rooting out criminal activity and corruption in the State has led to significant progress in eliminating the gunda tax' that was previously collected by mafias. Under the leadership of Yogi, the perception of common people about UP entirely changed; now, there is an element of trust in the police; a feeling of safety is introduced in the common people, irrespective of caste and religion. În Yogi's regime, not only the tools of crime are dealt with a heavy hand but the handlers and sympathisers are being treated equally as partners in crime; as a result, there is no respite even for those who sympathise with mafias and criminals. Now there prevails a the private sector, continuous electricity supply, and infrastructure boost. Yogi's policy that festi-

vals are for celebration not for rioting and appeasement of none has urged people to enjoy the freedom to celebrate festivals and other occasions without fear. The message was loud and clear; there have been

the Anti-Corruption and

vigilance departments has

been provided with the

desired budgetary support.

New capacity has been gen-

erated in the form of an

Anti-Narcotics Task Force,

sense of fear of law among arrests of sadist handlers of riots; their illegal financial white-collar criminals and their handlers. assertions and transactions were brought to scrutiny.

The widely discussed police encounters in the Overhauling of the prosecu-State are the result of confition process is also underdence the State Government way by improving the has reposed in the police capacity of courts to enable force. The brave and trained the speedy disposal of cases. police personnel are working Capacity building by hard. All the encounters that increasing training infrahappened, as per my inforstructure is taken up on primation and belief, were mere ority, the police personnel's training is given due imporchance encounters; they saved many lives of police tance and specialist units personnel on duty. like the Special Task Force, the Anti-Terrorist Squad,

The eradication of mafia raj is UP under Yogi resulted in the progress made in areas captured and suppressed by mafias, such as private sector investment in the State, equal opportunity for all to invest and run their businesses in rural areas, the Cyber Crime Vertical,

employment generation in and forensic labs in each division and the upcoming Forensic Institute in Lucknow Yogi's efforts and policy

on women's safety are commendable, and his assertion that UP's daughters are now free from fear is a significant achievement. The State's progress in providing housing, healthcare, and pension benefits to the poor and marginalised is without middlemen, mafia and any bias. The Government's doubleengine approach has ensured that welfare schemes reach every needy person without discrimination.

The CM's focus on rooting out criminal activity, providing opportunities to the underprivileged, and ensuring the safety and security of the State's people is a laudable achievement. Uttar Pradesh's transformation under Yogi Adityanath's leadership is a model for other States to follow.

(The writer is a Member of Rajya Sabha, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Home Affairs, and former DGP, Uttar Pradesh. Views *expressed are personal)* 

### **SALUTE TO BRAVE HEARTS!**

Sir — As the nation celebrates a festival, Our brothers and sisters mourn the loss of army jawans killed by militants. Jawans have laid down their lives so that the rest of the nation could celebrate a festival, and be safe and secure. Families have lost brave sons & some children their fathers, women their husbands. When tears dry up here begins the second battle, and unmindful of death the brave women again join the armed forces. Our flag does not fly because the wind moves it, it flies with the last breath of each soldier who died protecting it. A Militant's mind can never win over Military Brave hearts!

TS Karthik | Chennai

### **50 YEARS OF KESAVANANDA BHARATHI CASE**

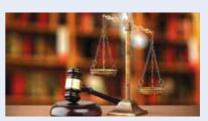
Sir — It's good that the supreme court has opened a web page for people to commemorate the occasion of fifty years' completion of a landmark judgement in the Kesavananda Bharathi case. The verdict of thirteen judges Bench had retained the supremacy of the constitution and a fine balance in power between the executive and judiciary. That the ruling establishing that Parliament cannot change the basic structure of the constitution has been a game changer in evolving the attitude of the executive towards the characteristics of our nation particularly that of democracy, secularism, federalism and fundamental rights. The judiciary should take the initiative to enlighten the people regarding the constitutional spirit as the well-informed citizen would come forward to safeguard the constitutional spirit in return.

Dr. DVG Sankararao | Vizianagaram

### LONG ROAD TO OPPOSTION UNITY

Sir — With the much-vaunted 2024-Lok Sabha polls inching closer, the scramble for a United Opposition Alliance comprising the non-BJP parties is getting more and more hectic with each day passing. A belated realization that dethron- terpart Mamata Banerjee and former UP

### Justice for women wrestlers



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

he Supreme Court (SC) issued notices to the Delhi government and others on a plea by seven women wrestlers (one of them was 16 years old at the time of the harassment. She had won a gold medal) alleging non-registration of an FIR on their sexual harassment allegations against 66 years old WFI president Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, famed as a bahubali neta (muscleman leader), saying these are "serious allegations" requiring its consideration. People wonder what's a country this 'mere Bharat Mahan where an MP had been disgualified for his wrong choice of words but another notorious MP Brii Bhushan cannot be touched even after not only something as serious as sexual harassment but faces several charges, including an attempt to murder, punishment for dacoity and causing disappearance of evidence. However, he has not been

ing the formidable Bhartiya Janata Party, both at the Centre as well as in most of the states, is a herculean task has eventually dawned upon them, forcing them to come to terms even with their betenoirs for the sake of the Opposition unity. Even a couple of groups led by stal-warts like Bihar CM Nitish Kumar, his WB counterpart Mamata Banerjee and NCP chief Sharad Pawar are already working on this Mission-24 and thereby thawing the ice among themselves. Mamata Banerjee has already met with several leaders including UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi, Arvind Kejriwal and Sharad Pawar in the national capital last year. Now, Bihar CM Nitish Kumar on Monday called on his West Bengal coun-

convicted of any one of these! Brij Bhushan is a strong figure with significant swaying power in the Gonda-Balrampur area. Before acting against him, the BJP will not only consider all those factors, but also the party will probably go easy on Brij Bhushan now, with the general election just a year away. Strangely, our top athletes are sitting on dharna again and again but there is no effect on the government who jumps to steal credit when they win medals at international games. It is also shameful that the so-called sports minister, is just sleeping on his responsibilities. It is a sorry state of affairs and a blot on the face of India and its sports authorities; just because the person happens to be a notorious BJP MP grabbing one of the top chairs of sports authority.

There is a silver lining when the SC issued a notice and sought a response from Delhi police over a plea filed by the wrestlers who have been protesting against the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) chief and the BJP MP Brij Bhushan. People hope after Chief Justice of India (CJI) DY Chandrachud admitted the allegations were serious and issued a notice, returnable on Friday, surely rise hope among the victims for justice as early as possible

Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee | Faridabad

CM Akhilesh Yadav and tried to prevail upon these leaders to change their stance against taking the Congress onboard. The TMC supremo has, however, blinked saying that <sup>†</sup>there should be 'no ego clash' in the proposed Opposition front while Mr Kumar went the extra mile convincing the TMC, SP and BRS which are averse to taking the grand old party into the united Opposition's fold. Mamata Banerjee also wished for an All-party meeting at Jai Prakash Narain's 'Karma Bhumi'(Land of Action), Bihar, driving at giving the final touch to the strategy for next year's Parliamentary elections.

Azhar A Khan | Rampur

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## **FIRSTCOLUMN MINIMALLY INVASIVE** SURGICAL THERAPY

It offers low-risk treatment to high-risk **BPH** patients



### TANUJ PAUL BHATIA

Jith age, health complications begin to haunt most people. Many diseases like Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia (BPH) can be directly associated with ageing. It is a widely prevalent condition, commonly referred to as prostate gland enlargement, which occurs in elderly men. The condition obstructs the normal functioning of the urinary tract resulting in debilitating symptoms such as difficulty or pain in urinating or a recurrent urge to urinate. If left untreated, the enlargement of the gland located right under the bladder can even result in an inability to pass urine and issues with kidney functioning. The severity of the condition increases even more when patients belonging to high-risk categories are subjected to standard treatments such as complicated operative surgeries. However, with minimally invasive therapies like PUL (Prostatic Urethral Lift), the associated risk can be averted effectively.

### BPH, is a significant concern for high-risk patients

It is estimated that 11.26 million people lived with BPH conditions globally in 2019. In India, almost 50% of men in the seventh decade are estimated to be living with this condition. Prostate gland enlargement is one of the major perils experienced by elderly men most of whom are also saddled with a series of other chronic diseases such as heart ailments, stroke, diabetes and hypertension. While certain drugs help curtail the growth of benign cells, a significant number of people may ultimately require a surgical intervention. However, for high-risk patients who suffer from BPH but are unfit for anaesthesia and surgeries due to underlying health conditions such as heart problems, respiratory issues, and a history of stroke, traditional treatments for BPH may not be viable options.



Ultra MIST (Minimally Invasive Surgical Therapy) for high-risk patients One of the most promising low-risk surgical procedures for high-

risk BPH patients is the PUL (Prostatic Urethral Lift) treatment which falls under the umbrella of ultra-MIST (Minimally Invasive Surgical Therapy). This innovative treatment can be performed under local anaesthesia, making it a quick and efficient procedure that only takes between 10 to 15 minutes to complete. The procedure is also minimally invasive, which means extended hospitalisation or recovery periods are not required, and patients can even get discharged on the same day as the procedure. Also, minimally invasive treatments do not pose major anaesthesia-related complications among high-risk BPH patients. Besides being efficacious in delivering absolute treatment for BPH patients unfit for anaesthesia, the PUL system serves as a highly costeffective option, as it minimises the need for prolonged hospital stays and reduces the requirement for long-term medical care. In addition, patients who undergo this procedure do not require a catheter, which can be uncomfortable and inconvenient. The facile nature of minimally invasive procedures is aiding better quality of life for high-risk BPH patients.

## Lessons from the Champaran Satyagraha RAJDEEP PATHAK



analys \$ 07

The Champaran Satyagraha holds great significance in today's agrarian sector; it aligns perfectly with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals



hamparan Satyagraha – a nonviolent protest movement against the forced indigo cultivation imposed by the British champaran district of present-day Bihar in April 1917 – is a significant event in Indian history that led to the emergence of Mahatma Gandhi as a leader of the Indian freedom struggle, as it also marked the beginning of the non-violent Civil Disobedience Movement in India, and highlighted the importance of upholding human dignity in the face of dehumanizing conditions, besides asserting the need for land reform and social justice.

Dr Rajendra Prasad, who had joined Mahatma Gandhi in his crusade in Champaran reflects in his book, 'Satyagraha in Champaran': "Before Mahatmaji set his foot in Champaran, the tenantry of the district had at times carried on strong agitation and had sometimes attempted non-co-operation also. But the foundation of that agitation and non-co-operation was not based on ahimsa (non-violence). The Government, and planters who pin their faith in violence and force and who have resources to use it effectively, always succeeded in suppressing their agitation which was not free from violence"



NECESSARY

PURSUE A

SECTOR

KNOWLEDGE TO

CAREER IN THE

AGRICULTURAL

News, Tharoor pointed out "The fact that Britain came to be one of the richest countries in the world in the early 18th century and reduced it after 200 years of plunder to one of the poorest".

Mahatma Gandhi had reached Champaran through relentless persuasion, coupled with an emotion-al plea from Rajkumar Shukla, a poor farmer from Champaran, who had faced similar exploitation at the hands of the British. Later Champaran became Gandhiji's karma bhumi. Rajkumar Shukla became Gandhi's guide and interpreter, helping him navigate the complex social and cultural dynamics of Champaran and help-ing him towards building trust and rapport between Gandhiji and the peasant community.

The Champaran Satyagraha of 1917 holds great significance today, as it aligns with the United SKILLS AND Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically towards

While the situation is not all too happy in the agrarian sector, yet better than many developed nations, in today's parlance, one of the biggest lessons from Champaran Satyagraha is that it is essential to promote practical education among the children of the village to empower them to become agents of change in their communities.

It would also be pertinent to provide vocational training that equips individuals with the necessary skills and knowledge to pursue a career in the agricultural sector, with specialised training to help boost information. Further, engaging local experts and practitioners in the field of agriculture for providing practical training and guidance, will not only provide them with practical knowledge but also encourage them to explore career opportunities in the agricultural sector.

Providing Learning resources, such as books, videos, and online platforms, for supplementing practical education is essential and should be easily accessible. Coupled with it is the need for training on entrepreneurship development should be imparted, with a prima-ry focus on children and youth to encourage them to start their own agricultural enterprises. This helps in promoting new job opportuni-ties and also contributes to the economic development of the village and agrarian set-up. Farmers' cooperatives, NGOs, and communitybased organizations can play an effective role in leveraging resources and expertise for growth in this sector. One such programme is run by "Jan Sansthan", an organisation working towards empowering rural communities in Rajasthan through

their

to promote entrepreneurship among rural youth in the agricultural sector by providing practical training in organic farming, animal husbandry, and other related fields. Further, a platform such as "Digital Green", a non-profit organization that uses technology to empower smallholder farmers in India and trains local community members to produce and disseminate videos created in local languages, and featuring local farmers, which in turn helps build trust and credibility and improve crop yields and incomes for thousands of smallholder farmers in India is a progressive step in this direction. The "Adarsh Gram Yojana" is

another such initiative launched by the Government to promote holistic development in rural areas by focusing on improving access to basic amenities, such as water, sanitation, and healthcare, as well as promoting education and entrepreneursnip. The government also

### Conclusion

Minimally invasive therapies like PUL treatment have emerged as a beacon of hope for high-risk BPH patients as this cutting-edge technology-based medical procedure is paving the way for a safer and more effective treatment option, providing relief to such patients who are at high-risk and unfit for anaesthesia. Therefore, it can be inferred that by employing advanced technologies and techniques, minimally invasive therapies have revolutionised the treatments for high-risk BPH patients by offering them less complicated, quick recovery and comprehensive improvement in the quality of life

(The writer is HOD & Sr. Consultant- Urology, Sarvodaya Hospital, Faridabad)

It was the forced cultivation of indigo instead of food crops by the British that led to a huge loss of agricultural productivity and food scarcity in the region. Tens of thousands of landless serfs, indentured workers, and subsistence farmers were forced to produce indigo on 3/20 of the entire land area (called the tinkathia system). Because of their inability to sustain their livelihoods, the farmers were often forced to borrow money from the planters at exorbitant interest rates, which led to a cycle of debt and poverty, affecting the farmers for generations.

Author Shashi Tharoor, in his book "Inglorious Empire" pointed out how the British destroyed India through looting, expropriation and outright theft, all conducted in a spirit of deep racism and moral cynicism. In an interview with Channel 4

(The writer is Programme Executive, Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti. Views *expressed are personal)* 

the eradication of poverty, ensuring access to quality education, promoting gender equality, and achieving sustainable economic growth and also promoting sustainable agriculture practices, for it was the lack of education and awareness among the people that led to their exploitation by the British colonial administration.

The Movement also emphasized the need for crop diversification and the use of organic fertilizers to improve soil health, which the present-day peasant movements have also witnessed. It also emphasized the importance of local leaders whose strong connection with the community can even today effectively articulate the grievances on a larger spectrum. As a collective movement, the Champaran Satyagraha brought together farmers from different communities to demand their rights.

provides funding and support to villages that demonstrate a commitment towards sustainable development, like the one in the village of 'Hiware Bazar' in Maharashtra, which has implemented a range of initiatives, including rainwater harvesting, organic farming, and entrepreneurship training. These initiatives have transformed the village from a drought-prone area to an excellent model of sustainable development.

The legacy of the Champaran Satyagraha lies not just in observance and ceremonies, but in providing a strong basis for these efforts which have been the outcome of sustainable initiatives. Strong emphasis on education and awareness in promoting social, economic, and political reforms is key for progress in the agrarian sector for the promotion of sustainable agriculture in the country.

## Mann Ki Baat: Instilling positivity during Covid times

During the pandemic, PM Modi's Mann Ki Baat gave updates on government efforts and also cherished the heroic fight back by Corona warriors

ndia fought a collective and united battle against L the once in a century pan-demic – Covid-19. The foe here was unknown. The fear factor among the people predictably was high. There was a risk of panic among the people. The virus was a predator hunting for even healthy people. The nation was not prepared when the pandemic foe arrived at the doorsteps of the country. Soon, the virus sneaked in and began spreading fast. India needed a general to lead the army of the people in the fightback

Prime Minister Narendra Modi led India's fight back with composure, banking on the expertise of the scientific community, and kept the people updated with every



(*Author is a policy analyst*)

that the country would come out victorious. Thus, the monthly radio broadcast emerged as the source of comfort for people during the time when the people confined to their homes.

development with the sole

Democracy demands that the government of the day gives accounts of works being done to Parliament, which is a body of members elected by the people. During the peak of the pandemic, the func-tioning of Parliament was disrupted. The prime minister employed Mann Ki Baat to share updates on the gov-

aim that there should be no the pandemic, and also on the heroic fightback led by the scope for panic. The message conveyed most succinctly people in several parts of the through Mann Ki Baat, was country. The logistics were that India can fight the batalso pressed in high action. tle against Covid-19 and also The Railways were transporting tonnes of medical material daily to every nook and cranny of the country. The railways ran over 100

parcel trains on more than 60 railway routes. By sharing even the minute details with the people, the message was drummed in that the government is working at war-footing, and the prime minister was not only fully updated but he himself was in the thick of the action with the scientific community, the logistics, vaccine manufacturers, etc., in ensuring a seamless response without hic-

ernment's efforts to deal with cups in the fight against the dren were addicted to smokpandemic.

Thus, Mann Ki Baat became a convenient programme for the country where the head of the executive was discussing the pressing challenges before the country with full honesty and shared every detail, while also mentioning the individual excellence in dealing with the crisis. This acted as a force multiplier in instilling positive thought and a constructive approach to build a united response to the medical

emergency. According to the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights, 13.1 per cent of the total substance users were Additionally, 20 million chil- used an average Indian record 35 times. This was to

ing every year, with 55,000 becoming addicted every day during the very same period. The data at hand highlights how the issue of drug abuse had spread its tentacles within the younger age group, damaging the nation's capacity. PM Modi, during the 3rd episode of Mann Ki Baat, characterized drugs under the umbrella of the three D's: darkness, destruction, and devastation.

As per the World Health Organization MPOWER Framework, the prevalence of daily smoking among adults in India has seen a declining trend from 14 per cent in 2013 to 11 per cent in 2015 under the age of 20 during the and 10 per cent in 2017. In period of 2007–2012. the 57th edition, PM Modi and 10 per cent in 2017. In

household as an example to reorient the population's mindset towards the menace of cigarette consumption. He said that in a family, even if the father is a chain smoker, he does not want his other family members to get involved in the same, indicating that the Indian mindset still considers smoking taboo.

Agripreneurship

Development Program which aims

In 2013, according to Kota Police records, every month at least one student was committing suicide for not being able to cope with exam pressure. The prime minister through Mann Ki Baat along with the menace of drug abuse enlisted the support of the people to deal with the issue of exam stress. He in the 5th edition cited Sergei Bubka who broke his own

encourage the students to set their own challenges. Also, PM Modi through the radio broadcast exhorted the students to celebrate exams. As per the 2011 Census, the differently-abled population in India is 26.8 million. In percentage terms, this stands at 2.21 per cent of the total population. The Accessible India campaign launched by the Modi government has been essential in transforming the lives of the specially-abled population. Under this campaign, 1630 government buildings have been made accessible. PM Modi sensitized the audience about the needs of the special-abledpersons, while also stressing that they are no less equal than others in chasing dreams to live a life full of actions.



## **'Pak remains China's priority in** its neighbourhood diplomacy'

#### PTI 📕 BEIJING

hina always puts Pakistan as Ca priority in its neighbourhood diplomacy, a top Chinese General told Pakistan Army chief General Asim Munir, assuring him that their all-weather friendship will continue notwithstanding the perilous economic and political crisis faced by Islamabad and Beijing's increasing concern over the security of its personnel working there

General Zhang Youxia, vice chairman of China's Central Military Commission (CMC) the high command of the Chinese military headed by President Xi Jinping - held talks with Gen Munir here on Wednesday and discussed matters of mutual security interests

and military cooperation. Gen Munir is on a four-day visit to China. Gen Zhang said that China and Pakistan are allweather strategic cooperative

continued US-Taiwan cooperation on Wednesday, responding to

reports that the US military was

sending officers to help train

Taiwan's counterparts and that a del-

egation of defense contractors would

visiting the self-ruled

island next week. "We

resolutely oppose the

US having any form of

official or military con-

tact with China's

Taiwan region," Zhu

Fenglian, spokes-

woman for China's

Taiwan Affairs Office,

said at a weekly press

partners and iron-clad friends, China military online, the official media of the Chinese defence ministry, reported.

The long-lasting mutual trust and friendship between the two countries, as solid as rocks, are important factors for regional and even world peace, stability and prosperity, Gen Zhang said.

He stressed that no matter how the international situation changes, China always puts Pakistan as a priority in its neighbourhood diplomacy and firmly supports Pakistan in safeguarding its sovereignty, territorial integrity, development interests and national dignity, the report said. The Chinese military is

willing to work with the Pakistani military to further deepen and expand practical cooperation, continuously push the mil-to-mil relationship to a higher level, and jointly safe-

China opposes Taiwan-US

defense, military exchanges

Taipei (AP): China warned against island. Taiwanese media reported

guard the common interests of the two countries, as well as the regional peace and stability, General Zhang added. He said China is willing to

community with a shared future

in the new era, a reference to the

period headed by President Xi

since he came to power in

2012.Gen Munir, on his maid-

en visit to China amid the seri-

ous economic and political cri-

sis back home, discussed the

"regional security situation" with

cooperation were discussed.

Gen Munir will hold further meetings with military leaders in China to enhance the longstanding relations between the two militaries, the release said. build a closer China-Pakistan Significantly, Gen Munir's

visit comes ahead of Chinese Defence Minister Li Shangfu's two-day visit to India starting Thursday to take part in the SCO Defence Ministers meeting during which he is widely expected to hold talks with his Indian counterpart Rajnath Singh on the festering military standoff at Eastern Ladakh.

his PLA counterpart General Li Qiaoming. "Matters of mutual Pakistan's Defence Minister security interests and military Khawaja Asif too was expected to take part in the eight-mem-Both military commanders reitber SCO grouping consisting of erated the need for maintaining China, India, Kazakhstan, peace and stability in the region Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. and enhancing military-to-military cooperation," said a press

Gen Li's visit to India is taking place after the 18th round of release issued by the Pakistan Army's media wing - the Intertop Indian, and Chinese com-Services Public Relations - in manders-level talks on April

## EU becoming militarised now, like NATO: Lavrov

### AP UNITED NATIONS

Russia's top diplomat warned Tuesday that the European Union "is becoming militarised at a record rate" and aggressive in its goal of containing Russia. Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov told a news conference he has no doubts that there is now "very little difference" between the ÉU and NATO. Lavrov said they recently signed a declaration, which he said essentially states that the 31-member NATO military alliance will ensure the security of the 27member EU political and eco-

nomic organisation. He was apparently refer-ring to a Jan. 19 EU-NATO declaration on their "strategic partnership" which calls Russia's Feb. 24, 2022, invasion of Ukraine "the gravest threat to Euro-Atlantic security in decades.

It calls the present moment key juncture for Euro-Atlantic security and stability"

and urges closer EU-NATO cooperation to confront evolving security threats, saying this will contribute to strengthening security in Europe and beyond. And it encourages the fullest possible involvement of NATO members that don't belong to the EU and EU members that aren't part of NATO, but it does not state that NATO will ensure the security of the EU.

Russian President Vladimir Putin has long complained about NATO's expansion, especially toward his country, and partly used that as a justification for invading Ukraine.

The Russian attack, howev er, sent fear through its other neighbors, and Finland joined NATO earlier this month, seeking protection under its security umbrella after decades of neutrality following its defeat by the former Soviet Union in World War II

While NATO says it poses timetable for talks on joining no threat to Russia, the Nordic the EU to begin, as Ukraine's

### Pak PM takes a jab at SC, says arbitration not its job

world 08

Islamabad (PTI): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday took a jibe at the Supreme Court and said it was not its job to arbitrate among political parties and asserted that there was complete unity in the coalition government to hold polls simultaneously in the entire country.

Sharif was addressing a Cabinet meeting a day before a key hearing by the country's apex court, which will take up the issue of elections in Punjab province, a point of contention between the ruling coalition and the former premier Imran Khan-led opposition Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party.

Prior to the meeting, Sharif held an important consultative session with the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) coalition partners about holding talks with Khan's PTI party regarding the elections in Punjab province.

According to sources, the allies agreed to make an effort to hold talks with the PTI for conducting elections in the country on the same date.

The premier said that Pakistan is facing political chal-lenges due to the differences between the government and the PTI party over the date of elections. Khan's party is determined to press for polls in the provincial legislatures, but the government maintains its stance on simultaneous elections across the country. Talking about the Supreme Court's direction to the government and opposition to hold talks, he said the court's "job is not arbitration, but their job is to give orders as per the Constitution and law". He said that Parliament was the right forum for such matters. Adding that the current National Assembly would complete its term on August 13, and elections would be held after that, Sharif said there was complete unity in the coalition government and that polls should be held on the same day in the entire country. According to the Constitution, elections shall be held within 90 days after the

dissolution of the lower house. Trial opens in Carroll's rape | UN: 55 drowned in shipwreck off Libya

LOST AND FOUND Quad leaders to I,KUSUM DEVI SARAWAGI W/o SHRI MURARI SARAWAGI-R/o 39, VIJAY BLOCK, LAXMI NAGAR, DELHI-110092 inform that I am the present owner and in meet in Sydney on May 24

New York (AP): A nearly 30-Washington/Canberra: year-old rape claim against

## Xi speaks to Zelenskyy; offers to mediate to end war with Russia

Beijing (PTI): Chinese President Xi Jinping in his first phone call with his Ukrainian counterpart Volodymyr Zelenskyy on Wednesday offered to mediate to bring about a ceasefire and political settlement to end the Russia-Ukraine conflict, saying Kyiv must "seize the opportunity" as he warned that there are no win-

ners in a nuclear war. Xi, who toyed with the idea of mediating to end the overyear-long conflict after his last month's highly publicised visit to Moscow during which he referred to Russian President

told Zelenskyy that "dialogue and negotiation are the only viable way forward" and offered to send a special envoy to negotiate a ceasefire.

nuclear war. On the nuclear issue, all relevant parties must stay calm and exercise restraint,

truly act in the interests of their own future and that of humanity, and jointly manage the crisis," he said, apparently cautioning against a prolonged conflict.

voices now on the rise, it is important to seize the opportunity and build up favourable conditions for the political settlement of the crisis," Xi said.

between Xi and Zelenskyy since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February last year. Xi is trying to enlarge China's diplomatic outreach after

Ukraine crisis and jointly explore ways to bring lasting peace and security to Europe through dialogue". 'Čhina will continue to facilitate talks for peace and

Beijing successfully negotiated a

peace deal between arch-rivals in the Middle East - Iran and

Avoiding any direct refer-ence to Russia, Xi told Zelenskyy that "it is hoped that all parties

would seriously reflect on the

Saudi Arabia.

make its efforts for an early ceasefire and restoration of

China will send the Special Representative of the Chinese Government on Eurasian Affairs to Ukraine and other countries to have in-depth communication with all parties on the political settlement of the Ukraine crisis," an official statement here quoted Xi as saying. The official statement made no mention of Russia.

Ukraine launching tech cluster to boost military capability

**Kyiv (AP):** The Ukrainian government is launching an initiative on Wednesday to streamline and promote innovation in the development of drones and other technologies that have been critical during Russia's war in Ukraine.

country's accession dealt a

major political blow to Putin.

bles Russia's border with

NATO, the world's largest secu-

rity alliance. Sweden, an EU

member, is also seeking NATO

membership and is hoping for

Stoltenberg defiantly declared last week that Ukraine's "right-

ful place" is in the military

alliance and pledged more sup-

port for the country on his first

visit to Kyiv since the invasion.

The Kremlin responded by

repeating that preventing

Ukraine from joining NATO is

still a key goal of its invasion,

arguing that Kyiv's membership

in the alliance would pose an

membership and in February

its leaders pledged they would

do all it takes to back Úkraine.

But they offered no firm

Ukraine is also seeking EU

existential threat to Russia.

lens

final approval soon. NATO chief

Finland's membership dou-

As part of the initiative dubbed BRAVE1, the government hopes to bring state, military, and private sector developers working on defense issues together into a tech cluster that would give Ukraine a battlefield advantage.

"Considering the enemy that is right next to us and its scale, we definitely need to develop the military tech so that we can defend ourselves," Mykhailo Fedorov, Ukraine's minister of digital transformation, said

Fedorov told The Associated Press ahead of Wednesday's official announcement that the government had earmarked more than 100 million hryvnias (about USD 2.7 million) to fund projects that have the potential to help Ukraine win the 14-month conflict.

There are many people on the battlefield now of the young generation that can work with technologies, and they need them," he said.

Both Ukraine and Russia make frequent use of unmanned aerial vehicles for reconnaissance and in attacks.

lawsuit against Trump Cairo(AP): A rubber boat car- sit point for migrants from rying dozens of Europe-bound Africa and the Middle East trymigrants sank off the coast of ing to make it to Europe. The oilieast 55 people drowned, including women and children, the UNmigration agency said on Wednesday. International The Organization for Migration said the disaster took place on Tuesday. The boat was carrying at least 60 migrants and had set off from the coastal town of Garabouli, east of Libya's capital, Tripoli. The agency said five migrants survived the shipwreck and were brought back to shore by the Libyan coast guard. It was not immediately clear what happened to the vessel. The AP/PTI was the latest tragedy in the cenand political reasons, urging tral Mediterranean Sea, a key route for migrants. The IOM the jurors from heavily said at least 537 people have Democratic New York to put drowned or gone missing in aside any animus they themmigrant disasters in the selves might hold toward the Republican ex-president and Mediterranean so far this year, ex-New Yorker. "You can hate while over 4,300 have been intercepted and returned to Donald Trump. That's OK. But there's a time and a secret Libya. Libya has in recent years emerged as the dominant tran-

country p

following a NATO-backed

uprising that toppled and killed

longtime autocrat Moammar

contractors is visiting the island next week hosted by the US-Taiwan Business Council Nikkei Asia eported that the weapons manufacurers will discuss oint production of

after a civil war. Taiwan never has been part of the People's Republic of China, but the Communist Party says it is obliged to unite with the mainland, by force if necessary. said.

President Xi Jinping's govern ment has flown fighter jets and bombers near Taiwan in increasing numbers and fired missiles into the sea in an attempt to intimidate the

PUBLIC NOTICE Shri Ram Dev Co-operative Group Housing Society Ltd. House No.125,

1s Floor, Phase-4, Bharat Nagar, Ashok Vihar, New Delhi-52 possession of Property No.39, Second Floor, Measuring Area 50 Sq. Yds. Situated at Vijay Block, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-110092. n pursuance to rule 19(2) of DCS rules 2007, it is to inform publicly that Sh.Sameer Kohli (M.No. 199) member of Shri Ram original documents in previous chain of Dev CGHS Ltd. (Regd. No.727GH) has documents related to the above said resigned from the membership of the property has been lost/misplaced

throug



tion in Taiwan.



this month that the US had sent 200

military personnel, mostly Marines,

to help train Taiwan troops. Taiwan's Defense Ministry has neither denied

nor confirmed the report. Meanwhile, a delegation of

"US defense contractors intentionally provoke confrontation between the two sides, taking the opportunity to make a profit," Zhu

### She accused the ruling Democratic Progressive Party, which has been in power for six years, of colluding with the US to press for the island's formal independence.

drones and ammuni-

Islamabad

Vladimir Putin as "dear friend",

'There is no winner in a

With rational thinking and

This is the first contact

account payee cheque for his contributions f anyone has any objections he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the RCS, Parliament Street, New Delhi or a society office i.e. House No.125, 1st Floor, Phase-4.Bharat Nagar, Ashok Vihar, New Delhi-52 within 7 day from the date of ublication of the public notice.

and he had refunded

President-Shri Ram Dev CGHS Ltd

Approx cost of the work in (Rs )

Period of completion of work

Last date & time of submission of tender

Cost of tender form

Address of the Office

And opening of Bid

Website & notice board

Earnest Money

Bid No



newhere and not traceable by my best nets. Original Agreement to Sell, summit will be held in Sydney Receipt, and other transfer documents dated 17.07.1998, executed in the name of Shri Akhil Kumar. Original Agreement to next month to deepen cooperation on critical and emerging Sell, Receipt, and other transfer technologies, high-quality documents dated 03.03.2000, in the name of Dr. Ajendra Kumar S/o Shri C.L. Dixit and infrastructure, global health, Smt. Renu W/o Dr. Aiendra Kumar, Lhave climate change and other pressalready lodge a Lost Report in this regard Vide LR No.355240 Dated 18.04.2023. ing issues pertaining to the strategic Indo-Pacific region, it KUSUM DEVI SARAWAGI

was announced on Wednesday. The Quad or Quadrilateral Security Dialogue comprises India, the US, Japan and Australia. The May 24 meeting, Name of work : Custom Bid for Services - Schedule Maintenance of Engines of power cars including of A Check Weekly 12 or More Running Hrs after Trip of DAse of all kind on makes as per technical specification. Custom Bid for Services Operation Manning Troubleshooting of 500 KVA Diesel Generator Sets available in scheduled to be attended by

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, will be the first that Australia will be hosting.

The meeting came against the backdrop of growing global concerns over increasing Chinese assertiveness in the strategically-vital region.

"I'm pleased to announce that Australia will be hosting the Quad Leaders' Summit for the first time on May 24 in PTI Sydney.

Tuesday, police said.

parents' house.

advice columnist's allegation of being attacked in a luxury department store dressing room. The former president says nothing happened between them. E. Jean Carroll will testify that what unfolded in a few minutes in a fitting room in 1996 "would change her life forever," one of her lawyers, Shawn Crowley, said in an opening statement. "Filled with fear and

ald Trump

Tuesday as jurors in the feder-

al civil case heard a former

shame, she kept silent for decades. Eventually, though, silence became impossible," Crowlev said.

And when Carroll broke that silence in a 2019 memoir, the then-president "used the most powerful platform on Earth to lie about what he had done, attack Ms. Carroll's integrity and insult her appearance." Trump — who wasn't in



Former advice columnist E. Jean Carroll, right, leaves Manhattan federal court with her attorneys, Tuesday in New York.

court but hasn't ruled out testifying —- has called Carroll a "nut job" who fabricated the rape claim to sell her book. Defense attorney Joe Tacopina told jurors Tuesday that her story was wildly implausible and short of evidence.

He accused her of pursuing the case for money, status place for that. Gadhafi in 2011. Human traffickers in recent years have benefited from the chaos in Libya, smuggling in migrants across the country's lengthy borders with six nations. The migrants are crowded into ill-equipped vessels, including rubber boats, and set off on risky sea voyages. Those who are intercepted

and returned to Libya are held in government-run detention centers rife with abuses, including forced labor, beatings, rapes and torture - practices that amount to crimes against humanity, according to U.N.commissioned investigators.

The abuse often accompanies efforts to extort money from families of those held, before the migrants are allowed to leave Libya on traffickers' boats.

www.gem.gov.in & Sr. DEE/Chg/DLI SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 1249/23

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Power cars LSLRD during maintenance at washing line by nominating 1 nos of trained and qualified technicians as per Power car LSLRD Custom Bid for Services - Operation Trouble shooting of 500 KVA Diesel Generator Sets available in power cars LSLRD during Escorting by nominating 1 nos of trained and qualified technicians PER Power Car LSLLRD in Train number tentative List of Train

GEM/2023/B/3265388

Sr. Divl. Elect Engineer/Chg

Northern Railway, New Delh

16.05.2023, 19:00:00

16.05.2023. 19:30:00

Rs 168447977.36

Rs 0.00

Rs 992240

36 Months

Whereas, M/s True Villas Developers Pvt. Ltd. Having its regd. Office at: J-221 Sarita Vihar, New Delhi-110076 has developed an Affordable Plotted Colony in Sector-35. Bahadurgarh over an area measuring 14.15 acres in revenue estate of Village- KherkaMusalman in accordance with the provision of License No. 11 of 2018 dated 06.02.2018, granted by Director, Town & Country Planning, Haryana, Chandigarh

And whereas, several individuals have made bookings/entered into purchase agreement for allotment of flat/property in the said colony (hereinafter referred as allottees). And whereas, the Lavout cum Demarcation Plan & Zoning Plan earlier approved at the time of grant of license for the said colony is now proposed to be amended as Layout cum Demarcation Plan.

And whereas, the office of Director, Town & Country Planning, Haryana, Chandigarh has required seeking of objections against Revision of Layout cum Demarcation Plan as a pre-condition for allowing such revision in the Layout cum Demarcation Plan.

Accordingly, vide this Publicnotice objections are hereby invited from any of the allottees in the said colony on the proposed revision of the Layout cum Demarcation Plan of the said colony. A copy of the earlier approved Zoning & Layout cum Demarcation plan bearing Memo No. ZP-1272/AD(NK)/2019/13605 dated 10-06-2019 & Layout cum Demarcation plan now proposed to be revised bearing Memo No. ZP-1272/AD(VK)/2023/11265 dated 19.04.2023 is available for perusal on website www.forteasia.in and the scan copy of both Layout cum Demarcation plan may also be perused at the office of Senior Town Planner (Rohtak) as well as in the office of District Town Planner (Planning) Jhajjar.

Any allottee having any objection on revised Layout cum Demarcation Plan, may file his objection in the office of Senior Town Planner (Rohtak) within 30 days of the publication of this notice, failing which it shall be assumed that there are no objections to the proposed revision in the Layout cum Demarcation Plan.

Place : New Delhi Date : 27.04.2023

**Project Head/Authorized Signatory** M/s True Villas Developers Pvt. Ltd. J-221, Sarita Vihar, New Delhi-110076 Man burns wife alive in Pak's Punjab province

Lahore (PTI): A husband petrol and set her ablaze and allegedly burnt his estranged fled.

wife alive in a case of so-called She was taken to a near 'honour killing" while anothby hospital where she was proer woman came under acid nounced dead on arrival. She attack after being raped in Punjab province of Pakistan, has left behind two daughters and four sons.

police said on Wednesday. Police registered a case against Tariq and arrested In the first incident, suspect Tariq allegedly burnt his him.

40-year-old wife Shazia for In a separate incident what he called "disgracing the family's honour" in two men threw acid on a married woman after raping Cheechawatni district, some her in Okara district, some 209 kms from Lahore, on 130kms from Lahore, on Tuesday. Police officer Police official Ejaz Aslam Jahanzeb Wattoo said that said that Shazia had left Tariq main suspect Rizwan wanted to develop relations with Shahida Bibi, 30, but she a year ago after developing differences over domestic issues and started living with her refused. On Tuesday, Rizwan along with his accomplice Aslam said Tariq suspectabducted her at gun point on ed that Shazia had relations her way to home and raped with a man of his locality and her at a deserted place. The on Tuesday he visited his insuspects later threw acid on laws and doused Shazia with her face.

### Senior shia cleric shot dead In Iran

AP 📕 TEHRAN

senior Shiite cleric in Iran Awas shot and killed Wednesday in an attack in a northern province along the Caspian Sea, authorities said. An attacker shot to death

Ayatollah Abbas Ali Soleimani Babolsar in Iran's in Mazandaran province, state television reported. Police later arrested the attacker, state TV said, without offering a motive for the shooting.

Soleimani served on the Assembly of Experts, an 88-seat panel that oversees and appoints Iran's supreme leader. He also once was the personal representative of Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei to Iran's restive Sistan and Baluchestan province.



Chernobyl's nuclear power plant workers attend a memorial ceremony for the victims of the Chernobyl tragedy in Chernobyl, Ukraine, Wednesday. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on Wednesday used the 37th anniversary of the world Äôs worst nuclear disaster to repeat his warnings about the potential threat of a new atomic catastrophe in Ukraine amid his country's war with Russia



kph.)

from the moon.

the moon's surface."

that we could not complete the

landing on the lunar surface."

## Tokyo company: 'High probability' spacecraft crash on moon

#### AP TOKYO

Japanese company's space-Acraft apparently crashed while attempting to land on the moon Wednesday, losing contact moments before touchdown and sending flight controllers scrambling to figure out what happened.

More than six hours after communication ceased, the Tokyo company ispace finally confirmed what everyone had suspected, saying there was "a high probability" that the lander had slammed into the moon.

It was a disappointing setback for ispace, which after a 4 1/2-month mission had been on the verge of doing what only three countries have done: successfully land a spacecraft on the

Hakamada, Takeshi founder and CEO of ispace, held again, saying a second moon-

out hope even after contact shot is already in the works for was lost as the lander descendnext year.

ed the final 33 feet (10 meters), Ónly three governments travelling around 16 mph (25 have successfully touched down on the moon: Russia, the United Flight controllers peered at States and China. their screens in Tokyo as min-

An Israeli nonprofit tried to utes went by with only silence land on the moon in 2019, but its spacecraft was destroyed on A grim-faced team surimpact. rounded Hakamada as he

"If space is hard, landing is announced, "We have to assume harder," tweeted Laurie Leshin, director of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory. "I know from personal experience how awful this feels?

Official word finally came in a statement: "It has been Leshin worked on NASA's determined that there is a high Mars Polar lander that crashed probability that the lander eventually made a hard landing on on the red planet in 1999.

The 7-foot (2.3-meter) If all had gone well, ispace Japanese lander carried a mini would have been the first private lunar rover for the United Arab Emirates and a toylike robot

business to pull off a lunar landfrom Japan designed to roll Hakamada vowed to try around in the moon dust. There were also items from private



Takeshi Hakamada, center, founder and CEO of ispace, and his team staff gather for photo session after livestream of HAKUTO-R private lunar exploration program on screen at the lunar landing event Wednesday at Miraikan, the National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation, in Tokyo. Tokyo's ispace tried to land its own spacecraft on the moon early on Wednesday, but its fate was unknown as flight controllers lost contact with it moments before the planned touchdown.

customers on board.

Named Hakuto, Japanese for white rabbit, the spacecraft had targeted Atlas crater in the northeastern section of the moon's near side, more than 50 miles (87 kilometers) across and just over 1 mile (2 kilome-

ters) deep. It took a long, roundabout route to the moon following its December liftoff, beaming back photos of Earth along the way. The lander entered lunar orbit on March 21.

Founded in 2010, ispace hopes to start turning a profit as a one-way taxi service to the moon for other businesses and organizations. The company has already raised \$300 million to cover the first three missions, according to Hakamada. "We will keep going, never quit lunar quest," he said.

For this test flight, the two

## Jailed Kremlin foe Navalny says he may face life sentence

Moscow (AP): Russian oppo sition leader Alexei Navalny said Wednesday that he was facing new extremism and terrorism charges that could land him in prison for life as authorities set the stage for a new trial against the Kremlin's leading critic.

Navalny said by video link from prison during the hearing that the extremism charges could land him in prison for 30 years. He added that an investigator had told him that he also would face a separate military court trial on terrorism charges that could potentially carry a life sentence.

His top ally said that investigators were trying to link the terrorism charges against Navalny to a bombing that killed a well-known Russian military blogger earlier this month. Navalny, 46, who exposed

official corruption and organised massive anti-Kremlin protests, was arrested in January 2021 upon returning to Moscow after recuperating in

Germany from nerve-agent poisoning that he blamed on the Kremlin.

He initially received a 21/2year prison sentence for a parole violation. Last year, he was sentenced to a nine-year term for fraud and contempt of court. He is currently serving time at a maximum-security prison 250 kilometres (150

miles) east of Moscow. The new charges against Navalny relate to the activities of his anti-corruption foundation and statements by his top associates

## US to dock nuclear subs in South Korea for 1<sup>st</sup> time in 40 years

AP WASHINGTON

 $P_{\text{Yoon Suk Yeol on}}^{\text{residents Joe Biden and}}$ Wednesday will sign an agreement that includes plans to have US nucleararmed submarines dock in South Korea for the first time in more than 40 years, a conspicuous show of support to Seoul amid growing concern about nuclear threats by North Korea, according to senior Biden administration officials.

The planned dock visits are a key element of what's dubbed the being Washington Declaration,' aimed at deterring North Korea from carrying out an attack on its neighbour.

It is being unveiled as Biden is hosting Yoon for a state visit during a moment of heightened anxiety for both leaders over an increased pace of ballistic missile tests by North Korea over the last several months.

The three senior Biden administration officials, who



a wreath during a visit the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington on Tuesday AP/PT

briefed reporters on the condition of anonymity ahead of the official announcement, said that Biden and Yoon aides have been working on details of the plan for months and agreed that "occasional" and "very clear demonstrations of the strength" of US extended deterrence capabilities need-

ed to be an essential aspect of the agreement. The agreement seeks to allay South Korean fears over the North's aggressive nuclear weapons programme and to ward off the country from restarting its own nuclear program, which it gave up nearly 50 years ago when it signed the Nuclear Non-Proliferation

Treaty. The US and South Korea also would coordinate more deeply on nuclear response strategy in the event of the North attacking the South - but operational control of such weapons would remain in US control, and no nuclear weapons are being deployed onto South Korean shores.

moon Singapore executes Indian-origin cannabis trafficker

world 09

main experiments were govern-

ment-sponsored: the UAE's 22-

pound (10-kilogram) rover

Rashid, named after Dubai's

royal family, and the Japanese

Space Agency's orange-sized

sphere designed to transform

into a wheeled robot on the

already around Mars and an

astronaut aboard the

International Space Station, the UAE was seeking to extend its

again, with numerous countries

and private companies clamour-

ing to get on the lunar bandwag-

ed three spacecraft on the moon

since 2013, and US, China,

India and South Korea have

satellites currently circling the

execution in six months.

Human Rights.

Tangaraju's case had drawn

support from British billionaire

Richard Branson and the UN

High Commissioner for

The moon is suddenly hot

China has successfully land-

presence to the moon.

With a science satellite

moon

Singapore (PTI): Singapore on Wednesday executed a 46year-old Indian-origin drug trafficker, ignoring pleas for clemency from his family, human rights activists and the United Nations.

Tangaraju Suppiah was hanged at dawn in Changi Prison, a day after his 11thhour appeal was rejected by a court here.

judge of a capital charge of abetting an accomplice by conspiring to traffic cannabis. This was by delivering about 1kg of cannabis to himself, an offence under the Misuse of Drugs Act. The Singaporean of Indian

origin was detained in 2014 for drug consumption and failure to report for a drug test.

Å statement by the Singapore Prison Service said that Tangaraju "had his capital sentence carried out today at Changi Prison Complex".

Tangaraju's sister Leelavathy Suppiah said the family had received a death certificate. It was Singapore's first

Registered Office Address: Unit No.601, 6th Floor Piramal Amiti Building, Piramal Agastya Corporate Park, Kamani Junction, Opp Fire Station, LBS Marg, Kurla (West), Mumbai- 400 070. CIN: L65910MH1984PLC032639, Webside:www.piramalfinance.com

Gin. Loss Jowing Source Cos2639, Webside:www.piramalfinance.com Branch Address : Plot No. 6, Block A, 2nd Floor, Sector 2 Noida Gautam Buddha Nagar Uttar Pradesh-201301

viction did not meet standards and that "Singapore may be about to kill an innocent man". Singapore's Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) said on Tuesday that Branson's views regarding a Singaporean on

criminal justice system. Anti-death penalty activist

Kirsten Han tweeted on Wednesday, "Tangaraju was hanged in Changi Prison this morning?

## Major UK faith review warns against 'aggressive' pro-Khalistan extremism

London (PTI): A major independent review commissioned by the British government into engagement with faith groups on Wednesday warned against the



independent state called Khalistan, the physical borders of which are largely shared with specific parts of the Punjab state in India. Interestingly, this

### to Indian man held on US extradition warrant London (PTI): A British court via video link at the same court

British court denies bail

has denied bail to an Indian on May 23.

further interest as detailed in the said Demand Notice(s), from the date(s) mentioned below till the date of payment and/or realization

C Piramal

Under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with Rule 3 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. The undersigned is the Authorised Officer of **Piramal Capital & Housing** Finance Limited (PCHFL) [formerly known as Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Ltd.(DHFL)] under Security interiors and Anothing Finance Limited (PCHFL) [formerly known as Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Ltd.(DHFL)] under Securitisation And Reconstruction Of Finance Limited (PCHFL) [formerly known as Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Ltd.(DHFL)] under Securitisation And Reconstruction of Finance Limited (PCHFL) [formerly known as Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Ltd.(DHFL)] under Securitisation And Reconstruction of Finance Limited (PCHFL) [formerly known as Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Ltd.(DHFL)] under Securitisation And Reconstruction Section 13(2) of the said Act, calling upon the following Borrowers(s) (the "said Borrowers(s)"), to repay the amounts mentioned in the respective Demand Notice(s) issued to them that are also given below. In connection with above, notice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower(s) to pay to PCHFL, within 60 days from the publication of this Notice, the amounts indicated herein below, together with hyrther interact as dataided in the said Demand Notice(s).

The spokesperson for the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Ravina Shamdasani, on Tuesday, urged the Singapore government to urgently reconsider this He was convicted in October 2018 by a High Court (Tangaraju's) execution and to take steps to fully respect the most fundamental of human rights - the right to life." Branson had claimed in a

blog post that Tangaraju's con-

death row showed "disrespect" for the country's judges and

sive, aggre ssive and sec tarian" actions of some pro-Khalistan activists and called for action to ensure such groups are not unwittingly allowed access to the UK's Parliament.

'Does Government 'do God'?: An independent review into how government engages with faith' by Independent Faith Engagement Adviser Colin Bloom is dubbed one of the most comprehensive public consultations of its kind, involving over 21,000 people's responses.

In a section entitled 'Sikh Extremism' the review goes into detail of how members of the British Sikh community expressed their growing concern over a small but extremely vocal

Pope allows

women to vote

it notes. group "hijacking" the Sikh faith

to push a subversive pro-Khalistan narrative. 'There is a small, extreme-

ly vocal and aggressive minority of British Šikhs who can be described as pro-Khalistan extremists, promoting an ethnonationalist agenda," notes the review.

"Some of these extremists have been known to support and incite violence and intimidation in their ambition to establish an

the part of the Punjab located in by Scotland Yard on suspicion Pakistan. It is not entirely clear if the motivation for these extremists is faith-based or not,"

The review - which comes weeks after an attack by pro-Khalistan separatists at the Indian High Commission here pointed to fears that pro-

scribed terrorist groups were able to use aliases to continue their subversive agenda, referencing Babbar Khalsa International banned in 2001 under the UK's Terrorism Act and also the International Sikh

Youth Federation – banned in multiple countries but de-proscribed in the UK in 2006.

of funding Lebanon's Hezbollah, despite his arguments that he was of a Hindu background and did not support Islamist terror-Madurai-born Sundar Nagarajan, 65, appeared via video link at Westminster Magistrates' Court on Tuesday

and his lawyer said he denied the charges of fraud and money laundering against him.

District Judge Briony Clarke was also told that Nagarajan was of a Hindu background and did not support Islamist terrorism. The judge refused the bail and remanded Nagarajan in custody to appear

Nagarajan Sundar Poongulam Kasiviswanathan Naga and Sundar Poongulam K Nagarajan Nagarajan, was arrested by the Metropolitan Police's National Extradition Unit from an address at Hayes

in west London on April 18. The court heard that armed police officers stormed his home to arrest him and seize his belongings

The CPS, on behalf of the US authorities, told the court that Nagarajan is the accountant linked to the finances of the designated Hezballah terrorist organisation and is wanted by the US authorities for fraud and money laundering offences.

payable under the loan agreement read with other documents/writings, if any, executed by the said Borrower(s). As security for du repayment of the loan, the following assets have been mortgaged to PCHEL by the said Bo

DEMAND NOTICE

Name of the Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)	Demand Notice Date and Amount with NPA date	Property address
(LC No. M0010609 of Noida Branch) Shabeer Shabeer (Borrower) Ajmeri Khatoon (Co Borrower 1)	27-03-2023 /₹ 1072500 /-(₹ Ten lakh Seventy Two Thousand Five Hundred Only) NPA (03-01- 2023)	Residential Vacant Plot Out Of Khasra No 157 Paragana - Loni, Tehsil And DistL - Ghaziabad, U.P Village - Behta Hazipur Ghaziabad Landma : Near Behta Railway Station City : Ghaziabad P : 201102 State : Up Country : India
(LC No. M0035974 of Gurgaon Branch) Naveen Kumar Ahlawat (Borrower) Shobha Shobha (Co Borrower 1)	27-03-2023 /₹ 6605457.81 /-(₹ Sixty Six lakh Five Thousand Four Hundred Fifty Seven Only and Eighty One Paise) NPA (03-01-2023)	Property Bearing No. B-16 Entire Ground Floor Property Bearing No. B-16 Mayfield Garden Bl- -B Gurgaon Landmark : Residential Colony City Gurgaon Pin : 122001 State : Hr Country : India
(LC No. M0036902 of Noida Branch) Mazahir Hussain Moulai (Borrower) Draksha Draksha (Co Borrower 1)	27-03-2023 /₹ 1049810 /-{₹ Ten lakh Forty Nine Thousand Eight Hundred Ten Only) NPA (04-12- 2022)	Dda Janta Flat No. 461, Ground Floor Block-D, Pocket-11 South Delhi Landmark : Near Mothe Dairy City : South Delhi Pin : 110025 State : DI Country : India
(LC No. M0041928 of Delhi Branch) Mohd Vasim (Borrower) Jaitoon Nisha (Co Borrower 1)	One Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety Six Only) NPA (03-01-2023)	A-64, Back Side Back Side Portion Of Ground Floor Ware Housing Scheme (Whs) Kirti Nagar Timber Market Kirti Nagar West Delhi Landma Nearby Kirti Nagar Police Station City : West D Pin : 110015 State : DI Country : India
(LC No. M0069597 of Delhi Branch) Birinder Singh Ajmani (Borrower) Kanchan Kaur (Co Borrower 1)	27-03-2023 /₹ 3769244 /-(₹ Thirty Seven lakh Sixty Nine Thousand Two Hundred Forty Four Only) NPA (03-01-2023)	F 29 3Rd Floor Front Side Without Roof Rights Bali Nagar Area Of Village Bassai Darapur Ram Nagar West Delhi Landmark : Near Ramesh Na Metro Station City : West Delhi Pin : 110015 St : Dl Country : India
(LC No. M0078123 of Gurgaon Branch) Vivek Aggarwal (Borrower) Swati Gulati (Co Borrower 1)	27-03-2023 /₹ 2136494.5 /-{₹ Twenty One lakh Thirty Six Thousand Four Hundred Ninety Four Only and Fifty Paise) NPA (04-12-2022)	Plot No. V-04 Plot No. V-04 Plot No. V-04 Parg: Sikandrabad Village Panchayan Inayatpur Gaul Buddha Nagar Landmark : Sukantla Farm Hous City : Gautam Buddha Nagar Pin : 203202 Stat Up Country : India
(LC No. M0152056 of Delhi Branch) Mohan Dutt Sharma (Borrower) Ritesh Sharma (Co Borrower 1)	Seventy Two Thousand Five Hundred Fifty Nine Only) NPA (03-01-2023)	Property No A 199 Old No 199 First Floor Man Road Village Chandrawali Shahdara Old No 19 Gali No 7 East Delhi Landmark : Near Vishawkarma Gate City : East Delhi Pin : 110093 State : DI Country : India
(LC No. 19700041612 of Gurgaon - Sohna Road Branch) Arvinder Singh Sethi (Borrower) Rashmeet Sethi (Co Borrower 1)	27-03-2023 /₹ 2937179 /-(₹ Twenty Nine lakh Thirty Seven Thousand One Hundred Seventy Nine Only) NPA (08-01-2023)	Flat No C 204 Second Floor Block C Sky View Apartment Plot G H2 Vasundhra Nagar Bhiwao Rajasthan Alwar Rajasthan :- 301019
(LC No. 19700043835 of Gurgaon - Sohna Road Branch) Ajay Kumar Sinha (Borrower) Jigyasa Sinha (Co Borrower 1)	27-03-2023 /₹ 1406589 /-(₹ Fourteen lakh Six Thousand Five Hundred Eighty Nine Only) NPA (09-02-2023)	Property Bearing No. 21 Khasra No. 78/15 Upp Ground Floor Without Roof Rights Vill Hastsal, Om Vihar Colony Phase -Ii, Uttam Nagar New Delhi Delhi :- 110059
(LC No. 28600000555 of Haridwar Branch) Bijender So Mangeram (Borrower) Saroj Wo Bijender (Co Borrower 1)	27-03-2023 /₹ 226749 /-(₹ Two lakh Twenty Six Thousand Seven Hundred Forty Nine Only) NPA (09-02-2023)	Plot No 108, Kh. No.2020 Krishna Nagar Colon Pragana Roorkee Gram Salempur Mehdood 2 Jwalap Haridwar Haridwar Uttaranchal :- 2494
(LC No. 20000043064 of Noida -sector 2 Branch) Rajan R (Borrower)	Thousand Three Hundred Seventy Nine Only) NPA (09-02-2023)	Plot No-B-4/10, Upper Ground Floor (Rear Rhs Dlf Ankur Vihar, Vill- Sadullabad, Pargana Loni Ghaziabad,Up Ghaziabad Uttar Pradesh :- 201
(LC No. 06100003443 of Bikaner Branch) Anil Kumar Surana (Borrower) Mangla Surana (Co Borrower 1)	27-03-2023 /₹ 237951 /-(₹ Two lakh Thirty Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty One Only) NPA (05-01-2023)	Flat No 09, 2Nd Floor, Wing - A Ganga Resider Village Karmisar Sriramsar Road Bikaner Bikan Rajasthan :- 334001
(LC No. 196D5600210 of Delhi - Safdurjung Branch) Rahul Puri (Borrower) Tripta Puri (Co Borrower 1) Shivani Puri (Co Borrower 2) Rajiv Puri (Guarantor 1) Kamlesh Puri (Guarantor 2) M/s Avtech Digital Equipment Private (Guarantor 3)	27-03-2023 /≮ 69722349 /-(₹ six Crore Ninety Seven lakh Twenty Two Thousand Three Hundred Forty Nine Only) NPA (08-01-2016)	A 1/292, Safdurjung Enclave New Delhi Delhi 110029
(LC No. 196DEL32056 of Delhi - Safdurjung Branch) Narender Kumar Goyal (Borrower) Kumkum Aggrawal (Co Borrower 1)	27-03-2023 /₹ 4316375 /-(₹ Forty Three lakh Sixteen Thousand Three Hundred Seventy Five Only) NPA (09-07-2015)	B-1103 Jai Puriya Appts Ghaziabad Ghaziaba Uttar Pradesh :- 201010
(LC No. 200NOD32473 of Noida -sector 2 Branch) Amar Kumar (Borrower) Rinki Kumari (Co Borrower 1)	Three Thousand Three Hundred Seven Only) NPA (09-07-2015)	Flat No. B-803, 8Th Floor, Jaipuria Apartment, Crossing Republic Nh-24, Ghaziabad Ghaziab Uttar Pradesh :- 201001
(LC No. 200NOD32256 of Noida -sector 2 Branch) Gaurav Arora (Borrower)	Ninety Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Nineteen Only) NPA (09-07-2015)	Uttar Pradesh :- 201010
(LC No. 200NOD32133 of Noida -sector 2 Branch) Gaurav Arora (Borrower)	Seven Thousand Five Hundred Eighty Nine Only ) NPA (09-07-2015)	Flat No.205, Second Floor, Jaipuria Apartment Crossing Republic, Nh-24, Ghazaibad Ghaziaba Uttar Pradesh :- 201010
(LC No. 200NOD32719 of Noida -sector 2 Branch) Dinesh Kumar Tiwari (Borrower) Upasana Tiwari (Co Borrower 1)	Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty Seven Only) NPA (09-07-2015)	Flat No 606, Tower-B Jaipuria Appartment Ghaziabad Uttar Pradesh :- 201010
of the Act and the applicable Rules, entirely at the under the Act from transferring the aforesaid as	to PCHFL as aforesaid, PCHFL shall proceed again e risks of the said Borrowers as to the costs and c ssets, whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise on of the provisions of the said Act or Rules mac	onsequences. The said Borrowers are prohibite without the prior written consent of PCHFL. A
Date: 27-04-2023 Place: Delhi	Piramal	50/- (Authorised Officer) Capital & Housing Finance Limited

### Taliban kill Kabul airport bombing mastermind at bishops' meet

Vatican City (AP): Pope Francis has decided to give women the right to vote at an upcoming meeting of bishops, an unprecedented change that reflects his hopes to give women greater decision-making responsibilities and laypeople more say in the life of the Catholic Church.

Francis approved changes to the norms governing the Synod of Bishops, a Vatican body that gathers the world's bishops together for periodic meetings.

The Vatican on Wednesday published the modifications he approved, which emphasise his vision for the lay faithful taking on a greater role in church affairs that have long been left to clerics, bishops and cardinals. For decades, women have demanded the right to vote at synods, the next of which is scheduled for October.Ever since the Second Vatican Council, the 1960s meetings that modernised the church popes have summoned the world's bishops to Rome for a few weeks at a time to debate particular topics.

## Washington (AP): A ground assault by the Taliban killed the

Islamic State militant who group messaging chat. spearheaded the August 2021 The father of one of the

airport that left 13 US troops

and about 170 Afghans dead during the chaotic US withdrawal from Afghanistan, US officials said Tuesday. Initially, neither the US —

nor apparently the Taliban were aware that the mastermind was dead.

series of battles early this month in southern Afghanistan between the Taliban and the Islamic State group's affiliate, according to several officials.

But in the past few days, U.S. intelligence confirmed "with high confidence" that the Islamic State leader had been killed, a senior administration official said. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss intelligence matters.

Over the weekend, the USmilitary began to inform the parents of the 11 Marines, the sailor and the soldier who were killed in the blast at

Abbey Gate, and they shared the information in a private

suicide bombing at the Kabul Marines said the death of his son's killer brings little comfort.

"Whatever happens, it's not going to bring Taylor back and understand that," Darin Hoover, the father of Staff Sgt. Darin Taylor Hoover, said in a phone call with The Associated Press

"About the only thing his He was killed during a mom and I can do now is be an advocate for him. All we want is the truth. And we're not getting it. That's the frustrating part

Hoover said he and his son's mother, Kelly Henson, have spent the past year and a half grieving his death and praying for accountability from the Biden administration for the handling of the withdraw-

He added that the Marines provided only limited information to him and did not identify the Islamic State leader or give the circumstances of his death.

	ERN RAILWAY
Amnt M h	TENDER NOTICE
E-Tender No.: 07-TRD-NDLS-202	23-24 Date: 24.04.2023
	/Traction Distribution, DRM's Office, State Entry of President of India, invites open e-tender under noted work:
1 Name of work with its location	Replacement /provision of missing /damaged traction bonds over Delhi Division (phase II)
2 Approx. Cost of work	Rs. 7541460
3 Earnest Money Deposit	Rs. 150800/-
4 E-Tender Bid Online Submission Period	10.05.2023
5 E-Tender Bid Submission End Date & E-Tender Open Date & Time	24.05.2023 (15:00 hrs.)
6 Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen	www.ireps.gov.in
	1252/23
Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav OPEN E	ERN RAILWAY
Azaidi Ka Ammi Mahotsav The Sr. Divisional Engineer-III, No the following work. 1 Name of work : Zone work for station building ANVT and other	TENDER NOTICE
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major winners.

cent.

the pioneer

### PTI 📕 MUMBAI

Equity benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty extended their rally for the third straight session on Wednesday amid buying in index majors IndusInd Bank, Nestle India and HCL Tech.

NEW DELHI | THURSDAY | APRIL 27, 2023

However, continuous foreign fund outflows and a weak trend in global equities restricted gains in the market, traders said.

The 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 169.87 points or 0.28 per cent to settle at 60,300.58. During the day, it jumped 232.08 points or 0.38 per cent to 60,362.79.

The broader NSE Nifty advanced 44.35 points or 0.25 per cent to end at 17,813.60. "The domestic bourses

mirrored the mood on Wall Street as soft economic data and underwhelming earnings dragged US equities to a weak close yesterday. However, the market gradually recovered after an uptick in US futures, with the earnings of tech com-

panies providing support. "Adding to investors' concerns about a possible recession, the US consumer confidence data for April hit a ninemonth low ahead of the upcoming Fed policy meeting," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial

Services. PowerGrid was the biggest

PTI NEW DELHI

the company.

MCX shares settle

more than 6% lower



gainer among the Sensex comcise caution," onents, spurting 2.59 per cent, Chouhan, Head of Equity followed by IndusInd Bank, Research (Retail), Kotak Larsen & Toubro, Nestle, HCL Securities Ltd, said. In the broader market, the Tech, Axis Bank, Tata Motors, HDFC Bank, Tata Consultancy

BSE midcap gauge climbed Services and HDFC were the 0.97 per cent and the smallcap index gained 1.29 per cent. On the other hand, Bajaj Realty and FMCG sectors

Finserv, NTPC, Reliance were top gainers today. Nifty Industries and Kotak Mahindra FMCG index surged to all-time Bank were the biggest laghigh levels post the healthy gards, dropping up to 0.84 per results from Tata Consumer and Nestle, which reflected an "Investors are likely to improvement in demand and have covered their positions ahead of the monthly F&O an easing of inflationary cost pressures, said Siddhartha expiry on Thursday. Markets shrugging off global weakness Khemka, Head - Retail Research, Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd.

is an indication that our fun-Among sectoral indices, damentals remain intact and investors are willing to stay realty jumped 1.30 per cent, capital goods climbed 1 per "But ahead of the US cent, telecommunication (0.88 Federal Reserve policy next per cent), industrials (0.71 per month, markets may take cues cent) and FMCG (0.61 per from global direction to exercent)

**AU Small Finance** 

**Bank stock ends** 

Chares of AU Small Finance

results failed to cheer investors.

2.45 per cent each on both BSE

and NSE at ₹643.80 and

shares of the firm were traded

on BSE and 50.08 lakh shares

on NSE during the day.

₹643.95, respectively.

The firm's scrip declined

In volume terms, 1.49 lakh

2.45% lower

PTI 📕 NEW DELHI

## ₹2,874 crore released for PLI beneficiaries so far

### PTI 📕 NEW DELHI

T<sup>he</sup> government has released ₹2,874.71 crore to the beneficiaries of the productionlinked incentive scheme till March, with a majority of companies from eight sectors like electronics, telecom, pharma and food processing, a senior official said on Wednesday.

Additional Secretary in the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) Rajeev Singh Thakur said these eight sectors are doing well, while few need to increase their pace. The was

scheme announced in 2020 for 14 sec-Shrikant tors with an outlay of ₹1.97 lakh crore to enhance domestic manufacturing capabilities and boost exports.



He said that incentive claims of over ₹3,420.05 crore have been received under the scheme for eight sectors - largescale electronics manufacturing; electronics and technology products; bulk drugs; medical devices; pharmaceuticals; telecom and networking products; food items; and drones, of which "over ₹2,800 crore have

already been disbursed". 'The next two-three years

will be crucial and we hope that

### things will move with a fast pace," Singh told reporters ĥere Till December 2022, 717

applications have been approved in 14 sectors with expected investments of ₹ 2.74 lakh crore.

Actual investment of ₹53,500 crore has been realised, which has resulted in incremental production/sales of over ₹5 lakh crore and employment generation of over 3 lakhs, he added.

A maximum of ₹1,649 was disbursed in the electronics sector. It was followed by pharma (₹652 crore), food products (₹486 crore), telecom (₹35 crore), drones (₹30 crore), medical devices (12.8 crore), and electronics (₹5.3 crore) and bulk drugs (₹4.34 crore).

## **Shah launches IFFCO's nano DAP** fertiliser

### PTI NEW DELHI

Cooperation Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday launched IFFCO's nano (liquid) DAP fertiliser for commercial sale at ₹600 per 500 ml bottle, less than half of the current price of conventional DAP, to help India cut its import dependence.

One 50 kg bag of conven-tional DAP (di-ammonium phosphate) is currently being

sold to farmers at ₹1,350. A bottle (500 ml) of nano liquid DAP, the world's first, will be equivalent to one bag (50kg) of conventional DAP.

subsidies on conventional DAP, On the occasion, Shah but it will not give any subsidy urged the farmers to use nano on nano DAP.

er production.

health.

(liquid) DAP fertiliser as it will

increase farm productivity

without impacting the soil

He said the usage of nano-liquid DAP will help India

become self-reliant in fertilis-

The government provides

Reliance's expansion manageable, says S&P

### PTI 📕 NEW DELHI

Reliance Industries Ltd's (RIL) strategy to diversify and dominate a number of industries will boost spending and will also help mitigate its elevated capex needs, rating agencies said on Wednesday.

While S&P Global Ratings said it believes that "the company's appetite for bigger investments or M&As will dissipate", Fitch Group company CreditSights said its "credit metrics to worsen moderately

in FY24 (April 2023 to March 2024 fiscal) versus FY23 as elevated capex (telecom, retail and renewable energy) out-weighs resilient EBITDA growth."

S&P said RIL's adjusted debt will likely remain at ₹2.6 lakh crore to ₹2.7 lakh crore over the next two years. "This is due to a number of planned investments under its pipeline, including 5G services, oil refining and petrochemicals, renewables, and retail expansion." "In our view, the company



remains committed to maintaining leverage commensurate with the rating (BBB+/Stable/--)," it said. "Management has publicly reiterated its focus on managing the balance sheet to maintain its investment grade rating at the current level."

To mitigate the pressure on "RIL's Expansion is manthe balance sheet from sizable ageable." investments, RIL has shown the The company's continued flexibility to monetize non-

growth in operations will also cap leverage. Based on adjusted figures, EBITDA for RIL jumped 30 per cent in fiscal 2023 to ₹1.4 lakh crore. Growth

further monetize additional assets or raise equity to fund investments if needed," S&P said. "RIL's strategy to diversify and dominate a number of industries will boost spending above our original expectations," S&P said acquiring 5G spectrum.

"We also believe RIL could

### was driven by all segments. "Debt has also risen. Spending on capital expendi-tures was ₹1.4 lakh crore in fiscal 2023 versus our expectation of ₹0.9 lakh crore, and the company spent ₹88,000 crore

## BUSINESS BRIEF

#### VIT ENTRANCE EXAMS RESULT DECLARED Vellore: VITEEE, the entrance examination

conducted by Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT), was conducted from April 17 to April 23, 2023 as a proctored computer-based examination in 121 cities in India and four cities abroad (Dubai, Kuwait, Muscat and Qatar). Applicants from all Indian states and



published in the portal "https://ugresults.vit.ac.in/viteee" which can also be accessed through VIT website "www.vit.ac.in." Kushagra Bashisth of Jharkhand scored the first rank followed by Prakshal Shrinivas Choudhary (2nd rank) and Mahin Pramod Dhoke (3rd rank) both from Maharashtra; 4th rank was obtained by Ashik Stenny of Kerala, 5th by Ankit Kumar of Bihar; 6th by Nandyala Prince Branham Reddy of Andhra Pradesh; 7th and 8th by Md. Umar Faisal of Bihar and Anshul Sandeep Naphade of Maharashtra. Rishit Gupta of

and 10th rank.

Haryana and Tanmay Baghel of Uttar Pradesh were able to secure 9th

### AICTE LAUNCHES INTERNSHIP PORTAL FOR RURAL YOUTH

New Delhi: Chairman of the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) Professor TG Sitharam has called upon all stakeholders. associated with skill development to come together to make India and its education system fully skill-oriented. One of the AICTE's primary goal is to eliminate language barriers and provide technical education to students in their native tongues. For same AICTE has recently launched AICTE internship portal to provide internship to rural youth. So far 2.7 crore registration have been received .85 cc and 75000 companies have shown interest to hire interns through this portals. Promoting online education, AICTE's Ekumbh platform has received 1.5 lakhs download across 47 countries. This call would ultimately result into imparting skills to youth of the country to enable them to land at the job of their choice and contribute to the growth of the country.



risk-on in Indian equities.

at ₹1,390.15 apiece on the NSE. During the day, the shares tumbled 7.77 per cent to hit an intra-day low of ₹1,372. On the BSE, the scrip tanked 6.32 per cent to end at

₹1,394.20 per piece. In volume terms, 80,000

MCX on Tuesday said Shashank Sathe has tendered his resignation from the post of Chief Technology Officer (CTO) of the company on account of personal reasons

Rupee climbs 21 paise to close at 81.74 against \$

#### Bank ended 2.45 per cent lower on Wednesday after the PTI MUMBAI company's March quarter

The rupee appreciated 21 The rupee approximet \_\_\_\_\_ paise to close at 81.74 against the US dollar on Wednesday, tracking the weakness of the American currencv in the overseas market and gains in Asian peers.

Forex traders said a positive trend in domestic equities also supported the local unit.

The 30-share BSE Sensex At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit ended 169.87 points or 0.28 per cent higher at 60,300.58 opened at 82 against the US On Tuesday, AU Small currency and finally closed at Finance Bank reported its high-

81.74, registering a gain of 21 paise over its previous close. During the session, the



Dollar on Wednesday to a 7week high tracking gains in the Asian peers and upbeat domes-

tic equity markets. The greenback also gave up its gains on Wednesday afternoon, while foreign banks and state-run banks were also



Gold price jumped ₹590 to ₹61,040 per 10 grams in the national capital on Wednesday amid strong global trends, according to HDFC Securities. The precious metal

had settled at ₹60,450 per 10 grams in the previous trade Silver

also climbed ₹420 to ₹75,070 per kilo-

gramme. "Spot gold prices in the Delhi markets traded at ₹61,040 per 10 grams, up ₹590 per 10 grams," Saumil Gandhi, Senior Analyst - Commodities

at HDFC Securities, said.

gold and silver were trading

overseas man

on the BSE and 11.46 lakh shares on the NSE during the day.

The 30-share BSE Sensex ended 169.87 points or 0.28 per cent higher at 60,300.58 points.

In the interim, Dr N Rajendran, Chief Digital

Officer of the company, has been advised to look after the portfolio of the CTO, the commodity exchange added.

points.

The bank's net profit was ₹346 crore in the year-ago quarter. Net profit for full financial year 2022-23 stood at ₹1,428 crore, up 26 per cent year-on-year.

compared to 68,454 units in the

March quarter of FY22, the

auto major said.

components.

cles, it added.

2021-22

2,59,333 units, MSI said.

est-ever quarterly profit of Rs

425 crore for the March quar-

ι high of 8 and a low of 82.01 against the dollar.

According to Sriram Iyer, Senior Research Analyst at Reliance Securities, the rupee appreciated against the US

und 81.90 and aided the local unit.

Some investors also spechigher at \$1,997.8 per ounce ulated that the absence of the and \$24.95 per ounce, respec-Reserve Bank of India may tively. Gold prices traded in the have allowed the rupee to gain positive territory in Asian tradthis Wednesday. ing hours on Wednesday

## Maruti Suzuki Q4 net rises 42% to ₹2,671 crore on higher sales

### PTI 📕 NEW DELHI

Maruti Suzuki India on Wednesday reported a 42 per cent rise in consolidated net profit to ₹2,671 crore for the fourth quarter ended March 2023, driven by higher sales, improved realisation and favourable forex movement.

The country's largest carmaker logged a net profit of ₹1,876 crore in the January-March of 2021-22.

Net sales during the fourth quarter rose to ₹32,060 crore compared to ₹26,749 crore in the year-ago period, Maruti Suzuki India (MSI) said in a regulatory filing.

For the entire 2022-23, MSI posted a consolidated net profit of ₹8,211 crore against ₹3,879 crore in 2021-22.

Net sales last fiscal stood at ₹1,17,571 crore against ₹88,330



crore in 2021-22.

The company said its board has approved the creation of an additional capacity of up to 10 lakh cars per year to cater to the estimated mar-

ket demand, including exports. In the fourth quarter, the company said, it sold a total of 5,14,927 vehicles, higher by 5.3 per cent year-on-year.

In the January-March period, the sales in the domestic market stood at 4,50,208 units, 7.1 per cent against Q4

The sales in the export closed 0.26 per cent up at market stood at 64,719 units ₹8,503.15 apiece on the BSE.

Tata Steel Long Products reports ₹184 cr loss in Q4

### PTI NEW DELHI

In 2022-23, the company said, it sold a total of 19,66,164 Tata Steel Long Products (TSLP) has posted a stand-alone loss of ₹184.11 crore vehicles, despite missing pro-duction of about 1,70,000 units due to a shortage of electronic during the fourth quarter of financial year 2022-23, on This translated to a growth account of increased expenses. The company had report-ed a net profit of ₹59.62 crore of 19 per cent over FY2021-22 sales volume of 1,652,653 vehiduring the January-March peri-The sales volume in the od of fiscal year 2021-22, TSLP year comprised 17,06,831 units said in a regulatory filing on in the domestic market and the Tuesday. The company's total highest-ever exports of income rose to ₹1,911.98 crore, from ₹1,823.67 crore in the The company's board recyear-ago quarter.

ommended the highest-ever While the company's total dividend of ₹90 per share comexpenses surged to ₹2,054.12 pared to ₹60 per share in FY crore in the quarter under review, from ₹1,738.24 crore in Shares of the company the same quarter a year ago.

For the full year 2022-23, the company has posted a loss



of ₹1,085.49 crore. It had clocked ₹629.87 crore net profit in FY 2021-22.

Tata Steel Long Products is into manufacturing of high alloy steel primarily for the auto sector and wire rope industry. With one million tonnes

capacity, it is one of the largest speciality steel plants in India in the long product segment. Besides, the company also manufactures and markets sponge iron for the secondary steel sector and has a total production capacity of 0.90 million

## Dell Tech lines up new commercial portfolio for Indian customers

### PTI 📕 NEW DELHI

Dell Technologies on Wednesday launched its latest commercial portfolio in India, including Latitude notebooks, Precision mobile workstations and OptiPlex all-inone desktops. Indrajit Belgundi, Senior

Director and General Manager - Client Solutions Group at Dell Technologies India, said the company has a "positive outlook to the market", given India's strong economic growth and the opportunities ahead.

The new devices are geared to help organisations accelerate their digital transformation journey in the hybrid work era, powered with 13th Gen Intel Core processors and upgraded Dell Optimizer features to enhance personalisation.

The latest version of Dell Optimizer allows users to manence for customers. "As hybrid work increas-

environment, Belgundi told

PTI that the company has a

positive outlook to market,

and cited the economic growth

look to the market, there can be

slight challenges on the way

but, overall, the way India is

growing...The GDP growth...That shows we have an

opportunity. Even in the cal-

endar year 2023, we have a pos-

itive outlook," Belgundi told

"We have a positive out-

rate for the optimism.



age displays and peripherals more simply in one interface, including intelligent audio, privacy, connectivity, and collaboration

"The Latitude 9440 is the world's most collaborative commercial PC and the Precision 5680 has the world's smallest footprint for a 16-inch workstation," according to the company

Further, the new OptiPlex desktop streamlined design simplifies the desktop experi-

Infosys ties with Walmart to deliver omnichannel solutions to retailers It is pertinent to mention that Infosys has a consumer and retail focused practice that has been helping retailers, consumer tech, consumer packaged goods and logistics companies navigate their way

> over the last three decades. Through platforms like Infosys Equinox, partner products, and leading digital capabilities, Infosys has helped over 190 retailers globally transform into sentient enterprises by enhancing their core digital capabilities, advancing their operating models and transforming their talent for the future, the company said.

through digital and emerging technologies

Kia India exports cross 2 lakh unit mark in FY-23

### PTI NEW DELHI

Automaker Kia India on Wednesday said it crossed 2 lakh export milestone in FY23 and continues to see robust demand from various regions like the Middle East and Mexico.

The company said it has shipped cars to around 95 countries till date

Kia said Seltos remains the top contributor to Kia's export numbers, with 1,35,885 units dispatched to over 95 countries.

The automaker reported 22 per cent growth in exports in March quarter 2023



as compared the same period last year, it added.

"We are proud to showcase the manufacturing prowess of our next-gen Anantapur facility to the world by making, innovating, and investing in India and contributing to the government's vision,' Kia India Chief Sales & Business Officer Myung-sik Sohn said in a statement.

This also showcases how India, as a manufacturing hub, is ready to cater to the growing demand for SUVs globally, he added.

Kia India said it continues to witness robust demand for Seltos, Sonet and Carens in overseas markets like the Middle East, Africa, Central & South America Mexico and the Asia Pacific region.

In December 2022, the company recorded its highest-ever monthly exports, dispatching 9,462 units.

### PTI NEW DELHI

tonnes.

∎ndian IT services company Infosys on Wednesday said it has joined hands with Walmart Commerce Technologies to help retailers harness technology solutions that simplify customer and store employee experiences.

Infosys will help retailers implement and use Store Assist, which enables them to provide "seamless omnichannel experiences" such as pickup, delivery and ship from store for both employees and customers, the company said in a statement.

"Infosys today announced a new col-



laboration with Walmart Commerce Technologies to help retailers leverage technology solutions that simplify customer and store employee experiences," it said.





## CSK eye revenge against Royals

### PTI JAIPUR

Smarting from back-to-back defeats, Rajasthan Royals would hope to bounce back with a win against Chennai Super Kings in their IPL match at home on Thursday, but it will be easier said than done as the MS Dhoni-led team has been on a rampage with three victories on the trot.

With their top-order comprising Ruturaj Gaikwad, Devon Conway, Ajinkya Rahane and Shivam Dube firing together most of the time, CSK have notched up three easy wins while the Royals have lost their last two matches.

Thursday's match could turn out to be a battle between CSK's top-order batters and the world class spinners of the Royals.

Conway is the second most prolific batter so far this season with 314 runs from seven matches while a "transformed" Rahane, who hit a 71 not out off just 29 balls against Kolkata Knight Riders on Sunday, has been in devastating form with 209 runs from five games, at a stupendous strike rate of 199.04, the highest among the batters.

The Royals can take a bit of solace from the fact they emerged victorious in their first meeting of this season against CSK. However, even then CSK nearly pulled off a win as their

### talisman Dhoni turned the clock back with his batting, before going down by three runs in front of their home crowd.

However, things are different at the moment with Chennai registering their fifth win of the season, against Kolkata Knight Riders at the Eden Gardens on Sunday, to grab the top position in he standings with 10

points. A win for CSK, at the Sawai Man Singh Stadium on Thursday, will brighten their playoffs prospects fur-ther. The Super Kings, a four-time winners, have the personnel to humble the Royals in their own backyard.

Having suffered two consecutive losses, the Royals will be desperate to get their campaign back on track with a clinical performance against the visitors from Chennai.

For the Royals to do well, it is imperative that the likes of Jos Buttler, Yashasvi Jaiswal and skipper Sanju Samson deliver with the bat and then, on a pitch that has help for the slower bowlers, hope that the seasoned spin duo of Ravichandran Ashwin and Yuzvendra Chahal fire.

They may be playing at their base, but the Royals can expect plenty of home team fans at the stands rooting for CSK skipper Dhoni, who is probably appearing in his last IPL season, just like it happened in Kolkata a few davs back.

# KOLKATA BEAT RCB, AGAIN

### PTI BENGALURU

olkata Knight Riders conjured up a spin magic after Jason Roy's sterling fifty to snap their four-match losing streak with a 21-win over Royal Challengers Bangalore in the IPL, here on gers Bangalore in the IPL, here on Wednesday. The English opener led the show with a 29-ball 56 as Kolkata Knight Riders batters fired in unison to notch up a fighting 200/5 after RCB captain Virat Kohli opted to bowl at their home den.

But the spin duo of Varun Chakravarthy (3/24) and rookie Suyash Sharma (2/30) created a toporder mayhem, before Andre Russell (2/29) broke Kohli's resistance to restrict RCB to 179 for eight.

The win took KKR (six points; eight matches) up from the bottomhalf of the table to seventh spot, ahead of Mumbai Indians on net run-rate. MI have a match in hand. RCB remained fifth with eight

points from eight matches. Leading the side in absence of Faf Du Plessis, Kohli struck a 34-ball

54 and kept their hopes up in the 201-run chase after du Plessis (17) Glenn Maxwell (5) fell cheaply. But all hell broke loose when

Venkatesh Iyer took a game-changing catch at deep midwicket boundary to dismiss Kohli, off Russell. He dived to his left and rolled over but held the ball firmly as Kohli

walked back in disbelief. With 86 needed from 48 balls, it was left for Dinesh Karthik (22) to keep up their chase but Chakravar-

thy had the last laugh when he had the veteran RCB keeper-batter en route to his three-for, and it seemed all over for RCB.

KKR thus did a double on RCB, Kohli, Du Plessis and Maxwell. Cruising at 30 for loss, RCB's fly-ing start was halted by the spin duo of Sharma and Chakravarthy who gave KKR a perfect start, sharing three wickets in between them

inside the powerplay (58/3).

smashed Umesh Yadav on both the sides of the wicket.

Kohli too was looking in full flow as the RCB opening duo feasted on the KKR pacers to start with.

### from IPL: Gavaskar Rohit should take 'little bit of break'

### PTI NEW DELHI

Batting legend Sunil Gavaskar feels that Mumbai Indians and India captain Rohit Sharma should take "a little bit of a break" from the ongoing Indian Premier League so that he can keep himself fresh for the World Test Championships final in June.

Gavaskar said Rohit can come back for the last three-four matches of MI's IPL campaign so that he's

is in rhythm for the WTC final, starting from June 7 at the Oval in

having beaten them in their season-

over-reliance on their Big Three --

The loss again proved RCB's

opener by 81 runs.

London. The IPL final is on May 28. MI have played seven matches in the IPL so far, and Rohit's batting form has been a mixed one, having scored 181 runs from those games with one half century. He has an average of 25.86 and strike rate of 135.07

"Honestly, I would also say that Rohit should maybe also take a break for the time being, and keep himself fit for the World Test Championship (final). (He can) come back again for the last few matches, but right now, (he should) take a little bit of a breather himself," Gavaskar said on Star Sports, as reported by Cricinfo.

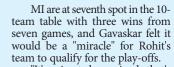
"I do believe that at this stage, he needs a little bit of a break, and come back for the last three or four matches so that he is in rhythm for the World Test Championship (final)," he said after MI's 55-run

loss against Gujarat Titans. Gavaskar wondered if Rohit had already started thinking about the WTC final, given the impor-

tance of the match. "I would like to see some change in the batting order (for Mumbai Indians)," he said.

at his ominous best when he

"He (Rohit) is looking just that little bit preoccupied. Maybe at this stage he is thinking about the WTC (final), I don't know," said the former India captain.



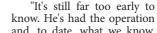
"It's going to be a miracle that's going to make them qualify (for IPL playoffs). The way they are at the moment, yes, they could conceivably finish (at number) four, but they will have to play some extraordinary cricket, both batting as well as bowling."



### Archer undergoes minor elbow surgery in middle of IPL PTI LONDON

**T**ngland pace spearhead Jofra







RCB's regular skipper Fa du Plessis, who sat out only to be subbed as an Impact Player, looked

### Sindhu, Srikanth, Treesa-Gayatri in last 16; Lakshya knocked out PTI 📕 DUBAI

n a day star shutter Lakshya Sen made a first-round exit, double Olympic medalist PV Sindhu and veteran Kidambi Srikanth began with easy wins to advance into the pre-quarterfinals of the Asia Badminton Championship, here on Wednesday. Commonwealth Games bronze medal-winning women's doubles pair Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand also kept the Indian flag high by making the last-16.

Fresh from finishing runner-up at the Madrid Spain Masters, the former world champion, Sindhu defeated wen Chi Hsu 21-15, 22-20 in a 46-minute affair in the women's singles.

Sindhu will face World No 9 Han Yue of China in the pre-

quarters. Former World

Championship silver medalist Kidambi Srikanth took 25 minutes to see off his first-round opponent Adnan Ebrahim 21-13, 21-8. He will face world No 5 Kodai Naraoka in the men's singles last-16.

, Treesa and Gayatri duo roared back from behind to defeat Indonesia's Lanny Tria Mavasari and Ribka Sugiarto 17-21, 21-17, 21-18 in a battle lasting more than an hour. Mixed pair duo of Rohan

Kapoor and Sikki Reddy also won their opening round match when they defeated Chan Peng Soon and Cheah Yee See of Malaysia 21-12, 21-

elbow surgery during his 19-day break earlier this month after an old injury resurfaced after playing one IPL game for the Mumbai Indians.

According to British newspaper 'Daily Telegraph', "Jofra Archer travelled to Belgium for minor surgery on the troublesome right elbow during a short recent spell on the sidelines at the Indian Premier League."

He is now expected to play against Rajasthan Royals on Sunday.

The surgery was performed by renowned Antwerp-based surgeon Roger van Riet, who is an elbow specialist.

Archer played MI's opening game against RCB where he went wicketless for 33 runs in four overs and then had a 19-day break after which he was smashed for 42 in four overs with a solitary wicket in the game against Punjab Kings. Mumbai Indians lost both games. The 'Telegraph Sport' claimed in its report that England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) had confirmed that "Archer visited a specialist in Belgium."



undergoing a successful surgery on the anterior cruciate ligament of his right knee.

New Zealand white-ball cap-tain Kane Williamson is The 32-year-old had suffered the injury while fielding unlikely to play at the ODI World Cup later this year but in his debut game for the the injured batter could still Gujarat Titans in the Indian travel to India for the marquee Premier League last month. Attempting to stop a six at

event as a team mentor. Head coach Gary Stead the boundary, Williamson had said he would "absolutely" look jumped high and landed awkto use the experienced batter wardly, injuring his knee. Such and limited overs skipper in a was the severity of the injury mentor-type role. that he had to be carried out of Williamson is in rehab after the field.

that's been successful. So he is in the very, very early stages of his rehab programme," Stead told reporters ahead of New Zealand's five-match ODI series against Pakistan

'It's obviously pretty nonweight-bearing at this stage, and he's in a brace. It's really just meeting milestones as we go."

The injury has been all but ruled out the Black Caps skipper from the 50-over tournament, starting in October as the expected recovery time of an ACL rupture is nine months. However, Stead is still optimistic.

"Our line around Kane, at the moment, is still it's unlikely that he will be available, but we certainly don't want to rule out a person of his class and calibre, and the things he brings to this team, too early in case there is that chance still.

New Zealand ended runners up in the last two 50-over World Cup. Under Williamson's captaincy, the Black Caps lost the last edition of the 50-over World Cup in 2019 on boundary count to hosts England.

## **Pak & NZ enter WC** mode with **ODI** series

AP RAWALPINDI

Pakistan and New Zealand contest a five-match oneday series starting on Thursday in Rawalpindi which serves as crucial buildup to the World Cup.

The series offers both sides the opportunity to feel out each other's strengths and weaknesses ahead of the World Cup in India in

October-November. The Black Caps shocked the home side by squaring a preceding five-match T20 series 2-2 despite missing eight players -- including skipper Kane Williamson -due to the ongoing IPL or injury.

current series are in Únder stand-in skipper Rawalpindi on Saturday followed by Karachi on May 3, 5 and 7. TEAMS (FROM):

2011.

2-0 down to win the third and fifth matches, with the

Middle-order batter Mark Chapman has been added to the ODI squad after blazing 290 for just one dismissal in the T20 series -- the most runs by a batter in a five-match T20I series.

Wicketkeeper-batter Tom Blundell, recently included in the five best cricketers of the year by Wisden, and middle-order batter Henry Nicholls further bolster the squad.

"It's a new format and we have to adapt quickly for this challenging series," said Latham, whose team are second behind Australia in the ODI rankings.

Karunaratne, Madushka hit tons as Sri Lanka pile on runs

PTI RAWALPINDI

#### AP GALLE

Dimuth Karunaratne and Nishan Madushka both hit centuries as they amassed a record Sri Lankan opening stand in Galle of 228 in the second Test against Ireland on Wednesday.

The hosts were 357 for one at the close, still 135 runs behind but with nine wickets in hand.

Madushka was unbeaten on 149 at stumps, alongside Kusal Mendis, approaching a century of his own on 83, after Karunaratne departed for 115 -- the only wicket to fall on the third day of the match.

The first Test ended inside three days with Sri Lanka's

spinners dominating, but the pitch in the second encounter has offered the spinners little assistance and the batsmen dominated proceedings.

Captain Karunaratne reached the 16th century of his test career, and his second consecutive ton, in just 116 balls.

But the left-hander mistimed a pull shot off Curtis Campher and was caught at deep fine leg in the last over before lunch, two balls after he was hit on the helmet.

Madushka had already brought up his maiden Test century, pulling a Harry Tector full toss for six.

Their 228 was a record Sri Lankan opening partnership at the ground, eclipsing the 193



Sanath Jayasuriya against South

Mendis and Madushka continued the run-fest, with the number three racing to his 83 off 96 balls with seven fours and five sixes, including three in a row off debutant left-arm spinner Matthew Humphreys, who was rapidly taken out of the attack.

before tea, before the rains came down and it was called off for the day.

loomed large but Sri Lanka batplayed havoc".

"There's a total of 180 overs left in the game now," he told reporters. "If we bat for another 90 overs, we'll be able to take a decent lead as our deficit is now only 135.

'We have wickets in hand and this is still a good batting pitch.

Play will resume 15 minutes early on the final two days to make up for lost time.

Sri Lanka lead the twomatch series 1-0.

Ireland fast bowling coach Ryan Eagleson conceded his team's bowlers "are still learning and are less experienced in Test cricket".

"So you have got to give them time and be patient," he

Tom Latham, New Zealand adapted to the conditions skillfully, roaring back from Pakistan: Babar Azam (C), fourth abandoned after rain. Shadab Khan, Abdullah Shafique, Fakhar Zaman, Mohammad Haris, Haris

Rauf, Haris Sohail. Ihsanullah, Imam-ul-Haq, Mohammad Nawaz, Mohammad Rizwan, Mohammad Wasim, Naseem Shah, Agha Salman, Shaheen Shah Afridi, Shan Masood, Usama Mir

Pakistan, who are fifth,

Pakistan have won five of

will again pin their hopes on

skipper Babar Azam, the

world's top-ranked ODI bat-

the seven ODI series that

Azam has captained. His two

losses came against England

in 2021 and New Zealand in

recent dominance over

between them, New Zealand

have won five and drawn one.

Their last series defeat against

Pakistan was at home in

The other matches of the

But New Zealand boast

Of the last six ODI series

January this year.

Pakistan.

ter for the last two years.

New Zealand: Tom Latham (C), Tom Blundell, Chad Bowes, Mark Chapman, Matt Henry, Ben Lister, Cole McConchie, Adam Milne, Darvl Mitchell, Jimmy Neesham, Henry Nicholls, Rachin Ravindra, Henry Shipley, Ish Sodhi, Blair Tickner, Will Young.

between Marvan Atapattu and

Africa in 2000.

Bad light interrupted play

The prospect of a draw

ting coach Naveed Nawaz insisted his side could still win the game "although rain has

「「AILA 报业集团 YUNNAN DAILY PRESS GROUP Editor: Pearl He Email:823214496@qq.com english.vunnangateway.com

**OPENING-UP** 

YUNNAN DAILY PRESS GROUP | The Pioneer Vol.155 | Thursday, April 27, 2023

## "We've felt the surging vitality and huge potential of China's consumer market"

"Three years on, with consumer products as the linkage, the China International Consumer Products Expo has become an important platform for China and the world to share market opportunities," said Nestle's Executive Vice President Zhang Xigiang at the 3td China International Consumer Products Expo (CICPE) that was held in Haikou, Hainan from April 10 to 15. Zhang praised China's efforts to promote high-standard opening up and improve the investment and business environment, saying that these efforts have delivered mutual benefits for both China and foreign com-

panies rooted in the Chinese market like Nestle.

TCP Group.

the globally leading brands With the theme of "Sharin many industrial segments ing Opening Opportunities, were exhibited for the first Creating a Better Life", the time. The event attracted a 3<sup>rd</sup> CICPE featured more large number of domestic high-quality products and than 3,300 high-quality contime-honored brands, with sumer brands and attracted buyers from 35 countries and 1,000-plus products of more regions. "We've witnessed than 300 brands making China's determination to their debuts. Exhibitors beboost consumption and lieve that as more and more its concrete steps to share high-quality products participate in the CICPE, China's development opportunities with the world. We've felt consumer market will be able the surging vitality and huge to expand supply and provide potential of China's consummore choices, thus promoter market in the past three ing consumption upgrading years," said Saravoot Yoovand releasing consumption idhya, CEO of Thailand's potential

"The CICPE has built an

During this year's CICPE,

important platform for communication and exchanges and created opportunities for global companies to carry out business cooperation, which is in line with the current need to promote economic growth," said Lao Deputy Prime Minister Kikeo Khaykhamphithoune.

Italy was the guest country of honor at this year's CICPE, and more than 140 Italian brands joined the event. "The active participation of Italian companies has demonstrated their strong confidence in the Chinese market. We will continue to provide Chinese consumers with high-quality products,"

NEWS

Impressed by the duty-free

A total of 90 major

projects were signed at

the 5th China-Singapore

(Chongqing) Connectivity

Initiative Financial Summit

that kicked off on April 20,

with an aggregate amount

of 111 billion yuan (about

US\$ 16 billion). With the

theme of "Charting a New

Path for Financial Center

Development, Creating

New Impetus for Financial

Opening-up", the Summit

was held simultaneously in

Chongqing and Singapore.

na-Singapore (Chongqing)

Demonstration Initiative

on Strategic Connectivity

In recent years, Chongqing has relied on the Chi-

CICPE

said Maria Tripodi, Italian policy in Hainan, he also pointed out that the policy Undersecretary of State to the Ministry of Foreign would play a vital role in Affairs and International Coglobal trade, especially in operation, adding that Italian boosting consumption. companies looked to share

"The global economy the dividends of the Chinese has experienced an array of market through this year's difficulties and challenges. Countries need to cooperate Martin Moodie, foundmore closely and effectively er and chairman of The to remove trade barriers Moodie Davitt Report, a and facilitate imports and professional media in the exports for enterprises," said Vietnam's Minister of global travel retail market, said that promoting con-Industry and Trade Nguyen sumption is one of China's Hong Dien. He also hailed policy priorities and that the CICPE as a contributor "hosting the CICPE will to strengthening regional and help to further tap China's global economic and trade consumption potential." cooperation.

(People's Daily)

## 111-bln-yuan projects signed at the 5<sup>th</sup> China-Singapore financial summit

of Chongqing's open development in finance.

The 90 major projects signed this year, with an aggregate amount of 111 billion yuan (US\$ 16 billion), focus on serving major strategies such as the development of the new land-sea transit routes for the western region. the financial center for the western region, and the China-Singapore connectivity initiative, covering mutual establishment of financial institutions and cooperation in green finance, financial technology, channel finance, cross-border finance, and more fields.

The China-Singapore (Chongqing) Demonstra-

tion Initiative on Strategic

Connectivity was officially

launched on November 7.

2015. As the 3<sup>th</sup> inter-gov-

ernmental cooperation

project between China and

Singapore following the

China-Singapore Suzhou

Industrial Park and the

China-Singapore Tianjin

Eco-city, it covers four key

cooperation areas in fi-

nancing, air transportation,

countries" Since China's reform and contributing a positive force to the global response to climate opening up, its economy has been growing rapidly, It has bechange.

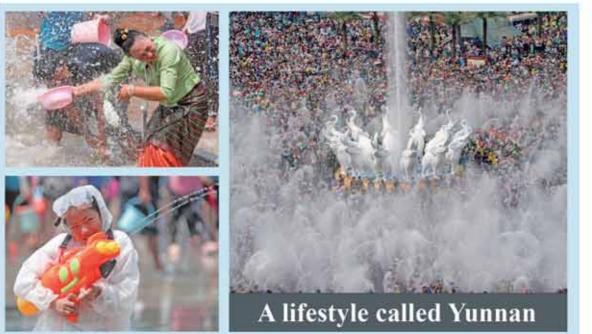
China plays an active part in the reform and development of the global governance system. It pursues a vision of global governance featuring shared growth through discussion and collaboration. China upholds true multilateralism, promotes greater democracy in international relations, and works to make global governance fairer and more equitable. China has proposed the Global Security Initiative and advocated that all countries should uphold the vision of common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable secunty and strive to build a balanced, effective, and sustainable security architecture, playing a prominent role in maintaining global peace and stability.

(People's Daily. The article is authored by Marcos Cordeiro Pires, an associate professor at the Political Economy Institute of São Paulo State University of Brazil.)

I hope that China will continue to share its development experience with other countries and help other developing countries address challenges such as poverty and climate change and enhance their capacity for sustainable development.

-Marcos Cordeiro Pires

## American travel writer Paul Salopek: Walking in Yunnan offers surprises



Some Chinese ethnic minorities such as the Dai, Achang, Bulang, Wa, and De'ang and certain ethnic groups in Southeast Asia celebrate the New Year's Day from April 13 to 15. On the 2023 Dai New Year's Day, which fell on April 15, a water-fetching ceremony and a water splashing carnival were held in Jinghong City, Xishuangbanna Dai Autonomous Prefecture, Yunnan Province. Tens of thousands of people from various ethnic groups as well as tourists expressed their best wishes and joy by dashing each other with water. (Xinhua)

COOPERATION

FOCUS

come the world's second largest

economy, with per capita income

increasing more than 25 times,

creating a miracle in the history of

In China, democracy is not an

abstract concept but is genuine,

specific, effective, and functional,

and is fully enjoyed by all its

people. Guided by the vision of

people-centered development,

China has been advancing the

whole-process people's democ-

racy, readily responding to peo-

ple's aspiration, and effectively

improving people's lives. It has

achieved the first centenary goal

of building a moderately prosper-

ous society in all aspects. Over

the past decade, China has made

great achievements in aspects

such as driving the development

of its manufacturing industry,

promoting its ecological progress,

and ending extreme poverty,

boosting the Chinese people's

confidence in the country's devel-

ternational cooperation and helping other countries to develop.

China has proposed the Global

Development Initiative so that

the international community can

strengthen development cooper-

ation, solve problems hindering

development, and speed up the

implementation of the UN 2030

Agenda for Sustainable Devel-

opment. In recent years, China's

clean energy and electric vehicle

industries have developed rapidly,

China has worked with other parties to build the Belt and Road, creating a popular platform for in-

opment

STORY

human development.

"I hope China will continue to share its development experience with other

**CHINA·YUNNAN** 云南省南亚东南亚 区域国际传播中心 12

## "The China-Laos Railway has driven the development of all sectors in Laos"

"The first stop on this overseas trip of ours will be Laos. I've come to Yunnan with more than twenty of my fellow townspeople, and now we're travelling to Southeast Asia. The whole process is so smooth," said a female tourist surnamed Tong from Zhejiang, China when she was interviewed on April 13, The travel agency had secured visas for the group fifteen days in advance and booked tickets for them for the first international passenger train operating on the China-Laos Railway, making the trip very special

Currently, the international passenger trains operating on the China-Laos Railway require its passengers to go through both exit and entry customs clearances. The customs clearance takes roughly an hour and a half each time,

so passengers need to spend about three hours going through customs clearance.

international passenger train

on the China-Laos Railway.

I'm thrilled to witness this

historic moment," Imben Na-

kunsi (transliteration), Deputy

Director-General of the Mass

Media Department of the

Lao Ministry of Information,

Culture and Tourism, was

quoted as saying. The railway

has driven the development of

all sectors in Laos, especially

tourism. Apart from Chinese

tourists, it has also attracted a

large number of tourists from

Europe, America, and neigh-

boring countries to Laos, he

said.

first day of the international passenger train's operating "I'm leading a Lao media on the China-Laos Railway, delegation of six people to the railway's Boten-Vientiane join a number of Chinese mesection handled more than 10,000 passengers and 10,000 dia in covering the operation of the Kunming-Vientiane tons of cargoes.

> The China-Laos Railway's spillover effect has driven the development of related industries and promoted local employment. According to incomplete statistics, the railway has cumulatively reentited more than 3,500 local employees in cargo handling, logistics, security, cleaning, and property management. It has also driven the development of logistics, urban transportation, business and trade, tourism, and other industries, indirectly creating more than 100,000 jobs. "Starting from yesterday,

able that on April 13, the

It was particularly remarkwe've been operating inter-

national passenger trains on the China-Laos Railway on a daily basis. It'll greatly facilitate economic and trade cooperation as well as cultural and people-to-people exchanges between the two countries." According to Liu Hong, general manager of the Laos-China Railway Co Ltd (LCRC), since the China-Laos Railway went into operation sixteen months ago, the transportation of cargoes and passengers on it had improved in both quantity and quality, and the railway has proven to be a golden thoroughfare.

Since its opening on December 3, 2021, the whole China-Laos Railway has cumulatively handled 14.43 million passenger trips and transported 18.84 million tons of cargoes.

(Yunnan Daily, Spring City Evening News, and Xinhua)

to promote fruitful cooperation with Singapore in cross-border investment and financing, cross-border settlement, and establishment of financial institutions, enhancing China-Singapore financial cooperation in strength, breadth, and depth. Since it was first held in 2018, the Summit has become an important platform for financial exchanges and cooperation between China and ASEAN nations, an important window on western China's opening-up, and an important symbol

logistics transportation, and information and communications technology. (Chongqing Daily) Yunnan employs blockchain technology and Beidou satellite positioning for tea quality assurance and traceability

Each day of his walking in Yunnan offered him surprise, The mysterious mountains and rivers have showed him the magic of nature. In the morning, Paul usually drank a cup of tea, put on boots and a hat, and then set out. That was how Paul Salopek, a well-known American travel writer and National Geographic explorer, felt when he walked in west Yunnan

Paul started his walking in China's Yunnan in September 2021. Trekking through the Ancient Tea Horse Road and the Gaoligong Mountain, Paul left his footprints in forests, lakes, snow mountains, and villages of Yunnan. As a twotime Pulitzer winner, Paul filmed well-known documentaries about his extraordinary journey, such as Out of Eden and the Forever Walk: China. In doing so, he presented the world with natural scenery and human wonders.

Recalling the days when he was young, Paul said that he loved fast things, so he used to ride motorcycles to get to the destinations quickly. However, if one only spends time in speed, he will miss the details on the way. Now, he wants to be a good story teller. To tell stories of West Yunnan, he slowed down to observe

To Paul, an immersive tour was what it took to tell a good story. He would spend two to three days living with a farmer, talking long under a tree and having a breakfast together. He was surprised that in the villages, people still use their hands to build houses and roads, making tools for living and farming Speaking of Yunnan's food, Paul said, "The climate in Yunnan

tiny things along the way, without

During walking, Paul loved

the special Yunnan lifestyle and

the hospitality of Yunnan people.

presetting any destination.

is similar to that in Southeast Asia, so a lot of its food reminds me of Southeast Asia," However, what he loves most about Yunnan food is the freshness. "The fruits and coffee are so fresh that they taste as good as those immediately picked from trees or dug out of the earth." he added

"You see, I'm a man with gray hair already. I've walked to countries worldwide, but Yunnan is a rarity with its culture and biodiversity. As a world-famous province of tourism, Yunnan is expected to preserve its tourist resources and cultural diversity to the utmost," Paul said sincerely.

(Yunnan Daily)



Paul Salopek was traveling. (Photo by Paul Salopek)

### China sees 116.2 percent surge in entry, exit trips in Q1

According to a press conference held by China's National Immigration Administration, immigration authorities across China handled nearly 65.07 million exits and entries in the first quarter of the year, a year-on-year increase of 116.2 percent. Of the total, 32.35 million were made by Chinese mainland residents, 29.49 million by residents in Hong Kong. Macao, and Taiwan of China, and 3.23 million by foreign nationals (People's Daily)



Recently, Yunnan Province applied blockchain technology and Beidou satellite positioning to spring tea quality assurance and traceability for the first time in Shuangjiang Lahu, Wa, Bulang, and Dai Autonomous County,

The traceability verification is divided into three steps. First, Beidou satellites are employed to position electronic fences and digitalize the tea-picking records to verify the quantity of fresh leaves picked in certain areas. Second, the transportation, stacking, water-removing, and drying process is tracked to assess the processing conformity. Third, sundried green

tea samples are subjected to sensory evaluation by experts to verify their compliance with the required quality standard. After passing the traceability verification, the sun-dried green tea samples will be sealed and labelled as "Yunnan tea". By scanning the code allotted by the National Product Anti-Counterfeiting Traceability Verification Public Platform, consumers can find out the electronic fences where the tea leaves are picked, the digitalized tea-picking records, and the whole transportation, processing, packaging, testing, and evaluation process.

(Yunnan Daily)