

**OPINION 6**  
MAULANA MADANI'S  
FARCICAL CLAIM

**WORLD 9**  
AMID CHATGPT OUTCRY, SOME TEACHERS  
INVITING AI TO CLASS

**MONEY 10**  
WPI INFLATION EASES TO  
2-YR LOW OF 4.73% IN JAN

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

Late City Vol. 19 Issue 44  
\*Air Surchage Extra if Applicable

BHUBANESWAR, WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 15, 2023; PAGES 12 & 4



# the pioneer

www.dailypioneer.com



LIVERPOOL BEAT  
EVERTON 2-0 IN  
PL CLASH  
11 SPORT

## I-T surveys BBC offices for tax evasion

BBC was served notices for diverting profits: I-T Dept

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Income Tax Department on Tuesday conducted survey operations at the offices of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) in Delhi and Mumbai as part of an investigation into alleged tax evasion by the foreign broadcaster. The move comes weeks after the London-headquartered broadcaster aired a two-part controversial documentary "India: The Modi Question".

The survey is aimed at investigating issues related to international taxation and transfer pricing of BBC subsidiary companies, officials said. Earlier the BBC had been served notices but it was "defiant and non-compliant" and had significantly diverted its profits, they alleged.

The department is scrutinising documents related to the business operations of the British broadcaster and its Indian arms, they said.

The BBC said it is fully cooperating with tax authorities. Taking to Twitter, the press office of the BBC said, "The Income Tax authorities are currently at the offices in New Delhi and Mumbai and we are fully cooperating. We hope to have this situation resolved as soon as possible."

As part of a survey, the Income Tax department only covers the business premises of a company and does not search residences and other locations of its promoters or directors.

Last week, the Supreme Court dismissed a plea seeking to impose a complete ban on the BBC in India in the wake of the controversial documentary, terming the petition "entirely misconceived" and "absolutely meritless".

On January 21, the Government issued directions to block multiple YouTube videos and Twitter posts sharing links to the documentary.

Reacting to the development, the Editors Guild of India said it was "deeply concerned" about the Income Tax surveys and termed it a continuation of a trend of using Government agencies to intimidate media outlets critical of the ruling establishment.

The Guild said great care and sensitivity should be shown in all such investigations so as to not undermine the rights of journalists and media organisations.



Income Tax Department officials at the BBC office at KG Marg in New Delhi amid a survey operation as part of a tax evasion investigation on Tuesday. Ranjan Dimri | Pioneer

### No to coal royalty revision plea

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre has finally turned down the Odisha Government's longstanding

demand for revision of coal royalty. Union Coal and Mines Minister Prahlad Joshi informed this in the Rajya Sabha on Tuesday in a reply to a question

by BJD MP Amar Patnaik. Joshi said a Study Group was constituted in 2014 to examine the issue of revision of existing royalty rates on coal

and lignite. "The Study Group after considering all factors had submitted its report suggesting no change in the rates of royalty as after

## Naba murder Gopal shifted to Chowdwar for security reasons



PNS ■ JHARSUGUDA

Minister Naba Das murder case accused Gopal Das was on Tuesday shifted to the Chowdwar Circle Jail in Cuttack from the Jharsuguda Sub-Jail by road.

The Prisons Department had requested the Jharsuguda JMFC Court for shifting of Gopal to the Chowdwar jail on security grounds.

A senior jail official said the Chowdwar jail has better security than the Jharsuguda jail. Gopal would be kept under 24-hour surveillance.

Earlier in the day, Gopal was produced before the court,

where his statement was recorded under Section 164 of CrPC.

On Monday, he had been sent to the Jharsuguda jail after being produced before the court as his remand period concluded. The Crime Branch had taken him on remand for his polygraph and narco tests in Gujarat.

The findings of the tests are yet to be revealed by the investigators. In a bid to ascertain Gopal's motive behind the murder, the Crime Branch had got the tests conducted at the Directorate of Forensic Science in Gandhinagar in Gujarat.

levy of District Mineral Foundation (DMF) at 30% on royalty and National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) at 2% of royalty, ef-

fective rate is 18.48%. The suggestion of the Study Group was accepted by the Government," informed Joshi.



## Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS)

(Established U/S 3 of UGC Act, 1956), Bhubaneswar-751024, Odisha, India

**SECOND CAMPUS**  
**KISS DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY**  
(4<sup>th</sup> Campus of KISS-Bhubaneswar)

*Inauguration by*

**Shri Naveen Patnaik**

Hon'ble Chief Minister, Odisha



17th February 2023



- A fully free & fully residential institute from Kindergarten to Masters' Programme and Doctoral Programme.
- Inclusive education to 70000 indigenous students (30000 in campus, 30000 Alumni and 10000 in satellite centres).
- Zero dropout rates among the children. ▪ 60% of students are girl children.
- Huge Social Impact ▪ Fulfilled all the SDGs of UN (1 & 4), i.e. Eradicating Poverty hunger and illiteracy through inclusive education.
- Green campus with huge infrastructure facilities in Bhubaneswar.
- Nourished 5000 sports talents.

- Guinness World Records and Limca Book of Records.
- First exclusive tribal Deemed to be University status given by Ministry of HRD, Government of India.
- Recipient of UNESCO International Literacy prize 2022.
- Tied up with UN Agencies.
- KISS partner with FIFA for promotion of Football in schools.
- KISS partner with FIVB for promotion of Volleyball in schools.
- Its satellite campuses running in 5 districts and another in 10 districts are in pipeline.
- Recipient of President's Award for outstanding performance in Tribal Child development and Welfare 2017 Recipient of Energy Globe Award 2018.

# 'Competition needed among dists to realise goals'

CM addresses Collectors' conference

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Tuesday said there should be a competition among districts for achievement of goals and setting benchmarks for others. Addressing a district Collectors' conference here, he said, "I would like to see all our development projects are implemented in shortest possible time and our welfare initiatives reach all the legitimate beneficiaries. Odisha has been at the forefront of many States for its transformative initiatives. Sports, healthcare, school transformation, women empowerment, skill development, crop production



and Covid management are some of the sectors that attract special mention. "The 5T initiative and Mo Sarkar have brought about transformative governance and enhanced our people's outreach programmes. At the

district level, Collectors and district administrations are required to reach out to more and more people, find out issues of concern and use technology to sort out them in a faster and simple, hassle-free manner," Patnaik said.

He said, "We are now a food-surplus State contributing to the national public distribution system. I would like to highlight that the agriculture and allied sectors provide maximum employment to people in

rural areas. We should focus more on farm mechanisation, crop diversification, horticulture and floriculture, dairy development and fisheries. Our 'Millet Mission' has now been taken up nationally to improve nutrition. This sector has the potential to revitalise rural economy. We need to continue to excel in this regard."

"Startups play a vital role in the economic development of the State. A lot in this regard has been done by the Government. The O-hub is in operation as one of the big incubation centres for the startups. We are trying to make Odisha as one of the top three startup destinations in the country," he said.

The CM said, "Women empowerment is at the core of all our initiatives. We intend

to transform our Mission Shakti Groups into Small and Medium Enterprises. We are providing interest-free loan up to Rs 5 lakh so that they can convert their units to flourishing units."

"We have a target to provide Rs 50,000 crore to our Mission Shakti Groups in next five years. Collectors are required to provide all possible support to Mission Shakti Groups in realisation of this objective. Other flagship programmes like Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana, school transformation, tourism promotion, sports also require your special attention," he said.

Patnaik highly appreciated the Mission Shakti Industrial Park conceived and implemented by the Koraput administration and said this would be adopted by the entire State.

# 147 hospitals to be upgraded in State

4 more medical colleges to come up

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

As many as 147 hospitals in the State would be upgraded as part of an 'Ama Hospital' programme under the State Government's 5T initiative and an amount of Rs 750 crore would be allocated for the purpose, informed Health Secretary Shalini Pandit at a Press conference here on Tuesday.

While seven Medical Colleges have already been set up in the State, efforts are on to establish four more in Kalahandi, Talcher, Jajpur and Kandhamal. The Government is also in the process of establishing dedicated cancer and cardiac care hospitals in Jharsuguda in PPP mode, she said.

Elaborating on the measures taken by the Government, Pandit said there is a decision to run specialty hospitals on public-private partnership (PPP) mode in Angul, Barbil,

Jharsuguda and Bhadrak, and complete the Odisha University of Health Sciences by the end of 2023. There are now around 500 more hospitals are empanelled outside Odisha as part of expansion of Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana, she added.

Other measures taken include upgradation of the Capital Hospital into a postgraduate institute. A Bagchi Srishankar Cancer Hospital with 750 beds is being established in Bhubaneswar. Another 200-bed modern cancer hospital is in process of being set up by the Tata Memorial Centre in collaboration with the State Government and the Department of Atomic Energy in the NISER campus.

Answering queries on vacant posts, Pandit said 3,000 doctors have been selected through the Odisha State Public Service Commission (OPSC), all of whom would receive appointment letters in September and there are plans to recruit 5,000 more doctors through the same process.

# Diaspora youths from 11 countries visit Centurion



For taking stock of skill development prog

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

A group of 38 young diaspora members from 11 countries under Know India Programme (KIP) visited the Centurion University, Bhubaneswar campus, to gain a first-hand experience of skill-development and integration into higher education, a unique model in action which has been applauded by the United Nations, NITI Aayog and many Government and private firms in various reports and forums.

The KIP delegates interacted with the students partaking in skill training in various workshops, i.e., Centre for Advance Learning Lab, Community Diagnostic Centre, Transformer, Waste to

Wealth, Spinning, WELL Ashok Leyland, Hyundai, Yamaha, ITI/ITOT Paramedics and Allied Health Sciences, Renewable Energy Lab, AR/VR, E-Rickshaw, 5 Axis, 3D Printing, CIE and Butterfly Garden.

Vice-Chancellor of the university Prof Dr Supriya Pattanayak addressed the delegates emphasizing upon the skill courses and labs of university to promote hands-on-skills to promote enterprises.

On a week visit from February 9 to 15 to Odisha, the group's programme is to call on the political leadership and visit various institutes and places of heritage interest. The KIP of the Ministry of External Affairs is a three-week orientation programme for diaspora youth conducted to promote awareness on different facets of life in India and the progress made by the country in various fields.

# BJP decries lawlessness, demands CM resignation



BJD holds demo against 'Centre's neglect'

AK SAHOO ■ BHUBANESWAR

The BJP on Tuesday hit the streets in Bhubaneswar alleging deterioration in the law and order situation in the State and demanding resignation of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik holding him responsible for the murder of Minister Naba Kisore Das by an ASI of Police and the rising atrocities against women and children.

In the morning, BJP workers marched in the city streets paralyzing the traffic. "The people of Odisha are unsafe under the BJD rule

headed by Naveen Patnaik, who must quit his position," said Kalahandi MP Basant Panda.

Police had to struggle a lot to restore normalcy as the BJD strategically held demonstrations at five places, AG Square, Jayadev Vihar, Palasuni, Khandagiri and Samantarapur.

The BJP will stage demonstrations in front of offices of district Collectors on Wednesday and stage a dharna in front of the Raj Bhavan on Thursday.

On the other hand, countering the BJP, the BJD staged a demonstration against the Centre on the issues like the reduction in the allocation of funds by Rs 20,000 crore in

its Budget for 2023-24, the slashing in procurement of rice from 18 lakh MT to 4 lakh MT and the discontinuance of 5 kg of rice under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY).

Senior BJD leader Debi Prasad Mishra said, "Today's protest is for the poor man's right. Under the National Food Security Act (NFSA), it is the Centre's responsibility to ensure food security. Even though Covid is almost over, its effects are still prevalent. Now, a common cold and fever takes nine to 10 days to subside. Inflation is also on the rise. Under such circumstances, the Centre should restore the allotment of rice for another two years."

According to Mishra, "Farmer is yet to get the desired Minimum Support Price (MSP), and if there is no proper food procurement, how will the farmers' income be doubled?"

The BJD submitted a memorandum to the President through the Governor seeking restoration of food security rights of the poor.

Responding to the BJP's protest over the deteriorating law and order situation, Mishra said, "Everybody has the right to protest in a democracy. I think they (BJP) have hit the streets over the Naba Kisore Das' murder case, but they should have waited for the outcome of the probe and there are also appropriate forums to discuss the matter."

# Odia poet Biswal's works in Punjabi released



PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The Odia poems of eminent poet Pradeep Biswal have got translated into Punjabi. Garima Garg, a poetess from Panchkula, Haryana has translated the poems in the name of 'Dil se Vaseb'.

Shalandi Books is the publisher of the anthology, which was released in the Toshi Literature Festival here on Saturday by Padma Shri Debi Prasanna Pattanayak in the presence of distinguished writers and poets from different parts of the country and abroad.

This poetry collection had earlier been translated by Ashima Patnaik into Hindi. Biswal's writing for four decades has seven poetry collections in Odia to his

credit. Being a bilingual poet, he has also two poetry anthologies in English. Two volumes of his poems translated into Hindi have been published and received well by readers. His poems have been translated and published in other languages including Tamil, Telugu and Assamese. Besides, he is an established translator and editor of national repute. A retired IAS officer, he is now placed as a Member, Odisha Real Estate Regulatory Authority (ORERA).

Prominent among others present on the occasion were ORERA Chairperson Siddhant Das, writer Mrutyunjay Sarangi, Prof Dr Elham Hossain from Bangladesh and eminent poets like Dr Bhagaban Jaisingh and Dr Phani Mohanty.

# No response from Govt 662-category BG Lecturers to resume stir



Even as colleges to open today

DINESH DAS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The Lecturers under the 662-category Block Grant system on Tuesday resolved to continue their agitation with the State Government not responding to them even after two days of their mass dharna at the Lower PMG here.

Thousands of Block Grant Lecturers under 662-category on Monday had taken out a massive rally and held a demonstration before the Assembly protesting the January 21 decision of the

State Cabinet enhancing the salary of the Lecturers and non-teaching employees under 488-category.

"The employees under both categories of colleges had been covered under 7th pay since January 1, 2022 and accordingly, the Lecturers of 662 and 488 groups were getting the same salary for a year. However, as per the GIA Policy 2023, the Lecturers of 488 group would get higher pay than the Lecturers in 662-group. More so, even the demonstrators, PETs and librarians under Rs 4,200 grade pay in 488 category colleges would get more than the 662-category Lecturers who are

under Rs 4,600 grade pay," said the office bearers of the All Odisha (+2 and +3) Non-Government Lecturers and Employees Association, including president Golak Nayak, general secretaries Satap Uddin Ahmed and Dr Gagan Beura among others while addressing the rally.

They dubbed it as sheer injustice and a favouritism shown to the employees of the 488-group at the cost of the 662-group.

Besides, the leaders alleged that the Government has succeeded in disorienting the united forum of Block Grant employees across schools and colleges, irrespective of their

category, from their prime and genuine demands of service regularisation and pension.

Talking to this paper, association president Nayak said since there is no response from the Government after two days of demonstration, it has been decided to continue the agitation longer till a positive discussion takes place and all genuine demands of the association are met by the Government. However, the 662-category colleges which remained shut since Monday will be opened from Wednesday and representatives from each college will join the dharna in turn, Nayak added.

# Not slum kids, Women SHGs to get Mo Cycles

RoRs to 1 lakh Jaga Mission beneficiaries by Dec

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Setting aside rumours over a plan for distribution of Mo Cycles among slum children, the State Government has decided to give out the bicycles to women SHGs, transgenders and rag-pickers.

The bicycles of 'Mo Cycle' public bike sharing (PBS) system would be distributed among persons engaged at various organisations under the Housing & Urban Development Department, informed the department's Principal Secretary G Mathi Vathanan on Tuesday.

Recently, there was speculation that the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) would distribute Mo Cycles among slum children in the city.

"Most of the bicycles of the Mo Cycle scheme have been lying unutilised. The BMC is planning to repair the cycles and distribute them among either slum children or school students," a source in the BMC had told last week.

Notably, the Government had launched the Mo Cycle initiative in Bhubaneswar in



November 2018 to promote eco-friendly communication. The Capital Region Urban Transport (CRUT) purchased around 1,800 bicycles paying Rs 25,000 for each cycle. Private agencies were roped in to manage the PBS system and maintain the cycles.

However, the initiative did not succeed as it failed to attract users and most of the bicycles gathered dusts at various places.

Besides, Mathi Vathanan informed that the State

Government has decided to provide RoRs to 1 lakh beneficiaries under the Jaga Mission by December 2023. The beneficiaries belong to the five municipal corporations, Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Brahmapur, Rourkela and Sambalpur, will be benefited in the Jaga Mission.

He also said that while drinking water has been provided under 'Drink from Tap Mission' in Puri town, his department is aiming 100%

achievement in Bhubaneswar, Cuttack and Gopalpur.

This apart, he said, the Har Ghar Jal scheme initiated by the Union Ministry of Jal Shakti is in progress in the State. The department has planned to build cluster toilets instead of community toilets under the Mo Toilet scheme apart from expediting the Biju Adarsh Colony scheme. The beneficiaries would be provided Rs 16,000 each as subsidy under the Mo Toilet scheme.

# Women SHGs to graduate to SMEs

**At least 50,000 SMEs to be set up in next 3 yrs**  
PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Mission Shakti Secretary Sujata R Karthikeyan on Tuesday said that after strengthening more than 70 lakh women under 6 lakh Self-Help Groups (SHGs) across the State in urban and rural areas, Odisha is now poised to embark on a transformative journey of graduating Mission Shakti SHGs to Small & Medium Enterprises (SMEs). The overall vision is to set up at least 50,000 SMEs in next three years and this effort would further promote women-led and women-owned large enterprises and provide a strong platform for women to take on leadership roles at all levels.

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has announced a number of initiatives to help

women build big businesses. Sujata R Karthikeyan further said that in the programme of zero-interest Mission Shakti loans up to Rs 5 lakh, this year nearly Rs 10,000 crore would be disbursed to more than 3 lakh groups.

Rs 200-crore interest subvention amount is being disbursed directly to SHGs' accounts. Over the next five years, Rs 50,000-crore loan is to be disbursed to SHGs and Rs 1,200 Crore has been provisioned for interest subvention benefits to SHGs.

She said the Government has a unique model of outsourcing of Government procurements and provisioning of services worth Rs 5,000 crore in five years. Fifteen departments are actively participating in the areas of hospital diet management, electricity meter reading, pisciculture, urban works and nursery-



raising in forests and so on. A striking example of this initiative is the handing over of all 5T schools to federations for watch and ward and maintenance activities within built supervision charges for SHGs.

Pointing out that training is an important component of building SMEs, she said all

blocks would be covered with high-quality training with credible partners. Emerging areas of beauty sector enterprises, fashion design, agri entrepreneurship, cafe management, hospitality sector services would be given focus.

She said Mission Shakti Bazaar, the exclusive chain of

retail stores for SHG products, would be set up in 500 locations across the State with a state-of-the-art boutique store in Bhubaneswar opening soon. Total 300 SHGs and PGs have been identified for on-boarding to Flipkart.

During the Make in Odisha Conclave 2022, the Chief

Minister, to nurture entrepreneurship among women, had announced a Revolving Fund of Rs 1 crore for all district-level federations, a Revolving Fund of Rs 50 lakh for all block-level federations, office building with market complexes for all GPLFs and establishment of Micro & Mini Industrial parks in all 30 districts.

Koraput district has set up mini industrial parks for women covering 310 acres in 12 GPs of Borigumma. The district has leveraged funds from many programmes for these units housed in one location. A fly ash brick unit alone has a turnover of Rs 5 crore.

Kendrapada district has started Milk Shakti to procure and sell milk from Mission Shakti SHGs. It also has started a unique e-auto programme with women owners and drivers of electronic autos.

## In Baleswar

### Police intensify 'Operation Sandstorm'

**35 arrested; 48 vehicles seized**  
PNS ■ BALESWAR

The Baleswar police have intensified their special drive 'Operation Sandstorm' in the district to curb the rampant illegal mining in the district. Besides arresting 35 people, the cops have seized 48 vehicles after registering 48 cases across the district.

Different police teams led by Baleswar SP Sagarik Nath were formed to combat illegal mining including lifting of sand from riverbeds, soils and other minerals after Baleswar Sub-Collector Kunal M Chouhan and his staffs were attacked by the mafias and their vehicles vandalised.

The incident occurred when they raided a place near Dahapada under the Sahadevkhunta police station on receiving information about illegal sand lifting from Budhabalanga riverbed on February 3

Following the incident, the district administration faced severe criticism for its failure to contain the menace of mineral smugglings.

They seized vehicles, including JCBs, chain machines, dumpers, tractors and trucks.

Notably, there have been multiple complaints of illegal mining from other riverbeds including Sono, Subarnarekha and lifting stones and morrums from different quarries in the district.

## At Kandarpur Toll Plaza

### 2 youths burnt alive as bike catches fire



PNS ■ JAGATSINGHPUR

Two youths were burnt to death as the motorcycle by which they were travelling caught fire at the Kandarpur Toll Plaza in Cuttack district late on Monday night.

The deceased were identified as Rajesh Das and Ishan Sahu of Rahama in Jagatsinghpur district.

According to reports, the mishap took place at around 2 am when the two were heading

towards Puri by the motorbike. While a concrete mixer vehicle was stopped at the toll plaza for fees collection, the motorcycle hit the vehicle from rear. The impact of the collision was so severe that the two-wheeler caught fire. Subsequently, the two youths sustained critical burn injuries. Police rescued the two victims and rushed them to the SCB Medical College Hospital in Cuttack, where doctors declared them dead.

## In Ganjam

### Couple dies in road mishap hrs after marriage

PNS ■ BRAHMAPUR

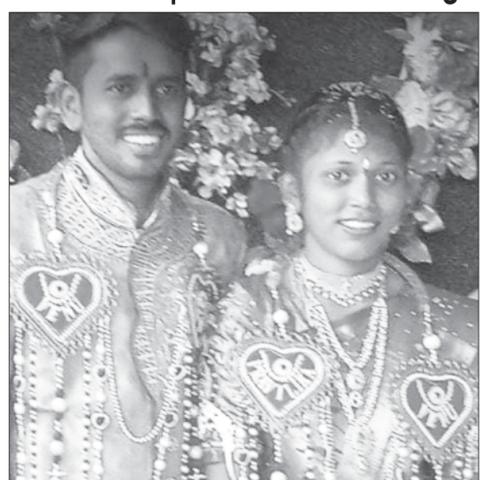
A newly-wed couple died in a road accident on Monday in the Golanthara area of Ganjam district just 72 hours after their marriage.

The deceased were identified as CH Pranabika of Brahmapur and G Benu of Ichhapurm in Andhra Pradesh.

According to reports, the two had got married at a temple in the neighbouring State on February 10.

Benu and Pranabika were on the way towards the latter's house in Brahmapur by a motorcycle when a speeding truck hit the two-wheeler near the Golanthara police station in the evening.

The duo sustained grievous injuries in the accident and was



rushed to the MKCG Medical College Hospital here. However, the two succumbed to injuries while undergoing

# Al-Qaida operative Rehman gets 7.5-yr RI

**Cleric was arrested from Odisha in 2015**  
PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The Patiala House Court in New Delhi on Tuesday sentenced Al-Qaida in Indian Subcontinent (AQIS) operative Mohd Abdur Rehman to seven years and five months of rigorous imprisonment. The court also imposed a fine of Rs 25,000.

Rehman had been arrested from Jagatpur on the outskirts of Cuttack city in a joint operation by the Special Cell of the Delhi police with the help of Odisha police on

December 16, 2015, for his links with dreaded terror outfit Al-Qaeda.

The Patiala House Court which had convicted Rehman under Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) on February 10, pronounced the quantum of punishment. The court has also pronounced similar sentences for three other accused.

On February 10, Special Judge Sanjay Khanagwal had convicted Rehman and three others under Sections 18 (Conspiracy for Terror Act) and 18B (Recruitment for Terror Act) of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA).



Rehman was arrested by the police for allegedly running an illegal Madrasa at Tangi near Cuttack and radicalising the youths. Later, he recruited them for terror activities.

Police sources said he had visited Pakistan illegally and met top militants, including Zaki-ur-Rehman Lakhvi and Sajid Mir, both wanted in the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks there.

He had reportedly admitted his links with the terrorists involved in the 1999 Kandahar plane hijack and 2002 American Centre blast incident in Kolkata. He had harboured a Pakistani terrorist involved in the Kandahar plane hijack in Cuttack.

As a cleric, Rehman also delivered fiery and provocative speeches at in Odisha and Jharkhand in a bid to recruit new cadres.

# CS takes stock of dev projects in B'swar dist

**Including MCH, beach projects**  
PNS ■ BALESWAR

Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mahapatra reviewed progress of various developmental projects during his two-day visit to Baleswar.

He went to the Fakir Mohan Medical College and Hospital and took stock of the projects taken up there, including a 650-bed hospital complex, whose construction is under progress. Currently, the medical students are taking training in the District Headquarters Hospital and about 100 Professors and Assistant Professors have been appointed for the college. Mahapatra said that the ongoing works including a 1km road stretch beside the college would be completed within six months and the institution would be fully operational.



At the Chandipur beach, Mahapatra also reviewed the ongoing works, including illumination, parking, toilet, tourists' stay facility and rehabilitation of beachside vendors. He also reviewed construction of marine drive and seawalls to prevent saline water

ingression during high tides. Subsequently, Mahapatra went to Bhograi and reviewed various ongoing projects, including Talseri-Udaipur beach development, ecotourism facility at Bichitrapur, jetty and forest resort and Manoj-Manmath memorial etc. He,

besides stressing that the beaches would be made world-class, directed the officials to accelerate the work.

On Saturday, Mahapatra visited a patch of mustard cultivation undertaken under 'Mission Shakti' at Maitapur in Simulia.

# Balanga College Edu Dept holds talk



PNS ■ BALANGA

The Balanga College Education Department organised a national seminar on Indian higher education scenario at its campus. Barkatullah University, Bhopal Distance Education Department HoD Prof Hemant Kumar Khandoi inaugurated the programme. Prof Khandoi highlighted

the New Education Policy of India and hoped that it would bring a lot of improvements in the education scenario in the country. Among others, Principal of RBS College Bhopal Dr Basant Bahadur Singh, Principal of Teacher Education College, Bhopal, Dr NK Kousik and Career College vice president Anita Bhadoria attended as guests of honour. A special souvenir was

unveiled on the occasion by the guests.

Lecturers Diptimayee Das, Subhashree Nayak and students Bijayalaxmi Swain, Apparnadevi Pradhan and Itishree Nayak presented their papers. Balanga College Principal Prabhat Kumar Sahoo presided. HoD Education Department Dr Prados Kumar Pati, Dr Sasmita Sahoo and Nilakantha Mishra coordinated.

## IN BRIEF

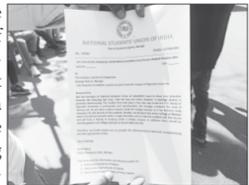
### LAXMIPRIYA, PROMISING FILM ACTRESS

Bhubaneswar: Seventeen-year-old Laxmipriya Sahoo has received several awards like Little Miss Odisha Winner in Fashion Show in Bhubaneswar, Little Miss India Winner in 2019 in Delhi Fashion Show, Miss Bengal Super 2019 in Ladies Fashion Show. She has also entered the Odia film industry as an actress and her first movie being "Chal Tike Prema Kariba". The second film is "Tu Leila Mu Majnu", third "Tu Mo Valentine" and fourth "Nari Nuhe Tu Aradhanari". Now, she has entered in Telugu films. In future, she is planning to enter in Hindi films. Laxmipriya is the daughter of social activist Lipi Sahoo of Bhubaneswar.



### LAWLESSNESS IN BALANGIR DECRIED

Balangir: Members of the National Students' Union of India led by Chhatra Congress Balangir president Ankit Sahu on Tuesday staged a demonstration before the Collectorate here demanding establishment of a police outpost in the Rajendra University campus to ensure security to students. They submitted a memorandum to CM Naveen Patnaik through the Collector. On Monday, members of the Swachhasebi Sangathan had also taken out a rally protesting the deteriorating law and order in Balangir. They submitted a memorandum to the SP and held discussions with him.



### PURI PANI PANCHAYAT PAKSHYA ENDS AT BALANGA

Balanga: The Puri district level Pani Panchayat Pakshya concluded here on Sunday. The Water Resources Department office, Balanga, organised the function. School and Mass Education Minister Samir Ranjan Dash was the chief guest of the programme. Satyabadi MLA Umakanta Samantaryay, Nimapada Block Chairman Sankar Bhoi, Central Water Resource Additional Chief Engineer Lingaraj Purohit, Puri Division Executive Engineer Ratnakar Dalai and Balanga Sarpanch Anjali Pradhan attended as guests of honour. Pani Panchayat representatives from Satyabadi, Pipili, Nimapada, Gop, Kanas and Delang Blocks attended. Executive Engineer Sashi Bhusan Mishra presided, while Himanshu Bhusan Jena proposed a vote of thanks.



### P'KHEMUNDI ODISHI TROUPE PERFORMS IN MALAYSIA

Paralakhemundi: Led by great Odishi icon D Priyanka of Sri Jagannath Odishi Kala Kendra (SJOKK), a six-member troupe from Paralakhemundi exhibited solo dance in Kuala Lumpur. On their week-long journey, the team performed Odishi and Sambalpur dances at Sirdi Saibaba Centre at Lebu Apang auditorium of Kuala Lumpur. The shows were organised by the Hindustan Arts and Music Society and the Indian High Commission. Padma Shri Ramli Ibrahim and Counsellor of Indian High Commission Amrita Das felicitated D Priyanka for her team's exquisite performances. Bishnu Priya Mandal, Tanisha Bebartha, Subhashree Panigrahi, Swaparni Panigrahi, Rishita Patra and Anushka Anohita Sahu participated in group dance.



### GAJAPATI AGRI EQUIPMENT MELA CONCLUDES

Paralakhemundi: The Gajapati district agricultural equipments mela held at the Gajapati Stadium here concluded on Monday. At a function presided over by Sub-Collector Pradip Kumar Nayak, discussions were held on how to double the income of farmers by using organic fertilisers and modern agricultural equipments. In the four-day mela, over 50 stalls were set up and 56 farmers were provided agricultural equipments at subsidised prices. Total 129 farmers applied online for equipments worth Rs 1.90 crore. Different Government departments also displayed their equipments in the mela. Brahmapur MP Chandra Sekhar Sahu was chief guest and G Tirupati Rao honorary guest.



# Woman kills sons, ends life in K'jhar

**Motive yet to be ascertained**  
PNS ■ KEONJHAR

A woman allegedly killed her two sons and then committed suicide at Durukulia village under the Champua police station in Keonjhar district on Monday. The deceased were identified as Khyanaprabha Nayak and her sons Johnson (4) and Chandan (2).

The woman strangled the two children while her husband had gone out for some work. She then ended her life by hanging herself.

Later, the woman's six-year-old daughter Tapaswini returned from school and knocked at the door. As there was no response, she informed neighbours. Suspecting foul play, locals went to the roof of the house and removed a few tiles. They were shocked to see the two children lying dead while the woman's body was found hanging.

Getting information, police reached the spot, sent the bodies for postmortem and started an investigation.

Though the reason behind the extreme step of the woman was yet to be ascertained, it was suspected that the incident was fallout of a domestic feud.

# 'Run Ranchi-V'puram train via K'jhar regularly'

PNS ■ KEONJHAR

A weekly train from Ranchi to Vellorepuram has started running via Keonjhar from February 3. As per the schedule, starting from Ranchi, the train will pass through Keonjhar at 8.45 am and reach Bhubaneswar at 12.30 pm. Similarly, the downward train will pass Keonjhar at 10.50 pm having stoppages at Harichandanpur and Jakhapura.

Sources said that the weekly train will run on experimental basis up to February 28 and depending on the passengers, the railway authority might extend its running. Meanwhile, Sadar MLA Mohan Majhi, former BJD district president Ashish Chakrabarti, Congress district president Biplob Mishra, Keonjhar Nagarik Mancha secretary Ajaya Sahoo and people from all sections of have demanded to run the train regularly.

# 'Why is Centre running away from JPC on Adani?'

**Cong's retort came after Shah's remark that Govt has nothing to hide**

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Congress on Tuesday alleged the Centre is "running away" from a JPC probe into the Adani-Hindenburg issue and said the Government should allow the investigation if it has nothing to hide. The

Congress' attack on the Government came after Union Home Minister Amit Shah's reported remarks that there is nothing for the BJP to hide or be afraid of in the matter.

Addressing a press conference at the AICC headquarters, Congress chief spokesperson Jairam Ramesh said he has written to RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das and SEBI chief Madhabi Puri Buch for an impartial probe into allegations against the Adani Group.

Reacting to Shah's reported remarks, Ramesh said, "If they do not have anything to hide, why are they running away from a Joint



Parliamentary Committee (probe). They do not even allow us to raise the demand of JPC in Parliament. When our leaders, including party presi-

dent Mallikarjun Kharge ji, raised the demand for JPC, their remarks were expunged," Ramesh said. If there is nothing to hide, the government

should allow a JPC, he stressed.

On Monday, the Centre agreed to the Supreme Court's proposal to set up a panel of experts to look into strengthening regulatory mechanisms for the stock market in the wake of the recent crash of Adani Group shares triggered by Hindenburg Research's fraud allegations.

Saying it has no objection to constituting the panel, the Centre also stressed that market regulator SEBI and other statutory bodies are "fully equipped" to deal with the situation, not only regime wise, but otherwise as well. According to Ramesh, it is

important to look at the petition filed in the court.

Investigation should be against Adani and its ties with the government, the Congress leader said. He also clarified that the Congress is in favour of private investments, which need to be encouraged.

In a statement addressed to the prime minister, Ramesh said the UPA government in its efforts to strengthen economic relations with neighbours had signed an MoU in 2010 for the state-owned National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) to set up a 1,320 MW thermal power plant in Bagerhat, Bangladesh.



## Post-Joshimath sinking, Centre issues SOPs on environmental safeguards

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Waking up to the Joshimath tragedy that has rendered thousands of people homeless and exposed vulnerability of the fragile region, the Centre has now issued a standard operating procedure (SOP) asking agencies to mandatorily implement environmental safeguards in all roads and highway projects falling within 100 km of the International Border or the Line of Control. Issued by the Union Environment Ministry last week, the SOP stresses on mandatory disaster management plans, risk assessment and eco-fragility studies and precautions during tunnelling. The guidelines come seven months after the ministry waived the requirement for environmental clearance for highway projects up to 100 km of the International Border (IB) or the Line of Control (LoC).

In fact in 2014, apparently to expedite strategic border projects, the Ministry had given in-principle approval for waiver of mandatory forest and environment nod for construction of strategic roads and bridges. It had also allowed diversion of land for setting up surveillance equipment within five kilometres from the International Border and 100 km from IAC.

Learning a lesson the hard way, the Ministry has made it clear that, "The guidelines are to be followed for all roads/highway projects falling within 100 km from the International Border/Line of Control for sustainable environmental safeguards."

Further, the exemption of prior EC (environmental clearance) for all highway projects up to 100 km from the LoC or border does not exempt it from approvals, consent, permissions etc, required to be obtained under any other act, rule, regulation, bye-laws and notification etc," read an office memorandum issued to chairpersons of all pollution control boards, expert appraisal committees and

Flood plains of the rivers and drainage systems are not to be disturbed. Rainwater harvesting structures are to be constructed on either side of the road," it said. The project proponent should carry out a detailed study to assess the inflow of traffic from adjoining areas such as airports and urban cities. It should include complete designs, drawings and traffic circulation plans.

Further, the exemption of prior EC (environmental clearance) for all highway projects up to 100 km from the LoC or border does not exempt it from approvals, consent, permissions etc, required to be obtained under any other act, rule, regulation, bye-laws and notification etc," read an office memorandum issued to chairpersons of all pollution control boards, expert appraisal committees and

## Rajnath: India always supports rules-based global order

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI/BENGALURU

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Tuesday said India has always favoured rules-based global order and does not believe in giving "sermons or cut-and-dried" solutions to countries in need of assistance. New Delhi also holds that nations with superior military powers do not have the right to dictate solutions to others, he said in an apparent reference to China's aggressive behaviour.

Giving out this message, Rajnath said India has always stood for a rules-based global order in which the primordial instinct of "might being right" is replaced by fairness, respect and equality amongst all sovereign nations.

Without naming China or any other country, the defence minister said the "top-down approach" towards solving problems has never been sustainable, adding often it leads to "debt trap, reaction from the local population and conflict."

He made these observations while addressing his coun-



terparts and deputy defence ministers of nearly 30 countries at the Defence Ministers' conclave on the sidelines of the ongoing Aero India air show in Bengaluru. Referring to India's emphasis on collective approach, Rajnath talked about how the COVID-19 pandemic originated in "one country" and how in no time, it had a devastating impact on the whole world, adding the crisis once again underscored the point that "we are all in the same boat and we either sink or swim together."

In the conclave named SPEED (Shared Prosperity through Enhanced Engagements in Defence), he also called for united efforts to counter pressing challenges like

terrorism and said collective security has become "sine-qua-non" for overall development and prosperity of nations. To counter the security threats, Rajnath underlined the need for devising new strategies, adding India does not believe in dealing with such security issues in the "old paternalistic or the neo-colonial paradigms". "We consider all nations as equal partners. That is why, we do not believe in imposing external or supra-national solutions to a country's internal problems," he said.

"We do not believe in giving sermons or cut-and-dried solutions, which do not respect the national values and constraints of the countries in need of assistance. Rather, we support the capacity building of our partner countries, so that they may chart out their own destiny," he added.

"There are nations which are richer, militarily or technologically more advanced than others, but it does not give them the right to dictate their solutions to the nations in need of support," Rajnath said.

## PM pays tribute to Pulwama martyrs

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday led the nation in paying tributes to 40 Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) personnel who were killed in a suicide attack on their convoy in Pulwama, Kashmir on this day in 2019. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Home Minister Amit Shah and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar also paid tributes to the martyred personnel.

"Remembering our valorous heroes who we lost on this day in Pulwama. We will never forget their supreme sacrifice. Their courage motivates us to build a strong and developed India," the Prime Minister said in a tweet message. Forty CRPF jawans had made the supreme sacrifice after a suicide bomber rammed his vehicle into the CRPF convoy. In a retaliatory attack, the Indian Air Force targeted terror camps in Balakot in Pakistan on February 26.

The next day Pakistan Air Force tried to attack some military installations in Kashmir and their attempt was foiled. In the ensuing aerial combat between Indian Mig-21 and

Pakistan F-16, Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman's jet was brought down by Pakistan. He was captured and released after two days.

In his message, Home Minister Amit Shah said the nation can never forget their sacrifice. "I pay homage to the brave soldiers who laid down their lives in the ghastly terror attack in Pulwama on this day in the year 2019.

The nation can never forget their sacrifice. Their valour and indomitable courage will always remain an inspiration in the fight against terrorism," Shah tweeted. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said the entire nation stands firmly with the families of the martyred per-



## Hanuman sticker on aircraft removed

New Delhi/Bengaluru: The aerospace conglomerate Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) on Tuesday removed the sticker of Lord Hanuman that featured on one of their aircraft at the ongoing Aero India 2023 in Bengaluru. "After internal discussion, we decided to remove the image of Hanuman as it is not appropriate to put it now," HAL Chairman and Managing

Director C B Anathakrishnan said. During first day of Aero India 2023 on Monday, the HAL showcased full-scale model of its supersonic trainer aircraft HLFT-42. The model aircraft, which was a major attraction at the show, featured a Hanuman picture on its tail. The HAL said they had decided to use Hanuman's picture on vertical fin to display power of aircraft. The HLFT-

42 aircraft is successor of HAL Marut, the first Indigenous aircraft. Marut is the other name for Wind, or 'Pawan' as it is called in Hindi. The son of Pawan was Lord Hanuman, which is why a picture of the lord was displayed on the model aircraft. The HLFT-42 is a next-generation, supersonic trainer that will play a critical role in modern combat aircraft training. PNS



The construction of a 125 feet statue of BR Ambedkar underway on Tuesday. The statue will reportedly be unveiled on April 14, in Amaravati. PTI Photo

## Project worth ₹176 cr approved to boost fish production across J&K

PTI ■ JAMMU

The Jammu and Kashmir government has approved a Rs 176 crore project to boost fish production in the Union Territory having abundant water resources and great potential for fisheries development, an official said on Tuesday.

Additional Chief Secretary, Agriculture Production Department (APD), Atal Dulloo said the programme seeks to increase annual trout production by 2.5 times, from 1,663 to 4,000 tonnes, and add an additional 1,200 tonnes of carps every year.

"By doing so, the programme intends to convert the current import of around 5,000 tonnes of fish from other regions into local commerce, generating 6,050 jobs and 150 enterprises," he said, adding that it also aims to boost the growth rate of the fish sector from 3.28 per cent to 40 per cent, and increase revenue from Rs 105.55 crore to Rs 589 crore per year.

Dulloo said the project aims to increase fish production, productivity, and growth rate, as well as strengthen social security and welfare measures for the fishing community, facilitate improved post-harvest practices and value addition, and create market linkages.

He said one of the prime requisites for successful aquaculture is the availability of good quality fish seed. "The technical programme

under the project includes importing genetically improved varieties of fish seed to ensure the overall success of fish farming practices. Quality fish seed determines the health, size, growth rate, disease resistance, and other physical and physiological characteristics of the fish, which in turn affect the overall fish production," he said.

The technical programme also aims to establish new hatchery units and upgrade existing ones on modern scientific lines.

"This will improve the quality and quantity of fish seed available for fish farming, and enable the production of a more diverse range of aquaculture species," he said.

Under the programme, the official said, the administration also plans to establish 10 new trout hatcheries and two carp hatcheries, and upgrade eight carp and 10 trout units.

He said "Technological Interventions for fish seed and trout production in UT of J&K" is one among the 29 projects, which were approved by the Jammu and Kashmir administration after being recommended by the UT level apex committee for holistic development of agriculture and allied sectors.

The programme will develop and introduce new species of fish for aquaculture, which will not only enhance the variety of fish available for farming, but also reduce the risks of inbreeding depression, the official said.

## Aquifer mapping to end by March: Min

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Aquifer mapping of the country would be completed by March this year, an exercise that will help various states gauge availability of ground water and its recharge potential.

Responding to a question in the Rajya Sabha recently, Minister of State for Jal Shakti Bishweswar Tudu said out of the total geographical area of around 33 lakh sq km of the entire country, around 25 lakh sq km of mappable area has been identified.

"So far, an area of 24.57 lakh sq km (as on December 30, 2022) has been covered under the programme. The remaining areas are targeted to be covered by March 2023," he

said in a written response to a question. The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has taken up the Aquifer Mapping and Management Programme since 2012 under the scheme of Ground Water Management and Regulation. The programme is aimed at delineating aquifer disposition and their characterisation for preparation of aquifer or area specific ground water management plans with community participation.

The management plans are shared with respective state governments for taking appropriate measures or implementation. Aquifer mapping is a scientific process, wherein different analyses are applied to characterise the quantity, quality and sustainability of groundwater in aquifers.

## India, Bangladesh to hold talks

New Delhi: India and Bangladesh will review the whole gamut of their bilateral ties during talks between Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra and his Bangladeshi counterpart Masud Bin Momen during the former's visit there for two days starting Wednesday.

Giving details of Kwatra's schedule, Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said here on Tuesday, he is visiting Bangladesh at the invitation of his counterpart.

During the visit, both Foreign Secretaries will review the entire range of bilateral relationship including political and security, water, trade and investment, power and energy, defence, connectivity and sub-regional cooperation. The visit to Bangladesh is keeping in line with the highest priority accorded to India's 'Neighborhood First' Policy.

## Global Investors' Summit to make UP largest economy of nation: Yogi

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said that the successful and unprecedented Global Investors' Summit-2023 has paved the way for Uttar Pradesh to become the country's largest economy, and asked the ministers and officers to ensure the first ground-breaking ceremony within the next six months.

"All the ministers should immediately review the industrial investment proposals received by their respective departments. We have to organise a ground-breaking ceremony in the next six months by launching a large number of investment pro-

posals on the ground. Take necessary cooperation from the Industrial Development department, Invest UP," the CM said during a meeting with the Council of Ministers here on Tuesday.

The CM said that before the budget session of the legislature, all the ministers should visit the districts under them. Meet entrepreneurs, business class and youth along with local public representatives and introduce them to the economic uplift of Uttar Pradesh.

"Give information about the success of the Global Investors' Summit. The general public should be informed about how this summit is going to make Uttar Pradesh the

growth engine of the country's economy. Inform them about the job-employment opportunities being created for the youth," the CM said. Uttar Pradesh has successfully hosted the GIS while G-20 meetings are underway. Guests from 40 countries arrived in the GIS while representatives of 36 countries are participating in the G-20.

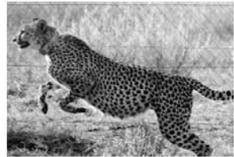
"Our ministers and administrative officers played a big role in organising both the programmes. Everyone worked with better teamwork. The local public cooperated with a positive spirit. Both these programmes have become an example of discipline and good governance.

## 12 Cheetahs to land from S Africa on Feb 18

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Even as eight Nigerian cheetahs who were brought to Madhya Pradesh's Kuno Palpur in September last year await their release in the wild, they are likely to be joined by a second batch of 12 big cats from South Africa on February 18. All of them are likely to be in enclosures, although the separate one for next few months.

According to officials in the Union Environment Ministry, the felines will be flown from South Africa to Gwalior before being trans-



ported to Kuno. The cheetahs will be kept under one-month quarantine as per the norms, he said. Cheetahs are being reintroduced nearly seven decades after the species became extinct in India.

The last cheetah died in the country in 1947 in the Korea district in present-day Chhattisgarh, and the species

was declared extinct from India in 1952. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had released the first batch of eight cheetahs - five females and three males - from Namibia into a quarantine enclosure at KNP on his 72nd birthday on September 17. The first batch of cheetahs is currently in hunting enclosures at the park before their full release into the wild.

The officials have set up 10 quarantine "bomas" (enclosures) for the new guests. The availability of natural prey within the enclosure helped the cheetahs to get accustomed to hunting Indian prey species.

# UP Govt to slap NSA on Board exam cheaters

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

To ensure copying-free and transparent conduct of Uttar Pradesh Board examinations scheduled to be held from February 16, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has issued strict directives, including imposing National Security Act, against those involved in this unfair practice.

An FIR will also be lodged against the room invigilators and centre administrators involved in cheating. Stern action will be taken under the Gangster Act against those found obstructing the examination and affecting the system and their property will be attached.

For the first time, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath ordered that static magistrates and sector magistrates would be appointed at each examination centre by the district magistrates.

They will be required to report to the district inspectors of schools along with the district magistrates after the examinations are over so that daily activities could be monitored. On the other hand, for the first



time, a separate room will be made apart from the principal's room for strict monitoring of examination papers.

In addition, the copies will be kept in a double-lock cupboard and a CCTV will be installed for 24x7 monitoring. After the appointment of room inspectors, they will be imparted training before the exam. The sector magistrates, static magistrates, centre administrators and external centre administrators will also be trained in the district.

Yogi directed that a separate strong room be made for the safety of question papers with 24-hour deployment of two armed policemen and

CCTV monitoring. He has also called for installation of voice-equipped CCTV cameras, DVRs, router devices and high-speed broadband connections at the examination centres. Also, the presence of all three - centre administrator, external centre administrator and static magistrate at each centre - should be ensured while opening the question paper. Stern action should be taken against anyone found absent during this period. In such a situation, the permission of the district magistrate or the additional district magistrate will be necessary while opening the question papers.

# Assam starts evicting 12K people from forest land, Cong cries foul

PTI ■ TEZPUR

The Assam Government on Tuesday began clearing nearly 1,900 hectares of forest and Government land in Sonitpur district, affecting 12,000-odd people who were allegedly staying there illegally for decades, a senior official said. In the fourth such drive in two months, the Sonitpur district administration started the exercise under heavy security to clear "encroached" land in Burachapori Wildlife Sanctuary (BWS) and nearby revenue villages on the southern bank of the Brahmaputra river in central Assam.

While most of the occupants, predominantly Bengali-speaking Muslims, had left their houses after receiving notices in the last few weeks, some were in the process to vacate their premises when the eviction drive started, some of the affected families said.

Asserting that they were never told by anyone that the areas they were living in fell under forest or government land, the "encroachers" claimed they received benefits from various state and central schemes.



The opposition Congress slammed the BJP-led government over the eviction drive, claiming that many of the affected families are entitled to have land rights as per the Forest Rights Act, 2006.

Sonitpur Deputy Commissioner Deba Kumar Mishra told PTI that thousands of people "illegally occupied" the forest and nearby areas for decades and the administration has decided to clear 1,892 hectares during the ongoing exercise till Thursday.

"Out of this, 1,401 hectares fall under the BWS and the remaining 491 hectares is government land. In the forest, 1,758 families were living, comprising 6,965 people," he said. According to the latest survey, 755 families comprising 4,645 people were residing on the government land, the official said, adding that the exercise has been peaceful so far and there is no opposition.

Mishra said, "We discovered that this area was never surveyed and people were in confusion if their villages fall under Nagaon or Sonitpur district. Government schools, Anganwadi centres, mosques and other structures were built by people who thought it is Nagaon district."

The schools and other government institutions will be attached to nearby such centres in non-encroached land in the coming days so that education and welfare measures are not affected, he added.

# Mizoram Assembly adopts resolution against UCC



PTI ■ AIZAWL

The Mizoram Assembly on Tuesday unanimously adopted an official resolution opposing any move to implement the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in the country.

Home Minister Lalchamliana moved the resolution which said "That this House unanimously resolved to oppose any steps taken or proposed to be taken for enactment of UCC in India."

While moving the resolution Lalchamliana that the UCC, if enacted, "would disintegrate the country as it was an attempt to terminate the religious or social practices, customary laws, cultures and traditions of the religious minorities, including the Mizos."

He alleged that several attempts had been made in the past to implement the UCC but is pending till now due to its "controversial nature."

In December last year, a private member bill to enact the UCC was introduced by a BJP MP in the Rajya Sabha, he said. "The proposed law is pending for enactment in parliament. The propose law aims at imposing a uniform code in the country by marginalising or terminating the religious or social practices, customary laws, cultures and traditions of the minorities," Lalchamliana said.

# Dalit student's suicide: IIT-B denies caste discrimination

T N RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Two days after a first-year B.Tech student belonging to the Dalit community committed suicide by jumping from the seventh floor of a hostel on its premises, the Indian Institute of Technology-Bombay on Tuesday refuted news reports in a section of the media implying that the cause of death was discrimination, and say it amounted to "institutional murder".

Eighteen-year-old Darshan Solanki, a resident of hostel number 16 of IIT-B who hailed from Ahmadabad and had

joined the Institute three months ago to pursue Bachelor in Technology (B.Tech) in Chemical Engineering, had jumped from the eighth floor of his hostel building on Sunday afternoon.

The incident took place a day after the first semester exams for the first-year students ended on Saturday. No suicide note was found either on his body or in his hostel room. Having registered a case of "accidental death", the Powai police are investigating the matter.

Contesting the allegations of "lapses" made by the Ambedkar Periyar Phule Study Circle IIT-B leading to the



student's death, the IIT-B management said: "It is wrong to make such accusations when the police are still investigating the case. Based on initial inputs from friends, there is no indication that the student faced any such discrimination." "We request that such

unfounded allegations not be spread. Please wait for the completion of the ongoing police investigation, as well as an internal investigation by IIT which will be done in a time bound manner," the IIT-B said in a statement issued here.

# Didi-Guv sweet chemistry turning sour?

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Much to the satisfaction in the Opposition BJP ranks, the brief bonhomie between the Mamata Banerjee Government and Raj Bhavan under the new Governor CV Ananda Bose tended to show cracks with the latter abruptly removing his Principal Secretary Nandini Chakravorty while the State Government instead of sending in a replacement, asking the senior bureaucrat to continue in her office.

That everything was not hunky-dory between the State secretary Nabanna and Raj Bhavan was further buttressed by a remark made by Trinamool Congress spokesperson Kunal Ghosh on Tuesday.

He said that the TMC Government firmly believed



in the policy of returning what it got. "The TMC believes in returning the kind of civility it receives," Ghosh said adding the Governor had been quite courteous all these weeks but he did not believe that the BJP would let that relationship to continue. Ghosh said, "The Governor and the Government were going well... the chemistry was quite courteous... so as to let the government function smoothly... but we knew that the BJP will not cherish this and pressure would mount on the

Governor to tow the line of Jagdeep Dhankhar," who was the Governor of Bengal before being elevated as the Vice President of India.

Ghosh also reminded that the "people who had sent Mr Dhankhar have appointed Mr Bose... so we did not expect that those who made the appointment would expect anything different from the honourable Governor what they got Mr Dhankhar to do when he was gracing the Raj Bhavan by letting it degenerate into a playground of the BJP leaders.... During his tenure the Raj Bhavan functioned as the BJP party office."

On the removal of Chakravorty as the Governor's principal secretary Ghosh said "it is quite amusing to see how she was relieved of her charges

because till barely a day before everything was going well, her performance was quite liked by the Governor and suddenly she was removed a day after Bengal BJP president Sukanto Majumdar met him for one hour."

The TMC spokesperson said "we hear that the Governor is willing to prepare his own team of IAS officers from here or outside but one wonders whether the Governor can take such decisions without consulting the Government or without the Government's acquiescence." The TMC believed in "returning the courtesy," he maintained adding "so long as we get good treatment we will return that... we believe in returning good and courteous behavior... let us see what unfolds in the future."

# Differences between 2 friends can be resolved through dialogue: Ex-Nepal PM Oli

PTI ■ KATHMANDU

Nepal's former prime minister K.P. Sharma Oli, who on Tuesday held an extensive meeting with visiting Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra, said any kind of differences between Nepal and India can be sorted out through dialogue, a source close to the CPN-UML chairman said. Kwatra, who was on a two-day visit to the Himalayan nation, on Tuesday held separate meetings with Nepal's top political brass, including Nepali Congress president Sher Bahadur Deuba, Communist Party of Nepal (Unified Marxist-Leninist) (CPN-UML) chairperson K.P. Sharma Oli, and CPN-United Socialist chairperson Madhav Kumar Nepal.

"Oli and Kwatra held extensive discussions on all aspects of bilateral relations," Rajan Bhattarai, foreign affairs advisor to Oli, told PTI.



The talks were held in a cordial atmosphere, he added. "Nepal-India relations are timeless and multifaceted, which cannot be defined by the modern terms of diplomacy as the relations existed since time immemorial," Oli pointed out.

"It is natural to have some differences with close friends and I believe that any kind of differences can be sorted out through peaceful means of dialogue," Bhattarai quoted Oli as saying.

"Many of the agreements reached between Nepal and India have been implemented and those remaining to be completed will be implemented on time," the top leader of the ruling alliance maintained during his meeting with Kwatra.

# Veteran actor Amrohi of 'Nukkad', 'Lagaan' fame dies of lung failure

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Veteran theatre and film actor Javed Khan Amrohi, best known for his roles in popular DD serial "Nukkad" and films such as "Lagaan" and "Chak De! India", died on Tuesday due to lung failure at a hospital here, according to his filmmaker Ramesh Talwar.

He was in his early 70s. The veteran actor was suffering from breathing ailment and was bedridden for the past one year. He was undergoing treatment at Surya Nursing Home in suburban Mumbai, Talwar told PTI.

"He passed away at the hospital around 1 pm as both his lungs failed," he added. Actor Akhilesh Mishra, Amrohi's frequent collaborator from his theatre days and co-star of "Lagaan", said he was ailing for a long time.

"He was my senior in theatre. He was an active member of IPTA (Indian People's Theatre Association) Mumbai



since the 1970s," Mishra told PTI. The actor's last rites will be performed at the Oshiwara Kabristan at 7.30 pm, he added.

Having started his career with theatre after graduating from the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), Amrohi appeared in smaller yet pivotal roles in over 150 films and close to a dozen TV shows.

He is best known for playing the barber Karim in the late 1980s TV show "Nukkad"; Anand Akela, one of the suitors of Raveena Tandon's character in "Andaz Apna Apna"; the cricket commentator in "Lagaan", and a support staff of the Indian Women's Hockey team in "Chak De! India".

# UP Govt to upgrade 150 ITIs with Tata's help

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

With an aim to impart skill training to the educated youth, the Uttar Pradesh Government will sign an agreement with Tata Technologies Limited to upgrade 150 ITIs across the state. The decision was taken in the cabinet meeting held here on Tuesday.

A government spokesman said that a memorandum of agreement (MoA) would be signed between Tata Technologies Limited (TTL) and the state government to upgrade 150 state industrial training institutes (ITIs). Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has been authorised by the Council of Ministers to make necessary amendments/additions in the implementation of the project in future.

According to MoA, the financial component of TTL is Rs 4282.9668 crore and the share of the Vocational Education and Skill Development department is Rs 713 crore. The duration of MoA is 10 and 9 months, in which 9 months are earmarked for the preparation of project implementation.



"New courses will be introduced in ITIs in collaboration with TTL which will give the students an opportunity to do on-job training. With the upgrade, about 12,000 to 15,000 candidates will be trained every year through long-term training programmes and the same number of students through short-term training programmes.

In another decision, the state cabinet approved the proposal to establish Textile Park and transfer of land under the PM Mega Integrated Textile Sector and Apparel (PM Mitra) scheme.

Under this decision, textile parks which come under HarDOI and Lucknow districts will be established under the PM Mitra scheme. "A special purpose vehicle (SPV) will be formed for the implementa-

tion of this textile park. For this, Rs 10 crore will be arranged, in which 51 per cent share will be from the Uttar Pradesh government and 49 per cent from the Government of India," the spokesman said.

The cabinet also approved the proposal to revise the rates of land to be purchased with mutual consent from land-owners in the Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority area. Following this decision, the land required for the construction of the airport in Jewar will be purchased at a rate decided with the consent of farmers. The Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority will bear the expenditure (on purchase of land) from its own sources and there will be no expenditure burden on the state government and the Central government.

The cabinet has given administrative and financial approval for construction of residential and non-residential buildings in the reserve police line of Auraiya district with high specifications and cost of Rs 238 crore.

# Azam Khan's son Abdullah faces disqualification from UP Assembly



PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Samajwadi Party MLA Abdullah Azam is likely to be disqualified from the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly after his conviction by a special court of Rampur on Monday. Abdullah Azam is set to lose the assembly membership for the second time in less than four years.

Abdullah Azam's father and senior Samajwadi Party leader Azam Khan was also disqualified from the membership of UP Assembly in October last year. The then Rampur MLA was sentenced to three years in prison along with a fine of Rs 25,000 in a 2019 hate speech case by the Rampur district court in October last year. Following his conviction, the UP Assembly secretariat issued a notification disqualifying Azam Khan from the membership of the state assembly and declaring the Rampur assembly seat represented by Azam Khan as vacant.

Abdullah Azam was first disqualified from the Uttar Pradesh Assembly with effect from December 16, 2019, but was re-elected from the same seat in 2022. According to a birth certificate, issued by the Rampur municipality, Abdullah Azam's date of birth was mentioned as January 1, 1993. However, according to another certificate, he was born in Lucknow on September 30, 1990.

The special court on Monday sentenced him and his father to two-year imprisonment in a 15-year-old case in which they were booked for blocking traffic after their vehicle was stopped by the police for checking in Moradabad.

# Bridge collapse tragedy: Gujarat Govt seeks fresh reply from Morbi municipality to show-cause notice

PTI ■ MORBI

The Gujarat Government has asked the Morbi municipality to submit a fresh reply to a show-cause notice as to why it should not be dissolved for failing to discharge its duties before the collapse of a suspension bridge in the town that killed 135 people last year.

The Urban Development Department said in a letter to the chief of the municipality that it should submit a written reply, duly approved by its general body, by February 16. The show-cause notice had been issued on January 18. The government did not accept a reply dated February 7 sent by the municipality's lawyer, and asked for a fresh reply so that it could consider whether the civic body should be given an in-person hearing. In view of the government's new deadline, the municipality has called an urgent general body meeting on Wednesday, civic sources said.



Brides and Grooms during a community wedding ceremony on Valentine's Day in Kolkata on Tuesday

# Property of woman involved in FICN racket sealed

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The property of a woman, accused of being involved in printing and supply of fake Indian currency notes (FICN), was confiscated by police in Amroha district.

According to the police, the property worth Rs 94 lakh was seized on the order of the district magistrate. Shazia alias Sanju was accused of printing fake currency notes as well as smuggling and money fraud through issuance of fake cheques. "The property of the accused was confiscated on the orders of the district magistrate. It was sealed by the police," naib tehsildar Santosh Kumar said. "A case was registered

against the accused at the Amroha Nagar police station. On the orders of the district magistrate, SHO Harishvardhan Singh reached the site along with his team and sealed the property," Kumar said. Announcements were made in the locality by police via loudspeakers amidst the beating of drums so that no one buys the property.

"The property owner is part of the gang involved in printing fake currency notes and withdrawing money through fake cheques. The property will remain in the possession of the state government until the case is decided," ASP, Amroha, Rajiv Kumar said.

www.dailypioneer.com

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

PAPER WITH PASSION

## Great feat

The domestic defence industry has done well in the last few years, but a lot more needs to be done

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's optimism over the robustness and buoyancy of the domestic defence industry is justified. In his address at the inauguration of Aero India 2023, Bengaluru, he said that India is not just a market for the defence companies of the world but also a potential defence partner. It will be instructive to note that the private sector plays any important role in defence production. On the face of it, this may not sound very striking; after all, in the post-liberalisation era, government withdrawing from economic activity and private enterprise playing a dominant role is normal. But that was not so for a very long period after the 1991 reforms. Such was the institutionalisation of the statist mindset that domestic private companies were not allowed in defence production, even though foreign private companies were. This, by the way, was government policy till 2002, when the Atal Bihari Vajpayee regime allowed private enterprise in the sector. Announcing the change, Union minister Pramod Mahajan had highlighted this incongruity in policy. The announcement paved the path for private companies in defence production. And they more than vindicated the 2002 decision. Public sector majors like Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) are also doing their bit. By the way, HAL has exported Dhruv choppers to the Philippines, Mauritius, and Ecuador. It has also sold the Russia-India venture BrahMos Aerospace's supersonic cruise missiles to the Philippines. The



Prime Minister pointed out that India's defence exports have increased six times in the last five years. In 2021-22, the country exported more than \$1.5-billion worth defence equipment. "We are aiming to increase this export figure from 1.5 billion to 5 billion dollars by 2024-25," he said.

It is a tribute to the country's scientists, engineers, and businesspersons who have made defence production a success story. There are, however, still urgent issues that need to be addressed. The Defence Ministry told Parliament on Monday that almost 42 per cent of Defence Research and Development Organisation's ongoing 'mission mode' projects, including high-priority programmes based on specific operational requirements of the armed forces, have incurred time overruns. The Tejas Mark-2 light combat aircraft (LCA), the naval LCA and unmanned aerial vehicles to air independent propulsion (AIP) for greater underwater endurance of submarines, light machine guns, and advanced towed artillery gun systems (ATAGS) have been delayed. "However, cost escalations may not be treated as loss, as in certain cases cost has been increased for change or enhancement of scope," MoS for Defence Ajay Bhatt said. Even if this factor is taken into consideration, the delays are still a cause for concern. This is also worrying because India is one of the largest arms importers; in 2017-21, it was the largest one. The Govt must ensure that operational inefficiencies are eliminated in earnest.

### PICTALK



Tourists take part in a snow race after fresh snowfall, in Gulmarg

PTI

## Finding the faultlines

Kerala and Tamil Nadu should follow the maxim 'Medice, cura te ipsum' - physician, heal thyself

Kerala and Tamil Nadu were accusing the Centre of discrimination in the disbursement of financial assistance because of political differences. The total of the 2023-24 Kerala budget presented by K N Balagopal, the State's finance minister, read like this: "All woes of Kerala are results of the indifferent and callous attitude of the BJP-led Centre towards the secular liberal and democratic dispensation ruling the State". Balagopal hiked taxes on all goods including petrol and diesel to offset the loss suffered by the State on account of the Centre's apathy. M K Stalin, chief minister of TN, daily lambastes the Centre for his State's dismal shows in the economy. The bone of contention between the DMK and Centre is over the latter's refusal to free the Dravidian heartland from the shackles of NEET, the screening test for admission to undergraduate courses in medical colleges. Interestingly, Tamil Nadu is the only State that has demanded the scrapping of the NEET, which was launched by the UPA Government that survived in office for a decade only because of the support extended by DMK, the party held tightly by Stalin's family. The DMK is silent when asked why it could not set up any major public sector industries in Tamil Nadu while it was holding crucial stakes in the BJP-led Vajpayee Government (1999-2004) and the Congress-led UPA Government (2004-2014). It also failed to take up the interlinking of rivers which would have solved the severe water scarcity faced by the State. The mini, small, and medium enterprises that sustain the State's economy are in the doldrums. On Monday, union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman said there was no truth in the allegation by Kerala that it was being discriminated against by the Centre. The State has not submitted the Accountant General certified statement for GST Compensation even for a single year from 2017 till date. She requested N K Premachandran MP who raised the issue to sit with the State Government and plead with it to send the AG-certified statement. Sitharaman's sporting offer comes immediately after the CAG blamed Kerala for its failure to collect revenue arrears worth Rs 22,000 crore over the last two years. Well, anti-Centre rhetoric may work for some time and help the State to wash its hands off financial mismanagement. Kerala and TN should set their houses in order before venturing out to cast aspersions on Centre.



UNION BUDGET 2023-24

# Maulana Madani's farcical claim

Life is getting better for Arzals after the Modi govt came to power, this puts Muslim clerics ill at ease - they fear their grip on them would loosen up



PRAFULL GORADIA

Maulana Arshad Madani is a responsible leader of a recognized organization. What he recently said at a Ramlila Maidan meeting might have been in haste. Islam was born in Hejaz, i.e., the land of Mecca and Medina, and not in India. Its ancestors were Judaism and Christianity; the father of all three was Abraham, followed by Moses, Jesus, and Mohammad.

The first Muslim tourist or visitor to India is not recorded; however, the first Islamo-Arabic invasion took place upon Sindh by Mohammad bin Qasim in 712 AD. If Maulana Madani had said that most Muslims were converted to Islam in India, he would have been likely to be closer to the truth. The poor, backward, suffering Arzals (the lowest social segment among Muslims) certainly convert, as do the better-off Ajlafs. Only the Ashrafs (socioeconomically the highest segment of Muslims) are likely to have come overland from other countries. They are the only group who may be averse to gharwapsi (reconversion to their ancestral faith).

It was mainly the Ashrafs who wanted Pakistan as symbolic of a New Medina. Most others liked the sound of the word 'Pakistan' but did not know what its shape would be. Jinnah had deliberately not examined the details of what Pakistan would look like. The reason was that the Muslim-majority provinces like Punjab, North-West Frontier Province (NWFP), Sind, and Bengal were satiated, as they had their legislative majority in their provincial assemblies as well as their elected chief ministers. They had no desire to be deprived of a unified Indian market in the event of any geographical vivisection. In the provinces where Muslims were in a minority, they had nothing to gain and everything to lose in a partition. In any case, Mohammad Ali Jinnah addressed all his meetings only in English; he did not know Urdu. One could be assured that hardly any Arzal or Ajlaf understood what Jinnah spoke at his rallies or



even private interactions. As far as the ashraf and elite are concerned, had they stayed in India, they would have been drowned or overshadowed in the Indian political scene. But as leaders of Pakistan, they would get to rub shoulders with the elites of other countries. In the bargain, they went out of their way to solicit support for Partition.

The question is: whether the Arzals of Pakistan? His Indian counterpart at least has his belly full. By looking at social media in the current scenario, one can unmistakably realize that the common people in Pakistan are not only hopeless but desperate. After all, how many meals can a human being miss? At the same time, Maulana Madani is not correct in equating Allah the Merciful with the sacred sound of 'Aum'. The way he has expressed himself means he is telling the Arzals that he is not very different from those who chant 'Aum'. He is, therefore, already there and does not need any gharwapsi. Maybe he is right. If the renaming of various places in India, which has taken place over the last few years, has any message to convey, it is that the ancient ethos of the nation is reawakening and will continue to assert itself. Allahabad



BY LOOKING AT SOCIAL MEDIA IN THE CURRENT SCENARIO, ONE CAN UNMISTAKABLY REALIZE THAT THE COMMON PEOPLE IN PAKISTAN ARE NOT ONLY HOPELESS

has reverted to its original name Prayagraj, Mughal Sarai has become Deen Dayal Upadhyay Junction, Hoshangabad has been named Narmadapuram, and so on.

With Pakistan facing of its grotesque mismanagement ever since that country came into being on August 14, 1947. It has been ruled by the elites for only the elites. Down to a bare \$3.2 billion of foreign reserves (of which \$3 billion are the UAE's money), its latest plea to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for a loan of \$1 billion has not been met. The IMF might act only after a green signal from the USA; Washington is much invested in India to risk jeopardizing that relationship. Pakistan's all-weather friend China has preferred to keep its distance. Islamabad's past behavior does not inspire any trust.

This has led to understandable churning among the ulema in India. Maulana Madani's recent utterances of equating 'Aum' and Allah are the outer manifestation of this churning. (The writer is a well-known columnist, an author, and a former member of the Rajya Sabha. The views expressed are personal)

neering Punjab province. Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) is in such a ferment that its reunion with India is but an inevitability.

Pakistan's economic quagmire is the consequence of its grotesque mismanagement ever since that country came into being on August 14, 1947. It has been ruled by the elites for only the elites. Down to a bare \$3.2 billion of foreign reserves (of which \$3 billion are the UAE's money), its latest plea to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for a loan of \$1 billion has not been met. The IMF might act only after a green signal from the USA; Washington is much invested in India to risk jeopardizing that relationship. Pakistan's all-weather friend China has preferred to keep its distance. Islamabad's past behavior does not inspire any trust.

This has led to understandable churning among the ulema in India. Maulana Madani's recent utterances of equating 'Aum' and Allah are the outer manifestation of this churning.

(The writer is a well-known columnist, an author, and a former member of the Rajya Sabha. The views expressed are personal)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### HECTIC POLITICAL ACTIVITY

Sir — Columnist Kalyani Shankar in her article, titled 'BJP's Mission 350 vs Congress' post-yatra gusto' (Feb 14), has well elaborated on the recipe both the ruling BJP as well as the prime Opposition Congress need to win the crucial Lok Sabha polls, due next year. Of course, the nine States including Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Telangana and four North-Eastern States (Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura) going to polls this year come across as the trailer of the 2024 final and that's why both the parties can't afford to leave any stone unturned in this regard.

The current year will see a lot of hectic political activities from the Congress-led Opposition parties, regional outfits and the BJP. The Congress' much-vaunted 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' from Kanyakumari to Kashmir received tremendous public response everywhere it passed by. But whether or not the grand old party will succeed in turning this public support into votes still remains a million-dollar question. The fissures in Opposition unity always stand to the BJP's benefit, thanks to a couple of Opposition leaders including West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Bannerjee, Telangana CM K Chandrashekar Rao and Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin aspiring for the prime ministerial post.

Azhar A Khan | Rampur

### JUDGES AS GOVERNORS

Sir — The appointment of Justice S Abdul Nazeer as the Governor of Andhra Pradesh should cause concern to all those who value judicial accountability and reputation. It is for the first time that a former Judge of the Supreme Court has been appointed soon after his/her retirement. Those required to shun partisan politics must not be made Governors. In the case of Justice Fathima Beevi only, there was a cooling period. She retired as a Supreme Court Judge on 29.4.92 and, after a cooling period of five years, she was appointed the Governor of Tamil Nadu in 1997.

### Privilege notice to Rahul



It has become the wont of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi to level unsubstantiated charges inside and outside Parliament against Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He has been served the breach of privilege notice for reply to be filed on or before February 15 for misleading the House and tarnishing the image of Modi. BJP MP Nishikant Dubey has demanded Rahul's apology in Parliament. Two options before Gandhi are either to prove the charges against the Prime Minister or apologise for misleading the House. He has not learnt any lesson from

the apology tendered in the Supreme Court for calling Modi "chowkidar chor".

Seasoned Congress leader AK Antony has repeatedly warned that the party's image cannot be improved by repeatedly attacking Modi. But Rahul and his followers have been continuing their tirade. If he pays heed to Antony's advice, the continuing damage to the party's prospects can be halted. If the leaders tread on the right track, the followers will follow suit. Congress MP Rajani Patil has been suspended for sharing a video clip of the proceedings while Mallikarjun Kharge has been demanding the suspension be revoked. Instead of making this demand, Congress president Kharge should have disciplined his party MP for doing what she ought to have not done. Kharge should have drawn a lesson from BJP when it suspended Nupur Sharma for 'hurting' the religious sentiments of other faiths.

KV Seetharamaiah | Bengaluru

The shortening of the cooling off period is indicative of the fall in respect for standards of judicial probity — not only among retiring Judges, but within the Government which had offered the post to them. A longer cooling off period can help avoid criticism that there had been a quid pro quo between the Government and the retiring judge. Former Law Commission chairman Justice AP Shah had recommended a three-year period for judges before they accept any posts offered by the Government. An independent judiciary cannot exist if its members do not remember their judicial vows.

Padmanabha Sooryanarayana | Kochi

### BE WARY OF PAK'S CARELESSNESS

Sir — In the midst of a deep economic crisis faced by Pakistan, the rejection by the IMF of its debt management plan has put Pakistan in a fix after PM Shehbaz Sharif indicated that it had no choice but to implement the harsh conditions laid down by IMF. Added to this, Tehreek-

e-Taliban (TTP) having a field day carrying out terror acts with impunity has made things more difficult with the result that the IMF loan to Pakistan is eluding. A country that has encouraged the scourge of terrorism for decades, now finds itself in the midst of terror acts.

It is ironic that Pakistan, which has so far been unable to get itself out of this economic morass, has only to blame itself. Ostensibly, Pakistan finds the going tough as the rift with TTP has started deepening with catastrophic consequences. Unless the Pakistan Government takes a serious view of the incidents leading to its total collapse, there is every possibility that the entire stretch from the Iran-Afghanistan border to Pakistan's interiors would turn into an extremist hotbed. The uncertainty may put a lot of stress on India's security.

KR Srinivasan | Secunderabad

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

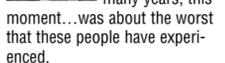
## SOUNDBITE

The India of today thinks fast, thinks far and takes quick decisions like a fighter pilot. It is a country that is not afraid, but excited to scale new heights.



Prime Minister — Narendra Modi

What is the most striking here, is even in Aleppo, which has suffered so much these many years, this moment...was about the worst that these people have experienced.



UN aid chief — Martin Griffiths

Have you met the happiest and most fun person at our engagement? I hope my spirit grows to be as free as yours.



Actor — Ira Khan

The admin here clearly is one hell of a worrier. Seems to play more mind games with the Australian team than the other way around.



Veteran cricketers — Dinesh Karthik

The government has no objection to appointing a committee to suggest how to ensure investors are protected in future. The SEBI is competent to deal with the situation.



Solicitor General — Tushar Mehta

**FIRST COLUMN**  
**KASHMIR NOW BATTLES**  
**RISE IN DRUG USE**

Youngsters in the Valley are falling prey to drugs



MUDASSIR KULOO

Mohammad Amin, a 55-year-old shopkeeper from South Kashmir's Anantnag district, wanted his only son to become a chartered accountant. However, all his dreams were shattered as his 23-year-old son turned into a drug addict for the last five years. He is not only faced with deteriorating health and career, but the addiction is also taking a heavy toll on his family.

Over the years, Amin made every effort to stop him from taking harmful substances, but to no avail. "He first started smoking while studying in class 9. When he reached higher secondary, he started smoking cannabis and then eventually hard drugs," said Amin.

As a response, Amin and his wife tried to restrict their son's movement with friends and kept him locked inside his room for weeks. But soon after he started going out, the same things followed, said the visibly upset parent while waiting in a queue at the government's Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences Kashmir (IMHANS-K) to show him to a doctor.



Reflecting on how severe his son's addiction had grown towards drugs, Amin said: "My son was introduced to a drug peddler by one of his friends. Initially, he was given drugs for free by a friend, then he had to purchase them on his own. When he was running out of money, he also sold his bike and laptop to buy drugs."

For over a year, Amin has been taking his son to various doctors. In 2021, his body was detoxified, but within weeks, he got involved in drugs again. Currently, Amin's son is on medication and has also started counselling sessions.

According to the J&K government's recent survey, around 70,000 people are drug addicts in Kashmir, and among them 52,000 are taking intravenous (IV) heroin. The common substances used by drug addicts in Kashmir are cannabis, heroine, and brown sugar. A study by IMHANS-K also states that among the drug addicts in Kashmir, 61.70 per cent are unmarried people while 33.50 per cent are married, indicating that not only young people but also elders are falling prey to drug abuse.

Take the case of Mohammad Lateef (name changed), a 45-year-old resident of Srinagar's Dalgate area. His tryst with drugs began 10 years ago when he went to Goa in pursuit of a job. In 2012, Lateef, father of two children, got involved when some foreign customers provided him drugs free of charge.

"These foreign customers first lured me towards wine and then cannabis, after which I started taking heroin in lieu of some money from customers as I would give them company in this harmful thing," he narrated.

He lost everything, from his health to his hard-earned money, due to drugs for four-year. However, in 2016, he returned to his senses after it took a mental toll on his family members. "Initially, medicines did not help me much. I had almost lost hope, but luckily, I came across a few people who helped me get rehabilitated," said Lateef, who now runs a shop in Srinagar and lives a normal life.

A 25-year-old youth from Central Kashmir's Budgam district, on the other hand, got involved in drugs three years ago when he went to a cousin's wedding and took drugs to ease stress and anxiety. However, he stopped and prefers to live a sober life at present.

(To be continued...)

(The writer is an independent journalist from Jammu and Kashmir: Charkha Features)

**Pak starves but Army continues to thrive**



NISHTHA KAUSHIKI

With its capital procurement increasing regularly, the Army's economic position remains strong

Islamabad has finally decided to impose taxes worth \$170 billion on its people as per IMF guidelines for its austerity measures. Other measures which the Shehbaz Sharif Government has agreed to include reduction in untargeted subsidies, increasing financial commitment for social protection to help the most vulnerable and those affected by the floods, letting the market determine the exchange rate, prevention of further accumulation of circular debt, and ensuring the viability of the energy sector.

Although these measures might sound impressive and give a breather to the people of Pakistan, Islamabad hesitates to accept a steep decline of 10-20 per cent in its military budget. On the face of it, Islamabad and other Pakistani supporters in Europe and America might argue that its defence budget has been scaled down. From 2019 onwards, each year, there has been a substantial decline in the defence expenditure component of its GDP. For instance, from 4.11 per cent in 2019, the figure came down to 2.8 per cent in 2022. These figures are supplemented by the share of military expenditure in its government budgetary outlay which has come down from 18.7 per cent in 2019 to 16.1 per cent in 2022.

Yet, it's worth examining if the Pakistan Army's financial influence is on the decline. Rawalpindi's economic position is much more than what meets the eye. First, its capital procurement, including arms procurement for modernisation, has constantly increased. Second, the Pakistan Army controls a substantial share of its civilian financial projects almost in all domains, from its theatre and cinema to infrastructure projects and housing. Third, Pakistan's recent attempt to emerge as an exporter of weapons earned it a substantial amount.

The capital procurement of the army in 2019 stood at \$669 million, which increased to \$760 million and \$884 million in 2020 and 2021, respectively. The statistics for 2022 are unavailable. Additionally, if one co-relates these statistics with the SIPRI data, specific facts emerge that can help one assess Pakistan's combat potential for the next five to seven years.

Concerning conventional warfare capabilities, Rawalpindi is broadening, as well as sharpening its armoured warfare and naval capabilities, with the sole purpose of improving coordination and integration among the various branches of its forces. In 2021, Pakistan purchased armoured vehicles of \$263 million compared to \$92 million in the previous year.

Further, the value of the purchase of ships more than doubled, with figures of \$145 million in 2020 and \$358 million in 2021, respectively. There have been no significant procurements for its Air Force. In 2021, the procurements witnessed a steep decline to \$139 million from \$397 million in 2020, indicating that it continues to rely on the American F-16 and Chinese JF-17.



MILITARY COMMERCIAL PROJECTS RUN BY PAKISTAN ARMY GENERALS ARE APPROXIMATELY \$26.5 BILLION. THE MILITARY OWNS MORE THAN 50 DIFFERENT HOUSING PROJECTS AND MORE THAN TWO DOZEN IMPORT, DISTRIBUTION, AND PROCESSING PETROLEUM PRODUCTS. IT IS ALSO THE BIGGEST FERTILIZER AND CEMENT MANUFACTURER

(The author is Associate Professor in Central University of Punjab, Bathinda)



However, there have been indications that Pakistan has been exploring the domain of disruptive new technologies with the help of China to offset India's conventional and emerging technologies. These technologies are more disruptive, cheaper in cost and can evade detection. In 2021, it imported sensors worth \$25 million in 2021, which is a sharp increase of \$15 million from the previous year.

A detailed description of the types of sensors is missing, but they have probably been purchased for Pakistan navy's underwater surveillance and anti-submarine warfare.

Rawalpindi is rapidly developing capabilities to fight in cyber and electromagnetic spectrum (EMS). It has already developed a cyber-division with the help of China under a major-general rank officer and its National Cyber Security Policy unveiled in 2021 outlined that a cyber-attack on Pakistan will be considered as category I and category II aggression against its national sovereignty thereby giving it the right for appropriate response measures.

Additionally, its Air Force and the Navy will have cyber capabilities. Further, Pakistan Air Force seems to have procured a Drone Jx gun from China. These guns disrupt the signals between the ground station and the UAV, thereby expanding the domain of unmanned warfare. Second, the official development assistance (ODA) receipts of Pakistan indicate that in 2019-20 it received \$334 million and \$325.9 million from the US and the UK respectively. According to the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) statistics, 31 per cent and 25.10 per cent of

Pakistan's ODA is allocated for economic and other social infrastructure. Given these figures, a pertinent question is whether the bilateral aid agencies have been closely monitoring the final utilisation of the aid, and if the answer is in the affirmative, why is it that poverty and inflation have increased in Pakistan? The answer to this question lies in Pakistan's military economy, also called the 'culture of entitlement'.

Rawalpindi's business activities run through two entities, the Fauji Foundation (FF) and the Army Welfare Trust (AWF). Military commercial projects run by Pakistan Army Generals are approximately \$26.5 billion. For instance, the military owns more than 50 different housing projects and more than two dozen import, distribution, and processing petroleum products. It is also the biggest fertilizer and cement manufacturer, apart from having the lion's share of investments in film production, television series, and land holdings which have been forcefully taken from the small and marginal farmers.

Further, its military enjoyed Rs 257 billion in privileges in 2017-18. Annually, it generates around \$10 billion, which is used wholly by the army itself for purposes, the statistics of which are not in the public domain. So, how will the IMF and other bilateral and multilateral aid agencies ensure a rapid decline of this 'culture of entitlement'? After all, there are strong possibilities that the military might not be financially affected as only the civilian projects and companies undergo the austerity measures as chalked out by the IMF. It remains unclear whether the IMF possesses a

detailed list of the companies associated with the military economy and, if yes, what level of transparency they must adhere to.

Finally, Rawalpindi in 2021, tried its hands at exporting fighter aircraft to Nigeria. SIPRI's Arms Exports register of Pakistan mentions a total amount of \$53 million as earnings from Nigeria. Further, the supplier's trade register for Nigeria indicates some interesting geopolitical facts which the defence and strategic experts cannot miss.

In 2016, Pakistan concluded a \$184 million deal for three JF-17 thunder aircraft. This is hardly a surprise given China and Pakistan's joint research and development agreement. Russia in 2021 decided to supply Nigeria with three RD-93 turbo fans for JF-17 aircraft sourced from Pakistan. Does this sale indicate that China and Pakistan have been able to convince Russia for arms exports that financially benefit Pakistan strategically? It is unlikely that this is an independent decision of Russia. Does it not indicate the building blocks of Russia, China and Pakistan's strategic proximity? If yes, then Rawalpindi might not be short of finances as the case may look superficial, for there can be many takers for JF-17. Russia has to be convinced by the MEA to alternate source sales and should avoid such cooperation with Pakistan as it might hurt India's security interests sooner or later.

Thus, in light of the above facts, it becomes mandatory for international bodies to demand full transparency of Rawalpindi's revenues and expenditures to help the poor and the vulnerable truly.

**POINTCOUNTERPOINT**

IT (STAND ON ALDERMEN) WAS A SHAMELESS MOVE BY THE BJP-LED CENTRE.... WE THANK THE SUPREME COURT. — AAP SPOKESPERSON SAURABH BHARADWAJ



WE RESPECT THE JUDICIARY AND WILL ABIDE BY THE RULING. WE WILL PRESENT OUR SIDE BEFORE THE SC. — DELHI BJP GENERAL SECRETARY HARSH MALHOTRA

**Green ports are key to Green Hydrogen Mission**

India must put in place actionable policy to achieve Hydrogen Mission targets, which will depend on cheaper green hydrogen

As India strives to achieve its net zero emissions target by 2070, green hydrogen is considered a key in decarbonizing the economy, thereby improving the environment. Green hydrogen is produced using renewable electricity by splitting water molecules into hydrogen and oxygen.

Most of the hydrogen used today utilises high carbon sources like hydrogen extracted from coal using a gasification process is brown hydrogen, extracted from natural gas using methane through a steam reforming process is grey hydrogen, and when carbon generated from steam reforming is stored underground through industrial carbon capture it is labeled as blue hydrogen.



CHARU GROVER SHARMA



YASHOBANTA PARIDA

(Charu Grover Sharma is assistant professor, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade; Yashobanta Parida is assistant professor, FLAME University)

Bringing the shift from grey/blue hydrogen to green hydrogen is the need of the hour. The hydrogen demand in India is eight million tonnes of hydrogen (Mt H2) in 2022, an increase of seven per cent from 2021 due to recovery in the refinery and steel sector, as they were hit hard due to the 2020 pandemic (International Energy Agency).

The hydrogen demand is expected to grow fourfold by 2050. Currently, over 95 per cent of the current hydrogen demand is fossil fuel-based, and very little is green hydrogen. To meet this growing demand, it is important to shift towards cleaner production, i.e., green hydrogen. This transition Modi's 8 years in power: India story back on track will have a significant cumulative

reduction of 3.6 giga tonnes of CO2 in India between 2020 to 2050, which can translate into \$246-\$358 billion cumulative net energy savings between 2020 to 2050 (Niti Aayog).

India already announced the National Green Mission in August 2021 to increase green hydrogen use. The mission is followed by the Green Hydrogen Policy to achieve the target of five million tonnes of clean fuel by 2030. India will need around 115 GW of installed renewable power and 50 billion liters of freshwater production to achieve this target.

In Budget 2023, the Government has approved an outlay of Rs 35,000 crore towards green energy and an additional Rs 19,700 crore towards a green hydrogen

mission to reduce dependency on fossil fuel. According to the IRENA 2022 report, more than 1500 green hydrogen projects were globally announced by June 2022. Many private and publicly owned companies in India are investing in green hydrogen projects. Further, India has also signed an agreement with Egypt to invest \$8 billion in the Suez Canal Economic Zone to produce 20000 tons of green hydrogen annually. In 2016, the Government introduced Project Green Ports to make India cleaner and greener. However, till today little progress has been made in this project. The challenge remains in preparing existing ports to reduce fossil-fuel-related activities and increasing the production and handling of

renewables, among which green hydrogen. According to the Maritime India Vision 2030 Report, the Government plans to increase the share of renewable energy from current levels of less than 10 per cent to over 60 per cent by 2030.

The first key challenge in producing green hydrogen is the considerable cost difference between green and grey/blue hydrogen. The production of green hydrogen is two to three times higher than grey/blue hydrogen. Green hydrogen costs are mainly determined by electrolysis and electricity costs. The cost of hydrogen from electrolysis is between \$4.10/kg - \$7/kg depending on various technology choices. The electricity costs of solar and wind are leveraged. Further, EU Bank will

provide \$1.1 billion to develop green hydrogen hubs in India to reduce the costs of green hydrogen. Thus, it is expected that there will be an increase in fossil fuel costs and a decrease in green hydrogen costs by 2040.

The Government needs to reduce GST to 5 per cent and impose duty waivers to promote green hydrogen adoption in India. The second challenge is the limited amount of renewable energy (wind, solar) and the need for more research and development. The third challenge faced is the need for land available for producing electrolyzers and storing equipment, such as compressors, rectifiers, dryers, cooling water towers, etc., in the port area. The fourth challenge is that hydrogen is high-

ly flammable and volatile, and wide-ranging safety measures are required to prevent leakages. The fifth challenge is poorly developed pipeline networks and poor logistics infrastructure.

The action should be undertaken to develop standards and labels for green hydrogen and hydrogen-embedded products like green steel and green ammonia. The govt needs to explore promoting green hydrogen exports through a global hydrogen alliance. The government should formulate the second phase of the national policy, and states should launch their own policy to complement efforts at the national level. A delay in acting could lead to India missing out on an ample opportunity.

# Struggle to get aid to after massive quake

# For Syrian women, quake adds disaster on top of war's pain

## Turkey-Syria earthquake

**AP ■ ANTAKAYA**  
Aid agencies and governments stepped up a scramble Tuesday to send help to parts of Turkey and Syria devastated by an earthquake, but a week after the disaster many complained they still were struggling to meet basic needs, like finding shelter from the bitter cold.  
The situation was particularly desperate in Syria, where a 12-year civil war has complicated relief efforts and meant days of wrangling over how to even move aid into the country, let alone distribute it.  
Some people there who lost their homes said they have received nothing. In Turkey, meanwhile, several families crowded into tents meant for just one.  
On Monday, the United Nations announced a deal with Damascus to deliver U.N. aid to through two more border crossings from Turkey to rebel-held areas of northwest Syria — but the needs remain enormous.



Ahmed Ismail Suleiman set up a shelter of blankets outside his damaged house in the town of Jinderis, one of the worst-hit communities in northwest Syria. He is afraid to move his family back into a house that might not be structurally sound — but that he cannot afford to repair.  
So, for now 18 family members sleep outside in the small makeshift tent.  
“We sit but can't sleep lying down here,” he said.  
“We are waiting for a prophet.” Mahmoud Haffar, head

of local council in Jinderis, said that locals have been able to scrounge up about 2,500 tents so far, but some 1,500 families still remain without shelter — as nighttime temperatures fall to around minus 4 degrees Celsius (26 degrees Fahrenheit).  
While tents have been in short supply, one woman said the town has a surplus of donated bread and water.  
To the southwest, in government-held Latakia, Raefa Breemo said only those packing into shelters seem to be getting aid.  
“We need to eat, we need to drink, we need to survive. Our jobs, our lives, everything has stopped,” Breemo said.  
Offers of help — from rescue crews to generators to medical equipment — have come from around the world, but the needs remain immense after the magnitude 7.8 quake and powerful aftershocks toppled or damaged tens of thousands of buildings, destroyed roads and closed airports for a time.

**AP ■ ATAREB, SYRIA**

Draped in a heavy wool shawl against the cold, Aysha dragged her feet, her toddler granddaughter trailing behind her, as they made the 15-minute walk from her tent to the nearest bathroom in a nearby building, the only place they have to wash.  
Seven days after the earthquake leveled their home in the northwest Syrian town of Atareb, the 43-year-old still has no access to water, electricity or heat for her and 12 family members,

all crammed into a single tent.  
“When I look at our house, I wonder how did anyone come out alive?” Aysha said. “Maybe it would have been better if I died,” she added. “I came from under that rubble carrying the rubble of the whole world on my shoulders.”  
She doesn't know how much more she and other Syrians can take. Women in particular have shouldered the responsibility of keeping shattered families together during the past 12 years of civil war. The conflict and economic collapse left millions of people dependent

on international aid. Now added to the litany of hardships is destruction from the earthquake, which killed tens of thousands and left millions homeless in southern Turkey and northern Syria.  
With hospitals swamped by quake victims, Aysha can't get medical services to treat and monitor her liver disease. She and her husband both lost their sources of income in the quake. His taxi was crushed, and her stock of clothes that she once sold to neighbors was destroyed.  
They have nothing to provide for their six children and

their five grandchildren, including two she took in after one of her sons was killed in the war. They have to share mattresses to sleep in their tent.  
“If hardships are a sign of the love of God, it means God really loves the Syrian people,” Aysha said, breaking out in tears. Like most women in this conservative community, she spoke on condition her last name be withheld.  
Their tent is in a camp for quake victims in Atareb, part of the last opposition-held territory in northwest Syria, which has seen bombardment and fighting

for years. Walking between rows of destroyed homes in the town, it is hard to distinguish which collapsed from the quake and which from intense military operations at the height of fighting.  
Syria's war has loaded a particular burden and isolation on women, with so many men who were killed, detained, maimed or forced out of the country. The number of female-headed households across Syria increased by around 80% to comprise more than a fifth of households in 2020, according to the UN.

# Gunmen storm hospital of newborn saved from quake in Syria

**AP ■ BEIRUT**

Gunmen stormed a hospital in north Syria where a baby girl is receiving care after being born under the rubble of her family's earthquake-shattered home, a hospital official said Tuesday, adding that the attackers beat the clinic's director.  
The official denied reports on social media claiming that the Monday night attack was an



attempt to kidnap the infant, named Aya — Arabic for “a sign from God.” Aya has been

taking pictures of Aya has been planning to kidnap her and kicked him out of the hospital. The nurse returned hours later accompanied by gunmen who beat up the director. The director's wife has been breast-feeding Aya.  
Upon arrival at the hospital, the gunmen told local police officers protecting the girl that they were going after the director for firing their friend.

# Qatar donates World Cup mobile homes to quake survivors

**AP ■ DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**

Qatar plans to send 10,000 cabins and caravans from last year's World Cup to provide shelter for survivors of the Turkish earthquakes, officials said. The gas-rich Gulf nation says it had always planned to donate the mobile homes. They were needed to help house some of the 1.4 million fans who descended on the small country during soccer's biggest tournament.

An initial batch of 350 structures was shipped out on Sunday, the Qatar Fund for Development said.  
The magnitude 7.8 and 7.5 quakes that struck nine hours apart on Feb. 6 killed more than 35,000 people in southeastern Turkey and war-torn northern Syria. The toll is expected to climb even further as search and rescue teams find more bodies.  
Tens of thousands of buildings were destroyed or severely damaged, leaving millions homeless. As shelters filled up in the days after the quake many were forced to sleep outside in wet, wintry weather.  
Qatar and other wealthy Gulf countries have joined the global effort to send rescuers and aid to the stricken region. The United Arab Emirates has pledged \$100 million for relief efforts. Saudi Arabia has dispatched eight planes loaded with supplies to Turkey and Syria.

# Kyiv clamours for fighter jets as war nears 'critical' phase

**AP ■ BRUSSELS**

Ukraine on Tuesday renewed its appeal to Western countries for fighter jets to help frustrate Moscow's invasion, as senior defense officials from the United States and its NATO allies said the war with Russia is approaching a critical stage.  
With the war set to enter its second year at the end of next week, the Ukraine contact group met at NATO headquarters in Brussels and Ukraine made its requirements clear. Defense Minister Oleksiy Reznikov, when asked what military aid his country is seeking now, showed reporters an image of a fighter jet.  
Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy pushed hard for combat planes last week when he visited London, Paris and Brussels on just his second

foreign trip since Russia invaded on Feb. 24, 2022. His plea came days after Western allies pledged to provide Kyiv with tanks.  
Moscow's forces have been pressing in the east of Ukraine while bolstering their defensive lines in the south. The war has been largely static during the winter months, though both sides are expected to launch offensives when the weather improves.  
Putin was hoping Western support for Kyiv would fizzle out, allowing him to charge ahead, U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin told the meeting.  
But Austin said the contact group would “help Ukraine hold an advance during the spring counteroffensive” and would keep planning for Kyiv's long-



term needs.  
“Today's meeting comes at a critical time,” Austin said. “The Kremlin is still betting that it can wait us out.”  
NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg, asked when he expects Russia's so-called spring offensive to begin, said that “the reality is that we have seen the start already.”  
“For me, this just highlights the importance of timing. It's urgent to provide Ukraine with

more weapons,” he told reporters in Brussels.  
Norwegian Defense Minister Bjørn Arild Gram, announcing his country would provide eight Leopard 2 tanks and support vehicles to Ukraine, added: “The situation in Ukraine is approaching a critical phase and they are dependent on rapid and comprehensive Western support.”  
The possibility of sending combat aircraft to Ukraine is still being discussed. The United States has said no to sending fighter jets for Ukraine, but the United Kingdom is assessing the possibility and, on Tuesday, Dutch Defense Minister Kaja Ollongren said providing jets “has to be part of the consideration.”

more weapons,” he told reporters in Brussels.  
Norwegian Defense Minister Bjørn Arild Gram, announcing his country would provide eight Leopard 2 tanks and support vehicles to Ukraine, added: “The situation in Ukraine is approaching a critical phase and they are dependent on rapid and comprehensive Western support.”  
The possibility of sending combat aircraft to Ukraine is still being discussed. The United States has said no to sending fighter jets for Ukraine, but the United Kingdom is assessing the possibility and, on Tuesday, Dutch Defense Minister Kaja Ollongren said providing jets “has to be part of the consideration.”

RAMPUR FERTILIZERS LIMITED							
CIN: L15136UP198PLC010084							
Registered Office: Judges Bareilly Road, Rampur 244 901 (U.P.)							
Email id- info@rampurfert.com, Web: www.rampurfert.com							
EXTRACT OF UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED ON 31ST DEC. 2022							
(Rs. In Lacs)							
S. No.	Particulars	Standalone Results			Consolidated Results		
		Quarter Ended			Year Ended	Quarter ended	
		31.12.2022	30.09.2022	31.12.2021	31.03.2022	31.12.2022	31.03.2022
1	Total Income from Operations	544.81	866.48	898.02	3304.07	544.81	3304.07
2	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before tax, exceptional items)	-115.94	-70.91	5.23	194.28	-115.94	194.28
3	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after exceptional items)	-115.94	-70.91	5.23	194.28	-115.94	194.28
4	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax	-115.94	-113.86	-34.77	161.23	-115.94	161.23
5	Net Profit / (Loss) after other comprehensive income	-129.26	-105.65	-34.77	183.97	-129.26	183.97
6	Net Profit / (Loss) after taxes, & Share of Profit / (Loss) of Associates	-129.26	-105.65	-34.77	183.97	-124.4	195.15
7	Paid up Equity Share Capital	494.82	494.82	494.82	494.82	494.82	494.82
8	Earnings/(loss) per share (of Rs. 10/- each) (not annualised, in Rs.) Basic / Diluted	-2.61	-2.14	-0.70	3.72	-2.51	3.94

NOTES: 1 The above is an extract of the financial results for the quarter ended on 31st Dec. 2022 filed with the stock exchanges under regulation 33 of SEBI (LODR) Regulation, 2015. The full Financial results for the quarter ended 31st Dec. 2022 are available on www.mseil.in, www.cse-india.com and www.rampurfert.com.

By order of the Board  
Sd/-  
Anshuman Khaitan  
(Managing Director)

Place : Rampur  
Date : 14/02/2023

SRF LIMITED					
Regd. Office: The Galleria, DLF Mayur Vihar, Unit No. 236 & 237, 2nd Floor, Mayur Vihar Phase, Noida Link Road, Mayur Vihar Phase I Extn, Delhi-110091					
Corporate Office: Block-C, Sector 45, Gurugram, Haryana-122 003					
Tel. No (Regd office) : (+91-11) 49482870; Fax : (+91-11) 49482900					
E-mail: cs@srf.com, Website: www.srf.com; CIN: L18101DL1970PLC005197					
NOTICE					
Notice is hereby given that Certificates pertaining to Shares of the Company detailed below have been reported lost and request(s) for issue of duplicate Certificates in lieu thereof have been received by the Company :-					
Sl. No.	Folio No.	Name of the Share Holder / Legal Heir (Claimant)	Cert.No.	Dist.No.	Last Shares
1	M 0001683	MAHENDAR NATH BARATHI (DECEASED) SUMIT BHARATHI (LEGAL-HEIR/CLAIMANT)	1124149	307844278-7873	3596
2	I 0000549	INDRA MEHRA	45939 63156 122198 1126688	2591726-50 3343764-71 5184427-42 308700482-677	25 8 16 196
3	SRF0024332	GITA NAG (DECEASED) SAMIR KUMAR NAG (Claimant)	90054506 507566-68 1131015	8347714-45 24892285-300 310408166-357	32 16 192
Any person having any claim /objection in respect of the above requests should lodge such claim/objection with the company at its Corporate Office within 15 days of the publication of this notice, failing which the company will consider to give effect to the above requests. Public is hereby cautioned against dealing with the aforesaid share certificates.					
for SRF LIMITED Sd/- RAJAT LAKHANPAL Sr. VP (Corporate Compliance) & Company Secretary					
Place: Gurugram Date: 14-02-2023					

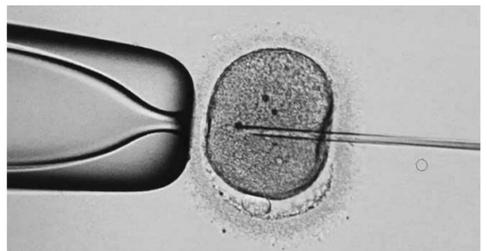
PUBLIC NOTICE					
Whereas M/s Vatika Limited is in the process of undertaking of development of an Affordable Plotted Colony (DDJAY-2016), over an area measuring 8.00937 acres (after migration of 6.093 acres land from License No. 22 of 2011 dated 24.03.2011 granted for setting up of Group Housing Colony for an area measuring 11.218 acres) in the revenue estate of Village Shikhopur, Sector 82A, Distt. Gurugram, Haryana in accordance with the LOI vide Memo No. LC-4774/JE (SB) 2023/3975 dated 09.02.2023 granted by the Director General, Town & Country Planning (Haryana), Chandigarh.					
Whereas a revision of the said layout plan of the said colony to 8.00937 acres is proposed to be effected, wherein Group Housing component are proposed to be migrated in Affordable Plotted Colony (DDJAY) for better and organized planning of the colony.					
And whereas the o/o Director General, Town & Country Planning (Haryana), Chandigarh, while granting LOI vide Memo No. LC-4774/JE (SB) 2023/3975 dated 09.02.2023, has required seeking of any objections from the allottees (if any) against the proposed revision in the layout plan as a pre-condition in allowing the proposed revision as per drawing no. DGTCP 9009 dated 10.02.2023, before grant of license.					
Accordingly, vide this public notice, objections are hereby invited from any of the allottees in the said colony on the proposed revision of the layout plan.					
Objections, if any, may be filed in the o/o District Town Planner, Sector 14, Gurugram, Haryana, or may be filed in our Corporate Office within 30 days of this notice, failing which it shall be assumed that there are no objections to the proposed revision of the layout plan.					
Place: Gurugram For Vatika Limited					

# Russia denies claims it plans to destabilise Moldova

**AP ■ MOSCOW**

Russia on Tuesday angrily rejected the Moldovan president's claims about an alleged plot by Moscow to overthrow her government and accused Moldovan authorities of trying to distract public attention away from the country's own domestic problems.  
Moldova's President Maia Sandu said Monday that the purported Russian plot envisioned attacks on government buildings, hostage-takings and other violent actions by groups of saboteurs in order to put the nation “at the disposal of Russia” and derail its hopes to join the European Union.  
Responding Tuesday, Russia's Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova dismissed Sandu's claims as “absolutely unfounded and unsubstantiated.”  
“They are built in the spirit of classical techniques that are often used by the United States, other Western countries and Ukraine,” Zakharova said. “First, accusations are made with reference to purportedly classified intelligence information that cannot be verified, and then they are used to justify their own illegal actions.”  
Sandu's claim came a week after neighboring Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said his country had intercepted plans by Russian secret services to destroy Moldova. Moldovan intelligence officials later said that they confirmed the allegations.  
Zakharova charged that Ukrainian authorities made up the claim about a purported Russian plan to destabilize Moldova in order to draw it into a confrontation with Russia. She argued that Moldovan authorities used “the myth about a Russian threat to distract Moldovan citizens' attention from internal problems resulting from a disastrous social-economic course of the current administration and to step up the fight against dissent and political opponents.”  
Zakharova insisted that Russia poses no threat to Moldova and hopes to develop mutually beneficial cooperation. Since Russian troops rolled into Ukraine nearly a year ago, Moldova, a former Soviet republic of about 2.6 million people, has sought to forge closer ties with its Western partners. Last June, it was granted EU membership candidate status, the same day as Ukraine.  
In December, Moldova's national intelligence agency warned that Russia could launch a new offensive with the aim of creating a land corridor through southern Ukraine to Moldova's Moscow-backed breakaway region of Transnistria.

Russia on Tuesday angrily rejected the Moldovan president's claims about an alleged plot by Moscow to overthrow her government and accused Moldovan authorities of trying to distract public attention away from the country's own domestic problems.  
Moldova's President Maia Sandu said Monday that the purported Russian plot envisioned attacks on government buildings, hostage-takings and other violent actions by groups of saboteurs in order to put the nation “at the disposal of Russia” and derail its hopes to join the European Union.  
Responding Tuesday, Russia's Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova dismissed Sandu's claims as “absolutely unfounded and unsubstantiated.”  
“They are built in the spirit of classical techniques that are often used by the United States, other Western countries and Ukraine,” Zakharova said. “First, accusations are made with reference to purportedly classified intelligence information that cannot be verified, and then they are used to justify their own illegal actions.”  
Sandu's claim came a week after neighboring Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said his country had intercepted plans by Russian secret services to destroy Moldova. Moldovan intelligence officials later said that they confirmed the allegations.  
Zakharova charged that Ukrainian authorities made up the claim about a purported Russian plan to destabilize Moldova in order to draw it into a confrontation with Russia. She argued that Moldovan authorities used “the myth about a Russian threat to distract Moldovan citizens' attention from internal problems resulting from a disastrous social-economic course of the current administration and to step up the fight against dissent and political opponents.”  
Zakharova insisted that Russia poses no threat to Moldova and hopes to develop mutually beneficial cooperation. Since Russian troops rolled into Ukraine nearly a year ago, Moldova, a former Soviet republic of about 2.6 million people, has sought to forge closer ties with its Western partners. Last June, it was granted EU membership candidate status, the same day as Ukraine.  
In December, Moldova's national intelligence agency warned that Russia could launch a new offensive with the aim of creating a land corridor through southern Ukraine to Moldova's Moscow-backed breakaway region of Transnistria.



# Ukrainian soldiers freeze sperm amid war with Russia

**AP ■ KYIV, UKRAINE**

As Vitalii Khroniuk lay face down on the ground taking cover from Russian artillery fire, the Ukrainian soldier had just one regret: He had never had a child.  
Aware that he could die at any moment, the 29-year-old decided to try cryopreservation — the process of freezing sperm or eggs that some Ukrainian soldiers are turning to as they face the possibility that they might never go home.  
“It's not scary to die, but it's scary when you don't leave anyone behind,” said Khroniuk, who had quickly joined the war effort, without a thought about his future, when Russia invaded Ukraine nearly a year ago.  
During a vacation home in January, he and his partner went to a private clinic in Kyiv, IVMED, that is waiving the \$55 cost of cryopreservation for soldiers. The clinic's lab has its own backup power supply that kicks in during frequent outages from Russian missile strikes damaging the electric infrastructure.  
Dr. Strelko, who has been in the fertility business since 1998, said the service she is offering soldiers is particularly important now, pointing to “a very aggressive part of this war with massive losses.”  
Russian forces have been pushing their advance on the eastern city of Bakhmut with heavy shelling and attacks that are believed to have produced massive troop losses for both Ukraine and Russia.  
Neither side is saying how many have died.

As Vitalii Khroniuk lay face down on the ground taking cover from Russian artillery fire, the Ukrainian soldier had just one regret: He had never had a child.  
Aware that he could die at any moment, the 29-year-old decided to try cryopreservation — the process of freezing sperm or eggs that some Ukrainian soldiers are turning to as they face the possibility that they might never go home.  
“It's not scary to die, but it's scary when you don't leave anyone behind,” said Khroniuk, who had quickly joined the war effort, without a thought about his future, when Russia invaded Ukraine nearly a year ago.  
During a vacation home in January, he and his partner went to a private clinic in Kyiv, IVMED, that is waiving the \$55 cost of cryopreservation for soldiers. The clinic's lab has its own backup power supply that kicks in during frequent outages from Russian missile strikes damaging the electric infrastructure.  
Dr. Strelko, who has been in the fertility business since 1998, said the service she is offering soldiers is particularly important now, pointing to “a very aggressive part of this war with massive losses.”  
Russian forces have been pushing their advance on the eastern city of Bakhmut with heavy shelling and attacks that are believed to have produced massive troop losses for both Ukraine and Russia.  
Neither side is saying how many have died.

LOGIX BUILDTECH PRIVATE LIMITED						
Reg. Office:-DGL006, GROUND FLOOR, DLF GALLERIA, MAYUR VIHAR PHASE-1, NEW DELHI-110091						
Corporate Identification Number:-U70200DL2010PTC200042						
E-mail:corporate@logixgroup.in						
ANNEXURE I						
(Regulation 52(8), read with Regulation 52(4), of the SEBI (LODR) Regulations, 2015						
Extract of Unaudited Standalone Financial Results for the quarter and nine months ended December 31, 2022						
(All amounts in INR lakhs, unless otherwise stated)						
S.No	Particulars	Quarter ended		Nine months ended		Year ended
		31.12.2022		31.12.2021		31.03.2022
		Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Audited
1	Total Income from Operations	2,444.67	3,000.39	3,043.65	7,770.15	5,411.84
2	Loss before tax, exceptional items	(3,486.13)	(3,693.92)	(5,349.84)	(10,905.66)	(14,736.14)
3	Loss before tax & after exceptional items	(3,486.13)	(3,693.92)	(5,349.84)	(10,905.66)	(14,736.14)
4	Loss after tax, exceptional items	(1,847.71)	(3,608.49)	(5,332.90)	(8,227.38)	(12,441.04)
5	Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the period/year (net of tax)	(1,846.49)	(3,607.27)	(5,332.46)	(8,223.73)	(12,439.71)
6	Paid up Equity Share Capital	2,054.75	2,054.75	2,054.75	2,054.75	2,054.75
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve)	8,297.00	10,143.50	18,122.38	8,297.00	18,122.38
8	Net Worth	10,351.75	12,198.25	20,177.13	10,351.75	20,177.13
9	Paid up Debt Capital/Outstanding Debt	117,960.00	119,040.00	120,000.00	117,960.00	120,000.00
10	Outstanding Redeemable Preference Shares	-	-	-	-	-
11	Debt Equity Ratio	11.40	9.76	5.95	11.40	5.95
12	Earnings per equity share					
	(i) Basic (in INR)	(8.99)	(17.56)	(25.95)	(40.04)	(60.55)
	(ii) Diluted (in INR)	(8.99)	(17.56)	(25.95)	(40.04)	(60.55)
13	Capital Redemption Reserve	-	-	-	-	-
14	Debt Redemption Reserve	-	-	-	-	-
15	Debt Service Coverage Ratio	0.18	0.23	(0.07)	0.18	(0.07)
16	Interest Service Coverage Ratio	0.23	0.19	(0.17)	0.20	(0.01)

Notes:-  
a) The above is an extract of the detailed format of Unaudited Standalone financial results for the Quarter and nine months ended December 2022 filed with the Stock exchange under Regulation 52 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Unaudited Standalone financial results for the Quarter and nine months ended December 2022 are available on the website of the Stock Exchange (www.bseindia.com) and the listed entity (www.logixgroup.in).  
b) For the items referred in Regulation 52(4) of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, the pertinent disclosures have been made to the Stock exchange (BSE India) and can be accessed on the URL (www.bseindia.com) and website (www.logixgroup.in).

For and on behalf of the Board of Directors  
Sd/-  
Shakti Nath  
DIN: 00017090  
Director

Place: Noida  
Date: February 13, 2023

# Taiwan: Will shoot down Chinese spy balloons

AP ■ BEIJING

Amid speculation over alleged Chinese spy balloons, Taiwan's Defence Ministry said on Tuesday it would shoot down any suspected military object coming close to its shores from mainland China.

Maj. Gen. Huang Wenchi, the assistant deputy chief of general staff for intelligence, told reporters that the self-governing island was on guard for any incursions, but had yet to find any that had penetrated its defences. Balloons found so far around Taiwan were used for meteorological exploration, he said. They were relatively small and light and would burst after rising to an altitude that could be threatening. Taiwan has yet to find targets requiring a lethal response, he said.

"We haven't seen such sophisticated spy balloons sent by the Chinese Communist Party in the waters near Taiwan," Huang said, referring to the balloon shot down by the



US earlier this month after travelling for days from above Alaska to South Carolina.

China, which claims Taiwan as its territory to be reunited by force if necessary, regularly sends fighter jets and other military assets into Taiwan's airspace and sea lanes.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin called the US downing of the Chinese balloon a "clear over-reaction". Beijing says it was an unmanned airship made for meteorological research that had been blown off course.

The US military had engaged an "absurd and costly large-scale political performance art show. We also advise the US side to be careful about overexerting itself and spraining its back", Wang said at a daily news briefing.

The White House defended the shootdowns of three unidentified objects in as many days even as it acknowledged that officials had no indication the objects were intended for surveillance in the same manner as the high-altitude Chinese balloon.

# China's Xi expresses support for Iran amid Western pressure

AP ■ BEIJING

Chinese leader Xi Jinping expressed support for Iran during a visit by its president on Tuesday as Tehran tries to expand relations with Beijing and Moscow to offset Western sanctions over its nuclear development.

The official Chinese account of Xi's meeting with Ebrahim Raisi gave no indication whether they discussed Russia's attack on Ukraine.

Tehran supplied military drones to Russian President Vladimir Putin's government but says they were delivered before the war began.

Xi expressed support for Raisi's government in language Beijing uses to criticise Washington's domination of global affairs.

China and Iran portray themselves, alongside Moscow, as counterweights to American power. "China supports Iran in safeguarding national sovereignty" and "resisting unilateralism and bullying," Xi said in a statement carried by Chinese state TV on its website.

# 3 killed at Michigan State university; gunman dead

AP ■ EAST LANSING (US)

A gunman opened fire Monday night at Michigan State University, killing three people and wounding five more, before fatally shooting himself off campus amid an hours-long manhunt during which frightened students hid in the dark.

Police reported the man's death early Tuesday, four hours after shootings broke out, first at Berkey Hall, an academic building, and then nearby at the MSU Union, a popular hub to eat or study.

"This truly has been a nightmare we're living tonight," said Chris Rozman, interim deputy chief of the campus police department.

Hundreds of officers had scoured the East Lansing campus, about 90 miles (145 kilometers) northwest of Detroit, for the suspect, whom police described as a short Black man with red shoes, a jean jacket and ball cap.

Rozman said it was too early to know a motive and



whether the man had some type of affiliation with the university. His name was not immediately released.

"There's a lot that we don't know at this point," Rozman said.

Two people were killed at Berkey and another was killed at the MSU Union, he said.

Sparrow Hospital spokesperson John Foren said he had no information on the conditions of five injured people.

By 10:15 p.m., police said Berkey, as well as nearby residence halls, were secured.

Before the gunman was found dead, WDIV-TV meteorologist Kim Adams, whose daughter attends Michigan State, told viewers that students were worn down by the hours-long saga.

"They've been hiding, all the lights off in a dark room," Adams said. "Their cellphones are starting to lose battery charge. They don't all have chargers with them and losing contact with the outside world is terrifying on a normal day for college kids, let alone when there's someone out there that they haven't caught yet."

Aedan Kelley, a junior who lives a half-mile (less than a kilometer) east of campus, said he locked his doors and covered his windows "just in case." Sirens were constant, he said, and a helicopter hovered overhead.

"It's all very frightening," Kelley said. "And then I have all these people texting me wondering if I'm OK, which is overwhelming."

Michigan State has about 50,000 students. All campus activities were canceled for 48 hours, including athletics and classes.

# Israeli Cabinet Min rejects US criticism on settlements

AP ■ JERUSALEM

Israel's finance minister Tuesday brushed off American criticism of new settlement construction in the West Bank and vowed to legalise dozens of wildcat settlement outposts in the occupied territory.

Bezalel Smotrich spoke less than a day after the U.S. Said it strongly opposed Israeli plans to build extensively in West Bank settlements and retroactively legalise nine outposts.

Smotrich, a religious ultra-nationalist settler, said he and his allies were "committed to removing completely the restrictions on building in Judea and Samaria," referring to the West Bank by its biblical names.

Smotrich, a longtime settler leader, has been promised authority over the defense body responsible for West Bank settlement construction as part of his coalition agreement with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

# Nikki launches her 2024 US presidential bid

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

Prominent Indian-American politician Nikki Haley launched her presidential campaign on Tuesday, becoming the first Republican to challenge former US President Donald Trump in his 2024 bid for the White House.

Haley, 51, is the two-term Governor of South Carolina and the former US Ambassador to the United Nations.

"I'm Nikki Haley, and I'm running for President," she announced in a video message.

"It's time for a new generation of leadership - to rediscover fiscal responsibility, secure our border, and strengthen our country, our pride and our purpose. Some people look at America and see vulnerability. The socialist left sees an opportunity to rewrite history," she said.

# Amid ChatGPT outcry, some teachers inviting AI to class

AP ■ LEXINGTON, KY

Under the fluorescent lights of a fifth grade classroom in Lexington, Kentucky, Donnie Piercy instructed his 23 students to try and outwit the "robot" that was churning out writing assignments.

The robot was the new artificial intelligence tool ChatGPT, which can generate everything from essays and haikus to term papers within seconds. The technology has panicked teachers and prompted school districts to block access to the site. But Piercy has taken another approach by embracing it as a teaching tool, saying his job is to prepare students for a world where knowledge of AI will be required.

"This is the future," said Piercy, who describes ChatGPT as just the latest technology in his 17 years of teaching that prompted concerns about the potential for cheating. The calculator, spellcheck, Google, Wikipedia, YouTube. Now all his students have Chromebooks on their desks. "As educators, we haven't figured out the best way to use artificial intelligence yet. But it's coming, whether we want it or not."

One exercise in his class pitted students against the machine in a lively, interactive writing game. Piercy asked students to "Find the Bot." Each student summarized a text about boxing champion Muhammad Ali, then tried to figure out which was written by the chatbot.

At the elementary school level, Piercy is less worried about cheating and plagiarism than high school teachers. His district has blocked students from ChatGPT while allowing teacher access.

Many educators around the country say districts need time to evaluate and figure out the chatbot but also acknowledge the futility of a ban that today's tech-savvy students can work around. "To be perfectly honest, do I wish it could be uninvented? Yes. But it happened," said Steve Darlow, the technology trainer at Florida's Santa Rosa.



ing that prompted concerns about the potential for cheating. The calculator, spellcheck, Google, Wikipedia, YouTube. Now all his students have Chromebooks on their desks. "As educators, we haven't figured out the best way to use artificial intelligence yet. But it's coming, whether we want it or not."

One exercise in his class pitted students against the machine in a lively, interactive writing game. Piercy asked students to "Find the Bot." Each student summarized a text about boxing champion Muhammad Ali, then tried to figure out which was written by the chatbot.

# Lanka to fast-track trade pact with Thailand amid crisis

AP ■ COLOMBO

Debt-stricken Sri Lanka is fast-tracking efforts to seal a stalled trade pact with Thailand in order to boost trade and tourism, and improve the foreign currency shortage that has led to its worst economic crisis, a government minister said on Tuesday.

Sri Lanka began talks with Thailand on a free trade agreement in 2016, held two rounds of discussions in 2018, and the latest last month. But government spokesman Bandula Gunawardena said there's been a "huge delay" and Sri Lanka is now determined to sign the agreement before the end of March. The trade pact aims to boost two-way trade from \$550 million to \$1.5 billion.

Sri Lanka is also in talks with neighbouring India and China to reach trade agreements. The country is bankrupt and has suspended repayment of its \$51 billion foreign debt, of which \$28 billion must be repaid by 2027.

**KAMA HOLDINGS LIMITED**  
CIN : L92199DL2000PLC104779  
Regd. Office : The Galleria, DLF Mayur Vihar, Unit No. 236 & 237, 2nd Floor, Mayur Place, Noida Link Road, Mayur Vihar Phase I Extn, Delhi - 110091; Corporate Office: Block C, Sector 45, Gurgaon-122003  
Tel. No. (+91-11) 49482870; Fax: (+91-11) 49482900  
Email: info@kamaholdings.com website: www.kamaholdings.com

**NOTICES**

Notice is hereby given that Certificates pertaining to Shares of the Company detailed below have been reported lost and request(s) for issue of duplicate Certificates in lieu thereof have been received by the Company :-

Sl. No.	Folio No.	Name of the Share Holder / Legal Heir (Claimant)	Cert-No.	Dist-No.	Lost Shares
1	SPP0001971	UMRAO SINGH RANA (DECEASED) SHEILI RANA (DECEASED) GUNEET RANA (LEGAL-HEIR/CLAIMANT)	2022	74572-611	40
2	SPP0000728	BHILLWADIKAR SURESH SAHADEO	770	31314-63	50
3	SPP0003149	SUSHILA DEVI (Deceased) ASHOK BADYAL (CLAIMANT)	3251	121786-828	43

Any person having any claim/objection in respect of the above requests should lodge such claim/objection with the company at its Corporate Office within 15 days of the publication of this notice, failing which the company will consider to give effect to the above requests.

Public is hereby cautioned against dealing with the aforesaid share certificates.

for KAMA HOLDINGS LIMITED  
Sd/-  
EKTA MAHESHWARI  
WHOLE TIME DIRECTOR, CFO & COMPANY SECRETARY

Place: Gurugram  
Date : 14.02.2023

**PARADIP PORT AUTHORITY**  
e-Tender Call Notice  
TD/TM/GEN-235 (Vol-VII)/23/286, dt: 09.02.2023

Name of the Work: "Allotment of 03(Three) nos. of Mechanical Iron Ore/Iron Pellet plots at IOHP". License Fees: Rs. 2,88,54,540/-, Wharfage Fees: Rs. 16,93,300/-, Last date & time of submission of bid: 01.03.2023 up to 15:00 hrs. Date and time of Opening (technical bid): 01.03.2023 up to 15:00 hrs. Refer our website for details <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app> & <http://paradipport.gov.in/>

**Traffic Manager**  
Paradip Port Authority  
PPA/PR/224/2022-23 dt. 13.02.2023

**UJVN LIMITED**  
H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006  
Telephones: 0135-2763808 & Fax: 0135-2763508  
CIN No. U40101UR2015SGC025866. Website: www.ujvn.com

पत्र सं. 145  
Office of the Executive Engineer (M&G), Dhakrani Power House, Dhakrani, Dehradun invites sealed online tender from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below:  
Tender No.: 25/EE(M&G)/DKN/2022-23  
Name of work: Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 36 kV Isolators at 132/33 kV Switchyard of Dhakrani Power Station.  
Estimated cost : 35,73,878.00 (excluding taxes)  
Date of availability of bid document on website: 15.02.2023 at 16:00 hrs.  
Last date for submission of bids on website: 10.03.2023 upto 14:00 hrs.  
For fuller & further details, kindly visit e-procurement portal "http://uktenders.gov.in" Executive Engineer (M&G)

"AVOID WASTEFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY"

**Haryana Shahari Vikas Pradhikaran Bahadurgarh**  
Public Notice

Subject: For change of ownership of 100% share after the death of Maha Singh allottee in Plot No. 54, Sector-6, Jhajjar. Maha Singh S/o Late Sh. Lal Chand is 100% owner of Plot No. 54, Sector-6, Jhajjar as per records who has died on 03.02.2018 and now his son Bjender Singh S/o Sh. Maha Singh R/o Budhesli, Teh. Siwani Mandi, Distt. Bhiwani, Haryana is applying for change of ownership of the above mentioned property. If any person has objection in this matter, then within 30 days of the Publication of the information, contact the Estate Office HSVP, Bahadurgarh in writing. Otherwise, the ownership of the above plot will be transferred as per HSVPB policy.

Heir

**Origo Commodities India Pvt Ltd**  
(CIN No. U51103DL2011PTC213352)  
Regd. Office- FK-06, Somdatt Chamber - I, 5, Bhitkaji Cama Place, New Delhi-110066  
Email: info@origoindia.com, Phone No. +91124 4934750  
Statement of Unaudited Standalone Financial Results  
(Regulation 52 (B), read with Regulation 52 (4), of the SEBI (LODR) Regulations, 2015)  
Amount (In Lakhs)

S. No	Particulars	For the Quarter Ended		For the Year ended
		December 31, 2022	December 31, 2021	March 31, 2022
		Unaudited	Unaudited	Audited
1.	Total Income from Operations	24,559.93	10,141.29	51,766.26
2.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)#	(1,267.50)	385.25	1,406.11
3.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)#	(1,267.50)	385.25	1,406.11
4.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)#	(910.42)	197.62	937.56
5.	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax))	(907.68)	202.67	948.50
6.	Paid up Equity Share Capital	5,448.90	5,448.90	5,448.90
7.	Reserves* (excluding Revaluation Reserve)	12,387.15	13,247.73	13,628.55
8.	Securities Premium Account	6,667.22	6,667.22	6,667.22
9.	Net worth	17,836.05	18,696.63	19,077.45
10.	Paid up Debt Capital / Outstanding Debt	28,816.03	12,052.26	17,229.93
11.	Outstanding Redeemable Preference Shares	48	48	48
12.	Debt Equity Ratio*	1.62	0.64	0.90
13.	Earnings Per Share (of Rs. 10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations)-			
	1. Basic:	(1.67)	0.36	1.72
	2. Diluted:	(1.53)	0.33	1.58
14.	Capital Redemption Reserve	-	-	-
15.	Debtenture Redemption Reserve	-	-	-
16.	Debt Service Coverage Ratio	(0.18)	0.36	0.61
17.	Interest Service Coverage Ratio	(0.88)	2.15	2.01

Note:  
1. The above is an extract of the detailed format of quarterly financial results filed with Bombay Stock Exchange ("BSE") under Regulation 52 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the quarterly financial results are available on the website of the Stock Exchange(s) i.e. BSE Limited and the listed entity, [www.origoindia.com](http://www.origoindia.com) & [www.bseindia.com](http://www.bseindia.com).  
2. For the other line items of Regulation 52 (4) of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, the pertinent disclosures have been made to BSE and can be accessed on the URL [www.origoindia.com](http://www.origoindia.com) & [www.bseindia.com](http://www.bseindia.com).  
3. The impact on net profit / loss, total comprehensive income or any other relevant financial item(s) due to change(s) in accounting policies shall be disclosed by means of a footnote.  
4. The above Standalone Financial Results have been approved by the Board of Directors in its meeting held on February 13, 2023 and have been limited reviewed by the Statutory Auditors of the Company in accordance with the requirement of Regulation 52 of SEBI (Listing Obligations & Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 (Listing Regulations).  
5. Segment Information as per Ind-AS 108, "Operating Segments" is disclosed in Segment reporting.  
6. # - Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items adjusted in the Statement of Profit and Loss in accordance with Ind AS Rules / AS Rules, whichever is applicable.  
7. \* - includes Retained Earnings, Other Comprehensive Income and Equity component of Compound financial instruments.

For Origo Commodities India Pvt Ltd  
Sd/-  
Mayank Dhanuka  
(Whole Time Director)  
DIN:02572510

Place: Gurgaon  
Date: 15.02.2023

**ANDHRA ASSOCIATION, DELHI (REGD.)**  
24 - 25, LODHI INSTITUTIONAL AREA, NEW DELHI - 110003  
E-mail: andhraassociationdelhi@gmail.com, Website: www.andhraassociationdelhi.com  
Tel: 24623946, 24649056, 43755078

**To,**  
ALL THE MEMBERS OF ANDHRA ASSOCIATION, DELHI (REGD.) (AAD)

**ELECTION NOTIFICATION**

I. Please take notice that I, Shailendra Singh, have been appointed as Chief Electoral Officer of the Election Committee by the Working Committee of Andhra Association, Delhi (Regd.) (AAD).  
II. The Working Committee of Andhra Association, Delhi (Regd.) has also appointed Shri Anurag Singh and Shri Aviral Kashyap as two other Members of the Election Committee.  
III. In continuation of the Pre-Election Public Notice dated 25-11-2022 published in "Sakshi", "The Statesman" and "The Pioneer" on 28-11-2022, this is to notify all members of Andhra Association, Delhi (Regd.) that the election for all posts of Working Committee of Andhra Association, Delhi, Andhra Association, Delhi Trust and Executive Committee of Branches of Andhra Association, shall be held on Sunday, the 12-03-2023 from 09:00 Hrs to 17:00 Hrs. The 7 Branches of Andhra Association, Delhi are (1) South Delhi (2) Central Delhi (3) North Delhi (4) R.K. Puram (5) West Delhi (6) Mayur Vihar (7) Shahadara. Polling will take place at Delhi Tamil Education Association (DTEA) Senior Secondary School, Opposite Bunglow No. 46, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi - 110003 from 09:00 Hrs to 17:00 Hrs.  
The details of positions for which elections are scheduled to be held on 12-03-2023 are as below:  
Working Committee of Andhra Association, Delhi  
President-1, Vice President-4, General Secretary-1, Joint Secretary-2, Treasurer-1, Executive Members -6  
Andhra Association, Delhi Trust  
Trustee-4  
Executive Committee of Branches of Andhra Association, Delhi.  
Chairman-1, Vice Chairman-1, Branch Secretary-1, Joint Secretary-1, Treasurer-1, Members -6  
The Election Schedule for the above positions is as under:  
The Election Schedule for the above positions is as under:

S.No	DATE	TIME	PURPOSE	VENUE
1	20-2-2023 to 22-2-2023	11:00 AM To 5:00 PM	Filing of Nominations	Andhra Association, Delhi, Regd. 24-25 Lodhi Institutional Area, Lodhi Road, New Delhi 110003.
2	22-2-2023	7:00 PM	Scrutiny of Nominations & Display of valid Nominations	Andhra Association, Delhi, Regd. 24-25 Lodhi Institutional Area, Lodhi Road, New Delhi 110003.
3	23-2-2023 to 25-2-2023	11:00 AM To 5:00 PM	Withdrawal of Nominations	Andhra Association, Delhi, Regd. 24-25 Lodhi Institutional Area, Lodhi Road, New Delhi 110003.
4	26-2-2023	10.30 AM	Notification of final list of valid Nominations	Andhra Association, Delhi, Regd. 24-25 Lodhi Institutional Area, Lodhi Road, New Delhi 110003.
5	12-3-2023	9:00 AM To 5:00 PM	Polling	Delhi Tamil Education Association (DTEA) Senior Secondary School, Opposite Bungalow No. 46, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi - 110003.
6	12-3-2023	7:00 PM ONWARDS	Counting of Votes and Declaration of results	Delhi Tamil Education Association (DTEA) Senior Secondary School, Opposite Bungalow No. 46, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi - 110003.

IV. All the members are requested to read and comply with all the bye-laws of Election Manual of AAD kept in the office of Andhra Association, Delhi, copy of which can be obtained from AAD office on payment of Rs.100/- during working hours from 20-2-2023.  
V. Authenticated Consolidated Alphabetical Voters' List and Branch-wise Alphabetical Voters' List can be procured from the office of AAD during working hours from 20-2-2023 on payment of Rs.1000/- and 500/- per copy respectively.  
VI. Nomination Forms shall be available at the office of AAD on payment of Rs. 10/- per each nomination form from 20-2-2023 to 22-2-2023 during working hours. The nomination forms duly filled shall be submitted to the Election Committee at AAD office during office hours.  
VII. Members shall bring the I-Card issued by the Association or any one of the documents mentioned in Clause 1.5 of chapter- I of Election Manual of the Andhra Association, Delhi which is reproduced below:  
(a) Ration card (b) Driving License (c) Any other photo identity card issued by employer/organization/company (e) Photo Identity Card issued by club or Residents' Welfare Society or any organization in which he/she is member (f) Freedom fighters' Photo I-Card (g) CGHS Photo I-Card for Govt. Employees (h) Voter Identity card issued by the Government/Election Commission (i) PAN Card issued by I.T. Department (j) Post Office/Bank Pass Book with Photograph (k) Any other genuine proof of the identity of the Voter to be accepted by the members of the Election Committee (l) Notarized photo-affidavit of the member.  
VIII. It is also informed that cheating by impersonation is a criminal offence and punishable up to 3 years of imprisonment under Section 419 IPC.  
The Working hours of AAD office are from 11 AM to 7 PM on all working days

Sd/-  
(Shailendra Singh)  
Chief Electoral Officer

Place: New Delhi  
Date: 15-2-2023

**DMI Finance Private Limited**  
CIN - U65929DL2008PTC182749  
Express Building, 3rd Floor, 9-10 Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi-110002

**STATEMENT OF UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022**  
[Regulation 52 (B), read with Regulation 52 (4) of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 (LODR Regulations)]

(Rs in Millions)

S. No.	Particulars	For the quarter December 31, 2022	For the quarter December 31, 2021	Previous Year ended as on March 31, 2022
1.	Total Income from Operations*	4,205.36	2,112.27	8,961.76
2.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	881.83	401.46	781.53
3.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	881.83	401.46	781.53
4.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	652.32	299.24	577.80
5.	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax))	651.54	315.09	1,205.34
6.	Paid up Equity Share Capital	6,567.38	6,567.00	6,567.00
7.	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve)	8,308.50	5,326.50	6,125.11
8.	Securities Premium Account	25,710.06	25,707.55	25,707.55
9.	Net worth	40,667.15	37,682.26	38,480.87
10.	Paid up Debt Capital / Outstanding Debt	36,690.92	22,376.10	27,517.80
11.	Outstanding Redeemable Preference Shares	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Debt Equity Ratio	0.90	0.59	0.72
13.	Earnings Per Share (of Rs. 10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations)			
	1. Basic:	0.99	0.43	0.82
	2. Diluted:	0.98	0.42	0.81
14.	Capital Redemption Reserve	81.21	81.21	81.21
15.	Debtenture Redemption Reserve	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
16.	Debt Service Coverage Ratio	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
17.	Interest Service Coverage Ratio	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.

\* Total Income of the Company is INR 4,251.95 millions, INR 2,138.43 millions and INR 9,106.27 millions for Quarter ended December 31, 2022, December 31, 2021 and Previous Year ended March 31, 2022 respectively which is inclusive of other income also.

**Notes to the Financial Results:**  
1) The above results are an extract of detailed format of the quarterly/annual Financial Results filed with the stock exchange under Regulation 52 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. These financial results are available on the website viz. [www.dmfinance.in](http://www.dmfinance.in) and on the website of BSE ([www.bseindia.com](http://www.bseindia.com))  
2) For items referred in Regulation 52(4) of (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, the pertinent disclosures have been made to BSE Limited(BSE) and can be accessed on the website of BSE ([www.bseindia.com](http://www.bseindia.com)) and on the Company's website i.e. [www.dmfinance.in](http://www.dmfinance.in)  
3) There is no Debenture Redemption Reserve created as Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFC) registered with Reserve Bank of India are not required to create DRR for privately placed debentures.  
4) Figures for the prior year / period have been regrouped and/or reclassified wherever considered necessary.  
5) The above results have been approved by the Audit Committee and subsequently approved by Board of Directors at their meetings held on February 13, 2023 and February 14, 2023 respectively.

For DMI Finance Private Limited  
Sd/-  
Yuvraja Chanakya Singh  
Joint Managing Director

Date: February 14, 2023  
Place: New Delhi

# Sensex surges 600 pts to scale 61K-mark

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The BSE benchmark Sensex surged 600 points on Tuesday, propelled by market heavyweight ITC, banking and IT shares amid positive global cues.

Sliding crude oil prices in the international markets and buying by foreign investors also bolstered sentiment, traders said.

The 30-share BSE Sensex ended 600.42 points or 0.99 per cent higher at 61,032.26. During the session, the index witnessed a high of 61,102.74 and a low of 60,550.25.

The broader NSE Nifty surged 158.95 points or 0.89 per cent to finish at 17,929.85. ITC topped the Sensex



gainers' chart with a jump of 3.31 per cent, followed by Reliance Industries, Bajaj Finance, ICICI Bank, Infosys, Axis Bank and Wipro.

On the other hand, NTPC, UltraTech Cement, L&T, Sun Pharma, Asian Paints and Maruti were among the major laggards, shedding as much as

1.10 per cent. "Domestic indices edged higher, inspired by their global counterparts, as investors await the US inflation numbers today. The whammy over India's retail inflation breaching the RBI's tolerance level was cooled by WPI inflation easing to 4.73 pc in January.

# WPI inflation eases to 2-yr low of 4.73% in Jan

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The wholesale price-based inflation declined to 2-year low of 4.73 per cent in January on easing prices of manufactured items, fuel and power, even though food articles turned expensive.

This is the eight straight month of decline in the rate of wholesale price-index (WPI) based inflation.

It was 4.95 per cent in December 2022 and 13.68 per cent in January last year.

"Decline in the rate of inflation in January, 2023 is primarily contributed by mineral oils, chemicals & chemical products, textiles, crude petroleum & natural gas, textiles, and food products," the Commerce and Industry Ministry said on Tuesday.

The decline in the rate of price rise was mainly due to a favourable base effect, economists said, adding that going



forward, softening commodity prices would help ease WPI inflation further.

Although inflation in manufactured items softened, in the case of food articles it rose to 2.38 per cent in January, from (-) 1.25 per cent in December, 2022.

Inflation in pulses was 2.41 per cent, while in vegetables it was (-) 26.48 per cent. Inflation in oil seeds was (-) 4.22 per cent in January, 2023.

Fuel and power basket

inflation eased to 15.15 per cent, from 18.09 per cent in December 2022. In manufactured products it was 2.99 per cent, against 3.37 per cent in December, 2022.

Deloitte India, Economist, Rumki Majumdar said high base effect and falling global prices are aiding in reduced manufacturing prices.

"We expect the cost of production to remain steady in the near future. Rising food prices are keeping the inflation index

higher, which is of concern. Higher food prices also contributed to a higher CPI," Majumdar said.

Bank of Baroda Chief Economist Madan Sabnavis said WPI inflation may be expected to trend further downwards in the next two months and could end at closer to 4 per cent by March.

India Ratings & Research Chief Economist Sunil Kumar Sinha said it expects the wholesale inflation to cool off further to 3.7 per cent in February 2023 due to the high base effect (February 2022: 13.4 per cent) and softening of global commodity prices.

The deceleration in January WPI comes in contrast to the retail inflation data released on Monday which showed consumer price index (CPI) or retail inflation rose to 6.52 per cent in January, from 5.72 per cent in December, 2022. In its monetary policy

review last week, the RBI hiked policy rates by 25 basis points to 6.50 per cent saying core inflation still remains sticky.

Consumer price index-based inflation had moved below the upper tolerance level of 6 per cent during November-December 2022, driven by a strong decline in prices of vegetables.

Assuming an average crude oil price (Indian basket) of USD 95 per barrel, RBI betted inflation projection for current fiscal to 6.5 per cent in 2022-23, from 6.8 per cent predicted earlier. In the January-March quarter, the RBI expects retail inflation to average at 5.7 per cent.

Barclays, MD & Head of EM Asia (ex-China) Rahul Bajoria said risks of another rate hike in April have risen after the retail inflation print, in which bulk of the upside was driven by food prices, and not by core inflation.

# Demat accounts surge 31% to 11 crore in Jan

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The number of demat accounts rose to 11 crore in January, a surge of 31 per cent on a yearly basis, amid attractive returns from the equity markets, ease of account opening process and increased financial savings.

Also, the incremental additions of such accounts were higher in January than in the preceding four months. However, it was still below the financial year 2021-22 (FY22) average run-rate of 29 lakh.

The incremental additions of such accounts stood at 22 lakh last month, compared to 21 lakh in December, 18 lakh each in October and November and 20 lakh in September, according to an analysis by Motilal Oswal Financial Services.

As per the data, the number of demat accounts rose to 11 crore in January 2023 from 8.4 crore in January 2022, reg-



istering a growth of 31 per cent.

Market experts believe that the addition in dematerialised (demat) accounts over the last one year was mainly due to attractive returns given by the equity markets and the ease of account opening process offered by brokers to their clients. Also, increased financial literacy and the growing popularity of trading amongst youth have been some other major factors contributing to the rise, they added.

While the number of demat accounts continues to rise, the count of National Stock Exchange (NSE) active clients has been falling for seven consecutive months.

# Govt notifies ITR forms for AY 2023-24, makes no substantial changes

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The finance ministry has allowed individuals against whom search and seizure operations were carried out by the I-T authorities to file revised income tax return in ITR-1 form for assessment year (AY) 2023-24.

However, there are no substantial changes in the six income tax return forms catering to individuals, professionals and businesses, notified by the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) on February 10.

This year, CBDT has notified ITR forms 1-6, as well ITR-V (verification form) and ITR acknowledgement form in advance, a move that will give taxpayers enough time to prepare for relevant disclosures. The I-T department earlier used to notify ITR forms for the relevant financial year either by March or April.

Income tax return forms



have been notified for Assessment Year 2023-24 (for income earned in 2022-23).

As per the modified norms, individuals on whom search and seizure operations have been carried out by tax officials can now file revised return under section 153 C on the basis of self-assessment of their undisclosed wealth in ITR-1.

CBDT has also made certain changes in ITR-1 form with regard to disclosure under Section 139 (1), which is filed voluntarily by persons having annual taxable income of less than Rs 2.5 lakh. These individuals will not be required to intimate in their ITR forms even if their fixed deposits exceeds Rs 1 crore.

# SEBI okay with regulated short selling, probing Hindenburg charges against Adani

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Market regulator SEBI has indicated to the Supreme Court that it is not in favour of banning short-selling or sale of borrowed shares, and said it is investigating allegations made by a tiny short-seller against the Adani Group as well as its share price movements. The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) in written note before a bench headed by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud, which was hearing two PILs relating to the recent Adani Group shares crash, described what short-selling is and what the Hindenburg Research did but did not once name the Adani Group in the 20-page document.

The regulator, the note said, was "already enquiring both the allegations made in the Hindenburg report as well as the market activity immediately preceding and post the publication of the report." US-based short-seller Hindenburg in a January 24 report alleged that the Adani Group pulled "the largest con in corporate history" using offshore tax havens and stock manipulation. The allegations, which the group has repeatedly denied, roiled shares of group's listed companies which have together lost over USD 120 billion in market value in three weeks.

SEBI said short selling usually involves investors borrowing shares and selling them, expecting to buy them back later at a lower price before returning them to the lenders. They make profits on the difference between the higher sale price initially and the lower purchase price subsequently. "Short selling is considered by some to be a desirable and an essential feature of the securities market, as it provides liquidity and also helps

price corrections in overvalued stocks.

"Thus, any restrictions on short selling, per se, may distort efficient price discovery, provide promoters unfettered freedom to manipulate prices, and favour manipulators rather than rational investors," it said, adding others consider it an undesirable activity that flourishes on distressed selling and is vulnerable to its own form of manipulation.

Securities market regulators in most countries, particularly in all developed securities markets, recognise short selling as a legitimate invest-

ment activity. "Thus, in all major jurisdictions, instead of prohibiting short sales per se the regulators have permitted it to take place within a regulated framework," SEBI said.

The International Organisation of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) has also reviewed short selling and securities lending practices across markets and has recommended transparency of short selling, rather than prohibiting it. "India follows this policy of regulated short selling and has framed its regime accordingly," it said, detailing the framework for regulating

short selling in Indian capital markets.

Even during turbulent times such as at the start of the Covid pandemic when Nifty fell by around 26 per cent in 13 trading days in March 2020, SEBI did not ban short selling despite demand, the note to the court said. The top court is scheduled to hear the two PILs alleging exploitation of innocent investors and "artificial crashing" of the Adani Group's stock value on February 17 when it will consider setting up a panel to consider strengthening the regulatory framework.

# Adani Enterprises back in black, vows to cut leverage

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Billionaire Gautam Adani-led group's flagship firm Adani Enterprises Ltd on Tuesday reported a swing to profit in quarter ending December 2022 from a loss a year before, and vowed to lower leverage in an attempt to restore investor confidence that has been roiled by a damning report of a US short seller.

The group, whose listed companies have lost over USD 120 billion in market value since Hindenburg Research released the report on January 24, said it had made no "material financial adjustments" owing to the allegations.

Adani Enterprise Ltd's (AEL) consolidated net profit was at Rs 820.06 crore in third quarter of current fiscal compared to a loss of Rs 11.63 crore in the same period a year back, according to a stock exchange filing by the company.

Revenue surged 42 per



cent to Rs 26,612.33 crore.

Its so-called integrated resource management -- the biggest contributor to top-line and profits -- saw a 370 per cent jump in pre-tax profit to Rs 669 crore. Profit from mining and new energy tripled.

The airport's business saw revenues doubling but profitability rising by 29 per cent.

Total costs climbed 37 per cent to Rs 26,171.18 crore.

The group has been under pressure since the Hindenburg report that accused it of accounting fraud and stock manipulation, allegations that the conglomerate has denied as "malicious", "baseless" and a "calculated attack on India".

"Management of the group has assessed that no material financial adjustment arises to

the consolidated financial results for the quarter and nine months ended December 31, 2022 with respect to these allegations," according to notes to the financial statement of AEL.

Despite the ports-to-energy conglomerate denying allegations, the report triggered a massive sell-off in the group firms' shares.

"The current market volatility is temporary," AEL chairman Gautam Adani said in the earnings statement. "As a classical incubator with a vision of long-term value creation, Adani Enterprises will continue to work with the twin objectives of moderate leverage and looking at strategic opportunities to expand and grow."

Adani said the group's fundamental strength lies in mega-scale infrastructure project execution capabilities, organisational development and exceptional O&M management skills comparable to the best in the world.

IST LIMITED									
Regd. Office: Dhanuhera Industrial Complex, Delhi- Jaipur Highway No.8, Kapriwas, Dhanuhera, Rewari (Haryana)-123106									
Head Office: A-23, New Office Complex, 2nd Floor, Defence Colony, New Delhi-110024									
CIN: L33301HR1976PLC008316, Phone No.: 011-41044511-14; Fax: 011-24625694; Email: istgroup.ho@gmail.com; Website: www.istindia.com									
EXTRACT OF FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND YEAR ENDED 31 <sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER, 2022									
Sl. No.	Particulars	Standalone			Consolidated				
		Quarter Ended		Year ended	Quarter Ended		Year ended		
		31.12.2022	30.09.2022	31.12.2021	31.03.2022	31.12.2022	30.09.2022	31.12.2021	31.03.2022
1	Total Income	983.40	772.71	1,031.16	4,388.52	3,548.64	4,229.64	4,606.35	18,363.19
2	Net Profit before exceptional items and tax	378.33	338.27	365.39	1,202.04	2,679.10	3,453.02	3,349.33	12,771.24
3	Net Profit after exceptional items before tax	378.33	338.27	365.39	1,202.04	2,679.10	3,453.02	3,349.33	12,771.24
4	Net Profit after tax	310.93	276.93	291.68	932.79	2,052.49	2,567.58	2,518.47	9,597.07
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Net of Tax)	311.96	277.97	293.63	936.92	2,799.39	3,352.52	1,679.55	10,896.28
6	Equity Share Capital (Face Value Rs. 5/- per share)	584.68	584.68	584.68	584.68	584.68	584.68	584.68	584.68
7	Other Equity	-	-	-	20,121.37	-	-	-	1,02,670.86
8	Earnings Per Share (Face Value Rs. 5/- per share)								
	- Basic (Rs.)	2.67	2.37	2.50	8.00	17.67	22.22	21.53	82.79
	- Diluted (Rs.)	2.67	2.37	2.50	8.00	17.67	22.22	21.53	82.79

**MODI RUBBER LIMITED**  
 CIN: L25199UP1971PLC003392, Registered Office: Modinagar - 201204 Dist. Ghaziabad (U.P.), Corporate Office: 4-7C, DDA Shopping Centre, New Friends Colony, New Delhi 110025  
 Website: www.modirubberlimited.com Email: investors@modigroup.net Phone: +91-11-2684 8416

EXTRACT OF STANDALONE AND CONSOLIDATED UN-AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND NINE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022													
Sl. No.	Particulars	QUARTER ENDED						NINE MONTHS ENDED				YEAR ENDED	
		STANDALONE			CONSOLIDATED			STANDALONE		CONSOLIDATED		STANDALONE	CONSOLIDATED
		31-Dec-22	31-Dec-21	30-Sep-22	31-Dec-22	31-Dec-21	30-Sep-22	31-Dec-22	31-Dec-21	31-Dec-22	31-Dec-21	31-Mar-22	31-Mar-22
		Un-Audited	Un-Audited	Un-Audited	Un-Audited	Un-Audited	Un-Audited	Un-Audited	Un-Audited	Un-Audited	Un-Audited	Audited	Audited
1	Total Income from operations (Net)	41.38	69.91	55.50	140.57	248.83	55.51	152.96	163.94	246.16	330.87	215.57	512.69
2	Net Profit/ (Loss) for the period (before tax and exceptional items)	(410.02)	(337.48)	2,188.35	716.38	813.97	1,091.17	1,390.35	691.85	2,741.97	2,427.95	720.47	2,754.38
3	Net Profit/ (Loss) for the period before tax (after exceptional items)	(410.02)	(337.48)	2,188.35	716.38	813.97	1,091.17	1,390.35	691.85	2,741.97	2,427.95	720.47	2,754.05
4	Net Profit/ (Loss) for the period after tax (after exceptional items)	(289.05)	(562.19)	1,724.98	834.66	578.35	629.68	1,094.35	480.14	2,443.54	2,210.88	523.10	2,563.14
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (after tax)	(343.02)	14,340.73	1,952.11	938.02	15,795.12	789.81	728.44	15,951.88	1,492.44	17,814.70	16,202.45	18,519.40
6	Equity Share Capital (Face value of share is Rs. 10/- each)	2,504.05	2,504.05	2,504.05	2,504.05	2,504.05	2,504.05	2,504.05	2,504.05	2,504.05	2,504.05	2,504.05	2,504.05
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserves as shown in the Balance Sheet of previous year)	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A
8	Earnings per share (EPS) (of Rs. 10/- each) (Not Annualised)												
	(a) Basic and Diluted EPS (before exceptional Items) (in Rs.)	(1.15)	(2.25)	6.89	3.33	2.31	2.51	4.37	1.92	9.76	8.83	2.09	10.24
	(b) Basic and Diluted EPS (after exceptional Items) (in Rs.)	(1.15)	(2.25)	6.89	3.33	2.31	2.51	4.37	1.92	9.76	8.83	2.09	10.24

NOTES:  
 1. The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly/ Annual Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulations 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly/ Annual Financial Results are available on the stock exchange website, www.nseindia.com, www.bseindia.com and on the Company website www.modirubberlimited.com.  
 2. The above results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and subsequently approved by the Board of Directors of the Company at their respective meeting held on February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The Statutory Auditors of the Company have carried out a limited review of the aforesaid results.  
 3. Previous quarter/ year end figures have been rearranged and / or regrouped, wherever necessary, to make them comparable with those of the current quarter/ year end.

Place : New Delhi  
 Date : 14th February, 2023

# MCA21 glitches: FM reviews matter

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Amid stakeholders facing glitches in submitting forms under the companies law through the MCA21 portal, Union minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Tuesday asked the corporate affairs ministry to form a special team to address public grievances on a priority basis.

Besides, Sitharaman, who is in charge of the ministries of finance and corporate affairs, has asked the corporate affairs ministry to monitor the issues on a daily basis.

Filings under the companies law and the limited liability partnership law are submitted to the corporate affairs ministry through the MCA21 portal and in recent days, there have been complaints about technical issues with the portal. Against this backdrop, Sitharaman, on Tuesday reviewed the matter.

In a series of tweets, Sitharaman's office said that many users of MCA21 portal have reported facing technical issues at the time of filing since the launch of the new forms under Version 3 on January 23.

"MCA21 India has been working along with @theicai, @icsi\_cs, @LTIMindtreeOFCL, and consultants (EY @EY\_India and NISG @NISGsmartgov) to solve the matter expeditiously," her office said.

Sd/-  
 (Alok Kumar Modi)  
 Managing Director

# MERSEYSIDE IS RED

## Salah sees fresh start for Liverpool in derby win



**AP ■ LIVERPOOL**

Mohamed Salah said Liverpool's 2-0 win over Everton in the Merseyside derby on Monday is just the start of a revival for the Reds.

Salah scored for the first time in the Premier League since Boxing Day as Jurgen Klopp's men snapped a four-game winless streak.

Cody Gakpo then grabbed his first goal for the club in the second half. A positive night for Liverpool was rounded off by the return of Diogo Jota and Roberto Firmino from injury, while Virgil van Dijk made the bench after six weeks on the sidelines.

"It's a huge win for us," said Salah. "We had a perfect week to train and the players were so excited and we couldn't wait for the game to turn everything around. Hopefully it was a start."

Liverpool are still nine points off the top four in ninth.

But that gap to fourth-placed Newcastle could be cut to six points when they travel to St. James' Park next weekend.

That clash comes just days before Real Madrid's trip to Anfield in the

Champions League last 16 and Klopp will be hoping he has finally stumbled upon a solution to some of his side's woes in time for another tilt at the European Cup.

"Tonight we were there and that has to be the sign now for us for what we have to do," said Klopp. "The performance for the full 96 minutes was the best for a while."

Liverpool's optimism has to be put in the context of facing an Everton side with just one win in 12 games.

That victory came last weekend in Sean Dyche's first match in charge as league leaders Arsenal were shocked 1-0 at Goodison Park.

But Dyche was given a better understanding of the problems he has inherited with the Toffees languishing in the relegation zone.

Everton were still left to rue what might have been had James Tarkowski's header gone in rather than come off the post just seconds before Liverpool took the lead.

Instead, the hosts collected the loose ball and freed Nunez down the left, who squared for Salah to prod into an unguarded net with Jordan Pickford caught in no man's land.

Everton were undone by another swift counter-attack at the start of the second period.

Andy Robertson charged through midfield and found Trent Alexander-Arnold, whose inviting ball across the face of the goal just required a simple finish from Gakpo.

The Dutch international will hope a derby goal proves the turning point after a difficult start to life in the Premier League following his January move from PSV Eindhoven.

"It was a great game from our side," said Gakpo. "We really needed this."

# Inter fall further behind Napoli

**AP ■ GENOA**

Inter Milan allowed Napoli to pull 15 points clear at the top of Serie A after being held to a goalless draw at struggling Sampdoria on Monday.

Simone Inzaghi's side already had little hope of recapturing the league title conceded to local rivals AC Milan last season and the yawning gap between them and Napoli widened following an underwhelming display in Genoa.

Napoli cruised past Cremonese 3-0 on Sunday and look with each passing week more likely to claim a first league crown since 1990.

Second-placed Inter are three points ahead of Atalanta, Roma and Milan in the race for next season's Champions League.

Lazio are five points back in sixth after being beaten by Atalanta in Rome on Saturday night.

When asked if the title was beyond his team, Inzaghi said "I keep saying we can only look at ourselves".

"We're not satisfied with the result, in fact we're very disappointed as we should be."

Inzaghi picked Romelu Lukaku alongside in-form Lautaro Martinez, the powerful strike partnership which won Inter the 2021 Scudetto.

But Lukaku is nowhere near the form which led Chelsea paying a club-record fee for his services the following summer and the Belgium forward was replaced by Edin Dzeko midway through the second half having made little impact.

Turkey midfielder Hakan Calhanoglu went close with distance efforts in either half on a night in which the Inter fans in the stands at the Stadio Luigi Ferraris honoured the victims of the devastating recent earthquake which hit his country and Syria.

Over 35,000 people have been killed by the earthquake and Calhanoglu appeared to be in tears when supporters unfurled banners which read "close to Turkey and Syria, Calha one of us".

The 29-year-old Calhanoglu wore a T-shirt with the message "Pray for Turkiye" during the pre-match warm-up.

"I thank my teammates, fans and club for being close to me at this time,"

Calhanoglu said to Sky after the match.

"We're trying to help our country in any way we can... The images we have seen hurt, but life goes on and I hope the people get out of that situation as soon as possible."

Monday's draw is a good result for troubled Samp but a point does little for the survival hopes of a team firmly ensconced in the relegation zone.

Dejan Stankovic's side have collected 11 points from their 22 matches and are eight behind Spezia, who sit just outside the drop zone and drew at Empoli on Saturday.

Verona are two points behind Spezia following their 1-0 win over Salernitana earlier on Monday.



# Real Sociedad close in on Madrid

**AP ■ CORNELLÀ DE LLOBREGAT**

Real Sociedad cut the gap on second-place Real Madrid to three points with a 3-2 win at Espanyol in La Liga on Monday.

The champions have played a game fewer and host Elche on Wednesday, with Real Sociedad third, hot on their tail, although they were left holding on at the end against struggling Espanyol.

Takefusa Kubo and Alexander Sorloth's goals gave Real Sociedad a commanding lead at the RCDE Stadium as Imanol Alguacil's side bounced back from three games without a win across all competitions.

Espanyol defender Leandro Cabrera headed a Kubo cross into his own net to further sink his side, before Sergi Darder netted a consolation goal from close range.

Brian Oliván smashed in another for Espanyol with three minutes remaining, setting up a tense finale, before Cabrera was sent off in stoppage time.

Real Sociedad are 14 points behind leaders Barcelona, who are 11 clear of Real Madrid after their 1-0 win over Villarreal on Sunday. Espanyol, missing injured striker Joselu, languish 17th, only a point above the relegation zone.

The Basques were still without creative midfielder David Silva, who they have missed, but Mikel Merino made his return from injury as a substitute.

# Liverpool call for UEFA action to guarantee supporter safety

**AP ■ LIVERPOOL**

Liverpool called on UEFA to do the "right thing" in implementing a series of recommendations after a damning report found European football's governing body responsible for the chaos that surrounded last year's Champions League final in Paris.

The independent report, commissioned by UEFA, found that they bore "primary responsibility for failures which almost led to disaster."

French police and authorities were also criticised for a lack of planning and a heavy-handed response to supporters, based on incorrect assumptions that fans posed a threat to public order.

Real Madrid's 1-0 win at the Stade de France on May 28 was overshadowed by events surrounding European football's showpiece event.

Kick-off was delayed by 37 minutes as fans struggled to access the stadium after being funnelled into overcrowded bottlenecks on approach.

Police then fired tear gas towards thousands of supporters locked behind metal fences on the perimeter to the stadium.

UEFA then tried to pin the blame on Liverpool fans arriving late despite thousands having been held for hours outside the stadium before kick-off.

In a statement on Monday, UEFA apologised to Liverpool fans for "unjustly blaming them for the situation leading to the delayed kick-off."

The report found there has been "a clear and immediate danger of a fatal crush" and that the action of Liverpool supporters had in fact saved lives.

"We call on UEFA and others at the top of the football regulation pyramid to come together and take positive and transparent action to ensure there are no more 'near misses'," Liverpool said in a statement on Tuesday.

"As a football club with proud history in Europe, we call on UEFA to do the right thing and implement the 21 recommendations to ensure the safety of all football supporters attending any future UEFA football match."

Another of the report's key findings was that the policing model was influenced by a view of Liverpool based on the deadly 1989 Hillsborough disaster, which caused the death of 97 fans.

After decades of fighting for justice, British police chiefs apologised to the families of the victims just last month, recognising that "police failures were the main cause of the tragedy".

For many Liverpool fans the scenes in Paris provoked traumatic flashbacks of what happened at Hillsborough.

The Hillsborough Survivors Support Alliance has seen a spike in fans seeking mental health support since events at the Stade de France.



# Ferrari unveils new F1 car with Red Bull in their sights

**AP ■ MARANELLO**

Ferrari unveiled their new SF-23 car for the upcoming Formula One season at their Maranello headquarters on Tuesday, the Scuderia gunning for Red Bull and world champion Max Verstappen.

The Scuderia finished second in the drivers and constructors championships last time out after an error-strewn campaign, way behind Red Bull whose top driver Verstappen comfortably retained his title.

"The goal is to win, clearly," said driver Charles Leclerc, who took the SF-23 for a spin around the Maranello track in front of some of the team's passionate supporters.

"The feeling of winning is what motivates me, motivates all the team too. I'm really looking forward to getting back in the car and trying to win the championship."

The coming season is the first for team principal Frederic Vasseur, who took charge in December following the resignation of Mattia Binotto the month before.

Binotto was considered culpable for last season's frequent missteps, including pitlane errors and reliability issues which damaged Leclerc's attempt to keep up with Verstappen.

Ferrari began with two wins in the opening three Grands Prix but were then swept aside by Red Bull and Verstappen, who won the drivers title with three races remaining and eventually finished 146 points ahead of Leclerc.

The new car is designed with the aim of improving aerodynamics and the reliability of the engine, the latter being one of the key problems last time out.

"You can feel the responsibility for the team, it's a great honour but at the end of the day the important thing is to be successful," said Frenchman Vasseur.

"We want to deliver and I don't want to be happy just because I'm at Ferrari, the most important is to win."



# Friendlies against Nepal good preparation for Olympic Qualifiers: Dennerby

**PTI ■ CHENNAI**

India women's football team head coach Thomas Dennerby wants his players to take the two international friendly matches against Nepal here on February 15 and 18 as an opportunity to prepare for the Olympic Qualifiers.

The friendly matches will be played at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium and India will be favourites to win them, though Nepal, of late, have shown a steady resurgence.

"We are not looking for results at the moment. Our main aim is to build the team for the Olympic Qualifiers, and these matches (friendly against Nepal) are part of that process," said Dennerby on Tuesday. Nepal defeated India 1-0 in the semifinals of 2022 SAFF Women's C'ships in Kathmandu.

More recently, the India U-20 women's team suffered a 1-3 loss to Nepal in the SAFF U-20 Championship in Dhaka. The defeat knocked India out of contention for a spot in the final.

India have been placed in Group G of the AFC Women's Olympic Qualifiers First Round, alongside Turkmenistan and the Kyrgyz Republic, with the matches set to be played in April. "Nepal are a good side, of course, and it will be a good opportunity for our girls to come back to the pace of international football," said Dennerby.

"We have been training in Chennai, but international matches are international matches. The pace is different, and that's the best way to prepare for the Qualifiers."

India midfielder Indumathi Kathiresan, who is a local girl, said, "I hope we can inspire more young girls to not only take up the sport, but also keep playing it in the future as well."



# Nagal gets wild card at Bengaluru Open

**PTI ■ BENGALURU**

Star Indian tennis player Sumit Nagal was on Tuesday awarded a wild card entry into the singles main draw of the Bengaluru Open, scheduled to begin here from February 20.

The 25-year-old former India No. 1 is the first wild card entrant at the fifth edition of the prestigious ATP Challenger event, which will be organised by the Karnataka State Lawn Tennis Association (KSLTA) at the KSLTA Stadium in Bengaluru.

"We are delighted to give Nagal the first wild card. He is an excellent player and has won his maiden ATP Challenger title here. We are committed to providing our Indian players a world-class platform to rub shoulders with the best names from the tennis world through this tournament."

"Nagal is one of those players who have performed well here and carried that momentum to do well in their careers," said Sunil Yajaman, tournament director of Bengaluru Open and joint secretary of KSLTA.

Nagal won his first ATP Challenger title at this tournament in 2017 and went on to put up some impressive performances thereafter in his career. He also had quarter-final and pre-quarterfinal finishes during his other two outings at this tournament in 2018 and 2020 respectively.

"Playing at the DafaNews Bengaluru Open has always been special for me as it's the place where I won my first Challenger. Good memories, good vibes and playing in front of an energetic audience is always fun, so I'm extremely grateful and excited for the opportunity to compete at the tournament again. I'm extremely thankful to KSLTA for awarding me a wild card for this prestigious event and I hope to make the best use of it," Nagal said.

Nagal will be part of the singles field comprising former world No. 10 Lucas Pouille and last year's champion Chun-hsin Tseng among others.

The Qualifiers will be played on February 19 and 20 while the main draw begins on February 20.



# Akshdeep and Priyanka win 20km race walk gold

**PTI ■ RANCHI**

Unheralded Akshdeep Singh clinched the men's 20km race walk gold with a stunning national record time to qualify for this year's World Championships as well as the 2024 Paris Olympics on the opening day of the National Open Race Walking Championships here on Tuesday.

Women's 20km event national record holder Priyanka Goswami also won a gold to qualify for both the World Championships and 2024 Olympics.

The 23-year-old Akshdeep, who hails from Punjab's Barnala district, clocked 1 hour 19 minutes and 55 seconds to obliterate the earlier national record of 1:20:16 which was in the name of veteran Sandeep Kumar of Haryana, who finished a lowly seventh on Tuesday with a time of 1:23:28. Suraj Panwar of Uttarakhand was second with a time of 1:20:11, missing the World Championships and Olympics qualifying time by a whisker.

Vikash Singh of Delhi was third with a time of 1:21:08 as 48 athletes completed the race.

The men's 20km race walk qualifying time for both the World Championships to be held in Budapest in August and 2024 Olympics is 1:20:10.

Priyanka, representing Uttar Pradesh, expectedly won the gold with a time of 1:28:50, just a tad below her national record of 1:28:45 which she had set in 2021.

A Tokyo Olympian, 26-year-old Priyanka had won a silver in the women's 10,000m race walk event in the 2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games. Bhawana Jat of Rajasthan was second with a time of 1:29:44 while her state mate Sonal Sukhwal was third in 1:31:03.

The women's 20km race walk qualifying time for both the World Championships to be held in Budapest in August and 2024 Olympics is 1:29:20.

Akshdeep and Priyanka are the first Indians from athletics to have qualified for the 2024 Olympics after the qualifying window began from December 31, 2022 (to end on June 30, 2024).

# Women in Blue eye 2nd win in a row

PTI ■ CAPE TOWN

Having got the better of Pakistan in the lung-opener, India would endeavour to put up an improved bowling show against West Indies in their second Women's T20 World Cup match here on Wednesday.

The Indian batters, without vice-captain Smriti Mandhana, managed to complete their highest successful chase in the T20 World Cup in the win against Pakistan.

Mandhana missed the tie against Pakistan owing to a finger injury but the star opener is likely to be back in the team against the West Indies, who are coming off a big loss against England.

The Indian bowlers were guilty of taking their foot off the pedal in the back end of the innings, allowing Pakistan to score 91 runs in the second half of their innings.

They will be keen to give a better account of themselves. With tougher oppositions expected as the tournament progresses, the Indian bowlers couldn't have asked for a better opponent than a familiar West Indies side, whom India beat twice in the recent tri-series.

If India want to win the title, the batting department too has to pull up its socks.

If it wasn't for young Richa Ghosh's three boundaries on the trot in the 18th over, India would have been unable to cross the line.

The big-hitting Shafali Verma, fresh from leading India to the inaugural U-19 World Cup title, didn't look her imperious best against Pakistan. She struggled to get the big shots.



AP ■ PAARL

England and South Africa overcame the distractions of a player auction in India and pulled off important wins on the fourth day of the Women's T20 World Cup at Boland Park in Paarl.

England took command of Group Two, beating Ireland by four wickets to notch their second successive win, while South Africa played themselves back into contention in Group One with a 65-run win over New Zealand.

Monday's double-header was played while the auction in India's Women's Premier League was being held in Mumbai, with potential life-

## England, South Africa gain key wins

changing deals for players from both teams, as well as those from New Zealand. England captain Heather Knight said her players were able to focus on the cricket. She said they left their hotel in Cape Town while hearing shouts of excitement from Indian players who were the main focus of bidders from Indian franchises.

Left-arm spinner Sophie Ecclestone showed why she was bought by the Uttar Pradesh Warriorz franchise for the equivalent of about US\$220,000 when she sparked an Ireland collapse to 105 all out. Ecclestone took three for 13.

Another WPL target, Alice Capsey, bought by Delhi Capitals for \$91,000, set up an early finish by hitting 51 off 22 balls in England's reply.



ed the joint-highest price for an overseas player, had a quiet day, bowling two overs which cost ten runs and being dismissed for five. She was bought by Mumbai Indians for \$390,000. Most of South Africa's players went unsold but vice-captain Chloe Tryon, who was the team's match-winner against New Zealand with 40 runs and two wickets, was bought by the Mumbai Indians for \$37,000. Fellow all-rounder Marizanne

Kapp secured a \$183,000 deal from Delhi Capitals. Her wife, Dane van Niekerk, who was controversially omitted from the World Cup squad on fitness grounds, was bought by Royal Challengers Bangalore for \$37,000. Fast bowler Shabnim Ismail was the only other South African to be signed up, with UP Warriorz gaining her services for \$122,000. South Africa struggled to 132 for six in their 20 overs but bowled out New Zealand for 67.

PTI ■ NAGPUR

## Australia will stick to plan: Carey

Wicketkeeper batter Alex Carey on Tuesday said that Australia will continue playing Test matches the way they have been doing in the past 12-18 months, brushing aside former captain Allan Border's criticism that the visitors need to play hard and tough.

Australia lost the first Test by a colossal margin of an innings and 123 runs to trail the four-match series 0-1, which led to sharp criticism from Border who said the visitors were acting too nice and need to "play with a harder edge".

Border singled out Steve Smith for giving a 'thumb's up' gesture to Ravindra Jadeja after he was beaten by a delivery by the India all-rounder. Border called the act "ridiculous".

"We highly respect Allan Border. I guess among the group, guys do it differently. We come up against these players a lot," Carey said.

"You're probably alluding to the Steve Smith comment more than any but, you know, he's mates with a lot of them. And



that's the way he (Smith) plays. He does it in all situations. He plays around with his hands and does all that stuff. And I think that's probably what gets him pretty focused."

Despite the heavy loss, Carey said the Australian camp is positive and they are backing themselves to bounce back in Delhi.

"It is the first Test of four and

we're still very positive amongst ourselves that we'll be able to bounce back in Delhi and get this series back on level (terms) and continue to believe in what we've done over the past 12 to 18 months," said Carey.

"I think we're a really strong Test team. We've got all bases covered. Unfortunately it didn't go to plan this first Test, but we're definitely reinforcing the

messages we've had leading into the tour."

The 31-year said the atmosphere in the middle during the first Test was anything but friendly.

"I don't think so, I think it's Test cricket, it's over in India and we know how tough it can be over here," he said. "Proactive" has been a keyword for Australia in this tour of India but Carey

felt he got a little too proactive in the Nagpur Test.

"You can fall into over-playing conditions and certain names. What you see before you go out to bat as well can change your method a bit," said Carey, who was out reverse-sweeping in both innings of the first Test.

"For myself today (at training) I went back to batting more than anything else and reacting to what's being bowled down at me and trusting that method."

"Maybe (I was) a little bit too keen to play a different style, but in my first Test over here that's not a bad learning to have."

Carey said the performance of the Indian spin duo of Jadeja and Axar Patel showed patience can be as effective as proactiveness. "Hopefully I can find that balance - along with all our players as well. We obviously want to be proactive, but calm and patient (as well), and we had a pretty good look at that first-hand with a few of their players."

"At times it might be (required to bat) in fast-forward mode but Jadeja and Axar showed as well, you can be pretty patient."



## Jamieson, Henry out of 1st NZ-Eng Test

AP ■ WELLINGTON

Kyle Jamieson has been forced out of New Zealand's first Test against England that starts on Thursday because of a stress fracture of the back.

Fellow fast bowler Matt Henry is also unavailable because of the birth of his first child. Uncapped seamers Scott Kuggeleijn and Jacob Duffy have been called in as replacements.

Jamieson's appearance for a New Zealand XI in a two-day tour match last week was his first since June, when he sustained the injury in England.

The injury flared up again this week and the team confirmed on Tuesday he will not be able to play at Bay Oval, Mount Maunganui. Scans showed up the fracture, which will require further examination and treatment.

"It's really gutting for Kyle to have this happen after he'd put so much hard work in to

getting himself back on the park," New Zealand coach Gary Stead said.

"Since the injury in June we've certainly taken a cautious approach to managing his return with regular monitoring by our medical staff which has included scans.

"While Kyle's not feeling any pain, the evidence is pretty clear he has a stress fracture so he'll return to Christchurch today and have a CT scan on Friday before we decide on the next steps."

Batsmen Tom Blundell and Henry Nicholls have also been delayed in joining the team because of travel problems caused by Cyclone Gabrielle, which continues to batter New Zealand's North Island.

Cyclone Gabrielle has affected the preparations of both teams, forcing them to practice indoors. The storm has brought high winds and flooding to most of the North Island and rain is expected on Thursday.

## SHOPIAN VILLAGES CELEBRATES JASIA'S WPL SELECTION

PTI ■ SHOPIAN

Celebrations are going on at the residence of Jasia Akhtar here ever since she became the first woman cricketer from Jammu and Kashmir to be picked by a Women's Premier League (WPL) franchise during the auction in Mumbai on Monday.

"When I got the news of Jasia's selection, I could not

believe it. I am feeling very happy for her," Jasia's cousin, Khushnuma, said as a group of neighbours visited the cricketer's house in Shopian to celebrate her achievement.

The 34-year-old right-hand top-order batter was picked by Delhi Capitals for a base price of Rs 20 lakh. "Jasia jaisi koi nahi. The #CapitalsUniverse is stoked to have you!" DC tweeted after the auction.

The second of five siblings, Jasia, who represents Rajasthan in domestic cricket, was crazy about the game since childhood.

"She was mad about cricket right from childhood. When we used to study, she would go out to play," Khushnuma said, as well-wishers sipped the traditional kehwa. Khalid Hamid, Jasia's first coach, hoped she gets enough opportunities to showcase her skills.

## Green-top pitch for Bengal-Saurashtra Ranji final

PTI ■ KOLKATA



A green-top pitch will be on offer for Bengal-Saurashtra Ranji Trophy summit clash beginning here on Thursday.

Pace bowling has been Bengal's main strength with the trio of Akash Deep (37), Ishan Porel (24) and Mukesh Kumar (18) account-

ing for the most number of wickets this season.

Two days ahead of the match, the Eden Gardens centre strip sported a green cover and Cricket Association of Bengal pitch curator Sujun Mukherjee said there would be no "further trimming".

"Our pace bowling is much better than Saurashtra and we will have a similar

grass cover on the pitch, there is no further scope for trimming," Mukherjee told reporters.

Asked whether toss would be a factor, he said: "As always, the first and the last hour at Eden Gardens are crucial when wicket aids seam movement. It would be no different this time. Toss won't be a big advantage. Luck has been with the Bengal side this season, and I hope they win the title this time."

Two-time champions Bengal are yet to win the Ranji Trophy since 1989-90. Since then, they have made the final four times, the last being in 2019-20 when they lost to Saurashtra.

Bengal's last Ranji triumph also had come at the Eden Gardens and they would look to end the prolonged drought, with a 'sweet revenge' against Saurashtra.

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA**  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES  
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,  
JARAKA IRRIGATION DIVISION, JARAKA  
**1<sup>st</sup> Corrigendum Notice To BID IDENTIFICATION No. JKID-06/ 2022-23 (Online)**  
**CANCELLATION OF TENDER**  
The Tender Call Notice No. JKID-06/2022-23(Online) is hereby Cancelled due to unavoidable Circumstance.  
Superintending Engineer,  
Jaraka Irrigation Division Jaraka

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA**  
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION, BALASORE.  
At-Samalpur, P.O-Balia, Dist-Balasore, Pin-756056  
(e-mail: [eephbbs@gmail.com](mailto:eephbbs@gmail.com), Phone-9437086137)  
NO 629 / DATE 13/02/23 /  
**1<sup>st</sup> CORRIGENDUM**  
Tender for the work  
"Construction of 4 nos. 'E' type staff quarters in Balasore Municipality (G+2)" invited vide Bid Identification No. EEPHBS-54 of 2022-23 dt. 02.02.2023.  
The following amendments have been made:

Sl. No.	Item/Clause	Description	Existing Critical Dates	Amended Critical Dates
	Clause-5 Critical Dates, NIT, Section-1 of DTCN	Period of availability of tenders on-line	From 11.00 Hrs. of 13.02.2023 to 17.00 Hrs. of 28.02.2023	From 11.00 Hrs. of 21.02.2023 to 17.00 Hrs. of 08.03.2023
		Last date & time of seeking clarification as per Schedule-J :	17:00 Hrs. of 22.02.2023	17:00 Hrs. of 03.03.2023
		Last date & time of bidding on-line	17:00 Hrs. of 28.02.2023	17:00 Hrs. of 08.03.2023
		Date & time of opening of Technical Bid	11.00 Hrs. of 01.03.2023	11.00 Hrs. of 09.03.2023

All other terms and conditions Un-Altered.  
Executive Engineer,  
Public Health Division, Balasore

C-2458  
**OFFICE OF THE NOTIFIED AREA COUNCIL, BOUDHGARH.**  
e-mail: [boudhgarhnac@yahoo.co.in](mailto:boudhgarhnac@yahoo.co.in)  
Web site address: [boudhgarhnac.in](http://boudhgarhnac.in)  
Letter No :- 524 / Date: 10/2/23  
**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)**  
Boudhgarh NAC proposes to undertake "Preparation of Storm Water Drainage Master Plan and DPR for Boudhgarh NAC area"  
Proposals are invited to conduct the assignment and submit the deliverables from Public Sector Undertakings/ Autonomous Bodies/ consulting registered architectural firms that have requisite experience in preparation of drainage/ pipeline/ sewerage network plan and infrastructure.  
The details may be accessed and the RFP/Application forms can be downloaded from the website [boudhgarh.in](http://boudhgarh.in) & [www.boudh.nic.in](http://www.boudh.nic.in).  
The completed application as per the instructions in the EOI document, should reach the following address by Speed Post/ Registered Post/ Courier & by hand latest by 5 pm on dated 23.02.2023.  
Boudhgarh NAC reserves the sole right to accept or reject any or all proposals without a assigning any reason whatsoever.  
Executive Officer  
BOUDHGARH NAC

**Government of Odisha** E-Mail Id: [eeidjaraka@yahoo.com](mailto:eeidjaraka@yahoo.com)  
**Department of Water Resources**  
**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,**  
**JARAKA IRRIGATION DIVISION,**  
**JARAKA**  
"e" Procurement Notice  
Bid Identification No. JKID-072022-23

- Name of the Work: Irrigation Project Works as per DTCN.
- Total No. of Works: 18 (Eighteen) nos. work.
- Estimated Cost: Varies of Rs. 7.39 Lakh to Rs. 47.56 Lakh
- Period of Completion: SI.No. (1) to SI.No.(18) 90 Days.
- Date & Time of Availability of Bid Document in the Portal: 11.00 A.M. of Dt. 16.02.2023 up to 05.00 P.M. of Dt. 02.03.2023.
- Last Date & Time for Receipt of Bids in the Portal: Up to 05.00 P.M. of Dt. 02.03.2023
- Date of Opening of Bids: Dt. 03.03.2023 at 11.00 A.M. onwards.
- Name and Address of the Officer inviting Tender: Superintending Engineer, Jaraka Irrigation Division, Jaraka.
- Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement Portal "<https://tendersodisha.gov.in>".

Superintending Engineer,  
Jaraka Irrigation Division  
Jaraka