OPINION 6

MODI'S CHARISMA

TRANSCENDS BORDERS

WORLD 9

N KOREA SPY SATELLITE

LAUNCH FAILS

MONEY 10

CENTRE'S FISCAL DEFICIT NARROWS

TO 6.4% OF GDP IN FY23

Published From

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the pioneer

www.dailypioneer.com

– Right to worship Gyanvapi-Shringar Gauri –

Hindu women plea maintainable: HC

Mosque panel's petition rejected

PNS/PTI ■ PRAYAGRAJ

The Allahabad High Court on Wednesday rejected a plea challenging the maintainability of a suit filed by five Hindu women seeking permission for regular worship of Shringar Gauri and other deities in Varanasi's Gyanvapi mosque compound.

Justice JJ Munir dismissed the mosque management committee's revision petition that contended that the suit is barred under the Places of Worship Act, 1991, which prohibits conversion of any place of worship and provides for the maintenance of its religious character as it existed on August 15, 1947. The Anjuman Intezamia Masjid (AIM) committee had filed the petition in the high court against the order of the district judge of Varanasi in September last year that turned down its objections on the maintainability of the suit

filed by the five Hindu women. The suit filed in August 2021 sought permission for daily worship at Maa Shringar Gauri Sthal in the Gyanvapi

CAPSULE

The Maharashtra CM and the

Ahmednagar on Wednesday

Mumbai: In two simultaneous

announcements, Maharashtra

Chief Minister Eknath Shinde said

that the Ahmednagar district will

he renamed as 'Ahilyadevi Holkar

queen of Malwa, who ruled from

1767-1795, while the State Health

Baramati after Ahilyadevi Holkar

KHALISTANI SUPPORTERS

HECKLE RAHUL AT EVENT

Santa Clara: Congress leader

Rahul Gandhi was heckled by a

group of Khalistani supporters

who raised slogans against him

during an event here in the US

state of California

complaint by Sukash

chief secretary for action.

and briefly interrupted his speech

CONMAN SUKESH ALLEGES

HARASSMENT BY JAILORS

New Delhi: The Delhi Lieutenant

Governor office has forwarded a

Chandrashekhar alleging "mental

harassment" by prison staff to the

Nagar' in memory of the great

Ministry named a new government medical college at

Deputy CM pay tribute to Ahilyaba Holkar on her birth anniversary, in

AHMEDNAGAR, COLLEGE TO BE NAMED AFTER HOLKAR



AAP wants power

over babus to halt

Kejriwal seeks Cong stand, to meet

Stalin, Soren over Ordinance issue

probes: Maken

complex.

The district judge had on September 12, 2022, dismissed the plea of AIM filed under Order 7 Rule 11 of the Civil Procedure Code (CPC). It had observed that the suit by the Hindu women was not barred by the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991 The Wakf Act 1995, and the UP Shri Kashi Vishwanath Temple Act, 1983, as was being claimed the AIM.

The counsel for the petitioner, SFA Naqvi, contended the claim of the Hindu side that the devotees were restrained from worshipping Shringar Gauri and other deities on the outer wall of Gyanvapi in 1993 is an "artificial" claim and an example of clever drafting.

RAJESH KUMAR

Congress leader and former

Union Minister Ajay

Wednesday fired a fresh salvo

at Delhi Chief Minister Arvind

Kejriwal claiming the AAP

convener was seeking "enhanced powers" over

administrative services to stall

probes into corruption allega-

tions against his administra-

individual. What is the stand of

the Congress party on this?"

Kejriwal's bid to ramp up sup-

Ministers on the issue of con-

trol of services in the national

Capital, Keiriwal will meet his

Tamil Nadu and Jharkhand

counterparts MK Stalin and

Hemant Soren on Thursday

AIMIM president Asaduddin

In a related development,

and Friday respectively.

port from Opposition Chief

said the AAP.

'This is the statement of an

Maken's jibe came amid

NEW DELHI

Maken

According to him, no order was passed by the then State Government in writing in 1993.

He said that the aforesaid claim has been made only to avoid the application of the Places of Worship Act, 1991. He pointed out that even if

the claim of the Hindu side is accepted, why did they not file suit in 1993 when they were so restrained or thereafter. Hence, the suit filed before the Varanasi court is illegal under the Limitation Act which bars the filing of any suit for declaration after three years of an incident. He claimed that Gyanvapi is on a Waqf property, hence in case of any griev ance, the claim should be made before the Waqf Tribunal.

Continued on Page 2

Owaisi announced

that his party

would not support

Kejriwal as the

AÁP chief follows

Reacting to a

"real Hindutva".

query on his views on the

issue, Owaisi said that his party

would not support Kejriwal in

Rajya Sabha. Owaisi said, "Why

did Kejriwal support Narendra Modi when Article 370 was abrogated. Didn't he realise

that one State was made into three UTs. He (Kejriwal) tried

to show he is the biggest Hindu. When Article 370 was

scrapped, he supported the

BIP. Why did Kejriwal support

reach out to Opposition lead-

ers seeking support against the

Centre's Ordinance wresting

control of "services" from the

Delhi Government, leaders

from the BJP and the Congress'

Delhi units are unanimous in

their offensive against Kejriwal

Continued on Page 2

over the issue.

As Kejriwal continues to

the BJP on Article 370?"

Cong guarantees betrayal of your trust: Modi

By boycotting new Parliament, Opp insulted 60,000 labourers, says PM

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In poll-bound Rajasthan, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday launched his party's month-long pan-India campaign, "Maha India campaign, "Maha Jansampark" from Ajmer and urged people not to be 'misled' by "the guarantee habit" of the Congress which he said "is not new but 50-years-old."

Addressing a public rally at Ajmer, Modi said people of Rajasthan have suffered on account of policies of the Congress which is in the habit of "tricking people".

"Fifty years ago, the Congress guaranteed that it will remove poverty. But it turned out to be their biggest betrayal to the poor. It has been a policy of the Congress to mislead

the poor."
"The Opposition insulted the hard work of 60,000 labour-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi waves at supporters during a public meeting in Ajmer on Wednesday. Former Rajasthan CM Vasundhara Raje is also seen

ers (Shramik) and the sentiment of the country," by boycotting the inauguration of the new parliament, said Modi.

The rally marked the start of a series of BJP public meetings over a month in a major outreach campaign as the party completes nine years in power at the Centre.

Modi compared the "slow speed" of vaccination coverage in the country under the Congress with its speed under the BJP Government at the

vaccination coverage could reach only around 60 per cent.

At that time, 40 out of 100 regnant women, and children could not receive life-saving vaccines. Had there been a Congress Government (now) 100 per cent vaccination cov erage in the country would have taken 40 more years. Several generations would have passed by then. Can you imagine the number of poor women and children who would have died in the absence of life-say

PM thinks he knows everything: Rahul; BJP calls him 'fake Gandhi'

PNS/PTI SANTA CLARA/

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi took a dig at Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday, describing him as a "specimen" who thinks he knows more than God and alleged that the idea of India is under attack, prompting a furious BJP to slam him as a "fake Gandhi" who "insults" India on the foreign soil in his bid to target Modi.

Addressing Indian Americans in Santa Clara in the US, the Congress leader said, 'That is the disease. We have a group of people in India, who are absolutely convinced that they know everything. In fact, they think they know even better than God. They can sit down with God and have a

conversation and explain to him about what is going on. Of course, our prime minister is one such specimen?

Speaking at the 'Mohabbat Ki Dukaan' event organised by the Indian Overseas Congress USA, Rahul said, "They can sit with God and explain to him what's going on. And of course, our prime minister is one such specimen. If you sat Modiji with God, he will explain to God how the universe works and God will get confused about what have I created," he said, evoking laughter from the

audience.
With Rahul likening the alleged targeting of Muslims in India to what he said used to happen to Dalits in Uttar Pradesh in the 80s, Thakur said he forgot to tell people that it was the Congress that was in power in the country and the State then. The Congress leader also alleged that other minorities like Sikhs and Christians besides Dalits and tribals were

also being targeted. Attacking him for criticising the state of affairs in India under the Modi government, Thakur said this was not the first time that Gandhi had insulted India and Indianness

in his trips abroad. It has become a habit for him as he does not consider India a nation, the BJP leader said, claiming that Gandhi had

himself said so earlier. In a hard riposte, Senior BJP leader and Union Minister Pralhad Joshi claimed that the Congress leader's knowledge of history did not go beyond his

family.

"It is funny how someone who knows nothing is suddenly an expert on everything. A man whose knowledge of history does not go beyond his

Centre. "When there was a ing vaccines?" Modi said. Congress Government, the Continued on Page 2 Shah vows Manipur peace,

Court raps police for summons only through WhatsApp

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Acourt here has criticised the Delhi Police for serving summonses on public witnesses only through WhatsApp and referred the matter to the deputy commissioner of police, West district, for "appropriate Additional Sessions Judge

Hem Raj was hearing a murder case registered at Punjabi Bagh police station which was at the stage of prosecution evidence.

Noting that one of the prosecution witnesses was absent and did not respond to repeated calls, the judge said the Delhi Police Commissioner had issued a standing order in February last year regarding the witnesses. The judge also noted in another case, a letter was received from the DCP (west) stating there is no circular from Delhi Police to serve the summons on WhatsApp.

"Earlier also, this court has noted in several cases that the witnesses are being served by the police officials on WhatsApp...," the judge said.

return of displaced people **Govt working on**

3-pronged plan

PNS/PTI ■ IMPHAL

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday said here that the Government is committed to restore peace in Manipur and ensuring an early return of all internally displaced people back to their homes. Meeting victims from both Meitei and Kuki communities in relief camps in the State, he assured them of security and said the Government's focus is to ensure their safe

The Centre is working on a three-pronged approach to bring the warring Meitei and Kuki communities into a narrow common ground for lasting peace in trouble-torn Manipur, sources said on Wednesday. These include dialogue with the affected people, rehabilitating those who had to leave their homes with



enhanced security and control over insurgents, the sources privy to the development said. The major task before the Government is to build confidence between the Meitei and Kuki communities.

On his third day of a trip to Manipur to broker peace between warring communities, Shah visited Moreh in

Tengnoupal district, followed by a tour to Kangpokpi district, and had wide ranging discussions with civil society organisations.

committed to restoring peace in Manipur as early as possible and ensuring their (refugees) return to their homes."

Continued on Page 2

As the news came out in

Amit Shah said, "We are

family is talking about history," the senior BJP leader said.

Cops refute claim of 'no ample proof' against WFI chief

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police on Wednesday refuted reports which claimed that there was no adequate evidence against BJP MP and the Wrestling Federation of India chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, saying the sexual harassment case against him is under consideration and the status report of the investigation will be submitted to court.

The Delhi Police also cor-



doned off India Gate and barred public entry to the memorial's lawns Wednesday.

chief Swati Maliwal on Wednesday issued a notice to police seeking to file a case against a man who allegedly revealed the identity of a minor wrestler who has filed a sexual harassment complaint against Singh.

Earlier, official sources said police had not found sufficient evidence to buttress the allegations levelled against Singh by female wrestlers and that it In a related development, will submit the report within 15

the media, the Delhi Police took to Twitter saying, "It is clarified that this news is 'wrong' and the investigation into this sensitive case is under progress with all sensitivity." A police spokesperson also

shared the same message with reporters, but after nearly an hour, the Delhi Police deleted its tweet. The public relations officer (PRO) also removed the message she had shared in the

official WhatsApp group for

reporters. Later, the police spokesperson shared another message in Hindi that read, "The cases filed by women wrestlers are still under consideration. Status reports are being filed before the court regarding the investigation in the said cases. As the cases are under investigation, it would be against the procedure to say anything before the report is filed in the court."

Continued on Page 2

India first to regulate anti-tobacco warnings on OTT platforms

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

tion in this regard on the occasion of "World No Tobacco Day" that would be applicable after three months.

It notified the amended rules under the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act, 2004, making it mandatory for OTT platforms to display antitobacco warnings as are seen in movies screened in theatres



notification, Dr Poonam Khetrapal Singh, Regional Director, WHO South East Asia Region, welcomed the move saying, India has become the first country in the world to regulate anti-tobacco warnings on OTT platforms.



Tndia, under Prime Minister

Rejecting criticism that India has not delivered its potential (despite it being the second-fastest-growing economy and among the top-performing stock markets over the past 25 years) and that equity valuations are too rich, it said Continued on Page 2 | such a view ignores the sys-

tematic reforms in the last nine years.
"This India is different

from what it was in 2013. In a short span of 10 years, India has gained positions in the world order with significant positive consequences for the macro and market outlook," it said. "India has transformed in less than a decade? Listing the 10 big changes

that have happened since Prime Minister Narendra Modi took office in 2014, the brokerage said bringing corporate tax at par with peers and infrastructure investment picking pace are one of the biggest supply-side policy reforms. Also, the rising collection of GST — the uniform tax that

replaced more than a dozen

different Central and State

India's feat in 10 yrs astonishing: Morgan Stanley

taxes — and the rising share of and MNC sentiment at multidigital transactions as a percentage of GDP indicate the changes, it said. formalisation of the economy.

Transfer of subsidies to accounts of beneficiaries, insolvency and bankruptcy code, flexible inflation targeting, focus on FDI, government sup-4.5 per cent by 2031. port for corporate profits, a new law for real estate sector

year high were other significant Manufacturing and capital

pending as a percentage of GDP has continuously risen, Morgan Stanley said, adding export market share is projected to more than double to

Continued on Page 2

GDP grows 6.1% in March quarter, 7.2% in 2022-23

ndia's economy grew 6.1 per Leent in the fourth quarter of 2022-23, pushing up the annual growth rate to 7.2 per cent, official data showed on Wednesday. Growth in the January-

March period was higher than the 4.5 per cent expansion in the previous October-December quarter of 2022-23.

The Gross Domestic
Product (GDP) had expanded

by 4 per cent in the January-

March period of 2021-22,

As per the data, the economy expanded 7.2 per cent in 2022-23 against a 9.1 per cent growth in 2021-22. The NSO in its second

according to data released by

the National Statistical Office

advance estimate of national accounts had pegged the country's growth at 7 per cent for

NEW DELHI $I_{ m country}^{ m ndia}$ has become the first country in the world to regulate anti-tobacco warnings on OTT platforms with the Union Health Ministry on Wednesday issuing a notificaand TV programmes.



3 booked for draining water body to get phone

Chhattisgarh Govt suspends one over negligence, waste of 41L litres of water

PTI ■ KANKER

 $\begin{array}{c} P \text{olice on Wednesday lodged} \\ an \ \ \text{FIR} \ \ \text{against} \ \ \text{three} \\ \text{Government officials, includ-} \end{array}$ ing a food inspector, for allegedly draining out 41 lakh litres of water from a reservoir's waste weir to retrieve a phone Chhattisgarh's Kanker district last week, while the state administration suspended one of them for negligence in the latest action related to the

episode. The first information report (FIR) was lodged against food inspector Rajesh Vishwas, Sub-Divisional Officer of Pakhanjore RL Dhivar and Sub-Engineer Chhotelal Dhruv, both from the water resources department, at the Pakhanjore police station based on a complaint of nayab tehsildar (revenue official) of the area, a police official said.

Vishwas allegedly pumped out and wasted water stored in the spillway basin of the waste weir, while the two

From Page1

On the other hand, the

counsel representing the Hindu

women had taken the plea

that old maps showed the exis-

tence of sculptures of Hindu

deities in the Gyanvapi mosque

structure and the Hindu devo-

tees were regularly worshipping

Shringar Gauri and other

deities on the outer wall of

Gyanvapi since long.

They said it was only in

1993 that the then govern-

ment restrained regular worship and they were permitted

to worship only once a month.

Hence, the Act of 1991 is not

applicable to them. Further,

they claimed, the place in dis-

pute is not a Waqf property. The Vishva Hindu Parishad

welcomed the Allahabad High

Court's decision.

"The technical objections have been negated. The suit

would now proceed on merits

and we do see success at the

end of the tunnel," VHP

national working president Alok Kumar said. "We hope

tiously proceed towards a final

To be known to all that my client, Mr. Sriramamurty Mangalampalli, S/o Mr. Suryanarayana Mangalampalli, S/o Mr. Suryanarayana Mangalampalli, R/o Flat No. A-29, Kakateeva Apartments, Plot No. 85, I.P. Extn., Patpargani, Delhi-110092, Special Power of Attorney Holder of Mr. Kalanidhi Subba Rao S/o Late Sh. K.Sanjeeva Rao, presently residing at 1243, KEILY, BUD, SANTA CLAA, CALIFORNIA-95051, U.S. A, allottee of property bearing Flat No.119-B, on First Floor Alongwith Scooter Garage, SFS Cat. II, Situated At Gulabi Bagh, Delhi-110007, Vide DDA File No.539(638)82/SFS/68/II has applied for conversion of the aforesaid flat from lease hold to free hold in DDA.The original document. Possession Letter, of the above flat have been lost. An FIR/NCR/ IR to this effect has lodged in Police Station, Crime Branch, New Delhi, vide NCR/FIR/L.R.No.501409/2023 dated 31/05/2023. Any person(s)claiming any right, interest, having any objection or found in possession of original documents, June write/contact with above named person at above address/phone No. 9654777180 within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. The person claiming any right, interest, objections with respect to this property can personally inform or write to Dy. Director (IAB) H or Director (H)-1,D Block, 3rd Floor, Vikas Sadan, INA, New Delhi

IN THE COURT OF II ASSISTANT

CITY CIVIL COURT, AT CHENNAI

O.S No: 5064 OF 2022

M/s. Trivitron Healthcare P Itd. Rep by its Manager-Admin M.Rajagopa

1.M/s. Bimla Enterprises. 2.Mr.Laliteshwar, Proprietor,

1. M/s. Bimla Enterprises,

No.A-231, Madan Pur Khadar Sarita Vihar, New Delhi- 110 076.

2. Mr.Laliteshwar, Proprietor,

No.A-231, Madan Pur Khadar

Sarita Vihar, New Delhi- 110 076.

Please take notice that the above

referred matter came up for hearing on 17-04-

2023 and the Hon'ble Judge was pleased t

Order Paper Publication on or before 01-06

2023 and post the case on 27-06-2023. The

case is posted on 27-06-2023 at 10.30 a.r

for all of your appearance, you have to appea

in person or through your Advocate on above

said date before the above said Court, failing

which the matter will be decided and Ex part

R.Ramesh

Counsel for Plaintiff

Order would be passed in your absence.

M/s. Bimla Enterprises,

Rep by its Proprietor Mr.Laliteshwar

judgment," he added

Hindu ...

(WRD) officials supported him in his unauthorised act, he

They were booked under sections 430 (mischief by injury to works of irrigation or by wrongfully diverting water) and 34 (common intention) of the IPC, the official said, adding further investigation was underway.

Vishwas and Dhivar, who were posted in the Pakhanjore area of the district, have been suspended in the matter with the latter facing the action on Wednesday. The food inspector was suspended last week.

As per the FIR, the nayab tehsildar in his complaint stated that Vishwas (33) along with his friends had gone to the Paralkot reservoir in Kherketta village on May 21 for outing when his mobile phone fell into the spillway basin (cistern) of the dam's waster weir. Vishwas allegedly drained out thousands litres of water over four days to fish out his mobile phone. The water stored there is

used by locals for daily needs, agriculture activities and serves as a drinking source for animals and birds in the summer season. Dhivar and Dhruv cooperated with Vishwas in the act, causing loss of water meant for agriculture projects and other activities, it said.

allegedly pumped out 4,104 cubic meter water — equivalent to 41 lakh litres — from the cistern of the waste weir of the reservoir for four days before his mobile phone was fished out on May 25. After the incident came to light the next day, Kanker Collector Priyanka Shukla sought a report and Vishwas was sub-

sequently suspended. The collector had also issued a show-cause notice to the SDO Dhivar for allegedly giving verbal permission to drain out the water. Vishwas has been asked to pay a penalty of Rs 53,092 to the department for his his act unautho-

On Wednesday, Anurag Pandey, special secretary (WRD), issued the suspension order of Dhivar, in-charge SDO (water resources) who was posted at Kapsi in the district, an official said.

As per the suspension order, Dhivar did not take any action in connection with the unauthorised evacuation of 4,104 cubic meter water from the cistern of the waste weir of the Paralkot reservoir. Dhivar's act reflects lack of regular inspection of reservoirs and negligence in discharging duty, it said, adding he has been placed under suspension with

ED attaches ₹124 cr assets of Surana Group in PMLA case

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has provisionally attached 78 immovable properties and 16 movable properties valued at ₹124 crore belonging to various persons and entities linked to the Chennai-based Surana Group of Companies in a money laundering case linked to three bank fraud cases involving ₹3,986 crore.

Earlier, the ED had attached properties worth ₹124.95 crore. Now, the total attachments in the case stand at ₹248.98 crore.

The ED initiated money laundering investigation on the basis of three FIRs registered by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), Bengaluru against Surana Industries Limited and others, Surana Power Limited and others, and Surana Corporation Limited

Investigations have revealed that these three companies of Surana Group have defrauded the banks by floating a web of shell companies wherein they appointed its employees/ relatives as directors/ proprietors/ partners, the ED said in a

The Group indulged in paper transactions with the shell companies without actual movement of goods and the credit capital of the banks were round tripped/ layered to the personal accounts of the promoters of the company by projecting the bank funds as unsecured loans from their associate shell companies.

Such funds were then subsequently infused in the main Group Companies as part of the Promoters contribution to enhance the drawing power limits, the agency said." Further, some of the diverted funds

able/ immovables properties in the names of various benami persons/ companies.

These actions of the Promoters/ officials of the Surana Group led to the accounts becoming irregular which ultimately led to accounts becoming NPA (non performing asset)," it said. Based on the investiga-tions conducted, Dinesh Chand

Surana, MD of Surana Industries Limited and Surana Power Ltd, Vijay Raj Surana, MD of Surana Corporation Limited and two dummy directors of shell companies -P Anand and I Prabhakaranwere arrested on July 12, 2022 and later they all were sent to judicial custody. The agency has already filed prosecution complaints or chargesheet before the Special Court, PMLA (Prevention of Money

Some MLAs from Shinde group in touch with Uddhav Sena, says Sanjay Raut

Mumbai: Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut on Wednesday claimed some lawmakers from the Shiv Sena headed by Maharashtra Chief Minister Éknath Shinde were in touch with the Uddhav Thackeray-led party.

His remarks came a day

after an editorial in the Shiv Sena (UBT) mouthpiece 'Saamana' claimed 22 MLAs and nine MPs from rival Shiv Sena were feeling suffocated due to "step-motherly treatment" by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and could quit the group led by CM Shinde.

Asked whether lawmakers from the rival Sena camp are in touch with the Shiv Sena (UBT), Raut, who is the party's spokesperson, told reporters here, "Communication is always there. They (those from Shinde camp) ventilate their grievance, but it is not right to tell this publicly. They have made a mistake (to leave Uddhav Thackeray) and they have to handle it." "Those in the Shinde group will have to contest on the BJP symbol. This is the stand of the BJP. We have this information," the Rajya Sabha member further said.

Latching on to Shiv Sena MP Gajanan Kirtikar's remark that his party was getting step-motherly treatment, the editorial in 'Saamana' on Tuesday dubbed the Shinde group MLAs and MPs as "hens and cocks" imprisoned in the BJP's coop and added that it cannot be said when they could be slaughtered. The Thackerayheaded Shiv Sena (then undivided) exited National Democratic Alliance (NDA) in 2019 and joined hands with Congress and Nationalist Congress Party to form a government in Maharashtra. PTI

Shah vows Manipur peace, return of displaced people

From Page1

The home minister assured people that the supply of essential items in hill areas and helicopter services for emerneeds Churachandpur, Moreh and Kangpokpi will be ensured.

Speaking to media after meeting Shah at Raj Bhavan, Advisor of Meitei Council Moreh Ningthoukhongjam Pulendro Singh said "we conveyed to him the need for our resettlement in Moreh and Churachandpur." The home minister is believed to have assured both a safe return home to all interally displaced persons as also return of those

who fled to Myanmar, though officials said the latter may take some time. Later, the home minister visited a relief camp in Imphal where the members of the Meitei community from hill districts were sheltering. "Our resolve remains focused on leading Manipur back to the track of peace and harmony once again at the earliest," Shah

The Union Home Minister also held a security review meeting with top officials from Central and State forces in Imphal later in the evening. He directed them to take stern and prompt actions against armed

Excessive use of fertilisers in

weapons to bring back nor-malcy at the earliest, the release said. Earlier he had held a similar meeting in Moreh. He was accompanied by Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla and Director of the Intelligence Bureau Tapan Kumar Deka on

the trip.

"He met the delegation of Kuki the hill tribal council, Kuki Students Organisation, Kuki Chiefs Association, Tamil Sangam, Gorkha Samaj and Manipuri Muslim council in Moreĥ. The delegates expressed strong support for the government's initiatives to restore normalcy in state," the home

India first to regulate anti-tobacco warnings...

From Page1 "Today's move demon-strates India's unstinted commitment to protect the health of people from the harmful effects of tobacco. I commend the country's strong leader-ship and all stakeholders for this landmark step," she said.

According to the notification, publishers of online curated content displaying tobacco products or their use will be required to display anti-tobacco health spots each of a minimum of 30 seconds at the beginning and middle of the

They shall also be required to exhibit an anti-tobacco health warning as a prominent static message at the bottom of

ucts or their use are displayed during the show. Also, an audio-visual disclaimer of a minimum of 20 seconds on the ill-effects of tobacco use will also have to be displayed at the beginning and in the middle of the programme, the source stated.

"The anti-tobacco health warning message as specified in clause(b) of sub-rule (1) shall be legible and readable, with font in black colour on white background and with the warnings 'Tobacco causes cancer' or 'Tobacco kills," the notification stated. Besides, the anti-tobacco health warning messages, health spots and audio-visual disclaimers will have to be in the same language as used in

Cong guarantees betrayal of your trust: Modi

Modi launched the BJP's month-long country-wide 'Maha Jansampark' which includes over 51 huge rallies, public meetings at more than 500 places, and over 600 Press conferences in over 500 Lok Sabha and 4,000 Vidhan Sabha constituencies. Around five lakh "distinguished families" will also be contacted in the run-up to the 2024 Lok Sabha

In the backdrop of the Congress winning the Karnataka elections where it offered five pre-poll guarantees, Modi in his rally cautioned voters in Rajasthan not to be swayed by the Congress' guarantees. "This 'guarantee habit' ress is not new, it is old. 50 years ago, the Congress gave the 'garibi hatao'

Cops refute claim ...

From Page1

The Delhi Police on

Wednesday also cordoned off

India Gate even though there

was no formal announcement

by the police about the decision

to bar the entry of the public.

underpass leading to the India Gate lawns was blocked for

pedestrian visitors but vehicles

were allowed to pass on the

roads running across the lawns.

Policemen were also deployed

at different points to ensure

that people did not make their

way to the lawns. "The grass

was damaged in the recent

rains. To help the grass grow,

they needed to be left alone for

Early on Wednesday, the

slogan to the country. This is the Congress party's biggest treachery with the poor", said Modi. He further said, "The Congress' strategy has been to trick the poor. People of Rajasthan have suffered due to this. The policy of the Congress has been to cheat the poor and make them suffer.

The people of Rajasthan have also suffered a lot due to this." Reminding people of nine years of his Government at the Centre, Modi said, "Nine years of BJP Government were dedicated to the service of the people of the country, good governance and welfare of the

All top BJP leaders from Rajasthan, including the fresh-Árjun Meghwal accompanied Modi during the rally.

a day or two without the pub-

lic stomping it," an officer said.

"It is also a preventive measure

by us to keep the wrestlers away

from landing up here to protest," he added.

ous note, DCW chief tweeted,

"A man posing as the uncle of

a minor girl who had filed a

complaint against Brij Bhushan

is revealing the identity of the

girl by showing her documents

to the Press. I am giving notice

to the police. There should be

an FIR against this man under

the POCSO Act. Are they let-

ting Brij Bhushan roam free so

that the victim can be pres-

Meanwhile, taking a seri-

creating awareness among farmers to prevent future crises. "The excessive use of chemical fertilisers not only harms the soil but also poses risks to human health.

Ignorance and excessive use of chemical fertilisers by farm-

ers in Uttar Pradesh are posing

a significant threat to both the

soil and human health, accord-

ing to a report prepared by the

survey conducted in 15 dis-

tricts, highlights the need for

Agriculture department.

The department has submitted a report to the government, emphasising the need to raise awareness among farmers to prevent future troubles," Ashok Mitta told 'The Pioneer' on Wednesday. The impact of high nitrogen levels extends beyond the immediate health risks. It also contributes to climate change and groundwater pollution, affecting the environment and overall ecosys-

The excessive use of chemical fertilisers leads to nitrogen loss through evaporation and leaching, resulting in increased greenhouse gas emissions and

UP poses health and soil risks sources."The Agriculture department's report highlights the need for a shift towards more environmentally friendly farming methods to mitigate these consequences," Mitta said. While the government has been promoting natural farm- oration and leaching. This ing, farmers in the state con- excessive nitrogen use conical fertilisers in their quest for higher crop yields.

This has led to a decline in soil fertility and an imbalance in essential elements. The report, presented by Joint Director Fertilisers Dr Amit Pathak to top officials of the Agriculture department, emphasises the urgent need for action. The survey focused on four major crops: paddy, sugarcane, potato and wheat. The nitrogen levels in these crops were specifically examined, with the recommended levels being 150 in paddy, 180 in sugarcane and potato, and 150 per hectare in wheat.

However, it was found that farmers in 15 districts were using more nitrogen than the prescribed standards. In districts such as Shamli, Sambhal, Farrukhabad, Hapur, Kannauj, Prayagraj and Meerut, the nitrogen levels exceeded 200.

tilisers not only hampers crop growth but also has serious consequences for human health. Plants only utilise around 30 per cent of the applied nitrogen as urea, while the excess is lost through evapgroundwater pollution," Dr Pathak said. He said urea seeping into

the ground combines with nitrogen to form nitrosamines, which could lead to diseases like cancer, reduction of red blood cells and the formation of tumors when contaminated water is consumed. Furthermore, the purification process of fertilisers such as DAP, which is derived from rock phosphate, introduces heavy elements like cobalt, cadmium and uranium into the soil and water.

These elements can have adverse effects on human health. Dr Pathak explains, "During purification, heavy elements such as cobalt, cadmium and uranium remain in it, the use of which contaminates soil and water." Consuming crops grown in such contaminated soil can lead to health complications. To address these issues, the Agriculture department has established soil testing laboratories at the tehsil and block levels in the state. These labs assess the levels

of various elements in the soil, including nitrogen, phosphorus, potash, sulphur, zinc and their soil tested to identify any deficiencies and adjust their fertiliser usage accordingly. Dr Pathak recommends using nano urea 40 days after sowing the crop, as it requires less quantity and provides longerlasting benefits. Agriculture Production

Commissioner Manoj Kumar Singh has directed the Agriculture department to conduct similar surveys for other crops as well. The aim is to formulate an action plan and raise awareness among farmers about potential harms of excessive fertiliser use. Singh emphasises that just because there is no shortage of fertilisers does not mean they should be used beyond crop demand, as this can have detrimental effects. The findings of this report underscore urgent need for a shift towards sustainable farming practices in Uttar Pradesh.

Minor girl critical after gang-rape in Gorakhpur

PNS | Lucknow

The condition of a minor girl was critical after she was gang-raped in Gorakhpur. She was admitted to the medical college hospital and the local claimed to have detained a suspect. The cops will record the statement of the victim before a magistrate before initiating further legal action.

According to reports, three youths forcibly took a 15-yearold girl inside a closed factory in Kusamhi forest under Khorabar police station in Gorakhpur on Tuesday.

It is alleged that the girl was kept hostage for the whole night and the youths raped her one by one after which her condition deteriorated due to

excessive bleeding.

The girl was admitted to the emergency ward of the district hospital in a critical condition from where she was referred to the medical college

hospital.

The police registered a case against Rajan Rajbhar, nephew of the sitting gram pradhan, and took him in custody.

India feats in 10 yrs astonishing: Morgan Stanley

Also, there has been a major shift in the consumption basket following lower volatility in inflation and shallower interest rate cycles. All these have led to a profit boom for corporate and stock market investors and a breakdown in correlation with global oil prices. "Indian stocks have become more defensive," it said.

The steady increase in manufacturing and capex as a percentage of GDP is likely to result in "a new cycle in manufacturing and capex, as we estimate the share of both to rise in GDP by approximately 5ppt by 2031," it said, adding India's export market share will rise to 4.5 per cent by 2031,

nearly 2x from 2021 levels, with broad-based gains across goods and services exports. "As India's per capita income increases from USD 2,200 currently to about USD 5,200 by 2032, this will have major implications for change in the consumption basket, with an impetus to discretionary consumption," it said.

"We expect inflation to remain benign and less volatile, which would imply shallower rate cycles. Shallower rate cycles could also imply more benign equity market cycles."

On the benign trend in the current account deficit, it said it believes "India's structural transformation will feed into the saving-investment dynamics, implying gains for its exter-

nal balance sheet, with a progressively narrower trend in the CAD." "The share of profits in GDP has doubled from all-time lows hit in 2020 and are set to rise further — maybe even double from here — leading to strong absolute and relative earnings. This explains India's apparently rich headline equity valuations. Triggered by supply-side

reforms by the government, we expect a major rise in investments, a moderation in the CAD and an increase in credit to GDP to support the coming profit growth," it said. The brokerage saw a lower correlation with oil prices as well as with the US recession. "As India's reliance on global capthe market's sensitivity to a US recession and US Fed rate changes also seems to be fading. "This reflects persistent domestic demand for stocks and higher growth for longer. India is trading at a premium to long-term history, albeit well off highs and in line with recent history," it said. India's beta to emerging markets has fallen to 0.6: This is a consequence of improved macro stability and reduction in dependence on global capital market flows to fund the CAD."

Kev risks however remain a global recession, a fragmented general election outcome in 2024, a sharp rise in commodity prices due to supply outages and shortages in skilled labour supply.

AAP wants power over babus to halt probes...

From Page1

Interestingly, Kejriwal has sought an appointment with the Congress leadership on the issue of the Ordinance but his request has been kept on hold so far.

"Will be meeting Tamil Nadu CM Thiru @mkstalin in Chennai tomorrow (June 1) to seek DMK's support against Centre's unconstitutionalundemocratic 'Anti-Delhi' Ordinance," he tweeted on Wednesday. "Day after tomorrow, on June 2, I will meet Iharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren in Ranchi. Will seek his support against the people of Delhi," he said in another tweet. On the other hand, taking to Twitter, Maken alleged that Kejriwal's true motives are exposed as he "aims to take control" over the vigilance department and is "challenging" decades of established governance norms.

"Investigations into scanlike liquor-gate, dals Sheeshmahal (his lavish 171crore residence violating MPD 2021 rules), Power Subsidy scam, bus purchase scam, and others will reveal the extent of corruption within his administration. And this is what he wants to stop," the Congress

leader alleged. "Kejriwal is openly seeking enhanced powers over services, aiming to take control over the vigilance department and challenging decades of established governance norms. He conveniently downplays his true intentions," Maken tweeted.

"Let's not forget that the powers Kejriwal seeks were intentionally vested in the Central Government by eminent leaders like Ambedkar, Nehru, Patel, Shastri, Narasimha Rao, Vajpayee, and Manmohan Singh to prevent a multiplicity of authority in the National Capital Territory," Maken said on Wednesday.

Ordinance promulgated by ital market flows has reduced, Although every possible care and caution has been taken to avoid errors or omissions, this publication is being sold on the condition and understanding that information given in this publication is merely for reference and must not be taken as having authority of or binding in any way on the writers, editors, publishers, and printers and sellers who do not owe any responsibility for any damage or loss to any person, a purchaser of this publication or not for the result of any action taken on the basis of this work. All disputes are subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of competent court and forums in Delhi/New Delhi only. Readers are advised and requested to verify and seek appropriate advice to satisfy themselves about the veracity of any kind of advertisement before responding to any contents published in this newspaper. The printer, publisher, editor and any employee of the Pioneer Group's will not be held responsible for any kind of claim made by the advertisers of the products & services and shall not be made responsible for any kind of loss, consequences and further product-related damages on such advertisements

PANEL ON WASTE MANAGEMENT

Govt moves SC against NGT making LG head

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Government has I moved the Supreme Court challenging an order of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) by which a high-level committee headed by Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena was set up for handling solid waste management in the national Capital.

The AAP-led Delhi Government, which has been at loggerheads with the LG over several administrative issues, filed the appeal against the February 16 order of the NGT, saying its effect is to "bypass the elected Government completely" and hand over the power with regard to the management of solid waste to the LG and the Central Government which is in violation of the constitutional scheme. Amid a lingering conflict between the Centre and the AAP dispensation, the Delhi government had filed a separate plea a few days ago assailing another order of the NGT naming the LG as the chairperson of a High-Level Committee (HLC) on Yamuna pollution.

The fresh plea, filed through lawyer Shadan Farasat on Tuesday, sought setting aside of the final order of February 16 passed by the NGT, saying the Delhi government was "aggrieved by the executive powers conferred on the Lt. Governor vide the Impugned Order over areas in which only the elected government of the NCT of Delhi

enjoys competence."
"The NGT has appointed the Lt. Governor as the chairman of a committee when there was absolutely no statutory or constitutional power



Governor to chair such a committee," it said.

The panel set up by the NGT comprises the chief secretary, and secretaries of the Irrigation, Forest and Environment, Agriculture, and Finance Departments of the Delhi government.

Besides these officers, the panel includes the Chief Executive Officer, Delhi Jal Board, Vice Chairman of the Delhi Development Authority, Secretary or his nominee in Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, D. G. Forest or his nominee, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Government of India, and some other offi-

Importantly, the order has constituted the committee with the LG of Delhi, a mere figurehead as its chairperson, the petition added.

"Further, the remedial steps as suggested by the NGT such as setting up new waste processing facilities, augmenting existing waste processing facilities and remediation of legacy waste sites are all which require budgetary allocations

Government/Legislative Assembly of the NCT of Delhi and hence the role of the elected government becomes extremely necessary in this regard," it said.

The plea said public health, sanitation and solid waste management are referable to Entry 6 of Schedule 12, which gives power to the local government that is Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), to deal with these issues.

The plea referred to the 2018 and 2023 constitution bench judgements of the top court on Delhi-Centre power row to buttress the point that LG has no power related to solid waste management in the national capital.

"Under the scheme of administration in Delhi and the scheme of Article 239AA of the Constitution, the LG is only a nominal figurehead except in areas of police, (public) order and land ... While the Appellant acknowledges that a coordinated approach is necessary for solid waste management..., (the impugned order) completely side-lines the elected govern-

Cops recreate Shahbad Dairy crime scene Take accused to murder spot; victim's friends called to join probe

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police on early Wednesday morning recreated the crime scene at the spot where a minor was brutally stabbed to death by her boyfriend. The accused Sahil also accompanied the police. Meanwhile, the Delhi Police has asked three friends of the Shahbad Dairy murder victim to join the investigation.

According to police, due to security reasons, Sahil was taken to the crime spot at 4 am in the morning and the police tried to understand how he murdered the minor. They also asked him to explain where he waited for her to come to the area. The police are still trying to recover the murder weapon.

Though the accused, Sahil has admitted to the crime, he is continuously changing his statements, the police said. The police have got only two days custody of Sahil, so they have only Wednesday to recover the murder weapon. Efforts are on to trace the weapon, the police said.

Sakshi was stabbed over 20 times and then bludgeoned with a cement slab, killing her on the spot. She was found to have 34 injury marks on her body and her skull was smashed in. The accused Sahil (20) was arrested from Bulandshahar in Uttar Pradesh on Monday.

The police has asked three friends of Sakshi to join the investigation. A senior police officer said three of Sakshi's friends — Bhawna, Ajay alias Jhabru and Neetu — have been asked to join the investigation and provide the required details in connection with the inci-

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Outer North) Ravi Kumar Singh said, "We have the accused in our custody and interrogation is underway. We are looking at all aspects to con-



to see all the individuals involved in the incident. Our team is working to recover the weapon used in it." Sahil allegedly threw away the knife used to kill Sakshi into the bushes in Rithala. It is yet to be recovered, he said.

Fresh CCTV footage has emerged in which the victim is seen walking into a street minutes before her murder. Ajay said Sakshi had complained to him about Sahil on Saturday. He said that "On Saturday, Sakshi came and said Sahil pestered her. Me, along with Bhawna and Sakshi, went to meet Sahil and asked him not to bother her. However, on Sunday, he committed the

"When I heard about the incident and went to the spot, I saw her body lying there. Her skull was ruptured and her intestines were hanging. I helped the police shift the body into the ambulance," he added.

Sunil Kumar, another local who reached the spot, said he saw several people gathered there and Ajay was helping the police to carry the body. The police are yet to recover the weapon used to kill Sakshi. Sahil disclosed that he threw the knife near the metro station at Rithala after the murder.

Sahil had planned the murder two days before he killed Sakshi, who had rebuffed him in front of her friends and refused to mend their rela-

BJP demands death for accused

The BJP on Wednesday demanded death penalty for the Shahbad Dairy murder accused and alleged that the killing of the minor girl in northwest Delhi was a case of "love jihad"."The killer in the Shahbad Dairy murder case should be hanged as soon as possible. A special team should be formed to deal with such cases under the supervision of the Lt Governor so that the Kejriwal government's appeasement policy does not affect court trials," BJP MP Manoj Tiwari said.

Virendra Sachdeva, the party's Delhi unit chief, said fast-track courts should be set up and special prosecutors appointed for cases of rape, murder or "love jihad" as there is already pressure on regular

"Love jihad" is a term often used by BJP leaders and rightwing activists to allege a ploy by Muslim men to lure Hindu women into religious conversion through marriage. Both Tiwari and Sachdeva demanded capital punishment for the accused, identified as Sahil (20). He was arrested from Bulandshahar in Uttar Pradesh on Monday. Sakshi was stabbed transparent system for such



murder of a minor at the party office on Wednesday

over 20 times and then bludgeoned with a cement slab, killing her on the spot. She was found to have 34 injury marks on her body and her skull was

Tiwari said, "The soul of every person in the country has been shaken by the murder of the minor girl by Sahil Sarfaraz. The BJP demands that the murderer be hanged at the earliest.

He also alleged that the murder was an outcome of "love iihad" and added that it is necessary to find out whether any organisation is working to promote such incidents. The BJP MP also demanded a cases in Delhi so that the city government's "appeasement policy" does not work in these

"In such serious cases, a special team should be formed to work under the supervision of the Lt Governor so that justice can be done at earliest," Tiwari said.

Sachdeva also demanded a special prosecutor and claimed there are 108 vacancies for prosecutor roles in Delhi that the city government has not yet been able to fill. It is the result of providing a special prosecutor that the northeast Delhi riots cases are now showing results and the accused are being punished.

CM announces ₹10L ex-gratia for victim's kin

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

hief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has approved Can ex-gratia amount of ₹10 lakh for the grieving family of the Shahbad Dairy murder victim. This decision comes in the wake of the Chief Minister's announcement of financial aid and comprehensive legal support for Sakshi's family, on Tuesday. Kejriwal has also vowed his unwavering support for the family of Sakshi, promising to stand by them in every possible

way. With the CM's approval, the file has been forwarded to the Lieutenant Governor (LG) for

Announcing the decision, Kejriwal tweeted, "Have approved and sent the file to Hon'ble LG for supporting the family of Sakshi with an amount of ₹10 lakhs. We stand with her fami-

Will support them in every possible way." BJP MP Hansraj Hans also handed over a cheque of Rs 1 lakh as a compensation to Sakshi's

allotted to NHAI for six-lane highway

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena has approved the transfer of land to National (NHAI) from Irrigation and Flood Control Department clearing the way forward for construction of six lane Highway from DND Maharani Bagh to Junction with Jaitpur-Pusta Road Section of NH-

According to a statement from Lt Governor's office, this transfer of land measuring 4509 sq.mtr (1.11 acre), has cleared the roadblock for the construction of the six lane Highway as a part of the ambitious BharatmalaPariyojana.

This highway will serve as a primary route for traffic flow between Delhi, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh, and will improve the connectivity of North, East Delhi with Noida and Ghaziabad.

It will also connect with

major highways such as Direct

Noida-Delhi flyways, Delhi-

Meerut, Kundli-Manesar-Palwal (KMP), NH-2 (Delhi-Agra), Delhi Mumbai Expressway, and Jewar airport. "In a win-win situation, the approval by L-G has been

granted subject to the condition



that NHAI will use the inert and C&D waste generated in Delhi at the location of its construction and beyond, apart from making the required payment for the land, " reads the statement.

The section will feature a cross-elevated metro railway line in the Delhi region at four locations.

Additionally, a Vertical Garden has been planned for all piers along the stretch to provide aesthetic and environmental benefits. In another similar move, LG has approved the transfer of 4235 sq.mtr of I&FC Department land for construction of power substation at Nawada village in Uttam Nagar, pending since

Irrigation Dept land Discoms submit plea to DERC for truing-up till 2021-22

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

The Delhi Distribution Companies (DISCOMS) have submitted their petition to the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC) for truing-up till the year 2021-22 and the Aggregate Revenue for 2023-24.

In their true-up (reconciliation of actual and estimated accounts) petitions, the discoms have shown a revenue gap of Rs 2,906 crore. The aggregate revenue requirement (ARR) petitions project a standalone revenue gap of Rs 7,817 crore. The petitions were uploaded on the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC) website. As mandated, the discoms submitted their ARRs — practically their annual budgets — to the DERC on May 22.

Earlier, the DERC had asked power distribution companies and other electricity utilities to submit their annual revenue requirement (ARR) figures by May 21 to help it initiate the procedure to determine the power tariff for the 2023-24 fiscal year. There has been no tariff hike in Delhi after 2014. In its last tariff order of 2021-22, the DERC had increased the pension surcharge from 5% to 7%, leading to a marginal increase in bills, but there was no change in the



per unit charge consumption of electricity.

"In a tearing hurry, the single-member DERC accepted the petitions on May 26, 2023, while the regulatory body is without a Chairperson and Member Finance, and the lone member is set to demit office on August 1, 2023. Most notably, DERC choosing not to wait for the imminent appointment of the Supreme Court directed Regulator's Chairperson, which is just few days away, has raised evebrows in the industry circles," sources

The True-up petitions from the DISCOMs, which basically reconcile projected versus actual expenses, have shown a substantial standalone revenue gap of around Rs 2906Cr -NDMC (Rs. 252 Cr), BRPL (Rs.1289 Cr), BYPL (Rs. 525 Cr), and TPDDL (Rs.841 Cr). In their ARRs, the DISCOMs have projected revenue gaps for FY 2023-24 of Rs. Crore (New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) Rs 357 crore, BRPL Rs 3794 crore, BYPL Rs 1629 crore, TPDDL Rs 2037 crore).

No official response was available from the BSES, BSES Rajdhani Power Limited (BRPL) and BSES Yamuna Power Limited (BYPL) or Tata Power Delhi Distribution Limited (TPDDL) over the issue.

Even in the last tariff order, the DERC had recognised regulatory assets (revenue gap) of over Rs 9,000 crore. Despite the recognition, this amount has not been ammortised (given) to the discoms. Even huge regulatory assets (revenue gaps) consequent to the Orders of the Supreme Court, the ATE as well DERC are yet to be recognised by the DERC.

Since there has been no tariff increase since 2014, the

discoms have requested the regulator to allow a cost-reflective tariff for FY 23-24 to maintains uninterrupted and quality power supply to the consumers of Delhi.

"Significantly, while DERC is mandated to consider both truing-up and ARR petitions in ly overlooked considerable legal and regulatory realities. This has cast a shadow of doubt on the motives of the single-member DERC," sources added. Compounding the issues,

DERC has been operating with just a single member since the former Chairperson's retirement on January 9, 2023, and the absence of a Member Finance since June 2020. The incumbent Member Technical is also approaching retirement on August 1, 2023. . This situation stirs up doubts regarding the motives of the single member DERC.

The DERC's hurried tariff determination process contravenes established guidelines and law, and the rapid implementation of the Business Plan Regulations by the one-member DERC appears to place an additional interest burden on consumers. Further concerns arise from the curtailing of crucial expenses, particularly O&M expenses, potentially affecting maintenance activities and, in turn, the consumers," sources added.

INBRIEF

Services under the guidance of of

the national president of the

KSDD FELICITATES CIVIL SERVICES QUALIFIERS New Delhi: Khatu Shyam Dilli Dham felicitated the selected personalities in Sarvasamaj Pratibhawan Civil

organization, Ghanshyam Gupta Zaveri. The Khatu Shyam Dilli Dham temple is being built in the national Capital, is also called the eighth wonder of the world. Under the guidance of the national president of the organization, Ghanshyam Gupta Zaveri , the talented personalities of the society were honored who were selected in (Civil Service). In the felicitation ceremony, Chief Guest Surendra Singh Yaday, Special Commissioner, Delhi Police, and Rajesh Goyal, Additional Private Secretary, Lok Sabha Speaker, while appreciating the Sarvasamaj Samman event organized by Delhi Dham, quided all the selecter talents and honored them including Priyanka Goyal, Anshika Jain, Kunal Jain, Tarun Bansal, Mansi Dahiya, Ayush Goyal, Dimpy Rajoura, Pranjal Jain, Anshika Jain, Kritika Shukla, Shidhart Shukla etc.

FIN MIN REVIEWS TRADE & TAXES DEPT'S FUNCTIONING New Delhi: Delhi Finance Minister Kailash Gahlot on Wednesday convened a meeting with senior officials from the Department of Trade & Taxes. He reviewed the current situation of the department, the problems which are being faced and discussed the measures to make the system of tax collection systematic and structured in Delhi

HC BANS ILLICIT WEBSITES STREAMING 'SPIDERMAN' New Delhi: The Delhi High Court has restrained over 100 "rogue" websites from unauthorisedly streaming animation films 'SpiderMan: Across The Spider-Verse' and 'Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse' on their platforms. The court's order came on a lawsuit by Sony Pictures Animation Inc which stated it was the copyright holder of the upcoming release 'SpiderMan: Across The Spider-Verse' and has not licensed the right to broadcast it to any website.

MAYOR SHELLY CHAIRS MEETING ON STRAY CATTLE New Delhi: Mayor Shelly Oberoi chaired a crucial meeting aimed at addressing the issue of stray cattle and capitalising on the potential of cow products. The Mayor said that the MCD explore the possibility for transforming gaushalas into 'profit centres'.

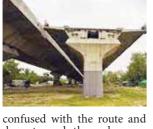
MINISTER UNVEILS 4TH ISSUE OF DCPCR JOURNAL New Delhi: Women and Child Development Minister Atishi unveiled the fourth issue of the DCPCR "Children First-Journal on Children's Lives" on Wednesday at Veer Sayarkar Sarvodaya Kanya Vidyalaya. Kalkaji. The fourth issue delves deeper into various domains and multiple disciplines to address crucial issues impacting children's

NHRC notice to Govt, police after car falls off under-construction Barapullah stretch

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

¬he National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has issued a notice to the Delhi Government and the city police chief over a man dving after his car fell off an unattended under-construction stretch of the Barapullah elevated road in the national capital.

According to the police, the 42-year-old man died after his car fell off the under-construction flyover in east Delhi's Barapullah-Noida Link Road area on May 26. Jagandeep Singh, a resident of Krishna Nagar in Delhi, fell 30 feet to the ground leading to his death. It is suspected that he got



drove towards the under-construction flyover, police have

The NHRC, in a statement on Wednesday, observed that it is immaterial whether there was any "contributory negligence" by the victim while driving. What is more serious is that the "authorities recklessly left an under-construction portion of a busy Delhi road unbarricaded, which is unpardonable", it said.

The commission said it has taken suo motu cognisance of media reports of the incident. Reportedly, there was no signage regarding the ongoing work at the site and some of the barriers had been moved.

Accordingly, the NHRC has issued notices to the chief secretary, the secretary, the public works department, the Government of Delhi and the Delhi police commissioner, seeking a detailed report within four weeks, the statement

City to get Al-based traffic system by 2024

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The national capital will have an arti-I ficial intelligence (AI) -based traffic system by the end of next year to reduce congestion and facilitate faster and smarter vehicular movement.

Speaking at ASSOCHAM seventh road safety conference, Special Commissioner of Police (Traffic) Surender Singh Yadav mentioned that the Intelligent Traffic Management System (ITMS) would take another one or oneand-half-years to be fully implemented and is being done at the cost of around Rs 1,400 crore.

Yadav, who is part of a special committee on road safety constituted by the Supreme Court, informed that they are working on technology initiatives to make the traffic much more smooth in the national capital.

We are working on ways to see how technology can improve the commute at emergency corridors and emergency services. We are also looking at how we can improve upon our traffic control rooms and their communication with the ambulance networks," he said.

ITMS is a technology that employs AI to assess traffic in real time. When implemented, it is likely to change the traffic scenario in the city. Real time traffic information will be passed to commuters. The human interface in road management will be reduced and traffic signals will operate automatically during the day depending on traffic volume and average speed on the road, the statement said quoting Yadav.

Delhi Metro: Signal glitch disrupts Magenta line ops

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

ervices were delayed for over two Shours on the Magenta Line of the Delhi Metro due to signalling issues on Wednesday, officials said.

The Magenta Line connects Janakpuri West in Delhi and Botanical Garden in Noida. The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) also tweeted to alert commuters regarding the

"Magenta Line Update Delay in services from Janakpuri West to Botanical Garden. Normal service on all other lines," it tweeted around 8 am.

The DMRC, in a statement, said there was an "intermittent signaling issue" on the section between Terminal-1 IGI Airport and Sadar Bazar Cantonment Metro stations of



were run at restricted speed between these two stations from 7:59 am to 10:30 am. This resulted into bunching of trains as they crossed this small section. During this period, services were regulated as per a plan to minimise the delay and inconvenience to passengers, officials said.

Centralised announcements were made on frequent intervals at station premises and inside trains to inform

the passengers.

Govt OK's ₹1L cr for massive co-op grain storage capacity

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved a ₹1 lakh crore programme to create a massive grain storage capacity in the cooperative capacity in the cooperative sector to reduce crop damages and prevent distress sales by farmers, besides strengthening the country's food security. The Government is planning to create 700 lakh tonne of grain storage capacity in the coop erative sector over the next five years and said the move will also help in creating job opportunities in rural India.

Briefing Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Singh Thakur said the Cabinet has approved the "world's largest grain storage plan in the cooperative sector". On investment, he said the programme will start "with an expenditure of around Rs 1 lakh crore". As per the plan, a godown of 2,000 tonne capacity will be established in each

This will help in strengthening the cooperative sector, as



Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) can diversify into the storage of food grains. There are 1 lakh PACS in the country, out of which around 63,000 are functional. Thakur said the country's foodgrains production is around 3,100 lakh tonne, while the storage capacity is only 47 per cent of the total output.

In developed economies, he said, the storage capacities are higher than output. Asked about the source of funding, Thakur said the funds available in Ministries of agriculture, food processing and food and consumer affairs would be

utilised. At present, the total grain storage capacity in the country is about 1,450 lakh

tonne, he said, adding that

700 lakh tonne storage capac-

ity will now be established in

the cooperative sector. This will

take the total capacity to 2,150

lakh tonne. On benefits, the minister said the creation of decentralised storage capacity at the local level would reduce food grain wastage and strengthen the food security of the country. This would hugely reduce the cost incurred in the transportation of food grains to procurement centres and again

from warehouses to ration shops, he said.

According to an official statement, the Cabinet approved the Constitution and Empowerment of an Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) for the facilitation of the 'world's largest grain storage plan in Cooperative Sector' by the convergence of various schemes of the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and Ministry of Food Processing Industries. To ensure timebound and uniform implementation of the plan, the Ministry of Cooperation will implement a pilot project in at least 10 selected districts of different states/ UTs in the country. The IMC will be constituted under the Chairmanship of the Minister of Cooperation, the Minister of Agriculture, Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Minister of Food Processing Industries and Secretaries concerned as

Fish moving to colder regions, deep waters due to global warming: Study

In a bid to stay cool as global warming makes their current swimming zones hot, the majority of fish populations in the sea are either moving towards colder waters nearer the north and south poles or deeper waters, as per a study on the impact of climate change on

The researchers from the University of Glasgow in the UK found that, in response to ocean warming, many marine fish populations are shifting towards the Earth's poles or are moving to deeper waters.

For marine life such as fish, the temperature of the surrounding water affects critical functions such as metabolism, growth and reproduction.

Marine species also often have a very narrow livable temperature range making even small differences in the water impossible to cope with. As a result, marine life changes caused by global warming have been up to seven-fold faster than animal responses on land, the researchers said.



The study, published in the journal Global Change Biology, examined data on 115 species spanning all major oceanic regions, totalling 595 marine fish population responses to rising sea temperatures.
"We observed a striking

trend (where) species living in areas that are warming faster are also showing the most rapid shifts in their geographical distributions," said Carolin Dahms, lead author of the

"It's possible that the rate of warming in some regions may be too fast for fish to adapt, and so relocating may be their best coping strategy. At the same time we see that their ability to do so is also impacted by other factors such as fishing, with commercially exploited species moving more slowly," Dahms said.

Chopper MH-60R made maiden landing on aircraft carrier INS Vikrant: Navy

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

In an effort to commence flight operations from the Iffight operations from the indigenously-designed and built aircraft carrier INS Vikrant, the maiden landing of MH-60R helicopter was undertaken on Tuesday, Navy officials said here on Wednesday.

"In another milestone for the Indian Navy, MH60R helicopter undertakes maiden landing on the indigenously designed and constructed aircraft carrier, INS Vikrant. A major boost to the Indian Anti-Submarine Warfare and Fleet Support capability," a Navy statement

The helicopter landing took place days after the aircraft carrier witnessed night landing of MG-29 K fighter jets last

Giving details of the landing in pitch dark conditions considered to be demanding, officials had said this landing was indicative of Navy's impetus towards 'aatmanirbharta'.



This challenging night landing trial also demonstrates the resolve, skill and professionalism of the Vikrant crew and the naval pilots, they added.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh congratulated the Navy for undertaking a successful night landing and said, "This remarkable achievement is a testimony to the skills, perseverance and professionalism of the Vikrant crew and Naval pilots. Kudos to them."

Landing fighter jets on a normal runway is different compared to landing on a flight deck of an aircraft carrier due to the shorter length of the deck.

Delhi HC refuses to quash CBI case against RAW official for revealing secrets in book

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

The Delhi High Court on Wednesday refused to quash a CBI case registered against a former RAW official for allegedly revealing secret information in his book 'India's External Intelligence- Secrets of Research and Analysis Wing. Justice Mukta Gupta dismissed the petition by Major-General (retired) VK Singh seeking quashing of the case against him under the Official Secrets Act, and said whether the revelations in the book were likely to affect the sovereignty, integrity and security of the country was a matter of trial and what prejudices national security cannot be decided by

"It would be a matter of trial after the witnesses are examined to see whether the revelations by the petitioner in his book is likely to affect the sovereignty and integrity of



India and/or the security of the State. In view of the discussion aforesaid, this Court finds no merit in the petition. Petition and application are dismissed,"

The petitioner, who is a former joint secretary of India's external spy agency, contended his intention to write the book was to highlight issues of lack of accountability and corruption in Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) and the allegation of revealing secrets harmful to the country's security and sovereignty were totally baseless and unfounded. Singh retired from service in June 2002 and his book was published in June 2007. The FIR was registered against him

The court observed that although the "entire tenor" of the book highlighted certain irregularities at RAW, the grievance of the CBI was with respect to the use of names of officers, location of the places and recommendations of the Group of Ministers (GOM) It noted the petitioner reproduced the recommendations of the GOM verbatim and that he has, in another matter, himself said similar revelations made by two other authors and publishers amounted to an offence under the Official Secrets Act.

This Court ... Has noted that what prejudices the national security cannot be decided by the courts. Even in the present case, the recom-mendations of the GOM, which were deleted from publication, have been reproduced verbatim by the petitioner," it

PFI radicalisation of youth in Bihar town: NIA raids 25 spots

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Wednesday raided 25 locations in three States in connection with the 2022 Popular Front of India (PFI) Phulwari Sharif conspiracy to radicalise and train its cadres and members for carrying out acts of terror and violence.

The NIA conducted searches at the premises of suspects in Katihar district of Bihar, Dakshina Kannada, and Shimoga districts of Karnataka; and Kasaragod, Malappuram, Kozhikode Thiruvananthapuram districts of Kerala, the NIA said.

A slew of digital devices, including mobile phones, hard disk, SIM cards, pen-drives, data cards, incriminating documents and materials related to

seized during the searches.

The agency also seized Indian currency of the face value of ₹17,50,100. So far, a total of 85 locations have been raided during investigations of the case. Acting on a tip-off, Bihar police had carried out a raid at the rented premises of one Athar Parvez on July 11, 2022, and had seized incriminating articles related to PFI including a document titled "India 2047 Towards Rule of Islamic India, Internal Document: Not for circulation".

Athar Parvei was arrested. along with other accused, identified as Md. Jalaluddin Khan Arman Malick alias Imtevaz Anwer and Nooruddin Zangi alias Advocate Nooruddin. A chargesheet was filed by

NIA against these four on January 7, 2023.

India equipped with modern tech for any robust response if needed: Army chief

With rapid modernization of the armed forces thereby enhancing their operational readiness, Army Chief General Manoj Pande said here on Wednesday India stands enabled not just for deterrence but also to undertake robust response if required. It was in apparent reference to China and Pakistan.

Speaking at the Brahmos User Meet, Pande said "Today the nation is at the cusp of transformational changes, we are witness to the growing stature of our country in the international environment and higher expectations from the world community. Our con-current growth and development, and the rising aspirations of our people, all reflect the confident optimism of a rising

"Due to our legacy issues of unsettled borders and related air-combat assets, the BrahMos



security challenges, possession of strategic deterrence instruments in our case is essential. And the three services of the defence forces as users of the Brahmos missile system, now stand enabled to not just stand deterrence but also to respond robustly when required," the Army chief said.

Addressing the meet, IAF chief V R Chaudhari highlighted the role of BrahMos supersonic missile and said it has galvanized India's firepow-

"As one of our most lethal

supersonic missile has really galvanized the way we will equip ourselves with precision firepower in the coming years. Seeing the conflicts that are happening across the globe the importance of precision, long-range firepower can't be underscored," he said.

Chaudhari said the BrahMos missile has added to the deterrence capabilities of the IAF. "The combination of BrahMos on the Sukhoi Su-30 has really given us a tremendous capability that has enhanced our firepower. It has made the deterrence value of the IAF go up by leaps and bounds," he said.

The Air Force Chief also said "As the situation unfolded in Northern borders three years ago, we realised that the potent weapon can be used very effectively for land attacks." He also said smaller versions of the next-generation BrahMos missiles are being developed for fitment to other combat aircraft

BRICS conclave in **SA**, to make first visit to Namibia

PNS NEW DELHI

 $E_{\text{Jaishankar will visit South}}$ Africa and Namibia starting Thursday. During his threeday visit to Capetown, he will participate in the Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) conclave.

Thereafter, Jaishankar will travel to Namibia for a visit from June 4 to 6, according to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) here on Wednesday.

Incidentally, it will be the first visit by an Indian External Affairs Minister to Namibia. The BRICS brings togeth-

er five of the largest developing countries of the world, representing 41 per cent of the global population, 24 per cent of the global GDP and 16 per cent of the global trade.

Besides, Jaishankar will also hold a bilateral meeting with his South African counterpart Naledi Pandor.

EAM to take part in Rafales' 6-hour mission in Indian Prachanda in Delhi on Ocean Region displays prowess

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

In an effort to hone combat-readiness of its Rafale jet fleet, IAF's four Rafales recently carried out a "strategic" mission lasting more than six hours in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR). The sortie was a significant demonstration of the long range combat capabilities. The mission took place at a time when China has significantly increased its presence in the strategically important Indian Öcean. Giving details of the mission, sources said

here on Wednesday the Rafale jets took off from

the Hasimara Air Force station in the eastern sector, carried out the mission involving various manoeuvres and simulated operations and returned to the base after meeting the desired The mission by the four Rafale jets demon-

strated their operational capabilities and readiness in dealing with various challenging situations, sources said but refrained from divulging details. The IAF also tweeted about the mission.

"Four IAF Rafales flew a long range mission for over six hours into the IOR. The aircraft 'fought' their way through a large force engagement en route to their Weapon Release Point. Pickle on time, weapon on target-the IAF way!" it said. The IAF too did not divulge the day of



the operation.

The Rafale jets are India's first major acquisition of fighter planes in 23 year after the Sukhoi jets were imported from Russia. The French manufactured Rafale jets are capable of carry-

ing a range of potent weapons.

At present, the IAF has 36 Rafale jets with one squadron(a squadron has 18 jets) based at Ambala to look after the western sector including China and Pakistan and the other squadron in Hasimara, West Bengal to cover the entire eastern sector facing China.

Induction process of Rafale jets started in 2020 and ended last year. India and France inked a government to government deal in 2016 for acquiring 36 Rafale jets from its manufacturer Dassault. The deal is worth over 7 billion Euros.

four-day visit to India

Nepal PM to discuss issues with PM Modi; to visit Ujjain, Indore

PNS/AGENCIES ■ NEW DELHI/KATHMANDU

Nepal Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' arrived here on Wednesday on his first overseas visit after assuming office in December last year. He was welcomed by Minister of State for External Affairs Meenakashi Lekhi at the airport. He is here on a four-day visit to India.

"The visit will impart renewed momentum to the close and unique India-Nepal relationship," Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson Arindam Bagchi tweeted.

Prachanda will hold delegation-level talks with Modi on June , according to reports from Kathmandu. The talks will be followed by a joint press meet by the two Prime Ministers. Modi will host a luncheon in honour of his counterpart from Nepal and his delegation.

Reports from Kathmandu said Prachanda will hold talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other leaders to further strengthen the age-old, multifaceted and cordial ties.



The visiting Prime Minister will address the Indian business community and meet the Indian President and Vice President in New Delhi. The Prime Minister is also scheduled to visit Ujjain and Indore, Madhya Pradesh after completing his engagements in New Delhi.

The two Prime Ministers will remotely inaugurate the railway yard in Biratnagar, the Jaynagar-Janakpur railway that has been expanded up to the Bijalpura, and the integrated check

posts in Biratnagar and Nepalguni, it said. Prachanda would also raise long-term power trade issues with New Delhi, hoping that this "bottleneck" will be sorted out and ensure that the Himalayan nation will be a favourable market for its surplus energy.

SII asks Health Min to allow in-house testing of Cy-Tb jab

PNS NEW DELHI

The Pune-based Serum Institute of India (SII) has urged the Union Health Ministry to allow in-house testing of its Cy-Tb injection for the detection of latent tuberculosis, saying the testing facility for this product is not available in any Government lab, official sources said on Wednesday. A letter in this regard was written by Prakash Kumar Singh, Director at SII. The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) approved market authorisation of Cy-Tb injection on May 9, 2022, but even after a year of approval, Cy-Tb is not available in the market due to the non-availability of testing facility in any Government lab, Singh wrote. Singh is also learnt to have mentioned that Cy-Tb is important for the detection of latent TB and the Government should allow it so that the injection can be made available in India and the world at large.

Junk food affects deep sleep, immunity: Study

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

onsuming an unhealthy diet is asso-Ciated with a lower quality of deep sleep, the third stage of sleep, repairs and restores necessary functions such as memory, muscle growth, and immunity.

Researchers at Uppsala University in Sweden analysed how junk food affects sleep. Healthy participants consumed an unhealthier as well as a healthier diet in a randomised order. The study, recently published in the

journal Obesity, shows that after eating the junk food, the quality of the participants' deep sleep deteriorated, compared with those who followed the healthier diet. "Both poor diet and poor sleep increase the risk of several public health

conditions," said Jonathan Cedernaes,

Associate Professor at Uppsala University.



A total of 15 healthy normal-weight young men participated in two sessions of the study. Participants were first screened for aspects such as their sleep habits, which had to be normal and within the recommended range of seven to nine hours per

The participants were randomly given both a healthier diet and an unhealthy diet. The two diets contained the same number of calories, adjusted to each individual's

Among other things, the unhealthier diet contained a higher content of sugar and saturated fat and more processed food items. Each diet was consumed for a week, while the participants' sleep, activity and meal schedules were monitored at an individual level. 'What we saw was that the participants

slept for the same amount of time when they consumed the two diets. This was the case both while they were following the diets, as well as after they had switched to another, identical diet," said Cedernaes.

The researchers looked at slow-wave activity, a measure that can reflect how restorative deep sleep is.

"Intriguingly, we saw that deep sleep exhibited less slow-wave activity when the participants had eaten junk food, compared with consumption of healthier food," Cedernaes said.

'Drugs used in age-defying Botox can cause paralysis'

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

Used for smoothening wrin-lines, correcting frown lines, and combating the signs of aging, now it has been found that drugs applied for the Botox procedure can cause paralysis, as per a recent study by the researchers from the University of Queensland.

Botox is a toxin produced by the bacterium Clostridium botulinum. The treatment was initially developed for eye conditions such as strabismus and as a quick remedy to relieve migraine and chronic pain. However, in recent years, Botox treatment found uses in plastic surgeries and gained popularity in the cosmetic industry.

Although muscle paralysis was a known side effect of Botox treatment, earlier research could not identify how the neurotoxin worked to relax muscles.

In the latest study, the researchers evaluated how Clostridium botulinum damages the communication between the brain neurons, resulting in paralysis.

"We used super-resolution microscopy to show that a receptor called Synaptotagmin 1 binds to two other previously known clostridial neurotoxin receptors to form a tiny complex that sits on the plas-



Frederic Meunier, a lead-author of the study, said.

"The toxin hijacks this complex and enters the synaptic vesicles, which store neurotransmitters critical to communication between neurons. Botox then interrupts the com-

and muscle cells, causing paralysis," Meunier explained. The discovery also opens the potential to identify new

munication between nerves

therapeutic targets for effective treatments of botulism--a rare but potentially fatal bacterial infection caused Clostridium botulinum. "Clostridial neurotoxins

are among the most potent protein toxins known to humans. We now have a full picture of how these toxins are internalized to intoxicate neurons at therapeutically relevant concentrations," Dr. Merja Joensuu, another co-researcher of the study from UQ's Queensland Brain Institute, said.

Meghalaya reservation: **Govt reconstitutes panel**

State Law Minister to head the committee

The Meghalaya Government has reconstituted a committee to review the state reservation policy in the backdrop of an indefinite hunger strike launched by the opposition Voice of the People's Party (VPP) seeking changes to the existing reservation formula, an official said on Wednesday.

The committee was reconstituted on Tuesday and will hold a meeting with political parties on the issue on Wednesday, he said. The committee will be

headed by the State Law Minister Ampareen Lyngdoh. A final decision on the resertaken only after Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma holds a meeting, his deputy Sniawbhalang Dhar told PTI on Wednesday.

"The issue is sensitive and needs to be discussed at length. However, it should not be discussed in the streets but across the table ... The government will take a decision with the best interests of the people



and the state in mind," he said. The VPP is raking up the reservation issue, which does not have the support of the other parties, he claimed.

The party is demanding the review of the "outdated and unfair" job reservation policy in existence in the state. A hunger strike by its president Ardent Basaiawmoit here, on the issue entered its ninth day on

The party, which has four MLAs in the 60-member House, is demanding a review of the 40:40 job reservation for Khasi-Jaintia community and Garos. The party claims that the population of the Khasis has increased and hence there was a need for a review. The committee invited the agitating

VPP MLAs for talks on Wednesday, which was promptly refused.

Basaiawmoit said the agitation will be withdrawn only if the government expresses its readiness to review the 1972 job reservation policy which awarded 40 per cent of reserved jobs to Garos, 40 per cent for Khasi-Jaintia tribes, 5 per cent for other tribes and 15 per cent for general category candi-

"Our stand was made clear to the government. I will not leave the venue (of the hunger strike) till the government agrees to review the job reservation policy", he said. Dhar criticised Basaiawmoit's absence at the all-political party meeting on Tuesday last week which was chaired by Sangma.

A government-instituted committee on reservation roster had met on Monday too but the VPP and several organisations did not attend it. Lyngdoh said the committee will inform the government on the need for a discussion since there is a demand to review the reserva-

Af-made cooker IED found in anti-infiltration op

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

 $F_{\text{of aluminium and used for}}^{\text{amous Afghan pots, made}}$ cooking delicious recipes, have now been introduced by the Pakistan based terrorist handlers to trigger powerful explosions targeting security convoys inside the Indian territory.

On Wednesday one such pressure cooker, made in Afghanistan, was recovered by the Indian troops after they successfully foiled a major infiltration bid along the line of control in Poonch.

The IED weighed approximately 10 Kgs and had markings of a local manufacturer identified as Pir Baba, makers of Afghan Pressure cookers.

Indian army troops also managed to apprehend three terrorists after a brief exchange of firing in which one of the jawans also received injuries. According to a Jammu

based Defence Spokesman Lieutenant-Colonel Devender Anand, "during the intervening night of May 30-31 a joint team of security forces intercepted a group of terrorists attempting to infiltrate inside the Indian territory taking advantage of the bad weather conditions and heavy rains in the region". Lt Col Anand said, "around 1.30 a.m when an Indian army ambush challenged the group of terrorists they were fired



upon. In the retaliatory firefight terrorists received injuries. The blood trails have been traced in the forward area", he added.

The Defence Spokesman said, during the search operations in the area the security forces apprehended three terrorists with some weapons, war like stores including one pressure cooker IED and packets of narcotics.

During their preliminary interrogation the apprehended terrorists revealed their sinister plot to target the security forces with the help of pressure

soldier was injured in the ensuing firing and has been evacuated. Search operations are in progress, the defence spokesman added.

The security forces have recovered 01x AK-56 Rifle with balance 10 rounds in the magazine(rest ammunition has been fired by the terrorist who is subsequently injured), 02 x Pistol with 02 x Magazines and 70 rounds, 01x IED of approx 10-12 kg, 06 x Chinese Grenades and 20 Packets of

NIA raids 51 J&K spots to nip new terror groups in bud

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Wednesday cracked down once again on the newly floated terrorist outfits in Jammu and Kashmir, and seized incriminating literature and several digital devices.

The searches were conducted at three locations in the Kashmir Valley at the residential premises of sympathisers/cadres, hybrid terrorists and Over Ground Workers (OGWs) linked with the newly-formed offshoots and affiliates of several proscribed

Pakistan-backed terror outfits, such as Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT), Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), Hizb-ul-Mujahideen (HM), Al-Badr and Ál-Qaeda among others, the NIA said in a statement here.

"The day-long raids and searches were conducted at locations in Srinagar and Budgam districts, as part of the ongoing NIA investigations into the activities of the recently formed terrorist groups, including The Resistance Front (TRF), United Liberation Front Jammu & Kashmir (ULFJ&K), Mujahideen Gazwat-ul-Hind

(MGH), Jammu & Kashmir Freedom Fighters (JKFF), Kashmir Tigers and PAAF, the agency said. As many as 51 locations have been searched recently in connection with the terror conspiracy case which was registered suo moto by NIA on June 21,

The case relates to hatching of a conspiracy, both physical and in cyber space, and plans by the proscribed terrorist organisations to unleash violent terrorist attacks in Jammu and Kashmir with sticky bombs, IEDs and small arms. The plans are part of a

acts of terror and violence, by radicalising local youth and mobilising overground workers, to disturb the peace and communal harmony of Cadres and workers of the

newly formed outfits have been found to be involved in the collection and distribution of sticky bombs/magnetic bombs, IEDs, funds, narcotic substances and arms/ammunition, it said. Such outfits are spreading it's wings relating to terror, violence and subversion in Jammu and Kashmir, the NIA probe has revealed.

Govt committed to implement guarantees in K'taka, says Sidda

Cabinet will take a call on June 2

PTI BENGALURU

sserting that his govern-Ament will implement the five poll 'guarantees' promised ahead of the assembly polls, Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Wednesday said officials have shared their inputs on financial implications, and the cabinet will meet on June 2 to decide on the implementation.

The cabinet meeting was earlier scheduled for June 1. In view of the implementation of guarantees, the Chief Minister today held a meeting

with all the Ministers and senior officials of the concerned departments at Vidhana tariat and legislature, here. "We had given five guar-

antees to the people, regarding these five guarantees concerned officials and finance department officials have made a presentation together. All the Ministers have seen the presentation, it has all the details - proposals and financial implications of the implementation," Siddaramaiah said.

Speaking to reporters here after the meeting, the CM said, "we have not discussed in today's meeting, discussion and decision will be on the day after. On Friday at 11 AM, I have convened the cabinet meeting, where we will discuss, and after that our decision will be made known to you."

"But, the government has taken a call to implement all the five guarantees. It is a guarantee that we will implement the guarantees," he added.

The Congress promised to implement the 'guarantees' - 200 units of free power to all households (Gruha Jyoti), Rs 2,000 monthly assistance to the woman head of every family (Gruha Lakshmi), 10 kg of rice free to every member of a BPL household (Anna



Bhagya), Rs 3,000 every month for unemployed graduate youth and Rs 1,500 for unemployed diploma holders (both in the age group of 18-25) (YuvaNidhi), and free travel for women in public transport buses (Shakti), on the very first day of assuming power in

There is mounting pressure the new government from opposition parties and various sections of people from across the state, to fulfill its five guar-

Asked whether the five guarantees will be implemented at once or one after the other, the CM said, "All those things have not been decided yet, it will be discussed and decided in the cabinet."

To a query about BJP's criticism, he said, "let BJP (central govt) fulfill whatever they had promised, before questioning us. We will implement what we had promised, we had implemented earlier too, we will do it even now."

Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar told media that officials shared inputs in today's meeting and also gave four to five options regarding the implementation of the guarantees, and what would be the

financial impact.
"We are committed to implementing the guarantees, no doubts on that. Following officials sharing their opinion and inputs, some of us (Ministers) have also shared our view, and we have asked officials to rework and present it before the cabinet. As they sought time, there is no cabinet tomorrow, it has been postponed by a day — to Friday.

Maha renames Ahmednagar dist after Ahilyadevi Holkar

TN RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI

Tn a major announcement I made on the occasion of 298th birth anniversary of queen of Malwa kingdom Âhilyadevi Maharashtra Chief Minister Shinde said here on Wednesday that the Ahmednagar district would be renamed Ahilyadevi Holkar Nagar' in her memory.

Simultaneously, State Health Minister Girish Mahajan announced the naming of a new government medical college at the NCP chief Sharad Pawar's home town of Baramati in Pune district after Ahilyadevi Holkar. Speaking at a function

organised on the 298th birth anniversary of Ahilyadevi Holkar at her native village of Chaundi that he and deputy chief minister Devendra Fadnavis attended, Shinde about the re-christening of Ahmednagar district as Ahilyadevi Holkar Nagar'

Ahilyadevi, the Holkar Queen of the Maratha Malwa kingdom who is known for building temples and 'dharamashalas' throughout India, was born in Chaundi in Ahmednagar district on May 31, 1795. She ruled the Malwa kingdom from 1767 to 1795. Minutes after Fadnavis

expressed desire that Ahmednagar district be renamed as 'Ahilyadevi Holkar Nagar', Shinde said: "All of us want Ahmednagar district be renamed after Ahilyadevi Holkar. Keeping that in view, I announce that the state government is renaming Ahmednagar district 'Ahilyadevi Holkar Nagar' Heaping praise on Ahilyadevi Holkar, Fadnavis said: "If weren't there, Kashi wouldn't have remained in a form it is today. If she wasn't there, we wouldn't have temples of Lord Shiva. That's why people want Ahmednagar renamed Ahilyanagar". "We are the people who chant the name of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. We have renamed Aurangabad as Sambhajinagar under your (Shinde's) leadership, we have renamed Osmanabad as

The chief minister himself

is 'mawala' (soldier) of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. That being the case, Ahmednagar will be renamed as Ahilyanagar," the deputy chief minister said. Later in his speech, Shinde said: "Ahilyadevi's maiden name is Shinde said: Shinde. Even I am a Shinde.Ahilyadevi Holkar is an inspiration for all of us.

Savitribai Phule: Maha CM orders action against two sites over offensive content

TN RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI

¬aking serious cognisance of I offensive articles published against Savitribai Phule in two websites, Maharashtra chief minister Eknath Shinde on Wednesday directed the State chief Secretary to initiate stern action against two websites in question for putting out defamatory content against Maharashtra's iconic social reformer.

The chief minister's directive to the state chief secretary came hours after a delegation of the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) -- led by its state president Jayant Patil and leader of the Opposition in the State Assembly Ajit Pawar – met Mumbai Commissioner of Police Vivek Phansalkar and demanded action against the two websites. They also

demanded that the defamatory content against Savithribai Phule be removed from the two websites. Apart from Patil and Pawar, the other NCP leaders who were part of the delegation that met the Mumbai Police Commissioner included senior leader Chhagan Bhujbal and MP Sunil Tatkare. They submitted a two-page memoran-dum to the Police Commissioner, listing the names of the websites and their offensive remarks

Among other things, the memorandum submitted by the NCP delegation said that a person claiming to be some Bharadwaj' had made the scurrilous remarks against Savitribai (1831-1897) who is considered the pioneer of women's education from the mid-1850s - who is revered in the state and country.

2 dead, 6 critical as molten iron falls on workers at Bankura factory

PTI DURGAPUR/BANKURA,

Two workers of a sponge iron factory in West Bengal's Bankura district succumbed to their burn injuries on Wednesday, while six others are fighting for their lives after molten iron fell on them, officials said.

The accident happened at a factory in Ghutgarya in Barjora around 9 am on Tuesday, injuring at least 17 people, they said. Eight of them were admitted to a private hospital in Durgapur where two persons died in the early hours of Wednesday while undergoing treatment, officials

The conditions of the other six people are also critical as

they have received over 80 per

cent burn injuries, doctors

treating them said. Ro. 1 Cenotaph No. 1 No. 1 Cenotaph Road, Teynampet,

Regd. Office: ICICI Bank Limited, Near Chakli Circle, Old Padra Road, Vadodara- 390 007 vauouara- 390 007 Corporate Office: ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra- Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai- 400 051 PUBLIC NOTICE - WILFUL DEFAULTER

Public at large is hereby informed that **M/s Bulldyers Integrated Solutions Private Limited** ("the Borrower") having its Registered Office at T-5. Chander Plaza, 3rd Floor, No. 48. Arcot Road, Saligramam Chennai 600093 and Ms. Neha Gaur & Mr. Siddharth Bhatia (in the capacity of Director under review period), Ms. Shasi Rekha Vegapa & Ms. Renu Rai (in the capacity of Director as well as Personal Guarantor), Mr. Sravan Kumar & Mr. Santosh Kumar Rai (in the capacity of Personal Guarantor) have defaulted with ICICI Bank Limited in meeting their repayment obligations under the credit facilities amounting to ₹ 62.6 million as on May 01, 2023. Accordingly, after amounting due process, the Borrower and its above mentioned Directors and Personal Guarantors have been declared as "Wilful Defaulter" by ICICI Bank Limited in terms of the extant RBI guidelines. The matter has been reported to RBI/CIBIL as per extant RBI guidelines. This notice is hereby issued in public interest and for information to all concerned.

Date: May 30, 2023 Place: Chennai

Sd/- Authorised Signatory For ICICI Bank Ltd.

Suvendu: Mamata must explain her kin's role in teacher recruitment scam

ED'S 'BIGGEST CATCH' IN JOB-FOR-CASH SCAM

SAUGAR SENGUPTA KOLKATA

Bengal Opposition Leader Suvendu Adhikari on Wednesday demanded an explanation from Chief Minister Mamata Baneriee regarding some of her family members' suspected role in the multi-crore recruitment

This, a day after the Enforcement Directorate arresting Sujay Bhadra popularly known as Kalighater kaku or the Uncle of Kalighat — considered the "biggest catch till Bhadra's arrest is being

considered as more important than that of former Bengal Education Minister and number two in the Mamata Banerjee Cabinet Partha Chatterjee, thanks to his alleged close links with some of the members of the Chief Minister's family. "It has come to light that

Kaku was the CEO and a director of the Leaps and Bounds company of which many members of the Banerjee family like Amit Banerjee, Rujira Banerjee, Lata Banerjee were directors ... as they are the closest relations of the Chief Minister, she now owes an explanation regarding the scam or scams that had been taking place in Bengal," Adhikari said.

Alleging that the Chief Minister was the fountainhead of all the scams, Adhikai said Bhadra's arrest had made it clear that the Agencies had reached till the chest level ... now you have to reach the ear ... then pull it to get to the head," adding, "Mamata



Bhadra had earlier claimed that TMC national general sec-

Abhishek Banerjee was his Bhadra had also said that

"no power on earth can reach up to my boss because he never receives phone calls ... does not transact with anyone .. so all the investigation will come and stop at my door steps." The ED while seeking 14-days' remand of Bhadra told the court that he functioned as a prime link between

money from all over the State

from the job-seekers.

TMC hits the streets in favour of grapplers

Wednesday hit the streets against the alleged manhandling of wrestlers in Delhi when they were trying to move towards new Parliament building on Sunday. The new parliament building was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday amid boycott by a large number of opposition par-

Banerjee, who had on Tuesday criticized the alleged police attack on the wrestlers who had brought fame to our country," led a 2-km procession from Hazra Road in south Kolkata to Rabindra Sadan.

Players and functionaries of Kolkatá's big three clubs – Mohan Bagan Club, East Bengal Club and Mohammedan Sporting Club — took part in the rally. Iterating that the rally would continue on Thursday too Banerjee said, "We are with the wrestlers in their fight and so we have taken out this rally which Banerjee had said.



Wrestlers are the pride of our country." Wondering as to why the person who had been "accused of physical assault" on wrestlers was not being arrested Banerjee had said on Tuesday, that people (BJP leaders) who were busy in Puja Paath (worship) had forgotten that such holy activities suit only those people who worship humanity.

Banerjee, who has no love lost with the BJP Government is likely to attend the meeting of the opposition leaders this month in Patna. "I am with all those parties that oppose the BJP and will support them," subject to conditions of reciprocation,

India, China hold 27th meeting to resolve border dispute

New Delhi: In the backdrop of tension prevailing at the border in Ladakh for the last more than three years, India and China on Wednesday held the 27th Meeting of the Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border affairs (WMCC). The meeting at the diplomatic level was held here in person, the ministry of external affairs said here. Joint Secretary (East Asia) from MEA led the Indian Delegation.

The Chinese delegation was led by the Director General of Boundary and Oceanic Affairs Department of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The two sides reviewed the situation along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Western Sector of the India-China border areas and discussed proposals for disengagement in remaining areas in a frank and open manner.

Restoration of peace and tranquillity will create conditions for normalising bilateral relations. In order to achieve this objective, in accordance with existing bilateral agreements and protocols, they agreed to hold next (19th) round of Senior Commander's meeting at an early date. The two sides agreed to continue discussions through military and diplomatic channels.

The under mentioned Assets will be sold through auction on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" for recovery of dues as per court orders, in the following cases: Caco Dotaile

Case Details	Asset Details
ICICI BANK LTD. VS. YUGAL KUMAR, EX NO. 341/2021	Engine Number: 14CRAIL08CVYW03196; Chasis Number: MAT601469EPC07175, Make and Model- TATA MOTORS LTD, Manu Year- 2014,
ICICI BANK LIMITED VS.	Vehicle No DL1CP2860, Make and
RAJ KUMAR VERMA, CS	Model- MAHINDRA & MAHINDRA LTD
(COMM) No.918/19	XUV500, Manu Year- 2012,
ICICI BANK LIMITED VS.	Vehicle No DL12CQ3137, Make and
BHARDWAJ INDIA PVT	Model- FORD ENDEAVOUR, Manu Year-
LTD, CS (COMM) No.	2018, Reserve Price: Rs.18,50,000;
2461/21	EMD: Rs.1,85,000
ICICI BANK LTD VS	Vehicle No UP14GT8288, Make and
AKSHAY GIRI, OA	Model- SWARAJ MAZDA LTD SAMRAT,
494/2019; IA 2240/2019	Manu Year- 2017,
ICICI BANK LTD VS	Vehicle No HR51Y0945, Make and
BHARAT SOMASTAMB,	Model- DIAMLER CHRYSLER INDIA
OA/308/2013	PVT LTD BENZ E280, Manu Year- 2006,
ICICI BANK LIMITED VS. TRANZLEASE HOLDING INDIA PVT LTD, CS (COMM) No.: 2390/22	Vehicle No UP16CB5393, Make and Model- TATA MOTORS PVT LTD NEXON, Manu Year- 2018,

Auction Date: June 16, 2023 From 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. Place of Auction: Godara Yard, Khewat No. 166/1, Near Atul Kataria Chowk, Behind Gyan Devi, School, Sec-17, Sukhrali, Gurugram- 122022 Contact Person- Jitendra Kumar (7304914763)/ Rajeev Ranjan (8584874809) Note: EMD is to be made in favour of ICICI BANK LIMITED payable at

Delhi and Bidder has to bring original EMD at site with KYC Terms of Sale The particulars of the said asset specified herein above have been stated

to the best of the information and knowledge of the undersigned, who shall however not be responsible for any error, misstatement or omission in the said particulars. The interested participant/s are therefore requested, in their own interest, to satisfy himself / themselves/ itself with regard to the said asset and other relevant details pertaining to it before submitting the bids. All bidders are required to come at auction site with original KYC documents to participate in the auction. Successfully bidder shall have to deposit sale amount within 5 days from

the approval date by the way of pay order/demand draft/RTGS/NEFT. In case if you fail to make the remaining sale amount within 5 days, your EMD amount will be forfeited where is applicable. The intending bidders may visit at ICICI Bank Ltd, SHAL TOWERS, Plot No 23, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh Delhi- 110005 for details and

nspection of the said hypothecated vehicles

address rallies in Bengal PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ continue throughout the month of June when the top three leaders of BJP will hold

Modi, Shah, Nadda to

Apparently as an answer to Trinamool Congress number two Abhishek Banerjee's Jan Sanyog Yatra and a measure to give the saffron outfit an orga-

nizational fillip ahead of the panchayat elections, the BJP too is planning a month-long Jan Sampark Yatra which will be highlighted by three highprofile meetings to be attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP national president JP Nadda. The Yatra will three rallies in Bengal. "There will be three rallies: one in north Bengal, one in central Bengal and one in southern Bengal," State BJP president Sukanta Majumdar on Wednesday said. "Our party will have 1,000

micro level meetings in all the 294 mandals of the State," said Majumdar adding the party would declare dates of the three high-profile meetings after those are confirmed from

Banerjee is the queen of all the evils that have been taking place in Bengal." Sources in the ED said that scam money flowed into Bhadra's companies via two routes: first the money that came from cow, sand and coal smuggling and second, the money that came in from the recruitment scam. From Bhadra it went further up.

"boss" and he worked in his company — of which Banerjee, his wife Rujira, uncle and aunt Amit and Lata Banerjee were directors. Bhadra who worked in the company since 2009 too was a director in the company and enjoyed the powers of the chief executive officer, insiders

the State's topmost family and the scamsters who collected

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PAPER WITH PASSION-

Check hyperbole

Rahul mocks and slams PM Modi at a gathering of Indian dispora in San Francisco, US

nongress leader Rahul Gandhi is at it again: he has lambasted and lampooned Prime Minister Narendra Modi on foreign soil. Addressing a gathering of Indian diaspora in San Francisco, US, he ridiculed Modi for having the pretensions of being omniscient. In fact, he mocked the top leaders of the Bharatiya Janata Party of being delusional about their knowledge: "some groups of India think that they know everything. Even if they have a conversation with God, they might explain to him." He added, "Prime Minister is one of them." Deriding BJP leaders, Rahul continued: "They can speak to scientists and explain science to them. They can explain history to historians, warfare to the army and flying to the air force. But at the heart of it, they don't know anything." Barbed sarcasm can be effective, but Rahul seems to be going too far. His claim that the "normal instruments for doing politics were not working anymore." He also blamed the Modi Government



for threatening people and deploying Central agencies against political opponents. The use of law enforcement bodies to harass the Opposition is old in India; the present dispensation is no exception. But should the underbelly of our country be put on showcase? There is much that is wrong with governance and other aspects of India, but a senior Opposition leader advertising that in the United States doesn't make much sense. Rahul may succeed in scoring a few political points, but not without damage to India's image in the world.

To that extent, the BJP's sharp reaction to his remarks is justified. Information & Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur said, "During his foreign

visits. Rahul Gandhi insults India, which is unacceptable. He wants to insult PM Modi but ends up insulting India, questioning India's progress. He is trying to tarnish India at a time the world is acknowledging our growing stature." Just as in Rahul's comment, there is also an element of hyperbole in Thakur's reaction too. Rahul's remarks are bad for India's image, but not an insult. Besides, Congress leaders are not the only ones who discuss domestic matters abroad; PM Modi has also criticised previous governments on foreign soil in the past. Indian politicians will do well by scaling down the ingredient of hyperbole in political debate. Gruesome murder of a minor girl in Delhi doesn't mean that there is no fear of the police in the national capital; unjust arrest of a journalist doesn't imply that the entire press has been gagged in the country; India leaving the UK behind in terms of GDP doesn't mean that we have become a developed nation. Also, politicians should grow a thicker skin; every adverse comment their adversaries make against them shouldn't become an excuse to indulge in rant and cant. And they should also ensure that domestic political disputes are not internationalised.



olunteers raise awareness about the dangers of tobacco consumption on World No Tobacco Day, in Kolkata

Modi's charisma transcends borders



PM Modi's recent tour of Japan, Papua New Guinea and Australia can be seen as a marker of his growing popularity and influence

n a world filled with diverse cultures, ideologies, and ambitions, PM Modi Ji's engagements have gone beyond the realm of mere diplomacy, becoming more of a celebration of India's global leadership and cultural heritage.

The immense respect and goodwill that the world leaders feel for India and its leader, PM Modi Ji is reflected in their various extraordinary gestures—be it President Biden seeking his autograph or Prime Minister James Marape of Papua New Guinea showing his respect by touching PM Modi's feet at the airport or Australian PM Albanese referring to PM Modi as 'The Boss',

The New Zealand Prime Minister specially came all the way down to Papua New Guinea to meet our leader, demonstrating a deep appreciation for India's leadership. All these countries may have varying opinions on several issues, but such heartfelt gestures highlight PM Modi Ji's popularity and India's growing

Several unprecedented honours came India's way too. The highest awards of Papua New Guinea (Companion of the Order of Logohu) and Fiji (Companion of the Order of Fiji) were conferred upon PM Modi Ji, symbolizing his tireless efforts in championing the unity of Pacific Island countries and spearheading the cause of the Global South. Papua New Guinea's Prime Minister, James Marape, referred to PM Modiji as the 'leader of the Global South'. These accolades firmly establish PM Modi Ji's standing as an international leader and further enhance India's reputation on the world stage.

At the community reception in Australia, leaders of all hues-the Australian PM - accompanied by the Leader of the Opposition, Foreign Minister, former Prime Minister, and several other ministers - walked hand in hand with PM Modi Ii. The illumination of the Sydney Opera House in the colours of the Indian flag, and the renaming of Harris Park to Little India further emphasize the influence of India and its diaspora in Australia.

Great Push for Indian Culture, Values, and Ethos.

PM Modi Ji also effective-ly utilized global platforms to showcase Indian culture, values, and ethos.

By wearing recycled materials at the G7 and the Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC), and hosting a lunch for FIPIC leaders featuring Indian cuisine and millet-based items, PM Modi Ji showcased India's commitment to sustainability. THE WORLD TODAY Hiroshima which was the first to face atomic bombing in the history of mankind, today serves as the most fitting setting for commemorating the legacy of Mahatma Gandhi and PM Modi ji's unveiling his bust in this historic city symbolises the message of nonviolence that Gandhi ji stood

Also, the release of the BECOMING THE 5TH timeless Tamil classic, "Thirukkural," in the Tok Pisin LARGEST ECONOMY language, was an effort to bring Indian thought and culture closer to the people of Papua New Guinea. În his engagements with industry leaders, scientists, academicians, and cultural icons, PM Modi Ji positioned India as the DEVELOPMENT, AND world's preferred investment destination, fostering economic growth and job creation.

Nobel Laureate Brian Paul Schmidt, who met the PM, highlighted India's scientific prowess and its ability to undertake world-class

research. "PM Modi is one of the most visible leaders that India has had in my lifetime. He takes an interest in whoever he talks to, whether it's the President of USA or someone he meets for first time from society. India's ability to do world class science has become an order of magnitude higher," he told reporters after the meeting.

In Professor Toby Walsh's words, India is "absolutely world's most extraordinary democracy. UPI is a wonderful example of how India can do things itself." During his diplomatic parleys in the Quad, FIPIC, and G7 summits, the Prime Minister underscored India's active role in shaping the global agenda and fostering collaborations among nations. He interacted with over two dozen world leaders throughout his visits. The community event in Sydney was attended by around 20 thousand people.

In contrast to some leaders who blame others or badmouth the country, PM Modi Ji's speech singularly focussed on the India Story, highlighting its progress, achievements, and aspirations. From Japan to Papua New Guinea and Australia, the newspaper head-lines widely featured PM Modi Ji, capturing the collective attention and fascination of

readers everywhere. The world today looks at India with awe and respect. Under PM Modi Ji's leadership, India's ascent to becoming the 5th largest economy has been swift and promises peace, opportunity, development, and sustainabil-

Opposition politicians, like Rahul Gandhi, have developed a regrettable habit of resorting to abuse and falsehoods. They regularly undermine India's image, and our democracy and heap insults on our Prime Minister, our government and also our nation and leave no stones unturned to downplay India's staggering achievements. By this, they are doing a huge disservice to the nation and people will never forgive them.

PM Modi Ji's leadership, diplomacy, and vision have strengthened international relations, garnered admiration from world leaders, attracted investments, and fuelled economic expansion. Without indulging in such petty politicking, we all must work together for India's progress, celebrate its growth and development, in line with the Prime Minister's principle of Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas

> (The writer is MoS, Electronics & Information Technology,)

HE EDITOR

LOOKS AT INDIA

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SUSTAINABILITY

PEACE.

Costly higher education a problem



SAPNA KUMARI

The escalating cost of education is denying higher education to students who wish to pursue it but cannot afford its prohibitive cost

Raban Bhagat, from Chand Kewari village in Muzaffarpur district in Bihar, works as a daily wage labourer in the nearby town. His meagre income barely covers the subsistence needs of his family, let alone the educational aspirations of his two sons. While his elder son's academic journey abruptly ended after completing Class 12, his younger son, due to lack of money, just managed to get enrolled in Class 12. "I have tried my best to provide education to both my sons, but our financial circumstances render it impossible for me to bear the equivalent expenses for both of them, even for an undergraduate program at an ordinary institution," lamented Baban. Presently, his elder son, a high school graduate, has also become a labourer, trapped in the same cycle of limited opportunities.

A recent official survey reveals how a significant increase in education expenditure in India, has placed a substantial financial burden on households. Particularly for those households from rural areas with minimal income, educating their chil-



dren becomes a burden than an investment, especially when it comes to girls. According to Pankaj Kumar, a resident of the same village, due to prevailing poverty, most children can only study up to the 10th or 12th standard. With the increase in enrollment and examination fees for graduation in government colleges, dropout rates have further aggravated. Awadhesh Kumar Das who works as a teacher in a private school in Muzaffarpur, emphasized that children from economically disadvantaged backgrounds face significant challenges when it comes to pursuing education in fields like engineering, medicine, or enrolling in coaching classes for exams like the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) or Bihar Public Service Commission (BPSC). This difficulty stems from the increasing privatization of designed to provide equi-

educational institutions. In recent times, several reports have raised concerns about the potential impact of the New Education Policy on the privatization of higher education, leading to increased costs that could make education unaffordable for many students. According to a report, the National Education Policy is designed to support a neo-colonial economic order, favouring those from affluent backgrounds while potentially discriminating against the poor and oppressed. Addressing similar concerns, Devesh Chandra, the former District Councilor of Muzaffarpur, expressed his apprehension that the new education policy could make it increasingly difficult for underprivileged children to access higher education. He emphasized the need for a comprehensive policy that ensures equal educational opportunities for all individuals, regardless of their socio-economic background. On the other hand, Ajay Kumar Singh, the District Education Officer of Muzaffarpur, reassures that the new education policy is

table education to everyone. Whereas highlighting on dropping out of girls from higher education, Dr Shri Bhagwan Rai, an Assistant Professor at Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar Bihar University, Muzaffarpur, believes the government and parents share equal responsibility for this situation. "The government can be held accountable for the expensive nature of education, as it has become a major obstacle for girls to pursue higher education. Additionally, parents cannot be absolved of their role in perpetuating gender disparities by treating the education of boys and girls differently," the Professor expressed. The escalating cost of education has undoubtedly presented formidable chalenges for individuals seeking higher education, particularly impacting girls. It is crucial to recognize that girls are disproportionately affected by these financial barriers and encounter significant limitations in the absence of accessible, free, and affordable education.

(The writer is Charkha's Volunteer Trainer) Charkha Feature

A GOOD OMEN FOR CONGRESS! Sir — Given that its warring stalwarts

namely poll-bound Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot and his former deputy Sachin Pilot have decided to put their longstanding issues on the back burner for the time being in the party's interests. After a meeting between the Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge and former chief Rahul Gandhi, also participated by Mr Gehlot and Pilot, the latter duo said that the central leadership will decide on the problems between them after the upcoming significant assembly polls in the Congress-ruled Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh are over. This rapprochement might help the grand old party replicate its Karnataka landslide win in the rest of the States, going to polls as also in next year's Lok Sabha polls.

However, the Congress, the AAP and the TMC being on different page vis-avis The Congress' inclusion in the proposed United Opposition Front driving at taking on the BJP in the grand finale unitedly, the scenario seems to be going in the BJP's favour.

Azhar A Khan | Rampur

PRANNOY HAS BROKEN THE JINX Sir — After the USA open title six years ago, in the 2017 Grand Prix, India's topranked men's badminton player HS Prannoy has broken the jinx of being a giant killer without lifting the trophy by winning the Malaysia Masters 2023 crown. Although Prannoy has beaten contemporary stalwarts like Viktor Axelsen, Taufiq Hidayat, and Chen Long to name only a few, a big trophy consistently eluded him till the win at Kuala Lumpur. Even there, things seem to go awry for the Indian as China's Weng Hongyang came from behind to equalise at 18-18 in the final set, but Prannoy recouped to have the last laugh. All along, after 2017, the lingering feeling was that despite oodles of talent the 30- year-old was mysteriously unable to click at the

They are super kings!

he IPL meant CSK aka Chennai Super Kings for many cricket lovers. There is a worthy reason why this team is titled Super Kings. Yes, they are the super kings of the Indian Premier League, as recently the team clinched the Fifth trophy marking one of a kind triumph for itself. MS Dhoni, Ravindra Jadeja and Kadami like legendary stars proofed that old is gold for IPL.

Despite fans missing the Helicopter shots of MS Dhoni in T-20, ODI and World Cup-like events, fans are lucky to never miss his magic on IPL pitches. It's a great victory of the Chennai Super Kings over the Gujrat Titans of Hardik Pandya. It's time for celebration for entire cricket lovers,

Ganapathi Bhat I Akola

Nerves said many, temperament said some, but Prannoy overcame all to finally come up with trumps.

The Indian champion has, however, continuously ranked within the top ten in the world. From number nine, now he is ranked seven. En route to the Malaysia Masters title, the hero of India's 2022 Thomas Cup win had the better of All England Champion Chinese Li Shifeng in round 16 and almost pipped Indonesian Christian Adinata who retired hurt in the semis. Again big names were scalped by Prannoy; the only difference this time was that he went all the way to finish at the top. After Prakash Padukone and Pullela Gopichand, no Indian has been able to lift the All-England title. Lakshya Sen came within striking distance of the crown but fell at the final hurdle in 2022.

Ganapathi Bhat | Akola

PROOF OF POPULARITY Sir — If any foreign leader touches the right moment when it mattered most. feet of any Indian leader or issues any

statement in praise of him, religiously it needs to be portrayed as the "ultimate proof" of his "worldwide popularity and the "impeccable stature" being enjoyed by him in the international sphere! However, when internationally reputed newspapers and journalists speak of the deluge of intolerance as being practised during the "regime" of "Good Days" the "saffron mainstream" immediately brands it as "colonial mindset" and "conspiracy" of the West! As far as the mindset of "Head I win, Tail You Lose" is concerned, the sycophants simply have nopeers!

It is high time these set of hypocrites be sternly told that mere popularity does not necessarily bear proof of one's "greatness" "efficiency" or "success". Also, utterances repeated long shrill and continuous enough do not render utter falsehood into "truth"!

Kajal Chatterjee | Kolkata

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FIRST COLUMN

EFFICACY OF SATSANG MUST BE UNDERSTOOD

Satsang is association with good people; It is also about the inner quality of 'sattva' or purity



RAVI VALLURI

It was a desolate sight to see my nonagenarian grandmother. A deeply religious person whose life was dedicated to the Almighty, she lay ■ afflicted by Alzheimer's, in an incapacitated condition in a small nursing home in Bangalore. There was just a nurse to attend to her needs. Misty-eyed, I entered the room along with two gentlemen.

Grandma was quite unexpectedly injected with vital prana as she stared at us. "Moorty garu!" she exclaimed, much to the astonishment of the nurse who was involved in an animated conversation with Moorty garu. As we left, my grandmother looked forlorn and her benefactor blessed her. A somnolent 94-year-old woman abruptly awakening upon seeing Shri VSR Moorty, obviously meant that the satsangs he rendered were exemplary. There was one rendition of the Narada Bhakti sutras at our house in Hyderabad which is etched in my memory bank.

The year was 2014 and it was a crisp and cool morning in early November. I was posted in Secunderabad on South Central Railway. As I was poring over files, I walked Shri VSR Moorty. Moorty Garu focused his attention on my computer screen. Pictures of Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar were flipping across the monitor. He looked at Gurudev's photograph quite intently and uttered, "Ravi, I would like to have an interaction with Guruji." This interaction or satsang would be recorded by Sri Venkateswara Bhakti Channel (SVBC).

My jaws fell in astonishment. Millions of devotees of Gurudev wait to have a glimpse of the Master and I had this onerous task of organising an interaction with the Master himself. But that is a challenge for any seeker and I promptly sent a mail to the Master and his secretariat seeking an appointment.



He then shared, "Ravi, the Sankalpa needs to be pure, rest Almighty God will take ensure that things fall in place, Sai Ram." I was stunned that evening when the Secretariat agreed to fix the appointment at such short notice. We made the peregrination to the Bangalore Ashram of the Art of Living along with the staff from SVBC. For three days and three nights, we were witness to something transcendental. The interaction ranged on a variety of subjects from ancient Hindu practices, and various schools of Hindu philosophy to the present day. It is wellnigh impossible to decode the divine and pen the interaction.

A senior teacher of the Art of Living, Shri Vinod Menon was to tell Moorty Garu, "This is the closest one could unravel divinity, you are indeed blessed, coming so close to the Divine.'

In the amphitheatre on my mind the graphic scene of BR Chopra's Mahabharata, the television serial played out, where Lord Krishna tells Bhishma, "Arjun woh nar hai jo Narayan ke darshan karwayega." (That is, Arjuna is the person who will be the medium to reveal the resplendence of Narayana himself). So, this was satsang ... What does one

(I quote Yogapedia to describe Satsang) Satsang is a Sanskrit term derived from two roots: sat meaning true and sangha meaning community, company, or association,

It can be translated as "associating with good people" or simply "being in the company of truth." It refers to the act of gathering likeminded, uplifting people, especially those on a spiritual path. Satsang is associated with the inner quality of sattva (goodness or purity), which is one of the three gunas (natural attributes) alongside rajas (passion) and tamas (inactivity). A sattvic person makes a natural Satsangi, or "seeker of truth."

So let us all be satsangis in quest of the quintessential truth. (The writer is an author and a spiritual teacher)

Rs 2k note exchange: Demonetisation 2.0



Rs 2000 note exchange will not have any impact on black money. It will only help hoarders by exchanging Rs 2000 notes without disclosing their identity



n its decision to withdraw Rs 2000 currency notes from circulation announced on May 19, 2023, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has stated that they will continue to be legal tender. The notification issued in this regard states:- "...in pursuance of the "Clean Note Policy" of the RBI it has been decided to withdraw the Rs 2000 denomination banknotes from circulation. The banknotes in Rs 2000 denomination will continue to be legal tender."

From the above, prima facie one gets a sense that it is not a demonetization exercise as it happened over six years ago when, Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared on November 8, 2016, that Rs 500 and Rs 1000 denomination currency notes won't be legal tender with immedi-

If not demonetization then, what is?

Is it merely a "Clean Note Policy" as the RBI puts it? The central banks' argu ment runs something like this: high denomination notes such as Rs 2000 is normally avoided for cash transactions. Yet, these had to be brought in following the note ban of 2016 to address the logistics of swapping the mammoth old Rs 500/1000 notes for new currency within a short time frame and thus minimize economic disruption. Nearly 90 per cent of the Rs 2000 notes valued at Rs 673,000 crore at their peak as on March 31, 2018, were issued from November 8, 2016, to March 31, 2017.

The intent was to phase them out after the RBI had pumped in a sufficient stock of lower denomination Rs 500 (albeit new) notes to meet the transactional requirements of the economy

Already, the stock of Rs 2000 notes has declined from Rs 673,000 crore representing 37.3 per cent of notes in circulation on March 31, 2018, to Rs 362,000 crore constituting only 10.8 per cent of notes in circulation on March 31, 2023. Further, these being at the end of their estimated



THE CIRCULAR ALSO ALLOWS A PERSON TO **DEPOSIT RS 2000 NOTES** INTO HIS BANK ACCOUNT WITHOUT ANY LIMIT. FOR **DEPOSITS** ABOVE A SPECIFIED LIMIT, THE BANK IS REQUIRED TO REPORT TO THE **INCOME TAX DEPARTMENT**

(The writer is a policy

lifespan of 4 - 5 years and the stock of Rs 500 denominations adequate to meet the currency requirement of the public, it was logical to completely phase out the

Rs 2000 note.

The RBI circular says that beginning May 23, 2023, the public may deposit Rs 2,000 banknotes into their bank accounts and or exchange them with banknotes of other denominations up to a limit of ten notes of Rs 20,000 value 'at a time' in banks until September 30, 2023. The facility for the exchange will also be provided at the 19 Regional Offices (ROs) of RBI having Issue Departments.

First, holders of Rs 2000 notes get 131 days to get rid of them which is two-and-a-half times the time given to the holders of Rs 500/1000 notes in 2016 i.e. 52 days to exchange them with the new currency. Second, Rs 2000 notes are only 10.8 per cent of the currency in circulation value-wise (as of March 31, 2023) against old Rs 500/1000 notes being a whopping 86 per cent of the corresponding figure in 2016, this time the load on the system is much less.

Can we simply treat this as a routine exercise?

At a fundamental level, the 'withdrawal' of the Rs 2000 banknotes - an exercise that the RBI hopes will get consummated on September 30, 2023 - doesn't gel with its reiteration that these notes will remain legal tender even after September 30. Imagine a scenario whereby all of the Rs 2000 notes come back to the banks by this deadline then, any talk of whether it will remain legal tender is irrelevant. Look at it from another

If, the intention is to maintain the legal status of the Rs 2000 note even after September 30, 2023, implying that it will continue to be accepted for settlement of payments, then why would holders come forward for exchange or deposit in the bank account? To understand the real intent behind the RBI move, we need to know to what use Rs 2000 notes worth Rs 362,000 crore (as on March 31, 2023) are being put. Do these support legitimate economic activity or people are simply using them to 'hoard their unaccounted income? It can't be the former; had it been the case then, given the RBI issuing predominantly Rs 500 notes after March 31, 2017, Rs 2000 notes would have disappeared by

The bulk of these notes are likely neid as black money. Dally reports of enforcement agencies raids yielding a mountain of cash from the premises of dubious bureaucrats, politicians, businesspersons and so on confirm this. Unfortunately, the measures outlined in the RBI circular and subsequent clarifications given by the governor and public sector banks (PSBs) such as the State Bank of India (SBI) fail to address this menace.

The RBI allows a person to exchange Rs 2,000 banknotes with other denominations up to a limit of ten notes of Rs 20,000 value 'at a time' in banks. While exchanging he is not required to share his identity. This means he can visit a branch any number of times in a day and increase the value of exchange. By doing say ten trips, he can get rid of Rs 2 lakhs worth of black money in a day. If this is repeated for 131 days, he can dispose of Rs 262 lakh.

Under such an arrangement which doesn't insist on the identity at the time of exchange, a person holding say Rs 100 crore in Rs 2000 notes as 'unaccounted cash' can get this exchanged with smaller denominations of Rs 500/100 notes by hiring a number persons to visit branches of any number of banks and repeat for over 4 months. With anonymity preserved, he could go for a less tedious process. He could simply conspire with the bank manager under a quid pro quo - to have those Rs 100 crore exchanged. All that the latter needs to do is to show in records multiple entries of Rs 20,000 each.

The circular also allows a person to deposit Rs 2000 notes into his bank account without any limit. For deposits above a specified limit (Rs 10 lakh in a savings account), the bank is required to report to the income tax department. But, the hoarder of black cash won't take this route when the other option (read: exchange) where he can remain anonymous, is available.

To conclude, far from combating black money, the RBI operation will only help hoarders keep it in a safer zone by exchanging Rs 2000 notes with smaller denomination Rs 500 notes without having to disclose their identity. The RBI/government should go for a course correction. First, it should say upfront that 'from October 1, 2023, Rs 2000 note won't be legal tender. Second, for every exchange, the bank should insist on a person's identity either PAN or Aadhaar. Third, for depositing money in the account, the banks should strict-

Manual scavenging is a curse, must end now

To end this menace Govt must provide alternative employment opportunities and encourage mechanised cleaning technologies

several measures to prohibit

eath does not discriminate, but the system does," cried out Rukmani Devi, a griefstricken relative who lost her cousin, Nand Kushwaha, and his son Nitesh, in a horrifying incident that unfolded in Bahora Ramnagar village. The tight-knit community mourns the loss of four lives, all victims of the archaic and inhumane practice of manual scavenging. On a sombre Sunday morning, tragedy struck as these brave souls descended into a septic tank, unaware of the deadly consequences that awaited

The incident occurred under the jurisdiction of the Nebua Naurangia police station in the Kushinagar district of Uttar Pradesh, a region plagued by the persisting men-



(Writer is Political Editor,

The Pioneer, Lucknow)

ace of manual scavenging. Despite numerous promises and legislative measures to eradicate this degrading practice, it continues to thrive, claiming innocent lives and shattering families.

Manual scavenging, a practice that involves the manual cleaning of septic tanks, drains, and dry latrines, has been banned in India since 1993 under the Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act. However, the law remains largely ineffective, with thousands of individuals still forced into this hazardous occupation due to poverty, social discrimination, and a lack of alternative liveli-

hood options. Incidentally, the government, which has introduced

manual scavenging and rehabilitate those involved, does not consider septic cleaning as manual scavenging, despite the National Human Rights Commission's (NHRC) recommendation to expand the definition of manual scavengers. The incident serves as a stark reminder of the hazardous conditions faced by manual scavengers. "Nand was our sole breadwinner," sobbed Rukmani Devi, her voice heavy with grief. "We had hoped for a brighter future for Nitesh, but now he is gone too. Why does no one care about

our lives?" The tragedy that befell the Kushwaha family is not an isolated incident. According to a report by Safai Karamchari Andolan, an organization fighting for the rights of sanitation workers, there have been over 1,800 deaths related to manual scavenging in the past decade alone. In four years, between 2017-2021, 330 people lost their lives due to hazardous cleaning of sewer and septic tanks" in India, as per the data presented in Lok Sabha in August 2022. "Each death represents a

life cut short, dreams left unfulfilled, and families left devastated," Dinesh Kanojia, an office-bearer of Safai Karamchari Aandolan said and added: "We clean society's waste, but society refuses to acknowledge us as humans."

Despite the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and the the Rehabilitation Act of 2013, which outlawed the employ-

ment of manual scavengers and aimed to provide rehabilitation measures, the implementation has been woefully inadequate. The lack of political will, insufficient enforcement, and social apathy have perpetuated this grave injustice. The dangers of manual scavenging extend beyond the risk of asphyxiation and drowning. The workers are often exposed to toxic gases, disease-causing pathogens, and unsanitary conditions that pose serious health risks. The absence of social safety nets and adequate welfare measures further deepens their economic struggles, leaving them

with limited choices. The persistence of manual scavenging in India is a grave violation of human

als to dehumanizing conditions, health hazards, and social exclusion," Raghuvanshi, a Dalit activist, said. The tragedy in Bahora Ramnagar village should serve as a wakeup call for the authorities and society at large. Immediate action is needed to ensure justice for the victims and their families and to put an end to this brutal practice. To address this grave issue,

a multi-pronged approach is necessary. Strengthening the implementation of existing laws, providing alternative employment opportunities, investing in mechanized cleaning technologies, and raising public awareness are crucial steps toward eradicating manual scavenging. Collaboration between government bodies, rights, as it subjects individu- civil society organizations, and

affected communities is essential to ensure sustainable change. "No more lives should be lost in the depths of septic tanks," declared Smita Yadav, a social worker. "It is time to break the chains of this exploitative practice and work towards a future where digni-

ty and equality prevail."

She said: "As the Kushwaha family and the entire community grieve the loss of Nand and Nitesh, their deaths must not be forgotten. Their tragedy should ignite a collective resolve to eliminate manual scavenging and create a society where every life is valued and respected. Let us unite in our demand for justice and in our commitment to building a future free from this dark chapter of human suffering."

Ahead of House debt ceiling vote, Biden shores up Democrats

McCarthy scrambles for GOP support

AP WASHINGTON

 $H^{ ext{ard-fought to the end,}}_{ ext{the debt ceiling and bud-}}$ get cuts package is heading toward a crucial US House vote as President Joe Biden and Speaker Kevin McCarthy assemble a coalition of centrist Democrats and Republicans to push it to passage over fierce blowback from conservatives and some progressive dissent.

Biden is sending top White House officials to meet early Wednesday at the Capitol to shore up support ahead of voting. McCarthy is working furiously to sell sceptical fellow Republicans, even fending

off challenges to his leadership, nomically dangerous default. in the rush to avert a potentially disastrous U.S. default.

Despite deep disappointment from right-flank Republicans that the compromise falls short of the spending cuts they demanded, McCarthy insisted he would have the votes needed to ensure approval.

"We're going to pass the bill," McCarthy said as he exit-ed a lengthy Tuesday night meeting at the Capitol.

Quick approval by the House and later in the week the Senate would ensure government checks will continue to go out to Social Security recipients, veterans and others and would prevent financial upheaval at home and abroad.

Next Monday is when the Treasury has said the U.S. would run short of money to pay its debts, risking an eco-

The package leaves few lawmakers fully satisfied, but Biden and McCarthy are counting on pulling majority support from the political centre, a rarity in divided Washington, testing the lead-

ership of the Democratic president and the Republican speaker. Overall, the 99-page bill restricts spending for the next two years, suspends the debt ceiling into January 2025 and changes policies, including new work requirements for

Appalachian natural gas line that many Democrats oppose. For more than two hours late Tuesday as aides wheeled in pizza at the Capitol, McCarthy walked Republicans through the details, fielded

questions and encouraged

older Americans receiving



food aid and greenlighting an Scott Perry,left, and Chip Roy, R-Texas, speak with reporters as member of the conservative House Freedom Caucus talk about the debt limit deal during a news conference Tuesday on Capitol Hill in Washington.

> them not to lose sight of the bill's budget savings.

ing the compromise as falling well short of the spending The speaker faced a sometimes tough crowd. Leaders of cuts they demand, and they the hard-right House Freedom vowed to try to halt passage by

Congress.
"This deal fails, fails completely," Rep. Scott Perry, R-Pa., the chairman of the Freedom Caucus, said earlier in the day, flanked by others outside the Capitol. "We will do every-thing in our power to stop it."

A much larger conservative faction, the Republican Study Committee, declined to take a position. Even rankand-file centrist conservatives were unsure, leaving McCarthy desperately hunting for votes.

Rep. Nancy Mace, R-S.C., said after the "healthy debate" late into the night she was still Ominously, the conserva-

tives warned of potentially trying to oust McCarthy over ne compromise.

"There's going to be a reckoning," said Rep. Chip Roy of Texas. Biden was speakmaking more than 100 oneon-one calls, the White House said. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office said the spending restrictions

in the package would reduce deficits by \$1.5 trillion over the decade, a top goal for the Republicans trying to curb the debt load. McCarthy told lawmakers

that number was higher if the

two-year spending caps were extended, which is no guarantee. But in a surprise that could further erode Republican support, the GOP's drive to impose work requirements on older Americans receiving food stamps ends up boosting spending by \$2.1 bil-

lion over the time period. That's because the final deal exempted veterans and homeless people, expanding the food stamp rolls by 78,000

House Democratic leader Hakeem Jeffries said it was up to McCarthy to turn out votes from some two-thirds of the Republican majority, a high

bar the speaker may not be able to reach. In the 435member House, 218 votes are needed for passage.
Still, Jeffries said the

Democrats would do their part to avoid failure. "It is my expectation that House Republicans would keep their promise and deliver at least 150 votes as it relates to an agreement that

Jeffries said. "Democrats will make sure that the country does not default."Liberal Democrats decried the new work requirements for older Americans, those age 50-54, in the food aid programme.

they themselves negotiated,"

दि बाजपुर को-आपरेटिव शुगर फैक्ट्री लि०, बाजपुर, ऊधमसिंह नगर (उत्तराखण्ड) ई-निविदा सूचना

सत्र 2023-24 हेतु चीनी मिल में विभिन्न सामग्री की आपित एवं सेवाओं हेतु जीoएसoटीo में पंजीकृत अधिकृत विक्रेताओं प्रतिष्ठित आपूर्तिकर्ताओं एवं अनुभवी ठेकेदारों से दिनांव 01.06.2023 साँय 4.00 बजे से 30.06.2023 सांय 4.00 बजे तव चरणबद्ध तरीके से ई–निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है ।

ई-निविदा सूचना www.bazpursugar.com तथा विस्तृत निविदा प्रपत्र www.uktenders.gov.in से डाउनलोड की ज प्रधान प्रबन्धक



HSCARDB intends to purchase banking software which is to be implemented in 70 Branches, 19 CEO Offices and in Head Office by the successful bidder. The detail of tender document, terms & conditions and scope of work can be seen/downloaded from the website https://haryanacardbank.org. Offers are required to be sent online on the portal https://etenders.hry.gov.in on or before 13-06-2023.

Managing Director

Imran Khan gets bail till June 19

 $A^{\hbox{\scriptsize Pakistan anti-corruption}}_{\hbox{\scriptsize court on Wednesday grant-}}$ ed bail to former premier Imran Khan until June 19 in the Al-Qadir Trust case involving an alleged corruption of over Rs 50 billion. Khan appeared before the Islamabad-based accountability court after the high court here earlier in the day extended the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief's protective bail for three days and directed him to seek bail from the anti-corruption court within this period.

Accountability court Judge Muhammad Bashir, presiding over the hearing, granted Khan bail till June 19 against surety bonds worth Rs 500,000.

Earlier, Khan travelled from Lahore to the capital and first



Security personnel with bulletproof shields escort Pakistan's former Prime Minister Imran Khan, center, as he leaves after appearing in court, in Islamabad, Pakistan on

appeared before the Islamabad High Court (IHC) where Justice Miangul Hasan Aurangzeb and Justice Saman Rifat Imtiaz granted him three-day protective bail with direction to go to the anti-corruption court for bail.The court had earlier on May 17 given him bail till May 31. Khawaja Haris counsel for Khan was present in the court the National Accountability Bureau (NAB)

was represented by prosecutor

Caucus spent the day lambast-

corruption case that led to Khan's arrest on May 9 in the Islamabad High Court premis-

The cricketer-turned-politician's arrest led to massive protests across Pakistan that left more than 10 persons dead and thousands of PTI supporters behind bars.

The PTI chief was two days later released by the Supreme Court with the direction to seek bail from the Islamabad High Court. In an informal chat with the media persons on the occasion, Khan said the powerful establishment was running the country.

The government and establishment are the same thing, the latter is running the former," he said, adding that there is no choice except to hold

9 more to be tried under stringent Army Act

Nine more members of Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party were arrested and handed over to the Pakistan Army on Wednesday to be tried under the stringent Pakistan Army Act over their alleged role in the May 9 attacks on sensitive military installations and government buildings.

With these arrests, the number of PTI activists to be tried under the Army Act and the Official Secrets Act has exceeded 50.

"On the orders of the antiterrorism courts, nine suspects belonging to PTI and involved in the attack on the

ISI buildings (in Faisalabad)

and military installations in Multan Cantonment were handed to the Pakistan Army on Wednesday for their trial under the Army Act and Official Secrets Act," a court official said.

On May 9, violent protests erupted after paramilitary Rangers arrested 70-year-old Khan, the chairman of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party from the Islamabad High Court premises in connection with a corruption case. His party workers vandalised a dozen military installations, including the Lahore Corps Commander House, the Mianwali airbase and the ISI building in Faisalabad in

RATHI STEEL AND POWER LIMITED Regd. Office: 24/1-A, Mohan Cooperative Industrial Estate, Mathura Road, New Delhi-110044

CIN-L27109DL1971PLC005905 web: www.rathisteelandpower.com e-mail:investors@rathisteelandpower.com Tel: 011- 4<u>0</u>512426 Extract of Audited Statement of Financial Results for the quarter and Year ended 31th March 2023 (in Lacs

QUARTER ENDED YEAR ENDED 31.03.2023 31.12.2021 31.03.2022 31.03.2023 31.03.2022 **PARTICULARS** (Audited) (Audited) Jnaudited) (Audited) Total income from operations (net) 54577.56 16688.7 17302.02 9921.64 72756.98 Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before tax, exceptional and / or extraordinary item 300.65 517.53 1,225.35 462.49 Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (before 300.65 462.49 Extraordinary items) Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (afte (3,593.82) 8,747.17 (3.648.86) Exceptional and / or Extraordinary items) 8,033.75 300.65 Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other 334.91 (3.552.50) 8.764.54 (3,607.54) Comprehensive Income (after tax)] **Equity Share Capital** 3,130.81 3,130.81 3,130.81 3,130.81 Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve as shown in the Balance Sheet of previous year) Earnings Per Share (after extraordinary items)

The above is an extract of the detailed format of Statement of Audited Financial Results for the guarter and year ended on 31th Marcl 2023 filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 The full format of the Statement of standalone Audited Financial Results are available on the websites of the BSE Limite (www.bseindia.com)

25.58

0.96

0.96

Place: New Delh

The above financial results were reviewed by the audit committee and approved by Board of Directors of the Company at their meeting

Integra Telecommunication and Software Limited

CIN:L74899DL1985PLC020286
Registered Office: Flat No. 1311,13th Floor, Devika Tower 6, Nehru Place, New Delhi - 110019
Corporate Office: 610/611, Nirmal Galaxy Avior, L.B.S. Road, Mulund (W), Mumbai-400080 Email ID: info@integratelesoftware.com; Website: www.integratelesoftware.com

Extract of Statement of Audited Results for the Quarter and Year ended on 31/03/2023

	(Amount in lakhs							
S.	Particulars	C	Year ended					
No.		31.03.2023 Audited	31.12.2022 Un-Audited	31.03.2022 Un-Audited				
1.	Total Income from Operations	3.79	3.78	34.92	64.43			
2.	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(3.43)	(4.95)	25.25	32.61			
3.	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax(after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(3.43)	(4.95)	25.25	32.61			
4.	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax(after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(11.62)	(4.95)	16.64	24.43			
5.	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and other Comprehensive Income(after tax)]	(11.62)	(4.95)	16.64	24.43			
6.	Equity Share Capital (Face Value of Rs. 10/- per share)	1,056.00	1,056.00	1,056.00	1,056.00			
7.	Reserve (excluding revaluation reserves as shown in the balance sheet of previous year)		-	-	23.49			
8.	Earning Per Share (of Rs.10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations) Basic & Diluted	(0.11)	(0.05)	0.16	0.23			

a) Basic

The above is an extract of the detailed format of Audited Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchange under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The financial results were reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at their respective meetings held on 30th May, 2023. Format of the Financial Results are available on the websites of the Stock Exchange at www.bseindia.com and on Company's website at www.integratelesoftware.com

For Integra Telecommunication and Software Limited

Ramaswamy Narayan Iyer Managing Director DIN:03045662

SANEH INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENTS LIMITED

Regd. Office: Delton House 4801 Bharat Ram Road 24 Daryaganj New Delhi -110002 (India) Phone No. 91-11-23273907, CIN: L74899DL1980PL060079 STATEMENT OF AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER / YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2023

Щ.	STATEMENT OF ADDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER / TEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2023 (Rs. in Lakh)								
			Standalone			Consolidated			
		Quarter	Year	Quarter	Quarter	Year	Quarter		
s.	B 4 1	ended	ended	ended	ended	ended	ended		
No.	Particulars	31.03.2023	31.03.2023	31.03.2022	31.03.2023	31.03.2023	31.03.2022		
	T.11. 6 2 6 8	Audited	Audited	Audited	Audited	Audited	Audited		
1	Total income from operations (net)	(0.00)	-	0.02	5.27	6.13	0.02		
2	Net Profit for the period (before Tax, Exceptional								
	and / or Extraordinary items)	(1.30)	(3.50)	(3.58)	3.16	1.12	(4.75)		
3	Net Profit for the period before Tax (after								
	Exceptional and / or Extraordinary items)	(1.30)	(3.50)	(3.58)	3.16	1.12	(4.75)		
4	Net Profit for the period after Tax (after Exceptional								
	and / or Extraordinary items)	(11.67)	(13.88)	(3.58)	3.16	75.32	(4.75)		
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period								
	[Comprising Profit for the period (after tax) and								
	other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	12.67	19.53	(40.98)	98.46	204.58	(144.76)		
6	Equity share capital (Face Value of Rs.10/- each)	24.00	24.00	24.00	24.00	24.00	24.00		
7	Earnings Per Share (before extraordinary items)	i i							
	(Face Value of ` 10/- each)								
	(a) Basic (Rs.)	(4.86)	(5.78)	(1.49)	1.32	31.38	(1.98)		
	(b) Diluted (Rs.)	(4.86)	(5.78)	(1.49)	1.32	31.38	(1.98)		

NOTES:

(11.65)

27.86

- 1) The above is an extract of the detailed format of audited Quarterly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly / Annual Financial Result are available on the Stock Exchanges website www.cse-india.com
- 2) The above results have been prepared in accordance with principle and procedures of indian Accounting Standards(Ind AS) as notifie under the companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015 as specified under section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013.
- 3) The above Audited Standalone and Consolidated Financial Results were reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors of the Compar

Place : Delhi

in its meeting held on 30th May, 2023.

By order of the Board For Saneh Industrial Investments Limited

Vivek Gupta

UNITED LEASING & INDUSTRIES LIMITED

Read.Office: Plot No.66, Sector-34, EHTP, Gurugram, Harvana-122001, CIN: L17100HR1983PLC033460 Website:www.ulilltd.com Email id: investorrelations@ulilltd.com, Phone: 011-49075251

Extract of Audited Einancial Deculte for the Quarter 8, Vear Ended 21st March 2022

SI.	Particulars	Qu	ıarter Ende	Year Ended		
No.	(Refer Notes Below)	31.03.2023	03.2023 31.12.2022 31.03.2022		31.03.2023	31.03.202
		[Audited]	Unaudited]	[Audited]	[Audited]	[Audited
1	Total Income from Operations	111.93	445.19	223.21	1,047.44	525.32
2	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period	(7.75)	17.13	24.30	55.59	67.05
	before tax and exceptional items					
3	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period	(7.75)	17.13	24.30	55.59	67.05
	before tax after exceptional items					
4	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax	(4.51)	12.85	13.84	43.00	56.59
5	Total Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-	
6	Paid-up equity share capital	300.00	300	300.00	300.00	300.00
7	Earning Per Share of Rs.10/- each					
	(not annualised)					
	a) Basic	(0.15)	0.43	0.46	1.43	1.89
	b) Diluted	(0.15)	0.43	0.46	1.43	1.89

- The above is an extract of the detailed format of Audited Financial Results for the Quarter and Year ended March 31, 2023 filed with the Stock Exchange under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Audited Financial Results for the quarter and year ended March 31, 2023 are available on the Bombay Stock Exchange website www.bseindia.com and on Company's website www.ulilltd.com
- The figures for the quarter and year ended March 31,2022 and March 31,2023 are the balancing figures between audted figures in respect of the full financial year and the year to date figure up to nine months of the respective financial year.

3 Figures of the above Previous periods have been regropued/reclassified/ restated

wherever necessary.

Date: May 30,2023 Place: Gurugram [Haryana]

move by Chinese jet China responds to **AP** ■ WASHINGTON he US military said Tuesday

US complains of unsafe

The US military said rucous, that a Chinese fighter jet flew aggressively close to a US reconnaissance aircraft over the South China Sea, forcing the American pilot to fly through the turbulent wake.

The Chinese J-16 fighter

pilot "flew directly in front of the nose of the RC-135,"" which was conducting routine operations in international airspace last Friday, US Indo-Pacific It called the Chinese move an unnecessarily aggressive maneuver."

US defense leaders have

complained that China's military has become significantly more aggressive over the past five years, intercepting US aircraft and ships in the region. And tensions with China have only grown in recent months over Washington's military support and sales of defensive weapons to self-governing Taiwan, China's assertions of sovereignty to the contested South China Sea and its flying of a suspected spy balloon over the US.

In a further sign of the tensions, China said its defense chief will not meet with US. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin when the two men attend a security conference in Singapore this coming weekend. Austin is scheduled to address the Shangri-La Dialogue on Saturday, while Chinese Defense Minister Gen. Li Shangfu will speak at the gathering on Sunday.

US complaint over plane intercept

Beijing (AP): Beijing responded on Wednesday to complaints from the United States about a Chinese fighter jet's dangerous interception of an American Air Force reconnaissance aircraft in international airspace over the South China Sea by demanding an end to such flights.

tary, diplomatic and economic tensions between the countries over US support for self-governing Taiwan, China's refusal to engage in dialogue between their armed forces and Beijing's flying of a suspected spy balloon over

Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning told reporters at a daily briefing that China would keep taking measures it deems necessary to safeguard its sover-

eignty.
"The US should immediately stop these dangerous provoca-tions," Mao said. The US Indo-Pacific Command called the Chinese plane's actions an "unnecessarily aggressive maneuver", adding to complaints that China's military has become significantly more aggressive over the past five years, intercepting US aircraft and ships in the region. China says it owns the South China Sea virtually in its entirety, a claim not recognised internationally and directly challenged by nations along its coast including the Philippines, Vietnam and Malaysia.

China facing more complex security challenges, Xi warns

Beijing (PTI): China is facing more complex and difficult security concerns, President Xi Jinping has said, as he warned citizens to prepare for "worst-case and extreme scenarios," amid deepening tensions with the United States and the European Union.

Xi, who presided over a meeting of the National Security Commission on Tuesday, said the complexity and severity of national security problems faced by the country increased dramatically, the state-run Xinhua news agency reported.
"The national security front

must build up strategic self-con-

fidence, have enough confidence

to secure victory, and be keenly

aware of its own strengths and

advantages," he said. The report said that it was stressed at the meeting that "we

must be prepared for worst-case and extreme scenarios, and be ready to withstand the major test of high winds, choppy waters, and even dangerous storms"."More efforts must be made to modernise our national security system and capacity, and be prepared for actual combat and in dealing with practical problems," it said. Documents including "guidelines on speeding up the building of risk monitoring and early warning system for national security" and "guidelines on strengthening extensive public education about national security" were deliberated and adopted at the meeting.

Place: Mumbai Date: 30.05.2023

For United Leasing & Industries Ltd.gLrk-@& Anil Kumar Khanna

[Managing Director] DIN:00207839

New US aid package

spokesperson at the US

National Security Council, said

in a statement that Washington

strongly condemns the North

Korean launch because it used

banned ballistic missile tech-

nology, raised tensions, and

risked destabilizing security

ic sanctions on North Korea

over its previous satellite and

ballistic missile launches, but

has not responded to recent

tests because China and Russia,

permanent council members

now locked in confrontations

with the US, have blocked

attempts to toughen sanctions.

boosted military readiness in

coordination with the United

States, and Japan said it pre-

pared to respond to any emer-

necessary measures to ensure

the security of the American

homeland and the defense of

Seoul, issued alerts over pub-

lic loudspeakers and cellphone

text messages telling residents

to prepare for evacuation after

the launch was detected, and

Japan activated a missile warn-

Bulli- on Priot No. 25 Situlated at village Chowkn, Mubarakbad Budh Nagar/Colony Known as Jai Mala market, Tri Nagar Delhi- 110035 vide Sale Deed dated 12.10.2021, Doc no. 14636 and Now, Sh. Pawan Kumar Gupta and Mr. Mukesh Kumar Gupta are mortgaging the above said property with IndusInd Bank Ltd. & in case anyone has any objection, the same may be raised within 07 days of this publication. Mr. Munesh Dhawar/Mir. Surfixir Jain Affronces of the publication.

Sanie may be raised within 97 days of this publication for Mr. Muneesh Dhawan/ Mr. Sudhir Jain (Advocates Law Veritas North, Unit no 907, 9th Floor, GD-11 Tower, (B-08), Netaji Subhash Place, Delhi-110034 (contact at 9066

Judgeship Champawat

Headquarter of Champawat

District.

South Korea and Japan.

The US said it will take all

South Korea's capital,

Seoul's military said it

The UN imposed econom-

in the region and beyond.

North Korea's attempt to put the country's first spy satellite into space failed Wednesday in a setback to leader Kim Jong Un's push to boost his military capabilities as tensions with the United States and South Korea rise. After an unusually quick admission of failure, North Korea vowed to conduct a second launch after learning what went wrong with its rocket liftoff. It suggests Kim remains determined to expand his weapons arsenal and apply more pressure on Washington and Seoul while diplomacy is stalled.

South Korea and Japan briefly urged residents to take shelter during the launch.

The South Korean military said it was salvaging an object presumed to be part of the crashed North Korean rocket in waters 200 kilometers (124 miles) west of the southwestern island of Eocheongdo. Later, the Defense Ministry released photos of a white, metal cylinder it described as a suspected rocket part.

A satellite launch by North Korea is a violation of UNSecurity Council resolutions that ban the country from conducting any launch based on ballistic technology. Observers say North Korea's previous satellite launches helped improve its long-range missile technology.

North Korean long-range missile tests in recent years demonstrated a potential range that could reach all of the continental US, but outside experts say the North Korea still has some work to do to obtain

functioning nuclear missiles. The newly developed Chollima-1 rocket was launched at 6:37 a.m. at the North's Sohae Satellite Launching Ground in the



A TV screen shows a file image of North Korea's rocket launch during a news program at the Seoul Railway Station in Seoul, South Korea on Wednesday. AP/PTI

northwest, carrying the Malligyong-1 satellite. The rocket crashed off the Korean Peninsula's western coast after it lost thrust following the separation of its first and second stages, the North's official Korean Central News Agency said. South Korea's military said the North Korean rocket had "an abnormal flight" before it fell in the water. Japan's Chief Cabinet Secretary Hirokazu Matsuno told reporters that no object was believed to have reached space.

North Korean media said the country's space agency will investigate what it calls "the serious defects revealed" by the launch and conduct a second launch as soon as possible.

"It is impressive when the North Korean regime actually admits failure, but it would be difficult to hide the fact of a satellite launch failure internationally, and the regime will likely offer a different narrative domestically," Leif-Eric Easley, a professor at Ewha University in Seoul, said.

"This outcome also suggests that Pyongyang may stage another provocation soon, in part to make up for today's setback." Adam Hodge, a ture in southwestern Japan, in the rocket's suspected path. "Please evacuate into

buildings or underground," the Japanese alert said.

Japanese Defense Minister Yasukazu Hamada said Japan plans to keep missile defense systems deployed to its southern islands and in southwestern waters until June 11, which is the end of North Korea's announced launch window.

KCNA didn't provide details of the rocket and the satellite beyond their names. But experts earlier said North Korea would likely use a liquid-fuelled rocket as most of its previously tested long-range rockets and missiles have done.

Though it plans a fuller investigation, the North's National Aerospace Development Administration attributed the failure to "the low reliability and stability of the new-type engine system applied to (the) carrier rocket" and "the unstable character of

the fuel," according to KCNA. On Tuesday, Ri Pyong Chol, a top North Korean official, said the North needed a space-based reconnaissance system to counter escalating security threats from South Korea and the United States. However, the spy satellite disclosed in the country's staterun media earlier didn't appear to be sophisticated enough to produce high-resolution imagery. Some outside experts said it may still be able to detect troop movements and large targets such as warships and warplanes.Recent commercial satellite imagery of the North's Sohae launch center showed active construction indicating North Korea plans to launch more than one satellite. In his Tuesday statement, Ri also said North Korea would test "various reconnaissance

means" to monitor moves by

in real time. With three to five spy satellites, North Korea could build a space-based surveillance system that allows it to monitor the Korean Peninsula in near real-time, according to Lee Choon Geun, an honorary research fellow at South Korea's Science and Technology Policy Institute.

The satellite is one of several high-tech weapons systems that Kim has publicly vowed to introduce. Other weapons on his wish list include a multi-warhead missile, a nuclear submarine, a solid-propellant intercontinental ballistic missile and a hypersonic missile.

In his visit to the space agency in mid-May, Kim emphasized the strategic significance of a spy satellite in North Korea's standoff with the United States and South Korea.

Easley, the professor, said Kim has likely increased pressure on his scientists and engineers to launch the spy satellite as rival South Korea successfully launched its first commercial-grade satellite aboard the domestically-built Nuri rocket earlier this month.

South Korea is expected to launch its first spy satellite later this year, and analysts say Kim likely wants his country to launch its spy satellite before the South to reinforce his military credentials at home. After repeated failures, North Korea successfully put its first satellite into orbit in 2012, and the second one in 2016.

The government said both are Earth-observation satellites launched under its peaceful space development program, but many foreign experts believed both were developed to spy on rivals. Observers say there has been no evidence that the satellites have ever transmitted imagery back to North

for Ukraine may be up to \$300 million

AP WASHINGTON

US military aid package for AUkraine that is expected to be announced this week will total up to USD 300 million and will include additional munitions for drones, US officials said on Tuesday. The drone ammunition comes after new attacks by unmanned aircraft targeted Moscow.

There has been no suggestion that US-made drones or munitions were used in the recent attacks on Moscow, and US officials have repeatedly said that Ukraine has agreed not to use any American-provided weapons for attacks on Russian soil. The Kremlin blamed Kyiv for Tuesday's attack, but Ukrainian officials

had no direct comment. But the new aid package comes at a tense moment in the war. The latest drone attack on Moscow follows Russia's seizure of the eastern Ukrainian city Bakhmut after a nine-month battle that killed tens of thousands of people. Ukraine is also showing signs that its longawaited spring counteroffensive may already be underway.

The Russian Defence Ministry said five drones were shot down in Moscow and the systems of three others were jammed, causing them to veer off course. President Vladimir Putin called it a "terrorist" act by Kyiv. A US defence official said the drone strikes would not affect the weapons aid

packages the US is providing Ukraine, to include drone ammunition. The official said the US has committed to supporting Ukraine in its effort to defend the country and Ukraine had committed to not using the systems inside Russia. so the aid would likely continue unchanged.

All of the US officials spoke on the condition of anonymity because the latest aid package has not yet been publicly announced.

US officials did not provide details on the drone munitions in the new aid package or specify which unmanned aircraft would use them. The Defense Department has given Ukraine a variety of unmanned aircraft over the last year, for both surveillance and attacks, including at least two versions of the Switchblade, a so-called kamikaze drone that can loiter in the air and then explode into a target. Other more sophisticated drones can drop munitions, but the US has been reluctant to publicly share details about those. Also included in the newest package will be munitions for Patriot missile batteries and the High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS), Stinger missiles for the Avenger system, mine-clearing equipment, antiarmour rounds, unguided Zuni aircraft rockets, night vision goggles, and about 30 million rounds of small arms ammunition, said the US officials.

Grossi urges Russia, Ukraine to ban attacks at Europe's largest nuclear plant

United Nations (AP): The UN nuclear chief stressed Tuesday that the world is fortunate a nuclear accident hasn't happened in Ukraine and asked Moscow and Kyiv to commit to preventing any attack on Europe's largest nuclear power plant and make other pledges "to avoid the danger of a catastrophic incident.

Rafael Grossi reiterated to the UN Security Council what he told the International Atomic Energy Agency's board of governors in March: "We are rolling a dice and if this continues then one day our luck will

The IAEA director general said avoiding a nuclear accident is possible if five principles are observed at the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant, where fighting on seven occasions, most recently last week, disrupted critical power supplies, "the last line of defense against a nuclear accident."

Grossi "respectfully and solemnly" asked Ukraine and Russia to observe the principles, saying IAEA experts at Zaporizhzhia will start moni-toring and he will publicly report on any violations:

Ban attacks from or against the plant, especially targeting reactors and spent fuel storage areas. Ban the storage of heavy weapons or presence of military personnel that could be used for an attack

UK govt hails first post-Brexit trade deals with Aus, NZ

AP ■ LONDON

The UK government hailed an era of cheaper Australian wine and New Zealand kiwi fruit as freetrade agreements with the two Southern Hemisphere nations took effect on

said that the start of the first all-new trade deals that Britain has struck since it left the European Union marked "a historic moment"

Economists, however, said the economic effect would be limited. Trade expert David Henig called the new deals "a bit of a nothingburger".

The agreements remove tariffs on most goods, streamline some regulations and make it easier for Britons to work Down Under, and for Aussies and Kiwis to work in the UK. Britain marked the occa-

sion by sending the Australian and New Zealand governments care packages of products it hopes will get an export boost, including Welsh whiskey, English gin, leather bags from the Cambridge Satchel Co. and Beano, a kids' comic book.The UK says the deals will boost bilat-

makers on Wednesday picked

the country's long-serving and

popular foreign minister, a strong backer of Ukraine, as its

new head of state in a tight

vote. The 100-seat Saeima leg-

islature elected Edgars

Rinkevics, the country's top

He received 52

diplomat since 2011, as

president to serve for a

votes, one vote more

than required to win the

race. Incumbent Egils

state since 2019, didn't

seek reelection.Rinkevics, who

announced in 2014 that he is

"proudly" homosexual. will be

the first openly gay president in

the Baltic nations — all former

Soviet republics where atti-

tudes to sexual minorities have

Levits, Latvia's head of

four-year term.

Latvia's Parl elects

Rinkevics as Prez

with Australia and 59 per cent with New Zealand, though the overall volumes are relatively modest: Australia accounts for 0.9 per cent of UK trade, and New Zealand for 0.2 per cent.

Henig, director of the UK Trade Policy Project at the European Centre for UK Business and Trade International Political "could make bits and pieces of difference. For individual companies it can make a dif-

But, he said, "the likeliest outcome is very little changes". Many economists say no amount of new trade deals will make up for the economic hit of leaving the EU, which before Brexit accounted for about half of all UK trade.Britain's exit erected new trade barriers with the bloc, an economic behemoth of 27 countries and 500 million people. Britain's independent Office for Budget Responsibility estimates Brexit knocked 4 per cent off UK gross domestic product.

The new deals together are expected to bring an estimated boost to GDP of about 0.1 per cent by 2035. Some former UK government officials also say the deals are skewed towards Australia and New Zealand.

been less tolerant than in west

man Uldis Pilens, got 25 votes in the third round of voting

between the two remaining

contenders after the third can-

didate, Elina Pinto, had

dropped out of the contest.

1990s.

ter, he has enjoyed high pop-

ularity among Latvians due to

his hard stance toward neigh-

bouring Russia and his unwa-

vering support for Ukraine

that is under assault from

Rinkevics, 49, served

- among other posts

as a state secretary

with the defense min-

istry and worked as a

journalist with Latvian Radio in the

As foreign minis-

His closest rival, business-

ern Europe.

PUBLIC NOTICE This is to inform general public that Sh. Pawan Kuman Gupta has acquired the Upper Ground Floor Only Without Roof Rights "said Floor" Built- on Plot No 4227, old Plot No. 3462 area measuring 90 Sq. Yds. Built- on Plot No. 25 Situated at Village Chowkri PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD.

(Office: Chief Engineer/ P&M, PSPCL, Ludhiana)
Corporate Identification No. U40109PB2010SGC033813 website: www.pspcl.in

Tender Enquiry No. 03/CE/P&M/2023

CE/P&M, PSPCL, Ludhiana invites e-Tender for Manufacture, testing supply & delivery of different types of Fire Extinguishers as per PSPCI specifications. For detailed NIT and tender specification, please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 31-05-2023 from 11:00 AM onwards. Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in

76155/12/1721/2023/24539



National Competitive E-Tender Notice The Superintending Engineer, 3rd Circle, Public Works Department Pithoragarh invites tender through E-Tendering (Two Bid System) on behalf of Hon'ble Governor of Jttarakhand for following works. All other information will be available from date **05-06-202**: at 5.00 PM onward on website http://www.uktenders.gov.in

Name of Work Earnest Cost of Validity Period Contractor's Money Category of No Tender of Completion Registration (in Lac Tender (₹) (day) (months) 5 6 Construction of 24 Units Category A & 20.40 5000.00 120 ligher for Building +G.S.T Type-II & 12 Units Type-III works, in state Residential Quarters for Govt./Govt. of Class-III Employees at India

RLF LIMITED

Regd.Office: 14Kms, Gurgaon Pataudi Road, Jhund Sarai Veeran, Distt.Gurugram, Haryana. CIN: L74999HR1979PLC032747, Website: www.rlfltd.com, Email id: investorrelations@rlfltd.com, Phone: 011-49075251

Statement of Audited Financial Results for the Quarter and Year Ended March 31, 2023

Particulars				(Rs. in Lakh								
	L a	uarter Ende	Financial Year Ended									
(Refer Notes below)	31.03.2023	31.12.2022	31.12.2022 31.03.2022		31.03.2022							
	[Audited]	[Unaudited]	[Audited]	[Audited]	[Audited]							
Total Income from Operations	25.27	25.21	22.4	96.62	70.10							
Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax and exceptional items	(16.83)	(7.63)	-84.77	(34.16)	(87.64)							
Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax after exceptional items	(16.83)	(7.63)	-84.77	(34.16)	(87.64)							
Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax	(260.71)	(7.63)	-84.77	(278.04)	(87.64)							
Total Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-	-							
Paid-up equity share capital	980.08	980.08	980.08	980.08	980.08							
Earning Per Share of Rs.10/- each (not annualised)												
a) Basic	(2.66)	(80.0)	(0.86)	(2.84)	(0.89)							
b) Diluted	(2.66)	(80.0)	(0.86)	(2.84)	(0.89)							
	Total Income from Operations Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax and exceptional items Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax after exceptional items Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax Total Comprehensive Income Paid-up equity share capital Earning Per Share of Rs.10/- each (not annualised) a) Basic	Total Income from Operations 25.27 Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax and exceptional items Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before (16.83) tax after exceptional items Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax after exceptional items Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax (260.71) Total Comprehensive Income Paid-up equity share capital 980.08 Earning Per Share of Rs.10/- each (not annualised) a) Basic (2.66)	Total Income from Operations 25.27 25.21 Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax and exceptional items Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax after exceptional items Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax after exceptional items Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax (260.71) (7.63) Total Comprehensive Income Paid-up equity share capital 980.08 980.08 Earning Per Share of Rs.10/- each (not annualised) a) Basic (2.66) (0.08)	Caudited Caudited	Total Income from Operations 25.27 25.21 22.4 96.62 Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax and exceptional items (16.83) (7.63) -84.77 (34.16) Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax after exceptional items (16.83) (7.63) -84.77 (34.16) Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax after exceptional items (260.71) (7.63) -84.77 (278.04) Total Comprehensive Income - - - - Paid-up equity share capital 980.08 980.08 980.08 Earning Per Share of Rs.10/- each (not annualised) (2.66) (0.08) (0.86) (2.84)							

Dated: 30th May, 2023

- The above Audited Financial Results of the Company for the guarter and year ended March 31 2023 have been reviewed by Audit Committee and approved by the Board at its meeting held on
- The Financial Results of the Company have been prepared in accordance with the Indian Accounting Standards ("Ind AS") as prepared under Section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with relevant rules issued thereunder. The Company had previously issued its unaudited financial results for the quarter ended March 2023 based on its preliminary selection of exemptions and accounting policies. The Company's Primary business segment is reflected based on principal business activities
- carried on by the Company. As per Indian Accounting Standard (Ind-As-108) "Operating Segments" as notified under the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015 as amended, the Company operates in one reportable business segment.
- The previous periods/ year figure have been regrouped / reclassified, wherever necessary For RLF Limited

Sd/ Vikas Grove Director DIN: 07075918 NISHTHA PARISAR, BIJALEE NAGAR, GOVINDPURA, BHOPAL-23 Phone No. : 0755-2602033-36, Fax : 2589821, 2586636

M.P. MADHYA KSHETRA VIDYUT VITARAN CO. LTD.

Date: 31.05.2023 TENDER NOTICE MPMKVVCL, Bhopal, invites following bids through e-tendering

Tender specification Number	Particulars	Approx. Value (Rs. Lakh)	Tender Fee including GST (in Rs.)	Date of Pre-Bid Conference	Date of Opening of Tender
MD/MK/04/ 933	Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) for SCADA Part-B Line Equipments namely Auto Reclosure, Sectionalizer, 2/3/4 Way RMUs and 11 KV & 33 KV Fault Passage Indicator (FPI) installed under MPMKVVCL, Bhopal	357.00	11800	08.06.2023 03.00 PM	16.06.2023 03:00 PM

Govt. Website https://mptenders.gov.in shortly.

CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (PROC.)

Delton Gables Limited

Regd.Office : Delton House 4801 Bharat Ram Road 24 Darya Ganj New Delhi -110002 Website :www.deltoncables.com, E-mail: cs@deltoncables.com,CIN: L31300DL1964PLC004255 EXTRACT OF AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2023 (Rs. in lakhs)

	EXTINOT OF ADDITED THANKOINE REDUCTO TON THE GOARTER AND			ILAN LINDLD MANON 31, 2020 (
Г		Quarter	Quarter	Quarter	Year	Year	
SL	Particulars	ended	ended	ended	Ended	Ended	
No	r articulars	31.03.2023	31.12.2022	31.03.2022	31.03.2023	31.03.2022	
		Audited	Unaudited	Audited	Audited	Audited	
1	Total income from operations (net)	8,112.41	6,797.67	4,821.84	27,348.13	15,971.49	
2	Net Profit for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and / or						
	Extraordinary items)	98.53	191.85	386.27	656.96	105.02	
3	Net Profit for the period before Tax (after Exceptional and / or						
	Extraordinary items)	98.61	191.85	386.19	664.95	104.94	
4	Net Profit for the period after Tax (after Exceptional and / or						
	Extraordinary items)	(432.85)	157.33	294.40	57.75	76.61	
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit for the						
	period (after tax) and other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	(429.05)	153.78	317.41	63.64	92.88	
6	Equity share capital (Face Value of Rs.10/- each)	864.00	864.00	864.00	864.00	864.00	
7	Earnings Per Share (before extraordinary items)						
	(Face Value of ` 10/- each)						
	(a) Basic (Rs.)	(5.01)	1.82	3.41	0.67	0.89	
	(b) Diluted (Rs.)	(5.01)	1.82	3.41	0.67	0.89	

The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEB (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly / Annual Financial Results are ava on the Stock Exchanges website (www.bseindia.com) and on Company's website (www.deltoncables.com) The above result have been prepared in accordance with principle and procedures of indian Accounting Standards(Ind AS) as notified unde

the companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015 as specified under section 133 of Companies Act, 2013.

The above results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at their meeting held on May 30 2023. The Statutory Auditors of the Company have have expressed an unmodified audit opinion on these results



(Managing Director) DIN 00035916

CIN No: L74899DL1993PLC054781 Regd. Office: A-24/7, Mohan Co-operative Indl. Estate, New Delhi-110017 Ph.: +91-11-43165400, Web: www.rathisteels.com, E-mail: rathibars@hotmail.com

RATHI BARS LIMITED

STATEMENT OF PROFIT AND LOSS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARC (Rs. In Lacs) **Quarter Ended** Year Ended 31-03-2023 | 31-12-2022 | 31-03-2022 31-03-2023 31-03-2022 (Unaudited) (Unaudited) (Audited) 19,868.14 7,412.35 13,787.42 48,263.78 49,392.66 1 Total Revenue From operations Net Profit/Loss for the Period (Before Tax 317.48 3 Net Profit/Loss for the Period (After Tax) 258.39 285.37 4 Total Comprehensive Income 91.35 66.84 94.92 258.39 285.37 5 Equity Share Capital 1,633.04 1,633.04 1,633.04 Reserves (Excluding 7,402.57 7,144.18 Reserves) Earning Per Share(of Rs. 10 Each) Basic : 0.56 0.4 0.58 1.58 1.75 Diluted 0.56 0.4 0.58 1.58 1.75

Not Annualised

- The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterely/Annual Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosures Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The Full format of the Quarterely/Annual Financial Results are available on the Stock Exchange's websites i.e. 'www.bseindia.com' and also at the website of the Company at www.rathisteels.com
- The Company does not have any Exceptional and Extraordinary item to report during the above periods
- 3 The Company has not discontinued any of its operations during the above periods.
- 4 Tax expenses / Provision for Taxation has been made on annual basis only
- 5 The figures of previous year / Quarters have been re-arranged/re-grouped wherever felt necessary.

By order of the Board for Rathi Bars Limited **Anurag Rathi** (Managing Director) DIN: 00063345

Place: New Delhi

Place: Gurugram, Haryana

Centre's fiscal deficit narrows to 6.4% of GDP in FY23 IT sector growth to

For the

quarter ended

(Audited)

7,703.84

211.89

207.44

138.46

138.46

1,273.95

3,775.58

240.00

5,049.53

0.13

1.94

1.09

1.09

2.87

4.20

March 31, 2023 December 31, 2022 March 31, 2022 March 31, 2023 March 31, 2022

For the

Year ended

(Audited)

17,778.83

781.18

797.23

612.43

612.43

1,273.95

4.388.01

240.00

5,661.96

1.25

4.80

4.80

1.82

By Order of the Board of Directors

 Quarter Ended March 31,2023
 Quarter Ended December 31,2022
 Quarter Ended March 31, 2022
 For the Year Ended March 31, 2023
 For the Year Ended March 31, 2022

Unaudited

6,080

(2.526)

(6,550)

(5,337)

(4,895)

1,636

(9, 152)

1,739

(7,515)

52,235

-6.95

-32.62

-32.62

-0.02

-0.44

For Ashnoor Textile Mills Limited

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre's fiscal deficit I narrowed to 6.4 per cent of the GDP in 2022-23 from 6.71 per cent in FY22, as anticipated by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in her Budget in February this year.

Particulars

Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or

Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or

Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or

Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss)

for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)

Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve) as shown in the Audited

13 | Earnings Per Share (of Rs. 10/- each) (before and after extraordinary items)

In the Union Budget, the government aimed to further bring down the fiscal deficit -- a key indicator of borrowing -- during the current financial year 2023-24 to 5.9 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP).

Total Income from Operations (Net)

Extraordinary items)

Extraordinary items)

Extraordinary items)

Paid Up Equity Share Capital

Securities Premium Account

Net Worth

12 Debt Equity Ratio

1. Basic

2. Diluted

14 Capital Redemption Reserve

15 Debenture Redemption Reserve

16 Debt Service Coverage Ratio

17 Interest Service coverage Ratio

Place: Gurugram, Haryana

Date: 30-05-2023

Particulars

www.ashnoortex.com

1 Total Income from Operations

and / or Extraordinary items)

6 Paid up equity share capital

8 Securities premium account

14 Capital Redemption Reserve

15 Debenture Redemption Reserve

16 Debt Service Coverage Ratio (DSCR)

17 Interest Service Coverage Ratio (ISCR)

Notes 1: Adopted definitions for Ratios:

Debt Equity Ratio = Total Debt / Total Equity"

Ratios has been computed as follows

9 Net Worth

Diluted

12 Debt Equity Ratio

(Loss) for the period (after tax) and Othe Comprehensive Income (after tax)]

7 Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve)

11 Outstanding Reedeemable Preference Share

10 Paid up debt capital / Outstanding Debt

Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional

Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptiona

Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional

13 Earnings Per Share (for continuing and discontinued operations)

Additional information as per Regulation 52(4) of SEBI (LODR) Regulations, 2015

Total Debt= Non current borrowings + current maturities of non-current borrowings

Total equity = Equity share capital + Other equity + Compulsory convertible instruments to equity

5 Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit /

Balance Sheet of the previous year

10 Paid up Debt Capital / Outstanding Deb

11 Outstanding Redeemable Perferences Shares

Unveiling the revenue-expenditure data of the Union government for 2022-23, the Controller General of Accounts (CGA) said the fiscal deficit in absolute terms was Rs 17,33,131 crore (provisional), marginally down from the amount projected in the Revised Estimates (RE) in the Budget.

CGA said the government (101 per cent of corresponding RE 2022-23 of total receipts) during 2022-23.

It comprised Rs 20.97 lakh

CIN: UL17226HR1984PLC033384 | E mail: atml_delhi@yahoo.com | Website : www.ashnoortex.com

Statement of Standalone Audited Financial Results for the Quarter and Year Ended March 31, 2023

quarter ended

(Audited)

3,586.47

416.00

432.05

311.88

311.88

1,273.95

4.388.01

240.00

5,661.96

1.25

4.69

The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly and Yearly Financial Results filed with the Bombay Stock Exchange under Regulation 33 of

the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly and Yealy Financial Results as on

March 31, 2023 are available on the websites of the Bombay Stock Exchange i.e. www.bseindia.in and on web site of the Company i.e.



crore tax revenue (Net to Centre). Rs 2.86 lakh crore of received Rs 24.56 lakh crore non-tax revenue and Rs 72,187 crore of non-debt capital receipts.

Non-debt capital receipts consist of the recovery of loans

quarter ended

(Unaudited)

2,354.92

50.01

35.14

35.14

1,273.95

240.00

5,350.12

0.24

1.00

0.28

0.28

0.68

1.58

FEEDBACKINFRAPRIVATELIMITED

CIN-U74899DL1990PTC040630

Registered Office: 311, 3rd Floor, Vardhaman Plaza, Pocket 7, Plot No. 6, Sector 12, Dwarka, New Delhi - 110078, India

STANDALONE AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR HALF YEAR ENDED 30ST MARCH, 2023

Audited

4,562

(3,608)

(3,608)

(2,764)

(2,825)

(16.839)

(15,203)

54,791

-3.23

16.89

-16.89

1,210

0.00

0.02

2 There has been no improvement in financial strength of the company during the year and company continued to face financial constraint, therefore company has not got the credit rating reassessed therefore care has assigned INC (ISSUER NOT COOPERATIVE).

3 Debentures are secured by way of first pari- passu charge by hypothecation of entire current assets, movable fixed assets of the Company both present and future, Corporate Guarantee of the Promoter Company and pledge of shares of subsidiary Company. These are to be secured against first pari- issue charge over total assets to the extent of total assets cover of atleast 1.5 times. The total asset coverage ratio is 1.28, times as on March 31, 2023.

1,636

1,739

prporate Office: Ist Floor, Plot No. 77A East Tower, Iffco Road, Sector-18, Gurugram - 122015, Haryana, India
Telephone: Board: +91 124 4169100 | Fax: +91 124 4169155

E-mail: feedback.legal@feedbackinfra.com || Website: www.feedbackinfra.com

Audited

4.494

(2,712)

(2,712)

(2,033)

(2,033)

1,636

1,739

(14.015)

(12,379)

53,205

-4.30

-12.43

1,210

-0.01

-0.16

and miscellaneous capital

Åbout Rs 9.48 lakh crore has been transferred to state governments as devolution of taxes by the central government, which is Rs 50,015 crore higher than the previous year (2021-22).

The CGA data further revealed that the Centre's total expenditure was Rs 41.89 crore (100 per cent of corresponding RE 2022-23), out of which Rs 34.52 lakh crore was on the revenue account and Rs 7.36 lakh crore on the capital

(Rs. in lakhs)

For the

Year ended

(Audited)

26,232.20

1,202.03

895.53

895.53

1,273.95

3.775.58

240.00

5,049.53

7.02

7.02

3.50

Suneel Gupta

Audited

19,245

(10, 151)

(10, 151)

(7,627)

(7,688)

(16,839)

1,636

1,739

(15,203)

54,791

-3.23

-46.61

-46.61

1,210

0.00

0.17

Managing Director

DIN - 00052084

Out of the total revenue expenditure, Rs 9.28 lakh crore was on account of interest payments and Rs 5.31 lakh crore towards major subsidies.

As per CGA, the revenue deficit for the fiscal ending March 2023 was 3.9 per cent of GDP while the effective revenue deficit worked out to be 2.8 per cent of GDP.

Aditi Nayar, Economist and Head -Research and Outreach, Icra, said the government was able to restrict its FY2023 fiscal

PUBLIC NOTICE

Reg: Plot No. 802, Phase-V, Udyog Vihar, HSIIDC, Gurugram.
Plot No. 802, Phase-V, Udyog Vihar, HSIIDC, Gurugram Measuring 450 Sq. Meter was allotted by the Corporation to Sita Ram Gupta and Sons (HUF), Rajash Gupta (HUF), Rachita Gupta vide Allotment/Re-Allotment Letter No.:2560 Date 27.09.2018.
The Corporation has been informed that the origina allottee Mr. Sita Ram Gupta has expired on 31.10.2002. The Surviving legal heirs of the deceased allottee all Surviving Members are (Sanjay Gupta, Laxmi Devi, Meenakshi Gupta, Meefu Gool, Rachita Gupta, Sonia Gupta) have approached the Corporation for transfer of the plot in favour of Sh. Sanjay Gupta And Sons (HUF) and others.
The Corporation is in process of considering their

plot in favour of Sn. Sanjay Gupta And Sons (HUF) and others.

The Corporation is in process of considering their request & transferring the said plot in favour of Sn. Sita Ram and Sons (HUF), Parveen Bansal (HUF) Through this public notice it is here by informed that in case, any of the legal heirs of late Sn. Sita Ram Gupta or any other person having his/her objection in writing before the undersined or Add. General Manager (Estate), HSIIDC Limited, C-13-14, Sector-6, Panchkula, Haryana along with an afficiavit within a period of 30 days from the date of publication of the notice. In case no response is received within the aforesaid period, it will be presumed that no one has any objection to transfer of the said plot in favour of Sn. Sita Ram and Sons (HUF), Parveen Bansal (HUF) and the corporation shall go ahead with transfer of plot in his favour.

For & benair of Haryana State Industrial and Infrastructure Dev. Corp Ltd. Vanijya Nikunj Complex Udyog Vihar, Phase-V, Gurugram

PUBLIC NOTICE

Subject: Transfer of ownership in respect of H.No.490, 3rd Floor, Urban Estate Huda, Sector-2, Faridabad, measuring area 161.96 Sq. Mtr., in respect of 100% share upon the basis of Sale Deed bearing document No.1522 dated 03-06-2022, registered in the office of Sub Registrar Ballabgarh. Whereas the applicant Sh. Pradeep Aggarwal S/o Sh. Mitthan Lal Aggarwal R/o Plot No.1, Apna Ghar Market, Sohna Road, Sector-23, Faridabad, Haryana, buy this property from Smt. Kavita Joshi W/o Sh. Ramesh Joshi R/o H.No-A-82, 4th Floor, Back Side Lajpat Nagar, South Delhi-110024, registered in the office of Sub Registrar Ballabgarh. Sh. Pradeep Aggarwal S/o Sh.

office of Sub Registrar Ballabgarn.

Sh. Pradeep Aggarwal S/o Sh.
Mitthan Lal Aggarwal R/o Plot No.1,
Apna Ghar Market, Sohna Road,
Sector-23, Faridabad, Haryana,
intends to apply for the transfer of the
said property in his favour on the basis
of Sale Deed. If any person is having
objection against the transfer of the

said property, He/she can submit objections in the writing to Estate Officer HSVP, Faridabad, along with supporting documents within 30 days

from the date of publication of this notice. Otherwise the Estate Officer may transfer the said property as per HUDA policy and may not entertain

Applicant - Sh. Pradeep Aggarwal

(Rupees in Lakhs)

19,978

(11,306)

(17,414)

(13,503)

(13,061)

1,636

(9,152)

1,739

(7,515)

52,235

-6.95

-82.53

-82.53

1,210

-0.06

-0.39

subsequent claim if any

PUBLIC NOTICE

deficit at Rs 17.3 lakh crore, a shade below the FY2023 RE with higher than estimated revenue receipts and a small undershooting in revenue expenditure, offsetting the disinvestment miss and a healthier than expected capex.

"In FY2023, the government's net tax revenues reported a healthy growth of 15.2 per cent, amidst a 17.8 per cent contraction in non-tax revenues, 7.8 per cent increase in revenue expenditure, and a robust 24.2 per cent expansion in capex," she said.

40-50 FDI proposals from countries sharing land border with India pending



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

bout 40-50 foreign direct About 40-30 loreign ...

Ainvestment (FDI)proposals from countries sharing land border with India under the provisions of Press Note 3 are pending for approval with the government, official sources

Under Press Note 3, the government has made its prior approval mandatory for foreign investments from countries that share land border with India. These countries are China, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Bhutan, Nepal, Myanmar and Afghanistan.

As per that decision, FDI proposals from these countries need government approval for investments in India in any sector.

"About 40-50 proposals are pending with the commerce and industry ministry as they require security and political clearances," one of the sources

Sources added that there is no consideration at present to ease norms under this press "FDI is not totally banned

from these countries. It is just that they (investors from these countries) have to follow the government approval route and of course that takes times," a source said. The government has a

commitment to clear these time, but it takes about seven

As per industry sources, MG Motor, a British brand owned by China's largest automaker SAIC Motor Corp, has been awaiting government approval for around two years now to raise funds from its par-

slow down further in FY24: Icra

PTI MUMBAI

▼ndian IT companies revenue growth will slow down further to mid-single digits amid intensifying headwinds for the nearly USD 250 billion dollar sector, domestic rating agency Icra said on Wednesday.

The continuing uncertainties are set to take their toll on hiring, and companies are expected to keep employee addition at "low levels" in the near term, the rating agency said, adding that the net addition is negative in the last twoquarters of FY23.

As per industry lobby grouping Nasscom's report published in March, the sector's growth slowed down to 8.4 per cent in FY23 from over 15 per cent in the previous fiscal.

"Despite a strong order book and deal pipelines of Indian IT services companies, Icra expects the revenue growth to remain subdued in mid-single digits in USD terms in FY2024," the agency said.

It has maintained its stable outlook for companies in the sector, which is generally known to have the best quality on leverage positions.

The agency said the growth momentum witnessed a slowdown in the last two quarters due to macroeconomic headwinds in the US and Europe, which together account for up to 90 per cent of the industry's



revenues

On a sectoral basis, growth from the banking, financial services and insurance segment, which contributes nearly a third of the overall revenues, tapered more than other segments because of the crisis in American banks, it said.

There are delays in decision-making by customers, as visible from the slowdown in the conversion of deals to revenues to some extent, it added.

On the profitability front, Icra said companies in its sample set witnessed a 1.90 per cent narrowing in the operating profit margins to 22.9 per cent in FY23 and added that it expects the number to remain steady despite the slowdown in revenue growth.

From an employee addition perspective, the top five companies in the sector added 83,906 people in FY23 compared to 2.73 lakh in FY22.

Hiring will "remain at low levels in the near term till the macroeconomic uncertainty continues", the agency added.

INBRIEF

GOVT APPOINTS ASHWANI AS MD OF UCO BANK

New Delhi: The Government on Wednesday appointed Ashwani Kumar as managing director of UCO Bank in place of Soma Sankara Prasad whose terms comes to an end. Kumar is currently an executive director of Indian Bank and prior to this, he served as Chief General Manager of Punjab National Bank. The central government appoints Ashwani Kumar as managing director and chief executive officer in UCO Bank for a period of three years, the Finance Ministry

SEBI CANCELS REGISTRATION OF KARVY STOCK BROKING

New Delhi: Capital markets regulator Sebi on Wednesday cancelled the registration of brokerage firm Karvy Stock Broking Ltd (KSBL) for mis-utilising clients' funds and securities. Cancelling the registration, Sebi said that Karvy was involved in transferring of funds from clients' accounts to own accounts. Such funds were, in turn transferred to the group companies of the brokerage house. Further, it raised funds by pledging clients' securities.

SEBI PROPOSES MANDATING ENHANCED DISLOSURES

New Delhi: To bring greater transparency in the Indian capital markets, Sebi on Wednesday came out with a proposal mandating enhanced disclosures from high-risk Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) that have concentrated holding in a single company or a group firm. These proposals are aimed at preventing possible circumvention of minimum public shareholding (MPS) requirements and potential misuse of the FPI route to guard against the inherent risks of consultation paper.

DELOITTE FLAGS ADANI PORT TRANSACTIONS

New Delhi: Auditor Deloitte flagged three transactions, including recoveries from a contractor identified in the Hindenburg report, as it issued a qualified opinion on the accounts of Adani Ports & Special Economic Zone. In the auditors' report on the audit of the fourth quarter and 2022-23 financials, Deloitte Haskins & Sells LLP highlighted transactions with three entities, which the company said

Sensex, Nifty trip over profit taking in banking, energy shares

PTI MUMBAI

Benchmark stock indices Sensex and Nifty cut short their four-day gaining streak and closed lower by half a per cent on Wednesday due to profit-taking in banking, energy and metal stocks amid weak trends in global markets.

Snapping its four-day rally, the 30-share BSE Sensex fell 346.89 points or 0.55 per cent to settle at 62,622.24. During the day, it tumbled 568.11 points or 0.90 per cent to

The NSE Nifty declined 99.45 points or 0.53 per cent to end at 18,534.40.

In the four-day rally to Tuesday, Sensex advanced by 1,195 points or 2 per cent while Nifty rose by 348 points or 2.26 per cent.

"Markets witnessed profittaking and shed over half a per cent, tracking mixed cues. After the initial downtick, the Nifty index traded with a negative bias for most of the session however a marginal rebound in the final hours trimmed some losses," said Ajit Mishra, SVP -Technical Research, Religare Broking Ltd.

Global headwinds, especially from the US markets, are causing intermediate volatility however the positional up trend is still intact, Mishra



From the Sensex pack, Axis Bank, State Bank of India, Reliance Industries, HDFC, HDFC Bank, NTPC, Tata Steel and UltraTech Cement were the major laggards on Wednesday.

Bharti Airtel, Tech Mahindra, Asian Paints, Sun Pharma, Tata Motors and Kotak Mahindra Bank were among the gainers.

"As indicated by multiple economic data points, the Indian economy is presently experiencing a robust recovery, leading to an upward trend in domestic equity markets. However, the rally is being hindered at times due to negative signals from global peers, as observed today.

"Concerns about a recession and potential interest rate hikes in western markets are impacting the domestic market but it is nevertheless maintaining the outperformance," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial

Key infra sector growth slows down to 6-month low of 3.5% in April



PTI NEW DELHI

The production growth of Leight key infrastructure sectors slowed down to a sixmonth low of 3.5 per cent in April 2023 due to a decline in the output of crude oil, natural gas, refinery products and electricity.

The core sector growth was 9.5 per cent in April 2022 while in March 2023 the key infra sectors recorded a growth rate of 3.6 per cent. The growth rate in April 2023 is the lowest since October 2022 when the sectors expanded by 0.7 per

Coal production growth declined to 9 per cent in April this year, according to the official data released on Wednesday.

Fertiliser production soared by 23.5 per cent, steel by 12.1 per cent and cement output by 11.6 per cent in April, the data showed.

Interest Service Coverage Ratio (ISCR)= (EBDIT-Current Tax)/Gross Interest Debt Service Coverage Ratio (DSCR) = (EBDIT-Current Tax)/(Gross interest + Principal Repayment of long Term debts excluding repayment from refinancing of debt)" Assets Coverage Ratio = (Total assets) / (Total borrowing excluding unsecured borrowings and compulsary convertible instruments to equity)

1 During the year ended March 31, 2023, principal and interest amount was due on Non-Convertible Debenture but not paid.

a) The above is an extract of the annual financial results required to be filed with the Stock Exchange under Regulation 52 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements)

Regulations, 2015 (as amended). The full format of the annual financial results are available on the Stock Exchange website www.bseindia.com and on the Company website

b) For the items referred in the Regulation 52(4) of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, the pertinent disclosures have been made to the Bombay Stock Exchange website www.bseindia.com and on the Company's website www. feeedbackinfra.com

c) The above financial results for the year ended March 31, 2023 have been reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors in the meeting held on30' May 2023.

d) The Statement has been prepared in accordance with the Indian Accounting Standards ("Ind AS") as prescribed under Section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with relevant rules issued thereunder and in terms of Regulation 52(1) of SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosures Requirements) Regulations, 2015 and SEBI's circular no. CIR/IMD/DFI/69/ 2016 dated August 10, 2016.

The Company is primarily in the business of consultancy. The Board of Directors of the Company, which has been identified as being the chief operating decision maker (CODM), evaluates the Company's performance, allocate resources based on the analysis of the various performance indicator of the Company as a single unit. Therefore, the Company's business activity falls within a single business segment in terms of Ind AS 108. For and on behalf of Board of Directors

Hari Om

Director DIN No. 10045489

Date: 30th May, 2023

Olympic sports bodies meet amid uncertainty over Russians competing at Paris Games

AP LAUSANNE

lympic sports bodies meeting Wednesday amid ongoing uncertainty about if and how Russian athletes could return to their competitions ahead of the 2024 Paris Games.

The annual meeting of the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF) comes more than two months after the IOC detailed advice on how individual athletes from Russia and its military ally Belarus could be reintegrated as neutral athletes, despite those countries' ongoing war on Ukraine.

Exactly how that neutrality is being defined is not very much clearer now as key qualification events start for the Olympics that open in July next

The International Olympic Committee in March advised that some Russians and Belarusians could return in individual events but not team sports, if they had not actively supported the war in Ukraine,



and are not contracted to "military or national security agen-

The IOC also suggested ASOIF and the winter sports umbrella group, AIOWF, could oversee "creating a single independent panel" to run and 'harmonize" the neutral status evaluations of hundreds of athletes, coaches and support staff.

That has not happened and there was no move Wednesday on the ASOIF agenda in the IOC's home city of Lausanne toward taking on that complex responsibility.

IOC president Thomas Bach told leaders of governing bodies on the 32-sport Paris program, who have ultimate control over their own events, some had proven how Russian and Belarusians could continue to compete.

"You are doing so against the backdrop of the many traditional, I may say, naysayers who want to make people believe that it would never work," Bach said. He did not speak with reporters when leaving after his speech.

Bach and the IOC led calls within days of the invasion of Ukraine in February of last year to banish Russia from international sport, including to protect the security of athletes. As the war continued and

the 2024 Olympics approached, the IOC and Bach started to suggest it was discrimination to exclude all Russians and Belarusians. If approved to compete, the IOC said Russian and Belarusians would not be allowed to use their flag, anthem or uniforms in nation-

ASOIF officials previously cautioned "each sport has dif-ferent realities," including where Olympic qualification events are being hosted and the influence of Ukraine's allies in sports and governments, especially in Europe.

In gymnastics, a top-tier Summer Games sport where Russians excel, a decision on reintegrating them was pushed back to at least July. World championships that are a key qualifier for Paris start Sept. 30 in Antwerp, Belgium.



Djokovic draws flak for political messages at French Open

French Sports minister Amelie Oudea-Castera said Wednesday that Novak Djokovic's political message about Kosovo was "not appropriate" and warned the former top-ranked Serb player that he should not do it again.

Speaking on TV station France 2, Oudea-Castera said French Open director Amelie Mauresmo spoke with Djokovic and his entourage to insist on the principle of "neutrality" on the field of play.

"When it comes to defending human rights and bringing people together around universal values, a sportsperson is free to do so," she said. But Oudea-Castera added that Djokovic's message was "militant, very political" and "must not be repeated."

Djokovic has drawn criticism from Kosovo's tennis federation after offering his thoughts on clashes in northern Kosovo between ethnic Serbs and police and NATO

peacekeepers.
After a first-round victory
in Paris on Monday, Djokovic wrote in Serbian on the lens of a courtside TV camera: "Kosovo is the heart of Serbia. Stop the violence."

Kosovo's tennis federation said Tuesday that Djokovic's comments were "deplorable" because he was stoking tensions between Serbia and

A former province of Serbia, Kosovo's 2008 declaration of independence is not recognized by Belgrade. Ethnic Albanians make up most of the population, but Kosovo has a restive Serb minority in the north of the country bordering

Djokovic, who has won 22 Grand Slam titles, is scheduled to play in the second round at Roland Garros on Wednesday.

Speaking to reporters in Serbian, Djokovic said Monday that he thought what he wrote on the TV camera was "the least I could do. I feel responsibility as a public figure ... as well as a son of a man who was born in Kosovo."

Without mentioning Djokovic by name, French

Debutant Stearns beats former champ Ostapenko to reach French Open 3rd round

AP PARIS

 $F^{\rm rench\ Open\ debutant}_{\rm Peyton\ Stearns\ produced}$ the biggest win of her career by defeating former champion Jelena Ostapenko to reach the third round at Roland Garros on Wednesday.

Stearns, a former player at the University of Texas, only turned professional in June last year.

Ostapenko won the 2017 French Open but has since failed to advance past the 3rd round. The 17thseeded Latvian dropped her serve five times against Stearns and hit 28 unforced errors in her 6-3, 1-6, 6-2

The 21-year-old Stearns has been climbing the WTA rankings and entered the French Open at No. 69 on the back of an encouraging clay-court campaign.
Third-seeded Jessica

Pegula also advanced after Camila Giorgi retired due to injury. The American led 6-2 when her Italian rival threw in the towel.

Only hours after husband Gael Monfils won a five-set thriller in Tuesday night's session, Elina Svitolina rallied past qualifier Storm Hunter 2-6, 6-3,

In the men's bracket, former runner-up Stefanos Tsitsipas ousted Roberto Carballes Baena 6-3, 7-6 (4), 6-2. The fifth-seeded Greek was a bit slow to find his range and was made to work hard for two sets but rolled on after he won the tiebreaker.

Open organizers indicated in a statement issued Tuesday that no rules had been broken, saying: "Occasionally, discussions about international news events enter the realm of the tournament, which is understand-

Top surfers to compete in Indian

Only matter of time before India becomes leading chess nation in world, says Carlsen

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

 $F_{\text{Magnus Carlsen feels it is}}^{\text{ive-time world champion}}$ only a matter of time before India becomes a leading chess nation, saying the country is "doing a lot of right things".

Carlsen who is the current world rapid chess champion, is widely regarded as the best player of the current generation.

While Indian chess players have done extremely well in global circuit in recent years, the country also successfully hosted the Chess Olympiad last year.

"I think India is doing a lot of right things so far, and it is a matter of time before it is clearly the leading chess nation in the world," Carlsen was quoted as saying in a



Norwegian Grandmaster is one of the icon players for the inaugural Global Chess League, which is the world's first and largest official franchise league of its kind, with chess players from all over the world competing in a unique joint team format.

The GCL is a joint venture between Tech Mahindra and the international chess federation (FIDE), which will witness six teams competing in a minimum of 10 matches each in a double round-robin, rapid format from June 21 to July 2 in

"It is an exciting prospect for me to be a part of. This will be something new. Something that has not been done this way in over-theboard chess. I am looking forward to exploring this format for future."

The league will see each of the six franchises play a total of 10 matches in a double round-robin format, with the winner of each match being decided in a best-of-six board scoring system played simultaneously.

Nkunku, Dembélé recalled by France

AP PARIS

hri\stopher Nkunku and Ousmane Dembélé were recalled Wednesday to France's The two strikers were

included in coach Didier Deschamps' squad for upcoming European Championship qualifiers against Gibraltar and Greece after missing Les Bleus previous games due to injury. France tops the Group B

standings in qualifying after back-to-back wins against the Netherlands and Ireland. The two-time world champions take on Gibraltar in Portugal on June 16, then host Greece three days later at the Stade de France. Nkunku, who plays for RB

Leipzig in the Bundesliga, has been sidelined for months due to a knee injury while Barcelona's Dembele missed a series of games due to a hamstring prob-

Deschamps will be without N'Golo Kanté, with William Saliba also missing because of a back injury.

FRANCE SQUAD: Goalkeepers: Alphonse

Areola (West Ham), Mike Maignan (AC Milan), Brice Samba (Lens)

Defenders: Axel Disasi (Monaco), Wesley Fofana (Chelsea), Theo Hernandez (AC Milan), Ibrahima Konaté (Liverpool), Jules Koundé (Barcelona), Ferland Mendy (Real Madrid), Benjamin Pavard (Bayern Munich), Dayot Upamecano (Bayern Munich)

Midfielders: Eduardo Camavinga (Real Madrid), Youssouf Fofana (Monaco), Antoine Griezmann (Atlético Madrid), Adrien Rabiot (Juventus), Aurélien

Tchouaméni (Real Madrid), Forwards: Kingsley Coman (Bayern Munich), Ousmane Dembélé (Barcelona), Olivier Giroud (AC Milan), Randal Kolo Muani (Eintracht Frankfurt), Kylian Mbappé Saint-Germain), Christopher Nkunku (RB Leipzig), Marcus Thuram (Borussia Mönchengladbach).

Bonmatí aims for 2nd Women's Champions League title with Barcelona

When Barcelona midfielder Aitana Bonmatí was the only girl playing on her villagges lage's soccer team, she quickly learned that she would have to fight for the game she loved. That character-forging

experience has helped the 25year-old Bonmatí lead her team a fourth Women's Champions League final in five years. On Saturday, the Spanish club will face German team Wolfsburg in Eindhoven Back in her younger days,

her opponents weren't the source of trouble. It was her own teammates. "I was the only girl and I

remember having lots of fights. The boys had a hard time accepting that a girl could play soccer," Bonmatí told The Associated Press recently in an interview at the stadium where Barcelona's women play most of their games. "It was like I can't step on a girl, or 'How can time.' a girl play ahead of me?'

"But I don't blame those tion and society as a whole," she

Tt's been nearly a decade since

there was this much hype

surrounding the Spanish

One crowd in Spain had such

high hopes of celebrating a vic-

tory by Fernando Alonso — the

country's biggest racing idol—was back in 2013, when the

two-time champion was dri-

race in Barcelona, but since

then has never been in a real-

istic position to make it to the

top step of the podium again at

home. That was his last win in

F1 anywhere, and the last by

any Spaniard in the local race.

arrives revitalized with an

Aston Martin team that is one

The 41-year-old Alonso

Alonso went on to win that

The last time the Formula

AP BARCELONA

Grand Prix.

ving for Ferrari.



said about her childhood in Sant Pere de Ribes, a village just south of Barcelona where Bonmatí grew up watching Lionel Messi and his teammates dominate men's European soccer on TV.

"I think those years helped me grow as a person, forging my character, and as a player. I believe they made me a more physical player, and the intensity I play with I got from that

Bonmatí is hoping Barcelona will win its second boys, it was an issue of educa- European Cup, and, if all goes well and a group conflict with

of the surprises of the season

and has been running near the

top from the start. Alonso has

five podium finishes in six

races so far, and is coming off

a season-best second-place fin-

other podium this year, but

we're still aiming for one step

(higher) hopefully in the future races," Alonso said. "Barcelona

is going to be a celebration. We

have so many Aston Martin

ed this weekend to support

Alonso and fellow Spaniard

Carlos Sainz Jr. at the Circuit de

Barcelona-Catalunya. More

than 40,000 tickets were sold in

the first few hours after being

put on sale last year, and more

tickets were made available

again earlier this year. More

Armed with the boyish Charm and marketability of

David Beckham and the skills

and playfulness of Paul

Gascoigné, Jack Grealish has a

A record crowd is expect-

fans in Spain now."

"One step higher than any

ish in Monaco last weekend.

Alonso gives Spaniards hope of ending F1 drought

Spain's coach can be resolved, play at her second Women's World Cup this year.

Bonmatí has been a key part of Barcelona becoming the dominant team in Spain, where it has won four league titles in a row, and is now a regular finalist in Europe's elite club tournament.

Slick with the ball, possessing great vision and quick with her feet, her dribbling and passes for teammates are critical to Barcelona's possessionbased attack. Bonmatí is proud that her style of play is pure "Made in Barcelona."

This season, Bonmatí tops the Champions League with seven assists and is tied with six other players with five goals, second only to Wolfsburg forward Ewa Pajor with eight.

"When I was young, I didn't have women players to look to as references. So my references were 100% masculine: Xavi Hernández and Andrés Iniesta," she said. "At the end, a Barcelona midfielder knows how to manage each second of the match, when to push the pace, when to hold the ball to et the team regroup."

Bonmatí also knows what it is like to lose two Champions League finals — both to Lyon. The French club beat Barcelona in the 2019 final and in last year's final when Lyon scored three times in the first half for a 3-1 victory.

"It is important not to concede early (Saturday) so those phantoms of the past don't reappear," she said. "(But) it is very important to know how to handle those moments when the rival scores. Even if things are not going our way, we have to know how to keep our heads in the game."

F1 before returning with Alpine

in 2021, when he made his only

podium appearance since leav

ing Ferrari in the race in Qatar.

Barcelona in 2006, downplayed

expectations ahead of this year's

Spanish GP despite his good

start to the season, noting that

"And we have to see in a normal circuit, what is the

package of Mercedes and the

upgrades that Ferrari will bring

apparently to Barcelona as well.

So we have to have the feet on

n't want to "disappoint anyone"

by coming into his home race

with too many expectations,

and will not put "any pressure

The Spaniard said he does-

the ground," Alonso said.

Alonso, who also won in

US men's soccer to play Germany, Ghana in **October exhibitions**

AP CHICAGO

The US men's soccer team will play exhibitions against Germany and Ghana in October.

defending champion Max Verstappen and Red Bull will remain the big favorites. No. 14 Germany will play the 13th-ranked US on October 14 at Rentschler Field in East Hartford, Connecticut, and No. 60 Ghana will face the Americans three days later at Geodis Park in Nashville, Tennessee, the US Soccer Federation said on Tuesday.

The US has an automatic berth for the 2026 World Cup as co-host and Germany has an automatic spot in the 2024 European Championship,



PTI ■ MANGALORE

With an eye on next year's Paris Olympics, top Indian surfers will vie for top honours in the three-day Indian Open at the Sasihithlu beach beginning here on Thursday.

Organised by the Surfing Federation of India, the fourth edition of the meet assumes significance as the sport marks its debut at the Paris Olympics next vear. A four-member team

based on their last year's rankings is currently competing at the Olympic qualifying World Surfing Games in El Salvador. The others will compete

here in a field of 70 with an eye to make the cut for upcoming International meets in the lead up to Paris 2024. Some of the top names

who would be in action include Sathish Sarvanan, Ruban V,

months. Then there were those

images of him playing a promi-

nent role in City's Premier

League title celebrations last

year, when he was seen swig-

ging a beer and — bleary-eyed

and with a croaky voice - aim-



Sanjaikumar S, Manikandan Desappan and Nithishvarun T, a stated a press release.

This edition will also

include teen sensation Kishore Kumar in the Male Groms

Competition will be held in four categories — Male Open, Male Groms (U-16), Female Open and Female Groms (U-

Shrishti Selvam, Sinchana D Gowda and Sugar Shanti Banarse are some of the top women surfers who will be vying for top honours.

he pinches himself that he is a

Chotrani, Anahat win National Circuit squash

PTI MUMBAI

Maharashtra's Veer Chotrani and teen sensation Anahat Singh of Delhi bagged the men's and women's singles titles respectively in the sixth NSCI Open National Circuit squash tournament, here on Wednesday.

Chotrani defeated second seed Suraj Chand 11-9, 11-8, 11-6 in a one-sided final, while Anahat downed top seed Urwashi 11-7, 11-8, 11-3 without breaking a sweat to emerge senior champions.

At 14, Anahat had become India's youngest Commonwealth Games 2022 participant in Birmingham.



Chotrani applied a lot of pressure on the defensive game of Suraj, who in return attempted to engage his opponent in long rallies.

However, Chotrani managed to come out on top on every time and maintained his lead to seal the issue.

Chotrani does not participate in national level competitions and is thus ranked No 16 in the country.



potent mix that has seen him quickly emerge as the face of English soccer. Now that he is starting to

add trophies to his growing list of endorsement deals that already include Gucci and Puma, the possibilities appear endless for the Manchester City winger who is the most expensive English soccer play-

er of all time. Grealish — he of the bulging calf muscles and sweptback hair — was already hot property in the English game

before a 2021 move from Aston Villa to City for 100 million pounds (then \$139 million) that took his appeal to a new Nearing the end of his sec-

than 100,000 people are expect-

titles with Renault in 2005-06,

is seeking his 33rd victory in

the series. After coming up

short of the title in 2013, he had

a lackluster 2014 season with

Ferrari and then struggled with

McLaren from 2015-18. He

spent a few seasons away from

Alonso, who won his F1

ed for Sunday's race.

ond season at City, the 27-yearold Grealish has finally established himself as a key part of a Premier League-winning team that is seeking to clinch the second leg of a treble of major titles this season by beating Manchester United in

the FA Cup final on Saturday. He is far more than a soccer player these days, though. 'People like Jack Grealish

are the new sports lifestyle icons," Alan Seymour, a sports academic and author in business and marketing, told The Associated Press.



Man City's Grealish emerging as the face of English soccer

to what is required of him as a footballer, on the field and off the field, it's why he is right up there with the very best sports personalities for marketability, not only in football but away

from football." Elements of the wild-child

image that shadowed him in the early years of his career

At the height of the lock-down amid the pandemic, Grealish was found slurring his words after crashing his car in

a residential estate and was later

banned from driving for nine

ing a dig at Newcastle midfielder Miguel Almiron that gained plenty of air time. Grealish unashamedly accepts that's who he is. He recently said he might have been a nightclub promoter if he wasn't a soccer player and that held always he proporte the kind.

he'd always be prone to the kind of excesses that mean he embodies the spirit of a regular soccer fan. But the loveable, charming part of Grealish's personality is inescapable. It shines through

in every interview he does

soccer professional, playing against the likes of Real Madrid in the Champions League and in his public friendship with a young City fan named Finley, who has cerebral palsy. He's a popular member of the City squad, striking up a particularly close relationship with superstar striker Erling Haaland off the field. "I feel so much more confident in this team," said

Grealish, who was left out of many of City's big games last season while he adapted to the demands of manager Pep Guardiola. "I feel fitter and back to what I know, what I can do. This is why City bought me and I have so

ICC seeks PCB assurances on team to India for ODI World Cup

he International Cricket Council (ICC) chairman and CEO are in Lahore to seek guarantees from the PCB that it will not push for implementing a hybrid model for its matches in the ODI World Cup in India later this year.

Insiders confirmed to PTI that ICC chairman Greg Barclay and CEO Geoff Allardice have specifically come to Lahore to get some assurances from the Pakistan Cricket Board on the national team's participation in the World Cup in October-November.

The development comes after PCB chief Najam Sethi made it clear that the team will not travel for the World Cup in India if the Rohit Sharma led side doesn't visit Pakistan for the

preceding Asia Cup. "The ICC and World Cup hosts, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) are concerned with the hybrid



model being pushed by Najam Sethi who heads the cricket management committee of the management committee of the mask the ICC to implement

"Although the hybrid model has been suggested by Sethi for the Asia Cup which precedes the ICC event, the concern remains that if the Pakistan government ation since Pakistan's unequiv-

it for the World Cup when it comes to Pakistan playing in India," he explained.

Sethi has already indicated

doesn't give clearance or has security concerns about sending the team to India, PCB could ask the ICC to hold Pakistan's

"Naturally neither the ICC nor the BCCI want such a situ-

matches at a neutral venue.

India would guarantee the success of Indo-Pakistan matches and also the tournament itself."

Another source said this was the primary reason why BCCI secretary Jay Shah was still reluctant to accept the hybrid model for the Asia Cup and support having three or four matches of the tournament in Pakistan and the remaining games in UAE or Sri Lanka.

Pakistan are the hosts of the Asia Cup and Sethi has said repeatedly that if the tournament is moved to one neutral country from Pakistan, it will not take part in the competition.

He has also hinted that if Pakistan didn't get to host some Asia Cup matches it could have an adverse bearing on the World Cup as well.

"The ICC officials are trying to work as a bridge between the PCB and BCCI and resolve the outstanding issues pertaining to the Asia Cup and World

Indian bowlers focus on building workload ahead of WTC final

 $T^{\text{he Indian cricket team is focussing on building workload for the bowlers, who had an extensive run in the IPL, ahead of the World Test}$ Championship final against Australia starting on June 7 at The Oval.

In the bowling department, while the likes of Mohammed Siraj, Shardul Thakur, Axar Patel, Jaydev Unadkat and Umesh Yadav were part of the first batch to travel to England, pace spear head Mohammed Shami's departure was delayed as the IPL final in Ahmedabad last Sunday was moved to the reserve day after incessant rain.

The middle-order mainstay Virat Kohli was also among the players who left in the first batch along with the Rahul Dravid-led coaching staff. Kohli joined the camp on Monday along with Cheteshwar Pujara, who linked up with the squad in England as he was busy playing County Championship for Sussex.

The Indian team is expected to have a few ractice sessions at the Arundel Castle Cricket Club in Sussex ahead of the big final.

The preparation has been good so far. The initial bit was to ease into the practice session but the last two sessions have been pretty happy think we pushed them a little bit. Just adding a little bit of workload for the bowlers, just kind of preparing them for the Test match," said India's bowling coach Paras Mhambrey in a video released by the BCCI.

"(We are) happy with the conditions, I think it is a lovely ground, (it is) kind of what you can



expect. The weather is holding up, it has been sunny, a little windy, a little chill but something that we have to get used to (when) playing in England," he said.

India's fielding coach T Dilip said the focus will be on close-in catching since the running part of the fitness drill was covered in the IPL.

The players have been coming from an IPL so a key thing for us to take care of was the workload, how much they have run, how much they have taken care.

"What we understood and got out of that is things (like) ground fielding have been covered in the IPL, so the focus here was more on the volume of catching, especially when you are talking about close-in catching, the slip catching and the flat catches. These are the catches that we tend to

increase the volume (of)," he said.

Mhambrey said while the bowlers will get some rest in days leading up to the WTC final, the group is determined to extract the maximum benefits from the training sessions.



Dhoni will take medical advice for knee injury and decide: CSK **CEO** Viswanathan

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Chennai Super Kings captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni will be seeking expert opinion from sports orthopedics in Mumbai on the state of his dodgy left knee before taking a call on his treatment, CEO Kasi Viswanathan said on Wednesday.

Dhoni had played the entire IPL season with a heavily strapped left knee and although he looked absolutely okay while keeping, more often than not batted as late as No.8 and didn't between the wickets.

'Yes, it is true that Dhoni will be taking medical advice for his left knee injury and accord ingly decide. If surgery is advised, it can only be ascertained after reports come out, it will be completely his call, Viswanathan told PTI

Is there a possibility that Dhoni will decide against playing next season and thus free up a purse of Rs 15 crore for the mini auction, the CEO replied "Frankly, we are not even thinking on those lines as we haven't reached that stage.

"It will be completely Dhoni's call. But I can tell you in CSK, we haven't entertained those thoughts," Viswanathan

Asked if CSK supremo N Srinivasan addressed the players after the fifth IPL Trophy and if celebrations were in the offing. "He is very happy but there

were no celebrations. The players dispersed for their respective destinations from Ahmedabad only. Also if you have seen CSK, we are never big on celebrations," the veteran official Asked if the fifth IPL title

feels the sweetest, considering the spate of injuries to its top players, Viswanathan said: "It's all about team spirit and every player knowing his role which is very well defined in our set up. "Even a player of Ben Stokes'

stature despite his nature was brilliant around the group and the youngsters looked upto to him. This has been possible because of our captain.

What has been CSK's hallmark over the years which enabled them to reach final in 11 of the 14 editions that they have been a part of?

"I have been associated with CSK from season 1 and we have never deviated from our process. The key has been to keep things simple and explain every player what is expected of them. In our franchise, the skipper keeps everything uncomplicated," Viswanathan said.

CSK were barred from the league for two editions.

Hazlewood praises Kohli's work ethics Stokes plans to play

Australia pacer Josh Hazle-wood has spoken highly of Royal Challengers Bangalore teammates Virat Kohli and Mohammed Siraj ahead of the World Test Championship final against India at The Oval starting June 7. Hazlewood, who has been battling with multiple injuries

cut short his IPL stint with a side issue. However, he feels he is not far from bowling full tilt as Australia gear up for the big Talking about Kohli, whose wicket he will be targeting at The Oval, Hazlewood said the Indian

over the last six months, had to

superstar's work ethic makes him the player that he is. "I think it's probably how hard he works (that stands out). His fitness first of all - and then his skill work and batting and fielding in particular.

"He is always out there (training) first and leaves last ... and the intensity he trains at all the time is at such a high level it drags everyone else along for the ride. That can leak on to the other players and improve them as well," Hazlewood told the

On RCB's leading wicket taker Siraj, who is expected to play a big part in the WTC final,



but before then he was on fire. "He is up there at the top of

the wickets every time, and the economy rate was probably the thing as bowling at Chinnaswamy (RCB's home ground) is impossible sometimes and he was going at six or six-and-a-half an over. His control was great and he is bowling well."

'CLOSE TO BOWLING FULL PACE: The Australian cricket team has been training in Formby in England ahead of the WTC final. Hazlewood trained with the team on Monday and getting there (to RCB this year), said he is feeling good going into

the big game.
"My fitness is pretty good and it is just a matter of ticking off every session from here until that date (June 7) basically. "We will probably have anywhere from three to four more sessions - bat versus ball and then a couple of longer days in the nets as well or centre wicket down in London — so it is just ticking off those last few boxes and pulling up well from every session," he said.

"It was pretty close (to full

loosen up and to get a bit more out of today's session, so it is feel-ing good. It is always good to get the first one out of the way and when we get to London we will steam in," he added.

Hazlewood could feature

in only three games in the IPL before his injury flared up. "In T20 you are bowling a

lot of various different balls every over. A wide yorker, to a bouncer, to a slower ball and it probably got jammed up a little bit and a bit of scar tissue from

previous injuries flared up.
"It calmed down pretty
quickly, I had a week off but I
didn't quite get back to going 100
percent at IPL. But the last few bowls have been good and I have been building up nicely," he

Having played as many as 15 Tests against India, Hazlewood is looking forward to the challenge of playing the Asian giants at a neutral venue.

"It is a strange stat that as I think I have just played a lot of cricket against them. What is going to be interesting is playing them here in England.

"It is going to be interesting for both teams how they go about it and how different it is to playing them in Australia or in India as typically you only play them there," he said.

"That is the exciting thing

as allrounder in Ashes

 $E_{eased\ concerns\ about\ his}^{ngland\ captain\ Ben\ Stokes}$ ability to bowl in the upcoming Ashes series because of long-standing knee issues and said Wednesday he is planning to play every test this summer.

"Unless I can't walk, I'll be on the field," Stokes said with a smile the day before England begins its one-off test against Ireland, which serves as a warmup for the five-match Ashes series against Australia.

After having knee issues during the tour of New Zealand in February, Stokes played only twice for Chennai Super Kings in the recently-finished Indian Premier League, sending down just one over for 18 runs. However, the 31-year-old

Stokes said his knee is much better than it was in New Zealand and he will take his place in the England team as an allrounder against Ireland at Lord's and then Australia. "What I have done is I have

got myself in a position where I'm not able to look back and regret or say I've not given myself the best opportunity to play a full role with the ball this summer," Stokes said.

"I've worked incredibly hard h the medical little bowl yesterday just to forward to next week," he added. | Chennai, liaising with the ECB cricket history.



guys. I have got myself into a place where I feel like back at 2019, 2020 space in terms of my own body and fitness and everything like that."

Pushed about the exact nature of his knee problem, Stokes said: "We know what it is and it's about managing it."

"It's managing it with work-load," he added, "and working it with the med team just to get through it."

England has already named its team for the Ireland test, with seamer Josh Tongue making his debut while fast bowlers James Anderson and Ollie Robinson are rested. Ireland has lost all six of its matches since gaining test status in 2017. That includes a defeat against England at Lord's in 2019.

Captain Andrew Balbirnie has said beating England would ent in Irich

Shi Yuqi Lakshya, Satwik-Chirag too win, Sindhu makes early exit PTI ■ BANGKOK

Thai Open:

Kiran stuns

ndia's Kiran George scripted a Istunning straight-game win over world number 9 Shi Yuqi of China but double Olympic medallist PV Sindhu made an opening round exit from the Thailand Open Super 500 tour-

Ashmita Chaliha and Saina Nehwal also made winning starts to their campaign in women's singles, while Lakshya Sen and world number 4 pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty also progressed to

nament here on Wednesday.

the pre-quarterfinals. On a day when Kidambi Srikanth and B Sai Praneeth also failed to cross the opening hurdle, 2022 Odisha Open winner Padukone academy, notched up a 21-18 22-20 win over third seed Shi Yu Qi, who is a 2018 world championships silver medallist. Kiran will take on

China's Weng Hong Yang next. His academy mate Lakshya also dug deep to eke out a hard-fought 21-23 21-15 21-15 win over Chinese Taipei's Wang Tzu Wei. He is likely to square off against All England champion Li Shi Feng of China.

Commonwealth Games champion and top seeds Satwik and Chirag too had to work hard to outwit the Danish combination of Rasmus Kjaer and Frederik Sogaard 21-13 18-21 21-17 in a thrilling match.

A former world champion, Sindhu, however, faltered in the opening round, going down fighting 8-21 21-18 18-21 to Canada's Michelle Li in 62minute match. In other matches, Ashmita, who came through the qualifiers, beat compatriot Malvika Bansod 17-21 14-21, while London Olympics bronze medallist Saina defeated Canada's

WTC: Steve Smith expects batting friendly conditions at The Oval

PTI ■ LONDON

ustralia's batting mainstay Australias datting manded, Steve Smith is expecting batting friendly conditions at the The Oval for the World Test Championship final but feels they could face India like conditions as the game goes on.

The venue offers one of the best batting conditions in the UK with true pace and bounce. India are expected to play their frontline spinners R Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja in their bid to make the most of the conditions. "The Oval can present itself with some spin occasionally particularly as the game wears on so we could face some sort of similarities to what we had in India at certain stages of

the game. "But The Oval is a wonderplace to play cricket in. Lightening fast outfield, the square goes whole way across the ground so it is a nice place to bat when you get in and has

some decent pace and bounce for an English surface. Should be an absolute cracker," Smith told cricket.com.au ahead of the final beginning June 7.

Australia recently lost the Test series in India 1-2 though their spin play improved as the series progressed. Smith was the captain when the team won the third Test in Indore.

The WTC is a great initiative. It gives every game we play a lot of relevance and for us to have qualified on top and face India in the final is incredibly exciting. It is going to be India and us at the Oval "I am sure there will be

plenty of fans out there, probably more Indian than Australian but I am sure it is going to be great fun and guys are looking forward to it," he said.

Smith is among the Australian batters who played county cricket in England as part of the preparations for the WTC final and subsequent Ashes.

Bharat over Kishan, Umesh over **Shardul for WTC XI: Sarandeep** "I don't see any concerns

Former India selector Saran-deep Singh says picking KS Bharat over Ishan Kishan as the wicketkeeper for the World Test Championship final against Australia is a no brainer and he would also choose Umesh Yadav over Shardul Thakur in the playing eleven.

In the absence of the injured Rishabh Pant, Kishan, who is yet to play Test cricket, can provide the x-factor but Sarandeep feels Bharat walks into the eleven as the frontline wicketkeeper. "KS Bharat for sure. He is a proper Test match wicketkeep-

er and we saw that against

Australia at home, he kept

superbly. He has been around for a while and he should get the

opportunity," Sarandeep told PTI on Wednesday. The WTC final will be played at the Oval in London from June 7. The former India spinner said Kishan's time will come.

"Ishan is an opener. I am not saying he is not capable of playing Tests. He is one for the future but he opens in limited overs cricket. Things will be different at number six. "Yes he goes hard from ball one, which can be counter productive in England, but Bharat can also bat well and play shots also," he reasoned.

'Umesh's extra pace and old ball skills will come handy's Mohammed Shami and Mohammed Siraj, who were breathing fire in the recentlyconcluded IPL, will share the workload in the pace depart-



ment and the Indian team will need to choose between Umesh Yadav and Shardul Thakur as the third fast bowling option.

"I am picking Umesh ahead of Shardul because he has that extra pace and he can reverse the old ball, he can be very helpful on that Oval track," said Sarandeep.

"All of India's batters are in good form going into the one off game and that bodes well for the team," he said.



with regards to batting or bowling going into the final. All of them are in form. "Yes, the conditions will be challenging in England as always and they will be shifting to Test

mode from T20s. The weather can change on a daily basis and India will have to adapt.

"Facing bowlers like Starc,
Cummins and Hazlewood is a huge challenge but we have a

world class batting attack. "Shubman is the only one who has not played a lot in England but he is in the form of his life and should do great things there," said the 43-yearold, who was part of the selection panel when India won the historic series in Australia in

Wen Yu Zhang 21-13 21-7. He asked the bowlers to bowl fuller

Pujara's inputs invaluable for Indian batters: Gavaskar

PTI ■ PORTSMOUTH

Former captain Sunil Gavaskar on Wednesday reckoned Cheteshwar Pujara could provide valuable insights to his Indian teammates ahead of the World Test Championship final against Australia, having played extensively in the English County Championship.

With Pujara's knowledge and captaincy experience (at Sussex), his inputs could prove invaluable, especially against Australian batter Steve Smith, who is also a part of his county side. The WTC final is scheduled to be

held at the Oval in London from June 7-"The fact that he is been around will mean that he will have also seen how the

pitch has been behaving at The Oval. "He might not have played at The Oval, he might be in Sussex not too far away from London but he will have kept an eye on what is happening and his inputs will be invaluable as far as the batting unit is concerned or even as far as the captaincy is concerned," Gavaskar told Star Sports. "He will have the captains here as far

forget he has also been captaining the team, so he definitely will have worked out quite a few strategies seeing that Steve Smith, the Australian is his teammate at the moment." Gavaskar also said the Indian batters, coming off the IPL, will have to adjust

their bat speed ahead of the WTC final, and advised them to play as late as pos-"I think they are going to look at their bat speed. Coming from T20 where the

bat speed is very fast to Test cricket where the bat speeds got to be a lot more control, that is something they'll need to do," Gavaskar told Star Sports. He also emphasized the need for bat-

conditions, allowing for swing and avoid-

ing the mistake of reaching out for the

ters to play as late as possible in English



'They'll need to play in England as late as possible to allow for the swing to do it's bit, not to reach out for the ball which often a lot of people make the mistake having played on good pitches.

bit. So, I think those are the things that

as a batter you need to watch out for."

"Wherever you play on good pitches, you tend to play through the line, not necessarily half volleys, but in England those deliveries can move just that little

length deliveries to allow the Dukes ball "As a bowling unit also you'll need

to bowl a much fuller length for your new ball, for the bowlers to be able to get the movement in the air as well as after pitch-

Gavaskar highlighted the challenges India would face playing in English con-

"I think the English conditions are challenging because firstly we are used to play with the sun on our backs. When you are playing in England, often you are playing in conditions where there is no sun, it's a little overcast, the weather is a little bit cooler, so you sometimes wear

a jumper.
"That's something that you know, the Indian player, West Indian players and Sri Lankan players are not really used to so that can be just a little bit of a dampener, little sort of light but you just feel little bit encumbered by that.