

803 hurt in India's worst trains pile-up in Balasore PNS KOLKATA

The death toll from the triple train accident at Bahanaga Bazar in Balasore, Odisha, on Friday has now risen to 288 Preliminary investigations suggest that a signal was initially given for the Coromandel Express to enter the main line but was later taken off, causing the train to enter the loop line where it collided with a parked goods train.

In the aftermath of the tragedy, efforts to remove the mangled coaches and repair the tracks at the site have begun in full swing, according to a railway official. The accident involved three trains: The 12841 Shalimar-Chennai Central Coromandel Express, the 12864 Bengaluru-Howrah Superfast Express, and a goods train. It stands as one of the worst railway disasters in the country's history

As per reports available until late Saturday afternoon, the accident claimed the lives of 288 people, while 803 individuals sustained injuries, including 56 with severe injuries. The two express trains were carrying over 2,200 passengers with reserved tickets, along with many others travel-

ing in unreserved coaches. The railways revealed that



Passengers wait at the site where Coromandel Express, Bengaluru-Howrah Express and a goods train derailed, in Balasore district on Saturday

the Coromandel Express, while passing through the up main line, collided with a stationary goods train in the loop line at Bahanaga Bazar station, locat-ed approximately 280 kilome-tres from Howrah and 171 kilometres from Bhubaneswar. A loop line is a railway

track connected at both ends to a main line, allowing trains to be diverted to accommodate passing trains

The impact of the collision caused 21 coaches of the Coromandel Express to derail, with three coaches falling onto a neighbouring track where the Bengaluru-Howrah Express was simultaneously passing in the opposite direction.

Consequently, the Bengaluru-Howrah train collided with the fallen coaches, causing its rear two coaches to derail. The number of passen-

gers with reserved tickets on the Coromandel Express was around 1,257, while the Bengaluru-Howrah Superfast Express had 1,039 passengers with reservations.

The railways has announced an ex-gratia relief of ₹10 lakh to the next of kin of those who died, ₹2 lakh to the seriously injured, and ₹50,000 for passengers with minor iniuries.

Investigations are currently underway to determine any human error, signal failure, or other potential causes behind the tragic accident.

A preliminary inquiry report has been submitted, and a high-level probe, led by the commissioner of railway safety, South Eastern Circle, has been initiated by the national transporter.

PTI

Kavach could have saved lives, anti-collision system missing

PNS NEW DELHI

The tragic collision of three trains in Balasore on Friday night, resulting in the loss of over 288 lives and injuring 803 people, has raised questions about the absence of the Kavach system developed by the Indian Railways to prevent such accidents caused by driver error or other factors.

According to Indian Railways spokesperson Amitabh Sharma, the rescue operation has been completed, and restoration work is now commencing.

However, he acknowledged that the Kavach system was not available on the tracks in Balasore where the collision occurred.

Kavach is an automatic train protection (ATP) system developed by the Research Design and Standards Organisation in collaboration with three Indian firms.

Its purpose is to assist locomotive drivers in avoiding missing danger signals and controlling speeding, ensuring safe train operations even in low-visibility conditions.

Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw personally tested the 'Kavach" system and had previously expressed its success.

In a tweet from March last year, he mentioned the system's ability to automatically stop a rter. locomotive before reaching *Continued on Page 2* another locomotive at a dis-



Rescue work underway after an accident involving Coromandel Express Bengaluru-Howrah Express and a goods train, in Balasore district on Saturday PTI

tance of 380 metres during rear-end collision testing. dent

Kavach functions by controlling train speed and auto-matically applying the brakes if the driver fails to do so in a timely manner. However, the absence of this crucial safety system on the tracks in Balasore raises concerns about the potential impact on acci-

mitigation. As investigations into the tragic incident continue, the Indian Railways and relevant authorities will likely examine the reasons behind the unavail ability of the Kavach system in Balasore and take necessary measures to ensure the safety of

train operations in the future.

tweets, Das described how he

thought the accident unfolded.

Das recalled in shock how he stepped out of his coach

unaware that he had survived an accident involving three

trains. At least 288 people were

killed and more than 1,100

heard a very long thud and

then jerks which seemed like

the emergency brakes. At that

moment, we realised some

accident had occurred and we

had to deboard from the coach

disembark from our coach and

opened the doors, we saw that

there were three other coach-

es that had derailed opposite

our train on the other line," he

So when we were about to

to be safe.

said

injured in the accident. "I was at the very end of my train. Around 6.30 pm, we

Later, speaking with PTI,

prevention

Guilty won't be spared: |300 NDRF rescuers on job Screams of help still ring in **Modi at accident site** with cutters, canine squads

PNS BALASORE

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday Modi on Saturday expressed his deep anguish over the train crash in Odisha that claimed the lives of 288 people and assured that strong action would be taken against those responsible.

Speaking to reporters after visiting the accident site and meeting the injured at a hospital in Balasore district, Modi conveyed his heartfelt sorrow and emphasized that the government is taking the incident "The government is deeply

saddened by the incident. We will not spare anyone found guilty, and they will face strong consequences for this tragedy, he stated. He further assured that instructions have been issued to ensure a thorough and swift investigation into the mishap.

Modi acknowledged that

CAPSULE

'INDIA INFRA ALONG LAC Matches up with china' Pahalgam: India is matching up its infrastructure to China's projects at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and there is no need for concern, Border Roads Organisation (BRO) chief Lieutenant General Raiiv Chaudhry said on Saturday

GOVT BANS 14 FIXED DOSE COMBO DRUGS

New Delhi: The Government has banned 14 fixed dose combination drugs including Nimesulide and Paracetamol dispersible tablets and Chlopheniramine Maleate and Codeine syrup

PUNJAB: OVER 14 KG HEROIN SEIZED, 2 HELD Chandigarh: Security forces on

Saturday recovered more than 14 kilograms of heroin in two separate operations in Amritsar and Fazilka districts of Punjab



Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacts with rescuers as he takes stock of the situation at the site of the accident involving Coromandel Express, Bengaluru-Howrah Express and a goods train, in Balasore district on Saturday

SC stays HC order

to decide if rape

PNS NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court inter-vened on Saturday, issuing

a stay order on a peculiar rul-ing by the Allahabad High

woman was 'manglik' (an astro-

victim is 'manglik'

while it is impossible to bring "We will leave no stone unturned in providing all necback the lives lost, the Government stands firmly with essary medical assistance to the the affected families, offering injured," he added. unwavering support.

PNS NEW DELHI

The Director General of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), Atul Karwal, said on Saturday that over 300 NDRF rescuers equipped with large metal cutters, canine squads, and heavy-lift equipment are working at the train accident site in Odisha.

Karwal stated that the NDRF is expected to conclude the search operation by Saturday evening. Since the first NDRF team

arrived at the accident site around 8.30 pm on Friday, the force has rescued 44 survivors and recovered 71 bodies from the wrecked railway coaches in Balasore district.

The NDRF is a federal contingency force operating under the Union Home Ministry

"We have more than 300 Continued on Page 2 rescuers divided into nine



NDRF personnel carry out rescue work after an accident involving Coromandel Express, Bengaluru-Howrah Express and a goods train, in Balasore district on Saturday

teams working at the accident site. Our goal is to complete the search operation by this evening," Karwal said at the NDRF headquarters in New Delhi. The initial NDRF team

reached the site from its regional response center in Balasore

approximately one hour and fifteen minutes after the accident, which occurred around 7 7.10 pm on Friday. The remain-NDRF teams were ing deployed from Mundali in Cuttack district and Kolkata,

according to Karwal. Continued on Page 2

survivors' ears

PNS NEW DELHI

rain passengers, who sur-**I** vived the triple train crash on Friday, recounted horror. Recalling the incident, Anubhav Das, a passenger of the Coromandel Express which rammed into a goods train in Odisha's Balasore, said there was the sound of screeching brakes and then a loud crashing of metal.

Though he came out of the accident unhurt, the screams of help of those stuck in derailed PT mangled coaches still ring in his ears. "It was a horrific sight. There were people injured, some crawling from under the train's debris," he posted on Twitter. Later, he said, he came to know that not just his train but another express train was involved in the accident. Initially, in a series of

Continued on Page 2

59 MPs write to German envoy for early return of baby Ariha

PNS NEW DELHI

 $F_{\mathrm{from\ nineteen\ political\ parties\ have}}^{\mathrm{ifty-nine\ Members\ of\ Parliament}}$ collectively written a letter to the German Ambassador, urging the early repatriation of baby Ariha Shah, who has been placed in forced foster care in Germany for over twenty months.

The German authorities took custody of Ariha Shah on September 23, 2021, when she was just seven months old, citing alleged harassment by her parents. Among the signatories of the letter are MPs Jaya Bachchan (SP), Hema Malini (BJP), Shashi Tharoor (Congress), Mahua Moitra (TMC), Dr. Farooq Abdullah (NC), Priyanka Chaturvedi (SS-Udhav), and others.

The letter, addressed to the German Ambassador Dr Phillip Ackerman, emphasises that while they respect German laws, as no criminal cases have

been filed against the parents, the child should be repatriated to India.

"Baby Ariha was taken away from her parents in September 2021 when she was seven months old. The German Child Services took custody of the baby after she had suffered an accident and was hospitalised," the letter states.

"An initial investigation was conducted into allegations of child sexual abuse, but it was found to be baseless, and no charges were filed against the parents. Following this, the child was placed in special child care and then moved to foster care. "As Members of Parliament, we have

a special responsibility for the welfare of our citizens. We request you to take all necessary steps to bring the child back to India," the letter, signed by Rajya Sabha MP Dr John Brittas on behalf of the other 58 MPs, asserts.

Continued on Page 2

India lost 1 tiger every alternate day this year

ARCHANA JYOTI NEW DELHI

On an average, every alternate day one big cat has died in the coun-try since January till May end. In the first five months, India has already lost 76 tigers against 56 last year during the same period.

These included 11 cubs and 25 female big cats. Besides natural deaths and territorial fights between the felines, officials in the Union Environment Ministry have attributed some mortalities to the harsh heat waves as well that the country is witnessing this time, stating that some felines could not cope with the dehydration.

An analysis of the data available from the website of the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) shows that almost half of the deaths of the total tigers occurred inside the tiger habitat with as many being reported from the fringes or outside the tiger reserves.



Madhya Pradesh which is presentgrappling with the death of imported Cheetahs and their cubs at the Kuno Palpur Sanctuary has topped the list of tiger mortalities at 22 big cats in the last five months.

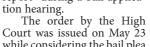
Maharashtra reported 16 deaths while Uttarakhand has witnessed ten tiger deaths. Karnataka reported five deaths.



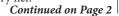
report" during a bail applicawhether an alleged rape victim

The order by the High Court was issued on May 23 while considering the bail plea of the accused individual, who was alleged to have raped the woman after falsely promising to marry her.

tion hearing.



logical condition) or not. Conducting a special session on Saturday, the apex court took suo motu cognisance of the matter and expressed its confusion regarding the need for an "astrology



grammes to unleash violent

terror attacks in India at the

instance of the terrorist organ-

conducting meetings in local

masjids and houses and hatch-

ing plans and conspiracies to spread terror in the country," an

NIA spokesperson said last

tions revealed that the three

accused were highly radicalised

and were determined to carry

collecting funds, disseminating

ISIS propaganda material,

motivating and recruiting

youth, and trying to procure

arms and ammunition with the

objective of carrying out ter-

rorist acts," the spokesperson

had created a local group by the

name of 'Fisabilillah' and was

also operating a WhatsApp

group by the same name.

The NIA official said Ali

out violent "jihad".

The official said investiga-

"They were engaged in

'The module had been

isations.

week.

said.

'No incident of violence in last 24 hrs in Manipur'

sunday pioneer

PTI NEW DELHI

here was no incident of violence in Manipur in the last 24 hours and the State was "completely peaceful" on Saturday, security adviser to state government Kuldiep Singh said.

NEW DELHI | SUNDAY | JUNE 4, 2023

Singh also said that 35 more arms and ammunition have been surrendered, in addition to over 140 arms and ammunition surrendered on Friday, following an appeal by Union Home Minister Amit Shah. A total of 88 bombs were also recovered in Manipur.

"Situation in Manipur is completely peaceful. There has that curfew was lifted in most

been no incident of violence since Friday evening," Singh, a former DG of the CRPF, told PTI. He said the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and the Army have been patrolling in the buffer zones between Manipur's valleys and

those areas

restore peace," he said.

of the places for 12 hours and life is returning to normal gradually. The Union home minister

visited the state for four days last week as part of the confidence-building measures in the state and met all segments hills and peace prevails in of society.

The home minister has "People have been coopersaid peace and prosperity of ating fully after the home min-Manipur are the government's ister's visit. General public, top priority and instructed civil society organisations and them to strictly deal with any activities that disturb peace. prominent citizens are working

in close coordination with the Ethnic violence broke out administration and helping in Manipur after a 'Tribal Solidarity March' was organ-The security adviser said ised in the hill districts on May 3 to protest against the Meitei community's demand for Scheduled Tribe status.

3 minors die after mother throws them in well over dispute with husband

PTI MIRZAPUR (UP)

Three children died after L allegedly being thrown in a well by their mother following a dispute with her husband in a village in this Uttar Pradesh district on Saturday, police said. The children were identified as Akash (8), Kriti (2) and a year-old Anu. According to police, the

incident was reported from a village named Pajra in the Sant Nagar police station area. After throwing her children in the well, the woman also set her house on fire.

as per the rules and the dead Additional Superintendent bodies have been sent for postmortem. Further investigations of Police (Operation) OP Singh said an FIR has been registered are on, police added.

Central Coalfields Limited "A Miniratna Company" G20 NOTICE

extreme step.

"All the tenders issued by CIL and its Subsidiaries for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on website of Coal India Ltd. www.coalindia.in/respective Subsidiary Company (CCL, www.centralcoalfields.in), CIL e-procurement portal https://coalindiatenders.nic.in and Central Public Procurment Portal https://eprocure. gov.in in addition, procurement is also done through GeM portal https://gem.gov.in".

कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम, भिलाई (छ.ग.) क्रमांक / परि.शा. / न.नि. / 2023 / 826 / 128 भिलाई, दिनांक 02/06/2023 E-Procurement Tender Notice Main Portal : https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in आयुक्त, नगर पालिक निगम भिलाई की ओर से निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतू ई–निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती हैं कार्य का विवरण नेविदा लागत निविदा डाउनलोड सिस्टम • राशि करने की अंतिम तिथि

against the mother of the children who had thrown them into the well.

After receiving information

Legal action is being taken

about the incident, police

reached the spot and got the bodies out of the well, they said.

During the hearing, the counsel for the accused argued A search is on to arrest her, he added. Police said Amariit, that the marriage between the a labourer by profession, did two individuals could not take not have good relations with his place since the woman was wife Chanda. They often used believed to be 'manglik'. to have arguments. During However, the woman's counsel insisted that she was not 'manone such argument, the woman, in a fit of rage, too the glik

From Page 1

In Hindu astrology, a person born under the influence of the planet Mars (mangal) is considered to have "mangal dosha" (affectation) and is referred to as 'manglik'. Many superstitious Hindus believe that a marriage between a 'manglik' and a non-'manglik' can bring about inauspiciousness and disastrous consequences.

As Solicitor General Tushar Mehta appeared in the matter, a bench of Justices Sudhanshu Dhulia and Pankaj Mithal asked him, "Mehta, you have seen this?"

"I have seen this. It is disturbing. I would request your lordships to kindly stay this order," Mehta responded. An advocate representing the com-

Vikas Sadan, INA, New Delhi-110023

ikas Sadan, INA, New Delh

<u>ATHE PIONEER (1</u>

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Munulu Vero, D/o Mr.

Nuvesayi Vero, R/o H. No.

244, Phek Town, F/wing,

Nagaland - 797108 state that

both the names Munulu

Vero and Kuluvolu Venuh

are of the same person and I

shall thereafter be known as

Munulu Vero for all

Danish Farooqui, S/o.

H.U. Farooqui, R/o. D-249,

4th Floor, Abul Fazal

Enclave-I, Jamia Nagar, New

Delhi-110025 have changed

my son's name from

Mohammad Yasir Farooqui

to Yasir Farooqui for all

THANKSGIVING

Thank you holly spirit

future purposes.

blessings Celine.

Phek

purposes.

Village, Phek,

PD(050)A

PD(051)A

PD(052)C

ASSIFIED

PUBLIC NOTICE PUISLICE NOTICE To be known to all that I, Smt. Nandini Jagasia W/o Late Sh. Suresh R Jagasia R/o B-522, New Friends Colony, New Delhi-110025, am the Purchaser/Owner of Property bearing No.A-11/1, Nariana Industrial Area, Phase-1, New Delhi-ide file no.F. 6A(942)1968/LSB/(1). Ilost /misplaced my original Allotment Letter, Possession Letter, Site Possession, Perpetual Lease Deed Form C&D and other related documents of the above said property. An FIR to this effect thas been lodged in Police Station, Vide LR No.476307/2022. dated 24/05/2023. Any person claiming any right, interest having of any objection may write/contact with above named person at above address/phone no 9811466634 with in 15 days from the date of publication of this notice or can personally inform or write to Dy. Direct(Industrial)or AA(Jaretor(Industrial), A-Block, First Floor, Vikas Sadan, INA, New Delhi-110023

If united, MVA can win 40 LS seats in Maha: Cong

PTI MUMBAI

Senior Congress leader Balasaheb Thorat on Saturday said the Maha Vikas Aghadi, comprising his party, the Shiv Sena (UBT) and the Nationalist Congress Party, can win up to 40 of the 48 Lok Sabha seats in Maharashtra if they fight the 2024 polls unit-

edly. Maharashtra Congress chief Nana Patole said workers wanted the party to contest the maximum number of seats.

Thorat said seats which the Congress had not contested earlier but where it had very good base must be given to the party as part of the seat sharing deal in the MVA

plainant informed the bench

that the High Court had issued

the order with the consent of

both parties. The bench

expressed dissatisfaction with

the order, stating that it was completely unrelated to the

subject. It also noted that the

order involved several other

aspects, such as the right to pri-

vacy, which had been dis-

Arguing that astrology is a science, Mehta stated, "The

question is, while entertaining

an application by a judicial

forum, can this be a consider-

ation?" The bench acknowl-

edged that astrology is indeed

a science, but it emphasised

that there are various aspects to

was not delving into the mer-

its of the case and decided to

take suo motu cognisance of

the matter. It stayed the oper-

ation and effect of the High

Court order and directed the

registry to issue notices to all

concerned parties, including

the State. The next hearing was

The bench clarified that it

be considered.

SC stays HC order to

decide if rape victim...

turbed.



During discussions, party functionaries have asked the state leadership to stake claim to these seats, he said. Thorat, the Congress

Legislature Party leader, said due to the Rahul Gandhi-led Bharat Jodo Yatra, the people of the nation were aware of the

'We have stayed the order

and have permitted the court to

decide the bail application on its own merits," the bench

remarked, adding, "We don't understand why this astrology

report is called for." Expressing

gratitude as a law officer, Mehta

thanked the apex court for

taking cognisance of the mat-

mencing July 10.

ter.

problems they were facing.

Meanwhile, Patole said the two-day reviewing meeting of the party focussed on assessing its organisational strength and to ensure functionaries work towards getting maximum vic-tories for the MVA.

'The seat sharing formula has not yet been finalised. Our workers say the Congress must contest maximum seats. We are a national party," Patole said.

'The countdown for the Modi government has begun. We will work unitedly to defeat the Modi government and save the country.

There is lot of resentment against the Centre and the Eknath Shinde govern-

Screams of help still ring in survivors...

From Page 1

Yesvantpur-Howrah Express... those were the three last coaches of the Yesvantpur Express which were general coaches and had about 250-300 people in them. We saw bloodied people.... We gave them water and bedsheets from our coaches...," he said.

Das, a PhD scholar, was on the Coromandel Express on his way back home to Cuttack from a field trip when he witnessed the most horrific sight of his life. He survived as he was in the last AC coach of the train, Number H1, and helped the injured people and called the police and railway helplines.

He said the emergency services took an hour to reach the site but as they took over, they took good care of those in need.

"When the ambulances came, they were going away from us. This track was on a road intersection so that was a good part. The ambulances were going away from us to the front of the Coromandel Express. So to find out why the ambulances were going ahead, we walked there to figure out what had happened," he said. It is then that he realised that the train had hit a stationary goods train.



rescuers...

From Page 1 Karwal explained that the

The NDRF has deployed

primary task of the NDRF is to

by cutting through the wreck-

sniffer dog squads, female res-cuers, and medical teams with

stretchers and first-aid kits at

the site, as per officials. Karwal

stated that they are conducting

the rescue operation in coor-

dent involving three trains.

age of the train coaches.

3 members of ISIS-linked outfit remanded in NIA custody for 7 more days

PTI BHOPAL

A court here on Saturday Sent three alleged members of an ISIS-linked terror module, arrested last week in Jabalpur city of Madhva Pradesh, in the custody of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) till June 10.

Syed Mamoor Ali, Mohammad Adil Khan and Mohammad Shahid were produced before special judge for NIA cases Nitiraj Singh Sisodia and the central probe agency sought their remand for one more week citing the need for further investigation, special prosecutor Deepesh Joshi told

The court accepted our plea and sent them in remand till June 10," he said.

The arrests were made on May 27 during raids at 13 locations in Jabalpur in an operation with the Anti-Terror Squad (ATS) of Madhya Pradesh police.

Adil Khan was on the agency's radar since August 2022, an NIA official said.

According to the federal agency, Khan and his associates were involved in disseminating the ISIS propaganda through social media, as well as through on-ground 'Dawah' pro-

Guilty won't be spared: Modi at accident...

From Page 1

The prime minister emphasised that this tragic accident would serve as a lesson for the entire nation, prompting the government to place even greater emphasis on passenger safety.

Modi commended the efforts of the Odisha Government, as well as the locals who demonstrated great compassion by donating blood and providing assistance to the injured. Accompanied by Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and Union Minister Education Dharmendra Pradhan, the prime minister visited the accident site at Bahanaga, where he assessed the relief and restora-

those affected continue to receive support. He also inquired about the progress of the restoration work at the site, which is part of the Howrah-Chennai Main Line connecting the eastern and southern regions of India.

"Took stock of the situation at the site of the tragedy in Odisha. Words can't capture my deep sorrow. We stand committed to providing all possible assistance to those affected. I laud all those working round the clock, on the ground and helping out in relief work," he later tweeted.

The PM also visited the Balasore district hospital, where he interacted with the injured individuals. He inquired about neir condition and wheth they were facing any issues with

their treatment. Modi assured

them that every necessary step

was being taken to alleviate

their suffering. He also engaged

with the doctors and healthcare

Modi chaired a high-level

meeting in New Delhi to assess

the situation following the train

accident, which occurred on

Friday evening. His office tweeted, "PM Narendra Modi

chaired a meeting to take stock

of the situation in the wake of

the train mishap in Odisha.

Aspects relating to rescue, relief, and medical attention to

those affected were discussed in

the review meeting."

Before his visit to Odisha,

personnel at the hospital.

In the High Court's May 23 order, it stated, "Let the Head of the Department (Astrology Department), Lucknow University, decide whether the girl is manglik or not, and the parties shall submit their horoscopes (kundalini) to the Head of the Department (Astrology

Department), Lucknow University, within ten days from today. The Head of the Department (Astrology

Lucknow Department), University, is directed to submit a report in a sealed cover to this Court within three weeks." The High Court scheduled the case for a resumed hearing on June 26.

scheduled for the week com-India lost 1 tiger every alternate...

From Page 1 Officials in the Union Environment Ministry said ere not

including Tiger Reserves like Kawal, Satkosia and Sahyadri. "While the expansion of habitats

ment," he claimed.

"We realised that was the

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	पोल एवं प्रकाश व्यवस्था कार्य।			

गिविदा हेतू आवश्यक दस्तावेज आगलाईन जमा की जाये। उक्त कार्य हेतू दी जाने वाली दरे आनलाईन (Online) दी जावें। उपरोक्त कार्य हेत् निविदा की सामान्य शर्ते, धरोहर राशि, विस्तुत निविदा विज्ञप्ति, निविदा दस्तावेज व अन्य जानकारी <u>https://cgstate.gov.in</u> से डाउनलोड की जा सकती है।

कार्यपालन अभियंत



छत्तीसगढ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल पर्यावास भवन, नार्थ ब्लॉक, सेक्टर-19, नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर, जिला-रायपुर (छ.ग.) 492002

// सर्वसंबंधितों क<u>ो सूचना //</u>

भारत सरकार, पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायू परिवर्तन मंत्रालय की ई.आई.ए अधिसूचना दिनांक 14/09/2006 (यथा संशोधित) के अंतर्गत सर्व संबंधित को सूचित किया जाता है कि मेसर्स भिनपुरी लाईम स्टोन क्वारी प्रोजेक्ट (प्रो.- श्री राजेश कुमार सिंघानिया), ग्राम - भिनपुरी, तहसील - सहसपुर लोहारा जिला- कबीरधाम रिथत खसरा क्रमांक 44/1, 44 /2, 44/3 एवं 43, कुल क्षेत्रफल 2.452 हेक्टेयर में प्रस्तावित चुना पत्थर (गौण खनिज) खदान उत्खनन क्षमताः 96.795 टन प्रतिवर्ष के पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृति हेतु लोक सुनवाई बाबत् छत्तीसगत पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल, नुवा रायपुर अटल नगर, रायपुर में आवेदन किया गया है। े उक्त परियोजना के संबंध में आपत्तिं / सूझाव / विचार / टेीका टिप्पणी, इस सूचना वे जारी होने के दिनांक से 30 दिवस के अंदर क्षेत्रीय अधिकारी, छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल, 5 / 32 बंगला, भिलाई, जिला- दुर्ग के कार्यालय में मौखिक अथवा लिखित रूप से कार्यालयीन समय में प्रस्तूत की जा सकती है। इस परियोजना के लिए लोक सुनवाई दिनांक 07/07/2023 को समय दोपहर 12:30 बजे, स्थान-ग्राम पंचायत भवन, ग्राम- राम्हेपुर, तहसील - सहसपुर लोहारा, जिला कबीरधाम (छ.ग.) में नियत की गई हैं। यह भी सूचित हो कि

1. लोक सुनवाई के दौरान सम्मिलित होने वाले व्यक्तियों को फिजिकल / सोशल डिस्टेंसिंग का पालन करना अनिवार्य होगा।

2. लोक सुनवाई में सम्मिलित होने वाले व्यक्तियों द्वारा मास्क का उपयोग किया जावेगा तथा समय-समय पर सेनेटाईजर का उपयोग किया जाना अनिवार्य होगा। 3. लोक सूनवाई स्थल पर सम्मिलित होने वाले व्यक्तियों की बैठक व्यवस्था कम से कम 02 मींटर की दुरी रखना अनिवार्य होगा।

4. कोरोना वायरस के नियंत्रण एवं रोकथाम हेत शासन द्वारा जारी समस्त दिशा निर्देशों का अक्षरशः पालन किया जाना अनिवार्य होगा।

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

> छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल, नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर, जिला- रायपुर (छ.ग.

alarming given that the num-PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE Do be known to all that We, Virender Gupta S/o Sh. Mahesh Chand Gupta & Marnta Gupta W/o Sh.Virender Gupta both R/o A-23 Ground Floor, DDA Janta Flat, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi-110057 are the purchaser of DDA Janta Flat No.A-25, Ground Floor, Situated at Vasant Vihar, New Delhi-110057. The original documentsi.e. Demand-cum-Allotment Letter, Possession Letter, Site Possession Sip and NOC for Electricity & water connection of the above flat have been lost. An FIR to this effect has been lodged in P.S. Crime Branch in vide S.O. No.430/2014 LR No.510174/2023 dated 02.06 .2023. Any person(s) claiming any right, interest, having any objection or found in possession of original documents, may write/ contact with above named person at above address/phone No.9810590170 within 15 notice. The person claiming any right, interest, objections with respect to this property can personally inform or write to Dy. Director (JAB) H o Director (H)-1, D Block, 3"Floor, Vikas Sadan, INA, New Delhi. ber of tigers have increased in the last four years as per the latest census which put the number to 3,167 tigers. This is around 6.7 per cent higher than the estimate as per the last tiger census in 2018, which pegged tiger numbers at 2,967

However, wildlife experts in the Census report released by the Prime Minister on April 9, 2023 have noted that the growing number of tigers in the country will inevitably lead to more man-animal conflicts as the predators venture out for prey as well due to fighting for territory among them. So far this year, the country has already lost 52 big cats. Last year the mortality figure was 121.

The report itself rings alarm bells as it says that no doubt big cats have occupied new areas in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra, "the local tiger population has become extinct in several areas, Sri Venkateswara National Park,

development, there is a need to pay attention and act quickly in these areas to reverse the trend of extinction of small populations and avoid negative human-tiger interactions, says the report.

It has called for serious conservation efforts to help tiger population recovery in Odisha. Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Telangana, and Andhra Pradesh. The small and genetically unique population of tigers in Simlipal is a priority for conservation. Wildlife habitats in the region face various threats, including habitat encroachment, illegal hunting, conflicts with humans, unregulated cattle grazing, excessive harvesting of non-timber forest products, forest fires, mining, and expanding infrastructure," as per the report.

In comparison, last year i.e. in 2022, a total 121 felines had died due to various reasons against 127 deaths the previous year, as per the NTCA website.



From Page 1

While initial reports indiwhether the Coromandel Express entered the loop line and struck the stationary goods train or if it derailed first before colliding with the

meters, are designed to accom-modate full-length goods trains with multiple engines. The Coromandel Express was traveling at a speed of 128

kmph, while the Bengaluruparked train upon entering the

loop line. The report has been Howrah Superfast Express was submitted to the Railway Board, and the loop lines at the Bahanagar Bazar station, with a length of approximately 750

running at 116 kmph. The Railway Board's spokesperson announced that A.M. Chowdhary, CRS, SE Circle, will conduct an inquiry into the accident. Thus far, there have been no indications of sabotage in relation to the incident.

He was briefed on the situation by Vaishnaw and disaster management officers who had been tirelessly working to rescue individuals throughout the night. Modi also interacted with Pramila Mallik, the state Revenue and Disaster Management Minister, and local police officers. From the accident site, he spoke with Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba search for and rescue survivors and Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, instructing them to provide all necessary assistance to the injured

and their families. Modi emphasised the importance of ensuring that the bereaved families do not face any inconvenience and that



"We do not cast asper-

sions on any agency in your

country and assume that what-

ever actions were taken were

considered to be in the best

interests of the baby. We respect

the legal procedures in your

country, but given that no

criminal cases are pending

against any member of the

family, it is high time to send

the baby back home," the par-

liamentarians wrote. The par-

ents, who are practicing Jains,

have raised objections to the

beliefs.

endorsements from MPs Adhir Chowdhury Ranjan (Congress), Supriya Sule NCP), Kanimozhi Karunanidhi (DMK), Agatha Sangma (NPP), Harsimrat Kaur Badal (SAD), Maneka Gandhi (BJP), and Praneet Kaur (Congress).

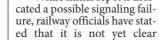
According to the MPs, Ariha's parents, Dhara and Bhavesh Shah, were in Berlin as the baby's father was employed there. The family should have returned to India by now if not for unfortunate circumstances.

The Ministry of External Affairs stated that they have been consistently advocating for Ariha's return. "Our efforts have been guided by the best interests of the child, which we believe can only be fully realised when she is in her home country," the ministry said.

food provided to the child in The child was accidentally injured by her grandmother foster care, as it contradicts in September 2021, after which their cultural and religious the German authorities took The letter has also received her into their custody

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capital 03

Standing Committee on

Railways, said ensuring the

safety of train passengers is

not on the government's agen-

railway committee, I had sug-

gested that the government

focus on the safety and secu-

rity of passengers first. But the

government's entire focus is

on PR and showing off, not

on safety and security," he

devices is the most important

measure to avoid accidents but

only 2 per cent of India's

65,000-kilometre rail network

is equipped with these, he

has covered just 2 per cent of

the rail network in nine years,

then it means that it will take

more than 400 years to install

anti-collision devices across

According to Pathak, only

the network, he said.

If the Modi government

Installing anti-collision

"In the last meeting of the



Min: Will act on plaints against Vig Special Secy

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELH

Delhi Services Minister Saurabh Bharadwaj on Saturday said the Delhi government will initiate disciplinary proceedings against ÎAS officer YVVJ Rajasekhar, Special Secretary Vigilance, after receiving multiple complaints against him.

"A detailed dossier has been submitted to Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal urging him to take action and transfer him with immediate effect," Bharadwaj said. The Minister raised allegations against Rajasekhar including blatant insubordination, undisciplined behaviour and falsification of material facts and other serious transgressions.

Taking a dig at the Arvind Kejriwal government, Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva said Kejriwal is trying to create an environment by getting his Minister Saurabh Bhardwaj to make statements



to remove the Vigilance Secretary as well and appoint his own officer in vigilance department to get clean chit in excise scam, sheeshmahal controversy, FBU controversy.

Delhi BJP president has questioned Kejriwal and Minister Saurabh Bhardwaj that if Vigilance Secretary is as corrupt as they have been propagating for the last 20 days, then why did it come to the notice of the Chief Minister only after the Supreme Court order of May 113

"Kejriwal should show when on any day before May 11 he or any of his ministers had



officer in Delhi ?"

Earlier in a press statement, Bharadwaj alleged that the letter (to the CM) details the history of corruption and misconduct of Rajasekhar who is currently posted as Special Secretary Vigilance in the Delhi government.

In a detailed dossier sub-mitted to the CM, Bhardwaj has shed light on the alarming record of Rajasekhar's involvement in various acts of corruption and misconduct.

The officer has a long history of being on radar of CBI, CVC & Vigilance and is in habit of keeping unauthorised possession of sensitive Vigilance files for ulterior motives

The Minister expressed grave concerns regarding the negative impact of Rajasekhar's presence in the Vigilance Department, highlighting the urgent need for his transfer or removal

Sisodia arrives at his home but fails to meet ailing wife Sisodia's wife serious, hospitalised at LNJP

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Aday after former Delhi deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia was granted interim relief by the Delhi High Court to meet his ailing wife, her condition worsened and she was hospitalised right before his arrival. Later, Sisodia left his residence for the central prison.

According to AAP sources, Sisodia's wife Seema was hospitalised as she felt unwell. She is suffering from multiple sclerosis and was hospitalised last month as well. "She was taken to the emergency ward of LNJP Hospital. Sisodia reached AB-17, Mathura Road, to meet his ailing wife at 9.38 am in a prison van. He was taken inside the house amid tight security. "But he could not meet his wife as she had to be hospitalised after her health deteriorated," a party source said.

In a related development,



the Delhi High Court on chief minister was taken in cus-Saturday sought a report from the LNJP hospital on the health condition of Sisodia's ailing wife as it reserved its order on his interim bail plea for six weeks in a money laundering case arising from the alleged excise policy scam.

Senior advocate Mohit Mathur, appearing for Sisodia, told Justice Dinesh Kumar Sharma that pursuant to the court's directions passed on Friday, the former Delhi deputy

tody to meet his wife earlier in the day but the latter's health condition deteriorated and was taken to be LNJP hospital before he could reach home. Mathur thus urged the court to release Sisodia, his sick wife's sole caretaker, on a temporary basis. "Arguments heard. Order reserved. Let a report be called from LNJP and be filed by today evening," said Justice Sharma after a hearing held on a court holiday.

Centre focus on PR exercise. not passengers' safety: AAP

said.

claimed.

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

AP minister Saurabh Bhardwaj and AAP MP Dr Sandeep Pathak took a jibe at the Modi government alleging that the government's entire focus is on "PR exercise and showing off" and not passengers' safety.

The AAP on Saturday demanded the resignation of Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw after the Balasore train accidents in which at least 288 people have been killed and 803 injured, which is one of the deadliest such accidents since independence.

In a video message, AAP national general secretary (organisation) and Rajya Sabha MP Sandeep Pathak claimed anti-collision devices, which are crucial to avoid accidents, have been installed on just 2 per cent of the country's rail network. Pathak also extended his condolences to the bereaved families

65 of the country's 23,000 Pathak, who is also a trains are equipped with antimember of the Parliamentary collision devices.

DJB chief visits Najafgarh STP for inspection

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

locked himself in a room and allegedly committed suicide,

taken to the hospital, Amit

colleague's phone and informed me about the attack. She has also suffered injuries to her hand," he said.

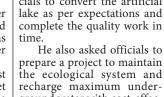
She passed her class 12 last rear and when she did not get the college of her choice, she started working in the company seven months ago, the

woman's father said. He said his daughter has

Water Minister and Delhi Jal Board Chairman Saurabh Bhardwaj inspected the Najafgarh STP lake on Saturdarea di arte del 20 Saturday and directed the officials to convert the artificial time

prepare a project to maintain the ecological system and recharge maximum underground water with cost-effective methods.

Bhardwaj also suggested DJB officials on various



aspects during his inspection reciprocate to his feelings and of Najafgarh STP lake. start operation. As the woman was being been discharged from hospital.

agents at gunpoint STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

4 held for robbing

Four persons, including a woman, were arrested for allegedly being involved in robbing two cash collection agents of more than Rs 55 lakh at gunpoint in north Delhi's Sadar Bazar area. The incident happened last month when Pawan Verma, a private firm employee, was on his way to his Sadar Bazar office to deposit the sum he had collected from

a man in Karol Bagh. Police have arrested Manoj Chauhan, 34, a resident of Jahangirpuri, Shantosh alias Shanti, 56, a resident of Kishan Ganj, Rakesh Kumar, 33, a resident of Pratapgarh, Uttar



Pradesh, and Shami, 35, a resident of Anand Parvat, Karol Bagh in connection with the broad daylight robbery.

On May 10, a PCR call was received around 4 pm about a

robbery on Sadar Bazar's Nawab Road, police said. Pawan Verma, the complainant, said he had gone to Karol Bagh with a colleague of his, Baleshwar, on a scooter for collection.

3 biogas plants STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

The Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) with the help of the Urban Development Fund of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development is in the process

MCD setting up

of setting up three biogas plants in the city. The Biogas plants with

capacity to process 200 TPD of cow dung are being set up at Goela Dairy, Nangli Dairy and Ghoga Dairy.

These bio gas plants will not only help create a robust dairy eco-system in the national capital, thereby, checking the menace of unauthorised dairies

posal of cow dung, which otherwise used to be disposed in drains and choking them or landed on the landfill sites adding to the waste there.

The Biogas plant at Nangli Dairy is spread over 2.72 Acres which is being set up with the help of the Urban Development

Fund of MoHUA. The plant has 3 Digesters to process 200 TPD of dung. One digestor is of 27 m diameter and 12 m height while the other two digestors are of 18 meter diameter and 12 m height each. The test feed of cow dung at the rate of 25 TPD has started and the plant will be

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI A²⁴-year-old man allegedly slit the throat of a woman colleague and later hanged

himself at the office of a private firm in the Begumpur area here, police said on Saturday. The 19-year-old woman, a resident of Rithala, survived the

attack and was hospitalised, a senior police officer said. Amit and the woman worked at 'Creative Concept

Design' in Sector 25 in Rohini which was owned by his sister and brother-in-law, he said.

An exhibition stall designer, Amit was in love with the woman. However, she did not

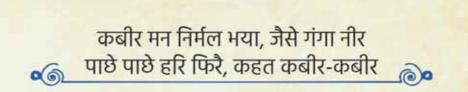
Lovelorn man slits colleague's throat,

commits suicide, but woman survives

avoided him, the officer said. Around 3 pm on Friday, Amit, a resident of a JJ cluster in Rohini, attacked the woman with a knife, but other staff members intervened and rescued her, police said.

they said. her.

The woman's father said that she never told him that a man in her office was troubling "She called me from her



Azadi Ka

Heartiest Greetings to all on the birth anniversary of Sadguru Kabir Sahib Ji

the Great Social Reformer

June 4, 2023



Sant Kabir Das ji not only fought against social evils but also taught the lesson of humanity and love to the world. The path that he showed will continue to inspire generations to move forward on the path of brotherhood and goodwill."

Narendra Modi

🌱 Information, Public Relations, Languages and Culture Department, Haryana 🎯 www.prharyana.gov.in | Fellow as on 🗗 🗊 🖉 🖉 🖓 🖽 🖉 @diprharyana



ODISHA TRIPLE TRAIN CRASH Express entered loop line, hit goods train: Probe

PTI 📕 KOLKATA

pm on Friday.

Signal goof-up

PTI NEW DELHI

 $P_{\text{have revealed that the}}^{\text{reliminary investigations}}$ Coromandel Express train involved in a horrific rail tragedy in Odisha on Friday entered the loop line and crashed into a goods train parked there instead of the main line just ahead of the Bahanagar Bazar station, a source said.

The coaches of Bengaluru-Howrah Superfast Express capsized after crashing into the coaches of Coromandel Express that had scattered on the adjacent track.

While Coromandel Express was at a speed of 128 kmph, Bengaluru-Howrah Superfast Express was running at a speed of 116 kmph. The report has been submitted to the Railway Board, sources said.

The loop lines of the Indian Railways are constructed in a station area -- in this case, the Bahanagar Bazar station -- to accommodate more trains to ease out the operations. The loop lines are generally 750 metres in length to accommodate full-length goods train with multiple engines.

The two trains were carrying around 2,000 passengers. At railway safety, South Eastern least 288 people have been killed in the accident and near-



ly 1,000 injured

firmed by the railways.

An eyewitness to the inci-Ministry of Civil Aviation and dent, Anubhav Das, also told investigates all such accidents. PTI that local authorities and

"A M Chowdhary, CRS, SE railway officials had initially Circle, will inquire into the indicated that the train he was accident," a spokesperson of the travelling on — Coromandel Express — had rammed into Indian Railways said. The national transporter

the goods train. However, none of these has also said anti-train collision system "Kavach" was not availaccounts was officially conable on the route.

The crash involved While a thorough probe is underway, none of the author-Bengaluru-Howrah Superfast Express, Shalimar-Chennai underway, none of the author ities has so far talked about any possibility of a sabotage. The national transporter Central Coromandel Express

and a goods train. "The rescue operation has been completed. Now, we are starting the restoration work. Kavach was not available on this route," Indian Railways Spokesperson Amitabh Sharma said The railways is in the

process of installing "Kavach", an anti-train collision system, across its network.

Kavach alerts when a loco pilot jumps a signal (Signal Passed at Danger -- SPAD), which is the leading cause of train collisions. The system can alert the loco pilot, take control of the brakes and bring the train to a halt automatically when it notices another train on the same line within a prescribed distance.

While sources had earlier said a signalling failure could be the reason behind the crash, railway officials said it is not yet clear if Coromandel Express entered the loop line and hit the stationary goods train or it first derailed and then hit the parked train after entering the loop line.

Survivors recount tales of horror

Efforts on to identify victims, says TN Govt



PTI CHENNA

Three survivors of the train accident in Balasore in Odisha have returned to Chennai, even as the Tamil Nadu government is engaged in efforts to identify victims of the mishap but no official report on the injuries or toll pertaining to the state has been received from the Odisha government, Additional chief secretary of the revenue department Kumar

Jayant said on Saturday. Chief Minister M K Stalin reviewed the state of preparedness of the official machinery, especially the medical team, in coping with the situation in providing treatment to the injured

when they arrive on June 4. "About 250 people have moved from Bhadrak towards the south, particularly Chennai, through a special train today. So anybody who is able to travel has moved. We have not got any report on the death of passengers from Tamil Nadu," Jayant

Returning home to their fam-ilies after several months of working in south India, passengers aboard the 12864 Bengaluru-Howrah Superfast Express suddenly heard a loud thud, following which they fell off their berths and lights went off. They were just five hours away from their destination in

Howrah when the train they were travelling got involved in Karnataka on a holiday, said. He said that somehow, he a triple train accident at Bahanaga Bazar station in managed to come out of the damaged coach and then to

ities to the surviving passengers.

Odisha's Balasore district. The train, which was runsafety. ning a little over three hours late 'It was ghastly, many people with grave injuries were lying around beside mangled from its schedule, was moving towards its next stop Balasore, coaches," Haq, who was lucky some 20 km away, when the to have escaped with minor injuries, told PTI at Howrah accident took place around 7 station, where medical aid,

Mizan Ul Haq, a resident of Bardhaman, was in one of the food and other assistance were provided by the railway authorcoaches at the rear of the train. The train was running at a high speed. Around 7 pm, a loud sound was heard and everything started moving in all directions and I fell down on The unaffected 17 coach-es of the 12864 Bengaluru-Howrah Superfast Express reached Howrah at 1 pm on Saturday with 635 passengers, the floor from the upper berth as the lights went off inside the of whom 40 to 50 people were compartment," Haq, who was administered medical treatreturning home from work in ment on arrival, North Howrah

BHOPAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, BHOPAL (M.P.) Bhopal, Dated 02.06.2023

The commissioner of rail-

has initiated a high-level probe

into the train crash in Odisha's

Balasore, which will be head-

ed by the commissioner of

Circle, officials said.

No. 232/EE-7/e-tender/BDA/2023

Notice Inviting e-Tenders

On-Line percentage rate bids for the following works are invited from Contractors and firms of repute fulfilling registration & eligibility criteria mentioned in tender document

S. No.	Portal Tender No.	Name of Work	Probable Amounts of Contract	Cost of Bid Document (execluding portal fees) (Rs.)	Period of Completion i/o rainy season
1	DTCP-2023 _278901	Construction of 43 Duplex and 61 L.I.G. Duplex at Aerocity, Scheme Bhopal Development Authority, Bhopal	16.71 Crore + G.S.T.	45,000/-	Twenty four month i/c rainy season

1. The detailed NIT and all other details relating to the Bid Document can be viewed on the website https:/www.mpeproc.gov.in

The Bid Document can be purchased after making on-line payment of portal fees and cost of Bid Docu ment through Credit Card/ Debit Card/Cash Card or Internet Banking system at aforesaid website from 07.05.2023; 17:30 up to 21.06.2023 at 17:30 Other key dates may be seen in bid data sheet

Amendments to the NIT, if any, would be published on website only, and not in newspape

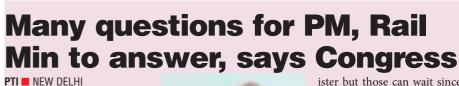
4. Any relevant information can be obtained from office of the undersigned during the office working hours & days

Executive Engineer Division No 7

Envoys of several countries offer condolences PTI 📕 NEW DELHI

Eral countries condoled the loss of lives in the tragic train accident in Odisha and expressed solidarity with India. The accident involving three trains in Odisha's Balasore district killed at least 288 people and injured 803, in one of the worst railway tragedies in

the country. In a tweet, US Ambassador to India Eric Garcetti said, "On behalf of the US Mission in India, I extend our deepest es to the families o



Deputy Commissioner of Police

were sent to hospital for further treatment, while others left for

dent coming to Kolkata for a visit, said that she was in a

coach ahead of the wagons that got derailed.

"It was total chaos initial-ly. We got off our compartment

out of fear and sat in the near-by fields in the darkness till our

train finally started for Howrah

dent, a carpenter who works in

Bengaluru, said he was injured

in the chest, feet and head

when the coach in which he

was travelling turned turtle.

Another Bardhaman resi-

in the wee hours," she said.

He said that five of them

Rekha, a Bengaluru resi-

Anupam Singh said.

their destinations.

The Congress on Saturday said the "horrendous" train accident in Odisha reinforces why safety should always be the foremost priority and asserted that there are many questions to ask of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw but "those can wait" as the immediate task is of rescue and relief.

Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge has deputed the party's leader in the Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury and AICC Odisha in-charge A Chella Kumar to mmediately visit the accident site to take stock of the situation and oversee the relief efforts being undertaken by its workers and frontal organisations, AICC general secretary

Chief Minister Sangma

emphasized the importance of

nectivity for the North East

region as a whole, and for

Meghalaya in particular. In that

regard, Sangma referred to

India's 'Act East' Policy, within

which Meghalaya has an 'Act

South' Policy focussing on the

of the North Eastern States of

stakeholders from Nepal,

interstate and cross border con-



In a statement, Kharge said, "At this moment of grave national tragedy on account of the terrible train disaster in Odisha, I have instructed the entire Congress party organisation to extend all possible help."

A number of Congress leaders from different states have either alread eached or

ister but those can wait since the immediate task is of rescue

and relief," Kharge said. In a video statement, Kharge said it was the time to stay united and pointed out that several state governments have come forward to help out with the rescue efforts in Odisha, including the Siddaramaiah-led Karnataka

government. "I want to ask the PM and the Railway Minister that it should be found out how did this happen and who is responsible. We always talk about safety but still such an incident happened which had not happened in the history of railways. But all this can b will soon reach Balasore, he later as now it is the time to be united and support the central government and for all leaders to come together to help the people and share their grief," he said

PUBLIC NOTICE

FORM NO. 5 DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL 600/1, University Road, Near Hanuman Setu Mandir, Lucknow- 226007 (Area of Jurisdiction-Part of Uttar Pradesh) Summons for filing & Appearance by Publication O.A.No. 403/2022 Date. (Summons to defendant under

section 19(3) of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rules 12 and 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules, 1993] Original Application No. 403 of 2022

ICICI BANK LIMITEDApplicant

SUPREME LORRY SUPPLIERS

AND FREIGHT CARRIER & OTHERSDefendants

1. SUPREME LORRY SUPPLIERS AND FREIGHT

CARRIER through its partners

appear before the Tribunal on 28/11/2023. at 10:30 A.M. failing

which the application shall be heard and decide in your absence.

Registrar Debts Recovery Tribunal, Lucknow

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

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

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address	Property Address of Secured Asset / Asset to be Enforced	Date of Notice Sent/ Outsta- nding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date
	Futecho Solutions Private Limited, Sangeeta Mukul, Ruby, Mrityunjay Gupta, Mrityunjay Gupta, House No 9, J J Colony Block D, Nehru Vihar, Central Delhi Delhi- 110054. A/c No: 343405000254	Residential Property Flat No.09, 2nd Floor CSR Opera, Site No.16, 17 And 18 Katha No.10/4-16, 10/4-17 And 10/4-18 Cmc Katha No 125,126 And 127 Munekolala Varthur Hobil Bangalore East Taluk, Karnataka Bangalore- 560037	06-May-2023 Rs. 47,03,061/-	23/02/ 2023

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

Date : June 03, 2023 Place : Delhi

Authorized Officer ICICI Bank Limited

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

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

Sr. No	Co Domestical Companyant	Property Address of Secured Asset / Asset to be Enforced	Date of Notice Sent/ Outsta- nding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date
1.	Muruganandam R/ Flat No 6 Door No 22/6 Old Door No O-6 Block No 95, Block O 96 2nd Floor Rohini Gardens Dr, Mylapore Chennai Raja Annamalai Puram, 4307/1 4307/1P 4297 Chennai- 600028/ HPCHE00047134936 & LBCHE00005332822	All That Piece And Portion Of The Flat Bearing No.6 In The Second Floor, Building In Block No. 'O', Rohini Garden, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai- 600028, (As Per Corporation Of Chennai Property Tax Demand Card Bearing New Door No.22/6 (Old Door No.0-6), Rohini Garden, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai- 600028), And As Per Document Bearing R.S. No. 4307/1 Part And R.S.No.4297/part, As Per Patta Bearing R.S.Nos.4304/5 & RS.No. 4297/9, Block No.95, Mylapore Division, Previously Mylapore- Triplicane Taluk, Now At Mylapore Taluk, Chennai District, Flat Measuring 65.02 Square Meter (I.E.,700 Sq.ft.,) In The Third Floor, And Together With 1/4 Th Undivided Share Land In 65.02 Square Meter (or) 700 Square Feet, (i.e., 175 Square Feet Uds Land), Along With All Common Rights In The Ways, Passages, Staircases, Common Walls, Open Spaces, Open Terrace, Parking Area And All Easementary Rights, Electrical Installation, Theb Service Connection, Metro Water And Sewerage Connection (Cmwssb) And All Other Common Amenities Provided Thereon And Bounded On The:- North By: Flat No. 0/5, Common Passage And Staircase Of Block 'O'; East By: Block No. 'B'; South By: Flat No. N/5; West By: 24 Feet Road; And Situated Within The Sub- Registration District Of Mylapore And Registration District Of Central- Chennai. As Per Corporation Of Chennai Property Tax Demand Card Bearing New Door No.22/6 (Old Door No.0-6), Rohini Garden, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai- 600028. New Zone No.13, Ward No.173, Bill No.05235, Sub No.000 Old Zone No. 10, Ward No.150, Bill No. 0785, Sub No.000 Theb Service Connection No: 135-033-116	25/04/2023 Rs. 80,88,747/-	09/01/ 2023
2.	Kothandaraman, Bhuvaneshwari Ravikumar & Gowri Manohari/ C-042 Raheja Revanta Tower C 4th Floor Village Shikhopur Sector-78, Gurgaon Gurgaon- 122001/ LBCHE00002208991	Flat No C-042, Tower C, 4th Floor, Raheja's Revanta, Shi Kotipur Apartment Sector- 78, Gurgaon 122001 Super Built Up Area 2225.90 Sq.ft Built Up Area 1746.57 Sq.ft ubstituted service of notice. The above borrower/s and/or their guarantors (as applicable) ar	02/05/2023 Rs. 2,16,98,134/-	31/10/ 2019

payments of outstanding within period of 60 days from the date of publication of this notice else further steps will be taken as per the provisions of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002

Authorized Officer ICICI Bank Limited

Bhopa Road, Muzaffarnagar-251001, U.P.

In the above noted application, you are required to file in Paper Book form in two sets along with documents and affidavits (if any), personally or through your duly authorized agent or legal practitioner in this Tribunal, after serving copy of the same on the applicant or his counsel/duly authorized agent after publication of the summons, and thereafter to

those who lost their lives in the tragic train accident in Balasore."

"We stand with India and the people of Odisha in this time of grief," he said.

Conference on connectivity investments to NE States held



Pacific

each state.

the region.

Connectivity,

Connectivity,

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELH

Atwo-day conference to explore connectivity investments and identify concrete projects in north-eastern states was held in Meghalaya from Thursday. The meet included the Ministry of External Affairs(MEA), the European Union(EU)Delegation to India.

Giving details here on Saturday, the MEA said the conference also explored possibilities for projects with India's neighbours (Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh), for implementation under the India - EU Connectivity Partnership, which was launched during the India - EU leaders Meet in May 2021. The Conference was inaugurated by Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad Kongkal Sangma and Minister of State for External Affairs Rajkumar Ranjan Singh.

He stressed the importance placed by the central government on Connectivity initiatives, both within the country, central government, the EU and as part of India's Development Partnership abroad. He also highlighted the India, North Eastern Council tremendous opportunities for India — EU Triangular Bangladesh and executives from Development Cooperation in private sector with presence in South Asia and the Indo -

said, and extended heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families. "We have many questions to ask of the prime (organisation) K C Venugopal minister and the railway min-

14 common FDC drugs banned

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

ommonly available overthe-counter (OTC) drugs Nimesulide, Chlopheniramine Maleate and Codeine syrup besides Paracetamol used for treatment of common infections, cough, and fever are among the 14 fixed dose combination (FDC) drugs that have been banned by the Government. It said that there is "no therapeutic justification" for these medicines and that they may involve "risk" to individuals. The Union Health Ministry issued a notification in this regard recently.

need to improve connectivity between Meghalaya and The banned drugs includ-Bangladesh. He suggested a ed those used for treating 'Zonal Approach' to connectivcommon infections, cough ity, involving neighbouring and fever - combinations such as Nimesulide + states that caters to the needs of Paracetamol dispersible The second day of the tablets, Chlopheniramine Conference saw technical ses-Maleate + Codeine Syrup, sions on the themes; Digital Pholcodine +Promethazine, Amoxicillin + Bromhexine Energy Transport Bromhexine and Connectivity, Transport Connectivity and Connectivity and Beyond focusing on pro-jects linking the Northeast with India's neighbourhood, as part of the 'Act East' and 'Neighbourhood First' policies. The sessions say participa Dextromethorphan Ammonium Chloride + Menthol, Paracetamol + Bromhexine+ Phenylephrine Chlorpheniramine +

Guaiphenesin and Salbutamol The sessions saw participa-+ Bromhexine tion from senior officials of the

The move comes following recommendations by an Commission, Government(s) expert committee.

The expert committee said that there is "no therapeutic justification for this FDC (fixed dose combination) and the FDC may involve risk to human beings. Hence, in the

larger public interest, it is necessary to prohibit the manufacture, sale or distribution of this FDC under section 26 A of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940. In view of the above, any kind of regulation or restriction to allow for any use in patients is not justifiable."

"And whereas, on the basis of the recommendations of the Expert Committee and the Drugs Technical Advisory Board, the Central Government is satisfied that it is necessary and expedient in public interest to regulate by way of prohibition the manufacture for sale, sale and distribution for human use of the said drug in the country," the notification stated.

FDC drugs are those which contain a combination of two or more active phar-maceutical ingredients (APIs) in a fixed ratio.

In 2016, the government had announced the ban on the manufacture, sale and distribution of 344 drug combinations after an expert panel, set up at the behest of the Supreme Court had stated they were being sold to patients without scientific data and the order was challenged by the manufacturers in court.

world 05

Turkiye's Erdogan takes oath of Key step toward landmark office, ushering in his third term treaty to end plastic waste

AP ANKARA

urkiye's longtime leader, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, took the oath of office on Saturday, ushering in his third presidential term that followed three stints as prime minister.

NEW DELHI | SUNDAY | JUNE 4, 2023

Erdogan, 69, won a new five-year term in a runoff presidential race last week that could stretch his 20-year rule in the key NATO country that straddles Europe and Asia into a quarter-century.

The country of 85 million controls NATO's second-largest army, hosts millions of refugees and played a crucial role in brokering a deal that allowed the shipment of Ukraine grain, averting a global food crisis.

Erdogan was sworn in during a session in parliament before an inauguration ceremony at his sprawling palace complex. Supporters waited outside parliament despite the heavy rain, covering his car with red carnations as he arrived.

All eyes are on the announcement of his new Cabinet later on Saturday. Its lineup should indicate whether there will be a continuation of unorthodox economic policies

or a return to more conventional ones amid a cost-of-living crisis.

sunday pioneer

Dozens of foreign dignitaries are travelling to attend the ceremony, including NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg and Carl Bildt, a high-profile former Swedish prime minister. They are expected to press Erdogan to lift his country's objections to Sweden's membership in the military alliance - which requires unanimous approval by all allies.

Turkiye accuses Sweden of being too soft on Kurdish militants and other groups that Turkiye considers to be terror-

NATO wants to bring Sweden into the alliance by the time allied leaders meet in Lithuania on July 11-12, but Turkiye and Hungary have yet to endorse the bid. Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Örban will also be attending the ceremony

According to state-run Anadolu Agency, other leaders attendance include in Azerbaijan's Ilham Aliyev, Venezuela's Nicolas Maduro, South Africa's Cyril Ramaphosa, Armenia's Nikol



Pashinyan, Pakistan's Shahbaz Sharif, and Libya's Abdul Hamid Dbeibah.

Erdogan was sworn in amid a host of domestic challenges ahead, including a battered economy, pressure for the repatriation of millions of yrian refugees and the need to rébuild after a devastating earthquake in February that killed 50,000 and levelled entire cities in the south of the coun-

Turkiye is grappling with a cost-of-living crisis fuelled by inflation that peaked at a staggering 85 per cent in October before easing to 44 per cent last month. The Turkish currency has lost more than 10 per cent of its value against the dollar since the start of the year.

Critics blame the turmoil on Erdogan's policy of lowering interest rates to promote growth, which runs contrary to conventional economic thinking that calls for raising rates to combat inflation.

Unconfirmed media reports say Erdogan plans to reappoint Mehmet Simsek, a respected former finance minister and deputy prime minister, to the helm of the economy. The move would signify a return by the country - which is the world's 19th largest economy according to the World Bank - to more orthodox economic policies.

In power as prime minister and then as president since 2003, Erdogan is already Turkiye's longest-serving leader.

He has solidified his rule through constitutional changes that transformed Turkiye's presidency from a largely ceremonial role to a powerful office. Critics say his second decade in office was marred by sharp democratic backsliding including the erosion of institutions such as the media and judiciary and the jailing of opponents and critics.

AP PARIS

Global negotiators have agreed to craft an initial draft treaty to end plastic pollution, a preliminary but crucial step toward tackling one of the most lasting sources of human waste.

Environmental advocates cautiously welcomed the outcome of five days of UN talks in Paris on plastic pollution, but expressed concern that the petroleum industry and some governments would water down the eventual treaty. Most plastic is made from fossil fuels. the

Delegates at Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for Plastics agreed on Friday evening to produce an initial draft before their next meeting in Kenya in November, participants said.

The committee is charged with developing the first international, legally binding treaty on plastic pollution, on land and at sea.

A coalition of "high-ambition" governments led by Norway and Rwanda, along with environmental groups, want to end plastic pollution altogether by 2040 by slashing



trols.

gates of the need for global con-

leum industries like the US,

China and Saudi Arabia are

focusing instead on plastic

recycling, and want country-

by-country rules instead of

Stew Harris, senior direc-

across-the-board limits.

'US won't stand for coercion

Countries with big petro-

production and limiting some chemicals used in making plasing awareness among dele-

"Projections suggest that a child born today will see plastic production double by the time they turn 18, but we know that the consequences of increasing plastic production will be disastrous for our health, the planet, and the climate," said Dr Tadesse Amera, who led the International Pollutants Elimination Network's delegation at the talks.

right tools based on their 'The stakes are high, but

AP SINGAPORE

Associated Press as the talks wrapped up, he said that circularity — or reusing plastics

In a statement to The

unique circumstances.

— was "at the forefront of the negotiations as a means to tackle pollution and be more sustainable in producing and consuming plastics. We agree that's the best path."

Humanity produces more than 430 million tons of plastic annually, two-thirds of which are short-lived products that soon become waste, filling the ocean and, often, working their way into the human food chain, the UN.

Environment Program said in an April report. Plastic waste produced globally is set to almost triple by 2060, with about half ending up in landfill and under a fifth recycled, according to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Over 2,000 participants from nearly 200 countries, including governments and observers, took part in this week's talks.

tor for global plastics policy at Waste pickers and some the American Chemistry Council, argued for allowing advocacy groups said they were initially denied access to the each government to "use the

Debt deal frustrates many emocrats

month if they want to receive

more than three months of

SNAP benefits within a three-

requirements for these gov-

ernment assistance pro-

the via

Lanka Prez urges party unity

to handle economic crisis

year period.

AP WASHINGTON

 $D_{\mbox{flicted}}^{\mbox{emocrats}}$ are deeply conflicted about the food aid requirements that President Joe Biden negotiated as part of the debt ceiling deal, fearing damage has been done to safety net programmes that will be difficult to unravel in the years ahead as Republicans demand further cuts

Bargaining over toughening work requirements for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Programme, commonly known as food stamps, became the focal point for the White House and House Speaker Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., up until the end.

Negotiators from both sides made clear, publicly and privately, that it was the biggest area of disagreement and almost led to the talks break-

ing down several times. In the end, Democrats warily accepted new requirements for some able-bodied recipients in exchange for food aid. ceries

Republicans agreed to drop some work requirements for

The result of the tense alone to purchase food, according to the Department of back-and-forth was a deal that Agriculture's Food and played to both sides, but one that many Democrats agonised Nutrition Service, which over as they weighed whether administers the program. to vote for the package this past By 2025, new require-

week Many struggled to square cutting access to food for marginalised communities with an outcome that allowed the United States to avoid defaulting on its debt.

"In order for this country to not default on its bills, we then turned and made our most vulnerable communities default," said Rep. Cori Bush, D-Mo. Years before she came to Congress, Bush lived in a car with her then-husband and two young children after the family had been evicted from

their rental home. The federal aid programme provides monthly funds sometimes as little as \$6 a day to allow low-income individuals and families to buy gro-

It is the largest programme always been the American in the country focused on way," Rep. Mike Johnson of

House Republican conference, people using benefits last year told reporters.

The White House countered that Republican proposition by getting GOP lawmakers to waive the work requirements for new groups - veterans, individuals who are ments will apply to able-bodied adults from age 49 to 54 homeless or facing housing without dependents - an instability and youth aging out increase of five years. Those of foster care - to balance out individuals will be required to the number of people who work or attend training prowould now be facing these grams for at least 80 hours a new restrictions.

The end result could be more people receiving SNAP benefits overall. An estimate from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office Republicans have tried for decades to expand work released Tuesday said that the changes in the debt ceiling package would add almost 80,000 people to the rolls of SNAP in an average month. grammes, arguing they result in more people returning to the

workforce, despite several stud-But the trade-off of seemingly helping some groups while hurting others still left ies that have found they have little impact on employment. the left flank of the Democratic We're going to return Party — lawmakers who have these programs to being a life vest, not a lifestyle. A hand up, supported Biden and helped not a handout and that has pass his agenda for the first two vears of his term — frustrated

by the outcome.

case as advocates, including the nonpartisan National Alliance to End Homelessness, warned of a disturbing trend across the country of an increase in the number of older adults who are becoming homeless, some for the first time.

"What we should not be playing is oppression Olympics," Bush said. "Like which one gets to hurt today? Which one gets to get to that finish line to hurt today? That's not where we should be as a society.

Bush, a member of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, voted "no" on the debt limit deal on Wednesday night after she spent days hearing from advocate groups and constituents on the issue.

"I think it's important that (Biden) understands that it's good for us to have a strong, no vote because this isn't a deal that he would have made if we hadn't been held hostage," Democratic Rep. Pramila Jayapal of Washington state, chair of the Progressive Caucus, told The Associated Press this

American Secretary of Defence Lloyd Austin fly, sail and operate wherever vowed Saturday that international law allows," he said. "And every country, large Washington would not stand for any "coercion and bullying" of its or small, must remain free to allies and partners by China, conduct lawful maritime activwhile assuring Beijing that the United States remains committed to maintaining the status quo on Taiwan and would prefer dia-

logue over conflict. Speaking at the so-called Shangri-La Dialogue, an annual forum bringing together top defense officials, diplomats and leaders, Austin lobbied for support for Washington's vision of a "free, open, and secure Indo-Pacific within a world of rules and rights" as the best course to counter increasing Chinese assertiveness in the region.

The US has been expanding its own activities around the Indo-Pacific to counter sweeping territorial claims from China, including regularly sailing through and flying over the

ping up defense planning, coordination and training with part-

To be clear, we do not seek conflict or confrontation," he said. "But we will not flinch in the face of bullying or coercion." Austin assured that the US

Austin noted that the US had provided millions of doses of the COVID-19 vaccine during the height of the pandemic and is regularly involved in disaster relief and humanitarian assistance efforts in the region. He said it is working to combat climate change, illegal fishing and ensure that supply chains do not suffer disruptions — ticking off many issues of importance to Asian-Pacific nations. "We're doubling down on our alliances

and partnerships," he said. He said the US is also committed to deterring North Korea's missile threat and China's claims on Taiwan, a self-governing island democracy that Beijing says is its territory, and

and bullying from China' China Sea. "We are committed to ner nations in the region. ensuring that every country can

remained "deeply committed" to

talks.

the longstanding one-China policy, which recognizes Beijing as the government of China but allows informal relations with Taiwan, and continues to "categorically oppose unilateral changes to the status quo from either side." He added that Russia's invasion of Ukraine had served to

underline how dangerous the world would be if big countries were able to "just invade their peaceful neighbors with impuni-

"Conflict is neither imminent nor inevitable," Austin said. "Deterrence is strong today and it's our job to keep it that way. The whole world has a stake in maintaining peace and sta-

2 injured in shootout on Israel-Egypt border

PTI 📕 JERUSALEM

Tsraeli troops were engaged in a shootout in southern Israel along the Egyptian border, the military said Saturday.

It gave few details in a short statement, but said two people were wounded. Israel and Egypt signed a peace agree-ment in 1979 and maintain close security ties. Fighting along their shared border is rare.

The exchange of fire reportedly took place around the Nitzana border crossing between Israel and Egypt. The crossing is located about 40 kilometres (25 miles) southeast of the point where Israel's border with Egypt and the Gaza Strip

converge.

President Wiele Wickremesinghe has called for joint action by all parties for Sri Lanka to emerge from the unprecedented economic crisis.

PTI COLOMBO

Wickremesinghe, who made the remarks while addressing a legal conference held at the Central Resort of Nuwara Eliya on Friday, said that none of the political parties in Parliament currently possess a 50 per cent voter base.

The economic challenges faced by the country ten months ago as an "unprecedented situation in history," Wickremesinghe, also the debtridden island nation's finance minister said. "It has been 10-11 months

since our country faced a state

order, political stability, and Ranil economic stability in our nation. Yet, we are aware that this stability is only temporary, and we still have a long road ahead to overcome the challenges we face," the president

stressed. "Therefore the need is for unity among the parties, not solely for the purpose of elections, but to steer the country towards recovery from the ongoing economic crisis," he said

Wickremesinghe stressed that while the re-establishment of law and order and political and economic stability is crucial, it does not imply that Sri Lanka has wholly overcome the crisis

Ai

Sri Lanka was hit by an of failure. However, we have unprecedented financial crisis

managed to establish law and in 2022, the worst since its independence from Britain in 1948, due to a severe paucity of foreign exchange reserves, sparking a major political and humanitarian crisis in the island nation.

The debt-ridden country was marred with protests leading to the ouster of the powerful Rajapaksa family from politics. Wickremesinghe took charge as the country's president following the resignation of Gotabaya Rajapaksa on July 9 last year.

Wickremesinghe has spearheaded the economic recovery since then obtaining an IMF bailout while implementing strict reforms.

His repeated calls for crossparty support to handle the crisis came to be rejected by opposition parties.

Rishi Sunak planning London-based global AI watchdog: Report

PTI 📕 LONDON

 $B^{\rm ritish\,Prime\,Minister\,Rishi}_{\rm Sunak\,\,is\,\,considering\,\,a}$ London-based global artificial intelligence (AI) watchdog to oversee any threats posed by the fast-growing technology, according to a UK media report on Saturday. Sunak will discuss ways to cooperate on monitoring AI when he meets US President Joe Biden at the White House next week, according to 'The Times'.

Among the ideas under consideration in Downing Street is setting up a global AI

authority in London, modelled on the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

The IAEA, founded in 1957 with 176 countries including India as members, monitors the use of nuclear energy, promotes safe standards, and checks that it is not used for military purposes.

A British minister told the newspaper that the UK would be "the best place" in the world for any new body because many leading companies already have a strong presence here. Though plans are at an

approach to AI as the technology evolves to ensure we can benefit from the opportunities but manage the risks," a government source was quoted as saying by 'The Times'.

The possibility of Sunak creating a regulator comes as the European Union (EU) is refining its Artificial Intelligence Act, which is early stage, if Sunak pushes ahead, the UK government expected to take a hard line on oversight of the sector.

could seek to recruit rapidly to The US is also considering get the authority up and runhow to regulate but is expectning. "The Prime Minister is ed to be less severe, as the world very alive to the need for intergrapples with concerns about national alignment on the the safety of AI technology.

Dar: Pak not to default on sovereign commitments

PTI ISLAMABAD

Debt-ridden Pakistan's Finance Minister Ishaq Dar on Saturday said that his country would not default on any sovereign commitments and overcome the current economic problems through longterm reforms.

Speaking to a delegation of the Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI), which called on him here ahead of the finalisation of budget 2023-24, Dar also said that there is not a single day's delay in Pakistan's sovereign commitments.

'Pakistan would not default and overcome the current economic problems through long-term reforms. The government's top priority was to ensure that there is not a single day's delay in Pakistan's sovereign commitments," said the minister.

Dar warned people against speaking ill of the nation's economy.

"Some people like to give dates that Pakistan will default on so and so date. They should be ashamed. They should be well-wishers and be loyal to their soil," he said.

Dar said that Pakistan was a sovereign country with assets worth trillions of dollars while its external debts were USD 100 billion, adding that only one asset relating to gas infrastructure was about 50 per cent of the total debt.

The minister assured that the country would come out of the current challenges and would also create a sovereign wealth fund

Pak govt hints at holding general elections this year

PTI 📕 ISLAMABAD

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif-led Pakistan's coalition government has decided to throw open its coffers for massive public spending during the next financial year, finally giving the strongest signal to hold the general elections on time this year, according to a media report on Saturday.

The evidence has been gleaned from the 31 per cent hike in the next fiscal year's federal development budget to Rs 950 billion, reported the Express Tribune newspaper.

The decision to increase the Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP) from the earlier proposed Rs 700 billion

to Rs 950 billion was taken by Prime Minister Sharif, minutes before the scheduled meeting of the Annual Plan Coordination Committee (APCC) on Friday.

The paper reported that the confusion was apparent as the Ministry of Planning had distributed the APCC working paper among all stakeholders based on the Rs 700 billion PSDP size. But Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal told the media that the size of the PSDP will be Rs 950 billion.

The budget 2023-24 is expected to be presented before the parliament on June 9 and after a discussion, it would be voted upon before the end of

The current parliament will complete its term by mid-August, elections are expected by early October.

It is rumoured that as provided in the Constitution, the parliament under extraordinary circumstances may increase its term by one year, but the size of the PSDP shows that the government is entering into election mode, the report added.

The ousted prime minister and the chief of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party, Imran Khan, has been demanding early elections in the cashstrapped country. The Sharif-led government has rejected Khan's demand.

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Indian girls jump on global coding bandwagon in ChatGPT era

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IANS MUMBAI

or Aradhya Awasthi, a class For Aradnya Awasun, a crass 6th student in Delhi-NCR, coding is being creative, having fun and learning to be innovative. For Tanmit Kaur, who is in class 9th, learning coding helps open new career avenues and create solutions to solve real-life problems.

NEW DELHI | SUNDAY | JUNE 4, 2023

As the demand for skilled coders and software developers skyrocket in a post-pandemic era, especially in the age of generative AI (aka ChatGPT) and other next-gen technologies, Indian girls are not far behind and are now learning the ropes to become world-class coders. 'I am fascinated by algo-

rithm-based careers like in the world of finance. Coding has not only instilled confidence in me but has also given me a fresh career option which I may explore later in life to build innovative solutions to solve real-life problems,' Kaur, a student at Noida-based Indraprastha Global School, told IANS.

Amid widespread tech lay-offs, developers have emerged as the most sought-after role in India, especially those who can design, develop and maintain the front-end and back-end of a



sunday pioneer

web application, according to job portal Indeed.

Developers today make up five of the top 10 job roles. The job roles that have seen the highest growth since pre-pandemic are data engineer (353 per cent), site reliability engineer (260 per cent), assistant engineer (254 per cent), application developer (235 per cent) and cloud engineer (220 per cent).

There are 45,000 Artificial Intelligence (AI) job openings in India, with data scientists and Machine Learning (ML) engineers being among the

most sought-after careers, according to a latest report by TeamLease Digital, a tech staffing firm.

Parul Malhotra, a senior software development engineer with global leading web and mobile app development company GeekyAnts became a developer as she loved the idea of solving real-world issues through programming.

'I have built a few worldclass web apps in the last three vears and worked with people from across the globe. Coding has provided me a way to solve

problems, contribute to technological advances and communicate with people from different countries and backgrounds,' she told IANS.

According to Apple CEO Tim Cook, coding is the only global language and he wishes that more Indian students, including girls, learn coding early in school days so that they can create world-class products and solve real-life problems as they grow up. Coding is the only global

language. It is a way to express yourself and arguably, we need

more of that in the world and bring the world closer,' Cook, who has always emphasised that coding should be taught as early as elementary school, had told IANS in April during his India visit.

Indore's Asmi Jain, 20, has been selected among the win-ners of Apple's 'WWDC23 Swift Student Challenge', who created original apps using the Swift coding language. At Medi-Caps University

in Indore, she found out her friend's uncle had to undergo brain surgery. As a result, he was left with eye misalignment and facial paralysis.

Jain sprung into action, designing her winning playground to track a user's eye movements as they try to follow a ball moving around the screen. 'It was important for me to create an app playground that could positively impact the

lives of people like him,' said Jain. According to her, coding lets her create things that help

her friends and the community. 'It gives me a sense of independence that is very empow-

ering,' she added. According to Mohit Thukral, an alumnus of

Stanford University and Director, Indraprastha Global School, technology is going to be the mathematics of the 21st century

'Every student is going to have to know a certain mini-mum level of knowledge of technology, coding, and others. Technology is an enabler and introduction of skill-based courses such as design thinking, robotics, coding and AI at our school is just the begin-ning,' he told IANS.

Nikita Tomar Mann, the principal at the school, said that it is a fallacy that coding is a skill only required by those who choose the career of a coder or software programmer.

'For the future citizens of the new world order, Coding will be a vital 'Life Skill'. Creativity, critical thinking and problem-solving are touted as some of the skills of the 21st century, and one of the best ways to master these skills is to learn coding right from early schooling years,' she emphasised.

According to Parul, coding should be a part of the cur-riculum for students as it can equip them with logical and algorithmic thinking skills.



RBI-MPC may lower inflation forecast marginally: Bank of Baroda Chief Economist

IANS CHENNAI

The Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) may lower the inflation forecast marginally and will not change the repo rate at the upcoming meeting owing to inflation being down and increased liq-uidity, said a top economist in Bank of Baroda.

'The MPC will not change the repo rate. The inflation is less than five not change. per cent and will be in the coming months,' Chief

Madan

erated in April-23 to 4.70 per cent year-on-year (YoY) and remained within the RBI's target range (2-6 per cent) for the second consecutive month.

The consumer price

Sabnavis, Bank of Baroda

index (CPI) inflation mod-

told IANS.

Adding further Sabnavis said the liquidity has increased and so the RBI-MPC's stance will also

According to Sabnavis, the MPC may lower inflation forecast marginally.

Indian American Not merger but only transfer of policyholder **Ajay Banga takes** related assets, liabilities of Sahara Life: SBI Life

PTI WASHINGTON

Bank President

over as World

Tndian American Ajay Banga Lon Friday took over as the President of the World Bank, making him the first person of colour to head either of the two global financial institutions, the World Bank and the

International Monetary Fund. On May 3, the Executive Directors of the World Bank selected Banga, 63, as the 14th President of the World Bank for a five-year term.

In February, President Joe Biden announced that the US would nominate Banga to lead the World Bank.

'Join us in welcoming Ajay Banga as the new President of the World Bank Group. We are committed to creating a world free from poverty on a livable planet, the World Bank said in

IANS NEW DELHI ▶ BI Life, a subsidiary of

country's biggest lender State Bank of India (SBI), has said it is not a merger between the two companies but only a transfer of the policyholder related assets and liabilities of Sahara Life Insurance. On Friday regulator Irdai

directed SBI Life Insurance to takeover the policy liabilities of around two lakh policies along with assets of stressed Sahara India Life Insurance Co Ltd (SILIC).

The decision was taken at the meeting of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irdai) in view of deteriorating financial health of the SILIC.

Following the Irdai order, SBI Life assured two lakh policyholders of 'high levels' of service and commitment as is accorded to our customers.

We have started and we are expeditiously working on the process of integrating all these policyholders in our systems. While the full integration may take some time, we request these policyholders to reach out to us on our helpline number 1800 267 9090 or email us at saharalife@sbilife.Co.In,' it said

SBI Life will shortly reach out to these policyholders and intimate them about various

touch points and manner of servicing for a smooth transition, it said



Sahara Life Insurance was also not allowed to underwrite new business. Thereafter, further directions were issued to the insurer to meet the regulatory requirements

Further, the policy data of

SILIC reveals that the company's

portfolio is showing run-off

trend. The financial position has

been deteriorating with rising

losses and higher percentage of

continue, the situation will wors-

claims to total premium. 'If the trend is allowed to

tor had said

en and lead to erosion of capital and SILIC may not be able to discharge its liabilities towards Despite being provided policyholders, thereby endangering the interest of its policyample opportunities and suffi-

Economist

cient time to ensure compliholders,' Irdai had said. ances, SILIC has failed to com-It said the action against SILIC has been taken after due ply with directions of the authority and take any affirmaconsideration of all the facts and tive steps to protect the interests circumstances. of its policyholders,' the regula-

The authority added in its meeting held on June 2, 2023 that the action was warranted to protect the interest of the policyholders of SILIC.

Further, Irdai said it will continue to monitor the situation and also issue necessary directions as required in the interest of the policyholders of SILIC.

Lanka President urges party unity to handle economic crisis PTI COLOMBO

President Ranil PWickremesinghe has called for joint action by all parties for Sri Lanka to emerge from the unprecedented economic crisis. Wickremesinghe, who made the remarks while addressing a legal conference held at the Central Resort of Nuwara Eliya on Friday, said that none of the political parties in Parliament currently possess a 50 per cent

The economic challenges

history,'

faced by the country ten months

ago as an 'unprecedented situ-

ridden island nation's finance

since our country faced a state

of failure. However, we have

managed to establish law and

order, political stability, and

economic stability in our nation.

Yet, we are aware that this sta-

bility is only temporary, and we

still have a long road ahead to overcome the challenges we

unity among the parties, not solely for the purpose of elec-

tions, but to steer the country

towards recovery from the ongoing economic crisis,' he said. Wickremesinghe stressed

that while the re-establishment

of law and order and political

and economic stability is crucial, it does not imply that Sri Lanka

has wholly overcome the crisis.

unprecedented financial crisis in

2022, the worst since its independence from Britain in 1948,

due to a severe paucity of foreign

exchange reserves, sparking a

major political and humanitar-

Sri Lanka was hit by an

'Therefore the need is for

face,' the president stressed.

'It has been 10-11 months

in Wickremesinghe, also the debt-

ation

minister said.

Share of flex space in corporates' real estate portfolio FPIs invest ₹ 43,838 crore



entering the bank headquarters here on Friday.

'I wish Ajay Banga all the best as he takes up his new role as President of the World Bank today. I look forward to continuing the deep partnership between our institutions to do good and help those most in need,' IMF managing director Kristalina Georgieva said in a tweet.

Banga has become the first-ever Indian-American to head the World Bank. He replaces David Malpass, who announced his decision to step down in February.

Banga most recently served as Vice Chairman at General Atlantic. Previously, he was President and CEO of Mastercard, a global organization with nearly 24,000 employees.

Under his leadership, MasterCard launched the Center for Inclusive Growth, which advances equitable and sustainable economic growth and financial inclusion around the world. He was the Honorary Chairman of the International Chamber of Commerce, serving as

Chairman from 2020-2022.

He became an advisor to General Atlantic's climatefocused fund, BeyondNetZero, at its inception in 2021. Banga served as Co-Chair of the Partnership for Central America, a coalition of private organizations that works to advance economic opportunity across underserved populations in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras. He was previously on the Boards of the American Red Cross, Kraft Foods, and Dow Inc

Banga is a co-founder of The Cyber Readiness Institute and was Vice Chair of the Economic Club of New York. He was awarded the Foreign Policy Association Medal in 2012, the Padma Shri Award by the President of India in 2016, the Ellis Island Medal of Honor and other awards.

rises to 10-12% from 5-8% pre-Covid: Colliers

tiveness.

consultant said.

many more.

company.

to 10-12 per cent in 2023, from

tinue to see strong growth.

including the likes of NEXT, LC

Waikiki Man, Terranova, Urban

Revivo, Bravesoul, DKNY, and

some of the leading international

brands, ranging from 25 per cent

on MRP to a whopping 40 per

cent off on MRP, making it the

perfect opportunity to upgrade

your wardrobe with global fash-

ion trends,' according to the

Western Wear with up to 50

per cent off on MRP: From

Casual, Ethnic, and

'This EORS, enjoy offers on

PTI NEW DELHI

Indian corporates are fast embracing flexible workspace which now accounts for 10-12 per cent of their real estate portfolio compared to 5-8 per cent pre-COVID pandemic, according to Colliers.

Real estate consultant Colliers has recently released a report 'Global Occupier Outlook 2023' that revealed that many corporates in Asia Pacific are deferring decisions on taking office space on lease as they are grappling with the complexities of the hybrid work model.

'The lack of clarity and macroeconomic uncertainty are posing challenges for businesses in projecting their space requirements,' it added. According to Colliers'

experts, companies are facing an integral part of occupiers the dilemma of striking a balance between providing employees with desired flexibility and realigning their portfolios for the next evolution of the workplace.

However, Colliers said that Indian office space occupiers have been quick to adopt flex spaces, attracted by the flexi-

The most-awaited fashion carnival of the year, Myntra's

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is live with more than 20 lakh

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tomers in India, has popular

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D₂C brands.

awaits you:

Flexible workspace con-

tinue to support occupiers in realigning their portfolios and space considerations to suit a hybrid working style.

Peush Jain, Managing Director, Office Services, India, said, 'Flex spaces have emerged as a core strategy for occupiers to adopt a decentralised workspace model, serving as a promising alternative to the traditional paradigm.

As compared to shorter lease tenures of 1-2 years prepandemic, occupiers are now going for longer commitments of 3-5 years with flex space operators as they look to integrate flex space as a long-term solution

During 2022, leasing of office space by flex space operbility, agility, and cost-effecators touched record 7 million square feet across top 6 cities. Across the APAC region, 'Flex spaces are becoming

portfolio, with its share in Colliers said that occupiers occupiers' total portfolio rising are keen on realigning their office portfolios to meet busi-5-8 per cent before the panness needs while providing demic in 2019, as per interacthe flexibility employees desire. The right real estate port-

tions with industry experts,' the folio is key to keeping culture Going forward, Colliers intact, attracting and retaining said that flex spaces will conbest talent, and controlling operational costs, it added.

in India in May

IANS NEW DELHI

 $F_{(\rm FPI)}^{\rm oreign \ portfolio \ investors} \\ Rs \ 43,838$ crore in the Indian stock markets in May. VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Financial Services, said the FPIs were aggressive buyers in the market in May having invested Rs 43,838 crore through the stock market and primary market put together.

A survey among foreign portfolio investors showed that India is now the consensus overweight among all emerging markets. In May, India attracted the largest investment among all emerging markets, and FPIs were sellers in China, he added. FPIs are likely to continue

their investment in India in June too since the latest GDP data and high frequency indicators reflect a robust economy gaining further strength.

Financials, automobiles, telecom and construction are attracting big investments, he said.

Nifty racing to the all-time high of 18887 and breaking the record are highly possible in the next few trading days.

Myntra's 18th edition of EORS live: Grab irresistible



All new Model 3 cars qualify for \$7,500 EV tax credit in US: Tesla

IANS SAN FRANCISCO

 $E^{\text{lectric car-maker Tesla has}}_{\text{announced that every new}}$ Model 3 vehicle now qualifies for \$7,500 EV tax credit in the US.

With this, the starting price of a Tesla Model 3 -- after federal tax credits -- may once again be below the \$35,000 mark.

Tesla's website claimed every new Model 3 is eligible for the full \$7,500 federal tax credit in the US.

The EV tax credits were mandated by the US Congress last year as part of the Inflation Reduction Act. The aims to cut dependency on China for batteries.

Tesla CEO Elon Musk retweeted a screenshot of the website that displays the tax past.

credits available for each vehicle.

Tesla delivered a record 4,22,875 electric vehicles in the first quarter of 2023, beating the Wall Street estimates.

In the first quarter, the electric car-maker produced over 4,40,000 vehicles.

'We continued to transition towards a more even regional mix of vehicle builds, including Model S/X vehicles in transit to EMEA and APAC,' it said in a statement.

In the fourth quarter of 2022, Tesla delivered 4,05,278 and produced 4,39,701 units.

According to reports, a large percentage of deliveries came from vehicles produced in Shanghai gigafactory.

Tesla has adjusted the pricing for its electric vehicle in the US several times in the recent

ian crisis in the island nation. OnePlus, known for its cuttingedge innovations, offers the OnePlus 2R model a special price of just Rs 8,999. Don't miss this opportunity to sport a trendy and functional accesso-

This year's EORS holds a lot of promise, with a wide range of products and exciting offers. Keep an eye out for Myntra-specials and ÉORS-specific product lines, ensuring you find something special for yourself, your family, or your friends.

With deals across every product category, Myntra's EORS-18 is your one-stop shop for unforgettable shopping experiences. Get ready to embark on a shopping extravaganza like no other! Happy shopping!



comfy t-shirts and shorts to ethnic and western wear categories, brands like FCUK, saris, kurtas, stylish jackets Kalki Fashion and others are among others, Myntra has you covered. To cater to the heightofferingA up to 50 per cent off ened demand across casual, on MRP, ensuring you find

Enhance your beauty routine with Myntra's wide range of beauty and personal care products available on Myntra. From luxurious multinational brands like Prada, Ralph Lauren, Diesel, and Sebastian Professional to local favourites like Perfora and Hammer, discover your favourite products are up for grabs at min per cent off on MRP.

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ry, at unmatched offers.





AP PARIS

ast year's finalist Casper Ruud rallied to beat ⊿Zhang Zhizhen in the third round of the French Open on Saturday, ending a strong run by the Chinese player. The fourth-seeded Ruud,

NEW DELHI | SUNDAY | JUNE 4, 2023

who lost to Rafael Nadal in last year's final, won 4-6, 6-4, 6-1, 6-4.

Zhang was the first Chinese man to reach the third round at Roland Garros since Kho Sin-Khie in 1937. Kho also reached the fourth round in 1936 but that proved a step too far for Zhang, despite a lightning start on Court Suzanne Lenglen.

Meanwhile, American Coco Gauff rallied from a tough opening set to beat Mirra Andreeva of Russia in an allteen showdown in the third round.

Experience eventually told as the 19-year-old Gauff, who was the runner-up at Roland Garros last year, prevailed 6-7(5), 6-1, 6-1, sealing the result with a cross-court backhand winner

That ended an impressive Grand Slam debut for the 16year-old Andreeva, who earlier this week became the the youngest player to win a match in the women's main draw at the French Open since 2005.

Zhang broke Ruud in the opening game and went on to take the set as the Norwegian



player grew more and more the line on the first of two frustrated.

Matters grew worse for Ruud as he found himself 0-40 down on his serve early in the second set but he collected his emotions and — after a topsyturvy set — went on to level the match at his first opportunity.

nday pioneer

Ruud then improved in the last two sets and sealed the match with a forehand down

match points.

The match will be followed by an intriguing thirdround encounter involving two teenagers: American Čoco Gauff, who is 19, and Russian Mirra Andreeva, who is 16. reigning

However, reigning Wimbledon champion Elena Rybakina pulled out of the French Open before her thirdround match on Saturday because she is sick.

RYBAKINA PULLS OUT

Reigning Wimbledon champion Elena Rybakina pulled out of the French Open before her third-round match on Saturday because she is sick.

"I just wanted to give 100%, and obviously I'm far from being 100%," Rybakina said. "If

I cannot breathe, there is no chance I can even run and try to compete? The No 4-seeded Rybakina

was supposed to face 132ndranked Sara Sorribes Tormo in the day's opening contest on Court Philippe Chatrier.

They were scheduled to begin playing at 11:45 a.m. local time, but instead, at that very moment, Rybakina sat down

behind the microphone at a news conference to explain why she was withdrawing from the year's second Grand Slam tournament.

Sounding stuffed up, Rybakina explained that she has been running a fever, didn't sleep well the past two nights and had difficulty breathing during a warmup session Saturday ahead of her match. She said a doctor told her there is a virus going around "here in Paris?

Rybakina, who won each of her first two matches this week in straight sets, was considered among the top contenders for the championship at Roland Garros. She has won her past 10 matches, including a tuneup title on red clay at the Italian Open last month.

She plays a power-built game based in part on one of the best serves on the WTA Tour, which she leads in aces this season

Last July, Rybakina won her first major trophy, defeating Ons Jabeur in the final at Wimbledon.

Rybakina is a 23-year-old who was born in Moscow and has represented Kazakhstan since 2018, when that country offered her funding to support her tennis career. The switch was a topic of conversation during Wimbledon, because the All England Club barred athletes who represent Russia or Belarus from entering the tournament in 2022 due to the war in Ukraine.



Djokovic laments fans for booing

AP PARIS

Novak Djokovic makes no secret of the way he loves to feed off negativity during a tennis match. Doesn't really matter whether he's ahead or behind on the scoreboard. The guy simply finds motivation and inspiration from all manner of slights, real and perceived.

Maybe it's how a chair umpire is officiating that particular day ... or the way Djokovic's entourage is sitting in place in the stands instead of rising to encourage him ... or the criticism he receives for wading into a political issue — all of which already have happened during this French

Open. Or maybe it's how he's treated by the spectators who, as they did on Friday during Djokovic's 7-6 (4), 7-6 (5), 6-2 victory over 29th-seeded Alejandro Davidovich Fokina in the third round at Roland Garros, get on his case and jeer

him for seemingly no good reason at all. Which is what happened at Court Philippe Chatrier during the longest three-set Grand Slam match of the 22time major champion Djokovic's long and distinguished career, clocking in at 3 hours, 36 minutes. He wasn't thrilled at how difficult things had been in the match,

didn't love double-faulting three times in a single game, and really didn't like the feedback coming from a portion of the fans. "A majority of the people

comes to enjoy tennis or support one or the other player. But they are individuals. There are people — there are groups or whatever — that love to boo every single thing you do. That's something that I find disrespectful and I frankly don't understand that. Djokovic said later at his news conference. "But it's their right. They paid the ticket. They can do whatever they want."

India maul

Nadal undergoes hip surgery

AP PARIS

Rafael Nadal had arthroscop-ic surgery on Friday night for the injured left hip flexor that forced him to sit out the French Open for the first time since he won the first of his record 14 titles there in his 2005 tournament debut.

Nadal's spokesman, Benito Perez-Barbadillo, said three doctors were involved in the proce-dure, which was taking place in Barcelona

Perez-Barbadillo said he expected to be able to pass along information about the operation on Saturday, which is Nadal's 37th birthday.

The Spaniard hasn't competed anywhere since he lost to Mackenzie McDonald in the Open on Jan. 18. Nadal's movement clearly was restricted for much of that match and he ended up with his earliest exit at any Grand Slam tournament since 2016. An MRI exam the next day revealed the extent of the injury, and Perez-Barbadillo said at the time that Nadal was expected to need up to two months to fully recover. He initially aimed



to enter the Monte Carlo Masters in March on his beloved red clay, but he wasn't able to

play there, then subsequently sat out tournament after tournament, decreasing the likelihood that he would be ready for the French Open.

Nadal announced during a academy in Manacor, Spain, on May 18 that he would need to miss this year's trip to compete in Paris. He said he would need to take an indefinite break from tennis - no matches and not even any practices. And he added that he was not sure when — or, truly, if he'll be able to return to the tour, but figures that next season will be his last before retirement.

Indian pole vaulters' participation in doubt as poles stuck at airport

PTI 📕 NEW DELHI

The participation of two Indian pole vaulters in the Asian U-20 \Athletics Championship in Yecheon, South Korea, beginning on Sunday was rendered doubtful after their equipment was not permitted in a South Korean as well as an Air India aircraft due to "technical issues" related to length of the poles.

Dev Kumar Meena (men's pole vault) and Sunil Kumar (decathlon, of which pole vault is one of the 10 events) were to compete in their respective events on Sunday but they left for Seoul in a South Korean flight on Friday, which is in

alliance with Air India, without Even Air India refused to carry the poles in its 12:05am poles under the current rules. flight on Friday, according to an official of the Athletics Federation of India. The AFI official said that Air India refused to carry three poles measuring 5m each to be used by the two athletes, on the ground of some "technical issues" concerning prescribed length of the items.



already reached South Korea send the poles to Korea by FedEx Delhi airport. Air India said later today. Let's see," the offithey cannot allow the 5m-long cial said.

tickets through Air India with the help of a travel agency.

"All the paperwork relating to bookings and luggage were done by Air India as they have a tie-up with Asiana Airlines. On May 26, a mail was sent to Air India informing about the number of poles and javelins we will be taking to Korea, along with their size specification.

"But when the contingent reached IGI vesterday to board the flight, Asiana Airlines said Air India has not informed them about it and so the poles and javelins could not be allowed inside the aircraft," the AFI official said.

All the members of the

cargo, but to no avail.

allowed and the two coaches, initially held back, also boarded the Air India flight," the AFI official said.

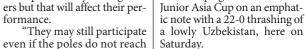
brought the poles in a domestic flight from Bengaluru and there was no problem then, don't know why it is different in this case."

not reach South Korea on time, the two athletes may still compete on Sunday by using equipment of other competitors or those provided by the organistheir campaign in the women's ers but that will affect their per-

The javelins were finally



junior Asia Even if the three poles do PTI KAKAMIGHARA Annu slammed a double hat-trick as India started



eir poles are s

"The two athletes have through our travel agent, to

The AFI had booked the let in the poles and javelins as

It is strange that our athletes had gone to Busan (South Korea) with the same kind of poles only last year," the AFI official told PTI

"We have been running here and there since yesterday afternoon but Air India is not relenting. We are now trying,

In fact, all the 55-member Indian contingent was to leave for South Korea from the Indira Gandhi International Airport here at 6:30pm Friday on Seoul-based Asiana Airlines flight, but the Indian coaches were told that they would not be allowed to take the three poles as well as the javelins.

es left for South Korea boarding the Asiana Airlines. The two coaches were held back to accompany the poles and javelins in an Air India flight to Seoul at 12:05am Friday.

"What was surprising was that Air India itself refused to carry the poles because of its length and some technical issues. We even went to the Air India cargo office at the IGI to

on time. But normally the length of the pole depends on the height of the pole vaulter, so they may compete if they get poles of their size, otherwise they may not do their best."

The 55-member Indian contingent for the June 4-7 championships has 45 athletes, including 19 women, and 10 coaches.

38th, 43th, 51st) was the star performer for India, while Vaishnavi Vitthal Phalke (3rd, 56th); Mumtaz Khan (6th, 44th, 47th, 60th); Sunelita Toppo (17th, 17th); Manju Chorsiya (26th), Deepika Soreng (18th, 25th), Deepika (32nd, 44th, 46th, 57th), and Neelam (47th) were the others on target.

Annu (13th, 29th, 30th,

India began attacking the Uzbekistan citadel from the onset and took an early lead when as Vaishnavi (3rd) converted a penalty corner.

Mumtaz doubled India's lead three minutes later with a field strike.

Annu added to the team's tally by netting a goal as the opening quarter ended with India enjoying a 3-0 lead.

The second quarter was no different as India continued to dominate the proceedings and scored goals at will through Sunelita, Manju, Deepika and Anu, thus enjoying a commanding 10-0 lead at the halftime.

The script was the same after the change of ends as Deepika netted one through penalty corner while Annu struck two more to help India take 13-0 lead.

Panjab regain KIUG champions crown Sainyam gives India golden start third with 16 gold, 10 silver and

with an overall tally of 69

medals including 26 gold, 17

GNDU amassed 24 gold, 27 sil-

PTI LUCKNOW

 $P_{\rm Chandigarh}^{\rm anjab}$ U University, **C**handigarh (PUC), regained their overall champions crown after a gap of one edition as despite a clean sweep in fencing, Guru Nanak Dev University (GNDU), Amritsar, fell short on the final day of competitions at the Khelo Indian University Games (KIUG).

National Games champion Yash Ghangas was the other star attraction on the final day, thrilling all at the BBD University grounds in Lucknow, to pick up the gold for Chaudhary Bansi Lal

University (CBLU) in the men's 100+kg category in judo. The other four golds on the

final day went to Mumbai University (judo women's 78+kg), Savitribai Phule Pune University (SPPU) who won the men's group traditional yogasana gold at the SAC hall of the Indian Institute of

Technology-Banaras Hindu University (IIT-BHU) campus in Varanasi and Chandigarh University (CU) and Maharshi Dayanand University (MDU), Rohtak, who picked up the two golds in weightlifting at the G.B. University in Greater Noida.

ver and 17 bronze medals to finish second and in the top three for the first time.

Jain University, Karnataka, PUC therefore finished last time's champions, were

six bronze medals. Jain, however, will have the solace of having the most successful male and female athletes of the KIUG 2022 UP.

Both of them belong to swim-ming where Siva Sridhar topped the men's section with a total of 11 medals including eight golds while Shrungi Bandekar won nine medals in the women's section including five golds.

silver and 26 bronze medals. Ås many as 131 of the 203 universities who finally participated, medalled at the Games, where at least 11 new records were created over 12 competition days.

PTI SUHL

Chandigarh youngster Sainyam gave India a golden start to the ISSF Junior World Cup Junior here on Saturday by finishing atop

the podium in the women's 10m air pistol competition. Sainyam shot 238 in the final to leave Korean Kim

Minseo behind in second place. The Korean shot 236.0 for silver while the bronze went to Chinese Taipei's Liu Heng Yu, who bowed after the 22nd shot of the 24-shot final, with a score of 216.9, 0.2

In other results, India's Suruchi Inder Singh also reached the women's pistol final, finishing sixth with a score of 154.1.

Amit Sharma in the junior men's 10m air pistol was the lone Indian finalist in the event and finished fourth to miss out on a medal. Italian Luca Arrighi won gold in the event.

Among other Indians in the fray, Urva Chaudhary finished 26th in women's air pistol with a qualification round score of 560. Sainyam had qualified third with 571 while Suruchi was fifth in qualifying with 571.

Cannot speak about Asian Cup target before Dec: Stimac

PTI BHUBANESWAR

t 38, Sunil Chhetri Aremains a prized asset in the final third and among the fittest in the Indian football team, but his much younger colleagues in defence "dancing around balls" is a cause for concern for head coach, Igor Stimac Alongside brain, Stimac indicated he would do with a

slice of brawn in his defenders. Four weeks of preparation time was on Saturday described as ideal by Stimac

for the Asian Cup, for which can be more realistic from this the Croat said he will not be point of view.

abe to set a realistic target before December.

The continental showpiece scheduled to be held in January-February next year in Qatar, where India has been clubbed alongside heavy-weights Australia, Syria and Uzbekistan.

There is no realistic target. It's more about real chances for us. We can speak in December when we find out how much time we're going to get for the operation, then I

"I cannot tell you about stages... For the Asian Cup, India never was placed better than the bottom of the group. So whatever we achieved, that we will be achievement, I would say," Stimac said during a virtual press conference.

India were knocked out in the group stage in their last two appearances in the tournament in 2011 and 2019 respectively.

When discussions turned to his veteran striker and captain Sunil Chhetri, Stimac said he



stage.

remains one of the fittest players in his squad after nearly two decades of top-flight football.

"Sunil has always been a role model and a leader in every sense for the boys and girls. But he's not only talking, he's showing that with his test results once again.

"In this camp, he was in topfive positions in all the tests we executed. So that's the best way of leading the team and showing them how much it can be done. Never mind the age, never mind the month or the year, so let alone what he speaks what he

does on the pitch and how he works. That's what is the most important thing."

The junior men's and

women's skeet qualification rounds also began on

Saturday. Ritu Raj Bundela,

Abhay Singh Sekhon and

Munek Battula are in

contention in men's skeet

while Raiza Dhillon,

Mufaddal Zara Deesawala and

Sanjan Sood are carrying

Indian hopes in women's

There are still eight months left for the Asian Cup and Stimac said in this period the team is looking to improve its finishing, passing, pattern in the final third, and also the build-up. "Before the Asian Cup, India

will pay some tournaments --Merdeka Cup, Intercontinental

Cup. "There is the U-23, then there is the Merdeka Cup in October, then we are starting the World Cup qualifiers. Asian

Cup prospects will depend on December preparations because things are changing on a daily basis. It depends on who are in form, who are in best position in December, they (players) are coming after a long domestic season behind. They need to stay in form and enter the Asian Cup on a positive note."

India are set to play Mongolia (June 9), Vanuatu (June 12), and Lebanon (June 15) in the Intercontinental Cup in Bhubaneswar, with the final slated to take place on June 18.

behind the Korean at that

In men's pistol, Abhinav Chaudhary came close to the top eights with a qualification round score of 570, placing him ninth. Shubham Bisla, the third Indian contender, was 13th having shot a score of

568

skeet.

I want to bat with same intent that I showed in IPL and Ranji Trophy: Rahane

PTI ARUNDEL

Back in India colours after nearly 18 months, senior batter Ajinkya Rahane doesn't want to have any "regrets" for the time lost and would like to bat in the upcoming World Test Championship final against Australia with the same "intent" like he did in the just-concluded IPL.

NEW DELHI | SUNDAY | JUNE 4, 2023

"Coming back after 18-19 months, whatever has happened, good or bad, I don't want to think about my past. I just want to start afresh and keep doing whatever I have been doing, Rahane told BCCI.TV on the sidelines of India's training session.

"Personally enjoyed playing for CSK as I have been batting well throughout the season, even before IPL. I had a very good domestic season and I felt good. So this comeback was a bit emotional for me."

Rahane, who was a part of CSK's fifth IPL title-winning side, has already received a lot of praise for his attacking batting and improved strike-rate in T20 cricket, and especially the 27-ball 61 against Mumbai Indians showed a shift in his intent.

"I want to bat with the same mindset and show same intent that I showed before coming here in IPL and Ranji



think about format whether it is T20 or Tests. The way I am batting now, I don't want to complicate things and the more I keep it simple, better it is for me," the veteran of 82 Tests and

inday pioneer

Trophy. I would not like to 4,931 runs said. The man, who led India to the most talkedabout series triumph in Australia, back in 2021, also praised Rohit Sharma for leading the team admirably for the better part of this WTC cycle.

"I thought culture in team now is really good. Rohit is handling the team really well and I am sure Rahul bhai is also handling the team really well. That helps as well and atmosphere is really good. Whatever I am see-

ing right now is that everyone is enjoying each other's company," he said. Rahane thanked his family and friends for the support he got during his time away from the national team. "It was (an) emotional

moment for me. When I got dropped, the support I got from my family was massive and dream was to play for India and that was massive. Playing for India matters a lot for me and I worked hard on my fitness and went back to domestic cricket."

'Thanks to BCCI and selectors and when I went back to domestic cricket, the goal was to play for India — be it Ranji Trophy and Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy or practice session, for me, every day that I was waking up, it was all about thinking that I can play for India again.

What made my comeback possible was enjoying each and every moment, be it success or failure, and having no regrets. Learning from every individual in Mumbai Ranji team. You have to grow as a cricketer every single day, learning process should-nt stop," he said.

Playing in England is chal-lenging, feels Rahane, who had scored a match-winning hun-dred in a Test match at Lord's back in 2014.

"It's all about mindset and reading the situation well, staying in (the) moment and playing it session by session. In England, you just don't look at the pitch but also keep an eye on the weather. In England, you never feel that you are in even if you are batting on 70," he said.

Team India using multi-coloured balls in fielding drills

PTI PORTSMOUTH

The Indian team's training sessions over the years have had their share of innovations and it is now using multi-coloured rubber balls for catching practice in order to adjust to last-minute deviations which

could cost the side dear. One of the Indian team's fielding drills at the Arundel ground here saw rising star Shubman Gill taking catches with the colour of the ball being green.

There were also yellow coloured balls but not the lawn tennis balls one usually gets to see when keepers and close-in fielders take powerfully hit reflex catches.

"These are specially made rubber balls, not the ones we are used to seeing in gully cricket. This is made for fielding drills. These balls are named 'reaction balls' and it is used for fielding drills only in some specific countries, mainly England or New Zealand where breeze and colder conditions become a factor," a renowned fielding coach, who has worked at NCA and at

national camps, told PTI. Asked if there was any significance for the green coloured balls that was used to give catching practice to Gill,

he said: "I don't think there is any specific scientific or crick-eting reason for any specific colour. But certainly there is a reason for using that kind of rubber balls for catching prac-tice — especially for slip field-

ers and keepers." "In England, due to under-lying moisture and the lush green outer area (beyond 22 yards) means that the ball will vobble a lot more than usual.

"England is the only country and to some extent in New Zealand, you will find that deliveries that beat the batter's outside edge is deviating wickedly, making it difficult to gather or catch the ball. The Dukes in England in fact wobbles even more," the coach added.

He then explained why these rubber "reaction balls" are being used for training.

"These balls are lighter in weight and hence it would wobble and also swing or deviate more. The idea is to get adjusted to this changing tra-jectory or line of the ball.

"Now coming to the colour the various colours are used because it is a human tendency to lose the sight of ball at last second. Various colours help you to judge the line of deviation till the last moment while catching the ball," he added

Warner is looking good for WTC final: Khawaja

PTI LONDON

Australian batting stalwart Usman Khawaja believes fellow opener David Warner is probably at his best as he prepares for the tough English summer, which includes the World Test Championship final against India and the Ashes.

Warner, 36, had endured a difficult tour of India earlier this year, and even though the Delhi Capitals skipper showed attacking intent while amassing 516 runs from 14 matches in the IPL, he will have his task cut out in the seaming English conditions.

However, Warner, likely on his final tour of England, received a big endorsement from Khawaja, who said the stalwart was "looking good" for the challenges ahead.

"I have seen him (Warner) bat in the last couple of days and, I don't want to jinx him, but he



Warner aims to end Test career on a high PTI BECKENHAM

Star Australian opener David said. Warner on Saturday revea-

World Cup would probably be my final game," Warner

"I probably owe it to myself

Warner, apart from a magnificent double hundred against South Africa last December, has struggled for runs in recent assignments, managing a mere 26 runs in three Test innings in the recent tour of India before returning home injured.

He had also endured a forgettable campaign during the last Ashes, returning with an average of 9.50, the worst ever by an opener playing in 10 innings with England quick Broad dominating the 36-year-old.

We saw when he scored a double century in his 100th game when everyone was writ ing him off and telling him he was done and it was his last game and he went out and gets 200. "You never write off a great player, so I am expecting runs," said Khawaja.

Warner indicated he would likely stick to his task during the Tests than get involved in any Ashes banter with Eng cricketers, especially Broad who restricted the Australian to just 95 runs at an average less than 10 during the last Ashes in England. "It (banter) just sells papers and clickbait, so I won't be getting involved in any of that stuff. I will leave it to themselves," said Warner of the Ashes series which will commence in Edgbaston on June 16. "Today, there is no real banter in the field. It is just about playing quality cricket and trying to get the upper edge on each other. It is a lot more connected these days than before which I think is great for the game," he added.

Long county stint will help me in WTC final: Labuschagne

PTI LONDON

eading Australian Test batter Marnus Labuschagne feels his long stint with English county side Glamorgan has helped him get fully prepared for the challenges in the run-up to the World Test Championship final against India, starting June 7.

Even as leading Australian cricketers, who are a part of the squad for the two assignments, including Ashes, were busy playing in the Indian Premier League, Labuschagne, the No.1-ranked Test batter in the world, was gearing up for the WTC final and the Ashes for the last to months playing county cricket.

The 28-year-old scored two centuries and a total of 504 runs in eight innings, and is confident of a good showing in the oneoff game for Test supremacy against india, scheduled to begin at The Óval on June 7.

"I have been coming back (to country cricket) for five years now," Labuschagne was as saying by ICC.



my normal routine of coming here. I love coming here, I love playing county cricket, I love the team at Glamorgan, I enjoy it so much otherwise I wouldn't be coming back," said Labuschagne.

The No.3 batter's decision to spend more than two months in England could have been driven by the fact that he scored only one half-century during the recent Border-Gavaskar Trophy, which India won 2-1 at home

"It just helps that this year is a Test ship Final and .

very helpful for leading into the series," he

Labuschagne added that batting at No.3 brought with it the responsibility of giving solidity to the innings by playing responsible innings.

"Naturally, anyone that is batting No.3 for Australia is going to have responsibility," Labuschagne said.

"Even in 2019 (the last time in England for Ashes) it was my responsibility, it was my job to score runs and if I didn't score runs they (Australia team management) would find someone else to do my job and I don't think that changes," he said.

"It is about finding ways to score runs and contribute to the side in as many games as I can?

During the 2019 Ashes series, a lot of focus was on Labuschagne as David Warner, Steve Smith and Cameron Bancroft were returning for their first Test tour since the ban imposed on them following the 2018 scandal in C 'Sandpaper-gate

looking good; quoted as saying by ICC.

While Warner was included in Australia's squad for the WTC final and the first two Ashes Tests, the selectors have also picked Marcus Harris and Matt Renshaw as options, but Khawaja believes if the veteran cricketer is in the playing XI, he will give it his best shot.

This is probably the best I have seen him look in the nets for a while. That doesn't always correlate to runs, but if we are any chance of Davey Warner scoring runs this could be it. He always plays his best when his back is against the wall too," added Khawaja.

e to end his re career with a swansong Test at his home ground at the SCG against Pakistan in January.

Talking ahead of Australia's training session here, Warner, who is preparing for next week's World Test Championship (WTC) final against India, said he hopes the Sydney Test against Pakistan would be his

last. However, given his recent struggle in the longest format of the game, the southpaw isn't guaranteed a spot in the

Australian Test side and he is well aware of it. "You've got to score runs. I've always said the (2024) T20

runs here and continue to play back in Australia - I can definitely say I won't be playing that West Indies series. "If I can get through this (WTC final and ensuing Ashes

campaign) and make the Pakistan series I will definitely finish up then," he added. After the WTC final,

Australia are scheduled to play a five-match Ashes series against England.

Warner is a part of Australia's squad for the WTC final as well as the first two Ashes Tests. But the selectors have also picked Marcus Harris and Matt Renshaw as options.

PCB refuses to play ODI series in Lanka

PTI 📕 KARACHI

he Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) is upset at Sri Lankan board expressing its desire to host the entire Asia Cup and has declined the latter's offer to play an ODI bilateral series in the island nation. According to sources in the

PCB, relations between the PCB and Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) have turned sour after its offer of hosting the entire Asia Cup

instead of four games being held in Pakistan as per the 'Hybrid Model' proposed by Najam Sethi.

"An example of the increasingly strained relations between the two boards emerged after the PCB turned down a proposal by the Lankans to play a few One-Day International matches next month in Sri Lanka," PCB source stated.

Pakistan is scheduled to visit Sri Lanka in July to play two Tests of the next ICC World Test Championship cycle and appar-ently the SLC had suggested that Pakistan also play a few ODIs as they are optimistic their team will book a spot from the World Cup qualifiers in Zimbabwe and would need more exposure before the main event in October.

But a reliable source confirmed that the PCB after initially saying they would consider the proposal had turned it down

now. "It is a clear indication that the PCB is not happy with the Sri Lankan board stepping in to offer to host the Asia Cup in September when it is Pakistan's turn to host the regional event at home," the source said.

He said in fact PCB chairman Sethi is also not happy with the response of the Bangladesh and Afghanistan boards over the Asia Cup issue

Pandya best allrounder in world cricket: Klusener Rohit, Surya among Athletes left heartbroken probables for Mumbai's by deadly train mishap

PTI NEW DELH

ormer India captain Virat FKohli and Olympic gold medallist Abhinav Bindra, among several other sportspersons, expressed their anguish over the devastating train accident in Odisha's Balasore district, that has killed at least 238 people and injured more than 900.

The train crash on Friday, involving the Bengaluru-Howrah Superfast Express, the Shalimar-Chennai Central Coromandel Express and a goods train, is one of the deadliest such accidents since independence.

Officials in Bhubaneswar said 200 ambulances, 50 buses and 45 mobile health units were working at the accident site, besides 1,200 personnel. The bodies were being taken to the hospitals in all kinds of vehicles, including tractors.

Kohli, who is in England with the India team for the World Test Championship final against Australia at The Oval from June 7, wished for the speedy recovery of the injured.

"Saddened to hear about the tragic train accident in Odisha. My thoughts and prayers go out to the families who lost their loved ones and wishing a speedy recovery to the injured," tweeted Kohli.

India's first individual Olympic gold medallist, rifle shooter Abhinav Bindra, he had been left heartbroken by the news of the accident.

"Heartbreaking news from Odisha about the devastating train accident. My heart goes out to all those affected and their loved ones during this incredibly difficult time. Please, let's all extend our support and prayers to them. May the injured recover swiftly," tweeted Bindra, the 2008 Beijing Olympics gold medallist in 10m air rifle.

The train crash, the fourth deadliest in India according to available records, happened near the Bahanaga Baazar station in Balasore district, about 250km south of Kolkata and 170km north of Bhubaneswar, around 7 pm on Friday, prompting the Railway Ministry to order a probe

Rating Hardik Pandya as one for the best fast-bowling allrounders, former South African great Lance Klusener on Saturday believes the Indian possibly gave up on Test cricket a bit too easily to manage his workload.

PTI 📕 KOLKATA

Plagued by injuries, Pandya, who last played Tests for India in September 2018, has limited himself to only playing white-ball cricket and ruled himself out of the upcoming World Test Championship final against Australia.

"He (Pandya) is a fantastic cricketer, and if he can stay fit and continues to bowl 135+ kmph, he will always be challenging... as one of the best allrounders in the world," Klusener told reporters in a media interaction at the Calcutta Sports Journalists' Club.

Pandya had ruled himself out saying it would not be "ethical" to take someone's place without even contributing one per cent in India's journey to the WTC final.

Asked if Pandya gave up on Test cricket a bit too easily, Klusener said, "Yes, possibly. Test cricket (is) always the pinnacle



of testing where you are as a cricketer, and testing yourselves.

"Test cricket hasn't really changed much from way back but I also understand that times have moved on as well."

Klusener further said a fastbowling allrounder is not a "dibbly-dobbler" but someone who can clock 135kph consistently. "Fast bowling allrounders need to be bowling 135+. I don't think there would be some dibbly-dobblers that we used to see in England, I don't think all that (is) effective anymore. "I honestly believe that a guy

like Ben Stokes who bowls 135+, those people are still gold in any form of the game," said Klusener, a member of the 1999 ODI World Cup team that had a heartbreak loss to Australia in the semi-final. But managing the

three formats in today's era has contributed to the decline of fastbowling allrounder. However, Klusener believes their time will come again.

"I always think it goes in cycles. When I played, there were a lot of fast-bowling allrounders... then we kind of saw the allrounders bowling spin.

"Certainly at this point in time, I don't see as many fastbowling allrounders, I just think it's a cycle. We might just see in the next five years those kinds of cricketers coming through again. If we manage the workloads correctly there is a lot of cricket, there's still a place for

them in any team." Klusener believes India are well equipped to field a pace or spin-heavy lineup and it will be horses for courses for them in the WTC final against Australia beginning at The Oval from off-season camp June 7.

"Spin has been India's strength traditionally. They have the attack that can play on any surface," he said, when asked whether India should go for two spinners or one pace-bowling allrounder in Shardul Thakur.

The way the Indian seamers have developed in the last couple of years - a reason why they play in successive WTĆ finals, that's why they are one of the best Test sides in the world.

'Teams in the past would prepare green tops so India won't be able to compete, but that's not the case anymore. I think they are now well equipped, whatever the conditions, they will be able to pick the team that will be competitive."

Asked about his favourite team to win the WTC final, he said, "It's a tough call. The bat tle will be between Australia's bowlers and India's batters, the team that wins that battle will come out on top," he said.

Klusener was also all praise for countryman Faf du Plessis, who had another fruitful IPL season finishing second on the run-getters' list behind Shubman Gil

two weeks' time post his surgery. The list released by the

The newly-formed Mumbai L selection committee, led by former India cricketer Raju Kulkarni, on Friday named 35 probable players, including big names like Rohit Sharma and Suryakumar Yadav for an offseason training camp scheduled to be held here next week.

PTI MUMBAI

Besides, India captain Rohit and Suryakumar, the list also includes Ajinkya Rahane and Shardul Thakur.

But their participation in the camp is unlikely as they are currently in England for the World Test Championship final against Australia starting June 7 at The Oval.

Shreyas Iyer, who missed the entire IPL due to a lower back injury and is currently recovering after undergoing a surgery in mid April, has also been named for the camp.

The BCCI had informed in a release that Iyer, who will also miss the WTC final, was slated to report to the National Cricket

Academy for rehabilitation in

Trophy last season, has been dropped. The Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA) president Amol Kale, vice-president Sanjay Naik, secretary Ajinkya Naik, joint-secretary Deepak Patil and members of the apex council on Thursday night hosted the advisory for cricketing matters, which was also attended by former player Milind Rege, Cricket Improvement Committee (CIC) chairman Lalchand Rajput among others at the Wankhede

Stadium. The upcoming cricket season was discussed during the gathering here.

Mumbai selection committee include senior fast bowler Dhawal Kulkarni, all-rounder Shivan Dube, who had a terrif-

ic IPL for champions Chennai Super Kings, batting mainstay Sarfaraz Khan and Prithvi Shaw. Right-arm fast bowler

Siddharth Raut, who played a couple of matches for the 41time champions in the Ranji





Sheetal, born without hands, is being feted as the world's first para female archer who shoots using her feet. She has been labelled as a perfect role model for youngsters as she displayed raw courage and faced all her challenges in life with a determined resolve to succeed, writes MOHIT KANDHARI

t first sight it is very difficult to spot Sheetal Devi in a gathering of fellow players assembled at an archery range for regular practice sessions. A girl with less than five feet, Sheetal may come across as a small town girl, but in reality, she is not an ordinary athlete.

Hailing from a remote village of Lohi Dhar in Mughal Maidan area of Kishtwar district in Jammu & Kashmir, this 16year-old girl has come a long way and is already making waves in the sporting world. At present she is being looked upon as India's next big medal hope in win medals in the forthcoming events of the archery at the international levels, thereby bringing laurels to the country, the UT of Jammu & Kashmir and the Shrine Board.

TRAINING HARD FOR 2024 PARA-Lympics Berth

A day after returning from the Czech Republic, Sheetal was back in the training academy without taking a single day break. Speaking to The Sunday Pioneer, Sheetal said, "I feel very happy after winning three medals in a recent event. I am upbeat and very optimistic. My josh is very high. My coaching and hardwork is showing positive results and now I am determined to secure my berth in the 2024 Paralympics and win a medal for my country." Referring to her training schedule, Sheetal said, "Each day we come to the academy and practice for about four hours between 8 and 12 pm before breaking for a two hour lunch break? During the training session Sheetal is assisted by her fellow players as and when required. The players also crack jokes and play mischief with each other. The second session starts at 2pm and the players call it a day after attending an hour long physical training session between 5pm and 6 pm.' Her coach Kuldeep Vedwan told The Sunday Pioneer we have already started training for the next big event lined up in the month of July and September 2023. Sheetal, along with other players, are focusing her energies on World Archery Para Championship scheduled in Pilsen, Czech Republic in the month of July and Para Asian Games in China between September 23 and October 8 to reserve their berth for the 2024 Paralympics scheduled to take place in Paris. Talking about Sheetal's journey, Kuldeep Vedwan told The Sunday Pioneer, "11 months ago Sheetal first arrived here at the Archery range. She was introduced to me by one of the volunteers working for a famous NGO. Before inducting her in the academy I interacted with her and tried my best to motivate her over a ZOOM meeting. Initially, I spent two long months carefully trying to understand her needs and how I could make her play archery and hit a bull's eye. Before starting her training schedule, I again counselled her. Since then, she has not looked back," Vedwan said, feeling elated over her recent performance Vedwan said it's amazing that in such a short span of time she has really proved her mettle. By winning three medals in the recently concluded Para Archery World Ranking Tournament she has already secured her place in the upcoming Para Archery world championship scheduled to be organised in Pilsen, Czech Republic and para Asian Games. I am hopeful Sheetal will secure her berth in the Paralympics and win us a medal in the 2024 Paralympics in Paris.





Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board authorities to ensure better performance in the field.

Apart from routine training sessions we attend physical training modules, perform yoga and meditation to maintain our calm and enhance our abilities to focus on our goals.

A former Olympian from Katra Rakesh Kumar, who participated in the Tokyo Olympics, said Sheetal is a very promising athlete and is training hard in the academy to realise her goal of winning a gold medal in the world championships and neralympics

and paralympics.

pionships and 2024 Paralympics in Paris.

Born without hands (phocomelia), a condition where both her hands were underdeveloped, Sheetal is being feted as the world's first para female archer who shoots using her feet. Before winning her place of honour in the world of sports, Sheetal had left everyone spell bound with her ace performances and firm resolve to succeed.

Last week, when I visited the Archery range located in the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine board sports complex in Katra, several players greeted me with a big cheer.

While I acknowledged their greetings one by one, I shook hands with one of the seniors and paralympian Rakesh Kumar. Before meeting others, I asked him whether Sheetal was also around. It was then she also greeted me from an adjacent bench in a feeble voice.

After registering her presence, I too heaved a sigh of relief as I had travelled all the way from Jammu to meet her. I congratulated her for winning three medals --- one Gold, Silver and Bronze in the Para Archery World Ranking Tournament held in the Czech Republic between May 13 and May 21. She acknowledged with her sparkling eyes and mesmerising smile.

The Indian team secured nine medals out of which five medals were contributed by the archers from the Shrine board training academy.

Rakesh, a paralympian, and Sheetal won gold in Compound open mixed team and Compound men open doubles. Besides, Sheetal and Jyoti clinched silver in compound women open and bronze in compound women doubles. The Shrine archers contributed five medals for India in the total tally by which the country secured 2nd position in the event.

Lt Governor Manoj Sinha, who is also the Chairman of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, congratulated both the sports persons for their performances. He tweeted that "the entire nation is proud of their achievement and their feat will inspire millions of our youth."

Chief Executive Officer of the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board Anshul Garg said the archers being trained at the Shrine Board's Sports Complex will also





SHEETAL'S JOURNEY

A native of Lohi Dhar village of Mughal Maidan area in Kishtwar, Sheetal's initial phase of life was full of struggle. She was born without hands and it is with great difficulty that her parents, Man Singh, a farmer by profession and mother Shakti Devi, a home maker looked after her basic needs.

Tucked in the hills she received no other medical help in her formative years. As she grew up, she started using her feet to feed herself. As Sheetal was keen on pursuing her normal school studies so she gradually started using her feet for writing as well. She has passed her class 10th examination and is studying in class XI.

No one in the family discouraged her. Remembering her school days, Sheetal said, "I used to attend regular classes with other children in my village. I was never discouraged by any one. My teachers and my friends helped me a lot and supported me. I used to play with them like a normal child."

Life took a sudden turn when she was spotted by a senior army officer at a local fair in Kishtwar district. The local army authorities approached her family and volunteered to support her. At that time Sheetal was nurturing her childhood dream of becoming a school teacher.

Fulfilling her desire Sheetal has been adopted by the Indian Army for her education since September 2019. Later with the help of reputed NGOs, the Indian Army had facilitated her travel and arranged other logistics to explore the possibility of providing her with a prosthetic arm.

Sheetal's parents accompanied her to Bangalore where she was first treated and later provided with the prosthetic arm. At present she is not using the same while undergoing training. After she won three medals she received lots of good wishes and blessings from netizens who rallied behind her and wished her luck for all her future championships.

She was labeled as a perfect role model for youngsters as she displayed raw courage and faced all her challenges in life with a determined resolve to succeed.

A BIG MOTIVATION

Practicing in the company of other players Sheetal feels motivated. To attend her regular practice sessions Sheetal reaches archery academy, wearing sleepers. During her day long training she prefers staying barefoot in the archery range in order to hit a bull's eye.

On an average she is spending 6-7 hours under the guidance of her coach Kuldeep Vedwan at the archery range.

Before focusing on her target, she gently picks an arrow and adjusts it on the bow string. Using her feet, she adjusts the arrow against her shoulder and then triggers the shot with jaw and back muscles before hitting a bullseye.

"During training we interact with each other and discuss our performances. Fellow players in the academy are very helpful. They walk with me in the archery range and pull out the arrows after checking my score".

"Óur coach sir also evaluates our performance and wherever we need his guidance he chips in and does course correction".

In Katra, Sheetal is staying with her mother and younger sister Shivani. Her mother Shakti sometimes visits the academy and spends time with her. Sheetal says, "When she was home her sister Shivani used to look after her basic needs. She is my dear friend."

Commenting on the quality of training facilities Sheetal said we have been provided with excellent training facilities by Rakesh Kumar is the senior most player in the academy. He is also working hard and setting high benchmarks for younger players to achieve their goals.

Rakesh told The Sunday Pioneer, "I started my journey six years ago after coming in contact with the coach Kuldeep Vedwan in 2017. He said, I met with a deadly accident in 2009. I was in a very bad condition but then I decided to keep myself busy and opened a mobile recharge shop in Katra. In 2017 I met my coach Kuldeep Vedwan."

"When I met Rakesh, I motivated him and asked him to try archery at the academy." He made a sincere effort and went on to become a para-Olympian

Kuldeep Vedwan also highlighted the role of Sports Authority of India, and the Archery Association of Indian for their support, and stressed the importance of psychologists and dietitians in sports.

Para Archer Rakesh said, "Archery is a mind-game. When we are participating in a championship we are bound to feel pressure. Our training gives us an edge. So, just like the coach is essential for us, psychologists are equally important."

Highlighting another important aspect Rakesh said para-athletes face difficulties while moving from one place to another. "They spend maximum time in a wheelchair, we may not eat much, but digestion becomes a problem and so a good dietitian is very important."

At present over two dozen budding archers from Tamil Nadu, Haryana, New Delhi and from different districts of Jammu & Kashmir are receiving training at the academy.

Manisha Bhadana, from Faridabad in Haryana has recently joined the training academy and is witnessing improvement in her game. She told The Sunday Pioneer that the atmosphere at the academy is very very competitive. "I feel motivated while receiving training in the presence of International players such as Para-Olympian Rakesh Kumar and young archer Sheetal."

Pravin, an upcoming archer from Tamil Nadu said, he is training at the academy for more than six years and aiming to perform better in the coming championships. Amit Thakur from Reasi said, "We are focusing on Khelo India games and National Championships to perform better and earn medals."

(The writer is Senior Correspondent of The Pioneer)

PARALYMPIAN, AND SHEETAL WON GOLD IN COMPOUND OPEN MIXED TEAM AND COMPOUND MEN OPEN DOUBLES. BESIDES, SHEETAL AND JYOTI CLINCHED SILVER IN COMPOUND WOMEN OPEN AND BRONZE IN COMPOUND WOMEN DOUBLES

RAKESH, A



YOUR DIET IS A BANK ACCOUNT. GOOD FOOD CHOICES ARE GOOD **INVESTMENTS** - BETHENNY FRANKEL

THAT SWELLING IN YOUR LIMBS COULD BE SERIOUS

Lymphedema, a chronic and debilitating condition, is becoming a major health issue in India where it primarily stems from two major causes: A parasitic infection known as filariasis and cancer-related surgeries. Another reasons can be genetic and poor lifestyle. A team of doctors from AIIMS Delhi's Dept of Surgical Disciplines led by DR SUNIL CHUMBER shares with ARCHANA JYOTI, the panorama of the disease and bats for its integration into the healthcare system for better management, given spike in the cancer cases in India.



DR PRASSANA

DR PIYUSH RANJAN

What is Lymphedema and is it a problem in India?



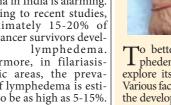
ymphedema is collection of the fluid in the tissue ⊿that is usually carried back by the lymphatics. It can cause severe swelling, discomfort, and a heightened risk of infections, significantly impacting the quality of life for those affected. In India, lymphedema primarily stems from two major causes: filariasis and cancer-related surgeries. Filariasis, a parasitic infection transmitted through mosquito bites, affects an estimated 120 million people in the country. It damages the lymphatic system and is a leading cause of lymphedema in India.

Additionally, the rising incidence of cancer-related surgeries, including breast cancer treatment, often involves the removal of lymph nodes, increasing the risk of developing lymphedema.

The incidence of lymphedema in India is alarming. According to recent studies, approximately 15-20% of breast cancer survivors devel-

op Furthermore, in filariasisendemic areas, the prevalence of lymphedema is estimated to be as high as 5-15%. Lymphedema in India is often underdiagnosed and under treated due to limited healthcare knowledge, resources,

prehensive awareness campaigns, education for healthcare professionals and the public, improved access to specialized care, and integration of lymphedema management into the healthcare system are crucial.



and societal stigma. To tackle this issue, com-

Surgery as an option While conservative treat-ments like compression from one part of the body to

cal therapy the affect



DR AJAY MOHAN DR SUNIL CHUMBER

Understanding the triggers

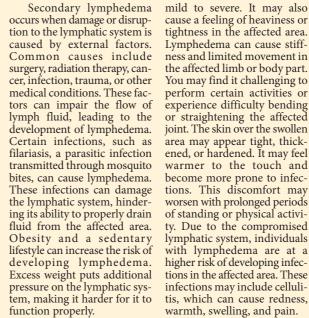


dition.

To better understand lym-phedema, it's important to explore its underlying causes. Various factors can contribute to the development of this condition, and recognizing these causes is crucial for its prevention and management. Primary lymphedema is

There is no guaranteed way to prevent lymphedema, there are steps you can take to minimize the risk and manage the condition effectively. By adopting a few healthy habits, you can help support your lymphatic system and reduce the likelihood of developing lymphedema.

 Maintain a Healthy Weight: Maintaining a healthy weight is crucial for minimizing the strain on your lymphatic system. Excess weight can impede lymph flow,



Symptoms: Recognizing the symptoms of lymphedema is important for early detection and effective management of the condition. One of the primary symptoms of lymphedema is swelling in a specific body part, such as an arm or leg. The swelling may be per-sistent and can range from

Tips to keep lymphedema at bay

- Exercise Regularly: Engaging in regular physical activity helps promote lymphat-ic flow and overall circulation. Incorporate exercises that involve rhyth-mic movements, such as walking, swimming, or cycling. Start gradually and lis-ten to your body, avoiding activities that strain or excessively stress the affected area.
- Protect Against Infections: Infections can exacerbate lymphedema symptoms, so it's essential to take precautions. Practice the skin cle good hygiene

cause a feeling of heaviness or tightness in the affected area. Lymphedema can cause stiffness and limited movement in the affected limb or body part. You may find it challenging to perform certain activities or experience difficulty bending or straightening the affected joint. The skin over the swollen area may appear tight, thick-ened, or hardened. It may feel warmer to the touch and become more prone to infec-tions. This discomfort may worsen with prolonged periods of standing or physical activity. Due to the compromised lymphatic system, individuals with lymphedema are at a higher risk of developing infections in the affected area. These infections may include cellulitis, which can cause redness, warmth, swelling, and pain. Treatment: It often

involves a combination of therapies, including compression garments, exercise, skincare, and manual lymphatic drainage. Remember, seeking medical advice and support is essential for effective management and minimizing the impact of lymphedema on your daily life.

- Avoid Constrictive Clothing: Wearing tight clothing or accessories, such as tight bands or jewellery, can restrict lymph flow. Opt for loose-fitting, comfortable clothing that allows for unrestricted movement. Avoid constrictive items that may create unnecessary pressure on the affected areas.
- Graduated Compression Garments: If you are at a high risk of developing lymphedema or have already been diagnosed, your healthcare provider may recommend wearing

pression garments. These specially designed garments apply gentle pres-sure, aiding in lymphatic flow and

reducing swelling.

Elastic stockings in treatment and prevention of lymphedema

The stockings work by exerting the greatest degree of compression at the ankle, with the level of compression gradually decreasing up the gar-ment. The pressure gradient ensures that blood flows upward toward the heart instead of refluxing downward to the foot or laterally into the superficial veins. The application of adequate graduated compression reduces the diameter of major veins, which increases the velocity and volume of blood flow and improve lymphatic drainage.

> Types of compression stockings:

• Graduated or medical compression stockings-

They are designed for ambulatory patients and are manufactured under strict medical and technical specifications, including consistency and durability, to provide a specific level of ankle pressure and graduation of compression

• Antiembolism stockings Used to reduce the risk of deep vein thrombosis and designed for bedridden patients



DR BRAHMA KUMAR RATH

and do not meet the technical specifications for use by ambulatory patients, have different levels of compression.

Nonmedical support hosiery

The compression is less uniform and not graduated. They can often be bought over the counter without a prescription

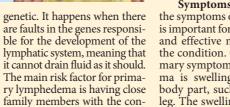
Accurate measurement of the limb diameter that conforms to the stocking manufacturer's guidelines should be performed by a trained health care professional. The stockings are contraindicated in the following cases i.e. Suspected or proven peripheral arterial disease, Severe peripheral neuropathy, Allergy to stocking material, Limb gangrene, oozing dermatitis and severe cellulitis, Extreme deformity of limb

preventing correct fit.

External compression and massage







therapy and play a crucial role in managing the symptoms, surgical interventions have emerged as a ray of hope for those with severe cases of lymphedema in recent years. Surgical options for lymphedema primarily focus on restoring lymphatic flow and reducing swelling. One such procedure is lymphaticovenous anastomosis (LVA), which involves creating connections between lymphatic vessels and nearby veins. This allows the rerouting of lymphatic fluid and reduces swelling. LVA has shown promising results in improving symp-toms and quality of life for patients. Another surgical technique, known as vascularized lymph node transfer (VLNT), involves transfer-

These trans planted lymph nodes restore the lymphatic function, aiding in fluid drainage and reducing swelling. Procedures like silastic tube insertion in the edematous tissue are being tried and may offer some relief. Debulking surgeries may be considered in grossly enlarged lymphedema cases however they can have high morbidity post procedure. While surgical interventions offer potential benefits, it is

essential to note that they are not suitable for all cases of lymphedema. Patients considering surgical interventions should

consult with experienced lymphedema specialists who can assess their suitability and provide comprehensive guidance.

phedema. Follow a balanced diet rich in fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and lean proteins. Consult a healthcare professional for personalized guidance.

moisturized, and avoid cuts, burns, or insect bites. Use sunscreen to protect against sunburns and avoid prolonged exposure to extreme temperatures.

Lymphedema after treatment for cancer

A s the incidence of cancer is increasing, lymphedema is likely to become common in the coming years. Lymphedema after cancer

occurs due to the treatment offered for the cancer rather than the cancer itself. This is particularly seen among individuals, who have had lymph node surgery or received radi-

ation therapy as part of their cancer management. It is due to the disruption

or damage caused to the lymphatic system during cancer

treatment, which impairs the normal flow of lymphatic fluid and leads to the accumulation of lymph in the affected tissues. Common examples include upper limb lymphedema after treatment for breast cancer and lower limb lymphedema after treatment for ovarian cancer.

The impact of cancer-associated lymphedema extends beyond the physical symptoms. The functional impairments resulting from reduced mobility and range of motion



DR GOPAL PURI

A tale of India's Vaccine Growth

Dr Sajjan Singh Yadav, Additional Secretary, Department of Expenditure in the Union Finance Ministry in his book 'India's

Vaccine Growth Story - From Cowpox to Vaccine Maitri' traces India's ancient history of inoculation and vaccination--which

happened much before British physician and scientist Edward Jenner developed the first jab against smallpox ---to current

can interfere with daily activities, occupational tasks, and overall independence.

Managing cancer-associated lymphedema requires a comprehensive and multidisciplinary approach. Lymphedema therapists, healthcare providers with expertise in lymphedema management, play a critical role in developing individualized treatment plans.

These plans often include multi-layered compression dressing is advised for modera combination of strategies such as manual lymphatic ate to severe swelling. The drainage, compression therapy, entire area is covered by the exercise and rehabilitation, skin compression dressing, which is neither too tight nor too loose. care, and patient education.

Contraction of the DR VIKRAM SAINI

The restriction of lymphatic

I flow results in lymphedema.

The condition can be improved

with massage therapy. This ail-

ment benefits from massage

therapy that directs excess lym-

phatic fluid from the swollen

area to functioning regions of

the body where it can be effec-

tively managed by the circula-

tory system. External compres-

sion plays a vital role in this

condition. For mild swelling, a

simple compression dressing

can help whereas the use of

DR NELSON

Every 4 to 6 months, the dressing needs to be changed as it gets loosen with time. Patients are usually advised to wear the compression garments during the day and remove it off at night, unless indicated.

One can wear as early as possible in the morning and continue while doing any form of work or mild exercises. Patients are advised to apply coconut oil on skin and to take care of limbs for any external injury. Skin care is recommended to prevent skin infections. Recent advances like automatic pneumatic compression devices can serve as viable self-management options for severe lymphedema patients.

the policy guidance, coordina-tion and oversight functions. A

state-level task force was made

VAST EXPERIENCE OF MASS VACCINATION

ndia has had vast experience of running mass vac-Lination campaigns in the past. Apart from the eradication of smallpox and polio through mass vaccination drives under its UIP, India has administered 390 million vaccines annually to pregnant women and children. India also had a trained workforce of 2.5 million health workersand 50,000 cold chain technicians (CCTs) to handle its UIP. An extensive countrywide coldchain network was available for routine immunization as well. However, could India's success in routine immunization guarantee the same victory in its massive Covid-19 vaccination drive?

A MISSION FRAUGHT WITH FORMIDABLE CHALLENGES

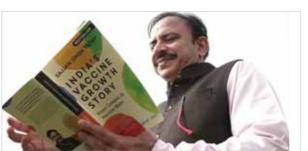
India's COVID-19 vaccination campaign was unique in terms of its scale of operations, delivery timelines, infrastructural requirements and the large number of people needing immunization. While talking to me, Chesta Yadav, the

District Magistrate of Delhi's cold chain and other logistics, North-West district, admitted that 'the scale of Covid vaccination was huge in contrast to the target population for routine immunization'. While the UIP was confined mostly to government health facilities, the scale of Covid-19 vaccinations required vaccination centres to operate in other public and private spaces as well, she told me. In addition, the campaign necessitated large-scale adult immunization, hitherto not usual in India. Another

daunting challenge was the rapid pace of vaccination to cover 1.4 billion people within the span of months needed to see the back of the pandemic. Apart from availability of vaccines, rapid expansion of

status of being frontrunner in vaccine production and supply for the world. Excerpts from the book: mobilization of human resources and their training were critical. Transporting vaccines at the right temperature was a gigantic task. 'This was especially daunting in the remote and hilly areas of the country,' said Dr Devansh Yadav, Deputy Commissioner, Changlang district of Arunachal Pradesh during interactions. The hilly district, with a dense forest cover, a tiger reserve, and numerous rivers and streams, is spread over 4,500 square kilometres.

> Prioritization of target groups, dealing with vaccine hesitancy and eagerness, preventing misinformation, building community ownership and generating a demand for vac-



DR SAJJAN SINGH YADAV

cines are other challenges that needed to be tackled. Dr A Muthamma, Health Secretary of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu, rated 'the apprehensions of citizens regarding the safety and efficacy of the vaccine' as the most formidable challenge. 'Uploading data about

healthcare workers on the CoWIN portal in the initial phase was a huge challenge in a large part of Arunachal Pradesh due to the lack of a stable internet connection, Dr P Parthiban, Health Secretary of the State told me. This was reiterated by Akhil Arora, Principle Secretary,

Health, Government of Rajasthan. 'People in rural areas have limited accessibility and understanding of the portal,' he confided.

SO HOW DID INDIA OVER-COME THESE CHALLENGES? Effective Coordination And Fast-Tracking Decisions

According to India's Health Secretary, Rajesh Bhushan, 'excellent cooperation and coordination with all stakeholders, including various ministries of the union government, state governments, development partners, non-governmental organizations and civil society organizations, was a critical factor'. To make the drive a success, the Government of India adopted a whole-governmen-

tand whole-society approach for the vaccination drive, he told me. A robust governance mechanism was designed for effective coordination and swift decisionmaking. At the national level,

theNational Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for Covid-19 (NEGVAC) provided regulatory guidance on vaccine trials, planning of vaccine administration, inter-sectoral coordination, financing, procurement and distribution, prioritization of population groups, supply chain infrastructure, vaccine safety surveillance, community engagement and awareness generation.

In the states, a state-level Languages to help spread the steering committee headed by story of India's global vaccine the Chief Secretary was assigned supremacy acrosss the country.)

responsible for planning and mapping vaccination sessions, strengthening cold chain infrastructure, identifying manpower, training and managing biomedical waste, developing a media plan to allay fears and misinformation, attracting people to vaccination centres and monitoring their progress. A District Task Force functions under the District Magistrate in every district. Similar task forces were also set up at the block and municipal levels. 'Island-level Monitoring Committees were constituted under the chairmanship of the Deputy Collector', Amit Satija, Health Secretary of Lakshadweep, informed. Lakshadweep is a federally administered territory of India comprising 36 small islands, many of which are uninhabited.

(The book has been published in English by Penguin Random House. Now it is all set to be

published in 20 Indian



pinion 1 New Delhi, June 4, 2023

China creating another Xinjiang

President Xi Jinping is all out to prevent the Islamic radicals across China. The first was the western-most province of Xinjiang wherein he has been undertaking full-scale measures to shield the Uyghur Muslims to stay away from Muslim extremists. Even global governance institutions like the UN had complained against the Xi regime that the ethnic Uyghurs and other minorities are being targeted simply in the name of preventing Islamic terror in the country.

A report published by the UN accused China of serious violations of human rights against the Uyghur Muslims that may be termed as "crime against humanity". The reality is that as per various international media sources and leaked videos from Uyghur detainees, Beijing is creating large concentration camps in the guise of training camps. And Chinese authorities are calling these camps as "Re-education Camps" or "vocational training centres". The Human Rights Watch and other global rights agencies say that China is committing genocide in Xinjiang which the Communists completely deny. Currently, the Hui Muslims

in Yunnan are under threat from Beijing. To them, China is trying to create "Another Xinjiang" in Yunnan which they say they won't allow it to happen. It's a province that borders Burma, Laos and Vietnam. It's again clamping down on religious freedoms of the Muslims and demolition of the mosques in these areas by

the local authorities. This month, thousands of ethnic Muslims came out in this Southwestern Province defying public orders to stop police from removing its dome and minarets. It took place in Najiaying Village of the province where the locals fought with the authorities in a last-ditch attempt to save their sanctum sanctorum.

It is widely believed that all these measures are an integral part of what President Xi calls as an attempt to "sinicize" religion

The Huis have a rich historical background. History says they are distant descendants of Arab and Persian came out to stop government Imperial China in the past. They are a group of nearly 11 million strong Muslim com-

PERSPECTIVE



munity living in scattered had replaced the domes and pockets from northwest to coastal belts of China. But indigenous Chinese style pago-Ningxia is an officially designated Autonomous Region for the Hui ethnic minority where they live. Unlike the other ethnic minorities in China, they are

widely assimilated with the majority Han community and their rich cultural traditions. Most of them speak Mandarin and live side by side with the powerful Hans. In recent years, they also have acquired more freedoms to practise their religious ceremonies than any other ethnic groups in China. This is not the first time

Beijing is trying to restrict Huis in Yunnan. Five years back, in 2018, the Hui community engaged in a tense standoff with the authorities when the latter came to demol- local officials wanted to disish a newly constructed

mosque. Thousands of Huis

home and a rich cultural hub minarets of the mosque with of the Hui people in Yunnan Province. das. So, the Hui Muslims are The "sinicization policy"

aims to purge external or fornow quite familiar with the evil eign religious beliefs. It strongdesigns of the Communists of Beijing who have been making ly urges the ethnic minorities sustained efforts to pushing to align more closely with their long held religious and Chinese culture and more cultural traditions and symbols specifically with the standard codes of the official and the Interestingly, a court order most powerful Communist Party of China (CPC), which in 2020 ruled that recent additions to the mosque that follows an atheist line of thinkincludes a domed roof and ing. So, the problem originates from here itself for the minaret are not legal. So these

ished as per law. It is believed Muslims in this part of China. that the administration is right-Now, how have the ly acting under the directions Chinese people and officials of the court. Last week, the reacted to this saga of violence local security agencies warned against the ethnic Hui the protesters to maintain law Muslims? Normally, officials stay tight-lipped in China. Sadly, the mosque that the Whereas China has a huge social media called Weibo like the Twitter through which mantle belonged to 14th cenpeople express their views and tury. It's an ancient place of

ment comments and views in regard to the mosque demolition in Nagu

And in fact, one message supporting the Govt said national policy to handle such unrest is fine. The State should not allow any "wolfish extremists" to impact the law-andorder situation in the country. It's loud and clear that the

majority of the Chinese people are either forced to live under the diktats of the Communists, especially under its authoritarian rule and rulers or they largely devoted and faithful Hui long for stability rather than unrest of any kind.

Xi's new China is typicalwhat he wants to be. The President forever is highly ambitious. With the falling western liberal order and rising global clout of China, Xi is fast mobilising the CPC, the Army, diplomacy, economy and finally his people into one central point that China will rise and

he is working hard and fast to spread the message to his people, making China strong demands uniting under the Party.

And joining the Party is precisely a gateway into the vanguard of the Chinese elite forever. For him, the Party is the only future. And thus, once he echoed: "The Party-Government, the Armed Forces, society and academia; east, west, south, north and centre; the Party leads everything." If this is what he foresees and expects compatriots to do, he will not allow Hui Muslims to preserve their ageold traditions and unique lifestyle strongly imbued with religiosity.

Today, Islamophobia in the West is abetting, but in China it is on the rise. But punching down the ethnic Huis and Uyghurs will not offer any readymade solution to the

ethnic and especially, religious differences.

The Party must accept assimilation of various cultural and religious strands as the world is fast encircled by multiple waves of globalisation and post-globalisation. But then continued atrocities and persecution of Hui and Uyghurs will certainly damage China's reputation on the global stage. Xi is completely an anti-thesis of Mao as the latter desired for continuous revolution. Whereas Xi called for peaceful China meaning total stability? And for managing this stability, he will not mind "re-educating" the Hui's the same way he and the Chinese statecraft has been doing for the Uyghurs so far in Xinjiang.

Finally, the liberal democracies and their leaders must be serious about China's massive "sinicisation" of Uyghurs and now a fresh attempt at Hui Muslims. Truly, this "sinicisation" is nothing but the curtailment of one of the edifices of basic freedoms that is the right to freedom of religion available in most of the modern nations. Innocuous as it may seem,

but this is the beginning of a new trend of religious persecution of minorities with Chinese characteristics under the leadership of President Xi. It must be stopped, and the

world leaders should voice their concerns in global governance institutions. China must behave responsibly and like a law-abiding nation. Before venturing out to capture the global stage and records, Beijing must set its own house in order. Huis and Uyghurs have the same basic rights the

way it is enjoyed by the majority Hans in China. By targeting the ethnic Muslims, China is simply inviting the wrath of the global jehadists. It would be prudent on China's part to stop atrocities on the Hui Muslims. Making Yunnan another Xinjiang would be fatal for China's stability in the long run. Denying the freedom to

practice and enjoy ethnic religious rights goes against all basic universal tenets of human rights. It's completely unfair to keep the Hui Muslims under a state of constant fear.

its own house in order. Huis and Uyghurs have the same basic rights as those enjoyed by the majority Hans in China. By targeting the ethnic Muslims, China is simply inviting the wrath of the global jihadists. It would be prudent on China's part to stop atrocities on the Hui Muslims. Making Yunnan another Xinjiang would be fatal for China's stability in the long run

Beijing must set

MAKHAN SAIKIA

mosque in Ningxia, in the

worship and largely revered by traders who had come to officials to safeguard the the Hui Muslims. Indeed, the Government and even the both power and paranoia. His try is aspiring to be rich, town of Nagu wherein the northwest part of the country. incident sparked violence this time, the government quickly ate imbalance in global gover-But later, the Government week is considered as a historic removed all the anti-govern-

and order.

all these years.

could be removed or demol-

at times criticise the most powerful CPC. But this

rise. Xi is a combination of is a regime conspiring to cre-

Communists. When the coun resourceful and powerful in the global stage, it needs to be nance, as many believe. For Xi, patient with cultural, regional, Geeta University, Panipat)

(The writer is currently the Head of the School of Humanities & Social Sciences,

Climate change not a myth

The saddest part of the climate menace is that the poorest countries and island communities are the worst sufferers of climate change. Whereas they have not played any role in altering the environment



CHITRANGADA

elements are central to environmental disturbances. The fear is that humanity is in great danger. The situation today is escalating. We are advancing towards a catastrophe.

Climate change is one of the most emerging problems and we humans are the main predators to such things. Now the question arises: how are we going to stop it? We may have many motives and initiatives in our mind but are we able to implement them in a useful way? We can't just see that we are the ones who have brought such destruction for the past 200 years. Fossil fuels and greenhouse gases are the uprising problems. The most astonishing part is that the earth is a system where everything is connected. If an area is affected, then the change is seen

everywhere. In 2021, the UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres unveiled the UN Report on Climate Change called 'State of the Global Climate 2020'. It is a report prepared by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), a key agency of the UN. The State of the Global Climate 2022 released by the

Climate change is real. Not WMO indicates the continued rise of greenhouse gas emissions in the last year. It focuses on primary climate indicators like greenhouse gases, temperatures, sea level rise, ocean heat and acidification, sea ice and glaciers. The report seriously highlights climate

change and extreme weather conditions. The Report states that drought, floods, and heatwaves are major parts of the globe, and the costs are rising for all. It is also reported that global mean temperature for the last 8 years has been recorded as the highest. Further, sea levels and ocean heat are at their record high. It is predicted that this trend will continue for centuries. The Report also says that sea ice in Antarctica falls to the lowest level. The continent of Europe has witnessed the breaking of glacier melts. The Climate Change

Synthesis Report 2023 released by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) highlights the state of the knowledge of climate change, its widespread impact, and risks. It says that human activities principally through emission of greenhouse gases, have unequivocally caused global warming, with global surface



temperature reaching 1.1 degree Celsius above 1850-1900 in 2011-2020. It's alarming.

Another UN Report in the year 2021 highlighted that time is running out to tackle the climate crisis now. It was clearly said that even the deadly Covid-19 has failed to put a brake on relentless environmental change. Again, this WMO Report mentioned that because of the severe Covid-19 restrictions, the rich and advanced nations barely could help in assisting the climateaffected nations of the world. This pandemic has seriously delayed the delivery of climate finance and other protective measures to extremely vulnerable nations, especially the small island developing countries like Tuvalu, Madagascar, Sevchelles, Maldives, Fiji, Haiti, etc. The UN stressed that the year 2021 is the year of action for the protection of the people from the disastrous effects of climate disasters. Besides other negative

impacts of climate change, it is also preventing people from enjoying basic rights or human rights in many parts of the world. Last year, a group of young people filed a petition at the European Court of Human Rights. They complained to the Court that climate inaction is

a human rights violation. They all highlight a 1990s era treaty named 'Energy Charter Treaty' according to which governments are required to compensate energy companies and investors if public policies cut into their profits. And this refers to public policies that are made to fight environmental change

We all must know that the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) 2021 for the first time tried to connect human rights and climate change to the table of the Conference of the Parties (COP). The aim of this move was to promote rights-based

climate actions and the integration of human rights in the historic Paris Agreement. Since then, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) has expanded its work on human rights and climate change all around the globe.

Under the existing international human rights law and the UN Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) of 1948, all the states have the responsibility to protect its people from any foreseeable danger. These laws and conventions have the mandate to protect, respect and create conditions for fulfilling our human rights. The dangers heralded by climate disasters are ever present in our life today. It's largely hampering us from enjoying the basic rights of the people. Under the existing international human rights law, the states and the world bodies have the responsibility to take immediate steps to mitigate the impacts of greenhouse gas emissions. And it

to rapid climate changes.

mate menace is that the poor-

est countries and island com-

munities are the worst suffer-

ers of climate change. Whereas

they have not played any role in altering the environment. But it is also true that these countries are directly or indirectly enjoying the benefits of the massive industrialization and post industrialization era. The products of all polluting and extractive industries produced by advanced nations are used by all of us including the poor and vulnerable nations. In that way, we all are part of the damages done to the Planet Earth today. So we need to refrain from all such prac-

tices that may harm or destroy

this planet not only today but also in future also. I, being a youngster, am still confused about what will happen to Planet Earth. Like me, millions are in a state of shock. But no one has the right to steal our future. No one has the divine will to bring back our planet to the pre-industrial level. What we can do is to prevent further disasters. We can plan for active mitigation efforts. It's our home. Let's must ensure that all of us have preserve it together. But do the necessary means to adapt remember that 'Climate Abyss' is one of the starkest realities of the 21st century. The saddest part of the cli-

> (The writer is a young climate thinker based in Delhi-NCR)



RE-EXAMINE ALL YOU HAVE BEEN TOLD. DISMISS WHAT **INSULTS YOUR SOUL** - WALT WHITMAN

New Delhi, June 4, 2023

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ARIES March 21-April 19

Any debt or loan that you have taken out must be paid off this week. You can provide whatever assistance or support is requested. It might be emotional or financial in nature. Some charitable action is also on the cards. Financial security broadens your view, and you want to experience life to the fullest. In the middle of the week, there are illusions and delusions. You want to enjoy everything: cuisine, clothing, jewellery, entertainment, outings, and so on. However, your thoughts are hazy. You select one but switch to the other. In that way, you can go haywire and lose your bliss. Be realistic about your life's ambitions. Health, wealth, and success at all levels are possible.

Lucky number 18 Lucky colour White Lucky day Wednesdav



TAURUS April 20-May 20

This week, you might appreciate your power and authority. This is not your physical strength, positional power, communication, or attitude and behaviour towards your co-workers. Your organisational and management abilities are also strong, and you are regarded as a leader in your field. There are certain people who may be dissatisfied with your working style. They may intend to bring you down or win you over. Any trade you have sanctioned or interview you have appeared in may slip into the hands of others due to the treachery or sick thoughts of your competitors. By the end of the week, you're exhausted and left to shoulder all the tasks on your own. You should learn to delegate your tasks.

Lucky number 13 Lucky colour Brown Lucky day Saturday



GEMINI May 21-June 20

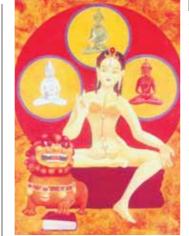
You enjoyed the results of your hard work in the past week, but it is now time to be careful and prepared to confront some disagreements or arguments at work. Someone who believes they are superior to you might oppose you and make your life difficult. There is finger-pointing, backbiting, fierce competitiveness. and verbal arguments. Mid-week, you find yourself under the spell of a negative individual. You may be forced to engage in unethical behaviour that is both unhealthy and unacceptable. But congratulations! You are driven and confident in your stride. Finally, you will achieve success and be able to demonstrate your abilities. Your status has improved. There will be feelgood moments during this period.

Lucky number 5 Lucky colour Orange Lucky day Tuesday



CANCER June 21-July 22

Known for your emotional depth and compassionate concerns the first three days of this week will be action-packed for you, devoid of sentimental influences. An opportunity in your work domain holds potential long-term benefits, but it requires your immediate action and honed skills. By improving your working style, achieving mental clarity, and expressing yourself effectively, you can reap substantial gains. Mid-week brings a flurry of financial transactions, emphasizing the importance of repaying any borrowed money promptly. Towards the end of the week, a promising partnership deal awaits your signature. Additionally, there is a possibility of deepening existing relationships or forming new emotional bonds. Love brings contentment, as singles may find compatible partners and freely express their emotions.



LEO July 23-Aug 22

You infuse your surroundings with energy, vigour, activities, and reactions. You are aware that having too much of something may lead to distances, disputes, and an unpleasant way of living. Co-workers may desire to avoid or confront you. There may be instances of verbal sparring or respect of viewpoints. You need to channel your enthusiasm into something constructive. God bestows to you excellent health, a good position, authority, and power. You are the winner in the rat race; still be cautious since a peaceful setting may add additional feathers to your crown. But there are few odds of that happening. You are powerful, and your established status, which you have acquired through a lengthy fight, may be jeopardised. May you channel your energies in the direction that the supreme power desires.

Lucky number 20 Lucky colour Green Lucky day Sunday

VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

This week gives you good fortune. There are financial and emotional gains. Money comes from a variety of sources, and you are safe. There is also happiness. By mid-week, you also want to meet your emotional goals. Good love messages, marriage proposals, or intimacy with your lover are also feasible during this time. However, you may soon experience bewilderment, instability, a lack of warmth and tenderness at all levels of your life. At the end of the week, you strive to restore harmony and cohesion back into your life with your new beliefs. You realise that as time passes, you must adapt to the changes. Sticking to old conventions and customs may be counterproductive. Adjust your lifestyle and way of thinking or be prepared to confront the world with conviction

Lucky number 17 Lucky colour Sky Blue Lucky day Tuesday

LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

You are seated on a high platform where you may gain recognition, popularity, and enjoy life. You bask in your own brilliance. It is your own hard work and commitment, as well as God's blessings, that has brought you to this level. You are fair, unbiased, and kind. You truly possess leadership abilities. Your inner soul is pure and unselfish, and you move with the flow of time. Your concern and care for others win the hearts of those who follow you and listen to your counsel. Those who are close to you will appreciate your function as the head of family at home or at work. Be cautious since the end of the week indicates a type of financial loss or physical disease. Precaution is better than cure.

Lucky number 23 Lucky colour Turquoise Lucky day Monday

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

Your task requires your whole concentration, and you are giving it to it. This is the time to mend yourself-to renew and recover your vitality so that you can tackle the rest of life's problems.

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21

The week foretells an accident or minor surgery that will keep you from working. You require medical treatment, care, and attention this week. However, you are lucky in that your spouse will be there to support you. This is an excellent time to connect with the divine. Spirituality and religious activities will strengthen you. Mantra practice will strengthen your trust and assist you in regaining your equilibrium. You entirely commit to God's mercy and discover an easy route, namely the path of love, humanity, and love for everyone. There will be a strong bond in the family, and you will share many of your views with your spouse. A healing retreat will be held throughout the week. You find peace at the end of the week and return to your usual life pattern.

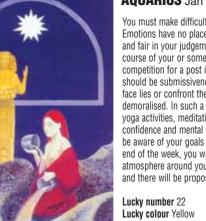
Lucky number 14 Lucky colour Parrot Green Lucky day Saturday

CAPRICORN Dec 22-Jan 19

This week makes you feel nostalgic and emotional. There will be many things that do not go as planned. You want to demonstrate your love and care, but circumstances are not in your favour, and you are concerned for your health. Ladies may suffer from menstruation disorders, thyroid issues, and other issues. Your money requires thoughtful decision-making as well. Midweek requires you to be wise and systematic in your approach to life. Health, money, and other aspects of life require your attention. A healthy diet and a disciplined lifestyle will aid you. Your career will flourish and grow towards the end of the week. Money will come from several sources, and there will be contentment, pleasure, enjoyment, affluence, and excellent health as well. Buying a property may become a reality during this time.

Lucky number 12 Lucky colour Grey Lucky day Wednesday

AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18



You must make difficult judgements at the start of the week. Emotions have no place in this situation; you must be firm and fair in your judgement. Your decision may alter the course of your or someone else's life. There may be competition for a post in the workplace. The week's focus should be submissiveness. Mid-week, there's a risk you'll face lies or confront the wrath of your superior, leaving you demoralised. In such a scenario, you should engage in some yoga activities, meditation, and spiritual practices to build confidence and mental stability. Currently, it is necessary to be aware of your goals or to realise your objectives. By the end of the week, you will feel better since there will be a nice atmosphere around you. Things begin to improve gradually, and there will be proposals for love or marriage.

Lucky day Thursday

PISCES Feb 19-March 20

You have childlike enthusiasm and a lot of work potential this week. However, without goals or clarity of mind, your results are useless. Your family needs your time and attention. Any health concern that is ignored may result in a



Lucky number 15 Lucky colour Pinky Lucky day Friday



Exhaustion can cause emotional and mental instability, as well as irritability. Your health should be prioritised. Regular medical check-ups and rest are essential. There is a possibility of having disagreements with superiors at work. Controlling your emotions and revitalising yourself will be beneficial to you. Otherwise, you may face the wrath of your boss, father, or older brother. The time necessitates a shift in lifestyle from work to relaxation, from a hectic schedule to leisure.

Lucky number 8 Lucky colour Peach Lucky day Tuesday

significant financial loss. It is always best to be cautious. Some of you may experience separation and financial losses by midweek. Relationships may become strained. It is the fire of energy and mental power that may come to your aid. There will be opportunities and blessings by the end of the week. You get so preoccupied with yourself that you overlook these. Communication and travel will pique your curiosity in your quest for emotional well-being. Couples will find mutual understanding between them. Wealth will also come to you from various sources.

Lucky number 10 Lucky colour Indigo Lucky day Wednesday

Madhu Kotiya is a tarot card reader, spiritual healer, and Founder, MShezaim Institute of Tarot and Divination. Contact details: madhu@indiatarot.com, www.indiatarot.com, M: 9873283331



ASTROTURF BHARAT BHUSHAN PADMADEO

Dicking up threads from the previous issue, it comes out that invariably each one of us is keen to passionately pursue one's self-designated path, often crossing path with others. The world, thus, becomes natural breeding ground for arousal of conflict of thoughts and interests. Yet, we all wish to go about in life to one's asking and aspire to move unrestrained. Obviously, more often than not, one is unable to make it to one's dream destination unchallenged. We, thus, remain vulnerable to go through unpleasant twists and turns in life. The limitations up to this stage are elemental in nature.

Next in line comes individual-specific limitations of mind. They exemplify uniqueness of each being characterised by their varying mental-traits. It may not be out of place to mention here that Energy-Trinity - Sata, Rajasa, and Tamasa - the primal forces driving our lives - give rise to three types of attributes in psychological terms, with one or the other prominently displayed in each being. What particular element plays heavy in our mind defines our individual character, and that is reflection of our Karmic carryover from the past. This sets the premise for individualised

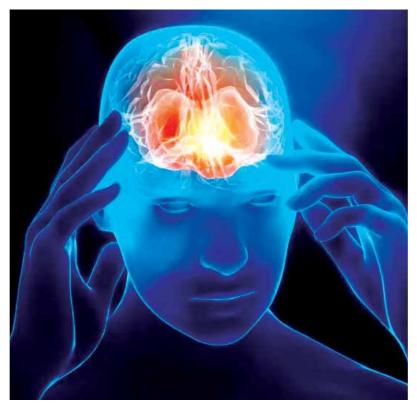
limitations of mind. Going by the 'the theory of Karma', mind acts as the carrier of Karmic imprints from the past, running in succession from one life to the other. They involuntarily define individual specific's beliefs, which condition our mind one way or the other.

On account of the above limitations, five broad categories of individual mind-trends are in evidence -Ignorant/Darkening; Scattering; Gathering up; One pointed; and Concentrated. A large majority fall under the category of darkening and scattering types.

Darkening types have ignorance at their root. Stuck to their ill-conceived beliefs and perceptions, they carry a narrow vision. Their hardened attitude does not allow much of a scope to explore beyond their predefined limits. So, they fail to expand their vision. Evidently, they lack clarity in vision and thought. Invariably, they do not have any clue to what life is truly about, what they should expect from life, and what is their calling.

Mind engaged in its likes and dislikes, prejudices and obsessions, wanton desires and temptations of life, pleasures and pains, continuously keep breeding

Each mind is unique



corresponding thoughts. Usually, a person attends to nothing less than sixty to seventy thousand thoughts every day, many of them self-conflicting, and even negative. Mind, randomly flirting with these thoughts, keeps wandering hither and thither, and thus, becoming restless. This is what is termed as 'scattering mind', which does not let us remain focused to our priority preferences, and evidently to our detriment.

Next in line is the 'gathering up' type. Those having realised that lack of focus makes them left behind in the run of time, make conscious efforts to remain centred to their desired destination. They wish to improve their focus in order to take the tasks in hand towards their logical end. But for which, they have so far failed to view things in the right perspective, and so could not make right choices. But it is easier said than done, as habits die hard. Habit tendencies keep pulling us back to their limits again and again. At times they get focused for a while, soon to get distracted once again. They again strive to regain their focus. This tug of war keeps going on.

The next higher level is one-pointed state, which again is gained through

conscious efforts. They are the ones who have become conscious about remaining alert to make wholesome use of the operational tools of mind, particularly its discriminating faculty. Obviously, to achieve that end, one tries to get over distracting influences, improve their focus and remain centred to their desired destination. Consequently, wherever they pay attention, single-pointedly they are able to successfully pursue the task in hand to its logical end. Those having attained this state, carry higher probability of tasting fruits of success with ease and comfort. They, however, still remain subject to pushes and pulls, of course relatively on a lower scale.

Beyond the one-pointed state is the 'concentrated mind'. This is a stage when mind literally becomes free from unwanted thoughts. One is then in full control of mind, whereby one is able to use it as an instrument to one's asking rather than being carried away by its habit tendencies. Having arrived at this state of mind, one comes out with one's optimum best, as it gets tuned up well to the all-powerful and all-knowing, allpervading consciousness element - the cosmic mind