

Manipur erupts again, ultras in cop garb kill 3

CBI files six FIRs, forms SIT to probe conspiracies behind ethnic clashes PNS NEW DELHI

Fresh violence claimed three lives in Manipur on Friday even as the Central Bureau of

Investigation (CBI) registered six First Information Reports (FIRs) and established a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to probe potential conspiracies behind the recent clashes.

According to officials, violence erupted in a village situated on the border of Kangpokpi and Imphal West districts. A group of insurgents, disguised as security personnel, lured villagers out of their homes under the pretext of a combing operation and opened fire on them

The attackers, believed to be from the Meitei community, quickly fled the area after shooting down three villagers. Security forces, on a routine patrol, responded to the sound of gunfire and intervened.

The formation of the SIT The CBI has responded to aims to uncover any potential conspiracies behind the recent the escalating violence by setting up a 10-member SIT, led surge in violence in Manipur. by a DIG-rank officer, to inves-As the situation remains tigate the six cases connected to volatile, law enforcement agenthe recent clashes. cies continue their efforts to

formed.

cials on Friday.

These cases were referred restore peace and security in to the CBI by the State the region.



Security personnel during a combing operation in sensitive areas of Manipu

Government. Joint Director The decision to initiate a Ghanshyam Upadhyay was dispatched by the CBI to liaise during his visit to Manipur. with State officials, and upon his return, the SIT was officially The violence erupted in the

The agency has re-registered the six cases, and the investigation will be overseen by the Special Crime Branch in Kolkata, as announced by offistatus

The clashes have resulted in the loss of nearly 100 lives and left over 300 people injured over the past month.

The escalation of violence was preceded by tensions arisvillagers from reserve forest land, which had sparked a

CBI probe was announced by Home Minister Amit Shah

northeastern State following a "Tribal Solidarity March" organised in the hill districts on May 3 to protest against the demand of the Meitei community for Scheduled Tribe (ST)

ing from the eviction of Kuki

series of smaller protests.

The Meiteis, constituting about 53 per cent of Manipurs

population, predominantly reside in the Imphal Valley, while the Nagas and Kukis, collectively accounting for 40 per cent of the population, inhabit the hill districts. To restore peace, approximately 10,000 Army and Assam Rifles personnel

Manipur is geographically divided into hill and valley areas, with the hills covering 90 per cent of the State's total area and predominantly inhabited by Naga and Kuki-Chin-Mizo tribes. The valley areas are predominantly occupied by the Meiteis.

for ₹5,551 cr **FEMA** violation

New Delhi: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Friday said it has issued show-cause notices to the Indian arm of Chinese mobile phone manu facturer Xiaomi, its chief financial officer and director Sameer B Rao, former managing director Manu Kumar Jain and three foreign banks for alleged violations of the foreign exchange law to the tune of more than ₹5,551 crore.

A show-cause notice is issued after the completion of a FEMA probe and once it is settled, the accused may have to pay a penalty that could be three times the amount con-See Page 2 travened.

Trump indicted in classified papers case, a historic first for ex-POTUS

AP 📕 MIAMI

Donald Trump has been indicted on felony charges of mishandling classified doc-uments at his Florida estate, a remarkable development that makes him the first former president in US history to face criminal charges by the federal government that he once oversaw.

Trump's indictment carries unmistakably grave legal consequences, including the possibility of prison if he's convicted

coal mine collapse in Dhanbad

office to recreate crime scene

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police has inten-sified its probe into the sexual harassment allegations against Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, the chief of the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI). Taking a significant step forward in the investigation, the police accompanied a woman wrestler to Singh's office to recreate the sequence of events related to the alleged crime. Singh's official residence serves as the office for the Wrestling Federation of India. The Delhi Police, accom-

panied by women police personnel, took the wrestler to the WFI office at 1:30 pm. During the visit, she was asked to recreate the scene and recall the places where she experienced harassment, providing crucial evidence for the ongoing investigation.

Sports Minister Anurag Thakur had assured the protesting wrestlers that a charge-sheet would be filed in the case by June 15, prompting the wrestlers to temporarily suspend their protest

Shortly after the police left the premises, wrestler Vinesh Phogat, one of the leaders of the protest, expressed disappointment on Twitter regarding media reports that suggested the wrestlers had visited the WFI office for a compromise.

Phogat voiced her con-cerns, stating that Brij Bhushan was using his power to harass women wrestlers and emphasizing the necessity of his arrest Detailed report on P8 | for justice. Bajrang Punia,



another protesting wrestler, echoed similar sentiments through his own tweets.

The Delhi Police's Special Investigation Team (SIT), assigned to probe the sexual harassment allegations against Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, is expected to submit its investigation report to the court next

week Two cases have been reg istered against Singh, who is currently the outgoing WFI president and a BJP MP. As part of the investigation, the SIT has already interrogated over 180 individuals, gathering crucial information and statements related to the incidents

No offence of hate speech against wrestlers: Police

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police on Friday informed the court that no hate speech offense had been committed by the wrestlers who were protesting at Jantar Mantar, demanding action against Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) president Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh.

This information was provided in an Action Taken Report (ATR) submitted to Additional Chief Metropolitan



seeking the registration of an FIR against the wrestlers.

3 dead, many trapped in illegal Criticising India abroad harms our nation: EAM

'Arguments in democracy welcome, but inviting external interference has



but claims she was like daughter TN RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI ontrary to a claim by him C to police earlier that since he was a HIV positive person,

Mumbai butcher married victim,

PNS DHANBAD

An illegally operated mine collapsed in Jharkhand's



he had no r with the victim woman and that he treated her like a "daughter", the investigators probing the macabre murder have established that the Mira Road "butcher" Manoj Sane had indeed married Saraswati Vaidya at a temple several years ago, but they hid their marriage because of their age difference.

A day after the heinous murder of 36-year-old Saraswati allegedly at the hands of 56-year-old Sane - who cut, chopped, minced, boiled and roasted her body parts - the victim woman's three elder sisters from Ahmednagar in western Maharashtra who were in regular touch with her joined the investigations on Friday. In

Manoi Sane, accused of killing his live-in partner Saraswati Vaidva, being escorte by the police outside the Mira Road Police Station, in Thane on Friday. Vaidya's body parts were found pressure-cooked and roasted inside a flat where she stayed with Sane

the police, the three sisters said Sane and Saraswati had entered into a wedlock at a ceremony held at a temple sever-

their statements recorded by al years ago but had hidden

their marriage from society because of their age difference.

Continued on Page 2

killing at least three people and

rapping several people on Friday around 10.30 am. Bhowra Colliery Area of Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) is 21 km from Dhanbad.

Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP), Sindri, Abhishek Kumar, said the exact number of people killed and feared trapped or injured would be known after rescuers are able to locate the victims.

An eyewitness said many local villagers were engaged in illegal mining when a portion of the mine caved in.

"With the help of locals, three persons were brought out from the debris and taken to a hospital where doctors

escue operation underway after an illegally operated coal mine collapsed ir Jharkhand's Bhowra colliery area, near Dhanbad on Friday

declared them dead," the eyewitness said.Bhowra police station Inspector Binod Oraon

said rescue operations were on. an abandoned mine of Eastern BCCL's Bhowra Colliery General Manager SS Das, who Coalfields in Gopinathpur area of Dhanbad in February 2022.

negative implications PNS 📕 NEW DELHI



ers criticising India abroad and inviting external interference, emphasising the potential negative implications for the country. His remarks came a day after he accused Congress leader Rahul Gandhi of having a "habit" of criticising India on international platforms.

Addressing a gathering at Aryabhatta College, Jaishankar acknowledged that arguments and differences of opinion are inherent in a democracy but cautioned against taking these

Union Environment Ministry.

that a majority of deaths, at

least 45, were reported from tiger reserves. The escalating

territorial fights among the

predators are contributing to

the surge in mortalities, with

senior officials from the

Ministry highlighting the insuf-

ficiency of habitat to accom-

modate the growing tiger pop-ulation. As a result, tigers are

venturing into human habitats,

posing risks to both their own

month alone, five tiger deaths

In the first nine days of this

ives and those of humans.

The data for 2023 reveals

He expressed his belief that such actions could have significant repercussions. "In any democracy, there will be arguments. There will be differences, there will be diversity and opinions. And it should be there, there is noth-ing wrong with it. The problem happens when you take it out-

side. What is a bigger problem is that you take it out and then invite people from outside to come and interfere," stated Jaishankar during his speech. Continued on Page 2

Yogendra Yadav, Palshikar request their name removal from NCERT books PNS 📕 NEW DELHI

Political scientists Suhas Palshikar and Yogendra Yadav have requested the NCERT to remove their names as chief advisers from all political science textbooks. They claim the recent rationalisation exercise has "mutilated" the books beyond recognition and rendered them "academically dysfunctional".

Palshikar and Yadav expressed their embarrassment at being associated with the textbooks and wrote a letter to the NCERT stating that the cuts made in the books were arbitrary and irrational.

The two scholars, who initially served as chief advisers for the political science books for classes 9 to 12, said, "While the modifications have been justified in the name of rationalisation, we fail to see any pedagogic rationale at work here."

Continued on Page 2 Jews

India strong democracy: Israel's President, PM

Both laud Indian Jewish community

PNS NEW DELHI/NEVATIM (ISRAEL)

srael's President Isaac Herzog Land Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu have commended the Indian Jewish community for their contributions to the country, emphasizing India's status as a "strong

and influential democracy." The leaders expressed their appreciation during the foundation stone ceremony of a cultural center that recognises the role of Jewish communities from India who immigrated to Israel

The construction of the cultural center was promised to Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his visit to Israel in 2017. Nevatim, an agricultural community in the Negev region of Israel, has become closely associated with the Indian Cochini



Hundreds of Indian Jewish community members from across the country gathered at Nevatim on Thursday evening to witness the foundation stone laying ceremony for the Heritage and Cultural Centre of the Indian Jews

The center aims to preserve the heritage and rich culture of all Jewish communities that have immigrated from India, while also serving as a base for the India-Israel trading center. The multi-million dollar

project, spanning three acres of land, will include a museum, a conference and events hall,

and an Indian tropical garden. The initial phase of construction will focus on building a 300-seat multipurpose hall. In a recorded video mes-

sage to the community, President Herzog praised their contribution to Israeli society, describing them as an integral part of the Israeli mosaic. He recalled his father's address to the Cochini community in the same Moshav in 1984, stating that what the community has built is a matter of pride that continues to bring honor to Israel

7 tigers dead in 9 days

PTI

reached the spot, is monitoring

Five persons were killed in

the rescue operations.

ARCHANA JYOTI NEW DELHI

The recent spike in tiger deaths across the country has sent shockwaves among wildlife enthusiasts. Within just nine days in June, at least seven tigers have lost their lives, with Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh each reporting two deaths, and Uttarakhand, Tamil Nadu, and Madhya Pradesh recording one each.

This marks the highest number of tiger fatalities in the past three years, despite Prime Minister Narendra Modi's announcement of the fifth cycle of India's Tiger Census figures on April 9.

Data analysis conducted by the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) as of June 9 reveals that this year has been unfavourable for tigers overall. So far, a total of 83 big cats have succumbed nationwide, with Madhya Pradesh reporting the highest casualties at 45. Among the deceased, 30 tigresses and 11 cubs have been recorded.

Continued on Page 2 Taking cognisance of the casualties at Dudhwa Tiger



Yogi Adityanath has directed the Forest Minister, additional chief secretary, forest and other senior forest officials to visit the National Park and carry out a thorough probe, a

Pioneer reported that the counalone, equating to one tiger dying every other day.

same period last year, a total of 64 felines had lost their lives, as indicated by statistics providown territories, further highlighting the severity of the situation.

Experts attribute the rise in deaths to territorial conflicts among the tigers themselves. Normally, a tiger demarcates 10-12 square kilometer as its territory, not allowing rivals to enter. When a rival does enter, a fight for dominance ensues. with the stronger tiger retaining the region and the weaker one pushed to the periphery.

Life is far from easy even for those who manage to survive and move to the periphery. They often become victims of poaching or fall prey to numan-animal conflicts when they venture outside their territories, as has been evident in recent days.

instance, For in Ranthambore Tiger Reserve, a cub succumbed to the cold and rain after its mother was killed in a territorial fight back in February. Ranthambore reserve is considered the third-most congested habitat in India, following Uttarakhand's Corbett National Park and Assam's Kaziranga National Park.

Reserve, UP Chief Minister senior official in UP said.

Just a week ago, The try had witnessed the deaths of 76 tigers in the past five months

Comparatively, during the ed by the NTCA under the occurred within the predators'



India world diabetes capital with 101 mn patients: ICMR

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

NEW DELHI | SATURDAY | JUNE 10, 2023

It is disturbingly official now. With 101 million diabetics, India is the diabetes capital of the world. Goa tops the list while Uttar Pradesh has the lowest prevalence, said the largest study conducted by the Indian Council of Medical Research-India Diabetes (ICMR-INDIAB).

Published in The Lancet Diabetes and Endocrinology journal, it said that the number of diabetic cases has increased by 44 per cent in four years from 70 million affected people in 2019. The survey was conducted on diabetes and other metabolic non-communicable diseases in India.

In Goa, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Chandigarh, there are fewer pre-diabetes cases compared to diabetes cases. The study said that 15.3 per cent of the population (at least 136 million people) is pre-

diabetic - an individual who

has higher-than-normal blood sugar levels but is not high enough to be considered a diabetic. A pre-diabetic is said to fall in the high-risk group of developing diabetes.

he pioneer

Conducted between October 18, 2008, and December 17, 2020, the researchers analysed data of 1,13,043 individuals, out of which more than 75,000 people were from rural areas. Besides diabetes, lifestyle



diseases like hypertension and obesity also showed a northward spiral. The study found that around 35.5 per cent of the people had hypertension or high blood pressure, and about 39.5 per cent and 28.6 per cent suffered from abdominal obesity and overall obesity, respectively. Around 24 per cent of the surveyed population suffered from hypercholesterolemia or high bad cholesterol levels (LDL).

Researchers studied the

ic non-communicable diseases (NCDs) like diabetes, hypertension, high cholesterol, obesity and pre-diabetes from 31 states and union territories of the country. These conditions can significantly increase the risk of stroke, cardiac arrest and kidney disease. Goa showed the highest

prevalence (26.4 per cent) of type 1 and type 2 diabetes cases, Puducherry was a close second with 26.3 per cent and Kerala took the third position with 25.5 per cent of cases.

Meanwhile, Uttar Pradesh has recorded the lowest number (4.8 per cent) of diabetic prevalence but had around 18 per cent pre-diabetics compared to the national average of 15.3 per cent. The study found that states like UP, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Arunachal Pradesh which showed lower prevalence had higher chances of diabetes explosion over the

next few years.

ED slaps ₹5,551 cr FEMA violations notices on Xiaomi, 2 senior executives

PTI 📕 NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Friday Enforcement said it has issued show-cause notices to the Indian arm of Chinese mobile phone manufacturer Xiaomi, its chief financial officer and director Sameer B Rao, former managing director Manu Kumar Jain and three foreign banks for alleged violations of the foreign exchange law to the tune of more than Rs 5,551 crore.

The Adjudicating Authority (of the Foreign Exchange Management Act) has issued the notices to Xiaomi Technology India Private Limited, the two exec-

utives, the CITIbank, the HSBC bank and the Deutsche Bank AG under section 16 of the FEMA, the federal agency said in a statement.

A show-cause notice is issued after the completion of a FEMA probe and once it is settled, the accused may have to pay a penalty that could be three times the amount con-



it said.

bank accounts under the

FEMA for the "unauthorised"

remittance of this amount in

guise of royalty abroad by the

company. "The competent authority, appointed under section 37A of

the FEMA, has confirmed the

said seizure order. The authority, while confirming the seizure, held that the ED is

right in holding that foreign

exchange equivalent to Rs

5,551.27 crore has been trans-

ferred out of India by Xiaomi

travened The notices have been

The ED had earlier seized funds worth Rs 5,551.27 crore issued to the firm, along with of Xiaomi Technology India Jain and Rao, the ED said. Adjudicating Private Limited lying in its

The Authority has also issued showcause notices to three banks Citibank, HSBC Bank and Deutsche Bank AG -- for contravention of sections 10(4) and 10(5) of the FEMA and directions issued by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) as they allowed foreign outward remittances in the name of royalty through the banks, "without" conducting due diligence and without" obtaining any underlying technical collaboration agreement from the company, India in an unauthorised manner and is held outside India on behalf of the group entity in contravention of section 4 of the FEMA, 1999 and the same is liable to be seized in terms of provisions of section 37A of the FEMA," it said.

The agency said the competent authority also observed that the payment of royalty was nothing but a tool for transferring the foreign exchange out of India and the same was in "blatant" violation of the FEMA provisions.

The ED said its investigation, launched last year, has found that the company had remitted foreign currency equivalent to Rs 5,551.27 crore to three foreign-based entities, including a Xiaomi group entity, in the guise of royalty.

Under the cover of various unrelated documentary façade created amongst the group entities, the company remitted this amount in the guise of royalty abroad, which constitutes violation of section 4 of the FEMA," it said.

1 more held in JNU molestation, attempted kidnapping case

STAFF REPORTER MINEW DELH

One more person was with the alleged molestation and attempted kidnap of two female students inside the Jawaharlal Nehru University campus, an officer said on Friday.

Police have identified this person as Mahavir, a resident of RK Puram. This is the second arrest in the case. Earlier, police had arrested Abhishek (22). According to police, the accused has claimed that he studies at an open university. They said they were taking a stroll in the area before heading to the campus. The facts are being verified and further investigation is underway, they said, adding that efforts are on to nab the remaining two accused

The JNU Students' Union (JNUSU) had on Wednesday



alleged that some inebriated and the vehicle, which are the men in a car had come to the same, have been identified," campus on Tuesday night and Deputy Commissioner of attempted to kidnap two students. They also got into a fight on the premises. Abhishek was driving the car when the alleged incident took place. "Two complaints - one regarding physical assault and anoth-Hours after the incident, the security department of JNU er on molestation, attempt to

Police (southwest) Manoj C had said on Wednesday. The cases were registered for allegedly attempting to abduct two women students and assaulting a male student.

kidnap - have been received announced that the entry of from JNU students and cases outside vehicles into the campus will be restricted from 10 have been registered.

"In both cases, the accused pm to 6 am

Yogendra Yadav... **From Page 1** "We find that the text has

been mutilated beyond recognition. There are innumerable and irrational cuts and large deletions without any attempts to fill the gaps created. We were never consulted or even informed of these changes. If NCERT did consult other experts for deciding on these cuts and deletions, we explicitly state that we fully disagree with them in this regard," according to the letter sent to NCERT Director Dinesh Saklani.

Palshikar, an academician and political scientist, and Yadav, political scientist and Swaraj Îndia leader, were chief advisors for the Political Science books for classes 9 to 12 originally published in 2006-07 based on the 2005 version of the National Curriculum Framework (NCF). Their names are mentioned in a "letter to students" and the list of textbook development team at the beginning of each book.

Criticising India abroad...

has problems and great concerns and the world must do something about it, this has big implications and that is not good for the country."

He made these comments apparently in response to Rahul's recent criticisms of the Modi Government during his visit to the United States.

During his US trip, among other things Rahul remarked that India was being governed by individuals who believed they knew everything, even going as far as jokingly suggesting that Prime Minister Narendra Modi would explain the workings of the universe to God if given the chance. Gandhi criticised the Government for what he perceived as mediocrity and an unwillingness to listen to differing perspectives.



Wazirganj police station in-charge Manoj Kumar Mishra will head the investigation, he said.

"The second team constituted for technical assistance includes Rajdev Prajapati, incharge of the surveillance cell, western zone with three others," Aggarwal said.

Apart from this, Inspector Ramphal Prajapati has been assigned the task of making adequate security arrangements at the old premises of District Court and High Court

Lucknow Bench, the officer said. He said an application will be moved in court on Saturday over the police custody of the accused. The senior police officer

said a meeting was also held with lawyer organisations on Friday and a consensus was reached on several points regarding security on court premises. There will be separate entry gates for officers and advocates besides other elaborate security arrangements, he

Israel's PM, President laud...

Prime Netanyahu, in a recorded others.

contributions to Israeli society.

emphasized the importance of tory and culture of the Indian tradition, a glorious legacy Minister sharing this knowledge with Jewish community and their that has survived against all odds and is now fading.

ED arrests M3M director RK Bansal in money laundering case liked to IREO

Jeeva's murder: 2 police teams formed, security tightened on UP court premises From Page 1 Highlighting the potential consequences, Jaishankar fur-ther warned, "If you say India Two police teams have been constituted to investigate the murder of gangster-politician Mukhtar Ansari's aide Sanjeev Maheshwari Jeeva here,

while steps have been taken to tighten security at court premises in the wake of the incident, a senior police officer said on Friday. Jeeva (48) was shot dead on

incident.

reporters.

lerred to the Indian Jewish community as a "living bridge between the two most ancient civilizations." He recalled the large community event during Prime Minister Modi's visit to Israel in 2017 and emphasized the growing importance and strengthening of the relationship between the two countries.

Abe and Mariam Sofaer, a couple from the Baghdadi Indian Jewish community residing in the United States, flew in specifically for the cer-emony. Mariam expressed deep gratitude towards India for its tolerance, acceptance, and embrace of the Jews who thrived there. She highlighted the absence of anti-Semitism in India and

ceremony attended by Índia's Ambassador to İsrael Sanjeev Singla, Head of the Regional Council of Bnei Shimon Nir Zamir, Chairman of the Indian Jewish Heritage Centre (IJHC) Isaac Avner, Chairman of the Cochini Heritage Centre (CHC) Nehemya Shachaf, and other community leaders. A cultural programme representing all four Indian Jewish com-

munities - Bene Israel, Cochini Jews, Bnei Menashe, and Baghdadis - accompanied the ceremony. Singla commended the

tremendous community effort and expressed excitement for the completion of the auditorium by the end of 2024, which will showcase the his-

Organizers highlighte that Prime Minister Modi, during his visit to Israel, called for the establishment of a heritage and cultural center for the Indian Jewish community. Community leaders leading the effort for the past six years expressed their persistence in fulfilling this promise, leading to the foundation stone laying ceremony with the support of several financiers.

The IJHC, led by Isaac Avner, organized over 100 virtual meetings, particularly during the pandemic, to bring together the Indian Jewish community from around the world and garner their support for the project. Avner described the effort as preserving a thousand-year-old

Shachat high lighted that besides serving as "cultural and financial hub," the center will contribute to the vision of Israel's first Prime Minister, David Ben-Gurion, to make the Negev desert bloom.

During the ceremony, important backers of the project signed a declaration parchment, which was then rolled, placed in a scroll, and buried. Two additional copies of the declaration parchment will be framed.

The occasion was celebrated with a lively cultural program and traditional Indian delicacies representing all four Indian Jewish communities, delighting the hundreds of Indian Jews in attendance.

PTI NEW DELHI

Roop Kumar Bansal, a direc-tor of Gurugram-based realty company M3M, has been arrested in a money laundering case linked to real estate firm IREO, the Enforcement Directorate said on Friday.

Bansal was taken into custody under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLÁ) on Thursday and he was later produced in a special court in Panchkula in Haryana which sent him to seven-day ED custody, the agency said in a statement.

The arrest, it said, was made in connection with the investigation being done against IREO and M3M groups for "diverting, siphoning off

the premises of a Lucknow

court on Wednesday, police

said. A policeman and a two-

year-old girl were injured in the

policemen each have been

formed for prompt and suc-

cessful disposal of the investi-

gation of the case registered at

the Wazirganj police station

here," Joint Commissioner of

Police (Law and Order)

Upendra Aggarwal told

"Two teams with four

and misappropriating funds of investors and customers".

The custody of Roop Kumar Bansal became necessary for investigation and he has been avoiding investigation and not responding to summons issued by ED on multiple occasions," it said.

On June 1, the ED carried out raids against the M3M group and its directors as well

The representatives from

as against IREO in Delhi and Gurugram. the M3M group received about Rs 400 crore from IREO

It later alleged in a press statement that the owners, controllers and promoters of the M3M group -- Basant Bansal, Roop Kumar Bansal, Pankaj Bansal -- and other key persons deliberately avoided investigations during the raids.

M3M directors, including Bansal, had filed a petition in the Delhi High Court following the searches to quash the ED case and summons issued to them, saying they have not indulged in any wrongdoing, sources indicated.

The agency alleged "huge amount of money running into hundreds of crores were siphoned off through the M3M group" in this case.

Go First: CoC in place, approval for

"M3M group initially sold the development rights of the said land to five shell companies for a payment of Rs 10 crore and it was claimed that these companies are unrelated," it said.

In one of the transactions,

through several shell compa-

nies in multiple layers, it said.

payments towards develop-

ment rights. The land was

owned by M3M group and the

market value of the land was

around Rs 4 crore."

"The transactions were shown in books of IREO as

However, it said, probe found that the five shell companies were operated by the M3M group.

Mumbai butcher married victim, but claims...

From Page 1

Talking to media persons Deputy Commissioner of Police Jayant Bajbale — who is heading the investigations said, "The three elder sisters of the victim woman have identified her body. The process of handing over the slain woman's body is underway. We are getting the DNA samples of three sisters to match with that of Saraswati who is the youngest sister in their family.

Though the victim woman's family members are cooperating with the police in the investigations, Sane's two brothers - who are living in Mumbai - have refused to talk to the investigators by saying they had severed their relations with the accused several years ago and had absolutely no knowledge about his

recent activities.

over

The exact motive behind the gory murder has not been established yet. Informed police sources said the accused was giving evasive replies and was even trying to mislead them by making contradictory claims as to the circumstances leading to the murder.

interrogation, Sane initially claimed that he had killed Saraswati, but she had committed suicide on June 3 (Saturday). He told the police that after her "suicide", he feared that he would be treated as a prime suspect in the circumstances leading to her

cide after the whole thing was

claim, Sane told the investigators that as he had been diagnosed with HIV-positive nearly 15 years ago, he had no physical relations with her, that he treated her like a "daughter" than a "live-in" partner. However, the statements by the three elder sisters of During the course of his Saraswati nailed Sane's lie as

they told the police that their youngest sister had entered into a wedlock with the accused at a temple marriage ceremony several years ago.

On their part, the investigators have formed several teams to check on Sane's antecedents, his friends, death, he tried to dispose of her acquaintances and business body parts. He also claimed associates. "We expect to pool together all details about the that he wanted to commit sui-

few days," a senior police offi-cer said. Saraswati's cold-In another misleading blooded murder has sent shock waves through the country. The ghastly murder came to light on Wednesday night after the Naya Nagar police - acting on a complaint by one of Sane's neighbours — broke open the rented 7th floor flat (No. 704) of the accused in Akashganga building at Mira Road's Geeta Nagar locality on Thursday night. To their utter shock, the

investigators - upon their entering Sane's flat - first found a big plastic bag on his bed with a see-saw machine lying next to it. Inside the kitchen, the police found clumps of cut hair of a woman on the ground.. Shockingly accused and also the motive enough, they found a cooker behind the murder in the next with human flesh in it. The

investigators also found several vessels containing cooked human flesh.

In the kitchen wash basin PTI MUMBAI and the area down under it, the police found half burnt bones and half burnt human flesh in a bucket and in the tubs. The vency resolution process, have investigators suspect that Sane set up the Committee of might have disposed of some Creditors (CoC) and a new missing parts of Saraswati's resolution professional is likebody by flushing down the toily to be appointed early next week, a source said on Friday. let drain or might have fed them to the stray dogs or Cash-strapped Go First stopped flying from May 3 and now, with the CoC in thrown them in the nearby mangroves. Some local residents have told the police that place, the process for revival of they had seen Sane feeding the the grounded airline is likely to

hood. The police arrested Sane later on Thursday night. Sane was on Thursday produced before a Thane court which remanded him in police

stray dogs in the neighbourgain speed. The source said the deadline for constituting the CoC was June 9. all four banks -- Bank of

custody till June 16. Baroda, Central Bank of India,

revival plan of airline likely soon enders of Go First, which is Lundergoing voluntary insol-

have suggested one name each from KPMG and EY. 'The CoC is now expected to take up the revival plan for Go First and once it is cleared, the same will be submitted to the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)," the source said.

IDBI and Deutsche Bank -- visited Go First office on Friday and after a meeting, they set up the CoC.

"They discussed various aspects with Go First executives and the ways to proceed further," the source privy to the development told PTI.

According to the source, the new resolution professional is expected to be appointed on June 12, and the lenders

tions with a fleet of 26 aircraft -- 22 for active operations and 4 in reserve -- and 152 daily flights. "We are hopeful of getting the DGCA approval as well after the CoC gives its go ahead for the revival plan," the

source said.

Earlier this month, the air-

line submitted a revival plan to

the DGCA under which it has

proposed to resume opera-

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capital 03

Najafgarh drain work reviewed

Water quality improved after cleaning of Najafgarh Drain started since August 2022

STAFF REPORTER

There is consistent improve-ment of quality of water ever since work on cleaning of the Najafgarh Drain was started in August last year under the supervision of Delhi Lt Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena after the constitution of the High Level Committee (HLC). The quality of water in river Yamuna also improved since then, the fifth meeting of the

Committee noted on Friday. On a month-on-month basis from January, 2023 to May, 2023, significantly noticeable and consistent improvement was noticed in the BOD levels in the water of the Najafgarh Drain and the River in comparison to the same

stood at 80 mg/l in January, 2022. The levels came down to 53 mg/l in January, 2023. The figure for May, 2022 stood at 76 mg/l that came down to 48 mg/l in May, 2023. In case of Yamuna, at ISBT,

where the Najafgarh Drain meets the river, BOD levels that stood at 42 mg/l in January, 2022, came down to 38 mg/l in January, 2023. The figure for May, 2022 stood at 55 mg/l that came down to 38 mg/l in May, 2023

> Similarly, in the Yamuna at the site after the Shahdara

months in the year 2022. Carried out by the Delhi Pollution Control Committee Drain meets the river, BOD levels that stood at 60 mg/l in January, 2022, came down to 56 mg/l in January, 2023. The fig-ure for May, 2022 stood at 80 (DPCC) as per standard protocol of testing water samples at different locations, the BOD mg/l and came down to 48 levels in the Najafgarh Drain mg/l in May, 2023.

Reacting to a presentation made to this effect, Saxena expressed satisfaction over the fact that coordinated efforts being put in by various stakeholder departments had begun to bear fruits.

He however, cautioned the officers against complacency and reiterated that all timelines with regards to works outlined under various heads must be met and there should be seamless inter-departmental and agency coordination.

It came out during the meeting that as a result of this



enhanced coordination, critical projects that included setting up of STPs / DSTPs, that had been pending for years together due to land related issues had finally got an impetus, with the outstanding issues getting solved. In as many as 29 projects held up for years due to non-availability of land,17 have been allotted land by DDA and revenue department during the past one month due to intervention by the LG. The remaining are also expected to be sorted expedi-

tiously. The HLC has been moni-

toring the rejuvenation of

Yamuna under eight specific verticals with specific targets, under which plan of action is formed and executed by the agencies concerned.

These include (i) 100 per cent treatment of sewage, (ii) trapping of all drains, (iii) construction of sewerage networks in unauthorised colonies & JJ clusters, (iv) industrial effluent management through CETPs, (v) septage management, (vi) restoration and rejuvenation of Yamuna floodplains, (vii) utilisation of treated waste water; and (viii) environmental management plan of Najafgarh Jheel

20 newborns rescued after fire breaks out in hospital

No NOC from fire department

STAFF REPORTER MINEW DELHI

The Delhi Fire Service (DFS) rescued 20 newborns shifted to nearby medical facilities after a fire broke out at a hospital in west Delhi's Vaishali Colony in the early hours of Friday. The hospital did not have a No-Objection Certificate (NOC) from the fire department.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Dwarka) M Harsha Vardhan said the fire broke out at Nest Newborn and Child Hospital. No casualties were reported in the incident, he said. The information about the blaze was received at 1:35 am following which nine fire tenders were rushed to the spot. The fire was doused by 2:25 am, according to the fire department.

added.

said.

Director of Delhi Fire Services Atul Garg said, "The fire started in the basement of the building, where some furniture and papers were stored. The building, which is spread over approximately 180 square yards, comprises the basement and ground plus three floors." "The hospital was located on the first floor.



Twenty newborns admitspread to the upper floors. ted there were safely rescued by Since sufficient water had our team," he said. Of these, 13 already been used, the fire was babies were shifted to Arya contained but the first floor was Hospital in Janakpuri, two to New Born and Child Hospital at Dwarka More, another two to J K Hospital in Janakpuri and three were discharged, he

The hospital did not have No-Objection Certificate (NOC) from the fire department, Garg said. The area where the building was located has narrow lanes and it was difficult for the fire tenders to reach the building. Fortunately, the building is located close to the fire station and firefighters could reach there on time, he Sharing details of the fire-

fighting operation, Garg said, "Two teams were formed. One team of firefighters was involved in dousing the fire and it ensured that the fire did not said

smoke." engulfed by "Meanwhile, the other team managed to rescue all the newborns from the first floor and immediately shifted them to a safe room. Later, they were admitted to other medical facilities, he said. DCP Vardhan said a preliminary inquiry has revealed that the fire broke out due to a short circuit on the ground floor. No casualties were

reported in the incident, he said. "We have registered a case under sections 285 (negligent conduct with respect to fire or combustible matter) and 336 (act endangering life or personal safety of others) of the Indian Penal Code against the building owner as well as the hospital owner," the officer

Cong, AAP doing politics for power, lack ideology: Nadda actually the 'Sanskaar Kendras

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELH

 $B_{\rm Nadda\ laid\ the\ foundation}^{\rm JP\ national\ president\ JP}$ stone for a new office building of the party's Delhi unit at DDU Marg on Friday, and accused Opposition parties, including the Congress and AAP, of doing politics for power and lacking ideology. "The BJP is the only cadre

and mass-based party having an ideology, while all other parties do not have any ideology and they are pursuing politics for power only," Nadda said after participating in an elaborate Bhumi Pujan' ceremony for construction of the building.

He hit out at the Congress accusing it of joining hands with its arch-rival Communists "just to oppose the BJP", and claimed that it was heading towards a phase of having no ideology ('Vaicharik Shunyata').

Slamming the AAP and its convenor and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Keiriwal, Nadda said, "It's a shame for Delhi that such people are leading us. The AAP has quite a journey beginning with

Lokpal to being 'malamaal'". Alleging "liquor scam" in the Kejriwal-led Delhi government, the BJP president said



BJP president JP Nadda with Delhi BJP chief Virendra Sachdeva and other leaders during the foundation stone laying ceremony of the Delhi BJP office, in New Delhi Ranian Dimri I Pioneer on Friday

Nadda along with BJP honest) despite his former deputy chief minister being organisation general secretary denied bail multiple times by BL Santhosh and Delhi BJP the court. Nadda lauded the BJP president Virendra Sachdeva saying under the leadership of performed the Bhumi Pujan Prime Minister Narendra Modi, ceremony prior to laying the the party not only changed the foundation stone for Delhi BJP office building, saying it was a government in the country but "historic moment" for the party. also started a new culture of politics based on development The four-storey building inspired by South Indian temand performance. "The change from 'Vanshvad' (nepotism) to ple architecture is expected to

be completed in the next 18 'Vikasvad' (politics of developmonths, BJP leaders said. ment) has come due to Modi. Situated on a 825 square The BIP has replaced the vote metre plot, the new building bank politics with 'report card' will have a built up area of 30,000 601127

for our Karyakartas," Nadda said and added that Nadda said that BJP is the biggest party in the world and that is why it was decided to build 887 offices in which more than 500 offices have been built and dedicated. 166 offices are under construction and this is the 167th office is under construction.

It will be a 4-storey office with a large auditorium, separate hall for the press and arrangements for holding small and large conferences and will also be equipped with digital and electronic facilities.

He said that today all the parties are only for power but they are going towards zero in ideology.

These are not ideological parties. But what we said in 1952, even today we are continuously moving forward on the same ideology. Where other parties do vote bank politics, we work on report card politics and today even our opponents have to give their report card.

Nadda remembered party stalwarts from Delhi including Arun Jaitley, Sushma Swaraj, Madan Lal Khurana, Sahib Singh Verma, Kedar Nath Sahni, saying they made sig-nificant contribution to BJP's

growth and expansion. BJP leader Ramveer

to GAD over house allotment to CM's Pvt Secv

Vigilance writes

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

The Directorate of Vigilance (DoV) has written to Additional Chief Secretary, General Administration Department (GAD) regarding allotment of a bungalow to Bibbay Kumar Deivata Bibhav Kumar, Private Secretary to Chief Minister

This comes after a controversy erupted after a 15thcentury monument and gateway located on DJB's property for immediate conservation had been demolished to make way for an official bungalow built on the orders of former DJB CEO Udit Prakash Rai. The demolished Mahal, which dates back to 1480, is an important part of India's history The vigilance department on Wednesday issued a

"It is also informed that ssis of Internoo

DDA carries very special responsibility: Jaishankar

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Friday, the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) carries a very special responsibility and the change they bring is not just for the Capital city, it is an impression of India. He also thanked it as his parents also lived in a DDA flat.

Interacting with the officers and employees of DDA, Jaishankar said any change that is brought in Delhi, also has a model impact on the rest of the

country. "Sushma Swaraj and I used to discuss that our Minister-Secretary combination was the best one as we have carried out many important responsibilities together. DDA carries a very that they bring is not just for the capital city, it is an impression of India. Any change brought in Delhi, also has a model impact on the rest of the country and today, the world is



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar during 'Dialogue with Students' event at the Aryabhatta College of Delhi University, in New Delhi on Friday Ranian Dimri I Pionee

looking at us with a great deal of respect," he said. "My parents also lived in DDA flats. I always wanted to thank all of you for the work that you have done," he added.

"I have seen governments

of the event. The external affairs minister has been holding meet ings and events as part of BJP's outreach campaign on nine years of the Modi government. Jaishankar, along with former Gujarat chief minister Vijay n, nas been de BJP to oversee a month-long campaign across seven Lok Sabha constituencies of Delhi to highlight the achievements of Narendra Modi Government in its nine years at Centre.

Arvind Kejriwal though he is not on rolls of Delhi Jal Board (DJB). The Vigilance Department has sought detailed information on the appointment file indicating terms & conditions of Bibhav for perusal and examination of records.

show-cause notice to Rai.

the said DJB house was allot-

a not be such a gov ernment.

We will have to wage a democratic battle against it." Taking a dig at Kejriwal, Nadda said he touted himself to be "Kattar Imandar" (hard-core

ping of Article 370 and construction of Ram temple in Ayodhya, Nadda said the BJP always strived to pursue and achieve its goals after deciding its ideology and programmes.

will have facilities like parking, canteen and an auditorium having a sitting capacity of 300 people, besides offices for Delhi BJP functionaries, the BJP leaders added. "Our party offices are

Bidhuri expressed gratitude to the central leadership for their cooperation in resolving the obstacles in the construction of all the district offices as well as the state office in Delhi.

Exchange with Public Works Department (PWD). Interpool Exchange between departments is allowed only to a regular employee working in the allotment department.

over the past government is completely different. It has a sense of commitment and a sense of responsibility," he said. Minister of State for External Affairs Meenakshi Lekhi was also a part

DU's EC discusses varsity AAP reviews preparations for maha-rally against ordinance strategic plan for 25 years STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI step", but the Kejriwal govern-

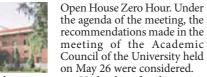
New Delhi: The 1266 th meeting of the Executive Council (EC) of the Delhi University was held on Friday where the strategic plan of the university for the next 25 years (2022-2047) was discussed.

Álong with this, many important issues were also discussed and passed in the meeting. Regarding the strategic plan of the university, Vice Chancellor Prof. Yogesh Singh said that the next 25 years are very important for the country. "When the country will be celebrating the centenary of its independence, we will be



among the developed nations. Therefore, the University of

Delhi has also started preparing for its contribution to make India a developed nation in the next 25 years," he said. "At the beginning of the meeting of the Executive Council, the Vice-Chancellor presented detailed information about the activities of University. After that various issues were discussed in



Under this, after discussion on various draft amendments, they were accepted," the varsity said in a statement. It further said that approval was given to revise schemes of examinations of existing CBCS/LOCF based courses as per Undergraduate Curriculum Framework-2022 as recommended by Academic Council. SR

The Aam Aadmi Party's Delhi State Convenor and Cabinet Minister Gopal Rai on Friday reviewed the prepara-tions for the party's 'Maha-Rally', which is scheduled for June 11 at Ramlila Maidan, against the Centre's ordinance on control of services in the national capital. AAP Delhi state vice-pres-

idents, including MLAs Dilip Pandey, Jarnail Singh, Gulab Singh, Rajesh Gupta, Rituraj Jha, Kuldeep Kumar and AAP leader Jitender Tomar were also present on the occasion. After taking stock of the preparations, Rai said, "The people of



Delhi have given a chance, not once or twice but thrice to have the government formed and run under the able leadership of Arvind Kejriwal. But the Modi government at the Centre have

not been able to tolerate this." Rai alleged that for the last eight years, "every conspiracy has been hatched to stop the work being done in Delhi, obstructions have been placed at every ment has never given up.

Speaking about the ordinance, he said, "The Delhi government went to the Supreme Court to protest against the manner in which the work was being stalled and stopped, and a five-mem-ber Bench along with the Supreme Court's Chief Justice decided that Delhi is a part of the country, so Delhiites cannot be discriminated against. "But the Supreme Court was undermined through the Ordinance by the Central Government of BJP and the Prime Minister of the country, through subterfuge. The rights of the people of Delhi have

been hijacked. The people of Delhi are truly shocked and saddened by this," Rai added. The ordinance issued by the Centre on May 19 set up a National Capital Civil Service Authority, bringing back the executive control over matters related to services to its domain.

It was issued close on the heels of a Supreme Court verdict on May 11, through which the Delhi government was given the executive control over service-related matters, including the transfers and postings of Delhi government officers but excluding those related to police, public order and land.

Courier firm dupes woman of ₹5 lakh in cyber fraud

New Delhi: A 60-year-old woman from southwest Delhi was allegedly duped of around Rs five lakh by a group of cyber fraudsters who accused her of having links with Khalistani terror outfits and drug peddlers.

According to an FIR registered in the case on May 29, the victim received a phone call from a man, who claimed to belong to a top courier company. He told her that she had booked a courier to Canada which had some problems.

"I told him that I had not booked any courier because I do not know anyone in Canada. Then he said there must be some terrorist conspiracy behind it. He specifically used

the word Khalistani," the victim said in her complaint. "He asked me to immediately lodge an FIR and also offered to connect me to someone in Amboli police station (in Mumbai)," she added.

The woman agreed to take the caller's help and he connected her to a person named Sibb Shejol. Shejol made a video call to her and assured her that he has lodged an FIR and sent the matter to the crime branch. The FIR said Shejol then connected the woman through a conference call to his senior who asked Shejol to arrest the woman immediately, accusing her of being part of a terror plot. SR

3 bikers killed, 1 hurt after SUV rams into motorcycle

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI hree people died and one

was injured after an SUV rammed into their motorcycle in southwest Delhi's Dwarka area, police said on Fridav. Police received information about the accident near NLU red light on Thursday.

The injured were taken to the Indira Gandhi Hospital. The motorcycle and the SUV were found at the scene of the crash, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Dwarka) M Harsha Vardhan said. The victims were going towards Sector 17 from Bharat Vihar when the SUV coming from Sector 13 side hit them. The accident took place near the NLU traffic signal on Thursday night when Lakhan (37) was on the way to drop home his sister, her husband and their daughter.

Upon reaching the hospi-tal, police found Maate (32) and Diksha (10), residents of Spine Enclave in Dwarka Sector-17, undergoing treatment. Both were referred to Safdarjung Hospital after first aid, they said. Foola (30) and Lakhan (37) were declared dead, the DCP said, adding that injured Deeksha also died in hospital. All four victims, hailing from Madhya Pradesh's Tikamgarh district, were on the

same motorcycle. They worked as labourers in Delhi, police said. Foola was the wife of Maate and Lakhan was his brother-in-law, they said.

According to police, hours before Lakhan was killed after an SUV rammed into their motorbike in southwest Delhi's Dwarka area, he had celebrated the birthday of his son with his sister's family at his house. During the inquiry, the statement of the Maate was recorded who stated that he was going towards Sector 17 on a motorcycle from Bharat Vihar with his family when the SUV coming from Sector 13 side hit them, the DCP said.

Bhojpuri singer held for raping 13-yr-old girl, posting her photo

STAFF REPORTER GURUGRAM

The Gurugram police has I nabbed a Bhojpuri singer identified as Abhishek aka Babul Bihari for allegedly raping a minor girl in Gurugram and posting her photo on social media

According to the police, 21-year-old Babul Bihari lived in the Rajiv Nagar area of Gurugram two years ago. He had befriended a 13-year-old girl there. The accused had reportedly taken the minor to a hotel where he allegedly raped her. The accused had also



clicked an objectionable photo of the minor. However, the victim did not disclose the incident to anyone but a few days ago the accused shared the objectionable pictures of the girl on social media. The pictures went viral after which the victim's parents came to know about the incident and only after this the girl spilled the whole truth.

Thereafter, the victim's family approached the police and an FIR was lodged at the Sector 14 police station under relevant sections of the POCSO and IT Act.

'We have arrested the accused. He was produced before a local court and sent to jail," Krishan Kant, station house officer of Sector-14 police station



Time to use tech-driven methods of voting: CEC

Rajiv Kumar bats for ETBPS to allow overseas Indians to vote in elections here

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELH

Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar said on Friday, the time has come to use technology-driven methods such as epostal ballot to allow eligible overseas Indian voters to participate in elections.

He also said that the timely and continued delivery of credible electoral outcomes since 1952 was an important ingredient of worldwide acknowledgement of India's comprehensive national power, especially in an era of "democratic backsliding".

these Kumar made

to participate in elections through electronically transmitted postal ballot system (ETBPS) The EC proposal to facilitate ETPBS for overseas Indian

ven methodology to facilitate eligible overseas Indian voters

voters is under discussions with the Ministry of External Affairs to "iron out" logistical remarks while addressing the challenges involved in its implementation, the govern-2022-batch Indian Foreign ment told Rajya Sabha in Service officer-trainees on the theme "India-the Mother of March this year. The total Democracies and Role of ECI" number of overseas electors as at the Nirvachan Sadan here. on January 1 this year stood at Speaking on the common over 1.15 lakh. challenges being faced by elec-

Kumar also said that in the tion management bodies in rowing worldwide concern of democratic recession, the the conduct of free and fair EC's continued delivery of elections, the chief election commissioner referred to the credible electoral outcomes showcases the strength and rising threat from fake news resilience of its democratic and deepfakes on social media derailing the election narrainstitutions. The CEC also gave tives. According to sources, an overview of the complexity when asked about voting by of numbers and sophistication overseas voters, Kumar said of process for conducting electhat the time has come when tions in the world's largest the fifth largest economy of the democracy.

Kejriwal seeks review of Gujarat HC order on PM Modi's degree

PNS NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has filed a review plea with the Gujarat High Court, requesting a reconsideration of the court's March 31st order that set aside the 2016 order of the Central Information Commission (CIC)

The CIC had directed the Gujarat University to disclose information regarding degrees in the name of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

In his review petition, Kejriwal argues that the Court's order, based on the submissions made by Solicitor General Tushar Mehta representing Gujarat University, inaccurately claimed that PM Modi's MA degree is available on the university's website.

According to Kejriwal's plea, the available document on the website is an Office Register (OR), which is distinct from the original degree. Solicitor

General Mehta had informed the High Court earlier that PM Modi's degree could be verified Modis degree could be vernica on the Gujarat University's website. However, Kejriwal's review petition challenges this assertion, claiming that the judgment is based on an error

that is evident on the face of the record Furthermore, the review plea contests the imposition of a Rs. 25,000 fine on Kejriwal. The petition argues that the proceedings were initiated suo moto by the then CIC, Professor M. Sridhar Acharyulu, indicating that he did not pursue the matter further, as the High Court had specified in its judgment.

The Bench of Justice Biren Vaishnav has issued notices to Gujarat University, the Chief Information Commissioner, Professor M. Sridhar Acharyulu, and the Union of India. The court has scheduled the hearing on June 30th to deliberate on the matter.

announced on Friday.

in the past few days.

presence in the IOR posing a

challenge to India, these sorties

demonstrate India's commit-

ment to safeguarding its strate-

gic interests in the region. This

sortie marks the second exercise

of its kind in the Indian Ocean

four Rafale jets, lasted over six

hours and had a strategic objec-

tive. "Another outing into the

Indian Ocean Region! This

time, with IAF Su-30s flying

nearly eight hours, on a differ-ent axis. Both Seaboards cov-

The first mission, involving

Antibiotic resistance killing babies with sepsis in poor countries

PNS NEW DELHI

A global observational study, involving over 3,200 new-born babies diagnosed with sepsis, has highlighted the growing ineffectiveness of antibiotics used for treatment, leading to a significant rise in mortality rates among infants.

The study, published in PLOS Medicine and coauthored by a team of more than 80 researchers, sheds light on the critical issue of antibiotic resistance in at least ten countries, including India. Sepsis, a life-threatening bloodstream infection, affects millions of infants worldwide, with an estimated 3 million cases reported annually. Tragically, 214,000 newborn babies succumb to sepsis every year, primarily in low- and middle-income countries, where the infection has devel-

oped resistance to antibiotics. Conducted from 2018 to 2020, the study aimed to gain a deeper understanding of the infections affecting newborns in hospitals, the causative pathogens, the treatment

strategies employed, and the underlying factors contributing to increased mortality rates.

The findings were alarming, highlighting not only the high mortality rate among infants with culture-positive sepsis (nearly 1 in 5 across the hospital sites) but also the significant burden of antibiotic resistance.

Manica Balasegaram, Executive Director of the Global Antibiotic Research and Development Partnership, emphasized the importance of the study in unraveling the complexities surrounding newborn infections and escalating mortality rates.

Newborns are particularly vulnerable to severe infections due to their underdeveloped immune systems. Nisĥad Plakkal, Additional Professor of Neonatology and Associate Dean (Research) at JIPMER, Puducherry, highlighted the study's striking finding of the disparity in sepsis-related deaths based on geographical location. Plakkal drew attention to the challenges faced in units where nurses are often overwhelmed with caring for multiple critically

ill babies simultaneously, creating an environment conducive to the spread of infections.

The study revealed significant variation in mortality rates among the 19 participating hos-pitals, ranging from 1.6% to 27.3%. Notably, rates were con-siderably higher in LMICs, further exposing the harsh reality of antibiotic-resistant infections prevalent in these healthcare settings. Sithembiso Velaphi, Head of Paediatrics at Chris Hani Baragwanath Academic Hospital in Johannesburg, South Africa, emphasized the urgent need for change, pointing out the high risk of infections and the limited effectiveness of

antibiotics in saving lives. The study shed light on the practice of frequently switching antibiotics due to the high levels of resistance observed in treatments. Hospitals employed over 200 different antibiotic combinations, and physicians were often compelled to resort to carbapenems, classified as Watch" antibiotics by the WHO, due to the escalating resistance to recommended treatments.

Shah reviews Amarnath yatra preparation

PNS NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah conducted a com-prehensive review on Friday of the arrangements being made for the smooth conduct of the upcoming Amarnath pilgrimage in Jammu and Kashmir. The annual pilgrimage, which spans 62 days, is scheduled to commence on July 1 and con clude on August 31.

The pilgrimage takes devotees to the cave shrine of Amarnath, situated at an altitude of 3,880 meters in the South Kashmir Himalayas.

The meeting was attended by prominent officials, including Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha of Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant General Upendra Dwivedi of the Army's Northern Command, Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla, and Director of Intelligence Bureau Tapan Deka. The Home Minister,



along with senior officials from for setting up pilgrim camps, taking into account the possithe central government, the Army, and the Jammu and bility of unforeseen natural Kashmir administration, disasters. reviewed the preparations for

the Amarnath pilgrimage. During the meeting, Shah also assessed the plans being copters are expected to be deployed for aerial sorties in the higher regions around the holy cave to monitor glacial formulated to ensure foolproof security for the pilgrimage. events and the formation of There have been intelligence lakes that could trigger flash inputs suggesting that terrorist floods downstream. groups based in Pakistan may attempt to disrupt the pil-

Unlike last year when such sorties were conducted only

grimage. All stakeholders after the flash floods occurred involved in the pilgrimage were part of the meeting, where various issues related to the in June, this year's exercise will be conducted before the commencement of the pilgrimage and at regular intervals arrangements were discussed. Officials stated that last throughout the two-month year, 3.45 lakh people visited yatra

The aerial surveys will be the holy cave, and this year, the number could increase to 5 carried out by a team with lakh. To prevent incidents simexpertise in remote sensing, satellite technology, hydrology, and disaster response. ilar to last year's flash flood that claimed 16 lives near the shrine, the National Disaster Contingency measures will be Response Force has begun promptly implemented upon identifying suitable locations the identification of potential water build-up, particularly in areas near the cave shrine, along the entire pilgrimage route

Officials also reported that Indian Air Force helisignificant amounts of snow have been observed along both tracks - Baltal and Pahalgam leading to the holy cave. Therefore, the Border Roads Organisation has been tasked with clearing the snow by June 15th to ensure safe passage for the pilgrims.

IAF SU-30s hold long sortie over IOR PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELH

extensive sortie over the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) to test the operational capabilities and ered," read a tweet from the offireadiness of its SU-30 MKI cial IAF handle on Friday. The frontline fighter jets, the IAF sortie covered both the eastern and western seaboards of the With China's increased country

The SU-30 MKIs possess the capability to fly for extended durations and can undertake missions within China if required. Currently, India has nearly 260 SU-30s, which were initially manufactured in Russia, with their induction into the IAF beginning in 2002. These jets are equipped with various weapon systems, including the indigenously designed and manufactured BrahMos supersonic missile.

In a separate effort to enhance the combat readiness

of its Rafale jet fleet, the IAF conducted a "strategic" mission lasting over six hours in the Indian Ocean Region. The mission, which involved various manoeuvres and simulated operations, demonstrated the long-range combat capabilities of the Rafale jets. Providing further details, sources revealed that the Rafale jets took off from the Hasimara Air Force station in the eastern sector on May 31.

The IAF tweeted about the IOR. The aircraft 'fought' their way through a large force engagement en route to their

Weapon Release Point. Pickle on time, weapon on target-the IAF way!" However, the exact date of the operation was not revealed. The Rafale jets, the first major acquisition of fighter planes by India in 23 years since the import of Sukhoi jets from Russia, are manufactured by France and boast a wide range of potent weapons.

Currently, the IAF possesses 36 Rafale jets, with one squadron based in Ambala, responsible for the western sector encompassing China and Pakistan, and another squadron in Hasimara, West Bengal, covering the entire eastern sector facing China.

The induction process of the Rafale jets commenced in 2020 and concluded last year. In 2016, India and France signed a government-to-government deal worth over 7 billion Euros for the acquisition of 36 Rafale jets from Dassault, the manu-

Minister slams K'taka Govt over nixing **KCR** hikes pension for divyangs in T

lesson on RSS founder from textbooks

Force Station, Faridabad PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Force Station Faridabad is an

Western Air Command. It pro-

Sharma was commissioned

New chief for Air

After completing the mission and achieving the desired results, the jets returned to base. Although specific details of the mission were not disclosed, it showcased the operational capabilities and readiness of the Rafale jets in dealing with challenging situations. mission, stating, "Four IAF Rafales flew a long-range mission for over six hours into the



Raise baler capacity in stubble burning areas, says Agri Min official

The Indian Air Force (IAF) recently carried out an eight-hour long non-stop

Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao on Friday announced a hike of Rs 1000 per month in the physically challenged person pensions. Announcing at Mancherial public meeting, the chief minister said the physically challenged persons would now get Rs 4116 per month after the increase

Speaking on the occasion the chief minister said the BRS government is for welfare and it was aiming to expand the Singareni coal mining activity in all the mineral reserves in the State. Speaking about the Singareni coal mines KCR said the Congress and BJP were trying to trim the collieries for their vested interests. On the controversial comments of Congress leaders about the dumping of

ortai ili day the chief minister made a clarion call to the public to dump those leaders in Bay of Bengal if they continue to mince similar kind of statements.

The chief minister spoke in length about the welfare programmes such as Dalit Bandhu, BC welfare programme for artisans, sheep rearing scheme sec-

ond phase during his speech and cautioned the people not to fall prey to the gimmicks and false promises of parties that got no face value among the public. Ministers Vemula Prashant Reddy, Indrakaran Reddy, Koppula Eeshwar, Gangula Kamalakar, whip Balka Suman, MP Santhosh Rao, MLcs, MLA Divakar Rao and other state level corporation chair persons attended public meeting.

Rajeev Chandrashekhar has criticised the Government in Karnataka for reportedly removing a lesson on RSS founder KB Hedgewar from textbooks. school Chandrashekhar accused the Congress party of having a limited view of history that

revolves around the Nehru-Gandhi family. He also took a swipe at Rahul Gandhi's recent 'Mohabbat ki dukaan" remark, describing the previous UPA government as a "corruption ki dukaan" (shop of corruption) and a "lost decade." During a conference. press Chandrashekhar highlighted the transformation that has taken place in the country over the past nine years under



the Modi government. He emphasized the progress made in terms of foreign direct investment (FDI), job creation, and the export of telecom gad-

Chandrashekhar praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi for leading India into the most exciting times in the digital economy and mentioned the success of Direct Bank Transfers (DBTs). Regarding the Karnataka government's reported plan to revise school

Incluaii removal of a lesson on the RSS

Group Captain Kapil Sharma took over comfounder, Chandrashekhar dismissed it as mere antics by the Congress to gain attention. mand of Air Force Station Faridabad from Group Captain

He accused the Congress of rewriting the country's history to exclude individuals who do KS Ganesh on June five, the IAF said here on Friday. Air not belong to a "dynasty." Karnataka's Primary and important logistics hub for Secondary Education Minister, vides valuable logistics suppor Madhu Bangarappa, had earlier stated that textbook revisions to various units of IAF. would be undertaken this year, but did not provide further in the Logistics branch of details. Chandrashekhar con-Indian Air Force in December demned the move to remove the lesson on Hedgewar, describing it as a "crime against bases and base repair depots the youth of India" and preduring his service career.

He has undergone Strategic dicting that people would respond to the Congress for Management and Defence depriving students of the truth Acquisition Management about India. PNS courses



1997. He has held various PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI appointments in operational

> Senior Agriculture Ministry Official KAP Sinha on Friday suggested increasing baler capacity, deploying more machinery in high stubble burning areas and involving cooperative societies in Delhi and surrounding states.

Addressing a workshop 'Paddy straw management and action plans' organised in Ludhiana, Sinha acknowledged the desire to eliminate the practice of paddy straw burning but identified obstacles hindering

"Further, he proposed increasing baler capacity, deploying more machinery in high-burning areas, involving cooperative societies to support SC beneficiaries, and replicating successful initiatives," an official statement quoted Sinha as saying at the workshop.

Sinha, who is an additional secretary in the Union Agriculture Ministry, expressed hope that there will be no stubble-burning incidents next year. The workshop was organised along with Punjab Agriculture University (PAU) and the state government.

PAU Vice-Chancellor Satbir Singh Gosal cautioned that stubble burning emits toxic pollutants, which disperse in the surroundings and eventually, affect the air quality and people's health as well as soil health. He advocated the concept of conservation agriculture which upcycles paddy straw without pro-

ducing any waste. He called for synergy among the Department of Agriculture, NGOs, acade-mia, industry and farmers to tackle the menace of paddy straw burning.

S Rukhmani, Joint Secretary in the Union Agriculture Ministry, said there is a reduction of 30-40 per cent in paddy straw burning since last year and emphasised the workshop's goal of creating a value-chain plan to utilise paddy straw as a resource and minimise losses for farmers. She also briefed about a central scheme that is in place to support crop residue management.

The scheme provides financial assistance of 50 per cent for farmers to purchase designated machinery and 80 per cent for Cooperative Societies, Farmers' Producers Organizations (FPOs) and Panchayats to establish Custom Hiring Centres (CHCs).

Senior officers from the Centre and state agriculture department, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, stakeholders in the central government, state governments of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and NCR of Delhi were present in the work-

Representatives of State Pollution Control Boards, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, various stakeholder agencies, social groups and NGOs, agricultural machinery manufacturing industries and biomass industry associations and more than 300 farmers participated in the workshop.

SenzHb gives haemoglobin test Centre OK's use of UAVs result in just 30 seconds: CSIR for crop dusting, surveys

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

 $S^{\rm oon,\,in\,just\,Rs\,10}$ and within 30 seconds, one will be able to get the results of their haemoglobin test. Thanks to the scientists of the CSIR-Indian Institute of Toxicology Research (IITR) who have indigenously developed a rapid haemoglobin detection test kit called 'SenzHb', a paper-based kit that gives results in just 30 seconds

The IITR scientists said, "As compared to testing facilities available in the market, SenzHb is economical and easy to use." They said the traditional methods for getting haemoglobin checked involve sophisticated instruments and clinical laboratory settings that are often unavail-able in remote/rural areas. "This paper-based, colorimetric strip-type sensor of SenzHb addresses these challenges by providing a rapid and reliable haemoglobin assay," IITR director Bhaskar Narain said.

All one needs to do is prick with the help of a needle that comes with the strip, drop blood on the strip and as soon the strip colour changes, match it with the 'changed colour guidelines' given along with the kit. Similar kits available in the market are not just high priced, but do not offer accurate results and are not 'made in India'



"Also, this kit incorporates a QR code that provides detailed instructions for conducting the test in eight languages. The QR code also includes a colour chart, further simplifying the interpretation of results," he said. The IITR scientists team said to ensure the accuracy and reliability of SenzHb, extensive validation has been conducted.

It is a point-of-care test (POCT) kit that can be used by healthcare workers, even in the absence of advanced laboratory facilities. Its simplicity and user-friendly design enables efficient and accurate haemoglobin estimation.

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NFW DFI HI

n a move aimed to develop Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) as vibrant business enterprises in keeping with changing times, the Government has widened their role by allowing them to venture into the unmanned aerial vehicle sector for crop dusting i.e. spraying of fertilizers and pesticides on crops and also for survey of property. Currently such aerial gadgets have already become the machines of choice for many farmers in the country who are using them for various agricultural activities ranging from spraying liquid fer-tilisers and pesticides to check crop damage if any.

This was among the five key decisions taken in a meeting held recently between Union Cooperation Minister Amit Shah and Union Minister of Chemicals and Fertilisers



Mansukh Mandaviya. In yet another important move, the ministries agreed that on the basis of mapping, PACS — which are not functioning as fertilizer retailers — will be identified and they will be encouraged to function as retailers on the basis of feasibility in a phased manner.

Those PACS, which are not currently functioning as Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samruddhi Kendras (PMKSK), will be brought under the ambit of PMKŠK, according to an official from the Union Corporation Ministry. Further, PACS will also be connected with the marketing of organic

fertilizers, especially Fermented Organic Manure (FoM)/ Liquid Fermented Organic Manure (LFOM)/ Phosphate Enriched Organic Manure

Under the Market Development Assistance (MDA) scheme of the Department of Fertilizers, fertilizer companies will act as an aggregator for small bio-organic producers to market the end product, in this supply and marketing chain of bio-organic fertilizers, PACS will also be included as wholesalers/retailers.There are about one lakh PACS present across the coun-

try "These important decisions will increase the income of PACS, as well as increase the employment opportunities in rural areas and farmers will be able to get fertilizers, pesticides, seeds and agricultural machinery at the local level," the ministry added.

(PROM)

nation 05



in rural Bengal jointly

Opp moves HC for CAPF as violence erupts in regions SAUGAR SENGUPTA KOLKATA

The Congress and the Left Front will jointly contest the upcoming Bengal rural elections, the leaders of the two parties including Pradesh Congress president Adhir Chowdhury on Friday said.

This, even as the State Opposition parties including the BJP moved Calcutta High Court seeking directions for the State Election Commission to allot more time for filing of nomination and deployment of central forces.

"I have appealed to all the Congress supporters and workers to work in coordination with the Left Front in the panchayat elections," Chowdhury said. On how the seats would be shared he said the parties would put up their own candidates where they were stronger and support the alliance partner where they had better chances of winning. "If an atmosphere con-

ducive to elections can be created and if the people get a chance to vote then the TMC will get a taste of real opposition this time round," Chowdhury said adding "we have instructed our workers to strike alliance with the Left as far as possible."

CPI(M) central committee member Sujan Chakrabarty too said that there was a mutual understanding and the Left and the Congress would fight the polls together. "Our candidate list is ready and we are going to file nominations ... will fight the elections jointly with the Congress and the Indian Secular Front."

The Congress and Left leaders' declarations came amid a demand for deployment of central forces and extending the time of filing nominations.

While elections will be held on July 8, the nominations for the single-phase elections will start from June 9 and continue till June 15. July 20 has been fixed as the last date of withdrawing nomination.

Both the Congress and the BJP have moved the High Court seeking extension of time for filing nomination together with a demand for deployment of central forces

"Five days are not enough



panchayat and a majority of the

remaining seats were won by the

State ruling party amid massive

violence that saw about 100

deaths. Bengal has 3,317 gram

panchayats and the number of

village panchayat election cen-

tres is 58,594. There are a total

Commissioner Rajiva Sinha had

on Thursday declared the dates

Meanwhile, in what was

and some other places, sources

said. The Commission had

already identified five districts of

Jalpaiguri, Birbhum, two 24

Parganas and East Midnapore as

sensitive districts.

Within hours of assuming charge, new State Election

of 63,283 panchayat seats.

for filing nomination as it is clear that the State administrative machinery itself is not prepared to accept nomination ... in many places there are no adequate nomination papers, police officials ... and in many other areas the BDOs or other district and block level officers seem to be completely unprepared as they have no infrastructure, no police force ... it looks like a farce taking place and so we have approached the High Court

of the single-phase panchayat seeking extension of time and elections. Considered a man close to Chief Minister Mamata deployment of central forces," said BJP leader Samik Baneriee, the former State Chief Secretary had said that he had **Bhattacharva** Another BJP leader Rahul not yet taken a decision on cen-

Sinha said no election was postral forces. sible in Bengal without central forces. Senior State Congress leader Nepal Mahato too said being viewed as a pre-poll warn-ing by the TMC leadership of "we will press for deployment of what was to come during the central forces as the number of rural polls, senior party leader state police for a single-phase and former minister Madan Mitra on Friday said that "the poll is too low ... the number of police forces do not even match game is over for the opposition the number of booths," he said. as I don't think they will get the There are about 59,000 booths courage to file nomination ... my only request to the TMC in Bengal The Calcutta High Court workers to help the opposition however on Friday asked the file at least 10 percent nomina-

State Election Commission to tion." On electoral violence and consider extension of nominadiscovery of tons of bombs tion time and left the deployfrom all over the State, Mitra said ment of central forces to the that "there is no excitement without a little bit of violence," State government. The BJP, on behalf of the

adding, "during the CPI(M) rule there were bombs ... and Leader of Opposition of the West Bengal Assembly, Suveneven today there bombs ... so du Adhikari – who was in there is no difference." Delhi to meet Home Minister Mitra's 'threatening' state-Amit Shah - demanded instalment came amid reports of violence at Raninagar in Murshilation of CCTV cameras in dabad, parts of East Midnapore,

every booth, deployment of paramilitary forces and more time in filing the nomination for the panchayat polls. The year 2018, the Trina-

mool Congress (TMC) won uncontested, 34 per cent of the

MLA-brother Sunil Raut, an unfazed Pawar dismissed the death threat handed to him, by saying: "I have full faith in law and order machinery. I do not bother about this kind of threats. Every citizen has a right to

express his or her views on any subject. No one can silence the voice of anyone through this kind of threats". Pawar's daughter and MP Supriya Sule went along with a delegation of NCP functionaries and met Mumbai Police Commissioner Vivek Phansalkar demanded "strict action" in the matter.

"MP Supriyatai Sule and the delegation of NCP today met the Mumbai Police Commissioner and demanded immediate action regarding the death threat received by NCP President Sharad Pawar Saheb on social media. At this time, the Xerox of the screenshot of the threat received on social media was given to the Commissioner of Police," the NCP tweeted.

Taking serious cogisance of the death threat received by Pawar, Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde on Friday said his Government has taken serious note of the death threat to NCP chief Sharad Pawar and he has given instructions for a probe. His deputy Devendra Fadnavis said such threats will not be tolerated, while Mumbai Police registered a first information report (FIR) over the threat, Pune cops reviewed security at Pawar's residence in Shivajinagar area of the city. Meanwhile, two people were detained here after Sanjay Raut

Cong, LF to fight polls Death threats to Pawar, Raut and brother

Shinde says Govt has taken serious note of threat to Pawar; Mumbai Police files FIR

TN RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI

In a major development, NCP chief Sharad Pawar has received a fresh death threat through a tweet, saying that the 83-year-old leader would meet the same as rationalist Narendra Dabholkar who was shot dead in Pune in August 2013. On a day when Shiv Sena (UBT) MP and leader Sanjay Raut also received a similar death threat through his



on Friday said he and his MLA brother Sunil Raut had received death threat calls and asked the Maharashtra Government to take them seriously.

Both the persons were apprehended from the eastern a threat on social media was a suburb of Govandi, a senior official said. Police are awaiting

an official complaint in the case. Once the complaint is filed, the two will be placed under arrest, said the official.

Sanjay Raut also said that NCP chief Sharad Pawar getting serious issue, claiming that moves were afoot to instill fear in

the Opposition. It may be recalled that 69-old rationalist and anti-superstition activist Narendra Dabholkar was shot

dead from a point blank range by two motor-bicycle riding gunmen, while he was taking a morning walk on the Omkareshwar bridge located in

take it (threat to him and his brother) seriously and not me. The Government wants such threats. The matter is with the

the heart of Pune, on August 20,

"The Government should

2013.

police and they will have to look into it," he told reporters. "Sunil Raut received a threat I didn't file any complaint. We are not worried about it," claimed Raut, who has received threats in the past as well.

Meanwhile, calling Pawar a "senior respected leader", Shinde said police authorities have been asked to beef up Pawar's security if needed.

For the past few days, the Chief Minister said, deliberate attempts are being made to create tension in the State.

"Ever since the Supreme Court verdict (in Shiv Senarelated issues), some people are upset due to which attempts are being made to spoil the atmosphere in the State," he said.

'Jungle raj' in Shinde-Fadnavis rule: Cong

Maharashtra Congress president Nana Patole on Friday claimed 'jungle raj' or lawlessness is prevailing under the Eknath Shinde-BJP Government in the State as it is witnessing murders, rapes, riots and threats to Opposition leaders. In a statement released in Mumbai, he said if Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, who also holds the Home portfolio, cannot maintain law and order in the State, where several districts had been in grip of tension over controversial social media posts, he should quit.

"Is it a policy of the Government to eliminate Opposition leaders?" Patole asked while referring to the death threat issued to NCP chief Sharad Pawar. Targeting Fadnavis, the Congress MLA said, "Step down if you cannot maintain law and order." "Everyday there are reports of murders, rapes, robberies, riots, attacks on Opposition leaders from various parts of the State. Opposition leaders are being openly threatened with death.

महाराष्ट्र प्रदेश काँग्रेस कमिटी laharashtra Pradesh Co Gress Committee



Under the Eknath Shinde-Devendra Fadnavis regime, there is absolute jungle raj in the State," Patole alleged.

"The law and order situation in the State is so frightening that people are wondering if a Government exists in the State and if it has a Home Minister," said the Congress leader. There have been riots in ten cities in the State in the last three months alone and incidents of communal tension are being reported from dif-ferent towns, he said. The ruling parties (Shiv Sena and the BJP) are creating religious discord and consciously trying to stoke religious tensions in Maharashtra, he said.

"Leaders of Opposition parties are getting death threats in a bid to stop them from speaking against the Government,"

Congress appoints Gohil as Guj PCC | Second innings for chief; Babaria as Hry, Delhi in-charge





Maha Cong slams Speaker's 'revolutionary decision' quip

PTI MUMBAI

The Maharashtra Congress on Friday slammed Assembly Speaker Rahul Narwekar for stating that he would take a "revolutionary decision" on the disqualification petitions of 16 MLAs led by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde who broke away from the Shiv Sena in June last year.

The Supreme Court, in its order on May 11, had asked the Speaker to decide on the disqualification of 16 MLAs of the Shinde camp within a "reasonable" period.

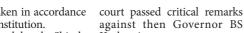
In a statement issued during the day, Maharashtra Congress Atul Londhe said, "Narwekar's statement on taking a revolutionary decision gives a glimpse of which way the decision can go. It is not good for a democracy to have a biased Assembly Speaker."

Pointing out that the Speaker was yet to act even after a month of the SC order that underlined a "reasonable period", Londhe said the decision on disqualification of the MLAs should not be revolutionary but



should be taken in accordance with the Constitution.

He asserted that the Shinde Government was unconstitutional as the actions of the Governor at the time and the Shinde camp's appointment of party whip were termed illegal. In its May 11 order, the apex



Koshyari Narwekar is a law student and it is expected that he takes a decision based on the Constitution as well as the Prohibition of Defection Act and Rules, Londhe asserted.



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DFI HI

Ongress on Friday appoint-Ged Rajya Sabha MP Shaktisinh Gohil as the new Gujarat PCC president and relieved him from the charge of AICC in-charge of Haryana and Delhi by appointing Deepak Babaria in his place.

"The Congress president has appointed Shaktisinh Gohil as the new Gujarat PCC president and V Vaithilingam, MP, as the new Puducherry PCC pres-ident," said an official communication. "The Congress presi-dent has appointed Deepak Babaria as AICC in-charge of Haryana and Delhi with immediate effect," said another official order from the party. It also said that the party appreciates the contributions of outgoing AICC in-charge Gohil.

Gohil has replaced Jagdish Thakor, who had resigned after the party's poor performance in the last assembly elections in Gujarat when the party reached its lowest-ever legislator tally. Gohil has been a former Leader of Opposition in Gujarat at the time Narendra Modi was the chief minister of the state.

By appointing Gohil, who is considered close to Rahul Gandhi, the party is seeking to strengthen the organisation in the home state of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah. The Congress has remained out of power in Gujarat for over two-and-ahalf decades.

Meanwhile, the Congress also appointed MLA Varsha Gaikwad as the new president of Mumbai RCC (Regional Con-gress Committee) by replacing Bhai Jagtap. Vaithilingam has replaced A V Subramanian as Puducherry PCC chief.

"The party appreciates the contributions of the outgoing PCC/RCC presidents Shri Jagdish Thakor (Gujarat), Shri A V Subramanian (Puducherry) and Shri Bhai Jagtap (Mumbai)," another order said.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge has also appointed Mansoor Ali Khan as secretary, AICC attached to the AICC in-charge of Telangana with immediate effect. Besides, P C Vishnunadh, secretary, AICC is relieved from his current responsibility in Karnataka and is now attached to the AICC incharge of Telangana.

"The party appreciates the contributions of N S Boseraju and Nadeem Javed and relieves them of their responsibilities as secretaries of AICC," the party said. In another order, the Congress president also approved the proposal for the appointment of chairmen of various committees, and the constitution of the Disciplinary Action Committee of Odisha Pradesh Congress Committee with immediate effect

While Jagneswar Babu has been appointed chairman of the AICC Programme Implementation Committee for Odisha, Sanjay Tripathy is the new chairman of Publicity and Publication Committee and Panchanan Kanungo the chairman of the Manifesto Commit-

The Congress chief also set up a six-member Disciplinary Action Committee for Odisha Pradesh Congress with Santosh Singh Salluja as its chairman and Janaki Ballav Pattanaik as its convenor. Bhujabala Majhi, Rajendra Chhatria, Debendra Sahoo and Pratima Mallik have been appointed as members of the disciplinary panel for the Odisha Congress.

Former AIADMK MP V Maitreyan (C) joins BJP in the presence of BJP leader Arun Singh (R), at party headquarters in New Delhi

PNS NEW DELHI

It is the BJP "once more" for former Rajya Sabha member V Maitreyan, who was expelled from the AIADMK last year, and joined the BJP on Friday for the second-time.

Maitrevan was in the BIP before joining the AIADMK more than two decades ago and was considered a close aide to its late leader J Jayalalithaa who sent him to Rajya Sabha thrice.

He joined the BJP here at the party headquarters in the presence of its national general secretaries Arun Singh and CT Ravi

Before re-joining the party, Maitreyan met the party pres-ident JP Nadda and presented him with a bouquet. He is an old BJP hand and follower of RSS

Soon after taking the BJP membership, he expressed confidence that the "lotus" will bloom in Tamil Nadu in 2024 and 2026, when Lok Sabha BJP after 23 years. Arun Jaitley was my good friend and Dharmendra Pradhan is my good friend. Modi is visionary leader", he said. Maitreyan was an AIADMK MP for 18 years. Lauding Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, Maitreyan told reporters that he

and Assembly polls are due

respectively. "I returned to the

is not merely a name but the "mission and vision" of a resurgent India which is making rapid strides in different fields.

He was expelled by the current AIADMK leader Edappadi K Palaniswami for "anti-party activities"

With the BJP's ties with the AIADMK are seen to be far from smooth despite Palaniswami's assertions that their alliance continues, BJP general secretary Ravi said his party has been playing the role of a real Opposition in the State even though it has only four MLAs. It is fighting the DMK Government over people's issues, he said.

Govt demolishes school used as morgue after triple train accident

PTI BHUBANESWAR

The Odisha Government on Friday began demolishing the 65-year-old Bahanaga High School building that was used as a temporary morgue for victims of Coromandel Express. The demolition was being carried out in presence of the school managing committee (SMC) members and Public Works Department officials.

The decision to raze the Naveen Patnaik held a meeting building was taken after the with senior Government offi-SMC said it was old and not safe cials including the Chief

and that kids were reluctant to attend classes in the school where bodies were kept.

children.

struction of the institute on Thursday. He also approved a Guardians had also demanproposal to make it a model ded demolition of the building school with modern facilities as photos of bodies being ferried such as a library, science laboratory and digital classrooms. to the school for identification by their families had been

During his visit to the institution on Thursday, Balasore imprinted in the minds of the Collector Dattatraya Bhausaheb Based on the SMC's deci-Shinde had said the school sion and request by guardians and locals, Chief Minister managing committee wanted the building to be demolished.

Secretary and sanctioned recon-

The District Collector appealed to all not to spread fear and superstition, suggesting that



efforts should instead be made to inculcate a scientific temper in the young, impressionable minds. School and Mass Education Department Secretary S Aswathy said the authorities will organise counselling for students and teachers to remove

fear from their minds. Two days after the June 2 train accident, the State Government shifted the bodies from the school to different hospitals in Bhubaneswar.

While above 200 bodies have so far been identified and

handed over to their families, around 80 still remain unclaimed and unidentified at Bhubaneswar AIIMS morgue, officials said.

The Coromandel Express had crashed into a stationary goods train, derailing most of its coaches on June 2. A few of those toppled over the last few coaches of the Bengaluru-Howrah Express which was passing by at the same time. In all, 288 people died in the accident and more than 1,200 were

injured.

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-PAPER WITH PASSION-

In bad taste

A tableau depicting the assassination of Indira Gandhi in Canada is not the done thing

controversial tableau depicting the assassination of former Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has sparked widespread debate and outrage, especially in Canada And India. The tableau, displayed during a cultural event, has ignited discussions surrounding artistic freedom, historical sensitivity and the limits of expression. Indira Gandhi was assassinated by her bodyguards on October 31, 1984. It was their response to her government's operation against militants hiding in Golden Temple, Amritsar. The assassination had profound repercussions, including widespread violence and riots targeting the Sikh community across India. Recently, during a cultural event in Canada, a tableau depicting the assassination of Indira Gandhi was showcased. The tableau featured actors dressed as assassins, reenacting the tragic event. The inclusion of such a portrayal in a public setting has ignited a firestorm of criticism, with both the Indian diaspora and the broader Canadian public express-



ing outrage. Leave alone the rationale of showing such a tableau; it was at best a peevish attempt to glorify the event. No matter how opposed you might be to your opponent, trampling graves is never the done thing. The tableau showed a lack of sensitivity and respect for a painful moment in Indian history. The assassination of Indira Gandhi was a traumatic event that claimed the life of a prominent leader and led to communal violence. The reenactment of this event, especially without proper context, is the trivialisation of the suffering caused.

Moreover, it opens up wounds of an event that took place 39 years ago. Not only does it put Sikhs in a bad light, creating a notion that all of them sup-

ported the assassination, but also makes them suffer all over again. The tableau has also drawn condemnation for perpetuating negative stereotypes and stigmatising the Sikh community. Sikhism is a peaceful religion, and the actions of a few individuals do not represent the beliefs and values of an entire community. Associating Sikhs with violence through such a portrayal exacerbates existing prejudices and can lead to increased discrimination. This is not to say that artistic expression should not be protected, but it should not border sadism and should not celebrate vicious campaigns. Striking a balance between artistic expression and cultural sensitivity remains a challenge in an increasingly interconnected and diverse world. It is crucial to continue engaging in dialogue to foster understanding and mutual respect while upholding the principles of freedom of expression. In this context, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has done the right thing and issued a statement condemning the depiction, saying it was in bad taste and would harm India-Canada relations. It goes without saying that the Minister rose above the party line and talked about the image of the country, for which he needs to be complimented.



Churn among the Christian community



Hinduism does not have an "Other" to quarrel with. It is the deductive approach that has made many a European lose interest in Christianity

here is a greater affin-ity between Hinduism and Christianity than with Islam or Judaism. Jesus Christ walked the earth and performed innumerable miracles to cure and otherwise help common folk in the region around Jerusalem. His betrayal by Judas, trial by the Roman rulers and crucifixion on Calvary Hill are all on record. Christians insist Jesus was the son of God whereas the Muslims look upon him as a prophet; the Jews reject him as nobody. Hindus, who take an interest in knowing about other religions, would say he was rather like an avatar.

I am a committed Hindu with clear views on my faith. When I visited Jerusalem a few years ago, I was feeling somewhat ill and weak. On our visit to Calvary Hill, I somehow forgot about rest and simply kept going upward, with my family, till we reached the top of the hill and returned to the base and then our hotel. Evidently, some unknown and unseen power was driving me to walk on and further upwards.

To come back to similarity, Christianity is not as much against idol worship as its priests might claim. Every church has a cross, while every Roman Catholic place of worship has a portrait or statue of the Virgin Mary as a symbol of Immaculate Conception. Hinduism also permits the practice of yoga, which means surrogacy, wherein the fathers could even be celestial figures, as were the fathers of the Pandavas of the Mahabharata. Significantly, Islam and Judaism demand transnational loyalty from their followers. The Muslims call this "qaum above vatan", i.e., religion above state. On the other hand, nationalism above all, as a concept was conceived by Christian Europe. Hindus have their faith in Bharat Mata as the political goddess to be followed. In this context, the only point of difference in India etween Christianity and Hinduism is the conversion of poor Hindus. Tempting and luring needy Hindus by offering help, including money, in sition imposing. He/she



exchange for quitting the worship of say, Ambaji and Hanuman, and worshipping Jesus Christ in a Church from day one after conversion, has been unwelcome, and also a source of tension.

A day's visit to the Dangs district of Gujarat would demonstrate the anguish local Hindus feel. The Christian community across the world comes through as well-educated. And knowledge can lead to thinking, and quite a few thinking people can become hungry for their spiritual advancement. They would prefer not to be told as to what is pious and what is sinful; what is heaven and how they would be dispatched to one or the other on Doomsday, on the com-mand of God. If religion touches base with logic, Christianity would fall on the side of Deductive Logic, which begins with an imaginary premise. For example, my god is the only god and there is no other. If one wants to go to heaven, one has to go through him. For a simple person, it would be convenient to accept such a given

would welcome the freedom for his psyche to play about with. In this case, Hinduism with its inductive logic would be more satisfying. The reason is that the faith would expect the follower to choose his dharma or duty in life. Thereafter, it would be a matter of how well he works towards fulfilling that dharma. That is karma. For the thinking psyche, it is freedom and freedom all the way. There is almost a limitless treasure of scripture and mythology to guide the follower, from the Vedas, Puranas, Bhagavad Gita and the epics Ramayana and Mahabharata. Fortunately, in the inter-

religious context, Hinduism does not have an "Other" to quarrel with. It is the deductive approach that has made many European lose interest in Christianity. There is no animosity against it, but a loss of interest as it leads to an unfulfilled spirituality. Hinduism as a whole has not proselytized, made no real attempt to convert and yet, there are some one hundred ISKCON temple com-

Take, for example, Kerala. Christianity simultaneously faces two rivals. There is communism along with its insistent atheism, and the sword of Islam then Hindus who ideally would prefer peace and harmony. Christianity on its own cannot wield power. The choice of the Christian community to solely depend on itself in the last elections handed the communists a thumping victory. Why should Kerala enjoy the unique honour of keeping the flag of Marx fluttering? Hardly anywhere else in the world is it even remembered. Even libraries have reduced space on their shelves for Das Kapital. Kerala is a cultural jewel of India. Its speciality is worship; the state's temples and churches are a unique sight to behold. The Maharaja of Travancore, when he ruled as the trustee of Lord Padmanabha, allowed up to 20 per cent of his people to become worshippers of Jesus Christ. Today, there is hardly any Christian denomination that is not present in Kerala.

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

thesis because the corollaries that follow such a thesis are easy to digest. But a thinking person may find the propo-

plexes, mainly in the USA and Europe. The chant of "Hare Krishna, Hare Rama" has been popularized by ISKCON.

A farmer works at his field on a hot summer day in Amritsar

Give a green touch to product development



Enviornment considerations can provide a sustainable future for all. It is not only a responsible but also a promising opportunity

n today's world, where environmental issues are Lbecoming increasingly critical, it is essential for companies to adopt sustainable practices. Integrating environmental considerations into the product development process is a key step towards minimising the ecological footprint of businesses. By focusing on sustainability, companies can contribute to the preservation of the environment while also enhancing their reputation and gaining a competitive edge.

Promoting sustainable ethics and practices within companies is crucial for the betterment of the environment. While transitioning to complete sustainability overnight may be challenging, every company can take steps towards positive change. By embracing sustainable principles, companies can contribute to a greener future. Conducting a Life Cycle Assessment and Design To start with, companies should conduct a comprehensive Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) of their products. This assessment involves evaluating the environmental impact



entire life cycle, from raw material extraction to disposal. By identifying the hotspots where environmental impacts are most significant, companies can make informed decisions to reduce their ecolog-

ical footprint. Prioritise Sustainable Design

During the product design phase, sustainability should be the priority. This involves considering materials, energy efficiency and recyclability. Choosing renewable and biodegradable materials, reducing energy consumption and designing products that are easy to repair, upgrade or recycle can significantly minimise environmental impact. Energy Efficiency and **Resource Conservation**

Companies should focus of a product throughout its on improving energy effi-

ciency and conserving resources in their product development process. This can be achieved by integrating energy-saving technologies, such as low-power components and efficient manufacturing processes. Implementing waste reduction strategies, such as recycling and reusing materials,

can also minimise resource consumption and decrease waste generation. Continuous Improvement

and Innovation

Sustainable product development is an ongoing process. Companies should continuously evaluate and improve their environmental performance. Regularly monitoring and benchmarking against key performance indicators (KPIs) can help identify areas for further enhancement.

Consumer Education and Engagement

It is very important to educate the target audience and customers about the products. By providing clear information on eco-friendly features, such as reduced energy consumption or recy-

clability, companies can empower consumers to make

environmentally conscious choices. Engaging with customers through social media, informative campaigns and interactive platforms can foster a sense of shared responsibility for the environment. Thus, it is evident that

integrating environmental considerations into product development is not only a responsibility but also a promising opportunity. In one of the latest reports in 2023 titled "10 Steps to Reducing Costs While Saving the Environment," Barbara Swenson outlined strategies for manufacturing businesses to become more sustainable, reduce costs and increase profits. These steps offer a roadmap for businesses to align with sustainability goals, reduce expenses, and contribute to environmental preservation. By prioritising sustainability, businesses can contribute to the preservation of our planet, enhance their reputation and secure longterm success. This concerted effort allows us to create a positive impact and shape a better world for future generations

(The writer is the CEO, *Founder of Roperro)*

LETTERS TO THE EDITO

CHRISTIANS

INSIST JESUS

WAS THE SON

WHEREAS THE

MUSLIMS LOOK

UPON HIM AS A

PROPHET; THE

JEWS REJECT

HIM AS NOBODY

OF GOD

TEXTBOOK ROW IN KARNATAKA

Sir — Karnataka Primary and Secondary Education Minister Madhu Bangarappa on Friday stated that the previous BJP govern-ment had tried to infuse its "corrupt" mindset into the system of studies. He stressed that the changes to be introduced in school textbooks will be in the interest of children; it won't be about pro-Congress or anti-BJP changes. The statement was made amid reports that the textbook lesson on RSS founder Keshav Baliram Hedgewar will be removed. The remarks come after the Minister announced that the revision of school textbooks will be done this year.

The Congress in its poll manifesto had promised to undo the changes made to school textbooks when the BJP was in power and had also promised to scrap the NEP. The Karnataka Primary and Secondary Education Board stated: "It'll be done very soon and it will be handled by professional people." There was a controversy during the previous BJP regime, with demands by the Opposition Congress and some writers for sacking the then textbook review committee chief Rohith Chakratirtha for allegedly "saffronising" school textbooks and omitting chapters on key figures like freedom fighters, social reformers and the writings of noted literary figures.

Bhagwan Thadani | Mumbai

INDIA-US BILATERAL RELATIONS

Sir — Recently, US Defence Secretary Lloyd J Austin had visited India to further expand bilateral relations. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to make an official visit to the US in a few days. During Modi's visit, Joe Biden will host a state dinner for him, a nod to the US-Indian relationship. The frequent exchange of high-ranking officials between India and the US shows that both countries are keen to develop their relationship in the light of their shared concerns, especially with respect to China. However, India's different approach to dealing with the Ukraine crisis has influenced it to some extent.

Internet economy on an upswing



joint report by Google, Temasek and Bain & Company predicts that India's internet economy will reach \$1 trillion by 2030. This represents a substantial increase from its value of \$175 billion in 2022. The internet economy encompasses various sectors and, among them, B2C e-commerce is playing a significant role by contributing approximately one-third of the overall value. Several factors are driving the growth of India's internet economy. One, there is a rising digital demand in tier 2+ cities, which are urban areas beyond metropolitan cities. Two,

Despite this, Biden will make another attempt to woo India with high-level arrangements to receive Modi. But a scep-tical India is wary of warnings from the US and its allies. In March this year, the US Commission on International Religious Freedom criticised religious freedom in India, saying it had declined drastically since Narendra Modi came to power in 2014. The US State Department also criticised India in its annual report on human rights. After this, Modi announced that India is actually the mother of democra-

Bhupendra Singh | New Delhi

NEWSREADER GITANJALI AIYAR NO MORE

Sir — Award-winning anchor Gitanjali Aiyar (71), one of India's first English female news presenters on the national broadcaster, is no more. In our early service life, after the office hours, the best time was Doordarshan's (DD) 8.45 PM to 9.15 PM's Hindi and English (Gitanjali Aiyar)

the digitisation of traditional businesses is contributing to the expansion of internet economy. Traditional sectors like retail, healthcare, education and financial services are increasingly adopting digital technologies and online platforms to reach customers, improve operational efficiency and offer new services. This digital transformation is opening up new opportunities and driving economic growth. Three, the report highlights the success of India Stack as a significant factor in the surge of the internet economy. The projected growth of India's internet economy is expected to make the country more attractive as an investment destination. The report indicates that three out of five investors anticipate increased deal activity in India within the next two to three years. This is driven by the promising growth prospects and the expanding digital market, which presents opportunities for both domestic and international investors.

Amarjeet Kumar | Hazaribagh

news were among the best moments of the day, still lingering in mind. Immediately after graduating from Loreto College in Kolkata, Gitanjali joined the English news section of All India Radio, and later DD in 1971.

She was awarded the honour of "best anchor" four times. She also won the Indira Gandhi Priyadarshini Award for Outstanding Women in 1989. Gitanjali had Parkinson's disease and was on medication. She collapsed after returning home from a walk on June 7 evening. Aside from making a name for herself in news, Aiyar had also been a popular face in several print advertisements and even acted in Sridhar Kshirsagar's TV drama "Khandaan." She also held a diploma from the National School of Drama. Aiyar is survived by two children and her husband, journalist and economist Swaminathan Aiyar.

Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee | Faridabad

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FIRSTCOLUMN BREAK THE CORRUPTION CHAIN

A morally sound individual does not need to fear law and punishment



RAJYOGI BRAHMAKUMAR NIKUNJ JI

ecently, the whole nation went agog in shock while watching the scenes of bundles of cash currency coming out from the basement of the residence of a government servant from a northwest Indian state. We all know that the issue of corruption has stirred up numerous debates and agitations and attracted extensive coverage in the mass media over the past few years. It is also a well-known fact that in many countries taking and giving bribes, financial scams and misuse of public money have become a norm.

It has been a kind of tradition for every government coming to power, to introduce various legislative proposals to root out bribery, pass Bills to check corruption in government purchases and monitor the working of various ministries and independent regulatory bodies to ensure transparency and fair work culture. But! We all know that no number of laws will be able to arrest corruption as has been the experience so far. Reason? Already a plethora of legislation exists but when it comes to their implementation, there comes a big question mark. This is so because the implementing agencies also consist of such humans who could be taken over by greed just like those who they are expected to monitor. The growing frenzy for acquiring more and more wealth by any means is born out of the illusion that money can buy anything - respect, love, even peace and happiness.



This belief has found favour with most over the years and materialism has eroded people's faith in moral and spiritual values. There is no doubt about the fact that our standards of living may have risen, but standards of life have taken a nosedive. Today, simple living and high thinking have become a thing of the past and luxurious living and low thinking are the order of the day. The media and the advertising industry are further making this mirage look so life-like by glamorising a money-driven lifestyle. As a result of this, people are keeping more and more of their inner selves at stake to consume more and more from outside, fearing that they might otherwise be left behind. A corrupt government servant and a citizen have one thing in common - overwhelmed by greed they both bypass their conscience first before bypassing the laws of the land. Whereas, a morally sound individual, on the other hand, does not need to fear law and punishment to refrain from an act detrimental to society. He abstains from wrongdoing simply because he is obedient to his inner call. Hence, we as a civil society should understand one thing very clearly there is no magic wand to root out corruption. However, what we need urgently is a dedicated strategy to rebuild the conscience of the country. And it can only be done by imparting moral values in individuals through the education system and the media. Along with this, the government can also work in collaboration with reputed NGOs who are already involved in the process of character building. It is only when we weed out moral corruption from within individuals and emerge their spiritual values, our mass campaign against corruption will bear fruit. Otherwise, though laws might be able to snub it, the monster of corruption will keep resurrecting again and again. (Writer is a spiritual educator & popular columnist for publications across India, Nepal & UK)

India is helping bring the world together



07

analysis

In the true spirit of 'Vasudhaiv Kutumbakam', India is trying to bring about a world order which is just, equitable and mutually respectful to all



ndeed, the year 2022 was special and memorable for India in many ways. On one hand, we faced various global challenges firmly, on the other hand, we achieved many milestones in the fields of sports, education, business, economy, science and technology. But as they say, "All is well that ends well", this phrase was seen to be true when India officially assumed the chairmanship of the G20 group on December 01, the last month of the year 2022. It was a matter of pride for all the Bharatvanshis. This unique opportunity came at a stage when India was tak-ing pride in its history by celebrating 'Amrit Mahotsav of Independence' in a historic manner and Prime Minister Narendra Modi from the ramparts of the Red Fort wished India to emerge as a strong global superpower in the next 25 years. He was telling about the resolution of 'Panch Prana' Those who are confused about what is G20 after all? Why is there so much discussion on India getting its chairmanship? So, they should know that G20 European Union is an international group of 19 countries including India, Russia, Germany, USA, England, France, China, Japan, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Indonesia, Italy, the Republic of Korea, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, South Africa and Turkey. It was established in 1999 to discuss global economic issues. Every year one of the member countries gets the responsibility of pre-siding over it. All G20 members together represent about 85 per cent of glob-al trade, more than 75 per cent of the



global market, and two-thirds of

the world's population. Since India has got the chance to preside and host it for the first time, it is being considered a great achievement because after the United Nations, G20 is the only powerful organization at the global level. Every time at the G20 summit, there is a group of 3 countries known as 'Troika', which is a Russian word meaning "three". In this, the countries of the presidency of the outgoing,

the end of the G20 summit held in Indonesia in November 2022, which was unanimously accepted by all the member countries. It was diplomatic skill of India that despite mutual differences in many countries, no political conflict was seen in this conference, which was most feared in the past. For this, Prime Minister Modi had held talks with all the heads of states one by one. Placing India's side in his address, Prime Minister said that "the responsibility of buildin a new world order after COVID is upon us. The need of the hour is that we come together with a firm resolve to maintain peace and security and show determination towards it." India's vision for the world has always been that of 'Vasudaiv Kutumbakam'. It has been a culture on the soil of India that considers everyone equal and wants the welfare of everyone. Glimpses of this are also being seen in G20. Just as in the past India gave the mantra of renewable energy revolution to the world with One Sun, One World, One Grid and called for strengthening the global health infrastructure with One made its stand clear on September Earth, One Health, similarly the 2022 when Prime Minister Modi G20 mantra under its chairmanship 'One Earth, One Family, One said in his meeting with Russian President Putin that "today is not Future' means 'One Earth, One the era of war". This was also reit-Family, One Future'. This was also erated in the 'Bali Declaration' at heard in the Prime Minister's

statement in Bali last year where on India getting the presidency of the G20, he said that "I believe that if the leaders of the G-20 meet on the soil of Buddha and Gandhi, then we will bring peace to the world." Will send a strong message.

During its presidency of the G20 for one year, India will hold more than 190 meetings at 55 different places across the country, including Jammu and Kashmir. Its main meeting will be held in New Deini on the 9th and 10th of September. For this whole year, the hope of the world will also rest on India as its increasing global political stature, it is to see how much India is also successful in making consensus on various issues, it will be worth watching. By the way, during this period, along with the heads of state, social and business organizations of the member countries, industrialists, scientists and important international organizations like the United Nations will also be a part of many meetings. There is no doubt that India will provide new thinking and momentum to the world's largest group through political, economic, social and intellectual leadership. Along with this, it will also showcase to the world the vastness of India's amazing diversity, distinctive tradition and rich cultural heritage.

current and upcoming years are included. Indonesia, India and ONE YEAR, INDIA WILL Brazil are included this year, this time the 'Troika' is also special HOLD MORE because all three are developing countries. Their importance also **THAN 190** increases because according to the provision, the issues of MEETINGS AT **55 DIFFERENT** PLACES ACROSS ference. THE COUNTRY,

'Troika' countries are given special importance in the G20 con-On one hand, the chairmanship of G20 is an opportunity for India to increase its credibility in INCLUDING IN front of the world and on the other hand it is also a challenge JAMMU AND to try restoring peace in Ukraine **KASHMIR** amid the Russia-Ukraine war and to get rid of the global economic crisis. India had already

(The writer is a Research Scholar of Political Science, PPU, Patna)

Keep your heart healthy to enjoy a longer life

Your heart is far more important than you think; taking good care is paramount. Nutritious food and supplements are vital to keep it healthy

eart issues are the leading cause of death across the globe affect-ing more than 17.9 million lives every year. Heart health is the most important in the human body and we don't need studies to prove it. Your brain and heart pretty much shape the entire body and its functions. Conditions like stroke and hypertension arise due to mental and physical issues in the body. Yes, stress is also a leading factor in such matters. Do you think your everyday diet provides enough for your heart?

"Adulterated" is a small word, your food items contain the unhealthiest substances if not washed properly. This creates a huge deficiency of essential nutrients in the body. And, supplements foster the



AMIT DESHPANDE

(The author is founder &

Director, Activist)

But consult an expert, don't be one! Our busy schedules have no space for a nutrition-rich diet and we have become too comfortable with the sedentary lifestyle. Junk food, an imbalanced sleep routine, mental stress and ignorance of health harm our heart health. However, we can fulfil the nutrition quota with these seven supplements: Omega 3 Fatty Acids

ful about their advantage.

These supplements work miraculously in lowering triglycerides (the most common type of fats in the body), inflammation, stroke, and other heart conditions. Food

bridging of this nutritional items like walnuts, chia seeds, gap. Yes, people are still doubtfish, flaxseed oil and canola oil are rich sources of Omega 3 Supplements are readily Fatty Acids. One must work available and do not even hard to keep up with a routine need a prescription at times. to add these items in adequate amounts. If not possible via diet, taking Omega 3 Fatty Acids capsules is a great option. It aids in the maintenance of cardiovascular functioning and the regulation of cholesterol levels. Magnesium

According to a study, magnesium lowers blood pressure by 12 points. It is one of the 3 micro-minerals (along with calcium and zinc) responsible for around 300 biochemical reactions in the body. Magnesium deficiency can lead to muscle contractions, cramps, seizures, abnormal heart rhythms, personal-

ity changes and coronary spasms. Cashew nuts, almonds, whole grains, legumes, seeds, and dairy products are some of the rich sources of magnesium.

Cod Liver Oil

This fish oil supplement is famous for its numerous benefits to the human body. Rich in antioxidants, healthy fats and minerals, cod liver oil can help reduce risk factors for heart diseases. The supplement can contribute a great deal to decreasing inflammation and reducing liver fat. It is also said that cod liver oil is excellent in the development & maintenance of healthy bones and teeth. These are often suggested by healthcare providers and that is the right method to con-

supplements without a prescription or doctor's recommendations.

Folate (folic acid)

It is said that folic acid (vitamin B) has been shown to lower the risk of heart attack and stroke in many people. Vegetables, beans, and citrus fruits are terrific sources of folate. The supplement is naturally present in many food items however in the form of a capsule or others it can be a part of your routine. If you are already on some medications, treatments or therapies, folic acid intake cannot be effective. You better have a word with an expert before beginning the dosage. Grape Seed Extract

If you are diagnosed with hypertension, grape seed sume them. Do not go for extract is just the right thing

to include in your routine. It is full of antioxidants and lowers blood pressure. According to a study, around 100mg-800mg of grape seed extract every day for 8-16 weeks can help maintain blood pressure if you have symptoms or are suffering from pre-hypertension.

Multivitamins

Scurvy, beriberi, pellagra, and rickets are some of the classic examples of vitamin deficiencies. While malnutrition is a silent culprit in developing countries, multi-vitamin supplements can make a big difference. A meal consisting of plenty of fruits, vegetables, whole grains, protein and more is good but at times not enough. For a person suffering from chronic conditions like cardiovascular diseases, it is already late to consider essential nutrition; however, you can begin consuming these supplements from an early age to avoid trouble.

Ashwagandha

People with high blood pressure have a dire need for calming food items. While these are not always sufficient, supplements comprising Ashwagandha calm the brain, reduce swelling, lower blood pressure and help alter the immune system. Ashwagandha is used for ages now and works fantastically in reducing physical and mental stress of any kind. These days, ashwagandha has become a prime tea variant among pre-mium beverages as well. One can include it in many ways to improve heart health.



world 08 Historic first: Trump indicted in classified documents case

Donald Trump has been indicted on charges of mishandling classified documents at his Florida estate, a remarkable development that makes him the first former president in US history to face criminal charges by the federal govern-

ment that he once oversaw. The Justice Department was expected to make public an indictment ahead of a historic court appearance next week in the midst of a 2024 presidential campaign punctuated by criminal prosecutions in multiple states. The indictment carries unmistakably grave legal consequences, including the possibil ity of prison if Trump's convict-

ed. But it also has enormous political implications, potentially upending a Republican presidential primary that Trump had been dominating and testing anew the willingness of GOP voters and party leaders to stick with a now twice-indicted candidate who could face still more charges. And it sets the stage for a sensational trial centred on claims that a man once nation's most closely-guarded secrets willfully, and illegally, hoarded sensitive national security information after leaving office. The Justice Department did

not immediately confirm the indictment publicly. But two people familiar with the situation who were not authorized to discuss it publicly said that the indictment included seven

criminal charges. One of those people said Trump's lawyers were contact-ed by prosecutors shortly before he announced Thursday on his Truth Social platform that he had been indicted.

Within minutes of his announcement, Trump began fundraising off it for his presidential campaign. He declared his innocence in a video and repeated his familiar refrain that the investigation is a "witch hunt." He said he was due in court Tuesday afternoon in Miami, where a federal grand jury had been hearing testimony as recently as this week. The case adds to deepening legal jeopardy for Trump, who has already been indicted in New

York and faces additional inve tigations in Washington and Atlanta that also could lead to criminal charges. But among the various investigations he has faced, legal experts — as well as Trump's own aides — had long seen the Mar-a-Lago probe as the most perilous threat and the one most ripe for prosecution. Campaign aides had been

bracing for the fallout since Trump's attorneys were notified that he was the target of the investigation, assuming it was not a matter of if charges would be brought, but when.

Appearing Thursday night on CNN, Trump attorney James Trusty said the indictment includes charges of willful retention of national defence information — a crime under the Espionage Act, which regulates the handling of government secrets - obstruction, false statements and conspiracy. The case is a milestone for a Justice Department that had investigated Trump for years — as pres-ident and private citizen — but had never before charged him with a crime. The most notable investigation was an earlier special counsel probe into ties



between his 2016 campaign and Russia, but prosecutors in that probe cited Justice Department policy against indicting a sitting president. Once he left office, though, he lost that protection.

The inquiry took a major step forward last November when Attorney General Merrick Garland, a soft-spoken former federal judge who has long stated that no one person should be regarded as above the law, appointed Jack Smith, a war crimes prosecutor with an aggressive, hard-charging reputation to lead both the docu-

ments probe as well as a separate investigation into efforts to subvert the 2020 election.

The indictment arises from a monthslong investigation into whether Trump broke the law by holding onto hundreds of documents marked classified at his Palm Beach property, Mara-Lago, and whether Trump took steps to obstruct the government's efforts to recover the records. Prosecutors have said that Trump took roughly 300 classified documents to Mar-a-Lago after leaving the White House, including some 100 that were seized by the FBI last

that underscored the gravity of the Justice Department's investigation. Trump has repeatedly insisted that he was entitled to keep the classified documents when he left the White House, and has also claimed without evidence that he had declassified them

Court records unsealed last year showed federal investigators believed they had probable cause that multiple crimes had been committed, including the retention of national defence information, destruction of government records and obstruc-

Since then, the Justice Department has amassed additional evidence and secured grand jury testimony from people close to Trump, including his own lawyers. The statutes governing the handling of classified records and obstruction are felonies that could carry years in prison in the event of a conviction. Even so, it remains unclear how much it will damage Trump's standing given that his first indictment generated millions of dollars in contributions from angry supporters and did-

n't weaken him in the polls. The former president has long sought to use his legal troubles to his political advantage, complaining on social media and at public events that the cases are being driven by Democratic prosecutors out to hurt his 2024 election campaign. He is likely to rely on that

playbook again, reviving his longstanding claims that the Justice Department — which, during his presidency, investi-gated whether his 2016 campaign had colluded with Russia — is somehow weaponised against him. Trump's legal troubles extend beyond the New York indictment and classified documents case.

Smith is separately investiating efforts by Trump and his allies to overturn the results of the 2020 presidential election. And the district attorney in Georgia's Fulton County is investigating Trump over alleged efforts to subvert the 2020 election in that state. Signs had mounted for weeks that an indictment was near, including a Monday meeting between Trump's lawyers and Justice Department officials.

Judge who issued favourable rulings to oversee criminal case

Miami (AP): The historic federal criminal case against Former President Donald Trump has been initially assigned to a judge he appoint-ed who faced criticism over her decision to grant the Republican's request for an independent arbiter to review documents obtained during an FBI search of his Florida estate.

A person familiar with the matter says the case has been assigned to Judge Aileen Cannon, a former federal prosecutor who was nominated to the bench by Trump in 2020 and sits in Fort Pierce. The move seems a rare bit of good news for Trump. Cannon's profile was thrust into the spotlight when she issued what many legal experts saw as an extraordinary decision to approve a so-called special master to review the documents seized by the FBI.

Sudan government bars UN mediator in conflict

higher. Perthes has been a key

mediator in Sudan since being

appointed as special envoy in

2021, first during the country's

failed attempts to transition to

democracy and then as rela-

tions between the military and

condemned the announce-

ment. "The international com-

munity, including the German

government, continues to stand

fully behind Mr. Perthes and

his efforts," said Andrea Sasse,

spokesperson for the Foreign

Ministry, in Berlin on Friday.

tinue to do his job from Kenya,

efforts in Jeddah to get the war-

ring parties to the table and

Thursday meeting representa-

tives from the African Union

Africa bloc known as IGAD.

Perthes was in Addis

secure a cease-fire.

She said Perthes will con-

Fighting exploded in April. Perthes' native Germany

the RSF deteriorated.

AP CAIRO

The United Nations envoy to Sudan, a key mediator in the country's brutal conflict, is no longer welcome in the African country, Sudanese authorities say.A terse statement issued by Sudan's Foreign Ministry late on Thursday comes just weeks after the head of the country's military, Gen. Abdel Fattah Burhan, demanded in a letter to envoy Volker Perthes that he should be removed from his post.

UN Secretary-General António Guterres has been notified that Perthes has been formally declared "persona non grata," the Foreign Ministry said. Since April 15, Sudan's military, headed by Burhan, and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces, led by Gen. Mohammed Hamdan Dagalo, have been locked in a violent power struggle that has killed more than 860 civilians, according to Sudan's Doctors'

Syndicate which tracks civilian casualties. The actual death tally is likely to be much

the decision.

In recent months, the German diplomat has received death threats and numerous calls to resign. In his letter last month, Burhan accused Perthes of "being partisan," and negatively contributing to pre-war talks between the generals and pro-democracy groups in the weeks building up to the conflict. Responding to these allegations, Perthes told The Associated Press that those who threatened him were marginal "extremists" and that there is a wide appreciation of UN efforts in Sudan, which has relocated its headquarters to the coastal city of Port Sudan.

The conflict between the from where he is supporting two generals has reduced Khartoum to an urban battlefield, with many districts of the city without running water or electricity. There have been Ababa, Ethiopia's capital, on reports of widespread looting and sexual violence, including the rape of women and girls in Khartoum and the western and the eight-nation eastern Darfur region, which have seen Neither the UN nor Perthes some of the worst fighting in immediately commented on the conflict.

Blinken reschedules China trip following spy balloon incident

Washington (AP): Secretary of State Antony Blinken is planning to travel to China this month as the Biden administration pushes to improve badly deteriorated ties with the Chinese. US officials say Blinken expects to be in Beijing on June 18 for meetings with senior Chinese officials, including with Foreign Minister Qin Gang and possibly President Xi Jinping.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because neither the State Department nor the Chinese foreign ministry have yet confirmed the

trip. The visit, which was agreed between Xi and President Joe Biden last year at a meeting in Bali, had been initially planned for February but was postponed after the spy balloon incident in which the US shot down a Chinese aircraft that Beijing insisted was a weather balloon that had strayed off course. Since then,



there have been contacts between the US and China, but they have been rare as tensions have risen over China's conduct in the South China Sea, aggressive actions toward Taiwan and support for Russia's war against Ûkraine.

Last week, China's defence minister rebuffed a request from US Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin for a meeting on the sidelines of a security symposium in Singapore. However, China's com-

merce minister travelled to the US last month and Biden's national security adviser Jake Sullivan met with China's top diplomat, Wang Yi, in Vienna in early May.

Xi urges troops to build 'Great wall of steel' at China's borders

Xi, who came into power in

2012, has regularly visited

troops in various border

visit to Nyingchi, a strategical-

ly located border town close to

Árunachal Pradesh, during his

Mongolia military command of

the PLA, Xi emphasised the

importance of ensuring integri-

ty and a high degree of unity among the border troops.

Highlighting cooperation among the ruling Communist

Party of China (CPC) and gov-

ernment departments, the mil-

itary, law enforcement agencies,

In 2021, he made a rare

While visiting the Inner

regions, including Tibet.

first visit to Tibet.

PTI BEIJING

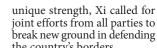
President Xi Jinping has called on China's border troops to forge a "great wall of steel" along the country's frontiers by enhancing their capa-bilities in border defence and control, the state media reported Friday.

Xi, 69, who heads the ruling Communist Party of China (CPC) and the country's Central Military Commission (CMC), the high command of the People's Liberation Army (PLA), made a fact-finding trip on Wednesday to survey the work of border management and control and the development of frontier troops in the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.

The Chinese president asked troops to break new ground in border defence, state-run Xinhua news agency reported on Fridav.

Xi has called on Chinese border troops to enhance their capabilities in border defence and control to forge a "great wall of steel" along the counas well as the ordinary people in border defence as China's try's borders, it said.

Unlike his predecessors,



the country's borders. He called for additional efforts to intensify troop training and enhance combat preparedness, and speed up capacity building concerning infor-mation technology-enabled border defence and control. He also called for efforts to transform how border defence duties are performed, tighten military discipline, maintain good troop order, and foster more border defence professionals

Xi commended the role of the region's border troops in ensuring security and stability on the country's northern border. Praising China's progress in border defence work since he came to power in 2012, Xi said the country's border troops have boosted military training and combat preparedness and resolutely safeguarded border security and the stability in regions along the frontiers. He added that the troops

have effectively safeguarded China's sovereignty, security, and development interest.

Assange's extradition | South Korea Israeli troops disperse Lebanon summons

Zimbabwe polls date announcement sparks hope and despair

electrician in Zimbabwe's capital, Harare, was both ecstatic and jittery after President Emmerson Mnangagwa announced recently that national elections would be held on August 23.

"I have voted in every election since 1990. I can't wait to make my voice heard. I am ready," said Mushawatu.

But the bravado turned to chagrin as he recalled how the country's "skewed" elections environment has remained intact for decades. "It's only the election date that is new. The usual old obstacles remain," said the 56-year-old father of three. Allegations of fraud, violence and harassment of opposition members have char-

Harare (Zimbabwe) (AP): acterised elections held in Munyaradzi Mushawatu, an Zimbabwe since independence from white minority rule in 1980.

The 2018 elections were the first following a coup that replaced Robert Mugabe, Zimbabwe's longtime autocrat-ic ruler, with Mnangagwa, amid promises of reform.

vote-rigging.

Mnangagwa, an 80-year-old former enforcer and ally of Mugabe, is again expected to face a strong challenge from the 45-year-old Chamisa. The election will also decide the composition of the 350-seat parliament and close to 2,000 local council positions.

But after a close-run contest, the Constitutional Court dismissed opposition leader Nelson Chamisa's claims of



PTI KFAR CHOUBA (LEBANON)

Israeli soldiers fired tear gas to disperse scores of protesters who pelted the troops with stones along the border with Lebanon on Friday, leaving some Lebanese demonstrators and troops suffering breathing problems.

The tension on the edge of the Lebanese border village of Kfar Chouba began earlier this week over the Israeli military digging in the area that digging in the area that Lebanon claims. On Wednesday, a Lebanese vil-lager tried to stop an Israeli bulldozer from digging a trench along the border. Once the villager's legs were covered with sand as the bulldozer moved ahead, UN peacekeepers jumped in and convinced the driver to move back. Videos of the elderly man with his legs

ting edge of a rapidly changing

world." As part of the declara-

tion announced Thursday, the

two sides will kick off negoti-



Lebanese soldiers, demonstrators and journalists duck down after Israeli troops fired tear gas, in the southern Lebanese border village of Kfar Chouba on Friday.

stuck in the sand dune went viral on social media.

Israel ended an 18-year occupation of southern Lebanon when its troops withdrew from the area in May 2000

on the edge of Kfar Chouba hills, which Beirut says is Lebanese land occupied by Israel. Kfar Chouba hills and the nearby Chebaa Farms, are areas captured by Israel during the 1967 Mideast War and claimed by Lebanon.

Friday's protest took place

to US on spying charges upheld

PTI 📕 LONDON

A^{British} judge has rejected the latest attempt by WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange to fight extradition to the United States to face spying charges

High Court justice Jonathan Swift said a new appeal would simply "re-run" arguments that Assange's lawyers had already made and lost. Assange has battled in British courts for years to avoid being sent to the US, where he faces 17 charges of espionage and one charge of computer misuse over WikiLeaks' publication of classified diplomatic and military documents more

than a decade ago. In 2021, a British district judge ruled that Assange should not be extradited because he was likely to kill



himself if held under harsh US prison conditions. US authorities later provided assurances that the Australia-born Assange wouldn't face the severe treatment that his lawyers said would put his physical and mental health at risk.

Those assurances led Britain's High Court and Supreme Court to overturn the lower court's ruling, and the British government authorized extradition in June 2022.

the United States and away from China, as competition between Washington and Beijing for global influence intensifies.

South Korean First Vice Foreign Minister Chang Ho-jin warned Chinese Ambassador

China's envoy

Seoul (AP): South Korea's

Foreign Ministry summoned

China's ambassador on Friday

to protest comments he made

accusing Seoul of tilting toward

Xing Haiming over his "senseless and provocative" remarks made during a meeting with a South Korean opposition leader.

The ministry accused Xing of violating diplomatic proto-cols and interfering with South Korean domestic politics but didn't specify the parts of Xing's comments it saw as inappropriate. The ministry also didn't share what Xing said in reply to Chang.

In a meeting Thursday with South Korean Democratic Party leader Lee Jae-myung, a key rival of conservative President Yoon Suk Yeol, Xing accused Yoon's government of leaning excessively toward Seoul's treaty ally, the United States, and damaging its relations with China, its biggest trading partner.

Xing said South Korea was entirely to blame for the "many difficulties" in bilateral relations, citing its growing trade deficit with China which he attributed to "de-Chinaization" efforts, apparently referring to actions by South Korean companies to shift their supply chains away from China. He demanded that Seoul respect Beijing's core interests includ-ing Taiwan and other major

regional issues. "With the United States pressuring China with all its might, some are betting that the United States will win and China will lose. But this is clearly the wrong judgment,"

Biden, Sunak vow to stick together on Ukraine, deepen cooperation on AI

AP WASHINGTON

President Joe Biden and British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak on Thursday reiterated their commitment to help Ukraine repel Russia's ongoing invasion, while agreeing to step up cooperation on challenges their economies face with artificial intelligence, clean energy, and critical min-

The leaders said the "first of its kind" agreement—what they are calling the "Atlantic Declaration"—will serve as a framework for the two cours framework for the two countries on the development of emerging technologies, protecting technology that is crit-



ical to national security and our partnership to ensure our other economic security issues. countries remain on the cut-

"We will put our values front and center," Biden said as the two leaders started talks in the Oval Office. He later added at a joint news conference that the agreement will help both

from the U.K. that are critical in the production of electric vehicles that are eligible for US tax credits. The administration has also opened talks with the European Union and forged a deal with Japan that allow certain critical raw materials for EVs to be treated as if they were sourced in the United States

Allies have raised concerns about incentives in the Inflation Reduction Act favoring the North American auto industry. The legislation one of Biden's key policy vic-tories — invests some USD 375 billion to transition the United States to cleaner cars and enerations on the use of minerals gy sources.

France lauds 24-year-old's 'heroic intervention'

PTI ■ LE PECQ (FRANCE)

The attacker slashed at the The attacker slashed at the 24-year-old man with the knife that he used to savagely stab one young child after another.

But rather than run, Henri held his ground using a weighty backpack he was carrying to swing at the assailant and fend off his blade.

French media hailed Henri as "the hero with a backpack" Friday after he was shown in a video grappling with the assailant and charging after him during the knife attack that critically wounded four children

between the ages of 22 months and 3 years old, and also injured two adults. Henri also got personal words of gratitude Friday from President Emmanuel Macron, who toured hospitals to meet victims and their families.

In the Alpine town of Annecy, the French leader thanked medical workers, police, firefighters, civilians - including Henri - and others whose first aid and swift interventions helped save lives during the attack in the town's lakeside park on hursday.

"You experienced very hard moments, traumatis-

ing," Macron said.

"I am very proud of you." Henri had a heavy backpack on his back and was holding another in his hand when the attacker slashed at him.

But despite the blade and the attacker's chilling aggression, Henri still continued to harass him, pursuing the man inside a playground — where he repeatedly stabbed a child in a stroller — and then out of the park again, carrying his backpacks all the while.

Henri appeared to hurl one of the backpacks at the assailant at one point and then pick it up again to take another swing.



world 09

trial in a military court and it

could stem from the federal

cabinet's decision that the pro-

testers who vandalised military

installations on May 9 would be

tried under the Army Act and

have repeatedly said that no

new military courts would be

established and the suspects

would be tried in the "special

standing courts" that were already functioning under the

Army Chief General Asim Munir also said perpetrators,

planners and executors of the

May 9 attacks would be tried under the tough Army Act and

Official Secret Act, adding that no leniency would be shown to

those who attacked the military

ment in the violence, saying he

was in jail when the incidents

took place. He has said that the

eral cabinet of the coalition

government, which presented

Referring to the devastat-ing floods triggered by cli-mate change, he said it inflict-ed losses worth over USD 30 billion on the counterie acon

billion on the country's econ-omy. He added that the

Ukraine crisis also pushed the

prices of commodities in the

nomic growth is linked with its

political stability," the premier

said, adding that without polit-

ical stability, even billions of

budget could not make a differ-

ence in improving the econom-

"A country's sound eco-

international market.

its second budget.

Khan denied his involve-

The government ministers

Official Secrets Act.

Army Act.

installations.

Drone hits residential building in Russia

drone crashed into a high-Arise residential building in southwestern Russia near the border with Ukraine, a regional governor said Friday, exposing the latest vulnerabilities in the country's air defence systems as President Vladimir Putin's war in Ukraine increasingly affects Russian soil.

The latest drone attack to target Russian cities in recent weeks wounded three people and came amid a front-line push by Ukrainian forces in what appears to be the early stages of a long-awaited counteroffensive in pockets of south and east Ukraine that Russia invaded more than 15 months ago

The Ukrainian presidency's website posted a video statement overnight from President Volodymyr Zelenskyy that alluded to the latest efforts of his country's forces to drive out the Russian invaders, along various parts of the more than 1,000-kilometer front line.

Speaking inside what appeared to be a train car after visiting flood-hit southern Ukraine on Thursday, Zelenskyy said it was "not time" yet to talk about the

details of the fighting. Ukrainian officials have kept generally quiet about their latest military moves, refusing to join in on rising commen-tary from Western military experts and others that the counteroffensive - critical for Ukraine's Western-funded military effort — was underway.

Analysts and Russian reports suggest Ukrainian forces have been active around the city of Bakhmut, which was largely devastated in a bloody, monthslong standoff, as well as carrying out probing operations around Russian-occupied areas of the Donetsk and Zaporizhzhia regions.

Ukrainian authorities have generally also denied any role in attacks inside Russia.

In a Telegram post Friday, regional governor Alexander Gusev said the three residents were hurt by shards of glass from broken windows in the city of Voronezh and received eastern Luhansk region, most



Ukrainian soldiers rest in a trench on the frontline near Kreminna, Luhansk region, AP/PTI Ukraine, on Thursday

Tactical nukes to be deployed to Belarus next month: Putin ritory to send its troops into

cities

damage.

Ukraine on Feb. 24, 2022, and

has kept forces and weapons

as planned," Putin said in tele-

vised remarks as he hosted

Lukashenko at his residence

in the Black Sea resort of

"Everything is proceeding

on the territory of its ally.

Moscow (AP): Russian President Vladimir Putin said Friday that Moscow will deploy some of its tactical nuclear weapons to Belarus next month, a move that the

Belarusian opposition described as an attempt to blackmail the West. Putin said during a meet-ing with Belarusian President

Sochi. "On July 7-8 the preparations of the relevant facilities will be completed and we will immediately start the Alexander Lukashenko that work on building facilities for the nuclear weapons will be completed by July 7-8, and activities linked to the deploythey will be moved to the territory of Russia's neighbor and ally quickly after that.

The move comes as Ukraine has stepped up attacks in several sectors of the front line in what some observers see as the start of its long-expected counteroffensive. Russia used Belarus' ter-

help on the spot.

Russian state media published photos showing a highrise apartment building with some windows blown out and damage to the facade. Gusev said the drone was

targeting a nearby airbase, but veered off course after its signal was electronically jammed. The city lies some 250 kilometers north of Ukraine's

start of the war but not since.

'Iran helping Russia

build drone factory'

it blew up Ukrainian tank Washington (AP): A grainy

black-and-white gunsight video Russia released this week to bolster a claim its military blew up some of Ukraine's most fearsome tanks actually documented the destruction of a tractor, according to a visual analysis by The Associated Press.

Russia claims

The Russian Embassy in Mashington announced on Monday on Twitter its forces had "annihilated" eight German-made Leopard tanks, among the most advanced and powerful weapons NATO countries have provided to Ukraine. The Russian Ministry of Defence then posted a video on Tuesday on the social media network Telegram with text saying it showed "footage of the destruction of foreign armoured vehicles, including Leopard tanks".

The video was shown extensively by Russian statecontrolled broadcasters and news sites, which said it was recorded from the thermal imaging system of a KA-52 Alligator attack helicopter. Several black silhouettes of vehicles can be seen, before the helicopter launches a guided missile that strikes one, causing it to explode. "Direct hit!" says a voice on the recording, speaking in Russian.

Germany announced ear-lier this year it would provide 18 Leopard 2 main battle tanks to Ukraine, which hopes to receive around 100 donated by various NATO countries over next year. The Leopard 2 is one of the most maneuverable and heavily armoured battle tanks in the world, featuring a 120mm gun capable of slicing through Russia's Soviet-era tanks from more than 2.5 miles (4 kilometers) away, according to its manufacturer, Krauss-Maffei Wegmann.

Ukrainian officials declined to comment this week on whether any of their Leopard tanks have been used in battle. Almost immediately after the Russian video spread online, multiple weapons experts and military copter's missile struck a tank, much less a Leopard.

Stage set for my court martial: Imran

PTI ISLAMABAD

Pakistan's embattled former prime minister Imran Khan has said that the stage has been set for his "court martial" after the country's all-powerful army vowed to try the "masterminds and planners" of the May 9 violence in military courts.

His remarks came a day after Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah accused Khan of planning the countrywide violence that erupted after his arrest in a corruption case on May 9.

Talking to reporters after appearing before the Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Thursday in connection with 10 different cases, including two ongoing petitions and eight new bail petitions, the 70-yearold Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief said he knew he would be tried by a military court. He termed a civilian's trial in the military court as the

"end of democracy" and the

Pak govt to unveil budget ahead of polls this year

PTI 📕 ISLAMABAD

Pakistan's Finance Minister Ishaq Dar is set to unveil on Friday Rs 14.5 trillion annual budget for 2023-24 that includes a staggering 66 per cent hike in the discretionary budget of parliamentarians, a decision that might push the cash-strapped country towards a looming default due to

reported that the budget carries a proposal of imposing new taxes worth Rs 700 billion. shrinking foreign reserves. Pakistan government on Wednesday approved a 66 per

cent increase in the discretionary budget of parliamentarians, reaching a record Rs 116 billion for the outgoing fiscal year, reported the Express Tribune newspaper.

The draft budget which is the last by the Shebaz Sharif government before elections later this year involves about Rs 6 trillion deficit gap which the government would try to fill through different means which will be transferred to the including external financing. PUBLIC NOTICE This is to notify the public at large that our client, Mr Masir Ahmad, S/o Late Sh. Bashir Ahmad, R/o: House No.27, Street No: 1, Near Sai Baba Mandir, East Laxmi Market, Delhi-H0092, intends to purchase property bearing House No: H- 55, Gali No: 3, Vijay Chowk, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-H0092 ad measuring 200 Sq. Yards from Rajets Narma @ Saeana @ Bablu, S/o Late Sh. Gopi Kishan Geller). Any person or persons having any claim on the said property by way of ownership, tenarcy, licensee, sale, mortgage, exchange, charge, lease, lien, inheritance, maintenance, Dossession, gift. Luxt, Govt. duites, levies, encumbrances, easement or otherwise are requested to inform the undersigned at Ry Law Associates, Chamber No: No: 9266/BJOS26, 8481002265 within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice thereof. Any claim received affer the afordBJOS26, 8481002265 within 30 days from the date of publication and this notice thereof. Any claim received affer the aforeneat in genia and libe deemeel to have been waived or abandoned and the sale will be completed without Laking any reference to such claim or claims. Rohit Yadaa (Advocate) Ch. No. 402, Civil Wing, Tis Hazari lowneat the sale mander and the sale will be completed without kaing any reference to such claim or claims.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given on behalf of Mr. Alok who is purchasing the First Floor without roof rights, Property no. R-64, land area measuring 50 sq. yds., khasra no. 75, 76, 65 to 89, 92 to 97, 105 to 107, 120, situated in the revenue estate of area 107, 120, situated in the revenue estate of area of Village Bindapur, colony known as Vani Vihar, Block-R, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059; from Mr. Shiva Shankar and Mrs. Sudha alias Sudha Kumari, who are owners of the aforesaid property vide Sale Deed 20.09.2017, which is duly registered vide Document No.16388, at Sub-Registrar, IIB Janakpuri Delhi, New Delhi; and intend to mortrage argainst the financial and intend to mortgage against the financial assistance from Utkarsh Small Finance Bank Limited. That the Photocopies of 1) Notarized Agreement to Sell, 2) WILL executed by Mr. Shiv Agreement to Sell, 2) WILL executed by Mr. Sniv Kumar Vamin favour of Siri Krishan and Rachey Shyam, 3) Will dated 24.11.1984, 4) Death Certificate of late Mrs. Gomti Deviw/o Lai Chand, 5) Death Certificate of late Lai Chand & 6) Surviving Member Certificate (SMC) of Late Om Parkash; are Lost/Misplaced/Not available. To comply the convignment of DANI/MECC was comply the requirements of BANK/NBEC, we give this public notice that if any Person having any type of claim /right/title/interest/creating mortgage over the said property, may inform in writing, at the address mentioned below, about his objections, within 7 days from today, failing which is challe acrossing that the said creation which it shall be presumed that the said property is free from all type of Encumbrances, lien etc.

"end of justice" in Pakistan. "The trial in the military court will be illegal," he was

quoted as saying by the Dawn newspaper. They knew that over 150

cases registered against me are baseless and there is no chance of my conviction in these bogus cases, therefore, they have decided to conduct my trial in the military court," Khan said.

Pakistan's powerful army on Wednesday vowed to tight-en the "noose of law" around "planners and masterminds" who mounted a "hate-ripened and politically-driven rebel-lion" arguingt the state lion" against the state.

Khan's remarks came days after Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah said that the former prime minister could be tried in a military court as the PTI chief was the "architect" of the May 9 incidents.

Khan's party found itself in hot waters when protesters allegedly belonging to the party attacked civil and military properties on May 9 following

a boost of 30 per cent in their

ad hoc relief allowances as

well as a 20 per cent hike in

cent GDP growth target for the

next year. The Express Tribune

Dar has declared a 3.5 per

It has also been suggested

that the medical and con-

veyance allowance of govern-

ment employees should be

increased by 100 per cent. The

fiscal deficit target has been set

of Rs 9.2 trillion has been esti-

mated. The Federal Board of

Revenue (FBR) will be assigned

a target of generating revenue

at Rs 2.8 trillion, 55 per cent of

Rohit Yaday (Advocate) Ch. No. 402, Civil Wing, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-110054 Mob. No: 9266130562, 8383002256

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE General public is hereby informed that Mr. Harvir Singh is intending to sell. Residential Piot No. D-11/16, area messuring 3237 Sq. Meters, Stuated at Residential colony D.L.F. Ankur Vibar, in the area of Vilage Loni, Pargana Loni, Tensil & District Ghaziabad, U.P., to Mr. Lalit & Mr. Chetan Gupta, to be financed & mortgaged by M/s. Piramal Capital and Housing Finance tLu. The Original Sale Deed dt. 1002-1998, vide doc. No. S48 pertaining to the aforesaid property has been lost and complaint has been registered on 108.2009, with PS D.L. FANkur Vihar. Any person(s) found in possession of aforesaid original sale deed, then kindly contact the undersigned along with

Any person(s) found in possession of atoresaid original sale deed, then kindly contact the undersigned along with original property document, within 7 days from date of this notice on below address, failing which, the claim as per aforesaid sale deed shall be treated as null and void in respect of the subject property. Banbax Tiwari Artworate

Ch. 830, Patiala House Courts, New Delhi – 110001 Mob.: +91-8076188328

Raghav Tiwari, Advocate

Date: 09.06.2023

'सारत २०२

A revenue collection target

at 7.7 per cent of the GDP.

pensions.

provinces.

the arrest of Khan in the Al-Qadir corruption case.

The trial of people involved in the attacks on military installations in different parts of the country, including the attack on General Headquarters in Rawalpindi as well as Lahore's Jinnah House where the Corps Commander was residing, has already begun.

establishment plans to keep Defence Minister Khawaja him in jail for 10 years in a sedi-Asif has also hinted at Khan's tion case.

PM Sharif hopes to strike IMF deal

The total outlay of the budget is expected to be Rs 14.5 trillion. The government employees are likely to receive PTI ISLAMABAD

Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday hoped the IMF would resume the stalled USD 6.7 billion bailout programme as his country has already met all prior conditions set by the global lender despite economic hardships.

The premier's remarks came as Finance Minister Ishaq Dar presented a PKR 14 trillion budget for the fiscal year 2023-24, which the government claims to have shared with the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The budget needs to satisfy the IMF to secure the release of more bailout money for the cash-strapped Pakistan, which is due to hold a general election by November.

"The ninth review will be complete soon," Sharif said during his address to the fed-

 $\frac{Sr}{1}$

ic situation. The government, he further said, is cognisant of the problems being faced by the common man due to inflation. We have to take care of the salaried class as well as the pensioners so that they can meet their basic requirements."

		GUJARAT WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD TENDER NOTICE NO: SK/RC/02 of 2023-24 (2 nd Attempt) "Fixed Quantity Tender"						
No.		Item	Tender ID					
	Supply of various items like capacitor, relay,							
	contactor, mcb, mccb, etc for cubical control 597901							
	panel 3 HP upto 30 HP for fix quantity tender.							
	(From Indian Manufacturers only) (2nd Attempt)							
ast Date of Online Submission of Tender: 16/06/2023 at 18.00 Hrs								
ast Date of Physical Submission of Tender: 17/06/23 at 15.00 Hrs								
d Opening Date: 17/06/2023 at 15.05 Hrs								

Contact Office : Executive Engineer, Public Health Mechanical Store Division, "A" Block, Patnagar Yojana Bhavan, 2nd Floor, Near GH-4, Sector-16, Gandhinagar-382016, Gujarat State. Tel/fax. No. (079) 23222844,9978493321

GWSSB has all the right to cancel a tender without reason he detailed tend



Separately, Gov. Vyacheslav

Gladkov of the neighbouring

Belgorod region, which also

borders Ukraine, said on

Telegram that air defences had

been working overnight and an

apartment building and private

targets were shot down, but he

did not specify the cause of the

He said two unspecified

homes had been damaged.

Kirby said that US officials Dubai (AP): Iranian author-Tran is providing Russia with also have determined that Iran ities have summoned and

NOTICE We, M/s New Dimensions, 302 Bhanot House, 18 LSC, Madangir, New Delhi-

110062, holding Registration Certificate No. B-0915/DEL/PER/100/5/9325/2018 under Emigration Act 1983 for Export of Manpower, have closed our Business with effect from 01/05/2023. In the event there is any claim against us,

the same may be referred within 30 days of publication of this notice, copies of the complaint may also be sent to Protector General of Emigrants, Ministry of External Affairs, Akbar Bhawan, Satya Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi-110021

ment of those weapons on your territory." Tactical nuclear weapons are intended to destroy enemy troops and weapons on the battlefield. They have a relatively short range and a much lower yield than nuclear warheads fitted to long-range strategic missiles that are

capable of obliterating whole of which is occupied by Russia.

bloggers began casting doubt on social media that the heli-

manufacturing plant east of Moscow as the Kremlin looks to lock in a steady supply of weaponry for its ongoing invasion of Ukraine, according to a US intelligence finding released by the White House on Friday.

AP WASHINGTON

National Security Council spokesman John Kirby said that US intelligence officials believe a plant in Russia's Alabuga special economic zone could be operational early next year.

The White House also released satellite imagery taken in April of the industrial location, several hundred miles east of Moscow, where it believes the plant "will probably be built."

President Joe Biden's administration publicly stated in December that it believed Tehran and Moscow were considering standing up a drone assembly line in Russia for the Ukraine war. The new intelligence suggests that the project, in the Yelabuga region of Tatarstan, has moved beyond conception. Iran has said it provided drones to Russia before the

supply the Russ military with one-way attack a history of being imprisoned drones made in Iran: The drones for political posts on her are shipped via the Caspian Sea, from Amirabad in Iran to Makhachkala, Russia, and then are used by Russian forces against Ukraine. As of May,

Instagram account, her lawyer said on Friday. Mohammad Moghimi said in a tweet said his client, Atena Farghadani, a painter, Russia had received hundreds of cartoonist and former politione-way attack drones, as well as cal prisoner, was summoned drone production-related equipto the Evin courthouse in ment, from Iran, according to Tehran and arrested. He did the White House.

not elaborate on why she was "This is a full-scale defense detained. In 2016, Farghadani was released after spending 18 partnership that is harmful to Ukraine, to Iran's neighbors, months in jail for portraying and to the international commulawmakers as animals to criticize a draft law restricting nity," Kirby said. "We are continuing to use all the tools at our contraception and criminalisdisposal to expose and disrupt ing voluntary sterilisation.

these activities including by Wednesday, On sharing this with the public -Farghadani posted one of her cartoons showing people with and we are prepared to do animal and satanic faces.

Kirby said the Democratic The New York-based administration on Friday would Committee to Protect announce a new advisory meant Journalists said on Thursday to help businesses and other govthat Iranian authorities must ernments put in place mearelease Farghadani and stop sures to ensure they are not efforts to silence commentainadvertently contributing to tors and members of the Iran's drone programme. press

Public Notic

This is to inform general public that Mr. Rahul Chadha had acquired the Plot bearing no. 866, area measuring 420 sq. meters, i.e., 502.32 sq. yards., situated at Tehsi & Dist. Gurugram, Haryana vide Supplementary Deeds dated 08.04.2021, Doc no. 366.Abovesaid owners h nisplaced the Original Allotment Letter Memo No-2013 Dated 15.03.1980 And Original Conveyance Deed dated 15.08.1983 registered as document no. 2447, SRrgaon of the above said property. Anyone who find the over said documents shall handover the same to the above sa d documents shal handover the same to the Manager. Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd. 2nd floor Ambadeep Tower. CONAUGHT PLACS, New Delhi, NeW DBLH 110001M: Rahul Chadha intends to Sell acove said property to Mr. Dheeraj Kapoor further Mr. Dheeraj Kapor is mortgaging the above said property with: Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd. & in case anyone has any objection, the same may be raised with no 7 days of the publication to Mr. Muneesh Dhawan/ Vir. Sudhir Jain (Advocates), Law Verras North, Unit no 907, 9th Floor, GD-IT_ Tower, (6-08), Netaj Subhash Place, Delhi-110034 or contact at 9066707172/9818228636 (M).

PUBLIC NOTICE This is to inform public in general that Kotak Mahindra bank Ltd has organized an auction in below mention respect of Vehicles. VEHICLES FOR SALE I) MAH BOLMAXITRK REG.NO.DL1LY8347-YOM-2017 2) TATAMOTORS T LPT1109 REG. NO.DL1MA9427-YOM-2022 3) TATA ACE REG.NO. DL1LAJ1447-YOM-2022 4) TATAMOTORS TACEGOLD REG.NO.DL1LAJ4014-YOM-2022 5) MARUTI S SUPER CARRY REG.NO.DL1LAJ2863-YOM-2021 6) TATA ACE REG. NO. DL1LAH3704-YOM -2022 7)TATA MOTORS LTD.-CB LPT 1512 REG. NO. HR38AE5655-YOM -2022 8)TATA MOTORS LTD.-CB_LPT_1512 REG. NO. HR38AE5793-YOM -2022 UNDER HYPOTHECATION WITH M/S KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK IS UNDER SALE IN ITS "AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION" INTERESTED PARTIES CAN GIVE

THEIR QUOTATIONS WITH IN 7 DAYS AT BRANCH ADDRESS KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK 3RD FLOOR, PLOT NO 7, SECTOR 125, NOIDA-201313 OR **CONTACT : RAMAN AHUJA** KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK LTD CONTACT NO. 8377988238

Lucem Legal LLP Plot no.136, (Basement) Uday Park,

New Delhi-110049- Contact# 011-40046316

INDIAN RAILWAYS

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (BHARAT SARKAR) MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (RAIL MANTRALAYA)

(RAILWAY BOARD)

No. Track /21/94/0511/7/Vol.III

CORRIGENDUM NO.2

Sub. : Publication of Corrigendum No. 2 against E-Tender Notice No.TKP-1-2023 for Selection of Inspecting Agency for "Testing and Inspection of Rails as per IRS-T-12-2009 Specification with Latest Amendments"- (RFQ-cum-RFP).

Corrigendum No. 2 issued against E-Tender Notice No. TKP-1-2023 for Selection of nspecting Agency for "Testing and Inspection of Rails as per IRS-T-12-2009 Specification with Latest Amendments"- (RFQ-cum-RFP) has been uploaded or IREPS

The interested tenderer's are advised to visit the website http://ireps.gov.in fo Corrigendum details



IG CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE <u>सार्वजनिक सूचना</u>

नगर निगम गुरूग्राम के सम्पत्तिकर रिकार्ड में यूनिट नं० 1C6GCP19 Old (143C232U21) जो श्रीमती सिमरन खन्ना व कुलवन्त गुलाटी के नाम संमभाग दर्ज है जबकि वसियत नं0 31 दिनांक 11.04.2014 के अनुसार उक्त यूनिट आई0 डी0 की श्रीमति सिमरन खन्ना पत्नी श्री परमजीत खन्ना मालिक है। अब श्रीमति कुलवन्त गुलाटी की मृत्यु के बाद उक्त यूनिट आई0 डी० के करदाता कानाम तबदील करने के लिये श्रीमति सिमरन खन्ना पत्नी श्री परमजीत खन्ना ने आवेदन किया है कि यूनिट आई0 डी0 नं0 1C6GCP19 Old (143C232U21) जो रवि नगर गुरूग्राम क्षेत्र में स्थित है व उसकी माता की मृत्यु दिनांक 09.01.2023 के बाद यूनिट आई0 डी0 नं0 1C6GCP19 Old (143C232U21) की कानूनी वारिस है। मलकियत प्रार्थिया के नाम दर्ज की जाये।

यदि इस मलकियत∕भवन∕यूनिट आई0 डी0 नं0 1C6GCP19 Old (143C232U21) पर नाम दर्ज करने हेतू किसी भी व्यक्ति को कोई एतराज है तो वह समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित होने के 30 दिन के अन्दर–अन्दर अपना एतराज अधोहस्ताक्षरी के कार्यालय में दे सकता है। समयावधि समाप्त होने उपरान्त उक्त नाम सम्पत्ति कर रिकार्ड में तबदील कर दिया जायेगा। जिसके लिये नगर निगम गुरूग्राम उत्तरदायी नहीं होगा।

क्षेत्रीय कराधान अधिकारी-। नगर निगम, गुरूग्राम। प0 क्रमांक ZTO MCG/2023/18693 दिनांक 09.06.2023 EMAIL-raman.ahuja@kotak.com

www.nprocure.com For Village Level Drinking water Complaint Please Contact our Toll Free No: 1916

No/INF/VPN/2023/G/554

Edelweiss EDELWEISS ASSET RECONSTRUCTION CO. LTD. CIN - U67100MH2007PLC174759 istered Office: Edelweiss House, Off CST Road, Registered Office: Fde Kalina, Mumbai 400098

Appendix II-A & IV-A [See proviso to Rule 6(2) and proviso to Rule 8(6) r/w proviso to Rule 9(1)]. E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE AND MOVABLE PROPERTIES

Public Notice for e-auction sale of immovable and movable assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 6(2) and Rule 8(6) r/w proviso to Rule 9(1 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and to the borrower and guarantors in sarticular that the immovable and movable properties described herein below "Secured Assets") and mortgaged & charged in favour of the consortium of banks & nancial institutions viz. Edelweiss Asset Reconstruction Company Limited, acting in s capacity as trustee of EARC Trust SC-30, 35, 134 and 233 ("EARC"), Canara Bank ndia SME Asset Reconstruction Company Limited, ICIE Bank Limited, Asset Reconstruction Company India Limited, Punjab National Bank, Union Bank of India, State Bank of India, Barclays Bank PLC, Punjab & Sind Bank, Shamrao Vithal Co-op Bank Limited, JM Financial Asset Reconstruction Company Limited and Small Industries Development Bank of India ("Secured Creditors"), the physical possession of which has been taken on October 7th, 2021 by the Authorised Officer of EARC acting on behalf of EARC and consortium of Secured Creditors), will be sold by way o audion through e-audion agency. M/s e-Procurement Technologies Limited (Audion Tiger) on their website/portal, https://edelweissarc.audiontiger.net on June 27, 2023 at 12:00 noon with unlimited extension of 5 minutes each, if a bid is made before close of e-audion, on "As is where is", "As is what is", "Whatever there is" and on "no recourse" basis for recovery of a total sum of Rs. 1331,67,53,620.03 (Rupees One Thousand Three Hundred and Thirty One Crores Sixty Seven Lacs Fifty Three Thousand Six Hundred Twenty and Three Paise only) together with urther interests, costs and expenses thereon, due to the Secured Creditors from Ankur Drugs and Pharma Limited (in liquidation) ("Borrower") and Mrs. Anupama Purnandu Jain, Mr. Vaibhav Purnandu Jain and Ms. Aakansha Jain, being the legal heirs of late Mr. Purnandu Shekharmal Jain ("Guarantors").

The Reserve Price and Earnest Money Deposit of the Secured Assets shall be as

	Lot. Nos.	Reserve Price	е	Earnest Money Deposit				
	Lot No. I	Rs.37,80,75,5	500/-	Rs. 3,78,07,550/-				
	Lot No. II	Rs.5,07,89,1	86/-	Rs. 50,78,918/-				
	Lot No. III	Rs.42,88,64,6	686/-	Rs. 4,28,86,468/-				
Description of Secured Assets:								
Lot Nos.	Detailed description of Secured Assets							
Lot No-I	All that piece and parcel of land bearing Khasra No. 876(2-2), 877(0-13), 905(0-15), 906(2-11), 906/1(2-0), 907(0-05), 339(1-13), 351(0-18), 338, 340(1-8), 1002/341(2-0), 1003/341(0-11), 342(3-12) and 875(3-0), admeasuring 21973 square meters, situated at Village-Makhnu Majra, Pargana Dharampur, Post Office-Baddi, Taluka Nalagarh, District-Solan, Himachal Pradesh-173205 together with all buildings and structures thereon							
Lot No-II	Io-II All the plant and machinery, furniture and fixtures and other movable assets lying and being at the factory land as more particularly described under Lot-I above (except the vehicles being Skoda Laura having registration number HP-2813-0050, Eicher Tempo- HP 12 C2 523, Tata Ace- HP 12 C 1931, Hero Honda- HP 12 B 5562 and LTV Mahindra Pick Up- HP 12 A 5740, attached by the Office of Official Liquidator, High Court, Mumbai).							
Lot No-III	Lot No. I & II together							
Timelines of the e-Auction								
Site Inspection			On June 19, 2023, between 11 am to 4 pm.					
Document Verification			On all working days between June 19, 2023 to June 24, 2023 from 11 am to 5 pm.					
Bid Document Purchase			On all working days between June 19, 2023 to June 24, 2023, from 11 am to 5 pm.					
Earnest Money Deposit			By 2 pm on June 26, 2023.					
Last Date of Bid Document Submission			By 5 pm on June 26, 2023.					
Commer	ncement of e	e-auction sale	At 12	2:00 noon on June 27, 2023.				
For detailed terms and conditions of the e-auction sale, please refer to the link provided on EARC's website i.e. www.edelweissarc.in/Propertysale								
Date: June 10,2023 Authorized Off Place: Mumbai Phone No: 07506642								

USE OF CHILD SOLDIERS DURING MAOIST INSURGENCY **Nepal SC orders registration of** writ petition against 'Prachanda'

more.

PTI KATHMANDU

Nepal's Supreme Court on Friday ordered the registration of a writ petition against Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda', the thenchairman of the rebel Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist), for war crimes for using children as Maoist soldiers during the decade-long war against the monarchy.

Lenin Bista, a former child soldier, approached the apex court with a writ petition claiming that the then-leadership breached international human itarian law by using child soldiers in the Maoists' war against

the Himalayan nation's monarchy. He demanded the prosecution of the leadership of the then CPN-M, including Prachanda and former Prime Minister Dr Baburam Bhattarai, arguing that it was a war crime to force unintelligent minors like him as child soldiers and forcefully expel them from the camp as disqualified combatants. Prachanda was chief of the

erstwhile rebel Maoist party and Bhattarai second-in-command. On Friday, a single bench led by Justice Dr Ananda Mohan Bhattarai issued the order to register the writ, according to Supreme Court sources. Earlier, Bista's writ petition

was dismissed by the Supreme

Maoists joined politics by laying down arms.

Court, following which he approached the court against its dismissal. The United Nations Mission in Nepal had disgualified 4,008 soldiers of the Peoples Liberation Army of then-rebel CPN-M, saying they were minors and late recruits. During the verification that ended in December 2007, it was found that 2,972 guerrillas were minors, while 1,036 were recruited into the Nepal Army under the army integration process in accordance with the Comprehensive Peace Accord signed in 2006 when the



'GDP growth on firm footing' Growth slightly revised upwards, reveals SBI study

PTI 📕 KOLKATA

Country's largest commer-cial lender State Bank of India (SBI) said that domestic GDP growth is now on firm footing with urban demand showing good traction, while the lagging rural demand is a cause of concern.

The apex bank has also revised GDP growth marginally upwards from 6.4 per cent to 6.5 per cent for the current financial year.

In its 'Ecowrap' research report, SBI said that the GDP growth forecast of the apex bank RBI for the current fiscal has undergone some change since April 2023. While RBI had projected GDP growth at 6.4 per cent in April, this has been slightly revised upwards to 6.5 per cent for the current fiscal, as announced in the latest Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting Policy which concluded on June eight. Inflation for the current

financial year has been pegged by 5.1 per cent by the apex bank, perceived to be above the tolerance band of RBI at four

\$90 \$903.51 \$140.60 -\$140.77 -\$209.34 \$10.50 **~**92 210.40 \$190.55 \$200 34 .207.20 -\$69.34 \$123.45 \$556.00 \$331 .20

series of rate hikes in the had been able to trim the recent past had resulted in per cent. falling unemployment rate, The report said that the signifying that the apex bank

excess labour demand in the market without contraction in employment.

It further said that the declining current inflation as well falling inflationary expec-tations for the next financial

year gives a clear signal that the apex bank will be able to control the rate of price rise by a series of previous rate hikes

having its lagged impact, with in the tolerance band. The inflation trajectory is

now conditional on the spatial variation of the monsoon and possible development to EL Nino effect. The headline inflation trajectory, measure of the total inflation of an economy, is likely to be shaped by food price dynamics, the report said.

According to the report, the "outlook on the global economy is clouded in sideways movement in most of the indicators even when slowdown in advanced economies, weak external demand, tight financial conditions and elevated debt levels pose risks to growth prospects.

On Thursday, the MPC under the chairmanship of RBI governor Shaktikanta Das pressed the pause button on repo rates for the second time after April which is now at 6.5 per cent.

The report said that supply-side factors contributed more than 50 per cent of the inflation in January 2023, plunged to 46 per cent due to ease in supply-side restrictions.

cent and smallcap index went up by 0.02 per cent.

Among the indices, FMCG fell 0.82 per cent, teck declined 0.79 per cent, IT (0.68 per cent), metal (0.66 per cent), commodities (0.58 per cent) and consumer durables (0.58 per cent).

Industrials, telecommunication, utilities, capital goods and power were the gainers.

"Most Asian stocks rose on Friday, as weak US labour data ramped up bets on a pause in the US Fed's rate hike cycle, although disappointing inflation readings from China capped broader gains.

"European stocks slipped at the open on Friday as traders were cautious ahead of the policy meetings of key central banks next week," said Deepak Jasani, Head of Retail Research, HDFC Securities.

In Asian markets, Seoul, Tokyo, Shanghai and Hong Kong ended in the green.

Equity markets in Europe were trading in the negative zone. The US markets ended in positive territory on Thursday. Global oil benchmark Brent

crude climbed 0.38 per cent to USD 76.25 a barrel.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) bought equities worth Rs 212.40 crore on Thursday, according to exchange

Inflow in equity mutual funds halved to Rs 3,240 crore in May, declining for the second consecutive month, primarily due to profit booking by investors amid a rising

"Focus now shifts to the US consumer inflation report for May, due on June 13, ahead of the Fed meeting, which will provide investors more clarity about the health of the world's largest economy," said Shrikant Chouhan, Head of Equity Research (Retail), Kotak Securities Ltd.

Inflow in equity mutual funds hit 6-month low of ₹3,240 cr in May on profit booking

the end of April.

midst of volatile markets.

3,240 crore in May, much

lower than Rs 6,480 crore

inflow seen in April and Rs

since November 2022, when

equity mutual funds wit-

nessed an infusion of Rs 2,258

market along with probable

expenses towards vacation,

education could have led to

lower investments in mutual

funds in May," Manish Mehta,

National Head and Sales,

Marketing and Digital Business at Kotak Mahindra

Inflow in May was lowest

"Profit booking in rising

20,534 crore in March.

crore

PTI NEW DELHI

Inflow in equity mutual funds plunged to Rs 3,240 crore in May, making it the lowest level in five months, primarily due to profit booking by investors amid rising stock market.

While this was the 27th consecutive month that equity asset class garnered net positive flows, when com-pared to April, the quantum of flow has halved, data released by the Association of Mutual Funds in India (Amfi) showed on Friday.

However, SIP (Systematic Investment Plan) inflows are back above the Rs 14,000 crore-mark and reached to an all-time high of Rs 14,749 crore last month, after a brief dip to Rs 13,728 crore in April, with investors continuing their disciplined investing that started more than two

PTI 🗖 NEW DELHI 43.2 lakh crore as of May-end

iming to strengthen 1,514 from Rs 41.62 lakh crore at Aurban co-operative banks, Amfi CEO N Venkatesh the Centre on Friday said the said that the industry has Reserve Bank has notified four seen an uptick even in the key measures, including giving them two years more to meet Going by the data, equity the priority sector lending tarmutual funds attracted Rs gets.

The Ministry of Cooperation in a statement said that four important initiatives have been taken to strengthen 1,514 Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs) in the country.

"Pursuant to detailed discussions held by Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah, with Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Governor, Reserve Bank of India (RBI),

Forex reserves

jump \$5.9 bn

Urban Co-operative Banks," it

RBI notifies four key measures to help

The ministry has listed the four measures notified by the RBI.

In order to expand their business, UCBs can now open new branches up to 10 per cent (maximum 5 branches) of the number of branches in the previous financial year without prior approval of RBI in their approved area of operation.

UCBs have to get the pol-icy approved by their board and comply with the Financially Sound and Well Managed (FSWM) Norms. UCBs can also do One-

PTI DUBAI

nity leaders.

Time Settlement at par with commercial banks The central bank has noti-

 $R_{\mathrm{late}}^{\mathrm{ich}\,\mathrm{tributes}\,\mathrm{were}\,\mathrm{paid}\,\mathrm{to}\,\mathrm{the}}$

Hinduja, the eldest of the four

Hinduja brothers and chairman

of Hinduja Group, at a prayer

meeting here attended by dig-

nitaries, business partners, well-

wishers, religious and commu-

London on May 17 after being

S.P. Hinduja died in



fied a framework governing this aspect for all regulated entities, including UCBs. Now co-operative banks through board-approved policies may provide process for technical write-off as well as settlement with borrowers.

extend the timeline for UCBs to achieve Priority Sector Lending (PSL) targets by two

unwell for some time. He was

event, Sheikh Nahyan bin

Mubarak Al Nahyan, the UAE

Minister of Tolerance and

Coexistence, spoke of S.P.

Hinduja as a businessman with

sharp acumen and as a warm

and friendly person who valued

Hinduja's achievements that

relationships.

At the commemoration



Market benchmarks slip for second day

PTI MUMBAI

Equity benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty stayed on the back foot for the second straight session on Friday as investors offloaded FMCG, IT and teck stocks amid a weak opening in European markets.

Selling pressure in index heavyweight Reliance Industries also impacted the market sentiments.

The 30-share BSE Sensex fell 223.01 points or 0.35 per cent to settle at 62,625.63. During the day, it declined 253.9 points or 0.40 per cent to 62,594.74.

The NSE Nifty went lower by 71.15 points or 0.38 per cent to end at 18,563.40.

On a weekly, the BSE benchmark climbed 78.52 points or 0.12 per cent, while the Nifty gained 29.3 points or 0.15 per

cent. "The domestic market wit-nessed extended selling pressure as investors eagerly awaited the domestic inflation data due on Monday as the RBI refrained from an aggressive cut in their

inflation forecast. "In addition to the domestic factors, global cues also failed to provide support, as the US reported high unemployment claims ahead of the release of the inflation figures and the Fed meeting," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial

Tata Steel was the biggest loser in the Sensex chart, slipping nearly 2 per cent, followed State Bank of India, Hindustan Unilever, HCL Technologies, Infosys, ITC, Asian Paints, Mahindra & Mahindra, Tech Mahindra, Tata Consultancy Services and

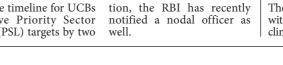
On the other hand, IndusInd Bank, Axis Bank, Larsen & Toubro, Power Grid, The broader market ended flat, with the BSE midcap gauge climbing marginally by 0.03 per

Since UCBs work in urban areas, unlike commercial banks which have branches in rural areas as well, they were facing hardships on this score, the ministry said. In order to meet the long Reliance Industries. pending demand of the cooperative sector for closer coordination and focused interac-

strengthen 1,514 urban Co-operative Banks the RBI has notified these years i.E. Up to March 31, vital measures to strengthen 2026 The deadline to achieve PSL target of 60 per cent, said. which was March 31, 2023, has

also been extended to March 31, 2024. The excess deposits, if any, after clearing the short-fall of PSL during FY 2022-23 will also be refunded to the UCB.

The RBI has decided to



Services. market.

years ago. said

Overall, the 42-player mutual fund industry continues to see inflow and attracted Rs 57,420 crore, on contributions from debt-oriented schemes. This comes following a net investment of Rs 1.21 lakh crore in the preceding month.

The inflow led to the asset under management of the industry accelerating to Rs review

BUSINESS BRIEF

100 CNG STATIONS OPENED

New Delhi: Megha City Gas Distribution Private Limited (MCGDPL). popular as Megha Gas, the second largest gas supply company in India, is credited with setting up 100 Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) stations in a short span. The opening ceremony of the 100th CNG station at Keesara in Rangareddy district of Telangana was held on Wednesday. CEO of Megha Gas, Venkatesh Palimpati, expressed his delight at this achievement and said, "Natural gas stands as the most pristine and environmentally friendly fuel source currently available. We take pride in contributing to the nation's progress in transitioning to a gas-based economy." Further, Megha Gas has ambitious plans to establish an additional 400+ CNG stations and about 2 lakh Piped Natural Gas (PNG) connections nationwide by 2024.

KISUMU SIGNS MOU WITH NARUVI HOSPITALS, VELLORE



New Delhi: Kisumu County, one of the 47 counties of Kenya, on Friday signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Naruvi Hospitals, Vellore, to treat patients in areas like radiology, neurology, cancer treatment, and internal medicine among others. The MoU was signed between Naruvi Hospitals, Vellore, and Prof. Anyang Nyong'o, Governor of Kisumu County and former Kenyan Cabinet Minister for Planning and National Development, and Cabinet Minister of Medical Services.

FAIR FARE NEGOTIATIONS RIDE APP

NEW DELHI: inDrive, an international ride-hailing platform, has launched 'Ride for a fair price you both agree on' in Delhi-NCR by offering passengers and drivers to negotiate taxi fares. "We offer ridehailing services in different types of vehicles across India, but here in Delhi NCR inDrive operates in only cab and auto-rickshaw categories, offering both drivers & passengers more fairly priced ride-hailing choices," said Avik Karmakar, GTM Manager, South Asia.

Management Company

Melvyn Santarita, Analyst Manager Research at Morningstar India, said that a combination of some profit booking coupled with concerns regarding the US Government's decision to raise the debt ceiling could have led to investors withdrawing money from equities

during the month under

to \$595 bn PTI MUMBAI

ndia's forex kitty jumped USD 5.929 billion to USD 595.067 billion for the week ended June 2, the Reserve Bank said on Friday.

The reserves had dropped for two consecutive weeks and declined by USD 4.34 billion to USD 589.14 billion in the pre-

vious reporting week. It can be noted that in October 2021, the country's forex kitty had reached an alltime high of USD 645 billion. The reserves have been declining as the central bank deploys the kitty to defend the rupee amid pressures caused majorly by global developments. For the week ended June 2,

the foreign currency assets, a major component of the reserves, increased by USD 5.27 billion to USD 526.201 billion, according to the Weekly Statistical Supplement released by the RBI on Friday.

Expressed in dollar terms, the foreign currency assets include the effect of appreciation or depreciation of non-US units like the euro, pound and yen held in the foreign exchange reserves. Gold reserves jumped by USD 655 million to USD 45.557 billion, the RBI said.

The Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) were down by USD 6 million to USD 18.186 billion, the apex bank said.

The country's reserve position with the IMF was up USD 10 million to USD 5.123 billion in the reporting week.

start returning back to service soon, SpiceJet said in a statement.

B737 aircraft between

induction of these planes, which coincides with the peak travel season in India, will help us launch new routes and strengthen our presence on existing ones," said Ajay Singh, Chairman and Managing Director of SpiceJet.

The airline said it has already signed a lease agreement for these 10 planes which will start joining the fleet from September to cater to the rising demand.

Gold jump ₹440; silver rallies ₹1,050 PTI NEW DELHI

have led to the growth of the

Hinduja Group as a transna-

tional business conglomerate

with roots across the world

dom and generosity, and I con-

tinue to marvel at all that was

accomplished by him," Sheikh

ers - Ashok Hinduja and

"I greatly admired his wis-

The event was held in the

and in the UAE.

Nahyan added.

Sheikh Nahyan praised S.P. presence of the Hinduja broth-

Gold jumps Rs 440 to Rs 60,820 per 10 grams in the national capital on Friday amid strong global trends, according to HDFC Securities.

In the previous trade, the precious metal had ended at Rs 60,380 per 10 grams.

Silver also zoomed Rs 1,050 to Rs 74,350 per kilogramme.

"Gold prices edged higher in the Asian trading hours on Friday, with spot gold prices in the Delhi markets trading at Rs 60,820/10 grams, up Rs 440 per 10 grams," Saumil Gandhi, Analyst Senior Commodities at HDFC Securities, said.

Prakash Hinduja - along with family members and was attended by various business leaders from the UAE.

Those who shared their memories of S.P. Hinduja included Yusuf Ali MA, Lulu Group MD and Chairman, Ram Buxani, Group Chairman, ITL Cosmos, Vasu Shroff, Chairman of Regal Group, Essam Al Tamimi, Chairman of Al Tamimi and Co. Among others.

Renowned singers Rahat Fateh Ali Khan, Kailash Kher, and Anup Jalota paid their tributes to S.P. Hinduja with devotional songs.

linduia

The Hinduja family has received condolence letters and words of comfort from royalty across generations, presidents, Prime Ministers, spiritual and business leaders, global artists, cultural icons and associates on SP Hinduja's passing away.

a row, maintaining the key

benchmark policy rate at 6.5

per cent citing moderate

gauges the greenback's

strength against a basket of six

currencies, rose 0.19 per cent

global oil benchmark, rose

0.38 per cent to USD 76.25

market front, the 30-share

BSE Sensex closed 223.01

points or 0.35 per cent lower

at 62,625.63 points. The broader NSE Nifty declined

71.15 points or 0.38 per cent

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) were net buy-

ers in the capital markets on

Thursday as they purchased

shares worth Rs 212.40 crore,

according to exchange data.

to 18,563.40 points.

The dollar index, which

Brent crude futures, the

On the domestic equity

Rupee rises 4 paise to close at 82.47 against US dollar

inflation.

to 103.54.

per barrel.

PTI MUMBAI

The rupee appreciated by 4 paise to close at 82.47 (provisional) against the US dollar on Friday amid foreign fund inflows.

Forex traders said a strong dollar overseas and weak sentiment in domestic equities capped the gains in the domestic currency.

At the interbank foreign exchange, the domestic unit opened at 82.49 against the dollar and finally settled at 82.47 (provisional), up 4 paise from its previous close.

During the session, it touched a peak of 82.41 and a low of \$2.50 against the greenback. On Wednesday, the rupee had settled at 82.51 against the dollar.

The Reserve Bank of India on Thursday opted to pause for the second time in

started to roll out a new

viewer mode in its video

communication service,

which allows users to

select "Everyone is a view-

er" when creating their

Google rolls out new features to Meet's picture-in-picture mode in Chrome

Tech giant Google is rolling out new features to Meet's picture-inpicture mode in Chrome. "We're updating the

Google Meet picture-in-

more engaging and feature-rich," the tech giant said in a Workspace Updates blogpost on

Wednesday. Directly from the picture-in-picture window,

hand, turn captions on picture window. and off, access flexible layouts, and more.

Earlier, users were only able to turn their camera or microphone on navigating to a relevant and off or leave the meet-

ny said.

The updated picture-"Our new picture-inin-picture mode is rolling picture experience provides greater flexibility out to all Google when screen sharing or Workspace customers and users with personal screen for a more dynam-Google Accounts.

the tech giant Google had

When using Google Meet for large meetings, designating attendees as "viewers" will help reduce potential meeting distractions, like audio disruptions



Boeing aircraft, including five B737 Max

PTI MUMBAI

 $N_{\mathrm{which}}^{\mathrm{o-frills}}$ airline SpiceJet, which is trying to keep afloat amid several aircraft of its fleet being grounded over payment issues with lessors, on Friday said it plans to add 10 narrow-body Boeing aircraft, including five B737 Max, on lease by October. In the intervening period,

the airline is working on restoring and reviving its grounded aircraft which will "We will be inducting 10

September-October. The



sport 11

OZ TAKE MASSIVE LEAD IN WTC FINAL

ndia's Ajinkya Rahane revived his international L career with a courageous effort in seaming conditions but it could not prevent Australia from extending their supremacy in the World Test Championship final here on

Friday. Playing his first Test in 18 months and with his side's back against the wall, Rahane weathered a hostile spell from Australian pacers on way to a memorable 89 off 129 balls on the third day and took India to 296 all out from 152 for six.

His 109-run partnership for the sixth wicket with Shardul Thakur (51 off 109) kept India in the game but Australia still managed to take a massive 173-run lead.

At stumps, Australia extended their lead to 296 runs by reaching 123 for four in 44 overs in their second innings. Marnus Labuschagne (41 batting) and Cameron Green (7 batting) were in the middle.

The pitch continues to offer seam movement but the spinners also came into play on Friday with Ravindra Jadjea taking two wickets and reigniting the debate on R Ashwin's non-selection for the title clash.

Mohammed Siraj was the standout Indian pacer once again as he got rid of David Warner (1) with a ball that seamed away from off-stump and took the edge on way to the wicketkeeper. Usman Khawaja's



second failure of the game came after a loose drive off Umesh Yadav.

point of view was that Australia's first innings centurions Steve Smith (34) and Travis Head (18) departed in quick succession. Umesh made a mess of a regulation catch offered by Head at

deep midwicket but Jadeja had him caught and bowled in the same over. A rare positive from India's

Smith had a rare lapse in concentration and his attempted slog led to him being caught by Thakur

It will take a special effort from India to bounce back in the game but Rahane showed

PTI LONDON

that runs could be scored against a formidable pace attack. His gritty innings had 11 fours and a spectacular six over fine leg off opposition cap-

tain Pat Cummins. Rahane could not add to his tally after the lunch break, and having once again delivered in challenging overseas condi-

tions, fell to a stunning onehanded catch by Green at gully. Rahane went through with

the shot away from his body off Cummins and a diving Green plucked the flying ball out of thin air for an excellent catch. Thakur was able to get to

his third half century at The Oval with a couple of straight

Siraj 'ultimate competitor' but India

India become too tight in big games: Harbhajan

here as a commentator,

could sense a wicket off every

Boland ripped through the defense of K S Bharat on the second ball of the day as the

Indian wicketkeeper had no

answer to a delivery that jagged

Cummins looked equally

back in sharply from length.

threatening from the other end

and hit Thakur's forearm back-

to-back with extra bounce,

forcing the batter to seek the

Like Thakur, Rahane too

physio's intervention.

PTI LONDON

 $F^{
m ormer}$ India spinner Harbhajan Singh reckons the observed the players become current team has not shown the fearlessness that one needs to win ICC titles and fielding four seamers in the World Test Championship final was a bit 'too much". Having come short in ICC knockout games on numerous occasions since winning their last trophy in 2013, India find themselves in a hole

"too tight" in high pressure games and advised them not to worry about the results. "There is nothing lacking (in terms of skills). The more you play the big games the better you get. I feel you need to play more freely in these big games. I think we have become a bit too tight. Will have to play more

ball.

drives off Cummins. India's tail hardly put up any resistance and the team was bowled out midway into the second session.

In the morning, Rahane stood tall amid the ruins in his comeback game as he showed remarkable skill and courage against a hostile Australian pace attack. But India remained behind in the game despite the resilience of Rahane and Thakur's much- needed support. Thakur also survived two

nasty blows on his forearm and had luck going his way as he was dropped by Warner at first was dropped twice as India managed to score 109 runs in the 22 overs bowled in the first session.

slip when he was on 72. After getting a few streaky boundaries, Rahane got to his The way Scott Boland and Cummins got the ball to kick off length in the first hour, one fifty with a spectacular six off Cummins over fine leg. The

in the WTC final against freely and not think about the Australia. Harbhajan, who is players to do the job, they will do the job. If you put pressure on them that if you don't per-form well, some get dropped and some don't (they will feel underconfident). "The idea is to give them confidence that even if you don't do well, give your best. That way we will probably lift a few cups. Just play fearlessly," the two-time World Cup winner told PTI.

> Australian skipper angled one into his body and Rahane made room to pull it for a maximum.

> His best shot of the morning however was a cover drive off Green, and it came after a thick edge that flew over the slip cordon, showing that one had to take his chances on this wicket.

> The final moments of the morning session were full of action. Rahane got consecutive fours off Nathon Lyon via a back foot punch and a crisp

> drive through the cover. The last over before lunch saw Thakur being adjudged lbw but it ended up being a no ball from Cumping. The Austia ball from Cummins. The Aussie skipper had also overstepped after trapping Rahane in front of the stumps on day two.

Length at off stump

is important on this

 ${
m A}^{
m ustralian\,batter\,Steve\,Smith}_{
m on\ Thursday\ said\ his}$

bowlers reaped the benefits of

relentlessly targeting the off

stump on a pitch with variable bounce in the World Test Championship final against

India found themselves in

wicket: Smith

PTI LONDON

India.

Smith intrigued to see how 'Bazball' fares in Ashes

AP LONDON

 $S_{\rm looking\ forward\ to\ England}^{\rm teve\ Smith\ insisted\ he\ was}$ continuing with their 'Bazball' style during the Ashes, saying "they haven't come up against us yet" as Australia maintained their grip on the World Test Championship final against India on Thursday.

England have won 11 of their 13 Tests since captain Ben Sto-kes and coach Brendon McCullum joined forces last year after adopting an ultra-aggressive approach to red-ball cricket.

well against some other attacks, but they haven't come up against us yet. So, we'll see. "I must say I've enjoyed watching the way they (England) have played and the way that I But just over a week out from the first Test at Edgbaston, the opener in a five-match series, Smith clearly fancied guess they've turned things Australia's chances of a first around in the last 12 months or

Ashes campaign triumph in

bat in dynamic fashion against

an Australia bowling unit also

featuring left-arm quick Mitchell

Starc and miserly seamer Scott

Boland, Smith replied: "I think

I said it initially when 'Bazball

started that I'm intrigued to see

how it goes against our bowlers.

I've said that all along. "I think it'd be difficult on

this kind of wicket - up and down and seaming around -- it's

not easy to defend, let alone

come out and swing. "They've obviously done

vidual preparation. "I don't know (effect on

Indian batters). If you ask Virat,

he would say that it's been per-

fect for him because he has got

all sorts of runs. If you asked

Rahane, he wouldn't have been

picked for this match without

the IPL. So it's going to work

this morning, he said he's start-

ed to feel the pinch because he

bowled in the whole of IPL."

"One-off game and in the

time of the year, there's never

going to be ideal preparation

time for anybody. But you got to

have looked rusty.

been a bit rusty.

months

"I had a chat with Shardul

both ways.

 $F^{\rm ormer\ Australia\ captain\ Ricky\ Ponting}_{\rm feels\ India\ "let\ themselves\ down"\ by}$ not bowling fuller in the ongoing World Test Championship final but praised pacer Mohammed Siraj for his tenacity, calling him the "ultimate competitor".

Siraj (4/108) bowled his best but India could not stop Australia from amassing 469 runs in the first innings at The Oval with Travis Head (163) and Steve Smith (121) scoring centuries.

Siraj was perhaps the only bright spot for India with the ball as he accounted for Usman Khawaja (0), Head, Pat Cum-mins (9) and Nathan Lyon (9) to claim 50 wickets in Test cricket.

"I loved seeing that and he looks like the ultimate competitor. Maybe sometimes he gets carried away and goes a little bit over the top, but you need those guys in your side when things aren't going well," Ponting told the ICC on Thursday.



"He was the one today (Thursday) who said I am going to be the guy that is going to turn things around and what I loved was that his pace didn't drop at all during the whole innings. "From the first ball yesterday morning until late this overing ar Australia with short pitch deliveries and that 86 or 87-mile and hour mark and to bowl fuller and get the ball driven back added.



that says a lot about a great attitude." Ponting feels Indian bowlers should have looked to bowl fuller lengths instead

of bowling short. "I think where they let themselves down was in the first hour yesterday and bowling too short. With the wicket conditions, the overhead conditions they had and the brand new Dukes ball.

down the ground," he said.

They needed to have Australia four or five down at lunch and they only had them two down which was a pretty good result (for Australia)," said Ponting, recalling the first session on the opening day, which so far has been the best in terms of assistance to fast bowlers. Without getting into the discussion

of whether India should have played Ravichnadran Ashwin in the WTC final, Ponting said India's decision to play four seamers might pay its dividends later in the game. "I know the captain wears the brunt of it (criticism), but I know it's not only his decision. I saw Rahul Dravid and him (Rohit Sharma) out in the middle yesterday morning and they had a long discussion about what they wanted to do

at the toss." Ponting said. "If they wanted to bowl first I think they had to play the four seamers. So far you would say it hasn't paid off - but there is a long way to go and we proba-

Indian counterparts. "The length at off stump I

big trouble at 151 for five on day two, trailing Australia by another 318 runs at the Oval. Shubman Gill and Cheteshwar Pujara offered no shot to balls that crashed into the stumps while Virat Kohli got an unplayable delivery from Mit-

chell Starc. Australian pacers bowled better lengths and got more purchase out of the wicket than their

Asked if England could still how it comes off against us.

PTI 📕 NEW DELHI

cooked pacers.

 $\mathbf{I}^{\mathrm{ndia's}}_{\mathrm{World}}$ performance in the World Test Championship

final against Australia has shown

their preparation was not ideal,

said Ricky Ponting, who espe-

cially raised questions about

the readiness of their under-

final after conceding a first-

innings lead of 173 runs to

and Mohammed Shami have

been potent in the game, Umesh

Yadav and Shardul Thakur

looked a bit rusty having not got

a lot of overs under their belt in

the IPL. Thakur bowled 21

overs in the whole of IPL and

Umesh bowled 19, less than

what they bowled in Australia's

first innings here. "I think they have been out-

played so far. Their preparation wasn't probably ideal coming into

a one-off Test what with all their players being at the IPL. You

know, few of the Australian boys

were there. Few of the Australian

boys hadn't done anything for

three months either," Ponting told

PTI in a select media interaction

the day it comes down to indi-

Ponting said at the end of

at The Oval.

Australia on a seaming pitch.

India are staring at another unfavourable result in an ICC

While Mohammed Siraj

Ponting questions India's

preparation for WTC final

PTI LONDON

The great Steve Waugh has

become the latest former

cricketer to question India's

team selection for the World Test

Championship final against Australia, saying they have "picked the wrong side" by not including Ravichandran Ashwin

on a tricky pitch. World Cup-winning Australian captain Waugh's assessment comes after the likes

of Sourav Ganguly, Ricky Ponting and Sanjay Manjrekar

expressed their surprise at the

Indian team management's deci-

hink is impoi ously seen a bit of variable bounce and some seam movement. So if we're challenging the top of the stumps as much as possible, I think that's the quickest way home.

'You can certainly get the outside edge from there if it seams away and bounces or takes off, which a couple have. And then pads and stumps are in play with the ones that shoot low or seam back. So it's about as simple

Australia's batting mainstay got to his 31st hundred with a first over of the day. It was his third hundred at The Oval

started this morning I couldn't ask for anything more than two half volleys on my pad to get me going. That was nice to get over that milestone.

I do think India have picked the wrong side: Waugh

as we need to keep it, I think," Smith said. couple of fours off half vollevs from Mohammed Siraj in the

where he averages close to 100. "Yeah, I think when I first

India's leading wicket-taker in the 2021-2023 WTC cycle, Ashwin lost out to Ravindra Jadeja, who is playing as the only spinner in the team.

The Indian team said Ashwin was not considered for selection in the playing XI owing to the conditions at the Oval.

his bowling. That is why I can't believe he isn't playing because he has got five Test centuries as

"It looks green on top but

Ashwin has 474 Test wickoffering variable bounce.

Batting first, Australia put up 469 after centuries by Steve Smith and Travis Head and then had India in trouble at 151 for five at stumps on the second day.

ets and could have asked some probing questions to the Australian batters, especially the left-handers, with his variations on a pitch that was also

team who qualified from their

group ahead of Barcelona before

seeing off Porto, Benfica and city

a team of City's calibre, but they

have a clear Cup pedigree, hav-

ing recently retained the Coppa

We know what we're up against.'

Inter know what they are up

NO FEAR' FOR INTER

"I mean, they're in the

rivals AC Milan.

Italia

Ashwin, currently the world's number one bowler in Tests.

the fifth Test at The Oval in 2019, a match which England won by 145 runs after Tim

Paine opted to bowl first. Waugh recalled how "We made the same blunder four years ago in the Ashes. The Oval is always tricky," Waugh was quoted as saying by AAP.

underneath it is crumbly and a bit dry. You can get lulled into the overcast sky and green pitch and think it is going to do everything. As soon as the sun comes out it is totally different and dries out quickly.

'I do think (India) have picked the wrong side. Spin will play a big part in this Test match and it is going to be up and down."

Waugh added that he would picked Ashwin for his batting, let alone his bowling. "I would have picked Ashwin for his batting, let alone

sion to take to the field at The Australia made a similar error in Oval without senior off-spinner

well. It is very strange. INTER STAND IN

has not been able to get enough bowling. The over that he has bowled in a day and a half, he Ponting felt both the teams League final against Inter Milan in Istanbul as Pep Guardiola's "I sort of underlined comside aim to finally get their hands on the greatest prize in European ing into this game what was the best preparation; was it out and club football, and complete a his-

playing pretty high quality comtoric treble. petitive cricket in the IPL or was it better off being at home and resting up and doing a bit of non competitive training. So far it's shown that both teams have United Group.

> in the last 12 seasons and following their latest triumph by claim-

do the best you can to get pre-It has happened just as they pared and get ready and try and execute it on the day. I mean, Travis Head is a great example, hasn't picked up a bat for a few

-anchester City are huge favourites heading into LSaturday's Champions

City have been building towards this moment ever since the transformative 2008 takeover of the club by the Abu Dhabi

become They have England's dominant force, winning seven Premier League titles ing the FA Cup last weekend.

have become the club with the greatest revenues in world football according to analysts Deloitte, with income of 731

million euros (\$788m) last sea son Question marks surround their success, given that City were charged in February by the

Premier League with 115 alleged breaches of its financial rules between 2009 and 2018. In Europe, meanwhile, City

were banned for two years from UEFA competitions in February 2020 for "serious financial fairplay breaches", but that sanction was overturned later by the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

Now they can match the achievement of Alex Ferguson's Manchester United in 1999 by beating Inter at the Ataturk Olympic Stadium and securing a treble.

HOW TO STOP HAALAND?

Beaten finalists in 2021, City lost in last year's semi-finals to Real Madrid, but the addition of Erling Haaland appears to



a new level.

52 goals since arriving from Borussia Dortmund, and City land in Turkey having been beaten just once in their last 27 games

That 1-0 defeat at Brentford came on the last day of the Premier League season, after the title had been secured.

City have not lost in Europe this season and dished out heavy beatings to RB Leipzig, Bayern Munich and Madrid in the knockout rounds.

So there is surely nothing to fear in the final against the third-best team in Italy, except perhaps their own past demons in crucial Champions League games.

'We've still not won it yet," warned Kevin De Bruyne.

"I've been here eight years and it's been incredible. Could I come here and think about all the amount of games and trophies we would win in eight years? "Probably not. But it is something we have not won yet and it is something that we want to win. Hopefully it will be Saturday."

Yet as Guardiola eyes what would be the third Champions against too, not least veteran 37-League of his career, City cannot year-old forward Edin Dzeko. overlook the threat of an Inter The Bosnian played for City

between 2011 and 2016

REBLE

He has scored 14 goals this season and has been an excellent

Simone Inzaghi's side may not have as many superstars as

'We're talking about a foot-

Inzaghi, who was appointed in 2021 after the Nerazzurri had won Serie A under Antonio

Defender Alessandro Bastoni added: "You are scared of murderers, not football players. It would be a mistake to to talk about fear.'

foil for Inter's star forward, They have maybe not faced Lautaro Martinez.

City, but they have a grizzled back line, dangerous wing-backs and a hard-working midfield in which Nicolo Barella excels.

Champions League final for a reason," warned John Stones, whose move from central ball match, there's no fear," said defence into midfield has been

key to City's outstanding form. "They've got incredible play-ers, we can all see that. How they Conte played in a big occasion, in a derby game in the Champions League semi-final, is never easy.

Inter are in their first final since winning the trophy under Jose Mourinho in 2010, the last victory in the competition for an Italian side.

have taken Guardiola's team to

The Norwegian has scored





नरेन्द्र मोदी, प्रधानमंत्री

जुख्यसंही लाडुली बहना योजना

> सवा करोड़ लाड़ली बहनों के जीवन का ऐतिहासिक

> > <u>'</u>GJ

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मुख्यमंत्री शिवराज सिंह चौहान

लाड़ली बहनों के खाते में भेजेंगे आज



10 जून, 2023 । शाम ६:०० बजे गैरीसन ग्राउंड, जबलपुर

े मैंने भाई होने के नाते मेरी बहनों को संबल देने का फर्ज़ निभाया है। बहनों को सशक्त बनाने का आज एक बड़ा संकल्प पूरा हुआ है।

- शिवराज सिंह चौहान

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JansamparkMP

मध्यप्रदेश जनसम्पर्क द्वारा जार

मध्यप्रदेश शासन