OPINION 6

DECODING THE SCRIPTS OF

'MANN KI BAAT'

WORLD 9

IMRAN SLAMS GOVT. SAYS NO

PLANS TO TRAVEL ABROAD

MONEY 10

SERVICES SECTOR TO DRIVE GDP

GROWTH TO 4.9% IN Q4 FY23: ICRA

DELHI LUCKNOW BHOPAL BHUBANESWAR RANCHI RAIPUR CHANDIGARH DEHRADUN HYDERABAD VIJAYWADA

> Late City Vol.19 Issue 143 *Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable

SINDHU ENTERS MALAYSIA

MASTERS SEMIS

BHUBANESWAR, SATURDAY MAY 27, 2023; PAGES 12 ₹4

the pioneer www.dailypioneer.com

asks Shah as Cong disputes that 'Sengol' is the symbol of transfer of power by British to India

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

 $T^{\text{he war of words between}} \\ \text{the BJP and the Congress} \\ \text{over the historical roots of the} \\$ ceremonial sceptre Sengol, to be installed near the Chair of the Speaker in the new Parliament building, intensified on Friday.

tance of sengol, Union Home Minister Amit Shah tweet, "Why does the Congress party hate Indian traditions and culture so much? A sacred Sengol was given to Pandit Nehru by a holy Saivite Mutt from Tamil Nadu to symbolise India's freedom but it was banished to a museum as a 'walking stick."

Shah's remarks came after Congress leader Jairam Ramesh claimed there was no documented evidence of Lord

and Jawaharlal Nehru describing the Sengol as a symbol of transfer of power by the British to India.

no documented evidence whatsoever of Mountbatten, Rajaji and Nehru describing this sceptre as a symbol of transfer of British power to India. All claims to this effect are plain and minimum evidence"

has heaped another shameful insult. The Thiruvaduthurai Adheenam, a holy Saivite Mutt, itself spoke about the importance of the Sengol at the time of India's freedom.

The Congress, he further posted, is calling the

 $T^{
m he\ old\ Parliament\ building,}$ an architectural splendour

and a historic landmark that

guided the destiny of India for

nearly a century and whose

illustrious legacy will now be

consigned to the pages of his-

tory, was inaugurated on January 18, 1927, by then

Minister Narendra Modi will

inaugurate the new Parliament

building and dedicate it to the

nation, the old Sansad Bhavan

will also hand over its position

On May 28, when Prime

Vicerov Lord Irwin.

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

"Adheenam's history as BOGUS! Congress needs to reflect on their behaviour". The Tamil tradition of a high priest presenting a sceptre to a newly crowned king as a symbolic gesture dates back to the Chola

Several Union ministers hit out at the 20 Opposition parties, including the Congress, the inauguration ceremony.

as the country's hallowed leg-

islature, a privilege it enjoyed

Parliament House has for these

nessed the imperial rule of the

British and its chamber has

heard the echoes of bombs

hurled by revolutionaries

nine-and-a-half decades wit-

Revered today as India's temple of democracy, the old

for over 96 years

veterans condemned the Opposition parties for their decision and claimed that all the "family-first" parties have come together to boycott all that represents India.

The head of a Tamil Nadu monastery sought to counter Ramesh's claim, saying the Sengol was handed over to Lord Mountbatten and then it was presented to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in 1947 to symbolise transfer of power from British and wrong claims made in this respect by some people has caused sadness.

. Tiruvavaduthurai Aadeenam, Ambalavana Desika Paramacharya Swami said the Sengol that that was away from the gaze of people would now be prominently displayed in Parliament for the world to see.

To a question by reporters in Chennai on any proof for the handover of the Sengol, the pontiff said there were evidence, including photographs and reports that appeared in newspapers and magazines in 1947. BJP president JP Nadda said what connects the boycotting parties is their dynastic leadership whose "monarchic" methods are at loggerheads with the principles of the Constitution.

While appropriate

While announcing the boycott, the Opposition parties had said the Prime Minister's decision to inaugurate it by himself, "com-pletely sidelining President Droupadi Murmu, is not only a grave insult but a direct assault on our democracy which demands a commensurate response".

Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri hit out at the Congress and others who gave the boycott call, saying the "boycott gang" is insult-ing the legacy of their own leaders and the freedom fighters.

In a series of tweets, Puri cited an old article of the Time Magazine published in 1947 which he said was a must read for those who wish they had built the magnificent new Parliament instead of Prime Minister Modi.

PM urges people to share video that gives virtual tour of new Parl

PNS NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said the new Parliament building will make every Indian proud, as he posted a video of the newlyconstructed complex on Twitter and urged people to share it on the social media platform with the hashtag MyParliamentMyPride".

Modi also urged people to share the video with their voiceover which he will

The new Parliament building will be inaugurated on Sunday and the ceremony will begin with an early morning havan and a multi-religion prayer followed by a formal opening in the Lok Sabha by



Prime Minister Modi

"The new Parliament building will make every Indian proud. This video offers a glimpse of this iconic building. I have a special request — share this video with your own voice-over, which conveys your thoughts. I will re-Tweet some of them. Don't forget to use #MyParliamentMyPride," the Prime Minister said on Twitter.
The video shared by the

Prime Minister gives a virtual tour of the new Parliament building, including the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha.

As many as 25 parties are expected to attend the inauguration of the new Parliament building even as 20 Opposition parties have decided to boycott the event.

Officials said the havan will be held outside the new building around 7 am and the ceremonial sceptre Sengol will be handed over to Modi by the high priests of the Shaivite

The Sengol will be installed near the chair of the Speaker in the new Parliament building. Former vice president M Venkaiah Naidu, Lok Sabha

others are expected to be present during the formal inau-guration of the new complex. The triangular-shaped four-storey Parliament building has a built-up area of 64,500 sqm. The building has three main gates. Gyan Dwar main gates — Gyan Dwar, Shakti Dwar, and Karma Dwar.

Speaker Om Birla, former

prime minister HD Deve

Gowda and Rajya Sabha deputy

chairman Harivansh among

SC rejects PIL for **launch by Prez**

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Friday refused to entertain a PIL seeking a direction to the Lok Sabha Secretariat for inauguration of the new Parliament building by President Droupadi Murmu.

A bench of justices JK Maheshwari and PS Narasimha told petitioner inperson advocate Jaya Sukin that the court understands why and how this petition was filed and it is not inclined to entertain this petition under Article 32 of the Constitution.

Special ₹75 coin to mark opening of new Parliament

will issue a commemorative ₹75 coin to mark the inauguration of new Parliament Building on May 28 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

As per a gazette notification by Department of Economic Affairs under the finance ministry, the weight of this coin could be 34.65-35.35

Should be limit to politics: EAM on Opp boycott

Rajpipla: External Affairs Friday described as "unfortunate" the decision by 20 Opposition parties to boycott the inauguration of the new Parliament building and said there should be a limit to doing politics. Jaishankar said the inauguration of the new Parliament building should be celebrated as a festival by the entire nation.

Fight over Sengol escalates Why does Cong 'hate' Indian culture so much, BJP president JP Nadda said what connects the boy BJP president JP Nadda said what connects the boy BJP president JP Nadda said what connects the boy New Parl will make Indians proud: Modi

Lambasting the Congress for the boycott call and dis-puting the historical impor-

Mountbatten, C Rajagopalachari

<u>CAPSULE</u>

FIVE JUDGES ELEVATED AS HC CHIEF JUSTICES

New Delhi: Five judges were on

Friday elevated as chief justices

of high courts with one of them

NIA SEEKS DEATH FOR JKLF CHIEF YASIN

New Delhi: The NIA on Friday

approached the Delhi High

Court seeking death sentence

for Kashmiri separatist leader

funding case.

Yasin Malik, who was awarded

AIMIM. BJP CLASH OVER

councillors of Meerut Municipal

Corporation at oath-taking event

VANDÉ MATARAM

Meerut: A clash erupted

between AIMIM and BJP

organised for them here on

singing of 'Vande Mataram' to

Friday. The scuffle began

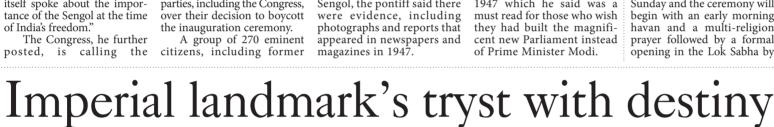
commence the event.

life term by a trial court in terror

due to retire on May 30.

Ramesh tweeted, "There is

simple — bogus. Is it any sur-prise that the new Parliament is being consecrated with typically false narratives from WhatsApp University? The BJP-RSS distorians stand exposed vet again with maximum claims. Shah said, "Now, Congress



Bhagat Singh and Batukeshwar Dutt in a bid to attain freedom.

The building has seen the dawn of Independence and its halls have reverberated with the historic "Tryst with Destiny" speech delivered by first prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru on August 15, 1947.

An architectural marvel with its charming circular design and an impressive colonnade of 144 creamy sandstone on the first floor, the old building was opened amid much fanfare at a time when the new imperial capital of the British Raj — New Delhi —

was being built at a site in Raisina Hill area. The building, with a diameter of 560 ft and circumfer-According to archival docence of one-third of a mile.

uments and rare old images, a grand ceremony was held on January 18, 1927, to mark the opening of the majestic building, then called Council House.

Over a century ago, when the nation was still in the making and Independence 26 years away, Britain's Duke of Connaught had laid the foundation stone of Parliament House on February 12, 1921, and said it would stand "as the symbol of India's rebirth to yet higher destinies".

Great Place (now Vijay Chowk), and then "proceeded to open the door of the Council House with a golden key, handed to him by Sir Herbert Baker". Rahul gets court **NOC** for passport

was designed by Sir Herbert

Baker, who along with Sir

Edwin Lutyens was chosen to

design the new imperial capital in Delhi. According to the book "New Delhi — Making

of a Capital", Lord Irwin had

arrived in his viceregal car-

riage at a pavilion set up at the

for just 3 years PNS NEW DELHI

A Delhi court on Friday granted a no-objection certificate (NOC) to Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for issuance of an "ordinary passport" for three years instead of the normal 10 years, following an objection raised by BJP leader Subramanian Swamy.

Rahul had surrendered his diplomatic passport upon his disqualification as an MP. Swamy argued that the court should listen the opinion of Union Home Ministry, which issued notice to Rahul on the controversial British citizen-

ship holding issue. "I'm partly allowing your application. Not for 10 years but three years," Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (ACMM) Vaibhav Mehta told Rahul's counsel.

Impressive building: Omar

Conference leader Omar Abdullah on Friday said the new Parliament building was a welcome addition and looks "pretty damn impressive", amid criticism by the Opposition over its inaugura-

Abdullah, whose party's MPs have also announced to boycott the inaugural ceremony, said when he was the

member of the Lok Sabha, many of his colleagues often spoke about the need for a new and improved Parliament building.

"Setting aside the brouhaha about the inauguration for a moment, this building is a welcome addition. Better late than never is all I will say and this one looks pretty damn impressive," the NC vice president wrote on Twitter.

SC grants bail to ailing Jain for six weeks

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on ■ Friday granted jailed for-Delhi Minister Satyendar Jain interim bail for six weeks on medical grounds, saying a citizen has a right to receive treatment of his choice in a private hospital at his own expense. The relief came a day

after Jain collapsed in Tihar Jail due to dizziness and was admitted to the ICU of a Government hospital.

Now HC to hear all petitions on Krishna India Set for exponential Janmabhoomi-Shahi **Idgah masjid dispute**

PTI ■ PRAYAGRAJ

 $T^{
m he}$ Allahabad High Court on Friday directed all matters related to the Sri Krishna Janmabhoomi-Shahi Idgah dispute pending before a Mathura court be transferred to it.

Justice Arvind Kumar Mishra passed the order allowing a transfer application filed by Bhagwan Shrikrishna Virajman at Katra Keshav Dev Khewat Mathura through the next friend, Ranjana Agnihotri, and seven others. "It is requested to the respected chief justice to kindly nominate an appropriate bench for trial and disposal of such suits so withdrawn," he added.

The petitioners had requested that the original trial must be conducted by the HC itself like the Ayodhya



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India is expected to clock the Thighest growth among the world's big economies this year and the country's economy is witnessing the "famous snow-ball effect" that will lead to more investments and more jobs, according to World Economic Forum (WEF) President Borge Brende. There have been reforms

that have led to less red tape, better climate for investments and also the digital revolution is really happening in India," Brende said and stressed that he is "very bullish and optimistic" about the country's growth trajectory but not so optimistic about global growth. holds the G20 presidency, is

one of the fastest growing key economies in the world and WEF has had close collaborations with the country for the past many years. "When the snowball starts to roll, it gets bigger and bigger,

and that is what is happening with the Indian economy. "The growth will lead to more investments, more jobs... It will be an exponen-

tial growth in the coming

Das suffers from bipolar disor-

ation where more poverty is eradicated and more opportunities are there for young people," Brende told PTI in an interview in the national cap-Brende, who was on a short visit to India, had dis-

cussions about ongoing collaborations as well as India's G20 presidency with stakeholders. He met various Union ministers and company executives, among others.

"I think that nations in the developing world have something to learn from India. India is the largest democracy in the world and it is also an open society with entrepreneurs and innovators and free speech," he said.

In Sambalpur

Rains occur as divine couple enters home

Finally, the great festival of Sital Sasthi ended with torren-

It is a strong belief of the people here that Mother Earth gets cooled from the day of Sital Sasthi after the divine marriage. As Lord Siva entered the temples with Maa Parvati, there began the rains in Sambalpur city and the district

'Such an incidence is never coincidence but the real bless-



ings of Mahadev and Maa Parvati. It happens every year in Sambalpur," said Prafulla Kumar Dash, a devotee.

that had begun on midnight of Thursday ended towards the evening of Friday. More than 10,000 artists from all over the country took part in the pro-

Gopal killed Naba Das due to 'personal grudge'

India, which currently

But CB charge-sheet is silent on reason of culprit's animosity

AK SAHOO BHUBANESWAR

N early four months after Health Minister Naba Kisore Das was shot dead in broad daylight by an Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) of Police, the Crime Branch (CB) of Odisha Police on Friday submitted a preliminary charge-sheet in the case at the SDJM Court in Jharsuguda.

The 543-page charge-sheet



by ASI Gopal Krushna Das over a "personal grudge". The accused has been charged under Sections 307, 302 of IPC and 27 (1) of the Arms Act.

Shedding light on the mo-

murder, the CB's charge-sheet claimed that Gopal had developed personal grudge and anguish against Naba Das. However, there is no mention

as to why the ASI harboured a

tive behind the high-profile

personal grudge against the "Gopal Das had developed personal grudge and anguish against Minister Naba Das. He felt threatened from Naba Das and his supporters and feared for

CB has clearly denied that Gopal

replied to all the questions in a cogent manner, the CB stated in the charge-sheet. The chargesheet further stated that Gopal had planned and executed the his life. Gradually, he made up murder alone as there was no his mind to kill Das and executed conspiracy or support from anythe plan in a pre-planned manone else. ner," stated the charge-sheet. The On the other hand, the filing

of the charge-sheet on a court

der. Medical examination by a special Medical Board constituted by the DMET, Odisha, has ascertained that his mental condition of some bigwigs in the crime. is quite normal and there is no On January 29, Naba Das was on his way to attend an event abnormality. Moreover, Gopal was coop-

erative in the investigation and to the bullet injuries. Naba Das' daughter Dipali

Das was elected as the MLA of a by-poll held on May 10.

to the allegation of conspiracy theory by several political leaders who claimed involvement

at Brajarajnagar when Gopal opened fire at him from close range with his service revolver. Although the Minister was rushed to the Jharsuguda hospital and later shifted to a hospital in Bhubaneswar, he succumbed

his Jharsuguda constituency in

SAMBALPUR holiday due to Sital Sasthi added

tial rains for an hour or more. And the sizzling earth with 42 degree-Celsius day temperature in Sambalpur became Sital (cool).

as well.

procession of the divine couple

The grand homecoming

Registering Officer and subject to availability of any

time slot on that day be termed

as 'Tatkal'. The process would

help people not waste time by

running to different offices for

the land registration process

unnecessarily. As per the new

process, after the online slot

booking, the concerned

person would give a certain

date on which he/she has to

reach the Tehsil and Sub-

Registrar office. The sale and

purchase agreement of lands

would be made in that period.

kind in India. It will ensure

that people do not waste time

for land registration," said

Disaster

Revenue and

"This initiative is first-of-its-

Land registration: Online slot booking mandatory

he pioneer BHUBANESWAR I SATURDAY I MAY 27, 2023

Dharmendra calls for double-engine Govt in Odisha

His marathon visits to Sambalpur, D'nal stir speculations that he may contest from either LS seat in 2024

BIJAY MISHRA

ANUGUL

The political atmosphere in Sambalpur and Dhenkanal Parliamentary constituencies is getting charged up due to the frequent and marathon visits of Union Minister Education Development and Entrepreneurship Dharmendra Pradhan, calling for establishment of a double-

engine Government in

Odisha.

After a marathon visit in Sambalpur attending various rituals and spiritual functions in the wake of Sital Sasthi, Pradhan addressed public meetings at Athamallik and Kishorenagar of Angul district on Friday, on the occasion of completion of the 9th year of

CM likely to lay

stone for project

BHUBANESWAR

The much-awaited metro

train project in Bhubaneswar

would begin by the end of

2023, informed Housing &

Urban Development Minister

A Metro Rail System for the

Bhubaneswar Capital Region

has already been sanctioned

by the Chief Minister. The

Delhi Metro Rail Corporation

is engaged as the consultant

for the project and a DPR is

Construction work is likely to

commence before end of

2023, said the Minister after a

preparation.

Usha Devi on Friday.

in June



Government at the Centre.

Addressing a huge gathering at Athamallik, arranged by former BJD Minister and BJP leader Sanjeeb Sahu, Pradhan urged the electorate to bring the BJP to power both at the Centre and the State in 2024 to pave way for establishment a double engine Government in Odisha. He the Government for misusing

review meeting chaired by CM

Naveen Patnaik here on

The Chief Minister is likely

to lay foundation-stone for

the project in the month of

June, informed Principal

Secretary, H&UDD, G

Mathivathanan while briefing

The survey for the proposed

project has been completed.

The DPR, which is being

prepared by the Delhi Metro

Railway Corporation, has

which came from DMF sources to the State. On request of Sanjeev Sahu, Pradhan assured to open a Kendriya Vidyalaya

The frequent visits of Pradhan to Sambalpur and Dhenkanal Parliamentary constituencies raised speculations by political observers that he may contest from either Sambalpur or Dhenkanal Lok Sabha seat in 2024. Both Dharmendra Pradhan and his father Dr

Debendra Pradhan were elected from the then Deogarh Parliamentary seat of which many parts are now Sambalpur the constituency after delimitation. Moreover, it is

alleged that Sambalpur BJP MP Nitesh Ganga Deb is not now very much active in BJP and public affairs. Sambalpur is a strong bastion of BJP. In view of this, it is speculated that Pradhan is interested to contest from the constituency. Pradhan is also organising

Dhenkanal Parliamentary

constituency as the BJP is going stronger in the constituency. The BJP wants to take mileage due to revival of the Rs 13,200 crore Talcher Fertiliser Limited (TFL) project which is targeted to be completed by 2024. China's Wuhuan Engineering Company Limited (WECL) is executing the project, the foundation of which was laid by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in September 2018. Pradhan is also credited for several railway projects in Dhenkanal constituency.

People deprived of minimum healthcare: Cong



BHUBANESWAR

In the 23 years of rule of the Naveen Patnaik Government, the people of Odisha have failed to avail the most minimum healthcare. But the Health Minister during a review of his department on May 22 praised the healthcare system, which is surprising. It seems he is patting his own back, said the Congress on

Senior Congress leader Panchanan Kanungo said that in Kerala there is one doctor for every 400 persons while it is one doctor for 2,187 persons

in Odisha, where there are only 87 Community Health doctors are qualified or not.

So, it is no surprise that the

Centres. According to the WHO, there should be one doctor per 1,000 persons. Accordingly, as per Odisha's population of 4.50 crore, there is a requirement for 46,000 doctors. But this could not be achieved. The Orissa High Court has said it should be examined whether half of the

patients are apprehensive due to the fake doctors and medicines. As many as 1,211 specialist doctor posts are vacant, said Kanungo.

any disease or disorder," she

Prof Nibedita Pani hailed the

event as coming together of

two of the leading institutions

prioritising public health and

mental health in Odisha. Utkal

University Registrar Dr Avaya

Kumar Nayak said the

collaboration would be

mutually beneficial and all

cooperation would be extended

from the university to facilitate

Head of the Department of

the partnership activities.

demand, then on acceptance Management Minister of the reasons by the Pramila Mallick. Harekrushna Mahtab Library to be renovated Users to get Wi-Fi facility,

PNS BHUBANESWAR

Online slot booking

process has been made

registration in the State.

Inspector General of

Registration Jyotiprakash Das

has written a letter in this

regard to all concerned

officials, attaching a gazette

As per the notification, if no

prior appointment through

online booking of slot has been

taken, and the citizen has

applied in writing with

justification for not being able

to do so, to the Registering

Officer, for acceptance of the

Document for Registration on

notification with it.

for

mandatory

food court, Aahaar Kendra BHUBANESWAR

On the direction of CM Naveen Patnaik, 5T Secretary VK Pandian visited the Harekrushna Mahtab State Library on Friday and discussed with the students who use the library.

Notably, hundreds of students come to the library every day to prepare for various competitive exams, while people at large use it for reading books and magazines. Since the library has been very old, there is a need to renovate it and its facilities, it was felt.

Besides, books and other materials of the library would be preserved with modern technologies and a new building in the premises of the library would be made functional keeping the ease of the users in mind. Landscaping of the premises of the library would be done, apart from opening up a food court and cafeteria by the Mission Shakti.

An Aahaar Kendra would also be opened for the students. All kinds of magazines for competitive exams in adequate numbers would be made available and the library would be run by IT enabled Smart Management. Career counseling and motivational talk would be arranged to encourage the students facing competitive exams. The entire library would have Wi-Fi facility round the clock. To lessen the crowd in the library, a Jan Library would be

Traffic rule violation Offenders with 5 e-challans under lens

The Commissionerate police on Friday announced to tighten enforcement measures to reduce road accidents and streamline the traffic system by taking action against habitual offenders.

In the first phase, traffic violators with five or more unpaid e-challans would be identified by the special traffic teams and steps would be taken to extract the pending fines from the violators. Police complaints would be lodged against them if they fail to comply with the traffic rules and pay the fine immediately, said Commissioner of Police Saumendra Priyadarshi. "Despite several e-challans,

opened at Bapuji Nagar.

most violators do not bother to deposit the fine. They continue to drive recklessly without caring about traffic rules. So, we have decided to take steps to collect fines or lodge police complaints against regular offenders," said Priyadarshi.

Accordingly, in the first phase, we have decided to impose strict rules and take action against those who have violated traffic rules more than five times. If they still do not comply, necessary action will be taken against them as per law." the Commissioner

Metro train in BBSR by year-end UU Psychology Dept signs MoU with Capital

To facilitate inter-institutional learning and research

BHUBANESWAR

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for collaboration between the Department of Psychology, Utkal University, and the Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER) & Capital Hospital, Bhubaneswar, was signed on Friday in the presence of Utkal University Vice-Chancellor Prof Sabita Acharya and PGIMER and Capital Hospital Director Prof Nibedita Pani facilitating inter-



institutional learning and research.

Collaborative research would be undertaken where there are possibilities and opportunities in interdisciplinary research areas. Provision of short-term learning experience and exposure in the areas of Psychiatry, Public Health and other relevant interdisciplinary areas such as Positive Psychology, Mental Health, Stress Management and

through workshops would mutually benefit the stakeholders concerned. Cooperation in internship opportunities for students of the Department of Psychology would also be included in this collaboration.

Prof Sabita Acharya said such collaboration would facilitate a holistic approach to health promotion in the State. "Today, it is imperative to integrate both physical and

Psychology, Utkal University, Prof Bhaswati Patnaik said she is optimistic that such an agreement would boost quality interdisciplinary research as the Capital Hospital is expanding with new PG departments.

+2 exams results by May-end

reached its final stage. The routes for running the metro The results of the Odisha train have been identified. Initially, the train would run Plus Two Examinations-2023 between Bhubaneswar and conducted by the Council of Cuttack. Subsequently, it Higher Secondary Education would be extended to Jatni and (CHSE) are expected to be announced by May 31.

likely be published on either May 30 or 31.

According to sources, the CHSE will make an official announcement regarding the students can expect their results to be announced by

The process of evaluating the answer sheets took place

been confirmed yet, reports on May 28. As for the Arts and 39 online evaluation suggest that the results will and Vocational courses, centres. Students who appeared for the Class-XII examinations will be able to access their results by visiting the official website of CHSE at www.chseodisha.nic.in.

Apple farming can be big hit, proves Jajpur farmer

While it is believed that apples can't be grown in hot climates, Rabindra Nayak, a farmer from Dulakhapatana village under Korei block in Jajpur district, has proven the concept wrong and is currently reaping gold by growing these juicy fruits.

If you are a first-time visitor to the apple orchard of Rabindra, you could be forgiven for feeling being either in Himachal Pradesh or in Kashmir. There are lines of apple trees laden with apples in the orchard. Visitors to the orchard are surprised not because of apples but because these fruits are grown even in the summer season.

A visibly delighted Rabindra said he planted apple saplings a year ago and this year, for the first time, the trees have borne fruits. Rabindra used to grow vegetables earlier. His village being a flood-prone area, he would suffer loss every year. Then he decided to switch over from traditional vegetable



The success prompted him to try apple farming. Last year, he procured 60 saplings of Anna and Golden Dorsett varieties of apples. The feature of these varieties is that they

can withstand hot climates. "I planted the saplings on January 1, 2022. Fruits started appearing from March, 2023. I am happy that my labour is

paying off," said Rabindra. Initially, the villagers ridiculed Rabindra for his change of mind as they were sure that apples can't be grown in hot climates like the one in

Odisha. Now, they feel proud of him. "When he bought apple saplings, I ridiculed him, saying these saplings were not for our climate. But when the plants started flowering and bearing fruits, I was delighted," said Adhira Nayak, a villager.

Rabindra, who is earning Rs 5 lakh from his orchard per year and has engaged four farm

labourers, is hopeful that the apple plants will earn him a good return from next year. "Earlier, we were wandering in search of work. Now we are engaged at his (Rabindra's) garden. And it has given us a secured income," said Alekh Jena, a labourer. Engineer Taraprasad Mishra said that this is the result of hard work.

2-lane roads to all block hdqrs by June next

267 block hdqrs already provided 2-lane roads

BHUBANESWAR

With a view to strengthen road connectivity in rural areas also, the State Government has set an ambitious target to construct two-lane roads to all block headquarters by June

This was informed by Works Minister Prafulla Kumar Mallik while speaking to media following the departmental review meeting taken by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik here on Tuesday. Works Principal Secretary Vir Vikram Yadav was present.

Patnaik reviewed the implementation of the election manifesto-2019, discussed the achievements of the department in the last two decades and the achievement in the last four years. Mallik said 267 block headquarters have been provided with 2lane road connectivity while

26 more block headquarters will be connected by March 2024. Remaining 21 block headquarters are targeted to be connected with 2-lane roads by June 2024, he said.

Similarly, all Municipal Corporations, Municipalities and 63 NACs have been provided with allweather 2-lane roads. Mallik said that the Biju

Expressway (length - 546 km) from North to South connecting Rourkela to Ampani has been completed in record time. Expressway-II (318 km) connecting Brahmapur to Jeypore is being taken up. The Biju Expressway is not just a road but an economic corridor which will enhance socio-economic growth of the southern and western Odisha, he said.

Roads with a total length of 6,800 km have been constructed as against the assurance of 1,000 km, which is exceptional and 680% above the target. For this, Rs18,500 crore has been spent, the Minister informed.

Besides, 55 major industrial

clusters such as Indian Ordnance Factory in Bolangir district, Bhusan Steel Ltd in Dhenkanal district, Sabitri Industries (P) Ltd in Jajpur district, Vedanta Limited in Jharsuguda district, TATA Steel Ltd., Ferro Alloys Plant in Keonjhar district, Rourkela Steel Plant, Rourkela etc. have been provided with 2-lane/ 4 lane connectivity. Besides, 15 roads have been taken up to connect industrial clusters.

Minister Mallik also said that 12 major tourist places of importance such as Chandipur, Talasari in Baleswar district, Lalitgiri in Cuttack district, Taratarini in Ganjam district, Chilika, Dhauli and Salia Dam in Khordha district, Daringbadi in Kandhamal district, Gupteswar in Koraput district, Satapada in Puri district, Huma in Sambalpur district and Ghoghar in Sundargarh district have been connected with 2-

Besides, five other tourist spots have been planned for providing 2-lane connectivity by March 2024.

responding to any contents published in this newspaper. The printer, publisher, editor and any employee of the Pioneer Group's will not be held responsible for any kind of loss, consequences and further product-related damages on such advertisements

In Nuapada Road work stopped due to tribals' protest

he construction work of a road from Liad to Ranimunda in forest and private lands initiated by RD Department in Nuapada district without necessary obtaining permission from concerned authorities has been stopped due to opposition from tribal people of the area.

In a letter sent to the secretary of Zilla Adibasi Kalyan Sangha (ZAKS), the Development Superintending Engineer, Khariar, has stated that the work will not be executed on the private land and forest land until and unless necessary official permissions are obtained from the concerned authorities

The ZAKS had raised objections to the construction

In Jagatsinghpur



would disturb the local biodiversity as the area is rich in flora and fauna and is part of the Chaura Dongarprotected forest having indigenous forest species very rich in diversity and density.

Construction of the road had been approved under the CUVDA-LWE scheme, for which the proposal had been finalised by the SP, Nuapada Department). Accordingly, the work was finalised on the basis of an etender and the agreement drawn in favour of Sameerkant Panda, "A" Class contractor, amounting to Rs 588.06 lakh at 4.98% less.

The road as per the agreement is about 5.960 km with a denomination of forestland of 3.660 km, revenue land 1.400 km and

"Necessary permissions have been sought from the concerned authorities before execution of work which is yet to be obtained. Accordingly, no work will be executed in the forest area measuring about 3.660 km and the private land measuring about 0.900 km unless and until necessary permissions are obtained from the concerned authorities. The agency has been instructed to immediately shift the quantity of earth work executed on the private land within 15 days positively" stated the SE.

ZAKS secretary Balkrishna Sabar said, "The contractor had already started execution of work in the private land, not listening to the objection of tribal land owners which forced us to get to the street to protest the project."

In Kalbaishakhi aftermath TPCODL responds swiftly to restore power

The TP Central Odisha Distribution Co Ltd (TPCODL) is actively addressing the impact of the severe Kalbaishakhi storm that occurred on Thursday across various parts of central Odisha. The storm caused significant damages, including uprooted trees and disruptions to the power supply infrastructure, affecting a total of 6.33 lakh customers.

The TPCODL workforce has been working around the clock to restore power supply to the affected areas. As of Friday morning, the company successfully restored power to 5.26 lakh customers while every minute more customers were being helped. The TPCODL's teams were working to bring back rest 107,787 customers also online as quickly as possible.

The main areas impacted by



included storm Bhubaneswar, Nimapada, Puri, Khordha, Jagatsinghpur and Dhenkanal. The damages caused by the storm were substantial; and TPCODL's entire team was fully engaged in the restoration efforts.

"We assure our customers that we are prioritising the restoration efforts with utmost diligence and utilising all available resources. Our goal is to bring back power supply to all affected communities in the shortest possible time," said TPCODL

Dr Bisoi interacted with the

department heads and

Dr Bisoi emphasised on

democratic, rule-based and

transparent governance

systems at the AIIMS

Bhubaneswar for timely and

appropriate decisions. He also

focused on larger participation

and leadership building in all

levels. For efficient healthcare

delivery, he stressed on

students.

INBRIEF

MAOIST CAMP BUSTED; ARMS SEIZED IN KANDHAMAL

Phulbani: Maoists and security forces exchanged heavy fire during a combing operation by Special Operations Group personnel in the Sindhipankhal jungle under Balliguda and



Tumudibandh police stations of Kandhamal district. The ultras attacked the police team with rocket launchers and country-made mortars. Policeman Ganeswar Rana was severely injured. In self-defence, the security personnel also retaliated. As per Kandhamal SP Suvendu Patra, many Maoists were injured and fled into deep jungle. Search operation was continuing. A rifle, two country-made guns, a mortar, a tiffin bomb, wire and women's dresses were recovered from the spot.

SUNDRGARH'S MEENU MISS UTKAL RUNNER UP

Sundargarh: Meenu Bhoi, an Avurvedic student of Sundargarh, has made the people of Sundargarh proud by becoming the Miss Utkal RunnerUp. She said she won the feat after a long time planning and hard work. Her earlier achievements include Ms. Glory Queen 2023 (1st

Runner- up), Ms. Stycon, Barbil 2022 (winner) and Ms Cat



|TPCODL OPENS TRAINING CENTRE AT BARAMUNDA

Bhubaneswar: The TP Central Odisha Distribution Limited (TPCODL) has inaugurated a state-of-the-art training centre at the Baramunda training centre here aimed at fostering capacity building and knowledge enhancement for its executive-level employees. The initiative reflects the TPCODL's commitment to nurturing its workforce and ensuring the highest standards of professional development within the organisation. The centre was inaugurated by T&D-Tata Power president Sanjay Banga, in the presence of TPCODL CEO

IN2IT EBS SAP DELIVERY CENTRE LAUNCHED IN BBSR

Bhubaneswar: "In2IT EBS' launched an SAP delivery centre in Bhubaneswar, a step towards marketplace competitiveness. The centre is operational at Fortune Tower. The inauguration cer-



emony took place in the presence of dignitaries, including State Minister of E & IT, Sports & Youth Services Tusar Kanti Behera along with Special Secretary, Department of Electronics & IT, and Managing Director of the Odisha Computer Application Centre Manas Panda.

COMMUNITY TOILET, COMMUNITY CENTRE IN LAPANGA

Bhubaneswar: The CSR department of JSW BPSL has constructed a community toilet at Binova Nagar of Lapanga village which would reduce various kind of water and vector borne diseases caused due to open defeca-



tion. The primary purpose of the community toilet is to minimise open defecation in the region and promote sanitation. Also, a Community Centre has been constructed at Kultapada village by the CSR department to provide a gathering space for social groups as well as for individuals of all age groups to connect and socialise. It was inaugurated by Vishal Raj, Head CSR and Mihir Mishra, Associate Vice-President of Civil Projects & Admin.

Priest held for attempting to rape woman

JAGATSINGHPUR

Police on Friday arrested a priest of a temple in Jagatsinghpur district after a woman alleged that he attempted to rape her. The accused was identified

as Samir Roul, a priest at the Maa Sarala Temple, and the victim of Bansa village under the Jagatsinghpur police

As per reports, the woman had approached the priest to conduct a ritual for her son, who was having some heart problems. Accordingly, the priest reached her home on

Roul allegedly asked the woman to stay alone in the room for the Puja and then attempted to rape her during the rituals. Hearing her screams, family members and villagers rushed to the spot and detained the priest and handed him over to police.

While a police case was registered by the woman, the accused priest's wife also filed a counter case, dismissing the allegations as fake. Even as police arrested the priest, the husband of the victim was also detained for questioning based on the complaint of the wife of Roul. Further investigation was on, police sources said.

AIIMS BBSR President Bisoi visits institute

Says TA, RA prog to be put in place for UG students

PNS BHUBANESWAR

l o create an atmosphere full of energy and enthusiasm for research and innovation undergraduate among students at the AIIMS Bhubaneswar, teaching assistant (TA) and research assistant (RA) programmer would be put in place soon. The meritorious senior MBBS students would be engaged as TA and RA. They would guide the junior students both in education as well as in research, said newlynominated President of



AIIMS Bhubaneswar Prof (Dr) AK Bisoi during his maiden visit to the institute on Friday after assuming the post.

The engaged TA and RA MBBS students would also be provided incentives. This system would be very helpful for the medical students to adopt and acquire more from the modern medical science as

well as flourish their innovations in the field of research, said he.

Dr Bisoi, who is an

functional coherence between different departments and to create a culture of devotion

accomplished cardiac surgeon with three decades of professional excellence and innovation, was given a rousing welcome by AIIMS Bhubaneswar Executive Director Dr Ashutosh Biswas.

towards duty and empathy both in education and healthcare service.

Dr Biswas said the institute would achieve success in research and education under Dr Bisoi's able guidance.

'India's credibility has grown thanks to Modi'



103 kg ganja seized in Malkangiri

7 including Telangana cops held

PNS MALKANGIRI

 $T_{ ext{he Kalimela police arrested}}$ seven persons, including a Constable of the Telangana police on Thursday while they were transporting a huge quantity of ganja in Malkangiri district.

The Constable, identified as R Sreeny Naik, was among those taken into custody during the operation. Acting on intelligence inputs, the police team intercepted the accused near the Kamala Padar area, where they were caught red-handed with a staggering 103 kilogram of

The estimated market value of the seized contraband is around Rs 5 lakh.

Along with the substantial drug haul, the cops also confiscated crucial evidence from the possession of the arrested. The seized items included

two cars, three iPhones, ATM cards, PAN cards, and Aadhaar Preliminary probe suggest

that the consignment was being transported from Malkangiri to Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

The Kalimela police charged the seven individuals under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act. Subsequently, they were produced before a court to face legal proceedings.

BJP meet held in

Brahmapur PNS BRAHMAPUR

The Ganjam District BJP Committee's Working meeting was held here presided over by district president Bibhuti Bhusan Jena.

State BJP spokesperson

Biranchi Narayana Tripathi attended as the guest on the occasion. In the introductory speech, Jena narrated the alleviation programmes implemented by PM Narendra Modi. India became more famous in the world upon the dynamic qualities of Modi as it fulfilled



Tripathi briefed that on May 30, the Modi Government has completed its nine years of ruling. From May 30 to June 30, the BJP will move its activities through the Block and Booth levels. During the movement the workers will

keep contact with the benificiaries and explain the various types of development works undertaken by the Modi Government. State BJP vice president Bhrugu Boxipatro advised the delegates to work unitedly to fight against the

In the meeting former

district president and State executive member Kanhu Charan Pati, Saroj Sabat, Pravat Kiran Sadangi, Manoranjan Dyansamantra, Kamana Padhy, Manoj Patanaik, Suresh Padhi, Ram Kumar Patro, Sunil Sahu, Pradeep Satapathy, Babita Patro and Sidhanta Gangadeo were present among others.

Startup Odisha to feature on CII ICONN



For strong corporate connection, scale businesses, reach new markets ■ BHUBANESWAR

The Startup Odisha has reached an agreement with the Confederation of Indian Industry - Centre of Excellence Innovation,

Entrepreneurship and Startups (CII- CIES) whereby Startup Odisha will feature on CII ICONN Platform, a one of its kind, industry- led platform for the startup ecosystem to catalyse collaboration between corporates, startups and other key players of the startup ecosystem.

A Letter of Intent (LoI) to this effect was shared between Startup Odisha Executive Chairman Dr Omkar Rai and Chairman CII-CIES Kris Gopalakrishnan at CII Startup Summit in New Delhi on

Wednesday. The CII ICONN platform will provide Startup Odisha with a pavilion for Startups from O-Hub (the Incubation Centre), help it organise exclusive sessions to promote services offered by Startup Odisha, organise startup pitch presentation sessions, have discussion sessions for startups and enable participation in Corporate Accelerator Programmes etc. Dr Ray emphasized on

having a strong rural innovation ecosystem and Startup ecosystem in tier-II and tier-III cities, one that is well-connected corporates and unicorns. Present on the occasion

for Entrepreneurship, Skill Development, Electronics and Technology Chandrasekhar; Head, Startup India Aastha Grover and Chairperson, CII Women in Innovation Steering Committee Anu Sriram

among others.

PNS BHUBANESWAR

were Union Minister of State

'Improved agronomic practices in millets now widespread' OUAT holds special session

he Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology (OUAT) organised a Special Session on "Innovations in Research and Millet Extension" on Thursday under the aegis of the State Level Research Extension Council at its campus. Delivering the key note address on the occasion, Principal Secretary, Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment Department, Dr Arabinda Kumar Padhee emphasized on promotion of millet from ground to global level.

The OUAT is playing a vital for developing productivity enhancing technologies, developing capacity of stakeholders for upscaling activities in value addition and marketing with focus on SHGs and FPOs, Dr Padhee said.

He also said identification and multiplication of local land races preferred by farmers



trials has also given scope for revitalisation of biodiversity in millets. Millet crops have become the point of conversation among farmers, practitioners, scientists and extension workers. The knowledge on improved agronomic practices in millets has not just remained within the research stations and personnel working specifically on millets, but has reached almost every extension worker

in the millet growing areas, he

Further, Dr Padhee suggested for GI tagging of land races and development of Centre of Excellenece (CoE) by the university soon.

OUAT VC Prof Pravat Kumar Roul chaired. He elaborated the efforts of OUAT in promoting household level consumption, setting up decentralized processing

Collectives and marketing facilities along with strengthening research for improving productivity of millet crops, The technical session

started with welcome address by Dean Extension Education, OUAT Dr Prasanjit Mishra. Dean of Research Prof SK Swain presented the key accomplishments agricultural research programmes of the university.

In Athmallik = Mandis not opened; Dalua farmers worried compared to the previous year.

Even as the farmers have started Dalua paddy cutting for the Rabi season, the Government has not yet set up mandis in Athmallik block in Angul district. After the construction of

the Manjoor Irrigation Project near Madhapur, the farmers of Madhapur, Kampala, Kandhapada, Lunhandi, Kudgaon and Puruna Mantri Panchayats under Athamallik block have taken up Dalua paddy but the production of

paddy has gone down

In the last Rabi season, paddy was grown over 1,512 acres of land and 2,145

metric tons of paddy was produced but this year paddy has been grown only in 850 acres. There are 16 Cooperative Societies in Athmallik. However, the Government has not yet decided to open Mandis.

The Odisha Krusaka Mahasangha, Athmallik has appealed to the district Collector to arrange Mandi in Madhapur for procurement of paddy soon.



New panel formed to Opposition unity risks guide Project Cheetah

NTCA formed 11-member committee after death of 6 felines

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

 $F_{
m cheetahs,\ including\ three}^{
m ollowing\ th}$ newborn cubs, within a period of two-and-a-half months at the Kuno National Park (KNP) in Madhya Pradesh, the Centre has set up yet another high level panel of national and international experts to oversee and monitor the ambitious Project Cheetah in India.

A statement issued by the Union Environment Ministry said the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) has constituted yet another panel an 11-member Cheetah Project Steering Committee

The decision to form the committee was taken in a meeting with the additional chief secretary of the Madhya Pradesh government. The move comes in the wake of the death of three cheetah cubs born to the Namibian cheetah allegedly died of dehydration and malnourishment.

The Committee will be



chaired by Rajesh Gopal (former member secretary of the NTCA and currently with the Global Tiger Forum). Members

Committee include RN Mehrotra, former Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Head of Forest Force, Rajasthan; PR Sinha, a former director of the Wildlife Institute of India; HS Negi, a member of the NTCA; GS Rawat, former Dean of the WII; Qamar Qureshi, a scientist with the WII; the current Inspector General of the NTCA; the current Chief Wildlife Warden of Madhya Pradesh, and others. The NTCA has also constituted a panel of international cheetah experts who will provide advice "as an when required" to Project Cheetah.

They experts are Adrian Tordiffe (Veterinary Wildlife Specialist, Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Pretoria, tion programme.

South Africa); Laurie Marker, of the Cheetah Conservation Fund, Namibia; Andrew John Fraser, Farm Olievenbosch, South Africa; and Vincent van dan Merwe, Manager, of the Cheetah Metapopulation Project, The Metapopulation Initiative, South Africa. The Committee will review the progress of the programme

It will also provide advice on cheetah introduction to the Madhya Pradesh Forest Department and the NTCA, as per the press release. It will open "the cheetah habitat" for eco-tourism and suggest regulations to further this. It will also provide suggestions on how to involve the community in the project's activities.

In October last year, the ministry had constituted a "Cheetah Task Force" to monitor India's cheetah introduc-

becoming talking shop

MANISH ANAND ■ NEW DELHI

While the Opposition unity efforts are gaining pace with a meeting being planned to be held in Patna next month, the Congress is keeping the regional satraps guessing.

The Janata Dal (United) is

hoping that the Congress will be benign and show large heartedness to accept the proposal of West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee to focus on just 200 Lok Sabha seats and leave the rest to other constituents of the Opposition.

"As of now we are optimistic that the Congress will come on board. The Congress will also be attending the Opposition meeting in Patna next month. But it will be premature that there will be an understanding on all the 545 Lok Sabha seats. We are aiming to bring everyone onboard for a one-on-one contest with the Bharatiya Janata Party on most of the Lok Sabha seats," said a senior JD (U) functionary, who is known to be close to Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar.

What appears to be worrying the Opposition is that the Congress is gaining confidence after the Karnataka election verdict, and the key movers of the unity plank are now keeping fingers crossed over the



channel of communication with the Gandhis. "The Congress needs to remember that the party had won 2013 and 2018 Karnataka Assembly elections, and we all know the seat count of the party after the 2014 and the 2019 general

Besides, the Congress had wrested all three BJP-ruled Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh," said another leader from the Opposition camp. There is clear emphasis from the non-Congress Opposition camp for pre-poll seat adjust-ment so that there is scope for one-on-one contest against the

Yet, the Opposition leaders are also acknowledging the fact that the pact events in Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh don't infuse enough confidence even of the outcome of the oneon-one contest. "Uttar Pradesh is going to be too sticky for the Opposition unity efforts. The

political situation has taken drastic changes, and it's also not so easy to establish contacts with a section of the Opposition leaders in UP. The state with 80 Lok Sabha seats may test strength of the votary of the Opposition unity plank, said the JD (U) functionary.

Incidentally, Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), which is the party with the most number of Lok Sabha MPs after the BJP from UP, broke ranks with the Opposition to decry the boycott call given by the Congress and others of the inauguration of the new parliament building. "Also, Odisha and Andhra

Pradesh may remain outside the Opposition unity efforts, as the dominant non-BJP parties in these two states will continue to be the fence-sitters. They will watch out for Lok Sabha poll verdict to decide on their courses of actions. Thus, we will no more be making efforts to reach out to them," added ID (U) functionary.

NIA seeks death penalty from Delhi HC for Yasin Malik

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has urged the Delhi High Court to award death sentence to Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) chief and Kashmiri separatist leader Yasin Malik. The petition is listed for hearing on May 29 before a Division Bench of Justices Siddharth Mridul and Talwant

Kashmir separatist leader Malik who was involved in many terror attacks was sentenced to life imprisonment by a special NIA court in a terror funding case in May 2022. He had pleaded guilty in the case. The NIA had demanded capital punishment for Malik before the trial court as well. Earlier, the prayer was refused by the Special Court stating that death penalty should be awarded only in exceptional cases "where the crime by its nature shocks the collective consciousness of the society".

Malik was convicted of offences under Section 120B. 121, 121A of Indian Penal Code (IPC) and Sections 13 and 15 of UAPA read with 120B of the IPC besides Sections 17, 18, 20, 38 and 39 of UAPA. In a detailed judgment, the NIA Court had observed that Malik betrayed the good intentions of the Government by choosing the

"Betraying the good intentions of government he took a different path to orchestrate violence in the guise of political struggle. ...the evidence on the basis of which charges were framed and to which convict has pleaded guilty, speaks otherwise," the special court had underscored. The judge had also rejected Malik's argument that he had become a Ğandhian after 1994.

"It only took one small incident of violence at Chauri Chaura for the Mahatma to call off the entire non cooperation movement but the convict despite large scale of violence engulfing valley neither condemned the violence nor withdrew his calendar of protests, which had led to the said violence," the judge underlined.

Mark 9 years of Modi Govt as 'Maafi Divas', says Congress

With Prime Minister Narendra Modi completing nine years in office, the Congress on Friday demanded his apology for what it said was "betrayal" of the people and asked him nine questions on issues ranging from rising prices and unemployment to national security and social harmony.

The Opposition party also said the government should mark this day as 'Maafi Diwas' and released a booklet 'Nau saal, Nau sawaal'.

It said Modi became the

Prime Minister on this day nine years ago and therefore, the party wants to ask nine questions of him. The grand old party also said it will hold press conferences in 35 cities over the



Congress Party leader Jairam Ramesh with party leaders Supriya Shrinate (L) and Pawan Khera (R) and others during a Press conference, in New Delhi on Friday,

"failures" of the Narendra Modi Government in the last nine years. The press conferences have been titled 'Nau Saal, Nau Sawaal' (nine years, nine ques-Congress chief spokesman Jairam Ramesh said at a Press conference that Rahul

next few days to highlight the Gandhi had raised critical issues during the Bharat Jodo Yatra and the nine questions are based on that. Flanked by party colleagues Pawan Khera and Supriya Shrinate, Ramesh said the booklet is a report card of the nine years of the Modi Government and Congress

ences in 35 cities across the country to highlight the "failures" of the government. Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge took to Twitter and said, "In last 9 years, the Modi Government has become a 'Vishwaguru" in snatching away employment of crores of youths? and used the hashtag "#NaakamiKe9Saal" to mark the occasion.

Former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi said, "The BJP built its edifice in 9 years on false promises and people's suffering. Inflation, hatred and unemployment - Prime Minister ii take responsibility of these failures of yours," Rahul said in a tweet in Hindi, using the hashtag and shared nine questions to Prime Minister.

BJP asks Cong to do fact check before pointing finger at Centre

The BJP on Friday ridiculed Congrees for allegedly "not leaving panchtatva"— Prithivi (earth), Pavan (air), Jal (water), Tej (solar energy), Nabh (sky)
— untouched by its 'corruption saga' as it listed-out ' major achievements' of the Modi-Government in last nine years. BJP which is celebrating

nine-years of the Modi Government at the Centre by organising various organisational events and assigning central Ministers and MPs consituency-wise tasks, dismissed the 'nine questions' posed by the Congress party on Modi's nine years in office. Addressing a press conference here BJP's National spokesperson Ravishankar Prasad called National



Ravishankar Prasad

Congress as a "bundle of lies and mountain of deception." The BJP's Rajya Sabha member alleged that the questions were the result of Congress's "hatred towards Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Listing-out 'achievements' of Nine-years of the Modi-government, BJP's spokesperson said inflation at 4.7 percent was one of the lowest across the world, economy

export increased to Rupees thirty lakh crore under Modi's Congress to check facts before pointing finger at the ruling party. Prasad said poor received Rs six lakh sixty eight thousand four thirty five crore from Direct Bank transfer (DBT) through 312 schemes. He said in 2014 India

imported 78 percent of its mobile "but today 99 percent of mobiles are manufactured in India, generating employment, particularly for women." India is now second largest exporter of mobiles as it is also exporting Rs Rs Sixteen thousand crore defence exports, he said. Prasad claimed at 4.7 percent inflation in the country is at the lowest if compared with

Australia 8.5 ,France 13.5 and Sweeden 20.2 percent. "Under Manohan Singh government India was fragile-five economies but under Modi it is among the top five countries, ahead of England", said Prasad. Taking a swipe at the Congress for raising the issue of corruption against the BJP government, the BJP leader said the Opposition party had covered all "panchtatva" in its corruption activies during its regime at the centre. "We talk

'Panchtatva'...Congress party's associates did corruption in all five elements of 'Panchtatva' -Commonwealth games scam, Coal scam, 2G scam, helicopter and submarine scam...": said Prasad.

UPSC mulling criminal action against 2 for fraud

Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) is considering criminal and disciplinary penal action against two candidates for allegedly claiming selection in the civil services examination, the results of which were declared on Tuesday, according to an official statement.

The case relates to Avsha Makrani (from Madhya Pradesh) and Tushar (from Harvana) who fraudulently claimed that they have been finally recommended by the Commission in the civil services examination 2022 against two roll numbers of genuinely recommended candidates, it said. "The claims of both per-

the documents in their favour to buttress their claims," said the statement issued on Friday.

and Tushar have acted in contravention of the provisions of the Rules of the Civil Services Examination, 2022 notified by the government of India (Department of Personnel and Training), it said.

Therefore, in accordance with the provisions of the Examination Rules, the UPSC is contemplating both criminal as well as disciplinary penal action against the two candidates for their fraudulent acts, the statement said. "The system of the UPSC is robust as well as foolproof and such errors are not possible," it added. The

examination annually in three stages — preliminary, main and interview — to select offi-By doing so, both Makrani cers of Indian Administrative Service (IAS), Indian Foreign Service (IFS) and Indian Police

> Sharing details, the Commission said Aysha Makrani, daughter of Salimmuddin Makrani, who is claiming her final recommendation by the UPSC, is found to have forged documents in her favour. Her actual roll number is 7805064. She appeared in preliminary examination held on June 5th, 2022 and scored only 22.22 marks in General Studies Paper-I and 21.09 marks in General Studies Paper-II, it said.

Service (IPS), among others

India, US to review Def ties during Austin's visit DELHI/WASHINGTON

India and the US will review the entire spectrum of their bilateral Defence ties and

explore possibilities of jointly manufacturing state-of-the-art weapons during talks between Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and his counterpart Lloyd Austin next week in New Delhi. Incidentally, the visit on

June 4-5 comes weeks ahead of

Prime Minister Narendra

Modi's state visit to the US on June 23. He is likely to discuss various aspects of defence related issues including access to cutting edge technology from the US during his talks with US President Joe Biden. German Defence Minister Boris Pistorius is scheduled to arrive in India on

June 6 to hold talks with



Rajnath. This visit underscores Germany's keen interest in deepening its defence co-operation with India, an emerging global power.

Delhi, the Pentagon said late Thursday, "this visit provides an opportunity to accelerate new defense innovation and industrial cooperation initiatives and drive ongoing efforts to expand operational cooperation between the US and Indian mil-



said. Austin will also meet other leaders in the Indian capital as the United States and India continue to modernise the US-India Major Defense Announcing Defence Partnership, the Pentagon said.
Secterary Austin's visit to New Austin will also visit Japan, Singapore and France next

Austin will begin his trip from Japan, as part of his seventh official visit to the Indo-Pacific region. In Tokyo, he plans to meet with Japanese Defense Minister Yasukasu the Pentagon Hamada and other senior lead-

ers and also visit the US troops stationed in Japan, it said. The visit also comes as the United States and Japan take important strides to modernise alliance capabilities, optimise US force posture, and build links with like-minded partners following the historic US-Japan "2+2" ministerial meeting earlier this year, the Pentagon said.

From there, Austin will travel to Singapore where he will deliver plenary remarks at the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) 20th Shangri-La Dialogue. On the margins of the Dialogue, the secretary will meet with key leaders to advance US defense partnerships across the region in support of the shared vision for a free and open Indo-Pacific, anchored in ASEAN centrality. After Singapore, Austin will visit New Delhi and then conticipate in events commemorating the 79th anniversary of D-Day, and meet with French and United Kingdom defense leaders, it added.

Meanwhile, ahead of Prime Minister Modi's state visit to US, officials of both countries have intensified their discussions on co-producing jet engines, longrange artillery and infantry vehicles under the Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET).

At a meeting with Indian Defence Secretary Giridhar Aramane at Pentagon last week, US Deputy Defense Secretary Kathleen Hicks termed proposals to co-produce jet engines, long-range artillery and infantry vehicles under iCET "unprecedented opportunities" to strengthen ties between defence sectors of two nations.

'Unvaccinated at risk of long Covid'

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ **NEW DELHI**

After examining nearly 10,000 patients, most of whom had Covid-19, researchers have outlined 12 symptoms including post-exertional malaise, fatigue, brain fog, dizziness, gastrointestinal symptoms, heart palpitations, issues with sexual desire or capacity and loss of smell or taste that can affect nearly every tissue and organ in the body and the unvaccinated were more likely to have long Covid.

The findings are published in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA). The research team also found that long Covid was more common and severe in study participants infected before the 2021 Omicron variant. The



study, coordinated through Researching Covid to Enhance Recovery (RECOVER) initiative of National Institutes of Health (NIH), US, examined data from 9,764 adults, including 8,646 who had Covid-19 and 1,118 who did not have Covid-19

Based on patient-reported symptoms, the researchers established a scoring system. They gave each patient a score based on symptom combinations after assigning points to each of the 12 symptoms. Thus,

they identified a meaningful threshold for identifying participants with long Covid. They also found that certain symptoms occurred together and defined four subgroups or "clusters" with a range of impacts on health. In addition to establishing

the scoring system, the researchers found that participants who were unvaccinated or who had Covid-19 before the Omicron strain emerged in 2021 were more likely to have long Covid and more severe cases of long Covid.

Based on a subset of 2,231 patients in this analysis who had a first Covid-19 infection on or after Dec. 1, 2021, when the Omicron variant was circulating, about 10 per cent experienced long-term symptoms or long COVID after six months. Further, reinfections were also linked to higher long COVID frequency and severity, compared to people who only had Covid-19 once.

"This study is an important step toward defining long Covid beyond any one individual symptom," said study author Leora Horwitz, director of the Center for Healthcare Innovation and Delivery Science, US, and co-principal investigator for the RECOVER Clinical Science Core, at NYU Langone Health, US.

This approach, which may evolve over time, will serve as a foundation for scientific discovery and treatment design. The researchers explained that studying the underlying biological mechanisms of long Covid is central to advancing informed interventions and identifying effective treatment

Study: Running stops age-related memory loss PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■

flong-term running contin-Lues to be the part of your exercise even as you are in your mid-age, in all likelihood you will not face age-related memory problems, so say a team of researchers.

They reached the conclusion after studying the effects of long-term running on a network of new hippocampal neurons generated in young adult mice, at middle age.

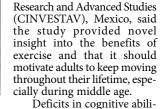
More than six months after

tagging the adult-born neurons with a fluorescent reporter vector, they identified and quantified the direct afferent inputs to these adult-born neurons within the hippocampus and (sub)cortical areas, when the mice were middle-aged. "The long-term running as



helps in wiring 'old' new neurons born in early adulthood, or adult-born neurons, into a network relevant to the maintenance of episodic memory encoding during aging," they

Episodic memory is a type of long-term memory involving conscious recollection of previous experiences together with their context in terms of time, place and associated emotions. Published in the journal eNeuro, the researchers from Florida Atlantic University (FAU), US, and Center for



ty linked with aging are associated with reduced hippocampal volume. The hippocampus and adjacent cortices are brain areas essential for learning and memory. Aging-related memory

function decline is also associated with the degradation of synaptic (junction between two neurons) inputs from the perirhinal and entorhinal cortex onto the hippocampus, brain areas that are essential for pattern separation, and contextual and spatial memory. Along with significantly

increasing these adult-born neurons, long-term running was found to enhance the recruitment of presynaptic (sub)-cortical cells to their network. That is, running not only rescued perirhinal connectivity but also increased and altered the contribution of the entorhinal cortices to the network of old adult-born neu-"Long-term exercise pro-

foundly benefits the aging brain and may prevent aging-related memory function decline by increasing the survival and modifying the network of the adult-born neurons born during early adulthood, and thereby facilitating their participation in cognitive processes, said Henriette van Praag, corresponding author, an associate professor of biomedical science in FAU.

ROW IN WB OVER NEW MOVIE 'THE DIARY OF WEST BENGAL'

BJP slams TMC for police action

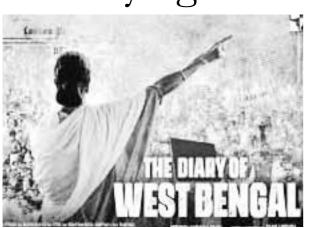
'State Govt is trying to control free speech'

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

The dust raised by 'The Kerala Story' had hardly settled down when a new controversy erupted in Bengal, this time over a new film, 'The Diary of West Bengal'.

The BJP has strongly criticized the Trinamool Congress Government for the Kolkata Police action of serving a notice to the film's director Sanoj

Criticising the State Government for trying to control free speech, BJP national vice-president Dilip Ghosh on Friday said that the ruling outfit was "afraid of everything and the notice served on the film's-



director is a mark of that fear." He said, "I have no idea of

from whatever I have heard it has nothing to do with what the film says then there is nothing er issued notice of appearance to Sanoj Mishra the director of

The director however, on Friday made it clear that he had no intention to bring Bengal to disrepute. Speaking about the notice allegedly served on his reported act of trying to defame the State Mishra on Friday "my intention is not to malign the image of the State. We have shown only facts in the film which are well-researched."

Meanwhile, though the He recalled how the State TMC would not react official-Government had "received a ly to the controversy, a senior leader from North Kolkata of which Amherst Street Police Station is a part said, "the single-point agenda of the BJP is to provoke communal divide and tension in the country by getting its agents to write books or produce communally angled

K'taka Cong on mission to repeat victory in 2024 polls

Dy CM who is KPCC chief too focused on bagging all 28 seats in LS polls

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■

Though the cacophony of electioneering and victory parades have come to an end with the high-decibel swearing in of Siddaramiah as Chief Minister and D K Shivakumar as his deputy, the Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee continues to be in a mission mode. Though the Lok Sabha election is expected only in the months of March-April 2024, it has not deterred Shivakumar, who holds the additional post of KPCC president, from his hectic schedule. He is on a mission to make a clean sweep of all the 28 seats at stake in the State to establish his command

over the party. The report going round Karnataka is that Shivakumar would be elevated as the Chief Minister after 30 months of rule by Siddaramaiah. This is the formula which has been worked out by the Congress High Command to placate Shivakumar who was the frontrunner along with Siddaramaiah for the post of



Both Shivakumar and

Siddaramaiah refuse to tell

anything about the arrange-

ment though minister M B

Patil courted controversy on

Wednesday by blatantly ruling

out any change of leadership for

to lead the Congress till the Lok

Sabha election and this is being

seen as the confidence he

enjoys with the High

Command. The fact that he has

not lowered the guards is proof

of his single point pursuit to

win Karnataka and hand it over

to the national leadership.

Sources close to Shivakumar

told The Pioneer that the war

room in his office in the

Pradesh Congress Committee

Office is functional round the clock as his close aides are fil-

tering and analyzing the short-

comings faced during the assembly poll. Shivakumar is personally overseeing the

records of past Lok Sabha polls

and method of voting in the

constituencies.

Shivakumar has been asked

the next five years.

allotted by evening PTI ■ BENGALURU

Karnataka Minister K H Muniyappa on Friday said the Cabinet expansion will take place on Saturday afternoon and the portfolios would also be allotted by evening. Muniyappa also said bar-

Cabinet expansion

at noon today,

portfolios to be

ring four or five ministerial posts, rest would be filled up in the same day.

According to the Minister, the Cabinet would be a mix of seniors and young people.

"Tomorrow, the Cabinet expansion will take place. Time has also been fixed. It would be tomorrow afternoon. Most of the posts would be filled," Muniyappa told reporters after returning from New Delhi.

To a question on how many ministerial posts would be filled, he said, "Barring four or five, rest all would be filled

When asked whether senior leaders have put up any demand before the party high command regarding ministerial positions, Muniyappa said at t it would be difficult to say anything.

Meet to ensure India's rights under Indus water treaty held in J&K

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■

Deputy National Security Advisor Vikram Misri Friday reviewed the progress of various hydro-power projects in Jammu and Kashmir while chairing the second meeting of the task force to ensure exercise of India's rights under the Indus Water Treaty.

The Deputy National Security Advisor also met top military and security officials in the union territory and was briefed on the prevailing situation in the Kashmir valley.
"It was noted that progress

had been made on several fronts and emphasis laid on completing the works on all the Indus Basin Projects in timely manner to enable better utilithe Indus Water Treaty," the statement from the government-run Jammu and Kashmir State Power Development Corporation said.

Misri also called on Jammu and Kashmir Lt Governor Manoj Sinha and apprised him of the efforts to monitor implementation of hydro power projects in Indus Basin under the directions of the Prime Minister's Office.

The meeting on the Indus Water Treaty was attended by officials from the ministries of external affairs, Jal Shakti, Jammu and Kashmir administration among others.

Over 73% women want menstrual leave, says study

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■

Ahead of the Menstrual Hygiene Day on May 28, a survey has said that around 73 per cent of women want companies to allow them to take menstrual leave while 86.6 per cent are in favour of a menstrual-friendly workplace where hygiene methods and support infrastructure are available to women.

The Menstrual Hygiene Survey 2023, conducted by Everteen, a feminine hygiene brand, also pointed out that 71.7 per cent of the participants in the survey do not want the menstrual leaves to be paid, fearing that it may make comemployees.

Nearly 10,000 women in the age group of 18 to 35 years participated in the survey that was conducted in multiple cities, including Delhi, Bengaluru, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Chennai, Pune, Ahmedabad, Lucknow

"While 73 per cent of women want that companies should allow them to take menstrual leaves, 71.7 per cent of them do not want these to be paid and fear that it may make companies reluctant to hire

female employees.

"Also, 86.6 per cent of women are in favour of the concept of a menstrual friendly workplace where females are not hesitant in discussing the subject openly, and menstrual hygiene methods and support infrastructure is made available to women. Besides, 68.9 per cent of women have taken a leave of absence from work during menstrual peri-

ods," the survey stated.

The survey recommended that, "Corporates need to make it a priority to adopt practices for a menstrual-friendly workconducted by the researchers from the UVA School of Medicine, Flo Health, University College London, Technische Universitaet Berlin and the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine too had found that menstrual symptoms hurt workplace productivity of many women, with 45.2% reporting that their symptoms require them to take

indirect way of not allowing anybody other than the CM to attend the meeting. Hence, there will be no representative of West Bengal at tomorrow's It's a ploy to keep aside Bengal's demands of fund meeting." Explaining the State Government's position release, says TMC Government's position Bhattacharya further said,"If **SAUGAR SENGUPTA** ■ KOLKATA

Centre turns down Bengal's

CM attend Niti Aayog meet

There were fresh rounds of I tensions between the Bengal Government and the Centre with New Delhi turning down the request of the State Government to let State Finance Minister Chandrima Bhattacharya and the Chief Secretary to attend the Saturday's Niti Ayog meeting in place of Chief Minister Mamata Narendra Modi. Bhattacharya said refusing

Virtual workshop on

'Misuse of Internet' held

meeting as Mamata Banerjee is

busy with some other work. In its reply, the Centre said the 'CM may attend'. This is an

The Ministry of External Affairs

▲ (MEA) in cooperation with the

Bureau of Police Research and

Development (BPR&D) jointly with its

outlying training unit, the Central

Detective Training Institute (CDTI) of

the Ministry of Home Affairs, organised

a virtual workshop on the 'Misuse of

The workshop was held under the

framework of the Conference on

Interaction and Confidence Building

The virtual workshop was addressed by Muanpuii Saiawi, Joint

Secretary (D&ISA) in the Ministry of

External Affairs, Neeraj Sinha, Additional Director General, BPR&D

Internet' on May 25-26.

Measures in Asia (CICA).

Speaking about the latest development Bhattacharya on Friday said, "we had requested the Centre to allow me and the allegedly withheld. Chief Secretary to attend the

The BJP leadership however has claimed that the Centre has stopped the funds because the State has failed to account for the earlier grants.

the MEA said here on Friday.

Invited speakers shared their exper-

tise on various topics including the

Misuse of Internet in Organised Crime;

Use of Malware and Ransomware as a

tool for Financial Crime; Prevention of

Information and Communication

Technology Crime against Women and

Children; Use of Dark Web and

Cryptocurrency in Illegal Trade and

Terror; and Futuristic Information and

Communication Technology Crime

Member States like Bangladesh,

Cambodia, Kazakhstan, Kuwait,

Palestine, Qatar, Russia, Tajikistan and

Vietnam participated in the virtual

Representatives from several CICA

and Internet of Things Hacks.

workshop, the MEA said.

request to let anybody except

anything about the film ... but seems that the State Government has become unnecessarily afraid of the developments ...if the TMC

to express and in case of films there is censor board and similar regulating authorities ... So I do not understand how the police came into the picture ... why have the police serve notice on film directors."

Alleging that in its fear of losing power the TMC

Government was trying to con-

trol free speech, Ghosh said,

'The Government cannot sup-

press the fundamental right of

people ... everyone has a right

rap on its knuckles from the Supreme Court after banning 'The Kerala Story' in Acting on an alleged complaint — based apparently on

the trailer of the film — lodged by an individual the Amherst Street Police Station had earli-

the Chief Minister of the State is preoccupied with some otherwork, can't she send any Minister or official on her behalf? Afterall, I am the Finance Minister of the State and can represent the State." The meeting is likely to be chaired by Prime Minister

to let the State's representatives to attend the meeting was a "ploy" of the Centre not to hear Bengal's demands for the release of funds that it had

-GAGANYAAN MISSION-Navy, ISRO release

recovery training plan

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■

In an effort to ensure synergy for the Gaganyaan mission, the Indian Navy and the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) have released the Gaganyaan Recovery Training Plan at INS Garuda in Kochi, officials here said on Friday. The document outlines the training plan for recovery of the crew module of the Gaganyaan mission.

The training document was jointly released on Wednesday by Vice Admiral Atul Anand, Director General Naval Operations; Unnikrishnan Nair, Director, Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, (VSSC) and Umamaheshwaran R, Director, Human Space Flight Centre of ISRO, the



The document defines overall requirements with respect to training of various teams participating in recovery operations including divers, MARCOs (marine commandos), medical specialists, communicators, technicians and naval aviators, a senior official

The recovery training is planned in incremental phases starting from unmanned training in harbour and open sea conditions. The recovery operations are being led by the Indian Navy in co-ordination with other government agencies, the officials said.

The Crew Module Recovery Model was also formally handed over to the Indian Navy at its state-of-theart Water Survival Training Facility (WSTF) at INS Garuda, Kochi. The mass and shape simulated mock-up will be used for familiarisation and training of Gaganyaan recovery teams, they said.

The Navy will also assist the ISRO by undertaking a series of trials to fine tune the standard operating procedures for training the crew and recovery teams of Gaganyaan, the

Cambodian King to visit India on May 30

here in New Delhi for a two-day (May

29-31) official tour whereby he will be

accompanied by a 27-member high-

level official delegation, the Ministry of

External Affairs(MEA) announced here

Briefing the reporters ahead of the King's visit, MEA Secretary (East)

Saurabh Kumar said the King's state visit

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

ing of Cambodia Norodom Kihamoni will pay a state visit to India on May 30 and will meet President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The President will hold a banquet in honour of the King. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar will call on the King.

The King is visiting India nearly six decades after his father Nordom Sihanouk's visit.

It is pertinent to note that the King's state visit will coincide with the culmination of the celebrations to mark the 70th anniversary of the diplomatic ties between New Delhi and Phnom Penh. The Cambodian King will arrive celebrations to mark the 70th anniversary of the diplomatic ties between New Delhi and Phnom Penh, which were established in 1952.

to consolidate India-Cambodia ties with symbolic value, as this is the first time in six decades that a King of Cambodia is visiting India.

will coincide with the culmination of the He said the state visit paves the way

Progress on cutting plastic pollution slow, stakeholders not well integrated: Scientists

PTI ■ PANAJI

The progress in reducing ■ plastic pollution across the globe has been painfully slow and the consequent damage to the natural environment and to human health is likely to increase further, according to a network of scientists researching on the subject.

In a research paper published in the scientific journal 'Nature Communications', scientists from many countries, including India, have said that the views and ways of working of four distinct stakeholder communities - scientists, industry, society at large and those making policy and legis-lation – are "not sufficiently well integrated".

The paper has been jointly published by Richard S Lampitt, Stephen Fletcher, Matthew Cole, Alice Kloker, Stefan Krause, Fran O'Hara, Peter Ryde, Mahua Saha, Anastasia Voronkova and Adrian Whyle from the UK, France and India.

Mahua Saha, a scientist from Goa-based CSIR-National



the only Asian scientist who is representing the region in this group.

The researchers claim that

about 400 million tonnes of plastic waste is generated every year, and this quantity is expected to increase dramatically over the coming decades.

"Less than 20 per cent of this waste is managed adequately, with most of it being incinerated, discarded into landfill or released into the natural environment," they have

According to the researchers, much of the public concern has been centred around the effects of plastic pollution on marine environments, but there is also increasing evidence of the deleterious impacts of plastics in terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems.

They have said that given the international nature of the plastics supply chain, any action to tackle plastic pollution must be coordinated globally and across all main actors. "It is our view that, in

order to be effective, a comprehensive approach to tackle plastic pollution must involve the input and support of a wide and diverse groups of interdis-ciplinary stakeholders. We identify four different relevant communities of stakeholders, each of which must be included and given the opportunity to contribute to solutions to this crisis," says the paper.

The researchers have said that the scientific, industrial, societal and policymaker communities must be equitable partners in any international

Smuggled gold worth ₹3 cr seized at Indo-Bangla border PTI ■ BANGAON

Gold worth around ₹3 crore was seized along the international border in West Bengal's North 24 Parganas district while being smuggled from Bangladesh, BSF said on

Acting on a tip-off, Border Security Force (BSF) personnel



36 gold biscuits weighing a total of 4.8 kg from an empty truck coming from the neighbouring

The gold was hidden in the driver's cabin, a BSF official said, adding that the driver, identified as Pradeep Roy Chowdhury of Matiganj area of North 24 Parganas district,



Of 18 Lok Sabha members

of the Shiv Sena from

Maharashtra, 13 owe allegiance

Seat sharing formula will be same as that in 2019: Shinde Sena

No decision taken yet, asserts BJP

Shinde-led Shiv Sena and Bharatiya Janata Party will be the same as that in 2019, senior Sena leader Gajanan Kirtikar said on Friday. The BJP, on the other hand,

taken on the issue yet.

The Sena, which was then undivided, and the BJP had contested the 2019 Lok Sabha elections in alliance. said no decision had been

won 18, and BJP contested 26 and won 23. The arrangement will be the same this time. We have already started preparations (for the 2024 polls)," Kirtikar told reporters here.

to Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and five belong to the Uddhav Thackeray-led faction. Sena spokesperson and state education minister Deepak Kesarkar too said else-where that his party hoped that the seat-sharing formula will remain unchanged.

But BJP leader and culture minister Sudhir Mungantiwar maintained that no formula has been worked out yet.

"No BJP leader has said that

a government that works to protect the interests of people. His demands would be respected. BJP has high regard for the Shiv Sena led by Balasaheb Thackeray earlier and now by Eknath Shinde," he told reporters at the Raj Bhavan. Shinde and Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis will sit together and take a decision on seat-sharing for the Lok Sabha as well as Assembly elections, the BJP leader added.

Eknath Shinde's demands wil

not be accepted. Shinde joined

hands with the BJP to provide

PTI ■ MUMBAI The seat-sharing arrangement between the Eknath

"Shiv Sena contested 22

seats (out of 48) last time and

www.dailypioneer.com

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

-PAPER WITH PASSION-

Danger of populism

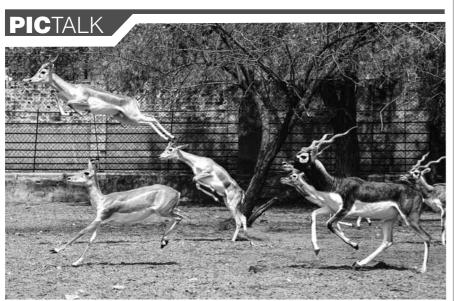
The Karnataka election may spur competitive populism among various political parties

The Congress' impressive victory in the Karnataka Assembly election has not just added a new dynamic in national politics but also cast a shadow on the future of economic reforms. In general, reforms are put on the back burner in the period before a general election. PV Narasimha Rao carried out the historic liberalisation in the first three years of his tenure (1991-96). Similarly, in the last year of his tenure, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, another great liberaliser, also did not privatise any public sector undertaking (PSU). Once again, there are news reports that the Narendra Modi Government will not take up any new PSU for sale, though the Government would continue with the ongoing deals involving disinvestment in IDBI Bank, Shipping Corporation, BEML and Container Corporation of India (Concor). An official was quoted in a report, saying. "Even the proposed privatisation of two public-sector banks and a general insurance firm has been postponed." The reasons are not difficult to



find. It is very easy for socialists and vested interests to find fault with any privatization deal. They malign everything and everyone—the idea of privatization, the process, the privatisers, the government that does it, the economists and experts who favour the sale of PSUs. They deploy all tricks and proffer fallacious arguments in their jihad privatization: sale of family silver to pay the grocer's bill, national assets being sold for a song, etc. If they fail to stop a privatisation, they begin harassing the privatisers. Arun Shourie, disinvestment minister in the Vajpayee cabinet, is still facing court cases decades after the transactions were made.

Besides, the political cost of liberalisation is high—or at least politicians believe that. Vajapayee's defeat in 2004, for example, was falsely attributed to his government's liberalising moves. It was not just Leftleaning intellectuals but also many RSS luminaries linked his unexpected loss with the reforms his government carried out. Public discourse at that time—and to some extent even now—was heavily influenced by socialist dogmas. The most prominent dogma sees the economy as a zero-sum game: one gains only at the expense of the other. So, if India was shining, as the BJP claimed, Bharat must be whining. In such a milieu, the Congress shrewdly coined the slogan, 'Aam aadmi ko kya mila.' In such a social, cultural and political milieu, the Modi Government should be lauded for just slowing down and not discarding privatisation. But the danger of populism is real—and it might grow. The grand old party took recourse to populism in Karnataka, and handed over a bill of Rs 50,000-60,000 crore to the State's taxpayer. The GOP and other parties are likely to come up with more freebies and entitlements; the BJP, willy-nilly, may be forced to enter the race of competitive populism. If that happens, economic reforms will suffer a terrible setback.



Deer play inside an enclosure at the Bikaner zoo, on Friday.

Decoding the scripts of 'Mann Ki Baat'



The focus areas of 'Mann Ki Baat' have been water and health. These are the two main areas which the Government is taking up on priority

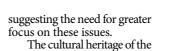
India's flagship citizen outreach program, 'Mann ki Baat', represented by the Prime Minister of the country, has completed a century of broadcasts. It's time to take stock of the program's impact and priorities, by analysing the themes and focus areas across the 100 scripts. This analysis backed up by the data mining techniques reveals important insights into the government's communication strategy, the key issues it prioritizes, and the areas where it could focus more. One of the distinctive features of Mann ki Baat is the use of communication as a powerful tool to reach out to millions of people across India.

The program has leveraged social media and other platforms to amplify its outreach, using hashtags like #drugsfreeIndia, #YesWeCan, #IncredibleIndia, #armedforcesflagday, #PositiveIndia, #Jalshakti4India, #CourageinKargil, #Cheer4India and #MyHandloomMyPride among others to engage with the community. While observing it appeared that certain hashtags campaigns had bi-annual frequency, with a gap of around two years between most of them. This approach has been effective in raising awareness about important issues and generating public interest in the program.

A closer look at the 100

scripts reveals the key focus areas of the program. 'Water' and 'Health' are among the most frequently mentioned topics with a mention of 454, and 274 times respectively, indicating the government's focus on addressing these critical issues. During these conversations, there has been obvious discussion on the healthcare sector, doctors, workers and the pandemic era and these keywords have been found to be inadequate frequency.

Digital and online initiatives, such as MyGov, are also prominently featured, highlighting the government's push for digital transformation and innovation and the same can be observed in the nation's journey towards technological developments in the past decade. However, topics such as 'Climate change', 'Food', and 'Poverty' receive comparatively less attention in the scripts, tain keywords also reveals the



country, the importance of Yoga and ancient science were also important topics communicated during these conversations. Another interesting finding of the analysis is the geographical distribution of attention across states and regions. While Kashmir, Gujarat, Delhi, and Tamil Nadu have garnered more attention than others, BIMARU states (Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh) have got comparatively less mention in these talks. The mention of Kashmir is also related to the fact that there were many governance and structural changes here which kept its discussion at a higher frequency.

It is quite interesting that the mentions of Leh-Ladakh and North East states are limited to 20 times or less. Only Assam state could receive significant mention among North Eastern Regions (NERs). This distribution highlights the need to focus more on certain regions and communities, especially those that are more marginalized. The use of cer-



THE ANALYSIS OF MANN KI BAAT'S **TOTAL 100 SCRIPTS PROVIDES A VALUABLE PERSPECTIVE** ON THE **GOVERNMENT'S** PRIORITIES AND **APPROACH** TO CITIZEN OUTREACH

government's priorities and approach. Words like 'Rural', 'Village', 'Youth', 'Farmer', and 'Women' are frequently mentioned, indicating the government's focus on empowering these communities.

This communication series not only engaged in dialogue but also drew wisdom from the legacies of notable figures in our country's history. Among the most frequently referenced were Mahatma Gandhi, Baba Saheb Ambedkar, and Buddha, with 92, 50, and 39 mentions respectively.

The analysis of Mann ki Baat's all 100 scripts highlights the program's strengths and limitations and provides important insights for policymakers and researchers. The program's focus on communication and outreach has been effective in engaging with the community and raising awareness about important issues. The use of hashtags and social media platforms has amplified the program's reach and impact, making it a powerful tool for citizen engagement. At the same time, the analysis highlights the need for greater focus on certain issues and

communities. Topics like climate change, poverty, jobs and marginalized community receive comparatively less attention in the scripts, suggesting the need for greater emphasis on these issues.

Similarly, the geographical distribution of attention highlights the need to focus more on certain regions and communities. The global stand of India and its contribution was also observed to be one of the important highlighters in these talks and words like 'United Nations, 'America,' and 'Europe' were observed to be in the frequency of 32, 50 and 15 respectively.

Finally, the analysis of Mann ki Baat's total 100 scripts provides a valuable perspective on the government's priorities and approach to citizen outreach. By leveraging communication as a powerful tool and focusing on key issues like water, health, and digital transformation, the program has made significant contributions to public awareness and

(The writer is assistant professor Dr Rajendra Prasad central agricultural university,

engagement.

Who bears the huge cost of freebies?



SHASHANK SAURAV

The concept of a welfare state is always a welcome idea but the cost of welfare should not be such that it crumbles the state itself

iddaramaiah has taken oath as CM for the newly Oelected Karnataka government and the first googly has come out on the five promises which were hyped by Congress scion Rahul Gandhi. In the election manifesto, the Yuvanidhi scheme was announced to give Rs. 3,000 per month for two years to unemployed graduates and Rs. 1,500 per month for two years to unemployed diploma holders. However, minister Priyank Kharge has clarified that it would be affected for the academic year 2022-2023.

As per the initial estimates, the annual cost of five promises would be Rs, 50,000 crores but the actual numbers might exceed this. Debt levels of Karnataka have more than doubled over five years and the 'Debt: State GDP' ratio has increased from 18.4% in 2018 to 23.4% in 2023. Certain parts of the increase in debt can be attributed to external factors like the Covid-19 pandemic but there is an important factor that we all must understand.

Some of the existing welfare schemes might be withdrawn by the new govern-

ment to save some money while new schemes get introduced. In this case, people will benefit only from the differential. The fiscal deficit for FY23 was estimated at around Rs. 61,564 crores and it will exceed Rs. 1 lakh crore with the additional expense even if a tax buoyancy of 10% is factored YoY. It's important to highlight that the GST compensation cess is no longer there to fund the extravaganza of politicians. For perspective, the compensation cess in Karnataka budget was Rs. 25,267 crores in FY 2021-22

which came down to Rs. 5,000 crores in FY 2022-23. If we keep politics aside, it can be seen from the state finances that the debt level has gone up for almost all the mandates it to be within the

states (except a few like Odisha, and Uttar Pradesh) over the last five years. Political compulsion will never allow the politicians to extend their vision beyond the short-term electoral gains and therefore India needs a law on the freebie culture. Of course, it is going to be a tough exercise because no one would like his hands tied by a piece of legislation and its hard to avoid the temptation which brings you close to the power but we need some fiscal prudence if this country does not choose to be walking on the similar path like Sri Lanka and Venezuela. The Finance Commission, which is a constitutional body, has already highlighted the risk of state debts reaching an unsustainable limit.

The concept of a welfare state is always a welcome idea but the cost of welfare should not be such that it crumbles the state itself. Politicians and activists who keep floating their utopian ideas and taking shelter of our constitution for all their stupidity, forget that Article 292 and 293 of the same constitution talks about borrowings and

limits specified by the legislature. The Constituent Assembly of India discussed these articles on 10th August 1949 and thought in a different context but the importance of the purpose of the loan was highlighted by Shri H. V. Kamath. Existing political leadership across the board might be shortsighted Ananthasayanam Ayyangar emphasised the impact of borrowings in the constituent assembly discussion and his words can be referred to in today's context 'So far as borrowing is concerned-they may be short or long-term, imposing heavy obligations upon not only the present generation but future generation also.

We must remember that nothing comes free in this world. If the cost of freebies is curtailing the capital expenses, piling up the debt, and slashing the social sector expenses like education, healthcare etc. then freebies are not free at all and we all will be paying the price one way or the other.

(The writer is a chartered accountant, and policy analyst. Views expressed are personal)

PEOPLE IN POWER MUST BE SENSITIVE

Sir — Top dignitaries of the states have some privileges thrust upon them. Zero traffic", when they commute, is one such entitlement. It means traffic is cleared during their travel in the state. Generally, the governor and chief minister enjoy zero traffic luxury. The new Karnataka chief minister Siddaramaiah has decried the tendency: he has asked the officials to do away with the zero traffic rule when he crisscrosses the length and breadth of Bengaluru and Karnataka. Siddaramaiah is understandably worried about the traffic standstill and the hardship faced by the commuters during

His predecessor Basavaraj Bommai was content with a "green corridor" with no traffic signals during his movement. In sharp contrast to these two, a former state home minister had refused to part with zero traffic saying it was his "privi-

Be that as it may, it is laudable that at least some people in power can be sensitive to people's sufferings. Many times, it's the officers under the high dignitaries, who want to please their bosses, who wield power. Therefore, dignitaries must ensure that their orders are not flouted. It is heartening that India's VIP culture is slowly on the decline thanks to the courts and the important individuals themselves. Although the 2013 Supreme Court order restricting the use of red beacons on official vehicles was taken with a pinch of salt by the common man, it was surprisingly carried out well with minor hiccups

Ganapathi Bhat | Akola

AMERICAN LAW

Sir — One by one, in 2021, the mother of American democracy, attacking Capitol Hill, is sentencing its destroyers and conspirators to prison, American law. One should hope that most of the thousands of people who have been arrested in this connection will be punished in some way or the other for dividing American soci- with the indirect taxpayer any lesser to

Grand inauguration

THE EDITOR



building, housed by Sansad Marg in the national capital, on ensuing Sunday, is caught in the crossfire between the ruling BJP and as many as 19 non-BJP opposition parties, with the latter taking strong exception to Prime Minister Narendra Modi doing the inauguration

grand inauguration of the new Parliament

himself instead of letting it done at President Draupadi Murmu's hands who is also President of the Parliament. These parties have not only announced the boycott of the historic event but also initiated a comprehensive signature campaign against the move which the opposition parties largely are signatories of, save the Akali Dal, BJD and some others even as some are accusing the PM of sidelining the President who is conspicuous by her absence among the invitees.

The Opposition leaders' viewpoint stands justified notwithstanding, both camps need to come to terms with each other and find some common ground to stand together on and let this momentous occasion pass peacefully and gracefully sans any brouhaha, in the national interest.

Azhar A Khan I Rampur

ety with the help of their extreme views and hatred. On Thursday, Oath Keepers founder Stewart Rhodes, 57, was sentenced on charges of seditious conspiracy and other crimes. This sentence becomes very important, for two reasons. The first is that he has been sentenced to 18 years in prison, which is the longest sentence ever handed down in this case. Secondly, he turned out to be the culprit who was not present in the crowd at the time of the vandalism. But he was one of the people whose mind and conspiracy were working behind the crowd. Means more than committing the crime, the one who instigates it is the biggest culprit.

Jang Bahadur Singh | Jamshedpur

NOTHING WRONG WITH FREEBIES

Sir — RJD MP Manoj Jha once had hit the nail hard right on the head of those snob brigade by stressing "This is a welfare state, isn't it? When a poor man buys a bar of soap, he is as much a taxpayer as Adani and Ambani"! Yes, every citizen pays taxes — direct or indirect. So even the richest of rich hold no right to think of themselves as of any "special stock'

them in any respect. And so as citizens of the State, all are equally entitled to all sorts of rights and it forms the urgent duty of any Welfare State to look after those citizens on the lower economic scale!

It is high time the snob brigade, always shouting "Stop subsidies and freebies" and mocking the Government for it's "sin" of providing goods and services to the poor at subsidised/concessional rates or paying monetary allowances related to various schemes, should either shut up or do the following things: (1) At first ensure minimum basic rights to the poor through their astronomical salaries and cutting down all sorts of luxuries; (2) And thereafter they should themselves stop receiving various sorts of tax concessions by the Government and ask their employers to immediately stop Leave Travel Concession, free medical facilities(for themselves and their family), free education of their children, Dearness Allowance/House Rent Allowance.

Kajal Chatterjee | Kolkata

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneér@gmail.com www.dailypioneer.com

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

FIRST COLUMN FAITH AS INTERACTION, NOT AS KNOWLEDGE

We must approach God by exercising our free will, which can be done in multiple ways



AJIT KUMAR BISHNOI

es, it is not a matter of knowledge. With the advent of the internet, who is not aware of God? But how many pursue this knowledge? Very few to say the least. Why? Because faith comes from interaction with God. We approach God and He responds, otherwise this relationship is a non-starter. A simple example will help. I don't have any interaction with a particular resident of my neighbourhood. There will be no progress in my relationship with that person. Yes, we must get in touch with God, who limits himself to instruct us through bonafide scriptures, preachers, who have a wide following, etc. We must approach God by exercising our free will. And we can do so in multiple ways like praying to God, going to a temple, chanting God's name, etc. Every such act is taken notice of by God, who responds appropriately.

To bring clarity to this phenomenon, I will narrate my experience in this connection. The very first thing God notices is our dutifulness. We, human beings, have been given the responsibility of doing our duties according to time, place and circumstances. This is how the creation can go on. Lord Krishna warns that even maintenance of the body will not be possible through inaction. (The Bhagavad-Geeta 3.8) God gets interested in those who are dutiful. The next thing, which impresses God is obeying dharma. After all, dharma is the bedrock on which the creation rests. God even incarnates to re-establish dharma. (4.8) Now such persons are keenly watched because such people become good people. The mode of goodness in them becomes predominant by overpowering the other two modes of passion and darkness. (14.10) If such a person requests help, God is prepared to do so; one just has to sincerely pray for it.



We normally seek help from God in two ways. One is to get out of some trouble and the other is to gain something material like a decent job. What is God's response? Let us understand one simple rule: God is always just; He couldn't be favouring someone at the cost of another, as will be in the case of landing a job. However, God can be more generous in case of helping someone to recover from a major illness. In this case, also, God has to determine if the sick person deserves such a favour and how much. But all said and done, God does respond. How much and when is decided by God, as found appropriate by Him. No request for help is ignored; only the quantum and the quality are

In one matter, God is more forthcoming, i.e. to guide. If a person is sincerely seeking guidance to do something noble, God will be very keen to help, because being the owner of everything, He must encourage what suits the creation. Don't we need good people to keep all of us going? God gives the right intelligence, as in the case of medical scientists. If someone is genuinely looking for a medical solution, which can help millions, and the motive is not to encash it to the fullest extent, God will help. What do you think we will do if we were to decide? God gives me spiritual solutions to common problems about which I can write. One may call it realisation as it really helps me personally. What more than any other favour reinforces faith is peace, which we all know is sought by everyone, but only a few

The conclusion is to approach God in ways, which please Him, about which He has given detailed instructions. Swami Ravi Das was a leatherworker. He had no formal education, but he became a great devotee of God. Knowledge is helpful only as a tool, even spiritual; it must be practised. Spiritual activities take us to a higher level. Therefore, let us get going and link with the owner of the creation. He is waiting and He has plenty to give.

Bishnoi is a spiritual writer and can be reached at

spiritual@ajitbishnoi.com

US must undertake a midcourse correction



Even if the US revises its debt ceiling of \$31.4 trillion, its risk-ridden economy may precipitate a global crisis of a larger magnitude



ith the looming debt crisis in the United States with the potential to default, a showdown between Republicans that control the House and the democratic white house may not augur well for the global economy and developing countries like India. Owing unsustainable economic policies over a few decades and irresponsible handling of resources has led the largest global economic powerhouse into a big mess of its own making. Even if president joe Biden manages to clinch a last-minute deal with Republican top leadership to push up the debt ceiling beyond us \$ 31.4 trillion, larger questions continue to haunt the Americans. Mobilizing loans through US bonds or debt paper may not be the immediate concern but potential default on June 1 is what may turn catastrophic to not only Americans but the entire world. For Americans, it means that democrats will not be able to fund their fancied social security payments on medical and health insurance, pension or social development projects.

President Biden and his Democratic

administration will have to put on hold all fancy projects like waiving student loans or fees to provide personal tax concessions to youngsters and new taxpayers democrats understand the full importance of lifting the already unsustainable debt limit of \$ 31.4 trillion. In fact, this also explains US President Biden's decision to forgo the scheduled quad summit in Australia and head back home after the G-7 leaders meeting in Hiroshima. Eventually, the quad summit had to be called off with heads of the US,



THERE IS EVERY POSSIBILITY OF US MOVING RECESSION, **THEREBY STYMIEING** DEMAND FOR **GOODS AND SERVICES GLOBALLY**

(The author is the director and chief executive of this nonpartisan think tank based in New Delhi)

Australia, Japan and India meeting briefly at Hiroshima on the sidelines of the G-7 congregation. The larger issue that confronts us and the world is a wee bit different and difficult.

There is every possibility of us moving into economic recession thereby stymieing demand for goods and services globally. This will hit the economic growth sentiment internationally big time. Secondly, the possibility of banks getting stuck with worthless dollar-denominated bonds or debt paper in the medium term cannot de ruied out uniess doth the federal reserve and political leadership in the US take recourse to the mid-course correction that involves massive spending cuts or improve the country's revenues. Such a policy may be very unattractive for Democratic voters when they have to elect their president in 2024.

Thirdly, containing the contagion effect of the US economy moving into the abyss will be a herculean task. One cannot easily forget the global financial crisis triggered by real estatelinked mortgages that turned worthless in 2007-08. This housing bubble stirred a perfect storm to impact both large developing countries like India as well as least developed countries alike. Excessive risk exposure taken by banks was the biggest element in

Fourthly, if the US default finally happens, then countries like India having huge exposure to American greenback will also face the heat

But, this diversification should go the whole hog and consciously lead to pursuing the dedollarization of the Indian economy as a state policy. Fifthly, while exports to the US become attractive and import bills get squeezed, a demand slump globally will negate the advantages gained in trade deals. There is no reason why India should not oursue a more independent trade and currency policy keeping herself at a safe distance from the federal reserve and recalibrating her linkages with Washington DC. Sixthly, Democrats and Republicans must work towards mid-course correction on the economic and development front rather than recklessly going for borrowing more from Tom to pay

Limiting the fresh debt limit to us \$ 1.5 trillion till March 31, 2024, and achieving concomitant cuts in spending by us \$ 1.47 trillion would save the perilously placed our economy. Seventhly, precipitating a perfectly cooked crisis is not in anyone's interest and hence reining in the fresh spending to less than one per cent as per the limit, save, grow act of 2023 makes eminent sense. On this crisis of the worst kind after the parallel, limiting the mop-up the great depression of 1929. of fresh debt and gradual reduc-

tion in existing debt stock would augur well for the US economy that's seeking to reposition itself and instil confidence in its trading and investment partners.

The debt-to-GDP ratio was approximately 97 per cent at the end of FY 2022, and under current policy and based on this report's assumptions is projected to reach 566 per cent in 2097, it pointed out. While pursuing a revised economic policy dispensation, president biden should not easily forget the 2011 crisis that was triggered by our congress. This pushed up the borrowing costs for the treasury by a humongous us \$ 1.3 billion in just one year. Also, we should not provide any leverage to China for encashing its crisis. China is easily the largest holder of us debt paper, notes and long-term bonds with valuations ranging from \$ 859.4 billion to \$ one trillion.

China may like to leverage our debt paper to rebalance its own resources position which again may not be looking too good. China's own debt of us \$ 14.34 trillion as of April 12, 2023, and swelling at a whopping \$ 3.81 trillion annually may not be something to brag about by president xis oligarchs driven communist party. Potential defaults in us, and machinations in China have valuable lessons for India that are overtly conservative on borrowings, especially by the

The tragedy for workers in today's 'gig' economy

All temporary, freelance and contract workers must be properly defined and identified to ensure minimum wages, maximum working hours and social security

ou see many youths around you, who deliver the goods coming via e-commerce apps and websites. Similarly, millions of drivers all over the world provide app-based taxi services. Ecommerce and technologydriven businesses have become a major part of the economy these days. This section of the economy is known as the 'gig economy' and the people working there are called 'gig' workers. Recently, the delivery workers of an e-commerce company named 'Blinkit' went on a one-day strike, which was also given a lot of importance by the media. The case was that a company called 'Blinkit', which claims to supply consumers with their grocery requirements in 10 minutes to half an hour, had reduced the



(The author is Professor,

PGDAV College, University

of Delhi)

payment to its delivery agents by half. Significantly, before this change, the company used to pay Rs 25 to the delivery agent for each delivery. Till about a year ago, the delivery agents were given Rs 50 per delivery. Delivery workers' complaint is that fuel costs have skyrocketed during this period, but their wages have shrunk to a quarter.

The reality is that today youth in big and small cities are forced to work as delivery agents in the absence of any decent employment. In the initial phase, these workers also used to earn sufficiently, but due to low payouts, now their economic condition has become very pathetic. The reality is that in the absence of alternative employment, it has become almost a compulsion

for the youth to work as delivery agents. On the other hand, com-

panies like 'Ola' and 'Uber' providing app-based taxi services have also started charging highly exploitative commissions from taxi drivers. Due to this, the drivers of 'Ola' and 'Uber' have also resorted to agitational means like strikes many times. But the exploitative commission policy of 'Ola' and 'Uber' continues unabated. Despite the strike by Bilinkit's delivery agents, no solution is in sight.

Gig workers like drivers of 'Ola', 'And Uber', delivery agents of 'Blinkit', 'Zomato', 'And Swiggy' etc. or any other type of workers registered with any other app-based service provider, whose employment depends on the mercy of these app companies, businesses or whose livelihood depends on the delivery of goods or ordering of services based on messages received from these apps, are today suffering from the exploitation by these com-

Nowadays the word gig is very much in vogue. Till twothree decades ago, the word gig was not much in use. It has become necessary to understand the meaning of the word 'gig' and the terms such as 'gig economy' and 'gig worker' etc. and their effects on society.

A few decades back, there were only two types of workers. One, the salaried employees and the other, the casual workers. Salaried workers are generally employed on a permanent basis with a fixed

certain procedure has to be followed for the removal of these workers from employment. On the other hand, casual labour means daily wage workers. These labourers are paid wages on a daily basis and have to go in search of employment every day.

In the organized sector, earlier most workers were generally employed on a permanent or regular basis and their employment was also fairly secure. In the unorganized sector like agriculture, construction and sometimes in manufacturing, the practice of daily wage labourers is seen. Generally, educated and trained workers were mostly salaried workers and most of the daily wage laborers used to be uneducated and untrained salary and other facilities. A workers. But these days even ators of this new labour class.

organised sector employers have found an easy way to employ gig workers or sometimes on contract or on fixed term; where workers lack job security and social security. Further, there is the absence of regulations like working hours and working conditions, as these workers in order to earn sufficiently have to work for longer hours and under precarious conditions.

This new class of labour, namely, gig labour is the outcome of the emerging gig economy, based on new technology. This new category has emerged in the form of online platforms, cloud working, freelancing, e-commerce, supply chain, etc. That is, it can be said that new technology and new business models are the cre-

These workers who are serving based on work/order provided by the apps are clearly working under the instructions of the apps owned by ecommerce companies, but in government definitions, they are not considered workers, they are called 'freelancers'.

All such gig, temporary, and contract workers will have to be properly defined and identified while ensuring minimum wages, maximum working hours and various types of social security for them. If this does not happen, this system will be called nothing more than Jungle Raj, whose rule is 'survival of the fittest'. The Government of India is expected to make policies for the social security of the workers of these online platforms i.e., gig workers.



Belgium, Iran conduct prisoner swap in Oman



Protesters wear clothes reading Free Olivier during a solidarity demonstration with Belgian aid worker Olivier Vandecasteele in Brussels on December 25, 2022. AFF

"Olivier spent 455 days in

prison in Tehran. In unbearable

conditions. Innocent," De Croo

wrote. "Olivier Vandecasteele's

return to Belgium is a relief. A

relief for his family, friends and

an interlocutor for the West

convicting him of espionage in

a closed-door trial. He also was

in Iran in February 2022 while

packing up his belongings, after working with the Norwegian Refugee Council

and Relief International in the

Islamic Republic from 2015 to

2021, according to Amnesty

government strongly denied Iran's claims, made without

offering evidence, that he was

a spy. To make the swap with

the Iran diplomat possible,

Belgium had adopted in March

exchange treaty that was upheld

by the country's constitution-

ed Assadi of masterminding a

thwarted bomb attack against

an exiled Iranian opposition

group in France and sentenced

him to 20 years in prison.

Registered Office: The Galleria, DLF Mayur Vihar, Unit No. 236 & 237, 2nd Floor, Mayur Place,

websites (www.bseindia.com) and the Company's website (www.kamaholdings.com).

Corporate Office: Block C, Sector 45, Gurgaon-122003, Tel. No : (+91-11) 49482870 • Fax : (+91-11) 49482900

controversial prisoner

In 2021, Belgium convict-

His family and the Belgian

International.

Vandecasteele was arrested

fined USD 1 million.

Oman has long served as

In January, Iran sentenced Vandecasteele to a lengthy prison term and 74 lashes after

colleagues?

AP ■ DUBAI

 $B_{\text{a prisoner exchange Friday}}^{\text{elgium and Iran conducted}}$ in Oman, with officials saying Tehran released a Belgian aid worker in exchange for an Iranian diplomat convicted of attempting to bomb a meeting of exiles in France. The initial announcement by Oman's Foreign Ministry did not identify the prisoners being swapped. Later Friday, Belgian Prime Minister Alexander De Croo said in a statement that the aid worker, Olivier Vandecasteele, had been freed. Iranian state television later confirmed that the diplomat, Assadollah Assadi, was freed as

Oman's Foreign Ministry said that "those released were transferred from Tehran and Brussels to Muscat today, Friday, in preparation for their return to their countries."

It added that "the sultanate of Oman appreciated the high positive spirit that prevailed in the talks in Muscat between the Iranian and Belgian sides, and their keenness to settle this humanitarian issue."

Croo Vandecasteele was transferred to Oman on Thursday night. He was received by a team of Belgian diplomats and military officials, then was assessed by doctors.

CIN: L92199DL2000PLC104779

KAMA HOLDINGS LIMITED

Total Income from Operations

Paid up Equity Share Capital

(a) Basic:

(b) Diluted:

Total income from operations

Paid-up equity share capital

Securities premium account

Net worth

Outstanding deb

Debt equity ratio

-Basic (Rs)

-Diluted (Rs)

Note to financial results:

1) The above results have been re-

Reserves (excluding revaluation reserve)

Place

: New Delhi

: 26th May 2023

Noida Link Road, Mayur Vihar Phase I Extn, Delhi - 110091

Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax

Total Comprehensive Income for the period

and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]

(for continuing and discontinued operations) -

[Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax)

Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax

(including discontinued operations)

(including discontinued operations)

Earnings Per Share (of Rs. 10/- each)

Email: info@kamaholdings.com; website: www.kamaholdings.com

'Time to widen **India-UK** relations'

PTI ■ LONDON

UK Opposition Leader Sir Keir Starmer on Friday said it was time for the India-UK relationship to be widened across all critical areas as he set out the Labour Party's foreign policy pitch in the lead up to the general election expected next year. Starmer said he sees huge scope of mutual benefit from enĥancing the bilateral

According to a statement, he would be making a keynote address to open India Global Forum's (IGF) annual UK-India Week summit in London next month. The address will mark the first major insight into the Labour leader's vision for the party's relationship with India, which went through some strain over sensitive issues such as Kashmir under his predecessor Jeremy Corbyn.

The time has now come to look to the future and work on how we can deepen and widen our cooperation in critical areas such as trade and investment, technology and innovation, climate action, diversity and inclusion, and healthcare, the future of work, skills and education - all areas where I see huge scope for mutual ben-

efit," said Starmer. The IGF UK-India Week, now in its fifth year, is a fiveday series of events to be held between June 26 and 30 to bring together senior politicians, business and thought leaders from the UK, India and around the world to focus on the prospects of strengthening India-UK ties across different sectors. "I believe it's timely that Sir Keir will be opening UK-India Week this year. We are at a critical juncture, and so his participation underscores the importance of the need for a bipartisan approach to the relationship with India," said IGF Founder and CEO Professor Manoj

AUDITED STANDALONE AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS

FOR THE QUARTER AND YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

QUARTER ENDED

31-Mar-22

7136.79

7075.96

7026.94

7027.15

645.26

108.90

108.90

Note: The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly/Annual Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI

(Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly/Annual Financials Results are available on the Stock Exchange

31 Dec 2022

Unaudited

5.58

2.56

2.56

1.85

41.80

30.20

74.83

146.83

*0.43

*0.43

31 March 2022

Unaudited

4.95

2.20

2.20

41.80

24.66

74.83

141.29

*0.39

*0.39

Audited

22.07

11.76

11.76

8.67

41.80

33.33

74.83

149.96

2.07

2.07

31-Mar-23

(1)

5395.29

5309.94

5322.52

5322.20

641.81

82.53

82.53

INDIABULLS RURAL FINANCE PRIVATE LIMITED (CIN: U74140MH1993PTC074596)

ended 31 March 2023

5.87

4.41

4.41

3.12

3.13

41.80

33.33

74.83

149.96

0.33

*0.75

*0.75

ewed by the Audit Committee and subsequently approved at the meeting of the Board of Directors held on 26 May 2023

2) The above presentation is an extract of the detailed format of guarterly/ annual financial results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 52 of the SEBI (Listing and other

disclosure requirements) regulations, 2015. The full format of quartely annual financial results are available on the company's website (http://indiabulisruralfinance.com) and on the

STANDALONE

YEAR ENDED

31-Mar-22

10742.97

10542.20

10493.61

10493.80

645.26

162.63

162.63

31-Mar-23

25431.18

25272.22

24845.82

24845.26

641.81

385.25

385.25

US, Chinese trade officials concerned over restrictions

AP ■ WASHINGTON

Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo and her Chinese counterpart, Wang Wentao, expressed concern Thursday about policies of each other's governments following Chinese raids on consulting firms and US curbs on exports of semiconductor technology, their governments said. The two sides announced no progress in disputes over technology and security but said Raimondo and Wang promised to strengthen exchanges on trade issues.

Companies from both sides have been buffeted by tighter official controls on trade in semiconductors and other activity on security grounds. Political relations between the two governments are at their lowest level in decades following disputes over technology, security, China's territorial claims and Beijing's treatment



minorities. Raimondo "raised concerns" about Chinese actions against US companies in China, her office said in a statement. It said they also discussed the trade and investment environment and "areas for potential cooperation" but gave no details.

Chinese police raided offices of consultants Bain & Co. and Capvision and a due diligence firm, Mintz of Hong Kong and ethnic Group, following the expansion

of national security and intelligence laws. Authorities have given no explanation for the

The raids rattled foreign companies, which the British Chamber of Commerce in China said this week want "greater clarity" about enforcement. Chinese authorities have said companies are obliged to obey the law but have given no indication whether they see possible violations.

Wang "expressed key con-cerns" about U.S. policy on semiconductors, exports and trade, his ministry said. It gave no details.

Chinese leader Xi Jinping in March accused Washington of trying to hold back China's development after the US government blocked access to technology to manufacture advanced processor chips, hampering the ruling Communist Party's efforts to develop its own semiconductor producers for smartphones, artificial intelligence and other advanced applications.

President Joe Biden has tightened restrictions imposed by his predecessor, Donald Trump, on access to design, manufacturing and other technologies that Washington and its allies say might be used to improve Chinese weapons at a time when Beijing is threatening to attack Taiwan and is involved in territorial disputes with other neighbors.

Princess Sophia's UK home gets Blue Plaque

PTI ■ LONDON

Princess Sophia Duleep Singh, the daughter of Maharaja Duleep Singh - the last ruler of the Sikh empire and the goddaughter of Queen Victoria, was honoured with a commemorative Blue Plaque in London on Friday. The Blue Plaque scheme, run by the English Heritage charity, hon-ours the significance of particular buildings associated with historical figures. In memory of the British-Indian Princess, it now adorns Faraday House, which was granted to Sophia and her sisters as a grace and favour apartment at Hampton Court Palace southwest of London by Queen Victoria.



"As a political journalist, I thought I knew the story of the suffragettes, and then I found this extraordinary woman and she blew me away," said Anita Anand, the author of the biography 'Sophia: Princess, Suffragette, Revolutionary'. "As the last princess of the

Sikh Empire, goddaughter of Queen Victoria, society darling and fashion icon, a life of comfort and celebrity was hers for the taking, but she chose a harder path. Using her international fame and influence, putting herself in physical danger, she fought for the right of women to vote. Campaigning with unrelenting ferocity, loyalty and selflessness, she moved the dial," she said.

Named after another former resident, the eminent English physicist Michael Faraday (1791-1867), Faraday House was Princess Sophia's main residence for over four

'Debt ceiling talks making progress'

AP ■ WASHINGTON

House Speaker Kevin McCarthy said on Friday negotiators "made progress" on an agreement with the White House to raise the debt limit as they race to close out a deal ahead of a looming deadline to avert a potentially catastrophic default.

McCarthy told reporters at the Capitol that there is still more work to do.

The two sides are narrowing on a two-year agreement that would curb federal spending and lift the borrowing limit ahead of a deadline as soon as June 1 when Treasury could run out of money to pay the nation's bills.

President Joe Biden and the Republican speaker hope to strike a budget compromise this weekend. Any deal would need to be a political compromise, with support from both Democrats and Republicans to pass the divided Congress.

A person familiar with the talks said the two sides are "dug in" on whether or not to agree to Republican demands to impose stiffer work requirements on people who receive government food stamps, cash assistance and health care aid, some of the most vulnerable Americans.

Yet both Biden and McCarthy expressed optimism heading into the weekend that the gulf between their positions could be bridged. A twoyear deal would raise the debt limit for that time, past the 2024 presidential election.

House Republicans have pushed the issue to the brink, displaying risky political bravado in leaving town for the Memorial Day holiday. The US could face an unprecedented default as soon as June 1, hurling the global economy

YEAR ENDED

31-Mar-23 31-Mar-22

356364.81 | 1507482.34 | 1250241.17

299956.60

232444.82

218325.06

641.81

1,943.98

1,943.98

For and on behalf of the Board

Kartik Bharat Ram

(DIN:00008557)

(4)

259314.72

188885.87

197235.02

645.26

1,483.68

1,483.68

Chairman

CONSOLIDATED

QUARTER ENDED

31-Mar-23

376835.26

73890.93

56578.96

64092.06

641.81

445.45

445.45

(Rs. in Crores Year ended March 2022

Audited

21.01

7.37

7.37

5.34

5.36

41.80

24.66

74.83

141.29

0.35

1.28

1.28

Date: 26.05.2023

31-Mar-22

78768.92

60265.36

63449.69

645.26

471.10

471.10

KAMA Holding/

into chaos. In remarks at the White House on Thursday, Biden said, "It's about competing versions of America."

"The only way to move forward is with a bipartisan agreement," Biden said on Thursday. "And I believe we'll come to an agreement that allows us to move forward and protects the hardworking Americans of this country. Lawmakers are tentative-

ly not expected back at work until Tuesday, just two days from the early June deadline when Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen has said the US could start running out of cash to pay its bills and face a federal

Biden will also be away this weekend, departing on Friday for the presidential retreat at Camp David, Maryland, and Sunday for his home in Wilmington, Delaware. The Senate is on

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given on behalf of Mrs. Rubi Devi W/o
Mr. Tejvir Singh who is purchasing the Residential Plot
of land admeasuring 50 s.y. yards., out of Khasra No.
886K, Old Khasra No. 1238, Khata No. 00354, Village

886K, Old Khasra No. 1238, Khata No. 00354, Village Gulistanpur (Shyam Vihar), Pargana Dadri, Tehsil & District Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P. from Mrs. Sanjana w/o Mr. Satyavir, who is owner of the aforesaid property vide Sale Deed dated 26.11.2021 (Document No. 22228) and intend to mortgage against the financial assistance from Vastu Housing Finance Corporation Ltd. That the Original Sale Deed dated 07.02.2018 executed by M/S Ambrosia Buildcon Pvt. Ltd in favour of Mrs. Vandana Kumari (Document No. 3513), is misplaced/ lost /not available. To Comply the requirements of Bank/ NBFC, we give this public notice that If any Person having any type of claim/ right/tille/interest over the said property, may inform in writing. at the address

mentioned below, about his objections, within 07 days from today, failing which it shall be presumed that the said property is free from all type of Encumbrances,

Lucem Legal LLP B-93B, Second Floor, Opp. SB

Bank Sector 2, Noida, UP-201301 Contact #0120-4269379

LEGAL NOTICE

This is to inform the general public

that House No. C-60, Ground Floor,

Back Portion, South Extension Part

-1, Delhi 110049 is the lawfully

owned property of Mr. R. Srinivas

as has also been declared by the

Hon'ble Apex Court vide Order

dated 21.02.2023 in Civil Appeal

It has come to light that certain

miscreants are attempting to

sell/mortgage /rent the said property claiming to be the owner.

It is hereby informed that the

lawful owner of the property is

not selling the said house and the

general public is being cheated

and misled. Any attempt to sell

the house will be met with stern

legal action by the lawful owner.

No 1329-1333/2023.

recess and will return after Memorial Day. Meanwhile, Fitch Ratings agency placed the United

States' AAA credit on "ratings watch negative," warning of a possible downgrade.
Weeks of negotiations between Republicans and the

White House have failed to produce a deal — in part because the Biden administration resisted negotiating with McCarthy over the debt limit, arguing that the country's full faith and credit should not be used as leverage to extract other partisan priorities.

The White House has offered to freeze next year's 2024 spending at current levels and restrict 2025 spending, but the Republican leader says that's not enough.

"We have to spend less than we spent last year. That is the starting point," said McCarthy.

Russia says border regions under attack

Ukraine came under attack on Friday from Ukrainian artillery fire, mortar shells and drones, authorities said, to the annexed Crimea Peninsula.

Moscow's forces, meanwhile, struck a building containing psychology and veterinary clinics in the city of Dnipro, in central Ukraine, killing two people and wounding 30, including two children, Ukrainian officials said.

Video released by regional Gov Serhiy Lysak showed fire engulfing the three-story building that appeared almost destroyed, with only parts of a wall standing, as firefighters battled the flames.

A Russian S-300 missile hit a dam in the Karlivka district of Donetsk province in eastern Ukraine, threatening nearby settlements with flooding. The town of Graivoron in Russia's Belgorod region, about 7 kilometres (more than 4 miles) from the Ukrainian

Kyiv (AP): Russia's southern border, came under fire for several hours, damaging four several hours, damaging four houses, a store, a car, a gas pipeline and a power line, Gov Vyacheslav Gladkov reported.

a Russian city in an area next recreation centre, a shop and an empty house were damaged in the village of Glotovo. One woman was wounded when nearby Novaya Tavolzhanka was shelled, Gladkov said.

Earlier this week, the Belgorod region was the target of one of the most serious

cross-border attacks from Ukraine since the war began 15 months ago. Details of the raid were murky. Russia blamed the Ukrainian armed forces, but two Russian groups said they were involved, with the aim of bringing down Russian President Vladimir Putin. Officials in Russia's southern city of Krasnodar, in the region of the same name bordering Crimea, said two drones struck there. Witnesses told local media they heard something like the sound of a moped and then two explo-

PARIJAT PAPER MILLS LTD. CIN: L21012UP1989PLC010589 Regd. Office: Vill: Jat Mujhera 10.6 km Stone Bhopa Road, Muzaffarnagar - 251308 (U.P.)

Places: New Delhi

Date: 25/05/2023

Website: www.parijatpapermills.com, Email: parijatpapermills@vahoo.com EXTRACT OF STATEMENT OF AUDITED STANDALONE FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER & YEAR ENDED 31.03.2023

	S. No.	PARTICULARS	Quarter ended	Year to Date figure (12 months ended)	Corresponding 3 months ended in the previous year		
l	NO.		31.03.2023	31.03.2023	31.03.2022		
	1. 2.	Total Income from operations (net) Net Profit/ (Loss) for the period (before Tax, exceptional and/or	2990.60 50.69	13103.02 223.97	3855.50 -88.21		
	3.	extraordinary items) Net Profit/ (Loss) for the period before Tax, (after exceptional and/or extra ordinary items)	50.69	223.97	-88.21		
	4.	Net Profit/ (Loss) for the period after Tax, (after exceptional and/or extra ordinary items)	19.46	165.71	-103.51		
	5.	Total comprehensive income for the period [Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after Tax)]	19.46	165.71	-103.51		
l	6.	Equity share capital (Face value Rs. 10/- each)	329.00	329.00	329.00		
	7.	Reserves [excluding revaluation Reserves] as shown in the Audited Balance Sheet of the previous year	836.94	836.94	671.22		
	8.	Earnings per share (of Rs 10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations) 1. Basic 2. Diluted	5.04	5.04	1.88		

Note: 1. The above is an extract of the detailed format of quarterly/annual Financial Results filled with the stock exchange under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligation and disclosure requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the quarterly & year to date Financial results are available on the Stock Exchange website (www.msei.in) and the company's website

2. The above results were reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at its meeting held on 26th May 2023

For and on behalf of For and on behalf of Parijat Paper Mills Limited Sd/-

Amit Mittal (Whole time Director

'Documented dreamers' urge US lawmakers to pass Children Act

Washington (PTI): Running from pillar to post for the last several years, 'documented dreamers', a significantly large number of whom are Indian Americans, are seeking an end to their uncertain future.

A group of these long-term visa holders known as documented dreamers made another round of the US Capitol - the temple of American Democracy - knocking on the doors of one lawmaker after the other, seeking support for the recently introduced 'America's Children Act'.

The 'dreamers' are basically undocumented immigrants who enter the United States as children with parents. They grew up legally in the US but risk deportation when they turn 21 years old.

At a time when the US Congress is bitterly divided on political lines, these young dreamers, who are estimated to number 250,000 are looking for more support from congressmen and senators to make necessary legislative changes that give citizenship pathway to agedout kids. "It is time to permanently end the aging out and pass the America's Children Act," Dip Patel, founder,

Improve The Dream, said. He is leading an unprecedented fight on behalf of the documented dreamers. Of the 2,50,000 dreamers, 90 per cent are pursuing STEM (Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) careers, he said.

Elphinstone(W), Mumbai, 400013

Place : Gurugran Date: 26 May 2023

Registered Office: One International Center, Tower-1, 4th Floor, S. B. Marg

Net profit for the period (before tax, exceptional and extraordinary items)

Net profit for the period before tax (after exceptional and/ or extraordinary items)

Earnings per share before extraordinary items (Face Value of Rs. 10 per Equity Share

Net profit for the period after tax(after exceptional and/ or extraordinary items

Total comprehensive income for the period [Comprising profit for the period

(after tax) and other comprehensive income (after tax)]

(EPS for the guarter and nine months are not annualised

Purav Acharya Whole Time Directo

For and on behalf of the Board of Directors

Imran slams govt, says no plans to travel abroad

Unfazed after being placed on the no-fly list, Pakistan's former prime minister Imran Khan on Friday took a swipe at the top leaders of the ruling coalition, saying he has no plans to travel overseas as he neither owns properties nor has any businesses abroad. Khan, his wife Bushra Bibi and other leaders and former assembly members of his Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party were reportedly barred from leaving the country on

Thursday. Taking to Twitter, Khan wrote: "I want to thank the government for putting my name on the ECL as I have no plans to travel abroad, because I neither have any properties or businesses abroad nor even a bank account outside the country." If and when I do get an opportunity for a holiday, it will be in our northern mountains, my favourite place on earth," he said. The Exit Control List (ECL) is maintained by the

interior ministry and deals with individuals who are not allowed to leave the country due to pending court cases or for other reasons.

Earlier, the Samaa News channel reported on Thursday that the Pakistan government had barred Khan, his wife and at least 80 people from leaving

the country.

"The federal government has decided to add the names of 80 people, including PTI Chairman Imran Khan and his wife Bushra Bibi, to the no-fly list," the report said.

Top leaders of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) including the party's supremo Nawaz Sharif are accused of amassing huge wealth in country's like the UK.

Sharif was sentenced to 10 years of rigorous imprisonment by an anti-graft court in one of the three corruption cases against him in the Panama Papers scandal in

During the trial, the

(NAB) had presented around 21 witnessed to prove that Sharif family cannot justify the money trail to buy four apartments in Avenfield House, Park Lane, London. It is alleged that the properties were bought with graft money in 1990s when he served twice as the prime minister.

Sharif, however, has rejected any wrongdoing and insist-ed they were bought with the legitimate money.

Khan, 70, and several top leaders of his party are facing cases in connection with the violence that erupted after the PTI chief's arrest on May 9 in a corruption case.

On May 9, violent protests erupted after paramilitary Rangers arrested Khan from the Islamabad High Court (IHC) premises. His party workers vandalised a dozen military installations, including Lahore Commander's House, the Mianwali airbase and the ISI building in Faisalabad in response to Khan's arrest.

Senior leader quits ex-Pak PM's party

Islamabad (PTI): Firdous Ashiq Awan resigned from Imran Khan's party on Friday over the recent violent and "terrorist activities" and said the former prime minister and Pakistan cannot go together, becoming the latest senior leader to quit the opposition Awan, 53, served as Special Assistant to the Prime Minister Information and Broadcasting from 2019 to

She is the latest politician who resigned from Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party. Awan, the former Federal Minister for Population Welfare, said she was parting ways with the PTI over the party's "violent and terrorist

Only 33 suspects handed over to military for trial: Sanaullah

Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah on Friday said that only 33 suspects have been handed over to authorities so far to be tried by military courts for their alleged involvement in the attacks on sensitive defence installations during the May 9 protests following the arrest of former prime minister Imran Khan. Thousands of supporters of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party ransacked and set ablaze military and civilian buildings after party chief Khan was arrested from the Islamabad High Court in a case of alleged corruption, following which a crackdown was launched to arrest and punish the perpetra-

Amidst criticism from local and international rights groups, Pakistan started the legal process

to prosecute those involved in the violence under military and civilian laws. Sanaullah, at a press conference, provided details about the number of people arrested and handed over to the military for trial under the stringent military regulations for attacking the Army's facilities. So far, only 19 accused have

been handed over to the military courts or military officials in Punjab and 14 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa," he said. The minister said that police

registered 499 First Information Reports (FIRs) at various police stations, and only six of them, including two in Punjab and four in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) provinces, are being processed for a possible trial in the military courts.

"But an atmosphere is being created as if all are being tried in

Asserting that only those involved in attacks on military installations would be tried under military laws, Sanaullah said that no innocent person would be harmed.

He clarified that military officials would investigate the cases but would not start prosecution until it was determined where the Army Act or the Official Secrets Act would be applicable. Details of the FIRs, he said 88 cases were registered under the Anti-Terrorism Act and the remaining 411 under other charges, like vandalism, arson or interfering in state matters. Sanaullah added that around 3,950 people were arrested in cases registered under terrorism charges, including 2,588 in Punjab and almost 1,100 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

'Pope runs fever, skips meetings'

AP ■ VATICAN CITY

Pope Francis skipped meetings on Friday because he was running a fever after a particularly busy day, the Vatican said. The Vatican No. 2, Cardinal Pietro Parolin, said Francis was tired and attributed the fever to the fact that Francis had greeted, one by one, a particularly big crowd of his school foundation on Thursday after-

"He wanted to greet all of them and probably at a certain point lost his resistance," Parolin was quoted as saying by the LaPresse news agency.

The last time Francis spiked a serious fever, in March, the 86-year-old pontiff was rushed to the hospital where he was diagnosed with acute bronchitis.

He received intravenous antibiotics and was released

Credit Suisse owes millions to Georgia's ex-PM: Court

London (AP): Credit Suisse owes former Georgian Prime Minister Bidzina Ivanishvili hundreds of millions of dollars for failing to protect the billionaire's money held in a trust pilfered by a manager, a Singapore court ruled Friday, the latest scandal for the Swiss bank whose yearslong problems forced its takeover by a

Ivanishvili in 2004 put more than USD 1.1 billion into a trust overseen by the bank's Singapore subsidiary, Credit Suisse Trust Limited, and the employee managing the trust "misappropriated many millions of dollars" over nine years before being caught and sent to prison, the Singapore International Commercial Court said. Bidzina, who amassed a fortune in Russia as a businessman before serving as Georgia's prime minister from 2012 to 2013, sued the Swiss bank for about USD 1.2 billion, saying it failed to properly administer the trust and keep its assets safe.

The judgment published today is wrong and poses very significant legal issues," Credit Suisse said in a written state-

"Credit Suisse Trust Limited intends to vigorously pursue an appeal."

Strong quake shakes Tokyo, eastern Japan

Tokyo (AP): A strong earthquake shook Tokyo and other areas of eastern Japan on Friday, but no tsunami warnng was issued.

The magnitude 6.1 quake was centred off the east coast of Chiba Peninsula at a depth of 44.5 kilometres, the US Geological Survey said. Strong shaking was reported in Chiba and Ibaraki prefectures, but the USGS said there was little chance of serious damage or fatalities. Kyodo News service said no problems were reported at the Tokai No. 2 nuclear power plant in Ibaraki.

Recession may be necessary to get inflation down: UK Treasury chief

AP ■ LONDON

Britain's Treasury chief said he would be prepared to see the UK economy slip back into recession if further interest rate hikes are necessary to bring down inflation.

With the Bank of England expected to keep raising rates following higher-than-anticipated inflation figures this week, Jeremy Hunt said it was necessary to prioritise measures to slow the pace of price increas-

In an interview with Sky News that aired on Friday, Hunt said the "only path to sustainable growth" is to bring inflation

ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੇਵ ਯੂਨੀਵਰਸਿਟੀ, ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ

ਯੂਨੀਵਰਸਿਟੀ ਕੈਂਪਸ ਵਿਖੇ ਸਥਿਤ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧਕੀ ਬਲਾਕ ਦੀ ਕੰਟੀਨ ਦੀ ਅਲਾਟਮੈਂਟ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਬਿਨੈ-ਪੱਤਰ ਮਿਤੀ 05-06-2023 ਤੱਕ ਮੰਗੇ ਜਾਂਦੇ ਹਨ।

ਅਲਾਟਮੈਂਟ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਵੇਰਵਾ, Term & Conditions ਯੂਨੀਵਰਸਿਟੀ ਵੈਬਸਾਇਟ

www.gndu.ac.in→ (Tenders) ਤੋਂ download ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾਵੇ ਅਤੇ ਨਿਰਧਾਰਿਤ

APPENDIX IV A

[See proviso to Rule 8(6)]

E-Auction sale notice for sale of immovable assets under the Securitisation and

Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 200

read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s

Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd. [CIN: L65922DL2005PLC136029]

("Secured Creditor"), the constructive possession of which has been taken by

he Authorised Officer of the Secured Creditor, will be sold on "as is where is", "a

s what is" and "whatever there is" basis on **30.06.2023** from 02.00 P.M. to 04.00

P.M., for recovery of Rs. 31,94,928/- (Rupees Thirty One Lakh Ninety Fou

Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty Eight only) pending towards Loan Account No

HDHLNOI00488283 (Earlier LAN Code 00000994 of DHFL), by way of outstanding

principal, arrears (including accrued late charges) and interest till 15.05.2023 with

applicable future interest in terms of the Loan Agreement and other related loa

he Reserve Price of the Immovable Property will be Rs. 33,22,000/- (Rupes

Thirty Three Lakh Twenty Two Thousand only) and the Earnest Money Depos

("EMD") will be Rs. 3.32,200/- (Rupees Three Lakh Thirty Two Thousand Two

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

FIRST FLOOR WITHOUT TERRACE RIGHTS, MEASURING 90 SQ. YDS., OF

THE PROPERTY BEARING NO. 94/2, OUT OF KHASRA NO. 600/92, SITUATED

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided on the

vebsite of the Secured Creditor i.e. www.indiabullshomeloans.com. For bidding, log

cument(s) w.e.f. 16.05.2023 along with legal expenses and other charges due to

ਬਿਨੈ-ਪੱਤਰ ਜਨਰਲ ਸ਼ਾਖਾ ਤੋਂ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਕੀਤੇ ਜਾਣ ।

and Guarantor(s) that the below

the Secured Creditor from JAVED ALI and ABIDA.

AT GOVINDPURI, KALKAJI, DELHI- 110019.

Date

lundred only) i.e. equivalent to 10% of the Reserve Price

under control. Asked if he was comfortable with further rate hikes even if it could precipitate a recession Hunt said because in the end, inflation is a source of instability. ... It is not a trade-off between tackling inflation and recession."

Like other central banks, the Bank of England has been raising interest rates aggressively over the past 18 months or so to a 15-year high of 4.5 per cent after inflation spiked sharply, first because of bottlenecks caused by the coronavirus pandemic and then Russia's invasion of Ukraine, which caused energy and food prices to surge.

Higher borrowing costs are aimed at making it more expensive for individuals and businesses to borrow, which dampens demand in the economy. "If we want to have prosper

ity, to grow the economy, to reduce the risk of recession, we have to support the Bank of England in the difficult decisions that they take," Hunt said.

There had been hope that the bank, whose primary task is to keep inflation at around 2 per cent, may pause rate hikes but the inflation figures this week raised alarm bells that it will have to go on tightening monetary

Passenger opens emergency exit door of S Korean flight

Quarter ende 31-Mar-22

Refer note-3

(39.10)

(53.11)

(5.29)

(5.29)

(5.29)

Seoul (AP): A passenger opened an emergency exit door during a South Korean flight Friday, causing air to gust inside the cabin before the plane landed safely, airline and government officials said. Some people aboard the Asiana Airlines Airbus A321 aircraft tried to stop the person from opening the door but it was eventually opened partially,

the Transport Ministry said. The plane with 194 people was heading to the southeastern city of Daegu from the southern island of Jeju. The flight is normally about an hour, and details of the incident, including how long the door was open, were under investigation, according to Asiana Airlines.

Video footage apparently taken by a person on board that was posted on social media show some passengers' hair being whipped by the air blowing into the cabin through the open door. Police detained the uniden-

tified person who opened the door, the airline said. Their motive wasn't immediately The passengers included

eenage athletes who plan to attend track and field competitions in Ulsan, another south-

Unaudited

94.85

(Rs. in Crores)

Audited

(131.76)

(131.76)

(145.77)

(154.88)

19.74

(14.51)

(14.51)

(14.51)

(14.51)

22.50

General Public is hereby informed that M/s SGC Logistic Solutions Ltd. having ClN no. U80231Diz006PLC155555 and registered office at £5 PART 1 SOUTH EXTENSION MEW DELHI - 110049 is claiming to be the absolute owner & in possession of Residential Plot No. 387-P, area measuring 286 sq. mtrs., (342.055 sq. yds.), stutated in Sector-39, Urban Estate, Curugram, vide a Sale Deed no. 23837of 199.03.2023, (SRO-Wazirabad), and is mortgaging the same to Here Fincorp Ltd., and therefore inviting any or all objection/s on its title or on creation of mortgage or on any knowledge of dispute, litigations, notices etc. in respect of the above said Property with documentary evidence to Adv. Vikram Saw, Viksha Legal, mobile no. 989963482, 4£79, 2nd Floor, Jhandewalan Ext-110055 or at email - vikshalegal@gmail.com, within 7 days from publication of this notice APPENDIX IV A

General public is hereby informed that Mr. Krishan Lal Nagpaul, was the owner of the movable (i.e., Bullt up Property Bearing No. E-4-A, area measuring 140 S.g. Vds., out of Total area 280 S.g. Vds.), and immovable properties., by virtue of Will dated 11.08.1987, regd. at doc. No. 9103, who along with his Father Mr. Kanhiya Lal Nagpal died on 06.09.2016 & 10.08.1991 respectively. The abovesaid property is to be financed & mortgaged with my client i.e., Axis Finance Limited and the only surviving heirs of Latte Mr. Krishan Lal Nagpaul are Mr. Munish Kumar Nagpaul & Mrs. Seema Bajaj, and Mrs. Sushila Nagpaul. If any person(s) have any objection(s) or claim in this property, then contact the undersigned within 7 days from date of this notice on below address, failing which, it will be assumed that there are no claims or issues in respect of the aforesaid property.

Sale Notice for sale of Immovable Property E-Auction sale notice for sale of immovable assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) and Rule 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcem

[See proviso to Rule 8(6)]

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s and Guarantor(s) that the below described Immovable Property mortgaged to Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd. [CIN: L65922DL2005PLC136029] ("Secured Creditor"), the constructive possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of the Secured Creditor, will be sold on "as is where is". "as i what is" and "whatever there is" basis on 15.06.2023 from 02.00 P.M. to 04.00 P.M., for recovery of Rs. 17,37,738/- (Rupees Seventeen Lakh Thirty Seventeen Lakh Thirt Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty Eight only) pending towards Loan Account No HDHLDPR00490720, by way of outstanding principal, arrears (including accruelate charges) and interest till 17.05.2023 with applicable future interest in terms of the Loan Agreement and other related loan document(s) w.e.f. 18.05.2023 alon with legal expenses and other charges due to the Secured Creditor from AJI KUMAR, GULAB KUMAR and MUNNI DEVI

The Reserve Price of the Immovable Property will be Rs. 13.00.000/- (Ruper Thirteen Lakh only) and the Earnest Money Deposit ("EMD") will be Rs. 1,30,000/- (Rupees One Lakh Thirty Thousand only) i.e. equivalent to 10% of the Reserve Price.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY PLOT NO. 173, BLOCK K-3, FIRST FLOOR WITHOUT ROOF RIGHTS, KHASRA NO. 44/17, VILLAGE HASTSAL, MOHAN GARDEN, UTTAM NAGAR, NEW

DELHI, DELHI- 110059 For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided on the website of the Secured Creditor i.e. www.indiabullshomeloans.com. For bidding, loc on to www.auctionfocus in

Place : NEW DELHI

APPENDIX IV A

[See proviso to Rule 8(6)]

Sale Notice for sale of Immovable Property

E-Auction sale notice for sale of immovable assets under the Securitisation and

Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002

read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002,

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower

and Guarantor(s) that the below described Immovable Property mortgaged to

Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd. [CIN: L65922DL2005PLC136029]

("Secured Creditor"), the constructive possession of which has been taken by

the Authorised Officer of the Secured Creditor, will be sold on "as is where is", "a

is what is" and "whatever there is" basis on 30.06.2023 from 02.00 P.M. to 04.00

P.M., for recovery of Rs. 43,95,331/- (Rupees Forty Three Lakh Ninety Five

Thousand Three Hundred Thirty One only) pending towards Loan Account No

HHLNOI00294018, by way of outstanding principal, arrears (including accrued late

charges) and interest till 16.05.2023 with applicable future interest in terms of the

Loan Agreement and other related loan document(s) w.e.f. 17.05.2023 along wit

legal expenses and other charges due to the Secured Creditor from AJAY VEE

The Reserve Price of the Immovable Property will be Rs. 48,80,000/- (Rupe

Forty Eight Lakh Eighty Thousand only) and the Earnest Money Deposit ("EMD"

will be Rs. 4,88,000/- (Rupees Four Lakh Eighty Eight Thousand only) i.e

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

AREA 77.90 SQUARE METERS. SITUATED IN BLOCK-M. SHASTRI NAGAR

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided on the

website of the Secured Creditor i.e. www.indiabullshomeloans.com. For bidding, lo

WEST: BHAWAN NO. 48

GHAZIABAD-201010, UTTAR PRADESH.BOUNDED AS UNDER:

NORTH : BOUNDARY OF RAJAPUR SOUTH : 30 FT. WIDE ROAD

Authorized Office INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LTD.

: 24.05.2023 :DELHI **Authorized Office** INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LTD

APPENDIX IV A

[See proviso to Rule 8(6)]

Sale Notice for sale of Immovable Property E-Auction sale notice for sale of immovable assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s and Guarantor(s) that the below described Immovable Property mortgaged t Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd. [CIN: L65922DL2005PLC136029] "Secured Creditor"), the constructive possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of the Secured Creditor, will be sold on "as is where is 'as is what is" and "whatever there is" basis on 30.06.2023 from 02.00 P.M. to 04.00 P.M., for recovery of Rs. 13,90,953/- (Rupees Thirteen Lakh Ninety Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty Three only) pending towards Loan Account No HHLNOD00351329, by way of outstanding principal, arrears (including accrueate charges) and interest till 22.05.2023 with applicable future interest in terms of the Loan Agreement and other related loan document(s) w.e.f. 23.05.2023 along with legal expenses and other charges due to the Secured Creditor from **KUMAF** KULDEEP @ KULDEEP KUMAR and POONAM.

The Reserve Price of the Immovable Property will be Rs. 14,88,000/- (Rupee Fourteen Lakh Eighty Eight Thousand only) and the Earnest Money Depos ("EMD") will be Rs. 1,48,800/- (Rupees One Lakh Forty Eight Thousand Eigh Hundred only) i.e. equivalent to 10% of the Reserve Price

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY FLAT NO. FF-2. ON THE FIRST FLOOR. (WITHOUT ROOF RIGHT) FRON

LEFT HAND SIDE, HAVING TOTAL COVERED AREA MEASURING 550 SQ. FT EQUIVALENT TO 51.09 SQ. MTRS SITUATED/BUILT ON PLOT NO. B-11/4, DLI ANKUR VIHAR, LONI, VILLAGE SADULLABAD GHAZIABAD-201014, UTTAR PRADESH, WHICH IS BOUNDED AS FOLLOWS: : PLOT NO. B-11/5

on to www.auctionfocus.in : 24.05.2023

:GHAZIABAD Authorized Office INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LTD. Total Income from Operations

Earnings per Share (EPS) after extraordinary items

Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Minority Interest and Share of Profit / (Loss) of Associate, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items) Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Minority Interest and Share of Profit / (Loss) of Associate (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)) (70.48)(7.89)Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after Tax, Minority Interest and Share of Profit / (Loss) of Associate (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items) (70.83)(7.41)Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)] **Equity Share Capital** Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve) as shown in the audited Balance Shee Earnings per Share (EPS) before extraordinary items (0.74)-Basic (Amount in Rs.) -Diluted (Amount in Rs.) (7.06)(0.74)

-Basic (Amount in Rs.)

-Diluted (Amount in Rs.)

Date : 26 May 2023

The above results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and subsequently approved at the meeting of the Board of Directors held on 26 May 2023

2) Key Standalone Financial Informa (Rs. in Crores Quarter ended 31-Mar-23 Quarter ended 31-Dec-22 Year ended 31-Mar-22 31-Mar-22 Unaudited Audited Refer note-3 Unaudited Refer note-3 Total Income 32.48 23.30 4.50 529.69 20.79 Profit/(Loss) before Tax (39.41)(11.75)(43.60)412.77 (170.15)Net Profit/(Loss) after Tax (39.66)(11.28)(43.60)412.99 (170.15)3) Figures for the quarters ended 31 March 2023 and 31 March 2022 represent the balancing figures between the audited figures for the full financial year and published reviewed year to

(7.06)

(7.06)

(0.74)

(0.74)

Yaari Digital Integrated Services Limited ated Services Limited" & "Indiabulls (CIN: L51101HR2007PLC077999)

4) The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly /Annual Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disciosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly / Annual Financial Results are available on the Company's website (https://www.yaari.com) and on the website of

BSE (https://www.bseindia.com) and NSE (https://www.nseindia.com).

ered Office: 5th Floor, Plot No. 108, IT Park, Udyog Vihar, Phase-1 Gurugram, Haryana 122016

Kubeir Khera **Executive Director & CEO**

Indiabulls Enterprises Limited

(CIN: U71290HR2019PLC077579)

Extract of Consolidated Audited Financial Results for the quarter and year ended 31 March 2023

					(Rs. in Crores	
Particulars	Quarter ended 31-Mar-23	Quarter ended Quarter end 31-Dec-22 31-Mar-22		Year ended 31-Mar-23	Year ended 31-Mar-22	
	Refer note-3	Unaudited	Refer note-3	Audited	Audited	
Total Income from operations	17.95	18.88	27.93	87.97	117.18	
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax and Share of Profit / (Loss),	1,3,3,7,5,7,7				1.55.55.75.55	
Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(2.18)	5.20	(11.75)	14.75	(8.11)	
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax and Share of Profit / (Loss)				30000000		
(after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items))	(11.24)	5.20	(11.75)	5.69	(8.11)	
Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss)			742 .0		20 00	
for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	(11.65)	1.41	(33.00)	4.59	(102.69)	
Equity share capital	39.67	39.67	39.67	39.67	39.67	
Reserves (excluding revaluation reserve) as shown in the audited Balance Sheet			Ĺ.	231.41	226.83	
Earnings per share (EPS) of Rs.2 each from continuing operations						
-Basic (Amount in Rs.)	(0.55)	0.23	(0.62)	0.11	(0.58)	
-Diluted (Amount in Rs.)	(0.55)	0.23	(0.62)	0.11	(0.58)	
Earnings per share (EPS) of Rs.2 each from discontinued operations		-550-5333				
-Basic (Amount in Rs.)	(0.05)	(0.15)	(1.06)	0.09	(4.62)	
-Diluted (Amount in Rs.)	(0.05)	(0.15)	(1.06)	0.09	(4.62)	

1. The abo ve results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and subsequently approved at the meeting of the Board of Directors held on 26 May 2023. 2. Ke

Particulars	Quarter ended 31-Mar-23	Quarter ended 31-Dec-22	Quarter ended 31-Mar-22	Year ended 31-Mar-23	(Rs. in Crores Year ended 31-Mar-22 Audited	
	Refer note-3	Unaudited	Refer note-3	Audited		
Total Income	14.54	14.02	32.29	84.71	125.52	
Profit/(Loss) before Tax	(382.15)	(0.11)	(9.37)	(368.56)	2.85	
Net Profit/(Loss) after Tax	(381.24)	(3.94)	(14.02)	(383.46)	(15.04)	

3. Figu reviewed year to date figures upto third quarter of the respective financial year.

4. The above is an extract of the detailed format of quarterly / annual financial results filed with the stock exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Requiations. 2015. The full format of the Quarterly / annual Financial Results are available on the Company's website (https://www.indiabullsenterprises.com) and on the website of BSE (https://www.bseindia.com) and NSE (https://www.nseindia.com) Registered Office: 5th Floor, Plot No. 108, IT Park, Udyog Vihar, Phase-1 Gurugram, Haryana 122016 For and on behalf of Board of Directors

Vijay Kumar Agarwal Place : Gurugram Date : 26 May 2023

Executive Director

on to www.auctionfocus.in : 24.05.2023 Place :GHAZIABAD

EAST : BHAWAN NO. 46

SINGH, GAURAV KUMAR and SARVISTA.

equivalent to 10% of the Reserve Price

Authorized Office INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LTD.

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF THE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY BEARING HOUSE NO. S.M-47, (THREE STOREYED HOUSE HAVING TOTAL COVERED AREA 165.80 SQ. MTRS.) BUILT ON THE LAND ADMEASURING TOTAL

ON THE EAST BY ON THE WEST BY ON THE SOUTH BY

: FLAT NO. FF-1.(MIG) : FLAT NO. FF-5.(LIG)

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided on the vebsite of the Secured Creditor i.e. www.indiabullshomeloans.com. For bidding, log

Services sector to drive GDP growth to 4.9% in Q4 FY23: Icra

Dsomestic rating agency Icra expects GDP growth in January-March period of 2022-23 at 4.9 per cent, a modest stepup from the 4.4 per cent recorded in preceding quarters, driven by the services sector.

The National Statistical Organisation (NSO) is scheduled to release the provisional estimate for the GDP growth for the fourth quarter as well for the fiscal 2022-23 on May 31.

Icra estimates the services gross value added (GVA) yearon-year growth to have risen mildly to about 6.4 per cent in Q4 FÝ23 from 6.2 per cent in Q3

The YoY performance of nine of the 14 high frequency indicators of the services sector improved in Q4 FY23 relative to Q3 FY23, partly reflecting the robust demand for the contactintensive segment, as well as the low base of Covid 3.0 for some sectors such as aviation, it said in a release.

Aditi Nayar, Chief Economist, Head-Research and Outreach, Icra, said that economic activity in fourth quarter of FY23 remained uneven, with



domestic demand for services outpacing that for goods and surprisingly robust exports of services amidst a contraction in merchandise items.

"Lower commodity prices offered relief for margins in some sectors, while trends in investment activity and government spending were mixed. However, unseasonal rains are expected to have affected the rabi output of some crops, weighing upon the growth of the agri GVA," she said

Icra estimates the industrial GVA year-on-year growth to have improved to about 3.6 per

cent in Q4 FY2023 from 2.4 per cent in Q3 FY2023, aided by an improvement in manufacturing,

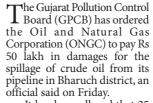
and mining and quarrying.

The agency further said higher acreage, early sowing, healthy reservoir levels and improved availability of fertilisers augured well for the rabi output in 2023.

However, unseasonal rains are likely to have dampened the yield of some crops. Icra estimates the agri GVA growth at 3.5 per cent for Q4 FY2023, a step down from the 3.7 per cent recorded in October-December

Gujarat: ONGC asked to pay damages for crude oil leak in Bharuch district

PTI ■ BHARUCH



It has been alleged that 25 camels died after drinking water contaminated with the spillage on Sunday, though the central government-controlled oil major has denied it.

An agricultural field near Kachhipura village was found covered in crude oil leaked from a pipeline belonging to ONGC on Sunday, said Bharuch-based GPCB regional officer Margi Patel. The board



ordered inquiry after the death of camels was reported.

"We have directed ONGC to pay Rs 50 lakh as environmental damage compensation (to the state authorities)," Patel

The actual cause of the death of the camels will be clear only after the autopsy report is available, the official said.

The GPCB has also directed the ONGC to clean up the



rally for 2nd day, **Sensex jumps 1%**

 $E_{\text{extended their previous}}^{\text{quity benchmark indices}}$ day's rally on Friday, with the Sensex climbing 1 per cent, amid massive buying in bellwether stocks, unabated foreign fund inflows and a largely positive trend in global

The 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 629.07 points or 1.02 per cent to settle at 62,501.69. During the day, it rallied 657.21 points or 1.06 per cent to 62,529.83.

The NSE Nifty climbed 178.20 points or 0.97 per cent to end at 18,499.35.

The expectations of positive macroeconomic data, to be released next week, and normal monsoon forecasts also boosted the overall sentiments.

"With the upcoming Q4 GDP data, it is anticipated that India's FY23 GDP will marginally surpass the earlier projected 7.0 per cent growth rate. Additionally, the expectation of a normal monsoon and boosted confidence among domestic investors," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services.

From the Sensex pack, Reliance Industries jumped the highest 2.79 per cent. Sun Pharma, Hindustan Unilever, HCL Technologies, Wipro, Tech Mahindra, UltraTech Cement, Tata Steel and Titan were among the other major

Bharti Airtel, Power Grid and NTPC were the laggards. In the broader market,

the BSE midcap gauge jumped 0.82 per cent and the smallcap index climbed 0.49 per cent.

Among the indices, IT climbed 1.34 per cent, realty jumped 1.31 per cent, FMCG (1.29 per cent), teck (1.12 per cent), metal (1.05 per cent), commodities (0.96 per cent) and healthcare (0.96 per cent). Utilities, oil & gas and

power were the laggards. A total of 1,969 stocks

advanced, while 1,522 declined and 139 remained

Rupee rises 14 paise to close at 82.58 against \$

PTI MUMBAI

The rupee appreciated by 14 paise to 82.58 (provisional) against the US dollar on Friday, supported by foreign capital inflows and a positive trend in domestic equities.

However, the elevated level of the US dollar against major crosses overseas restricted the upward movement in the domestic unit, forex traders

The dollar index is trading above the 104-level on safehaven appeal, as US President Joe Biden and Republican House Speaker Kevin McCarthy are reportedly close to reaching an agreement on the US debt ceil-

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened at 82.73 against the US dollar and settled at 82.58 (provisional), up 14 paise over its previous close.

During the day, the domestic unit witnessed an intra-day high of 82.56 and a low of 82.73 in the day trade.

closed at 82.72 against the US

"The Indian rupee erases weekly losses amid a rally in the domestic equities followed by foreign fund inflows and recovery in the Asian currencies," said Dilip Parmar, Research Analyst, HDFC Securities.

Investors are keeping an eye on a potential debt-ceiling deal, which could happen over the weekend ahead of the US Holiday on Monday.

Forex reserves drop by \$6 billion to \$593.48 billion

India's foreign exchange reserves dropped by USD 6.052 billion to USD 593.477 billion during the week ended May 19, RBI said on Friday. The drop in the kitty has

snapped two consecutive weeks of increases. In the previous reporting week, the overall reserves had increased by USD 3.5 billion to take the overall quantum just shy of USD 600

In October 2021, the country's forex kitty had reached an all-time high of USD 645 billion. The reserves have been declining as the central bank deploys

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

to a senior official.

from July 1.

The government is attempting to link tax collected at source

for payments made by individ-

uals with tax deducted from

their income sources, a move

ers are not impacted, according

time when the government is set

to impose a 20 per cent Tax

Collection at Source (TCS) on

certain international spends

collected by a seller at the time

of sale of goods or services

while Tax Deducted at Source

(TDS) is the amount levied as

tax by the government.

Generally, TCS is the tax

The move also comes at a

Govt attempting to link tax collected at

source with tax deducted at source: CEA

that will help in ensuring cash ed from a cash flow perspective."



amid pressures caused majorly by global developments.

For the week ended May 19,

the foreign currency assets, a major component of the reserves, declined by USD 4.654 billion to USD 524.945 billion, the kitty to defend the rupee according to the Weekly

The government has

exempted transactions up to Rs

7 lakh from the TCS, providing

relief to small taxpayers. So, bulk

of the transactions made by

most will not be covered under

20 per cent TCS, Chief

Economic Advisor (CEA) V Anantha Nageswaran has said.

Defending the decision, he said, "And it (government) also attempts to link the TCS with

your TDS such that if there are

TCS payment made by you it

has to reflect a lower TDS. Such

that it simply is a matter of mak-

amount of relief for people who

are concerned about this annoy-

ance or irritation of seeing this

TCS apart from TDS, he said at

industry body's CII's event on

international credit card spends

is to come into force from July

ministry last week, exempted up to Rs 7 lakh spend from the TCS

The 20 per cent TCS levy on

Facing backlash, the finance

ing sure that you are not affect-

It will also pr

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

Gold reserves dropped by USD 1.227 billion to USD 45.127 billion, the RBI said.

The Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) were down by USD 137 million to USD 18.276 billion, the apex bank said.

The country's reserve position with the IMF was down by USD 35 million to USD 5.13 billion in the reporting week, the RBI data showed.

Gold falls ₹160 to ₹60,080/10

climbs ₹360

gm; silver

Gold prices declined Rs 160 to Rs 60,080 per 10 grams in the national capital on Friday amid weak global trends, according to HDFC Securities.

The precious metal had ended at Rs 60,240 per 10 grams in the previous trading

Rs 360 to Rs 72,500 per kilo

"Spot gold prices in the Delhi markets traded at Rs 60,080 per 10 grams, down Rs 160 per 10 grams," Saumil Gandhi, Senior Analyst Commodities, HDFC Securities, said. In the overseas market, gold was quoting lower at USD 1,953 per ounce, while silver was trading higher at USD 23.10 per

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

session.

ounce.

Sebi to issue mutual fund light regulations for passive funds; seeks to ease compliance burden

PTI ■ MUMBAI

 $M_{
m come}$ out with a mutual fund light regulations for passive funds as part of efforts to reduce the compliance burden, foster growth as well as lower costs to investors, a senior official said on Friday.

Passive funds is an investment vehicle that tracks a market index or a specific market segment. These funds include passive index funds, Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs), and said. Fund of Funds investing in The regulator is looking to

reduce compliance requirements for passive funds that are tied to changes in the underlying index and operate on a nondiscretionary basis.

To accommodate passive investments, such as index funds and ETFs, the regulator is introducing mutual fund light regulations, Sebi Whole Time Member Ananta Barua "These regulations will pro-

vide greater flexibility for index funds and ETFs, enabling them to offer transparency, diversification, and lower costs to "By easing the compliance

burden, Sebi aims to foster the growth of passive investments in the Indian mutual fund industry," Barua said while speaking at the mutual fund summit organised by industry body Assocham in the nation-

According to him, Sebi has revised the requirements for sponsoring a mutual fund, enabling entities with sound financial conditions, including private equity funds, to become sponsors without a

mandatory profit track record.

To enhance liquidity in the debt market and address risks, Sebi has put in place prudential regulations for open-ended mutual funds, especially debt funds, he added.

Govt's rice procurement reaches 52.06 million tonnes so far; makes ₹1.6 lakh crore MSP payment

The government's rice pro-L curement has reached 52.06 million tonnes so far in the ongoing 2022-23 marketing season, benefitting 1.12 crore farmers with MSP of Rs 1.6 lakh crore, the food ministry said on Friday. The Food Corporation of India (FCI) along with state

agencies undertakes procurement of paddy under price support scheme. The Centre has set a target to buy 62.60 million tonnes of rice in the 2022-23 marketing season (October-September)

The FCI had procured 57.58 million tonnes of rice during the

2021-22 marketing season. According to the food ministry, a total of 52.06 million tonnes of rice was procured up to May 22 of the current kharif

As many as 1.12 crore farmers have benefited from the procurement operation. About Rs 1,59,659.59 crore has been paid as minimum support price (MSP) to them, it said in a state-

(Amount in Lacs)

marketing season.



'India's export share in world trade in pharma, footwear dips'

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Chare of India's exports in the Oworld trade in sectors such as pharma, gems and jewellery, leather, and footwear declined in 2022 as compared to 2015, according to a report by think tank GTRI.

However, there is an increase in the share of electronics, machinery, petroleum, auto parts, iron and steel, and aluminium products' exports during the period.

"India's global market share in sectors like apparel, leather, shoes, and marine products has been decreasing, primarily due to concerns over quality rather than pricing issues," Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI) Co-founder Ajay Srivastava said.

The report said that the key sectors that witnessed a higher share in global trade are electronics, telecom, mobile phones, and electrical equipment, as well as machinery.

This is noteworthy as these product groups hold substantial importance in world trade, which exceeds USD 6 trillion.

India's historically low share in these sectors is gradually but decisively improving, Srivastava



MODI RUBBER LIMITED

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

EXTRACT OF STANDALONE AND CONSOLIDATED UN-AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2023

		QUARTER ENDED							YEAR ENDED			
SI.	Particulars Particulars	STANDALONE			CONSOLIDATED			STANDALONE		CONSOLIDATED		
No.		31-Mar-23	31-Mar-22	31-Dec-22	31-Mar-23	31-Mar-22	31-Dec-22	31-Mar-23	31-Mar-22	31-Mar-23	31-Mar-22	
		Un-Audited	Un-Audited	Un-Audited	Un-Audited	Un-Audited	Un-Audited	Audited	Audited	Audited	Audited	
1	Total Income from operations (Net)	118.62	51.63	41.38	286.20	181.82	140.57	271.58	215.57	532.36	512.69	
2	Net Profit/ (Loss) for the period (before tax and exceptional items)	(263.97)	28.62	(410.02)	398.99	326.42	716.38	1,126.38	720.47	3,140.96	2,754.38	
3	Net Profit/ (Loss) for the period before tax (after exceptional items)	(263.97)	28.62	(410.02)	398.99	326.09	716.38	1,126.38	720.47	3,140.96	2,754.05	
4	Net Profit/ (Loss) for the period after tax (after exceptional items)	(297.71)	42.96	(289.05)	321.97	352.25	834.66	796.64	523.11	2,765.51	2,563.14	
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (after tax)	(590.75)	250.58	(343.01)	439.27	704.70	938.03	137.69	16,202.46	1,931.71	18,519.40	
6	Equity Share Capital (Face value of share is Rs. 10/- each)	2,504.05	2,504.05	2,504.05	2,499.55	2,504.05	2,504.05	2,504.05	2,504.05	2,499.55	2,504.05	
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserves as per Financial Statements of previous year)	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A	
8	Earnings per share (EPS) (of Rs. 10/- each) (Not Annualised)											
	(a) Basic and Diluted EPS (before exceptional Items) (in Rs.)	(1.19)	0.17	(1.15)	1.29	1.41	3.33	3.18	2.09	11.06	10.24	
	(b) Basic and Diluted EPS (after exceptional Items) (in Rs.)	(1.19)	0.17	(1.15)	1.29	1.41	3.33	3.18	2.09	11.06	10.24	

- 1. The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly/ Annual Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulations 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly/ Annual Financial Results are available on the stock exchange website, www.nseindia.com, www.bseindia.com and on the Company website www.modirubberlimited.com.
- 2. The above results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and subsequently approved by the Board of Directors of the Company at their respective meeting held on May 26, 2023. The Statutory Auditors of the Company have carried out an audit of the aforesaid results. 3. Previous quarter/ year end figures have been rearranged and / or regrouped, wherever necessary, to make them comparable with those of the current quarter/ year end.

Place: New Delhi Date : 26th May, 2023 By order of the Board (Alok Kumar Modi) Managing Director DIN- 00174374

DJOKOVIC EYES HISTORY AT FRENCH OPEN



AP PARIS

ovak Djokovic will bid for a record-breaking 23rd Grand Slam title at a French Open without his old rival Rafael Nadal for the first time since 2004, while Iga Swiatek attempts to become the first woman to defend the title in 16 years.

Serbian veteran Djokovic will not be the favourite for the title, though, after struggling with an elbow injury and failing to get past the quarter-finals in any of his three clay-court events

so far this season.

Carlos Alcaraz won the Barcelona and Madrid Opens en route to taking over from Djokovic as world number one, while Daniil Medvedev is seeded second for Roland Garros after his maiden clay triumph in Rome. But Djokovic will know this

is a massive opportunity to break out of his tie with 14-time French Open winner Nadal at the top of the all-time list of most men's Slam singles titles.

The two-time champion has lost eight of his 10 French Open meetings with Nadal who

is missing this year's edition due to a hip injury he suffered at the Australian Open.

"I know I can always play better," Djokovic said after losing to Holger Rune in the Italian Open last eight.

"Definitely am looking forward to working on various aspects of my game, of my body, hopefully getting myself in 100 percent shape. That's the goal."

Djokovic and Alcaraz are seeded to meet in the semi-finals after being placed in the same

The 36-year-old may also

have to get past Monte Carlo Masters champion Andrey Rublev in the quarters.

The other side of the draw appears wide open, with in-form Medvedev the highest seed despite never having previously got past the quarter-finals on the Paris clay. The Russian lost in the first round on each of his first four visits before making the quarters in 2021.

"I would never (have) thought I would be able to make this (win a clay-court title)," Medvedev said after beating Rune in the Rome final.

"It was another reality day today

"But I have to be honest -Grand Slam is always bigger."

In-form youngster Rune, who made a surprise run to last year's quarter-finals, could face Casper Ruud in the last eight in a rematch of a bad-tempered meeting 12 months ago.

Ruud went on to be thrashed in the final by Nadal and also lost the US Open showpiece match to Alcaraz.

But the Norwegian world number four has struggled for form this year, only reaching the quarters in two of the 10 tournaments he has played.

Stefanos Tsitsipas, who lost the 2021 final to Djokovic after being two sets up, will be among the likely contenders but has not

won a title yet this term — the

longest he has had to wait for a

trophy in a season since 2018.

Aryna Sabalenka on Friday Said that "it's OK if she

hates me" as the Belarusian star

braced to face Ukraine rival

Marta Kostyuk in a highly-charged French Open show-

Sabalenka knows that Kostyuk, an outspoken critic of tennis authorities over their handling

of players from Russia and

their Belarusian allies in the

aftermath of the invasion of

Ukraine, will refuse to shake

hands after their first round

do anything about that," said

people who love me; there are

going to be people who hate me. If she hates me, I don't feel

anything like that to her.'

"If she hates me, OK. I can't

There are going to be

match at Roland Garros.

25-year-old Sabalenka.

World number two

NEW 'BIG THREE'?

The winner of the women's singles is expected to be one of the trio of reigning champion Swiatek, Australian Open winner Aryna Sabalenka and Elena Rybakina.

They have won the last four Grand Slam titles between them war," said Australian Open champion Sabalenka.

"And about the no shaking, I can kind of understand them. Like I imagine if they're going to shake hands with Russians and Belarusians, then they're gonna get so many messages

why they are not doing it. At the same time, I feel like sports shouldn't be in politics. Like we're just athletes. If they feel good with no shaking hands, Ī'm happy with that.'

US Open in New York. They agreed to touch racquets instead at the net at the end of the match.

"If I could I would stop the

and at least one of them has fea-

tured in every WTA 1000 final

ing the tournament, will be the

favourite as she chases a third

Roland Garros triumph and a

first successful women's title

defence since Justine Henin

won her third French Open in

her Italian Open quarter-final

against Rybakina with a thigh

injury but trained at Roland

Wimbledon champion Ryb-

Garros on Wednesday.

The Polish star retired from

Swiatek, who turns 22 dur-

this season.

a row in 2007.

Kostyuk refused to shake

hands with Belarus's two-time

Grand Slam title winner and

former world number one

Victoria Azarenka at last year's

Sabalenka faces no Ukraine

handshake at French Open

from their home countries. "So I kind of understand

Sabalenka defeated Sabalenka deteated Kostyuk in Dubai in February 2022, just one week before Russia launched its invasion of

Last week in Rome, Ukraine's Anhelina Kalinina refused to shake hands with Veronika Kudermetova after beating the Russian in the

akina, ranked fourth, has already won the Rome and Indian Wells titles in 2023 and could face Swiatek in the Roland Garros

"Hopefully I can go far at the French Open," she said. "I have good memories playing there.
"Now that I've got more matches on clay, it's a bit easier

and (gives me) a bit more con-Other title hopefuls include

last year's runner-up Coco Gauff, Tunisian Ons Jabeur and world number three Jessica

Man Utd thrash Chelsea to secure Champions League return

AP MANCHESTER

Erik ten Hag said Manchester United are back where they belong after a 4-1 thrashing of Chelsea on Thursday secured a return to the Champions League next season.

Casemiro, Anthony Martial, Bruno Fernandes and Marcus Rashford were on target as the Red Devils moved up to third in the Premier League.

A miserable night summed up Chelsea's season despite spending over £500 million (\$620 million) in the transfer market as they slumped to an eighth defeat in 10 games since Frank Lampard returned as interim manager. By contrast, confirmation of a top-

four finish rounds off a successful first season in charge for Ten Hag after also by winning the League Cup in February. More silverware could be to come

next month should United halt Manchester City's charge towards the treble in the FA Cup final. But a return to Europe's elite com-

petition next season was one of Ten Hag's primary aims when he took the reigns after a disastrous 2021/22 campaign when United finished sixth. "I think (it is) a successful season but

the season is not finished," said Ten Hag. "This club belongs in the Champions League, but this league is very strong, with many clubs competing for this position.

"It is the main objective of the sea-

son to get into the Champions League. The competition is tough, many teams with really good squads, good managers, so you are doing a good job (to qualify). For this moment it is the maximum but we want more (next season).'

Chelsea side that were punished for a lack of efficiency in both boxes. when you look at the emphatic nature at Casemiro's arrival from Real Madrid the top end of the pitch of United comhas been fundamental to United's revival. pared to us," said Lampard. "Results for



The 31-year-old's class and experi-Chelsea this season are not good enough." ence shone through against a youthful Mykhailo Mudryk should have net-

ted his first Chelsea goal when the Ukrainian sliced wide a glorious chance on five minutes. Just 60 seconds later, the visitors trailed as Casemiro was afforded a free header to turn home Christian Eriksen's free-kick. A positive night for United was

blighted by an injury to winger Antony, who was forced off on a stretcher with an ankle injury that will make him a major doubt for the FA Cup final in 10days' time.

But the home side ended the game as a contest in first-half stoppage time when Casemiro's no-look pass opened up the Chelsea defence for Jadon Sancho to square for Martial. Ten Hag's men should have had more

ond period as Fernandes smashed against the bar and Eriksen somehow failed to turn in Tyrell Malacia's cross from point-Fernandes did finally get his goal

from the penalty spot after the Portuguese midfielder was brought down by Wesley

More calamitous Chelsea defending invited Rashford to become the first United player in a decade to score 30 goals in a season.

Fernandes pounced on Fofana's loose pass and teed up the England international, who needed two attempts to beat Kepa Arrizabalaga.

Real still without Vinicius for Sevilla trip: Ancelotti

AP MADRID

Vinicius Junior subjected to racial abuse last weekend will miss a second successive match due to a knee problem Real Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti said on Friday. The 22-year-old Brazilian

winger has received worldwide support since being racially abused by Valencia fans last Sunday. Vinicius did not play against

Rayo Vallecano in Madrid's midweek win because of some as his team-mates showed him their support by wearing his number 20 shirt before the

He has failed to shake off the problem for Saturday's away match with Europa League final-

"Vinicius will not travel because he will not play, he'd go if he had the chance of playing (but) his knee is still giving him problems," Ancelotti told a news

conference on Friday. "It doesn't matter if it's home or away, he can't play. I



hope that he can play in the last game.

Ancelotti said Madrid were also without Karim Benzema and Marco Asensio with other iniury issues.

the table, a point ahead of city

chance of qualifying for next season's UEFA Conference League, sitting just a point behind

Los Blancos are second in

rivals Atletico. Sevilla, 10th, still have a

Klopp optimistic for future despite Liverpool's disappointing season

AP ■ LIVERPOOL

iverpool manager Jurgen LKlopp says he has "lots of reasons" for optimism despite the crushing disappointment of missing out on Champions League qualification.

Klopp, whose team are guaranteed to finish fifth, told his pre-match press conference on Friday he had expected United and Newcastle to get the points they needed this week after Liverpool's 1-1 draw against Aston Villa. It means Liverpool, who narrowly missed out on a historic quadruple last year, have failed to qualify for the competition after featuring for six straight seasons.

"For a long time it was clear this will not be a historically

good season," said Klopp.
"I think I said everything about it, that we are absolutely not happy with it, that we made mistakes, that we couldn't deliver, ultimately we weren't consistent enough." But he said Liverpool's late-season form, including a seven-match winning run in the league, had been impressive. "If we could have done that over the whole season we would be in a different place," said the German.



"Of course there are reasons atmosphere our people created for optimistic views because of in the last home game.... All the things we showed in the last these kinds of things are few weeks. That's definitely the absolutely the basis for a fantascase. "We have other reasons for tic future so we don't have to an optimistic view because of the make it bigger than it is. It's a

'Nervous' Klopp hopes for 'massive' Dortmund title win

AP ■ LIVERPOOL

Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp admitted on Friday to being "a bit nervous" ahead of his former side Borussia Dortmund's title-deciding match on Saturday. Currently two points clear of second-placed Bayern Munich at the top of the Bundesliga, Dortmund will lift the title if they win at home against Mainz.

Dortmund have not won the title since 2011-12, when Klopp was in the Westfalen Stadium dugout. Asked if he was following the title race in Germany, Klopp told reporters in Liverpool "yes, I'm not dead, I'm alive." "I'm a bit nervous to be honest" the 55-year-old German admitted, saying there were "ups and downs, (but) it looks like they can do it.

Dortmund can still lift the title without a victory on Saturday, provided they equal or better Bayern's result away at Cologne, with all games kicking off at the same time.

Bayern have won the last ten German titles since Klopp took Dortmund to the championship and the manager said he hoped for change at the top. "I can imagine Bayern see

it differently but it's not fun if the same team always becomes the champion and we all know Bayern will strike back next year anyway "Nobody thinks they have

done it already. It's a big one and I just hope they will get through it. It will be massive

football season.

"We didn't deliver what everybody wanted and everybody expected, rightly so, but we are still really united and that's the good thing about it.'

Sindhu, Prannoy in Malaysia Masters semis, Srikanth out



PTI KUALA LUMPUR

Star Indian shuttlers PV Sindhu and HS Prannoy advanced to the women's and men's singles semifinals of the Malaysia Masters Super 500 tournament with hard-fought wins over their respective opponents here on Friday. While double Olympic medallist Sindhu, seeded sixth in the tournament, beat lower ranked Yi Man Zhang of China 21-16, 13-21, 22-20, Prannoy Masters final in straight games

earned a 25-23, 18-21, 21-13 win over Kenta Nishimoto of Japan in the quarterfinals.

Sindhu faces seventh seed and world number nine Gregoria Mariska Tunjung of Indonesia in the semifinals on Saturday. Tunjung upset second seed Yi Zhi Wang of China in the quarterfinals 21-18, 22-20.

over Tunjung. World number nine Prannoy faces qualifier Christian Adinata, ranked 57, of Indo-Tunjung has been in fine form recently and Sindhu had nesia, who beat Kidambi Srilost to her in the Madrid Spain kanth 16-21, 21-16, 21-11 in

BAI to conduct trials for Asia Junior C'ship as well as top-4 pairs from dou-

The Badminton Association ▲ of India (BAI) will conduct a selection trial at the Karnail Singh Stadium here from June 4 to 7 to pick the team for the Asian Junior Championships. The Asian Junior champi-

onships is scheduled to be held in Yogyakarta, Indonesia from July 7 to 16.

The players will be select-

ed on the basis of their performances in the selection trials. The trials will include top-8 boys and girls singles shuttlers

in April. The Indian will, how-

ever, go into the semifinals with a 7-1 head-to-head advantage

another quarterfinals, in the

Junior Ranking Badminton Tournament held in Guwahati earlier this month, along with top-4 singles players and top-2 doubles pairs in the BAI rankings. Anwesha Gowda (4th), Anupama Upadhyaya (8th), Unnati Hooda (14th) and five other players, who are ranked inside top-20 in BWF rankings, will also take part in the trials. India have so far won nine

bles events from the All India

medals, including two gold, one silver and six bronze in the continental championships.

semifinals of Saturday.

Prannoy has never played against the 21-year-old Adinata, who began playing at the senior

quarterfinal, Srikanth lost 21-16, 16-21, 11-21 to Adinata in 57 minutes to bow out of the tour-

level just last year. In another men's singles

GILL'S 129 TAKES GT TO 233-3 VS MI

Sensational Shubman Gill's 129 off 60 balls — his third hundred plus knock of the season — propelled Gujarat Titans to a daunting 233/3 against Mumbai Indians here in Qualifier 2 of the IPL

here on Friday.

Gill began sturdily and turned brutal in the second half of the innings to smash an overall seven fours and 10 sixes in his breathtaking knock.

In the process, Gill added 138 runs for the second wicket with B Sai Sudharsan, who happily played second fiddle with a 31-ball 43 before he was retired out.

Gill's whirlwind knock made him only the second Indian batter after Virat Kohli (2016) and overall fourth in the history, after Jos Buttler (2022) and David Warner (2016), to score more than 800 runs in an

Gill hit three sixes off MI's hero of the last game, Akash Madhwal (1/53), in the 12th over to cross the 800-run mark, continuing his form to single-handedly lead Gujarat

Titans' charge.

He brought up his fifty off
32 balls with two sixes and three fours and unleashed a flurry of sixes against seamers and spinners alike here at the nearly-packed Narendra Modi

Stadium here. Gill also surpassed Yashasvi Jaiswal's 62-ball 124 to record the highest individual score this season, with



receiving end on both the occasions

In the process, the 23-yearold also surpassed RCB's Faf du Plessis (730 runs) to claim the Orange Cap.

the Orange Cap.
Additionally, Gill's 129
bettered Virender Sehwag's
122 against Chennai Super
Kings in the 2014 season as the
highest score for a batter in the
IPL playoffs.
After a 30-minute delay to
the start due to rain, GT had
made a sedate start.
A vital moment had come

A vital moment had come at the end of the sixth over when Tim David at mid-on dropped a catch to provide Gill with a lifeline, with GT finishing the powerplay at 50/0.

The first breakthrough for MI came in the seventh over when Piyush Chawla had Wriddhiman Saha (18) stumped on a delivery down the leg.

Gill certainly had luck on his side as twice in as many balls he managed to survive, off Kumar Kartikeya.

After Ishan Kishan could not run-out the batter who had gone down the track and had an inside edge deflecting the ball into his pads, Gill hit the next delivery in the air only to find the ball dropping very close to the fielder at deep mid-

At the halfway mark, GT reached 91 for one with Gill bringing up his fifth half-century. But courtesy Gill's onslaught, the defending champions managed 142 runs in the second half. perform at IPL 2023 finale

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Divine to

Rapper Divine will be performing at the finale of the 2023 Indian Premier

League (IPL) on May 28.
Divine, whose real name is Vivian Fernandes, will perform at the first-ever mid-innings/half-time show during the finale, to be held at Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad, a press release stated.

The rapper will be joined by long-time collaborator and Canadian playback singer Jonita Gandhi for a special collaborative showcase of their track "Naya Sher', which features Indian cricketer Virat

"I am proud to be representing the hip hop movement at the country's largest stadium and bringing together the parallel worlds of cricket and music. I'm looking forward to performing for all my fans all around the world, including all the sports aficionados of the country at the most prominent sporting league

of the country.
"This is my very first performance at the IPL and I'm excited and grateful. From being a big fan of cricket, to playing at the stadium for the finals, is truly a dream come true," Divine said in a statement.

Dhoni takes someone else's trash and makes it treasure: Hayden

Mahendra Singh Dhoni is a den said. someone else's "trash into treasure" says the great Matthew Hayden, who also reckons that the former India captain's unmatched contribution to the CSK success story makes his playing future with the franchise 'almost irrelevant"

Dhoni's tactical genius has played a big part in ČSK reaching their 10th IPL final. He did not have the best of bowling attacks at his disposal at the start of the tournament but he has been able to bring the best out of it. How he has used Ajinkya Rahane and Shivam Dube in the batting department has also been praised widely.

Dhoni, who has played with a knee injury throughout the tournament, has given himself 8-9 months to decide on his playing future. Hayden, however, feels the World Cup winning captain will not be around for the next IPL.

"MS is a magician. He takes someone else's trash and makes them treasure. He is a very skilful and positive captain. He said something really interesting which I thought summed up not only his humility and his truth around cricket where he is represented and that is in Tamil Nadu Cricket Association," Hay-

that association and the franchise, how strong that is in terms of building that process. To me that is MS. There is a systematic way of going though things and working through them. He did that for India and he is doing it for Chennai Super kings. "Whether he plays or not next year it is almost irrelevant. Personally I don't think he will but then he is M S Dhoni," he said at an event organised by University of Technology Sydney (UTS). With the rapid rise

Hayden thinks not only that makes it impossible for players to commit to all formats, it also questions the future of the version. "The time of three-for-

formats are even viable anymore. cricket being played.'

of T20 cricket around the world it has become increasingly difficult for the players to play all three formats.

game, especially the 50-over mat players is shortly coming to an end. I would challenge the game around whether those

"It seems to me there is great enthusiasm still to play Test cricket and World Test Championship is a good example of that. Otherwise I see lot of T20

BCCI could rest all seniors for Afghanistan series

PTI MUMBAI

Contrary to reports in some quarters that BCCI is planning to cancel the proposed home series against Afghanistan due to cramped calendar, there is possibility that a second string team might play with all seniors including ODI and Test captain Rohit Sharma along with senior player Virat Kohli rested before West Indies tour.

All Indian players were involved in a gruelling IPL for nearly two months and will be in England for a one-off WTC final but after that, most seniors like Kohli and Rohit will need rest before they embark on West Indies tour where all three formats will be played. Kohli and Rohit are certain two play Tests and ODIs and would need adequate rest.

20-30, the BCCI might have

shorten the series or may be only convert it into either T20I or ODI series and play the a second string side led by Hardik Pandya.

Mirwais Ashraf, the president of the Afghanistan Cricket Board (ACB) is in India for the final of the IPL and while a meeting between the members of the Asian Cricket Council is slated to take place, India and Afghanistan cricket boards could also finalise the details of their proposed white-ball series.

The Indian team has a packed schedule lined up after the conclusion of the IPL. While the coaching staff and some members of the team have already flown to England to prepare for the final of the World Test Championship against Australia starting on June 7, there is also a full tour of the Caribbean lined up ahead.

Afghanistan series between June three ODIs and five T20Is against the West Indies from July



12 to August 13, after which the team is expected to play a threematch T20I series in Ireland. The Ireland series will mostly feature IPL performers and even Pandya could rest from that series keeping Asia Cup in The ACC board members

will meet on the sidelines of the IPL final to finalise the future of the Asia Cup 2023, which means that the workload will only increase for the Indian players, given that there is an all-important 50-over World Cup lined up for October-November.

If finalised, the Asia Cup 2023 is expected to be played in September, which means that the Indian players will be hard pressed to find time to rest and recuperate, and a packed calendar has already witnessed big injuries to key players such as Iyer with no set timeline of

Additionally, in September, India are also set to play a three-match ODI series against Australia — a second such series this year - to finalise World Cup preparations.

According to 'Cricbuzz', the BCCI is finding it difficult to schedule the Afghanistan series, proposed to be having three ODIs, given the time constraint and also because the broadcast deal with Disney Star has ended and a new tender is yet to be issued.

However, a senior BCCI secretary Jay Shah during an earlier interaction with media in Mumbai had said "BCCI media rights tender will be on schedule this year (June-July) and will depend on the Afghanistan tour, but more likely the process will start from the Australia series. The Board will speak to all stakecome up with an interim deci-

WTC winners to get \$1.6 mn prize money

he winners of next month's World Test ■ Championship Final between India and Australia at The Oval will take home USD 1.6 million in prize money, while runners-up will get richer by USD 800,000, the ICC announced here on Friday.

The championship decider will be played at The Oval, London from June 7-11 with June 12 as the reserve day.

The tournament prize money is the same as that for the inaugural World Test Championship Final in 2019-21 — a total purse of USD 3.8 million besides the WTC The Kane Williamson-led New Zealand

side were rewarded with USD 1.6 million besides the glittering Mace in Southampton two years ago, courtesy an eight-wicket win over India in the six-day final.

All nine teams will get a share in the USD 3.8 million purse with South Africa earning USD 450,000 for finishing third in the WTC 2021-23 standings.

England, who made a late surge and finished their campaign in fourth spot, will bag



USD 350,000. Sri Lanka, who were among the top teams in the race for a spot in the decider during the epic finale, finished fifth to earn USD 200,000.

The remaining teams New Zealand (No.6), Pakistan (No.7), West Indies (No.8), and Bangladesh (No.9) will be rewarded with a sum of USD 100,000 each.



Oz include Peirson as cover for Inglis

PTI ■ SYDNEY

ustralia have selected wick-Aetkeeper Jimmy Peirson as cover for back-up gloveman Josh Inglis, who will return home after the opening Ashes Test for the birth of his first child.

Alex Carey is Australia's first-choice keeper for the World Test Championship (WTC) final against India and the five Ashes Tests and Inglis has been selected as his back-up.

But Inglis will return to Perth after the first Ashes Test starting on June 16 and his place will be taken up before the second Test at Lord's by 30-year-old Queensland gloveman Peirson, who has 65 first-class games to his credit, according to cricket.Com.Au on Friday.

The Australian team management has said Inglis will rejoin the squad later in the

Peirson, who has been impressive at the domestic and Australia 'A' level with both the bat and gloves, trained with the Test squad in Brisbane last week and would be fancying his chances of wearing the iconic Baggy Green during the Ashes.

The right-handed lowerorder batter has improved his going from an average of less than 30 in his first 35 first-class games to 42.56, including six tons in 30 games since the 2020-21 season.

batting drastically over the years,

He also struck an unbeaten 128 for Australia 'A' during their tour of Sri Lanka last year. Peirson's appearance in the

Australian Test squad has partly been delayed because Tim Paine was the first-choice keeper for a long time and then Carey replaced the former captain, who stepped down due to a controversy ahead of the 2021 Ashes series at home.

Peirson said he was driven by the desire to set higher standards for himself.

"These guys (Carey and Inglis among others) are setting their benchmark, and I want to set my benchmark higher, and maybe bring a few other attributes into that as well, through leadership or whatever else," said Peirson. "It's great to have that competition. That's what drives you to be the best you can be. If someone's pipping you, you want to be better than them. That's certainly one of my great driving factors: I want to be the best, I want to be the next

Roy ends England deal to play T20 cricket in USA

AP LONDON

Batting star Jason Roy is ending this England contract to play in the first season of Major League Cricket in the United States.

The aggressive opener, who has iust returned from a stint with Kolkata Knight Riders in the Indian Premier League, reportedly has an offer from their affiliated MLC franchise, the Los Angeles Knight

It is understood the 32-year-old has been offered about £300,000 (\$370,000) for the first two seasons of the new American Twenty20 competition, which launches in

July.

Roy was dropped from England's central contract list last year, downgraded to an incremental deal worth between £60,000 and

The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) said in a statement on Thursday that it had agreed for Roy to play in the US "on the proviso that he gives up the remainder of his ECB incremental contract, which both

parties have agreed to".

"The ECB wish to clarify that this decision will not affect Jason's selection for England teams going forward," it added. "We have absolute confidence and faith that Jason is committed to England cricket.'

The aggressive opener did not feature in England's T20 World Cup triumph in October and November, but has held on to his place in the 50-over side and will



national runs in all formats. "I hope to play for England for many more years — that remains my priority.' He added: "As a single format

hope to feature in this year's 50-over

statement on Twitter that he would

tinues to be my proudest moment

as a professional cricketer," said Roy,

who has scored nearly 6,000 inter-

never walk away from England.

The Surrey player said in a

Representing my country con-

World Cup defence in India.

player with no central contract I wanted to take the opportunity to play this competition as there are currently no scheduling conflicts with England. It benefits me as an England player to play as much competitive cricket as possible."