OPINION 6

SC CRACKS WHIP

ON HATE SPEECH

WORLD 9

PAKISTAN COURT EXTENDS

IMRAN KHAN'S BAIL

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MAN CITY **BACK ON TOP**



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NEW DELHI, FRIDAY MAY 5, 2023; PAGES 12 ₹3

'Shoot at sight' as Manipur burns

9K displaced; Shah reviews situation; 55 Army columns deployed, RAF flown in

PNS ■ IMPHAL/NEW DELHI

The Manipur Government on Thursday issued "shoot at sight" order in "extreme cases" to contain spiralling violence in the State between tribals and the majority Meitei community which has displaced over 9,000 people from

their villages.

Fifty-five columns of the Army and the Assam Rifles had to be deployed to contain widespread rioting across Manipur. The Army has also kept some 14 columns on standby for deployment in case the situation flares up once again, a defence spokesperson said.

The Centre, which is monitoring the situation in Manipur, also dispatched teams of the Rapid Action Force (RAF), a specialised force to

<u>CAPSULE</u>

ARMY CHOPPER CRASH: TECHNICIAN KILLED

Jammu: An Army helicopter crashed after a "hard landing" in

district on Thursday following a

technician and injuring the two

PRIVATE HELP RAPED IN HOSPITAL, ACCUSED HELD

private help was raped by a man

at the GB Pant Hospital in Delhi.

The accused has been arrested

SEVEN TEACHERS SHOT DEAD IN PAK SCHOOL

Islamabad: At least seven teachers were shot at a school

on Thursday in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Upper Kurram

SC to look

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Muslims.

Tehsil, law enforcers said.

into validity of

Talaq-e-Hasan

The Supreme Court said on Thursday it will examine

the larger constitutional issue

of challenge to the validity of extrajudicial divorce like "Talaq-e-Hasan" among

of divorce by which a man can

dissolve the marriage by pro-nouncing the word "talaq"

once every month over a three-

month period. Under talaq, a

divorce gets formalised after

the third utterance of the word

"talaq" in the third month if

cohabitation has not resumed

Continued on Page 2

during this period.

"Talaq-e-Hasan" is a form

New Delhi: A 40-year-old

a forested area in the upper

reaches of J&K's Kishtwar

technical fault, killing a

nilots on board.

handle riots, for deployment in violence-hit areas of the Northeastern State.

Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh and took stock of the situation. Shah also spoke to the Chief Ministers of the States neighbouring Manipur, officials said. The Chief Ministers with whom Shah had telephonic conversations were Neiphiu

Rio (Nagaland), Zoramthanga

(Mizoram) and Himanta Biswa

Sarma (Assam). Sources said the force landed at Imphal airport this evening. Internet services have been suspended for five days with immediate effect to prevent disturbance of peace and public order, a Home department order said on Thursday. Mobile

Meanwhile, Union Home Minister Amit Shah spoke to

> internet services were suspended across the State. Clashes broke out on Wednesday which intensified overnight with counter-attacks being mounted by rival communities in retaliation to earlier attacks, the All Tribal Student Union Manipur (ATSUM) organised a "Tribal Solidarity March" in 10 hill districts of the stateto protest

moves to give Scheduled Tribe status to the majority Metei community.

The "shoot at sight" order issued by the Governor of the Northeastern State said all magistrates could issue the order when all options of persuasion, warning and reasonable force "have been exhausted and the situation could not be controlled".

The Army and the Assam Rifles staged flag marches in Khuga, Tampa, Khomaujanbba areas of Churachandpur, Mantripukhri, Lamphel, Koeirangi area of Imphal

Valley, and Sugnu in Kakching. So far, 9,000 people were rescued by the forces from the violence-hit areas, and given shelter, the spokesperson said. The spokesperson said

HC stays Bihar caste census;

some 5,000 people have been shifted to safe homes in Churachandpur, while 2,000 people each were similarly evacuated in Imphal Valley and the border town of Moreh in Tengnoupal district.

The "Tribal Solidarity March" was organised to protest the demand of nontribal Meiteis, who account for 53 per cent of the State's population, for the ST status.

The march was organised by tribals who account for about 40 per cent of the state's population after the Manipur High Court asked the State Government last month to send a recommendation to the Centre within four weeks on the demand for ST status by the Metei community.

During the march in Torbung area of Churachandpur district, an armed mob attacked people of the Meitei community, leading to retaliatory attacks in the val ley districts, which escalated the violence throughout the State, police said.

Continued on Page 2 See Edit: Perils of social justice

LAC peace must to normalise ties, EAM tells China



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar meets State Councillor and FM Qin Gang of China on the sidelines of SCO Foreign Ministers' meet in Panaji on Thursday PTI

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI/ BENAULIM (GOA)

The two-day Shanghai Co-operation Organisation (SCO) Foreign Ministers' meeting began in Goa on Thursday with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar holding bilateral meetings with his Chinese and Russian counterparts. A bilateral meeting with Pakistan Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari, however, is unlikely on the sidelines of the SCO conclave chaired by Jaishankar.

During their meeting, Jaishankar and Chinese foreign minister Qin Gang discussed the prevailing tension at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Ladakh for the last three

years, it was learnt. Jaishankar conveyed to his Chinese counterpart Qin Gang the importance of resolving the eastern Ladakh border row and ensuring peace and tran-

quillity along the LAC for normalisation of bilateral ties.

"A detailed discussion with State Councillor and FM Qin Gang of China on our bilateral relationship. Focus remains on resolving outstanding issues and ensuring peace and tran-quility in the border areas. Also discussed SCO, G20 and BRICS," the External Affairs Minister tweeted.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and Jaishankar held talks on overall bilateral cooperation, the Ukraine conflict and regional as well as global issues

of mutual interest. "Comprehensive review of our bilateral, global and multilateral cooperation with FM Sergey Lavrov of Russia. Appreciated Russia's support for India's SCO presidency. Also discussed issues pertaining to G20 and BRICS,"

Jaishankar tweeted

Dreaded gangster Dujana killed in Meerut encounter



PNS MEERUT

Notorious gangster Anil Dujana, an accused in 18 cases of murder out on bail for the last four days, was gunned down in an encounter with Special Task Force (STF) of the UP Police at a village in Meerut on Thursday.

According to police, a STF team retaliated when the gangster opened fire at them after being cornered. His car had crashed into a pole.

Special DG (Law and

Order) Prashant Kumar said the State Police have been keeping close tabs on 65 gangsters, including Dujana who was known for terrorising people in the national capital region (NCR) by his criminal

The encounter took place on the day of polling for the first phase of the urban local body elections in the state.

Adityanath Yogi Government's major poll plank has been its "strict" handling of law and order

Days earlier, gangster-politician Atiq Ahmad's son Asad Ahmad and his accom-plice were shot dead in an exchange of fire with the Uttar Pradesh Police. A couple of days later, Atiq Ahmad and his brother Ashraf Ahmad were gunned down in Prayagraj by three men while they were being escorted to a hospital by

Additional Director General of Uttar Pradesh STF Amitabh Yash said, "Anil Dujana (43), a wanted criminal was surrounded by our team led by Additional SP of UP STF Brijesh Singh in a village in Meerut on Thursday afternoon. He fired at our team to escape and was killed in retaliatory firing."

Continued on Page 2

Tejashwi calls drive inevitable more elaborately addressed by opinion that the State has no power to carry out a castethe State," said a HC division based survey, in the manner in bench comprising Chief Justice which it is fashioned now,

The Patna High Court on Thursday ordered the Bihar Government to stay the caste survey immediatly. "We are of the considered

opinion that the petitioners have made out a prima facie case against the continuation of the process of caste-based survey, as attempted by the State of Bihar. There is also the question raised of data integrity and security which has to be

K Vinod Chandran and Justice Madhuresh Prasad. Hearing a bunch of peti-

tions against the caste survey, the bench directed the State Government ensure that the data already collected are secured and not shared with anybody till final orders are passed. The court has fixed July 3 as the next date for hearing.

"Prima facie, we are of the

which would amount to a census, thus impinging upon the legislative power of the Union Parliament," the HC said. Meanwhile, Bihar Deputy

Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav claimed the survey is for pub lic welfare and social improvement and "one thing is clear, it is bound to happen"

Continued on Page 2

Continued on Page 2

Go First cancels flights till May 9, to refund ₹350 cr

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

Days after it filed for volun-tary insolvency before the NCLT, Go First airline has cancelled all its flights till May 9 extending the suspension of operations by four days beyond the initial three-day period. It is also not taking new bookings till May 15.

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has directed Go First to refund passengers for the flights it has cancelled as per the regulation. The refund amount comes around ₹350 crore

"Go First has intimated that they have suspended sale of their flight tickets till May 15, 2023, and are working to refund or reschedule for future dates, the passengers already booked to fly with them," the DGCA said in a statement.

Continued on Page 2

Police tighten vigil at Jantar Mantar after wrestlers-cops late-night scuffle

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

day after two wrestlers. Aday after two wrestiers, and five cops (according to the Delhi Police) were injured in a late-night scuffle between agitating wrestlers and police personnel at Jantar Mantar, the police Thursday beefed up security and surveillance at Jantar Mantar and at Delhi borders, deploying additional manpower, bolstering CCTV coverage and raising barricades to prevent the entry of farmers who were coming to

support the grapplers.

The police also denied wrestlers's allegations that the two accused cops were drunk and used force against protesting wrestlers. New Delhi Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) Pranav Tayal said five police personnel were



injured in the ruckus.

The Delhi Police on Thursday blocked entry of wrestlers at the venue where their fellow grapplers have been protesting. Even as Sakshi Malik, Vinesh Phogat and Bajrang Punia held a press conference at the protest site at

Jantar Mantar here, the police

refused entry of the wrestlers to the venue.

"A sufficient number of women officers were on duty during the night. On the medical examination, no police personnel were found drunk. Five police personnel sustained

Modi cuts B'luru rally

injuries during the scuffle. "No force was used by police personnel against the protestors. Regarding injury to one protester, he left the hos-

pital against medical advice and has not given a statement to the police yet," the DCP tweeted from his official handle. The wrestlers, on the other hand, have alleged that they were beaten up by the police and a couple of protesters sustained head injuries.

Meanwhile the Supreme Court on Thursday closed the proceedings on a petition by women wrestlers accusing Wrestling Federation of India chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh of sexual harassment, noting FIRs have been filed against him and 7 complainants provided adequate security.

Continued on Page 2

Helping Bollywood buffs wallow in 90s nostalgia

RADHIKA SHARMA ■ NEW DELHI

veryone likes to put people? Ein boxes, says Deen Parmar, better known as BollywoodBoi to his almost one million TikTok and Instagram followers. But the British Indian artist refuses to be slotted, blurring gender boundaries as he dances up a storm with his recreation of 1990s songs filmed mostly on women.

And so there he is emoting like Raveena Tandon on "Tip Tip Barsa Paani" from "Mohra", Kajol in "Mehendi Lagake Rakhna" from "Dilwale Dulhania Le Jaayenge" or Urmila Matonkar in "Chamma Chamma", recreating each move, step and expression complete with beard, unwaxed legs and jewellery made of aluminium foil.

That he is a full-time UK

Government senior leader for diversity and inclusion makes the 34-year-old more interesting. "People like to put people in boxes. Some people don't like my content because they think it's controversial. I don't think there's anything controversial about it to be honest. It's acting, that's what actors do. That's what they do with their content," Parmar told PTI in an exclusive interview over Zoom. He dedicates weekends,

usually Sundays, to film and upload new content. The video creator has garnered a massive fan following through his self-shot and self-edited clips of famous Hindi film tracks. "For me, it's all about embracing cultures and just getting everyone to kind of join in. Because I think Bollywood is something that brings everyone together.

Bollywood," Gloucestershirebased influencer said.

The popularity is growing by leaps and bounds, he said, adding that some fans send in song requests. As BollywoodBoi, Deen has almost a million followers on Instagram and TikTok combined. The British-Indian artist said he has a "fixation with '90s That's the beauty of Bollywood", singling out "Raja"

and "Beta", both starring his favourite Madhuri Dixit. "For me, the 90s era is the

best and that's what I try to capture in my content. Ultimately, I do the songs that I love because I think if you enjoy them and have a passion for them, it shows through your content," he added.

It all started in June 2021 during the Covid pandemic.

"People were bored. We had nothing to do. I was working from home a lot. My weekends were like, I was doing nothing. So I thought, 'let me make a TikTok' (video). Let's see how it goes. My first major viral video was 'Gup Chup' (from 'Karan Arjun'). And it was basically just me with my Gucci scarf dancing around my apartment... And it just blew up. I was like 'Oh my God! People like this," he recalled.

That was just the beginning. In his short clips, Deen, who started off with songs featuring women stars, recreates in detail the original choreography and also the wardrobe except it's sometimes a knotted T-shirt or gracefully draped bedsheet and the jewellery is went crazy," said the dancer, most of whose followers belong

aluminium. And all of it in

some way mirroring the song. and West Asia In August 2021, he shared

videos of two different songs: "Mera Laung Gawacha" on Pakistan's Independence Day and "Chamma" on India's Independence Day. It was the first time he used foil, a resource he keeps recycling. 'Because

Gawacha... It's a lot of footwork. I thought, 'Oh, something's missing. And I was like, 'Let me get some aluminum foil and pretend they're like 'paayal' (anklets)' and then that went okay. It didn't blow up massively, but it did well. The next day, because I remember India's Independence followed, I thought, 'Let me do some-thing iconic...' And then I did 'Chamma Chamma' and it

to India, Pakistan, Bangladesh

short to ease traffic PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Keeping in mind the "concern" raised by raised

Bengalureans over the longhour roadshows in the city, the BJP on Thursday dropped plans to have an eight-hour roadshow by Prime Minister Narendra Modi here on Saturday and instead sought to have a considerably shorter version of it on weekends.

The decision was taken following concerns expressed by Bengalureans over difficulties that they will face with such a day-long programme.

The 28 legislative seats in

Bengaluru would be crucial for the BJP to tilt the balance in the poll which seems to be evenly balanced. Twelve of current Continued on Page 2 | MLAs are from Vokkaliga



Vokkliga community. May 8 is the last day for campaigning. Karnataka is to vote on May10 and the votes would be counted on May 13. Continued on Page 2



ties. In 2018 Assembly polls,

the BJP won 11 with Congress

pocketing 15 and Vokkaliga dominated JDS winning only two despite the fact that 12 of

the current MLAs are from

UP URBAN LOCAL BODIES POLLS —

Over 50% turnout in first phase

mid reports of minor Aclashes between supporters of political parties, missing names in voters list, technical snags in some electronic voting machines etc, the voting for the first phase of urban local bodies polls was by and large peaceful on Thursday.

A voter turnout of over 50 per cent was recorded till 6 pm and at many places, voters were still standing in queues waiting to cast their votes.

According to the State Election Commission (SEC), a polling percentage of 51.67 was recorded in Shamli district, 50.57 per cent in Shravasti and 50.92 per cent in Maharajganj. Varanasi recorded a polling percentage of 32.7 and Prayagraj 24.31, till 3 pm, the SEC said.

In a shocking develop-ent, Sub-Divisional Magistrate Virendra Kumar Mittal died of heart attack during election duty in Mainpuri.



The SDM was the election officer of Jyoti Khudia nagar panchayat. He was posted as additional deputy collector at the Collectorate.

Voters in 37 districts exercised their franchise in the first phase of the polls to elect 7,593 representatives, including 10 mayors and 820 corporators out of the total 44,232 aspirants, the SEC said. The districts where mayoral elections were completed in the first phase are Saharanpur, Agra, Moradabad,

Firozabad, Mathura, Jhansi, Prayagraj, Gorakhpur and Varanasi. More than 2.40 crore people were eligible to vote in the first phase, the officials said, adding that all the posts were being contested on party symbols. The first phase of voting was held in 37 Shamli, Muzaffarnagar, Saharanpur,

Bijnor, Amroha, Moradabad,

Rampur, Sambhal, Agra,

Firozabad, Mathura, Mainpuri,

Jhansi, Jalaun, Lalitpur,

Maharajganj, Kushinagar, Ghazipur, Varanasi, Chandauli and Jaunpur of nine divisions of Uttar Pradesh i.e. Saharanpur, Moradabad, Agra, Jhansi, Prayagraj, Lucknow, Devipatan, Gorakhpur and The voting was held amidst high security arrangements. Special Director General (Law and Order) Prashant Kumar said that as many as 19,880 inspectors/sub-inspectors; 1,01,477 head constables/constables; 47,985 home guards; 86

Fatehpur, Pratapgarh, Unnao,

Hardoi, Lucknow, Rae Bareli,

Sitapur, Lakhimpur Kheri,

Gonda, Bahraich, Balrampur,

Shravasti, Gorakhpur, Deoria,

and no untoward incident was reported from anywhere. The India-Nepal border was also sealed from 6 pm on

companies of PAC; 35 compa-

nies of CAPF and 7,500 under-

training sub-inspectors were

posted for the first phase of the

urban local bodies elections

nel maintained a strict vigil but allowed people who had to attend weddings or had some emergency work to pass. Paramilitary and police personnel were continuously patrolling the Indo-Nepal border. Soldiers were carrying out pillar-to-pillar mobile duty for the security of the open border, Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) border outpost in-charge Jayant Ghosh said.

Meanwhile, stray incidents of clashes, missing names in voter lists including technical snags in EVMs were reported at some places. Councilor candidate of Ward No. 14 of Hassanpur municipality in Amroha, Madhusudan alias Madhua, was brutally attacked on Wednesday night. He was seriously injured and referred to higher medical centre in Ghaziabad where he succumbed on Thursday afternoon. The family members accused the rival of killing the

Chhattisgarh DGP reviews anti-Naxal operations in Bastar in wake of deadly Dantewada attack

PTI ■ RAIPUR

 $M^{
m ore}$ than a week after 10 police personnel and a civilian were killed in a Maoist attack in Chhattisgarh's Dantewada district, state Director General of Police Ashok Juneja reviewed anti-Naxal operations in Bastar division during special meetings, and directed the police and paramilitary officials to intensify action against Naxalites. The review meetings were held at three places in the state for two days starting Wednesday. Security to development works, VIP security, setting up new camps and other issues were discussed during these meetings that concluded on Thursday, offi-

The Bastar division comorises seven districts that have been struggling with Left-wing extremism for the last more than three decades. The first meeting was held in Narayanpur district headquarter that covers Narayanpur, Kondagaon and Kanker districts, followed by Sukma district headquarter for Sukma district on Wednesday, while the meeting at Dantewada district headquarter covering Dantewada, Bijapur and Bastar

During the meetings, Juneja directed the police and paramilitary officials posted in the division to intensify the anti-Naxal operations while maintaining caution during the ongoing Tactical Counter Offensive Campaign (TCOC)

districts on Thursday, they

observed by Maoists during summer, a public relations official of the state police said.

He also stressed the need to establish better mutual coordination between state and central forces, and called for a better strategy to facilitate development works and provide security, the official said.

The DGP also gave special directives pertaining to setting up new camps, road security, construction of bridges and culverts, community policing and other development, VIP security, he added.

Drunk men take cook's life over 'poor quality' of kebabs in Bareilly

PNS LUCKNOW

52-year-old kebab maker Awas shot dead in Bareilly for allegedly serving 'poor quality' kebabs, police said on Thursday. Additional Superintendent of Police (City) Rahul Bhati said the incident occurred on Wednesday night at an old kebab shop at Priyadarshini Nagar in Prem

According to police, two inebriated men came to the shop in a luxury car at night, ate kebabs and later complained to shop owner Ankur Sabarwal that they were not happy with the taste of the kebabs he had served. As the argument escalated, the two assaulted Sabarwal and

The CBI has informed the Income Tax Department and

the Enforcement Directorate

about its probe against former WAPCOS chief R K Gupta from

whose premises a whopping Rs

the agencies after making its

biggest unaccounted cash seizure

from the premises of Gupta who

sources of income, they said.

were arrested on Wednesday.

The CBI has involved both

was earlier booked for allegedly amassing Rs 7.91

crore of assets disproportionate to his known

director of WAPCOS, and his son Gaurav Singal

connection with the disproportionate assets case

but their eyes widened when they found bun-

Gupta, former chairman and managing

The CBI officials had conducted searches in

cials said Thursday.



returned to their car without paying for the kebabs.

When Sabarwal sent Naseer Ahmed, one of the cooks, to collect Rs 120 from the men, one of them shot him in his temple, leaving him dead on the spot, Bhati said, adding both men fled right after.

CBI informs I-T Department, ED about

The car was traced to

probe against ex-WAPCOS chief

Kashipur in Uttarakhand on the basis of its pictures taken by the staff members, police said. "The killers are being traced using the car's registration number. Police have registered a case of murder against unknown assailants. The body has been sent for post

LAC peace must to...

From Page 1

The talks took place at a beach resort in Benaulim on the sidelines of a meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO).

The Russian foreign minister landed in Goa this morning to attend the SCO conclave, day after Russia accused Ukraine of attacking the Kremlin with drones in an unsuccessful attempt to kill President Vladimir Putin.

There is no clarity yet on whether trade-related issues figured in the talks. India has been pressing Russia for urgently addressing the trade imbalance that is in favour of

Modi cuts B'luru rally short to...

From Page 1 "The public has expressed that it will be a problem if the roadshow is held for the entire day. So, we have respected their feeling and spread it over two days", Union Minister Shobha Karandlaje Karandlaje told reporters In Bengaluru on Thursday.

The revised roadshows of the Prime Minister on May 6 and 7 would pass through 19 of stituencies in the city.

Karandlaje said the Prime Minister would now hold a roadshow on two days -- 10 am to 1.30 pm on Saturday, and 10 am to 2.30 pm on Sunday.

The party on Wednesday said Modi would hold a 36.6 km road-show here on Saturday -- covering a distance of 10.1 km from 11 am to 1 pm, and 26.5 km from 4 pm

Go First cancels flights till May 9, to refund...

From Page 1

After examining the reply filed by Go First, the DGCA has issued an order "under the prevailing regulations directing them to process the refunds to passengers as per the timelines specifically stipulated in the rel-evant regulation". It also said it is committed to minimising passenger inconvenience in view of the abrupt decision by Go First to suspend their scheduled operations without any prior infimation.

The DGCA had issued a show cause notice to the airline after it suddenly decided to cancel flights for three days starting May 3.

Go First took to its official Twitter handle and informed passengers that it is cancelling all its flights scheduled till May 9. Go First also said that it will issue a full refund to passengers. In a statement, the air-line said: "We regret to inform that due to operational reasons, Go First flights scheduled till May 9, 2023, have been cancelled. We apologise for the inconvenience caused by the flight cancellations. A full refund will be issued to the original mode of payment

On Thursday, the National Company Law order on crisis-hit airline Go First's plea seeking voluntary insolvency resolution proceedings. A two-member bench headed by President Justice Ramalingam Sudhakar concluded the day-long hearing during which the Wadia group-controlled airline sought initiation of insolvency resolution proceedings and an interim moratorium on its financial obligations.

Police tighten vigil at Jantar Mantar after wrestlers-cops... condition. An MLC (medico-

From Page 1
A bench headed by Chief
Justice D Y Chandrachud refused to entertain an oral plea by the counsel representing the wrestlers that the ongoing probe against Singh, a BJP MP, be monitored by a retired judge of the apex court or high

The apex court, however, granted liberty to the wrestlers to approach the Delhi High Court or the jurisdictional magistrate for further relief. Yesterday (Wednesday)

Somnath Bharti came to Jantar Mantar barricade along with a vehicle full of folding cots without any permission. When our police team asked him not to bring any cots inside, some of the wrestlers and the supporters intervened.

"In the process, a scuffle broke out in which about five of our staffers were injured. Of those who sustained injuries, two were females. Allegations have been levelled by the protesters that one of our staff members was in a drunken

legal case) of the particular staff was conducted which revealed that alcohol was not present in his blood," he added.

Police said no permission has been granted to the protesters to stage a dharna at Jantar Mantar. They also clarified that Jantar Mantar can not be made a permanent site for a protest which is why cots were not allowed there.

A special vehicle of Delhi Police — Ikshana — which is a live CCTV surveillance vehicle has been deployed at the site to monitor law and order arrangements. This vehicle is equipped with eight state-ofthe-art fixed cameras for a 360degree view of the site.

"The angles of the already installed CČTV cameras are being adjusted so that there is a clarity on the activities at the protest site in Jantar Mantar. Damaged CCTV cameras were also replaced with new ones so as to keep a 24X7 watch on the activities at the spot," a senior police officer said.

Dreaded gangster...

From Page 1

In a press statement, the Uttar Pradesh STF said Dujana was alone in the vehicle at the time of the incident.

"According to preliminary information, Anil Dujana was going to meet some of his gang members. The SUV he was travelling in collided with an electric pole after being surrounded by the STF team," Special DG (Law and Order) Prashant Kumar said.

He was recently released from prison on bail and was trying to build his gang again, the officer said, adding a case of extortion was also lodged against him at Dadri Police Station of Gautam Buddh

The STF claimed that Dujana was travelling from Baghpat to Muzaffarnagar to meet his gang members to plan and carry out a "big operation."

Four pistols and several cartridges were seized from the encounter spot, Kumar said.

HC stays Bihar caste census, Tejashwi...

While, Prashant Kumar government, senior advocates Abhinav Srivastava, Dhananjay Kumar Tiwari and others rep resented the petitioners during the argument.

During arguments, counsels for the petitioners relied on the decision in National Legal Services Authority (supra) to point out that the transgenders' individual identity and entity were compromised by putting them together as a caste.

Though they have been qualified as a backward communi-Shahi, Advocate General (AG) ty for the purpose of getting along with his team of lawyers state relief, there is no reason category, which caste category does not really exist.

It was pointed out that though the Government has clarified that transgenders would not be classified as a caste, the classification remains in the guidelines issued by the state government, which prejudices them, one of the lawyers of the petitioners told the court.

Expressing concern, the court noted the government's

intention to share data from the survey with leaders of different parties in the state assembly. "There definitely arises the privacy, which the Supreme Court has held to be a facet of right to life," it said.

The state cannot attempt to carry out a caste census in the garb of a survey, especially when the state has absolutely no legislative competence and, in that circumstance, neither can an executive order be sustained under Article 162 of the Constitution of India, the court

dles of Rs 2000 and Rs 500 currency notes neatfrom 2010-20, they said. **NORTHERN RAILWAY**

ly stacked in suitcases kept in almirahs and bed-

The agency teams found bulk of cash from

Gupta's three properties, Rs 13 crore each from

homes in Pitampura and Gurugram while Rs 11

crore was found at son Singal's residence in

ing company while Gupta headed WAPCOS

Singal works at a leading car manufactur-

rooms of Gupta's residences

Chandigarh, the officials said.

(E-Auction Notice) Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager/PS, Northern Railway, Delhi Division (https://ireps.gov.in/) for the allotment of under mention contracts at following Railway stations/locations Railway Stations/Locations/Lots Parking-18-2023 22.05.2023 at Faridabad New Town (FDN), Deoband (DBD), Delhi Cantt (DEC) Premium, Meerut City Site-B 12:00 Hrs (MTC) = Total 4 Sites 23.05.2023 at Baraut (BTU), Khatauli (KAT), Tapari (TPZ), Sampla Main Entry (SPZ), Sampla (SPZ) 2nd Entr Parking-19-2023 24.05.2022 at Kurukshetra (KKDE) Site-1, Kurukshetra (KKDE) Site-2, Sahabad Markanda (SHDM), Karnal Parking-20-2023 (KUN), Gohana (GHNA) = Total 5 Sites Parking-21-2023 25.05.2023 at Mansa (MSZ) 2800 Sq. mt, Panipat (PNP) 2nd Entry (705 Sq. Mtrs), Budhlada (BLZ), Bareta (BRZ) & Tohana (TUN) = Total 5 Sites 26.05.2022 at Panipat (PNP) 2rd Entry (390 Sq. Mtrs), Panipat (PNP) 1st Entry (477 Sq.Mt),), Karnal (KUN) 2ndEntry, Sarojini Nagar (SOJ) PRS & Nangaloi (NNO) = Total 5 Sites Parking-23-2023 29.05.2023 at Mansa (MSZ) 762.11 Sq.Mtrs, Narela (NUR), Gurgaon (GGN) (C-S), Palam (PM), Panipat 12:00 Hrs (PNP) 1st Entry (Car) = Total 5 Sites Parking-24-2023 30.05.2023 at Tugalakabad (TKD), Kurukshetra (KKDE) 1st Entry, Kurukshetra (KKDE) 2nd Entry. Murad 12:00 Hrs Nagar (MUD) & Nava Ghaziabad (GZN) = Total 5 Sites 31.05.2023 at | Sahibabad (SBB), Adarsh Nagar PRS (ANDI), Bahadurgarh (BGZ) & Madipur PRS = Total 4

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No. 23AC/393/E-Auction/2022 Dated : 04.05.2023

'Shoot at sight' as...

Many shops and houses were vandalised, and gutted in arson that lasted for more than three hours in Torbung, they Urging people to maintain

peace, Chief Minister N Biren Singh said, "Precious lives have been lost, besides damage of properties, which is very unfortunate." However, the details of the deaths were not immediately available.

Singh said the violence was the result of "misunderstanding" in the society. "The State Government is

taking all steps to maintain the law and order situation and additional para-military forces have been requisitioned to protect the lives and properties of the people," he said.

'Central and State forces have been directed to take strong action against individuals and groups who are indulging in violence," he said. The Chief Minister of

neighbouring Mizoram,

Zoramthanga, wrote to Singh,

expressing concern over the

violence.

"As the Chief Minister of Mizoram, a lifelong neighbour that has much in common with Manipur in terms of history and culture, I am deeply pained by the violence that has flared up in parts of your State and the underlying tension between the Meitei community and the tribals there," he ote in the letter.

Singh said he spoke to Zoramthanga on the phone and apprised him of the present Curfew has been imposed

in Meitei-majority Imphal West, Kakching, Thoubal, Jiribam, and Bishnupur districts, and tribal-dominated Churachandpur, Kangpokpi, and Tengnoupal districts. In the Imphal valley, hous-

es of Kuki tribals were ransacked in several areas, forcing them to flee, police said. Over 500 residents of the

Kuki-dominated Langol area in Imphal West fled their homes, and are currently staying at the CRPF camp at Lamphelpat, police said. Some places of worship were also set on fire in the Imphal valley Wednesday

night, they said.

Meanwhile, around 1,000 Meiteis of the tribal-dominated Churachandpur district fled to various areas of Bishnupur district, including Kwakta and Moirang, they said. Over twenty houses were also burnt in Motbung area of Kangpokpi district. Violence was also reported from Moreh near the Myanmar border Tengnoupal district.

Lawmakers of the valley have earlier openly endorsed the demand by some Meitei organisations for ST status, alarming communities who figure in the Scheduled Tribe list. The Meiteis inhabit the valley, which accounts for about a tenth of the former princely State's land area. They claim they are facing problems because of "large-scale illegal immigration by Myanmarese and Bangladeshis". The hill districts which account for much of the state's land are inhabited mostly by tribals -- including the Nagas and Kukis who are mainly Christians -- and are protected from encroachment

by various laws.

From Page 1

However, if cohabitation resumes after the first or sec-ond utterance of talaq, the parties are assumed to have reconciled.

A bench of Chief Justice DY Chandrachud and Justices PS Narasimha and JB Pardiwala, which was hearing a batch of eight pleas challenging extrajudicial divorce, including one filed by Ghaziabad resident Benazeer Heena, however, said it will not go into individual matrimonial disputes.

"Since the court is seized of a constitutional challenge, it is clarified that the petitioner (Heena) and the ninth respondent (her husband), who have already approached diverse forums to address their matrimonial issues and thus any issue unrelated to the constitutional issue will not be taken on record," the bench said. It asked advocate Kanu

Agarwal, appearing for the Centre, to prepare a tabulated chart on the relief being sought in other petitions in the batch and place it before the court on the next date of hearing.

Helping Bollywood...

From Page 1 What's also unique about Deen is his comfort with playing the heroine in most of his videos without altering his physical appearance. More recently, he started featuring in reels ("Paas Woh Aane Lage Zara Zara" from "Main Khiladi Tu Anari") as the hero and heroine both.

Along with the bouquets come the brickbats.

But the dancer is undeterred and said "it's all about being yourself".

The influencer, who is the youngest of three siblings, said the first Bollywood film he watched was the Sridevi-starrer "Nagina" and later fell in love with Madhuri Dixit.

"I've almost without realising studied the way they express through their eyes. Because for me a lot of my content, it's not just about doing a dance routine or getting the angle shots right. It's about showing that expression through your eyes, which is a really key element, especially during the '90s...'

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Kejriwal slams BJP for police-wrestlers' scuffle

This treatment of national sportspersons shameful, BJP runs system through hooliganism: CM



STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

throw it out of power. Kejriwal

sharing a video of Jantar

tured the injured policemen. Even small-time criminals in Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Thursday slammed the BJP over the Tihar know that they can inflict injuries by scratching themselves or hitting their heads scuffle at Jantar Mantar against a wall. It is a cheap thing between police and wrestlers that they inflicted injuries on and called its treatment of their own. They are only telling national sportspersons shamelies," he said. Bharadwaj also alleged that tweet in Hindi said that arrothe Delhi Police officials were gance has gone to the head of being directed by the Centre to the BJP and it wanted to run do this. "This is not Delhi Police's lie but the Centre's lie. the system through "hooligan-The Centre is being exposed." ism" as he called on people to

people with the police barri-cading the area. "People were lathi-charged. Who issued orders for a lathi-charge? What Mantar tweeted "such behaviour with the champion players of the country? This is extremely unfortunate and was happening? Police will have to answer. The Centre's shameful..." "I appeal to all the people in the country...No more...Do not tolerate BJP's hooliganarrogance was shattered by farmers. Similarly, these ism, the time has come to women wrestlers will break uproot the BJP and chase them their arrogance," he added. away," he wrote. Kejriwal had

He also said the protest site

Maliwal later tweeted in

me that last night some police

personnel, who were inebriat-

ed, misbehaved with them and

attacked them. After writing

down the complaints, Delhi

Commission For Women will

act on them."

was made out-of-bounds for

Before meeting with wrestlers, Maliwal had alleged recently visited the wrestlers to extend his support to them. that she was not being allowed to meet the wrestlers.
In a video shared by her on Later addressing a press conference later in the day, the Twitter, Maliwal could be seen AAP's chief spokesperson Saurabh Bharadwaj said the telling policemen that she holds

tweet by the New Delhi DCP a constitutional post and wanthas "three lies". ed to meet the protesters. In "Police have been accused response to her tweet, DCP, of misbehaving with one of the New Delhi, tweeted, "Hon'ble women wrestlers. They are the Chairperson DCW was stopped at the barricade by an accused and they are only probing the matter. The Delhi officer and let go immediately. Commission For Women She is presently inside at the (DCW) will probe the matter. protest site. There is no restric-DCW chief Swati Maliwal had tion on individual entry to reached the spot along with a Jantar Mantar.' counsellor last night after Hindi: "I am sitting with receiving the complaint. What wrestlers who are protesting at did the police do? They threw her away. Police are not allow-Jantar Mantar. They are telling

read law books and basic law," he said. Bharadwaj also questioned the police's claims that its personnel were not drunk. He claimed that the personnel who was allegedly drunk was made to throw up by the police so that alcohol could not be

ing an investigation. Please

detected in a test. "The police should be ashamed. They did not allow cots. The special commission-DCP was there. Dushyant Phogat sustained head injuries yesterday. How did he sustain a head injury? All this drama is being done by them," he alleged. The AAP leader even claimed that the injuries suffered by the police personnel could be "self-inflicted".

"There were so many cameramen there but no one cap-

Farmers, DU students reach protest site to show solidarity with grapplers

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

n a move to express solidarity, a group of farmers and Delhi University's students reached Jantar Mantar to support the protesting wrestlers and their demands. Many of them raised slogans in support of the wrestlers, a day after a scuffle broke out between the grapplers and Delhi Police

Several videos of the tense situation was circulated on social media and grappler Bajrang Punia at a press conference appealed to farmers and their leaders to reach the protest site Thursday morning to support them.

The people who reached Jantar Mantar raised slogans like "Nari Shakti Zindabad", Pahalwan Ekta Zindabad", "Jo Humse Takrayega, Chur Chur Hojayega". Several farmer groups, who came from Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab, shouted "Jai Kisan Jai Jawan" and "Kisan Ekta Zindabad", pledging to not leave the site until justice is delivered to the wrestlers.

"Áfter what happened with our wrestlers on Wednesday night, we felt the need to come and extend our support to the daughters of this country who have won medals for India at international platform. What happened yesterday was unfortunate. We have decided that until justice is delivered to them, we will not move from here," said Balbir Singh, a farmer who came from Amritsar.

Angrez Singh, another farmer who came to Jantar Mantar from Kurukshetra, shared the sentiment and questioned the alleged brutally of Delhi Police on the wrestlers, especially the females.

"After I saw the video of the incident, I could not stop myself from coming here. To become a wrestler, one has to undergo intensive training, need dedication and willpower to sustain. These wrestlers sit-



Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU) workers take out a march in support of wrestlers protesting against Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, in New Delhi on Thursday

ting here have proved themselves at the international level. Today, when they have accused someone of sexual harassment. instead of punishing that individual, the police are harassing these female wrestlers,"

Along with farmers, a group of students also joined the protesting wrestlers at Jantar Mantar. Among them was Priyanka, a Delhi University student who allegedly suffered injuries during a separate protest in support of the grapplers outside the Arts Faculty.

The students alleged they were manhandled by police on Wednesday, but DCP (North) Sagar Singh Kalsi said they did not take permission for the protest and were removed peacefully.

Sitting on a wooden bed with a bandaged leg at Jantar Mantar on Thursday, Priyanka said after what Delhi Police personnel did with her, the way she was dragged and her hair was pulled up, she was determined to come to Jantar Mantar and join the protesting wrestlers.

"I might be in pain but I will still be here with the wrestlers of our nation in their fight. I will be here until justice is not delivered to them," she said.

With a poster in hand, which read, Justice for the protesting wrestlers...Arrest the WFI chief on charges of sexual harassment, another DU student Pooja said, This fight is not of one fraternity.

This fight is for all the women of this

The WFI chief should be arrested and his arrest will set an example and deter any man from committing such an act." Some women organisations and a set of lawyers also arrived at Jantar Mantar to extend sup-

NCRPULSE

ANTI-DUST DRIVE FROM MAY 8: GOPAL RAI

New Delhi: Environment Minister Gopal Rai chaired a review meeting with senior officers of the Environment Department and Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) regarding the Summer Action Plan and announced that the Delhi government will start an anti-dust campaign in Delhi from May 8. "Under this campaign, all the departments have been instructed to strictly follow all the rules related to dust pollution. Along with this, orders have also been issued to the department to inspect construction sites going on at different places inside Delhi and take action on the violation of norms', Rai said.

DISCUSSION HELD ON WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY

New Delhi: A panel discussion was held at IWPC on the occasion of World Press Freedom Day. The panelists included veteran journalist. economist and writer Prem Shankar Jha, Senior journalist Pamela

Philipose, Press Club of India President, Umakant Lakhera and Columnist and Author Ashutosh. The meeting was chaired by IWPC

president Shobhna Jain. While all panelists expressed concern about shrinking spaces for the media and journalists' freedom, Prem Shankar Jha emphasized how important it was for the journalists to have easy access to Parliament house and ministries'. He also spoke on how the position of editors had been gradually weakened and lamented the weakening of the twin protection to journalists provided by bold Editors and the Working Journalists' Act. He described present day Editors as "Managers'.

SGGS COLLEGE CELEBRATES 39TH ANNUAL DAY New Delhi: Sri Guru Gobind Singh

College of Commerce, University of Delhi, celebrated its 39th Annual Day on Tuesday to honor the academics, sports and cultural activities over the past academic year.

The Chief Guest, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, inspired the audience with his words of wisdom and congratulated the students for being

part of an esteemed institution while Guest of Honor, former Union Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan, took cognizance of the achievements of the faculty and students, he also emphasized the significance of imparting quality education and traditional values to the youth. The convenor of the annual day, Gurleen Kaur welcomed the dignitaries, students and parents while MPS Chadha, Chairman, Governing Body of the college, traced the journey of the institution from its humble beginnings to the present state-of-the-art infrastructure and prestigious reputation with the A++ NAAC ranking. ADMISSION FOR PHD PROG IN DTU TO START SOON

New Delhi: The admission process for Ph.D. courses will soon begin at Delhi Technological University (DTU). Interested candidates can apply for Ph.D. courses in 24 disciplines across 16 departments on DTU's official website from May 5 to June 9. Speaking about the new courses, Education Minister Atishi said DTU is promoting research and innovation through its Ph.D. courses of the 21st century The candidates who will be included in these Ph.D. courses will revolutionize higher education and technology through their research. Many of their research will boost the development of the nation.

Police stop farmers at Delhi border, detain 24

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

 $A^{
m group}$ of farmers coming to Delhi to express solidarity with wrestlers protesting at Jantar Mantar was stopped by the Delhi at the Singhu border, with officials saying 24 of them have been detained.

AAP MLA Somnath Bharti, detained last night from The farmers were headed to the protest site in the nation-Jantar Mantar where he had gone to give cots to the al capital to join the agitating wrestlers who alleged last night wrestlers following rains in the city, was released on that they were manhandled by Thursday. Bharti was taken to Delhi Police personnel at Jantar ple to arrive there for he was kept for a few hours and

'We have just been released After the ruckus, the Delhi and we will go to Jantar Mantar Police intensified patrolling, again. Our sisters and daughincreased the number of police ters, who have brought laurels pickets, and put heavy barrito our country all over the cading in the border areas. world, have been sitting at They said the borders have not Jantar Mantar for the last 10 been sealed yet, but strict vigil is being kept to check the days. How can we sit at home?" movement of farmers.

A police official said Thursday they have inputs a large number of farmers from Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh are trying to enter Delhi with their tractors.

"We have detained 24 farmers at the Singhu border. They have come from different cities of Haryana. Their vehicles have been kept at the police stations," said a senior police officer. Meanwhile, taking to

Twitter,Bharatiya Kisan Union farmer leader Abhimanyu Kohar alleged he was arrested by the police at Singhu Border. He said on Twitter, "We were peacefully going to Jantar Mantar to support the wrestlers. At Singhu Border, Delhi Police personnels stopped us, misbehaved with us, abused us and kicked senior farmers leaders.

Barricades at protest site, tight security lead to traffic snarls in city

Vehicular traffic in the national capital was hit on Thursday as the Delhi Police put up barricades around the protest site and beefed up checking in the border areas, including Singhu, following information that farmers may come to the city to express solidarity with the wrestlers protesting at Jantar Mantar.

to Delhi to express solidarity with the wrestlers protesting at Jantar Mantar was stopped by the city police at the Singhu border, with officials saying 24 of them have been detained.

According to the Delhi Traffic Police, around 50 calls were received at their helpline number over traffic issues from several areas, including

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI Libaspur, Swaroop Nagar, Okhla, Paschim Vihar and Dwarka

A commuter said traffic was heavy at Dhaula Kuan and the vehicles were crawling while another complained of heavy traffic from Mubarak Chowk to Azadpur. Others said there was a massive traffic jam on the Gurgaon-Delhi expressway and between Nawada and Uttam Nagar.

confrontation between Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leaders and police trying to stop them from bringing in beds for the agitating wrestlers. AAP law-maker Somnath Bharti and his supporters were detained. Police stopped Delhi Commission for Women chief Swati Maliwal from visiting the

Fog in Delhi in May as rain brings min temp down has historically been the hottest

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Weather in Delhi in the past few days has not been what it normally used to be in the month of May. Dense fog engulfed parts of Delhi-NCR on Thursday morning after three days of rainfall, leading to very low visibility with the Safdarjung weather station recording a minimum temperature of 15.8 degrees normal for this time of the year. At 15.8 degrees Celsius, it was the third coldest May morning since 1901. The all-time record for May is 15.1 degrees, recorded on 2 May 1969.

Thursday morning's minimum of 15.8 degrees Celsius is Delhi's lowest for this month in 41 years when it was 15.2 degrees on 2 May 1982. May month of the year in the city with a mean maximum temperature of 39.5 degrees Celsius.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) scientist Kuldeep Srivastava said the dense fog conditions lasted for around two hours, with a visibility of around 200 metre at 7.30 am. He attributed this phenomenon to a combination calm winds. "It is surprising to see fog

at this time of the year, which is because of the high moisture content in the air following Wednesday's rain. Winds were almost calm at night, and this led to a gradual build-up of fog, which then impacted the minimum temperature," Srivastava

AAP accuses cops of snooping on Kejriwal

It's bid to divert attention from Bungalow controversy: BJP

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Aam Aadmi Party on I Thursday alleged Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal was being spied on by the Delhi Police with its Special Cell officials in plainclothes "roaming around" his residence the whole day. AAP chief spokesperson and Delhi minister Saurabh Bharadwaj told a press conference the party's Rajya Sabha MPs Raghav Chadha and Sanjay Singh have written to Delhi Police Commissioner Sanjay Arora in connection with the matter.

The Delhi Police refused to comment on the matter but the Leader of Opposition In Delhi Assembly, Ramvir Singh Bidhuri said that the Arvind Keiriwal government is trying to divert the attention from his bungalow controversy. "Their allegations that Delhi Police is spying upon CM Arvind Kejriwal & his visitors is their last ditch attempt to divert attention from Arvind Kejriwal's Raj Mahal bungalow scam. Why Kejriwal is not answering the allegations of looting Rs 45 crore of people's hard-earned money on his lux-



uries? The public wants to know his answers," he said. Bidhuri said that instead of answering these allegations, the AAP is trying unsuccessfully to divert the attention of the public by creating baseless issues like spying on the Chief Minister. Earlier addressing the media, Bharadwaj said, "In the last two days, our MPs have written letters on a very serious issue." He then read out from the similar letters written by the

"I would like to draw your attention to a serious issue. Delhi's people have made Kejriwal CM thrice. There have been security lapses and he has been attacked. Police are supposed to protect the citizens. But it's sad that they are not able to keep even the chief minister



was spotted near his residence but no one was arrested in connection with the incident," Bharadwaj said.

The MPs, he said, have further pointed out that some officers of Delhi Police's Special Cell have been roaming around Kejriwal's residence for the whole day. Bhardwaj added, "When asked, they said they are on a special task. What special task is this? Is the Delhi chief minister being spied upon? Under which law is the Delhi Police spying on its own CM? They are keeping an eye on people coming to the CM's

residence." The MPs also flagged the deteriorating law and order situation in the national capi-

Kanjhawala, Baprola land for industrial use

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Kanjhawala and Baprola village in Northwest Delhi would be developed as industrial areas in the coming days. The two industrial areas combined will provide a whopping 1220 acres of land for industrial development in the National Capital.

In a step that would rationalize and augment the industrial infrastructure in the National Capital and deter the illegal industrial units from operating in non-industrial areas, Lieutenant Governor, VK Saxena has approved the development of 920 acres of land in Kanjhawala as an "industrial area", making it one of the biggest industrial areas in Delhi. The move will enable the development of Kanjhawala in North West Delhi by Delhi State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation (DSIIDC) as per the provisions of the Delhi Industrial Development, Operation & Maintenance (DIDOM) Act, 2010.

In addition to Kanjhawala, the LG has also paved the way for development of another 300 acres of land in Baprola village as an industrial area. Delhi has 29 industrial areas and most are struggling with poor



'The LG has directed the Industries Department, GNCTD, to get the land use of the available land parcel in Baprola changed to "industriDelhi Development Authority (DDA). Out of the 300 acres of land in Baprola, DSIIDC is in the possession of 137.63 acres of land out of which land use of only 55.20 acres of land is "industrial". Accordingly, the land use of the remaining 82.43 acres of land needs to be changed and notified as "industrial" by the DDA in MPD 2021," Raj Niwas said in a statement. After the LG's approval, the

al", in consultation with the

DSIIDC will notify Kanjhawala as an industrial area under the DIDOM Act, 2010. With this, a number of units that are not in the negative list of the MPD-

R.O. No. 08/DPI/MCD/2023-24

nology and related units, food processing, media, electronics and telecommunication, textile, electrical goods and appliances, automobile, furniture, fixtures and machinery among others can operate out of these industrial areas.

2021, like information tech-

"Development of the Kanjhawala and Baprola Industrial Areas will facilitate regulated industrial growth in the capital. With this, the illegal operation of hundreds of industrial units from commercial/residential areas that often cause mishaps and unregulated pollution will be contained to a great extent.

Brain-dead man gives life to five as kin donate organs

STAFF REPORTER ■ **GURUGRAM**

Organs of a 62-year-old, Vijay Menon from Delhi who was declared brain-dead, have given a new lease of life to five people through organ donation.

He was declared brain dead due to a spontaneous intracranial haemorrhage at the Narayana Superspeciality Hospital Gurugram on Wednesday. "The man had reached the hospital in an



almost unconscious state on May 1, complaining of severe

headache. The doctors transferred him to an ICU following a CT scan, but his brain ceased functioning hours later due to spontaneous intracranial haemorrhage. Recognizing him as a potential donor, the family was informed and counselled about organ donation. The family gave their approval for organ donation, saving the lives of five people", said Dr Swadesh Kumar, Medical Superintendent at Narayana Superspeciality Hospital

MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF DELHI NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Online Open Tenders are invited under single stage-Two Bid system from experienced and financially sound eligible Art Firms/Contractors/Firms JV/Companies which have dealt with Sculptures work(s) as per Tender Nos. 2023 MCD 153346 1, issued vide No. DDH/(HQ)-I/MCD/2023 24/D-144/NIT No. 3 Dated 04.05.2023. Tender Cost Rs. 1.180/-. Total RC Amt. Rs. 5 Crore, Date of Download & Bid submission is w.e.f 05.05.2023 to 25.05.2023 upto 3.00 PM. Pre-Bid Meeting: 15.05.2023 at 2.00 PM. Opening of Technical Bids: 12.05.2023 at 3.30 PM. For e-tendering bidding documents with detailed terms & conditions can be downloaded from the website-https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app OR MCD website www.mcdonline.nic.in. For online tender the helpdesk Nos. are 011-23227413 & 011-23227414 or mail to mcd-ithelpdesk@mcd.nic.in. All details of Revisions, Clarifications Corrigendum, Addendum, Time Extension etc., if any, in respect of this tender will be uploaded on MCD website only & will not be published in newspaper(s) separately. Interested bidders should

regularly visit the website to keep themselves regularly updated for the tender. Dy. Director (Hort.)/HQ-II

SC closes hearing in wrestlers' plea

FIR lodged in case, security given to all seven complainants, says Apex Court

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

 $T^{\text{he Supreme Court on}}_{\text{Thursday closed the proceedings on a plea by three}}$ women wrestlers, who have levelled sexual harassment allegations against the Wrestling Federation of India chief, after noting that FIRs have been registered and seven complainants have been provided adequate

A bench headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud refused to entertain an oral plea by the counsel representing the wrestlers that the ongoing probe be monitored by a retired or a serving high court judge.

"You came here with specific prayers for registration of FIR and security for the complainants. Now both of your prayers have been addressed. If you have any further grievances, you can very well approach the high court or the jurisdictional magistrate," the bench, also comprising Justices PS Narasimha and JB Pardiwala, said, adding that it is closing the proceedings for

now.

The apex court also granted liberty to the petitioner to move the high court or the jurisdictional magistrate for



informed by Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, who was representing the Delhi Police, that as per the apex court's April 28 order, assessment of threat perception to the complainants

was carried out by the police.

He told the bench that adequate security arrangements have been made for the minor complainant as well as the six other women wrestlers. Mehta said statements of four complainants, including the minor, has been recorded under section 161 of the CrPC in the

The FI Chief and BJP MP Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh was represented by senior lawyer Harish Salve and wrestlers were represented by Kapil Sibal. Several wrestlers who have won awards at international competitions have been protesting at Jantar Mantar, demanding that the government make public the findings of an oversight panel that investigated the sexual harassment charges against WFI chief Brij Bhushan Sharan

The Delhi Police has filed two FIRs against Singh on allegations of sexual harassment levelled against the BJP MP by seven women wrestlers.

Grapplers' protest lost credibility after politicians joined it: Lekhi

Maintaining that the Centre was "very sensitive towards cause of wrestlers, doing everything as per law", Union Minister and BJP leader Meenakashi Lekhi on Thursday said the credibility of the wrestlers' protest at Jantar Mantar eroded after "discredited" politicians joined it.

Women wrestlers along with their male grapplers have been staging a dharna at 'Jantar Mantar' leveling sexual harassment charges against Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) chief and BJP MP Brij Bhushan Saran Singh demanding his arrest and also seeking that he steps down from his post for a

fair enquiry.
Singh who is the MP from Kaisherganj, Uttar Pradesh, elected to the Lok Sabha for sixtime and known as a "bahubali" politician, has denied the charges.

Lekhi in a Press conference said the Centre was "very sensitively" dealing with the wrestlers' issue and pointed out that the matter was in court.

"Centre very sensitive towards cause of wrestlers, doing everything as per law",



The BJP leader held the press conference after scuffle broke-out between the protesting wrestlers and the policemen on Wednesday night.

The wrestlers have alleged that they were attacked by cops when they tried to bring in folding beds to the protest site to sleep following rains during the day. Different opposition par-

ties, including the Congress, TMC and AAP, have extend-ed their support to the wrestlers with party leaders reaching the protesting site and meeting

the wrestlers .
"When political people facing cases of ED and corruption charges reach the dharna site, the credibility of the protest is

decreased," Lekhi said.
Alleging that Delhi Chief
Minister Arvind Kejriwal committed "moral and legal" wrongs in arranging "sevenstar facilities" for himself by spending Rs 45 crore on the renovation of his residence. Lekhi said AAP leaders were resorting to "diversionary" tactics by raising the wrestlers'

She also alleged that several AAP leaders held a meeting recently and planned to join the wrestlers' protest.

The Supreme Court on Thursday closed the proceedings in a plea that sought an FIR against WFI chief and did not entertain the prayer to have a retired judge monitoring the investigation into the case after the Delhi police registered Two FIRS against Singh over the complaint of women wrestlers. The SC had earlier sought the Delhi police to file an FIR in the case.

The protesting wrestlers at the Jantar Mantar protest site include, Olympics, Commonwealth and world championship medal winners. Several well-known sportspersons have extended their support to the protesting wrestlers.

'Delhi Police's scuffle with sportspersons shameful'

of female wrestlers. "Such

behaviour with the players of the country is shameful." "Beti

Bachao' is just hypocrisy. In

fact, the BJP has never shied

away from committing atroci-

ties on the daughters of the

country," Gandhi said in his

tweet in Hindi, while sharing a

video of the players in which

they are seen accusing the

Priyanka Gandhi Vadra tagged

a video of wrestlers breaking

down and said it was sad to see

the tears of female sportsper-

sons who brought laurels for

the country with hard work

ence along with Olympic bronze medal-winning boxer

Vijender Singh, AICC secretary

Amrita Dhawan said what the

Addressing a press confer-

and dedication.

Congress general secretary

police of beating them up.

Congress demands court-monitored probe into incident PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Opposition on Thursday attacked the Centre over a scuffle between the Delhi Police and the wrestlers protesting at Jantar Mantar here and termed the incident as "shameful", with the Congress demanding a court-monitored investigation into the entire

Former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, Tamil Nadu CM M K Stalin and his Delhi counterpart Arvind Kejriwal attacked the BJP over the issue and highlighted the plight of the women

Congress called on Prime Minister Narendra Modi to sack Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, against whom the wrestlers are protesting. The party urged the PM to show "sensitivity" to the protesting grapplers by visiting nem at Jantar Mantar.

Delhi Police did with the noted wrestlers is "unprecedented and shameful". Rahul Gandhi in a tweet

Hitting out at the Centre over the scuffle, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said "disrobing" the honour of India's daughters in such a manner was utterly "shameful". The nation was watching their tears, she said, asserting that the country would not forgive those "assaulting" them.

Disrobing the honour of our daughters in this manner is utterly shameful. India stands by its daughters, and I, as a human being, definitely stand by our wrestlers," she tweeted.

"Law is one for all. 'Law of the ruler' can't hijack the dignity of these fighters. You can assault them but can't break their spirit. The fight is right and the fight will continue. Don't dare to hurt our wrestlers, the nation is watching their tears and the nation won't forgive you. I urge our wrestlers to stay strong, I share all my strength with them," Baneriee said.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin hit out at Prime Minister Modi over the alleged manhandling of protesting wrestlers in Delhi, saying con-trary to the PM's "false promises" on empowering women, the BJP was "shielding" accused

Ukraine, Afghanistan to fill SCO meet canvas The Foreign Mins' meet in Goa will also prepare agenda for July summit in New Delhi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

The Shanghai Co-operation Organisation (SCO) Foreign Ministers' meet for two days in Goa beginning Thursday will discuss the entire gamut of issues related to the grouping and situation in Ukraine and Afghanistan. The meet will also prepare the agenda for the SCO summit in July in New Delhi. The SCO summit may ink

15 decisions and the ongoing SCO Foreign Ministers' conclave will firm up these decisions or proposals on Friday, sources said on Thursday. The proposed decisions to be taken up in the SCO summit in July trade, commerce, security and socio-cultural affairs among

The SCO comprises China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, India and Pakistan, with Belarus, Iran and Mongolia as observers

the Foreign Ministers are likely to discuss the ongoing Ukraine conflict and the situation in

Afghanistan, the SCO will not discuss bilateral issues like India-Pakistan ties as laid down in the SCO charter.

Secretary (economic relations) Dammu Ravi of the external affairs ministry told reporters in Goa on Thursday 'The most important work before the SCO foreign ministers will be to assess the status of decisions that will be approved at the SCO Summit." The meeting will also be an opportunity to discuss the state

of multilateral cooperation within SCO, reform and modernisation of the grouping, regional and global issues, and the process of admitting Iran and Belarus as full members, Ravi said.

expected to take a final decision on granting the status of dialogue partner to Kuwait, Myanmar, the Maldives and the United Arab Emirates (UAE), the people said. Belarus, Iran and Mongolia

currently have observer status with the SCO, which also has nine dialogue partners, including Egypt, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Turkey.

Ravi noted that Prime



Minister Narendra Modi had articulated India's priorities as the chair of SCO with the theme of "SECURE" or security, economic development, connectivity, unity, respect for integrity, and environmental

Under its presidency of SCO, India has hosted more than 100 meetings and events, including 15 ministerial meetings. These include meetings of ministers of defence, finance, environment, transport, energy, tourism and culture. Under an Indian initiative, the last SCO Summit in September 2022 agreed to create two new mechanisms focused on startups and innovation, and traditional medicine. Meanwhile, External

Affairs Minister Jaishankar on Thursday held talks with SCO with a focus on overall agenda "Started my meetings at

SCO CFM with a productive interaction with Secretary General Zhang Ming. Appreciate his support for India's SCO Presidency," Jaishankar tweeted.

"Indian presidency is driven by a commitment to SECURE SCO. Its key focus areas are startups, traditional

medicine, youth empowerment, buddhist heritage and science and technology. Looking forward to a successful CFM in Goa," he said. At the conclave, the foreign

ministers will deliberate on overall challenges facing the region in the backdrop of the current geo-political turmoil and the state of bilateral ties between member nations would not impact the discus-India has shown a keen

interest in deepening its security-related cooperation with the SCO and its Regional Anti-Terrorism Structure (RATS), which specifically deals with issues relating to security and defence.

the signing of MoUs with five countries namely Bahrain, Kuwait Maldives, Myanmar and UAE to become Dialogue Partners of the SCO.

India hosted the SCO defence ministerial meeting last week. The defence ministers of all the member nations of the grouping except Pakistan travelled to New Delhi and attended the meeting.

Special Assistant to

Pakistan prime minister on defence affairs Malik Ahmed Khan joined the deliberations virtually. The SCO is an influential

economic and security bloc and has emerged as one of the largest transregional international organisations. The SCO was founded at a

summit in Shanghai in 2001 by the presidents of Russia, China, the Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. India and Pakistan became its permanent members in 2017 India was made an observ-

er at the SCO in 2005 and has generally participated in the ministerial-level meetings of the grouping, which focus nomic cooperation in the Eurasian region.

Meanwhile, reports from Islamabad said Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang will travel to Pakistan immediately after attending the SCO meet on May 5. He will hold strategic talks with the country's top officials and is expected to attend a trilateral meeting involving Afghanistan, according to a media report.

her first poll rally in K'taka tomorrow

Sonia to address

PNS ■ NEW DELHI/BENGALURU

 $F^{ormer\,Congress\,chief\,Sonia}_{Gandhi\ would\ address\ an}$ election rally in Hubballi on Saturday, her first campaign meeting for the May 10 Assembly elections in Karnataka. The Congress candidate in Hubballi-Dharwad Central is former Chief Minister Jagadish Shettar, who joined the party after being denied ticket to contest the elections by the BJP. The BJP has fielded Mahesh Tenginkai in this segment and the same day Prime Minister Narendra road-show in Bengaluru. The fight between Shettar

and Tenginkai has become a prestigious battle of sorts for the ruling BJP and the Congress, which are putting all their might behind their can-

"Sonia Gandhi will arrive at around 12.30 pm on May 6, and after addressing an election rally, she is slated to return from there at around 3.30 pm.

ED files fresh chargesheet in PMLA

This is her only public meeting," Congress party sources

The road-show would pass through the city's 17 Assembly constituencies. The Prime Minister would cover a distance of 10.1 km from 11 am to 1 pm, and 26.5 km from 4 pm to 10 pm, BJP leaders said. May 8 is the last day for campaigning, and the counting of votes is on May 13.

Congress has fielded 40 star campaigners for the Karnataka election which includes Kharge, Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi and Shashi

The list also includes prominent names like KC Venugopal, Randeep Singh Surjewala who is also the State AICC incharge, Jairam Ramesh, P Chidambaram along with Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot, Chhattisgarh CM, Bhupesh Baghel, Himachal Pradesh CM, Sukhwinder Singh Sukku and Maharashtra ex-CM Prithviraj

16 J&K locations of Jamaat-e-Islami raided by NIA

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

As part of its continuing Acrackdown on terror funding in Jammu and Kashmir, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Thursday conducted searches at multiple locations in a case related to separatist and secessionist activities of the banned Jamaat-e-Islami (JeI). "JeI has been found carry-

ing out terror funding activities in Jammu and Kashmir, even after being declared an unlawful association under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act on 28th February 2019," the NIA said in a statement.

The agency had filed a chargesheet in the case before the Special Court, Patiala House, New Delhi on May 12, 2022 against four accused. It had earlier registered a suo motu case in the matter on February 5, 2021.

The searches were conducted at the premises of JeI (J&K) members and supporters at 16 locations, including 11 in Baramulla in the Valley and the remaining five located in Kishtwar in Jammu region.



The funds were, instead, being used for violent and secessionist activities in Jammu and Kashmir. They were also being channelled to proscribed terrorist organizations like Hizb-ul-Mujahideen (HM), Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and others through well organised net-

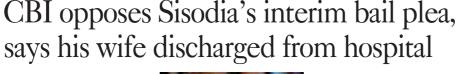
Further, as per the investi-



NIA investigations so far have revealed that JeI (J&K) members had been collecting funds domestically and from abroad through donations, particularly in the form of zakat, mowda and bait-ul-mal, as well as for purported charitable purposes, such as promotion of education and health.

works of JeI cadres.

gations, JeI was also engaged in motivating impressionable youth of Kashmir and recruiting new members (Rukuns) in the Valley for carrying out violent, disruptive and secessionist activities.



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

The CBI on Thursday opposed a plea by former Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia seeking interim bail in the Delhi excise policy case to take care of his ailing wife, claiming she has already been discharged from hospital.

The agency said Sisodia's wife has already been discharged from the hospital but this material fact was not mentioned in his interim bail plea. According to the discharge memo, it said, her condition has improved. Sisodia's counsel argued that there was no



suppression of facts and the mentioning document placed before the court for urgent listing disclosed his wife has been discharged from the hospital but she needs constant care. Additional Solicitor General S V Raju, representing the CBI, said in cases where the medical condition of someone remains bad, he will be the first person to say that relief should

be granted. "Here, on April 25, Sisodia's wife was hospitalised after her conditioned worsened but she has been discharged much before filing of the interim bail application. The interim bail application has to go on the ground of suppression of facts itself. They have suppressed the fact that she has been discharged and her condition has improved. It was not an inadvertent error, this was deliberate," the law officer contended.

The high court also heard part arguments of the CBI on Sisodia's regular bail plea and listed the matter for further hearing on May 10.

case, makes Sisodia main accused

PNS NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Thursday filed a fresh chargesheet in the money laundering case linked to the Delhi excise policy case, naming AAP leader and former Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia as an accused in the case for the first time. Sisodia was arrested by the

ED in this case on March 9 from Tihar Jail and he is currently in judicial custody.

The 51-year-old Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader was first arrested by the CBI, which



This is the fourth supplementary and overall fifth charge sheet or prosecution complaint filed in the case by the ED before a designated special Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) court

The nearly 270 page charge

sheet has annexures running into 2,000 pages. The agency has called Sisodia a "key conspirator" in this case. It had alleged, in the

previous charge sheets, that the liquor policy 'scam' was a "conspiracy" undertaken by some of the big political leaders of the AAP and the so called 'South Group' comprising BRS leader K Kavitha, YSR Congress MP Magunta Srinivasulu Reddy and others who "used" proxies and dummies to conceal their involvement.

Till now, the ED has arrested 12 suspects including Sisodia in this case.

Indian diaspora to host reception for PM before Quad meet

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE/AGENCIES NEW DELHI/CANBERRA

s Australia is all set to host for the Afirst time the Quad summit on May 24, the Indian diaspora there will host a grand community reception in honour of Prime Minister Narendra Modi ahead of the meet on May 24 in Sydney. US President Joe Biden, Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida and Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese besides

Modi will take part in the summit. The Indian Australian Diaspora Foundation will host Prime Minister will be held on May 23, aims to provide the large and growing Indian diaspora of Australia with an opportunity to listen to our beloved leader, the Prime Minister of India," the Indian Australian Diaspora Foundation (IADF) said. The IADF has already seen an

Modi on May 23. "The event, which

overwhelming response to the event, including registration by more than 20,000 members who want to be present at the event.

More than 300 diaspora organizations from various social, cultural, linguistic, business, professional, and

religious backgrounds have registered to become welcome partners for

the reception.

"We have seen grand events take place whenever Prime Minister Narendra Modi travels overseas and

Sydney is expected to be no different as there is a huge excitement among the locals to welcome the most popular leader worldwide," Vijay Chauthaiwale who heads the BJP Foreign Affairs Department told ANI. Cultural programmes, singing

and dances are being planned for the grand reception for the Prime Minister during the function to showcase the rich cultural heritage of India and how it's thriving under the Indians settled in these countries. However, the most awaited part of the

evening remains PM Modi's address the Indian diaspora is excited to have him in their midst. This event in for those gathered there. Ahead of travelling to Australia,

Prime Minister Modi will visit Japan and Papua New Guinea to attend the G7 summit and Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation Summit respectively. Indian Australian Diaspora

Foundation is a non-profit organization that aims to promote and celebrate the diverse Indian culture in Australia. It provides a platform for the Indian diaspora in Australia to come together, network, and promote cultural and community events.

Pawar's successor: NCP panel meets today | Army technician martyred, 2 pilots

Will take final call on requests to continue as party chief in a day or two, says Sharad

TN RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI

head of the search com-Amittee meeting scheduled for Friday to discuss the choice of his successor, outgoing Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) president Sharad Pawar said here on Thursday he would take a final call on requests for reconsidering his decision to step down as the party chief in the next "one or two" days.

Indicating that the impasse over the choice of his successor would end by the weekend, Pawar said: "I am witnessing extreme feelings about my decision to quit as the party president. I am sure the unrest within the party over the leadership issue will end in the next two days. I



party's interests for the future. I have taken this decision to build new leadership in the

Addressing party workers gathered in front of the YB havan centre in south Mumbai, Pawar said: "I should have taken you into confidence before announcing my decision to step down as the party president. If I had consulted you all, I am sure you would have responded positively. But I did not do so".

Ínformed party sources said it was quite unlikely that Pawar would reconsider his decision to quit as the party's president. The fact that Pawar

himself drove down on Thursday morning from his "Silver Oak" residence to Y B Chavan Centre especially to interact with the party gathered there is proof enough to suggest that he is keen on settling the leadership issue at the

Meanwhile, the NCP's search committee — headed by party's vice-president Praful — will meet at the state NCP office south Mumbai at 11 AM on Friday to discuss the issues relating to the choice and election of the NCP's next party president in place of Pawar. The search committee appointed under chairmanship of Patel comprises party lead-

Chacko, Ajit Pawar, Jayant possible contenders for the Patil, Supriya Sule, Sunil NCP chief's post. Of them, Tatkare, Chhagan Bhujbal, Patel and Supriya Sule are front runners for the post. Dilip Walse-Patil, Anil Deshmukh, Rajesh Tope, Dr. Jitendra Awhad, Hasan Amid the continued clam-

our from party workers for Pawar to continue in the party chief's post, the search committee will deliberate on the probable choices and build consensus on one name as the choice of the NCP's next pres-

Pawar's decision won't have any bearing on MVA: Uddhav

Mushrif and Dhananjay

Munde. The names of Patel,

party MP and Pawar's daugh-

ter Supriya Sule, Pawar's

nephew and current leader of

the Opposition Ajit Pawar and State party president Jayant

Maharashtra's former Chief Minister and Shiv Sena (UBT) president Uddhav Thackeray said here on Thursday that Sharad Pawar's decision to step down from his post as the NCP chief would not have any bearing on the Opposition Maha Vikas

In his first reaction to Pawar's decision to quit as the NCP president, Uddhav said: "Pawar's decision will not have any impact on the MVA. From our side, we will not do anything that create fissures in the grand alliance".

Queried if he had spoken to Pawar to reconsider his decision, Uddhav said: "Who am I to advise Pawar? What if he does not heed my advice".

injured in Kishtwar chopper crash

Athe Aviation wing of the Indian Army sacrificed his life in the line of duty while two pilots received injuries when one of the Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) Mk-III crashed after a 'hard landing' on the banks of Marua river in the Kishtwar district of Jammu division on Thursday.

A court of inquiry has also

been ordered and further details are being ascertained, the Army said in a statement.

The 30-year-old CFN (Avn Tech) Pabballa Anil, who hailed from Malkapur village of Rajanna Sirchilla district of Telangana made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty.

According to a statement issued by the Udhampur based Northern Command head-quarters, "The pilots had reported a technical fault to the Air Traffic Controller (ATC) and proceeded for a precautionary landing". "At about 1115 hours on 04 May 2023, an Army Aviation ALH Dhruv helicopter on an operational mission made a precautionary landing on the banks of Marua river in the Kishtwar region of Jammu and Kashmir," the Udhampur-based Northern

Command said in a statement "Due to the undulating ground, undergrowth and unprepared landing area, the helicopter apparently made a hard landing. Immediate rescue operations were launched and Army rescue teams reached the site," the statement said.

The injured were evacuated to the command hospital in Udhampur, where the technician – Craftsman Pabballa Anil succumbed to his injuries, the Army said. Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Manoj Pande and All Ranks of Indian Army paid rich tributes to the technician and also offered deepest condolences to the bereaved

General Commanding-in-chief of the Northern Command Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi also paid rich tributes to the technician.

Calcutta HC stays move to take part of Amartya Sen's Shantiniketan land

PTI KOLKATA

¬alcutta High Court on Thursday gave an interim stay against a move by Visva-Bharati University to take away a part of Nobel laureate Amartya Sen's property -Pratichi — at Shantiniketan. Nobel laureate Amartya

Sen moved the Calcutta High Court, seeking relief as the university had passed an order directing the petitioner to vacate 0.13 acres (5,500 sq ft) of land at his ancestral Santiniketan residence by May 6, even as an appeal for a stay on possible eviction was fixed for hearing on May 15, 2023 at a court in Suri in Birbhum district of West Bengal.



The central varsity, which claimed that the land is under the "illegal occupation" of Sen, had said that it would evict the economist if he failed to vacate it within the deadline.

The matter was heard by a bench of Justice Bibhas Ranjan De at the High Court.

It gave an interim stay in

a lower court in Birbhum dis-In his petition, the econo-

mist argued that in October 1943, the then Visva-Bharati Rathindranath Tagore had given 1.38 acre of land for a lease of 99 years to his father Ashutosh Sen, who later built

Forces neutralise 2 LeT terrorists in Baramulla

Ajoint team of security forces early Thursday morning neutralised two more terrorists belonging to the Pakistan based Lashkar-e-Tayyeba (LeT) terrorist outfit without suffering any collateral damage in village Wanigam Payeen, in Kreeri area of Baramulla district.

This is the second successful operation in the last 24 hours in Kashmir valley.

The entire security grid has been beefed up in the run up to the G-20 Working group meeting across different parts of Kashmir valley.

Pakistani terrorists,infiltrated from across the line of control with Pakistan, were neutralised on Wednesday in the Machhal



Hours later, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha also chaired a high-level meeting to discuss preparation for the G20 meeting at Srinagar.

The meeting was attended by Arvind Singh, Secretary, Ministry of Tourism, GoI (through virtual mode); along with Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lt Governor; Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; RK Goyal, ACS Home; Dilbag Singh, DGP;

Special Secretary & Joint

Secretaries

officers. "G20 is a matter of pride for the country. We should make concerted efforts to ensure successful conduct of the G20 meeting in Srinagar," the Lt Governor said.

Secretariat, besides other senior

Meanwhile, a Defence spokesman in Srinagar said a joint operation was launched by Army and JKP along with CRPF and SSB on the basis of a specific input about the presence of terrorists in village Wanigam Payeen in Kreeri area of Baramulla.

During the operation, the terrorists hiding in a house fired indiscriminately upon the joint search party. In response the security forces retaliated effectively. In the exchange of fire, two terrorists were killed in the early hours

According to police the

terrorists have been identified as Shakir Majid Najar and Hanan Ahmad Seh, both residents of Shopian.

As per police records, both the killed terrorists had recently joined terrorist ranks and were planning to carry out a terrorist attack in the area, which was timely neutralized.

One AK series rifle with 2 magazines, one 9mm pistol with a magazine, an Improvised Explosive Device and other war like stores were recovered from the encounter site. ADGP Kashmir, Vijay Kumar congratulated the joint team of Police and security

forces for conducting successful operation without any collateral damage and termed the operation a big success as the killed terrorists were planning to carry out terrorist attack in

BJP ruling nation through ED-CBI: Mamata

 B^{JP} is ruling the country through the central agencies, Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Thursday said training her guns at the Centre for targeting the Opposition-ruled States while taking no cognizance of offences committed in the saf-

Apparently standing by the women wrestlers agitating in Delhi, Banerjee told a rally at Malda "when your police misbehaves with the wrestlers in Delhi how many central agencies do you (Centre) send to investigate them ... but in case of other States you send ED-CBI at the drop of hat ... in Bengal you have sent 151 central teams" in the recent past.

"The BJP rule is highlighted by the terror of Agencies ... changing the history book, slapping false cases, beating up who protest and release the people guilty --- of tormenting



those like Bilkis Banu --- from jail," Banerjee thundered reminding how the party was trying to create religious and caste divides for the sake of perpetrating its misrule.

The BJP Government only wanted to rule by "Dhamaka" , she said. "They will send ED and CBI sleuths for raids and when the officials do not find anything their political bosses tell them to seize documents or arrest them so as to create a Dhamaka (political explosion)

.. they say 'Dhamaka to ho jane do ... baad ka baad me dekhenge (let there be a political explosion first later on we shall handle the situation.)."

Apparently referring to the recent ED-CBI raids Bengal that had seen almost the entire Education Department including the Education Minister, MLAs, Vice Chancellors and going to jail she said "what actions the BJP government had taken vis a vis Vyapam scam that in Madhya Pradesh," adding "they are always after maligning the opposition led governments for their minor lapses but in the case of Vyapam there were no action rather 54 people were murdered in relation to the Vyapam

Apparently referring to the "tall promises" made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi she said, "before the elections they spoke about Ujala scheme but after the polls there was only darkness ... then someone (Modi) spoke about two free cylinders during Holi and Diwali but none came and now they are offering 3 cylinders in Karnataka which is once again a lie ... this proves that the BJP is a party of liars ... they have polluted the coun-

Alleging that the Home ters seeking up-gradation of Aadhar cards, Banerjee said all that were a ploy to de-franchise a section of people.

try ... they are a polluted party.

"I will not allow any kind of NRC (national register for citizens) or anything of that kind to take place in Bengal

Banerjee's statement on Aadhar and NRC comes at a time when there are reports that TMC's minority vote base is eroding fast, a result of which was the humiliating defeat that her party faced in the by-elections Sagardighi Assembly, a minority-dominated seat.

Cops aiding murderers in Bengal, says NSCC



¬he National Scheduled The National Scheduler Caste Commission has severely reprimanded the Bengal police administration for allowing lower caste people to get tormented at the hands of the ruling party men.

NSCC vice-chairman Arun Haldar who on Thursday visited Moyna in East Midnapore district where a BJP booth level leader BK Bhuniya was abducted and

then murdered by alleged TMC goons said that the Bengal Police was orchestrating and presiding over such

Saying that he would report to the President of India Draupadi Murmu how the Police were working for the felons he said that "after recovering the body of the victim the police neither cordoned off the area nor did they inform the family of the person indicating severe procedural lapses."

Velumani sent to Calcutta

Madras High Court judge

Madras High Court judge V M Velumani was on Thursday posted to the Calcutta High Court, more than a month after the Supreme Court Collegium turned down High Court in the northeast

The Department of Justice in the Union Law Ministry issued a notification announcing the transfer.

It also issued notification about the transfer of Justice Annireddy Abhishek Reddy from the Telangana High Court to the Patna High Court. His transfer was recommended by the SC Collegium on November 24, 2022.

Justice Velumani was appointed as a judge of the Madras High Court in December 2013. The Supreme

Court Collegium had in September 2022 proposed to transfer her to the Calcutta High Court "for the better administration of justice".

According to a collegium resolution of March 28 this year, Justice Velumani had recommendation through a letter dated October 14, 2022.

"Her request was not acceded to by the Collegium. The Collegium by a resolution dated November 24, 2022 reiterated the recommendation for her transfer," the March 2023 resolution read.

In a fresh communication to the Collegium on March 17, Justice Velumani had sought a transfer to a high court of the northeastern states, preferably Manipur or Tripura, on the ground that she would then be able to retain her official accommodation at Chennai.

Uddhav gives 'Jai Bhavani, Jai Shivaji' mantra to Marathi voters in K'taka

'Poll rules must have changed if PM is seeking votes in name of Hinduism'

TN RAGHUNATHA

After Prime Minister Narendra Modi appeal to the Karnataka to uttar the name of "Jai Bhajrangbali" while voting in the Karnataka Assembly polls, Maharashtra's former Chief Minister and Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray on Thursday exhorted Marathi-speaking people in the southern State to invoke "Jai Bhavani, Jai Shivaji" while exercise their franchise in the May 10 poll.

Expressing surprise over the manner in which the Prime Minister had chosen to invoke "Bhajrangbali" to seek votes in the Karnataka Assembly polls, Uddhav said that if the Prime Minister himself was seeking



votes in the name of Hinduism, then it appeared that the rules governing the elections had changed in the country.

Recalling that when late Balasaheb Thackeray had sought votes in the name of Hindutva in 1986 Assembly bypoll, his voting rights were taken away in 1995 for six years by the Election Commission of Índia (ECI), Uddhav said: " If the country's Prime Minister is promoting Hinduism, then the election rules in the country must have changed now. That being the case, the Marathi-

speaking people of Karnataka

should now say 'Jai Bhavani', 'Jai

Shivaji' and seek votes for the

candidates of Maharashtra Ekikaran Samiti (MES)".

Replying to a question, Uddhav disapproved of the debate over Bhajrangbali in the ongoing electioneering for the Karnataka Assembly polls.

Alluding to the dictatorial manner in which Modi was ruling the country, he appealed to the people to unite to defeat the dictatorial attitude of the

"The question is not about defeating an individual but trumping the dictatorial attitude. All people should come together to defeat the dictatorial tendency among the

Price rise in K'taka due to corrupt policies of BJP Govt: Priyanka

PTI KANAKAGIRI

ongress General Secretary ∠Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Thursday slammed the BJP government, saying prices of essential commodities and services were spiralling due to its "corrupt policies"

Alleging that there was rampant corruption prevailing in the state, she said the BJP dispensation in Karnataka is known as "40 per cent commission government". "Prices are skyrocketing

in the state. Cooking gas cylinder, rice, pulses and flour prices have gone up. The price rise is due to a corrupt government formulating corrupt policies," she said in an election rally here in Koppal district of Karnataka, which votes on According to her, no one

but the Contractors'

Association has given the gov-

ernment such a tag. She said

contractors were committing



give huge money as bribe to the government..

She also raised the alleged recruitment scams in the state. "Isn't the government

ashamed that you (people) spend so much on the education of your children and prethe address of big (BJP) leadpare them for competitive ers on election day and divert exams but like the police subtheir focus from the core issues inspector scam, the candidates related to their "daily grind".

stole money and their recruitment has stopped," Vadra said.

She alleged that the son of eight crore in his house.

a BJP MLA was caught with Rs Vadra appealed to the people to not get carried away by

Cong realising its 'sin' after defaming Bajrang Dal, but people won't forgive it: VHP

PTI NEW DELHI

The Congress is now real-The Congress is non-"a sin by defaming Bajrang Dal" but the people of Karnataka will not forgive it, the Vishva Hindu Parishad (VHP) said on Thursday.

The people of the state will make the Congress pay for its "sin" in the May 10 assembly polls, the VHP said and demanded that Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge apologise to the Hindu society and get his party manifesto changed immediately.

The VHP's remarks came day after senior Congress leader and former Karnataka chief minister Veerappa Moily said there was no suggestion before the party to ban Bajrang Dal if elected to power and that the party had promised action against such organisations in its poll man-



Supreme Court's observations against hate politics.

Bajrang Dal is the youth wing of the RSS-affiliated VHP.

Reacting to Moily's remarks, VHP joint general secretary Surendra Jain said in a video message, "Within two days, the Congress realised that they cannot impose a ban on Bajrang Dal." "No matter what they say

now, the people of the country will not forgive them and the people of Karnataka will make them pay for their sin,"

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-PAPER WITH PASSION-

Perils of social justice

The ideology of social justice inevitably results in irrational demands and Manipur-like situations

he unexpected and massive flare-up in Manipur, necessitating a flag march by the Army in violence-hit areas, is yet another unpleasant consequence of identity politics laced with quota demands. The response of the authorities has been copybook: curfew in eight Manipur districts, suspension of mobile internet in the State, calling in the Army and paramilitary forces. An anguished Mary Kom, the boxing legend, made a passionate appeal on social media for peace in her state. The conflagration may subside, but the incendiary material that led to it is unlikely to disappear magically. That material emanates from the dogmas of a dangerous ideology—that ideology of social justice. The Meiteis, who are in a majority in Manipur, have been demanding their inclusion in the Scheduled Tribes (ST) list for 10 years, a demand that has left the Manipur Government befuddled. This is very natural in a democracy where every group has a



right to assert their views and make demands; but the problem is that such reservation for one community is always at the expense of some other community. A similar situation arose some time ago in Rajasthan, where Gujjars were asking for a quota; this was resisted by the Meenas who thought that the acceptance of the Gujjar demand would hurt their prospects in getting jobs and admission to educational institutes. While the Manipur Government remained non-committal, a few weeks ago the Manipur High Court directed it to consider the request of the community's inclusion within four weeks and make a recommendation to the Union Government for its consideration.

Unsurprisingly, Adivasi students' unions are not happy with this development. They assert that granting the ST status to Meiteis would militate against the very spirit of reservation for tribals. The State Government and the Union Government face a tough dilemma: if they accept the demand for the Meiteis' ST status, the tribals get angry; if they don't, they lose the support of the majority community in the State. Meanwhile the issue has inflamed passions. There have been reports of communal clashes in different parts of Manipur. Trouble began on Tuesday after the All Tribal Students' Union Manipur (ATSUM) organised a big rally which became violent. "So far, 4,000 people were rescued by the forces from the violence-hit areas, and given shelter and more people are being shifted to safer places," an official told PTI. Union Home Minister Amit Shah has spoken to Chief Minister Singh to take stock of the situation. It is time political and community leaders in the State and others sat down and discussed the matter in a reasoned and calm manner, in the veritable democratic tradition of give-and-take. Making fiery speeches, coining new slogans, and making irrational demands will hurt everyone, for normalcy will be hurt. And normalcy is the necessary, though not sufficient, condition for development. Only development results in a win-win situation for all.



Vendors sell inflatable water pools on a roadside during a hot summer day, in Amritsar,

SC cracks whip on hate speech







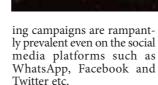
India's diverse culture and demography make Indian society prone to differences, and hate speeches can exacerbate these differences

n a recent order, the Supreme Court directed all states and Union Territories to take suo moto action and register cases on their own against those making hate speeches even if no complaint is filed in that respect. The court further directed that "any hesitation to act in accordance with this direction will be viewed as contempt of court and appropriate action shall be taken against the erring officers". The court directed such an action irrespective of the religion of the maker of such speech, so that the secular character of India, as envisaged by the Preamble, is preserved and protected.

The court's order is indubitably appreciable and is made with indeed a pious aim to control hate speeches that have the inherent potential to destroy social harmony and may lead to strife and unrest in society. However, given the prevailing circumstances, it is highly likely that such an order may be misused by the political parties to settle scores with their political adversaries. Therefore, this order shall achieve its purpose truly only when the honourable apex court also simultaneously evolves certain foolproof safeguards for ensuring the prevention of misuse of an otherwise commendable and useful order.

India's diverse culture and demographic makeup make Indian society prone to differences, and hate speeches can exacerbate these differences, leading to social unrest and communal tensions. Events in the past have amply highlighted the fragile nature of India's social fabric which is easily susceptible to such hate-fraught statements and how the volatile semblance of unity gets instantaneously tarnished resulting in a huge toll on peace and order in society.

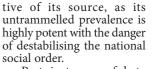
The past few years have witnessed a flurry of incidents involving hate statements and speeches springing from politicians, political commentators, religious leaders and even common people. Most of such statements were made in political ral-lies, on social media platforms as well as in live debates on television channels. Hate-monger- be strictly regulated irrespec-



Moreover, a plethora of online channels is also becoming major sources of spreading hatred through such venomous speeches as they don't shy away in frequently inviting people with doubtful credentials to their panel discussions.

The motives for making statements potent with spreading hatred between communities vary as they may be a result of gaining political mileage through polarization, assuaging pentup religious feelings, asserting superiority over the opponents, and even getting cheap publicity. Political campaigns often see politicians resorting to hate speech to gain votes from one particular commu-

There is no doubt that such statements and speeches have an unhealthy influence on the common masses that carry such impressions in their psyche and form adverse opinions about other groups and communities. Given India is a constitutional democracy based upon the rule of law, hate speech must



Past instances of hate speeches have caused violence and sowed deep-rooted hatred in society. For instance, the apparent rift between the Hindu-Muslim communities is based on religion and has caused significant disasters for society in the past.

Therefore, it is essential to have strict laws and regulations in place to curb hate speech and to ensure their indiscriminate enforcement without causing further harm to society, and the Supreme Court's recent decision on hate speech is a much-needed step in the right direction.

However, given the circumstances prevailing in India, especially in states, where the police frequently behave like in a police state, mostly at the instance of their political bosses, and do not refrain from implicating people under false cases, would not such an order be misused by them to serve bersonal interests.

their selfish interests, and given the loopholes in the system they sometimes become successful.

India proclaims the ideal of "non-violence" and "harmony", but these ideals will be compromised in case of the presence of hatred in the society. The question of how to effectively deal with instances of hate speech can be answered positively, but it requires the collective effort of communities and state

Although various provisions of the Indian Penal Code and the Representation of People Act, 1951 regulate hate speech, separate legislation on hate speech should be enacted to provide a detailed framework to deal with it along with the necessary safeguards to prevent the misuse of the law regulating hate speech. The recent directive from the Supreme Court is a welcome step in the right direction, as it is likely to curb cases of hate speech, but adequate safeguards are also required to prevent misuse of

(Sidharth Mishra is a Senior Assistant Projessor at the Faculty of Law, University of Delhi and Shivani Devadiya is a law student. Views *expressed are personal*)

In India, it is an open secret that people do not shy away even from filing false and fabricated cases to fulfil

PAST INSTANCES

SPEECHES HAVE

VIOLENCE AND

SOWED DEEP-

IN SOCIETY

ROOTED HATRED

OF HATE

CAUSED

Nano fertilisers: The DAP in new avatar



Moving from Urea-in-a-bag to Nano DAP fertiliser in-a-bottle is a good idea and would be farmer freindly, but organic farming must be promoted

ecently IFFCO launched its Nano fertilizer which can be sprayed in the field and is an upgrade of urea in the bag. Launching the Nano fertilizer, Amit Shah, Minister of Home Affairs & Minister of Cooperation said, "Successful co-operative societies coming out of their framework for research and foraying into new fields have made it a source of inspiration for all co-operative societies today." The Nano DAP is indeed

a way forward and has many advantages associated with its use. Keeping in view the hazards of chemical fertilizers IFFCO has produced the world's first Nano DAP Liquid Fertiliser as the substitute for chemical solid fertilizers. It is cheaper than Conventional DAP. One bag of DAP is ?1350 while one bottle of Nano DAP Liquid is just? 600. It is biologically safe to use and aims to reduce soil, water and air pollution and it will lead to a significant reduction in dependence on DAP Imports

Fertilizers have played a crucial role in the success of the Green Revolution and meeting the increasing demand for food. Since the Green Revolution in the

1960s, chemical fertilizers have been widely used to increase crop yielḋs.

The Green Revolution saw a significant rise in food grain production. Urea was touted as the major ingredient for it. It was a success story keeping in mind that just 20 years back India had suffered from the world's worst recorded food crisis; the Bengal Famine, which led to the death of approximately 4 million people. Green Revolution made India selfreliant. The Green revolution refers to the turnaround in the yield of foodgrains, especially in Haryana and Punjab. Indian Agriculture was galvamodern methods and technology. Thus, India became self-sufficient in food grains and had sufficient stock in the central pool, even, at times, India was in a position to export food grains. The Green Revolution brought about large-scale farm mechanization which created a demand for different types of machines like tractors, harvesters, threshers, combines, diesel pumping sets, etc. But it had a downside too

which is becoming more and more prominent in recent years. It led to an exponential rise in demand for chemical fertilizers, pesticides, insecticides, weedicides, etc. It also promoted capitalist farming. Little or no efforts were made to educate farmers about the high risk associated with the intensive use of pesticides. Pesticides were sprayed on crops usually by untrained farm labourers without following instructions or precautions. The large-scale use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides resulted in several critical illnesses including cancer and renal failure.

The Nano DAP fertilizer can effectively bring about a have been instrumental in nized by the adoption of second green revolution

which would be environmentally safe, economically viable and socially sustainable. Nano DAP Liquid is an efficient source of Nitrogen & Phosphorus and helps in overcoming Nitrogen & Phosphorus deficiencies in plants. The Nano Di-ammonium Phosphate (DAP) liquid fertiliser was developed by the Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative IFFCO. It is claimed that it is biologically safe and Eco-friendly, fit for residue-free green farming.

But having said this, the excessive reliance on chemical fertilisers particularly nitrogenous fertilizers such as urea must be checked and discouraged and organic fertilizers must be promoted by the government on a much larger scale. Chemical fertilizers cannot be a substitute for organic manure. The main emphasis should be given to organic farming which many farmers are practicing successfully. Government must pay heed to organic farming which is the only solution for health, environment and soil.

(The writer is a business consultant and development writer. Views expressed are

VIRAT KOHLI IN A SPAT Sir — It refers to "Kohli Gambhir spat rekindles 2013 deja vu ". For an Indian batting legend like Virat Kohli and two world cup winners Gautam Gambhir that was not a sight to behold. Agree, passions run very high in such intensely fought games where there is a lot that is at stake for all franchises. But big players must know where to draw a line. Whatever has happened on the field should not have remained there and not allowed to carry on after the match was over. Penalising them by 100% of their match fees will not help the matter much as the penalty should be severe like a ban for a match or two. Because it is not the first time when we have seen Virat Kohli in a spat with an opposition player. These players are role models for our youngsters and must behave in a manner that can be emulated by their fans and not otherwise. At the end of the day, it was not a gully match but an IPL match played by international players and watched across the globe.

Bal Govind | Noida

UNIFORM CIVIL CODE

Sir — A day after the BJP promised the Uniform Civil Code and the National Register of Citizens in its manifesto, Congress promised to ban outfits like Bajrang Dal, the Popular Front of India (PFI) and repeal all 'unjust, anti-people laws' passed by the BJP government within one year, if elected to power. People wonder that within hours Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi hit out at the Congress for promising to ban Bajrang Dal in its election manifesto. He said that the grand old party wants to hold Lord Hanuman "captive" (people wonder when did 'Bajrang Dal' become 'Bajrang Bali'). I don't think lord Hanuman used to roam on roads in groups like Bajrang Dal and do moral policing of couples, I don't think lord Hanuman used to forcefully ask people to say Jai Shree ram, I don't think he used to kill innocent people. So don't use the name of lord Hanuman for your terror like the Bajrang Dal organization. I'm a daily rise, last week. On the other hand, the

Ukraine's terrorist attack?



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ue to war, Russia has accused Ukraine of trying to assassinate Russian President Vladimir Putin in a drone attack at his residence in Moscow overnight as per the report. It is a 'terrorist act', the Kremlin said that there was a drone strike at Putin's residence in Kremlin. Russia considers these actions a premeditated terrorist attack and an assassination attempt targeting the President. the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs wrote. The drones were 'disabled' by the Russian military and security forces before they could strike. Debris from the drones fell on the

grounds of the building which houses the Russian government but did not result in any damage. The official statement added that no

casualties were reported.

such an order.

A video surfaced on a local Moscow news Telegram channel that allegedly shows the drone attack. Shot from across the river from the Kremlin, it shows what appears to be smoke rising over the highly secure complex. The Kremlin drone attack comes as Russia gears up to observe its annual Victory Day on May 9, which will be attended by "foreign dignitaries". Russia's statement added that it retains the right to respond "when and where it sees fit". Putin wasn't in the Kremlin at the time of the attack, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told Russia's state news agency RIA Novosti. The Russian president was working out of the Novo-Ogaryovo residence at the time. Putin is safe and his schedule has not been changed, the Kremlin said.

Bhagwan Thadani I Mumbai

worshipper in the local Hanuman Mandir and strongly believe that Bajrang Bali does not stand for violence and self-appointed goons. Hanuman is humility not power on elpless individuals.

Congress spokesperson Pawan Khera said: "The Prime Minister is insulting our faith in Lord Hanuman. He should apologise to the country as he has hurt our religious sentiments as well as of crores of devotees of Bajrang Bali."

Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee | Faridabad

SHARAD PAWAR'S RESIGNATION

Sir — INationalist Congress Party (NCP) chief and veteran national leader, Sharad Pawar's out-of-the-blue announcement to step down as the party's president has left one and all in a stupor of astonishment, besides causing a ripple effect in the country's political waters even as his meeting with the Adani Group chairman Gautam Adani had made many hackles in the party

ongoing efforts for the formation of a grand alliance comprising the non-BJP parties ahead of the next year's Lok Sabha polls might also take some beating following this

abrupt Political pundits already trying to read between the lines of Sharad Pawar's departure from the united Opposition's demand for the JPC to look into the Adani Group issue would have got it sussed out by now. Burning no bridges with any political parties and their leaders, in power or in Opposition, has always been a hallmark of Mr Parwar's politics riding on which he saw a lot of heydays during his political career spanning over five decades. As a consolation, the outgoing party chief also promised to continue attending public meetings and events and remain available with his guidance. What's next!

Azhar A Khan | Rampur

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FIRST COLUMN

INDIA IS THE CHAIR OF **G20 AND SC0**

But it will be a tightrope walk for India as it must deal with China on the way



KUMARDEEP BANERJEE

ninese foreign minister Qin Gang was in India this week for the Shanghai Cooperation organisation's (SCO) foreign minister's meeting. This is his second visit to India as foreign minister, the first being in March to attend the G20 foreign minister's meeting. As expected China insisted on normalcy in the bilateral ties with India even though the Indian side vociferously disagreed and made a sharp point on the border situation being anything closer to normal. It may be recalled that the Chinese defence minister Li Shangfu was in New Delhi last week to attend the SCO defence minister's meeting where he reiterated the normalcy in the border situation narrative. However, India's defence minister Rajnath Singh in a stern message, put the border situation, and unilateral violation of existing sovereign agreements by China, as the central piece of bilateral relations between the two nations. He went further and suggested disengagement of forces on both sides to be the key criteria for restoring any sort of normalcy, in the bilateral.

His Chinese counterpart downplayed the situation suggesting India take a "long-term" view and put the "border issue at an appropriate place in the overall bilateral". The message was clear, India and China have moved miles apart in their bilateral journeys. The Chinese stateowned media reported Li Shangfu's statement to mean a "stable border situation". To an Indian audience and perhaps to the rest of the globe, nothing could be further from the truth. The top military leadership of India and China met for the eighteenth time in the run of the SCO defence minister's meeting, with no significant outcomes. A Ministry of External Affairs short press statement released, post the 18th round of the corps commanders meeting stated "The two sides



had a frank and in-depth discussion on the resolution of the relevant issues along the LAC in the Western Sector so as to restore peace and tranquillity in the border areas, which will enable progress in bilateral relations". Later external affairs minister, S Jaishankar mentioned India China relations as "abnormal" and suggested that it goes against the grain of India's current foreign policy fabric, which is more towards building warmer relationships with all countries, an oblique reference to the Chinese way of approaching diplomacy.

The China rhetoric on normalcy at the border is a copybook agenda-pushing doctrine, it has been practised with several nations while trying to unilaterally and forcefully alter their sovereignty. It takes the form of economic coercion, starting with opaque, binding financial loans for critical infrastructure projects, leading to a debt trap for smaller economies, resulting in the complete takeover of critical strategic assets by Chinese state-controlled firms. Chinese state-owned China Merchants group has recently announced building the largest logistics hub in Sri Lanka's Colombo port with an investment of \$391 million. It may be recalled that China already owns Sri Lanka's Hambantota port, whose close proximity to Indian critical nuclear sites is a major concern. The playbook dictates China, and makes incremental advances by usurping the sovereign's economic, and geographical spaces, changing reference points and then negotiating with the nations from the altered "Chinese vantage point." The recent narrative from China, on stability on border issues with India, fits into the same playbook.

However, India which holds the SCO and G 20 presidency for the year is moving cautiously to strike the right balance. It knows it has US support for now, on most disputes related to China, however, it continues to maintain warm relations with Russia, which is now increasingly being seen as China's shadow in international circles. Further Chinese premiere is expected to be in India in July to attend the SCO leaders meeting and may even come back for the G20 leaders summit in September. These are tough tightropes for India to walk.

(The writer is a policy analyst)

Tagore's education is for joy and happiness



The education philosophy of Tagore has received acceptance from the modern-day education policymakers

urudev Rabindranath Tagore remains a highly respected intellectual stalwart to most of the Indians who know him as the author of the National Anthem and the recipient of the Nobel Prize for literature in the year 1913 for his renowned collection of poems Geetanjali. The inherent sense of respect stands enhanced when one is informed that he is also the author of the National anthem of Bangladesh. Not only this, the National anthem of Sri Lanka was authored by Ananda Samarakoon while he was a disciple of the Shanti Niketan.

There are clear indications of Tagore's influence on its words, music and thought. Tagore got his Nobel Prize for literature, but his contributions to music, painting, education, social reforms, and freedom struggle, are also of the highest level. He was the visionary who knew at the very beginning of the 20th century that man's relationship with nature is going to get seriously imbalanced with the growth of industrialization. Modernization would lead to militarism, and that would push humankind into wars and violence. Violence would be all around, and heartless conflicts would spread across national boundaries. Indications of such a situation developing were already available from the years of WWI. All this attracted the serious attention of humankind only after WWII, but it is evident to everyone that it has been inadequate and dispropor-

The more one dwells on ideas, vision and philosophy of Tagore, the more one gets convinced of how deeply he had pondered over the elements of outer life and inner life; the spiritual aspects. These get manifested in his writings on education, poems and songs, paintings, and in that great institutional creation, the Shanti Niketan. He was really worried and anxious about the growing materialism in the West, which he found 'leaning towards the path of destruction. It's now very well realized that he was prophetic in this context, as humanity today is struggling with issues of pollution, potable water crises, melting glaciers, deforestation, dying rivers, and much more. Tagore was convinced that only thinking minds; free minds, and creative minds could recreate the symphony between man and nature, the only Mantra for the survival of humanity on the planet Earth. Devi Prasad, a former student of ianti Niketan, writes:

The aim of the educational philosophy of Rabindranath was to maintain harmony with a social and natural atmosphere so that everybody would be able to develop all creative capabilities from the very beginning of his or her life. His plan was to make education a means by which the child's mind and body should be able to keep in harmony with the rhythm of nature." He illustrated to anyone interested the difference between the growth and development of children sitting in a room confined to their chair and desk for hours together, to those in the open air environment, running around the trees, plants, bushes, birds and friendly animals! Here they experience the joy of childhood, the happiness of existence, when all this they learn on their own. Keeping them away from nature snatches away the vital of learning from nature and developing an empathetic cord of empathy with nature. It eventually contributes to an increase of distrust, greed, avoidable and unnec-



THE MORE ONE

DWELLS ON IDEAS, VISION AND PHILOSOPHY OF TAGORE, THE MORE ONE GETS CONVINCED OF HOW DEEPLY HE HAD PONDERED **OVER THE ELEMENTS OF OUTER LIFE AND** INNER LIFE; THE **SPIRITUAL ASPECTS** sibility toward nature.

ing unnecessary restrictions. Children are happiest when they are permitted to be free from nature. In short, individuality has to be given due consideration and respect. If the traditional relation-ship with nature had been preserved, man would not be facing problems with the environment and nature that presently appear insurmountable. It is well-known that Tagore considered modernday schools like a cage; or even a prison-house, and the confinement of children there as organized torture! To Tagore, the obligation of the parental generation was to give them happiness. According to him freedom and joy were the sine qua non of education, and these were also the motto of his school.

Swami Vivekananda taught us that "education is a manifestation of perfection already in man. And we all know who the 'Perfect One' is! There is no bar on human beings making comprehensive efforts to reach that stage! In the Asramer siksa, Tagore mentions: "As God himself finds his own freedom in his own creation and then his nature is fulfilled, human beings, have to create their own world and then they can have their freedom." Thus, curiosity, imagination, ideas and creativity are indeed blessings of the divine that every human being born on earth receives in abundance without any discrimination of any sort. These must be scrupulously and dexterously encouraged to flourish, without impediments.

The modern education system does just the opposite! The unob-

one recalls the ancient Gurukula system, it would clearly emerge that the man-nature relationship was given its due. An over-alert and happily living community is invariably acknowledged for its original products of intellect and

also its outputs in creative sectors

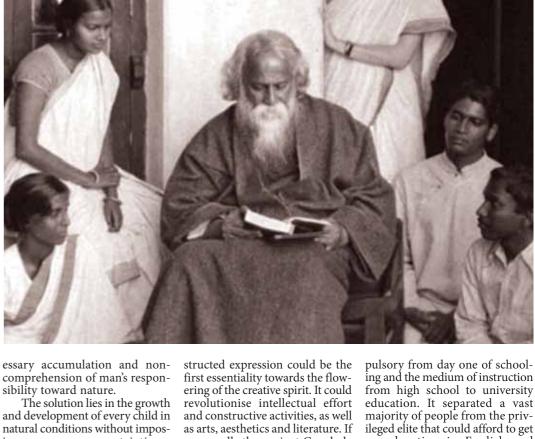
of human activity. At this point, one could recall what Einstein had said: "A hundred times every day I remind myself that my inner and outer life is based on the labours of other men, living and dead and that I must exert myself in order to give in the same measure as I have received and am still receiving." And we all are aware that our very existence on this planet hinges on the sensitive cord that eternally binds humankind to nature, and our own tradition and practice of knowledge quest, both in the outer world and inner self. Education systems the world over must remember, both at the policy formulation stage as also during the implementation, that "education divorced from nature has brought untold harm to young children." It has, consequently, brought/harm

Acceptance of the education philosophy of Tagore has received acceptance from modern-day education policymakers. One could particularly point out Tagore's passionate support for the mother tongue as a medium of instruction in education. He was vehemently opposed to the thenprevalent system of education that made learning English com-

to humanity.

an education in English and English mediums in India or from abroad. Learning English has been the prime factor of high dropout rate in schools and is uniformly responsible for creating considerable demoralization amongst those considered weak in English, even at the present stage. Learning English or through the English medium made the school environ-ment completely alien to a great majority of children. If quality has become a major concern in the Indian education system today, one must seriously examine the contribution of the increasing fascination amongst parents who could afford admissions of their wards in high-fee charging private schools; euphemistically called public schools. In Tagore's approach harmony between the home environment and the learning environment gets high priority. He pleads for freedom, but not at the cost of discipline and formation of character and inculcation of values. That unfortunately is becoming more and more elusive in the ever-expanding phenomenon of urbanization.

There is so much that those entrusted with the implementation of the new education policy could learn from the philosophy of Gurudev. One would be cautious in mentioning that the Vishwa Bharati stands as evidence of his ideas, imagination and vision transformed into a living reality. Let us hope it regains its credibility once again, and that would please everyone who



(Professor Rajput works in education, social cohesion and religious

Managers with liberal arts backgrounds make better leaders

Management is transforming from the art of managing science to the science of managing art

Since the inception of the Industrial Revolution, the human race's progress has been fuelled by competition. The adoption of capitalism prevailed over other economic systems primarily due to its reliance on meritocracy and an easy mea-

sure of success, wealth. The competitive fuel proved to be efficient in driving the economics and harmful by depleting the natural resources at a rapid rate. The quality of life in terms of material comforts and living became better with the passage of time. However, appetite and the lust for more comforts, fuelled by competition developed a vicious loop that consumed humans in a rat race. The end goal of the rate race was happiness



(The writer is the president

of Vijaybhoomi University)

but the means to achieve the end converged to wealth. Due to the depletion of natural resources and increasing competition, the last two centuries witnessed friction resulting in huge wars and growing disparity between the haves and have-nots. Arts and philosophy which were once upon a time considered to be the fuel for thought and progress lost ground to science and economics. During the early years of

capitalistic growth, the growing appetite for the wealth of the rich and powerful generated a demand for human resources who would follow instructions and lend their abilities in lieu of a regular income. This model catered to the needs of the larger mass who were willing to trade risk

with a moderate but continuous and secure income. The education systems evolved to cater to this demand and succumbed to disciplines driven by science and economics. Students of liberal arts began to be identified with social activism since their actions were divergent from those who voluntarily consumed themselves in the rat race. Liberal arts played an important role in preserving the development of essential skills- Communication, critical thinking, and creativity. Competition fuelled the

transition from the industrial age to the digital age. However, the digital age systematically flattened the world by democratising access to information, knowledge and commerce. This

transition created a level playing field for those who could innovate, take risks, think critically, communicate effectively and have the ability to influence others through their inherent ability to empathise and communicate. The pervasive nature of digital technology started to impact cultures, values and established ways of life by providing a means for asking questions and sharing opinions, experiences, achievements and failures with anyone and everyone. This repository of human experiences, opinions and emotions became a breeding ground for those who were willing to listen and seek out opportunities from the human sentiments that lay embedded in this vast

repository. This data reposi-

tory revived the appetite for crunching numbers using mathematical and statistical models to decipher hidden sentiments, desires and aspirations of humans resulting in the discovery of new business opportunities. Algorithmic decision-making based on structured and unstructured data began replacing intuitive and experiential decisionmaking. Empathy resumed prominence as the function of listening grew beyond the visual and auditory senses.

The easy access to opportunities for active listeners in this new digital world coupled with the ability to imagine, ideate and create soon brought the students of liberal arts to the forefront. The new age companies started to be driven by design, user influencers are challenging

interaction and user experithe paradigm of education ences contrary to the past wherein businesses thrived on economic value addition. The question is whether managers with liberal arts backgrounds make better leaders. Is being debated and dis-cussed in many popular forums. The jury is still out and there is very limited evidence to prove since we are transitioning between the old normal and the new. The demand for soft skills such as empathy, communication ability, imagination, ideation, creativity, critical thinking and problem-solving is trending north and this is quite evident in the future skills report published by the World

Forum.

Economic

Policymakers, educators and

driven by science and economics. The new jobs demand the use of imagination and ideation for innovation. Management is transforming from the art of managing science to the science of managing art. The days of command and control are getting outnumbered. Participative and transformational leadership style is fast replacing transactional and authoritative styles. The new age roles and the

new jobs require a good understanding of the social context coupled with a sound foundation of logic and reasoning, skill and the will to learn. Liberal arts education has demonstrated the delivery of these outcomes for

Zelenskyy convinced Putin will face ICC action Kremlin 'drone attack'

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said on Thursday he was convinced that Russian President Putin would face an international war crimes court when Ukraine wins the war that has been raging for over a year.

In a speech titled "No Peace without Justice for Ukraine" given in The Hague, the city that hosts the International Criminal Court, Zelenskyy said that Putin "deserves to be sentenced for these criminal actions right here in the capital of the international law.'

"And I'm sure we will see that happen when we win. And we will win," he said. The ICC has issued an arrest warrant for Putin for alleged war crimes in Ukraine, relating to the abduction of children.

The ICC cannot prosecute the crime of war aggression itself. Zelenskyy's speech was an appeal for a full-fledged tribunal to prosecute that overarching crime, a heart-felt plea for a special tribunal for aggres-



Finnish President Sauli Niinist, Icelandic Prime Minister Katrin Jakobsdottir and Norwegian Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Store attend a press conference as part of the Nordic-Ukrainian summit at the Presidential Palace in Helsinki, Finland

"If we want true justice, we termed a "terrorist" act. should not look for excuses and should not refer to the shortcomings of the current international law but make bold decisions that will correct that shortcomings that unfortunately exist in international

Zelenskyy's speech came a day after he denied that Ukrainian forces were responsible for what the Kremlin called an attempt to assassinate Putin in a drone attack on Moscow. The Kremlin promised retaliation for what it

Putin's spokesman on Thursday accused the United States of being behind the alleged attack.

Dmitry Peskov told reporters during a daily conference call that the Kremlin was 'well aware that the decision on such actions and terrorist attacks is not made in Kyiv, but in Washington." then Kyiv does what it's told to do," Peskov said, without offering evidence for his claim.

Meanwhile, Ukraine's military claimed three Russian

drones that hit the southern city of Odesa early Thursday had "for Moscow" and "for the Kremlin" written on them, seemingly referring to the strikes in Moscow. Also, Kyiv was the target of an air attack for the third time in four days.

In total, Ukraine's Air Forces intercepted 18 out of 24 Iranian-made drones launched by Russian forces in various regions. No casualties were Zelenskyy was welcomed

outside the ICC building by the court's president, Poland's Piotr

windows to get a glimpse of Zelenskyy's arrival and raised a Ukrainian flag next to the court's own flag outside the

Judges at the ICC last month announced they had found "reasonable grounds to believe" that Putin and his commissioner for children's rights were responsible for the unlawful deportation and transfer of children from occupied areas of Ukraine to Russia.

But the chances of Putin standing trial in The Hague are remote. The court does not have a police force to execute its warrants, and the Russian leader is unlikely to travel to any of the ICC's 123 member states that are under an obligation to arrest him if they can.

The ICC said in a March statement that Putin "is allegedly responsible for the war crime of unlawful deportation of (children) and that of unlawful transfer of (children) from occupied areas of Ukraine to the Russian Federation."

ICC Prosecutor Karim Khan has made repeated visits to Ukraine and is setting up an ongoing investigations.

However, the ICC does not have jurisdiction to prosecute Putin for aggression — the unlawful invasion of another sovereign country. The Dutch government has offered to host a court that could be established to prosecute the crime of aggression and an office is being established to gather evi-

The new International Centre for Prosecution of the Crime of Aggression should be operational by summer, the European Union's judicial cooperation agency, Eurojust, said in February. The Netherlands has been

strong supporter of the Ukrainian war effort since Russia's invasion last year. Among military equipment Prime Minister Mark Rutte's government has promised are 14 modern Leopard 2 tanks it is buying together with Denmark. They are expected to be delivered next year. The Netherlands also joined forces with Germany and Denmark to buy at least 100 older Leopard 1 tanks for Ukraine.

unsettles Russia

Tallinn (Estonia): As Russian officials tell it, two Ukrainian drones flew into the very heart of Moscow under the cover of darkness, reaching the Kremlin before they were shot down at the last minute. A cloud of questions hangs over the claim.
Why did the Kremlin

announcement come about 12 hours after the purported incident? Why did no reports of explosions emerge prior to the announcement on the messaging apps that remain full of chatter despite Russia's crackdown on media and criticism of the war in Ukraine? Why didn't videos of the purported attacks appear until after the announcement? Why haven't the images been verified?

A drone attack on the Kremlin would be the most severe penetration of Russian airspace since German teen Matthias Rust landed his little single-engine plane on the fringes of Red Square in 1987. Announcing the attack - or even faking it - risks Russia undermining its citizens' trust in its frequent assertions of military superiority.

Adding to that humiliation is that the incident occurred less than a week before Victory Day, Russia's paramount military holiday. In some of the videos of the claimed attack, the decorated viewing stands and tribune for the day's ritual Red Square military parade can be seen prominently.

For President Vladimir Putin, the confession of Ukrainian drones reaching the Kremlin could be justification for a brutal step-up of attacks on Ukraine. Russian officials persistently contend — repeated evidence to the contrary that the military goes after only military targets.

Severe retaliation is already in the wind, including threats aimed specifically at Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, who denied attacking the Kremlin.

"After today's terrorist act, no variant remains other than the physical elimination of Zelenskyy and his clique," said former Russian president and deputy chairman of the Russian security council, Dmitry Medvedev.

Mexico develops own Covid vax after two years

Mexico (AP): Mexican officials celebrated Wednesday the announcement that the country finally developed its own COVID-19 vaccine, more than two years after inoculations from the US, Europe and China were rolled out. It was unclear what use would be made of the vaccine, named "Patria" or "Motherland," developed in a joint effort between the government and a Mexican company, Avimex, which previously did work on animal vaccines.

Vaccine uptake in Mexico dropped precipitously in late 2022 and 2023, and Mexico still has millions of doses of the Abdala vaccine it bought from Cuba.

María Elena Álvarez-Buylla, the head of Mexico's government commission for science and technology, said the new vaccine would be approved for use as a booster shot. She did not say whether the government medical approval agency had formally authorised the Patria vaccine.

PUBLIC NOTICE It is notified for the information of financial nstitution and public at large that my client Sh. Harshvardhan Chugh, S/o Late Mr. Dina Nath Chugh, having PAN: AFYPC6733M, R/o P-14A, First Floor, Jangpura Extension, New Delhi-110014 has resigned from M/s Perfect Readymix Solutions vide Addendum to retirement deed dated November 20, 2021 and at New Delhion Livid, 2023 between the artners of M/s Perfect Readymix Solution thereby my Client got retired from the artnership firm with effect from March 31, 2022 cording to which after his disassociation wi M/s Perfect Readymix Solutions, he shall no nave any liability whatsoever such as GST oans, Guaranties, mortgages or others and name shall be borne by the current partners. He are shall be borne by the current partners. He as disassociated with this firm since March 31 002, and my client shall not be liable for an oss on account of any future/past dealings on partnership firm. The address of M/s Perfect and the partnership firm. The address of M/s Perfect of the partnership firm. e partnersnip iiiii. 1100-210 eadymix has also changed to C9/9550, Vasar unj, New Delhi -110049. Current Partners Is. Shweta Khattar Mobile: 9899332839 an Mr. Ashok Narang Mobile: 9810236787. RAMAN KUMAR, ADVOCATE P-14/B,LGF, Jangpura Extn. N.Delhi-14

PUBLIC NOTICE Notice is hereby given on behalf of Mr. Pal Singh Kapoo who is owner of the Entire Basement and Entire Ground Floor, part of Property bearing No.5-65, area measuring 300 Sq. Yds., situated in the residential colony known at Greater Kallash, Part-III, New Delhi; having purchased the same from Mr. Upkar Mani vide Sale Deed date. the same from Mr. Upkar Mani vide Sale Deed datek 29.01.2013, registered vide Document No.379, SRO. VA, New Delhi, registered on 29.01.2013 and intend to mortgage against the financial assistance from Adilys Brita Housing Finance Limited. That the Original Sale Deed dated 03.12.2012 executed by M/s. Masco Buildcon Private Limited in favour of Mr. Upkar Mani ir respect of aforesaid property, duly registered vide Document No.2533, Book No.1, Volume No.131, or pages 14.1-152 valent(31.2012, SROLAM New Delhi is pages 141-152, dated 03.12.2012, SRO-VANew Delhi Lost/Misplaced/Not available. To comply the Lostrinisplaceon/not available. To comply in requirements of BANK/NBFC, we give this public notic that if any Person having any type of claim / right / title interest / creating mortgage over the said property, inform in writing, at the address mentioned below, about his objections, within 07 days from today, falling which below the property of p shall be presumed that the said property is free from a type of Encumbrances, lien etc.

Lucem Legal LLP, Plot no.136, (Basement) Uday Park, New Delhi-110049 Contact# 011-40046316

Court Notice IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI Notice Under Order V Rule 20 Code of Civile Procedur RFA No.841/2019, CM Nos. 42124/2019 & 42125/2019 Appeal Against order dated 17.01.2019 Passed By Sh. Joginder Prakash Nahar, ADJ-04, Central Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi In Civil Suit No. 613726/2016 AIDE ET ACTION PVT LTD Appellant

VERSUS
JERONINIO ALMEIDA & ORS Respondents Notice to: Respondent No.-1 JERONINIO ALMEIDA R/O A-184, BELVEDERA, PARK,DLF PHASE-III, GURGAON, HARYANA-122022

Whereas the above-noted appellant has presented an appeal under Section <u>96 CPC</u> along with the above-mentioned application which was listed before the Court or 07.12.2020 and on other subsequent dates and the Court ordered issuance of notice to you. And whereas it has been proved to the satisfaction of the Court that you cannot be

served in the ordinary manner. Notice is hereby issued that if you wish to defend the above mentioned appeal & application you may cause an appearance to be entered on your behalf either in person or through an advocate duly appointed by you for the purpose before the Court of Worthy Registrar (Appellate) on 10.05.2023 (actual) at 11:00 a.m. If no appearance is made on your behalf, by

yourself, your pleader or someone by law authorized to act for you in the said appeal and application on the aforementioned date, no further notice of the subsequent date of hearing of the said appeal and application will be given and the same will be heard and determined ex

parte in your absence.
Given under my hand and seal of this Court on this the 13th day of March, 2023.

Deputy Registrar(Appl.)(Civil- III)

For Registrar General

Iran President meets Palestinian officials

Tran's president met senior Palestinian officials in Damascus and expressed his country's support to them on Thursday as Tehran and Syria signed a series of agreements.

Damascus-based Palestinian official Khaled Abdul-Majid told The Associated Press that the delegation briefed Iran's Ebrahim Raisi on the situation in the West Bank, Jerusalem and Gaza Strip. Iran has been a main backer of some Palestinian factions supplying them with weapons and

'The Palestinian leaders thanked Iran for its support to the resistance and the Palestinian cause," Abdul-Majid, who attended the talks, said after the meeting.

He added that Raisi con-

firmed to the Palestinian officials, including top leaders from the militant groups Hamas and Islamic Jihad, that Iran will continue supporting the Palestinians.

Raisi began a two-day

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visit to Syria during which the two countries signed a series of long-term cooperation agreements on oil and other sectors to bolster economic ties between the two allies.

Raisi held talks with Syrian President Bashar Assad and visited holy shrines for Shiite Muslims near the capital Damascus. Tehran has been a main

backer of Assad's government since a 2011 uprising turned into full-blown civil war and has played an instrumental role in turning the tide of the conflict in his favour. Iran has sent scores of military advisers and thou-

sands of Iran-backed fighters from around the Middle East to Syria to fight on Assad's Tehran has also been an economic lifeline for Assad,

sending fuel and credit lines worth billions of dollars. Syrian government forces

have regained control of large parts of the country in recent years, with the help of its two main allies - Russia and

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General Public on behalf of our client i.e. Fullerton India Home Finance Company slating that Mrs. Wibha Sharma is the owner of Built up Property bearing No. 146/2, area measuring 75 Sq., vds., out of total area measuring 150 Sq., vds., out of Khasra No. 146/2, Situated in the area of Village Moujour, at the abadi of Main Road Moujour, Ashok Mohalla, Illaqa Shhaftar, Delhi, by vitre of a diff Deed dated 17.04.2023, Doc. no. 2825. Executed by Mr. Pushpender Kuman Sharma, All persons are hereby informed that above mentioned owner wants to mortgage the said property, and intend to obtain a loan from our client against the said property, if anybody has any objection/s upon the ownership of Mrs. Vibba Sharma over the said property, its mortgage/litigation. Vibha Sharma over the said property, its mortgage/litigation, & any other objections, kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present Kumar & Associates (Advocates & Consultar 200, Ilnd Floor, 23, Shivaji Marg, Moti Nagar, N. Delhi-15



Principal Chief Materials Manager, Northern Railway, New Delhi - 110001, fo and on behalf of the President of India, invites e-tenders through e-procureme

system for supply of the following items:-

Invitation of Tenders through E-Procurement system

١	S.N.	Tender No.	Brief Description	Qty.	Closing Date			
	1.	82231056A	Sacubitril 24mg and Valsartan 26mg	282436 Nos.	30.05.2023			
NOTE-1. Vendors may visit the IREPS website i.e.www.ireps.gov.in								

details. 2. No Manual offer will be entertained.





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1	location	Design, supply, erection, testing & commissioning of 25Kv ac OHE for electrification of DLT Washin Line no. 1 & 2 & Rajdhani Washing Line no. 11 & at New Delhi Yard under "Mission Raftar Project".			
2	Approx. Cost of work	Rs. 8449001.69			
3	Earnest Money Deposit	Rs. 169000.00			
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location		of Zortv ac Offic for electrification of DET vvasiling		
		Line no. 1 & 2 & Rajdhani Washing Line no. 11 & 12		
		at New Delhi Yard under "Mission Raftar Project".		
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2	Approx. Cost of work	Rs. 8449001.69		
3	Earnest Money Deposit	Rs. 169000.00		
4	E-Tender Bid Online	17.05.2023		
	Submission Period			
5	E-Tender Bid Submission	31.05.2023 (15.00 hrs.)		
	End Date & E-Tender Open			
	Date & Time			
6	Fund Allocation	43424103		
7	Website particulars where	www.ireps.gov.in		
	complete details of tender			
	documents can be seen			
E-	E-Tender No.: 09-TRD-NDLS-2023-24 Dated: 04.05.2023 1371/2023			
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE				

Israelis up in arms against PM legal plan national theater in Tel Aviv, to

Tsraelis blocked roads and **⊥**demonstrated on Thursday against a contentious government plan to overhaul the judiciary, hoping to ramp up pressure on lawmakers after parliament reconvened this week following a month-long Prime Minister Benjamin

Netanyahu paused the overhaul in March after intense pressure and the opposing sides are trying to reach a compromise agreement. But in a sign of the mistrust of his intentions, tens of thousands have continued to protest every Saturday night since.

Thursday's midweek protest was expected to be smaller, but demonstrators are hoping to remind legislators of their presence and their ability to disrupt the country over their opposition to the over-

17 killed, 29

hurt in Egypt

Cairo (AP): A passenger bus

has slammed into a slowly

moving truck on a highway in

least 17 people, officials and

Wednesday in the New Valley

province, according to its gov-

ernor, Mohamed el-Zamlout.

injured, said the Health

Ministry, adding that 26 ambulances were dispatched

to the accident scene to trans-

fer victims to nearby hospitals

and morgues. It was unclear

who outside the bus had been

hurt or killed, and authorities

didn't elaborate on what

quoted an unnamed official as

saying that the bus slammed

into the truck which was

"nearly parking" on the road.

It reported that the bus had

been carrying 45 people head-

claim thousands of lives every

year in Egypt, which has a

poor transportation safety

Deadly traffic accidents

ing to the capital, Cairo.

A local daily, el-Shorouk,

caused the crash.

The crash took place late

Twenty-nine others were

local media said Thursday.

bus crash



Gvir, who in exchange for the

plan being paused demanded

Netanyahu grant him author-

ity over a new national guard,

of World Bank President, US

President Joe Biden has said

after the top Indian-American

business executive was con-

firmed as the new head of the

Wednesday selected Banga as

the 14th President of the bank

for a five-year term beginning

June 2. He became the first-

ever Indian-American to head

the Washington-based bank

and will replace David Malpass.

In February, President Biden announced that the US

would nominate Banga, 63, to

lead the World Bank because

he is "well equipped" to lead the global institution at "this crit-

"Ajay Banga will be a transformative leader, bringing

expertise, experience, and

innovation to the position of

World Bank President. And

together with World Bank lead-

ership and shareholders, he

will help steer the institution as

ical moment in history.

The Executive Directors

the World Bank on

international lender.

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

which critics say would amount to his own personal militia. Police said one protester was arrested for causing disturbances. Protest leaders have billed Thursday's event a call for "equality," expanding their criticism to the rising cost of living in Israel and the military draft exemptions granted to most ultra-Orthodox Jews. Protesters dyed white a pool of water in the square of Israel's

Banga will be a 'transformative

leader' as WB Prez: Joe Biden

address global challenges that

"Ajay will also be integral in

bringing together the public

and private sectors, alongside

philanthropies, to usher in the

fundamental changes in devel-

opment finance that this

moment requires," said the

president congratulating his

nominee for the next President

of the World Bank on his

resounding approval by the

Yellen said Banga will play a

critical role in undertaking a

vital effort to evolve the World

Bank and other multilateral

development banks to redou-

ble their work on global chal-

lenges like climate change in a

way that accelerates progress

on national development pri-

ing partnerships between the

public sector, private sector,

and non-profits uniquely

equips him to help mobilise

private capital and press for the

reforms needed to meet our

"His track record of forg-

Treasury Secretary Janet

Bank's Board of Governors.

it evolves and expands to shared ambitions. In doing so,

symbolize a recent milk price hike. The plan to overhaul the country's judiciary, advanced by Israel's most right-wing government ever, plunged Israel into one of its worst domestic crises, ripping open longstanding societal rifts and creating new ones. While the freeze in the leg-

islation eased tensions somewhat, Netanyahu's allies are pushing him to move ahead on the overhaul. The talks underway, meant to forge a path out of the crisis, do not appear to have produced any results. Netanyahu, who is on trial

for corruption, faced a barrage of criticism over the legal plan from a broad swath of Israeli society, including business leaders, the booming tech sector and military reservists, who threatened not to show up for duty if the plan was approved.

Trump calls rape claim ridiculous

New York (AP): Former US president Donald Trump called a writer's claims that he raped her at a Manhattan department store "the most ridiculous, disgusting story," testifying in a deposition shown in court Wednesday that the allegations were "made up" and that the assault never happened. Lawyers for accuser E. Jean

Carroll played about 30 minutes of excerpts from the former president's deposition, including his emphatic denial of the longtime advice columnist's accusation that he attacked her in the mid-1990s in a Bergdorf Goodman dressing room. "If it did happen, it would have been reported within minutes," Trump said, contending that shoppers and employees at the "very busy store" would've heard a commotion and alerted authorities.

"It's the most ridiculous, disgusting story. It's just made up," Trump said in the video deposition taken in October.

Several jurors leaned forward, watching without expression as the video played on individual monitors in front of

Trump has not attended the trial and will not testify, giving his deposition more weight. Asked about the case while travelling in Ireland on Wednesday, Trump told reporters: "Í hear we're doing

"Hearty congratulations Ajay Banga on being selected as the President of

"I am confident that you'll bring your wide experience in the corporate world for meeting the goals of the Bank," the minister tweeted from Incheon, South Korea, where she is attending the Asian Development Bank's annual

A jay Banga will be a "trans-directly affect its core mission force multiplier for good by of poverty reduction — includ-setting the right agenda and bring expertise, experience, ing climate change," Biden said catalysing action from across Åfter he was nominated for this position, Banga, who

worked at Nestle and Citigroup before joining Mastercard spent the last couple of months travelling around the world, including India, and meeting with governments from the World Bank's diverse shareholder base and stakeholders from both the private and philanthropic sectors. India's Finance Minister

the World Bank can serve as a

Nirmala Sitharaman also congratulated Banga on his appointment.

@WorldBank," she tweeted on Thursday.

In other developments said they would not call any witnesses, and the judge said closing arguments would likely happen Monday before the jury begins deliberations on Tuesday.

very well in New York."

Jurors in federal court in Manhattan are expected to hear more of Trump's deposition Thursday, followed by three more witnesses being called to the stand by Carroll's lawyers.

Carroll is seeking unspecified monetary damages and a retraction of Trump statements that she alleges were defamatory. Trump has denied ever knowing Carroll, saying once that "she's not my type" and arguing that her claims are politically motivated attempts to smear his reputation and deny him the White House.

'King Charles would love to go to India on State Visit'

PTI ■ LONDON

 $B^{
m ritain's}$ King Charles III has said that he would love to go to India on a State Visit and it should be planned soon, Indian-origin peer Lord Karan Bilimoria revealed following an audience with the monarch ahead of his Coronation ceremony in London on Saturday. During an interaction with

founder of Cobra Beer, who

recently led a trade delegation

from Britain to India, believes

a group of parliamentarians at Westminster Hall in the Houses of Parliament complex on Tuesday as part of a special pre-Coronation reception, Lord Bilimoria said he had the opportunity to raise the topic of India-UK ties and request the 74-year-old King to consid-India in November 2019, when er a visit to India. The UKhe was the Prince of Wales, and also celebrated his 71st birthbased entrepreneur and

a State Visit by the King would help turbocharge bilateral relations and also the ongoing free trade agreement (FTA) negotiations. "I said to His Majesty [King

Charles] that we must have a State Visit to India because it would have an enormous impact on bilateral relations and help turbocharge the UK-India FTA negotiations," Lord Bilimoria told PTI. "We know that the King is

a friend of India and has a great fondness for the country. He said he would love to go to India on a State Visit and that we should plan it soon," he said. King Charles last visited

day while in Mumbai. He has previously spoken of his "great love for India" as



London on Wednesday. The coronation of King Charles III will take place at Westminster Abbey on May 6.

the founder of the British Asian Trust - created in 2007 to tackle poverty and hardship in South Asia.

India Industry Taskforce last year, also feels that a visit to Bilimoria, an ardent advo-India by Britain's first Indian-

cate for closer India-UK ties who helped create the UK

bring much-needed momentum to the relationship. "Prime Minister Rishi

origin Prime Minister would

Sunak must soon lead a jumbo jet-packed delegation to India, which is long overdue. The last prime ministerial delegation from the UK to India was in 2016, which is quite a gap. It would be just the ticket to celebrate the diaspora living bridge and push forward the relationship," he added. As a result of a very curtailed guest list for

Westminster Abbey on Saturday, many of the peers and members of Parliament got the chance to interact with King Charles and Queen Camilla at the pre-Coronation reception attended by Sunak and Leader of the Opposition Starmer

8 teachers shot in Pak's tribal district

PTI ■ PESHAWAR

 $E_{\rm killed\ on\ Thursday\ in\ two}^{\rm ight\ school\ teachers\ were}$ separate incidents of targeted shooting in Pakistan's restive northwest tribal district, bordering Afghanistan, police said.

In the first incident, some unknown gunmen stormed the staff room of Teri Mengal High School in the Upper Kurram tribal district in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province and shot dead seven teachers on exam duty, according to

The attackers fled after the attack. In a separate incident, a school teacher was killed when his car was ambushed by unknown gunmen on Shalozan Road in Parachinar headquarters of the same district.

No group or individual claimed responsibility for the

However, the incidents come just two days after Pakistani security forces killed Abdul Jabar Shah, a notorious Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) commander and two others and made several key arrests in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

After the brutal firing incident, an emergency has been declared in all the health facilities of the district.

The Kohat Board exam for 9th and 10th grades has also been postponed after the The police have launched

massive hunt to arrest the

President Arif Alvi condemned the incident and expressed hope that the cul-

6 soldiers, 3 militants killed in 'intense exchange of fire'

were killed in an "intense exchange of fire" with militants on Thursday in Pakistan's restive northwestern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, bordering Afghanistan, the army

In a statement, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) - the media wing of the military - said the shootout took place in the Dir Duni area of North Waziristan district.

Six soldiers were killed during the "intense exchange of fire" which left three terrorists dead, the statement said. "Sanitisation of the area is

being carried out to eliminate any terrorists found in the [The] security forces of

Pakistan are determined to eliminate the menace of terrorism and such sacrifices of our brave soldiers further strengthen our resolve," the ISPR said. The attack comes amid a

prits would soon be arrested and punished according to law.Separately, at least six soldiers were killed and three ter-rorists eliminated during a clash that occurred between security forces and the terrorists in northwest Pakistan on Thursday. The confrontation between the army and the terrorists occurred in the Dirdoni area of the North Waziristan tribal district, the army's media wing ISPR said. Two terrorists were also injured in the retal-

Islamabad (PTI): Six soldiers surge in terrorist activities across the country since the banned militant group Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan ended its ceasefire with the government in November.

The TTP, which is believed to have close links to al-Qaeda, has in the past also threatened to target Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari if the ruling coalition continued to implement strict measures against the militants.

The TTP, also known as the Pakistan Taliban, was set up as an umbrella group of sever al militant outfits in 2007. Its main aim is to impose its strict brand of Islam across Pakistan.

The group has been blamed for several deadly attacks across Pakistan, including an attack on army headquarters in 2009, assaults on military bases and the 2008 bombing of the Marriott Hotel in Islamabad.

against terrorists would continue till the complete elimination of the terrorists, the ISPR said The outlawed TTP has increased the attacks in recent months and has apparently become stronger since the takeover of Afghanistan by the Taliban. The militant group, set up as an umbrella group of several militant outfits in 2007, called off a ceasefire with the federal government and ordered its militants to stage terrorist attacks couniatory fire. The operation try-wide.

Pakistan court extends Imran Khan's bail

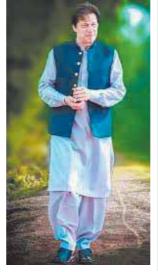
PTI ISLAMABAD

In a major relief to Pakistan's former prime minister Imran Khan, the Islamabad High Court here on Thursday extended his bail in nine cases after he appeared in-person following a warning by the

On April 18, the IHC extended Khan's bail in eight cases - including those of vio-lence outside the Federal Judicial Complex - till May 3. On Wednesday, the court asked him to attend the hearing while granting one-day extension in bail pleas in nine

Khan on Thursday appeared before a two-member Islamabad High Court bench headed by Chief Justice Aamer Farooq, which had warned him that it may cancel his interim bail over his persistent absence from hearings.

After hearing the multiple pleas, the court extended pro-



tective bail for 10-day in seven cases about violence outside the Federal Judicial Complex in Islamabad. The court also directed Khan to appear before the relevant district court during this period for permanent Lahore (PTI): Pakistan's forand started appearing before

Pak's ex-premier fractures leg again

mer prime minister Imran Khan's leg has 'fractured' again "Imran Khan's leg was yet after he was pushed by the again injured and fractured people at the Lahore High Court, leaders from his party during his appearance in the LHC (on Tuesday) due to lack of security provided by the government. The doctors have have said.In November last year, Khan, 70, was wounded in his lower leg after a gunman advised him to rest for 10 opened fire on a convoy carrydays," PTI Senator Shibli Fraz ing the chief of the Pakistan said on Wednesday. Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party. He was leading a march in Islamabad to demand snap

However, cricketer-turned-politician Khan appeared before the Islamabad High Court on Thursday in a wheelchair to secure an extension to his pre-arrest bail in

ened around the court ahead of Khan's appearance who travelled to the federal capital from Lahore this morning to secure interim bail.

Elaborate security arrangements were made on the occasion. Barbed wires and conseveral cases registered against

His bail pleas in nine cases were extended after he appeared in person following

a warning by the court. Another PTI senior leader Dr Iftikhar Durrani shared a picture of the X-ray of Khan's leg, showing a fracture.

Durrani said his party has continuously raised security concerns with the government but still the ousted premier was pushed by 'the people' during his LHC appearance, which reopened his leg wound.

tainers were also placed to ensure law and order in the area. Khan was on a wheelchair when he appeared before the court, as gunshot wounds on his leg have not healed. The former premier survived an

50 Hindus convert to Islam in Pak's Sindh province

Islamabad (PTI): At least 50 members from ten Hindu families converted to Islam in the southern Sindh province of Pakistan, troubling Hindu activists who alleged the involvement of the state in the mass conversion.

The people were from different areas of the Mirpurkhas region of the province and were converted in a ceremony organised at the Baitul Iman New Muslim Colony seminary of the city, The Express Tribune newspaper reported on Thursday. Qari Taimur Rajput, one of the caretakers of the seminary, confirmed that a total of 50 people from 10 families converted to Islam, including 23 females and a one-year-

old girl. Mohammad Shamroz Khan, the son of Minister for Religious Affairs Senator Muhammad Talha Mahmood, also attended the conversion ceremony, the report said.

'They all willingly converted to Islam. No one has forced them," Rajput said, quoting

During the conversion ceremony attended by several residents, Rajput reportedly inquired the new converts if they had taken the step willing-

Hindu activists, on the other hand, were troubled over the mass conversions and expressed their anger and disappointment.

Chinese foreign minister to visit Pak less than a month after the

Mohsin Ranjha.

China's Foreign Minister Qin Gang will travel to Pakistan today on a two-day visit after attending the meeting of the SCO Foreign Ministers hosted by India in Goa, it was announced here on Thursday. Qin is attending the SCO (Shanghai Cooperation Organisation) Foreign Ministers meeting being held on May 4 and 5 at Panaii in Goa where his Pakistan counterpart Bilawal Bhutto Zardari too is taking part.

general elections after he was

ousted from power in April last

year. Khan recently recovered

bails until May 9 in the mutiny

case and the other case about

charges of attempted murder

case filed by Pakistan Muslim

League-Nawaz lawmaker

Security had been tight-

The court also extended

Besides being the Foreign Minister, Qin is also the State Councillor, a higher rank associated with the ruling Communist Party of China (CPC). SCO bloc consists of China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. India



grouping for this year. Significantly the Chinese Foreign Ministry while announcing the visit of Qin to Myanmar and India on May 2 did not include his visit to Islamabad though Pakistan media reported about it. Instead, the ministry announced his visit to Pakistan separately on Thursday during which he is due to take part in China-Afghanistan-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' meeting.
The trilateral is being held

"Neighbouring Countries of Afghanistan Plus Afghanistan" Foreign Ministers meeting of China, Russia, Pakistan and Iran in Samarkand, in which Qin presided. Qin's visit to Pakistan, the Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson said that this will be his first visit to Pakistan after taking charge and "an important part of the recent close and frequent interactions between the high levels of China and Pakistan".

The reference apparently was the just concluded maiden visit of Pakistan's new Army Chief Asim Munir, here during which he held a series of meetings with top Chinese Generals and top diplomat Wang Yi who is the Director of the Office of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the CPC Central Committee.

Nepal's PM inducts 3 new ministers in Cabinet

Kathmandu (PTI): Nepal's Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' on Thursday inducted three new ministers in the Cabinet, taking the strength of the council of ministers to 22, including two ministers of state.

The newly appointed ministers include Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Minister for Health and Population Mohan Bahadur Basnet and Minister for Youth and Sports Dig Bahadur Limbu. All the three ministers belong to the Nepali Congress party. President Ramchandra Paudel administered oath of office and secrecy to the newly appointed ministers during a function at Rastrapati Bhawan in the presence of Prime Minister Prachanda. The three were appointed to their respective posts by the President on Wednesday on the recommendation of Prime Minister Prachanda. The number of ministers from Nepali Congress in the Prachanda-led cabinet has now reached eight, including a Deputy Prime Minister. Daughter of ousted Thai

Bangkok (AP): She has confidence, she has charisma, but

most of all she has the family

name and a face that reminds

many of her famous father. In

the race to become Thailand's

next prime minister, opinion

polls show Paetongtarn

Shinawatra to be the heavy

favourite to take the post after

divisive figure — could plunge Thailand back into a familiar

cycle of protest and military

intervention. Having the 36

year-old Paetongtarn on the

ballot is expected to pay off

handsomely for the popular

hoping for a landslide victory,

with enough seats to over-

come the ruling party's built-in

edge and name the prime min-

ister. While Paetongtarn is the

It's polling so well that it's

Pheu Thai opposition party.

the May 14 general

that victory for the

youngest daughter of ousted former

Prime Minister

Thaksin Shinawatra

-- the country's most

But some fear

election.

PM could win his old job

Taiwan trade chief warns against 'unnecessary fear' of China

BSES

AP WASHINGTON

Taiwan's chief trade representative says his country's semiconductor makers will expand production in the US as much as they can afford to do so, but he insists Taiwan remains an ideal place for that production and other US trade, business and investment, despite tensions with China.

John Chen-Chung Deng spoke to The Associated Press on a visit this week to Washington, where he is leading a Taiwanese trade delegation and meeting with US Deng's visit comes at a time of intensi-

fying efforts to harden the US and Taiwanese from rival China

As part of this, President Joe Biden and Congress are moving to boost semiconductor production on US soil in the event of any conflict disrupting exports from Asia, especially from Taiwan.

Semiconductors make electronics ranging from phones to electric cars to advanced weapons run, and Taiwan produces more than 90 per cent of the world's more advanced semiconductors. At the same time, Pentagon leaders have been touring the Indo-Pacific to rally regional allies in bolstering military defenses and deterrence.

A House committee last month wargamed a hypothetical attack by China on Taiwan and US positions as part of a bipartisan congressional effort to find specific ways to boost deterrence.

Deng said Americans should see these efforts as ensuring that Chinese President Xi Jinping will never feel confident enough

clear vote-getter of her party's

three candidates, any of the

three could emerge from post-

election wheeling and dealing

as Thailand's new leader. At a

registration event for candi-

dates in March, Paetongtarn

outlined policies including

improving labour conditions,

guaranteeing a higher mini-

win an overall majority of

seats. Although the billionaire

businessman's populist poli-

cies built him a powerful polit-

ical base, they also earned him

the enmity of the country's

elite. Thaksin was ousted by a military coup in 2006 and has

been in self-imposed exile for

over a decade to avoid serving

a prison term for abuse of

power, a conviction he has

decried as politically motivat-

mum wage, reduc-

ing pollution, and

turning Thailand

into a financial

technology hub.

Paetongtarn's 73-

year-old father

was the first Thai

politician ever to

to invade Taiwan, which China claims as its own. "We should avoid any exaggeration or rhetoric which doesn't reflect the true situation, that creates fear ... unnecessary fear," said Deng. He said the US business community in Taiwan assures him it is still expanding and hiring.

He cited the experienced workforce and support industries that Taiwan offers for semiconductor producers and for Google, Amazon and other US businesses on its soil.

Relations between the US and China have hit dramatic peaks in tensions over the past two years as Xi's government asserts China's growing strength economically, diplomatically and militarily. That includes claims in the region.

China, for its part, accuses the US of meddling in its internal affairs and pursuing a containment strategy against China to

Taiwan and China split in 1949 after a civil war and have no official relations. They are linked by billions of dollars in trade and investment. The Chinese Communist Party regularly flies fighter planes and bombers near Taiwan to enforce its stance that the island is obliged to unite with the mainland, by force if necessary. Biden administration and Republicans and Democrats in Congress broadly support strengthening the US and Taiwanese positions in the region to discourage any Chinese invasion of the island. For Taiwan, that swell in US support overall has also brought renewed focus from Washington on the island's decades-old appeals to the US to overhaul its tax and trade policies toward the island.

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Singapore is seen as a prize target by terrorist groups: Lee

Singapore (PTI): Singapore is seen as a "prize target" by terrorist groups and it continues to be mentioned in their propaganda, Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong has said, emphasising that his nation cannot afford to let its guard

down against such ultra forces.

Speaking at the launch of the Religious Rehabilitation Group's (RRG) Majulah Gallery at the Khadijah Mosque in Geylang on Wednesday, Lee said that his government is alert against terror groups such as the Islamic State (ISIS), Al-Qaeda and Islamiah (JI) that active and still influence and inspire followers worldwide. "Singapore is seen as a prize target by terrorist groups and continues to be mentioned in their propaganda. Locally, there have been a growing number of self-radicalised individuals in recent years," The Straits Times report Prime Minister Lee was quoted as saying, adding that his nation is on alert against terror groups.

He said that since the rise of ISIS in 2015, Singapore has dealt with 49 self-radicalised individuals under the

Internal Security Act. This is four times more than the number of cases from 2007 to 2014. Of these 49 individuals, 37 are Singaporeans. They include women and, worryingly, many young people, he said. Eleven are aged 20 or younger, and five of them wanted to mount attacks in Singapore.

BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, New Delhi

26.05.2023

15:30 HRS

Estimated Cost Cost of EMD

Date: 05.05.2023

Head (Contracts & Materials)

n No.: U40109DL2001PLC11152

Date & Time of Opening

26.05.2023

1615 HRS

PUBLIC NOTICE Sunita Gupta W/o Late Brij Bhushan R/o H. No.719, Block

A, Sector-19, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, has severed relations with her daughter Ruchi Singh Sahota by evicting her from all her movable/immovable property due to her misbehaviour. She herself will be responsible for any acts, transactions in future.

PARADIP PORT AUTHORITY
E & M DEPARTMENT PLANNING & DESIGN CELL
No. EM/PD-11/2022/667 Date:02/05/2023 CORRIGENDUM - III

and Response to Pre-bid Queries Implementation and Operation & Maintenance (O&M) of Port Access (e-TENDER CALL NOTICE (TCN) NO: EM/

lum-III should be read al oublished RFP (all volumes). Detailed Tender Document is available at the Website: https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app_for

Sd/- Executive Engineer (EI) Planning & Design Cell
PPA/PR/10/2023-24 Dt. 04/05/2023

Kartick Chandra Das R/o 6/43, Flat No.-F-3, Media Enclave, Vaishali, Sector-6, Ghaziabad U.P. 201012. have changed my name as

NAME CHANGE

Prasanta Das for all purposes and inform that Prasanta Kumar Das and Prasanta Das is one and same person.

PARADIP PORT AUTHORITY e-TENDER CALL NOTICE TD/TM/GEN-235(Vol-VII)/23/922, dtd. 03.05.2023 Name of the Work "Allotment of 04

(Four) nos. of Mechanical Iron Ore / Iron Ore Pellet plots at IOHP." License Fees: **Rs.2,89,90,830/-**, Wharfage Fees: **Rs.18,98,620/-**, Last date & time of submission of bid: 23.05.2023 up to 15:00 hrs. Date (Technica bid): 23.05.2023 up to 15:00 hrs. Refer our website for details https://eprocure.gov.in/ eprocure/app & http://paradipport.gov.in/

Paradip Port Authority PPA/PR/11/2023-24

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A Mrs. Kumud Chawla are intending to sell Entire Third
Floor, with terrace rights, built on Freehold Property
bearing No. 2668, area measuring 100 5Q, Yards, Situated
in the Abadi of west Patel Nagar New Delhi, to Mr. Mohan
Sharma, to be financed & mortgaged by my client ie. Axis
Finance Limited The Original Sale Deed dated 07:01:1998,
reg. no. 5935, perfaining to the aforesaid properly taxe
been lost and complaint bearing It No. 408752/2023, was
registered on 04:05:2023, with Delhi Police. Any person(5)
tound in possession of aforesaid original documents, their
kindly contact the undersigned along with original property
document, within 7 days from date of this notice on below
address, failing which, the claim as per aforesaid sale deed
shall be treated as null and void in respect of the subject
property.

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

General public at large is hereby informe hat my client Ram Janam Giri S/o Late Rar Prem Nagar, Delhi-110008 has disowned his son namely Himanshu Giri and his wife Smt. Parinita Giri from all his moveable and

immoveable properties for all times to come as he do not know their whereabouts since his wife tried to kill him by throwing acid on him. My client also does not have any relation with them and he has disowned hem both from all his moveable and lationships with them. My client has no elationships with them. My client has no onocern of any nature whatsoever with hem and whosoever deals with them, in my nature whatsoever, in respect of his noveable and immoveable properties, shall be doing so at his own risk and cost. Rajjv Narain, (Advocate), Chamber No.516-A, First Floor, Western Wing, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-110054.



कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता चतुर्थ वृत्त, लोक निर्माण विभाग, रूद्रपुर (ऊधम सिंह नगर)

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दिनांक 02 / 05 / 2023

ई-प्रस्ताव हेतु अनुरोध (RFP)

अधीक्षण अभियन्ता

धरोहर निविदा प्रपत्र निविदा कार्य पूर्ण फर्म/ठेकेदार

महामहिम राज्यपाल उत्तराखण्ड की ओर से अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, चतुर्थ वृत्त, लो०नि०वि० रूद्रपुर ऊधम सिंह नगर) द्वारा निम्निलिखित कार्यों हेतु परामर्शदात्री, गुणवत्ता और लागत आधारित चयन (QCBS) के आधार पर निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। आर०एफ०पी० (RFP) से सम्बन्धित सभी सूचनायें वेबसाईट http://www.uktenders.gov.in पर दिनांक 08.05.2023 से उपलब्ध होंगी ।

क्रo संo		धनराशि (लाख में)	का मूल्य (रु० में)	की वैधता (दिवस)	करने की अवधि	फर्म / ठेकेदार की श्रेणी
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	सेतु बन्धन कार्यक्रम के अर्त्तगत जनपद ऊधम सिंह नगर के विधानसभा क्षेत्र फद्रपुर के गदरपुर-दिनेशपुर- मटकोटा हल्द्वानी राज्य मार्ग संख्या-5 के किमी0 15 (चैनेज 14.900) LC No. 99B पर रेलवे क्रासिग गेट पर रेलवे ओवर ब्रिज आर०ओ०बी० का निर्माण हेतु विस्तृत सर्वेक्षण, मृदा परीक्षण, डिजायन, ड्राईग, लैण्ड प्लान तथा डी०पी०आर० तैयार करना, रेलवे विभाग से सम्पर्क एंव आवश्यक अनुमोदन प्राप्त करना तथा किसी IIT से वैटिंग कार्य कराये जाने सहित इंजीनियरिंग कंसल्टेंसी फर्म की नियुक्ति।	0.49	2000.00 + 18% GST	90 दिन	03 माह	NH/NHAI/ PSU तथा राज्य सरकार के अधीन किसी भी विभाग में समान प्रकृति के कार्य का अनुभव
2	सेतु बन्धन कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत जनपद ऊधम सिंह नगर के विधानसभा क्षेत्र फद्रपुर के गदरपुर— दिनेशपुर— मटकोटा हल्द्वानी राज्य मार्ग सं0—5 के किमी0 18 (चौनेज 17.025) LC No. 104A पर रेलवे क्रासिग गेट पर रेलवे ओवर ब्रिज आर०ओ०बी० का निर्माण हेतु विस्तृत सर्वेक्षण, मृदा परीक्षण, डिजाईन, ड्राईंग, लैण्ड प्लान तथा डी०पी०आर० तैयार करना, रेलवे विभाग से सम्पर्क एंव आवश्यक अनुमोदन प्राप्त करना तथा किसी IIT से वैटिंग कार्य कराये जाने सहित इंजीनियरिंग कंसल्टेंसी फर्म की नियुक्ति।	0.43	2000.00 + 18% GST	90 दिन	09 माह	–तदैव–

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Govt. Website https:/mptenders.gov.in shortly CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (PROC.) M.P. Madhyam/109753/2023

TENDER NOTICE MPMKVVCL, Bhopal, invites following bids from manufacturers through e-tendering.

Other details and full Tender documents would be available on Company website https://portal.mpcz.in &

TOP GAINERS

3.43 Bajaj Finance

2.64 HDFC

Participate in India's growth story, Sitharaman asks investors

inance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has invited investors to become a part of the journey of the Indian economy in Amrit Kaal, the 25year journey towards its centenary as a modern nation, saying it is full of new opportunities for growth and investments.

The Indian finance minister, who is here to participate in the 56th ADB Annual Meeting elaborated on the vision and reforms-oriented approach towards good governance under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to shape 'New India' and redefine its place in the global economic order.

Addressing the Investors' Sitharaman spoke about recent reforms in India and highlight-



ed initiatives like National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP), National Monetisation Pipeline, Digital Public Infrastructure and Production Linked

Incentive, besides real estate sector and FDI policy reforms. The minister "invited the investors to become a part of the

journey of the Indian economy

USD 30 million.

Precedents (CPs), including

completion of the project and

relevant approvals for smooth

conduct of business by the

buyer. In a statement, APSEZ

said given the continuous delay

in the approval process and chal-

lenges in meeting certain CPs,

APSEZ has obtained an inde-

pendent valuation on "as is

er have renegotiated the sale

consideration to USD 30 mil-

tracts. The remaining amount

will be spent on various other

projects. CIL has already iden-

tified 15 greenfield projects hav-

ing a total project-rated capac-

ity (PRC) of 168.58 million

tonnes (MT) per annum for

Letters of Award have been

given to nine projects to be

implemented through MDOs.

These nine projects have a pro-

duction capacity of around 127

MT. Another six mining projects

are at different stages of imple-

mentation. Eleven of the 15 pro-

jects are opencast and the

remaining four are underground

mines. On diversification plans,

Prasad said: "Three tenders

have already been done for coal

gasification project." With com-

fortable coal availability in the

country, the Centre has decid-

ed to promote coal gasification

in a big way which can yield multiple energy, chemical and

marketing will push exports and will yield the desired

results. We need to set up

state-of-the-art exposition cen-

ters in important business cen-

ters abroad. Many countries

have done it successfully," he

country's exports are growing

at a healthy pace and USD 2 trillion target by 2030 would be

services exports have reached

achieved before time.

Sakthivel also said that the

The country's goods and

petro-chemical products.

Out of these 15 projects,

Thereby the buyer and sell-

of hope facing the tailwinds of the pandemic and the headwinds of the geo-political conflicts to become the fifth-largest economy in the world, it added. The minister also appreciat-

During the meeting with the

India's finance ministry.

ed the investors in South Korea for showing continued confidence in India and indicating their willingness and commitment to participate in the Production Linked Incentive scheme, especially for the mobile phone and electronic component sectors. Meanwhile, Sitharaman held a meeting with Biman Chand Prasad, Deputy Prime Minister, Government 56th ADB Annual Meeting.

She acknowledged that the Fiji government's whole-hearted support extended for the successful conduct of the 12th World Hindi Conference held in Nadi, Fiji, in February this year.

Prasad informed the Indian minister that the Fiji government has designated Girmit Day on May 15 — marking 144 years of Indian indentured workers' arrival in Fiji on May 14, 1879 — as a new National Holiday in Fiji.

The two leaders discussed the upcoming 3rd Summit of the Forum for India Pacific Islands Countries Cooperation (FIPIC) in Papua New Guinea. Prime Minister Modi will chair the summit along with co-host and Minister James Marape.

vided by the APSEZ Board

based on the recommendations

made by the risk committee in

October 2021. The project had

run into controversy after it was

Markets rebound; Sensex, Nifty climb nearly 1%

BSE Sensex

Equity benchmark indices ended nearly 1 per cent higher on Thursday amid continuous foreign fund inflows and buying in index majors HDFC twins and Reliance Industries.

The 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 555.95 points or 0.91 per cent to settle at 61,749.25. During the day, it rallied 604.61 points or 0.98 per cent to 61,797.91.

The broader NSE Nifty advanced 165.95 points or 0.92 per cent to end at 18,255.80.

"The US Federal Reserve softening its stance over future rate hike prospects cheered investors' mood which triggered a fresh bout of buying in banking stocks. With India's growth indicators showing good signs of revival and crude oil prices staying lower, investors are betting big on local equities even as haze over global economic growth persists," said Shrikant Chouĥan, Head of Equity Research (Retail), Kotak Securities Ltd.

From the Sensex firms, Bajaj Finance, HDFC, HDFC Bank, Bajaj Finserv, Asian Paint, State Bank of India, Tata Consultancy Services, Bharti Airtel, Reliance Industries and Tata Steel were

the biggest gainers.
HDFC climbed 2.59 per cent after the housing finance major on Thursday reported a 20 per cent growth in standalone net profit to Rs 4,425 crore for the quarter ending March 2023 on the back of higher interest income.

IndusInd Bank, Nestle, Power Grid, ITC, Tata Motors and Mahindra & Mahindra were the major laggards.

In the broader market, the BSE smallcap gauge jumped 0.83 per cent and midcap index climbed 0.82 per cent. Among indices, financial

services rallied 1.42 per cent, telecommunication jumped 1.40 per cent, bankex (0.86 per



Change (+555.95

cent), industrials (0.75 per cent), commodities (0.74 per cent) and metal (0.74 per

FMCG was the only laggard. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) were net buyers on Wednesday as they bought equities worth Rs 1,338 crore, according to exchange

In Asian markets, Shanghai and Hong Kong settled in the green, while Seoul ended lower.

Equity markets in Europe vere trading lower.

The US markets had ended in the negative territory on Wednesday.

The US Federal Reserve reinforced its fight against high inflation on Wednesday by raising its key interest rate by a quarter percentage point to the highest level in 16 years.

TOP LOSERS

Tata Cons. Proc

-0.50 Tata Motors

But the Fed also signalled that it may now pause its streak of 10 rate hikes, which have made borrowing for consumers and businesses steadily more expensive.

"Following a widely expected rate hike by the Fed and consistent foreign support, the domestic equities resumed its bullish momentum, driven by gains across major sectors. However, the US market faced losses as the Fed reiterated concerns over elevated inflation despite softening its language on future rate hikes. Signs of returning contagion fears in regional US banks also weighed on the global market mood," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial

of ₹62,020; silver zooms ₹660 Gandhi, Senior Analyst -Commodities at HDFC old prices rallied Rs 940 to Securities, said. Ga lifetime high of Rs 62,020 per 10 grams in the national capital on Thursday amid strong global trends, according to

Gold rallies ₹940 to record high

HDFC Securities. The precious metal had settled at Rs 61,080 per 10 grams in the previous trade. Silver also zoomed Rs 660 to Rs 76,700 per kg.

following overnight gains in the

international market, Saumil

Adani Enterprises

stock jumps

adan12022

PTI NEW DELHI

nearly 5% after

strong Q4 numbers

Op Revenue 24865.52 33 36 6 05 26.06

Expenditure24673.25 017051 22.32

Net Profit 304.32 722.48137.41

Shares of Adani Enterprises Ltd, the flagship company of

billionaire Gautam Adani's

ports-to-energy group, on Thursday jumped nearly 5 per

cent after the firm reported

more than doubling of net prof-

it in the March quarter on the

back of healthy growth in airports and road businesses.

3.85 per cent to settle at Rs 1,909.30 apiece on the BSE.

During the day, it advanced 5.24 per cent to Rs 1,935.

per cent to end at Rs 1,925 each

uation zoomed Rs 8,065.51 crore

shares of the firm were traded on

the BSE and over 48.42 lakh

shares on the NSE during the

at Rs 722.48 crore, or Rs 6.34 per

share, was 137 per cent higher

than Rs 304.32 crore, or Rs 2.77

a share, in the same period last

year, according to a stock exchange filing by the company.

revenue soaring to Rs 31,716.40

crore in the fourth quarter of the

Adani Enterprises Ltd saw

to Rs 2,17,660.41 crore.

Stock of the firm climbed

On the NSE, it soared 4.67

The company's market val-

In volume terms, 2.94 lakh

Net profit in January-March

468.31 1167.57 149.32

2.77 6.34

Gold prices in the domestic market climbed to record high

In the overseas market, both old and silver were trading higher at USD 2,039.50 per ounce and USD 25.50 per ounce, respectively. Gold prices traded up in Asian trading hours on Thursday as dollar and bond yields dropped after the US Fed , signalled a pause in policy tightening from the next meeting after hiking the benchmark interest rate by 25 basis points,

'Coal India to pump in

other projects by FY26'

₹91K cr on diversification,

PTI RANCHI

Domestic coal major Coal India Ltd (CIL) will pump

in Rs 91,000 crore in various

projects, including diversifica-

tion and mine development, by

and managing director of CIL-

arm Central Coalfields Ltd

Selection Board (PESB) on

Wednesday recommended the

name of Prasad for the post of

Chairman and Managing

Director (CMD) of Coal India.

spent on diversification and

other projects put together ...

These will be pumped in till

2025-26," Prasad told PTI in an

interview post his selection to

crore will be spent on coal gasi-

fication projects while another

Rs 46,000 crore will be pumped-

in mining developers cum oper-

ators (MDOs) and other con-

pex exporters body FIEO

Ahas urged the government

to support domestic exporters

in undertaking overseas mar-

keting initiatives with a view to

Federation of Indian

boost outbound shipments.

Export Organisations (FIEO)

President A Sakthivel said that

Indian exporters lack in mar-

keting and small exporters "hardly" have resources to mar-

ket aggressively overseas.

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Govt support needed in

undertaking overseas marketing

initiatives to boost exports: FIEO

He said a sum of Rs 36,000

head the coal behemoth.

'Rs 91,000 crore will be

The Public Enterprises

(CCL) said on Thursday.



Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone

sells Myanmar Port for \$30 million

According to the statement, the buyer will pay the said amount to the seller within three business days on completing all the necessary compliance by the seller. On receipt of the total transaction value, APSEZ shall transfer the equity to the buyer and its exit will stand con-

APSEZ chief executive officer and whole-time director Karan Adani said that this exit is in line with the guidance pro-

Rupee gains 2

paise to close at

The rupee edged up by 2 paise to settle at 81.78 (pro-

visional) against the US dollar

in a range-bound trade on

Thursday, tracking the weak-

ness of the American currency

cant foreign fund inflows and

crude oil prices trading below

USD 75 a barrel also support-

exchange market, the local unit opened higher at 81.68 against the US currency but later pared

some of the gains to close at

81.78 (provisional), registering

a gain of 2 paise over its previ-

During the session, the

rupee touched a high of 81.65

and a low of 81.84 against the

dollar. On Wednesday, the

rupee closed at 81.80 against the

gauges the greenback's strength

against a basket of six curren-

cies, fell 0.04 per cent to 101.30.

after the Federal Reserve hint-

ed at a pause to its year-long rate

hike cycle following its latest 25 basis point hike in interest

rates. Global oil benchmark

Brent crude futures rose 0.98

The dollar index, which

The US dollar retreated

Forex traders said signifi-

At the interbank foreign

in the overseas market.

ed the local unit.

ous close.

81.78 against \$

PTI MUMBAI

RUPEE VS DOLLAR

reported that APSEZ chief executive Karan Adani had in July 2019 met Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, the Myanmar's army chief who led a coup against the elected government. In August 2021, APSEZ had said its investment in a port in Myanmar was not in violation of any sanction guidelines issued by the Office of Foreign Assets

Control (OFAC) of the US Department of Treasury. Adani group had previoussaid it had won the Yangon International Terminal project through a global competitive bid. The project required USD 290 million investment.

APSEZ, the largest port developer in India, is part of the globally diversified Adani Group.

I want to see greater presence of Boeing in India, says Goyal

Commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal on Thursday said he wants to see a greater presence of US-based Boeing in India as the American firm has recently from Tata Group-owned Air

In February, in one of the largest aircraft orders by an airline, Air India announced it will buy 470 narrow-body and wide-body planes from Airbus and Boeing, with the total deal value estimated to be worth USD 80 billion (over Rs 6.40 lakh crore).

Goyal also said that the India-ÚS bilateral trade is increasing at a healthy rate and both the sides are looking at expanding the trade four-fold so that "we can touch USD 500 billion target by 2030".

By 2030, India is looking at increasing their goods and services exports to USD 2 trillion. "Boeing has received a

very large order from the Tata's and I am given to understand that similar sized orders are in the pipeline... I want to see greater presence of Boeing in India, we would love to see you expand your local supply chains...And have more MRÓ (maintenance, repair and operations) activity here, which will serve the entire region," Goyal said here while addressing a function on India-US partnership.

He expressed confidence that many more such large corporations from the US would

work closely with Indian firms. Further, the minister said that as Ajay Banga was appointed as the next President of the World Bank, "I am sure he will be able to bring the developing world perspective and a much more sensitive approach to the works". Banga was on May 3 appointed as the next President of the World Bank, becoming the first-ever Indian-American to head the global financial

He added that huge opportunities are there to enhance cooperation in sectors such as defence, pharma, textiles, engineering, auto components, agri products, electricals.

"Alphonso mangoes are also going in the US in a big way," Goyal said. Speaking at the function, Deputy Chief of Mission at the US Embassy here Patricia Lacina expressed hope that the US companies will partner more with Indian firms on innovative and emerging technologies.

Mother Dairy cuts MRP of Dhara cooking oils by ₹15-20 per litre

PTI NEW DELHI

Mother Dairy has cut max-imum retail prices (MRP) of its edible oils, sold under Dhara brand, by Rs 15-20 per line with the reduction in global prices. The stock with revised MRP is expected to hit the market next week.

The reduction comes following the food ministry's direction to edible oil industry body SEA regarding the need for downward revision of the MRP

of cooking oils. "The MRP of Dhara edible oils are being reduced by Rs 15-20 per litre across variants with immediate effect. This reduction is largely being done in variants such as soyabean oil, ricebran oil, sunflower oil and groundnut oil, on account of reduced impact of international markets and ease in availability of domestic crop," Mother Dairy

spokesperson said.

Passenger vehicle, two-wheeler retail sales dip in April, says automobile dealers

PTI NEW DELHI

Passenger vehicle and twowheeler retail sales witnessed a drop in April while threewheelers, tractors and commercial vehicles witnessed an increase in registrations last month, automobile dealers' body FADA said on Thursday.

Passenger vehicle retail sales in India slipped 1 per cent yearon-year to 2,82,674 units last month, as buyers advanced purchases to March in order to avoid enhanced prices on account of stricter emission

FADA noted that it is the first time in eight months that the passenger vehicle segment witnessed a year-on-year degrowth, potentially signalling tapering demand.

The passenger vehicle segment, which achieved record sales in FY23, slowed down in April... This was primarily due to last year's high base and the OBD 2A norms, which led to vehicle price increases and advanced purchases in March," Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA) President Manish Raj Singhania said in a statement.

Indian Energy Exchange trade volume grows 6% to 7,928 mn units in Apr

mdian Energy Exchange

ume in April 2023, including green market trade of 280 MU, 1.99 lac RECs (equivalent to 199 MU) and 1.23 lac ESCerts

the month was higher 6 per cent on a year-o-year (y-o-y) basis. The price during April 2023 was Rs 5.41 per unit unit, a fall of 46 per cent y-o-y from Rs 10 a unit in April 2022, due to improving supply-side sce-nario leading to increased liq-uidity, as well as cooler weath-

Trade commenced at the High Price DAM (HAM) seg(megawatt hour) volume during the month.

This segment allows highcost generators, such as -- gasbased power generators, imported coal-based plants and battery-energy storage systems to sell electricity on the mar-

While an increase in power demand is expected in the coming months, the supplyside liquidity is likely to be maintained due to improved coal supply, the exchange said, adding this will lead to competitive prices and higher clearance for discoms and open access

consumers. As per data published by GRID-INDIA, energy met in the country during April 2023 stood at 130.57 BU, declining 1.1 per cent on a y-o-y basis, due to widespread rains.

The Day-Ahead Market (DAM) volume increased to 4,332 MU in April, from 3,993 MU in April last year registering a growth of 8.5 per cent.

"Government support and encouragement for aggressive billion in 2022-23. an all-time high of USD 773 2022-23 fiscal from Rs 25,141.56 per cent to USD 73.04 per barcrore a year back. norms kicking in from April 1. Will refund charger cost to electric scooter buyers, says Ola Electric

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

buyers of electric scooters the cost of chargers. In a statement on Twitter, the company said the electric vehicle industry has witnessed unprecedented success in the last couple of years

we remain committed to putting our customers first. Therefore, setting aside the technicalities and as an example for others to follow, we have decided to reimburse the charger monies to all



en trust and add more value for the customers, the company

Ola did not provide the details regarding the amount it

ernment officials, had pegged the amount to be around Rs 130 crore. On Wednesday, TVS Motor Company announced that it will refund around Rs 20 crore as a goodwill benefit scheme to customers who have paid over and above the threshold limit fixed under the FAME

Last week, the government sent notices to Okinawa Autotech and Hero Electric for debarment from the FAME-II Scheme and sought the recovery of incentives claimed since FY20 after the two companies were found to be violating localisation norms under the scheme.

I(IEX) on Thursday said its total trade volume increased by

6 per cent on a yearly basis to 7,928 million units (MU) in In a statement, the power trading exchange said "it achieved 7,928 MU overall vol-

(equivalent to 123 MU)." The overall volume during

er conditions.

ment, with 193 MWh

Earlier reports, citing govdespite attempts from vested This move will not only demonstrate the company's interest groups, like the recent Ola Electric on Thursday said it will reimburse its narrative on charger pricing. commitment to the EV revolu-"As a leader of the industry tion but also serve to strength-

the pioneer

Haaland puts Man City back on top

rling Haaland set a new record of 35 goals in a Premier League season as Manchester City overcame West Ham 3-0 to move back to the top of the table on Wednesday, while Liverpool edged out Fulham 1-0.

City were made to work by an under-manned Hammers to edge one point clear of Arsenal in the title race, with a game in hand still to come.

But they cut loose after half-time as Haaland wrote himself into the record books with his 51st goal in all competitions of his debut season at City.

"I do not think of all these records, I would go crazy in my head," said Haaland. "I go home now, play some video games, eat something and then

sleep."

The Norwegian was given a guard of honour by his teammates as he left the pitch after full-time.

"In football when there is a special occasion we have to show how special it is," said City boss Pep Guardiola.

"We are very pleased for him because he is a joy to work with, to be with, and everyone is happy to have him with us. The record will be broken in the future, maybe by him." The visitors were missing England

international Declan Rice, Tomas Soucek and Nayef Aguerd through illness, while injuries meant David Moves could only name five outfield substi-But Moyes' men held out for 50

minutes before succumbing at the Etihad to remain rooted in a relegation

Nathan Ake was the unlikely figure to break the deadlock as the Dutch defender rose highest to power home Riyad Mahrez's free-kick.

But there was no surprise over the scorer of City's second as Haaland raced onto Jack Grealish's pass and deftly dinked the ball over the advancing Lukasz Fabianski.

SALAH ON SPOT

The 22-year-old moved past Alan Shearer and Andy Cole's mark of 34 set for Blackburn and Newcastle respectively in the 1990s

However, he will still fall someway short of the all-time scoring record for a season in the English top flight of 60 set by Everton's Dixie Dean in 1927/28.

Phil Foden came off the bench to add the final flourish as his sweetlystruck volley deflected off Emerson Palmieri to leave Fabianski wrong-footed five minutes from time.



in 2023 edges Guardiola's men ever closer to a fifth Premier League title in

The champions need just four wins from their remaining five games to ensure Arsenal are denied their first title in 19 years.

Defeat leaves West Ham still four points above the relegation zone with four games to play.

At Anfield, Liverpool refused to

give up the fight for a top-four finish by keeping the pressure on Newcastle and Manchester United for the final two places in next season's Champions League behind City and Arsenal.

Jurgen Klopp's men have now won five league consecutive league games for the first time this season.

"Five games in a row is good. I liked it a lot. We have to try to do something we can use, something we can build on in the next season," said Klopp.

Mohamed Salah's 29th goal of the season was the difference between the sides as the Egyptian shrugged off his recent struggles from the penalty spot to convert after Darwin Nunez had been fouled by Issa Diop six minutes before half-time.

Liverpool close to within four points of fourth-placed Manchester United, who have two games in hand.

Lazio extend Napoli's wait for title party

Napoli will have to wait at least one more day to be crowned Italian champions after Lazio beat Sassuolo 2-0 on Wednesday to reclaim second place in Serie A.

Lazio needed to win at the Stadio Olimpico to remain in mathematical contention with five matches to go in their season but more importantly for their own fight to qualify for the Champions League.

Runaway league leaders Napoli are 15 points in front of Lazio ahead of their match at Udinese on Thursday night, when a draw will be enough for Luciano Spalletti's side to seal the Scudetto with a month of the season remaining. As such Wednesday's clash

at the Stadio Olimpico was never about the destination of the league title but rather gaining an advantage in the crowded scrum for the three places left for a spot in Europe's top club competition.

And Lazio are six points

ahead of fifth-placed Atalanta thanks to Felipe Anderson's ninth goal of the season, which came in the 14th minute of a tight game after a beautiful chipped pass from Marco Antonio, and a late strike from Toma Basic.

Lazio's bid for the top four was helped by Davide Frattesi's powerful effort in first half stoppage time hitting the

ing 1-1 with Cremonese thanks to Junior's Messias' fortunate leveller in the final seconds.

Sixth-placed Milan host Lazio on Saturday before then taking on local rivals Inter Milan in the first leg of a blockbuster Champions League semi-final, and Stefano Pioli's second-string again failed to deliver when called upon.

Cremonese meanwhile are six points behind Spezia and Verona, who sit either side of the relegation zone and suffered respective defeats to Atalanta and Inter.

Simone Inzaghi's Inter are fourth following their thumping 6-0 win at Verona, which moved them up to fourth ahead of their trip to injury-ravaged Roma, who dropped down to seventh following a 1-1 draw at Monza. Juventus are a point

behind Lazio in third after Dusan Vlahovic's first league goal in nearly three months which earned his team a 2-1 win over struggling Lecce. Boulaye Dia's hat-trick

was not enough for Salernitana as Fiorentina levelled each one of the Senegal forward's strikes to claim an exciting 3-3 draw. Meanwhile rock-bottom

Sampdoria, who have serious financial problems, slipped closer to Serie B after a 2-0 home defeat to Torino which left them 11 points from safety with five games to play.

PSG fans protest over Messi saga, disappointing form

Hundreds of fans gathered at PSG on Wednesday to protest over the club's current form and the Messi saga, as the Argentinian superstar's future at PSG was plunged into doubt following his suspension, after he travelled to Saudi Arabia without the club's permission.

When Lionel Messi arrived from his beloved Barcelona in 2021, PSG fans hoped he would transform the club into a Champions League powerhouse. But Messi has struggled to reproduce his best form at Qatar-backed Paris — even though he has scored 31 goals in 71 appearances in all competitions. "We're fed up with mercenaries! We

must sack Messi! We must sack Nasser Al-Khelaifi (the club's Qatari president)," supporters chanted.
"We are sincerely worried about the future and the sustainability of our club,"

the team's 'ultras' supporters said in a

statement, adding "is there still a pilot on Meanwhile, several videos posted on



Twitter appeared to show a group of supporters, dressed in black gathered in front of the home of Neymar, shouting abuse at their injured Brazilian super-This came after Messi was jeered by a section of the PSG support, who see him as a symbol of all the club have done

wrong in focusing on superstar signings while failing to build a genuinely com-Messi's form since leading Argentina to World Cup glory in Qatar has declined along with that of most of the

Their insipid performance against Lorient was a sixth defeat in 17 Ligue 1

They remain five points clear of Marseille at the top of the table with five games left, and are therefore still on course for a record 11th French title.

However, they were knocked out of the Champions League in the last 16 by Bayern Munich and also went out of the French Cup at the same stage to



Real Madrid close in on Bellingham deal - Reports

AP ■ MADRID

Real Madrid are closing in Borussia Dortmund midfielder Jude Bellingham, with Spanish reports on Wednesday saying a deal will soon be reached.

The England international, 19, is one of the brightest prospects in world football and is poised to move for over 100 million euros (\$110 million), with Dortmund said to want considerably more.

Bellingham excelled at the World Cup with England in 2022 and has also drawn interest from Madrid's Champions League semi-final opponents

Manchester City.
The midfielder signed for Dortmund at 17 from Championship team Birmingham City for 29 million euros (\$32 million) and has become a key player for the German side. Spanish newspaper Marca say any deal between Madrid and Dortmund will not be announced until the end of the

Bundesliga season, with Bellingham's side a point behind leaders Bayern Munich in the title race. Madrid are looking to find

long-term replacements for their veteran players, including midfielders Luka Modric, 37, and Toni Kroos, 33.

Los Blancos brought in young French duo Eduardo Camavinga and Aurelien Tchouameni over the past two summer transfer windows and sold holding midfielder Casemiro to Manchester

Bellingham has scored 21 goals for Dortmund in 130 appearances across all competitions since arriving in 2020.

Neeraj competes for first time as Diamond League

ompeting for the first time pion, star javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra will be up against his familiar nemeses in the first of the prestigious meetings series on Friday, as he aims to begin a 'long' season, studded with with top international events, with a strong performance.

The 25-year-old Chopra, also a 2022 World Championships silver winner, faces the likes of reigning world champion Anderson Peters of Grenada and Tokyo Olympics silver medallist Jakúb Vadlejch of Czech Republic in a star-studded field at the Qatar Sports Club.

Chopra, who has a personal best and national record of 89.94m, had finished fourth with 87.43m in 2018 in the only other participation in the Doha Diamond League. He could not take part here last year due to lack of "overall fitness and strength". Despite missing the Doha leg, Chopra went on to script history one after the other last year. He became the first Indian Diamond League champion after winning the 2022 grand finale in Zurich. A month before that, he became the first Indian to win a Diamond League Meeting in Lausanne.

Frankfurt reach

German Cup final

AP FRANKFURT

Eintracht Frankfurt came from a goal down to book a date with RB Leipzig in the German Cup final with a 3-2 win over Stuttgart on Wednesday. Trailing after a Tiago Tomas goal, the Europa League champions scored two goals in five second-half minutes through Evan Ndicka and Daichi Kamada to turn the game. France striker Randal Kolo

Muani was brought down in the box with 15 minutes remaining and converted the penalty. Stuttgart's Enzo Millot

pulled one back but the home side were reduced to 10 men shortly after when Borna Sosa picked up a second yellow.

Frankfurt survived a VAR review for a handball in the penalty area in the seventh

AP MADRID

in 2023.

on track for a sixth German Cup Frankfurt manager Oliver

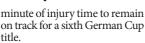
Glasner admitted his team "were lucky today", telling Germany's ARD network "I'm crazily happy

going to Berlin."
Stuttgart goalkeeper Fabian

Bredlow said his side's "disappointment is huge", complaining "the ball clearly hit the arm" of a Frankfurt player in the final

seconds.
"With a little bit of luck we'd get the penalty, we'd shoot 3-3 and it'd go into extra time."

Frankfurt, who last won the title in 2018 with a 3-1 win over Bayern Munich, will meet Leipzig, who dispatched Freiburg 5-1 on Tuesday, on June



and proud of the boys."
"We're very happy to be

3 in the German capital.



AP MADRID

Antoine Griezmann shone as Atletico Madrid thrashed Cadiz 5-1 on Wednesday to climb above rivals Real Madrid into second in La Liga. Diego Simeone's side are a

point above the champions but 13 behind leaders Barcelona, who just need two more points to clinch the title. Struggling Valencia earned a 1-1 draw with fifth-placed Villarreal but remain in 17th place, level on points with Getafe, 18th, who beat Celta Vigo 1-0.

Griezmann broke the deadlock in the second minute and added a second to give Atletico a comfortable lead against Cadiz and continue his own superb

form. The French forward has 13 goals and 13 assists this season in La Liga.

With Griezmann pulling the strings, the Rojiblancos have been the division's best side in 2023. While it is too late for them to earn any silverware, overtaking Real does offer some small reward.

Alvaro Morata netted the third in the 49th minute and Yannick Carrasco converted a penalty for the fourth.

Chucky Lozano smashed in a brilliant consolation for Cadiz, 15th and only a point above the drop zone, but Nahuel Molina tucked home Atletico's fifth immediately after. Samuel Lino struck for

Jose Bordalas' side undid some of the damage from their 1-0 defeat by Espanyol on

Thursday.

forward Nicolas Jackson's open-

er at Mestalla, saving the hosts

from a fourth defeat in six

games and keeping them just

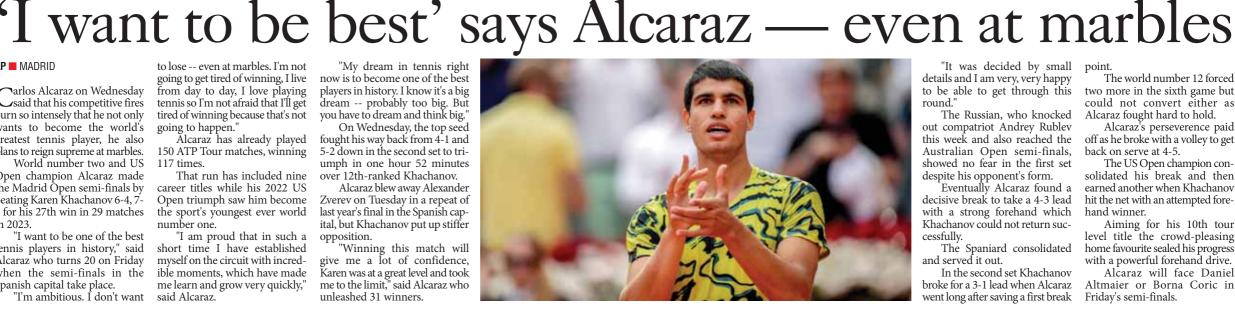
outside the drop zone.

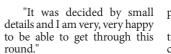
Getafe stayed on their tail

with their narrow victory thanks to Enes Unal's early penalty,

putting pressure on Espanyol, 19th, who are three points behind and visit Sevilla on

The draw dents Villarreal's chances of Champions League qualification, leaving them seven points behind Real Sociedad in fourth, who beat champions Valencia to cancel out Villarreal Real Madrid on Tuesday





The Russian, who knocked out compatriot Andrey Rublev this week and also reached the Australian Open semi-finals, showed no fear in the first set despite his opponent's form.

Eventually Alcaraz found a decisive break to take a 4-3 lead with a strong forehand which Khachanov could not return successfully.

The Spaniard consolidated and served it out.

In the second set Khachanov broke for a 3-1 lead when Alcaraz went long after saving a first break

The world number 12 forced two more in the sixth game but could not convert either as Alcaraz fought hard to hold.

Alcaraz's perseverence paid

off as he broke with a volley to get back on serve at 4-5. The US Open champion consolidated his break and then earned another when Khachanov

hand winner. Aiming for his 10th tour level title the crowd-pleasing home favourite sealed his progress

hit the net with an attempted fore-

with a powerful forehand drive. Alcaraz will face Daniel Altmaier or Borna Coric in Friday's semi-finals.

tennis players in history," said Alcaraz who turns 20 on Friday when the semi-finals in the Spanish capital take place.

"I want to be one of the best

Open champion Alcaraz made the Madrid Open semi-finals by beating Karen Khachanov 6-4, 7-5 for his 27th win in 29 matches

"I'm ambitious. I don't want

from day to day, I love playing arlos Alcaraz on Wednesday Csaid that his competitive fires tennis so I'm not afraid that I'll get burn so intensely that he not only tired of winning because that's not going to happen. wants to become the world's Alcaraz has already played 150 ATP Tour matches, winning greatest tennis player, he also plans to reign supreme at marbles. World number two and US

That run has included nine career titles while his 2022 US Open triumph saw him become the sport's youngest ever world number one.

to lose -- even at marbles. I'm not

going to get tired of winning, I live

"I am proud that in such a short time I have established myself on the circuit with incredible moments, which have made me learn and grow very quickly,'

"My dream in tennis right now is to become one of the best players in history. I know it's a big dream -- probably too big. But you have to dream and think big. On Wednesday, the top seed

fought his way back from 4-1 and 5-2 down in the second set to triumph in one hour 52 minutes over 12th-ranked Khachanov. Alcaraz blew away Alexander

Zverev on Tuesday in a repeat of last year's final in the Spanish capital, but Khachanov put up stiffer opposition.

"Winning this match will confidence,

give me a lot of confidence, Karen was at a great level and took me to the limit," said Alcaraz who unleashed 31 winners.

KKR KEEP THEMSELVES IN THE HUNT AS SRH'S FORTUNES DIP

he self-destructing batters let Sunrisers Hyderabad down again to hand a Kolkata Knight Riders a much needed five-run win in the IPL here on Thursday, keeping the Nitish Rana-led side alive in the tournament.

Rana and Rinku Singh came up with a fruitful 61-run part-nership to help KKR post 171 for nine and then their bowlers, especially Shardul Thakur (2/23) and Vaibhav Arora (2/32), helped the two-time IPL champions limit Sunrisers Hyderabad to 166 for eight in 20 overs.

Varun Chakaravarthy bowled a brilliant 20th over to eke out a welcome win for his team.

KKR earned their fourth victory of the season and are now on eight points, while SRH, who remained stranded on six points, suffered a huge body blow to their chances of making

the playoffs.

The victory was hard-fought for KKR, given that SRH's South African pair of skipper Aiden Markram (41 off 40 balls) and Heinrich Klaasen (36 off 20 balls) had at one point in time looked to take the match away with their 70-run partnership.

Markram and Klaasen produced innings of character but their dismissal in quick succession spelt doom for the home side as the later-order batters

of Rana and Rinku came together at the crease at a time when the team was struggling at 49 for three at the end of powerplay.

But by the time Rana departed in the 12th over, his 31-ball 42 studded with three fours and an equal number of maximums had put the team on course to a fighting total.
While wickets continued to

fall at the other end, with West Indians Andre Russell and Sunil Narine hardly making an impact, Rinku (46 off 35 balls) curbed his natural instinct and played patiently to give the side a decent total to defend.

It was another forgettable start for KKR with opener Rahmanullah Gurbaz unable to recreate the magic of the previous game against Gujarat Titans.

The 21-year-old Afghanistan opener fell to a length ball from South African quick Marco Jansen off the first delivery of the second over as he tried flick it over mid-wicket but was a tad late and the top edge flew to Harry Brook at mid-on.

Venkatesh Iyer departed five balls later, becoming Jansen's second victim as the tall pacer sent down the short stuff that the KKR batter uncomfortably tried to hook, only to pop it high up in the air for wicketkeeper Heinrich Klaasen to take an easy

India seamer Bhuvneshwar



end, conceding just 12 runs in his first two overs as the home team endured yet another poor

After bowling two wides and a no-ball, the Uttar Pradesh cricketer got the big wicket of England opener Jason Roy.

Roy's premeditated cross-bat heave took a big edge and flew to short third man as Mayank Agarwal took a simple

SRH too were off to a poor start in their chase, with KKR pace bowler Harshit Rana once again exposed SRH opener Mayank Agarwal's frailty while facing the short-pitched deliveries. While the opener was comfortable playing his strokes on both sides of the wicket, Rana tested him with a delivery touching 140kmph and angled into the body on middle and leg

stump.

Mayank played a defensive hook while trying to get his head out of harm's way and lobbed the ball for the keeper to take an easy catch.

Mayank's soft dismissals out the pressure back on the fragile SRH top-order and eight runs later, SRH were reduced to 37 for 2 in the fourth over after Abhishek Sharma too headed back to the dugout with Russell lunging forward to take a catch at deep backward square off a Shardul delivery.

Bangar asked if I was training? Jadhav after his return to RCB

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

redar Jadhav had kept him-Kedar Jauliav Ind. Ref. tating on the ongoing IPL before he got a surprise call from Sanjay Bangar to play for Royal Challengers Bangalore in the remainder of the season.

The 38-year-old had scored tons of runs in Ranji Trophy after missing out on the premier domestic T20 event last year.

The former India batter recalled his chat with Bangar



shape. He asked a time and said he'll call me back. It was that moment I realized that he would call me and tell me to play for

Jadhav represented RCB

previously in 2016 and 2017,

playing 17 matches and scoring 311 runs at an average of 23.92 and a strike rate of 142.66. The batter was in terrific form in the recently-concluded

Ranji Trophy in which he scored a 283 for Maharaashtra.

"I took a break for a year but then I realised that I was miss-

ranking at Asian C'ships

ing my passion and when I returned to first-class cricket, I found it very easy. To be honest it was because of the experience

"It was the same hunger I had in the early '20s, the hunger to score big runs and that's when I felt I can now come back and play again at all the levels and I was prepared for it, I've always performed well," he added

RCB will play their next match against Delhi Capitals on

It will also be the first time

While Jeremy had been

nursing a thigh injury, Achinta

had to withdraw from the World

Championships in December at

the last minute after he pulled his

hamstring during the warm

the required ranking points to

qualify for the Paris Olympics.

compete in non-Olympic 67kg

weight class. The Áizawl lifter

was supposed to bulk up to the

73kg Ólympic weight class but

has decided to wait till after the

will remain in this (67kg) cate-

gory, after that we will change it,"

Sharma said. Commonwealth

Games silver medallist

Bindyarani Devi has also moved

ished 25th at the Worlds in the

The 24-year-old had fin-

back from 59kg to 55kg.

"Till the Asian Games, he

Asian Games in September.

The duo will aim to collect

Jeremy will continue to

behind Huihua.

Games last August.

RR to challenge GT for top spot

Umove on from their underwhelming batting display when they take on an inconsistent Rajasthan Royals, which will challenge the Hardik Pandya-led side for the top spot, in the Indian Premier League here on

Both teams are coming off losses and will look to get back to winning ways.

Gujarat Titans are perched atop the points table with 12 points despite their five-run loss to wooden spooners Delhi Capitals, while the Royals are on the fourth spot and have 10

The Sanju Samson-led side has ample talent but has been unable to hold on to a winning run recently. Rajasthan have lost three games and won as many in their last six fixtures.

In their last match against Mumbai Indians, the muchfeared bowling department failed to defend 212.

Pace spearhead Trent Boult, all-rounder Jason Holder, spinner Yuzvendra Chahal and Kuldeep Sen all leaked runs. They would hope for a better show at home on Friday.

The Royals can take a bit of solace from the fact that they emerged victorious earlier in the season against GT.

Rajasthan have the firepower in their batting line-up to pile is enjoying a fine run but the team needs the trio of Jos Buttler, Sanju Samson and Shimron Hetmyer to fire.

Rashid Khan.

hand, have to get over their lacklustre batting display against the Capitals where they failed to chase down 130.

innings, took the onus of the loss on himself as he failed to accelerate towards the end.

make it look so easy with sub-tle movement of his fingers

will look for an encore. The spin department is led by the ever-reliable Rashid, who has another Afghani Noor Ahmad to complement him.

It was a day when the likes of in-form Shubman Gill and David Miller failed and skipper Pandya, who anchored the

on point against the Capitals. Veteran Shami continues to around the seam at the delivery. He sizzled with the new ball and

potent GT bowling attack, led by Mohammed Shami and the wily A win for Rajasthan, who

at the Sawai Man Singh Stadium will catapult them to the top of The Titans, on the other

They will have their task cut out when they are up against the

have a Net Run Rate of +0.800,

The bowling, however, was

teams under 200: Rohit Sharma

PTI MOHALI

a bowling unit.

Mumbai Indians skipper Rohit Sharma is a happy

man that his team successfully

chased down totals in excess of

200 in back-to-back games but

he said they need to improve as

ceded 200 plus scores their last

four games and the inexperience

of the pace attack and rustiness

of Jofra Archer is affecting them.

need to look at, certain options

we need to take in the middle of

"It is something that we

Mumbai Indians have con-

which led to his unexpected We need to find option restrict

inclusion in the RCB squad midway into the season.

"Absolutely surprised, but a pleasant one. I was doing commentary and Sanjay Bhai called me asking what I was doing. I told him I was commentating. He inquired whether I was still practising and I replied in the affirmative - twice a week," he said in a team statement.

"Bangar then asked me about my fitness to which I said I was regular at the gym and even using it in my hotel. In short, I told him I was in good

Rohit said at the post-match pre-

sentation ceremony.

"It's been three or four

games where we have conceded

200, so we need to find those

scores have changed a lot in the

mat, 140-150 was a winning

score. But look at this one. Plus

one extra batter makes a huge

difference as well. Not just to us

but across the IPL. I just checked

that the average score this IPL is

As it has been with

180," the MI skipper said.

But he did accept that par

"When we started T20 for-

options in the middle.

last 16 years of IPL.



KKR named Charles as Litton's replacement

▼olkata Knight Riders on KThursday named Johnson Charles as a replacement for Litton Das for the remainder of the Indian Premier League.

Das returned to Bangladesh due to a family medical

emergency last week. The 28-year-old, who was bought by KKR at his base price of Rs 50 lakh at last year's auction, was dropped after playing just one match against Delhi Capitals. Charles – a wicketkeeper-batter – has represented West Indies in 41 T20Is, scoring 971 runs and was a part of West Indies' 2012

Additionally, he has played 224 T20s and has over 5600 runs against his name.

you move away from your plans. But we talked right at the start that we want to be fearless.'

Rohit was all praise for Ishan Kishan's brute power in his 75 off 41 balls.

"(Kishan) is a little man but he has got a lot of power. He practices those shots that we saw today. So what matters is what he does off the field and it comes off on the field," Rohit stated.

Mirabai, Indian lifters aim at improving Olympic qualification

Tokyo Olympics silver medallist weightlifter Mirabai Jeremy Lalrinnunga (67kg) and Achinta Sheuli (73kg) compete Chanu will once again spear- in an event since winning the Asian Championships but she is unlikely to attempt the muchawaited 90kg snatch lift here on

The two-time Commonwealth Games champion had won silver in her last outing at the World Championship in December with an overall effort of 200kg (87kg +113kg).

It was far from her personal best of 207kg (88kg+119kg) and this time too, the former world champion 49kg lifter is not expected to test her limits.

"Mira only has to participate here. We will take it easy," head coach Vijay Sharma told PTI.

"She will just participate and lift 85kg (snatch)...110kg (clean and jerk), totals that she can easily get," Sharma added. This means the wait for the

coveted 90kg snatch lift could be longer. Chanu, who struggles with a back issue that affects her snatch, has been trying to breach the 90kg-mark since 2020.

But with the Olympics still a year to go and the Asian Games scheduled in September, the Manipuri wants to peak at the right time.

The last time Chanu competed at the event in 2021, she made history by creating a new world record in the clean and jerk category, which still stands. "We will create world

records in the Olympic year. She was at her peak the last time she was here because Olympics were just around the corner. The Paris Olympics is next year. There is no point peaking now. "We have to take keep in

mind her age also, she is not a

kid anymore, her body needs to be taken care of more now. Sharma said of the 28-year-old. The Indian will renew her rivalry with the Chinese duo of

Jiang Huihua and Hou Zhihui, who have the highest entry weights of 205kg each. Zhihui is the reigning Olympic champion. Chanu, on the other hand, has the second highest entry

59kg Olympic weight class. However, an injury before the selection trials has forced her to move back to her original weight division. Reigning national champions Shubham Todkar (61kg) and Narayana Ajith will be making their international

the 2024 Paris Olympics, where weightlifting events will be cut from 14 at Tokyo Games to 10. However, it is an additional event and not a compulsory one. Under the 2024 Olympic qualification rule, a lifter has to compulsorily compete in the 2023 World Championships and

Apart from the two, the

debuts. The Asian Champion-

ship is the qualifying event for

lifter also has to participate in three of the events from among the 2022 World Championships, 2023 Continental Championships, 2023 Grand Prix 1, 2023 Grand Prix II and 2024 Continental Championships. Indian Squad: Mirabai Chanu (49kg), Bindyarani Devi (55kg),

the 2024 World Cup.

Shubham Todkar (61kg), Jeremy Lalrinnunga (67kg), Achinta

weight, along with two other lifters. In the latest Olympic Qualification Ranking (OQR), Sheuli (73kg), Narayana Ajith Chanu is in the second spot

Pak register first series win over Pakistan, who won the first was also run out after failing win over New Zealand was in

 $P^{\text{akistan registered their first}}_{\text{ODI series win over New}}$ Zealand in 12 years with a hard-fought 26-run victory in the third match in Karachi on Wednesday. Imam-ul-Haq scored a 107-

ball 90 while Babar Azam made a 62-ball 54 for his 26th ODI half-century to guide Pakistan to 287-6 in their 50 overs. Opener Tom Blundell hit 65

for New Zealand while debutant Cole McConchie struck an undefeated 45-ball 64 but the visitors were bowled out for 261 in 49.1 overs

two matches by five and seven wickets respectively in Rawalpindi, took an unassailable 3-0 lead in the five-match series. "It's always a relief when you

win a series and it was a good team effort," said Azam. "We put (on) a good total and then (the) bowlers were outstanding. "The focus is now to not

relax and come out strongly for the next two matches and hopefully we can continue to give one hundred percent." The last two matches are on Friday and Sunday, also in

Pakistan's last ODI series



2011 and since then they had lost six of the seven series, with one drawn New Zealand threatened

Suryakumar Yadav, his 66 off 31

balls had some breathtaking

shots behind the square and his

skipper wasn't at all surprised.

that for the last couple of years.

To play behind the wicket, that's

his strength and he utilised it

really well. Surya and Kishan

batted brilliantly and good fin-

son we spoke about how we

want to play our cricket. With

the bat, we just wanted to go out

there and play fearlessly and not

worry about the results. Often

Before the start of the sea-

ish by Tim and Tilak.

Look, he has been doing

to run away with a win as Blundell and Will Young (33 off 41 balls) gave them a confident opening stand of 83 in 15.3 Pakistan finally broke thro-

ugh with Young's run out off a direct throw from short thirdman, before Mohammad Wasim dismissed Daryl Mitchell for 21 — the man who had hit successive hundreds in the last

two matches. Fifteen runs later, Blundell

to reach his crease in an attempt to complete a second run. He hit seven boundaries in his Tom Latham, who made 45,

and Mark Chapman (13) added 40 for the fourth wicket but pacer Naseem Shah bowled Chapman with a beautiful delivery before Latham was cleaned up by Wasim.

McConchie tied valiantly to snatch a victory for New Zealand, smashing two sixes and six fours but ran out of partners.

Naseem, Wasim and Shaheen Shah Afridi all took two wickets for Pakistan

and 2016 ICC World Twenty20-winning squads.