

### At G7 Summit PM Modi pitches for raising collective voice against unilateral bids to change status quo

#### PNS/PTI HIROSHIMA

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Sunday said he views the current situation in Ukraine as an issue of humanity and human values and not of politics or economy even as he called for respecting international law, sovereignty and territorial integrity of all nations. In an address at a G7 session in Hiroshima, Modi also strongly pitched for raising voice collectively against unilateral attempts to change the status quo, asserting that any tension and dispute should be resolved peacefully through dialogue

Modi said all countries must respect the UN Charter, international law and the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all nations and called for raising voice together against unilateral attempts to change the status quo

The Prime Minister's comments came against the backdrop of the lingering border row with China in eastern Ladakh and Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Modi also referred to his talks with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on Saturday and reiterated that India will do whatever is possible to resolve the conflict. Modi's comments came after Zelenskyy addressed

No ID needed to

exchange ₹2,000

notes, says SBI

the G7 leaders seeking global support for Ukraine's efforts to defend itself against Russian aggression. The war in Ukraine has been the overwhelming focus of the summit.

Modi said in today's interconnected world crises in one region affect all countries and noted that developing countries with limited resources are grappling with the profound impact of a food, fuel and fertiliser crisis. Underlining this factor in the backdrop of the ongoing Ukraine conflict which has adversely impacted the global supply chains, Modi also said India believes dialogue and diplomacy is the only way to deal with the Ukraine conflict.

Modi had made a similar commitment on Saturday at his first in-person meeting with Zelenskyy, who updated the Indian leader on his 10-point peace formula and sought New Delhi's cooperation in demining operations and medicine.

On Sunday, Zelenskyy sat between Modi and South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol at the session with the theme "Toward a peaceful, stable and prosperous world". Besides leaders of the world's seven largest economies, the session was attended by the heads of eight guest countries, including India, Indonesia and Australia. Contd on Page 2 Papua New Guinea PM touches Modi's feet



Port Moresby: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday arrived in Papua New Guinea on his maiden visit during which he will host a key summit on Monday between India and 14 Pacific island countries to boost bilateral ties.

Modi's visit to Papua New Guinea on the second leg of his three-nation tour is the first nial vever by any Indian Prime him.

Chhattisgarh are two States

ruled by the Congress where it

is hoping to offset the anti-

incumbency factor and fac-

Minister. Modi was received at the airport by Prime Minister James Marape who touched his feet as a mark of respect. Normally Papua New Guinea doesn't give a ceremonial welcome to any leader coming after sunset. But a special exception was made for Prime Minister Modi and a ceremonial welcome was accorded to

### China protests against G7's Hiroshima joint communique

#### PTI BEIJING

China has lodged diplomat-ic protests to G7 countries over their Hiroshima joint statement, in which they voiced their growing concerns over China's coercive approaches over Taiwan, East and South China seas, and accused them of brazen interference in its internal affairs.

China figured prominent-ly in the Hiroshima summit meeting of the leaders of G7 countries. The G7 comprising the US, France, the UK, Italy, Germany, Canada and Japan, represent the world's richest democracies.

The joint statement devoted a substantial portion to China, saying that they would like to build constructive and stable relations with Beijing besides expressing serious con-cerns over China's aggressive approaches over Taiwan, East and South China seas.

They stressed the need to cooperate with the world's sec-ond-largest economy but also emphasised countering its "malign practices" and "coercion" in a landmark joint com-

munique on Saturday. Continued on Page 2

### in tussle with Centre **Delhi CM to meet** other Opp leaders in bid to defeat ordinance in RS

#### RAJESH KUMAR 📕 NEW DELHI

mid a bitter tussle with the ANarendra Modi Government over the control of administrative services, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) con-vener and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal is working on a strategy to defeat the 'ordinance' in the Rajya Sabha.

As Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Sunday extended "complete support" to him in the AAP Government's ongoing tussle with the Centre over the control of adminis-trative services, Kejriwal will now meet Trinamool Congress chief Mamata Banerjee on May 23 in Kolkata; Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray on May 24 and NCP supremo Sharad Pawar on May 25 to seek their support in Rajya Sabha

"After that, I will meet every party's president to seek their formal support for defeat-ing the Bill when it comes in

Rajya Sabha," Kejriwal said. The AAP convener also urged Bihar Chief Minister to mobilise other leaders and parties in this regard to support them in the Upper House. An ordinance has to be ratified by Parliament within six months for which, the Centre will have to bring a Bill for its passage in both Houses of Parliament.

Sunday's meeting was the second between Kumar and Kejriwal in over a month. Kejriwal said if the Bill is defeated in Rajya Sabha, it will send out the message that the



Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal with Bihar CM Nitish Kumar during a press conference, in New Delhi on Sunday Ranjan Dimri I Pionee

BJP will lose the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. "It will be the semi-final of the 2024 Lok Sabha polls," the AAP national convenor told reporters. Earlier on Sunday, Kumar who was accompanied by Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav, and party lead-

#### Nitish should give up 'daydreaming' about becoming PM: BJP

New Delhi: The BJP's nation-al spokesperson Prem Shukla on Sunday took a swipe at Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar following his meeting with his Delhi counterpart Arvind Kejriwal, saying he should pay attention to his State which is being pushed into "anarchy" instead of daydreaming about becoming Prime Minister. Kumar has been meeting Opposition leaders in a bid to forge an alliance of non-BJP parties and threw his weight behind Kejriwal over his protest against the ordinance brought in by Centre on issue of authority over transfers and postings of Delhi Government officers.

services insult to Indian judiciary Lucknow: Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav on Sunday came in support of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and said that Centre's ordinance on services in the national Capital was an insult to judiciary.

ers Manoj Jha, Lalan Singh and

Sanjay Jha, met his counterpart

Kejriwal at his residence on

Flag Staff road in the morning

emphasising his commitment to strengthening Opposition unity for the forthcoming 2024

Lok Sabha elections. Continued on Page 2

**Akhilesh: Centre's** 

ordinance on Delhi

"The Delhi ordinance is an insult to the judiciary. This is the result of negative politics of BJP and also of democratic-injustice," Yadav said in a tweet in Hindi. "BJP knows that it will be defeated in all the seats of Delhi in the Lok Sabha elections, that is why it is already taking revenge from the public. **PTI** the public.



No form or requisition slip Rs 2,000 notes up to a limit of Rs 20,000 at a time as part of exercise to withdraw highvalue currency notes from circulation. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Friday in a surprise move announced withdrawal of Rs 2,000 currency notes from circulation but gave public time till September 30 to either deposit such notes in accounts or exchange them at banks. Unlike the November 2016 shock of demonetisation, when old Rs 500 and Rs 1,000 notes were invalidated overnight, the Rs 2.000 notes will continue to be a legal tender.

PTI NEW DELHI

With Assembly elections due in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Telangana and Mizoram in the

and the poll strategy adopted

(See page 3)

In a communication to chief general manager of all its local head offices, the State Bank of India (SBI) informed that the facility of exchange of Rs 2,000 notes by public up to a limit of Rs 20,000 at a time will be allowed without obtaining any requisition slip. With regard to deposit of such notes

### CAPSULE

#### **12 DEAD IN EL SALVADOR STADIUM CRUSH**

San Salvador: A stampede by fans at a quarterfinals soccer match in Salvadoran league has left 12 people dead and injured dozens more, officials said on Sunday. The crush happened when fans pushed through one of the entrance gates during Saturday's game between Alianza and Fas at Monumental stadium in Cuscatlan, which is about 41 kilometers northeast of the capital, Salvador soccer officials said.

#### WALMART TO SOURCE **TOYS, SHOES FROM INDIA**

New Delhi: US-based retail giant Walmart is looking to source toys, shoes and bicycles from Indian suppliers as the company is targeting to increase its exports from India to \$10 billion annually by 2027. The company also wants to develop new suppliers in these categories



next few months, the Congress is working on poll strategies in these States and has convened a meeting of State leaders on in own account, the RBI has May 24. While Rajasthan and

not specified any limit but it will be subject to compliance with extant Know Your Customer (KYC) norms and other applicable statutory requirements. "Further, no identity proof

tional fighting by replicating is required to be submitted by the "Karnataka strategy", the party is also determined to the tenderer at the time of make a comeback in Madhya exchange," the communication dated May 20 said. It has asked Pradesh where it lost power its local head offices to arrange after Jyotiraditya Scindia and and extend all cooperation to some of the MLAs switched the public so that the exercise loyalties, sources said. Party sources said is conducted in a smooth and Congress president Mallikarjun seamless manner without any inconvenience. According to Kharge has called a meeting of sources, one can stand any its leaders from Telangana,

number of times in queue for exchange of Rs 2,000 notes. | and Chhattisgarh on Continued on Page 2 Wednesday to strategise on

the forthcoming Assembly elections. Kharge will hold separate meetings with the State leaders. Sources said the idea is to chalk out an early strategy to reach out to the grassroots.

"The Bharat Jodo Yatra, which passed through States like Telangana, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, will benefit the party as the cadres are already activated and the party will get the benefit of the yatra, as it did in Karnataka," said the sources. Another leader said the good schemes and works initiated by the Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan Congress Governments in Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh will be highlighted in a big way

Karnataka will be replicated in these poll-bound States. The grand old party faces peculiar challenges in several of these States, especially due to infight-ing and factionalism, said sources.

In Rajasthan, the Congress has to tackle the festering feud between Sachin Pilot and Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot. Upping the ante, Pilot has threatened to launch an agitation if his demands are not met by May end.

There is also an open fight between Chattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel and State Minister TS Singh Deo, who has been staking claim to top post in State. In Telangana, too, its State unit chief Revanth Reddy faces infighting from State leaders who consider him an outsider. In Karnataka, the party gave five guarantees to people of State and politics of freebies seems to have worked in its favour.



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi with party general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and her son Raihan Vadra pays tribute to late Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on his death anniversary, at his memorial 'Veer Bhumi', in New Delhi, on Sunday (P4)

the Army to cover the higher reaches of the Zabarwan Range

overlooking the meeting venue

and accommodation facilities

Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), which had earlier been

taken out of J&K for election

duty in the rest of the country

have since been recalled to fur-

Thirty companies of the

for the guests.

### **NSG** anti-drone unit, commandos to cover **J&K G20 meet today** policing and maximum securi-ty, the J&K Police has roped in

#### PTI SRINAGAR

Counter-drone teams of the elite NSG are scanning the sky, marine commandos of the navy patrolling the picturesque Dal Lake and scores of security personnel are on vigil on the ground to ensure a safe and secure G20 meeting beginning here on Monday, officials said.

Preparing to receive at least 60 delegates and 20 journalists from different parts of the world, the authorities in militancy-hit Jammu & Kashmir (J&K) have made elaborate arrangements for the third G20 Tourism Working Group meeting at the Sher-e-Kashmir International

al meeting being held in Kashmir after the abrogation of Article 370 and the bifurcation of the erstwhile State into two Union Territories — Jammu & Kashmir, and Ladakh.

JeM ultra held in J&K terror conspiracy case

#### PNS NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Sunday arrested a Jasih-e-Mohammad (JeM) operative for his involvement in the terror conspiracy case in Jammu & Kashmir (J&K). The arrest comes as part of the crackdown by the NIA against the con-spiracies being hatched by proscribed terrorist organisations based across the border to destabilise India through terrorist attacks in J&K, the NIA

ther strengthen security in the Valley, where Intelligence intersaid. cepts have suggested the presence of improvised explosive devices or a vehicle-based IEDs. Officials said teams of the National Security Guard (NSG) counterdrone unit have been pressed into service to ensure that no unwanted aerial intrusion takes place

A hit team of the elite "Black Cat" commandos is in readiness to deal with any terrorist incident and a hostage-like situation.

Continued on Page 2

The accused, identified as Mohd Ubaid Malik of Kupwara district, was in constant touch with a Pakistan-based JeM Commander, according to NIA investigations." Investigations have revealed that the accused was passing on secret information, especially regarding movement of troops and security forces, to the Pakistan-based Commander," the agency

said in its statement. Continued on Page 2

# **'Drishyam' in Korean soon**

### Malayalam thriller to be adapted by S Korea after 4 Indian remakes

#### PTI CANNES

Indian production banner Panorama Studios and Anthology Studios from South Korea on Sunday announced a partnership for the remake of the 'Drishyam' franchise in Korea. The announcement was made at the India Pavilion during the ongoing Cannes Film Festival by the studios with their respective heads Kumar Mangat Pathak and Jay Choi in attendance

'Drishyam', the Malayalam crime thriller, follows Georgekutty (Mohanlal) and his family, who come under suspicion when Varun Prabhakar, the son of the IG Geetha Prabhakar, goes missing. The 2013 movie was written and directed by Jeethu time a Hindi film is being



Joseph. The success of the film led to remakes and sequels in four Indian languages: 'Drishya' (2014) in Kannada, 'Drushyam' (2014) in Telugu, 'Papanasam' (2015) in Tamil, and 'Drishyam' (2015). According to the makers, the project marks the first

officially remade in the South Korean language. Pathak, who has acquired multiple language rights for 'Drishyam', said he is looking forward to taking the film franchise to South Korea. "I'm excited that the 'Drishyam' franchise is being made in Korean, a first for a Hindi film. This will not only increase its reach outside India but will also put Hindi cinema on the global map. All these years, we have been inspired by Korean fare, now they have found a muse in one of our films. What can be a bigger achievement for the Indian film fraternity," the producer said in a statement. Choi, who co-founded Anthology Studios with 'Parasite' star Song Kang-ho and acclaimed director Kim Jee-woon, said he is excited about the collaboration.

"We are thrilled to have an

opportunity to remake a massively successful Hindi film with a touch of originality from Korean cinema. And the remake has greater significance as the first major co-production between South Korea and India. Contd on Page 2

Convention Centre (SKICC).

This is the first internation-

Aiming to ensure minimum



## 'PM on mission to make India $|Temp \ touches \ 46 \ deg \ C$ more respectable in world'

#### PTI AHMEDABAD

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is on a mission to make India more respectable in the world and the gesture of the head of a state seeking his autograph and another touching his feet shows the respect Modi is getting, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said here on Sunday. Shah made these comments

while addressing a function to launch various projects of the BIP-ruled Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation at Chharodi village on the outskirts of the city.

"Our PM visited six countries in six days and met heads of various countries. It is truly remarkable to see the respect he is getting. While the head of a state sought his autograph,

another touched his feet to seek his blessings," he said.

a mark of respect when he reached that country on his He was referring to the maiden visit."This honour Quad meeting when US and Australian leaders spoke to PM received by the PM is also of 130 crore citizens, especially of Modi about 'requests' they were Gujaratis. getting from prominent citi-

PM Modi is on a mission to zens to attend the Indian leader's make India more respectable in programmes during his next the world. I am confident that month's state visit to Washington DC and Sydney on his efforts will make India more acceptable in the world," Shah added. Some of projects launched by Shah included a At the meeting, the Australian prime minister sewerage pumping station, a remembered how at the fire station, a library, a lake beau-Narendra Modi stadium in tification project and a shelter for Gujarat more than 90,000 peohomeless among others.

On the occasion, Shah also ple welcomed him during the victory lap. To this, Biden told took part in the online draw of Modi in a lighter vein that he 2,501 houses built for the lower should take his autograph. In income group (LIG) citizens by another incident, Papua New the AMC Earlier in the day, Shah flagged off electric Guinea Prime Minister James state transport buses. Marape touched Modi's feet as

# in parts of Delhi-NCR

PTI NEW DELHI

The maximum temperature breached the 45-degrees-Celsius mark in parts of Delhi-NCR on Sunday with Najafgarh recording the highest at 46.3 degrees Celsius, the India Meteorological Department said.

According to the Met office, the observatories at Narela and Pitampura recorded 45 degrees Celsius, Ayanagar and Ridge reported 44 degrees Celsius and Palam recorded 43.8 degrees Celsius. The observatory at Safdarjung recorded the maximum temperature of 42.9 degrees Celsius, three notches above the season's average There was less traffic on the roads in the afternoon and the usually crowded boulevards wore a deserted look. "I had to go to the market but the heat outside was unbearable so I did not go. The mercury has shot up so much and even the ACs are unable to provide relief," said Varsha Pillai, a resident of Lajpat Nagar.

Officials said a fresh western disturbance could bring relief from the hot weather conditions from May 24 with light rain and cloudy

Haryana CM opens



People use stoles to shield themselves from the hot summer afternoon in New Delhi on Sunday Ranian Dimri I Pioneer

weather expected for three to four days. On Sunday, relative humidity levels were between 25 per cent and 74 per cent, it added The night temperature had settled three notches below normal at 24 degrees Celsius, the India Meteorological Department said. The weather office has forecast partly cloudy skies and heatwave conditions at isolated places on Monday.

## of new tribal policy PNS VISHAKHAPATNAM and other knowledge.

Tribal Convention

calls for formation

¬he All India Tribal The All man India Convention on Sunday called for a formation of a new Tribal Policy to ensure devel-opment of Tribal languages, culture and form a Tribal History Academy.

The one day All India Tribal Convention began with an appeal by the Chief Guest, renowned tribal author and activist, Dr. Vasavi Kiro from Jharkhand to fight for formulation of a New Tribal policy which will ensure development of tribal languages and culture and ensure formation of a Tribal History Academy. She highlighted aspects of traditional tribal medicine, cusines

The delegates applauded when she stressed that Adivasis

should get organized fight for their rights and many non Adivasis who are the real friends of the Adivasis have contributed much to their struggle. In her 42 minute address Dr. Kiro said there are more than 700 million Indigenous people in the world, of which 200 million reside in

India. Their 7000 indigenous cultures have been ignored and repressed even 75 years after colonial rule. India has more than 750 ethnic tribes of which 75 are most vulnerable. Their social, cultural, economic and political situation is very grave.

parties together ahead of the

2024 Lok Sabha elections. With Kejriwal's relations with

the Congress far from smooth,

Kumar has the task of building

some kind of a working rela-

tionship between the two as he

also sees the grand old party as

critical to any Opposition unity

bid.

# **'Respect...**

Tuesday

#### From Page1

"We heard President Zelenskyy today. I also met him yesterday. I do not consider the current situation as an issue of politics or economy. I believe this is a matter of humanity, a matter of human values," Modi said, speaking in Hindi.

"From the very beginning, we have maintained that dialogue and diplomacy is the only way. And we will make every possible effort to contribute, in whatever way India can, for resolving this situation," he said.

"In today's inter-connected world, crises in any one region affect all the countries. The developing countries, which have limited resources, are the worst affected. In the current global situation, these countries are facing the maximum and most profound impact of the food, fuel and fertiliser crisis," Modi said.

All countries must respect the UN Charter, international law, and sovereignty and territorial integrity of all states, he said adding "Raise your voice together against unilateral attempts to change the status quo. India has always been of the opinion that any tension, any dispute should be resolved through peaceful means,

through dialogue." The Prime Minister said "And if there is a solution from the law, then it should be accepted," pointing out it was in this spirit that India resolved its land and maritime bound-He was critical of the United Nations' failure to prevent conflicts in the current era and to

tackle terrorism, saying "Institutions created in the last century are not in line with the system of the 21st century".He said, "It raises the question as to why we are facing the need to discuss matters of peace and stability in distinct forums." 'The UN, which was estab-

lished with the very purpose of establishing peace, why does it often fail to prevent conflicts today? Why has even the definition of terrorism not been accepted in the UN as yet?' Modi questioned.

Global bodies do not reflect the realities of the current era, and this is why reforms should be given concrete shape in institutions such as the UN. "It will also have to become the voice of the Global South. Otherwise, we will just keep talking about ending the conflict. The UN and the Security Council will become just a talk shop," he said.

Modi concluded by citing Lord Buddha, saying he had provided the solution centuries ago to the war, unrest and instability facing the world today. "Enmity does not calm enmity. Enmity is pacified by affinity," Modi quoted from the Buddha's teachings and said everyone should move forward together in this spirit.

New Delhi has all along maintained that a solution to the conflict must be found at the negotiating table and called for respecting sovereignty and territorial integrity of all states. said India has also repeatedly highthe fallout of the conat "India flict on developing countries, especially in the context of based international order that food and fuel security. At a all free nations clearly need".

meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin in Uzbekistan last September, Modi nudged him to end the hostilities by saying this was "not an era of war". In a message about the outreach session posted on his Telegram channel, Zelenskyy said Ukraine has proposed its peace formula to the world and

will not sit at the negotiating table with Russia as long as "Russian invaders remain on our land". "The coloniser must get

out. And the world has enough power to force Russia to restore peace step by step," he said. Zelenskyy added: "We have developed the peace formula in a way that ensures each of its oints is backed by UN reso-Îutions. And in a way that everyone in the world can choose the track they can contribute to. From Japan to the Arab countries, from Europe to Latin America, we find support for our formula."

In a separate video message posted on the Telegram channel, Zelenskyy said he had a "serious talk" with Modi at their meeting on Saturday. "I gave an update on the progress of our peace formula. We have already passed many stages of presenting the formula to the leaders and countries from different parts of the world...And we will do everything so that the involvement of the world in our peace initiative is the fullest possible," he

Zelenskyy said he believes

## 'Road Safety Week'

STAFF REPORTER GURUGRAM

Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Sunday launched a community policing and outreach programme 'Haryana Uday' and said Road Safety Week will be observed in the state and under this, work will be done on the black spots of the roads in all the districts and activities related to road safety will be organized.

The Chief Minister made this announcement while addressing the Raahgiri Day event as the chief guest in Gurugram's Sector on Sunday.He also announced the construction of tracks for cycles and pedestrians on both sides of the road where Raahgiri will be held. The Haryana Uday programme aims at strengthening community ties and rela-

#### tions between the district administration, law enforcement agencies and the public. It will be implemented in the entire state from June 1. "To achieve these goals, the Deputy Commissioners Commissioners of Police and

Superintendents of Police will start community policing and outreach programmes," he said. According to the pro-gramme calendar, events like Strong/Fitman Haryana and three-day Mahila Bazar in Gurugram will be organised next month and International

Yoga Day on June 21 will also celebrated. Apart from this, sports competitions for people above

the age of 60 years and another Mahila Bazar will be held in Faridabad in July. Deputy Commissioners will start outreach programme in their respective districts from June 1. Nitish backs... From Page1 At the meeting, Kumar claimed that the ordinance is

'against the Constitution" and declared his "complete support", for the AAP leader on the ordinance issue which gives control of services back to Delhi Lieutenant-Governor.

After the meeting, Kumar said the Delhi ordinance move by the Centre was very surprising. He criticised the Centre for promulgating the ordinance after the Supreme Court's verdict in the matter. "How can you take away an elected Government's power," the Janata Dal (United) leader asked. "Look at the Constitution and see what is right. Whatever he (Kejriwal) is saying is right.

We are completely with him. We stand with Kejriwal. We are trying to bring together all Opposition parties in the country," he said. Kumar said Kejriwal is doing good work in Delhi and it's surprising that his Government is being stopped

from doing its work. "That's why we are saying that all (Opposition parties) in the country should come together," he said. The Bihar Chief Minister assured that he will make efforts to bring Opposition parties together in support of Kejriwal.

Extending his party's sup-port to Kejriwal, Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav alleged the Centre is "continuously troubling and harassing" non-BJP Governments in dif ferent States.

"We have come here to extend our support to Kejriwal. The BJP Government is doing injustice to him," he said. Yadav said the way the Centre is harassing the Kejriwal dispen-sation in Delhi and Governments of other parties in different States is not justified at all. Sunday's meeting was the second between Kumar and Kejriwal in over a month. Kumar had earlier met Kejriwal here on April 12 as part of his efforts to bring all Opposition

Kejriwal was among the few non-BJP Chief Ministers who were not invited by the Congress to the swearing-in ceremony of its new Government in Karnataka on Saturday, an event which was seen as a show of strength by Opposition parties. Kumar, on the other hand, had attended the event. The Centre promulgated

the ordinance on Friday to create a National Capital Civil Service Authority for transfer of IAS and DANICS cadre officers and disciplinary pro-ceedings against them. This came a week after the Supreme Court handed over the control of services, excluding those related to police, public order and land, to the elected Government in Delhi

### China lodges protest against G7 nations' joint communique

#### From Page1 statement.

The G7 leaders also voiced their concerns about human rights in China, kong and Xinjiang, where Beijing is accused of interning thousands of Uygur Muslims in forced labour camps.

"Despite China's serious concerns, the G7 used issues concerning China to smear ly interfere in China's internal affairs," a spokesperson of the Foreign Ministry said in a

"China strongly deplores and firmly opposes this and has made serious demarches to the summit's host Japan and other parties concerned,"

the statement. Besides urging China to pressure its close strategic partner Russia to end its war on Ukraine, the G7 nations in the joint statement spoke of

didly with and expressing our concerns directly to China." "We encourage China to support a comprehensive, just and lasting peace based on territorial integrity and the principles and purposes of the UN Charter," including in direct talks with Ukraine, the G7 joint statement said.

Cooperation with China is needed given its global role size, it said, and structive and stable relations" called for working together on with Beijing, "recognising the challenges such as climate

body to enter into the hinterland.

the delegates would visit Pari

and financing needs of vulnerable countries, global health concerns and economic stability, it said.

At the same time, the summit of the leaders of seven democracies wealthy expressed "serious concern" about the situation in the East and South China seas, where Beijing has been expanding its military pres-

The G7 leaders called for "peaceful resolution" of China's claim to Taiwan and said there was "no legal basis for China's expansive maritime claims in the South China Sea and we oppose China's militarisation activi-

ties in the region." "A growing China that plays by international rules would be of global interest," the statemen

the restoration of the rules-

their interest to buil con

ence and threatening to use force to exert its control over charges that Beijing is under-Taiwan, which it claims is mining the "rules-based interimportance of engaging can- change, biodiversity, debts part of the Chinese mainland. national order."

## NSG anti-drone unit... JeM ultra held in...

From Page1

"MARCOS teams will be The officials said a proposed visit patrolling the Dal Lake along of the delegation to Gulmarg, also known as Switzerland of with personnel from the river wing of the Jammu & Kashmir Asia, had to be dropped in view Police and CRPF as the convenof the paucity of time. They said tion centre is located on the bank of the water body," an official involved with the security preparations said.

The marine commandos, or MARCOS, of the navy have Kashmir Valley on Wednesday. The first working group meeting on tourism was held in the Rann been stationed at the Wulur Lake in the valley since mid-1990s to prevent any infiltration of Kutch in Gujarat in February from the Line of Control as terand the second one in West rorists had been using the water Bengal's Siliguri in April.

No ID needed to exchange ₹ 2,000 notes, says SBI

From Page1 hesitant in accepting to 2,000 notes and asking for KYC beyond prescribed cash purchase in many parts of the country. According to the Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT), withdrawal of Rs 2,000 notes by the Reserve Bank of India will not affect the trade of the small traders but will certainly hit the big and affluent class which might have stocked Rs 2,000 notes in large quantities. The CAIT does not anticipate any

disturbance in trade activity

due to this move.

From Page1

The NIA also recovered various incriminating documents showing his involvement in the furtherance of terror activities in Jammu & Kashmir from the possession of the accused.

Mahal, Chesmashai and other The case was registered by Mughal gardens, besides taking the NIA suo-moto on June 21, a walk on the renovated Polo 2022. It is related to the conspiracies hatched by cadres and Over Ground Workers View Market, before leaving (OGWs) of various proscribed terrorist organisations in cohorts with their Commanders based in Pakistan. The conspiracy involves collection and distribution of huge consignments of narcotics, cash, weapons, Improvised Explosive Devices

(IEDs), including remote conoperated trol sticky bombs/magnetic bombs, it said. The IEDs and explosives are often being delivered over drones and are also being assembled locally, in order to execute terrorist attacks in Jammu & Kashmir. The attacks are mainly targeted at the minorities and security forces personnel, as per the NIA

investigations. The conspiracies are being hatched both physically and in cyberspace over encrypted social media applications, with overarching aim of disturbing peace and communal harmony, engaging in terrorist acts, and waging a war against the Government of India, it added.

## **'Drishyam'** in Korean soon

From Page1

Through our partnership, we will be able to bring the best of both Indian and Korean cinema and make a meaningful remake that is as excellent as the original," Choi added. US-based Jack Nguyen, former Warner Bros execu-

tive, will serve as executive producer on the Korean remake of "Drishyam". Nguyen has worked with Pathak on WB produced comedy "Atithi Tum

Kab Jaoge" and with Choi in the critically-acclaimed blockbuster drama "Age of Shadows' starring Song. "I have history with and the

utmost respect for these highly-regarded producers so it was a natural fit for me to bring them together to collaborate on a great story in 'Drishyam'. I'm excited to help them make history with this first-of-itskind Indian-Korean co-production," added Nguyen.

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#### NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING (E-Tendering) **E-TENDER NOTICE**

The superintending Engineer, 1st Circle, PWD Almora invites tender through E-Tendering (Two Bid System) on behalf of Honourable Governor of Uttarakhand for following works. All other information will be available from dated 25/05/2023 & onwards on website http://www.uktenders.gov.in

SI. No.	Name of Work	Cost of work (Rupee in Iakh)	Cost of Tender Form	Earnest Money (Rupee in Iakh)	Validity of Tender	Time of Completion	Contractor's Category of Registration for tendering	MARCOS, of the navy have been stationed at the Wulur Lake in the valley since mid- 1990s to prevent any infiltration
1	Provincial Division PWD Almora Improvement & Damarikaran work of Harada -Shitlakhet Motor Road	₹ 294.19 lakh with	₹ 5000.00 + 18%	₹ 5.90 Lakh	120 Days	15 Months (including Raining	Registration under State/ Central Govt. in Category "B" & Higher in Road Works	from the Line of Control as ter- rorists had been using the water
	Under State Sector in Distt. Almora Under C.M.Ghoshna No. 201/2021. (Km.1.00 to 5.00) Length- 5.00 Km.	GST	GST			/Winter Season)		No ID nee
2	Provincial Division PWD Almora Renewal Work by S.D.B.C. under	₹ 236.11	₹ 5000.00	₹ 4.73 Lakh	60 Days	6 Months (including	-Same as above-	exchange
	Annual Maintenance 2023-24 of kathgodam Ranibag Bhimtal Khutani - Padampuri Dhanachuli -	lakh with GST	+ 18% GST			Raining /Winter Season)		notes, sa
	Paharpani - Saharfatak - Mornoula - D e v i d h u r a L o h a g h a t Panchweshwar Motor Road Km. 70 to 71, Km. 73 to 77 & Km. 81 to 82 Jageshwar Consituency in Distt. Almora.							From Page1 Although the facility for exchange is available from May 23, many customers were seen visiting their branches with the Rs 2,000 notes on Saturday. Bank officials returned
3	Provincial Division PWD Bageshwar Improvement / Re-Constructrion work in Km 1 to 4 of Kajyuli- Kotfulwari Motor Road in Bageshwar Constituency block Garur Distt- Bageshwar under S.C.S.P. (Length-3.700Km)	₹ 226.00 lakh with GST	₹ 5000.00 + 18% GST	₹ 4.52 Lakh	60 Days	12 Months (including Raining /Winter Season)	-Same as above-	such customers after advising them about the start date for exchange. Some of the cus- tomers used cash deposit machines on Saturday to deposit Rs 2,000 notes in their accounts. Many have tried jew- ellery shops to buy gold and other precious metals. However, jewellers are also



# Follow Sheila model, **Cong's tip to Kejriwal**

'Stop summoning babus at odd hours, stop using harsh language'

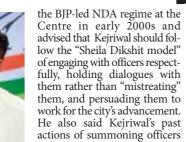
#### STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

 $A^{\rm mid}$  the bitter tussle over  $A^{\rm control}$  of administrative services in Delhi, Congress leader and former Union Urban and Affairs Minister Ajay Maken offered a piece of advice to AAP convener and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal to stop summoning bureaucrats at odd hours and stop using harsh



language while talking to them. Congress leader Sandeep Dikshit also claimed that Kejriwal could be the first elected Chief Minister to go to jail over corruption

charges. Maken took to Twitter and Facebook on Sunday to recall his own personal experience that he got from former Delhi Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit during



and allegedly using harsh words against them are only contributing to the City's distress.

"I hope the current Chief Minister takes note of this journey and learns from it. Engage with officers respectfully, hold dialogues, and persuade them for Delhi's advancement. They will certainly align with your vision if it's sincere

"Your past actions - sum-

moning officers at ungodly hours, resorting to mistreat ment and harsh words - are not constructive. It's crucial to recognize that such behavior only contributes to the city's distress? Maken said on Twitter.

Sharing a story titled "A Day with Sheila Ji: Reflecting Amidst Kejriwal's Current Power Chaos", Maken said in the early 2000s a historic shift was underway in Delhi when he was serving as the transport, power, and tourism minister under the late Sheila Dikshit.

The Congress leader said the Delhi government was spearheading a series of initiatives including transitioning public transport to CNG, launching the Metro and reforming the power department.

## Nitish should stop daydreaming about becoming PM, says BJP

Pay attention to Bihar, says BJP after Nitish meets Kejriwal

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

The BJP on Sunday took a swipe at Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar following his meeting with his Delhi counterpart Arvind Kejriwal, saying he should pay attention to his state which is being pushed into "anarchy" instead of daydreaming about becoming the Prime Minister. The BJP further alleged that Kejriwal is seeking support of the leaders he once branded corrupt, to cover up the "corruption of his own government".

Six Delhi BJP MPs



alleged.

said.

tre has brought it. But Kejriwal

is disputing it because he fears

exposure of his corruption," she

Arvind Kejriwal used to carry a

list of the names of political lead-

ers and considered them as

symbols of corruption. But today

eliminate corruption, but to

defeat Prime Minister Narendra

Modi, said the BJP MP from

Northeast Delhi. "He is ready to

stoop to any level to save his

empire of corruption."

Kejriwal's priority is not to

There was a time when

Meenakshi Lekhi, Harsh Vardhan, Manoj Tiwari, Ramesh Bidhuri, Pravesh Sahib Singh and Hansraj Hans addressed a joint Press conference here where they mounted a scathing attack on Kejriwal who met Nitish and his deputy Tejashwi Yadav earlier on the day.

Union Minister and New he is ready to hug Nitish Kumar and Tejashwi Yadav," Tiwari Delhi MP Meenakshi Lekhi said the administrative and legal status of Delhi makes Delhi a Union Territory, but Kejriwal is not ready to accept it due to his "dictatorial attitude".

The Centre has the right to bring necessary ordinance and that is the reason why the cen-



capital 03

#### STAFF REPORTER NEW

The Delhi Government on Sunday accused Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena of indulging in "dirty politics" while asserting that the complaints filed by some officers alleging harassment by the AAP government are "absolutely fake".

Officials in the L-G Office on Saturday claimed that eight officers posted in the Delhi government and the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) have alleged "blatant harassment" by the Arvind Kejriwal government. They said two complaints

were received earlier this year and six were received after May 11 — the day the Supreme Court granted control of services, except police, land and public order, to the elected government in Delhi.

### AAP, BJP spar over Dikshit Govt's say on transfers, postings of babus STAFF REPORTER NEW DELH

erroneous. The Supreme Court,

in its explicit order, emphasised

that the elected government of Delhi should rightfully exercise

its powers over services based

on three constitutional princi-

Court's order, the central gov-

ing upon the elected govern-

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) vehemently refuted the claims made by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) saying during the tenure of the Sheila Dikshit Government, the Chief Minister possessed complete authority over trans-

fer-posting powers. "However, immediately after the AAP assumed power in 2015, the Modi Government, through a notification, snatched away this rightful authority from the elected government.

"It is crucial to note that this move was an encroachment upon the principles of democracy and governance, the AAP said in a statement issued on Sunday.

"After an arduous legal baternment hastily resorted to an tle spanning eight long years, the ordinance, once again infring-Supreme Court's Constitutional

Bench, on May 11, unequivo-

ment's power of transfer-postcally declared the Central ing in Delhi. Government's notification as

This brazen act of undermining democratic principles raises serious concerns about the BJP's intent to upholding that AAP's fantastic perforthe Constitution and respecting the will of the people," the mance in UP civic polls shows AĂP said.

ples," it said. "However, within a mere It further said that AAP firmly maintains that, in accoreight days after the Supreme dance with Article 239AA of the Constitution, an elected government has been established in Delhi with a duly constituted assembly.

AAP's success in UP civic NGT sets up body to resolve sewage, polls shows people ready to welcome us: Kejriwal

#### STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

AP National convener and ADelhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Sunday met winning candidates in the Uttar Pradesh civic polls and hailed the astounding success of the party. Lauding their commitment to serving the common man, Kejriwal urged the winning candidates to take more responsibility to make the party win in the future polls in the State.

AAP has changed the narrative of politics in the country, now even Congress and BJP seek votes from the public on our

Kejriwal highlighted how after Delhi, they people of Punjab overwhelmingly voted for AAP.

people are ready to welcome elections, all of you have gone them wholeheartedly. "AAP on to win, we have around 100-125 successful candidates from has made a grand entry in UP the State, and several chairmen. through civic elections, we will fight the next assembly elec-This indicates that the people tions with full force. People of of UP are now ready to wel-UP also want a good governcome the Aam Aadmi Party," ment that brings progress.

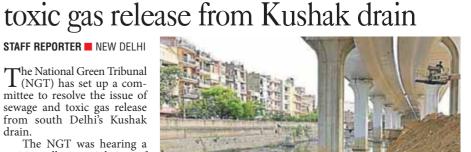
## drain. petition alleging violation of

environmental norms in maintaining the Kushak stormwater drain near houses in B block of Greater Kailash-I.

The 6.5-kilometre-long Kushak drain carries stormwa ter and sewage from several south Delhi localities and meets

the Barapullah drain near "Now in the Uttar Pradesh Nizamuddin West before flowing into the Yamuna river.

A bench of NGT Chairperson Justice A K Goel said the grievance needs to be remedied but the covering of a drain can be allowed only if a proper separate pipeline to carry sewage is provided and



only rainwater is carried into the drain, which is not the case here.

"The applicants themselves have mentioned that covering the drain has resulted in the accumulation of poisonous gases (that are being) released from uncovered parts of the drain behind certain houses.

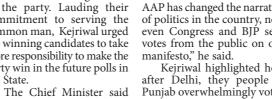
Thus, it may not be prop er to permit the covering of the drain in these circumstances...," said the bench, also comprising judicial member Justice Sudhir Agarwal and expert member A using sewage scientifically as per norms is the responsibility of statutory authorities like the Municipal Corporation and the Delhi Jal Board to effectuate the right of citizens to a clean environment," the bench said. It said the solution was to

"Channelising/treating and

Senthil Vel.

prevent the flow of sewage into the drain and its periodic cleaning, including desilting and ensuring that water does not stagnate.

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav Govt. of Haryana



## **Heartiest Greetings**

on the birth anniversary

## of Maharana Pratap

the symbol of ultimate courage, valour & sacrifice

May 22, 2023

Maharana Pratap made Maa Bharti proud by his unparalleled valour, courage and martial expertise. His sacrifice and dedication to the motherland will always be remembered. " Narendra Modi

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# I should take your autograph: Biden to Modi at G7 | Rahul: Prez, not PM,

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

cknowledging his connect Awith the people, US President Joe Biden and Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese engaged in banter with Prime Minister Narendra Modi. In fact, Biden reportedly sought the Prime Minister's autograph given his popularity in the US.

These exchanges took place during the Quad summit and the G-7 summit in Hiroshima over the weekend. Modi took part in both the high-profile events. He then proceeded for Papua New Guinea and will end his three-nation tour on May 24 with a visit to Australia.

During a meeting of Quad

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW



events where Modi would be leaders in Hiroshima on Saturday, Biden and Albanese speaking. He will interact with came up to Prime Minister

Narendra Modi with a peculiar Australian CEOs, business challenge. Both leaders reportleaders and interact with Indian edly claimed that they are facexpats at a community event in ing a torrent of requests from Sydney on Tuesday. In June, the prominent citizens to attend Prime Minister will go to the

US on a state visit following an invitation from President Biden and First Lady Jill Biden.

The US leaders will host Modi for a state dinner at the White House.

Albanese has said he is unable to accommodate all the requests he has received for tickets to the community reception in Sydney. The soldout venue has a capacity of 20,000 people but the Australian Prime Minister said he is still getting requests for tickets, sources said here on Sunday.

Albanese recalled his visit to India this year when he was welcomed by 90,000 people at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad, sources said.

President Biden, presenting

Minister Modi, said, "I should take your autograph. You are causing me a real problem. Next month we have a dinner for you in Washington. Everyone in the whole country wants to come. I have run out of tickets. You think I am kidding? Ask my team. I am getting phone calls from people I have never heard of before. Everyone from movie stars to relatives. You are too popular."

"Mr Prime Minister, you have made a significant impact on everything, including what we are doing in the QUAD. You also made a fundamental shift in climate change. You have influence in the Indo-Pacific. You are making a difference," he added.

Modi reached Papua New Guinea on Sunday where was greeted by Prime Minister James Marape at the airport. Normally, Papua New Guinea does not give a ceremonial welcome to any leader who arrives after sunset. However, an exception was made for Modi.

His visit to Papua New Guinea is aimed to expand India's outreach to Pacific Island nations. The Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC) Summit, which will be held in Port Moresby on Monday, will be attended by leaders from 14 countries. This is a rare opportunity for these leaders to come together and discuss issues of common interest.

# should inaugurate new Parliament building

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

ongress leader Rahul Gandhi on Sunday said that the President of India should inaugurate the new Parliament building and not the Prime Minister.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the newly-constructed Parliament

building on May 28. Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla met Modi on Thursday last and extended an invitation to inaugurate the new building, the Lok Sabha Secretariat had

"The President should inaugurate the new Parliament House and not the Prime Minister," Rahul said on Twitter.

Veteran Parliamentarian and former deputy leader of the Congress in Rajya Sabha Anand Sharma and some other opposition leaders were also of the same view.

"It will not be Constitutionally correct for the PM to inaugurate the new building of Parliament. Jury is "Gope used to extort out whether it was required at money and execute attacks all. No major democracy has done this. Westminster is the seat of the British Parliament through his PLFI team memcontractors and the public at and Capitol Hill of the US large, NIA investigations have Congress for hundreds of years," Sharma said on Twitter. shown. The accused, along

He said Parliament is the custodian and pride of India's Constitutional democracy and its glory must not be undermined as the sovereignty of the people is vested in it.

Article 79 of the Constitution is unambiguous that the President is the head of Parliament which comprises Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabĥa, he contended. "The PM is the leader of

Lok Sabha. It is the President who alone can summon the Parliament - Article 85," he said

# 'Rashtrapati addresses the oint session only flanked by

nation 04

Rajya Sabha Chairman - Vice President and Lok Sabha Speaker. PM and leader of Rajya Sabha are seated in Central Hall. The Constitution must be respected in letter and spirit and the President should inaugurate," Sharma said in a series of tweets.

CPI general secretary D Raja also said the prime minister leads the executive organ of the state and Parliament is the legislative organ.

"It would have been appropriate for Smt. Droupadi Murmu as Head of the State to inaugurate the new Parliament," he said.

"Obsession with self-image and cameras trumps decency and norms when it comes to Modi," Raja alleged on Twitter. RID leader Manoi Kumar Iha had earlier said, "Shouldn't the honorable President of India be inaugurating the new 'Sansad Bhavan'? I leave it at that...Jai Hind?

AIMIM leader Asaduddin Owaisi too had raised objections to the prime minister inaugurating the new Parliament building.

"Why should the PM inaugurate Parliament? He is head of the executive, not legislature. We have a separation of powers and Hon'ble Lok Sabha Speaker and RS Chair could have inaugurated. It's made with public money, why is the PM behaving like his 'friends' have sponsored it from their private funds," Owaisi said on . Twitter

#### DELHI Congress on Sunday paid homage to former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on his death anniversary. Several other leaders including the Prime Minister Nàrendra Modi paid homage to the former prime minister on his death

anniversary Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and members of the Gandhi family - Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra - were among a large number of party leaders who paid their tributes at Veer Bhumi, the memorial of Rajiv Gandhi.

Sharing a video of his father on Twitter, Rahul Gandhi said, "Papa, you are with me, as an inspiration, in memories, always.

Kharge, who was among the first ones to pay homage to Rajiv Gandhi at Veer Bhumi, also shared a video on the former prime minister's life on Twitter. "Rajiv Gandhi was a great

son of Índia. Through multiple

Meet 73-year-old

**Suman chronicling** 

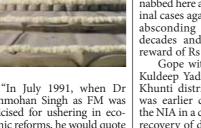
interventions such as lowering of voting age, strengthening Panchayati Raj, Telecom & IT revolution, and sustained peace accords, he transformed India, propelling it in 21st century. Our humble homage on his martyr-

Congress pays homage to

Rajiv on death anniversary

dom day," he said in a tweet. Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said one of the last major accomplishments of Rajiv Gandhi before his assassination on this day, 32 years ago, was the finalisation of the Congress party's manifesto for

the 1991 Lok Sabha elections. He spent many hours on it.



Manmohan Singh as FM was criticised for ushering in economic reforms, he would quote frequently from this manifesto, which in many ways bore Rajiv Gandhi's personal imprint.

"His contributions for taking India into the IT age were also distinctive contributions. He wooed GE and Texas Instruments to kickstart software exports. As also his battle for giving Constitutional status to panchayats and nagarpalikas is a truly transformational move," Ramesh said on Twitter.

### **NIA arrests banned Naxal** group's supremo Dinesh fired in the encounter before

PNS NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Sunday arrested the absconding selfstyled supremo of the People's Liberation Front of India (PLFI), a proscribed Naxal outfit of Jharkhand. The accused Dinesh Gope was nabbed here and had 102 criminal cases against him. He was absconding for almost two decades and carried a total reward of Rs 30 lakh.

Gope with two aliases -Kuldeep Yadav and Badku of Khunti district in Jharkhand was earlier chargesheeted by the NIA in a case relating to the recovery of demonetized currency of Rs 25.38 lakh from the operatives of PLFI.

He was absconding in the said case, one of the two cases being investigated by the NIA's Ranchi Branch against the PLFI

According to NIA investigations, more than 102 criminal cases are registered against Gope in Jharkhand, Bihar and Odisha. Most of these cases relate to murders, abductions,



threats, extortion, and raising bers to terrorize businessmen, funds for the PLFI, a terrorist-Maoist outfit formed in 2007 in Jharkhand and also a splinter group of the banned with his associates, was Communist Party of India-Maoist (CPI-Maoist).

The NIA had also declared bank account at a Petrol Pump, a reward of Rs 5 lakh for leads on Gope, in addition to the levy/extortion. The illegal reward of Rs 25 lakh announced by the Jharkhand vernment.

On February 3, 2022, an encounter had taken place between a Gope-led PLFI squad and security personnel in the forest area under Gudri police station of West . Singhbhum district of Jharkhand. Several rounds were

**SOLID & LIQUID WASTE MANAGEMENT** 

January 19, 2018.

involved in depositing the

demonetized currency in a

to be later collected through

money was then invested

through banking channels and

dubious Shell Companies in the

name of close associates and

family members of the accused

The case was initially reg

Dinesh Gope," the agency said

istered on November 10, 2016

at police station Bero, Ranchi,

and re-registered by NIA on

High priority to issue, strict monitoring only way forward, says green body

The National Green Tribunal

and the second second

#### **Railways' journey** I have been working towards this for the

she said.

past four decades," However, she

admits it's getting

PTI NEW DELHI

Eting forged documents to their employer have to be dealt with strictly and no sympathy or compassion can be shown to the Delhi Hig



appointment," it said.

court.

said the woman was guilty of

suppression of material facts

and documents even from this

of submitting forged docu-

ments to their employer, have

to be dealt with in a strict man-

ner. If a person submits forged

and fabricated documents, then

such a person is certainly unfit

"Employees who are guilty

HC: No sympathy for employees submitting forged documents

to be employed. No sympathy or compassion can be shown to such an employee. Thus, when the charge against the petitioner stands proved, the punishment of dismissal from service imposed by the respondent

PTI 📕 NEW DELHI

Railways, arguably the most comprehensive annual encyclopedia for rail enthusiasts to be published by a private entity.

PTI 📕 NEW DELHI

For 39 years, 73-year-old Suman

Chopra has single-

handedly brought out

She publishes around 4,000 to 4,500 copies of the yearbook every year. Its glossy pages contain a summary of everything related to the Railways that happened in the past year along with an expert analysis. The 39 editions of the

book so far take readers time travelling into the Railways' history. From the Fairy Queen, which was built in 1855, to the Vande Bharat Express, the editions contain a rich collection of pictures.

"There is a gap in information on the Railways which I try to fill through my publication," she said. "My aim in life is to ensure

that every railway officer has my yearbook on their desk and

tradition without any support. "I don't know where the

strength comes from. It is tough to survive today.

'I am not getting support from the Railways... People call it (yearbook) the encyclopedia of the Railways but I would like some recognition from the Railways for my efforts," she said.

But Chopra hasn't let any thing stop her from pursuing her dream, not even personal setbacks. Even when she lost her son to COVID-19 in 2021, Chopra managed to publish the 300-page yearbook.

I lost my son to COVID-19. He was my child and this (yearbook) is also my child. In memory of my son, I keep working and I know he would have cherished that his mother was doing something posi-

tive for the society," she said.

Court has observed while upholding the dismissal of a woman from service. The high court was dealing

with the plea of a woman, who was earlier given compassionate appointment in the Bihar Bhawan here in Group IV category after the death of her husband, seeking to set aside a 2014 order by the employer terminating her service.

In 2009, the woman was given a show cause notice on the allegation of creating nuisance under the influence of alcohol and causing disturbance to others in the Bihar Bhawan. Later the woman was suspended and in the course of preliminary inquiry, it came to fore that the certificate sub-mitted by her in support of her educational qualification as class 8 pass was a forged doc-

from service

judge said, adding the petition The high court, while deciding the woman's petition, s without any merits. said there was a clear finding by

The high court said the woman's submission that passthe Enquiry Officer that the petitioner has not been able to ing class 8 was not a pre-reqprove that the certificate of uisite for compassionate passing class 8, as submitted by appointment in Group-IV job her, was a genuine document. at the material time, does not "The fact remains that the hold any water.

petitioner submitted a forged It was contended on behalf document in support of her of the petitioner that she was educational qualification at the not served with any charge sheet and principles of naturtime of seeking compassionate al justice were not followed and Justice Mini Pushkarna, in that she was removed unceremoniously without following an order passed on May 18,

any process or procedure. The counsel for the resident commissioner of the Bihar Bhawan submitted that the action against the petitioner was taken after following due procedure by carrying out departmental proceedings against her and she was given full opportunity to defend her case

ings on the issue of solid and liquid waste management by all states and Union territories, and said the way forward is to provide high priority to the subject and carry out strict

monitoring. The NGT said the scope of the present order is to compile and collate the background of waste management in the country along with data filed by the chief secretaries of all the states and Union territories, besides analysis and directions for further follow-up action.

A bench headed by chairperson Justice A K Goel said. Since the tribunal has directed the chief secretaries of all the States/UTs to file further progress reports every six months to be taken up by the tribunal for further consideration, if necessary, the proceed ings stand concluded for the time being, subject to compli-



ance being further monitored, if necessary?

...Way forward has to be in according high priority to the subject and strict monitoring and higher levels of the administration in the states as well as in central government by constituting specialised monitoring cells fixing accountability for deviation from laid down timelines," the bench, also comprising judicial member Justice Sudhir Agarwal and expert member A Senthil Vel, added.

The bench said that the issue of solid waste management was being monitored from 1996 to 2014 by the Supreme Court and the NGT and although statutory rules and policies were present, action on the ground was inadequate.

"There are mountains of garbage generating methane and other gases which are a source of diseases and deaths ...

"Our conclusion is that enacting laws and directions of courts/tribunals are no substitute for good governance and unless the administration accords high priority of the subject, undesirable situations as found may not be remedied," it said

## Eye cancer Rb in kids can be contained, cured: Docs

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

If diagnosed in the early stages, Retinoblastoma (Rb)— a form of eye cancer that typically occurs in infants and kids up to 5-yearold and can lead to loss of vision, loss of one or both eyes, and even death - can be contained and cured completely.

But if left untreated, it can spread to other parts of the body such as the brain, bones, and lymph nodes. It is genetic in nature, so early treatment is possible, say doctors from the AIIMS, Delhi which recently organised the World Retinoblastoma week from May 14-May 20.

Dr Bhavna Chawla from Ocular Oncology Service, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Centre for Ophthalmic Sciences, at the



hospital said, "Every week, we are getting at least 6-8 new cases of Rb. The patients we are receiving are from across the country, particularly North India and even from neighbouring countries like Nepal. "India has the largest number of Rb cases in the world. The incidence in India is

about 1 in 10,000 live births each year, affecting either one or both eyes. Rb is hereditary and caused by gene mutations "Diagnosis and treatment

must occur in a timely manner in order to limit the spread of this eye cancer and give the best chance for visual recovery.

Unfortunately, awareness on Rbis low despite the fact that it is completely curable, if detected early," she maintained.

ument and she was terminated

In most children, the tumor affects only one eye. However, because of unawareness and misdiagnosis, 1 out of 3 children with retinoblastoma develop cancer in both eyes.

We have a range of modern and improved techniques and technologies that can help treat the disease. Newer treatment options like intra-arterial chemotherapy i.e. targeted chemotherapy and plaque brachytherapy can help preserve the eye in children with advanced-stage cancer. We are also using BARC-developed plaque technology to treat the Rb in kids, Dr Rima Dada, Professor in the Department of Anatomy AIIMS, Delhi said.

## 'Coal mining in Meghalaya to take toll on bats'

#### ARCHANA JYOTI 📕 NEW DELHI

Extensive mining of coal and Elimestone in various pockets of Meghalaya in North East threatens to take toll on the caves in the region and consequently their occupants majorly bats, many of which are from highly protected species, a team of researchers has warned.

Meghalaya harbours 67 species of bats, the highest number of chiropteran species among all Indian states.

"The abundance of underground shelters has been suggested to be the prime reason for high bat diversity in Meghalaya . Although it is difficult to establish the level of dependency of bats on caves, at least 37 out of 67 reported species in Meghalaya are known to inhabit caves, at least temporarily . Some of the globally threatened, data deficient or rare bat species have been recorded from the caves of



Meghalaya.

These include Wroughton's free-tailed bat, a highly protect-ed species under Indian laws and of which Meghalaya holds about 50% of the known global population; tail-less leaf-nosed bat, great evening bat, Rickett's bigfooted bat, Burmese whiskered bat among others, as per the scientists.

Besides, many of the caves harbour large populations of bats like Eonycteris spelaea, Miniopterus magnater and several species of Rhinolophus and Hipposideros. From an ecological point of view also, bats are

crucial for maintaining the subterranean biodiversity, as bat guano is an important source of energy in these energy impoverished ecosystems. Manv guanophilic beetles, cockroaches, mites, crickets and molluscs thrive on bat excreta, which in turn serve as prey for other predators.

"By virtue of rich limestone deposits, especially in the southern fringe of the Meghalaya plateau and high average annual precipitation, the state also supports numerous caves and caverns, some of which are among the largest and most

complex in the Indian subcontinent," noted the researchers in their study, "Caves as priority areas for the conservation of lesser known mammalian fauna in Meghalaya, North East India." It is published in the journal Current Science.

The researchers are Uttam Saikia from Zoological Survey of India (North Eastern Regional Centre, Shillong), Brian Kharpran Daly from Meghalaya Adventure Association, Shillong and Manuel Rued, Department of Mammalogy and Ornithology, Natural History Museum of Geneva, Geneva.

"Although about 1000 caves in the state have been explored and mapped, they have not been examined biospeleologically and not much is known about the biota living in these caves.

"Unless the biological values of these caves are documented, conservation prioritization is difficult. Secondly, there has

been extensive mining of coal and limestone in the karstic areas of Meghalaya for a long time. This has resulted in a number of serious ecological problems like deterioration of water quality, diminishing plant cover, loss of aquatic biodiversity, degradation of soil productivity, etc.

"In several instances, cave systems have been physically damaged or wiped out of their biota," they said, citing instances of Krem Umlawan, part of the mammoth UmlawanKotsati cave system in the East Jaintia Hills of Meghalaya. "It is now devoid of any original biota because of sludge deposits from limestone mining in nearby areas. Likewise, Krem Mawmluh in the East Khasi Hills, a UNESCO geological heritage site of the state, witnessed a portion of a cave ceiling collapsing due to limestone mining in the nearby areas," they said

## **G20 Summit: Opportunity to** showcase J&K's tourism

he pioneer

#### MOHIT KANDHARI SRINAGAR

The Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir The officin ferritory of Jamma and Rasmin is set to take a giant leap forward by suc-cessfully hosting the 'Third G20 Tourism Working Group Meeting', from 22nd to 24th May 2023 in Srinagar.

NEW DELHI | MONDAY | MAY 22, 2023

During the maiden international meet, first after the Abrogation of Article 370, the union government is hoping to give a big boost to UT's great tourism potential-sustainable tourism, adventure tourism, film and ecotourism and open doors of multiple opportunities for local youth.

Secretary, Ministry of Tourism, Arvind Singh while addressing a press conference at SKICC Srinagar on Sunday said, the stage is set for discussions and deliberations on final deliverables and there are two key deliverables of the Tourism Working Group, which include GOA Roadmap for Tourism as a vehicle for achieving sustainable development goals (SDGs) and G20 Tourism Ministers' Declaration.

Singh said, this is the only working group meeting taking place in Srinagar as part of G20 effort with excellent response from all the member countries, all the invited countries and the international organisations, having the highest participation registered compared to the first two Tourism Working Group Meetings at Rann of Kutch and Siliguri.

Arvind Singh further said, G20 member countries, invited countries, and international organizations will give valuable inputs and feedback on these two draft documents and after negotiations with G20 Member Countries on these drafts, final versions will be placed in the 'Fourth Tourism Working Group Meeting'. Singh informed, the '3rd Tourism Working

Group Meeting' will deliberate on the five key priority areas namely Green Tourism, Digitalization, Skills, MSMEs and Destination Management. These priorities are key building blocks for accelerating the transition of the tourism sector and achieving the targets for 2030 SDGs

Arvind Singh said that a side event on 'Film Tourism for Economic Growth and Cultural Preservation' will be organized on 22nd and 23rd

Puri-Howrah Vande

all passengers safe

Bharat hit by lightning,



May 2023, focusing on strategies to promote film tourism in J&K

He also said that a draft 'National Strategy on Film Tourism' will be unveiled to provide a roadmap for harnessing the role of films in promoting tourist destinations.

Harsh Vardhan Shringla, Chief Coordinator G20 said, Tourism Working Group has the broader objectives first to present India's rich and diverse cultural identity to the world and to promote tourism potential of India to the world. We have tried to bring in sustainable tourism, eco tourism, adventure tourism etc. what is actually relevant to J&K, Shringla added.

Shringla further said, the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi is to ensure that the message of India's G20 Presidency is taken down the grassroots level through the Jan Bhagidari process and a lot of efforts were made to sensitise the people of this country about G20.

Chief Secretary J&K, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta said, the change in J&K is evident on ground with the arrival of the highest number of tourists (18.8 million) in 2022

Over 300 new tourist destinations are to come up in Jammu and Kashmir seeing the influx of tourists with each destination providing enough to the tourists, said Mehta.

Dr. Mehta further said, the influx of the highest number of foreign tourists to Jammu and Kashmir is a healthy sign for tourism in J&K.

The G20 event presents a unique opportunity to highlight the tourism potential and cultural richness of the region

Woman pilgrim dies, 24 hurt as bus overturns in J&K's Reasi

#### PTI 📕 KATRA/JAMMU

A<sup>27</sup>-year-old woman was killed and 24 people were injured when a Rajasthan-bound bus carrying Mata Vaishno Devi pilgrims over-turned in Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi district on Sunday, officials said.

Additional Director General of Police of Jammu zone Mukesh Singh, quoting eyewitnesses, said the accident occurred when the driver lost control of the speeding vehicle due to a sharp curve, rubbishing the claim by some terror groups on social media that it was a terror act.

The accident took place near Moori on the outskirts of Katra, the base camp for the pilgrims visiting the famous shrine atop Trikuta hills, around 1 pm, the officials said.

A total of 30 passengers, including women and children, were travelling in the vehicle on their return journey after offering prayers at the shrine.

Rescuers comprising local volunteers and police teams rushed to the spot immediately after the accident and evacuated the injured to Community Health Centre Katra, where Nitika of Jaipur was declared brought dead, the officials said.

They said 11 of the 24 injured persons were later referred to the Government Medical College Hospital Jammu for specialised treat-

**CRUISE DRUG BUST BRIBERY CASE** CBI quizzes Wankhede for more than 5 hrs on 2nd day

#### PTI MUMBAI

 $F^{
m ormer\ Mumbai\ NCB\ chief}_{
m Sameer\ Wankhede\ was}$ questioned for more than five hours on the second day in a row on Sunday by CBI probing the alleged Rs 25 crore bribe demand from actor Shah Rukh Khan for not implicating his son Aryan in the Cordelia cruise 'drug bust' case, an offi-

cial said. Wankhede, an Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officer, reached the Central Bureau of Investigation's (CBI) office in the Bandra-Kurla Complex at around 10.30 am, he said.

While entering the office, Wankhede told reporters he has "faith in the judiciary". He was allowed a lunch

break during questioning, the official said, adding Wankhede left the CBI office for the day at around 4.30 pm. Wankhede didn't respond

to queries from media persons waiting outside the CBI office but only said, "Satyamev Javate" (truth only triumphs).

On Saturday also, the CBI questioned Wankhede for more than five hours. After he left the CBI office

at around 4.30 pm on Saturday, Wankhede along with his fam-ily members visited the Siddhivinayak temple at Prabhadevi in Mumbai.

The central agency booked Wankhede and four others on May 11 for alleged criminal conspiracy and threat of extortion, besides provisions per-



taining to bribery under the Prevention of Corruption Act on a complaint by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB).

On Friday, Wankhede got relief from the Bombay High Court which directed the CBI not to take any "coercive action", such as arrest, against him till May 22.

Seeking quashing of the FIR, Wankhede alleged before the HC that the "draft complaint" in the 2021 drugs-oncruise case named Aryan Khan as an accused, but it was later replaced and Aryan's name was dropped.

Aryan Khan was arrested by the NCB on October 3, 2021, following the alleged drug seizure on board the Cordelia cruise ship here. He was granted bail by the high

21, including Monu, named in Junaid-Nasir murder case, says Raj police

The Rajasthan Police on Sunday named 21 people, including Bajrang Dal member Monu Manesar, in the alleged abduction and killing of two Muslim man whose charred Muslim men whose charred bodies were found in Bhiwani district of Harvana.

Aryan Khan

anti-drugs agency failed to

substantiate its charges against

NCB's Mumbai zone received

information in October 2021

regarding the consumption

and possession of narcotic sub-

stances by various individuals

on the cruise ship, and some

NCB officers conspired to get

bribes from the accused in

gations against him. His peti-

tion in the HC provided tran-

scriptions of phone chats with

Shah Rukh Khan during the

period Aryan was in NCB cus-

tody. It cited Khan as pleading

with Wankhede to be kind to

his son and praising the officer for his "uprightness".

Wankhede had denied alle-

return for letting them off.

The CBI alleged that the

'We have named 21 accused in the FIR, including Monu Manesar, for abduction, assault and murder of Junaid and Nasir. All of them are accused of destroying evidence and providing financial help and shelter as well as guiding others to abscond," Bharatpur SP Shyam Singh said. The charred bodies of Junaid (35) and Nasir (27) were found inside a vehicle in Bhiwani on February 16 after they were allegedly kidnapped, beaten and murdered by members of the right wing group Bajrang Dal, which had rubbished the claim.

On February 22, Bharatpur police had named nine accused Rinku Saini, Anil and Srikant Pandit from Nuh, Kalu Jaat from Kaithal, Kishore from Karnal, Monu and Gogi from Bhiwani, and others.

ED seizes docs, data from Abhishek confidant's house

### **Bhadra's name** comes up in Bengal job recruitment scam investigation

#### SAUGAR SENGUPTA 📕 KOLKATA

The Enforcement Directorate has recovered some "valuable leads" afterconducting raids in the properties owned by Sujay Bhadra, a close confidant of Trinamool Congress national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee.

According to sources, in the 16-hour raid, ED recovered a number of pendrives, computer hard discs, laptops, CDs apart from 11,000-page documents from the properties of Bhadra and his relatives.

Bhadra who is popularly known as Kalighater Kaku or Uncle of Kalighat — the area ere Chief M linister Mamat

Abhishek Banerjee live — ear-

When asked to comment

on the raids and repeated sum-

mons he had been receiving

from the ED and CBI he said,

he had told whatever was asked

from him and that there was

nothing that he had to hide as

a law abiding citizen.

Saturday said after coming out

Bhadra's name came up during the interrogation of various agents arrested in the school level recruitment

Incidentally the ED raids on Saturday coincided with the questioning of the junior Banerjee on the same day in the recruitment scam case.

"The BJP wants me to bow before it ... but we are made of different material ... We work on the idealism of Mamata Banerjee and will not deviate from that ... the more they try to threaten us by sending ED and CBI the more we will

of the CBI office following a 10hour interrogation.

'The officials repeatedly asked me whether I had any connection with the recruit-ment scam ... they gave me a number of names of agents and asked me whether I knew them but I told them I didn't," Banerjee who was questioned by the CBI following a High Court order said adding,the names that were asked from him could be familiar to Opposition Leader Suvendu Adhikari as they were from East Midnapore from the BJP



three hours with reports that a diesel engine is coming to tow us to Kolkata," Sumanta, a passenger said, adding there were no security men around the area and the railway staff had just managed to provide light through a back-battery.

The Indian Railways' flagspeed train had emi-high



#### T N RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI

organised by a local film soci-

ety at the Film and Television

Institute of India (FTII) in

Pune on Saturday amid heavy

police bandobast has sparked unrest among the FTII's stu-

dents who have raised voice

against the film which "aims to

propagate "communal preju-

dice" in addition they called

which

/ile means by

ence at the venue, but interactspecial screening of the ed with the audiences. Afilm, 'The Kerala Story' MITEE Film Society, a

Pune based film society, had organised the special screening by renting the FTII's main theatre.

In a strong statement issued on Sunday, FTIISA's president Mankap Nokwoham said: "Neither the unfiltered lies that the makers dressed as research, nor the amount of support the

Woman drowns after car gets stuck in neck-deep water in Bengaluru underpass

A<sup>22</sup>-year-old woman drowned on Sunday after a

car she was travelling in with her

family got stuck in neck-deep

water at KR Circle underpass,

just a stone's throw from Vidhana

Soudha, the seat of power in

Fire and emergency ser-vices personnel saved five others

of the family and the driver, with

the help of people who had

rushed to save those trapped in

the flooded underpass in the

heart of the city. The victim as

PTI BENGALURU

Karnataka.

when the lighting hit, the train crossing the Baitirani River

were safe, the lightning caused

other technical consequences. The train had just passed the Jajpur station in Odisha

when it was hit by lightning,

passengers said, adding that

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

KOLKATA

The immediate impact of the lighting caused the train's electric system to go off, sources said. "Suddenly there was a loud noise and the train stopped with bang and then the lights and air-conditionerstopped functioning," one of the passengers said, adding half of the train was standing on the River bridge and half outside it.

"We have been stranded here for the past more than sible.

been flaggedoff barely three days ago by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. audience.

None of the passengers protests outside the screening however received any injury, venue by the students owing sources said. Another passenallegiance to the Film and ger said that a branch of a tree Television Institute of India had hit the front of the engine Students' Association (FTIISA). and its wind shield had cracks. Senior State BJP leader and

minister Chandrakant Patil -There are cracks in the windows of two other comwho was among the invitees to partments too," he said, expectthe event - stayed away from the screening. However, the controversial film director ing the Railways to get the train to reach Kolkata as soon as pos-Sudipto Sen and producer

film has got from our ruling ves its message across" to the government is lost on us"

"In the growing trend to The event passed off amid create propaganda that stokes electoral politics in favour of religious divide, and to inevitably victimize the most vulnerable in our society, works such as these act as impetus for right wing thugs to lynch minorities, to commit crimes without repercussions, to create communal strife and to destroy the sanctity of spaces that stand against this ideology," Nokwoham said.

St Martha's Hospital where doctors declared the woman, identified as Bhanurekha, dead.

lier had gone on record saying Learning about the incithe TMC general secretary was dent, Chief Minister his "Sahib" or boss adding he Siddaramaiah rushed to the hosworked as adirector in his pital and took stock of the situcompany. ation.

He announced a compensation of ₹ 5 lakh to the next of kin of the deceased and free treatment for those admitted in the hospital.

Bhanurekha was 22 years old.

Banerjee and her nephew



प्रदाय कार्य स्वास्थ्य विभाग हेतु एकीकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली अंतर्गत सक्षम श्रेणी मे पंजीकत ठेकेदारों / प्रदायकर्ता / फर्म / विक्रेता से निविदा प्रपत्र "स" में नगर पालिक निगम, रायगढ़ की वेबसाईट uad.cg.gov.in/www.nagarnigamraigarh.com से निविद प्रपत्र डाउनलोड कर पूर्ण रूप से भरकर विविदा प्रपत्र के साथ निर्धारित प्रपत्र शुल्व डी.डी. के माध्यम से दिनांक 12.06.23 अपरान्ह 04.00 बजे तक स्पीड पोस्ट/पंजीकृत डाक से मुहर बंद निविदाएं त्रि–लिफाफा पद्धति से आमंत्रित की जाती है। प्राप्त निविदाए दिनांक 12.06.2023 को साय 04.30 बजे उपरिथत निविदाकारों अथवा उनके अधिकृत प्रतिनिधि के समक्ष खोली जावेगी।

क्र	कार्य का नाम	कार्य की लागत	अमानत राशि	निविदा प्रपत्र
		(लाख में)	रूपये)	का मूल्य
1	स्वास्थ्य विभाग सफाई			
	दवा सामाग्री क्रय।	19.70	14,780/-	750/-
नोट :कार्य का अन्य विवरण एवं नियम शर्ते कार्यालय में कार्यालयीन अवधि में देखा जा सकता है।				
"स्वच्छ पर्यावरण के लिए वृक्षारोपण करें एवं पॉलिथीन का प्रयोग न करें"				
				हस्ता/–
			नग	र पालिक निगम
				रायगढ़ (छ.ग.)



#### E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited from eligible contractors/firms for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded and same shall be opened/downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on Noida Authority's official website: www.noidaauthorityonline.in & https://etender.up.nic.in. Please ensure to see these website for any changes/amendments & corrigendum etc.

<ul> <li>(1) 02/SPE/PE(PH Cleaning and Desilting of amin drain and culvert of 2023-24 various sectors/ Villages of PH-IIAreaZone-I, Noida.</li> <li>(2) 03/SPE/PE(PH Cleaning and Desilting of -11)/E-Tender/ main drain and culvert of 2023-24 various sectors/ Villages of PH-IIAreaZone-II, Noida.</li> <li>(3) 04/SPE/PE(PH Cleaning and Desilting of -11)/E-Tender/ main drain and culvert of 2023-24 various sectors/ Villages of PH-IIAreaZone-II, Noida.</li> <li>(3) 04/SPE/PE(PH Cleaning and Desilting of -11)/E-Tender/ main drain and culvert of 2023-24 various sectors/ Villages of PH-IIAreaZone-III, Noida.</li> <li>(4) 06/SPE/PE(PH Cleaning and Desilting of -11)/E-Tender/ main drain and culvert of 2023-24 various sectors/ Villages of PH-IIAreaZone-V, Noida.</li> <li>(4) 06/SPE/PE(PH Cleaning and Desilting of -11)/E-Tender/ main drain and culvert of 2023-24 various sectors/ Villages of PH-IIAreaZone-V, Noida.</li> <li>(4) 06/SPE/2023 to 05/06/2023 upto 5:00 PM. Pre-Qualification shall be opened/downloaded on dated 06/06/2023 at 11:00 AM. Dy. GM/Sr. Project Engineer (Public Health) Noida.</li> </ul>							
2023-24       various sectors/ Villages of PH-IIAreaZone-I, Noida.       9701792.30         (2)       03/SPE/PE(PH       Cleaning and Desilting of various sectors/ Villages of PH-IIAreaZone-II, Noida.       Rs.         (3)       04/SPE/PE(PH       Cleaning and Desilting of nuin drain and culvert of 2023-24       Rs.         (3)       04/SPE/PE(PH       Cleaning and Desilting of nuin drain and culvert of 2023-24       Rs.         (4)       06/SPE/PE(PH       Cleaning and Desilting of PH-IIAreaZone-III, Noida.       Rs.         (4)       06/SPE/PE(PH       Cleaning and Desilting of various sectors/ Villages of PH-IIAreaZone-V, Noida.       Rs.         The above tenders can be uploaded from dated 22/05/2023 to 05/06/2023 upto 5:00 PM. Pre- Qualification shall be opened/downloaded on dated 06/06/2023 at 11:00 AM.       Dy. GM/Sr. Project Engineer (Public Health) Noida.	(1)						
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## Research on to study strains of dengue virus, make vaccine

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

As it races against time to achieve the goal of zero deaths due to dengue by 2030 amid rising number of vectorborne cases, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) is in the process of launching a slew of studies to analyse various aspects of the disease, including research as the vector is constantly changing its strain. "As the vector is changing,

we need to find solutions to tackle it," said Dr Rajiv Bahl, Secretary, Department of Health Research and Director General, ICMR recently at a symposium organised in part-nership with Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative (DNDi) on May 16.

"We are also working on the first dengue vaccine, but there is a need for affordable molecular-based point-of-care diagnostics," said Dr Bahl.

DNDi and THSTI are working towards finding a treatment for dengue, and he believes that we can find solutions if we use our mind like we did in Covid.

The strategic framework and roadmap for dengue con-



trol in India has the goal of zero deaths due to dengue by 2030. According to data from the NCVBDČ, in 2022 there were 2.3 lakh reported infections in the country and 303 deaths. The most deaths were reported from Punjab.

Anu Nagar, joint secretary, ICMR, emphasized the need for more sensitive and easily available rapid test kits to test dengue while Dr Tanu Jain, Director, National Centre for Vector Borne Diseases Control talked about the challenges in containing dengue and the need for early diagnosis to prevent it from developing into a severe disease.

"Early diagnosis is important to prevent dengue from developing into a serious disease. We are soon going to launch updated guidelines to tackle dengue," she said.

Dr Kalpana Barua, Former Additional Director, NCVB-DC, spoke about the strategic framework and roadmap for

dengue control in India, with an ambitious goal of zero deaths by 2030 while Dr Nivedita Gupta, Head, Epidemiology and Communicable Diseases, ICMR, spoke about the need

and challenges of developing a safe and effective dengue vac-

She shared details on the different live attenuated vaccine candidates for dengue and how ICMR is supporting the Indian vaccine industry in their clinical development plan and leading the conduct of clinical trials of these candidates for testing efficacy in adults and

paediatric populations. Dr Kavita Singh, Director, DNDi-South Asia, talked about DNDi's initiative- Dengue alliance. It is aglobal partnership led by institutions from dengue-endemic countries that aims to develop affordable and accessible treatments for dengue.

As per Dr Himmat Singh, Scientist, ICMR-NIMR stressed on the importance of control measures in tackling this virus given that a single aedes aegypti can infect 85 people at one go and spread the disease so quickly

Net ban affects normal life in strife-torn Manipur

#### PTI 📕 IMPHAL

Thongbam Inaotomba's son in Delhi is likely to be thrown out of his lodgings in Delhi as she has not been able to send money to the young student as the internet has been switched off in Manipur for the last 19 days.

Bimola Thounaojam, the mother of an 18-year-old youth, has been trying frantically trying to work out how to get her son admitted to a col-lege outside Manipur without having to go through the usual net-based admission procedure.

The net was switched off in this picturesque state three weeks ago after it erupted in ethnic clashes in order to stop rumours and misinformation being spread using the net which could result in a spiral of retaliatory violence.

"My son cleared the CBSE Class 12 exam recently. We cannot get information related to online form submission, cut-off marks and last date for application in colleges in major cities of the country outside

Manipur," said Thounaojam, 52, a resident of Imphal.

The academic career of many students is being threatened due to the internet sus-

pension, she told PTI. "I am unable to send money online to my son; he studies in Delhi. He has told me over the phone that his landlord has threatened to drive him out if he doesn't pay his monthly rent," said Inaotomba,

54, a businessman. Business activities have been affected as stakeholders are not able to send emails or transfer payments, he said.

Prohibitory orders imposed in Guwahati ahead of Shah's visit PTI 📕 GUWAHATI

Prohibitory orders under Section 144 of CrPC were imposed in Guwahati on Sunday, ahead of Union Home Minister Amit Shah's visit to the city.

Some specified persons or groups are likely to disturb the normal functioning of offices and obstruct the movement of the public and traffic in the coming days, according to the notification shared by Police Commissioner Diganta Barah.

It is also apprehended that these groups or persons may carry out agitation or demonstration in the city, thereby causing "breach of peace and public order", it said.

"It is necessary to take preventive measures to ensure peaceful movement of public, traffic and also normal activities of local residents and also functioning of offices in above mentioned area," the order stated.

Assembly of more than five persons and procession or slogan shouting in the entire jurisdiction of the police commissionerate has been prohibited with immediate effect.

NEW DELHI | MONDAY | MAY 22, 2023

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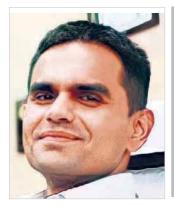
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#### PAPER WITH PASSION-

## Safeguards needed

Former NCB Mumbai zonal director Sameer Wankhede's conduct raise a number of questions

ndian Revenue Service officer and former Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) Mumbai zonal director Sameer Wankhede's troubles are unlikely to end soon. A couple of days after he made public the purported chats with film star Shah Rukh Khan during Aryan Khan's arrest, it has emerged that he might have broken rules. The drugs-on-cruise case against Aryan proved to be a false one, but it brought Wankhede in the limelight—and now a lot of problems for him. An inquiry carried out by the NCB's Special Enquiry Team (SET) on Wankhede resulted in the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) registering a case against him and others for trying to extort Rs 25 crore Shah Rukh Khan for the release of Aryan. The CBI has accused Wankhede of not just extortion but also of living a lavish lifestyle, much beyond the salary of a government servant, even beyond his and his wife's combined annual income of Rs 4,561,460. During 2017-21, he reportedly made six family trips abroad. They



visited the UK, Ireland, Portugal, South Africa and Maldives, staying for 55 days. His claim is that just Rs 8.75 lakh was spent, but this amount hardly covers air travel. The CBI has mentioned a number of expensive watches (Rolex) and properties, which no middle class person can afford to own-certainly not four flats in Mumbai and about 417-acre land in Washim. He cannot even claim that he inherited property, because his father was also a government servant, not a business tycoon.

Wankhede's conduct and luxurious lifestyle raise a number of questions. First, why did no one in the system bother to find out about his opulence? After all, foreign visits with family involve huge expens-

es. Why didn't anyone know about the ownership of his properties? Had it not been the Aryan Khan case, and his alleged misdemeanour in it, he might have continued living life king size. Are there other officers as well who have wealth and income disproportionate to their known sources of income? Has any Government, at the Centre or in States, learnt a lesson from this episode and tried to find out about such officers? If any such attempt is being made, it is not in the public domain. Then there is also the issue of human rights and civil liberties. The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act is a harsh law, which is not wrong, for drugs are a menace to the society, especially youngsters; the offenders ought to be dealt with in a harsh manner. But it should not become an instrument in the hands of unscrupulous officers. The SET report and the CBI's accusation against Wankhede suggest that the harshness of the law was aimed at Aryan who was proved to be innocent. Apparently, there are not enough safeguards to shield innocents from the machinations of the dodgy officers. It is time the powers that be ensured that the war on drugs is waged against criminals, not innocent people.



# The US' 'interests' tilt it towards 'establishment'



randfather realpolitik and the man who defined the US art of foreign diplomacy, Henry Kissinger, said about the Iran-Iraq war, "It's a pity both sides can't lose". Despite official stands of political correctness, the US had supported both sides in the bloody conflict that left over a million dead. The US had provided money and support to the Iraqi dictator, Saddam Hussein, and overlooked his excesses like the Halabja massacre where Saddam had used genocidal chemical weapons, and also declared the defeat of Iran as its foreign policy goal. A few years later, murky details of the White House secret ly selling weapons to Iran emerged (violating its own declared embargo) to raise funds for anti-communist guerrillas in Nicaragua (Iran-Contra scandal). The reality of America's stated preference towards Iraq to counter the rabid anti-Americanism of Shiite Iranian Ayatollahs, and in parallel secretly raising funds by selling arms to Iran, was a heady admixture of posturing, commerce, amorality, and convenience – about which Kissinger also said, "America has no permanent friends or enemies, only interests".

Another realm that personifies the US's 'interests' driven foreign policy approach is Pakistan. The seeds of the US-Pakistan relationship were planted by Pakistan's first military 'strongman' and later President, Ayub Khan, who dialled up the fears of 'communists' within, and asserted that the Pakistani Army or 'establishment' was the only institution capable of controlling the situation.

The moral culpability of the United States (especially of the Nixon-Kissinger duo) in tellingly looking the other way when Pakistan was perpetrating genocide against its own Bengalis only because Islamabad was facilitating American 'interests' of critical engagement with China, is well documented. American

(code name for covert US CIA program to support mujahideen in Afghanistan). For all its purported global championing of democracy and liberality, the Americans were comfortably engaging with yet another Pakistani Military dictator i.e., General Zia-ul-Haq (who had dismissed a democratically elected government and hung its former Prime Minister i.e., Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto) and were arming the zealot-like mujahideen. This counterintuitive US-Pakistan bonhomie and accommodation of the Pakistani Generals was explained by larger American 'interests' that had got complicated with Russians in Afghanistan and the Iranian Revolution - both in 1979. Beyond a point, Americans didn't care about niceties like democracy, freedoms etc., as their own 'interests' warranted downplaying platitudes about democracy in Pakistan and clearly the still relatively secular and Westernized 'establishment' was a better bet than the unhinged, reckless, and untrustworthy civilian politicians.

Later too, the Americans gave a long rope to Military

TODAY, WHEN PAKISTAN IS DRAWN INTO AN **INTENSE POWER** STRUGGLE **BETWEEN THE** MILITARY 'ESTABLISHMENT' AND AN **OSTENSIBLY** POPULAR-DEMOCRATIC FORCE IN IMRAN KHAN, THE

SITUATION IS PRECARIOUS AND CAN SWING

struggle between the Military 'establishment' and an ostensibly popular-democratic force in Imran Khan, the situation is precarious and can swing either way. The choice is not symmetric or linear as Imran Khan had been ranting and railing against the United measure? States till recently, whereas the 'establishment' had been on the mute button – should Washington DC tilt in favour of the 'establishment' or democratic forces? Yet again, Kissinger's transactional and cold-blooded principle of 'interests' will determine the way forward and not some

vacuous clichés of morality. There are many considerations like the discredited civilian dispensation in power, the neighbourhood of anti-Americanism in Kabul and Tehran, China's footprint in Pakistan, imploding Pakistan with its unbridled religiosity, economic devastation and societal dissonance. Evaluating the ability of the 'establishment' vis-à-vis Imran Khan to be able to control the situation and disallow the narrative of anti-Americanism to spread any further from what it already has, will be key. Imran realises the limitations and contradictions of Communist

with Washington DC. Therefore, Imran has lowered his grandstanding against the Americans (post the unsubstantiated 'threat letter'). But has Imran done enough to convince the Americans of his trustworthiness, balance, and

BHOPINDER SINGH

Americans too are facing economic stress and overstretch of their military/commercial resources, and their appetite to risk relations with the temperamental 'Taliban Khan' (Imran) would be extremely limited. For all their misadventures, entitlements, and undemocratic moorings the option (and experiences with Ayub, Zia, and Pervez) of the 'establishment' seems more reliable, stable, and futurealigned. Prospects of nuclear safety are also surer in the hands of the 'establishment' as opposed to an Imran who could put the same as a bargaining lever in any tricky situation. Whether the US would allow a direct rule of 'establishment' or through its proxies like the existing coalition is a fixable issue. US nudge towards the 'establishment' seems more plausible and that could tilt the scales in favour of the Generals.

Crows congregate around a snake, trying to catch it, in New Delhi

## Providing affordable health services for all



The government has envisaged a new programme to promote research and innovation in pharmaceuticals through centres of excellence

≺he recent health haz-

ards, much exacerbated by the Covid pandemic, have made it essential to have high quality, affordable and accessible health services equitably available for all, irrespective of any boundaries. The pandemic has also brought mental and social health-related issues prominently into the picture. Here, the first Health Working Group meeting under India's G20 presidency proved very effective in addressing the vulnerabilities and disparities of the systems, besides advocating holistic and universal health and wellbeing. The theme 'One World, One Health' widely resonated with the principle of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam'. Health priorities like health emergencies, prevention, preparedness, strengthening cooper-ation and digital health innovation and solutions, were comprehensively discussed, especially when the situation in low- and middle-income countries is worrisome, owing to restricted and uneven healthcare systems.

Health Coverage also guide the decision-makers in designing a comprehensive and integrative healthcare system.

Recognising that the pandemic policy must be a defining part of our health policy, as any health crisis of today leads to a humongous economic crisis of tomorrow in an interconnected world, is now becoming an essen-

Here, putting out a dream of a new, healthy tial part of the agenda for our preparedness and response together. To meet and self-reliant health system and a pledge to make future health challenges, the available high-quality, budget 2023 has also affordable and accessible announced a lot of meahealth services to all, augurs sures. 157 new nursing colleges are proposed to be established in co-location a new age in the domain. Moreover, focusing on increasing health services with the existing 157 medfor various health care sysical colleges established since tems leveraged with evi-2014. A mission to eliminate Sickle Cell Anaemia by 2047, dence, accreditations and will also be launched, which the latest medical technologies, and then connecting will entail universal screening of seven crore people in the globe through medical the age group of 0-40. For medical research, facilities in value travel, are sure to address the disparities in the select ICMR Labs will be system. India's focus on both evidence-based traditional made available for research medicine practices and by public and private medmodern systems would be ical college faculties and private sector R&D teams much helpful in achieving Universal Health Coverage. for encouraging collabora-The attributes of Universal tive research and innovation.

A new programme to promote research and innovation in pharmaceuticals has also been planned through centres of excellence. The government also plans to encourage the pharma industry to invest in research and development in specific priority areas. The budget also made the focus of the Centre more pronounced to integrate the Ayush system with the National Health ecosystem. Hence, the total allocation to Ayush Ministry has been increased by 20% to Rs 3647 crores, along with emphasizing promoting evidence-based research in Ayush systems through Ayush research councils. With the G20 health meeting and budget 2023 focusing on broadening health services almost simultaneously, the foundation and framework of a global health architecture, envisaging to equip countries to face the next health emergency with robust health care systems, appears to be coming into existence.

(The writer is a Senior Journalist)

intrigues and machinations in framing its equation with Pakistan according to the princi-ple of interests, were again National dictators like Pervez Musharaff when he deposed the Nawaz Sharif government. Today, when Pakistan is

reignited with Operation Cyclone drawn into an intense power

### EITHER WAY

China supporting 'Islamic' Pakistan beyond its own needs and 'interests', as also the unavailability of snapping ties

(Ine writer, a military veter an, is a former Lt Governor of Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Puducherry. The views expressed are personal)

#### THE EDITOR

#### **DEMONETISATION-A FAILED EXERCISE**

Sir - People of India and Opposition leaders across the political spectrum argued that the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) decision to withdraw 2000 notes from circulation proves their point that the November 2016 Demonetization was a 'failed exercise' and has come full circle."A few weeks after Demonetization, the government/RBI were forced to re-introduce the 500 note and it is not surprising if the government/RBI re-introduced the 1000 note as well. It has disrupted the lives of Indians everywhere. They claimed that the introduction of the 2000 note would curb the flow of black money which did not take place. 7 years later, they are withdrawing it from circulation. Yet another masterstroke asks the people. This whole concept of starting the circulation, stopping the circulation of notes, or issuing new notes, was started by the Centre and the economy suffered due to this. It neither helped in curbing black money nor ending terrorism. With this, the decision of demonetization was a disaster for the country.

Bhagwan Thadani | Mumbai

#### **ZELENSKY ADDRESSES ARAB LEAGUE**

Sir — It was a bit surprising to know that the President of Ukraine, Volodymyr Zelensky, reached the Saudi port city of Jeddah and addressed all the leaders of 22 Arab League countries. Knowing this, most of the rulers of these 22 countries run their countries through dictatorship, military rule or monarchy. There is no word human rights in the dictionaries of these countries. Neither the women here are given full rights nor the prisoners are treated properly. The rulers here, whenever they want, issue orders to hang whomever they want. To top it all, Syrian leader Bashar al-Assad himself attended the conference, after 12 years in exile. Together with whom the Russian dictator Putin got millions of Syrians killed. Millions of people are being forced to leave their homes and lead nomadic life in other countries. It is futile to expect people whose hands are stained with blood to support Ukraine. The ide- BJP stood always against Tipu Sultan and

### **RBI withdraws Rs 2000 notes**



here was a rumour that the US is repudiating dollar notes before a stated date with a view to neutralising hordes of drug money stashed away in other nations. Though patently false there could be a convoluted justification since this represents dubious foreign debt owed by it. That said in 2013 it did redesign the \$100 note, implying no move

ology of the Arab League and the ideology of Putin are the same. That's why Zelensky would have been better off not traveling to Saudi Arabia. Jang Bahadur Singh | Jamshedpur

#### **A FILM ON TIPU SULTAN**

Sir — The films like The Kashmir Files and The Kerala Story were made with the help of half baked truth and to high light the inhuman acts said to be done by a particular minority community or by emperors of minority community. The main intention of these films makers is to target ,spew venom, create hatred and Íslamophobia against a particular community. Now on the same lines the Sangh parivar is making a film on the freedom fighter the Tipu Sultan. Tipu Sultan is known as a great freedom fighter who strongly and courageously fought the mighty British. Tipu Sultan laid down his life for this country, he was killed in the fourth Anglo-Mysore war while defending his fort in his capital of Srirangapatna near Mysore. But

towards printing new ones.

In 2016 we did a monetary dialysis to freeze black money and yet all Rs 500/1000 notes reverted to govt storage. And cash in circulation climbed even more, subsequently!

The recent attempt to disown the Rs 2000 note, which is about \$25, is thus enigmatic. Exchanging these notes limited to a value of Rs 20000 per visit is even more puzzling. Either the value limit be done away with or release Rs 1000 denomination notes and set a longer time limit for exchange. The nation would take the cue and promptly deposit the 2000 denomination notes for exchange. We thus achieve any intended purpose and yet retain the sanctity of our national currency. A \$5 trln economy would need its currency to hold its head high

Vishal Mayur | Tumkur

always used his name to polarize the voters especially in Karnataka. They do a propaganda that the 18th century Mysore ruler did not die fighting the British colonialist but was killed by the two Vokkaliga chieftains. However most Historians rubbished the claims of BJP and Sangh Parivar and claimed and said that the allegations of BJP and Sangh Parivar are a figment of imagination. Historians defended that Tipu Sultan laid down his life for the freedom of this country. But still BJP is been straining every muscle to potray The Tipu Sultan in a bad manner. Tipu Sultan has been sub-ject of bitter political controversy in Karnataka while Congress and JDS potray the Tipu as a progressive ruler while the Sangh Parivar dubbing Tipu as a tormentor of Hindus. It is sad and disheartening to see that the Bollywood has become a propaganda tool and being influenced by a political party's agenda. Zakir Hussain | Kazipet

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#### NEW DELHI | MONDAY | MAY 22, 2023

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## **FIRSTCOLUMN UNLEASHING J&K'S TOURISM POTENTIAL**

The G-20 Tourism Working Group meeting is opportunity to showcase J&K's tourism infra



#### VINOD BEHL

hat tourism in Jammu & Kashmir has made big strides, is clearly evident from the phenomenal rise in tourist traffic. The union territory had a record tourist footfall of 1.62 crores last year in the first nine months. More than 1.8 crore tourists visited J&K after the Covid-related restrictions were taken off. This big boost in tourist traffic is the result of transformative policy initiatives with regard to basic infrastructural support and connectivity, along with a conducive environment with peace and tranquillity brought to the valley.

The new tourism policy of J&K is giving a big thrust to tourism-related infrastructure - improving the existing tourist infrastructure and creating infrastructure at 75 new tourist destinations being developed by J&K Tourism. On the anvil are 75 new sufi/religious sites, 75 new cultural and heritage sites and 75 new tracks. The new destinations include Bani (Kathua), Aithem, Suchetgarh, Basholi, Sarthal, Pancheri, Ransoo, and Budhal.

The J & K government is giving a big push to film tourism. Under the new tourism policy, a single-window facility has been provided to promote film shootings in J&K besides offering a whole gamut of facilities including OB Vans, houseboats, shooting equipment and posit- production facilities to Indian and foreign film crews. On the road connectivity front, Rs 1 lakh crore has already been invested in road infrastructure and 6912 km of road network has been constructed under PMGSY in the last three years. The 670 km long Delhi-Amritsar-Katra greenfield expressway is set for December 2024 completion. The 250-km long Jammu-Srinagar 4-lane highway being built at the cost of Rs 16000 crore, will be completed by 2025. This all-weather road will link Kashmir with the rest of the country, reducing the road journey between Jammu and Srinagar to 4-5 hours.

Srinagar will be on the rail map by the end of the year or early next



year after the 270-km long Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramullah (USBRL) project gets completed. Trains have already started running on the Udhampur-Katra and Banihal- Qazigund-Baramullah sections.

Jammu & Kashmir is also getting a big cable car boost to provide modern, fast and eco-friendly transportation and connectivity. As part of the Union Ministry of Road Transport & Highways' ((MoRTH) Rs 1.25 lakh crore National Ropeway Development, a number of ropeway projects are being developed in J&K. The Shankaracharya Hillock Ropeway project in Srinagar is being developed to provide easier connectivity to visitors coming to Shankaracharya temple on top of the hillock. In Reasi (Jammu) a ropeway project is coming up at Shiv Khori shrine, near the famous Vaishnodevi Temple India's first cable-stayed rail bridge in Reasi has already been completed. The cable car projects will also be coming up at seven lakes in Rajouri Poonch, Sanasar in Jammu and Sonmarg in Kashmir. These cable car projects will give a big thrust to religious tourism. Srinagar, the show-window of Kashmir is being developed as a Smart City having Metro Rail. All major roads including Residency Road, Maulana Azad Road and Airport Road are being upgraded. Roads leading to world famous Mughal Gardens and luxury hotels are being revamped. At first, cycle tracks are being laid across the city, besides establishing Wi-Fi zones. Dubai's leading Emaar Group is setting up a big shopping mall and cineplex at an investment of USD 60 million. G-20 Tourism Meet also showcases Jammu region's tourist potential, especially eco-tourism on which G-20 is giving a lot of emphasis. Patnitop Development Authority has also carved out a Flower Valley in its high-altitude meadows to boost biodiversity. Further, Skyview by Empyrean Patnitop has been developed as a first-of-its-kind holistic lifestyle and leisure destination spread over 22 acres in the Himalayas with a gondola ride (India's highest international class sustainable ropeway), with luxury stay, F&B offerings, shopping and soft adventure activities such as all-season dry tubing sledge and Asia's longest zig-zag zipline, hiking and trekking. (The writer is a senior journalist. Views expressed are personal)

# SP must analyse its poor show in civic polls



analys \$ 07

SP's lacklustre performance in the UP civic polls should ring alarm bells for Akhilesh Yadav; it could be a bad omen for its 2024 campaign



he Samajwadi Party's perfor-mance in the urban civic polls leading up to the 2024 elections has been ignominious, and its implications for the party's prospects are significant. The lack of success in these polls has led to a growing sense of dejection among party workers. They feel demoralized and disheartened, questioning their party's ability to secure electoral victories. This dejection among the workers can have far-reaching implications for the party's organizational strength and ground-level campaign efforts.

According to party workers, the poor performance in the civic polls has been a blow to their morale. They believe that their hard work and efforts have not been rewarded, and they are now questioning their party's strategy and leadership. One party worker, speaking on condition of anonymity, expressed his disappointment, saying, "We have been working tire lessly to promote the party's agenda and secure victory in these polls. However, the results have left us demoralized. We are starting to question whether our efforts are in vain. The shift in the Muslim vote bank has also been a cause for concern for the Samajwadi Party. Traditionally, the party has enjoyed considerable support from the Muslim community. However, in the recent civic polls, a significant portion of the Muslim vote bank has shifted towards the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP). This shift indicates a loss of confidence in the Samajwadi Party's ability to effectively represent the interests of the Muslim community. It could weaken the party's electoral base and hinder its chances of success in future elections.

gests that this perception is chang-ing. The Muslim community seems to be seeking alternative options that they believe can better represent their interests."

A stark contrast can be drawn between the campaign strategies of the Samajwadi Party and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) dur-ing the civic polls. While Yogi Adityanath, the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh and prominent BJP leader, held a series of rallies across the state, energizing the party's supporters and connecting with voters on the ground, Akhilesh Yadav, the leader of the Samajwadi Party, was noticeably absent from active campaigning. Instead, he relied heavily on social media platforms, primarily Twitter, for political posturing.

This discrepancy in campaign efforts between the two parties is

paigning, stating, "Elections are won on the ground, by connecting with voters, understanding their concerns, and addressing them. Akhilesh Yadav's absence from active campaigning might have been a strategic misstep. Voters want to see their leaders actively engaged and accessible, and this absence could have cost the party dearly."

The outcome of the urban civic polls paints a grim picture for the Samajwadi Party. The party failed to secure any Mayoral seats, while the BJP emerged victorious in 17 constituencies. The BJP councillors constitute over 50 per cent of the board in 13 of 17 municipal corporations in the state. The party won 80 and 63 councillor seats out of 110 seats in Lucknow and Kanpur respective-

party needs to reevaluate its strategies and reestablish its connection with the voters. The lack of success in key constituencies and the preference for independent candidates highlight the growing disillusionment with the party. There is an urgent need for the party leadership to address these concerns and rebuild the party from the ground up.

In light of these circumstances, Akhilesh Yadav faces a challenging future. The dejection among party workers, the shifting Muslim vote bank, and the recent defections of senior leaders to the BJP all contribute to an unfavourable political climate for the Samajwadi Party. To regain its footing and rebuild its support base, the party will need to undertake substantial introspection and strategic reorintation Political analyst Ramesh Chandra opined, "Akhilesh Yadav needs to introspect and analyze the reasons behind the party's poor performance. He must address the concerns of the party workers and take steps to rebuild their morale. Additionally, he should focus on reconnecting with the Muslim community and regaining their trust. Adopting a more proactive and engaging campaign approach, with a strong emphasis on on-ground campaigning, will be crucial to revive the party's fortunes. Failure to adapt to these challenges could result in further setbacks for the Samajwadi Party in future elections. The party must learn from its mistakes, realign its strategies, and regain the trust and support of its workers and the electorate to secure a better political future.

Commenting on the shift in the Muslim vote bank, political analyst Sushil Mishra stated, "The Samajwadi Party has long been seen as a party that champions the cause of Muslims. However, the recent performance in the civic polls sug-

TWO PARTIES IS EVIDENT IN THE STARK **DIFFERENCE IN** THE NUMBER OF RALLIES ADDRESSED BY

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THE

THEIR RESPECTIVE LEADERS

with the Pioneer)

evident in the stark difference in the number of rallies addressed by their respective leaders. Yogi Adityanath's extensive tour across Uttar Pradesh included 50 rallies, while Akhilesh Yadav only held six. The lack of physical presence and personal interaction with voters could have contributed to the Samajwadi Party's poor perfor-

mance in the civic polls. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's appeal to the masses Yogi to vote for the Bharatiya Janata Party's mayoral candidates and elect a BJP board was well-received by the people of Uttar Pradesh, who have ensured that opposition parties were kept out completely from some of the boards while all the 17 mayors were from the

party. Political commentator (Writer is political editor Radhika Sharma highlighted the significance of on-ground cam-

The BJP candidates also bagged 63, 66, 56, and 58 seats out of 100 seats each respectively in Varanasi, Ghaziabad, Prayagraj, and Agra. Besides, the party won 42 and 51 Councillors' seats out of 80 seats each in Gorakhpur and Bareilly respectively.

The lack of success was particularly evident in Jhansi and the newly created Shahjahanpur Municipal Corporation, where not a single Samajwadi Party councillor was elected. In several seats, independent candidates were preferred over those from the Samajwadi Party, BSP, and Congress Party. These results suggest a loss of faith in the Samajwadi Party and a growing disillusionment with its leadership.

Reflecting on the election results, political scientist Dr Neha Kapoor stated, "The Samajwadi Party's performance in the civic polls is a clear indication that the

Parenting: It doesn't come naturally, needs to be nurtured

Give yourself parenting goals and they would come in quite handy to understand what legacy you want to create for your children

remember sitting with a group of friends and being Lasked which class my children were in and I was lost. I was working for 12 hours a day at a very senior level but was laughed at for not recalling the classes of my kids at that moment. I still forget sometimes. That is more my personality than my parenting style. My husband does not and over time I have realized it is okay to remember some and forget some. However, this bout of forgiveness for something so trivial does not come easy. We as parents are expected to leave a legacy of perfection, even if it is a fallacy.

In my Parenting journey of 17 years, I have learned a very important lesson. Parenting need not come naturally and



NUPUR D PANDEY

developed an EI model for

training students and

organizations)

just because one is a Parent, does not mean they will be natural at it. I was not a Natural Parent. It does sound

dichotomous because my latest book is on Parenting. I often ask myself the question-Do I have what it takes to preach about Parenting? That

is why I don't preach about it. What I do say in my book, "Understanding My Teen- A Parenting Journey" is that here are the tips that helped me in my parenting journey and I had to research. I loved reading and researching and my Parenting journey was no different. It brings out a lot of ethical and personal challenges, some of which have been

(The writer is an Emotional highlighted as part of this Intelligence Coach, who has write-up.

Let us start with some-

get asked about.

Parenting is a Fad: Apparently, Parenting has come about recently, but as a concept, it has always been there. However, at the risk of getting diverted, one needs to realize the need to discuss the why behind it. Parenting in simplest forms means the act of raising children. The new challenges are - emotional connection; changing skill requirements and of course artificial intelligence. How to help children deal with challenges that have helped parents struggle has made Parenting the new Fad.

Lack of Preparation-Parenting is by far the most difficult thing that I have had to do in my life and yet my realization was over the years thing very simple that I often that it is the most misunder-

stood need. It took me a while to accept myself as a Parent and another couple of years to be proud of the work that I was doing. There was a reason for the same. In the entire debate of working and nonworking women; not once was I ever coached or spoken to about the challenges that being a Parent would entail. I was prepared to get married once had made a mark for myself in my career space which I did. However, parenting was always painted in a rosy light, and I lived in an era where we had no access to Memes or Reels on parenting. It was a given and it was beautiful.

The child is a reflection of MY Parenting- This is my favourite. Parents go to arm's length to get parenting right, or as in some cases- Perfect.

The definition of perfect is a child's academic performance or behaviour or x, y, z parameter that the parents feel is important. There is a whole generation being prepared with a concept of perfection. The investment that parents have in their child's future comes from the fact that it gives them a sense of purpose. The ability to shape someone's future and mould their destinies, however glorified it sounds, does give a sense of control in this absolute mayhem

Addressing Challenges: - When I do not know what skills to prepare, then I go with what I have been taught or what I see around as the norm. Parenting is no different. In this struggle for perfection, the lack of preparation and communication is still the number one concern that Parents and children are dealing with. They do not know how to deal with challenges, or how to react to them, have not been taught coping strategies and most of the time are leaving most of the things, especially difficult conversations to chance.

As children, the challenges are all the more wrought because they have their changes to deal. To address this let us start with:

Make Change a Norm-Change is the only constant. However high time Parenting comes to terms with it. Society is changing, Technology is changing and success parameters need to change. Parents need to accept that old thinking or old patterns don't apply. Break the Pattern: Identify

patterns in Parenting. Your child's behaviour is a direct outcome of parenting patterns. If a parent has a strict nomistakes policy at home and a low tolerance for misbehaviour; then likely, the atmosphere of the house will be restrained. Children growing up will misbehave and rebel. Parents will also react.

Teach Coping Strategies-The world we are living in requires both adults and children to be wise and resilient beyond their ages. These two traits were seen as acquired as a factor of experience in the past but time has come and we pass on these two traits as a matter of teaching to our children. Parenting must change with time, but most importantly it must be unlearned with time.



# **Zelenskyy denies Bakhmut occupied by Russian forces**

#### AP 📕 HIROSHIMA

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said on Sunday that Russian forces weren't occupying Bakhmut, casting doubt on Moscow's insistence that the eastern

Ukrainian city had fallen. Responding to a reporter's question about the status of the city at the Group of Seven summit in Japan, Zelenskyy said, "Bakhmut is not occupied by the Russian Federation as of

"We are not throwing peo-ple (away) to die," Zelenskyy said in Ukranian through an interpreter. "People are the treasure. I clearly understand what is happening in Bakhmut. I cannot share with you the technical details of what is happening with our warriors."

The fog of war made it impossible to confirm the situation on the ground in the invasion's longest battle, and a series of comments from Ukrainian and Russian officials added confusion to the matter.

Zelenskyy's response in English to a question earlier at the summit about the status of Bakhmut was interpreted by many as saying the city had fallen to Russian forces.

When asked if the city was in Ukraine's hands, Zelenskyy said: "I think no, but you have to — to understand that there is nothing, They've destroyed everything. There are no buildings. It's a pity. It's tragedy."

"But, for today, Bakhmut is only in our hearts. There is nothing on this place, so — just ground and — and a lot of dead Russians," he said.

Zelenskyy's press secre-tary later walked back those previous comments. Ukrainian defence and military officials said that fierce fighting was ongoing. Deputy Defence Minister Hanna Malyar even went so far as to say that Ukrainian troops "took the city in a semi-encirclement." "The enemy failed to surround Bakhmut, and they lost part of the dominant heights



Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, fourth left, and G7 leaders pose for a photo before a working session on Ukraine during the G7 Summit in Hiroshima, Japan, on Sunday. G7 leaders from left to right, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, U.S. President Joe Biden, Japan's Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, Zelenskyy, France's President Emmanuel Macron, Canada's Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Britain's Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and European Council President Charles Michel AP/PTI

## Stepping up feud with US, **China bans Micron chips**

#### AP BEIJING

 $S_{\rm Washington\ over\ technolo-}^{\rm tepping\ up\ a\ feud\ with}$ gy and security, China's gov-ernment on Sunday told users of computer equipment deemed sensitive to stop buying products from the biggest U.S. memory chipmaker,

Micron Technology Inc. Micron products have unspecified "serious network security risks" that pose hazards to China's information infrastructure and affect national security, the Cyberspace Administration of China said on its website.

Its six-sentence statement gave no details. "Operators of critical infor-

mation infrastructure in China should stop purchasing prod-ucts from Micron Co," the grounds.

agency said. The United States, Europe and Japan are reducing Chinese access to advanced chipmaking and other technology they say might be used in weapons at a time when President Xi

and is increasingly assertive toward Japan and other neigh-

bours. Chinese officials have warned of unspecified consequences but appear to be struggling to find ways to retaliate without hurting China's smartphone producers and other industries and efforts to devel-

op its own processor chip sup-An official review of Micron under China's increasingly stringent information security laws was announced

April 4, hours after Japan joined Washington in imposing restrictions on Chinese access to technology to make processor chips on security

> Foreign companies have been rattled by police raids on two consulting firms, Bain & amp; Co. and Capvision, and

Jinping's government has nies are obliged to obey the law. Business groups and the Business groups and the US government have appealed

to authorities to explain newly expanded legal restrictions on information and how they will be enforced. Sunday's announcement

appeared to try to reassure foreign companies.

"China firmly promotes high-level opening up to the outside world and, as long as it complies with Chinese laws and regulations, welcomes enterprises and various platform products and services from various countries to enter the Chinese market," the cyberspace agency said.

Xi accused Washington in March of trying to block China's development. He called on the public to "dare to fight." Despite that, Beijing has

been slow to retaliate, possibly avoid disrupting Chinese industries that a due diligence firm, Mintz assemble most of the world's Group. Chinese authorities smartphones, tablet computers have declined to explain the and other consumer electronraids but said foreign compa-

### Tehran summons Swiss envoy over Twitter post

Tehran (AP): Iran's foreign ministry has summoned Switzerland's envoy in Tehran for a social media post showing Iranian protest icon Mahsa Amini, local reports said on Sunday

Months of anti-government protests were sparked by the death of 22-year-old Amini in September, after Iranian morality police detained her for allegedly violating the country's strict Islamic dress code.

A website affiliated with Iran's state television called YJC.ir reported that the Swiss ambassador, Nadine Lozano, was summoned after a Twitter account affiliated with the embassy in Tehran published a photo featuring Amini.

The Twitter account linked with the Swiss embassy in Tehran also posted an image of Iran's pre-revolutionary flag before its current theocracy came to power.

The post added that the Swiss foreign ministry strongly condemned the recent execution of three Iranian protest-

## 'It's time to reform UN Security Council'

#### PTI HIROSHIMA/UNITED NATIONS

The UN Security Council reflects the power relations of 1945 and there is a growing need to redistribute power with the realities of contemporary times, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said on Sunday, as he asserted that it was "time

to reform" the global body. Guterres, while speaking to reporters in Hiroshima at the G7 meeting, said the crushing economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the climate crisis, Russia's invasion of Ukraine, unsustainable levels of debt, rising interest rates and spiralling inflation are devastating developing and emerging economies.

He stressed that among the reasons for problems being faced by developing countries are power-related dimensions.

"The Bretton Woods system and the Security Council reflect the power relations of 1945. And many things have changed since then. The global financial architecture became outdated, dysfunctional and unfair," Guterres said.

Bretton Woods is an international monetary system that was forged by delegates from 44 nations in Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, in July 1944 as the Second World War raged in Europe and the Pacific.

Delegates to the conference agreed to establish the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and what became the World Bank Group. The Bretton Woods was meant to

THE

be a system of economic order and international cooperation that would help countries recover from the devastation of the war and foster long-term global growth. Guterres said in the face of the economic shocks from the COVID-19 pandemic and the Russian invasion of Ukraine, these systems and institutions in place have "failed to fulfil its core function

as a global safety net." "It's time to reform both the Security Council and the Bretton Woods institutions. This is essentially a question of redistributing power in line with the realities of today's world," Guterres said.

The UN chief's latest remarks in Hiroshima come as a strong endorsement of the need to reform the 15-nation powerful UN organ.

India has been at the forefront of efforts calling for urgent reform of the Security Council, which has remained deeply divisive in dealing with current challenges. In an address at a G7 session in Hiroshima, Prime Minister Narendra Modi wondered why different forums have had to deliberate on issues relating to peace and stability when the UN was formed to deal with these challenges.

The United Nations and the Security Council will remain just a "talk shop" if they do not reflect the realities of the present world, said on Sunday, as he strongly pitched for reform of the global body. India has asserted that the Council, in

its current form, does not reflect today's

for the significant financial assistance to (Ukraine) from (the US)," Zelenskyy tweeted later.The new pledge came after the US agreed to allow training on American-made F-16 fighter jets, laying the groundwork for their eventual transfer to Ukraine.

which is Bakhmut's Soviet-era

also said that Wagner and mil-itary units "completed the lib-eration" of Bakhmut. At the G-7 in Japan, Zelenskyy stood side by side with US President

Joe Biden during a news conference. Biden announced

USD 375 million more in aid

for Ukraine, which included

more ammunition, artillery and vehicles. "I thanked him

Russia's Defense Ministry

name

around the city," Malyar said. "That is, the advance of that President Vladimir Putin congratulated "Wagner assault our troops in the suburbs detachments, as well as all along the flanks, which is still servicemen of the Russian ongoing, greatly complicates Armed Forces units, who prothe enemy's presence in vided them with the necessary Bakhmut." support and flank protection, on the completion of the oper-ation to liberate Artyomovsk,"

And the spokesman for Ukraine's Eastern Group of Forces, Serhii Cherevaty, said that the Ukrainian military is managing to hold positions in the vicinity of Bakhmut.

"The president correctly said that the city has, in fact, been razed to the ground. The enemy is being destroyed every day by massive artillery and aviation strikes, and our units report that the situation is extremely difficult.

"Our military keep fortifications and several premises in the southwestern part of the city. Heavy fighting is underway," he said.

It was only the latest flip-flopping of the situation in Bakhmut after eight months of intense fighting. Only hours earlier, Russian

state new agencies reported

geo-political realities and its credibility is at risk if nations such as developing powers like India do not have a permanent seat at the horse-shoe table. Guterres had said last year that a majority of UN member countries now acknowledge that the Security Council should be reformed to reflect today's geopolitical realities.

"I hope regional groups & countries can work together to achieve greater consensus on the way forward and the modal-ities of reform," he said then.

Last month, India's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj had said that India is a founding signatory to the UN Charter when it was signed on June 26, 1945 in San Francisco."Seventy-seven years later, when we see the world's largest democracy, along with entire continents of Africa and Latin America, being kept out of global decisionmaking, we rightly call for a major course correction," Kamboj had said.

In response to a question at the press meet, Guterres said the Bretton Woods system and the Security Council are supposed to do what they were created for.

'What I believe is clear. It's that there is a growing conscience in developed countries – and I felt it in the G7 – that not enough is being done, both to reform outdated institutions and at the same time, to I would say remove the frustration of the Global South by an effective policy of sol-idarity with the Global South," Guterres added

#### Kishida faces dilemma Biden, McCarthy to speak on debt limit over anti-Nuke goals AP HIROSHIMA raise its borrowing limit, now though the administration has holes.

nima (AP): Its a dig i President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's personal appearance in Hiroshima. There was also sustained G7 pressure on China over its expanding nuclear arsenal, and on North Korea's pursuit of nuclear-tipped missiles that can target the US mainland. But even as he stood shoulderto-shoulder with Zelenskyy, whose presence at the summit bolsters Kishida politically, the Japanese leader sought to repeatedly infuse the summit with his ideas about a nuclear-free world. On both the opening and closing days of a gathering that On the one hand, he is keen included four nuclear-armed

**D**resident Joe Biden planned at USD 31 trillion.

countered that millions of peo-

Republicans have refused



## world 08

son leaders from the world's most powerful democracies descended on Hiroshima for this weekend's Group of Seven summit: Part commemoration, part effort to confront the continuing consequences of the moment a US B-29 Superfortress released what the Americans named "Little Boy" over the city in the first wartime use of a nuclear bomb. It also presents Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, the driving force behind Hiroshima's selection for the G7 venue, with a unique dilemma.

to promote the vision of a world without nuclear weapons that has long been a cornerstone of his political rhetoric. On the other, he is mindful of the widespread domestic worry over aggression by nuclear-armed neighbours. Kishida's difficult balancing act could be clearly seen in the G7's overwhelming focus on building support for Ukraine's defense against nuclear-armed Russia's invasion, ly with House Speaker Kevin McCarthy, hoping to salvage talks to raise the debt limit that have stalled in recent days while he was abroad at the Group of Seven summit. GOP lawmakers are holding tight to demands for sharp spending cuts, rejecting the alternatives proposed by the White House for reducing deficits.

Biden and world leaders at the gathering for industrial nations in Japan had been closely tracking the negotia-tions, looking for signs of a compromise that would ensure nations - G7 members France, the federal government can keep paying its bills and avoid the UK, the US, and visiting participant India — Kishida brought a potentially catastrophic leaders to pay their respects at default. Biden has tried to promemorials to the 140,000 peoject optimism even as the talks back in Washington were They planted a symbolic rocky. Republicans are rejecting a White House plan that

cherry tree, spoke with a survivor would impose less strict cuts and offered a silent prayer. Geography is a big reason while also increasing revenues. for Kishida's attention to nuclear The two sides are up against a disarmament. deadline as soon as June 1 to

ple killed by the bomb.

chance to talk later today," Biden said of McCarthy, R-Calif., while the president met with the leaders of Japan and South Korea at the G7 in Hiroshima, Japan.

But McCarthy may need bipartisan support; it's possible he'll need as many as 100 House Democratic votes to pass an agreement, based on likely GOP defections and past votes, according to a person familiar with the talks.

The person was not authorised to provide details about the proposal and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

In the latest round, McCarthy's team called for deep cuts to non-defense spending, while insisting on increased funding for the military. Education, health care, Meals on Wheels and other programmes would likely bear the burden, according to the person. The GOP wants work requirements on Medicaid,

Republican side also introduced new cuts to food aid by restricting states' ability to wave work requirements in places with high joblessness, an idea that when floated by the Trump administration was estimated to cause 700,000 people

to lose their food benefits.

The GOP lawmakers are also seeking cuts to IRS funding and asking the White House to accept provisions from their proposed immigration overhaul.

The White House has countered by keeping defence and non-defence spending flat next year, which would save USD 90 billion in fiscal 2024 and \$1 trillion over 10 years.

Republicans have also rejected White House proposals to raise revenues in order to further lower deficits. Among the proposals the GOP objects to are policies that would enable Medicare to pay less for prescription drugs and the closing of a dozen tax loop-

ll back the Trump-era ta breaks on corporations and wealthy households as Biden's own budget has proposed.

With talks frozen on Saturday as each side accused the other of being unreasonable, Biden was frequently briefed on the status of negotiations and directed his team to set up the call with McCarthy.

The decision to set up a call came after another start-stop day with no outward signs of progress. Food was brought to the negotiating room at the Capitol on Saturday morning, only to be carted away hours later, and no meeting was expected. Talks, though, could resume on Sunday after the two leaders' conversation. "The Speaker's team put on the table an offer that was a big step back and contained a set of extreme partisan demands that could never pass both Houses of Congress," press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said in a statement late Saturday.

President Joe Biden, left, poses for a photo with Japan's Prime Minister Fumio Kishida and South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol, right, ahead of a trilateral meeting on the sidelines of the G7 Summit in Hiroshima on Sunday.

#### Soccer stadium stampede in El Salvador leaves 12 dead South Korean, German leaders

#### AP SAN SALVADOR

stampede by fans at a Aquarterfinals soccer match in the Salvadoran league has left 12 people dead and injured dozens more, officials said early on Sunday.

The crush happened when fans pushed through one of the entrance gates during Saturday's game between Alianza and Fas at Monumental stadium in Cuscatlan, which is about 25 miles (41 kilometers) northeast of the capital, Salvador soccer officials said.

down.

hospitals.

in critical condition.

press office of Salvadoran

"The game was scheduled to start at 7:30 pm but they closed the gate at 7 p.m. and left us outside (the stadium) with our tickets in our hands," said Alianza fan José Ángel Penado.

"People got angry. We



President Navib Bukele, which asked them to let us in, but no. So they knocked the gate confirmed that at least 12 people had died.

Civil Protection director FIFA President Gianni Luis Amaya said about 500 Infantino said on Sunday in a people had been attended to speech to a World Health Organisation meeting in and about 100 were taken to Geneva that "I simply would At least two of the injured like to express, of course, my transported to hospitals were condolences to all the people of El Salvador for this tragic "El Salvador is in mournincident." ing," said a statement from the

Play was suspended about 16 minutes into the match, when fans in the stands waving frantically began getting the attention of those on the field and carrying the injured out of a tunnel and down to the pitch.

Local television transmitted live images of the aftermath of the stampede by Alianza fans. Dozens made it onto the field where they received medical treatment. Fans who escaped the crush stood on the field furiously waving shirts attempting to review people lying on the grass barely moving. Pedro Hernández, president of El Salvador soccer's first division, said the preliminary information he had was that the stampede occurred because fans managed to push through a gate into the stadi-

"It was an avalanche of fans who overran the gate.

Some were still under the agree to cooperate on N Korea metal in the tunnel. Others managed to make it to the stands and then to the field and were smothered," an unidentified volunteer with the Rescue Commandos first

aid group told journalists. National Civil Police Commissioner Mauricio Arriza Chicas, at the scene of the tragedy, said there would be a criminal investigation in conjunction with the Attorney General's Office.

"We are going to investigate from the ticket sales, the entries into the stadium, but especially the southern zone," where, he said, the gate was pushed open. The Salvadoran Soccer

Federation said in a statement that it regretted what had happened and voiced support for the victims' families.

#### AP SEOUL

The leaders of South Korea **L** and Germany on Sunday pledged more cooperation in building stable industrial supply chains and addressing the challenges posed by nuclear-armed North Korea as they met in Seoul after flying in from the Group of Seven meetings in Japan.

South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol, in a joint news conference with German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, pointed to the similarities between the two major manufacturing nations that are dependent on foreign trade and said a stronger supply chain partner-

ship would help them cope with "intensifying global economic instability and geopolitical conflicts.'

He said the countries in particular will work to advance trade relations in high-tech industries and clean energy, including semiconductors and hydrogen projects, and pursue further opportunities in defense cooperation.

Yoon said they also discussed the growing threat posed by North Korea, which has test-fired around 100 missiles since the start of 2022 while accelerating its push to expand its nuclear arsenal.He said Scholz agreed to help

maintain a "consistent message to the international community that North Korea has nothing not gain from its illegal provocations," and coordinate on diplomatic efforts to pressure Pyongyang into abandoning its nuclear ambitions.

Before his meeting with Yoon, Scholz visited the southern side of the heavily armed border splitting the two Koreas and called for the North to halt its testing activity. "Germany, which was reunified 33 years ago, is a country that understands and emphasizes the issues surrounding the Korean Peninsula," Yoon said.



## Hardline Israeli Minister visits Jerusalem holy site

An extremist Israeli Cabinet minister visited a sensitive Jerusalem holy site on Sunday at a time of heightened tensions with the Palestinians.

The visit by National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir, his second known visit since becoming a member of Israel's most right-leaning government ever, drew condemnations from the Palestinians and Israel's neighbor Jordan, which acts as the custodian of the site.

"I am happy to come up to the Temple Mount, the most important place for the Israeli people," Ben-Gvir said during his early morning visit to the site, with the golden Dome of the Rock in the background, according to video released by his office. He praised the police presence at the site, saying it proves who is in charge in Jerusalem."

Palestinian presidential spokesman Nabil Abu Rudeineh called Ben-Gvir's visit a "blatant attack" on the mosque. Jordan's Foreign Ministry called it "a provocative step that is condemned, and a dangerous and unacceptable escalation."

Neighbouring Egypt, which has a peace treaty with Israel, also issued a condemnation. The visit comes days after

Israelis marked Jerusalem Day, which celebrates Israel's capturing of east Jerusalem in the 1967 Mideast war.

Flag-waving nationalists marched through the main Palestinian thoroughfare in Jerusalem's Old City, some singing racist anti-Arab chants, while hundreds of Jews visited the sensitive hilltop shrine, including a low-level minister from Ben-Gvir's party, but not Ben-Gvir himself.

Later on Sunday, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's Cabinet is expected to hold a special session to mark the occasion near the Western

Israel captured the Old

City of Jerusalem, with its sites

Jerusalem, the West Bank and

the Gaza Strip in the 1967

territories for a future indepen-

dent state, with east Jerusalem

as capital. Israel annexed east

Jerusalem in a move unrecog-

nised by most of the interna-

tional community and consid-

ers the city its undivided, eter-

and Palestinians in the West

Bank has spiked in the last year,

as Israel launched near-night-

ly raids in response to a spate

since the spring of 2022. About

50 people have been killed in

More than 250 Palestinians

of Palestinian attacks.

Violence between Israel

The Palestinians seek those

Mideast war.

nal capital.

Israelis.

been killed.

Wall, the holiest site where Jews can pray and a remaining exter wall of the biblical Temples. rio Known to Jews as the

Temple Mount, the hilltop site is the holiest in Judaism and home to the ancient biblical Temples. Today, it houses the Al-Aqsa Mosque, the thirdholiest site in Islam.

Since Israel captured the site in 1967, Jews have been allowed to visit but not pray there. The ultranationalist Ben-Gvir, along with a growing movement of activists, has long called for greater Jewish access to the holy site.

Palestinians consider the mosque a national symbol and view such visits as provocative and as a potential precursor to Israel seizing control over the

compound. Most rabbis forbid Jews from praying at the site, but there has been a growing movement in recent years of Jews who support worship

there. Tensions at the disputed compound have fueled past rounds of violence. A visit by then-opposition leader Ariel Sharon in September 2000 helped spark clashes that became the second Palestinian

uprising. Clashes between Israeli security forces and Palestinian them militants but also women and children, and two people demonstrators in and around the site fueled an 11-day war were killed in Israel by militant with Hamas in 2021. rocket fire.

#### Greece votes in first election since end of bailout educated former banking executive, against 48-year-old hope. The citizens have in their hands the possibility ... to

Greeks were voting on Sunday in the first election since their country's economy ceased to be subject to strict supervision and control by international lenders who had provided bailout funds during its nearly decade-long financial crisis.

Greek officials have pledged fast results - about 90% of the precincts should have reported by 10 pm local (1900 GMT), three hours after the voting ends, Dimitris Bakakos, general manager of IT services firm Singular Logic, which is tasked with presenting the results, said in a television interview, adding that, by 8:30 pm, there should be enough data to predict the result within half a percentage point.

AP ATHENS

holy to three monotheistic faiths, along with the rest of east The vote pitches conservative Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis, 55, a Harvard-

Alexis Tsipras, who heads the left-wing Syriza party and served as prime minister during some of the financial crisis' most turbulent years, as the two main contenders.

Mitsotakis has repeatedly stressed that he needs a second term to build on what he says he accomplished during the first. He pressed the same line when he talked to media after casting his vote.

"Today, we vote for our future, for higher wages, for more and better jobs. We vote for a more effective public health system, for a fairer society, for a stronger country, which plays an important role in Europe, with protected borders.

Tsipras, unsurprisingly, painted a bleaker picture of the present government's record and emphasized the need for change. "Today is a day of

### Pope urges Sudan's warring sides to lay down arms

**Cairo (AP):** Pope Francis called on Sudan's warring forces to lay down their arms on Sunday, expressing dismay about the ongoing fighting and worsening humanitarian situ-ation in the African country.

"It's sad that a month after have been killed by Israeli fire the explosion of violence in Sudan, the situation continues to be grave, he told the faith-Palestinian attacks against ful who'd gathered in St. Peter's Square for his weekly appearance.

Israel says most of the For over a month, the Palestinians killed were militants, but stone throwing Sudanese army, led by Gen. youths protesting the incur-Abdel Fattah Burhan, and the sions and people not involved paramilitary Rapid Support in the confrontations have also Forces, commanded by Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo, Earlier this month, fighting have been locked in a violent also erupted between Israel power struggle that has killed and militants in the Gaza Strip. more than 800 civilians, the Israeli strikes killed 33, many of Sudan Doctor's Union said.

"Please, let's not get used to conflicts and violence, and let's not get used to war, please," Pope Francis said during his

3 Pak soldiers

appeal. The Pope's call comes a day after the Sudanese army and the RSF agreed to a sevenday ceas-efire due to take effect

there have been numerous shorter cease-fire deals, and all have foundered.

ment issued by the US and Saudi Arabia — the brokers of Saturday's deal — the upcoming truce hopes to facilitate the "delivery of emergency humanitarian assistance and restoration of essential services."

extended if both sides agree.

nism," the statement said. Few further details about the function or role of the mechanism

were provided.

change the course of the country, to leave behind a difficult four years of inequalities, injustice, profiteering, job insecurity, auctions, indignity for pensioners, the targeting of the youth. To leave behind an arrogant government that does not feel the needs of the many," he said, also promising "a new ethos and style of governance."

The rising cost of living was at the forefront of many voters' minds as they headed to polling centers set up in schools across the country.

"Every year, instead of improving, things are getting worse," said Athens resident Dimitris Hondrogiannis, 54, "Things are expensive. Every day, things are getting out of control. It's enough to make you afraid to go to the supermarket to shop.

Hondrogiannis said he hoped for a stable government that would help reduce prices for food and general goods. "People cannot make ends meet," he said.

Although Mitsotakis has been steadily ahead in opinion polls, a newly introduced electoral system of proportional representation makes it unlikely that whoever wins the election will be able to garner enough seats in Greece's 300member parliament to form a government without seeking coalition partners.

The winner of Sunday's election will have three days to negotiate a coalition with other parties. If that fails, the mandate to form a government passes to the second party and the process is repeated; in case of failure the third-place party also gets a chance. But deep divisions between the two main parties and four smaller ones expected to enter parliament mean a coalition will be hard to come by, mak-

ing a second election likely probably on July 2. The second election would be held under a new electoral law which makes it easier for a winning party to form a government by giving it a bonus of up to 50 seats in parliament, calculated on a sliding scale depending on the percentage of votes

won. A total of 32 parties are running, although opinion polls have indicated only six have a realistic chance of meeting the 3% threshold to gain

seats in parliament. Greece's once-dominant socialist Pasok party is likely to be at the center of any coalition talks. Overtaken by Syriza during Greece's 2009-2018 financial crisis, the party has been polling at around 10%. Its leader, Nikos Androulakis, 44, was at the center of a wiretapping scandal in which his phone was targeted for surveillance.

### **Trial process initiated against Pak** protesters under military laws

High Court.

#### PTI ISLAMABAD

Brushing aside the concerns Of human rights groups, Pakistan Army chief General Asim Munir has said that authorities have initiated a "legal process of trial" under stringent military laws against those involved in recent attacks on military installations following the arrest of former prime minister Imran Khan.

Gen Munir made the disclosure on Saturday during his visit to the Punjab province capital Lahore, the worst hit city by the violent protests.

According to a late-night statement by the Army, Gen for the first time. Munir chief addressed the gar rison officers and soldiers at the Corps Headquarters.

He said that the "legal process of trial against planners, instigators, abettors and perpetrators involved in the May 9 tragedy has commenced

side of the mountain

around 8,500 metres.

nel on Saturday cited Bharath as

saying that a team of sherpas

began search operations for

Shrinivas on Saturday morning.

He was reportedly last in con-

tact with base camp officials at

wrote that the family has

reached out to the governments

concerned. "This matter needs

to be brought to their attention

on an urgent basis. We need a

special rescue team that is trained to operate in such risky

terrain as well as to ensure that

this whole rescue operation is

not hindered by diplomatic

paperwork," Channel News Asia

She added that Shrinivas'

Shrinivas, 39, who is an

In the petition, Bharath

Army described as a "dark day" in the history of the under the Pakistan Army Act and the Official Secret Act as per existing and established country. legal procedures derived from

Meanwhile, Defence Minister Khawaja Asif said on the Constitution of Pakistan". On May 9, violent protests erupted after the arrest of Khan Sunday that no new military courts were being established by paramilitary Rangers from the premises of the Islamabad for trial of attackers on military installations. Addressing the media in

His party workers vanhis home town of Sialkot, Asif said that such courts had been dalised a dozen military installations, including the Jinnah functional for the last 75 years. 'No new military courts House (Lahore Corps Commander house), Mianwali are being established. Law is airbase and the ISI building in already present at this time. Faisalabad. The Army head-Courts are present and they have been working for the past 75 years continuously," he quarters (GHQ) in Rawalpindi was also attacked by the mob Police put the death toll in

said. He also rejected the impression that the government was trying to snatch away the basic rights of people and said that cases would be pursued against individuals whose "footage, faces and identity is present that they are attacking military installations".

## **UK Home Secretary under** pressure over driving fine

#### PTI LONDON

spokesperson for the Home UK Home Secretary Suella Braverman is under pres-Secretary said she "accepts that sure as it was claimed in a media report on Sunday that she attempted to dodge a driving fine after being caught speeding outside London when

violent clashes to 10 while

Khan's party claims 40 of its

workers lost their lives in the

firing by security personnel.

porters were arrested following the violence that the powerful

Thousands of Khan's sup-

she was speeding last summer and regrets doing so". "She took the three points (on her licence) and paid the

in the UK as Opposition par-

ties demand an independent

investigation to determine if

Braverman broke the ministe-

rial code and British Prime

Minister Rishi Sunak's G7

news conference in Japan was

also overshadowed by the

issue. "I don't know the full

details of what has happened

nor have I spoken to the Home Secretary," said Sunak, in response to a media

sessions or online. A

fine last year," the spokesperson said. However, the issue ominating headline

Indian-origin Singaporean killed, terrorist missing while returning gunned down in Balochistan Ouetta (PTI): Three soldiers were killed and a terrorist **PTI** ■ KATHMANDU/SINGAPORE resulted in Shrinivas getting gunned down when militants separated from the rest of his Indian-origin group, and "fell at around 8,000 attacked a security post in the Zarghoon area of the restive

from Mt Everest summit

A<sup>n</sup> Indian-origin group, and ten and an Asingaporean climber has metres, likely onto the Tibetan

Monday evening. Since the conflict began,

According to a joint state-

The cease-fire could be

Unlike the previous ceasefires, the week-long truce will be backed up by a "US-Saudi and international-supported cease-fire monitoring mecha-

world 09



Fighters from the Lebanese militant group Hezbollah carry out a training exercise in Aaramta village in the Jezzine District, southern Lebanon on Sunday. The show of force came ahead of 'Liberation Day,' the annual celebration of the withdrawal of Israeli forces from south Lebanon on May 25, 2000, and in the wake of a recent escalation of the Israel-Palestine conflict in the Gaza Strip

Saturday, the Pakistan military's media affairs wing has said. In a statement issued by the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) the terrorists attacked the check post that was recently set up to help check extortion efforts targeting coal mines in the area".

Security forces fired back in retaliation, In the encounter, three soldiers were killed and one terrorist was shot dead, it said. The ISPR said a sanitisation and clearance operation had been launched in the mountains of Zarghoon.

ISPR Director General Maj Gen Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry recently said that at least 293 people were killed and 521 were injured in 436 terrorist attacks over the past year.He had also said that overall 137 security personnel were killed and 117 injured in anti-terror operations in the ongoing year.

## **UK Opposition for freeze of Indian rice** tycoon's donation to Conservative Party

#### PTI LONDON

**B**ritain's Opposition Labour Party is calling for a freeze on the money donated by an Indian rice tycoon to the governing Conservative Party while he is under investigation by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in India on fraud and money laundering allegations. Karan Chanana, head of

the global rice brand Amira, is being investigated by ED over claims that bank loans were unlawfully diverted into shell entities and is yet to respond to the allegations. He is believed to have donated around GBP 220,000 to the Conservatives through his British company Amira G. Foods since September 2019.

Margaret Hodge, a senior Labour MP and chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Anti-Corruption

and Responsible Tax, told the 'Guardian' newspaper on

Saturday that the Tories should establish the source of these funds and freeze the money until the inquiries are completed. "The Tories have been too dependent on major donors and have not been doing proper checks. They should now be forced to do so by new legislation," she told the newspaper.

It comes after reports from Delhi revealed that the ED conwell as other related/unrelated entities have illegally diverted ducted search operations on May 2 at 21 locations in India loan funds sanctioned by the consortium of banks by way of connected to Chanana, the Indian company Amira Pure transferring loan funds into the Foods and other parties under accounts of various shell entities under the guise of genuine the Prevention of Money Laundering Act. Charges are business transactions," the yet to be filed in the case as the newspaper quoted an ED statement as saying. ED says further inquiries are continuing. Karan A Chanana had donat-

'Investigations revealed that the accused entities in connivance with each other as

while the accused entity had itself defaulted on repayment loans," the statement adds.

Amira Nature Foods was listed on the New York stock exchange in October 2012, specialising in Indian basmati rice grown in the foothills of the Himalayas. Chanana, its chairman and chief executive, operated the business from its headquarters in the Gold Tower in Dubai, while its official company registration was in the British Virgin Islands.

Its subsidiaries included Amira Pure Foods in India, now under investigation, and Amira G. Foods in the UK according to corporate filings. The probe in India follows a consortium of banks headed by Canara Bank filing a report with the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in November 2020 alleging bank fraud.

"It was also known that

ed to a political party of [the]

United Kingdom since 2019...

returning nissing while from the summit of Mount Everest, his family has said and called for urgent attention to his situation.

Shrinivas Sainis Dattatraya, 39, went missing on Friday from camp IV situated at an altitude of 8,400 metres while returning from the Summit, said Mingma Sherpa, chairperson of the Seven Summit Trek, which organised the expedition. Search operations were being carried out with the help of Sherpa guides, but there was no information regarding his whereabouts till Sunday afternoon, Expedition Manager Chhang Dawa Sherpa told PTI.

"We have also asked other quoted Bharath as saying. climbers who have returned from the Summit but there was family was devastated but did no clue about him," he said, not want to lose hope. adding that the search is going on to locate the missing climber. executive director at real estate According to a petition on

firm Jones Lang LaSalle, left for the website change.org, Mount Everest on April 1. He Shrinivas set out from Singapore was due to return home on June to Nepal last month to climb the world's highest peak. His cousin Divya Bharath wrote in the petition that on the way down, Shrinivas seemed to have suffered frostbite and altitude sickness. This probably might have make it back down.

Letter No. 186 (H)

Date 20.05.23

#### NAGAR NIGAM DEHRADUN Tel : 0135-2

Supply of Garbage Compactor Bins for Naga Dehradun. E-tenders are invited under two bid sys Technical Bid and Financial Bid. Inte agencies/Prospective bidders are advised to submit their bids by visiting the Govt. of Uttarakhand e-procurement portal http://www.uktender.gov.in. Bids will be accepted as etender. Interested bidders can also go through the details of RFP/Tender document in our official website www.nagarnigamdehradun.com and www.uktenders.gov.in. Pre-bid meeting is scheduled at 2:30 pm on 29-05-2023. Any Addendum/Corrigendum including date of extension will be uploaded only on www.uktenders.gov.in. The Municipal Commissioner have right to cancel tender at any stage without giving any reason. The last date for submission of bids on 08-06-2023 at 2:00PM.

> Municipal Commissioner Nagar Nigam Dehradun

as Attorney General A Singaporean news chanthe country last year.

'The Sunday Times' reported that the Indian-origin Cabinet minister asked civil servants to help her avoid a speeding fine and points on her driving licence by arranging a private one-to-one driving awareness course.

In the UK, anyone caught speeding is handed a fine and penalty points on their licence unless they sign up to an awareness course held in group

BARDEZ GOA

Village: Assagao

Mr. Sunil Sethi.

Applicant

V/s

Sanjeve Sethi

New Delhi -110049

Opponents

BEFORE THE JOINT MAMLATDAR-V BEFORE THE JOINT MAMLATDAR-V OF BARDEZ TALUKA MAPUSA. OF BARDEZ TALUKA MAPUSA, BARDEZ GOA Mutation Case No: 85831 Mr. Sunil Sethi R/o G-9, South Extension - 2, Nev Delhi -110049 Applicant R/o G-9, South Extension - 2 New Delhi -110049 V/s Sanjeve Sethi, G-9, South Extension, Part - II, Nev Delhi -110049. Mutation Case No: 85830 G-9, South Extension, Part - II. Village: Assagao Opponents PUBLIC NOTICE

interested parties

R/o G-9, South Extension - 2, New Delhi

110049, has applied for mutation unde Section 96 of L.R.C. 1968, to include his name in the occupant column under Sy.

No. 190/8 of Village Assagao Taluka

Bardez after deleting the existing name of Sanjeve Sethi as per Test. Cas. 64/2019 & IAs. 11492/2019 and 11493/2019, In the

High Court of Delhi at New Delhi, decided

And whereas the notices in Form no. X

were served to all the interested parties by registered A/D. However some A. D

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remarks "Party Expired/Party Left/Not Known/Address out of Station" and he do not known the detailed addresses of the

Legal heirs and whereabouts of the

And whereas the applicant has praye

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V Rule 20(1A) of C.P.C. as the applicant does not know the legal heirs and th

address of the interested parties.

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on 10/12/2019.

erested parties.

the applicant Mr. Sunil Seth

inquiry.

PUBLIC NOTICE To all opponents /legal heirs/any othe o all opponents /legal heirs/any othe

4. According to a report by The interested parties Whereas the applicant Mr. Sunil Sethi, R/o G-9, South Extension - 2, New Delhi, Straits Times newspaper, Shrinivas last sent a text message 110049, has applied for mutation under Section 96 of L.R.C. 1968, to include his to his wife on Friday saying that he has reached the summit of name in the occupant column under Sy No. 193/2 of Village Assagao Taluka Everest but was not likely to Bardez after deleting the existing name of Sanjeve Sethi as per Test. Cas. 64/2019 & IAs. 11492/2019 and 11493/2019, In the High Court of Delhi at New Delhi, decided 10/12/2019.

And whereas the notices in Form no. X arties A. D. ostal t/Not of the the

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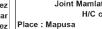
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All the interested parties are hereby given notice of the said mutation entry and called upon to submit to me their All the interested parties are hereby given notice of the said mutation entry and called upon to submit to me their objection if any to the mutation entry objection if any to the mutation entr within 15 days from the date of publicatio within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice failing which the suitable of this notice failing which the suitable order under the provision of LR issued by the Certifying Officer.

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Mapusa Goa



## money 10

Meet held on

making India

Atmanirbhar in

maritime sector

PTI NEW DELHI



## **PSBs' total profit crosses ₹1 L crore-mark in FY23**

Public sector banks' cumulative profit crossed the ₹1 lakh crore-mark in the financial year ended March 2023, with market leader State Bank of India (SBI) accounting for nearly half of the total earnings.

From posting a total net loss of ₹85,390 crore in 2017-18, the Public Sector Banks (PSBs) have come a long way as their profit touched ₹1,04,649 crore in 2022-23, according to an analysis of their financial results.

These 12 PSBs witnessed 57 per cent increase in total profit compared to ₹66,539.98 crore earned in 2021-22.

In percentage terms Pune-based Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) had the highest net profit growth with 126 per cent to ₹2,602 crore, followed by UCO with 100 per cent rise to ₹1,862 crore and Bank of Baroda with 94 per cent increase to ₹14,110 crore.

However, in absolute term, SBI has reported an annual profit of ₹50,232 crore in 2022-23, showing an increase of 59 per cent over the preceding financial year.

Except for the Punjab National Bank (PNB), other

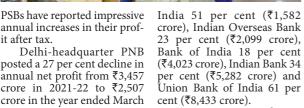


annual increases in their profit after tax

Delhi-headquarter PNB posted a 27 per cent decline in annual net profit from ₹3,457 crore in 2021-22 to ₹2,507 crore in the year ended March 2023.

The PSBs which reported an annual profit in excess of ₹Rs 10,000 crore are Bank of Baroda (₹14,110 crore) and Canara Bank (₹10,604 crore). Other lenders like Punjab

and Sind Bank posted an annual profit growth 26 per cent (₹1,313 crore), Central Bank of



PSB is a turnaround story from record losses to record profit. The doom-to-bloom story of the public sector banking industry can be attributed to the initiatives and spate of reforms undertaken by the government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, along with former finance minister

Arun Jaitley and financial services secretary Rajiv Kumar and his sucessors.

The Government has implemented a comprehensive 4R strategy: Recognising NPAs transparently, Resolution and recovery, Recapitalising PSBs, and Reforms in the financial ecosystem.

As part of the strategy, the government infused an unprecedented ₹3,10,997 crore to recapitalise PSBs during the last five financial years — from 2016-17 to 2020-21. The recapitalisation programme provided much-needed support to the PSBs and prevented the possibility of any default on their part.

The reforms undertaken by the government over the last eight years addressed credit discipline, ensured responsible lending and improved governance. Besides, there was adoption of technology, amalga-mation of banks, and general confidence of bankers was maintained.

In the latest March quarter or the fourth quarter of 2022-23, the PSBs' profit cumula-tively increased more than 95 per cent to ₹34,483 crore. In the year-ago period, the same was at ₹17,666 crore.

## Mcap of 6 of top 10 valued firms erodes by ₹70,486 cr

#### PTI 📕 NEW DELHI

Six of the 10 most valued firms faced a combined erosion of ₹70,486.95 crore in their market valuation last week, with Reliance Industries and Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) taking the biggest hit following a weak trend in equities.

While Reliance Industries, TCS, HDFC Bank, ITC, State Bank of India and HDFC were the laggards from the top 10 pack, ICICI Bank, Hindustan Unilever, Infosys and Bharti Airtel were the gainers.

Last week, the BSE Sensex declined 298.22 points or 0.48 per cent. "Markets took a breather

last week and shed half a per cent amid mixed cues. The beginning was upbeat, however, profit-taking in heavyweights across sectors pushed the index lower in the following sessions," Ajit Mishra, VP - Technical Research at Religare

Broking Ltd, said. Among major losers, the market valuation of Reliance Industries fell by ₹27,941.49 crore to ₹16,52,702.63 crore and that of TCS eroded by ₹19,027.06 crore to

₹11,78,854.88 crore. HDFC Bank's valuation declined by ₹10,527.02 crore to

The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways on Sunday started its Chintan Shivir in Munnar, Kerala, to determine the targets and deliberate upon the ideas of making India Atmanirbhar in maritime, according to an official statement. The Shivir was chaired and inaugurated by Ports, Shipping & Waterways Minister Sarbananda Sonowal. Speaking on the occasion, Sonowal emphasised the ministry's goal to educate and create awareness among the common people by highlighting the impact of the maritime sector in simple language and how it impacts the lives of the common people.At the conference,

₹9,20,568.10 crore and HDFC's ₹9,585.82 crore to ₹4,99,848.62 crore.

The mcap of State Bank of India went lower by ₹2,722.01 crore to ₹5,13,209.81 crore and that of ITC dipped ₹683.55 crore to ₹5,21,852.46 crore. However, Infosys added

₹9,733.98 crore to its valuation at ₹5,26,491.90 crore.

The mcap of Bharti Airtel jumped ₹7,722.54 crore to

ICICI Bank rallied ₹7,716.4 crore to ₹6,67,196.10 crore.

The valuation 01 Hindustan Unilever climbed ₹4,229.27 crore to ₹6,20,621.04 crore. Reliance Industries continued to rule the top 10 most valued firms chart, followed by TCS, HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, Hindustan Unilever, Infosys, ITC, State Bank of India, HDFC and Bharti Airtel.

₹4,49,050.34 crore and that of an exclusive session with the HoDs of the major ports focused on the innovative ideas

of the ports, it added. The other session focused on lighthouse tourism and how to become a global player in shipbuilding and enhance India's tonnage.

The statement said apart from this, the participants from various organisations shared valuable insights.

## FPIs bring in ₹30,945 crore in May on strong economic fundamentals

#### PTI NEW DELHI

Fereign investors have put in ₹30,945 crore in the Indian equities in May so far, driven by strong macroeconomic fundamentals, prospect of reducing interest rates, positive earn-ings outlook and falling valuations of stocks.

With this, net inflows by Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) reached ₹16,365 crore in 2023 so far, data available with the depositories showed.

Going forward, FPI investment in India is expected to continue since the prospects for the Indian economy and corporate earnings growth appear bright now, VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Financial Services, said.

According to data from

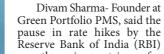


the depositories, FPIs invested a net sum of ₹30,945 crore in Indian equities during May 2 -May 19.

This came following a net infusion of ₹11,630 crore in equities in April and ₹7,936 crore in March. The March investment was

mainly driven by bulk investment in the Adani Group companies by the US-based GQG Partners. However, if one adjusts for the investments of GQG in Adani Group, the net flow is negative. Moreover, in the first two

months of the year, FPIs pulled out over ₹34,000 crore



Reserve Bank of India (RBI) was the primary trigger for inflows into Indian equities.

Further, India's GDP growth is expected to be 7.5 per cent in 2023-24, higher than the global average, and coupled with low inflation and a current account surplus, this makes India an attractive investment destination, Sonam Srivastava - Founder of Wright Research, said

In addition, a growth forecast for Indian corporate earn-ings and the recent fall in Indian equities, now trading at a lower price-to-earnings ratio than the historical averages, have also contributed to the surge in FPI investment, she added

### 'Q4 earnings, global factors, FII trading activity to guide mkts this week'

#### PTI NEW DELHI

 $D_{ings,\ global\ trends\ and}^{omestic\ quarterly\ earn-}$ foreign fund trading activity would dictate the movement in equity markets, which may face volatility amid the scheduled monthly derivatives expiry this week, analysts said.

Equity markets took a breather last week. The BSE Sensex declined 298.22 points or 0.48 per cent and the Nifty dipped 111.4 points or 0.60 per cent. "Global and domestic macroeconomic data, crude oil prices, global market trends, Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) and domestic institutional investors (DIIs) activity will be monitored this week. "Earnings season will continue to be in focus with com-

panies like BPCL, Ashok Leyland, NMDC, Hindalco, Oil India, LIC, Vodafone Idea BHEL, ONGC, and many more will be declaring their results this week," Arvinder Singh Nanda, Senior Vice-President at Master Capital Services Ltd,

said. Globally, investors would continue to focus on the US debt ceiling negotiations, Nanda added

administration is reaching for a deal with Republicans as the nation faces a deadline as soon as June 1 to raise the country's borrowing limit to keep paying the nation's bills. Domestic markets faced headwinds last week due to weak cues from the global markets, Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services, said.

Marico, which owns pop

## SECL's Gevra mine to be largest coal producing mine in Asia: Coal Secy

#### PTI NEW DELHI

The government is scaling up the annual production of SECL's Gevra coal mine to 70 MT making it the largest, coal secretary Amrit Lal Meena said.

Gevra project of South Eastern Coalfields Ltd (SECL) in Chhattisgarh recently became the first mine in the country to achieve 50 MT of coal production, the official said in a review meeting with the state-owned miner on

Without sharing any time-line, Meena said, "It (Gevra mine) is currently being expanded to achieve 70 MT of production which would make it the largest coal producing mine in Asia", according to a coal ministry statement.



The secretary was on a two-day visit to Chhattisgarh.

Along with officials of South East Central Railway (SECR) at SECL headquarters in Bilaspur, Meena reviewed the rail projects of Chhattisgarh East Railway Limited (CERL) and Chhattisgarh East West Railway Limited (CEWRL). He inaugurated 'Chhal' rail siding in SECL, Raigarh area

progress of two rail corridors being developed on Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) model

Under the PM Gati Shakti portation of coal is being developed in the country and the new rail corridor will prove to be a milestone in this regard.

SBI slow in procurement

and also took stock of the

in the state. national master plan, the infra-structure required for trans-

Deloitte US

India announces

opening of three

The country's skilled work-

force is being sought after

by global organisations for

high-end work, Deloitte US

India said on Sunday while

offices in Pune,

US President Joe Biden's Saturday.

### nearly 5.58 lakh homes in 2023 across top seven cities: Anarock

#### PTI NEW DELHI

 $R^{eal}$  estate developers are expected to complete nearly 5.58 lakh homes this year across seven major cities as builders focus on accelerating the pace of construction activities, according to Anarock.

Real estate consultant Anarock's data suggests that 5,57,900 homes are scheduled for completion during 2023. In the 2022 calendar year,

4,02,000 units were scheduled to be completed.

The consultant did not mention whether builders were able to meet their 2022 target or not

Anarock said that the number of homes to be completed is higher because of several factors including realty law RERA, better cash flow amid rise in housing sales, use



of latest technologies in construction activities and also increased funding from financial institutions. The developers are trying

to avoid delay in completion of projects as it leads to cost overrun, the consultant added. Anarock Vice Chairman

Santhosh Kumar said, "As per scheduled completion records, approx. 5.6 lakh homes are likely to be delivered across the top 7 cities in 2023. This is an increase of 39 per cent over the previous year.

Realty companies may complete | FMCG makers expect sustained recovery in volume, margins with price reduction in FY24

#### PTI NEW DELHI

Encouraged by volume growth, margin improvement and recovery in rural sales, India's top fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) companies are now back to their normal growth cycle as they step up investments as well as spending on advertising and marketing.

FMCG companies are chasing volume growth again after a gap of a few quarters, offering higher grammage and price cuts thanks to inflationary pressures softening on key raw materials for everything from soaps to food items. Hindustan Unilever

(HUL), Dabur, Marico, Godrej Consumer Products, ITC, Tata Consumer Products and Nestle reported volume recovery in the March quarter and said they expect a gradual pickup in consumption in FY24.



"The prospects of a sustained recovery have strengthened. After five quarters of vol-ume decline, the sector has posted volume growth," Marico MD and CEO Saugata Gupta said in the company's earnings conference call. "Urban consumption has been steady while rural is showing some con-vincing signs of having bottomed out.

Foods continue to drive growth for the sector, while the home and personal care segment also entered positive territory after an extended slow-

### of goods, services from GeM portal in 2022-23

#### ular brands like Saffola PTI 🗖 NEW DELHI Parachute and Livon, reported

an 18.7 per cent increase in its consolidated net profit to Rs 305 crore for the fourth quarter ended March 2023 while sales rose 3.65 per cent to Rs 2,240 crore, driven by singledigit volume growth and moderation in commodity prices. HUL said rural areas have

shown improvement with higher value growth sequen-tially. While HUL's volumes continue to fall, the extent of decline has reduced versus last quarter.

"The slowdown in the FMCG market is bottoming out. This improvement was led by volumes, which have turned flat in this quarter, versus a mid-single-digit decline in the December quarter," said HUL CFO Ritesh Tiwari in its earnings call.

 $\mathbf{I}_{ ext{quite slow in procuring}}^{ ext{ndias largest lender SBI was}}$ goods and services from government-owned GeM portal in 2022-23 and lagged behind smaller counterparts, including Canara Bank and Punjab National Bank, according to the government data.

Canara Bank emerged as the largest buyer among the state-owned lenders in 2022-23, making total purchases of ₹592.82 crore from the portal, the data showed.

Punjab National Bank (₹164.57 crore) was the second largest, followed by Indian Overseas Bank (₹159.82 crore), State Bank of India (₹158.22 crore), Indian Bank (₹111.59 crore), Bank of India (₹63.81 crore), Bank of Baroda (₹48.63





crore), Union Bank of India (₹37.03 crore), Bank of Maharashtra (₹10.26 crore), Punjab and Sind Bank (₹9.98 crore), UCO Bank (₹5.30 crore) and Central Bank of

India (₹4.54 crore) in 2022-23. The SBI did not respond to and services by all the central government ministries and

departments.

#### specialising in various areas such as artificial intelligence, data analytics, cybersecurity, cloud, human capital, assurance, tax, valuations, and mergers and acquisitions will oper ate from these locations," it said.

Deloitte US India said that there are increasing opportunities in business services exports from the country.

On this backdrop, the consulting firm has announced the opening of three new delivery offices to serve companies globally

This move is in response to the growing demand for skilled professionals across Deloitte's advisory businesses, it said in a statement.

It added that the organisation plans to continue to invest in people with a focus on innovative approaches to sup-port learning, digital skills development, and training opportunities.

and a Deloitte

### **Royal Enfield looking to roll out uniquely** differentiated electric bikes, says CEO

#### PTI NEW DELHI

 $R^{\rm oyal}\,{\rm Enfield}$  is developing 'uniquely differentiated electric motorcycles' and has already started investing towards product development and creating a sup-plier ecosystem around its Chennai-based plant, according to CEO B Govindarajan.

The company, which is part of Eicher Motors, has announced a capex of ₹1,000 crore for the current fiscal with a focus on various aspects, including EV manufac-turing and product development. Part of the capex would also go into

the rolling out of new products from the company's existing internal combustion

engine portfolio. "On the EV journey, we have been making steady progress. I can say Royal Enfield's EV journey is in the top gear now. Our intention is to create uniquely differentiated electric motorcycles with strong



Royal Enfield DNA," Govindarajan said in an analyst call.

The company has commissioned a very capable team and has started committing very deep investments in terms of product development, product strategy and in the product testing and development area, he added.

"Currently, we have laid a robust long-term product and technology roadmap on the EV and towards developing the supplier ecosystem is what is the focus as of now," Govindarajan noted.

There are a lot of prototypes and test-

ings, which are currently going on, he state

'We are very committed. It's in full blast now," Govindarajan said.

Further, he noted that the company has made a strategic investment in Stark Future and now both the teams are working well.

"They are collaborating very well to learn from each other and looking at what is the co-creation and the development, which we will do and how do we leverage each other's strengths," Govindarajan said.

In December last year, Eicher Motors announced to acquire a 10.35 per cent equity stake in Spanish electric motorcycle maker Stark Future for 50 million euros.

On capex plan, Eicher Motors CEO Siddhartha Lal said the board has approved a cash outlay of Rs 1,000 crore towards capital expenditure for the Royal Enfield business in FY23-24.

#### PTI 📕 NEW DELHI

irports Authority of India A(AAI) is back in the black, raking in a profit of ₹3,400 crore in the fiscal ended March as surging domestic air traffic boosted its financial performance, according to a source.

AAI has reported a profit for the first time after the coronavirus pandemic that had significantly impacted air traffic and the aviation sector as a whole

In the financial years — 2021-22 and 2020-21 — AAI had reported a loss. While the loss was ₹803.72

crore in the fiscal ended March 2022, the same stood at



AAI back on profitable runway; reports

₹3,400 profit in 2022-23 fiscal year

₹3,176.12 crore in the financial year ended March 2021.

These figures excluded exceptional and extraordinary items and tax.

The source in the know told PTI that AAI has recorded a profit of ₹3,400 crore for the 2022-23 financial year.

This is a provisional figure and the final figure will be

known after the audit of the financial results. The source also said the good performance was mainly due to the high growth in domestic air traffic.

and tax.

In 2022, domestic air passenger traffic surged 47.05 per cent to 12.32 crore compared to 8.38 crore in the year-ago period.

Further, the passenger numbers soared 51.70 per cent

to 3.75 crore in the first three

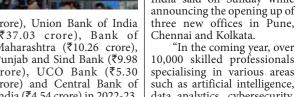
months of this year as against

2.47 crore in the same period

a year ago, as per official data. In 2021-22, AAI had a

meagre profit of ₹8.76 crore,

including exceptional items



an email query on the subject. The GeM portal was launched on August 9, 2016, for online purchasing of goods



# Brighton seal Euro place

#### AP LONDON

eeds slipped closer to relegation Let from the Premier League after a 3-1 defeat against West Ham in their penultimate game of the season on Sunday.

Sam Allardyce's side blew the lead at the London Stadium as Rodrigo's opener was erased by goals from Declan Rice, Jarrod Bowen and Manuel Lanzini,

Leeds remain third bottom and are two points adrift of fourth bottom Everton, with both teams having just one game left.

Even if Leeds beat Tottenham at home on the final day of the season, the Yorkshire club would still be relegated if Everton win their last game against Bournemouth at Goodison Park.

Leeds, whose goal difference is three worse than Everton's, are likely to need the Toffees to lose to have a chance of staying up.

Second bottom Leicester, three points from safety, have slender hopes of avoiding relegation with games at Newcastle on Monday and West Ham on the final day.

Leeds, who last played in the Championship in 2020, have lost twice and drawn once in three games since Allardyce replaced the sacked Javi Gracia earlier this month.

"We haven't shown the quality when needed. So next week has to be much better to beat Tottenham. That's all we can do," Allardyce said.

"The players need to roll their sleeves up, apply themselves in the



## **Real Sociedad** stun Barcelona

#### AP BARCELONA

New La Liga champions Barcelona tumbled to a 2-1 defeat to Real Sociedad on Saturday before receiving their trophy at a packed Camp Nou. Mikel Merino and and could not turn the game

Alexander Sorloth struck for around. their hold on fourth place, restoring a five-point gap on Villarreal, fifth, in the fight for Champions League qualfive minutes. ification. Villarreal Earlier, snatched a 2-1 win at Girona through Gerard Moreno's stoppage time strike. Robert Lewandowski pulled one back late on for Barcelona, who clinched the title last weekend with a thumping 4-2 win at Catalan rivals Espanyol, and were given a guard of honour before the game. Barcelona's celebrations final three matches. in Cornella were disrupted by Espanyol fans' pitch invasion, but they made up for it after defeat as they lifted their 27th league title.

right way, beat Tottenham and hope other results go in our favour.

Allardyce had labelled Leeds' trip to his former club West Ham as a "cup final". But the defeat means Leeds

need a repeat of last season's final day escape when they won at Brentford to climb out of the bottom three. Just three days after beating

AZ Alkmaar to reach the Europa Conference League final against Fiorentina, West Ham made six changes. Leeds scented a chance to

seize the momentum and they took it the 17th minute with a goal straight from Allardyce's voured direct game-plan.

Weston McKenzie's long throw reached Rodrigo in the heart of the West Ham area and the Spanish striker volleyed a fine finish past Lukasz Fabianski

Despite having little to play for with their own safety secured, West Ham responded well and Joel Robles had to use his legs to save Tomas Soucek's close-range effort.

#### **LEEDS IN TROUBLE**

A section of Leeds' travelling support had come to east London dressed as nuns, but if Allardyce was hoping for divine intervention in the relegation battle, his prayers were not answered.

In what could be his final home game for the club amid speculation linking him with Arsenal, West Ham captain Rice equalised in the 32nd minute, meeting Bowen's cross with a cool finish at the far post. Leeds suffered another blow

when injury-plagued striker Patrick Bamford limped off.

dominance after the equaliser, with Robles making good saves to deny Emerson, Lucas Paqueta and Soucek.

Allardyce's men finally cracked again in the 72nd minute when Danny Ings' pass teed up Bowen for a deft strike that survived a VAR check for offside.

Elsewhere on Sunday, Brighton secured European football for the first time in their history with a 3-1 win against Southampton.

Brighton's Evan Ferguson netted with composed strikes in the 29th and 40th minutes.

Mohamed Elyounoussi got one back for already-relegated Southampton after 58 minutes, but Pascal Gross wrapped up the Seagulls' victory.

Roberto De Zerbi's sixthplaced side will ensure they play in the Europa League if they take a point from their last two games against Manchester City and Aston Villa. Marseille keeper Pau Lopez brought down teenage

Brighton's vastly superior goal difference to seventh placed Villa should ensure they don't drop into the Europa Conference League regardless of their last two matches.

on the hour mark before Jonathan Bamba headed the

winner for Lille in the 72nd minute from a cross by Remy Cabella. The result left Marseille third on 73 points, two behind

sport 11

Lens who travel to Lorient on Sunday. "We are sad because we wanted to win. We had opportunities. They had opportunities," said Marseille coach Igor Tudor.

Should Marseille end the season in third, they will have to take their chances in the Champions League preliminary round and then possibly a play-off to make the lucrative group stages. For Lille, victory kept them in fifth with a spot in the Europa Conference League within reach.

Gnabry settled Bayern's nerves after

eipzig beat Bayern to hand Dortmund title edge

#### AP MUNICH

Baway from guaranteeing their first title in a decade after RB Leipzig came from behind to win 3-1 away at Bayern Munich on Saturday.

Bayern led 1-0 thanks to an early Serge Gnabry goal and looked in cruise control, but the visitors scored three second-half goals to turn the match, and the Bundesliga title race, on its head.

Dortmund, who last won the title in 2011-12 under Jurgen Klopp, can go two points clear of Bayern with one matchday remaining with a win on Sunday against Augsburg.

Thomas Tuchel said his team deserved to lose, explaining "when you play so far below your level, you lose games".

celebrations in Catalonia with pletely about us. We lost this game." Xavi picked a solid

AP TURIN

and off the pitch.

campaign.

Tuventus midfielder Paul Pogba

vowed on Sunday to give his

all to return next season at his

best after a trying time both on

Cup winner hobbled off in the

first half last Sunday on his first

competitive Serie A start of the

lem, an unwelcome new medical

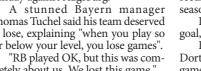
issue after injury to his right

knee in pre-season training

forced him to miss a huge

The French 2018 World

Tests revealed a thigh prob-



The win, Leipzig's first in Munich and only their second victory ever over the German champions, secured the visitors Champions League football next season

Leipzig manager Marco Rose said "with our first goal, our belief grew -- and we used that today."

Bayern came into the match one point clear of Dortmund and knew that two wins in their next two games would take them to an 11th straight league title.

#### We can still win title: Muller AP MUNICH chance.

Bayern Munich captain Thomas Mueller said his side were not out of the Bundesliga title race after the in a row. 3-1 home loss against RB Leipzig on Saturday gave Borussia Dortmund the edge. first.

"Of course" the veteran told Sky Sports Germany, "we can still be German champions.

thing we can to get three points next week." "Dortmund still need to Bayern's final game is at Cologne, while Dortmund win twice and we'll see what happens.

"I've won a few champiplay at home against Mainz, onships, even when we weren't with the games kicking off big favourites. There's still a simultaneously on Saturday.

25 minutes, blasting a rising shot in off the left post, his fifth in his past four games.

fight back but soon found themselves behind, after Benjamin Pavard brought down Christopher Nkunku in the box. The France forward smashed the

ball home from the spot, giving home 'keeper Yann Sommer no chance.

Leipzig won another penalty with four minutes remaining after a handball, with Dominik Szoboszlai scoring.

### **Pogba promises to return** after 'very complicated' year





Jonathan Clauss gave

Marseille the lead in the 29th

minute with both goalkeeper Lucas Chevalier and defender

Bafode Diakite making futile

Jonathan David's 22nd goal of

the season courtesy of a 50th-

minute penalty awarded when

Cameroon midfielder Carlos

had a goal ruled out for offside

Marseille's Alexis Sanchez

But Lille levelled thanks to

attempts to clear.

Baleba.



"Thank you to the staff, the players who have given everything on the pitch," Xavi said in a speech. "And to the fans. Without

you it would not have been possible. You have been spectacular.

"Those that have filled the stadiums, those that were at the bus parade. It's given me goosebumps.'

carelessly lost the ball in a dangerous area and Sorloth fed Merino, who fired through Marc-Andre ter Stegen's legs after

Imanol Alguacil's La Real fought hard to dampen the

Barcelona line-up despite

already wrapping up the title,

an impressive victory.

It was the first goal the German goalkeeper has conceded from open play at Camp Nou in La Liga this season, with the exception of

a Ronald Araujo own goal. Ter Stegen has 25 clean sheets this season and needs one more to match the league record of 26, although it will not be easy if Barcelona defend as casually in their

lead in the second half when Martin Zubimendi tackled Frenkie de Jong to spark a counter-attack.

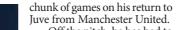
18 for a 38-match season.

Barcelona captain Sergio leaves in the summer.

La Real doubled their

Takefusa Kubo teed up Sorloth, who fired past Ter Stegen, who has now conceded 15 La Liga goals, three fewer than the record lowest tally of

Busquets was given a standing ovation as he was substituted in the final stages, in his penultimate home game before he



Off the pitch, he has had to contend with a multi-million euro blackmail plot involving one of his brothers, Mathias. "The year has been very,

very complicated with the problems outside football and on the pitch," he reflected on Instagram. "Off the pitch it's been real-

ly hard for me. What went on has been tough mentally. I tried to take refuge in what I love, playing football, to escape on the

Giroud hits hat-trick in AC Milan's win

humiliation against Bologna

in the first match of the day.

the lead after nine minutes.

Quagliarella replied with the

182nd Serie A goal of his

career, another veteran,

Frenchman headed Milan

Giroud, took over.

The

Rafael Leao gave Milan

After 40-year-old Fabio

36-year-old

pitch, but that wasn't possible because physically I've had a load of problems

The 30-year-old, who had to sit out France's run to the World Cup final last year, continued: "I just have to be patient. Mentally, I'm a lot better.

"I've got to retain hope," he added.

"Mentally and physically I'm going to give it my all to come back at my best, to help the team win titles, that's the reason I returned here.

minute penalty after Leao

fourth after 63 minutes. Five

minutes later, Giroud won a

wrestling match with Bram

Nuytinck before poking the

bouncing ball home as both

Milan regained fifth place,

men fell to the ground.

one point behind Lazio.

Brahim Diaz added a



### Rybakina sets sights on Roland Garros

#### AP ROME

Elena Rybakina won the Italian Open on Saturday and promptly turned her attention to Roland Garros and the pursuit of a second career Grand Slam title.

Kazakhstan's Rybakina captured her second WTA 1000 title of the season at Foro Italico when Ukrainian opponent Anhelina Kalinina retired with a thigh injury which she had been carrying all week.

Rybakina hugged her friend and rival at the net as the tearful loser explained how the physical problem had

finally caught up with her. World number six Rybakina, the reigning Wimbledon champion, was leading 6-4, 1-0 when Kalinina called it quits shortly after midnight in a final

tigious Indian Wells hard

court tournament in March.

the Australian Open and in

Miami and now she is eyeing

the French Open," she said.

"I have good memories play-

up the French Open.

ing there.

She was also runner-up at

"Hopefully I can go far at

"I'm proud that I can long-delayed by rain. Rybakina, 23, became the maintain this level, it's not easy with all the scheduling, first woman to capture two WTA 1000 titles this season, traveling. "I think we're doing a having already won the pres-

more, with 29.

good job with the team," Rybakina said. "I can see improvements on the court, physically also. I think we're

"Now that I've got more

"It's always important to

Rybakina, who will rise

matches on clay, it's a bit eas-

ier and (gives) a bit more con-

be healthy, be ready physical-

ly, then hopefully I can go far

to four in the world ahead of

Roland Garros, is only the

third woman to have reached

the finals at the Australian

Open, Indian Wells, Miami

and Rome in the same sea-

Seles in 1991 and Maria

The Russian-born Rybakina has now won 28

matches this season -- only

world number two and

Australian Open champion

Aryna Sabalenka has won

Sharapova in 2012.

The others were Monica

fidence definitely.

there

on a right way." But she added: "There is still a lot of room to improve. But for now it's going well, and hopefully I can continue like this till the end of the season.'

## China claim record 13th Sudirman Cup title

#### AP SUZHOU

hina claimed a record 13th Sudirman Cup title on Sunday, defeating South Korea on home soil at the first major sporting event in the country since the lifting of pandemic restrictions.

Cheered on by a raucous crowd brandishing red and white thundersticks and loud horns in the eastern city of Suzhou, China made short work of the Korean side, beating them 3-0.

Chen Yufei defeated world number two An Se Young 21-16, 22-20 in the women's singles to seal victory, prompting the packed stadium to erupt in



cheers and the entire Chinese team to rush onto the court to dance in a circle.

AP MILAN

Serie A

Olivier Giroud struck a hat-trick as AC Milan

crushed relegated Sampdoria

5-1 on Saturday to keep alive

hopes of a top-four finish in

from behind to beat Verona 3-

1, a result that lifted the win-

ners back into a European

berth and also kept alive

Earlier, Atalanta came

The mixed team event is one of badminton's most important tournaments, and the stakes were higher than usual this year because performances will count towards qualification for the 2024 Paris Olympics.

"I am very happy to play at home," men's singles player Shi Yuqi said. "When you can feel that the

audience is cheering you on, your own state will also be mobilised very well."

China had come through a tricky semi-final against Japan on Saturday, with the men's doubles pair of Liu Yuchen and Ou Xuanyi saving four match points before finally prevailing.

"Watching the game yesterday gave me a stomach ache and a little dizziness, so I didn't sleep until after two o'clock," Shi said. South Korea beat Malaysia

3-1 on their way to the final on Saturday. On Sunday, Zheng Siwei

and Huang Yaqiong lost the opening game of the mixed doubles but pulled it back in a tense point-for-point second game to eventually triumph 18-21, 22-20, 21-8.

A jubilant Zheng jumped up and down in excitement, ripped off his shirt and threw it into the crowd. His partner Huang threw her racket to a

was fouled.

Cremonese's slim hopes of back ahead in the 23rd survival despite a 5-1 home minute. He converted a 29th-

was easily outmatched in the men's singles, unable to deal with Shi's powerful smashes and laser focus.

The long rallies between Chen and An drew gasps from the crowd, with the world number two looking increasingly frustrated as the match wore on.

But Chen managed to get the upper hand, ensuring that China defended their title yet again.

delighted spectator. Asked afterwards about

how they were preparing for the Olympics, they said "let's just get the (qualification) points first".

South Korea's Lee Yun Gyu



### Green's 100 not out, Rohit's 56 help Mumbai Indians thrash Sunrisers Hyderabad by 8 wickets

#### PTI MUMBA

ameron Green's magnificent maiden century (100 not out) and Rohit Sharma's half century powered Mumbai Indians to a comprehensive eight-wicket win over Sunrisers Hyderabad in their last league match of the IPL here on Sunday.

Mumbai knocked off the target of 201 with 12 balls and eight wickets to spare to accumulate 16 points from 14 matches. But their fate will be decided after the match in Bengaluru -- which is experiencing rain -- between Royal Challengers Bangalore and Gujarat Titans later in the day.

If the contest between RCB and GT is washed out, Mumbai will make it to the final four, but if the hosts win, they will qualify on the basis of better Net Run Rate. MI currently have NRR of -0.044 as against +0.180 of RCB.

With an inferior NRR, MI had the improbable task of scoring 201 in 11.4 overs or 70 balls if they had to get past RCB on the table.

Green smacked eight fours and eight sixes during his unbeaten 100 which came off just 47 balls. He added 53 runs with Suryakumar Yadav (25 not out) for the unbroken third wicket to take MI over the line.

Bhuvneshwar Kumar drew the first blood when he dismissed Ishan Kishan (14) in the third over. Rohit got a lifeline in the fifth over when Sanvir



Singh dropped a difficult catch at midwicket off Nitish Kumar Reddy

But Green provided the impetus, as his four boundaries and a couple of sixes took MI

to 60/1 after the powerplay. While Green brought up his fifty off only 20 balls, in the ninth over, Rohit was off to a modest start, hitting his first six only on the 22nd ball that he faced.

The MI skipper completed his second fifty of this IPL, off 31 balls, and his second-wicket stand with Green took the total past the 100-run mark. Soon after this, Rohit got another reprieve when Sanvir spilled a regulation catch at cover off Kartik Tyagi.

However, a sensational catch from Reddy had Mayank Dagar celebrating Rohit's wicket wildly in the 14th over. Rohit's 56 came off 37 balls (8x4s, 1x6s), having added 128 off 65 balls with Green.

Earlier, Unheralded Uttarakhand pacer Akash Madhwal nailed his yorkers consistently at the death as Mumbai Índians restricted Sunrisers Hyderabad to 200 for 5 in their final IPL encounter, here on Sunday.

With one eye on Bengaluru weather where RCB is taking on Gujarat Titans, Madhwal's four-wicket haul ensured that SRH ended with at least 15 short of what could be considered a par-score on a flat Wankhede track.

This was after a century

### If we don't go through, we only have ourselves to blame for it, says Rohit

#### PTI MUMBAI

Mumbai Indians skipper Rohit Sharma wouldn't be blaming anyone if Mumbai Indians don't make it to IPL play-offs despite their facile victory over Sunrisers Hyderabad in their final league game here on Sunday. "We came with that mind-

set, we wanted to win and not worry about what happens elsewhere. What you can control, you can control and then hope for the best. I haven't spoken to anyone," Rohit said at the post-match presentation ceremony.

"If we don't go through, we've got ourselves to blame for it. If we go through, I'll give all the credit to the boys. That's how it works. Last year, we did a big favour to RCB, I

opening stand between sea-soned opener Mayank Agarwal (83 off 45 balls) and rookie Vivrant Sharma (69 off 47 balls) threatened to take the game away, in the IPL here on Sunday.

The pair of Agarwal and Vivrant put on the best opening stand for SRH this season, reaching 53/0 after the powerplay without taking any undue risks, and eventually putting on

He, however, did admit their team didn't play good cricket in some crucial moments, including the match against Lucknow Super Giants, when Mohsin Khan defended 11 runs in the final over.

"We did a lot of things right as we went along. We didn't start well and then won three on the trot. The crucial moments in the game that we lost - there were a lot of moments like that." He then cited a couple of

what happened suddenly. But then focused on what has examples. worked for me for the last few

"The game against Punjab here where we needed around 34 runs off 18 balls, we could have probably played well. And the last game against

140 for the seventh century stand of this IPL.

Courtesy Madhwal's 4 for 7, which included two lethal block-hole deliveries to clean up in-form Heinrich Klaasen (18) and Harry Brook (0), SRH managed only 26 in last three overs.

For a bowling unit that has this season and for the first allowed contests to drift away, time as an opener, the lefthere at the Wankhede Stadium handed Vivrant gave a fine on several occasions, MI made example of himself with strokes

en IPL half-century in the 10th over, as SRH cruised in the first half of the contest unscathed and unperturbed by MI's hope we get the result what we are looking for," the MI skip-per said. LSG, we had the game in our hands after the first half of the innings. We can't look too bowlers. much into that. Sometimes it

teammate

just doesn't come along."

Suryakumar Yadav, who has

completed 500 runs for the

season, praised Green for his

don't have anything to see as

far as NRR was concerned. So

wanted to see a special 100.

tail them to 200 or 210, we felt

it was gettable. When I was sit-

ting in the room, I thought

months. Very happy the sea-

son has gone. It would have

been good had we qualified by

regular inroads to keep SRH

improbable one for MI as they

will have to score 201 in just

11.4 overs, or in 70 balls, to overtake Royal Challengers

Playing in his third game

Bangalore's Net Run Rate.

However, the task is an

now.

within reach.

'He deserved the 100. We

"We felt if we could cur-

His

stupendous effort.

Agarwal too ended his drought, hitting a six and a four off Jason Behrendorff in the 13th over to bring up his first fifty of this season, and celebrated with a gesture that batters usually do upon reaching the three-figure mark - taking off the helmet and arms stretched wide.

on both the sides of the wick-

and a six to bring up his maid-

Vivrant struck seven fours

On a benign pitch with extreme hot and humid conditions, there was also not much that the Mumbai bowlers could do, on what also has been batting-friendly surface here.

With no movement or turn off the surface, the MI bowlers had to contend with bowling disciplined line and lengths, and to their credit, they never really allowed the SRH openers to get away. The first breakthrough

came in the 14th over when Madhwal had Vivrat caught at deep mid-wicket, with his 69 off 47 balls (9 fours, 2 sixes) being the highest score since the first IPL for any Indian player in a debut innings.

Madhwal continued to use the short ball well and in the 17th over, he had Agarwal caught behind for 83, which came off 46 balls including eight fours and four sixes.

Needing to hit three sixes

"I was completely relaxed,

win against LSG, it was a Gujarat

and thought we would see what-

ever happens. Yes, the thoughts

of hitting five sixes in a row

(against Guiarat Titans) did

come to my mind. I just missed

one ball (to hit a six) and it

turned out to be a four," he

Titans like situation.

lamented.

## VIRAT'S 101 HELP RCB **POST 197/5 AGAINST GT**

#### PTI BENGALURU

 $V_{\rm ord}^{\rm irat\,Kohli}$  was the lone ranger as his second successive century powered Royal Challengers Bangalore to a challenging 197 for five in their must-win final IPL league game against Gujarat Titans here on Sunday. With the rain gods threatening to spoil RCB's play-off plans during the day, the match that started half an hour late saw Kohli (101 not out off 61 balls) bring back his 2016 avatar. He held all the aces during his knock that had 13 fours and a six.

His innings was priceless in the context that none of the other RCB batters could even ) and just like the good old days, 'H Kohli' set the narrative by playing with line, length and minds of the bowlers. This is his seventh IPL hundred and he has now surpassed Chris Gayle as the batter with highest number of tournament tons. Considering that the Chinnaswamy Stadium is known for batting belters, the final total, though competitive enough, could still be about 10 runs below par. Kohli and skipper Faf Du Plessis (28) got off to a rollicking start, with a flurry of boundaries against Mohammed Shami (1/39 in 4 overs) and the already distraught Yash Dayal in the powerplay. They were dispatched for as many as nine



### Not thinking about Team India selection yet: Rinku

#### PTI KOLKATA

Rinku Singh may have been the solitary talking point for Kolkata Knight Riders in an IPL season gone horribly wrong, but the 25-year-old prefers to stay grounded and not thinking about a Team India push.

Having made headlines hitting fives sixes in a row in their win over Gujarat Titans earlier this season, Rinku emerged as KKR's top-batter and finisher this season with former India coach Ravi Shastri picking him to make a late push for India's World Cup squad.

"Anyone will feel great to have a season like this, but I'm not thinking that far that I will get selected to Indian team," said Rinku in the post-match media interaction after their one-run defeat to Lucknow Super Giants here on Saturday.

The 25-year-old struck a 33ball 67 not out, his fourth fifty this season, and nearly pulled off another thrilling win against

Rinku finished with the top run-getter for KKR with 474 runs at an average of 59.25 and 149-plus strike rate.

From getting used to the chants of 'Rinku, Rinku' in the five sixes, I'm getting a lot of respect. Many people now know me. I'm happy but not over-joyed, afterall we couldn't make packed Eden Gardens' galleries to receiving adulation from all quarters, his life has changed for it," he rued. good in span of just two months. from last three deliveries to

But Rinku prefers to go back to drawing board and follow the same routine. "I will just contin-ue my same routine -- practice and gym -- after returning home. Names will keep on com-ing, I will just do my job," the UP cricketer said.

"Everyone at home is really happy. Last year people came to know about me for my cameos. But after hitting those

boundaries which prompted Hardik Pandya to quickly press his main weapon, Rashid Khan (1/24 in 4 overs), into action to stem the flow of runs.

After conceding 62 runs in six powerplay overs, Rashid and his 'left-arm mirror image' Noor Ahmed (2/39 in 4 overs) put the brakes on the scoring.

Noor dismissed du Plessis while he tried to hit him inside in a freakish manner. The edge hit Wriddhiman Saha's pads and lobbed up for Rahul Tewatia to complete an easy catch.

Glenn Maxwell started off well but Rashid bowled one that was fast and full and just broke back enough to breach the defence of the batter as RCB suddenly found themselves in a rut.

It became worse when Noor dragged Mahipal Lomror with one that turned the other way and Saha completed a leg-side stumping with the finesse that is associated with him for years now

Michael Bracewell (26), however, took some pressure off Kohli at the other end with Mohit Sharma's slower balls not working well on this occasion.

In his first three overs, he was hit for seven fours and it was Shami who got Bracewell before he could inflict more damage and Dayal had something finally going for him when Dinesh Karthik's woeful season got worse.

## Rinku is really hungry for success: Flower

#### PTI 📕 KOLKATA

 $R^{\text{inku Singh is a "good pack-}}_{\text{age' with his ice-cool}}$ demeanour and hunger for success, making him a potential India candidate, feels Lucknow Super Giants coach Andy Flower.

The 25-year-old was the sole bright spot of Kolkata Knight Riders' topsy-turvy sea-son as they bowed out of IPL 2023 with a one-run loss to Lucknow Super Giants here on Saturday.

"Rinku played out of his skin again to get them that close, didn't he? We were really in good situation, but if they had won it from there it would have been genuinely astounding," Flower said in the postmatch media interaction.

The T20 World Cup and Ashes-winning former England coach further said Rinku has got "future".

"He looks like a really physically talented guy. He also looks like he is really hungry for success and humble at the same time and confident of what can he do -- it's really good package.

"There's so much batting talent in the country. He is showing that he can do it under pressure, that's a key aspect of playing international cricket. I think he's got a future," the 55-

year-old added. "He (Rinku) batted beautifully. It was a matter of not making really an obvious error in

those last few overs "But Naveen (ul Haq) and Yash (Thakur) did quite a tough job bowling multiple overs in a row at the death. But they came through in the end. Both have been brilliant this season."

The Zimbabwean was also all praise for Nicholas Pooran and said he made all the differ-

ence with his 30-ball 58 batting at No 7.

### **Australia slight favourites** for WTC final, says lan

#### PTI NEW DELHI

Tan Chappell feels the poten-Lcy of Australia's pace attack in Énglish conditions will give them the edge in next month's World Test Championship final against India, who could be "badly affected" by the absence of injured Jasprit Bumrah and Rishabh Pant.

Shreyas Iyer and K L Rahul are another two Indian players who have been ruled out off the June 7-11 final due to injuries.

Chappell also said injury-prone Hardik Pandya not playing red-ball cricket also harms India. Hardik last played a first class game in 2018.

"The injuries to Jasprit Bumrah and Rishabh Pant badly affect India, as they would be outright favourites with these two playing.

"The somewhat surprising unavailability of allrounder Hardik Pandya also harms India, as he could have provided them with the final piece of the jigsaw puzzle," Chappell wrote in a column for ESPNcricinfo.

Majority of the Indian players go into the final after two months of IPL but Chappell feels that might not negatively impact them after

"As it should be, this is a hard match to predict. That's mainly because of injury concerns and neither team having played a Test since completing a hard-fought series earlier this year.

'To make matters even more difficult, many of the players involved have only competed in the IPL in the lead-up to the one-off Test.

"While this may not seem to be the ideal preparation, it's worth recalling the opinion of



former England batter Ravi Bopara. In 2009, Bopara went from the fledgling IPL into a Test series against West Indies and reckoned he was ideally prepared because T20 got his feet moving and put him in a positive frame of mind," he said referring to Bopara's successive hundreds in the Caribbean.

Chappell also reckons Australia's pace attack is just ahead of India while the Rohit Sharma led side has the upper hand in the spin department.

"If Australia's classy pace trio of Pat Cummins, Mitchell Starc and Josh Hazlewood are available, that makes them slight favourites. They are good bowlers any time, but England in early June should be right up their alley.

"Nevertheless, an Indian pace attack containing Mohammed Shami. Mohammed Siraj and Umesh Yadav is also strong and only just behind the Australian trio in wicket-taking capability.

Mental strength will hold the key in a one-off Test, said the former Australian captain.

"The team that displays the most resilience is likely to win

er. Being able to maintain a decent line and length under attack is now mandatory in the tougher series, and a fully fit Australian attack should benefit if the opposition are overzealous," Chappell said. "Therefore much will

as long as the contest is not

unduly affected by bad weath-

depend on how the batters treat the talented opposing pace attacks. Australia rely heavily on Steve Smith, Marnus Labuschagne and Usman Khawaja's big scoring ability but the enigmatic David Warner shouldn't be overlooked.

"On the Indian side Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma and Cheteshwar Pujara are a handful because they have enjoyed success in Test cricket. Their job will be tough against a strong Australian attack.

"The Australian bowlers also need to pay careful attention to Shubman Gill. He tends to play with no fear and has a stroke-making mentality, which will not change even on this momentous occasion."

Considering the conditions, he said Australia are slight favourites.

Robinson adds to England's injury woes

#### AP LONDON

Ollie Robinson added to England's fast-bowling injury woes ahead of the Ashes and Australia's Marnus Labuschagne cashed in on the Sussex man's absence with a hundred for Glamorgan on Saturday

The 29-year-old Robinson remained off the field with what was later confirmed as an ankle problem when Sussex took the second new ball on the third day of a County Championship match at Hove.

He had bowled an eightover spell in the morning session of the Second Division match -- despite feeling some discomfort the previous evening.

Sussex coach Paul Farbrace said the decision to remove Robinson had been taking jointly with the England management

England face Ireland in a one-off Test at Lord's from June 1-4 before the five-match Ashes series against Australia gets underway later that month.

"Ollie has a sore left ankle and he will be scanned on Monday to see how bad he is," said Farbrace.

The former England assistant coach added: "We got one spell out of him this morning and he tried his hardest. It was a long spell and he got stuck in.

He knew it would be one spell and one spell only and then he was off, that was it for the day.

There was no point in making team.

Robinson, who revealed he had a pain-killing injection in his back before the start of the domestic season, took career-best match figures of 14-117 for Sussex Worcestershire this month.

the Ashes

"It was precautionary.

it worse...It's a joint decision between the Sussex medical team and the England medical

at

He was included in England's 15-strong squad to face Ireland, having previously warned Australia they could expect a "good hiding" during

But express quick Jofra Archer was ruled out of the entire English season earlier

Iames Anderson, the most suc-

seven weeks.

rence of a stress fracture in his

Stokes has said he wants at least eight fit fast bowlers he can rotate during a congested Ashes schedule of five Tests in under

this week following a recurall

cessful fast bowler in Test his-

tory with 685 wickets, is out of action with a minor groin strain England captain Ben

#### right elbow while Olly Stone is sidelined with a hamstring Meanwhile, England great

problem.