

OPINION 6
CANADA MUST REIN
IN EXTREMISTS**WORLD 8**
NEPAL, CHINA SIGN
12 AGREEMENTS**MONEY 10**
SENSEX, NIFTY END 4-DAY
LOSING STREAK

CHANDIGARH, TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 26, 2023; PAGES 12 ₹3

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REAL'S
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11 SPORT

GOLD RUSH FOR INDIA AT ASIAN GAMES

TEAM INDIA HOISTS THE TIRANGA IN CHINA

PTI ■ HANGZHOU

In a stunning display of skill, the Indian women's cricket team secured victory over Sri Lanka, claiming the gold medal in Asian Games 2023 in Hangzhou in China on Monday. In another remarkable feat, India not only set a new world record but also secured the gold in the men's 10 air rifle team event on Day 2 of the Asian Games.

Rookie pacer Titas Sadhu singlehandedly earned a gold medal for the Indian women's cricket team in its maiden appearance as it defeated Sri Lanka by 19 runs in a low-scoring final of the Asian Games here on Monday.

On a pitch difficult for batting, the Indian women's team struggled to 116 for seven but it was just about par score.

However Titas, who is just four days shy of her 19th birthday, bowled a devastating first spell and finished with superb figures of 4-1-6-3 to play a big role in restricting Sri Lanka to 97 for eight in 20 overs.

She had an able ally in leg-spinner Devika Vaidya (4-0-15-1), who kept a tight leash on the islanders.

Left-arm spinner Rajeshwari Gayakwad (3-0-20-2) and off-spinner Deepthi Sharma (4-0-25-1) started off

badly but were on target during the back-end as Indian women always looked in complete control.

This was one gold medal that India were expected to win, but the standard of cricket was pretty poor, and the nature of wicket didn't help matters.

Teenage pace sensation Sadhu on Monday said "staying calm" and "playing according to the plan" devised during mid-innings was key to winning the gold medal in their maiden Asian Games appearance, despite posting a below-par total on the board in the final here on Sunday.

"We all had a clear plan of what we had to do. Obviously, we got a good momentum in the first over itself. We had discussed during the innings break that we will keep calm and stick to what we had decided," said Sadhu, who returned with impressive figures of 3 for 6 from her four overs.

"The way we came back into the match showed exactly that," she added.

The 18-year-old right-arm medium pacer from Bengal was delighted to win the gold for the country in the continental showpiece.

"It was a great opportunity we got this time, and the fact that we were able to grab that



Indian players pose for photos after winning the gold medal in the women's cricket event at the 19th Asian Games in Hangzhou in China on Monday

PTI

opportunity, I'm very glad and grateful," Sadhu said.

In shooting, Indian shooters made a telling statement at

the Asian Games, winning three medals, including a team gold, as the country's marksmen asserted their class by

grabbing five podium finishes in just two days of competition here.

A confident Indian 10m air

rifle team led by teenage world champion Rudranksh Patil gave the country its first gold medal at the continental

Games, securing the top place on the podium with a world record score on Monday.

Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar then earned the country an individual bronze — India's fourth in shooting so far — in the event after a keen duel with compatriot Rudranksh, who finished fourth.

The 25m rapid-fire team, comprising Adarsh Singh, Anish Bhanwala and Vijayveer Sidhu, took the third spot with an aggregate score of 1718 after a tie with Indonesia.

China took the gold with a score of 1765, while South Korea bagged silver, aggregating 1734.

The trio of Rudranksh, Olympian Divyansh Singh Panwar and Aishwary aggregated 1893.7 in the qualification round to beat back the challenge of the shooting powerhouse China and South Korea on way to the 10m air rifle team gold.

In one of the most dominating displays seen by Indian air rifle shooters in multi-discipline events, the 19-year-old Rudranksh shot a superb 632.5, Tomar 631.6 and Panwar 629.6 to aggregate the world record score as South Korea was pushed to second spot (1890.1), while the Chinese team was a distant third with an aggregate score of

1888.2.

Meanwhile, Naorem Roshibina Devi qualified for the semi-finals in the Women's 60 kg Wushu (Sanda) to assure India of another medal in the Asian Games, here on Monday.

She outplayed her opening opponent in the quarterfinal, Aiman Karshyga of Kazakhstan, convincingly through points difference.

Roshibina Devi had won the bronze medal at the last Asian Games in the same category. Notably, she was a gold medalist in the same category at the 2019 South Asian Games.

In the men's section, Surya Bhanu Partap Singh reached quarterfinals after winning his pre-quarters bout against Islombek Khaydarov of Uzbekistan in the 60kg category in Sanda.

His bout lasted three rounds as the Indian prevailed 2-1. Partap, also a bronze medalist from the previous edition of the Asian Games, has won a couple of medals of the same colour in the World Wushu Championships.

He also won the gold medal in the 2016 South Asian Games. In the final men's bout of the day in the 65 kg category, Vikrant Baliyan was knocked out in the pre-quarters by Samuel Marbun of Indonesia by a 1-2 margin.

AIADMK breaks up with NDA

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI

The AIADMK on Monday called off its alliance with the BJP irked over the reported allegations made by the Hindutva party's State chief K Annamalai against former Chief Ministers CN Annadurai and J Jayalalithaa.

"There is no more alliance between the AIADMK and the BJP. We have also come out of the National Democratic Alliance," said party strongman KP Munusamy, who briefed the media after the day-long conclave of the party's State and district leaders held at Chennai.

Munusamy also declared that there would be no more alliance between the AIADMK and the BJP in future.

The entire AIADMK cadre and leadership are upset and shocked over the comments made by Annamalai that Annadurai, former Chief Minister and party icon, had humiliated Hinduism at an

event in 1956.

A prelude to this decision was made by former AIADMK minister D Jayakumar that there was no alliance between his party and the BJP as on date.

"Alliances are made at the time of election. All I can say is that there is no NDA or alliance with the BJP. I don't know what is in store for the party in future," Jayakumar had told reporters last week.

Over the last few months, the ties between the BJP and the AIADMK were getting vitiated over many issues. While leaders of the BJP remained incommunicado about the latest developments, political pundits in Tamil Nadu are of the view that the AIADMK had committed a political harakiri by snapping the ties with the Hindutva party.

"What the AIADMK has done today is the repetition of what the DMK did during 2014 Lok Sabha polls. The DMK had snapped its ties with

the Congress and the result was a disaster for the former. It failed to win even a single seat from the State.

"Jayalalithaa, who led the AIADMK from the front, had projected herself as a Prime Ministerial candidate and bagged 37 of the 39 Lok Sabha seats. Do you think Edappadi Palanisamy, the general secretary of the AIADMK has the charisma of Jayalalithaa? The AIADMK is in for major trouble if it goes solo," said GC Shekhar, veteran commentator.

He also pointed out that if the AIADMK had wanted to come out of the NDA, it should have done in August itself when Annamalai is reported to have made the statement condemning Annadurai.

"If the AIADMK leadership is upset over Annamalai's statement, why did Palanisamy go and meet the Union Home Minister afterwards?," asked Shekhar.

Rangaraj Pande, former editor-in-chief of Thanthi TV,

is of the view that the AIADMK's resentment is only towards the State leadership of the BJP.

"Edappadi Palanisamy has close links with Home Minister Amit Shah and the party's all India chief JP Nadda. Annamalai seems to be the eyesore of the AIADMK.

"Moreover the DMK leadership is ridiculing the AIADMK leaders as slaves and stooges of the BJP. Though it is the end of the road for the BJP-AIADMK alliance, anything can happen after the 2024 polls," said Pande.

The past ties between the AIADMK and the BJP were not at all comfortable. In 1998, the AIADMK brought down the Vajpayee-led NDA Government after a year long political honeymoon.

Though the two parties patched up by 2004, the DMK-led front swept the AIADMK-BJP combination by winning all the 39 seats from the State.

PM Modi's Desert Storm in Rajasthan

PTI ■ JAIPUR

The Ashok Gehlot Government in Rajasthan has wasted five important years of the State's youth, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Monday as he called upon the people to oust the Congress from power.

Addressing a BJP rally here, the prime minister said the Congress deserved zero marks for the government it ran in Rajasthan for the last five years.

He accused the Congress dispensation of patronising the mafia leaking recruitment exam question papers and said when the BJP forms government, strictest action will be taken against the mafia.

The "Parivartan Sankalp Mahasabha" marked the culmination of four 'Parivartan Yatras' that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) took out in the poll-bound state. Assembly elections in Rajasthan are due later this year.

Addressing the well-attended rally, Prime Minister



Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the 'Parivartan Sankalp Mahasabha' at Dadiya village in Jaipur on Monday

PTI

Modi said the Ashok Gehlot government has wasted five important years of Rajasthan's youth. The people of Rajasthan have sounded the bugle for getting rid of the Congress government for its misrule, he said.

He also targeted the Congress over the women's reservation bill.

It was never the Congress' intention to empower women, else it could have passed a

women's reservation bill during its rule, the prime minister said, adding the party now supported the bill under pressure from women.

Modi said the Congress and its 'ghamandiya' partners are staunch opponents of women's reservation. The prime minister has often attacked the opposition INDIA bloc as "ghamandiya" (arrogant).

Earlier, Modi was welcomed by the BJP Mahila Morcha cadre at the venue.

Modi reached the meeting venue in Dadiya village in Vatika on the outskirts of Jaipur from a nearby helipad in an open-top vehicle escorted by activists of the BJP's women wing who raised slogans in his support.

Earlier, kickstarting Madhya Pradesh poll campaign, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said the Congress and its allies in the new 'ghamandiya' alliance "reluctantly" supported the Women's Reservation Bill in Parliament and warned people that if given an opportunity, they will backtrack on the historic legislation.

Addressing a massive gathering of BJP workers, 'Karyakarta Mahakumbh', here, the PM tore into the Congress, equating the national party with "rusted iron" and alleging its functioning has been outsourced to "urban Naxals" and that the organisation is not run by leaders.



Devotees carry an idol of Lord Ganesha 'Bhopal Ke Raja' during a procession for immersion on the occasion of Dol Gyaras festival in Bhopal on Monday

PTI

Home Minister chairs meet on JK ahead of LS elections

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

Before sounding the poll bugle ahead of the urban local bodies and panchayat polls in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Union Home Minister Amit Shah Monday chaired the Core group meeting of J&K BJP leaders to take stock of the party's overall poll preparedness.

"We are ready for elections", the J&K BJP leaders informed the Home Minister during the first round of over 90-minute-long meeting convened at his residence.

However, a section of BJP leaders who attended the meeting also suggested that the ULB/panchayat polls can be deferred and conducted only after the Lok Sabha polls.

The meeting was also attended by BJP president JP Nadda, BJP general secretary incharge of Jammu and Kashmir Tarun Chugh and

co-incharge Ashish Sood. Members of the BJP's J&K Core group headed by J&K unit chief Ravinder Raina, organisational secretary Ashok Koul, both the Members of Parliament from Jammu region Dr Jitendra Singh (MoS PMO) and Jugal Kishore attended the brainstorming session and reviewed the party's poll preparedness.

A senior BJP leader from Jammu who attended the meeting told *The Pioneer* that the Union Home Minister holds quarterly review meetings along with the party's Core group to take stock of the progress of ongoing organisational activities.

Referring to the urban local bodies elections/panchayat polls, the BJP leader said that the first round of the meeting took place in the afternoon while the second round is scheduled to take place in the evening.

The decision to hold the ULB/panchayat polls will be taken later by the concerned election authorities.

"We have apprised the Union Home Minister about the political scenario in Jammu and Kashmir that we are ready for elections".

The Union Home Ministry is expected to review the prevailing security situation separately before taking a final call on holding the polls before the forthcoming Lok Sabha elections. The ULB/panchayat polls are due in Jammu and Kashmir between October and December.

The municipal elections were last held in J&K in September 2018, in four phases and on a party basis. J&K has two municipal corporations, 19 municipal councils, and 57 municipal committees.

The term of Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) will be complete on November

5 and that of Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) on November 14.

The terms of all other municipal bodies, including councils and committees in the UT will end between October and November.

The BJP had won the majority of seats in the Jammu Municipal Corporation while Junaid Mattu, candidate of the Peoples Conference was elected as the Mayor with support from the BJP in the Srinagar Municipal Corporation.

On the other hand, the last panchayat polls were held on a non-party basis during November-December 2018.

Emerging out of the first round of meeting some of the local BJP leaders informed the media persons that the discussion revolved around the party's poll preparedness ahead of the Urban Local Bodies/Panchayat polls.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Rajender Singh S/o Sh. Gopi Ram R/o Village Nahri, Tehsil & Distt. Sonipat has disowned my son Manjeet Singh from all my movable-immovable property as he is out of my control. In future, if anybody deals with him, he/she will do at their own risk.

I, Rano W/o Shripal House 957, Dadu Majra Chandigarh. My son Aman Kumar, daughter-in-law Nisha, their Children Kush and Sirat out of my control. I disown them from my moveable/ immovable properties. Anybody deal with them at their own risk.

I, Nirmala W/o Sh. Azad Singh R/o Village Pinnaa, Teh. & Distt. Sonipat has disowned my son Sunil alias Silu alias Kala from my all movable-immovable property as he is out of my control. In future, if anybody deals with him, he/she will do at their own risk.

I, P Venkataramanaiah s/o P Chinnna Subbarayudu r/o 9-12, G Vaddipalli, G Agraharam, Rajampeta, Gopamampapuram, Cuddapah, Andhra Pradesh declare that in school record of my son, his name is wrongly written as P Charan Teja. His correct name is Pasupuleti Charan Teja. Concerned note.

We Avtar Singh s/o karam Singh and surjeet kaur w/o Avtar Singh r/o village Silthana tehsil mallauda distt panipat declare our son Manjeet Singh and his wife surekha are out of our control, so we disowned them from our all movable and immovable property and relationships.

I, Raj Kumar S/o Chaman Lal R/o House D-1791, First Floor, Ansal, Sushant Nagar, Panipat declare that my son Rohit Sharma and daughter in law Dimple are out of my control. So I disown them from my all movable and immovable properties. Anybody deals with them at his own risk. Me and my family will not be responsible for their any act.

I, Deepti W/O Sh. Mukesh Kumar resident of VPO. Sersa sub Tehsil Rai Distt Sonipat (Haryana) my date of birth 18-04-1981. My name wrongly mentioned in my Aadhar card no. 489989901510 Dipati. my true and correct name is Deepti. Dipati and Deepti is one and same person. I will be known as Deepti all future purposes.

I Aman W/O Gurbaj Singh r/o Kotli Road, Sri Muktsar Sahib, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare that in the School Record of my minor daughter Mehak my name wrongly enter as Amandeep Kaur Instead of my correct name Aman All concerned may kindly note.

We, Jasveer Singh, S/o Ajmeer Singh and Gurnail Kaur, W/o Jasveer Singh, R/o- H.no- 187, Village-Budhanpur Sector-16, Panchkula, declare that our son Jaswant Singh is out of our control, so we disown him from our movable- immovable property. Anybody dealing with him at their own risk.

We, Satpal S/o Mamnu Ram and Santosh Devi W/o Satpal, R/o H.no-869, Raji Colony Sector- 17, Panchkula, declare that our daughter Simran is out of our control, so we disown her from our movable-immovable property. Anybody dealing with her at their own risk.

I, Joginder Singh S/o Harikesh R/o Amritsar (Punjab),Sarsawati khara Tehsil Pehowa Distt Kurukshetra My Brother Parmajeet Is out of my control, I disown them from all my moveable and immoveable properties. If Anybody deals with him at Own risk.

We, Indu Mangla W/o Ravi Kumar / Ravi Kumar Son Satpal R/o 587/16 Model Town Tehsil Pehowa Distt Kurukshetra Our Daughter Mahak Alis Mahak Mangla is out of my control We disown them from all My moveable and immoveable properties. If Anybody deals with him at Own risk.

I, Ram Kumar S/o Kanshi Ram R/o House No 12, Near Nabha House Tehsil Pehowa Distt Kurukshetra My Son Ajay And His Wife Shivani Grand Daughter Sakshi are out of my control I, disown them from all my moveable and immoveable properties. If Anybody deals with him at Own risk.

We Gurnam Singh S/O Bawa Singh And Narinder Kaur W/O Gurnam Singh. R/O Village Jiwan Chak. Tehsil/Distt- Gurdaspur. Our Son Jobanjit Singh Our And Our Family Are Not Saying Out Of Control. So We Disinherit Them From My Moveable And Immovable Property. We Shall Not Be Responsible.

I, Ritu Bala Kalyan, Legally Spouse Of No. 3195904A, Rank: Naik, Name Dinesh Kalyan (Retd), Residing At Vpo Kutail, Teh. Gharaunda, Distt. Karnal (Haryana)-132037, Have Changed My Name From Ritu Bala Kalyan To Reetu Bala Vide Affidavit/ Self Declaration Dated 25 Sept. 2023.

I, Urmila Devi Mother Of No.Jc-543558L Nb/Sub Basant Singh Chufal Resident Of Village- Sini, Post-Sini, Tehsil- Munsiyari, District- Pithoragarh, Distt- Uttarakhand, Pin-262251, Have Changed My Name From Urmila Devi To Udima Devi Vide Affidavit No.In-Pb41580992473963v Dated 19 Sep 2023 Before Notary Public Pathankot

I, Anupam Spouse Of Mr Arun Kumar Tiwari Resident Of Village- Banghushra, Post- Jhali Dham, Tehsil & District Gonda, State- Up, Pin-271204, Have Changed My Name From Anupam To Anupam Tiwari Vide Affidavit In-Pb43786007553285v Dated 25 Sept. 2023 Before Notary Public Pathankot

I, Jasbeer Singh Resident Of Vpo Mustafabad, Tehsil- Jagadhri, District- Yamuna Nagar State- Haryana, Pin-133103, Have Changed My Son Harwin Singh Dob From 05 Sep 2010 To 05 Sep 2009 Vide Affidavit No.In-Pb41966389256665v Dated 20 Sep 2023 Before Notary Public Pathankot

I, Shubhangi Spouse Of No.2798966M Hav Jagtap Nandu Babrughan Resident Of Village- Samkundi, Post- Samkundi, Tehsil- Washi, District- Osmanabad, State- Maharashtra, Pin-413503, Have Changed My Name From Shubhangi To Shubhangi Nandu Jagtap Vide Affidavit No.In-Pb43110670559052v Dated 22 Sep 2023 Before Notary Public Pathankot.

We, Roop Raj S/O Late Sh. Chote Lal & Mrs. Sarojini Devi, W/O Shri Roop Raj, R/O H.No- 308-B, Village Sakeldi, Tehsil & Distt Panchkula, Haryana- 134119, Declare That Our Son Pankaj & His Wife Sapna Are Totally Out Of Our Control. Today We Disown Both Of Them From All Our Movable And Immovable Properties. In Future, If Our Son And His Wife Make Any Transaction With Anyone, Then We Will Not Be Responsible For Anything. They Themselves Shall Be Responsible For Their Legal And Illegal Dealing.

It is for general information that I, Sanjeev Kumar S/o Chiman Lal, Resident of Street No. 2, Subhash Nagar Giddarbhaba, Sri Muktsar Sahib, Punjab-152101, declare that name of mine and my wife has been wrongly written as Sanjeev Goyal and Meena in my minor son Ishant Goyal aged 17 years, cbse 10th and 10th class certificate. The actual name of mine and my wife are Sanjeev Kumar and Meena Rani Respectively, which may amended accordingly. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

I Baldev Singh S/o Jasvir Singh R/o Vill Salempur Sekhan Teh Rajpura Distt Patiala that in my School certificate my DOB Wrongly entered 2077/1989 but my correct DOB is 52/1992.

I, Harjit Singh S/o Swaran Singh R/o Sanher Teh-Zira (Ferozepur) Pb, India, declare that in my daughter Navneet Kaur matriculation certificate my name wrongly entered Harjeet Singh. But my correct name is Harjit Singh. so amended my name from Harjeet Singh to Harjit Singh in my daughter matriculation certificate.

I hitherto known as Charanjit Singh Sandhu Son of Atma Singh R/o #233, Sandhu Patti, Rukhala, Tehsil Gidderbaha Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib Punjab Pin Code- 152031, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Charanjit Singh. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

I Raghubir Singh, S/o Sh. Luxman Dass, R/o village Andheri, Tehsil Naraingarh, District Ambala, declare that in my passport number J6607685, my wife's name has been written by mistake as Pinki Devi whereas her real name is Pinki.

I, Gayatri legally wedded wife of No. 15185765X, Rank-NK, Name:- Prempal C/o 56 APO, resident of Village Malah, Po Bharatpur, Tehsil & District Bharatpur, PIN-321001, State Rajasthan, have changed my name from Gayatri Devi to Gayatri vide affidavit attested by Notary Public, Jalandhar on dated 25/09/2023.

I, No. 15185765X, Rank-NK, Name:- Prempal Unit 176 MED REGT. C/o 56 APO, resident of Village MALAH, Po Bharatpur, Tehsil & District Bharatpur, PIN-321001, State Rajasthan, have changed name of my son from Yesh to Yash vide affidavit attested by Notary Public, Jalandhar on dated 25/09/2023.

2706250W NK Rakesh Kumar 8 Grenadiers R/O Sankhara, Teh. Chhachhrauli, Distt Yamunaganar State That In My Document My Parent Name Is Written Salindro Devi & Baljeet Singh Which Is Incorrect. While My Parent Name Is Surender Kaur & Baljeet Singh Which Is Correct.

I Gurmeet Kaur W/O Harcharan Singh R/O Village Kheda Brahmanan, Teh. Bilaspur, Distt Yamunanagar My Husband No.14906578L Hav. Harcharan Singh's Army Record Spelled My Name As Gurmit Kaur And DOB As 02.07.1966. While My Name Spelling Gurmeet Kaur And DOB Is 07.10.1964 Is Correct. Pay Attention To.

हम बदलेद सिंह पुत्र राम सचच व बदलदिर कोर नबी बदलेद सिंह निवासी स.न.न. 271-72 कश्मीर मोहला, जिला हरद्वार, उत्तरांचल प्रदेश के निवासी पुत्र गुरदीप सिंह सखी प्रताप कहरौली से बाहर है। हम इसे अपनी सामं वत-अवत संपत्ति से बदलदिर करते हैं। इसके किसी प्रकार के लेन देन व कानूनी गैर कानूनी कार्य के लिए हम व हमारा परिवार जिम्मेवार नहीं होगा।

CHANGE OF NAME

I Guljar Singh S/O Mahinder Singh R/O Teja, Patiala - 147111 (Punjab) Have Changed My Name From Gulzar Singh To Guljar Singh.

I Arti Chauhan W/O Parveen Kumar R/O House No- 671, New Shastri Nagar, Teh/Distt-Pathankot Pin -145001 Declair That in My Daughter Angel Birth Certificate & School Record My Name Written As Arti Please Correct it Arti Chauhan, Arti And Arti Chauhan One And Same Person/Lady.

I, Jaspreet Singh S/O Malkiat Singh R/O Village & PO Meghawal Ganjian Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab declare that my given name Jaspreet and my Surname Singh.

I, Deepak Kumar s/o Sewa Singh VPO: Rupawal Tehsil: Dasuya, Distt.: Hoshiarpur- 144207, have changed my name to Harpreet Singh.

I, Trishna Devi W/o Pawan Kumar R/o #66, Uppar Mohalla, Tehsil-Kalka, Distt-Panchkula (Haryana) declare that Pawan Kumar and Pradeep Kumar both are my husband name.

I, Bharpai W/o Balbir Singh R/o Badesara Tehsil and Distt. Bhiwani declare that Shanti and Bharpai both are my name, one and the same lady. In future I shall be known as Bharpai.

I, Raj Kumar D/o Late Srinath Verma # 2037, Sector-45, Burali, Chandigarh have changed my name to Raj Kumari Verma.

I, Seema Sharma W/o Rajbir Singh #1595, Phase-2, Ramdarbar, Chandigarh have changed my name to Kirna Devi.

I, Surinder Paul S/o Dhani Ram R/o VPO Kotla Distt. Jalandhar Punjab have changed my name from Surinder Paul to Surinder Pal. Concerned note.

I Renuka Vinayak D/o Kailash Vinayak Now W/o Karan Bhalla Changing my name and address after Marriage from Renuka Vinayak to Renuka Bhalla W/o Karan Bhalla R/o House No 5Aastha Enclave 1 Kharar Punjab.

I, Jashanjit Kaur Boparai D/O S. Ranjit Singh Rai R/O H.No. 2047, Phase 10, Sas Nagar (Mohali) Punjab Have Changed My Minor Daughter's Name From Myra Rai Sidhu To Myra Rai.

I Dilbagh Singh S/o Om Parkash, House 816, Phase-I, Ramdarbar Chandigarh have changed my name from Dilbagh Singh to Dilbag Singh.

I, Sarvesh Kumar S/o Yad Ram R/o Village Prhalad Pur Post Office Darauli, Teh. Chandauli, District Sambhal (Uttar Pradesh) Now R/o House No. 2429, Mohalla Chhotla Khara, Rupnagar have changed my name from Sarvesh Kumar to Manshing.

I Alluddin S/o Abdul Razak R/o #232, Saini Vihar, Phase 1, Baltana Zirakpur SAS Nagar Punjab have changed my name from Alluddin to Mohmaed Allauddin.

I, Narmada Ben is Legally Wed Wife (Spouse)Of No.6498146A, Rank L/NK Name Damor Dinesh Galabhai, Unit 5471, ASC C/o 56 APO, Declare That In My Husband Service Record My Name & DOB Wrongly Entered As Narmada Ben & DOB As 12-03-1990, Instead of Damor Narmadaben & DOB 05-05-1988, Correct it.

I, B.L. Gupta S/O Bishambhar Dayal Gupta # 1091, Sector 29-B, Chandigarh have changed my name to Banwari Lal Gupta.

I, Komal Goswami W/O Pankaj Kumar Goswami R/O 447/1 Sector 45 A Chandigarh Have Changed My Name To Komal Prabhakar.

I Yogita Kochhar w/o Narinder Kochhar #201, Vivek Vihar, Ambala city, Haryana declared that I have changed my name from Yogita to Yogita Kochhar. Please Note.

I, Ram Sawroop s/o Vishna Ram r/o village Kharian, Distt. Sirsa have changed my name from Ram Sawrup to Ram Sawroop.

I, Bharthi Singh S/o Prem Singh and father of Sh. Jagat Singh R/o Village Jeetpura, Tehsil Hansi, District: Hisar Haryana, have Changed my name from Bharthari Singh to Bharthi Singh for all future in purposes.

I Dharam Singh S/o Ram Singh R/o Vill. Damog Bhoj Koti, Sub-Tehsil Morri, Distt. Panchkula. I have changed my minor son's name from D.K. Thakur to Deepak Kumar Thakur.

I, Sachin S/o Balkar Singh R/o Rasidan, Tehsil-Narwana, Distt.Jind (Haryana) want to changed my father name from Balkar to Balkar Singh in my school (10th) DMC record.

I Raj Kumar S/o Subhash Kalra R/O Hno. 156, Kumhar Mandi , Kacha Bazar Ambala Cantt I Have Changed My Name Raj Kumar

I Saroj Rani W/o Satish Garg R/O H No 228 Ward No 18 Sadhu Mandi Thanesar Kurukshetra have changed my name to Saroj Garg.

I, Hitherto Known As Nareesh Kumar Son Of Tulsi Ram Residing At 116a, Near Trikoni Park, Basant Avenue, District Amritsar-143001 Punjab Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Nareesh Kumar Rai.

I, Hitherto Known As Sandeep Singh Randhawa Son Of Balbir Singh Randhawa Residing At H.No.40, Mall Road, District Amritsar-143001 Punjab Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Sandeep Randhawa

I, Hitherto Known As Inayat Daughter Of Sandeep Randhawa Residing At H.No.40, Mall Road, District Amritsar-143001 Punjab Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Inayat Kaur Randhawa

I Hitherto Known As Gurwinder Kaur Gill W/O Jaspreet Singh Gill Residing At Vill. Danewala, Moga-142043 Punjab Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Gurwinder Kaur.

I Hitherto Known As Nonika Chawla Wife Of Joginder Singh Residing At H.No.A-12, Ranjit Avenue, Amritsar-143001 Punjab Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Nonika Arora.

I Hitherto Known As Preet Devinder Kaur Othee Wife Of Avtar Singh Othee Residing At 409, Gurga Ram Dass Urban Estate, Ajnala Road, Amritsar-143008 Punjab Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Preet Devinder Kaur.

I Hitherto Known As Harpreet Singh Kang Son Of Kashmir Singh Residing At Vpo Kang Tehsil Khadoor Sahib, Tarn Taran-143401 Punjab Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Harpreet Singh.

I, Kuldip Singh S/O Gajjan Singh R/O Village Sarja Mirja Channa Have Changed My Name From Kuldip Singh To Kuldeep Singh

I, Harpreet Singh S/O Manjit Singh Khurana R/O 122, Opp Springdale School Lane, Near Apna Tent House, Chand Avenue, Phase-2 Fatehgarh Churian Road, Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Harpreet Singh To Harpreet Singh Khurana

I, Rishu Madan Alias Rita W/O Rajesh Madan R/O H.No.536, Garden Enclave Block Verka Khankot Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Rishu Madan Alias Rita To Rishu Madan

I, Hira Lal Alias Kulwant Rai S/O Kailash Chand R/O H.No.D6/676, Mane Bazar Kot Khalsa Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Hira Lal Alias Kulwant Rai To Hira Lal

I, Dalbir Singh S/O Dilbag Singh R/O Vpo Bhaini Mian Khan District Gurdaspur Have Changed My Name From Dalbir Singh To Dalvir Singh

I, Sumit Kumar S/o Shamsher Singh R/o Village Buchi, Tehsil Pundri, Distt. Kaithal (Haryana) declares that I have changed my minor daughter's name from Chetna to Chetna Kalyania. In future, she will be known by the name of Chetna Kalyania. All concerned please note.

I, Dipti Khera S/o Sham Dal Khera R/o Mandi Ladhuka Teh & Distt. Fazilka, has changed my son's name Vipanshu Khera to Abeer Khera. Concerned to be Note.

I, Rajender Prasad S/o Harsh Mani Bhatt R/O # 3305, Sector 38-D, Chandigarh. declare that I have changed my name from Rajender Prasad to Rajendra Prasad.

I, Paramjioti Chandi R/o # 2578 Sector 19-C, Chandigarh, have changed my name to Paramjioti Thind.

I, Amar Jeet S/o Sarwan Singh R/o # 400-B Sector 43-A, Chandigarh have changed my name to Amaarjeet Singh.

I, Kulvinder Singh S/o Sarwan Singh R/o Azad Nagar Tohana (Fatehabad) have change my name. That Kulvinder is my name and Singh is my Surname.

I, Harish Kumar S/o Girwar Singh R/o Railway Road, Tohana (Fatehabad) have change my name to Harish Kumar Yadav.

I, Maninder Kumar S/o Ascharaj Kumar R/o Tehsil Road, Tohana (Fatehabad), have changed minor daughter name from Kayra to Kayra Sama.

I, Rakesh Kumar S/o Ram Mehar Singh R/o Vikas Nagar, Sonipat Distt Sonipat, have change my name Rakesh Kumar to Rakesh.

I, Sikander S/o Satbir, R/o Village Pindara, Tehsil & Distt.Jind, Haryana, have changed my name from Sikander to Gaurav.

I Simerjit Kaur W/o Gurmukh Singh resident of Ward No. 9, Fatehgarh Churian, The. Batala, Distt. Gurdaspur have changed my name from Simerjit Kaur to Simarjeet Kaur. Concerned please note.

I, Parsi Panwar W/o Army No 14937644K NK Narendra Singh P/O Unit 21 Mech Inf "A" Coy 3PI C/o 56 APO- 911721 Have Changed my name from Parsi Panwar to Parsi Devi vide affidavit dated 26.09.2023 before Session Court, Hisar.

I, Army No 14937644K NK Narendra Singh P/O Unit 21 Mech Inf "A" Coy 3PI C/o 56 APO- 911721 have changed my daughter Kalpana Kumar's date of birth from 21.06.2013 to 31.03.2014 and my son Pankaj Singh's date of birth from 22.11.2010 to 30.03.2011 vide affidavit dated 26.09.2023 before Session Court, Hisar.

I, Raj Kumar Chauhan Son Tarsem Lal, R/O #B1/1466, Mittal Street, Ward No. 3, Rajpura, Patiala Declare That Raj Kumar Chauhan And Raj Kumar Is One And Same Person I.E. My Names. I Known With Both Names.

I Abhinav S/O Ramesh Kumar R/O H.No- 1222, Sector- 21 Panchkula, Have Changed My Name From Abhinav To Abhinav Gupta.

I, Tanisha D/o Gurmali Singh, Anderli Basti, V.P.O. Dosanjh Kalan, Tehsil Phillaur, Distt. Jalandhar, Have Changed my name from Tanisha to Tanisha Kaur. All Concerned Please Note.

I, Nancy D/o Gurmali Singh, Anderli Basti, V.P.O. Dosanjh Kalan, Tehsil Phillaur, Distt. Jalandhar, Have Changed my name from Nancy to Nancy Kaur. All Concerned Please Note.

I, Karan Bhalla S/O Rajeev Kumar R/O H.No.15, Gate No.2, Satguru Enclave, Mann Farm, Batala, Distt. Gurdaspur, Punjab changed my name to Karan Kumar Bhalla.

I, Jaipreet Kaur W/o Jaswinder R/o Nehru Gate, Valmiki Mohalla Near City Police Station, Batala, Distt. Gurdaspur have changed my name Jaipreet Kaur Manpotra to Jaipreet Kaur.

I, Amardeep Kaur W/o Balraj Singh Sidhu R/O H.No. 54, Sec 48-C, HIG, SAS Nagar (Mohali) have changed my name Amardeep Kaur to Amardeep Kaur Sidhu. Concerned note.

I Mahinder Sharma S/o Prem Nath, R/o Ward No -11, Chandan Lok Amloh (Amloh) Fatehgarh Sahib declair that both names Mahinder Sharma and Mahinder Kumar of mine and of one same person .

I, Madan Lal S/o Satpal R/O H. No. 309, Mohalla Sui Garan, Near Panchaiti Gurudwara, Patiala (Punjab) declare that in the school record of my daughter, her name mentioned Radhey whereas her correct name is Radhika.

I, No 14337937X Ex Nk Kirpal Singh S/O Makhthool Singh presently residing at Village Talwandi Mange Khan PO Sukhe Wala Tehsil Zira Distt Ferozepur Punjab. I want to change the name of my wife from Baint Kaur to Beant Kaur and date of birth From 30 Apr 69 to 01 Jan 1966.

I, Veena K, Spouse of No. JC 385335L, Sub Maj Shaji Manikoth, Unit of 12 Rapid Sig Regt. Resided in Gangothri Palloor Post Mahe Pudukcherry State 673310 Pin Have changed my name from Veena Shaji to Veena K Vide Affidavit Dated 25 September 2023 before at Notary Ferozepur.

I, Rikka Sai Bhavani wife of No. JC - 805318H, SUB, Rikka Rama Gopal Unit of H.O. 29 Inf Bde C/O 56 APO, Ferozepur Cantt., Resident at H NO.12-19-14 Yalakummaripalem Road, Bheemunipatnam, Visaakkapatnam, (AP) 531163 have changed my name From Koli Sai Bhavani to Rikka Sai Bhavani Vide Affidavit dated 25 September 2023 before at Notary Ferozepur.

I, Raosaheb Father of No. 14684265A Rank NK Name Andhale Gyandev Raosaheb R/o Vill. Helamb, Teh. Parli Vajinath, Distt. Beed, MH-431515 have changed my name and date of birth in my son army record from Raosaheb (DOB 01-07-1966) to Andhale Raosaheb Sopan (DOB 20-05-1968) vide affidavit dated 25-09-2023 before Session Court Hisar.

I, No. 15672279K Rank HAV Name B Senthilkumar R/O VPO Gundur, Teh. Thiruverumbur, Distt. Tiruchirappalli, T.N.-620007 have changed the name of my son in my army record from S Darshan to Darshan S vide affidavit dated 25-09-2023 before Session Court Hisar.

I, S Muthulakshmi Wife of No. 15672279K Rank HAV Name B Senthilkumar R/O VPO Gundur, Teh. Thiruverumbur, Distt. Tiruchirappalli, T.N.-620007 have changed my name and date of birth in my husband army record from S Muthulakshmi (DOB 16-08-1985) to Muthulakshmi Senthilkumar (DOB 16-07-1985) vide affidavit dated 25-09-2023 before Session Court Hisar.

I No 6494772 M Rank Hav. Ash Name Ranjeet Kumar Singh S/O Sh. Shiv Chander Singh R/O Village Nayyagav Bariyarpur Post Office Tayabpur The Sil Mahnar Police Station Deshri Distt. Vaishali Stat Bihar. I Have Changed Date Of Birth My Son Rama Shankar Singh From 28/11/2006 To 28/11/2005. In My Army Service Records.

I, Ashek Kumar S/o Harkesh R/O VPO Bodhni, Tehsil Pehowa, District Kurukshetra declared that Harkesh and Ramesh Kumar both are the names of a single and same person

I, Pinki Rani W/o Sumit Kochar R/O House No 948,Vikas Nagar, Ismailabad, kurukshetra Have Changed My Name Pinki Kochar.

I, Balbir Singh S/o Sarwan Singh C/o 56 APO Resident of VPO Jhinri Lower, tehsil Anandpur Sahib, District Rupnagar declare that in my Army Records my daughter's name is written Tamanna, my daughter's correct name is Tamana Badhan.

I, hitherto known as Santosh Kumari D/o Buta Ram W/o Balwinder Singh R/o H.no.115, Army Enclave Dhin, Jalandhar-144005, Punjab have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Manjit Kaur. I have changed only my name not my religion.

I, Varinder S/O Paramjit Singh R/O H.No.BX-952/2, Lamba Pind Gate, Po.Chogitti, Jalandhar, Punjab have changed my name from Varinder to Varinder Singh.

I, hitherto known as Rajesh Kumar S/o Om Lal R/o Vill. Bilga, Patti Bhoja, Tehsil Phillaur, Distt. Jalandhar, Punjab-144036 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Kumar Rajesh.

I, Himanshi D/o Sukhwinder Pal R/O H.No. D-174, New Dashmesh Nagar, Jalandhar have changed my name from Himanshi to Himanshi Arora.

I, Simranjit Kaur W/o Tarlochan Singh R/o Talwandi Mallian, Moga, Punjab-142041 have changed spellings of my name from Simranjit Kaur to Simranjeet Kaur.

I, hitherto known as Sahil S/O Mangat Ram R/O H.No. 74, Govt. Labour Colony Phagwara, Distt. Kapurthala, Punjab-144401, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Sahil Sadal.

I Parminder Kaur Kalsi W/O Sukhwinder Singh Kalsi R/O Village Raowali Post Office Nurpur Tanda Road District Jalandhar Punjab, Changed My Name Parminder Kaur To Parminder Kaur Kalsi After Marriage.

I Surinderjit Kaur W/O Zorawar Singh R/O Vpo. Nanda Chaur District Hoshiarpur Punjab Have Changed My Name Surinder Jit Kaur To Surinderjit Kaur.

I Prince Kapila S/O Joginder Pal R/O House No.22 Vpo. Gardhivala District Hoshiarpur Punjab Have Changed My Name To Kapila Prince.

I Gurpreet Singh S/O Gurdev Singh R/O Village Bassi Marof Hussainpur Bagpur District Hoshiarpur Punjab Have Changed My Name To Gurpreet Bhardwaj.

I Sukh Dev Raj S/O Sardari Lal R/O Village Thana Post Office Manhota Tehsil Dasuya District Hoshiarpur Punjab Have Changed My Name To Sukhdev Raj.

I Satnam S/O Charan Dass R/O Village Pandori Bhawan Post Office Nainowal Jattani Tehsil And District Hoshiarpur Punjab Have Changed My Name From Satnam To Satnam Mahey.

I Mandeep Singh S/O Joga Singh R/O Village Mehampur P.O. P.R.T.C. Jahan Khelan District Hoshiarpur Punjab Have Changed My Name Mandeep Singh Alias Manpreet Singh Parmar To Mandeep Singh.

I, Ravi S/O Vijay Gupta R/O Bank Colony Batala, Distt. Gurdaspur Have Changed My Name To Ravi Mahajan.

I Ramanpreet Kaur W/O Inderbir Singh Gill R/O Jagdev Khurd, Ajnala, Amritsar Have Changed My Name To Ramanpreet Kaur Gill. All Concerned Note.

I Inderbir Singh S/O Buta Singh R/O Jagdev Khurd, Ajnala, Amritsar Have Changed My Name To Inderbir Singh Gill All. Concerned Note.

I Parmod S/O Jhalak Dev Yadav R/O Village Atholi, Tehsil Phagwara, District Kapurthala Have Changed My Name From Parmod To Parmod Kumar.

I Savitari Devi Alias Lata Devi W/O Bharat Kumar R/O Ward No.6, Dosanj Road, Surat Singh Nagar, Moga Am Known By Above Both Names.

I Harmandeep Singh Jassal S/O Balwant Singh R/O Kokri Kalan Distt. Moga Have Changed My Name To Harmandeep Singh.

I Rashvinder Singh S/O Jagdev Singh R/O Patti Dhillon, Buttar, District Moga Have Changed My Name To Rashwinder Singh Dhillon.

I Devinder Singh Sachdeva S/O Kartar Singh R/O Vpo. Moranwal Distt. Faridkot Punjab Have Changed My Name To Devinder Singh.

Ban on serving 'hookah' to customers in commercial establishments in Haryana: CM

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Monday declared a comprehensive ban on serving 'hookah' to customers in hotels, restaurants, bars, and commercial establishments across the state. However, this prohibition will not apply to traditional hookahs used in rural areas.

The Chief Minister made these and other announcements while addressing the closing ceremony of the state-level 'Cyclothon' – cycle rally – as part of the drug de-addiction campaign in Karnal. He expressed his gratitude to the police personnel who tirelessly pedaled for 25 days during the Cyclothon. In recognition of their dedication, he announced that all 250 participating personnel would receive a Class-1 commendation certificate from the DGP Haryana. Additionally, he declared a five-day holiday for these dedicated police personnel as a token of appreciation.

In a bid to promote cycling and encourage eco-friendly



transportation, Khattar also announced that Haryana Shahri Vikas Pradhikaran and any licensed builder providing housing facilities to individuals will gift a bicycle to the property owner along with the property registry. In cases where the beneficiary already possesses a bicycle, HSPV or the builder will present Rs 3000 in lieu of the cycle. He

recounted that he had flagged off Cyclothon against drug abuse on September 1 and the cycle rally concluded where it commenced. He also expressed his gratitude to the participating youth and commended their efforts to combat drug addiction. Their dedication sets an inspiring example for the younger generation.

He said that Cyclothon,

which covered approximately 2000 kilometers during its journey, served as a powerful platform to raise awareness about the detrimental effects of drug addiction. He emphasized that while the Cyclothon may have concluded, the battle against drug addiction is far from over, and public awareness efforts must continue for at least a year to completely eradicate this menace.

He also reiterated the importance of collective action, stressing that the entire society needs to unite in the fight against drug addiction. The government remains committed to addressing this issue comprehensively, with a focus on prevention, rehabilitation, and strict enforcement measures.

The CM also highlighted the proactive measures taken by Haryana Police to combat illegal drug trafficking and sales, including the development of a mobile app called 'Prayas' to collect statewide data on drug victims and drug smugglers. In addition, a software named 'HAWK' has been introduced to create a central-

ized state database for monitoring criminal activities related to drug trade.

Khattar highlighted the State Action Plan launched on May 5, which consists of three components: a public awareness campaign, de-addiction and rehabilitation efforts, and strict actions against drug traffickers.

The state is also focused on channeling youth energy into constructive pursuits, with a particular emphasis on sports culture to promote mental and physical well-being, he added. He said that the state government has taken several measures to combat drug addiction, including the establishment of an Inter-State Drug Secretariat, the opening of drug de-addiction centers and the reinforcement of treatment and counseling facilities.

The Chief Minister appealed to citizens to raise awareness about the harmful effects of drug addiction among addicts and to inform the police about sale, purchase and consumption of drugs by dialing 9050891508, assuring them of confidentiality.

Himachal and Punjab CMs visit Attari-Wagah Border



PNS ■ AMRITSAR

Himachal Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu along with his Punjab counterpart Bhagwant Mann witnessed the Spectacular 'Beating the Retreat Ceremony' at the Attari-Wagah Border between Pakistan and India, in Amritsar.

The lowering of the flags ceremony at the Attari-Wagah border is a daily practice that the security forces of India (Border Security Force, BSF) and Pakistan (Pakistan Rangers) have jointly followed since 1959. Sukhu also distributed sweets to the Jawans who participated in the ceremony between the thunderous applause by the people gathered on the occasion to witness the same. He also encouraged the Jawans for their commitment and valour and for the impressive show. He said that the Indian Army and paramilitary forces have kept the integrity and sovereignty of the country intact by sacrificing their lives when the Nation needed them the most to safeguard the country. He said that we all are proud of our soldiers.

Dr. Atul Fulzale, IG Jalandhar range BSF and a Himachal IPS cadre officer, welcomed the Chief Minister on the occasion and presented him a sapling.

Besides Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann, Lieutenant Governor Delhi, Vinai Kumar Saxena, Chief Secretary Himachal Pradesh, Prabodh Saxena, Principal Secretary to Chief Minister, Bharat Khera and senior officers of Punjab, Haryana and Jammu and Kashmir were also present on the occasion.

sets her apart. She leads the ISLEVL (Indian Sign Language Enabled Virtual Laboratory) project, funded by CSIR under the Jigyasa program. "The ISLEVL platform is a collaborative effort that brings together scientists, interpreters, content creators, and multimedia editors.

It is accessible online and via the Google Play Store, ensuring that a wide audience can benefit from its resources. This initiative is part of our larger vision to break down barriers and make STEM edu-

cation truly inclusive. Establishing the country's first ISL-enabled astronomy lab in Karnal pioneering efforts that is revolutionizing STEM education for the deaf is a step towards our commitment," said Dr Rao. "Dr Rao's remarkable journey reminds us that true progress in science is not just about discoveries in the laboratory but ensuring that the wonders of science are accessible to all. NCPEDP-Mphasis award stands as a testament to her unwavering commitment to breaking down barriers.

Ex-Finance Minister Manpreet Badal Booked in Corruption Case

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

In a significant turn of events, the Punjab Vigilance Bureau on Monday registered a criminal and corruption case against a senior BJP leader and the former Finance Minister Manpreet Singh Badal, along with four others. The development marks the sixth instance of a Minister from the previous Congress Government being booked in a corruption case.

The Vigilance Bureau has arrested three individuals in connection with the case — including Rajiv Kumar from New Shakti Nagar, Bathinda; Amandeep Singh from Lal Singh Basti, Bathinda; and Vikas Arora from Tagore Nagar, Bathinda.

The case was initiated based on a complaint filed by Manpreet's political rival and Bathinda Urban's former MLA Saroop Chand Singla against him and others.

The investigation into the allegations revealed that during his tenure as Finance Minister from 2018 to 2021, Manpreet allegedly used his political influence to purchase two plots, measuring 1560 square yards, in Model Town Phase-1, Bathinda, near the TV tower. This purported action led to a significant financial loss to the state exchequer, amounting to lakhs of rupees.

The investigation further uncovered that the former Finance Minister, in collusion with the officials and employees of the Bathinda Development Authority

(BDA), manipulated the bidding process for plots in 2021.

Fake maps were uploaded to deter public participation in the bidding process, and the plot numbers 725-C (560 square yards) and 726 (1000 square yards) were incorrectly classified as commercial instead of residential. Additionally, plot numbers were omitted from the online e-auction portal map, and digital signatures of Balwinder Kaur, Administrative Officer of BDA Bathinda, were allegedly used for plot auctions without her consent.

During the investigation, it was also discovered that three bidders — Rajive Kumar, Vikas Arora, and Amandeep Singh — had their bids placed by a single person, that is advocate Sanjiv Kumar from the same IP address and location. Furthermore, both plots were purchased by the bidders in 2021 at a lower rate, which had been fixed during an auction in 2018, resulting in a financial loss of approximately Rs 65 lakh to the government.

Manpreet is alleged to have purchased both plots through agreements with the successful bidders, who were known to him before receiving allotment letters from BDA Bathinda. The former Finance Minister is also accused of transferring 25 percent of the earnest money in advance to the successful allottees, raising suspicions of collusion. The Vigilance Bureau is actively pursuing the arrest of other accused individuals, and their involvement will be thor-

oughly investigated as the case progresses.

‘Those boasting about honesty are now trying to save their skin,’ says CM

Taking a dig at Manpreet Badal, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann on Monday said that those who had previously boasted about their honesty were now seeking legal protection as they faced allegations of corruption. Emphasizing the distinction between merely speaking the truth and standing by it, Mann, in an apparent attack on Manpreet Badal, criticized leaders who had previously declared that they would accept any action taken against them but were now resorting to legal defenses to evade accountability. "These individuals had deceived the public with their rhetoric while allegedly looting the state's wealth," said Mann, vowing that they would be held accountable for their actions, and every embezzled rupee from the state's resources would be recovered. Mann urged Manpreet to face the legal consequences of his alleged actions rather than seeking refuge in legal protection. At the same time, he accused the former Finance Minister of being complicit in actions that had harmed the state, leaving its coffers empty for the welfare of its citizens. Mann vowed to ensure justice was served and the people's stolen resources were reclaimed.

Mounting Debt: Punjab FM Exposes Opposition's "False" Debt Propaganda

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab Finance Minister Harpal Singh Cheema on Monday delivered a strong response to the "false propaganda" propagated by the opposition leaders regarding the debt incurred by the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP)-led Punjab Government.

Cheema, addressing a press conference, laid out a detailed account of the state's financial status, debunking the allegations while also appealing to Punjab Governor Banwarilal Purohit for assistance in retrieving Rs 8,145 crore in dues owed by the Union Government.

The issue of state's mount-

ing debt came into focus after Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann had written a letter to Governor Banwarilal Purohit, urging him to take up the matter of pending Rural Development Fund with the Prime Minister and

President. In response, Governor Purohit highlighted the state's mounting debt while requesting Chief Minister Mann to provide details of its utilization.

Shedding light on the staggering amount of Rs 27,000 crore paid as interest on loans taken by previous administrations, including those led by the SAD-BJP and Congress, Cheema underscored that the current Mann Government

had successfully negotiated reduced interest rates on past debts, saving the state significant funds.

Cheema said Punjab had raised a total debt of Rs 47,109 crore.

This sum encompassed Rs 32,448 crore during the fiscal year 2022-23 and an additional Rs 14,661 crore between April 1, 2023, and August 31, 2023.

He emphasized that a significant portion of this debt had been utilized to service interest on previous loans, support institutions like PUNSUP and Punjab State Cooperative Agriculture Development Bank, and clear pending power subsidies owed to PSPCL.

Hry CM inaugurates construction work of Medical College in Yamunanagar

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Monday inaugurated the construction work of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Sahib Government Medical College in Panjpur village, Yamunanagar. This project, estimated to cost around Rs 1200 crore, will be completed in about 30 months, he added.

Khattar along with Education Minister Kanwar Pal Gijjar, inspected the layout project and also planted saplings in the campus. After this, the Chief Minister performed Bhoomi

Pujan of the College. Under this initiative, a 100-seat Medical College, a 500-bedded hospital, a Nursing College, and a Physiotherapy Institute will be constructed. Speaking on the occasion, Khattar said that the present state government is actively working on expanding healthcare services by establishing medical colleges and hospitals in every district.

Nirogi Yojana, which aims to check the health of 1 crore 41 lakh people with income upto Rs 1.80 lakh in the first phase, with 21 lakh people already examined and this target will be achieved in the coming 1.5 years, he added.

Govt scientist Dr Alka Rao gets national award for bridging accessibility gap for deaf

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Dr Alka Rao shines as a trailblazer with a passion for inclusivity. As a Principal Scientist at the CSIR-Institute of Microbial Technology (IMTECH) in Chandigarh, she's not only made remarkable contributions to protein engineering but has also dedicated herself to smashing down the barriers that hinder STEM education for individuals with disabilities, especially the deaf community. She is a recipient



of the prestigious NCPEDP-Mphasis Universal Design Awards 2023, and will be felicitated at a special ceremony on September 28, 2023 in New Delhi. Dr Rao's journey is marked by a remarkable list of

accomplishments, including numerous national and international patents, copyrights, and prestigious journal publications. Her expertise extends beyond the laboratory as she advises government bodies like the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoH&FW), Ministry of Education (MoE), among others.

However, it is Dr Rao's dedication to fostering inclusive STEM education that truly

sets her apart. She leads the ISLEVL (Indian Sign Language Enabled Virtual Laboratory) project, funded by CSIR under the Jigyasa program. "The ISLEVL platform is a collaborative effort that brings together scientists, interpreters, content creators, and multimedia editors.

It is accessible online and via the Google Play Store, ensuring that a wide audience can benefit from its resources. This initiative is part of our larger vision to break down barriers and make STEM edu-

cation truly inclusive. Establishing the country's first ISL-enabled astronomy lab in Karnal pioneering efforts that is revolutionizing STEM education for the deaf is a step towards our commitment," said Dr Rao. "Dr Rao's remarkable journey reminds us that true progress in science is not just about discoveries in the laboratory but ensuring that the wonders of science are accessible to all. NCPEDP-Mphasis award stands as a testament to her unwavering commitment to breaking down barriers.

with the Central Government and labeled AAP as a 'B-Team of BJP'.

SAD Demands Firm Stand on Key Issues

Calling upon Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann to take a firm stance on crucial issues concerning Punjab during the North Zone Council meeting in Amritsar, SAD on Monday stressed the importance of clarifying Punjab's inalienable right over Chandigarh. Expressing concerns about Haryana's attempt to construct a separate Vidhan Sabha in Chandigarh, senior SAD leader Daljit Singh Cheema called for a strong opposition to this project, which he believes contradicts Punjab's interests. The SAD leader hoped that the presence of Delhi Chief Minister and AAP Convener Arvind Kejriwal would not hinder the defense of Punjab's case on important issues concerning the state during the North Zone Council meeting.

over Chandigarh and cited a tweet by Chief Minister Mann on July 9, 2022, in which AAP leader had requested land in Chandigarh from the Centre for a separate Punjab Vidhan Sabha. "AAP Government did not adequately present Punjab's case regarding its river water rights, which weakened the State's position. Punjab's quota posts in the Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) were being filled by employees from Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh under the AAP regime, and the Central Government had replaced Punjab Service Rules with Central Service Rules for Chandigarh employees," he pointed out.

Additionally, Bajwa criticized the AAP Government for not raising issues such as the diplomatic standoff between India and Canada, which is affecting NRIs from Punjab and Punjabi students in Canada. He questioned why the Punjab Chief Minister had not addressed these concerns

Northern Zonal Council Meeting today; Union Home Min Amit Shah to preside

PNS ■ AMRITSAR/CHANDIGARH

The 31st meeting of the Northern Zonal Council (NZC) is poised to take place in Amritsar on Tuesday, with Punjab all geared up to host this crucial gathering of leaders from various northern states. Union Home Minister Amit Shah will preside over the meeting, which is expected to address several pressing issues, including those on which the neighbouring states of Punjab and Haryana are at loggerheads.

The State Government, under the leadership of Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann, has left no stone unturned in making elaborate arrangements for the significant event. The meeting will witness the participation of Chief Ministers from Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, and Rajasthan, along with the Administrator of UT Chandigarh and Lieutenant Governors from Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh, and Delhi. The brainstorming ses-

sions will delve into various issues concerning these states during the course of the meeting. The primary focus of the meeting will revolve around security matters, with a specific emphasis on combating drug smuggling, a persistent concern in the region. Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann has held several rounds of meetings with senior State Government officials to meticulously review the arrangements. Emphasizing the importance of a warm welcome to the dignitaries, Mann has directed the officials to showcase Punjab's rich cultural heritage to the visiting guests and ensure their warm hospitality throughout their stay.

The State Government has left no stone unturned in arranging a comfortable stay for the dignitaries participating in the meeting. In addition to ensuring their cozy accommodation, guests will also be treated to a glimpse of Punjab's vibrant culture. Senior state government officials have been diligently assigned duties to

ensure the smooth organization of the meeting, and stringent security measures have been put in place ahead of the event.

However, the upcoming NZC meeting is not just about protocol and arrangements; it also comes against a backdrop of political and territorial tensions between Punjab and Haryana.

Cong Criticizes AAP Govt for Failing to Safeguard State's Interests

Leader of Opposition in Punjab Vidhan Sabha Partap Singh Bajwa on Monday criticized the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Government for what he perceives as its failure to safeguard the state's interests. Bajwa noted that during his visit to Punjab on September 26 (Tuesday), the Union Home Minister is expected to discuss the provision of land to Punjab for the construction of a separate Vidhan Sabha. He criticized the AAP Government for surrendering Punjab's rights

Punjab CM to Raise Key Concerns at NZC meeting

PNS ■ AMRITSAR

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Monday expressed his commitment to address all issues pertinent to the State during the 31st meeting of the Northern Zonal Council (NZC), set to commence in Amritsar on Tuesday.

Among the topics on the agenda are issues related to the Bhakra-Beas Management Board, Panjab University's affiliation, road construction under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), canal projects, water-sharing agreements, matters concerning state reorganization, and infrastructure development. Mann, who arrived in Amritsar on Monday, shared photographs featuring him alongside Himachal Pradesh Chief

Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu and Delhi Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena on social media. Mann, in a statement, also conveyed the significance of the upcoming NZC meeting, to be chaired by the Union Home Minister Amit Shah, saying, "We have arrived at Guru di Nagari Sri Amritsar Sahib for a very important meeting of the North Zone Council....Tomorrow, a very important meeting is going to be held under the chairmanship of Home Minister Amit Shah." Punjab Chief Minister assured that he would advocate for all issues pertaining to Punjab and its residents during this critical gathering. Official sources have indicated that specific matters will be addressed during the meeting, including the allocation of land in Chandigarh to Haryana for the construction.

Punjab Police conducts raids at 264 hideouts of associates of gangsters

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab Police on Monday conducted raids at suspected hideouts of associates of Gangsters and anti-national elements. As many as 264 residential and other premises linked with close associates of several gangsters were thoroughly checked during the operation carried out at all 28 police districts in the state, a statement said. ADGP Law and Order Gurinder Singh Dhillon said that all the CPs/SSPs were directed to depute strong police parties led by an Inspector or Sub-Inspector to make this operation successful. Police teams were also asked to round up suspicious persons during the operation, he said.

Signature and Designation
of the authority inviting bids
for and on behalf of Governor of H.P.
Superintending Engineer
11th Circle HPPWD.,
Rampur Bushahr
Distt. Shimla (HP)
Tel: 01782-233044
Fax: 01782-233167



सेंट्रल बैंक ऑफ इंडिया

Central Bank of India

Regional Office, SCO-57, 4th Floor,
District Shopping Centre, Ranjit
Avenue, B-Block, Amritsar 143001

PUBLIC NOTICE DATED 25-09-2023
**For Kind Attention of Esteemed Customers of the Bank -
Update of K.Y.C. and Customer Profile Information.**
The customers are informed through this public notice that as per K.Y.C. - AML guidelines of Reserve Bank of India, the customers are required to update their profile particulars periodically. Therefore, customers are requested to provide their updated profile information / mobile number (if available), PAN card or form 60/61, Income details, occupation, business etc. along with ID / address proof documents to their **HOME BRANCH** immediately. The customers who have not provided ID / Address proof documents while opening account to Bank are requested to submit the latest ID / Address Proof documents for updation in Bank's record. The customers can also update K.Y.C. by logging in to Cent Mobile app without visiting branch. **Please note that in pending accounts debit transactions will be frozen from 26-09-2023. Customers are requested to update their K.Y.C. Details and profile as above for availing un-interrupted Banking services.** For further details, customers may contact their home branch / visit website www.centralbankofindia.co.in or customer care no. 1800221911 / 18002021911.

Authorized Official

Planning, Development and Operations Department, Central Office, Mumbai





PUBLIC NOTICE
It is brought to the notice of public at large that the original Sale deed dated 22.07.2008 bearing vasika no. 7946 in favour of Smt. Raj Kumar W/o Sh. Rachpal Singh has been lost not mortgaged with any bank or financial institution, if anybody have any objection regarding the mortgage of may respond or raise objection within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice after the expiry of stipulated period no claim would be entitled.
DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY
House measuring 100 square yards situated in Vishal Nagar, Ludhiana and comprised of Khata no. 65/66 Kharsa no. 19/17/22-14/23/22-24/12-24/2-19/3-4/1-13/1 as entered in the jamabandi for the years 2005-06 of Village Kakawal Tehsil and District Ludhiana.
ALOK MOHINDRA & ASSOCIATES
Chamber No.230, Lawyers' Chambers Complex, District Courts, Ludhiana.
Mobile no. 9814134452

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to notify all the concerned that, on behalf of my client, ICICI HFC, Leela Bhawan, Patiala, I hereby give notice to the general public that one customer, Sh. Narinder Singh and Smt. Manita had have applied for a loan vide application no. 7389231331 to purchase the property i.e. Shop no. 23-B-117/113 situated at Bedian Street, Nabha, Patiala, area measuring 43 sq. yds. in the name of Smt. Jashita Parveen and Sh. Anshad Bhatti vide Sale deed no. 2152 dated 23.08.2018. The Seller's stated that previous Original Sale deed no. 4983 dated 03.02.2004 has been lost and regarding this the DOR vide no. 3882932023 dated 25.08.2023 has been got lodged in Police station, Nabha. ICICI HFC, Leela Bhawan, Patiala required above said previous Original Sale deed to create equitable mortgage. So through this public notice, it is noticed that if any concern, bank or person having any claim, objection related to the said equitable mortgage of the above said property with ICICI HFC, Leela Bhawan, Patiala he/she may kindly contact with above said Bank/Company or with me from the date of this publication in below mentioned address and return the missing sale deed if found within 7 days from the publication, failing which no claim will be entertained later and ICICI HFC, Leela Bhawan, Patiala will disburse the loan to proposed customer. Detail of the property is above mentioned.
Rupinder Singh, Advocate
Chamber No 508, 4th Floor Yadwindra Complex, Distt Courts, Patiala Mobile No. :- 9914379170

Public Notice
It is hereby informed that Colonel Baldev Singh Grewal S/o Chanan Singh Grewal resident of 21 Basant Vihar Sirhind Road Patiala has approached Police Station today on 21.09.2023 and informed that on 26.05.2001 Plot No. 20-22/Azad Nagar rabqa Alipur Arian Patiala and 21 Basant Vihar Sirhind Road Patiala rabqa Triputi Saldan Vasika No. 3106 dated 07/06/2007 was transferred. I was carrying the registry to get a photocopy of the registry. On the way, the said registry was lost at Indira Puri Colony or Sirhind Road. The report by Colonel Baldev Singh Grewal has been registered at Rojnancha in Police Station. If anyone finds it, please notify at the above said address.


नगर निगम रोहतक सार्वजनिक सूचना
सर्व साधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि नगर निगम, रोहतक की कर शाखा के सम्पत्तिकर के रिकर्ड में नई प्रोपर्टी अर्हेंडींग नं. 1HBP5B6 पुरानी प्रोपर्टी अर्हेंडींग नं. 104C28U481 वॉर्ड नं.नुबता 297, Vijay Nagar श्रीश्रीमति गीता देवी (रजिं के अनुसार मीहल लॉ) के नाम से दर्ज है, अब नगर निगम के रिकर्ड में इस अर्हेंडींग नं. में ग्राहक रजिस्टार नाम दिनेश कुमार, रा. कृष्ण कुमार, सुरेश कुमार, संजय प्रताप पुनम, S/o मोनलाल लाल के द्वारा वसीयतनारमन के आधार पर अपने नाम तब्दील करवाना चाहते है, यदि किसी भी जनसाधारण को इनके नाम तब्दील करने में कोई भी आपत्ति है तो 30 दिन के अन्दर-अन्दर नगर निगम कार्यालय में अपनी आपत्ति दर्ज करवाये, अन्यथा प्रोपर्टी टैक्स में उसके नाम तब्दील कर दी जायेगी। निम्नलिखित पर नगर निगम, रोहतक को उत्तरदायी नहीं होगा।
क्रमांक: MCR/2023/201965
दिनांक: 22/09/23
क्षेत्रीय काराधान अधिकारी, नगर निगम रोहतक।

PUBLIC NOTICE
I, Manjit Kaur W/o Balwinder singh R/o village Kotli, Tehsil Chakkar Sahib, District Rojar is owner of property bearing H.No. 96 msq 233.33 Sq.yards situated at Top Endave Road. I have purchased said plot from Surjit Sharma. W/o Bahadar Singh vide Sale Deed Document No. 2020-21/307/11467 dated 23.10.2020. Original sale deed bearing Vasika No. 1314 dated 09.07.2012 in favour of Surjit Sharma has been misplaced. DDR regarding lost information of Original Sale Deed bearing Vasika No. 1314 dated 09.07.2012 has been filed vide DOR No. LNR 38842/2023 dated 25/09/2023. Now I am availing home loan from State Bank of India, college road. Ropar branch and the said property will be mortgaged. If any person has any objection or information. Please contact the said bank's branch within 7 days of publication. Thereafter, no claim on the said property will be entertained.

BEFORE SANYAM GARG, HCS, ASSISTANT ESTATE OFFICER EXERCISING THE POWERS OF THE ESTATE OFFICER U.T., CHANDIGARH

Subject: Transfer of 100 % share of House No 77 Sector 5, Chandigarh on the basis of Court Decree dated 06-12-1982
It is notified for the information of general public and all concerned that as per record of this office, the ownership of the property known as House No 77 Sector 5 Chandigarh, bearing file No RP-388 to the extent of 100% share stands in the name of Sh Nand Lal Dhingra. Now Sh. Sudhir Dhingra, Smt. Manju Rani, Smt. Shipa and Sh. Sahil Kumar have applied to this office for the transfer of ownership rights of 100% share of the above said Plot/ House in their names on the basis of Court Decree dated 06-12-1982
If anybody have any objection upon the mutation of the said property in favour of the above named applicants, then he/she/may may furnish the same in writing alongwith supporting documents in the office of the undersigned within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which this property shall be mutated accordingly and no further claim whatsoever shall be entertained late on.
Sanyam Garg, HCS Assistant Estate Officer, Exercising the Powers of the Estate Officer, U.T. Chandigarh.

PUBLIC NOTICE
I Balvinder kaur w/o Kashmir singh r/o Sundran, thana derabassi distt Mohali declare that my original registry vasika no. 4153 dated 12.06.2012 has been lost on dated 20.8.2023 at village mubarakpur. A DDR No. 14 also registered on dated 22.9.23 at po lice station mubarakpur derabassi . anybody found please contact on above address. 9878599915

Public Notice
This is to inform and seek objections, if any, from general public that ICICI HFC Ltd. Branch, Patiala had have applied for a loan against property to Sh. Harvinder Singh and Ramanpreet Kaur owned by Smt. Daljit Kaur W/o Sukhwinder Singh, the seller in respect of Property House measuring 57.55 sq. yards (1-14 bweas), i.e. 50/12 share of 3B-18B, out of khewat khatouni no. 784/896 kharsa no. 107/12 (3-3), 108/2 (0-15), situated at Sukhran Colony, Nabha Village Rajapur Saldan, Tehsil and Distt. Patiala. As the Enfrs sale deed no. 148 dated 04-04-2012 as executed by Macan Mohan and Sonu Sato Mool Chaudh in favor of Amandeep Kaur W/o Tejinder Singh, the original missi and Enfrs sale deed no. 17247 dated 19-02-2013 as executed by Amandeep Kaur W/o Tejinder Singh in favor of Surinder Kaur W/o Jaswinder Singh, in original of mentioned property were lost. The DOR in respect of the same was lodged vide DDR No. 388288/2023 dated 22-09-2023 at PSOC Anaj Mandi, Patiala. That in case any person having any claim, right, title or interest in the above said property in any manner whatsoever by way of sale, gift, lease, inheritance, exchange, mortgage, charge, lien, trust, possession, easement, attachment otherwise howsoever, shall bring the same to the notice of the undersigned in writing with supporting documents/evidence within a period of 15 days from the date of this notice failing which such claim if any, shall be considered to be waived, abandoned and it shall be presumed that no person has any claim of any nature in respect of the above said land and any subsequent claim shall not be bind our clients or their successors/nominee/ assignees in any manner whatsoever.
Surinder Mohan Singla, Advocate, G-34, Tej Bagh Colony, Patiala 9815337878


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

Notice U/s. 13(2) of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 is being issued by ICICI Bank Ltd. (on underlying pool assigned to ICICI Bank by Dewan Housing Finance Ltd.) in relation to the enforcement of security in respect of a housing loan facility granted pursuant to a loan agreement entered into between DHFL and the following borrower(s) who have defaulted in repayment of principal and interest of loans facility obtained by them from secured creditor and loans have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). A notice was issued to them on their last known addresses, however, it has returned un-served and hence, they are hereby notified by way of this public notice.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ Loan Account Number (DHFL Old LAN & ICICI New LAN) & Address	Property Address of Secured Asset/ Asset to be Enforced	Date of Notice Sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date
1.	Ramsingh R/ Geeta Devi A/c No. QZHIS00005023707 House No. 495, Krishnanagarhishar, Hisar 125001	Khwat No. 4079, Khatoni No. 4891, Kita 8 Ta Indera, Nagar-Ward No.15 Sir Chotu Ram Colony Chuna Bhati Hisar Haryana	24/08/2023 Rs. 6,53,116/-	10/04/ 2023

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


Date : September 26, 2023
Place : Haryana
Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

**SARVA HARYANA GRAMIN BANK**
HUDA Complex, Regional Office-Bhiwani

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
SARVA HARYANA GRAMIN BANK (Secured Creditor) invites sealed tenders from the public for purchase of the under mentioned immovable assets which are held as security interest in respect of secured debt amounting to Rs. 18,57,539.11/- (Rs. Eighteen Lacs fifty seven thousand five hundred thirty nine and eleven paise only) as on 01.12.2022 plus accrued interest upto date plus other charges and cost (Figures are subject to audit and without prejudice) due Sh. Krishan Kumar S/o Sh Surjit Singh and Ms Bimla Devi W/o Krishan Kumar both resident of House no. 2688, New Housing Board, Sector-13, Bhiwani-127021 (hereinafter referred to as "Borrower"). Details of encumbrances known to Bank:(Give details):Not Known. If the Borrower pays in full the amount due to Bank before the date of acceptance of bid as per the tenders, the tenders will not be acted upon and necessary communication will be sent.
The Tender Forms and the Terms and Conditions of sale can be had from Regional Manager, Sarva Haryana Gramin Bank, HUDA Complex, Regional Office- Bhiwani on any working day from 10 Am to 4.30 PM. The sealed tenders shall be received from Chief Manager, Sarva Haryana Gramin Bank , HUDA Complex, Branch Office-Bhiwani, daily on any working day during 10:00 A.M hrs. to 4:30 P.M hrs. up to 07.10.2023. The tenders received late for any reason whatsoever will not be entertained. The Tenders will be opened at 10: A.M on 09.10.2023 at Sarva Haryana Gramin Bank , HUDA Complex Branch Office. - Bhiwani Bank reserves the right to accept or reject any or all of the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.
Earnest Money Deposit of Rs.1,93,400/- (10% of Reserve Price) shall be paid by way of Demand Draft (DD) in favour of SARVA HARYANA GRAMIN BANK, BO: HUDA Complex, Bhiwani along with Tender Form. Reserve price is ₹19,34,000/- (Rupees nineteen lacs thirty four thousand only).The initial deposit (25% of the amount of bid as accepted by Bank) shall be paid forthwith on communication of acceptance. Balance price shall be paid within 15 days from date of acceptance of bid as accepted by Bank. Tender Forms shall be supplied free of cost.

Name of Borrower	Description of the properties mortgaged	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession	Amount O/S
Sh. Krishan Kumar S/o Sh Surjit Singh and Ms Bimla Devi W/o Krishan Kumar both resident of House no. 2688, New Housing Board, Sector-13, Bhiwani-127021 (hereinafter referred to as "Borrower").	1."Equitable mortgage of House no. 2917 , New Housing Board colony, Sector-13, Bhiwani in the name of Smt. Bimla Devi w/o Sh. Krishan admeasuring 35 sq. yards bounded as East :2916, West: House no. 2918, North : House no. 2928 South: Road vide sale deed no.3150 dated 03.07.2018, Sub Registrar, Bhiwani.2.Equitable mortgage of House no. 2918 , New Housing Board colony, Sector-13, Bhiwani in the name of Smt. Bimla Devi w/o Sh. Krishan admeasuring 35 sq. yards bounded as East :2917, West: House no. 2919, North : House no. 2927, South: Road vide sale deed no. 4501 dated 06.08.2018, Sub Registrar, Bhiwani	07.10.2023	01.12.2022	Rs. 18,57,539.11/- (Rs. Eighteen Lacs fifty seven thousand five hundred thirty nine and eleven paise only) as on 01.12.2022 plus accrued interest upto date plus other charges and cost

Place : Bhiwani
Date : 26.09.2023
Sd/- Authorised Signatory
For Sarva Haryana Gramin Bank

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

Whereas
The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Bank Limited under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.
As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/ her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Babli Rani/ Kulwant Rai/ LBZMO00002437362	Kothi No. 609, Sector 59, Phase-4, Tehsil & District S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali), Punjab/ September 21, 2023	February 22, 2023 Rs.71,22,174/-	Mohali
2.	Bhupinder Singh/ Rajinder Kaur/ LBCHD00001353791	427, Phase 6, Khasra No- 4//2198-0, 8//1, 4(7-0), Mundi Khataran/ 140301/ September 21, 2023	June 23, 2016 Rs.28,07,553/-	Kharar

The above-mentioned borrower(s)/ guarantor(s) are hereby given a 30 day notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date : September 26, 2023
Place : Punjab (Mohali & Kharar)
Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

20,000 avail benefit at free mega health camp organised by Chandigarh Welfare Trust
CHANDIGARH: More than 20,000 people availed the benefit of free medical services provided by Chandigarh Welfare Trust (CWT) during its mega multispecialty health camp organised on September 24 at Grain Market in sector 39. The camp was a part of CWT's 'Sewa Pakhwada' which commenced from on the 73rd birthday of Prime Minister Narendra Modi September 17, espousing his vision of 'self-service' for the welfare of citizens especially the poor section of the society.

Shri Santosh Kumar, IFS, Chief Vigilance Officer, NHPC alongwith participants of brainstorming session titled 'Best Practices in Vigilance Administration including Innovative Systemic Improvements' organized by NHPC

चुनाव सूचना
चुनाव तिथि :- 27.10.2023

दि किराणा प्राथमिक कृषि सहकारी समिति लि० किराणा (पैक्स) तहसील भटटुक्ला जिला फतेहाबाद के सभी सदस्यों को सूचित किया जाता है कि आपकी सहकारी समिति की प्रबंधक कमेटी का चुनाव हरियाणा सहकारी समितियां अधिनियम 1984 संशोधित 2013 की धारा 28 के प्राक्काओं के अन्तर्गत निम्नलिखित कार्यक्रम अनुसार दिनांक 27.10.2023 को होना निश्चित हुआ है।

चुनाव कार्यक्रम

क्र.सं.	कार्यक्रम	तिथि व समय	स्थान
1.	मतदाता सूचि का प्रदर्शन (चुनाव नियम 35 के उपनियम 2 के अन्तर्गत)	तिथि 27.09.2023 से 29.09.2023 तक	1. समिति कार्यालय व उसके कार्क्षेत्र में पढ़ने वाले सभी बिक्री केन्द्रों पर। 2. कार्यालय सहायक रजिस्ट्रार सहकारी समितियां, फतेहाबाद 33वीं प्रथम तल अनाज मण्डी फतेहाबाद में स्थित। 3. निरीक्षक सहकारी समितियां, भटटुक्ला के कार्यालय में। 4. दी फतेहाबाद केन्द्रीय सहकारी बैंक लि० फतेहाबाद के कार्यालय में। 5. दी फतेहाबाद केन्द्रीय सहकारी बैंक लि० फतेहाबाद की शाखा किराणा।
2.	मतदाता सूचि पर आपत्तियों की सुनवाई उपनियम 4 नियम 35 के अन्तर्गत	तिथि 03.10.2023 समय प्रातः 11.00 बजे	कार्यालय सहायक रजिस्ट्रार सहकारी समितियां, फतेहाबाद 33वीं प्रथम तल अनाज मण्डी फतेहाबाद में स्थित।
3.	नामांकन पत्र दाखिल करने की तिथि	16.10.2023 प्रातः 10.00 बजे से सायं 3.00 बजे तक	कार्यालय सहायक रजिस्ट्रार सहकारी समितियां, फतेहाबाद 33वीं प्रथम तल अनाज मण्डी फतेहाबाद में स्थित।
4.	नामांकन पत्रों की जांच पड़ताल	17.10.2023 प्रातः 11.00 बजे से 12.00 बजे तक।	कार्यालय सहायक रजिस्ट्रार सहकारी समितियां, फतेहाबाद 33वीं प्रथम तल अनाज मण्डी फतेहाबाद में स्थित।
5.	वैध उम्मीदवारों की सूची का प्रदर्शन	17.10.2023 दोपहर 01.00 बजे।	कार्यालय सहायक रजिस्ट्रार सहकारी समितियां, फतेहाबाद के सूचना पट्ट पर।
6.	नामांकन पत्रों की वापसी	19.10.2023 दोपहर 1.00 बजे तक।	कार्यालय सहायक रजिस्ट्रार सहकारी समितियां, फतेहाबाद 33वीं प्रथम तल अनाज मण्डी फतेहाबाद में स्थित।
7.	चुनाव चिन्ह आवंटन	19.10.2023 दोपहर बाद 2.00 बजे	कार्यालय सहायक रजिस्ट्रार सहकारी समितियां, फतेहाबाद 33वीं प्रथम तल अनाज मण्डी फतेहाबाद में स्थित।
8.	चुनाव लड़ने वाले उम्मीदवारों की सूची का प्रदर्शन	19.10.2023 दोपहर 3.00 बजे	कार्यालय सहायक रजिस्ट्रार सहकारी समितियां, फतेहाबाद सूचना पट्ट पर।
9.	चुनाव होने की तिथि यदि आवश्यक हुआ तो	21.10.2023 प्रातः 8.00 बजे से सायं 4.00 बजे तक।	निम्नलिखित स्थानों पर

बुध क्र.सं.	मतदान केन्द्र का नाम	क्र. सं. वोटर लिस्ट	कुल वोट	मतदान केन्द्र में पढ़ने वाले गांव के नाम
1	कार्यालय दी किराणा पैक्स लि० किराणा	01 से 913 तक	913	किराणा
2	दी किराणा पैक्स लि० के बिक्री केन्द्र गांव दिगसररा में स्थित।	914 से 1556 तक	643	दिगसररा
3	दी किराणा पैक्स लि० के बिक्री केन्द्र गांव डाण्ड में स्थित।	1557 से 2335 तक	779	डाण्ड
4	दी किराणा पैक्स लि० के बिक्री केन्द्र गांव बनाराली में स्थित।	2336 से 2952 तक	617	बनाराली
कुल वोट			2952	

1. हरियाणा सहकारी समितियां अधिनियम व समिति के बाईलान अनुसार समिति की प्रबंधक कमेटी के दस सदस्य चुने जाने हैं जिनमें से सात कृषक सदस्य और तीन गैरकृषक सदस्य जिनमें कम से कम एक सदस्य अनुसूचित जाति (एस.सी.) क्या कम से कम दो महिला सदस्य व एक पिछड़ा वर्ग (बी.सी.) से सदस्य चुने जायेंगे। अधिकतम मत प्राप्त करने वाले उम्मीदवार को विजयी घोषित किया जायेगा।
2. अनुसूचित जाति के उम्मीदवार व पिछड़ा वर्ग के उम्मीदवार अपना मूल जाति प्रमाण पत्र नामांकन फार्म के समय साथ लावें।
3. वोट डालने के समय सदस्य अपने साथ पहचान पत्र, राशन कार्ड, ड्राइविंग लाइसेंस, समिति की पास बुक व बैंक खाते की कापी में से कोई एक प्रमाण पत्र साथ लावें।
(नामात)
सुरे सिंह
चुनाव प्रबंधक
चुनाव अधिकारी, सहायक रजिस्ट्रार, सहकारी समितियां, फतेहाबाद।

ICICI Home Finance
Branch Office: Shanti Complex, 1st floor, Building No. 4307/12-14, Jagadhari Road, Opposite Civil Hospital, Ambala Cantt- 133001
Branch Office: SCO 154, 1st floor, Red Square Market, UE-1, Near Telephone Exchange, Hisar- 125001
Branch Office: 1st floor, no.159/20, Sudha Complex, Atlas Road, Near Subhash Chowk, Sonapat- 131001

Corporate Office: ICICI Home Finance Company Limited ICICI HFC Tower, Andheri - Kuria Road, Andheri (East), Mumbai- 400059, India
[See proviso to rule 8(6)]

Notice for sale of immovable assets
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical Possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of ICICI Home Finance Company Ltd., will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is", as per the brief particulars given hereunder;

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Legal Heirs. Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price/ Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
1.	Ashish Aggarwal (Borrower) Ritu (Co-Borrower) Loan Account No. LHAMB00001275879 & LHAMB00001275881	Khasra No. 19/31 Waka Nagal Ritu (Co-Borrower) Distt. Ambala Cantt Ambala- 133001	Rs. 21,34,548/- September 21, 2023	Rs. 17,11,407/- September 21, 2023 Rs. 1,71,150/-	October 03, 2023 11:00 AM- 03:00 PM	October 13, 2023 02:00 PM- 03:00 PM
2.	Ashok Kumar (Borrower) Renu (Co-Borrower) Loan Account No. LHHIS00001294324 & LHHIS00001254317	Residence Bearing House Tax Unit No. 133/12 Min Krishna Colony Opposite Ampty Talab Hansi-125033	Rs. 18,92,136/- September 21, 2023	Rs. 15,85,440/- September 21, 2023 Rs. 1,58,550/-	October 03, 2023 11:00 AM- 03:00 PM	October 13, 2023 02:00 PM- 03:00 PM
3.	Ankit. (Borrower) Pawan Kumar Bansal (Co-Borrower) Baby. (Co-Borrower) Loan Account No. LHNSR00001329319	Property Situated at Ward No. 4 House Tax Unit No. Ran/ W/O/ 132/1 (Sabka Unit No. 4/18) Teh Rania Distt Sirsa-125076	Rs. 81,50,577/- September 21, 2023	Rs. 64,00,238/- September 21, 2023 Rs. 6,40,030/-	October 03, 2023 11:00 AM- 03:00 PM	October 13, 2023 02:00 PM- 03:00 PM
4.	Ansh Singh (Borrower) Sushila Devi (Co-Borrower) Loan Account No. NHNSNP00000833829	Property No. 704 Ward No. 03 Gali No. 1 Sudama Nagar Sonepat Sonepat Haryana- 131001	Rs. 42,66,208/- September 21, 2023	Rs. 28,21,140/- September 21, 2023 Rs. 2,82,120/-	October 03, 2023 11:00 AM- 03:00 PM	October 13, 2023 02:00 PM- 03:00 PM

The online auction will be conducted on website (URL Link - / <https://BestAuctionDeal.com>) of our auction agency **GlobeTech**. The Mortgagors/ notice are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till **October 12, 2023 before 05:00 PM** else these secured assets will be sold as per above schedule.
The Prospective Bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) RTGS/ Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at ICICI Home Finance Company Limited, Shanti Complex, 1st floor, Building No. 4307/12-14, Jagadhari Road, Opposite Civil Hospital, Ambala Cantt - 133001 on or before October 12, 2023 before 04:00 PM. The Prospective Bidder(s) must also submit signed copy of Registration Form & Bid Terms and Conditions form at ICICI Home Finance Company Limited, Shanti Complex, 1st floor, Building No. 4307/12-14, Jagadhari Road, Opposite Civil Hospital, Ambala Cantt - 133001 on or before October 12, 2023 before 05:00 PM. Earnest Money Deposit Demand Draft (DD) should be from a Nationalized/Scheduled Bank in favor of "ICICI Home Finance Company Ltd. - Auction" payable at Ambala, Hansi, Sirsa, Sonepat
For any further clarifications with regards to inspection, terms and conditions of the auction or submission of tenders, kindly contact ICICI Home Finance Company Limited on 7021072869 or our Sales & Marketing Partner **NexXen Solutions Private Limited**.
The Authorized Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please visit <https://www.icicifhc.com/>
Date : September 26, 2023
Place : Ambala, Hansi, Sirsa, Sonepat
Authorized Officer
ICICI Home Finance Company Limited

चुनाव सूचना
चुनाव तिथि :- 31.10.2023

दि मंघेड़ा प्राथमिक कृषि सहकारी समिति लि० मंघेड़ा (पैक्स) तहसील टोहाना जिला फतेहाबाद के सभी सदस्यों को सूचित किया जाता है कि आपकी सहकारी समिति की प्रबंधक कमेटी का चुनाव हरियाणा सहकारी समितियां, अधिनियम 1984 संशोधित 2013 की धारा 28 के प्राक्काओं के अन्तर्गत निम्नलिखित कार्यक्रम अनुसार दिनांक 31.10.2023 को होना निश्चित हुआ है।

चुनाव कार्यक्रम

क्र.सं.	कार्यक्रम	तिथि व समय	स्थान
1.	मतदाता सूचि का प्रदर्शन (चुनाव नियम 35 के उपनियम 2 के अन्तर्गत)	तिथि 27.09.2023 से 29.09.2023 तक	1. समिति कार्यालय व उसके कार्क्षेत्र में पढ़ने वाले सभी बिक्री केन्द्रों पर। 2. कार्यालय सहायक रजिस्ट्रार सहकारी समितियां, फतेहाबाद 33वीं प्रथम तल अनाज मण्डी फतेहाबाद में स्थित। 3. निरीक्षक सहकारी समितियां, टोहाना-2 के कार्यालय में। 4. दी फतेहाबाद केन्द्रीय सहकारी बैंक लि० फतेहाबाद के कार्यालय में। 5. दी फतेहाबाद केन्द्रीय सहकारी बैंक लि० फतेहाबाद की शाखा धारसुल।
2.	मतदाता सूचि पर आपत्तियों की सुनवाई उपनियम 4 नियम 35 के अन्तर्गत	तिथि 03.10.2023 समय प्रातः 11.00 बजे	कार्यालय सहायक रजिस्ट्रार सहकारी समितियां, फतेहाबाद 33वीं प्रथम तल अनाज मण्डी फतेहाबाद में स्थित।
3.	नामांकन पत्र दाखिल करने की तिथि	16.10.2023 प्रातः 10.00 बजे से सायं 3.00 बजे तक	कार्यालय सहायक रजिस्ट्रार सहकारी समितियां, फतेहाबाद 33वीं प्रथम तल अनाज मण्डी फतेहाबाद में स्थित।
4.	नामांकन पत्रों की जांच पड़ताल	17.10.2023 प्रातः 11.00 बजे से 12.00 बजे तक।	कार्यालय सहायक रजिस्ट्रार सहकारी समितियां, फतेहाबाद 33वीं प्रथम तल अनाज मण्डी फतेहाबाद में स्थित।
5.	वैध उम्मीदवारों की सूची का प्रदर्शन	17.10.2023 दोपहर 01.00 बजे।	कार्यालय सहायक रजिस्ट्रार सहकारी समितियां, फतेहाबाद के सूचना पट्ट पर।
6.	नामांकन पत्रों की वापसी	19.10.20	

FIRST COLUMN

EMBRACING LIFE...
THE UTMOST NEED



SAKSHI SETHI

Our heart is wide enough to embrace the world and hands are long enough to encompass the world.” Life can be a beautifully complex tapestry, where on the surface, everything seems picture perfect -the marriage, the career, the health and the loving family all paint a pretty picture. But in quiet moments, when the thoughts drift and one finds yearning for something more or something different, then it’s time to listen to that inner voice. It’s not about dissatisfaction, rather it’s about growth.

In a world that often tells everyone to stick with the status quo, this is the permission slip to break free from those chains and chase dreams. In a world often defined by expectations and conformity, embracing the authentic self is a superpower that can propel an individual to move forward.

As a younger self, everyone had a sense of naivety that allowed them to approach the world with curiosity and fearlessness. With time and growth, the brains get wired to keep themselves safe which in turn leads to making to resist change. But if tapped into that childlike sense of wonder, one can embrace change with excitement and enthusiasm. One needs to trust the process and keep moving forward. One shouldn’t be afraid to take risks and try new things. With a bit of naivety, an individual can approach change with a fresh perspective and an open mind.

To make a change, one needs to determine the value of the change. As a human being, one doesn’t do things simply for the sake of doing them, rather one needs to have a purpose, value or benefit.



Stepping out of your comfort zone can be scary but it’s where the opportunities and growth lie. Moving to a new frequency may crumble some aspects of life, but at the same time will also make room for new opportunities and experiences. There is no denying the fact that change can be scary but everyone must face it. It’s the words and perceptions of an individual that matter and make an impact on the behaviour and actions. Reframing the way an individual thinks about change is very valuable in whether one worries about it or embraces it. One needs to stop thinking about embracing change as the big bad wolf—“scary,” “uncertain” and “negative” and start thinking about it as an adventure and a fun experience where they learn, grow and have fun in the process.

Remember, there is no better time than autumn to begin forgetting the things that trouble us, allowing them to fall away like dried leaves.

(The writer is an educator; views are personal)

Digital medium and new economic paradigm

Attaining the balance between business and social values in the digital realm is the need of the hour

Jeff Bezos, the founder of Amazon has rightly argued, “There is no alternative to digital transformation. Visionary companies will carve out new strategic options for themselves those that don’t adapt, will fail.”

Attention economy is the latest lexicon in the landscape of business and digital communication. There is hardly any space that digital media has not reached and influenced, whether it is for good or bad. Technology and digital connectivity have evolved a new paradigm in the sphere of economy, the attention economy, which is doing around all across. This new model has redefined the very rudiments of the economic paradigm and there have been shifts in Ferments, foundations and the future of the economy on a global scale. The confluence of economy and interactive digital communication emanating from the economy has wider implications on the genesis and praxis of economy and digital communication. It has caused concerns about privacy, manipulation, and the toll it takes on mental health which need to be amicably addressed.

No wonder, the attention economy has transformed the way we live, work, and interact, and it’s time we take a closer look at its impact and the challenges it presents. Such a form of new economic model has emerged in the digital age. It’s a framework that recognizes that attention has become a finite resource in an information-rich world. In the traditional economic model, goods and services are exchanged for money. In the attention economy, however, the currency is not dollars or euros; it’s our precious time and cognitive resources.

The attention economy revolves around capturing and holding the attention of individuals to monetize it. This is principally achieved through advertising, content consumption, and social media. Social media platforms have played a pivotal role in the rise of the attention economy. They have created a digital landscape where individuals willingly share their personal information, preferences, and behaviours, providing an invaluable resource for advertisers and content creators. Platforms like Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and TikTok have mastered the art of keeping users engaged and scrolling for hours on end.

One of the key features of social media is the algorithm-driven feed, designed to show users content that will keep them on the platform as long as possible. These algorithms analyze user behaviour, preferences, and interactions to curate a personalized feed that maximizes the chances of holding the user’s attention. Whether it’s endless scrolling on Instagram or watching recommended videos on YouTube, these algorithms are designed to capture and retain our attention.

Companies and platforms vie for our attention because they know that the more of it they can capture, the more advertising revenue they can generate. In this light, social media has not spared any space whether it is personal or professional. Numerous social media platforms have played a pivotal role in the rise of the attention economy. They have inevitably created a niche digital landscape where individuals willingly share their personal information, preferences, and behaviours, providing an invaluable resource for advertisers and content creators. It is startling but true. Platforms like Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and TikTok have mastered the art of keeping users engaged and scrolling for hours



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(Chakraborty is HoD, Digital Marketing & Associate Professor, Presidency University, Bengaluru and Biswal is Associate Professor & Head, Journalism and Mass Communication, Rama Devi Women’s University, Bhubaneswar; views are personal)

on end. Moreover, artificial intelligence and machine learning are the new entrants that have started positioning curated and personalized content which have larger implications for the economy by capturing the users’ attention. Whether it’s never-ending scrolling on Instagram or watching recommended videos on YouTube, these algorithms are designed to capture and retain attention.

The attention economy is not all free from flaws. Social media platforms and advertisers are constantly refining their techniques to keep us hooked. These models of business activities can foster the spread of misinformation and echo chambers. Algorithms often prioritize content that aligns with a user’s existing beliefs and preferences. This can lead to the reinforcement of biases and a lack of exposure to diverse perspectives, ultimately contributing to polarization and the spread of fake news. The attention economy’s impact on mental health is a growing concern. Every notification, every “like,” every comment is a small reward that keeps us coming back for more. Take control of your social media feed by unfollowing accounts that don’t add value or contribute to negativity. Curate a feed that inspires and educates rather than drains your energy. This can lead to addictive behaviour and compulsive checking of social media, negatively impacting our mental health and productivity.

The constant barrage of content also makes it challenging for individuals to focus and engage in deep, meaningful activities. Continuous

partial attention (CPA) is an automatic process that allows people to pay attention to multiple sources of information at the same time while searching for relevant information. This allows people to move from a superficial focus on a lot of information to focus on highly relevant information within a short attention span. CPA has been used to describe our tendency to be constantly distracted by notifications and the fear of missing out (FOMO).

Fear of missing out (FOMO) is a feeling of anxiety about not being aware of or missing out on information, events, experiences, or life decisions that could improve one’s life. It is characterized by the desire to constantly stay in touch with what others are doing. FOMO has increased recently due to technological advancements. Social networking sites create many opportunities for FOMO. While it provides opportunities for social engagement, it provides a view of the myriad of activities in which one does not participate. Psychological dependence on social networks can lead to FOMO or even pathological use of the Internet. This hampers our ability to concentrate, which is essential for tasks that require sustained attention and critical thinking.

Research has shown that excessive use of social media and digital devices can lead to feelings of loneliness, depression, and anxiety. The constant comparison with others, the pressure to curate a perfect online persona, and the fear of missing out on social events can take a toll on our well-being. The relentless stream of information and sen-

sationalized news can contribute to information overload and heightened stress levels.

There is little doubt that the attention economy enjoys a coveted space in digital marketing and business strategy. However, in a view to mitigate the ill effects of excessive digital media consumption, sanity in terms of focused work, leisure, resetting your mental state, algorithmic accountability and minimizing mindless scrolling is highly warranted. Periodically disconnect from digital devices and social media. A digital detox can help reset your mental state and reduce dependency on technology. Allocate time for focused work, leisure, and social media, and try to minimize mindless scrolling.

The attention economy is a double-edged sword. On one hand, it has revolutionized the way we access information, connect with others, and do business. On the other hand, it has raised significant concerns about privacy, manipulation, and the toll it takes on our mental health.

Finding a balance between benefiting from the opportunities of the attention economy while safeguarding our well-being is a complex challenge. It requires a combination of individual responsibility, societal awareness, and ethical practices from tech companies.

Finding a balance between benefiting from the opportunities of the attention economy while safeguarding our well-being is a complex challenge. It requires a combination of individual responsibility, societal awareness, and ethical practices from tech companies.



UTTAM CHAKRABORTY



SANTOSH KUMAR BISWAL

Women’s reservation Bill: A pathbreaking achievement

It is a historical step and culmination of a series of progressive reforms that the Modi Government has undertaken for the welfare of women



VINEETA HARIHARAN

((The author is a public policy expert and spokesperson, BJP and State Vice President, BJP Women’s Wing; views are personal))

of the Swachh Bharat Mission which provided izzat ghars to more than 120 million women thus ensuring access to safe sanitation for women and girl children across rural and urban Bharat. Saving millions of women from chronic respiratory disorders by providing smoke-free kitchens through the widespread Ujjwala Yojana which provided gas cylinders to more than 96 million women was another significant life-changing provision for the women of our country. Apart from these, several important programmes were delivered for the betterment of the health and hygiene of our women.

Distribution of over 270 million sanitary pads priced at Re. 1 through Jan Aushadhi Kendras, providing 39 million

free antenatal check-ups under PM Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan; benefitting more than 30 million women through the PM Matru Vandana Yojana; increase in paid maternity leave period from 12 weeks to 26 weeks; were some of the significant health initiatives. As an outcome of these, we could achieve a decline in Maternal Mortality Rate from 130 in 2014 to 97 per lakh live births in 2018-20. Modi Government also facilitated holistic well-being development schemes such as Mission Poshan.

This was an integrated nutrition support programme to overcome the challenges of malnutrition in children, adolescent girls, pregnant women, and lactating mothers. Poshan Abhiyan has reported benefi-

ciaries of more than 100 million which includes more than 5 million lactating and pregnant mothers and more than 4 million children below 6 months.

Apart from social welfare, this Government has also ensured economic empowerment through various interventions beginning with opening more than 270 million Jan Dhan accounts and providing more than INR 200 million to women entrepreneurs through the MUDRA Yojana. There has been a 28% increase in registration of women-owned MSMEs in just 3 years.

More than 45,000 DPIIT-recognised startups have at least one woman director. Mahila Samman Savings Certificate (MSSC) for girls and women which was anno-

unced by Finance Minister Nirmala Seetharaman ji in the Union Budget 23 -24, celebrates Nari Shakti by providing financial freedom and dignity for women and girl children. Apart from social and economic empowerment, this Government has also taken bold steps in bringing much-needed reforms for Muslim women. The Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Act, 2019 declared the pronouncement of instantaneous and irrevocable triple talaq by a Muslim husband as illegal. The Women’s Reservation Bill is now the culminating transformation being introduced to ensure adequate women’s participation in the electoral canvas of Bharat. The chequered legislative history of the Women’s Reservation Bill

began 27 years ago when the HD Deve Gowda-led government introduced it in Parliament in September 1996.

Almost every government has since tried to push it through — the UPA government managed to get it passed in the Rajya Sabha in 2010 but later could not get it through in the Lok Sabha. The move has not come to fruition so far due to a lack of political will and consensus.

The bill will help to represent those who remain under-represented. The proportion of women MPs was just five per cent in the first Lok Sabha in 1952 reaching a figure of less than 15 per cent today. In Rajya Sabha too, women’s representation is about 14 per cent and below 10 per cent in many state assemblies. Bring-

ing in the 1/3 representation will enable many more women’s voices to be heard in the wells of the parliamentary houses. This will also ensure that women’s issues and challenges in the most backward areas are represented before the policy and lawmakers which will go a long way in not just keeping our women and girl children safe in the country but also empowering them to play a critical role in nation-building.

The Women’s Reservation Bill will be etched in the history of Modern Bharat and the Modi Government will always be known as the most progressive Government that provided 360-degree empowerment for the women of our country—social, economic and now electoral. A proud and jubilant moment in history for all of us.

Philippine removes barrier placed by China in disputed shoal

AP ■ MANILA

The Philippine coast guard said Monday it has complied with a presidential order to remove a floating barrier placed by China's coast guard to prevent Filipino fishing boats from entering a lagoon in a disputed shoal in the South China Sea. Philippine officials condemned the installation of the 300-metre (980-foot)-long barrier at the entrance to the lagoon at Scarborough Shoal as a violation of international law and their Southeast Asian nation's sovereignty.

The Philippine coast guard's report that it has removed the barrier underscores intensifying Philippine efforts to fight China's increasingly aggressive actions, against many odds, in one of the world's most hotly contested waters.

Chinese coast guard vessels laid the rope and net barrier, held up by buoys, last week as a Philippine government fisheries vessel approached and more than 50 Philippine fishing boats swarmed outside the shoal, the Philippine coast guard said.

The Philippine coast guard said in a statement Monday night that it has success-

fully removed the floating barrier in a "special operation" in compliance with the order of President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. It did not provide other details like if the entire barrier was removed and when, and how Chinese coast guard ships, which have closely guarded the shoal for years, reacted.

The decisive action of the Philippine coast guard to remove the barrier aligns with international law and the Philippines' sovereignty over the shoal," the coast guard said. "The PCG remains committed to upholding international law, safeguarding the welfare of Filipino fisherfolk and protecting the rights of the Philippines in its territorial waters."

Video issued by the Philippine coast guard to journalists in Manila showed a diver cutting a part of what appears to be the barrier rope. A man onboard a motor boat tries to lift what appears to be a part of the barrier rope in another video released by the coast guard to the media.

Earlier Monday, Philippine National Security Adviser Eduardo Ano said that "the placement by the People's Republic of China of a barrier violates the traditional

fishing rights of our fishermen".

Ano said in a statement that the Philippines "will take all appropriate actions to cause the removal of the barriers and to protect the rights of our fishermen in the area". He did not elaborate.

In Beijing, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin said the shoal and its adjacent waters are "China's inherent territory," where Beijing "has indisputable sovereignty".

A Philippine government fisheries vessel "trespassed into the waters" without China's permission on Sept 22, Wang said, and "attempted to intrude into the lagoon" of the shoal. "China's coast guard took the necessary measures to stop and warn off the ship in accordance with the law, which was professional and with restraint," he added.

It's the latest flare-up in long-simmering territorial disputes in the busy and resource-rich waterway, most of which is claimed by China. The Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia, Brunei and Taiwan are involved with China in the conflicts, which have long been regarded as a potential Asian flashpoint and a delicate fault line in the US-China rivalry in the region.

Nepal, China sign 12 agreements

Nepal PM on China visit

PTI ■ BEIJING/KATHMANDU

China and Nepal on Monday signed 12 agreements, including seven MoUs, to enhance bilateral cooperation in sectors including trade, road connectivity, and information technology after Premier Li Qiang and Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal "Prachanda" held wide-ranging talks in Beijing. During the meeting, the two leaders comprehensively reviewed the bilateral relations and expressed satisfaction over the close and cordial ties subsisting between the two countries, according to a press release issued by the Nepal embassy in Beijing.

The two sides exchanged views on the ways to further strengthen and consolidate the mutual understanding and cooperation and give a new impetus in the front of econo-



my, trade and people-to-people contacts, it said, two days after Chinese President Xi Jinping held talks with Prachanda in Hangzhou on the sidelines of the Asian Games being held in the eastern Chinese city.

Prachanda, who politically distanced from the pro-China Communist Party of Nepal (Unified Marxist-Leninist) headed by KP Oli after becoming Prime Minister in December last year, made his

maiden visit to China after visiting India and the US. Following the official bilateral talks, 12 agreements were signed between the two countries, the Nepalese embassy said.

The agreements include an MoU for Cooperation between The National Planning Commission of Nepal and China's National Development and Reform Commission; an MoU on enhancing digital

economy co-operation; an MoU related to cooperation on green and low-carbon development; and an MoU on cooperation in the field of agriculture, livestock and fisheries, the release said.

The two sides also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the establishment of a Joint Technical Working Group for the review and modification of the Nepal-China trade and payment agreement.

They also signed a protocol of phytosanitary requirements for the export of plant-derived medicinal materials for Chinese medicine from Nepal to China.

China and Nepal also signed MoUs on the Hilsa-Simkot Road Project and the Nepal-China Power Grid Interconnection Project (Chilime-Kerung). The other agreements include cooperation in the fields of science, technology and innovation; and in the field of Human Resources Development, the release said.

EU commissioner calls for more balanced trade with China

PTI ■ BEIJING

The European Union's trade commissioner called for a more balanced economic relationship with China on Monday, noting an EU trade deficit of nearly 400 billion euros (\$425 billion), while also warning that China's position on the war in Ukraine could endanger its relationship with Europe. Valdis Dombrovskis, in a speech at China's prestigious Tsinghua University, said that the EU and China face significant political and economic headwinds that could cause them to drift apart.

"The strongest, yet not the only, headwind is Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, and how China positions itself on this issue," he said.

Dombrovskis spoke before high-level economic and trade talks with Chinese Vice Premier He Lifeng.

EU leaders have expressed concern about the bloc's growing trade deficit with China, which reached 396 billion euros last year. European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen recently announced an investigation into Chinese subsidies to electric vehicle makers, saying a flood of cheaper Chinese cars is distorting the European market.

The Chinese government has called the investigation a protectionist act aimed at distorting the supply chain. Dombrovskis, in his Tsinghua address, said the probe would follow well-established rules and be done in consultation with Chinese authorities and stakeholders.

The EU trade commissioner urged China to address the lack of reciprocity in the economic relationship, saying "the figures speak for themselves".

He said that China has created a more politicised business environment to protect its national security and development interests, resulting in less transparency, unequal access to procurement, and discrimina-



tory standards and security requirements.

Dombrovskis cited as examples a new foreign relations law and an updated espionage law that has European companies struggling to understand their compliance obligations.

"Their ambiguity allows too much room for interpretation," he said about the laws, adding they deter new investment in China.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin said that China provides a market-oriented, law-based business environment for foreign companies.

"As long as the companies are operating in accordance with the law, they don't have to worry," he said.

Chinese officials have been trying to lure back foreign investment to help the economy emerge from a sluggishness that has persisted despite the lifting of pandemic restrictions last December.

The Chinese government has tried to remain neutral in the war in Ukraine rather than joining the United States and much of Europe in condemning the Russian invasion. Dombrovskis, who is Latvian, noted that territorial integrity has always been a key principle for China in international diplomacy.

"Russia's war is a blatant breach of this principle," he said. "So it's very difficult for us to understand China's stance on Russia's war against Ukraine, as it breaches China's own fundamental principles."

Poland accuses Germany of meddling in its affairs

Warsaw (AP): Poland's foreign minister accused Germany of trying to interfere in his country's internal affairs after German Chancellor Olaf Scholz said Warsaw needs to clarify allegations that Polish consulates in Africa and Asia sold temporary work visas to migrants for thousands of dollars each.

Poland's right-wing ruling party, Law and Justice, is facing questions about the alleged scheme ahead of an Oct 15 national election in which it is seeking a third term in power.

Scholz, whose government is under pressure to do more to limit migration to Germany, called on neighbouring Poland on Saturday to provide clarification of what was happening.

"I don't want people to just be waved through from Poland and only for us to have a discussion about asylum policy afterward," Scholz said in comments reported by the German news agency dpa.

Polish Foreign Minister Zbigniew Rau retorted late Sunday on X, formerly Twitter, that Scholz's statement "violates the principles of the sovereign equality of states".

Rau said he appealed to Scholz "to respect Poland's sovereignty and refrain from statements that damage our mutual relations".

Rau himself is under political pressure at home because the alleged visa scheme operated out of the Foreign Ministry.

German Interior Minister Nancy Faeser said last week that Berlin was considering establishing short-term border checks with Poland and the Czech Republic to help curb the smuggling of people into Germany.

She added that the increased border checks would need to be combined with random police checks that are already being carried out. The government said Monday that she is in discussions with her Polish and Czech counterparts.

Germany, Poland and the Czech Republic belong to Europe's visa-free zone, commonly known as the Schengen Area.

Kosovo mourns slain police officer

AP ■ PRISTINA

Kosovo on Monday was observing a day of mourning for the Kosovar Albanian police officer killed by Serb gunmen who then barricaded themselves in an Orthodox monastery in an attack that left three assailants dead and further raised tensions between the two former wartime foes as they seek to normalise ties.

Flags were at half mast on all public buildings in the capital Pristina to mourn Afrim Bunjaku. In the north, where most of Kosovo's ethnic Serb minority lives in four municipalities around Mitrovica, police were patrolling in search of the armed assailants after they left the monastery.

About 30 gunmen dressed in combat uniforms were involved in the attack, but it is not clear who they are or who is supporting them. Pristina accuses Belgrade of backing the "terrorists," an accusation Serbia denies, saying they are Serbs from Kosovo protesting the government there. On

Sunday the masked gunmen opened fire on a police patrol at about 3 a.m. (01:00 GMT) in Banjska, a village located 55 kilometres north of Pristina, killing Bunjaku and injuring another officer.

They then used an armoured vehicle to break down the gates to the monastery in the village, where they remained in a stand-off with Kosovo police until evening.

The two sides exchanged gunfire sporadically until darkness fell, when the assailants escaped from the monastery on foot. Three of the attackers were killed and two injured. Another Kosovar police officer was injured in the confrontation near the monastery.

Two of the gunmen and four Serbs discovered nearby with communication equipment were arrested and are being investigated for terrorist acts.

Police seized vehicles used by the gunmen which contained an arsenal of firearms of different calibers, explosives,

ammunition and logistics capable of equipping hundreds of persons, according to Kosovo Interior Minister Xhelal Svecla.

"It's a terrorist, criminal, professional unit that had planned and prepared what they did and who are not a smuggling band but a mercenary structure which is politically, financially and logistically supported by official Belgrade," said Prime Minister Albin Kurti.

Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic said the gunmen were local Kosovo Serbs "who no longer want to stand Kurti's terror." Vucic condemned the killing of the Kosovo policeman, but still said the clash was the result of "brutal" pressure on Kosovo Serbs by the Kosovo government.

He denied that Belgrade had anything to do with the attack.

Vucic also blasted the West and its "hypocrisy" over Kosovo. "You can kill us all. Serbia will never recognize the independence of Kosovo, that

8 officials jailed as part of investigation into dams' collapse

AP ■ CAIRO

Libya's chief prosecutor said Monday he ordered the detention of eight current and former officials pending his investigation into the collapse of two dams earlier this month, a disaster that sent a wall of water several metres high through the centre of a coastal city and left thousands of people dead.

The two dams outside the city of Derna broke up on Sep. 11 after they were overwhelmed by Storm Daniel, which caused heavy rain across eastern Libya. The failure of the structures inundated as much as a quarter of the city, officials have said, destroying entire neighbourhoods and sweeping people out to sea.

Government officials and aid agencies have given estimated death tolls ranging from more than 4,000 to over 11,000. The bodies of many of the people killed still are under rubble or in the Mediterranean,



according to search teams.

A statement by the office of General Prosecutor al-Sidiq al-Sour said prosecutors on Sunday questioned seven former and current officials with the Water Resources Authority and the Dams Management Authority over allegations that mismanagement, negligence and mistakes contributed to the disaster.

Derna Mayor Abdel-Moneim al-Ghaithi, who was sacked after the disaster, was also questioned, the statement said.

Prosecutors ordered the eight to be jailed pending the investigation, the statement added.

The dams were built by a Yugoslav construction company in the 1970s above Wadi

Derna, a river valley which divides the city. They were meant to protect the city from flash floods, which are not uncommon in the area. The dams were not maintained for decades, despite warnings by scientists that they may burst.

A report by a state-run audit agency in 2021 said the two dams hadn't been maintained despite the allocation of more than USD 2 million for that purpose in 2012 and 2013.

A Turkish firm was contracted in 2007 to carry out maintenance on the two dams and to build a third one in between them. The firm, Arsel Construction Company Ltd., said on its website that it completed its work in November 2012. It didn't respond to an email seeking further comment.

Two weeks on, local and international teams were still digging through mud and hollowed-out buildings, looking for bodies. They also combing the Mediterranean off Derna,

searching for boding swept away in the floods.

The floods have left as many as a third of Derna's housing and infrastructure damaged, according to the UN's Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, or OCHA. Authorities have evacuated the most impacted part of the city, leaving only search and ambulance teams, OCHA said. The World Health Organization says more than 4,000 deaths have been registered dead, including foreigners, but a previous death toll given by the head of Libya's Red Crescent was at 11,300. The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs says at least 9,000 people are still missing.

The storm hit other areas in eastern Libya, including the towns of Bayda, Susa, Marj and Shahatt. Tens of thousands of people have been displaced in the region and took shelter in schools and other government buildings.

'New poll shows Biden trailing behind Trump by 10 points'

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

A new poll by the Washington Post and ABC News has shown President Joe Biden trailing behind his predecessor Donald Trump in a hypothetical November 2024 match. "Trump edges out Biden 51-42 in head-to-head matchup," the poll said. Trump is way ahead of his other Republican rivals in the party's presidential race. The GOP's formal nomination process will begin with the Iowa Caucus and the New Hampshire Primary in January.

While two of the Indian-American Republican presidential aspirants — former South Carolina governor Nikki Haley and entrepreneur Vivek Ramaswamy — have gained



momentum in recent weeks, Trump is far ahead of his GOP rivals and political pundits believe that he is on his way to becoming the party's nominee.

The Washington Post-ABC News poll released on Sunday said that a record number of Americans say they have become worse off under his presidency. Three-quarters say he's too old for another term

and Donald Trump is looking better in retrospect — all severe challenges for Biden in his reelection campaign ahead, according to the poll results.

However, the Washington Post disagrees with the results of the poll. The prominent American daily reported that the poll showing Trump beating Biden by 10 points is likely an "outlier" as the two rivals are in a dead heat according to other polls.

"The Post-ABC poll shows Biden trailing Trump by 10 percentage points at this early stage in the election cycle, although the sizable margin of Trump's lead in this survey is significantly at odds with other public polls that show the general election contest a virtual dead heat.

Inquest opens into death of 2 Indian-origin teens

London (PTI): An inquest opened on Monday into the death of two Indian-origin teenagers who died when they got into difficulty while swimming in Northern Ireland. Reuven Simon and Joseph Sebastian, both 16 and belonging to the local Kerala community in County Derry, drowned while out swimming in the Enagh Lough, or Enagh Lake, in August last year.

According to local news reports, one of the boys was taken from the water and transferred to Altnagelvin Hospital, where he was later pronounced dead. The second boy was pronounced dead at the scene after being recovered from the water after searches by police divers. "We know both families and can only imagine the incalculable

pain they are feeling today," the North West Migrants Forum said in a statement at the time.

"Thanks must also go to emergency services who were on the scene. Our thoughts and prayers are with the entire Kerala community as they try to make sense of this awful tragedy. Remembered fondly," it said.

Both boys were pupils at St Columb's College in Derry, Northern Ireland. The school principal, Finbar Madden, expressed "shock and sadness" of the local community.

"No words can express the devastation that we feel as a school community, but first and foremost our thoughts and prayers are with both boys' families, community and friends," he said.

Trial opens over killing of police couple in France

AP ■ PARIS

It wasn't the deadliest attack in Europe linked to the Islamic State group, but it was among the most disturbing: One evening in 2016, an assailant killed two police officers in their family home, in front of their 3-year-old son. On Monday, a trial opens in a French counterterrorism court over the attack in the Paris suburb of Magnanville.

The attacker, Larossi Abballa, was shot to death by police. According to court documents, he told police negotiators that he was responding to an IS leader's call to "kill miscreants at home with their families."

A childhood friend of Abballa's, Mohamed Aberouz, is going on trial for complicity to terrorism-related murder,

complicity to kidnapping and terrorist conspiracy. He faces up to life in prison if convicted.

The killings came amid a wave of attacks in France linked to the Islamic State group and had a lasting effect on police officers around France.

Some moved, changed services or resigned to protect their loved ones after the Magnanville killings.

According to court documents, Abballa broke into the home of police officers Jessica Schneider and Jean-Baptiste Salvaing before they returned from work. When Schneider came home, Abballa slit her throat in the living room, with the child present. The father texted her from the office to say "I'm leaving," the documents say. There was no response. He was stabbed upon arriv-

ing home. Neighbours called police, and the attacker said he was holding the couple's 3-year-old hostage, according to the documents.

He told a negotiator from a special police unit that he acted because the French government was preventing the faithful from joining the caliphate, and stressed that he had not targeted civilians but representatives of the French state.

Police stormed the home and killed Abballa, and rescued the child. The boy has been raised by family members since.

After more than five years of investigation and multiple arrests, only Aberouz is facing trial. Charges were initially brought against two others but later dropped.

Imran Khan shifted to Adiala prison?

Jail admin denies

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

Imran Khan's lawyer on Monday said he was shifted from the Attock jail to high-security Adiala prison in the garrison city of Rawalpindi following a high court order, but Adiala jail officials dismissed claims that the former prime minister has been relocated. In August, the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party petitioned the Islamabad High Court (IHC) to transfer the deposed party chief to Adiala prison where A-class facilities are available, keeping in view 70-year-old Khan's affluent family background, social and political status.

During the hearing on Monday, IHC Chief Justice Aamer Farooq directed authorities to shift the deposed prime minister to Adiala jail. Chief Justice Farooq said that Khan is an under-trial prisoner in the

cipher case, which was registered in Islamabad. He objected to keeping "an under-trial prisoner" in Attock jail instead of Adiala jail.

"Shift the PTI chairman to Adiala jail," the judge said. He said Khan had been imprisoned at the Attock jail as per the sentence awarded in the Toshakhana case, which was suspended.

"IHC Chief Justice has ordered moving PTI chairman Imran Khan from Attock Prison to Adiala Prison in Rawalpindi," Khan's party said.

Talking to the media outside the IHC, Khan's lawyer Sher Afzal Marwat said they had "finally been granted justice from the IHC" on the matter of shifting Khan from Attock jail to Adiala jail. The lawyer said it was a "little bit of justice" but he was glad about it. Naeem Panjhoti, who is the spokesperson of Khan on legal affairs, claimed that the ousted premier has been shifted to the prison in Adiala.

However, the Adiala jail administration refuted the claim, saying that Khan has not

yet been shifted there.

Later, in a post on platform X, Panjhuta said that he had been informed that Khan had been shifted to Adiala jail but "it is beyond understanding that Attock jail [authorities] are also saying that they have PTI chairman."

Khan has been kept in the Attock Jail since August 5 after his conviction in the Toshakhana corruption case. His sentence was suspended by the IHC on August 29, but he continues to remain in prison in the cipher (secret diplomatic cable) leakage case.

A special court, established under the Official Secrets Act, on September 13 extended the judicial remand of Khan till September 26 in the cipher case. Special court hearings in the cipher case against Khan have been taking place at the Attock jail, citing security reasons. The Islamabad trial court which had sentenced Khan to three years in jail had directed the authorities to lodge him at Adiala prison. However, after his arrest, he was shifted to Attock jail.

Thousands of Armenians flee Nagorno-Karabakh as Turkish president set to visit Azerbaijan

AP ■ YEREVAN

Thousands of Armenians streamed out of Nagorno-Karabakh after the Azerbaijani military reclaimed full control of the breakaway region while Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan was set to visit Azerbaijan Monday in a show of support to its ally.

The Azerbaijani military routed Armenian forces in a 24-hour blitz last week, forcing the separatist authorities to agree to lay down weapons and start talks on Nagorno-Karabakh's "reintegration" into Azerbaijan after three decades of separatist rule. A second round of talks between Azerbaijani officials and separatist representatives began in Khojaly Tuesday following the opening meeting last week. While Azerbaijan pledged to respect the rights of ethnic Armenians in the region and restore supplies after a 10-month blockade, many local residents feared reprisals and said they were planning to leave for Armenia.

The Armenian government said that 4,850 Nagorno-Karabakh residents had fled to Armenia as of midday Monday. "It was a nightmare. There are no words to describe. The village was heavily shelled. Almost no one is left in the village," said one of the evacuees who spoke to The Associated Press in the Armenian city of Koridzor and refused to give her name for security reasons.

Moscow said that Russian peacekeepers in Nagorno-Karabakh were assisting the evacuation. Azerbaijan's Defence Ministry said Monday that two of its soldiers were killed a day earlier when a military truck hit a landmine. It didn't name the area where the explosion occurred.

In an address to the nation Sunday, Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan said his government was working with international partners to protect the rights and security of Armenians in Nagorno-Karabakh. "If these efforts do not produce concrete results, the government will welcome our sisters and brothers from Nagorno-Karabakh in the

Republic of Armenia with every care," he said.

Demonstrators demanding Pashinyan's resignation continued blocking the Armenian capital's main avenues Monday, engaging in occasional clashes with police that sought to disperse the protests. Nagorno-Karabakh came under the control of ethnic Armenian forces, backed by the Armenian military, in separatist fighting that ended in 1994. During a six-week war in 2020, Azerbaijan took back parts of Nagorno-Karabakh along with surrounding territory that Armenian forces had claimed during the earlier conflict. After a Russia-brokered armistice, a contingent of about 2,000 Russian peacekeepers was sent to the region to monitor it.

In December, Azerbaijan imposed a blockade of the only road connecting Nagorno-Karabakh with Armenia, alleging that the Armenian government was using the road for mineral extraction and illicit weapons shipments to the region's separatist forces.

Armenia charged that the closure denied basic food and fuel supplies to Nagorno-Karabakh's approximately 120,000 people. Azerbaijan rejected the accusation, arguing the region could receive supplies through the Azerbaijani city of Aghdam — a solution long resisted by Nagorno-Karabakh authorities, who called it a strategy for Azerbaijan to gain control of the region. On Sunday, French President Emmanuel Macron pledged support for Armenia and Armenians, saying that France will mobilise food and medical aid for the population of Nagorno-Karabakh, and keep working toward a 'sustainable peace' in the region.

France, which has a big Armenian diaspora, has for decades played a mediating role in Nagorno-Karabakh. A few hundred people rallied outside the French Foreign Ministry over the weekend, demanding sanctions against Azerbaijan and accusing Paris of not doing enough to protect Armenian interests in the region.

Home Secy orders review of UK police firearms regulations

PTI ■ LONDON

British Home Secretary Suella Braverman has launched a review into the legal protections for officers on firearms duties after a revolt within Scotland Yard ranks following a murder charge against a Metropolitan Police officer who had discharged his gun while on duty.

The UK's Ministry of Defence (MoD) is said to have offered soldiers as back up support for armed police in London after several officers turned in their weapon carrying permits since their colleague was charged last week.

The UK's Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) had authorised charges against the officer, granted legal anonymity, in connection with a shooting in September last year.

"We depend on our brave firearms officers to protect us from the most dangerous and violent in society. In the interest of public safety, they have to make split-second decisions under extraordinary pressures," Braverman said in a post on X on Sunday.

"They mustn't fear ending up in the dock for carrying out their duties. Officers risking their lives to keep us safe have my full backing and I will do everything in my power to support them. That's why I have launched a review to ensure they have the confidence to do their jobs while

protecting us all," she said.

The Met Police chief, Sir Mark Rowley, welcomed Braverman's review into the issue in an open letter on Monday and stressed that it was important to "let the police police".

"It is essential that we have a system which commands the confidence of officers and the communities they serve," writes Rowley.

"The system that judges officers' actions should be rooted in integrity and decisions should be reached swiftly, competently and without fear or favour. A review is needed to address accountability mechanisms, including the policies and practices of the Independent Office for Police Conduct and the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), ideally with a focus on the threshold for investigating police use of force and involvement in pursuits," he said.

More than 100 officers are believed to have handed in permits allowing them to carry weapons after their colleague was charged over the shooting of Chris Kaba, 24, in south London.

"The CPS reminds all concerned that criminal proceedings against the officer are active and that he has the right to a fair trial. It is extremely important there should be no reporting, commentary or sharing of information online which could in any way prej-

udice these proceedings," said Rosemary Ainslie, head of the CPS Special Crime Division, last week.

The CPS Special Crime Division deals with the most complex and sensitive cases in England and Wales, including serious criminal allegations against police officers.

An estimated 2,595 officers are licensed as firearms officers in the Met Police, governed by a set of rules, procedures and accountability processes for being authorised to carry weapons.

"Many are worried about how the decision impacts on them, on their colleagues and on their families. They are concerned that it signals a shift in the way the decisions they take in the most challenging circumstances will be judged," the Met Police said in a statement.

"The Met has a significant firearms capability and we continue to have armed officers deployed in communities across London as well as at other sites including Parliament, diplomatic premises, airports etc... The Ministry of Defence has agreed to a request to provide the Met with counterterrorism support should it be needed. This is a contingency option that would only be used in specific circumstances and where an appropriate policing response was not available," it added.

Chairman of Hong Kong's leading journalist group found guilty of obstructing cop

Hong Kong (AP): The chairman of Hong Kong's leading journalist group was found guilty of obstructing a police officer on Monday in a court case that sparked concerns about the city's declining press freedom.

Ronson Chan, chairman of the Hong Kong Journalists Association and a journalist of online news outlet Channel C, was arrested last September while he was on his way to a reporting assignment. He was accused of refusing to show the plainclothes officer his identity card upon request.

Chan's arrest fuelled concerns about the erosion of media freedom in Hong Kong after Beijing imposed a national security law to crush dissent following the city's massive pro-democracy protests in 2019. The former British colony was promised to keep its Western-style civil liberties for 50 years when it returned to Chinese rule in 1997.

Magistrate Leung Ka-kie on Monday ruled that Chan had deliberately obstructed the officer from carrying out her duty and failed to take out

his identity card in a timely manner. He kept asking the officer questions "recklessly," she said. He will be sentenced later Monday and could face a maximum penalty of two years in prison. In the crackdown following the 2019 protests, two vocal media outlets — Apple Daily and Stand News — have been forced to shut down and some of their top managers have been prosecuted. Two former top editors at Stand News, where Chan used to work, were tried for sedition. A verdict is scheduled for November.

Russian strikes in Odesa damage port, grain silo, hotel

AP ■ KYIV

A Russian drone and missile strike near Odesa damaged infrastructure, a grain silo and an abandoned hotel and injured one person in the Black Sea port city as attacks elsewhere in Ukraine killed five civilians and wounded 13 in the past day, Ukrainian officials said Monday.

Ukraine's air force reported downing all Russian drones launched overnight, but one of 12 Kalibr missiles and two P-800 Oniks cruise missiles apparently made it past air defences the day after the war in Ukraine entered its 20th month. Russia has continuously targeted port and grain storage facilities in Odesa since pulling out of a wartime deal that allowed Ukrainian grain exports to countries facing the threat of hunger. The attacks have destroyed silos, warehouses, oil terminals and other infrastructure critical for storage and shipping.

The Russian Defence Ministry said long-range missiles and drones were used to strike facilities that it alleged had housed foreign mercenaries and trained saboteurs. The ministry didn't name locations or provide other specifics to support its claim. It also said it downed several Ukrainian drones. The attacks came as independent UN-backed human rights experts said they found new evidence of war crimes committed by Russian forces and as President Volodymyr Zelenskyy welcomed the arrival of the first Abrams tanks sent by the US.

The UN Independent Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine said it found evidence of crimes committed by both sides in the war, but far more by Russians, including instances of torture, some of it fatal, and rape of women as old as 83. It said it was also looking into allegations that Russian

forces committed genocide. Zelenskyy thanked allies on Telegram for their support in announcing the anticipated arrival of the tanks. He didn't say how many tanks had arrived, but the US has said it was sending 31 tanks.

In other fighting, Russian forces also dropped bombs and launched six heavy artillery strikes on southern Ukraine's Kherson region, destroying a school and factory and damaging residential buildings. Three of the deaths reported by the Ukrainian president's office were in the region: two people were killed and two others were injured by bombs that hit the city of Beryslav. A man was killed in the neighbouring village of Lvove.

In eastern Ukraine, Russians attacked residential areas of 10 cities and villages in the Donetsk region, killing two people in the village of Zarichne, according to the presidential office. During fighting in southeast Ukraine's Zaporizhzhia region, the Russian army carried out five airstrikes on Orkhiv, a small city, and its surrounding area.

The Russian Defence Ministry said its air defences downed three Ukrainian drones over the Kursk region of Russia and three others over the Bryansk region early Monday. It also reported that three drones were shot down over the Belgorod region. Kursk Gov Roman Starovoi said a downed drone over the centre of the city of Kursk damaged the roof of an administrative building and several private houses and shattered windows in an apartment building. Starovoi said there were no injuries. A day earlier, a Ukrainian drone damaged the roof of an administrative building in Kursk that some Ukrainian and Russian media reported housed the offices of the Federal Security Service, Russia's main domestic security agency.



A recovery team member examines a capsule containing NASA's first asteroid samples before it is taken to a temporary clean room at Dugway Proving Ground in Utah on Sunday, September 24. The Osiris-Rex spacecraft released the capsule following a seven-year journey to asteroid Benu and back

AP/PTI

Tentative deal reached to end Hollywood writers' strike

AP ■ LOS ANGELES

Union leaders and Hollywood studios reached a tentative agreement Sunday to end a historic screenwriters strike after nearly five months, though no deal is yet in the works for striking actors. The Writers Guild of America announced the deal with the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers, the group that represents studios, streaming services and producers in negotiations.

"WGA has reached a tentative agreement with the AMPTP," said in an email to members. "This was made possible by the enduring solidarity of WGA members and extraordinary support of our union siblings who joined us on the picket lines for over 146 days." The three-year contract agreement — settled on after five marathon days of renewed

talks by negotiators WGA and the AMPTP — must be approved by the guild's board and members before the strike officially ends.

The terms of the deal were not immediately announced. The tentative deal to end the last writers strike, in 2008, was approved by more than 90 per cent of members.

The agreement comes just five days before the strike would've become the longest in the guild's history, and the longest Hollywood strike in decades. As a result of the agreement, nightly network shows including NBC's "The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon" and ABC's "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" could return to the air within days. But as writers prepare to potentially crack open their laptops again, it's far from back to business as usual in Hollywood, as talks have not yet resumed between studios and striking actors. Crew

members left with no work by the stoppage will remain unemployed for now.

The proposed solution to the writers strike comes after talks resumed on Wednesday or the first time in a month. Chief executives including Bob Iger of Disney, Ted Sarandos of Netflix, David Zaslav of Warner Bros. Discovery and Donna Langley of NBCUniversal reportedly took part in the negotiations directly. About 11,500 members of the Writers Guild of America walked off the job May 2 over issues of pay, the size of writing staffs on shows and the use of artificial intelligence in the creation of scripts. Actors, who joined the writers on strike in July, have their own issues but there have been no discussions about resuming negotiations with their union yet. The writers strike immediately sent late-night talk shows and "Saturday Night

Live" into hiatus, and has since sent dozens of scripted shows and other productions into limbo, including forthcoming seasons of Netflix's "Stranger Things," HBO's "The Last of Us," and ABC's "Abbott Elementary," and films including "Deadpool 3" and "Superman: Legacy." The Emmy Awards were also pushed from September to January.

More recently, writers had been targeting talk shows that were working around strike rules to return to air, including "The Drew Barrymore Show," "Real Time With Bill Maher" and "The Talk." All reversed course in the face of picketing and pressure, and are likely to quickly return now.

The combined strikes made for a pivotal moment in Hollywood as creative labour faced off against executives in a business transformed and torn by technology, from the

seismic shift to streaming in recent years to the potentially paradigm-shifting emergence of AI in the years to come.

Screenwriters had traditionally gone on strike more than any other segment of the industry, but had enjoyed a relatively long stretch of labour peace until spring negotiations for a new contract fell apart. The walkout was their first since 2007 and their longest since 1988.

On July 14, more than two months into the strike, the writers got a dose of solidarity and star power — along with a whole lot of new picketing partners — when they were joined by 65,000 striking film and television actors.

Egypt sets prez poll for December likely to stay in power until 2030

Cairo (AP): Egypt will hold a presidential election over three days in December, officials announced Monday, with President Abdel Fattah el-Sissi highly likely to remain in power until 2030. Waleed Hamza, the chairman of the National Election Authority, said the vote will take place on Dec 10-12, with a runoff on Jan 8-10 if no candidate secures more than 50% of the vote. Egyptian expatriates will vote on Dec 1-3, and in the runoff on Jan 5-7, he added.

A handful of politicians have already announced their bids to run for the country's highest post, but none poses a serious challenge to el-Sissi, who has been in power since 2014 and has faced criticism from the West over his country's human rights record.

El-Sissi, a former defence minister, led the military overthrow of an elected but divisive Islamist president in 2013 amid street protests against his one-year rule. Since then, authorities have launched a major crackdown on dissent. Thousands of government critics have been silenced or jailed, mainly Islamists but also many prominent secular activists, including many of those behind the 2011 uprising that toppled longtime autocrat Hosni Mubarak. El-Sissi has not announced his candidacy yet. He was first elected in 2014 and reelected in 2018 for a second four-year term. Constitutional amendments, passed in a referendum in 2019, added two years to his second term, and allowed him to run for a third, six-year term. In the 2018 vote, el-Sissi faced only a little-known politician who joined the race at the last minute to spare the government the embarrassment of a one-candidate election after several hopefuls were forced out or arrested.

Sensex, Nifty end 4-day losing streak

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty closed marginally up in highly volatile trade on Monday, snapping their four-day losing streak even as weak global trends and foreign fund outflows dented the investor sentiment.

After gyrating 461.6 points during the day, the 30-share BSE Sensex eked out a marginal gain of 14.54 points or 0.02 per cent to settle at 66,023.69. During the day, it hit a high of 66,225.63 and a low of 65,764.03.

Snapping its four-day losing streak, the broader Nifty settled marginally up 0.30 points at 19,674.55 as 24 of its components advanced while 26 declined. Gains in financials, consumer durables, realty and banking shares were offset by losses in IT, oil & gas and pharma shares.

In the four sessions to Friday, the 50-issue barometer declined 3.37 per cent or 518 points while Sensex plunged



1,829 points or 3 per cent following a record 11-day rally.

Analysts said a fresh uptick in US treasury yields is making investors jittery amid rising concerns over inflation and high interest rates while FIIs continue to offload shares in local equities.

Among the Sensex firms, Bajaj Finance jumped the most by 4.64 per cent. Bajaj Finserv, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Asian Paints, UltraTech Cement, ICICI Bank, NTPC, JSW Steel and Tata Steel were among the

major gainers.

Infosys, Mahindra & Mahindra, Wipro, Tata Consultancy Services, IndusInd Bank and HCL Technologies were the major losers.

Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services, said, "The day presented a mixed picture in the market, with sectors such as realty, banking, and consumer durables performing well while IT and pharma struggling. Investors were actively repositioning, shifting away from

stocks tied to the global economy and focusing on the domestic economy."

Concerns loomed over a potential global economic slowdown due to the prolonged period of high-interest rates, Nair added.

Analysts also said that India's entry into JP Morgan's Emerging Markets Government Bond Index is benefiting the financial sector in anticipation of a reduction in funding cost.

In the broader market, the BSE midcap gauge climbed 0.46

per cent and smallcap index advanced 0.12 per cent.

Among the indices, realty jumped 1.56 per cent, financial services climbed 0.46 per cent, consumer durables (0.43 per cent), bankex (0.29 per cent) and commodities (0.23 per cent).

Industrials, IT, telecommunication, auto, capital goods and tech were among the laggards.

In Asian markets, Seoul, Shanghai and Hong Kong ended in the negative territory while Tokyo settled in the green. European markets were trading lower. The US markets ended in negative territory on Friday.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude climbed 0.39 per cent to USD 93.63 a barrel.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 1,326.74 crore on Friday, according to exchange data. FIIs have pulled out over Rs 10,000 crore from Indian equities in the first three weeks of September.

India's first green hydrogen-run bus that emits just water unveiled

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India's top oil firm IOC on Monday unveiled the nation's first green hydrogen-powered bus that emits just water as it takes the lead in bringing out unrivaled tools to replace fossil fuels.

Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) will produce close to 75 kg of hydrogen by splitting water using electricity from renewable sources. This hydrogen will be used to power two buses which will ply across the national capital region for trial runs.

Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri, flagging off the buses, said hydrogen will be India's transition fuel for moving away from fossil fuels.

IOC's R&D Centre at Faridabad is producing green hydrogen for the pilot run. Four cylinders with a capacity of 30 kg can run the buses for 350 km. It takes 10-12 minutes for the four tanks to fill.

Hydrogen when burnt emits only water vapour as a by-product. With three times the energy density and the absence of harmful emissions, hydrogen shines as a cleaner, more efficient choice to meet the energy requirement.

As much as 50 units of renewable electricity and 9 kg of deionized water are needed for the production of one kilo of green hydrogen. Hydrogen can be used as a fuel for fuel cells.

Puri said by the end of 2023, IOC will scale up the number of buses to 15.

IOC will undertake opera-



Union Minister for Petroleum & Natural Gas, Housing and Urban Affairs, Hardeep Singh Puri flags off 1st Green Hydrogen Fuel Cell Bus at India Gate in New Delhi on Monday

tional trials of 15 fuel cell buses powered by green hydrogen on the identified routes in Delhi, Haryana, and UP. Under this programme, the first set of 2 fuel cell buses was launched on Monday.

"Our government has ambitious plans on clean and green energy. India has taken many steps towards low carbon development- through emerging fuels like hydrogen and bio-fuels and shall account for 25 per cent of global incremental energy demand growth over the next two decades," Puri said.

Upon the launch of the two buses, a cumulative mileage of more than 3 lakh kilometers will be covered for long-term assessment of performance and durability of the new technology.

India has one of the largest synchronous grids in the world, capable of handling intermittent renewable energy and it has achieved 'One Nation-One Grid-One Frequency'.

"With the low cost solar,

synchronous grid, large demand and engineering, India will be a global champion in production and exports of hydrogen and is set to emerge as the hub for green hydrogen," he said. Puri said recently the world's first BS 6 (Stage II) Electrified Flex Fuel vehicle prototype was launched that encompasses both the flex fuel engine as well as an electric powertrain that offers higher use of ethanol combined with better fuel efficiencies.

Hydrogen is deemed as the fuel for the future with immense potential to help India meet its decarbonization targets. The global demand for hydrogen is expected to increase by four to seven times to 500-800 tonne by 2050.

Domestic demand is expected to increase by four times, from the current 6 tonne at present to 25-28 tonne by 2050.

Oil and gas PSUs shall produce around 1 million tonne per annum of green hydrogen by 2030.

RBI 'not comfortable' with NPAs in urban co-op banks

Asks lenders to focus on governance

PTI ■ MUMBAI

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das on Monday said the central bank is "not comfortable" with the gross non-performing assets ratio of 8.7 per cent in urban cooperative banks (UCBs) and asked them to work towards improving the same.

Addressing directors of UCBs in the financial capital at an RBI-organised conference, Das urged that such lenders should improve the governance standards, avoid related-party transactions and focus on credit risks, among others.

It can be noted that the UCB sector has been fraught with multiple challenges and also witnessed difficult times in the recent past, like the implosion of the city-headquartered Punjab and Maharashtra Bank.

Das reminded the directors of the UCBs that banks run on depositors and added that protection of the hard-earned



money pooled in from the middle class, poor and retirees is far more sacred than going to a temple or a gurdwara.

While the overall picture at an aggregate level looks nice, the situation on GNPA and capital adequacy is "not at all satisfactory", Das said.

He said the overall GNPA have improved to 8.7 per cent, which is "not a good number. It is not a comfortable number even at an aggregate level."

Scheduled commercial banks' GNPA stood at a decadal best level of 3.9 per cent in March 2023 and are widely estimated to improve further.

To manage the scourge of NPAs better, Das suggested that

there should be a focus on credit risk management with better underwriting.

He said the RBI has come across instances of conflicts of interest or related party transactions, which need to be avoided.

Similarly, there have been instances of many of the top defaulters being individuals or businesses having the ability to pay, Das said.

The top 20 defaulters account for over 60 per cent of the loan overdue, and focusing on this segment can help improve the overall NPAs, he added.

On the capital adequacy front, he noted that there has been an improvement in the ratios to 16.6 per cent at the end of FY23 from 15.5 per cent a year ago.

Making it clear that he wants to share the RBI's concerns with the lenders, Das exhorted the UCBs to focus on the quality of governance by paying attention to compliance, risk management and internal audit.



Ban lentil import from Canada, traders' body urges Centre

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi traders' body CTI on Monday urged the Central Government to ban import of lentil (masur) from Canada, over Ottawa's allegations relating to the killing of a Khalistani separatist on Canadian soil.

In a letter to Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal, the Chamber of Trade and Industry (CTI) said that there was a need to exert economic pressure on Canada. A growing dispute between India and Canada has erupted following allegations made by Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau over the killing of Khalistani separatist Hardeep Singh Nijjar.

Chairman of CTI, Brijesh Goyal, said that the development has sent ripples through the business world. Indian traders

have demanded that India should ban import of lentils from Canada, which is a major supplier.

"Canada is becoming a stronghold of Khalistanis and their anti-India sentiment was displayed by protests at the Indian embassy. However, Trudeau is making politically motivated statements in view of upcoming elections in Canada," he said. India's annual pulse consumption is estimated at around 23 lakh tonnes of which 15-16 lakh tonnes is produced domestically and rest is imported from other countries. In the last financial year, India imported 4.85 lakh tonnes of lentil from Canada, Goyal said.

The Central government may contact other countries for pulses like Russia, Singapore, and Turkey, he added.

Demat accounts grow 26 per cent to 12.7 crore in August



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The number of demat accounts rose to 12.7 crore in August 2023, a surge of 26 per cent on a yearly basis, primarily due to attractive returns from equity markets, and ease of account opening process.

Also, the incremental additions of such accounts were higher in August in comparison to the preceding month. Further, this was higher than the average 21 lakh monthly additions in fiscal year FY23, according to an analysis by Motilal Oswal Financial Services.

The new account additions rose 4.1 per cent month-on-month to 31 lakh in August compared to 30 lakh additions in July. Going by the data, a total of 12.7 crore demat accounts were registered with the two depositories — NSDL and CDSL — at the end of August 2023 as compared to 10.1 crore a year earlier. The number of demat accounts was 12.3 crore at July-end.

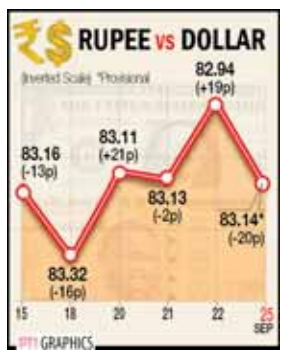
Of the 12.7 crore total, 3.3

crore, and 9.35 crore demat accounts were registered with NSDL and CDSL, respectively at the end of August, data from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) showed.

Market experts said additions in dematerialized (demat) accounts are driven by attractive returns from equity markets and the ease of account opening process offered by brokers to their clients.

Also, the increased financial literacy and the growing popularity of trading among youth have been some other major factors contributing to the rise, they added. The count of NSE active clients has been increasing for two consecutive months. The active user clients in the industry as a whole rose 2.5 per cent month-on-month to 3.27 crore in August.

The top five discount brokers — Zerodha, Angel One, Groww, ICICI Securities, and IIFL Securities — accounted for 60.8 per cent of overall NSE active clients last month, down from 61.2 per cent in July.



Rupee falls 20 paise to close at 83.14 against \$

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The rupee declined by 20 paise to settle at 83.14 (provisional) against the US dollar on Monday due to rising crude oil prices and a strong American currency against major rivals overseas.

Subdued equity markets and withdrawal of foreign funds also weighed on the domestic currency, forex traders said.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened weak at 83.04 and traded between a high of 83.04 and a low of 83.15 against the greenback. It finally settled at 83.14 (provisional) against the dollar, registering a fall of 20 paise from the previous close.

On Friday, the rupee climbed 19 paise to close at 82.94 against the US dollar.



Member of Parliament NK Premachandran with CMD King's Infra Saji Bady John and other delegates during the launch of 'SISTA 360' at the India Habitat Centre in New Delhi on Monday

IN BRIEF

90,000 STUDENTS FROM ACROSS INDIA PARTICIPATE IN FEST

New Delhi: Aarush 23, the four-day annual tech festival organised by the students of SRMIST at Kattankulathur near Chennai, turned out to be an impressive affair with the participation of over 90,000 students from educational institutions located across India. The fest was themed around Envisioning Futuristic Breakthroughs-Shifting Paradigm, Enriching WellBeing. The inaugural was held on 21 September in the presence of eminent scientist Dr Vipparthi Adimurthy, dean at IIST Thiruvananthapuram.

DMRC WINS MULTIPLE AWARDS

New Delhi: The Corporate Communication Department of the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation headed by Anuj Dayal (Principal Executive Director) has been awarded three prestigious awards at the 17th Global Communication Conclave organized by the Public Relations Council of India in New Delhi on 21 and 22 September 2023. The DMRC won the Crystal award in the Crisis Management Communication category and two bronze awards in the Digital Newsletter and Best Use of Media Relations Categories

REPORT TO HELP ASIAN ECONOMIES PUBLISHED

New Delhi: The Asia Transition Finance (ATF) Study Group, where Power Finance Corporation (PFC) has been a core member since July, 2023, has published a report to help Asian economies achieve a just and orderly transition toward a more sustainable future. It is a private-led initiative whose core participants are financial institutions with operations in Asia.

IRCTC OFFER TO MARK 24TH FOUNDATION DAY

New Delhi: The IRCTC has special offers to mark the occasion of its 24th foundation day and World Tourism Day. They are: Zero convenience fee on booking flights tickets through www.airirctc.co.in. The offer is valid on the flight tickets booked on IRCTC website and mobile apps for air ticketing. It is valid on flight tickets booked from 25th to 27th September 2023.

CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

New Delhi: A bunch of youngsters who bravely fought cancer visited the Delhi Metro Museum. As part of the Childhood Cancer Awareness month in September, these enterprising boys and girls enacted a play at the Metro Museum to raise awareness about the disease.

LIFE INSURANCE PLAN

New Delhi: With the twin offering financial security and wealth creation, Bharti AXA Life Insurance has partnered with PolicyBazaar to launch Bharti AXA Life Wealth Maximizer, a Unit-linked, non-participating individual life insurance plan.

Investments in Indian agri-tech startups fell 45 per cent during 2022, '23: FSG

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Investments in Indian agri-tech startups fell by 45 per cent during 2021-22 and 2022-23 fiscal years, primarily due to a hike in global interest rates and heightened investor caution amid rising uncertainty, reveals consulting firm FSG's new report. Meanwhile, global agri-tech investments declined by 10 per cent during calendar years 2022 and 2023, it said.

Going forward, FSG expects the funding slump to continue into FY24 before springing back in FY25. It expects that startups will continue focusing on profitability to tide over the next financial year.

"Investors are likely to continue being cautious and direct their limited funding towards established business models, such as follow-on funding for companies in the mid-stream agri-tech category," it said.

Godrej Properties sells flats worth ₹2,000 crore in Noida

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Realty firm Godrej Properties Ltd on Monday said it has sold about 670 flats worth more than Rs 2000 crore in its new housing project at Noida on strong demands.

Godrej Properties purchased the land through an e-auction conducted by the Noida Authority in November last year.

In a regulatory filing, Godrej Properties informed that it has "sold 670 homes worth over Rs 2,000 crore in its project, Godrej Tropical Isle, located in Sector 146, Noida."

This is Godrej Properties' most successful ever launch in terms of the value and volume of sales achieved, the company said. The project was launched in August.

Gaurav Pandey, the MD and CEO of Godrej Properties said, "Noida is an extremely important market for Godrej Properties and we will look to further strengthen our presence in the years ahead."

Godrej Properties, an arm



of business conglomerate Godrej Industries, is one of the leading real estate developers in the country. It mainly focuses on the Delhi-NCR, Mumbai Metropolitan Region, Bengaluru and Pune markets for the development of residential projects.

The company expects 14 per cent growth in sale bookings this fiscal year to a record Rs 14,000 crore.

During the April-June quarter of the 2023-24 fiscal, Godrej Properties' sales book-

Amazon investing up to \$4 billion in AI startup

AP ■ WASHINGTON

Amazon is investing up to USD 4 billion in Anthropic and taking a minority stake in the artificial intelligence startup, the two companies said on Monday.

The investment underscores how Big Tech companies are pouring money into AI as they race to capitalise on the opportunities that the latest generation of the technology is set to fuel.

Amazon and Anthropic said the deal is part of a broader collaboration to develop so-called foundation models, which underpin the generative AI systems that have captured global attention.

Foundation models, also known as large language models, are trained on vast pools of online information, like blog posts, digital books, scientific articles and pop songs to generate text, images and video that resemble human work.

Under the agreement,

Anthropic is making Amazon its primary cloud computing service and using the online retail giant's custom chips as part of work to train and deploy its generative AI systems.

San Francisco-based Anthropic was founded by former staffers from OpenAI, the maker of the ChatGPT AI chatbot that made a global splash with its ability to come up with answers mimicking human responses.

Anthropic has released its own ChatGPT rival, dubbed Claude.

The latest version, which is available in the US and UK, is capable of "sophisticated dialogue and creative content generation to complex reasoning and detailed instruction," the company said.

Amazon is scrambling to catch up with rivals like Microsoft, which invested USD 1 billion in OpenAI in 2019, followed by another multibillion-dollar investment at the start of year.

REAL'S STREAK IS OVER

MORATA BRACE HELPS ATLETICO END REAL MADRID WINNING STREAK

AP ■ MADRID

Alvaro Morata struck twice for Atletico Madrid as they inflicted rivals Real Madrid's first defeat of the season, with a 3-1 derby triumph on Sunday in La Liga.

Champions Barcelona sit top of the league as Los Blancos lost their 100 percent record, with Antoine Griezmann also on target for Atletico, fifth, at their raucous Metropolitano stadium.

Real Madrid are third, a point behind Barcelona and high-flying Girona in second place, after they failed to match Atletico's level of intensity in an enthralling clash.

Morata netted an early header and Griezmann doubled Atletico's lead, before Toni Kroos pulled Madrid into the game with a stinging drive before half-time.

However, Morata headed home again at the start of the second half and Madrid could not find a way back against an Atletico side bouncing back from what coach Diego Simeone labelled their "weakest" performance of his long reign last weekend.

"It was a problem of defensive fragility, which we haven't had in the first few games," Real Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti told reporters. "In just over 45 minutes they put three past us, it was not a good night ... the team was not compact, above all in the first half, Atletico took advantage of that."



Morata led the line well for Atletico and was rewarded with two goals, which he celebrated wildly.

"What I need is to feel important and this year, maybe I feel more important than in other years — I hope we keep winning because I really want to win a title with Atletico," Morata told DAZN.

"I'm very happy for all the fans, I said it the other day ... that the fans are going to have the

most important role, and that's how it was.

"(We're) all together, us on the pitch and them in the stands."

Ancelotti has given veteran midfielders Luka Modric and Kroos limited minutes this season but chose to start them both in the team's biggest game of the campaign to date, dropping Aurelien Tchouameni and striker Joselu.

The Italian pushed new

arrival Jude Bellingham even further into attack, alongside Rodrygo, instead of in the number 10 role he has starred in since his move from Borussia Dortmund in the summer, scoring six goals in his first six games before the derby.

Real Madrid were without star forward Vinicius Junior, who has recovered from his hamstring injury but suffered a stomach problem on Sunday morning, according to Spanish

reports. "The three goals were a photocopy," complained Ancelotti.

"Space opening between the centre-backs, we were not well positioned in the area — we were not compact on the three goals."

"The important thing is that the team got their spirit back, because if that has been recovered, it doesn't matter who the opponent is," the Atletico's coach Diego Simeone told DAZN.

Ramos then headed in the



PSG demolish Marseille

AP ■ PARIS

Paris Saint-Germain demolished Marseille in Ligue 1 on Sunday with summer signing Goncalo Ramos scoring twice in a 4-0 victory for the reigning champions, but Kylian Mbappe came off injured in the first half.

Mbappe appeared to hurt his ankle in winning the free-kick which saw Achraf Hakimi put PSG ahead in the eighth minute at the Parc des Princes.

The France superstar was eventually replaced just after the half-hour mark, but the home side went on to double their lead before the break through Randal Kolo Muani.

Ramos then headed in the

home side's third goal just after half-time and completed the rout late on as PSG followed up their 2-0 victory over Borussia Dortmund in the Champions League in mid-week.

The win leaves Luis Enrique's team in fourth place after six games, two points behind surprise leaders Brest, who beat Lyon 1-0 on Saturday.

Luis Enrique suggested after the game the injury suffered by his top scorer Mbappe was nothing serious.

"I think it was a knock. He tried to change the strapping on it and continue but the pain wouldn't go away," the coach said.

"I don't think it is anything

serious and I suppose he will be back soon, but it is better not to take risks when a player is not 100 percent."

The former Barcelona and Spain boss added: "I think this was without doubt the most complete performance in my time here and luckily for us it came against our biggest rivals."

Marseille had started the day unbeaten and were above PSG in the table, but they were outclassed here at the end of a turbulent week.

Their coach Marcelino Garcia Toral resigned on Wednesday after only seven games at the helm and following an angry meeting between club officials and fan representatives.



Chelsea need to 'grow up': Pochettino

AP ■ LONDON

Mauricio Pochettino admitted struggling Chelsea need to "grow up" after their troubled season hit a new low with a 1-0 defeat against Aston Villa on Sunday. Pochettino's side have won just once in six league games under Pochettino after Ollie Watkins' second-half goal sealed the points for Villa at Stamford Bridge.

The Blues are languishing in 14th place, just four points above the relegation zone, after failing to score in their last three games. Chelsea's latest flop was sparked by young defender Malo Gusto's dismissal after 58 minutes for a challenge on Lucas Digne.

After a pitchside VAR review, referee Jarrod Gillett upgraded the initial yellow card to a red for dangerous play. Adding to Pochettino's woes, Chelsea striker Nicolas Jackson, who has scored just once since his move from Villarreal, picked

up his fifth booking for attempting to block a Villa free-kick, earning a one-game ban.

Pochettino refused to criticise the officials and instead said he and his players must take the blame for Chelsea's woes.

"It's our responsibility and the players' responsibility. We can't blame the VAR or the referee," Pochettino said.

"The situation, we need to act different, in a different way. I'm not going to blame or say anything against Malo Gusto.

"Situations happen in football and they affect the game and the team in a negative way.

"We need to grow up like a team, not only in an individual way. A player like Nico (Jackson) that is so young, feeling the Premier League and he's learning, he needs time."

Despite spending over £350 million (\$428 million) on new signings since his arrival in July, Pochettino has been unable to improve a Chelsea side that struggled badly last term.

Messi-less Miami play 1-1 draw with Orlando

AP ■ MIAMI

Inter Miami, without Lionel Messi, Sergio Busquets and Jordi Alba, battled to a 1-1 draw at Orlando City in Major League Soccer on Sunday.

The result leaves Miami five points adrift of the last play-off spot with five games of their regular season campaign remaining.

Miami can win their second trophy of the Messi era on Wednesday when they look to add the U.S. Open Cup to the League Cup they won last month and with that goal in mind head coach Gerardo Martino took no risks with his line-up.

As well as Messi and Alba, both ruled out for fitness reasons, Martino opted to rest Spanish midfielder Busquets who had been ever-present since joining the club in July.

With homegrown youngsters Noah Allen and David Ruiz brought into the side, Miami fielded a line-up similar to the ones that had seen the team fall to the bottom of the Eastern Conference before Messi's arrival.

Orlando, second in the East and already assured of a playoff place, began the brighter and could have grabbed the lead in the 29th minute when striker Duncan McGuire found himself in space on the edge of the box but his shot was well saved by Drake Callender.

At the other end, in-form Ecuadorian striker Leonard Campana went close for Miami with a header from a corner which Orlando keeper Pedro Gallese got down well to.

Miami broke through in the 52nd minute when Campana fed Josef Martinez whose long shot was parried out but David



Ruiz slid in the loose ball.

Callender did well again to keep out a curling left-footed effort from Martin Ojeda and then Orlando wasted another chance when Ivan Angulo found himself clear on goal but poked his shot wide.

But the home side finally got their reward in the 66th minute when a deflected pass fell into the path of McGuire who drilled a first-time shot through the legs of Callender.

Miami tired badly in the final stages as they hung on for a point.

"They are a very competitive team just like us and we just try to fight through and get the get the win," said Ruiz.

"Sadly we didn't get the result, but it's just another point to give us a hope to go to play-offs," he added.

"Obviously we didn't have

players key players like Busi, Jordi and Messi, but we've been working every day hard to get a spot on the team and I mean you can see that in the game," he added. After Wednesday's U.S. Open Cup final against the Houston Dynamo, Miami face one of their direct rivals for the playoffs — New York City FC.

NYCFC moved above D.C. United into ninth place with a 3-0 win over Toronto FC on Sunday in a game re-arranged after Saturday's fixture was called off due to a broken water main at Red Bull Arena.

The win was crowned by a fine solo goal from Argentine forward Julian Fernandez.



Rapinoe makes triumphant US farewell

AP ■ CHICAGO

Megan Rapinoe was a winner in her farewell game for the United States on Sunday, setting up a goal with a corner kick in a 2-0 triumph over South Africa.

The iconic 38-year-old striker, celebrated for off-field activism as well as glories on the pitch, ended her epic US career with 63 goals in 203 caps over more than 17 years with a 54th-minute exit at Chicago's

Soldier Field.

"It makes me really proud to know we've been as successful on the field as we have, but also that we've helped make the world a little bit better of a place," Rapinoe said after the victory.

Rapinoe sparked the Americans to crowns at the 2015 and 2019 Women's World Cups and gold at the 2012 London Olympics, but was a champion for social causes as well.

Reyna set for USA return after Berhalter 'conversation'

AP ■ MIAMI

USA head coach Gregg Berhalter has held talks with midfielder Gio Reyna and the Borussia Dortmund player could return to the national side next month, US Soccer sporting director Matt Crocker said on Sunday.

Reyna and Berhalter were embroiled in an acrimonious bust-up during last year's World Cup in Qatar that led to Berhalter's

future as US national team coach being thrown into doubt.

The dispute spread to involve Reyna's parents and an investigation into a 1991 altercation between Berhalter and his wife, then his girlfriend.

Berhalter, who was cleared after the federation's probe, was eventually re-hired as USA coach in June.

The coach said last month that he had yet to talk with Reyna who was injured for

two US friendlies in September.

But Crocker, speaking to reporters, said the pair had now communicated.

"Of course we've had conversations with Gregg, Gregg has had conversations with Gio, and we're in a place where, as soon as Gio is fit, he'll be in the next camp and there's a way forward," Crocker said.

"I think both Gregg and Gio are in a good place to move forward. That's the best thing to say."

Lukaku on scoresheet again

AP ■ ROME

Romelu Lukaku struck again but Roma was held to a 1-1 draw at Torino and only has one win in five league matches.

Lukaku's goal - following a good team move in the 68th minute - was his third in four matches since his move from Chelsea. The Belgium forward was on loan at Inter last season.

Duvan Zapata leveled for Torino with five minutes remaining when he headed in a free kick. Zapata almost joined Roma in the off-season from Atalanta.

Elsewhere, Rudi Garcia's job could be at risk only a few months into his tenure as Napoli coach.

Garcia took over in June after the resignation of Luciano Spalletti, who had just ended Napoli's 33-year wait for the Serie A title.

But Napoli is now winless in its past three league matches.

Victor Osimhen should have given Napoli the lead with



18 minutes remaining but he fired a penalty wide of the right post. The spot kick had been awarded after Bologna midfielder Riccardo Calafiori knocked the ball away with his wrist as he stumbled.

Osimhen had also hit the post early on.

Garcia was jeered by Napoli fans when he substituted

Khvicha Kvaratskhelia and later Osimhen. There were also loud jeers at the end of the match.

Claudio Ranieri's Cagliari is still looking for its first win back in Serie A after it lost 2-0 at Atalanta.

Goals from Ademola Lookman and Mario Pasalic secured Atalanta its third win of the season.

AP ■ VANCOUVER

Team World won a second straight Laver Cup title on Sunday as Ben Shelton and Frances Tiafoe sealed a 13-2 victory over Team Europe with a 7-6 (7/4), 7-6 (7/5) doubles win over Hubert Hurkacz and Andrey Rublev.

Team World captain John McEnroe, who had endured four straight defeats in the event that began in 2017 before seeing his side rally for victory in London last year, was thrilled to celebrate a dominant triumph that began with a four-match sweep on Friday.

"It felt unbelievable to kick their ass, baby!" McEnroe crowed. "They kicked ours many times, OK. It was a battle to the end when we won last year."

This time around, with a blend of youth and experience, McEnroe said he "felt it from the word go" against a Team Europe side that was without fourth-ranked Holger Rune of Den-



mark and world number five Stefano Tsitsipas of Greece, who both withdrew from captain Bjorn Borg's side with injuries.

That left sixth-ranked Rublev and Norway's ninth-

ranked Casper Ruud as Europe's top players. Ruud nabbed the visitors' only points of the three-day event with his victory over Tommy Paul on Saturday.

Europe was unable to build

on that win, with Tiafoe downing Hurkacz in singles on Saturday night before Felix Auger-Aliassime and Shelton teamed up to beat Hurkacz and Gael Monfils in doubles and put

Team World one win away from victory heading into the final day.

"We stepped up, and I thought all the guys played great," said McEnroe, who also had singles wins from Americans Shelton and Taylor Fritz, Canada's Auger-Aliassime and Argentina's Francisco Cerundolo. Every World Team player contributed at least a point, with Paul gaining a win alongside Tiafoe in doubles on Friday.

"This was like a special year for us," McEnroe said. "I know they're going to come back strong, but I'll take two in a row any day. And I'm starting to think it is possible three in a row, Team World?"

Auger-Aliassime, who had two key wins on the final day as Team World rallied for victory last year, was thrilled to lift the trophy in front of his home fans in Canada.

"Amazing to win on home soil with the crowd behind us," he said.

BUMRAH BACK FOR THIRD ODI



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah will be available for the third ODI against Australia after being given a one-match break but all-rounder Axar Patel will be given a few more days to recover from his quadriceps tear ahead of the

World Cup, BCCI sources said on Monday.

While Ravichandran Ashwin has done decently in his two outings, the team management is still bullish about the fitness of Axar, the left-arm spin bowler all-rounder. "The team management wants to give Axar full chance of recovery. His forearm

and finger bruises have healed but may be in another few days, he would get fit for World Cup. India's first match is on September 8 and hence there is time.

"As far as Ashwin is concerned, we now know that he is match fit and in rhythm. If Axar can't make it, Ashwin walks in,"

a BCCI source privy to the development told PTI on conditions of anonymity.

The final squad announcement is on September 27 and it is understood that Axar still remains the team management's top choice for the reserve spinner's slot ahead of the Tamil Nadu veteran.

It is understood that young batting star Shubhman Gill and bowling all-rounder Shardul Thakur have been given a few days rest ahead of the third ODI in Rajkot on Wednesday. "As per rotation policy of the team, Bumrah, who was given a couple of days off to freshen up is back along with skipper Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli, Hardik Pandya and Kuldeep Yadav. Gill, who has been playing continuously gets to cool his heels for 3-4 days along with Shardul Thakur," the source added.

Ruturaj, Mukesh released for Asian Games

India's Asian Games cricket team captain Ruturaj Gaikwad, who played the first two ODIs, have been released from the squad as he will link up with the Hangzhou-bound outfit. Also released is pacer Mukesh Kumar, who came as cover for Bumrah, who was given a break. It is understood that Washington Sundar is also supposed to leave on the evening of the game or day after.

While the Indian World Cup-bound team won't have any travelling net bowlers, Prasidh Krishna, Akash Deep, Arshdeep Singh and Mukesh Kumar will be summoned as and when required.

Jemimah urges Indian men's team to aim for gold in Asian Games cricket

PTI ■ HANGZHOU (CHINA)

India's Jemima Rodrigues on Monday urged the men's team to aim for the gold after the women's team created history in the final of the Asian Games.

India Women's side beat Sri Lanka by 19 runs in the final to clinch the gold medal here on their maiden appearance.

Batting first, India posted 116 for seven on a difficult batting track before the Titas Sadhu-led bowling attack restricted Sri Lanka to 97 for eight in 20 overs.

"We have spoken to the men's team. We have told them that we are bringing the gold; you guys also bring it," an elated Rodrigues told reporters here.

"(It) feels great. Just to win the gold is special, and being the first Indian cricket side to win the gold will make people go back in history and see that this was the team that actually won the first-ever gold in cricket in the Asian Games. It's an amazing feeling," she added.

Rodrigues said it was a proud feeling to add to India's medals tally at the Games.

"It is a very different experience, wearing this India jersey is a (matter of) different pride. Also, we can add a medal to India as a sporting nation," she said.

Talking about the gold medal contest on a challenging surface, Rodrigues said the contest had its own challenges.

"It wasn't easy as Sri Lanka gave us a good fight. Their bowlers bowled spot-on, and we really had to apply ourselves. Very proud of the girls, and the way we played today displays our character," she said.

"It was an important partnership between me and Smriti (Mandhana) because the Sri Lankan bowlers were at the top of their game.

"We are glad the way we played and built the partnership, along with the other girls coming in and chipping in," said Rodrigues (42), who added 73



runs with Mandhana (46) for the second wicket in a low-scoring contest.

Rodrigues said the team had to adapt to different surfaces for every match. "We honestly did not know what to expect when we came over here," she said.

"We knew that we had to be ready for any condition, and in all three matches we had different kinds of wickets that we had to adapt to, which is the best part of our team's performance," Rodrigues added.

"It's been a great experience in general, the way everyone has

welcomed us in China."

"It's not been easy since the communication has been a problem. But, they (the organisers) went out of their way to make us feel comfortable and make our stay easy," she added.

India coach and former international Hrishikesh Kanitkar too was delighted to have added to the country's tally.

"We rank this gold right up there because it adds to the country's tally of gold medals. So, I think it's very, very important that we directly contribute to the country," he said.

Gold medal favourite Bopanna-Bhambri pair suffers shock exit

PTI ■ HANGZHOU

In a huge upset, gold medal favourites and top seeds Rohan Bopanna and Yuki Bhambri were knocked out of the Asian Games after being stunned by lower-ranked Sergey Fomin and Khumoyun Sultanov from Uzbekistan, here on Monday.

Bhambri struggled with his serve and strokes in the latter part of the match while the Uzbek players raised their game against their superior opponents to walk away with a 2-6 6-3 10-6 win in the second round.

The defeat will rankle the Indian pair all the more as Bopanna is a top-10 player in the doubles and Bhambri too is ranked among the top-100. The Uzbeks are not even in the top-300.



Serving at 3-4, 30-all in the second set, Bhambri served a double fault to go down by a break point. A wide backhand from Bhambri's racquet handed the Uzbeks the crucial break.

Sultanov made no mistake in serving out the set by consistently putting in his first serves.

In the super-tie breaker, the Uzbeks raced to a 3-0 lead and soon the Indians were down 5-1. The Uzbeks pulled off a stunning service return winner to make

it 6-1 on Bopanna's serve.

Fomin earned four match points with a backhand winner. The Indians saved the first but Sultanov found an inside-out forehand winner on the second to close the contest in their favour.

Bhambri could not support Bopanna enough

India coach Zeeshan Ali said that Bopanna did not get the required support from Bhambri in the match.

"At this level and being an experienced player, one cannot afford to make many errors at crucial moments of the match. You have to be able to grab any opportunity that presents itself," Zeeshan told PTI.

"Not taking anything away from the Uzbekistan players, they probably played

the best match of their lives, with nothing to lose. We had chances in the second set with a couple of break points at 3-all and, had we won that game, the outcome of the match would have been different."

The Indians could not convert 12 out of the 16 break-points they got in the match.

"Rohan played a good match but unfortunately did not get the required support needed to win today from his partner who otherwise has been having a very good doubles season," added Zeeshan.

Bopanna had ended his Davis Cup career last week, playing against Morocco in Lucknow. At 43, he is also playing his last Asian Games. He had won gold in the 2018 edition with Divij Sharan.

Dalmiya, Dhupal re-elected in IPL GC

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Former CAB president Avishek Dalmiya and current IPL chairman Arun Singh Dhupal have been re-elected in the IPL governing council as per decisions taken at the Annual General Meeting of the BCCI held in Goa on Monday.

The general body was apprised about BCCI earning more than 38 per cent from annual revenue generated by the ICC and also Rs 67 crore (approx) per match earning from media rights during the next cycle of bilateral series.

"All routine decisions happened. The list of names for the cricket committees and the sub-committees will be prepared by the office bearers as entrusted by the House. As far as IPL GC is concerned, IPL chairman Arun Dhupal and Avishek Dalmiya were supposed to be elected and it happened on expected lines," a state unit representative told PTI.

It has also been learnt that Ombudsman-cum-Ethics Officer will continue as per his contract which is due to expire next year.

"The Ombudsman-cum-Ethics Officer will continue till June, 2024. He will serve his full contract," the state unit source said.

The board members were also apprised about the new budget and the profit that BCCI made in the last financial year.

Former India left-arm spinner Pragyan Ojha will no longer be Indian Cricketers' Association's



representative in the Apex Council.

"The ICA will have its election and then choose their new representative."

There were talks about removal of Salil Ankola from the national selection panel as chairman of selectors Ajit Agarkar, who is also from Mumbai, is already a part of the panel.

The BCCI has a convention that five selectors represent five zones and this time, there are two from West Zone.

"There has been no such discussion about this during the AGM. If there is anything, it can only happen after the World Cup. As of now, no selector is being changed," the source said.

Pakistani players issued Indian visa for World Cup travel

PTI ■ INDORE

Members of the Pakistan Cricket team were on Monday issued Indian visas for the ODI World Cup, the International Cricket Council (ICC) confirmed, hours after the PCB raised serious concerns with the global body over the delay in the national team's travel to Hyderabad.

The visa clearance came less than 48 hours before Pakistan's scheduled travel to India in the wee hours of September 27. They play their first warm-up game against New Zealand in Hyderabad on September 29.

"Visas have been issued to Pakistan," an ICC spokesperson told PTI.

However, confusion remained in the Pakistan camp over the grant of visa.

"We have not got the call from Indian High Commission yet over visa clearance. Member of our team is stationed there," PCB spokesperson Umar Farooq



told PTI.

The confirmation from the ICC came after the PCB wrote to ICC CEO Geoff Allardice on Monday over the visa delay besides claiming the anxious wait has adversely impacted the team's preparation for the 50-over showpiece.

Pakistan were supposed to have a two-day team bonding session in Dubai before their scheduled arrival in Hyderabad on September 27 but was cancelled due to the uncertainty over Indian visa.

The Babar Azam-led side plays two warm-up games and as many World Cup matches in

Hyderabad starting with the practice fixture against New Zealand.

In the letter addressed to Allardice, the PCB also claimed that its concerns over visa being granted to players, team officials, fans and journalists for the World Cup in India have not been addressed for more than three years. It also added that such inequitable treatment to Pakistan will not be acceptable.

Reiterating those concerns, Farooq added: "There has been an extraordinary delays in getting clearance and securing Indian visas for the Pakistan team for ICC World Cup.

Zverev advances to Chengdu Open final

AP ■ CHENGDU (CHINA)

Top-seeded Alexander Zverev will play for a 21st career title after beating third-seeded Grigor Dimitrov 6-3, 7-6 (2) in the semifinals of the Chengdu Open on Monday.

The 26-year-old German will meet Roman Safiullin in Tuesday's final. The 55th-ranked Russian defeated second-seeded Lorenzo Musetti 6-3, 6-4.

Zverev hit 10 winners and four aces in the first set and his serve continued to be effective in the second set.

The 26-year-old Safiullin will be playing in his first career final in his eighth year on tour.

At the Zhuhai Championships, top-seeded Karen Khachanov defeated fourth-seeded Sebastian Korda 7-5, 6-4 to move into the final in his second tournament since returning from injury.

Khachanov will face Yoshihito Nishioka in Tuesday's final. The eighth-seeded Japanese player beat Aslan Karatsev

6-4, 6-4.

In a tight first set, Khachanov gained the crucial break in the 11th game when Korda found the net with a drop shot. The 15th-ranked Russian improved in the second set and dominated the baseline rallies to overpower the 23-year-old American.

On the first day of the Ningbo Open, Russian wildcard Vera Zvonareva upset seventh-seeded Katie Boulter 6-4, 4-6, 7-6 (3) to advance to the second round. Zvonareva, a two-time Grand Slam finalist, will next play Clara Tauson, who beat Elina Avanesyan 6-4, 6-1.

Yulia Putintseva, a semifinalist last week at the Guangzhou Open, defeated Daria Saville 6-4, 6-1. The Kazakh will play second-seeded Petra Kvitová, who beat Anna-Lena Friedsam 7-6 (2), 6-1.

Fourth-seeded Anna Blinkova beat Viktoria Hrunceva 6-3, 7-5 and eighth-seeded Lucia Bronzetti defeated Swiss qualifier Jil Teichmann 7-6 (6), 6-4.

ASIAN GAMES 2023: TITAS HELPS INDIA TO WIN GOLD

PTI ■ HANGZHOU

Titas Sadhu must be believing in pleasant coincidences.

Else, how could she logically explain that two of the most defining spells in her short but eventful career read almost eerily similar.

It was 4-0-6-2 in the ICC U-19 World Cup final against England and on Monday, playing only her second senior international match, her figures were 4-0-6-3 against Sri Lanka. A three-over first spell that literally ensured the gold medal for Indian women's cricket team.

"We all had a clear plan of what we had to do. Obviously, we got a good momentum in the first over itself. We had discussed during the innings break that we will keep calm and stick to what we had decided," said Titas, who hails from Hooghly district's suburban Chinsurah, where she had a sporty father Ranadeep, who encouraged her to take up every sport possible.

Father being a decent state-level athlete, Titas had taken the sport like fish to water and also at the same time making a splash at the pool.



She got 93 percent marks in her state class Xth board exams but cricketing commitments prevented her from appearing for the plus two during the next two years.

Cricket rather happened accidentally as she would keep scores for her ancestral club Rajendra Smriti Sangha, near

Hooghly Mohsin College in Chinsurah.

One fine morning, when her club side fell short of a net bowler, they called up Titas. Since then, she has never looked back, even dropping out of school to pursue the sport.

The 18-year-old right-arm medium pacer from Bengal was

delighted to win the gold for the country in the continental showpiece.

"It was a great opportunity we got this time, and the fact that we were able to grab that opportunity, I'm very glad and grateful," Titas said.

On the day, the bounce that Titas extracted off the sur-

face was there for everyone to see and it was something that his Bengal women's team coach Shib Shankar Paul realised.

"I remember one of my former Bengal teammates Priyanka Mukherjee called me a few years back. He said, 'Maco (his nickname), there is girl I coach, she is nearly 5 feet 9 inch tall and is quick for a 16-year-old. Why don't you check her out for senior Bengal team,'" Paul recollected on the day.

"When I first saw her at the Bengal nets, I was surprised that she was way quicker for her age. Had a physique that you rarely find in a pace bowler from Bengal, Jhulan (Goswami) obviously was an exception. She bowled good outswinging and had good grasping power. She was a good student and fared well in her 10th boards. I didn't waste time to convince erstwhile CAB secretaries Snehasish Ganguly and Debu Das to allow me to take her in senior Bengal team," said Paul, pride in his voice palpable.

So did he talk to Titas today after the final?

"Yes, she and Richa (Ghosh) both called up. Titas said, 'Thank You sir for all the support.'"

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**APPENDIX IV [Rule 8(1)]
POSSESSION NOTICE
(For immovable property)**
Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited) under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated 18.11.2020 calling upon the borrower, co-borrowers and guarantors 1.Joginder Singh, 2.Amarjit Kaur, 3.Piyara Singh, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs.15,86,069.94/ (Rupees Fifteen Lakhs Eighty Six Thousand Sixty Nine And Ninety Four Paise Only) as on 18.11.2020 within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.
The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Physical Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub – section (4) of section 13 of Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this 22nd day of Sep 2023.
The borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the IDFC First Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited) for an amount of Rs.15,86,069.94/ (Rupees Fifteen Lakhs Eighty Six Thousand Sixty Nine And Ninety Four Paise Only) and interest thereon.
The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub – Section (8) Of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the Immovable properties.
All the piece and parcel of the property consisting of Property Measuring Total Area of 6 Marla Khasra No 3853 Min, Area of Sultanwind Urban Abadi Kot Mit Singh Amritsar, Punjab – 143001. Bounded as; North: Passage South: Tarlok Singh, East: Sohan Singh, West: Ownership of Tarlok Singh.

Date: 22nd Sep 2023
Place: Amritsar.
Loan Account No:13390010.

Authorised Officer
IDFC FIRST Bank Limited
(erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited)