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9/11 IS NOT JUST ABOUT VIOLENCE

**WORLD 9**  
INDIAN-ORIGIN THARMAN SWORN IN SINGAPORE'S NEW PRESIDENT

**MONEY 10**  
WPI INFLATION IN NEGATIVE FOR FIFTH MONTH IN A ROW

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INDIA TO FACE BANGLADESH IN ASIA CUP TODAY  
12 SPORT

## Parties Poised for Stormy Session

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

All the political parties with a presence in Parliament have issued a whip to their Parliamentarians, directing them to ensure their presence during the five days of the special session convened next week. Party leaders from the ruling BJP, as well as Opposition benches comprising the Congress, the TMC, the RJD, and the Samajwadi Party, have issued whip to the MPs from both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha.

The whip comes hours after the Centre "disclosed" the "tentative agenda" for the Special Session of Parliament starting on September 18.

However, two major constituents of the Opposition coalition, INDIA bloc — the Shiv Sena (Uddhav) and Sharad Pawar-led NCP — have not issued a whip.

Sources within said they are not likely to issue any such whip as Maharashtra is in a festive mood due to the upcoming Ganesh Chaturthi celebration. In their one-line whip circulars, both the BJP and the Congress have stated that, in view of some key agenda items that may be brought up during the Special Session, all MPs from both Houses must be present on all days.

The Opposition has alleged that the Government may have some "hidden agenda" for the Special Session, as the announced issues have been described as "tentative". They even earlier raised questions



about the real agenda for the session. The Government has listed a discussion on the Parliamentary journey of the past 75 years in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha, which includes the controversial Bill on the appointment of the Chief Election Commissioner and other Commissioners, introduced in the Rajya Sabha during the Monsoon Session.

The Congress has asserted that the Opposition INDIA bloc will speak in "one voice" during the session.

"INDIA alliance parties are already speaking. We will speak in one voice not only at the all-party meeting but also during the five-day session.

The agenda for the Special Session of Parliament has not been announced yet. I say this because, in the list of business, they have written a very sinister line... They have written that this is not an exhaustive list of business. So they will be up to dirty tricks and they can add some business last minute," said Congress chief spokesman Jairam Ramesh.

TMC leader Derek O'Brien said the full agenda has not been revealed yet and the Government may deploy some "dirty tricks" and add more business to the list.

"The agenda for the Special Session of Parliament has not been announced yet," said O'Brien, a member of the Rajya

of Periodicals Bill. The Bills listed for passage should not be taken as exhaustive, the bulletin said.

Derek raised concerns over the Bill that seeks to regulate the appointment of the Chief Election Commissioner and other election commissioners and said while the Government has listed a discussion on the 75-year journey of Parliament, they are also bringing a Bill and "mocking democracy".

While Rajya Sabha member and RJD leader Manoj Jha said when the Session is announced, it is the moral responsibility of any Parliamentarian to be present in the House.

Shiv Sena leader and member of the Upper House Priyanka Chaturvedi said Maharashtra is in a festive mood now and party MPs will take turns to be present in Parliament since this is also the temple of democracy.

According to the Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Bill, the Chief Election Commissioner and election commissioners will be selected by a three-member panel headed by the Prime Minister and comprising the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha and a Cabinet Minister. This is in contrast to a Supreme Court judgment of March this year which said the panel should comprise the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, and the Chief Justice of India.

## Pakistan mercenaries run riot

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

Security forces have been at the receiving end of Pakistan-sponsored terrorism even as India is playing cricket with Pakistan in the Asia Cup 2023.

So far fifteen Army personnel, including decorated officers and elite commandos of Special Para Forces, have sacrificed their lives in the four recent targeted strikes planned by the same terrorist handlers operating from across the Line of Control in Pakistan. The modus operandi behind these attacks remains the same.

The first major provocative strike took place ahead of Eid in the Bhatta Durian area of Poonch on April 20, 2023.

Five soldiers were charred to death when an Army truck, ferrying ration supplies, was set on fire after the ambush. Fifteen days later, five elite commandos were ambushed in the thick forested area of Rajouri on May 5.

Then three Army personnel were ambushed in the South Kashmir district of Kulgam on the eve of the fourth anniversary of the Abrogation of Art 370.

The recent attack in the Kokernag area of Anantnag district in which a commanding officer of the 19 Rashtriya Rifles, an Army Major, and a Deputy Superintendent of Jammu & Kashmir Police were martyred in action has once again shaken the upper echelons of the security grid in Jammu & Kashmir.

On Wednesday, the Northern Army Commander Lieutenant General Upendra



Security personnel during an encounter with terrorists at Gadole of Kokernag area in Anantnag district on Thursday

Dwivedi told reporters in Jammu that Pakistan is making full efforts to infiltrate foreign terrorists into Jammu & Kashmir to hinder the progress being made in internal security conditions in the region.

He said the Army has tried to neutralise foreign terrorists along the Line of Control (LoC) in Rajouri and Poonch.

"The biggest thing is that Pakistan is trying to make efforts from its side to send foreign terrorists here, despite the better internal conditions (security situation), so that they can create some kind of obstacle," he said.

On ground zero, the anti-terrorist operations to track down the footprints of terrorists behind the attack were intensified on Thursday by the joint teams of security forces in the thick forested belt of Garol near Kokernag.

Besides rushing fresh reinforcements to plug the possible escape routes of terrorists the Army authorities have also

pressed Heron drones with highly capable surveillance pods to keep a close watch on the suspected movement of terrorists in the area. Security personnel are also equipped with night vision devices to operate without hindrance in the dark, if required.

Senior officers of the Chinara Corps are monitoring the situation continuously.

In a separate statement, the Jammu & Kashmir Police on Thursday said it has "encircled" two Lashkar-e-Tayyiba terrorists behind the attack in the Anantnag district.

"In solemn tribute to the unwavering valour of Col Manpreet Singh, Major Ashish Dhonak & DSP Humayun Bhat who laid down their lives leading from the front during this ongoing operation. Our forces persist with unwavering resolve as they encircle 2 LET terrorists including Uzair Khan," Kashmir Police said on X.

Continued on Page 2

## Talent hunt to promote Sanskrit

BISWAJEET BANERJEE ■ LUCKNOW

As part of its ongoing commitment to the promotion of Sanskrit language, the Uttar Pradesh Government has decided to organise a Sanskrit talent search competition.

This competition serves multiple purposes, including fostering a greater interest in Sanskrit among students, identifying exceptionally talented Sanskrit scholars and offering them financial assistance to nurture their academic pursuits.

Notably, the competition is taking place at three levels — district, division and State. Students ranging from grade six to postgraduation have the opportunity to participate. Currently, the district level talent search competitions are underway, spanning all districts within the State, and have seen an enthusiastic response from students.

Uttar Pradesh Sanskrit Sansthan Director Vinay Srivastava mentioned that currently district-level talent search competitions are being held which cover various aspects of Sanskrit, including



Sanskrit song talent search, Sanskrit reading talent search, and Sanskrit general knowledge talent search, among others.

Srivastava said that participants who secure first and second place at the district level could participate in the division-level Sanskrit talent search competition.

For this, an online eligibility examination will be held, and participants can apply until September 16. Those who pass the division level eligibility examination will be eligible to participate in the State-level Sanskrit talent search competition, scheduled between September 20 and 29.

The division-level online eligibility examination will include Sanskrit songs (youth category) at the divisional level and various Sanskrit competitions such as Sanskrit speech, Sanskrit dictation, Sanskrit drama, etc. at the State level. Successful participants at this level will be able to enter the State-level talent search competition.

The director further mentioned that participants who achieve first place in the district level competition can participate in an online eligibility exam for the state level talent search. This exam will take place between October 5 and

12. Those who succeed in this exam can also participate in the State-level Sanskrit talent search competition, which will be held on October 28 and 29 at the institution.

Successful participants in the Sanskrit talent search competition, which has three rounds, will be honoured with cash awards by the institution. The participants successful at the district-level competition will receive a first prize of ₹1,000, second prize of ₹800 and third prize of ₹700. In the divisional level competition, the successful participant will receive a first prize of ₹3,000, second prize of ₹2,000, and third prize of ₹1,000.

Additionally, in the State-level competition, successful participants will receive first prize of ₹11,000, second prize of ₹7,000, third prize of ₹5,000, and a consolation prize of ₹3,000 for three participants.

Moreover, participants will be given certificates of participation, eligibility certificates, Sanskrit books and reimbursement for travel expenses for participating in the district and state competitions, and a memento at the State level.



Pakistan's Abdullah Shafique reacts after being dismissed during the Asia Cup cricket match between Pakistan and Sri Lanka in Colombo on Thursday. The winning team will take on India in the final on Sunday. At the time of going to press, Sri Lanka had an edge over Pakistan

## Climate change hampers SDG progress, science holds key

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

Climate change has cast a shadow on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as just 15 per cent of the target will be met by 2030, a new multi-agency report coordinated by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has said as it noted that the world's fossil fuel emissions have risen again.

In 2015, a total of 193 countries committed to the UN's 17 SDGs, a so-called blueprint for achieving a better and more sustainable future for all. The goals targeted to be met by 2030 address various important global challenges such as poverty, inequality, climate change, and environmental degradation.

The report from the WMO, including contributions from various scientists, rings alarm bells as it said "at the half-time point of the 2030 Agenda, the science is clear —

the planet is far off track from meeting its climate goals."

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres writes in the Foreword, "2023 has shown all too clearly that climate change is here. Record temperatures are scorching the land and heating the sea, as extreme weather causes havoc around the globe. While we know this is just the beginning, the global response is falling far short. Meanwhile, halfway to the 2030 deadline for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the world is woefully off-track."

"Science is central to solutions. It is widely understood that weather, climate, and water-related sciences provide the underpinnings for climate action. But it is less recognised how these sciences can supercharge progress on the SDGs across the board," he noted.

Further, said the report, there is a 66 per cent chance that at least one of the next five

years will see the annual average global surface temperature temporarily breaching 1.5 degrees Celsius, with that chance increasing with time.

Global greenhouse gas emissions must be reduced by 30 and 45 per cent to meet the Paris Agreement goals of limiting warming to well below 2 and 1.5 degrees Celsius, respectively, by 2030, it said even as fossil fuel CO2 emissions increased 1 per cent globally in 2022 compared to 2021 and preliminary estimates from January-June 2023 showed a further 0.3 per cent rise.

The report pointed out that "very limited progress" had been made in narrowing the gap between emissions reductions promised by countries and those needed to fulfil the Paris Agreement goals and that in order to do so, "large-scale, rapid and systemic transformations" were required.

While it was widely understood that weather, climate, and



water-related sciences provide the underpinnings for climate action, it is less recognised how these sciences can supercharge progress on the SDGs across the board, said the report.

As examples, the report showed how weather predictions could help boost food production and move closer to zero hunger and how integrating epidemiology and climate information could help anticipate climate-sensitive diseases.

"Groundbreaking scientific and technological advances, such as high-resolution climate modelling, artificial intelligence and nowcasting, can catalyse transformation to achieve the SDGs," said WMO Secretary-General Petteri Taalas.

"Achieving Early Warnings for All by 2027 will not only save lives and livelihoods but also help safeguard sustainable development," he said referring to the UN's initiative to ensure everyone's protection from haz-

ardous weather through early warning systems by the end of 2027.

**WARNING SIGNALS:** Total carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuels and land use change remained high in 2022 and the first half of 2023. Fossil fuel CO2 emissions increased 1 per cent globally in 2022 compared to 2021, and global average concentrations continued rising through 2022 and the first half of 2023.

The years from 2015 to 2022 were the eight warmest on record, and the chance of at least one year exceeding the warmest year on record in the next five years is 98 per cent.

It is estimated that current mitigation policies will lead to global warming of around 2.8 °C over this century compared to pre-industrial levels. Immediate and unprecedented reductions in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are needed to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement.

# US takes action for justice to Indian student

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE/AGENCIES ■ NEW DELHI/WASHINGTON/SEATTLE

Taking a serious note of the death of a young Indian student Jaahnvi Kandula after she was hit by a speeding police car in Seattle, India has raised the issue at the highest level and the Biden Administration has assured New Delhi of a quick investigation and bringing to justice the police officers responsible for it.

The US Government swung into action after India's Ambassador to the US, Taranjit Singh Sandhu, strongly raised the issue at the highest level in Washington and sought prompt action on the killing of Kandula, and the highly insensitive behaviour of the police officer in Seattle in Washington State.

The Consulate General of India in San Francisco on Wednesday termed the handling of Kandula's death as "deeply troubling".

"We have taken up the matter strongly with local authorities in Seattle and

Washington State as well as senior officials in Washington DC for a thorough investigation and action against those involved in this tragic case," the mission said in a post on platform X.

"The consulate and embassy will continue to closely follow up on this matter with all concerned authorities," it added.

Kandula, 23, was killed in January after she was struck by a police vehicle driven by officer Kevin Dave. He was driving at 74 mph (more than 119 kmph) on the way to a report of an overdose, the Seattle Times newspaper reported on Monday.

Kandula was in the crosswalk and was struck 100 feet when she was struck by a police patrol car on January 23. In bodycam footage released on Monday by the Seattle Police Department, officer Daniel Auderer laughed about the deadly crash and dismissed any implication Dave might be at fault or that a criminal investigation was necessary.

US lawmakers and Indian-Americans have expressed out-

rage over the death of Kandula.

The US assured the Indian Government of a quick investigation into the incident and bring to justice the police officers who were responsible for it.

Senior administration officials are believed to have assured the ambassador and the Indian Government that the entire incident has been taken very seriously by them.

They are monitoring its investigation from Washington DC the progress of the case to ensure that there is adequate accountability.

Officials said that they were "shocked" and "horrified" at this incident.

"Jaahnvi Kandula came here for graduate work from India. She was killed on a crosswalk by a speeding police car, and officer Auderer said her life had 'limited value'. I thought of my dad who came here in his 20s. Mr Auderer, the life of every Indian immigrant has infinite value," Indian-American Congressman Ro Khanna said.

"Anyone who thinks that a human life has 'limited value'



Jaahnvi Kandula should not be serving in law enforcement," Khanna said.

Indian-American Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal said: "This is appalling. I hope to see justice for Jaahnvi Kandula's family and accountability for those involved."

In a letter to the Kandula family, Seattle City Mayor Bruce Harrell said that the comments made by one person do not reflect the feelings of the Seattle city or the communities that call it home.

"We recognise that Jaahnvi's death is a loss for our whole community - the loss of a young woman who had so much life ahead of her to do amazing things and share that joy with loved ones," Harrell

said in his communication to the Kandula family.

Expressing his deepest condolences to the Kandula family, Harrell said the "community is heartbroken and mourns alongside your family, friends and everyone who shared the privilege of knowing" her.

"Her life had immeasurable value, and any sentiment, shared by one person that expresses otherwise, does not represent the very real feelings of heartbreak that our entire city has over the loss of your child. My prayers remain with your family at this difficult time," he said.

Expressing condolences on the untimely passing of Kandula, community leader Ajay Bhutoria said her death reminds of the importance of safety and respect for all individuals in the community.

"We are deeply troubled by the unfortunate statement and poor conduct displayed by a Seattle police officer during this incident. Regardless of one's background or circumstances, every individual deserves dignity, fairness, and compassion," he said.

Describing this as unacceptable behaviour, Bhutoria said it is crucial that incidents like these are rigorously examined, and accountability is upheld to maintain community trust in the law enforcement agencies.

"As a community, we must unite to support Jaahnvi's family and advocate for positive change. We urge authorities to take swift action to address this situation and implement measures to prevent such tragic incidents in the future," Bhutoria said. The Seattle Office of Police Accountability said that it has opened an investigation into the incident and they need to complete it before January 29.

Kandula was set to graduate this coming December with a master's degree in information systems from the Seattle campus of Northeastern University. Her family said she was working toward supporting her mother in India.

"The family has nothing to say," her uncle said Monday. "Except I wonder if these men's daughters or granddaughters have value. A life is a life."

# 8 injured as private aircraft veers off runway, crashlands at Mumbai airport

T N RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Eight people, including the pilot and co-pilot, were injured when a private aircraft veered off the runway and crash-landed at the Mumbai airport on Thursday evening.

All the eight injured persons were admitted Criticare Asia Hospital at Andheri (East) in north Mumbai. Of the injured were the pilot Capt Sunil and co-pilot Capt Neil.

A Denmark national Lars Sorensen was among six passengers injured in the mishap. The five other passengers (all Indians) who were on board the Vizag-Mumbai flight involved in the mishap, were identified as Dhruv Kotak, K. K. Krishnadas, Aakash Shethi, Arul Sali and the sole woman Kamakshi.

The aircraft, a non-scheduled charter Learjet business plane VT-DBL veered off the runway and crashed while landing. The incident took

place at 5.02 pm.

"VSR Ventures Learjet 45 aircraft VT-DBL operating flight from Vizag to Mumbai was involved in a runway excursion (veer off) while landing on runway 27 at Mumbai airport. There were 06 passengers and 02 crew member on board. Visibility was 700 metres with heavy rain", the Directorate General of Civil Aviation said in a statement.

In a separate statement issued simultaneously, the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA) said: "On 14.09.2023, M/s VSR Ventures Learjet 45 aircraft VT-DBL operating flight from Vizag to Mumbai with 06 passengers and 02 crew members on board, veered off the runway at Mumbai International Airport.

The incident occurred at approximately 17:02 pm today. There are no casualties. CSMIA's airside team is on-ground to assist with the clearance on-site."

# Submit details of Abhishek company: HC to ED

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

There is more trouble for Trinamool Congress general secretary Abhishek Banerjee. A day after a sustained grilling by the Enforcement Directorate, the Calcutta High Court on Thursday directed the investigating agencies to obtain and submit before it all the details of Banerjee's company Leaps and Bounds.

"The court has directed the ED to submit before it the details of Memorandum of Association, Articles of Association, list of its employees and the directors, their joining date and nature of their responsibilities everything," Firdaus Shamim a lawyer said adding the Court has also directed the agency to submit



Abhishek Banerjee has been asked to submit details of his company Leaps and Bounds.

The Court has directed the Agency to submit the report in a week's time, the lawyers said.

The ED has already asked Banerjee to submit documents regarding his nature of association with the Company in question, sources said adding Banerjee has also been asked by the Agency to submit the details of his properties and those belonging to his relatives.

Besides, he has also been

asked to share information regarding investments he might have made in the share market, ED officials said.

Banerjee who is also the nephew of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said that he was unnecessarily being harassed because he had not sold his spine — like some other leaders of his party had done — to the BJP.

"I am being unnecessarily harassed by the ED at the instance of the BJP Government for I have refused to surrender before them like some other leaders (read Suwendu Adhikari who joined the BJP ahead of the 2021 Bengal Assembly elections) have done," the junior Banerjee said.

"They are probing the school recruitment scam but I can emphatically say that not a single paisa of SSC scam has gone to my company... these people had asked me similar

questions before too about cattle scam, coal scam... my question is how can money from all these scams go to a single company... can a child have three mothers... this is simply throwing stones in the darkness to find a chance to grab me... but they will fail," the Diamond Harbour MP said.

Union Minister Dharmendra promptly reacted to Banerjee's statements saying he should not act as the judge in his own case.

"He is not a Judge, he is giving himself a clean chit... Let the agencies investigate and let the Court decide... the law will not stop taking its course simply because Abhishek Banerjee wants it this way," Pradhan said adding, "the whole system of administration and governance in Bengal is corrupt which is proved by the investigations going on in cattle and coal

smuggling, rice smuggling, protection given to the drug mafia... this is apart from the Sharada chit fund scam, Narada scam and now the recruitment scam."

The TMC immediately hit back wondering why nothing was being done to Suwendu Adhikari. "Our Leader of the Opposition was seen taking money from beneath the table in the Narada scam but nothing was done to him because he had entered the BJP's washing machine," Bengal minister Shashi Panja said.

TMC State vice president Jayprakash Majumdar too hit out at the BJP leadership for sparing Adhikari. Majumdar who was himself in the BJP before joining the TMC said how, "in front of me this man had held Amit Shah's feet to save him from investigations and then joined the BJP... all this I saw in front of me as I was in the same party then."

# Speaker's hearing on Sena MLA disqualification begins

T N RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Maharashtra Assembly Speaker Rahul Narwekar on Thursday began hearing a petition filed by the Shiv Sena (UBT) seeking the disqualification of 16 Shiv Sena MLAs, including current chief minister Eknath Shinde, and also a bunch of counter petitions filed by the MLAs from the Shinde-led Shiv Sena seeking action against the MLAs from the rival camp.

The Speaker adjourned the disqualification proceedings for a week after the Shinde group of MLAs asked for some documents and also sought two weeks' time to prepare for the hearings.

Official sources said that the Speaker would hear 34 petitions, including the one

filed by the Shiv Sena (Uddhav) Balasaheb Thackeray seeking disqualification of 16 Shinde Sena MLAs, including the chief minister himself.

On its part, the Shiv Sena (UBT) MLAs asked the Speaker to club all the petitions and hear it at one go. However, the Speaker said that all the petitions were independent in nature and they would be heard independently.

Chief minister Eknath Shinde — who engineered the rebellion against then chief minister and Shiv Sena president Uddhav Thackeray and 15 other Sena MLAs in June last year with the help of the then Opposition BJP — are among the 54 Sena MLAs who were present at Thursday's hearing.

On the first day of hearing, lawyer Nihar Thackeray, grandson of late Shiv Sena chief Bal Thackeray, argued on behalf of the Eknath Shinde camp, while Advocate Devdutt Kamat appeared on behalf of the Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena.

Nihar, the son of Bal Thackeray's eldest son Bindumadhav Thackeray, is also part of Chief Minister Shinde's legal team in the battle against the Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena. He had joined the Eknath Shinde on October 27, 2022, four months after then rebel Shiv Sena leader Eknath Shinde teamed up with Devendra Fadnavis of the BJP to topple the Uddhav Thackeray-led MVA government and form a new Government in Maharashtra.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

My Clientess Smt. Laxmi w/o Late Sh. Vinod Kumar R/o B-2/340B, Street No. 19, Harsh Vihar, Mandoli, Delhi-110093 has served her all relations with her son Raman and his wife Shivanvi due to their misbehavior and debarred them from her all movable and immovable properties. My above named Clientess will not be responsible for their any act in future.

Sd/- ANKUR VERMA ADVOCATE



## CHANGE OF NAME

I, Basil Y S Baradeiya R/o 96-C, Shanti Kunj Main Vasant Kunj New Delhi-110070, have changed the name of Minor Daughter from Nermin Basil Y S Baradeiya to Nermin Basil Yousef Baradeiya.

PD(157A)

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that on the direction of our client Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Limited, Mr. Arun Singal are in process to avail the loan from Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Limited against the Property No. 313/76, pertaining to Plot No. 3, having land area measuring 338 Sq. Yds. situated at Tuli Nagar, Delhi having acquired vide Release/Surrender Deed dated 7/6/76 (Idoc. No. 889) read with Release Deed dated 03/04/1973 and Sale Deed dated 19/11/1983 (Idoc. 457) and whereas he has having undisputed possession of the said property. All persons having any claim against or in respect of the said Property, or any part thereof, by way of sale, exchange, mortgage, equitable or registered or otherwise, gift, trust, inheritance, family arrangement, maintenance, bequest, partnership, possession, lease, sublease, tenancy, license, lien, charge, pledge, easement or otherwise howsoever, are hereby requested to notify the same in writing to us with supporting documentary evidence at the address mentioned below within 7 days from the date hereof, failing which the claim or claims, if any, of such person or persons will be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned.

Kamal Kant Gupta (Advocate) Unit No. FF-2, First floor, Mahalaxmi Metro Tower Sec-4, Vaishali, Gzb., U.P., Mob. 9811063361

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given on behalf of our client i.e. Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Limited that 1) Mr. Sanjay Verma & 2) Mr. Ajay Verma intend to purchase & mortgage the Commercial Plot of land area measuring 42.05 Sq. Yds., situated at Mohalla Lamba Bazar, Kasba Dankaur, Pargana Dankaur, Tehsil & District Gautam Budh Nagar (U.P.) with our client, against the financial assistance. Whereas, out of the entire chain link documents Original Sale Deed dt. 10-07-2002, regd. as Doc. No. 3398 in favour of Mr. Mukesh Kumar was already lost/misplaced and in this regard NCR/FIR No. 20230000613441 has been lodged with UP Police.

Public is hereby warned not to deal with the above-mentioned documents & the property. If anyone do the same, then he will be responsible for all consequences. If any person(s) having objection with regard to mortgage of the said property is/are requested to intimate in writing to undersigned within 07 days from the date of issue of this notice at below address.

DEEPUJOT SINGH, ADVOCATE A-13, LGF, South Extn-II, New Delhi-49 ■ 011-40587824

## Form No. 3

[See Regulation-15 (1)(a)]/16(3) DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL CHANDIGARH (DRT 2) 1st Floor, SCO 33-34-35, Sector-17 A, Chandigarh (Additional space allotted on 3rd & 4th Floor also) Case No.:OA/1458/2022 Exh. No. 19433

[Summons under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Act, read with sub-rule (2A) of rule 5 of the Debt Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules, 1993]

ICICI BANK LIMITED VS HIMANSU GUPTA

To, (3) DEFENDANT NO. 3- M/S AVALON GROUP HAVING ITS REGISTERED OFFICE AT 9TH FLOOR, S.A.S. TOWER, NEAR MEDI CITY, SECTOR 38, GURUGRAM, HARYANA - 122001 SUMMONS

WHEREAS, OA/1458/2022 was listed before Hon'ble Presiding Officer/Registrar on 26/07/2023.

WHEREAS this Hon'ble Tribunal is pleased to issue summons/notice on the said Application under section 19(4) of the Act, (OA) filed against you for recovery of debts of Rs. 5632674/- (application along with copies of documents etc. annexed).

In accordance with sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Act, you, the defendants are directed as under: (i) to show cause within thirty days of the service of summons as to why relief prayed for should not be granted;

(ii) to disclose particulars of properties or assets other than properties and assets specified by the applicant under serial number 3A of the original application;

(iii) you are restrained from dealing with or disposing of secured assets or such other assets and properties disclosed under serial number 3A of the original application, pending hearing and disposal of the application for attachment of properties;

(iv) you shall not transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise, except in the ordinary course of his business any of the assets over which security interest is created and/or other assets and properties specified or disclosed under serial number 3A of the original application without the prior approval of the Tribunal;

(v) you shall be liable to account for the sale proceeds realised by sale of secured assets or other assets and properties in the ordinary course of business and deposit such sale proceeds in the account maintained with the bank or financial institutions holding security interest over such assets.

You are also directed to file the written statement with a copy thereof furnished to the applicant and to appear before Registrar on 02/09/2023 at 10.30 A.M. failing which the application shall be heard and decided in your absence. Given under my hand and the seal of this Tribunal on this date: 27/07/2023.

Signature of the Officer Authorised to issue summons

# Hosting G20 Summit in Delhi brought great honour to India: LG

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena on Thursday said hosting the G20 Summit in Delhi brought great honour to India and the country's leadership has become stronger.

The Lt Governor was speaking at a programme organised to felicitate New Delhi Municipal Council employees for their role in preparing Delhi for the summit held on Saturday and Sunday.

"I am feeling very proud that I am (standing) among a force that has made the country shine with their work culture and hardwork. I want to thank the prime minister who gave a big opportunity to Delhi to host the biggest meeting of the G20," he said. Hosting the summit in Delhi has brought great honour to India and the country's leadership has become stronger, which cannot be expressed in a few words,

"It is a big achievement that we all accomplished together. In a very short period, we succeeded in making our Delhi beautiful," he said.

Saxena said about 6.5 lakh flower pots were used to decorate the streets, venues and other public places for the summit.



Saxena added.

The theme of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakum' was embodied in this G20 Summit, he said. Saxena also applauded the efforts of officers and employees of all ranks in making Delhi neat and clean for the conclave.

"When there is a ban imposed by the government it means complete ban. Ban is for firecrackers. We don't understand the distinction between

# Don't issue firecracker sale, storage licences, SC directs Delhi Police

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court Thursday asked Delhi Police not to issue temporary licences for sale and storage of any kind of firecrackers, saying when the city government has banned all firecrackers; no distinction can be made on the basis of whether it is green or not. A bench of Justices AS Bopanna and MM Sundresh reserved its verdict on a plea seeking ban on firecrackers containing barium to curb pollution levels including in the Delhi-NCR region.

"We have to see what level of work has been done over the years and whether any additional directions are required to be issued. We see that most of the aspects have been taken care of by various orders passed by this court from time to time," the bench observed as it reserved its verdict on a batch of pleas.

"When there is a ban imposed by the government it means complete ban. Ban is for firecrackers. We don't understand the distinction between



es a complete ban, she said.

The bench asked Bhati as to what is the action plan of the Delhi police keeping in mind the complete ban imposed by the city government and the festival season ahead. "Delhi police have finalised an action plan as per which police station-wise teams will be constituted to check sale, storage and bursting of firecrackers. Besides these teams, there will be flying squads which will do random inspections of market places and other areas," she said, adding residents, including Resident Welfare Associations, will be sensitised.

The bench said sensitisation and creating awareness alone will not work as despite firecrackers are burst despite ban, and the Delhi police have to reach the source from where these fireworks come to the city. Agreeing with the court's observation, Bhati said no system is foolproof and police have acted upon wherever there was violation of the ban. In the past two years, she said, over 27,000 kg of firecrackers have been seized.

# Hold 'bada khana' to celebrate G20 success, Arora to Delhi Police

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Police Commissioner Sanjay Arora has directed deputy commissioners of the Delhi Police's 15 districts to organise a 'bada khana' for staff as a token of appreciation for their efforts during the G20 Summit.

Issuing the order, Arora directed the deputy commissioners to organise the 'bada khana' for staff at police stations in their jurisdiction according to their convenience, they added. The 'bada khana' is a traditional banquet where personnel of all ranks dine together.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has also invited for dinner around 450 Delhi Police personnel -- from the ranks of constable to inspector -- on Saturday to thank them for their contribution in providing security during the summit.

The names of personnel who performed their duties despite personal hardships and family issues are likely to be specially included.

# Reduce NEET PG cut-off percentile, IMA urges Health Ministry

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Indian Medical Association (IMA) has urged the Union Health Ministry to reduce the NEET PG 2023 cut-off percentile by up to 30 per cent so that most of the seats can be filled in both clinical and non-clinical branches.

This will ensure that a significant number of aspiring doctors can enroll for post-graduate programmes in various medical colleges across the country and not a single postgraduate seat goes vacant, the IMA said in its letter to Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya.

"We should not forget



that during previous Covid waves, when the country was in a state of emergency and people were dying, the doctors left their homes and served the nation fervently.

"The time has come for the administration to recognize them for their selfless service by reducing the cutoff marks for NEET-PG 2023," it said.

"As a result of high cutoff

scores, aspiring medical students will not only be prevented from entering post graduation but will also be compelled to travel overseas to pursue their dream field of post graduation, further depleting the medical manpower pool in India. We cannot afford to lose these precious gems in such a time when the country needs a full-blown medical army to protect citizens," the doctors' body said.

The safety and well-being of the people of our country hinges on ensuring that adequate medical staff is available so that there is no shortage of human resources within the medical profession, said the association.

# Pakistan mercenaries run...

From Page 1

On the other hand, Kokernag town Thursday observed a complete shutdown with black flags erected all over to protest the martyrdom of a colonel, an Army major, and DySP of J&K Police. Jammu too witnessed a series of anti-Pakistan protests against the killing of security personnel. The Panun Kashmir and the Eik Sanatam Bharat Dal (ESBD) paid homage to the security personnel and demanded a massive operation against the terrorist ecosystem in Jammu & Kashmir.

Scores of BJP youth workers, led by Jammu & Kashmir unit president Arun Prabhat, held a protest at Pacca Danga assailing Pakistan for aiding and abetting terrorism in J&K. They raised slogans against Pakistan and burnt posters of the country's flags. "Pakistan is

rattled by the popularity of Bharat after the success of the G20 Summit. That is why they are trying to disturb peace in J&K. They want to create trouble in the region," Prabhat told reporters here. He urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to deal with the source of terrorism across the border sternly.

Dogra Front Shiv Sena (DFSS) workers staged a protest march in Jammu and demanded fresh strikes on terror infrastructure in PoK. They shouted anti-Pakistan slogans and set Pakistani flags on fire.

Adding fuel to the fire, a Member of Parliament from Srinagar and the National Conference (NC) president Dr Farooq Abdullah on Thursday said India and Pakistan will have to come to the dialogue table if they want to end bloodshed and find lasting peace in Jammu & Kashmir.

Former Jammu & Kashmir Chief Minister also said wars did not resolve issues in the past nor will they bring peace in the future. Such incidents will continue if there is no dialogue. We are fools if we think that it (violence) will stop. We will keep losing lives.... There is no way but dialogue. Both countries should give up their stubbornness and hold talks," Abdullah told reporters here after visiting the family of Humayun Bhat, a Deputy Superintendent of the Jammu & Kashmir Police who was martyred in a gunbattle with terrorists in Anantnag. In Jammu, Jammu & Kashmir BJP chief Ravinder Raina said no one should engage in politics at this time and no statements should be made that hurt the sentiments of the people of this country.

# Army Colonel thrashed, robbed

Two accused arrested, police looking for third suspect

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A 48-year-old Army Colonel was allegedly beaten up and robbed of his belongings by three people in south Delhi's Malviya Nagar area. The victim asked for a lighter from one of the accused following which the latter started abusing him.

According to police, complainant Colonel Vinit Mahto, a resident of Chanakyapuri, came to the Malviya Nagar Police Station on Wednesday and lodged a complaint alleging that he went to Malviya

Nagar's Triveni complex in a car, along with his friend after attending a seminar on Tuesday, a senior police officer said.

Police said the arrested persons have been identified as Mithun, 22, and Mukul, 28 from Chirag Delhi.

The police also identified the third suspect by his first name Bobby, who is also from Jagdamba Camp.

Efforts are being made to arrest the third accused. Mithun was previously involved in a criminal case, police said.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (South) Chandan Chowdhary said the complainant, Vinit Mahto, aged around 48 years, came to the Malviya Nagar Police Station and gave a written complaint regarding the assault and robbery.

The DCP said the complainant reached the Triveni complex around 11.30 pm and asked for a lighter from a per-



son standing there. The two accused persons have been arrested in the case.

In his complaint, Colonel Mahto said he was mercilessly attacked, wounded, and robbed of his two mobile phones, credit and debit cards, and Rs 10,000 in cash by three men in the parking lot of Triveni Complex in south Delhi's Malviya Nagar late on Tuesday.

The assault left Colonel

Vinit Mahto unconscious near his car till the next morning. When he regained consciousness, he found his cash and other items were missing.

He called his wife to inform about the incident, who then rushed to the spot and took him to AIIMS Trauma Centre with the help of a policeman.

Detailing the incident in his complaint, the Army officer said on Tuesday night, he

had gone to Triveni Complex along with a friend after attending a seminar.

Around 11.30 pm, he reached the place and went to the car park to light a cigarette. There a man asked him for a lighter, who then began abusing him, leading to a physical duel, said the police.

"The man called two more persons, and they together beat the Army officer mercilessly and one of them took out his mobile phone.

"The other person took out other items from the officer's car after assaulting him. He became dizzy and later found that his two mobile phones, credit card, voter card and Rs 10,000 in cash were missing from his car," Chowdhary said.

The DCP said a case under sections 394 (voluntarily causing hurt in committing robbery), 411 (dishonestly receiving stolen property) and 34 (common intention) of the IPC was registered at the

Malviya Nagar Police Station and multiple teams were formed to identify and nab the suspects. "During the investigation, the probe team collected the relevant CCTV footage and thoroughly analysed the same.

Technical as well as manual surveillance were also mounted. Details of jail/bail and parole released criminals were obtained and thoroughly scanned, said the police, adding that further, dossiers of criminals involved in such type of incidents were also scrutinised.

Further, during analysing of CCTV, 03 suspects were noticed while committing the crime. Hence, the photographs of the suspects were developed through technical apparatus and circulated within police net to get their identities," the DCP said. "We identified all three suspects and have arrested two of them. Two stolen phones have been recovered from them," she added.

# Unique vigilance complaint system portal to be launched soon

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena will launch the much-awaited unique Vigilance Complaint Information Management System (VCIMS) portal at Raj Niwas on September 21. The online portal will help in speedy action with transparency and secrecy in dealing with and monitoring of complaints on corruption.

After launch of the portal, the complaints against corruption received in physical form will not be accepted and taken cognisance of.

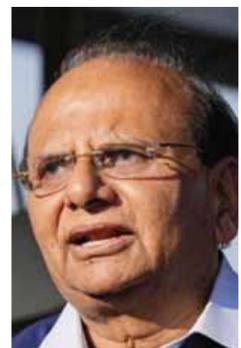
The move comes following the LG's intervention in a meeting to review handling and disposal of complaints against corruption, held in May this year, in line with his avowed commitment towards the dictum of "zero tolerance to corruption," officials said here on Thursday.

In VCIMS portal, the anonymous/pseudonymous complaints will be reduced to virtually zero and the platform will be faceless and there will be no requirement of any physical interface of the complainant with any officer at any level and since the identity of the complainant will be masked, there shall be no requirement of physical verification of complainant's identity.

To ensure that only genuine complaints are filed on the Portal, the complainants will compulsorily have to submit an e-undertaking and he/she can be prosecuted u/s 182 of IPC for giving false information to public servants.

Two training sessions have already been conducted for HODs of various departments of Delhi Government before the launch of the Portal.

Further, the issue of tracking the complaint by approaching the complainant as well as



blackmailing by the complainant of scrupulous/right minded officials will be a thing of the past with the operation of the VCIMS portal which will also help in taking real time action, especially on trap related complaints and the corrupt will be able to be caught red-handed.

The portal also has features for lodging complaints against high officials by maintaining secrecy and adequate safeguards are there in dealing such complaints.

The decision to launch the anti-corruption portal has been taken after ensuring all safeguards and obtaining requisite permissions from all authorities, including MEITY (Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology) etc.

It may be noted that the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has already launched such online complaint management portal, which has similar provision for registration of complainant at initial stage, and the same had been inordinately pending in GNCTD.

In addition to PAN Number and Aadhaar number which is provided in CVC portal, the VCIMS Portal also provides for the use of EPIC number for registration.

# Min moves HC over denial of permission to travel to New York

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai on Thursday approached the Delhi High Court seeking quashing of the Central government's order denying him political clearance to travel to New York to attend Columbia India Energy Dialogue.

The Ministry of External Affairs has said in its September 12 letter that it has examined the proposal and declined political clearance as the "visit from Government of NCT of Delhi would not be appropriate as India is being represented at the Columbia-India Energy Dialogue by Suman Kumar Bery, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog (Ministerial-rank)".

Rai has sought permission to travel to the US city from September 15 to 21 to attend the programme being held on September 18. Justice Subramonium Prasad listed the plea for hearing on Friday.

Rai, in his petition filed through the Delhi Government standing counsel Santosh Kumar Tripathi and advocate Arun Panwar, said his official request to attend the event has been rejected assigning "arbitrary and mala fide" reasons.

"The invitation is specific for different persons representing different stakeholders and does not intend to confine delegates at national level only for the formal representation of the country, therefore the reason cited herein above is nothing but a colourable exercise of power and accordingly bad in law," the petition said.

Rai said he received the invi-



tation on August 13 for attending and speaking at the event. He said is clear from the invitation that it is a dialogue by all the stakeholders, along with "Indian Think Tanks" to address the essential issues of energy consumption expected to grow about 1.5 times in the coming decades.

Therefore, citing the reason that India is represented by a bureaucrat of ministerial level is neither intended nor desired by the Global Energy Policy, the organisation holding the dialogue, he said.

The plea said the Centre has permitted other officers from different states to attend the event, and the reasons given in the order denying permission to Rai are completely contradicted by these actions.

"It is also not out of place to mention that Arvind Kumar, Special Chief Secretary, Municipal Administration and Urban Development, Telangana Government is also a part of the programme and has been selected as a speaker to speak on the issue of balancing energy, security and energy transition priorities in India.

"This is demonstrated by the fact that the impugned order cites reasons that are contradicted by other actions taken by the respondents. This clearly demonstrates that the impugned order is a colourable exercise of power," the petition said.

# Special plan for 13 polluted hotspots

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

After meeting with 28 departments to curb air pollution, Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai on Thursday said 13 hotspots have been identified in Delhi and a special plan will be made for them.

He further announced that Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal will announce the winter action plan on October 1 to check pollution in the capital.

"We held a meeting with 28 departments today and all have been directed to give their winter actions plans by September 25. There are 13 such hotspots that have been identified and special plan will be made for them," Rai said.

He further stated that 13 teams have been formed for the 13 hotspots and 15 points have been listed that the government will work on.

"The 15 points that we will focus on are — hotspots, stubble pollution, vehicular pollution, open garbage burning, industrial pollution, green war room, realtime appointment study, complete ban on firecrackers, tree plantation, urban farming, eco waste park, public awareness, communication with the Centre, neighbouring states and implementation of GRAP (Graded Response Action Plan)," he said.

The Minister said the massive success of the Delhi Government's efforts to curb pollution; in the last 9 years, PM 10 levels fell by 42 per



cent, PM 2.5 by 46 per cent.

The good, satisfactory, and moderate category days increased from 109 to 163 days between 2016 and 2022. In addition, between 2016 and 2022, the number of days falling into the severe category days declined as well; from 26 in 2016, it was only 6 in 2022.

Anticipating high pollution levels during winter, Rai on Monday announced a

comprehensive ban on the manufacture, storage, sale and bursting of firecrackers in the capital city.

The Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) enforced a complete ban on firecracker in 2021 and 2022, and the same measure will be in force this year too, Rai had earlier said.

The ban comes ahead of the winter season, a period which has been routinely marked by a spike in air pollution over the past several years.

Despite relatively low air quality index (AQI) figures from January to August, it typically worsens during October as humidity and particulate matter accumulate in the atmosphere, the minister had said earlier.

# Reviving Congress in city my first priority: Lovely

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Former Delhi Minister and senior leader Arvinder Singh Lovely formally took charge of the Delhi Congress president on Thursday. After taking charge of the Delhi Congress, Lovely said reviving the party in the national Capital and fixing its organisational structure are among his first priorities.

After taking charge, Lovely asserted that the party will fight against "corruption" of the ruling parties and raise issues that affect the common people. "I will do my best to live up to the expectations of the high command. I assure everyone that we will work shoulder-to-shoulder with every worker to consolidate the party," Lovely said.

He further advised party leaders and workers to protest in their areas against any wrongdoing by the ruling AAP Government and the Opposition BJP members.

Lovely asserted that the Congress

will forcefully fight against the misrule and corruption of the ruling parties by projecting the Congress stand on crucial issues in unequivocal terms, by taking a definite stand on matters affecting the people. He further said it was the duty and responsibility of every Congress worker to follow the direction of the party high command.

Deepak Babaria, the Congress' Delhi in-charge, and Ajay Maken, Subhash Chopra, Jai Prakash Agarwal and Anil Chaudhary — former chiefs of the party's state unit — were present at the programme. Congress Working Committee members Devender Yadav, former MPs Krishna Tirath, Sandeep Dikshit and Parvash Hashmi were also present. Senior leader Jai Kishan, Harun Yusuf, Raj Kumar Chauhan, Mukesh Sharma, Kunwar Karan Singh and Naseeb Singh were also present.

Speaking on the occasion, former Union Minister Ajay Maken, addressed the party workers and said Lovely, who



Newly appointed (DPCC) president Arvinder Singh Lovely with Anil Chaudhary and others during a ceremony to take charge of the office

has a great connect with the party workers, will definitely do a very good job to strengthen party and the presence of thousands of Congress workers

today was a clear indication that the party was in a resurgent mode.

Earlier, former Delhi Congress president Subhash Chopra thanked

Sonia Gandhi, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, Rahul Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi, KC Venugopal, Deepak Babaria and the party High Command for the appointment of Lovely as the Delhi Congress president.

He also introduced a resolution, which was passed unanimously. Many happy Congress workers said this was not a public meeting, but a "Congress workers' mela" as they were all elated at the return of Lovely as the Delhi Congress president, which, they felt, will give a new impetus to the party, and boost enthusiasm among the Congress workers.

Lovely has served as transport, education, urban development and revenue minister during the Congress regime in Delhi. He has served as Delhi Congress chief earlier as well.

Lovely was fielded against the BJP's Gautam Gambhir and the AAP's Atishi from the East Delhi constituency in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections.

# Govt plans to decrease flow of untreated sewage into Yamuna

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Government aims to bring down the flow of untreated sewage into the Yamuna below 10 per cent during the current financial year by undertaking rehabilitation and upgrading STPs feeding the river, according to the Outcome Budget document.

The average sewage generation in Delhi is expected to rise from 765 million gallons per day (MGD) in 2022-23 to 820 MGD in 2023-24, the document states.

Of the 765 MGD sewage generated in the city in the last financial year, 28.1 MDG flowed into the Yamuna untreated, according to the document.

The document also states that there are 38 functional Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) in the city. Twenty STPs are under rehabilitation and the total installed capacity of the functional ones is targeted to be increased to 744 MGD in 2022-23, the document states.



been presenting its Outcome Budget along with its annual financial statement every year since 2017, giving an account of the performance of its various departments and agencies.

The Outcome Budget comprises 'output' and 'outcome' indicators to measure resources spent on various programmes, schemes and projects and the actual benefit to the people of Delhi.

'Output' refers to the tangible infrastructure or services produced as a result of any project or programme and 'outcome' refers to the extent of benefit to the people from

infrastructure and services created in the short term.

The document shows that the government has targeted to rehabilitate three STPs at Kondli (45 MGD), Okhla (124 MGD) and Rithala (40 MGD) during this financial year. The government will also rehabilitate trunk sewer lines and rising mains in the command area of the three STPs to reduce pollution in the river.

The government has targeted to achieve an average reduction in the pollution load due to solid sewage in the Yamuna by 81.7 tonnes per day this year, the document states.

# Loader at IGI held for stealing fliers' valuables

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A loader at the IGI airport was arrested for allegedly stealing valuables from the bags of several passengers.

According to the police, a complainant stated that he was going to Halifax, Canada along with his family and they were taking wheelchair assistance from an airline. The passenger was carrying an iPhone 14 Pro Max in his luggage to gift it to his son in Canada.

He alleged that while they were keeping the same in their luggage during the check-in process, the person assisting them with the wheelchair was observing them. Later, when he reached Canada and received the luggage, he realised that the lock of the bag was removed and the iPhone was missing, Deputy Commissioner of Police (IGI Airport) Devesh Kumar Mahla said.

Police checked the CCTV footage and interrogated the



whole batch of loaders working on that shift.

Later, one of the loaders of BWFS identified as Neeraj Kumar, a Qutab Vihar resident, broke down and confessed to the theft, the DCP said.

On sustained interrogation, he further disclosed that he had stolen many more items from the luggage of several passengers in the past and various staff of different airlines have helped him to do so, police said.

During interrogation, it came to light that the airlines are not following the periodic guidelines issued by the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security, time and again and are working hand in glove with these thieves, they said.

# Teen who sustained life-threatening injuries gets new lease of life

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A seventeen-year-old boy who suffered a life-threatening fall, causing a gaping chest wound (15 inches by 6 inches), multiple severe cuts over leg and thigh and hemorrhagic shock was given a new lease of life by a team of doctors. The teenager, who is a resident of Vishwas Park, South West Delhi and hails from Nagaland, sustained these brutal injuries when he fell from the third floor of the building he lived in.

The boy was in a critical condition when he was brought to the hospital's emergency department in the early morning on August 31. The critical condition of the boy necessitated immediate and full medical intervention, said Dr Aashish Chaudhry, Managing Director of Aakash Healthcare.

"The teen was in a poor medical state with unrecordable low blood pressure owing to extensive blood loss from the chest and thigh wounds," he said.

His coagulation profile was grossly deranged (Hb 1.9,



platelets 45,000), further adding to the complexity of the case, Dr Chaudhry said, sharing the severity of the case.

"Our multidisciplinary team, including Dr Nikhil Yadav, Director & Senior Consultant, Laparoscopic & General Surgery, Dr Amrish Kumar, Senior Consultant, Cardio Thoracic Surgery and Dr Pallav Kumar, Senior Consultant & Head, Neuroanaesthesia & Neurocritical Care, operated for four hours to save the boy," he said.

A complex surgical procedure was performed that

included a thoracotomy with lung laceration repair, pleural cavity lavage, and ICD insertion, and repaired multiple lacerations over the right leg. Following the successful surgery, the patient was transferred to the Intensive Care Unit where his condition continued to stabilise further.

The boy is recuperating well, said Dr Chaudhry, adding that the orphaned young staying with his aunt had the treatment costs covered by crowdfunding with nurses contributing the majority of the costs, resulting in free care for the patient.

# INDIA alliance bashing 'Sanatan' dharma, bullying media: Nadda

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In an unrelenting attack on the Opposition parties on the "sanatan" controversy, BJP chief JP Nadda on Thursday alleged that its INDIA alliance was engaging in just two things - bashing the "Sanatan" culture and "bullying" the media and sought it to shift to doing "constructive work" lest they get further marginalized politically.

"The Emergency era mindset is alive among these parties," he charged in a post on "X".

"I.N.D.I.A Alliance should stop their antics immediately. They should instead focus on constructive work and serving people. Else, the path to obscurity will get even clearer."

Nadda's remarks came a day after Congress general secretary KC Venugopal told reporters that the coordination committee of the INDIA bloc authorised the sub-group on media to decide upon the names of the anchors on whose shows none of the opposition alliance members will send their representatives.

"These days, the I.N.D.I.A Alliance is only doing two things. Bashing Sanatan Sanskriti (culture) and bullying (media)," the BJP chief alleged, adding that each party



in the opposition alliance is competing to outdo the other in hurling the "choicest abuses" towards Sanatan Sanskriti.

"Bullying the media -- filing FIRs, threatening individual journalists, making lists in true Nazi style of who to target," he added.

The BJP also said it has become the opposition's habit to seek political mileage from every incident as it hit back at rivals criticising its felicitation of Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the success of the G20 summit amid reports of security officials' death in a gunfight in Kashmir.

"Seeking political mileage from everything has become a habit of the opposition," BJP general secretary Tarun Chugh, who is his party's in-

charge for Jammu and Kashmir, said in reply to a question about the opposition's claim.

Paying tributes to an Army colonel, a major and a deputy superintendent of police, who made the supreme sacrifice in a gunfight with terrorists, Chugh said the killers will not be spared.

Several INDIA bloc parties have slammed the BJP for holding "celebrations" to mark the success of the G20 Summit on a day security personnel were killed by terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir, with the Congress saying that no matter what happens, Prime Minister Narendra Modi cannot postpone receiving accolades.

Following the successful G20 meeting under India's presidency.

Colonel Manpreet Singh, Commanding Officer of 19 Rashtriya Rifles, Major Ashish Dhonack, and Deputy Superintendent Humayun Bhat were killed in the gunfight with terrorists that ensued in Garol area of Anantnag district early Wednesday.

Congress media and publicity department head Pawan Khara said that at a time when the sad news of the martyrdom of three officers of our army was coming, a "celebration was organized for Badshah" at the BJP headquarters. "No matter what happens, the Prime Minister cannot postpone receiving accolades," he said.

Several INDIA bloc parties slammed the BJP on Thursday for holding "celebrations" to mark the success of the G20 Summit on a day security personnel were killed by terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir, with the Congress saying that no matter what happens, Prime Minister Narendra Modi cannot postpone receiving accolades.

Congress called the prime minister "insensitive" and shared videos of mourning family members of a deceased soldier and Prime Minister Modi being given a rousing welcome at the BJP headquarters on Wednesday evening

# Bilkis Bano case: Some convicts are more privileged, says SC

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

There are some convicts who are "more privileged", the Supreme Court said on Thursday while hearing pleas challenging the grant of remissions to 11 convicts in the Bilkis Bano gangrape case and the murder of seven of her family members during the 2002 Gujarat riots. One of the convicts told the top court that the grant of remission for reformation and rehabilitation of the convicts is a "settled position internationally" and the argument of Bilkis Bano and others that he cannot be granted the relief due to heinous nature of the offence cannot be invoked now after the executive took a decision.

"We understand the concept of remission. This is well-accepted. But here, they (victim and others) are questioning this in the present case," a bench comprising justices BV Nagarathna and Ujjal Bhuyan told senior advocate Siddharth Luthra, appearing for convict Ramesh Rupabhai Chandana. The bench asked the lawyer to assist it by providing judgements delivered on pleas challenging the grant of remission, saying that usually cases are filed against denial of such benefits by states.

"There are some convicts who are more privileged in getting these benefits," the



bench observed. But the legal position and the policy remain the same, Luthra said, adding, "Rehabilitation and reformation of life term convicts are a settled position internationally." The arguments that the offence was heinous can be taken during the judicial proceedings and now, this is not available for opposing the state action that too after the convicts spent 15 years in jail.

"Other side says retribution or deterrence and nothing less. That, in my opinion, is not an argument that can be made at this stage... The grant of remission cannot be approached through a punitive attitude. This is not in line with the policy of Indian law," he said. The senior lawyer said a Mumbai sessions court has applied its judicial mind on the state action and moreover, the convicts were handed down life term "simpliciter".

The court will resume hearing on the pleas on September 20. Earlier, the bench had questioned Chandana for depositing the fine imposed on him when the hearing on the pleas challenging his remission was underway before it. TMC MP Mahua Moitra had told the apex court that the gang-rape of Bilkis Bano and murder of seven of her family members were a "crime against humanity", and accused the Gujarat government of having failed to exercise its constitutional mandate of protecting the rights of women and children by granting remission to the 11 convicts in the "horrendous" case.

Besides the petition filed by Bilkis Bano contesting the remission granted to them, several other PILs including one by CPI(M) leader Subhashini Ali, independent journalist Revati Laul and former vice-chancellor of Lucknow University Roop Rekha Verma have challenged the remission. Moitra has also filed a PIL against the remission.

The court will resume hearing on the pleas on September 20. Earlier, the bench had questioned Chandana for depositing the fine imposed on him when the hearing on the pleas challenging his remission was underway before it. TMC MP Mahua Moitra had told the apex court that the gang-rape of Bilkis Bano and murder of seven of her family members were a "crime against humanity", and accused the Gujarat government of having failed to exercise its constitutional mandate of protecting the rights of women and children by granting remission to the 11 convicts in the "horrendous" case.

# ₹6.47 cr assets attached in Chinese job fraud case

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has attached movable assets worth Rs 6.47 crore including Rs 71.3 lakh in the form of crypto currency in the China-linked part time job fraud case on money laundering charges. The ED initiated investigation on the basis of an FIR registered by South CEN Police Station, Bengaluru City in the matter related to part time job fraud.

The investigation revealed that gullible youth were cheated by certain Chinese persons through a mobile App Keepsharer who promised them a part time job and collected money from them, the ED said in a statement.

These Chinese persons formed companies in India and recruited many Indians as directors, translators, HR Manager and Tele callers. The App Keepsharer offered part time job opportunities to the youths. This app was linked with an investment App.

The Chinese people collected money from the public in the name of investment through this app. The youth were given the task of liking the videos of celebrities and uploading them on social media, on completion of the task, Rs.20 per video was credited in the Keepsharer wallet.

**BSES** BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, New Delhi

**TENDER NOTICE** Date: 15.09.2023

Sealed tenders under two Bid System (Unpriced & Priced) is invited for following job from all bidders.

NIT No.	Brief Tender Description	Estimated Cost (₹)	Cost of EMD (₹)	Due Date & Time of Submission	Date & Time of Opening
CMC/BR/23-24/RB/CR/SS/1161	CIVIL WORKS FOR 1 NO. ADDITIONAL POWER TRANSFORMER ALONG WITH EQUIPMENT FOUNDATIONS, CABLE TRENCHES & OTHER ALLIED WORKS AT 66 KV GRID S/STN SARITA VIHAR.	1.11 Crore	2.22 Lakhs	05.10.2023 15:00 HRS	05.10.2023 15:15 HRS

Cost of each Tender Document: ₹ 1180/-  
For details in respect of Equipment/BOM/Services, Qualifying requirements, Terms & conditions, purchase/submitting of tender documents etc, please visit our website [www.bsesdelhi.com](http://www.bsesdelhi.com).  
Head (Contracts & Materials)  
Regd. Off.: BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, BSES Bhawan, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019 | Corporate Identification No.: U40109DL2001PLC111527  
Telephone No.: +91 11 4910 7235 | Website: [www.bsesdelhi.com](http://www.bsesdelhi.com)

**Government of Goa**  
**Department of Tourism**  
Paryatan Bhavan Patto, Panaji, Goa  
Tel :- 0832-2494200/17 Fax :- 0832-2494227  
Email :- [deptgoatourism@gmail.com](mailto:deptgoatourism@gmail.com) Web :- [goatourism.gov.in](http://goatourism.gov.in)  
No. 3/(3856) Hosp./2023/DT Date :-15/09/2023

**BRIEF TENDER NOTICE**  
**(E-TENDERING MODE ONLY)**

Department of Tourism (DOT), Government of Goa invites e-tenders from single entities and consortium for "Development, Operations and Maintenance of Institute for Training and Skill Development in Hospitality, Tourism and Allied Sectors at Farmagudi, Ponda, Goa". Agencies interested in applying for the tender may submit their duly filled application with complete information as required as per the tender document. The last date for submission of the tender is 16.10.2023 up to 5:30 pm. For detailed Tender Notice and for participation in e-tender please visit our e-tender website <https://eprocure.goa.gov.in> Tender notice is also available on [www.goa-tourism.com](http://www.goa-tourism.com) for reference All queries with respect to the tender may be emailed to [pmu@goa-tourism.com](mailto:pmu@goa-tourism.com) by 03.10.2023 up to 5:30 pm.  
DI/Adv/1383/2023

**E AUCTION NOTICE**  
**FIRE AFFECTED CCTV, BINS, IRON SCRAP, PLASTIC & GLASS SCRAP, SERVER PCB BOARD ETC.**

Interested Buyers are invited to participate in the e-Auction for the disposal of "Fire Affected CCTV, Bins, Iron Scrap, Plastic & Glass Scrap, Server PCB Board etc." on "Lump Sum" Basis. The subject salvage will be sold on "As is Where is", "Whatever there is" and "No Complaint" Basis and belongs to M/s. Circularity Solutions Private Limited. The subject materials can be inspected at Khasra No. 95, 96, Sekhera Road, Modinagar, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh - 201204 between 15-09-23 to 26-09-23 between 10 AM to 5 PM only. Kindly contact Mr. Nitin Singh at 9312126919 or Mr. Aditya at 9149236228 for inspection.

**E-Auction will be held on 27-09-23**  
Kindly contact Mr. Shamsheer Singh - 9702985122 to obtain the form containing terms & conditions of e-Auction or download from website <https://www.sealthedeal.co.in/>. Auctioneers: Seal The Deal having registered office at Shop No. 148, Pocket C2, Sector 5, Rohini, Delhi - 110085.  
Last date of Submission of Form & EMD Demand Draft is 26-09-23.

**Noida** New Okhla Industrial Development Authority  
Main Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida, G.B. Nagar (U.P.)  
Website: [www.noidaauthorityonline.in](http://www.noidaauthorityonline.in)

**E-TENDER NOTICE**

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

**A) Fresh Tender Work:-**

SL. No.	Job No	Name of Work	Tender Amount (in Lacs.)
1.	23/DGM(E&M)/S.M. (E/M)- III/2023-24	Renovation of Barat Ghar, Panchyat Ghar in Village- Barola, Hosiarpur, Sorkha, Sector 49,50,51,71,72,119 &122, Noida.	80.89

The above tenders can be uploaded by dated 29.09.2023 up to 5.00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on dated 03.10.2023 at 11.00 AM.

**B) Re-Tender Work**

S. N.	Job No	Name of Work	Tender Amount (in Lacs.)
1.	23/DGM(E/M)/Sr.M. (E/M)- IV/2023-24	Annual Maintenance & Operation of Colour Lights installed at Charkha on Expressway, Noida Entry Gate Sector-150, Kalindi Kunj Gate, Sector-94 etc. Noida.	32.50
2.	17/DGM(E/M)/Sr.M. (E/M)-1 2023-24	Shifting of existing electrical infrastructure coming on plot No. 62 and 62A, Phase-II, Noida.	58.64
3.	18/DGM(E&M)/S.M. (E/M)- III/2023-24	M/o Authority Building (Supply, Installation, testing and commissioning of EPABX System in main Administrative Building) Sector-6, Noida.	49.40
4.	17/DGM/Sr.M.(E&M) - II/2023-24	Strengthening & Providing Octagonal Poles in Different Markets, Parks in A-Block Sector-19, Noida.	70.56
5.	16/DGM(E/M)/Sr.M. (E/M)-I 2023-24	Augmentation of electrical infrastructure on internal and external roads of Hosiery Complex, Noida.	91.12

The above tenders can be uploaded by dated 21.09.2023 up to 5.00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on dated 22.09.2023 at 11.00 AM.

**Dy. General Manager (E&M) NOIDA**

**CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA**

# INDIA bloc slams PM for G20 success celebrations on day security personnel killed in J&K

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Several INDIA bloc parties slammed the BJP on Thursday for holding "celebrations" to mark the success of the G20 Summit on a day security personnel were killed by terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir, with the Congress saying that no matter what happens, Prime Minister Narendra Modi cannot postpone receiving accolades.

Congress called the prime minister "insensitive" and shared videos of mourning family members of a deceased soldier and Prime Minister Modi being given a rousing welcome at the BJP headquarters on Wednesday evening

# Strategic India-US partnership was never so dynamic: Blinken

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE/AGENCIES ■ NEW DELHI/WASHINGTON

Given the robust ties between the two countries, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken has said the strategic relationship between India and the US has never been so dynamic as they team up on everything from advanced semiconductors to defence cooperation.

Speaking days after India successfully hosted the G-20 Summit and President Joe Biden and Prime Minister Narendra Modi held bilateral talks in New Delhi, Blinken said in Washington both India and the US will benefit from several collaborations they have entered

into.

"The US-India strategic partnership has never been more dynamic, as we team up on everything from advanced semiconductors to defence cooperation," Blinken said late Wednesday in his remarks on "Power and Purpose of American Diplomacy in a New Era" at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS).

Blinken said the Biden administration has elevated the Quad partnership with India, Japan, and Australia to deliver for the countries and the world on everything from manufacturing vaccines to strengthening maritime security to addressing climate challenges.

In November 2017, the four

# BRS leader Kavitha summoned by ED in Delhi excise policy scam

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has summoned Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) leader and the daughter of Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao, K Kavitha, at its office here on Friday for questioning in connection with the Delhi excise policy case.

Earlier, Kavitha was questioned several times at the ED headquarters in March and had to submit her mobile phones to the agency for forensic examination.

It is alleged that the Delhi government's excise policy for 2021-22 to grant licences to liquor traders allowed cartelisation and favoured certain dealers who had paid bribes for it. The ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has strongly



denied the charge.

The policy was subsequently scrapped and the Delhi Lieutenant Governor had recommended a CBI probe, following which the ED registered a case under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

As part of the probe, the ED had recorded the statement of Butchibabu, an accountant allegedly linked to Kavitha, in which he had said "there was political understanding between K Kavitha and the

Chief Minister (Arvind Kejriwal) and Deputy Chief Minister (Manish Sisodia). In that process, K Kavitha also met Vijay Nair on March 19-20, 2021".

Kavitha has asserted that she has done no wrong and accused the BJP-led Centre of "using" the ED as the saffron party could not gain a "backdoor entry" into Telangana.

Kavitha on Thursday said the ED notice to her is politically motivated and the party's legal team would decide the future course of action on it.

Responding to queries on the notice, Kavitha, in a Press conference in Nizamabad, said using central agencies has been the modus operandi of BJP in any poll-bound State and since Telangana is going to polls, the same technique is being used.

# Def Ministry tops in procuring from GeM



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Ministry of Defence (MoD) has emerged as the leading Ministry amongst a total of 56 Ministries and Departments participating in the Government e Marketplace (GeM), holding the top position in both order value and order quantity.

Since its inception, the Ministry has contributed significantly to the Gross Merchandise Value (GMV) of GeM, which has reached an impressive Rs. 73,225.30 Cr as of September 12.

Giving details here on Thursday, defence ministry officials said here in the current financial year, the procurement through GeM has already reached an impressive Rs. 18,790.60 Cr as of September 12.

The significant milestone of procuring goods and services worth over Rs. 18,000 Cr, underscores an outstanding average daily order value of Rs 109 Cr in the current financial year. This achievement results from the active participation of more than 19,800 buyers across the country, collectively placing over 3 lakh orders.

# 6 medical textile items to be BIS certified soon

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

Six medical textile items sanitary pads, diapers, dental bib/napkins, shoe covers, bedsheet and pillow cover are likely to be soon brought under the mandatory ambit of the BIS certification keeping in view protection and safety of human health and for ensuring optimum quality of product. This is for the first time medical textile products will come under BIS cover.

However, since self-help groups (SHGs) are mostly manufacturing these products particularly diapers and sanitary pads, the move might have an impact on these multiple small players manufacturing sectors.

The Ministry of Textiles is working with the Central

Drugs Standard Control Organisation on regulatory aspects of different medical textiles. We will soon be notifying Quality Control Orders (QCOs) for 6 medical textile items including sanitary pads and diapers, among others, Rajeev Saxena, joint secretary, Union Textiles Ministry revealed at an event in Mumbai on Thursday.

He said that these QCOs will strive to provide best value to users and end consumers, fostering Indian product quality that is comparable to global standards.

Saxena highlighted on the vitality of medical textiles due to its direct correlation with quality of life, despite low share compared to Packtech and Mobiltech in India.

"The market share of med-



ical textiles is growing strongly in India on the back of profound R&D and skilling in the area. Further, there's a need for repositioning of product focus in medical textiles in terms of global market and domestic market," he further emphasized.

The official stressed on wider innovation and research in the medical textiles, especially focusing on novel technologies and indigenizing the

highly-imported medical textile items such as sanitary pads, diapers and other surgical sutures, among others.

Commenting on the move, Rajiv Nath, Forum Coordinator, AiMeD said, "Medical devices are already regulated under the Drug Act and Medical Devices Rules. Hygiene products that are not necessarily medical devices are not regulated currently under the Drugs Act but yes their quality needs to be controlled so it's understandable for the government to come out with QCOs based on BIS Standards as done in many sectors.

"The government can also encourage quality based criteria in public procurement by seeking institutional buyers to seek Quality Council of India's voluntary ICMED ( Indian

certification for Medical Devices) from manufacturers certified by NABCB accredited certification bodies which is based on ISO global standards.

Nath, however, felt that "To use CDSCO for regulation of non drug/ non medical devices will be incorrect and may end up as over regulation and needless harassment of the medical textile based hygiene product manufacturers considering lack of technical expertise and competence."

The Government has already announced the launch of two QCOs for 31 items consisting of 19 Geo Textiles and 12 Protective Textiles including protective clothing for firefighters and welders in the first phase, a move aimed to prevent "dumping".

# G20 SFWG meeting ends with finalisation of finance report

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

The 4th and last meeting of the G20 Sustainable Finance Working Group (SFWG) organised in the city under India's G20 presidency, concluded on Thursday with the finalisation of the 2023 G20 Sustainable Finance Report.

The two-day meeting witnessed proactive engagement from over 80 delegates from G20 member countries, invitee countries and International Organisations including World Bank, New Development Bank, NGFS among others. Many other organisations joined the meeting virtually.

The G20 SFWG aimed to mobilise sustainable finance to help ensure global growth and stability and promote the transition towards greener, more resilient and inclusive societies and economies. The main purpose of the Group is to advance international work to help scale up private and public sustainable finance and in so doing, accelerate the implementation of the Paris Agreement and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The G20 Sustainable Finance Roadmap, as finalised in 2021, is the core around which the SFWG functions and takes up future work.

Guided by the principle of 'One Earth, One Family, One Future' and in line with our ethos of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam', the SFWG during India's G20 Presidency has worked to further global good and create a better planet. As the Prime Minister of India has stated, it is our collective responsibility not to let the progress towards Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) fall behind and ensure that no one is left behind.

The SFWG in 2023 carried



The delegates of nations of G20 participating in 4th and last meeting of the G20 Sustainable Finance Working Group (SFWG) which concluded on Thursday.

out work for enabling finance for SDGs along with the mobilisation of timely and adequate resources for climate finance as agenda priorities. The SFWG during India's G20 presidency has made recommendations on the following six areas, viz. (1) Mechanisms for Mobilisation of Timely and Adequate Resources for Climate Finance; (2) Policy Measures and Financial Instruments for Catalysing the Rapid Development and Deployment of Green and Low-Carbon Technologies; (3) Scaling-up the adoption of social impact investment instruments; (4) Improving Nature-related Data and Reporting; (5) G20 Technical Assistance Action Plan; (6) Overcoming data-related barriers to climate investments. In addition, the members have finalised the compendium of case studies on financing SDGs

and the compendium on non-price policy levers to support sustainable investments. The G20 New Delhi Leader's Declaration 2023 which was adopted in the Leader's Summit held recently, has welcomed the work undertaken by the SFWG under India's G20 presidency. The four SFWG meetings were held in Guwahati, Udaipur, Mahabalipuram and Varanasi. The two-day meeting in Varanasi aimed at jointly agreeing on the final 2023 G20 Sustainable Finance Report that assimilates the work carried out by the SFWG in the form of recommendations for the identified priority areas. The 4th meeting also discussed the progress made by G20 members and International Organisations (IOs) on the G20 Sustainable Finance Roadmap.

Achieving sustainable development requires collective efforts from all member countries. All through the SFWG meetings, both the Co-Chairs, US and China, members and invitee countries, as well as international organisations participated and contributed in the finalisation of deliverables as key outcomes under the SFWG this year. The success of the G20 Sustainable Finance Working Group's endeavors stands as a testimony to the collective will and determination of the G20 nations to jointly address the global challenges. As the G20 Presidency of India draws to a close, the legacy of this fruitful collaboration will continue to inspire and guide global efforts focused on healing our 'One Earth', creating harmony within our 'One Family' and giving hope for our 'One Future'.

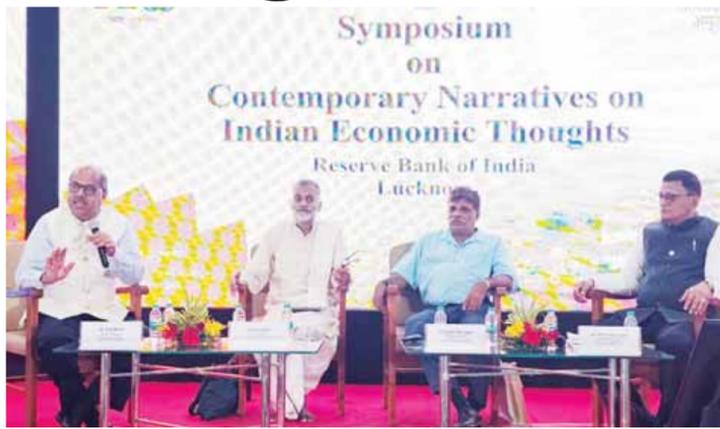
# Symposium on Indian economic thoughts held

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Lucknow on Thursday organised a symposium on "Contemporary Narratives on Indian Economic Thoughts" at Banaras Hindu University (BHU), here. As a co-host of all the G20 Finance Track Meetings, the Reserve Bank of India is participating in the two-day 4th Sustainable Finance Working Group meeting in Varanasi which concluded on Thursday.

The symposium was organised in the backdrop of India's G20 Presidency, celebrating the nation's rich cultural heritage while fostering intellectual discourse on economic insights that transcend borders. It underscored the ancient Indian story of economic and fiscal policy, governance, public policy, and Indian Jurisprudence. Dr Balu Kenchappa, Regional Director, RBI, Lucknow welcomed all the participants. The keynote speaker Dr HR Nagendra, Chancellor, Swami Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhana Samsthana (S-VYASA) University, Bengaluru exhorted as to how the ancient Indian economic ideas have been providing a deeper insight into India's culture, tradition, and inherent national characteristics.

He emphasised how the synergy of politics, ethics, and economics with the Vedas,



A guest speaking in a symposium on Contemporary Narratives on Indian Economic Thoughts organised by the Reserve Bank of India, Lucknow in BHU on Thursday.

Arthashastra, the Ramayana and Mahabharata, Manusmriti, Sukraniti, and several other ancient Indian texts, have skillfully and holistically contributed to the nation's growth and wellbeing. Dr Ashutosh Yashwant Ravikar, Director, Department of Economic Policy and Research, RBI, Mumbai traversed through the history of RBI and its path to prosperity. Dr Manjusha Pandharinath Kulkarni, Administrative officer, Deputy Chief Minister's Secretariat, Maharashtra gave anecdotal insights concerning the originality of Kautilya's Arthashastra and expressed her views on the

contemporary relevance of its principles. The panel discussion on the theme of "Dilemmas in Balancing Gross Domestic Product and Gross National Happiness- Learnings from Ancient Texts" featuring distinguished academicians including Prof MK Agrawal, Head, Department of Economics, University of Lucknow; Prof Sudhakar Mishra, Department of Vedanta, Sampurnanand Sanskrit Vishwavidyalaya, Varanasi; and Prof Mrutyunjaya Mishra, Head, Department of Economics, Banaras Hindu University, kept the audience enthralled. The panel discussion was moderat-

ed by Dr Balu Kenchappa, Regional Director, Lucknow. The panelists gave a valuable insight into the important learnings from several ancient texts, specially Kautilya's Arthashastra, which vividly describes and chronicles the historical relevance of the administrative procedures, the duties of kings, ministers, and government officers, covering almost every aspect of economics pertinent to a welfare state even today, is invaluable, thereby aiding in balancing economic growth and overall wellbeing. Around 250 students and teachers participated in the programme.

# VMC hikes transfer fee of land, buildings

VARANASI (PNS): Mini House of the Varanasi Municipal Corporation (VMC) has decided to make an increase of 0.25 per cent in the slab of transfer fee of the land and buildings to be purchased in the urban areas. But there will be no separate advertisement fee on the registry of the properties worth over ₹25 lakh, it decided.

In the meeting held on Wednesday under the chairmanship of the Mayor Ashok Tiwari, the Mini House discussed the transfer fee of the land and buildings to be purchased in the urban areas and decided to make a hike of 0.25 per cent in its slab. The

executive committee of the VMC had in its meeting held on July 17 proposed an increase of 0.5 per cent in the highest slab of transfer fee but the committee had rejected its own proposal in the last meeting held in the first week of this month. The Mini House also decided to take no fee on the registry of the properties worth more than ₹25 lakh.

The Mini House also decided to realise no users charge from the shops selling tea and betel, while ₹1,500 per month will be realised as users charge from the restaurant spread out in 50 sq m, while ₹2,300 will be realised as users charge from the hotels with 30

rooms and ₹3,000 will be realised as users charge from the hospitals being run by trusts. The Mini House decided to cancel the notice of the GIS survey which was issued earlier. It left the decision to give the land of Bharat Sevashram Sangh to the executive committee. The meeting also decided to open a metropolitan public health surveillance unit at CHC in Shivpur.

Besides, the Mini House also decided to appoint three employees in each ward to clean the sewage and so, 300 employees will be appointed in 100 wards. The tender for the appointment of employees will

be made in a month. While, 5,000 sanitation employees will be appointed on the contractual basis to maintain the sanitation system, the Mini House decided, adding that the agency to make appointments will be selected through the GeM (Government e Marketplace) portal. Each sanitation employee will be given a stipend of ₹14,000 per month and so, the VMC will afford an expenditure of ₹7 crore and ₹84 crore per month and per year respectively on the salary of these sanitation employees. It is learnt that as per standard, there should be 28 sanitation employees in the population of 10,000.

# Goods worth lakhs gutted in showroom fire

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ PRAYAGRAJ

Goods worth lakhs of rupees gutted in a fire broke out in a two-wheeler showroom in Meerapur locality under the Attarsuiya police station on Wednesday night.

Around 10 pm the residents witnessed thick clouds of smoke rising into the sky from the above two-wheeler shop situated near Kamdhenu Sweets. The showroom owner was informed and the fire brigade

was called. Firefighters arrived at the spot and found that the flames were coming up from the basement so they entered it to douse the fire. It took hours for the firefighters to control the flame.

The showroom owner removed vehicles worth lakhs of rupees with the help of residents otherwise the loss could have been almost four fold more.

**TWO TTEs CAUGHT:** The Vigilance team of Railways

caught two Travel Ticket Examiners (TTE) with 11 bottles of liquor and ₹1.28 lakh in cash. They were caught in the AC coach of Prayagraj Express train. The Vigilance team had information regarding the 'misdeeds' of the above two TTEs.

When Prayagraj Express arrived on platform No 1, the two TTEs were nabbed. The team 11 bottles of foreign liquor and ₹1.28 lakh in cash recovered from their possession. It is reported that they had been acting as courier to

smuggle liquor from Delhi to Prayagraj. They had also been involved in selling AC reservation on higher price.

The North Central Railway (NCR) PRO confirmed that the vigilance team took the above TTEs with them for interrogation. Both of them are from Prayagraj division of NCR.

Some liquor bottles had been found in Prayagraj Express a couple of days ago, and it had sent the vigilance team on alert mode.

# Atiq's 'benami' properties worth ₹12.5 cr to be attached soon

PRAYAGRAJ (PNS): The

'benami' properties of Atiq Ahmed worth ₹12.5 crore will soon be attached under provisions of the Gangsters Act. Paper work for property attachment is almost complete. Atiq had purchased a huge plot of land of 23,447 sq mt in Ghauspur Katahula near Prayagraj airport in the name of a construction labour in 2015. The police had recovered papers related to registry of the above plot from Vibhuti Khand flat of Lucknow. When the

papers were scrutinised, it was found that the land was purchased at the rate which was much below the circle rate of the area. Land worth over ₹12 crore was purchased for ₹2 crore. The labour, who gets ₹400 to 500 per day, spilled the beans and told the police that actually the above property belonged to Atiq.

**COMMITTEE CONSTITUTED:** The Allahabad High Court has constituted a committee under the chairmanship of Justice Manoj Kumar Gupta

to look into the grievances raised at the Bar regarding the incident that took place in Hapur. The committee shall hold its meeting in the committee room of the Allahabad High Court at 11 am on September 16. Under the directions of the committee the persons aggrieved in the incident/members of the public concerned have been informed that they may place their grievance/relevant material in the matter, before the committee for its consideration.

Meanwhile, judicial work in the Allahabad High Court as well as in the district courts of Uttar Pradesh has been adversely hit for the last 15 days due to a strike by lawyers protesting against the lack of any positive decision by the government regarding an incident of lathicharge on advocates in Hapur.

While the lawyers of the High Court continue to abstain from judicial work on a call from the High Court Bar Association.

# Progress of Vindhya Corridor project works reviewed

CORRESPONDENT ■ MIRZAPUR

Divisional Commissioner Dr Muthukumarasamy B while reviewing the progress of works under Vindhya Corridor project on Wednesday has warned the project manager UP RNN to expedite the work otherwise remain prepared to face the music. Reviewing all the points related to the project he asked the working agency concerned to speed up the work by engaging more manpower and getting the work done in shifts. He directed the city magistrate and SLAO to settle the matter related to a property situated on Kotwali road by October 15 which was necessary to complete the work as per the plan. The working agency was directed to complete the work of safe houses on VIP road and Kotwali road. About the laying of underground cable the Electricity department was directed to complete the work. Taking the project seriously the DC made it clear that it is among the priorities of the government so no laxity at any stage will be tolerated and the all work is to be completed within the stipulated time. The meeting was attended by the City Magistrate Vinay Kumar Singh, SLAO Neeraj Patel and other officials concerned.

**DONATION:** A sum of ₹31.23 lakh was collected from nine donation boxes fixed at the temples of Vindhyaachal. Giving details of the donation amount naib tahsildar Rahul

Mishra said on the direction of the authorities the amount of boxes was collected after opening it on Tuesday. He said the boxes were fixed at the temples of Ashtabhuj and Kalikhoh apart from the main temple of Vindhyaasani. The entire process was performed under the close watch of CCTV cameras and the presence of the police. During two day counting of the amount the president of Panda Samaj Pankaj Dwivedi was also present. The total amount had been deposited in the account of Vindhya Vikas Parishad the naib tahsildar said.

**PASSENGER DIES:** A passenger died after slipping from the train on Wednesday. According to a report, Mohammad Akram (40) of Fullaur village under Chausa police station Madhepura district was going to Delhi by Mahananda Express. As the train stopped at Mirzapur railway station on Tuesday evening he got down to take water. However, he fell down while boarding the train and sustained serious injuries. He was admitted to a hospital and died on Wednesday during treatment. His son Mohammad Sohail (10) who was accompanying him was unaware of the incident and reached Delhi. The GRP informed the family members of the victim and handed over the body to his wife after the postmortem and proper identification.

# English-speaking skills of students to be enhanced

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ PRAYAGRAJ

The students enrolled in various government primary schools of the state will now get an opportunity to enhance their English-speaking skills through audio content prepared and uploaded on YouTube by the English Language Teaching Institute (ELTI).

A letter, signed by Director General (Education), Vijay Kiran Anand, has been sent to all the Basic Shiksha Adhikaris (BSAs) of Uttar Pradesh to ensure that each school procures bluetooth speakers that will be brought to use in strengthening students' English-speaking skills.

According to the letter

dated September 12, Anand has instructed all BSAs to refer to the State Project Office's letter dated February 8, 2022, and another one dated July 25, 2022, that mentioned guidelines regarding purchase and usage of two bluetooth speakers in all government primary schools.

The latest letter mentions that since ELIT is providing interesting, child-centric and informative material related to English language through audio files uploaded on YouTube, it could be downloaded and narrated to the children. The purpose of this content is to encourage oral communication among students (classes 1-5) by listening, speaking, understanding and assimilating English words.

**Office of Dewas Municipal Corporation, Dewas (M.P.)**  
**NIT No:12/ET-PRO/2023** Dewas, Dated: 12.09.2023  
**Notice Inviting Tenders (III Call)**  
 Online bids are invited from registered contractors/firms of repute for work of water supply scheme in which Survey, Soil Investigation, Design and execution of various works for augmentation of water supply system including construction of an intake, well arrangements, Raw water pump house, installation of Raw/Clear water Pumps, sub station including 33KV HT feeder, Water Treatment Plant, ELSR's and GLSR's. Providing, Laying, Jointing, Testing and Commissioning of Raw/Clear water pumping/feeder main and Distribution network, etc. of Municipal Corporation Dewas town under Amrut 2.0, Nit : 2023\_UAD\_307038\_1. Date 13.09.2023, Tender purchase start Date & Time 14.09.2023/10.30 Hrs. Probable amount Rs. 5921.91 Lacs, EMD Rs. 29,60,955/-. Cost of Bid document Rs. 50,000/-, Last Date and time of Submission of Bid Date 27.09.2023, & time 17.30 Hrs, Pre bid meeting Date, Time & Place 20.09.2023, time 2.00 Hrs, Place at Meeting hall, DMC Dewas. All other details are published on website [www.mptenders.gov.in](http://www.mptenders.gov.in). Further information or clarification (if any) shall be published on website only, and not in Newspaper.  
**Commissioner**  
 Municipal Corporation Dewas (M.P.)

# Interactive session

VARANASI (PNS): Institute of Management Studies, Banaras Hindu University (IM-BHU) organised an interactive session of Dr Prakash Singh, professor at IIM Lucknow to enlighten the students about the political, economy and governance challenges in business. Having an interaction with the students on Wednesday, Dr Singh provided insights about the firm structure and various parties i.e. external and internal that affects business holistically. Talking about various sectors such as Kochhar case from BFSI Uninor from Telecom sector, he provided the opportunity to students to gain knowledge regarding what went wrong and the impacts it created.

He also talked about power sector and aviation sectors, which have been affected and talked about the opportunities and potential threats for the same. Dr Singh was felicitated with momento and a shawl by Dr Shashi Srivastava, student advisor and Dr Ashutosh Mohan, placement coordinator of the institute.

**कार्यालय नगर पालिका परिषद, दमोह ( म.प्र. )**  
**--:: निविदा सूचना ::--** दमोह दिनांक 13.09.2023  
 एतद् द्वारा सर्वसक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत टेकेदारों से ऑनलाईन निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। निविदा का विस्तृत विवरण वेबसाइट [www.mptenders.gov.in](http://www.mptenders.gov.in) पर देखा जा सकता है।  

क्र.	टेण्डर नं.	कार्य का नाम एवं विवरण	समयावधि एवं अनुमानित लागत	निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य एवं अमानत राशि	निविदा की अंतिम तिथि
1	2023_UAD_307561_1	REJUVENATION WORK OF FULTERA POND, PURENA POND, AND PATHAK POND UNDER AMRUT 2.0 SCHEME (IInd Call)	12 माह 295.79 लाख	15000 रु. 148000 रु.	03.10.2023

**नोट :-** 1. इच्छुक निविदादाता विस्तृत निविदा एवं अन्य समस्त जानकारी ई-टेंडरिंग पोर्टल [www.mptender.gov.in](http://www.mptender.gov.in) पर Key-Date अनुसार देखी जाकर निविदा प्रपत्र ऑनलाईन क्रय किये जा सकते हैं। 2. निविदा में यदि कोई संशोधन होता है तो केवल ऑनलाईन किया जावेगा समाचार पत्र में नहीं।  
**मुख्य नगर पालिका अधिकारी**  
 नगर पालिका परिषद दमोह

**कार्यालय नगर पालिका परिषद, दमोह ( म.प्र. )**  
**--:: निविदा सूचना ::--** दमोह दिनांक 12.09.2023  
 एतद् द्वारा सर्वसक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत टेकेदारों से ऑनलाईन निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। निविदा का विस्तृत विवरण वेबसाइट [www.mptenders.gov.in](http://www.mptenders.gov.in) पर देखा जा सकता है।  

क्र.	टेण्डर नं.	कार्य का नाम एवं विवरण	समयावधि एवं अनुमानित लागत	निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य एवं अमानत राशि	निविदा की अंतिम तिथि
1	2023_UAD_306936_1	Work of Augmentation of Water Supply System of Damoh town under AMRUT 2.0	18 माह 978.35 लाख	20000 रु. 4,89,000 रु.	18.10.2023

**नोट :-** 1. इच्छुक निविदादाता विस्तृत निविदा एवं अन्य समस्त जानकारी ई-टेंडरिंग पोर्टल [www.mptender.gov.in](http://www.mptender.gov.in) पर Key-Date अनुसार देखी जाकर निविदा प्रपत्र ऑनलाईन क्रय किये जा सकते हैं। 2. निविदा में यदि कोई संशोधन होता है तो केवल ऑनलाईन किया जावेगा समाचार पत्र में नहीं।  
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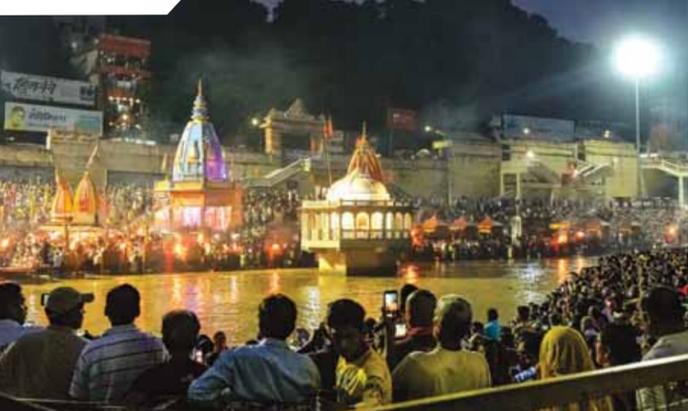
## Dastardly act

### Three Army personnel martyred fighting terrorists in J&K; again, the finger points to Pak

In a disturbing incident, three Army personnel, including a Colonel commanding a battalion, a Major and a Deputy Superintendent of Jammu & Kashmir Police, died in a gunfight with terrorists in the upper reaches of Kokorenag in the Valley. Col Manpreet Singh, Commanding Officer of 19 Rashtriya Rifles, Maj Ashish Dhonak and Deputy Superintendent Humayun Bhat were killed in the gunfight that ensued in the Garol area of Anantnag district early on Wednesday. The banned Resistance Front, believed to be a shadow group of the Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), has claimed responsibility for the attack. It is believed to be a "big day offensive", when terrorists are typically known to escalate violence in J&K before and during a major event; in this case, the fourth anniversary of the revocation of Article 370. Over three years since 2021, J&K has recorded 29 military fatalities from terror attacks, including 13 this year alone, underscoring the ongoing challenges in the region's security landscape. It is the third major terrorist attack in J&K on our military this year, following the death of 10 soldiers on April 20 and May 5 in the two frontier districts of Poonch and Rajouri in the Jammu region. "In solemn tribute to the unwavering valor of Col Manpreet Singh, Major Ashish Dhonak & DSP Humayun Bhat who laid down their lives leading from the front during this ongoing operation. Our forces persist with unwavering resolve as they encircle 2 LET terrorists including Uzair Khan," Kashmir Zone Police have stated on X.

The presence of groups like LeT has been a constant source of contention in India-Pakistan relations. Such organisations have carried out innumerable attacks on Indian soil, leading to great loss of lives and property, and derailing diplomatic initiatives. Pakistan's continued association with such entities hampers the prospects for peaceful dialogue and resolution of longstanding issues. Besides, Pakistan's inability or unwillingness to rein in the non-state actors has not gone unnoticed of late on the international stage. Pakistan's commitment to counter-terrorism is vehemently questioned, leading to the country's isolation on certain international fora. While these non-state actors may have been originally formed to serve specific agenda, they have since become a grave security threat to Pakistan itself. Over time, they have morphed into multifaceted organisations that often operate outside the state's control. These groups not only challenge the writ of the Government but also perpetrate violence and instability within Pakistan, undermining its own stability. It is high time Pakistan reined in its non-state actors who indulge in such nefarious activities. Oftentimes, the Pakistan army is behind these elements, supporting them and even training them to launch attacks on India. Pakistan must understand that terrorists cannot be controlled and, as in the past, they can turn against their own. Pakistan today is already in a precarious condition, fighting a proxy war against India is not going to help it in any way.

### PICTALK



Hindu devotees perform 'Ganga Aarti' on 'Bhadrapada Amavasya' at Har Ki Pauri ghat, in Haridwar

# 9/11 is not just about violence

## 9/11 is often remembered for terrorist attack but on the same day Gandhiji started satyagraha and Vivekananda gave a clarion call for the world peace



RAJDEEP PATHAK

What is September 11 known for? Popularly known as 9/11, for an average person, the image of the World Trade Center – and the memories of a horrendous terror attack that the American state was traumatised by in 2001 – and the twin towers falling to debris, pops up immediately. What we have, however, forgotten is history. However, there is more to September 11 than this one incident that prompted global leaders to rethink their agenda on terrorism *per se*. What these leaders had predominantly missed out on, are lessons learned from the past.

The G20 Summit has just concluded in India with world leaders reaffirming their faith in the core values of peace and non-violence and global partnership for global peace, whilst, Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi – heading the Presidency of G20 – tabled the idea of moving from 'Global Village' to 'Global Family'.

In a world facing multiple challenges and rising geopolitical tensions, the theme of India's G20 presidency: "One Earth, One Family, One Future" captured it all under one umbrella. Here 'One Earth' means protecting our planet, and our home; 'One Family' means solidarity and protecting the vulnerable; and 'One Future' means ensuring everyone can prosper and the spirit of "one", as Kristalina Georgieva in her article, "Policy Priorities for the G20: One Earth, One Family, One Future" says, which should guide us as we move forward.

With the African Union joining the League of G20 group of nations, it becomes the responsibility of the policymakers to muster courage and take the right actions to reduce geopolitical tensions that are ever escalating.

Coming back to September 11, it was on this date in the year 1893, that Swami Vivekananda's visit to America and his historic speech at the 'World Parliament of Religions' in Chicago, became a turning point in India's course of the spiritual journey. His mission was to revive the ancient glory of India to a Western audience.



While the immediate impact of Swami Vivekananda's speech was felt within the walls of the Parliament of Religions, its geopolitical significance cannot be understated. At the time, the world was grappling with colonialism, religious conflicts, and deep divisions. The speech offered a glimmer of hope and a vision for a world where different faiths could coexist in harmony. Swami Vivekananda's message of unity and self-respect resonated deeply with the Indian populace. His call for spiritual awakening and self-reliance became a driving force behind India's struggle for independence from British colonial rule. Swami Vivekananda's address in Chicago served as a bridge between the East and the West. Theodore Roosevelt, for example, recognised the importance of this cultural exchange, stating, "Vivekananda's address at Chicago was an epoch-making event. It helped to build a bridge between the East and the West."

Leaders like Mahatma Gandhi and others drew inspiration from Swami Vivekananda's teachings and incorporated them into the fabric of the Indian independence movement. Mahatma Gandhi, in particular, admired Swami Vivekananda's com-

mitment to nonviolence and believed it to be a powerful tool for resolving conflicts. In a world where religious and cultural differences can lead to strife, his teachings emphasise the need for dialogue and acceptance.

The Second – and another powerful event in history is that of September 11, 1906, in South Africa. On September 11, 1906, in the distant lands of South Africa, a frail yet determined man by the name of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi took a significant step towards rewriting the history of nonviolent resistance. This event marked the birth of the first Satyagraha movement, a potent force for change that would go on to inspire countless struggles for justice and freedom worldwide.

It was here that Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi first applied his principles of non-violent protest on a substantial scale. The catalyst for this movement was the discriminatory treatment faced by the Indian community in South Africa, which was subjected to a range of oppressive laws and practices. In response, Gandhi mobilized the Indian community and launched a campaign of nonviolent resistance against these injustices.

As we reflect on the significance of September 11, 1906, it becomes abundantly clear that the lessons of this historic

event are as relevant today as they were more than a century ago. The power of nonviolence, unity in diversity, resilience, and the pursuit of truth are enduring principles that can guide us in addressing the myriad conflicts that continue to plague our world. Mahatma Gandhi's legacy serves as a reminder that individuals have the power to effect positive change through peaceful means.

From global solidarity to humanitarian initiatives to democratic movements to recent environmental activism (read initiatives), to efforts in conflict resolution and civil rights and social justice movements, all have been inspired by the principles of nonviolent resistance, truth and moral authority that Mahatma Gandhi lived and espoused for. The Satyagraha of September 11, 1906, in South Africa, stands as a timeless beacon of hope, reminding us that peaceful resistance has the power to transform societies and create a more just, peaceful, and compassionate world for all. It provides a moral compass for navigating the complex challenges of our time, emphasising nonviolence, unity in diversity, resilience, and the pursuit of truth.

(The writer is a programme executive, Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti; views are personal)



AS WE REFLECT ON THE SIGNIFICANCE OF SEPTEMBER 11, 1906, IT BECOMES ABUNDANTLY CLEAR THAT THE LESSONS OF THIS HISTORIC EVENT ARE AS RELEVANT TODAY AS THEY WERE MORE THAN A CENTURY AGO

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### RIGHT TO BAIL

Sir — Frequently, the Supreme Court has expressed its frustration regarding the refusal of bail in lower courts. The prompt resolution of cases minimises or eliminates the necessity for bail. Regrettably, the excessive delay in case disposal is creating a demand for bail. The Supreme Court is deeply concerned by the numerous cases seeking bail that come before it. Many undertrials languish in jail, and if acquitted of their charges, they may have effectively served a life sentence unjustly. In such instances, denying bail constitutes a grave injustice. If an undertrial is convicted, at least they receive some justice when their jail sentence is reduced by the time already spent behind bars. In this system of dispensing justice, the innocent are punished.

If these individuals are eventually exonerated, they suffer no injustice except the anxiety of awaiting the judgment's outcome. If they are convicted, they are the ones who have enjoyed freedom while outside of jail. The journey of litigation from the lowest court to the highest court often spans decades. A person denied bail but acquitted in the top court endures unmerited punishment, while a person out on bail but convicted after decades benefits from their time outside. There's a saying that the person who wins in court is exhausted at the end after years of fighting for justice, whereas the person who loses the case after years of legal battle is as good as dead. A person on bail carries a stigma until they are cleared of the charges. When there is a delay in registering an FIR for 60 days, the implicated person in the case becomes eligible for default bail. Delayed justice is more common in cases involving individuals out on bail. The right to early justice must take precedence over the right to bail.

KV Seetharamaiah | Bengaluru

### KOHLI'S MASTERCLASS

Sir — I am writing about the "Masterclass" during the league phase match against Pakistan in the ongoing Asia Cup. Indian top-order batters initially struggled against

### KULDEEP YADAV SHOW



It is indeed a momentous occasion for the revival of Indian cricket, as the team triumphed over Pakistan, defeating them comprehensively, and it was none other than Kuldeep Yadav who led the charge against the Sri Lankan challenge. Previously sidelined during the Kohli-Shastri era, the enigmatic spinner has now resurfaced with an outstanding performance, providing Team India with a significant advantage. After a prolonged period, we have surged ahead of the Asian com-

petition with two convincing victories. Hence, there's no need to keep our nerves on edge or worry about the net run rate when Team B faces off against Team C or D, and vice versa in close finishes.

Even the rain couldn't dampen our spirits, turning what could have been a washout into an entertaining two-day match between Team India and Pakistan after reaching the 25-over mark. It was heartening to witness Rohit, Gill, Kohli, and Rahul regaining their usual form just before the Asia Cup final and the upcoming World Cup in India next month. The linchpin of our bowling attack was none other than Kuldeep Yadav, who delivered a stellar performance with 9 wickets in two matches, solidifying his status as a star performer. Kudos to Kuldeep Yadav for his remarkable display of spin bowling against all odds.

CK Subramaniam | Mumbai

the sheer class of Afridi, Rauf, and Naseem Shah. However, in the top 4 matches, they turned the tables on them. Gill, Rohit Sharma, Kohli, and KL Rahul showcased their true cricketing prowess. Among these four batsmen, KL Rahul's performance was particularly gratifying, considering his return after a six-month injury layoff. These stellar performances bode well for the upcoming World Cup, especially as they came against one of the world's best bowling attacks. Additionally, Kuldeep Yadav's exceptional bowling, resulting in a five-wicket haul, sealed the deal. This should undoubtedly bring joy to Rahul Dravid, as the conditions at home are expected to be similar during the World Cup.

Bal Govind | Noida

### INITIATE INTER-COMMUNITY DIALOGUE

Sir — The failure of both the Centre and Manipur governments to initiate an inter-community dialogue in the early stages of the Manipur conflict and their inability to control the violence have made any resolution seem challenging,

if not nearly impossible, at this point. The ongoing violence in the state has entrenched positions, attitudes, and responses on both sides. Some Meitei groups are even considering reviewing the state's merger agreement with India, while Kuki groups persistently seek an administration independent of the state government.

There is overwhelming evidence linking mobs involved in violence to those who were supplied with firearms by the state and senior members of the state government. This has only added fuel to an already raging fire. Members of the same group, who received arms, were observed arriving at the chief minister's residence and tearing up his widely perceived resignation letter, which seemed like a publicity stunt aimed at pressuring the Centre to retain the chief minister. The violence must end in Manipur.

Bhagwan Thadani | Mumbai

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

# G20 Summit : From India to the World

## India has underscored that no plan for the future of the planet Earth can be successful without the representation and recognition of all voices

The theme of the G20 summit under India's Presidency was "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" or "One Earth, One Family, One Future." It is derived from the ancient Sanskrit text, Maha Upanishad. The theme essentially implies the message of global unity and is a perfect call upon all the nations of the world in the prevailing times of geopolitical tensions, because the protection and preservation of our planet for future generations is a shared responsibility that needs to be given top priority.

The clarion call to ensure human-centric progress transcending borders, ideologies and identities, at G20 summit. Building bridges. The main highlights were:

- Green Development, Climate Finance and LIFE or Lifestyle for Environment: signifies environmentally sustainable and responsible choices at individual, societal, national, regional and international levels.

India's focus on sustainable agriculture, through enhanced usage of Shree Anna or millets-superfoods, has had a global reach as these



need less water to grow and help small farmers augment their produce and incomes. These will help alleviate global hunger and malnutrition and also bring focus on the importance of climate-smart and digital approaches to agriculture.

- Women-led Development: The focus was on bridging the gender digital divide, reducing gaps in labour force participation and enabling a larger role for women in positions of leadership and decision-making.

- Democratising Supply Chains, amid the lesson learnt during COVID-19, when the world became distressed for medicines and lifesaving drugs to more than 150 countries.

- With India having become the face of the digital revolution in the era of Industry 4.0, it called the G20 countries towards accelerated, inclusive and resilient growth, including ethical use of

Artificial Intelligence. With a focus on Innovation and Inclusiveness, the G20 Summit focused on the fact that a connected world isn't just about connection through technology but it is also about shared purpose, planet, prosperity, and future.

The changing geopolitical landscape in the Middle East is to be closely watched as well. With most of the protagonists from the Middle East attending the Summit, for India, the G20 presidency offered a unique chance to assert its position as an important and responsible global power. In a deeply divided international system, India is in a very unique position. While the comprehensive India-US ties have grown stronger, it still maintains strong economic ties with Russia. Given the trust that India enjoys on both sides, the summit offered a chance for India to emerge as a possible mediator, especially in the Ukraine crisis.

India's firm belief in the concept of decentralisation is also evident by the fact that by the time India's G20 Presidency term ends, over 220 meetings would have

happened across 60 cities in all 28 states and 8 union territories. Overall, the G20 under India's Presidency has been tremendously impactful as the world has witnessed India's human-centric model of development, its vision and implementation of equitable, inclusive and responsible innovation, all aligning to the concept of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, and leaving no one behind. The G20 has emerged as the most influential bloc in the world, comprising 85 per cent of the global GDP.

India has underscored that no plan for the future of the planet Earth can be successful without the representation and recognition of all voices. India has strongly advocated the need to come out of a purely utilitarian worldview and embrace a 'Sarva Jana Hitaaya, Sarva Jana Sukhaaya' (for the benefit of all and the happiness of all) model as espoused by Lord Gautam Buddha in the 6th century BC.

(The writer is CEO and Editorial Director, IMPRI Impact and Policy Research Institute, New Delhi; views are personal)



SIMI MEHTA



## FIRST COLUMN

THE G20 SUMMIT:  
A PROMISE FULFILLED

New Delhi lived up to its image of being a warm hearted and inclusive nation



KUMARDEEP BANERJEE

A lot seems to have been achieved in the past week, with India hosting one of the greatest and most spectacular multilateral diplomatic events, the G20 summit. While India, which is Bharat, managed to resonate with almost every citizen domestically by organising the summit in the length and vast expanse of its geography, internationally it also sent out a vociferous message that it is a power whose time has come.

Chinese President Xi stayed away from the G20 summit, a first for China, since the inception of the G20 leaders' summit. It was a message to the world leaders, about China's monochrome view of geopolitics, where multilateralism is an afterthought. It didn't want to engage with the US president in New Delhi, and it didn't want to engage with India on critical bilateral issues and the military stand-off, because it considers the forceful takeover of chunks of neighbouring nation's sovereign territory as a path towards Chinese supremacy. China did send Xi's junior Li Qiang to the summit, along with what Indian agencies suspect is surveillance equipment to one of the G20 delegation hotels in New Delhi. These conspiracy theories apart, the world leaders gathered at the Bharat Mandapam, in New Delhi, had a better plan to make India's presidency a success.

They fully endorsed India's appeal for the inclusion of a large chunk of humanity expressed through the African Union into the G20, signed on the need to improve access to digital services and digital public infrastructure and leveraged digital transformation opportunities to boost sustainable and inclusive growth and finally came out with joint communique endorsed by all parties, a day before the closure of the summit. All this speaks a lot about the maturing Indian diplomacy, which worked for a gruelling 200 hours, constantly, redrafting texts, based on members' inputs and negotiating through sensitive topics for countries around the aisle, to finally produce a joint declaration, ahead of time.



Ukraine, the big deal breaker in the room, which had resulted in the chair's statement from all the ministerial running up to the Delhi summit was tactfully handled by these young, confident diplomats. The preamble from the Delhi declaration of G20 read "Concerning the war in Ukraine, while recalling the discussion in Bali, we reiterated our national positions and resolutions adopted at the UN Security Council and the UN General Assembly and underscored that all states must act in a manner consistent with the Purposes and Principles of the UN Charter in its entirety. The use or threat of use of nuclear weapons is inadmissible," thereby, accommodating almost everyone's sensitivities. While staying in Ukraine, India did manage to echo its concerns along with Japan, Australia and many SE Asian countries by pushing the lines

India also managed to send a stern message to Canada, regarding secessionist groups supporting Khalistan operating from its sovereign territory, endorsed by a divine intervention of sorts, adding a twist to the narrative. The Canadian Prime minister received a strong message against the protests and free run of Khalistani groups running a propaganda war against India. The Indian PM also did not hold a bilateral meeting with his Canadian counterpart on the sidelines of the G20 summit.

The Delhi summit delivered on Bharat's promise of a land of science and spirituality, and being the fourth country to land a spacecraft on the moon just a couple of weeks before the summit, helped. It would be important for Delhi to keep following up on the targets it has set for future G20 meetings as well.

(The writer is a policy analyst)

## India to be world leader in traditional medicine



VAIDYA RAJESH KOTECHA

India's emergence in the domain of traditional medicine is characterised by its judicious policy initiatives, global collaborations and profound cultural influence

India, endowed with a rich cultural heritage and a diverse array of traditional medicine systems, possesses the potential to ascend as a frontrunner in the global traditional medicine healthcare sector. The Ministry of Ayush (MoA) has embarked upon a multitude of pivotal initiatives and measures aimed at fostering and nurturing various segments of traditional medicine within the nation. These endeavours are geared towards bolstering accessibility, affordability, and popularity, thus contributing to the holistic well-being of the populace.

India's prepotency in the domain of the global traditional medicine healthcare sector can be attributed to the relentless, motivating and unflinching efforts of Prime Minister Narendra Modi geared towards the holistic well-being of the population across the globe. Be it the odyssey of glorious 9 years of International Day of Yoga which is continuing by becoming more encompassing every year, or the UNO declaration of 2023 as the International Year of Millets. Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of the traditional medicine healthcare sector imbibed in WHO-GCTM (Global Centre for Traditional Medicine), expressed in WHO-Global Summit on Traditional Medicine, forwarded in G20 India's presidency 2023 as "Vasudhaiva Kutumbkam", stressed upon in global sphere; to quote just a few, all drove India towards emerging as the champion of global well-being.

India's ascendancy as a global healthcare leader, particularly within the traditional medicine domain, is underscored by its strategic collaborations with the World Health Organization (WHO). Notable among these collaborations is the establishment of the WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine last year in Jamnagar, Gujarat and the historic co-hosting of the first global summit on Traditional Medicine by India in Gandhinagar last month.

The collaboration between India and the WHO in establishing the Global Centre for Traditional Medicine underscores India's steadfast commitment to advocating and elevating traditional medicine on a world scale. The centre serves as a nucleus for research, training, and synergistic efforts within traditional medicine systems, with an emphasis on seamlessly integrating age-old practices into national healthcare frameworks.

The act of India hosting the pioneering summit on Traditional Medicine underscores its pioneering role in this realm. This summit provided a dynamic platform for international stakeholders to congregate, deliberate, and exchange insights regarding the role of traditional medicine in realizing universal health coverage, addressing healthcare challenges, and propagating wellness. India's proactive engagement in these spheres underscores its acknowledgement of traditional medicine as a holistic and valuable facet of healthcare. Notably, the collaborative event between India and WHO during the G20 Health Minister's Meeting further underscores India's unwavering commitment to Universal Health Coverage and the pivotal role of traditional medicine therein.

The trajectory of India's emergence as a global healthcare torchbearer, particularly within traditional medicine, is undoubtedly extraordinary and can be attributed to a convergence of factors. The establishment of a distinct Ministry for Ayush exemplifies India's resolute dedication to upholding traditional systems of medicine. This



ministry has championed significant initiatives aimed at seamlessly intertwining traditional medicine with modern healthcare methodologies and advancing towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC). India's endeavours in the sphere of traditional medicine have been recognized and acknowledged on the global stage.

Discussions on traditional medicine have resonated within various international forums such as G20 events, SCO, BRICS, and ASEAN, highlighting India's pioneering stature in this realm. Through concerted collaborations with international entities such as WHO and the hosting of global summits, India showcases its unwavering commitment to disseminating its expertise, knowledge, and experiences in the realm of traditional medicine to the broader international community. These proactive initiatives not only underscore India's leadership within the healthcare spectrum but also contribute substantially to the holistic well-being of populations worldwide.

Complementing these endeavors, India has undertaken a series of dynamic global initiatives which includes 24 country-to-country MoUs, along with 46 Institute-level MoUs, establishing 15 Ayush Academic Chairs in foreign Institutes/Universities and establishing 38 Ayush Information Cells across 34 nations for the promotion and propagation of scientific Ayush systems across the globe.

Ministry of Ayush promotes global Ayush education through scholarships; 277 students from 32 countries pursue Ayush courses in India under the Ayush fellowship scheme, while 104 scholarships are offered to foreign nationals from 101 countries for undergraduate, postgraduate, and PhD courses in Ayush. Champion Services Sector

Scheme has been introduced by the Ministry of Ayush for Medical Value Travel, which comprises three components viz., the establishment of Ayush Super Specialty Hospitals/Daycare Centers, skill development in Ayush, and the creation of the Ayush Grid. Ayush Export Promotion Council has also been established to champion Ayush products and services on the global stage.

In addition, the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, has recently notified a unique Ayush (AY) visa category for foreign nationals seeking treatment under Ayush systems/Indian systems of medicine. This initiative will further strengthen our endeavour to accomplish the vision of making Indian traditional medicine a global phenomenon.

The International Day of Yoga has gained worldwide recognition through remarkable achievements, including setting two Guinness Book records during its inaugural celebration in 2015. Subsequent celebrations, like IDY-2022, introduced innovative concepts like 'The Guardian Ring of Yoga', attracting a massive participation of approximately 22.13 Crore individuals.

India's traditional medicine sector has witnessed substantial expansion in market dimensions experiencing a remarkable sixfold increase over seven years. The surge in market proportions and heightened exports of Ayush and herbal medications underscore India's adeptness in both production and global promotion of these products. Ayush's significant contributions in the realms of education, research, public health, and seamless integration with modern medicine have set commendable benchmarks for traditional medicine. India's integrative approach permeates several sectors, most notably in public health.

India's strategic investments in research and innovation pertinent to traditional medicine have significantly contributed to its leadership position. Initiatives such as the establishment of Centers of Excellence and research endeavours investigating traditional medicine's role during the COVID-19 pandemic stand as resounding testimonials to India's steadfast commitment to advancing this field. Furthermore, India's resolute emphasis on biodiversity, as evidenced in the Prime Minister's Independence Day address, aligns seamlessly with the principles inherent in traditional medicine. The integration of local herbs and natural resources into healthcare solutions serves as a testament to India's unwavering commitment to sustainable and nature-aligned healthcare practices.

India's trajectory towards emerging as a global healthcare leader, particularly within the domain of traditional medicine, is characterized by its judicious policy initiatives, harmonious global collaborations, market expansion, integrated approaches, and profound cultural influence. Collectively, these endeavours unmistakably underscore India's unflinching dedication to furnishing accessible, affordable, and holistic healthcare solutions not only for its populace but for the global community at large.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in his 2022 Independence Day speech pointed this out and said, "Today the world is talking about holistic health care. But when it talks about holistic health care, it looks towards India's Yoga, India's Ayurveda and India's holistic lifestyle. This is our legacy that we are providing the world with. The world is being influenced by it today."



THESE ENDEAVOURS UNMISTAKABLY UNDERSCORE INDIA'S UNFLINCHING DEDICATION TO FURNISHING ACCESSIBLE, AFFORDABLE, AND HOLISTIC HEALTHCARE SOLUTIONS NOT ONLY FOR ITS POPULACE BUT FOR THE GLOBAL COMMUNITY AT LARGE

(The writer is secretary Ayush; views are personal)

## The crisis of urban planning in Punjab runs deep

The unauthorised colonies are mushrooming in Punjab thanks to slack laws and their tepid implementation

The crisis of planned urban development for housing in Punjab has deepened to the extent that the growth of unauthorised colonies on the private agricultural land without 'changing land use' (CLU) and necessary approvals has been unchecked for the last three decades despite the stringent law and repeated state notifications against it. These settlements often have narrow streets and no adequate civic amenities. On the other hand, the plight of the authorised colonies is not much better: the coloniser sells the plots fast in the name of the legal status of his colony at higher prices, adding the costs of development and approvals etc. But the development required for



SUKHDEV SINGH

(The writer is retired professor, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar and a member, the governing council, INTACH; views are personal)

no objection and completion certificates remains elusive and the regulating authority officials remain complicit with the developer while the plot holder remains houseless.

The plot holders of both the authorised and unauthorised colonies are, thus, caught in an ordeal for development. The difference is that the government authorities may provide civic amenities in an unauthorised colony but never in an authorised colony setting its onus on the coloniser.

Just as in other states of India, in Punjab, the demand for houses has been increasing continuously since 1990 due to the rising number of nuclear families, rapid urbanisation and availability of easier housing loans. To check the cases of embezzlement and to reg-

ulate the unplanned colonisation in the state, the Punjab Government enacted the Punjab Apartment and Property Regulation Act (PAPRA) in 1995 and added rules to authorise the private colonisers set up the residential colonies legally. The rules provide for the registration and licensing of the private colonisers stating their responsibilities for development and the set procedures for handing over the colony to the local body.

In the same year, the Punjab Urban Planning and Development Authority (PUDA) was established for planned urban development by PAPRA in the state. It was empowered to register private colonisers and issue licenses for establishing colonies as per rules. To mon-

itor the development of authorised colonies, to enforce regularisation of the existing unauthorised colonies and to contain their future growth, six regional authorities were established in 2006-07.

With the growth of unauthorised colonies never-ending, there are two types of private colonies: authorised colonies set up by the licensed developers as per the provisions of PAPRA and unauthorised colonies established in contravention of the provisions and rules of PAPRA. According to an estimate, the number of illegal colonies which was 5340 in 2013, is now said to be about 15000; while the authorised colonies are only about 500.

The crisis of urban development is, therefore, twofold:

Firstly, to register the authorised residential colonies and strictly monitor time-bound development delivery there; secondly, to firmly prevent unauthorised colonies and enforce regularisation of the existing unauthorised colonies with no further relaxation. But, ironically enough, the development in the authorised colonies is not strictly monitored and the relaxations for the unauthorised colonies are granted.

Instead of enforcing the law to punish the offenders, the repeated schemes for regularisation of the illegal colonies with very low compliance reveal the softness of the lawmakers and regulating officials toward the colonisers. In such circumstances, the colonisers are encouraged to

set up new unauthorised colonies.

Most colonisers avoid the paperwork and payment of fees for registration, licensing, CLU (change in land use), NOCs (no objection certificates) and other approvals; they shirk legal responsibility for development and income tax returns etc. They just buy land, sell plots, earn profits and leave. To set up an authorised colony a coloniser needs to register, obtain a licence, authenticate land ownership, CLU for the proposed land, approvals of plans and submit an undertaking to develop civic amenities and infrastructure and hand over the colony to the local body after No Objection Certificate from the concerned authorities.

All this adds to the price of the plot resulting in a gap between the prices of the plots in the authorised and unauthorised colonies. The price variation encourages a buyer to buy a plot in an unauthorised colony, while the easy and cost-cutting course and the softness of the law enforcing agencies encourage the coloniser to set up an unauthorised colony. Both the plot holder and the coloniser understand that the civic amenities will be provided by the government departments later or sooner, while they can evade the legal requirement of house plan, zoning plan colony plan approvals etc. Both of them understand that there is the law; the colonies are both legal and illegal; but enforcement of the law is ineffective.

# UK Parl panel rebukes Rishi Sunak over 'minor' breach

PTI ■ LONDON

Rishi Sunak was rebuked by the UK's parliamentary panel for maintaining standards on Thursday for a "minor and inadvertent breach" of confidentiality rules related to an investigation into the Prime Minister's declaration of wife Akshata Murty's financial interests in a childcare firm.

The investigation of the House of Commons Committee on Standards arose in the context of the confidentiality rules that applied to an investigation by the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards into whether Sunak had breached paragraph 6 of the ministerial code relating to the declaration of interests. Last month, the parliamentary watchdog had concluded that Sunak's failure to reference his wife's shares in Koru Kids arose out of "confusion and was accordingly inadvertent". The related inquiry by the Standards Committee arose around whether his Downing Street spokesperson broke rules over such investigations being confidential until completed.

"The committee concludes that the breach of confidentiality was inadvertent and that Mr Sunak has acknowledged this, so the Committee does not recom-



Greenberg's investigation began in March in the wake of the government's Spring Budget, which included a pilot scheme of incentive payments of GBP 600 for childminders joining the profession, a sum that doubles to GBP 1,200 if they sign up through an agency. Koru Kids was one of six childminder agencies in England listed on the government's website when the policy was announced, and Akshata Murty was listed as a shareholder in the most recently filed paperwork for the business on Companies House. Greenberg's findings ended with a "rectification procedure" and without any sanction after he concluded that Sunak believed he had declared the interest as required but inadvertently confused two different sets of processes involved.

# Indian-origin Tharman sworn in Singapore's new President

PTI ■ SINGAPORE

Indian-origin Singapore-born Economist Tharman Shanmugaratnam was on Thursday sworn in as the ninth president of the predominantly Chinese and economically prosperous city-state. Indian-origin Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon administered the oath of office to President Tharman at a ceremony held at Istana, a 154-year-old palace in the heart of Singapore's Orchard Road and Hotel Belt of Orchard Road. The Istana is the official residence of the President of Singapore.

The ceremony was attended by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, members of the Cabinet, MPs, top civil servants and members of the diplomatic corps. Tharman, 66, will serve a six-year term. He succeeds President Halimah Yacob, Singapore's first female president, whose tenure ended on September 13. Tharman, who has served Singapore all his life in public service, was overwhelmingly endorsed by the city-state's predominantly Chinese society.

He surprised everyone by securing 70.4 per cent of the votes in the presidential election held on September 1, leaving behind Chinese-origin business executives Ng Kok



Song with 15.72 per cent and Tan Kin Lian with 13.88 per cent votes out of about 2.2 million ballot paper casts. Tharman is married to Jane Ittogi, a Singaporean lawyer of Japanese-Chinese heritage. They have a daughter and three sons.

He attended the premier Anglo-Chinese School before graduating from the London School of Economics (LSE) with a Bachelor of Science degree in economics.

He subsequently went on to Wolfson College at the University of Cambridge, where he completed a Master of Philosophy degree in economics. He then became a student at the Harvard Kennedy School at Harvard University, where he complet-

ed a Master in Public Administration (MPA) degree and was a recipient of the Lucius N. Littauer Fellows Award, given to MPA students who demonstrate academic excellence and leadership.

Tharman was a student activist while studying in the UK during the 1970s. He originally held socialist beliefs, but his views on economics evolved over the course of his career. Tharman, as the Tamilian is popularly called, is the people's President, says Singapore Friday weekly, Tabla.

Tharman brings extensive experience to the Presidential office as he has served for over two decades in Singapore's economic development. He was senior minister, deputy prime minister (May 2011 to

May 2019), and finance minister among other posts as well as served in leadership positions at major international organisations such as the International Monetary Fund, World Economic Forum, and United Nations Development Forum.

He resigned in July from public and political posts in the ruling People's Action Party to contest the election for president.

"Magic of Singapore's multiculturalism," wrote Asad Latif, an editorial writer for The Straits Times - a mainstream daily.

Chinese account for 74.3 per cent of the city-state of about 5.6 million population, Indians about 9 per cent and Malays close to 13.5 per cent with the rest others in a country that is an Asian financial and business hub, winning over the best talent from the world over. "Tharman's victory is that of Singapore's multiculturalism. His Indianness is a part of that system and structure. May these verities never change," wrote Latif. The President in Singapore is a non-political position but with the power to keep a check on the national reserves, top appointments in the public sector and authority to call for investigations into corruption.

# US court declares DACA illegal

Washington (PTI): A federal judge in Houston has declared illegal a federal policy that prevents the deportation of hundreds of thousands of undocumented immigrants, including hundreds of Indians, brought to the US as children, but noted that the government can continue to process renewals of its current recipients.

The major setback to the Obama-era Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals programme or DACA came from a ruling from US District Court Judge Andrew Hanen on Wednesday.

"The Court, as it did before, hereby stays the effective date of the vacatur as to all DACA recipients who received their initial DACA status prior to July 16, 2021," the judge wrote.

"The defendants may continue to administer the programme as to those individuals, and that administration may include processing and granting DACA renewal applications for those individuals," Hanen ruled.

At the same time, Judge Hanen refrained from ordering the termination of deportation protections and work permits of nearly 580,000 Dreamers.

According to a 2019 report by South Asian Americans Leading Together (SAALT), there are at least 630,000 Indians who are undocumented, a 72 per cent increase since 2010.

There are currently at least 4,300 active South Asian DACA recipients. As of August 2018, there are approximately 2,550 active Indian DACA recipients.

Only 13 per cent of the overall 20,000 DACA-eligible Indians have applied for and received DACA, SAALT said.

Since 2012, DACA has allowed hundreds of thousands of immigrants who crossed the US southern border illegally or overstayed visas as children to live and work in the country without fear of deportation if they meet certain requirements.

The White House said it is disappointed with the court's ruling on Wednesday.

"We are deeply disappointed in today's DACA ruling from the District Court in Southern Texas.

# UN envoy for Sudan resigns

AP ■ UNITED NATIONS

The UN special envoy for Sudan who was declared unwelcome by the country's military rulers resigned Wednesday in a final speech to the UN Security Council, warning that the conflict between Sudan's rival military leaders "could be morphing into a full-scale civil war."

Volker Perthes, who had continued to work outside Sudan, said the fighting shows no sign of abating, with neither side appearing close to "a decisive military victory." He also said the violence in Sudan's western Darfur region "has worsened dramatically" with civilians being targeted based on their ethnicity. Tensions between Sudan's military, led by Gen.

Abdel Fattah Burhan, and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces, commanded by Gen. Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo, burst into open fighting in mid-April. At least 5,000 people have been killed since then and over 12,000 wounded, Perthes said, while calling the figures conservative and saying the actual number "is likely much higher."

The envoy said there were at least 13 mass graves in and around Geneina, the capital of West Darfur's province, according to credible reports the UN Joint Human Rights Office received.

The graves were a result of attacks by the RSF and their allied Arab militias on civilians, mostly African communities, Perthes said. The western Darfur region was the scene of a geno-

cidal campaign in the early 2000s. More than 20 million people — almost half Sudan's population — are experiencing acute hunger and food insecurity, the UN humanitarian office's operations director, Edem Wosornu, told the council.

"And more than 6 million people are now just one step away from famine," she said. "If the fighting continues, this potential tragedy comes closer to reality every day." The fighting has forced 4.1 million people to flee their homes to other places in Sudan and more than 1 million to seek refuge in neighboring countries, Wosornu said, stressing that displacement and insecurity "have driven cases of sexual violence to distressing levels."

# Pope, Clinton to discuss on climate change

New York (AP): Pope Francis will discuss how to address the world's pressing issues with former President Bill Clinton to open this year's Clinton Global Initiative, organisers announced on Thursday. The pontiff will discuss broad issues — including climate change, the refugee crisis, the welfare of children — during an onstage videoconference with Clinton Monday morning, while also telling attendees about specific projects like the work of Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital in Italy. The two-day conference will take place in New York on Monday and Tuesday, as leaders in politics, business and philanthropy gather to work on potential solutions to global concerns. A conversation between US Secy of the Treasury Janet L. Yellen and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton was also added to the conference on Thursday.

# Israel's finance minister now governs West Bank

AP ■ ATEAL WEST BANK

With attention focused on its contentious judicial overhaul, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government has quietly taken unprecedented steps toward cementing Israel's control over the West Bank - perhaps permanently. Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich, a leader of the settlement movement, assumed new powers over the occupied territory in his coalition agreement with Netanyahu. Smotrich moved swiftly to approve thousands of new settlement homes, legalise previously unauthorized wildcat outposts and make it more difficult for Palestinians to build homes and move about. As the first government minister to oversee civilian life in the West Bank, his role

amounts to a recognition that Israel's 56-year military occupation is not temporary but permanent, observers say.

"If Smotrich keeps this position for four years we will be at a point of no return," said Ilan Paz, former head of Israel's Civil Administration, a military body overseeing civilian affairs in the West Bank.

Hoping to return to power while facing a corruption trial, Netanyahu offered sweeping concessions to pro-settler lawmakers like Smotrich to form his governing coalition last year. The coalition agreement created a new Israeli settler agency, led by Smotrich, within the Defense Ministry to manage Jewish and Palestinian construction in the 60% of the West Bank over which Israel has control. "It's a sort of revolution, transferring powers

from the military, with its legal obligation to consider the well-being of occupied people, to those only committed to Israeli interests," said human rights lawyer Michael Sfard. Smotrich has said he seeks to double the settler population, build up roads and neighborhoods and erase any remaining differences between life for Israelis in the West Bank and within Israel proper. Along the way, he hopes to destroy any Palestinian hopes of independence.

As finance minister, Smotrich can funnel taxpayer funds to West Bank infrastructure projects. Israel's 2024 budget earmarks an all-time high of \$960 million - a quarter of all Transportation Ministry funds - for a highway network better connecting Israel to the West Bank.

# Families wiped out in Libya floods

AP ■ DERNA (LIBYA)

The wall of water several stories high smashed into apartment buildings, drowning entire families in minutes. One man, Fadellallah, believes 13 members of his extended family died. He's yet to hear about the fate of another 20, several days after two dams burst upstream of the Libyan coastal city of Derna, unleashing epic floods that wiped out neighbourhoods and sent some of the dead into sea.

Thousands of others like him are frantically trying to find out who survived the rain-swollen rampage.

As a powerful storm bore down on his hometown, Fadellallah, an information technology worker in Libya's capital of Tripoli, called his family Sunday to urge them to



move to higher ground. "No one expected this," said Fadellallah, who asked that his surname not be used because he fears reprisal from government officials and armed groups who could view his story as criticism of their efforts. "Some of them didn't

have cars. They didn't have a way to get out," he said Wednesday of his family.

Torrential rainwater that gushed down steep mountainsides and into the city killed thousands. Those who survived recount nightmarish scenes, with bodies piling up

quicker than authorities can count them. The devastating floods have killed at least 5,100 people, a health official said Thursday.

Mediterranean storm Daniel caused deadly flooding in many towns of eastern Libya. But Derna, renowned for its white villas and palm trees, was the worst-hit. The city had no evacuation plans, and residents said the only warning was the explosive sound of the dams rupturing.

Location proved the difference between life and death. Fadellallah said all 13 deceased members of his family lived in a neighbourhood near the river valley. Their bodies were recovered and buried by the Red Crescent, their names inked on a list of the deceased sent to him by the medical group.

**राष्ट्रीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान, कुरुक्षेत्र**  
**NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY**  
 (UNDER THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, GOVT. OF INDIA)  
 KURUKSHETRA-136119

Advt. No.28/2023

**Walk-In-Interview**

National Institute of Technology, Kurukshetra requires qualified and experienced persons for engagement as Officer on Special Duty (OSD), Students Activity & Sports Officer and Personal Assistant on contract basis. Interested candidates may appear for Walk-in-Interview on 21.09.2023 in the Board Room, Golden Jubilee Administrative Building of the Institute along with application, all originals certificates and one set of self-attested copies of certificates, a recent Passport size photograph and an original identity proof for verification.

For more details, please visit our website: [www.nitkkr.ac.in](http://www.nitkkr.ac.in)

Registrar Incharge

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Admissions in  
**D.El.Ed. (2023-2025) under 10% Management quota seats.**

Based on merit basis. Eligibility 12th passed with 50% marks. Forms are available and submit in the college office between 13th to 27th September 2023 at 10.00 am to 04.00 p.m. (Chairman)

**Hari Har Prasad**  
 aged 78 yrs, Ht. 5'10", wheatish complexion, Suffering from partial hearing loss. Wearing red-blue striped shirt and grey trousers. Missing since 12 September 2023 from P-1, Parliament Street, Contact: +91-9810830033, +91-9971035505

**Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar**  
**Advertisement No.6/2023**

Online applications are invited for the various Teaching posts in the University. Online registration of application for these posts will start w.e.f. 18-09-2023 and end on 03-10-2023. Last date for submitting Hard Copy of the Online submitted application is 12-10-2023.

For further details visit University website: <http://www.gndu.ac.in>.

Amritsar Registrar 14-09-2023

NA/12/18495/2023/27237 Dated CHD - 8/29/2023

**RADICO KHAITAN FINANCE LTD.**  
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**NOTICE FOR 37<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, BOOK CLOSURE AND E-VOTING**

(A) Annual General Meeting:  
 Notice is hereby given that the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of RADICO KHAITAN FINANCE LTD will be held on Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> Day of September, 2023 at 2.00 P.M. at Pt. Gyani Ram Farm House Clo Bijender Sharma, Advo. Near Syndicate Bank, Main Road, Asola, Fathpur Beri, New Delhi-110074.

(B) Book Closure:  
 Notice is further given pursuant to section 91 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule 10 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014, and clause 16 of the Listing Agreement, the Register of Members and Share Transfer Books of the Company will remain closed from 24<sup>th</sup> Day of September, 2023 to 30<sup>th</sup> Day of September, 2023, both days inclusive.

(C) E-Voting:  
 In compliance with the provisions of Section 108 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule 20 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014, as amended, the Members are provided with the facility of e-voting on all resolutions set forth in the Notice.

The e-voting period commences on Wednesday, September 27, 2023 from 9.00 a.m. and ends on Friday, September 29, 2023 at 5.00 p.m. The result of the e-voting shall be announced after the AGM of the Company.

Kindly request you to take the same on record

Thanking you,

For Radico Khaitan Finance Limited  
 Krishan Kumar Sharma  
 Director  
 DIN: 00856406

**AXIS BANK LTD. PUBLIC NOTICE FOR E-AUCTION OF PLEDGED ASSETS BEING GOLD ORNAMENTS**

THE BORROWERS, IN SPECIFIC AND THE PUBLIC IN GENERAL ARE HERE BUY NOTIFIED THAT PUBLIC AUCTION OF THE GOLD ORNAMENTS PLEDGE IN THE BELOW ACCOUNTS IS PROPOSED TO BE CONDUCTED BY THE AXIS BANK AT THE BELOW MENTIONED BRANCH. THE BELOW MENTIONED BORROWERS HAS AVAILED THE CREDIT FACILITY FROM THE AXIS BANK LIMITED AGAINST THE PLEDGE OF GOLD ORNAMENTS ("GOLD LOAN FACILITY") IN FAVOUR OF THE BANK TOWARDS THE SECURITY. THE DEMAND NOTICES WERE ISSUED TO THE BORROWERS/GUARANTORS CALLING UP THE BORROWERS/ GUARANTORS TO PAY THEIR OUTSTANDING AMOUNT TOWARDS THE GOLD LOAN FACILITY AVAILED. AS THE BORROWERS/ GUARANTORS HAVE FAILED TO REPAY THE OUTSTANDING LOAN AMOUNT, THE BANK IS CONSTRAINED TO INVOKE THE PLEDGE AND PROPOSED TO CONDUCT AN E-AUCTION SALE OF PLEDGED GOLD ORNAMENTS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED IN SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY HEREUNDER ON 25.09.2023 AT 12.30 PM TO 3.30 PM ON "AS IN WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS", "WHATEVER THERE IS" AND "NO RECOURSE BASIS".

**DETAILS OF BORROWERS AND OUTSTANDING AMOUNT**

SR. NO.	CUSTOMER NAME	LOAN A/C NO.	AMOUNT OUTSTANDING	DATE OF RECALL NOTICE	GROSS WEIGHT	NET WEIGHT
<b>BRANCH NAME : ASHOK VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]</b>						
1	RAJESH PAL	XXXXXXXXXXXX0153	RS. 231545.34	28-02-2023	76.40	73.50
<b>BRANCH NAME : BALI NAGAR, NEW DELHI [DL]</b>						
2	JASPREET KOUR BHATIYA	XXXXXXXXXXXX2577	RS. 388274.00	05-09-2022	128.60	115.10
3	SANDEEP KUMAR SINGH	XXXXXXXXXXXX3472	RS. 559378.54	18-07-2023	184.10	175.90
<b>BRANCH NAME : DARYAGANJ, DELHI [DL]</b>						
4	MANJU	XXXXXXXXXXXX4825	RS. 58442.00	28-02-2023	19.60	18.80
5	KULDEEP	XXXXXXXXXXXX6560	RS. 272332.00	30-05-2023	87.20	76.20
6	SURINDER KAUR	XXXXXXXXXXXX0074	RS. 948722.00	27-06-2023	263.69	259.10
<b>BRANCH NAME : DWARKA, DELHI [DL]</b>						
7	TAMANNA	XXXXXXXXXXXX4052	RS. 70285.00	18-07-2023	21.40	20.70
<b>BRANCH NAME : FARIDABAD [HR]</b>						
8	ANIL SHARMA	XXXXXXXXXXXX9080	RS. 464879.00	30-05-2023	150.10	138.90
9	BABITA	XXXXXXXXXXXX5086	RS. 1302158.48	18-07-2023	375.30	352.00
<b>BRANCH NAME : JYOTI NAGAR DEL DL</b>						
10	HAIDAR ALI	XXXXXXXXXXXX0175	RS. 411413.00	30-05-2023	129.70	117.30
11	RAJEEV KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX6787	RS. 28296.92	28-07-2023	9.80	9.40
<b>BRANCH NAME : KALKAJI, NEW DELHI [DL]</b>						
12	MUKESH	XXXXXXXXXXXX7180	RS. 360567.00	15-06-2023	110.80	105.68
<b>BRANCH NAME : KISHANGANJ OD DL</b>						
13	ANIL KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX3914	RS. 83238.00	21-02-2023	27.40	25.90
<b>BRANCH NAME : LAJPAT NAGAR, NEW DELHI [DL]</b>						
14	ANUJ SARIN	XXXXXXXXXXXX0513	RS. 274810.00	18-07-2023	85.50	82.10
<b>BRANCH NAME : MAYUR VIHAR, NEW DELHI [DL]</b>						
15	MANOJ KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX7447	RS. 322111.00	30-05-2023	94.50	90.32
<b>BRANCH NAME : NAZAFGARH, NEW DELHI [DL]</b>						
16	DINESH KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX212	RS. 31082.00	21-02-2023	11.70	11.00
<b>BRANCH NAME : NEW FRIENDS COLONY, NEW DELHI [DL]</b>						
17	ADEEBA JAMEEL	XXXXXXXXXXXX4501	RS. 199972.50	30-05-2023	58.40	57.48
<b>BRANCH NAME : NEW RAILWAY ROAD, GURGAON [HR]</b>						
18	JATIN	XXXXXXXXXXXX0417	RS. 27028.00	28-07-2023	9.00	8.50
<b>BRANCH NAME : NOIDA EXTENSION GNO UP</b>						
19	GAURAV SENGAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX5454	RS. 85579.00	30-05-2023	29.80	26.80
<b>BRANCH NAME : PALAM VIHAR, GURGAON [HR]</b>						
20	ANUSHKA YADAV	XXXXXXXXXXXX2725	RS. 99602.00	05-09-2022	28.20	28.20
<b>BRANCH NAME : PALAM, DELHI [DL]</b>						
21	NAVEEN KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX8100	RS. 103985.00	28-07-2022	31.10	30.87
<b>BRANCH NAME : PARADISE MALL S GUR HR</b>						
22	KAMLESH PATHAK	XXXXXXXXXXXX1821	RS. 251977.59	30-05-2023	100.90	85.60
<b>BRANCH NAME : PUNJABI BAGH, NEW DELHI [DL]</b>						
23	DHEERAJ	XXXXXXXXXXXX1268	RS. 138960.00	28-07-2023	40.50	39.00
<b>BRANCH NAME : PUSHVIHAR, DELHI [DL]</b>						
24	RAVINDRA SINGH	XXXXXXXXXXXX0739	RS. 44591.91	28-07-2023	17.10	16.60
25	PRAMOD KUMAR SRIVASTWA	XXXXXXXXXXXX3346	RS. 50388.63	28-07-2023	15.80	15.20
<b>BRANCH NAME : ROHINI, DELHI [DL]</b>						
26	SANJAY KUMAR	XXXXXXXXXXXX3977	RS. 226604.00	27-06-2023	81.90	76.50
27	SURESH	XXXXXXXXXXXX2368	RS. 333300.04	28-07-2023	97.20	88.00
<b>BRANCH NAME : SECTOR 10A, GURGAON [HR]</b>						
28	SAHIL CHAUHAN	XXXXXXXXXXXX5092	RS. 293473.37	27-06-2023	105.80	95.70
<b>BRANCH NAME : SECTOR 14, GURGAON [HR]</b>						
29	RUBBI DEVI	XXXXXXXXXXXX0671	RS. 112015.00	30-05-2023	38.90	36.90
30	TARUN YADAV	XXXXXXXXXXXX9934	RS. 62777.00	28-07-2023	18.50	18.00
31	MAN SINGH	XXXXXXXXXXXX2321	RS. 67300.00	28-07-2023	22.10	20.40
<b>BRANCH NAME : SECTOR 16, FARIDABAD [HR]</b>						
32	NEERAJ MONGA	XXXXXXXXXXXX6999	RS. 107776.92	30-05-2023	51.00	36.10
<b>BRANCH NAME : SHALIMAR BAGH, DELHI [DL]</b>						
33	SADHANA DEVI	XXXXXXXXXXXX7875	RS. 37414.15	28-07-2023	11.50	10.85
<b>BRANCH NAME : VAIBHAV KHAND UP</b>						
34	RATNESH KUMAR PANDEY	XXXXXXXXXXXX3273	RS. 33477.00	28-07-2023	12.32	11.82

AXIS BANK LTD. HAS THE AUTHORITY TO REMOVE ACCOUNT/CHANGE THE AUCTION DATE WITHOUT ANY PRIOR NOTICE. AUCTION WILL BE HELD ONLINE [HTTPS://GOLD.SAMIL.IN](https://gold.samil.in) BETWEEN 12.30 PM TO 3.30 PM. FOR DETAILED TERMS AND CONDITIONS, PLEASE LOG INTO GIVEN WEBSITE [HTTPS://GOLD.SAMIL.IN](https://gold.samil.in)

PLACE: NEW DELHI & NCR, DATE: 15.09.2023 SD/, AUTHORIZED OFFICER, AXIS BANK LTD.

# Pak spl court rejects bail plea of Imran, Qureshi

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

## CYPHER CASE

A special court in Pakistan on Thursday rejected the bail application of jailed former prime minister Imran Khan in the cypher case related to the alleged disclosure of state secrets, quashing his hopes of an early release. Special court Judge Abul Hasanat Zulqarnain, who heard the bail applications of Khan and former foreign minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi, announced the reserved verdict after Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party counsels completed their arguments.

During the hearing, Khan's counsel maintained that no other leader has been subjected to political victimisation to the extent the PTI chairperson is facing. There are 180 cases lodged against him, with over 140 registered before his arrest, he said. The judge rejected the post-arrest bail pleas of the two leaders. Khan, 70, was lodged at the District Jail, Attock, in Punjab province on August 5 after conviction in the Toshakhana case. Khan and Qureshi, the 67-year-old former foreign minister, were

arrested under the Official Secrets Act for allegedly misplacing and misusing a classified document for vested political interests. Later in the afternoon, PTI's legal affairs spokesperson lawyer, Naeem Haider Panjutha, posted on X that the post-arrest bail pleas were dismissed.

"Unfortunately justice system," he said. On Wednesday, the special court extended the judicial remand of both leaders till September 26. Though his sentence in the case was suspended by the Islamabad High Court (IHC) on August 29, Khan remains in Attock prison in the cypher case. Last month, the special court extended his remand for 14 days till September 13.

The cypher case is based on the alleged leaking of a cable sent by the Pakistan embassy in Washington in March last year. In March last year, ahead of the vote of no-confidence that resulted in his ouster, Khan pulled out a piece of paper - allegedly the cypher - from his pocket and

waved it at a public rally in Islamabad, claiming it was the evidence of an "international conspiracy" being hatched to topple his government. However, during the interrogation with the joint investigation team (JIT) in the jail on August 26, Khan denied that the paper he waved at a public gathering last year was the cypher. He also admitted to losing the cypher, saying he couldn't recall where he kept it. His principal secretary, Azam Khan, stated before a magistrate and the FIA that the Khan used it for his 'political gains' and to avert a no-confidence vote against him. The purported cypher (secret diplomatic cable) contained an account of a meeting between US State Department officials, including Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs Donald Lu, and Pakistani envoy Asad Majeed Khan last year. Last month, authorities launched a case against Khan, Qureshi and former PTI Secretary General and Finance Minister Asad Umar under the violation of secret laws of the country.

# No sign of Kim as Russia visit goes on

AP ■ SEOUL

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un was to tour a Russian aircraft plant that builds fighter jets and then visit the country's Pacific Fleet, but his exact whereabouts remained uncertain, as South Korea on Thursday expressed "deep concern and regret" that his visit has focused so far on expanding military cooperation. Washington has warned that the summit on Wednesday between Kim and Russian President Vladimir Putin could lead to a deal for North Korea to supply ammunition for Moscow's war in Ukraine. There's widespread concern in Seoul that North Korea in return would receive advanced weapons technologies from Russia, including those related to military spy satellites, which would increase the threat posed by Kim's military nuclear programme.

"We express our deep concern and regret that despite repeated warnings from the international community, North Korea and Russia discussed military cooperation issues, including satellite development, during their summit," said Lim Soo-suk, South Korea's Foreign Ministry spokesperson. "Any science and technol-

ogy cooperation that contributes to nuclear weapons and missile development, including satellite systems that involve ballistic missile technologies, runs against U.N. Security Council resolutions," he said in a briefing.

Lim also pointed out that Kim's delegation in Russia includes several people sanctioned by the Security Council over involvement in illicit North Korean weapons development activities, including Korean People's Army Marshal Ri Pyong Chol and Jo Chun Yong, a ruling party official who handles munitions policies. Lim said Moscow should realize there will be "very negative impacts" on its relations with Seoul if it proceeds with military cooperation with North Korea.

South Korean Unification Minister Kim Yung-ho, who handles affairs with North Korea, warned that potential arms transfers between the North and Russia would invite stronger responses from South Korea, the US and Japan, which have been stepping up their trilateral security cooperation to cope with regional threats.

White House National Security Council spokesperson John Kirby said Wednesday that North Korea would face



consequences if it supplies arms to Russia. "No nation on the planet, nobody, should be helping Mr. Putin kill innocent Ukrainians," Kirby said. If the countries decide to move forward with an arms deal, the US will take measure of the arrangement and "deal with it appropriately," he said.

He said that any deal that would improve North Korea's military capabilities "certainly would be of significant concern to us."

The world has been largely relying on Russian and North Korean media for information about Kim's diplomacy in Russia, which underscores an aligning interest between the nuclear-armed countries locked in escalating tensions with the West. A day after giving intense coverage to

the Putin-Kim summit, Russian media outlets were silent on Kim as of Thursday afternoon. North Korean state media have been reporting on Kim's activities in Russia a day late and crafting their reports to support the government's propaganda needs.

North Korea's official Korean Central News Agency said on Thursday that Kim had invited Putin to visit North Korea at a "convenient time" and that Putin accepted with "pleasure and reaffirmed his will to invariably carry forward" the history of friendship between the nations.

Putin told Russian state TV after the summit that Kim will travel to two more cities in Russia's Far East on his own, flying to Komsomolsk-on-Amur, where he will visit an

aircraft plant, and then go to Vladivostok to view Russia's Pacific Fleet, a university and other facilities. During their meeting on Wednesday at Russia's spaceport in the Far East, Kim vowed "full and unconditional support" for Putin in what he described as a "just fight against hegemonic forces to defend its sovereign rights, security and interests," in an apparent reference to the war in Ukraine. The decision to meet at the Vostochny Cosmodrome suggested that Kim is seeking Russian help in developing military reconnaissance satellites. He has previously said they are crucial to enhancing the threat of his nuclear-capable missiles, and North Korea has repeatedly failed to place spy satellites into orbit. The aircraft plant in Komsomolsk-on-Amur would be another location that possibly hints at what Kim seeks to gain from Russia in exchange for help fueling Putin's war on Ukraine. Some analysts question whether Russia, which has always closely guarded its sensitive weapons technologies, would be willing to share them with North Korea in exchange for what may end up being limited supplies of munitions moved slowly through their small land link.

# Cambodia's new PM on visit to close ally China

AP ■ BEIJING

Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Manet arrived in Beijing on Thursday on his first official trip abroad since taking office last month. The visit is a demonstration of his country's warm relations with China, its closest political and economic ally. He is expected to meet Chinese leader Xi Jinping and other officials during a three-day state visit and then attend a trade and investment expo in southern China, according to Cambodia's Foreign Ministry. A statement said the two countries' leaders will discuss tightening relations for a shared future with the building of a "Cambodia-China Community," strategic directions for their bilateral relations and regional and international matters.

Photos posted on Chinese social media by state broadcaster CGTN showed Manet and his wife Pich Chammony walking down the stairs from the plane to a red carpet on the tarmac,

where they were greeted by two children, a Chinese official and others. Cambodia is a key Chinese diplomatic partner and supporter in regional and international forums. It helps dampen criticism of Beijing within the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations, several of whose members are engaged in territorial disputes with China in the South China Sea. China has gained important influence in Cambodian politics and its economy, as seen in the numerous Chinese-funded projects, hotels and casinos in the capital Phnom Penh and elsewhere around the country. China's state banks have financed airports, roads and other infrastructure built with Chinese loans. More than 40 per cent of Cambodia's USD 10 billion in foreign debt is owed to China.

After his meetings in Beijing, Manet will go to the 20th ASEAN-China Expo in Nanning, a regional capital in southern China not far from the

border with Vietnam, the Cambodian Foreign Ministry said. Chinese Premier Li Qiang will also attend the expo, along with the prime ministers of Malaysia, Vietnam and Laos and senior government officials from Indonesia and Thailand, the Chinese Foreign Ministry said. The expo promotes cooperation between China and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in trade, investment and tourism.

Cambodia's close relations with Beijing were cultivated by Hun Manet's father, Hun Sen, who stepped down last month as prime minister after almost four decades. His Cambodia People's Party has had a stranglehold on power, fostered by Hun Sen's autocratic rule and adroit political maneuvers that crippled any effective opposition.

China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi had visited Cambodia to reaffirm his country's commitment to its ally shortly after Hun Sen announced his retirement.

# US asks Pakistan to hold 'timely', 'fair' elections

Washington (PTI): The US asked Pakistan to hold free, fair and timely elections, and to respect human rights, fundamental freedoms and the rule of law, as uncertainty grew over the date of conducting the polls in the cash-strapped country. The remarks by US State Department Spokesperson Mathew Miller came in response to a question on President Arif Alvi's letter to the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) in which he suggested that polls should be held no later than November 6.

Pakistan's National Assembly was dissolved on August 9. The elections in the country should be held within the stipulated time of 90 days after the dissolution of the National Assembly. Alvi appointed Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar as caretaker prime minister in mid-August to run the country until fresh elections. However, the ECP decided to conduct a fresh delimitation of Constituencies on the basis of the new census, delaying the general elections.

# IMF starts review of its \$2.9-bn bailout to SL

Colombo (PTI): The IMF on Thursday started conducting the first review of its USD 2.9 billion bailout package for crisis-hit Sri Lanka during which it will have to convince the global lender that it has fulfilled conditions set by it under the programme to revive the island nation's economy.

Sri Lanka was hit by its worst economic crisis in history when the country's foreign exchange reserves fell to a critical low and the public came out on the streets to protest the shortage of fuel, fertilisers and essential commodities.

"We are collaborating closely with the IMF team throughout this process to overcome the challenges ahead of us," Semasinghe posted on platform X. In March, the IMF extended its first tranche of the USD 2.9 billion bailout. Semasinghe said the second

tranche should be made available at the end of the review. Sri Lanka approached the IMF for its 16th facility, having declared bankruptcy in April 2022. The island nation announced its first-ever sovereign default since gaining independence from Britain in 1948. After months of negotiations, the government and the international lender reached an agreement which culminated in the bailout approval last March. The facil-

ity was approved subject to stringent reforms which the government say they have implemented. The forex crisis which forced the default of USD 85 billion left the country short of funds to finance its imports. Support worth USD 4 billion from India paid for imports of fuel and essentials as large street protests held over several months turned into a political crisis.

# Court initiates process to declare workers of Imran Khan's party 'absconders'

Islamabad (PTI): An anti-terrorism court in Pakistan has started the process of declaring at least 16 leaders and workers of jailed former prime minister Imran Khan's party as "absconders" for their alleged involvement in the May 9 violence. Pakistan saw unprecedented nationwide anti-government protests by Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party supporters following the arrest of the 70-year-old PTI chairman Khan by paramilitary Rangers in a corruption case on May 9. Dozens of military installations and government buildings, including the military headquarters in Rawalpindi, were damaged or torched during the riots. Several leaders and supporters are in the custody of authorities waiting for their trials to begin for attacking state assets, while some have succeeded in evading arrests.

State-run Associated Press of Pakistan news agency

reported that the Anti-Terrorism Court (ATC) Judge Abher Gul Khan on Wednesday initiated the process under Section 87 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) on an application filed by the police. The court directed the prosecution to publish a newspaper proclamation for the suspects' appearance. Those hit by it include Mian Aslam Iqbal, Farrukh Habib and Zubair Niazi, who were proclaimed offenders in two cases related to the violence.

The May 9 incidents created widespread anguish in the country due to the attacks on national buildings and monuments of army martyrs. A crackdown was launched against PTI leaders, and several announced their decisions to quit the party and were released. But still, some leaders are in jail as they refused to leave PTI, while others are hiding due to fear of arrest, but refuse to ditch Khan.

# 'Law enforcement agencies to decide on arresting Nawaz'

Islamabad (PTI): Pakistan's caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar has said that the law enforcement agencies will decide about arresting former premier Nawaz Sharif upon his return to the country from self-imposed exile next month. Kakar made the remarks during an interview with SAMAA TV on Wednesday when asked about any action against 73-year-old Nawaz upon his arrival in Pakistan.

In February 2020, Nawaz was declared an absconder. Later in the same year, an accountability court declared him a proclaimed offender in the Toshakhana vehicles reference. "The law enforcement agencies (LEAs) will decide this matter in light of the law. If they think he (Nawaz) should be chained then they will adopt that path and vice versa," Kakar said when the host asked whether Nawaz would be handcuffed or not on his return. He said that the leadership of LEAs would decide the issue of his arrest

"to the best of their ability." "I reiterate that the leadership of legal and law enforcement agencies is present. Whatever they decide, whether they send him (Nawaz) behind bars or allow freedom of movement, it will be the decision of the leadership of the judicial process and law enforcement," he said.

However, the prime minister said that the government could intervene if it felt that either Nawaz or LEAs were defying the law.

On Tuesday, Nawaz's younger brother and PML-N president Shehbaz Sharif said in London that his brother would return to Pakistan from the UK on October 21 to lead the party's political campaign in the upcoming elections. Nawaz left for London in November 2019 after the Lahore High Court granted him four-week permission to go abroad for his treatment. But he never returned to Pakistan where he was convicted of corruption and jailed.

# China promotes economic integration with Taiwan

Taipei (AP): China is promoting new economic opportunities for Taiwanese people while at the same time ramping up military activity around the island it claims as its own. Experts say the "carrots and sticks" approach, which Beijing has employed for years, signals a choice between peaceful "reunification" and military aggression ahead of a Taiwanese presidential election next year. This week, China unveiled a plan for an "integrated development demonstration zone" in its southeastern Fujian province, the closest to self-governed, democratic Taiwan. Taipei strongly rejects

China's sovereignty claims. As part of the plan, Beijing is encouraging Taiwanese companies to list on Chinese stock exchanges and is promising better conditions for Taiwanese investors and a more "relaxed" environment for travel, according to a statement Tuesday by the Communist Party's Central Committee and the State Council, China's Cabinet. "The goal is to build an integrated development demonstration zone in the entire area of Fujian province to fully show the effect of Fujian as the first-choice destination for Taiwanese people and enterprises to pursue

development on the mainland," Pan Xianzhang, deputy director of the Taiwan Affairs Office of the State Council, said at a news conference Thursday.

The economic overture comes at a time of increased Chinese military activity around Taiwan.

On Thursday, Taiwan's defence ministry said it spotted 68 Chinese warplanes and 10 warships near the island over the previous 24 hours. It said 40 of the aircraft entered Taiwan's air defence zone, in the latest of near-daily incursions meant to threaten Taiwan's government, which Beijing deems "separatist."

Earlier this week, China sailed an aircraft carrier 70 miles (110 kilometres) to Taiwan's southeast.

Pairing economic incentives with military coercion of Taiwan "is a very old playbook on China's part," said Drew Thompson, a research fellow at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore.

Many of the policies underlined in the Fujian plan, such as easy access for Taiwanese to the mainland, were already in place, making the initiative more performative than substantive, he added.

**verka**

**APPOINTMENTS**

The Punjab state Cooperative Milk Producers' Federation Limited (Milkfed Punjab) invites applications/resumes for appointment of 01(One) Consultant on contract basis having 05 (Five) years of experience in Media or with Media Houses, initially for period of one year which can be further extended as per requirement.

For further detailed information & updates, may please visit our website <http://www.verka.coop/career/>.

Dy. General Manager (HR)

NA/12/18869/2023/27803 Dated CHD :- 9/13/2023

**GUJARAT WATER SUPPLY & SEWERAGE BOARD, SECTOR-10/A, GANDHINAGAR**

**2nd Attempt Brief Short Notice Inviting On Line Tender for Requirement of G.I. PIPE (Medium Duty) for the Year 2023**

GWSSB invites online tender through e-tendering for Manufacture, Supply & Delivery G.I. pipes of 80 to 150 mm Medium Duty class with ISI Mark Estimated amt. Rs. 483.93 Lacs (without GST) from Indian Manufacturer only. Interested bidder who wish to participate in above tender may view the detailed tender notice & down load the Tender documents at free of cost from website. <https://www.nprocure.com>

The last date of submission of online tender is 21.09.2023

No/INF/VPN/2023-24/G/1316

**INDIAN RAILWAYS**

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (BHARAT SARKAR)**

**MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (RAIL MANTRALAYA)**

**(RAILWAY BOARD)**

No. 2022/RS(WTA)-149/TENDER/532 New Delhi, dated 14/09/2023

**CORRIGENDUM NO. 11 to the Tender No. WTA-532**

Sub - E-TENDER No.WTA-532 due on 15.09.2023 for "Manufacturing cum Maintenance of 100 nos. of New Generation Energy Efficient Vande Bharat Trainsets with Concentrated Power System including upgradation of the Government Manufacturing Units & Trainsset Depots."

The due date of the subject tender is postponed from 15.09.2023 to 30.10.2023 (Monday). The prospective Bidders are requested to visit website- <https://trecps.gov.in> for more details.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, RAILWAY STORES (RS), MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, (RAILWAY BOARD), RAIL BHAWAN, RAISINA ROAD, NEW DELHI-110 001, Email- [drsm@rb.railnet.gov.in](mailto:drsm@rb.railnet.gov.in)

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 2845/2023

**CORRIGENDUM**

**CORRIGENDUM TO PUBLICATION OF APPENDIX IV-A DATED 25.08.2023 ISSUED UNDER RULE 8(6) READ WITH RULE 9(1) AND PROVISIO THERETO OF SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 ('The Act').**

This Corrigendum is issued in relation to the publication of Appendix IV-A dated 25.08.2023 in THE PIONEER - DELHI - ENGLISH and RASHTRIYA SAHARA - DELHI - HINDI, both dated 1st September, 2023, issued by the Authorised Officer of Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd. under Rule 8(6) read with Rule 9(1) and Proviso thereto of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 for the following correction(s):

**IN THE PROPERTY DESCRIPTION MENTIONED IN APPENDIX IV-A DATED 25.08.2023:**

**\*For:**

All that piece and parcel of Plot No B-72 measuring area 100 Sq Yard out of Kharsa No 367, situated in the Revenue Estate of Village Bindapur, Colony known as Subhash Park Extn, B Block, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059, bounded as under

East	:Plot No. 71	West	:Portion of Plot No. 72
North	:Road	South	:Gali

**\*To be read as:**

All that piece and parcel of Property bearing No. B-72, Upper Ground Floor, Front Side without roof rights, measuring area 60 Sq. Yard out of 100 Sq Yard, out of Kharsa No 367, situated in the Revenue Estate of Village Bindapur, Colony known as Subhash Park Extn, B-Block, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059, bounded as under:

East	:Plot No. 71	West	:Portion of Plot No. 72
North	:Road	South	:Gali

The rest of the contents of Appendix IV-A dated 25.08.2023 published in the afore-dated Newspapers shall remain the same, and the above corrections shall be read as part and parcel of the publication of Appendix IV-A dated 25.08.2023.

Place: NEW DELHI

For Indiabulls Housing Finance Limited  
Authorised Officer

**Application Forms are available for Management Seats in D.E.L.Ed. Course for Session 2023-2025**

At the Institute reception for eligible candidates as per SCERT norms from 13th September 2023 to 27th September 2023 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm on working days and can be deposited upto 27th September 2023 till 4:00 pm.

**DJAS COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**  
Plot No. 213, Outer Firmi Road, Mungeshpur Delhi-110039  
Phone: 9811755679

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

VISHAL GOSAIN s/o Late Sh. P.N. Gosain an the sole legal heir to property Flat no. 30, Anekan Apartments, Plot no. 23, Vasundhara Enclave, Delhi - 110096. It is notified that any person having adverse claim with respect to the said flat is advised to place their claim within 10 days of the date of publication of this notice

VISHAL GOSAIN (Advocate)  
Enrolment No. D/915-R/1998

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

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

**CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF PSYCHIATRY**  
KANKE, RANCHI-834006, JHARKHAND

**NOTICE**

Director, Central Institute of Psychiatry, Ranchi invites applications for the following posts on tenure basis for a period of upto three years. Details of vacant posts are as under:

Psychiatric Social Work Tutor - 02 (Un-reserved)

Date of Written Examination (MCQ) is 27.09.2023. Desirous candidates may send their application by post on or before 25.09.2023 or submit it by themselves at the Institute in the prescribed format giving full details of academic records and experience along with photocopy of the relevant documents with recent photograph. Details can be seen on the Institute website [www.cipranchi.nic.in](http://www.cipranchi.nic.in).

Sd/-Director

**BABA FARID UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, FARIDKOT**  
Sadiq Road, Faridkot-151203 Ph: 01639-256232, 256236

**Admission Notice for 3rd PG Medical / Dental counselling under NEET PG-2023**

Fresh online Registration / Applications are invited through University website from eligible candidate on the basis of NEET- PG-2023 for vacant seats as per Punjab Govt. Notification / Prospectus for admission to PG Medical / Dental Courses in Govt./ Private Colleges, Private Universities and Minority Institutions in the state of Punjab w.e.f. 14-09-2023 to 17-09-2023 Last date for deposition of Registration Fee of Rs. 5000+18%GST(Rs. 5900/-) and Rs. 2500+18%GST(Rs. 2950/- for SC candidates) through Online Payment Gateway and Last date for submitting willingness alongwith requisite fee to participate in 3rd / University website. Any update issued by MCC/Govt. of India/Govt. of Punjab regarding PG admissions session 2023 shall be applicable. For Prospectus/detailed Schedule/vacant seats matrix/Fee/FAQs/Details and updates visit at [www.bfuhss.ac.in](http://www.bfuhss.ac.in).

Registrar

nil/12/155/2023/27779 Dated CHD :- 9/13/2023

**CORRIGENDUM**

**CORRIGENDUM TO PUBLICATION OF APPENDIX IV-A DATED 21.08.2023 ISSUED UNDER RULE 8(6) OF SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 ('The Act').**

This Corrigendum is issued in relation to the publication of Appendix IV-A dated 21.08.2023 in THE PIONEER - DELHI - ENGLISH and RASHTRIYA SAHARA - DELHI - HINDI, both dated 25th August, 2023, issued by the Authorised Officer of Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd. under Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 for the following correction(s):

**IN THE PROPERTY DESCRIPTION MENTIONED IN APPENDIX IV-A DATED 21.08.2023:**

**\*For:**

FLAT NO. 103, SECOND FLOOR, REAR SIDE (FROM WEST SIDE), GURUDWARA ROAD, GALI NO. 14, NEW DELHI, DELHI- 110001

**\*To be read as:**

FLAT NO. 103, SECOND FLOOR, WITHOUT ROOF RIGHTS, PART OF FREE HOLD PROPERTY NO. RZ-C-3/181, BUILT UPON LAND MEASURING 50 SQ. YD. I.E. 41.805 SQ. MTRS., OUT OF KHASRA NO. 80/6/3, REAR SIDE (FROM WEST SIDE), SITUATED IN THE AREA OF VILLAGE PALAM, GURUDWARA ROAD, GALI NO. 14, MAHAVEER ENCLAVE, NEW DELHI - 110045

The rest of the contents of Appendix IV-A dated 21.08.2023 published in the afore-dated Newspapers shall remain the same, and the above corrections shall be read as part and parcel of the publication of Appendix IV-A dated 21.08.2023.

Place: NEW DELHI

For Indiabulls Housing Finance Limited  
Authorised Officer

# WPI inflation in negative for fifth month in a row

## Inflation at (-) 0.52 per cent in Aug; prices of vegetables, onion, pulses remain firm

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Wholesale price inflation remained in negative territory for the fifth straight month in August at (-) 0.52 per cent, though it rose sequentially from the previous month on account of firm prices of food items, especially vegetables, onion and pulses.

The wholesale price index (WPI) based inflation rate has been in the negative since April and was (-)1.36 per cent in July.

In August last year, WPI inflation was 12.48 per cent.

According to economists, fading base effects and elevated food inflation led to a (-)0.52 per cent WPI in August, which came in higher than July numbers.

Inflation in food articles remained in double digit for the second straight month at 10.60 per cent in August, lower than 14.25 per cent in July.

Wholesale inflation in vegetables was 48.69 per cent in August, against 62.12 per cent in July.

In pulses, inflation was 10.45 per cent, while in onion it skyrocketed to 31.42 per cent in August.

"Within food, prices of vegetables, which surged in July, moderated sequentially in August, but year-on-year, inflation remains high. Additionally, a small sequential increase in prices of manufactured products (which have the largest weight in WPI) also contributed to the slower headline deflation,"



Barclays MD & Head of EM Asia Economics Rahul Bajoria said.

Fuel and power basket inflation was at (-)6.03 per cent in August, against (-)

12.79 per cent in July. In manufactured products, inflation rate was (-)2.37

per cent, as against (-)2.51 per cent in July.

"The negative rate of inflation in August 2023 is primarily due to fall in prices of mineral oils, basic metals, chemical & chemical products, textiles and food products as compared to the corresponding month of previous year," the commerce and industry ministry said on Thursday.

Acuité Ratings & Research Chief Economist Suman Chowdhury said "we expect WPI inflation to be in the positive territory over the next few months, given healthy industrial and consumer demand and the backdrop of increasing prices of crude oil, cereals and pulses." "This is set to hold CPI inflation in the range of 5.5-6.5 per cent over the next two

quarters and not allow it to come down sharply. RBI MPC will have limited option but to wait and watch the price scenario till the end of the current fiscal," Chowdhury said.

The softer pace of decline in WPI in August follows the larger than expected moderation in CPI inflation, data for which was released earlier this week. Retail inflation data for August came in at 6.83 per cent in August, lower than 7.44 per cent in July.

"We expect CPI inflation to moderate further in September, supported by reversal in vegetable price shock and price cuts for LPG... Currently there is limited pressure on consumer prices, resulting in broadly stable CPI core inflation. This is likely to comfort the RBI; however, we

expect it to remain on hold for longer, as it monitors risks to inflation from generalisation of food price pressures and El Niño," Bajoria said.

Fitch Ratings in its Global Economic Outlook also raised 2023-end retail or CPI inflation projection to 5.5 per cent, from its previous forecast of 5 per cent. It, however, maintained RBI's benchmark interest rate forecast at 6.5 per cent for end 2023.

The RBI expects annual CPI inflation to moderate in coming months given the short-term nature of vegetable price shocks. Nevertheless, the threat of El Niño means that inflation could exceed our forecasts, although the impact on consumers and the economy is likely to be temporary, Fitch said.

# Oil India to invest ₹25,000 crore for net zero by 2040

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

State-owned Oil India Ltd plans to invest Rs 25,000 crore in clean energy projects that will help it achieve a net zero carbon emission goal by 2040, its chairman Ranjit Rath said on Thursday.

OIL's net zero plan includes a combination of cutting down the flaring of gas and commercialisation of stranded gas as well as setting up renewable electricity generation capacity, building green hydrogen plants and constructing biogas and ethanol plants.

The company plans to lay an 80-kilometer pipeline to bring natural gas from fields in Arunachal Pradesh to Assam to help replace polluting liquid fuels in transport as well as industries, he told a news conference.

It is also looking to convert some of the pipelines originally built to transport crude oil, to help flow gas, he said.

"Our Rs 25,000 crore commitment is for array of activities including green hydrogen, compressed biogas plants, renewable portfolio. Geothermal energy, zero flar-



ing initiative, CCUS projects, and 2G ethanol plants," he said.

OIL plans to invest about Rs 9,000 crore in setting up 1,800 megawatts of solar and onshore wind energy projects and Rs 3,000 crore in a green hydrogen project. Besides, Rs 1,000 crore would be invested in carbon capture, utilisation and storage (CCUS) projects.

It already has firming up plans for 640 MW of solar projects in Assam and another 150 MW in Himachal Pradesh, he said.

"We are looking at ways to advance the net zero target to 2038," he said.

OIL joins fellow state-owned firms who are investing billions of dollars to help India

as a nation achieve net zero by 2070.

Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), the nation's biggest oil firm, is targeting net zero by 2046 while oil and gas producer ONGC has announced Rs 2 lakh crore investment to achieve the same goal by 2038.

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) and gas utility GAIL (India) Ltd too are targeting 2040 to achieve net zero carbon emissions from their operations while Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) wants to do so by 2046.

Rath said OIL is working on a 4+ mission of raising crude oil production to over 4 million tonnes and gas output to 5 billion cubic metres.

# Nifty hits fresh record, Sensex extends rally for 10th day

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The NSE benchmark Nifty advanced over 33 points to close at a fresh lifetime high of 20,103 while Sensex ticked higher for the tenth straight session on Thursday, helped by flag-end buying in oil & gas, metal and commodity stocks amid a largely firm trend in global equities.

After swinging between gains and losses throughout the session, the 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 52.01 points or 0.08 per cent to settle at 67,519. During the session, it jumped 304.06 points or 0.45 per cent to hit its all-time intra-day high of 67,711.05.

In the past 10 sessions, the BSE index has jumped 2,687.59 points or 4.14 per cent.

The Nifty advanced 33.10 points or 0.16 per cent to end at its all-time closing high of 20,103.10. During the day, it gained 97.65 points or 0.48 per cent to reach its lifetime intra-day peak of 20,167.65.

"While the north-bound journey continued the uptick lacked the firepower as seen in recent sessions as valuations are becoming expensive and



investors are taking a cautious route.

Rising global crude oil prices are also making investors jittery as this could stoke inflation and force central banks worldwide to maintain the rate hike regime.

"Despite early volatility and a range-bound trend thereafter, metals, oil & gas and realty shares sparked, indicating that traders are willing to take selective bets," Shrikant Chouhan, Head of Research (Retail), Kotak Securities Ltd, said.

Mahindra & Mahindra was the biggest gainer on the Sensex chart, rising 2.56 per cent, followed by Tata Steel, Tech

Mahindra, Nestle, Power Grid, Infosys, HCL Technologies, Axis Bank, UltraTech Cement and L&T.

In contrast, Asian Paints, ITC, Bajaj Finserv, Bharti Airtel and Tata Motors were among the laggards.

In the broader market, the BSE smallcap gauge jumped 1.15 per cent, and midcap index gained 1.02 per cent.

All the indices ended in the green, with Realty climbing 1.47 per cent, oil & gas jumping 1.40 per cent, metal (1.39 per cent), commodities (1.09 per cent), auto (0.94 per cent), utilities (0.92 per cent), energy (0.82 per cent) and services (0.80 per cent).

# 'Paper industry revenue may dip 10 per cent in FY24'

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Paper manufacturers' revenue may decline 8-10 per cent in the current fiscal despite gains in volume, as the average realisations are likely to soften on lower raw material prices and intense competition, rating agency Crisil said in a report.

For FY24, the industry's total volume is expected to rise 5-7 per cent, similar to the last fiscal, and the operating margin will remain healthy at 18 to 19 per cent, ensuring a stable cash flow generation, it added.

Moreover, modest capex spending undertaken -- mostly for debottlenecking and routine modernisation -- will help sustain credit risk profiles, as per the report.

The Indian paper industry had reported revenue growth of 30 per cent a year before in FY23.

"Indian paper manufacturers could see revenue decline of 8-10 per cent this fiscal, compared with a steep 30 per cent growth last fiscal, with average realisations expected to soften in keeping with lower



raw material prices, and given intense competition," it said.

The report is based on an analysis of 87 paper makers, which account for about half of the sector's revenue.

The packaging paper segment dominates sales in India with a share of 55 per cent, followed by writing and printing (W&P) paper at 30 per cent. The rest is with newsprint and specialty paper.

Packaging paper, mainly comprising kraft paper and duplex board, is used to pack pharmaceuticals, e-commerce goods, consumer durables, fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) and ready-made garments. The education sector and corporates are the major consumers of W&P paper.

# LPI rankings: India wants World Bank to include PM GatiShakti, ULIP in calculations



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India wants the World Bank to take into account several measures taken by the government at logistics front such as PM GatiShakti initiative while determining the logistics ranking of countries, a senior official said on Thursday.

Special Secretary in the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) Sumita Dawra said that the present way of ranking by the World Bank is "very narrow".

India improved its ranking by 6 places to 38 out of 139 countries in the Logistics Performance Index (LPI 2023) of the World Bank. The last ranking was released in April.

She said that the department is continuously engaging with the officials of the World Bank and apprising them about the several initiatives and reforms of India to draw their attention on the need for greater emphasis on objective based methodology for LPI scoring.

At present, the World Bank considers six parameters to measure performance of countries and that include customs, infrastructure, international shipments, logistics competence, tracking and tracing, and timelines.

"We feel this is a very narrow way of ranking India on an important global indices and there is lot of work going on

and that should be reflected in the calculations," She told reporters here.

The national logistics policy has fixed a target to take up India's ranking in top 25 by 2030. "We have analysed the parameters and the way it is done. We would like the World Bank to include our interventions and reforms which are contributing to improve logistics in India," Dawra said.

The DPIIT will again meet the World Bank officials and present all the interventions to them on Unified Logistics Interface Platform (ULIP), logistics data bank and PM GatiShakti initiative.

"We want our ranking to improve and it will improve only when there is a realistic and factual reflection of the kinds of reforms which has happened here... We would like to showcase those and it (World Bank) should take into account these while determining our ranking," she said.

She also said that the report on a framework to assess the logistics cost in the country is ready and it would be released by end of the month as it would help get a realistic estimate of the cost.

# Firms explore using stranded USD 600 million to buy Russian oil

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Indian oil companies are exploring the possibility of using close to USD 600 million of their dividend income stranded in Russia to buy oil from that country, officials said on Thursday.

India's top four oil companies -- Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), a unit of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd, Oil India Ltd and ONGC Videsh Ltd -- haven't been able to repatriate dividend income they accrue from their investments in Russian oil and gas fields. That money is lying in their bank accounts in Russia but could not be brought to India due to tough Western sanctions that followed

Moscow's invasion of Ukraine. This is at a time when Russia has emerged as the top crude oil supplier to India, accounting for more than a third of all purchases New Delhi makes from overseas.

Officials said one of the options could be to loan the money lying in Russian bank accounts to entities buying oil. These entities could repay the loan in India.

The entities that buy oil from Russia include IOC and BPCL.

"We are studying legal and financial implications of such a move," an official said. "We are mindful of the sanctions and do not want to do anything that may in any way attract any breach."

Indian state oil firms have invested USD 5.46 billion in buying stakes in four different assets in Russia. These include a 49.9 per cent stake in the Vankorneft oil and gas field and another 29.9 per cent in the T A S - Y u r y a k h Neftegazodobycha fields. They

get dividends on profits made by the operating consortium from selling oil and gas produced from the fields.

Soon after Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February last year, several major Russian banks were banned from the Society for Worldwide



Interbank Financial Telecommunication (SWIFT) financial transaction processing system, constricting Moscow's ability to access the global payments system.

Also, the Russian government has put restrictions on the repatriation of dollars from that country to check volatility in foreign exchange rates.

This led to a situation of dividend money getting stranded in Russia. ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL), the overseas arm of state-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), holds a 26 per cent stake in Suzunskoye, Tagulskoye and Lodochnoye fields -- collectively known as the Vankor cluster in the north-eastern part of the West Siberia.

and build 4-5 large marquee resorts over the next few years in Uttarakhand," it said.

This investment will more than double the company's footprint in Uttarakhand, with Club Mahindra already operating resorts in Jim Corbett, Mussoorie, Kanatal and Binsar, according to the statement.

"We see a huge opportunity in Uttarakhand, and our planned investment reflects not only our confidence in the state's potential but also our commitment to contributing to its economic growth while at the same time creating memorable vacation experiences for our growing base of members. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Uttarakhand government for its support," MHRIL managing director and CEO Kavinder Singh said.

Leisure hospitality company Mahindra Holidays & Resorts (MHRIL) on Thursday said it has inked an agreement with the Uttarakhand government to invest Rs 1,000 crore and build 4-5 large marquee resorts over the next few years in the state.

This is the company's biggest investment in any state and part of its plans to expand to 10,000 keys from the current 5,000 keys by 2030, the company said in a statement.

"Mahindra Holidays & Resorts (MHRIL), India's leading vacation ownership and leisure hospitality company under the flagship brand Club Mahindra, has signed an MOU today with the Government of Uttarakhand (UK) to invest Rs 1,000 crore

on expectations that the US Dollar may rise further. Elevated crude oil prices and selling pressure from foreign investors may put further pressure on the rupee," Choudhary said.

However, any intervention by the Reserve Bank of India and positive domestic markets may support the rupee at lower levels, Choudhary said, adding that traders may remain cautious ahead of retail sales and PPI data from the US, expected to be softer than the previous month.

On the domestic equity market front, the 30-share BSE Sensex closed 52.01 points or 0.08 per cent higher at 67,519.00. The broader NSE Nifty advanced 33.10 points or 0.16 per cent to 20,103.10.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) were net sellers in the capital market on Wednesday as they offloaded shares worth Rs 1,631.63 crore, according to exchange data.

# Rupee falls 2 paise to close at 83.03 against US dollar

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The rupee pared initial gains to settle 2 paise lower at 83.03 (provisional) against the US dollar on Thursday, weighed down by a surge in crude oil prices and strong American currency overseas.

However, a positive trend in domestic markets cushioned the downside for the local unit, forex traders said.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened at 82.98 against the US dollar and moved in a range of 82.93 and 83.04.

The rupee finally settled at 83.03 (provisional) against the US dollar, down 2 paise from its previous close.

On Wednesday, the rupee closed at 83.01 against the US currency.



"The Indian rupee fell on Thursday on a positive US Dollar and rising crude oil prices. This may impact the external payments.

"We expect the rupee to trade with a slight negative bias

# Mahindra Holidays to invest ₹1,000 crore in Uttarakhand

PTI ■ MUMBAI

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# PFC receives 'Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar'

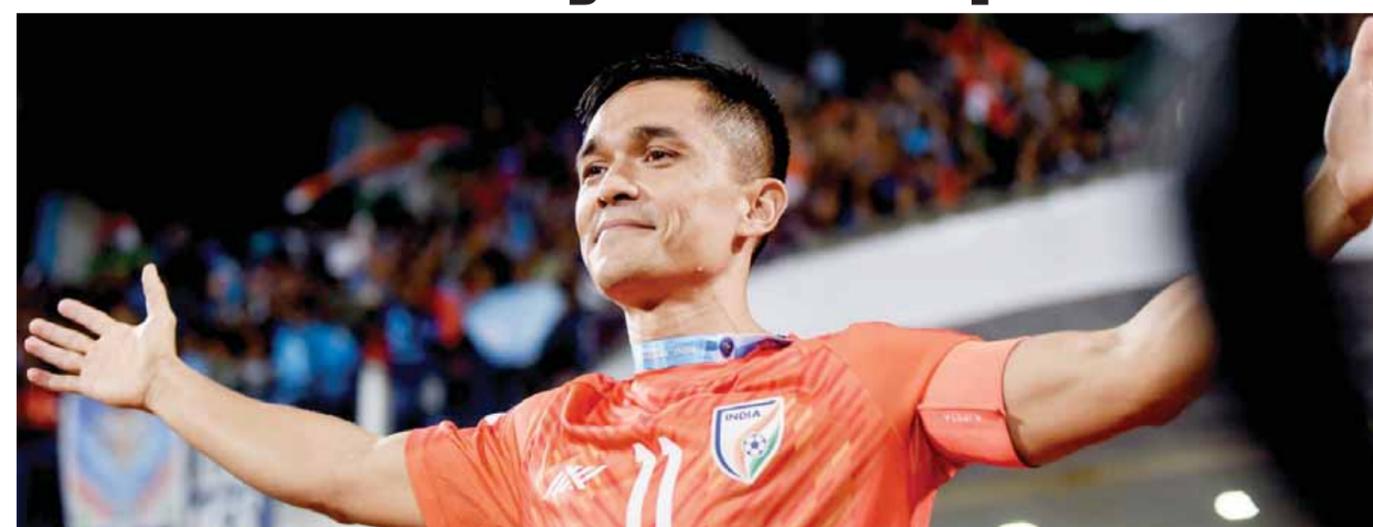


PNS ■ PUNE

Power Finance Corporation (PFC) has been conferred with the prestigious 'Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar' (3rd Position) in the 'A' category for the year 2022-23. This award endorses PFC's unwavering dedication to promoting the use of the official language and fostering linguistic diversity.

The award ceremony, a highlight of the Hindi Day celebration held on September 14, 2023, in Pune, Maharashtra, coincided with the Third All-India Official Language Conference.

# Club vs Country: Chhetri picks India



**PTI ■ NEW DELHI**  
In the club versus country conundrum over the Hangzhou Asian Games, Indian football turned out to be the loser but Sunil Chhetri, arguably the country's greatest footballer ever, rose above all these and gave precedence to national duty.  
The 39-year-old talisman, who has created seemingly unsurmountable national records in his 18-year-long international career, raised his hand and decided to lead a rag-tag national team after many Indian Super League clubs refused to release their players.  
Thirteen players, including key defender Sandesh Jhingan and number one goalkeeper Gurpreet Singh Sandhu, from the original

22-member squad announced last month were not released by their respective ISL clubs.  
A hapless All India Football Federation (AIFF), after hectic parleys, was able to stitch a second-round 18-member team made up mostly of inexperienced players with Chhetri being the lone notable face.  
"He (Chhetri) is such a reputed player and it's not a full strength team. But he stuck his neck out and said he wanted to go for the sake of the country and he's ready for the Asian Games. Hats off to him," an AIFF official told PTI.  
"We knew that he would rise above all these and would give the call of the nation priority and he did just that."  
Chhetri's club Bengaluru FC

had six players in the initial 22, including Gurpreet, and it released two players, the other one being Rohit Danu.  
"Of course, his (Chhetri's) club said yes and released him. So, credit to Bengaluru FC also. The club made the sacrifice of releasing its best player when it is not a FIFA window," the official said.  
The clubs are, however, are not bound to release the players as the Asian Games did not fall in the FIFA international match window.  
Football competition in Asian Games is basically under-23 affair with three over-aged players permitted per team.  
This will be Chhetri's third Asian Games, the first being the 2006 edition as a 22-year-old under English coach Bob Houghton. The

team was led by Bhaichung Bhutia, who was included as on the over-aged players. India drew with Hong Kong (1-1), beat Maldives (2-1) and lost to Iran (0-2) to crash out in the group stage.  
In the 2014 edition in Incheon, Korea, Chhetri captained India after being included as one of the above-23 players permitted. India again ended their campaign in the group stage after losing to UAE (0-5) and Jordan (0-2). Chhetri has played for India 142 times and has scored 92 goals, the most by an Indian. He is also currently the third most prolific scorer in international football among active players, behind Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi.  
He recently became a father but despite that he has chosen to travel

to China for the Asian Games. "Chhetri also chose to make the sacrifice of leaving his newborn baby and wife to attend to the call of national duty, it does not happen to too many players," the AIFF official said.  
Chhetri was not in the Indian team that took part in the Kings Cup in Thailand as he needed to be with his wife and newborn baby. The Indian team, which is expected to leave for China on Saturday, begins its Asian Games campaign with a match against China on September 19, followed by games against Bangladesh (September 21) and Myanmar (September 24).  
The top two teams from the six groups will make it to the pre-quarterfinals, with four best-ranked third-placed sides also qualifying.

## FIFA, AIFF's cooperation, strong desire key to setting up football academy in India: Wenger

**PTI ■ NEW DELHI**

Legendary football coach Arsene Wenger believes "cooperation" and "strong desire" between FIFA and AIFF will be key to the success of a central academy in India, for which he would visit the country next month.  
Wenger, who met with All India Football Federation president Kalyan Chaubey and secretary general Shaji Prabhakaran last month in Australia to finalise setting up the academy, expressed he was "very optimistic" after the meeting.

"I would say that football is the most popular sport in the world and it looks logical that one of the biggest countries in the world has access to football development," Wenger was quoted as saying in an AIFF release.  
"The number is an advantage, but the organisation's task gets tougher. 1.4 billion people, I'd say it's a gold mine, but a gold mine, which, at the moment, we have not analysed or identified well," he said.

"That's why we need people inside the country who know where the talent is. This is why the cooperation between FIFA and the AIFF will be absolutely vital, with a strong desire," he added.

Wenger hopes the conversations with AIFF to translate into success.  
"As per our conversation, the AIFF is highly focused and motivated to help us do that. I think we will do a great job together," he said.

The 73-year-old said India can follow the example of Japan for ensuring growth of football in the country.  
"I arrived in Japan in 1995. They started the professional league in 1993. But they understood very early

that you need to create academies and education for young players, and did that programme very well," he said.

"Look at them now, the boys as well as the girls. Japan are among the top of the world rankings. They are a good example to follow. They understood very quickly that education was the key," Wenger added.

Wenger said apart from identifying talent, AIFF will have to "take charge" of education.

"Overall, it's based on two things. First, it's identifying talent. And then the quality of the educational programme and the coaching is absolutely vital. The AIFF has to take charge of the education with us and we need good cooperation," he said.

"We will need to work together with the AIFF to identify the talent first. And after that we have to group the best with the best. Under that, you have the grassroots game for the whole country. The starting point is to identify the talent and put the best with the best together," Wenger added.

The legendary coach plans to visit India in October to take matters forward.

"I'm happy to go and see how the work is taking place, and I've planned to go to India at the end of October, or somewhere around that," he said.

Wenger said despite cricket being India's No 1 sport, there is enough room for other sports too.

"I don't see why India would not be on the world map with the number of players. It's a sporting country," he said. "At the moment, cricket is their number one sport. I have nothing against cricket. I was in England for a long time and I know how important cricket is to England. But there is room for other sports."

## Clock ticking as 90kg snatch lift continues to elude Mirabai



**PTI ■ NEW DELHI**  
Mirabai Chanu has been a frontrunner in the women's 49kg category for years but with an increasing number of weightlifters breaching the elusive 90kg mark, the pressure is mounting on the Tokyo Olympics medalist to nail the coveted lift.  
As many as seven athletes, including five in this current Olympic cycle, have lifted 90kg or more in the snatch section.  
Chanu herself has been working to cross the mark since 2019. However, the much-anticipated 90kg snatch lift has eluded her in her two attempts in the past four years.  
The Manipuri athlete had first attempted it at the National Championships in February 2020 and then again at last year's Commonwealth Games in Birmingham.  
Chanu's personal best in the section remains an underwhelming 88kg and the gulf between with her competitors is increasing every tournament.

The Chinese duo of Tokyo Olympics gold medalist Hou Zhihui and two-time world champion Jiang Huihua has been consistently lifting in excess of 90kg at tournaments.  
The return of Thai weightlifters after severing a two-year suspension has made the field more competitive with both Thanayathon Sukcharoen and Surodchana Khambao lifting 90kg at the Asian Championships in May this year.  
European champion Mihaela Valentina Cambei (92kg) of Romania and North Korea's Ri Song Gum (91kg) are the other athletes to have snatched more than 90kg.  
The Asian Games, starting in Hangzhou, China on September 23, will be the perfect opportunity for the star Indian lifter to successfully hoist 90kg or more.  
"We are aiming to cross the 90kg mark (in snatch) at the Asian Games. It's been a while since we have been trying to get over that line," India head coach

Vijay Sharma said.  
Chanu is at par with her opponents in the clean and jerk section, although her world record lift of 119kg in the section was broken by Huihua, who lifted 120kg at the World Championships this month.  
But her snatch performances have been found wanting and often brought down her total weight.  
The former world champion has prioritised the Asian Games this year as a medal in the continental event is the only silverware missing from her decorated trophy cabinet.  
With two athletes each from weightlifting powerhouses like China and Thailand competing at the Asiad, Chanu will have to elevate her game to stand on the podium in Hangzhou.  
Chanu had confessed that the 90kg lift had become somewhat of a mental block last year, ahead of the CWG.  
"To reach 96kg, it will take some time and it will be a little difficult for me. But I can reach 93-94kg," she said.  
Additionally, crossing the 90kg mark will also be a huge confidence booster for the 29-year-old ahead of next year's Paris Olympics.  
But lifting close to twice your body weight is easier said than done, especially for Chanu, who struggles with a shoulder imbalance issue that affects her snatch.  
Zhihui holds the snatch world record — 96kg — in the lightest women's Olympic category, which is 8kg more than Chanu's personal best.  
"We have to keep in mind Mira's body as well. She is aging, and the chances of injuries increase with age. So we have to be careful with the workload," Sharma said.

## Jabeur sent packing in San Diego, Garcia advances

**AP ■ LOS ANGELES**

Anastasia Potapova surprised top-seeded Ons Jabeur of Tunisia to reach the quarter-finals of the WTA San Diego Open on Wednesday as second-seeded Caroline Garcia made it safely through.  
Potapova, ranked 27th in the world, said patience was the key to her 6-4, 7-6 (7/4) victory over world number seven Jabeur, who reached her third Grand Slam final at Wimbledon this year.  
"Ons is very tough to play," said Potapova, who had

edged Alycia Parks in three sets in the first round as Jabeur enjoyed a first-round bye.  
"She is truly one of the best in the world and with her style it's very uncomfortable. She likes to mix it up a lot, and actually I'm really proud of myself today that I was able to stay calm, focused and just do what I've got to do."  
Jabeur was coming off a fourth-round showing at the US Open, where she battled illness in the opening rounds.  
Potapova notched her sixth career victory over a top-10 player and lined up a quarter-final meeting with 2020



Australian Open champion Sofia Kenin, a 1-6, 6-4, 6-2 winner over fellow American Katie Volynets.  
Potapova converted six of her 11 break chances, breaking the Tunisian to love to seal the opening set.  
Jabeur served for the second set at 6-5 but was broken, Potapova racing to a 4-0 lead in the tiebreaker before Jabeur bore down to knot it at 4-4.  
Jabeur's ninth double fault of the match gave Potapova a double match point, and Jabeur fired wide with a forehand to end it.  
France's Garcia served up

eight aces in her 6-3, 3-6, 6-1 victory over former US Open champion Sloane Stephens, avenging a loss to the American last month in Cincinnati, where Stephens ended the French player's title defense in the second round.  
Garcia next faces American Danielle Collins, who beat Latvian Jelena Ostapenko 2-6, 6-3, 6-4.  
Third-seeded Maria Sakkari of Greece also reached the quarter-finals, moving through when Camila Osorio of Colombia retired from their match with a right thigh injury while trailing 6-3, 2-2.

## Verratti leaves PSG for Al Arabi



**AP ■ PARIS**

Italian international Marco Verratti has signed for Qatari club Al Arabi, his new club and his former team, Paris Saint-Germain, announced on Wednesday.

Al Arabi posted a video on social media showing the midfielder in club colours.  
Qatari-owned PSG released a statement thanking Verratti for his 11 years at the club.  
"Verratti played a major role in our great history," said club president Nasser al-Khelaifi.  
"Paris, the club and its supporters will always have a very special place in my heart. I will always be a Parisian," it quoted Verratti as saying.  
Verratti, 30, has struggled with injuries. He also has a spotty disciplinary record, collecting 141 yellow cards and six reds for PSG.  
Bans and injuries limited him to 29 Ligue 1 appearances last season, but that total was the most since he played 32 games in 2014-15.  
Verratti won nine French league titles and the French Cup six times with PSG and the European Championship in 2021 with Italy.

## Canada kick off Davis Cup defence in style



**AP ■ PARIS**

Canada opened their title defence by downing Italy as Great Britain upset Australia on the second day of Davis Cup final group stage action on Wednesday. The Czech Republic won their tie against a Spain side sorely missing world number two Carlos Alcaraz, while US Open men's doubles champion Rajeev Ram helped the United

States team battle past Croatia. The top two from each of the 16-team four group round robin will move into the knockout phase in Spain in November.  
Canada stayed on course for the grand finale in Malaga next month courtesy of straight set wins in the opening singles by Alexis Galarneau and then Gabriel Diallo.  
Galarneau and Vasek Pospisil then claimed a tense 6-

7 (4/7), 6-4, 7-6 (7/3) win over Matteo Arnaldi and Simone Bolelli to defeat the Italians 3-0 in Bologna.  
Last year's runners-up Australia took the doubles to leave the home side 2-1 winners, with the 2015 champions second to France, who beat Switzerland 24 hours earlier, in Group B.  
The United States had to dig deep in Split to overcome hosts Croatia 2-1. Mackenzie McDonald got the record 32-time winners off to a positive start with a 6-4, 6-2 win over 18-year-old Dino Prizmic.  
Borna Gojo then levelled the tie by toppling US Open quarter-finalist Frances Tiafoe (USA) 6-4, 7-6 (8/6).  
That left everything resting on the fate of the closing doubles, with Ram, fresh from his third straight title at Flushing Meadows, linking up with Austin Krajicek to see off Ivan Dodig and Mate Pavic 7-6 (7/5), 6-7 (3/7), 6-2.

## Whenever I'm in doubt, I approach Sreejesh: Pathak

**PTI ■ NEW DELHI**  
Picking the brains of veteran PR Sreejesh has played a key role in polishing his goalkeeping skills, says Indian men's hockey team custodian Krishan Bahadur Pathak, who never hesitates to approach his senior colleague for guidance when "in doubt".  
Pathak and Sreejesh share a great camaraderie on the turf as the duo has been manning the goalpost of the Indian team for quite some time now, including the last Asian Games in Jakarta and the Tokyo Olympics where they won a historic bronze.  
"We (me and Sreejesh) have an excellent bonding between us. He is one of the senior players in the team and whenever I am in doubt, I just go up to him and seek his advice on the matter," said Pathak, who has 103 international caps under his belt.  
"His experience of playing over the last two decades surely helped me a lot."  
The upcoming Hangzhou Asian Games will be Pathak's second appearance in the continental showpiece and his target is sim-

ple — win the gold and qualify for next year's Paris Olympics.  
"It is definitely a proud moment for me and my family. If I look back on my journey, I never imagined that I would get the opportunity to earn more than 100 international caps for India and play my second Asian Games.  
"It is something I will cherish for a lifetime. We will take it match by match and will not take any team for granted. We cannot let our guard down at any given time," the goalkeeper from Punjab said.  
India will open their Asian Games campaign against Uzbekistan on September 24.  
Talking about the Indian team's preparation, Pathak said they are now focusing on the basics and working on mistakes which they committed in the last tournament.  
Both Sreejesh and Pathak also had special goalkeeping sessions with Dutch expert Dennis van de Pol ahead of the Games.  
"The training has been going well. All the players are working hard to prepare for



the big tournament. We've had 4-5 goalkeeping sessions with Dennis, and there will be a few more in the coming days.  
"We've gone over the basics again, focusing on the mistakes we made in previous tournaments and how to improve quick decision making, among other things. Before coming to the camp, Dennis asked us what problems we were having and how we could work together to solve them," Pathak said.  
Pathak, who made his senior team debut in 2018, was also a member of the Indian team that recently won the seventh edition of the Asian Champions Trophy in Chennai.  
"We have a good run of games in the lead up to the Asian Games. We played against some top sides, so that will definitely help us in identifying what are our strong and weak points," he said.  
"The players will also get confidence from a good outing that they have had in the Asian Champions Trophy. We don't want to repeat the mistakes going forward."

losing 8-21, 14-21 in just 36 minutes. Thereafter, all hopes were on Tanisha Crasto and Ashwini Ponnappa to come up with a spirited performance against top seeds Mayu Matsumoto and Wakana Nagahara of Japan and keep the country's flag flying but the task was too tall. The unseeded Indian pair lost 18-21, 7-21 in just 38 minutes against Matsumoto and Nagahara to draw curtains on the country's campaign here.



## Indian challenge ends in Hong Kong Open

**PTI ■ KOWLOON**

India's challenge at the Hong Kong Open Super 500 tournament ended after two women's doubles pairs lost in the pre-quarterfinals here on Thursday.  
The first Indian combination to take the court was Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand, who were no match for seventh seeds Apriyani Rahayu and Siti Fadia Silva Ranadhanti of Indonesia,

losing 8-21, 14-21 in just 36 minutes. Thereafter, all hopes were on Tanisha Crasto and Ashwini Ponnappa to come up with a spirited performance against top seeds Mayu Matsumoto and Wakana Nagahara of Japan and keep the country's flag flying but the task was too tall. The unseeded Indian pair lost 18-21, 7-21 in just 38 minutes against Matsumoto and Nagahara to draw curtains on the country's campaign here.

# India vs Bangladesh in Asia Cup today

PTI ■ COLOMBO

Having already sealed a place in the final, India will be tempted to test their fringe players when they face an already knocked out Bangladesh in a Super Four match of the Asia Cup here on Friday.

The Rohit Sharma-led outfit will think deep whether to give as much game time as possible to its first-choice team or give an opportunity to some of the fringe players ahead of the World Cup at home next month.

The question of workload management is pertinent particularly in the case of bowlers.

Jasprit Bumrah has bowled just 12 overs so far in the Asia Cup - five against Pakistan and seven against Sri Lanka. He did not play against Nepal.

So, it could boil down to Bumrah's choice whether he wants to have a crack at batsmen in one more match or take a step back and return for the summit clash on September 17.

On the other hand, Mohammed Siraj has bowled 19.2 overs and Hardik Pandya 18 overs in this tournament.

It might not appear heavy numbers but the humidity in Colombo has been energy-sapping, so the team management might just give a break to one of them.



In that context, it would not be a major surprise if Shami replaces Siraj against Bangladesh.

It will also help the senior pacer to register some valuable real-match time under his belt before the quadrennial big bash, starting October 5.

It is important because Shami has now been used as a back-up seamer behind Bumrah, Siraj and Pandya.

But the dwindling bowling graph of Axar Patel will concern the thinktank as he has been

marked as a cover for Ravindra Jadeja.

The left-arm spinner has neither been able to take wickets and contain the run-flow, an area where Jadeja excels.

Axar has played seven ODIs this year, and managed to take only three wickets and his economy is hovering around six. He will need a significant lift in his game, and immediately too!

KL Rahul's return to full fitness has straightened a lot of creases for the team management. He has batted with fluency

and kept wickets with agility here.

After the match against Sri Lanka, Rahul had spoken at length about the role clarity given to him by the team management, that he would be India's premier wicket-keeper-cum-middle-order batsman.

So, it can be assumed that Rahul is all set to continue his duty against Bangladesh as well.

But Shreyas Iyer's fitness will be keenly watched as he missed the Super 4 matches against

Pakistan and Sri Lanka with back spasms.

However, Shreyas batted and bowled at nets on Thursday without any visible discomfort, and that should come as a pleasing development for the team.

But if the management wants to give some extra time for the Mumbaier to recuperate, they can weigh their options between Ishan Kishan and Suryakumar Yadav.

While Kishan has been impressive in ODIs so far, Suryakumar's numbers were quite disappointing in the format.

Despite that, Suryakumar has been viewed as an important cog in India's white ball establishment, and the thinktank would want to give another chance for him to push his case.

When it comes to the Bangladesh camp, they will not have the services of wicketkeeper batsman Mushfiqur Rahim for this match.

Rahim had flown back home after their Super 4 match against Sri Lanka, which they lost by 21 runs. In the absence of Rahim, Litton Das is expected to keep wickets. However, their captain Shakib al Hasan has rejoined the team after returning home to spend some time with his family.

## It's good to have four fit fast bowlers going into WC: Mhambrey

PTI ■ COLOMBO

India bowling coach Paras Mhambrey on Thursday said the return of Jasprit Bumrah has beefed up their pace unit and it is pleasing to have four fully-fit fast bowlers going into next month's World Cup.

During the recent tour to Ireland, Bumrah wore India colours after a long injury layoff, and impressed with his intensity during the ongoing Asia Cup as well.

"We have been following Bumrah's progress from the NCA, and we are very happy with the report that we have got."

"Now, we have four quality bowlers, and it is always great to have those options. The problem of plenty is always good," Mhambrey said ahead of India's final Super 4 match against Bangladesh on Friday.

However, India's first-choice pace attack is now centred around Bumrah, Mohammed Siraj and Hardik Pandya, forcing the management to bench Mohammed Shami.

"It's not very easy to drop someone like Shami. The experience that he has and the performance that he has done for the country is phenomenal. It's never easy to have that kind of a conversation (dropping a player)," he said.

Mhambrey said while it was a difficult choice, the player concerned has been conveyed clearly about the team decision.

"But we are clear in the way we have gone about the conversation with the players and they have shown confidence in us."

"Players know any decision that we take and they know that it is for the benefit of the team," said Mhambrey.

The former India pacer was also delighted to see the strides Pandya has taken as a bowler in recent times.

"I am very happy with the way Hardik has shaped up, something that we have worked on for a long time. We have been managing his workload, making sure that he is fit and able to achieve what we expect out of him."

"Once he hits 140 kmph he is a different bowler. From the team perspective it's a wicket-taking option that we have," added Mhambrey.

Mhambrey also said the Indian team has undertaken the process of developing the bowl-



ing skills of some batsmen, so that they have more options to choose from when needed.

Tilak Varma features prominently in that scheme.

"I have been working with Tilak since his U-19 days. We were in South Africa and we realised he has bowling skills. We are working on it consistently."

"If the captain gets confidence that he can bowl one over and deliver, this one over can turn into two overs. But it depends on circumstances where we need that extra bowler," he said.



## CA makes neck guard rule mandatory for all

PTI ■ MELBOURNE

Veteran batters Steven Smith and David Warner could be forced to wear neck guards as Cricket Australia has made it mandatory for international and domestic players to do so from October 1.

Under the new playing conditions for 2023-24, every Australian player on international and domestic cricket will be required to wear neck protectors fixed or fitted to the rear of helmets when facing fast or medium pace bowling in all CA-sanctioned competitions, according to cricket.com.au.

The regulation update came a week after all-rounder Cameron Green was struck by a Kagiso Rabada bouncer on the neck guard fixed to his helmet and substituted out of the first ODI against South Africa with concussion at Bloemfontein on September 7.

The move will impact several Australian players, including David Warner and Steve Smith, who have resisted using the neck guards since their introduction in 2015. Usman

Khawaja also do not currently wear the protectors when batting.

CA will make wearing neck protection at international training and matches mandatory via a change to its clothing and equipment regulations, the report said.

The rule does not apply to facing spinners or for wicket-keepers and close-in fielders.

CA had recommended the use of neck protectors since their introduction in 2015 following the tragic death of Phillip Hughes but several veteran players have been reluctant to take them up.

Smith had earlier said the neck guards made him "feel claustrophobic". He was not wearing a neck guard when struck by a Jofra Archer delivery at Lord's in the 2019 Ashes. Warner said in 2016 that he does "not and will not wear" one because it "digs into" his neck and is an "uncomfortable distraction".

Australia international players will now be required to wear neck guards during both home and away matches.

## Pakistan post 252/7 vs Sri Lanka in must-win match

PTI ■ COLOMBO

Fifties by Abdullah Shafique and Mohammad Rizwan were the rocks around which Pakistan built their competitive 252 for seven against Sri Lanka in a must-win Asia Cup Super Four match here on Thursday.

Both Pakistan and Sri Lanka are tied on two points each, and the winner of this match will face India in the final on Sunday.

Shafique (52 off 69 balls) and Rizwan (86 not out off 73 balls) played contrasting knocks after Pakistan elected to bat first on another rain-affected day.

They received some late push from Iftikhar Ahmed (47 off 40 balls).

The intermittent rain reduced the match first to a 45-over-a-side affair and then to 42 overs, and that meant Pakistan needed to redesign their target constantly.

The pitch was not the smoothest to bat on either, but Pakistan found some early momentum through Shafique and captain Babar Azam (29) after the early dismissal of Fakhar Zaman.

Shafique and Babar milked 64



runs in a little over 11 overs. Shafique scored runs in a more orthodox way and his cracking cover drive off pacer Matheesha Pathirana (3/65) was a sight for sore eyes.

Just as the second wicket alliance was blossoming, Dunith Wellalage snapped it.

The left-arm spinner, who grabbed five top-order batters against India on Tuesday, this time weaved his magic around Babar.

Babar assumed the ball was coming into him once it pitched outside the off-stump and played for the spin, but it went away from him for Kusal

Mendis to complete a flash stumping. The dismissal of Babar pushed Pakistan into a mini-collapse as they lost three more wickets for 30 runs inside six overs.

At 130 for five, they were in grave danger of getting out for a below par total, as the Lankan spinners tried to dominate the proceedings in the middle overs as they had done against India.

But Rizwan and Iftikhar dashed their hopes during an entertaining 108-run stand for the sixth wicket.

Veteran wicketkeeper batsman Rizwan was not really among runs of late, and he chose a perfect moment to get a few against his name.

It was a typical innings by Rizwan, starting on a slow tempo before exploding with some towering shots through the on-side in the latter part. Iftikhar has a non-complicated mind as a batter, as he just tries to muscle every ball coming his way out of the ground employed a similar strategy here as well.

He was eventually jettisoned by Pathirana, the most successful bowler for Lanka, but by then he had done his job.



## Sachin was a genius from Day 1: Muralitharan

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Sri Lankan spin legend S.Muttiah Muralitharan has said that Sachin Tendulkar was a "genius from day one" and no cricketer can be like the Indian batting maestro.

The bowling legend talked about his cricketing duels with Sachin on the pitch and how he wished that the Indian batter got out quickly. "No cricketer can ever be like Sachin. Because at 14 years of age, he got a first-class hundred, at 16 years of age he represented the country, and at the age of 17, he got a century for them. That is impossible."

Talking about his relationship with Sachin, Muralitharan said the Indian legend is a "down-to-earth" person.

"As a good friend, I would say he is very down to earth. I have never seen such a larger-than-life character, with a billion people expecting so much from him. More than a colleague, I am also a fan. I was mesmerised by what he could do as a youngster. It was unbelievable. I struggled for my first six to seven years when I started, only in the latter part I cruised through. But Sachin was a genius from day one," he said.

## Unadkat, Jayant take five-fors in maiden County outings

PTI ■ LONDON

India seamer Jaydev Unadkat and spinner Jayant Yadav made impressive debuts in the English County circuit, taking five-wicket hauls for Sussex and Middlesex respectively. Unadkat, who could be back in contention for selection in the Indian Test side later this year for the tour of South Africa, took an overall nine wickets for Sussex against Leicestershire to help them win by just 15 runs in a Division Two match.

The left-arm seamer took 3 for 23 in



the first innings and returned with figures of 32.4-6-94-6 in the second essay to help Sussex not only record a narrow win but also revive their hopes of promotion into Division One. India batter

Cheteshwar Pujara, who is also Sussex's captain, scored 26 and 23 in the game and also took a spectacular catch to dismiss Leicestershire opener Rishi Patel.

Yadav, playing in a Division One game for Middlesex against Lancashire, toiled for his five-wicket haul as he returned with figures of 33-4-131-5 in a drawn game at Manchester. Meanwhile, also making his County debut this season, leg spinner Yuzvendra Chahal took an overall five wickets - 3/63 and 2/43 - for Kent against Nottinghamshire in a Division One game at Canterbury.

## Women to referee at men's Asian Cup

AP ■ KUALA LUMPUR

Women including Japanese trailblazer Yoshimi Yamashita will referee at the men's Asian Cup for the first time next year in Qatar, officials said Thursday. Yamashita, who was also selected for the 2022 men's World Cup in Qatar, has been chosen alongside four other women for the regional championship in January-February.

The Video Assistant Referee (VAR) system will also make its "full debut" at the tournament, the AFC said.

# Stokes' 182 helps Eng beat NZ by 181 runs

AP ■ LONDON

Ben Stokes struck the highest score by an England batsman in an ODI on Wednesday, his 182 setting up a thrashing of New Zealand at The Oval as he sent a warning to the champions' World Cup rivals just weeks before they begin the defence of their 50-over title in India.

Stokes's stunning innings was just slightly more than England's colossal 181-run margin of victory that put them 2-1 up in a four-match series ahead of Friday's finale at Lord's.

England were struggling at 13-2 after Trent Boult's early double strike, which included Jonny Bairstow's exit off the first ball of the match.

But Stokes and Dawid Malan (96)

hit back with a third-wicket stand of 199 as England recovered to 368 all out.

New Zealand's Glenn Phillips kept England at bay with 72 but when he was lbw to spinner Liam Livingstone, the Black Caps were all but beaten at 173-8.

Livingstone (3-16) ended the match with 11 overs to spare when he had No 11 Ben Lister stumped by England captain Jos Buttler as New Zealand were dismissed for 187.

"Coming back into the team after a while out, it's nice to come back and help the team," said player-of-the-match Stokes at the presentation ceremony.

Buttler hailed Stokes's innings by saying: "He's played a few good ones, but that was amazing."



Boult kept New Zealand in the game with an impressive 5-51 in 9.1 overs, although England were set for a huge total at 348-5 when Stokes was dismissed.

But they lost their last five wickets for 20 runs, left-arm quick Boult wrapping up the innings with 11 balls to spare.

England, however, had more than enough runs.

Chris Woakes (3-31) did the bulk of the damage as New Zealand - without regular skipper Kane Williamson while the star batsman completes a pre-World Cup recovery from a knee injury - slumped to 37-4, with Reece Topley in the wickets as well.

England begin their quest to retain

their 50-over global title defence against New Zealand - the team they defeated in a dramatic 2019 'Super Over' World Cup final at Lord's - in Ahmedabad on October 5.

And New Zealand coach Gary Stead said: "I don't mind Ben Stokes. I'd rather he scored them (runs) now than on October 5."

Stead took some comfort from the form of Boult, back in New Zealand's ODI set-up this series for the first time in 12 months after turning down a central contract to play in Australia's lucrative Big Bash League.

"It's great to have Trent back," said Stead. "In two games he's showed his ability as a world-class player to knock the top off England. It's just a pity we haven't capitalised on those starts."