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PAPER WITH PASSION

Chak De! India

Women cricket team's maiden gold in the Asian Games final is a fine achievement

India has won its first gold medal at the ongoing Asian Games in Hangzhou, China, thanks to India's women cricket team. In a display of unwavering determination, unrelenting spirit and unmatched skill, the women's cricket team secured a historic victory in the Asian Games cricket final. The nation watched in awe as our talented cricketers etched their names in the annals of sports history with an exemplary performance. Indian women's cricket team won their maiden gold medal in the Asian Games 2023 by defeating Sri Lanka by 19 runs after successfully defending their 116 runs on the board. It was a low-scoring match. On a difficult pitch, Titas Sadhu was undoubtedly the star as she bowled a devastating first spell, taking three wickets for six runs, and played a major role in restricting Sri Lanka to 97 for eight in 20 overs. It is not all. There was more good news for India from Hangzhou as India's 10m air rifle team shattered world record to win gold medal.



Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar won an individual bronze after teaming up with Rudranksh Patil and Divyansh Singh Panwar for the gold medal. India's 25m rapid fire pistol team also won bronze. This is nothing short of a dream run for Indian squad. But it was the women's cricket team that stole hearts. It has been overshadowed by men's cricket for decades now, getting a fraction of the allowances and perks that their male counterparts get. But that should soon change and sponsors are likely to make a beeline to sponsor their events after their emphatic and historic win. The Asian Games victory marks a significant milestone for women's

cricket in India. It not only highlights the incredible talent of our sportspersons but also serves as an inspiration for the generations to come.

The Indian women's cricket team has been steadily rising in stature, captivating the hearts of cricket fans across the country. Their victory in the Asian Games final is a testament to the hard work and dedication that these remarkable athletes put into their craft. From fierce batting to exceptional bowling, every aspect of their game has shone brightly on the international stage. The emergence of women's cricket leagues, greater media coverage and increased investment in infrastructure are all signs of a brighter future for the sport in India. The Indian women's team's triumph in the Asian Games cricket final is a cause for nationwide celebration. These incredible sportspersons have not only showcased their cricketing prowess but have also laid the foundation for a brighter future for women's cricket in India. As we celebrate this historic win, let us remember that it is not just a victory on the cricket field but a triumph of 'nari shakti.' The Indian squad has shown what can be achieved with talent and unwavering determination. Let these wins be a harbinger of more success for sportspersons—a true Amritkal for sports.

PICTALK



Saints Of Swaminarayan Gurukul pray to Lord Swaminarayan on the 'Jal Jilani Ekadashi, in Surat

Indian space industry at the inflection point



UMANG KOHLI

Indian space industry must be given a fillip to make the country future-ready for space. It will be good, both for India's standing and its economy

India's space programme has come a long way and has catapulted India to the world stage. Space technology ushers in possibilities for the future which are huge and varied, and some of these possibilities are yet to be explored. Few would understand that India's success in space technology enhances possibilities of trade and the earning of foreign exchange by providing services that are intrinsic to excellence in this domain. The private players have started playing an important role in bringing it to a level where it can be the leverage India requires for setting a benchmark for the world.

Certain joint endeavours by private and public players have given rise to exceptional dividends in the last year. The successful launch of 72 satellites by OneWeb through ISRO has boosted the broadband internet services in the country. The Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe) has worked to enable and facilitate the participation of private players in the space domain. The Indian Space Association, set up for the collaborative development of the private space industry in India facilitated the launch of India's first private rocket by Skyroot Aerospace and the establishment of the Mission Control Centre by Agnikul Cosmos. The launch of the world's first commercial Space Weather Monitoring System by Digantra, the launch by ISRO of Anand hyperspectral satellite of Pixal, and the collaborative effort of L&T and HAL to improve the efficiency of Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle are some of the giant leaps in space technology that will help India to bring in a lot of foreign exchange in the days to come. ISRO, through its commercial arms, has already earned

\$279 million in foreign exchange by launching satellites for global clients, but this is just the tip of the iceberg. According to the Director General of the Indian Space Association, the launch of the Shakuntla constellation by Pixxel has bolstered India's Earth observation capabilities and will help in agriculture, disaster management, and envi-

ronmental monitoring. The launch of commercial satellites by India of friendly foreign countries is sure to boost India's clout, not only as a regional player in Asia but also globally. This collaborative effort of the private and public sectors is bound to give dividends economically and also usher in prosperity amongst humanity in general.

Can the space program help humanity? Is it the bird's eye view we have been talking about for almost all the humanitarian challenges that exist? Let's face it, humanity faces challenges of resources, and among them, energy is one of the most critical. So can space exploration in the long run help humanity to solve the crisis of a resource crunch, including that of energy? The possibility for the same is huge, and so is the possibility of Indian Industry making it big in the decades to come. It is estimated that thousands of satellites would be required to be sent into space if the requirement of humanity is to be met. Over 100 satellites have been launched solely for monitoring the Earth's atmosphere.

Helium-3 is one moon resource that could potentially be cheaper to mine from the moon. Helium-3 is a very attractive fuel for future



nuclear fusion reactors. If this becomes possible in the future it could solve a lot of clean energy-related issues that humanity faces today. It could also unlock a lot of economic value for the Indian Space Industry in the future. Lunar resources could also be used to help build up an industrial infrastructure in near-Earth space in the future. Satellites provide accurate weather reports which also help to track increasing rates of climate change and its effects, such as rising seas, moisture levels, and incidents of floods, wildfires, and atmospheric changes; helping us stop deforestation. Satellites cover the entire globe enabling high-capacity connectivity over wide & hard-to-reach areas including deserts, mountain ranges, islands, rainforests, or wetlands. Around fifty per cent of illegal mining activities can be monitored from space only. Ninety-nine per cent of weather forecasts can be from space alone. Space technology provides information regarding water and food production, precision irrigation and farming techniques. The direct economic impact of the sector is important, but it is the indirect impact that highlights how critical space is going to be for our life on

Earth. The UN has been urging for use of space technology to attain sustainable development goals. The private sector and public sector milieu in the Indian context are best suited to exploit these opportunities in the future. Private players that are into satellite communication, GPS technology, surveillance, and disaster management are likely to benefit most from advancements in space technology. The Indian Space Industry would also be required to collaborate and work towards the transfer of technology with players in countries like the United States and France to enhance the scope of their achievements in space. The calmness and maturity of the public sector, along with the dynamism and initiative of the private sector, when invested in the development of space technology can for sure help in solving some of the challenges confronting humanity today. We are at an inflection point from where the Indian Space Industry is only destined to go up, and this is going to increase India's clout in the international community many fold.

(The writer is an expert on geopolitics and international Affairs. The views expressed are personal)



HELIUM-3 IS ONE MOON RESOURCE THAT COULD POTENTIALLY BE CHEAPER TO MINE FROM THE MOON. HELIUM-3 IS A VERY ATTRACTIVE FUEL FOR FUTURE NUCLEAR FUSION REACTORS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WINNING IS A HABIT

Sir — The game of cricket is a team sport where performance is the key. The Indian women's cricket team secured a victory over Sri Lanka women by a margin of 19 runs, clinching the gold medal at the 2023 Asian Games. This marks India's second gold in Hangzhou. Rajeshwari Gayakwad bowled the final over, conceding only five runs while taking a crucial wicket. The Asian Games 2023 has proven to be a successful platform for the Indian cricket team. This victory represents India's second gold medal at the 2023 Asian Games. Harmanpreet Kaur, as the toss-winning captain, chose to bat first in the final. Opener Shefali Verma was the first to depart, with Sougandika Kumari claiming her wicket. Subsequently, Smriti Mandhana and Jemimah Rodrigues built a vital 73-run partnership to steer India back into contention. Winning is indeed a habit, and the women's team executed it splendidly. Congratulations to Team India.

Jayanthi CK Maniam | Chennai

WORLD TOURISM DAY

Sir — Tourism is known to provide a massive boost to a nation's economy. Responsibility on the part of travellers is key to sustaining tourism because travellers aware of their obligations towards maintaining the purity of a destination are godsend for tourism. Sustainable tourism, movie tourism, medical and religious, and ecotourism—form the crux of tourism. In India, nearly six per cent of the GDP is accrued from tourism. It is also a large avenue for employment with as much as 25 million workers earning their livelihood from this sector.

In a country as diverse as India, it is a laborious task for the government to keep tourist places spic- and- span which is why the role of citizens in overseeing the orderliness of key places is so vital. There are plenty of attractions in the country that can set the visitors' pulse racing. Good connectivity, adequate cleanliness and the so-called certainty factor

Vande Bharat: A game changer



With nine additional Vande Bharat trains put into service, the stations they traverse are set to undergo renovations, creating more job opportunities in catering, cleaning, and operational services, which will contribute to the cause. Vande Bharat is an innovation that has re-

volutionized train travel. Many of us cherish the prospect of securing window seats to relish the scenic views. This project, a testament to our domestic capabilities, is an accomplishment for Indian Railways, which boasts a legacy spanning 170 years. It is indeed an engineering marvel.

The acceleration is exceptional, living up to its acclaim, with a nearly silent ride, except for the coaches with traction motors, which produce some noise. The team of officers at ICF, Chennai, has made the most of this opportunity, creating history. It stands as the largest coach manufacturing facility. Art plays a role in cleansing the soul, and this is exemplified by the presence of an art gallery within the factory. The leadership and passion of all involved have transformed our dreams into reality.

Akhilesh Krishnan | Mumbai

make a tourist place much sought after one. Needless to say, the role of local population has a far reaching impact in making this a reality. Some exquisite tourist centres are a far cry from what they were earlier.

Since it takes two to tango, the travellers have a huge task of keeping the attractions noise free and hygienic. Preventing the centres from deteriorating to mere structures, maintaining the liveliness of the places and ensuring no tourist is harassed are critical to preserve the name and fame of a place.

Ganapathi Bhat | Akola

ESCALATING COURT CASES

Sir — Delivering justice to the common people is a fundamental pillar of a democratic system. It is a right that citizens must have access to. However, we currently face a concerning situation in our country. The number of pending court cases has doubled in the last five years, with more than five crore cases awaiting resolution. This means that, on average, one case is pending for every three and a half people. Uttar Pradesh alone has over one crore pend-

ing cases. The backlog is exacerbated by the fact that one-third of the judge positions in the country remain vacant. This shortage of judges, along with inadequate staff and resources, contributes to delays, especially in criminal cases. Uttar Pradesh, for instance, has nearly 98 lakh pending criminal cases. Maharashtra follows with 51 lakh pending cases.

Interestingly, the central government allocated over 54 crore rupees in the fiscal year 2022-2023 to handle these cases. Paradoxically, there are 61 lakh 57 thousand cases in court due to a lack of lawyers. Moreover, in many cases, plaintiffs and defendants fail to appear, accounting for 8 lakh 82 thousand such instances. Reducing the backlog of cases demands serious attention and action from the government. It is essential to ensure that the people receive timely justice.

Shantaram Wagh | Pune

Hypertension is a global health challenge

Hypertension affects individuals from all backgrounds and its consequences can be dire

In a significant revelation during the 78th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, the World Health Organization (WHO) presented its inaugural report on the worldwide impact of high blood pressure, delivering a poignant message — nearly 80% of individuals suffering from hypertension are not receiving adequate treatment. This revelation, however, comes with a ray of hope. If countries can expand their healthcare coverage, an estimated 76 million lives could be saved between 2023 and 2050. In India alone, taking proactive measures to control blood pressure among half of its hypertensive population could prevent at least 4.6 million deaths by 2040. It is bewildering that preventable deaths persist due to untreated hypertension despite advancements in healthcare and infrastructure. The number of people living with hypertension has doubled from 650 million in 1990 to 1.3 billion in 2019 globally.

In India, a staggering 188.3 million people, constituting 31% of the population, grapple with this condition.



Hypertension, also known as high blood pressure, is marked by elevated blood pressure in the arteries, typically diagnosed when readings consistently reach or exceed 140/90 mm Hg. A misconception persists, particularly in socioeconomically disadvantaged societies, that hypertension is an ailment reserved for the affluent. However, WHO's report dispels this myth, revealing that over three-quarters of adults with hypertension live in low and middle-income countries.

Paradoxically, diagnosis and treatment rates are abysmally low in these regions, leading to a high mortality rate. While age is an uncontrollable risk factor, various modifiable factors, such as a high-salt diet, physical inactivity, tobacco use and

excessive alcohol consumption contribute to hypertension. Tobacco usage triggers 28% of cases in India, while physical inactivity accounts for 34%. Efforts to combat this pressing issue have been made, but much more needs to be done. The India Hypertension Control Initiative (IHCI) launched by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare aims to tackle this growing problem. WHO acknowledges that IHCI made significant strides in ensuring healthcare facilities had adequate protocol medicines and minimal stock-outs by 2020. WHO underscores the importance of prevention, early detection and effective management of hypertension as the most cost-effective healthcare interventions.

Lifestyle adjustments like physical activity, proper sleep and reduced exposure to pollution can aid in prevention. Regular check-ups are crucial for early detection and the report emphasizes five components for effective hypertension care: protocols, medication and equipment supply, patient-centered services, team-based care and informa-

tion systems. WHO Director-General, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, points out that "Hypertension can be controlled effectively with simple, low-cost medication regimens and yet only about one in five people with hypertension have controlled it."

This state of affairs must change for a safer and healthier future. The revelation that hypertension, a highly manageable condition, continues to claim millions of lives worldwide in an era of medical advancements and improved healthcare access is astonishing and disheartening.

WHO's report serves as a clarion call to governments, healthcare providers and individuals alike. One of the key takeaways from the report is the need for greater awareness. Public health campaigns and educational programs must be intensified to reach every stratum of society. People must understand that hypertension affects individuals from all backgrounds and its consequences can be dire.

(The writer is a researcher. The views expressed are personal)



BISHAL KUMAR SAHA



FIRST COLUMN

CALLING GEN-NEXT: BE A CHANGE CATALYST

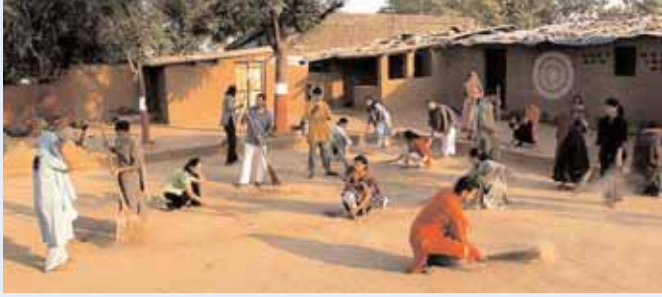
India has a sizable youth population and if they do not affect social change, who will?



RAJYOGI BRAHMAKUMAR NIKUNJ JI

Most of us are very much aware of the phenomenon known as the 'Generation Gap', which in simple language can be described as a 'wide difference in cultural norms between members of a younger generation and their elders.' It can also be described as a situation which occurs when older and younger people don't understand each other's point of view because of their different life experiences, opinions, habits and behaviour. Though it is a very common issue, sometimes it becomes a very serious one. One thing that is universally recognised regarding the youth is that the youth, in general, have energy, stamina, strong will and zest for life. But certain other valuable characteristics of youth, which can be great tools for social transformation are not fully realised or utilised by society, and as a result of this, they get confused and disturbed. One such important personality trait of the youth is that they strongly aspire to do something new. They want change, not status quo. They are not tied down to the past and, instead, have an openness to accept new things. Hence it is easier for them to adapt to any kind of change in comparison to the older generation because they have the wish to learn new things.

Compared to this, the old generation has, no doubt, experience but most of their ideas have already been applied to situations in life and they may not now have any new concepts and adequate energy to work in real life. So, the old order has to change, giving place to new, as the saying goes, and, in this work of social transformation, youth- the new blood- have to play a vigorous role to usher in a new era. It has, therefore, rightly been said that if the youth are awakened, the whole world will get awakened because not only will the awakened youth themselves be a great achievement of their country but they will work, as leading lights, for the tender-aged children who, following their example, will prepare themselves mentally and physically for the dawn of new era.



But, have the potentialities of the youth been utilised for the work of national reconstruction so far? Have they been given the opportunities and guidance to fulfil their dreams of taking the world into a new era of peace and prosperity? Well! If we take into view the Indian situation, we can say, in general terms, that the youth are restless and disappointed because their abilities have not been provided with enough channels for self-expression and fulfillment. Today most of them have a complaint against society in general and against those who are in the seats of authority in particular.

They say that their energies- both mental and physical - are not being used in wider spheres of national development because the older generation denies them adequate participation, thinking that the youth are inexperienced and immature. Against this thinking, the youth argue that what the elders call "experience" and "maturity" is, in fact, a hindrance in breaking new grounds and what is required at present is new initiatives, new ideas adventures and innovativeness which is a characteristic that's mainly present in youth.

All would agree that to bridge the ever-widening gap of emotional estrangement between the older and the younger generations and to stop further erosion in values, whosoever may have been responsible for it until now, is to have such formal and informal educational centres and institutions which can inspire the youth to some higher principles and ideals and can fire their imagination with a new paradigm of society where there will be no violence and where all would live peacefully as loving members of the family of mankind. These institutions should have persons of ennobling character, pleasing manners, and loving demeanour who can awaken the potentialities of the youth for social reconstruction and can also bring change in the older generation and enable them to play a useful role in the work of nation-building.

(The writer is a spiritual educator & popular columnist; views are personal)

A simplified tax regime can prevent tax evasion

An archaic and complicated tax system, with too many amendments, not only confuses the taxpayers but also leads to leakages and corruption



SUBHASH CHANDRA AGRAWAL

A complicated tax system in India with a six-decades-old Income Tax Act 1961 with too many amendments in the form of a lot of confusing patchwork is in force. Likewise, ever since the reformative step of introducing the Goods & Service Tax (GST) Act was introduced on 1st July 2017, there has been a regular practice of changing tax structure in an ever-confusing GST regime with too many confusing and complicated provisions incorporated in the system.

An altogether new tax regime should be introduced without patches of useless and largely misused exemptions. Implementation of Raja Chelliah Committee recommendations to fix the highest tax slab at 30 per cent to be in tune with most countries in the world, had largely abolished the practice of converting black money into white money. Gradually increasing this highest slab also through imposing cess and surcharges has undone the good achieved.

The highest tax slab of 30 per cent should be restored so that people may find it advantageous to bring complete income to books. Rather a permanent Voluntary Disclosure Scheme should be introduced whereby provision may be there in tax-return to declare at the highest suggested tax rate of 30 per cent, any income without disclosing the source of income. This will make cash transactions, especially in property deals accounted for if registration fees on the property are also reduced to say just three per cent. Names of all those disclosing incomes under the suggested highest 30-percent slab should be on the website according to income disclosed so that status-conscious persons may race to disclose more incomes.

Six tax exemption should be fixed at rupees five lakhs abolishing most tax-exemptions including on charity, donation, contribution to political parties and even agricultural income which are largely misused. An ordinary farmer does not earn more than rupees five lakhs per annum, and the provision is grossly misused by ultra-rich persons including known celebrities to declare their unaccounted income as agricultural income through some village-land purchased only for the purpose without practically having any agricultural produce.

Income Tax slabs can then be 10 and 20 per cent for incomes between 5-10 lakhs and 10-15 lakhs respectively and thereafter 30 per cent for the rest. LK Jha committee recommendations to make the calendar year a financial year should be implemented to be in line with most countries of the world, thus abolishing another British legacy of following April-March presently as a Fiscal Year. It is ridiculous to have different depreciation rules for Tax and Corporate audits. There should be a single and unified Tax and Corporate Audit.

Rather than concentrating more on small cash transactions, all sale-purchases above rupees 10000 must be compulsorily through bank transactions. For this, transaction charges on credit cards should be slashed down to just half per cent (GST-exempted) which too to be borne by the central government with all incentives on purchases made through credit cards abolished. Present high two-percent transaction charges on credit cards make traders charge it separately from customers especially where trade margins are low. Such a system will fetch much higher tax revenue for the government, than through half-per-



cent transaction-charges to be borne by the government.

Banks issuing credit cards will get much more earnings even with a half-per-cent transaction charge because of the manifold use of credit cards. Two sets of credit card machines should be compulsory for every GST-registered dealer dealing in cash to avoid payment receipt through credit cards with the usual excuse that the swapping machine is out of order. Strict action must be there against those refusing payment through credit/debit cards.

The input-tax-credit system in the GST-regime in manufacturing is the biggest corrupt practice of tax evasion where left-out GST invoices by ordinary customers are sold by traders to consuming manufacturers or producers to avail false Input-Tax-Credit where cash is paid back by traders to those purchasing left-out GST-invoices of actual consumers bringing more currency in circulation, this being the reason of basic motive of currency-demonetisation being failed where currency in circulation rapidly increased rather than projected decrease. An annual forensic audit may be made compulsory on claims made for Input-Tax-Credit by manufacturers/producers to avoid false claims of excessive input tax credit in these sectors. Rather study should be made if, with the abolition of an excessively high 18-percent GST slab, Input-Tax-Credit can be altogether abolished from manufacturing/producing sectors, retaining it only on tradable commodities.

But such reform in the Input-Tax-Credit system can be practically possible with drastic reform in the GST tax structure wherein initially only three tax slabs of 6, 12 and

30 per cent may be there abolishing all presently existing GST rates. India is the only country that has so many GST rates. Gradually even slabs of 6 and 12 per cent may also be replaced by a new 10-percent tax structure. Zero-percent GST may only be retained on totally unbranded raw materials that cannot be consumed without giving a finishing touch like agricultural products, fish, meat, cotton yarn etc.

All items of long-term use like cars, air-conditioners, TV sets, refrigerators etc. may attract 30 per cent GST while their parts may uniformly attract 12 per cent GST. Unmindful policy framers brought clutch-plate and clutch-bearing under different GST slabs of 18 and 28 per cent. Likewise, similar items sold by confectioners like sweets, biscuits, napkins etc. attract different GST slabs with luxury sweets causing diabetes attracting just 5 per cent GST.

Invoices for items like gold jewellery can be drawn in two parts, one for metal and embodied items and the other for making charges so that the suggested 12-cent GST may be payable only on making charges. Cess on extra-luxurious items should be replaced by additional GST slabs in multiples of 60 per cent, also bringing petroleum products under the GST regime to ensure uniform pricing of petrol and diesel in all states. Abolishing an 18-percent GST slab will be more than compensated by clubbing lower slabs of 3 and 5 percent into a single 6-percent GST slab. The input-tax-credit (ITC) system should not apply to non-tradable commodities and services like has been done, and rightly too, in the case of car expenses for non-commercial use.

With the GST slab of 18 per cent abolished and the service sector attracting just 12 per cent GST, those with income of rupees ten lakhs or more (instead of the present rupees 20 lakhs) can be brought under the GST regime like was the system before the GST-regime. It is illogical to keep lawyers out of the purview of the GST regime. The useless system of Tax-Deducted-At-Source for GST, which is hardly used in practice, should be altogether abolished. Otherwise, any such deducted tax should be auto-reflected in the GST accounts of affected ones, abolishing the cumbersome practice of filing a new monthly return to get credit for deducted GST.

All government payments can be considered to be exempted from GST to avoid unnecessary government accounting by putting tax from one government pocket to another. It is illogical that some premium postal services like Speed Post may attract GST while other postal services do not attract GST. Even illogical postal rates (both inland and foreign) need simplification for the equal rise of postal tariff for the equal rise in slab-weight in multiples of 50 gms. of inland postal-article with all postal tariffs being in multiples of rupees ten except for registered newspapers and post-cards which may cost rupee one with the abolition of outdated Inland-Letter-Cards. Presently a postal-article weighing 200 gms sent locally by reliable and fast Speed Post costs just rupees 30 but if sent by unreliable ordinary post, it will cost rupees 50. Likewise, foreign-mail tariffs can be fixed for 20 gms or part slab-weight independently for air and sea-surface-mail.



THE HIGHEST TAX SLAB OF 30 PER CENT SHOULD BE RESTORED SO THAT PEOPLE MAY FIND IT ADVANTAGEOUS TO BRING COMPLETE INCOME TO BOOKS

(The writer is an RTI consultant; views expressed are personal)

Medical treatment facilities must be available in the campus

The provision of medical facilities within the university premises is an urgent requirement to address the health concerns faced by students from different states

It is indeed a pressing concern that students from different states face difficulties in accessing medical treatment facilities at the university. The lack of proper healthcare services can hurt their health, leading to various diseases. Students often have to rely on private hospitals, which may not be affordable for everyone. Additionally, the language barrier further exacerbates the problem, as students can be taken advantage of due to their lack of knowledge.

In light of these challenges, the university must prioritise the provision of adequate medical facilities within the campus itself. By establishing medical services on-site, students would have easier access to healthcare, promot-



SHIVANI SHARMA



NIMRAT KAUR

(The writers worked as Assistant Professors at SSD Girls' College, Bathinda; views expressed are personal)

ing their overall well-being. Having healthcare facilities within the university premises would not only benefit the students' physical health but also contribute to their peace of mind and academic performance.

Moreover, by addressing this issue, the university demonstrates its commitment to the students' welfare and creates an inclusive and supportive environment. It is essential to ensure that students' health needs are met, enabling them to focus on their studies and personal growth without the added burden of seeking medical care outside the campus.

By investing in proper medical facilities within the university, students will have convenient and affordable



access to healthcare. This step acknowledges the diverse needs of the student population and emphasises the value of their well-being. It is a significant initiative that promotes a healthy, thriving university community.

Students on university campuses, often encounter a slew of health-related chal-

lenges. One pressing issue is the accessibility of medical facilities on campus. It's no secret that university campuses can be vast and bustling, making it essential for students to have easy access to healthcare services.

One common challenge students face is the lack of convenient healthcare options.

Many campuses have limited medical facilities, or they may be located far away from student residences or academic buildings. This can pose difficulties, especially in emergencies or when students require immediate attention for illness or injuries.

Additionally, the availability of specialised healthcare services can be a concern. University students, come from diverse backgrounds with unique healthcare needs. Campuses need to offer a range of medical services to meet these diverse needs, including mental health support, reproductive health services, and specialised care for chronic conditions.

Another aspect to consider is the cost of healthcare. University students often face

financial strains, and the burden of medical expenses can further add to their challenges. Accessible medical facilities should take this into account by providing affordable or subsidised healthcare options, such as low-cost consultations, medication, and tests.

To bridge the healthcare gap, universities can take proactive steps. They can establish on-campus medical clinics or health centres with extended hours of operation to accommodate students' busy schedules. Moreover, partnerships with local hospitals or healthcare providers can enhance accessibility by providing specialised services or urgent care facilities.

Prioritising accessible medical facilities on university campuses is crucial to

ensure the well-being of students. By addressing the challenges and offering comprehensive, affordable, and conveniently located healthcare services, universities can support students in maintaining good health and thriving academically.

In conclusion, the provision of medical facilities within the university premises is an urgent requirement to address the health concerns faced by students from different states. This step will not only enhance their physical well-being but also contribute to their overall success and happiness during their time at university. Let us strive for a healthier and more inclusive academic environment where students' health is given the attention it rightfully deserves.

China refuses cooperation with Pakistan under CPEC



China has refused to further expand cooperation in the areas of energy, water management, and climate change under the multi-billion dollar China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), it emerged on Tuesday...

Consensus. Interestingly, the final draft shared with Beijing by Pakistan and the final minutes signed by both sides were different in many ways, the report said. China's disagreement to further expand cooperation in areas of energy, water management, and climate change under the CPEC underscores "the challenges that both the sides are facing in deepening the economic ties", it said.

through Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK). The details of the final minutes of the 11th JCC showed that China did not agree to a host of measures that Pakistan had proposed in the areas of energy, water management, climate change and tourism in Gilgit-Baltistan, Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, PoK and the coastal areas. China excluded cooperation in the areas of cross-border tourism in Gilgit-Baltistan, Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, PoK and cooperation for the promotion of coastal tourism from the final minutes, the details showed. China also did not agree to Pakistan's proposal for the inclusion of Water Resources Management and Climate Change and Urban Infrastructure Development in the CPEC framework.

Judicial remand of Imran, Qureshi extended

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

Pakistan's former prime minister Imran Khan and his close aide Shah Mahmood Qureshi will continue to remain in jail till October 10 as a special court on Tuesday extended for the third time their judicial remand in a case related to the alleged disclosure of state secrets.

remain in Attock prison in the cipher case. After the hearing, the judge ordered to keep Khan in judicial custody until October 10 to complete the probe.

It is the third time that Khan, 70, has been sent to jail on remand. His judicial remand was initially extended till September 13 and then again till September 26, along with Qureshi's. The previous 14-day remand ended today.

Qureshi was presented before the special court at the Federal Judicial Complex in Islamabad. The two-time former foreign minister was brought to the court handcuffed. The court authorities informed that his judicial remand in the case was also extended till October 10.

CIPHER CASE



ings are being held in the Attock jail "due to security reasons." Security was beefed up outside the jail ahead of the hearing. Talking to the media outside the court, Qureshi lamented that the PTI leadership was being punished for the crimes they haven't committed.

The polls would then be "meaningless" and "worthless." "The importance of the polls would end without PTI participating in it," Qureshi said, adding that the country will suffer an irreparable loss if transparent elections are not held. A day earlier, the Islamabad High Court ordered authorities to shift Khan to the Adiala jail in Rawalpindi.

turned-politician is charged with the violation of the Official Secrets Act in connection with the leakage of a confidential diplomatic cable from Pakistan's embassy in Washington.

The cipher case was filed last month against Khan on the allegations of violating secret laws of the country in the matter 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 cipher - 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.

US concerned over Chinese ship's planned visit to SL

AP ■ NEW YORK/COLOMBO

The US has expressed concern to Sri Lanka about the likely visit of a Chinese research ship next month that could also cause worries in India which in the past has raised security concerns over docking by China's spy vessels, according to a media report.

month said it is currently processing a request by China to allow its research ship to dock in the country. "The Chinese embassy here has made an application and the ministry is currently looking at it," Priyanka Wickramasingha, the foreign ministry spokesperson, had said. No dates have been fixed yet for the visit, she said.

US Under Secretary Victoria Nuland, who met Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Ali Sabry in New York on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly session, raised concerns about the upcoming visit of the Chinese research vessel 'SHI YAN 6', Daily Mirror newspaper reported on Monday.

China despatches its research/surveillance vessels to Sri Lanka on a regular basis. In August this year, the Chinese People's Liberation Army Navy warship HAI YANG 24 HAO arrived in the country on a two-day visit. It was reported that the arrival of the 129-metre-long ship was delayed due to concerns raised by India.

China's top diplomat calls on US to host an APEC summit

AP ■ BEIJING

China's foreign minister called on the US Tuesday to do what it can to host a cooperative meeting of Asia-Pacific leaders in November, criticising those who seek to play up a confrontation between democracy and authoritarianism. Wang Yi said the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in San Francisco in November should promote cooperation rather than provoke confrontation, and said the US should show fairness and inclusiveness to create better conditions for a smooth meeting.

US PRESIDENT HAS SOUGHT TO CREATE ALLIANCES AND PARTNERSHIPS WITH OTHER DEMOCRATIC COUNTRIES TO BUILD A MORE UNIFIED RESPONSE TO CHINA'S GROWING GEOPOLITICAL INFLUENCE

ers' meeting in India, and Wang gave a non-committal response when asked if Xi would go to APEC. "We are in communication with all parties and will make an official announcement in due course," he said. In Hong Kong, a Chinese territory, leader John Lee said he has not received an invitation to APEC. Hong Kong is a member of the group, but the U.S. has banned him from entering the country since 2020 for his role in enforcing a national security law that has targeted pro-democracy activists.

US President Joe Biden has sought to create alliances and partnerships with other democratic countries to build a more unified response to China's growing geopolitical influence. China is a one-party state that has been ruled by the Communist Party for more than 70 years.

China has been trying to position itself as a leader of less-developed nations, saying it offers an alternative to what it has long called "Western hegemony." The APEC meeting is widely seen as an opportunity for Biden and Chinese President Xi Jinping to meet as the US and China try to manage their rocky relationship - if the Chinese leader attends. Xi skipped a recent Group of 20 leader-

SL prez to meet IMF officials for talks on eco reform plan

PTI ■ COLOMBO

Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe will meet the officials of the International Monetary Fund on Tuesday to hold crucial talks on the hard economic reforms undertaken by the government to stabilise the fiscal system of the cash-strapped island nation.

omy. "These two weeks would be crucial for our economic reform programme. At this IMF review, we will be assessing the extent to which we have complied in setting up reforms and how far we need to go," State Minister of Finance Shehan Semsinghe told reporters here. Sri Lanka has executed some of the tough reforms to stabilise the nation's economy. Semsinghe said some of the reforms had hit the people hard. "These were reforms that should have been implemented a long time ago... We only started doing so when the crisis hit," he said. 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. The country began seeking the IMF bailout only after it declared its first-ever sovereign debt default in April 2022. The resultant political crisis forced the then president Gotabaya Rajapaksa to resign in July 2022. His successor Wickremesinghe has steered the economy out of the mess by lowering inflation. Having entered the IMF programme, the government set in a series of tax and utility services reforms which meant higher taxes and tariff hikes. Still, analysts say the island's economy has only partially recovered. An Indian credit line of nearly USD 4 billion provided a lifeline to the country until the bailout agreement with the IMF was reached. Sri Lanka's Foreign Ministry last

Russian drone strikes hit port area, cut ferry service to Romania

AP ■ KYIV

Russia struck the Black Sea region of Odessa in a drone barrage that damaged a warehouse, charred dozens of trucks and injured two drivers in fiery explosions that led to the suspension of the ferry service between Romania and Ukraine, officials said Tuesday.



In this photo provided by the Odessa Region Administration, firefighters work to extinguish a fire in port infrastructure after a Russian rocket attack in Izmail, Ukraine, on Tuesday

24 hours, the presidential office reported, though some of those deaths were also reported Monday. Russian artillery damaged homes, a school, a market and a food processing plant in the southern city of Kherson that is near the front lines of the war, officials said. In fighting in the Zaporizhzhia region in the southeast, the Russian army dropped five aerial bombs on Robotyne, a town Ukraine took in August in its slow-moving counteroffensive. On Monday, Ukraine claimed without evidence that its missile strike on the Crimean headquarters of Russia's navy last week killed 34 officers, including fleet commander Adm. Viktor Sokolov. Russia did not comment on that report, but on Tuesday Sokolov was seen among other senior officers attending a video conference with Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu. Although neither side has released casualty figures, the counteroffensive is believed to have taken a heavy toll on both sides and it has been devastating to the towns and villages where fighting has raged. New aerial video footage of Klishchiivka, on the outskirts of

PUBLIC NOTICE: General public is hereby informed that Mr. Indermohan Singh Sidana is the owner of Apartment No. B/E-092 on 8th Floor having Super Area measuring 4213 sq. ft., in 'The Beaire, DLF City-V, Gurgaon, Haryana, vide Transfer Deed dated 10.10.2016, reg. as Doc. No. 18924, to be financed and mortgaged by my client i.e., Axis Finance Limited The Conveyance Deed dated 19.07.2016, reg. as Doc. No. 10801, pertaining to the aforesaid property have been lost and complaint bearing Application No. 1322703220134, was registered on 15.04.2022 with Haryana Police. Any person(s) found in possession of aforesaid original documents, then kindly contact the undersigned along with original property document, within 15 days from date of this notice on below address, failing which, the claim as per attached sale deed shall be treated as null and void in respect of the subject property. Raghuw Tiwari, Advocate, Ch. 830, Patiala House Courts, New Delhi - 110001, Mob.: +91-9871618828

IN THE COURT OF Shri Vikash Judicial Magistrate - Ist Class, Gurugram M/S INDIA INFOLINE FINANCE LIMITED VS NIRMALA UMESH MUDALIAR CIS NO No.-10414/2018 CNR No. HRGR03-023668-2018 Next Date:- 31-10-2023 PUBLICATION ISSUED TO : NIRMALA UMESH MUDALIAR :- Address: D/O UMESH FLAT NO. 7 BLDG SAPRS EAST GANDHAM NAGAR KHADKI PUNE In above titled case, the accused could not be served. It is ordered that accused should appear in person or through counsel on 31-10-2023 at 10.00 a.m. For details logon to https://highcourthd.gov.in/?trs=districtnotice&district=Gurugram Judicial Magistrate, Ist Class Gurugram Dated, this day of 19-09-2023

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Shares Certificates pertaining to shares of the Company detailed below have been reported lost and request(s) for issue of duplicate Certificates in lieu thereof have been received by the Company. Shareholder(s)/Claimant(s) shall also be entitled to Bonus Shares in the ratio of (4:1) on these shares from Investor Education & Protection Fund Authority :-

Table with 8 columns: Sl. No., Folio No., Name of the Share Holder / Legal Heir (Claimant), Cert-No., Dist-No. (From), Dist-No. (to), and Lost Shares. Contains multiple entries for various shareholders and their respective share certificates.

Romanian Border Police said ferries were anchored on the Romanian shores of the Danube in Isaccea due to the attacks on Ukraine. Traffic was being redirected through Galati, a Romanian town upstream on the Danube. Ukraine's air force said it downed 26 of 38 drones launched by Russia overnight. Russian forces targeted the area of Izmail in the Odessa region, in what has become a sustained campaign to target Ukraine's ability to export grain. Attacks on Monday killed two people in a grain warehouse in Odessa and badly damaged an abandoned high-rise hotel, officials said. After Moscow pulled out of a UN-brokered grain deal this summer, the strikes on Izmail and cities located in the southern part of the Odessa region became routine. Attacks on the cities on the Danube have been especially damaging because the route has emerged as the most promising for continued Ukrainian exports. At least nine civilians were killed in Ukraine and 15 people were injured over the past

NOTICE INVITING TENDER No. SSA-20-1/2003/Equity-SSA/1/266984/2023 Dated 22.09.2023 Mission Director, Samagra Shiksha Axom, Kahilipara, Guwahati-19, Assam invites bids vide GEM/2023/B/3990804 Dated: 21-09-2023 for Printing and supply of Career Chart through GeM portal. Interested bidder may visit GeM portal and submit the bid on GeM portal accordingly. The bid is also available in SSA website : https://ssa.assam.gov.in Sd/-Mission Director, Samagra Shiksha Axom Kahilipara, Guwahati-19 Janasanyog/CF/2803/23/27-Sept-23

PARADIP PORT AUTHORITY PARADIP-754142, ODISHA (INDIA) (An autonomous body under Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, Govt. of India) No. AD/RSC-22/36/2015/PL/2097 Dated, the 25th Sept, 2023 Advertisement Applications are invited from Indian Nationals for engagement of 01 (one) Chief Manager (Environment) on contractual basis in Paradip Port Authority. For further details, visit our website https://paradipport.gov.in/Carrer.aspx. Sd/- Sr. Assistant Secretary, Paradip Port Authority

Any person having any claim /objection in respect of the above requests should lodge such claim/objection with the company at its Corporate Office within 15 days of the publication of this notice, failing which the company will consider to give effect to the above requests. Public is hereby cautioned against dealing with the aforesaid share certificates. For SRF LIMITED Sd/- RAJAT LAKHANPAL Sr. VP (Corporate Compliance) & Company Secretary Place: Gurugram Date: 26-09-2023

