

WORLD 5
HAMAS REVIEWING ISRAELI
PROPOSAL FOR CEASEFIRE

MONEY 6
CENTRE ALLOWS 99,500 TONS OF
ONION EXPORTS

SPORT 8
INCONSISTENT GSK FACE
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Parties sit up, take note as voting drops

Low voter turnout sparks concern as voting on 191 LS seats concludes in first two phases

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

The low voting percentage in the first two phases, particularly in the Hindi heartlands, that saw completion of 191 Lok Sabha constituencies has come as a great cause of worry and concern for political parties and more to the ruling BJP at the Centre and in States of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Bihar where it is in alliance with NDA. Interestingly, both the ruling BJP as well as the Opposition, or the INDIA Bloc have claimed that a low turnout shall be advantageous to them. The dropping trends of voter turnout have also raised concern over this trend continuing in the remaining phases.

According to EC's voter turnout App, Uttar Pradesh recorded 55.01 per cent voter turnout; Bihar 58.89 per cent; Madhya Pradesh 58.59 per cent and Rajasthan 65.03 per cent. Assam saw a reduction in voter turnout ranging from eight per cent to 13.9 per cent across constituencies.

Bihar's constituencies experienced an 8.23 per cent to 12 per cent fall. Chhattisgarh saw comparatively minor drops, with the smallest being only 0.86 per cent. Similarly, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Rajasthan noted significant falls in turnout. Just like the first phase of the Lok Sabha elections, voter turnout across the 88 seats in 13 States



that went to polls dropped to 64.74 per cent in comparison to the 69.4 per cent in 2019 elections (barring the five delimitated seats in Assam), indicating a broad decline in voter participation and also signalling a shift that could influence the final election results.

The questions arise whether the low voting percentage indicates a shift in voter engagement, highlighting potential changes in the political dynamics as the nation votes. What is the impact of a high or a low turnout on

electoral results? A higher voter turnout is considered an indication of change while a low voter turnout of continuity is the general belief? However, there is no clear correlation or trend as the data shows. Top officials say it is difficult to say who will be benefiting from low voting percentage as there is no data to establish which community, caste or class did not vote. Low voting percentage is expected to considerably impact all the political parties.

Some analysts say that there is no single issue strong enough to pull

voters out this time and the BJP's core voters may not be stepping out due to complacency or overconfidence on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's popularity and 'Aayega toh Modi hi' after consecration of Ram Temple in Ayodhya, resulting in lower turnouts. Some analysts say people are not coming out to vote as they assume that Modi is coming to power for the third time. They also argue that Muslim community has come in less number because the INDIA Bloc has failed to put up strongest

front against Modi.

Factors like impending heat waves and historical turnout trends suggest India may not surpass the 67 per cent record high seen in 2019, possibly reverting to pre-2019 levels. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has already predicted above normal temperatures in the coming days which signaling a low trend of voting percentage in the rest of the phase.

For instance, the national Capital which is going to polls on May 25 is expected for a low voters' turnout due to heat and long weekend. Given that May 23 (Thursday) is a gazetted holiday for Buddha Purnima and May 26 is a Sunday, officials are concerned that many people might take May 24 (Friday) off to create an extended long weekend. This could lead to a drop in voter turnout as residents may choose to travel out of town. Data showed less than 50 per cent of voters came to polling booths to cast their votes in six constituencies at Rewa in Madhya Pradesh, Ghaziabad and Mathura in Uttar Pradesh. Rewa recorded 49.43 per cent voter turnout; Ghaziabad 49.74 per cent and Mathura 49.41 per cent. Bhopal recorded 51.40 per cent voter turnout; Banka 53.90 per cent; Aligarh (56.62 per cent); Baghat (56.16 per cent); Bulandshahr (56.42 per cent) and Khajuraho (56.48 per cent).



Image to representation

Forest on fire: Army, Air Force pressed into service in Nainital

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

As the unabated forest fires in Uttarakhand's Nainital district threatened to encroach upon the High Court Colony in the Pines area, Indian Army and Air Force were pressed into service on Saturday to aid in firefighting efforts, necessitating urgent intervention.

According to the reports, an MI-17 helicopter equipped with a Bambi Bucket collected water from Bhimtal lake and conducted water drops over the burning forests across various areas of the district, including Pines, Bhumiadhar, Jyolikot, Narayan Nagar, Bhawali, Ramgarh, and Mukteshwar.

However, the challenges faced by authorities extend beyond Nainital, as Uttarakhand reported a total of nine forest fire incidents from across the districts on Saturday alone, resulting in a significant damage to forested areas. Nationally, the situation remains

concerning, with 140 fire cases reported in a single day, with Chhattisgarh alone accounting for at least 41 incidents.

This widespread outbreak underscores the urgent need for coordinated efforts to contain and manage the fires.

In response to the crisis, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Dhami reassured the public that all possible measures are being taken to bring the fires under control.

Additionally, three individuals have been arrested in Rudrapur for attempting to ignite further fires, emphasizing the seriousness with which authorities are addressing the issue.

The insights provided by the senior Indian Forest Service (IFS) official in New Delhi shed light on the predominant role of human activities in triggering forest fires.

According to the official, natural causes for forest fires are relatively rare, with most incidents being man-made.



UP: Lack of enthusiasm or disconnect, wonder parties

BISWAJEET BANERJEE ■ LUCKNOW

In the second phase of polling, Uttar Pradesh witnessed a dismal turnout of just 54.85 per cent, the lowest in the country, sparking concerns among senior leaders of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Samajwadi Party (SP) regarding the lack of voters' enthusiasm.

A senior BJP leader, who extensively toured various regions including Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, and western UP, expressed bewilderment over the noticeable absence of interest among voters. "The enthusiasm is missing this time among the voters, and this has made our work very difficult to ascertain which side the wind is blowing," he stated.

His sentiments were mirrored by a lawmaker from the SP, who emphasised the low polling percentages as indicative of the prevalent disinterest among voters.

Despite vigorous campaign efforts, such as the BJP's slogan "Iss baar 400 paar" (This time, beyond 400) and SP's assertions of sweeping victories by the "INDIA Bloc," both parties find themselves confronted with a stark reality - a palpable absence of enthusiasm among the electorate. Even with the Election Commission distributing 1.66 crore voter slips to households five days before the elections, there seems to be a disconnect. The number of eligible voters in the second phase of LS polls stands at 1.67 crore.

Delving deeper into the issue, the BJP leader highlighted the detrimental impact of this lack of enthusiasm on party workers, noting, "there has to be a reaction to some action.

This action is missing. Even the Muslims are silent. We know they will not vote for BJP, but there is no perceptible reaction from the members of the minority community. This has resulted in a lack of interest."

The SP has taken a cautious approach regarding Muslim and minority welfare, with one of its candidates from central UP stating a deliberate avoidance of meetings in Muslim-dominated areas. "This may give a reason to BJP to react and ultimately polarize the election," the candidate explained, echoing concerns raised by BJP lawmakers regarding the silence of Muslims.

SP chief Akhilesh Yadav held a meeting today morning showed concern over missing long lines in Muslim dominated areas. Even polling percentage witnessed a decline of around five per cent in Rampur. Statistical evidence further accentuates the gravity of the situation, with UP witnessing a decline in voter turnout compared to previous elections. In the first phase, UP registered a turnout of 61 per cent down from 66 per cent in 2019. The second phase, with a polling percentage of just 54.85 per cent, marks a significant decrease compared to 62.76 per cent in 2019. Notably, Mathura reported a mere 49 per cent polling, a substantial 12 per cent decrease from the previous election's 61.08 per cent. Jal Shakti Minister Swatantra Dev Singh attributed the low turnout to people's satisfaction with the present regime, citing a similar turnout of 50 per cent in 2009 when the Congress retained power.

We are confident that BJP will sweep the elections, but we need to improve the voting percentage," he asserted.

Maharashtra: Youth migration, farmer woes cause voting to fall

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

In a development that has surprised many in the State political circles, eight constituencies in Vidarbha and Marathwada that went to the second phase of Lok Sabha polls on Friday recorded 59.63 per cent polling, which reflected a significant 3.3 per cent drop in the polling percentage witnessed for the same eight seats in 2019 LS. polls.

Apart from a marked 3.33 per cent drop in the polling percentage from the voter turnout of 62.97 per cent registered in the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, the polling percentage recorded in Maharashtra on Friday was four per cent less than the polling percentage of 64 per cent recorded at the national level. In the second phase of Lok Sabha elections, Buldhana, Akola, Amravati, Wardha, Yavatmal-Washim -- all from Vidarbha, Hingoli, Nanded, and



Parbhani - in Marathwada region went to polls on Friday. By 5 pm on Friday, the eight constituencies 53.51 per cent of the total 1.5 crore voters had exercised their franchise and one expected that the polling percentage might pick up during the last one hour. But, it did not

happen. The final polling percentage in eight constituencies showed that a relatively low 59.63 per cent of voters exercised their rights in the second phase of polling. Wardha recorded a maximum 62.65 polling, followed by 60.79 per cent in Hingoli, 60.74 per cent in Amravati and 60.09 per cent in Parbhani. The four other constituencies recorded below 60 per cent polling - Nanded (59.57 per cent), Buldhana (58.45), Akola (58.09) and Yavatmal-Washim (57 per cent). Unlike in the 2014 and 2019 where there was a Modi wave at the ground level, there was no absolutely no wave in favour or against any political party in any of the eight constituencies.

All efforts by political parties of different hues - including the BJP which is struggling to regain four of the eight seats it had won in 2019 Lok Sabha.

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

The high-decibel campaign for the 2024 Lok Sabha election in Kerala turned out to be a damp squib as the State registered 71.16 per cent polling in the 20 constituencies which is almost seven per cent less than what was recorded in the 2019 polls. Though both the CPI (M) and the Congress fronts were harping on secularism, pluralism, democracy and Constitution, the electorate seemed to be least interested in these elements.

But both the fronts continued to exude their confidence and claimed that they would make a clean sweep of all the 20 seats even as the UDF expressed concern over the polling percentage. The BJP-led NDA is the only front which did not bother about the prospects of the candidates fielded by it because it is almost certain



that the Hindutva party would not win even a single seat in the hustings. An important point to be noted is the pattern of voting in the State. "There are 2.77 crore voters in the State out of which 1.97 crore exercised their franchise. This includes 1.02 crore women voters and 9.5 million men which gave the women a slight edge over

their men counterparts. How the women voters cast their votes would be discussed in detail after the results are announced.

Interestingly, in this era of 24x7 news channels and world of you tubes there were many voters who were ignorant of the names of the NDA candidates.

P Venugopal, former IAF engineer, who settled in Perumbavoor recently, told The Pioneer that he was not aware of the presence of the NDA candidate and the symbol. "I searched for the Lotus symbol which was not there in the EVM. The polling agents of the NDA had not contacted us even once while the LDF and UDF agents visited our house at least two dozen times and even held family meetings in the area to brief the electorate why they should vote for the fronts led by them," said Venugopal.

ED arrest ploy to crush AAP, Kejriwal tells SC

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has filed his response to the Enforcement Directorate's affidavit in the Supreme Court, saying his arrest is a classic case of how the ruling party-led Central Government has misused the ED and the PMLA to crush its biggest political opponent -- the Aam Aadmi Party and its leaders.



Kejriwal said the mode, manner and timing of his arrest just before the Lok Sabha elections when the Model Code of Conduct had come into play, speaks volumes about the "arbitrariness" of the agency. In a rejoinder to the Enforcement Directorate's reply affidavit filed on his petition challenging his arrest in the case, Kejriwal has alleged that ED "illegally picked up" a sitting Chief Minister five days after the general elections were notified and the Model Code of Conduct was put in place. "During an election cycle when political activity is at its highest, the petitioner's illegal arrest has caused grave prejudice to the petitioner's political party, and will provide the ruling party at the Centre an unjust upper hand in the on-going polls," Kejriwal has said.

Lawyer Nikam replaces Mahajan on Mumbai seat



RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

The BJP on Saturday released its 15th list of candidates for the Lok Sabha Elections and fielded former special public prosecutor Ujjwal Deora on Mumbai North Central seat, dropping the sitting MP Poonam Mahajan. Nikam, in his long and illustrious legal career, was associated with many cases including the 1993 Mumbai bomb blasts, the Gulshan Kumar murder case, Pramod Mahajan murder case and the 2008 Mumbai attack. He was also the special public prosecutor in the 2013 Mumbai gang rape case. Ujjwal

Nikam was awarded the Padma Shri in 2016. Mahajan, the daughter of late BJP leader Pramod Mahajan, was elected from the constituency in 2014 and 2019. She is also a former president of the BJP's youth wing. Party leaders have claimed that the decision to drop her was based on organisational feedback. Though indications had been there for some time that Mahajan would be dropped, it was the party's search for her replacement that took time, sources said.

Nikam has represented the state in several important and high profile cases including the 1993 Mumbai blasts case, terror attack in Mumbai in 2008. He argued successfully for the state government and got death penalty or life imprisonment for the terrorists. The BJP has decided to bring him into the fray on a tough constituency in Mumbai.

Nikam has played a huge part in ensuring a death penalty for the Mumbai terror attack terrorist Ajmal Kasab and 1993 Mumbai serial blasts terrorist.

JASHN-E-MATDAN



Qutub Minar lights up in spirit of Jashn-e-matdan to celebrate Lok Sabha polls

Scindia family always stood with people of the region: Scindia

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Union Minister and BJP candidate from Guna-Shivpuri Lok Sabha constituency, Jyotiraditya Scindia, while addressing the public meeting in Raishri, Kharai and Rannod villages of Shivpuri assembly constituency, said that the Scindia family has always stood with the people of this area in every happiness and sorrow.

not with his mind but with his heart and soul. The thinking of the Scindia family is that as the head of the Scindia family, he should work shoulder to shoulder with the people of this area and take this area on the path of development.

and sorrow, now on May 7, the people of this area have to come forward and fulfill their duty. Targeting Congress he said that even after being in power for 65 years, Congress could not do anything. In the last 10 years, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has taken the country forward on the path of development.

form a triple engine government Union Minister Shri Scindia said that on May 7, all people have to come out of their homes and cast as many votes as possible. Not a double engine government but a triple engine i.e. Dr. Mohan Yadav's government in the state and Modi ji's government at the center and to provide the power of triple engine to me as MP, every voter should leave all work behind on 7th May.

from Gwalior to Guna six lane, which was earlier two lane, was done at a cost of Rs 5000 crore. Union Minister Shri Scindia said that today Shivpuri is connected to the main stream of development. There were only a few trains from Shivpuri railway station, but today there are trains for every corner of the country.



Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav in a public meeting during an election campaign in support of BJP candidate Bharat Singh Kushwaha ahead of the Lok Sabha election in Karera, Shivpuri district Madhya Pradesh on Saturday. Pioneer photo

Low turnout of voters matter of concern for parties

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

The lack of interest of the voters in the first and second phase of Lok Sabha election voting in Madhya Pradesh has increased the concern of the politicians as well as the officers and the Election Commission. In view of this, it has been decided by the Election Commission to run a campaign towards 'Chale Booth' to take the voters to the polling booth in the remaining 2 phases of voting.

To motivate more and more people to vote in the voting process, 'Chale Booth' (Let's go to the booth) campaign should be run at every polling station

be run at every polling station. Rajan said that for the third phase this campaign should be launched on May 1 and for the fourth phase on May 7. Under the campaign, intensive sweeps will be conducted at every polling station through Booth Awareness Group (BAG) members, Campus Ambassadors, Resident Welfare Committees (RWAs), Electoral Literacy Clubs (ELCs), Non Government Organizations

(NGOs), Election Pathshala and local people. Take action to motivate people to exercise their franchise by organizing activities. Instructions have been given to provide photographs and videos of these activities. Programs will be held at 20456 polling centers for the third phase. In the third phase, voting is to be held in 9 Lok Sabha constituencies of the state. This campaign will be run at 20 thousand 456 polling stations under this. This includes Betul, Morena, Bhind, Gwalior, Guna, Sagar, Vidisha, Bhopal and Rajgarh Lok Sabha constituencies.

Petition filed in SC for SIT probe in electoral bond scam

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Senior Supreme Court advocate Prashant Bhushan said in Bhopal, 'The companies which have given crores of rupees to BJP through electoral bonds have been involved in corruption in some way or the other. The BJP government can give a clean chit by taking donations from these companies, hence they have filed a petition in the Supreme Court, which has been accepted and hearing is in the next week.'



more than 20 companies like Zybus Cadila (Ahmedabad based company), which manufactures Remdesivir drug, were allowed to run in the country despite being dangerous for the public, because these companies gave money to BJP through electoral bonds. This company is from Gujarat and no action has been taken against it even after reports of making dangerous medicines. Prashant Bhushan said, 'The maximum part of the money

of Rs 16000 crores was given as a bribe. There is also a possibility of misuse of government institutions like CBI, ED. In fact, no action has been initiated against any company through them till now. There is a possibility that CBI, ED and other investigating agencies will be used to put pressure on these companies, hence they do not want the institutions under the Center to investigate the companies. This press conference was organized by the National Campaign for Right to Information (NCPRI). Social activist Anjali Bhardwaj said, 'Electoral bonds are unconstitutional. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman herself has said that if her government

is formed then she will change the Constitution. She said, '40 percent of the bonds have been given to BJP by the companies which are among the beneficiaries. The direct question arises that if the intentions of the companies were right then why were the bonds given only to BJP? Why were bonds not given to other parties? Referring to the 2G case, Bhardwaj said, 'The central government has gone to the Supreme Court to change the decision of 2G. When the decision in this matter came, it was revealed that a misappropriation worth lakhs of crores had been done by auctioning the spectrum. Bharti Telecom has been responsible in this matter and this company has given electoral bonds to BJP. Similar situation exists in the case of Megha Enterprises Company also.'

Rural health centre at Chiklod

Bhopal: Professor (Dr) Ajai Singh, Executive Director of AIIMS Bhopal, on Saturday inaugurated a rural health center in Chiklod village of Raisen district with the aim of providing better health facilities. After the inauguration, Professor Singh said that taking health facilities to the villages and providing health facilities to every person is our first goal. He said that AIIMS always strives to ensure that people in rural areas get better health facilities and good treatment. With the opening of this health centre, people of Chiklod and surrounding villages will now be able to get better treatment here. AIIMS has been providing health services in Chiklod and Gauharganj for the last several years.



Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) Icons Universal Women India -2024 Apexsha Dabral and Mrs India International-2022 Reenu Yadav with members of the third gender community during a transgenders fashion show to raise voter awareness ahead of the Lok Sabha elections, at Raag Bhopali theater in Bhopal on Saturday. Pioneer photo

Self introspection programme organised for BHEL employees for two days

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

HRDC in collaboration with Rajya Anand Sansthan, an autonomous organization of Anand Department of Madhya Pradesh Government, Bhopal organised a 2 days outbound training programme from April 26 to April 27 on "Alpviram-Self Introspection & Achievement Orientation" at the premises of Rajya Ananda Sansthan, Aanad Vibhag, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal. This 2 days Outbound Training Session is a part of 67 days Common Induction Learning (CIL) M3 Training module of Dakshata 2024 for Engineer/Executives Trainees, which is ongoing since April 17, 2024. The program was aimed to establish the relevance to strengthen human potential to perform and enhance the productivity at home, society and workplace. Being happy is the first step to anything that we wish to do successfully. Forty Officials are attending the programme. The programme was inaugurated by Satya Prakash Arya, Director (Rajya Ananda Sansthan) and Swagata S Saxena, HOD (HRDC)

BHEL, Bhopal. Smt. Swagata S Saxena, AGM & HOD (HRDC) BHEL, Bhopal addressed the Engineer Trainees with her wisdom words and said happiness is an essential key factor of human life. One needs to be happy to achieve his personal as well as professional goals. Satya Prakash Arya, Director (Rajya Ananda Sansthan) welcomed all the delegates and briefed about objectives of the programme and comprehended an overview of Alpviram-Self Introspection & Achievement Orientation. He also thanked and appreciated BHEL management for organizing this training. Programme Coordinator: Manu Dixit (Rajya Ananda Sansthan) & Umesh Savle (BHEL) coordinated the programme. Meanwhile, CNC Maintenance Training Program was organized in the Human Resource Department of BHEL, Bhopal in presence of EMX Department Head, J Maitra. At the end, certificates were given to all the participants by BK Singh, General Manager (Human Resources). Twenty participants from all Block Maintenance were present in the program.

Free vision and eye checkup of senior citizen at Sewa Sadan

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Free Vision and Eye checkup of senior citizens will be done in Sewa Sadan Eye Hospital for one month from 29th April to May 28, 2024. On the basis of first come first serve, maximum registration and diagnosis of 50 visually impaired senior citizens will be done in a day. Medical Director Dr. Prerna Upadhyay has said that the people of 60 years or above should get their eyes checked once in 6 months or an year. The adverse effects of air pollution, excessive use of electronic gadgets, TV and other devices also lead to deterioration of vision and cause various eye diseases also. Similarly Eye health is also adversely affected due to diabetes. Managing Trustee of SSEH Shri A.C. Sadhwani has suggested the senior citizens to take advantage of this free eye disease testing facility and get timely treatment of their eye ailments if necessary.

Preparations complete for peaceful voting in third phase of elections

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

All preparations have been completed for fair and peaceful voting in all the 9 Lok Sabha parliamentary constituencies of the third phase under the Lok Sabha Elections - 2024. Arrangements for drinking water, essential medicines and tents are being ensured at all polling stations. Voter information slips are being distributed. Force will be made available in Morena as per requirement. Continuous efforts are also being made to increase the voting percentage. Chief Electoral Officer Anupam Rajan said this at the review meeting conducted by Deputy Election Commissioner Ajay Bhadu, Election Commission of India on election preparations done through video conferencing. Rajan said that a total of 871 checkpoints have been built in the state, where continuous monitoring is being done. Seizure proceedings are being carried out continuously.

CTVS dept of AIIMS Bhopal celebrates its 7th foundation day

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

The Department of Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery (CTVS) of AIIMS Bhopal celebrated its seventh foundation day on Saturday. During this period a workshop on Pediatric Cardiac Surgery was also organized. Inaugurating the workshop, Professor (Dr) Ajai Singh, Executive Director, AIIMS Bhopal said that teamwork is very important for the treatment of heart related diseases in children. Keeping this in mind, AIIMS Bhopal is soon going to start the Pediatric Center of Excellence. Where all types of treatments will be available for children. A special team will be formed for this. The main reason behind the trust of heart patients towards the institute increasing rapidly is the hard work of our team. In the last two years, an increase of 5000 patients has been recorded in



OPD for heart diseases. While in the year 2021, around 23 hundred patients had reached OPD, in the year 2023 this figure was recorded beyond 7 thousand. Similarly, the number of heart related surgeries has also increased more than double in 2 years. While 161 cardiac surgeries were performed in the year 2021, this figure crossed 400 in the year 2023. Well-known cardiac surgeons of the country were present in this

workshop, which included Dr. KS Iyer of Fortis Hospital, New Delhi and Dr. Nirmal Kumar Gupta of SGPGI, Lucknow. Dr. Iyer said that pediatric cardiac surgery is a very complex procedure. During this time, one has to keep a close eye on the reactions of children along with surgery. Children's arteries are smaller than adults, which makes surgery extremely complicated. Dr. Nirmal Kumar Gupta discussed the current status of pediatric cardiac surgery in government hospitals. Pediatric cardiac anesthetist Dr. Amita Sharma from Palwal, Haryana also participated in the workshop. She said that anesthesia has an important role in pediatric cardiac surgery. This is as important as what a cardiac surgeon does during surgery. Earlier, Head of (CTVS) Department, Dr. Yogesh Niwariya informed about the progress made by the department during the last 6 years. During the workshop, experts also explained about the identification of heart related diseases in children, their symptoms and planning for testing. More than 150 participants including doctors and other staff working in various medical colleges and hospitals of Madhya Pradesh participated in the workshop. Such workshops are considered very important for expanding medical facilities and increasing knowledge in the state.

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Voter information slips are being distributed and police force will be made available in Morena as per requirement

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

In a separate discussion with the General Observer, Police Observer and Expenditure Observer of Morena, Bhind, Gwalior, Guna, Sagar, Vidisha, Bhopal, Rajgarh and Betul parliamentary constituencies, the Deputy Election Commissioner of the Election Commission of India, Ajay Bhadu sought information about the election preparations. Observers gave information about the election preparations being done by the district teams. Additional Chief Electoral Officer Rajesh Kaul, Joint Chief Electoral Officer Basant Kurre and State Police Nodal Officer Anshuman Singh were also present.

122 officers under training at Administration Academy, visit IGRMS

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Bhopal: A team of 122 officers of Joint Basic Training Program (Capacity Building) for State Service Officers conducted an educational visit to Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya. At the beginning of the program, Museum Director Prof Amitabh Pandey while welcoming all the officials said that the Open Air Exhibitions and Indoor Exhibitions of the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya presentations complement each other. The purpose of these exhibitions is to present the strong lifestyles, culture and socio-economic philosophy of life of the Indian communities living in different climatic zones. It also explains the relationship between people and places, objects and their cultural values in the historical past and contemporary times, in the context of a proper anthropological explanation. It presents a wonderful collection of vibrant sized traditional housing types of indigenous castes and folk communities of India. Museum's anthropologists Shrikant Gupta and Mohammad Rehan, Ranjit Singh and Dr. Mohan Goyal told all the officials in detail about the exhibitions, while visiting the exhibition, everyone got to know in detail about the rural culture.



Muslim devotees in the presence of Shahar Qazi Maulana Syed Mushtaq Ali Nadvi participate in a lucky draw system (Quora) for Hajj pilgrims for their allotment to stay in Rubats at Mecca Mukarrama at Moti Masjid in Bhopal on Saturday. Pioneer photo

Panchkoshi yatra to be taken out from May 3 to 7

PNS ■ UJJAIN

Panchkoshi Yatra will be taken out from May 3 to 7. Proper preparations are being ensured by the district administration for the successful organization of the Yatra. On Saturday, Divisional Commissioner Sanjay Gupta, IG Santosh Kumar Singh, DIG Navneet Bhasin, Collector Neeraj Kumar Singh and Superintendent of Police Pradeep Sharma took stock of the preparations by visiting the stopping places of Panchkoshi Yatra. Officials gave instructions to complete the works like adequate shade, cold drinking water, medicine, ration, necessary repairs etc. at the halting sites by April 30. Divisional Commissioner Gupta directed the concerned officials to take special care of the facilities of the devotees during the yatra. First of all the team of officers reached Pingleshwar Mahadev Temple. Here the Divisional Commissioner and Collector took information from the officials of the concerned departments about the arrangements

for drinking water, medicine, shade, electricity etc. Executive Engineer, Public Works Department said that leveling and repair of about 5 acres of ground has been done in Pingleshwar Mahadev Temple. Besides, arrangements for barricading have also been made, which will be installed by April 30. District CEO said that shade will be arranged in about 42000 square feet in Pingleshwar, 7 tankers have been installed for drinking water and showers for bathing. A three bedded hospital will also be built. Collector Singh directed that the necessary repair work of the roads should be done expeditiously. Signs should be installed every 2 to 3 kilometers displaying the name and distance of the upcoming stop. Arrangements for drinking water, toilet, medical care etc. should remain in good condition. **After this, the team of officers reached** Kayavrohaneshwar Mahadev Temple, the halting point at Karohan. Here Collector Singh instructed the Public Works Department to get shoulder feeling of the road done. He directed that the size of the tent

here should be further increased. MP/EB/Electrical Engineering Department was instructed to install street lights. Collector Singh said that arrangements for ambulances should be ensured at all the stopping places. He gave instructions to make arrangements for drinking water, bath and toilet and also instructed the Fertilizer and Civil Supplies Corporation to make arrangements for ration shops. He directed the forest department to remove the bee-hives. The officials also inspected the halting site Bilkeshwar Mahadev Temple Ambodia, Loan Mukteshwar Mahadev Temple Jaithal and halting site Undasa and observed the arrangements closely. Regarding Panchkoshi Yatra, a meeting was organized at Bilkeshwar Mahadev Temple near Gambhir Dam. In which the responsibilities assigned to the officers and their progress were reviewed and necessary guidelines were given. Divisional Commissioner Gupta directed that the officers should complete their responsibilities on time. Maintain proper medical arrangements at all halting points.

AAP government sitting over proposal to enhance power to MCD Commissioner

New Delhi: The AAP led Delhi Government and particularly, Minister (Urban Development) Saurabh Bhardwaj have been sitting for more than seven months over the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) proposal to temporarily enhance financial powers of MCD Commissioner. The proposed hike is from Rs five crore to Rs 50 crores. Stating this here on Saturday, officials in Lt Governor(LG)V K Saxena's secretariat also said citizens of Delhi are suffering due to this delay. Moreover, the Courts have been forced to take up issues of Education, Health and Garbage Disposal in the City.

Giving details, they said Saxena took cognizance of the issue that non-constitution of Standing Committee of the MCD did not allow the MCD commissioner to release funds. Upon being made aware that much of work at MCD, including the disposal of garbage, at landfill sites, and lack of budget for MCD schools and hospitals, due to the non-constitution of the Committee, the LG invoked Rule 19(5) of ToBR 1993 on March six and recalled the file pertaining to delegation of increased financial powers to the Commissioner, pending with Minister (UD) Saurabh Bhardwaj since October last year.

However, the Minister instead of sending the file within three days as stipulated by Rule 19(5), irrespective of the hardships being faced by the people of Delhi due to inaction by MCD, chose to sit over the file and continues to do so. However, upon being asked about the same in the Delhi High Court on Friday, the GNCTD deviously chose to mislead the Court by saying that the file had not been cleared due to Chief Minister being in jail. But the fact remains that the file is still pending with Saurabh Bhardwaj since 09.10.2023, and was never sent to the Chief Minister, who was taken into custody only on 21.03.2024, they said. Despite three reminders being sent to him on 15.03.2024,

28.3.2024 and 02.04.2024, Bhardwaj did not send the file to the LG through the Chief Minister, as the case should have been. Section 202 (C) of DMC Act defines the financial powers of the Commissioner MCD. At present, with the approval of GNCTD& Hon'ble LG, MCD Commissioner has been vested with financial power of Rs 5 crore only. All projects above Rs five crores are essentially to be cleared by Standing Committee. As Standing Committee is not in existence for the last one and half year, various important projects related to health, sanitation and education are held up, resulting into depriving the benefits of the scheme to school children and public in general. To deal with this exigency, MCD

on 18.09.2023, put up a proposal to UD Department, GNCTD for enhancing powers of MCD Commissioner from Rs. Five crores to Rs. 50 crore on lines of powers of Principal Secretary of GNCTD. This was proposed to be done only till such time that the Standing Committee is constituted, as a temporary measure. This proposal is pending with GNCTD - Minister (UD) for consideration for more than last 6 months. It will not be out of place to mention here that MCD in present scenario is not able to discharge important civic functions, like distribution of note books, procurement of desks for primary school children, supply of health equipment and medicine for hospitals and health centres.

7 people converted to Hinduism

PNS ■ INDORE

Seven people of Muslim community in Indore have adopted Hindu religion. They were formally inducted into Sanatan Dharma on Saturday afternoon at Khajrana Ganesh Temple in Indore. Among these people, one is a citizen of Khajrana area of Indore and the rest are residents of Mandasaur district. Three women are also included among these seven people who returned home. They worshiped in Khajrana temple wearing saffron clothes and said Hindu religion respects all religions, this is what impressed them. Vishwa Hindu Parishad leader Santosh Sharma said that these people were made to return home with chanting of mantras in Khajrana Ganesh temple. Before coming to Khajrana temple, all of them were purified by the pundits in the Dharamshala of Patidar community with cow urine, soil and 10 types of baths. After this, he was made to wear saffron clothes and brought to Khajrana temple. Mainly Parveen Bi has been named as Pallavi, Irrfan as Ishwar, Ghaffar as Govind, Mohammad Yunus as Mohanlal, Ruqaiya Bi as Rukmini, Haider as Hari and Tamanna as Tannu. The person who became Hari from Haider of Khajrana said that he is very influenced by Sanatan Dharma. He said that Hindu religion respects all religions and being influenced by this, I have adopted this religion.

Major haul of illegally transported liquor seized

PNS ■ UJJAIN

In view of the model code of conduct for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections, another major action taken by the Excise Department Ujjain against illegal liquor collection. Under the direction of Collector Neeraj Singh and under the guidance of Assistant Excise Commissioner Rajnarayan Soni, Excise Sub Inspector in-charge of Circle Badnagar (B) Vandana Mori led Excise Team, on the basis of accurate information received from the informer arrested a liquor smuggler driving Xcent car MP04 EE 2406 which was stopped at Jafla Phata near Sangam intersection. During the systematic search of the vehicle, a total of 18 boxes of country plain liquor. Whose total quantity was 162 bulk litres and vehicle Xcent MP04 EE 2406 was seized. Whose total estimated value is Rs 4,63,000. Excise sub-inspector Vandana Mori registered a case under section 34(1)(a) and 34(2) of the Madhya Pradesh Excise Act against the accused Gopal, son of Ramesh Hansraj, caste Harijan, age 27 years, resident of Gujri ward 10, tehsil Dharmapuri district Dhar, and arrested him. And the accused was presented in the Court and sent to jail and the case was taken up for investigation. The investigation is going on.

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL

Government of India, Ministry of Finance Department of Finance Services, (Banking Division) 797-11, Shantikunj, South Civil Lines, Jabalpur- 482001 (M.P.)
Case No.: RC 540/2020 in O.A. No. 1549/2019
BANK OF BARODA
vs
SURBHI ENTERPRISES
 Auction No. 113 /2023

Under mentioned properties will be sold by "on line e-auction" through website: <https://www.bankeauctions.com> for recovery of a sum **Rs.49,79,726.50 (Rupees Forty Nine Lakh Seventy Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty Six and Fifty Paise only)** payable by you/him in respect of Recovery Certificate in O.A. No.1549/2019 issued by the Presiding Officer, Debts Recovery Tribunal, Jabalpur with interest at 12% p.a. with simple interest from 23-09-2019 and costs payable as per recovery certificate till realization.
Date and Time of E-auction : 06-06-2024 Between 12.00 Hours and 13.00 hours.

SPECIFICATION OF THE PROPERTIES PUT FOR SALE
 Residential Land with Boundary wall at Part of Survey No. 128/3, Min-1, 130, 135, situated at Village: Jaderua Kalan, Ward No. 8/18, Municipal House No. 59, Adarsh Nagar, Tehsil and District: Gwalior (M.P.), Area of land 3000 Sq.ft. and Constructed area 1000 Sq.ft., Property in the name of Shri Jitendra Gurjar S/o Shri Bhikam Gurjar.
Upset Price :Rs.14,50,000.00 (Rupees Fourteen Lakh Fifty thousands Only)

Conditions of Sale:
 1. Intending bidders must hold a valid digital signature certificate. For details contact M/s. C-1* India Pvt. Ltd. website <https://www.bankeauctions.com> Helpline No.0124-4302020/21/22/23/24, for help a bidder in e-auction contact to Mr. Mithalesh Kumar on Mob. No. 7080804466; E-mail id:- mpeg@clindia.com or E-mail ID: support@banke auctions.com
 2. Intending bidders are advised to go through website: <https://www.bankeauctions.com> for auction bid form and details, terms and conditions of sale before submitting their bids.
 3. Bids should be submitted only online in the prescribed form along with a copy of identity document as an attachment to the bid form (refer detailed terms and conditions). Bidder should satisfy them self with regard to correctness, measurement, encumbrances etc by their own sources (Govt. Office) also later on DRT will not be responsible for this.
 4. 10% of the upset price i.e. EMD/Bid price **Rs. 1,45,000.00 (Rupees One Lakh Forty Five Thousands only)** must be remitted towards EMD through RTGS/NEFT/Money Transfer to the credit of **Account No. 31067074055** in the name of Recovery Officer, E-auction account, DRT Jabalpur with **State Bank of India, Ridge Road, Jabalpur** (IFSC Code: SBIN0007208) and the remittance must be clearly mentioned in the bid form.
 5. **Bids should be submitted on or before 17.00 Hours on 04-06-2024 online.**
 6. A copy of the bid form along with its enclosure submitted online should be sent to Recovery Officer, DRT, Jabalpur,797-11 Shantikunj, South Civil Lines, Jabalpur so as to reach at the earliest.
 7. Online bidding will commence from the highest bid quoted among the bids and the minimum increase for each bid will be **Rs.15,000.00 (Rupees Fifteen thousands only).**
 8. In case of bid received before, closure of Auction window, there shall be an automatic extension of 5 minutes in Auction time by the system.
 9. The refund of EMD of the unsuccessful bidders will be remitted to the same account from which the payment has been made and no inquiry in this regard will be entertained. After deposit of EMD by intending bidder they cannot withdraw the EMD amount until they are declared as "Unsuccessful bidder" otherwise the amount will be forfeited.
 10. In the case of immovable property listed in the schedule below, the successful bidder shall remit 25% of the bid amount (less EMD) on the next day on declaration, if the sale is knocked down in his/her favour, through RTGS/NEFT/Money Transfer to the Account no. **31067074055** mentioned in SL. no. 4 and in default of such deposit, the property shall forth with be put up again and resold and amount deposited as EMD will be forfeited.
 11. The successful bidder shall remit balance 75% of the sale amount along with 11. poundage of 1% of sale amount plus Rs.10/- for each property separately within 15 days of auction, to the Account no. 31067074055 mentioned at SL. no. 4 through RTGS/NEFT/Money Transfer, exclusive of such day, or if the 15th day be a Sunday or other holiday, then on the first office working day after 15th day. In default of payment within the period mentioned above, the property shall be resold after the issue of a fresh proclamation of sale. The deposit will be forfeited to the Government and the defaulting purchaser shall forfeit all claims to the property or to any part of the sum for which it may subsequently be sold.
 12. Property will be sold "As is Where is and No Complaint basis".
 13. The properties can be inspected on 27-05-2024 Between 12.00 hours and 16.00 hours.
 13. Properties will not be sold below the upset price.
 14. Recovery Officer have the absolute right to accept or reject the bid or postpone/cancel the sale without assigning any reason.
 15. Intending bidders are advised to peruse copies of the title deed available with the Shri B.D.Sharma Chief Manager, Mob. No. 9717304021 and also check the identity and correctness of the property details and encumbrances etc from their own sources also. DRT will not be responsible for correctness etc.
 16. Details regarding E-Auction shall be obtained from M/s. C-1 India Pvt. Ltd., website: <https://www.bankeauctions.com>; Helpline No. 0124-4302020/21/22/23/24, for help a bidder in e-auction contact to Mr. Mithalesh Kumar on Mob. No. 7080804466; E-mail id:- mpeg@clindia.com or E-mail ID: support@banke auctions.com
 17. Further property details if any required shall be obtained from **Shri B.D.Sharma Chief Manager, Mob. No. 9717304021.**
 18. The bidders may participate in the e-auction by quoting / bidding from their own offices/places of their choice. Internet connectivity shall have to be ensured by each bidder himself. DRT/ Bank / Service Provider shall not be held responsible for the internet connectivity, network problems, system crash down., Power failure etc.

(PRITI DESAI)
 RECOVERY OFFICER II
 Ms Priti Desai Recovery Officer!
 Debts Recovery Tribunal Govt. of India,
 Ministry of Financial, Jabalpur
 (M.P. & C.G. State)

Place: Jabalpur
Date: 18-04-2024

HINDUJA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED
 Corporate Office: 167-169, 2nd floor, Near Little Mount Metro Station, Saipet, Chennai - 600015
 HOUSING FINANCE Regional Office - 101-B, 1st Floor, NRK Business Park, Vijaynagar, Indore(MP) - 452010

Appendix IV : Symbolic Possession NOTICE (for Immovable property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Hinduja Housing Finance Limited (HHFL) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of power conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002. Demand Notice (s) issued by Authorized Officer of the Company to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) mentioned herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice here by given to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **Symbolic Possession** of the property described here in below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub-Section (4) of the Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement rules, 2002. The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets. The Borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the change of HHFL for an amount as mentioned herein under with interest thereon.

Name of Borrower/ Guarantor / Co-Borrower	1. Demand Notice Issued Date 2. Loan Account No. 3. Amount Due as on Notice Date	Description of Secured asset (Immovable Property)	Date of Symbolic Possession
MR. JIVAN SINGH GURJAR (Borrower) MRS. SEEMA BAI (Co Borrower)	1. Issuance Date:- 30/01/2024 2. MP/IDR/UJJN/A00000673 & CO/CPC/CPDF/A000002095 3. Total Amount Due - Rs.23,38,004/- (Rupees Twenty Three Lacs Thirty Eight Thousand Four Only)	A House on part of land Survey No. 38/1 Situated at Village Moyagaon P.H. No. 45 Tehsil Makdona Dist. Ujjain (M.P.) Total Area - 0.22 Hect. Boundaries as Per Sale Deed - East : House of Mr. Amarsingh, West : Remaining Land of Seller, North : Road, South : Land of Mr. Mangilal Ji	24/04/2024
MR. MAHENDRA SINGH CHOUHAN (Borrower) MRS. GAYATRI CHOUHAN (Co Borrower)	1. Issuance Date:- 30/01/2024 2. MP/IDR/UJJN/A00000575 3. Total Amount Due - Rs. 14,38,364/- (Rupees Fourteen Lacs Thirty Eight Thousand Three Hundred Sixty Four Only)	Plot/House situated at A North Part of House No. 129, Situated at Kailash Empire Pandyakhedhi, (M.R 5) Ujjain (M.P) Total Area:- 51.24 Sq. Mtr. Boundaries as Per Sale Deed - EAST - Road of Colony, WEST - Plot No. 166, NORTH - Plot No. 128, SOUTH - Remaining Part of Plot No. 129 and Seema Sharma and Shikha Sharma	23/04/2024
MR. MOHD. AZAM QURESHI (Borrower) MRS. SHAHENA BEE (Co Borrower)	1. Issuance Date:- 30/01/2024 2. MP/UJJ/BGDR/A00000119 3. Total Amount Due - Rs.15,39,709/- (Rupees Fifteen Lacs Thirty Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Nine Only)	Southern part of Plot/House no. 45, Jain Colony, Hammalwadi, Moulana Azad marg, Ujjain (M.P.) Total Area 34.77 Square Meter Boundaries as Per Sale Deed - East- Gali, West - Colony road, North- Rest part, South- House no. 44 of Shalibhadra Dhannalal Jain	25/04/2024
MR. RAVENDRA GEHLOT (Borrower) MRS. PINKI RAVENDRA GEHLOT (Co Borrower)	1. Issuance Date:- 30/01/2024 2. MP/IDR/UJJN/A00000547 & CO/CPC/CPDF/A00000569 3. Total Amount Due - Rs.18,27,044 /- (Rupees Eighteen Lacs Twenty Seven Thousand Forty Four Only)	East-North Part of House No. 17 situated at Lal Bai Phul Bai Marg Gali No. 5, Ujjain. Total area: 87.23 Sq.mtr. Boundaries as Per Sale Deed - EAST - Lane, West - Corridor of Mr. Biharilal, North :House of Mrs. Dakha Bai, South : Plot of Mr. Ravindra Gehlot	23/04/2024
MR. SHOEBI ALI (Borrower) MRS. HASINA KASARAWALA (Co Borrower)	1. Issuance Date:- 09/02/2024 2. MP/IDR/UJJN/A00000459 3. Total Amount Due - Rs. 10,11,847/- (Rupees Ten Lacs Eleven Thousand Eight Hundred Forty Seven Only)	Relevant property Flat No. 104, First floor house municipal no 5 and 5/1 old house no 22, 22/1, 22/2 Hasan ji Tower, Goutam Margh Ujjain Madhya Pradesh ,India - 456006 , admeasuring area -55.40 sqmtr. Boundaries as Per Sale Deed : East : Flat no. 103, West : Flat no. 105, North : House of other and land of Tal, South : Common passage	26/04/2024
MR. SHAHNAZ BI (Borrower) MR. FARHAN MOHAMMAD AYUB (Co Borrower)	1. Issuance Date:- 30/01/2024 2. MP/IDR/UJJN/A00000364 3. Total Amount Due - Rs.10,73,407/- (Rupees Ten Lacs Seventy Three Thousand Four Hundred Seven Only)	A Plot no. 45, Part of Land Survey No. 265, Anmol Parisar, Gram Khilchipur ,P.H.T-37, Agar Road, Tehsil Ghatiya District Ujjain Madhya Pradesh, India - 456006 Total Area 74.34 Square Meter Boundaries as Per Sale Deed : East : House no.44, West- Road, North-Road, South- House no.46	26/04/2024
MR. SHUBHAM RATHORE (Borrower) MRS. MAYA RATHORE (Co Borrower)	1. Issuance Date:- 23/01/2024 2. MP/IDR/UJJN/A00000763 3. Total Amount Due - Rs. 10,08,815/- (Rupees Ten Lacs Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Fifteen Only)	Relevant property House old No. 5/972 ,New No. 9 Situated at Amneshpura Anpkat marg gali no. 6, Ujjain , Lodha Samaj Dharmshala , Urban , Ujjain , Madhya Pradesh , India -456001 , admeasuring area -113.10 sqmtr. Boundaries as Per Sale Deed : East : Govt. Lane, West : Lodha Samaj Dharamshala, North : Lodha Samaj Dharamshala, South : Common passage	24/04/2024
MR. SHYAM LAL (Borrower) MRS. DURGA BAI (Co Borrower)	1. Issuance Date:- 23/01/2024 2. MP/UJJ/BGDR/A00000119 3. Total Amount Due - Rs.10,01,372 /- (Rupees Ten Lacs One Thousand Three Hundred Seventy Two Only)	Relevant property Property Is Situated At , PH No. 34 , Registered House No. 106 , Gram Gudheli, Th-Tal ,Distt-Ratlam, Madhya Pradesh , India -457116 Admeasuring area -122.11 sqmtr. Boundaries as per sale deed - East : House of Mr. Ukralal, West : Common Road, North : House of Mr. Bhagwan Singh, South: Radheshyam & Others.	26/04/2024
MR. ISHWAR SINGH (Borrower) MRS. UMA BAI (Co Borrower)	1. Issuance Date:- 30/01/2024 2. MP/IDR/UJJN/A00000636 3. Total Amount Due - Rs.11,14,381/- (Rupees Eleven Lacs Fourteen Thousand Three Hundred Eighty One Only)	A Gram Panchayat Jamalpura Register Kramank 28, situated at Gram magriya, Patwari halka No. 26, Gram Panchayat Jamalpura, Tehsil and District-Ujjain M.P.-456006 Total Area -190.70 sq.mt. Boundaries as per sale deed - East : Self Land, West : Land of Mr. Rajpal Solanki, North : Self Land, South: Common Road	26/04/2024
Mr. VIJAY SINGH CHOUHAN (Borrower) Mr. AJAY SINGH CHOUHAN (Co Borrower 1) Mrs. JYOTI BAI (Co Borrower 2)	1. Issuance Date:- 02/02/2024 2. MP/INE/IDCT/A00000586 3. Total Amount Due - Rs.24,04,147/- (Rupees Twenty Four Lakh Four Thousand and One Hundred and Forty Seven Only)	All that part and parcel of the property situated at :Plot/ House No. 297 Agrawal Nagar Gram Dhannad Khud Pithampur Ward No. 02 Survey No. 76 Peki Pithampur Dhar, Agrawal Nagar, Near Nagar Parishad, Indore, Madhya Pradesh, 454774, Admeasuring Area 525 Sq. Ft. Bounded by: North : House of Rajkumar Sen, South : House of Raju Patel, East : House of Jagannath Pathan, West : Road	24/04/2024
Mr. UMESH PARIHAR (Borrower) Mrs. BASANTI BAI PARIHAR (Co Borrower 1) Mr. RAJESH PARIHAR (Co Borrower 2) Mr. PRADEEP PARIHAR (Co Borrower 2)	1. Issuance Date:- 26/12/2023 2. MP/IDR/UJJN/A00000065 & MP/IDR/UJJN/A00000521 3. Total Amount Due - Rs.18,00,514 /- (Rupees Eighteen Lakh Five Hundred and Forteen Only)	Relevant property is a House No. 14 Situated at Village Pandiyakhedi Tehsil & Dist. Ujjain, measuring area 139.29 sq. Mtr. and boundaries of property as per title deed are as under: East : Road, West : Road, North : Plot / House No.13 of Rameshchandra, South: Plot / House No.15 of Rajesh Kumar	26/04/2024
Mr. RAMVEER CHANDEL (Borrower) Mrs. KUSUM BAI (Co Borrower)	1. Issuance Date:- 26/07/2023 2. MP/IDR/UJJN/A00000391 3. Total Amount Due - Rs.10,73,887/- (Rupees Ten Lakh Seventy Three Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty Seven Only)	Plot/House situated at House No. 167 part of land survey no. 167/210/1/1 situated at Village Panwasa Maxi Road, Ujjain. Total Area: 55.70 Sq. Mtr. Boundaries - East - Plot Of Mr. Ramdev Verma, West - Plot No. 166, North - Road, South - Road	24/04/2024
Mr. PARVEZ KHAN (Borrower) Mrs. UZMA KHAN (Co Borrower 1) Mr. AZGAR KHAN (Co Borrower 2) Mrs. RAISA BEGUM (Co Borrower 3) Mr. GULREJ KHAN (Co Borrower 4) Mr AVEJ KHAN (Co Borrower 5)	1. Issuance Date:- 27/12/2023 2. MP/IDR/UJJN/A00000036 3. Total Amount Due - Rs. 11,67,975/- (Rupees Eleven Lakh Sixty Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy Five Only)	Relevant property 224, a part of survey no. 1021, Gandhi Nagar Agar Road Ujjain, Urban, Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh, India -456006, admeasuring area - 64.64 sqmtr. Boundaries of property as per title deed are as under: East : Lane, West : Road, North : House of Asgar khan, South : Open land	26/04/2024
Mr. MANISH SHERA (Borrower) Mrs. GEETA SHERA (CoBorrower)	1. Issuance Date:- 28/08/2023 2. MP/IDR/UJJN/A00000051 & MP/IDR/UJJN/A00000516 3. Total Amount Due - Rs. 33,04,778/- (Rupees Thirty Three Lakh Four Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy Eight Only)	All that part and parcel of the property situated at - House/Municipal no. 5(Old No.7, Situated at Mahakal Sindh Colony, Ujjain (M.P.). Total Area - 92.96 Sq. Mtr. Boundaries - East - Gali, West - Road of Colony(Gali), North- House of Ashokji, South- House of Mangilalji	24/04/2024
Mr. LOVMEET SINGH TOMAR (Borrower) Mrs. SANDEEPA TOMAR (CoBorrower)	1. Issuance Date:- 20/11/2023 2. MP/IDR/UJJN/A00000688 3. Total Amount Due - Rs. 17,13,183/- (Rupees Seventeen Lakh Thirteen Thousand One Hundred Eighty Three Only)	West part of House No. 42/4, Gandhi nagar ward no. 6, Ashok mandi marg, Situated at Mohan Nagar Sector B Ujjain Tehsil and Dist. Ujjain(M.P.) - 456001 Total Area-67.36 Sq.mtr. Boundaries - East : House of Mr. Kripashankar S/o Mr. Munnalal ji Shrivras, West - House of Mr. Veerbhan Singh, North - Road of Colony, South - Lane of Colony	24/04/2024
Mr. KAILASH GIRI GOSWAMI (Borrower) Mrs. RADHA BAI (CoBorrower)	1. Issuance Date:- 26/11/2023 2. MP/IDR/UJJN/A00000165 & CO/CPC/CPDF/A00000048 3. Total Amount Due - Rs. 20,63,617/- (Rupees Twenty Lakh Sixty Three Thousand Six Hundred Seventeen Only)	Plot no. 181, Shivdham Colony, near Agar Toll Tax, Ujjain road, Gram Avar, Tehsil & Dist. Agar (M.P.). Total area 1500 Sq. Ft Boundaries - East - Colony road, West-Plot no. 165, North-Plot no. 180, South-Plot no. 182	26/04/2024
Mr. JEEVAN SINGH (Borrower) Mrs. HEMA KUNWAR (CoBorrower)	1. Issuance Date:- 26/07/2023 2. MP/IDR/UJJN/A00000699 3. Total Amount Due - Rs. 9,22,977/- (Rupees Nine Lakh Twenty Two Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy Seven Only)	Plot/House situated at House No. 21 Situated at Village Daulatpur, Gram Panchayat Daulatpur, P.H.No. 58, Tehsil Ghatiya Dist. Ujjain. Total Area:- 1452 Sq. Ft. or 134.8952 Sq. Mtr. Boundaries - East - House Of Mr. Kesar Singh, West - Common Road, North - Common Road and House Of Mr. Santosh Bairagi, South - House Of Mr. Ishwar Singh	26/04/2024

STATUTORY NOTICE TO BORROWERS/GUARANTORS
 Borrower(s)/Guarantor's are hereby put to caution that the property may be sold at any time herein after by way of public auction/tenders and as such this may also be treated as a notice under Rule 6, 8 & 9 of Security (interest) Enforcement Rules, 2002. Authorised Officer **Mobile No. - Vaibhav Shrivastav - 7987969803, Rajesh Chakotiya - 84355 71111, Aishwarya - 90246 08717, Sitaram Prajapati - 95845 67867, Ankita Patil - 77230 55195, Govind - 8962816436**
Place : Indore, Date : 28/04/2024
 Authorised Officer, Hinduja Housing Finance Limited

TMC Government protecting terrorists, rapists in Bengal: BJP

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The BJP on Saturday accused the Trinamool Congress (TMC) government in West Bengal of "protecting" terrorists and rapists and claimed the state appears to be on the brink of anarchy. BJP's national spokesperson Prem Shukla hit out at Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee at a press conference, a day after the CBI seized weapons, including a police service revolver and foreign-made firearms, during searches at two premises of an associate of now-suspended TMC leader Shajahan Sheikh, a key accused in the Sandeshkhali case.

While goons in Sandeshkhali robbed women of their 'mangalsutra', "rapists" like Sheikh were given protection and the seizure of such arms, including a police weapon, shows that the state police were nursing such criminals, he alleged. Sheikh, a former TMC strongman, has been accused of running a ring of local thugs who molested women and grabbed land.

Noting that the state government has moved the Supreme Court against the Kolkata High Court's order to transfer the probe to the CBI, Shukla claimed West Bengal appears to be on the brink of anarchy as the ruling dispensation has sided with those accused of



rape and terrorism. Banerjee questions raids by the probe agency and allegedly justified those who attacked the Enforcement Directorate (ED) officials but she offered no word of support to the CBI, he told reporters. The TMC claims to stand in support of "Ma, Mati, Manush" but has instead provided safety to criminals like Sheikh, he said. Does Banerjee now have any moral right to appeal in the apex court after the seizure of weapons, Shukla asked, slamming the opposition INDIA bloc parties for their silence on the Sandeshkhali issue. At the press conference, another BJP national spokesperson

Shehzad Poonawalla targeted the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) following the Delhi High Court's critical remarks on the continuation of Arvind Kejriwal as the chief minister despite being in jail. The High Court on Friday pulled up the city government over the issue of non-supply of books to the children studying in the MCD schools, saying the continuation of Kejriwal even after his arrest puts political interest over national interest. The court said the Delhi government was "interested in appropriation of power". The court's observations came after the Delhi government's counsel said the matter requires certain approvals from

Kejriwal, who is in custody in the alleged money laundering case in connection with the 2021 excise policy. Poonawalla said mockingly that Kejriwal has travelled a long journey from advocating 'swaraj' (self-rule) to being arrested in a scam involving 'sharab' (liquor) and standing with opposition leaders like Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi and Lalu Prasad Yadav after once advocating for their arrest. He asked when Kejriwal will resign and stop playing with people's future, as he took a swipe at him over promoting his wife Sunita Kejriwal in politics after speaking against family politics all these years.

Why Congress did not conduct caste census when in power: BJP

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI/HYDERABAD

BJP Rajya Sabha member K Laxman on Saturday asked why the Congress did not think of conducting a caste census when it was in power for over five decades and said that it was the Nehru-Gandhi family which was in power for a long and sought to know why the Congress did not think of conducting a caste census then. "Why they (Congress) are making this demand now, it is to provoke (people). We are not against any caste census. But, it needs scientific and thorough study on it," Laxman, national president of BJP's OBC Morcha, said in a media interaction. Observing that there is diversity vis-a-vis various communities in the country, he said the Reddys of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh are BCs in Karnataka. Similarly, Kammas of AP and Telangana are a backward class in Karnataka, he said. The Reddys and Kammas come under Other Castes (OCs) in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.



Why did the Congress government in Karnataka not publish the census held in the state, he asked. Laxman, former president of Telangana BJP, also asked why the previous BRS government in Telangana did not publish the details of the 'intensive household survey' conducted in the state. Is it an attempt of opposition parties to show the BJP in a bad light? Laxman, a BJP Rajya Sabha member from Uttar Pradesh, accused Congress and other opposition parties of resorting to divisive and appeasement politics in the run-up to the Lok Sabha polls.

At a time when the BJP is working with the resolve of making the country a developed nation by 2047 with the slogan of 'sab ka sath, sab ka vikas', "the opposition is talking about caste census, Muslim appeasement and creating animosities and bringing a division," he said. Laxman also alleged that "Muslim appeasement is not a new thought, but it is in the DNA of Congress from the beginning". Elections to the 17 Lok Sabha seats in Telangana will be held on May 13. The BJP is fighting the parliamentary elections in Telangana without any alliance.

BJP's hypocrisy knows no bounds: Congress

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Congress on Saturday said the BJP's "hypocrisy knows no bounds" and alleged that while it called the administrative allocation of 2G spectrum under the UPA a "scam", the Narendra Modi government was now seeking permission from the Supreme Court to "give away spectrum" without an auction. The opposition party's attack came after the Centre on Monday moved the Supreme Court seeking modification of its verdict in the 2G spectrum case which said the State was duty bound to adopt the auction route while transferring or alienating the country's natural resources. A top source, however, later said the government is not seeking to change the 2012 Supreme Court judgement that backed auction as the preferred mode of allocating telecom spectrum except for narrowly defined sectors such as satellite communication and defence where auction is not feasible. Attacking the BJP, Congress chief spokesman Jairam Ramesh said the hypocrisy of



the 'Modi Sarkar' and 'Bhrasht Janata Party' knows no bounds. "During Dr Manmohan Singh's tenure, they cried to all who would listen that the administrative allocation of 2G spectrum was 'scam'. Now, they are arguing the opposite - they have gone to the Supreme Court for permission to give away spectrum to whoever they want, without an auction," he alleged. In its judgement delivered on February 2, 2012, the apex court had quashed 2G spec-

trum licences given to various firms during the tenure of A Raja as the telecom minister in January 2008. On Monday, Attorney General R Venkataramani, appearing for the Centre, mentioned an interim application before a bench of Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justice J B Pardiwala. While seeking urgent listing of the application, the top law officer told the bench that the plea seeks modification of the 2012 verdict as the Centre wanted to grant 2G spectrum licences in some cases.

NCB, ATS bust three drug manufacturing labs in Rajasthan, Gujarat

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Narcotics Control Board (NCB) and Gujarat Police ATS Saturday busted three "clandestine" drug manufacturing labs in Rajasthan and Gujarat leading to the seizure of 300 kgs of narcotics and arrest of seven persons. Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) Deputy Director General (Operations) Gyaneshwar Singh in a statement said the labs were unearthed after about three months of "intensive" technical and ground surveillance that was mounted by the two agencies to identify the people involved in the network as well as the locations of the labs. A total of 149 kgs of mephedrone or 'meow meow' (both in powder and liquid form), 50 kg ephedrine, and 200 litres of acetone was recovered from the three labs located in Bhimnagar of Jalore district and Osian in Jodhpur district of Rajasthan and Gandhinagar in Gujarat, the officer said. Seven people have been arrested till now in



the crackdown, he said. The teams of the two agencies were also raiding a similar lab in Amreli district of Gujarat and more recoveries are expected, Singh said. "The kingpin of this network has been identified and will be arrested soon. Efforts are being made to track and identify the source of precursor chemicals as well as the distribution network, national as well as any international linkages," he said. Mephedrone, also known as 4-methylmethcathinone, 4-MMC and 4-methylphenedrone, is a synthetic stimulant and is also identified by its slang names -- drone, M-CAT, white magic, meow meow, and bubble.

Congress attacks Modi over snatching quotas remarks

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress on Saturday slammed as "false propaganda" Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'snatching quotas' remarks and alleged that it was the BJP that was against reservation for SCs, STs and OBCs. Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said the reality is that since 1950, reservation in education and employment has been possible when there have been Congress prime ministers and Congress governments at the helm. In a video statement, Ramesh said, "The prime minister is repeatedly indulging in the false propaganda that the Congress is against the reservation for SCs, STs and OBCs and wants to snatch it away. This is absolutely false." "The reality is that the provi-



sions in the Constitution for reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were made because of B R Ambedkar, Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and other Congress leaders. So, this was the contribution of the Congress," Ramesh said. He said in 1994 when P V Narasimha Rao was the prime minister, for the first time, 27 per cent reservation for OBCs was given in employment in central government and in 2006 when Manmohan Singh was the prime minister, 27 per cent reservation was made in higher education institutions

for OBCs. "So, the reality is that since 1950, reservation in education and employment for SCs, STs and OBCs, has been possible when there have been Congress prime ministers and Congress governments," he said. A few months ago, when the women's reservation bill was being debated, the Congress demanded that OBC women should also be given that reservation but the central government did not accept it and the PM did not say anything about it, Ramesh said. "A new law came into being in which there is no provision for OBC women. So the reality is that the BJP is against the reservation for SCs, STs and OBCs. It has been due to the guarantee of the Congress that the reservation for SCs, STs and OBCs in education and employment is still available," the Congress leader said.

Adults with adverse childhood experiences more likely to feel depressed

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Adults with four or more adverse childhood experiences are four times more likely to experience depression and low life satisfaction, three times more likely to experience anxiety and are 30 times more likely to attempt suicide than people with no adverse childhood experiences, according to a study that explored the role of modifiable community- and societal-level factors in youth mental health and well-being. The study led by Hasina Samji, a professor in the Faculty of Health Sciences collected data from January to March 2022 during the fifth wave of the pandemic, a time that included the highest number of daily COVID-19 case counts. Students were asked to note their number of positive and adverse experiences (up to age 18), the degree to which they experienced depression



and anxiety symptoms, and to rank their mental wellbeing and life satisfaction. According to Samji, having more positive childhood experiences was associated with lower levels of depression and anxiety, and better life satisfaction and mental health. Conversely, people with a higher number of adverse childhood experiences had

more symptoms of depression and anxiety, and poorer life satisfaction and mental health. "We can't prevent adversity for all young people," says Samji. "We know adversity leads to so many poor outcomes across a whole host of domains, whether it's infectious diseases, or substance use, or obesity, or cardiac disease. When

you look at people who have been exposed to four or more adverse childhood experiences, versus fewer or zero adverse experiences - they are at higher risk for almost every poor health outcome." Adverse childhood experiences include verbal, physical and sexual abuse, emotional and physical neglect, domestic violence, caregiver mental illness, incarceration, substance use and divorce. Additional adverse experiences are also found at the societal-level (food-insecurity, homelessness); at the community-level (feeling unsafe at school or in the community); and at the family-level (caregiver separation or divorce). "As a health-care system, we're often very reactive," Samji says. "Young people tell us that we wait for them to be in crisis before we provide the support that they need. I really wanted to go upstream and think about what kind of individual level supports, but also

structural and systemic supports we can provide earlier." Mental illness, Samji explains, is not randomly distributed in the populations, but follows a socio-economic gradient. The study therefore recommends systemic changes to provide extra support to families, by institutions, (justice, health, schools), to increase positive childhood experiences and reduce adverse experiences. "We have to change the paradigm," Samji says. "When people think about mental health, they only think of mental illness, but mental health is so much more. "Just like physical health, there is the illness aspect, but we know we can do more to support our physical health: We can work out, we can eat well. Similarly for mental health. Mental illness is not a done deal. You can delay it; you can prevent it in certain cases. There is, of course, a genetic component, just like there is in physical illness."

Antibiotics rampant use during pandemic worsened AMR: WHO

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The indiscriminate use of antibiotics during the Covid-19 pandemic majorly given as a precautionary measure has exacerbated the silent spread of antimicrobial resistance (AMR), according to a recent report by the World Health Organization (WHO). The report indicates that approximately 75 percent of patients received antibiotics as a precautionary measure, despite only 8 percent of hospitalized Covid patients requiring antibiotics to combat bacterial co-infections. AMR represents a significant global public health concern and was directly responsible for approximately 1.27 million deaths in 2019, with an additional 4.95 million deaths attributed to its contribution. Antibiotic usage surged during the pandemic, with an 83 percent increase in the Eastern Mediterranean and African Regions and a 33 percent rise



in the Western Pacific Region between 2020 and 2022, according to the WHO. "The highest rate of antibiotic use was seen among patients with severe or critical Covid-19, with a global average of 81 per cent. In mild or moderate cases, there was a considerable variation across regions, with the highest use in the African Region (79 per cent)," the WHO report said. The findings are based on data

from 450,000 patients admitted to hospitals for Covid in 65 countries between January 2020 and March 2023, as recorded in the WHO Global Clinical Platform for Covid-19. Often dubbed the "Silent Pandemic", AMR necessitates immediate and efficacious intervention rather than being relegated to a future scenario. In the absence of preventive measures, projections indi-

cate that by 2050, AMR could potentially supersede all other causes of mortality worldwide. Globally, estimates indicate that the direct fatalities linked to AMR surpassed 1.2 million in 2019, with a foreseen escalation to approximately 10 million deaths annually by 2050 if inadequate measures are implemented to curb AMR. "When a patient requires antibiotics, the benefits often outweigh the risks associated with side effects or antibiotic resistance. However, when they are unnecessary, they offer no benefit while posing risks, and their use contributes to the emergence and spread of antimicrobial resistance," said Dr Silvia Bertagnolio, WHO Unit Head for Surveillance, Evidence, and Laboratory Strengthening Division for AMR. "These data call for improvements in the rational use of antibiotics to minimise unnecessary negative conse-

quences for patients and populations." The report will be presented in a WHO scientific poster at the ongoing ESCMID Global Congress, in Barcelona, Spain being held from April 27-30. Dr Sangeeta Sharma, Professor & Head, Department of Neuro psychopharmacology, Institute of Human Behaviour & Allied Sciences (IHBAS), Delhi called the report a wakeup call. "Antibiotics work against bacteria only, not viruses like the common cold or flu as many believe. By not demanding antibiotics at the OTC or when visiting doctors, a patient can play a pivotal role in advocating for responsible antibiotic use and help combat one of the most pressing global challenges i.e. AMR." The WHO data underscores the urgent need for more prudent and targeted use of antibiotics to curb the spread of AMR and preserve the effectiveness of these crucial medications.

G7 nations set their sights on doubling renewable energy capacity by 2030

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The G7 economies comprising the world's richest countries have set their sights on doubling renewable energy capacity by 2030, an analysis conducted by the global energy think-tank Ember has said. However, this falls short of the more ambitious target agreed upon at the UN climate conference in Dubai the previous year, which aimed to triple global renewable energy capacity by the same deadline. At the UN's COP28 climate change conference in December, leaders from around the world, including all G7 members, forged a historic agreement to triple global renewable energy capacity by 2030. However, Ember's analysis suggests that the G7 nations need to realign their targets to meet this commitment. Katye Altieri, an electricity analyst at Ember, emphasized



the need for the G7 to update their targets in light of the COP28 agreement. She stated, "Last year, the G7 agreed targets for solar and offshore wind. Given the COP28 agreement, these goals are now outdated and need to be aligned with a tripling of global renewables." Altieri also pointed out that the rapid acceleration of solar energy installations demonstrates that the goal of tripling renewable energy capacity is increasingly attainable. The International Energy

Agency underscores the importance of tripling global renewable energy capacity and doubling energy efficiency to mitigate climate change effectively and limit the average temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius. This highlights the urgency for G7 nations and the global community as a whole to accelerate efforts in transitioning towards renewable energy sources and enhancing energy efficiency measures. A tripling of renewable capacity would require the G7 to reach 2.7 TW by 2030, leaving a 0.7 TW gap between current targets and a tripling-aligned goal. Italy, this year's host of the G7, along with Germany and the UK, are leading the way with 2030 targets that are more than doubling of the 2022 capacity. However, France and Japan are lagging behind their G7 partners with targets well below a tripling.

Hamas reviewing Israeli proposal for cease-fire in Gaza

AP ■ HAVANA

Hamas said on Saturday it was reviewing a new Israeli proposal for a cease-fire in Gaza, as Egypt intensified efforts to broker a deal to end the months-long war and stave off a possible Israeli ground offensive into the southern Gaza city of Rafah. Senior Hamas official Khalil al-Hayya said the Palestinian militant group was evaluating Israel's proposal, and "upon completion of its study, it will submit its response." He gave no details of Israel's offer but said it was in response to a proposal from Hamas two weeks ago. Negotiations earlier

this month centered on a six-week cease-fire proposal and the release of 40 civilian and sick hostages in exchange for freeing hundreds of Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails. Hamas' statement came hours after a high-level Egyptian delegation wrapped up a visit to Israel where it discussed a "new vision" for a prolonged cease-fire in Gaza, according to an Egyptian official, who spoke on condition of anonymity to freely discuss the developments. It was not immediately clear whether Israel's latest response to Hamas on a cease-fire was directly related to Friday's visit to Tel Aviv by Egyptian medi-

ators. The discussions between Egyptian and Israeli officials focused on the first stage of a multi-phase plan that would include a limited exchange of hostages held by Hamas for Palestinian prisoners, and the return of a significant number of displaced Palestinians to their homes in northern Gaza "with minimum restrictions," the Egyptian official said. The mediators are working on a compromise that will answer most of both parties' main demands, which could pave the way to continued negotiations with the goal of a larger deal to end the war, the official said. As the war drags on and casu-

alties mount, there has been growing international pressure for Hamas and Israel to reach an agreement on a cease-fire and avert a possible Israeli attack on Rafah, where more than half of Gaza's 2.3 million people have sought refuge after fleeing fighting elsewhere in the territory. Israel has been insisting for months it plans a ground offensive into Rafah, on the border with Egypt, where it says many remaining Hamas militants are holed up, despite calls for restraint from the international community including Israel's staunchest ally, the United States. Egypt has cautioned an offen-

sive into Rafah could have "catastrophic consequences" on the humanitarian situation in Gaza, as well as on regional peace and security. The Israeli military has massed dozens of tanks and armoured vehicles in southern Israel close to Rafah and hit targets in the city in near-daily airstrikes. Early Saturday, an Israeli airstrike hit a house in Rafah's Tel Sultan neighbourhood, killing six people, including four children, according to officials at a local hospital. The strike killed a man, his wife and their three sons, aged 12, 10 and 8, according to records of the Abu Yousef al-Najjar hospital's morgue. A neigh-

bour's four-month-old girl was also killed, the records showed. Hamas said Friday it is open to any "ideas or suggestions" that take into consideration the needs of the Palestinian people such as an end to Israel's attacks on Gaza, the return of displaced people to their homes and an Israeli withdrawal. The Palestinian group has said it will not back down from its demands for a permanent cease-fire and full withdrawal of Israeli troops, both of which Israel has rejected. Israel says it will continue military operations until Hamas is defeated and that it will retain a security presence in Gaza afterward.

Hamas sparked the war with its attack into southern Israel on October 7, in which militants killed around 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and took some 250 people as hostages. Israel says the militants are still holding around 100 hostages and the remains of more than 30 others. Since then, 34,000 Palestinians have been killed in Israel's air and ground offensive, according to the Health Ministry in Hamas-run Gaza, around two-thirds of them children and women. Israel has reported at least 260 of its soldiers killed since the start of ground operations in Gaza.

China launches submarine built for Pak

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD/BEIJING

China has launched the first of the eight Hangor-class submarines to be built for its all-weather ally Pakistan to provide it with state-of-the-art warships, adding a new dimension to their growing bilateral military cooperation. The launch ceremony, held at Wuchang Shipbuilding Industry Groups (WSIG) Shuangliu Base on Friday, was attended by Pakistan Navy chief Admiral Naveed Ashraf, Geo News reported. The development comes as part of the agreement between Islamabad and Beijing under which the latter had agreed to provide the former with eight state-of-the-art advanced submarines. Out of the total eight vessels, four are to be built by WSIG, while the remaining four are being built at KS&EW (Karachi Shipyard & Engineering Works) under the Transfer of Technology (ToT) agreement. The submarines, having advanced stealth features, are to be fitted with state-of-the-art weapons and sensors to operate under a multi-threat environment and can engage targets at stand-off ranges. Speaking at the occasion, Admiral Ashraf emphasised the importance of maritime security under the prevailing geo-strategic environment and the Navy's resolve to ensure regional peace and stability. The Navy chief also underscored that the Hangor-class S/M Project will "add a new dimension to the all-weather Pak-China friendship and shows strong military cooperation between two countries." Friday's launch ceremony comes after Pakistan commenced the manufacturing of the 6th Hangor-class submarine by KS&EW in February earlier this year. Pakistan enjoys close military ties with China with their bilateral relations provisioning various arms imports by Islamabad from Beijing.

Student anti-war protesters dig in as faculties condemn police intervention

AP ■ NEW YORK

Students protesting the Israel-Hamas war at universities across US, some of whom have clashed with police in riot gear, dug in Saturday and vowed to keep their demonstrations going, while several school faculties condemned university presidents who have called in law enforcement to remove protesters. As Columbia University continues negotiations with those at a pro-Palestinian student encampment on the New York school's campus, the university's senate passed a resolution Friday that created a task force to examine the administration's leadership, which last week called in police in an attempt to clear the protest, resulting in scuffles and more than 100 arrests. Though the university has repeatedly set and then pushed back deadlines for the removal of the encampment, the school sent an email to students Friday night saying that bringing back police "at this time" would be

counterproductive, adding that they hope the negotiations show "concrete signs of progress tonight." As the death toll mounts in the war in Gaza, protesters nationwide are demanding that schools cut financial ties to Israel and divest from companies they say are enabling the conflict. Some Jewish students say the protests have veered into antisemitism and made them afraid to set foot on campus. The decisions to call in law enforcement, leading to hundreds of arrests nationwide, have prompted school faculty members at universities in California, Georgia and Texas to initiate or pass votes of no confidence in their leadership. They are largely symbolic rebukes, without the power to remove their presidents. But the tensions pile pressure on school officials, who are already scrambling to resolve the protests as May graduation ceremonies near. California State Polytechnic University, Humboldt, gave protesters who have barricaded

themselves inside a building since Monday until 5 pm Friday to leave and "not be immediately arrested." The deadline came and went. Only some of the protesters left, others doubled down. After protesters rebuffed police earlier in the week, the campus was closed for the rest of the semester. In Colorado, police swept through an encampment Friday at Denver's Auraria Campus, which hosts three universities and colleges, arresting around 40 protesters on trespassing charges. Students representing the Columbia encampment, which inspired the wave of protests across the country, said Friday that they reached an impasse with administrators and intend to continue their protest. After meetings Thursday and Friday, student negotiators said the university had not met their primary demand for divestment, although there was progress on a push for more transparent financial disclosures. "We will not rest until Columbia

divests," said Jonathan Ben-Menachem, a fourth-year doctoral student. In the letter sent to Columbia students Friday night, the university's leadership said "we support the conversations that are ongoing with student leaders of the encampment." Columbia's president, Minouche Shafik, faced significant criticism from faculty Friday, but retained the support of trustees. A report by the university senate's executive committee, which represents faculty, found Shafik and her administration took "many actions and decisions that have harmed Columbia University." Those included calling in police and allowing students to be arrested without consulting faculty, misrepresenting and suspending student protest groups and hiring private investigators. "The faculty have completely lost confidence in President Shafik's ability to lead this organization," said Ege Yumusak, a philosophy lecturer who is part of a faculty team protecting the encampment.

British troops may be asked to deliver Gaza aid: UK officials decline comment

AP ■ LONDON

British troops may be tasked with delivering aid to Gaza from an offshore pier now under construction by the US military, the BBC reported Saturday. UK government officials declined to comment on the report. According to the BBC, the British government is considering deploying troops to drive the trucks that will carry aid from the pier along a floating causeway to the shore. No decision has been made and the proposal hasn't yet reached Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, the BBC reported, citing unidentified government sources. The report comes after a senior US military official said on Thursday that there would be no American "boots on the ground" and another nation would provide the personnel to drive the delivery trucks to the shore. The official, who spoke to

reporters on condition of anonymity to discuss details not yet made public, declined to identify the third party. Britain is already providing logistical support for construction of the pier, including a Royal Navy ship that will house hundreds of US soldiers and sailors working on the project. In addition, British military planners have been embedded at US Central Command in Florida and in Cyprus, where aid will be screened before shipment to Gaza, for several weeks, the UK Ministry of Defense said on Friday. The UK Hydrographic Office has also shared analysis of the Gaza shoreline with the US to aid in construction of the pier. "It is critical we establish more routes for vital humanitarian aid to reach the people of Gaza, and the UK continues to take a leading role in the delivery of support in coordination with the US

and our international allies and partners," Defense Secretary Grant Shapps said in a statement. Development of the port and pier in Gaza comes as Israel faces widespread international criticism over the slow trickle of aid into the Palestinian territory, where the United Nations says at least a quarter of the population sits on the brink of starvation. The Israel-Hamas conflict began with a Hamas-led attack into southern Israel on October 7, in which militants killed around 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and took some 250 people as hostages. Israel says the militants are still holding around 100 hostages and the remains of more than 30 others. Since then, more than 34,000 Palestinians have been killed in Israel's air and ground offensive, according to the Health Ministry in Hamas-run Gaza, around two-thirds of them children and women.

Ballistic missile fired by Yemen's Houthi rebels damages oil tanker in Red Sea

AP ■ JERUSALEM

Ballistic missiles fired by Yemen's Houthi rebels caused "minor damage" to a Panama-flagged oil tanker travelling through the Red Sea on Friday, authorities said. The attack follows an uptick in assaults launched by the Houthis in recent days after a relative lull in their months-long campaign over Israel's war on Hamas in the Gaza Strip. The rebels fired three missiles in the attack, one of which damaged the Panama-flagged, Seychelles-registered

Andromeda Star, the US military's Central Command said. The private security firm Ambrey described the tanker as being "engaged in Russia-linked trade." The vessel was travelling from Primorsk, Russia, to Vadinar, India, Ambrey said. Houthi military spokesman Brig. Gen. Yahya Saree later claimed the attack early Saturday in a prerecorded statement aired by the rebels. He described the tanker as being "directly hit." Another vessel, the Antiqua-Barbados-flagged, Liberia-operated Maisha, was also nearby at the time of the

assault, the US said. The attack occurred off Mocha, Yemen, near the Bab el-Mandeb Strait, which connects the Red Sea to the Gulf of Aden. The Houthis have launched more than 50 attacks on shipping, seized one vessel and sank another since November, according to the US Maritime Administration. Houthi attacks have dropped in recent weeks as the rebels have been targeted by a US-led airstrike campaign in Yemen. Shipping through the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden has declined because of the threat. American officials have speculated that

the rebels may be running out of weapons as a result of the US-led campaign against them and after firing drones and missiles steadily in the last months. However, since Wednesday, there have been at least two other attacks claimed by the Houthis. The first targeted the MV Yorktown, a US-flagged, owned and operated vessel with 18 US and four Greek crew members. Another targeted the MSC Darwin. The Houthis have said they will continue their attacks until Israel ends its war in Gaza, which has killed more than 34,000 Palestinians there.

Russia targets Ukrainian energy sector again

AP ■ KYIV

Russia launched a barrage of missiles against Ukraine overnight, in attacks that appeared to target the country's energy infrastructure. Meanwhile, Russia said its air defence systems had intercepted more than 60 Ukrainian drones over the southern Krasnodar region. Ukraine's air force said Saturday that Russia had launched 34 missiles against Ukraine overnight, of which 21 had been shot down by Ukrainian air defences. In a post on Telegram, Minister of Energy Herman Halushchenko said energy facilities in Dnipropetrovsk in the south of the country and

Ivano-Frankivsk and Lviv in the west had been attacked and that an engineer was injured. Private energy operator DTEK said four of its thermal power plants were damaged and that there were "casualties," without going into detail. Earlier this month Russia destroyed one of Ukraine's largest power plants and damaged others in a massive missile and drone attack as it renewed its push to target Ukraine's energy facilities. Ukraine has appealed to its Western allies for more air defense systems to ward off such attacks. At a meeting of the Ukraine Defense Contact Group on Friday, US Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin

announced the U.S. will provide Ukraine with additional munitions and gear for its air defense launches. Further east, a psychiatric hospital was damaged and one person was wounded after Russia launched a missile attack overnight on Ukraine's second-largest city, Kharkiv. Photos from the scene showed a huge crater on the grounds of the facility and patients taking shelter in corridors. Regional governor Oleh Syniehubov said a 53-year-old woman was hurt. In Russia, the Defence Ministry said Russian air defense systems had intercepted 66 drones over the country's southern Krasnodar region. Two more drones were

shot down over the Moscow-annexed Crimean Peninsula. The governor of the Krasnodar region, Veniamin Kondratyev, said that Ukrainian forces targeted an oil refinery and infrastructure facilities but that there were no casualties or serious damage. The regional department of the Emergency Situations Ministry reported that a fire broke out at the Slavyansk oil refinery in Slavyansk-on-Kuban during the attack. Ukrainian officials normally decline to comment on attacks on Russian soil, but the Ukrainian Energy Ministry said Saturday that two oil refineries in the Krasnodar region had been hit by drones.

Imran prefers jail than striking deal with govt

PTI ■ LAHORE

Pakistan's jailed former prime minister Imran Khan has ruled out an agreement with those who have "enslaved" the country, saying he is ready to serve for nine more years in prison but will never strike a deal with them. In a message released on Friday for the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party's 28th Foundation Day, Khan said that the "worst dictatorship" was imposed on the country which was becoming the basis for the "destruction" of the economy, government rule, democracy and judiciary." He called on every individual to play their role in stopping

this descent towards the country's ruin. "It is my message for the nation that I will give any sacrifice required for actual freedom but will never compromise on my or my nation's freedom." Khan said he was kept behind bars for the past nine months due to "fake [and] concocted cases." "I will remain in jail if I have to for nine more years, or more, but I will never strike a deal with those who have enslaved my nation." Since his removal from power in a no-confidence motion in April 2022, the 71-year-old former cricketer-turned-politician has been convicted in at least four cases. Khan has been lodged at Adiala Jail at

Rawalpindi after conviction in multiple cases. Since falling out with the powerful military, Khan's party has been facing a crackdown. The party faced pressure in the form of arrests and detentions in the wake of the May 9 violence that broke out after Khan's arrest last year. Khan's message came shortly after PTI leader Shehryar Afridi claimed that the party would have talks but not with the Bilwal Bhutto-Zardai-led Pakistan Peoples Party or the ruling Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz after their recent overtures. "We will talk with the Army chief, the DG [ISI] and the army because the need of the

hour is to [prioritise] the country's security," Afridi said. Termining the two parties a "rejected lot", Afridi reiterated that the party would talk with the army chief for Pakistan's freedom and future because the country "needs" Khan. He said the two parties only had one option to abandon their mandate and then the PTI would decide whether to move forward with them or not. Afridi claimed that it was Khan's wish "since the first day for us to engage [with the military leadership] but there was no response forthcoming." He said if any "response" had come then it would have been brought before the public. Earlier this week, PTI leader

Barrister Gohar Ali Khan had claimed that Khan was being pressured to accept a "deal". Rejecting speculation about secret talks with the establishment, Barrister Gohar had made it clear that the party was neither interested in nor holding talks with anyone. Independent candidates backed by Khan's PTI won more than 90 seats in the National Assembly in the February 8 general election. However, the PMN-L led by former prime minister Nawaz Sharif and the PPP formed a post-poll alliance and sidelined the jailed former prime minister's party from forming a federal government which assumed power last month.

Nawaz Sharif set to retake helm of PML-N amidst internal strife

PTI ■ LAHORE

Pakistan's three-time former prime minister Nawaz Sharif is all set to retake the helm of the ruling PML-N next month to guide the party amid internal strife, seven years after being disqualified by the apex court. Nawaz, 74, will be elected president of the ruling party on May 11 in a meeting of the party leadership, a senior Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) leader told PTI. In 2017, the Supreme Court of Pakistan disqualified Nawaz

as premier and party president for his alleged corruption in cases related to the Panama Papers revelations about his illegal wealth stashed abroad. He relinquished his position within the party following his disqualification, which also led to his departure from the prime minister's office. PML-N Punjab president Rana Sanaullah told a press conference that a decision to make Nawaz the president of the party again was taken at a party meeting on Friday. "A resolution was passed at the party meeting today to make the elder Sharif PML-N presi-

dent to undo the injustice meted out to him (Nawaz) in 2017 by the Supreme Court," Sanaullah, a former interior minister, said. The party will request Nawaz on his return from China to accept the president's office of the party. Nawaz is currently on a five-day private visit to China. "Nawaz Sharif was removed from the party president's office through a conspiracy. Now Nawaz has been acquitted in all (corruption) cases, he should again take up the party's reins," Sanaullah said and added the party would be re-organised under his (Nawaz's) leadership.

Long lines form and frustration grows as Cuba runs short of cash

AP ■ HAVANA

Alejandro Fonseca stood in line for several hours outside a bank in Havana hoping to withdraw Cuban pesos from an ATM, but when it was almost his turn, the cash ran out. He angrily hopped on his electric tricycle and travelled several kilometers to another branch where he finally managed to withdraw some money after wasting the entire morning. "It shouldn't be so difficult to get the money you earn by working," the 23-year-old told

The Associated Press in a recent interview. Fonseca is one of an increasing number of frustrated Cubans who have to grapple with yet another hurdle while navigating the island's already complicated monetary system — a shortage of cash. Long queues outside banks and ATMs in the capital, Havana, and beyond start forming early in the day as people seek cash for routine transactions like buying food and other essentials. Experts say there are several reasons behind the shortage, all somehow related to Cuba's

deep economic crisis, one of the worst in decades. Omar Everleny Pérez, a Cuban economist and university professor, says the main culprits are the government's growing fiscal deficit, the nonexistence of banknotes with a denomination greater than 1,000 Cuban pesos (about USD 3 in the parallel market), stubbornly high inflation and the non-return of cash to banks. "There is money, yes, but not in the banks," said Pérez, adding that most of the cash is being held not by salaried workers, but by entrepreneurs and owners of small- and

medium-size business who are more likely to collect cash from commercial transactions but are reluctant to return the money to the banks. This, Pérez says, is either because they don't trust the local banks or simply because they need the Cuban pesos to convert into foreign currency. Most entrepreneurs and small business owners in Cuba have to import almost everything they sell or pay in foreign currency for the supplies needed to run their businesses. As a consequence, many end up hoarding Cuban pesos to later change into foreign currency

on the informal market. Converting those Cuban pesos to other currencies poses yet another challenge, as there are several, highly fluctuating exchange rates in the island. For example, the official rate used by government industries and agencies is 24 pesos to the US dollar, while for individuals, the rate is 120 pesos to the dollar. However, the dollar can fetch up to 350 Cuban pesos on the informal market. Pérez notes that in 2018, 50 per cent of the cash in circulation was in the hands of the Cuban population and the

other half in Cuban banks. But in 2022, the latest year for which information is available, 70 per cent of cash was in the wallets of individuals. Cuban monetary authorities did not immediately respond to AP's emailed request for comment. The shortage of cash comes as Cubans grapple with a complex monetary system in which several currencies circulate, including a virtual currency, MLC, created in 2019. Then, in 2023 the government announced several measures aimed at promoting a "cashless society," making the use of

credit cards mandatory to pay for some transactions — including purchases of food, fuel and other basic goods — but many businesses simply refuse to accept them. Making things worse is stubbornly high inflation, meaning more and more physical bills are needed to buy products. According to official figures, inflation stood at 77 per cent in 2021, then dropped to 31 per cent in 2023. But for the average Cuban, the official figures barely reflect the reality of their lives, since market inflation can reach up to three digits on the informal market.

For example, a carton of eggs, which sold for 300 Cuban pesos in 2019, these days sells for about 3,100 pesos. All while the monthly salary for Cuban state workers ranges between 5,000 and 7,000 Cuban pesos (between USD 14 and USD 20 in the parallel market). "To live in an economy that, in addition to having several currencies, has several exchange rates and a three-digit inflation is quite complicated," said Pavel Vidal, a Cuba expert and professor at Colombia's Javeriana University of Cali.

Centre allows 99,500 tons of onion exports to six neighbouring nations

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre on Saturday said it has allowed exports of 99,500 tonnes of onions, mainly sourced from Maharashtra, to six neighbouring countries despite the ban on shipments.

The Centre has also allowed exports of 2,000 tonnes of white onion cultivated, especially, for export markets in the Middle East and some European countries.

On December 8, 2023, the government banned export of onions.

In an official statement, the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution said the government has "allowed export of 99,150 tonnes of onion to six neighbouring countries of Bangladesh, UAE, Bhutan, Bahrain, Mauritius and Sri Lanka".

The export prohibition has been imposed to ensure adequate domestic availability against the backdrop of estimated lower Kharif and Rabi crops in 2023-24 compared to the previous year. The ban was imposed amid an increase in demand in the



international market, it added. The National Cooperative Exports Limited (NCEL), the agency for the export of onion to these countries, sourced the domestic onions to be exported through e-platform at LI prices. NCEL has supplied to the agency or agencies nominated by the government of the

destination country at the negotiated rate on a 100 per cent advance payment basis. The offer rate of NCEL to the buyers takes into account the prevailing prices in the destination market and also international and domestic markets. The quota allocated for export to the six countries is being

supplied as per requisition made by the destination country. "As the largest producer of onion in the country, Maharashtra is the major supplier of onions sourced by NCEL for export," the statement said. The government had also allowed the export of 2,000

tonnes of white onion cultivated, especially for export markets in the Middle East and some European countries.

"Being purely export-oriented, the production cost of the white onion is higher than other onions due to higher seed cost, adoption of good agricultural practice (GAP) and compliance to strict maximum residue limits (MRL) requirements," the statement said.

The procurement target for onion buffer out of Rabi crop 2024 under the Price Stabilisation Fund (PSF) of the Department of Consumer Affairs has been fixed at 5 lakh tonnes this year.

The Central agencies, like NCCF and NAFED are tying up local agencies like FPOs/FPCs/PACs to support the procurement, storage and farmers registration to begin the procurement of any store-worthy onion.

A high-level team of the Department of Consumer Affairs, NCCF and NAFED visited Nashik and Ahmednagar districts of Maharashtra from April 11-13, 2024, to create awareness

among the farmers, FPOs/FPCs and PACs about the procurement of 5 lakh tonnes of onion for buffer stock.

To reduce the storage loss of onions, the department has decided to enhance the quantum of stocks to be irradiated and cold stored from 1,200 tonnes last year to over 5,000 tonnes this year, with technical support from BARC, Mumbai.

The pilot of onion irradiation and cold storage taken up last year has been found to have resulted in the reduction of storage loss to less than 10 per cent, the statement said.

In March, the Union Agriculture Ministry released the data for onion production. As per the data, onion production in 2023-24 (First Advance Estimates) is expected to be around 254.73 lakh tonnes compared to around 302.08 lakh tonnes last year.

This is due to a decrease of 34.31 lakh tonne output in Maharashtra, 9.95 lakh tonne in Karnataka, 3.54 lakh tonne in Andhra Pradesh and 3.12 lakh tonne in Rajasthan, the data showed.



WTO body asked to delay ruling on ICT import duties dispute till July 26

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India and Chinese Taipei have asked the WTO's dispute settlement body not to adopt any ruling against New Delhi's import duties on certain information and technology products till July 26 as both sides are engaged in resolving the matter, an official said.

The issue came up during a meeting of the dispute settlement body (DSB) in Geneva on April 26.

In the meeting, the two countries asked DSB to delay consideration of a dispute panel's reports until July 26, 2024 in order to help facilitate resolution of the disputes, the Geneva-based official said, adding that the body agreed to that.

Earlier also, DSB had agreed to three previous requests from India and Chinese Taipei to delay consideration of the reports.

As per rules of the WTO, the panel's ruling will have to be adopted by DSB for implementation within 60 days of the release of the order. However, countries can mutually request DSB for delay in adoption of the ruling.

In its report, a dispute panel of WTO on April 17, 2023 said import duties imposed by India on certain information and technology products violate global trading norms.

The ruling followed a case filed by the EU, Japan and Taiwan against these duties in WTO. In May 2019, Chinese Taipei had filed a case against India in the WTO over the import

duties imposed on certain electronic goods, including telephones for cellular networks; machines for reception, conversion and transmission or regeneration of voice, images or other data; and parts of telephone sets.

India has stated that these ICT products are part of WTO's Information Technology Products (ITA-2) agreement, and New Delhi is not part of this pact. India is a part of ITA-1, signed in 1997, which did not have any obligation to eliminate customs duties on these products.

Besides formulating norms for global exports and imports, the Geneva-based 164-member multilateral body adjudicates trade disputes among the member countries.

According to WTO rules, a member country can file a case in WTO if they feel that a particular trade measure is against the norms of WTO.

Bilateral consultation is the first step to resolving a dispute. If both sides are not able to resolve the matter through consultation, either of them can approach the establishment of a dispute settlement panel.

The panel's ruling or report can be challenged at WTO's appellate body. Interestingly, the appellate body is not functioning because of differences among member countries to appoint its members. Several disputes are already pending with this body. The US has been blocking the appointment of the members.

Indiabulls Real Estate loss widens to ₹1,038 crore in FY24

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Indiabulls Real Estate Ltd (IBREL) has posted widening of consolidated net loss at Rs 1,038.65 crore for the last fiscal year.

Its net loss stood at Rs 608.38 crore in 2022-23.

Total income also fell to Rs 648.75 crore during 2023-24 from Rs 648.47 crore in the preceding year, according to a regulatory filing on Friday.

IBREL's net loss in March quarter FY24 narrowed to Rs 302 crore from Rs 375.99 crore



in the year-ago period. Total income fell to Rs 39.54 crore in the quarter from Rs 132.91 crore in the year-ago period. Mumbai-based IBREL is one of the leading real estate developers in the country.

Mahindra Lifespace FY24 profit falls marginally to ₹98 crore

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Mahindra Lifespace Developers Ltd has reported a marginal decline in consolidated net profit to Rs 97.89 crore during the last fiscal year on lower income. Its net profit stood at Rs 101.43 crore in the preceding year.

According to a regulatory filing on Friday, the company's total income fell to Rs 279.12 crore last fiscal from Rs 659.56 crore in 2022-23.

Mahindra Lifespace is the real estate and infrastructure development business of Mahindra Group.

During the fourth quarter of last fiscal, the company's consolidated net profit surged to Rs 71.15 crore from just Rs 55 lakh in the year-ago period.

Total income declined to Rs 54.60 crore in



the quarter as against Rs 270.26 crore in the year-ago period.

Amit Sinha, Managing Director & CEO, Mahindra Lifespace Developers, said, "We closed FY24 with our highest ever annual sales driven by successful launches throughout the year."

Additionally, he said the company closed

2023-24 fiscal year with over Rs 4,400 crore of GDV (gross development value) in its business development.

On operational front, Mahindra Lifespace achieved its highest ever pre-sales of Rs 2,328 crore (saleable area - 2.47 million square feet, RERA carpet area 1.84 million square feet) in residential business during the last fiscal year. The company also achieved land leasing of 119.4 acres in the industrial business for Rs 370 crore.

Established in 1994, Mahindra Lifespace's development footprint spans 37.33 million square feet of completed, ongoing and forthcoming residential projects across seven Indian cities. It also has over 5,000 acre of ongoing and forthcoming projects under development / management at its integrated developments / industrial clusters across four locations.



ICICI Bank reports 18.5 per cent growth in Q4

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Private sector lender ICICI Bank on Saturday said its March 2024 quarter consolidated net grew 18.5 per cent to Rs 11,672 crore.

It had reported a net profit of Rs 9,853 crore in the year-ago period.

On a standalone basis, the second largest private sector lender showed a 17.4 per cent growth in its profit after tax at Rs 10,708 crore for the reporting quarter against Rs 9,122 crore in the year-ago period.

The core net interest income increased 8.1 per cent to Rs 19,093 crore on a 16.8 per cent growth in loans and a marginal compression in net interest margin to 4.40 per cent.

The non-interest income, excluding the performance of the treasury, came at Rs 5,930 crore, 15.7 per cent higher than the year-ago period.

The provisions more than halved to Rs 718 crore for the reporting quarter, as per the exchange filing by the lender.

Vestian: Office space leasing in Delhi-NCR drops 25 per cent annually in January-March

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The office space leasing in Delhi-NCR fell 25 per cent annually to 18.1 lakh square feet in January-March this year on lower demand from corporates, according to real estate consultant Vestian.

The office space absorption stood at 24 lakh square feet in the year-ago period.

The leasing of office space in Delhi-NCR dropped 40 per cent from 30 lakh square feet in the October-December quarter. The real estate consultant on Saturday released the data for office leasing across the top seven major cities.

Office absorption increased 13 per cent to 134 lakh sq ft in January-March 2024 from 118.5 lakh square feet in the year-ago period.

However, the absorption declined by 31 per cent during the first quarter of this year after peaking in the fourth quarter of 2023.

Vestian CEO Shrinivas Rao said, "2024 started on a positive note, as major office markets of India witnessed sustained absorption activities."

"Return to office mandates are likely to renew demand for office spaces across the country and may drive the next wave of growth amid global headwinds," Rao added.

Southern cities (Bengaluru, Chennai, and Hyderabad) accounted for 61 per cent of the Pan-India absorption in Q1 2024.

Their combined share increased from 54 per cent a year earlier. Moreover, the IT-ITes sector dominated absorption with 47 per cent share, followed by the BFSI sector with 11 per cent share.

Flexible spaces garnered interest from large conglomerates post-pandemic, accounting for 8 per cent of the pan-India absorption in Q1 2024.

In Bengaluru, office leasing declined to 26.2 lakh square feet in January-March this year from 33 lakh square feet in the year-ago period.

In Chennai, the leasing of office demand doubled to 33.5 lakh square feet from 16 lakh square feet.

Office leasing in Hyderabad rose to 22.7 lakh square feet from 15 lakh square feet.

In Mumbai, the office space absorption doubled to 24.9 lakh square feet from 12 lakh square feet.

Kolkata saw a decline in leasing to 1.6 lakh square feet from 3.5 lakh square feet. The office leasing in Pune declined to 7.1 lakh square feet during January-March 2024 from 15 lakh square feet in the year-ago period.

JPMorgan's Dimon hopes for soft landing for US economy but says stagflation possible scenario

AP ■ NEW YORK

JPMorgan Chase CEO Jamie Dimon says he's hopeful the Federal Reserve can bring down inflation without causing a recession but wouldn't rule out more troubling possibilities, such as stagflation.

In an interview with The Associated Press at a Chase branch opening in The Bronx, Dimon said he remained "cautious" about the US economy and said inflation may be stickier for longer and that "stagflation is on the list of possible things" that could happen to the US economy. "You should be worried about (the possibility of stagflation)," Dimon said.

Dimon did emphasise that he's still "hopeful" for the US economy to experience a soft landing, where growth slows but the economy avoids a recession even if inflation remains a little high, but he's not certain that is the most likely outcome.

"I'm just a little more dubious than others that a (soft landing) is a given," he said. The Fed rapidly raised interest rates in 2022 and 2023 after inflation reached the highest level in four decades. Fed officials have indicated they expect to begin lowering rates at some point, but the timeline has been pushed back as inflation remains well above the central bank's target rate of



2 per cent. Dimon spoke to the AP on a range of issues, including the independence of the Federal Reserve, the health of the US consumer, the need for banks to open branches and the pressing geopolitical issues of the day.

Inflation has been stubbornly elevated so far this year, and a report on Thursday showing growth slowed in the first three months of this year fanned fears of "stagflation," which occurs when the economy is weak, or in recession, yet prices keep moving higher.

It's a particularly miserable combination of economic circumstances, with high unemployment occurring along with rising costs. Typically, a sluggish economy brings down inflation. Stagflation last occurred in the 1970s, when conditions were far worse than today. In 1975,

include making the Fed's chairman removable by the president or requiring the president to be consulted on any changes to interest rates.

"I don't know what these people are thinking, or how they think they are going to go about this," Dimon said, saying that any changes would likely require legislation.

Chase was opening its 17th "community center" branch on Friday. These are larger branches that are designed for low-to-moderate income areas. They are designed with multipurpose areas that do workshops and financial literacy work for communities in need.

Glennys Arias, 43, lives in the Bronx and works as an Uber driver. She's been banking with Chase for six months and said she typically comes to use the ATM, for check cashing, and to check on her credit.

She said the branch has met her needs and she hadn't heard about the expansion or upcoming classes or events. "I didn't know about any of that, but I'd come for that," she said, of the programming.

In off-the-cuff remarks, Dimon noted the steady stream of customers. "I love the fact that so many people are walking in here. So many people are nervous about how they'll be treated when they walk into a bank branch.

Pumps maker KSB Ltd March qtr profit grows 8 per cent

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Pumps and valves maker KSB Ltd has reported a 7.75 per cent growth in net profit to Rs 43.1 crore for the quarter ended March 31, 2024.

It had clocked a net profit of Rs 40 crore in the year-ago period, the company said in a statement on Saturday.

The company follows January to December as financial year. During the quarter under review, the company's expenses rose to Rs 483.3 crore from Rs 432.4 crore a year ago.

Sales revenues rose to Rs 544.2 crore from Rs 489.6 crore. "This quarter we have registered a steady growth in sales revenue, which is 11.2 per cent higher than that of the corresponding Q1 2023 quarter. Our recent venture into the light water application of nuclear plant segment highlights our ongoing expansion efforts," Prashant Kumar, Vice President of Sales and Marketing, KSB said.

The company has received a letter of award for a project worth Rs 63 crore under PM-Kusum scheme from Maharashtra Energy Development Agency for installation of 2,500 solar water pumping systems. Part of Germany-based KSB Group, KSB Ltd is a leading manufacturer of pumps and valves.

BUSINESS BRIEF

NTPC TRIUMPHS AT SCOPE BUSINESS QUIZ BONANZA 2024
NTPC proudly announces its resounding victory at the prestigious SCOPE Business Quiz Bonanza (SBQB) held recently at SCOPE Convention Centre, New Delhi as part of the Public Sector Day celebrations. The NTPC team comprising of K M Prashanth, GM (CC) and Anshuman Srivastava, DGM (CP) emerged as the winner in the grand finale, surpassing stiff competition from other esteemed public sector units. The prizes were distributed by Amarendu Prakash, CMD (SAIL), Atul Sobti, DG, SCOPE, Shri Uttam Lal, Director (HR), NHPC and others senior dignitaries from SCOPE. Shri D. K. Patel, Director (HR), NTPC congratulated the team members for their excellent performance. More than 100 teams from various Maharashtra, Navaratna and Miniratna PSUs participated in the quiz from across the country. After an initial screening round, followed by two semi-final rounds, the grand finale had four teams - one team from NTPC and three teams from SAIL. After four rounds of quizzing, NTPC team emerged as the winner.

Sai Swami Metals & Alloys SME IPO to open on April 30

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

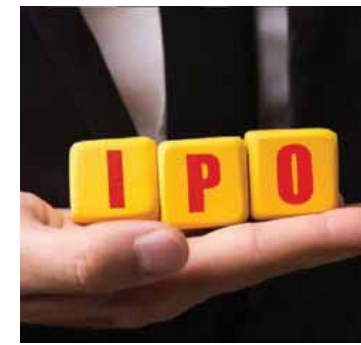
Stainless steel products maker Sai Swami Metals & Alloys Ltd will hit the capital market on April 30 to raise around Rs 15 crore from public investors.

The initial public offering of the company will open for subscription on the SME platform of BSE on Tuesday and will close on May 3, the company said in a statement on Saturday. The Ahmedabad-based company,

which manufactures stainless steel cookware and appliances under brand DOLPHIN, has fixed the price at Rs 60 per equity share.

The IPO comprises a fresh issue of 25 lakh equity shares of Rs 10 each. The company has fixed the retail individual investors' quota for the IPO at 50 per cent of the net offer and the rest 50 per cent for other investors.

"The proceeds of the public issue will be utilised to fund the company's expansion plans including purchase



of machineries, investment in subsidiary company, meeting working capital requirements and for general corporate purposes," the statement said.

The company plans to utilise Rs 6 crore towards working capital requirements, Rs 4 crore for investing in a subsidiary, Rs 2 crore for purchasing machineries and Rs 2 crore towards general corporate purpose. Shares of the company will be listed on BSE SME platform.

Swastika Investmart Ltd is the lead manager, while Bigshare Services is the registrar of the issue.

Sai Swami Metals & Alloys is involved in the trading and marketing of a comprehensive array of stainless steel products. For nine months ended December 2023, the company reported a net profit of Rs 1.79 crore and revenue of Rs 33.33 crore. In 2022-23 fiscal year, the company logged a net profit of Rs 3.83 lakh and a revenue of Rs 6.27 crore.

JYOTHI SHOOT HAT-TRICK OF GOLD AT ARCHERY WORLD CUP

PTI ■ SHANGHAI

Asian Games champion Jyothi Surekha Vennam spearheaded India's dominance with a rare hat-trick of gold as compound archers lapped up five medals at the ongoing Archery World Cup Stage 1 here on Saturday. The world No. 3 Jyothi fought past tournament top seed Andrea Becerra of Mexico in a tight shoot-off finish 146-146 (9*-9) to become the second Indian after Deepika Kumari to secure triple gold medals in a World Cup.



The 27-year-old Austrian shot all 10s from 15 arrows to edge out the spirited Indian by three points. In the morning session, India underlined their supremacy in the non-Olympic compound category to make a clean sweep of team events, winning men's team, women's team and mixed team events with Jyothi featuring in two of them. Jyothi, Aditi Swami and Parneet Kaur dropped just four points to trounce Italy 236-225 in the women's compound

team event to open their account with a gold medal. The men's team of Abhishek Verma, Priyansh and Prathamesh Fuge then went one step better as they missed just two points en route to defeating Netherlands' Mike Schloesser, Sil Pater and Stef Willemse 238-231. The mixed team completed the sweep when the second-seeded Jyothi and Verma warded off a late resurgence from their Estonian rivals -- Lisell Jaatma and Robin Jaatma -- to win

158-157 in a thrilling finish. The top seeded women's compound team dropped just four points from 24 arrows to down sixth seeded Italy in the first match of the day. In the first three ends of six arrows each, Jyothi, Aditi and Parneet missed the perfect 10 only twice to take a handsome 178-171 lead over Marcella Tonioli, Irene Franchini and Elisa Roner. In the fourth end, the Indians dropped two points but it did not matter much as they nailed

the gold with an 11-point margin. The men's team, who qualified as the fourth seed, put up a near flawless show to defeat their Dutch opponents. They began with a perfect round of 60 and dropped just two points in the next two ends, before sealing the win with another perfect 60 in the final set of six arrows. In the compound mixed team event, Jyothi and Abhishek took a three-point lead, starting off with a perfect

round of 40. The three-point drop in the first end proved decisive for Estonian archers who went on to shoot three perfect rounds of 40 each but the Indians held their nerves to seal the issue. Leading 119-117, the Indian duo needed a minimum score of 39 points out of a maximum 40 in the final end. They did

just that to bag the country's third gold. Jyothi then returned in the afternoon session to become the individual champion as well. The Indian struggled to get a perfect round in the first three ends as Andrea raced to an 88-87 lead. Jyothi finally managed a

perfect round in the fourth end when she drilled in three 10s with two X (closer to the centre), while Andrea also matched the Indian to retain her one-point lead. In the fifth round, Andrea faltered under pressure to drop two points, while Jyothi scored a 29 to level it 146-all to force a shoot-off.

Arne Slot step closer to Liverpool job

AP ■ LIVERPOOL (ENGLAND)

Arne Slot took a big step closer to becoming Liverpool's manager after the Premier League club reportedly agreed to pay Feyenoord about 11 million euros (USD 11.7 million) in compensation. British and Dutch media reported that the clubs reached a verbal agreement on the compensation package, clearing the way for the 45-year-old Slot to succeed Jurgen Klopp after this season.

While British media pegged the compensation around 11 million euros, Dutch newspaper De Telegraaf said the figure could surpass 13 million euros. Slot has two years left on his contract with the Rotterdam club. Klopp is leaving Liverpool after more than eight years in which he has won a full set of trophies including the Premier League and Champions League. Neither club has commented. With the compensation package agreed, Liverpool can



now negotiate contract terms with Slot. On Friday, Klopp described the Anfield post as the "best job in the world." He said he liked Slot's style of soccer but has not been involved in the search process. "If he's the solution I'm more than happy," Klopp said. "It's not up to me to judge these things, but it all sounds really good to me." Slot delivered the Dutch league title last season and the Dutch Cup this year at Feyenoord.

Madrid take step closer to La Liga title

AP ■ SAN SEBASTIAN

Real Madrid moved another step closer to a 36th Spanish league title after beating Real Sociedad 1-0 and extending its lead in the standings to 14 points. Carlo Ancelotti's men need just five points from their last five games to ensure the title will return to the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium. "We are very close to winning La Liga," the coach acknowledged after a hard-fought win in the Basque country. On a rainy night in San Sebastian, Madrid put out a second-string team to rest Jude Bellingham, Vinicius Junior and other regulars. The new faces struggled for large parts of the game, with Sociedad having much of the play and plenty of scoring chances. But one of Madrid's new faces proved the difference between the sides. Arda Güler, the young Turkish attacker, made his first start in the league, and when the Sociedad defense failed to clear Dani



Carvajal's low cross, Güler drifted in at the back post to slot the ball home with 29 minutes gone. Ancelotti paid tribute to the 19-year-old Güler, calling him "a very important player for our future." "Güler has extraordinary quality, he has great talent. Little by little he will take center stage." Takakura Kubo equalized three minutes later for Sociedad only to see his goal disallowed after a video review. Ancelotti introduced Vinicius, Antonio Rudiger and Eduardo Camavinga in a busy second half as Madrid held on to extend its unbeaten run in La Liga to 27 games. Another satisfying note for the champion-elect was the return of Eder Militao. The Brazilian defender made his first start since tearing his cruciate ligament eight months ago, and played the entire game. "I am very happy, after eight months out," Militao said. "Very happy to return and play 90 minutes and feel like a player again."

Indian women beat Canada 4-1 in Uber Cup

PTI ■ CHENGDU (CHINA)

Ashmita Chaliha produced an inspired show to stun higher-ranked Michelle Li as the Indian women's team notched up a clinical 4-1 win over Canada to make a positive start in the Uber Cup tournament here on Saturday. The left-handed Chaliha, ranked 53rd, showed great mental resolve and tenacity as she outwitted world no. 25 Li, a gold and silver medalist at the 2014 and 2022 Commonwealth Games, 26-24 24-22 in a 42-minute opening singles clash. Chaliha, who was part of India's maiden Asia Team Championships win in February, took over the leadership role in the absence of the top guns including P V Sindhu and delivered against Li, who is on a comeback trail after undergoing surgery for a meniscus tear on her right knee last August. Young women's doubles pair of Priya Konjengbam and Shruti Mishra, who had claimed the senior national championships title last December, then beat Catherine Choi and Jeslyn



Chow 21-12 21-10 to put India 2-0 ahead. Isharani Baruah defeated Wen Yu Zhang 21-13 21-12 to help India take an unassailable 3-0 lead. In the second women's doubles, Simran Singhi and Ritika Thaker went down 19-21 15-21 to Canada's Jackie Dent and Crystal before national champion Anmol Kharb beat Eliana Zhang 21-15 21-11 in the fifth and final match to complete the comfortable win. Bigger clashes lie ahead as it will face Singapore and China on Sunday and Tuesday respectively in Group A. In Thomas Cup, India will begin their title defence against Thailand later in the day.

Bank of Baroda E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

Regional Stressed Asset Recovery Branch, Sagar, 1st Floor, BSNL Building, City Center Gwalior M.P. 474001, Mob. No. 7880153116
Email id: sarsag@bankofbaroda.co.in | Web: www.bankofbaroda.com

"APPENDIX-IV-A [See proviso to Rule 6 (2) & 8 (6)]

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 6 (2) & 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Bank of Baroda, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" for recovery of below mentioned account/s. The details of Borrower /s/ Guarantor/s/ Secured Asset/s/Dues/Reserve Price/e-Auction date & Time, EMD and Bid Increase Amount are mentioned below.

Name & Address of Borrowers / Guarantors/ Mortgagee	Description of the immovable property with known encumbrances, if any	Reserve Price EMD Bid Increase Amount	Date & Time of E-Auction	Demand Notice Date Possession Date Outstanding Amount
Borrower- M/s Manglam Traders (Prop. Mr. Ramgopal Sharma) Add: Ward No.39, Matadeen ka pura, Bhatta wali Gali, Bhand, M.P.- 477001 Proprietor- Mr. Ramgopal Sharma S/o Late Shri Ramsharan Sharma Add: Ward No.39, Matadeen ka pura, Bhatta wali Gali, Bhand, M.P.- 477001 Guarantor- Mr. Shivkumar S/o Late Shri Ramsharan , Add: Ward No.39, Matadeen ka pura, Bhatta wali Gali, Bhand, M.P.- 477001	Owner- Mr. Ram Gopal Sharma S/o Shri Ram Sharan Sharma - All that part and parcel of the property bearing Khasra No.218/2 and 220, situated at Ward No.39, Matadeen ka Pura, Tehsil, District Bhand, admeasuring area 1000 Sq.Ft., Boundaries :- East: 25 Ft. wide Road, West: House of Bhagwati Prasad, North: Guddi Devi House South: 25 Ft. wide Road	Rs. 32,00,000/- Rs. 3,20,000/- Rs. 100000/-	06.06.2024 Time: 02:00pm to 6:00pm	16.03.2022 19.05.2022 Rs. 25,18,427.50 + Interest & charges
Borrower- Mr. Ankur Sharma S/o Ram Gopal Sharma , Add: Ward No.39, Matadeen Ka Pura, Near K K Bhatta, Ater Road, Bhand, M.P.- 477001 Guarantor - Mr. Ramgopal Sharma S/o Late Shri Ramsharan Sharma Add: Ward No.39, Matadeen Ka Pura, Near K K Bhatta, Ater Road, Bhand, M.P.- 477001	Owner- Mr. Ankur Sharma S/o Ram Gopal Sharma - Flour Mill Machinery and other movable assets pertaining to Mill situated at Ward No.39, Matadeen ka pura, Near KK Bhatta, Bhand, M.P.	Rs. 15,00,000/- Rs. 1,50,000/- Rs. 100000/-	06.06.2024 Time: 02:00 PM to 6:00 PM	31.01.2024 16.04.2024 Rs. 23,54,883.82 + Interest & charges

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer to the link provided in <https://www.bankofbaroda.in/e-auction.htm> or <https://ibapi.in.prospective.bidders> may contact the authorized officer on Mobile- 7880153116

Place: Gwalior, Date: 27/04/2024 Authorised officer, Bank of Baroda

Canara Bank E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

Regional office -1st Floor, Sai Baba Complex, Near GDA Building, Phool Bagh, Gwalior Ph. 0751-2423126

Appendix-IV-A [See provision to rule 8(6)]

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic / Physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer the Canara Bank (Secured Creditor) will be sold on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS, AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" & "WHAT EVER THERE IS" on 29.05.2024 for recovery of bank dues to the Canara Bank (Secured Creditor)

Name of Branch Name and address of the Borrower & Guarantors	Demand Notice Dt. Possession Dt. Outstanding Amt.	Description of Properties & Name of Property Owner	Reserve Price EMD Amt. Bid Increment Amt.
Branch : Canara Bank, LIC City Center, Gwalior Ph. 9425602306, 8989992605, E-mail cb17781@canarabank.com			
Borrower - M/S ADITYA BUILDING CONTRACTOR Proprietor- SMT. ANURADHA GUPTA W/O ATUL GUPTA Add: Near Goyal Dharmkanta Ke Pass, Battery Factory, Shankerpur, Gwalior (M.P.)- 474001 SMT. ANURADHA GUPTA W/O ATUL GUPTA GUPTA FEBRICATION , Add: Hem Singh Ki Pared, Mama Ka Bazar, Gwalior (M.P.)- 474001 Guarantor: - ATUL GUPTA S/O SH. J P GUPTA Add: Hem Singh Ki Pared, Mama Ka Bazar, Gwalior (M.P.)- 474001	04.07.2019 03.10.2019 Rs. 25,64,045.61 *Interest & other Charges	Flat No. 101, Ground Floor, A.s. Apartment Infront Of Murgi Farm, hem Singh Ki Parade, Lashkar , Dist Gwalior (M.P.)-474001, Area- 900 Sq. Ft. (land Area Consolidated)	Rs. 18,00,000/- Rs. 1,80,000/- Rs. 10,000/-
Borrower - M/S KAMADGIR STONE CUTTING Proprietor- NARESH SINGH S/O RAM SINGH Add: House No. 2, Mahana Sahib Ki Kothi, Adarsh Mill, Lashkar, Gwalior (M.P.)-474002 SH. NARESH SINGH MAHANA S/O RAM SINGH Add: House No. 2, Mahana Sahib Ki Kothi, Adarsh Mill, Lashkar, Gwalior (M.P.)-474002 Guarantor: - SMT. DEV KUNWAR BAI W/O RAM SWAROOP SINGH Add: House No. 2, Mahana Sahib Ki Kothi, Adarsh Mill, Lashkar, Gwalior (M.P.)-474002	14.06.2019 17.09.2019 Rs. 19,99,311.61 *Interest & other Charges	Residential House No 2720 Ward No 3 Part Of Survey No 479 & 480, Behind Of Adarsh Cloth Mill, Koteshwar Road Bahadapur Gwalior MP Boundaries: North: Colony Road 15' Wide South : Property Of Mudgal Ji East : Other House West : Other House	Rs. 72,18,000/- Rs. 7,21,800/- Rs. 10,000/-
Branch : Canara Bank, Madhoganj, Gwalior Ph. 898992542, E-mail cb5202@canarabank.com			
Borrower - M/S DRAASHI CONSTRUCTION Proprietor- SH. JITENDRA SINGH S/O GAMBHIR SINGH TOMAR Add: Janhagir Katra, Kila Gate, Gwalior (M.P.)-474001 Guarantor: - SH. PRADEEP SHARMA S/O MEVA RAM SHARMA Add: E 3/31 Hanuman Nagar Gole Ka Mandir Gwalior (M.P.)- 474001	29.09.2023 19.12.2023 Rs. 18,14,145.33 *Interest & other Charges	Land And Building Residential House Municipal No. 3/1040 Old No. 3/307, 4/626,27/1205, Ward No.3, Jahangir Kutra, Sagar Tal, Gwalior (M.P.) Area-73.32 Sq Mtr Boundaries: North: House of Sh Chhote Singh & Gyandeen, South : House of Sh Hari Singh, East : Gali West : House of Sh Haridwari Harijan	Rs. 20,79,000/- Rs. 2,07,900/- Rs. 10,000/-
Branch : Canara Bank, SKC, Gwalior Ph. 8989992551, E-mail cb5555@canarabank.com			
Borrower - M/S JAI SHETALA KIRANA STORE Proprietor- SH. MUKESH RATHORE S/O LT. SH. SHIVCHARAN RATHORE Add: Purani Chavni Main Road Gwalior (M.P.)- 474001 SH. MUKESH RATHORE S/O LT. SH. SHIVCHARAN RATHORE Add: 100, Purani Chavni Gwalior (M.P.)- 474001 Guarantor: - SURESH RATHORE S/O LT. SH. SHIVCHARAN RATHORE Add: Ram Janaki Mandir Ke Paas Purani Chhavni, gwalior (M.P.)- 474001	16.08.2023 01.11.2023 Rs. 17,41,774.10 *Interest & other Charges	Municipal House No. 185, Near Main Market, Purani Chawani, Gwalior (M.P.) Boundaries: North: Property of School South : Road Colony 20'wide East : House of Sh Panna Lal West : House of Sh Kaptaan Pal	Rs. 27,90,000/- Rs. 2,79,000/- Rs. 10,000/-
Branch : Canara Bank, Bhitwar, Gwalior Ph. 898992566, E-mail cb5445@canarabank.com			
Borrower - M/S THAKUR BABA KISAN SEWA KENDRA NAWLI Proprietor- NHRADAYAL SINGH S/O SHRI ATAR RAM Add: Village Nawli, Pichhore Distt. Shivpuri (M.P.)- 473995 SH. HARDAYAL MIRDHA S/O SHRI ATAR RAM Add: Village Chitoli, Post- Devri Kalan Tehsil- Bhitwar Distt. Gwalior (M.P.)- 475220	16.08.2023 05.01.2024 Rs. 28,75,420.12 *Interest & other Charges	Commercially Diverted Land Owned By Hardayal Mirdha Situated At Part Of Survey No. 173/2, Village Nawli, Pichhore, Distt. Shivpuri (M.P.)- 473995, Area-9700 Sq Ft Boundaries: North: Land of Bhagraj South : Land of Haradaj East : Land of Kailash Lodhi West : Road	Rs. 10,51,200/- Rs. 1,05,120/- Rs. 10,000/-
Borrower - M/S THAKUR BABA MOTORS Proprietor- PUNJAB SINGH PARIHAR S/O SHRI KHUSHALI RAM Add: Harsi Road, Bhitwar, Gwalior (M.P.)- Pin-475200 SH. PUNJAB SINGH PARIHAR S/O SHRI KHUSHALI RAM Add: 28, Advocate Colony, Bhitwar, Gwalior (M.P.) Pin-475200	24.02.2023 08.06.2023 Rs. 22,20,209.06 *Interest & other Charges	Emt Of Land & Residential Building Owned By Punjab Singh Parihar Situated At Survey No.3343/min-1, Ward No.08,Bhitwar,gwalior (m.p.) Area-800 Sq Ft (20*40) Boundaries: North: Plot of Nawal Singh South : Plot of Sh. Baghel East : Road Colony West : Land of Seller	Rs. 21,60,000/- Rs. 2,16,000/- Rs. 10,000/-
Branch : Canara Bank, Dal Bazar, Gwalior Ph. 898998135, E-mail cb0295@canarabank.com			
Borrower - TIWARI CONSTRUCTION Add- Tiwari Complex, Hazira Chowk Gwalior (M.P.)- 474001 Proprietor- PROP. SH. PRAKASH TIWARI S/O SH. SHIVRAM TIWARI Guarantor: - SMT. HEMLATA TIWARI W/O JAI PRAKASH TIWARI Add: Tiwari Market, Hazira Chauraha Gwalior (M.P.)-474003	19.04.2021 18.10.2021 Rs. 83,98,594.09 *Interest & other Charges	Municipal No. 1154, Choodi Market, Guspura No. 2, Hazira Chauraha, Dist - Gwalior Boundaries: North: Owner Property South : Road Nigam 25 Wide East : Other Property West : Prop of SH Bhogiram	Rs. 1,44,00,000/- Rs. 14,40,000/- Rs. 10,000/-
Branch: SME, Gwalior, Ph. 8860938232, Email: cb3910@canarabank.com			
Borrower - Shriamant Madhwarao Scindia Computer Education Add: 8A Sikandar Shivan Jawahar Colony Tina Lashkar Gwalior (M.P.) Proprietor- Rakesh Mathuria S/o Shri Rameshwar Dayal Mathuria Add: 102 Diamond Complex, Kampong, Lakshadana Lashkar Gwalior (M.P.) Mortgagor-1. Rameshwar Dayal S/o Shri Gyasiram, 2. Ram Kishan S/o Shri Gyasiram Add: Gubbara Phatak, Lohiya Bazar, Lashkar, Gwalior (M.P.)	17.10.2022 04.02.2023 Rs. 24,54,565.24 *Interest & other Charges	Owner- 1- Rameshwar Dayal S/o Shri Gyasiram, 2. Ram Kishan S/o Shri Gyasiram- Ward No.12/45, Municipal House No.656, Gubbara Phatak, Lohiya Bazar, Jinsi Nala No.02 Gwalior (M.P.), Area-700 SqFt., Boundaries: - East- Gali & Road Nagar Nigam, West- property of Shri Babulal, South-way to Lohiya Bazar, North- Rest Part of The Property Padam Chand Jain.	Rs. 24,63,000/- Rs. 2,46,300/- Rs. 10,000/-

Date & Time of e-auction: 29.05.2024, 11.30 AM to 12.30 PM (With unlimited extension of 5 minutes duration each)

Other terms and conditions :

- The Property will be sold in "AS IS WHERE IS" condition including encumbrances, if any. (There are no encumbrances to the knowledge of the Bank. For details of encumbrances, contact the undersigned before deposit of the Earnest Money Deposit referred to in Clause 9(d) below). Auction/ bidding shall be only through "Online Electronic Bidding" through the website: www.indianbanksaleaction.com Bidders are advised to check for any lapses/ failure in Internet facility, Power failure, etc.) on the part of bidder or vendor in such cases.
- The Property will be sold only for a price above the Reserve Price.
- The property can be inspected with prior Appointment with Authorised Officer, on any working day between 3.00 PM to 5.00 PM before 27.05.2024
- The intending bidder shall submit Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) being 10% of Reserve Price by way of DD favouring, Authorised Officer, Canara Bank, Concerned Branch OR shall be deposited through RTGS/NEFT/Fund Transfer to credit of account of Canara Bank (Mentioned above in the table) on or before 27.05.2024 upto 5.30 PM.
- Sale shall be confirmed in favour of the successful bidder, subject to confirmation of the same by the secured creditor.
- Intending bidders shall hold a valid digital signature certificate and address. For details with regard to digital signature please contact the service provider M/S Canbank computer service LTD., Help Line No. 9480691777 and 8553643144, Help Line e-mail ID: euction@ccsl.co.in. Immediately on the same date of payment of the EMD amount the bidders shall approach the said service provider for obtaining digital signature (If not holding a valid digital signature) The intending bidder should register their names at portal www.indianbanksaleaction.com get their User ID and password free of cost. Prospective bidder may avail online training on E-auction from the service provider Canbank computer service LTD., Help Line No. 9480691777 and 8553643144, Help Line e-mail ID: euction@ccsl.co.in
- The successful bidder shall deposit 25% of the sale price (including of EMD already paid), immediately on the allotment of bid in his/her favour and balance within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale. If the successful fails to pay the price as stated above, the deposit made by him shall be forfeited.
- All charges for conveyance, stamp duty and registration charges, as applicable shall be borne by the successful bidder only.
- For proceeds of Rs.50 (Rupees Fifty) lacs and above, the successful bidder will have to deduct TDS at the rate 1% on the sale proceeds and submit the original receipt of TDS certificate to the bank.
- For further details contact Recovery & Legal Section, Canara Bank Circle Office, Bhopal Phone No. 0755-2671005, CRM Section Regional office Gwalior 0751-2423126, Canbank Computer Service LTD., Help Line No. 9480691777 and 8553643144 Help Line e-mail ID: euction@ccsl.co.in, Special Instruction/Caution : Bidding in the last minutes/seconds should be avoided by the bidders in their own interest. Neither Canara Bank nor the service provider will be responsible for any lapses/failure (Internet facility, Power failure, etc.) on the part of bidder or vendor in such cases. In order to ward off such contingent situation bidder are requested to make all the necessary arrangement/alternatives such as back-up, power supply and whatever else required so that they are able to circumvent such situation and are able to participate in the auction successfully.

Place: Gwalior, Date: 24/04/2024 AUTHORISED OFFICER CANARA BANK



INCONSISTENT CSK FACE BRUISED SRH IN IPL



PTI CHENNAI

Starting from back-to-back losses, defending champion Chennai Super Kings will be desperate to return to winning ways when they face a formidable but bruised Sunrisers Hyderabad in their IPL match here on Sunday.

CSK had a good start to the season under new skipper Ruturaj Gaikwad but they have been topped by the Lucknow Super Giants twice in the last two games.

It was an unfamiliar sight for the Yellow Brigade fans to see the Chepauk fortress being breached as LSG knocked down a target of 210 with ease, thanks to Marcus Stoinis' stunning hundred.

With four wins and as many losses in eight games, CSK are currently at fifth spot, tied with eight points with Delhi Capitals and Gujarat Titans and will be keen to find their mojo back as things can quickly go south as the race to playoffs get heated up.

Come Sunday, CSK will be up against third-ranked Sunrisers Hyderabad, who have twice broken the record of the highest IPL total this season but are coming into the game following a failure of their ultra-aggressive batting approach against RCB.

CSK's batting has hovered around skipper Gaikwad, who pulled off only his second IPL century the other day, and the in-form Shivam Dube, who once again impressed with yet another fifty.

While Ravindra Jadeja too chipped in with the bat, the inconsistent form of top-order is a problem. Both Rachin Ravindra and Daryl Mitchell's lack of runs is a concern and it has forced CSK to shuffle their batting order.

Considering their bowling, the hosts had to toil hard against LSG, given the unexpectedly huge amount of dew at Chepauk that took their spinners out of the game and the visitors made full advantage of it during their 213-run chase.

While the CSK pacers managed to capture the four LSG wickets to fell, the spinners struggled to grip the ball, whereas the constant misfields did not help them either. A high-flying SRH, on the other hand, were brought to the ground by RCB when they suffered only their third defeat of the season at home by 35 runs on Thursday.

However, it is unlikely to deter the SRH batters who would fancy their chances against an inconsistent CSK. Against RCB, SRH's top and middle-

order failed collectively while chasing, forcing head coach Daniel Vettori to admit that the idea of going all out with the bat in the second innings might not be the right thing to do.

There is unlikely to be any shuffling in the visiting batting order, but Aiden Markram might need to step up, having been dismissed in singles figures in the last two contests. In bowling, senior seamer Bhuvneshwar Kumar is the only one who could be at the receiving end, having managed to claim just a wicket in the last three fixtures.

With the likes of Umran Malik, Fazalhaq Farooqi and Akash Singh waiting in the wings, SRH may think of giving a chance to the Jammu pacer, who has the ability to bowl above 150 kmph.

Given that SRH won four of their last five games this season while defending, they would love to bat first but both teams will also keep an eye on the unpredictable dew factor.

SQUADS:
Chennai Super Kings: MS Dhoni (wk), Ravindra Jadeja, Devon Conway, Ruturaj Gaikwad (c), Ajinkya Rahane, Moeen Ali, Shivam Dube, Rajvardhan Hangargekar, Mitchell Santner, Tushar Deshpande, Matheesha Pathirana, Simarjeet Singh, Prashant Solanki, Maheesh Theekshana, Shaik Rasheed, Nishant Sindhu, Ajay Mandal, Mukesh Choudhary, Rachin Ravindra, Shardul Thakur, Daryl Mitchell, Sameer Rizvi, Mustafizur Rahman and Avinash Rao Aravelly.
Sunrisers Hyderabad: Abhishek Sharma, Travis Head, Klaesen (wk), Aiden Markram, Abdul Samad, Nitish Reddy, Shahbaz Ahmed, Pat Cummins (c), Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Jaydev Unadkat, T Natarajan, Mayank Markande, Umran Malik, Anmolpreet Singh, Glenn Phillips, Rahul Tripathi, Washington Sundar, Uppendra Yadav, Subramanyam, Sanvir Singh, Vijaykanth Vijayakanth, Fazalhaq Farooqi, Marco Jansen, Akash Maharaj Singh and Mayank Agarwal.

Obvious Information
 The general public is informed that earlier I was known as Bhadauria Reetu Mahesh, now my name has changed to REETU CHAUHAN, so in future I will be known and recognized by this name.
Reetu Chauhan, Husband, Shailendra Singh Chauhan
 Address: I.t.b.- 404 Dream City Talawali Chanda A.B road Indore Madhya Pradesh - 453771

नाम परिवर्तन
 मैं चुनी पवार (Chunnee Pawar) सर्वसाधारण को सूचित करता हूँ की मेरे सभी शासकीय/अर्धशासकीय/अन्य दस्तावेजों में मेरा नाम चुनी पवार (Chunnee Pawar) पुत्र हरीराम पवार है। वर्तमान में मुझे संदीप पवार पुत्र हरीराम पवार के नाम से जाना पहचाना जाता है। अतः अपना नाम परिवर्तित करना चाहता हूँ भविष्य में मुझे संदीप पवार (Sandeep Pawar) पुत्र हरीराम पवार के नाम से ही जाना, पहचाना, लिखा, पढ़ा एवं पुकारा जाए।
पुराना नाम: चुनी पवार (Chunnee Pawar) पुत्र हरीराम पवार
वर्तमान नाम: संदीप पवार (Sandeep Pawar) पुत्र हरीराम पवार
 छिंदखेड़ा तहसील मुल्ताई बैतूल मध्य प्रदेश 460666

नाम परिवर्तन
 मैं, रजनीश गुप्ता आत्मज श्री रामकिशोर गुप्ता। मेरा पुत्र काव्य गुप्ता का नाम समस्त दस्तावेजों में काव्य गुप्ता दर्ज है। मैं उसका नाम परिवर्तन कर नया नाम कार्तिक गुप्ता करना चाहता हूँ यह कि काव्य गुप्ता एवं कार्तिक गुप्ता दोनों एक ही व्यक्ति के नाम है याने की मेरे पुत्र के इस विज्ञापित के उपरान्त मेरा पुत्र को समस्त शासकीय/अर्धशासकीय प्रपत्रों में कार्तिक गुप्ता के नाम से जाना पहचाना लिखा पढ़ा एवं पुकारा जाए।
पुराना नाम: काव्य गुप्ता आत्मज रजनीश गुप्ता
नया नाम: कार्तिक गुप्ता आत्मज रजनीश गुप्ता
 निवासी 1648/1, जय नगर लेबर चौक के पास, गढ़ा रोड, जबलपुर

HINDUJA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED Corporate Office: 167-169, 2nd floor, Near Little Mount Metro Station, Saidapet, Chennai - 600015 Regional Office - 101-B, 1st Floor, NRK Business Park, Vijaynagar, Indore(MP) - 452010 Appendix IV Symbolic Possession NOTICE (for Immovable property)			
Name of Borrower/ Guarantor / Co-Borrower	1. Demand Notice Issued Date 2. Loan Account No, 3. Amount Due as on Notice Date	Description of Secured asset (Immovable Property)	Date of Possession
MR. BHARAT SINGH (Borrower) MRS. SUNEETA (Co-Borrower1) MR. SATENDRA SINGH GURJAR (Co-Borrower2) MR. KALIYAN SINGH (Co-Borrower-3)	1) Issuance Date - 29/01/2024 2) MP/GLR/GWLR/A000000687 & MP/GLR/GWLR/A000001200 3) Total Amount Due Rs. 14,94,942/- (Rupees Fourteen Lacs Ninety Four Thousand Nine Hundred Forty Two Only)	DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY - All that piece & parcel of Converted land at Mauja Jaura Khurd, bearing Khasra No. 1497, Gram Barendra, Prem Nagar, Tehsil Morena, District Morena, (MP). Total Admeasuring area 1560 Sqft or 144.98 Sq Mt., BOUNDARIES : East : 15 Ft Wide Road, West: Plot of Raghuvver, Raghunath, North : Surendra Singh Sikarwar, South : Plot of Bhoopendra	26/04/2024
MR. AIDAL SINGH (Borrower) MRS. ROOBI (Co Borrower)	1) Issuance Date - 29/01/2024 2) MP/GLR/GWLR/A000001059 3) Total Amount Due Rs. 10,33,885/- (Rupees Ten Lacs Thirty Three Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty Five Only)	DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY - All that piece & parcel of Converted land at Mauja Gram Jouri, Bearing Khasra No. 0710/Min 9, Ward No. 14, Ward, Near 12 Futa Hanuman Ji Mandir, Siddh Nagar, Nagar Palika Nigam Morena, Tehsil Morena, District Morena, (MP) Total Admeasuring area 1472 Sqft. Or 136.80 SqMt., BOUNDARIES : East : Property of Yadav Ji, West: Property of Parsuram ji, North : Land of Banwari Gurjar, South: 25 Ft wide Road.	26/04/2024
MR. BETAL (Borrower) MR. SIYARAM (Co-Borrower1) MS. REKHA KUSHWAH (Co-Borrower2)	1) Issuance Date - 07/02/2024 2) MP/GLR/GWLR/A000000277 3) Total Amount Due Rs. 10,37,611/- (Rupees Ten Lacs Thirty Seven Thousand Six Hundred Eleven Only)	DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY - Survey No. 359 Min 37, Land Mauja Shikarpur, Durgapuri Colony, PH No. 38, Tehsil Morena, District Morena (MP). Total Area 1104 Sq Ft. Boundaries of property as per sale deed as follows: - East - Land of Parsottam, West - Land of Maharaj Singh, North: - 20 feet Wide Road, South - Land of Chimman Singh.	26/04/2024
MR. RAM KRISHNA (Borrower) MRS. CHANDA BAI (Co-Borrower)	1) Issuance Date - 27/12/2023 2) MP/SGR/SAGR/A000000293 3) Total Amount Due Rs. 11,61,707/- (Rupees Eleven Lacs Sixty One Thousand Seven Hundred Seven Only)	DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY - All that piece & parcel of Converted land at Land Bearing Mouja Gram Behlot Pargana Basoda, Khasra No. 310, PH No. 24, Sett. NO 263, W No. 07, Tehsil Ganj Basoda, District Vidisha, (MP). Total Admeasuring area 1000 Sqft., BOUNDARIES : East: Land of Rajput, West : Gali and Land of Seller, North : Land of Manoj, South: Land of Mohan Sahu.	27/04/2024
Legal Heirs of Late MR. RADHESHYAM SAHU (Borrower) MRS. ANITA SAHU (Co Borrower 1 MR. SURESH SAHU S/O RAMCHARAN SAHU (Co Borrower 2)	1) Issuance Date - 22/11/2021 2) MP/GLR/GWLR/A000000279 & MP/GLR/GWLR/A000000746 3) Total Amount Due Rs. 10,57,988 /- (Rupees Ten Lacs Fifty Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty Eight Only)	DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY - All that part and parcel of Converted land at Mouza Mudiya Pahad Naka, Plot No. 39/66/1 or 39/63 or 59/161, Ward No. 59, Area 505 SqFt., PH No. 27, NAKA CHANDRAWADNI Nagar, Lashkar Pargana, District Gwalior, (M.P.), 485001. Area admeasuring - 505 SqFt., Bounded by: East: House of Mevaram, West: Road, North: House of Bhavani Shankar Shrivastava, South: House of Mevaram.	25/04/2024
MR. RAGHVENDRA (Borrower) MRS. REENA DANGI (Co-Borrower)	1) Issuance Date - 07/02/2024 2) MP/SGR/SAGR/A000000193 3) Total Amount Due Rs. 14,81,152/- (Rupees Fourteen Lacs Eighty One Thousand One Hundred Fifty Two Only)	DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY - Part of Survey No. 466/5, Land No. 940, Ward No. 08, Samrat Ashok Ward, New Bus Stand Area, Bareth Road, Tehsil Ganj Basoda, Dist. Vidisha (M.P). Total Extent - 450 Sq. ft. or 41.82 Sq Mt. Boundaries of property as per sale deed as follows: - East: - House of Jitendra Baghel, West: - House of Dashrath Singh Rajpoot. North: - House of Rajesh Yadav. South: - Gali 10 ft.	27/04/2024
MR. KAMAL SINGH (Borrower) MR. DHARMENDRA SINGH (Co-Borrower 1) MRS. ROOVI DEVI (Co-Borrower 2)	1) Issuance Date - 29/01/2024 2) MP/GLR/GWLR/A000000805 & CO/CPC/CPOF/A000000116 3) Total Amount Due Rs. 11,32,582/- (Rupees Eleven Lacs Thirty Two Thousand Five Hundred Eighty Two Only)	DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY -All that piece & parcel of Converted land at Mauja Maharajpur, Bearing Khasra No. 883, Ward No. 45, Nagar Palika Nigam Morena, Tehsil Jaura, District Morena, (MP) Total Admeasuring area 1093 Sqft. BOUNDARIES : East : Agriland of Manpal West : 20 Feet Wide Road, North: Land of Sharma Ji, South: Land of Mukesh Parmar .	26/04/2024
MR. CHANDRABHAN (Borrower) MRS. USHA (Co Borrower)	1) Issuance Date - 07/02/2024 2) MP/SGR/SAGR/A000000171 3) Total Amount Due Rs. 11,26,723/- (Rupees Eleven Lacs Twenty Six Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty Three Only)	DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY - All that piece & parcel of converted land at Gram Ganj Basoda, Araz Khasra No. 668/2/1, N.B. 36, PH N 45, Plot No. 66, Nagarpalika Ganj Basoda, Ward No. 15, Shastri Ward, Mirjapur, Valmiki Gali, Tehsil Ganj Basoda, District Vidisha (M.P.) Measuring area 1000 Sqft, 92.93 Sqm. Boundaries as Per Sale Deed- East : Plot No. 59 , West: Gali, North : Plot No. 67, South : Plot No. 65.	27/04/2024
MR. DINESH SINGH SIKARWAR (Borrower) MRS. DOLI DEVI (Co-Borrower)	1) Issuance Date - 07/02/2024 2) MP/GLR/GWLR/A000000465 3) Total Amount Due Rs. 12,78,143/- (Rupees Twelve Lacs Seventy Eight Thousand One Hundred Forty Three Only)	DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY - Mauja Jauri, Survey No. 279 Min 76, Ward No 10, Chandra Shekar Ward, Nagar Palika Nigam Morena, Tehsil Morena, Dist. Morena (MP). Total Area 600 Sq Ft. or 55.76 SM. Boundaries of Property As Per Sale Deed as follows: - East: - Plot of Parmar, West: - Plot of Ramdin Sikarwar, North: - Road, South: - Plot of Digar.	26/04/2024
MR. BRIJESH TIWARI (Borrower) MRS. LATA TIWARI (Co-Borrower)	1) Issuance Date - 29/01/2024 2) MP/GLR/GWLR/A000000698 & MP/GLR/GWLR/A000001029 3) Total Amount Due Rs. 15,47,349/- (Rupees Fifteen Lacs Forty Seven Thousand Three Hundred Forty Nine Only)	DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY - All that piece & parcel of Converted land at Mauja Gram Jouri, bearing Khasra No. 413, PH NO 21, Circle No 1, Gram Jouri, Ward No. 10, Chandra Shekar Ward, Nagar Palika Nigam Morena, Tehsil Morena, District Morena, (MP) Total Admeasuring area 35*60=2275 Sqft. Or 211.43 SqMt. East: Govt. Road, West: Kachha Dagra, North: Plot of Mataprasad Dubey, South: House and Land of Ramendra Prasad Tiwari.	26/04/2024
Mr. RAMSWAROOP SARAN (Borrower) Mrs. MAMTA BAI (Co-Borrower1)	1) Issuance Date - 23/01/2024 2) MP/HBD/HOSH/A000000046 & CO/CPC/CPOF/A000001569 3) Total Amount Due Rs. 16,22,161 (Rs. Sixteen Lakh Twenty Two Thousand and One Hundred and Sixty one Only)	DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY - All that part and parcel of the property situated at : Khasra No. 454 which is situated at Patwari Halka No. 35, Mauza & Village Sandalpur, Tehsil Khategaon, District Devas (MP). , Rural , Dewas (MP) - 455336 Measuring 6458 Sq.ft. BOUNDARIES : East - Land Of Smt. Nirmala Bai D/o Rmdhar Tawar, West- Land Of Babita D/o Poonamchand Bishnoi, North - Remaining Land Of Seller, South- Approach Govt. Road	27/04/2024
Mr JAGDEESH PRASAD PRAJAPATI (Borrower) MRS JUGUNTI BAI PRAJAPATI (Co-Borrower)	1) Issuance Date - 20/11/2023 2) MP/IBR/KTNI/A000000195 & CO/CPC/CPOF/A0000000406 3) Total Amount Due Rs. 15,92,153/- (Rupees Fifteen Lacs Ninety Two Thousand One Hundred Fifty three Only)	DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY - All that piece and parcel of Converted Land at Mauza / Gram-Dulhara, J.No. 325, P.H No. Kachua No. 63, Khasra no. 102/2, 103/2, 108/1, 108/1/1 R.N.M- Manpur Tehsil-Manpur Distt Umariya (M.P.) 484665, Admeasuring - 2200 Sq Feet, North: Land of Kusum Bai Bewa Chote Lal, South: Govt. Land, East: Land of Rakhiya Father Goja Kumhar, West: Land of Ramlal.	26/04/2024
MR. GULAM KHWAJA (Borrower) MRS. SHAHIN FATIMA (Co-Borrower)	1) Issuance Date - 05/02/2024 2) MP/KTN/SHDL/A000000021 & MP/KTN/SHDL/A000000043 3) Total Amount Due Rs. 11,38,023 (Rupees Twenty One Lacs Thirty Eight Thousand Twenty Three only)	DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY - Mauja Suhagpur, Survey No. 1811/1/27, PH No. 28, RNM Suhagpur, Tehsil Suhagpur, Ward No. 11, District. Shahdol (MP). Total Area 1740 Sq Ft. or 161.82 SM. Boundaries of property as per sale deed as follows: - East: - Nistari Road, West: - House of SN Vishwakarma, North: - House of Asha Rawat, South: - Common Road.	26/04/2024
MR. INDRESH KUMAR RAI (Borrower) MR. RENU RAI (Co-Borrower)	1) Issuance Date - 05/02/2024 2) MP/BPL/HBAD/A000000078 3) Total Amount Due Rs 14,81,778/- (Rupees Fourteen Lakhs Eighty One Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy Eight only)	DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY - A diverted residential plot on which a well-constructed single-story house which is a part of South Portion of Plot No. C-51, having its Area of 500 Sq.ft. or 46.468 Sq.mt . Situated at khasra No.128/2/2 (S)& 128/2/3, P.H.No. 06, Ward No. 09, Rajendra Prasad Ward, Vikas Khand Budhni, Mouza/Gram- Budhni, Tehsil Budhni, District Sehore (MP) Boundaries (As per Sale Deed) East: - House of Manoj Malviya, West: - House of Satish Rathore, North: - Plot No. 50, South: - Colony Road	24/04/2024
MR. MANISH GUPTA (Borrower) MR. PREETI GUPTA (Co-Borrower)	1) Issuance Date - 26/11/2023 2) MP/IBR/REWA/A000000169 3) Total Amount Due Rs. 33,36,259 (Rupees Thirty Three Lacs Thirty Six Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Nine only)	DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY - The Property Nazul Plot No. 5674/4 Ward No. 41 Haz Darasaha Mauza Rewa The Land situated in the Village Ward No. 41 Rewa, Patwari Halka Rewa, R.I. circle Rewa Gird, Vikas Khand Rewa, Tehsil Huzur Nagar, Distt. Rewa (M.P.) Admeasuring Total Area 1550 Sqft , Boundaries as Per Sale Deed - East: Shop of Municipal Corporation, West: House of Manoj Sondhiya, North: 15 Feet Road, South: House of Sudhir Kahar.	26/04/2024
Mrs Meena Pathrol (Borrower) MS. Kiran Bai (Co-Borrower)	1) Issuance Date - 01/02/2024 2) MP/BPL/SEHO/A000000224 3) Total Amount Due Rs. 30,07,072/- (Rupees Thirty Lacs Seven Thousand Seventy Two Only)	DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY - All that Property being Residential Flat No. S-03 & S-04, Plot No. 104 Khasra No. 17/1, & 14 Second Floor, Veer Sadan Apartment Plot No. 14 P.H No. 25/43 R.I.C- 03 Swarn Kunj M/s Amaltas Housing Co-operative Society Bhopal (MP) Comprising of an area 1150 Sqft which is situated at village katara, under the Municipal Ward No. 85 Tehsil Huzur, District Bhopal -462026 Bounded By - As Per Flat No. S-03 East : Plot No.105, West : Corridor/Stairs, North : Flat No. S-02, South : Others Land, As Per Flat No. S-04, East : Flat No. S-03, West : Plot No. 103, North : Corridor/Stairs, South : Others Land.	23/04/2024
MR. MUNAWWAR KHAN (Borrower) MR. QAMAR ALI (Co Borrower-1) MR. ANWAR KHAN (Co Borrower-2) Mr. FAZLI KHAN (Co Borrower-3)	1) Issuance Date - 01/02/2024 2) MP/BPL/BOPL/A000000629 & CO/CPC/CPOF/A000001057 3) Total Amount Due Rs 15,00,122/- (Rupees Fifteen Lakhs One Hundred Twenty Two only)	DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY - All the property being One Residential Part of Plot / House No. 16, Sector-D, Part Khasra No. 82/2/2, 82/2/2/1, 83/2/2/1 and 82/2/1 total area 0.90 acre comprising of an area 600.00 Sq.ft Situated at village Chohla Near Rambha Nagar, Ward No 16, Tehsil-Huzur District Bhopal (M.P) Pincode-462022 Bounded by - East : Others Colony, West : Colony Road, North : Others Property, South : Others Property.	25/04/2024
Mr Rohit (Borrower) MS. Laxmi Soni (Co-Borrower)	1) Issuance Date -05/02/2024 2) MP/BPL/BOPL/A000000797 3) Total Amount Due Rs. 15,47,056/- (Rupees Fifteen Lacs Forty Seven Thousand Fifty Six Only)	DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY - All that Property being One Residential Flat No. F-01 Ground Floor Veer Sadan Apartment Plot No. 14 Swarn Kunj Katara Hills M/s Amaltas Housing Co-operative Society Which is Situated at village Katar under the Municipal Ward No. 85 Tehsil-Huzur Distt Bhopal (MP) PINCODE-462026 Area 575 Sqft , Bounded as Per Sale Deed East : Flat No. F-02, West : Plot No. 103, North : Road , South : Corridor/StairCase	23/04/2024
MR. MAHENDRA SINGH KAHAR (Borrower) MRS. KAMLA BAI KAHAR (Co-Borrower1) Mrs. Savita Kahar (Co-Borrower-3)	1) Issuance Date -05/02/2024 2) MP/BPL/BOPL/A000000008 & MP/BPL/BOPL/A000000406 3) Total Amount Due Rs. 16,15,678/- (Rupees Sixteen lacs fifteen thousand Six hundred Seventy Eight Only)	DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY - One plot No. 147 together with a house constructed thereon, comprising of plot area 15 x 30= 450.00 sq.ft., which is a part of land revenue survey No. 53, 54, 55/1, 56, 58, situated at MadhuvanVihar Colony, PH No.42, R.N.M 04, Village Bhaironpur, Tehsil Huzur, District Bhopal (MP) BOUNDARIES : West :- Plot No.144, East :- Road North :- Plot No.146, South :- Plot No.148.	23/04/2024
MR. KHALIDASHAH FAKIR (Borrower) Mrs. Naseem Bee (Co-Borrower)	1) Issuance Date -23/01/2024 2) MP/BPL/BOPL/A000000187 & CO/CPC/CPOF/A0000001203 & MP/BPL/BOPL/A0000000540 3) Total Amount Due Rs. 16,19,243 /- (Rupees Sixteen lacs Nineteen thousand Two hundred forty three Only)	DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY - Diverted Plot -Khasra no. 178/2, Gram Mugispur, P. H. No. 38, R.NM-03 Tehsil & Distt. Sehore-466001 AS PER SALE DEED NORTH - Seller of Land, SOUTH - 20 Ft. wide nistari road, EAST - 15 Ft. wide nistari road, WEST - Seller of Land.	27/04/2024
Mr. KUNDAN LAL (Borrower) Mr. ANITA BAI (Co Borrower)	1) Issuance Date -23/01/2024 2) MP/BPL/BOPL/A000000561 3) Total Amount Due Rs 10,31,425 (Rupees Ten lacs Thirty One Thousand Four Hundred Twenty Five only)	DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY - Plot/House No. 22, Durga Nagar, New Jail Road, Part of land Bearing Khasra no. 35/1/1,39,40,41,142/41, Ward No.75, Situated at Village Palasi Nagar, Karond Tehsil Huzur, Distt Bhopal (M.P.) - AS PER SALE DEED NORTH - House of Vijay Vishwakarma, SOUTH - Proposed Road, EAST - House of Kundan Lal Vishwakarma, WEST - House of Vijay Kumar Vishwakarma.	27/04/2024
MR. SUNIL KUMAR THAKUR (Borrower) MR. ARUNA BAI (Co Borrower)	1) Issuance Date -27/09/2023 2) MP/HBD/HOSH/A000000046 & CO/CPC/CPOF/A000001569 3) Total Amount Due Rs. 45,84,429/- (Rupees Forty Five Lacs Eight Four Thousand Four Hundred Twenty Nine only)	DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY -All that property i.e. one residential plot, comprising of plot area 3200 sq.ft land revenue Survey No. 652/3 (new 652/4) at Ward No. 15, Tanki Colony, Ashta, Distt. Sehore Madhya Pradesh - 466116 which is bounded as under: East: 20' wide Kachha road, West : 20' wide Kachha road, North: Land if Seller, South: Plot of Mr. Deshlahra	27/04/2024

STATUTORY NOTICE TO BORROWERS/GUARANTORS
 Borrower(s)/Guarantor's are hereby put to caution that the property may be sold at any time herein after by way of public auction/tenders and as such this may also be treated as a notice under Rule 6, 8 & 9 of Security (interest) Enforcement Rules, 2002. For further details, contact the Authorized Officer VAIBHAV SHRIVASTAVA- 7987969803, Rajesh Chakotiya - 8435571111, Pankaj Joshi-9644523578, Ashish Singh- 9981998190, SHIVENDRA MISHRA - 8839287191, SAMEER SINGH - 9584290575
 Place: INDORE, Date:28/04/2024
 Authorised Officer, Hinduja Housing Finance Limited

"I've spent days in cinemas answering questions from the audience, in interviews, travelling abroad, and all they do is thank me nicely"
— George Lopez



CHRONICLE OF BIHAR, BEYOND ELECTIONS

In his travels across cities and hamlets of Bihar, DEEPAK KUMAR JHA discovers that the local populace loves to have extensive discourses on politics and engage in conversations where the rhetoric of caste is quite pronounced and audible

Still considered as some of the most backward districts of Bihar — Madhepura, Purnea, Saharsa, Supaul -- the *Dehati* (rural) thatched structures until a few years ago have all metamorphosed into brick and mortar dwellings amidst lush green mango orchards, banana plants, and corns in the backyard. However, the basic problems of health and education are galore. In every election for the past five decades, people of this region have been promised 'upliftment' by various political parties and leaders in the fray but ultimately the cast die is caste-ridden, preventing their holistic development. Migration, which started in large numbers almost three decades ago when Bihar was in the stranglehold of 'Jungle Raj', continues unabated even under the much hyped 'Sahasran Raj'. "Sitting chief minister Nitish Kumar rode over former CM Lalu Yadav's Raj and people overwhelmingly voted for him going beyond caste and religion, but things are different now. The JDU leader seems to have run out of ideas after a good two terms. His last alliance with Tejaswi Yadav's RJD kindled some hope on the employment front. But such people-oriented development seems to have taken a backseat while caste and religion-ridden politics is back if you look at the pattern of ticket distribution," says Pushpendra Kumar, former professor and chairperson of the Patna Centre of the prestigious Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) who is now working full time as a researcher of Bihar's society and polity. Partly, *Bijli*, *Sadak* and *Paani* (BSP) are visibly translating into votes but what remains invisible, not only in the *Dehati* areas but even in towns and cities, are negligible secondary, higher education facilities topped by the lack of healthcare facilities. Amidst these deficiencies the irony is that a plethora of coaching institutes of engineering, medical, and Government jobs across prominent towns and cities like Patna, Muzaffarpur and Bhagalpur have come up and there is a mushrooming of private medical clinics and diagnostics centres in the principle districts of Darbhanga, Madhubani, Purnea, Katihar, Gaya and Ara-Chapra. Come election time, there is 'Chah (not Chai) Par Charcha' across cities or hamlets where people love to have extensive discourses over Modi, Nitish, Rahul, Tejaswi or even Obama and Biden. Nonetheless, the rhetoric of caste is loud and audible in the

conversation of the locals, sitting on machans (bamboo cane cots), a fact that still dominates the entry and exit of these villages. The women folk have to volunteer to supply the motley crowd with tea doses. "Din bhar mein kum se kum 50 cup chai banta hai. Inko koyi kaam nahi, din bhar sirf rajneeti ki baat karte hain. Unka bhi time katata hai," (More than 50 cups of tea are made for them every day. They have no other work so they spend their idle time talking about politics) observes Neelam Devi, a villager of Satarwar in the Saharsa district of Bihar. The elderly male folks gather as early as 5 am and hang around till 8 am and then come back by 3 pm, remain until dusk at their machans, finding some time to revive the agriculturists in them. Evening chats are conducted within the precincts of temples every 100 yards with the smoke of incense sticks — one for spiritual rites and the other from mosquito repellants — emanating, providing a mixed essence in the clean atmosphere, resplendent with the aroma of cattle and cow dung heaps. And during the wedding season and *Janeu* rituals (thread ceremony), almost every household performs functions and celebrations in its neighbourhood as everybody looks forward to welcoming either an election contestant or any of his/her representatives preferably the dominant caste of that village or town. This reporter, who was covering the Lok Sabha 2024 elections in the Supaul area, got the divine opportunity to feast on chaste *dehati* flavours sitting on a *gamcha* (cotton scarf) rolled over the raw mud field. The serve was obviously *puri*, salads, *papad*, *aloo-parwal*, tomato chutney, *dal-bhaat* (cooked rice) which has now been replaced by Pulao alongside new *Shaheri* add-ons like *paneer* based *subji* and mixed-veg. Sweet delicacies, what they call *Sukha Mitha* (*gulab jamun*) and *Gila Meetha* (*rasgulla*), Boondiya (besan cooked sweet), and lot of curd, is a must to earn the tag of best *Bhoj*. However, elderly people regret the fact that in recent times the city culture is dominating as huge decibels of tractors loaded on tractors is a must during celebrations. Further down to a visit to another village Bara in Saharsa, the author halted and then became part of the discussion over a patient, identified as Nepali Jha, being transported from Sadar Hospital to Patna in a serious condition. The patient was transported to Patna in an ambulance accompanied

by at least a dozen villagers who, en route, were simultaneously making attempts to establish 'contacts' so that the patient could be admitted at Indira Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences (IGIMS) in the State's Capital city. Despite their efforts the IGIMS turned down the patient and he was somehow 'accommodated' at Patna Medical College and Hospital (PMCH). All this while, the villagers accompanying the patient kept insisting with the hospital attendants that the patient be taken to IGIMS, but in vain. When this journalist witnessed their attempts turning futile and one of them claimed to even approach a sitting MP in Bihar, this reporter of *The Pioneer* volunteered to help using bureaucratic contacts in the administration for admission of the patient at IGIMS. The 'mission' was successful and the IGIMS agreed but by that time the patient had to be put on a ventilator back at PMCH and moving him in that critical condition was not feasible. In this grim milieu tea was offered and unfortunately the news about the patient's demise simply vanished from media attention. Although the villagers profusely thanked this reporter, they were equally troubled about their local leaders and MPs who were not of any help in their moment of crisis and used foul language to curse their apathy. "The need for better medical facilities is a must. While several elderly people have moved out of the villages to bigger cities to stay with their children, those who are fond of villages are left in the lurch. Several people have died due to lack of even basic medical facilities in backward areas like in Madhepura, Purnea, Madhepura, and here," said Gyan Mishra, a local villager. While the people in the districts of eastern Bihar struggled for a decade to get a sanction for an AIIMS at Saharsa, considered to be most backward, they are now annoyed with both the Central and State Governments as the project has been moved to neighbouring Darbhanga, considered to be prosperous. The Darbhanga AIIMS was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi last year but soon the project got mired in controversy over the tug of war between the neighbouring districts. The matter is now before the Supreme Court. Last year a group of 20 parliamentarians led by Madhepura MP Dinesh Yadav, cutting across party lines launched an intensive campaign for the construction of an AIIMS in Saharsa, and even met Union Health



minister Mansukh Mandviya and handed over a letter of their demand. The letter mentioned that the number of patients suffering from cancer, kidney, heart, liver and other such life-threatening ailments has been quite high in the north-eastern region, comprising Saharsa, Madhepura, Supaul, Khagaria, Purnea, Katihar, Araria and Kishanganj districts. The letter stated that the Saharsa district magistrate (DM) had communicated to the State Government about the availability of 217.74 acres of land for the construction of an AIIMS, but the State Government announced the allocation of land for the AIIMS in Darbhanga. MPs from Siwan, Nalanda, Karakat, Gaya, Valmikinagar, Gopalganj and Jehanabad had also signed the letter despite knowing that the people from their regions will not be visiting Saharsa for their treatment. But, when we talk about Bihar, it would be incomplete without the world famed and internationally acclaimed Madhubani paintings which have received several Padma awards. Another delight for the people of Bihar is the folklores of various languages, including charting numbers of Bhojpuri. Most of the popular artists who dominate all rituals including the mega festival of *Chhath*, is Sharda Sinha, who too has been bestowed with a Padma award. Most common regional languages spoken in Bihar include Angika, Bhojpuri, Magadhi, Maithili, Magadhi Prakrit, Hindi as well as Urdu amongst other dialects. Currently, Bhojpuri singers have carved a niche for themselves on both social and political platforms and some of them have even become Parliamentarians or are in the current fray to be one. Therefore the raw, rustic lyrics of traditional songs have now been tuned discreetly among the youth on occasions as several of them are tagged as '*fuhar*'. They have been duly banned by the State Government. In one's travels across Mithilanchal, one is struck by the public emotion when people get talking about Madhubani

paintings, *paan* (beetle), *makhana*, *maach* (fish) and *litti-chokha*. Seema Roy, Mithila Painting artist said earlier the paintings were done by women with vegetable dyes on the walls. "Now it is done on paper. The paintings normally depict village scenes, human and animal forms, gods and goddesses," Seema said. "Through your platform let me share the most significant tradition of Bihar, particularly Mithila, as you have already been apprised by its arts and crafts. An unnecessary fish-mutton issue has been derived in the ensuing political campaign by top leaders and we heard the new age media platforms, including social, discuss a lot on this subject. Let me be very clear, be it any day of the week, any festival like *Durga Puja* (we do not call it *Navratri* in Bihar), *Saraswati Puja*, *Mahashivratri*, or *Sawan* or any given Hindu auspicious day, we essentially cook and relish on (*maach*) fish. Mithilanchal is famous as we say *pug-pug* (every step) is fond of *paan*, *makahana*, *maach*, *pokhar* (pond)," opines a delighted Birender Thakur, a retired school teacher and villager in Bavangaon in Supaul. He also narrated a poem in the local language which had all the auspicious occasions where it mentioned the serving of non-vegetarian food, particularly fish. His companion, Nand Kishore Jha, who was part of the discourse, was quick to add that in Bihar non-vegetarian dishes only mean fish and mutton and not chicken or eggs. Although now eggs and chicken delicacies have made their way in the bylanes, *chowks*, and bazaars the elderly people do not appreciate the invasion. Bihar is also famous for its stone pottery, white metal statuettes, bamboo artifacts, wooden toys and leather goods. Several villages around Vaishali are into making of toys. Sikki Work is done by weaving a humble blade of grass into a beautiful basket and mats while Lac bangles are also made in Muzaffarpur. Bihar's rich traditional and culture legacy must not be drowned by the political din around.

IN EVERY ELECTION FOR THE PAST FIVE DECADES, PEOPLE OF BACKWARD REGIONS HAVE BEEN PROMISED UPLIFTMENT BY VARIOUS POLITICAL PARTIES AND LEADERS BUT ULTIMATELY THE DIE IS CAST IN FAVOUR OF CASTE, PREVENTING THE STATE'S HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT.

'Don't be afraid to commit mistakes' is Chef Massimo Bottura's mantra, that is how his iconic dish came to life, writes Gyaneshwar Dayal



The renowned Chef Massimo Bottura was in New Delhi once again with the culinary marvel, Osteria Francescana. Twice rated as The World's Best Restaurant by The World's 50 Best, Chef Bottura's culinary masterpiece returned to The Leela Palace New Delhi for a second consecutive year. This unparalleled partnership between The Leela Palace New Delhi, Culinary Culture, and the culinary virtuoso himself was an unforgettable gastronomic experience. Massimo Bottura is a renowned Italian chef and owner of Osteria Francescana, a three-Michelin-star restaurant in Modena, Italy. He is not just a culinary maestro but also a passionate philanthropist, earning international acclaim for his dedication to social and environmental causes. As a Goodwill Ambassador for the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the founder of the non-profit organization 'Food for Soul,' Bottura advocates for sustainability and the reduction of food waste, aligning perfectly with The Leela's eco-conscious ethos. For the uninitiated, Chef Bottura is one of the top chefs in the world and people wait to eat at his restaurant Osteria Francescana for at least three months. Some say you need to be prepared because the restaurant is fully booked for four months. Osteria Francescana was ranked the #1 restaurant in the world in 2018. The menu includes dishes like Modena's borlenghi, polenta with eel and saba, Aula on tempura, and Tortellini in cream of Parmigiano Reggiano. The chef brought his restaurant to Delhi for Rs 55,555 + taxes per person. Under Chef Bottura's guidance, Osteria Francescana has captivated global palates with its innovative approach to Italian cuisine. He is known for reinventing the Italian dishes. The restaurant has consistently secured its position among the world's best, offering a sensory journey unlike any other. Iconic dishes such as 'Oops! I Dropped the Lemon Tart,' 'The Crunchy Part of the Lasagne,' and



'Psychedelic Cod Not Flame Grilled' will grace the special menu offered during the event. Bottura is a philosopher in his own right. He is passionate about making mistakes. That's right that is how his world-famous iconic dish 'Oops! I Dropped the lemon tarts and came to life. Chef Bottura's culinary philosophy, is deeply rooted in embracing mistakes and turning them into culinary masterpieces. Bottura shared a story in his interactive session in Leela, about the creation of a dish that symbolises embracing imperfections. It originated when Francescana's sous chef Taka Kondo accidentally dropped a lemon tart. Feeling distraught, Kondo's perfectionist tendencies clashed with his mistake. Bottura intervened, reframing the mishap as a metaphor for the fusion of sweet and savoury, breaking boundaries. Bottura emphasised the

importance of leaving room for poetry in daily life, allowing for imagination and creativity to flourish. "If you don't make mistakes, don't dream big, you end up nowhere, won't learn a damn thing," he quips. This ethos of embracing imperfection and transforming it into something extraordinary resonates throughout his culinary creations. Chef Bottura hosted an interactive session, engaging in a conversation with Vir Sanghvi, India's foremost food expert, offering insights into his culinary journey and philosophy. During the conversation, they had a difference of opinions but agreed on two things. Italians like Indians are mama's boys and two both love their food. Sanghvi remarked, "Massimo Bottura transcends the role of a chef; he serves as a global inspiration, leveraging his influence to bring about

positive changes worldwide. Mr. Anupam Dasgupta, General Manager of The Leela Palace New Delhi, expressed his enthusiasm for this unique culinary collaboration. He stated, "It is our privilege to host Chef Massimo once more at The Leela Palace New Delhi. We eagerly anticipate the epicurean delight that Chef Massimo will curate for the pop-up dinners." Speaking with anticipation about his return to India, Chef Massimo Bottura expressed his excitement, saying, "Namaste, India! I am delighted to return to your beautiful country. In New Delhi, we are working with Culinary Culture and The Leela Palace. I love India - the food and the people - and can't wait to be back and give you all a big Italian hug!" Indeed, chef Massimo Bottura is just not a chef he is a philosopher and a package you could talk to and take lessons for your kitchen and life. Chef is all for dreaming big and how creativity and dreaming big means a lot in life. His mantra: Dream big, it costs nothing and don't be afraid to make mistakes if you don't mistakes you will never learn anything new. Just a trivia here, any guesses what Massimo Bottura was most excited about in the evening. It was his breakfast with the underprivileged children he had invited for breakfast the next morning. So the world waits for Massimo Bottura's dinner and he for a simple breakfast with children of lesser God who give him all the inspiration he needs for his next masterpiece

'OOPS! I DROPPED THE LEMON TART'



Standing Alone, and How



MKT impressed with its high-quality ingredients, well-informed and well-attired servers, excellent preparations, and comfortable interiors. It not only stands out among standalone restaurants but also outshines many star hotels with its overall offerings, says PAWAN SONI

MKT at Chanakya stands out among Delhi's standalone, multi-cuisine restaurants with its delightful offerings. This spacious 144-seater, adorned with well-lit interiors, caters perfectly to both small and large groups, boasting several live kitchens that serve a variety of popular cuisines from around the globe. While this was not my first visit to MKT, it was my first experience with their new menu. The shift towards modern Indian cuisine, complemented by a diverse Asian selection, came at the expense of the Mexican live kitchen. Our culinary journey began with a tender coconut and poached lobster soup. While the lobster soup met expectations, the vegetarian tender coconut soup exceeded them. It offered a delightful tanginess, coupled with glass noodles, snow peas, broccoli, and chili-fried garlic. The sashimi platter, featuring salmon, tuna, yellowtail, scallops, and prawns, was remarkably fresh, accompanied by freshly grated wasabi. However, the standout dish of the day was the salmon belly. Though the three skewers at ₹1335 may seem pricey, this cut is a rarity in the city. Grilled on a robata-yaki with a mildly sweet miso marinade, the salmon belly was incredibly tender and flavorful, justifying its price for the exceptional preparation. Once you have experienced this, you will never look back at the dry salmon tikka available at many other restaurants. A server-recommended starter, the Kimball mushroom, was a delightful mix of enoki, shimeji, king oyster, and shiitake mushrooms tossed in Kimball sauce. This carb-free dish not only excelled in healthfulness but also in taste. While our appetizers were satisfying, we also sampled two dishes from their Indian menu — Quinoa mutton seekh and



Champan mutton for the mains. The mutton seekh was tender and flavourful, served with smoked lehsun chutney and khameeri roti, a refreshing departure from the ubiquitous mint chutney. The Champan mutton was a pleasant surprise, as this rustic Bihar preparation with onions, mustard oil, and whole garlic showcased one of the best qualities of mutton. The chef revealed that they prepare a small batch every day in a traditional handi, ensuring authenticity and quality. Our meal concluded with homemade ice cream, which was delightful and could have been enhanced further with the addition of mango chunks. Overall, MKT impressed with its high-quality ingredients, well-informed and well-attired servers, excellent preparations, and comfortable interiors. It not only stands out among standalone restaurants but also outshines many star hotels with its overall offerings.

FACT SHEET
MKT, Lower Ground Floor, The Chanakya Mall, Yashwant Place Community Centre, New Delhi
Phone: 83769 86799 | Cuisine: Global
Rating: Food: 4.5/5 | Drinks: 4.25/5 | Service: 4.5/5 | Ambience: 4.25/5 | Overall: 4.5/5

Author is a food critic and founder of the Big F Awards. He can be reached at Pawan.Soni@indianfoodfreak.com

REVIVING KASHMIRI PANDIT CUISINE

A culinary journey through Kashmir

CHEF RAHUL WALI, through his expertise and dedication brings forth a unique culinary experience that celebrates the distinct identity of Kashmiri Pandit cuisine. DIVYA BHATIA had the chance to taste his lip-smacking delicacies

Kashmir is known for its scenic beauty but what people often miss on a trip to Kashmir is its Kashmiri Pandit cuisine which is a rich in flavors, influenced by the cultural heritage and geographical diversity of the Kashmir Valley. Renowned for its exquisite blend of aromatic spices and traditional cooking techniques, Kashmiri Pandit cuisine is a true reflection of the region's history and culinary prowess. Staple ingredients such as rice, yogurt, and vegetables form the foundation of many dishes, which are often infused with an array of spices like fennel, cardamom, and saffron, lending a unique and complex flavor profile. Signature dishes such as Rogan Josh, Yakhni, and Dum Aloo are cherished for their rich textures and vibrant taste. Moreover, the cuisine also features a variety of delectable vegetarian options, including Nadru Yakhni (lotus stem in yogurt gravy) and Haaq Saag (collard greens cooked with spices). With its emphasis on fresh ingredients and intricate preparation methods, Kashmiri Pandit cuisine continues to captivate palates worldwide, showcasing the rich culinary heritage of the Kashmiri Pandit community. Recently, I had the opportunity to indulge in Koshur Wuriyal, a culinary extravaganza celebrating the exquisite flavors of Kashmiri Pandit cuisine, at The Roseate House. Often overshadowed by the renowned Wazwan, Kashmiri Pandit cuisine boasts a distinct identity, tracing its origins back to 326 BCE, long before the arrival of Wazwan in the 16th century. Contrary to common perception, Kashmiri Pandit cuisine stands apart with its unique flavors and traditions. There are very few chefs who



understand traditional Kashmiri Pandit cooking, but Chef Rahul Wali stands as a beacon of tradition in this culinary landscape where authenticity is often diluted by modern interpretations. With a deep understanding of Kashmiri Pandit cuisine, Chef Rahul introduced us to age-old recipes and forgotten culinary practices, offering a rare opportunity to savor the true essence of Kashmiri Pandits' gastronomy. Chef Rahul Wali talked about his journey and passion. Excerpts: **Could you share your journey as a Chef?** I was born in Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir, and spent my formative years in Mumbai and Pune. My culinary journey began after completing my Bachelor's in Hotel Management from Pune. I garnered extensive experience across various renowned brands in India and abroad, eventually pursuing an advanced Graduate Degree in Gastronomy from Le Cordon Bleu, Adelaide Australia. In recent years, I've been dedicated to reviving and promoting Kashmiri Pandit cuisine through pop-ups, festivals,

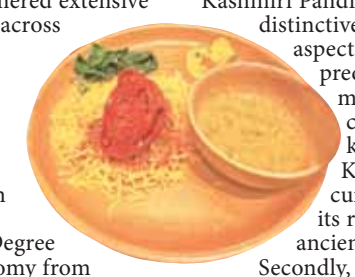


and collaborations with hotels and restaurants. **What inspired you to focus on promoting Kashmiri Pandit cuisine?** The inspiration stems from a dual purpose - preserving our culinary heritage and introducing the richness of Kashmiri Pandit cuisine to a broader audience. This cuisine, dating back to centuries, holds a distinct place in culinary history, characterized by unique flavors and techniques. Unfortunately, it has remained relatively obscure compared to the more widely known Kashmiri cuisine. I aim to change that by bringing it to the forefront and showcasing its diversity and depth.

to create nuanced flavors. Additionally, the cooking method involves patience and slow cooking, preserving the authenticity of the dishes. **What challenges do you face in promoting Kashmiri Pandit cuisine outside its native region?** While the reception has been overwhelmingly positive, there are challenges, particularly in sourcing authentic ingredients. Additionally, there's a misconception that Kashmiri cuisine is solely suited for colder climates, which isn't entirely accurate. Educating people about the versatility and richness of our cuisine is an ongoing effort, requiring collaboration and support from various stakeholders.

How would you differentiate Kashmiri Pandit cuisine from other regional cuisines? Kashmiri Pandit cuisine is distinctive in several aspects. Firstly, it predates the more commonly known Kashmiri cuisine, tracing its roots back to ancient times. Secondly, unlike many other Indian cuisines, it refrains from using onion, garlic, or tomatoes in its preparation. The focus is on a handful of traditional spices, meticulously blended

How do you ensure an authentic culinary experience for guests during food festivals and pop-ups? Authenticity is paramount, although it's essential to acknowledge that complete replication may not always be feasible, especially in diverse culinary landscapes. However, I strive to maintain the essence and integrity of Kashmiri Pandit cuisine while adapting to local ingredients and preferences. Each dish is crafted with care and respect for tradition, ensuring that guests experience the true flavors of Kashmir.



ONE NATION, ONE ELECTION

FEDERALISM AT RISK OR UNITY FORTIFIED?

PRIYOTOSH SHARMA and CHANDRIMA DUTTA address this question posed by sceptics on whether the consolidation of electoral cycles could lead to a domination of the political narrative by parties and candidates vying for power and potentially undermine the essence of democracy by overshadowing the voices and choices of individual citizens

In India's democratic landscape, elections have long stood as pillars supporting our diverse linguistic tapestry and regional pride for over seven decades now. Stating Amartya Sen, individuals can hold singular affiliations while valuing their multifaceted identities. But a pressing question arises: If one Nation, one Election were to happen, would national unity overshadow regional loyalties? Sceptics have raised concerns that the consolidation of electoral cycles as a question of national importance could lead to a domination of the political narrative by parties and candidates vying for power. The emphasis may shift away from citizen engagement and democratic participation towards partisan interests and power struggles. This could potentially undermine the essence of democracy by overshadowing the voices and choices of individual citizens.

It's noteworthy that the proposal of One Nation and One Election is not a recent development. As far back as September 1982, the Election Commission of India recommended simultaneous elections to both the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies. Additionally, the Law Commission of India's Draft Report on Simultaneous Elections in August 2018 further explored this idea. Given this historical context, one might wonder why the ruling party suddenly embraced this proposal in their manifesto ahead of the 2024 general election.

The sudden appropriation of the One Nation and One Election proposal by the ruling party likely reflects a strategic move to prioritise electoral reform and streamline governance processes. However, such a significant shift in policy approach raises questions about the underlying motivations and potential implications. India's governance model hinges on representative democracy, where elections serve as the bedrock of our political system. Campaigning, a pivotal aspect of elections, comes with substantial costs. A case in point is the staggering expenditure seen between February and May 2019, where Google and Facebook collectively reported political online advertising spending amounting to ₹58.67 crore. Notably, while Google declared 12,276 advertisements worth ₹29.3 crore, Facebook's India Ad Library disclosed a significantly higher volume of individual advertisements, totaling 132,419 and valued at ₹29.28 crore. Yet,



amidst this financial discourse, we often overlook the ripple effects of reducing the frequency of elections. Such a move could inadvertently disrupt sectors that thrive on heightened electoral activity, notably advertising, hospitality, and transportation. In light of this, it becomes imperative to carefully consider the implications of "One Nation, One Election" on federalism, regional dynamics, and political stability. For instance, the recent issue in Manipur over regional disparities highlights the potential risks and challenges associated with synchronising elections across different levels of government. As such, thorough deliberation and stakeholder engagement are essential in the electoral reform process to ensure that any changes uphold democratic principles and address the diverse needs of the

respective states. The ongoing debates outside of parliament surrounding One Nation and One Election are fueled by contrasting perspectives. Proponents argue that synchronising elections would bolster national unity by aligning electoral cycles and directing political discourse towards pressing national issues. At least for a brief period of time this narrative of one nation, one election, would appeal to the imagination of the public, as it would come on a platter of "national interest". However, sceptics raise concerns that this unity could merely be a facade concealing broader political agendas. Another significant issue that may raise eyebrows among the opposition is the prospect of diminished accountability if elections are held every five years.

THE ONGOING DEBATES OUTSIDE OF PARLIAMENT SURROUNDING ONE NATION AND ONE ELECTION ARE FUELED BY CONTRASTING PERSPECTIVES. PROPONENTS ARGUE THAT SYNCHRONISING ELECTIONS WOULD BOLSTER NATIONAL UNITY BY ALIGNING ELECTORAL CYCLES AND DIRECTING POLITICAL DISCOURSE TOWARDS PRESSING NATIONAL ISSUES. AT LEAST FOR A BRIEF PERIOD OF TIME THIS NARRATIVE OF ONE NATION, ONE ELECTION, WOULD APPEAL TO THE IMAGINATION OF THE PUBLIC, AS IT WOULD COME ON A PLATTER OF "NATIONAL INTEREST"

This could spark doubts regarding the government's responsiveness to pressing concerns, such as notably fluctuations in oil prices, sharp fluctuations in food prices and hikes in gas cylinder costs paralyse citizen's every potential to remove a party from power through electoral process at least in state legislative elections. In navigating India's vibrant democratic landscape, it's crucial to recognize the unique context and complexities inherent to our nation. While other countries like Belgium or Japan may offer valuable insights, it's imperative not to blindly emulate their electoral models. Instead, decisions regarding electoral reforms must stem from a grassroots consensus, voting behaviour tailored to India's diverse socio-political fabric. The denizens of the streets and the

daily wage earners exhibit scant enthusiasm for engaging with political rhetoric; rather, their electoral participation hinges largely upon aligning themselves with the party that they could benefit financially from, thereby rendering the manipulation of their sentiments a feasible endeavour. Nevertheless, this one election holds the potential to wield considerable influence, particularly in terms of cost saving, especially where the prospect of bifurcating public sentiment during concurrent elections remains plausible.

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Education a must for the Panchayati Raj System to flourish

By **Vikash Kumar**

2,39,000 Gram Panchayats all over the country, which are a State subject mentioned in the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution. The responsibility for their management, financial system, election, and arrangement of the structure rests on the State Government. The governance system of India works at three levels in which the third level is local self-government (the Panchayati system). Article 40 of the Indian Constitution contains provisions related to it, which was not an enforceable procedure. The states were not in favour of giving constitutional status to the panchayat systems, saying it violated the federal system. This is why Rajiv Gandhi's 64th Amendment (1989) and VP Singh's constitutional effort (June 1, 1990) failed. Constitutional status was accorded to Panchayats in 1992 and 1993 by the 73rd Constitutional Amendment, which then Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao worked tirelessly on. The responsibility of conducting their elections rests with the State Election Commission, provided by



Article 243 (K) of the Indian Constitution. Some states have announced their election because of the Constitution; their tenure is for five years, which is provided by Article 243 (E) of the Indian Constitution, but the purpose for which the concept of Panchayati systems was implemented is today helpless in achieving its original objective. Voters and elected officials engage in conversations, yet the conversation does not begin since communication throughout an election is frequently devoid of substance.

Additionally, there are no discussions going on between the candidate and the voter. Prominent political party leaders attend these polls in order to tally their victories. The news certainly delighted the voters when Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose too had to raise local issues like loans, Commission, housing commissions, what issues do you have with the water and roads, he had asked earlier. In these elections, health and education are burning issues. The headman often remains indifferent, even as voters focus

on the state of primary schools along with other local issues. Because of lack of knowledge or education, the candidates' intentions and professional experiences are also not scrutinised during these elections. While the Panchayati system has helped local bodies, only a portion of the projects are intended to serve the villagers. Under such circumstances, every voter ought to select the candidate who best reflects the desires of the people, not the 'sole' candidate who offers casteism, religion, regionalism, and self-interest. This process

can only proceed if there is evidence of improvement at the local level. Voters ought to cast their ballots voluntarily and with diligence in order to support local institutions' credibility and enabling the competent leader's directives to be carried out over a period of five years, both of which encourage advancement. Today, the Panchayati Raj system exists in almost the whole country, but in reality, self-reliance today is far from what was envisioned at the time of its implementation. A provision for reservations was made in the Panchayati system under Article 243A. However, women have been unable to take full advantage of it, so have the lower classes, because even today, voting in rural areas is inspired by several biased undercurrents. Only when the Panchayati system becomes solid and self-reliant will India's democracy be strengthened. The process of reforms can start from the village itself. Women have become sarpanches but they do not run the administration; their husbands step in. A person belonging to the SC/ST category becomes a

sarpanch, but only a handful of wealthy people run the administration. Even today, many states need to transfer their subjects to the Panchayati system. In Panchayat elections deceit and force are openly used. The person who has access to the top of the administration is the one who occupies critical positions, a reason why the purpose for which it was created has not been fulfilled. The Government allots crores of funds to the development of villages but the benefits instead are spent on things remote from a village or its voters. To this date, the Panchayati system is entirely self-sufficient and those whose dreams could not be realised. In the present circumstances, the Government should make Panchayati Raj self-reliant for which education is the most significant step ahead. Awareness is only possible with education because that alone can make citizens and voters politically aware. (Views expressed are personal. Author is President of the Indian Research Scholars Association and can be contacted at sagarvikash829@gmail.com)



YOUR WEEK AHEAD

MADHU KOTIYA



ARIES March 21-April 19

This week is set to highlight your professional talents. Your focused dedication and innovative thinking will significantly boost your career prospects. With a clear and expansive mindset, you're poised to achieve notable success. However, your commitment to work may cause some oversight in personal relationships, possibly leading to feelings of neglect among your loved ones. Stay alert as challenges may arise; individuals driven by envy could attempt to undermine your efforts through underhanded tactics or by claiming your achievements as their own. Towards the week's end, a significant business trip awaits. You'll be tasked with conveying key strategies or ideas, a responsibility that will likely culminate in personal recognition and success. This journey not only promises professional gains but also offers a moment of triumph that acknowledges your contributions.

Lucky number 8 | Lucky colour Magenta
Lucky day Wednesday



LEO July 23-Aug 22

This week, you display a laid-back and relaxed demeanor. Your unique approach to life stems from doing what feels right for you, showing great confidence in your individual path, irrespective of others' opinions. While you cherish your freedom, any form of limitation tends to disrupt your peace. This can sometimes lead to a somewhat negligent attitude, especially in your professional life. Such carelessness could invite criticism from higher-ups and potentially hinder career advancements or recognition you might otherwise receive. The key focus for you this week should be on dedication and attention to detail. Success and respect come through persistence and a disciplined approach. By adopting a more considerate attitude, you set yourself up for success, gaining admiration and compliance from those around you.

Lucky number 5 | Lucky colour Mint
Lucky day Monday



SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21

The start of the week might find you feeling a bit overwhelmed and uncertain, making it tough to handle significant choices. This sense of mental turmoil could lead to stress. To alleviate this, you often turn to creative expressions like art and reading, particularly enjoying stories steeped in rich traditions and ancient narratives. Relationships hold significant value for you, as your sense of balance often hinges on interpersonal connections. Your instincts and insight receive careful attention, fostering a balanced perspective. As the week progresses, you might find solace in quiet reflection, often seeking solitude to harness your inner wisdom. Personal growth and insights become central themes. Toward the week's end, expect a surge of new beginnings—be it in your professional life or personal developments.

Lucky number 20 | Lucky colour Bronze
Lucky day Friday



TAURUS April 20-May 20

This week may present challenges, with rising tensions either at home or at your workplace. You may encounter disagreements and unexpected confrontations that could leave you feeling shocked. Remember the principle of kindness without expectation of return. It's a good time to reassess any joint ventures or collaborations. Midweek, you might experience a dip in your vitality and self-assurance. Prioritize your well-being and maintain a structured routine. Seeking medical advice could prove beneficial during this time. As the week progresses, conditions will stabilize. Supportive influences will begin to emerge, bringing solace across various aspects of your life, from financial to personal. A renewed sense of optimism will emerge, and engaging in calming, reflective activities may provide you with the tranquility you seek.

Lucky number 12 | Lucky colour Beige
Lucky day Monday



VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

The week begins on a challenging note, as you might face rejection in a personal relationship or miss a professional opportunity. Feelings of isolation and disappointment may surface, and if you're in a committed relationship, circumstances could require you to spend time apart from your loved ones due to work commitments. As the week progresses, prospects look brighter; you may receive an enticing job proposal or notice an increase in your financial status through your career. A significant responsibility or project could be entrusted to you, requiring your dedication to see it through to completion. Over the weekend, your emotions might intensify, leading you to grapple with strong desires or impulses. Stay grounded by focusing on your aspirations, using meditation and inner wisdom as tools to maintain clarity and direction.

Lucky number 14 | Lucky colour Peach
Lucky day Friday



CAPRICORN Dec 22-Jan 19

This week, you'll experience an unparalleled peak in your life, enjoying fulfillment across all facets—emotional, physical, and financial. A sense of deep satisfaction will wash over you as all your desires find their way to fulfillment. It's a time for gratitude, recognizing the blessings that surround you. Health and vitality are yours; a calm tranquility permeates your surroundings, allowing you to rise above the mundane concerns that usually preoccupy your mind. The days ahead promise joy unbounded and profound peace. Achievements in your financial endeavors and harmony in your home life mark this period. Past challenges will fade, leaving room for affection and mutual support within your family circle. Recognize the immense strength found in love. Cherish those close to your heart, acknowledging their significance in your life.

Lucky number 3 | Lucky colour Aquamarine
Lucky day Tuesday



GEMINI May 21-June 20

Reflecting on your past experiences and future ambitions can provide valuable insight, helping to pave a smoother path forward by transforming challenges into opportunities. Instead of avoiding difficulties, consider embracing a new direction that promises enhanced joy and fulfillment. You may face periods of emotional lows or physical imbalances. Rather than suppressing these feelings, acknowledge and harness their influence constructively. Let go of past attachments and focus on the present to resolve emotional turmoil. As the week concludes, a significant decision related to either personal journeys or family concerns will likely crystallize. This period is also an opportune time for rejuvenation, promoting both mental and physical well-being. Embrace this chance to foster inner peace and holistic healing.

Lucky number 7 | Lucky colour Lime
Lucky day Thursday



LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

This week, your determination and mental strength are key to achieving your objectives. It's an ideal time to channel your efforts and savor the rewards. With a clear vision and resolve, you're well-positioned to turn your aspirations into reality and reach your highest ambitions. This period also marks a significant phase for personal growth and beginnings. Midweek, you may find yourself reflecting on the past, with childhood memories and connections drawing you back. You might feel compelled to reconnect with old friends or revisit places from your past, enjoying the warmth of familiar bonds. The week brings small tokens of affection and moments of heartfelt exchanges. As the week closes, you'll find fulfillment in dedicating time to reflective or calming practices, enhancing your inner peace and focus.

Lucky number 9 | Lucky colour Burgundy
Lucky day Saturday



AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

This week, embrace a grand approach to life. Your inner strength and resolve are at their peak, making you a pillar of support for many around you. Your advice is highly sought after due to your resilience and compassionate nature. Sometimes, your firm approach is necessary to manage situations and steer them in the right direction. As the week progresses, you might find yourself feeling more confrontational than usual, leading to spirited discussions rather than physical altercations. Your stoic and intrepid demeanor may yield mixed outcomes. Your sharp insight cuts through surface appearances, allowing you to understand the core of any matter. This balanced perspective could prove advantageous, particularly in enhancing your financial standing.

Lucky number 18 | Lucky colour Rose Pink
Lucky day Thursday



CANCER June 21-July 22

You often feel overwhelmed by fear and allow external influences to dominate your decisions, leading to a sense of confinement and overshadowing your thoughts with negativity. This can sometimes distort your creativity, causing it to work against you. However, it's important to recognize that you are in control of your own actions, not merely at the mercy of circumstances. You might find yourself engaging in conversations that could escalate into disputes. Embracing forgiveness could significantly alter your interactions. Harnessing your inherent dynamism constructively could lead to remarkable achievements. As the week progresses, you'll experience a resurgence of energy and initiative, presenting an ideal opportunity to pursue ambitions that previously seemed intimidating. This is your moment to channel this renewed vigor for maximum advantage.

Lucky number 17 | Lucky colour Navy
Lucky day Sunday



SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

This week, you emerge as a vibrant force, radiating a brilliant energy. As the week kicks off, you'll find your wishes unexpectedly coming to fruition, surrounded by a glow of positivity and warmth. Achievements are met with rewards, ushering in joy, familial stability, and abundance. This marks the conclusion of one phase, giving way to a tranquil interlude—perfect for savoring the moment and recharging. During this prosperous period, consider the relevance of longstanding beliefs and traditions. They may no longer serve their purpose, suggesting it's time to forge new paths for advancement, whether in your personal habits or lifestyle choices. As the week wraps up, adopt a stance of fairness. In facing challenges, maintain a cool, balanced perspective to navigate issues effectively.

Lucky number 6 | Lucky colour Violet
Lucky day Wednesday



PISCES Feb 19-March 20

This week marks a period of deep personal fulfillment and communal connection for you. Your focus on spiritual growth is evident as you engage in collective rituals that uplift and inspire. Reflecting on your past efforts brings a profound sense of satisfaction, particularly as you celebrate the completion of significant projects, like a home renovation. Family gatherings will enhance your joy, adding layers of celebration, accomplishments, and well-earned recognition to your life. Relationships, especially close partnerships, will experience enhanced harmony and mutual understanding. This period also favors securing new assets, whether they are investments in real estate or personal property. The combination of material success and spiritual depth creates a uniquely enriching atmosphere. You receive abundant blessings and support from your elders, making this a truly auspicious time to embrace growth and happiness.

Lucky number 10 | Lucky colour Amber
Lucky day Sunday

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ASTROTURF
BHARAT BHUSHAN PADMADEO

Mother calls for full alert against evil forces



ones, who, understand and following the laws of nature, willfully service the existential order laid down by the divine forces. Also, the killing of demon also means that mother takes away their ego and sense of evil.

Evidently, lotus flower corresponds to productive face of the source energy, which following a long-drawn course of progressive evolution brought into place the manifest world with all its enormity and diversity.

Mother supposedly carrying different weapons provided by the devatas in her remaining 8 arms is evidently aimed at combating the onslaught of demonic forces. The question now is: Why has She been assigned with weapons in 8 hands as against accessories reflecting creative potential in only two? This is simply suggestive of the fact that forces, contrary to our productive aspirations, are far more active and no less potent than our creative initiatives. The evil forces are in evidence all around, making us vulnerable to their onslaught from all possible directions. And their killing potential would be felt much faster and relatively cover a wider range than our productive initiatives. We, therefore, need to be fully on guard and in a combative mode against the evil forces to service the overall needs of our existential order. To drive home this point, the simile of Demon is used to exemplify and forewarn us about impending danger from all around. About the demons, it is said that they are inherently conjurers. They can hoodwink us by making varied illusionary presences and charge us

from all possible directions unannounced, to their asking. Here, weird forms, in which demons are usually depicted, deserve further elaboration. We are all aware that no such form-existence is in evidence anywhere on earth. It is so characterised just to exemplify in clear terms the danger inherent in the evil forces existing both within and beyond us. The evil forces dwelling within us are no less potent than those from beyond. It needs to be appreciated here that human minds, which is driven by a sense of relative perception, can move either way – if rightfully used may prove rewarding and fulfilling, but when used negatively could prove self-defeating. For, besides carrying humane sense, it also has in store animalistic tendencies. If by chance the animalistic influence becomes stronger, it may prove a greater danger than a carnivorous animal, which is why some of the demons are shown with animal heads. The writer is an astrologer, vastu consultant and spiritual counsellor. Connect with him at Tel: 91-11-981803723/9871037272 Email: bharatbhushanpadmadeo@gmail.com