CITY 3

AKHILESH HITS OUT AT BJP FOR PM MODI'S REMARKS

**OPINION 6** 

HISTORIC LEGAL BATTLE

UNFOLDS OVER GYANVAPI

**WORLD 10** 

NOTHING WILL STAND IN WAY OF

RWANDA FLIGHTS: PM SUNAK

Late City Vol.160 Issue 109 \*Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable

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# Modi takes Hanuman Chalisa dig at Congress



Prime Minister Narendra Modi being felicitated by BJP leaders during a public meeting for Lok Sabha elections in Tonk district Rajasthan on Tuesday

### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE JAIPUR/RAIPUR/NEW DELHI

In his two different election Tuesday, Prime Narendra Minister Modi continued his attack on the Congress, addressing the current controversy over wealth redistribution, a dispute over forced Constitution in Goa, and alleging that the grand old party never allows the recitation of Hanuman Chalisa and the celebration of Ram Navmi within the Congress-ruled States. In his Rajasthan tour, Modi said the Congress tried to extend

reservation on the basis of Addressing an election rally in religion and give it to Muslims, and once again accused the party of hatching a "deep conspiracy" to snatch people's wealth and distribute it among

"select" people.

Modi also charged that it is difficult to follow one's faith under the Congress and that even listening to Hanuman Chalisa becomes crime under that party's rule. His remarks come on a day when the country is celebrating Hanuman

Tonk, the Prime Minister said as soon as the Congress formed the Government at the Centre

task was to reduce the SC/ST reservation in Andhra Pradesh and give it to Muslims. Modi is giving you a guarantee with an open heart that reservation for Dalits and backward tribals will neither end nor will it be allowed to be divided in the

in 2004, one of its first

name of religion," he said. Amid a row over his 'redistribution of wealth'

remarks, the Prime Minister again charged that the Congress will snatch people's wealth and distribute it to select people.

Modi said the then Prime

Minister Manmohan Singh had given a speech in which he had said that Muslims have the first right on the resources of the

country.
"There was a pilot project which the Congress wanted to try in the entire country. Between 2004 and 2010, the Congress tried to implement Muslim reservation in Andhra Pradesh four times but due to legal hurdles and the wealth' awareness of the Supreme Court,

Modi claimed.

"In 2011, the Congress tried to implement it throughout the implement it throughout the country. They played a game of snatching away the rights given to SC, ST and OBC and giving them to others for vote bank politics. The Congress did this deliberately and without caring about the Constitution and B R Ambedkar," he said.

Modi alleged when the BJP Government in Karnataka got an opportunity, the first thing it did was to abolish the Muslim quota which was created by snatching it from ST and SC. The Prime Minister said the constitutional limit for reservation was ending in 2020 and he had extended the reservation of Dalit and tribals for another 10 years. The Congress and INDIA Bloc, Modi said, were peeved after he exposed their vote bank and appeasement politics in his recent address in Rajasthan's Banswara.

Attacking the Congress, Modi said, "Even listening to Hanuman Chalisa becomes crime under Congress rule" and referred to an incident in Congress-ruled Karnataka where a shopkeeper was beaten up for listening to Hanuman Chalisa. He said during the Congress rule in Rajasthan, those who pelted stones on Ram Navmi procession were given protection and restrictions were imposed

on such procession. However, after the formation of the BJP Government in the state, no one has the courage to question faith.

Continued on Page 8



## Asia worst hit by disasters in 2023: WMO report

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ **NEW DELHI** 

Last year, Asia faced the most disasters in the world as 79 events associated with extreme weather, climate, and water-related hazards, affecting over nine million people in affecting over nine million people in the region and claiming over 2,000 lives, a new report by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has said. Thus, underscoring the urgent need for concerted action to mitigate impacts of climate change and protect our planet for future generations. The report 'State of the Climate in

The report 'State of the Climate in Asia 2023' which was released on Tuesday on 'World Earth Day' noted that Asia has warmed faster than the global average and the warming trend has nearly doubled since the 1961-1990 period. The accelerating rate of key climate change indicators such as surface temperatures, glacier retreat and sea level rise will have major consequences for Asia, its economy and ecosystems, the report warned.

In India alone, severe heatwaves in April and June resulted in about 110

reported fatalities due to heatstroke in 2023, said the report adding in August, some States in India experienced a record-high monthly mean temperature, as well as an unprecedented rainfall deficit for the

Continued on Page 8

### **Delhi hit by** freak weather

NEW DELHI: Strong winds and rains that lashed the national Capital on Tuesday provided much-needed relief for Delhiites, offering respite from the scorching hot weather.

The sudden atmospheric change brought down the temperature, even as the weather officials have predicted no heat wave conditions for the next seven

The Met office has forecast partly cloudy sky with light rain/thunderstorm with hail and squall on Wednesday.

Continued on Page 8



## **DGCA** directs airlines to let kids sit with parents

**RAJESH KUMAR** ■ NEW DELHI

 $T^{\text{he Directorate General of Civil Aviation}}_{\text{(DGCA) has asked airlines to ensure children below the age of 12 are seated with at}}$ least one of their parents or parents/guardians who are travelling on the same PNR.

who are travelling on the same PNR. The directive comes against the backdrop of instances of children below the age of 12 years were not seated along with their parents or guardians during flights.

"Airlines shall ensure that children up to the age of 12 years are allocated seats with at least

one of their parents/guardians, who are travelling on the same PNR and a record of the same shall be maintained," the DGCA said. In this regard, the DGCA has revised the Air Transport Circular titled, 'unbundle of services and fees by scheduled airlines' as per which, some services like zero baggage, preferential seating, meals/snack/drink charges, charges for carriage of musical instruments etc. have been allowed.

"Such unbundled services are provided on "opt-in" basis by airlines and are not mandatory in nature. There is also a provision for auto seat assignment to the passengers who have not selected any seat for web checkin before scheduled departure.

Continued on Page 8

# Kejriwal given insulin in Tihar jail



SAUMYA SHUKLA NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal was administered a "low dose" of insulin on Tuesday in Tihar jail after his blood sugar level spiked. Meanwhile, a Rouse Avenue court on Tuesday extended the judicial custody of Kejriwal and BRS leader K Kavitha in a money laundering case related to the alleged excise scam till May 7.

"Kejriwal was given two units of low dose insulin on Monday evening on the advice of AIIMS doctors", a Tihar official said. His blood sugar level reading was found to be 217 around 7 pm, following which the doctors at Tihar looking after him decided to give him the insulin, the official said. The AIIMS specialists, during a video conference with the Chief Minister on April 20, had advised the Tihar doctors that insulin could be given to him if his sugar level crosses a certain

Party (AAP) welcomed this news received on the occasion of Hanuman Jayanti and said the development was the result of the blessings of the deity. Delhi Cabinet minister Atishi said in a post on X in Hindi, "Jai Bajrang Bali! Good news received on Hanuman Javanti Tihar administration finally gave insulin to Arvind Keiriwal ii. This is the result of the blessings of Hanuman ji and the struggle of the people of Delhi. Even in this time of struggle, the blessings of Bajrang Bali remain on all of us."

Meanwhile, Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva alleged that the

AAP leaders' "only political hope" was to "create public sympathy" over the health of Kejriwal in view of the Lok Sabha elections.

"No doubt Arvind Kejriwal is a diabetic but his sugar is under control in jail as he didn't raise demand for insulin in the video consultation with the doctors of AIIMS," he said.

Rebuking the charges, the CM, in a letter to the jail administration, said he has raised the issue of insulin for 10 days, every day, multiple times.
Delhi Cabinet Minister Saurabh

Bharadwaj who participated in an event in his constituency to celebrate Hanuman Jayanti. A person dressed as Lord Hanuman was carrying vials of insulin with Bharadwaj carrying a mace ('gadaa') as they travelled in the area atop a vehicle. Vials of insulin were stuck on the mace.

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# UNCONDITIONAL PUBLIC APOLOGY

In wake of on going matter before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India (Writ Petition C. No. 645/2022), we in our individual capacity as well as on behalf of the Company, unconditionally apologise for the non-compliance or disobedience of directions/ orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

We unconditionally extend the apology for holding meeting/press conference dated 22.11.2023. We earnestly apologize for the mistake made in publishing our advertisements and it is our wholehearted commitment that such errors will not be repeated. We undertake to abide by directions and instructions of the Hon'ble Court with due care and utmost sincerity. We undertake to uphold the majesty of the court and comply with applicable laws and directions of the Hon'ble Court of law/relevant authorities.

Sincerely,

Patanjali Ayurved Limited, Acharya Balkrishna, Swami Ramdev, Haridwar, Uttarakhand

# Two Christian sects not with BJP

With hardly four days to go for the Lok Sabha election in Kerala, two prominent Christian sects have come out against the BJP-led NDA Government at the Centre.

On Monday, Joseph Mar Gregorios, the head of the Jacobite Church, declared that the followers of his sect would vote en masse for candidates fielded by the CPI(M)-led LDF. "The LDF Government" in Kerala have always supported and helped the Church. The CPI(M) has stood with the demands of the Church and hence we are obliged and bound to help them by electing the LDF candidates," said the Jacobite

Church. But he was evasive when asked about the Congress candidate Benni Behanan, the studying the ground realities. Catholic Church, a dominant



Congress candidate and a The interests of the Church member of the Jacobite prevail," should

Church who is pitted Gregorios. He also said the against two Hindu candidates fielded by the CPI(M) and Jacobite Church has a lot of issues regarding the control of Churches and it is the CPI(M) that had the NDA at Chalakkudi constituency. "Let always stood with the the believers take their own decision after sect. Meanwhile, the Latin

declared that it would never support the BJP. The Kerala Region Latin Catholic Council, the apex decision making body of the sect declared on Monday that the Central Government has works (proselytisation, evangelisation indoctring) subverted the missionary

section along coastal Kerala

indoctrination) by holding back the funds meant for the Latin Catholic Church. Even after assuring that the funds meant for the Church

would not be held back, the Central Government has withheld two more accounts and this has made missionary works impossible.

The training of young pastors and priests too have been stuck because of the delay in releasing the funds," said the KRLCC in a release issued on Monday

Continued on Page 8

# 8-yr-old boy falls into open manhole, dies



Rescue operation underway after the boy fell into a manhole on Tuesday

PNS LUCKNOW

It was a tragic incident waiting to happen, with open manholes scattered across the city. On Tuesday, an 8-year-old boy fell into an open manhole in Jankipuram and lost his life. The incident occurred at 3 pm in Sector 10 of Jankipuram. The station house officer (SHO) of Jankipuram provided details, stating that 8-yearold Shahrukh, the son of vendor Saifuddin Guddu Kabadi. was walking along the road near AKTU in Jankipuram

The family, accompanied by the police, rushed him to the hospital. Officials from Lucknow

manhole.

when he fell into the open

Magistrate Surya Pal Gangwar

has issued directives to all gov-

ernment and non-government

hospitals, as well as urban and

rural community health centres

in Lucknow to inspect the instal-

lation and condition of essential

equipment such as fire extin-

guishers and fire alarms to pre-

**NOTICE** 

I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME

FROM MDEBOSHREE TO

DEBOSHREE BHAUMIK. IN

FUTURE I SHALL BE KNOWN

AS DEBOSHREE BHAUMIK D/O BASUDEV BHAUMIK, R-

104 FIRST FLOOR, KDA SIGNATURE GREENS CITY,

AZAD NAGAR, KANPUR,

Municipal Corporation and Jal Kal reached the scene, and the fire brigade team retrieved the child from the manhole.

He was rushed to KGMU Trauma Centre where he was pronounced dead, as confirmed by KGMU spokesperson Dr Sudhir Singh. The nagar nigam announced a compensation of Rs 5 lakh for the bereaved family. Dr Singh expressed condolences to the bereaved familv and assured them support. Municipal Commissioner Inderjit Singh, who visited the site, termed it an unfortunate incident. He attributed the death to negligence on the part of the Jal Kal employees and the company responsible for maintaining the sewer line.

hole open, along with the junior engineer of the Jal Kal department. An FIR will be filed by the Jal Kal department against the company and two employees," he stated. The municipal commissioner emphasised that all junior engineers of LMC have been instructed, both verbally and in writing, to inspect routes and cover open man-holes or face FIRs. He clarified that while Jal Kal acts independently, they would be submitting a report to the state govern-ment and overseeing the filing

"It was negligence on the part

of the contractor, SK

Constructions, responsible for

maintenance, as well as the

supervisor who left the man-

## by nephews ment towards Sohanlal, whom

50-year-old man was axed Ato death allegedly by his nephews and their associates in the Nagram police station area on Tuesday evening following a longstanding dispute. The victim, Sohanlal of Pal Khera in the vicinity, was harvesting vegetables from his field when the incident took place.

According to reports, Sohanlal was working in his field, plucking ladyfinger, when his nephews Mani Ram, Dhani Ram, Hari Ram, and their accomplices confronted him, leading to an altercation.

Subsequently, they hit him with axes, inflicting multiple injuries. One blow to the throat proved fatal, causing him to succumb to excessive bleeding. The assailants fled, leaving him lying in a pool of blood. Upon receiving information from villagers, the victim's family rushed to the scene, transported him to the hospital, and alerted the police. However, Sohanlal was pronounced dead upon arrival at the hospital. Preliminary investigations revealed that the victim's nephews harboured resent-

they believed had used black magic to thwart their progress and cause their downfall.

Additionally, there were reports of a land dispute between the victim and the accused, prompting them to seize the opportunity to attack him while he was alone in the field. A spokesperson stated that the family would file a formal complaint, and a murder case would be registered according-

Teams have been deployed to apprehend the accused and identify any additional suspects. The police are also probing the motive for murder," the spokesperson added.

In a separate incident, a video surfaced on social media depicting a BJP corporator engaging in celebratory firing in Ashiyana. Despite a complete ban on such activities, the corporator was seen discharging firearms during a party. The police acknowledged being aware of the video and stated that they were verifying its authenticity. The footage, reportedly two months old, also showed the corporator dancing.

# Man axed to death | Mystery shrouds man's death

A<sup>32</sup>-year-old man was found dead under mysterious circumstances in the Wazirganj police station area on Tuesday. The deceased, identified as Rohit Kumar Srivastava of Aman Vihar Colony at Campwell Road in Thakurgani, was discovered lying near the railway tracks close to Daliganj railway station in the Wazirganj police station area.

The incident came to light when the railway staff conducting track patrols spotted the body and promptly informed officials, who in turn notified the Government Railway Police (GRP). A GRP official stated that the man appeared to have been struck by a train on Tuesday morning.

"The GRP team promptly informed the local police about

the incident, and a team from Wazirganj police station reached the scene to conduct investigations," the official added. The deceased's brother, Amit

Srivastava, received a call from the GRP informing him of the incident. He later identified the body. Sub-Inspector Haridas Chaurasia of Wazirganj confirmed having found an Aadhaar card on the deceased. With its help, his family was

contacted. The body was sent for autopsy, and further investigations are underway.

According to the police, Rohit was known to have a substance abuse problem and had left home without informing his family. However, the specific substance involved was not disclosed by the police.

In another incident, a 30-yearold man was found dead on the road opposite a model shop at Koneshwar temple in the area on Tuesday. The deceased, identified as Rinku from Panniwali Gali in Thakurganj, was said to be a drug addict and had been away from home for the last three days.

### **DEFRAUDED**

A PAC personnel was defrauded of over Rs 4 lakh in the name of an investment scheme in the share market in the Sarojininagar police station area. The victim, identified as Shailendra Kumar, currently deployed in the 32nd PAC Battalion in Sarojininagar, explained that he was added to a WhatsApp group and subsequently received personal messages urging him to invest in the share market for lucrative returns.

Succumbing to the lure of profit, he invested Rs 2.05 lakh twice

(on April 8 and April 10) They assured me that I could withdraw the money when the market value of the shares increased. However, after transferring the money to the bank account, I was expelled from the group, and my phone number was blocked," he alleged.

In a separate incident, a man was arrested for deceiving people by promising to provide houses/flats from the Lucknow Development Authority at affordable rates while posing as its junior engineer.

The fraudulent activities of the accused were uncovered when some of the victims investigated his credentials and discovered that he was never an LDA employee.

The victims filed a complaint, leading to the registration of a case by the police, who subsequently initiated an investigation. The accused, identified as Qazi Saif Rehman from Sadbhawan Society, Jankipuram Garden in Jankipuram, is, in fact, a loan recovery agent for a finance company.

Exploiting his position, he targeted individuals he knew through his work in loan recovery. A spokesperson stated that the accused was apprehended near Gurunanak Lawn in the area on Tuesday.

# Six held for duping people through deceptive warnings

Six accused, including the mastermind of a gang, were apprehended for defrauding unsuspecting victims of large sums of money (several crore) through deceptive warnings and fake hacking of their digital systems. The perpetrators utilised methods such as VOIP calls, TFN, diallers, and softphones to target their victims. A team from the Special Task Force (STF) of Uttar Pradesh apprehended the accused from Gomti Nagar Extension on Tuesday. The accused operated a call centre from where they orchestrated the fraudulent activities, which was also uncovered by the STF.

The arrested accused were identified as Sajal Surya from Madiaon, Chandrashekhar Shukla & Yuvraj Verma from Gomti Nagar Extension, Abhyuday Singh from Gomti Nagar, Pranjal Pandey, and Pratham Tiwari from Gudamba.

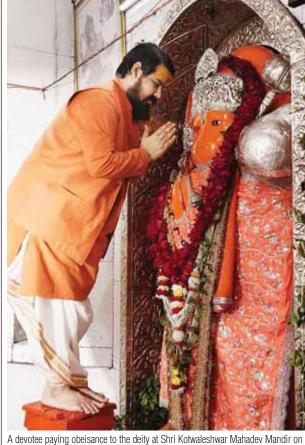
Chandrashekhar was identified as the mastermind of the gang. Chandrashekhar admitted to his involvement in the crimes and revealed that he had registered a company named 'The Travel Train' with an address in Lakhimpur.

He and his associates then established a call centre at a residence in Gomti Nagar Extension to carry out the fraud. The accused informed the police that they employed an email blasting method through Google Advance to send misleading messages to the emails of foreign nationals. Upon seeing the advertisement on their laptops, the victims contacted the tollfree number provided in the advertisement. Calls made by the victims were routed to the call centre through software named Evebeam.

Other members of the gang posed as representatives of foreign companies and informed the callers that their systems had been hacked or their IP addresses compro-

They then connected to the victims' systems using AnyDesk and obtained gift cards valued between \$100 and \$500 from companies such as Amex, Amazon, Apple, Target, Google Play, GameStop, Sephora, and Nordstrom.

Additionally, the gang acquired money through cryptocurrency in a SafePal wallet. The perpetrators stated that they redeemed these gift cards and cryptocurrencies through brokers in India. The gang also exploited the opportunity to create fake accounts using the Magic app and Google Voice app via AnyDesk software, subsequently targeting new victims by accessing the phone books of their initial targets. The police seized five headphones, eight laptops, 10 mobile phones, eight SIMs obtained through the submission of fake IDs, and other gadgets during the operation.



the occasion of Hanuman Jayanti on Tuesday

**NOTICE** 

I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM ABDUL SHAHABUDDIN SIDDIQUI

TO SHAHABUDDIN SIDDIQUI TO SHAHABUDDIN S/O SHAREEFUDDIN R/O M2/3 KDA COLONY, GANDA VIHAR JAJMAU,

**NOTICE** 

I have changed my name from SADEED UDDIN SID-

DIQI to SADEED UDDIN for

all future purposes. Sadeed

uddin S/O Qadeer Bux R/O 101/403, Colonel Ganj

सूचना

मेरा नाम MOHAMMAD

FAIYAZ HASHMI S/O

KAMALUDDIN है गलती से मेरे पासपोर्ट मे नाम MOHAMMAD

FAIYAJ S/o KAMALUDDEEN

हो गया था मुझे MOHAMMAD

KAMALUDDIN नाम से जाना

पहचाना जाए R/o 166/02

BAYARA SIDDHARTH

**NOTICE** 

DAYA SHANKAR DIXIT RESIDING AT PLOT/NO-7,

NAGAR-208027 HAVE CHANGED MY SON (DHRUV DIXIT) DATE OF

BIRTH FROM 05/07/2005

to 05/07/2006 VIDE

10/04/2024 AT KANPUR

NAGAR -272195

BARRA-4,

AFFIDAVIT

NAGAR.

HASHMI S/o

KANPUR

KANPUR

Kanpur Nagar

### **NOTICE**

I Buniyad Baqar Rizvi Son of Yad Hasan Rizvi Residence of 27/6-Ka, Raja Ram Mohan Rai Marg, Utraula House Campus, Hazratganj, Lucknow - 226001, Uttar Pradesh. My alias name is Fawad Askari. Due to some mistake, in the record where my alias name Fawad Askari has been written my correct name Buniyad Baqar Rizvi should be updated in the

### **NOTICE**

My husband Late Gopal

Krishan Mathur and Gopal Krishna Mathur was same person. In my son Sarthak Mathur's highschool testimonials (Rol No.23239200/2023) , my husband's name is mentioned as Gopal Krishna Mathur which should be read as Gopal Krishan Mathur as he was known by this name. Smt Madhubala W/o Late Gopal Krishan Mathur R/o Alampura,

### **NOTICE**

Distt.Mahoba (UP)

NOTICE am the authorised owner and

Director of Baba International Company, Plot No.85, Panchvati, Vinayakpur, Kanpur Uttar Pradesh, and have separated by date of 10 November 2023 \*Himanshu Tripathi S/o R.C Tripathi, Plot No.11, Colony No.3, Sector G, R.K Puram, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, Legal formalities for which are being done by the company. If anybody deals with Himanshu Tripathi, he/she should do so on his/her own risk and the Company will not be responsible for any transactions done in present and future. Karmendra Singh, Baba International, Kanpur Nagar, Uttar Pradesh, Mob. 8181030767

He emphasised that if any hos-

summer season.

DM for fire safety measures in hosps

Lucknow (PNS): District vent fire accidents during the

pital lacks fire protection equipment or if the existing equipment is in poor condition, immediate repairs or replacements must be arranged. Additionally, the DM ordered inspections of the electrical load

in hospitals and community centres. Any instances of electricity consumption exceeding the allotted load should prompt action to increase the load according to regulations. Inspections of electrical equip-

ment, switchboards, and wiring for any damages, cuts, or exposed wires were also mandated. Any identified issues should be promptly repaired and concealed to ensure safety. Moreover, the quality, standards, and validity period of all

fire-fighting equipment installed in hospitals must be verified, he "If any equipment is found to be

of complaints.

in poor condition, the responsible parties should be directed to replace it immediately, with appropriate actions taken. Once satisfactory arrangements are confirmed, hospitals should be issued certificates affirming their compliance with electricity and fire safety standards," he added. To enforce these measures, the DM has instructed the chief medical officer, electrical safety officer (LESA), chief fire officer, as well as senior officers of prominent hospitals such as KGMU, SGPGI, Dr Ram Manohar Lohia Combined Hospital, and others, along with the district tuberculosis officer and TB Clinic established in

## AKTU set to establish Kalam Patent Centre shortly

Lucknow.

In a good news for innovators facing financial constraints while wishing to file patents for their creations, AKTU is set to establish a Kalam Patent Centre soon, offering free assistance to grassroots innovators.
Head of Innovation Hub at

AKTU Mahip Singh announced on Tuesday that they had proposed to establish the Patent Centre to AKTU. "After approval from nearly all committees, it is now in the final stages pending approval from the last committee. This centre will be the first of its kind in the country, with no similar one existing elsewhere," Singh said.

He highlighted the challenges faced by innovators, particularly in eastern Uttar Pradesh, where existing patent facilities

operate on a reimbursable model. He emphasised that grassroots innovators often lack the financial means, qualifications, and support to navigate the patent filing process. The Kalam Centre aims to address these issues by provid-ing comprehensive support from filing to early publication and grant. AKTU's Innovation Hub will cover the entire cost, approximately Rs 50,000, with a team of around 10 patent

innovators and students. Singh recounted his visit to an institute in Gorakhpur where 500 innovative ideas had been generated, yet the creators lacked guidance on obtaining intellectual property rights (IPR). With the Kalam Centre, AKTU aims to support and protect the ideas of grassroots innovators, providing them

attorneys available to assist

with the necessary resources to advance their innovations. In addition, AKTU has decided to conduct faculty development programmes (FDPs) in its affiliated institutions. Twentyone FDPs covering engineering and non-engineering subjects will be organised before September 15, with financial assistance provided by the technical university.

nical university.
These FDPs aim to enhance classroom quality, improve the presentation of educational programs, and align with the objectives of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. Topics will include emerging technologies, NEP guidelines, research possibilities, entre-preneurship, sustainable development principles, and NAAC grading, offering teachers an opportunity to enhance their knowledge and skills.

## Plastic recovered from waste mgmt to be used for road construction

Lucknow (PNS): Municipal Commissioner Inderjit Singh announced on Monday that the Lucknow Nagar Nigam would utilise plastic recovered would utilise plastic recovered from waste management for road construction, marking a pioneering initiative for the city. "All upcoming road projects initiated by nagar nigam post-elections this year will mandate the incorporation of 6-10% plastic content. The supply of this plastic will be sourced from the ongoing waste collection efforts," Singh stated. stated.

Elaborating on plans to deploy machines to shred plastic into micro levels for road applica-tion, he emphasise on its benefits in preventing water seepage and safeguarding the road's

Lucknow grapples with substantial municipal solid waste generation with 2,000 tons per day, including 6% plastic waste, posing both challenges

and opportunities. "Approximately 40-60 TPD of recyclable plastic is diligently collected and segregated, contributing to our informal recycling ecosystem," Singh explained. He detailed the utilisation of non-recyclable plastic as refuse-derived fuel plastic as refuse-derived fuel for energy generation and road construction, in accor-dance with Indian Road Congress guidelines. Efforts to curb single-use plastic usage and disposal include strin-gent regulations and penalties totaling 15,30,200 units of local currency imposed on non-compliant vendors.

## now available at **Balrampur Hosp** Lucknow (PNS): Treadmill

**Treadmill test** 

test has been introduced as the latest medical facility at Balrampur Hospital. Doctors emphasise that this procedure will aid in monitoring the heart health of patients. Director and Chief Superintendent Dr Pawan

Kumar said that treadmill test is a participatory medical examination aimed at assessing heart sensitivity during physical activity.

"It plays a crucial role, especially in monitoring and diagnos-ing heart conditions," he added. The chief medical superintendent stated that the addition of treadmill test marks a significant milestone, enhancing the hospital's services. Notably, while this test is offered free of charge at Balrampur Hospital, it costs Rs 2,000 in private facil-

## Three killed, two injured in collision between two bikes

Lucknow: Three people were killed and two were injured in a collision between two motorcycles on the Lucknow-Bangarmau road in Hasanganj Kotwali area in Unnao, police said on Tuesday. They said the accident took place late Monday night near Akbarpur

village. Harshvardhan Singh (20), a resident of Hasnapur, Vimlesh Gautam (20) of Sherpur and Rajkumar (25) from Lucknow were rushed to the Hasanganj Community Health Centre after the accident but were declared brought dead, SHO Chandrakant Mishra said. He added that one of the injured, Sachin, a resident of Shairpur police station in Hasanganj, was referred to the Trauma Centre of King George Medical

University in Lucknow after he was given first aid. The other person injured in the incident, Vikas Saini alias Bunty from Hasnapur police station in Hasanganj, was taken by his family members to a private hospital in Mohan where he received first aid and was later discharged, SHO Mishra said. He added that the bodies of the deceased have been sent for postmortem.

Meanwhile in Kanpur, a young Meanwhile in Kanpur, a young man and a 16-year-old girl allegedly committed suicide at a village here as their parents did not approve of their relationship, police said on Tuesday. The 23-year-old man was found dead at his house, while the girl was taken to a while the girl was taken to a hospital where she died, they said. According to the police,

the two consumed poison to end their lives. Assistant Commissioner of

Police (Ghatampur) Ranjeet Kumar said the man and the girl, both cousins, were in love with each other. They wanted to get married but their families did not approve of their relationship, he said. The man went to the girl's house in Akbarpur village late

Monday evening when her family was away and then both consumed poison, ACP Kumar said. He added that when the family returned, the girl pan-icked and told them that she had consumed poison. She was immediately taken to a nearby hospital but didn't survive, the police said, adding that the bodies have been sent for post-



Deputy Chief Minister Brajesh Pathak with Samajwadi Party members of Amethi who quit the Samajwadi Party and joined the Bharativa Janata Party, in Lucknow on Tuesday

# **Akhilesh hits out at BJP** for PM Modi's remarks

Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav on Tuesday lashed out at the BJP for

"speaking wrong things about a particular community."
"This is a very objectionable statement which cannot be forgiven," he said.

In a post in Hindi on X, Yadav said, "Saying wrong things about a particular community by naming it is an insult to that community spread across the world. At the international level, this has hurt the secular and democratic identity of the country."

Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Banswara suggested that if the Congress came to power, it would redistribute the wealth of the people among Muslims, and cited former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's statement that the minority community had the first claim on the country's resources.

Addressing a rally, Modi alleged that the Congress planned to give the people's hard-earned money and valuables to the "infiltrators" and "those who have more chil-

Replying to the prime minister's remarks, Yadav said: "This is a very objectionable statement, which cannot be forgiven. The lies that people in the highest positions in the BJP are spreading against the Congress by saying absurd things in the election rallies are exposing the lies of the BJP itself."

The SP president further said on the one hand, they (BJP leaders) are claiming that they are going to get 400 seats, and on the other, they want to get some votes in the election by "scaring" the public.

"The truth is that they are putting their 'Mann ki baat' on someone else," he said.

Sharpening his attack, the former chief minister said those who had taken away the hardearned money of the poor and women during demonetisation were now talking about

## Regime change at Centre will also show exit door to UP govt: Dimple

**Etawah:** Samajwadi Party's Mainpuri candidate Dimple Yadav on Tuesday said if the BJP regime at the Centre is removed, the work of removing the Uttar Pradesh government can also happen. Addressing an election rally here, Yadav said "this Lok Sabha elections is to save the Constitution and democracy".

"Every section of society is feeling neglected. The people in the BJP spread false things. Now the entire state and country have come to know that this is a government of lies and loot. We have to fight this election very closely as well as cleverly," Yadav said.
"Our aim should be that this is the right time to remove

the government which wants to change the Constitution and snatch away the political, social and economic rights and respect that we get through it. If this (BJP) government is removed from the Centre, then the work of removing the UP government can also happen," she added. The Samajwadi Party leader alleged the BJP has spread corruption across the country through electoral bonds and said it has done the work of humiliating the country by bringing in the Agniveer

pieces of jewellery, is also voting against the BJP because they are also affected by unemployment and inflation just like the poor people, farmers, labourers, youth, backward, Dalit, minorities, women, tribal and the oppressed upper castes," he said, adding the BJP was giving such a statement because even its own supporters were not voting for it. After the first phase of voting, this statement of desperation is the first statement and also the trend of the BJP government "The truth is that the middle class, who have one or two going out of the country. This is the BJP's admission of its



scheme. "This is only a fouryear job scheme. I think it is the responsibility of all —the youth — to remove such a government," she said. Without naming anyone, the Mainpuri MP said, "You all are our family and those who do not have families will not be able to understand what an emotional bond is with a family."

Taking to reporters later, Yadav claimed the INDIA bloc

defeat," he said. The SP chief said only those who have the intention of destroying the Constitution can use such unconstitutional

Will the Election Commission allow anyone to contest elections after such a statement? History will remember this and history will never forgive the BJP for this," Yadav added. Prime Minister Modi had said in Banswara, Rajasthan that "this urban Naxal mindset, my mothers and sisters, will not even leave your mangalsutra." Addressing an election rally in

is winning the Lok Sabha elections this time. "Now it is just a matter of how much margin we win and whether we can further increase our previous victory margin or not," she said. The Samajwadi Party leader further said the National Crime Records Bureau figures show that there has been a 50 per cent increase in heinous crimes against women in Uttar Pradesh.

Aligarh, a constituency with a sizeable Muslim population, sizeable Muslim population,
Modi accused the opposition
— Congress and the Samajwadi
Party — of following the policy of appeasement and yet
doing nothing to uplift the
socio-economic condition of the Muslim community.

Voting in the second phase will take place on April 26 and it will cover eight parliamentary constituencies of Amroha, Meerut, Baghpat, Ghaziabad, Gautambuddh Nagar, Bulandshahr (SC), Aligarh, and Mathura. Counting of votes will be held on June 4.

## SP against quota for SC/ST community, tribals: Maya

Bahujan Samaj Party president and former Uttar Pradesh chief minister Mayawati on Tuesday raised the issue of reservation and alleged that the Samajwadi Party does not want the Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe (SC/ST) category people to get the benefit of quota.

Mayawati reiterated that if her party came to power at the Centre, western Uttar Pradesh would be made a separate state. Pointing out that Meerut had been demanding a High Court bench for a long time, she said that if voted to power, she

that if voted to power, she would fulfil this demand. Addressing an election rally in support of party candidate Devvrat Kumar Tyagi at Alipur Maidan in Lohia Nagar area of Meerut, she targeted the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party, and also sought to put the Congress and SP in the dock over the issue of reservation.

issue of reservation.

Mayawati said, "The reservation given to Dalits and tribals in government jobs has not been completed for years. When the SP government was in power in UP, the reservation in promotion for SC/ST category government employees was completely abolished." The BSP chief warned the common voters about the SP, saying, "Will the SC/ST employees waste their votes on such a party (SP) which is trying its best to do away with your reservation?"

The SP does not want the SC/ST people to get the benefit of reservation," she alleged. The former chief minister said: "When the BSP brought an amendment bill in Rajya Sabha to make reservation effective in promotion, the SP MPs tore it. You tell yourself what good can such a party do for Dalits and the exploited?"

Targeting the BJP, Congress and its allies, she said all these political parties have meted out injustice to the poor.
The BSP chief also alleged that

attempts were being made to tamper with the Constitution. 'While reservation for Dalits and extremely backward classes has been tampered with, quota in promotions is not



being given to government employees. The BJP govern-ment is snatching away the people's rights to employment by giving them ration two times," Mayawati said.

She also enumerated the work done by her government for the people of UP between 2007 and 2012. She alleged that Dalits and Muslims were being harassed not only in UP but in the entire country. She said if Dalits, Muslims,

she said in Dants, Mushins, extremely backward and general category poor people gave the BSP an opportunity to form the government at the Centre, no one would be given the right to be seen them. the right to harass them.

Mayawati also promised to form a separate state by combining the western region. She reminded the people that her government had passed a proposal and sent it to the Central government but the latter did not implement it.

In 2011, the Mayawati government passed a resolution to divide Uttar Pradesh and make Purvanchal, western UP and Bundelkhand separate states. "If our party comes to power at the Centre, western UP will be made a separate state," she

reiterated.

better.

"All unemployed, Dalits, Muslims, poor and youth will be given permanent employment — government jobs," she said. She also assured the sug-arcane farmers of western UP that they would get fair prices for their produce. Mayawati further said that the

Congress and BJP had cheated the public every time while releasing election manifesto, and it was the reason why BSP did not bring its manifesto in the election, because it believes in doing, and not in saying. Mayawati said that if there was no fault in the EVMs this time, the results would be

She appealed to people to make the BSP candidate win from the Meerut Lok Sabha seat. On the occasion, BSP candidate Devvrat Tyagi, former minister Haji Yakub Qureshi, and Hafiz Imran honoured Mayawati by presenting her a gold crown. Voting is scheduled to be held in Meerut on April 26 under the second phase. BJP candidate Arun Govil, SP's Sunita Verma, BSP's Devvrat Kumar Tyagi are in the poll fray from

## Cash, liquor, drugs worth ₹32,000 lakh seized so far

PNS LUCKNOW

State authorities have seized liquor, drugs, precious metals & cash worth around Rs 32,000 lakh from March 16 to April 22. The Model Code of Conduct came into force on March 16, the day poll schedule for the Lok sabha election was announced by the Election Commission of

Notably, the Excise, Income Tax, Police and Narcotics departments, as well as other enforcement agencies have seized a total of Rs 31,898.16 crore worth of liquor, drugs, precious metals, and cash from March 1 to April 22. This includes Rs 3,123.56 crore in cash, Rs 4,279.08 crore worth of liquor, Rs 21,177.55 crore worth of drugs, Rs 2,161.59 crore worth of precious metals, and Rs 1,156.38 crore of other seized items.

Chief Electoral Officer Navdeep Rinwa said here on Tuesday that a total of Rs 239.20 lakh worth of liquor, drugs, and cash were seized by Excise, Income Tax, Police, Narcotics departments, and other enforcement agencies. On April 22, significant seizures were conducted in various constituencies across Uttar Pradesh.

In the Hamirpur assembly constituency of Hamirpur district, Rs 23.09 lakh in cash were seized.

In the Jhansi Nagar assembly constituency, a sum of Rs 31.85 lakh was seized. In the Arya Nagar assembly constituency of Kanpur Nagar, a sum of Rs 71 lakh was seized.

Additionally, in the Chandpur assembly constituency of Bijnor district, authorities confiscated an estimated Rs 22.32 lakh worth of drugs (279,000 grams). In the Chandpur Assembly

constituency Bijnor district, an estimated Rs 22.32 lakh worth of drugs (279,000 grams) were

# Jobs a major issue for young Muslim women voters Aligarh: For young Muslim women woters in Aligarh, jobs are not only a means of livelihood but crucially a pathway to ment among Muslim women in Aligarh, Farhat Jahan, a concern over the reduction in a cademic positions and emphasised the need for sus-

independence and security. Salma Khatoon (name

changed), 21, an engineering graduate facing familial pressures to marry, emphasized the significance of employment for women like her.

"For me, finding a job is about more than just a career, it's about independence. If I can't find work, I'll have to follow my family's wishes," she said. Similarly, first time voter Sveda

Fatima, a computer engineering master's student, has been advised by her family to prioritize marriage if she cannot secure a job placement. Highlighting a common senti-

said, "For women here, jobs represent not just livelihood but independence and security. They do not want to regress to a time when their sole purpose was to study to find a suitable husband."

The issue of unemployment resonates strongly among these women, influencing their stance in the upcoming elections. Asra Alavi, a 29-year-old PhD scholar at AMU, spoke candidly about the challenges of securing employment, particularly in academia.

"The main problem we are facing right now, irrespective of gender or religion, is unem-

tainable development plans beyond election cycles.

Sadaf Tasneem, a 22-year-old pursuing MA in Modern Indian History at AMU, high-lighted the multifaceted concerns affecting women, including employment and safety. "As a student, I will prioritize employment and women's safety, given the current state of confusion and violence in the

country," she said. "As a student of Masters who is at a post graduation stage, I will look into the factor of employment that is really into the ambiguous state right now paper are getting leaked and

look into the factor of women safety we have noticed that a lot of promises have been made into this very specific field," Tasneem said.

Noting that women itself is a caste in India, she said even in that specific caste and class Muslim women are more vulnerable.

.. And when I say that I mean the identity attacks Muslim women continuously face on the basis of their clothes, on the basis of their religious practices, on the basis of their marital choice," Tasneem said. "Like for me, I have recently

begin this practice of adorning

and I think there is a large majority of girls who do it wilfully rather than being forced to do so. So it is their choice and article 25 guarantees the same," she said.

Kashish Khan, another student at AMU, stressed the importance of candidates focusing on developmental goals over religious slogans. "I would vote for a candidate

who addresses issues like lack of opportunities for women and communal tensions," she

With employment emerging as a key electoral issue, political candidates are aiming to

need for Hindu-Muslim unity

in his campaign.

Incumbent MP Satish Gautam of the BJP has also promised to prioritize job creation. In the midst of broader political discourse, Muslim women voters in Aligarh are eager for substantive solutions to their employment challenges, viewing this issue as pivotal to their pursuit of independence and empowerment, Jahan said. Aligarh goes to poll in the second phase of elections on April 26. Khair, Baroli, Atroli, Kol

### **Congress, Rahul Gandhi 'anti-Sanatan': Irani Amethi:** Union Minister Smriti also anti-nationals. These peo-

the Congress and its leader Rahul Gandhi as "anti-Sanatan" and "anti-national" while alleging that they have always worked to weaken Hindus. Addressing election meetings in Amethi where she is seeking a reelection to the Lok Sabha, she said, "While opposing Hindutva, they also opposed Lord Ram and rejected the invitation to attend the consecration ceremony of the Ram Lala idol in Ayodhya. The one

of no use." and Aligarh city are assembly segments in the Aligarh parliamentary constituency. *PTI*"Be it Rahul (Gandhi), Priyanka or the Congress, they are not only anti-Sanatan but

that does not belong to Ram is

had talked about breaking India into pieces the candidate of their party," the BJP leader said. She alleged that Rahul Gandhi and Congress have always worked to weaken Sanatan and Hindus. Irani alleged that the Gandhi

family did nothing for the development of Amethi and claimed that the development works in the parliamentary constituency were done under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Irani defeated former Congress president Rahul Gandhi in

Amethi in the 2019 Lok Sabha

## **Test finds no poison in Muktar Ansari's viscera**

PNS LUCKNOW

Around a month after Mukhtar Ansari's death and claims that he was poisoned in prison, the Banda jail authorities said no such signs have been found in the viscera testing of the gangster-turned-politician.
The revelation has come following a

leading to Ansari's death. His family had alleged that he was given poison in his meals over time in jail. The viscera report has been submitted in connection with the investiga-

court order to probe the circumstances

tion. According to it, Ansari was not poisoned and he died after suffering a heart attack, as asserted by the police and iail authorities. Ansari suffered a heart attack on the night of March 28 in the Banda jail and

pital where he succumbed. On March 29, a judicial probe was ordered into his death after his family cried foul, claiming that the former

he was rushed to a government hos-

MP was administered poison. The allegation was echoed by several political leaders, including former UP chief minister Akhilesh Yadav, AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi, RID's Tejashwi Yadav and Bahujan Samaj Party president Mayawati.

The latest viscera report corroborates the findings of the post-mortem examination, which concluded that Mukhtar Ansari died of natural causes. Despite the family's claims of



"slow poisoning," the autopsy concluded that heart attack (myocardial infarction) was the cause of death. The examination, conducted in the presence of Mukhtar Ansari's youngest son Umar Ansari at Rani Durgavati Medical College, has provided clarity amidst the ongoing allegations.
Ansari was 63 years old at the time of

death. A five-time MLA from Mau Sadar, he had served jail sentences in Uttar Pradesh and Punjab since 2005. With over 60 pending criminal cases against him, he faced sentencing in eight cases from September 2022 by various courts in Uttar Pradesh. He spent his final days in the Banda jail.

### Woman among 4 killed in separate incidents

Lucknow (PNS): The Bareilly district was rocked with four separate murder cases during the last 24 hours. A brick kiln owner in Faridpur and a mining contractor in Bithri Chainpur were shot dead A woman was beaten to death in Shahi and a farmer was hacked with a sharp-edged weapon in Mirganj. According to reports, 50-year-old Mohammed Mazhar Khan alias Bobby Advocate, a former head of Dhakni Rajpuri in Faridpur, had a brick kiln in Rahpura village. On Monday noon, a fight broke out between Salman, a resident of Kalyanpur in Bhuta, and Rehan of Bhure Khan Gauntia over transportation of bricks. Rehan called seven to eight people, including his brother-in-law Irfan, from Gausganj. They started beating Salman and his mother Sitara. When Mazhar reached there, he slapped Rehan and his brother-in-law shot Mazhar in the chest. An FIR has been registered against Rehan, his brother-in-law Naushad, Irfan and Afsar. Irfan has been arrested.

Meanwhile, 25-year-old Aman Patel, a mining contractor and resident of Maheshpura in Bithri Chainpur, was shot dead in the wee hours of Monday. During patrolling, police found his body on Chak road ahead of Navadiya Harkishan village. A chat with a girl was also found in Aman's mobile. Police said they were interrogating five people, including the girl in question.

In the third incident, a woman of Bhamora in Shahi was beaten to death in a dispute over dumping garbage. Her daughter Kranti had a dispute with a neighbour. In another case reported on Monday night, a farmer of Karanpur was murdered by attacking with a sharp weapon. He was guarding the tubewell in the field.

Meanwhile, a Delhi-bound bus collided head-on with a truck on the Lucknow-Agra Expressway in Kannauj district early Tuesday morning, leaving four passengers dead and 21 others injured, police

On the occasion of Chaitra Shukla Purnima and Hanuman Jayanti, Chief Minister, and Gorakshpeethadhishwar Yogi Adityanath worshiped Lord

Hanuman as per rituals.
While extending his Hanuman Jayanti greetings to all citizens, the chief minister sought Lord Hanuman's blessings for everyone's health, happiness, prosperity, and peace. Engrossed in a

nationwide campaign for the BJP in the Lok Sabha elections, CM Yogi is actively conducting expansive rallies within the state and beyond. Following a significant public gathering alongside Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Aligarh on Monday amidst the intense election activities, Yogi arrived in Gorakhpur in the evening. After having darshan and offering his prayers to Guru Gorakhnath and paying obeisance at the 'samadhi' of his Guru Brahmalin Mahant Avaidyanath, he spent the night

at the Gorakhnath temple. CM Yogi's traditional routine on Tuesday morning included per-forming special worship for Hanuman Jayanti. On the 'Prakatotsay' of Shri Hanumat on Chaitra Shukla Purnima, he participated in rituals amidst Vedic chants and performed the 'aarti' in front of the Lord

### CM pays homage to deceased BJP leader Kunwar Sarvesh Lucknow (PNS): Chief

Yogi greets people on Hanuman Jayanti

Minister Yogi Adityanath on Tuesday visited the residence of deceased BJP leader Kunwar Sarvesh Kumar Singh in Moradabad on Tuesday to offer his condolences to the bereaved family members. Paying homage to Singh, Adityanath placed flowers upon his por-trait and consoled the family members.

Kunwar Sarvesh Singh, who was the BJP's contender for the Moradabad Lok Sabha seat, breathed his last at AIIMS on Saturday at the age of 71. The electoral contest for this constituency had drawn to a close on April 19, marking the culmination of the first phase of Lok Sabha elections. A seasoned politician, Singh

had represented Hanuman idol in the

Gorakhnath temple. Extending his wishes to people through a post on X, Yogi said, "Heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to the people of the state and all devotees on Shri Hanuman Jayanti! May the blessings of Shri Hanuman ji, the giver of eight powers and



Thakurdwara constituency in Moradabad as an MLA for four consecutive terms. Additionally, he clinched the MP seat for Moradabad under

the BJP banner in 2014. Despite his setback in 2019, the BJP reaffirmed its trust in Singh's candidacy by naming him again for the Lok Sabha ticket.

nidhi ke daata), and an ardent devotee of Lord Shri Ram, be bestowed upon everyone. I pray to him for happiness, peace and prosperity of the entire creation. Om Hanumate Namah!" Meanwhile, Yogi engaged with young visitors at the Gorakhnath Temple on Tuesday

morning. A group of children, accompanied by their families, nine treasures (ashta siddhi nav visited the Gorakhnath Temple to meet the chief minister. Raikumar Giri, Divyansh, Parnika Jaiswal, Monalisa, Sonali, James Chaudhary, and Sahil Bharti were delighted by the chief minister's playful

# Amit Shah to inaugurate BJP Road accident claims four lives poll office in Kashi today

Union Home Minister Amit Shah will kick off poll campaign in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's constituency on Wednesday, when he will inaugurate the central election office of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Varanasi Lok Sabha in Tulsi Udyan located in Mahmoorganj. Modi will seek his third consecutive win from this seat in this election. On the occasion, Shah will also address the workers of the five assembly constituencies falling under the Varanasi Lok Sabha constituency in the grounds of Motijheel (Mahmoorganj).

According to the proposed programme, Shah will arrive at Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport in Babatpur around 5 pm on Friday. Shah, who will be on a two-day visit here, will be given a grand welcome by the BJP workers by beating drums, blowing conch shells and showering flowers on his convoy route from the airport to Tulsi Udyan. From the point of view of arrangements, senior BJP leaders, including regional president (Kashi) Dilip Patel, Varanasi Lok Sabha region incharge Satish Dwivedi, Lok Sabha region convenor



Senior BJP leaders reviewing preparations of two-day visit of Union Home Minister Amit Shah in Varanasi on Tuesday

and district-city in charge Arun Pathak, MLC and district chief Hansraj Vishwakarma, city president Vidvasagar Rai, MLC Dharmendra Singh, former MLA Jagdish Patel, state BJP secretary Archana Mishra, regional media in charge Navratan Rathi and co incharge Santosh Solapurkar etc visited the venue.

Meanwhile, in view of the Lok Sabha elections, the election office of Cantt assembly under Varanasi Lok Sabha constituency was inaugurated at Ram Niwas located at Ramchandra Shukla crossing (Lane Number 10, Ravindrapuri) on Monday. The programne was started by Varanasi Cantt MLA Saurabh Srivastava by offering prayers Surendra Narayan Singh Odhe, Mayor Ashok Tiwari, MLC amidst chanting of Vedic mantras. Then former MLA

Jagdish Patel as chief guest, UP Minister of State (Independent Charge) for AYUSH Dr

Charge) for AYUSH Dr Dayashankar Mishra 'Dayalu' and city BJP president Vidyasagar Rai inaugurated the office by cutting the ribbon. Addressing the workers present during the function, Jagdish Patel said that not only the PM is contesting the elections from Kashi, but every BJP worker of Kashi is contesting the polls wholeheartedly considering themselves as 'Modi'. "The party workers had worked tirelessly to make Modi win with a huge majority in 2014 and 2019 and this time they are trying their best to break all the old records and set a new record. Therefore, in the 2024 elections, Modi's victory from this parliamentary con-stituency with the maximum

number of votes is certain," he

Speaking on the occasion, Dayalu said despite being a reli-gious, spiritual and cultural capital, Kashi was yearning for development but after the arrival of Modi, the city has seen a lot of improvement. He asked the party workers to work with the target of 370 plus at every booth and ensure a historic victory to the PM. Saurabh Srivastava said that before 2014, Kashi was longing for development but today the changing face of Kashi is attracting the world. Vidyasagar Rai said all the workers, including Matrishakti (women) should reach the meeting of Amit Shah in large numbers and should make full preparations to make the meeting unprecedented. The meeting was conducted by Amit Rai and the vote of thanks was proposed by regional president of Mahila Morcha Namrata Chaurasia. The meeting was also attended by Abhishek Mishra, Naveen Kapoor, Ashok Patel, Rahul Singh, Ashok Yadav, Jagdish Tripathi, Mridula Jaiswal, Subhash Kushwaha, Nirmala Patel, Gokul Sharma, Ram Gopal Verma, Kishan Kanojia, Shailendra Mishra 'Sonu,' Anupam Gupta, Manoj Shah, Kushagra Srivastava, Shailesh Singh, Hrithik Mishra and Abhinav Pandey.

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

 $F_{32}^{
m our}$  persons were killed and 32 others seriously injured when their bus broke the divider and rammed into a truck on the other side of the road on Agra-Lucknow Expressway in Kannauj early on Tuesday morning. The incident took place at 208 km point near Piprauli village when the bus was going to Delhi from



Gorakhpur. The mishap took place after the bus driver dozed off and lost control over the vehicle. The injured also included the bus driver and the conductor. All the injured were admitted to the Medical College, Tirwa, where four of them were declared dead by the doctors.

The bodies of the victims have been sent for an autop-sy. The identity of the

deceased could not be ascertained. ASP Dr Sansar Singh, Circle Officer Dr Privanka Bajpai along with Thathia police station force rushed to the spot who, with the help of UPEIDA team, got all the injured admitted to the medical college. As they were serious, 10 of the injured had been referred to Kanpur and their condition is still critical.

## 3 killed as tractor hits two bikes

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

Three friends were killed and two others seriously injured when a speeding tractor hit their two bikes near Akbarpur village on Lucknow-Bangermau road under Hasanganj police station area of Unnao late on Monday night. On the information of villagers, the police rushed to spot and sent all the injured to the community health centre (CHC) where three of them were declared dead by the doctors. Due to their serious condition, two other injured were referred to the Lucknow Trauma Centre. The incident took place when they were returning from Pachkaria Baba Ka Mela. Tractor driver escaped by leaving the vehicle behind which had been impounded by the police. All the bike riders were not wearing helmet. Vimlesh (22) of Sairpur, Hasanganj Kotwali along with friend Sachin (19), Harshvardhan (20), Vivek (23) and Chhotu (19) of Hasnapur village had gone to Pachkaria Baba temple to see the mela on Monday evening. The accident took place when they were returning to home around 11 pm. The police sent them to CHC by ambulance where Vimlesh, Harshvardhan and Chhotu were declared dead by the doctors. Vivek and Sachin were referred to the Lucknow Trauma Centre due to their serious condition. Kotwali in charge Chandra Kant Mishra said three youths were killed on the spot.

In another incident two bike-borne friends were killed when a speeding vehicle hit them on Kanpur road under Sheoli Kotwali police station area of Kanpur Dehat late on Monday night. Kalloo (22) of Kakardahi was motorcycle

mechanic at Baghpur chauraha. Around 11 pm on Monday he along with friend Suraj Kamal (25) had gone to a relative's place on bike when the speeding vehicle hit them on Bairi-Kalyanpur road. The kin rushed to the spot and took them to CHC, Sheoli, where they were declared dead by the doctors. Kotwali incharge Sanjay Gupta said the bodies had been sent for autopsy. On the basis of complaint, a first information report (FIR) will be lodged and action taken in the matter, he said.

SUICIDE: A love-sick couple committed suicide by consuming poisonous substance in Akbarpur Jhavaiya village under Revna police area of Ghatampur on Monday night. On getting information ACP and Revna Inspector rushed to spot and carried out a probe. The forensic team collected evidence from the spot.

### Cleanliness campaign launched

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

The personnel of 95 Battalion of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) along with the activists of Srijan Samajik Vikas Nyas launched a massive cleanliness campaign from Assi Ghat to Sant Ravidas Ghat here on Hanuman Janmotsav here on Tuesday. During it an oath was also administered to ensure cent per cent voting during the Lok Sabha elections.

The drive was held under the Swachh Ganga Harit Ganga Mission which was led by the president of Srijan and brand ambassador of Ganga Haritima Abhiyan Anil Kumar Singh on the guidance of Commandant of 95 CRPF Battalion Anil Kumar Briksh.

## Varanasi has become first choice of tourists: Tiwari

 $T^{\text{he 'Namo Yuva Chaupal;}}_{\text{programme was organised}}_{\text{by Yuva Morcha in Pandit}}$ Deendayal Upadhyay Mandal of City South assembly under Varanasi Lok Sabha constituency at a hotel in Hauz Katora area here on Tuesday. The chief guest was City South MLA and former UP Minister Dr Neelkanth Tiwari. While addressing the chaupal, he said that after the construction of Kashi Vishwanath Corridor (KVC), there has been an unprecedented change in the infrastructure of Kashi, including it roads, parks or smart schools. "All the development works are now completely adding to the prosperity and grandeur of Kashi," he said.

Dr Tiwari said that before 2014, it was said about Varanasi city, but the face of it has changed since Swachh Bharat Abhiyan was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. "Today Varanasi has become the first choice of tourists of India," he said, asking the BJP workers that now it is the turn of us and local res-

Sabha constituency with a record number of votes. Regional secretary of Yuva Morcha Sandeep Keshari appealed to the first time voters to vote as much as possible so that the record victory of the PM from Varanasi is ensured. He said the role of youth will be important in fulfilling the resolve that the PM has taken to make India a developed India by 2047. State Working were also present.

idents to create history by

helping the PM win for the

third time from Varanasi Lok

Committee member Priyanshu Tiwari and Mandal president Gopal Gupta highlighted in detail the works of the central and state governments.

While conducting the

'Namo Yuva Chaupal', city general secretary Om Tiwari appealed to the young voters to contribute to the fulfillment of PM's resolve of making India a world leader and the third economy of the world with their power of vote. The vote of thanks was given by Yuva Morcha's Mandal president Milan Keshari. Corporator Sanjay Kesari, Shravan Gupta, Ashutosh Singh Monu, Manish Gupta, Gagan Mishra, city vice president Sanjay Vishwakarma, Tirupati Mishra, Deepak Pandey, Abhishek Seth, Monish Gupta, Deepak Gupta, Santosh anurkar and many others

## Appeal to vote

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE KANPUR

Under the directives of the local district election office, programmes related to voter awareness under the 'SVEEP' scheme were organised at the NSI on Monday. An oath taking programme was organised for the students, employees and officers studying in various courses of the institute to use their voting rights compulsorily. The people present at the oath-taking ceremony pledged to vote.

A slogan writing competition was also organised under the voter awareness programme in which students, employees and officers etc. studying in various courses of the institute participated enthusiastically. Prizes were awarded to the participants who wrote selected slogans. Director Prof D Swain said "Chunaav ka parv, Desh ka garv" (the festial of elections pride of country). Administering oath



to all the employees and students to vote as much as possible, he said that we should choose the candidate with discretion by exercising our voting right without any pressure. Voting is very important for a strong democracy in the country, he said.

Head of Biochemistry Section, Prof Seema Paroha, also spoke on the occasion. Shailendra Kumar Trivedi, Ashok Kumar Garg, Anoop Kumar Kanojia, Dr Anant Lakshmi and Brijesh Kumar Sahu among others were present. Coordinator of the programme, Assistant Director (NH) Mallika Dwivedi thanked everyone with a strong appeal

### Health camp organised

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE KANPUR

health camp was organised A health camp was organised by the Health and Hygiene Committee of Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Kidwai Nagar, on Tuesday in which Dr Arunim Maheshwari was present. While giving the welcome speech, the principal said health checkup is very important in today's fast-paced life. A balanced diet, adequate sleep and regular exercise are the keys to a healthy lifestyle. The vote of thanks was proposed by committee in charge Professor Manisha Shukla. The programme was organised under the direction of the committee members, including Prof Mamta Dixit, Prof Archana Srivastava, Dr Anju Srivastava, Dr Meera Tripathi, Dr. Sangeeta Kumari, Dr. Saba Yunus, Dr. Seema Kanojia, Smita Yadav, Indu Mishra, Pratima Shukla and Sudha Yadav.

## Identify vulnerable, critical booths: DEO

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE VARANASI

District Magistrate/ District Election Officer (DM/DEO) S Rajalingam directed all zonal magistrates to take action by identifying vulnerable and critical booths in their respective areas.

Under the chairmanship of the DM/ DEO, a meeting with district election officers, zonal magistrates, zonal police officers, sector magistrates, sector police officers and others was held at Police Lines here on Monday to discuss assemblywise vulnerable and critical

Rajalingam said all the zonal magistrates should take action by identifying the vul-nerable and critical booths of their respective areas. He directed the officers that the persons with criminal tenden-

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE PRAYAGRAJ

cies and unruly nature should not influence the elections at any cost. He said that the zonal and

sector magistrates should continuously communicate with the police officers attached to them and keep in touch apart from visiting the areas. He discussed the details of past voting incidents at each polling station and said that if any untoward incident happened at any polling station, then provide information about it.

He said that 100 per cent voter slips should be distributed on time and instructed all zonal and sector magistrates to discharge their duties responsibly. Additional Commissioner of Police (ACP) S Channappa, additional district magistrates (ADMs), SDMs and other Police department officers were also present in the meeting.

## Hanuman Janmotsav celebrated

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ PRAYAGRAJ

Hanuman Janmotsav was celebrated with devotion and enthusiasm on Tuesday. On the occasion grand decoration of Lord Bajrangbali was done in Hanuman temples. The 'mahabhishek' of Lord

Hanuman was performed amid chanting of Vedic mantras which was followed by 56 'bhog' in the presence of Mahant Balbir Giri in the Bade Hanuman temple located at Bandhwa, Sangam. The 'abhishek' of Lord Hanuman was performed with 108 litres of milk, 31 litres of curd, 11 kg ghee, 11 kg honey, 11 kg juice and 51 kg of Panchamrit etc. A 'bhandara' was also organised near Hanuman temple and devotees took bath in Sangam. EXHIBITION TO BE

**HELD:** The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Publication Exhibition will be Publication Exhibition will be organised in the Central Library of SHUATS, Naini on April 25 and 26. Librarian Christopher Sudhir George said that the exhibition will be inaugurated on April 25 at 9.30 am by Pro Vice-Chancellor (Administration)
Prof. Biswaroon, Mehra, He Prof Biswaroop Mehra. He said that the objective of the exhibition is to showcase the latest publications and research in the agriculture sector so that students, researchers and faculty can be benefitted.

AWARDED: Neha Verma, a research scholar of SHUATS, was awarded the PhD degree for successfully completing her research in Mathematics. Neha Verma completed her research on mathematical models and various parameters on Mathematical Modelling for cancer treatment. The external examiner in Neha's PhD viva examination was Prof Dr Philip.

# Hanuman Dhwaj Yatra taken out



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

A grand Hanuman Dhwaj Yatra was taken out on the auspicious occasion of Hanuman Janamotsav under the banner of Hanumat Sewa Samiti here on Tuesday. Hundreds of devotees started procession from the procession from Bhikharipur which after passing through various localities concluded at Sankat Mochan Temple. After reaching there the organisers offered Tulsi garlands, rose petals, laddus, banana, gram etc to Lord Hanuman apart from reciting of the lines of Shri Hanuman Chalisa Bairang Baan Sundar Chalisa, Bajrang Baan, Sundar Kand etc and sought the blessings of Almighty for welfare of people. It was the 21st year of this famous procession in which on a decorated Rath

(chariot) there was Ram Darbar where devotees offered prayers. After Shodashopachara rituals, the participants took out the procession. The main attraction of the procession was a mobile replica of Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Temple, Ayodhya Dham along with all the tableaux in this year's Shri Hanuman Dhwaj Yatra. The devotees recited Chalisa by offering 11,000 flags to Sankat Mochan Temple. The other attraction of the yatra was Ram Darbar decorated on a 60feet-long Rath (chariot) along with Kirtan troupe presenting Ramdhun and the performance by the members of 251 Damru Dal. The devotees pledged to support to make the city of Kashi meat and alcohol free. Besides, 1,001 kg laddu 'prasad' was distributed among the

devotees. During the procession, refreshment stalls were set up at more than four dozen places. The tableaux added beauty and religious fervour to the procession when it passed through Nevada, Sundarpur, Naria and Lanka before reaching Sankart Mochan Temple. In the procession, teams of differthe procession, teams of different areas, including Kanakasarai, Mirzapur, Ramsinghpur, Adalpura, Konia, Dafi, Nuaon, Kanchanpur, Karaundi, Sunderpur, Khojwan, Janki Nagar, Kakarmatta, Shivratanpur, Jalalipatti, Dashami apart from Delhi, Mumbai Ahmedabad Surat Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Surat etc took part. The procession was led by founder president of Samiti Ram Bali Maurya.

Meanwhile, the activists of Namami Gange celebrated the birth anniversary of Mahabali Hanuman at the Bade Hanuman Temple at Hanuman Ghat. There was a devotional atmosphere all around due to the recitation of Sundar Kand at Hanuman Ghat. Namami Gange members led by regional coordinator Rajesh Shukla performed the aarti of Lord Hanuman.

## PIONEER NEWS SERVICE VARANASI

On the foundation day of Banaras Locomotive Works (BLW), a colourful cultural programme was organ-ised in BLW Auditorium here on Tuesday evening. The chief guest was GM Basudev Panda while special guest was chair-person of Women Welfare Organisation Neelima Panda. Organisation Neelima Panda. Speaking on the occasion, the GM said that today's programme marked the foundation day of BLW as this leading production unit of Indian Railways came into existence with the laying of its foundation stone on April 23 in 1956 by the country's first President Dr

Rajendra Prasad. Panda said that presently this organisation well known as BLW, has completed 68 years. 'The BLW has set a new record by producing 475 railway engines in the last financial year, which shows the hard work of the employees and offi-cers of BLW," he said. The GM inaugurated the 'Kashi-Puri' cultural programme by lighting the lamp. PCEE SK Srivastava, PCMM Rajneesh Gupta, PCME Subrata Nath, PFA



Neeraj Verma, Principal Chief Commissioner Ranveer Singh Chauhan, Principal Chief Medical Officer Dr Devesh Kumar, Principal Chief Engineer Vinod Kumar Shukla, Deputy General Manager Anuj Katiyar along with senior officers, Joint Secretary of BLW Staff Council Shrikant Yadav and members and office-bearers of SC/ST Association were present. The programme was started with Ganesh Vandana dance by Ritika Sharma and Khushi Sharma and Knushi Sharma, followed by 'bhajan sandhya' by Monica Mishra, singing of ghazals by Anita Pandey and Gujarati group dance by Mukesh Singh and there along with the staging others, along with the staging of drama Nadan Parinde written and conceived by Sudhakar Mani and Mukesh Dubey respectively. In the beginning the guests were welcomed by PCPO Janardan Singh.



¬wo robbers were nabbed during an encounter between the police and a gang of robbers on Monday night in Gangapar area here. On seeing the police, the robbers started firing. In retaliatory firing, one robber was shot at in the leg while the other was caught by the police. The criminal Maseed Khan of Dehlupur, Pratapgarh, who was injured has been admitted to the SRN Hospital. The second robber caught was identified as

Dilshad of Mauaima area.

DCP Ganga Nagar
Abhishek Bharti said the police
was conducting checking in
Nawabganj on LucknowPrayagraj road. However, near Shringverpur two youths rid-ing a bike started running on another route after seeing the police. When the police team became suspicious, an attempt was made to stop them but they did not. When they were chased, they started firing on the police team. When the police retaliated, Maseed was shot in the leg. As a result both fell from the bike. Even after this, another miscreant opened

fire on the police. However the team caught him. The injured robber has been admitted to the hospital. Both are members of a gang that robs trucks on Soraon, Nawabgani, Pratapgarh Road. During interrogation, the miscreants revealed that they had looted the truck driver and the cleaner by holding them hostage in Soraon. Apart from this, they confessed to committing three robberies in Pratapgarh. Two pistols and cartridges were recovered from

THEFT: The thieves stole cash and jewellery from a house which was locked for the past few days in an area under Puramufti police station on Monday night. The police registered a case. Jitendra Kumar of Sarsauli in Fatehpur, lives with his family in a house near KV Bamrauli. He had gone to the village with them to attend a wedding. On finding the moment opportune the thieves had entered the house by cutting the courtyard mesh. The Puramufti police said as per the victim the thieves had taken away mangal sutra, anklets, earrings, gas cylinder, gas stove, cash etc.

## Spl drive for awareness among passengers

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

In view of the extra rush of passengers in the summer season, a special campaign is being run for awareness of rules among the passengers and crowd control at major stations of Varanasi Division of NER on the instructions of DRM Vineet Kumar Srivastava. In this direction, a ticket checking cam-paign was conducted between Chhapra and Aunrihar stations in train No 15159 Sarnath Express with the raid of RPF Special Squad and Varanasi Commercial department officers on Tuesday. During it fine was imposed on ticketless passengers. This campaign was

launched with the aim of making the journey convenient for those passengers of sleeper class and air-conditioned class whose berths are confirmed. In the same sequence, the ticket raids were done in the trains leaving from various stations of Varanasi division for long distance destinations like Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Pune etc, along with checking the tickets of any unreserved passenger or without ticket and such passengers were prevented from entering the reserved compartments and if such passengers were found in these compartments, then fines along with other necessary actions were taken as per the existing rules and guidelines.

According to the DRM, the objective of this campaign was to ensure that reserved coaches meant for passengers with valid reserved tickets and not allow others to travel in such compart-ments without valid reserved

He said in view of the extra rush of passengers in the sum-mer season, along with comprehensive arrangements for crowd control, help desks have been set up at important railway stations of the division for the convenience of passengers. Assistance is being provided to passengers in carrying their luggage, filling water, providing wheelchairs and calling porters and taxis as per their requirement, he added.

## Investiture ceremony held at Seth Anandram Jaipuria School

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

The investiture ceremony was held at Seth Anandram Jaipuria School here on Tuesday. The chief guest on the occasion was Principal Shikha Banerjee. The Student Council for the academic year 2024-25 is headed by Kuresh Maheshwari as the Head Boy and Nandini Puri as the Head Girl. They are supported by Eklavya Goel as the Associate Head Boy and Ayushi Jain as the Associate Head Girl. In her speech, the



nvestiture ceremony was organised at Seth Anandram Jaipuria School, Kanpur

chief guest emphasized the importance of honesty and dedication in carrying out responsibilities. Additionally, the four house teams, each consisting of eight members, also assumed their respective roles and

responsibilities. PROGRAMME: On World Earth Day, a programme was organised at Ram Krishna Mission Ashram wherein Prof Narendra Mohan, former Director, National Sugar

Institute (NSI) interacted with the students undertaking evening classes at the ashram. He called upon the students to develop instinct for protecting the environment and motivate others to be a part of this noble

Swami Ravindra also addressed the students to work for environment protection and to be a part of cleanliness campaigns. A quiz on environmental issues was also organised and all participants were awarded for their efforts.

# Modi has never done politics on basis of religion: Rajnath

**NEW DELHI** 

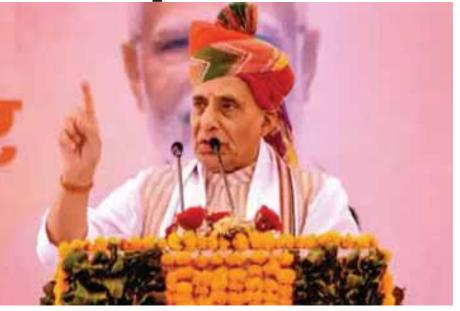
Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Tuesday said Prime Minister Narendra Modi has never done politics on the basis of religion or by dividing the society and stressed that his predecessor Dr Manmohan Singh had in 2006 talked about extending reservation for the Muslims.

The defence minister made the remarks at an election rally in Greater Noida in support of BIP's Gautam Buddh Nagar Lok Sabha candidate Mahesh

Prime Minister Modi on Sunday suggested that if the Congress comes to power, it would redistribute wealth of people to the Muslims and first claim on the country's

Addressing a rally in Rajasthan's Banswara, Modi also alleged the Congress plans to give people's hard-earned money and valuables to "infiltrators" and "those who have more children".

Addressing a gathering at Bisahda village in Greater Noida, the defence minister attacked the opposition for creating a ruckus at this time and trying to put a question mark on Prime Minister Modi. 'Sisters and brothers, it's not that I know the prime minister from today. We have had very good relations for a long time. He has never done politics of Hindu, Muslim and Christian. Our prime minister never cited Dr Singh's remark that the thought of doing politics by



"He (Modi) said at one place that Congress has said in its manifesto that we will get the properties surveyed. If it is said in the manifesto then why should people have any objection to it. What do you want to do by getting the properties surveyed? Do you want to distribute the country's resources equally? What do you want to do?" he asked.

The veteran BJP leader also asked the Congress to clear its position on the matter. "Dr Manmohan Singh ji was the prime minister of India. I respect Dr Manmohan Singh ji even today, I have respect for him, brothers and sisters.

Dr Manmohan Singh himself in the meeting of the National Defence Council at the Vigyan had said that if anyone has the first right on the property of this country, it is the minority and especially he had said that it belongs to the Muslims," Rajnath said." Sisters and brothers, whatever property and whatever resources there are in this country, everyone should have equal rights, he had said this, we did not say this. Now when the prime minister said

this, these people created an uproar over it," he added. Rajnath said the Congress-led government had in the past formed several commissions, which had recommended in their report that out of the 27 per cent reservation for the OBCs, 6 per cent should be for the Muslims and 2 per cent should be for the minorities. "We did not make this comEscalating his attack on the Congress, Rajnath said, "It did not stop at this. If someone from the Scheduled Caste converts, he should be given reservation despite the change of religion. Not only this, they (Congress) also ended the reservation of SC-ST in Jamia Millia Islamia and Aligarh

Muslim University."

"These people have formed the government by dividing the country equally on the basis of Hindu and Muslim," he alleged. The senior BJP leader stressed that his party does not want to make the country by dividing it on the basis of caste, creed, religion, Hindu, Muslim or Christian, but wants to make India a great country of the world by keeping everyone

# Government focussing on research, learning and innovation in big way: Modi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday said his government is focusing on research, learning and innovation in a big way, a day after QS president Nunzio Quacquarelli lauded the performance improvement in Indian universities.

Indian universities demonstrated the highest performance improvement among all the G20 nations this year, a significant 14 per cent yearon-year improvement in their average ranking, Quacquarelli said in a social media post. Tagging his post, Modi said on X, "This is encouraging to see! Our Government is focussing on research, learning and innovation in a big way. In the coming times, this the London-based higher



Yuva Shakti."

Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) was the highest ranked university in India in the coveted rankings announced earlier this month by Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), emphasis will deepen even education analytics firm. The

further, thus benefitting our university was ranked at 20th position globally for devel opment studies.

IÎM-Ahmedabad figured among the top 25 institutions globally for business and management studies while IIM-Bangalore and IIM-Calcutta were among the

## India, Oman review collaboration in combating illegal activities at sea

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

ndia and Oman on Tuesday here reviewed their collaboration in combating transnational illegal activities at sea and promote regional cooperation during the fifth Annual High-Level Meeting between the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and the Royal Oman Police Coast Guard (ROPCG).

Giving details, officials said this meeting follows the institutionalized mechanism as outlined in the Memorandum

(MoU) Understanding (MoU) between the ICG and ROPGG.

A delegation from the Royal Oman Police Coast Guard led by Colonel Abdul Aziz Mohammed Ali Al Jabri, Assistant



arrived in New Delhi on Monday to participate in the meeting. The high-level discussions were led by Director General Coast Gueard Rakesh

The meeting focused on bolstering bilateral engagements through capacity-building programme, cross ship's visit, implementation of Sea Rider programme, establishing professional linkages between pollution reporting centers and other collaborative

Both sides expressed their commitment to enhancing

cooperation in addressing maritime challenges, thereby strengthening the maritime safety and security framework in the region. A meeting between the Royal

Oman Police Coast Guard delegation and representa-tives from Society of Indian Manufacturer Defence (SIDM) is also planned on Wednesday here to acquaint with India's shipbuilding capabilities

'Atmanirbhar Bharat.' The 5 th Annual ICG-ROPCG High-Level Meeting underscores the commitment of both the Coast Guards to jointly address maritime challenges and foster regional cooperation, ultimately contributing to the safety and security of the maritime

## UGC warns public against fake online programmes

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI** 

The University Grants L Commission (ÚGC) has warned the public against fake online programmes with abbreviations similar to recognised degree nomenclature, officials said, flagging a particular "10-day MBA" course.

'Some individuals or organisations are offering online programmes and courses with abbreviated forms similar to the higher education system's recognised degree programmes. One such programme to which the attention of the commission has been drawn is a '10 Days MBA," University Grants Commission (UGC) Secretary Manish Joshi said.

The nomenclature of a degree, including its abbreviqualification, is specified by the UGC, with the previous approval of the central government, through the publication of a notification in the official gazette," he added. The UGC secretary clarified that only a university, established or incorporated by or under a central act, provincial act or state act, or an institution deemed to be a university or an institution specifically empowered by an act of Parliament, has the right to confer a degree.

"Higher education institutions are also required to obtain approval from the UGC to offer any online degree programme in terms of the UGC regulations. A list of recognised HEIs (higher education institutions) to offer online programmes and of permitted online pro-

## BJP rolling back pro people measures in Rajasthan: Congress

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

The Congress on Tuesday said its previous governschemes that provided crucial protection to vulnerable populations of the state and asked why the current BJP dispensation is "rolling back" those "pro-people" measures.

Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh posed questions to Prime Minister Narendra Modi ahead of his election rally in Tonk-Sawai Madhopur.

"Questions for the PM as he heads to Tonk-Sawai Madhopur today: Why is the BJP scaling back INC's propeople schemes? How much corruption has the BJP committed in the ERCP? How long will families displaced by the Isarda Dam be denied compensation by the BJP?" Ramesh said in a post on X.

Elaborating on what he said were "jumla details", Ramesh said when the Congress party was in power in Rajasthan, it passed a series of "visionary" laws that would meaningfully improve the quality of life of thousands in the state.

"The Rajasthan Minimum

Guaranteed Income Act, the addition of 25 extra days for MGNREGA (Rural) over and above the sanctioned 100 days, the Indira Gandhi Shahari Rojgar Yojana Act which guaranteed 100 days of employment to families residing in urban areas, the Rajasthan Platform Based Gig Workers (Registration and Welfare Act), and the Right to Health Act which provided universal health coverage - all these schemes provided crucial protections to vulnerable popula-

tions in the state," he said. "Instead of these acts being implemented, we are now seeing a breakdown of governance since the BJP came to power in December 2023," Ramesh said.

At least 15.5 lakh pensioners in Rajasthan have stopped receiving their pensions since January this year due to "verification" issues, he claimed.

The government also attempted to reduce the health coverage from Rs 25 lakh under the Congress' Chiranjeevi Yojana to just Rs 5 lakh under the BJP's ties," Ramesh said.



"In their vindictiveness, why is the BJP government rolling back the INC's pro-people schemes?" he said. Ramesh said, BJP leader and

Rajasthan Agriculture Minister Kirodi Lal Meena has "accused his own government of corruption" in connection with the Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project (ERCP). He (Meena) alleged that the

Water Resources Department and the ERCP Commission have colluded with a Delhibased company to scam the government of Rs 35 crore. "According to a letter that Meena wrote to the Rajasthan

CM, land worth Rs 50 crore was sold to the Delhi company for just Rs 9 crore, and Rs 35 crore was pocketed by government officials. He also alleged irregularities in the auction of land located near the Alwar main road for the ERCP project," Ramesh said.
"One can only imagine how

deeply corrupt the BJP has become for its own leaders to now be crying foul. Are they just following the example of the PM and his Rs 4 lakh crore Chanda Do Dhandha Lo model of corruption?" the Congress leader said.

Ramesh said the Isarda Dam is now 75 per cent complete but the BJP government is yet to rehabilitate and resettle the 37 villages that were submerged by the dam.

"Farmers from Tonk and Sawai Madhopur have now submitted hundreds of representations to the government demanding fair compensation but all their efforts have been in vain.

The leader of the Kisan Mahasabha highlighted that compensation had not been determined by the district collector as per law, physical verifications were never conducted, and the farmers have not been adequately compensated for their immovable proper-

### Mechanical bull riding very risky for kids: Study PIONEER NEWS SERVICE highlights the urgent need for

The popularity of mechanical bull riding at places like amusement parks and corporate events is on the rise in India too. But with this fun activity comes some serious risks, especially for kids. A Loma Linda University Children's Health has shown just how alarming these risks are, revealing that kids are getting hurt way too often when

riding mechanical bulls. They're getting hurt so much that experts are calling for stricter safety rules and regulations to make sure everyone stays safe while having fun. Titled "Mechanical Bull Injuries in Pediatric Patients: A Call for Safety Regulations,"

enhanced safety measures and regulations.

The findings are published in the journal Children's Health Care and revealed that mechanical bull riding poses a significant risk to children, with traumatic brain injuries being the most common out-

"Mechanical bulls, even when advertised as 'children friendly' are far from safe and are a real public health concern," said Martin G. Rosenthal, MD, assistant professor of surgery at Loma Linda University Children's Hospital (LLUCH) and corresponding author of LLUCH has identified up to 35

cases over seven years, each resulting in severe injuries. Over 65% of these cases



involved severe brain injuries, and more than half of all children required immediate surgical intervention. "Our study, one of the largest examining mechanical bull riding injuries

in children, reveals that most injuries occur at private events where mechanical bulls are rented from vendors," said Sina Asaadi, MD, MBA, a research fellow and lead author of the be higher than reported, indicating potential underreporting."Long-term consequences of brain injuries include memory issues, severe headaches, nausea, seizures, and possible learning disabilities, to name a

actual number of injuries may

is intensive, involving physical, occupational, and speech therapies, sometimes extending over months and years.

"Several other studies from southern California have reported similar findings and there appears to be a proclivity of these injuries occurring in our own backyard," said Rosenthal.

The machine replicates the sensation of riding a bull and is designed to dismount the

study. "This suggests that the rider, although most are thrown off to land on inflatable or padded flooring. Mechanical bull riding is typically reserved for adults; however, there are modified versions of the machine for children.

> Yet another study, 'No more bull: pediatric head injuries as a result of mechanical bull rides' save that mechanica bulls have an inherent risk of high-force trauma. "We reviewed a series of pediatric patients who suffered head injuries/skull fractures caused by mechanical bull riding, many of which required surgical intervention. We recommend the introduction of increased safety measures and better age guidelines to restrict children from riding these machines," said the authors of

## Army Chief outlines Indian Army efforts towards self reliance

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

Army Chief General Manoj Pande on Tuesday here outlined the Indian army's efforts towards self-reliance in enhancing its military capabilities and underscored the significance of comprehensive national power in a country's

Making this assertion at All India Management Association's National Leadership Conclave, he said while economic strength serves as the foundation of growth, military prowess is essential for safeguarding national interests.

He underlined the evolving geostrategic landscape characterized by rapid changes and geopolitical power plays, reaffirming the relevance of hard power in ensuring

national security. Stressing upon the Indian Army's role as a deterrent against conflict and its preparedness to respond to threats across the spectrum of conflict, the Army chief high-lighted the importance of self-reliance in defence. He cited the disruptions in the

global supply chain during the

pandemic and the lessons

drawn from ongoing con-

flicts, emphasizing the imper-

ative for India to reduce its

dependency on external sources for defence require-In pursuit of self-reliance and

modernization, General Pande outlined the Indian Army's transformation initiatives, which encompass force restructuring, modernization, improvement of systems and processes, human resource management, and promotion of jointness and integration with sister ser-

He emphasized the need to embrace disruptive technologies and foster an indigenous defence-industry ecosystem to achieve self-reliance.

The Indian Army's vision for the future involves transforming into a modern, agile, and technology-enabled force

capable of deterring and winning wars across various domains of operation. He highlighted the impor-

tance of absorbing and indigenizing critical technologies to bridge the gap between imported and indigenous defence systems.

General Manoj Pande reiterated the Indian Army's commitment to "Swadeshikaran Se Sashaktikaran" (empowerment through indigenization) and called for collective efforts from all stakeholders to strengthen India's defence capabilities.

He also called for the need for a partnership approach between the defence industry and the armed forces to realize India's vision of selfreliance in defence.

### Ministry seeks report on spice bans by Singapore, Hong Kong

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

Days after the Singapore and Hong Kong red flagged four spices products manufactured by the Indian firms MDH and Everest recalling them from the market, the Union Commerce Ministry has directed Indian embassies in both the countries to send a detailed report in the matter.

In a statement posted on its website on April 5, the Hong Kong's food regulatory authority, Centre for Food Safety (ĆFS), said that three spice products of MDH -Madras Curry Powder (spice blend for Madras Curry), Sambhar Masala (Mixed Masala Powder), and Curry Powder (Mixed Masala Powder) — along with Everest's Fish Curry Masala contain "a pesticide, ethylene oxide". Recalls have been initiated,

and the CFS has instructed vendors to cease sales and remove affected products from shelves. Meanwhile, the Singapore Food Agency (SFA) has ordered a recall of Everest's Fish Curry Masala for similar reasons, as per

## Former Vice President Naidu calls for end to freebies in elections

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

Former Vice President M Venkajah Naidu on Tuesday said the "frequent" party-hopping by political leaders was a 'disturbing trend" and called for strengthening the antidefection law.

Speaking at a function at his residence here after receiving the Padma award, Naidu said announcing "freebies" during elections without listing out funds mobilisation is an unhealthy trend which should be discouraged and people should question the leaders and parties making such lofty promises. Naidu was awarded the Padma Vibhushan award on Monday evening by President Droupadi Murmu at a function at Rashtrapati Bhawan.

"Defections are being encouraged. We should strengthen the anti-defection law," he asserted. "Now, the worry is that there is a fall in the standards in public life. In political parties, people often change their parties. The latest trend is people are in one party in the morning and join another party in the evening and then they criticise your leader and say things left and right. Some of them are

favoured with tickets also. "This is a very disturbing trend and people should avoid it. People should work at parties and prove their credentials. If anybody wants to change parties, one should resign from the post given by that party and then only join another party. One can understand making accusations, but what is happening is not accusing but abusing," Naidu said.

He said another unhealthy trend is that people are making promises left and right, without considering where the money will come from, as there is no

'Political parties must come out with a manifesto and secondly, should come out with schemes supported by the financial health of the state and third, how they are going to mobilise resources and then whatever they want to spend," the former vice president said. He wondered how it was possible to give everything for free as "money does not come from trees". But then some of the leaders and parties are making promises left and right even when the financial health of the state is weak, he

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-PAPER WITH PASSION—

# **Weather vagaries**

It is as bad as predicted: Extreme events of 2023 were triggered by a much warmer climate

The year past us was characterised by a slew of extreme weather events. Now, a new study has shed light on a disquieting correlation: Many of these occurrences were in line with predictions of a warmer world due to climate change. The study, by a team of atmospheric scientists, analysed the unprecedented frequency and intensity of extreme weather phenomena across the globe in 2023: From devastating wildfires to record-breaking heatwaves, and from erratic precipitation patterns leading to floods and droughts to powerful tropical storms. One of the key findings is the undeniable alignment between these extreme events and the long-standing predictions made by climate scientists. As greenhouse gas emissions continue to rise, Earth's climate system is being pushed to its limits. While it has long been established that a warming climate exacerbates the intensity and frequency of such events, the empirical evidence underscores the urgency of addressing climate change mitigation. Also, the ramifications of these



events extend far beyond environmental concerns, encompassing socio-economic, humanitarian and geopolitical dimensions. Vulnerable communities bear most of the brunt, and disruption of essential infrastructure and supply chains amplifies the challenges. In the face of these sobering revelations, concerted action is imperative to mitigate the impacts of climate change. This entails not only reducing greenhouse gas emissions through transitioning to renewable energy sources and implementing sustainable land-use practices, but also investing in adaptation strategies to cope with the unavoidable effects of a changing climate. One such initiative is the issuance of tailored advisories

by meteorological agencies to assist farmers in mitigating the impacts of climate variability on agricultural productivity. In this regard, the IMD has taken proactive steps, leveraging advanced forecasting techniques and agronomic expertise. By harnessing datadriven insights and employing localised approaches, these advisories offer valuable guidance to farmers regarding optimal planting schedules, irrigation management, pest and disease control and crop selection. The IMD's initiative exemplifies the importance of integrating scientific knowledge with practical solutions to address the multifaceted challenges posed by climate change. By empowering farmers with actionable information and tools, such initiatives not only enhance agricultural resilience but also contribute to sustainable livelihoods and food security. As we navigate the complexities of a changing climate and its far-reaching implications, collaboration and innovation emerge as indispensable pillars for building a more resilient and sustainable future. By heeding the warnings conveyed by atmospheric science studies and embracing proactive measures at local, national and global levels, we can strive for a world where the impacts of extreme weather events are mitigated, and communities are empowered to thrive in harmony



evotees arrive at Jakhu temple to offer prayers on the occasion of 'Hanuman Jayanti', in Shimla

uine relationships with their

followers, who see them as

peers rather than distant

celebrities. This authenticity

makes their product recom-

mendations more effective

and trustworthy. By leverag-

ing personal connections,

nano influencers can have a

significant impact on their

Why are Brands Leaning

Towards Nano Influencers?

Smaller brands are starting to

see the benefits of working

with nano influencers for a

few reasons. To start, nano

influencers tend to have much

higher engagement rates

compared to influencers with

bigger audiences. This shows

that nano influencers have

real and personal relation-

ships with their followers.

On top of that, collaborating

with nano influencers is usu-

ally more affordable, which

means brands can get more

out of their marketing bud-

audience.

# Historic legal battle unfolds over Gyanvapi



Amidst the legal wrangling, a deeper narrative emerges, one of contested ownership, religious desecration and the enduring scars of history

he legal hearings, whether in the court at Varanasi or the Supreme Court, over the past many months regarding the worship at Gyan Vapi, carry ethical interest. The statures of the lawyers of both sides in these courts appear to be comparable. It has occurred to neither lawyers nor laymen that one side argues in defence of their clients' rights of worship; the puja in the tehekhana, whereas the opposing side also has argued that they have been the owners of the edifice in question. Also, it has not occurred to the judges, leaders and clients; in fact, no one else that the property is an acquisition by dacoity; i.e., loot in whatever sense. There was no mosque in that vicinity at all, until 17th century Mughal emperor Aurangzeb via a firman (a royal decree) had the Kashi Vishwanath Temple destroyed, except for the western side, which still unmistakably bears the evidence of the structure being originally a temple, in the form of its carved walls.

The fervent followers of the Mughal emperor are not embarrassed that the Hindu devotees of Kashi Viswanath since the mid-17th century and even in independent India, have to worship in a small temple, because of lack of any more space. For over three centuries then, an illegitimate structure stands, welcoming the followers of Aurangzeb's bigoted ideology. The judges in this case should soon begin trials. It should be declared that this is a trial over a place of worship that was robbed and desecrated, not a dispute between two equals. The law of adverse possession cannot apply here.

The Europeans should clearly understand that this spirit of Mohammedanism is unchangeable and that, if by any mischance, India should again come into the possession of men of this creed, all the churches and colleges and all the Mission institutions, would ot be worth a week's purchase". So wrote Reverend Mathew Atmore Sherring, an English official. The Muslims did not harm the Christians of British India. But he was so upset at the vandalism he saw in Banaras that he could not help speaking out.



Reverend Sherring was a devout, maybe slightly bigoted evangelist member of the London Missionary Society, dead against idol worship. And yet he said it would not be difficult to find twenty temples in all Banaras of the age of Aurangzeb (1658-1707). This is the case throughout the whole of northern India.

His description of the desecration of temples by the thousand and their blatant conversion into mosques, mausoleums, dargahs, palaces or pleasure houses has to be seen to be believed. In his view, if there is one thing about the Mohammedan period that Hindus remember better than another, it is the insulting pride of the Musalmans (sic), the outrages that they perpetrated upon Hindu religious convictions and the extensive spoliation of their temples and shrines. "When we endeavour to ascertain what the Mohammedans have left to the Hindus of their ancient buildings in Banaras, we are startled at the result of our investigations. Although the city is bestrewn with temples, it is unlikely that there are many which are old".

Reverend Sherring continued, that the diminutive size

HERRING WRITES THAT JUST AS MUSLIMS YEARN TO VISIT MECCA AND **CHRISTIANS** YEARN TO VISIT JERUSALEM, THE HINDU HEART GOES OUT TO BANARAS. IF THE HINDUS REFER TO ANY ONE CITY AS THEIR HOLIEST. IT IS BANARAS

India — except for the south — that exist is another testimony to the stringency of the Mohammedan rule. It seems clear that Mughal emperors forbade the Hindus to build spacious temples and forced them to erect only small structures, of the size of cages, for their idols and those of no pretensions to beauty. The consequence is that the Hindus of the present day, blindly following the example of their predecessors of two centuries ago, commonly build their religious edifices of the same dwarfish size as formerly. These observations speak volumes about the trauma that the Hindu psyche has suffered as a result of the impact of Islam.

of nearly all the temples in

Sherring writes that just as Muslims yearn to visit Mecca and the Christians, Jerusalem, the Hindu heart goes out to Banaras. If the Hindus refer to any one city as their holiest, it Ghori, after defeating the change its name to 'Muhammadabad'. The temple of Bisheswar, regarded as the god of all gods, was systematically demolished by Aurangzeb during the 17th century. The new temple was built at the behest of Rani

THE EDITOR

**Kejriwal's health report** 

Ahilyabai Holkar long after Aurangzeb's desecration. As already explained, all the temples built during the Mohammedan rule in Banaras had to be diminutive in size. It transpires that the demolition of temples was inspired not only by a hatred for idolatry or greed for loot but also by a desire to humiliate the Hindus. Or, else, how does one explain that the masjid built by Aurangzeb is bang next to the Gyan Vapi or the well of knowledge?

Sherring has also referred to Al Baruni, an important source of Indian history of the medieval period. He came to India with Mahmud of Ghazni. Although Sherring casts doubts on Al Baruni's contention, nevertheless, he mentions that Ghazni reached as far as Banaras during his ninth incursion into India. In 1194 AD, Shahabuddin, better known as Muhammad is Banaras. Aurangzeb tried to Kannaujian monarch, Jaichand marched to Banaras where he is reported to have destroyed a thousand Hindu

> (The writer is a well-known columnist, an author and a former member of the Rajya Sabha; views are personal)

## The rising power of nano influencers



Unlike their macro and celebrity counterparts, they embody the authenticity of everyday people, fostering genuine connections with their audience

In the ever-changing world of social media marketing, nano influencers are becoming a significant presence, giving brands a different way to connect with consumers that focuses on being genuine and establishing personal relationships. Nano influencers, who usually have between 1,000 and 10,000 followers, provide a unique mix of community-focused influence and relatability that sets them apart from larger accounts like macro and celebrity influencers.

Nano influencers are similar to regular people — they are our friends, family and colleagues who share their lives and interests on social media without the polished image usually seen in professional influencer marketing. This authentic form of influence relies on real connections and trust, characteristics that are becoming more important in a crowded marketplace filled with advertisements and endorsements from celebrities. Authenticity and Engagement

is at the core of Nano Influencers

Nano influencers are successful because of their genwith their target audience.

1. Hyper-Targeted Marketing: Small-scale influencers typically concentrate on particular niches, enabling brands to reach individuals with specific interests, resulting in more impactful marketing initiatives.

2. Cost-Effectiveness: With reduced hopes for payment, companies have the opportunity to collaborate with numerous nano influencers using the same amount of money they would typically spend on just one macro or celebrity influencer.

3. Higher Quality of Engagement: Nano influencers tend to spark more genuine engagement, resulting in increased levels of interaction such as comments, likes and shares.

Authentic Product Endorsements: Recommendations from nano influencers hold the same weight as recommendations from friends and can greatly influence buying choices.

5. Increased Brand Visibility and Community Building: Nano influencers play a cru-

gets while still connecting cial role in connecting brands with tightly-knit communities, increasing brand exposure and building a strong sense of connection with potential customers.

The Challenges Although there are many benefits to working with nano influencers, there are also some challenges to consider. It is important to find influencers who truly connect with the brand's values and message. Additionally, brands will need to deal with the logistics of working with a larger group of influencers to reach their target audience effectively.

Brands are always looking for more genuine ways to connect with consumers and nano influencers are becoming a popular choice. These influencers focus on building real relationships and trust with their followers, creating a more authentic connection. This approach is resonating with consumers who are growing tired of traditional advertising and celebrity endorsements.

(The writer is the founder and CEO of iCubesWire; views are personal)

### **WEATHER WOES**

Madam — Apropos the news article, "India grapples with erratic weather", published on April 22, this is my response. The recent weather fluctuations across India present a stark reminder of our vulnerability to nature's whims. While Delhi anticipates relief from the scorching heat, Odisha and Himachal Pradesh face contrasting challenges. Odisha grapples with a relentless heatwave, prompting necessary precautions, including school closures. Conversely, Himachal Pradesh reels under heavy rain and snow, causing infrastructure havoc. These extreme conditions underscore the urgency of climate

Moreover, the IMD's forecast of above normal monsoon rainfall signifies hope amid uncertainties. However, the spectre of increasing extreme weather events, as highlighted by recent research, casts a shadow over the future. Regions like the Indus and Ganges plains are particularly at risk, threatening millions of lives. This serves as a clarion call for proactive measures, from robust disaster management strategies to sustainable practices. As citizens, it's imperative to heed warnings, adapt to changing climates and advocate for broader environmental stewardship to mitigate future crises

Rahul Kapoor | Delhi

### **POWER PRICING PREDICAMENT**

Madam — Apropos the news article, "With power freebies, debt comes calling", published on April 22, this is my response. RK Singh's stance on power pricing echoes a common-sense truth: electricity isn't free. His call for States to bear the financial burden of free power initiatives highlights a critical issue plaguing the sector. The practice of offering free electricity distorts the market, undermines the financial health of distribution companies and ultimately hampers economic growth. The complex dynamics of tariff setting, with subsidies for certain consumer segments, exacerbates the problem. While political parties may win favour with vot-



propos the news article, "Kejriwal stopped Ataking insulin months back: Tihar", published on April 21, this is my response. The revelations about Arvind Kejriwal's health present a perplexing narrative. On one hand, the

Tihar jail administration claims he ceased insulin under a Telangana doctor's advice, contradicters through such measures, the long-term repercussions are dire. Delays and partial reimbursements only deepen the finan-

cial woes of discoms, leading to a vicious

cycle of debt and inefficiency. The solution lies in structural reforms, freeing discoms from undue State control and allowing market forces to determine pricing. Direct financial support to targeted beneficiaries would ensure transparency and sustainability. Such reforms are essential for fostering a resilient and competitive electricity sector, benefiting both consumers and the economy at large. Vivek Rao | Mumbai

### **MENTAL HEALTH DISPARITIES**

Madam — Apropos the news article, "Brain Wellness", published on April 22, this is my response. The staggering statistics on childhood development and the economic ramifications underscore the urgent need for targeted interventions. The formation of the National Task Force on Brain Health, spearheaded by esteemed professionals, marks a significant step towards bridging critical healthing his court Statements. The tug-of-war between AAP and BJP adds political spice. Amidst allegations of a "conspiracy," one wonders about the truth's cloak. If Kejriwal indeed stopped insulin, was it wise? The report's assertion of no alarming sugar levels suggests a balanced picture, yet doubts linger.

The stringent dietary restrictions, though, raise eyebrows. Are they necessary or punitive? The bureaucratic tangle over hospital referrals muddles clarity. Amidst these complexities, Kejriwal's medical saga becomes a microcosm of larger political battles. As a concerned citizen, one hopes for transparency and genuine concern for his health above political theatrics. The saga demands more than just a casual glance; it beckons scrutiny and empathy amidst the whirlpool of accusations and coun-

Aisha Khan | Chennai

care gaps. Dr RK Dhamija's insights illuminate the task force's holistic approach, emphasising inclusive healthcare from grassroots to tertiary levels.

The task force's focus on equitable access and awareness aligns with global initiatives, acknowledging the profound impact of neurological disorders on society. By evaluating existing infrastructure and policies, the panel aims to catalyse transformative change, recognising the inter-twined complexities of brain health and socioeconomic factors. India's healthcare landscape mirrors global challenges, with disparities magnified in rural areas. The task force's mandate to submit actionable recommendations reflects a commitment to prompt action. However, sustained efforts beyond policy formulation are crucial to translating vision into tangible improvements, ensuring every individual has access to quality brain health-

Natasha Reddy | Vijayawada

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## **FIRST COLUMN**

### THE MYSTERIES **OF AFTERLIFE**

The Upanishads offer profound insights into the enigmatic realm of the afterlife



**SWAMI CHARANASHRIT** 

he Upanishads, ancient philosophical texts that form the foundation of Hinduism, offer profound insights into the nature of existence, consciousness and the ultimate reality. Among the myriad themes they explore, the concept of the afterlife occupies a significant place. Delving into the Upanishadic thoughts on the afterlife unveils a tapestry of ideas, reflecting deep contemplation on the nature of existence beyond the mortal realm.

The Transient and the Eternal: Central to the Upanishadic understanding of the afterlife is the distinction between the transient, ephemeral aspects of existence and the eternal, unchanging essence of the self (Atman). These texts assert that the physical body is subject to birth and death, bound by the cycles of samsara (the cycle of birth, death and rebirth), while the Atman transcends these cycles, being eternal and

The Doctrine of Karma: Integral to the Upanishadic worldview is the doctrine of karma, which holds that every action, thought and intention produces consequences that shape one's future experiences. According to this doctrine, the quality of one's actions determines the nature of their existence in this life and beyond. The Upanishads emphasise that the consequences of karma extend beyond the confines of a single lifetime, influencing the soul's journey through successive rebirths.

The Journey of the Soul: The Upanishads envision the soul's journey through samsara as a process of spiritual evolution aimed at realising its true nature and attaining liberation (moksha) from the cycle of birth and death. This journey is characterised by the accumulation of karma, which propels the soul through various life experiences and incarnations. Each lifetime presents opportunities for growth, learning and self-realisation, ultimately leading the soul closer to its divine source.



The Concept of Rebirth: Rebirth, or reincarnation, is a fundamental tenet of the Upanishadic philosophy. It is believed that the soul undergoes multiple births, innabiting different bodies and experiencing diverse life circumstances based on its past actions. The Upanishads describe the process of rebirth as governed by the law of karma, wherein individuals are born into specific situations that reflect the consequences of their previous deeds. Liberation from the cycle of rebirth is attained when the soul transcends its attachment to worldly desires and realises its essential unity with the divine.

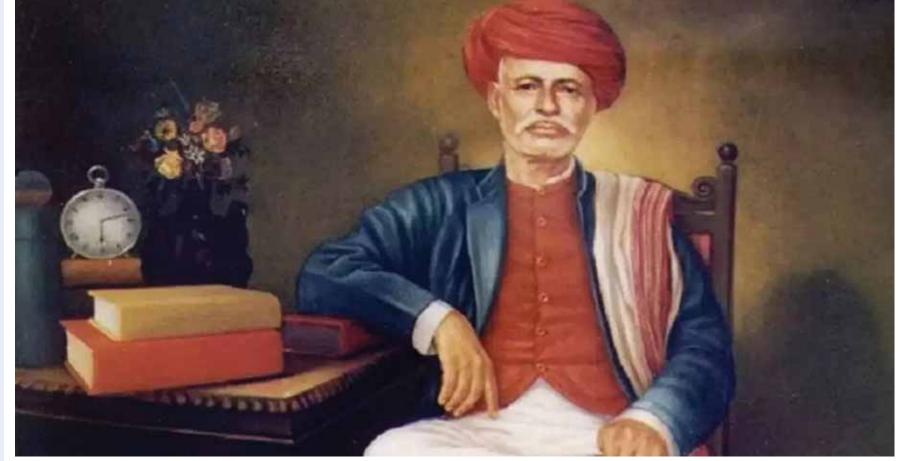
The Ultimate Goal: Moksha: At the heart of the Upanishadic teachings on the afterlife lies the concept of moksha, or spiritual liberation. Moksha represents the culmination of the soul's journey, wherein it breaks free from the cycle of samsara and merges with the ultimate reality, known as Brahman. Achieving moksha involves transcending the ego, relinquishing attachments and realising the eternal truth of one's identity as Atman. identical to Brahman. In this state of liberation, the soul experiences eternal bliss, beyond the confines of time, space and individual identity.

Conclusion: The Upanishads offer profound insights into the nature of the afterlife, presenting a holistic worldview that encompasses the transient nature of earthly existence and the eternal essence of the self. Through the exploration of concepts such as karma, rebirth and moksha, these ancient texts provide a framework for understanding the soul's journey beyond mortality and its quest for spiritual realisation. Ultimately, the Upanishads invite us to contemplate the deeper mysteries of life and death, guiding us towards the realisation of our divine nature and the attainment of ultimate liberation.

(Writer is a spiritual guide; views are personal)

# A timeless inspiration for India's reform agenda

Amidst the jubilant celebrations of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, the legacy of Jyotirao Phule, a pioneer in social reform, resonates deeply



ndia has had a rich treasure of social reformers who contributed immensely to bringing about change in the lives of the people, especially the subaltern class. Jyotirao Phule is one of them who was born in Maharashtra on 11th April and is remembered as a social reformer, author and activist. Though he was born in the 19th century his ideas are still relevant in the 21st century. Throughout his life, he worked tirelessly to bring change in the lives of deprived groups, especially women, Shudras and Dalits. He was a visionary par excellence who realised very early that for a nation to progress, the marginalised groups need to be given due recognition.

As Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav is being celebrated, it is high time to take a pause and introspect as to what initiative has been undertaken to realise the dream of reformers like Phule. In recent years, the Government has initiated a series of welfare measures like Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Balika Samridhhi Yojana, Sarva Shikha Abhiyan etc. and a series of direct benefit transfer schemes meant for the poorer segment of the population. These schemes are the furtherance of Phule's ideas as he visualised long back that these groups/ communities needed to be made self-reliant.

He cudgelled his brain to find the solution to remove the inequalities based on caste, class, gender and religion from society. He understood very early in life that People were kept in the dark and they had been dragged into following the vacuous customs and norms without adequate understanding. He envisioned the furtherance of everyone's rights through social empowerment.

Phule's philosophy was conceptualised against the backdrop of the polity and society in pre-colonial Maharashtra. which was in a deteriorated state. His critique of the Brahminic religion, scriptures and theories, the founding of



PHULE REVAMPED

THE TRADITIONAL FAMILY AND MARRIAGE REFUTED THE HACKNEYED VIEWS ON THE PRESCRIBED TYPECAST ROLES OF MAN AND WOMAN. HE SUPPORTED

CONTRACT MARRIAGE AS, FOR HIM, MARRIAGE IS NOT A HOLY SACRAMENT BUT A HOLY CONTRACT

Satyashodhak Samaj (truth-seeking society) for the upliftment of the downtrodden to the 'new moral community' and his radical writings which pioneered a reformation movement in Hindu society deserve special attention. He gave the people a voice and a vehicle by establishing the Satyashodhak Samaj which was the first of its kind for social empowerment. It promoted caste equality and was devoted to securing social justice and human rights of low-caste people.
Throughout his life, he fought to
emancipate women from the
clutches of rigid patriarchal order which engineered divisions and schism among the oppressed

Undoubtedly, the action against all age — long traditions was the result of the hard work, grit, determination and tenacity of Phule. Phule's dour expression and laconic persona had a longlasting effect on people's minds. It is palpable that Phule in his writings had discussed the eclectic range of ideas and concerns about the socio-cultural milieu additionally, giving the solution of establishing an alternative model of Hindu Social order, which was earlier brimmed with hierarchies and pluralities

He engineered the strategy to free society from myriad inequalities, with elan and consequentially, influencing the upcoming reformers in the offing. Phule revamped the traditional family and marriage system and refuted the hackneyed views on the prescribed typecast roles of man and woman. He supported contract The same is being emphasised by marriage as for him; marriage is the Government through its varnot a holy sacrament but a holy contract. Additionally, he also rejected the priesthood system. He was far ahead of his time as he opened an orphanage for helpless widows who got pregnant. He left an indelible impression in the field of women's education as he found it a 'remedial whipcord' for 'nauseating wrong done to the women'. He insisted on compulsory and

free primary education and persuaded the British Government to make education compulsory till the age of 12 years. He was also and found education as a tool to the pioneer of the language foraddress such evils. He rejected the mula in schools which was ultisystem of regressive hierarchy mately adopted by the Indian Government after independence. He opined that mother tongue (local language); Hindi and English were the three languages that every person should know. He also suggested that schools should provide education based on vocational skills. He believed that such a course would attract students and help them in gaining employment.

To maintain the high quality of education, he thought that the curriculum of primary education should meet the needs and requirements of society. The same is also emphasised in the New Education Policy, 2020. Even the United Nations has advocated inclusive, equitable and quality education which Phule emphasised long back.

His ideas and thoughts will remain relevant in the 21st century as he always believed in establishing an egalitarian social order which is the core of any substantive democracy.

ious welfare policies. It would be a befitting tribute to him if his ideas of inclusion of those who are at the periphery like women; and marginalised groups were given adequate attention. As seats are reserved for women from Panchayat to Loksabha still they are lagging far behind men in terms of their representation. To put it succinctly, it can be said that mainstreaming the periphery should be the motto of Government and by doing so it can fulfill the dream of Mahatma

Phule's establishment of the Satyashodhak Samaj provided a platform for social ment and caste equality. His advocacy for women's education and rejection of regressive customs reshaped societal norms. Phule's foresight extended to educational reforms, advocating for vocational training and multilingual education, ideas that resonate with modern policies like the New Education Policy, 2020. In today's pursuit of an egalitarian society, Phule's principles remain indispensable. Prioritising the inclusion of marginalised groups, especially women, aligns with his vision of social justice. As we honor Phule's legacy, let us commit to mainstreaming the periphery, ensuring that every citizen's voice is heard and valued. In doing so, we honor the spirit of Mahatma Phule and pave the way for a truly inclusive society.

(The writer is Assistant Professor in Department of History Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University; views are personal)

# Jallianwala Bagh: A turning point in India's freedom struggle

The aftermath of the Jallianwala Bagh massacre not only claimed the lives of over 1,000 innocents but also ignited a fervent spirit of resistance

he Jallianwala Bagh massacre or the Amritsar ▲ massacre, a peaceful socio-political gathering of the native population dealt with a violent administrative response on 13th April 1919 by the then British Government killing above 1000 children, women and men firing 1650 gunshots, received strong criticism and gave the Indian freedom movement a clear direction for complete freedom from the foreign rule. The incident underlined the secular and all-inclusive character of the freedom movement. While in other parts of India, there were religious conflicts, in Amritsar the Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs had decided to celebrate their religious days (eid ul-fitter on April 01, Ram Nowmi on April 08 and in the Khairuddin mosque



Baisakhi on April 13) together to communicate the message of united freedom struggle against the foreign rule. The dead bodies of those, including Hindus, killed by the police while they were protesting against the arrest and deportation of the two local leaders Dr Saifuddin Kitchlew and Dr Satyapal to some unknown place, according to before their final funeral rites. Earlier on the occasion of Ram Nawmi on April 9, 1919, Hindus, Sikhs and Muslims drank water using the same tumbler. These events caused fear among the British rulers. In the background of what happened on April 13, 1919, was the rising unrest among the people caused by the postworld-war inflation, heavy taxes and other repressive policies of the British Indian overnment. During the world war between

1914 and 1917, though the British forces were supported the British-India Government and principalities, the Gadhries in Punjab had planned a mutiny by the Indian soldiers serving in the British Indian Army for February 1915 on the lines of

1857 mutiny, opposing the colonial Government antipeople policies which due to weak planning could not succeed. Yet, given a strong andcolonial-Government atmosphere in Punjab and Bengal, in particular and in India, in general, on ardent advocacy by the then Lieutenant Governor of Punjab, Michael O'Dwyer, the British India Government passed a 'Defence of India Act 1915' curtailing the civil and political liberties. In 1918, suspecting revolt with

support from Russian Bolsheviks, the Government appointed a committee headed by Sidney Rowlatt to assess the German and Bolshevik links to the militant movement in India, especially in Punjab and Bengal. On the committee's recommendation, the Anarchical and Revolutionary Crimes Act of 1919, popularly called the Rowlatt Act, was passed on 21st March 1919 further limiting civil liberties and granting special powers to the Government enabling up to 2 years' detention of purported political agitators without trial. Breaching their promise for post-war political reforms in exchange for India's resoures the Government hurriedly passed the Act, ignoring opposition by the Indian members of the Imperial Legislative Council, who all resigned resigned in protest. Muhammad Ali Jinnah wrote to the Viceroy: "I, therefore, as a protest against the passing of the Bill and the manner in which it was passed tender my resignation ... a Government that passes or sanctions such

a law in times of peace forfeits its claim to be called a civilised Government".

The Act, seen as a betrayal, enraged the Indian leaders and citizens. Mahatma Gandhi gave a call for Satyagraha against the Rowlatt Act urging for a peaceful participation in Hartals (strikes), economic boycott and non-cooperation. The anti-Rewlatt Act sentiment was so strong in the whole country, especially in Punjab, that in response to the Satyagraha call on April 6 "practically the whole of Lahore was on the streets". Following the events on April 9 and the detention of the local leaders Dr Saifuddin Kitchlew and Dr Satyapal on April 10, 1919, a large crowd gathered to demand the release of Dr

Satyapal and Dr Kitchlew. In

the protest, 20-25 Indian and four British were killed while others were injured. The atmosphere in Amritsar was so tense that on April 11, Marcella Sherwood, an elderly English missionary was attacked by an angry mob in the Kucha Kurrichhan. Although she was rescued by some residents in the same street, enraged at the assault, Brigadier General R.E.H. Dyer, ordered every Indian passing through the street to crawl its length on his hands and knees as a punishment. He also authorised the indiscriminate public whipping of locals. The local leaders of the freedom movement, in a meeting held on April 12 at the Hindu College, planned a peaceful public protest gathering on April 13, the day of Baisakhi, in Jallian Wala Bagh

spread over 6-7 acres of vacant land surrounded by residential

buildings.
By April 13, most parts of Punjab under put under martial law. Civil liberties were curtailed and the assembly of more than four people was banned. The orders of banning public meetings and gatherings were not being widely and properly communicated. After celebrating Baisakhi many people relaxed in the Bagh, waiting to join the peaceful protest against the arrest and deportation of Dr. Satya Pal and Dr. Saifuddin Kitchlew. Rest as they say is history. (The writer is retired professor

of Guru Nanak Dev University Amritsar and member, governing council, INTACH, New Delhi; views are personal)





# Shah, Mamata engage in war of words

SAUGAR SENGUPTA

Union Home Minister and Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday had a verbal spar with the former accusing the Bengal Government for promoting trans-border infiltration, and corruption besides resisting the Citizenship Amendment Act and the latter slamming the Act and the latter slamming the BJP for planning assassination of her nephew and TMC national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee.

Asking from the people of Bengal anywhere between 30 and 35 seats from an election

and 35 seats from an election rally in North Dinajpur Shah promised to stop trans-border infiltration in Bengal. "Last time you gave me 18 seats and we gave you Ram Mandir ... this time you give us 35 seats and Lord Ram will drive away all the infiltrators from Bengal,"



Minister that none of her tricks refugees from neighbouring would work this time round as the "people of Bengal have become alert and we will win 30-35 seats from here."

Alleging that the TMC infiltration had always worked to the advantage of the TMC which was why it would never stop that menace Shah alleged how the Chief Minister was promoting infiltration on the one hand and resisting the Citizenship Amendment Act meant for providing legal citi-Shah said warning the Chief zenship to the non-Muslim staff lost their jobs said, "cor-

countries on the other.

"On one hand you (Banerjee) are promoting infiltration and on the other hand you are opposing the CAA ... but you cannot stop that from happening ... there is now way that you can stop CAA and it is bound to be implemented," he said.Slamming the TMC Government for unleashing a corruption raj Shah referring to the Monday's High Court vides which about 26,000 school

ruption is everywhere in Bengal... It is under Mamata Bengal.Addressing an election rally at Birbhum the Chief Banerjee's rule where jobseek-Minister said stopping short of naming Opposition Leader Suvendu Adhikari how the ers are paying Rs 15 lakh and central agencies recover Rs 50 BJP was planning even to assascrore from (the friend's house) minister like Partha Chatterjee... There were time sinate her family members. Referring to a recent intelliwhen the TMC leaders had gence reports about a man kutcha houses and they rode from Maharashtra visiting cycles ... but now they have big

Kolkata repeatedly with a reported intention to attack TMC national general secretary and Banerjee's nephew Abhishek, she said, "recently a Gaddar said that a bomb will explode soon and now you have intelligence reports com-

She said, if you have a grudge against me you can kill me with a bomb," adding how the police got reports about how "they conducted a recce at his (Abhishek) house, called him on Facetime and asked for an appointment. Had he given him time, he would have shot

## Brother of Territorial Army jawan killed in Rajouri

**MOHIT KANDHARI** ■ JAMMU

A civilian, the brother of a Territorial Army personnel, working in the Social Welfare Department was shot dead in cold blood by 'unidentified' terrorists while he was returning home after offering prayers in the village Kunda Top of Thanamandi area in the Rajouri district late Monday

The incident spread a fresh wave of terror in the otherwise peaceful area of Rajouri in the run-up to the third phase of polling scheduled to take place on May 7.

Jammu and Kashmir police identified the government employee targeted by the terrorists as 40-year-old Mohd Razaq., an employee of the Social Welfare department. The Territorial Army jawan, however, escaped unhurt. Initial ground reports and eye-



witness accounts of family members indicated the unidentified terrorists were looking for army personnel. When they could not track him down they targeted his brother, who was returning home after offering prayers in the nearby mosque before fleeing the area. The security personnel deployed in the area immediately rushed to the spot after learning about the firing incident and cordoned off the entire area. A joint team of security personnel launched a

Monday night and the same continued on Tuesday to track down the footprints of the terrorists still active in the area. Till Tuesday evening, no contact was established with the terrorists possibly hiding in the thickly forested area.

The targeted killing took place four months after four soldiers were 'killed in action' and three others received injuries when their vehicles were ambushed by a group of highly trained foreign terrorists in the Dera Ki Gali area of Poonch on December 21, 2023.

A criminal case has been registered in FIR No 48 under sections 302 (murder), 120 B, 121 A,122, 458 (lurking housetrespass or house-breaking by night after preparation for hurt, assault, or wrongful restraint), the Arms Act, and sections of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) at the massive search operation late Thanamandi Police Station.

## Murshidabad with livid bidi workers to see tough fight

SAUGAR SENGUPTA

Smoking is not only injurious to health but economy too. The hapless Bidi workers of Jangipur,

Raghunathganj, Bhagabangola in Murshidabad district realize it more than anyone else. Notwithstanding they have to cling to the profession because they have nowhere else to go or no other calling to fall back on."We were promised by Abhishek Banerjee three years ago that they will raise our wage to Rs

240 but nothing happened," says Pratibha Biwi adding for every thousand bidis that she rolls she is paid Rs 170. "It take whole day to do that after jugging with other household chores like cooking, cleaning, reaching the children to school and helping the old parents-in-law," she moans.

Bidi workers form a formidable force in Murshidabad district with about 6 lakh household and about 15 lakh people involved in the profession that is the economic mainstay of rural Murshidabad. The district once ruled by the Nawabs of Bengal, Bihar and Odisha until Nawab Siraj ud Daulah fell to the machinations of Lord Clive at the Battle of Plassey — sends three Lok Sabha members one each from Murshidabad, Jangipur and

Behrampore seats. Late President of India Pranab Mukherjee and his son Abhijeet won twice from Jangipur before

the seat went to the Trinamool Behrampore has continued to remain a stronghold of Congress Lok Sabha leader Adhir Chowdhury since1998. Murshidabad seat which too has been held by the TMC for

the past two terms has been witnessing a good groundswell in favour of the Left with CPI(M) State secretary Md Salim strengthened by a solid backing from the Congress giving the TMC a good run for

its money. But things finally boil down to Bidi politics as there at least half-a-dozen Bidi manufacturing units in the districts owned by businessmen who are active members and fundraisers of the

TMC. "The poor people know that no one save the Left will raise the issue of the Bidi workers in Parliament ... so they are keeping faith on the CPİ(M) in Murshidabad," says Salim a former MP from Raiganj. Sayna Mondal says a graduate who shuttles her professional career between giving tuitions and bidi-making too is disgusted with the TMC

## Action against Nagpur school director for using children in Gadkari poll campaign

T N RAGHUNATHA

houses.

Corruption could be routed out

of Bengal only if the BJP could

be brought to power and that

would be possible only if the saffron party got 30-35 seats

Shah also referred to the

Sandeshkhali incident saying

how the women of Bengal

were suffering during the TMC

Hitting the BJP leadership back

the Chief Minister said it was

the Gaddars (traitors) in the

BJP who had gone to that

party to save their ill-gotten

money who were defaming

from the State, he said.

The Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), Maharashtra, has initiated action against a school management for allegedly allowing the use of its students in the Lok Sabha poll campaign of the ruling BJP's Nagpur candidate and Union Minister Nitin Gadkari.

Acting on a complaint lodged by Maharashtra Congress' chief spokesperson Atul Londhe with the office of CEO, Maharashtra, on April 3, 2024 that the school about the alleged use of school students in the students in Gadkari's poll campaign, the poll body has ordered that action be initiated against the Director of NSVM Fulwari School Murlidhar Pavnikar whom it has found guilty of the violation of the Model Code of Conduct. In a letter written to Londhe on

Tuesday, Under-Secretary of State General Administration Department Vikram Nikam gave details of the inquiry conducted into the complaint and action taken against the director of NSVM Fulwari School,

Vaishali Nagar, Nagpur. As per the letter, the election authorities had summoned the director and the lady principal of the school for a hearing. "Based on what transpired at the hearing and also the written submissions made by the school, school director Murlidhar Pavnikar has been found guilty (of the violation of Model Code of Conduct). It has been found that students were used to accord welcome to Mr Nitin Gadkari during his election campaign. As per the rules, the Education Officer (Middle school section) has been asked to take necessary action against the Director concerned," GAD under-secretary Nikam stated in his let-

In his complaint to the CEO, Londhe had alleged that students of the NSVM Fulwari School had been used by the BJP and its candidate Gadkari for his campaign rally between 12 noon and 1 pm on April 1,

"The use of children in political campaign not only violates the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 as amended in 2016 but also goes against judicial directives, including a 2014 order by the Bombay High Court. Such actions by political parties not only undermine the integrity of electoral process but also jeopardise the rights, privacy and future of the children involved," Londhe had stated in his letter, in which he had attached a video clip and photograph of the alleged misuse of children in Gadkari's election campaign

## 1,351 candidates in fray in phase two LS polls



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

s many as are in the fray for As many as are in the Lok the third phase of the Lok Sabha elections on May 7, the Election Commission said on Tuesday.

These include eight candidates from Betul seat of Madhya Pradesh, where the election was to be held in the second phase but was postponed to the third following the death of the BSP candidate, the EC said in a statement.

BJP candidate from Surat seat

in Gujarat Mukesh Dalal has been elected unopposed. The last date for the withdrawal of candidature for all 12 states and union territories was April 22. A total of 2,963 nominations were filed for 95 seats, including Betul. After the scrutiny of all nominations, 1,563 were found to be valid.

In the third phase, Gujarat had the maximum of 658 nomination forms from 26 parliamentary constituencies, followed by Maharashtra with 519 nominations from 11 seats,

## Asia worst hit by...

warmth.

Himalayan States due to second-hottest year on record, intense monsoon rains. In with countries like Japan and floods and landslides struck multiple States in India, including Himachal Pradesh, and Uttarakhand, claiming 25 lives and causing extensive damage to infrastructure and agriculture. Triggered by heavy rainfall, the disaster compounded the effects of an earlier monsoon surge in June. India declared a state of emergency in the worstaffected areas, initiating rescue and relief operations. The IMD had reported below normal rainfall last year. During the Indian summer monsoon season, this led to a precipitation deficit in many parts of the Indian subcontinent. "The Indian summer monsoon seasonal rainfall, averaged over India from June to September, was about 6% below the 1971-2000

than-normal precipitation. In India, in recent years, lightning accompanied by thunderstorms has been a leading cause of fatalities. In 2023, thunderstorms and lightning claimed around 1200 lives in various parts of the

average . For the second

consecutive year, certain regions in south-west India.

the Ganges catchment, and the

lower course of the

Brahmaputra received less-

As per the report, storms affected the largest number of were affected.

From Page 1 people and caused the most July and August witnessed economic damage during landslides in India in 2023.Asia experienced its

"Many countries in the region experienced their hottest year on record in 2023, along with a barrage of extreme conditions. from droughts and heat waves to floods and storms. Climate change exacerbated the frequency and severity of such events, profoundly impacting societies, economies, and, most importantly, human lives and the environment that we live in," said WMO Secretary-General Celeste Saulo. Despite these heatwaves, parts

of Asia, including southwest China and regions around major rivers, experienced below-normal precipitation, exacerbating drought conditions. Floods and storms wreaked havoc across India, Pakistan, Nepal, and the Russian Federation, while heavy rainfall caused flooding in Saudi Arabia, the UAE, and Yemen.

A significant Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) originating in South Lhonak in India on 4 October, led to the catastrophic collapse of the Teesta III hydroelectric dam at Chungthang in North Sikkim, widespread devastation downstream. It claimed 100 deaths and over missing individuals. Around 4,500 were evacuated, and around 90,000 people

## DGCA directs airlines to let...

"There is also a provision for auto seat assignment to the passengers who have not

Technically, if you buy an air ticket, you are assured a seat and you pay a selection fee only if you want a window or aisle seat, or exit row seat with extra legroom. In reality though, if you are a parent or travelling with a minor, the selection fee is not really an optional choice. For, the only way to ensure your kid is not seated next to strangers is to pay for seats including a middle seat.

The issue of people travelling in groups being seated separately if they do not pay extra for seat selection has been irking travellers across the world and not just in India. Recently, a man had booked IndiGo flight from Chennai to Mumbai for his family of four. However, upon boarding the flight, he was shocked to find that the airline

had allocated seats to his children away from him. Though the passengers on board were kind enough to selected any seat for web exchange seats with the man's check-in before scheduled family, he took to social media that it is "basic human decency" for airlines to assign adjacent seats to families with children.

This new regulation addresses a common concern for parents flying with young children -the possibility of being separated during seating allocation. Having a young child seated alone on a plane can be stressful for both the child and the parent.

This is the second order received by the airline within a month. Earlier, the Bureau of Aviation Security (BCAS) had stated that when the airlines in the first week of this month received an order to deboard the passengers and take them back directly to the boarding area instead of making them go through the entire check-in procedure again.

From Page 1

'There are certain heads of Church who are obliged to the State Government for their personal gains and this need to be seen in that background," said Kevin Peter, founder, Christian Alliance and Action for Social Action (CASA), an umbrella organisation of all Christian sects. "The days of

Two Christian...

the laity blindly following the diktats issued by the bishops and archbishops are gone long back. The modern day Christians do not go by what the Church heads say, at least in matters related to politics," said Kevin Peter.

There was a move by some BJP leaders, especially party leaders who were elevated to the position of Governors, to bring the Hindus and Christians together.

### **Delhi hit by** freak...

From Page 1 Parts of the National Capital Region (NCR), including Uttar Pradesh's Noida, were affected winds. As a result, some flights approaching Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) were diverted. Additionally, pockets in Delhi, such as diverted. Sainik Farms, reported trees being uprooted, leading to

power outages.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) had forecasted a clear sky with strong winds during the daytime on Tuesday, with the maximum temperature likely to settle around 38 degrees Celsius and the minimum around 22 degrees. Light to moderate intensity rain was also expected in Delhi-NCR. The maximum temperature in Delhi had settled at 37.6 degrees Celsius on Monday, which falls within the normal range for this time of the vear.

Today, at around 6 PM, a PCR call regarding a wall collapse was received at PS Malviya Nagar. On reaching the spot i.e Khirki Extn., a wall on the top floor of a house was found to be collapsed, resulting in minor injuries to residents of a neighboring house (Minor-06 Major- 02) who were on their roof at the time of the sudden rainfall and storm. They all are being discharged from hospital.

## Tashi Gyalson to represent BJP in Ladakh in LS polls

I dropped its sitting MP Jamyang Tsering Namgyal for Ladakh Lok Sabha seat and announced that Tashi Gyalson, who is a local council chief, will represent the party in upcoming Lok Sabha polls. In 2019, Namgyal hit the headlines for his viral speech in Lok Sabha to defend tĥe Modi government's decision to repeal Article 370 and make Ladakh a separate Union Territory.

The BJP's decision to drop Namgyal comes amid resentment towards the ruling party among a section of Buddhists in Leh. The Union territory will vote on May 20, which will be the fifth phase of the ongoing general election. The Congress is yet to announce its candidate

also possibility that the party may drop Brijbhushan Singh from Kaisarganj and give ticket to his wife.

Gyalson is the chairmancum-chief executive councillor of Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council in Leh. Gyalson, who is also a lawyer, is in a better position to maintain the BJP's hold over the seat, which also includes Muslim-majority Kargil. Polling is scheduled for May 20 in the constituen-

Hours after the announcement, Namgyal said his supporters across the Union Territory are voicing disapproval over the decision. Today, the BJP announced

a new candidate for the

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI for the seat. Ladakh is the Ladakh parliamentary cononly Lok Sabha constituency of stituency, replacing the sitting parent and compelling justification," Namgyal said in a post on social media platform Facebook.

"I have communicated my disagreement to the party leadership through proper channels regarding this injustice to a dedicated 'karyakarta'. Hundreds of BJP activists and my supporters from across Ladakh have also voiced their disapproval of this decision," he said.

"We will carefully evaluate the situation and determine our next course of action, keeping the well-being of the people of Ladakh at the forefront. I extend heartfelt gratitude to all supporters for their steadfast backing," he

## **Surat Congress leader may join BJP**

PNS ■ SURAT/NEW DELHI

Tn a dramatic turn of events following the BJP's **⊥**uncontested victory in the Surat Lok Sabha seat, Congress nominated leader Nilesh Kumbhani, whose candidacy was rejected due to alleged discrepancies, is to join the BJP shortly. According to the reports, Kumbhani has been missing and is unreachable by phone.

Now, as speculations go around Kumbhani's potential change to the BJP, tensions escalated outside his residence, where Congress sup-

porters staged a protest displaying posters that labelled him as "janata ka gaddar" (people's traitor). The unfolding drama comes from the BJP's unopposed victory in Surat, marking their first Lok Sabha win in the region without facing any opposition.

Mukesh Dalal, BJP's Surat candidate, was declared the unopposed winner. Gujarat BJP chief CR Paatil hailed this victory as he declared that Surat has symbolically presented "the first lotus" to Prime Minister Narendra

# Modi takes Hanuman Chalisa dig at...

will recite "Now, you will recite Hanuman Chalisa peacefully and also celebrate Ram Navami, this is the guarantee of BJP," he said. The prime minister also accused the Congress of throwing Malpura, Karauli, Chhabra, In another poll rally at Sakti in Chhatisgarh, Modi again hit out at Congress over a remark by its Goa candidate

imposed on the coastal state, and said it was a "ploy" to break the country.

"Congress is not able to digest the participation of Adivasis and Dalits. backward classes in power. Now the party has started a Malpura, Karauli, Chhabra,
Tonk and Jodhpur into the
"fire of riots" during its rule.

big game. Earlier a Congress
MP from Karnataka said
south India should be declared a separate country, now a Congress candidate from Goa said the Indian Constitution that the Constitution was applicable in Goa," he said.

Constitution was forced on Goa. He has told this to (apparently 'shehzade' referring to Rahul Gandhi)...Isn't this an insult to Babasaheb Ambedkar? Isn't this an insult to the Constitution? Is this not tampering with the Constitution of India?" the

prime minister asked. People of Jammu and Kashmir also used to say...You gave blessings (to BJP), now their mouths are Congress, and therefore

of India is in force there (after the abrogation of Article 370)," he said.

The Congress candidate (in Goa) made this statement publicly and said he told his leader about it, which means his leader has given a tacit consent to it, Modi said, in apparent swipe at Rahul Gandhi.

"It is a ploy to break the country. A huge part of the country has rejected

the shut. Now the Constitution the party wants to create such small islands," he claimed.

The prime minister was referring to Congress candidate from South Goa, Viriato Fernandes, who said on Monday that then Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru had said that Goa will decide its own destiny after it was liberated from Portuguese rule, but "this did not happen", and the Indian Constitution was "forced" on the state.

### Kejriwal given insulin in Tihar...

From Page 1

"Hanumanji has given insulin to his devotee Arvind Kejriwal. The court passed the order, the jail denied, but due to Hanumanji, Kejriwal got the insulin. We pray for his good health, long life, and may he soon be released," he

Earlier in the day, Bharadwaj alleged that the officials were deliberately not giving insulin to Kejriwal.

"Today it became clear that the chief minister was right. He needed insulin but the officials under the BJP-led Centre were deliberately not treating him. Tell me about the BJP people! If there was no need for insulin, why are they giving it now? Because the whole world is cursing them," he said in a post on X

Kejriwal's wife Sunita Keiriwal visited the temple to offer prayers on the occasion of Hanuman Jayanti. "May Hanuman Baba give wisdom and prosperity to all. May Hanuman Baba take away everyone's trouble and mine too. I will come back with sir

in Hindi.

(Kejriwal) soon," she told reporters. "It is due to the blessings of Lord Hanuman that Kejriwal

was given insulin after 23 days. We had been saying that he needs to be given insulin but he was given insulin only now. The people of Delhi were worried about him but their struggle bore fruit," Singh said. The Delhi chief minister was arrested on March 21 by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) connection with a moneylaundering case linked to the Delhi government's nowscrapped excise policy. He has been lodged in the Tihar jail since April 1.

# Rajeev Chandrasekhar gets a breather | Congress wants to implement

derail the electoral fortunes of BJP's Rajeev Chandrasekhar who is contesting as a candidate from Thiruvananthapuram Sabha constituency fell flat on Tuesday as Kerala High Court dismissed a public interest litigation petition filed by the Congress challenging the returning officer' decision to accept the nomination papers of the BJP candidate.

The petitioner had contended that Rajeev Chandrasekhar, a union minister of state, had filed false affidavits along with his nomination paper and these were accepted by the Returning Officer. Their grievance was that the union minister, one of the billionaires in the country, had suppressed details of his taxable income and hence his counsel



be accepted.

A Bench of Justices VG Arun and S Manu accepted the argument of the Election Commission of India (ECI) that once the nomination of a candidate is accepted by the returning officer, the remedy for the aggrieved person is to file an election petition before the High Court and not a PIL. "As rightly contended by counsel for Election Election nomination paper should not Commission of India, the

remedy of the petitioner, if aggrieved by the acceptance of the affidavit filed by one of the candidates is to challenge the same in an election petition," the Court said in its order. Avani Bansal, the petitioner,

argued that though she had lodged a complaint with the Returning Officer pointing out the discrepancies in Chandrasekhar's Raieev there was no affidavits.

that complaint.

"Where is the statutory provision that says that a reasoned order must be given by the returning officer on complaints given to them," the Court asked the petitioners and ordered the rejection of the petition.

Sources close to the minister told The Pioneer that Asianet News, a channel owned by the former was giving him sleepless nights by telecasting anti-Narendra Modi reports and stories. "Only anti-Modi reports are being aired by the reports are being aired by the said news channel giving an impression that Rajeev Chandrasekhar is han in glove with the staff. If he dares to take action against the editorial staff, all of them would strike work and the channel would go off the air. The editorial staff members are hardcore CPI(M) fanatics and one of them is a plant by the Church itself," said the

# Sharia law in country: Yogi

law...," he added.

property and distribute it. Do

you want to allow the Congress and Samajwadi

Party to loot your property?"
"Look at the condition of

these shameless people. On

one hand, they are eying on your property and on the other hand they are making the mafia and criminals their

necklace and reciting Fatiha in their name," he added.

n their name, he added.
Referring to a comment made by former Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh in 2006, Adityanath said, "When Dr Manmohan Singh ji was the Prime Minister be be be about the comment of 
Minister, he had said that Muslims have the first right

on the country's resources..."
"So where will our Dalits,

Kharagvanshis, Pals, poor and farmers go? Where will

backward

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Tuesday made serious allegations against the Congress and said the grand old party has in its election manifesto expressed its intention to implement the 'Sharia law' in the country and redistribute people's

property.
Addressing an election rally in Amroha, Adityanath said, The Congress and its allies have betrayed the country and have once again come to you with their false manifesto. If you look at the Congress' manifesto, they say that if they form a government, we will government, we will implement the Sharia law."

"You tell me, will this country be run by the Constitution made by Baba Saheb Bhimrao Ambedkar or by Shariat?" he

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has in his election rallies said the Congress has included redistribution of people's property in its

"Congress people talk in their manifesto that they will implement 'vyaktigat kanoon' (personal laws). That means sharia law will be implemented because Modi ji stopped the practice of triple talaq," Adityanath said.

"They say that we will again restore personal law. These people will implement Sharia

the mothers and sisters go, where will the youth go?" he Escalating his attack, Adityanath alleged, "The asked. Congress manifesto says that they will take people's The chief minister claimed

that terrorism has been finished in India during the tenure of the Modi government.

There was an atmosphere of fear and terror in the country 10 years ago, people were afraid. After 2014, terrorism was controlled and by 2019, Modi ji did such a thing that the root of terrorism Jammu Kashmir's Article 370 was abolished. Today terrorism has been destroyed in India,"

Adityanath claimed that now whenever there is a loud burst of firecrackers somewhere, Pakistan clarifies that it has no involvement. "Pakistan is afraid that even

by mistake, a terrorist incident takes place in India and some innocent citizen is killed, they will have to face consequences," he said.

### Two women BJD leaders quit party ahead of LS, Assembly polls

**PTI** ■ BHUBANESWAR

Two prominent women BJD leaders have quit the ruling party, weeks ahead of the simultaneous Lok Sabha and assembly elections in the

While Hindol MLA Simarani Nayak resigned from the BJD on Monday, former Sambalpur legislator legislator Raswswari Panigrahi announced her decision to

quit on Tuesday. Nayak resigned from the primary membership of the party, hours after being denied a ticket to contest the assembly polls. She was replaced by Dhenkanal MP

Mahesh Sahu. In her resignation letter to BJD president Naveen Patnaik, the two-time MLA cited personal problems as the reason behind her move. Nayak had won the seat in 2019, defeating BJP candidate Ashok Kumar Nayak by almost 19,000 votes.

Panigrahi said she quit after the BJD leadership fielded candidates who were from outside the district.

The BJD initially fielded former MP Prasanna Acharya from Bargarh for the Sambalpur assembly seat, but later named Rohit Pujari from Rairakhol as its candidate constituency.

## CPM leader DNA remark against Rahul triggers political row

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

 $T_{\text{CPI(M)-led LDF}}^{\text{he face off between the}}$ Congress-led UDF in Kerala took an ugly turn on Tuesday with a Marxist leader demanding a DNA test of Rahul Gandhi, the scion of the Nehru-Gandhi clan and its endorsement by the State's most powerful person, Chief Pinarayi Vijayan. Minister

(DeoxyRiboNucleic Acid) test is carried out to the confirm the original paternity of a person. "Rahul Gandhi's genes are quite different from that of the Nehru-Gandhi family and this has to be confirmed through DNA test," said P V through DNA test," said P V Anvar MLA, a controversial CPI(M) leader told while addressing a election campaign meeting at Palakkad where the party's prime ministerial candidate A Vijayaraghavan is engaged in a triangular contest.

"We do have strong doubts about the lineage of Rahul Gandhi. His links with the approaching fast, quality of narratives between the two Nehru-Gandhi family could major fronts in the State are be established only by taking a new low, said many subjecting him to a DNA observers. "The fact that BJP

endorsed the views of Anvar Thrissur.



as there were doubts about the antecedents of the Gandhi scion. Vijayan had called Rahul Gandhi as Pappu during an election campaign on Sunday. Anvar went one step further and described AICC General secretary K C Venugopal as a low quality Congress leader who advises Rahul Gandho in all important national and international issues.

subjecting him to a DNA test," said Anvar in a speech which is being described as derogatory and obscene by even the BJP leadership.

Chief Minister Pinarayi
Vijayan said he fully

This current observers. The fact that DJP is maintaining a quality in their discourses is a redeeming feature," said Sudheer Damodaran commentator and a veteran campaign specialist based in

Interestingly, both the Congress and the CPI(M) are constituents of the INDI Alliance, an umbrella organization formed by Opposition parties to defeat Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Hindutva forces in this edition of General Election. Television

General Election. Television news channels and newspapers miss no chance in publishing video images and pictures of Rahul Gandhi hugging and kissing Communist leaders Sitaram Yechury and D Raja though Prakash Karat keeps the former at a safe distance. On Sunday, Vijayan had declared that Rahul Gandhi would not be a prime ministerial candidate, giving hints

enough Vijayaraghavan would the CPI(M) nominee for the top job, according to Å Jayashankar, author and political observer. As CPI(M) and Congress leaders wine and dine together once the go put of the State, the duel between the two is being seen as a faced to cover their links as both are fighting it out in the State. While Vijayan claimed that the LDF would sweep all the 20 seats at stake Congress strongman Ramesh Chennithala despite Congress his unhappiness with the High Command said on Tuesday that the I.N.D.I.

Alliance would win all the

20 seats in Kerala.

## 16 candidates in fray in two Lok Sabha seats in Goa

PTI PANAJI

withdrawal of nominations, as per the Election Commission data. In North Goa, the prominent candidates include sitting BJP MP Shripad Naik and former Union minister Ramakant Khalap fielded by the Congress.
In South Goa, the BJP has

fielded industrialist Pallavi Dempo, while the Congress has nominated former naval officer Viriato Fernandes. Monday was the last day for withdrawal nominations.

Goa, which has two Lok Sabha seats, will vote on May 7 in the third phase of polling. In North Goa, the BJP has

renominated its sitting up Naik, while the Congress has fielded former Union minister Khalap. Manoj Parab, who heads the fledgling Revolutionary Goans Party (RGP), is also contesting parliamentary poll. Journalist Milan Vaigankar and Sakharam Naik have been nominated by the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) and the Akhil Bharatiya Parivar Party, respectively, while three independent candidates are also contesting in the North Goa seat.

## Baharampur may not be a cakewalk for Adhir Chowdhury

classes,

PTI ■ KOLKATA

Unemployment workforce and migration continue to remain major issues in Congress heavyweight Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury's bastion, the Baharampur Lok Sabha constituency in West Bengal's Murshidabad district, and seems to have triggered 'anti-incumbency' for the five-time MP from the seat. The Trinamool Congress

The Irinamool Congress (TMC) sprung a surprise by bringing in former India allrounder Yusuf Pathan from Gujarat to challenge Chowdhury, the son of the soil who has been winning the seat without a break since 1999. Besides Pathan, Chowdhury is also taking on BIP's Nirmal Chandra Sa popular doctor from the region, where polls are scheduled on May 13.

"Although we consider Adhir da as our leader, we did not see his required involvement in Baharampur's development



in the last decade. We had higher expectations from him," Sudhir Sengupta, a local businessman, told PTI.

According to Lakshman Hazari, a resident of Amar Chakraborty Road in Baharampur town for the last Chakraborty Road distinction dubious becoming the repository for supplying skilled labour to the rest of the country at a low

"What has this TMC government done other than

bring back migrant workers home during the Covid-19 pandemic?" Hazari asked. Baharampur dominated by over 66 per cent Muslim population, the constituency is also inhabited by minorities like Christians

cent). Besides the religious spread, 13.2 per cent of the total population in Baharampur belong to the Scheduled Castes (SC) category and 0.9 per cent to Scheduled Tribes constituency has assembly segments Kandi, Burwan Rejinagar, Bharatpur, Beldanga, Baharampur, Naoda — all in Murshidabad district. As a mark of making political inroads into one of the last

remaining Congress strongholds of the state, the TMC managed to win six of those seven seats in the 2021 state Assembly elections, losing just one — the Baharampur assembly segment — to the BJP.
While the TMC has never

won the Baharampur Lok Sabha constituency, local party leaders appeared to be taking heart 55 years, the entire district seems to have earned the cent) and Sikhs (0.01 per share, which has dipped by over 11 per cent since the 2009 general elections.

Political observers maintain that despite five consecutive wins, Chowdhury has failed to cement the Congress foothold in Baharampur.

# Thrissur Pooram, mother of festivals, leave a trail of pathos

The decision of the Kerala Government to call off Thrissur Pooram, rated as in the decorative umbrellas mother of all festivals, has would have upset some upset the followers of Sanatana Dharma and believers of temple rituals.
The 19 April festival was called off by the police without furnishing any reason

Sanatana Dharina and and this could be the reason for the decision to cancel the Pooram.
Following intervention by Suresh Gopi, the BJP despite the fact the event was held without any disturbance. Nandakishore, cine artist and R K Damodaran, poet, termed the police action as an indication of things to come in future targeting the Hindu festivals. Nandakishore said

among devotees that the display of Lord Rama's and the Ayodhya Temple pictures political parties and religions and this could be the reason

candidate contesting from Thrissur Lok Sabha constituency and the Chinmaya Mission, an and the apolitical organization, the police was forced to backtrack from its decision after hours of stand of. The customary



fireworks, which marks the conclusion of the year's Pooram was held 24 hours later on Saturday, a hitherto unheard development.
The CPI(M) which was

caught with its pants down, condemned the "communal BJP" and Prime Minister Narendra Modi for Friday night's confusion though it did not elaborate on the role

Muraleedaran, the Congress candidate fighting against Suresh Gopi, alleged that the commotion was yet another proof of the BJP-CPI(M) joint venture to Congress defeat the candidate.

Meanwhile. Harikiran Muraleedharan, a young advocate in Thrissur filed a petition with Ombudsman, Travancore Kochi Devaswam Board, against the Kerala Police for using footwears in the Lord Mahadeva Temple by the Kerala Police. "This was in violation of the High Court order DBP-83/2003

inside temple premises and hence an action of contempt of court," said Harikiran in his petition. He wanted strict action against this high handed behavior of City Police Commissioner Ankit Ashokan and his team of cops for hurting the religious sentiments of the believers.

"Every year the Pooram concludes with sweet memories of light, sound and the rhythm with which more than 500 percussionists create colorful music. But 2024 Pooram concluded with a sense of pathos," said Nandakishore.

## Citizenship big issue in Barak Valley, CAA key to resolving it: BJP

PTI ■ SILCHAR (ASSAM)

Citizenship has been a major issue in the two Lok Sabha constituencies of Barak Valley, and the CAA will go a long way in resolving it, BJP's Silchar (SC) candidate and Assam minister Parimal Suklabaidya said.

The BJP took steps to bring in a law, which will help people who came to the valley from Bangladesh, he told PTI in an interview. In the two constituencies,

which share a 129-km border with Bangladesh, there is a sizeable population of Hindu Bengalis, displaced from the neighbouring country, who entered the valley over a period of time. "The Citizenship (Amendment) Act was enacted as a law by Parliament, but soon after the framing of the rules, the Model Code of Conduct came into force and not much work could be done in this regard," Suklabaidya, the Minister for Excise, Transport and Fisheries, said.

The citizenship problem was created due to partition, and no political party took any step to solve it for 70 years, he claimed.

"It is true that some people are finding it difficult to apply online, and there are issues related to submission of documents, but Union Home Minister Amit Shah has been

apprised of the matter. He has assured that the process will be simplified after the MCC is lifted," the BJP leader said. "Problems may arise in its implementation, but we are committed to resolving those," Suklabaidya said, adding that political parties

All the bottlenecks will be taken care of in the next six to eight months, with support from the state government, he

were making "unnecessary noise" over the matter.

Opposition parties have alleged that many people were not applying on the CAA portal, as they have to upload relevant documents issued by Bangladesh to prove they were displaced from that

country. Communication connectivity were the other key issues in the Barak Valley, the BJP nominee said.

Suklabaidya said it was former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee, who had taken the initiative for the East-West Corridor from Silchar to Gujarat, but after that the Congress government was in power for 10 years and it "neglected" the project.

"After Narendra Modi became the prime minister in 2014, he took up the initiative again and the project is nearing completion. It will help in reducing the travel time to the state capital to a great extent,"

## With ₹5785 crore assets, TDP LS contestant Chandra Sekhar stirs election attention

PTI ■ AMARAVATI

 $T_{
m Guntur}^{
m DP's}$  candidate for Guntur Lok Sabha seat P Sekhar has Chandra captured headlines after he declared his family assets both movable and immovable — at Rs 5,785 crore, in his election affidavit, potentially making him one of the wealthiest contestants in the current electoral race.

According to an affidavit filed by him, his individual assets stood at Rs 2,448.72 crore while his wife Sriratna Koneru has Rs 2,343.78 crore worth assets and children have nearly Rs 1,000 crore. press release by

Reforms (ADR) had earlier former Madhva Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath's son Nakul Nath topped the richest contestants list in the Phase-I of the Lok Sabha polls held on April 19, with nearly Rs 717 crore worth of assets. Chandra Sekhar's family has a liability of Rs 1,138 crore to JP Morgan Chase Bank of USA in the form of Line of Credit. From Burripalem village in Andhra Pradesh to working as physician teacher at Johns Hopkins University - Sinai Hospital to founding UWorld (online learning and study resources platform), Chandra Sekhar's journey

Association for Democratic

was truly fascinating. The Doctor-Entrepreneur-

Politician completed his MBBS at NTR University of Health Sciences Vijayawada in 1999 and pursued MD (Internal Medicine) from Geisinger Medical Center in Danville, Pennsylvania in

He secured 27th rank among 60,000 students who took the EAMCET medical entrance examination (MBBS) in the state which was considered the most competitive examination in the country. Chandra Sekhar with an interest in public service, has been working on behalf of the TDP's NRI wing since 2010 to support several welfare programmes of the Though he desired to contest

the Lok Sabha polls from Narasaraopet segment in 2014, TDP allotted the ticket to R Sambasiva Rao due to political issues. In a joint filing with his wife, he declared Rs 605.57 crore as per US Tax Cycle Year January 2022 to December 2022 in that country. He has investments and shares in several US-based firms. He also possesses luxury cars such as Rolls Royce Ghost, Mercedes Benz and Tesla in the USA. Chnadra Sekhar will take on YSR Congress Party's K Venkata Rosaiah in the elections.

### Pradesh with false promises: Union Minister Anurag Thakur **PTI** ■ HAMIRPUR (HP)

Congress cheated Himachal

Union minister Anurag Thakur on Tuesday accused the Congress of cheating the people of Himachal Pradesh with false promises and the youths in the state are still waiting for five lakh jobs.

Addressing election meetings in Hamirpur and Una district, he said the Congress and its guarantees have failed in the entire country which is why, the party was not voted back to power in Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh.

"In Rajasthan, atrocities against women were highest in the country and 19

recruitment exam papers were leaked. In Chhattisgarh, only the family members of the chief minister used to get government jobs," the BJP candidate from Hamirpur alleged. During the Congress rule, the Mahadev App scam came to light in Chhattisgarh while crores of rupees and gold were recovered from the secretariat of Rajasthan, he alleged. The Congress came to power

in Himachal Pradesh and Karnataka by giving false guarantees, the Union minister claimed, adding that the party completely failed to fulfill even a single promise Pradesh. in Himachal

# **Nothing will stand in way** of Rwanda flights: Sunak

British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak on Tuesday wel-comed the passage of his gov-ernment's controversial Safety of Rwanda Bill by Parliament overnight and pledged that nothing will stand in the way of illegal migrants being flown out to the African country. A day after he revealed a time-

frame between 10 and 12 weeks for the first flights taking off from an undisclosed airfield via chartered planes lined up, Sunak described the passage of his "landmark" bill as a "funda-mental change" in the handling of global migration.
On Monday night, the House of

Lords finally gave way to the legislative primacy of the Commons at the end of a lengthy back and forth demanding amendments on a bill drafted to prevent legal challenges.



Britain's Prime Minister Rishi Sunak speaks to journalists on board of the plane on the way to Warsaw Chopin airport in Warsaw, Poland on Tuesday.

"The passing of this landmark ward but a fundamental change legislation is not just a step for- in the global equation on

statement issued by Downing Street. "We introduced the Rwanda Bill to deter vulnerable migrants from making perilous crossings and break the business model of the criminal gangs who exploit them. The passing of this legislation will allow us to do that and make it very clear that if you come here illegally, you will not be able to stay," he said. "Our focus is to now get flights off the ground, and I am clear that nothing will stand in our way of doing that and saving lives," he added. The government is banking on bringing down soaring illegal migration numbers as a result of the "deterrent effect" of the bill, which will become law after Royal Assent from King Charles III. Under the law, migrants arriving illegally on UK shores would be deported to Kigali for their asylum claims to be

## Five migrants dead while crossing English Channel

 $\Gamma$  ive people, including a Child, died while trying to cross the English Channel from France to the UK, French authorities said Tuesday, just hours after the British government approved a migrant bill to deport some of those who entered the country illegally to Rwanda.

The prefecture responsible for the north of France said in a the north of France said in a statement authorities spotted several boats, packed with migrants, off the coast of Pas-de-Calais, attempting to depart in the early morning. Several French navy ships, including assistance and rescue tug Abeille Normandie, intervened to rescue "a very overcrowded boat carrying more than one hundred people on board," the statement emailed board," the statement emailed to The Associated Press said. "They rescued several people, but unfortunately, five people have died despite the emergency services' swift inter-



vention," it said.

The regional prefect Jacques Billant said a woman, three men and a 7-year-old girl died. He also said the boat attempted to sail off the beach in Wimereux and carried 112 people.

The statement added that the rescue operation was ongoing and helicopters and boats were already deployed on scene. The Voix du Nord, a regional newspaper, said the bodies were discovered at the Wimereux beach in northern France on Tuesday morning. About 100 migrants have been rescued and placed aboard a French navy ship. They will be taken to the port of Boulogne, the paper said. This came only hours after British Prime Minister Rishi

Sunak's latest effort to send some migrants to Rwanda finally won approval from Parliament. The UK govern-ment plans to deport some of those who enter the country illegally as a deterrent to migrants who risk their lives in leaky, inflatable boats in hopes that they will be able to claim asylum once they reach Britain.

Human rights groups have described the legislation as inhumane and cruel. Both the United Nations refugee agency and the Council of Europe called on the UK Tuesday to rethink its plans for fears they could damage international cooperation on tackling the global migrant crisis.

Migrants trying to cross the busy English Channel face drownings and sinking among other deadly incidents, often

### Two Indians killed in traffic collision in US' Arizona

Washington (PTI): Two Indian students in the United States were killed on the spot in a head-on traffic collision near Lake Pleasant in Arizona, according to police. The victims, reportedly from Telangana, have been identified as 19-year-old Nivesh Mukka and 19-year-old Goutham Parsi. The two Indians were enrolled as international students at Arizona State University. According to the Peoria Police, officers responded to a report of a collision around 6:18 pm on April 20 on Castle Hot Springs Road, just north of State Route 74. The multiple-vehicle collision involved two vehicles — a white 2024 Kia Forte and a red 2022 Ford F150 — that had collided head-on.Preliminary investigation shows that the driver of the red F150 was travelling southbound on Castle Hot Springs Road while the white Kia Forte was travelling northbound.

### Google fires more workers who protested its deal with Israel

San Francisco (AP): Google fired at least 20 more workers in the aftermath of protests over technology the company is supplying the Israeli government amid the Gaza war, bringing the total number of terminated staff to more than 50, a group representing the

workers said.

It's the latest sign of internal turmoil at the tech giant centered on "Project Nimbus," a \$1.2 billion contract signed in 2021 for Google and Amazon to provide the Israeli govern-ment with cloud computing and artificial intelligence services. Workers held sit-in protests last week at Google offices in New York and Sunnyvale, California. The company responded by calling the police, who made arrests. The group organizing the protests, No Tech For Apartheid, said the company fired 30 workers last week higher than the initial 28 they had announced. Then, on Tuesday night, Google fired "over 20" more staffers, "including non-participating bystanders during last week's spokeswoman for No Tech For Apartheid, without providing a more specific number. "Google's aims are clear: the corporation is attempting to

quash dissent, silence its workers, and reassert its power over them," Chung said in a press release. "In its attempts to do so, Google has decided to unceremoniously, and without due process, upend the liveli-hoods of over 50 of its own workers."

Google said it fired the additional workers after its investigation gathered details from coworkers who were "physically disrupted" and it identified employees who used masks and didn't carry their staff badges to hide their identities. It didn't specify how many were fired.

The company disputed the group's claims, saying that it carefully confirmed that "every single one of those whose employment was terminated was personally and definitively involved in disruptive activity inside our buildings."

## Human rights groups flays UK plan to send asylum-seekers to Rwanda

 $B^{\text{ritain's plans to send some}}_{\text{asylum-seekers to Rwanda}}$ were swiftly condemned by international humanitarian organisations after Parliament approved legislation allowing the deportation flights to begin later this year. Both the UN refugee agency and the Council of Europe on Tuesday called for the UK to rethink its plans because of concerns that the legislation undermines human rights protections and fears that it will damage international cooperation on tackling the global migrant crisis.

global migrant crisis.
"The new legislation marks a further step away from the UK's long tradition of providing refuge to those in need, in breach of the Refugee Convention," UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi said in a state Filippo Grandi said in a statement. "Protecting refugees requires all countries - not just those neighbouring crisis zones to uphold their obligations." The statement came just hours

after Britain's House of Lords dropped its attempts to amend the legislation, paving the way for it to become law. On Monday, Prime Minister Rishi Sunak said deportation flights to Rwanda would begin in 10-12 weeks.

Michael O'Flaherty, the Council of Europe's commissioner for human rights, criticised the legislation for preventing asylum-seekers from asking the courts to intervene when they are threatened with being sent back to the countries

they are fleeing.

"The adoption of the Safety of Rwanda (Asylum and Immigration) Bill by the UK Parliament raises major issues about the human rights of asylumination." lum seekers and the rule of law more generally," O'Flaherty said in a statement. "The United Kingdom government should refrain from removing people under the Rwanda policv and reverse the bill's effective infringement of judicial independence."

The reaction came as French

media reported that at least five people died Tuesday when a boat carrying about 100 or more migrants got into trouble while trying to cross the English Channel.

Sunak's government says its deportation plans will help stop the tide of people entering Britain illegally because migrants won't make the risky crossing in leaky inflatable boats if they know there is a chance they will be sent on one-way ticket to Rwanda. Small boat crossings are a potent political issue in Britain,

where they are seen as evidence of the government's failure to control immigration.
Sunak has made his plan to "stop the boats" a key campaign promise with his Conservative Party trailing badly in opinion polls ahead of a general election later this year.

The number of migrants arriving in Britain on small boats soared to 45,774 in 2022 from just 299 four years earlier as people fleeing war, famine and economic hardship paid crim-

## Abortion returns to spotlight in Italy 46 years after it was legalised

Italian Premier Giorgia Meloni's far-right-led government wants to allow anti-abortion groups access to women considering ending their pregnancies, reviving tensions around abortion in Italy 46 years after it was legalised in the overwhelmingly Catholic country. The Senate on Tuesday was voting on legisla-tion tied to European Union COVID-19 recovery funds that includes an amendment sponincludes an amendment sponsored by Meloni's Brothers of Italy party. The text, already passed by the lower Chamber of Deputies, allows regions to permit groups "with a qualified experience supporting mother-head" to her access to public hood" to have access to public support centres where women considering abortions go to receive counselling.

For the right, the amendment merely fulfil the original intent of the 1978 law legalising abortion, known as Law 194, which includes provisions to prevent the procedure and support motherhood. For the left-wing opposition, the amendment marks a chip-

ping away of abortion rights that opponents warned would follow Meloni's 2022 election. "The government should realise that they keep saying they absolutely do not want to boycott or touch Law 194, but

the truth is that the right-wing opposes women's repro-ductive autonomy, fears women's choices regarding motherhood, sexuality, and abortion," Cecilia D'Elia, a Democratic Party senator, said at a protest this week against the legislation. Under the 1978 law, Italy allows abortion on request in the first

12 weeks of pregnancy, or later if a woman's health or life is endangered. It provides for publicly funded counselling centres to advise pregnant women of their rights and services offered if they want to terminate the pregnancies. But easy access to abortion isn't

always guaranteed. The law allows health care personnel to

register as conscientious objectors and refuse to perform abortions, and many have, meaning women sometimes have to travel far to have the procedure.

Meloni, who campaigned on a slogan of "God, fatherland and family," has insisted she won't roll back the 1978 law and merely wants to implement it fully. But she has also prioritised encouraging women to have babies to reverse Italy's

demographic crisis. Italy's birthrate, already one of the lowest in the world, has been falling steadily for about 15 years and reached a record low last year with 379,000 babies born. Meloni's conservative forces, backed strongly by the Vatican, have mounted a campaign to encourage at least 500,000 births annually by 2033, a rate that demographers say is necessary to prevent the economy from collapsing under the weight of Italy's aging population.

Meloni has called the left-wing opposition to the proposed

amendment "fake news," recalling that Law 194 provides for measures to prevent abortions, which would include counselling pregnant women about alternatives. The amendment specifically allows anti-abortion groups, or groups "supporting motherhood," to be among the volunteer groups that can work in the counselling centres.

"I think we have to guarantee a free choice," Meloni said recently. "And to guarantee a free choice you have to have all information and opportunities available. And that's what the Law 194 provides."

The new tensions over abortion in Italy come against the backdrop of developments elsewhere in Europe going somewhat in the opposite direction. France marked International Women's Day by inscribing the guaranteed right to abortion into its constitution. Last year, overwhelmingly Catholic Malta voted to ease the strictest abortion laws in the EU. Polish lawmakers moved forward with proposals to lift a near-

# Trump may avoid trial this year on 2020 election charges

**AP** WASHINGTON

 $F_{\text{Trump faces serious charges}}^{\text{ormer President Donald}}$ in two separate cases over whether he attempted to subvert the Constitution by overturning the results of a fair election and illegally remain in power. Yet it's a New York case cen-

tred on payments to silence an adult film actress that might provide the only legal reckoning this year on whether he tried to undermine a pillar of American democracy. Trump is charged in the so-called hush money case with trying to falsify business records, but it was hard to tell that as the trial opened Monday.

Lead prosecutor Matthew Colangelo wasted little time during opening statements tying the case to Trump's campaigning during his first run for the presidency. He said the payments made to Stormy Daniels amounted to "a criminal scheme to corrupt the 2016 presidential election."

Whether the jury accepts that connection will be pivotal for



Trump's fate. The presumptive nominee faces charges related to falsifying business records that would typically be misdemeanours unless the alleged act could be tied to another crime. Prosecutors were able to charge them as felonies because they allege that the false records were part of an effort to cover up state and federal election law violations — though that's still not the type of direct election interference that Trump is charged with elsewhere. Trump himself has referred to the New York trial and the three other criminal cases against

evidence that they're part of a Democratic plan to undermine his campaign to return to the White House. "I'm here instead of being able to be in Pennsylvania and Georgia and lots of other places campaigning, and it's very unfair," he told reporters before Monday's court session. While the charges are felonies, the New York case is seen as the

least consequential against the former president. In the two election cases, Trump is accused of more direct involvement in trying to overturn the results of the 2020 election. He faces a four-count federal indictment in Washington, D.C., in connection with his actions in the run-up to the violent attack on the US Capitol by his supporters on January 6, 2021. He and others were charged in Georgia with violating the state's anti-racketeering law by scheming to illegally overturn his 2020 loss to Joe Biden. He has pleaded not guilty to all the charges against him in those cases and a fourth

him as a form of election inter-ference, suggesting without dling classified documents, All other charges in the public the other cases are tied up in appeals that are expected to delay any trials until after the November election. If that happens, the New York case will stand as the only legal test during the campaign of whether Trump attempted to illegally manipulate an election — and the case isn't even about the election results he tried to overthrow. On Monday, Trump's attorney quickly moved to undercut the idea that a case in which the charges centre on record-keeping could seriously be considered an effort to illegally undermine an

election. "I have a spoiler alert: There's nothing wrong with trying to influence an election. It's called democracy," said his attorney, Todd Blanche. "They put something sinister on this idea. as if it's a crime. You'll learn it's not."Some legal experts monitoring the cases against Trump said they were sceptical of connecting the payments to a form of "election interference." Doing so also runs the risk of

mind. Richard Painter, a University of Minnesota Law School professor and former associate White House counsel during the George W. Bush administration, said he believed the facts of the case met the evidence needed to determine whether a felony had been committed that violated campaign law, but added, "The election interference part, I have a little bit of trouble on this." Richard Hasen, a UCLA law school professor, said the New York case does not compare to the other electionrelated charges Trump faces. We can draw a fairly bright line between attempting to change vote totals to flip a presidential election and failing to disclose embarrassing information on a government form," he wrote in a recent Los Angeles

Times column. In an email, Hasen said New York prosecutors were calling the case election interference "because that boosts what may be the only case heard before the election."

As medicine dwindles, gangs attack hospitals **AP** ■ PORT-AU-PRINCE On a recent morning at a hospital in the heart of gang territory in Haiti's capital, a woman began convulsing before her body went limp as a doctor and two nurses raced to save her. They stuck electrodes to her chest and flipped on an oxygen machine while keeping their eyes on a computer screen that reflected a dangerously low oxygen level of 84%. No one knew what was wrong with her.

Even more worrisome, the Doctors Without Borders hospital in the Cite Soleil slum was running low on kev medicine to treat convulsions.

'The medication she really needs, we barely have," said Dr Rachel Lavigne, a physician with the medical aid

It's a familiar scene repeated daily at hospitals and clinics across Port-au-Prince, where life-saving medication and equipment is dwindling or altogether absent as brutal gangs tighten their grip on the capital and beyond. They have blocked roads, forced the closure of the main international airport in early March and paralysed operations at the country's largest seaport, where containers filled with

key supplies remain stuck.
"Everything is crashing,"
Lavigne said. Haiti's health system has long been fragile, but it's now nearing total collapse after gangs launched coordinated attacks on Feb 29, targeting critical infrastruc-

ture in the capital and beyond. The violence has forced several medical institutions and dialysis centres to close, including Haiti's largest public hospital. Located in downtown Port-au-Prince, the Hospital of the State University of Haiti was supposed to reopen on April 1 after closing when the attack began, but gangs have infil-

**Haiti health system** 

nears collapse

One of the few institutions still operating is Peace University Hospital, located south of the shuttered airport. From Feb 29 to April 15, the hospital treated some 200 patients with gunshot wounds, and its beds remain full.

"We urgently need fuel because we operate using generators. Otherwise we run the risk of closing our doors," hospital director Dr Paul Junior Fontilus said in a statement.

More than 2,500 people were killed or wounded across Haiti from January to March, a more than 50% increase compared with the same period last year, according to a recent UN report.

Even if a hospital is open, sometimes there is little or no medical staff because gang violence erupts daily in Portau-Prince, forcing doctors and nurses to stay at home or turn around if they encounter blocked roads manned by heavily armed men.

The spiralling chaos has left a growing number of patients with cancer, AIDS and other serious illnesses with little to no recourse, with gangs also looting and setting fire to pharmacies in the capital's downtown area.

Doctors Without Borders

itself has run out of many medications used to treat diabetes and high blood pressure, and asthma inhalers that help prevent deadly attacks are nowhere to be found in the capital, Lavigne said.At the Doctors Without Borders hospital, medical staff recently tried to save a boy with a severe asthma attack by giving him oxygen, she said. That didn't work, and neither did another type of medication. Finally, they ended up injecting him with adrenaline, which is used in emergencies to treat anaphylactic shock.

## **CEO Griffiths: A week after floods, Dubai** Airport operating at full capacity again

**PTI** ■ DUBAI

 $T^{
m he\ Dubai\ International}_{
m Airport,\ the\ world's\ busiest}$ for international travel, is operating at full capacity, authorities announced on Tuesday, a week after unprecedented torrential rains lashed the Arabian Peninsula and flooded many areas in the UAE.

Starting last Tuesday evening, tens of thousands of air passengers were stranded at the waterlogged Dubai International as it became impossible to move from or towards the airport as roads turned into massive rivers due to the unprecedented floods. "After the heaviest rainfall the UAE experienced in 75 years Dubai Airports is making remarkable strides in restoring and normalising operations at Dubai International Airport (DXB),"



ages the operation and devel-

opment of both of Dubai's air-

ports - Dubai International

(DXB) and Dubai World Central (DWC). Paul Griffiths, CEO of Dubai Airports, said since Monday,

ahead of its recovery schedule, DXB returned to its normal flight schedule and is back to operating around 1,400 flight movements a day. "With roads in and around the airport 100 per cent clear of water accumulation, our manpower, logistics and facilities are operating as usual again. To have the airport

cancelled and 115 were diverted," he said."It has been the most challenging adverse weather event we've had to navigate, and our people and part-ners worked tirelessly to keep the operation running and to assist our guests," Griffiths added. He said that 31 flights were diverted to Dubai World Central (DWC), and by April 19, all guests at the airport were successfully supported and continued onwards to complete their travel plans. "Guest wel-fare remained a key priority throughout the disruption and although there were initial challenges in transporting supplies with road closures around DXB and DWC, over 75,000 food packs were delivered across both airports," the state-

back up and running is no small feat. 2,155 flights were

## European Space Agency adds 5 new astronauts in only 4th class since 1978

**Cologne (Germany) (AP):** For the past year, five fit, academically superior men and women have been spun in centrifuges, submerged for hours, deprived temporarily of oxygen, taught to camp in the snow, and schooled in physiology, anatomy, astronomy, meteorology, robotics, and Russian.

On Monday, the five Europeans and an Australian graduated from basic training with a new title: astronaut.

At a ceremony in Cologne, Germany, ESA added the five newcomers to its astronaut corps eligible for missions to the International Space Station (ISS), bringing the total to 11. ESA has negotiated with NASA for three places on future Artemis moon missions, although those places will likely go to the more senior astronauts, according to ESA Director General Josef Aschbacher. The agency is also supplying the service module for the Orion crew capsule. ESA relies on NASA and others to get its astronauts to space.

It is only the fourth astronaut class since 1978 for the 22country agency, chosen from among 22,500 applicants. Another 12 were selected as reservists, but were not sent to basic training. Not surprisingly, the five have resumes studded with advanced scientific and medical degrees, military training, experience flying planes, helicopters, gliders and balloons, and "leisure" activities like and salloons. ities like rowing, scuba diving, hiking, skydiving, cycling, sail-



# Pant captaincy under lens as DC eye improved bowling effort against GT

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

ishabh Pant's leadership Rishaon Fant's leadership skills will be under scrutiny as a struggling Delhi Capitals would seek a much-improved performance from their bowlers when they take on an inconsistent Gujarat Titans in the IPL here on Wednesday.

It was not an ideal homecoming for Pant as after two consecutive wins, DC slumped to a 67-run loss against a marauding Sunrisers Hyderabad at home on Saturday. The loss saw DC slip to the eighth position with three wins and five defeats. They very well know they can't afford to falter if they want to

keep their play-off hopes alive. Against SRH, Pant erred in his decisions a few times, starting from the toss as he misjudged the dew factor at the Arun Jaitley Stadium and decided to bowl first.

Pant's decision to hand the second over to Lalit Yadav, was even more contentious as SRH were off to a blazing start, scoring a record 125 for no loss in the powerplay. On the personal front, Pant wasn't

in his element as he struggled for timing en route a painstaking 44 off 35 balls while chasing a mammoth score.

To chase a target of 267, a team needs its openers to fire from ball one but Prithvi Shaw and David Warner haven't been too successful.

Jake Fraser-McGurk Young smashed 65 off just 18 balls to keep DC in the hunt but he lacked support from the other end, even though Abhishek Porel (42 off 22) tried his best.

DC bowlers were taken to the cleaners by SRH and they need to pull up their socks.

pull up their socks.
Left-arm seamer Khaleel Ahmed's, whose career has been dogged by inconsistency, decision to employ short stuff in the opening over completely backfired
With short boundaries at the Kotla, DC bowlers need to pitch it up.
Pace spearhead Anrich Nortje has been completely off-colour this

been completely off-colour this season and DC would be desperately hoping veteran Ishant Sharma returns after missing the last game due to a back spasm.



Kuldeep Yadav has been DC's best bowler in the season so far with 10 wickets from five games at an economy rate of 7.60. But he didn't have a very good outing against

Even though he had the highest number of dot balls (8) among DC bowlers, he also conceded the maximum numbers of sixes -- 7.

GT have also been equally inconsistent under new skipper Shubman Gill. But the three-wicket win over Punjab Kings in their last game has helped the former champions move up slightly in the pecking order at sixth spot from four wins and as many losses.

They would be hoping to continue the winning momentum to scale up the leaderboard and be in contention for a play-off berth.

The onus would be on Gill to lead from the front.

The likes of Sai Sudharsan, David Miller and Azmatullah Omarzai also need to let their willow do the talking while Rahul Tewatia would look to continue his pyrotechnics towards the end stage of their

On the bowling front, the likes of veteran Mohit Sharma, Noor Ahmad and Rashid Khan will be expected to deliver the goods.

expected to deliver the goods.

TEAMS (FROM):

Delhi Capitals: Rishabh Pant
(c&wk), David Warner, Abishek
Porel, Ricky Bhui, Yash Dhull, Shai
Hope, Prithvi Shaw, Tristan Stubbs,
Kumar Kushagra (wk), Swastik
Chikara, Ishant Sharma, Jhye
Richardson, Rasikh Dar, Vicky
Ostwal Aprich Nortie Mukesh Ostwal, Anrich Nortje, Mukesh Kumar, Kuldeep Yadav, Praveen Dubey, Khaleel Ahmed, Sumit Kumar, Axar Patel, Lalit Yadav, Jake Fraser-McGurk.

Gujarat Titans: Shubman Gill (c), David Miller, Wriddhiman Saha, Sai Sudharsan, Shahrukh Khan, Matthew Wade, Kane Williamson, Matthew Wade, Kane Williamson, Azmatullah Omarzai, Abhinav Manohar, Rashid Khan, Vijay Shankar, Rahul Tewatia, Spencer Johnson, Kartik Tyagi, Joshua Little, Darshan Nalkande, Noor Ahmad, Ravisrinivasan Sai Kishore, Mohit Sharma, Jayant Yadav, Umesh Yadav, Sushant Mishra, Sandeep Warrier, Sharath BR. Manay Suthar.

## That door is now closed: Narine rules out T20 World Cup amid purple patch in IPL

PTI ■ KOLKATA

Former West Indies bowling all-rounder Sunil Narine, who is having a terrific IPL season, won't be reversing his closed".

the West Indies in a T20 International in August 2019 before retiring from international cricket in November last year to focus on franchise T20 leagues around the world.

But owing to his sensational form with both bat and ball for Kolkata Knight Riders this IPL season, attempts were being made to convince Narine to reverse his decision for the T20 World Cup.

"I'm truly flattered and humbled that performances recently have moved many people to publicly express their wish for me to come out of retirement and play in the upcoming T20 World Cup," Narine wrote in

Instagram post.
He asserted that he has made peace with his decision and will be supporting the team from home. "I have made peace with that decision and

Letting go of Yuzvendra Chahal is something Royal

Challengers Bengaluru could

regret for the longest time and

the franchise's former director

with until I have finished my

career and probably beyond. He is an outstanding bowler. I

guess when it comes to every

cycle, you have got to decide

who you are going to retain.
"It was one of those things

where if you only retain three

players, you give yourself an

extra 4 crore in the auction.

**PTI** ■ NEW DELHI

wickets.

whilst I never wish to disappoint, that door is now closed and I will be supporting the guys who take the field in June for West Indies.

"Guys who have worked hard retirement decision for the upcoming T20 World Cup in the Caribbean and USA, insisting that the "door is now winning another title. I wish you all the best," he added.

> Narine, who has been a l member of KKR since 2012, is seventh on the list of leading run-scorers in the ongoing IPL season, having scored 286 runs, including an unbeaten century against Rajasthan Royals last week -- his maiden T20 ton.

> With the ball, the off-spinner is KKR's joint-leading wickettaker with nine scalps at an average of 22.11 and an economy rate of 7.10.

> Narine's purple patch has compelled West Indies captain Rovman Powell to encourage the spinner to come out of retirement for the home World

> "For the last 12 months, I've been whispering in his ears, he's blocked out everyone. Asked (Kieron) Pollard, (Dwayne) Bravo, (Nicholas) Pooran, hopefully before they select the team, they can crack his code," Powell had said last

# You need a big heart when bowling death overs: Sandeep

You have to have a big heart when bowling at the death while trying to execute your plans, insisted Rajasthan Royals medium pacer Sandeep Sharma after recording the ongoing IPL season's best bowling performance.

Bowling after a three-week injury layoff, the 30-year-old Sharma wreaked havoc in the Mumbai Indians camp with a splendid 5 for 18 on Monday. "In this year's IPL, batters are going big and with the impact player rule, there is an extra batter so the games are highscoring. You have to have a big heart while bowling at the death and try to execute your death and try to execute your plans and bowl good balls," he

said after RR's nine-wicket win over MI.

Sharma, who started off as a new-ball exponent in the IPL, has been tasked to bowl the death overs by the Royals in the three games that he has played this season.

"Even today you ask me where I feel comfortable, I'll say it's with the new ball. With the old

ball, you have to adapt and evolve as a bowler," he said. Sharma returned to the RR playing XI after recuperating from a side strain that kept him out for close to a month.

"I was working hard towards my fitness for the last three weeks. I had two practice sessions before the game, my main focus was to execute the variations that I did tonight."



Against MI, Sharma's scalps included the dangerous Suryakumar Yadav, Tilak Varma, the big hitting Tim David, Ishan Kishan and

Gerald Coetzee. He took three wickets in the final over, restricting MI to 179 despite a 99-run stand between

"If you're bowling at the death, it can go both ways. Sometimes, you go for runs, and when you're lucky enough you end up getting a wicket. When we started, the wicket was low and slow. My plan was to keep bowling those cutters and it came off nicely tonight." he said.

MI OPTIMISTIC DESPITE LOSS TO RR: Mumbai Indians fell to their fifth loss of the season but young batter Nehal Wadhera remained optimistic about the five-time champions' chances of

qualifying for the playoffs.
"MI need to win all their games from here and we need to tighten our socks. We need to raise our game and figure out where we have been going wrong or where we have been going right so that we can rectify our mistakes whenever we return," Wadhera said after the match.

The 23-year-old, who smashed a splendid 24-ball 49, pointed out that MI aren't new to being involved in a mid-table muddle, having risen from the proverbial ashes time and

again.
"We have been in such a situation in earlier seasons as well, and we have, you know, upped our game from there and qualified.

"So, we are optimistic even right now. We will continue the process we are following and win the games for the team. We win as a team, and we lose as a team," Wadhera added.

## We have got a little bit of improving to do, both with bat and ball: Warner



PTI NEW DELHI

Delhi Capitals opener David Warner has no qualms in admitting that the team is left with no option but to win all their remaining matches to stay in the reckoning for a play-off berth in the ongoing IPL.

Having lost five out of their eight matches, DC will be desperate to turn things around when they take on Gujarat Titans

here on Wednesday. "We're not where we want to be for the team's sake. We'd like to win a few more games. But we've got to win the next remainder to obviously compete in the

"So for us, it's about doing as best as we can. Hopefully, we can play each game like we did against Gujarat," Warner said

during a media interaction.

asoned campaigner from Australia added, "We've got a little bit of improving to do, both with bat and the ball. If we can minimise the totals, it would be great. And then if we bat first, try and put a big total on the board and defend it.'

Warner further highlighted that DC have a dangerous bowling attack that bowled out GT for 89 in their first leg match.

"Cannot fault the way the guys are training and preparing. It's just sometimes in the games that the execution isn't there. And we know when we take wickets up front and early, we're a very dangerous bowling

Asked about two youngsters in the team who have impressed him this season, Warner said, "Jake's (Jake Fraser-McGurk) been very good. We know he's always had the talont Abiah Designation of the season. the talent. Abishek Porel has been

outstanding as well. "Abishek wasn't even going to play in the first game, but we'd lost early wickets and

then came in as an impact player.

"I think he had nine balls or something and he got 30-odd runs. That changed the game and then the other day as well, he played very well. He is going to be a very good player," he concluded.

5/18 against MI and said

picking a five-for in a T20

match is equivalent to scoring

"They say a 4-fer is worth 100 runs in a T20, so a 5-fer for a

bowler is definitely worth 120

120 runs with the bat.



cricketing shots: Lara PTI NEW DELHI

Impressed with the maturity shown by Yashasvi Jaiswal, West Indies cricket legend Brian Lara said the youngster's knock against Mumbai Indians was well put together as he perfectly balanced taking his time with shots while still maintaining a high strike-rate. Jaiswal ended a barren run by his lofty standards with his first ton of this IPL to power Rajasthan Royals to a ninewicket win over MI here.

"Yeah, beautiful. But the fact of the matter is, he's taking his time, looking at the ball right from up at the back, and he's playing cricketing shots. He's got all the stuff, he doesn't have to worry about it," Lara said on Star Sports Cricket Live. Jaiswal struck nine fours and

seven sixes to make an unbeaten 104 from only 60 balls, a knock which was replete with powerful shots on the leg side and crispy drives. "And when you do get on top of the bowlers, that's when you take it back, because that's what I love about Yashasvi.

"It was well put together, great cricketing shots, he's managed throughout the innings, and anvone knows, if you're chasing such a good total, at Jaipur and you bounce through the innings, you're soon as going to get there.

"So he's shown a lot of responsibility, a lot of maturity, and I'm very happy to have him back.'

Medium pacer Sandeep Sharma starred with the ball of RR. He wreaked havoc in the MI camp with the ongoing IPL bowling season's best performance -- 5 for 18.

"Very, very big impact, and also mentioned the fact that he went unsold a couple of years ago, and came in as a replacement player, and this man is cherishing every moment he has out in the middle."

Sharma had gone unsold at the auction two years ago. RR signed him as a replacement for Prasidh Krishna and the 30-year-old is repaying the faith. "Every cricketer in India wants to play in the IPL, and they want to play continuously, and that disappointment of not being selected in an IPL auction, he's now repaying Rajasthan Royals for their belief in him, he is a true professional.

"I've watched him over the vears, he's not express-paced, he's not, you know, one of the boys that, you know, everyone talks about, but he gets the job done every time he goes out in the middle, and he's just that consummate professional that every team likes to have in their ranks," Lara said.

## Once we got Hasaranga that meant we could not go for Yuzi: Mike Hesson

of cricket, Mike Hesson on chance to get both Harshal and Yuzi," Hesson told former Tuesday insisted they failed to retain the leg-spinner due to a India batter Robin Uthappa on miscalculation at the last IPL Jio Cinema. Hesson said On Monday, Chahal scripted Chahal's name came pretty late history by becoming the first player in IPL to have taken 200 in the auction and by that time, the franchise had already bought ace Sri Lankan spinner "Yuzi is one I will be frustrated Wanindu Hasaranga.

... Then the order of the auction came up and Yuzvendra Chahal was at no. 65. Because we had retained that many players we were going to get bullied. After Yuzi there was no other spinner we were interested in.

"We were obviously interested in Hasaranga as another option That potentially gave us the if we did not get Yuzi. So we



bid for him upfront and then once we got Hasaranga that meant we could not go for Yuzi," he added.

In 153 matches, Chahal has taken 200 wickets at an average of 21.60, with the best figures of 5/40. He has taken six fourwicket hauls and a five-wicket haul in his IPL career.

Chahal reached the milestone during the match against Mumbai Indians in Jaipur on Monday. Hesson served as the franchise's director of cricket from 2019-2023. Meanwhile, former Australia

pacer Brett Lee praised RR seamer Sandeep Sharma for returning excellent figures of

for a batter, it's quality bowling... To pick up 5/18 in his comeback game, just makes

you feel like you are part of the team again. "It will do a lot for his confidence. You can see in the list of TATA IPL 2024's best figures and he's sitting pretty

Lee on lavished praise on Chahal for picking his 200th IPL wicket.

"What a very special moment. You think about all the hard work,. A great way to bring in your 200th dismissal in the TATA IPL, a catch off your own bowling, very special, well done. I have a feeling, gentleman, there's many more to come," Lee said.

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# STOINIS STEERS LSG TO A 6-WKT WIN OVER CSK

Marcus Stoinis made a bustling unbeaten hundred, a perfect anti-thesis to Ruturaj Gaikwad's classy century to shepherd Lucknow Super Giants to a stunning sixwicket win over Chennai Super Kings in their IPL match here on Tuesday.

Stoinis (124, 63b, 13x4, 6x6) helped the Super Giants to mount the highest chase – 211 – at the Chepauk in IPL, ending up at 213 for four. Gaikwad (108, 60b, 12x4, 3x6)

and Shivam Dube (66, 27b, 3x4, 7x6) added 104 runs for the fourth-wicket stand to power the Super Kings to a competitive 210 for four.

win over Chennai as they had won the match at Ékana Stadium a few days back. Stoinis' innings was in direct contrast to the silken smooth knock of Gaikwad.

The Australian's 6'1 inch frame to the task and smoked is a storehouse of power and he made no effort to hide it too, crunching some fours and sixes, and nothing was more special than his maximum off pacer Mustafizur Rahman, who had earlier consumed LSG skipper KL Rahul cheaply.

Rahman pitched an off-cutter slightly fuller on the off-stump from over the wicket, but Stoinis produced a physicsdefying straight crunch over the bowlers' head for a six. At the other end, Pooran was

on overdrive from ball one, partly because of the linear 55run stand between Stoinis and a struggling Devdutt Padikkal (13, 19b), whose misery was Thus, LSG also scored a rare ended when Pathirana back-to-back home and away produced a 151 kmph scorcher to uproot the batter's leg stump.

It mandated that Pooran, who added 70 with Stoinis, did not have the luxury of taking his time to settle in, but he was up

Shardul Thakur for 20 runs in the 16th over including two sixes and a four.

Pooran's dismissal by pacer Matheesha Pathirana left the task of taking LSG home to Stoinis, who reduced the equation robbing 15 runs off the 19th over bowled by the Lankan.

Stoinis needed to take 17 runs off the last over bowled by Rahman and did the job with three balls to spare, smashing the Bangladesh left-arm quick for 6, 4, 4 (+1NB) and 4.

Earlier, Gaikwad and Dube gave steam to Super Kings innings after a rather subdued Power Play (49/2) and the

middle passage.
The CSK should primarily thank Gaikwad, who played an innings which was a connoisseur's delight, for that total after the early departure of Ajinkya Rahane, who was caught superbly by stumper KL Rahul off Matt Henry.



The batting in this iteration of the IPL has been all about scorching the ball far and wide but Gaikwad took a classic route, timing the ball through the gaps for fours.

In fact, his first fifty contained no fours but still he managed to maintain a strike-rate of above 180 during that phase. The fifty came off just 28 balls. The most spectacular shot that Gaikwad played on the night was a slice-cut off pacer Mohsin Khan that beat the point fielder for a boundary. However, his focus was also on constructing useful alliances with his teammates as 45 runs were made with Daryl Mitchell and 52 were made alongside Ravindra Jadeja (17).

However, both Mitchell (11), who was dropped on four, and Jadeja would rue missing out on a chance to chip in with a far bigger knock.

While Gaikwad was the main contributor those in

A. 04.10.2016

A. Rs.53.76

A. Rs. 90.00

27.05.2024

partnerships, the pressure was slightly lifted off his shoulders once Dube arrived at the crease.

The left-hander played some powerful hits around the field and, not so surprisingly, fetched CSK's first six of the innings in the 13th over off

Gaikwad soon slammed the first six of his innings in the 45th ball he faced –pulling Stoinis' half-tracker over midwicket.

Stoinis.

However, Dube seamlessly slipped into his six-hitting avatar and pacer Yash Thakur bore the brunt as the lefthander smashed him for three successive sixes.

Gaikwad, who reached 99 with a six off Thakur over extra cover, reached his second IPL hundred with a four in the next ball off the same bowler as he made 16 runs in the 18th over. Gaikwad and Dube brought up 100 of their partnership in just 46 balls.

27.05.2024

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E-ACUTION 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 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 constructive/ physical/symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of the Bank/Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on the date as mentioned in the table herein below, for recovery of its dues due to the Bank/Secured Creditor from the respective borrower(s) and guarantor(s). The reserve price and the earnest money deposit will be as mentioned in the table below against the respective properties

SCHEDULE OF THE SECURED ASSETS

Lot No.	Name of the Branch	Description of the Immovable Properties Mortgaged /Owner's Name (Mortgagers of property(ies))	A. Dt. of Demand Notice u/s 13(2) of SARFAESI ACT 2002	A. Reserve Price (Rs in Lacs)	Date/ Time of E-Auction	702004000	
	Name & Addresses of the Borrower/ Guarantors Account		B.Outstanding Amount as on 31.03.2024	B. EMD (Last date of deposit of EMD)			
			C.Possession Date u/s 13(4) of SARFAESI ACT 2002				
			D.Nature of Possession Symbolic/Physical/ Constructive	C. Bid Increase Amount			
	Emd Su	hmission: Account No. 61	93002500000024 (JES Co.	de-PLINBOR1930	101		

Circle Sastra, Lucknow: Rajesh Yadav Chief Manager, Circle Sastra (Lucknow), Mobile 7044760025

H.No. -555/H/268 Ram Wood World Enterprises A. Rs. 32.00 Prop. Mr Dev Raj Shukla S/o Lt Lal Nagar Lucknow 226005. Sri Awadh Narayan Shukla 555/H/268 Ram Nagar Boundaries: East: House of Durga Prasad Shukla of Durga Prasad Shukla A. 02.04.2018 Nagar Alambagh Ward Ramji 13.05.2024 Not Know Lacs From Encum 11.00 AM B. Rs. 3.20 B. Rs. 34,20,980.57 Lacs 04.00 A/c 1570210000453 10.05.2024 A/c 1570210000453
West: House of Dhani Ram
Mr Jitendra Kumar Tripathi S/o
thereafter Gali, North: Road, + interest + charges Shesh Mani Tripathi, South: House of Banke Lal. C. Rs.0.10 548/GHA/171, Tezi Khera Owner of property: Mrs Alambagh Lucknow 226005. Mr Vidyawati Devi W/o Lt Awadh C. 04.08.2018 Shailendra Lakhotra 1/791, Sector D-1 Kanpur Road LDA D. Symbolic possession Colony Lucknow 226012. Mrs Vidyawati Devi W/o LtAwadh Narayan Shukla, 555/H/268 Ram Nagar Alambagh Lucknow 226005.

Alambagh (Lucknow) 157020 Flat situated at First Floor LM A. 13.04.2017 A. Rs. 10.48 13.05.2024 125 Mohalla/Gram Motilhee M.A. Trading Company, From Yojana Ward Malviya Nagar, Prop. Masaroor Ahmad, B. Rs. 45,84,905.00 11.00 AM Aishbagh Lucknow in the A/c 1570250000143 + interest + charges B. Rs. 1.05 M.A. Trading Company, Prop. name of Mrs Rafigan Bano Lacs C. 25.10.2017 04.00 Masaroor Ahmad S/o W/o Makabool Ahmad having 10.05.2024 Makabool Ahmad, Address Area: 42.93 sqmt. D. Physical possession Opp Unani Medicine Tikat Rai Boundaries:-North-Building Demand as per 13(2) Rs. 19,82,372.00 C. Rs.0.10 Talab Mohan Road Lucknow No. LM 128, South- Road, Lac + interest + charges 226004 & LM 125 Motijheel East-Road, West-Road.

Colony Aishbagh Lucknow 226004. Guarantors:- Mrs. Rafiqan Bano W/o Makabool Ahmad, Address: LM 121 Motijheel Colony Aishbagh Lucknow-226004. Mr Rehan Ali S/o Wasi Abbas H No. 31 Sagar, Square Motijheel Lucknow 226004.

A. 28.08.2020

Plot no. 7,8,13,14 & 15 (07525015007176) Prem Shankar Jaiswal 07524011000017 Shankar Jaiswal Address. C sq. mtrs. As per Deed Rae Bareilly 229001

Industrial Area Site-1 Malika mau Aiyma, Sultanpur Road Pargana, Tehsil and Distt. Smt Uma Devi W/o Sh. Prem Raebareli 229001 Area : 5594 120 Indranagar, RaeBareilly Boundaries as per title 229001 Legal hair of Late deed: East- Set no. 1 to 6 Sh. Prem Shankar Jalswal West-Khet Khula North-Drain S/o Sri Moti Lal Jaiswal thereafter Sultapur road Address, C 120 Indranagar, South-Road No. 1 Owner Prem Shankar Industries (Prop. Smt Uma Devi)

Equitable mortgage on all Aliganj(e-UNI) M/s Sandeep Medical Store part and parcel of House Proprietor: Mr. Sandeep Num-615/406, Minjumla Plot Kumar Dixit Shop Num-1, Num-190, Naubasta Khurd, Saini Market, Aziz Nagar, Gayatri Nagar, Ward-Mohibullapur, Sitapur Road, Faizullaganj, Lucknow of Lucknow-226021 Mr. Sandeep 66.90 Sq Mtr in the name of Kumar Dixit S/O Param Hans Mr. Sandeep Kumar Dixit Dixit H.Num-615/406, R/o H. Num-615/406, Naubasta Khurd, Gayatri Naubasta Road, Gayatr puram, Lucknow-226020

B. Rs. 65,51,908.70 11.00 AM Encum B. Rs. 16.09 brances Lacs C. 17.02.2021 04.00 24.05.2024 PM D. Symbolic possession Demand as per 13(2) C. Rs.0.10 Rs. 65,51,908.70 Lac + interest + charges A. Rs. 16.20 A. 08.05.2018 13.05.2024 Lacs Not Known B. Rs. 30,54,351.50 11.00 AM Encum B. Rs. 1.62 + interest + charges Lacs 04.00 C. 24.08.2018 10.05.2024 D. Symbolic possession PM Demand as per 13(2) Rs. 16,62,800.47 C. Rs.0.10

A. Rs. 163.20

Lacs

27.05.2024

From

puram, Lucknow, 226020 (Deed Num: 1244/02 dated 11.02.2002) Boundaries: North-10 ft wide road South-Plot of Rani Asthana East-Plot of Anil Soni West Plot of Shakuntla Devi

+ interest + charges

185800-BARABANKI, Municipal Market Kisan Khad Bhandar (A/c Deva Road Barabanki in No. 07504011000293) 1) Kisan Khad Bhandar Lal S/o Late Sri Mool Chand Prop. Sri Dharam Pal S/o Sri having Area: 1276.58 sqmt. – Gursharan Lal Address. Kursi Road South- Khet Itaunja Road Kursi Barabanki (2) Sri Dharam Pal S/o Sri

Property situated at Khasra No. 2742 at Kursi the name of Sri Gursaran

A. 22.01.2013 A. Rs. 87.30 13.05.2024 Lacs From B. Rs. 1,56,33,734.00 11.00 AM Encum B. Rs. 8.73 brances Lacs 04.00 C. 08.05.2013 10.02.2024 D. Symbolic possession Demand as per 13(2) Rs. 36,95,658.00 C. Rs.0.50 Lac + interest + charges

Gursharan Lal Address, Vill & Post Kursi Mulla Tola Behind Thana Kursi Barabanki Guarantors: Sri Gursharan Lal S/O Mool Chand Address. Kursi Dewa Road Kursi Barabanki

Krishna Swaroop Mittal. Boundaries: North- House Shahid Khan South- 20 Feet wide Road East- House Faisal Abdul

Lucknow, Nishatganj All part and parcel of one Neeraj Swaroop Mittal And house build on part of plot All part and parcel of one Amit Mittal Both R/O (1) number- 4 and 5 part of H.No.433/1118/001, C-Block, Khasra no.-679, 681, 682, Ram Nagar, Campbell Road, 681/2, 766, 767, 768, 774, Balaganj, Lucknow, 226003 (2) 775, 776 situated at Mohall Plot No 4&5, Ram Nagar, Gadhi Ram Nagar, Ward Gadhi Peer Khan, Lucknow, 226003 Peer Khan, District

Lucknow having area 58.550 sqm in the name of Shree

Neeraj Swaroop Mittal and Amit Mittal both s/o Late

Kayoom West-House Doctor Javed Khan

A. 18.10.2021 A. Rs.24.33 13.05.2024 Lacs From Not Known B. Rs. 24,95,586,93 11.00 AM + interest + charges B. Rs. 2.44 brances Lacs 04.00 C. 04.01.2022 10.05.2024 PM D. Symbolic possession Demand as per 13(2) Rs. 21,43,601.93 C. Rs.0.10 Lac

	193/67, Gaus Ganj, Wazeer ganj, Lucknow -226018 Smt. Lucknow having area of Mariya W/o Mohd. Arif 193/67 1560 sq ft (144.98 sq. mtrs.)		Lacs	11.00 AM	Not Known			
		D. NS. 10,34,361.78	B. Rs. 5.38 Lacs 24.05.2024		Encum brances			
	Gaus Gani, Wazeergani, in the name of Shree Mohd	C. 05.12.2016						
	Lucknow -226018 Date of NPA Arif s/o Shree Gulam Al	D. Symbolic possession						
	30.09:2016  Boundaries: As per sale deed-North-House of Munnu Kalwar South- House of Mr SukhLal Prasad East-House of Sh, Ganga Prasad Teli West-5 ft Road then House of Jagnnath	Rs. 10,00,456.30	C. Rs.0.50 Lac					
8.	Lucknow, Aminabad All part and parcel of House if Enterprises Proprietor: No 67 Gausganj Ward	7. 04.10.2010	A. Rs.40.24 Lacs	27.05.2024 From 11.00 AM to 04.00 PM	Not Known Encum brances			
	Mohd Arif (1) 53 Rakabgan Wajirgan Lucknow having Lucknow (2) 93/67 Gaus gan Area of 97.58 sqm.in the Wajeergani Lucknow.	t interest t charges	B. Rs. 4.02 Lacs 24.05.2024					
	Guarantor: Mariya w/o Arif aries: North- House of Mr	C. 05.12.2016						
	H.No. 193/67 Gausganj Ward Rafi South- 8 ft wide road 8	D. Symbolic possession						
	Wajirganj Lucknow House of Ibrahim & Ismail East-House of Mr Ibrahim West-House of Mr Ismaile	Lemano as per (3(2)	C. Rs.0.50 Lac					
9.	(448300) situated at Rajendra Nagar	74.00.05.2022	A. Rs.19.02 Lacs	27.05.2024 From 11.00 AM to 04.00 PM	Not Known Encum brances			
	Elmech Power and Air Naushahra, District Gonda conditioning Engineers PVT, having area 2473.00 Sq. Ft LTD Head Office- 203- Ganj standing in the name of Later	B. Ks. 4,/9,//,169.94	B. Rs. 1.91 Lacs 24.05.2024					
	Plaza, 42- Hazratgani, Smt. Dolly Srivastava w/o	C. 26.08.2022						
	Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh-Shree Navin Chandra	D. Symbolic possession						
	226001 Directors/ Guarantors Kishore Srivastava Bour Mortgagors:- (1) Navin daries: North-Gall South House of Mumtaz Maste	Rs. 5,98,89,265.94 + interest + charges	C. Rs.0.10 Lac					
	Priyank Srivastava (Both also as legal heirs of Late East-Part of House of Navin Chandra Kishore Srivastava West-Gali							
	Smt. Dolly Srivastava) Both R/O- 2/310, Vishwas Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow-226010 Stuti Srivastava (As legal heir of La							

property constructed on one (448300) Lacs Elmech Power and Airplot situated at part of conditioning Engineers PVT, Khasra No. 163 & 164, Adil LTD Head Office- 203- Ganj Nagar, Ward Shakarpurwa. From B. Rs. 4,79,77,169.94 11.00 AM Encum + interest + charges B. Rs. 9.00 Lacs Plaza, 42- Hazratganj, pargana, tehsil and district C. 25.08.2022 04.00 24.05.2024 Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh-Lucknow, having area of 226001 Directors/ Guarantors 205.39 Sq. Mt. standing in Demand as per 13(2) C. Rs.0.10 Mortgagors:- (1) Navin the name of Late Smt. Dolly Rs. 5,98,89,265.94

A. 06.05.2022

Smt. Dolly Srivastava) R/O-2/310, Vishwas Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow-226010

Lucknow RBB Gomti Nagar All that part & parcel of

Chandra Kishore Srivastava Srivastava w/o Shree as on 30.04.2022 2. Priyank Srivastava (Both Naveen Chandra Kishore + interest + charges also as legal heirs of Late
Smt. Dolly Srivastava) Both
R/O- 2/310, Vishwas Khand.
Gomti Nagar, Lucknow-226010

(Except two shops no 31 &32 having area 6.81 Sq. Mt. & 6.08 Sq. Mt. respectively) also known as

"Epoon Plaza" Boundaries: North-Property of Smt. Shashi Prabha South- 14.00 feet wide road

Romti Nagar, Lucknow-226010 Stuti Srivastava (As legal heir of Late Smt. Dolly Srivastava) R/O-2/310, Vishwas Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow-226010

H.No. - 344/77A Bhawani ganj Jahajwala Mandir Gandhi Chabutra Lucknow A. Rs.31.55 A. 11.11.2021 13.05.2024 **Events And Catering** Not Know (0266210037217) B. Rs. 23,52,008.50 Prop. Abdul Hameed 344/77A 226003 Area: of 63.19 11.00 AM + interest + charges B. Rs. 3.16 Bhawanigani Jahajwala Mandir sq.mt, Boundaries- East: Lacs Gandhi Chabutra Lucknow Road West: Plot of Smt. 226003 Sarju Devi North: 1/2 C. 16.02.2022 04.00 10.05.2024 D. Symbolic possession PM Abdul Hameed S/O Abdul Remaining part of house C. Rs.0.10 Haleem 293/456 Purana favour of Mrs Munni South: Haidergani Chowk Lucknow of property: Mr. Abdul Hameed S/O Abdul Haleem Lucknow, M G Marg All that part and parcel of A. 02.01.2020 A. Rs.140.43 12. Shubham Enterprises Bob multistoried building situated 27.05.2024 Lacs Enterprises Subhash on plot no 4 which is part of B. Rs. 13,03,64,622.34 Encum 11.00 AM Chaddha 35 Chaddha Market, khasra no. 607, village + interest + charges B. Rs. 14.10 brances Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, 226006 Balakganj, ward Balakganj, Lacs Proprietor: Subhash Chaddha | Tehsil & District Lucknow 04.00 24.05.2024 Guarantors: Arun Kumar standing in the name of Sh PM D. Symbolic possession Chaddha & Chaman Lat Arun Kumar Chaddha & C. Rs.0.50 Chaddha Both R/O-33 Marwadii ShSubhash Chaddha, both Demand as per 13(2) Gali, Aminabad, Lucknow, Uttar son of Chaman Lal Chaddha Lac Rs. 1,87,35,998.88 + interest + charges measuring area 1200 square feet (Commercial building at Campbell Road, Balakganj Chauraha, Lucknow) Boundaries :North-General Store of Pate South-Plot of Mr Gupta East-Other's property West-Campbell Road

099720-RAJAJIPURAM All part and parcel of House A. Rs.29.48 PAWAN TRADERS Prop. No. E 2506 Rajajipuram, A. 10.01.2024 27.05.2024 Lacs Not Know Pawan Kumar Srivastava Lucknow-226017 in the A/c 0997250000148 & name of Mrs Bandana B. Rs. 8,67,310.83 11.00 AM + interest + charges B. Rs. 2.95 brances 0997300016311 (1) M/S Pawan Srivastava W/o Mr Pawan Lacs Traders (prop.- Sh Pawan Kumar Srivastava having C. 18.03.2010 04.00 24.05.2024 Kumar Srivastava) E- Area: 49.30 sqmt. D. Physical possession 2506, Near Rupam Chauraha, Boundaries: North-Road Rajajipuram, Lucknow 226017 | South- E 2540 East-E 2508 C. Rs.0.10 Demand as per 13(2) Rs. 9,21,711.83 (2) Sh Pawan Kumar Srivastava E- 2506, Near Rupam Chauraha, Rajajipuram, Lucknow 226017 (3) Smt Bandana Srivastava W/O Sh Pawan Kumar Srivastava E- 2506, Nea Rupam Chauraha, Rajajipuram, Lucknow -226017

Indira Market (0539), Barabanki Property Residential Plot A. Rs. 28.73 A. 26.07.2021 M/S Bharat Traders, Prop Mohd Khasra No.393 ka min 13.05.2024 Lacs Not Know Dilshad, Niblet chauraha near situated at Village Palta, From B. Rs. 20,68,275,56 Jama Masjid, Barabanki, Smt Sheeba Khatoon, R/o- Khasra no.393 Ka min Pargana: Dewa Tehsil Nawabgani Barabanki. B. Rs. 2.87 11.00 AM + interest + charges brances to C. 12.10.2021 04.00 10.05.2024 D. Symbolic possession C. Rs.0.10 Area: of 260 sqm. Boundries:- East- Road barabanki dewa, as per 13(2) notice West-Bhumi Gram Samaj, North-Plot vikreta, South-Bhumi 26.07.2021 amt. O/s-Lac Rs. 16,17,702.36

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS** 

The sale shall be subject to the Terms & Conditions prescribed in the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 and to the following further conditions:- (1)-The properties are being sold on "AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS" BASIS, (2)- The particulars of Secured Assets specified in the Schedule here in above have been stated to the best of the information of the Authorised Officer, but the Authorised Officer shall not be answerable for any error, misstatement or omission in this proclamation. (3)-The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the Website: https://www.mstcecommerce.com/acutionhome (ibapip/index.jsp) on above mentioned date 4- For detailed term and conditions of the sale, please refer www.ibapi.in /www.mstcecommerce.com

STATUTORY SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 8 (6) and 9 (1) Of THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002

Encum

brances