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# Parties sit up, take note as voting drops

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

RAJESH KUMAR NEW DELHI

The low voting percentage in the first two phases, particularly in the Hindi heartlands, that saw completion of 191 Lok Sabha constituencies has come as a great cause of worry and concern for political parties and more to the ruling BJP at the Centre and in States of Úttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Raiasthan and Bihar where it is in alliance as NDA.

Interestingly, both the ruling BJP as well as the Opposition, or the INDIA Bloc have claimed that a turnout shall advantageous to them. The dropping trends of voter turnout have also raised concern over this trend continuing in the remaining phases.

According to EC's voter turnout App, Uttar Pradesh recorded 55.01 per cent voter turnout; Bihar 58.89 per cent; Madhya Pradesh 58.59 per cent and Rajasthan 65.03 per cent.

Assam saw a reduction in voter turnout ranging from eight per cent to 13.9 per cent across constituencies. Bihar's

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



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

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

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

Some analysts say that there is no single issue strong enough to pull has failed to put up strongest

voters out this time and the BJP's core voters may not be stepping out due to complacency or overconfidence on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's popularity and 'Aayega toh Modi hi" after consecration of Ram Temple in Ayodhya , resulting in lower turnouts.

Some analysts say people are not coming out to vote as they assume that Modi is coming to power for the third time. They also argue that Muslim community has come in less number because the INDIA Bloc

front against Modi.

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

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



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

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The insights provided by the senior Indian Forest Service (IFS) official in New Delhi shed light on the predominant role of human activities in triggering forest fires. According to the official, natural causes for forest fires are relatively rare, with most incidents being man-made.

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## **UP: Lack of enthusiasm or** disconnect, wonder parties

BISWAJEET BANERJEE LUCKNOW

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

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

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

Despite vigorous campaign efforts, such as the BJP's slogan "Iss baar 400 paar" (This time, beyond SP's 400) and assertions of sweeping victories by the "INDIA Bloc,"

both parties find themselves confronted with a stark reality - a palpable absence of enthusiasm among the electorate. Even with the

Commission Election distributing 1.66 crore voter slips to households five days before the elections, there seems to be a disconnect. The number of eligible voters in the second phase of LS polls stands at 1.67 crore.

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

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

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

SP chief Akhilesh Yadav held a meeting today morning showed concern over missing long lines in Muslim dominated areas. Even polling percentage witnessed a decline of around five per cent in Rampur. Statistical evidence further accentuates the gravity of the situation, with UP

witnessing a decline in voter turnout compared to previous elections. In the first phase, UP registered a turnout of 61 per cent down from 66 per cent in 2019. The second phase, with a

polling percentage of just 54.85 per cent, marks a significant decrease compared to 62.76 per cent in 2019.
Notably, Mathura reported a mere 49 per cent polling, a substantial 12 per cent decrease from the previous election's 61.08 per cent. Jal Shakti Minister Swatantra Dev Singh attributed the low turnout to people's satisfaction with the present regime, citing a similar turnout of 50 per cent in 2009 when the Congress

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

## **Maharashtra: Youth migration,** farmer woes cause voting to fall

TN RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI

n a development that has surprised many in the State political circles, eight onstituen ies in and Marathwada that went to and Marathwada that went to the second phase of Lok Sabha polls on Friday recorded 59.63 per cent polling, which reflected a significant 3.3 per cent drop

significant 3.3 per cent drop in the polling percentage witnessed for the same eight seats in 2019 LS. polls.

Apart from a marked 3.33 per cent drop in the polling percentage from the voter turnout of 62. 97 per cent registered in the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, the polling percentage recorded in Maharashtra on Friday was four percent less than the four percent less than the polling percentage of 64 per cent recorded at the national level. In the second phase of Lok Sabha elections, Buldhana, Akola, Amravati, Wardha, Yavatmal-Washim -all from Vidarbha, Hingoli, Nanded, and Parbhani - in



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

constituencies showed that a relatively low 59.63 per cent of voters exercised their rights in the second phase of polling. Wardha recorded a num 62.65 polling. maximum 62.65 poining, followed by 60.79 per cent in Hingoli, 60.74 per cent in Amravati and 60.09 per cent in Parbhani. The four other in Parbhani. The four other constituencies recorded below 60 per cent polling-Nanded (59.57 per cent), Buldhana (58.45), Akola (58.09) and Yavatmal-Washim (57 per cent). Unlike in the 2014 and 2019 where there was a Modi wave at the ground level, there was

at the ground level, there was no absolutely no wave in favour or against any political party in any of the eight

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

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## **Voters show indifference to** high octane campaign in Kerala

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN

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

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



would not win even a single seat in the hustings.

An important point to be noted is the pattern of voting in the State. "There are 2.77 crore voters in the State out of which 1.97 crore exercised their



that the Hindutva party

franchise. This includes 1.02 crore women voters and 9.5 million men which gave the women a slight edge over the women voters cast their votes would be discussed in detail after the results are announced. Interestingly, 24X7 news channels and world of you tubes there were

their men counterparts. How

many voters who were ignorant of the names of the NDA candidates. P Venugopal, former IAF engineer, who settled in Perumbavoor recently, told The Pioneer that he was not aware of the presence of the NDA candidate and the symbol. "I searched for the

Lotus symbol which was not

there in the EVM. The polling agents of the NDA had not contacted us even once while the LDF and UDF agents visited our house at least two dozen times and even held family meetings in the area to brief the electorate why they should vote for the fronts led by

them," said Venugopal.

Continued on Page 6

## ED arrest ploy to crush AAP, Kejriwal tells SC

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

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



Party and its leaders. Kejriwal said the mode, manner and timing of his arrest just before the Lok Sabha elections when the Model Code of Conduct had come into play, speaks volumes about the "arbitrariness"

of the agency.In a rejoinder to the Enforcement Directorate's reply affidavit filed on his petition challenging his arrest in the case, Kejriwal has alleged that ED "illegally picked up" a sitting Chief Minister five days after the general elections were notified and the Model Code of Conduct was put in place. "During an election cycle when political activity is at its highest, the petitioner's illegal arrest, has caused grave prejudice to the arrest has caused grave prejudice to the petitioner's political party, and will provide the ruling party at the Centre an unjust upper hand in the on-going polls," Kejriwal has said. Continued on Page 6

# **Lawyer Nikam replaces Mahajan on Mumbai seat**



RAJESH KUMAR NEW DELHI

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

Mumbai attack. He was also the

special public prosecutor in the 2013 Mumbai gang rape case. Ujjwal

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

Nikam has represented the state in several important and high profile cases including the 1993 Mumbai blasts case, terror attack in Mumbai in

2008. He argued successfully for the state government and got death penalty or life imprisonment for the terrorists. The BJP has decided to bring him into the fray on a tough constituency in Mumbai.

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

Continued on Page 6

## **JASHN-E-MATDAN**



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

# Theft bid at bank inside | BKT sub-registrar **Command Hospital**

PNS LUCKNOW

In a brazen incident, an unidentified man broke into a bank located inside the Command Hospital in Cantonment police station area on the intervening night of April 24 and 25, and unsuccessfully attempted to break into the cash vault.

According to Bank of Baroda branch manager Divya Singh, employees Brijesh and Ashiwini Kumar discovered the aftermath of the break-in with articles strewn across the floor and computer and

CCTV wires snapped.
"Brijesh promptly informed me about the incident, and I immediately reached the scene," she stated in her complaint. The branch manager quickly notified the bank's senior officials, and a team of regional-level officials reached there to examine the CCTV

footage. The footage revealed that the unidentified person forcibly entered the bank around 2:30 am on April 25 by breaking through a wall. After attempting to breach the cash vault

singer alleged that an acquaintance spiked her drinks and

raped her under the false pre-tense of providing financial assistance during a difficult period in her career. The inci-

dent was reported in Para

In her complaint, the woman

explained that she had opened

a studio to boost her singing career by mortgaging her gold

ornaments. However, she faced

a shortage of funds for interi-

or decoration. She was intro-

police station area.

unsuccessfully, he damaged the computer, snapped CCTV wires, and scattered office articles before exiting the premises in frustration. The damage caused by the accused amounted to over Rs 1 lakh. The police have registered a case and started investigations.

Meanwhile, a motorcycle was stolen from outside a residence in Vastu Khand under Vibhuti Khand police station some time on the intervening night of April 24 and 25. Shivam Sharma stated in his complaint that he had parked his motorcycle on a raised platform outside his house and had gone to the market on another bike to purchase vegetables. When he returned, he found the motorcycle stolen.

In another case, thieves stole electric wire worth Rs 10 lakh, and Rs 25,000 in cash from a shop in Shivani Palace, Indira Nagar, under Ghazipur police station some time on the intervening night of Friday and Saturday. Neeraj Kumar Agarwal stated in his complaint that the thieves lifted the shutter to gain access to his shop and made off with the booty.

Neeraj operates an agency dealing in electric wires and related items.

#### **HUT SET ON FIRE**

A group of inebriated men set fire to a woman's hut after she reprimanded them for consuming cannabis and liquor near her dwelling in Jankipuram (Sector 8) around 5 pm on Saturday. The victim, Sandhya Devi, filed a complaint against the accused at the Jankipuram police station. Sandhya Devi, a native of Lakhimpur Kheri, resides here with her husband Neeraj and two children. Sandhya, who works as a maid, confronted the group of men and asked them to leave. The confrontation led to threats of violence and arson directed at Sandhya. Later that evening, while Sandhya was working at her employers' homes, she was informed by neighbours that her hut had been set ablaze. Sandhya alleged that one of the accused with whom she clashed was responsible for the

document writers is ongoing," Yadav added. The police have registered a case under relevant sections of the IPC and started a probe. Sources revealed that the land registry department in Lucknow is facing numerous instances of fraud and irregularities. "There is an organised group of agents, brokers, document writers, and property dealers operating at these centres. Recently, a significant fraud resulting in the loss of several crores of revenue to the UP government was uncovered at the Sarojininagar registry office," the sources point-

The sub-registrar of Bakshi-Ka-Talab on Saturday filed

a complaint against a land

seller, buyer, eyewitnesses, and

document writers for fraudu-

lently registering a sale deed of

Santosh Kumar Yadav stated that his office received an

online complaint regarding

the registration of a 1,500 square feet land by someone

posing as Kusum Pandey from Balai district.

a fake Aadhaar card," he stat-

ed. The fraud came to light

after the office received an

online complaint and the doc-

uments were cross-examined.

"The seller misrepresented her

identity, while verification of

the buyer, eyewitnesses, and

a land in the area.

It was alleged that fraudsters undervalued land in records to help buyers save on taxes owed to the government. Some retired employees of the registry department continue to

ed out.

deed registration work at these offices due to their connections with clerks, officials, and local property dealers, they added.

They assist buyers in reducing registry costs, thereby impacting state government revenue," the sources elaborat-

In another case, a woman accused her husband and mother-in-law of defrauding her of shares worth several

lakh in Aliganj. Ritesh Agarwal aka Ritu Agarwal of Chaudhary Tola "A person appeared at the sell-er's location impersonating Kusum Pandey and submitted in Aliganj filed a complaint at the DCP (North) office, alleging that her husband Arpan Agarwal removed her name from a joint bank account with her mother-in-law Kusum Agarwal.

"I had a joint account with my mother-in-law at SBI in Aliganj, and Arpan forged my signature on a consent letter to the bank, removing my name, mobile number, and email ID from the account. He then transferred the account to SBI in Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh) and redirected the cash and shares from the attached demat

account," she alleged. The fraud reportedly took place in 2021, and Ritesh discovered it while attempting to sell shares for financial needs. She alleged having received life threats from Arpan, warning against publicising the fraud or

reporting it to police.
"Arpan is adept at forging signatures and tampering with documents. I discovered the forgery after filing an RTI plea," Ritesh added. The police have registered a case under various sections of the IPC related to forgery and docu-ment tampering based on her



Children braving intense heat on their way back home in Lucknow on Saturday

# Teenager among 2 killed in mishap

**Lucknow:** A teenager and a 23-year-old man were killed after their motorcycle was hit from behind by a truck in the Baghrai area of Pratapgarh, police said on Saturday. The two motorcyclists were seritwo motorcyclists were seriously injured in the accident late on Friday. They were immediately taken to a local hospital where the doctors declared them dead, Additional Superintendent of Police (West) Sanjay Rai said. Adarsh alias Prince (17) and Shivam (23), both residents of Baghrai, were returning from Lai village when the accident occurred, Rai added. The bodies have been sent for post-

mortem, the police said and added the truck driver abandoned his vehicle and fled the spot.

Meanwhile in Shahiahanpur, police have arrested a school van driver on Saturday for allegedly molesting a girl stu-dent, officials said. Superintendent of Police (SP) Ashok Kumar Meena told PTI that the victim, studying in class 1, had complained to her school teacher about the incident. However, she allegedly told her not to inform her parents about it.

When the victim reached home, she informed her family who approached the police,

SP Meena said. According to the complaint registered by the victim's family, the driver, Kamran made the girl sit on the front seat of the van and touched her inappropriately, he said. Based on the complaint, an FIR has been registered against the van driver under sections 354 (assault or use of criminal force to woman with intent to outrage her modesty), 506 (criminal intimidation) of the Indian Penal Code and sections of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offenses (POCSO) Act, he said. Further investigation is underway, he



### **NOTICE**

I have changed my name from AFSHA To AFSHA KHAN for all future purposes, AFSHA KHAN W/O SIRAJUL KHAN R/O 96/16 Kasthana Road, Colonel Ganj Kanpur Nagar

### **NOTICE**

I have changed my name from FARDEEN AHMAD To SYED FARDEEN AHMAD for all future purposes, SYED FARDEEN AHMAD S/O SYED SAMIUDDIN R/O 105/658 A-1 Tikuniya purwa, Chaman Ganj Kanpur Nagar

### **NOTICE**

Be it known to all that I have changed my name from pratyasha Tagra to pratyasha Tagra Thakur. In future I shall be known as pratyasha Tagra Thakur(Adhar No. (6334-1714-0050) W/O Sudhir Thakur R/O H.N. B-502, Rohtas Presidential Tower, Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow.

### **NOTICE**

My name in adhar card 3628 5372 9950 has been wrongly mentioned as Aditya Pratap Singh where as my correct name is Tej Prakash S/o Rajepal R/o gram & post Bausar Tehsil Narwal Distt. Kanpur. In future it should be treated in the name of Tej Prakash only.

### सूचना

मेरे भवन संख्या 1360/1850 अर्रा बिनगवा नौबस्ता कानपुर नगर के मूल आवंटन पत्र कहीँ खो गए है जिसका प्रयोग अवैध होगा । आशीष कुमार सिंह पुत्र श्री अकबल सिंह निवासी-91/1850 के.डी.ए. कालोनी नौबस्ता कानपुर नगर

### Information

This is to inform that my full name in NTPC records SHEETAL **PRASAD** SHARMA is marked. Whereas in other records my name is SHEETAL registered as PRASHAD SHARMA. Therefore, my correct name SHEETAL PRASHAD SHARMA should be recorded in NTPC records also. Sheetal Prashad Sharma s/ o Tilakraj Sharma Emp. No. 080154 Resident - A E - 104 NTPC

Colony Unchahar - Rae Bareli

#### Brijesh purportedly agreed to help her and invited her to his office to provide the money,

Ashiyana, who offers loans

with interest.

where he offered her spiked soft drinks. After consuming the drink, she lost consciousness and was subsequently raped. The perpetrator allegedly filmed the sexual assault on a mobile phone and continued to sexually exploit her for over a month. The police registered

Woman raped by acquaintance Lucknow (PNS): A female duced to a money lender a case and initiated a search for named Brijesh Yadav from the accused.

#### **FOUND HANGING**

A teenager was found hanging from a wooden pole in a field in Kakori police station area on Saturday. The youth, identified as Vishal Rawat (19) of Belwa village in the area, was found hanging with a scarf tied around his neck. Police said Vishal's father and mother died a few years ago and he is survived by three brothers and a

# 'NAFLD affects over 30% Indians'

PNS LUCKNOW

Dr Rohit A Sinha from the department of endocrinology at Sanjay Gandhi Postgraduate Institute of Medical Sciences (SGPGIMS), said on Saturday that non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) is a metabolic liver condition that develops in individuals with no or moderate alcohol consumption.

30% of Indians, and this preva lence is rapidly increasing due to modern lifestyle changes. It is a significant risk factor for type II diabetes, and in some cases, NAFLD progresses to liver fibrosis, cirrhosis, and liver cancer," he explained. Dr Sinha highlighted clinical studies demonstrating a strong link between hypothyroidism (low thyroid function) and

the development of NAFLD globally, contributing to higher all-cause and cardiovascular mortality rates.

"Thyroid hormones play a crucial role in regulating fat metabolism in the liver. Preclinical studies have shown that thyroid hormones can prevent fatty liver disease in mice fed a high-sugar and high-fat diet. Similarly, human clinical trials have demonstrated beneficial effects of low-dose thyroid hormones in patients with NAFLD and

diabetes," he noted. "NAFLD affects more than However, Dr Sinha cautioned against tie potential side effects associated with administering pharmacological doses of natural thyroid hormones, necessitating the development of liver-specific synthetic thyroid

hormone analogs. "In March 2024, Resmetirom, a liver-specific thyroid hormone analog, was approved by the US FDA as the first treatment for advanced-stage NAFLD, marking a new era in therapeutics for this previously untreated disease," he added. Dr Sinha stressed on the need for increased public awareness and optimised community screening and management strategies for NAFLD in India, given the common coexistence of thyroid disease and NAFLD.

Meanwhile, the department of neurology organised the third awareness programme on Parkinson's disease on Saturday, commencing with a 'Walk for Parkinson's Disease Awareness' at 6 am, followed by an awareness session SGPGIMS director Dr RK Dhiman was the chief guest. Prof VN Misra, head of the neurology department at IMS-BHU, was the guest of honour. He delivered a lecture on the role of lifestyle and meditation in Parkinson's disease.

Medical management and surgical interventions for Parkinson's disease were also discussed by Dr Dinkar Kulshreshtha, Prof AK Jaiswal, and Dr Pawan Kumar Verma.

# Woman, son commit suicide

Lucknow: A 55-year-old woman and her son died after allegedly consuming some poisonous substance over financial issues, Etawah police said on Saturday. Deepak Kumar alias Deepu Soni (28) and his mother Suman Devi (55) consumed some poisonous substance after mixing it with a soft drink in their house in Nai Basti Sai Colony on Friday night, Additional Superintendent of Police (City) Abhay Nath

Tripathi said. The incident came to light when Suman Devi's daughter called her this morning to enquire about their well-being and informed the neighbours when the phone went unan-swered, police said. After failing to get a response, the neighbours informed the police. Station in-charge Bhimsen Pauniya reached the spot and broke the door of the house to find the dead bodies in a room, they said.
A soft drink bottle and an

empty bottle of sulfas was also

found lying nearby, they said. According to the family members, Suman Devi and Deepak were facing financial prob-lems. Neighbours said that Suman Devi's husband died in January. After his death, Deepak was supporting the family by selling clothes on the footpath. His father had also taken a loan to build the house, the ASP added.

In another case, a A 28-year-old man and his three-vear-old daughter died on Saturday while his wife was seriously injured after their motorcycle collided head-on with a tractor on the Agra-Etawah Highway in the Jaswantnagar area, police said. A brick-laden tractor coming from the wrong side hit the motorcycle, killing Mainpuri resident Riyazuddin and his daughter Gungun, Jaswantnagar SHO Kapil Dubey said.

Riyazuddin's wife Shama Begum (25) was seriously injured in the accident and has been admitted in a hospital, he added. Dubey said Riyazuddin was on his way to his in-laws home in Auraiya district with his wife and daughter when the accident occurred early on Saturday. The bodies have been sent for post-mortem, he added. Meanwhile in Muzaffarnagar, a

14-year-old girl was allegedly abducted and raped by a man, police said on Saturday. According to a complaint filed by the girl's family, the minor was abducted by Majid on Friday and taken to a nearby fields where he raped her. The accused threatened the girl but she informed her family about the incident when she somehow managed to reach home, Charthawal police station circle officer Raju Sav.

A case under sections 363 (kidnapping), 376 (rape), 506 (criminal intimidation) of the IPC and POCSO Act has been registered against Majid, who is at large, he said. The girl has been sent for a medical examination, he said.

## **Subedar on** leave dies of electrocution in Sultanpur

Sultanpur: A subedar in the Indian Army died of alleged electrocution at his home in Annapurnanagar village under Gosaiganj police station area of the district, police on Saturday said. Pradeep Pandey (41), a resident of Annanurnanagar village posted in Meerut and had come home four days ago on leave.

He suffered electric shock while plugging the inverter on Friday evening and got seriously burnt, police said. The family members hurriedly took Pandey to Sultanpur Medical College, where the doctors declared him dead. Police Station in-charge Dheeraj Kumar said that legal action is being taken in the

## **CITYBRIEFS**

## DOCS UPDATED ON ADVANCES IN TREATMENT OF 2 SKIN DISEASES

On the occasion of Allergy Awareness Week, the department of respiratory medicine at King George's Medical University (KGMU), in collaboration with the Indian College of Allergy, Asthma Applied and Immunology (ICAAI), organised a seminar focusing on urticaria and angioedema, aiming to raise awareness about these common yet often misunderstood skin conditions. The seminar was led by Dr Rajiv Garg. Senior doctors highlighted that the educational event was designed to equip attendees with knowledge about the causes, symptoms, and available treatment options for urticaria and angioedema.

"Urticaria, also known as hives, and

angioedema are characterised by the sudden appearance of raised, red, and itchy welts on the skin. These conditions can be triggered by various factors such as allergens, infections, medications, or stress, making it challenging for many individ-uals to pinpoint the root cause of their symptoms," a senior doctor explained. Professor and head of the department of respiratory medicine, KGMU, Dr Surya Kant stressed on the need to address challenges in diagnosing and treating these allergic conditions effectively. He underscoring the importance of providing latest information to healthcare professionals and implementing practical strategies for patient care. Dr Rajiv Garg discussed the pathophysiology, clinical manifestations, common triggers, and risk factors associated with urticaria and angioedema. He also highlighted the latest advances in diagnostic techniques, including skin testing and laboratory investigations.

#### **60 INNOVATIVE PROJECTS** SHOWCASED AT CST

Sixty innovative artificial intelligence (AI) projects were showcased at the Council of



Students taking part in a camp on anaemia check-up and cancer prevention at Navyug Girls' College in Lucknow on Saturday

Science and Technology on Saturday. These projects, submitted by final-year BTech students from Uttar Pradesh, focused on innovation addressing local and environmental challenges. The students presented their projects, showcasing their potential for social and environmental impact. The evaluation committee assessed project novelty and utility, providing feedback for further improvements. The proiects spanned various domains, including computer science and IT, leveraging technologies like AI, machine learning, and blockchain. Notable projects included an 'Arduino-based star and planet tracker' for precise celestial tracking and a machine learning-based nomophobia assessment to identify smartphone addiction. Other projects tackled diverse issues, such as counterfeit drug detection using blockchain, lung cancer detection with AI, and driver drowsiness prevention through machine learning. Additionally, innovative solutions ranged from using Bacillus bacteria in civil engineering to producing biogas from crop residues.

# Stray cattle menace key poll issue for farmers

**Hathras/Firozabad:** "When I come to work in the fields in the morning, stray cattle are standing there, ready to attack. I was once hit on the back and was hospitalised for a week," says Keshav Kumar, a farm worker in Pilkhana village in Uttar Pradesh's Hathras.

Besides, he said, he has been chased by cows and Nilgai multiple times. Dharmendra Singh, a farmer, in Firozabad's Akilabad village, says, "I lost 30 per cent of my produce due to stray cattle entering my field. There is drought, unseasonal rain and now this stray cattle menace. What are we supposed to do?" Instances like these are not uncommon in western Uttar Pradesh and encapsulate the stray cattle menace that farmers have been struggling with for several years now. The problem, exacerbated by recent policy changes, has emerged as a major issue in western Uttar Pradesh in the ongoing Lok Sabha elections. The importance of the issue can be gauged from the fact that it is the sole deciding factor for some. "I voted for 'phool' (referring to the BJP's party symbol lotus) in the last two general elections thinking that this problem would be solved. As the problem remained unresolved, I didn't vote for them in

the assembly polls and plan to vote for the SP this time," Kumar

In villages across western Uttar Pradesh, the sight of emaciated stray cattle roaming around has become all too common and so

garbage. Farmers are also upset over the state government's decision to reinforce an old order that no barbed wires should be used to fence fields. Now, most farmers use plain wires or saris and

is the sight of destroyed crops.

When they can't enter fields,

many cows feed on plastic and

dupattas to fence fields. "They are of no use. We don't understand why the govern-ment cannot understand our losses," said Akilabad farmer Singh. According to the 2019 Livestock Census, there are over 1.90 crore cattle in Uttar Pradesh, including 62,04,304 milch cows and 23,36,151 dry cows. The indigenous female cattle population increased by 10 per cent in 2019 compared to the previous census in 2012. The population of exotic and crossbred cattle increased by 26.9 per

cent from 2012 to 2019. The stray cattle menace has also added to farmers' economic woes as they do not know what to do with cows that have stopped giving milk.

"Earlier, we would give the old cow in exchange for 10-20 per cent of the down payment and get a new one. But with the new policy, even that is not possible. We have no option but to either sell them illegally or abandon them," said a farmer who did not wish to be named.

In May 2017, the Centre banned the sale of cattle for slaughter in animal markets across the countrv. The environment ministry notified the stringent 'Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Regulation of Livestock Markets) Rules, 2017 under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act.

Every village in western Uttar Pradesh has a cow shelter but they are at capacity.
"In big cow shelters, we can

accommodate up to 115 cows and as you can see, we are full," a cow shelter worker told PTI on the condition of anonymity. He said shelters receive meagre amounts from the government to take care of the cows. "Last year, I received Rs 6,000 for feeding them. How do we feed them with that amount?" he said.

Chaudhary Pushpendra Singh, the president of farmers' organisation Kisan Shakti Sangh, stressed the importance of adopting sustainable solutions, such as setting up more cow shelters, promoting livestock insurance schemes and incentivising responsible cattle rearing practices, to tackle the stray cattle crisis.

ment order, the former MP was

sent from the district jail here to

Bareilly jail at 8 am on Saturday.

A senior district official said that

an MLA of the district had writ-

# Opp sowed seeds of division: Yogi

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath campaigned extensively in three districts on Saturday, throwing his full weight behind party candidates.

He addressed public meetings while leading the campaign for Bharatiya Janata Party candidate Anup Pradhan Valmiki in Hathras Lok Sabha constituency, Thakur Vishwadeep Singh in Firozabad and Ram Shankar Katheria, the candidate from Etawah Lok Sabha seat in Auraiva.

During this phase, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath directed his criticism towards the Indi Alliance, as well as the Congress and Samajwadi Party. While he condemned Congress over issues such as cow slaughter and electronic voting machines (EVMs), he also brought to light the misdeeds of the SP regime.

The chief minister accused the Congress of dividing the country and usurping public property and while describing the SP as patrons of criminals, charged it with reading Fatiha on the death of mafia.

Addressing a public meeting in Hathras, Chief Minister Yogi said, "The interests of the poor, farmers, women and youth were neglected by the Samajwadi Party, Bahujan Samaj Party and Congress. They prioritised vote bank politics and sowed seeds of division within castes and society." He continued, "Under their administration, the poor faced



Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath campaigning for BJP candidate Anup Pradhan Valmiki in Hathras on Saturday

country.

starvation while terrorists were treated to birvani. The mafia wielded influence as patrons. but today, the country and state are progressing without discrimination."

Highlighting that over six and a half lakh youth were given government jobs in Uttar Pradesh during his administration, the chief minister emphasised, "Now, the benefits of schemes are solely based on eli-

In the elections, the Bharativa Janata Party and National Democratic Alliance stand with the slogan of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas', contrasting with the Congress-SP and Indi Alliance," he said.

Chief Minister Yogi pointed out that the Lok Sabha elections of

People who used to loot ballot

2024 have taken place across 191 seats in two phases and the trends indicate that the essence of Hathras' 'hing' (asafoetida) and the resounding chant of 'Phir ek baar Modi sarkar' are reverberating throughout the

Addressing a public meeting in Firozabad, Chief Minister Yogi once again opened a direct front against Congress and SP, saying both parties seek to permit cow slaughter on the sacred land associated with Lord Ram and Lord Krishna. He said, "After Kashi and Avodhya, the focus has now shifted to Mathura."

In a pointed criticism of the Congress, Chief Minister Yogi said that the people of 'Discovery of India' think that

the impoverished suffered from starvation. He criticised the SP for engag-

rule of Congress, SP and BSP,

ing in extortion and allowing the mafia to seize the lands of the underprivileged.

"They had nothing to give to the poor, but SP had withdrawn cases against terrorists. The poor were dying of hunger and these people used to feed biryani to the terrorists," he

He said that the Congress and SP alliance had been formed again to deceive the country. Chief Minister Yogi emphasised that over the past decade, saying that Prime Minister Modi has tirelessly worked towards the holistic development of India, ensuring a secure future for current and upcoming generations. He highlighted the prevailing sense of security across the nation.

Chief Minister Yogi recounted his visit to pay respects at the residence of late former chief minister Mulayam Singh, where Prime Minister Modi also conveyed his condolences. In contrast, he pointed out the absence of any condolences from the SP on the passing away of Kalyan Singh, while the party opted to offer condolences at the residence of a member of the mafia.

'The SP did not express a single word of condolence on the death of Kalvan Singh and lic gathering in support of the Etawah Lok Sabha seat candiwent to the mafia's house to read Fatiha," he remarked. The chief minister appealed to peodate in Auraiya, the chief minister remarked that under the

## HC grants bail to Dhananjay Singh

Prayagraj: The Allahabad High Court on Saturday granted bail to former MP Dhananjay Singh but refused his plea to suspend or stay a seven-year imprisonment sentence passed against him by a district court in a 2020 kidnapping and extortion case. After the high court order, Singh will be released on bail but he cannot contest the election. The MP/MLA court in Jaunpur, on March 6, sentenced Singh and his associate Santosh Vikram to seven years of rigorous imprisonment in a 2020 case of kid-napping and extortion of Namami Gange project manag-er Abhinav Singhal.

After hearing the criminal appeal filed by the former MP and his associate on April 24,

Justice Sanjay Kumar Singh had reserved the order. This appeal was filed against the judgement passed by the special judge, Jaunpur MP/MLA court, on March 6. Singh's wife Srikala Reddy is

contesting election from the Jaunpur parliamentary constituency on the Bahujan Samaj Party ticket. Singh was reportedly preparing to contest the Lok Sabha election from Jaunpur constituency but his conviction made him ineligible to contest the election. Earlier in the day, Dhananjay

was shifted to Bareilly jail, a senior police officer said. Jaunpur Superintendent of Police Ajay Pal Sharma said in compliance with the govern-

ten a letter to the government for his transfer, saying that Dhananjay's wife Srikala Reddy is contesting election from the Jaunpur parliamentary constituency on the Bahujan Samaj Party ticket. Reddy, the chairman of Jaunpur

Zila Panchayat, is BSP's candidate from Jaunpur Lok Sabha constituency. The MLA alleged that Singh was pressuring the locals to support Reddy in election by calling them to jail and urged that in such a situation, his stay in the district jail is not iustified.

#### इंडियन बेंक (भारत सरकार का उपक्रम) 🕰 इलाहाबाद

#### Indian Bank (A Govt. of India Undertaking) ALLAHABAD POSSESSION NOTICE (for Immovable Property)

[Under Rule-8 (1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002]

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorised officer of the Indian Bank under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002, (Act 54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3, 8 and 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice as detailed here in below calling upon the borrower to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The Borrowers/Guarantors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers/ Guarantors and

the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him / her under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 and 9 of the said Rules. The Borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charges of the Indian Bank.

The Borrower's / Guarantor's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

S. N.	Name & Address of the Borrower (s)/ Guarantor (s)/ Proprietor / Mortgagors	Description of the Immovable Property	Dt. of Demand Notice Dt. of Possession Outstanding Amoun
_	Tanch: Hazratganj Branch  1. Virendra Yadav S/o Ram Adhaar Yadav (Borrower/Mortgagor), H.No.193, Rasoolpur Sadat-2, Police Station, Indira Nagar, Bakshi Ka Talab-226016  2. Mrs Shila Devi W/o Virendra Yadav (Co Borrower), H.No.193, Rasoolpur Sadat-2, Police Station, Indira Nagar, Bakshi Ka Talab-226016	Plot No.13, Minzumia Khasra No.386, Area: 1000 Sq Ft i.e. 92.936 square meter, Village Rasoolpur, Saadat, Pargana Mahona, Tehsil Bakshi Ka Talab, in name of Virendra Yadav S/o Ram Adhaar Yadav, Boundaries: East: Land of Pratap Etc, West: Road 20 ft wide, North: Plot No. 192, South: Plot No. 194	26.12.2023 25.04.2024 Rs. 6,16,514.00 and interest thereon
2.	M/s Deepu Enterprises, 5/38 Vipul Khand Gomti Nagar Lucknow-226010     Mrs. Anjali Yadav Wo Mr. Pankaj Kumar Yadav (Mortgagor/Guarantor), Address 1-5/38, Vipul Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow-226010     Address 2- Telephone Exchange Parishar, Pilkhua Dehat, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh-245304     3.Mr. Pankaj Kumar Yadav S/o Rajendra Singh Yadav (Proprietor), Add-1-5/38, Vipul Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow-226010     Add-2- Telephone Exchange Parishar, Pilkhua Dehat, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh-245304     Add-3- Patti, 154 Sakrawa, Kannauj, Uttar Pradesh-209747	Plot No.215 & 216 Part of Khasra No.82, Area: 2700 Square Feet i.e. 250.929 square meter, Village Sadrauna Pargana Bijnaur, Tehsil Sarojni Nagar District Lucknow, in name of Mrs. Anjali Yadav Wło Mr. Pankaj Kumar Yadav, Boundaries: East: Part of Khasra No.82, West: Road 22 ft wide, North: Plot No. 217, South: Road 20 feet wide	19.04.2023 26.04.2024 Rs. 12,50,560.00 and interest thereon
3.	Ranch: Kalserbagh Branch  1. Mrs. Monita Badhavan W/o Mr. Jatin Wadhwan (Borrower-Mortgagor), Address: House No 107/83, Balsi Ki Masjid, Near ODEAN Cinema, Lucknow-226001  Address: Residential House on Plot No 12, Khasara No 689 Minjumla, Madiyaon, Pargana Mahona, Tehsil Bakshi Ka Talab, Lucknow-226201  2. Mr. Jatin Wadhawan S/o Mr. Om Prakash Wadhawan (Guarantor) Address: House No 107/83, Balsi Ki Masjid, Near ODEAN Cinema, Lucknow-226001	All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Residential House on Plot No 12, Khasara No 689 Minjumla, Madiyaon, Pargana Mahona, Tehsil Bakshi Ka Talab, Lucknow, Area-55.762 sq. mt (600 sq.ft). in the name of Mrs Monita Badhawan W/o Mr. Jatin Badhavan registerd at sub registrar bakshi ka talab bahi no 1 jild no 7254 pages from 87 to 106 serial no 17011 dated 20.11.2014, Bounded by:- North: Plot No 13, South: Plot No 11, East: Aaraji Digar, West: Road 20 Feet	08.05.2023 26.04.2024 Rs. 18,64,343.00 and interest thereon
_	Borrower: M/S Suneet Traders, Add: Vill- Indhauliya, Akbarpur Dheneti, Post Sarai Ka Shthan Pargana Pratapganj Tehsil- Nawabganj, Distt Barabanki Mr Ram Manoj S/O Sant Ram (Proprietor), Add: Vill- Indhauliya, Akbarpur Dheneti, Post Sarai Ka Shthan Pargana Pratapganj Tehsil- Nawabgani, Distt Barabanki	Sale deed dated 21.02.2011 registered at Bahi no1 Zild no 4873 page no 37 to 54 Sr no 1918 registered with S R Nawabganj. All that part and parcel of plot at Khata no 1375 Vill Yakootganj, Pargana Pratapganj Safadarganj, Zaidpur Road Tehsil Nawabganj, Distt Barabanki area measuring 500 sq. Ft. in, in the name of Mrs Shyam kali, Boundries: Fast: Plot of Premphand	30.10.2023 24.04.2024 Rs. 33,84,673.00 and interest thereon

Ramanand Verma, Add: Vill- Indhauliya, Akbarpur Dheneti, Post Sarai Ka Shthan Pargan Pratapganj Tehsil- Nawabganj, Distt Barabanki (ii). Mrs. Shyam Kali W/O Sant Ram, Add: Villndhauliya, Akbarpur Dheneti, Post Sarai Ka Shthan Pargana Pratapganj Tehsil- Nawabgan Distt Barabanki

Mortgagor: Mrs. Shyam Kali W/O Sant Ram Add: Vill Indhauliya, Post Sarai Ka Shthar Pargana Pratapganj The Nawabganj, Dist

Sale deed dated 25.11.1999 registered with S.R.,nawabganj, barabanki bahi pustak no 1 1. Mrs Reshma Anand W/O Raghubar Prasad Anand (Borrower), Add: Maharshi Nagar akhperabagh barabanki 225001 2. Mr Amar Deep Anand S/O Raghubar Prasac Anand (Guarantor), Add: Maharshi Nagar

akhperabagh barabanki 225001 3. Mrs Reshma Anand W/O Raghubar Prasac Anand (Mortgagor), Add: Maharshi Nagar Lakhperabagh barabanki 225001

Zild no1285 page no 373 to 412 at s no 3442 registered at S.R. nawabganj All that parl and parcel of Arazi khasra no 1764 mi area Rs. 9,89,823.00 neasuring 1600 sq ft in Badel bahar seema pargana and tehsil Nawabganj Disti Barabanki in the name of Mrs Reshma Anand, **Boundries: East:** Khasra no 1763 West: Rasta kaccha 30ft. North: Rest land ni no 1764, South: Rest land mi no 1764 1. M/S Shukla Rice Mill (Prop- Daya Shankar

and of seller. East: Land of seller. West: 2

2. All that part and parcel of the plot of Mrs malti Shukla W/O Badri Vishal Shukla

matti Shukia W/O Badri Vishali Shukia, situated at khasra no 1826 mi, area 139.35 Sq mtr, post Badel Mohalla- lakhpedabagh, tehsil Nawabganj, Distt Barabanki, Sale deed document no 4867 dated 13.11.2002 Book No 1, khand no 1807, page no 303 to 320 executed in the office of S R Nawabganj,

Bounded by:- North: Kharanja Rasta South: Land of Ashish, East: House of Ran Milan, West: Plot of Krishna Nand

wide Kuchha Rasta

Boundries: East: Plot of Premchand

West: Safdargani to Zaidpur Road, N

Plot Ausan, South: Plot Harihar

 All that part and parcel of the property of M/S Shukla Rice Mill Prop- Dayashankar Shukla S/O Badri Vishal Shukla situated at Shukla S/O Badri Vishal Shukla) (Borrower) Vill & Post- Ram Sahai, pargana Dariyabad Tehsil Sirauli Gauspur, Distt-Barabanki 225403 2. Late Malti Shukla W/O badri Vishal Shukla Khasra No 423/1, area 630 sq mtr (6778.80 Sq ft) vill & post Ram Sahai Pargana Dariyabad, tehsil Sirouli Gauspur Distt-Barabanki, Sale deed document no 1341 (Decaesed) (Guarantor- Mortgagor), Vill & Post- Ram Sahai, pargana Dariyabad, Tehsil dated 13.08.2008 executed in the office of sub Registrar Sirauli Gauspur, Bounded by:-North: 25 ft wide Kuchha Rasta, South Sirauli Gauspur, Distt-Barabanki 225403

3. Badri Vishal Shukla (Legal Heir of Mrs Malti

Shukla), Vill & Post- Ram Sahai, pargana Dariyabad, Tehsil Sirauli Gauspur, Distl Barabanki 225403 4. Dayashakar Shukla S/O Badri Vishal Shukla (Legal Heir of Mrs Malti Shukla), Vill & Post-Ram Sahai, pargana Dariyabad, Tehsil Sirauli

5. Parikarma Shukla S/O Badri Vishal Shukla (Legal Heir of Mrs Malti Shukla), Vill & Post-Ram Sahai, pargana Dariyabad, Tehsil Sirauli Gauspur, Distt-Barabanki 225403

Gauspur, Distt-Barabanki 225403

Branch: Aliganj M/s J.P Construction Company (Proprietorship Firm), Add: C 1/44, Priyadarshini Yojna Sitapur Road Lucknow 2. Smt Jyoti Verma W/o Jagdish Prasad Verma

1/44. Privadarshini Yoina Sitapur Road Lucknow

Lal Verma (Guarantor & Mortgagor), Add:- C-1/44, Priyadarshini Yojna Sitapur Road Lucknow

A property at house no. C-1/44, measuring area 128 Samtrs or 1377.28 Saft situated a Sector-C, Priyadarshini Yojna Sitapur roac Lucknow. Sale deed executed or 25.10.1996 registered with Sub-registrar-Lucknow in Book No.2, Khand No.1150 or pages from 153 to 186 at serial No.5580 in the name of Mr Jagdish Prasad Verma as given in the schedule hereunder belonging to 2nd of you, **Boundaries- East-** Vacan Land, **West-** 9 mtr wide road, **North-** Plot

no.1/43, South-Plot no.1/45

Rs. 31,26,295.00

30.10.2023

24.04.2024

thereon

19.12.2023

24.04.2024

Branch: Mawaiya

1. Smt. Pooja Rathaur W/o Mr. Sanjay Rathaur (Borrower and Mortgagor), Add-1: R/o H.No-534/84, Shekhpur Habibpur, Campwell Road Lucknow-226017

Add-2: Part of Khasra No-726 Min, Village Barawan Kala, Ward-Balakganj, Lucknov

Add-3: H.No-543/84,Shekhpur Habibpur, Nea Eram Degree College, Campwell Road Lucknow-226017 2. Shri Sanjay Rathaur S/o Mr. Ram Sevak

Rathaur (Co-Borrower), Add-1: R/o H.No-534/84, Shekhpur Habibpur, Campwell Road Lucknow-226017 Add-2: Part of Khasra No-726 Min, Village-Barawan Kala, Ward-Balakganj, Lucknow 226003

Add-3: H.No-543/84, Shekhpur Habibpur, Nea Eram Degree College, Campwell Road Lucknow-226017

Kala, Ward-Balakganj, Lucknow-226003 Plot, Area-223.048 Sq.Mtr or 2400.00 Sq. Ft Bounded by:- North: Plot of Jamuna Devi South: 20 Ft wide Road, East: Plot of Laloo West: Plot of Prabhu Dayal

Part of Khasra No-726 Min, Village-Barawa

23.04.2024 and interest

**Authorised Officer Indian Bank** 

#### aunching a scathing attack on the opposition, Chief governments in Delhi and Punjab were formed through Minister Yogi Adityanath, on Saturday, said that Congress and the "INDI Alliance" were ballot papers. The chief minister stated that those rejecting the EVMs were raising questions on the electhe same ones who used to tronic voting machines (EVMs) but they were the capture ballot boxes. "Since the Election Commission of India same people who once used to

loot ballot boxes. He added, "Seeing its impending, clear defeat in the Lok Sabha elections, Congress is blaming the EVM."

PNS LUCKNOW

Addressing the media at his official residence on Saturday, the chief minister said that Congress had written in its Modi government," he assertmanifesto that minorities ed. "The nation has decided to would be given the right to their preferred food. "Which Democratic Alliance this time. of the minorities is different from that of the rest of the community," he quipped.

He also questioned the silence of other allies of the INDI Alliance on this issue.

Highlighting the issue of EVMs, Chief Minister Yogi said, "Whenever the INDI Alliance faces defeat, it attempts to shift the blame for its loss on the EVMs. We have been hearing this argument consistently since 2014."

He asked the Congress and other opposition parties whether governments were formed through ballot papers in Himachal Pradesh and Karnataka last year; in Raiasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh in 2018 as well as the United Progressive the unity, integrity and sover-

boxes questioning EVM: CM Alliance government in 2004. He also asked whether the

has ensured the integrity of elections using state-of-theart technology, the opposition is attempting to vent their frustration on the EVMs. The trends of the past two phases of elections have indicated that the country is once again give 400 seats to the National As the NDA, led by the Bharatiya Janata Party, is surging ahead, the members of the

INDI Alliance are targeting the EVMs," he added. Responding to a question on the issue of beef, the chief minister stated that prior to the initial voting phase, the BJP highlighted development, security, and the welfare of the underprivileged to the public. It was during this period that the Congress unveiled its manifesto, which advocates for granting the minority community freedom in dietary choices. He said that upon seeing their manifesto, it can be said that while it may be the justice manifesto of the Congress, it was an injustice manifesto for

eignty of the nation. He described the manifesto as "detrimental to the unity, integrity and sovereignty of the

Chief Minister Yogi questioned whether the dietary preferences of minority communities were different from the rest of society, pointing out that Hindus consider the cow as

sacred as their mother. 'Congress is making an attempt to grant exemptions to Muslims in this regard. This will not be accepted by anyone," he remarked.

Lashing out at other allies of the INDI Alliance, Chief Minister Yogi said that their silence indicated their solidarity on the Congress manifesto. "If they do not agree, they should clarify their stance t their partners," he added.

The chief minister stated that the Congress talks about granting minority communities the right to personal law. "So, will the practice of triple-talaq, which was abolished by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government, be reinstated? Does Congress want to run a Taliban-like government in the country by implementing Sharia law?" he asked.

He said, "The Congress manifesto is a betraval of the nation. The people of the country should make their decision for the next five phases of elections after seeing the Congress manifesto. This is a betrayal of our faith, and no one will

## **Exam papers being** leaked to deny youth benefit of quota: AKY

PNS LUCKNOW

Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav on Saturday attacked the Bharatiya Janata Party in Uttar Pradesh over the leakage of papers of recruitment examinations, alleging that the double-engine govern-ment of the party was ruining the lives of the youth.

Ram and Krishna never exist-

ed. "On one hand the Narendra

Modi government is giving

free ration to 80 crore people of

the country and on the other,

during the Congress rule, even

the ration of the poorest of the poor was looted."

He also questioned the SP's

contribution to the develop-

ment of the Braj region. He

pointed out that even among

the Yadav community, the SP

primarily benefits its own fam-

ily members. "Their concerns

seem confined to their family,

and keep defaming caste in the

During his speech at the pub-

name of familialism."

"They have snatched your jobs and failed to generate employment. The youth must think seriously about this, the BJP has ruined one-third of your lives. Without jobs, the future of the youth is dark and they are facing bleak marriage prospects," the SP chief said while campaigning in Kannauj Lok Sabha

He filed his nomination papers from Kannauj on April 25. Akhilesh Yadav alleged that the ruling party in Uttar Pradesh is "deliberately" trying to leak question papers of government recruitment examinations to deny youngsters the benefit of reservation in government jobs.

"If jobs have to be given, then reservation will also have to be given," Yadav, who is contesting the Lok Sabha election from Kannauj, said at a rally in the constituency's Rasulabad area. Ever since the BJP has come to power in UP, question papers of 10 examinations have been leaked," he claimed.

"They are deliberately trying to leak papers so that they don't

have to give reservations," the SP chief said, targeting the BJP dispensation in the state. The recruitment process was transparent and fair during the tenure of the SP government in the state, Akhilesh Yadav claimed.

The SP chief accused the BJPled government at the Centre of not fulfilling its promises.
"The income of farmers has not doubled in 10 years and, besides farmers, the youth and industrialists are also angry with the BJP," he said.

He said the Agnipath scheme

had put the safety of the country in jeopardy and asked the youth to ensure the victory of Indian National nmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) if they wanted to bring back the earlier system of recruitment to the army. Pointing at police deployed at the venue of the rally, Akhilesh Yadav said, "Those in khaki (police) think their jobs are permanent, but if the BJP comes, they will have jobs only for three years."

Attacking the BJP over the issue of farm laws, Akhilesh Yadav said the farmers were unhappy even today as they were not getting the right price for their produce. He said industrialists with huge ware-houses were buying farmers' produce and controlling the prices. Akhilesh Yadav also attacked the BIP on the inflation and electoral bond issues.

# SP's Shahjahanpur candidate changed

PNS LUCKNOW

ontinuing the flip-flop in Selection of candidates for the Lok Sabha elections, Samajwadi Party has changed its candidate for the Shahjahanpur parliamentary constituency, replacing Rajesh Kashyap with Jyotsana Gond. This is the tenth candidate to be changed by the SP. Rajesh Kashyap had filed his

nomination papers from Shahjahanpur as SP candidate on April 22. However, Jyotsana Gond had filed her nomination papers from the party on April 24 because of which Rajesh Kashyap's nomination was rejected after scrutiny on Friday.

Polling in Shahjahanpur is scheduled in the fourth phase of the Lok Sabha elections on May 13.

When Jyotsana Gond was approved by the SP as its candidate for the Shahjahanpur Lok Sabha constituency, Rajesh Kashyap, who had filed his nomination earlier, became an Independent candidate. However, he did not have 10 proposers as required and his

The SP earlier changed its candidates in Moradabad, Meerut, **Budaun, Sultanpur,** Kannauj and several other constituencies

nomination was rejected, an official said. SP spokesman Rajendra Chaudhary said, Whatever decision the party's national president takes is welcomed. If there is any difference of opinion in anyone's mind after the nomination is cancelled, it will be resolved."

'We are in a better position in the election in Shahjahanpur and the official candidate of the SP is Jyotsana Gond," he said. The SP has earlier changed its candidates in Moradabad, Meerut, Budaun, Sultanpur, Kannauj and several other constituencies. Akhilesh Yadav himself is in the fray from Kannauj. Sources in the SP said many more candidates were expected to be replaced. Prominent among them is Babu Singh Kushwaha from

# BJP pins hopes on Kaushal Kishore for hat-trick in Mohanlalganj

SHARMILA KRISHNA LUCKNOW

It will be a hat-trick for Bharatiya Janta Party's Member of Parliament Kaushal Kishore if he wins from the Mohanlalganj Lok Sabha constituency this time. The BJP MP won this seat first in 2014 and then retained it in 2019 general elections. The constituency was once a stronghold of the Samajwadi Party with Reena Chaudhary, Jai Prakash Rawat and Sushila Saroj having won between 1998 and 2009.

When Kaushal Kishore won the seat in 2014 under the Narendra Modi wave, the BJP had tasted victory 18 years after Purnima Verma's win in 1996.

In the last three Lok Sabha elections, the BSP has emerged as the runner-up. Kaushal Kishore defeated CL Verma of the BSP in 2019 by

over 90,000 votes, while in 2014, he had decimated BSP's RK Chaudhary by over 1,45,000 votes. Chaudhary is a Samajwadi Party candidate from Mohanlalganj this time, while the BSP has fielded Rajesh

BJP district president Vinay Pratap Singh said there is no opposition for them in Mohanlalganj and it is going to be a smooth sailing for Kaushal Kishore. "Several developmental works have been carried out by Kaushal Kishore. The works done by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh also matter because a large portion of the outer ring road lies in Mohanlalganj," he said. BJP city president Anand

beneficiaries of the Central government schemes are Mohanlalganj residents as it is a rural area. "Free ration and Ayushman will get us a lot of votes," he added.

Dwivedi said that the maximum

A resident of Mohanlalganj claimed that Kaushal Kishore would emerge victorious. "As far as Kaushal Kishore's

tenure is concerned, there has been no discrimination against beneficiaries in terms of caste and creed. Additionally, farmers have been getting maximum benefits out of the outer ring road, a major portion of which lies in Mohanlalganj. Many overbridges that have been constructed to ease traffic movement," he added. Beenu Verma, a resident of Malihabad under Mohanlalgani constituency, said the BJP's victory is a surety. "It will be the combined outcome of PM Narendra Modi's schemes, MP Kaushal Kishore's accessibility, and the construction of Ram temple in Ayodhya which will get us votes," Verma added. However, the SP district president pointed out that RK Chaudhary has his roots in Mohanlalganj. "He has been a

cabinet minister four times. and has worked with both Kanshi Ram and Mulayam Singh Yadav," he said. Shailendra Gautam from the BSP said they are confident about winning this time.

'The BSP has been the runnerup in 2014 as well as in 2019 Lok Sabha elections. As far as Kaushal Kishore is concerned, people who approaches him for any work always remain dissatisfied. Mohanlalganj is a rural area which has problems different from those in the city. The media hype about free ration is misleading because ration was being given earlier too at a very low cost," he added.





## सेन्ट्रल बैंक ऑफ़ इंडिया Central Bank of India

"CENTRAL" TO YOU SINCE 1911

Regional Office: 117/H-1/240, Pandu Nagar, Kanpur

POSSESSION NOTICE (for Immovable Property)

Under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security, Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of the Powers conferred under section 13(12) and read with rule 3 of the security interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued demand notice as detailed here in below with our Branch to repay the amount mentioned in the notices within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notices. The borrowers/guarantors having failed to pay the entire amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers/guarantors and public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described here in below in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said rules. The borrowers/guarantors in particular and public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with be subject to charge of Central Bank of India. The borrowers attention is invited to provision of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

**DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES** 

S. No.	Name & Address of the Borrowers/Guarantors	Possession Notice Date
1.	Borrowers (1). M/s Vindesh Prasad Contractor through it's proprietor Mr. Vindesh Prasad R/o- Village & Post- Gajauli, Unnao, PIN-209801, (2). Mr. Vindesh Prasad Proprietor of M/S Vindesh Prasad Contractor R/o- Village & Post- Gajauli, Unnao, PIN-209801, Guarantors (1). Mr. Gauri Shankar S/o Mr. Bhikhari R/o- H.N. 454/7, Kalyani Devi, Unnao, Tehsil & District-Unnao, (2). Mrs. Malti Devi W/o Mr. Gauri Shankar R/o- H.N. 454/7, Kalyani Devi, Unnao, Tehsil & District-Unnao	

All that part and parcel of the property consisting of property situated at Private Plot No 5 Situated at Land No 1654, Mohalla- Kalyani Devi, Pargana, Tehsil & District Unnao (At Present HN 1654 Under Nagar Palika Pargana, Tehsil Description of & District Unnao) Area measuring 100.47 SQ Meter

bounded as under :- North: 15.00 Feet Wide Road, South: Plot No 4, East: Plot of Mrs. Munni Devi. West: Plot No 3 (House of Mrs. Anita Devi)

2. Borrower: Mr. Chandra sen Singh S/o Late Atmanand Singh R/o-587, Taj Nagar, 26.04.2024 Shivaji Children Academy, Naubasta, Kanpur, Guarantor: Mrs. Kavita Singh W/o Mr Pranveer Singh R/o-521/2, Vaidehi Vihar, Jarauli, Phase-2, Kanpur

Description of All that part and parcel of the property consisting of property situated at Plot No 371, Block-I, Scheme No-EWS-2, ne Immovable KUDP, World Bank Barra, Kanpur Area measuring 36.75 SQ Meter bounded as under:-North: Plot No 390, South: 4.5 Meter Wide Road, East: Plot No 370, West: Plot No 372

3. Borrowers: (1). Mrs. Seema W/o Mr. Virendra Kumar R/o-(i) 63A, United Nagar, 23.04.2024 Sunny Sarai, Maswanpur, Kanpur, Nagar-208019, (ii) EWS 198, Awas Vikas 03, Kalyanpur, Kanpur, PIN-208017, (2). Mr. Virendra Kumar S/o Mr. Kishori Lal R/o-(i) 63A, United Nagar, Sunny Sarai, Maswanpur, Kanpur, Nagar-208019, (ii) EWS 198 Awas Vikas 03, Kalyanpur, Kanpur, PIN-208017

01.02.2024 and interest thereor

Date of Demand Notice

Amt. Outstanding (Rs.)

07.12.2023 Rs. 15,01,473.99

15.09.2023

Rs. 1,39,229.67

Branch : Keshavpuram Description of All that part and parcel of the property consisting of property situated at Shop Situated at P-2/S-17, Awas Vikas Scheme No 3, Panki, Kalyanpur Road, Kanpur Nagar, PIN-208017 Area measuring 18.77 SQ Meter bounded as under:- North: Stair Case, South: Shop No P-2/s-18, East: House No 805, West: 9.00 Meter Road

4. Borrowers: (1). Mr. Jagdish Prasad Verma S/o Late Baij Nath Prasad Verma, (2) 23.04.2024 Vaibhav Patel S/o Mr. Jagdish Prasad Verma, (3) Ms. Tanya Patel D/o Mr. Jagdish Prasad Verma (All Being Legal Heir of Late Seema Verma), R/o of All- Flat No 07 Keshav Paradise on Premises No 62, Scheme No 01, Awas Vikas 01, Keshavpurm Kalyanpur, Kanpur PIN-208017, (4). Mr. Jagdish Prasad Verma S/o Late Baijnath Prasad Verma R/o Flat No 07, Keshav Paradise on Premises No 62, Scheme No 01 was Vikas 01, Keshavpurm, Kalyanpur, Kanpur PIN-208017

19.01.2024 Rs. 25.79.658.62

Description of

All that part and parcel of the property consisting of property situated at Flat no 07, Situated at Ground Floor on Plot No M/PR-62, (Keshav Paradise) Awas Vikas Yojana No 1, Keshavpuram Kalyanpur. Area measuring 70.12 SQ Meter

bounded as under:-North: Other Unit Flat No 08, South: Other Unit Flat No 06, East: Common Passage, West:

Boundaries of Premises: North: 15.00 Meter Wide Road, South: Plot No M/PR-61, East: 30.00 Meter Wide Service Lane/ 18.00 Meter Wide Road, West: Temple

5. Borrowers: (1). Mrs. Vandana Devi W/o Late Bhupendra Singh Kushwaha, (2) Ms 23.04.2024 Chhavi D/o Late Bhupendra Singh Kushwaha, (3) Master Yash S/o Late Bhupendra Singh Kushwaha both (2) & (3) through natural guardian Mrs. Vandana devi (all Being Legal Heir of Late Bhupendra Singh Kushwaha), (4) Mrs, Vandana Devi W/o Late Bhupendra Singh Kushawaha, R/o of All Flat No C-301, 3rd Floor, GH-1, Jeevar Surabhi Apartment, Awas Vikas No 03, Ambedkarpuram, Kalyanpur, Kanpur -208017

01.02.2024 Rs. 18,14,805.24

Description of

Branch : Govind Nagar All that part and parcel of the property consisting of property situated at Flat No C-301, Situated at 3rd Floor on Plot No GH-1, Block-C, Jeevan Surabhi, Group Housing Residential Complex, Scheme No3, Ambedkarpuram ,Awas evam Vikas Parishad, Kalyanpur, Kanpur Nagar, PIN-208017, Area measuring 98.64 SQMT bounded as under:- North: Campus Road, South: Lobby/passage and Flat No C-304, East: Flat No C-302,

West: Campus Road and Car Parking Boundaries of Premises: North: 24.00 Meter Wide Road, South: Plot No Gh-2, East: 24.00 Meter Wide Road, West: 12.00 Meter Wide Road

6. Borrowers: Mr. Raj Kumar S/o Mr. Bauvan R/o Village & Post- Sachendi, Kanpur 26.04.2024 Nagar, PIN-209304, Guarantor: (1). Mr. Sumit Kumar Omer S/o Mr. Shambhu Nath R/o Village & Post- Sachendi ,Kanpur Nagar, PIN-209304, (2). Mr. Ramesh Kumar S/o Mr. Ram Bhajan R/o Village & Post-Sachendi, Kanpur Nagar, PIN-209304

Rs. 5,13,243.00 and interest thereor

Description of Property

All that part and parcel of the property consisting of property situated at Village & Post- Sachendi ,Kanpur Nagar

,PIN-209304. Area measuring 55.92 SQ Meters bounded as under:- North: Land of Mr. Sohan, South: Road & Thenafter House of Mr. Kamlesh, East: House of

Late Ram Shankar, West: House of Mr. Raju Date: 28.04.2024

Authorised Officer, Central Bank of India

# **DM flags off LPG vehicles under SVEEP**

District Magistrate and District Election Officer S Rajalingam, along with Chief Development Officer and SVEEP in-charge Himanshu Nagpal, flagged off vehicles loaded with LPG cylinders from the Collectorate premises here on Saturday in order to ensure 100 per cent voting in the Lok Sabha election in the district.

The vehicles loaded with LPG cylinders under the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) programme will deliver the message of voter

awareness from door to door. Speaking on this occasion, Rajalingam made the general public aware of voting by tying tags to the cooking gas cylinders loaded in the vehicles. He said that the district administration was committed to ensuring 100 per cent voting in the district. "Voting is the most important task for a strong democracy of the country, hence emphasis is being laid on increasing awareness among the people and encouraging them to cast their votes," he said. Nagpal also spread awareness among the voters and explained the importance of voting. He also appealed to all the residents of the district to vote 100 per cent. On the occasion, Additional District



Magistrate (Civil Supplies) Prakash Chandra, District Supply Officer Umesh Chandra Mishra, Divisional Head of LPG Vikas Sahdev, Nodal Officer (LPG-S) Satish Kumar Yadav, sales managers, gas agency operators and others were also pre-

Meanwhile, the batuks (Vedpathi Sanskrit students) of Maharishi Ashram located at Siddheshwari, raised slogans to create awareness among the voters. They shouted slogans like 'Sare kaam chhod do sabse pahle vote do,

'Hum sab ne thana hai, shatpratishat matdaan karana hai'. They also said that one's vote was precious and everyone should vote together and build a healthy democracy because polling was a great festival of democracy so everyone should together and increase the pride of Kashi.

They also sent the message of cleanliness, saying "if there is dirt then there is disease and if there is cleanliness then there is health". Speaking on the occasion, regional coordinator of Namami Gange

(Kashi region) Rajesh Shukla said that people had an opportunity in the form of voting to form a prosperous, self-reliant and dedicated government in India.

Let us elect a government which

will strengthen national security, provide good arrangements for electricity, roads and water and which can be trusted by women, farmers and the poor," he said. Maharishi Yogi Vidyalaya in-charge Sisant Kesari Swain, Sunil Srivastava

and others were mainly involved in

## 20 students selected in SHUATS campus drive

**Prayagraj (PNS):** Directorate of Career Planning & Counseling, Sam Higginbottom University of Agriculture, Technology And Sciences (SHUATS) on Saturday organised a campus placement drive for the students of BTech and MBA with four companies — Tractors & Farm Implement Ltd (TAFE), Mahindra & Mahindra, HDFC Life Insurance Col Ltd, and The House of Originals. A total of 20 students were selected by these companies. Director of Career Planning & Placement, SHUATS, Prof Ashok Tripathi highlighted the importance of organising campus placement drives, especially for the professional academic programmes. According to Tripathi, 15 students of BTech were selected by TAFE, and Mahindra and Mahindra. Four students of MBA Agribusiness were recruited by HDFC Life Insurance Co, while one student of MBA was selected as a business development executive by The House of Originals. The selected students credit their success to the academic environment of the university and the quality education provided by the faculty members. Vice-Chancellor Prof Rajendra B Lal congratulated the selected students and wished

# hanging

Prayagraj (PNS): A young social media manager allegedly hanged himself to death inside a hotel room in Andavan area under Sarainayat police station late Friday night, police said. His friends found him hanging when the room remained unopened until late Saturday morning. Ayushmaan Shukla (22), son of Vishwanath Shukla and a resident of Bani Pathak in Amethi district, had checked into the hotel along with friends on April 19. On Friday night, Ayushmaan retired to room number 106 alone. When Ayushmaan did not come out of his room on Saturday morning, his friends used another key to unlock the door and found him hanging. Inspector incharge Pankaj Kumar Rai reached the scene and sent the body for autopsy.

## Youth found | Police preparing to file 4th supplementary chargesheet

PNS PRAYAGRAJ

Police are preparing to file a fourth supplementary chargesheet in connection with the murder of Umesh Pal and his two government gunners. Ali, the son of deceased mafia don-turned politician Atiq Ahmad, has provided a statement to the police and it has been recorded.

The state of Umar, who is Ali's elder brother, is also expected to be taken soon. Following this, the police are expected to expedite the investigation. Ali's statement, revealing significant details related to the murder conspiracy, was recorded by the police a day earlier and has been incorporated into the case diary. The investigation into his involvement is nearing completion. Amarnath Rai, incharge of Kareli police station, said that the next statement would be taken from Umar, who is curUMESH PAL, GUNNERS MURDER CASE

rently lodged in Lucknow jail and is also accused of involvement in the conspiracy.
It is anticipated that once

Umar's statement is recorded, the police would advance swiftly with the investigation, culminating in the filing of a supplementary chargesheet against both. Till date, two supplementary chargesheets have been filed in the Umesh Pal murder case. Initially, the first chargesheet was submitted against Sadaqat Khan in May 2023. Subsequently, on June 17, 2023, the first supplementary chargesheet was filed against eight accused, including Khan Saulat Hanif and Ikhlaq Ahmed. In October 2023, the chargesheet against Vijay Mishra was submitted to the court.

## 100-bed hospital inauguration today

Prayagraj (PNS): The 100-bed Shanti Vilas Multispecialty Hospital will be inaugurated in Prayagraj on Sunday. All superspecialist doctors will be available here under one roof. It is among the few hospitals in the city with state-of-the-art

equipment. The hospital will be inaugurated by Justice Neerai Tiwari of the Allahaba High Court, in the presence of Chief Medical Officer Dr Ashu Pandey.

City's well-known ENT surgeon and managing director of the hospital Dr Ajay Shukla told mediapersons that the

management would arrange food free of cost for the patients admitted here. There is a hi-tech operation theatre, while stateof-the-art foreign machines have been installed for modular OT, ICU, NICU, endoscopy, dialysis, and laparoscopy, he added. Doctors related to general medicine, critical & intensive care, heart disease, ENT, gynecology and obstetrics, TF and respiratory medicine, cancer, plastic surgery, eye disease, general surgery, orthopedic, urinary disease, neuro medicine, kidney disease, etc will be avail-

able round the clock.

## Vaccination programme at BLW

Varanasi (PNS): As part of the World Immunisation Week, a health awareness campaign and vaccination programme is being organised in the Central Hospital at Banaras Locomotive Works (BLW) from April 24 to 30 for the prevention of diseases for people of every age group. In this context, a vaccination workshop was organised on Saturday. Inaugurating the workshop RIW Principal Chief Medical Officer Dr Devesh Kumar said that on the occasion of completion of 50 years of mass vaccination this vear, the World Health Organisation was giving special emphasis on regular vaccination and people of all age groups were being protected through vaccination.

## यूनियन बैंक 🕼 Union Bank

Regional Office: 117/H/-1/240, Pandu Nagar, Kanpur

Head Office: 239, Vidhan Bhawan Marg, Nariman Point Mumbai

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES | Date of e-Auction : 14-05-2024 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) Rule, 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 possession of which has been taken by the authorized officer of Union Bank of India (Secured Creditor), will be sold on "As is Where is," "As is What is," and "Whatever there is" on the date mentioned below, for recovery of dues as mentioned hereunder to Union Bank of India from the below mentioned Borrower(s) & Guarantor(s). The Reserve Price & the Earnes Money Deposit or also mentioned hereunder.

Branch Name: Ranipur, Distt. Jhansi • Address: Near Bus Stand, Devari Singhpura, Ranipur, Jhansi, Branch Head: Shri Avanish Singh • Mob.: 9935189301 Borrower: Shri Manoj Kumar S/o Late Anandi Lal, R/o: Mohalla Ladganj, Near Sitanath Mandir, Ranipur, Distt. Jhansi, Guarantor: Smt. Sanjai

Devi W/o Shri Manoj Kumar, R/o: Mohalla Ladganj, Ranipur, Distt. Jhansi Property: Residential House situated at Mohalla Ladganj, Ward No. 1, Ranipur, Distt. Jhansi. Owner of Property: Smt. Sanjana Devi W/o Shri Manoj Kumar, Area: 209.98 Sq. Mtr., Bounded -North: Land of Suresh Bidi Wale, South: House of Ram Prakash Baroniya, East: 2.40 Mtr. Wide

Rasta, West: House of Bhajju Rajpuriya. O/s Amount as per Demand Notice: Rs. 14,16,079.84 + Intt. + Others Charges Date & Time of E-Auction: 14-05-2024 at 11.00 am to 4.00 pm. Reserve Price: Rs. 23.79 Lac, Earnest Money to be deposited Rs. 2.38 Lac. For detailed terms and condition of the sale, please refer to the link

provided in https://www.unionbankofindia.co.in// english/TendelViewAllAuction.aspx Branch Name : Nagar Nigam Jhansi • Address : Nagar Nigam Premises, Jhansi, Branch Head : Shri Manish Ghosh • Mob. : 7860930411

Borrower: Shri Shrif Bux S/o Mohd. Haneef & Smt. Nargis W/o Shri Sharif Bux and Mohd. Haneef S/o Shri Raheem Bux, All R/o: 111/1, Singara Bhatta Gaon, Jhansi. Guarantor: Shri Suheb Khan S/o Shri Rasool Khan, R/o: 1/8, PWD Colony, Jhansi.

O/s Amount as per Demand Notice: Rs. 10,23,541.80 + Intt. + Other Charges Property: Residential House situated at Part of Arazi No. 6, Mauza Singara, Bhatta Gaon, Distt. Jhansi. Owner of Property: Smt. Nargis W/o Shri

Sharif Bux. Area: 1344 Sq. Ft., Bounded: North-Road, 15 Ft., South: Land of Ajeet, East-Plot of Mohd. Sahfeeq, West: Plot of Selle Date & Time of E-Auction: 14-05-2024 at 11.00 am to 4.00 pm

Reserve Price: Rs. 17.63 Lac, Earnest Money to be deposited Rs. 1.77 Lac. For detailed terms and condition of the sale, please refer to the lin provided in https://www.unionbankofindia.co.in// english/TendelViewAllAuction.aspx

Branch Name: Sadar Bazar, Jhansi • Address: 341-G, Sadar Bazar, Jhansi, Branch Head: Shri Naresh Ratnakar • Mob.: 9506849123 Borrower: Shri Mokam Singh S/o Shri Veeran Singh, R/o: 31, Village Lakara-Bhojla, Distt, Jhansi. Guarantor: Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh S/o Shri Veeran Singh, R/o: 31, Village Lakara-Bhojla, Distt, Jhansi. O/s Amount as per Demand Notice: Rs. 15,46,730.00 + Intt. + Other Charges Property: Plot No. C-7, Situated at Mauza Shiv Parivar Colony, Outside Unnao Gate, Distt, Jhansi. Owner of Property: Shri Mokam Singh S/o Shri

veeran Singh, Area: 167.17 Sq. Mtr., Bounded: North-9 Mtr. Road, South: Plot No. C-27 & C-28, East-Plot No. C-8, West: Plot No. C-6 Date & Time of E-Auction: 14-05-2024 at 11.00 am to 4.00 pm Reserve Price: Rs. 49.50 Lac, Earnest Money to be deposited Rs. 4.95 Lac. For detailed terms and condition of the sale, please refer to the link provided in https://www.unionbankofindia.co.in// english/TendelViewAllAuction.aspx

Borrower: Shri Jitendra Parihar S/o Shri Babu Lal, R/o: 381, Ekta Public School, Bhatta Gaon, Near Nala (Govt. Toilet) Jhansi. Guarantor: Shr Rajkumar S/o Shri Ghan Shyam, R/o: 307, Outside Sayanar Gate, Jhansi O/s Amount as per Demand Notice: Rs. 4,41,050.37 + Intt. + Other Charges

Property: Land & Building situated at Ward No. 4, Mauza Talpura Abadi, Bhatta Gaon, Jhansi. Owner of Property: Shri Jitendra Parihar S/o Shr Babu Lal Area: 754 Sq. Ft., Bounded: North-Plot Seller, South: Rasta, East-Plot Smt. Rani, West: Rasta.

Date & Time of E-Auction: 14-05-2024 at 11.00 am to 4.00 pm Reserve Price: Rs. 9.28 Lac, Earnest Money to be deposited Rs. 0.93 Lac. For detailed terms and condition of the sale, please refer to the link provided in https://www.unionbankofindia.co.in// english/TendelViewAllAuction.aspx

Borrower: Shri Subhash Chand S/o Shri Deep Chand & Smt. Rama Devi W/o Shri Subhash Chand and Shri Deep Chand S/o Shri Lala Ram, All R/o:58, Idgah, Pulia No.9, Near Power House, Tehsil & Distt. Jhansi. O/s Amount as per Demand Notice: Rs. 9,30,387.70 + Intt. + Other Charges
Property: Residential House No., 58, Idgah, Pulia No. 9, Distt. Jhansi. Owner of Property: Shri Deep Chand S/o Shri Lala Ram, Area: 61.68
Sq.Mtr., Bounded: North-Rasta 5 Ft., South: House of Ram Swaroop Kansoria, East-Kachha Rasta 10 Mtr., West: Rasta 5 Ft. Date & Time of E-Auction: 14-05-2024 at 11.00 am to 4.00 pm

Reserve Price: Rs. 15.30 Lac, Earnest Money to be deposited Rs. 1.53 Lac. For detailed terms and condition of the sale, please refer to the linit provided in https://www.unionbankofindia.co.in// english/TendelViewAllAuction.aspx

Borrower: Shri Jaipal Singh S/o Shri Than Singh, R/o: Near Vipesh Inter College, Rashgarh, Jhansi, Guarantor: Shri Prabhu Dayal S/o Shri Ganesh Prasad, R/o: 538, Indra Nagar, BHEL, Jhansi. O/s Amount as per Demand Notice: Rs. 3,49,172.00 + Intt. + Other Charges
Property: Residential House Situated at Rashgarh, Jhansi. Owner of Property: Shri Jaipal Singh S/o Shri Than Singh, Area: 1296 Sq.Ft., Bounded: North-Plot of Garibey., South: 10 Ft. Wide Rasta, East-Plot of Seller, West: House of Devi & Jagdish Date & Time of E-Auction: 14-05-2024 at 11.00 am to 4.00 pm

Reserve Price: Rs. 11.72 Lac, Earnest Money to be deposited Rs. 1.18 Lac. For detailed terms and condition of the sale, please refer to the link provided in https://www.unionbankofindia.co.in// english/TendelViewAllAuction.aspx

For Registration and Login and Bidding Rules visit https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp

Date: 26-04-2024 Place: Jhansi Authorized Officer, Union Bank of India

# Don't take chest pain lightly: CMO

hief Medical Officer Dr Sandeep Chaudhary said that chest pain should not be taken lightly and appealed to the people not to be careless by considering chest pain as gas pain.

"If one is feeling nervousness and is sweating along with chest pain, then immediately reach a nearest community health centre and inform the doctor about one's problems to get him/her treated. If we reach the hospital in time, the patient's life can be saved by immediate treatment," he said, while reacting to a case when a 59-year-old patient suddenly felt chest pain and sweating due to nervousness and was admitted to CHC Narpatpur around 2 pm on Saturday. After initial treatment there, he was referred to Urban CHC Sarnath where first his ECG was done and his life was saved by thrombolysis procedure.

Prior to this, a 60-year-old patient suddenly felt severe chest pain and was sweating due to nervousness on Friday night. After this, the family members took him to the nearby Lal Bahadur Shastri district hospital in Ramnagar. The patient was immediately admitted there and after ECG, within an hour, he was given thrombolysis which saved his life. Now he is completely healthy. Dr NK Yadav's team worked in LBS Hospital while that of Dr Shailesh in Sarnath CHC.

cardiography (ECG) and thrombolysis procedures being provided under the Heart Attack Care Project (STEMI Care Project) run at the government hospitals and CHCs of the district were proving effective for heart attack patients. He said that ECG and thrombol-

The CMO said that the electro-



A heart patient is being treated at a health centre in Varanasi on Saturday

ysis facilities were available at three government hospitals (DDU Hospital Pandeypur, SSPG Divisional Hospital Kabir Chaura, SVM Government Hospital Bhelupur) and 11 CHĈs.

According to him, ICMR's STEMI Care Project is being run in the district with the help of Prof Dharmendra Jain of the cardiology department of Banaras Hindu University (BHU) and research scientist Dr Payal Singh. Under the project, BHU is working as a hub' while all the government hospitals and CHCs of the district are working as 'spokes'.
Dr Payal Singh said that ECG tests were being done in CHCs and district level hospitals. From December 25 till now, 66

have been given new life through the thrombolysis process. "If a person has sudden severe chest pain and reaches the hospital within one hour during the golden hour, he/she can be stabilised by giving a special injection under the thrombol-

having continuous chest pain and reaches the hospital within four to six hours, then the thrombolysis process can be completed within that window period and the patient's life can be saved. If the patient is having continuous chest pain, then even in such a situation, if the patient reaches the hospital within 12 hours, then during that period too, he/she can be stabilised by giving a special type of injection under the thrombolysis process," Dr Payal Singh said. According to the research sci-

entist, the injection given under the thrombolysis process completes the process of removing the blocked flow of blood in the patient's veins.

This stabilises the patient and severe heart attack patients saves his or her life. In case of heart attack or if heart attack problem is seen in the patient, thrombolysis therapy is given due to which the patient gets cured. If necessary, this gives time to the patient and the patient can go to the nearest big centre and get angioplasty or other necessary treatment as and students and wi-per requirement," she added. a prosperous future. ysis process. If a person is

## World Veterinary Day celebrated

Varanasi (PNS): Faculty of Veterinary Animal Sciences (FVAS) of Banaras Hindu University celebrated World Veterinary Day with various events at faculty premises in Rajiv Gandhi South Campus (RGSC) at Barkachha (Mirzapur) on Saturday. Among the events were the

inaugural national clinical case competition held in a hybrid format, a free rabies vaccination programme, poster presentations, and a Rangoli competition on the theme 'Veterinarians are Essential Health Workers'. The events were organised under Dr Amit R Gupta by a team including Dr Priyaranjan Kumar, Dr Davanidhi Iena, Dr Balamurgun, Dr Suvaneeth, Dr Vineeth, Dr Kruti Mandal. Anti Rabies vaccination camp was led by Dr Vinod and Dr Zingare. Additionally, a cleanliness campaign, organised under the NSS banner by Dr Saurabh Karunamay, was also conducted.

Dr Rajesh Kumar Chourasia, the chief guest and additional director of Animal Husbandry Department, Varanasi, emphasised the importance of World Veterinary Day in honouring the contributions of veterinarians in alleviating the suffering of animals and saving lives. He underscored the responsibility of new veterinarians in preventing cruelty towards animals in any form.

Dr Raiesh Kumar, the guest of honour and chief veterinary officer of Mirzapur, elaborated on the pivotal role of field veterinarians in promoting both animal and human health, as well as environmental wellbeing. Dr Sahid Prawez, the dean of FVAS, extended his blessings to the participants and students and wished them

# TMC Government protecting terrorists, rapists in Bengal: BJP

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI** 

The BJP on Saturday accused the Trinamool Congress (TMC) government in West Bengal of "protecting" terrorists and rapists and claimed the state appears to be on the brink of anarchy.

BJP's national spokesperson Prem Shukla hit out at Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee at a press conference, a day after the CBI seized weapons, including a police service revolver and foreign-made firearms, during searches at two premises of an associate of now-suspended TMC leader Shajahan Sheikh, a key accused in the Sandeshkhali case.

While goons in Sandeshkhali robbed women of their 'mangalsutra', "rapists" like Sheikh were given protection and the seizure of such arms, including a police weapon, shows that the state police were nursing such criminals, he alleged. Sheikh, a former TMC strong-

man, has been accused of running a ring of local thugs who molested women and grabbed

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



Banerjee questions raids by the probe agency and allegedly justified those who attacked the Enforcement Directorate (ED) officials but she offered no word of support to the CBI, he told reporters.

The TMC claims to stand in support of "Ma, Mati, Manush" but has instead provided safety to criminals like Sheikh, he

Does Banerjee now have any moral right to appeal in the apex court after the seizure of weapons, Shukla asked, slamming the opposition INDIA bloc parties for their silence on the Sandeshkhali issue.

At the press conference, anoth-

the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) following the Delhi High Court's critical remarks on the continuation of Arvind Kejriwal as the chief minister despite being in jail.

The High Court on Friday pulled up the city government over the issue of non-supply of books to the children studying in the MCD schools, saying the continuation of Kejriwal even after his arrest puts political interest over national interest. The court said the Delhi government was "interested in appropriation of power".

The court's observations came after the Delhi government's counsel said the matter requires certain approvals from the alleged money laundering case in connection with the

2021 excise policy.
Poonawalla said mockingly that Kejriwal has travelled a long journey from advocating 'swaraj' (self-rule) to being arrested in a scam involving 'sharab' (liquor) and standing with opposition leaders like Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi and Lalu Prasad Yadav after once advocating for their

He asked when Kejriwal will resign and stop playing with people's future, as he took a swipe at him over promoting his wife Sunita Kejriwal in politics after speaking against family politics all these years.

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

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI/HYDERABAD

 $B_{\mathtt{Laxman}}^{\mathtt{JP}\,\mathtt{Rajya}\,\mathtt{Sabha}\,\mathtt{member}\,\mathtt{K}}$ asked why the Congress did not think of conducting a caste census when it was in power for over five decades and said that it was the and said that it was the Nehru-Gandhi family which was in power for a long and sought to know why the Congress did not think of conducting a caste census then. "Why they (Congress) are making this demand now, it is to provoke (people). We are not against any caste census. But, it needs scientific and thorough study on it," Laxman, national president of BJP's OBC Morcha, said in a media interaction.

Observing that there is diversity vis-a-vis various communities in the country, he said the Reddys of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh are BCs in Karnataka. Similarly, Kammas of AP and Telangana are a backward class in Karnataka, he said. The Reddys and Kammas come under Other Castes (OCs) in Telangana and Andhra



Why did the Congress gov-ernment in Karnataka not publish the census held in the state, he asked. Laxman, former president of Telangana BJP, also asked why the previous BRS government in Telangana did not publish the details of the 'intensive household survey' conducted

Is it an attempt of opposition parties to show the BJP in a bad light? Laxman, a BJP Rajya Sabha member from Uttar Pradesh, accused Congress and other opposition parties of resorting to divisive and appearement politics in the run-up to the Lok At a time when the BJP is working with the resolve of making the country a developed nation by 2047 with the slogan of 'sab ka sath, sab ka vikas', "the opposition is talking about caste census, Muslim appeasement and creating animosities and bringing a division," he said.

Laxman also alleged that "Muslim appeasement is not a new thought, but it is in the DNA of Congress from the beginning". Elections to the 17 Lok Sabha seats in Telangana will be held on May 13. The BJP is fighting the parliament elections in Telangana without any

# BJP's hypocrisy knows no bounds: Congress

PNS NEW DELHI

ongress on Saturday said Cthe BJP's "hypocrisy knows no bounds" and alleged that while it called the administrative allocation of 2G spectrum under the UPA a "scam", the Narendra Modi government was now seeking permission from the Supreme Court to "give away spectrum" without an auction.

The opposition party's attack came after the Centre on Monday moved the Supreme Court seeking modification of its verdict in the 2G spectrum case which said the State was duty bound to adopt the auction route while transferring or alienating the country's natural resources.

A top source, however, later said the government is not seeking to change the 2012 Supreme Court judgement that backed auction as the preferred mode of allocating telecom spectrum except for narrowly defined sectors such as satellite communication and defence where auction is not feasible.

Attacking the BJP, Congress chief spokesman Jairam Ramesh said the hypocrisy of



the 'Modi Sarkar' and 'Bhrasht Janata Party' knows no "During Dr Manmohan Singh's tenure, they cried to all who would listen that the administrative allocation of 2G spectrum

Now, they are arguing the opposite - they have gone to the Supreme Court for permission to give away spectrum to whoever they want, without an auction," he alleged.

In its judgement delivered on February 2, 2012, the apex court had quashed 2G spectrum licences given to various firms during the tenure of A Raja as the telecom minister in January 2008.

On Monday, Attorney General R Venkataramani, appearing for the Centre, mentioned an interim application before a bench of Ĉĥief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justice J B Pardiwala.

While seeking urgent listing of the application, the top law officer told the bench that the plea seeks modification of the 2012 verdict as the Centre wanted to grant 2G spectrum

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

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Narcotics Control ■ Board(NCB) and Gujarat Police ATS Saturday busted three "clandestine" drug manufacturing labs in Rajasthan and Gujarat leading to the seizure of 300 kgs of narcotics seizure of 300 kgs of narcotics and arrest of seven persons.
Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) Deputy Director General (Operations)
Gyaneshwar Singh in a statement said the labs were unearthed after about three months of "intensive" technic months of "intensive" technical and ground surveillance that was mounted by the two agencies to identify the people involved in the network as well as the locations of the

A total of 149 kgs of mephedrone or 'meow meow' (both in powder and liquid form), 50 kg ephedrine, and 200 litres of acetone was recovered from the three labs located in Bhinmal of Jalore district and Osian in Jodhpur district of Rajasthan and Gandhinagar in Gujarat, the officer said. Seven people have been arrested till now in



the crackdown, he said. The teams of the two agencies were also raiding a similar lab in Amreli district of Gujarat

and more recoveries are expected, Singh said. The kingpin of this network has been identified and will be arrested soon. Efforts are being made to track and identify the source of precursor

chemicals as well as the dis-

tribution network, national as

well as any international linkages," he said. Mephedrone, also known as 4-methylmethcathinone, 4-MMC and 4-methylephedrone, is a synthetic stimulant and is also identified by its slang names --drone, M-CAT, white magic, meow

## Congress attacks Modi over snatching quotas remarks

The Congress on Saturday slammed as "false propaganda" Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'snatching quotas' remarks and alleged that it was the BJP that was against reservation for SCs, STs and OBCs.

Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said the reality is that since 1950, reservation in education and employment has been possible when there have been Congress prime ministers and Congress governments at the helm.

In a video statement, Ramesh said, "The prime minister is repeatedly indulging in the false propaganda that the Congress is against the reservation for SCs, STs and OBCs and wants to snatch it away. This is absolutely false.'

"The reality is that the provi-



sions in the Constitution for reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were made because of B R Ambedkar, Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and other Congress leaders. So, this was the contribution of the Congress," Ramesh said.

He said in 1994 when P V Narasimha Rao was the prime minister, for the first time, 27 per cent reservation for OBCs was given in employment in central government and in 2006 when Manmohan Singh was the prime minister, 27 per cent reservation was made in higher education institutions So, the reality is that since

1950, reservation in education and employment for SCs, STs and OBCs, has been possible when there have been Congress prime ministers and Congress governments," he said. few months ago, when the women's reservation bill was

being debated, the Congress demanded that OBC women should also be given that reservation but the central government did not accept it and the PM did not say anything about it, Ramesh said. "A new law came into being in which there is no provision for OBC women. So the reality is that the BJP is against the reservation for SCs, STs and OBCs. It has been due to the guarantee of the Congress that the reservation for SCs, STs and OBCs in education and employment is still available," the Congress

## Adults with adverse childhood experiences more likely to feel depressed PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Aadverse childhood experiences are four times more likely to experience depression and low life satisfaction, three times more likely to experience anxiety and are 30 times more likely at attempt suicide than people with no adverse childhood experiences, according to a study that explored the role of modifiable community- and societal-level factors in youth mental health and well-being.
The study led by Hasina Samji,

a professor in the Faculty of Health Sciences collected data from January to March 2022 during the fifth wave of the pandemic, a time that included the highest number of daily COVID-19 case counts.

Students were asked to note their number of positive and adverse experiences (up to age 18), the degree to which they experienced depression



and anxiety symptoms, and to rank their mental wellbeing

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

more symptoms of depression and anxiety, and poorer life satisfaction and mental

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

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

you look at people who have structural and systemic supbeen exposed to four or more ports we can provide earlier." adverse childhood experi- Mental illness, Samji explains, the populations, but follows a socio-economic gradient. The study therefore recommends systemic changes to provide extra support to families, by institutions, (justice, health, schools), to increase positive childhood experiences and reduce adverse experiences. We have to change the paradigm," Samji says. "When people think about mental health, they only think of mental illness, but mental health is so much more.

"Just like physical health, there is the illness aspect, but we know we can do more to support our physical health: We can work out, we can eat well. Similarly for mental health. Mental illness is not a done deal. You can delay it; you can prevent it in certain cases. There is, of course, a genetic component, just like there is in physical illness."

## Antibiotics rampant use during pandemic worsened AMR: WHO

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI** 

The indiscriminate use of

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



in the Western Pacific Region between 2020 and 2022, according to the WHO.

The highest rate of antibiotic use was seen among patients with severe or critical Covid-19, with a global average of 81 per cent. In mild or moderate cases, there was a considerable variation across regions, with the highest use in the African Region (79 per cent)," the WHO report said. Regions and a 33 percent rise The findings are based on data

from 450,000 patients admitted to hospitals for Covid in 65 countries between January 2020 and March 2023, as recorded in the WHO Global Clinical Platform for Covid-

Often dubbed the "Silent Pandemic", AMR necessitates immediate and efficacious intervention rather than being relegated to a future scenario. In the absence of preventive measures, projections indicate that by 2050, AMR could potentially supersede all other causes of mortality world-

Globally, estimates indicate that the direct fatalities linked to AMR surpassed 1.2 million in 2019, with a foreseen escalation to approximately 10 million deaths annually by 2050 if inadequate measures are implemented to curb

"When a patient requires antibiotics, the benefits often outweigh the risks associated with side effects or antibiotic resistance. However, when they are unnecessary, they offer no benefit while posing risks, and their use contributes to the emergence and spread of antimicrobial resistance, said Dr Silvia Bertagnolio, WHO Unit Head for Surveillance, Evidence, and Laboratory Strengthening

Division for AMR. "These data call for improvements in the rational use of antibiotics to minimise unnecessary negative consequences for patients and populations.

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

medications.

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

vidual level supports, but also

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

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



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

analyst at Ember, emphasized The International Energy

Agency underscores the importance of tripling global renewable energy capacity and doubling energy efficiency to mitigate climate change effectively and limit the average temperature rise to 1.5 degrees This highlights the urgency for

G7 nations and the global community as a whole to accelerate efforts in transitioning towards renewable energy sources and enhancing energy efficiency measures. A tripling of renewable capacity would require the G7 to reach 2.7 TW by 2030, leaving a 0.7 TW gap between current targets and a tripling-aligned goal. Italy, this year's host of the G7, along with Germany and the UK, are leading the

2022 capacity. However, France and Japan are lagging behind their G7 partners with targets well below a

way with 2030 targets that are more than doubling of the

# **INDIA Bloc plans to have five PMs** in five years if elected: Modi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday targeted the Congress-led INDI alliance, saying it is mulling to have five prime ministers in five years if voted to power.

Addressing a rally at Kolhapur in western Maharashtra, Modi said the opposition bloc cannot even reach a three-digit figure or "at the doorstep of forming a government, but has plans to have one prime minister every

year if they get a chance".
"In Karnataka, Congress has planned to rotate the post of the chief minister by handing it to the deputy chief minister after 2.5 years. They had this arrangement in Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan as well," he said. Modi said the Congress wants to extend the "Karnataka model wherein Muslims were inducted in the 27 per cent quota for OBCs", in the entire country.



vowed to murder social justice," he said and accused the Congress of stooping low for appeasement and vote bank olitics.

Congress wants to change the Constitution and rob Dalits, OBCs of quota benefits for religion-based reservation," he

Modi said the Congress had "The Congress-led alliance has not only opposed the con-

struction of Ram Temple in Ayodhya but also declined the invitation for its consecration. Targeting Rahul Gandhi over wealth distribution, Modi said, "The Congress shehzade wants to search your wealth and distribute it to those who the party had said to have the first right on the country's resources".

"The Congress wanted to

impose inheritance tax and

rob people of their inheritance. Such people shouldn't get even a slight chance of coming to power," he added. He said the NDA is leading 2-0 in the first two phases of Lok

Sabha elections.

"Kolhapur is known as a football hub. With the second phase of polling completed, I will say the NDA is leading 2will say the NDA is leading 2-0 while the Congress alliance engaged in anti-India policies and politics of hate has scored two self-goals," he added. I am sure voters will score such a 'goal' in the third phase that the INDI alliance will be vanquished, Modi said, adding that in the subsequent phases

that in the subsequent phases, the INDIA bloc should be handed a resounding defeat. "The Congress manifesto says Article 370 will be restored and CAA will be repealed. Can anyone change Modi's deci-

sions? And if they do so, do

they know what will be the

repercussions?" he asked.

# EC accepts 503 nominations for LS, 2,705 for Assembly polls in Andhra Pradesh

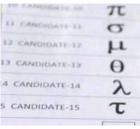
PTI ■ AMARAVATI

Andhra Pradesh Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Mukesh Kumar Meena on Saturday said 503 nominations for 25 Lok Sabha seats and 2,705 papers for 175 Assembly segments in the State have been accepted after scrutiny for the May 13 polls.

Of the 686 nominations received for the general elections, 183 were rejected, he said.

As many as 939 nominations out of 3,644 papers received for Assembly elections were also rejected following scrutiny, he added.

"For Parliament constituencies, Nandyala Lok Sabha segment saw the highest number of accepted nominations at 36 scrutiny, while Rajahmundry saw the lowest number at 12, " said Meena in



Tirupati emerged as the Assembly constituency which witnessed the highest number of accepted nominations after scrutiny at 48 and Chodavaram the lowest at six.

The Election Commission

scrutinised the nominations on Friday, which were received between April 18 and 25. April 29 is the last date for withdrawal of nominations. The simultaneous elections for the Assembly and Lok Sabha in Andhra Pradesh will be held on 13 May. The results of the entire nation's votes will be put

# 81.17 per cent turnout recorded in 2nd phase for 5 Assam LS seats

**PTI** GUWAHATI

A ssam recorded 81.17 per cent voter turnout in the second phase of polling for five Lok Sabha constituencies, officials said on Saturday.

officials said on Saturday. The Nagaon seat registered the highest polling percentage at 84.97, followed by Darrang-Udalguri at 82.01, Karimganj at 80.48, Silchar at 79.05 and Diphu at 75.74, they said. Altogether 77.26 lakh electors were eligible to exercise their were eligible to exercise their franchise in the second phase of polling held on Friday, the election officials said.

Women voters recorded a higher turnout of 85.55 per cent compared to the polling percentage of men at 84.41 and the third gender at 16.47. Sixty-one candidates were in the fray in the second phase of

polling. In the first phase of polls held on April 19, a 78.25 per

cent turnout was recorded in Kaziranga, Jorhat, Dibrugarh, Sonitpur and Lakhimpur Lok Sabha constituencies.

The total voter turnout in both phases was 79.63 per cent, comprising 79.34 per cent of men, 79.92 per cent of women and 18.09 per cent of those belonging to the third gender.

Assam had recorded 81.55 per cent voter turnout in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections to 14 seats.

The prominent candidates in the second phase of polling included state Transport Minister Parimal Suklabaidya and Surya Kanta Sarkar of the Congress in Silchar, BJP's Amarsing Tisso and Congress' Joyram Engleng in Diphu. Sitting MPs Pradyut Bordoloi

of Congress in Nagaon, BJP's Kripanath Malla in Karimganj and Dilip Saikia in Darrang-Udalguri are also in the fray.

# Pension increase, Vizag as executive Capital in YSRCP poll manifesto

PTI ■ AMARAVATI

YSRCP chief Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy on Saturday released his party's manifesto for the upcoming elections and promised to gradually hike welfare pensions from Rs 3,000 to Rs 3,500 per month and gov-ern the state from

Visakhapatnam. The Chief Minister noted that welfare pensions, which are currently at Rs 3,000 per month, will be raised to Rs 3,250 from January 2028 and subsequently to Rs 3,500 from

January 2029. Immediately after YSRCP forms the government in 2024, Visakhapatnam will be made the executive capital and the seat of the government. It will be developed as the growth engine of the state," said Reddy,

Amaravati will be developed as the legislative capital and Kurnool as the judicial capital. Creation of special panchayats for Dalits who account for 50 percent population of a village or 500 households is a new scheme introduced in the manifesto today.

Over the next five years, the ruling party chief promised to supply pure uncontaminated drinking water to every household, repair and develop road infrastructure, and develop industrial parks in every district under a Public Private Partnership (PPP) model.

In Godavari districts, he promised to solve the issue of aquaculture ponds' water contaminating other regular water

Other initiatives include the addressing a press conference. allocation of Rs 2,000 crore in

Further, he vowed that the first phase to develop district headquarters as smart cities by laying roads, building parks, drainage and other necessary amenities.

MSMEs, which received two incentives in the past five years, will receive them on an annual basis, said Reddy, promising a life insurance of Rs 5 lakh to gig workers in organisations such as Swiggy, Zomato, Amazon and others under YSR Jeevan Bhima scheme.

Further, Reddy promised to complete the Bhogapuram international airport in the next 18 months and assured to finish building the Polavaram Project over the next five years, along with completing the comprehensive resurvey of land, among others.

Similar to the past five years, Reddy laid special emphasis on welfare, health, education, agri-



He assured that the construction of 17 medical colleges, four ports, 10 fishing harbours, six fish landing centres, aqua university, law university, Dr Abdul Haq University, tribal engineering college and tribal university will be completed in the next five years.

Further, Reddy promised to continue the Nadu-Nedu school renovation programme,

be taken to fill 3,295 teaching posts in 18 universities, overcoming the court cases.

along with welfare hostels and

degree colleges.
Likewise, he said steps would

Continuing almost all the schemes introduced in the past five years, Reddy has also raised the financial outlay for some schemes such as Amma Vodi, which has been hiked from Rs 15,000 per annum to Rs 17,000. Amma Vodi is a financial aid scheme for mothers who send their children to school.

YSR Rythu Bharosa scheme, which benefits farmers has been hiked from Rs 13,500 to Rs 16,000 per annum, guaranteeing a financial assistance of Rs 80,000 over the next five

Similarly, zero interest loans for small traders under Jagananna Thodu scheme will be

increased from Rs 10,000 to Rs 15,000 per annum, including raising it up to Rs 20,000 for those traders who promptly repay the loans.

Likewise, all the direct benefit transfer (DBT) schemes such as YSR Cheyutha, YSR Kapu Nestham, YSR EBC Nestham, YSR Asara, Kalyanamasthu- Shaadi Thofa,

Vahana Mitra, YSR Law Nestham and others will be continued, including housing for the poor. Delving on jobs, YSRCP chief noted that Group - I, Group -

II and other government recruitment examinations will be conducted without fail. The YSRCP chief insisted that a political party's manifesto

assumed its real meaning only in his government, which treated it as a holy book like the Bible, Quran and Bhagavad

Meanwhile, he observed that the YSRCP government has incurred an annual expenditure of around Rs 70,000 crore per annum to fulfil its DBT and non-DBT schemes.

Comparing this quantum to the schemes being promised by TDP supremo N Chandrababu Naidu under his super six schemes and others, Reddy said it will cost an exorbitant Rs 1.21 lakh crore per annum to fulfil the opposition NDA alliance's promises.

Further, Reddy confidently asserted that nobody can stop some of the schemes he has introduced.

Elections for the 175-member Assembly and 25 Lok Sabha seats in Andhra Pradesh are scheduled on May 13 and the counting of votes will be held

# Forest on fire: Army, Air Force...

From Page 1

"These human-induced fires often stem from various factors, including villagers resorting to fire out of dry deciduous forest, while resentment towards forest officials, or individuals carelessly discarding lit bidi (cigarettes) amidst dried leaves during the dry summer season.

the official Moreover, highlighted the proactive role of the Forest Survey of India (FSI) in detecting and monitoring forest fire monitoring incidents.

He shared that the Dehradun based Forest Survey of India (FSI) has been alerting State Forest Departments towards forest fire incidences detected by MODIS sensor on-board Aqua and Terra Satellite of NASA and SNPP- VIIRS sensor, at least six times in 24 hours.

The fire hotspots detected are received at Shadnagar Earth Station (National Remote Sensing Centre) processed using standard algorithms. The entire process has been made completely automated which has effectively reduced the

dissemination time lag. Another official from the FSI

said that severe fires occur in many forest types particularly evergreen, semi-evergreen and montane temperate forests are comparatively less

Also, more than 36 per cent of the country's forest cover has been estimated to be prone to frequent forest fires while nearly four per cent is extremely prone to fire. Around six per cent of forest cover is found to be very highly fire prone.

"Based on the forest inventory records, 54.40 per cent of forests in India are exposed to occasional fires, 7.49 per cent to moderately frequent fires and 2.40 per cent to high incidence levels while 35.71 per cent of India's forests have not yet been exposed to fires of any real significance," said

the official. In Uttarakhand, to contain the fire in Nainital, the district administration has implemented precautionary measures, including a ban on boating in Naini lake. Additionally,

authorities have deployed manpower, with 40 Manora Range personnel and two forest rangers dedicated to extinguishing the flames.

In the last 24 hours, 31 new incidents of forest fire were reported from various parts of the State, destroying 33.34 hectares of forest land. The alarming frequency of forest fires underscores the broader challenge faced Uttarakhand, with incidents reported since November l last year, affecting nearly 690 hectares of forest land and incurring significant economic costs exceeding Rs 14 lakh. Such figures highlight the pressing need for sustained efforts to mitigate the impact of forest fires and safeguard the region's ecological balance

and communities. According to the daily bulletin issued by the Forest Department here from November 1 last year till now, a total of 575 incidents of forest fire have been reported in the state, affecting 689.89 hectares of forest area and costing the state more than Rs 14 lakh.

## ED arrest ploy to crush...

From Page 1

"The record would reveal that each and every summon that has been issued to Arvind responded. In the instant case, the ED has not only been opaque and dictatorial in its approach but also guilty of suggestio falsi (suggesting falsehood) & suppressio veri (suppressing truth).'

The AAP leader said the ED, in its reply affidavit filed in the apex court, has said that one of the reasons which necessitated his arrest was that he did not remain present before the investigating officer (IO) despite being summoned nine times. Kejriwal said the ED has said

in its reply that in such a case, the IO was justified in forming an opinion that custodial interrogation would lead to "a qualitatively more elicitation orientated" questioning of the accused.

"The aforementioned tenor, text and contents of the reply leave no manner of doubt that the ED has acted in a most highhanded manner in a gross affront to the due process of law," he said. Kejriwal claimed that the ED has never spelt out the alleged non-cooperation by him.

"What was the requirement in not calling the petitioner (Kejriwal) either through an authorised agent or seeking information or documents from him in writing or through a virtual mode and insisting on his presence physically in person, is not forthcoming," he said.

## **Lawyer Nikam replaces Mahajan on Mumbai...**

From Page 1

After Ajmal Kasab was hanged, Újjwal Nikam said it was a victory for India and by hanging Kasab, India paid homage to all the policemen and innocent people who lost their lives in the terror attack.

In 2014, Poonam secured victory from the Mumbai Central North triumphing over incumbent MP Priya Dutt, daughter of the late actor and Congress leader Sunil Dutt. Poonam repeated this success in 2019 as well. The State, with its 48

Lok Sabha seats, is the He also took part in the second-largest contributor murder case of senior BJP to the Lower House of leader Pramod Mahajan. Parliament after Uttar Pradesh.Mumbai North-Central will go to poll on May 20 and the counting of votes will take place on June 4. The Congress has fielded its city unit chief and Dharavi MLA Varsha Gaikwad from Mumbai North Central. Voting in Mumbai is scheduled to be held on May 20 in the fifth

phase of the polls. The BJP also named eight more candidates for the Odisha assembly polls, which will be held alongside the general elections.

## Parties sit up, take note as...

From Page 1

The data showed there have been 17 Lok Sabha elections from 1951-52 to 2019. In 16 Lok Sabha elections 1957 to 2019, the turnout declined six times and increased 10 times.

Of these, the incumbent Governments have been repeated eight times and replaced the same number of times. Of the 10 times the turnout has increased, the incumbent has lost 4 times and won 6 times. Hence, the government was repeated 60

Of the six times the turnout has declined, the incumbent has lost 4 times and won two

## Voters show indifference to high octane campaign...

From Page 1

When the candidate K A Unnikrishnan was asked about this faux pas, his reply "You could have intimated me this information at least on Wednesday so that I could have directed the agent to call on that area." All four candidates belonging to the BJDS (the allies of the BJP) would surely bite the dust in the election, said even hardcore BJP activists.

Though the poll managers election. We used to said Sujathan. blame the high temperature for the fall in voters' turn out, Opposition leader VD Satheeshan (Congress) called for a high level probe into the phenomenon. But veteran poll pundits like P Sujathan are of the view that the fall in polling percentage would not make any major difference in the final outcome. "There is a fall of six per cent in the polling compared to the 2019

consider the increase in polling as an indication of the change which is in the offing but not anymore. The polling percentage fell because of the scorching heat, lackadaisical approach of the Congress and absence of enthusiasm. Had it been Assembly election, we would have seen a heavy turnout because of the strong antiincumbency wave against the CPI (M) Government," He pointed out that the general impression about 2024 election is that the BIP would retain power and Narendra Modi will become the Prime Minister for third

(M) leaders told me," said Sujathan. Before signing off, Sujathan expressed hope that the BJP is likely to win one seat.

time in a row. "This is what

the Congress and the CPI

could hope for as Modi alone would not be able to make them victorious. The present leadership of Kerala BJP is incapable, inefficient and inept in winning any election on its own and this has left the people with no alternative other than the Congress and the CPI (M)." he said. Kerala rendezvous with Lotus may have to wait for years as the present State leadership is a millstone "This is the maximum they around their neck.

# Maharashtra: Youth migration, farmer woes cause voting to...

From Page 1

Opposition And the Congress - failed to whip any frenzy or a wave in the

Pioneer" had with a section of voters across the eight LS constituencies revealed that apart from the general lack of enthusiasm among large sections utter

classes. disenchantment among the unbearable

Another reason cited for the drop in the polling percentage was the clash of run-up to Friday's polls.

Interactions that "The marriages in this region. the second polling date with

"It was an incredibly dull election. Unlike in the 2014 and 2019 Lok Sabha polls, there was no excitement at all in the election. There was voters, hardly any enthusiasm particularly the middle among the middle classes to participate in the elections. Similarly, there has been farmers in the peasant migration of unemployed suicide belt, migration of youth to other cities in the youth to other cities for jobs state. Most of them did not heat come back to vote on the conditions contributed to polling day. Plus the hot the marked reduction in the summer conditions with government. "Though many

percentages. mercury rising up to 43-44 degrees C prevented people from coming out to vote, Nagpur-based journalist and a researcher on agrarian crisis in Vidarbha region Jaideep Hardikar said.

Hardikar, who both as journalist and a core member of the People's Archive of Rural India has travelled in the length and breadth of Vidarbha and written extensively about the farmer suicides and cotton crisis over the years, said that there was a strong undercurrent of resentment among the farmers in the region against the Modi

of them stayed away from polling, large sections of farmers who turned up for voting were sure of their choice of candidates to vote for. I am sure when the votes are counted on June 4, the BJP will have to be ready for major electoral reversal," he said, as stuck his neck out on the electoral outcome that awaits the ruling party Vidarbha region.

Dr Sanjeev Narkhade, an ENT specialist based in Khamgaon (Assembly segment that falls in Buldhana Lok Sabha constituency), said: "One of the factors that contributed

percentage yesterday was the clash of the polling date with the marriages. Similarly, the summer heat with the temperatures rising up to 42 degrees C forced many voters not to venture out of their home to vote. The major contestants have had no connection with the people in Khamgaon where I live. As a result, there was not much enthusiasm to go out and vote". In the eight Lok Sabha

constituencies, temperature that prevailed on Friday ranged from 40 degrees C to 44 degrees C which made it difficult for to the drop in the polling the voters to venture out of clashed with the marriage

their homes and stand in dates of the people in this queues to vote at any point of the day. Dr Aniket Waikar, a

agricultural

Vasantrao Naik Marathwada Vidyapeeth, Parbhani, said: "In general, the people are not very happy with what is going on in politics. As a result, many of the people were not even interested in going out to vote. Migration of local people to places like Nashik and Pune for jobs also contributed to the reduction in the polling percentage. In addition, the polling date

region" Arvind Ambekar, a senior lawyer from Gangakhed professor in Parbhani-based town from Parbhani district, university said: "People are thoroughly dissatisfied with the BJP governments in the state and at the Centre. Several of them chose to stay away from polling. Those who voted have gone against the ruling party'

On its part, the BJP - which is fighting in alliance with the Shiv Sena (Shinde) and NCP ( Ajit Pawar), is fighting to retain four of its seats ---Akola, Amravati, Wardha and Nanded. Of the eight constituencies in June 2022.

that went to polls, three constituencies -- Buldhana, Yavatmal-Washim Hingoli - are witnessing a direct fight between the Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena, which is taking on the Shiv Sena (UBT). This is the first major

elections that the two Shiv Sena outfits are clashing against each other after the the Shiv Sena split that saw senior party leader Shinde rebel against Uddhav Thackeray, walk out of the party along with 40-odd MLAs team up with the Opposition BJP to form Government in Maharashtra

# Hamas reviewing Israeli proposal for cease-fire in Gaza

amas said on Saturday it was reviewing a new Israeli proposal for a cease-fire in Gaza, as Egypt intensified efforts to broker a deal to end the months-long war and stave off a possible Israeli ground offensive into the southern Gaza city of Rafah. Senior Hamas official Khalil al-Hayya said the Palestinian militant group was evaluating Israel's proposal, and "upon completion of its study, it will

He gave no details of Israel's offer but said it was in response to a proposal from Hamas two

submit its response."

er this month centered on a sixweek cease-fire proposal and the release of 40 civilian and sick hostages in exchange for freeing hundreds of Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails.

Hamas' statement came hours after a high-level Egyptian delegation wrapped up a visit to Israel where it discussed a "new vision" for a prolonged cease-fire in Gaza, according to an Egyptian official, who spoke on condition of anonymity to freely discuss the develop-

It was not immediately clear whether Israel's latest response to Hamas on a cease-fire was directly related to Friday's visit weeks ago. Negotiations earli- to Tel Aviv by Egyptian medi-

The discussions between Egyptian and Israeli officials focused on the first stage of a multi-phase plan that would include a limited exchange of hostages held by Hamas for Palestinian prisoners, and the return of a significant number of displaced Palestinians to their homes in northern Gaza

with minimum restrictions,"

the Egyptian official said. The mediators are working on a compromise that will answer most of both parties' main demands, which could pave the way to continued negotiations with the goal of a larger deal to end the war, the official said. As the war drags on and casugrowing international pressure for Hamas and Israel to reach an agreement on a cease-fire and avert a possible Israeli attack on Rafah, where more than half of Gaza's 2.3 million people have sought refuge after fleeing fighting elsewhere in the

territory.
Israel has been insisting for months it plans a ground offensive into Rafah, on the border with Egypt, where it says many remaining Hamas militants are holed up, despite calls for restraint from the international community including Israel's staunchest ally, the United

Egypt has cautioned an offen-

sive into Rafah could have "catastrophic consequences" on the humanitarian situation in Gaza, as well as on regional peace and security.

The Israeli military has massed dozens of tanks and armoured vehicles in southern Israel close to Rafah and hit targets in the city in near-daily airstrikes. Early Saturday, an Israeli airstrike hit a house in Rafah's Tel Sultan neighbourhood, killing six people, including four children, according to officials at a local hospital.

The strike killed a man, his wife and their three sons, aged 12, 10 and 8, according to records of the Abu Yousef al-Najiar hospital's morgue. A neighbour's four-month-old girl was also killed, the records showed. Hamas said Friday it is open to any "ideas or suggestions" that take into consideration the needs of the Palestinian people such as an end to Israel's attacks on Gaza, the return of displaced people to their homes and an Israeli withdrawal.

The Palestinian group has said it will not back down from its demands for a permanent cease-fire and full withdrawal of Israeli troops, both of which Israel has rejected. Israel says it will continue mil-

itary operations until Hamas is defeated and that it will retain a security presence in Gaza afterward.

attack into southern Israel on October 7, in which militants killed around 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and took some 250 people as hostages. Israel says the militants are still holding around 100 hostages and the remains of more than 30 others.

Since then, 34,000 Palestinians have been killed in Israel's air and ground offensive, according to the Health Ministry in Hamas-run Gaza, around twothirds of them children and

Israel has reported at least 260 of its soldiers killed since the start of ground operations in

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

Students protesting the Israel-Hamas war at universities across US, some of whom have clashed with police in riot gear, dug in Saturday and vowed to keep their demonstrations going, while several school faculties condemned university presidents who have called in law enforcement to remove protesters.

As Columbia University continues negotiations with those at a pro-Palestinian student encampment on the New York school's campus, the university's senate passed a resolution Friday that created a task force to examine the administration's leadership, which last week called in police in an attempt to clear the protest, resulting in scuffles and more than 100

Though the university has repeatedly set and then pushed back deadlines for the removal of the encampment, the school sent an email to students Friday night saying that bringing back police "at this time" would be counterproductive, adding that they hope the negotiations show "concrete signs of progress tonight."

As the death toll mounts in the

war in Gaza, protesters nation-wide are demanding that schools cut financial ties to Israel and divest from companies they say are enabling the conflict. Some Jewish students say the protests have veered into antisemitism and made them afraid to set foot on campus. The decisions to call in law enforcement, leading to hundreds of arrests nationwide, have prompted school faculty members at universities in California, Georgia and Texas to initiate or pass votes of no con-

their presidents. But the tensions pile pressure on school officials, who are already scrambling to resolve the protests as May graduation ceremonies near.

fidence in their leadership. They

are largely symbolic rebukes,

without the power to remove

California State Polytechnic University, Humboldt, gave protestors who have barricaded

themselves inside a building since Monday until 5 pm Friday to leave and "not be immediately arrested." The deadline came and went. Only some of the protesters left, others doubled down. After protesters rebuffed police earlier in the week, the campus was closed for the rest

of the semester. In Colorado, police swept through an encampment Friday at Denver's Auraria Campus, which hosts three universities and colleges, arresting around 40 protesters on trespassing

Students representing the Columbia encampment, which inspired the wave of protests across the country, said Friday that they reached an impasse with administrators and intend to continue their protest. After meetings Thursday and Friday, student negotiators said

the university had not met their primary demand for divestment, although there was progress on a push for more transparent financial disclo-

"We will not rest until Columbia

divests," said Ionathan Ben-Menachem, a fourth-year doctoral student.

In the letter sent to Columbia students Friday night, the university's leadership said "we support the conversations that are ongoing with student leaders of the encampment."
Columbia's president, Minouche

Shafik, faced significant criticism from faculty Friday, but retained the support of trustees. A report by the university senate's executive committee, which represents faculty, found Shafik and her administration took "many actions and decisions that have harmed Columbia University." Those included calling in police and allowing students to be arrested without consulting faculty, misrepresenting and suspending student protest groups and hiring pri-

vate investigators.
"The faculty have completely lost confidence in President Shafik's ability to lead this organization," said Ege Yumusak, a philosophy lecturer who is part of a faculty team protecting the

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

British troops may be tasked with delivering aid to Gaza from an offshore pier now under construction by the US military, the BBC reported Saturday. UK government officials declined to comment on the

According to the BBC, the British government is considering deploying troops to drive the trucks that will a floating causeway to the shore. No decision has been made and the proposal hasn't yet reached Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, the BBC reported, citing unidentified government sources.

The report comes after a senior US military official said on Thursday that there would be no American "boots on the ground" and another nation would provide the personnel to drive the deliverv trucks to the shore. The official, who spoke to

reporters on condition of and our international allies anonymity to discuss details not yet made public, declined to identify the third

party.
Britain is already providing logistical support for construction of the pier, including a Royal Navy ship that will house hundreds of US soldiers and sailors working on the project.

In addition, British military planners have been embedded at US Central Command in Florida and in Cyprus, where aid will be screened before shipment to Gaza, for several weeks, the UK Ministry of Defense said on Friday.

The UK Hydrographic Office has also shared analysis of the Gaza shoreline with the US to aid in construction of the

pier. "It is critical we establish more routes for vital humanitarian aid to reach the people of Gaza, and the UK continues to take a leading role in the delivery of support in coordination with the US and partners," Defense Secretary Grant Shapps said in a statement.

Development of the port and pier in Gaza comes as Israel faces widespread international criticism over the slow trickle of aid into the Palestinian territory, where the United Nations says at least a quarter of the popula-tion sits on the brink of starvation.

The Israel-Hamas conflict began with a Hamas-led attack into southern Israel on October 7, in which militants killed around 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and took some 250 people as hostages. Israel says the militants are still holding around 100 hostages and the remains of more than 30 others. Since then, more than 34,000 Palestinians have been killed in Israel's air and ground offensive, according to the Health Ministry in Hamas-run Gaza, around two-thirds of them children and women.

## China launches submarine built for Pak

PTI ISLAMABAD/BEIJING

hina has launched the first of the eight Hangor-class submarines to be built for its allweather ally Pakistan to provide it with state-of-the-art warships. adding a new dimension to their growing bilateral military cooperation. The launch ceremony, held at Wuchang Shipbuilding Industry Group's (WSIG) Shuangliu Base on Friday, was attended by Pakistan Navy chief Admiral Naveed Ashraf, Geo News reported. The development comes as part

of the agreement between Islamabad and Beijing under which the latter had agreed to provide the former with eight state-of-the-art advanced submarines. Out of the total eight vessels, four are to be built by WSIG, while the remaining four are being built at KS&EW (Karachi Shipyard & Engineering Works) under the Transfer of Technology (ToT) agreement. The submarines, having advanced stealth features, are to be fitted with stateof-the-art weapons and sensors to operate under a multi-threat environment and can engage targets at stand-off ranges.

Speaking at the occasion, Admiral Ashraf emphasised the importance of maritime securitv under the prevailing geostrategic environment and the Navy's resolve to ensure regional peace and stability.

The Navy chief also under-scored that the Hangor-class S/M Project will "add a new dimension to the all-weather Pak-China friendship and shows strong military cooperation between two countries".

Friday's launch ceremony comes after Pakistan commenced the manufacturing of the 6th Hangor-class submarine by KS&EW in February earlier this vear. Pakistan enjoys close military ties with China with their bilateral relations provisioning various arms imports by Islamabad from Beijing.

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

**AP** JERUSALEM

caused "minor damage" to a being "engaged in Russia-Panama-flagged oil tanker tray-linked trade." The vessel was The Houthis hav elling through the Red Sea on Friday, authorities said.

The attack follows an uptick in assaults launched by the Houthis in recent days after a relative lull in their monthslong campaign over Israel's war on Hamas in the Gaza

The rebels fired three missiles in the attack, one of which damaged the Panama-flagged,

travelling from Primorsk, Russia, to Vadinar, India, Ambrey said. Houthi military spokesman Brig. Gen. Yahya Saree later claimed the attack early Saturday in a prerecord-

as being "directly hit." Another vessel, the Antiqua-Barbados-flagged, Liberiaoperated Maisha, was also Seychelles-registered nearby at the time of the

ed statement aired by the

rebels. He described the tanker

Andromeda Star, the US mili- assault, the US said. The attack tary's Central Command said. occurred off Mocha, Yemen, Ballistic missiles fired by Yemen's Houthi rebels The private security firm near the Bab el-Mandeb Strait, Ambrey described the tanker as which connects the Red Sea to

> The Houthis have more than 50 attacks on shipping, seized one vessel and sank another since November, according to the US Maritime Administration.

> Houthi attacks have dropped in recent weeks as the rebels have been targeted by a US-led airstrike campaign in Yemen. Shipping through the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden has declined because of the threat. American officials have speculated that

the rebels may be running out of weapons as a result of the US-led campaign against them and after firing drones and missiles steadily in the last months. However, since Wednesday there have been at least two other attacks claimed by the Houthis. The first targeted the MV Yorktown, a US-flagged, owned and operated vessel with 18 US and four Greek crew members. Another target-

ed the MSC Darwin. The Houthis have said they will continue their attacks until Israel ends its war in Gaza. which has killed more than 34,000 Palestinians there.

# Russia targets Ukrainian energy sector again

Russia launched a barrage of missiles against Ukraine overnight, in attacks that appeared to target the country's infrastructure. Meanwhile, Russia said its air defence systems had intercepted more than 60 Ukrainian drones over the southern

Krasnodar region. Ukraine's air force said Saturday that Russia had launched 34 missiles against Ukraine overnight, of which 21 had been shot down by Ukrainian air defences.

In a post on Telegram, Minister of Energy Herman Halushchenko said energy facilities in Dnipropetrovsk in the south of the country and

Ivano-Frankiysk and Lviv in the west had been attacked and that an engineer was injured. Private energy operator DTEK said four of its thermal power plants were damaged and that there were "casualties," without going into detail.

Earlier this destroyed one of Ukraine's largest power plants and damaged others in a massive missile and drone attack as it renewed its push to target Ukraine's energy facilities.

Ukraine has appealed to its Western allies for more air defense systems to ward off such attacks. At a meeting of the Ukraine Defense Contact Group on Friday, US Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin

announced the U.S. will provide Ukraine with additional munitions and gear for its air defense launchers.

Further east, a psychiatric hospital was damaged and one person was wounded after second-largest city. Kharkiy. Photos from the scene showed a huge crater on the grounds of the facility and patients taking shelter in corridors. Regional governor Oleh Syniehubov said a 53-year-old woman was hurt.

In Russia, the Defence Ministry said Russian air defense systems had intercepted 66 drones over the country's southern Krasnodar region. Two more drones were

shot down over the Moscowannexed Crimean Peninsula. The governor of the Krasnodar region, Veniamin Kondratyev, said that Ukrainian forces targeted an oil refinery and infrastructure Russia launched a missile facilities but that there were attack overnight on Ukraine's no casualties or serious damage. The regional department of the Emergency Situations Ministry reported that a fire broke out at the Slavvansk oil refinery in Slavyansk-on-Kuban during the attack.

Ukrainian officials normally decline to comment on attacks on Russian soil, but the Ukrainian Energy Ministry said Saturday that two oil refineries in the Krasnodar region had been hit by drones.

# Imran prefers jail than striking deal with govt

PTI LAHORE

**D**akistan's jailed former prime Pminister Imran Khan has ruled out an agreement with those who have "enslaved" the country, saying he is ready to serve for nine more years in prison but will never strike a deal with them.

In a message released on Friday for the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party's 28th Foundation Day, Khan said that the "worst dictatorship" was imposed on the country which was becoming the basis for the "destruction" of the economy, government rule, democracy and judiciary". He called on every individual

to play their role in stopping

this descent towards the country's ruin.

"It is my message for the nation that I will give any sacrifice required for actual freedom but will never compromise on my or my nation's freedom." Khan said he was kept behind

bars for the past nine months due to "fake [and] concocted cases". "I will remain in jail if I have to for nine more years, or more, but I will never strike a deal with those who have enslaved my nation."

Since his removal from power in a no-confidence motion in April 2022, the 71-year-old former cricketer-turned-politician has been convicted in at least four cases. Khan has been lodged at Adiala Jail at Rawalpindi after conviction in multiple cases.

Since falling out with the powerful military, Khan's party has been facing a crackdown. The party faced pressure in the form of arrests and dese-rtions in the wake of the May 9 viol-ence that broke out after Khan's arrest last year.

Khan's message came shortly after PTI leader Shehryar Afridi claimed that the party would have talks but not with the Bilwal Bhutto-Zardai-led Pakistan Peoples Party or the ruling Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz after their recent overtures.

We will talk with the Army chief, the DG I[SI] and the army because the need of the

hour is to [prioritise] the country's security," Afridi said.
Terming the two parties a "rejected lot", Afridi reiterated that the party would talk with the army chief for Pakistan's freedom and future because the

country "needs" Khan. He said the two parties only had one option to abandon their mandate and then the PTI would decide whether to move forward with them or not. Afridi claimed that it was

Khan's wish "since the first day for us to engage [with the mil-itary leadership] but there was no response forthcoming". He said if any "response" had come then it would have been brought before the public. Earlier this week, PTI leader Barrister Gohar Ali Khan had claimed that Khan was being pressured to accept a "deal". Rejecting speculation about secret talks with the establishment, Barrister Gohar had made it clear that the party was neither interested in nor hold-

ing talks with anyone. Independent candidates backed by Khan's PTI won more than 90 seats in the National Assembly in the February 8 general election. However, the PMN-L led by former prime minister Nawaz Sharif and the PPP formed a post-poll alliance and sidelined the jailed former prime minister's party from forming a federal government which assumed power last

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

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

Pakistan disqualified Nawaz

as premier and party president for his alleged corruption in cases related to the Panama Papers revelations about his illegal wealth stashed abroad. He relinquished his position within the party following his disqualification, which also led to his departure from the prime minister's office.

PML-N Punjab president Rana Sanaullah told a press conference that a decision to make Nawaz the president of the party again was taken at a party meeting on Friday.

"A resolution was passed at the party meeting today to make the elder Sharif PML-N president to undo the injustice meted out to him (Nawaz) in 2017 by the Supreme Court," Sanaullah, a former interior minister, said. The party will request Nawaz on his return from China to accept the president's office of the party. Nawaz is currently on a fiveday private visit to China.

"Nawaz Sharif was removed from the party president's office through a conspiracy. Now Nawaz has been acquitted in all (corruption) cases, he should again take up the party's reins," Sanaullah said and added the party would be re-organised under his (Nawaz's) leadership.

## Long lines form and frustration grows as short of cash

AP HAVANA

lejandro Fonseca stood in Aline for several hours outside a bank in Havana hoping to withdraw Cuban pesos from an ATM, but when it was almost his turn, the cash ran out. He angrily hopped on his electric tricycle and travelled several kilometers to another branch where he finally managed to withdraw some money after wasting the entire morn-

"It shouldn't be so difficult to get the money you earn by working," the 23-year-old told The Associated Press in a recent interview. Fonseca is one of an increas-

ing number of frustrated Cubans who have to grapple with yet another hurdle while navigating the island's already complicated monetary system — a shortage of cash. Long queues outside banks

and ATM's in the capital, Havana, and beyond start forming early in the day as people seek cash for routine transactions like buying food and other essentials.

Experts say there are several reasons behind the shortage, all somehow related to Cuba's deep economic crisis, one of the worst in decades. Omar Everleny Pérez, a Cuban

economist and university professor, says the main culprits are the government's growing fiscal deficit, the nonexistence of banknotes with a denomination greater than 1,000 Cuban pesos (about USD 3 in the parallel market), stubbornly high inflation and the non-return of cash to banks. "There is money, yes, but not in the banks," said Pérez, adding that most of the cash is being held not by salaried workers, but by entrepreneurs and owners of small- and medium-size business who on the informal market. are more likely to collect cash from commercial transactions but are reluctant to return the money to the banks.

This, Pérez says, is either because they don't trust the local banks or simply because they need the Cuban pesos to convert into foreign currency. Most entrepreneurs and small business owners in Cuba have to import almost everything they sell or pay in foreign currency for the supplies needed to run their businesses. As a consequence, many end up hoarding Cuban pesos to later change into foreign currency Converting those Cuban pesos to other currencies poses yet another challenge, as there are several, highly fluctuating exchange rates in the island. For example, the official rate used by government industries and agencies is 24 pesos to the US dollar, while for individuals, the rate is 120 pesos to the dollar. However, the dollar can fetch up to 350 Cuban pesos on the informal market.

Pérez notes that in 2018, 50 per cent of the cash in circulation was in the hands of the Cuban population and the

other half in Cuban banks. But in 2022, the latest year for which information is available, 70 per cent of cash was in the wallets of individuals. Cuban monetary authorities did not immediately respond

The shortage of cash comes as Cubans grapple with a complex monetary system in which several currencies circulate, including a virtual currency, MLC, created in 2019. Then, in 2023 the government announced several measures

aimed at promoting a "cash-less society," making the use of

to AP's emailed request for

comment.

credit cards mandatory to pay for some transactions including purchases of food, fuel and other basic goods but many businesses simply refuse to accept them.

Making things worse is stubbornly high inflation, meaning more and more physical bills are needed to buy products. According to official figures, inflation stood at 77 per cent in 2021, then dropped to 31 per cent in 2023. But for the average Cuban, the official figures barely reflect the reality of their lives, since market inflation can reach up to three digits on the informal market.

For example, a carton of eggs, which sold for 300 Cuban pesos in 2019, these days sells for about 3,100 pesos.

All while the monthly salary for Cuban state workers ranges between 5,000 and 7,000 Cuban pesos (between USD 14 and USD 20 in the parallel market). 'To live in an economy that,

in addition to having several currencies, has several exchange rates and a threedigit inflation is quite complicated," said Pavel Vidal, a Cuba expert and professor at Colombia's Javeriana University of Cali.

Lucknow, April 28, 2024

# the pioneer

"I've spent days in cinemas answering audience, in interviews, travelling abroad, and me nicely'





# CHRONICLE OF BIHAR, BEYOND ELECTIONS

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

till considered as some of the most backward districts of Bihar — Madhepura, Purnea, Saharsa, Supaul -- the *Dehati* (rural) thatched structures w vears ago have all metamorphosed into brick and mortar dwellings amidst lush green mango orchards, banana plants, and corns in the backyard. However, the basic problems of health and education are galore. In every election for the past five decades, people of this region have been promised 'upliftment' by various political parties and leaders in the fray but ultimately the cast die is casteridden, preventing their holistic

development. Migration, which started in large numbers almost three decades ago when Bihar was in the stranglehold of 'Jungle Raj,' continues unabated even under the much hyped 'Susahsan Raj'. "Sitting chief minister Nitish Kumar" rode over former CM Lalu Yadav's Raj and people overwhelmingly voted for him going beyond caste and religion, but things are different now. The JDU leader seems to have run out of ideas after a good two terms. His last alliance with Tejaswi Yadav's RJD kindled some hope on the employment front. But such people-oriented development seems to have taken a backseat while caste and religion-ridden politics is back if you look at the pattern of ticket distribution," says Pushpendra Kumar, former professor and chairperson of the Patna Centre of the prestigious Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) who is now working full time as a researcher of Bihar's society and polity. Partly, Bijli, Sadak and Paani (BSP) are visibly translating into votes but what remains invisible, not only in the Dehati areas but even in towns and cities, are negligible secondary, higher education facilities topped by the lack

of healthcare facilities. Amidst these deficiencies the irony is that a plethora of coaching institutes of engineering, medical, and Government jobs across prominent towns and cities like Patna, Muzzaffarpur and Bhagalpur have come up and there is a mushrooming of private medical clinics and diagnostics centres in the principle districts of Darbhanga, Madhubani, Purnea, Katihar, Gaya and

Ara-Chapra. Come election time, there is 'Chah (not Chai) Par Charcha' across cities or hamlets where people love to have extensive discourses over Modi, Nitish, Rahul, Teiashwi or even Obama and Biden. Nonetheless, the rhetoric of caste is loud and audible in the

conversation of the locals, sitting on machans (bamboo cane cots), a fact that still dominates the entry and exit

of these villages. The women folk have to volunteer to supply the motley crowd with tea doses. "Din bhar mein kum se kum 50 cup chai banta hai. Inko koyi kaam nahi, din bhar sirf rajneeti ki baat kartey hain. Unka bhi time katatahai," (More than 50 cups of tea are made for them every day. They have no other work so they spend their idle time talking about politics) observes Neelam Devi, a villager of Satarwar in the Saharsa district of Bihar. The elderly male folks gather as early as 5 am and hang around till 8 am and then come back by 3 pm, remain until dusk at their machans, finding some time to revive the agriculturists in them. Evening chats are conducted within the precincts of temples every 100 yards with the smoke of incense sticks — one for spiritual rites and the other from mosquito repellants — emanating, providing a mixed essence in the clean atmosphere, resplendent with the aroma of cattle and cow dung heaps. And during the wedding season and Janeu rituals (thread ceremony), almost every household performs functions and celebrations in its neighbourhood as everybody looks forward to welcoming either an election contestant or any of his/her representatives preferably the dominant caste of that village or town.

This reporter, who was covering the Lok Sabha 2024 elections in the Supaul area, got the divine opportunity to feast on chaste *dehati* flavours sitting on a gamcha (cotton scarf) rolled over the raw mud field. The serve was obviously puri, salads, papad, aloo-parwal, tomato chutney, dal-bhaat (cooked rice) which has now been replaced by Pulao alongside new Shaheri add-ons like paneer based subji and mixed-veg. Sweet delicacies, what they call Sukha Mitha (gulab jamun) and Gila Meetha (rasgulla), Boondiya (besan cooked sweet), and lot of curd, is a must to

earn the tag of best Bhoi. However, elderly people regret the fact that in recent times the city culture is dominating as huge decibels DJs loaded on tractors is a must during celebrations.

Further down to a visit to another village Bara in Saharsa, the author halted and then became part of the discussion over a patient, identified as Nepali Jha, being transported from Sadar Hospital to Patna in a serious condition. The patient was transported to Patna in an ambulance accompanied

route, were simultaneously making attempts to establish 'contacts' so that the patient could be admitted at Indira Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences (IGIMS) in the State's Capital city Despite their efforts the IGIMS turned down the patient and he was somehow accommodated' at Patna Medical College and Hospital (PMCH). All this while, the villagers accompanying the patient kept insisting with the hospital attendants that the patient be taken to

When this journalist witnessed their attempts turning futile and one of them claimed to even approach a sitting MP in Bihar, this reporter of The Pioneer volunteered to help using bureaucratic contacts in the administration for admission of the patient at IGIMS. The 'mission' was successful and the IGIMS agreed but by that time the patient had to be put on a ventilator back at PMCH and moving him in that critical condition was not feasible. In this grim milieu tea was offered and unfortunately the news about the patient's demise simply vanished from media attention. Although the villagers profusely thanked this reporter, they leaders and MPs who were not of any

The need for hetter medical facilities is a must. While several elderly people have moved out of the villages to bigger cities to stay with their children, those who are fond of villages are left in the lurch. Several people have died due to lack of even basic medical facilities in backward areas like in Madhepura,

While the people in the districts of eastern Bihar struggled for a decade to considered to be most backward, they and State Governments as the project has been moved to neighbouring Darbhanga, considered to be prosperous.

inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi last year but soon the project got mired in controversy over the tug of war between the now before the Supreme Court. Last year a group of 20 parliamentarians led by Madhepura MP Dinesh Yadav, cutting across party lines launched an intensive campaign

by at least a dozen villagers who, en

IGIMS, but in vain. were equally troubled about their local help in their moment of crisis and used foul language to curse their apathy.

Purnea, Madhepura, and here," said Gyan Mishra, a local villager.

get a sanction for an AIIMS at Saharsa, are now annoyed with both the Central The Darbhanga AIIMS was

neighbouring districts. The matter is for the construction of an AIIMS in Saharsa, and even met Union Health











Valmikinagar, Gopalganj and Jehanabad had also signed the letter despite knowing that the people from their regions will not be visiting Saharsa for their treatment. But, when we talk about Bihar, it would be incomplete without the world famed and internationally acclaimed Madhubani paintings which have IN EVERY ELECTION received several Padma awards. Another delight for the people of Bihar is the folklores of various languages including charting numbers of Bhojpuri. Most of the popular artists who dominate all rituals including the mega festival of Chhath, is Sharda Sinha, who too has been bestowed with a Padma award. Most common regional languages spoken in Bihar include Angika,

handed over a letter of their demand.

The letter mentioned that the number

kidney, heart, liver and other such life-

of patients suffering from cancer,

threatening ailments has been quite

high in the north-eastern region,

comprising Saharsa, Madhepura,

Araria and Kishanganj districts.

district magistrate (DM) had

communicated to the State

217.74 acres of land

for the construction

of an AIIMS, but the

allocation of land for

from Siwan, Nalanda,

State Government

announced the

the AIIMS in

Darbhanga. MPs

Karakat, Gaya,

The letter stated that the Saharsa

Supaul, Khagaria, Purnia, Katihar,

Bhojpuri, Magadhi, Maithili, Magadhi Prakrit, Hindi as well as Urdu amongst other dialects. Currently, Bhojpuri singers have carved a niche for themselves on both social and political platforms and some of them have even become Parliamentarians or are in the current fray to be one. Therefore the raw, rustic lyrics of traditional songs have now been tuned discreetly among the youth on occasions as several of them are tagged as 'fuhar.' They have been duly banned by the State Government.

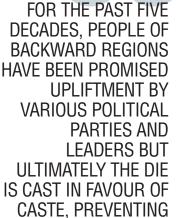
In one's travels across Mithilanchal, one is struck by the public emotion when people get talking about Madhubani

maach (fish) and litti-chokha. Seema Roy, Mithila Painting artist said earlier the paintings were done by women with vegetable dyes on the walls. "Now it is done on paper. The paintings normally depict village scenes, human and animal forms, gods and goddesses," Seema said. "Through your platform let me share the most significant tradition of Bihar, particularly Mithila, as you have already been apprised by its arts and

Government about the availability of crafts. An unnecessary fish-mutton issue has been derived in the ensuing political campaign by top

leaders and we heard the new age media platforms, including social, discuss a lot on this subject. Let me be very clear, be it any day of the week, any festival like

Durga Puja (we do not call it Navratra in Bihar), Saraswati Puja, Mahashivratri, or Sawan or any given Hindu auspicious day, we essentially cook and relish on (maach) fish. Mithilanchal is famous as we say pugpug (every step) is fond of paan, makahana, maach, pokhar (pond)," opines a delighted Birender Thakur, a retired school teacher and villager in Bavangaon in Supaul. He also narrated a poem in the local language which had all the auspicious occasions where it mentioned the serving of nonvegetarian food, particularly fish. His companion, Nand Kishore Jha, who was part of the discourse, was quick to add that in Bihar nonvegetarian dishes only mean fish and mutton and not chicken or eggs. Although now eggs and chicken delicacies have made their way in the bylanes, chowks, and bazaars the elderly people do not appreciate the inavsion. Bihar is also famous for its stone pottery, white metal statuettes, bamboo artifacts, wooden toys and leather goods. Several villages around Vaishali are into making of toys. Sikki Work is done by weaving a humble blade of grass into a beautiful basket and mats while Lac bangles are also made in Muzaffarpur. Bihar's rich traditional and culture legacy must not be drowned by the political din around. Photos: Deepak Kumar Jha



THE STATE'S HOLISTIC



DEVELOPMENT.

#### IT'S DIFFICULT TO THINK ANYTHING BUT PLEASANT THOUGHTS WHILE EATING A **HOMEGROWN TOMATO** - LEWIS GRIZZARD

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

# 110PS I DROPPED THE LEMON TART

he renowned Chef Massimo Bottura was in New Delhi once again with the culinary marvel, Osteria Francescana. Twice rated as The World's Best Restaurant by The World's 50 Best, Chef Bottura's culinary masterpiece returned to The Leela Palace New Delhi for a second consecutive year, This unparalleled partnership between The Leela Palace New Delhi, Culinary Culture, and the culinary virtuoso himself was an unforgettable gastronomic experience. Massimo Bottura is a renowned Italian chef and owner of Osteria Francescana, a three-Michelin-star restaurant in Modena, Italy. He is not just a culinary maestro but also a passionate philanthropist, earning international acclaim for his dedication to social and environmental causes. As a Goodwill Ambassador for the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the founder of the non-profit organization 'Food Food', Bottura advocates for sustainability and the reduction of food waste, aligning perfectly with The Leela's eco-conscious ethos. For the uninitiated, Chef Bottura is one of the top chefs in the world and

people wait to eat at his restaurant Osteria Francescana for at least three months. Some say you need to be prepared because the restaurant is fully booked for four months. Osteria Francescana was ranked the #1 restaurant in the world in 2018. The menu includes dishes like Modena's borlenghi, polenta with eel and saba, Aula on tempura, and Tortellini in cream of Parmigiano Reggiano. The chef brought his restaurant to Delhi for Rs 55,555 + taxes per person. Under Chef Bottura's guidance, Osteria
Francescana has captivated global palates with
its innovative approach to Italian cuisine. He is known for reinventing the Italian dishes. The restaurant has consistently secured its position among the world's best, offering a sensory journey unlike any other. Iconic dishes such as 'Oops! I Dropped the Lemon Tart,' 'The

Crunchy Part of the Lasagne, and 'Psychedelic

ashmir is known for its scenic beauty but what people often mis

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

for poetry in daily life, allowing for imagination and creativity to flourish. "If you don't make mistakes, don't dream big, you end up no where, won't learn a damn thing," he quips This ethos of embracing imperfection and transforming it into something extraordinary resonates throughout his culinary creations. Chef Bottura hosted an interactive session, engaging in a conversation with Vir Sanghvi, India's foremost food expert, offering insights into his culinary journey and philosophy. During the conversation, they had a difference of opinions but agreed on two things. Italians like Indians are mama's boys and two both love their food. Sanghvi remarked, "Massimo Bottura transcends the role of a chef; he serves as a global inspiration, leveraging his influence to bring about positive changes worldwide.

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



# Standing Alone, and How

among Delhi's standalone,

multi-cuisine restaurants with

its delightful offerings. This spacious 144-seater, adorned with well-lit

interiors, caters perfectly to both small

and large groups, boasting several live

kitchens that serve a variety of popular

While this was not my first visit to

MKT, it was my first experience with

their new menu. The shift towards

cuisines from around the globe.



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



lehsun authenticity quality. Our concluded homemade further with addition

> While our appetizers were satisfying, we also sampled two dishes from their Indian menu - Quinoa mutton seekh and Champaran mutton for the mains.



The mutton seekh was tender and flavourful, served with smoked chutney khameeri roti, a refreshing departure from the ubiquitous mint chutney. Champaran mutton was a pleasant surprise, as this rustic Bihari preparation with onions, mustard oil, and whole garlic showcased one of the best qualities of mutton. The chef revealed that they prepare a small batch every day in a traditional handi, ensuring  $_{f I}$ 

and meal with cream, which was delightful and could have been enhanced of mango

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

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

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

# A culinary journey through Kashmir

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

Kashmiri Pandit cuisine which is a rich in flavors, influenced by the cultural heritage and geographical diversity of the Kashmir Valley. Renowned for its exquisite blend of aromatic spices and traditional cooking techniques, Kashmiri Pandit cuisine is a true reflection of the region's history and culinary prowess. Staple ingredients such as rice, yogurt, and vegetables form the foundation of many dishes, which are often infused with an array of spices like fennel, cardamom, and saffron, lending a unique and complex flavor profile. Signature dishes such as Rogan Josh, Yakhni, and Dum Aloo are cherished for their rich textures and vibrant taste. culinary Moreover, the practices. cuisine also features a variety of delectable vegetarian options, including Nadru Yakhni (lotus Pandits' stem in yogurt gravy) and Haaq Saag (collard greens cooked with spices). With its emphasis on fresh ingredients and intricate preparation methods, Kashmiri Pandit cuisine journey as a Chef? continues to captivate palates worldwide, showcasing the rich culinary heritage of the Kashmiri Pandit community. Recently, I had the opportunity to indulge in Hotel Management from Koshur Wuribal, a culinary Pune. I garnered extensive extravaganza celebrating the experience across exquisite flavors of Kashmiri various Pandit cuisine, at The renowned Roseate House. Often brands in overshadowed by the India and renowned Wazwan, abroad, Kashmiri Pandit cuisine

boasts a distinct identity,

tracing its origins back to

326 BCE, long before the

arrival of Wazwan in the

16th century. Contrary to

Kashmiri Pandit cuisine

are very few chefs who

stands apart with its unique

flavors and traditions. There

common perception,



understand traditional Kashmiri Pandit cooking, but Chef Rahul Wali stands as a beacon of tradition in this culinary landscape where authenticity is often diluted by modern interpretations. With a deep understanding of Kashmiri Pandit cuisine, Chef Rahul introduced us to age-old recipes and forgotten

offering a rare opportunity to savor the true essence of Kashmiri gastronomy. Chef Rahul Wali talked about his journey and passion. Excerpts:
Could you share your was born in Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir, and spent my formative years in Mumbai and Pune. My culinary journey began after completing my Bachelor's in

eventually pursuing an advanced Graduate Degree in Gastronomy from Le Cordon Bleu, Adelaide Australia. In recent years, I've been dedicated to

reviving and promoting

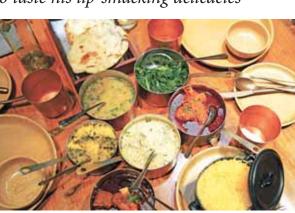
Kashmiri Pandit cuisine

through pop-ups, festivals,

cuisine to a broader back to diversity and depth.

distinctive in several aspects. Firstly, it predates the more commonly known Kashmiri ancient times.

Secondly, unlike many other Indian cuisines, it refrains from using onion, garlic, or tomatoes in its preparation. The focus is on a handful of traditional spices, meticulously blended



and collaborations with hotels and restaurants.

What inspired you to focus on promoting Kashmiri Pandit cuisine? The inspiration stems from a dual purpose - preserving our culinary heritage and introducing the richness of Kashmiri Pandit audience. This cuisine, dating

centuries, holds a distinct place in culinary history, characterized by unique flavors and techniques. Unfortunately, it has remained relatively obscure compared to the more widely known Kashmiri cuisine. I aim to change that by bringing it to the forefront and showcasing its

How would you differentiate Kashmiri Pandit cuisine from other regional cuisines? Kashmiri Pandit cuisine is

> cuisine, tracing its roots back to

and slow cooking, preserving the authenticity of the dishes. What challenges do you

to create nuanced flavors.

Additionally, the cooking

method involves patience

face in promoting Kashmiri Pandit cuisine outside its native region? While the

been

reception has

overwhelmingly positive, there are challenges, particularly in sourcing authentic ingredients. Additionally, there's a misconception that Kashmiri cuisine is solely suited for colder climates, which isn't entirely accurate. Educating people about the versatility and richness of our cuisine is an ongoing effort, requiring collaboration and support

How do you ensure an authentic culinary experience for guests during food festivals and pop-ups?

from various stakeholders.

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

# ONE NATION, ONE ELECTION FEDERALISM AT RISK OR UNITY FORTIFIED?

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

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

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

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

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

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

opposition is the prospect of diminished accountability if elections are held every five years.

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

This could spark doubts regarding the government's responsiveness to pressing concerns, such as notably fluctuations in food prices and hikes in gas cylinder costs paralysis citizen's every potential to remove a party from power through electoral process at least in state legislative elections.

In navigating India's vibrant democratic landscape, it's crucial to recognize the unique context and complexities inherent to our nation. While other countries like Belgium or Japan may offer valuable insights, it's imperative not to blindly emulate their electoral models. Instead, decisions regarding electoral reforms must stem from a grassroots consensus, voting behaviour tailored to India's diverse socio-political fabric. The denizens of the streets and the

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

PRIYOTOSH SHARMA (Faculty of Department of Political Science, Ramanuj Gupta Degree College)
CHANDRIMA DUTTA (Student of Calcutta University, Political Science Department)

# Education a must for the Panchayati Raj System to flourish

## Vikash Kumar

anchayati systems are Panchayati systems
considered to be the
fundamental pillar of local administration because it provides rural people with direct participation in the country's democratic process. provision of local selfgovernment has been in India since ancient times. In Indian democracy, since Independence, Panchayati systems were given their due importance for which different models were adopted. Mahatma Gandhi's ideology regarding the Panchayati Raj system was that the village panchayats should be made solid and self-sufficient so that they conduct all administrative activities at the village level. This is why the makers of the Indian Constitution had added separate provisions for this. Îndia is the largest democratic

country in the world, with about 90 crore voters registered, according to the Election the L. 2019 list.
the 'Rural are Commission's According to the Connection Network, there are

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

Constitutional status was accorded to Panchayats in 1992 and 1993 by the 73rd Constitutional Amendment, which then Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao worked tirelessly The responsibility of conducting their elections rests with the State Election Commission, provided



announced their tenure is for five years, which is provided by Article 243 (E) of the Indian Constitution, but the purpose for which the concept of Panchayati systems was implemented is today helpless in achieving its original objective. Voters and elected officials

engage in conversations, yet the conversation does not begin communication throughout an election is frequently devoid of substance. Additionally, there are no discussions going on between the candidate and the voter. Prominent political party leaders attend these polls in order to tally their victories. The news certainly delighted the voters when Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose too had to raise local issues like loans. Commission, commissions, what issues do

housing you have with the water and roads, he had asked earlier. In these elections, health and education are burning issues. The headman often remains indifferent, even as voters focus

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

can only proceed if there is evidence of improvement at the local level. Voters ought to cast their ballots voluntarily and with diligence in order to support local institutions' credibility and enabling the competent leader's directives to be carried out over a period of five years, both of which encourage advancement. Today, the Panchayati Raj system exists in almost the whole country, but in reality, selfreliance today is far from what was envisioned at the time of its implementation. A provision for reservations was made in the Panchayati system under Article 243A. However, women have been unable to take full advantage of it, so have the lower classes, because even today, voting in rural areas is inspired by several biased undercurrents. Only when the Panchayati system becomes solid and selfreliant will India's democracy be strengthened.

The process of reforms can start from the village itself. Women have become sarpanches but do not run the administration; their husbands step in. A person belonging to the SC/ST category becomes a

sarpanch, but only a handful of wealthy people run the administration. Even today, many states need to transfer their subjects to the Panchayati system. In Panchayat elections deceit and force are openly used. The person who has access to the top of the administration is the one who occupies critical positions, a reason why the purpose for which it was created has not been fulfilled.

The Government allots crores of funds to the development of villages but the benefits instead are spent on things remote from a village or its voters. To this date, the Panchayati system is entirely self-sufficient and those whose dreams could not be realised. In the present circumstances, the Government should make Panchayati Raj selfreliant for which education is the most significant step ahead. Awareness is only possible with education because that alone can make citizens and voters

politically aware. (Views expressed are personal. Author is President of the Indian Research Scholars Association and can be contacted at sagarvikash829@gmail.com)



















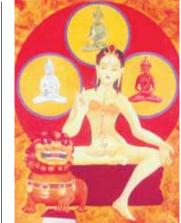






This week is set to highlight your professional talents. Your ocused dedication and innovative thinking will significantly boost your career prospects. With a clear and expansive mindset, you're poised to achieve notable success. However, your commitment to work may cause some oversight in personal relationships,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

Lucky number 8 | Lucky colour Magenta Lucky day Wednesday



**LEO** July 23-Aug 22

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

Lucky number 5 | Lucky colour Mint Lucky day Monday



**SAGITTARIUS** Nov 22-Dec 21

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

Lucky number 20 | Lucky colour Bronze Lucky day Friday



#### TAURUS April 20-May 20

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

Lucky number 12 | Lucky colour Beige Lucky day Monday



VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

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

Lucky number 14 | Lucky colour Peach Lucký day Friday



#### **CAPRICORN** Dec 22-Jan 19

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

Lucky number 3 | Lucky colour Aquamarine Lucky day Tuesday



#### **GEMINI** May 21-June 20

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

Lucky number 7 | Lucky colour Lime L**ucky day** Thursday



### LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

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

Lucky number 9 | Lucky colour Burgundy Lucky day Saturday



#### AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

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

Lucky number 18 | Lucky colour Rose Pink Lucky day Thursday



### **CANCER** June 21-July 22

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

Lucky number 17 | Lucky colour Navy **Lucky day** Sunday



### SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

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

Lucky number 6 | Lucky colour Violet Lucky day Wednesday



### PISCES Feb 19-March 20

This week marks a period of deep personal fulfillment and communal connection for you. Your focus on spiritual growth is evident as you engage in collective rituals that uplift and inspire. Reflecting on your past efforts brings a profound sense of satisfaction, particularly as you celebrate the completion of significant projects, like a home renovation. Family gatherings will enhance your joy, adding layers of celebration, accomplishments, and well-earned recognition to your life. Relationships, especially close partnerships, will experience enhanced harmony and mutual understanding. This period also favors securing new assets, whether they are investments in real estate or personal property. The combination of material success and spiritual depth creates a uniquely enriching atmosphere. You receive abundant blessings and support from your elders, making this a truly auspicious time to embrace growth and happiness. Lucky number 10 | Lucky colour Amber ucky day Sunday

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icking up threads from the previous issue, let us now look at the relevance of the accessories in her ten hands. First, the conch-shell in one hand. When blown, it resonates a sound note comparable to "O?" - the primal-sound. It was supposedly excited when following causal stress, the first motion happened at the Primordial-Source. That very sound note, in turn, excited the creation chain, which following a course of progressive evolution eventually manifested into a world of name and form. She thereby personifies that very primal kinetic energy, which not simply remains the source and effective cause for all creations in the world but also sustains and recycles the existential order. The conch-shell, thus, naturally symbolises the source energy, up above in the cosmos. The majestic Lotus flower in all colours made of numerous petals signifies enormity and diversity of creation, which is symptomatic of her noble creative intent. In the Indian tradition, Lotus flower is associated with almost all deities identified with one or the other strength potential

involved one way or the other in the creation process. It, therefore, finds presence with Durga, Saraswati, and Lakshmi, the Goddesses respectively personified with physical power, wisdom, and creative aspiration, vital to our dynamic existence. Such an enticing Lotus flower grows in mud underneath water body. Yet its beauty and lustre remain unspoilt, regaling everybody. For, not even a trace of mud or water droplet can stay on flower leaves. The obvious implication is that it remains detached from that very earth matter out of which it's form presence is made. The association of Lotus flower with

the Mother is also a pointer to the fact that though being all powerful, yet, She does not carry any sense of ego. In fact, despite all oddities and hazards coming Her way, She continues to exhibit tenderness, sense of love, generosity and doting nature, as reflected by the majestic flower. Even the killing of the demons is not done out of any sense of revenge or prejudice. Her intent is just to ensure the survival and welfare of Her wellmeaning dependants. For, they are the

# Mother calls for full alert against evil forces



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

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

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

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

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# **RR** takes royal stride towards play-off, beats LSG by 7 wkts

Sanju Samson scored five runs less than his opposite number KL Rahul but his unbeaten 71 off 33 balls had five times more impact compared to Rahul's relatively sedate 48-ball-76 as Rajasthan Royals took a giant leap towards IPL play-offs by comfortably beating Lucknow Super Giants by seven wickets here on Saturday.

While Rahul still is favourite to become Rishabh Pant's understudy as the second glovesman at the T20 World Cup, Samson did hit four classy sixes, including the winning one in a chase of 197, to keep himself in the discussion for that

US bound flight. Samson and Jurel came together after the Royals had stumbled from a brisk start to hand the advantage to the home side, putting on a robust stand of 121 runs in just 62 balls stand for the unconquered fourth wicket to take their side over the line.

Chasing a tricky 197 with LSG deploying seven bowlers including two leg-spinners, Rajasthan finished at 199 for three to win with

an over to spare.
On his part, the young Jurel finally discovered his to put behind a barren run, smacking five fours and two sixes to make a sturdy 52 not out off 34 balls.

The win took top-placed Rajasthan to 16 points — six clear from the second-best Kolkata Knight Riders — and a step closer to become the first team to reach the playoffs in the 17th edition. The play-offs cut-off this yearis likely to be 18 points if one goes by the current mid-table

LSG remained on fourth spot with 10 points in bag.

Rajasthan openers Yashasvi Jaiswal (24) and Jos Buttler (34) knocked off 60 runs from the target unscathed, but their side went through a slump in the following overs while also losing three wickets in quick succession.

It began with Buttler walking across his stumps to miss an angled full



toss from Thakur, who knocked down the leg-stump for the first breakthrough.

Marcus Stoinis bowled an innocuous delivery outside off to invite a free-flowing Jaiswal to go for it. The left-hander obliged but did not connect well, finding

Bishnoi at deep point.
LSG's plans to tie the Royals down with leg-spin became evident when the 41-year-old Amit Mishra came on as impact substitute and got the priced scalp of Riyan Parag (11) in his first over.

his poor string of scores his first big score this IPL.

Rajasthan slipped from 60 for no loss to 78/3 after nine, and this was when Jurel and Samson began their recovery work to put Rajasthan back on track again.

Jurel and Samson began with a six and a four respectively off Mishra to push the leg-spinner on the backfoot and took 17 runs off Thakur's second over.

Krunal Pandya (0/24) did well on

his part to send down a few measly overs in between but RR were back on charge again when Mohsin Khan came on in the 14th over. Jurel hit the left-armer for 20 runs including three fours and a six in Mohsin's third of the game and also enjoyed a reprieve when Thakur, placed at short third man, dropped a crucial catch when the RR batter was on 32.

the 16th over had no impact whatsoever, with RR having grasped full control of the proceedings. The leg-spinner leaked another 16 runs as RR inched closer to the finish line. Earlier in the first half, Rahul (76 off 48 balls) dug deep with Deepak Hooda (50 off 31 balls) as Lucknow Super Giants managed

Bishnoi's introduction as late as in

competitive 196/5 Rajasthan Royals. against Rahul and Hooda gave LSG a solid footing with a 62-ball 115-run stand for the third wicket after early blows, but the failure of others meant the hosts could not capitalise

on the hard work by the two. Rahul's 48-ball 76 with eight fours and two sixes was his fourth fifty of the season while Hooda banished his poor string of scores to make

## GT eye improvement against refreshed RCB

PTI AHMEDABAD

n need of a total reboot, Gujarat Titans will be wary of Royal Challengers Bengaluru's newfound firepower in the middle-order when the two teams clash in the Indian Premier League here on Sunday. The Titans are now seventh on the table with eight points from nine matches, and they require a victory to float above the growing pile, constituted by Chennai Super Kings and Delhi Capitals who are also on eight points.

To begin with, the Gujarat side needs their pacers to step up. Their pace bowling unit has been underwhelming throughout this IPL.

Mohit Sharma (10 wickets, economy: 10.35), Umesh Yadav (7 wickets, 10.55), Sandeep Warrier (5 wickets, 10.85) have leaked runs in plenty while backup quicks such as Spencer Johnson and Azmatullah Omarzai too have not inspired much confidence.

Their spinners - Rashid Khan (8 wickets), R Sai Kishore and Noor Ahmad (6 wickets each) – have been steady without being spectacular.

After a modest beginning to the season, Patidar has shown smidgens of his batting skills, especially against the spinners. He made forceful fifties while tackling Sunil Narine and Varun Chakravarthy (KKR) and Mayank Markande (SRH) in the last two matches while batting through the middle phase.

While his 23-ball 52 carried RCB nearly home against Kolkata, Patidar's 20-ball 50 came in a winning cause against Hyderabad.

The right-hander, whose strength is his excellent eye-hand coordination rather than innovation, will be eager to make a similar impact against the GT spinners. Green too was impressive during his 20-ball 37 against the Sunrisers that took RCB past the 200-run mark.

It has also helped RCB reduce their dependency on Dinesh Karthik and Mahipal Lomror down the order for a late thrust, besides freeing opener Virat Kohli and Faf du Plessis of the burden of scoring in almost every match.

The GT batters would also like to take a cue from their RCB counterparts.

Sai Sudharsan and skipper Shubman Gill have scored upwards of 300 runs in this IPL, making three combined fifties, but the GT middle-order has not really been able to do a follow-up act.

# McGurk, Stubbs rock as DC beat MI by 10 runs

Take Fraser-McGurk produced a power-hitting master class as Delhi Capitals kept themselves in the race for IPL play-offs with a 10-run win over Mumbai Indians here on Saturday.

Bringing his big-hitting prowess to the fore, young McGurk gave the scorching Delhi heat competition with a sizzling 27-ball 84, powering DC to a massive 257 for four after being asked to bat. Tilak Varma (63) and Hardik Pandya (46) played some lofty shots to give MI a glimmer of hope but Delhi bowlers, led by Rasikh Salam (3/34), kept striking at regular intervals to stop MI at 247 for 9. The win elevated DC to the fifth spot while MI

continued to occupy the penultimate place.
While McGurk sparkled upfront, Tristan Stubbs dazzled with an unbeaten 48 off 25 balls at the death overs as DC put up a superlative batting effort to register their highest-ever score in IPL.

In reply, MI's script didn't go as per plan as Khaleel Ahmed drew first blood in the form of Rohit Sharma (8).

With more than 250 runs to score, MI batters had to go from the word go and that led to Ishan Kishan (20) and Suryakumar Yadav's (26) wickets.

Three wickets down and the required run rate increasing, Pandya took things in his own hands, plundering 19 runs of the ninth over by DC's star spinner Kuldeep Yadav.

He punched three fours before launching the ball for a towering six over long on. Tilak Varma joined in with a boundary and a six off Axar Patel as the duo stitched a 71-run stand.

But 'Impact Player' Salam not only broke the partnership, claiming Pandya's wicket but also got rid of Nehal Wadhera in the same over.

Varma then found an ally in Tim David but he was run out in the final over. Earlier, opening for DC for the second time this

season, the 22-year-old Fraser-McGurk equalled his own record for the fastest fifty this season, getting the milestone off just 15 balls after the hosts were put in to bat by MI.

With McGurk in the middle, it was raining boundaries and sixes at the rather small Arun Jaitley Stadium. He hit 11 fours and six maximums. He got 19 runs off the first over bowled by Luke Wood,



setting the tone as he skilfully exploited the field restrictions in the powerplay to nab 92 runs. Facing arguably the best bowler in the world, the Australian greeted Jasprit Bumarah with a six over log on, followed by a four in the second over. Replacing Wood, Nuwan Thushara also couldn't stop MCGurk, who displayed his brute force, smashing three fours.

With his pacers being carted all over the park, MI skipper Pandya decided to introduce spin in the form of Piyush Chawla but it hardly mattered to McGurk, who struck a maximum over long-on to get his third IPL fifty.

MCGurk then took a special liking for Pandya as he clobbered the ball out of the park before sending one over deep mid-wicket as Abhishek Porel (36) had the best seat to enjoy the stroke-making, standing at the other end. Chawla finally managed to put an end to the carnage with a googly. MI dominated for a couple of overs, with Mohammad Nabi picking up Porel in the 10th over.

But Shai Hope (41) swung into action, hitting five sixes while Rishabh Pant (29) unleashed the helicopter shot. The DC skipper whipped the ball, which soared over deep mid-wicket.

Stubbs took DC past the 200-run mark. The South African continued his menacing form as he took Wood to the cleaners in the 18th over where he only dealt in boundaries. The over read 4, 4, 6, 4, 4, 4. However, Bumrah displayed his class as he came in with a bouncer in the next over to get Pant, who attempted a pull only to find Rohit at deep backward square leg.

# **Inconsistent CSK face bruised SRH**

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

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

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

With four wins and as many losses in eight games, CSK are currently at fifth spot, tied with

eight points with Delhi Capitals and Gujarat Titans and will be keen to find their mojo back as things can quickly go south as the race to playoffs get heated

Come Sunday, CSK will be up against third-ranked Sunrisers Hyderabad, who have twice broken the record of the highest IPL total this season but are coming into the game following a failure of their ultra-aggressive batting approach against RCB. CSK's batting has hovered around skipper Gaikwad, who pulled off only his second IPL century the other day, and the in-form Shivam Dube, who once again impressed with yet another fifty.
While Ravindra Jadeja too

chipped in with the bat, the inconsistent form of top-order is a problem. Both Rachin Ravindra and Daryl Mitchell's

lack of runs is a concern and it has forced CSK to shuffle their batting order.

Considering their bowling, the hosts had to toil hard against LSG, given the unexpectedly huge amount of dew at Chepauk that took their spinners out of the game and the visitors made full advantage of it during their 213-run chase. While the CSK pacers managed to capture the four LSG wickets to fell, the spinners struggled to grip the ball, whereas the constant misfields did not help them either. A high-flying SRF on the other hand, were brought to the ground by RCB when they suffered only their third defeat of the season at home by 35 runs on Thursday. However, it is unlikely to deter the SRH batters who would fancy their chances against an inconsistent CSK. Against RCB,

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

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

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

## PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Former India pace spearhead Zaheer Khan has picked Rishabh Pant as the sole wicketkeeper in his team for the T20 World Cup while handing out international debut to left-arm seamer Yash Dayal to add a new dimension to the attack.

One of Zaheer's most interesting selections was the 26-year-old Dayal, who represents Uttar Pradesh in domestic cricket and Royal Challengers Bengaluru in the Indian Premier League. He has taken into account Mohammed Shami's injury layoff while picking his squad. "When I talk about Yash Dayal, it's a floating spot when the 15 are announced because Mohammed Shami will not be available for the tournament.

"He's one bowler that if you need someone to bowl up, you have Yash Dayal. If you want a back-end bowler and if Siraj's form is spotty, he can be used there as well," Zaheer told Jio Cinema.

Zaheer also selected Delhi Capitals' captain Pant as the only wicket-keeper in his squad, overlooking others such as Sanju Samson, KL Rahul and Ishan Kishan.

"Rishabh Pant is my only wicket-keeper. I have given more importance to bringing four pace bowlers. You don't want to sacrifice a fast bowler for another wicketkeeper. You have options like KL Rahul. Sanju Samson, and many want to see Dinesh Karthik.

# Zaheer picks Pant as sole wicketkeeper for T20 WC



"At this point, we can consider Mahendra Singh Dhoni as well because of his strike rate! I think they'll focus on current players like Samson, KL Rahul, and maybe even Jitesh Sharma. "If you're building a team for a month-long tournament, your travelling reserve can be your wicketkeeper." Zaheer named 16 players in his

Royals' opener Yashasvi Jaiswal will be selected as Rohit Sharma's opening partner. "The toughest decision the

selectors will have to make will be choosing one opener out of two terrific options. Shubman Gill and Yashasvi Jaiswal, I think only one of them will make it because the think-tank will want flexibility in the squad, with the caveat that team. only one player between Gujarat Titans' captain

"A player can't be limited to just one role, they might need to move around the batting captain Shubman Gill and Rajasthan

order." Zaheer Khan's India squad for T20 World Cup:

Batters: Rohit Sharma, Shubman Gill/Yashasvi Jaiswal, Virat Kohli, Suryakumar Yadav, Rinku Singh All-Rounders: Shivam Dube, Hardik Pandya, Ravindra Iadeia

Wicket-Keeper: Rishabh Pant Bowlers: Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Siraj, Arshdeep Singh, Yash Dayal, Kuldeep Yadav, Yuzvendra Chahal

विश्वस्तरीय सुविधाओं से युक्त 📲 मल्टी सुपर स्पेशियल्टी हॉस्पिटल 9/5 अमरनाथ झा मार्ग, अप्रैल, 2024 जार्ज टाउन (के.पी. इंटर कॉलेज के सामने) प्रयागराज मुख्य अतिथि (मा. न्यायमूर्ति उच्च न्यायालय, -विशिष्ट अतिथि डॉ. आशू पाण्डेय (मुख्य चिकित्साचिकारी, उपलब्ध सर्विधाएँ • नाक, करन, गला • फोफहा, एलऔं एवं दमा शेम • स्त्री एवं प्रसु • कान का ऑपरेशन आधुनिक माईक्रोस्कॉप (CARL ZEISS) द्वारा (मैंटरनिटी सर्जरी) • जनरल सर्जरी • बानसिक रोग पित्त की सर्जरी दूरबीन/तैडोस्कोपी (CARL STORZ) द्वारा • शिशु एवं बाल्प रोग • जनरल मेडिसिन • हृदय रोग डायम्नोस्टिक लैप्रोस्कोपी • दूरबीन द्वारा बच्चेदानी की सर्ज़री अस्थि रोग • न्यूरोसर्जरी • न्यूरोमेडिसिन • कॅसर सर्जरी • डायतिशिस • ऑडियोलॉजी (सुनने की जाँच) • पुटना प्रत्यारोपग आर्योपेडिक जनरल सर्जरी • न्यूरो, लेप्रोस्कोपिक • ई.एन.टी. • गले की थायरीयड/पैरोटिंड सर्जरी १वं कैंसर सर्जरी • पीडियाट्रिक एवं नियोनेटल सर्जरी • गुर्दे की सर्जरी (दूरबीन) टी.यू.आर., प्रोस्टेट ग्लैंड की सर्जरी (दूरबीन द्वारा)
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